

Higher partial derivatives

recall: $f_{xy}(a,b) = f_{yx}(a,b)$

9/19/2018
1

- Clairaut's theorem

Ex: $f(x,y,z) = \sin(3x+yz)$. Calculate $f_{xxyz} = \frac{\partial^4 f}{\partial x^2 \partial y \partial z}$

Sol: $f_x = 3 \cos(3x+yz)$ $f_{xx} = -9 \sin(3x+yz)$
 $f_{xy} = -yz \cos(3x+yz)$ $f_{xyx} = -yz \sin(3x+yz)$
 $f_{xyz} = -y \cos(3x+yz) + yz^2 \sin(3x+yz)$

Laplace equation: $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$ (*) - partial differential equation

Ex: check that $u(x,y) = e^x \sin y$ is a solution

$u_x = e^x \sin y \rightarrow u_{xx} = e^x \sin y$

$u_y = e^x \cos y \rightarrow u_{yy} = -e^x \sin y$

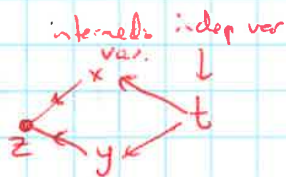
So: $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$

Chain rule reminder

Case 0

$y = f(x)$, $x = g(t)$ then y indirectly a function of t

and $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = f'(x) g'(t) = f'(g(t)) g'(t)$



Case 1: $z = f(x,y)$, $x = g(t)$, $y = h(t)$

then $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$ or $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$

Ex: $z = \sqrt{1+xy}$, $x = \sin t$, $y = t^2$. Find $\frac{dz}{dt}$

Sol: $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{y}{2\sqrt{1+xy}} \cos t + \frac{x}{2\sqrt{1+xy}} 2t$ (*)
 $= \frac{t^2 \cos t + t \sin t}{\sqrt{1+t^2 \sin t}}$

substitute rules for x,y in terms of t.

Find $\frac{dz}{dt}$ at $t = \pi$

Sol: $t = \pi \rightarrow x = 0, y = \pi^2$

$(*)|_{t=\pi} = \left(-\frac{\pi^2}{2}\right) \frac{1}{\pi}$

Ex: $z = xy^3 - x^2y$, $x = t^2 + 1$, $y = t^2 - 1$. Find $\frac{dz}{dt}$

Sol: $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = (y^3 - 2xy) 2t + (3xy^2 - x^2) 2t$

optional

Case 2 $z = f(x, y)$ and $x = g(s, t)$
 $y = h(s, t)$



09/19/2018
2

then $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$

Ex: $z = (x-y)^5$ $x = s^2t$ $y = st^2$ find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial t}$

Sol: $\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = 5(x-y)^4 \cdot 2st - 5(x-y)^4 \cdot t^2 = 5t(s^2t - st^2)^4 (2st - t)$

$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = 5(x-y)^4 s^2 - 5(x-y)^4 \cdot 2st = 5s(s^2t - st^2)^4 (s - 2t)$

General case of chain rule $u = u(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and for each j , $x_j = x_j(t_1, \dots, t_m)$
n variables m variables

then: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t_i} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial t_i} + \dots + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n} \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial t_i}$
n terms

Ex: $u = x + yz$, $x = t$, $y = \ln t$, $z = \sin t$

$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \frac{dz}{dt} = 1 \cdot 1 + z \cdot \frac{1}{t} + y \cos t = \boxed{1 + \frac{\sin t}{t} + \ln t \cos t}$

Implicit differentiation if $y = f(x)$ is defined implicitly, by $F(x, y) = 0$ (*)

can find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ via $0 = \frac{d}{dx} F(x, y) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dx} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dx}$
chain rule 1 $\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = - \frac{\partial F / \partial x}{\partial F / \partial y} = - \frac{F_x}{F_y}$
y defined by

Ex: $x^2 + y^3 = 1$; find y' .

Sol: $F = x^2 + y^3 - 1$ $\frac{dy}{dx} = - \frac{F_x}{F_y} = - \frac{2x}{3y^2}$

Ex: $z = z(x, y)$ defined by $x^2 + y^3 + z^3 = 0$ (*) find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$, $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$

Sol: $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (*)$: $2x + 0 + 3z^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = - \frac{2x}{3z^2}$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (*)$: $0 + 3y^2 + 3z^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = - \frac{y^2}{z^2}$