

Lecture 19

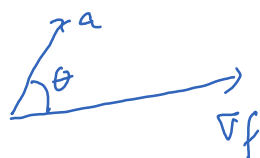
Thursday, February 17, 2022 11:20 PM

* Prayer

* Spiritual thought

* Directional derivative:

$$D_{\vec{a}} f = \vec{a} \cdot \nabla f$$



Fastest change in ∇f direction
Slowest change in the direction
perpendicular to ∇f .

$$\underline{\text{Ex}} \quad f(x, y) = x^2 + xy + y^2$$

What direction does f change the most at $(1, 2)$?

$$\nabla f = \langle 2x + y, x + 2y \rangle$$

$$\nabla f(1, 2) = \langle 4, 5 \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{fastest change in } \frac{\langle 4, 5 \rangle}{|\langle 4, 5 \rangle|} = \left\langle \frac{4}{\sqrt{41}}, \frac{5}{\sqrt{41}} \right\}$$

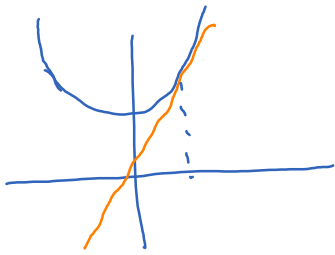
rule: gradient is always perpendicular to level sets.

$$p_1 = \text{Contour of } [x^2 + xy + y^2, \{x, -1, 1\}, \{y, -1, 1\}]$$

$$p_2 = \text{Vector of } [\{2x + y, x + 2y\}, \{x, -1, 1\}, \{y, -1, 1\}]$$

$$p_3 = \text{Show } [p_1, p_2]$$

Ex tangent plane at $(1, 3)$ on the parabola $y = x^2 + 2$.



$$f(x, y) = x^2 + 2 - y$$

Parabola = 0-level set of f

→ perpendicular to $\nabla f(1, 3)$

$$\nabla f = \langle 2x, -1 \rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad \nabla f(1, 3) = \langle 2, -1 \rangle.$$

→ tangent vector = $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$

$$\rightarrow \text{tangent line: } \begin{cases} x = 1 + t \\ y = 3 + 2t \end{cases}$$

Ex tangent plane to $x^2 + y^2 + 2z^2 = 1$ at $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$,

$$f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + 2z^2$$

ellipsoid = 1-level set of f

→ perpendicular to $\nabla f(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$.

$$\nabla f = \langle 2x, 2y, 4z \rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad \nabla f(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}) = \langle 1, 1, -2 \rangle$$

→ eq. of tangent plane:

$$1(x - \frac{1}{2}) + 1(y - \frac{1}{2}) + (-2)(z + \frac{1}{2}) = 0$$

Optimization problem

f attains a local extremum at (x_0, y_0, \dots) only if $\nabla f(x_0, y_0, \dots) = 0$.

If $\nabla f(x_0, y_0, \dots) = 0$ then (x_0, y_0, \dots) is called a critical point of f .

Ex

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}x^4 - 2xy + x + y^2$$

$$\nabla f = \langle x^3 - 2y + 1, -x + 2y \rangle$$

$$\nabla f = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x^3 - 2y + 1 = 0 \\ -x + 2y = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x^3 - 2x + 1 = 0 \\ y = x \end{cases}$$

$$(x-1)(x^2 + x - 1) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x = 1, \quad x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

We get 3 critical points:

$$(x, y) \in \left\{ (1, 1), \left(\frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}, \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right), \left(\frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}, \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right\}$$