

Reading HW:

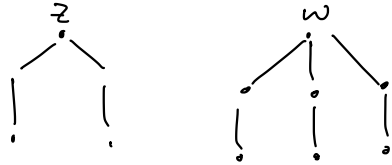
Sec 15.4 Chain Rule

Read ...

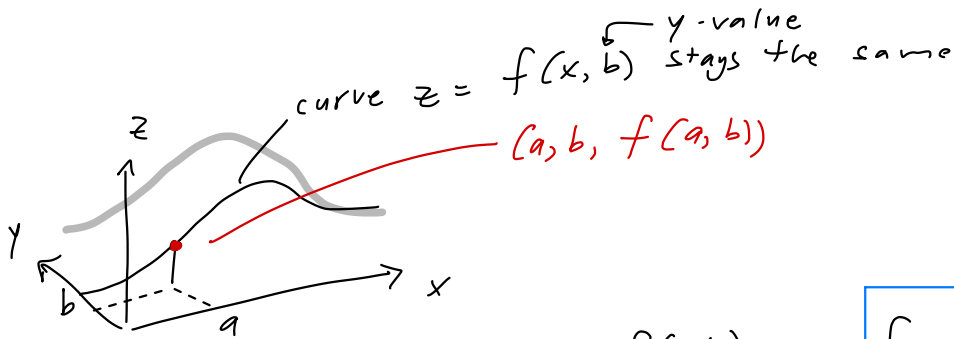
\* the first theorem (Chain Rule w/ only  
1 independent variable)

\* Example 1

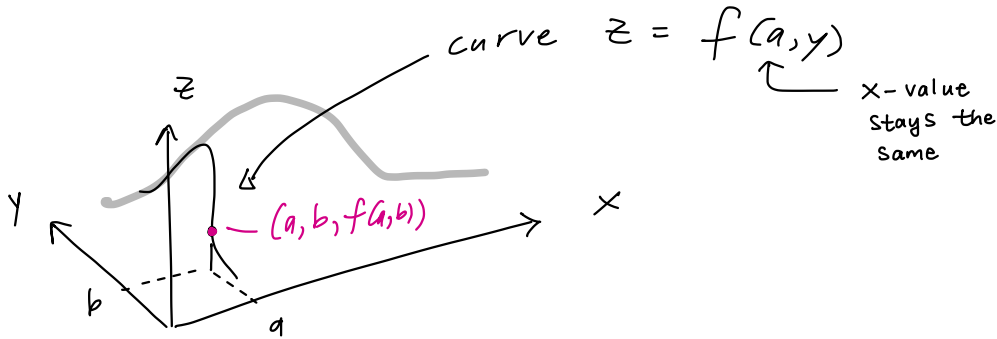
\* The first two figures ("Tree diagrams")



## 15.3 Partial derivatives



"slope of the curve"  $z = f(x, b)$  is  $f_x(a, b)$ ,  
the partial derivative of  $f$  with respect to  $x$   
at point  $(a, b)$ . Other notation:  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b)$  or  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{(a, b)}$



"slope of the curve"  $z = f(x, b)$  is  $f_y(a, b)$ ,  
the partial derivative of  $f$  with respect to  $y$   
at point  $(a, b)$ .

Other notation:  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b)$  or  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Big|_{(a, b)}$

To compute  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ , treat  $y$  like a constant  
 "  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ , "  $x$  like a constant

Ex:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (5x^2 y) = 5y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} x^2 = 5y \cdot 2x = \boxed{10xy}$

treat  $y$  as a constant

$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (5x^2 y) = 5x^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial y} y = \boxed{5x^2}$   
 treat  $x$  as constant

$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} y^4 = 0$

Ex 2:

$f(x, y) = x^3 - y^2 + 4$  both constants wrt  $y$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = -2y$

$f_y(2, -4) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \Big|_{(2, -4)} = (-2y) \Big|_{(2, -4)} = -2(-4) = \boxed{8}$

Ex 3:  $f(x, y) = \sin(xy)$

constant wrt  $x$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = y \cos(xy)$

# Second-order partial derivatives

Say: or say:

Notation 1:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$$

Notation 2:

$$(f_x)_x = f_{xx}$$

"d squared f  
dx squared" } "f<sub>xx</sub>"

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

$$(f_y)_y = f_{yy}$$

"d squared f or "f<sub>y-y</sub>"  
dy squared"

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$$

$$(f_y)_x = f_{yx}$$

Say "f-y-x"

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$$

$$(f_x)_y = f_{xy}$$

Say "f-x-y"

(The order matters in the mixed partial derivatives  $f_{xy}$ ,  $f_{yx}$ )

Ex 4:  $f(x,y) = 3x^4y - 2xy + 5xy^3$

(First) partial derivatives Second partial derivatives

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 12x^3y - 2y + 5y^3$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = 36x^2y + 0 + 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = 12x^3 - 2 + 15y^2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 3x^4 - 2x + 15xy^2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = 0 + 0 + 30xy$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = 12x^3 - 2 + 15y^2$$

Notice that "the two mixed partial derivatives"  
 $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$  are equal.



### Thm (Equality of mixed partial derivatives)

If  $f_{xy}$  and  $f_{yx}$  are continuous on an open set  $D$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,

then  $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$  at all points of  $D$ .

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Ex 5 Let  $f(x, y, z) = e^{-xy} \cos z$ ,

a function of three variables.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \underbrace{e^{-xy}}_{y \text{ is constant}} \cdot \underbrace{\cos z}_{\text{constant}} \right) = \boxed{-y e^{-xy} \cos z}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \underbrace{e^{-xy}}_{\text{constant}} \cos z \right) = \boxed{e^{-xy} (-\sin z)}$$

Applications of partial derivatives:  
mathematical modeling of population, investment funds,  
health care.

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Ex 6 (Ideal Gas Law) (Similar to MML #10)

theoretical (molecules don't attract or repel each other, & molecules have no size)

The ideal gas follows the Law  $PV = kT$ ,

where  $P$  is pressure

$V$  is volume

$T$  is temperature (in kelvins, which is always positive)

$k > 0$  is a constant depending on the amount of gas.

a) Determine the rate of change of the pressure with respect to the volume at a constant temperature. Interpret the result.

Sol: Express the pressure as a function of volume and temperature:

$$P(V, T) = \frac{kT}{V}$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} = kT \frac{\partial}{\partial V} (V^{-1}) = kT (-V^{-2}) = -\frac{kT}{V^2}$$

Interpretation: Since  $k, V, T$  are positive, we see that  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} < 0$ . This means the pressure is a decreasing function of volume (at a constant temp).  
(more volume, less pressure)

b) Rate of change of the pressure with respect to the temperature at constant volume? Interpretation?

$$\text{Sol: } \frac{\partial P}{\partial T} = \frac{k}{V}$$

Interpretation:  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} > 0$ . This means the pressure is an increasing function of temperature (at constant volume).

(higher temperature, more pressure).

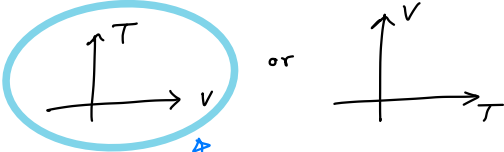
c.) Draw several level curves, & interpret the results.

The level curves of the function  $P(V,T) = k \frac{T}{V}$

are curves in the VT-plane with equations

$$\boxed{k \frac{T}{V} = P_0} \quad \text{where } P_0 \text{ is constant in the range/image of } P(V,T), \text{ (always pos.)}$$

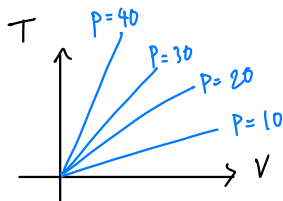
meaning  $P_0$  is in  $(0, \infty)$

We can draw the VT-plane as  or

Rewrite the level curve eq so that T is on one side:

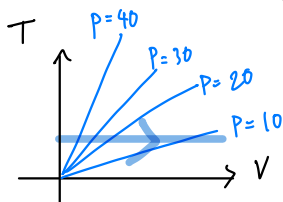
$$\boxed{T = \frac{1}{k} P_0 V}$$

We get lines w/ slope  $\frac{1}{k} P_0$  (always positive) for  $V$  in  $(0, \infty)$ :



\* The fact that  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} < 0$  means that, if we hold

T fixed and move in the direction of increasing V on a horizontal line, we cross level curves corresp. to decreasing pressures.

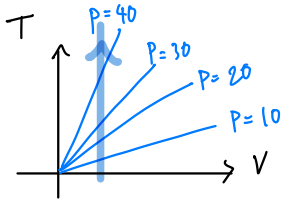


— on a line of constant T,  
P decreases as V increases.

## (Additional notes)

\* The fact that  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} > 0$  means that, if we hold

$V$  fixed and move in the direction of increasing  $T$  on a vertical line, we cross level curves corresp. to increasing pressures.



— on a line of constant  $V$ ,  
 $P$  increases as  $T$  increases.

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## (Notes for next class)

### Thm/Def

If  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  exist on an open set containing  $(a, b)$   
and  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  are continuous at  $(a, b)$ ,  
THEN  $f$  is differentiable at  $(a, b)$ .

### Thm

If  $f$  is differentiable at  $(a, b)$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $(a, b)$ .

↳ Contra positive statement:

If  $f$  is not continuous at  $(a, b)$ ,

then  $f$  is not differentiable at  $(a, b)$ .