

HANDOUTS

NOTES ON ASSIGNMENT 11

Assignment 12

$f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  if there is an  $m \times m$  matrix  $M$  such that

$$\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}} \frac{f(\vec{x}) - f(\vec{a}) - M(\vec{x} - \vec{a})}{\|\vec{x} - \vec{a}\|} = \vec{0}$$

FOCUS ON  $\mathbb{R}^m = 1$

THM (4.2.1) if  $f$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$ , then  $M = \nabla f$

THM (4.2.2) if all partials of  $f$  are continuous in an open set containing  $\vec{a}$ , then  $f$  is differentiable at  $\vec{a}$

PARTIAL DERIVATIVE WITH RESPECT TO A VECTOR  $\vec{v}$

$$f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 5xy - 2y^2 + 1$$

$$\vec{a} = (2, -1)$$

$$f(\vec{a}) = f(2, -1) = 1$$

$$f_x(x, y) = 6x + 5y$$

$$f_x(2, -1) = 7 \quad \nabla f(2, -1) = (7, 14)$$

$$f_y(x, y) = 5x - 4y$$

$$f_y(2, -1) = 14$$

$$f_x(\vec{a}) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(2+t, -1) - f(2, -1)}{t}$$

CAN WRITE AS  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t(1, 0)) - f(\vec{a})}{t}$   $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow 0 \leftarrow \\ (2, -1) \end{matrix}$

Similarly  $f_y = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t(0, 1)) - f(\vec{a})}{t}$   $\begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ (2, -1) \\ \uparrow \end{matrix}$

(2)

What if we move toward  $(2, -1)$  along vector  $\vec{v} = (3, 5)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{\vec{v}}(\vec{a}) &= \frac{\partial f(\vec{a})}{\partial \vec{v}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t\vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t} \\
 &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(2+3t, -1+5t) - f(2, -1)}{t} \\
 &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(2+3t)^2 + 5(2+3t)(-1+5t) - 2(-1+5t)^2 + 1 - 1}{t} \\
 f_{\vec{v}}(\vec{a}) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{52t^2 + 91t}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (52t + 91) = 91 \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

NOTE

$$\nabla f(2, -1) \cdot \vec{v} = (7, 14) \cdot (3, 5) = 21 + 70 = 91$$

THEOREM: IF  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  IS DIFFERENTIABLE AT  $\vec{a}$

Then

$$f_{\vec{v}}(\vec{a}) = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}$$

where

$$f_{\vec{v}}(\vec{a}) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t\vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t}$$

PROOF OF THEOREM.

(CASE 1):  $\vec{v} = \vec{0}$  THEN BOTH SIDES ARE 0

THUS, OK TO ASSUME  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$

(3)

By differentiability of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$ , we have.

$$\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}} \frac{f(\vec{x}) - f(\vec{a}) - \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{a})}{|\vec{x} - \vec{a}|} = 0$$

Set  $\vec{x} = \vec{a} + t \vec{v}$

Then  $\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{a}$  is equivalent to  $t \rightarrow 0$

and  $\vec{x} - \vec{a} = t \vec{v}$

So

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + t \vec{v}) - f(\vec{a}) - \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot (t \vec{v})}{|t \vec{v}|} = 0$$

But  $|t \vec{v}| = |t| |\vec{v}|$

can take  $t > 0$  (why?)  $\Rightarrow |t \vec{v}| = t |\vec{v}|$

Now

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{f(\vec{a} + t \vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t |\vec{v}|} - \frac{t \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}}{t |\vec{v}|} \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{|\vec{v}|} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{f(\vec{a} + t \vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t} - \frac{\nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}}{1} \right] = 0$$

But  $|\vec{v}| \neq 0$  so divide both sides by  $1/|\vec{v}|$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{f(\vec{a} + t \vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t} - \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v} \right]$$

or

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{f(\vec{a} + t \vec{v}) - f(\vec{a})}{t} \right] = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_{\vec{v}}(\vec{a}) = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}$$

(4)

## DIRECTIONAL DERIVATIVE

Suppose we want to measure the rate of change of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$  in the direction of  $\vec{v}$ .

We can't simply take  $\nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}$  because  $\vec{v}, -2\vec{v}, 3\vec{v}$  all have the same direction but give different VALUES for the dot product.

To get a STANDARD MEASURE, we approach along a vector of length 1, called a UNIT VECTOR

DEFINITION: If  $|\vec{u}| = 1$ , then  $f_{\vec{u}}(\vec{a})$  is the DIRECTIONAL DERIVATIVE of  $f$  at  $\vec{a}$  in the direction  $\vec{u}$

Example  $\vec{v} = (3, 5)$  so  $|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{3^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{34}$

We let  $\vec{u} = \left( \frac{3}{\sqrt{34}}, \frac{5}{\sqrt{34}} \right)$

Then directional derivative is  $(7, 14) \cdot \left( \frac{3}{\sqrt{34}}, \frac{5}{\sqrt{34}} \right) = \frac{91}{\sqrt{34}}$

$\Rightarrow$  RATE OF CHANGE IN DIRECTION  $\vec{u}$

$$\nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$= |\nabla f(\vec{a})| |\vec{u}| \cos \theta$$

$$= |\nabla f(\vec{a})| \cos \theta \quad \text{since } |\vec{u}| = 1.$$

We maximize rate of change when  $\cos \theta = 1$

$\Rightarrow \theta = 0 \Rightarrow$  PICK  $\vec{u}$  in direction of gradient