

Math 2210-1

Fri 10/15

§ 13.6 Affine approx, differentials,
derivative matrices.

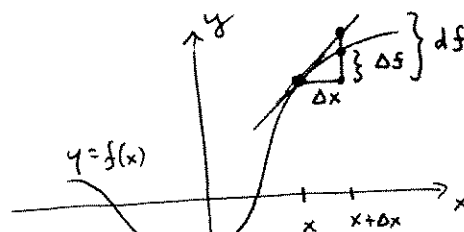
Recall Calc 1210:

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} = f'(x)$$

$$\text{so } \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} - f'(x) = \varepsilon, \quad \text{where } \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon = 0.$$

$$\text{i.e. } \underbrace{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}_{\text{"}\Delta f\text{"}} = \underbrace{f'(x)\Delta x}_{\text{"}df\text{"}} + \underbrace{\varepsilon\Delta x}_{\text{higher order error}}$$

(or Δy if $y=f(x)$).



differential
 df was the tangent
 line approx to exact change Δf .

example: estimate $\sqrt{10}$ using $\sqrt{9} = 3$.

$$f(x) = x^{1/2} \quad f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2}$$

$$\Delta x = 1$$

$$x = 9$$

$$f(x+\Delta x) \approx f(x) + f'(x)\Delta x$$

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 \approx 3.17$$

(actual value 3.162...)

What is the analogous approximation for a function of several variables?

e.g. $f(x,y)$.

Geometric idea: consider the graph of $z = f(x, y)$ and the tangent plane approximation

$$z = f(x_0, y_0) + a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0)$$

$$a = f_x(x_0, y_0)$$

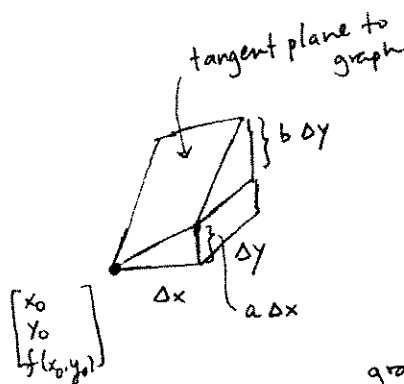
$$b = f_y(x_0, y_0)$$

$$\Delta f = f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0 + \Delta y) - f(x_0, y_0)$$

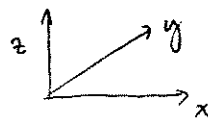
$$\approx a \Delta x + b \Delta y$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\cdot) \Delta x + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\cdot) \Delta y}_{:= df}$$

$$:= df$$



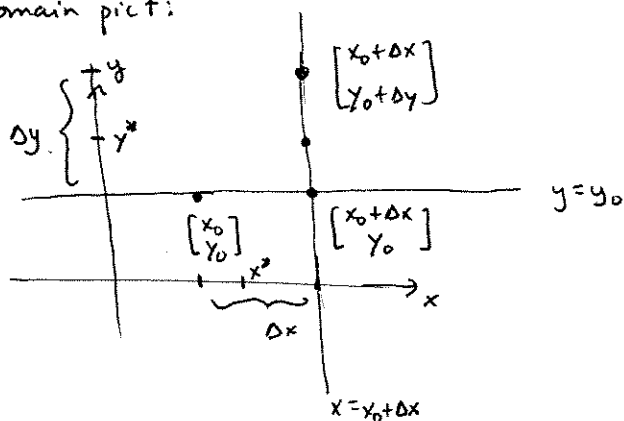
graph picture.



More precise explanation:

In fact, if the partial derivs of f are continuous we can prove the affine approx. formula with the Mean value thm from Calculus.

Domain pict:



$$\Delta f = f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0 + \Delta y) - f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$= f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0 + \Delta y) - f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0)$$

$$+ f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0 + \Delta x, y^*) \Delta y$$

$$+ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x^*, y_0) \Delta x$$

Mean-value thm!

When $\Delta x, \Delta y$ small, $y^* \approx y_0$, $x^* \approx x_0$, so

$$\Delta f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) \Delta x + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \Delta y + \varepsilon_1 \Delta x + \varepsilon_2 \Delta y$$

$$\parallel \parallel$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x^*, y_0) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0)$$

$$\parallel$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0 + \Delta x, y^*) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0)$$

example Approximate $\sqrt{2(2.02)^3 + (2.97)^2}$
with differentials

$$f(x, y) = \sqrt{2x^3 + y^2} = (2x^3 + y^2)^{1/2}$$

$$f(2, 3) = \sqrt{18 + 9} = 5.$$

$$\Delta x = .02$$

$$\Delta y = -.03$$

$$f_x = \frac{1}{2} (2x^3 + y^2)^{-1/2} \cdot 6x^2$$

$$f_y = \frac{1}{2} (2x^3 + y^2)^{-1/2} \cdot 2y$$

$$f_x(2, 3) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot 24 = \frac{12}{5} = 2.4$$

$$f_y(2, 3) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot 6 = .6$$

$$df = f_x \Delta x + f_y \Delta y$$

$$= (2.4)(.02) + (.6)(-.03)$$

$$= .048 - .018$$

$$= .03$$

$$\text{So } f(2.02, 2.97) \approx 5 + .03$$

$$= 5.03$$

(actual value ≈ 5.0305)

Notice $\Delta f \approx df = [f_x, f_y] \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix}$ evaluated at base point

So if $\vec{F} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f(x, y) \\ g(x, y) \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{F}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

We get approx formula

$$\Delta \vec{F} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta f \\ \Delta g \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} df \\ dg \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_x & f_y \\ g_x & g_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{bmatrix}$$

↑
the derivative matrix of $\vec{F}$!

