

§14.5 The Chain Rule

* The Chain Rule

$$\begin{cases} z(t) = f(x(t), y(t)) \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = f_x \frac{dx}{dt} + f_y \frac{dy}{dt} \\ u(t) = f(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = f_x \frac{dx}{dt} + f_y \frac{dy}{dt} + f_z \frac{dz}{dt} \end{cases}$$

Example 1 :

$$z = f(x, y) = x^2 + xy + y^2, x = \cos t, y = \sin t.$$

Solution :

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

$$z = \cos^2 t + \cos t \sin t + \sin^2 t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dz}{dt} &= 2\cos t(-\sin t) + (-\sin t)\sin t + \cos t \cos t + 2\sin t \cos t \\ &= (2\cos t + \sin t)(-\sin t) + (\cos t + 2\sin t)\cos t \\ &= (2x + y)\frac{dx}{dt} + (x + 2y)\frac{dy}{dt} = f_x \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \right) + f_y \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right). \end{aligned}$$

* Tree Diagram

$$z = (t, s) = f(x(t, s), y(t, s))$$

$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = f_x \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + f_y \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = f_x \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + f_y \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \end{cases}$

* Implicit Differentiation

If $f(x, y, z) = 0$ and $z = g(x, y)$

$$\Rightarrow f(x, y, g(x, y)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f_x + f_y \frac{dy}{dx} + f_z \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\text{Since } \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{f_x}{f_z}.$$

$$\text{Similarly } \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = -\frac{f_y}{f_z}.$$

Example 2 :

$$u = x^4 y + y^2 z^2, x = rse^t, y = rs^2 e^{-t}, z = r^2 s \sin t.$$

$$\text{Find } \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \right|_{\substack{r=2 \\ s=1 \\ t=0}}.$$

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \right|_{\substack{r=2 \\ s=1 \\ t=0}} &= 4x^3 y(re^t) + (x^4 + 2yz^2)(2sre^{-t}) + 2y^2 z(r^2 \sin t) \\ &= 128 + 64 = 192 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 :

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz = 1, \text{ find } \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}.$$

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 + 3z^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + 6yz + 6xy \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} &= 0. \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} &= \frac{-x^2 - 2yz}{z^2 + 2xy}. \end{aligned}$$

Example 4 :

Let f has continuous 2nd – order partial derivatives.

$$z = f(x, y), \begin{cases} x = r^2 + s^2 \\ y = 2rs \end{cases}, \text{ find } \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial r^2}.$$

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial z}{\partial r} &= f_x 2r + f_y 2s \\ \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial r^2} &= (f_{xx} 2r + f_{xy} 2s) 2r + 2f_x + (f_{yx} 2r + f_{yy} 2s) 2s \\ &= 4r^2 f_{xx} + 8rs f_{xy} + 4s^2 f_{yy} + 2f_x \\ &(f_{xy} = f_{yx}) \end{aligned}$$

Example 5 :

$PV = 8.31T$. Find $\frac{dP}{dt}$ when $T = 300\text{ K}$ and is increasing at a rate of 0.1 K/s ,

and $V = 100\text{ L}$ and is increasing at a rate of 0.2 L/s .

Solution :

$$P = \frac{8.31T}{V} = \frac{8.31 \times 300}{100} = 24.93$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt}V + P\frac{dV}{dt} = 8.31\frac{dT}{dt} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = 0.1, \frac{dV}{dt} = 0.2, T = 300, V = 100, P = 24.93$$

代入(1)式求 $\frac{dP}{dt}$.

Example 6 :

$$z = f(x, y), \begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \end{cases}$$

(i). Find $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial r^2}, \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial \theta^2}$

(ii). Prove that $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial z}{\partial r}$.

Solution :

$$(i). \frac{\partial z}{\partial r} = f_x \cos \theta + f_y \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial r^2} = (f_{xx} \cos \theta + f_{xy} \sin \theta) \cos \theta + (f_{yx} \cos \theta + f_{yy} \sin \theta) \sin \theta$$

$$= f_{xx} \cos^2 \theta + 2f_{xy} \sin \theta \cos \theta + f_{yy} \sin^2 \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial \theta} = f_x(-r \sin \theta) + f_y r \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial \theta^2} = [f_{xx}(-r \sin \theta) + f_{xy} r \cos \theta](-r \sin \theta)$$

$$+ f_x(-r \cos \theta) + f_y(-r \sin \theta) + [f_{yx}(-r \sin \theta) + f_{yy} r \cos \theta] r \cos \theta.$$

$$= r^2 \sin^2 \theta f_{xx} - 2r^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta f_{xy} + r^2 \cos^2 \theta f_{yy} - r \cos \theta f_x - r \sin \theta f_y.$$

(ii). 可由(i)得.

Example 7 :

If $g(s, t) = f(s^2 - t^2, t^2 - s^2)$ and f is differentiable. Show that g satisfies

$$t \frac{\partial g}{\partial s} + s \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial g}{\partial s} &= 2sf_x - 2sf_y \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} &= -2tf_x + 2tf_y \\ \Rightarrow t \frac{\partial g}{\partial s} + s \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$