

Tangent Plan & Linearization.

1. Derive the equation for a tangent plane

Given surface in \mathbb{R}^3 defined implicitly as a level surface using

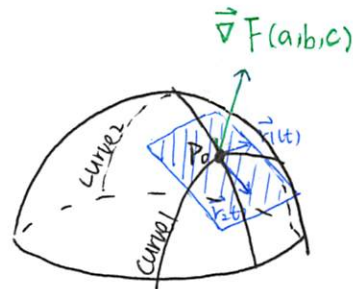
$$F(x, y, z) = 0$$

A. Derive the equation for the tangent plane to the level surface at point (a, b, c) on this surface. Make sure to mention the geometric interpretation of the gradient vector wRT tangent plane.

Solution

To define a plane, we need:

- a point on the plane
- normal vector to the plane



The point on tangent plane is: $P_0 (a, b, c)$

The normal vector to the tangent plan is: $\vec{n} = \vec{\nabla} F(a, b, c)$

(the prove of \vec{n} is gradient in second page).

We Define a point $P (x, y, z)$ on the plane,

$$\Rightarrow \vec{P_0P} = \langle (x-a), (y-b), (z-c) \rangle$$

Since $\vec{n} \cdot \vec{P_0P} = 0$ (b/c normal vector always \perp to any line in plane)

$$\Rightarrow \langle F_x(a, b, c), F_y(a, b, c), F_z(a, b, c) \rangle \cdot \langle (x-a), (y-b), (z-c) \rangle = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow F_x(a, b, c) (x-a) + F_y(a, b, c) (y-b) + F_z(a, b, c) (z-c) = 0$$

Prove gradient vector $\vec{\nabla} F(a,b,c)$ is the normal vector \vec{n} at (a,b,c) :

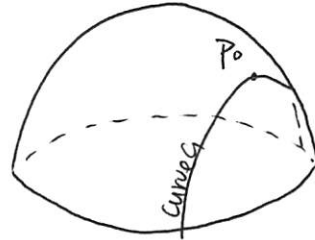
Assume we have any curve on the surface:

$$C: \vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$$

since C is on the surface,
we have:

$$F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow F(\vec{r}(t)) = 0$$

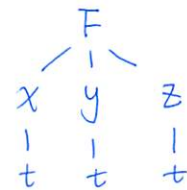


$$\frac{d}{dt} [F(x(t), y(t), z(t))]$$

$$= \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{dz}{dt}$$

$$= \left\langle \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \right\rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt}, \frac{dz}{dt} \right\rangle \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{dot product} \\ \text{expand} \end{array} \right\}$$

chain Rule



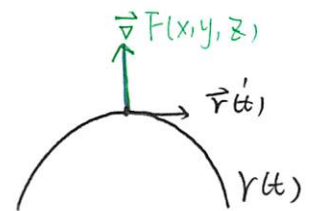
$$= \langle F_x(x,y,z), F_y(x,y,z), F_z(x,y,z) \rangle \cdot \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle$$

$$= \vec{\nabla} F(x,y,z) \cdot \vec{r}'(t)$$

Recall: $F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) = 0$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [F(x(t), y(t), z(t))] = \frac{d}{dt} [0] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} F(x,y,z) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) = 0$$



In other words, $\vec{\nabla} F(x,y,z)$ always orthogonal to "direction" of curve $\vec{r}(t)$
 $\vec{r}'(t)$

B. Suppose we have $z = f(x, y)$ in \mathbb{R}^3 . Derive equation for a tangent plane to this surface at $(a, b, f(a, b))$ & relate part A.

Solution:

From part A we have:

$$F_x (x-a) + F_y (y-b) + F_z (z-c) = 0$$

Rewrite $z = f(x, y)$ as: $f(x, y) - z = 0$

$$\Rightarrow f_x (x-a) + f_y (y-b) + (-1) (z-c) = 0$$

since $c = f(a, b)$

$$\Rightarrow f_x (x-a) + f_y (y-b) - z + f(a, b) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow z = f_x (x-a) + f_y (y-b) + f(a, b).$$

Note:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (-z) = -1$$

here z is independent of $x \cong y$

we rewrite $F(x, y, z) = 0$

$$\text{as } f(x, y) - z = 0$$

2. Consider implicit relation for ellipsoid

$$\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{25} + z^2 - 1 = 0$$

A. Find equation for tangent plane at $(0, 4, \frac{3}{5})$

Solution:

To find tangent plane, we use formula in #1 part A.

$$F_x(a,b,c)(x-a) + F_y(a,b,c)(y-b) + F_z(a,b,c)(z-c) = 0.$$

$$F_x(0, 4, \frac{3}{5}) = \frac{2}{9}x = \frac{2}{9} \times 0 = 0$$

$$F_y(0, 4, \frac{3}{5}) = \frac{2}{25}y = \frac{2}{25} \times 4 = \frac{8}{25}$$

$$F_z(0, 4, \frac{3}{5}) = 2z = 2 \times \frac{3}{5} = \frac{6}{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0(x-0) + \frac{8}{25}(y-4) + \frac{6}{5}(z-\frac{3}{5}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{8}{25}y + \frac{6}{5}z - 2 = 0}$$

B. Find any points on ellipsoid with a horizontal tangent plane.

To get a horizontal tangent plane, \vec{n} is $\langle 0, 0, k \rangle$ (or $k \cdot \vec{j}$, $k \in \mathbb{R}$)
 $\vec{j} = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$.

When $x=0$, $y=0$, we have:

$$0 + 0 + z^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow z = \pm 1$$

So there are two points on the ellipsoid $(0, 0, 1)$ & $(0, 0, -1)$
that has a horizontal tangent plane.

3. Find equation of tangent plane to elliptic paraboloid

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

at $(1, 1, 3)$

Solution:

We know the formula for tangent plane from #1 Part B.

$$z = f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b) + f(a,b)$$

$$f_x(1,1) = 4x = 4$$

$$f_y(1,1) = 2y = 2$$

$$f(a,b) = 3 \quad (\text{Recall: } (a, b, f(a,b)))$$

$$\Rightarrow z = 4(x-1) + 2(y-1) + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{z = 4x + 2y - 3}$$

4. Define a two-variable, real-valued function

$$f(x,y) = \frac{5}{x^2 + y^2}$$

Find linear approximation of f at $(1, 2, 1)$

Solution

Recall Linear Approximation:

$$L(x,y) = f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)$$

Notice this is also formula for tangent plane at $(a,b,f(a,b))$

$$L(x,y) = f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)$$

$$f_x(-1,2) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{5}{x^2+y^2} \right] = -5(x^2+y^2)^{-2} \cdot 2x = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$f_y(-1,2) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{5}{x^2+y^2} \right] = -5(x^2+y^2)^{-2} \cdot 2y = -\frac{4}{5}$$

$$f(-1,2) = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow L(x,y) = 3 + \frac{2}{5}(x+1) + \left(-\frac{4}{5}\right)(y-2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{L(x,y) = \frac{2}{5}x - \frac{4}{5}y + 5}$$

5. Find linear approximation to $f(x,y) = xe^{xy}$ at $(1,0,1)$

Solution

$$L(x,y) = f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)$$

$$f_x(1,0) = e^{xy}(1+xy) = 1$$

Note: apply chain Rule

$$f_y(1,0) = x^2e^{xy} = 1$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} [xe^{xy}] = 1 \cdot e^{xy} + x \cdot y \cdot e^{xy}$$

$$f(1,0) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow L(x,y) = 1 + 1 \cdot (x-1) + 1 \cdot (y-0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{L(x,y) = x+y}$$

6. Find the equation for the tangent planes to the surface

$$z^2 - \frac{x^2}{16} - \frac{y^2}{9} - 1 = 0.$$

at $P_1(4, 3, -\sqrt{3})$ and $P_2(-8, 9, \sqrt{14})$

Solution:

To find equation for a plane, we need:

- a point
- the normal vector. (in this case, $\vec{\nabla}F$)

$$\vec{\nabla}F(x, y, z) = \left\langle -\frac{1}{8}x, -\frac{2}{9}y, 2z \right\rangle$$

To get the tangent plane, we use the equation from #1

$$F_x(a, b, c)(x-a) + F_y(a, b, c)(y-b) + F_z(a, b, c)(z-c) = 0$$

Note: this equation is also written as $\vec{\nabla}F \cdot \vec{P_0P}$
where P_0 is the point given, $P(x, y, z)$ is on the plane.

▼ plane at $P_1(4, 3, -\sqrt{3})$ is:

$$-\frac{1}{8}(4)(x-4) + \left(-\frac{2}{9}\right)(3)(y-3) + 2(-\sqrt{3})(z+\sqrt{3}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{-\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{2}{3}y - 2\sqrt{3}z = 2}$$

▼ plane at $P_2(-8, 9, \sqrt{14})$ is:

$$-\frac{1}{8}(-8)(x+8) - \frac{2}{9}(9)(y-9) + 2(\sqrt{14})(z-\sqrt{14}) = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x - 2y + 2\sqrt{14}z = 2}$$

7. Find the points at which the surface

$$x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 2z = 0$$

has a horizontal tangent plane.

Solution:

First we think of what is the graph look like.

Notice we have x^2 and $-2x$ term, that reminds me

$$(x-1)^2 = x^2 - 2x + 1; \text{ also recall the equation of ellipsoid}$$
$$\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} + \frac{(z-t)^2}{c^2} = 1 \quad \Delta \text{ with center } (h, k, t)$$

We want to transform the given surface equation to this form:

$$x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 2z = 0$$

$$(x^2 - 2x + 1) + 2y^2 + (z^2 - 2z + 1) = 2$$

$$(x-1)^2 + 2y^2 + (z-1)^2 = 2$$

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

this is a ellipsoid center at $(1, 0, 1)$, $a = \sqrt{2}$, $b = 1$, $c = \sqrt{2}$.

Since horizontal plane has normal vector $\parallel \vec{j}(0, 0, 1)$

let's set normal vector $\vec{n} = \langle 0, 0, k \rangle$

Recall the $\vec{\nabla} F$ is \vec{n} (as we proved in #1)

$$\vec{\nabla} F = \langle 2x-2, 4y, 2z-2 \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2x-2 = 0 \\ 4y = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow x=1, y=0.$$

< not yet >

↳ trying to figure out plot @ Matlab

lesson 12 page 8/9

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we can find the point with $x=1, y=0$ by plug x, y into surface:

$$1 + 0 + z^2 - 2(1) - 2z = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow z^2 - 2z - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow z = 1 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

so the two points $(1, 0, 1+\sqrt{2}), (1, 0, 1-\sqrt{2})$

has a horizontal tangent plane.

(Because at these two points $\vec{\nabla} F$, which is normal vector to the tangent plane, is $\langle 0, 0, k \rangle$)