

Defn 1) $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

28.9.17

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = b \iff \lim_{\|x-a\| \rightarrow 0} \|f(x) - b\| = 0$$

$\iff \forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ so that
 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $\|x-a\| < \delta$ we have

$$\|f(x) - b\| < \epsilon.$$

2) f is continuous at $x=a \iff \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

Thm Let $f, g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, with $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = b$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = c$

Then

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + g(x) = b + c$

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \lambda f(x) = \lambda b$, $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \circ g(x) = b \circ c$

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \|f(x)\| = \|b\|$

Ex: • Linear Transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is cont. $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

• Polynomials $P: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are cont $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

• Rational functions $f(x) = P(x)/Q(x)$ are cont $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ for which $Q(a) \neq 0$.
 $P, Q: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are polynomials.

Thm let f, g functions such that $f \circ g$ is defined at a
 If g is cont. at a and f is cont at $g(a)$

then $(f \circ g)$ is continuous at a .

Ex: 1) $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$(x, y) \rightarrow \begin{cases} xy \\ x^2 + y^2 \end{cases} \quad (x, y) \neq (0, 0)$

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

$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y)$ does not exist

2) $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$(x, y) \rightarrow \begin{cases} x^2y \\ x^2 + y^2 \end{cases} \quad (x, y) \neq (0, 0)$

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

$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y) = 0$.

- For studying limits of scalar fields the sandwich lemma can be useful

Lemma let $f, g, h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $f(x) < g(x) < h(x)$

$$\text{If } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x) = L \text{ then } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L.$$

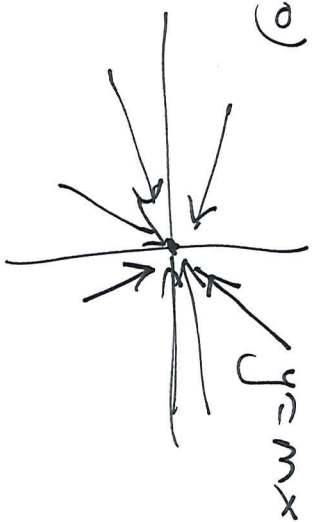
$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

- For studying limits in \mathbb{R}^2 , it is also sometimes useful to use polar coordinates.

$(x,y) \neq (0,0)$

Clicker Question 1.

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y}{x^3 + y^3} & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$



$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{m x^3}{x^3 + m^3 x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{m}{1 + m^3} = \frac{m}{1 + m^3}$$

Since it depends on m , it ~~does~~^{is} not unique.

Hence the limit does not exist

$$\frac{m x^3}{x^3 (m^3 + 1)} = \frac{m}{1 + m^3}$$

Clicker Question 2

$\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} f(x,y) = L$ along every line $y = mx$

Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x,y) = L$,

True

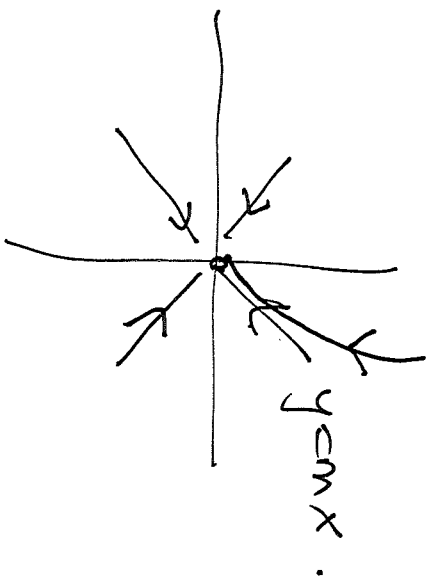
False

See the next Clicker question

Clicker question 3.

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y}{x^4 + y^2} & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0 & (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

O.W.



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x,y) = 0 \quad ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, mx) &= \frac{m x^3}{x^4 + m^2 x^2} \\ &= \frac{m x^3}{x^2 (x^2 + m^2)} \\ &= \frac{m x}{x^2 + m^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, mx) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{m x}{x^2 + m^2} = 0.$$

But along $y = x^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x, x^2) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 \cdot x^2}{x^4 + x^4} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^4}{2x^4} = \frac{1}{2} \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- We have seen that in several variables, the existence of the limit along one direction is not enough for the existence of the limit.
- We'll see that existence of derivatives in a given direction does not guarantee the existence of "derivatives" or the differentiability of the function.
- What does the derivative in a direction mean?

§ Partial Derivatives and the differential.

We start with $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Recall: $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$f'(x_0) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}$$

= instantaneous rate of change of f .

$$\frac{\Delta f}{\Delta x} = \text{average rate of change.}$$

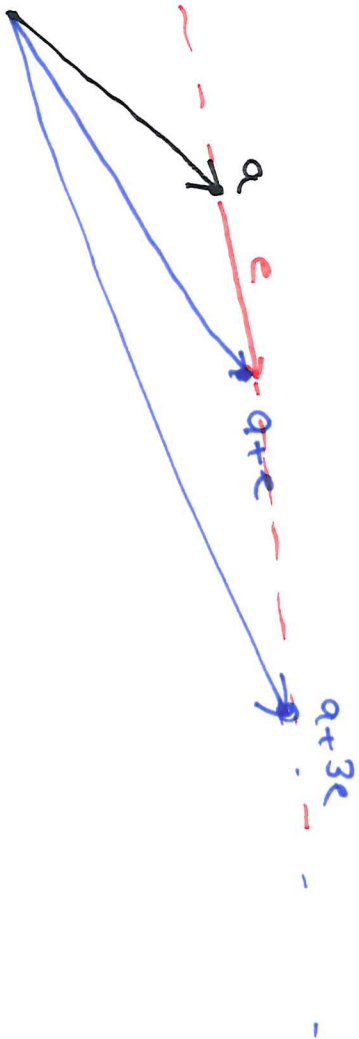
In general for $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

The manner in which f changes will depend on the direction in which we move away from the point a .

We are interested in

$$\frac{f(\vec{a} + h\vec{e}) - f(\vec{a})}{h}$$

as $h \rightarrow 0$.



Defn (Derivative of a scalar field with respect to a vector)

Given $f: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, $\vec{x}_0 \in \mathcal{D}$

Let $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ on arbitrary fixed vector in \mathbb{R}^n .

The derivative of f at \vec{x}_0 with respect to y , denoted by $f'(\vec{x}_0; \vec{y})$ or $f'_y(\vec{x}_0)$, is defined

$$\text{as } f'(\vec{x}_0; \vec{y}) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{x}_0 + h\vec{y}) - f(\vec{x}_0)}{h}$$

when the limit on the right exists.

Example: (Derivative of a linear transformation)

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a linear map.

$$\text{(i.e. } \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n, f(\alpha\vec{x} + \beta\vec{y}) = \alpha f(\vec{x}) + \beta f(\vec{y}).)$$

Take $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$f'(\vec{x}_0; \vec{y}) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{x}_0 + h\vec{y}) - f(\vec{x}_0)}{h}.$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\bar{x}_0) + hf(\vec{y}) - f(\bar{x}_0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(\vec{y}) = f(\vec{y}).$$

\downarrow
 $h \rightarrow 0$

f linear.

For a linear function, the derivative w.r.t \vec{y} at any point x_0 exists and is simply the value of f at \vec{y} .

Remark Trivial case. $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, if $\vec{y} = \vec{0}$

$$\frac{f(x_0 + h\vec{y}) - f(x_0)}{h} = \frac{f(x_0) - f(x_0)}{h} = 0.$$

$$f'(x_0, \vec{0}) = 0.$$

we'll ~~also~~ restrict to vectors \vec{v} of unit length, $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$. I'll write \vec{e} instead of \vec{v} to remind us that it is a vector of length 1.

In particular we are interested in the case

$$\vec{e} = \vec{e}_i = (0, \dots, \underset{i\text{-th}}{1}, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Defn. Directional Derivative and partial derivatives

Let $\vec{e} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be a unit vector, $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$\vec{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, The derivative $f'(\vec{x}_0, \vec{e})$ is called

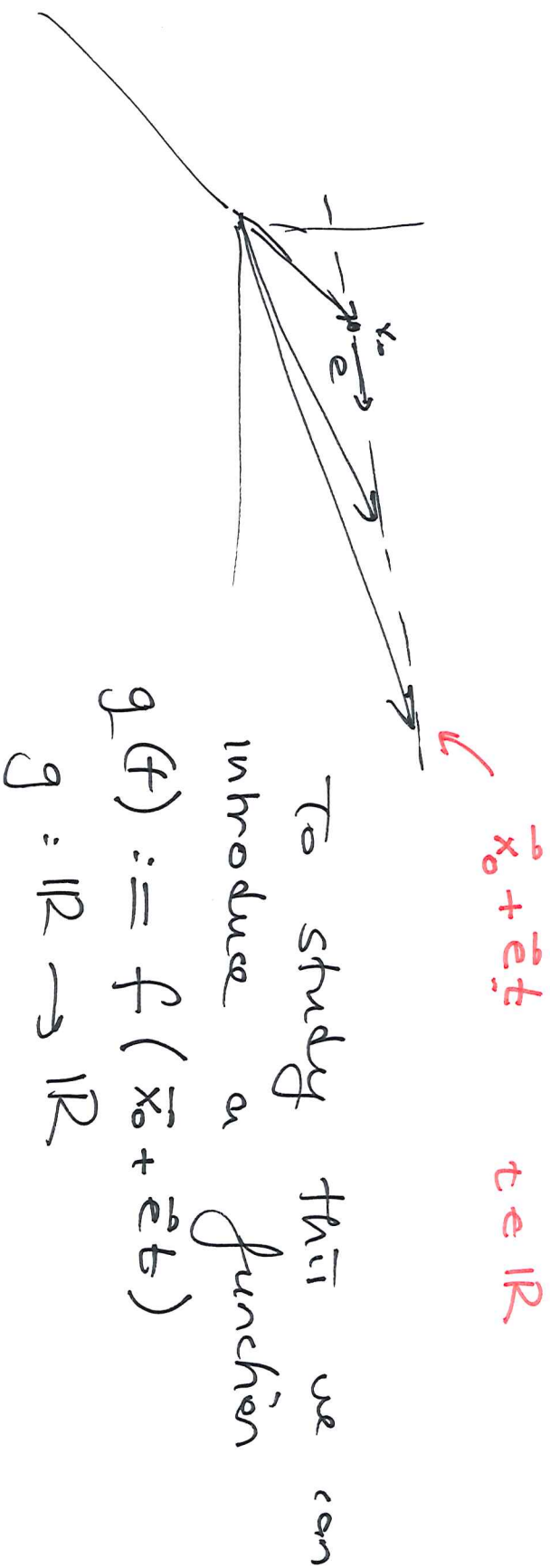
the directional derivative of f at \vec{x}_0 in the direction \vec{e} . (Richtungsableitung von f im Punkt \vec{x}_0 in Richtung \vec{e}).

When $e = e_i$ i -th coordinate vector $(0, 0, \dots, 1, \dots)$
 Then the directional derivative $f(x_0, e_i)$ is
 called the partial derivative (wrt e_i), also
 denoted by $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_0)$, $D_i f(x_0)$, $f'_i(x_0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_0) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\bar{x}_0 + h e_i) - f(\bar{x}_0)}{h} & x_0 &= (x_0^1, x_0^2, \dots, x_0^n) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0^1, x_0^2, \dots, x_0^i + h, \dots, x_0^n) - f(x_0^1, \dots, x_0^n)}{h} & x_0 + h e_i &= (x_0^1, x_0^2, \dots, x_0^i + h, \dots, x_0^n) \end{aligned}$$

If the limit exists,

Remark. ① The directional derivative of f at x_0 in the direction e , helps us understand how f behaves on the line passing through x_0 and $x_0 + e$



Then $\underline{g'(t)} := f'(x_0 + te, e)$ In particular

$$g'(0) = f'(x_0, e)$$

This is why in some books the directional derivative

of f at \vec{x}_0 in the direction \vec{e} is defined as.

$$d_{\vec{e}} f(\vec{x}_0) := \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{e}) \right|_{t=0} = g'(\vec{b}),$$

Why is it the case $g'(t) = f'(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{e}, \vec{e})$.

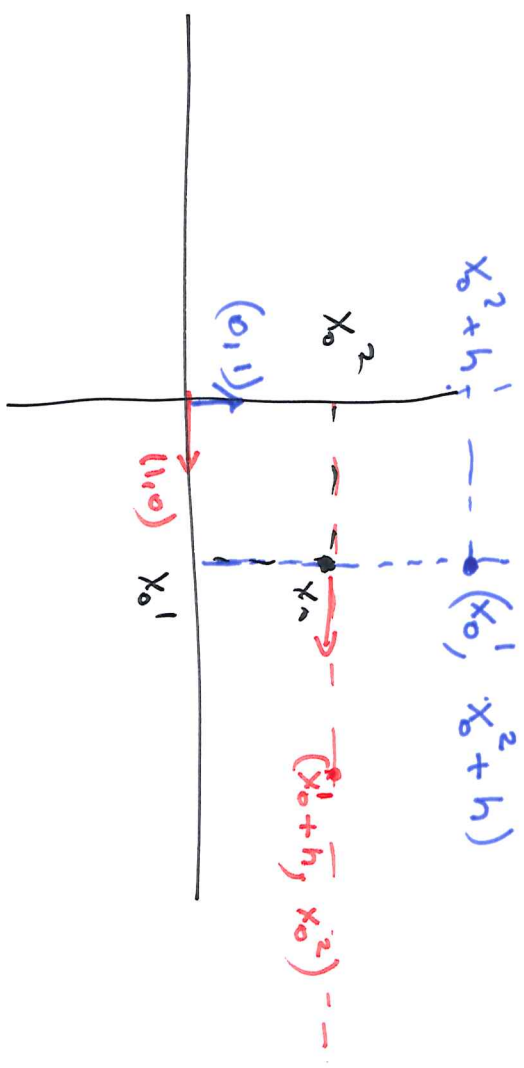
$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t+h) - g(t)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{e} + h\vec{e}) - f(\vec{x}_0 + \vec{e}t)}{h} \\ &=: f'(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{e}, \vec{e}). \end{aligned}$$

Recall. $f'(\vec{a}, \vec{e}) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{a} + h\vec{e}) - f(\vec{a})}{h}$

$$a := \vec{x}_0 + t\vec{e}$$

②. In the case of partial derivatives

$$e = e_T = (0, -0.01, 0, \dots, 0),$$



$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\text{graph} f = \{(x, y, z) \mid z = f(x, y)\}.$$

$$z_0 = f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$P = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$$

$y = y_0$ plane

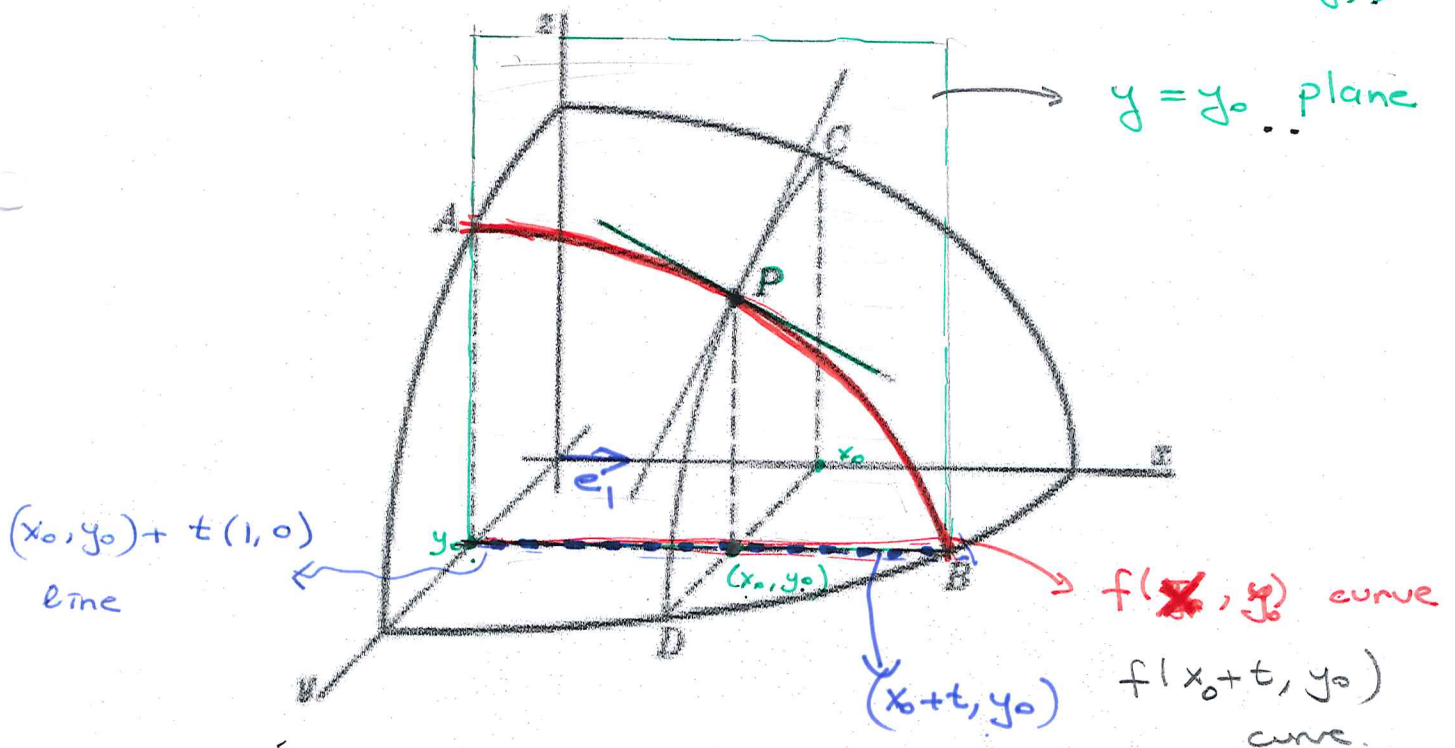
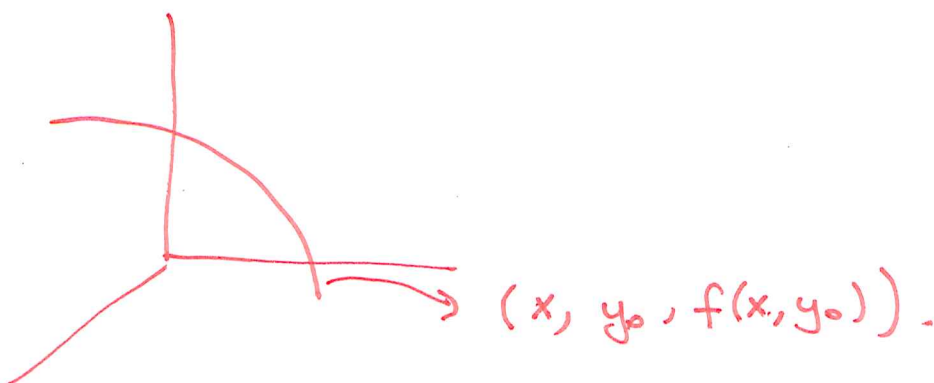
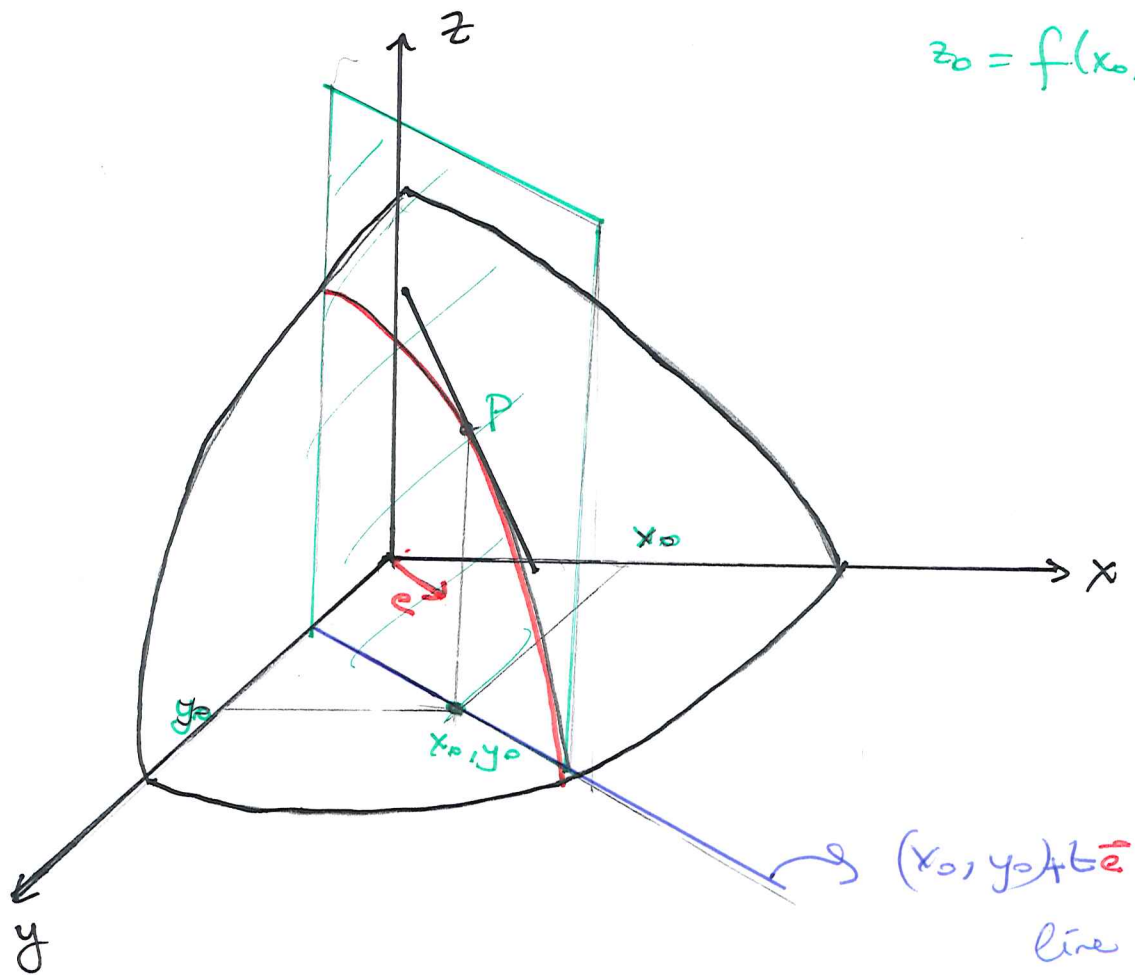


Fig. 1

$$\text{slope} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (f(x_0 + t, y_0)) \right|_{t=0}.$$





$$P = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$$

$$z_0 = f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{slope} &= f_e(x_0, y_0) \\ &= d_e f(x_0, y_0) \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} f((x_0, y_0) + t\vec{e}) \right|_{t=0} \end{aligned}$$

$x = x_0$ plane.

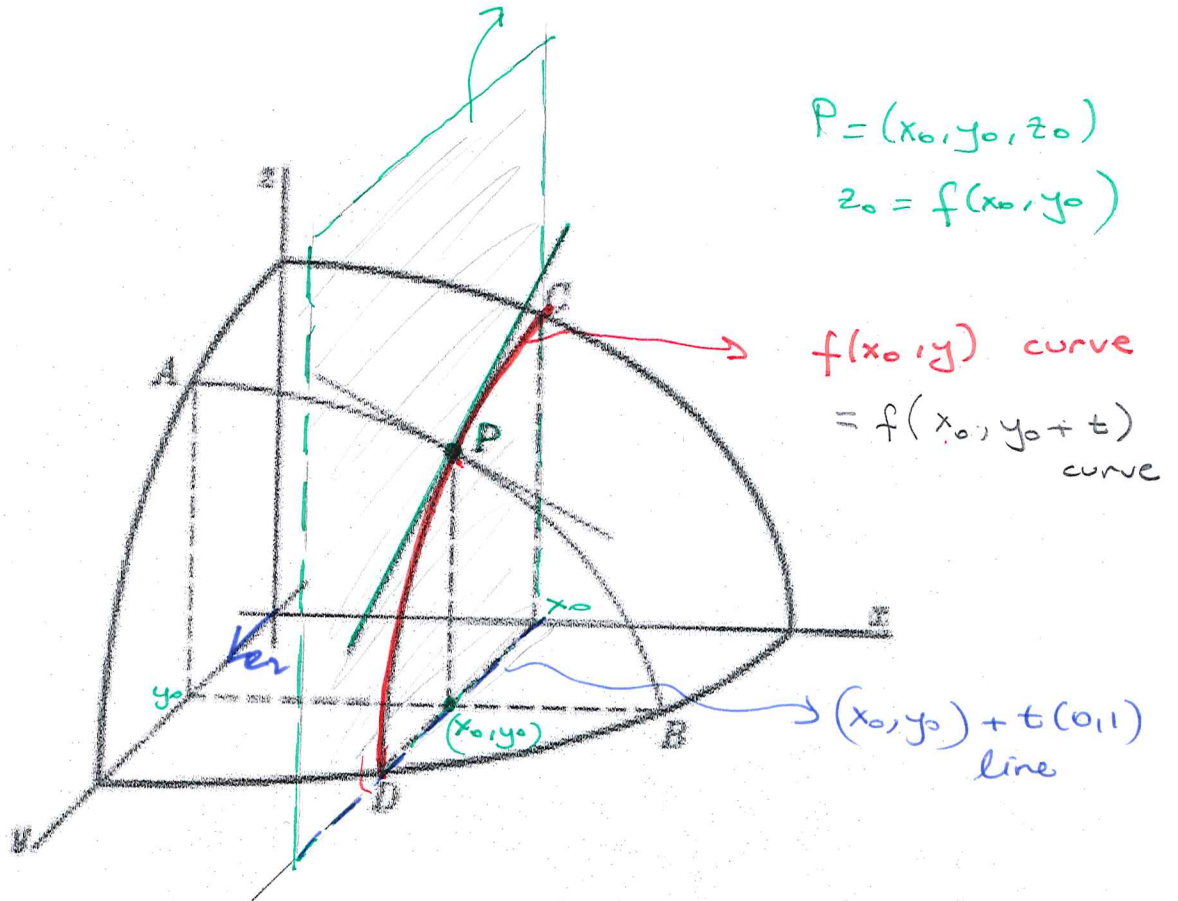


Fig. 1

$$\text{slope} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(x_0, y_0 + t) \right|_{t=0}$$

Lemma 3. To evaluate partial derivatives of a function say $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ one can for each fixed $y=y_0$ consider the function $f(x, y_0)$ as a function of one variable x , then differentiate with respect to x .

eg.) $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $(x, y) \rightarrow (x^2 + yx)(\sin y)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = (\sin y)[2x + y]. \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x \sin y + (x^2 + yx) \cos y.$$

2) $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow e^{x^2 y} \cdot (x + y + z)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = (e^{x^2 y} \cdot 2xy) (x+y+z) + e^{x^2 y} \cdot 1.$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = (e^{x^2 y} \cdot x^2) (x+y+z) + e^{x^2 y} \cdot 1.$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = e^{x^2 y} \cdot 1.$$

$$3) f(x, y, z) = 3x^2 y z + 2y^2 z^3 x + x y.$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 6x y z + 2y^2 z^3 + y \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 3x^2 y + 6y^2 z^2 x$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 3x^2 z + 4y z^3 x + x$$