

Theorem (chain rule) Suppose $\vec{f}: U \rightarrow V$ is differentiable at $\vec{a} \in U$ and $\vec{g}: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ is differentiable at $\vec{f}(\vec{a}) \in V$. Then $\vec{g} \circ \vec{f}: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ is differentiable at \vec{a} and

$$\underbrace{D(\vec{g} \circ \vec{f})(\vec{a})}_{p \times n} = \underbrace{D\vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a}))}_{p \times m} \cdot \underbrace{D\vec{f}(\vec{a})}_{m \times n}$$

$$(A = D\vec{f}(\vec{a}), B = D\vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a})))$$

Proof: Given:

$$\vec{f}(\vec{a} + \vec{h}) = \vec{f}(\vec{a}) + A\vec{h} + |\vec{h}|\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h}) \quad \vec{h} \in B(r, \delta) \quad \vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h}) \rightarrow \vec{0} \text{ as } \vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a}) + \vec{k}) = \vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a})) + B\vec{k} + |\vec{k}|\vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) \quad \vec{k} \in B(s, \delta) \quad \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) \rightarrow \vec{0} \text{ as } \vec{k} \rightarrow \vec{0}$$

w/s

$$(\vec{g} \circ \vec{f})(\vec{a} + \vec{h}) = (\vec{g} \circ \vec{f})(\vec{a}) + BA\vec{h} + |\vec{h}|\vec{\delta}(\vec{h}) \quad \vec{h} \in B(r', \delta) \text{ where } r' \leq r, \vec{\delta}(\vec{h}) \rightarrow \vec{0} \text{ as } \vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}$$

Plug 1 into 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a} + \vec{h})) &= \vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a}) + \underbrace{A\vec{h} + |\vec{h}|\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h})}_{\vec{k}}) \\ &= \vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a})) + B(A\vec{h} + |\vec{h}|\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h})) + |\vec{k}|\vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) \\ &= \vec{g}(\vec{f}(\vec{a})) + BA\vec{h} + \underbrace{|\vec{h}|B\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h}) + |\vec{k}|\vec{\gamma}(\vec{k})}_{|\vec{h}|\vec{\delta}(\vec{h})} \\ &\Rightarrow \vec{\delta}(\vec{h}) = \frac{|\vec{h}|B\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h}) + |\vec{k}|\vec{\gamma}(\vec{k})}{|\vec{h}|} \end{aligned}$$

choose $r' \leq r$ s.t. $\vec{h} \in B(r', \delta) \Rightarrow \vec{k} \in B(s, \delta)$

Now want to show $\vec{\delta}(\vec{h}) \rightarrow \vec{0}$ as $\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}$:

$$\lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} B\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h}) + \frac{|\vec{k}|}{|\vec{h}|} \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) = \underbrace{0}_{\text{linear maps are continuous}} + \lim_{\vec{k} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \frac{|A\vec{h} + |\vec{h}|\vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h})|}{|\vec{h}|} \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k})$$

$$\leq \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \left| A \frac{\vec{h}}{|\vec{h}|} \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) \right| + \left| \vec{\epsilon}(\vec{h}) \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) \right|$$

$$= \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \left| A \frac{\vec{h}}{|\vec{h}|} \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k}) \right| + 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{both approach 0}$$

$$= \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \left| A \frac{\vec{h}}{|\vec{h}|} \right| \cdot \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \vec{\gamma}(\vec{k})$$

$$= \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \left| A \frac{\vec{h}}{|\vec{h}|} \right| \cdot 0$$

↳ this is some number because $\frac{\vec{h}}{|\vec{h}|}$ is the unit-sized \vec{h} .

$A: S^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous on a compact set, so by EVT it has a max/min
 $\{\vec{h} \in \mathbb{R}^n : |\vec{h}| = 1\}$ and does not blow up

$\{\vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n : |\vec{a}|=1\}$ and does not blow up

$$\text{So } \lim_{\vec{h} \rightarrow 0} \vec{g}(\vec{h}) = \vec{0}.$$

Applications:

(1) Directional Derivatives

Definition a direction in \mathbb{R}^n is a unit vector in \mathbb{R}^n .

The directional derivative of $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ at $\vec{a} \in U$ is the derivative of the composite

$$(-\epsilon, \epsilon) \xrightarrow{\vec{g}} U \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}$$

small enough interval straight line function passing through \vec{a} at $\vec{g}(0)$, in the direction \vec{u} , $\vec{g}(t) = \vec{a} + t\vec{u}$. $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{g}(t) = \vec{u}$

$$\text{Apply chain rule: } \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (f \circ \vec{g})(t) \right|_{t=0} = Df(\vec{a}) D\vec{g}(0) = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$= |\nabla f(\vec{a})| \cdot \cos(\theta) \quad \text{where } \theta \text{ is angle between } \vec{u} \text{ \& } \nabla f(\vec{a})$$

\Rightarrow gradient $\nabla f(\vec{a})$ points in direction of maximal change.

(2) Suppose that $\{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : f(\vec{x}) = 0\} \stackrel{S}{=}$ specifies a smooth hypersurface.

Ex: $\{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2 - 1 = 0\} = S^{n-1}$ (the $n-1$ dimensional sphere in \mathbb{R}^n).

then the tangent hyperplane to S at $\vec{a} \in S$ is specified by

$$\{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : 0 = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{a})\}$$

Proof: Suppose that $\vec{g}: (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow S$ is a smooth curve in S with $\vec{g}(0) = \vec{a}$.

then the composite $(-\epsilon, \epsilon) \xrightarrow{\vec{g}} S \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}$ is the 0 function.

$$\text{So } 0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (f \circ \vec{g})(0) = \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{g}'(0) \Rightarrow \nabla f(\vec{a}) \text{ is a normal vector to } S \text{ at } \vec{a}.$$



$\vec{g}'(0)$ is tangent to a curve in S , so it must be in the tangent plane.

Compare this w/ previous eqn of hyperplane.