

Practice problems: linear approximation, implicit differentiation, multivariable chain rule

1) Find the linearization of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 e^y$ at the point $(1, 0)$. Then estimate $f(1.1, 0.02)$.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x e^y \Rightarrow f_x(1, 0) = 2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x^2 e^y \Rightarrow f_y(1, 0) = 1$$

linearization: $f(1, 0) = 1 = z_0$ $f(x_0, y_0) = (1, 0)$

$$\Rightarrow z - 1 = 2(x - 1) + 1(y - 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & f(1.1, 0.02) \\ & \approx 1 + 2(0.1) + 1(0.02) \\ & = \boxed{1.22} \end{aligned}$$

2) Find $\frac{dz}{dt}$ where $z = \sqrt{1 + x^2 + y^2}$ and $x = \ln t$, $y = \cos t$.

$$z_x = \frac{x}{z}, \quad z_y = \frac{y}{z}, \quad x' = \frac{1}{t}, \quad y' = -\sin t$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = \boxed{\frac{x}{z} \cdot \frac{1}{t} + \frac{y}{z} (-\sin t)}$$

3) Use implicit differentiation to find $\partial z / \partial x$ and $\partial z / \partial y$ where $e^z = xyz$.

$$\bullet \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (e^z = xyz) \Rightarrow e^z \cdot z_x = yz + xy z_x$$

$$\Rightarrow z_x (e^z - xy) = yz$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{z_x = \frac{yz}{e^z - xy}}$$

$$\bullet \text{ let } F(x, y, z) = e^z - xyz. \quad 0 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{-F_y}{F_z} = \boxed{\frac{xz}{e^z - xy} = z_y}$$

Makes sense by symmetry.

c) contd

$$\Rightarrow 3 \frac{dL}{dt} = 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot (-3) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{dL}{dt} = 0 \text{ m/s}}$$

4) The length l , width w and height h of a box change with time. At a certain instant the dimensions are $l = 1$ m and $w = h = 2$ m, and l and w are increasing at a rate of 2 m/s while h is decreasing at a rate of 3 m/s. At that instant find the rates at which the following quantities are changing: (a) the volume, (b) the surface area and (c) the length of the main box diagonal.

a) $V(l, w, h) = lwh$, $V_l = wh$, $V_h = lw$, $V_w = lh$
 $t_0 = \text{instant}$

$$\left. \frac{dV}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = V_l \cdot l' + V_h \cdot h' + V_w \cdot w' = (2 \cdot 2)(2) + (1 \cdot 2)(-3) + (1 \cdot 2)(2) = \boxed{6 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}$$

b) $S(l, w, h) = 2(lw + lh + wh)$, $S_l = 2(w+h)$, $S_w = 2(l+h)$, $S_h = 2(l+w)$

$$\left. \frac{dS}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = S_l \cdot l' + S_w \cdot w' + S_h \cdot h' = [2(2+2)](2) + 2(1+2)(2) + 2(1+2)(-3) = 16 + 12 - 18 = \boxed{10 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}}$$

c) $L = \sqrt{l^2 + w^2 + h^2} \Rightarrow L^2 = l^2 + w^2 + h^2 \Rightarrow 2L \frac{dL}{dt} = 2l \frac{dl}{dt} + 2w \frac{dw}{dt} + 2h \frac{dh}{dt}$ \Rightarrow at top
 $L(t_0) = \sqrt{1+4+4} = 3$

5) The radius of a right circular cone is increasing at a rate of 1.8 in/s while its height is decreasing at a rate of 2.5 in/s. At what rate is the volume of the cone changing when the radius is 120 in and the height is 140 in?

Volume $V = \frac{1}{3}(\text{base})(\text{height}) = \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 \cdot h$.

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} = \frac{2}{3} \pi r h, \quad \frac{\partial V}{\partial h} = \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2, \quad \frac{dr}{dt} = 1.8, \quad \frac{dh}{dt} = -2.5$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \frac{dr}{dt} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial h} \frac{dh}{dt}$$

$$= \left(\frac{2}{3} \pi \cdot 120 \cdot 140 \right) (1.8) + \left(\frac{1}{3} \pi \cdot 120^2 \right) (-2.5)$$

$$= 20160 \pi - 12000 \pi$$

$$= 8160 \pi \approx \boxed{25635 \text{ in}^3/\text{s}}$$