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# Advanced Mathematical Methods

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## 2 Multivariate Calculus

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WIRTSCHAFTS- UND  
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FAKULTÄT

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# Outline: Multivariate Calculus

- 2.1 Recap: Differentiation rules
- 2.2 Real valued and vector-valued functions
- 2.3 Derivatives
- 2.4 Differentiation of linear and quadratic forms
- 2.5 Taylor series approximations

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# Readings

- Miroslav Lovric. *Vector Calculus*.  
Wiley, 2007, Chapter 2
- J. E. Marsden and A. J. Tromba. *Vector Calculus*.  
W H Freeman and Company, fifth edition, 2003, Chapters 2-3

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## 2.1 Recap: Differentiation rules

Assume that functions  $f(x)$ ,  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  are once differentiable.

**Basic rules:**

①  $f(x) = x^a$  and  $f'(x) = ax^{a-1}$

②  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^a} = x^{-a}$  and  $f'(x) = -ax^{-a-1}$

③  $f(x) = a^x$  and  $f'(x) = \ln(a)a^x$

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## 2.1 Recap: Differentiation rules

### Product rule

$$f(x) = g(x) \cdot h(x) \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) = g'(x) \cdot h(x) + g(x) \cdot h'(x)$$

### Chain rule

$$f(x) = g(h(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) = g'(h(x)) \cdot h'(x)$$

### Quotient rule

$$f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)} \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) = \frac{g'(x) \cdot h(x) - g(x) \cdot h'(x)}{(h(x))^2}$$



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## 2.2 Real valued functions

A function whose domain is a subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $m \geq 1$  and whose range is contained in  $\mathbb{R}$  is called a **real-valued function (scalar function) of  $m$  variables** if  $n = 1$

Notation:

- $f : U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  describes a scalar function
- a scalar function assigns a unique *real number*  $f(\mathbf{x}) = f(x_1, x_2 \cdots x_m)$  to each element  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2 \cdots x_m)$  in its domain  $U$

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## 2.2 Vector-valued functions

A function whose domain is a subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $m \geq 1$  and whose range is contained in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a **vector-valued function** (**vector function**) of  $m$  variables if  $n > 1$

Notation:

- $\mathbf{F} : U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  describes a vector function
- a vector function assigns a unique *vector*  
 $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{F}(x_1, x_2 \cdots x_m) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to each  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2 \cdots x_m) \in U$

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## 2.2 Real valued and vector-valued functions

We write:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F}(x_1, x_2 \cdots x_m) &= (F_1(x_1, x_2 \cdots, x_m), \cdots, F_n(x_1, x_2 \cdots, x_m)) \\ \text{or} &= (F_1(\mathbf{x}), \cdots, F_n(\mathbf{x}))\end{aligned}$$

- $F_1 \cdots F_n$  are the **component functions** of  $\mathbf{F}$  (and **real-valued functions** of  $x_1 \cdots x_m$ )

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## 2.2 Real valued and vector-valued functions

Examples:

- **Distance function:**

$f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$  measures the distance from the point  $(x, y, z)$  to the origin.

→ real-valued function of three variables defined on  $U = \mathbb{R}^3$

- **Projection function:**

$F(x, y, z) = (x, y)$  is a vector-valued function of three variables that assigns to every vector  $(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$  its projection  $(x, y)$  onto the  $xy$ -plane in

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## 2.3 Derivatives

**Open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ :**

A set  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  is **open** in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  if and only if all of its points are interior points

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## 2.3 Derivatives

### Partial Derivative:

Let  $f : U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a real valued function of  $m$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  defined on an open set  $U$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$

Partial derivative (real-valued function)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_1, \dots, x_i + h, \dots, x_m) - f(x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_m)}{h},$$

if the limit exists.



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## 2.3 Derivatives

Derivative of a function of several variables:

$$\mathbf{F} : U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$D\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_m}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_m}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_m}(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Provided that all partial derivatives exist at  $\mathbf{x}$

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## 2.3 Derivatives

The  $i$  –  $th$  column is the matrix

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{F}_{x_i}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

which consists of partial derivatives of the component functions  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  with respect to the same variable  $x_i$ , evaluated at  $\mathbf{x}$

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## 2.3 Derivatives

### Gradient:

Consider the special case  $f : U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Here  $Df(\mathbf{x}) = [\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}]$  is a  $1 \times n$  matrix

We can form the corresponding vector  $(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n})$ , called the **gradient** of  $f$  and denoted by  $\nabla f$ .

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## 2.3 Derivatives

### Higher order derivatives:

Suppose that  $f : U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has second order continuous derivatives  $\left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right) (\mathbf{x}_0)$ , for  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ , at a point  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$ .

The **Hessian** of  $f$  is given as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

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## 2.4 Differentiation of linear and quadratic forms

For a given  $n \times 1$  vector  $\mathbf{a}$  and any  $n \times 1$  vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , consider the real-valued linear function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a}'\mathbf{x}$ . The derivative of  $f$  with respect to  $\mathbf{x}$  is

$$\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{a}'.$$

For a quadratic form  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$  the derivative of  $Q$  with respect to  $\mathbf{x}$  is

$$\frac{\partial Q(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = 2\mathbf{x}'\mathbf{A}.$$

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## 2.5 Taylor series approximations

### Single-variable case

Suppose that at least  $k + 1$  derivatives of a function  $f(x)$  exist and are continuous in a neighborhood of  $x_0$ . Taylor's theorem asserts that

$$f(x_0 + h) = \sum_{i=0}^k \frac{f^{(i)}(x_0)}{i!} h^i + R_k(x_0, h)$$

where

$$R_k(x_0, h) = \int_{x_0}^{x_0+h} \frac{(x_0 + h - \tau)^k}{k!} f^{(k+1)}(\tau) d\tau.$$

## 2.5 Taylor series approximations

### Multi-variable case

#### Theorem: First-order Taylor formula

Let  $f : U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$ . Then

$$f(\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{h}) = f(\mathbf{x}_0) + \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}_0) + R_1(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{h}),$$

where  $R_1(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{h})/d(\mathbf{h}) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\mathbf{h} \rightarrow 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .



## 2.5 Taylor series approximations

### Multi-variable case

#### Theorem: Second-order Taylor formula

Let  $f : U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  have continuous partial derivatives of third order. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{h}) &= f(\mathbf{x}_0) + \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}_0) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n h_i h_j \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}_0) + R_2(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{h}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $R_2(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{h})/d(\mathbf{h})^2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $\mathbf{h} \rightarrow 0$ .