

Lecture is Tuesday 10/12  
 Midterm Monday October 25

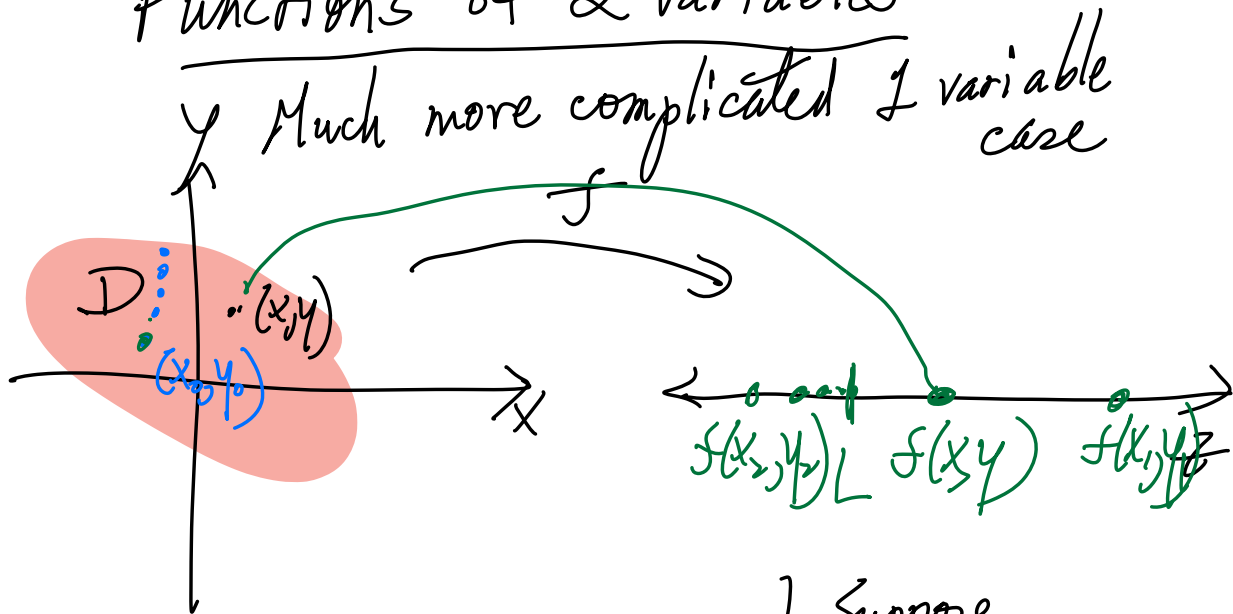
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Limit of function

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Functions of 2 variables

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$(x_0, y_0)$  may or  
 may be in domain of  $f$   
 let  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots$   
 be a sequence of points  
 in domain of  $f$

Suppose  
 $(x_1, y_1), \dots$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $(x_0, y_0)$   
 $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (x_k, y_k) = (x_0, y_0)$

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$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x,y) = L$$

if  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(x_k, y_k) = L$

for every possible sequence  
 $(x_k, y_k) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)$

### Informal rules on limits

Consider  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x, y)$

Possibilities:

- 1) Equal to some number  $L$
- 2) Undefined

• Assume  $f$  is given by a single formula

$$f(x, y) = e^{-x \sin y} + y^2 \left( \frac{x+1}{y+1} \right)$$

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x^2 y & \text{if } x > 0 \text{ and } y < 0 \\ \frac{x}{x^2 - y^2} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

1) First, try calculating  $f(x_0, y_0)$   
If this works, then the limit  
is  $f(x_0, y_0)$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,1)} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1-1}{1+1} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  limit is 0

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If  $f(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\text{non zero}}{0}$ ,  $\sqrt{\text{negative number}}$   
or  $\ln(\text{negative number})$   
then limit is undefined

$$1 = \frac{2}{2} = \frac{2}{0} \cdot \frac{0}{2}$$

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If  $f(x_0, y_0) = \frac{0}{0}$  or  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$   
then need to investigate further

Example

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2) \\ \parallel \\ (x_0, y_0)}} \frac{1+x+y}{3-x-y} = \frac{1+1+2}{3-1-2} = \frac{4}{0}$$

$\Rightarrow$  limit is undefined

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2)} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{1-4}{1+4} = -\frac{3}{5}$$

$\Rightarrow$  limit exists and is equal to  $-\frac{3}{5}$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{0}{0}$$

Need to investigate

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## Detecting undefined limits

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} f(x,y)$$

Suppose there is a sequence

$$(x_n, y_n) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)$$

such that  $f(x_n, y_n)$  is undefined

for all  $(x_n, y_n)$

$\Rightarrow$  the limit is undefined

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,1)} \frac{x^2 + y^2}{x^2 - y^2} =$$

Undefined if denominator is zero  
but numerator is not

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

$$\Leftrightarrow y = \pm x$$

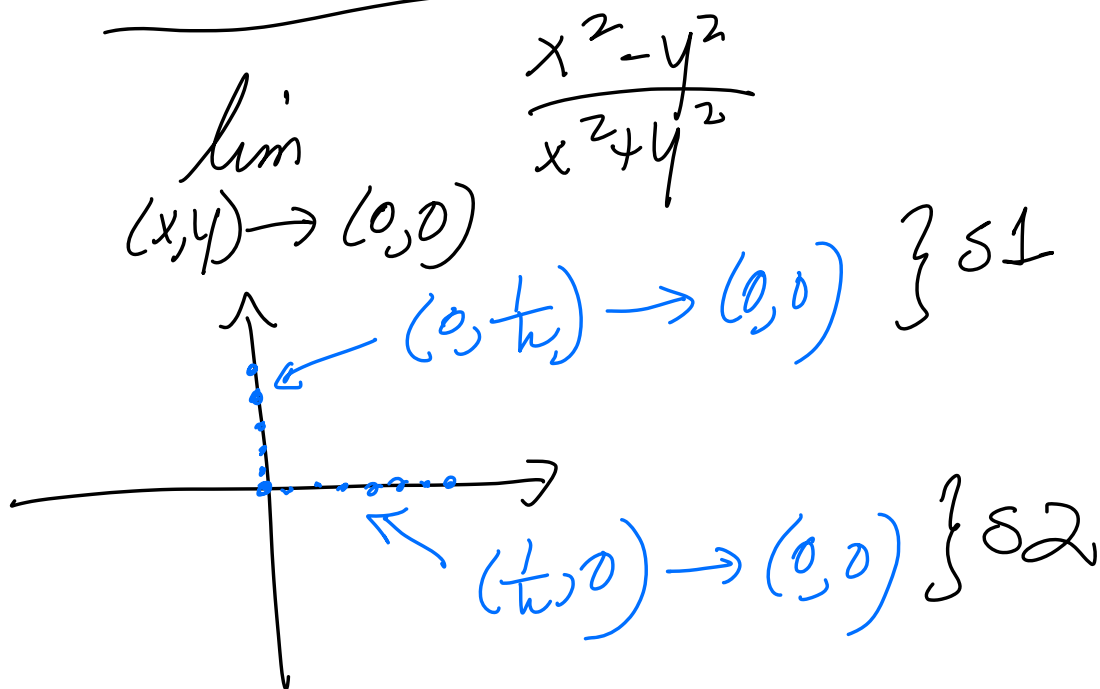
$$(1 + \frac{1}{n}, 1 + \frac{1}{n}) \rightarrow (1, 1)$$

but  $\frac{x_n^2 + y_n^2}{x_n^2 - y_n^2} = \frac{(1 + \frac{1}{n})^2 + (1 + \frac{1}{n})^2}{\text{0}}$  is undefined

So limit is undefined

$$\frac{1}{h} \rightarrow 0 \quad \frac{1}{h^2} \rightarrow 0$$

$$x_h = 2 + \frac{1}{h} \rightarrow 2$$



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$S1: (x_h, y_h) = (0, \frac{1}{h})$

$$\frac{x_h^2 - y_h^2}{x_h^2 + y_h^2} = \frac{0 - \frac{1}{h^2}}{0 + \frac{1}{h^2}} = -1 \rightarrow -1$$

$$s2: (x_h, y_h) = (\frac{1}{h}, 0)$$

$$\frac{x_h^2 - y_h^2}{x_h^2 + y_h^2} = \frac{\frac{1}{h^2} - 0}{\frac{1}{h^2} + 0} = 1$$

$$s1 \rightarrow -1 \text{ and } s2 \rightarrow +1$$

$\Rightarrow$  limit undefined

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$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x+2y}{x^2+y^2} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{denominator} \\ \rightarrow 0 \text{ faster than} \end{matrix}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{h}, y = 0 \quad \frac{\frac{1}{h}}{\frac{1}{h^2}} = h \rightarrow +\infty$$

$\Rightarrow$  limit ~~exists~~ undefined

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$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + xy}{x^2 + y^2} \quad \left. \vphantom{\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow 0}} \right\} \begin{matrix} \text{degrees are} \\ \text{equal} \end{matrix}$$

Try:  $(x_h, y_h) = (\frac{1}{h}, 0)$  and  $(0, \frac{1}{h})$   
if different answers, then limit is undefined

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{xy}{x^2+y^2} :$$

$$(x_n, y_n) = \left(\frac{1}{n}, 0\right), (x_n, y_n) = \left(0, \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

have limiting value of 0

$$(x_n, y_n) = \left(\frac{a}{n}, \frac{b}{n}\right) \quad a, b \text{ are unspecified constants}$$

$$\frac{x_n y_n}{x_n^2 + y_n^2} = \frac{\frac{a}{n} \cdot \frac{b}{n}}{\frac{a^2}{n^2} + \frac{b^2}{n^2}} = \frac{ab}{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$(a, b) = (1, 1)$$

$$(a, b) = (3, 4)$$

give different limits

$\Rightarrow$  limit is undefined

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 y}{x^2 + 3y^2}$$

- Denominator  $\neq 0$  if  $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$
- $x^2 + 3y^2 \geq x^2 + y^2$
- $|x|, |y| \leq \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \geq \sqrt{x^2} = |x|$   
 $\sqrt{y^2} = |y|$



$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| \frac{x^2 y}{x^2 + 3y^2} \right| &\leq \frac{|x|^2 |y|}{x^2 + y^2} \leq \frac{(x^2 + y^2)(x^2 + y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^2 + y^2} \\
 &= (x^2 + y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 &\downarrow \\
 &0 \quad \text{as } (x, y) \rightarrow 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} \frac{x^2 y}{x^2 + 3y^2} = 0$$

$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)}$  (formula in  $x$  and  $y$ )

1) Plug  $(x_0, y_0)$  into formula  
If it works, value is limit

2) If you get undefined,  
the limit is undefined

3) If you get  $\frac{0}{0}$  or  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ , go  
to next steps

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

~~polynomial of degree  $p$~~   
~~polynomial of degree  $q$~~

i) if it's possible for numerator  $\neq 0$   
but denominator  $= 0$

$$\frac{x^2 + y^2}{x^2 - y^2}$$

for a given  $(x, y)$

then limit does not exist

Try to find  $(x_k, y_k) \rightarrow 0$   
but denominator is always 0

2) if  $p < q$ , then usually  
limit does not exist

$$\text{Try } (x_k, y_k) = \left(\frac{a}{k}, \frac{b}{k}\right)$$

3) If  $p = q$ , try  $(x_k, y_k) = \left(\frac{a}{k}, \frac{b}{k}\right)$

Usually limit does not exist

because limit depends on  $a$  and  $b$

4) If  $p > q$  and denominator  
is never zero

Use following identities to simplify limit

replace by  
something bigger

$$|A+B| \leq |A| + |B|$$

$$|AB| = |A||B|$$

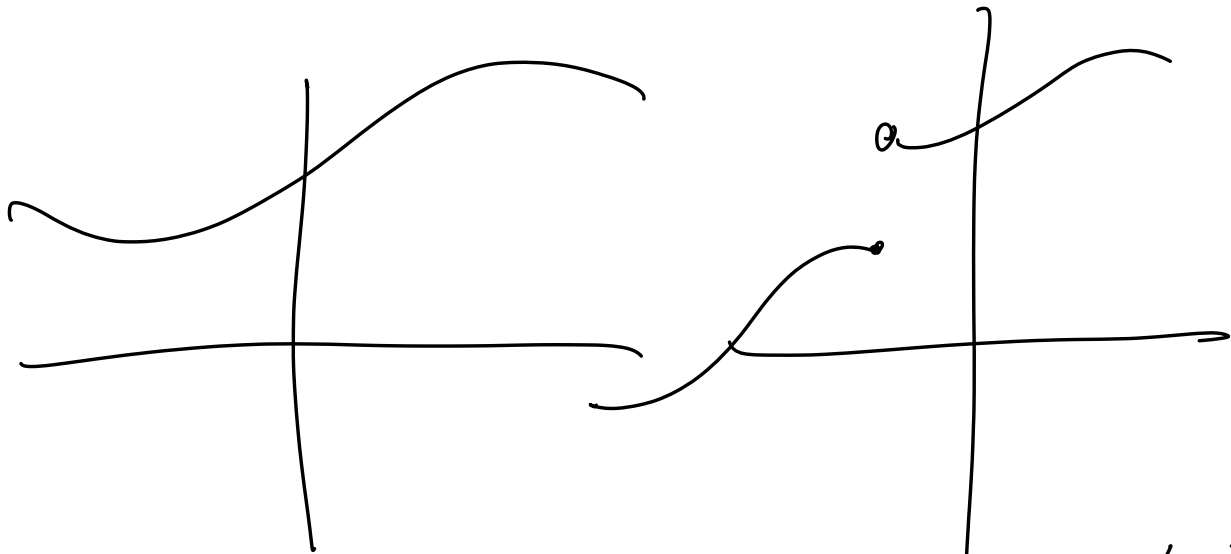
$$|A|, |B| \leq \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$$

Use this to  
replace limit by  
a formula that  
has only  $(x^2 + y^2)^{1/2}$  in it

In the above:

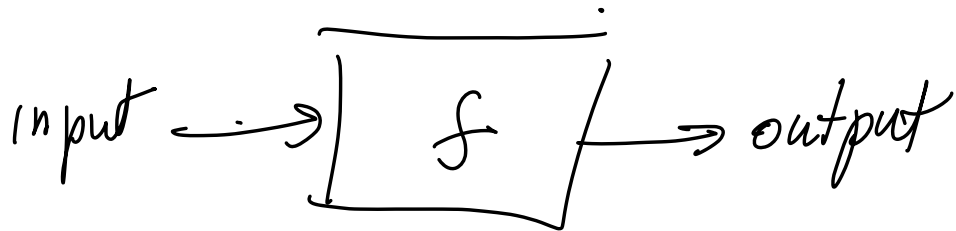
$p$  = degree of lowest order term  
in numerator

$q$  = degree of lowest order term  
in denominator



$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x^2 + y^2 & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 1 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

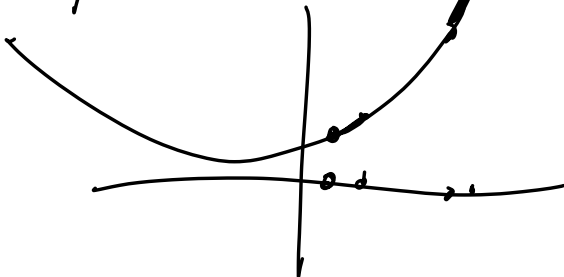
# Derivative of a function



Derivative of  $f \approx$  sensitivity  
of output to  
a small change in  
input  
 $\approx \frac{\text{change in output}}{\text{change in input}}$

Linear function: sensitivity same  
for every input

Nonlinear function: sensitivity depends  
starting input



## Linear approximation

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

Estimate  $f(0.8)$

$$\text{change in input} = 0.8 - 1 = -0.2$$

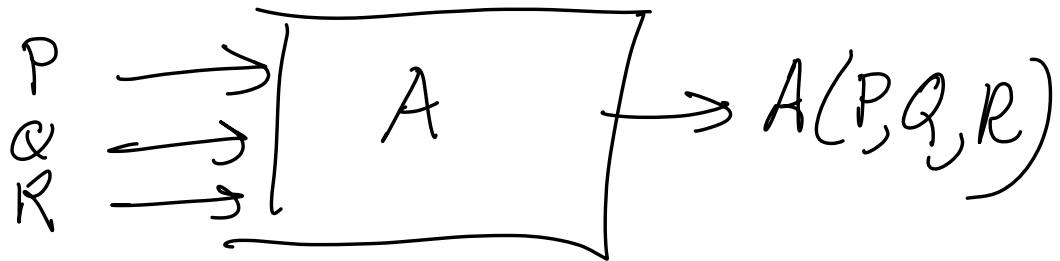
$$\text{change in output} = f(0.8) - f(1)$$

$$\text{sensitivity} = f'(1) = -2$$

$$-2 = \frac{f(0.8) - f(1)}{-0.2} = \frac{f(0.8) - 3}{-0.2}$$

$$f(0.8) = 3 + 0.4 = 3.4$$

Functions with more than one  
input



Partial derivative

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial P}(P_0, Q_0, R_0) \approx \frac{\text{change in } A}{\text{small change in } P} \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{with } Q, R \\ \text{unchanged} \end{array} \right)$$

Same for  $\frac{\partial A}{\partial Q}$ ,  $\frac{\partial A}{\partial R}$

Here, use  $\partial$  instead of  $d$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial P}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$

Notation:  $\frac{\partial A}{\partial P} = \lambda_P A = A_P$

Calculating partial derivatives

Ex:  $A(P, Q, R) = PQ^2R^3$

$A_P$  = derivative of  $A$  with  
respect to  $P$  with  
 $Q, R$  held constant

$$A_P = Q^2R^3$$

$$A_Q = 2PR^3Q$$

$$A_R = 3PQ^2R^2$$

$$(A_P)_R = 3Q^2R^2$$

$$(A_Q)_R = 6Q^2R$$

$$(A_R)_P = 3Q^2R^2$$

Equal



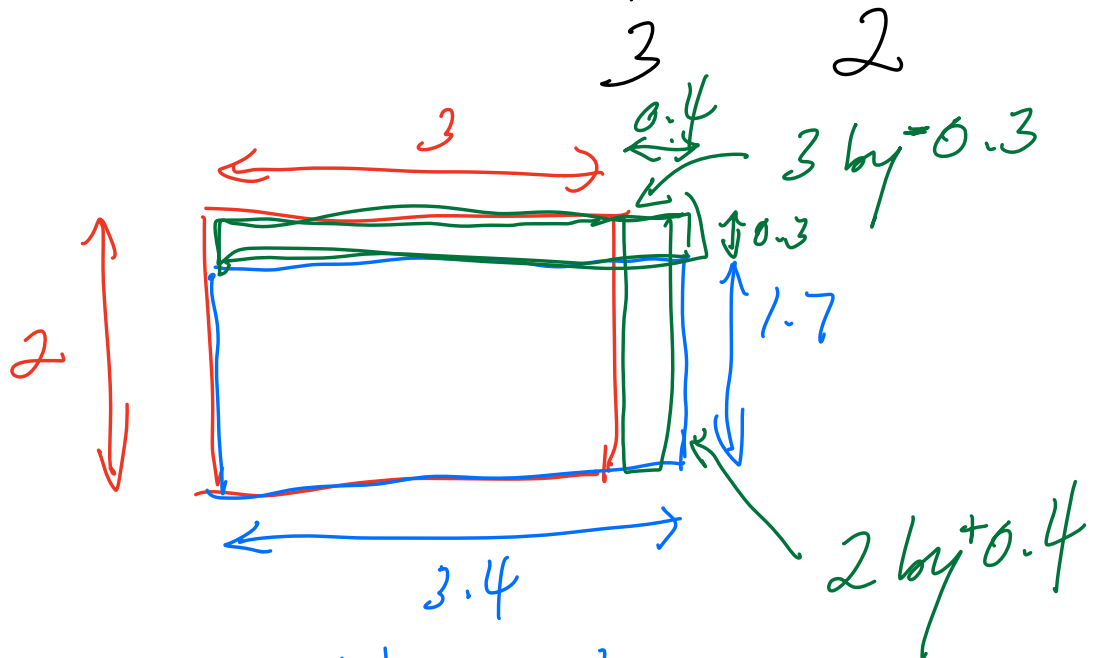
Mixed partials commute

$$(A_P)_Q = (A_Q)_P = A_{PQ} = A_{QP}$$

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Linear approximation

Estimate area of 3.4 by 1.7 box



Area of 3.4 by 1.7 box

$$\approx 3(2) + 2(0.4) - 3(0.3)$$

$$6 + 0.8 - 0.9 = 5.9$$

Exact answer = 5.78

$$A(h, w) = hw$$

$$\begin{aligned} A(h, w) - A(h_0, w_0) & \overset{0}{=} \\ &= hw - h_0 w_0 = hw - \overbrace{h_0 w + h_0 w - h_0 w_0} \\ &= (h - h_0)w + h_0(w - w_0) \\ &= (h - h_0)w_0 + h_0(w - w_0) \\ &\quad (h - h_0)(w - w_0) \end{aligned}$$

If  $h - h_0, w - w_0$  are small  
then  $(h - h_0)(w - w_0)$  is really small

$$\text{So } A(h, w) \approx (h - h_0)w_0 + h_0(w - w_0)$$

Linear approximation

- Suppose  $(x, y)$  is close to  $(x_0, y_0)$
- $f(x, y)$  is a function where we know the value  $f(x_0, y_0)$
- Estimate  $f(x, y)$
- Zeroth estimate:  $f(x, y) \approx f(x_0, y_0)$
- 1<sup>st</sup> order estimate  

$$f(x, y) \approx f(x_0, y_0) + \left( \text{change in } f \text{ due to change in } x \right) + \left( \text{change in } f \text{ due to change in } y \right)$$

$$\approx f(x_0, y_0) + f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0)$$

$$f(x, y) \approx f(x_0, y_0) + f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0)$$

Linear approximation

Right side:  $(x_0, y_0), f(x_0, y_0), f_x(x_0, y_0), f_y(x_0, y_0)$  are constants

$\Rightarrow$  Right side is a linear function of  $x$  and  $y$

$$f(x, y) \approx ax + by + c$$

$$a = f_x(x_0, y_0) \quad c = \dots$$

$$b = f_y(x_0, y_0)$$

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Example

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

$$f_x = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}, \quad f_y = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

$$f(3, 4) = 5$$

$$f(3.1, 3.9) \approx f(3, 4) + f_x(3, 4)(3.1 - 3) + f_y(3, 4)(3.9 - 4)$$

$$= 5 + \frac{3}{5}(0.1) + \frac{4}{5}(-0.1)$$

$$= 5 + 0.6 - 0.8 = 4.8$$