

$f(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2 \quad \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = (2x+4y, 4x+6y)$ "direction of max. change"

directional derivative: $D_u f = \nabla f \cdot u$ (unit vector)

e.g. $u =$ unit vector in direction of gradient

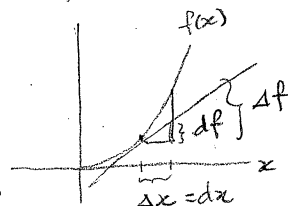
$D_u f = \nabla f \cdot \nabla f / |\nabla f| = |\nabla f|^2 / |\nabla f| = |\nabla f|$

$v = (x, y) \quad f(v + \epsilon u) \approx f(v) + \epsilon D_u f$

$f(v + \epsilon u) - f(v) \approx \epsilon D_u f$

$\Delta f \approx (\Delta v) (D_u f)$

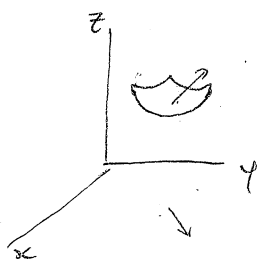
$\nabla f \cdot \Delta v, \Delta v = \epsilon u$



increment $\Delta f \approx \Delta x f'(x)$

$df = dx f'(x)$

differential



machine learning: optimization problems over \mathbb{R}^d or $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$
 can differentiate wrt each dimension separately,
 but often easier to differentiate wrt the whole vector/matrix
 since the derivative/differential can often be expressed
 in terms of v/u .

differentiation wrt vector

ex. $x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$, not dependent on x .

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{md} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^d a_{1i} x_i \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^d a_{mi} x_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$f(x) = Ax \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1d} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{md} \end{pmatrix} = A$

def $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$
 $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^m$
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_d} \end{pmatrix}$ sometimes defined as the transpose
 $\frac{\partial (\sum_{i=1}^d a_{ji} x_i)}{\partial x_k} = a_{jk}$
 Jacobian matrix

ex. $f(x) = x^T A x$, where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$

$x^T A x = \sum_{i=1}^d a_{1i} x_i x_1 + \sum_{i=1}^d a_{2i} x_i x_2 + \dots + \sum_{i=1}^d a_{di} x_i x_d = \sum_{j=1}^d \sum_{i=1}^d a_{ji} x_i x_j$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} = \sum_{i \neq k} a_{ki} x_i + 2a_{kk} x_k^2 + \sum_{j \neq k} a_{jk} x_j = \sum_{i=1}^d a_{ki} x_i + \sum_{j=1}^d a_{jk} x_j = 1 \times d$ matrix, so vector is on the left and is transposed

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = x^T A^T + x^T A = x^T (A^T + A)$

in particular if A is symmetric, $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^T A x) = 2x^T A$

what about $\frac{\partial}{\partial s} ((x-s)^T A (x-s))$ (s represents a translation)

easy if we have some sort of chain rule, but a pain to prove it

instead: $(x-s)^T A (x-s) = x^T A x - s^T A x - x^T A s - s^T A s$

diff. each term: $2x^T A - s^T A - s^T A = 2(x-s)^T A$

$(x^T A s = s^T A x = s^T A x)$

$x^T A x$ for symmetric A is called a quadratic form: represents a homogeneous polynomial of deg 2.

example from before, $x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2 = (x \ y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = (2x+4y, 4x+6y)$

ex. ridge regression objective function (generalization of linear regression)

$J_\lambda(\theta) = \left[\sum_{i=1}^m (x_i^T \theta - y_i)^2 \right] + \lambda \sum \theta_i^2$ where $x_i, \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d, y \in \mathbb{R}^m, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$

$= \|x\theta - y\|^2 + \lambda \|\theta\|^2$ where $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$

$\frac{\partial J_\lambda(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [(x\theta - y)^T (x\theta - y) + \lambda \theta^T \theta] = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [\theta^T x^T x \theta - y^T x \theta - \theta^T x^T y + y^T y + \lambda \theta^T \theta]$

solution to linear regression ($\lambda=0$ case)

$\theta = (x^T x)^{-1} x^T y$ hat matrix, the inverse may not exist

$\theta^T (x^T x + \lambda I) = y^T x$
 $\theta = (x^T x + \lambda I)^{-1} x^T y \iff \theta^T = y^T x (x^T x + \lambda I)^{-1}$