

MATH 395 Notes

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Announcements

- Midterm is Wednesday (class time)
 - Cameras should be on
 - Be ready 5 minutes earlier
 - Exam from 1pm \rightarrow 2:20pm
 - From 2:30 \rightarrow 2:30 pm upload your answers to gradescope
- No class on Friday October 30th because Hani has to work with the NSF

Concluding Remarks on the Inverse Function Theorem

The IFT says that if $y = f(x)$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ satisfies $Df(x_0)$ being non-singular, then there exists an inverse function near x_0 . In other words, this means that specifying (y_1, \dots, y_n) completely determines (x_1, \dots, x_n) at least locally around x_0 for $y_0 = f(x_0)$.

This means that we can use (y_1, \dots, y_n) as a coordinate system around x_0 instead of (x_1, \dots, x_n) .

Example. Let $f : [0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be given by:

$$f(\rho, \phi, \theta) = \rho(\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi)$$

This is the spherical coordinate system, note that:

$$Df = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \phi \cos \theta & \rho \cos \phi \cos \theta & -\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta \\ \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \cos \phi \sin \theta & \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta \\ \cos \phi & -\rho \sin \phi & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \det Df(\rho, \phi, \theta) &= -\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta (-\rho \sin \theta (\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi)) \\ &\quad + \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta (-\rho \cos \theta (\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi)) \\ &= \rho^2 \sin \phi (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta) = \rho^2 \sin \phi \end{aligned}$$

Now note that $\det Df \neq 0$ whenever $\rho \neq 0$ and $\sin \phi \neq 0$. That is for any $(\rho_0, \phi_0, \theta_0)$ such that $\phi_0 \neq 0$ and $\phi_0 \neq \pi$ there is a neighborhood U of $(\rho_0, \phi_0, \theta_0)$ on which f is a diffeomorphism. In particular, we can use (f_1, f_2, f_3) as coordinates on U .

In this example, the inverse function can be computed using:

$$\rho = \sqrt{f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2} \quad \phi = \arccos \left(\frac{f_3}{\rho} \right) \quad \theta = \arctan \left(\frac{f_2}{f_1} \right)$$

Around a point for which $\rho \neq 0$ and $\sin \phi \neq 0$, this holds whenever $f_1^2 + f_2^2 \neq 0$.

The Implicit Function Theorem

Geometric Motivations

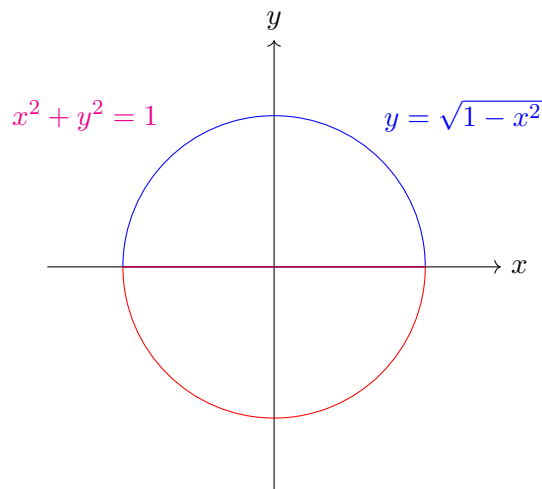
Definition. A level set of a function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is of the form $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) = C\}$ for some constant $C \in \mathbb{R}$

Consider the function:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

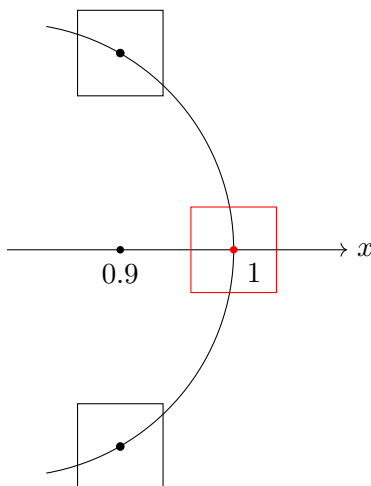
$$(x, y) \mapsto x^2 + y^2 - 1$$

We know that the equation $f(x, y) = 0$, a level set of f , is the unit circle.



But the upper part of the unit circle is also defined by the function $y = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$. In other words, when does the equation $f(x, y) = 0$ define the graph of a function $y = g(x)$. In this case, we say that $f(x, y) = 0$ defines y implicitly in terms of x .

For (a, b) on the unit circle, we can write the equation $f(x, y) = 0$ as $y = g(x)$ in a small neighborhood of (a, b) so long as $(a, b) \neq (1, 0)$ and $(a, b) \neq (-1, 0)$ by the vertical line test



Clearly any red box will violate the vertical line test, and so we can't do this trick near $(1, 0)$.

These are exactly the points where $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0$. In the context of the implicit function theorem, we are given a function $f(x, y)$ with $x \in \mathbb{R}^k$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and

$f : A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. When can the level set $\{f = C\}$ locally be described as the graph of a function $y = g(x)$.

Calculus Motivation (Implicit Differentiation)

Suppose that the equation $f(x, y) = 0$ defines y as a function of x (the main assumption). What is $\frac{dy}{dx}$. Well:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y(x)) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} &= 0 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= -\frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}} \end{aligned}$$

Indeed the condition $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \neq 0$ is again needed to compute $\frac{dy}{dx}$. We will see that the Implicit Function Theorem Tells us this is a sufficient condition to be able to express y as a function of x .

Dimension Counting

We would like to find and prove the right generalization of those conditions so that the equation $f(x, y) = 0$ with $x \in \mathbb{R}^k, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $f(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^p$ can be solved uniquely in terms of x in a sufficiently small neighborhood of (a, b) on the level set.

Let us study the linear problem, i.e. when $f(x, y) = L(x, y)$ and L is a linear function from $\mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$, that is L is a $p \times (n + k)$ matrix. Write L as:

$$L = \left(A \mid B \right)$$

Where A is $p \times k$ and B is $p \times n$. Then $L(x, y) = Ax + By$, and so $L(x, y) = 0$ if and only if $Ax + By = 0$. Therefore y is uniquely solvable in terms of x when $By = -Ax$ is uniquely solvable, which happens exactly when B is an invertible matrix. Therefore we must have that $p = n$.

Notice that the matrix B has its columns as $\frac{\partial L(x, y)}{\partial y_j}$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$. This motivates the following:

Definition. Let $f : A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be differentiable and let f_1, \dots, f_m be the components of f . We denote:

- *First:*

$$Df = \frac{\partial(f_1, \dots, f_m)}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{x}}$$

The matrix whose columns are $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$.

- Now suppose that $(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (y, z)$ for $y \in \mathbb{R}^k$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$. We denote then:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{y}} &= \frac{\partial(f_1, \dots, f_n)}{\partial(y_1, \dots, y_k)} = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y_j} \right)_{1 \leq j \leq k} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{z}} &= \frac{\partial(f_1, \dots, f_n)}{\partial(z_1, \dots, z_{n-k})} = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z_j} \right)_{1 \leq j \leq n-k} \end{aligned}$$

The Implicit function theorem states (roughly) that given $f : A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{k+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ where $f(v) = f(x, y)$ with $x \in \mathbb{R}^k$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then the level set $\{f(x, y) = 0\}$ defines y as a function of x in a neighborhood of any point (a, b) on the level set if $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{y}}$ is non-singular.