

---

---

Real Analysis:  
Differential Calculus

---

---

# 1. One-Variable Calculus: Differentiability of Functions

---

- **Slope of a Linear Function:**

The slope of a linear function  $f$  measures how much  $f(x)$  changes for each unit increase in  $x$ .

- It measures the *rate of change* of the function  $f$ .

- Linear functions have the same rate of change no matter where we start.

- The view of the *slope* of a linear function as its *rate of change* (the *marginal effect*) plays a key role in economic analysis:

- marginal cost;

- marginal utility;

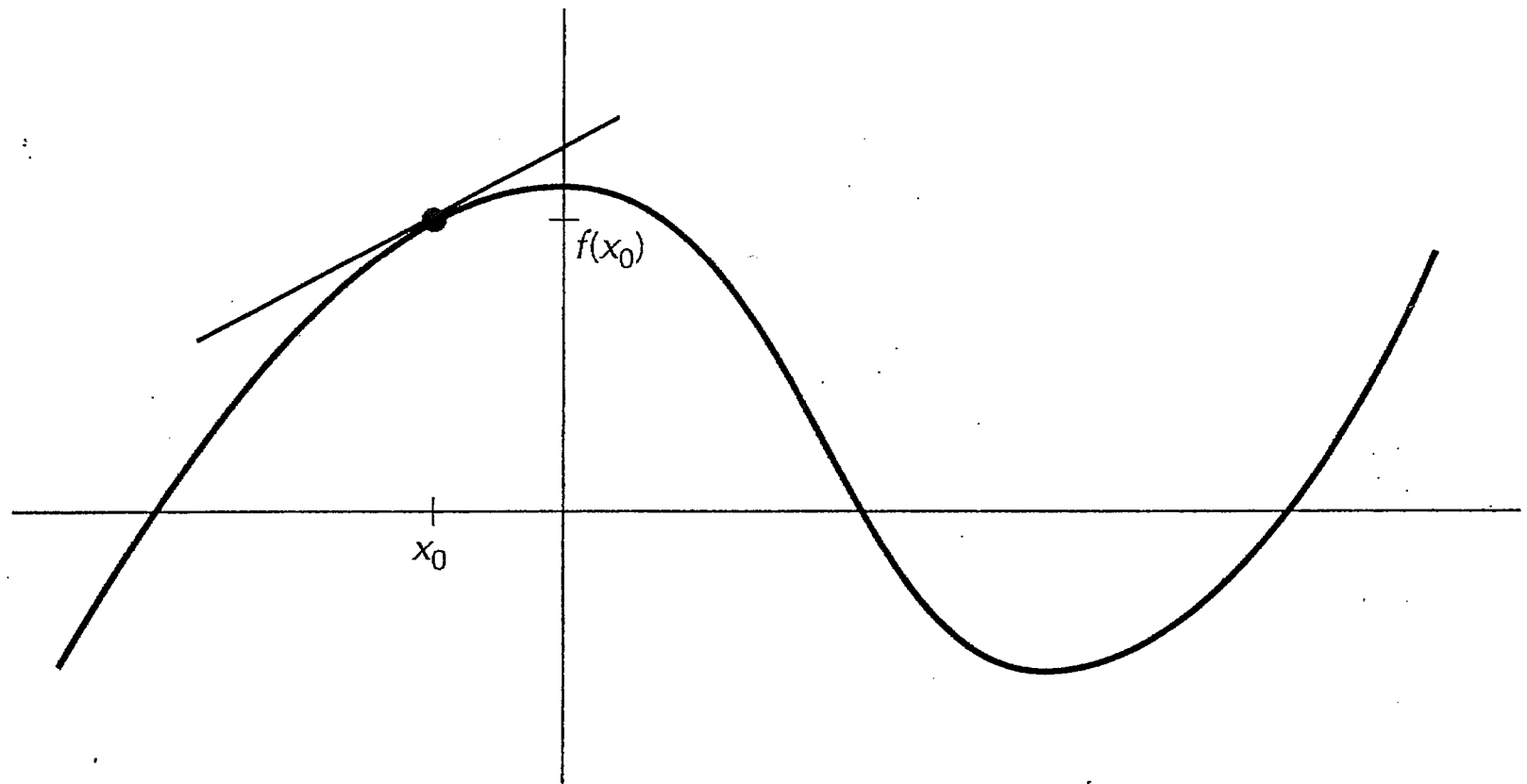
- marginal product of labour.

# 1.1 Slope of Nonlinear Functions

---

- How do we measure the marginal effects of nonlinear functions?
- Suppose that  $y = f(x)$  is a nonlinear function and we are at the point  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  on the graph of  $f$ , as in the following figure.
  - We want to measure the rate of change of  $f$  when  $x = x_0$ .
    - A natural solution to this problem is to draw the *tangent line* to the graph of  $f$  at  $x_0$  as pictured in the figure.
- Since *the tangent line very closely approximates the graph of  $f$  around  $(x_0, f(x_0))$* , it is a good proxy for the graph of  $f$  itself.
  - The slope of the tangent line should be a good measure for the slope of the nonlinear function at  $x_0$ .
- For nonlinear  $f$ , the slope of tangent line varies from point to point.

$$f'(x_0) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{df}{dx}(x_0).$$



**Figure**  
**2.8**

*The graph of a nonlinear function.*

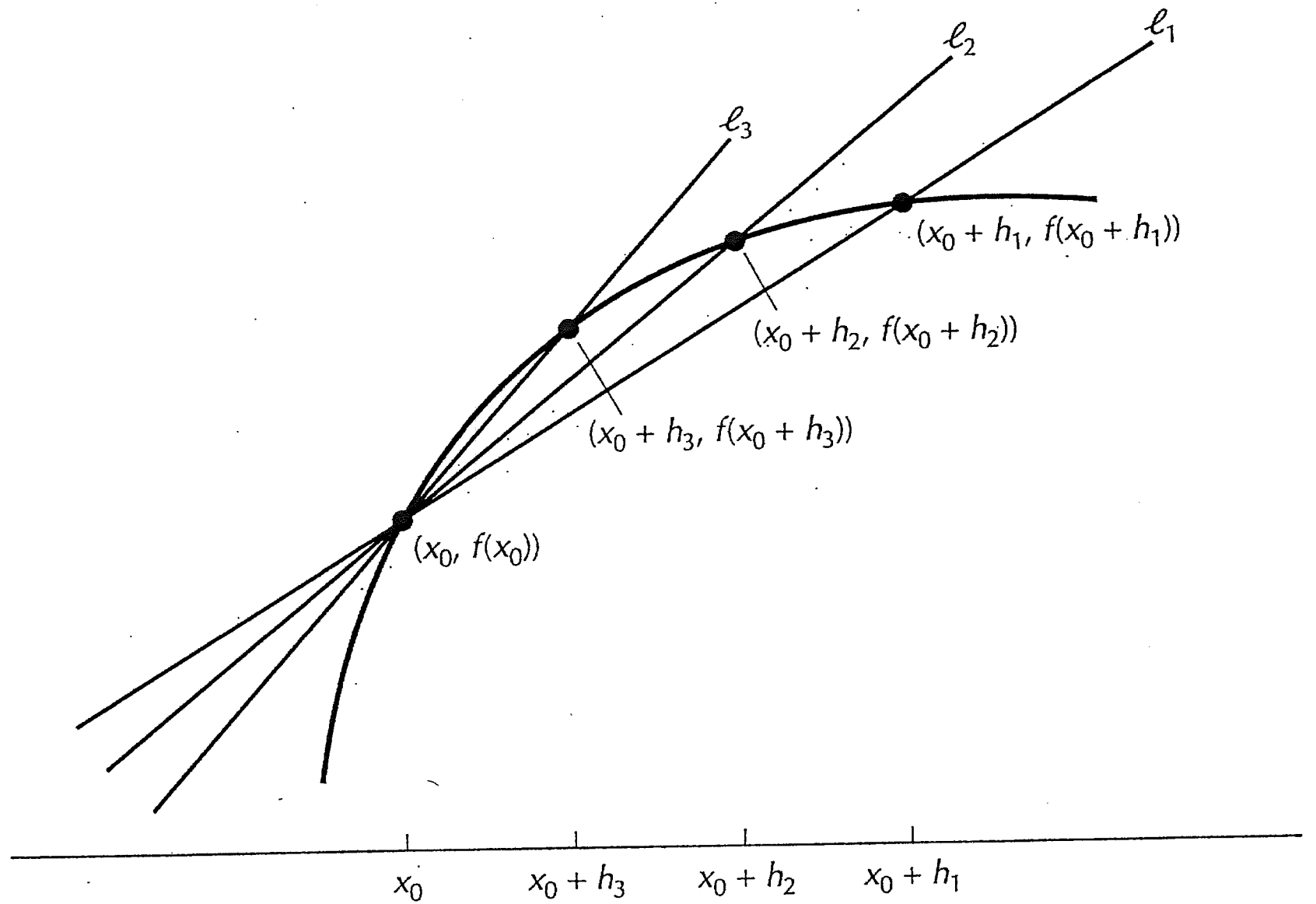
- We use the notion of the tangent line approximation to a graph in our daily lives.
  - Contractors who plan to build a large mall or power plant or farmers who want to subdivide large plots of land will generally assume that they are working on a flat plane,
    - even though they know that they are actually working on the rather round earth surface.
  - In effect, they are working with the tangent plane to the earth and the computations that they make on it will be exact to 10 or 20 decimal places – easily close enough for their purposes.

- We define the *slope of a nonlinear function  $f$*  at a point  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  on its graph as the *slope of the tangent line to the graph of  $f$*  at that point.
  - We call the *slope of the tangent line to the graph of  $f$*  at  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  the **derivative** of  $f$  at  $x_0$ , and we write it as

$$f'(x_0) \text{ or } \frac{df}{dx}(x_0).$$

- The latter notation comes from the fact that the slope is the change in  $f$  divided by the change in  $x$ , or  $\frac{\Delta f}{\Delta x}$ .
- Since the derivative is such an important concept, we need an analytical definition to work with.
  - This problem is best handled using a limiting process.

- Recall that a line segment joining two points on a graph is called a *secant line*.
- Back off a bit from the point  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  on the graph of  $f$  to the point  $(x_0 + h_1, f(x_0 + h_1))$ , where  $h_1$  is some small number.
  - Draw the secant line  $\ell_1$  to the graph joining these two points, as in the following figure.
- By choosing the second point closer and closer to  $(x_0, f(x_0))$ , we will be drawing better and better approximations to the desired tangent line.
- Choose  $h_2$  closer to zero than  $h_1$  and draw the secant line  $\ell_2$  joining  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  and  $(x_0 + h_2, f(x_0 + h_2))$ .
- Continue in this way choosing a sequence  $\{h_n\}$  of small numbers which converges monotonically to 0.
  - For each  $n$ , draw the secant line through the two *distinct* points on the graph  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  and  $(x_0 + h_n, f(x_0 + h_n))$ .



**Figure**  
**2.10**

*Approximating the tangent line by a sequence of secant lines.*



- The secant lines  $\{\ell_n\}$  geometrically approach the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at  $(x_0, f(x_0))$ , and their slopes approach the slope of the tangent line.
- As  $\ell_n$  passes through the two points  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  and  $(x_0 + h_n, f(x_0 + h_n))$ , its slope is

$$\frac{f(x_0 + h_n) - f(x_0)}{(x_0 + h_n) - x_0} = \frac{f(x_0 + h_n) - f(x_0)}{h_n}.$$

- Hence the slope of the tangent line is the limit of this process as  $h_n$  converges to 0.
- **Definition:**

Let  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  be a point on the graph of  $y = f(x)$ . The **derivative** of  $f$  at  $x_0$ , written as  $f'(x_0)$  or  $\frac{df}{dx}(x_0)$  or  $\frac{dy}{dx}(x_0)$ , is the slope of the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at  $(x_0, f(x_0))$ .

– Analytically,  $f'(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}$ , if this limit exists.

– When the limit does exist, we say that the function  $f$  is **differentiable** at  $x_0$  with derivative  $f'(x_0)$ .

## 1.2 Differentiability and Continuity

---

- The continuity of  $f$  is a *necessary* condition for its differentiability, but *not sufficient*.
- **Theorem 1:**

*Let  $f$  be defined on an open interval  $I$  containing the point  $x_0$ . If  $f$  is differentiable at  $x_0$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .*

  - Proof: To be discussed in class.
- **Counter-example:** Consider the function  $f(x) = |x|$ .
  - Show that this function is *continuous* at  $x = 0$ .
  - Show that this function is *not differentiable* at  $x = 0$ .

## 1.3 Higher-Order Derivatives

---

- **Continuously Differentiable Functions:**

If  $f$  is a differentiable function, its derivative  $f'(x)$  is another function of  $x$ . If  $f'(x)$  is a continuous function of  $x$ , we say that the original function  $f$  is *continuously differentiable*, or  $C^1$  for short.

- Geometrically, the function  $f'$  will be continuous if the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at  $(x, f(x))$  changes continuously as  $x$  changes.
- Example: Every polynomial is a continuous function. Since the derivative of a polynomial is a polynomial of one less degree, it is also continuous.  
⇒ Every polynomial is a  $C^1$  function.

- **Second Derivative:**

Let  $f$  be a  $C^1$  function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Since its derivative  $f'(x)$  is a continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}$ , we can ask whether or not the function  $f'$  has a derivative at a point  $x_0$ .

- The derivative of  $f'(x)$  at  $x_0$  is called the second derivative of  $f$  at  $x_0$  and is written as

$$f''(x_0) \text{ or } \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right) (x_0) = \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} (x_0).$$

- The second derivative of  $f$  at  $x_0$  is defined as

$$f''(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x_0 + h) - f'(x_0)}{h}, \text{ if this limit exists.}$$

- **Twice Continuously Differentiable Functions:**

If  $f$  has a second derivative everywhere, then  $f''$  is a well-defined function of  $x$ . If  $f''$  is a continuous function of  $x$ , then we say that  $f$  is *twice continuously differentiable*, or  $C^2$  for short.

– Example: Every polynomial is a  $C^2$  function.

- This process continues for all positive integers.

– If  $f(x)$  has derivatives of order  $1, 2, \dots, k$  and if the  $k$ th derivative of  $f$  – written as  $f^{[k]}(x)$ , or  $\frac{d^k f}{dx^k}(x)$  – is itself a continuous function, we say that  $f$  is  $C^k$ .

- If  $f$  has a continuous derivative of every order, that is, if  $f$  is  $C^k$  for every positive integer  $k$ , then we say that  $f$  is  $C^\infty$  or “infinitely differentiable”.

– Example: All polynomials are  $C^\infty$  functions.

## 1.4 Approximation by Differentials

---

- The definition of the derivative leads us naturally to the construction of the *linear approximation* of a function.
- Recall that for a linear function  $f(x) = mx + b$ , the derivative  $f'(x) = m$  gives the slope of the graph of  $f$  and measures the rate of change or *marginal change* of  $f$ : increase in the value of  $f$  for every unit increase in the value of  $x$ .
- Let us carry over this marginal analysis to nonlinear functions.
  - After all, this was one of the main reasons for defining the derivative of such an  $f$ .

- In formulating the analytic definition of the derivative of  $f$ , we used the fact that the slope of the tangent line to the graph at  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  is well approximated by the slope of the secant line through  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  and a nearby point  $(x_0 + h, f(x_0 + h))$  on the graph.

– In symbols,  $\frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h} \approx f'(x_0)$ , for small  $h$ , where  $\approx$  means “is well approximated by” or “is close in value to”.

- If we set  $h = 1$ , then the above relationship becomes

$$f(x_0 + 1) - f(x_0) \approx f'(x_0);$$

- in words, the derivative of  $f$  at  $x_0$ ,  $f'(x_0)$ , is a good approximation to the *marginal change* of  $f$  at  $x_0$ .
- Of course, the less curved the graph of  $f$  at  $x_0$ , the better is the approximation.

- Example: Consider the production function  $F(L) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{L}$ .
  - Suppose that the firm is currently using 100 units of labour.
  - Marginal product of labour:  $F'(100) = \frac{1}{4}(100)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{40} = 0.025$ ;
  - The actual increase in output is:  $F(101) - F(100) = 0.02494\dots$ , pretty close to 0.025.
- What if the change in the amount of  $x$  is not exactly one unit?
  - Substituting  $\Delta x$ , the exact change in  $x$ , for  $h$ , we get

$$\frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x) - f(x_0)}{\Delta x} \approx f'(x_0), \text{ implying that}$$

$$\Delta y \equiv f(x_0 + \Delta x) - f(x_0) \approx f'(x_0) \Delta x,$$

$$\text{or } f(x_0 + \Delta x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0) \Delta x.$$

- Here we write  $\Delta y$  for the exact change in  $y = f(x)$  when  $x$  changes by  $\Delta x$ .
  - Once again, the less curved the graph and/or the smaller the change  $\Delta x$  in  $x$ , the better the approximation.



- The expression  $f(x_0 + \Delta x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0) \Delta x$  gives an effective way of approximating  $f(x)$  for  $x$  close to some  $x_0$ .
- Example: Consider again the production function  $y = F(x) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{x}$ .

Suppose the firm cuts its labour force from 900 to 896 units. Let us estimate the change in output,  $\Delta y$  and the new output at  $x = 896$ .

- Note that  $F'(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . Substituting  $x_0 = 900$  and  $\Delta x = -4$ ,
  - $\Delta y \approx F'(x_0) \Delta x = \frac{1}{4}(900)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(-4) = -\frac{1}{30}$ , that is, output will decrease by approximately  $\frac{1}{30}$  units;
  - New output,  $F(x_0 + \Delta x) \approx F(x_0) + F'(x_0) \Delta x = 15 - \frac{1}{30} = 14.9666\dots$
- The actual new output is:  $F(896) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{896} = 14.9663\dots$ ;
  - once again the approximation by the derivative is a good one.

- The equations

$$\Delta y \equiv f(x_0 + \Delta x) - f(x_0) \approx f'(x_0) \Delta x,$$

or 
$$f(x_0 + \Delta x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0) \Delta x,$$

are merely analytic representations of the geometric fact that the tangent line  $\ell$  to the graph of  $y = f(x)$  at  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  is a good approximation to the graph itself for  $x$  near  $x_0$ .

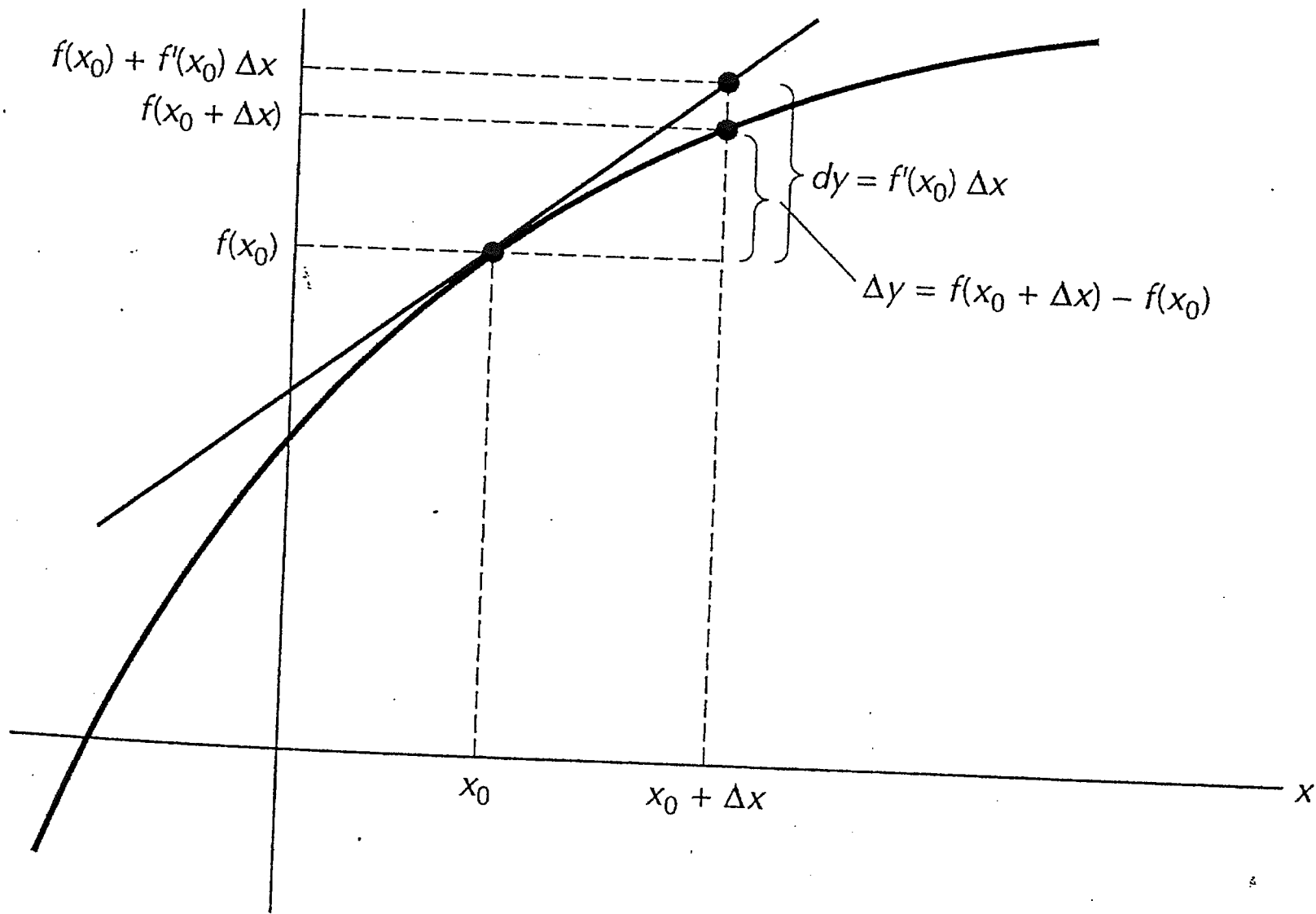
- As the following figure indicates,

- the left-hand sides of the equations pertain to movement along the graph of  $f$ ,

- the right-hand sides pertain to movement along the tangent line  $\ell$ ,

- because the equation of the tangent line, the line through the point  $(x_0, f(x_0))$  with slope  $f'(x_0)$ , is

$$y = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0) \Delta x.$$



*Comparing  $dy$  and  $\Delta y$ .*

**Figure  
2.15**

- Write  $\Delta y$  for the *actual* change in  $y$  as  $x$  changes by  $\Delta x$ , that is, for the change along the graph of  $f$ , as in the figure.
- Write  $dy$  for change in  $y$  along the tangent line  $\ell$  as  $x$  changes by  $\Delta x$ .
- Then the above equation can be written as

$$\Delta y \approx dy = f'(x_0) \Delta x.$$

- We usually write  $dx$  instead of  $\Delta x$  while working with changes along the tangent line, even though  $\Delta x$  is equal to  $dx$ .
- **Differentials:** The increments  $dy$  and  $dx$  along the tangent line  $\ell$  are called *differentials*.
- We sometimes write the differential  $df$  in place of  $dy$ .
- The equation of differentials for the variation along the tangent line

$$df = f'(x_0) dx \quad \text{or} \quad dy = f'(x_0) dx$$

gives added weight to the notation  $\frac{df}{dx}$  for the derivative  $f'(x)$ .

## 2. Calculus of Several Variables: Partial Derivatives

---

- To apply calculus to the study of functions of several variables, we take the simplest approach.
  - We change one variable at a time, keeping all the other variables constant.
  - Since we are not looking at the total variation of  $f$  but just the partial variation – the variation brought about by the change in only one variable, say  $x_i$  – the corresponding derivative is called the *partial derivative* of  $f$  with respect to  $x_i$ .
    - It is denoted by  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$ ; other common notations include  $f_i$ ,  $f_{x_i}$ , and  $D_i f$ .

- Recall that the derivative of a function  $f$  of one variable at  $x_0$  is

$$\frac{df}{dx}(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}.$$

- The partial derivative with respect to  $x_i$  of a function of several variables,  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , at the vector  $x_0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)$  is defined in a similar manner.

● **Definition:**

Let  $A$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x_0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0) \in A$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then

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

if this limit exists, where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

● Note that only  $i$ th variable changes; others are treated as constants.

– This means, of course, that we can compute partial derivatives just like ordinary derivatives of a function of one variable.

- That is, if  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is given by some formula involving  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , then we find  $D_i f(x)$  by differentiating the function whose value at  $x_i$  is given by the formula when all  $x_j$  (for  $j \neq i$ ) are thought of as constants.

● **Example:** Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is given by  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 + 3x_2^3 + 2x_1x_2$ . Then

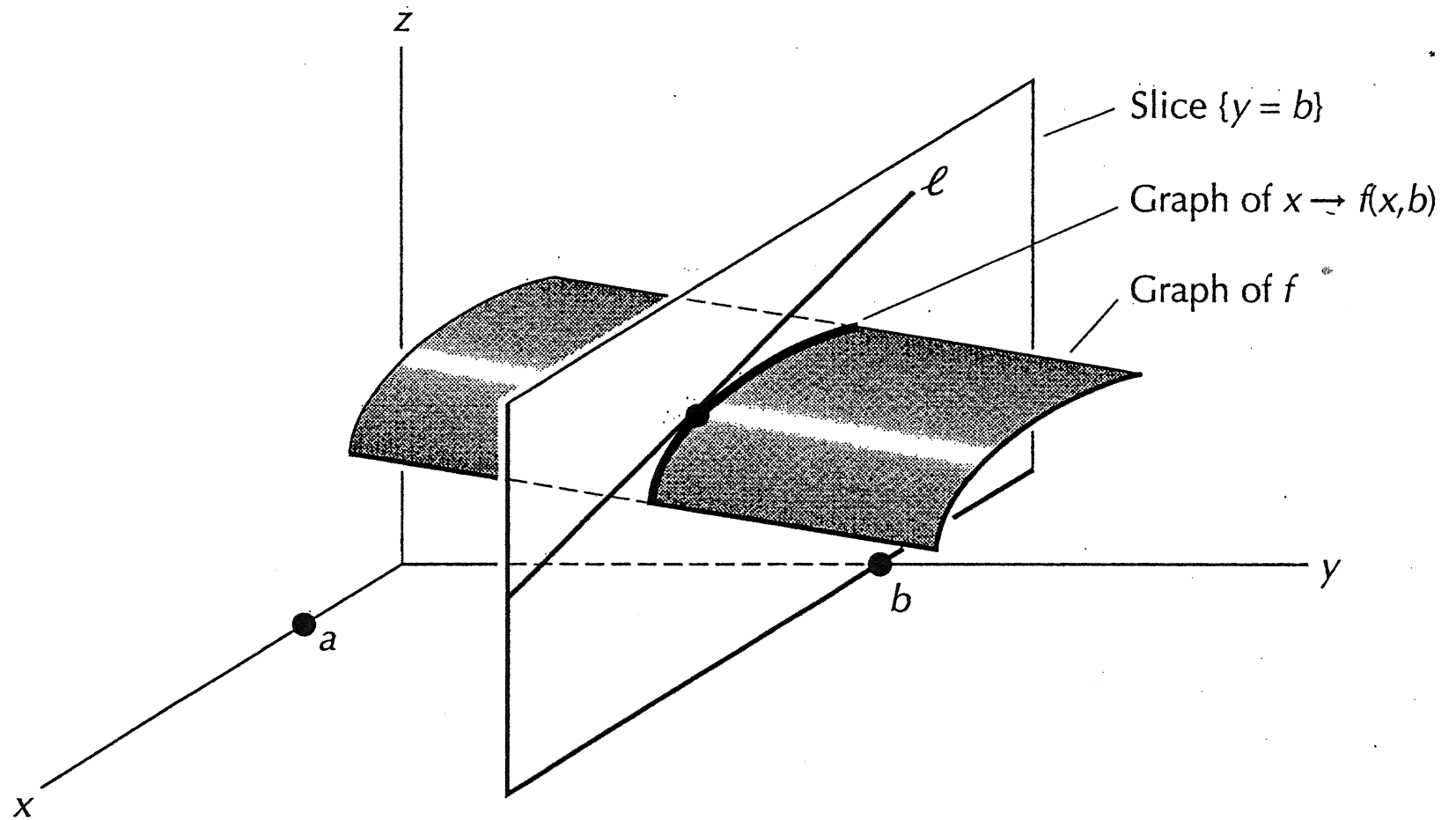
–  $D_1 f(x) = 3x_1^2 + 2x_2,$

–  $D_2 f(x) = 9x_2^2 + 2x_1.$

## 2.1 Geometric Interpretation of Partial Derivatives

---

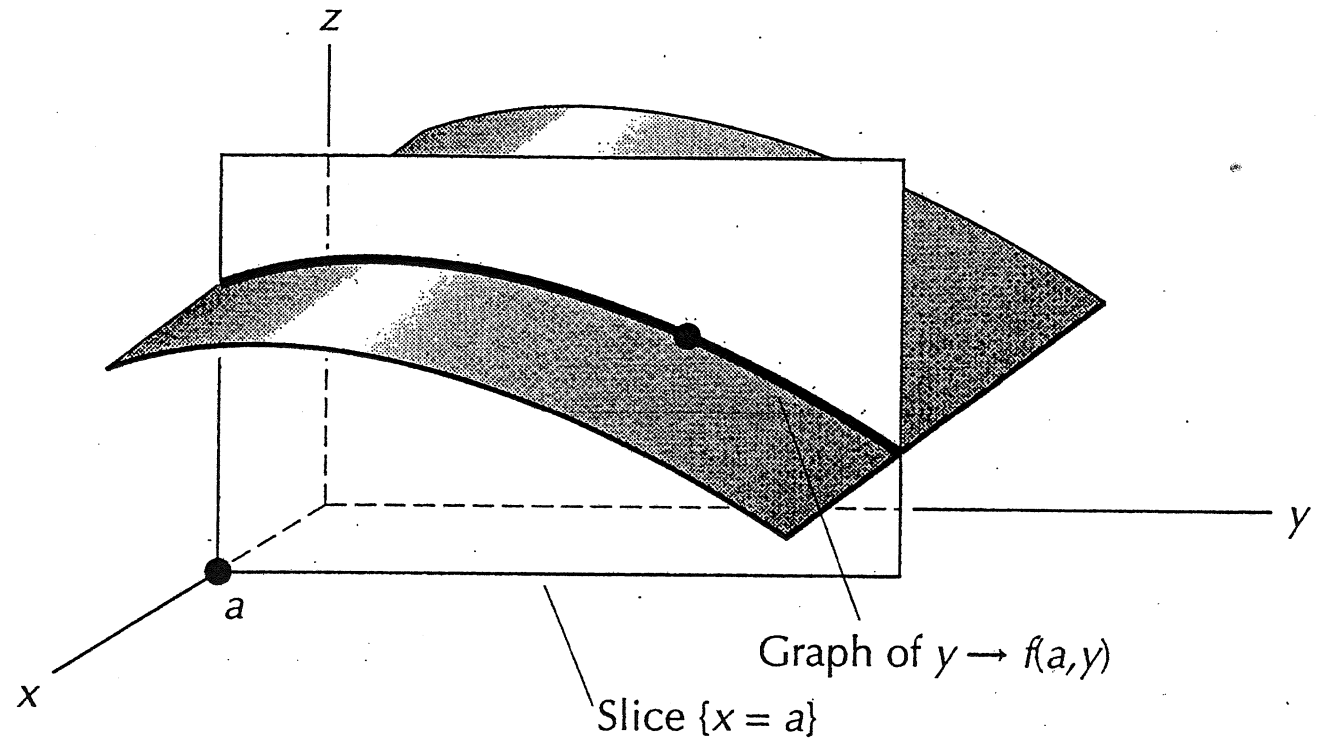
- Note that we can represent a function  $z = f(x, y)$  geometrically by drawing its graph in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- When we study  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b)$ , we are holding  $y$  constant at  $b$  and looking at variations in  $x$  around  $x = a$ .
  - In terms of the graph, we are looking at  $f$  only on the two-dimensional slice  $\{y = b\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  as in the following figure.
  - On this slice, the graph of  $f$  is a curve – the graph of the function of *one* variable  $x \mapsto f(x, b)$ .
    - The partial derivative  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b)$  is the slope of the tangent line to this graph on this slice, line  $\ell$  in the figure.
- Similarly,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b)$  is the slope of the tangent line to the curve which is the intersection of the graph of  $f$  with the slice  $\{x = a\}$ , as illustrated in the next figure.



**Figure**  
**14.1**

*The graph of  $x \mapsto f(x, b)$  on the slice  $\{y = b\}$ .*





**Figure**  
**14.2**

*The graph of  $y \mapsto f(a, y)$  on the slice  $\{x = a\}$ .*

## 2.2 The Total Derivative

---

- Suppose we are interested in the behaviour of a function  $F(x, y)$  in the neighbourhood of a given point  $(x^*, y^*)$ .

– Calculus of one variable and the concept of partial derivative tell us that

- if we hold  $y$  fixed at  $y^*$  and change  $x^*$  to  $x^* + \Delta x$ , then

$$F(x^* + \Delta x, y^*) - F(x^*, y^*) \approx \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta x;$$

- if we hold  $x$  fixed at  $x^*$  and change  $y^*$  to  $y^* + \Delta y$ , then

$$F(x^*, y^* + \Delta y) - F(x^*, y^*) \approx \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta y.$$

- What if we allow both  $x$  and  $y$  to vary simultaneously?
  - Since we are working in the realm of linear approximations, it is natural that the effect of the combined change is roughly the *sum* of the effects of the one-variable

changes:

$$F(x^* + \Delta x, y^* + \Delta y) - F(x^*, y^*) \approx \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta y.$$

– We sometimes use the above expression in the following form:

$$F(x^* + \Delta x, y^* + \Delta y) \approx F(x^*, y^*) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta y.$$

- **Example:** Consider a production function  $Q = F(K, L) = 4K^{\frac{3}{4}}L^{\frac{1}{4}}$  around the point  $(K^*, L^*) = (10000, 625)$ .

$$- Q = F(10000, 625) = 20,000; \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial K}(10000, 625) = 1.5; \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial L}(10000, 625) = 8.$$

– If  $L$  is held constant and  $K$  increased by  $\Delta K$ ,  $Q$  will increase by approximately  $1.5 \cdot \Delta K$ .

- For an increase in  $K$  by 10 units, we estimate

$$Q(10010, 625) = 20,000 + 1.5 \cdot 10 = 20,015,$$

a good approximation to  $Q(10010, 625) = 20,014.998 \dots$ .

- Similarly, a 2-unit decrease in  $L$  should induce a  $2 \cdot 8 = 16$ -unit decrease in  $Q$ .
  - Consequently, for a 2-unit decrease in  $L$  we estimate

$$Q(10000, 623) = 20,000 - 8 \cdot 2 = 19,984,$$

a good approximation to  $Q(10000, 623) = 19,983.981 \dots$

- Finally, if we want to consider the effect of both changes, we would use the above expression to estimate

$$\begin{aligned} F(10010, 623) &\approx F(10000, 625) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial K}(10000, 625) \cdot 10 + \frac{\partial F}{\partial L}(10000, 625) \cdot (-2) \\ &= 20,000 + (1.5 \cdot 10) + (8 \cdot (-2)) \\ &= 19,999, \end{aligned}$$

which compares well with the exact value  $19,998.967\dots$

## 2.2.1 Geometric Interpretation of Total Derivative

---

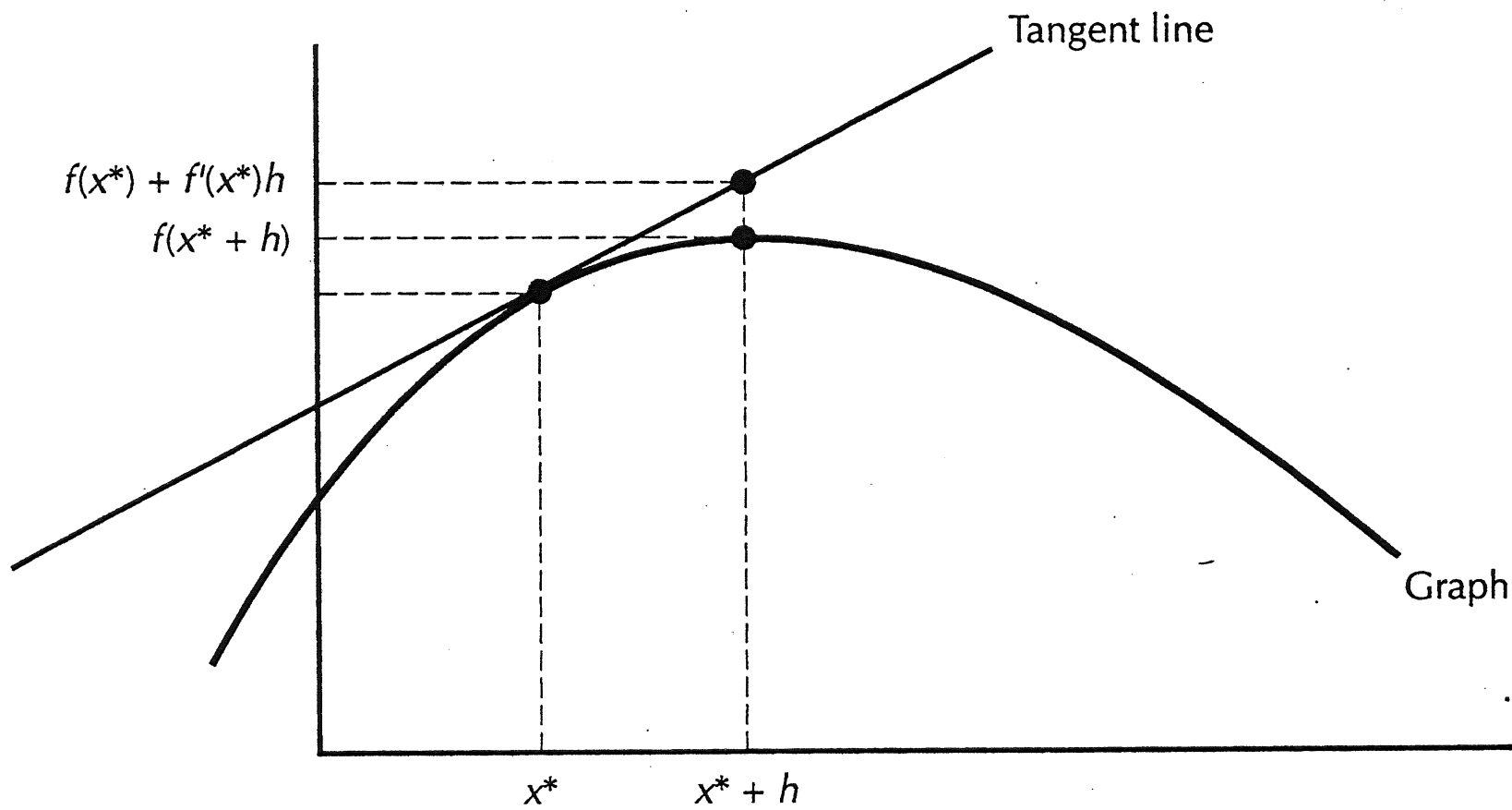
- What is the geometric significance of the approximation

$$F(x^* + \Delta x, y^* + \Delta y) \approx F(x^*, y^*) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta y?$$

- For a function of one variable, the corresponding approximation is

$$f(x^* + h) \approx f(x^*) + f'(x^*) \cdot h.$$

- As discussed above, the right-hand side is the equation of the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at  $x^*$ .
- That is, this equation states that the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at  $x^*$  is a good approximation to the graph itself in the vicinity of  $(x^*, f(x^*))$ , as illustrated in the following figure.



*The geometry of expression (8).*

**Figure  
14.4**

- For a function  $z = F(x, y)$  of two variables, the analogue of the tangent line is the *tangent plane* to the graph, as illustrated in the following figure.

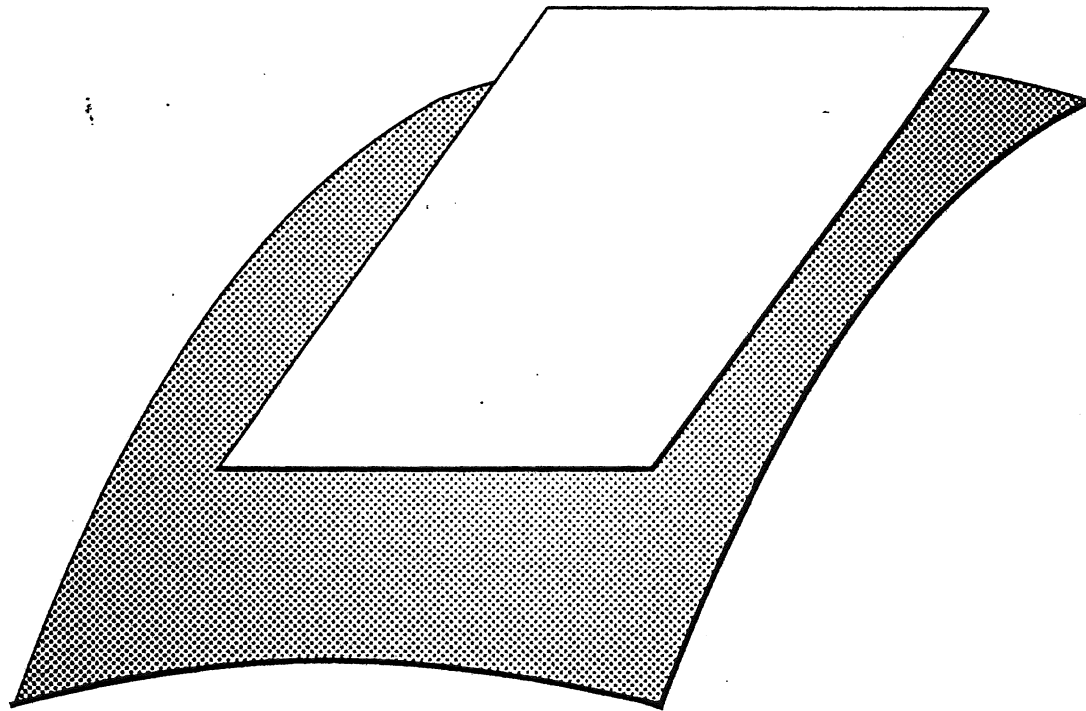
– That is, the expression

$$F(x^* + \Delta x, y^* + \Delta y) \approx F(x^*, y^*) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot \Delta y$$

says that the tangent plane to the graph of  $F$  at  $(x^*, y^*, F(x^*, y^*))$  is a good approximation to the graph itself in the vicinity of  $(x^*, y^*, F(x^*, y^*))$ .

⇒ The change  $F(x^* + s, y^* + t) - F(x^*, y^*)$  can be well approximated by the *linear mapping*

$$(s, t) \mapsto \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot s + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot t.$$



*The tangent plane to the graph of  $F$ .*

**Figure  
14.5**



- Thus, we consider the vector  $\left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*), \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \right)$  as representing the linear approximation of  $F$  around  $(x^*, y^*)$ .

– In this sense, we call this linear map and the vector which represents it the **derivative** of  $F$  at  $(x^*, y^*)$  and write it as

$$DF(x^*, y^*) = \nabla F(x^*, y^*) = \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*), \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \right).$$

- This vector is also called the **gradient vector** of  $F$  at  $(x^*, y^*)$ .
- It is rather natural to form a vector whose entries are all the partial derivatives of  $F$  and call it the derivative of  $F$ .
  - But, it is important to realize that more is happening here since the linear mapping which this gradient vector represents is the appropriate **linear approximation** of  $F$  at  $(x^*, y^*)$ .
    - As mentioned above, we use this approximation all the time when we use *linear* mathematics for major construction projects on our *round* earth.

- We use the notations  $dx$ ,  $dy$ , and  $dF$  when we are working on the tangent plane to the graph of  $F$  at  $(x^*, y^*)$ .

- These variations on the tangent plane are called **differentials**.

- Using the differentials, the above expression is written as

$$dF = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*) \cdot dx + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \cdot dy.$$

- This expression for  $dF$  in terms of  $dx$  and  $dy$  is called the **total differential** of  $F$  at  $(x^*, y^*)$ .

## 2.2.2 Functions of More than Two Variables

---

- The observations and analytical expressions for functions on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  carry over in a natural way to functions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- If we are studying a function  $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  of  $n$  variables in a neighbourhood of some selected point  $x^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ , then

$$F(x_1^* + \Delta x_1, \dots, x_n^* + \Delta x_n) \\ \approx F(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_n.$$

- The right-hand side is the representation of the (n-dimensional) *tangent hyperplane* to the graph of  $F$ .
- The above equation says that the linear mapping

$$(h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n) \mapsto \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \cdot h_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \cdot h_n$$

is a good approximation to the actual change in  $F$ .

- We call this linear map and the vector which represents it the **derivative** of  $F$  at  $x^*$  and write it as

$$DF(x^*) = \nabla F(x^*) = \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1}(x^*), \dots, \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \right).$$

– This vector is also called the **gradient vector** of  $F$  at  $x^*$ .

- We frequently use the **differentials**  $dF$ ,  $dx_1$ ,  $dx_2$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $dx_n$  to denote changes on the tangent hyperplane.
- The above expression says that in the vicinity of the point  $x^*$ , the tangent hyperplane to the graph of  $F$  is a good approximation to the graph itself in that the actual change  $\Delta F = F(x^* + \Delta x) - F(x^*)$  is well approximated by the **total differential**

$$dF = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \cdot dx_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \cdot dx_n$$

on the tangent hyperplane with  $dx_i = \Delta x_i$  for all  $i$ .

## 2.3 Explicit Functions from $\mathbb{R}^n$ to $\mathbb{R}^m$

---

- Up to now we have been studying functions with only one endogenous variable. But functions with several endogenous variables arise naturally in economic models.
- Most real-world firms produce more than one product. To model their production, we need a production function for each product.
  - If the firm uses three inputs to produce two outputs, we need two separate production functions:  $q_1 = f^1(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ , and  $q_2 = f^2(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .
  - We can write  $q = (q_1, q_2)$  as an output vector for this firm and summarize the firm's activities by a function  $F = (f^1, f^2)$ :
 
$$q = (q_1, q_2) = (f^1(x_1, x_2, x_3), f^2(x_1, x_2, x_3)) \equiv F(x_1, x_2, x_3).$$
  - The domain of  $F$  lies in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , and its target space is  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We write  $F : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ .
- A firm which uses  $n$  inputs to produce  $m$  products would have a production function  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .

- When there are  $m$  endogenous variables in the system, there should be  $m$  separate functions to determine their values:

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 &= f^1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \\ y_2 &= f^2(x_1, \dots, x_n), \\ &\vdots \\ y_m &= f^m(x_1, \dots, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

- Instead of viewing the system as  $m$  functions of  $n$  variables, we can view it as a single function from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ :

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (f^1(x_1, \dots, x_n), f^2(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, f^m(x_1, \dots, x_n)).$$

- On the other hand, if we start with a single function  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  as above, we see that each component of  $F$ ,  $f^i(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , is a function from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- This method is especially useful when we develop and use the theorems of calculus for a function from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
  - We apply the usual theory to each component function  $f^i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  separately and then combine all the information learned so far back into one big vector or matrix.

- Consider  $F = (f^1, f^2, \dots, f^m) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  at a specific point  $x^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and use approximation by differentials to estimate the effect of a change at  $x^*$  by  $\Delta x = (\Delta x_1, \Delta x_2, \dots, \Delta x_n)$ .
- We first apply the approximation by differentials to each component  $f^i$  of  $F$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ :

$$f^1(x^* + \Delta x) - f^1(x^*) \approx \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_n,$$

$$f^2(x^* + \Delta x) - f^2(x^*) \approx \frac{\partial f^2}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial f^2}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_n,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\vdots$$

$$f^m(x^* + \Delta x) - f^m(x^*) \approx \frac{\partial f^m}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial f^m}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \cdot \Delta x_n.$$

- Then we use vector and matrix notation to combine these and get

$$F(x^* + \Delta x) - F(x^*) \approx \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial x_1}(x^*) & \cdots & \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f^m}{\partial x_1}(x^*) & \cdots & \frac{\partial f^m}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta x_1 \\ \Delta x_2 \\ \vdots \\ \Delta x_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

- This expression describes the linear approximation of  $F$  at  $x^*$ .

- We write the matrix on the right-hand side as

$$DF(x^*) = DF_{x^*} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial x_1}(x^*) & \cdots & \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f^m}{\partial x_1}(x^*) & \cdots & \frac{\partial f^m}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \end{pmatrix},$$

and call it the **derivative** or the **Jacobian derivative** of  $F$  at  $x^*$ .

- This matrix, also referred to as the **Jacobian matrix**, is the natural generalization of the *gradient vector* of a single endogenous variable to  $m$  endogenous variables.



- As we emphasized in the last subsection, it is natural to form a matrix composed of all the first order partial derivatives of the component functions,  $f^i$ s, and call it the derivative of  $F$ .
  - But more is happening here.
    - The above expression says that the linear map which this matrix represents is the effective linear approximation of  $F$  around  $x^*$ .
- This is the essence of what calculus is all about.

In studying the behaviour of a nonlinear function  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  in the vicinity of some specific point  $x^*$ :

- (1) we use derivatives to form the linear approximation  $DF(x^*)$ ,
- (2) we use linear algebra to study the behaviour of the linear mapping  $DF(x^*)$ , and
- (3) we use calculus theory to translate information about the linear function  $DF(x^*)$  to the corresponding information about the nonlinear function  $F$  in a neighbourhood of  $x^*$ .

## 2.4 Higher Order Derivatives

---

- Let  $A$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- Example: Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is given by  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 + 3x_2^3 + 2x_1x_2$ . Then
  - $D_1f(x) = 3x_1^2 + 2x_2$ ,
  - $D_2f(x) = 9x_2^2 + 2x_1$ .
  - In this example the gradient vector is

$$\nabla f(x) = (3x_1^2 + 2x_2, 9x_2^2 + 2x_1), \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

- When  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has (first-order) partial derivatives at each  $x \in A$ , we say that  $f$  has (first-order) *partial derivatives on  $A$* .

● **Second-Order Partial Derivatives and the Hessian Matrix:**

- When  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has (first-order) partial derivatives at each  $x$  on  $A$ , these first-order partial derivatives are themselves functions from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - If these (first-order) partial derivatives are continuous on  $A$ , then we say that  $f$  is *continuously differentiable* ( $C^1$ ) on  $A$ .
  - If these functions have (first-order) partial derivatives on  $A$ , these partial derivatives are called the *second-order partial derivatives of  $f$  on  $A$* .
- To elaborate, if  $D_i f(x)$  exists for all  $x \in A$ , we can define the function  $D_i f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
  - If this function has (first-order) partial derivatives on  $A$ , then the  $j$ -th (first-order) partial derivative of  $D_i f$  at  $x$  (that is,  $D_j(D_i f(x))$ ) is a second-order partial derivative of  $f$  at  $x$ , and is denoted by  $D_{ij} f(x)$ . [Here  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .]
  - In the example described above,

$$D_{11}f(x) = 6x_1, \quad D_{22}f(x) = 18x_2,$$

$$D_{12}f(x) = 2 = D_{21}f(x).$$

- We note in this example that the “cross partials”  $D_{12}f(x)$  and  $D_{21}f(x)$  are equal. This is not a coincidence; it is a more general phenomenon as noted in the following Theorem, known as “Young’s Theorem”.

- **Theorem 2 (Young’s Theorem):**

*Suppose  $A$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $f$  has first and second-order partial derivatives on  $A$ . If  $D_{ij}f$  and  $D_{ji}f$  are continuous on  $A$ , then  $D_{ij}f(x) = D_{ji}f(x)$ , for all  $x \in A$ .*

- When all the hypotheses of Theorem 1 hold for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , we will say that  $f$  is *twice continuously differentiable* ( $C^2$ ) on  $A$ .
  - This will be the typical situation in many applications.

- When the first and second-order partial derivatives of  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  exist on  $A$ , the  $n \times n$  matrix of second-order partial derivatives of  $f$  described below

$$H_f(x) = D^2f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} D_{11}f(x) & D_{12}f(x) & \cdots & D_{1n}f(x) \\ D_{21}f(x) & D_{22}f(x) & \cdots & D_{2n}f(x) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ D_{n1}f(x) & D_{n2}f(x) & \cdots & D_{nn}f(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

is called the Hessian matrix of  $f$  at  $x \in A$ , and is denoted by  $H_f(x)$  or  $D^2f(x)$ .

- When  $f$  is twice continuously differentiable on  $A$ , the Hessian matrix of  $f$  is symmetric at all  $x \in A$ .
- In the example described above, the Hessian matrix of  $f$  for all  $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is

$$H_f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 6x_1 & 2 \\ 2 & 18x_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

### 3. Composite Functions and the Chain Rule

---

- Let  $g : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a function with component functions  $g^i : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) which are defined on an open set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined on an open set  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  which contains the set  $g(A)$ .
  - Then we can define  $F : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $F(x) = f(g(x)) = f(g^1(x), g^2(x), \dots, g^m(x))$  for each  $x \in A$ .
    - This is known as a *composite function* (of  $f$  and  $g$ ).
- The “Chain Rule” of differentiation provides us with a formula for finding the partial derivatives of a composite function,  $F$ , in terms of the partial derivatives of the individual functions,  $f$  and  $g$ .

- **Theorem 3 (Chain Rule):**

*Let  $g : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a function with component functions  $g^i : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) which are continuously differentiable on an open set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function on an open set  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  which contains the set  $g(A)$ . If  $F : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by  $F(x) = f(g(x))$  on  $A$ , and  $a \in A$ , then  $F$  is differentiable at  $a$  and we have, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,*

$$D_i F(a) = \sum_{j=1}^m D_j f(g^1(a), g^2(a), \dots, g^m(a)) D_i g^j(a).$$

## 4. Homogeneous Functions and Euler's Theorem

---

- A function  $f : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is homogeneous of degree  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$  if for all  $x$  in  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$ , and all  $t > 0$ ,  $f(tx) = t^r f(x)$ .
  - Example: Consider  $f : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^a x_2^b$ , where  $a > 0$  and  $b > 0$ . Then, if  $t > 0$ , we have  $f(tx_1, tx_2) = (tx_1)^a (tx_2)^b = t^{a+b} x_1^a x_2^b = t^{a+b} f(x_1, x_2)$ . So  $f$  is homogeneous of degree  $(a + b)$ .

- **Theorem 4:**

*Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is homogeneous of degree  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$ , and continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^n$ . Then, for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $D_i f$  is homogeneous of degree  $r - 1$  on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^n$ .*

– Proof: To be discussed in class.

- **Theorem 5 (Euler's Theorem):**

*Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is homogeneous of degree  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$ , and continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^n$ . Then  $x \cdot \nabla f(x) = r f(x)$ , for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^n$ .*

– Proof: To be discussed in class.

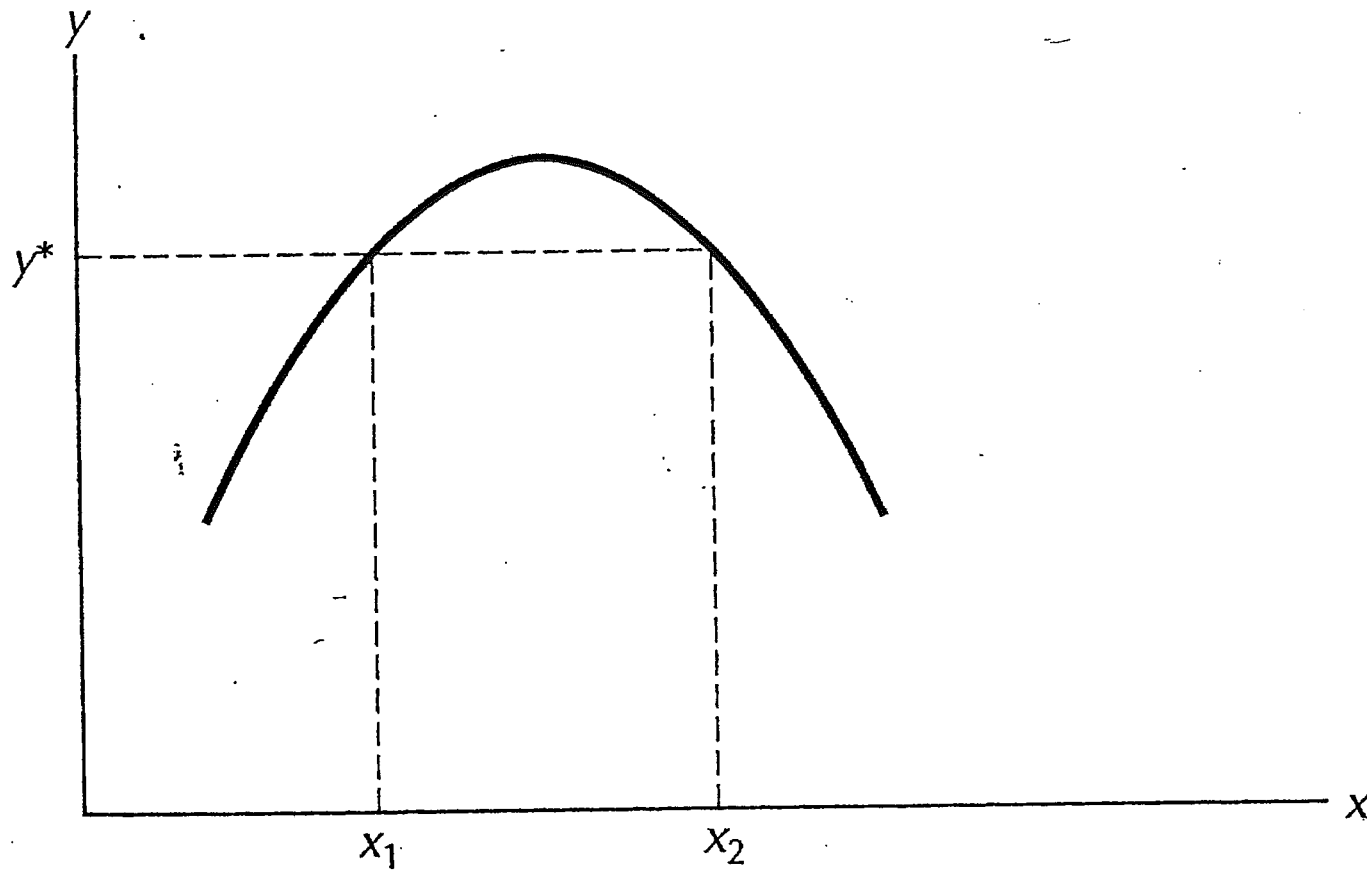


## 5. Inverse Functions

---

- Let  $A$  be a set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $f$  be a function from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - $f$  is **one-to-one** on  $A$  if whenever  $x^1, x^2 \in A$  and  $x^1 \neq x^2$ , we have  $f(x^1) \neq f(x^2)$ .
  - If there is a function  $g$ , from  $f(A)$  to  $A$ , such that  $g(f(x)) = x$  for each  $x \in A$ , then  $g$  is called the **inverse function** of  $f$  on  $f(A)$ .
    - Notation: We often write  $f^{-1}$  for the inverse function of  $f$ .
- **Example:** Consider  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by  $f(x) = 2x$ .
  - Note that  $f$  is one-to-one on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - Also, we can define the function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $g(y) = \frac{y}{2}$ , and note that it has the property  $g(f(x)) = x$ . Hence  $g$  is then the inverse function of  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - Furthermore,  $g'(f(x)) = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{f'(x)}$ , for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- For functions of a single variable, it is easy to look at the graph of the function defined on an interval  $E$  and determine whether or not the function is one-to-one on  $E$ .
  - As the following figure illustrates, the graph of  $f$  cannot turn around; i.e., it cannot have any *local maxima* or *minima* on  $E$ .
  - It must be *monotonically increasing* or *monotonically decreasing* on  $E$ .
  - The function whose graph is pictured in the following figure is not one-to-one because two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  map to the same point  $y^*$ .
- Example: Consider the function  $f(x) = x^2$ .
  - As a function defined on the entire real line  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $f$  is *not* one-to-one. Why?
  - However, if we restrict the domain of  $f$  to be  $[0, \infty)$ , then the restricted  $f$  is one-to-one and has a well-defined inverse  $g(y) = \sqrt{y}$ .



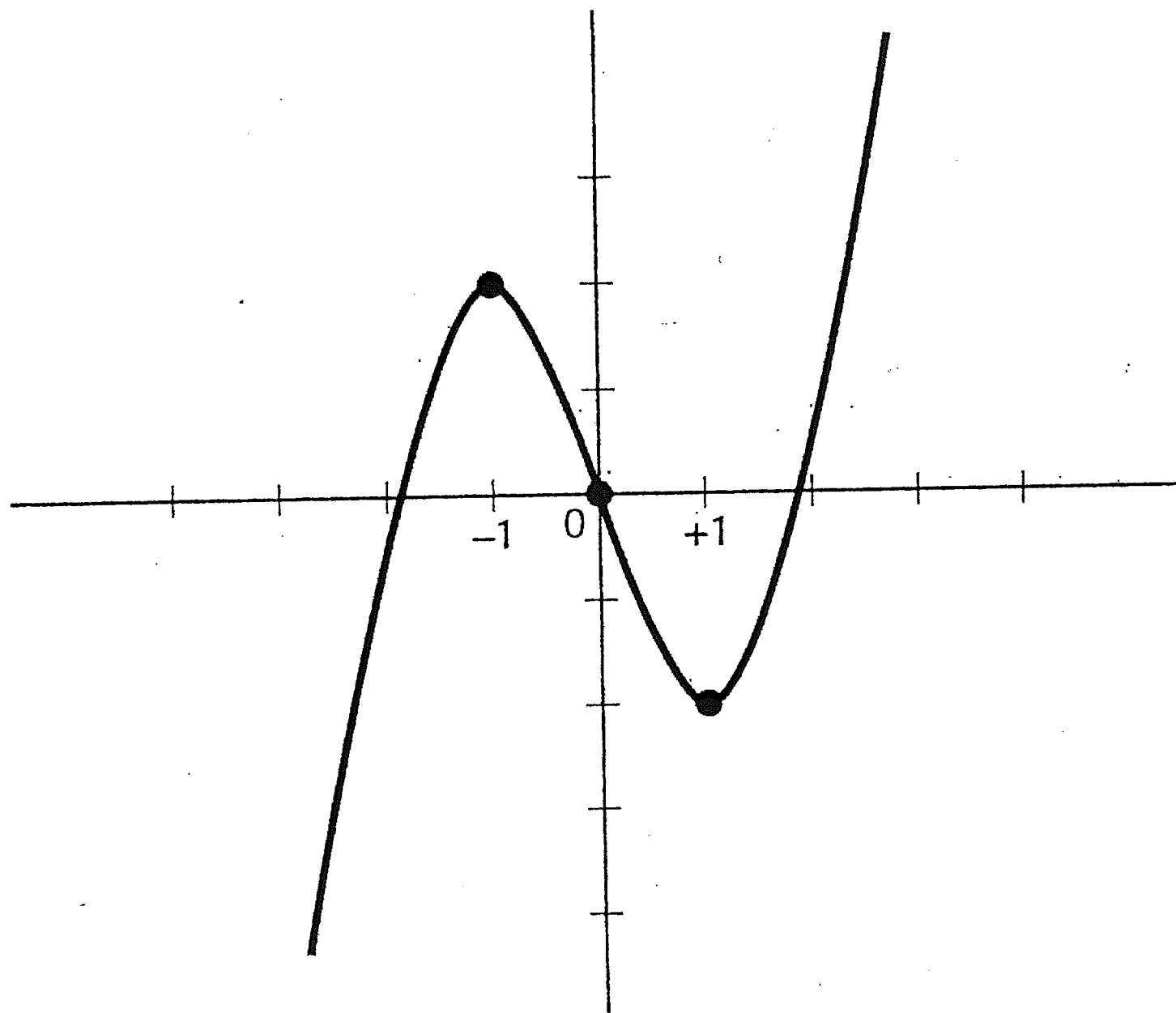
*A function is not one-to-one in an interval containing a local max or min.*

**Figure  
4.1**

- Example: Consider the function  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x$ .
  - Look at its graph in the following figure.
  - $f$  is not one-to-one on the entire real line  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - $f$  has two local extrema, so it is *not* a monotone function.
  - However, since  $f$  is monotone for  $x > 1$ , its restriction to  $(1, \infty)$  is invertible.
- The following theorem summarizes the discussion thus far for functions of a single variable.

- **Theorem 6:**

*A function  $f$  defined on an interval  $E$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  has a well-defined inverse on the interval  $f(E)$  if and only if  $f$  is monotonically increasing on all of  $E$  or monotonically decreasing on all of  $E$ .*



**Figure**  
**3.3**

*The graph of  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x$ .*

- **Calculus Criterion for a Single-Variable Function to be Monotonically Increasing or Decreasing:**

- $f$  is an *increasing function* if  $x_1 > x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) > f(x_2)$ ;

- $f$  is a *decreasing function* if  $x_1 > x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) < f(x_2)$ .

- **Theorem 7:**

*Let  $f$  be a continuously differentiable function on domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}$ .*

*If  $f' > 0$  on interval  $(a, b) \subset D$ , then  $f$  is increasing on  $(a, b)$ .*

*If  $f' < 0$  on interval  $(a, b) \subset D$ , then  $f$  is decreasing on  $(a, b)$ .*

*If  $f$  is increasing on  $(a, b)$ , then  $f' \geq 0$  on  $(a, b)$ .*

*If  $f$  is decreasing on  $(a, b)$ , then  $f' \leq 0$  on  $(a, b)$ .*

- Proof: To be discussed in class.

- Combining Theorems 6 and 7 we get:

**Theorem 8:**

*A  $C^1$  function  $f$  defined on an interval  $E$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is one-to-one and therefore invertible on  $E$  if either  $f'(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in E$  or  $f'(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in E$ .*

- Let  $E$  be an open interval in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuously differentiable on  $E$ . Let  $a \in E$ , and suppose that  $f'(a) \neq 0$ .

– Let  $f'(a) > 0$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Since  $f'$  is continuous, there is an open ball  $B_\epsilon(a)$  such that  $f'(x) > 0$  for all  $x$  in  $B_\epsilon(a)$ .

$\Rightarrow f$  is increasing in  $B_\epsilon(a)$ .

- Thus, for every  $y \in f(B_\epsilon(a))$ , there is a unique  $x$  in  $B_\epsilon(a)$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .
- That is, there is a unique function  $g : f(B_\epsilon(a)) \rightarrow B_\epsilon(a)$  such that  $g(f(x)) = x$  for all  $x \in B_\epsilon(a)$ .

- Thus,  $g$  is an inverse function of  $f$  on  $f(B_\epsilon(a))$ .
  - We say that  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$  “locally” around the point  $f(a)$ .
  - [Note that there is no guarantee that the inverse function is defined on the entire set  $f(E)$ .]
- Let  $f'(a) < 0$ .
- An inverse function could similarly be defined “locally” around  $f(a)$ .

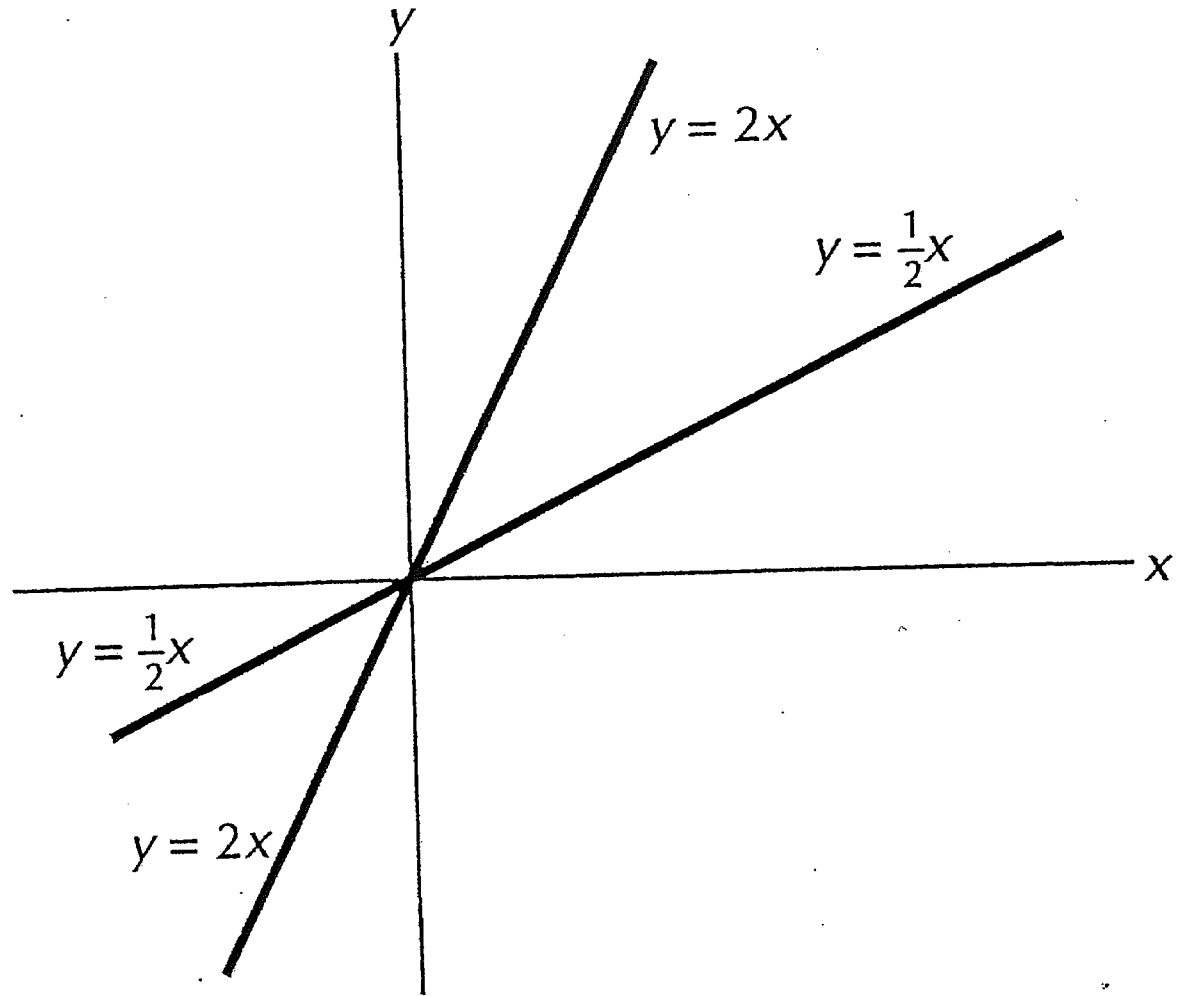


- The important restriction to carry out the above kind of analysis is  $f'(a) \neq 0$ .
  - To illustrate this, consider  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  given by  $f(x) = x^2$  and consider  $a = 0$ .
    - Clearly  $f$  is continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$ , but  $f'(a) = f'(0) = 0$ .
    - Draw the curve for  $f(x) = x^2$  and convince yourself that we cannot define a unique inverse function of  $f$  even “locally” around  $f(0)$ .
      - That is, choose any open ball  $B_\epsilon(0)$ , and consider any point,  $y \neq 0$ , in the set  $f(B_\epsilon(0))$ .
      - There will be *two* values  $x_1, x_2$  in  $B_\epsilon(0)$ ,  $x_1 \neq x_2$ , such that  $f(x_1) = y$  and  $f(x_2) = y$ .
- **Note:**  $f'(a) \neq 0$  is not a necessary condition to get a unique inverse function of  $f$ .
  - For example, consider  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by  $f(x) = x^3$ .
  - Then  $f$  is continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$ , with  $f'(0) = 0$ .
  - However  $f$  is an increasing function, and clearly has a unique inverse function  $g(y) = y^{1/3}$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and hence locally around  $f(0)$ .

## 5.1 Derivative of the Inverse Function

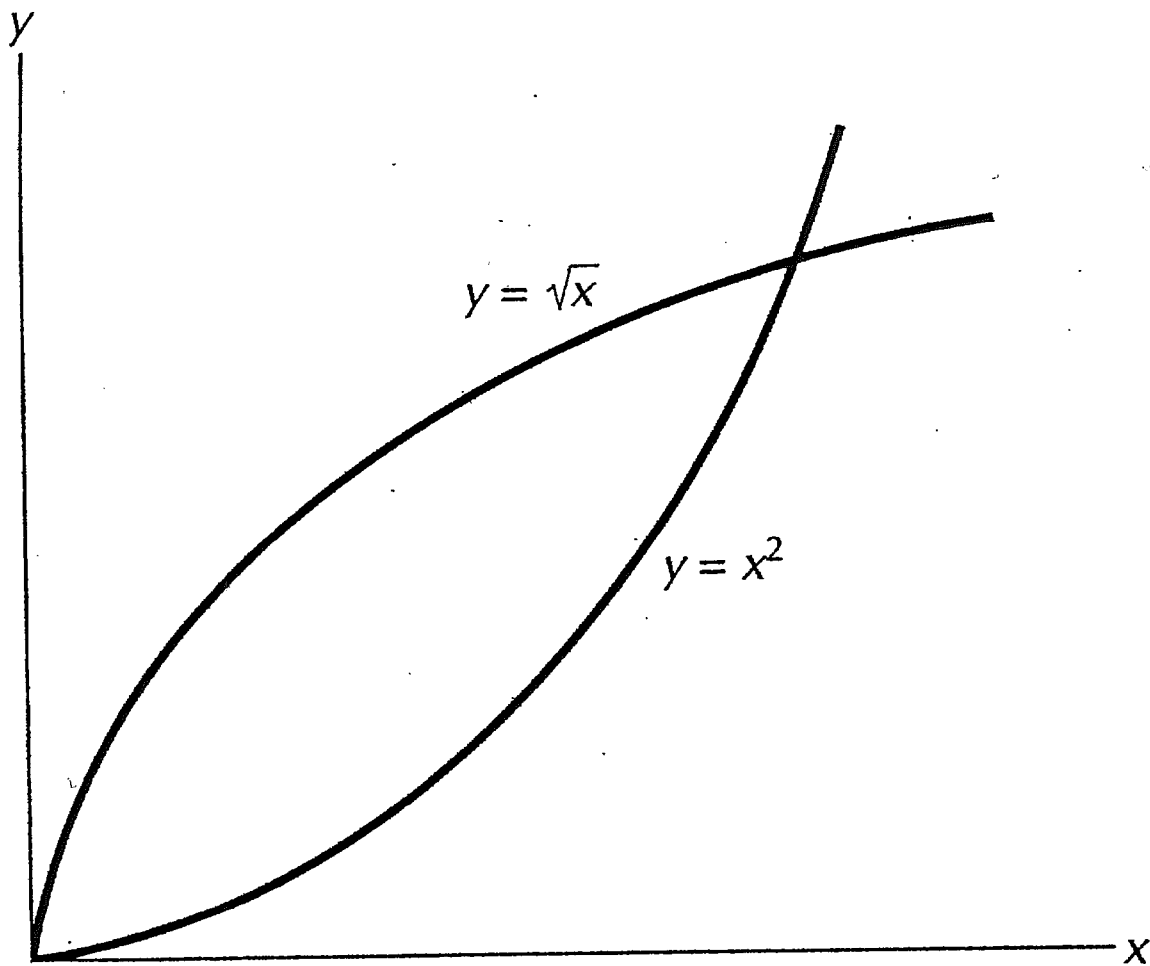
---

- From a geometric point of view, if  $f$  maps  $x_0$  to  $y_0$ , so that the point  $(x_0, y_0)$  is on the graph of  $f$ , then  $f^{-1}$  maps  $y_0$  back to  $x_0$ , and therefore the point  $(y_0, x_0)$  is on the graph of  $f^{-1}$ .
  - For any point  $(x, y)$  on the graph of  $f$ , the point  $(y, x)$  is on the graph of  $f^{-1}$ .
  - This means that the graph of  $f^{-1}$  is simply the reflection of the graph of  $f$  across the  $45^\circ$  line.
    - The following two figures illustrate this phenomenon.
  - Due to the close relationship between the graph of an invertible function  $f$  and the graph of its inverse  $f^{-1}$ , it is not surprising that there is a close relationship between their derivatives.
  - In particular, if  $f$  is  $C^1$  so that its graph has a smoothly varying tangent line, then the graph of  $f^{-1}$  also will have a smoothly varying tangent line; that is,  $f^{-1}$  will be  $C^1$  too.



**Figure**  
**4.2**

*The graphs of the functions  $y = 2x$  and  $y = \frac{1}{2}x$ .*



*The graphs of the functions  $y = x^2$  and  $y = \sqrt{x}$  for  $x, y \geq 0$ .*

**Figure  
4.3**

- The following theorem gives a complete picture for the existence and differentiability of the inverse of a single-variable  $C^1$  function.

- **Theorem 9:**

Let  $f$  be a  $C^1$  function defined on the interval  $I$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $f'(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x \in I$ , then

- (a)  $f$  is invertible on  $I$ ,
- (b) its inverse  $g$  is a  $C^1$  function on the interval  $f(I)$ , and
- (c) for all  $y$  in the domain of the inverse function  $g$ ,

$$g'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(g(y))}.$$

- Example: Consider the following pair of functions which are inverses of each other:

$$f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+1}, \text{ and } g(y) = \frac{1+y}{1-y}.$$

– Since  $f(2) = \frac{1}{3}$ , the inverse  $g$  of  $f$  maps  $\frac{1}{3}$  to 2, that is,  $g\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = 2$ .

– Since  $f'(x) = \frac{2}{(x+1)^2}$ ,  $f'(2) = \frac{2}{9} \neq 0$ , by Theorem 9,

$$g'\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{f'(2)} = \frac{9}{2}.$$

– We can check this by computing directly that

$$\begin{aligned} g'(y) &= \frac{2}{(1-y)^2} \\ \Rightarrow g'\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) &= \frac{2}{4/9} = \frac{9}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

- Let  $A$  be a set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $f$  be a function from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

- **Jacobians:**

Suppose  $A$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $f$  is a function from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with component functions  $f^1, \dots, f^n$ . If  $a \in A$ , and the partial derivatives of  $f^1, \dots, f^n$  exist at  $a$ , then the  $n \times n$  matrix

$$Df(a) = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 f^1(a) & D_2 f^1(a) & \cdots & D_n f^1(a) \\ D_1 f^2(a) & D_2 f^2(a) & \cdots & D_n f^2(a) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ D_1 f^n(a) & D_2 f^n(a) & \cdots & D_n f^n(a) \end{pmatrix}$$

is defined as the **Jacobian matrix** of  $f$  at  $a$ .

– The determinant of this matrix, denoted by  $J_f(a)$ , is called the **Jacobian** of  $f$  at  $a$ .

- When  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , the counter-part of  $f'(a) \neq 0$  is that the Jacobian of  $f$  at  $a$ ,  $J_f(a)$ , is non-zero.

• **Theorem 10 (Inverse Function Theorem):**

*Let  $A$  be an open set of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be continuously differentiable on  $A$ . Suppose  $a \in A$  and the Jacobian of  $f$  at  $a$ ,  $J_f(a)$ , is non-zero. Then there is an open set  $X \subset A$  containing  $a$ , and an open set  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  containing  $f(X)$ , and a unique function  $g : Y \rightarrow X$ , such that*

(i) *for all  $x \in X$ ,  $g(f(x)) = x$ , and*

(ii)  *$g$  is continuously differentiable on  $Y$  with*

$$Dg(f(a)) = [Df(a)]^{-1}.$$



- In order to show that  $Dg(f(a)) = [Df(a)]^{-1}$  we proceed as follows.
  - Under the hypothesis of the Inverse Function Theorem, there is a function  $g : Y \rightarrow X$ , such that  $g$  is continuously differentiable on  $Y$  and  $g(f(x)) = x$  for all  $x \in X$ .
  - We can define for  $x \in X$ ,  $F^1(x) = g^1(f(x))$  as a composite function of  $f$  and  $g^1$ .
  - Using the Chain Rule we get

$$D_i F^1(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n D_j g^1(f(x)) D_i f^j(x), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- But since  $F^1(x) = g^1(f(x)) = x_1$ , we have

$$D_i F^1(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } i \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

- We can repeat these calculations with  $F^2(x) = g^2(f(x))$ , and get

$$D_i F^2(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 2 \\ 0 & \text{for } i \neq 2. \end{cases}$$

- The results for  $F^3(x), \dots, F^n(x)$  should now be obvious.
- This information can then be written in familiar matrix multiplication form:

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 g^1(f(x)) & D_2 g^1(f(x)) & \cdots & D_n g^1(f(x)) \\ D_1 g^2(f(x)) & D_2 g^2(f(x)) & \cdots & D_n g^2(f(x)) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ D_1 g^n(f(x)) & D_2 g^n(f(x)) & \cdots & D_n g^n(f(x)) \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} D_1 f^1(x) & D_2 f^1(x) & \cdots & D_n f^1(x) \\ D_1 f^2(x) & D_2 f^2(x) & \cdots & D_n f^2(x) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ D_1 f^n(x) & D_2 f^n(x) & \cdots & D_n f^n(x) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- That is,  $I = Dg(f(x)) \cdot Df(x)$ .
- Thus, the matrix  $Df(a)$  is invertible, and we have  $Dg(f(a)) = [Df(a)]^{-1}$ .
- It follows that (taking determinants) the Jacobian of  $g$  at  $f(a)$  is equal to the reciprocal of the Jacobian of  $f$  at  $a$ :

$$J_g(f(a)) = \frac{1}{J_f(a)}.$$

## 6. Implicit Functions

---

- So far we have been working with functions where the endogenous or independent variables are explicit functions of the exogenous or independent variables:

$$y = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$

When the variables are separated like this, we say that the endogenous variable ( $y$ ) is an *explicit function* of the exogenous variables ( $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ ).

- Consider the expression

$$G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y) = 0$$

where the exogenous variables ( $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ ) are mixed with the endogenous variable ( $y$ ).

- If for each ( $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ ), the above equation determines a corresponding value of  $y$ , we say that the equation defines the endogenous variable  $y$  as an **implicit function** of the exogenous variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

- An expression like above is often so complicated that one cannot solve it to separate the exogenous variables on one side and the endogenous one on the other.
  - However, we still want to answer the basic question: how does a small change in one of the exogenous variables affect the value of the endogenous variable?
    - In what follows we explain how to answer this question for *implicit functions*.

- Example 1: The equation  $4x + 2y - 5 = 0$  express  $y$  as an implicit function of  $x$ .
  - We can solve the equation and write  $y$  as an explicit function of  $x$ :  $y = 2.5 - 2x$ .
- Example 2: A more complex example is the equation:  $y^2 - 5xy + 4x^2 = 0$ .
  - We substitute any specified value of  $x$  into the equation and then solve the resulting quadratic equation for  $y$ .
  - Even though this equation is more complex than Example 1, we can still convert the equation into an explicit function (actually, a correspondence) by applying the quadratic formula:

$$y = \frac{5x \pm \sqrt{25x^2 - 16x^2}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (5x \pm 3x) = \begin{cases} 4x \\ x. \end{cases}$$

- Example 3: Changing one exponent in Example 2 to construct the implicit function  $y^5 - 5xy + 4x^2 = 0$  yields an expression which cannot be solved into an explicit function because there is no general formula for solving quintic equations.
  - However, this equation still defines  $y$  as a function of  $x$ : for example,  $x = 0$  implies  $y = 0$ ;  $x = 1$  gives  $y = 1$ , and so on.

- Example 4: Consider a profit-maximizing firm that uses a single input  $x$  at a cost of  $w$  dollars per unit to produce a single output via a production function  $y = f(x)$ . If output sells for  $p$  dollars a unit, the firm's profit function for any fixed  $p$  and  $w$  is:  
$$\pi(x) = p \cdot f(x) - w \cdot x.$$

- The profit-maximizing choice of  $x$  is determined from setting the derivative of the profit function equal to zero:

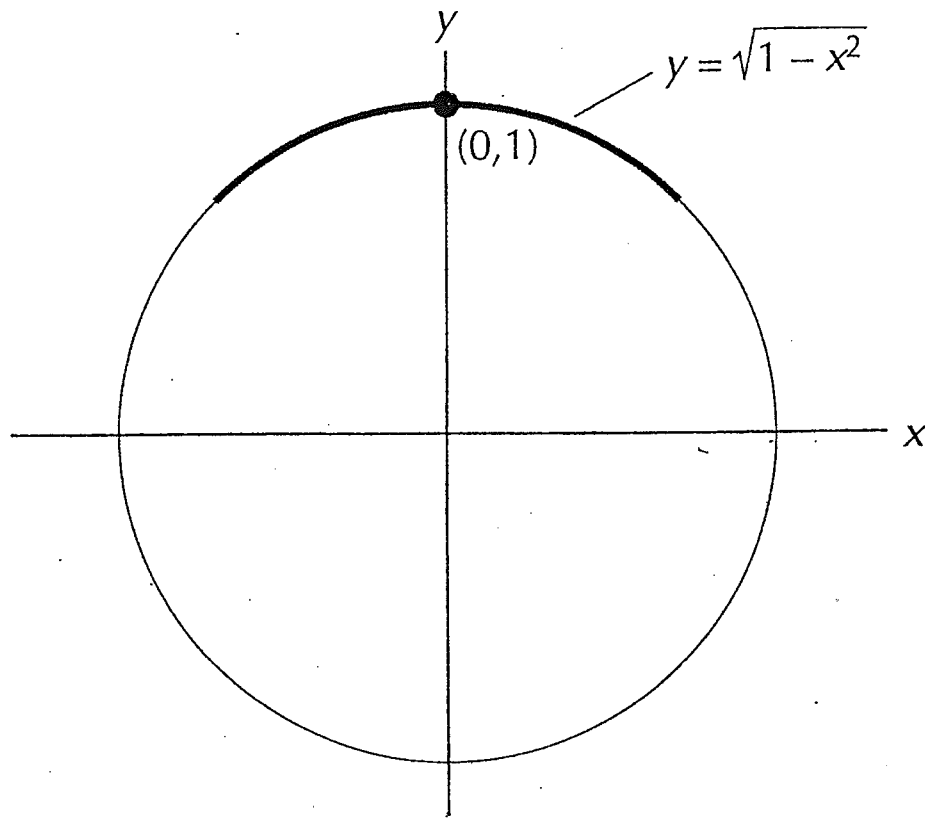
$$p \cdot f'(x) - w = 0.$$

- Think of  $p$  and  $w$  as exogenous variables. For each choice of  $p$  and  $w$ , the firm chooses  $x$  that satisfies the above equation.
- There is no reason to limit the models to production functions for which the above equation can be solved explicitly for  $x$  in terms of  $p$  and  $w$ .
- To study the profit-maximizing behaviour of a general firm, we need to work with the above equation as defining  $x$  as an *implicit function* of  $p$  and  $w$ .
- We will want to know, for example, how the optimal choice of input  $x$  changes as  $p$  or  $w$  increases.

- The fact that we can write down an implicit function  $G(x, y) = c$  does not mean that this equation automatically defines  $y$  as a function of  $x$ .
- Consider, for example, the simple implicit function

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1. \quad (*)$$

- When  $x > 1$ , there is no  $y$  which satisfies (\*).
- Usually we start with a specific solution  $(x_0, y_0)$  of the implicit equation  $G(x, y) = c$  and ask if we vary  $x$  a little from  $x_0$ , can we find a  $y$  near the original  $y_0$  that satisfies the equation.
  - For example, if we start with the solution  $(x = 0, y = 1)$  of (\*) and vary  $x$  a little, we can find a unique  $y = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$  near  $y = 1$  that corresponds to the new  $x$ .
  - We can even draw the graph of this explicit relationship,  $y = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ , around the point  $(0, 1)$ , as we do in the following figure.



*The graph of  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  near the point  $(0, 1)$ .*

**Figure  
15.1**



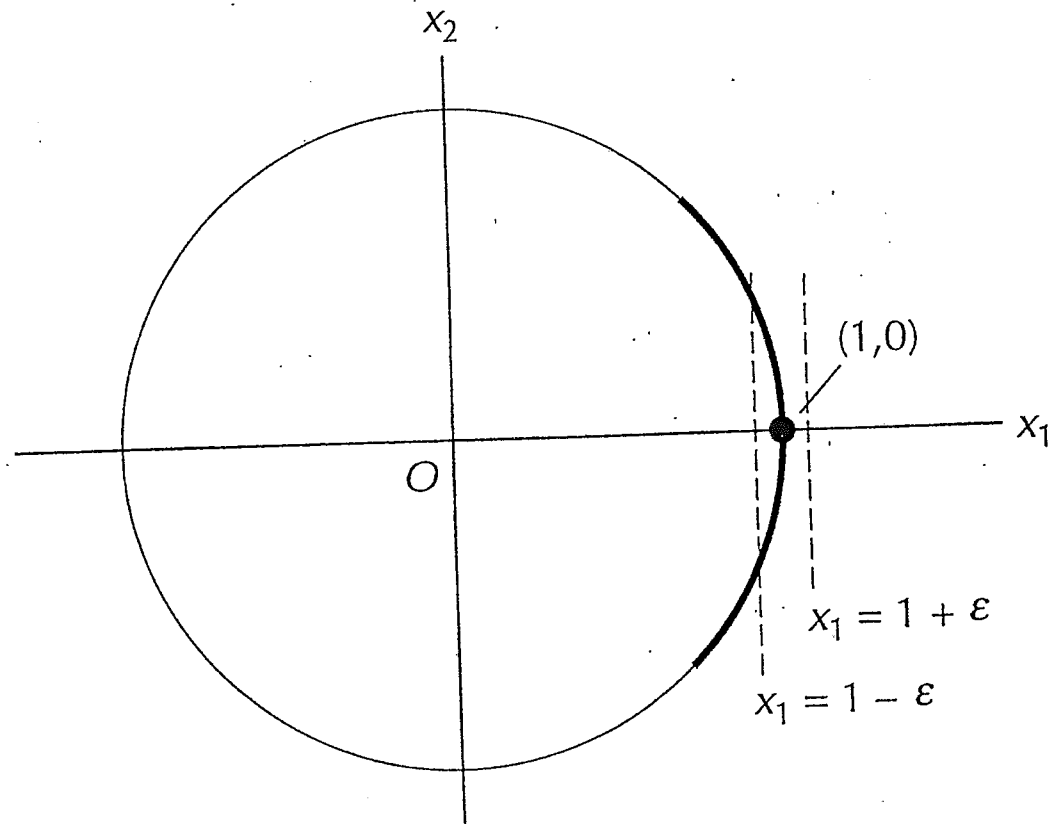
- However, if we start at the solution  $(x = 1, y = 0)$  of (\*), then *no such functional relationship exists*.

– Look at the figure in the next page.

- If we increase  $x$  a little to  $x = 1 + \varepsilon$ , then there is no corresponding  $y$  so that  $(1 + \varepsilon, y)$  solves (\*).
- If we decrease  $x$  a little to  $x = 1 - \varepsilon$ , then there are two equally good candidates for  $y$  *near*  $y = 0$ , namely

$$y = +\sqrt{2\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2}, \text{ and } y = -\sqrt{2\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2}.$$

- As the figure illustrates, because the curve  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  is vertical around  $(1, 0)$ , it does **not** define  $y$  as a function of  $x$  around  $(1, 0)$ .



*The graph of  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  near the point  $(1, 0)$ .*

**Figure  
15.2**

## 6.1 Implicit Function Theorem: One Exogenous Variable

---

- For a given implicit function  $G(x, y) = c$  and a specified solution point  $(x_0, y_0)$ , we want the answers to the following two questions:
  - Does  $G(x, y) = c$  determine  $y$  as a continuous function of  $x$ ,  $y = y(x)$ , for  $x$  near  $x_0$  and  $y$  near  $y_0$ ?
  - If so, how do changes in  $x$  affect the corresponding  $y$ 's?
- Answers of these two questions are closely related to each other:
  - If the first question has a positive answer, one can use the chain rule to compute  $y'(x)$  in terms of  $\partial G/\partial x$  and  $\partial G/\partial y$ .
  - On the other hand, this formula for  $y'(x)$  in terms of  $\partial G/\partial x$  and  $\partial G/\partial y$  leads to the natural criterion for the existence question.
- We suppose that there is a  $C^1$  solution  $y = y(x)$  to the equation  $G(x, y) = c$ , that is,

$$G(x, y(x)) = c. \tag{A}$$

– Use the Chain Rule to differentiate (A) with respect to  $x$  at  $x_0$ :

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x_0, y(x_0)) \cdot \frac{dx}{dx} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x_0, y(x_0)) \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}(x_0) = 0,$$

or

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \cdot y'(x_0) = 0.$$

– Solving for  $y'(x_0)$  yields

$$y'(x_0) = -\frac{\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0)}{\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0)}. \quad (\text{B})$$

– We see from (B) that if the solution  $y(x)$  to the equation  $G(x, y) = c$  exists and is differentiable, it is *necessary* that  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0)$  be *non-zero*.

- As the following fundamental result of mathematical analysis indicates, this necessary condition is also a sufficient condition.

• **Theorem 11(a) (Implicit Function Theorem: one exogenous variable):**

*Let  $G(x, y)$  be a  $C^1$  function on an open ball around  $(x^*, y^*)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Suppose that  $G(x^*, y^*) = c$ . If  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*) \neq 0$ , then there exists a  $C^1$  function  $y = y(x)$  defined on an open interval  $I$  around the point  $x^*$  such that:*

(a)  $G(x, y(x)) \equiv c$  for all  $x$  in  $I$ ,

(b)  $y(x^*) = y^*$ , and

(c)  $y'(x^*) = -\frac{\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x^*, y^*)}{\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x^*, y^*)}$ .

- **Example:** Consider the function  $G : \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $G(x, y) = x^\alpha y^\beta$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  are positive constants.
  - At  $(x^*, y^*) = (1, 1)$ ,  $G(x^*, y^*) = 1$ .
  - $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(1, 1) = \beta > 0$ , that is,  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(1, 1) \neq 0$ .
  - Also  $G$  is a  $C^1$  function on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^2$ .
  - Hence we can invoke the implicit function theorem to obtain a  $C^1$  function  $y = y(x)$  defined on an open interval  $I$  around the point  $x^* = 1$  such that:
    - $x^\alpha (y(x))^\beta = 1$  for all  $x$  in  $I$ ;  $y(1) = 1$ , and
    - $y'(1) = -\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(1, 1) / \frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(1, 1) = -\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$ .

- Example: Return now to the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .
  - We saw that this equation does determine  $y$  as a function of  $x$  around the point  $(x = 0, y = 1)$ .
    - $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(0, 1) = 2 \neq 0$ . So the Implicit Function Theorem assures us that  $y(x)$  exists around  $(0, 1)$ .
    - Furthermore, the theorem tells us that  $y'(0) = -\frac{\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(0, 1)}{\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(0, 1)} = -\frac{0}{2} = 0$ .
  - In this case, we have an explicit formula for  $y(x)$ :  $y(x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ .
    - We can compute directly from this explicit formula that  $y'(0) = -\frac{x}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \Big|_{x=0} = 0$ .
  - On the other hand, we noted earlier that no function  $y(x)$  exists for  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  around  $(x = 1, y = 0)$ .
    - This is consistent with the theorem since  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y} = 2y = 0$  at  $(1, 0)$ .

## 6.2 Implicit Function Theorem: Several Exogenous Variables

---

- The Implicit Function Theorem for one exogenous variable and the discussion around it carry over in a straightforward way to the situation where there are many exogenous variables, but still one equation and therefore one endogenous variable:

$$G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y) = c. \quad (\text{C})$$

- Around a given point  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*, y^*)$ , we want to vary  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and then find a  $y$ -value which corresponds to each such  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .
- In this case, we say that the equation (C) defines  $y$  as an implicit function of  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .
- Again, given  $G(\cdot)$  and  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*, y^*)$ , we want to know whether this functional relationship exists, and, if yes, how  $y$  changes if any of the  $x_i$ 's change from  $x_i^*$ .
  - Since we are working with a function of several variables  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , we will hold all but one of the  $x_i$ 's constant and vary one exogenous variable at a time.



- But this puts us back in the two-variable situation that we have been discussing.
- The natural extension of the Implicit Function Theorem for one exogenous variable in this setting is the following.
- **Theorem 11(b) (Implicit Function Theorem: several exogenous variables):**

*Let  $G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, y)$  be a  $C^1$  function on an open ball around  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*, y^*)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{k+1}$  such that  $G(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*, y^*) = c$ . If  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*, y^*) \neq 0$ , then there exists a  $C^1$  function  $y = y(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$  defined on an open ball  $B$  around  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*)$  such that:*

(a)  $G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, y(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)) = c$  for all  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \in B$ ,

(b)  $y^* = y(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*)$ , and

(c)  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x_i}(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*) = -\frac{\frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i}(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*, y^*)}{\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_k^*, y^*)}$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

## 6.3 System of Implicit Functions

---

- **Definition:** A set of  $m$  equations in  $m + n$  unknowns

$$G^1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{m+n}) = c_1,$$

$$G^2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{m+n}) = c_2,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$G^m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{m+n}) = c_m,$$

(D)

is called a *system of implicit functions* if there is a partition of the variables into *exogenous variables* and *endogenous variables*, so that if one substitutes into (D) numerical values for the exogenous variables, the resulting system can be solved uniquely for corresponding values of the endogenous variables.

- This is a natural generalization of the single-equation implicit function.

## 6.3.1 Linear System of Implicit Functions

---

- From our discussion in linear algebra we know that for *linear* system of implicit functions, in order for each choice of values of the exogenous variables to determine a unique set of values of the endogenous variables it is necessary and sufficient that:

(1) the number of endogenous variables is equal to the number of equations, and

(2) the (square) matrix of coefficients corresponding to the endogenous variables be invertible (have non-zero determinant).

- Example: Consider the linear system of implicit functions:

$$\begin{aligned}4x + 2y + 2z - r + 3s &= 5, \\2x + 0 \cdot y + 2z + 8r - 5s &= 7, \\2x + 2y + 0 \cdot z + r - s &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

- Since there are three equations, we need three endogenous variables, and, therefore, two exogenous variables.

- Let us try to work with  $y$ ,  $z$  and  $r$  as endogenous and  $x$  and  $s$  as exogenous. Putting the exogenous variables on the right side and the endogenous variables on the left, we rewrite the system as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 8 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \\ r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 - 4x - 3s \\ 7 - 2x + 5s \\ -2x + s \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Since the determinant of the coefficient matrix is 40, we can invert it and solve for  $(y, z, r)$  explicitly in terms of  $x$  and  $s$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \\ r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 8 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 5 - 4x - 3s \\ 7 - 2x + 5s \\ -2x + s \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{40} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 18 \\ 16 & 4 & -16 \\ -4 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 - 4x - 3s \\ 7 - 2x + 5s \\ -2x + s \end{bmatrix}.$$

- On the other hand, if we want  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  to be endogenous, we have to solve the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 + r - 3s \\ 7 - 8r + 5s \\ 0 - r + s \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Since the determinant of the coefficient matrix is zero, we know that there are right-hand sides for which the above system cannot be solved for  $(x, y, z)$ .
  - For example, for  $r = -5$  and  $s = 0$ , the system becomes

$$\begin{aligned} 4x + 2y + 2z &= 0, \\ 2x + 0 \cdot y + 2z &= 47, \\ 2x + 2y + 0 \cdot z &= 5. \end{aligned}$$

- Adding the last two equations yields the inconsistent system:

$$\begin{aligned} 4x + 2y + 2z &= 0, \\ 4x + 2y + 2z &= 52. \end{aligned}$$

- Since there is no solution in  $(x, y, z)$  for  $(r, s) = (-5, 0)$ , this partition into exogenous and endogenous variables does not work.

## 6.3.2 Nonlinear System of Implicit Functions

---

- The corresponding result for nonlinear systems follows from the usual calculus paradigm:
  - linearize by taking the derivative;
  - apply the linear theorem to this linearized system; and
  - transfer these results back to the original nonlinear system.

- Write the nonlinear system of  $m$  equations in  $m + n$  unknowns as

$$F^1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = c_1,$$

$$F^2(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = c_2,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\vdots$$

(E)

$$F^m(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = c_m.$$

- Here we want  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m)$  to be endogenous variables and  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  to be exogenous variables.

- The linearization of system (E) around the point  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} dy_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} dy_m + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_1} dx_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_n} dx_n &= 0, \\ \vdots & \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} dy_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} dy_m + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_1} dx_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_n} dx_n &= 0, \end{aligned} \tag{E'}$$

where all the partial derivatives are evaluated at  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ .

- The linear system (E') can be solved for  $(dy_1, dy_2, \dots, dy_m)$  in terms of  $(dx_1, dx_2, \dots, dx_n)$  if and only if the coefficient matrix of the  $dy_i$ 's

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} \end{pmatrix} \tag{F}$$

is **invertible** (have **non-zero determinant**) at  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ .

- Since the system is linear, when the coefficient matrix in (F) is invertible, we can use its inverse to solve the system ( $E'$ ) for  $(dy_1, dy_2, \dots, dy_m)$  in terms of  $(dx_1, dx_2, \dots, dx_n)$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} dy_1 \\ dy_2 \\ \vdots \\ dy_m \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_1} dx_1 + \cdots + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_n} dx_n \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_1} dx_1 + \cdots + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_n} dx_n \end{bmatrix}. \quad (\text{G})$$

- Since the linear approximation ( $E'$ ) of the original system (E) is a true implicit function of  $(dy_1, dy_2, \dots, dy_m)$  in terms of  $(dx_1, dx_2, \dots, dx_n)$ , the basic principle of calculus leads us to the following conclusion:
  - if the coefficient matrix in (F) is invertible, then the nonlinear system (E) defines  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m)$  as implicit functions of  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , at least in a neighbourhood of  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ .
- $\Rightarrow$  The sufficient condition for the existence of implicit functions for the nonlinear system (E) is: *the coefficient matrix in (F) is invertible.*



- Furthermore, one can actually use the linear solution (G) of  $(dy_1, dy_2, \dots, dy_m)$  in terms of  $(dx_1, dx_2, \dots, dx_n)$  to find the derivatives of the  $y_i$ 's with respect to the  $x_j$ 's at  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ .
- To compute  $\frac{\partial y_k}{\partial x_h}$  for some  $h$  and  $k$ , recall that this derivative estimates the effect on  $y_k$  of a unit increase in  $x_h$  ( $dx_h = 1$ ).
- So we set all the  $dx_j$ 's equal to zero in  $(E')$  or (G) except  $dx_h$  and then solve  $(E')$  or (G) for the corresponding  $dy_i$ 's.
  - For example, if we use (G), we find

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_h} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_h} \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_h} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_h} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Alternatively we can apply Cramer's Rule to  $(E')$  and compute

$$\frac{\partial y_k}{\partial x_h} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_h} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_h} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_k} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_k} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} \end{vmatrix}}.$$

- The following theorem – the most general form of the Implicit Function Theorem – summarizes these conclusions.

• **Theorem 11(c) (Implicit Function Theorem: most general form):**

Let  $F^1, F^2, \dots, F^m : \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be  $C^1$  functions. Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} F^1(y_1, \dots, y_m, x_1, \dots, x_n) &= c_1 \\ F^2(y_1, \dots, y_m, x_1, \dots, x_n) &= c_2 \\ &\vdots \\ F^m(y_1, \dots, y_m, x_1, \dots, x_n) &= c_m \end{aligned}$$

as possibly defining  $y_1, \dots, y_m$  as implicit functions of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Suppose that  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  is a solution to the system of equations. If the determinant of the  $m \times m$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} \end{pmatrix}$$

evaluated at  $(y_1^*, \dots, y_m^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  is nonzero, then there exist  $C^1$  functions

$$\begin{aligned}
 y_1 &= f^1(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\
 y_2 &= f^2(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\
 &\vdots \\
 y_m &= f^m(x_1, \dots, x_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

*defined on an open ball  $B$  around  $(x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned}
 F^1(f^1(x), \dots, f^m(x), x_1, \dots, x_n) &= c_1 \\
 F^2(f^1(x), \dots, f^m(x), x_1, \dots, x_n) &= c_2 \\
 &\vdots \\
 F^m(f^1(x), \dots, f^m(x), x_1, \dots, x_n) &= c_m
 \end{aligned}$$

*for all  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  in  $B$  and*

$$\begin{aligned}
 y_1^* &= f^1(x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*) \\
 y_2^* &= f^2(x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*) \\
 &\vdots \\
 y_m^* &= f^m(x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*).
 \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, one can compute  $\frac{\partial y_k}{\partial x_h}(y^*, x^*) = \frac{\partial f^k}{\partial x_h}(x^*)$  by setting  $dx_h = 1$  and  $dx_j = 0$  for  $j \neq h$  in

$$\frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_1} dy_1 + \cdots + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial y_m} dy_m + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_1} dx_1 + \cdots + \frac{\partial F^1}{\partial x_n} dx_n = 0$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_1} dy_1 + \cdots + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial y_m} dy_m + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_1} dx_1 + \cdots + \frac{\partial F^m}{\partial x_n} dx_n = 0$$

and solving the resulting system for  $dy_k$ .

# References

---

- Must read the following chapters and sections from the textbook:
  - Chapter 2 (pages 10 – 38): One-Variable Calculus: Foundations,
  - Section 4.2 (pages 75 – 81): Inverse Functions and Their Derivatives,
  - Chapter 14 (pages 300 – 333): Calculus of Several Variables,
  - Section 20.1 (pages 483 – 493): Homogeneous Functions,
  - Chapter 15 (pages 334 – 371): Implicit Functions and Their Derivatives.
  
- This material is based on
  1. Bartle, R., *The Elements of Real Analysis*, (chapter 7),
  2. Apostol, T., *Mathematical Analysis: A Modern Approach to Advanced Calculus*, (chapters 6, 7).
  3. Spivak, M., *Calculus on Manifolds*, (chapter 2).