

**Chain Rule:**

Imagine  $z$  depends on  $t$  through  $x$  and  $y$ .

That is,  $z(x(t), y(t))$ . This means we input  $t$ , get  $x$  and  $y$  and then those are inputs into  $z$ .

**Example:**

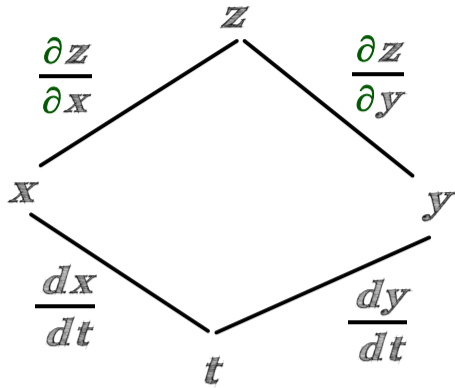
$$x = 2t, y = t^2$$

$$z = x^3 + 2y$$

$$\text{Then } z(2t, t^2) = (2t)^3 + 2t^2 = 8t^3 + 2t^2 = z(t)$$

$$z(1) = 8 \cdot 1^3 + 2 \cdot 1^2 = 8 + 2 = 10$$

To find the rate at which  $z$  changes with respect to  $t$ , create a dependence tree.



Since  $z$  depends on  $x$  and  $y$  first, we get partials along those branches. Since  $x$  and  $y$  each depends on  $t$  only, we get regular derivatives along those branches.

$$\text{Thus, we get } \frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

Multiply the derivatives down the branches and add the products across the branches.

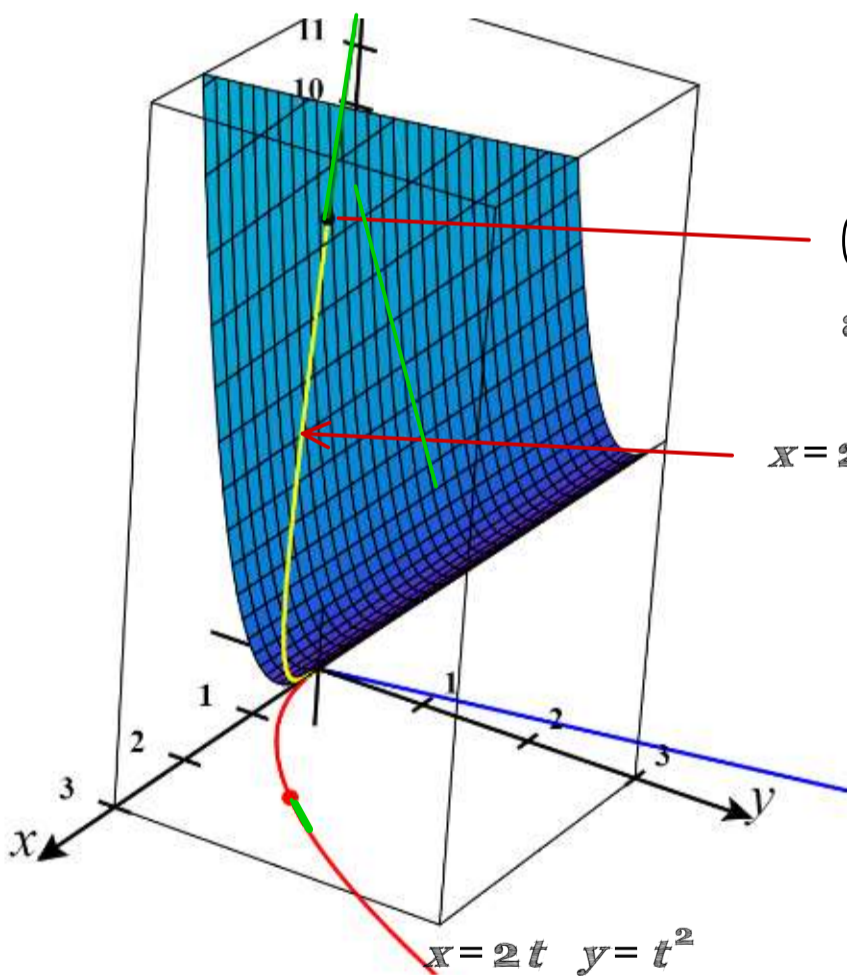
Thus, for the example above,  $x = 2t, y = t^2, z = x^3 + 2y$ , we get

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = 3x^2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 2t = 6x^2 + 4t \quad \left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t=1} = 6(2 \cdot 1)^2 + 4 \cdot 1 = 6 \cdot 2^2 + 4 = 6 \cdot 4 + 4 = 24 + 4 = 28$$

$$\text{or } \frac{dz}{dt} = 24t^2 + 4t \Rightarrow t=1 \Rightarrow 24 + 4 = 28$$

$x = 2(1)$   
from  $x = 2t$

Since at  $t=1$ , we have  $x = 2 \cdot 1 = 2, y = 1^2 = 1$ ,  $28$  is the rate of change on the surface  $x^3 + 2y$  at  $t=1$  along the curve  $x = 2t, y = t^2$ .



$(2, 1, 10)$  slope with respect to time along the curve is  $28$ .

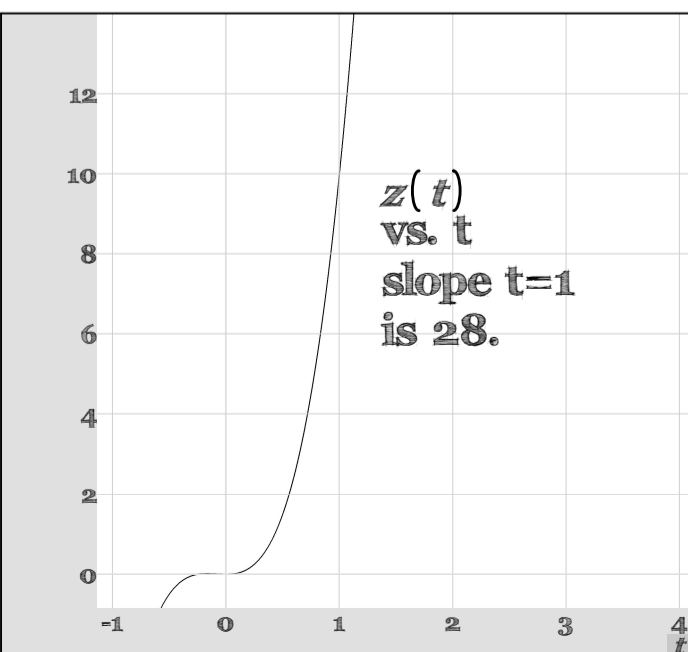
$$x = 2t, y = t^2, z = 8t^3 + 2t^2$$

$$x = 2t, y = t^2$$

$z(t)$   
vs.  $t$   
slope  $t=1$   
is  $28$ .

estimate of slope

$$\frac{8(1.001)^3 + 2(1.001)^2 - [8(1)^3 + 2 \cdot 1^2]}{1.001 - 1} \approx 28.026$$



$$z = x^2 + y^2$$

along  $x = \cos(t), y = \sin(t) \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

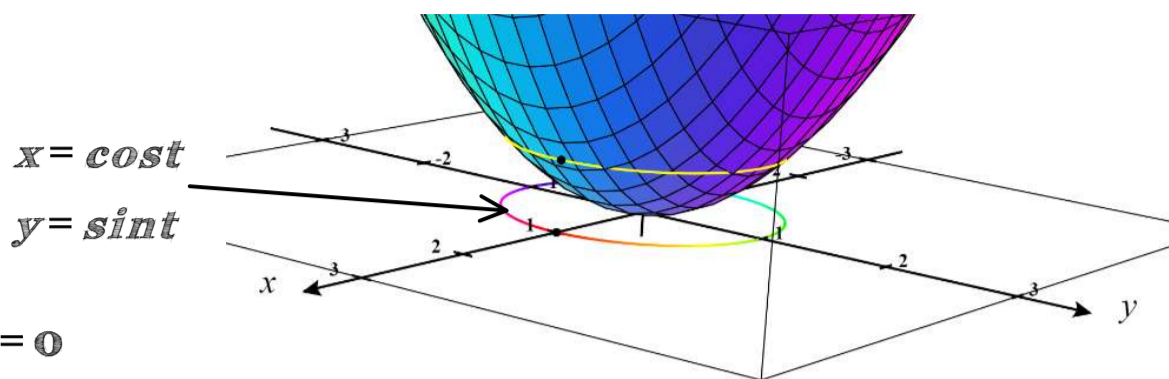
$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = 2x \cdot (-\sin(t)) + \cos(t) \cdot 2y = -2x\sin(t) + 2y\cos(t)$$

when  $t = \pi/2$ :

$$x(\pi/2) = \cos(\pi/2) = 0$$

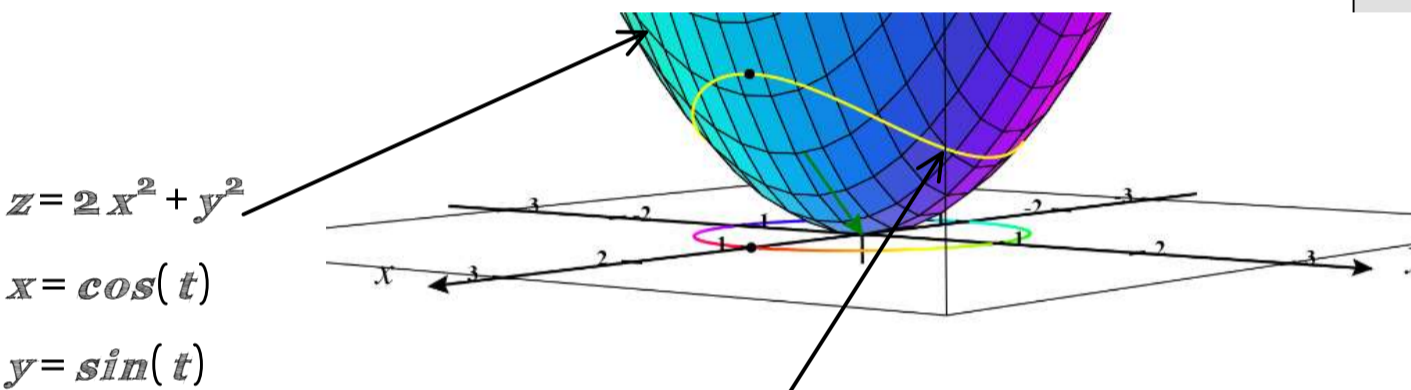
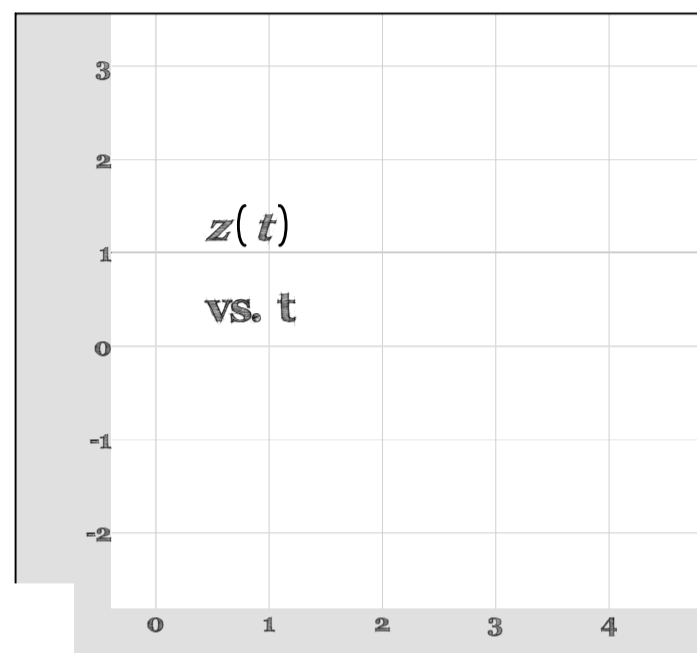
$$y(\pi/2) = \sin(\pi/2) = 1$$

$$\left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t=\pi/2} = 2(0)[- \sin(\pi/2)] + 2(1)\cos(\pi/2) = 0$$



Or convert to t only:  $z(\cos t, \sin t) = z(t) = \cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1$

Since  $z(t) = 1$ , the derivative  $\frac{dz}{dt} = 0$  always.



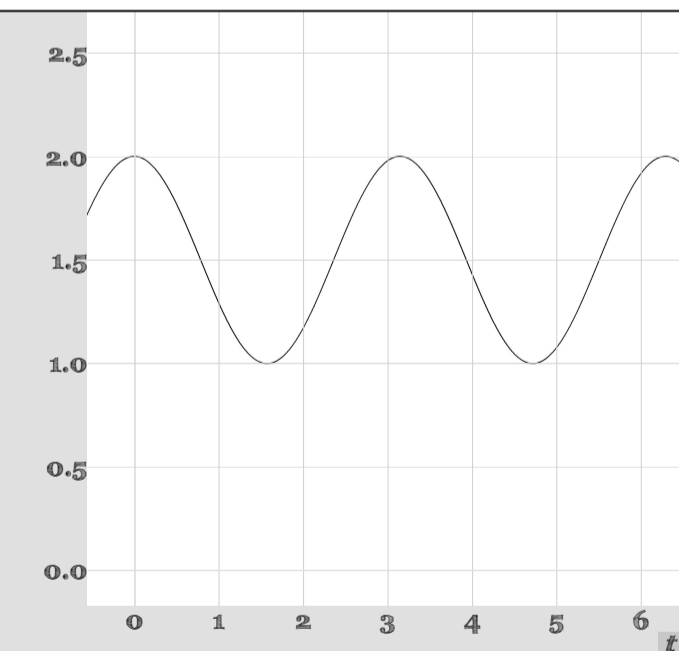
$$z = 2x^2 + y^2$$

$$x = \cos(t)$$

$$y = \sin(t)$$

$$z(\cos(2t), \sin(2t)) = 2\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = 4\cos(t)[- \sin(t)] + 2\sin(t)\cos(t) = -4\cos(t)\sin(t) + 2\sin(t)\cos(t) = -2\sin(t)\cos(t) = -2\sin(2t)$$



$$z(t) = 2\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t$$

vs. t

$$\left. \frac{dz}{dt} \right|_{t=\pi/4} = -2\sin\left(2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = -2\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = -2$$