

多元复合函数求导方法

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摘 要

本文针对复合函数求导教学中的难点,提出了两种新的求导方法。

关键词: 复合函数; 中间变量; 求导方法

多元复合函数的导数是高等数学中的一个难点,学生求导时常会出错。问题并不在于复合函数导数公式过分复杂,实际上求导公式相当简单。那么,原因是什么呢?通过这几年的教学实践,我们观察到学生对 $Z=f[u(x,y), v(x,y)]$, $z=f[u(x,y), v(x,y), w(x,y)]$ 这类能直接应用公式求导的题目做起来得心应手,甚至推广到 $z=f[u_1(x,y), u_2(x,y), \dots, u_n(x,y)]$ 也做得出来。而对象 $z=f[x, \varphi(x,y)]$ 这样简单的函数的导数却往往不会动手。其原因在于,对 $z=f[x, \varphi(x,y)]$ 中的 x 不知如何处理,是作为中间变量呢?还是自变量呢?为了解决这个问题,我们在教学中采取如下方法。

先给出推广的复合函数求导公式。

定理[1] 设有复合函数 $A=f[u_1(x,y,z), u_2(x,y,z), \dots, u_n(x,y,z)]$, 函数 $f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ 有连续偏导数 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_n}$, $u_1(x,y,z), u_2(x,y,z), \dots, u_n(x,y,z)$ 的三个偏导数都存在, 则复合函数可导且

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_2} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} + \dots + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_n} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_2} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y} + \dots + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_n} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial y} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_2} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial z} + \dots + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_n} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial z} \quad (3)$$

利用(1), (2), (3)式可解决以下两种函数的求导问题。

1. $z=f[x, y, R(x,y), S(x,y)]$ 令 $u=u(x,y)$, $v=v(x,y)$, $R=R(x,y)$, $S=S(x,y)$ 则 u, v, R, S 为中间变量, x, y 为自变量, 可直接用公式求导。

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2. $u=f(x, y, z, \varphi(x, y, z))$ 令 $p=p(x, y, z)=x$, $q=q(x, y, z)$, $l=l(x, y, z)$, $m=m(x, y, z)$.

则中间变量、自变量一清二楚。

利用上述扩充引进中间变量的方法,使求复合函数的导数变得更容易且不易出错,经实践证明效果较好。

对于求 $z=f[u(x, y), v(x, y)]$ 的二阶导数,学生最容易忽视 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}$, $\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}$ 仍是以 u, v 为中间变量的复合函数这个事实,故求导时往往会少许多项,为了避免这种情况发生,我们采取如下办法。

设有复合函数 $z=f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$, $u_1=u_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$, $u_2=u_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$, $\dots$, $u_n=u_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$, 这里 $f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ 有二阶连续偏导数, $u_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$, $u_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$, $\dots$, $u_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ 有二阶连续偏导数。

由复合函数求导公式 (1) (2) (3) 有

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_2} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_i} + \dots + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_n} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i} \quad (4)$$

$$(i=1, 2, \dots, m)$$

为简便记: $f_i = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_i}$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$) $f_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_i \partial u_j}$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, n, j=1, 2, \dots, n$) 于是 (4) 式可写为

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_i} = f_1 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i} + f_2 \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_i} + \dots + f_n \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i}$$

再对 x_i 求导得

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_i} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(f_1 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i} + f_2 \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_i} + \dots + f_n \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (f_1) \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (f_2) \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_i} + \dots + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (f_n) \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i} \\ &\quad + f_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + f_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + \dots + f_n \frac{\partial^2 u_n}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \\ &= \left(f_{11} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_j} + f_{12} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_j} + \dots + f_{1n} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i} \\ &\quad + \left(f_{21} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_j} + f_{22} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_j} + \dots + f_{2n} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_i} \\ &\quad + \dots \dots \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + (f_{n1} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_j} + f_{n2} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_j} + \dots + f_{nn} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_j}) \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i} \\
 & + f_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + f_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + \dots + f_n \frac{\partial^2 u_n}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}
 \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & = \left(\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_i} \quad \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_i} \quad \dots \quad \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i} \right) \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & \dots & f_{1n} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & \dots & f_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ f_{n1} & f_{n2} & \dots & f_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_j} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_j} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_j} \end{pmatrix} \\
 & + f_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + f_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + \dots + f_n \frac{\partial^2 u_n}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}
 \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

由于 $f(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ 具有二阶连续偏导数, 故 $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_i \partial u_j} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_j \partial u_i}$ 即 $f_{ij} = f_{ji}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$), 因此(5)中的矩阵

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & \dots & f_{1n} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & \dots & f_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ f_{n1} & f_{n2} & \dots & f_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{是一个对称矩阵。}$$

(5)式中的后半部分亦可用矩阵表示为

$$(f_1 \quad f_2 \quad \dots \quad f_n) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \\ \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 u_n}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \end{pmatrix}$$

利用上述方法求多元复合函数的导数, 只要分别求出矩阵的每一项, 这些一般只要作简单的求导运算即可求得。对于 $z = f(x, y, u(x, y), v(x, y))$ 的二阶导数, 可以先采取扩充引进中间变量的方法, 再利用公式(6)。

例1. 求 $z = f(x, y, e^{xy}, x^2 y^2)$ 的二阶导数 $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}, \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y}$

解: 令 $u_1 = x, u_2 = y, u_3 = e^{xy}, u_4 = x^2 y^2$ 则

$$\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial x} = y e^{xy}, \quad \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial x} = 2 x y^2$$

$$\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial y} = xe^{xy}, \quad \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial y} = 2x^3y$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u_3}{\partial x^2} = y^2 e^{xy}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u_4}{\partial x^2} = 6xy^2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x \partial y} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x \partial y} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u_3}{\partial x \partial y} = (1 + xy)e^{xy}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u_4}{\partial x \partial y} = 6x^2y$$

故

$$\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x^2} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial x} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & f_{13} & f_{14} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & f_{23} & f_{24} \\ f_{31} & f_{32} & f_{33} & f_{34} \\ f_{41} & f_{42} & f_{43} & f_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial x} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$+ f_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} + f_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} + f_3 \frac{\partial^2 u_3}{\partial x^2} + f_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_4}{\partial x^2}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & ye^{xy} & 3x^2y^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & f_{13} & f_{14} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & f_{23} & f_{24} \\ f_{31} & f_{32} & f_{33} & f_{34} \\ f_{41} & f_{42} & f_{43} & f_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ ye^{xy} \\ 3x^2y^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$+ y^2 e^{xy} f_3 + 6xy^2 f_4$$

$$= f_{11} + y^2 e^{2xy} f_{33} + 9x^4 y^4 f_{44} + 2ye^{xy} f_{13} + 6x^2 y^2 f_{14} + 6x^2 y^3 e^{xy} f_{34} + y^2 e^{xy} f_3 + 6xy^2 f_4$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial x \partial y} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial x} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & f_{13} & f_{14} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & f_{23} & f_{24} \\ f_{31} & f_{32} & f_{33} & f_{34} \\ f_{41} & f_{42} & f_{43} & f_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & ye^{xy} & 3x^2y^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & f_{13} & f_{14} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & f_{23} & f_{24} \\ f_{31} & f_{32} & f_{33} & f_{34} \\ f_{41} & f_{42} & f_{43} & f_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ xe^{xy} \\ 2x^3y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + (1+xy)e^{xy}f_3 + 6x^2yf_4 \\
 & = xye^{2xy}f_{13} + 6x^5y^3f_{44} + f_{12} + xe^{xy}f_{13} + 2x^3yf_{14} + ye^{xy}f_{32} + x^2y^2(3x+2y)f_{34} \\
 & + 3x^2y^2f_{42} + (1+xy)e^{xy}f_3 + 6x^2yf_4
 \end{aligned}$$

例2. 设 $z = z(u, v)$ 在任意点 (u, v) 有二阶连续偏导数, 又 $u = xy$, $v = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{2}$

$$\text{求 } \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2}$$

解: 记 $f_{11} = f_{uu}$, $f_{12} = f_{21} = f_{uv}$, $f_{22} = f_{vv}$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = y, \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = x, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = x, \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = -y;$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{故 } \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} &= \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \end{pmatrix} + f_1 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + f_2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} \\
 &= (y \quad x) \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y \\ x \end{pmatrix} + f_2 \\
 &= y^2 f_{11} + 2xy f_{12} + x^2 f_{22} + f_2 \\
 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} &= \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix} + f_1 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + f_2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \\
 &= (x \quad -y) \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix} - f_2 \\
 &= x^2 f_{11} - 2xy f_{12} + y^2 f_{22} - f_2
 \end{aligned}$$

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An Expression of Derivation for Composite Function of Many Variable

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Abstract

In light of student's difficulty in studying derivation for composite function of many variable, This paper gives out an expression of derivation.

Key words: composite function; middle variable; method of derivation