

Total differential is for ...

Approximation Problem :-

- 1) the change of  $z$
- 2) the incremental of  $z$  or
- 3) an error of  $z$

for  $z = f(x, y)$

↓ have some meaning'

$\Delta z$

where

$\Delta z \approx df$

exact change → total differential

$$df = f_x dx + f_y dy$$

# TYPES OF APPROXIMATION

(i) Absolute changes / error / absolute increment  $\Delta z$  in  $z$  i.e.  $\Delta z$  / absolute / decrement

$$\Delta z \approx df$$

(ii) Maximum error / Maximum change / Maximum increment in  $z$

$$\|\Delta z\| \approx \|df\|$$

Noticed that,  
 $\|a+b\| \leq \|a\| + \|b\|$

(iii) Relative changes / Relative error / Relative increment in  $z$  and

$$\frac{\Delta z}{z} \approx \frac{df}{z}$$

$\|a-b\| = \|a+(-b)\| \leq \|a\| + \|-b\| \leq \|a\| + \|b\|$

(iv) Percentage in error / Percentage  
in change, Percentage in increment  
in  $z$  i.e.  $\frac{\Delta z}{z} \times 100\%$

$$\frac{\Delta z}{z} \times 100\% \approx \frac{df}{z} \times 100\%$$

(v) Maximum relative error  
in  $z$   
i.e.  $\left\| \frac{\Delta z}{z} \right\|$

$$\left\| \frac{\Delta z}{z} \right\| \approx \left\| \frac{df}{z} \right\|$$

(vi) Maximum Percentage Error  
in  $z$  i.e.  $\left\| \frac{\Delta z}{z} \right\| \times 100\%$

$$\left\| \frac{\Delta z}{z} \right\| \times 100\% \approx \left\| \frac{df}{z} \right\| \times 100\%$$

4. The radius and height of a right circular cone are measured with errors of at most 3% and 2% respectively. Use increment to approximate the maximum possible percentage error in computing the volume of the cone using these measurements and the formula  $V = \frac{1}{3} \pi R^2 H$ .

**Solution :** We are given that

$$\left| \frac{\Delta R}{R} \right| \times 100 \% \leq 3 \%$$

$$\left| \frac{\Delta H}{H} \right| \times 100 \% \leq 2 \%$$

or

$$\left| \frac{\Delta R}{R} \right| \leq 0.03 \quad \& \quad \left| \frac{\Delta H}{H} \right| \leq 0.02$$

The partial derivatives of  $V$  are

$$V_R = \frac{2}{3} \pi R H \quad \text{and} \quad V_H = \frac{1}{3} \pi R^2$$

So, the change of  $V$  is approximated by

$$\Delta V \approx dV$$

$$\approx V_R dR + V_H dH$$

$$\approx \left( \frac{2}{3} \pi R H \right) dR + \left( \frac{1}{3} \pi R^2 \right) dH$$

Dividing by the volume  $V = \frac{1}{3} \pi R^2 H$ , we obtain

$$\frac{\Delta V}{V} \approx \frac{\left( \frac{2}{3} \pi R H \right) dR + \left( \frac{1}{3} \pi R^2 \right) dH}{\frac{1}{3} \pi R^2 H}$$

$$\approx 2 \frac{dR}{R} + \frac{dH}{H}$$

So that,  $\left| \frac{\Delta V}{V} \right| \approx \left| 2 \frac{dR}{R} + \frac{dH}{H} \right|$

Hence,  $\left| \frac{\Delta V}{V} \right| \leq 2 \left| \frac{dR}{R} \right| + \left| \frac{dH}{H} \right|$

$$\therefore \left| \frac{\Delta V}{V} \right| \leq 2(0.03 + 0.02)$$
$$\leq 0.08 \quad *$$

Thus, the maximum percentage error in computing the volume  $V$  is approximately 8%.