

Section 14.7: Min/max problems

**Definition:** A function  $f(x,y)$  has a **local max(min)** at  $(a,b)$  if  $f(x,y) \leq (\geq) f(a,b)$  when  $(x,y)$  is **near**  $(a,b)$ .  $f(a,b)$  is called a **max(min) value**.

**Theorem:** If  $f$  has a local maximum or minimum at  $(a,b)$  + the first order partial derivatives exist, then  $f_x(a,b) = f_y(a,b) = 0$

• Find the extreme values of  $f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$

**Example:** • Let  $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 6y + 14$ . Find its local min/maxes.

$$\begin{cases} f_x(x,y) = 2x - 2 = 0 \\ f_y(x,y) = 2y - 6 = 0 \end{cases} \begin{cases} x = 1 \\ y = 3 \end{cases}$$

$(1, 3)$

$f_{xx} = 2$

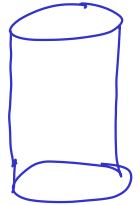
$f_{yy} = 2$

local min:  $(1, 3)$   
no local max.

$z = x^2 - 2x + 14$

$z = y^2 - 6y$

$$\begin{aligned} f(1, 3) &= 1 + 9 - 2 - 18 + 14 \\ &= 10 - 20 + 14 \\ &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

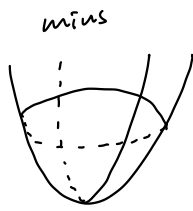
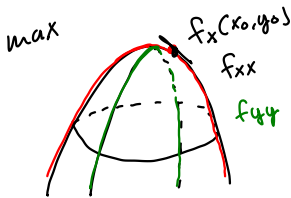


**The 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative Test:** Suppose the 2<sup>nd</sup> partial derivatives of  $f$  are continuous on a disk with center  $(a,b)$  + suppose that  $f_x(a,b) = f_y(a,b) = 0$  [that is,  $(a,b)$  is a **critical point**]. Let

\*watch videos later.

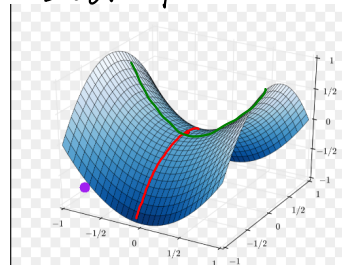
$$D(a,b) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(a,b) & f_{xy}(a,b) \\ f_{yx}(a,b) & f_{yy}(a,b) \end{vmatrix} = \text{Hessian matrix}$$

- a) If  $D > 0$  +  $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is a **local min**
- b) If  $D > 0$  +  $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is a **local max**
- c) If  $D < 0$  then  $(a,b)$  is a **saddle point**.
- d) If  $D = 0$  **inconclusive**.



C S

saddle points



$$A_{ij} = [f_{x_i x_j}(\vec{a})]$$

Det(A)

→ "Curvature"

Do Curves

Hessian matrix

Example: Find the shortest distance from  $(1, 0, -2)$  to the plane  $x + 2y + z = 4$

$$D(a,b) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{xy} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{Hessian matrix} \\ f_{xx}(a,b) & f_{yy}(a,b) \\ -f_{xy}(a,b) & -f_{xy}(a,b) \end{matrix}$$

- a) If  $D > 0$  &  $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is a local min  
 b) If  $D > 0$  &  $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is a local max  
 c) If  $D < 0$  then  $(a,b)$  is a saddle point.  
 d) If  $D = 0$  inconclusive.

$$d = \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + (y)^2 + (z+2)^2} = d(P, P_0) \quad P = (x, y, z)$$

$$d^2 = (x-1)^2 + (y)^2 + (z+2)^2$$

$$z = 4 - x - 2y$$

$$f(x,y) = d^2(x,y) = (x-1)^2 + y^2 + (-x-2y+6)^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{Find min of this}$$

$$= x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 + x^2 + 4y^2 + 4xy - 12x - 12y + 36$$

$$= 2x^2 + 5y^2 + 4xy - 14x - 12y + 37$$

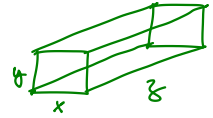
$$f_x = 4x + 4y - 14 \quad f_{xx} = 4 \quad f_{xy} = 4 \quad D = 40 - 16 > 0$$

$$f_y = 10y + 4x - 12 \quad f_{yy} = 10$$

$$f_x = 4x + 4y - 14 = 0$$

$$f_y = 10y + 4x - 12 = 0$$

Example: Find the max volume of a box to be made from  $12\text{cm}^2$  of cardboard.



$$D(a,b) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{xy} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(a,b) & f_{xy}(a,b) \\ f_{xy}(a,b) & f_{yy}(a,b) \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{Hessian matrix}$$

- a) If  $D > 0$  +  $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is a local min
- b) If  $D > 0$  +  $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is a local max
- c) If  $D < 0$  then  $(a,b)$  is a saddle point.
- d) If  $D = 0$  inconclusive.

$$V(x,y,z) = xyz$$

Express  $z$  in terms of  $x$  +  $y$

$$SA = 2xy + 2yz + 2xz = 12$$

$$z(2(y+x)) = 12 - 2xy$$

$$z = \frac{12 - 2xy}{2(y+x)}$$

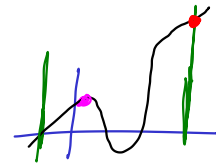


$$V(x,y) = \frac{xy(12 - 2xy)}{2(y+x)}$$

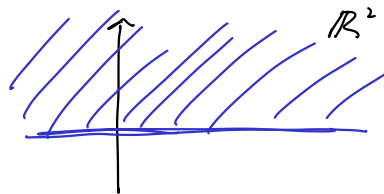
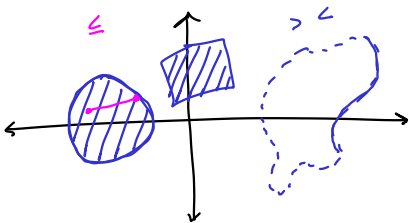
Apply 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative test to.

□ Absolute max/min values.

A little Topology.



Closed, open, + clopen sets. Bounded sets.

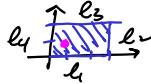


$$(x,y) : x \geq 0$$

**Theorem:** If  $f$  is continuous on a closed, bounded set  $D$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then  $f$  attains an absolute maximum value  $f(x_1, y_1)$  + an absolute minimum value  $f(x_2, y_2)$ .

1. Find the critical points in  $D$
2. Find extreme values on  $D$
3. Compare

Example: Find the absolute max/min values of  $f(x,y) = x^2 - 2xy + 2y$  on the rectangle

$$D = \{(x,y) : 0 \leq x \leq 3, 0 \leq y \leq 2\}$$


1.  $f_x = 2x - 2y = 0 \Rightarrow 2x = 2y \Rightarrow x = y \Rightarrow$  critical point is  $(1,1)$   
 $f_y = -2x + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow 2 = 2x \Rightarrow x = 1$

2.  $f_{xx} = 2$   $f_{yy} = -2$   $D = 0 - (-2)^2 = -4 < 0 \Rightarrow (1,1)$  is a saddle point  
 $f_{xy} = 0$   $f_{yx} = -2$

3. Parameterize the boundary.  
 $l_1(x) = \langle x, 0 \rangle : 0 \leq x \leq 3$

$$D = \{(x,y) : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$$

$$\vec{r}(\theta) = \langle \cos\theta, \sin\theta \rangle$$

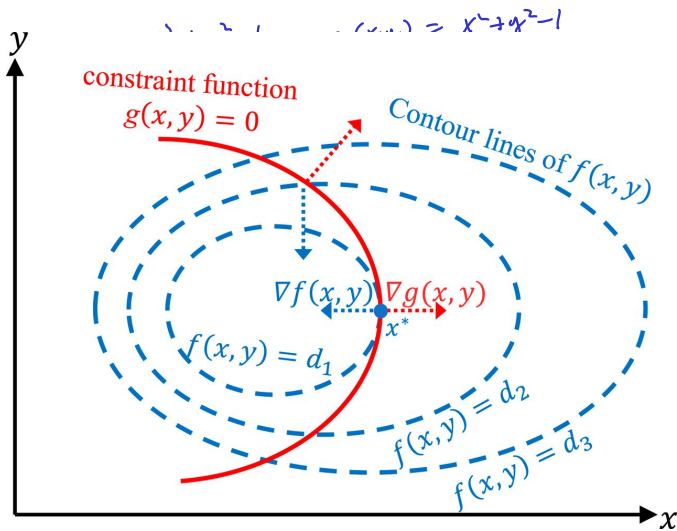
$$f(\theta) = \cos^2\theta - 2\cos\theta \sin\theta + 2\sin\theta$$

$f(l_1) = x^2 \rightarrow$  min along  $l_1$  is at  $(0,0)$  min: 0  
max along  $l_1$  is at  $(3,0)$  max: 9

$f(l_2)$   $l_2(y) = \langle 3, y \rangle : 0 \leq y \leq 2$

$f(l_2(y)) = 9 - 6y + 2y = 9 - 4y$  min along  $l_2$  is at  $(3,2)$  : 7  
max along  $l_2$  is at  $(3,0)$  : 9

Section 14.8: The method of Lagrange Multipliers



Theorem.

To find the max/min values of  $f(x,y,z)$  subject to the constraint  $g(x,y,z) = k$  [assuming these values exist +  $Df \neq \vec{0}$  on  $g(x,y,z) = k$ ]:

a) Find all values  $x,y,z$ , and  $\lambda$  such that

$$\nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z)$$

and  $g(x,y,z) = k$

b) Evaluate  $f$  at all points  $(x,y,z)$  satisfying a). Compare.

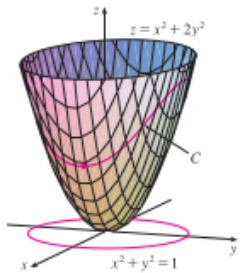


FIGURE 2

Example: Find the extreme values of  $f(x,y) = x^2 + 2y^2$  on the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$

$\nabla f = \langle 2x, 4y \rangle$   $\nabla g = \langle 2x, 2y \rangle$   
 $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g$

$g(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$

$$\begin{cases} 2x = \lambda 2x \\ 4y = \lambda 2y \\ x^2 + y^2 = 1 \end{cases}$$

\*Be Careful! You can't divide by zero!

When  $x$  is not zero,  $\lambda = 1$   
 $4y = 2y \Rightarrow y = 0$  +  $x = \pm 1$   
when  $x = 0$ ,  $y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y = \pm 1$

$$\begin{cases} (\pm 1, 0) \\ (0, \pm 1) \end{cases}$$

$f(\pm 1, 0) = 1 \leftarrow$  min.  
 $f(0, \pm 1) = 2 \leftarrow$  max

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

$\mathcal{L}(x,y,\lambda) = x^2 + 2y^2 + \lambda(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$

$\mathcal{L}_x = 2x + 2\lambda x = 0$   
 $\mathcal{L}_y = 4y + 2\lambda y = 0$   
 $\mathcal{L}_\lambda = x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$

The geometry behind the use of Lagrange multipliers in Example 2 is shown in Figure 3. The extreme values of  $f(x,y) = x^2 + 2y^2$  correspond to the level curves that touch the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .

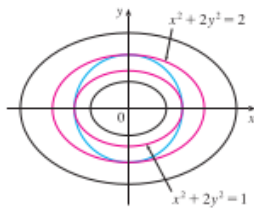


FIGURE 3

**Example:** Find the points on the sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 4$  that are closest to and farthest from the point  $(3, 1, -1)$ .

□ Two Constraints

$$\nabla f = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \nabla g_i \iff \nabla f = \int \delta(x) g$$

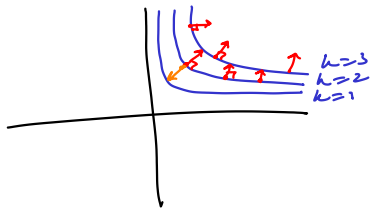
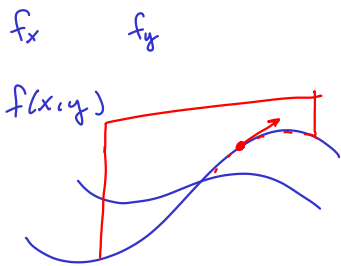
$$\nabla f(x_0, y_0, z_0) = \lambda \nabla g(x_0, y_0, z_0) + \mu \nabla h(x_0, y_0, z_0)$$

$$g(x_0, y_0, z_0) = k_1$$

$$h(x_0, y_0, z_0) = k_2$$

**Example:** Find the max/min of  $f(x, y, z) = x + 2y + 3z$  on the curve of intersection of the plane  $x - y + z = 1$  and the cylinder  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .

Yesterday: Directional derivative, gradient vector.



direction = unit vector

$$\vec{u} = \langle a, b \rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x,y) = \underbrace{f_x(x,y)}_a + \underbrace{f_y(x,y)}_b \quad \leftarrow \text{Theorem}$$

← nabla  
 $\nabla f(x,y) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\nabla f(x,y) = \langle f_x(x,y), f_y(x,y) \rangle$$

$$\nabla f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \langle f_{x_1}(x_1, \dots, x_n), f_{x_2}(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots \rangle$$

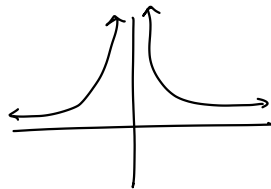
$$f_{x_n}(\sim) \rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(x,y) = \nabla f(x,y) \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$|\nabla f(x,y)| |\vec{u}| \cdot \cos \theta$$

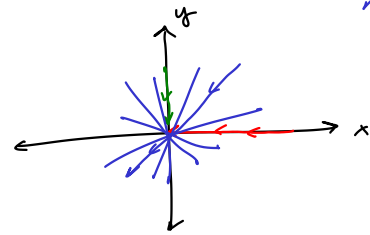
limits

$$f(x,y) = \frac{3xy^3}{x^2 + y^6}$$



$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^{500} - y^{500}}{x^2 + y^2}$$

$\frac{x^2}{x} \sim x$



$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x,y)$

$$\text{Plug in } (0,0) \rightarrow \frac{0}{0} \rightarrow \text{DNE}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{0 + y^6} = 0$$

$$y = mx \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3 \cdot x \cdot m^3 x^3}{x^2 + m^6 x^6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3m^3 x^4}{x^2 + m^6 x^6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3m^3 x^2}{1 + m^6 x^4} = 0$$

Let  $x = y^2$

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{3y^6}{2y^6} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{3}{2} = \frac{3}{2} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{DNE}$$

$r^{500}$

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^{500} - y^{500}}{x^2 + y^2} \leq 0 \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{r^{500} (\cos^{500} \theta - \sin^{500} \theta)}{r^2} = 0$$