

Math 2010 Week 9

Application of chain rule:

Level Set (Au 4.4, Thomas 14.6)

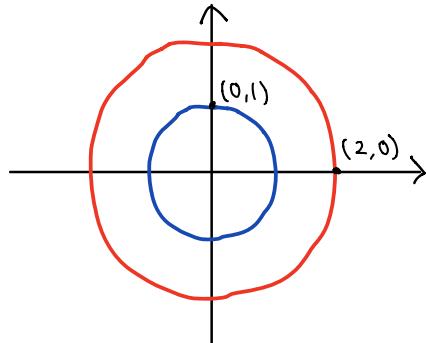
Recall: Let $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$L_c = f^{-1}(c) = \{x \in S : f(x) = c\}$$

e.g. Some level sets of $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$

$$f^{-1}(1) = \{x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$$

$$f^{-1}(4) = \{x^2 + y^2 = 4\}$$



Ihm Let $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, S is open,

let $c \in \mathbb{R}$, $S = f^{-1}(c)$ and $a \in S$

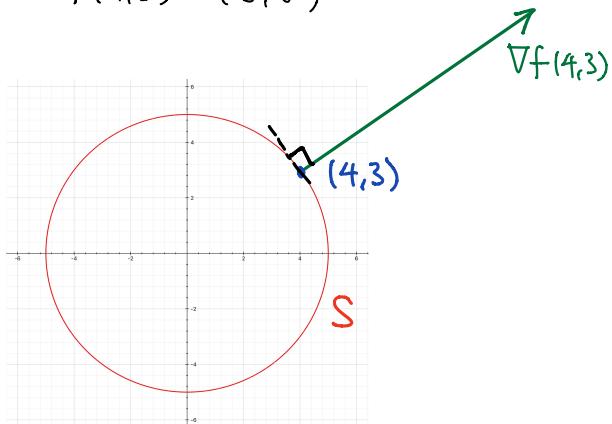
Suppose f is differentiable at a , $\nabla f(a) \neq 0$

Then $\nabla f(a) \perp S$ at a

e.g. $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$ $\nabla f = (2x, 2y)$

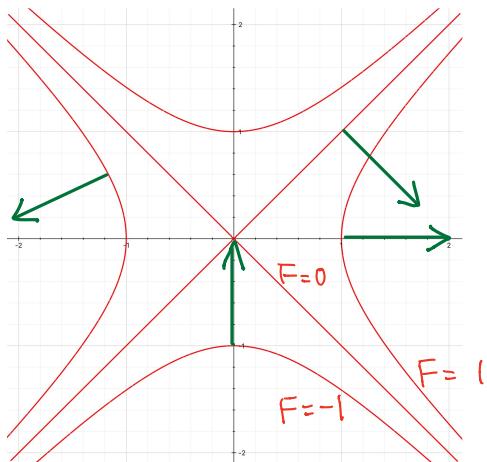
Let $S = f^{-1}(25)$, then $(4, 3) \in S$

$$\nabla f(4,3) = (8, 6)$$



eg $f(x,y) = x^2 - y^2$

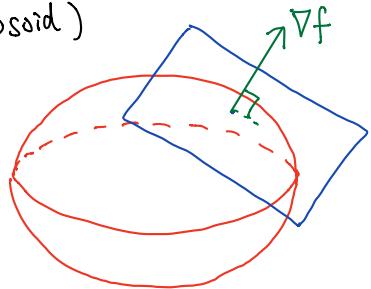
$$\nabla f(x,y) = (2x, -2y)$$



→ are directions of ∇f

eg $S: x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 = 22$ (Ellipsoid)

Find equation of tangent plane
of S at $(3,1,1)$



Sol

$$\text{Let } f(x,y,z) = x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2, S = f^{-1}(22)$$

$$\text{Also } f(3,1,1) = 22, \text{ so } (3,1,1) \in S$$

$$\nabla f = (2x, 8y, 18z)$$

$$\nabla f(3,1,1) = (6, 8, 18) \perp S \text{ at } (3,1,1)$$

$\therefore (6, 8, 18)$ is a normal vector for tangent plane

Equation of tangent plane:

$$[(x,y,z) - (3,1,1)] \cdot (6,8,18) = 0$$

$$6(x-3) + 8(y-1) + 18(z-1) = 0$$

$$3x + 4y + 9z = 22$$

Thm Let $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, S is open,

let $c \in \mathbb{R}$, $S = f^{-1}(c)$ and $a \in S$

Suppose f is differentiable at a , $\nabla f(a) \neq 0$

Then $\nabla f(a) \perp S$ at a

Pf Let $r(t)$ be a curve on S , $r(0) = a$

Then $r(t)$ on $S = f^{-1}(c)$

$\Rightarrow f(r(t)) = c$ is a constant

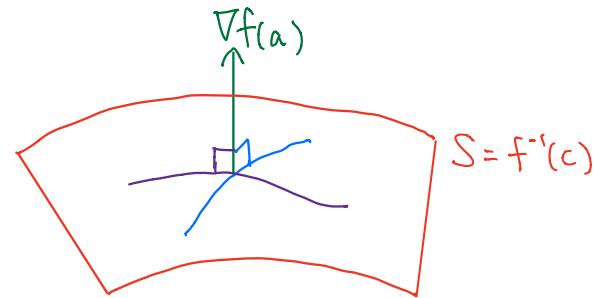
By chain rule,

$$\nabla f(r(t)) \cdot r'(t) = \frac{df}{dt} = 0$$

Put $t=0$, then $\nabla f(a) \cdot r'(0) = 0$

$\therefore \nabla f(a) \perp$ any curve on S at a .

$\therefore \nabla f(a) \perp S$ at a



Rmk

We applied chain rule to $f(r(t))$ above.

Similarly, by considering the curve

$$\alpha(t) = a + tu, \quad \|\vec{u}\|=1,$$

one can prove

$$D_u f(a) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(\alpha(t))$$

$$= \nabla f(\alpha(0)) \cdot \alpha'(0)$$

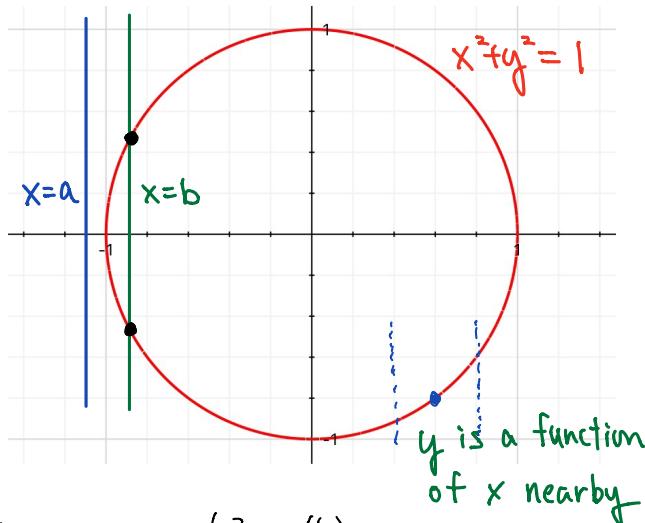
$$= \nabla f(\vec{a}) \cdot u$$

Another application of chain rule:

Implicit differentiation (Au 4.5
Thomas 14.4)

$$C: x^2 + y^2 = 1$$

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at $(\frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5})$



Locally near $(\frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5})$,

$$y^2 = 1 - x^2, y < 0 \Rightarrow y = -\sqrt{1-x^2}$$

$\therefore y$ is a function of x near $(\frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5})$

To find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at $(\frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5})$,

Method 1: $\frac{d}{dx}(-\sqrt{1-x^2})$

Method 2: Implicit differentiation (chain rule)

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(Regard } x \text{ as a variable)} \\ \text{y as a function of } x \end{array}$$

$$\text{Take } \frac{d}{dx}: 2x + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\text{Put } (x, y) = (\frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5}), 2(\frac{3}{5}) + 2(-\frac{4}{5}) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{(\frac{3}{5}, -\frac{4}{5})} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Rmk Near $(-1, 0)$, y is not a function of x

If $a < -1$ a little bit, the vertical line $x=a$ does not intersect with C

If $b > -1$ a little bit, the vertical line $x=b$ intersects with C at two different points

eg Consider

$$S: x^3 + z^2 + ye^{xz} + z \cos y = 0 \quad (*)$$

Given that z can be regarded as a function

$z = z(x, y)$ of independent variables x, y locally near $(0, 0, 0)$. Find $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$ at $(0, 0, 0)$.

Rmk ① Not easy to express z in terms of x, y

Sol Take $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ to $(*)$

$$3x^2 + 2z \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + ye^{xz}(z + x \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}) + \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cos y = 0$$

Put $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 0)$,

$$0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}(1) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}(0, 0) = 0}$$

Similarly, take $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ to $(*)$

$$0 + 2z \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} + e^{xz} + ye^{xz}(x \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}) + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cos y - z \sin y = 0$$

Put $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 0)$, then

$$0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}(1) - 0 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}(0, 0) = -1}$$

Rmk ② From computations above,

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = -\frac{3x^2 + ye^{xz}}{2z + xye^{xz} + \cos y}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{z \sin y - e^{xz}}{2z + xye^{xz} + \cos y}$$

whenever the denominator is non-zero

Finding Extrema (Maximum & Minimum)

(Au Ch 5
Thomas 14.7)

Defn let $f: A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $a \in A$

① f is said to have global (absolute) maximum at a

if $f(a) \geq f(x)$ for all $x \in A$

② f is said to have local (relative) maximum at a

if $f(a) \geq f(x)$ for all $x \in A$ near a ,

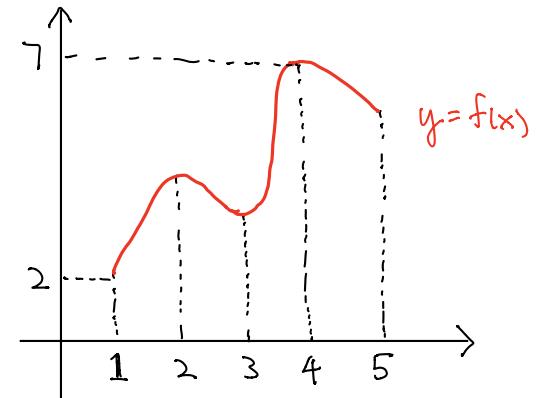
(i.e. $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ such that $f(x) \leq f(a)$)
for all $x \in A \cap B_\varepsilon(a)$

③ Similar definitions for global (absolute) minimum

and local (relative) minimum

Rmk Global extremum (max/min) is also a local extremum.

e.g. let $f: [1, 5] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



Global max at 4

Global min at 1

Local max. at 2, 4

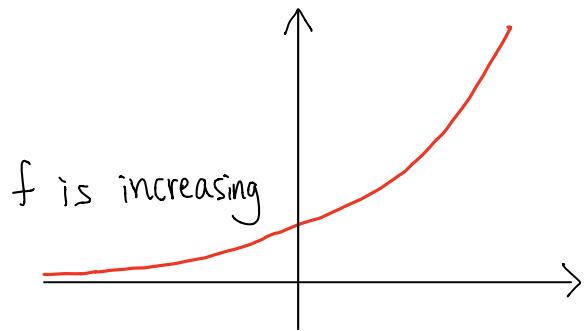
Local min. at 1, 3, 5

Max Value : 7

Min Value : 2

Rmk NOT every function has global max/min!

① $f(x) = e^x$ on \mathbb{R}



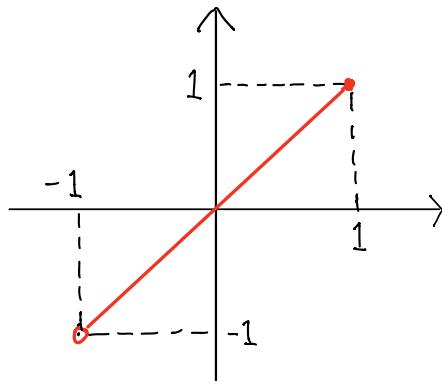
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 0 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$$

But $f(x) > 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ \therefore No global max

\therefore No global min

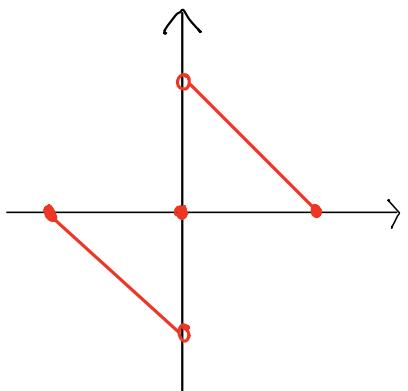
(Domain is not bounded)

② $f(x) = x$ on $(-1, 1]$ (Domain is not closed)



f has global max at 1
but no global min

③ $f: [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1-x & \text{if } x \in (0, 1] \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ -1-x & \text{if } x \in [-1, 0) \end{cases}$



f has neither global max or min

(f is not continuous)

Q When must a function have global max/min?

Extreme Value Theorem (EVT)

let $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be closed and bounded

$f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous

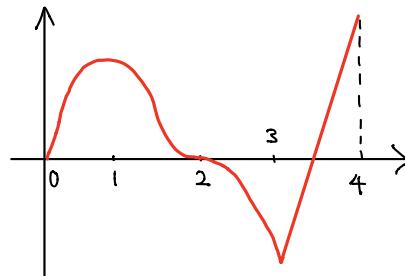
Then f has global max and min.

Rmk

- ① Compact = closed and bounded
- ② The theorem provides a sufficient condition, but not necessary condition for the existence of global extrema

Q How to locate max/min?

eg $f: A = [0, 4] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



A is closed, bounded
 f is continuous
 $\Rightarrow f$ has global max and min

Recall One variable calculus :

Extrema can only occur at

- i $f'(x) = 0 : x = 1, 2$
 - ii $f'(x)$ DNE : $x = 3$
 - iii $x \in \partial A : x = 0, 4$
- } Critical points Boundary points

Comparing values of f at these 5 points :

f has global min at 3, global max at 4.

Defn $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $a \in \text{int}(A)$.

Then a is called a critical point of f if either

① $\nabla f(a)$ DNE (i.e. $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a)$ DNE for some i)

② $\nabla f(a) = \vec{0}$ (i.e. $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a) = 0$ for all i)

Thm (First derivative test)

Suppose $f: A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ attains a local extremum at $a \in \text{int}(A)$, then a is a critical point of f

Pf Suppose f has a local extremum at $a \in \text{int}(A)$

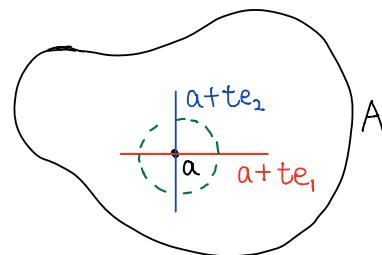
If $\nabla f(a)$ DNE, then a is a critical point.

If $\nabla f(a)$ exists, then all $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a)$ exist.

For any $i=1, \dots, n$, let

$$g_i(t) = f(a + t e_i)$$

Note $a \in \text{int}(A) \Rightarrow g_i(t)$ is defined near $t=0$



By definition, $g'_i(0) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a)$ exists.

f has local extremum at a

$\Rightarrow g_i$ has local extremum at 0

$\Rightarrow g'_i(0) = 0$ since it exists

$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a) = 0$ (for any $i=1, 2, \dots, n$)

$\therefore \nabla f(a) = \vec{0}$

$\therefore a$ is a critical point.

Strategy for finding extrema

let $f: A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

① Find critical points of f in $\text{int}(A)$

② Study f on boundary ∂A :

Find max/min of f on ∂A

③ Comparing values of f at points found
in ① and ②

e.g. Find global max/min of

$$f(x,y) = x^2 + 2y^2 - x + 3 \text{ for } x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$$

Rmk Domain = $A = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$

is closed and bounded

Also, f is polynomial $\Rightarrow f$ is continuous

By EVT, f has global max and min on A

Sol We follow the strategy above:

Step 1: Critical points in $\text{int}(A)$

$\nabla f = (2x-1, 4y)$ exists everywhere

$$\text{Also, } \nabla f = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 2x-1=0 \\ 4y=0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x,y) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right)$$

$$\text{Note } \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \in \text{int}(A) = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 < 1\}$$

$\therefore f$ has only one critical point $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$
in $\text{int}(A)$ with

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 0 - \frac{1}{2} + 3 = \frac{11}{4}$$

Step 2: Study f on $\partial A = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$

Parametrize ∂A by

$$(x,y) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta), \theta \in [0, 2\pi]$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\cos \theta, \sin \theta) &= \cos^2 \theta + 2\sin^2 \theta - \cos \theta + 3 \\ &= \cos^2 \theta + 2(1 - \cos^2 \theta) - \cos \theta + 3 \\ &= -\cos^2 \theta - \cos \theta + 5 \\ &= -(\cos \theta + \frac{1}{2})^2 + \frac{1}{4} + 5 \\ &= \frac{21}{4} - (\cos \theta + \frac{1}{2})^2 \end{aligned}$$

max value of f on $\partial A = \frac{21}{4}$, occurs when

$$x = \cos \theta = -\frac{1}{2}, \text{ ie. } (x,y) = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

min value of f on $\partial A = 3$ occurs when

$$x = \cos \theta = 1, \text{ ie. } (x,y) = (1, 0)$$

Step 3: Compare values of f at points from step 1 and 2.

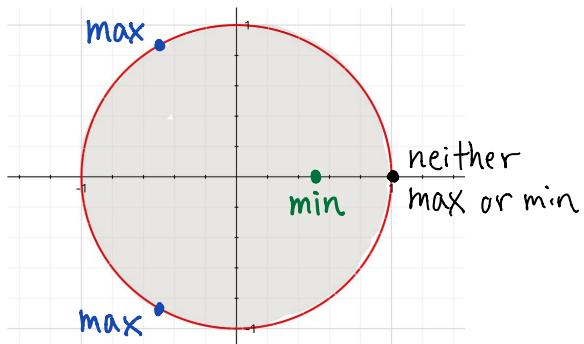
$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) = \frac{11}{4} \leftarrow \text{min}$$

$$f\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = \frac{21}{4} \leftarrow \text{max}$$

$$f(1, 0) = 3$$

Max value = $\frac{21}{4}$ at $\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$

Min value = $\frac{11}{4}$ at $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$



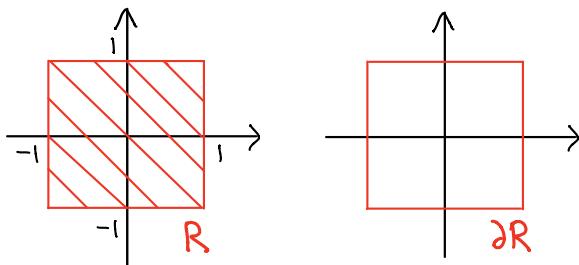
eg 2 Find global max and min of

$$f(x,y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^4} - y$$

on $R = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : -1 \leq x, y \leq 1\}$

Sol

R is the square $[-1,1] \times [-1,1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$



R is closed and bounded

Also, f is continuous

By EVT, f has global max and min.

To find them...

Step 1 Study $\text{int}(R) = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, -1 < x, y < 1\}$

Ex Show that $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0,0)$ DNE $(f(x,0) = |x|)$

For $(x,y) \neq (0,0)$, ∇f exists and

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+y^4}}, \frac{2y^3}{\sqrt{x^2+y^4}} - 1 \right)$$

$$\nabla f = (0,0) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+y^4}} = 0 \\ \frac{2y^3}{\sqrt{x^2+y^4}} - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore x=0, \frac{2y^3}{y^2} - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{2}$$

$\therefore f$ has two critical points in $\text{int}(A)$

$$(0,0) \quad \text{and} \quad (0, \pm \frac{1}{2})$$

$$\nabla f \text{ DNE} \quad \nabla f = \vec{0}$$

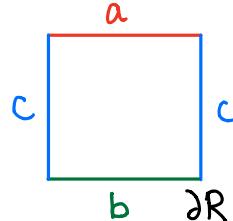
$$f(0,0) = 0, \quad f(0, \pm \frac{1}{2}) = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Step 2 Study f on ∂R

$$f(x,y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^4} - y$$

$$\partial R = \{(x,y) : |x|=1, -1 \leq y \leq 1\}$$

$$\cup \{(x,y) : |y|=1, -1 \leq x \leq 1\}$$



Consider different parts of ∂R :

a) $y=1, -1 \leq x \leq 1$

$$f(x,1) = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} - 1 \Rightarrow 0 \leq f \leq \sqrt{2} - 1$$

b) $y=-1, -1 \leq x \leq 1$

$$f(x,-1) = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} + 1 \Rightarrow 2 \leq f \leq \sqrt{2} + 1$$

c) $|x|=1, -1 \leq y \leq 1$ Not the sharpest bound
but good enough for us $\textcircled{*}$

$$f(x,y) = \sqrt{1+y^4} - y \Rightarrow 0 = 1 - 1 < f \leq \sqrt{2} + 1$$

\therefore On ∂R , f has min value 0 at $(0,1)$

max value $\sqrt{2}+1$ at $(\pm 1, -1)$

Step 3 Comparing values

$$f(0,0) = 0$$

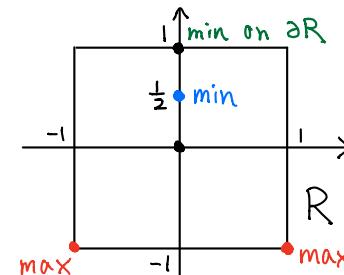
$$f(0, \frac{1}{2}) = -\frac{1}{4} \leftarrow \min$$

$$f(0,1) = 0$$

$$f(\pm 1, -1) = \sqrt{2} + 1 \leftarrow \max$$

Max value $= \sqrt{2} + 1$ at $(\pm 1, -1)$

Min value $= -\frac{1}{4}$ at $(0, \frac{1}{2})$



$\textcircled{*}$ We may find the sharpest bound.

By one variable calculus, easy to see

$\sqrt{1+y^4} - y$ is decreasing on $[-1, 1]$

\Rightarrow min value on $\textcircled{C} = \sqrt{1+1^2} - 1 = \sqrt{2} - 1$

Finding extrema on an unbounded region

e.g. Find global extrema of

$$f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 6y + 7 \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^2$$

Rmk \mathbb{R}^2 is not bounded. So f may not have global extrema. Observe that

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow \infty \\ \text{"(x,y) are far away from origin"}}} f(x,y) = +\infty. \text{ Hence}$$

① f has no global maximum on \mathbb{R}^2

② Strategy for finding global minimum:

Find a closed and bounded region R s.t. f is "large enough" outside R . Then

$$\min \text{ on } R = \min \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^2$$

Sol Find critical points of f :

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = (2x-4, 2y+6) \text{ exists on } \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\nabla f = (0,0) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 2x-4=0 \\ 2y+6=0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x,y) = (2, -3)$$

\therefore Only one critical point $(2, -3)$, $f(2, -3) = -6$

We want to show f has min at $(2, -3)$:

$$\text{For } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \text{ let } r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\text{Then } f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 6y + 7$$

$$\textcircled{*} \geq r^2 - 4r - 6r + 7$$

$$= r(r-10) + 7$$

$$\textcircled{*} r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \geq |x|, |y| \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x \leq r \Rightarrow -4x \geq -4r \\ -y \leq r \Rightarrow 6y \geq -6r \end{cases}$$

Hence, if $\sqrt{x^2+y^2} = r \geq 10$

then $f(x,y) \geq 7 > f(2,-3)$

Let $R = \overline{B_{10}(0,0)}$, $f|_R$ = restriction of f on R

By EVT, $f|_R$ has global min.

In $\text{Int}(R)$, $(2,-3)$ is the only critical point

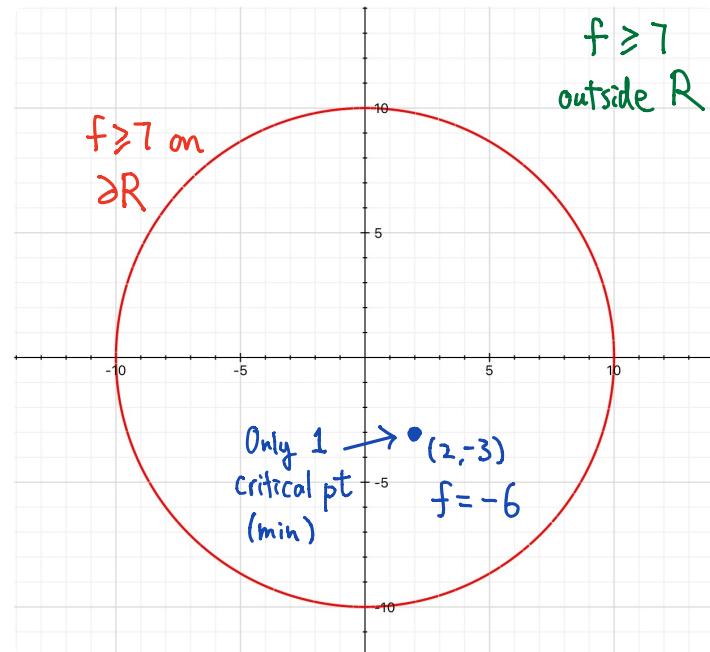
$$f(2,-3) = -6$$

On ∂R , $f(x,y) \geq 7 > f(2,-3)$

$\therefore f|_R$ has global min at $(2,-3)$

For $(x,y) \notin R$, $f(x,y) \geq 7 > f(2,-3)$

$\therefore f$ has no global max and global min. value -6 at $(2,-3)$



Rmk

① Easier to do this question using algebra.

$$\begin{aligned}f(x,y) &= x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 6y + 7 \\&= (x-2)^2 + (y+3)^2 - 6\end{aligned}$$

Answer is clear

② An example without global max or min.

Let $g(x,y) = x^2 - y^2 - 4x + 6y + 7$

When $x=0$, $g(0,y) = -y^2 + 6y + 7$

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \pm\infty} g(0,y) = -\infty \Rightarrow \text{no global min.}$$

When $y=0$, $g(x,0) = x^2 - 4x + 7$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} g(x,0) = \infty \Rightarrow \text{no global max}$$