

Lecture 5

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Example

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R}^3 &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) &\mapsto f(x, y, z) = \vec{0} \end{aligned}$$

Critical Points

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(x, y, z) &= \vec{0} \\ \iff (f_x, f_y, f_z) &= (0, 0, 0) \\ \iff (yz, xz, xy) &= (0, 0, 0) \\ xy = yz = zx &= 0 \\ (x, 0, 0) \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \\ (0, y, 0) \forall y \in \mathbb{R} \\ (0, 0, z) \forall z \in \mathbb{R} \\ (0, 0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(x, y, z) &= \begin{pmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} & f_{xz} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} & f_{yz} \\ f_{zx} & f_{zy} & f_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z & y \\ z & 0 & x \\ y & x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

At the origin

$$H(\vec{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

All eigenvalues are 0 \Rightarrow inconclusive.

But we can see that $\vec{0}$ is a saddle point as for

any $r > 0 \in B(\vec{0}, r)$, we take $(\frac{r}{2}, \frac{r}{2}, \frac{r}{2})$, $(-\frac{r}{2}, -\frac{r}{2}, -\frac{r}{2})$

At the point $(0, 0, 1)$

$$H(0, 0, 1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$