

“Calculus 3”

Multi-Variable Calculus

Instructor: Álvaro Lozano-Robledo

Day 7



Any Reminders? Any Questions?

- Class ends at 3:15.
- Slides are being posted on GitHub!
<https://github.com/alozanoroble/MATH-2110Q-Spring-2026>
- Videos will be posted on YouTube... but they may lag!
- Request videos!!

EXAM 1 -- Friday, February 20th

Exam Covers:

- **Chapter 12**
 - Sections 12.1 – 12.6
- **Chapter 14**
 - Sections 14.1, 14.3 – 14.8

Questions?

$$(f_x)_x = f_{xx} = f_{11} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}$$

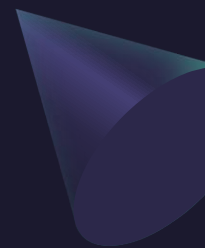
$$(f_x)_y = f_{xy} = f_{12} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}$$

$$(f_y)_x = f_{yx} = f_{21} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y}$$

$$(f_y)_y = f_{yy} = f_{22} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2}$$



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Multi-Variable Calculus


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The Chain Rule

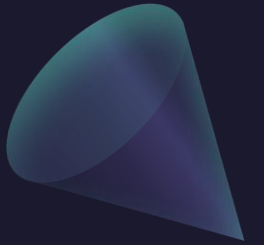


A teal sphere and a teal cube are positioned in the upper left corner of the slide.

Today – The Chain Rule!

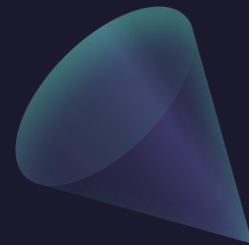
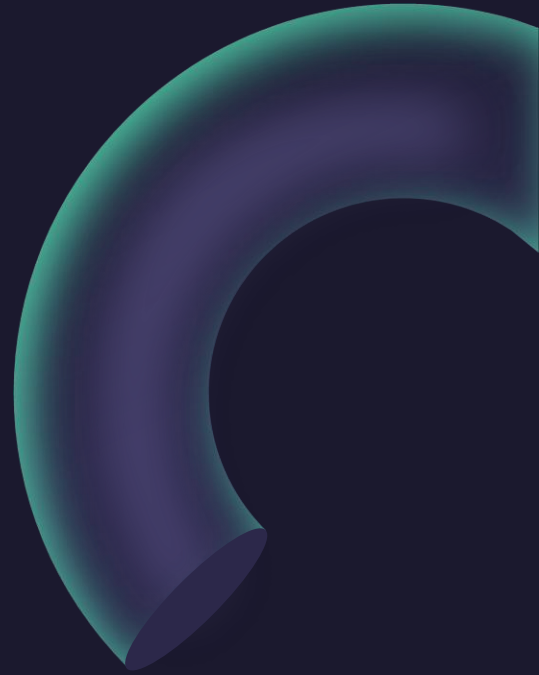
- 
- A large, glowing teal ring is located in the lower left corner of the slide.
- The Single Variable Case
 - Chain Rule with One Parameter
 - Chain Rule with Two Parameters

The Good Ol' Chain Rule



Example: Find the derivative of $f(g(t))$ with respect to t where

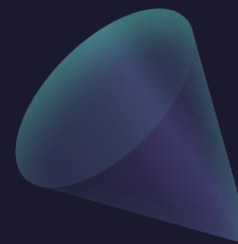
$$f(x) = \sin(x) \quad \text{and} \quad g(t) = t^2 + 1$$



Example: Find the derivative of $f(g(t))$ with respect to t where

$$f(x) = \sin(x) \quad \text{and} \quad g(t) = t^2 + 1$$

[Extra space]



The New Chain Rule – Case 1

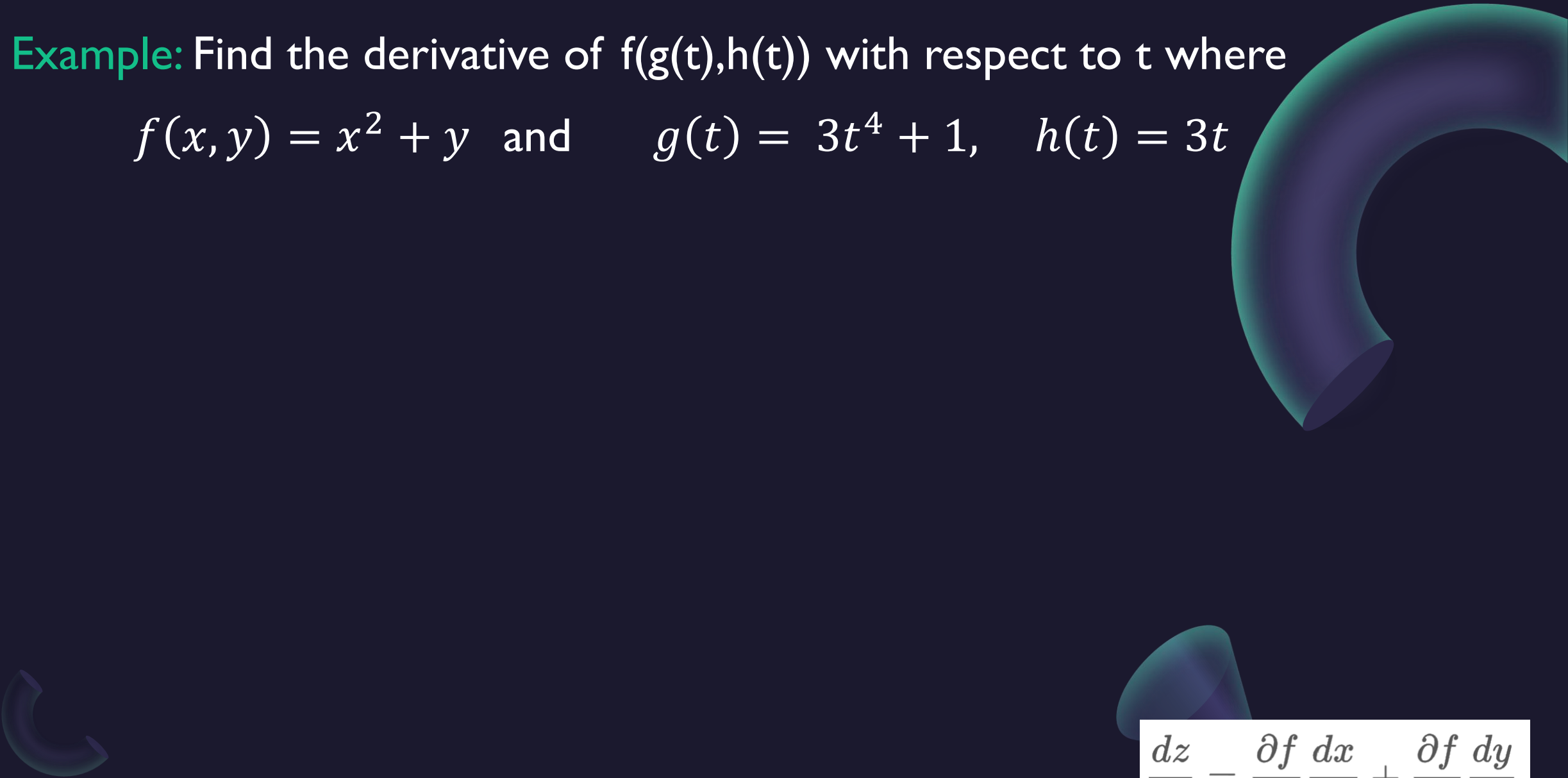
1 The Chain Rule (Case 1)

Suppose that $z = f(x, y)$ is a differentiable function of x and y , where $x = g(t)$ and $y = h(t)$ are both differentiable functions of t . Then z is a differentiable function of t and

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

Example: Find the derivative of $f(g(t), h(t))$ with respect to t where

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y \quad \text{and} \quad g(t) = 3t^4 + 1, \quad h(t) = 3t$$


$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

Example: Find the derivative of $f(g(t), h(t))$ with respect to t where

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y \quad \text{and} \quad g(t) = 3t^4 + 1, \quad h(t) = 3t$$

[Extra]

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

The New Chain Rule – Case 2

2 The Chain Rule (Case 2)

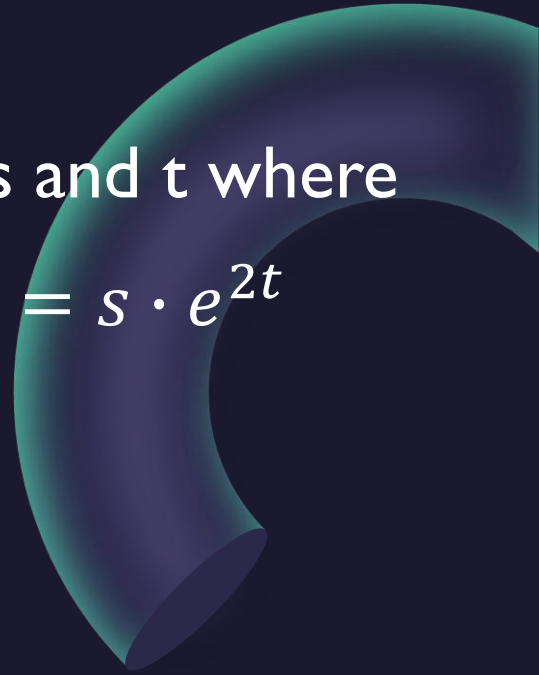
Suppose that $z = f(x, y)$ is a differentiable function of x and y , where $x = g(s, t)$ and $y = h(s, t)$ are differentiable functions of s and t . Then

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \qquad \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

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Example: Find the derivatives of $f(g(s,t),h(s,t))$ with respect to s and t where

$$f(x,y) = x^2 y^3 \quad \text{and} \quad g(s,t) = s \cdot \cos(t) , \quad h(s,t) = s \cdot e^{2t}$$

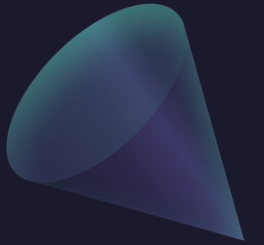


$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \qquad \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

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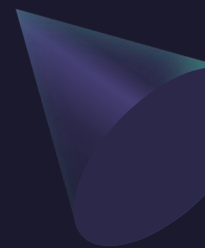
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Questions?





ALVARO: Start the recording!



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Multi-Variable Calculus

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Directional Derivatives



Today – Directional Derivatives!

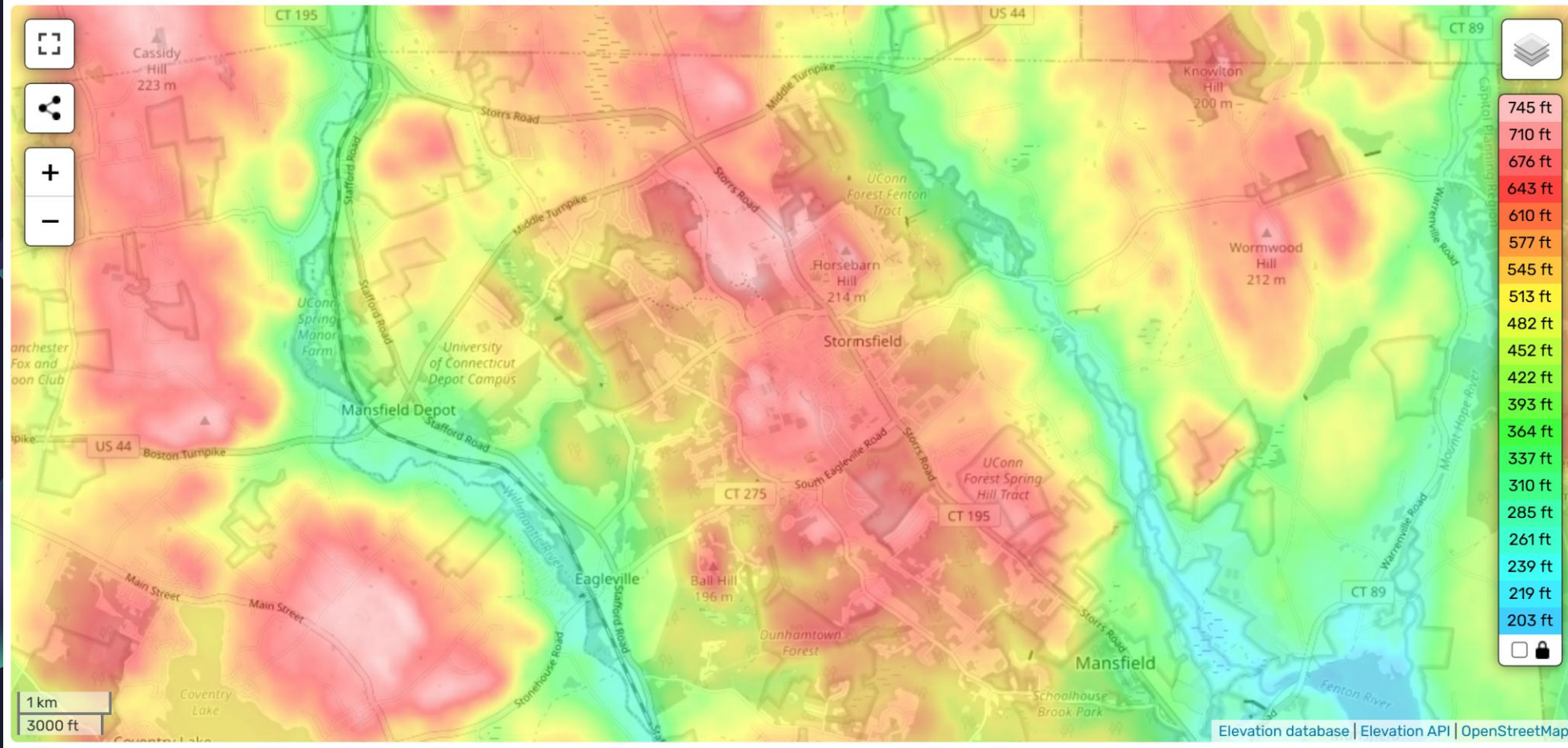
- Directional Derivatives
- Gradient Vector
- Maximizing the Directional Derivative

What is the steepest path down from Horsebarn Hill?

Storrs topographic map

[United States](#) > [Connecticut](#) > [Capitol Planning Region](#) > [Mansfield](#) > [Storrs](#) > [Storrs](#)

Click on the map to display elevation.



Definition of Directional Derivative

$$f_x(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

$$f_y(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0, y_0 + h) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

The **directional derivative** of f at (x_0, y_0) in the direction of a unit vector $\mathbf{u} = \langle a, b \rangle$ is

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}f(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + ha, y_0 + hb) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

if this limit exists.

How to Compute the Directional Derivative

The **directional derivative** of f at (x_0, y_0) in the direction of a unit vector $\mathbf{u} = \langle a, b \rangle$ is

$$D_{\mathbf{u}} f(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + ha, y_0 + hb) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h}$$

3 Theorem

If f is a differentiable function of x and y , then f has a directional derivative in the direction of any unit vector $\mathbf{u} = \langle a, b \rangle$ and

$$D_{\mathbf{u}} f(x, y) = f_x(x, y)a + f_y(x, y)b$$

$$D_{\mathbf{u}} f(x, y) = f_x(x, y) a + f_y(x, y) b$$

Example: Find the directional derivative in the direction of $\mathbf{u} = (1, -1)$ for
 $f(x, y) = x^3 - 3xy + 4y^2$ at $(x_0, y_0) = (1, 2)$.

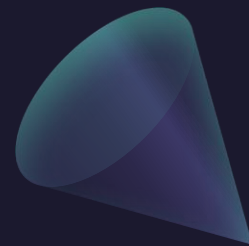
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$$D_{\mathbf{u}} f(x, y) = f_x(x, y) a + f_y(x, y) b$$

Example: Find the directional derivative in the direction given by the angle $\pi/6$ measured clockwise from the x-axis, of the function:

$$f(x, y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2) \quad \text{at } (x_0, y_0) = (1, 0).$$



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The Gradient Vector

3 Theorem

If f is a differentiable function of x and y , then f has a directional derivative in the direction of any unit vector $\mathbf{u} = \langle a, b \rangle$ and

$$D_{\mathbf{u}} f(x, y) = f_x(x, y) a + f_y(x, y) b$$

If f is a function of two variables x and y , then the **gradient** of f is the vector function ∇f defined by

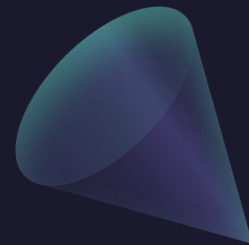
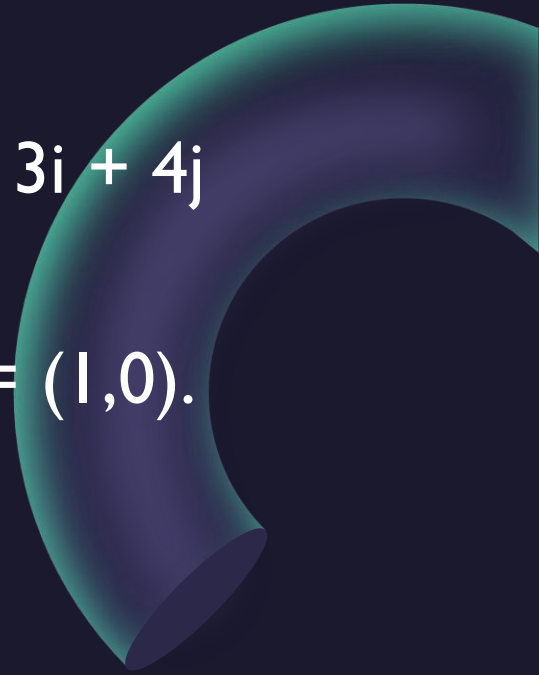
$$\nabla f(x, y) = \langle f_x(x, y), f_y(x, y) \rangle = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \mathbf{j}$$

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

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

Example: Find the directional derivative in the direction of $\mathbf{u} = 3\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}$ of the function:

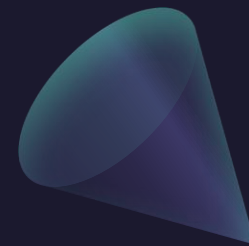
$$f(x, y) = x^2 y^3 - x \cdot \cos(y) \quad \text{at } (\mathbf{x}_0, y_0) = (1, 0).$$



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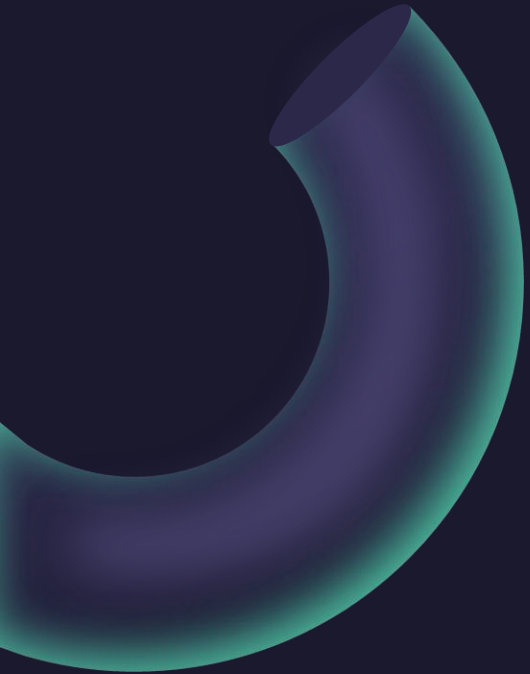
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Maximizing the Directional Derivative



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



Maximizing the Directional Derivative

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

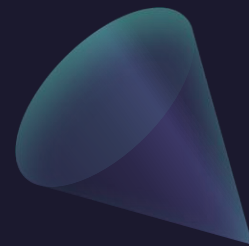
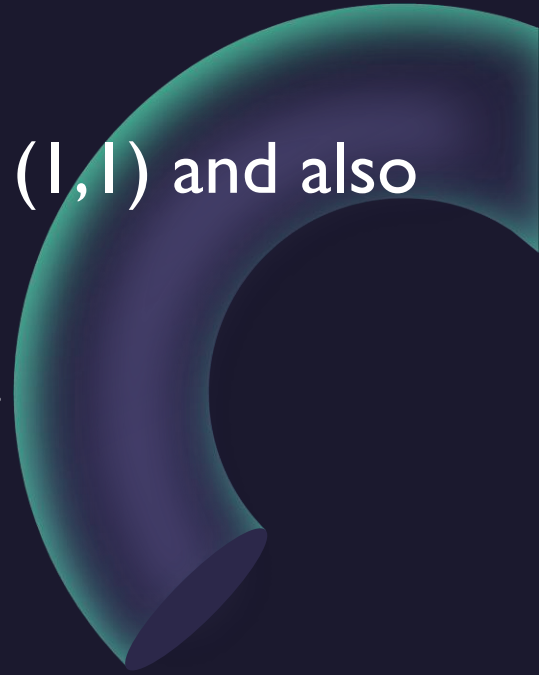
15 Theorem

Suppose f is a differentiable function of two or three variables. The maximum value of the directional derivative $D_{\mathbf{u}} f(\mathbf{x})$ is $|\nabla f(\mathbf{x})|$ and it occurs when \mathbf{u} has the same direction as the gradient vector $\nabla f(\mathbf{x})$.

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

Example: Find the directional derivative in the direction of $\mathbf{u} = (1, 1)$ and also the maximal directional derivative of the function:

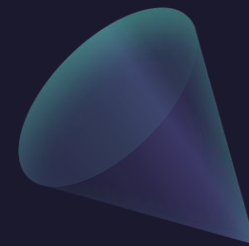
$$f(x, y) = x^2 \ln(y) \quad \text{at } (\mathbf{x}_0, y_0) = (3, 1).$$



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

Example: Find the directional derivative in the direction of $\mathbf{u} = (1, 1)$ and also the maximal directional derivative of the function:

$$f(x, y) = x^2 \ln(y) \quad \text{at } (\mathbf{x}_0, y_0) = (3, 1).$$



Properties of the Gradient Vector

Suppose a surface is defined by $z = f(x, y)$. We can view it as level surface $t = 0$ of a higher-dimensional function $t = F(x, y, z)$ defined by

$$F(x, y, z) = f(x, y) - z$$

Then $\nabla F = (f_x, f_y, -1)$ is the normal vector to the tangent plane of $f(x, y) - z = 0$.

Thus, the gradient vector for a surface $z = f(x, y)$ in three dimensions, $\nabla F = (f_x, f_y, -1)$ is normal to a surface at any point.

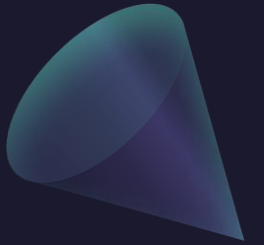
The gradient vector in two dimensions, $\nabla F = (f_x, f_y)$ is normal to any level curves of $f(x, y)$ at any point, indicating the maximum rate of change.

Properties of the Gradient Vector

Thus, the gradient vector for a surface $z = f(x, y)$ in three dimensions, $\nabla F = (f_x, f_y, -1)$ is normal to a surface at any point.

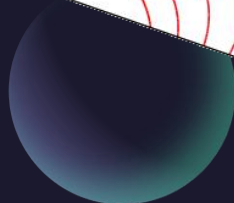
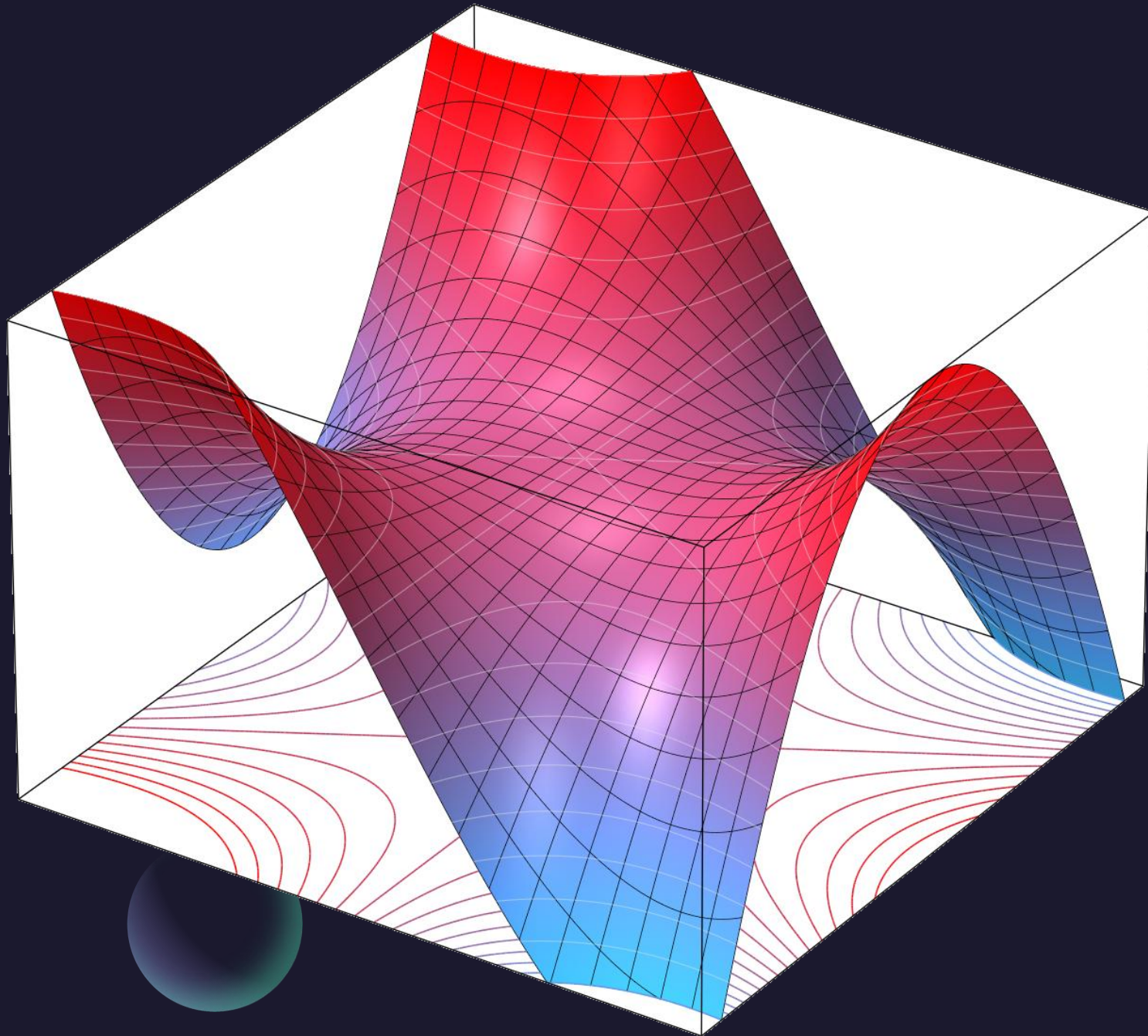
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Questions?



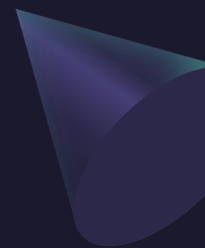
Thank you

Until next time.





ALVARO: Start the recording!



“Calculus 3”

Multi-Variable Calculus

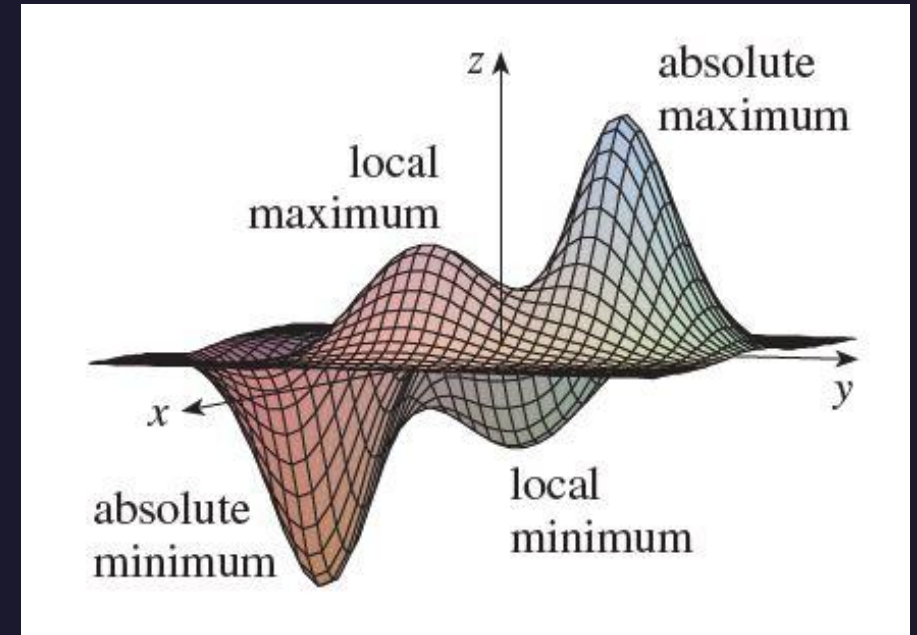
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Maximum and Minimum Values

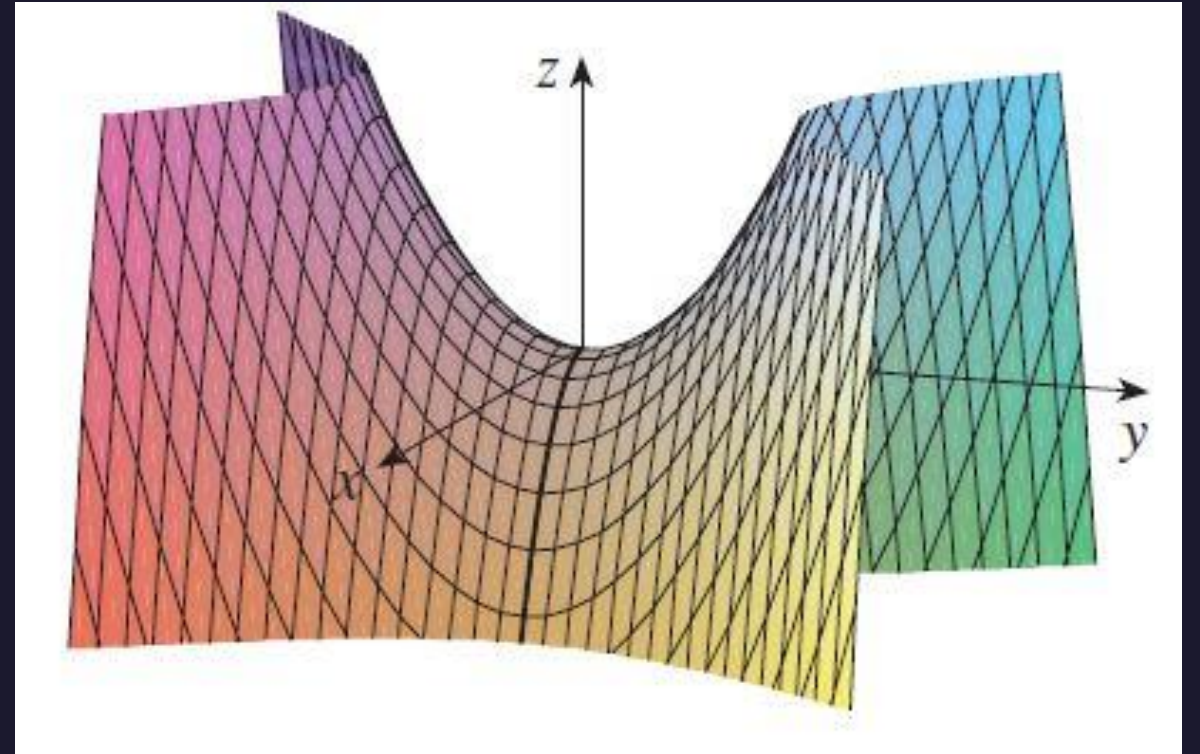
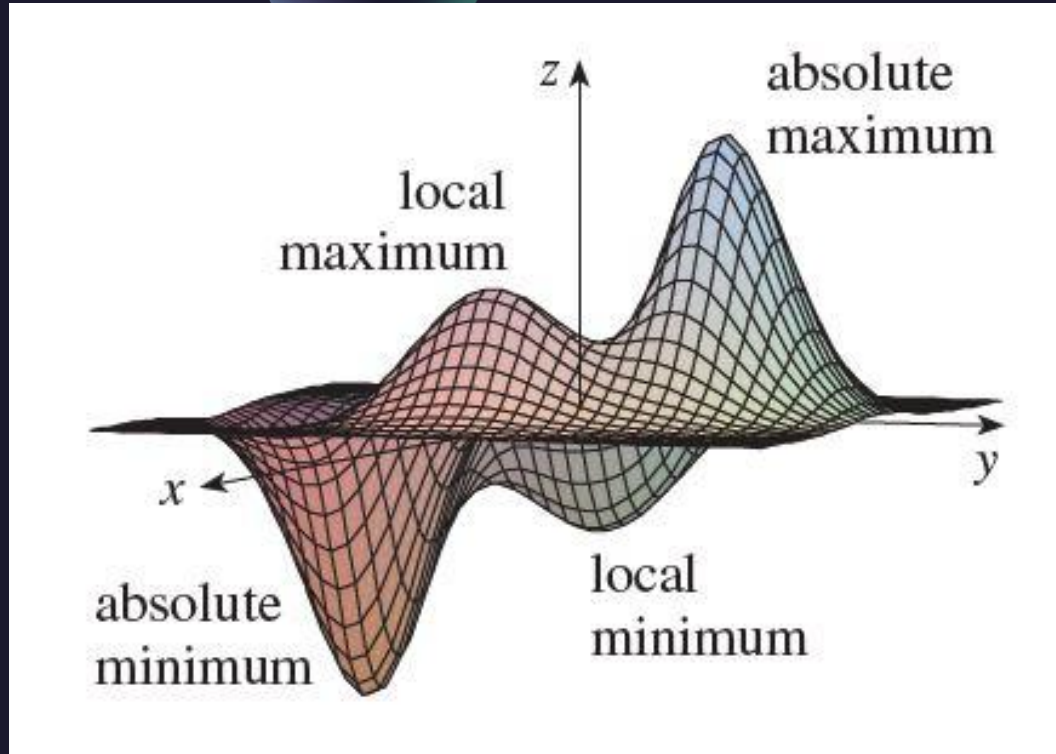


Today – Maximum and Minimum Values!

- Local Max and Min Values
- Second Derivative Test
- Absolute Max and Min Values

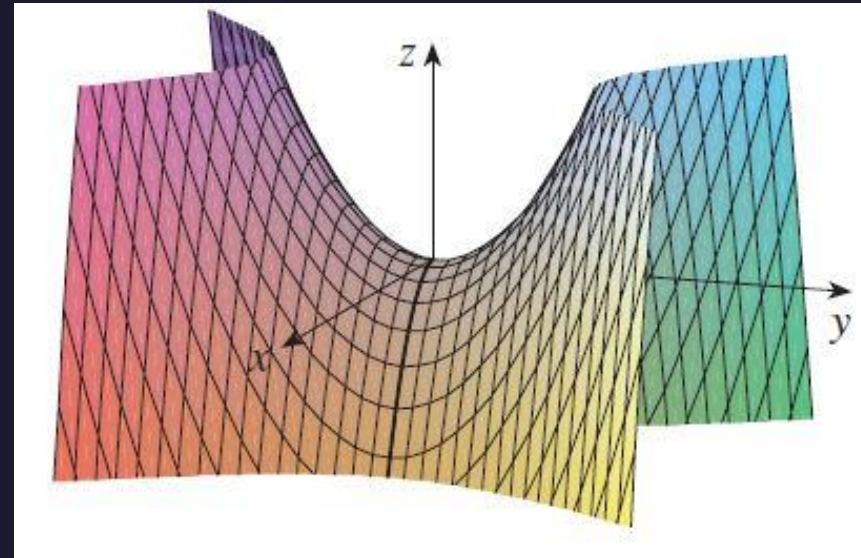
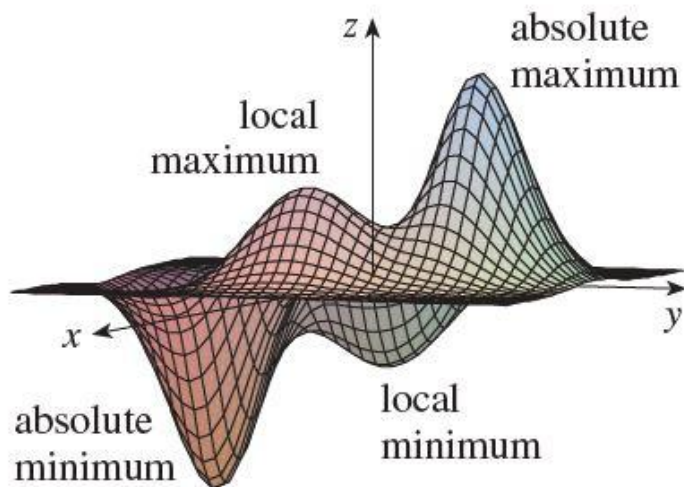


Local Max and Min Values



Local Max and Min Values

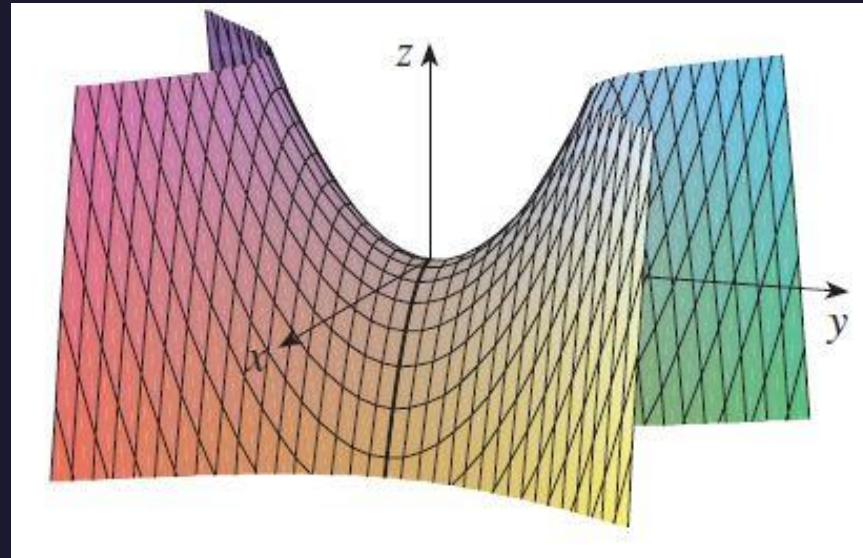
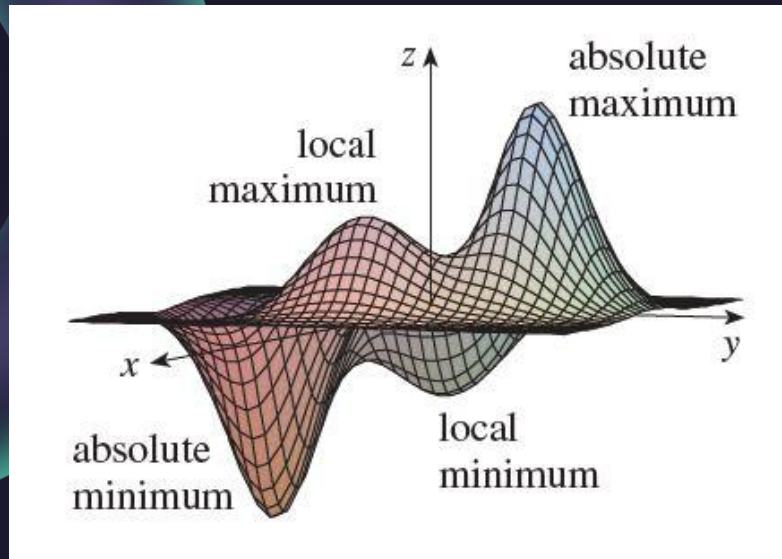
A function of two variables has a **local maximum** at (a, b) if $f(x, y) \leq f(a, b)$ when (x, y) is near (a, b) . [This means that $f(x, y) \leq f(a, b)$ for all points (x, y) in some disk with center (a, b) .] The number $f(a, b)$ is called a **local maximum value**. If $f(x, y) \geq f(a, b)$ when (x, y) is near (a, b) , then f has a **local minimum** at (a, b) and $f(a, b)$ is a **local minimum value**.



Local Max and Min Values

2 Theorem

If f has a local maximum or minimum at (a, b) and the first-order partial derivatives of f exist there, then $f_x(a, b) = 0$ and $f_y(a, b) = 0$.



Local Max and Min Values

2 Theorem

If f has a local maximum or minimum at (a, b) and the first-order partial derivatives of f exist there, then $f_x(a, b) = 0$ and $f_y(a, b) = 0$.

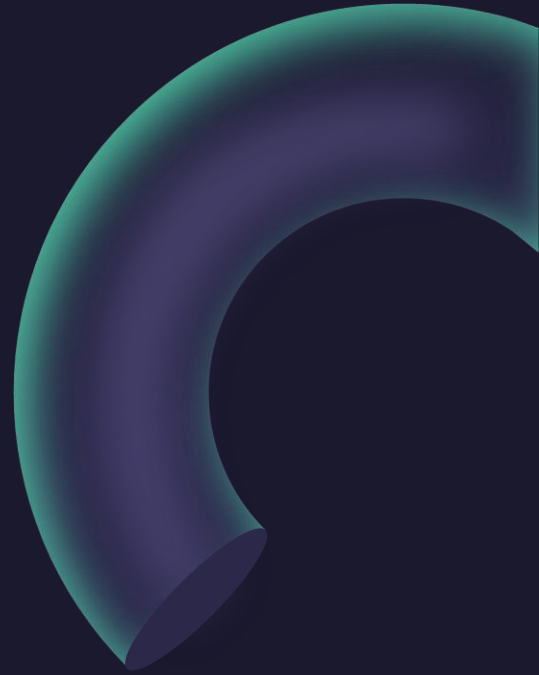
A **critical point** for a function $f(x, y)$ is a point (a, b) where

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

that is $f_x(a, b) = 0, f_y(a, b) = 0$.

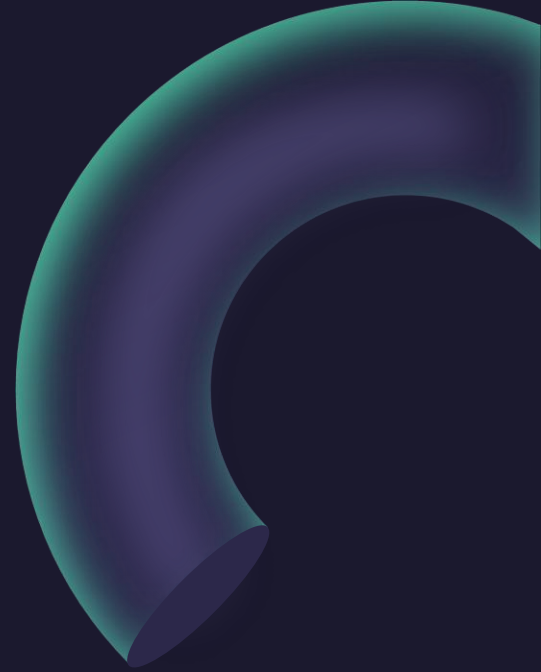
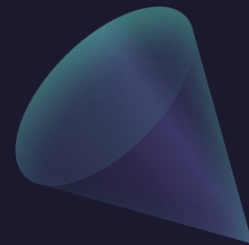
Example: Find all the critical points for the function

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 6y + 14$$

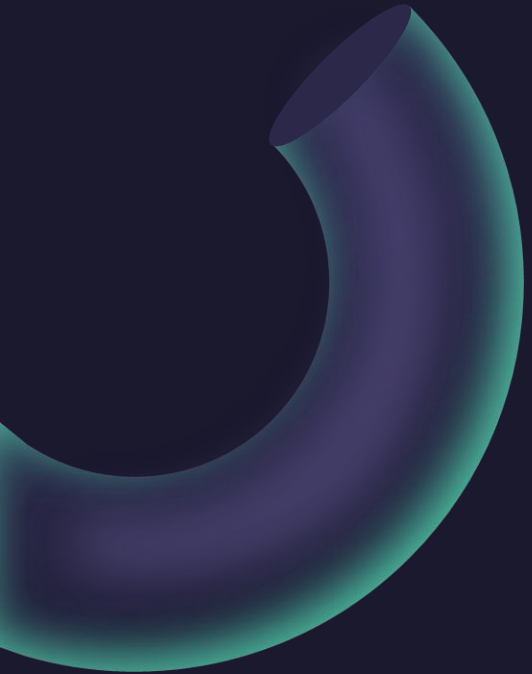


Example: Find all the critical points for the function

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 6y + 14$$



Local Max and Min Values: Second Derivative Test



Local Max and Min Values: Second Derivative Test

3 Second Derivatives Test

Suppose the second partial derivatives of f are continuous on a disk with center (a, b) , and suppose that $f_x(a, b) = 0$ and $f_y(a, b) = 0$ [so (a, b) is a critical point of f]. Let

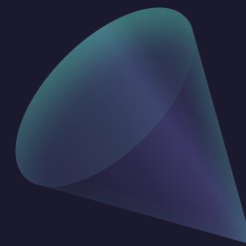
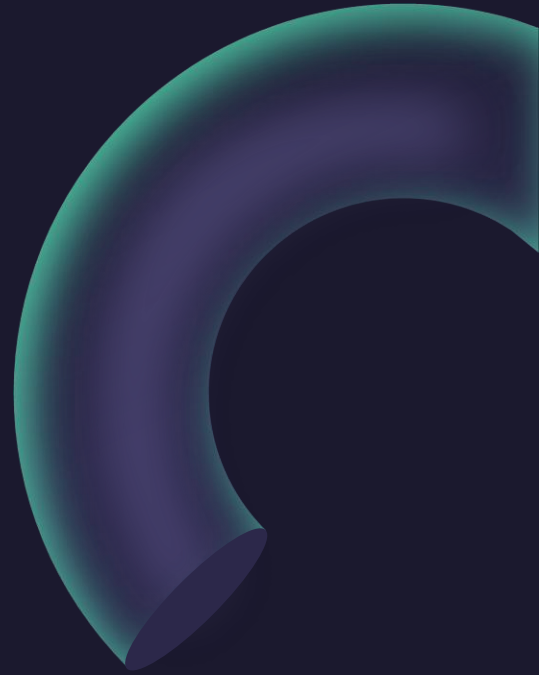
$$D = D(a, b) = f_{xx}(a, b) f_{yy}(a, b) - [f_{xy}(a, b)]^2$$

- (a) If $D > 0$ and $f_{xx}(a, b) > 0$, then $f(a, b)$ is a local minimum.
- (b) If $D > 0$ and $f_{xx}(a, b) < 0$, then $f(a, b)$ is a local maximum.
- (c) If $D < 0$, then $f(a, b)$ is a saddle point of f .

$$D = D(a, b) = f_{xx}(a, b) f_{yy}(a, b) - [f_{xy}(a, b)]^2$$

Example: Find and classify the critical points for the function

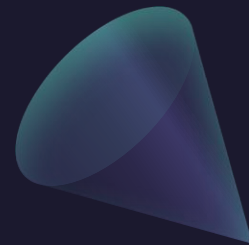
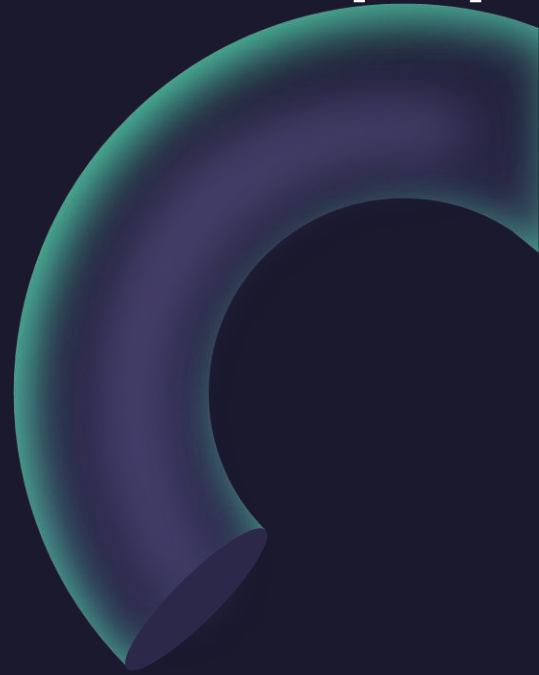
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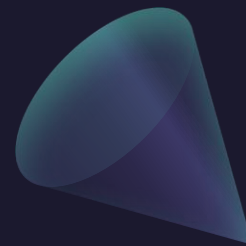
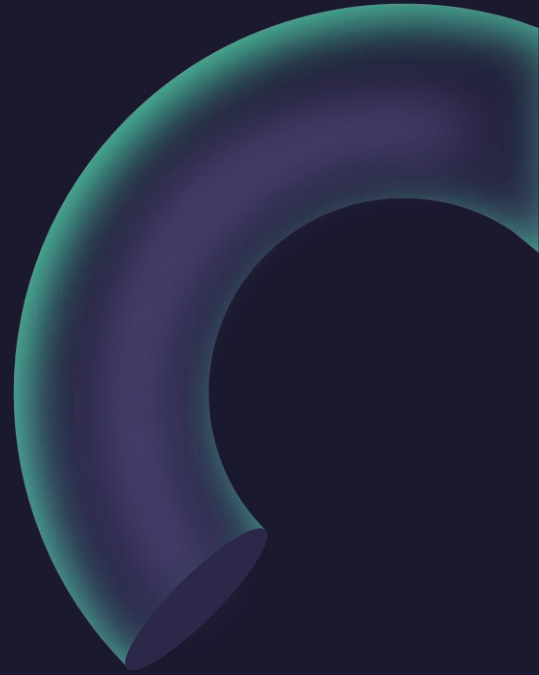
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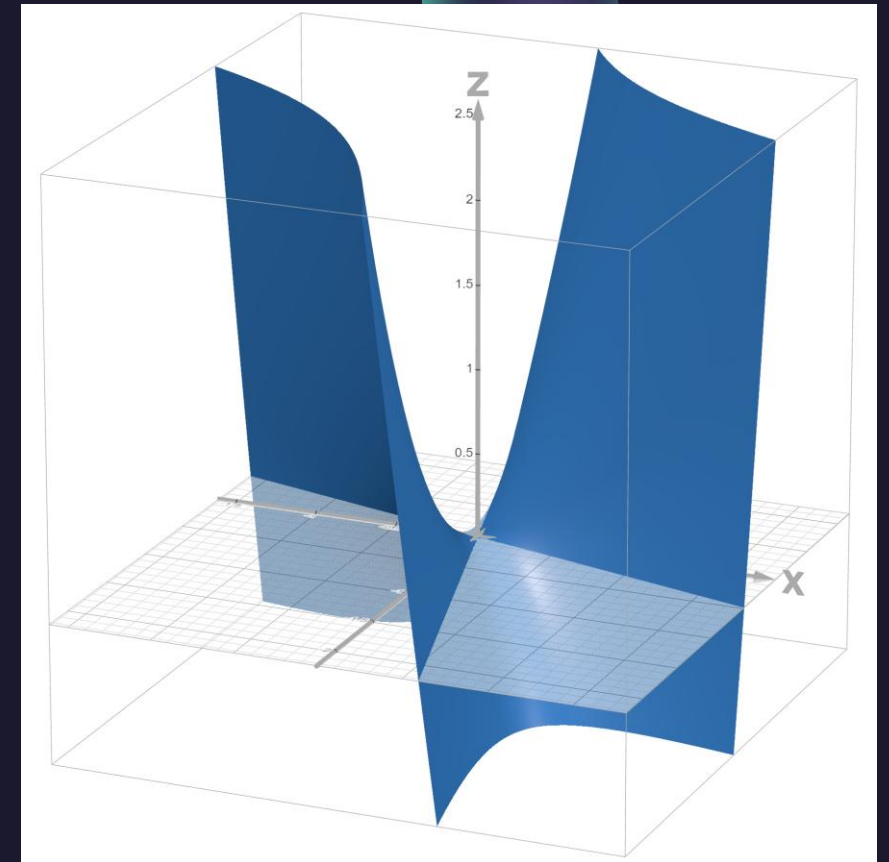
$$f(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + y^2$$



$$D = D(a, b) = f_{xx}(a, b) f_{yy}(a, b) - [f_{xy}(a, b)]^2$$

Example: Find and classify the critical points for the function

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + y^2$$



Absolute Max and Min Values

Let (a, b) be a point in the domain D of a function f of two variables. Then $f(a, b)$ is the

- **absolute maximum** value of f on D if $f(a, b) \geq f(x, y)$ for all (x, y) in D .
- **absolute minimum** value of f on D if $f(a, b) \leq f(x, y)$ for all (x, y) in D .

8 Extreme Value Theorem for Functions of Two Variables

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

Absolute Max and Min Values

Let (a, b) be a point in the domain D of a function f of two variables. Then $f(a, b)$ is the

- **absolute maximum** value of f on D if $f(a, b) \geq f(x, y)$ for all (x, y) in D .
- **absolute minimum** value of f on D if $f(a, b) \leq f(x, y)$ for all (x, y) in D .

9 To find the absolute maximum and minimum values of a continuous function f on a closed, bounded set D :

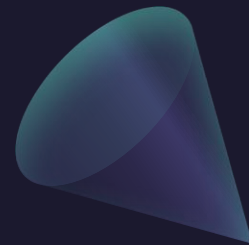
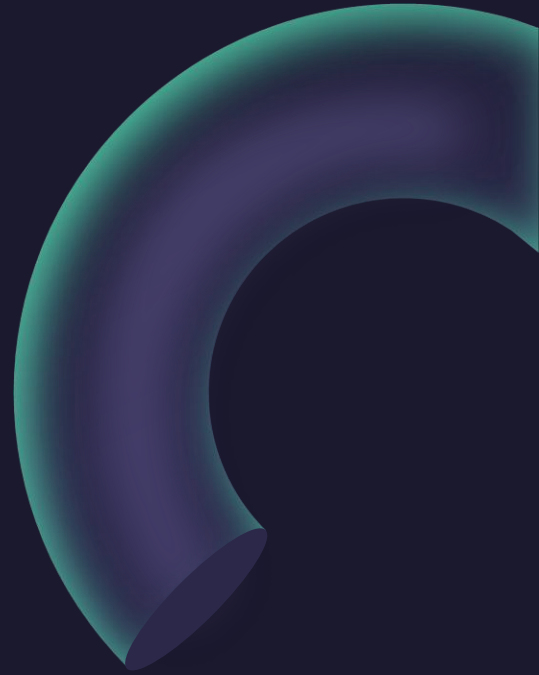
1. Find the values of f at the critical points of f in D .
2. Find the extreme values of f on the boundary of D .
3. The largest of the values from [steps 1](#) and [2](#) is the absolute maximum value; the smallest of these values is the absolute minimum value.

$$D = D(a, b) = f_{xx}(a, b) f_{yy}(a, b) - [f_{xy}(a, b)]^2$$

Example: Find the absolute maximum and minimum of

$$f(x, y) = xy^2$$

in the region $D = \{(x, y): x^2 + y^2 \leq 3\}$.

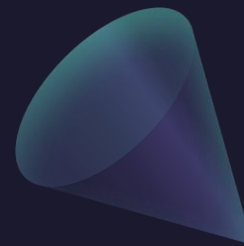
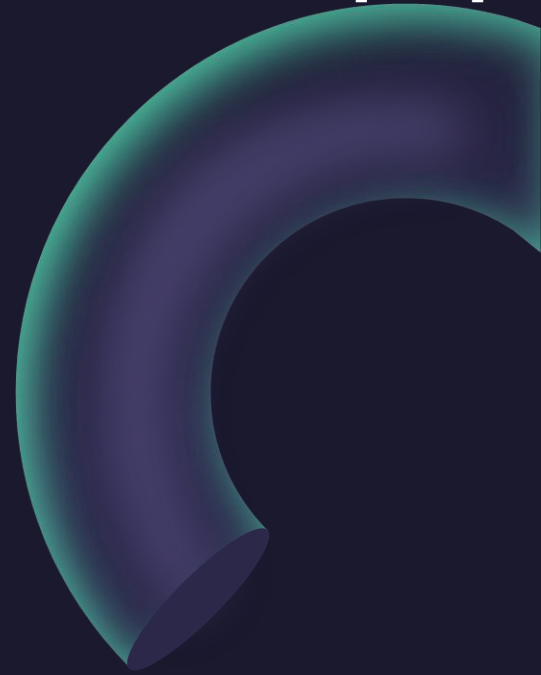


$$D = D(a, b) = f_{xx}(a, b) f_{yy}(a, b) - [f_{xy}(a, b)]^2$$

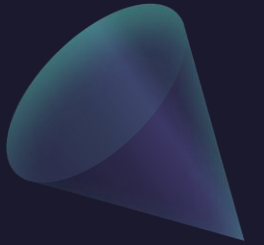
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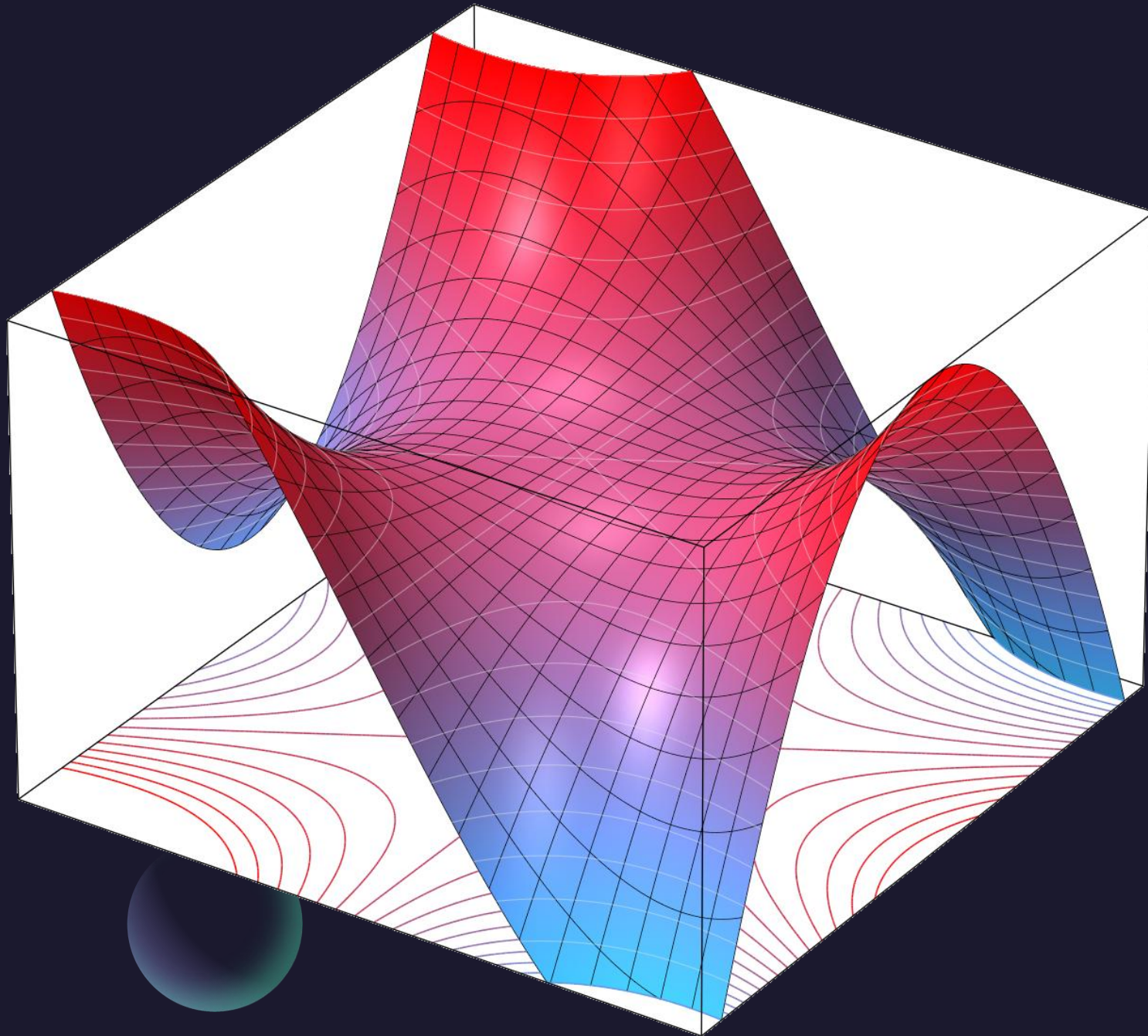


Questions?



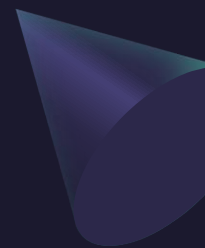
Thank you

Until next time.





ALVARO: Start the recording!



“Calculus 3”

Multi-Variable Calculus

Instructor: Álvaro Lozano-Robledo

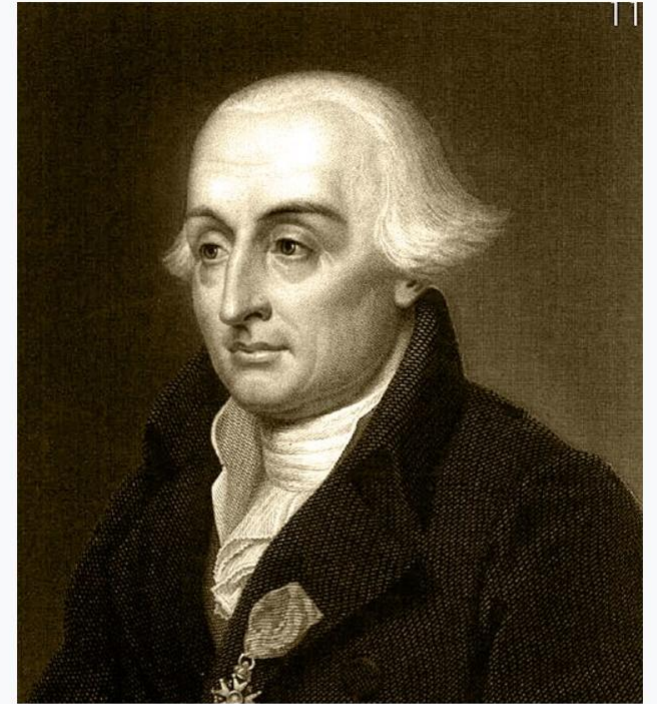
Lagrange Multipliers



Today – “Lagrange Multipliers!”

- The Method
- One Constraint
- Examples

Joseph-Louis Lagrange



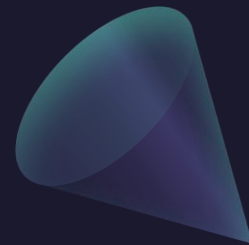
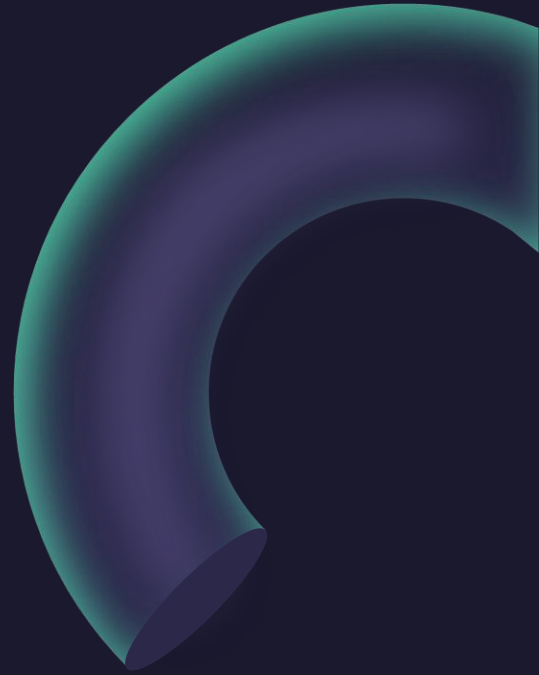
Born

Giuseppe Lodovico
Lagrangia
25 January 1736
[Turin, Kingdom of Sardinia](#)

Died

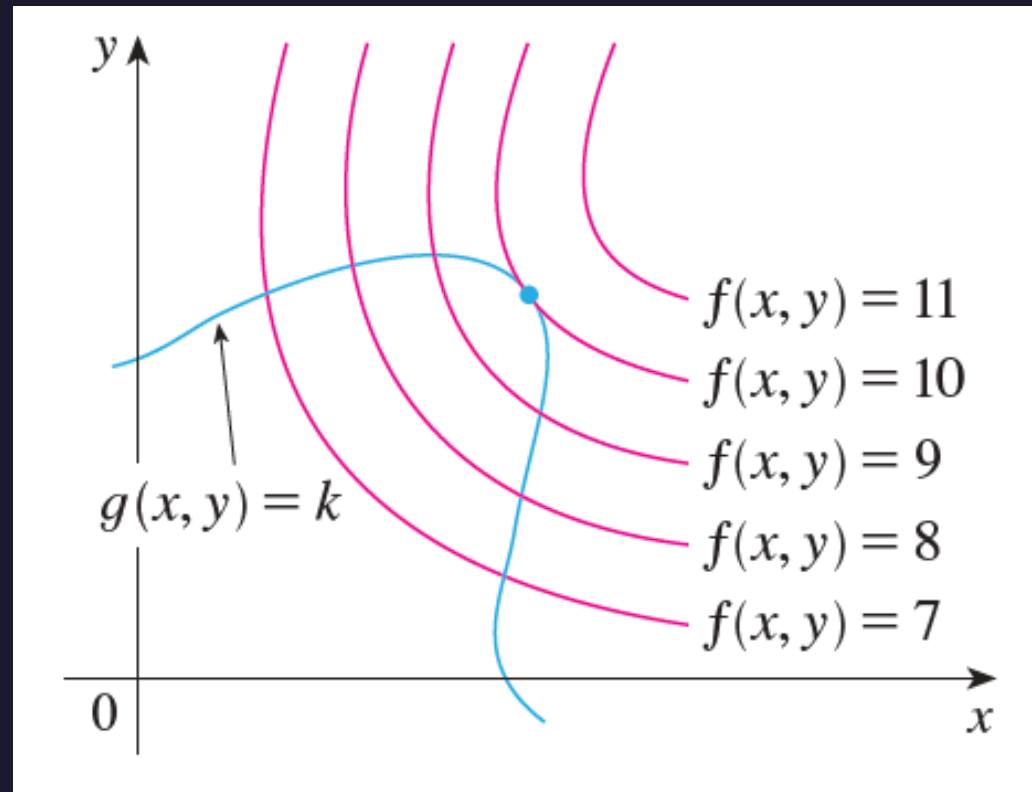
10 April 1813 (aged 77)
Paris, [First French Empire](#)

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



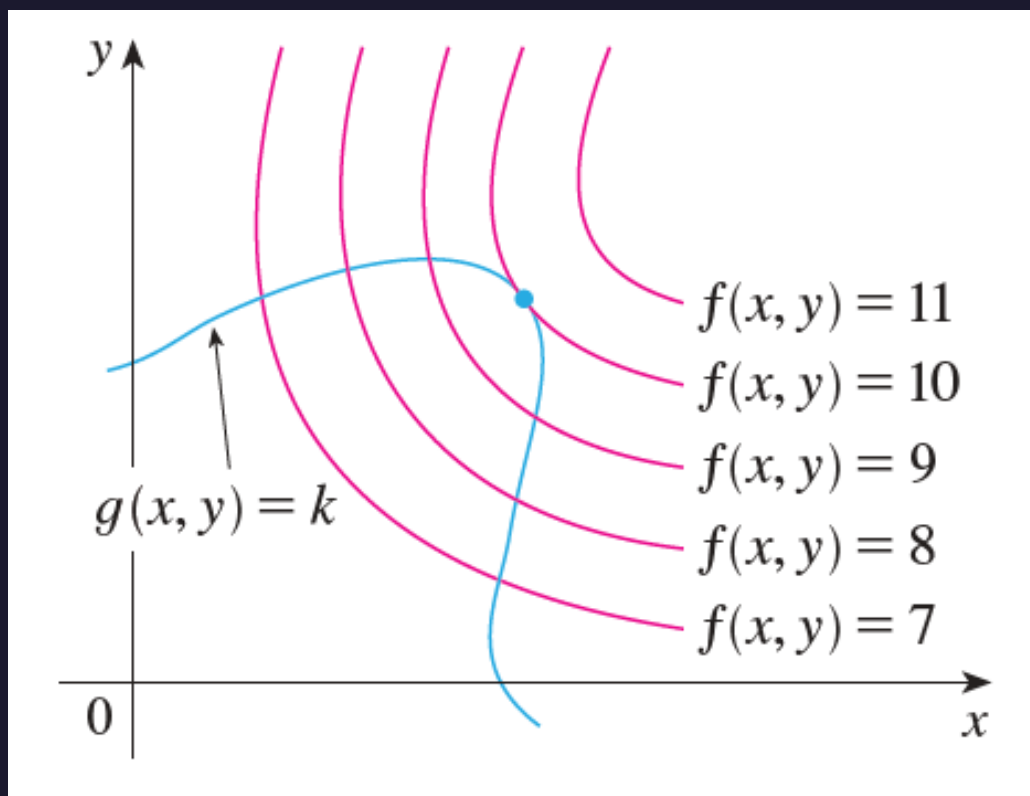
The “Lagrange Multipliers” Method

GOAL : Maximize $z = f(x,y)$ on the curve $g(x,y) = k$.



The “Lagrange Multipliers” Method

GOAL : Maximize $z = f(x,y)$ on the curve $g(x,y) = k$.



The value of $f(x,y)$ on the curve $g(x,y)=k$ will be maximized at some point (x_0, y_0) such that

$\nabla f(x_0, y_0)$ is parallel to $\nabla g(x_0, y_0)$

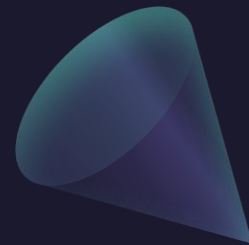
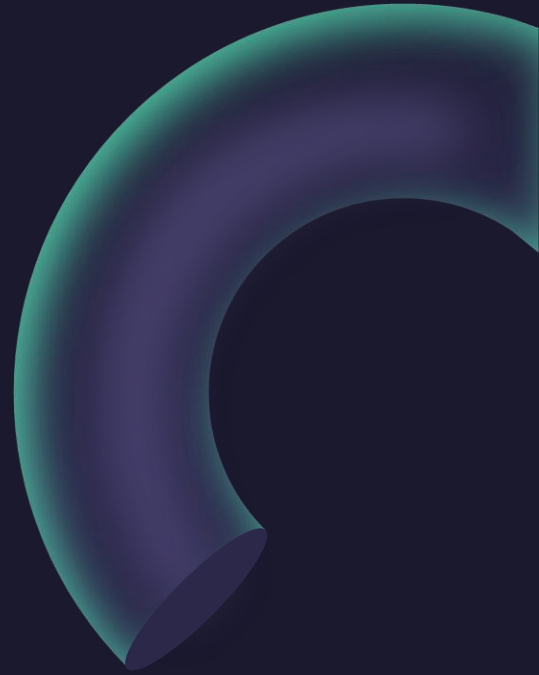
or equivalently a point (x_0, y_0) such that there is a constant λ with

$$\nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \cdot \nabla g(x_0, y_0)$$

and $g(x_0, y_0) = k$.

$$\nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \cdot \nabla g(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x_0, y_0) = k.$$

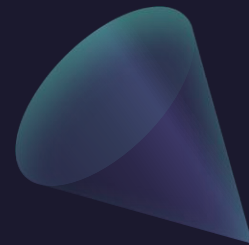
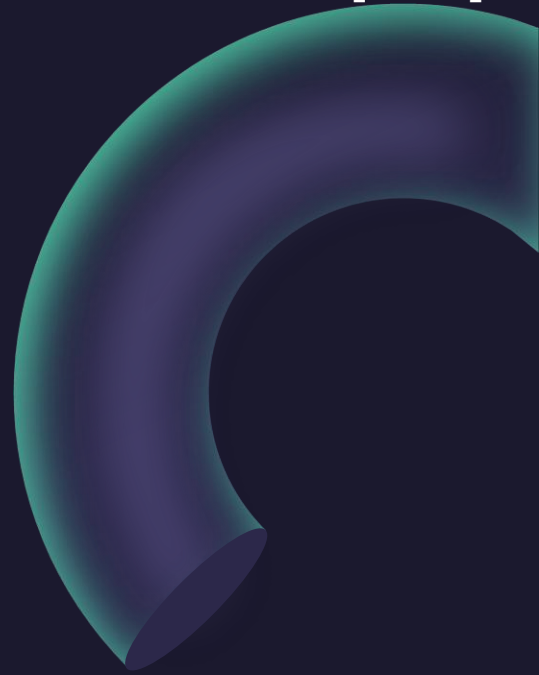
Example: Find the extreme values of $f(x, y) = x^2 + 2y^2$
on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.



$$\nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \cdot \nabla g(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x_0, y_0) = k.$$

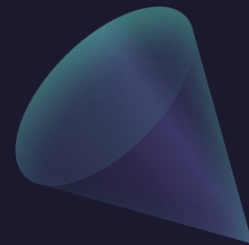
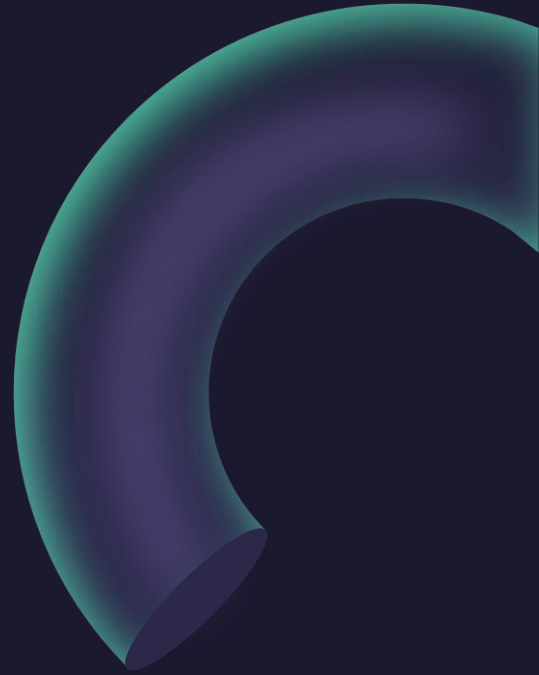
[Extra]

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



$$\nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \cdot \nabla g(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x_0, y_0) = k.$$

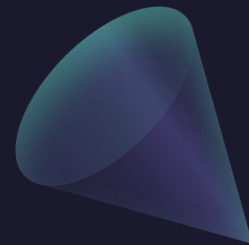
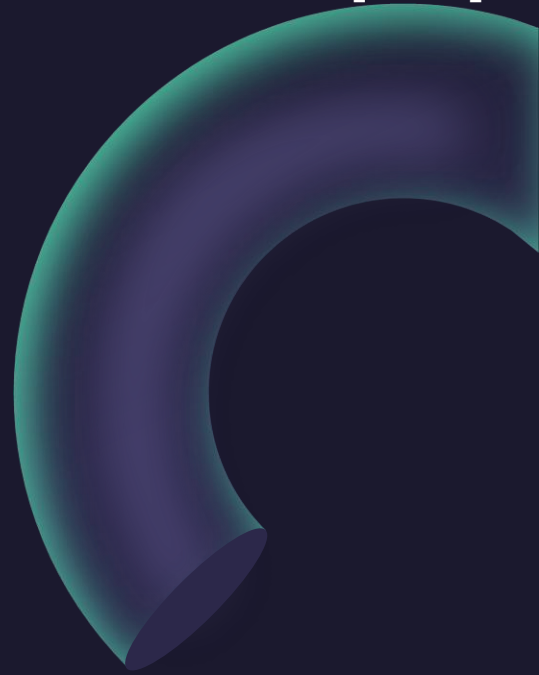
Example: Find the extreme values of $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$
on the curve $xy = 1$.



$$\nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \cdot \nabla g(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x_0, y_0) = k.$$

[Extra]

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



The “Lagrange Multipliers” Method

Method of Lagrange Multipliers

To find the maximum and minimum values of $f(x, y, z)$ subject to the constraint $g(x, y, z) = k$ [assuming that these extreme values exist and $\nabla g \neq \mathbf{0}$ on the surface $g(x, y, z) = k$]:

1. Find all values of x, y, z , and λ such that

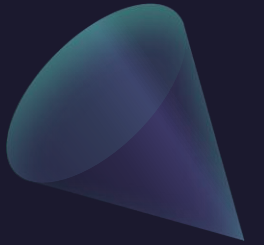
$$\nabla f(x, y, z) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y, z)$$

and

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

2. Evaluate f at all the points (x, y, z) that result from [step 1](#). The largest of these values is the maximum value of f ; the smallest is the minimum value of f .

Questions?



Thank you

Until next time.

