

# Lecture 17

## §1 Global / Absolute extrema

### 1. Global / Absolute extrema

#### Definition

Let  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  be a point in the domain  $D$  of a function  $f$ .

- We say that  $f$  has a **global maximum** (or an **absolute maximum**) at  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  if

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \geq f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

for every  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in D$ .

- We say that  $f$  has a **global minimum** (or an **absolute minimum**) at  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  if

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \leq f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

for every  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in D$ .

### 2. Theorem

#### Theorem

Let  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function, where  $D$  is a closed and bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $f$  has a global maximum  $f(x_1, y_1)$  and a global minimum  $f(x_2, y_2)$  at some  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  in  $D$ .

**注:** ① In short, 定义在有界闭区间的连续函数有最值 (对于定义在  $\mathbb{R}^n$  中的函数均成立)  
 ② 若定义域不为闭区间, 即便有界, 也可能无最值  
 e.g.  $f(x, y) = x$ ,  $D = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 < 1\}$

### 3. 策略: Finding global extrema for cts functions on closed & bounded $D$

- 找出  $D$  内所有的 critical points (无需判断是否为极值)
- 找出  $D$  的 boundary 上的所有极值
- 计算它们的大小并比较

#### 例: Example (e.g. 14.7.6)

Find the global maximum and global minimum of the function

$$f(x, y) := 2 + 2x + 4y - x^2 - y^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{cts}$$

defined on the triangular region in the first quadrant bounded by the lines  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$  and  $y = 9 - x$ .

Sol: • Interior : critical points

$$\begin{cases} f_x = 2 - 2x = 0 \\ f_y = 4 - 2y = 0 \end{cases}$$

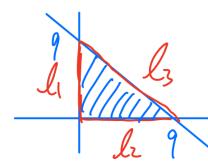
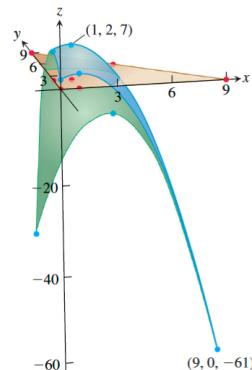
$$\Rightarrow (x, y) = (1, 2) : \text{in interior of } D$$

• Boundary

Boundary is  $l_1 \cup l_2 \cup l_3$ , where

$$l_1 : \{(0, y) : 0 \leq y \leq 9\}$$

$$l_2 : \{(x, 0) : 0 \leq x \leq 9\}$$



$$l_3: \{(x, 9-x) : 0 \leq x \leq 9\}$$

- on  $l_3$ :  $f(x, y) = f(x, 9-x) = -43 + 16x - 2x^2 = p(x)$   
 $p'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 4 \Rightarrow y = 5$ , so  
 $(x, y) = (4, 5)$  is a candidate.

At end points  $x=0$  and  $x=9$ , we have

$(x, y) = (0, 9)$  and  $(x, y) = (9, 0)$  are candidates.

- By doing similar arithmetic for  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ , we found the following candidates:

$$l_1: (0, 0), (0, 2), (0, 9)$$

$$l_2: (0, 0), (1, 0), (9, 0)$$

- Compare all candidates

$$f(1, 2) = 7, f(0, 0) = 2, f(0, 2) = 6, f(0, 9) = -43,$$

$$f(1, 0) = 3, f(9, 0) = -61, f(4, 5) = -11$$

$$\text{Max: } f(1, 2) = 7; \text{ Min: } f(9, 0) = -61$$

## §2 Optimization with equality constraints (条件极值)

### h Optimization with one equality constraint

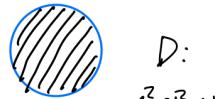
#### Optimization with One Equality Constraint

Maximize (or minimize)  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

Subject to  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$   
 (s.t.)

e.g. Q: Given a mountain altitude function  $f(x, y)$ , what is the highest altitude given by points in the unit disk  $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$ ? <sup>cts</sup>

- Find crit. pts. in the interior of  $D$ , and find the maximum in the boundary, then compare.



$$D: x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$$

#### Notation

Maximize  $f(x, y)$   
 Subject to  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ . Boundary  
 (s.t.)

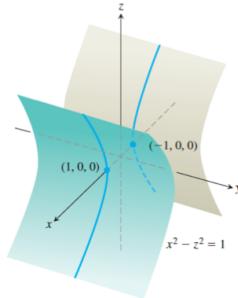
This means we are trying to find  $\max_{(x,y) \in C} f(x, y)$ , where

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

e.g. Another example Find all points on the surface  $x^2 - z^2 = 0$  that are closest to the origin.

Notation Minimize  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$

Subject to  $x^2 - z^2 = 0$ .



注：对于此类问题，由于可行集为平面内的一条线 / 空间内的一个面，定义域内不存在内点，因此无法直接利用偏导求解极值。

## 2. Theorem (拉格朗日数乘法的原理)

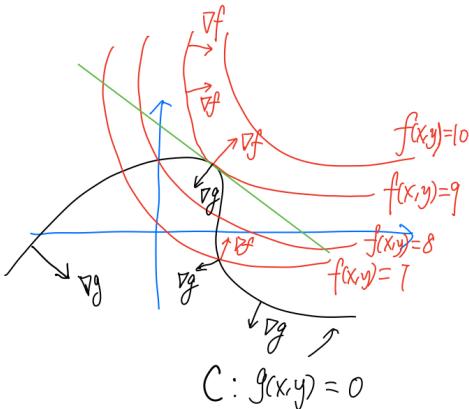
Theorem (14.8.12, 2D Version)

Let  $f(x,y)$  be a differentiable function on  $D$ , and let  $C$  given by

$\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle, t \in I$  i.e.,  $P_0 = (x(t_0), y(t_0))$ ,  
 be a smooth curve contained in the interior of  $D$ . If  $P_0$  is an interior pt of  $I$ .  
point of  $C$  that gives a local extremum of  $f$  relative to points  
 in  $C$ , then  $\nabla f \perp \vec{r}'$  at  $P_0$ . This thm is also true for  
 $f(x,y,z)$  and  $C: \vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$

Consider a 2-variable case:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max } & f(x,y) \\ \text{s.t. } & g(x,y) = 0 \end{aligned}$$



证明：

- 考虑  $f$  的值, only on  $C$
- 令  $g(t) := f(x(t), y(t))$ ,  $(x(t), y(t)) \in C$ , 令  $P_0 = (x(t_0), y(t_0))$
- $f(x(t_0), y(t_0))$  为  $f$  在  $C$  上的 local maximum ,  
 因此  $g(t_0)$  为  $(t_0 - \delta, t_0 + \delta)$  上的 maximum for some  $\delta > 0$ .  
 因此  $g'(t_0) = 0$
- 因为  $g'(t_0) = f_x(P_0)x'(t_0) + f_y(P_0)y'(t_0) = \nabla f(P_0) \cdot \vec{r}'(t_0)$ ,  
 因此

$$\nabla f(P_0) \cdot \vec{r}'(t_0) = 0$$

- 事实上，当 $f$ 在点 $P_0$ 处有相对于 $C$ 的极值时，若 $C$ 为 $g(x,y)=0$ ，则 $\nabla f$ 与 $\nabla g$ 均在 $P_0$ 点垂直于 $C$ ，因此
  - $\nabla g = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$  或
  - $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  ( $\nabla f \parallel \nabla g$ )

### 3. The method of Lagrange multipliers (拉格朗日数乘法)

Suppose that the minimum of  $f(x, y)$  subject to the constraint  $g(x, y) = 0$  exists, where  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable. Assume that  $\nabla g(x, y) \neq \vec{0}$  whenever  $g(x, y) = 0$ . The following is a procedure for finding the constrained minimum:

- Find all values of  $x, y$  and  $\lambda$  that simultaneously satisfy

$$\nabla f(x, y) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x, y) = 0.$$

- Evaluate  $f$  at all the points  $(x, y)$  obtained in step 1. The smallest value is the desired minimum.

If the constrained maximum exists, then the largest value in step 2 is the maximum.

例: Example (e.g. 14.8.3)

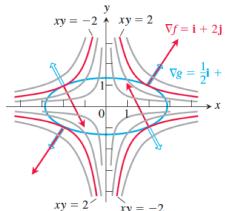
Find the maximum and minimum of the function

$$f(xy) := xy$$

defined on the ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{8} + \frac{y^2}{2} = 1.$$

Specify where the extrema occur on the ellipse.



Sol:  $\nabla g = \langle g_x, g_y \rangle = \langle \frac{x}{4}, y \rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle \Rightarrow (x, y) = (0, 0)$

But  $(0, 0)$  & C

$$\nabla f = \langle y, x \rangle$$

$$\begin{cases} \nabla f = \lambda \nabla g \\ g(x, y) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = \lambda \cdot \frac{1}{4}x \\ x = \lambda y \\ \frac{x^2}{8} + \frac{y^2}{2} = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{4}x^2 y$$

$$\Rightarrow y=0 \text{ or } \lambda = \pm 2$$

If  $y=0 \Rightarrow x=0$ ,  $(0, 0)$  not on C

If  $\lambda=2 \Rightarrow y=\pm 1 \Rightarrow (x, y) = (2, 1) \text{ or } (-2, -1)$

If  $\lambda=-2 \Rightarrow y=\pm 1 \Rightarrow (x, y) = (2, -1) \text{ or } (-2, 1)$

$$f(2, 1) = f(-2, -1) = 2, f(2, -1) = f(-2, 1) = -2$$

so max at  $(2, 1)$  and  $(-2, -1)$ ; min at  $(2, -1)$  and  $(-2, 1)$

\* 拉格朗日数乘法对多元变量同样适用

例: Find all points on the surface  $S: x^2 - z^2 - 1 = 0$  that are closest to origin, and find the minimum distance.

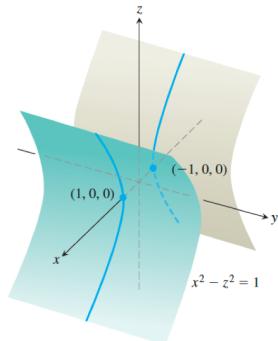
$$\text{Sol: } \min \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \Rightarrow \min x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \\ \text{s.t. } x^2 - z^2 - 1 = 0$$

- $\nabla g = \langle 2x, 0, -2z \rangle = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$
- $\Rightarrow x = z = 0$ , but  $(0, y, 0)$  not on  $S$

- Solve  $\begin{cases} \nabla f = \lambda \nabla g \\ g(x, y, z) = 0 \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2x = \lambda \cdot 2x \\ 2y = \lambda \cdot 0 \\ 2z = \lambda \cdot (-2z) \\ x^2 - z^2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 1, x = \pm 1, y = 0, z = 0$$



\* 因为定义域不是有界闭区间, 因此最值可能不存在, 因此仅仅比较 candidates 处的函数值无法得出最值, 需要证明 candidates 处取到的就是最值

- $f(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  s.t.  $x^2 - z^2 - 1 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x_0^2 = z_0^2 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{x_0^2 + y_0^2 + z_0^2} = \sqrt{2z_0^2 + y_0^2 + 1} \geq 1$$

And  $(\pm 1, 0, 0)$  are both 1 unit away from  $(0, 0, 0)$

- so both  $(\pm 1, 0, 0)$  give global min distance 1.

#### 4. Two equality constraints

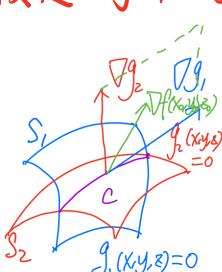
考虑  $\max / \min f(x, y, z)$

$$\text{s.t. } g_1(x, y, z) = 0 \text{ and } g_2(x, y, z) = 0$$

也就是, 在  $S_1 \cap S_2$  上找  $f$  的最值.  $S_i = \{(x, y, z) : g_i(x, y, z) = 0\}, i \in \{1, 2\}$

- 若  $f$  在  $P_0 \in S_1 \cap S_2$  处有相对于其他  $S_1 \cap S_2$  上的点的极值, 则  $\nabla f(P_0)$  一定垂直于  $C = S_1 \cap S_2$

- 因为  $\nabla g_1$  与  $\nabla g_2$  也垂直于  $C$ ,  
有  $f$  在  $\nabla g_1(P_0)$  与  $\nabla g_2(P_0)$  形成的平面内.  
(假定  $\nabla g_1(P_0)$  与  $\nabla g_2(P_0)$  均不为 0, 且不平行.)

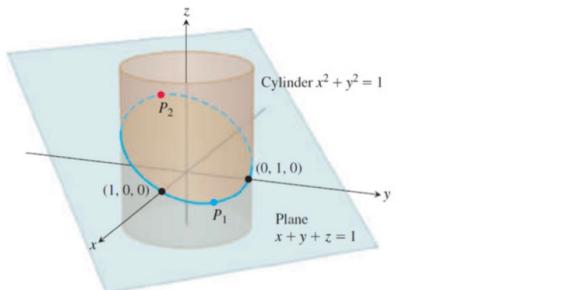


This means that the method of Lagrange multipliers can still be used, but the system to be solved is the following instead:

$$\begin{cases} \nabla f(x, y, z) = \lambda_1 \nabla g_1(x, y, z) + \lambda_2 \nabla g_2(x, y, z) \\ g_1(x, y, z) = 0 \\ g_2(x, y, z) = 0 \end{cases}.$$

### 例: Example (e.g. 14.8.5)

The plane  $x + y + z = 1$  cuts the cylinder  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  in an ellipse. Find the points on the ellipse that lie closest to and farthest from the origin.



Sol: max/min  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2$

s.t.  $g_1: x + y + z - 1 = 0$

$g_2: x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$

$\nabla \vec{g}_1 = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle \neq \vec{0}$

$\nabla \vec{g}_2 = \langle 2x, 2y, 0 \rangle \neq \vec{0}$  on ellipse

$\nabla \vec{g}_1$  and  $\nabla \vec{g}_2$  not parallel

Solve  $\begin{cases} \nabla f = \lambda_1 \nabla \vec{g}_1 + \lambda_2 \nabla \vec{g}_2 \\ g_1 = 0 \\ g_2 = 0 \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2x = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \cdot 2x \\ 2y = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \cdot 2y \\ 2z = \lambda_1 \\ x + y + z - 1 = 0 \\ x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$  All solutions  $(x, y, z) = (\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1 - \sqrt{2})$ ,  $(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1 + \sqrt{2})$ ,  $(0, 1, 0)$ ,  $(1, 0, 0)$

.....

Farthest:  $(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1 + \sqrt{2})$

Closest:  $(0, 1, 0)$ ,  $(1, 0, 0)$