

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

$$D = D(a, b) = f_{xx}(a, b)f_{yy}(a, b) - [f_{xy}(a, b)]^2 = \det \begin{pmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{pmatrix}$$

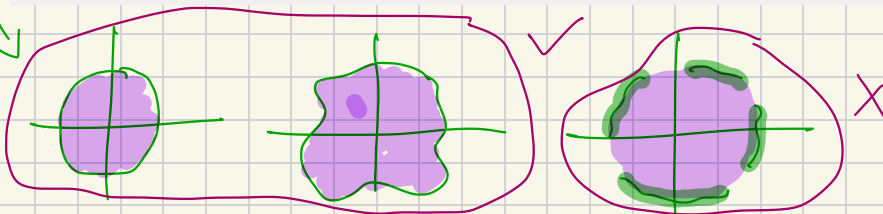
- (a) If $D > 0$ and $f_{xx}(a, b) > 0$, then $f(a, b)$ is a local minimum. \cup
- (b) If $D > 0$ and $f_{xx}(a, b) < 0$, then $f(a, b)$ is a local maximum. \cap
- (c) If $D < 0$, then $f(a, b)$ is a saddle point of f . (inflection point in calc 1)

(d) If $D = 0$ then the test is inconclusive.

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.

closed and bounded



Steps:

① Find ∇f and points (a, b) such that $\nabla f(a, b) = \vec{0}$.

where $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$.

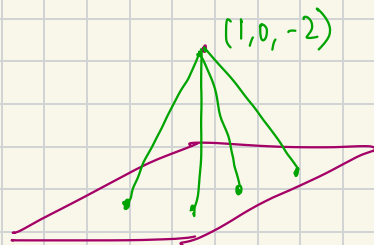
Remark: You can technically check the sign of f_{yy} as well.

In calc 1: $f(x)$ is differentiable function $[a, b]$ find absolute min / max on $[a, b]$.

Solution: Find c s.t. $f'(c) = 0$ and check $f(c), f(a), f(b)$

Example 5

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



A: • $d(x, y, z) = \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + (y-0)^2 + (z-(-2))^2}$

is the distance from any point in \mathbb{R}^3 and $(1, 0, -2)$.

• Take $z = 4 - x - 2y$ and

$$f(x, y) = (x-1)^2 + y^2 + \underbrace{(4-x-2y+2)^2}_{6-x-2y}$$

• Now use 2nd derivative test:

$$- f_x = 2(x-1) + 2(6-x-2y)(-1), \quad f_y = 2y + 2(6-x-2y)(-2)$$

$$= 2x - 2 - 12 + 2x + 4y$$

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

$$= 2y - 24 + 4x + 8y$$

$$= 4x + 10y - 24$$

$$- f_{xx} = 4, \quad f_{yy} = 10, \quad f_{xy} = 4 = f_{yx}$$

Remark: minimizing \sqrt{x} over $[a, b]$ is "the same" as minimizing x .

- Solve for (a, b) such that $f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 4x + 4y - 14 = 0 \\ 4x + 10y - 24 = 0 \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow 4y - 10y + 10 = 0 \rightarrow y = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x + \frac{20}{3} - 14 = 0 \Rightarrow 4x = \frac{22}{3} \Rightarrow x = \frac{11}{6}$$

- So the critical point is $(\frac{11}{6}, \frac{5}{3})$.

- $f_{xx} f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = 40 - 16 = 24 > 0 \Rightarrow$ there exists either a minimum or maximum.

- $f_{xx} = 4 > 0 \Rightarrow$ local min.

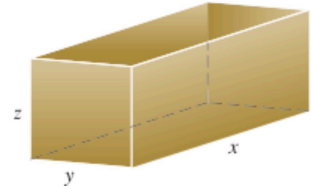
z at $(\frac{11}{6}, \frac{5}{3})$ is $\Rightarrow d(x, y, z) = \sqrt{(\frac{11}{6} - 1)^2 + (\frac{5}{3})^2 + (-\frac{7}{6} + 2)^2}$

$$z = 4 - \frac{11}{6} - \frac{10}{3} = 4 - \frac{11 + 20}{6} = \frac{-7}{6}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{5}{6} \sqrt{6}}$$

Example 6

A rectangular box without a lid is to be made from 12 m^2 of cardboard. Find the maximum volume of such a box.



A: $V = xyz$ Goal: Maximize V given that surface area of open box is 12 m^2 .

$$S = xy + 2zy + 2xz = 12$$

• Solve for constraint in terms of z : $xy + 2z(y+x) = 12$

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

$$\Rightarrow V = xy \frac{(12 - xy)}{2(x+y)} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \stackrel{\text{DIY}}{=} \frac{y^2(12 - 2xy - x^2)}{2(x+y)^2}, \quad \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \stackrel{\text{DIY}}{=} \frac{x^2(12 - 2xy - y^2)}{2(x+y)^2}$$

• Solve for points where $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 0$.

• Constraints from real life: ① $x, y, z \geq 0$.

② if $x = y = 0$ then $V = 0$

• So focus on numerators: we want $y^2(12 - 2xy - x^2) = 0$
and $x^2(12 - 2xy - y^2) = 0$

Since $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$, we need to solve

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 12 - 2xy - x^2 = 0 & \text{and} & 12 - 2xy - y^2 = 0 \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ x^2 = 12 - 2xy & & y^2 = 12 - 2xy \end{array}$$

• $\Rightarrow x^2 = y^2$ so either $x = y$ or ~~$x = -y$~~ .

$\Rightarrow x = y \Rightarrow x^2 = 12 - 2x^2 \Rightarrow 3x^2 = 12 \Rightarrow x^2 = 4 \Rightarrow x = \pm 2 \Rightarrow x = 2$ (reject the negative solution).
 $\Rightarrow y = 2$. $z = \frac{12 - xy}{2(x+y)}$ so at $x=2, y=2$, $z = \frac{12-4}{2 \cdot 4} = 1$.

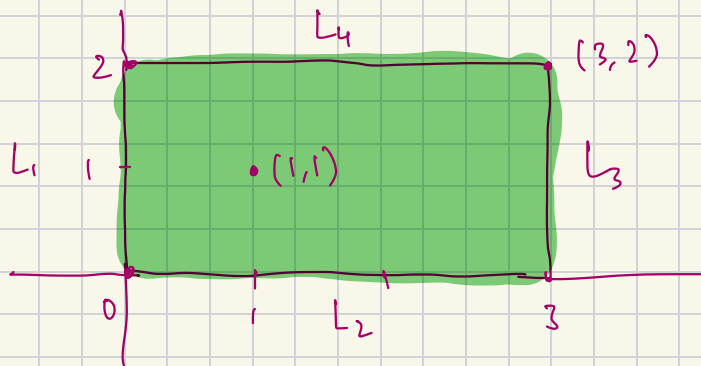
\Rightarrow max volume at $(2, 2, 1)$ since minimum volume was 0.

(Don't need the 2nd derivative test here)

Example 7

Find the absolute maximum and minimum values of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 - 2xy + 2y$ on the rectangle

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



Step 1: Find critical points of f . DIY. Critical pt is $(1, 1)$ ($f(x, y) = x^2 - 2xy + 2y$)

Step 2: Find min/max on the lines L_1, L_2, L_3, L_4 . ($f(1, 1) = 1 - 2 + 2 = 1$)

$$L_1: x = 0, 0 \leq y \leq 2$$

$\Rightarrow f(0, y) = 2y \Rightarrow f(0) = 0$ is the abs min, $f(2) = 4$ is the abs max.
(since $f(0, y)$ is increasing on $[0, 2]$).

$$L_2: y=0, 0 \leq x \leq 3$$

$f(x,0) = x^2 \Rightarrow f(0)=0$ is the abs min, $f(3)=9$ is the abs max.
(since $f(x,0)$ is increasing on $[0,3]$).

$$L_3: x=3, 0 \leq y \leq 2$$

$$f(3,y) = 9 - 6y + 2y = 9 - 4y$$

$\Rightarrow f(0)=9$ is the abs max, $f(2)=1$ is the abs min (since $f(3,y)$ is decreasing on $[0,2]$)

$$L_4: y=2, 0 \leq x \leq 3$$

$$f(x,2) = x^2 - 4x + 4 = g(x)$$

Method 1: $g'(x) = 2x - 4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 2$. $g(2) = 0$, $g(0) = 4$, $g(3) = 1$.

$\Rightarrow g(2)=0$ is the abs min, $g(0)=4$ is the abs max.

Absolute min at $(0,0)$, $(2,2)$ where value is 0

Absolute max at $(3,0)$ where value is 9.

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 $\nabla g \neq 0$ 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

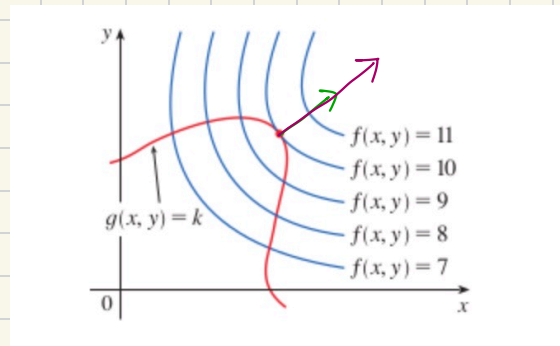
$$g(x, y, z) = k$$

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 .

In two variables: $\langle f_x, f_y \rangle = \lambda \langle g_x, g_y \rangle$

$$\Leftrightarrow f_x = \lambda g_x, \quad f_y = \lambda g_y$$

$$\text{and } g = k$$



Main idea: at a point where f is min/max, ∇f and ∇g are parallel.

i.e.: $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

Example 1

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

A: $g(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 \Rightarrow g_x = 2x, g_y = 2y$

$$f_x = 2x, f_y = 4y$$

$$\text{So } \nabla f(x, y) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle 2x, 4y \rangle = \lambda \langle 2x, 2y \rangle$$

We need to solve:

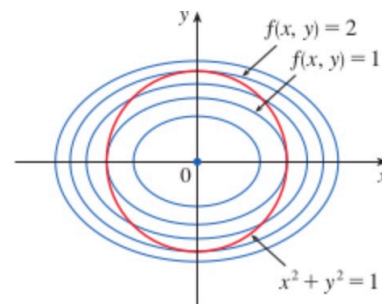
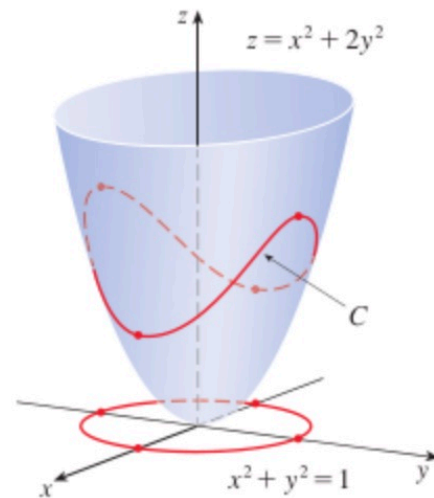
$$2x = 2\lambda x \Leftrightarrow 2x(\lambda - 1) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0, \lambda = 1$$

$$4y = 2\lambda y$$

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

$$x = 0 \Rightarrow 0^2 + y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y = \pm 1 \Rightarrow \text{Test } (0, 1) \text{ and } (0, -1)$$

$$\lambda = 1 \Rightarrow 4y = 2y \Rightarrow y = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 + 0^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \text{Test } (1, 0) \text{ and } (-1, 0).$$



	$(0, 1)$	$(0, -1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(-1, 0)$
$f(x, y) = x^2 + 2y^2$	2	2	1	1

max at $(0, \pm 1)$, min at $(\pm 1, 0)$

Example 5. Find the extreme values of the function $f(x,y) = x^2 - y^2$ on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

$\underbrace{x^2 + y^2}_{g(x,y)} = 1$

• We want x, y, λ such that $\nabla f(x,y) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y)$.

• $\nabla f = \langle 2x, -2y \rangle$, $\nabla g = \langle 2x, 2y \rangle$

So $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g \Leftrightarrow \langle 2x, -2y \rangle = \langle 2\lambda x, 2\lambda y \rangle$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{aligned} 2x &= 2\lambda x &\Rightarrow 2x(\lambda - 1) &= 0 \\ -2y &= 2\lambda y \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\updownarrow \\ &x=0 \text{ OR } \lambda=1 \end{aligned}$$

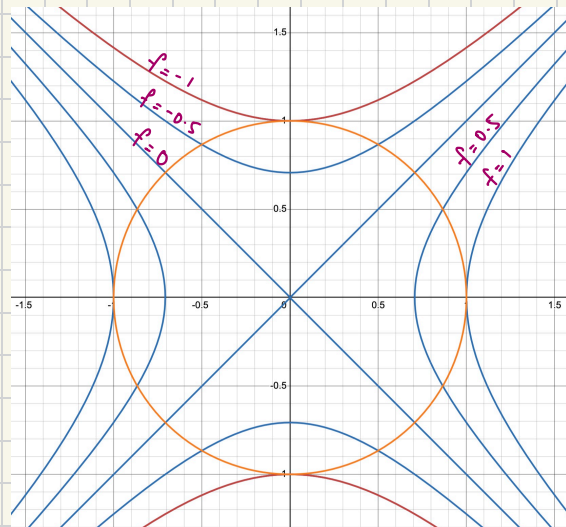
3rd equation $\rightsquigarrow x^2 + y^2 = 1$

$x=0 \Rightarrow y^2=1 \Rightarrow y=\pm 1 \Rightarrow \text{Test } (0,1), (0,-1)$

$\lambda=1 \Rightarrow -2y=2y \Leftrightarrow y=0 \Rightarrow x^2=1 \Rightarrow x=\pm 1$

$\Rightarrow \text{Test } (1,0), (-1,0)$.

	$(0,1)$	$(0,-1)$	$(1,0)$	$(-1,0)$
$x^2 - y^2$	-1	-1	1	1
	MIN		MAX	



Example 7. Find the points on the cone $z^2 = x^2 + y^2$ that are closest to the point $(4, 2, 0)$.

distance between any point (x, y, z) and $(4, 2, 0)$ is

$$\sqrt{(x-4)^2 + (y-2)^2 + z^2}$$

So we want to minimize distance subject

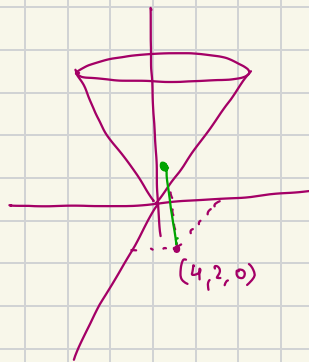
$$\text{to } z^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

for ease: we will instead minimize

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

$$\text{subject to } \underbrace{x^2 + y^2 - z^2}_{\rightarrow g} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow g = x^2 + y^2 - z^2$$



$$\nabla f = \langle 2(x-4), 2(y-2), 2z \rangle = \lambda \nabla g = \lambda \langle 2x, 2y, -2z \rangle$$

Equations:

$$2(x-4) = 2\lambda x \Rightarrow \frac{(x-4)}{x} = \lambda \Rightarrow \frac{x-4}{x} = \frac{y-2}{y}$$

$$2(y-2) = 2\lambda y \Rightarrow \frac{(y-2)}{y} = \lambda \Rightarrow \cancel{yx} - 4y = \cancel{xy} - 2x$$

$$2z = -2\lambda z$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 2y$$

↓

$$2z(1+\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow z = 0, \lambda = -1$$

$$x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 0$$

$$z = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 0 \Rightarrow 4y^2 + y^2 = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$$

$$\lambda = -1 \Rightarrow 2(x-4) = -2x \Rightarrow 4x = 8 \Rightarrow x = 2$$

$$2(y-2) = -2y \Rightarrow 4y = 4 \Rightarrow y = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow z^2 = 2^2 + 1^2 = 5 \Rightarrow z = \pm\sqrt{5}$$

	$(0, 0, 0)$	$(2, 1, \sqrt{5})$	$(2, 1, -\sqrt{5})$
f	20	10	10

$$\swarrow (x-4)^2 + (y-2)^2 + z^2$$

Example 8. Find the extreme values of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ on the closed disk $D = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$.