

4) We'd like to minimize

$$L = d^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

with the constraint

$$g = xy + 2xz - 5\sqrt{5} = 0$$

To do so, we use the method of Lagrange multipliers, where for some λ we assume $\nabla L = \lambda \nabla g$

$$\rightarrow 2x = \lambda(y + 2z) \rightarrow 2x = \frac{z}{x}(5y) \rightarrow x^2 = \frac{5}{2}yz$$

$$2y = \lambda x \rightarrow \underline{2y^* = z}$$

$$2z = \lambda(2x) \rightarrow \lambda = z/x, \quad x \neq 0 \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{if } x=0, \\ g \text{ is} \\ \text{not} \\ \text{satisfied} \end{array} \right]$$

continuing

$$\rightarrow x^2 = \frac{5}{2}y(2y) = 5y^2 \rightarrow \underline{x^* = \sqrt{5}y}$$

plugging into g ,

$$(\sqrt{5}y)y + 2(\sqrt{5}y)(2y) = 5\sqrt{5}$$

$$= \sqrt{5}y^2 + 4\sqrt{5}y^2 = 5\sqrt{5}$$

$$\rightarrow 5y^2 = 5 \rightarrow \boxed{y = \pm 1}$$

From earlier

$$x = \sqrt{5}y \rightarrow x = \pm\sqrt{5} \text{ and } z = 2y \rightarrow z = \pm 2$$

Because of symmetry, any combination
 $\left(\begin{matrix} \pm\sqrt{5} \\ x \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} \pm 1 \\ y \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} \pm 2 \\ z \end{matrix} \right)$ will be a minimizer
of d , and the minimum distance is

$$d = \sqrt{\sqrt{5}^2 + 1^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{5+1+4} = \sqrt{10}$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{d_{\min} = \sqrt{10}}$$