



minima
or maxima



UnConstrained Optimization

For Multivariate Function



Recap : Calculus of one Variable





First Derivative Test

Suppose that a is a critical point of the function f , i.e., $f'(a) = 0$.

- (a) If f' changes sign from positive to negative at a , then f has a local maximum at a .
- (b) If f' changes sign from negative to positive at a , then f has a local minimum at a .
- (c) If f' does not change sign at a , then f has no local extremum at a .



MSQ Question:

Suppose $f'(x) = x(x - 2)^2(x + 3)$, where $f'(x)$ is the derivative of $f(x)$.

Which of the following is (are) true?

A. f has a local maximum at $x = -3$.



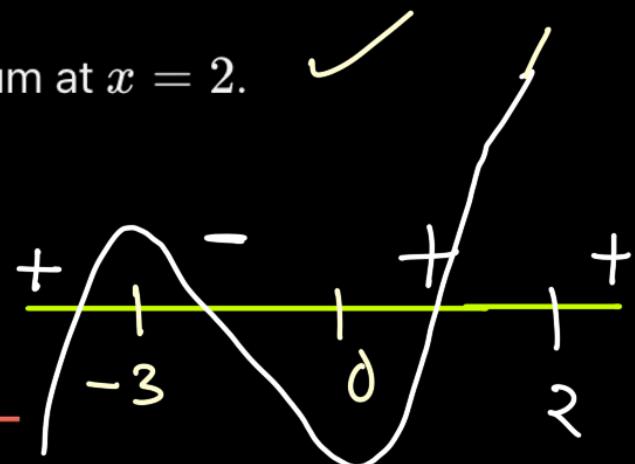
B. f has a local minimum at $x = 0$.



C. f has neither a local maximum nor a local minimum at $x = 2$.



D. None of these



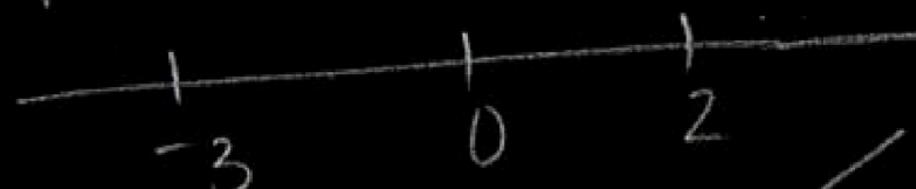


Calculus

Answer: A,B,C

0, 2, -3

+ - + +



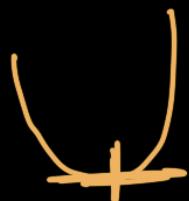


Second Derivative Test

Suppose that f is twice differentiable at the point a .

- (a) If $f'(a) = 0$ and $f''(a) > 0$, then f has a local minimum at a .
- (b) If $f'(a) = 0$ and $f''(a) < 0$, then f has a local maximum at a .

Graphical
intuition





Question:

Using the second derivative test, determine the nature of the critical points for the function
 $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 9x$.

- A. $x = 1$ is a local minimum and $x = -3$ is a local maximum.
- B. $x = 1$ is a local maximum and $x = -3$ is a local minimum.
- C. Both $x = 1$ and $x = -3$ are local minima.
- D. Both $x = 1$ and $x = -3$ are local maxima.



Answer: A

To determine the nature of the critical points for $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 9x$:

1. Find the first derivative: $f'(x) = 3(x - 1)(x + 3)$.
2. Solve $f'(x) = 0$: $x = 1$ and $x = -3$.
3. Find the second derivative: $f''(x) = 6x + 6$.
4. Evaluate $f''(x)$ at the critical points:
 - $f''(1) = 12 > 0$: local minimum at $x = 1$.
 - $f''(-3) = -12 < 0$: local maximum at $x = -3$.

Correct option: A. $x = 1$ is a local minimum and $x = -3$ is a local maximum.



Proof of Second Derivative test



Taylor Series around x_0 :

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)(x - x_0)^2 + \dots \text{ higher order terms} \\&= f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)(x - x_0)^2 + \dots \text{ higher order terms.}\end{aligned}$$



$x = x_0 + h$

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$



Taylor Series around x_0 :

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$

(Ignoring higher order terms like $\underline{h^3}, \underline{h^4}, \dots$ etc as $h \rightarrow 0$)

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

x_0 is a critical point (stationary point)



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$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

Let x_0 be critical point

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Taylor Series around x_0 :

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Let x_0 be critical point

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

What should be sign of $f''(x_0)$ for
 x_0 to be local minima ?

Hint: We want $f(x_0)$ to be least in the neighborhood of x_0 .

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} f''(x_0) h^2$$

$$f(x_0 + h) > f(x_0)$$

because i want x_0 to
be local minimum

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{f''(x_0) > 0}}$$



Taylor Series around x_0 :

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$

(Ignoring higher order terms like h^3, h^4, \dots etc as $h \rightarrow 0$)

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$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

x^{want}

We want $f(x_0)$ to be least in the neighborhood of x_0 .



Taylor Series around x_0 :

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$

(Ignoring higher order terms like h^3, h^4, \dots etc as $h \rightarrow 0$)

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

Let x_0 be critical point

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

We want $f(x_0)$ to be least in the neighborhood of x_0 .

Hence, We want $f(x_0) < f(x_0 + h)$.

Therefore, $f''(x_0) > 0$.

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Taylor Series around x_0 :

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$

(Ignoring higher order terms like h^3, h^4, \dots etc as $h \rightarrow 0$)

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Let x_0 be critical point

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

We want $f(x_0)$ to be least in the neighborhood of x_0 .

Hence, We want $f(x_0) < f(x_0 + h)$.

Therefore, $f''(x_0) > 0$.

This completes our proof that for x_0 to be local minimum:

- $f'(x_0) = 0$
- $f''(x_0) > 0$



What about functions of many variables?

Extend theorems that allow us to identify and classify local minimizers of one variable functions to multivariable cases.

.



Multivariable Functions



What is meant by a multivariable function?

- A multivariable function is a function with several variables.
- Multivariable functions which take more parameters and give one single scalar value as the result.
- These functions are also known as scalar fields.
- The concepts of maxima and minima can be introduced for arbitrary scalar fields defined on subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

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

5



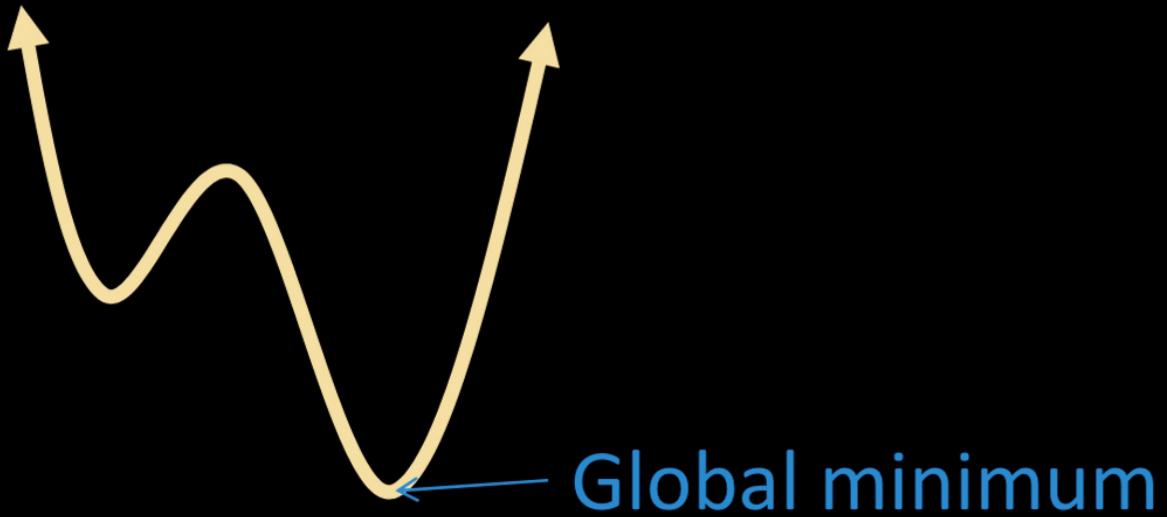
Unconstrained optimization

Find values of the variable \mathbf{x} to give minimum of an objective function $f(\mathbf{x})$

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$$



Calculus





Constrained optimization

Find values of the variable x to give minimum of an objective function $f(x)$

$$\min_x f(x)$$

subject to $g(x) \geq 0$

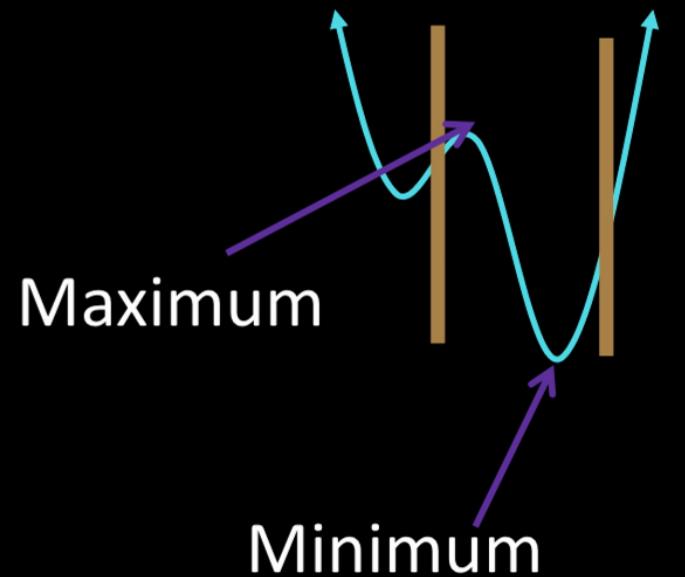
$$h(x) = 0$$

$$(x + 2)^2$$

$$x \geq 3$$

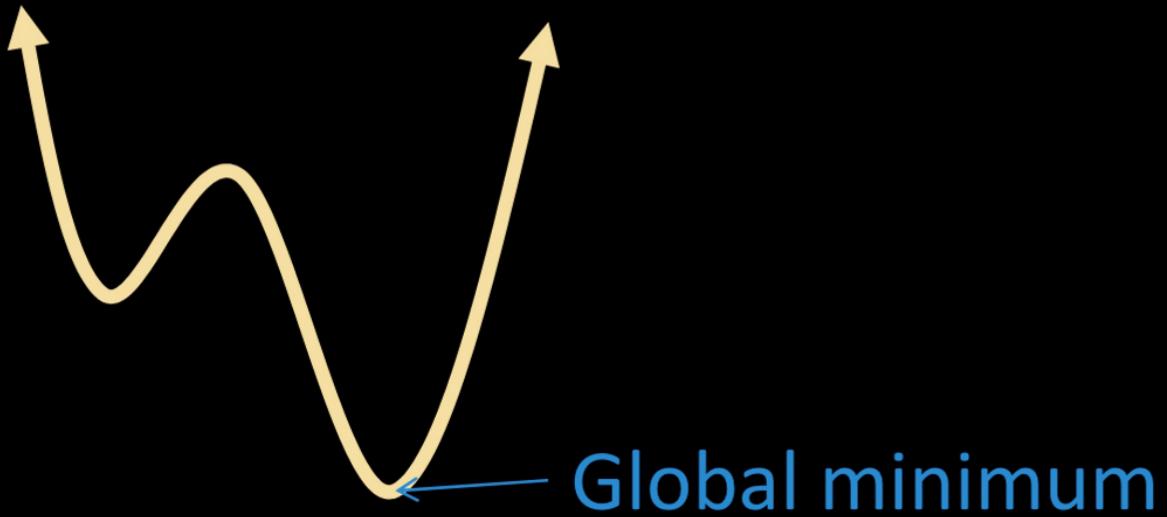


Calculus





Calculus





Un Constrained vs Constrained Optimization





Unconstrained optimization

$$\min \underbrace{(x_1 - 2)^2 + (x_2 - 1)^2}_{f(x)}$$

Constrained optimization

$$\min \underbrace{(x_1 - 2)^2 + (x_2 - 1)^2}_{f(x)} \quad \text{s.t.}$$

$$\begin{cases} -x_1^2 + x_2 \geq 0 \\ -x_1 - x_2 + 2 \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

MADE BY



UnConstrained Optimization



Notation:

If $f(\mathbf{x})$ is a function of n variables with continuous first and second partial derivatives on \mathbb{R}^n , then the *gradient* of $f(\mathbf{x})$ is the vector

$$\nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_3} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$



Stationary point (or critical point)

Definition

- Assume f is differentiable at \mathbf{a} . If $\nabla f(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{0}$ the point \mathbf{a} is called a **stationary point** of f .



Types of
stationary points

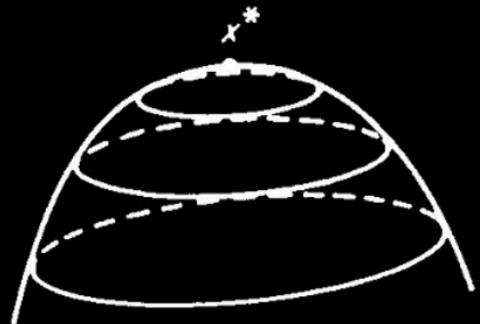
$$\nabla f(x^*) = 0$$

(a)



local minimum

(b)



local maximum

(c)



saddle point

(a)-(c) x^* is stationary: $\nabla f(x^*)=0$



In one dimension..

In one dimension, we have seen point of inflection.

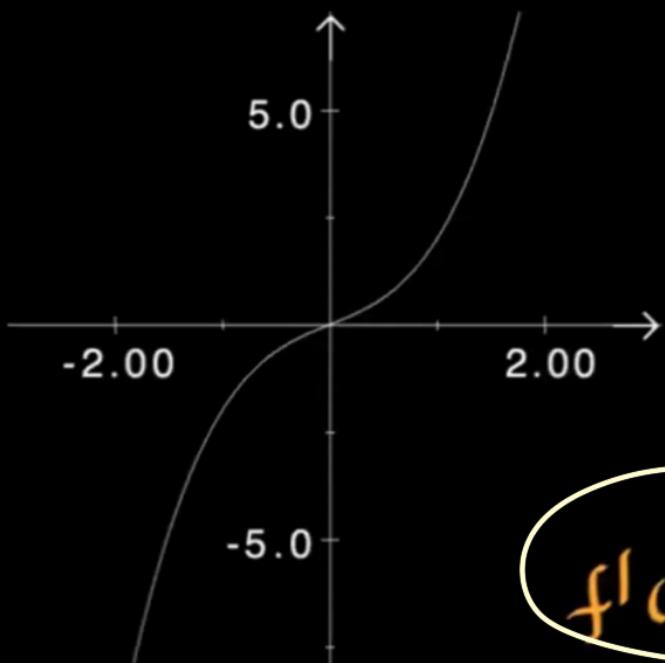
If $f''(x) = 0$ and $f''(x)$ changes the sign then we call it point of inflection.

At point of inflection, $f'(x)$ may or may not be zero.



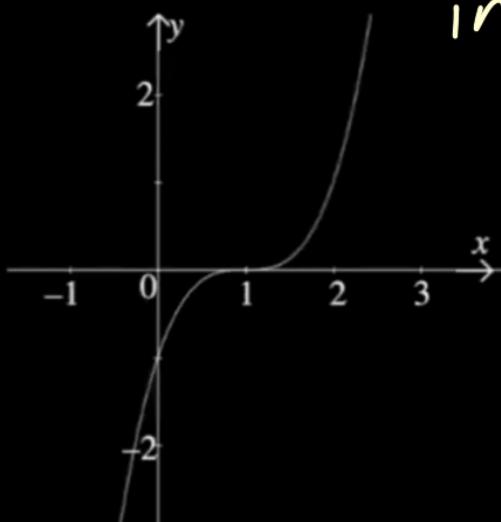


In one dimension..



at point
of inflection

$f''(x) = 0$ for Point of inflection.

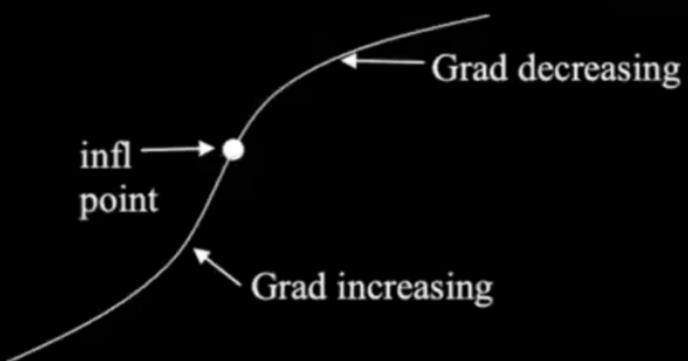


$f''(x) = 0$

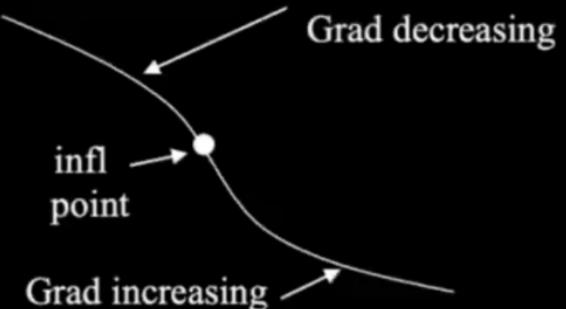


In one dimension..

These are **ordinary** inflection points:



$$f'(x) \neq 0$$



$$f'(x) \neq 0$$

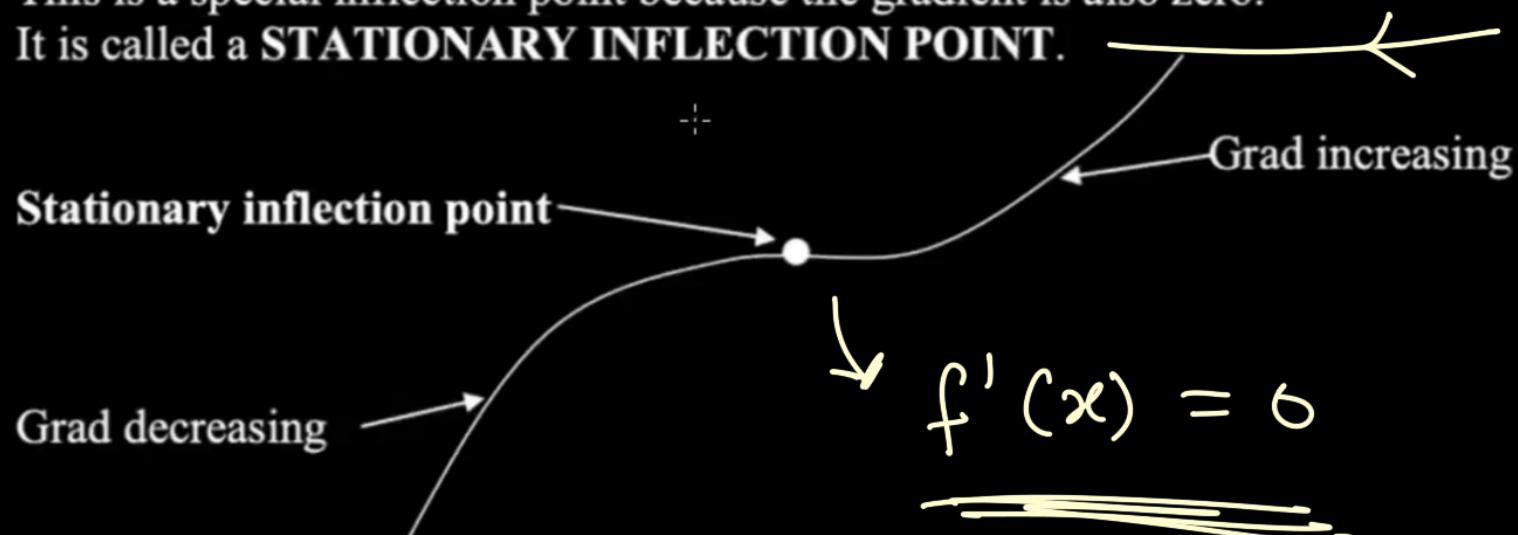
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In one dimension..

This is a special inflection point because the gradient is also zero.
It is called a **STATIONARY INFLECTION POINT**.

Saddle point



(A typical example of this is the curve $y = x^3$)

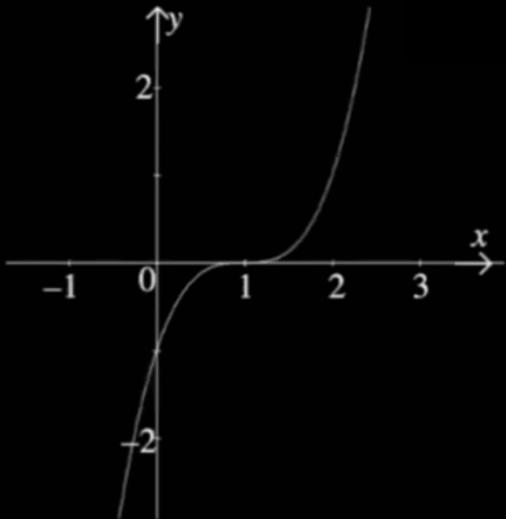
Saddle point

$$f'(x) = 0$$

and it is neither
minima

nor maxima.

2 Conditions of Saddle point

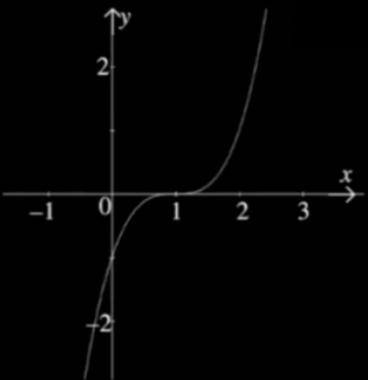


The graph of $y = x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1$.

$$f'(x) = 0$$

in case of one-D

saddle point is just inflection point where $f'(x) = 0$
 the kind of points satisfy the two conditions of saddle point.



The graph of $y = x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1$.

$$f'(x) = 0$$

in case of one-D

saddle point is just

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the kind of points satisfy

the two conditions of saddle
point.

in case of one-D saddle point
is not of much interest.

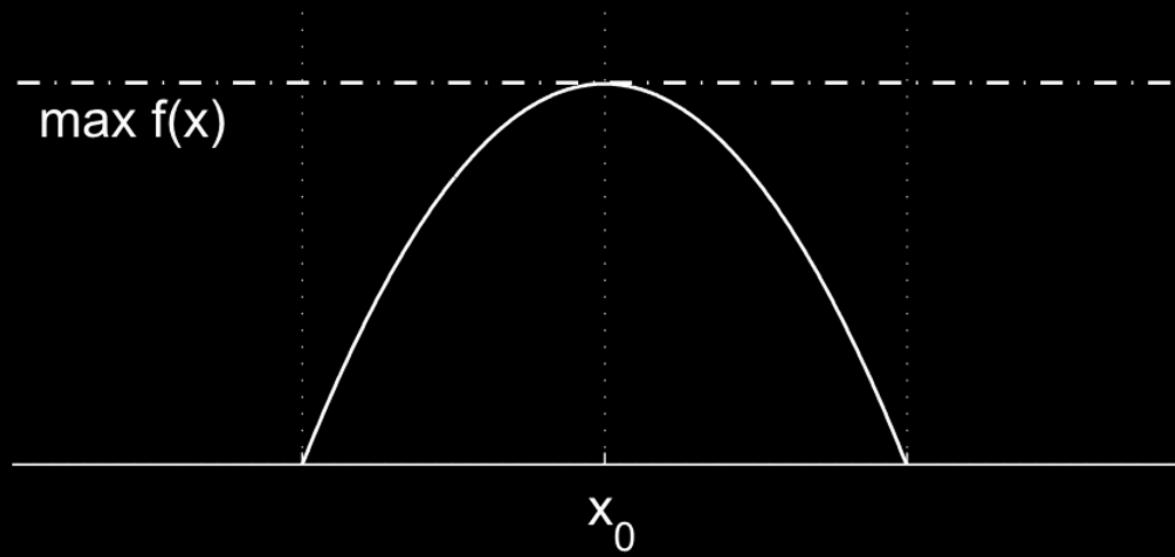


- Maximizing the objective function is the same as minimizing the negative of the objective function.

$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x) = - \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} [-f(x)]$$



Calculus



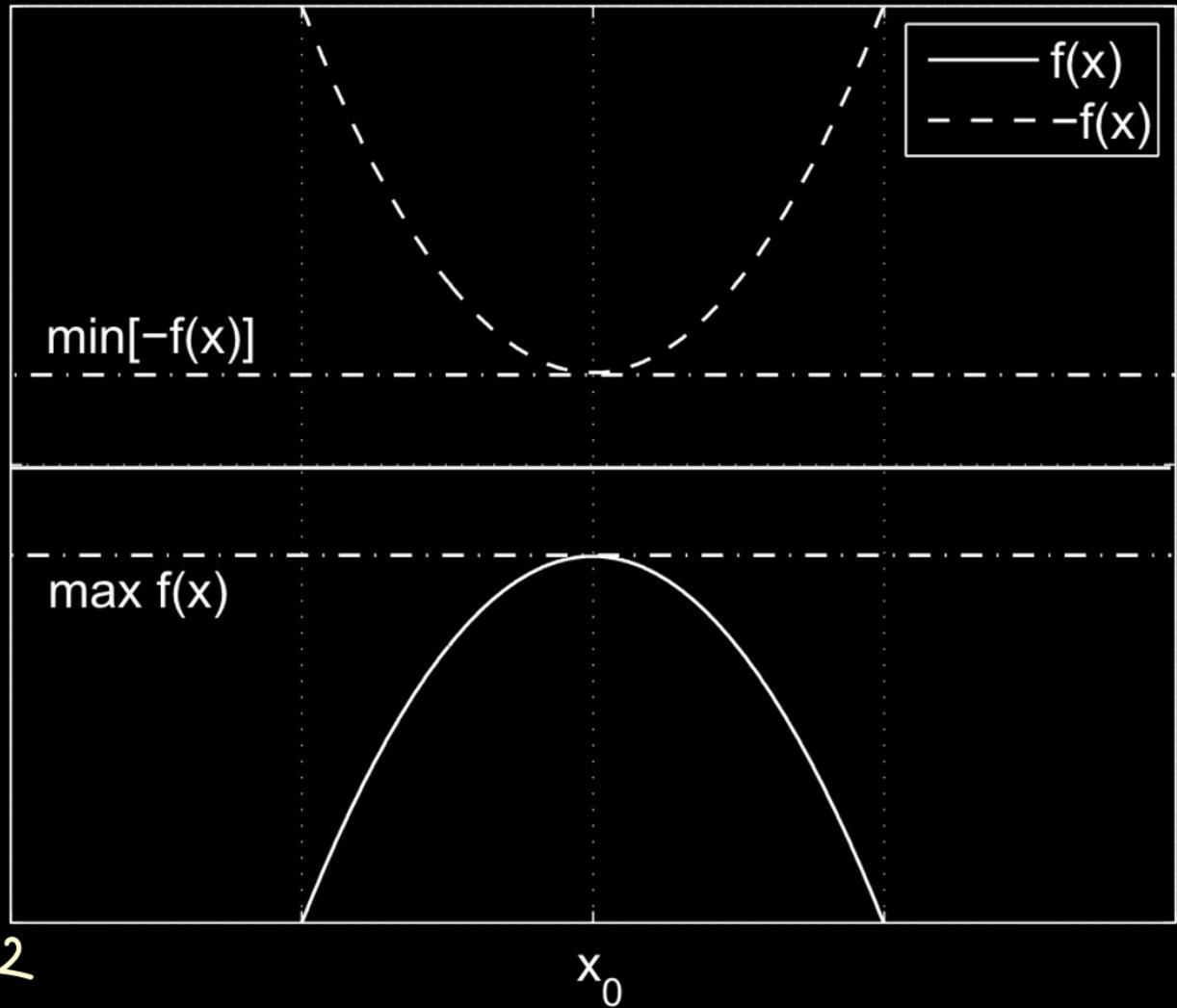


Loss functions

$x=0 \rightarrow 1, 3, 9$

$x=1 \rightarrow -1, -3, -9$

$x=2 \rightarrow$





Question:

Example: Find all critical points for each given function:

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

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. $g(x, y) = x^2 + 2x - y^2 - 6y + 4.$

3. $p(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3xy.$

$$x = 0, y = 0$$

4. $q(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + 2y^2 + 6x - 4y + 3.$

5. $j(x, y) = x^2y^2 - x^2 - y^2.$



Example: Find all critical points for each given function:

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

- We have $f_x = 2x$ and $f_y = 2y$.
- Clearly $f_x = 0$ requires $x = 0$ while $f_y = 0$ requires $y = 0$.
- Therefore, we get one critical point: $(x, y) = \underline{\underline{(0, 0)}}$.

2. $g(x, y) = x^2 + 2x - y^2 - 6y + 4.$

- We have $g_x = 2x + 2$ and $g_y = -2y - 6$.
- Then $g_x = 0$ requires $x = -1$ while $g_y = 0$ requires $2y = -6$ so $y = -3$.
- Therefore, we get one critical point: $(x, y) = \underline{\underline{(-1, -3)}}.$



Example: Find all critical points for each given function:

3. $p(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3xy.$

- We have $p_x = 3x^2 - 3y$ and $p_y = 3y^2 - 3x$.
- So we get the equations $3x^2 - 3y = 0$ and $3y^2 - 3x = 0$.
- Neither equation gives us a value for x or y directly.
- But we can solve the first equation for y in terms of x : this gives $y = x^2$.
- Now plugging into the second equation yields $3(x^2)^2 - 3x = 0$, so that $3x^4 - 3x = 0$.
- Factoring gives $3x(x^3 - 1) = 0$, which has the solutions $x = 0$ and $x = 1$.
- If $x = 0$, then $y = x^2 = 0$, so we get the point $(0, 0)$.
- If $x = 1$, then $y = x^2 = 1$, so we get the point $(1, 1)$.
- In total, there are two critical points: $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$.





Example: Find all critical points for each given function:

4. $q(x, y) = x^2 + 4xy + 2y^2 + 6x - 4y + 3.$

- We have $q_x = 2x + 4y + 6$ and $q_y = 4x + 4y - 4$.
- So we get the equations $2x + 4y + 6 = 0$ and $4x + 4y - 4 = 0$.
- Neither equation gives us a value for x or y directly.
- But we can solve the second equation for y in terms of x : this gives $y = 1 - x$.
- Now plugging into the first equation yields $2x + 4(1 - x) + 6 = 0$, so that $10 - 2x = 0$ and thus $x = 5$.
- Then $y = 1 - x = -4$.
- Therefore, there is one critical point: $(x, y) = (5, -4)$.

There are many other ways to solve this system: for example, we could have solved the first equation for y in terms of x , or for x in terms of y , or we could have subtracted the two equations.

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Example: Find all critical points for each given function:

5. $j(x, y) = x^2y^2 - x^2 - y^2$.

- We have $j_x = 2xy^2 - 2x$ and $j_y = 2x^2y - 2y$.
- So we get the equations $2xy^2 - 2x = 0$ and $2x^2y - 2y = 0$.
- We can factor the first equation: $2x(y^2 - 1) = 0$.
- This means either $2x = 0$ (so that $x = 0$) or $y^2 - 1 = 0$ (so that $y = 1$ or $y = -1$).
- If $x = 0$, then the second equation gives $-2y = 0$ so that $y = 0$. We get the point $(0, 0)$.
- If $y = 1$, then the second equation gives $2x^2 - 2 = 0$ so that $x = 1$ or $x = -1$. We get points $(1, 1)$ and $(-1, 1)$.
- If $y = -1$, then the second equation gives $-2x^2 + 2 = 0$ so that $x = 1$ or $x = -1$. We get points $(1, -1)$ and $(-1, -1)$.
- In total we get five critical points: $(0, 0)$, $(1, 1)$, $(-1, 1)$, $(1, -1)$, $(-1, -1)$.

ES



Definition

A local minimum is a point where f is nearby always bigger.

A local maximum is a point where f is nearby always smaller.

A saddle point is a critical point where f nearby is bigger in some directions and smaller in others.



Question:

Find and classify the critical points of the function
 $f(x, y) = x^2 + 10x + 3y^2 - 18y + 5.$

- (1) find the critical points.
- (2) Classify the critical points.

unconstrained
optimisation

in multivariate



Question:

Find and classify the critical points of the function
 $f(x, y) = x^2 + 10x + 3y^2 - 18y + 5.$

- (1) find the critical points.
- (2) Classify the critical points.

Next, We will see how to solve
such questions.



Gradient and Hessian

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

differentiation
of a vector w.r.t.
a vector

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$



Gradient and Hessian

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

} ← Symmetric matrix

derivative of gradient



Question:

Find the hessian matrix for the given function:

$$f(x, y) = 8x - 2x^2y^2$$





Question:

Find the hessian matrix for the given function:

$$f(x, y) = 8x - 2x^2y^2$$

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -4xy^2 \\ -4yx^2 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -4y^2 & -8xy \\ -8xy & -4x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$





Given the function $f(x, y) = 8x - 2x^2y^2$.

Gradient:

$$\nabla f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} 8 - 4xy^2 \\ -4x^2y \end{bmatrix}$$

1. First column

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -4y^2 \\ -8xy \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Second column

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8xy \\ -4x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hessian:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} -4y^2 & -8xy \\ -8xy & -4x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Objective:**

$$\underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{minimize}} f(x)$$

Necessary & Sufficient Conditions for Optimality

x^* is a local minimum of $f(x)$ iff:

- ① Zero gradient at x^* :

$$\nabla_x f(x^*) = 0$$

-
- ② Hessian at x^* is positive definite:

$$d^\top \nabla^2 f(x^*) d > 0$$

$$d^\top H(x^*) d > 0$$



Question:

Example: $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$.

1. Find all critical points.
2. Classify the type of critical points.



Question:

Example: $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$.

1. Find all critical points.
2. Classify the type of critical points.

$$\nabla = \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = 0$$
$$y = 0$$

$$\underline{\underline{d^T H d}}$$

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

PP

local minimal



Solution:

Example: Classify the type of critical point that $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ has at the origin $(0, 0)$.

- We saw earlier that $(0, 0)$ is a critical point of this function.
- To classify it, we compute $f_{xx} = 2$, $f_{xy} = 0$, and $f_{yy} = 2$.
- Then $D = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = 2 \cdot 2 - 0^2 = 4$. (Here, D is constant, but normally we would need to evaluate it at our point.)
- So, by the second derivatives test, since $D > 0$ and $f_{xx} > 0$ at $(0, 0)$, we see that $(0, 0)$ is a local minimum.



Question:

Find and classify the critical points of the function
 $f(x, y) = x^2 + 10x + 3y^2 - 18y + 5.$

- (1) find the critical points.
- (2) Classify the critical points.



Question:

Find and classify the critical points of the function
 $f(x, y) = x^2 + 10x + 3y^2 - 18y + 5.$

- (1) find the critical points.
- (2) Classify the critical points.

$$\nabla = \begin{bmatrix} 2x+10 \\ 6y-18 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$
$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = -5, y = 3$$

minima at $x = -5, y = 3$



Solution: Find and classify the critical points of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 + 10x + 3y^2 - 18y + 5$.

Answer: (1) find the critical points.

$$f_x(x, y) = 2x + 10 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = -5 \quad f_y(x, y) = 6y - 18 = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 3.$$

So, there is one and only one critical point: $(-5, 3)$.

(2) Classify the critical point: Compute the 2nd order partial derivatives:

$$f_{xx}(x, y) = 2, f_{yy}(x, y) = 6, f_{xy}(x, y) = 0 = f_{yx}(x, y).$$

Then,

$$d(-5, 3) = f_{xx}(-5, 3) \cdot f_{yy}(-5, 3) - (f_{xy}(-5, 3))^2 = (2)(6) - (0)^2 = 12 > 0.$$

Since $f_{xx}(-5, 3) = 2 > 0$, the critical point is a relative minimum.



Proof of Second Derivative test for 1D Functions



Taylor Series around x_0 :

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2 + \dots$$

(Ignoring higher order terms like h^3, h^4, \dots etc as $h \rightarrow 0$)

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

Let x_0 be critical point

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)h^2$$

We want $f(x_0)$ to be least in the neighborhood of x_0 .

Hence, We want $f(x_0) < f(x_0 + h)$.

Therefore, $f''(x_0) > 0$.

This completes our proof that for x_0 to be local minimum:

- $f'(x_0) = 0$
- $f''(x_0) > 0$



Proof of Second Derivative test for multivariate function

minima condⁿs: $\nabla f(x^*) = 0$

$H(x^*)$ PD



Taylor Series around x :

$$f(\mathbf{x} + h) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})h + \frac{1}{2}h^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})h + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{2} h^2 f''(\alpha)$$

vector

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Taylor Series around x :

$$f(\mathbf{x} + h) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})^T h + \frac{1}{2} h^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) h + \dots$$

\nearrow^0 for $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^*$

Let x^* be critical point



Taylor Series around x :

$$f(\mathbf{x} + h) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})h + \frac{1}{2}h^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})h + \dots$$



Let x^* be critical point

$$f(\mathbf{x}^* + h) = f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \frac{1}{2}h^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)h$$

ignoring higher
order terms



Taylor Series around x :

$$f(\mathbf{x} + h) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})h + \frac{1}{2}h^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})h + \dots$$



Let x^* be critical point

$$f(\mathbf{x}^* + h) = f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \frac{1}{2}h^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)h$$

ignoring higher
order terms

for x^* to be minima $f(x^* + h) > f(x^*)$

$\Rightarrow h^T \nabla^2 f(x^*) h > 0 \Rightarrow$ Hessian is PD



Question:

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{3}x_1^3 + \frac{1}{2}x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + \frac{1}{2}x_2^2 - x_2 + 1.$$

Find all the local minima or maxima of above function.



$$\nabla f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 + x_1 + 2x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - 1 \end{pmatrix}, \Rightarrow \nabla = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} (1, -1) \\ (2, -3) \end{matrix}$$

There are two stationary points: $x_a = (1, -1)^\top$ and $x_b = (2, -3)^\top$. The corresponding Hessian are:

Saddle point

$$\nabla^2(1, -1) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \underbrace{|H| < 0 \text{ and } f_{xx} > 0}_{\Downarrow}$$

$$\nabla^2(2, -3) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} |H| > 0 \\ f_{xx} > 0 \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{neither PD nor} \\ \text{negative definite} \end{matrix}$$



$$\nabla f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 + x_1 + 2x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 + 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

There are two stationary points: $x_a = (1, -1)^\top$ and $x_b = (2, -3)^\top$. The corresponding Hessian are:

$$\nabla^2 f(x_a) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla^2 f(x_b) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\det(\nabla^2 f(x_a)) = -1$ so the Hessian has a negative and a positive eigenvalue: x_a is neither a local maximum nor a local minimum
- $\nabla^2 f(x_b) \succ 0$ so x_b is a local minimum.

ES

Saddle point



We have various different types of critical points:

Definition

A local minimum is a point where f is nearby always bigger.

A local maximum is a point where f is nearby always smaller.

A saddle point is a critical point where f nearby is bigger in some directions and smaller in others.



Question:

Example: For $f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^3 - 6xy$, find the critical points of f and classify them as minima, maxima, or saddle points.



Question:

Example: For $f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^3 - 6xy$, find the critical points of f and classify them as minima, maxima, or saddle points.

$$\nabla = \begin{bmatrix} 6x - 6y \\ 6y^2 - 6x \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x, y) = (0, 0), (1, 1)$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -6 \\ -6 & 12y \end{bmatrix}$$

$H_{(0,0)}$ $f_{xx} > 0$
 $|H_{(0,0)}| < 0$

| $H_{(1,1)}| > 0$ $f_{xx} > 0$



Solution:

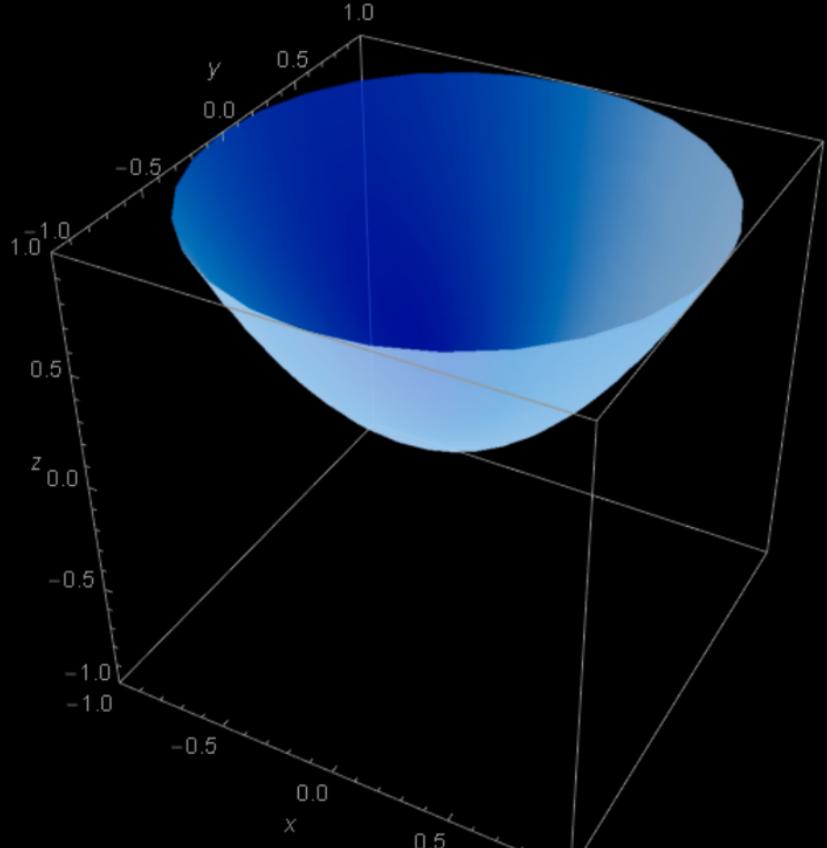
Example: For $f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^3 - 6xy$, find the critical points of f and classify them as minima, maxima, or saddle points.

- First, $f_x = 6x - 6y$ and $f_y = 6y^2 - 6x$. They are both defined everywhere so we need only find where they are both zero.
- Next, we can see that f_x is zero only when $y = x$.
- Then the equation $f_y = 0$ becomes $6x^2 - 6x = 0$, which by factoring we can see has solutions $x = 0$ or $x = 1$.
- Since $y = x$, we see $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$ are the critical points.
- To classify them, we compute $f_{xx} = 6$, $f_{xy} = -6$, and $f_{yy} = 12y$. Then $D(0, 0) = 6 \cdot 0 - (-6)^2 < 0$ and $D(1, 1) = 6 \cdot 12 - (-6)^2 > 0$. Also, $f_{xx} > 0$ at $(1, 1)$.
- So, by the second derivatives test, $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point and $(1, 1)$ is a local minimum.



Example: $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ has a local minimum at $(0, 0)$:

Graph of $z=x^2+y^2$ (Local Minimum)



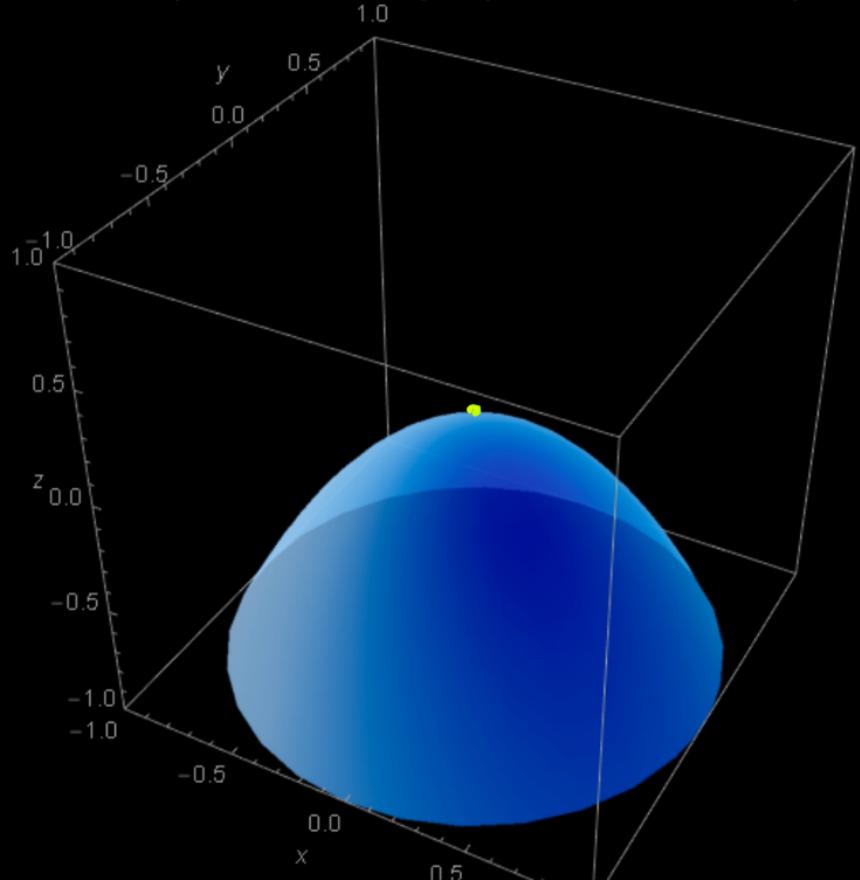
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Calculus

Example: $f(x, y) = -x^2 - y^2$ has a local maximum at $(0, 0)$:

Graph of $z = -x^2 - y^2$ (Local Maximum)

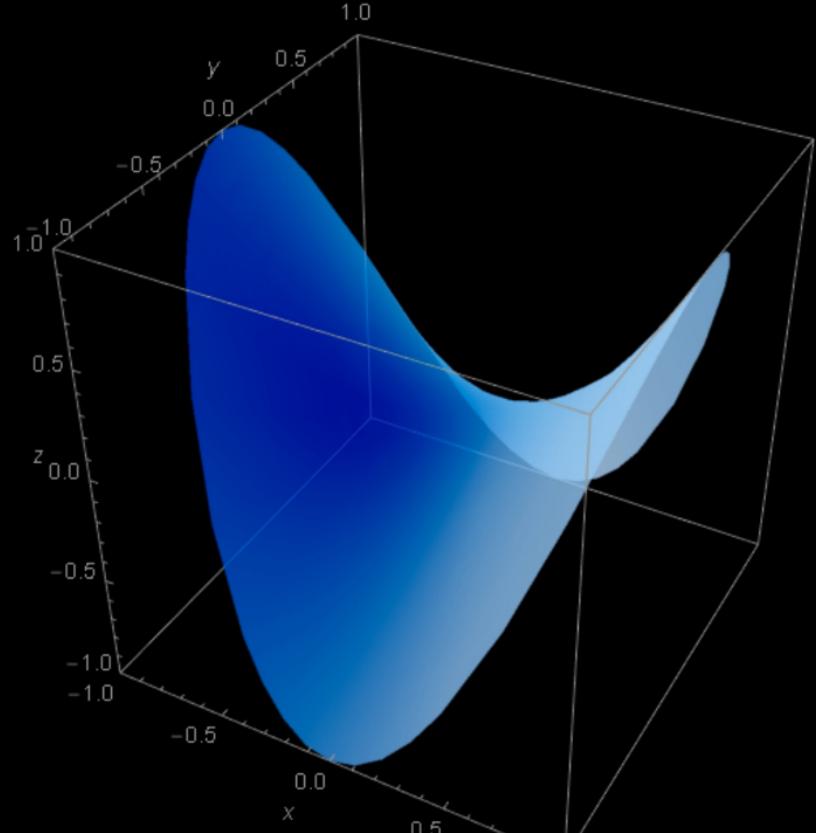


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Example: $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ has a saddle point at $(0, 0)$:

Graph of $z=x^2-y^2$ (Saddle Point)



$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ -2y \end{bmatrix}$$

$H = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ *indefinite*



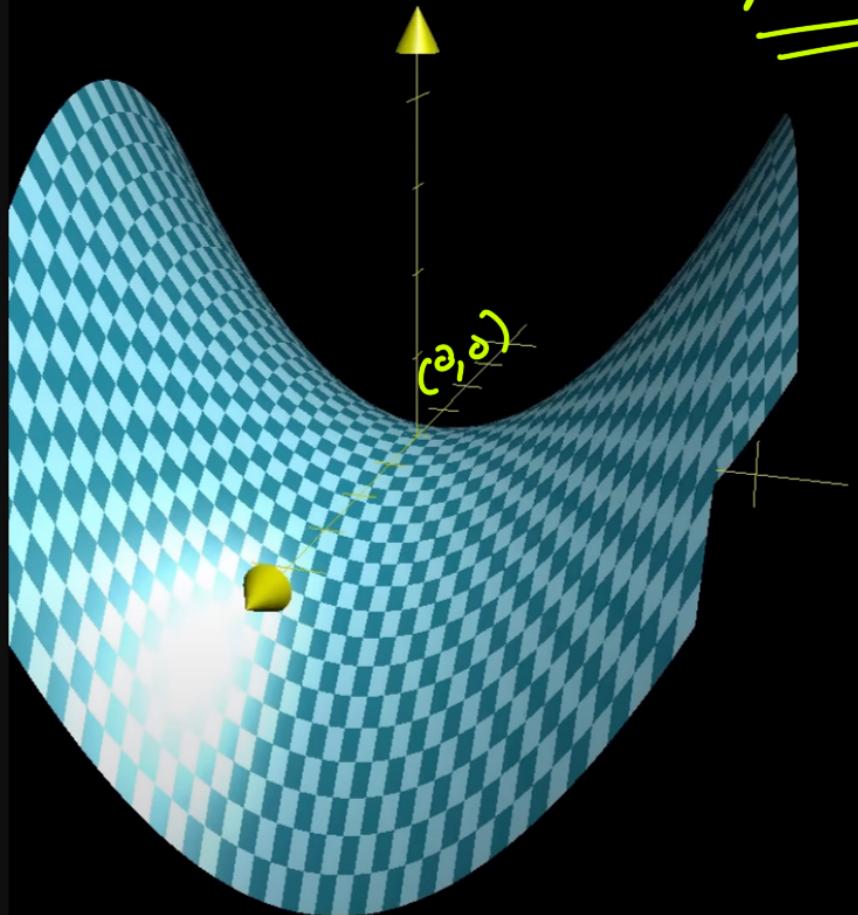
Local minima and local maxima are (presumably) familiar from the one-variable setting. Saddle points, however, are a new kind of critical point.

- A saddle point will look like a local minimum along some directions and a local maximum along other directions.
- For example, $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ looks like a minimum in the x -direction (as x varies and y is held fixed at 0, the function is $f(x, 0) = x^2$) but a maximum in the y -direction (as y varies and x is held fixed at 0, the function is $f(0, y) = -y^2$).
- In contrast, a local minimum looks like a minimum in every direction, while a local maximum looks like a maximum in every direction.



Calculus

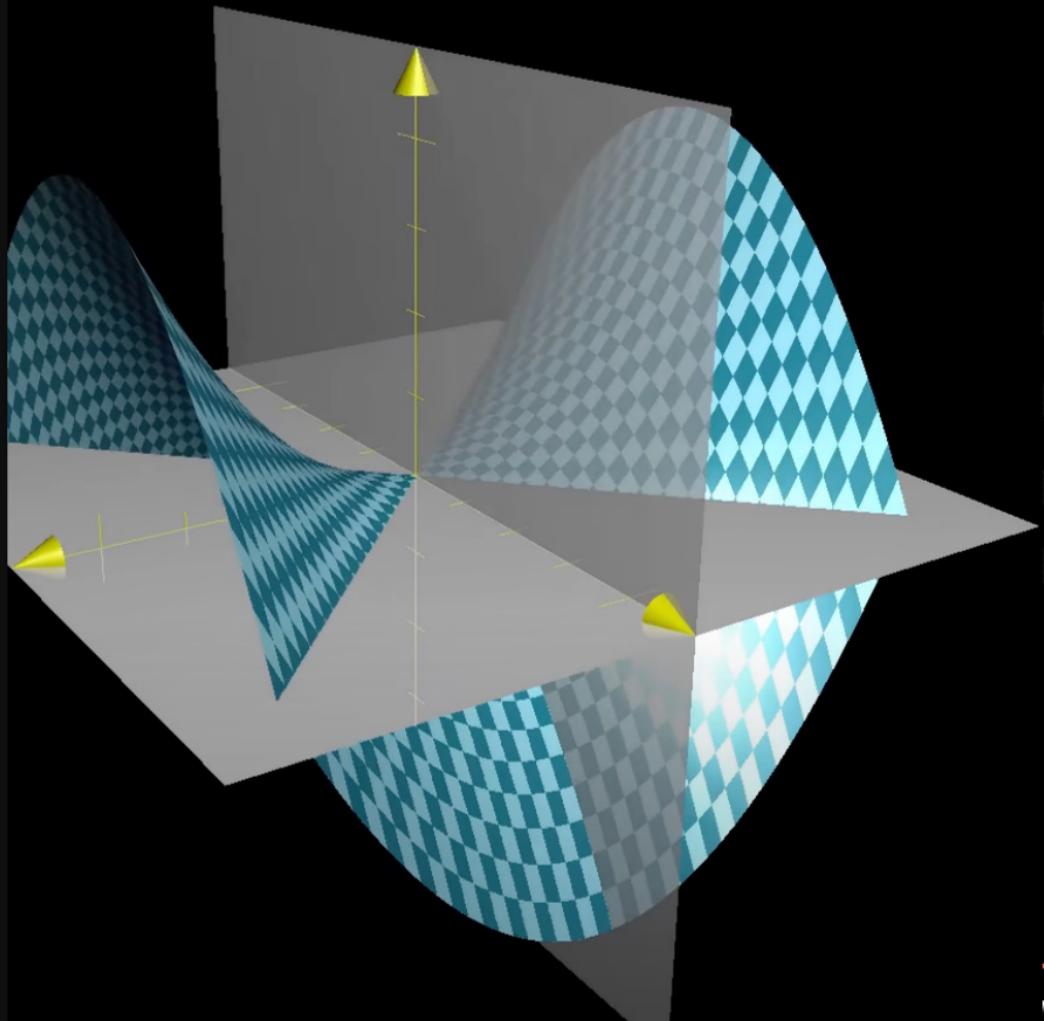
$$\underline{x^2 - y^2}$$



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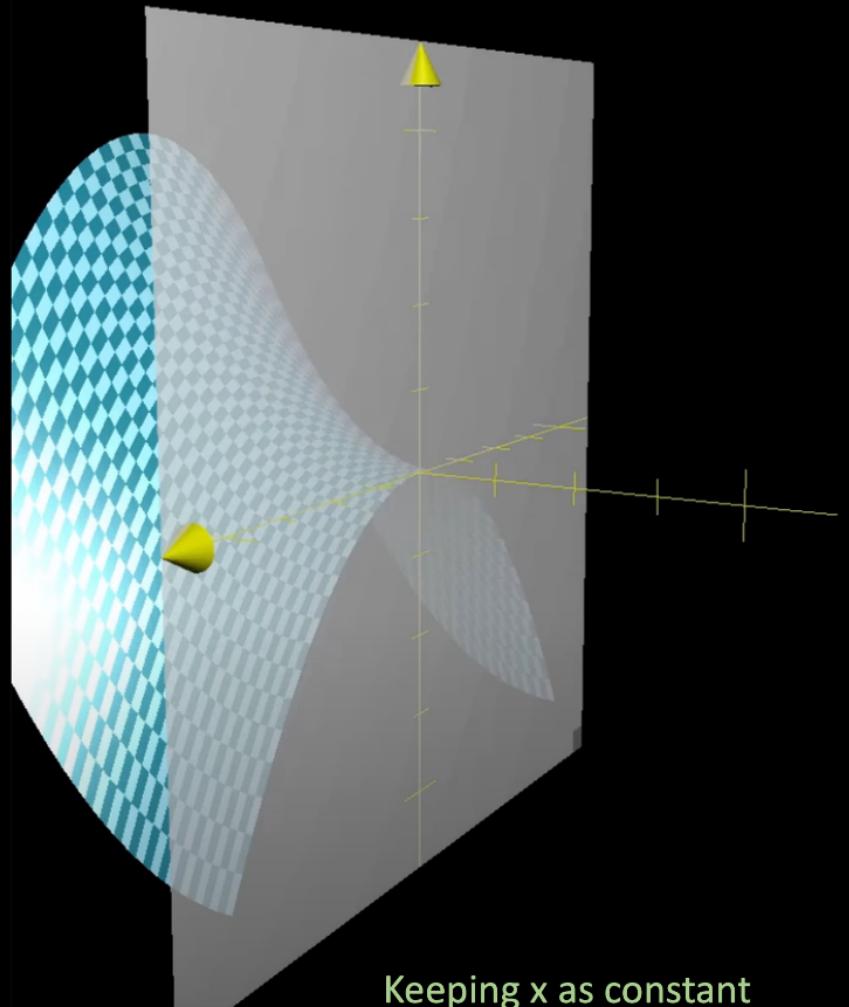
Calculus



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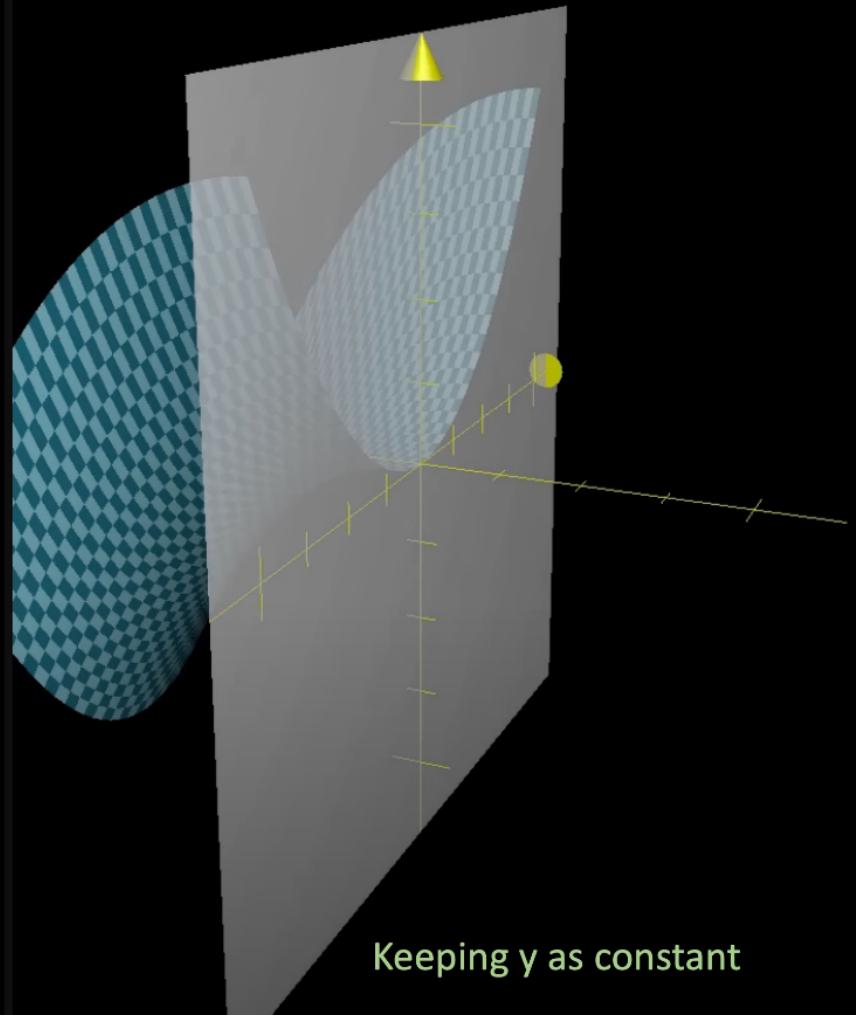


Calculus



Keeping x as constant

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Calculus





Calculus





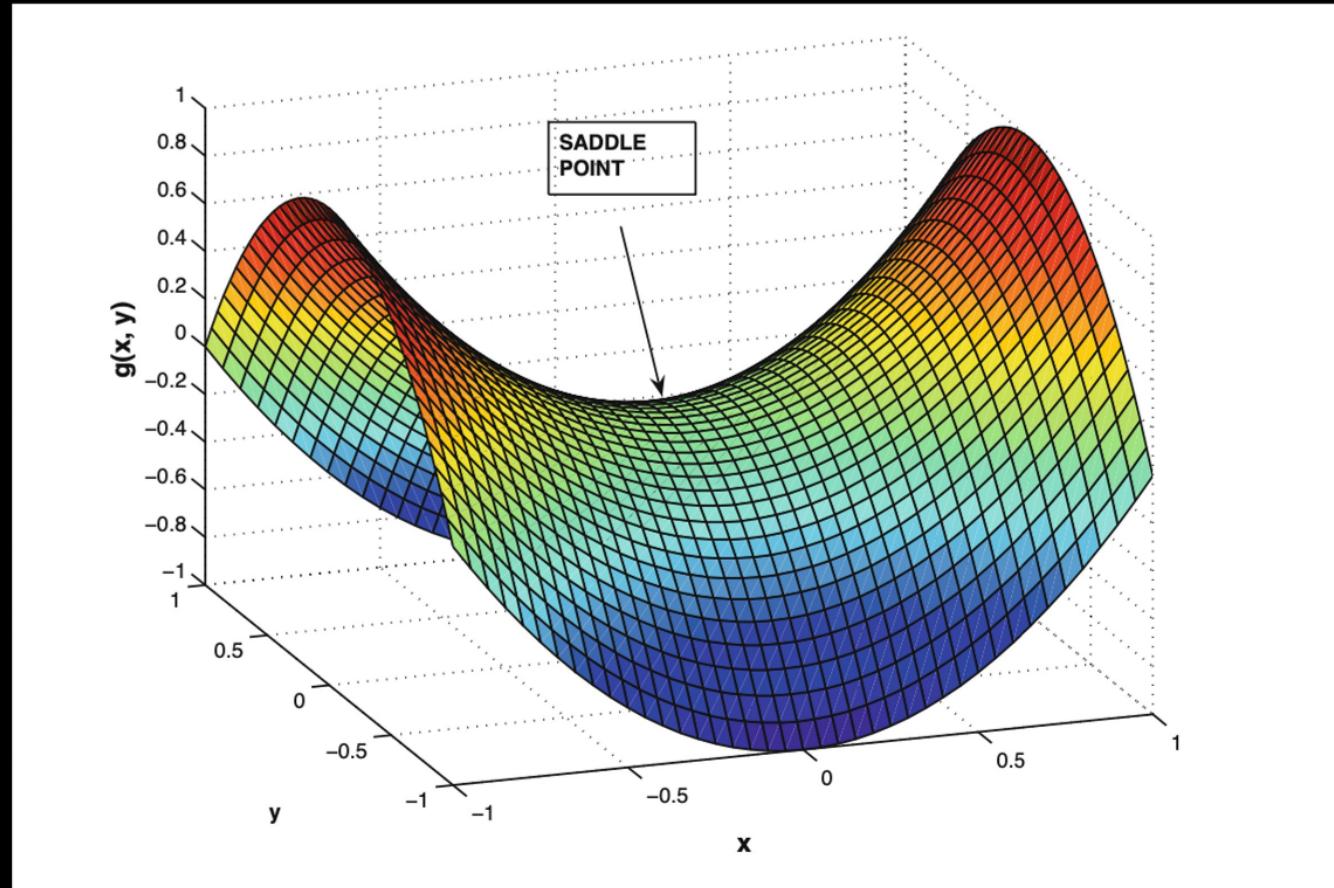
Calculus





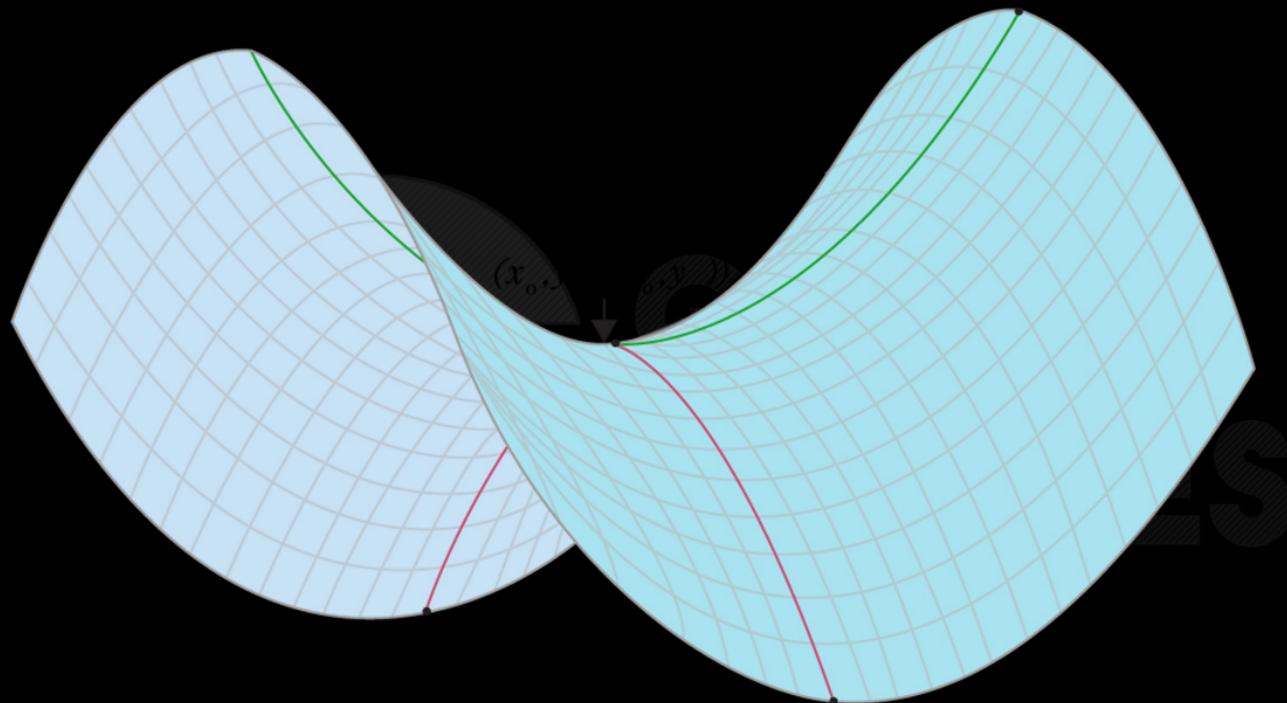
Calculus







Calculus



Calcworkshop.com



- At a point $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^* + \mathbf{d}$ in the neighborhood of a saddle point \mathbf{x}^* , the Taylor series gives

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{d}^T \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d} + \dots$$

since $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$. As \mathbf{x}^* is neither a maximizer nor a minimizer, there must be directions $\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2$ (or $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$) such that

$$\begin{aligned} f(\underbrace{\mathbf{x}^* + \mathbf{d}_1}_{\mathbf{x}_1}) &< f(\mathbf{x}^*) \Rightarrow \mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d}_1 < 0 \\ f(\underbrace{\mathbf{x}^* + \mathbf{d}_2}_{\mathbf{x}_2}) &> f(\mathbf{x}^*) \Rightarrow \mathbf{d}_2^T \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d}_2 > 0 \end{aligned}$$



Then, $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^*)$ is indefinite



Question:

Example: Classify the two critical points $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$ for $p(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3xy$.





Solution:

Remember that $D = f_{xx} \cdot f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2 = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix}$.

- We have $f_x = 3x^2 - 3y$, $f_y = 3y^2 - 3x$, so $f_{xx} = 6x$, $f_{xy} = -3$, and $f_{yy} = 6y$.
- Therefore, $D = (6x)(6y) - (-3)^2$.
- Thus, at $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ we get $D = (0)(0) - 9 = -9$.
- Also, at $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ we get $D = (6)(6) - (-3)^2 = 27$.
- We saw earlier that $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$ are the critical points of this function and that $D = (6x)(6y) - (-3)^2$.
- At $(0, 0)$, we have $D = -9$, so $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point.
- At $(1, 1)$, we have $D = (6)(6) - (-3)^2 = 27$, and also $f_{xx} = 6x = 6 > 0$, so $(1, 1)$ is a local minimum.



Gradient descent

Constrained optimisation.

