

# MA1521 CALCULUS FOR COMPUTING

Wang Fei

matwf@nus.edu.sg

Department of Mathematics

Office: S17-06-16

Tel: 6516-2937

<b>Chapter 5: Optimization</b>	<b>2</b>
Extreme Values . . . . .	3
Local Extreme Values. . . . .	5
Critical Point . . . . .	8
Examples . . . . .	12
Absolute Extreme on Closed Bounded Region . . . . .	15
Extreme Values with Restriction. . . . .	22
Lagrange Multiplier. . . . .	24
Lagrange Multiplier of More Variables . . . . .	28
Extreme Values with Two Constraints . . . . .	31

**Extreme Values**

- One-variable: Let  $y = f(x)$  be a function with domain  $D$ .

- $f$  has a **global (absolute) maximum** at  $c \in D$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(c) \geq f(x) \text{ for all } x \in D.$$

- $f$  has a **global (absolute) minimum** at  $c \in D$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(c) \leq f(x) \text{ for all } x \in D.$$

- **Maximum and Minimum of Two-Variable Function.**

Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be a function with domain  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ .

- $f$  has a **global (absolute) maximum** at  $(a, b) \in D$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(a, b) \geq f(x, y) \text{ for all } (x, y) \in D.$$

- $f$  has a **global (absolute) minimum** at  $(a, b) \in D$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(a, b) \leq f(x, y) \text{ for all } (x, y) \in D.$$

3 / 33

**Extreme Values**

- **Extreme Value Theorem for Two-Variable Function:**

Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be a **continuous** function defined on a **closed, bounded** domain  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ .

- Then  $f$  attains the **(absolute) extreme** values, i.e.,

There exist points  $(a, b) \in D$  and  $(c, d) \in D$  such that

- $f(a, b) \leq f(x, y) \leq f(c, d)$  for all  $(x, y) \in D$ .

- **Question.** Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$  is continuous on a closed, bounded domain  $D$ .

- What are the (absolute) extreme values?

- It may be obtained at the boundary point of the domain; or
- It may be obtained in the interior of the domain.

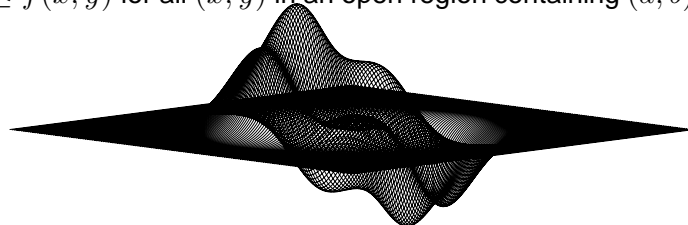
4 / 33

## Local Extreme Values

- **Local Extreme Values for Two-Variable Functions.**

Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be a function with domain  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ .

- $f$  has a **local (relative) maximum** at  $(a, b) \in D$   
 $\Leftrightarrow f(a, b) \geq f(x, y)$  for all  $(x, y)$  in an open region containing  $(a, b)$ .
- $f$  has a **local (relative) minimum** at  $(a, b) \in D$   
 $\Leftrightarrow f(a, b) \leq f(x, y)$  for all  $(x, y)$  in an open region containing  $(a, b)$ .

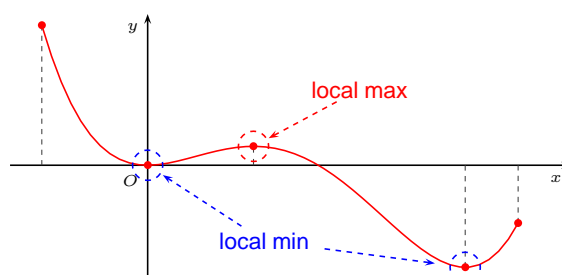


5 / 33

## Local Extreme Values

- Recall the **Fermat's Theorem** of one-variable function:

If  $y = f(x)$  has a local extreme value at  $c$ , and if  $f'(c)$  exists, then  $f'(c) = 0$ .



- If  $f$  has a local extreme value at  $c$ , then the tangent line to  $y = f(x)$  at  $c$ , if exists, must be horizontal.

6 / 33

## Local Extreme Values

- Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$  has a local extreme value at  $(a, b)$ .
    - It is expected that
      - The tangent plane to  $z = f(x, y)$  at  $(a, b)$ , if exists, must be horizontal.
    - Recall the tangent plane at  $(a, b)$ :
      - $z = f(a, b) + f_x(a, b)(x - a) + f_y(a, b)(y - b)$ .
- It is horizontal  $\Leftrightarrow f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$ .

- **First Derivative Test for Local Extreme Values.**

Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$  has a local extreme value at  $(a, b)$ .

- If  $f_x(a, b)$  and  $f_y(a, b)$  exist, then

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

7 / 33

## Critical Point

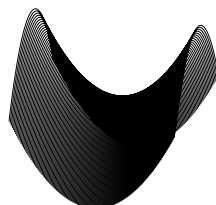
- **Definition.** Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be a function with domain  $D$ . Then  $(a, b) \in D$  is called a **critical point** if
  - $f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$ , or
  - at least one of  $f_x(a, b)$  and  $f_y(a, b)$  does not exist.
- Therefore, if  $z = f(x, y)$  at a local extreme value at  $(a, b)$ , then  $(a, b)$  is a critical point of  $f$ .
- **Example.**  $f(x, y) = x^3 - y^3 - 2xy + 6$ .
  - Let  $f_x = 3x^2 - 2y = 0$ . Then  $3x^2 = 2y$ .
  - Let  $f_y = -3y^2 - 2x = 0$ . Then  $3y^2 = -2x$ .
$$-2x = 3y^2 = 3\left(\frac{3}{2}x^2\right)^2 = \frac{27}{4}x^4 \Rightarrow x^4 = -\frac{8}{27}x.$$
  - $x = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0$ ;  $x = -\frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow y = \frac{4}{3}$ .

Hence,  $f$  has two critical points  $(0, 0)$  and  $(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{3})$ .

8 / 33

## Second Derivative Test

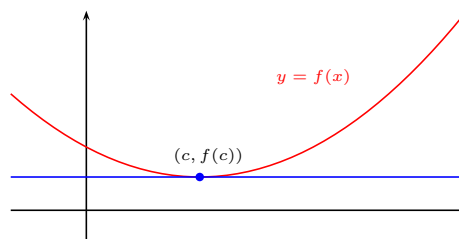
- **Question.** If  $z = f(x, y)$  has a local extremal value at  $(a, b)$ , then  $(a, b)$  is a critical point.
  - Suppose  $(a, b)$  is a critical point of  $z = f(x, y)$ . How can we determine whether  $f$  has a local maximum or minimum at  $(a, b)$ ?
- **Definition.** Let  $(a, b)$  be a critical point of  $z = f(a, b)$ .
  - $f$  is said to have a **saddle point** at  $(a, b)$  if  $f$  does not have a local extremal value at  $(a, b)$ .



9 / 33

## Second Derivative Test

- Consider a one-variable function  $y = f(x)$ :  
Suppose  $f'' > 0$  on interval  $I$ . Then  $f$  is concave up.



- If  $f'(c) = 0$  at some  $c$ ,  
then the tangent line of  $f$  at  $c$  is  $y = f(c)$ .
  - Since  $f$  is concave up,  
the graph of  $f$  lies above  $y = f(c)$ .
  - In other words,  $f(x) > f(c)$  for all  $x \neq c$ .
- ∴  $f$  has the minimum at  $c$ .

10 / 33

## Second Derivative Test

- **Second Derivative Test for One-Variable Function.**

Suppose  $f'(c) = 0$ .

- $f''(c) > 0 \Rightarrow f$  has a local minimum at  $c$ ;
- $f''(c) < 0 \Rightarrow f$  has a local maximum at  $c$ .

- **Definition.** The **Hessian** of  $z = f(x, y)$  is

- $H(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{xy} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2.$

- **Second Derivative Test for Two-Variable Function.**

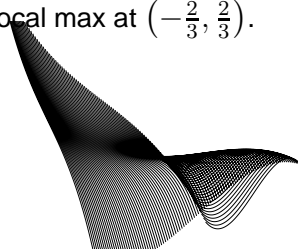
Suppose  $f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$ .

- $H(a, b) > 0$  and  $f_{xx}(a, b) > 0 \Rightarrow$  local min at  $(a, b)$ ;
- $H(a, b) > 0$  and  $f_{xx}(a, b) < 0 \Rightarrow$  local max at  $(a, b)$ ;
- $H(a, b) < 0 \Rightarrow$  saddle point at  $(a, b)$ .

11 / 33

## Examples

- $f(x, y) = x^3 - y^3 - 2xy + 6$ .
  - It has two critical numbers  $(0, 0)$  and  $(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$ .
  - $f_x = 3x^2 - 2y$ ,  $f_y = -3y^2 - 2x$ .
    - $f_{xx} = 6x$ ,  $f_{xy} = -2$ ,  $f_{yy} = -6y$ .
    - $H(x, y) = (6x)(-6y) - (-2)^2 = -36xy - 4$ .
  - $H(0, 0) = -4 < 0 \Rightarrow$  saddle point at  $(0, 0)$ .
  - $H(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}) = 12 > 0$ 
    - $f_{xx}(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}) = -4 < 0 \Rightarrow$  local max at  $(-\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$ .



12 / 33

## Examples

- $f(x, y) = xy + 2x - \ln x^2 y, \quad x > 0, y > 0.$ 
    - $f_x = y + 2 - \frac{2}{x}, \quad f_y = x - \frac{1}{y}.$ 
      - $f_x = f_y = 0 \Rightarrow (x, y) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, 2\right).$
    - $f_{xx} = \frac{2}{x^2}, \quad f_{xy} = 1, \quad f_{yy} = -\frac{1}{y^2}.$ 
      - $H(x, y) = \left(\frac{2}{x^2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{y^2}\right) - 1^2 = \frac{2}{x^2 y^2} - 1.$
    - $H\left(\frac{1}{2}, 2\right) = 1 > 0, \quad f_{xx}\left(\frac{1}{2}, 2\right) = 2 > 0.$
- It follows that  $f$  has a local minimum  $2 + \ln 2$  at  $\left(\frac{1}{2}, 2\right).$



13 / 33

## Examples

- $f(x, y) = 3x^2 - 2xy + y^2 - 8y + 7.$ 
  - $f_x = 6x - 2y, \quad f_y = -2x + 2y - 8.$ 

Let  $f_x = f_y = 0$ . Then

    - $\begin{cases} 0 = 6x - 2y \\ 0 = -2x + 2y - 8 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = 2 \\ y = 6 \end{cases}$
  - $f_{xx} = 6, \quad f_{xy} = -2, \quad f_{yy} = 2.$ 
    - $H(x, y) = (6)(2) - (-2)^2 = 8 > 0.$
    - $f_{xx} = 6 > 0 \Rightarrow$  local minimum at  $(2, 6).$
- **Remark.** Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$  has a critical point  $(a, b).$ 
  - $H(x, y) > 0$  &  $f_{xx} > 0$  on  $D \Rightarrow$  global min at  $(a, b);$
  - $H(x, y) > 0$  &  $f_{xx} < 0$  on  $D \Rightarrow$  global max at  $(a, b).$

14 / 33

## Absolute Extreme on Closed Bounded Region

- **Absolute Extreme on Closed Bounded Region.**

Suppose  $z = f(x, y)$  is continuous on a closed and bounded region  $D$ .

Step 1. Find the critical points of  $f$  on the interior of  $D$ .

- $(a, b) \in D$  such that  $f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$ , or at least one of  $f_x(a, b)$  and  $f_y(a, b)$  does not exist.

Step 2. Find the extreme values of  $f$  on the boundary of  $D$ .

- Suppose  $y = y(x)$  on the boundary of  $D$ . Then
  - $f(x, y(x))$  is a function in  $x$ .

Find its absolute extreme values.

Step 3. Compare the values of  $f(x, y)$  at the points obtained in Steps 1 and 2.

15 / 33

## Examples

- $T(x, y) = x^2 + 2y^2 - x$  on  $D = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$ .

**Step 1:** Find all critical points on  $x^2 + y^2 < 1$ .

- $T_x = 2x - 1$  and  $T_y = 4y$ .
- $T_x = T_y = 0 \Rightarrow (x, y) = (\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ .

**Step 2:** Find the extreme values on  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .

- $f(x) = x^2 + 2(1 - x^2) - x = -x^2 - x + 2, |x| \leq 1$ .
  - $f'(x) = -2x - 1. f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{2}$ .
- $f(-1) = 2, f(1) = 0, f(-\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{9}{4}$ .

**Step 3:** Compare to find absolute extreme values.

- $T(\frac{1}{2}, 0) = -\frac{1}{4}, f(-\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{9}{4}, f(1) = 0$ .

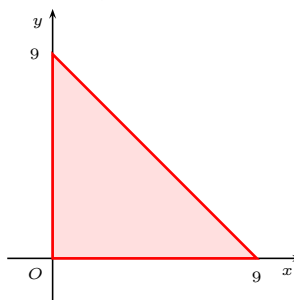
**Conclusion.**  $T(x, y)$  has the absolute minimum  $-\frac{1}{4}$  at  $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ , and the absolute maximum  $\frac{9}{4}$  at  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \pm\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})$ .

16 / 33



## Examples

- $f(x, y) = 2 + 2x + 2y - x^2 - y^2$  on the region enclosed by  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$  and  $x + y = 9$ .



- Find critical points in the interior.
- Boundary points.
  - On  $x$ -axis;
  - On  $y$ -axis;
  - On  $x + y = 9$ .

17 / 33

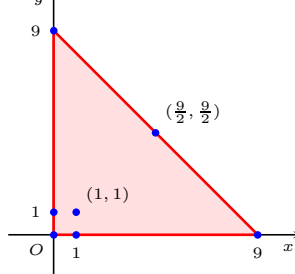
## Examples

- $f(x, y) = 2 + 2x + 2y - x^2 - y^2$ .
  - Find critical points in the interior.
    - $f_x = 2 - 2x$ ,  $f_y = 2 - 2y$ .
    - $f_x = f_y = 0 \Rightarrow (x, y) = (1, 1)$ .
    - $f(1, 1) = 4$ .
  - On the segment  $(0, 0)$  to  $(9, 0)$ .
    - $f(x, 0) = 2 + 2x - x^2$ ,  $f'(x, 0) = 2 - 2x$ .
    - $f'(x, 0) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1$ .
    - $f(0, 0) = 2$ ,  $f(9, 0) = -61$ ,  $f(1, 0) = 3$ .
  - On the segment  $(0, 0)$  to  $(0, 9)$ .
    - $f(0, y) = 2 + 2y - y^2$ ,  $f'(0, y) = 2 - 2y$ .
    - $f'(0, y) = 0 \Rightarrow y = 1$ .
    - $f(0, 0) = 2$ ,  $f(0, 9) = -61$ ,  $f(0, 1) = 3$ .

18 / 33

## Examples

- $f(x, y) = 2 + 2x + 2y - x^2 - y^2$ .
  - On the segment  $y = 9 - x$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 9$ .
    - $f(x, 9 - x) = -61 + 18x - 2x^2$ .
    - $f'(x, 9 - x) = 18 - 4x = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{9}{2}$ .
    - $f(9, 0) = f(0, 9) = -61$ ,  $f\left(\frac{9}{2}, \frac{9}{2}\right) = -\frac{41}{2}$ .



- Maximum:  $f(1, 1) = 4$ ,  
Minimum:  $f(0, 9) = f(9, 0) = -61$ .

19 / 33

## Examples

- Show that  $\frac{x + y + z}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz}$  for all  $x, y, z \geq 0$ ,

**Proof.** Let  $A = x + y + z$ . Then  $z = A - x - y$ .

Maximize  $f(x, y) = xy(A - x - y)$  on the region unclosed by  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$  and  $x + y = A$ .

- Critical points on the interior.
  - $f_x = y(A - 2x - y)$ ,  $f_y = x(A - x - 2y)$ .
  - $f_x = f_y = 0 \Rightarrow x = y = \frac{A}{3}$ . ( $x > 0, y > 0$ )
  - $f\left(\frac{A}{3}, \frac{A}{3}\right) = \frac{A^3}{27}$ .
- Boundary points.
  - $f(x, y) = xy(A - x - y)$ .
  - It is identically 0 on  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $x + y = A$ .

20 / 33

## Examples

- Show that  $\frac{x+y+z}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz}$  for all  $x, y, z \geq 0$ ,

**Proof.** Let  $A = x + y + z$ . Then  $z = A - x - y$ .

Maximize  $f(x, y) = xy(A - x - y)$  on the region unclosed by  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$  and  $x + y = A$ .

- $f(x, y) \leq \frac{A^3}{27}$  for all  $x, y$  in the region.

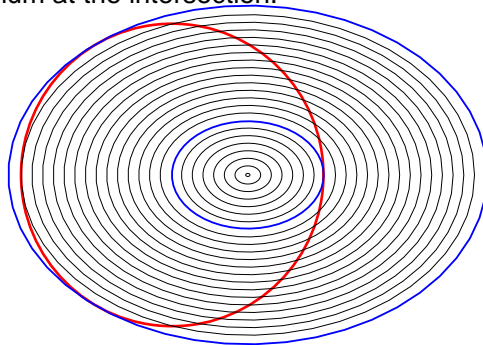
Then  $xyz \leq \frac{(x+y+z)^3}{3^3}$ , i.e.,  $\sqrt[3]{xyz} \leq \frac{x+y+z}{3}$ .

- **Remark.** This is a special case of the **Arithmetic-Geometric Mean Inequality** for  $n = 3$ .
  - Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . For any  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \geq 0$ ,
    - $\frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n} \geq \sqrt[n]{x_1 x_2 \dots x_n}$ .
  - Can you prove it?

21 / 33

## Extreme Values with Restriction

- $T(x, y) = x^2 + 2y^2 - x$  subject to  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .
  - Draw level curves  $T(x, y) = c$ .
    - Increase  $c$  until  $T(x, y) = c$  touches  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .  
 $T(x, y)$  has a minimum at the intersection.
    - Increase  $c$  until  $T(x, y) = c$  leaves  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .  
 $T(x, y)$  has a maximum at the intersection.



22 / 33

## Extreme Values with Restriction

- $T(x, y) = x^2 + 2y^2 - x$  subject to  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .
  - Suppose  $T(x, y)$  has an extreme value at  $(x_0, y_0)$ .  
 $T(x, y) = c$  and  $x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$ :
    - are tangent to each other;
    - have the same tangent/normal line;
    - $\nabla T(x_0, y_0) \parallel \nabla g(x_0, y_0)$ ,  $g(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 1$ ;
    - $\nabla T(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \nabla g(x_0, y_0)$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .
  - $T_x = 2x - 1$ ,  $T_y = 4y$ ;  $g_x = 2x$ ,  $g_y = 2y$ .
    - $2x - 1 = \lambda 2x$ ,  $4y = \lambda 2y$ ,  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .
    - $y = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm 1$ ;
    - $y \neq 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 2 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow y = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .
  - $T(1, 0) = 0$ ,  $T(-1, 0) = 2$ ,  $T(-\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) = \frac{9}{4}$ .
    - Max:  $T(-\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) = \frac{9}{4}$ ; Min:  $T(1, 0) = 0$ .

23 / 33

## Lagrange Multiplier

### • The Method of Lagrange Multipliers

Find the **local maximum** and **minimum** values of  $z = f(x, y)$  subject to the constraint  $g(x, y) = 0$ .

- Evaluate  $x, y$  and  $\lambda$  that simultaneously satisfy
  - $f_x = \lambda g_x$ ,  $f_y = \lambda g_y$  and  $g(x, y) = 0$ .

### • Absolute Extreme Values with Bounded Restriction

Maximize/Minimize  $f(x, y)$  subject to  $g(x, y) = 0$ ,

where  $g(x, y) = 0$  is a **bounded** curve.

Step 1. Check the end points of  $g(x, y) = 0$ , if any.

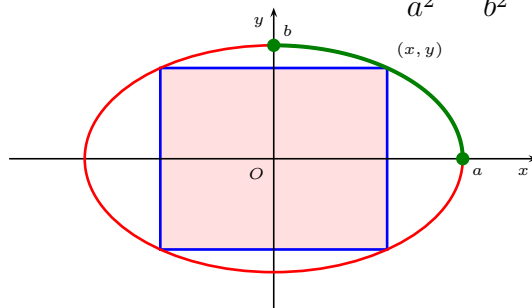
Step 2. Use Lagrange multiplier on interior of  $g(x, y) = 0$ .

Step 3. Compare the values of  $f$  at points obtained in 1) & 2).

24 / 33

## Examples

- Find the area of the largest rectangle inscribed in the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  ( $a, b > 0$ ).



- Maximize  $f(x, y) = 4xy$  subject to
  - $g(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - 1 = 0, \quad x, y \geq 0.$
- End points:  $(x, y) = (a, 0), (0, b).$

25 / 33

## Examples

- Find the area of the largest rectangle inscribed in the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  ( $a, b > 0$ ).

- Maximize  $f(x, y) = 4xy$  subject to
  - $g(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - 1 = 0, \quad x, y \geq 0.$
- Suppose  $x > 0, y > 0$ . Apply Lagrange multipliers:
 
$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_x = \lambda g_x &\Rightarrow 4y = \lambda \frac{2x}{a^2} \\ f_y = \lambda g_y &\Rightarrow 4x = \lambda \frac{2y}{b^2} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{y}{x} = \frac{x/y}{a^2/b^2} \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} = \frac{a}{b}.$$
  - $x = ak \text{ \& } y = bk \Rightarrow \frac{a^2 k^2}{a^2} + \frac{b^2 k^2}{b^2} = 1 \Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}.$
  - $(x, y) = \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} \right).$
- Min:  $f(a, 0) = f(0, b) = 0$ ; Max:  $f\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = 2ab.$

26 / 33

## Examples

- Find the shortest distance from point  $P(x_0, y_0)$  to straight line  $ax + by = c$ . (Assume the minimum distance exists.)

**Solution.**  $d(x, y) = \sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2}$ .

- Minimize  $f(x, y) = (x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2$

- subject to  $g(x, y) = ax + by - c = 0$ .

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_x = \lambda g_x &\Rightarrow 2(x - x_0) = \lambda a \\ f_y = \lambda g_y &\Rightarrow 2(y - y_0) = \lambda b \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = x_0 + \frac{\lambda}{2}a \\ y = y_0 + \frac{\lambda}{2}b \end{cases}$$

$$a(x_0 + \frac{\lambda}{2}a) + b(y_0 + \frac{\lambda}{2}b) = c \Rightarrow \frac{\lambda}{2} = \frac{c - ax_0 - by_0}{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$x = x_0 + \frac{a(c - ax_0 - by_0)}{a^2 + b^2}, \quad y = y_0 + \frac{b(c - ax_0 - by_0)}{a^2 + b^2}.$$

- The distance is minimized at this point:

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{a(c - ax_0 - by_0)}{a^2 + b^2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b(c - ax_0 - by_0)}{a^2 + b^2}\right)^2} = \frac{|ax_0 + by_0 - c|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

27 / 33

## Lagrange Multiplier of More Variables

- The Method of Lagrange Multipliers of Three-Variables**

Find the **local maximum** and **minimum** values of  $w = f(x, y, z)$  subject to the constraint  $g(x, y, z) = 0$ .

- Evaluate  $x, y$  and  $\lambda$  that simultaneously satisfy

$$f_x = \lambda g_x, f_y = \lambda g_y, f_z = \lambda g_z, g(x, y, z) = 0.$$

- Absolute Extreme Values with Bounded Restriction**

Maximize/Minimize  $f(x, y, z)$  subject to  $g(x, y, z) = 0$ ,

where  $g(x, y, z) = 0$  is a **bounded** surface.

Step 1. Check max/min on the boundary of  $g(x, y, z) = 0$ .

Step 2. Use Lagrange multiplier on interior of  $g(x, y, z) = 0$ .

Step 3. Compare the values of  $f$  at points obtained in 1) & 2).

28 / 33

## Examples

- Show that  $\frac{x+y+z}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{xyz}$  for all  $x, y, z \geq 0$ .

**Solution.** Let  $A = x + y + z$ .

- Maximize  $f(x, y, z) = xyz$  subject to
  - $g(x, y, z) = x + y + z - A, \quad x, y, z \geq 0$ .
- Boundary points:  $x = 0$ , or  $y = 0$ , or  $z = 0$ .
  - $f(x, y, z)$  is identically zero on the boundary.
- Suppose  $x, y, z > 0$  and use Lagrange multiplier.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_x = \lambda g_x &\Rightarrow yz = \lambda \\ f_y = \lambda g_y &\Rightarrow zx = \lambda \\ f_z = \lambda g_z &\Rightarrow xy = \lambda \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow x = y = z = \frac{A}{3}.$$

- $f\left(\frac{A}{3}, \frac{A}{3}, \frac{A}{3}\right) = \frac{A^3}{27}$  is the maximum.

Therefore,  $\sqrt[3]{xyz} = \sqrt[3]{f(x, y, z)} \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{A^3}{27}} = \frac{x+y+z}{3}$ .

29 / 33

## Examples

- Find the max/min of  $f(x, y, z) = ax + by + cz$  on the unit sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ , where  $a, b, c > 0$ .

**Solution.** Let  $g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1$ .

- The sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$  has no boundary.
- Apply the Lagrange multipliers method:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_x = \lambda g_x &\Rightarrow a = \lambda 2x \\ f_y = \lambda g_y &\Rightarrow b = \lambda 2y \\ f_z = \lambda g_z &\Rightarrow c = \lambda 2z \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = \frac{a}{2\lambda} \\ y = \frac{b}{2\lambda} \\ z = \frac{c}{2\lambda} \end{cases}$$

$$1 = \left(\frac{a}{2\lambda}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b}{2\lambda}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c}{2\lambda}\right)^2 \Rightarrow \lambda = \pm \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}{2}.$$

- $(x, y, z) = \pm \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}} \right)$

Max:  $f\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}\right) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$

Min:  $f\left(\frac{-a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, \frac{-b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, \frac{-c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}\right) = -\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$

30 / 33

## Extreme Values with Two Constraints

- **Lagrange Multipliers Method with Two Constraints**

Find the **local maximum** and **minimum** values of  $w = f(x, y, z)$  subject to the constraints

- $g(x, y, z) = 0$  and  $h(x, y, z) = 0$ .

Evaluate  $x, y, z$  and  $\lambda, \mu$  that simultaneously satisfy

- $f_x = \lambda g_x + \mu h_x, f_y = \lambda g_y + \mu h_y, f_z = \lambda g_z + \mu h_z$ .
- $g(x, y, z) = 0$  and  $h(x, y, z) = 0$ .

- **Idea of the Lagrange multipliers method.**

- $g(x, y, z) = h(x, y, z) = 0$  defines a curve, say  $C$ .
- $\nabla g$  and  $\nabla h$  are normal to  $C$ .
- We seek for points at which  $\nabla f$  is normal to  $C$ .
  - $\nabla f$  lies in the plane defined by  $\nabla g$  and  $\nabla h$ ,
  - i.e.,  $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g + \mu \nabla h$  for some  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ .

31 / 33

## Examples

- Suppose  $x + y + z = 1$  and  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ .

Find the extreme values of  $f(x, y, z) = x^3 + y^3 + z^3$ .

**Solution.** Two restrictions  $g(x, y, z) = x + y + z - 1$  and  $h(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1$ .

$$f_x = \lambda g_x + \mu h_x \Rightarrow 3x^2 = \lambda + \mu 2x$$

$$f_y = \lambda g_y + \mu h_y \Rightarrow 3y^2 = \lambda + \mu 2y$$

$$f_z = \lambda g_z + \mu h_z \Rightarrow 3z^2 = \lambda + \mu 2z$$

- The equation  $3\alpha^2 = \lambda + \mu 2\alpha$  has at most 2 real roots.
  - So  $x, y, z$  cannot be all distinct.
- Suppose  $y = z$ . Then
$$\begin{cases} 1 = x + 2y \\ 1 = x^2 + 2y^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = 1 \\ y = z = 0 \end{cases} \text{ or } \begin{cases} x = -\frac{1}{3} \\ y = z = \frac{2}{3} \end{cases}$$

32 / 33



## Examples

- Suppose  $x + y + z = 1$  and  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ .

Find the extreme values of  $f(x, y, z) = x^3 + y^3 + z^3$ .

**Solution.** Two restrictions  $g(x, y, z) = x + y + z - 1$  and  $h(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1$ .

- Suppose  $y = z$ . Then

$$\begin{cases} 1 = x + 2y \\ 1 = x^2 + 2y^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = 1 \\ y = z = 0 \end{cases} \text{ or } \begin{cases} x = -\frac{1}{3} \\ y = z = \frac{2}{3} \end{cases}$$

- If  $x = y$  then  $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 1), (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3})$ .
- If  $x = z$  then  $(x, y, z) = (0, 1, 0), (\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$ .

Compare the values of  $f(x, y, z)$  at these 6 points.

Max:  $f(1, 0, 0) = f(0, 1, 0) = f(0, 0, 1) = 1$ ;

Min:  $f(-\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}) = f(\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}) = f(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}) = \frac{5}{9}$ .

33 / 33