

Lagrange multipliers

TOTAL POINTS 5

1. In this quiz we will consider Lagrange multipliers as a technique to find a minimum of a function subject to a constraint, i.e. solutions lying on a particular curve.

1 / 1 point

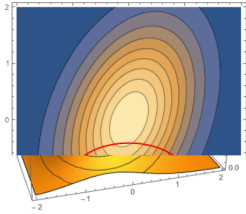
Let's consider the example of finding the minimum of the function,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \exp\left(-\frac{2x^2 + y^2 - xy}{2}\right)$$

along the curve (or, subject to the constraint),

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = x^2 + 3(y + 1)^2 - 1 = 0.$$

The functions themselves are fairly simple, on a contour map they look as follows,



Do note, in this case, the function $f(\mathbf{x})$ does not have any minima itself, but along the curve, there are two minima (and two maxima).

A situation like this is where Lagrange multipliers come in. The observation is that the maxima and minima on the curve, will be found where the constraint is parallel to the contours of the function.

Since the gradient is perpendicular to the contours, the gradient of the function and the gradient of the constraint will also be parallel, that is,

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda \nabla g(\mathbf{x})$$

If we write this out in component form, this becomes,

Let's set up the system,

The function and two of the derivatives are defined for you. Set up the other two by replacing the question marks in the following code.

```
1 # First we define the functions,
2 def f(x, y):
3     return np.exp(-(2*x*x + y*y - x*y) / 2)
4
5 def g(x, y):
6     return x*x + 3*(y+1)**2 - 1
7
8 # Next their derivatives,
9 def dfdx(x, y):
10    return 1/2 * (-4*x + y) * f(x, y)
11
12 def dfdy(x, y):
13    return 1/2 * (x - 2*y) * f(x, y)
14
15 def dgdx(x, y):
16    return 2 * x
17
18 def dgdy(x, y):
19    return 3 - 2 * (y + 1)
```

Run

Reset

```
20 #
21 # (x0, y0, lambda) = (-1, -1, 0)
22 # x, y, lambda = optimize.root(DL, [x0, y0, lambda]).x
23 # print("x = %g" % x)
24 # print("y = %g" % y)
25 # print("lambda = %g" % lambda)
26 # print("f(x, y) = %g" % f(x, y))
27
28 from scipy import optimize
29
30 def DL(xyz):
31     [x, y, lambda] = xyz
32     return np.array([
33         dfdx(x, y) - lambda * dgdx(x, y),
34         dfdy(x, y) - lambda * dgdy(x, y),
35         g(x, y)
36     ])
37
38 (x0, y0, lambda) = (1, 0, 0)
39 x, y, lambda = optimize.root(DL, [x0, y0, lambda]).x
40 print("x = %g" % x)
41 print("y = %g" % y)
42 print("lambda = %g" % lambda)
43 print("f(x, y) = %g" % f(x, y))
```

Run

Reset

x = 0.930942
y = -1.21083
lambda = -1.18960
✔ Correct
This is one of the maxima or minima.

3. In the previous question, you gave the y coordinate of *any* of the stationary points. In this part, give the x coordinate of the *global minimum* of $f(x)$ on $g(x) = 0$.

1 / 1 point

Give your answer to 2 decimal places.

0.93

✔ Correct
Exactly this is the global minimum, subject to the constraint.

5. Hopefully you've now built up a feeling for how Lagrange multipliers work. Let's test this out on a new function and constraint.

1 / 1 point

Calculate the minimum of

$$f(x, y) = -\exp(x - y^2 + xy)$$

on the constraint,

$$g(x, y) = \cosh(y) + x - 2 = 0$$

Use the code you've written in the previous questions to help you.

```
1 # Import libraries
2 import numpy as np
3 from scipy import optimize
4
5 # First we define the functions, YOU SHOULD IMPLEMENT THESE
6 def f(x, y):
7     #
8     # Use the definition of DL from previously.
9     def DL(xyz):
10         [x, y, lambda] = xyz
11         return np.array([
12             dfdx(x, y) - lambda * dgdx(x, y),
13             dfdy(x, y) - lambda * dgdy(x, y),
14             g(x, y)
15         ])
16
17 # To score on this question, the code above should set
18 # the variables x, y, lambda to the values which solve the
19 # Lagrange multiplier problem.
20
21 # I.e. use the optimize.root method, as you did previously.
22 (x0, y0, lambda) = (0, 0, 0)
23 x, y, lambda = optimize.root(DL, [x0, y0, lambda]).x
24
25 print("x = %g" % x)
26 print("y = %g" % y)
27 print("lambda = %g" % lambda)
28 print("f(x, y) = %g" % f(x, y))
29
```

Run

Reset

x = 0.95782
y = 0.28555
lambda = -4.07789
f(x, y) = -3.16222

✔ Correct
Well done. You've constructed and run your own Lagrange multiplier solver for a new function.