

Finding the maxima and minima of the function Using Advanced Optimization

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1 Problem statement

Determine the points of maxima and minima of the function

$f(x) = \frac{1}{8} \ln x - bx + x^2$, $x > 0$, where $b \geq 0$ is a constant.

2 Considerations

As per given data, the following table has been prepared.

Symbol	Value	Description
$f(x)$	$\frac{1}{8} \ln x - bx + x^2$	function
b	7	$b \geq 0$
a	$\frac{1}{8}$	Coeff. of $\ln x$
c	1	Coeff. of x^2

Table 1: Considerations

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3 Plot to find maxima and minima of the function

1 Plot of the function $\frac{1}{8} \ln x - bx + x^2$ is shown in the figure 1.

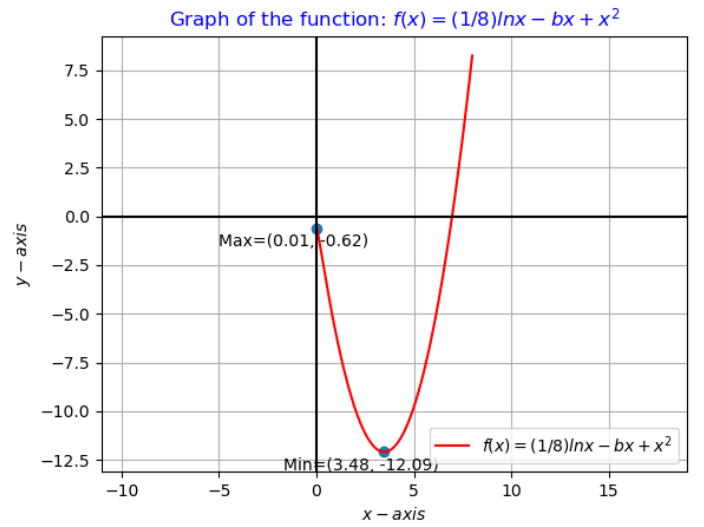


Figure 1: Plot of $f(x)$ to find Maxima and Minima

4 Solution

Given function is,

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{8} \ln x - bx + x^2 \quad (4.0.1)$$

where $x > 0$ and $b \geq 0$

4.1 Calculation of Maxima and Minima using normal differentiation

Differentiating above Eq. (4.0.1), we get,

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \frac{d(\frac{1}{8} \ln x - bx + x^2)}{dx}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{df(x)}{dx} = \frac{1}{8x} - b + 2x$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{8x} - b + 2x$$

$$\Rightarrow 16x^2 - 8bx + 1 = 0$$

On simplifying,

$$x_{max} = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 1}}{4}, \quad x_{min} = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 1}}{4} \quad (4.1.1)$$

Assuming $b=7$,

$$x_{max} = 0.01$$

$$x_{min} = 3.48$$

By submitting x_{max} and x_{min} in Eq. 4.0.1, we get,

$$f(x)_{max} = -0.62$$

$$f(x)_{min} = -12.09$$

Therefore,

$$\text{Maximum value of } x \text{ is } \mathbf{-0.62} \text{ at } x = \mathbf{0.01} \quad (4.1.2)$$

$$\text{Minimum value of } x \text{ is } \mathbf{-12.09} \text{ at } x = \mathbf{3.48} \quad (4.1.3)$$

4.2 Calculation of Maxima using gradient ascent algorithm

Maxima of the above equation (4.0.1), can be calculated from the following expression,

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \alpha \nabla f(x_n) \quad (4.2.1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} = x_n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{8} (1/x_n) - 7 + 2x_n \right) \quad (4.2.2)$$

Taking $x_0 = 0.5, \alpha = 0.001$ and precision = 0.00000001, values obtained using python are:

$$\boxed{\text{Maxima} = -0.62}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Maxima Point} = 0.01}$$

4.3 Calculation of Minima using gradient descent algorithm

Maxima of the above equation (4.0.1), can be calculated from the following expression,

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \alpha \nabla f(x_n) \quad (4.3.1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} = x_n + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{8} (1/x_n) - 7 + 2x_n \right) \quad (4.3.2)$$

Taking $x_0 = 1.5, \alpha = 0.001$ and precision = 0.00000001, values obtained using python are:

$$\boxed{\text{Minima} = -12.09}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Minima Point} = 3.48}$$

5 Software

Download the codes given in the link below and execute them.

<https://github.com/meertabresali-FWC-IITH/project/blob/main/Asgn8.opt.advance/codes/optadv.py>

6 Conclusion

1. At first, the given function has been differentiated and it is solved by setting $f'(x)$ equal to zero. By using x values, $f(x)$ values are calculated.
2. Later, the given function $f(x)$ is solved by gradient ascent algorithm to find maxima and the point at which $f(x)$ is maximum.
3. Then, the given function $f(x)$ is solved by gradient descent algorithm to find minima and the point at which $f(x)$ is minimum.
4. Maxima and Minima and related points are,

Maxima point, Max=(0.01, -0.62) and

Minima point, Min=(3.48, -12.09)