

## Function of several Real variables

### 2.2 Functions of Two Variables

Consider the function of two variables

$$z = f(x, y). \quad (2.3)$$

The set of points  $(x, y)$  in the  $x$ - $y$  plane for which  $f(x, y)$  is defined is called the *domain* of definition of the function and is denoted by  $D$ . This domain may be the entire  $x$ - $y$  plane or a part of the  $x$ - $y$  plane. The collection of the corresponding values of  $z$  is called the *range* of the function. The following are some examples

<https://c3d.libretexts.org/CalcPlot3D/index.html>

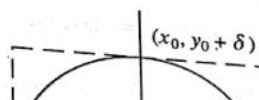
- $z = \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2}$  :  $z$  is real. Therefore, we have  $1 - x^2 - y^2 \geq 0$ , or  $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$ , that is, the domain is the region  $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$ . The range is the set of all real, positive numbers.
- $z = 1/(x^2 - y^2)$  : The domain is the set of all points  $(x, y)$  such that  $x^2 - y^2 \neq 0$ , that is  $y \neq \pm x$ . The range is  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- $z = \log(x + y)$  : The domain is the set of all points  $(x, y)$  such that  $x + y > 0$ . The range is  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Distance between two points** Let  $P(x_0, y_0)$  and  $Q(x_1, y_1)$  be any two points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Then

$$d(P, Q) = |PQ| = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_0)^2 + (y_1 - y_0)^2}$$

is called the distance between the points  $P$  and  $Q$ .

**Neighborhood of a point** Let  $P(x_0, y_0)$  be a point in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Then the  $\delta$ -neighborhood of the point  $P(x_0, y_0)$  is the set of all points  $(x, y)$  which lie inside a circle of radius  $\delta$  with centre at the point  $(x_0, y_0)$ , (Fig. 2.2). We usually denote this neighborhood by  $N_\delta(P)$  or by  $N(P, \delta)$ .



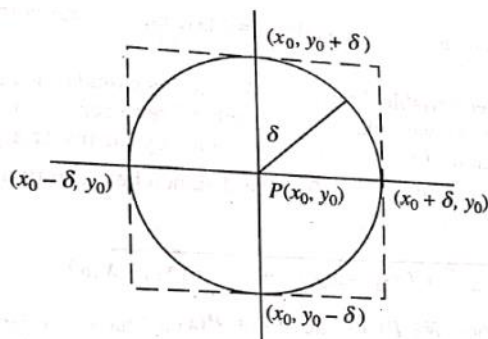


Fig. 2.2. Neighborhood of a point  $P(x_0, y_0)$ .

Therefore,

$$N_\delta(P) = \{(x, y): \sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2} < \delta\}. \quad (2.5)$$

**Open domain** A domain  $D$  is open, if for every point  $P$  in  $D$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that all points in the  $\delta$ -neighborhood of  $P$  are in  $D$ .

**Connected domain** A domain  $D$  is connected, if any two points  $P, Q \in D$  can be joined by finitely many number of line segments all of which lie entirely in  $D$ .

**Bounded domain** A domain  $D$  is bounded, if there exists a real finite positive number  $M$  (no matter how large) such that  $D$  can be enclosed within a circle with radius  $M$  and centre at the origin. That is, the distance of any point  $P$  in  $D$  from the origin is less than  $M$ ,  $|OP| < M$ .

**Closed region** A closed region is a bounded domain together with its boundary.

## 2.4 Engineering Mathematics

A domain  $D$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is bounded, if there exists a real finite positive number  $M$  such that  $|f(x, y)| \leq M$  for all  $(x, y) \in D$ .

**Bounded function**

A function  $f(x, y)$  defined in some domain  $D$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is bounded, if there exists a real finite positive number  $M$  such that  $|f(x, y)| \leq M$  for all  $(x, y) \in D$ .

### 2.2.1 Limits

Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be a function of two variables defined in a domain  $D$ . Let  $P(x_0, y_0)$  be a point in  $D$ . If for a given real number  $\epsilon > 0$ , however small, we can find a real number  $\delta > 0$  such that for every point  $(x, y)$  in the  $\delta$ -neighborhood of  $P(x_0, y_0)$

$$|f(x, y) - L| < \epsilon, \quad \text{whenever} \quad \sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2} < \delta \quad (2.8)$$

then the real, finite number  $L$  is called the limit of the function  $f(x, y)$  as  $(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)$ . Symbolically, we write it as

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x, y) = L.$$

Note that for the limit to exist, the function  $f(x, y)$  may or may not be defined at  $(x_0, y_0)$ . If  $f(x, y)$  is not defined at  $P(x_0, y_0)$ , then we write

**Example 2.3** Show that the following limits

$$(i) \quad \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} \frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2},$$

$$(ii) \quad \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} \frac{x + \sqrt{y}}{x^2 + y^2},$$

$$(iii) \quad \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} \frac{x^3 y}{x^6 + y^2},$$

$$(iv) \quad \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 1)} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right).$$

do not exist.

$$15. \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2}{x^3 + y^3}.$$

$$17. \lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \log\left(\frac{z}{xy}\right).$$

$$19. \lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \frac{xy^2z^2}{x^4 + y^4 + z^8}.$$

$$16. \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^4 y^2}{(x^4 + y^2)^2}.$$

$$18. \lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \frac{xy + z}{x + y + z^2}.$$

$$20. \lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \frac{x(x + y + z)}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}.$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}.$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (\alpha,0)} \left(1 + \frac{x}{y}\right)^y.$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,-1)} \frac{x^3 - y^3}{x - y}.$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \cot^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \right).$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,1)} \frac{(y-1) \tan^2 x}{x^2 (y^2 - 1)}.$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} \frac{(x-1) \sin y}{y \ln x}.$$

**Example 2.1** Using the  $\delta$ - $\varepsilon$  approach, show that

(i)  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} (3x + 4y) = 10,$

(ii)  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,1)} (x^2 + 2y) = 3.$

**Solution**

(i) Here  $f(x, y) = 3x + 4y$  is defined at  $(2, 1)$ . We have

$$|f(x, y) - 10| = |3x + 4y - 10| = |3(x - 2) + 4(y - 1)| \leq 3|x - 2| + 4|y - 1|.$$

If we take  $|x - 2| < \delta$  and  $|y - 1| < \delta$ , we get  $|f(x, y) - 10| < 7\delta < \varepsilon$ , which is satisfied when  $\delta < \varepsilon/7$ .

Hence,  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} f(x, y) = 10$ .

**Example 2.2** Using  $\delta$ - $\varepsilon$  approach, show that

$$(i) \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \left( \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \right) = 0, (ii) \lim_{(x,y,z) \rightarrow (0,0,0)} \left( \frac{xy + xz + yz}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right) = 0.$$

### 2.2.2 Continuity

A function  $z = f(x, y)$  is said to be *continuous* at a point  $(x_0, y_0)$ , if

- (i)  $f(x, y)$  is defined at the point  $(x_0, y_0)$ ,
- (ii)  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} f(x, y)$  exists, and
- (iii)  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} f(x, y) = f(x_0, y_0)$ .

**Example 2.4** Show that the following functions are continuous at the point  $(0, 0)$ .

$$(i) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x^4 + 3y^4}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases} \quad (ii) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x(x^2 - y^2)}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

$$(iii) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin^{-1}(x+2y)}{\tan^{-1}(2x+4y)}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 1/2, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

**Example 2.5** Show that the following functions are discontinuous at the given points

$$(i) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-y}{x+y}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases} \quad (ii) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - x\sqrt{y}}{x^2 + y}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

at the point  $(0, 0)$ .                      at the point  $(0, 0)$ .

$$(iii) f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 + xy + x + y}{x + y}, & (x, y) \neq (2, 2) \\ 4, & (x, y) = (2, 2) \end{cases}$$

at the point  $(2, 2)$ .

**Example 2.6** Let  $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^4 y - 3x^2 y^3 + y^5}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$

Find a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x, y) - f(0, 0)| < 0.01$ , whenever  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} < \delta$ .

## Partial derivatives

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta_x z}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)}{\Delta x}.$$

$$\lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta_y z}{\Delta y} = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0, y_0 + \Delta y) - f(x_0, y_0)}{\Delta y}$$

**Example 2.7** Find the first order partial derivatives of the following functions

(i)  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + x$ , (ii)  $f(x, y) = y e^{-x}$ , (iii)  $f(x, y) = \sin(2x + 3y)$

at the point  $(x, y)$  from the first principles.

**Example 2.9** Show that the function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 + y^2}{|x| + |y|}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

is continuous at  $(0, 0)$  but its partial derivatives  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  do not exist at  $(0, 0)$ .

**Example 2.10** Show that the function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{x^2 + 2y^2}, & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0, & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

is not continuous at  $(0, 0)$  but its partial derivatives  $f_x$  and  $f_y$  exist at  $(0, 0)$ .

## Total derivatives

For a function of  $n$  variables  $z = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , we write the total differential as

$$dz = f_{x_1} dx_1 + f_{x_2} dx_2 + \dots + f_{x_n} dx_n.$$

**Example 2.11** Find the total differential of the following functions

(i)  $z = \tan^{-1}(x/y)$ ,  $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$ ,      (ii)  $u = \left(xz + \frac{x}{z}\right)^y$ ,  $z \neq 0$ .

## Derivative of composite and implicit function(Chain Rule)



Suppose the function

$z = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are functions of  $t$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \frac{dx_1}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \frac{dx_2}{dt} + \dots + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \frac{dx_n}{dt}.$$

**Example 2.17** Find  $df/dt$  at  $t = 0$ , where

(i)  $f(x, y) = x \cos y + e^x \sin y$ ,  $x = t^2 + 1$ ,  $y = t^3 + t$ .

(ii)  $f(x, y, z) = x^3 + xz^2 + y^3 + xyz$ ,  $x = e^t$ ,  $y = \cos t$ ,  $z = t^3$ .

**Example 2.18** If  $z = f(x, y)$ ,  $x = e^{2u} + e^{-2v}$ ,  $y = e^{-2u} + e^{2v}$ , then show that

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = 2 \left[ x \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right].$$

**Solution** Using the chain rule, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} = 2e^{2u} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - 2e^{-2u} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} = -2e^{-2v} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + 2e^{2v} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} &= 2(e^{2u} + e^{-2v}) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - 2(e^{-2u} + e^{2v}) \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \\ &= 2x \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - 2y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}. \end{aligned}$$

## Change of Variable

Suppose that  $f(x, y)$  is a function of two independent variables  $x, y$  and  $x, y$  are functions of two new independent variables  $u, v$  given by  $x = \phi(u, v)$ ,  $y = \psi(u, v)$ . By chain rule, we have

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v}.$$

We want to determine  $\partial f / \partial x$ ,  $\partial f / \partial y$  in terms of  $\partial f / \partial u$  and  $\partial f / \partial v$ . Solving the above system of equations by Cramer's rule, we get

$$\frac{\partial f / \partial x}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}} = \frac{\partial f / \partial y}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \frac{\partial x}{\partial v}} = \frac{1}{\frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}}.$$

The determinant

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} \partial x / \partial u & \partial x / \partial v \\ \partial y / \partial u & \partial y / \partial v \end{vmatrix} = \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)}$$

is called the *Jacobian* of the variables of transformation.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(f, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right] \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(f, x)}{\partial(u, v)} \right].$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(f, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right] = \frac{1}{J} \begin{vmatrix} \partial f / \partial u & \partial f / \partial v & \partial f / \partial w \\ \partial y / \partial u & \partial y / \partial v & \partial y / \partial w \\ \partial z / \partial u & \partial z / \partial v & \partial z / \partial w \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(x, f, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right] = -\frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(f, x, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right] = -\frac{1}{J} \begin{vmatrix} \partial f / \partial u & \partial f / \partial v & \partial f / \partial w \\ \partial x / \partial u & \partial x / \partial v & \partial x / \partial w \\ \partial z / \partial u & \partial z / \partial v & \partial z / \partial w \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(x, y, f)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right] = \frac{1}{J} \left[ \frac{\partial(f, x, y)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right] = \frac{1}{J} \begin{vmatrix} \partial f / \partial u & \partial f / \partial v & \partial f / \partial w \\ \partial x / \partial u & \partial x / \partial v & \partial x / \partial w \\ \partial y / \partial u & \partial y / \partial v & \partial y / \partial w \end{vmatrix}$$

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} \partial x / \partial u & \partial x / \partial v & \partial x / \partial w \\ \partial y / \partial u & \partial y / \partial v & \partial y / \partial w \\ \partial z / \partial u & \partial z / \partial v & \partial z / \partial w \end{vmatrix}$$

**Example 2.19** If  $z = f(x, y)$ ,  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$ , then show that

$$\left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{r^2} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \right)^2$$

## Remark

The variables of transformation  $u = f(x, y, z)$ ,  $v = g(x, y, z)$ ,  $w = h(x, y, z)$  are functionally related if

$$\frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial(x, y, z)} = 0,$$

that is, there exists a relationship between the variables  $u, v, w$  and the transformation is not independent.

**Example 2.20(b)** Show that the variables  $u = x - y + z$ ,  $v = x + y - z$ ,  $w = x^2 + xz - xy$ , are functionally related. Find the relationship between them.

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x^2 - y^2 - z^2, \quad v = x^2 - y^2 + z^2, \quad w = x^4 + y^4 + z^4 - 2x^2y^2; \\ u &= x + 3z, \quad v = x - y - z, \quad w = y^2 + 16z^2 + 8yz; \\ u &= x + y + z, \quad v = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2xy - 2yz - 2zx, \quad w = x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz. \end{aligned}$$

### 2.4.1 Homogeneous Functions

A function  $f(x, y)$  is said to be *homogeneous* of degree  $n$  in  $x$  and  $y$ , if it can be written in any one of the following forms

$$(i) \quad f(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda^n f(x, y). \quad (2.46)$$

$$(ii) \quad f(x, y) = x^n g(y/x). \quad (2.47)$$

$$(iii) \quad f(x, y) = y^n g(x/y). \quad (2.48)$$

Similarly, a function  $f(x, y, z)$  of three variables is said to be homogeneous, of degree  $n$ , if it can be written as  $f(\lambda x, \lambda y, \lambda z) = \lambda^n f(x, y, z)$ , or  $f(x, y, z) = x^n g\left(\frac{y}{x}, \frac{z}{x}\right)$  etc.

Some examples of homogeneous functions are the following:

Some examples of homogeneous functions are the following:

$f$	degree
$x^2 + xy$	2
$\tan^{-1}(y/x)$	0
$1/(x+y)$	-1
$1/(x^4 + y^4 + z^4)$	-4
$xyz/(x^4 + y^4 + z^4)$	-1
$\sqrt{x}/\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$	-1/2

The function  $f(x, y, z)$  is homogeneous of degree  $n$  if

An important result concerning homogeneous functions is the following:

**Theorem 2.4 (Euler's theorem)** If  $f(x, y)$  is a homogeneous function of degree  $n$  in  $x$  and  $y$  and has continuous first and second order partial derivatives, then

$$(i) \quad x \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = n f. \quad (2.49)$$

$$(ii) \quad x^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = n(n-1)f. \quad (2.50)$$

**Example 2.26** If  $u(x, y) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{x+y}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \right)$ ,  $0 < x, y < 1$ , then prove that

$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{2} \cot u.$$



Using Euler's theorem, establish the following results.

29. If  $u = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x^2 + y^2}{x + y} \right)$ , then  $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \tan u$ .

30. If  $u = \log \left[ \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{x} \right]$ , then  $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$ .

31. If  $u = \sqrt{y^2 - x^2} \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{y} \right)$ , then  $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u$ .

## 2.5 Maximum and Minimum Values of a Function

Let a function  $f(x, y)$  be defined and continuous in some closed and bounded region  $R$ . Let  $(a, b)$  be an interior point of  $R$  and  $(a + h, b + k)$  be a point in its neighborhood and lies inside  $R$ . We define the following.

(i) The point  $(a, b)$  is called a point of *relative (or local) minimum*, if

$$f(a + h, b + k) \geq f(a, b) \quad (2.67a)$$

for all  $h, k$ . Then,  $f(a, b)$  is called the *relative (or local) minimum value*.

(ii) The point  $(a, b)$  is called a point of *relative (or local) maximum*, if

$$f(a + h, b + k) \leq f(a, b) \quad (2.67b)$$

for all  $h, k$ . Then  $f(a, b)$  is called the *relative (or local) maximum value*.

A function  $f(x, y)$  may also attain its minimum or maximum values on the boundary of the region. The smallest and the largest values attained by a function over the entire region including the boundary are called the *absolute (or global) minimum* and *absolute (or global) maximum* values respectively.

The points at which minimum / maximum values of the function occur are also called *points of extrema* or the *stationary points* and the minimum and the maximum values taken together are called the *extreme values* of the function.

**Theorem 2.7 (Sufficient conditions for a function to have a minimum/maximum)** Let a function  $f(x, y)$  be continuous and possess first and second order partial derivatives at a point  $P(a, b)$ . If  $P(a, b)$  is a critical point, then the point  $P$  is a point of

$$\text{relative minimum if } rt - s^2 > 0 \text{ and } r > 0 \quad (2.73a)$$

$$\text{relative maximum if } rt - s^2 > 0 \text{ and } r < 0 \quad (2.73b)$$

where  $r = f_{xx}(a, b)$ ,  $s = f_{xy}(a, b)$  and  $t = f_{yy}(a, b)$ .

No conclusion about an extremum can be drawn if  $rt - s^2 = 0$  and further investigation is needed. If  $rt - s^2 < 0$ , then the function  $f$  has no minimum or maximum at this point. In this case, the point  $P$  is called a *saddle point*.

6. Discuss minimum value of  $f(x,y)=x^2 + y^2 + 6x + 12$ .
- 3
  - 3
  - 9
  - 9

2

Test the following functions for relative maximum and minimum.

- $xy + (9/x) + (3/y)$ .
- $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2} \quad a > 0$ .
- $x^2 + 2bxy + y^2$ .
- $x^2 + xy + y^2 + (1/x) + (1/y)$ .

**Example 2.34** Find the relative maximum and minimum values of the function

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

This alternative statement of the Theorem 2.7 is useful when we consider the extreme values of the functions of three or more variables. For example, for the function  $f(x, y, z)$  of three variables, we have

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} & f_{xz} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} & f_{yz} \\ f_{zx} & f_{zy} & f_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $f_{yx} = f_{xy}$ ,  $f_{zx} = f_{xz}$ ,  $f_{zy} = f_{yz}$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  or the matrix  $\mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{A}$  can be tested whether it is positive definite, to find the points of minimum/maximum. Therefore, a critical point (a point at which  $f_x = 0 = f_y = f_z$ )

- (i) is a point of relative minimum if  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite and  $f_{xx}$ ,  $f_{yy}$ ,  $f_{zz}$  are all positive.
- (ii) is a point of relative maximum if  $\mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite (that is, the leading minors of  $\mathbf{A}$  are alternately negative and positive) and  $f_{xx}$ ,  $f_{yy}$ ,  $f_{zz}$  are all negative.

1.  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 2y - 2z$

2.  $(x - 1)^2 + (y - 1)^2 + (z - 1)^2$

3.  $2x + 2y + 2z - x^2 - y^2 - z^2$

## Lagrange method of Multiplier

### 2.5.1 Lagrange Method of Multipliers

We want to find the extremum of the function  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  under the conditions  $\phi_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . (2.75)

We construct an auxiliary function of the form  $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k) = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \phi_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  (2.76)

where  $\lambda_i$ 's are undetermined parameters and are known as *Lagrange multipliers*. Then, to determine the stationary points of  $F$ , we have the necessary conditions

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} = 0 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} = \dots = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n}$$

which give the equations

22. Find the smallest and the largest value of  $xy$  on the line segment  $x + 2y = 2$ ,  $x \geq 0$ ,  $y \geq 0$ .
23. Find the smallest and the largest value of  $x + 2y$  on the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .

Ex.

Find the extreme values of  $f(x, y, z) = 2x + 3y + z$  such that  $x^2 + y^2 = 5$  and  $x + z = 1$ .

