

# MA 109 D2 T1

## Week Seven Recap

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# Tangent Lines and Planes

- Let  $F : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  have partial derivatives at an interior point  $P = (x_0, y_0)$  and let  $\nabla F(x_0, y_0) \neq (0, 0)^T$ . Consider the **curve**,  $C := \{(x, y) \mid F(x, y) = 0\}$  and assume that  $P$  lies on  $C$ .

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- Consider a  $C$  lying on the surface defined by  $F(x, y, z) = 0$ . Then, for any  $t_0 \in [a, b]$ , we have,

$$\nabla F(x(t_0), y(t_0), z(t_0)) \cdot (x'(t_0), y'(t_0), z'(t_0)) = 0$$

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## Definition (Saddle Points)

For a 'nice' function  $f : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and some interior point  $P \in D$ , we call  $P$  to be a saddle point of  $f$  if  $\nabla F(P) = (0, 0)^T$  **but**  $P$  is **not** a local extrema.

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The discriminant test is inconclusive if  $(\Delta f)(x_0, y_0) = 0$ .

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## Proposition (LMT)

Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , and let  $(x_0, y_0)$  be an interior point of  $D$ . Suppose  $f, g : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  have continuous partial derivatives in a neighbourhood of  $(x_0, y_0)$ . Let  $C := \{(x, y) \in D : g(x, y) = 0\}$ . Suppose,

- ①  $g(x_0, y_0) = 0$
- ②  $(\nabla g)(x_0, y_0) \neq (0, 0)$
- ③  $f$ , when restricted to  $C$ , has a local extremum at  $(x_0, y_0)$ .

Then, there is  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$(\nabla f)(x_0, y_0) = \lambda_0 (\nabla g)(x_0, y_0).$$

The real number  $\lambda_0$  is called a Lagrange multiplier.

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- 5 Conclude that  $f$  attains extrema on those points.
- 6 Note that this procedure only tells us that these points are the extrema – does not comment on whether they are minima or maxima.