

1. (30 points) Maximize  $f(x, y) = x + y$  where  $x, y$  must lie on the unit circle.

**Solution:** See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagrange\\_multiplier#Example\\_1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagrange_multiplier#Example_1)  
 $f(1/\sqrt{2}, 1/\sqrt{2}) = \sqrt{2}$

2. (30 points) Maximize  $f(p_1, p_2) = -(p_1 \log p_1 + p_2 \log p_2)$  subject to  $p_1 + p_2 = 1$ .  
The function is called information entropy and the  $p_i$  are supposed to be probabilities. Therefore, you are determining the probability distribution that gives maximal information.

**Solution:**  $p_1 = 1/2 = p_2$ , see below.

3. (5 points (bonus)) Given an arbitrary but still finite collection of probabilities,  $\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ , which means  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ , maximize

$$f(p_1, \dots, p_n) = - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log p_i$$

What is the name of this probability distribution? Can you interpret this result in terms of entropy?

**Solution:** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagrange\\_multiplier#Example\\_3:\\_Entropy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagrange_multiplier#Example_3:_Entropy)