

Problem

2-9

$$f(x, y, z) = x^2 + 2y^2 + 3z^2 + 2xy + 2xz$$

constraint

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 1$$

$$\text{so } \delta(f + \lambda g) = 0$$

$$\text{or } \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} + \lambda \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

$$\text{or } \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \lambda \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow 2x + 2y + 2z + 2\lambda x = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \lambda \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = 0 \Rightarrow 4y + 2x + 2\lambda y = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} + \lambda \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} = 0 \Rightarrow 6z + 2x + 2\lambda z = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{From (2) } y = -\frac{x}{\lambda+2} \quad \text{From (3) } z = -\frac{x}{\lambda+3}$$

\therefore (1) becomes

$$x - \frac{x}{\lambda+2} - \frac{x}{\lambda+3} = \lambda x$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{\lambda+2} - \frac{1}{\lambda+3} = \lambda$$

$$(\lambda+2)(\lambda+3) - (\lambda+3) - (\lambda+2) = \lambda(\lambda+2)(\lambda+3)$$

$$\text{or } \lambda^3 + 4\lambda^2 + 3\lambda - 1 = 0$$

Using an internet cubic equation solver I got the 3 roots

$$\lambda = 0.247, -2.80, -1.45$$

Just using the first one

$$y = -\frac{x}{\lambda+2} = -\frac{x}{2.25} \quad \text{and} \quad z = -\frac{x}{\lambda+3} = -\frac{x}{3.25}$$

$$\text{so } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{(2.25)^2} + \frac{1}{(3.25)^2}\right) = 1 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{1/1.29} = 0.88$$

$$\text{so } y = -0.88/2.25 = -0.39$$

$$z = -0.88/3.25 = -0.27$$

$$\text{So minimum value of } f \text{ is } (0.88)^2 + 2(-0.39)^2 + 3(0.27)^2 - 2(0.88)(-0.39) - 2(0.88)(-0.27) \\ = \underline{0.136}$$