

① For each function, find all critical points and determine whether they are local maxima/minima or saddle points

a) $f(x,y) = x^2 + 2xy + y^2$

b) $g(x,y) = x \sin y$

Thm If $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has a local max/min at $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then $Df(x_0) = 0$. Equivalently $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_0) = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Def A point $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a critical point for f if $Df(x_0) = 0$. Critical points are potential maxima/minima.

Solution (a) To find the critical points for f , we solve the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} 0 = f_x = 2x + 2y \\ 0 = f_y = 2x + 2y \end{cases}$$

Any point on the line $y = -x$ is a solution so the critical points are

$$\{(x, -x) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Notice that $f(x,y) = x^2 + 2xy + y^2 = (x+y)^2$ so if $y = -x$, then $f(x,y) = (x-x)^2 = 0$

Since $(x+y)^2 \geq 0$ for all (x,y) , all points on the line $y = -x$ are local minima.

(b) We solve the system of eq's:

$$\begin{cases} 0 = f_x = \sin y \\ 0 = f_y = x \cos y \end{cases}$$

The eq. $\sin y = 0$ implies $y = k\pi$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $y = k\pi$ then $x \cos k\pi = 0$ implies $x = 0$. So the critical

points are $\{(0, k\pi) : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

Apply the second derivative test: $f_{xx} = 0$ so all critical points are saddle points. ~~///~~

② Find the shortest distance between the point $(1, 0, -1)$ and the plane $2x - 2y + 2z = 6$.

Solution The distance between a point (x, y, z) and $(1, 0, -1)$ is given by

$$d(x, y, z) = \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + y^2 + (z+1)^2}$$

Notice that if (x, y, z) is a minimum for $d^2 = (x-1)^2 + y^2 + (z+1)^2$ then it is also a minimum for d . By Lagrange Multiplier Thm, if d^2 attains a max/min subject to the constraint $g(x, y, z) = 2x - 2y + 2z$, then there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\nabla d^2 = \lambda \nabla g$$

This gives the system of eq's:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - 2 = 2\lambda & \Rightarrow x = \lambda + 1 \\ 2y = -2\lambda & \Rightarrow y = -\lambda \\ 2z + 2 = 2\lambda & \Rightarrow z = \lambda - 1 \\ 2x - 2y + 2z = 6 & \Rightarrow 2(\lambda + 1) - 2(-\lambda) + 2(\lambda - 1) = 6 \\ & \Rightarrow 6\lambda = 6 \Rightarrow \lambda = 1 \end{cases}$$

So $\lambda = 1$ which implies that $x = 2, y = -1, z = 0$. So the only critical point is $(2, -1, 0)$.

Theorem 10 Let $f: U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g: U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be smooth (at least C^2) functions. Let $v_0 \in U, g(v_0) = c$, and S be the level curve for g with value c . Assume that $\nabla g(v_0) \neq 0$ and that there is a real number λ such that $\nabla f(v_0) = \lambda \nabla g(v_0)$. Form the auxiliary function $h = f - \lambda g$ and the bordered Hessian determinant

$$|\overline{H}| = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & -\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \\ -\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial y} \\ -\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y^2} \end{vmatrix} \text{ evaluated at } v_0.$$

- (i) If $|\overline{H}| > 0$, then v_0 is a local maximum point for $f|_S$.
- (ii) If $|\overline{H}| < 0$, then v_0 is a local minimum point for $f|_S$.
- (iii) If $|\overline{H}| = 0$, the test is inconclusive and v_0 may be a minimum, a maximum, or neither.

This theorem is proved in the Internet supplement for this section.

for $f, g: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Using theorem 10, define $h = d^2 - \lambda g = (x-1)^2 + y^2 + (z+1)^2 - (2x - 2y + 2z)$

So

$$|\overline{H}| = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & -\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} & -\frac{\partial g}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y^2} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z^2} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y^2} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x \partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y \partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z^2} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -2 & 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & -0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -(-2) \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 2(-2) \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$+ 2 \left(2 \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \right)$$

$$= -16 + 2(2(-4) + 2(-4))$$

$$= -16 + -16 = \underline{-32}$$

So $|H| < 0$ which means $(2, 1, 0)$ is a local minimum.



14.4

- ③ Let P be a point on the surface S in \mathbb{R}^3 defined by the equation $f(x, y, z) = 1$, where f is continuously differentiable. Suppose the distance between S and $(0, 0, 0)$ is maximized at P . Show that the vector emanating from $(0, 0, 0)$ and ending at P is orthogonal to S .

Proof Let $\vec{P} = (x, y, z)$. Since ∇f is orthogonal to S so we need to show that \vec{P} is parallel to $\nabla f(x, y, z)$, i.e., $(x, y, z) = \alpha \nabla f(x, y, z)$. The distance between a point and the origin is given

$$d(a, b, c) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$$

As in problem (2), \vec{P} maximizes d if and only if \vec{P} maximizes d^2 . By Lagrange Multiplier thm, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\nabla d^2(x, y, z) = \lambda \nabla f(x, y, z)$$

this yields the system of eq's,

$$\begin{cases} 2x = \lambda f_x \\ 2y = \lambda f_y \\ 2z = \lambda f_z \end{cases}$$

So, $P = (x, y, z) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} f_x, \frac{\lambda}{2} f_y, \frac{\lambda}{2} f_z \right) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \nabla f(x, y, z)$. So

$P = \alpha \nabla f$ where $\alpha = \frac{\lambda}{2}$ which is what we needed to show.



(4) Let A be a non-zero symmetric 3×3 matrix. Define $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ via

$$f\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\left(A \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{3 \times 1} \cdot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}}_{3 \times 1}$$

dot product.

(a) Find ∇f .

(b) Restrict f to the unit sphere S . Does f achieve a global max/min?

(c) Show that there exists a point $x \in S$ and $\lambda \neq 0$ such that

$$Ax = \lambda x.$$

Proof Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$. Then we have

$$f\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(a_{11}x^2 + a_{12}xy + a_{13}xz + a_{12}xy + a_{22}y^2 + a_{23}yz + a_{13}xz + a_{23}yz + a_{33}z^2 \right)$$

$$\text{So } f_x = \frac{1}{2} (2a_{11}x + 2a_{12}y + 2a_{13}z) = a_{11}x + a_{12}y + a_{13}z$$

$$f_y = \frac{1}{2} (2a_{12}x + 2a_{22}y + 2a_{23}z) = a_{12}x + a_{22}y + a_{23}z$$

$$f_z = a_{13}x + a_{23}y + a_{33}z$$

So $\nabla f = A \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$. The unit sphere is the set

$$S = \{(x, y, z) : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}.$$

S is clearly bounded and it's closed since it is a level surface. Since f is continuous on a closed and bounded set, it must attain a max/min.

For (c), let $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ be a point where f achieves a max. By Lagrange, there is $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ such that (w/ $g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$)

$$A \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \nabla f = \alpha \nabla g = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \\ 2z \end{bmatrix}$$

So $A \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ where $\lambda = 2\alpha$. And $\alpha \neq 0$ since $A \neq 0$.

So $A \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ where $\lambda = 2\alpha$. And $\alpha = 0$ since A is non-zero and $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$. We just proved that every real symmetric matrix has at least one non-zero real eigenvalue. \square