

Note: How to study MAX/MIN using the 2ND order Taylor-polynomial?

Idea: critical point (x_0, y_0) , where $f_x(x_0, y_0) = f_y(x_0, y_0) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow f(x, y) &= f(x_0, y_0) + \overset{=0}{f_x(x_0, y_0)} \cdot (x - x_0) + \overset{=0}{f_y(x_0, y_0)} \cdot (y - y_0) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} f_{xx}(x_0, y_0) \cdot (x - x_0)^2 + f_{xy}(x_0, y_0) \cdot (x - x_0)(y - y_0) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) \cdot (y - y_0)^2 + \text{higher order terms}\end{aligned}$$


Substitute $x = x_0 + h$, $y = y_0 + k$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow f(x_0 + h, y_0 + k) &= f(x_0, y_0) + \frac{1}{2} f_{xx} h^2 + f_{xy} hk + \frac{1}{2} f_{yy} \cdot k^2 + \dots \\ &= f(x_0, y_0) + \frac{1}{2} (f_{xx} h^2 + 2f_{xy} hk + f_{yy} \cdot k^2) + \dots\end{aligned}$$

The type of (x_0, y_0) is determined by the quadratic form

$$f_{xx} h^2 + 2f_{xy} hk + f_{yy} k^2 = [h \ k] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{bmatrix}}_{Df} \begin{bmatrix} h \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_1 h'^2 + \lambda_2 k'^2,$$

where λ_1, λ_2 are the eigenvalues of Df , as follows:

(i) $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 > 0 \Rightarrow (x_0, y_0)$ is a local min. 

(ii) $\lambda_1 < 0, \lambda_2 > 0 \Rightarrow (x_0, y_0)$ is a saddle point \Rightarrow no local MAX/MIN

(iii) $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 < 0 \Rightarrow (x_0, y_0)$ is a local max.



Ex. 5

13.1.1 $f(x,y) = x^2 + 2y^2 - 4x + 4y$

$$\begin{cases} f_x = 2x - 4 = 0 \\ f_y = 4y + 4 = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x = 2 \\ y = -1 \end{cases} \quad \text{one critical point } (2, -1)$$

$$Df = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 4 \quad (\text{local min})$$

Also: $f(x,y) = (x-2)^2 + 2(y+1)^2 - 6 \Rightarrow \text{local min}$

13.1.5 $f(x,y) = \frac{x}{y} + \frac{8}{x} - y \quad (xy \neq 0)$

$$\begin{cases} f_x = 1/y - 8/x^2 = 0 \\ f_y = -x/y^2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x^2 - 8y = 0 \\ x + y^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -y^2 \end{cases} \quad \uparrow \text{subst.}$$

$$\Rightarrow y^4 - 8y = 0 \Leftrightarrow y(y^3 - 8) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } y = 2$$

\leftarrow not allowed!

critical point $(-4, 2)$

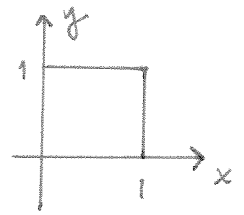
$$Df(-4, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} +16/x^3 & -1/y^2 \\ -1/y^2 & +2x/y^3 \end{bmatrix}_{\substack{x=-4 \\ y=2}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/4 & -1/4 \\ -1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvals: $\begin{vmatrix} -\frac{1}{4} - \lambda & -\frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-\frac{1}{4} - \lambda)(-1 - \lambda) - (-\frac{1}{4})^2 = \lambda^2 + \frac{5}{4}\lambda + \frac{3}{16} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{-5/4 \pm \sqrt{25/16 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3/16}}{2} < 0$$

$\Rightarrow (4, -2)$ is a local max.

13.2.5 $f(x,y) = xy - x^3y^2$, $0 \leq x, y \leq 1$, MAX/MIN?



critical points?

$$\begin{cases} f_x = y - 3x^2y^2 = 0 \\ f_y = x - 2x^3y = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} y(1 - 3x^2y) = 0 \\ x(1 - 2x^2y) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Only sol. $(0,0) \in$ boundary of the square

\Rightarrow no loc. max or min inside \Rightarrow global max and min are obtained on the boundary:

$x=0$ or $y=0$ $\Rightarrow f(x,y) \equiv 0$

$x=1, 0 \leq y \leq 1$ $g(y) = f(1,y) = y - y^2$, $g'(y) = 1 - 2y = 0?$
 $\Leftrightarrow y = 1/2$

$\Rightarrow (1, 1/2)$ is a possible MAX/MIN-point

$y=1, 0 \leq x \leq 1$ $h(x) = f(x,1) = x - x^3$, $h'(x) = 1 - 3x^2 = 0?$
 $\Leftrightarrow x = (\pm)^{1/\sqrt{3}}$

$\Rightarrow (1/\sqrt{3}, 1)$ is a possible point.

Now $f(0,0) = 0$ } (on any other point with $x=0$ or $y=0$)
 $f(1, 1/2) = 1/4$ } all possible MAX/MIN values
 $f(1/\sqrt{3}, 1) = 2/3\sqrt{3}$

$\Rightarrow f(0,0) = 0$ is MIN

$f(1/\sqrt{3}, 1) = 2/3\sqrt{3}$ is MAX.