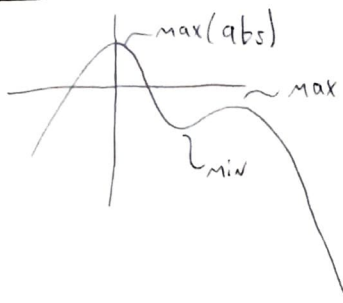


Lecture 15

Maxima & Minima in 2-D



In 2-D, a relative extreme value occurs at a critical point,
 $f'(x) = 0$.

Extension to 3-D

The above condition can be extended for functions of two variables. If $f(x, y)$ has an extreme value at (x_0, y_0) then

$$f'_x(x_0, y_0) = f'_y(x_0, y_0) = 0 \quad \text{if } f'_x(x_0, y_0) \text{ \& } f'_y(x_0, y_0) \text{ exist}$$

$$\text{or } \nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \vec{0}$$

These points (x_0, y_0) are called critical points.

Ex. 1

Let $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 6y + 14$. Find the critical points of f and determine any maxima or minima.

$$\nabla f = \langle f'_x, f'_y \rangle = \vec{0}$$

$$f'_x = 2x - 2 = 0$$

$$x = 1$$

$$f'_y = 2y - 6 = 0$$

$$y = 3$$

1 critical point at $(1, 3)$

$$f(x, y) = (x-1)^2 - 1 + (y-3)^2 - 9 + 14$$

$$f(x, y) = (x-1)^2 + (y-3)^2 + 4$$

$$(x-1)^2 \geq 0 \quad (y-3)^2 \geq 0$$

$$f(x, y) \geq 4$$

$(1, 3)$ is a global minimum

Ex. 2

Let $f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$. Find the critical points and any extrema.

$$\nabla f(x,y) = \vec{0}$$

$$f_x = -2x = 0 \\ x = 0$$

$$f_y = 2y = 0 \\ y = 0$$

$f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$ is the hyperbolic paraboloid, please don't make me draw it. At the origin, moving in the y -direction $f(x,y)$ increases. In the x , it decreases. The origin is neither a max nor a min. It is a saddle point.

The Second Derivative Test

Assume f has a critical point at (x_0, y_0) and that f has continuous second derivatives in a disk centered at (x_0, y_0) . Let

$$D(x_0, y_0) = f_{xx}(x_0, y_0)f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) - [f_{xy}(x_0, y_0)]^2$$

i) If $D(x_0, y_0) > 0$ and $f_{xx}(x_0, y_0) < 0$ (or $f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) < 0$), then f has a relative maximum at (x_0, y_0) .

ii) If $D(x_0, y_0) > 0$ and $f_{xx}(x_0, y_0) > 0$ (or $f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) > 0$) then f has a relative minimum at (x_0, y_0) .

iii) If $D(x_0, y_0) < 0$ then f has a saddle point at (x_0, y_0) .

$D(x_0, y_0)$ is the discriminant of the Hessian matrix. That is,

$$\begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}f_{yx} = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2$$

Ex. 3

Find the local maxima & minima of $f(x,y) = x^4 + y^4 - 4xy + 1$

$$f_x = 4x^3 - 4y = 0$$

$$f_y = 4y^3 - 4x = 0$$

$$x^3 - y = 0$$

$$y = x^3$$

$$(x^3)^3 - x = 0$$

$$x^9 - x = 0$$

$$x(x^8 - 1) = 0 \rightarrow x(x^4 + 1)(x^4 - 1) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x(x^4 + 1)(x^2 + 1)(x^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$x = 0, 1, -1$$

critical points are

$$(0, 0), (1, 1), + (-1, -1)$$

Now we need the discriminant,

$$\begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2$$

$$f_x = 4x^3 - 4y$$

$$f_y = 4y^3 - 4x$$

$$f_{xx} = 12x^2$$

$$f_{yy} = 12y^2$$

$$f_{xy} = -4$$

$$D(x, y) = 144x^2y^2 - 16$$

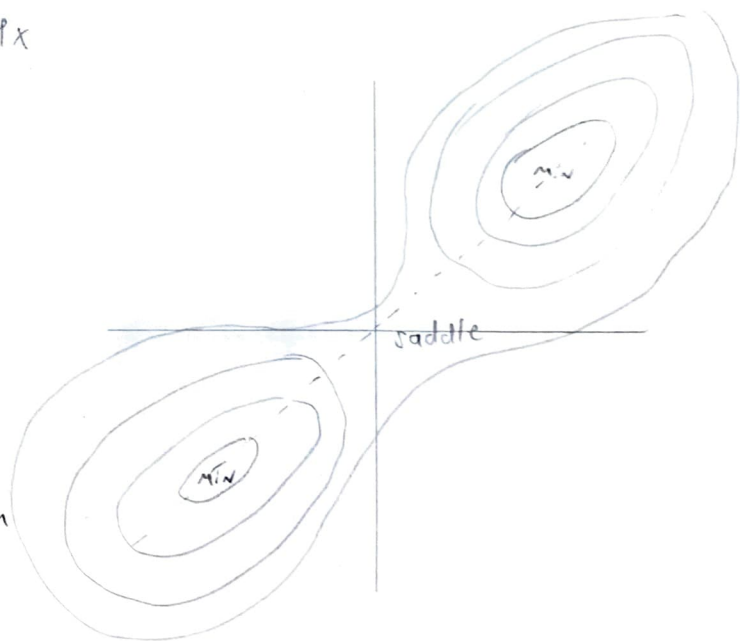
$$(0, 0): D(0, 0) = -16 < 0 \rightarrow \text{saddle}$$

$$(1, 1): D(1, 1) = 128 > 0$$

$$f_{xx}(1, 1) = 12 > 0 \rightarrow \text{local minimum}$$

$$(-1, -1): D(-1, -1) = 128 > 0$$

$$f_{xx}(-1, -1) = 12 > 0 \rightarrow \text{local minimum}$$



Ex. 4

Let $f(x,y) = 3x^2y + y^3 - 3x^2 - 3y^2 + 2$. Find the extreme values.

$$f_x = 6xy - 6x = 0$$

$$f_y = 3x^2 + 3y^2 - 6y = 0$$

$$6xy - 6x = 0$$

$$3x^2 + 3y^2 - 6y = 0$$

$$xy - x = 0$$

$$x^2 + y^2 - 2y = 0$$

$$x(y-1) = 0$$

$$x^2 + y(y-2) = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

with $x = 0$

$$y = 1$$

$$y(y-2) = 0$$

$$y = 0 \text{ or } y = 2$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{(0,0) \text{ \& } (0,2)}$$

with $y = 1$

$$x^2 + 1(1-2) = 0$$

$$x^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x = \pm 1$$

$$\boxed{(1,1) \text{ \& } (-1,1)}$$

Apply the second Derivative test

$$f_{xx} = 6y - 6$$

$$f_{yy} = 6y - 6$$

$$f_{xy} = 6x$$

$$D(x,y) = (6y-6)^2 - 36x^2$$

$(0,0)$: $D(0,0) = 36 > 0$ \& $f_{xx}(0,0) = -6 < 0 \rightarrow (0,0)$ is a max

$(0,2)$: $D(0,2) = 36 > 0$ \& $f_{xx}(0,2) = 6 > 0 \rightarrow (0,2)$ is a min

$(-1,1)$: $D(-1,1) = -36 < 0 \rightarrow (-1,1)$ is a saddle point

$(1,1)$: $D(1,1) = -36 < 0 \rightarrow (1,1)$ is a saddle point