

Chapter 15 Functions of Several Variables

§15.1 Graphs and Level Curves

- functions of two variables

$z = f(x, y)$, $\forall (x, y)$, $f(x, y)$ has a single value

domain $D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid f(x, y) \text{ is well defined}\}$

range $R = \{f(x, y) \in \mathbb{R} \mid (x, y) \in D\}$

example find the domain of the following functions

#18. $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 - 25}}$; #20. $f(x, y) = \frac{12}{y^2 - x^2}$

- graph of $z = f(x, y)$

$$\{(x, y, f(x, y)) \mid (x, y) \in D\}$$

example sketch the graph

$z = f(x, y) = 6 - 3x - 2y$; #29. $z = f(x, y) = -\sqrt{9 - x^2 - y^2}$

- level curves $\{ (x, y) \mid f(x, y) = k \}$

examples sketch some level curves

$$z = f(x, y) = 6 - 3x - 2y; \quad z = h(x, y) = 4x^2 + y^2 + 1$$

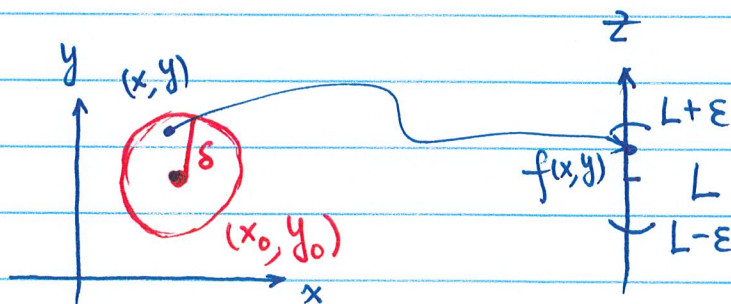
- functions of three variables $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{domain} \\ \text{range} \\ \text{level surface} \end{array} \right.$

example $w = f(x, y, z) = \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2}$.

§15.2 Limits and Continuity

- Limits

$$\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} f(x, y) = L \iff \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0, \text{ s.t. } "0 < |(x, y) - (x_0, y_0)| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x, y) - L| < \varepsilon"$$



Limits of Constant and Linear Functions $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$(1) \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} c = c ; (2) \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} x = a ; (3) \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} y = b .$$

Limit Laws

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x,y) = L, \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} g(x,y) = M$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} [f(x,y) \pm g(x,y)] = L \pm M$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} [c f(x,y)] = cL$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x,y) g(x,y) = LM$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} \frac{f(x,y)}{g(x,y)} = \frac{L}{M}, \text{ provided } M \neq 0 .$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} [f(x,y)]^n = L^n ; \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} [f(x,y)]^{\frac{1}{n}} = L^{\frac{1}{n}}, L > 0 \text{ if } n \text{ is even}$$

examples

$$\#19 \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,0)} \frac{x^2 - 3xy^2}{x+y}, \quad \#22 \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,-2)} \frac{y^2 + 2xy}{y + 2x}$$

$$\#24 \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (-1,1)} \frac{2x^2 - xy - 3y^2}{x+y}, \quad \#27 \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2)} \frac{\sqrt{y} - \sqrt{x+1}}{y - x - 1}$$

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x,y) \text{ DNE} \iff \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b) \\ \text{along path } C_1}} f(x,y) = L_1 \neq L_2 = \lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b) \\ \text{along path } C_2}} f(x,y)$$

examples #30 $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{4xy}{3x^2 + y^2}$; #33 $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{y^3 + x^3}{xy^2}$

• continuity

$$f(x,y) \text{ is cont. at } (a,b) \iff \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (a,b)} f(x,y) = f(a,b)$$

examples

$$\#42 \quad f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{y^4 - 2x^2}{y^4 + x^2}, & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0, & (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

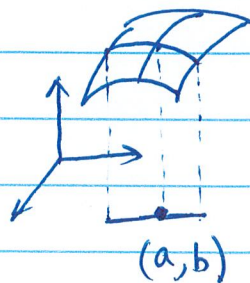
$$\#54 \quad f(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1 - \cos(x^2 + y^2)}{x^2 + y^2}, & (x,y) \neq (0,0) \\ 0, & (x,y) = (0,0) \end{cases}$$

§15.3 Partial Derivatives

$$z = f(x,y)$$

$$f_x(a,b) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h,b) - f(a,b)}{h}$$

$$f_y(a,b) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a,b+h) - f(a,b)}{h}$$



examples

#16, 22, 29, 31

- higher-order derivative

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right), \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right), \quad \dots$$

examples #38, 39

- partial derivative and continuity

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & xy \neq 0 \\ 1 & xy = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $\lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (0, 0)} f(x, y) = ?$

- f is not cont. at $(0, 0)$

- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0) = ? \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(0, 0) = ?$

Clairaut's Thrm f is defined on a disk $D \ni (a, b)$

$$f_{xy} \text{ and } f_{yx} \text{ are cont. on } D \Rightarrow f_{xy}(a, b) = f_{yx}(a, b)$$

#59, 91

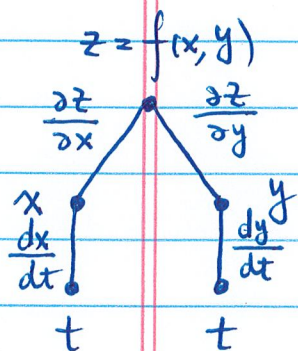
§15.4 The Chain Rule

- function of one variable

$$\begin{array}{l} y = f(x) \\ x = g(t) \end{array} \Rightarrow y = f(g(t)) : \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = f'(g(t)) g'(t)$$

- function of two variables

one indep. variable $z = f(x, y) \quad \begin{cases} x = g(t) \\ y = h(t) \end{cases} \Rightarrow z = f(g(t), h(t))$

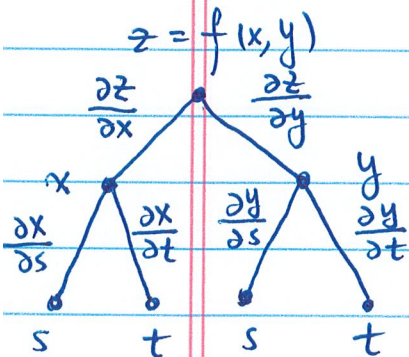


$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dz}{dt} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} \\ &= f_x(g(t), h(t)) g'(t) + f_y(g(t), h(t)) h'(t) \end{aligned}$$

#9, 13

two indep. variable

$$z = f(x, y) \quad \begin{cases} x = g(t, s) \\ y = h(t, s) \end{cases} \Rightarrow z = f(g(t, s), h(t, s))$$



$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

#19, 22

implicit differentiation

$$F(x, y) = 0 \implies y = f(x)$$

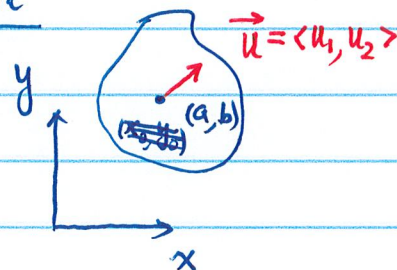
$$\implies F(x, f(x)) = 0 \implies \frac{d}{dx} F(x, f(x)) = 0$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dx} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \implies \frac{dy}{dx} = - \frac{F_x}{F_y}$$

35, 38

§15.5 Directional Derivative and the Gradient

$$z = f(x, y), (x, y) \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$



Question

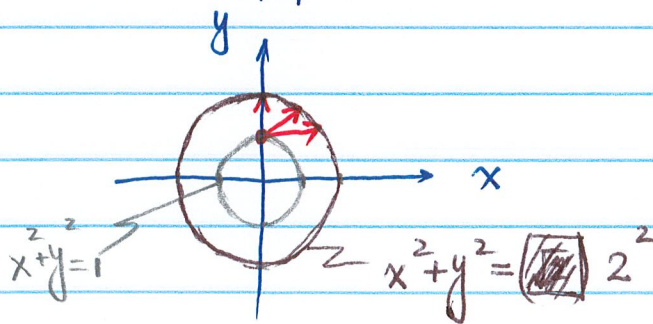
In which direction at (a, b) does the value of $f(x, y)$ increase most rapidly?

$\iff$ Find $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle$ s.t.

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} f((a, b) + t\vec{u}) \right|_{t=0} = \max_{\substack{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \\ |\vec{v}|=1}} \left. \frac{d}{dt} f((a, b) + t\vec{v}) \right|_{t=0}$$

example

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



$$\begin{aligned}
 \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(a,b+t\vec{u}) \right|_{t=0} &= \max_{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2, |\vec{v}|=1} \left. \frac{d}{dt} f(a,b+t\vec{v}) \right|_{t=0} & (a,b) + t\vec{v} \\
 &= \max_{|\vec{v}|=1} \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a,b) v_1 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a,b) v_2 \right\} & = (a+tv_1, a+tv_2) \\
 &= \max_{|\vec{v}|=1} \nabla f(a,b) \cdot \vec{v} & \nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \max_{|\vec{v}|=1} |\nabla f(a,b)| \cos \theta & \theta \text{ is the angle between } \vec{v} \text{ and } \nabla f \\
 &= |\nabla f(a,b)| \quad \text{if } \theta=0 \Leftrightarrow \vec{u} \parallel \nabla f(a,b)
 \end{aligned}$$

- directional derivative along $\vec{u}$ ~ unit vector

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_{\vec{u}} f(a,b) &= \nabla f(a,b) \cdot \vec{u} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+hu_1, b+hu_2) - f(a,b)}{h}
 \end{aligned}$$

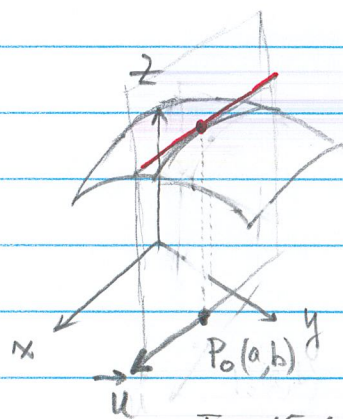


Fig 15.45

- gradient

$$\nabla f(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x,y) \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x,y) \end{pmatrix}$$

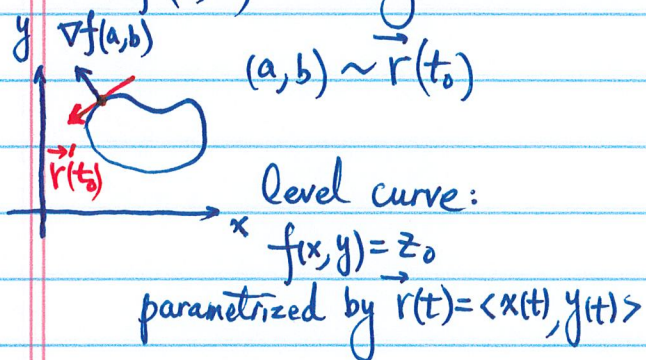
Thrm 15.11 (Directions of Change) f is diff. at (a,b) with $\nabla f(a,b) \neq \vec{0}$

- (1) f has its max rate of increase at (a,b) in the direction of the gradient $\nabla f(a,b)$;
- (2) f decrease $-\nabla f(a,b)$;
- (3) the directional derivative is zero in any direction orthogonal to $\nabla f(a,b)$.

examples 1-5.

- the gradient and level curves f is diff at (a,b) with $\nabla f(a,b) \neq \vec{0}$

$\nabla f(a,b)$ is orthogonal to the level curve $f(x,y)=z_0$ at (a,b)



Proof $z_0 = f(x,y) = f(\vec{r}(t))$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{d}{dt} f(\vec{r}(t)) \Big|_{t=t_0}$$

$$= \nabla f(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) \Big|_{t=t_0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla f(a,b) \perp \vec{r}'(t_0) \quad \#$$

examples 5-7

- three dimensions

§15.6 Tangent Planes and Linear Approximation

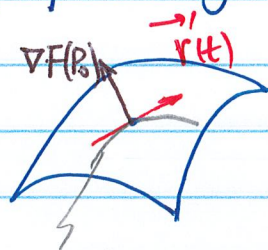
- surface in $\mathbb{R}^3$

graph $z = f(x, y)$

level surface $F(x, y, z) = 0$

- tangent planes for level surface at $P_0(a, b, c)$

$\nabla F(P_0)$ is orthogonal to the tangent plane at P_0 .



$C: \mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$
on the level surface

$$0 = F(x(t), y(t), z(t))$$

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$= \nabla F(P_0) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \nabla F(P_0) \cdot \langle x-a, y-b, z-c \rangle$$

$$= F_x(a, b, c)(x-a) + F_y(a, b, c)(y-b) + F_z(a, b, c)(z-c)$$

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- tangent planes for graph at $(a, b, f(a, b))$

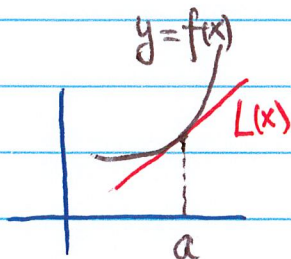
$$z = f(x, y) \Rightarrow F(x, y, z) = z - f(x, y) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla F(a, b, f(a, b)) = \langle -f_x(a, b), -f_y(a, b), 1 \rangle$$

$$z = f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b) + f(a,b)$$

#19, 26

• Linear Approximation



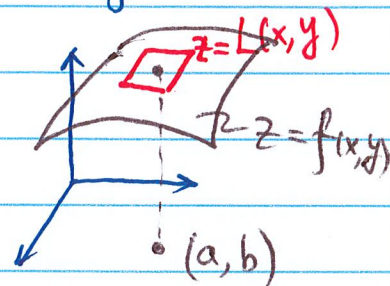
$$y = f(x)$$

$$f(x) \approx L(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x-a)$$

$$y = f(x,y)$$

$$f(x,y) \approx L(x,y) = f(a,b) + f_x(a,b)(x-a) + f_y(a,b)(y-b)$$

#34



• Differentials and change

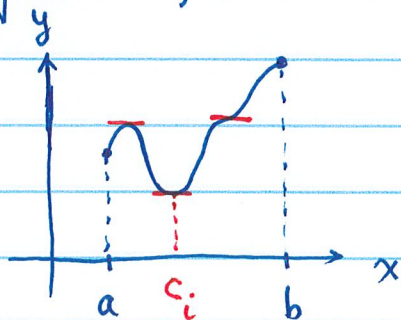
$$\Delta z \equiv f(x,y) - f(a,b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \approx L(x,y) - f(a,b) &= f_x(a,b) \underbrace{(x-a)}_{dx} + f_y(a,b) \underbrace{(y-b)}_{dy} \\ &= f_x(a,b) dx + f_y(a,b) dy \equiv dz \end{aligned}$$

Ex. 4, 6

§15.7 Maximum/Minimum Problems

- functions of one variable



$$f(c_i) = 0$$

$$\max/\min_{x \in [a, b]} f(x)$$

$$= \max/\min \{f(c_i), f(a), f(b)\}$$

a, b — boundary pts
 c_i — critical pts

- functions of two variables

Definition (Local Max/Min Values)

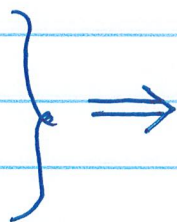
$$(1) \ f(a, b) \text{ is a local max value of } f \iff f(a, b) \geq f(x, y), \forall (x, y) \in D_r(a, b)$$

$$(2) \ \dots \dots \dots \min \dots \dots \dots \iff f(a, b) \leq f(x, y), \forall (x, y) \in D_r(a, b)$$

Theorem (First Derivative Test)

$$(1) \ f \text{ has a local max/min at an interior pt } (a, b)$$

$$(2) \ f_x(a, b) \text{ and } f_y(a, b) \text{ exist}$$



$$f_x(a, b) = 0$$

$$f_y(a, b) = 0$$

Proof auxiliary function $g(t) = f(a+h_1t, b+h_2t)$ has a local max/min ~~at~~ at $t=0$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = g'(t) \Big|_{t=0} = \frac{d}{dt} f(a+h_1t, b+h_2t) \Big|_{t=0} = \nabla f(a,b) \cdot \langle h_1, h_2 \rangle \quad \forall (h_1, h_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla f(a,b) = \langle 0, 0 \rangle. \quad \#$$

Definition (Critical Points)

$$(a,b) \text{ is a critical pt of } f \iff \begin{cases} (1) f_x(a,b) = f_y(a,b) = 0 \\ (2) \text{ either } f_x(a,b) \text{ or } f_y(a,b) \text{ DNE.} \end{cases}$$

Ex. 1

Definition (Saddle Point)

$$(a,b) \text{ is a saddle pt of } f \iff (a,b) \text{ is a critical pt, but } f(a,b) \text{ is not a local max/min.}$$

Theorem (Second Derivative Test) $D(x,y) = f_{xx}(x,y)f_{yy}(x,y) - (f_{xy}(x,y))^2$

$$\begin{aligned} (1) f_{xx}, f_{xy}, f_{yy} &\in C^0(D_r(a,b)) \\ (2) f_x(a,b) &= f_y(a,b) = 0 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} (1) D > 0 \quad \begin{cases} f_{xx}(a,b) > 0 \Rightarrow \text{a local max} \\ f_{xx}(a,b) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{a local min} \end{cases} \\ (2) D < 0 \Rightarrow (a,b) \text{ is a saddle pt} \\ (3) D = 0 \Rightarrow \text{it is inconclusive.} \end{cases}$$

Ex. 2, 3, 4

Definition (Absolute Maximum/Minimum Values) f is defined on a set $R \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ containing (a,b)

- (1) $f(a,b)$ is an absolute max value of $f \iff f(a,b) \geq f(x,y), \forall (x,y) \in R$
- (2) $\dots \dots \dots \min \dots \dots \dots \iff f(a,b) \leq f(x,y), \forall (x,y) \in R$.

Procedure (Finding abs. max./min. values on closed bounded sets)

R is a closed bounded set in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and $f \in C^0(R)$.

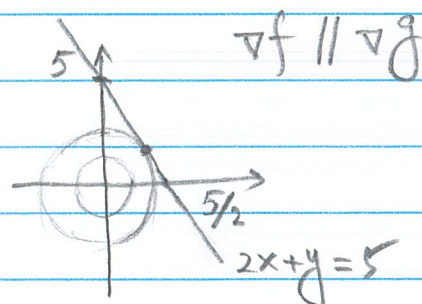
- (1) calculate values of f at all critical pts
- (2) find the max and min values of f on the boundary of R
- (3) $\begin{cases} \text{abs. max. value} = \text{the largest values in (1) and (2).} \\ \text{abs. min. value} = \text{the smallest values in (1) and (2).} \end{cases}$

Ex. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

§15.8 Lagrange Multipliers

constrained maximum/minimum problems

$$\begin{aligned} &\max/\min f(x, y, z) \\ &g(x, y, z) = 0 \end{aligned}$$



Ex. 1 $\min_{g(x,y)=0} (x^2 + y^2)$
 $\parallel$
 $f(x,y)$
 $g(x,y)$

Ex. 2 Find (x, y, z) on $g(x, y, z) = x^2 - z^2 - 1 = 0$ that are closest to $(0, 0, 0)$

Solution

$$\min_{g(x,y,z)=0} \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad \text{or} \quad \min_{g(x,y,z)=0} \underbrace{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}_{f(x,y,z)}$$

Solution 1 $g(x, y, z) = 0 \implies z^2 = x^2 - 1 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 = z^2 + 1$

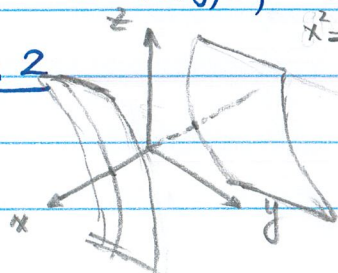
$$\bullet h(x, y) = f(x, y, z) \Big|_{z^2 = x^2 - 1} = 2x^2 + y^2 - 1$$

$$\min h(x, y) \implies \text{critical pt } (x, y) = (0, 0) \implies z^2 = -1 \quad \text{wrong}$$

$$\bullet k(y, z) = f(x, y, z) \Big|_{x^2 = z^2 + 1} = y^2 + 2z^2 + 1$$

$$\min k(y, z) \implies \text{critical pt } (y, z) = (0, 0) \implies x^2 = 1 \implies x = \pm 1$$

Solution 2



- the method of Lagrange multipliers

Assume that $\begin{cases} (1) f(x,y,z) \text{ and } g(x,y,z) \text{ are differentiable} \\ (2) \nabla g \neq 0 \text{ where } g=0 \end{cases}$

- critical pts of $\max/\min f(x,y,z)$ satisfy $g(x,y,z)=0$

$$\begin{cases} \nabla f = \lambda \nabla g \\ g = 0 \end{cases}$$

Ex. 3 $f(x,y) = xy$
 $g(x,y) = \frac{x^2}{8} + \frac{y^2}{2}$

$\max/\min f$
 $g=1$

Ex. 4 $f(x,y) = 3x + 4y$
 $g(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$

#24 $f(x,y,z) = xy - z$
 $g(x,y,z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xy$