

# Maxima and Minima

Ex. (from 14.6) and 14.7 (beginning)

$$\text{If } f(x, y) = x e^y - x^2$$

Find rate of change at  $(2, 0)$

in the direction from  $P(2, 0)$

to  $Q(1, 2)$ .

$$\nabla f = (e^y - 2x)\vec{i} + (x e^y)\vec{j}$$

$$= (1 - 4)\vec{i} + 2\vec{j}$$

$$= -3\vec{i} + 2\vec{j}$$

$$Q - P = (1, 2) - (2, 0)$$

$$= -\vec{i} + 2\vec{j}$$

$$\therefore \vec{u} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}}\vec{i} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}\vec{j}$$

$$\nabla f \cdot \vec{u} = \langle -3, 2 \rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \right\rangle$$

$$= \frac{+3}{\sqrt{5}} + \frac{4}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{+7}{\sqrt{5}}$$

Direction of Max. Change

$$\underline{\underline{\vec{u}}} = \frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|} = \frac{\langle -3, 2 \rangle}{\sqrt{3^2 + 2^2}} = \left\langle \frac{-3}{\sqrt{13}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{13}} \right\rangle$$

Max. Rate of change

$$= \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{13}$$

Ex. Find eq'n of tangent

plane of  $x^2 + 4y^2 + 4z^2 = 9$

at  $(1, -1, 1)$ .

$$\nabla f \cdot \langle x-x_0, y-y_0, z-z_0 \rangle = 0$$

$$\nabla f = \langle 2x, 8y, 8z \rangle$$

$$= \langle 2, -8, 8 \rangle \text{ at } (1, -1, 1)$$

*2(x-1), 8(y+1)*

$$\underline{2(x-1) - 8(y+1) + 8(z-1) = 0}$$

Find the equation of the

normal line through  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$

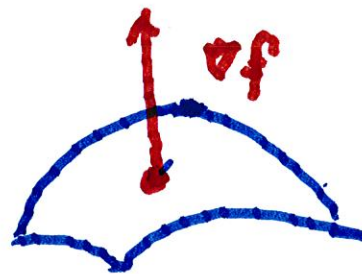
and that is  $\perp$  to tangent plane

$$\nabla f = (f_x, f_y, f_z) \text{ at } (x_0, y_0, z_0)$$

$$x - x_0 = t f_x$$

$$y - y_0 = t f_y$$

$$z - z_0 = t f_z$$



$f(x,y)$   
 Def'n: A fcn. of two variables  
 has a local maximum at  $(a,b)$

if  $f(x,y) \leq f(a,b)$  if  $(x,y)$   
 is close to  $(a,b)$ .

A fcn.  $f(x,y)$  has a local minimum  
 at  $(a,b)$  if

$f(x,y) \geq f(a,b)$  if  $(x,y)$  is  
 close to  $(a,b)$

If the inequalities hold

for all  $x, y$ , then we say

$f$  has an absolute maximum

(or absolute minimum) at  $(a, b)$

Thm. If  $f$  has a local maximum

(or local minimum), then

$$f_x(a, b) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f_y(a, b) = 0.$$

$(a, b)$  is called a critical point

Ex. Find all critical points of

$$f(x, y) = x^2 - 2y^2 - 4x + 8y - 1 = 0$$

$$f_x = 2x - 4 = 0 \rightarrow x = 2$$

$$f_y = -4y + 8 = 0 \rightarrow y = 2$$

$(2, 2)$  is the only critical point

Complete the square:

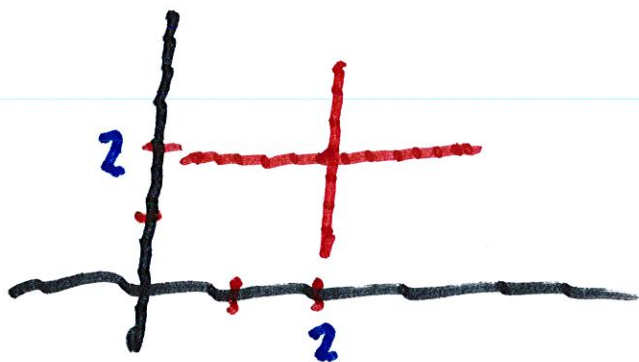
$$x^2 - 4x + 2(y^2 - 4y) = 1$$

$$(x-2)^2 + 2(y-2)^2 = 1 + 4 = 5$$

$$= 5$$



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



$\therefore f(x, y)$  has an absolute minimum  
at  $(2, 2)$ .

Ex Find the extreme values  
of  $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$

$$f_x = 2x \quad f_y = 2y$$

→  $(0, 0)$  is a critical point.

But set  $x = t, y = 0$

$f(t, 0) = t^2$ , which increases

$f(0, t) = -t^2 \therefore f$  decreases

$f$  has a saddle point

(b) If  $D > 0$  and  $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$

then  $f$  has a local maximum

(c) If  $D < 0$ , then  $f(a,b)$  is

not a local minimum or

a local maximum.

(In fact  $f$  has a saddle point.)

If  $D=0$ , the test ~~has~~ gives  
no information.

Ex. Find the local maximum and  
local minimum  
values for

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

$$f_x = 4x^3 - 4y = 0 \rightarrow y = x^3 \quad (1)$$

$$f_y = 4y^3 - 4x = 0 \rightarrow x = y^3. \quad (2)$$

Plug (1) into (2)

$$\rightarrow x = x^9 \rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or}$$

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

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

$$\therefore x = 0, 1 \text{ or } -1$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ (0, 0) & (1, 1) & (-1, -1) \end{array}$$

Now calculate

$$D_{xx}f = 12x^2, \quad D_{yy} = 12y^2$$

$$f_{xy} = -4 + 12x^2$$

$$\therefore \text{for } (0,0) \quad D_{xy} = -4$$

$\rightarrow (0,0)$  is a saddle point

$$f_{xx} = 12x^2 \quad f_{xy} = -4$$

$$f_{xy} = -4 \quad f_{yy} = 12y^2$$

$$\therefore \text{For } (1,1) \quad D = 12^2 - 16 > 0$$

and  $f_{xx} > 0$   $f_{yy} = \Rightarrow (1,1)$  is  
a local min

$$\text{For } (-1,-1) \quad D = 12^2 -$$

$\hookrightarrow$  is local min

$$- (f_{xy})^2 = -16 + 144x^2y^2 \quad D < 0$$

Saddle pt

Ex. 5 Find the shortest distance

from  $(1, 0, -2)$  to the plane

$$x + 2y + z = 4.$$

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

We can minimize the square

by minimizing the square

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

$$\underbrace{(4 - x - 2y + 2)^2}_z$$

$$f(x, y) = (x-1)^2 + y^2 + (6-x-2y)^2$$

$$f_x = 2(x-1) + 2(6-x-2y)(-1)$$

$$= -2x + 4 - 4y$$

$$f_x = 4x + 4y - 14 = 0.$$


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$$f_y = 2y + 2(6-x-2y)(-2)$$

$$= 6y - 4x - 2y = 4y - 4x - 24 = 0$$


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$$\therefore 4x + 4y = 14$$

$$4x + 10y = 24$$

$$\rightarrow 6y = 10 \rightarrow y = \frac{10}{6} = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$\therefore 4x = 14 - 4y = 14 - \frac{20}{3} = \frac{22}{3}$$

$$\rightarrow x = \frac{-22}{12} = -\frac{11}{6}$$

$\therefore$  Only crit. point is  $\left(\frac{11}{6}, \frac{5}{3}\right)$

Intuitively, this is a local  
minimum.

To find an absolute minimum

on a  $K$  closed bounded set:

1. Find the values at the critical points.
2. Find the extreme values of  $f$  on the boundary of  $D$ .
3. Compare the values from (1) and (2)

# 33 Find the absolute maximum

and minimum points of

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

$$D = \{ (x, y) \mid 0 \leq x \leq 3, 0 \leq y \leq 2 \}$$

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

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

$$x = y^3 = (x^3)^3 \rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } 1 = x^8$$

$$x = x^9 \rightarrow 1 = x^8 \quad \rightarrow$$

$$\text{If } x=0 \rightarrow y=0$$

$$\text{If } x=-1$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$y = (-1)^8 = 1$$

$$\text{If } x=1$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$y=1$$

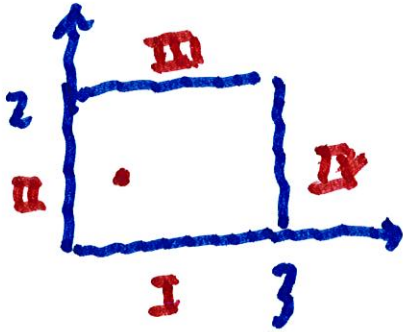
$\therefore$  3 crit. points

$$(0,0) \quad (1,1) \quad (-1,1)$$

$\uparrow$   
not in  
interior

$\downarrow$   
in int. of  $\mathcal{D}$

$$f(1,1) = 2 - 4 + 2 = 0$$



$$f(x, 0) = x^4 + 0 + 0 + 2 = x^4 + 2$$

$$f(3, 0) = 83 \quad f(0, 0) = 2$$

I

II

$$f(0, y) = y^4 + 2 \leq 18 \quad 2^4 + 2 = 18$$

$$y=2 \rightarrow 2$$

III

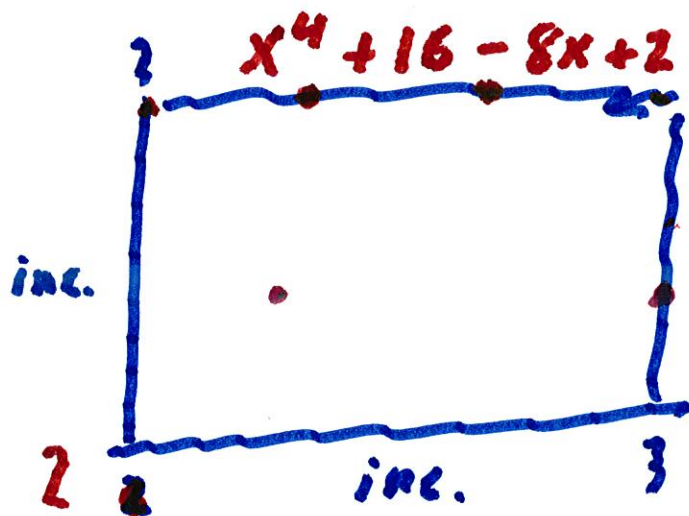
$$f(x, 2) = x^4 + 16 - 8x + 2 \approx 87$$

$$-4xy$$

Find max of  $x^4 + 16 - 8x + 2$

$$y'(x) = 4x^3 - 8$$

$$\rightarrow x^3 = 2 \rightarrow x = \sqrt[3]{2}$$



$$81 + y^4 - 12y + 2$$

$$\text{IV} \quad 4y^3 - 12 = 0$$

$$y^3 = 3$$

It appears that  $f(1,1)$  is

the minimum value:

$$f(1,1) = 0$$

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

$$D = \{x \mid -1 \leq x \leq 1, y \mid -1 \leq y \leq 1\}$$

$$f_x = 2x - 2xy \quad f_y = 2y - x^2 = 0$$

$$= 2x(1-y) = 0 \quad \rightarrow y = \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$x = \sqrt{2}$$

$$x=0 \rightarrow y=0 \quad (0,0)$$

$$(\sqrt{2}, \quad x = \pm \sqrt{2})$$

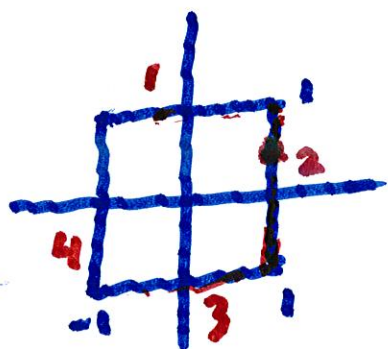
$$(-\sqrt{2}, 1) \quad (\sqrt{2}, 1)$$

For  $(0, 0)$

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

$$D = 4 - 0 \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\text{local min or a local max}}}$$

$(0, 0)$



Look at  $(x, 1)$   $-1 \leq x \leq 1$

$$1. f(x, 1) = x^2 + 1 - x^2 + 4 = 5$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(1, y) &= 1 + y^2 - y + 4 \\ &= y^2 - y + 3 \end{aligned}$$