

Q Is there a point on the graph $z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ that's closest to the point $P = (4, 2, 0)$? Furthest?

Recall - the extreme value theorem:

Let $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous; D closed & bounded.

Then f attains a maximum value at some point $P \in D$, and

- either $P \in \partial D = \text{boundary of } D$
- P is a critical point for f .

Today: How can we find the maximum value for f over ∂D ?

Example: Does $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ have a maximum value on $D = x^2 + y^2 \leq 4$? What is it?

- has max value by EVT, since D is closed & bounded.
- critical points: $\nabla f = \langle 2x, -2y \rangle = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$ at $(0, 0)$.
 $f(0, 0) = \underline{0}$.

boundary points: $\partial D = \{x^2 + y^2 = 4\} \quad x \in [-2, 2]$

Method 1

$y^2 = 4 - x^2$

\Rightarrow on ∂D , $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 = 2x^2 - 4 \quad x \in [-2, 2]$

So we need to find max of $g(x) = 2x^2 - 4$ on $[-2, 2]$

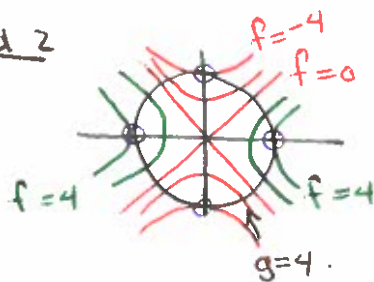
critical points: $g'(x) = 4x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$.

$g(0) = f(0, \pm 2) = \underline{-4}$

end points $g(\pm 2) = f(\pm 2, 0) = (\pm 2)^2 - (0)^2 = \underline{4}$

So the maximum value of f is 4, at $(\pm 2, 0)$.

Method 2



let $g(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$

$\nabla g(x, y) = \langle 2x, 2y \rangle$

$\nabla f(x, y) = \langle 2x, -2y \rangle$

max values at $(\pm 2, 0)$

$\nabla g = \langle \pm 4, 0 \rangle$

$\nabla f = \langle \pm 4, 0 \rangle$

Min value at $(0, \pm 2) \rightarrow \nabla g = \langle 0, \pm 4 \rangle$
 $\nabla f = \langle 0, \mp 4 \rangle$

18.2

Exactly the locations where $\nabla g, \nabla f$ point in the same direction (\pm).

Theorem (Lagrange multipliers) - discovered by Euler.

Assume $f, g: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ have continuous first order partial derivatives.

$f(x_0, y_0)$ is the maximum value of f on the level curves

$\{g(x, y) = k\}$ then either

g is called the constraint / side condition.

• $\nabla g(x_0, y_0) = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$

OR • $\nabla f(x_0, y_0) = \lambda \nabla g(x_0, y_0)$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

Note: the theorem doesn't guarantee a maximum exists, it just tells us where it's possible a maximum does exist.

• But if g is continuous, $\{g = k\}$ is closed, so if we can show it's bounded, a maximum exists by EVT.

• If not, sometimes we can use a geometric/physical argument.

Strategy: (1) Check that $\{g = k\}$ is bounded OR use a geometric argument.

(2) Check that $\nabla g(x, y) \neq 0$ on $g = k$

(3) Find all x, y, λ s.t.

• $\nabla f(x, y) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y)$ ← two equations

• $g(x, y) = k$ ← one more equation.

(4) Calculate $f(x, y) \forall (x, y)$ in (3).

(5) Pick the largest.

Example Find the max of $f(x,y) = x^2 - y^2$ on $x^2 + y^2 = 4$

15.3

(1) $\{g(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 = 4\}$ ← boundary of D from before.

• closed & bounded.

(2) $\nabla g(x,y) = \langle 2x, 2y \rangle \neq \langle 0,0 \rangle$ on $g=4$.

(3) 3 equations:

$$\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g : \begin{cases} \cdot 2x = \lambda 2yx & \Rightarrow \lambda = 1 \text{ or } x = 0 \\ \cdot -2y = \lambda 2y & \Rightarrow \lambda = -1 \text{ or } y = 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\cdot x^2 + y^2 = 4 \quad \Rightarrow \text{can't have both } x=0 \text{ and } y=0.$$

2

Solutions are $\cdot x=0, y = \pm 2, \lambda = -1$

$\cdot y=0, x = \pm 2, \lambda = 1$

(4) Evaluate: $f(0, \pm 2) = -4$

$f(\pm 2, 0) = 4$.

(5) Compare: max is 4, min is -4.

Theorem (Lagrange multipliers in 3 variables)

Assume f, g are functions of three variables with continuous first partial derivatives

Then if $f(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ is the max value of f on the level set

$\{g(x,y,z) = k\}$ either

$\cdot \nabla g(x_0, y_0, z_0) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$ OR $\cdot \nabla f(x_0, y_0, z_0) = \lambda \nabla g(x_0, y_0, z_0)$

for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

Note: Similar theorems hold for minima.

2 Example: Assume that $f(x,y,z), g(x,y,z)$ have continuous first partial derivatives. Suppose that f achieves its maximum value

on the level set $\{g(x,y,z) = 3\}$ at P .

Which is not possible?

Example 18. Find the maximum volume of a box with surface area 6m^2 .

15.4

• Function $V(x, y, z) = xyz$



• constraint: $A(x, y, z) = 2xy + 2xz + 2yz = 6$.

* but actually we have more constraints

$$x, y, z > 0.$$

So we're looking for the maximum of V over

$$D = \left\{ (x, y, z) \mid \begin{array}{l} A(x, y, z) = 6 \\ x > 0, y > 0, z > 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

□ Can we find a max?

System of equations:

$$\begin{cases} yz = \lambda(2y + 2z) \\ xz = \lambda(2x + 2z) \\ xy = \lambda(2x + 2y) \end{cases}$$

AND $x, y, z > 0$.

• $2xy + 2xz + 2yz = 6$

~~⇒~~ ~~4~~ ~~2~~

~~⇒ $4\lambda(2x + y + z) = 6$, $x = y = z$.~~

~~⇒ $2\lambda x = 6$, $\lambda = \frac{3}{x}$, $x = y = z$.~~

~~$yz = \lambda(2y + 2z) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\lambda^2} = \lambda(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x}) = 0$~~
 ~~$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4} = 2\lambda^2$.~~

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2\lambda} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{y} = \frac{1}{z}, \text{ so } x = y = z.$$

$$\text{So } 2x^2 + 2x^2 + 2x^2 = 6x^2 = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm 1$$

$$\text{But } x > 0 \Rightarrow x = y = z = 1$$

Volume is 1.

(Note: we never needed to solve for λ)