

14.7

Extreme Values and Saddle Points

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* To find local extreme values of $f(x)$, we look for:

- ① local max, ② local min ③ **critical** points where $f'(x) = 0$
"the graph has a horizontal tangent line"

* To find local extreme values for $f(x, y)$, we look for

- ① local max, ② local min ③ saddle points where the graph

$z = f(x, y)$ has horizontal tangent plane.

Def¹: Let $f(x, y)$ be defined on region R containing the point (a, b) . Then

① $f(a, b)$ is **local max** if $f(a, b) \geq f(x, y)$ for all domain points in an open disk centered at (a, b) .

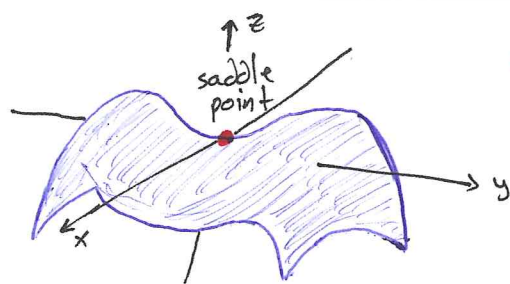
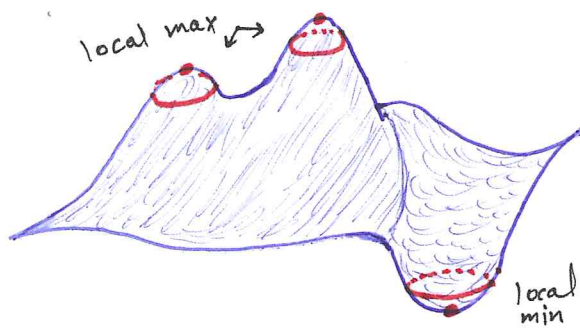
② $f(a, b)$ is **local min** if $f(a, b) \leq f(x, y)$ for all domain points in an open disk centered at (a, b) .

Def³: A diff function $f(x, y)$ has a **saddle point** at a critical point (a, b) if in every open disk centered at (a, b) there are domain points (x, y) where $f(x, y) > f(a, b)$ and there are domain points (x, y) where $f(x, y) < f(a, b)$.

Def²: An **interior point** of the domain of a function $f(x, y)$ where $f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$ or one or both of $f_x(a, b)$ and $f_y(a, b)$ DNE is a **critical point** of f .

Th^{*} (First Derivative Test for Local Extreme Values)

If $f(x, y)$ has a local max or local min at an interior point (a, b) of its domain and if the first partial derivatives exist there, then $f_x(a, b) = 0$ and $f_y(a, b) = 0$.



lol

* Th* says that the only points where $f(x,y)$ can have extreme values are the critical points and boundary points.

Th (Second Derivative Test for local Extreme values)

Suppose that $f, f_x, f_y, f_{xx}, f_{yy}, f_{xy}$ are continuous throughout a disk centered at (a,b) and $f_x(a,b) = f_y(a,b) = 0$. Then,

① f has local max at (a,b) if $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$ and $f_{xx}(a,b)f_{yy}(a,b) - f_{xy}^2(a,b) > 0$.

② f has local min at (a,b) if $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$ and $f_{xx}(a,b)f_{yy}(a,b) - f_{xy}^2(a,b) > 0$.

③ f has a saddle point at (a,b) if $f_{xx}(a,b)f_{yy}(a,b) - f_{xy}^2(a,b) < 0$.

④ The test is inconclusive at (a,b) if $f_{xx}(a,b)f_{yy}(a,b) - f_{xy}^2(a,b) = 0$.

* The expression $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix}$ is called the discriminant or Hessian.

Exp Find local max, local min, saddle points of

$$\text{① } f(x,y) = x^2 - 4xy + y^2 + 6y + 2$$

• $f_x = 2x - 4y = 0$
 $f_y = -4x + 2y + 6 = 0$ $\Rightarrow (2,1)$ is the critical point

• $f_{xx} = 2, f_{yy} = 2, f_{xy} = -4 \Rightarrow f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 4 - 16 = -12 < 0$
 $\Rightarrow (2,1)$ is saddle point

$$\boxed{2} \quad f(x,y) = x^3 + y^3 + 3x^2 - 3y^2 - 8$$

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$$\bullet f_x = 3x^2 + 6x = 0 \Leftrightarrow 3x(x+2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x=0 \text{ or } x=-2$$

$$\bullet f_y = 3y^2 - 6y = 0 \Leftrightarrow 3y(y-2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y=0 \text{ or } y=2$$

• The critical points are $(0,0)$, $(0,2)$, $(-2,0)$, $(-2,2)$

$$\bullet f_{xx} = 6x + 6, \quad f_{yy} = 6y - 6, \quad f_{xy} = 0$$

$$\bullet \underline{(0,0)}: f_{xx}(0,0) = 6, \quad f_{yy}(0,0) = -6, \quad f_{xy}(0,0) = 0$$

$$f_{xx}(0,0) f_{yy}(0,0) - f_{xy}^2(0,0) = -36 < 0 \Rightarrow (0,0) \text{ is saddle point}$$

$$\bullet \underline{(0,2)}: f_{xx}(0,2) = 6, \quad f_{yy}(0,2) = 6, \quad f_{xy}(0,2) = 0$$

$$f_{xx}(0,2) f_{yy}(0,2) - f_{xy}^2(0,2) = 36 > 0 \text{ and } f_{xx}(0,2) > 0 \Rightarrow$$

$f(0,2) = -12$ is local min

$$\bullet \underline{(-2,0)}: f_{xx}(-2,0) = -6, \quad f_{yy}(-2,0) = -6, \quad f_{xy}(-2,0) = 0$$

$$f_{xx}(-2,0) f_{yy}(-2,0) - f_{xy}^2(-2,0) = 36 > 0 \text{ and } f_{xx}(-2,0) < 0 \Rightarrow$$

$f(-2,0) = -4$ is local max

$$\bullet \underline{(-2,2)}: f_{xx}(-2,2) = -6, \quad f_{yy}(-2,2) = 6, \quad f_{xy}(-2,2) = 0$$

$$f_{xx}(-2,2) f_{yy}(-2,2) - f_{xy}^2(-2,2) = -36 < 0 \Rightarrow (-2,2) \text{ is saddle point.}$$

Absolute Max and Absolute Min on closed Bounded Regions

* To find the Absolute Max and Absolute Min of $f(x,y)$ on R :

① Find the interior points of R where f has local max and local min and evaluate f at these points "critical points".

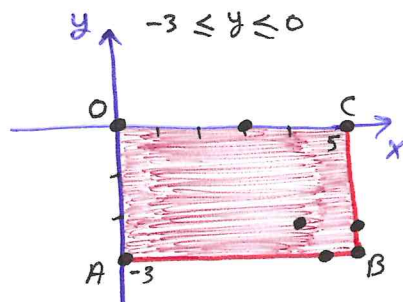
② Find the boundary points of R where f has local max and local min and evaluate f at these points.

③ Find Absolute max and Absolute min of ① and ②.

Exp Find the absolute maxima and minima of the function

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$f(x,y) = x^2 + xy + y^2 - 6x + 2$ on the rectangular plate $0 \leq x \leq 5$, $-3 \leq y \leq 0$



• OC: $f(x,0) = x^2 - 6x + 2$ on $0 \leq x \leq 5$

$f' = 2x - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 3$

$f(3,0) = -7$, $f(0,0) = 2$, $f(5,0) = -3$

• CB: $f(5,y) = y^2 + 5y - 3$ on $-3 \leq y \leq 0$

$f' = 2y + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow y = -\frac{5}{2}$

$f(5, -\frac{5}{2}) = -\frac{37}{4}$, $f(5, -3) = -9$, $f(5, 0) = -3$

• AB: $f(x, -3) = x^2 - 9x + 11$ on $0 \leq x \leq 5$

$f' = 2x - 9 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{9}{2}$

$f(\frac{9}{2}, -3) = -\frac{37}{4}$, $f(0, -3) = 11$, $f(5, -3) = -9$

• AO: $f(0,y) = y^2 + 2$ on $-3 \leq y \leq 0$

$f' = 2y = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0$

$f(0,0) = 2$, $f(0,-3) = 11$

• For interior points: $f_x(x,y) = 2x + y - 6 = 0$
 $f_y(x,y) = x + 2y = 0$ $\Rightarrow (4, -2)$ is an interior critical point
 $\Rightarrow f(4, -2) = -10$

• The absolute max is 11 at $(0, -3)$

The absolute min is -10 at $(4, -2)$

Exp Find three numbers whose sum is 9 and whose sum of squares is a minimum.

• $S(x,y,z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ where $x + y + z = 9 \Rightarrow z = 9 - x - y$

$S(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 + (9 - x - y)^2$

• $S_x = 2x - 2(9 - x - y) = 0$
 $S_y = 2y - 2(9 - x - y) = 0$ $\Rightarrow (3, 3)$ with $z = 3$ is the critical point

• $S_{xx} = 4$, $S_{yy} = 4$, $S_{xy} = 2 \Rightarrow S_{xx}(3,3)S_{yy}(3,3) - S_{xy}^2(3,3) = 12 > 0$ and $S_{xx} > 0$
 \Rightarrow local min of $S(3,3,3) = 27$