

(14.7) Maxima & Minima

DEFN.

A function $f(x, y)$ has a local maximum at (a, b) if

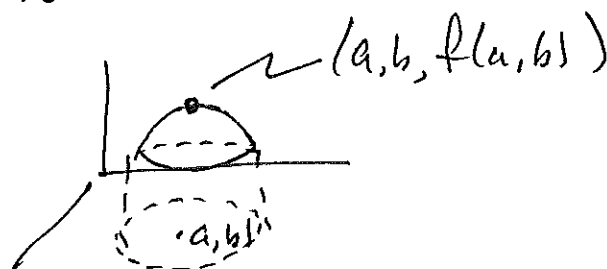
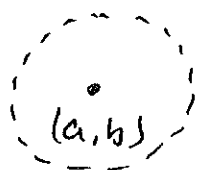
$$f(x, y) \leq f(a, b)$$

for all (x, y) in

some

disk

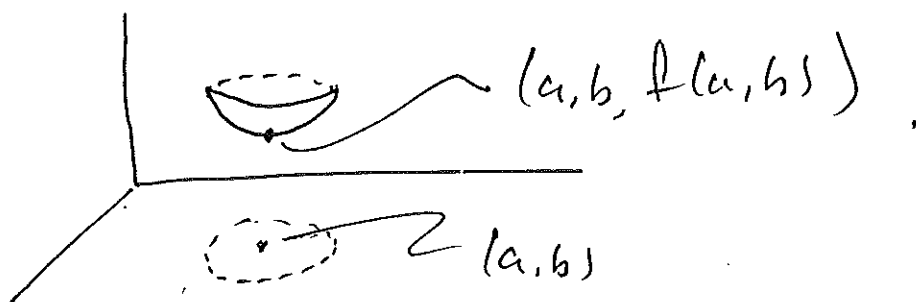
disk centered at (a, b) .



Similarly, $f(x, y)$ has a local minimum at (a, b) if

$$f(x, y) \geq f(a, b)$$

for all $(x, y) \in D$



If the inequalities hold for all $(x, y) \in \text{Dom}(f)$, we call (a, b) an absolute maximum or minimum.

Thm
 If f has a local extremum (i.e. maximum or minimum) at (a, b) , and $f_x(a, b)$ and $f_y(a, b)$ exist, then

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

Proof:

Let $g(x) = f(x, b)$. Then $g(x)$ has a local extremum at $x = a$.

$\therefore 0 = g'(a) = f_x(a, b)$ by a thm. from 11a 19a.

Similarly $h(y) = f(a, y)$ has a local extremum at $y = b$ so

$$0 = h'(b) = f_y(a, b).$$

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Defn:

We call (a, b) a Critical Point of $f(x, y)$ if either

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

or (ii) one or both of f_x, f_y fail to exist at (a, b)

Thus the theorem says that

- If (a, b) is a local extremum, then (a, b) is a critical point

The converse is false (as in 11a/19a).

Ex. $f(x, y) = x^2 + 2y^2 - 8x - 12y + 39.$

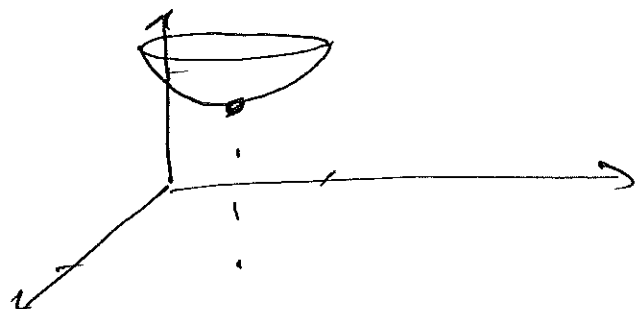
The critical pts. of f are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} f'_x &= 2x - 8 = 0 \rightarrow x = 4 \\ f'_y &= 4y - 12 = 0 \rightarrow y = 3 \end{aligned} \quad \boxed{(4, 3)}$$

observe that upon comp. the sq. we have

$$f(x, y) = 5 + (x-4)^2 + 2(y-3)^2$$

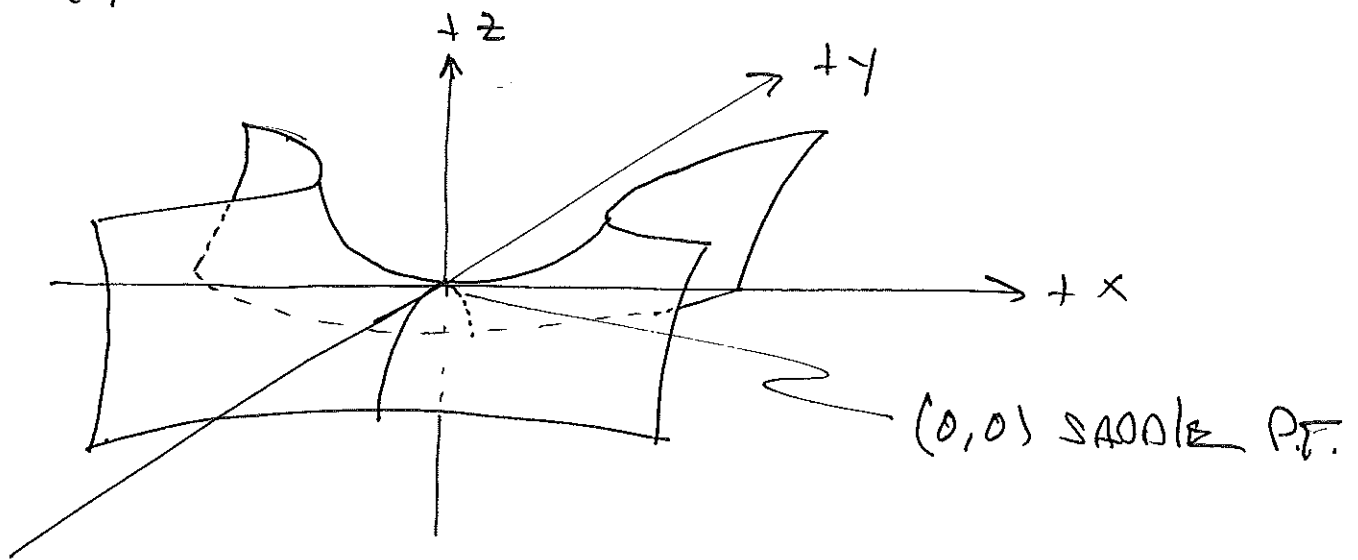
$\therefore f$ has a local (infact absolute) min at $(4, 3)$



Ex. $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f_x = 2x &= 0 \\ f_y = -2y &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \text{CRITICAL PT.} \\ (0, 0)$$

BUT f HAS NO MIN OR MAX AT $(0, 0)$



SO... A CRITICAL PT. NEED NOT BE AN EXTREMA, EVEN IF BOTH DERIVATIVES EXIST AND ARE CONTINUOUS.

Thm (2nd Derivative Test)

SUPPOSE THE 2nd PARTIAL DERIVATIVES OF f ARE CONT. IN A DISK ABOUT (a,b) , WHERE $f_x(a,b) = 0 = f_y(a,b)$.

LET

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix} = f_{xx}(a,b) \cdot f_{yy}(a,b) - (f_{xy}(a,b))^2$$

THEN

(a) IF $D > 0$ AND $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$ THEN f HAS A LOCAL MIN AT (a,b)

(b) IF $D > 0$ AND $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$ THEN f HAS A LOCAL MAX AT (a,b) .

(c) IF $D < 0$ THEN $f(a,b)$ IS NOT A LOCAL EXTREMUM, AND IN FACT (a,b) IS A SADDLE POINT.

RMKS

• IF $D = 0$, WE CONCLUDE NOTHING!

• $D > 0 \Rightarrow f_{xx} \cdot f_{yy} > f_{xy}^2 \geq 0$
 $\Rightarrow f_{xx} \neq 0, f_{yy} \neq 0$ NON-ZERO & SAME SIGN
 \therefore COULD TEST f_{yy} IN (a) & (b).

Ex Find and classify the crit. pts. of

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

$$f_x = 3 - 3x^2 = -3(x-1)(x+1) = 0$$

$$f_y = -4y + 4y^3 = +4y(y-1)(y+1) = 0$$

Critical pts.: $(1, 0), (1, 1), (1, -1), (-1, 0), (-1, 1), (-1, -1)$

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

$$f_{yy} = -4 + 12y^2$$

$$f_{xy} = 0$$

$$D = (-6x)(12y^2 - 4) = -24 \cdot x(3y^2 - 1)$$

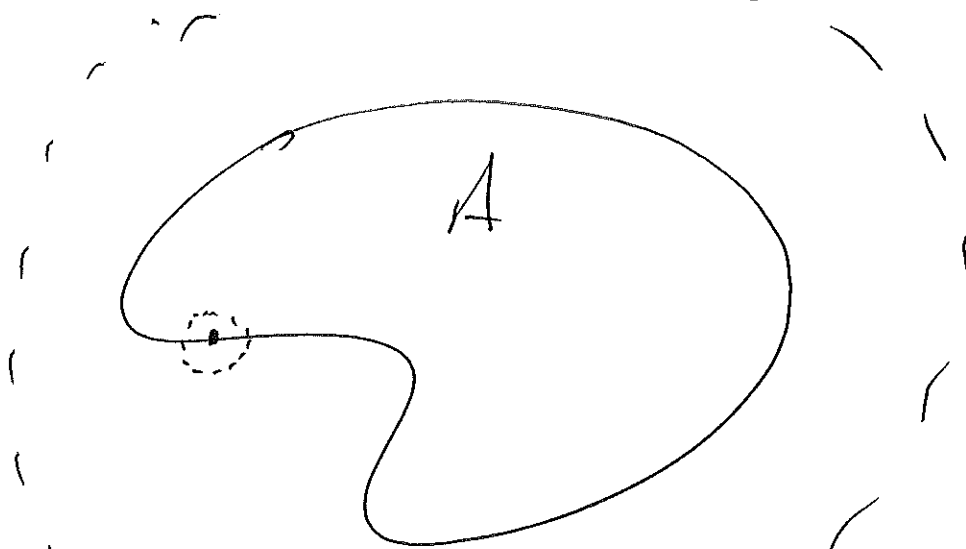
	D	f_{xx}	Class
$(1, 0)$	+	-	b. max
$(1, 1)$	-	-	c. saddle
$(1, -1)$	-	-	c. saddle
$(-1, 0)$	-	+	c. saddle
$(-1, 1)$	+	+	a. min
$(-1, -1)$	+	+	a. min

To find extrema of $f(x, y)$ on a closed bounded region of \mathbb{R}^2 we must also check boundary points.

Thm

If $f(x, y)$ is continuous on a closed bounded set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ then f attains both an abs. max & abs min at some points $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in A$:

$$\begin{cases} \max & f(x_1, y_1) & \text{at } (x_1, y_1) \\ \min & f(x_2, y_2) & \text{at } (x_2, y_2). \end{cases}$$



Bounded: contained in some disk

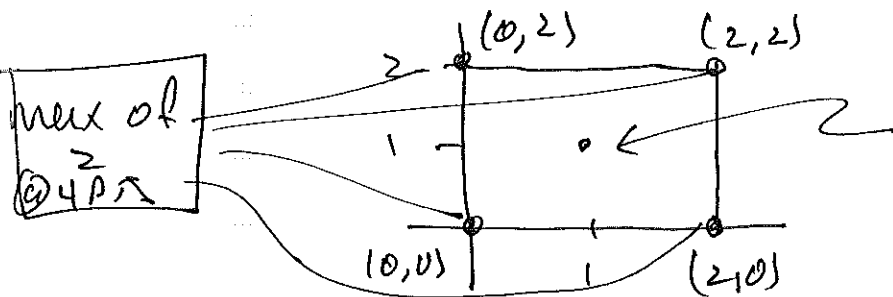
closed: includes boundary points.

Boundary pt any disk about pt contains pts in & out of A .

SO TO FIND EXTREMA ON A CLOSED BDD, SET A:

- (1) FIND CRITICAL POINTS & CRITICAL VALUES 'in A'
- (2) FIND EXTREMA ON BOUNDARY OF A
- (3) COMPARE EXTREMA FOUND IN (1) & (2)

EX. $f(x, y) = (x-1)^2 + (y-1)^2$
ON RECTANGLE $[0, 2] \times [0, 2]$



ABS min of 0 AT (1, 1) CRIT. PT.

BOUNDARY

$$\begin{aligned}
 x=0: & f(0, y) = (y-1)^2 + 1 \\
 x=2: & f(2, y) = (y-1)^2 + 1 \\
 y=0: & f(x, 0) = (x-1)^2 + 1 \\
 y=2: & f(x, 2) = (x-1)^2 + 1
 \end{aligned}$$

min	max
1 @ $y=1$	2 @ $y=0, y=2$
"	"
1 @ $x=1$	2 @ $x=0, x=2$
"	"

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

ABS max $f(0, 0) = f(0, 2) = f(2, 0) = f(2, 2) = 2$

EX FIND EXTREMA OF

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

ON THE CLOSED DISC $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$.

CRIT. PTS.
$$\begin{cases} f_x = 2x = 0 \\ f_y = 4y = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow (0, 0)$$

$$\begin{cases} f_{xx} = 2 \\ f_{yy} = 4 \\ f_{xy} = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow D = 2 \cdot 4 - 0^2 = 8 > 0$$

$\therefore f(0, 0) = 0$ is a local min \leftarrow

closed boundary: $C \begin{cases} x = \cos t \\ y = \sin t \end{cases} \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

$$\begin{aligned} h(t) &= f(\cos t, \sin t) = \cos^2 t + 2\sin^2 t \\ &= 1 + \sin^2 t \end{aligned}$$

$$h'(t) = 2 \sin t \cos t = 0 \rightarrow \begin{cases} t = 0, \pi \\ t = \pi/2, 3\pi/2 \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow (x, y) = \begin{cases} (1, 0), (-1, 0) \\ (0, 1), (0, -1) \end{cases}$$

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

$$f(0, 1) = f(0, -1) = 0 + 2 \cdot 1^2 = 2 \quad \text{max.}$$

\therefore ABS min: $f(0, 0) = 0$

ABS max: $f(0, -1) = f(0, 1) = 2$