

Maximum, Minimum and Saddle points

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Def:- A Function $f(x, y)$ is said to have a local (relative) maximum at (x_0, y_0) if there is some region containing (x_0, y_0) in its interior such $f(x, y) \leq f(x_0, y_0)$, $\forall (x, y) \in R$

Def:- A Function $f(x, y)$ is said to have a local or (relative) minimum at (x_0, y_0) if there is some region containing (x_0, y_0) in its interior such $f(x, y) \geq f(x_0, y_0)$, $\forall (x, y) \in R$

Def:- A point $(x, y, f(x, y))$ in the space \mathbb{R}^3 is said to be (تعريف) a saddle point if it looks like a minimum point in some plane containing it and it looks like a maximum point in a nother plane.

Testing For extreme values:-

Def:- IF $Z = f(x, y)$ is continuous, the extreme value of f may occur only at :-

1. Boundary points at the domain of f .
2. Interior points of the domain of f where $f_x = f_y = 0$

Theorem:- Suppose that $f(x,y)$ is defined in a region R containing (x_0, y_0) in its interior.

Suppose $f_x|_{P_0}$, $f_y|_{P_0}$ are defined and that $f(x,y) \leq f(x_0, y_0)$

For all (x,y) in R that is $f(x_0, y_0)$ is a relative or local max. then $f_x|_{P_0} = f_y|_{P_0} = 0$.

Corollary:- The same result hold at a relative min.

Def:- A value (x_0, y_0) at which both f_x, f_y vanish is called a critical point of f .

Theorem (Second derivative Test).

IF f has continuous first and second order partial derivative on some open disk containing (a,b) and if $f_x|_{(a,b)} = f_y|_{(a,b)} = 0$ that is a critical point, then we have.

1. a local minimum if $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 > 0$ and $f_{xx} > 0$ at (a,b)
2. a local maximum if $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 > 0$ and $f_{xx} < 0$ at (a,b)
3. Saddle point if $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 < 0$
4. no-information if $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 0$

(45)

Remark :- The expression $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{vmatrix}$

Ex 1 Find the extreme value of $f(x,y) = 5x^2 + 4y^2 + 12$.

Sol The domain of f has no-boundary points

$f_x = 10x$, $f_y = 8y$ exists everywhere.

Therefore, relative max. and min can occur only where.

$$f_x = 10x = 0, \quad f_y = 8y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0, \quad y = 0$$

[$\Rightarrow f$ has extreme value at only point $(0,0)$]

$$f_{xx} = 10, \quad f_{yy} = 8, \quad f_{xy} = 0$$

$$\therefore f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = (10)(8) - 0 = 80 > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f_{xx} = 10 > 0$$

$\Rightarrow f$ has a local minimum

Ex 2 Find the extreme value of $f(x,y) = 8xy$.

Sol :- Since the Function is diff. everywhere and its domain has no boundary points, the Function can assume extreme value only where $f_x = 8y = 0$, $f_y = 8x = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) = (0,0)$$

Therefore f has extreme value at only point $(0,0)$

$$f_{xx} = f_{yy} = 0, \quad f_{xy} = 8.$$

$$f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = -64 < 0 \quad \text{is negative}$$

$\therefore f$ has a saddle point at $(0,0)$.

Level: 146

Ex 3 Find the extreme value of the function $f(x, y) = xy - x^2 - y^2 - 2y$

Sol The function f is defined and diff. for all x and y and its domain has no boundary points, then the function can assume extreme value only where $f_x = f_y = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow f_x = y - 2x - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow y - 2x - 2 = 0 \dots \textcircled{1}$$

$$f_y = x - 2y - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x - 2y - 2 = 0 \dots \textcircled{2}$$

$$\text{Let } y = 2x + 2$$

$$\text{Sub in eq } \textcircled{2} \text{ to get } x - 2(2x + 2) - 2 = x - 4x - 4 - 2 = -3x - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -3x - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{x = -2}$$

$$\therefore y = -4 + 2 = -2 \rightarrow (-2, -2) \text{ is extreme point}$$

$$f_{xx} = -2, \quad f_{yy} = -2, \quad f_{xy} = 1.$$

$$f_{xx} f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = (-2)(-2) - 1 = 4 - 1 = 3 > 0 \text{ and } f_{xx} = -2 < 0$$

Then f has a local max. at $(-2, -2)$

The value of f at $(-2, -2) = 8$.

Exercises Find the local maximum, local minimum and saddle point of each of the following function

① $f(x, y) = x^2 + xy + y^2 + 3x - 3y + 4$

② $f(x, y) = x^2 + xy + 3x + 2y + 5$

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