

# Lecture 15: More on min/max (14.7)

46

Last time:  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $(a,b)$  a crit pt.

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} f_{xx}(a,b) & f_{xy}(a,b) \\ f_{xy}(a,b) & f_{yy}(a,b) \end{vmatrix}$$

If  $D > 0$  and

$f_{xx}(a,b) > 0 \Rightarrow$  Local min

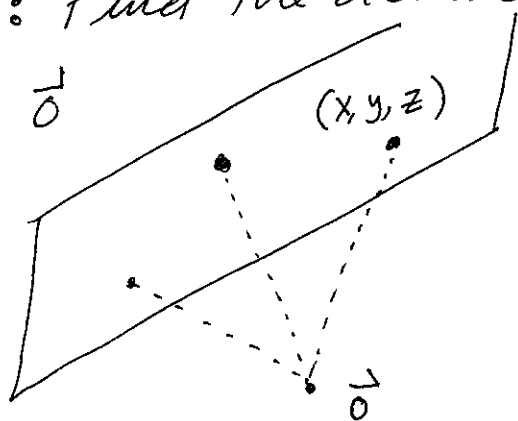
$f_{xx}(a,b) < 0 \Rightarrow$  Local max

Similar test for  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
but need to talk about  
eigenvalues of matrices...

If  $D < 0 \Rightarrow$  saddle.

Ex: Find the distance from the plane  $x - y + 2z = 3$

to  $\vec{0}$



$$z = \frac{3 - x + y}{2}$$

WANT TO MINIMIZE:

$$f(x, y) = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{dist from} \\ (x, y, \frac{3-x+y}{2}) \\ \text{to } \vec{0} \end{array} \right)^2$$

Critical Points:

$$\nabla f = \vec{0}:$$

$$= x^2 + y^2 + \frac{1}{4}(3 - x + y)^2$$

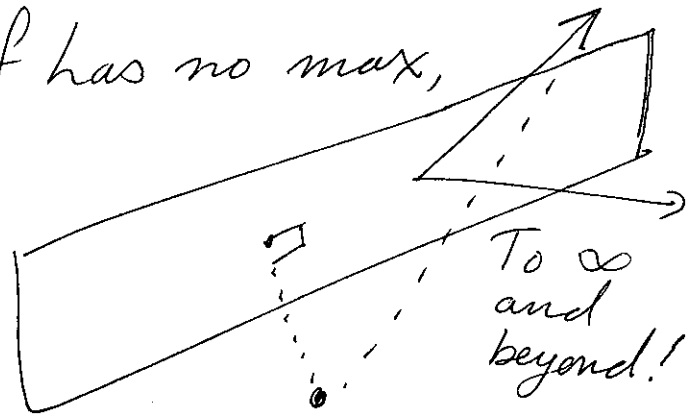
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x + \frac{1}{2}(3 - x + y) \cdot (-1) = \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}y - \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2y + \frac{1}{2}(3 - x + y) = -\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{5}{2}y + \frac{3}{2}$$

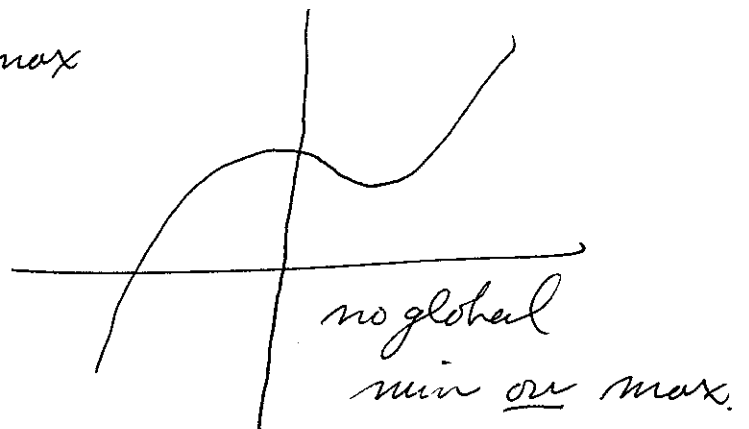
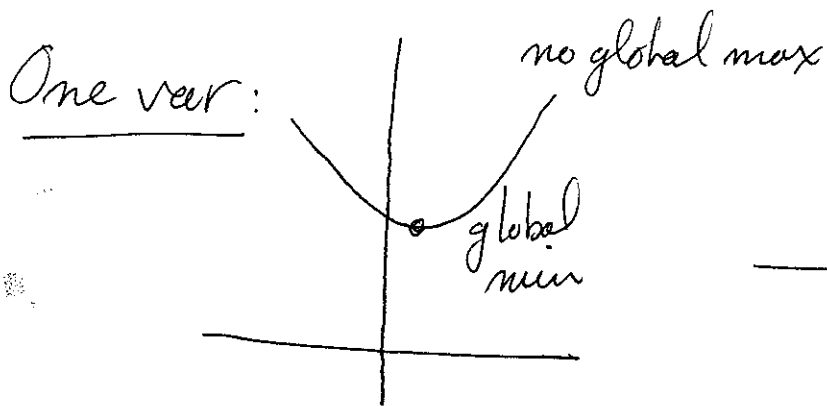
Setting  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0$  we find a unique solution  $x = 1/2$  and  $y = -1/2$ . Since there is only one crit. point, this must be the minimum and so the distance is

$$\sqrt{f(1/2, -1/2)} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}^2 + (-\frac{1}{2})^2 + \frac{1}{4}(3-1)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

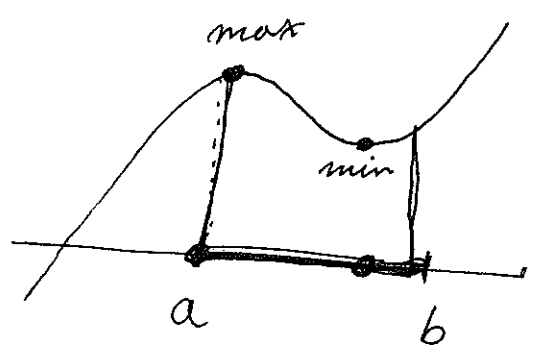
Hey, doesn't the same reasoning say that this is also the maximum dist? (as there's only one crit pt.) In fact,  $f$  has no max, as is clear geometrically:



Also, it looks like there is a min, but let's look at gen. criteria for mins/maxes to exist...



Extreme Value Theorem:  $f$  continuous on  $[a, b] = \{a \leq x \leq b\}$ . Then  $f$  has both a global min and max.



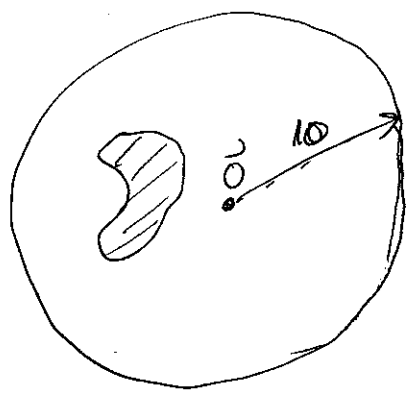
These min/max occur at either

- a) a crit pt of  $f$
- b) one of  $a$  or  $b$ .

Two Var:  $D$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$



Bounded: Contained within a disk:



Closed: Contains all its boundary points.

Closed:

$|\vec{x}| \leq 1$

$|\vec{x}| = 1$

$\begin{cases} 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1 \end{cases}$

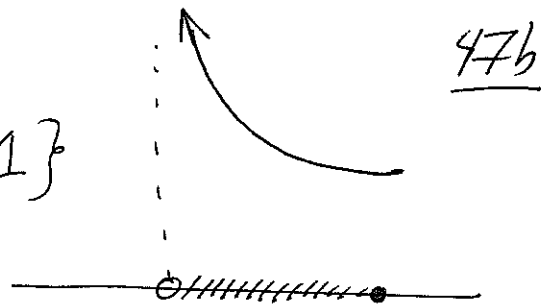
Not Closed:

$|\vec{x}| < 1$

$\begin{cases} 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1 \end{cases}$

Closed important in 1 var too:

$$f = \frac{1}{x} \text{ on } (0, 1] = \{0 < x \leq 1\}$$



Extreme Value Theorem:  $f$  continuous on  $D$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

If  $D$  is closed and bounded, then it has a global min and max. These occur either at crit pts of  $f$  or on the boundary of  $D$ .

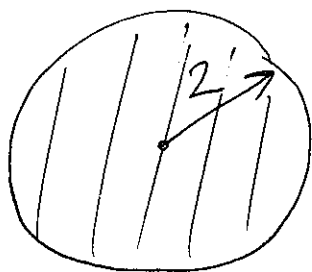
Back to original prob:

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + \frac{1}{4}(3 - x + y)^2$$

with one crit pt at  $(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$ .

Consider  $D = \{|\vec{x}| \leq 2\}$ . On  $D$ ,  $f$  has one

crit pt where  $f = \frac{3}{2}$



On  $\partial D$ ,  $f(x, y) \geq x^2 + y^2 = 4$ .

$\uparrow \partial D$

So  $\frac{3}{2}$  is the global min value of  $f$  on  $D$ .

As  $f(x,y) \geq \frac{3}{2}$  outside  $D$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}$  is also the global min on all of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

Double Check:  $f_{xx} = 5/2$   $f_{xy} = -1/2$   $f_{yy} = 5/2$

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 5/2 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & 5/2 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{25}{4} - \frac{1}{4} = 6 > 0 \text{ and } f_{xx} > 0.$$

Ex: Find the global min/max of  $f(x,y) = x^2 - 2xy + 2y$  on  $D = \begin{cases} 0 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 2 \end{cases}$

Crit pts:  $f_x = 2x - 2y$   
 $f_y = -2x + 2$   
 $\nabla f = \vec{0} \Rightarrow x = 1, y = 1$

On Left:  $f(0,y) = 2y$  min at 0:  $f=0$   
max at 2:  $f=4$

On Right:  $f(3,y) = 9 - 6y + 2y = 9 - 4y$

min at  $y=2$ :  $f=1$   
max at  $y=0$ :  $f=9$

On top:  $f(x, 2) = x^2 - 4x + 4$

at 0,  $f$  is 4 at 3,  $f$  is 1

Also, there's a crit pt  ~~$f_x$~~   $f_x = 0$  at  $x = 2$   
and  $f = 0$  there

On bottom:  $f(x, 0) = x^2$ ; min at 0,  
max at 3.

So: Max on boundary: 9 } global  
Min on boundary: 0 } min/max.  
Value at crit pt: 1