

CHAPTER 5: Optimization

5-1. Find and classify the critical points of the following functions.

- (a) $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 + xy$.
- (b) $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy$.
- (c) $f(x, y) = e^{x \cos y}$.
- (d) $f(x, y) = e^{1+x^2-y^2}$.
- (e) $f(x, y) = x \sin y$.
- (f) $f(x, y) = xe^{-x}(y^2 - 4y)$

Solution:

- (a) The gradient of $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 + xy$ is

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

and the critical points are the solutions to the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 2x + y &= 0 \\ -2y + x &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

whose solution is $(0, 0)$. The Hessian is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is indefinite. Hence, $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point.

- (b) The gradient of $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy$ is $\nabla f(x, y) = (2x + 2y, 2y + 2x)$. The critical points are the points of the form $y = -x$. The Hessian is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is positive semidefinite. The second order conditions are not informative. But, since $f(x, y) = (x + y)^2 \geq 0$ and $f(x, -x) = 0$ we see that the points of the form $(x, -x)$ are global minima of f .

- (c) The gradient of $f(x, y) = e^{x \cos y}$ is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (e^{x \cos y} \cos y, -xe^{x \cos y} \sin y)$$

The critical points are solutions to the following system of equations

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (\cos y) e^{x \cos y} &= 0 \\ -x (\sin y) e^{x \cos y} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \equiv \quad \left. \begin{aligned} \cos y &= 0 \\ -x \sin y &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

The first equation implies that

$$y = \frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

For those values of y , $\sin y \neq 0$ and the second equation implies now that $x = 0$. The solutions are

$$(0, \frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi) \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

The Hessian is

$$e^{x \cos y} \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 y & -\sin y - x \sin y \cos y \\ -\sin y - x \sin y \cos y & -x \cos y + x^2 \sin^2 y \end{pmatrix}$$

For $x = 0$, $y = \frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi$, we obtain that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\sin y \\ -\sin y & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{y=\frac{\pi}{2}+k\pi}$$

whose determinant is $-\sin^2(\frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi) = -1$. Thus, the critical points are saddle points.

- (d) The gradient of $f(x, y) = e^{1+x^2-y^2}$ is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = 2e^{1+x^2-y^2}(x, -y)$$

and the unique critical point is $(0, 0)$. The Hessian is

$$Hf(0, 0) = e^{1+x^2-y^2} \begin{pmatrix} 2+4x^2 & -4yx \\ -4yx & -2+4y^2 \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=0, y=0} = \begin{pmatrix} 2e & 0 \\ 0 & -2e \end{pmatrix}$$

which is indefinite, so $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point.

- (e) The gradient of $f(x, y) = x \sin y$ is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (\sin y, x \cos y)$$

and the critical points are solutions to the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} \sin y &= 0 \\ x \cos y &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

From the first equation we see that

$$y = k\pi, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

so $\cos y = \pm 1$ and the second equation implies that $x = 0$. The solutions are

$$(0, k\pi) \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

The Hessian is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cos y \\ \cos y & -x \sin y \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=0, y=k\pi} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cos(k\pi) \\ \cos(k\pi) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

whose determinant is $-\cos^2(k\pi) = -1$. Hence, the Hessian is indefinite and the critical points are saddle points.

- (f) The gradient of $f(x, y) = xe^{-x}(y^2 - 4y)$ is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = e^{-x}((1-x)(y^2 - 4y), x(2y - 4))$$

The critical points are solutions to the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} (1-x)(y^2 - 4y) &= 0 \\ x(2y - 4) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

that is $(0, 0)$, $(0, 4)$ and $(1, 2)$. The Hessian is

$$Hf(x, y) = e^{-x} \begin{pmatrix} (x-2)(y^2 - 4y) & (1-x)(2y - 4) \\ (1-x)(2y - 4) & 2x \end{pmatrix}$$

At the critical points we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} Hf(0, 0) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -4 \\ -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ (indefinite)} \\ Hf(0, 4) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ (indefinite)} \\ Hf(1, 2) &= \begin{pmatrix} 4e^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 2e^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \text{ (positive definite)} \end{aligned}$$

so $(0, 0)$, $(0, 4)$ are saddle points and $(1, 2)$ is a local minimum.

5-2. Find the critical points of the following functions. For which points the second derivative criterion does not give any information?

- (a) $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3$.
 (b) $f(x, y) = ((x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2)^{1/2}$.
 (c) $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3x^2 + 6y^2 + 3x + 12y + 7$.
 (d) $f(x, y) = x^{2/3} + y^{2/3}$

Solution:

- (a) The gradient of $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3$ is $\nabla f(x, y) = 3(x^2, y^2)$. The unique critical point is $(0, 0)$. The Hessian is

$$Hf(0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 6x & 0 \\ 0 & 6y \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=0, y=0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The second derivative criterion does not provide any information. But, noting that $f(0, 0) = 0$ and that

$$f(x, 0) = x^3 \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{if } x > 0, \\ < 0 & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

we see that $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point.

- (b) The gradient of $f(x, y) = ((x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2)^{1/2}$ is

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

which does not vanish in its domain. Note that f is differentiable, except at the point $(1, -2)$. Therefore, the unique critical point is $(1, -2)$ and since the function is not differentiable at this point we may not apply the second derivative criterion.

Noting that $f(1, -2) = 0 < ((x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2)^{1/2}$ if $(x, y) \neq (1, -2)$, we see that $(1, -2)$ is a global minimum.

- (c) The gradient of $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3x^2 + 6y^2 + 3x + 12y + 7$ is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (3x^2 - 6x + 3, 3y^2 + 12y + 12)$$

The critical points are solutions of the system

$$x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$$

$$y^2 + 4y + 4 = 0$$

whose unique solution is $x = 1, y = -2$. The unique critical point is $(1, -2)$. The Hessian is

$$Hf(1, -2) = \begin{pmatrix} 6x-6 & 0 \\ 0 & 6y+12 \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=1, y=-2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The second derivative criterion does not provide any information. Note that f is a polynomial of degree 3, $\nabla f(1, -2) = (0, 0)$ and also $Hf(1, -2) = 0$. Thus, we see that $f(x, y) = (y+2)^3 + (x-1)^3$. And we have that

$$f(x+1, -2) = x^3 \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{if } x > 0, \\ < 0 & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

So, $(1, -2)$ is a saddle point.

- (d) The function $f(x, y) = x^{2/3} + y^{2/3}$ is not differentiable at $(0, 0)$. At the points $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$ we have that

$$\nabla f(x, y) = \left(\frac{2}{3\sqrt[3]{x}}, \frac{2}{3\sqrt[3]{y}} \right)$$

so the function never vanishes in its domain. The unique critical point is $(0, 0)$. The second derivative criterion does not provide any information. But, noting that $f(0, 0) = 0$ and that if $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$,

$$f(x, y) = x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} > 0$$

we see that $(0, 0)$ is a global minimum.

5-3. Let $f(x, y) = (3-x)(3-y)(x+y-3)$.

- (a) Find and classify the critical points.
 (b) Does f have absolute extrema? (hint: consider the line $y = x$)

Solution:

- (a) The function $f(x, y) = (3-x)(3-y)(x+y-3)$ is differentiable in $\mathbb{R}^2$. The gradient is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (-6x - 9y + 18 + 2xy + y^2, -9x - 6y + 18 + x^2 + 2xy)$$

and the critical points are solutions of the system of equations

$$-6x - 9y + 18 + 2xy + y^2 = 0$$

$$-9x - 6y + 18 + x^2 + 2xy = 0$$

whose solutions are $(3, 0)$, $(3, 3)$, $(0, 3)$ y $(2, 2)$. The Hessian is

$$Hf(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} -6+2y & 2x+2y-9 \\ 2x+2y-9 & -6+2x \end{pmatrix}$$

Which evaluated at the critical points yields

$$Hf(3,0) = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & -3 \\ -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{which is indefinite}$$

$$Hf(3,3) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{which is indefinite}$$

$$Hf(0,3) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -3 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{which is indefinite}$$

$$Hf(2,2) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{which is negative definite}$$

We obtain that $(2,2)$ is a maximum and $(3,0)$, $(0,3)$ y $(3,3)$ are saddle points.

(b) Using the suggestion $y = x$, we obtain that $f(x, x) = (3 - x)^2(2x - 3)$. Note that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x, x) = +\infty \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x, x) = -\infty$$

so f does not attain neither a maximum nor a minimum in $\mathbb{R}^2$.

- 5-4. Find the values of the constants a , b and c so that the function $f(x, y) = ax^2y + bxy + 2xy^2 + c$ has a local minimum at the point $(2/3, 1/3)$ and the minimum value at that point is $-1/9$.

Solution: The gradient of $f(x, y) = ax^2y + bxy + 2xy^2 + c$ is

$$\nabla f(x, y) = (2axy + by + 2y^2, ax^2 + bx + 4xy)$$

The critical points are solution of the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 2axy + by + 2y^2 &= 0 \\ ax^2 + bx + 4xy &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the critical points are

$$(0, 0), \left(-\frac{b}{a}, 0\right), \left(0, -\frac{b}{2}\right), \left(-\frac{b}{3a}, -\frac{b}{6}\right)$$

The point $(2/3, 1/3)$ is a critical point if

$$(2/3, 1/3) = \left(-\frac{b}{3a}, -\frac{b}{6}\right)$$

This happens if $a = 1$, $b = -2$.

Now, we choose c such that the value of the function at the point $(2/3, 1/3)$ is $-1/9$.

$$f(2/3, 1/3) = (x^2y - 2xy + 2xy^2 + c)|_{x=2/3, y=1/3} = -\frac{4}{27} + c = -1/9$$

We obtain $c = \frac{1}{27}$.

We check that $(2/3, 1/3)$ is a minimum. The Hessian is $Hf(2/3, 1/3) = \begin{pmatrix} 2y & 2x - 2 + 4y \\ 2x - 2 + 4y & 4x \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=2/3, y=1/3} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{8}{3} \end{pmatrix}$ which is positive definite. Therefore $(2/3, 1/3)$ is a minimum.

- 5-5. The income function is $R(x, y) = x(100 - 6x) + y(192 - 4y)$ where x and y are the number of articles sold. If the cost function is $C(x, y) = 2x^2 + 2y^2 + 4xy - 8x + 20$ determine the maximum profit.

Solution: The profit is

$$B(x, y) = R(x, y) - C(x, y) = x(100 - 6x) + y(192 - 4y) - (2x^2 + 2y^2 + 4xy - 8x + 20)$$

whose gradient is

$$\nabla B(x, y) = (108 - 16x - 4y, 192 - 4x - 12y)$$

We obtain the critical point $(3, 15)$. The Hessian

$$HB(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} -16 & -4 \\ -4 & -12 \end{pmatrix}$$

is negative definite in $\mathbb{R}^2$. The function is concave in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and hence $(3, 15)$ is a global maximum.

- 5-6. A milk store produces x units of whole milk and y units of skim milk. The price for whole milk is $p(x) = 100 - x$ and the price for skim milk is $q(y) = 100 - y$. The cost of production is $C(x, y) = x^2 + xy + y^2$. How should the company choose x and y to maximize profits?

Solution: The profit is

$$B(x, y) = x(100 - x) + y(100 - y) - (x^2 + xy + y^2)$$

The unique critical point is $(20, 20)$. Since, the Hessian is $\begin{pmatrix} -4 & -1 \\ -1 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ which is negative definite, the critical point is a maximum. Since in addition the function is concave, the critical point is a global maximum.

- 5-7. A monopolist produces a good which is bought by two types of consumers. The consumers of type 1 are willing to pay $50 - 5q_1$ euros in order to purchase q_1 units of the good. The consumers of type 2 are willing to pay $100 - 10q_2$ euros in order to purchase q_2 units of the good. The cost function of the monopolist is $c(q) = 90 + 20q$ euros. How much should the monopolist produce in each market?

Solution: If the monopolist sells q_1 units in the first market and q_2 units in the second market, the profit is

$$q_1(50 - 5q_1) + q_2(100 - 10q_2) - 90 - 20(q_1 + q_2) = 30q_1 - 5q_1^2 + 80q_2 - 10q_2^2 - 90$$

The first order conditions are

$$\begin{aligned} 30 &= 10q_1 \\ 80 &= 20q_2 \end{aligned}$$

so the solution is

$$q_1 = 3, \quad q_2 = 4$$

- 5-8. Find and classify the extreme points of the following functions under the given restrictions.

- (a) $f(x, y, z) = x + y + z$ in $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 2$.
 (b) $f(x, y) = \cos(x^2 - y^2)$ in $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

Solution:

- (a) The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y, z) = f(x, y, z) - \lambda g(x, y, z)$$

We obtain the Lagrange equations

$$\begin{aligned} D_x(L(x, y, z)) &= 1 - 2\lambda x = 0 \\ D_y(L(x, y, z)) &= 1 - 2\lambda y = 0 \\ D_z(L(x, y, z)) &= 1 - 2\lambda z = 0 \\ x^2 + y^2 + z^2 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the first three equations we see that $x = y = z$. Thus, $3x^2 = 2$, that is

$$x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$$

- (b) The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y) = f(x, y) - \lambda g(x, y)$$

The Lagrange equations may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} x(\sin(-x^2 + y^2) - \lambda) &= 0 \\ y(\sin(-x^2 + y^2) + \lambda) &= 0 \\ x^2 + y^2 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

We see that $(0, \pm 1)$ y $(\pm 1, 0)$ are solutions. If we now, assume that $x \neq 0$, $y \neq 0$, from the first two equations we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \sin(-x^2 + y^2) \\ \lambda &= -\sin(-x^2 + y^2) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sin(-x^2 + y^2) = -\sin(-x^2 + y^2)$$

from where

$$x^2 = y^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

and hence $x = y$ or $x = -y$. The solutions are

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right), \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right), \left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right), \left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$$

Substituting in the objective function we see that $(0, \pm 1)$ y $(\pm 1, 0)$ are minima and $(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$, $(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$, $(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$, $(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$, are maxima.

5-9. Minimize $x^4 + y^4 + z^4$ on the plane $x + y + z = 1$.

Solution: The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y, z) = f(x, y, z) - \lambda g(x, y, z)$$

The Lagrange equations are

$$D_x(L(x, y, z)) = 4x^3 - \lambda = 0$$

$$D_y(L(x, y, z)) = 4y^3 - \lambda = 0$$

$$D_z(L(x, y, z)) = 4z^3 - \lambda = 0$$

$$x + y + z = 1$$

and we obtain that $x = y = z$. Substituting in the last equation we obtain that $3x = 1$. Hence,

$$x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$$

Note that the Hessian is $HL = \begin{pmatrix} 12x^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 12y^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 12z^2 \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=1/3, y=1/3, z=1/3} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{4}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} \end{pmatrix}$ which is

positive definite and therefore this point is a local minimum.

5-10. A company makes two products, P_1 and P_2 . If the company sells x_1 units of P_1 and x_2 units of P_2 it receives a net profit of $R = -5x_1^2 - 8x_2^2 - 2x_1x_2 + 42x_1 + 102x_2$. Find x_1 and x_2 that maximize net profit.

5-11. The prices for two goods produced by a monopolist are

$$p_1 = 256 - 3q_1 - q_2$$

$$p_2 = 222 + q_1 - 5q_2$$

where p_1, p_2 are the prices and q_1, q_2 are the quantities produced. The cost function is $C(q_1, q_2) = q_1^2 + q_1q_2 + q_2^2$. Find the quantities that maximize profit.

5-12. The production function for a firm is $4x + xy + 2y$, where x is labor and y is capital. The total budget that the company can spend is 2000\$. Each unit of labor costs 20\$, whereas each unit of capital costs 4\$. Find the optimal level of production for the firm.

5-13. An editor has been assigned a budget of 60.000 to be spent on advertising and production of a new book. She estimates that spending x thousand euro in production and y thousand euro in advertising she can sell $f(x, y) = 20x^{3/2}y$ books. If she wants to maximize sales, how much should she allocate to advertising and how much should she allocate to production?

Solution: The editor's problem is

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} \max. & 20x^{3/2}y \\ \text{s.t.} & x + y = 60000 \\ & x, y \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

The feasible set is compact and the objective function is continuous. Hence, there is a solution. The corner points $(0, 60000)$ and $(60000, 0)$ yield a value of 0 in the objective function. These points correspond to a minimum and we may assume the solution is interior

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} \max. & 20x^{3/2}y \\ \text{s.t.} & x + y = 60000 \end{array} \right\}$$

The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y) = 20x^{3/2}y + \lambda(60000 - x - y)$$

We obtain the Lagrange equations

$$\begin{aligned} 30x^{1/2}y - \lambda &= 0 \\ 20x^{3/2} - \lambda &= 0 \\ x + y &= 60000 \end{aligned}$$

From the two first equations we obtain that

$$30x^{1/2}y = 20x^{3/2}$$

If we assume that $x \neq 0$, we obtain that $y = 2x/3$, so the solution is $x = 36000$, $y = 24000$. This point satisfies the constraints of the problem.

The Hessian matrix of L is

$$H L(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{15x}{\sqrt{x}} & 30\sqrt{x} \\ 30\sqrt{x} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 15 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{y}{\sqrt{x}} & 2\sqrt{x} \\ 2\sqrt{x} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

At the point $(36000, 24000)$ we have that

$$H L(36000, 24000) = 15 \begin{pmatrix} 40 & 120 \\ 120 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 600 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The restriction of the problem is $g(x, y) = x + y - 60000$ and $\nabla g(36000, 24000) = (1, 1)$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} T_{(36000, 24000)}M &= \{(v_1, v_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (v_1, v_2) \cdot (1, 1) = 0\} \\ &= \{(v_1, v_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : v_1 + v_2 = 0\} \\ &= \{(t, -t) : t \in \mathbb{R}\} \end{aligned}$$

The quadratic form

$$(t, -t) \cdot H L(36000, 24000) \begin{pmatrix} t \\ -t \end{pmatrix} = 600 \left((t, -t) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ -t \end{pmatrix} \right) = -3000t^2$$

is negative definite. Hence, the point $(36000, 24000)$ is a local maximum. And by Weierstrass Theorem is also a global maximum.

- 5-14. A store sells two products which are close substitutes. The manager has found that if he sells the products at the prices P_1 and P_2 , the net profit is $R = 500P_1 + 800P_2 + 1,5P_1P_2 - 1,5P_1^2 - P_2^2$. Find the optimal prices for the manager.

Solution: The store maximizes the function

$$R(P_1, P_2) = 500P_1 + 800P_2 + \frac{3}{2}P_1P_2 - \frac{3}{2}P_1^2 - P_2^2$$

The gradient is

$$\nabla R(P_1, P_2) = (500 + \frac{3}{2}P_2 - 3P_1, 800 + \frac{3}{2}P_1 - 2P_2)$$

The unique critical point is

$$P_1 = \frac{2800}{3}, \quad P_2 = 600$$

since

$$H R(P_1, P_2) = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & \frac{3}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2} & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfies $D_1 < 0$, $D_2 > 0$, it is negative definite. Therefore, the profit function is concave in $\mathbb{R}_{++}^2$ and the critical point is a global maximum.

- 5-15. The utility function of a consumer is $u(x, y) = \frac{1}{3} \ln x + \frac{2}{3} \ln y$, where x and y are the consumption goods, with prices, respectively, p_1 and p_2 . The rent of the agent is M . Find the demand of the agent for each good.

Solution: The consumer demands the amounts of goods x and y which are solutions to the following problem,

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} \max. & \frac{1}{3} \ln x + \frac{2}{3} \ln y \\ \text{s.t.} & p_1x + p_2y = M \end{array} \right\}$$

The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y) = \frac{1}{3} \ln x + \frac{2}{3} \ln y + \lambda(M - p_1x - p_2y)$$

We obtain the Lagrange equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{3x} - \lambda p_1 &= 0 \\ \frac{2}{3y} - \lambda p_2 &= 0 \\ p_1 x + p_2 y &= M\end{aligned}$$

The first two equations may be written as

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{3} &= \lambda p_1 x \\ \frac{2}{3} &= \lambda p_2 y\end{aligned}$$

Adding them and taking into account that $p_1 x + p_2 y = M$ we obtain that $1 = \lambda M$. Substituting

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{M}$$

into the first two equations we obtain that

$$x = \frac{M}{3p_1}, \quad y = \frac{2M}{3p_2}$$

5-16. Find and classify the extreme points of the function f on the given set.

- (a) $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ on the set $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x + 2y + z = 1, 2x - 3y - z = 4\}$.
- (b) $f(x, y, z) = (y + z - 3)^2$ on the set $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y + z = 2, x + y^2 + 2z = 2\}$.
- (c) $f(x, y, z) = x + y + z$ on the set $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1, x - y - z = 1\}$.
- (d) $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ on the set $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 = z, x + y + z = 4\}$.

Solution:

(a) The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y, z) = f(x, y, z) - \lambda g(x, y, z) - \mu h(x, y, z)$$

The Lagrange equations are

$$\begin{aligned}D_x(L(x, y, z)) &= 2x - \lambda - 2\mu = 0 \\ D_y(L(x, y, z)) &= 2y - 2\lambda + 3\mu = 0 \\ D_z(L(x, y, z)) &= 2z - \lambda + \mu = 0 \\ x + 2y + z &= 1 \\ 2x - 3y - z &= 4\end{aligned}$$

whose solution is

$$x = \frac{92}{59}, y = -\frac{19}{59}, z = \frac{5}{59}, \mu = \frac{58}{59}, \lambda = \frac{68}{59}$$

(b) The Lagrangian is

$$L(x, y, z) = f(x, y, z) - \lambda g(x, y, z) - \mu h(x, y, z)$$

The Lagrange equations are

$$\begin{aligned}-2\lambda x - \mu &= 0 \\ 2y + 2z - 6 - \lambda - 2\mu y &= 0 \\ 2y + 2z - 6 - \lambda - 2\mu &= 0 \\ x^2 + y + z &= 2 \\ x + y^2 + 2z &= 2\end{aligned}$$

From the second and third equations we obtain that

$$\mu = \mu y$$

and there are two possibilities: either $\mu = 0$ or $y = 1$.

If $\mu = 0$, the first equation implies that $\lambda x = 0$. One of factors must be 0. If $\lambda = 0$, we obtain the equations,

$$\begin{aligned}2y + 2z - 6 &= 0 \\ x^2 + y + z &= 2 \\ x + y^2 + 2z &= 2\end{aligned}$$

But, the first equation implies $y + z = 3$ and substituting in the second one we obtain $x^2 = -1$, which is impossible. If $x = 0$, the last two equations are

$$\begin{aligned} y + z &= 2 \\ y^2 + 2z &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

But, now we obtain equation $y^2 - 2y + 2 = 0$ which does not have real solutions.

We conclude that $\mu \neq 0$, so $y = 1$. We may now use the last two equations to obtain x and z . The solutions to the Lagrange equations are

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{4}\right), \quad (1, 1, 0)$$

To see the character of these points, we apply the sufficient condition and calculate the second order derivatives of L with respect to the variables x, y, z , obtaining the Hessian

$$\mathcal{H}L_{x,y,z} = \begin{pmatrix} -2\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 - 2\mu & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

We need the values of the multipliers associated to each point. Plugging the point P_1 into the Lagrange system above, we get $\lambda = \mu = -\frac{5}{6}$. The above Hessian becomes

$$\mathcal{H}L_{x,y,z} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{11}{3} & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is positive definite, thus it is also positive definite when restricted to any subspace, in particular to the tangent subspace associated to P_1 . Hence P_1 is a local minimum.

We do the same for the other point, P_2 . The multipliers are in this case $\lambda = \frac{4}{3}$ and $\mu = -\frac{8}{3}$. The Hessian is

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{H}L_{x,y,z} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{8}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{22}{3} & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is indefinite. We thus proceed to check the sign of the quadratic form in the tangent subspace to the constraints at the point P_2 . We compute the gradients of the constraints at the point P_2 . They are the vectors $(2x, 1, 1)$ and $(1, 2y, 2)$. At the point P_2 they become $(2, 1, 1)$ and $(1, 2, 2)$, respectively. The tangent space is the solution set of the system

$$\begin{aligned} 2x + y + z &= 0 \\ x + 2y + 2z &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

We find $\{(0, -z, z) : z \in \mathbb{R}\}$ as tangent space. Restricting the quadratic form (1) to this space, we get the restricted quadratic form $\frac{22}{3}z^2 + 2z^2 - 4z^2 = \frac{16}{3}z^2$, which is positive definite. Thus, P_2 is a local minimum too.

Remark: The above represents as far as the methods that we have studied in class will take us. If we want to determine if any of the above points corresponds to a global minimum, further analysis, beyond the scope of this course, is needed. We address this issue in this remark for those of you who are interested in the answer.

From the first restrictions we obtain $z = 2 - x^2 - y$. Replacing this value of z in the second restriction we get the equation

$$2 = x + y^2 + 2z = x + y^2 + 4 - 2x^2 - 2y$$

so y satisfies the equation

$$y^2 - 2y + x - 2x^2 + 2 = 0$$

Solving for y ,

$$y = 1 \pm \sqrt{2x^2 - x - 1}$$

Thus, to obtain a solution of the two restrictions we need that $2x^2 - x - 1 \geq 0$. Plotting the graph of the parabola $y = 2x^2 - x - 1$ we see that $2x^2 - x - 1 \geq 0$ for $x \leq -1/2$ and $x \geq 1$. That is, if we let $I = (-\infty - \frac{1}{2}] \cup [1, \infty)$, we may parametrize the set $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y + z = 2, x + y^2 + 2z = 2\}$ as

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x \in I, y = 1 \pm \sqrt{2x^2 - x - 1}, z = 2 - x^2 - y, \}$$

Now, replacing $y+z = 2-x^2$ in the objective function we obtain $f(x, y, z) = (y+z-3)^2 = (1+x^2)^2$. Note that function of one variable $h(x) = (1+x^2)^2$, defined in the domain I , is strictly convex, decreasing for $x \leq 0$ and increasing for $x \geq 0$. Thus, there are two local minima at the points $-1/2$ and 1 . Furthermore,

$$h\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4}, \quad h(1) = 4$$

Thus, the global minimum is attained at the point $x = -\frac{1}{2}$, $y = 1$, $z = \frac{3}{4}$.

(c) The Lagrangian is $L(x, y, z) = f(x, y, z) - \lambda g(x, y, z) - \mu h(x, y, z)$ The Lagrange equations are

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - 2\lambda x - \mu &= 0 \\ 1 - 2\lambda y + \mu &= 0 \\ 1 - 2\lambda z + \mu &= 0 \\ x^2 + y^2 + z^2 &= 1 \\ x - y - z &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

From the second and third equations we obtain that $\lambda y = \lambda z$.

If $\lambda = 0$, the first two equations are inconsistent. Therefore, $\lambda \neq 0$ and $y = z$. Now, we may use the last two equations to solve for y and z . We obtain the solutions

$$\begin{aligned} (1, 0, 0) &\text{ maximum} \\ -\frac{1}{3}(1, 2, 2) &\text{ minimum} \end{aligned}$$

5-17. Find the maximum of the function $f(x, y, z) = xyz$ on the set $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x + y + z \leq 1, \quad x, y, z \geq 0\}$.

Solution: First we write the problem in the canonical form,

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x, y, z} \quad & xyz \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x + y + z \leq 1 \\ & -x \leq 0 \\ & -y \leq 0 \\ & -z \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The Lagrangian is

$$L = xyz + \lambda_1(1 - x - y - z) + \lambda_2x + \lambda_3y + \lambda_4z$$

and the Kuhn–Tucker equations are

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \quad & \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = yz - \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 = yz + \lambda_2 \\ (3) \quad & \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = xz - \lambda_1 + \lambda_3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 = xz + \lambda_3 \\ (4) \quad & \frac{\partial L}{\partial z} = xy - \lambda_1 + \lambda_4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 = xy + \lambda_4 \\ (5) \quad & \lambda_1(1 - x - y - z) = 0 \\ (6) \quad & \lambda_2x = 0 \\ (7) \quad & \lambda_3y = 0 \\ (8) \quad & \lambda_4z = 0 \\ (9) \quad & \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \geq 0 \\ (10) \quad & x + y + z \leq 1 \\ (11) \quad & x, y, z \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Case 1 $\lambda_1 = 0$. In this case, from equations 2, 3, 4 we obtain that

$$yz + \lambda_2 = xz + \lambda_3 = xy + \lambda_4 = 0$$

But all the variables are positive, so

$$(12) \quad yz = xz = xy = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = \lambda_4 = 0$$

The equations 12 yield an infinite number of solutions in which at least two of the variables x, y, z vanish. The value of the objective function at these solutions is 0.

Case 2 $\lambda_1 > 0$. Then, $x + y + z = 1$. If, for example $x = 0$, we obtain from equations 3 y 4 that

$$\lambda_3 = \lambda_4 = \lambda_1 > 0$$

and from the equations 7 y 8 we see that $y = z = 0$. But this contradicts that $x + y + z = 1$. We conclude that $x > 0$. Analogously, one can show that $y, z > 0$. By equations 6, 7 y 8 we see that

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = \lambda_4 = 0$$

and equations 2, 3 y 4 imply that

$$yz = xz = xy$$

that is

$$x = y = z$$

And since $x + y + z = 1$, we conclude that

$$x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}; \quad \lambda_1 = \frac{1}{9}$$

The value of the objective function is

$$f\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{27}$$

So the point

$$x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$$

corresponds to the maximum.

5-18. Find the minimum of the function $f(x, y) = 2y - x^2$ on the set $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq 1, \quad x, y \geq 0\}$.

Solution: First we write the problem in the canonical form,

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x, y, z} \quad & x^2 - 2y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \\ & -x \leq 0 \\ & -y \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The Lagrangian is

$$L = x^2 - 2y + \lambda_1(1 - x^2 - y^2) + \lambda_2x + \lambda_3y$$

and the Kuhn–Tucker equations are

$$(13) \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = 2x - 2\lambda_1x + \lambda_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2\lambda_1x = 2x + \lambda_2$$

$$(14) \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = -2 - 2\lambda_1y + \lambda_3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_3 = 2 + 2\lambda_1y$$

$$(15) \quad \lambda_1(1 - x^2 - y^2) = 0$$

$$(16) \quad \lambda_2x = 0$$

$$(17) \quad \lambda_3y = 0$$

$$(18) \quad \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \geq 0$$

$$(19) \quad x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$$

$$(20) \quad x, y \geq 0$$

Since all the variables that appear in equation 14 are positive, we have that

$$\lambda_3 \geq 2 > 0$$

so

$$y = 0$$

and from equation 14 we see that

$$\lambda_3 = 2$$

Case 1: $x = 0$. By equation 15 we see that $\lambda_1 = 0$ y by equation 13 we see that $\lambda_2 = 0$. That is, of solution of the Kuhn–Tucker equations is

$$x^*y^* = 0; \quad \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0, \quad \lambda_3 = 2$$

The value of the objective function at these solutions is $f(0,0) = 0$.

Case 2: $x > 0$. Then, $\lambda_2 = 0$ and by equation 13, $\lambda_1 = 1$. Now we obtain from equation 15 that $x^2 + y^2 = 1$. And since $y = 0$, $x \geq 0$ we have that

$$x = 1$$

Another solution of the Kuhn–Tucker equations is

$$x^* = 1, \quad y^* = 0; \quad \lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = 0, \quad \lambda_3 = 2$$

The value of the objective function at these solutions is $f(1,0) = -1$. Therefore, the minimum is attained at the point $(1,0)$.

5-19. *Solve the optimization problem*

$$\begin{cases} \min & x^2 + y^2 - 20x \\ \text{s.t.} & 25x^2 + 4y^2 \leq 100 \end{cases}$$

Solution: We write the problem as

$$\begin{cases} \max & -x^2 - y^2 + 20x \\ \text{s.t.} & 25x^2 + 4y^2 \leq 100 \end{cases}$$

The associated Lagrangian is

$$L = -x^2 - y^2 + 20x + \lambda(100 - 25x^2 - 4y^2)$$

and the Kuhn-Tucker equations are

$$\begin{aligned} (21) \quad & -2x + 20 - 50\lambda x = 0 \\ (22) \quad & -2y - 8\lambda y = 0 \\ (23) \quad & 25x^2 + 4y^2 \leq 100 \\ (24) \quad & \lambda(100 - 25x^2 - 4y^2) = 0 \\ (25) \quad & \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

From 21 we see that $y(1 + 4\lambda) = 0$, so if $y \neq 0$, then $\lambda = -1/4$ which contradicts 25. We conclude that $y = 0$ and the system reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} (26) \quad & -2x + 20 - 50\lambda x = 0 \\ (27) \quad & x^2 \leq 4 \\ (28) \quad & \lambda(4 - x^2) = 0 \\ (29) \quad & \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

If $\lambda = 0$ from 26 we obtain that $x = 10$. But this does not satisfy 27. Therefore, $\lambda \neq 0$ and from 28 we see that $x^2 = 4$. There are two possibilities $x = \pm 2$. Solving in 26 we obtain

$$\lambda = \frac{10 - x}{25x}$$

so that if $x = -2$ then $\lambda = -12/50$ does not satisfy 29. Therefore, the solution is

$$x = 2, \quad y = 0, \quad \lambda = \frac{8}{50}$$

5-20. *Solve the optimization problem*

$$\begin{cases} \max & x + y - 2z \\ \text{s.t.} & z \geq x^2 + y^2 \\ & x, y, z \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Solution: First we write the problem in the canonical form,

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x,y,z} \quad & x + y - 2z \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x^2 + y^2 - z \leq 0 \\ & -x \leq 0 \\ & -y \leq 0 \\ & -z \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The Lagrangian is

$$L = x + y - 2z + \lambda_1(z - x^2 - y^2) + \lambda_2x + \lambda_3y + \lambda_4z$$

and the Kuhn–Tucker equations are

$$(30) \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = 1 - 2\lambda_1x + \lambda_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2\lambda_1x = 1 + \lambda_2$$

$$(31) \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = 1 - 2\lambda_1y + \lambda_3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2\lambda_1y = 1 + \lambda_3$$

$$(32) \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial z} = -2 + \lambda_1 + \lambda_4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 + \lambda_4 = 2$$

$$(33) \quad \lambda_1(x^2 + y^2 - z) = 0$$

$$(34) \quad \lambda_2x = 0$$

$$(35) \quad \lambda_3y = 0$$

$$(36) \quad \lambda_4z = 0$$

$$(37) \quad \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4 \geq 0$$

$$(38) \quad x, y, z \geq 0$$

From equation 30, we see that if $\lambda_1 = 0$ or $x = 0$, then $1 + \lambda_2 = 0$ so $\lambda_2 < 0$. Therefore, we must have that $\lambda_1 > 0$ and $x > 0$. Similarly, from equation 31 we obtain that $y > 0$. From equations 34 and 35 we see now that $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 0$. The Kuhn–Tucker equations may now be written as follows

$$(39) \quad 2\lambda_1x = 1$$

$$(40) \quad 2\lambda_1y = 1$$

$$(41) \quad \lambda_1 + \lambda_4 = 2$$

$$(42) \quad x^2 + y^2 = z$$

$$(43) \quad \lambda_4z = 0$$

$$(44) \quad \lambda_1, \lambda_4 \geq 0$$

$$(45) \quad x, y, z \geq 0$$

Since $\lambda_1 > 0$, from equations 39 and 40 we obtain that

$$x = y = \frac{1}{2\lambda_1}$$

so

$$z = 2x^2 > 0$$

And we deduce from equation 43 that $\lambda_4 = 0$ and from equation 41 that $\lambda_1 = 2$. Therefore, the solution is

$$x = y = \frac{1}{4}, \quad z = \frac{1}{8}; \quad \lambda_1 = 2, \quad \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = \lambda_4 = 0$$