

Math 233 Warm Up Problems

October 2, 2009

1. Find the extrema of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ subject to $x + 3y - 2z = 12$.
- (a) Set up the equations required by the method of Lagrange multipliers.
 - (b) Solve the equations
 - (c) Analyze the critical points

2. Find the extrema of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ subject to $x + 3y - 2z = 12$.
- (a) Set up the equations required by the method of Lagrange multipliers.

$$2x = \lambda$$

$$2y = 3\lambda$$

$$2z = -2\lambda$$

$$x + 3y - 2z = 12$$

- (b) Solve the equations
Solution: The only point is:

$$\left(\frac{6}{7}, \frac{18}{7}, -\frac{12}{7}\right)$$

- (c) Analyze the critical points
Solution: The point given is at a minimum, there is no maximum of the function.

3. Using Lagrange multipliers, find the extrema of $f(x, y, z) = 4x - 2y + 3z$ subject to $2x^2 + y^2 - 3z = 0$.

4. Using Lagrange multipliers, find the extrema of $f(x, y, z) = 4x - 2y + 3z$ subject to $2x^2 + y^2 - 3z = 0$.

Solution: Start with the equations

$$4 = 4x\lambda$$

$$-2 = 2y\lambda$$

$$3 = -3\lambda$$

$$-3z + y^2 + 2x^2 = 0$$

and solve to get the critical point $(-1, 1, 1)$, which will be a minimum (why?). There is no maximum.

5. Using Lagrange multipliers, find the minimal distance from the origin to the plane $x + 3y - 2z = 4$.

6. Using Lagrange multipliers, find the minimal distance from the origin to the plane $x + 3y - 2z = 4$.

Solution: Find the minimum of $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$ subject to $x + 3y - 2z = 4$.

But, we will actually find the minimum of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ subject to $x + 3y - 2z = 4$.

The minimum of $\sqrt{8/7}$ occurs at

$$\left(\frac{2}{7}, \frac{6}{7}, \frac{-4}{7}\right)$$

7. Find the maximum and minimum values of $f(x, y, z)$ subject to the constraint $x + y + z = 1$. Assume that $x, y, z \geq 0$.

8. Find the maximum and minimum values of $f(x, y, z)$ subject to the constraint $x + y + z = 1$. Assume that $x, y, z \geq 0$.

Solution: Set up the equations

$$yz = \lambda$$

$$xz = \lambda$$

$$xy = \lambda$$

$$x + y + z = 1$$

Solve the equations, making sure we only take positive x, y, z which gives solutions

P	$f(P)$	Conclusion
$(0, 1, 0)$	0	Min
$(1, 0, 0)$	0	Min
$(0, 0, 1)$	0	Min
$(1/3, 1/3, 1/3)$	$1/27$	Max

9. A rectangular box whose edges are parallel to the coordinate axes is inscribed in the ellipsoid $36x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 = 36$. Find the maximum possible volume for such a box.

10. A rectangular box whose edges are parallel to the coordinate axes is inscribed in the ellipsoid $36x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 = 36$. Find the maximum possible volume for such a box.

Solution: We want to maximize volume, which is $V = 8xyz$, subject to $36x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 = 36$. This leads to equations

$$8yz = 72\lambda x$$

$$8xz = 8\lambda y$$

$$8xy = 18\lambda z$$

$$36x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 = 36$$

There are several solutions with $x, y, z = 0$. The solution with positive x, y, z is

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \sqrt{3}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \right)$$

and thus the maximal volume is $\frac{16}{\sqrt{3}}$.

11. Using Lagrange multipliers, find the minimal distance from the origin to the surface $x^2y - z^2 + 9 = 0$.

12. Using Lagrange multipliers, find the minimal distance from the origin to the surface $x^2y - z^2 + 9 = 0$.

Solution: Find the minimum of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ subject to $x^2y - z^2 + 9 = 0$. This leads to equations

$$2x = 2xy\lambda$$

$$2y = x^2\lambda$$

$$2z = -2z\lambda$$

$$-z^2 + x^2y + 9 = 0$$

This leads to the following

P	$f(P)$	Conclusion
$(0, 0, 3)$	9	
$(0, 0, -3)$	9	
$(\sqrt{2}, -1, \sqrt{7})$	10	
$(\sqrt{2}, -1, -\sqrt{7})$	10	
$(-\sqrt{2}, -1, \sqrt{7})$	10	
$(-\sqrt{2}, -1, -\sqrt{7})$	10	
$(-(36^{1/3}), -(9/2)^{1/3}, 0)$	≈ 8.17	Min
$((36^{1/3}), (9/2)^{1/3}, 0)$	≈ 8.17	

Lecture Problems

13. Find the max/min of $f(x, y, z) = 4y - 2z$ subject to $2x - y - z = 2$ and $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

Lecture Problems

14. Find the max/min of $f(x, y, z) = 4y - 2z$ subject to $2x - y - z = 2$ and $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

Solution: Set up the equations

$$0 = 2\lambda + 2\mu x$$

$$4 = -\lambda + 2\mu y$$

$$-2 = -\lambda$$

$$2x - y - z = 2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1$$

Solve to find solutions

P	$f(P)$	Conclusion
$\left(\frac{-2}{\sqrt{13}}, \frac{3}{\sqrt{13}}, -2 - \frac{7}{\sqrt{13}}\right)$	$4 + \frac{26}{\sqrt{13}}$	Max
$\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{13}}, \frac{-3}{\sqrt{13}}, -2 + \frac{7}{\sqrt{13}}\right)$	$4 - \frac{26}{\sqrt{13}}$	Min

15. Find the maximum and minimum of $f(x, y, z) = x + 2y + 3z$ on the intersection of the cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 2$ and the plane $y + z = 1$.

16. Find the maximum and minimum of $f(x, y, z) = x + 2y + 3z$ on the intersection of the cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 2$ and the plane $y + z = 1$.

Solution: Max of 5 at $(1, -1, 2)$. Min of 1 at $(-1, 1, 0)$.