

Warm up: $f(x, y) = 2x^2 + xy$

Q1: Stationary points?

Q2: Classify?

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lect. 40

$f'_x = 0$
 $f'_y = 0$

Q1: $f'_x = 4x + y = 0$
 $f'_y = x = 0$
 $\Rightarrow 0 + y = 0$
 $y = 0$

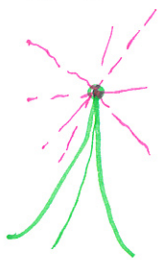
One stationary point: $(x, y) = \underline{(0, 0)}$

Q2: $H(f) = \begin{bmatrix} f''_{xx} & f''_{xy} \\ f''_{yx} & f''_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\det H(f) = 0 - 1 = -1 < 0 \Rightarrow$ Saddle point.

Stationary points ctd.

Ex: $f(x, y) = x^3 + 3xy + y^3$, $D_f = \mathbb{R}^2$
 $(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$



Partial derivatives exist everywhere: No pts. where either f'_x or f'_y are not defined

no boundary points to consider

Stationary points (also the candidate points):

$$\begin{cases} f'_x = 3x^2 + 3y = 0 \\ f'_y = 3x + 3y^2 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{cases} f'_x = 3x^2 + 3y = 0 \\ f'_y = 3x + 3y^2 = 0 \end{cases}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{FOC} \\ \text{(first order} \\ \text{conditions)} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{cases} x^2 + y = 0 \Rightarrow y = -x^2 : (*) \\ x + y^2 = 0 \rightarrow x + (-x^2)^2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$x + x^4 = 0$$

$$x(1 + x^3) = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

From

$$\underline{(*)}: y = -0^2 = \underline{0}$$

$$1 + x^3 = 0$$

$$x^3 = -1$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{-1} = \underline{-1}$$

From

$$\underline{(*)}: y = -(-1)^2 = \underline{-1}$$

So the stationary points are $(0, 0)$ and $(-1, -1)$.

Since there are no boundary points or points where either partial derivative is not defined, these are also the candidate points.

The second derivative test

Ex ctd: $f(x, y) = x^3 + 3xy + y^3$

$$f'_x = 3x^2 + 3y$$

$$f'_y = 3x + 3y^2$$

Candidate points:

$$(x^*, y^*) = (0, 0), (-1, -1)$$

$$f(0, 0) = 0^3 + 3 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + 0^3 = \underline{0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(-1, -1) &= (-1)^3 + 3 \cdot (-1) \cdot (-1) + (-1)^3 \\ &= -1 + 3 - 1 = \underline{1} \end{aligned}$$

Classify the candidate points using the second derivative test

Q: Hessian: $H(f) = \begin{bmatrix} f''_{xx} & f''_{xy} \\ f''_{yx} & f''_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 6x & 3 \\ 3 & 6y \end{bmatrix}$$

Candidate point (0, 0):

$$H(f)(0, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \det H(f)(0, 0) &= 0 \cdot 0 - 3 \cdot 3 \\ &= -9 < 0 \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow $(0,0)$ is a saddle point for f .

Candidate point $(-1,-1)$:

$$H(f)(-1,-1) = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det H(f)(-1,-1) = 36 - 9 = 27 > 0$$

$$\text{tr } H(f)(-1,-1) = -6 + (-6) = -12 < 0$$

\Downarrow \rightarrow Second derivative test

$(-1,-1)$ is a local max. for f .

since >0 ,
we also
need to
compute trace
to classify

Global max/min?

Conclusion: $f(x,y) = x^3 + 3xy + y^3$ has no minimum. $\text{---} \parallel \text{---}$ has a local maximum $f(-1,-1) = 1$.

NOTE: $f(10,10) = 10^3 + 3 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 + 10^3 = 2300 > 1$

\Rightarrow $(-1,-1)$ is not a global max. for f .

\Rightarrow f has no global max.

$x = f(-1,-1)$:
value in loc.
max

Tangents of level curves

Ex: $f(x, y) = x^2 - 2x + y^2 + 4y$

Level curve: All (x, y) s.t. $f(x, y) = c$
 $x^2 - 2x + y^2 + 4y = c$

TRICK: Complete the squares:

$$(x^2 - 2x + 1) + (y^2 + 4y + 4) = c + 1 + 4$$

$$(x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 = c + 5 \quad :(\star)$$

$c + 5 > 0$:

So $c > -5$

→ Level curve is a circle with center in $(1, -2)$ and $r = \sqrt{c+5}$.

$c + 5 = 0$:

So $c = -5 \Rightarrow$

Level "curve" is $(1, -2)$

(Need $x-1=0$
 $y+2=0$:

because sum of squares is 0 →
Squares must be

0 ⇒ $x-1=0$
 $y+2=0$)

$c + 5 < 0$:

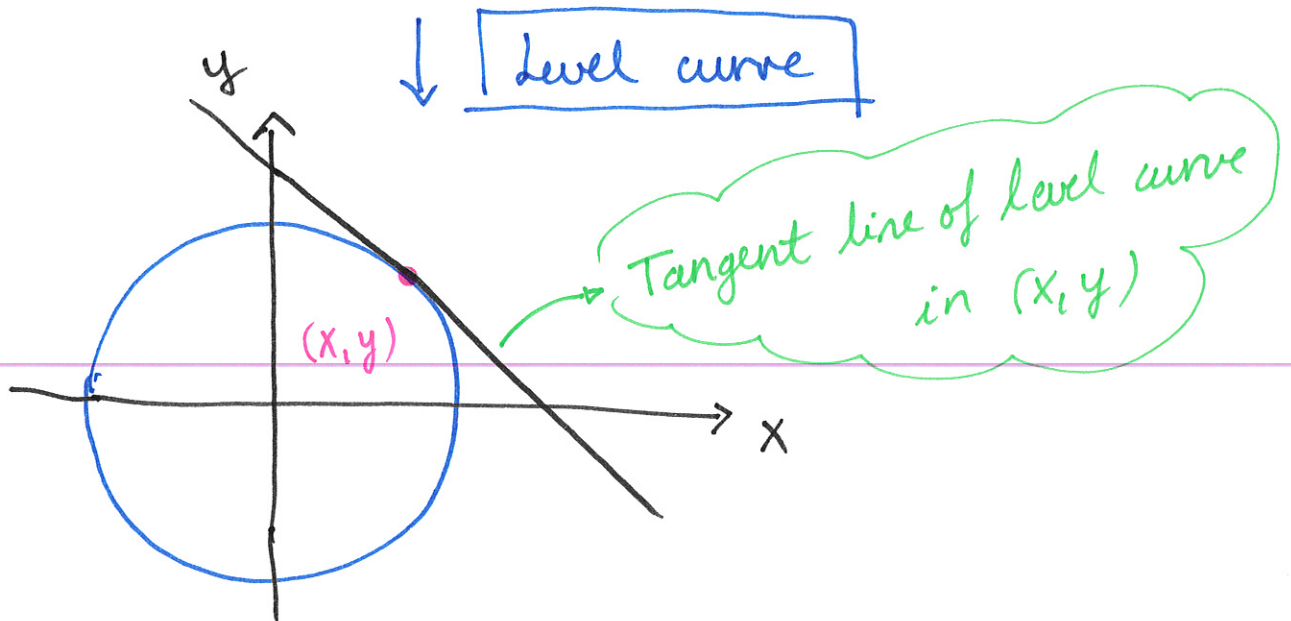
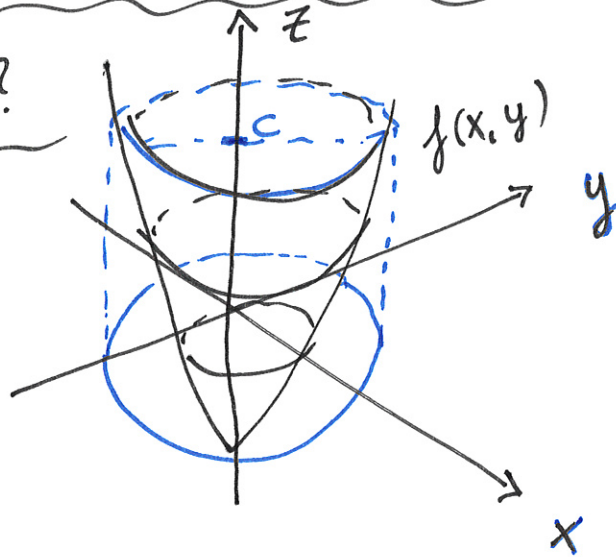
So $c < -5 \Rightarrow$

(\star) is never true
⇒ No level curve

(i.e. f never attains a value $c < -5$)

How to find the tangent line of a level curve in a point (x, y) ?

Where are we?



Ex. 1d: Tangent line of level curve of f in $(x, y) = (-2, 2)$?

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

1) Find level of level curve corresponding to the point:

$$z = f(-2, 2) = (-2)^2 - 2 \cdot (-2) + 2^2 + 4 \cdot 2 = 20$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 20$$

Level curve at level 20 corresponds to $(x, y) = (-2, 2)$

2) Point-slope formula:

slope: unknown

$$y - 2 = k(x - (-2))$$

$$y = k(x + 2) + 2 \quad : (\sim)$$

What is the slope k ?

3.) Implicit differentiation:

Think $y = y(x)$:

$$\underbrace{(x^2 - 2x + y^2 + 4y)}_{f(x,y)} \Big|_x = \underbrace{(20)}_C \Big|_x$$

$$2x - 2 + \underbrace{2y(x) y'(x)}_{\text{chain rule}} + 4y'(x) = 0$$

$$2x - 2 + 2y y' + 4y' = 0$$

Solve for y' : $y' = -\frac{2x-2}{2y+4} \quad \overline{\uparrow} \quad -\frac{f'_x}{f'_y}$

OBSERVE

$\frac{dy}{dx}$ = the slope of a lin. func.

$$y = ax + b$$

$y' = a$; the slope

4.) Insert $(x,y) = (-2,2)$:

$$y' \Big|_{(-2,2)} = - \frac{2 \cdot (-2) - 2}{2 \cdot 2 + 4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Hence, from (2):

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \frac{3}{4} (x + 2) + 2 \\ &= \frac{3}{4} x + \frac{3}{2} + 2 \\ &= \frac{3}{4} x + \frac{7}{2} \end{aligned}$$

the slope
of the tangent
line in $(-2,2)$

Result: If $f(x,y) = c$, then

$$f'_x + f'_y y' = 0$$

Hence, $y' = - \frac{f'_x}{f'_y}$
slope

Implicit
differentiation +
chain rule
(same arg. as
above)

HOLDS IN GENERAL