

Math 210 (Lesieutre)
12.9, Lagrange multipliers, and a little 13.1
March 1, 2017

Problem 1. Find the maximum value of the function $f(x, y) = x + y$ subject to the constraint $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

First let's come up with the equations. The functions are $f(x, y) = x + y$ and $g(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla f(x, y) &= \langle 1, 1 \rangle \\ \nabla g(x, y) &= \langle 2x, 2y \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

The equations are then $\langle 1, 1 \rangle = \lambda \langle 2x, 2y \rangle$, so

$$\begin{aligned}2x\lambda &= 1, \\ 2y\lambda &= 1, \\ x^2 + y^2 &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

Notice that λ can't possibly be 0: then the first equation wouldn't have any solution. Assuming $\lambda \neq 0$, the first two equations give $x = y$, from which the third gives $2x^2 = 1$, i.e. $x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$. Thus there are two possibilities: $(x, y) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$ and $(x, y) = -\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$.

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

The first point is the max, and the second point is the min.

Problem 2. You are making a open-top drawer out of wood. The material for the sides and back costs \$2 per square foot, and material for the bottom costs \$1, and the material for the front costs \$4.

a) Suppose that the dimensions of the drawer are x (side to side), y (top to bottom), and z (front to back). What is the total cost of the materials?

It should be

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cost} &= \text{cost}_{\text{front}} + \text{cost}_{\text{back}} + \text{cost}_{\text{sides}} + \text{cost}_{\text{bottom}} \\ &= 4xy + 2xy + 2(2yz) + xz = 6xy + 4yz + xz.\end{aligned}$$

b) What are the dimensions of the cheapest drawer with volume 24 cubic feet?

We want to minimize $f(x, y, z) = 6xy + 4yz + xz$ subject to the constraint $xyz = 24$. The gradients are

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla f(x, y, z) &= \langle 6y + z, 6x + 4z, 4y + x \rangle \\ \nabla g(x, y, z) &= \langle yz, xz, xy \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Our four equations are

$$\begin{aligned}(6y + z) &= \lambda(yz) \\ (6x + 4z) &= \lambda(xz) \\ (4y + x) &= \lambda(xy) \\ xyz &= 24\end{aligned}$$

After some painful algebra, you'll get that $x = 4$, $y = 1$, $z = 6$, and $\lambda = 2$. So the minimum is a drawer that's $4 \times 1 \times 6$.

Problem 3. Compute the following double integrals.

a)

$$\int_0^1 \int_1^2 xy \, dy \, dx$$

The inner integral is everything from the second integral sign to the dy whatever.

$$\int_1^2 xy \, dy = \frac{y^2}{2} x \Big|_{y=1}^2 = \frac{2^2}{2} x - \frac{1^2}{2} x = \frac{3}{2} x.$$

The outer integral is then

$$\int_0^1 \frac{3}{2} x \, dx = \frac{3}{2} \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{x=0}^1 = \frac{3}{4} - 0 = \frac{3}{4}.$$

That's our final answer.

b)

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^2 ye^{xy} \, dx \, dy$$

The inner integral is given by

$$\int_0^2 e^{xy} \, dx = e^{xy} \Big|_{x=0}^2 = e^{2y} - e^{0y} = e^{2y} - 1.$$

The final answer is

$$\int_0^1 e^{2y} - 1 \, dy = \left(\frac{1}{2} e^{2y} - y \right) \Big|_{y=0}^1 = \left(\frac{1}{2} e^2 - 1 \right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} - 0 \right) = \frac{1}{2} e^2 - \frac{3}{2}.$$

Notice that if we tried to do it in the other order, it would be tough going: $\int ye^{xy} \, dy$ would require an integration by parts. In some cases, it's even worse: the integral simply can't be done unless the order is right.