

Recall from Calculus I:

- 1) Critical points (where f'(x) = 0 or DNE) are the candidates for where local min and max points can occur.
- 2) You can use the Second Derivative Test (SDT) to test whether a given critical point is a local min or max. SDT is not always conclusive.
- 3) Global max and min of a function on an interval can occur at a critical point in the interior of the interval or at the endpoints of the interval.

Extreme Values

- 1) *f* has a <u>global maximum</u> at a point (a,b) if $f(a,b) \ge f(x,y)$ for all (x,y) in the domain of *f*. *f* has a <u>local maximum</u> at a point (a,b) if $f(a,b)) \ge f(x,y)$ for all (x,y) near (a,b).
- 2) *f* has a <u>global minimum</u> at a point (a,b) if $f(a,b) \le f(x,y)$ for all (x,y)in the domain of *f*. *f* has a <u>local minimum</u> at a point (a,b)if $f(a,b)) \le f(x,y)$ for all (x,y) near (a,b).

Theorem (Critical Point)

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Let f be defined on a set S containing (a,b). If f(a,b) is an extreme value (max or min), then (a,b) must be a critical point, i.e. either (a,b) is
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- a) a boundary point of S
- b) a stationary point of *S* (where $\nabla f(a,b) = \vec{0}$, i.e. the tangent plane is horizontal)
- c) a singular point of S (where f is not differentiable).

Fact: Critical points are candidate points for both global and local extrema.

Theorem (Max-Min Existence)

If f is continuous on a closed, bounded set S, then f attains both a global max value and a global min value there.

Second Partials Test Theorem

Suppose f(x,y) has continuous second partial derivatives in a neighborhood of (a,b) and $\nabla f(a,b) = \vec{0}$.

Let $D = D(a,b) = f_{xx}(a,b)f_{yy}(a,b) - f_{xy^2}(a,b)$ then

1) If D > 0 and $f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$, then f(a,b) is a local max.

- 2) If D > 0 and $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$, then f(a,b) is a local min.
- 3) If $D \le 0$, then f(a,b) is not an extreme value.

((*a*,*b*) is a saddle point.)

4) If D = 0 the test is inconclusive.

EX 1 For $f(x,y) = xy^2 - 6x^2 - 3y^2$, find all critical points,

indicating whether each is a local min, a local max or saddle point.

EX 2 Find the global max and min values for

 $f(x,y) = x^2 - y^2 - 1 \text{ on}$ $S = \{(x,y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \le 1\}$

EX 3 Find the points where the global max and min occur for

 $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$ on $S = \{(x,y) | x \in [-1,3], y \in [-1,4] \}.$

EX 4 Find the 3-D vector of length 9 with the largest possible sum of its components.