

Lagrange multipliers (continued)

Lagrange critical points condition is almost the same
if there is one equality (regardless of # of variables)

Last time (2 variables, 1 equality)

Setup: Global max/min of $f(x,y)$,
on the domain $\{g(x,y)=k\}$

Lagrange critical points:

(x,y) is a Lagrange critical point if the two
vectors $\nabla f(x,y)$ and $\nabla g(x,y)$ are parallel.

This happens if **EITHER** (A) $\nabla g(x,y) = \langle 0,0 \rangle$
OR (B) There is a scalar λ such that
 $\nabla f(x,y) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y)$.

Sample new setup (3 variables, 1 equality)

Setup: Global max/min of $f(x,y,z)$,
on the domain $\{g(x,y,z)=k\}$

Lagrange critical points:

(x,y,z) is a Lagrange critical point if the two
vectors $\nabla f(x,y,z)$ and $\nabla g(x,y,z)$ are parallel.

This happens if **EITHER** (A) $\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 0,0,0 \rangle$
OR (B) There is a scalar λ such that
 $\nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z)$.

Ex Find the global max/min values of

$$f(x,y,z) = x^4 - y^2 + z^2 \text{ on the domain } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$$

Sol. The domain has 1 inequality. So we look for

- ① Critical points of the original domain ($x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$)
- ② Lagrange critical points of the boundary ($x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$)

① Critical points of the original domain ($x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$)

This happens when $\nabla f(x,y,z) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$.

Since $\nabla f(x,y,z) = \langle 4x^3, -2y, 2z \rangle$, this is $= \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$ means $x=y=z=0$. $(0,0,0)$ also satisfies $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$

$\Rightarrow (0,0,0)$ is the critical point of the original domain.

② Lagrange critical points of the boundary ($x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$)

$$g(x,y,z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

This happens when EITHER
OR

- Ⓐ $\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$
- Ⓑ $\nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z)$ for some scalar λ .

Ⓐ $\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$

$\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 2x, 2y, 2z \rangle$, so this happens when $x=y=z=0$

But this doesn't satisfy $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$

\Rightarrow No Lagrange critical point in Case Ⓐ.

(B) $\nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z)$ for some scalar λ .

$$\text{This is } \langle 4x^3, -2y, 2z \rangle = \lambda \langle 2x, 2y, 2z \rangle = \langle 2\lambda x, 2\lambda y, 2\lambda z \rangle$$

\Rightarrow Need to solve system of equation

$$\text{Eq 1} \dots 4x^3 = 2\lambda x$$

$$\text{Eq 2} \dots -2y = 2\lambda y$$

$$\text{Eq 3} \dots 2z = 2\lambda z$$

$$\text{Eq 4} \dots x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1.$$

Eq 2 says $-2y = 2\lambda y$. Both sides have $2y$ in them

Want to divide by $2y$ $\begin{cases} \text{☺} \text{ can divide } \rightarrow \lambda = -1 \\ \text{☹} \text{ can't divide because } y=0 \end{cases}$

So Eq 2 \Rightarrow EITHER $\lambda = -1$ OR $y = 0$

IF $\lambda = -1$...

the system of eq. is

$$\text{Eq 1} \dots 4x^3 = -2x$$

$$\text{Eq 2} \dots -2y = -2y \quad \leftarrow \text{satisfied } \checkmark$$

$$\text{Eq 3} \dots 2z = -2z$$

$$\text{Eq 4} \dots x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$$

$$* \text{ Eq 1 } \Rightarrow 4x^3 + 2x = 0 \Rightarrow (4x^2 + 2)x = 0 \Rightarrow \text{EITHER } 4x^2 + 2 = 0 \text{ OR } x = 0$$

But $4x^2 + 2$ is never 0 (always ≥ 2) $\Rightarrow x = 0$.

$$* \text{ Eq 3 } \Rightarrow z = 0.$$

$$* \text{ Eq 4 } \Rightarrow 0^2 + y^2 + 0^2 = 1 \Rightarrow y = 1 \text{ or } y = -1.$$

\Rightarrow Lagrange critical points in this case: $(0, 1, 0)$, $(0, -1, 0)$

IF $y=0$...

Eq 1 ... $4x^3 = 2\lambda x$

the system of eqs Eq 2 ... $0 = 0$ ← satisfied ✓

Eq 3 ... $2z = 2\lambda z$

Eq 4 ... $x^2 + z^2 = 1$

Eq 3 says $2z = 2\lambda z$. Both sides have $2z$ in them

Want to divide by $2z$ → ☺ can divide → $\lambda = 1$
☹ can't divide because $z = 0$

So Eq 3 ⇒ EITHER $\lambda = 1$ OR $z = 0$

IF $\lambda = 1$...

the system of eqs Eq 1 ... $4x^3 = 2x$

Eq 2 ... $0 = 0$ ← satisfied ✓

Eq 3 ... $2z = 2z$ ← satisfied ✓

Eq 4 ... $x^2 + z^2 = 1$

* Eq 1 ⇒ $4x^3 - 2x = 0$ ⇒ $2x(2x^2 - 1) = 0$ ⇒ EITHER $x = 0$ OR $x^2 = \frac{1}{2}$

⇒ EITHER $x = 0$ OR $x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ OR $x = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

↓
Eq 4

↓
 $z^2 = 1$

↓
EITHER

$z = 1$

OR

$z = -1$

↓
Eq 4

↓
 $z^2 = \frac{1}{2}$

↓
EITHER

$z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

OR

$z = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

↓
Eq 4

↓
 $z^2 = \frac{1}{2}$

↓
EITHER

$z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

OR

$z = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

⇒ Lagrange critical points in this case are $(0, 0, 1)$, $(0, 0, -1)$,

$(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$

IF $z=0$...

the system of eq is

Eq 1	...	$4x^3 = 2\lambda x$
Eq 2	...	$0 = 0$
Eq 3	...	$0 = 0$
Eq 4	...	$x^2 = 1$

↪ satisfied ✓
↪ satisfied ✓

* Eq 4 ⇒ EITHER $x=1$ OR $x=-1$

⇒ Lagrange critical points in this case are $(1,0,0)$, $(-1,0,0)$

Summary: 10 Lagrange critical points, $(0,1,0)$, $(0,-1,0)$, $(0,0,1)$, $(0,0,-1)$, $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$, $(1,0,0)$, $(-1,0,0)$

Types	(x,y,z)	$f(x,y,z)$	
Critical	$(0,0,0)$	$f(0,0,0) = 0^4 - 0^2 + 0^2 = 0$	
Boundary	Lagrange critical	(A) N/A	
		$(0,1,0)$	$f(0,1,0) = 0^4 - 1^2 + 0^2 = -1$
		$(0,-1,0)$	$f(0,-1,0) = 0^4 - (-1)^2 + 0^2 = -1$
		$(0,0,1)$	$f(0,0,1) = 0^4 - 0^2 + 1^2 = 1$
		$(0,0,-1)$	$f(0,0,-1) = 0^4 - 0^2 + (-1)^2 = 1$
		(B) $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$	$f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^4 - 0^2 + (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^2 = \frac{3}{4}$
		$(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$	$f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^4 - 0^2 + (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^2 = \frac{3}{4}$
		$(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$	$f(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) = (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^4 - 0^2 + (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^2 = \frac{3}{4}$
		$(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$	$f(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) = (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^4 - 0^2 + (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^2 = \frac{3}{4}$
		$(1,0,0)$	$f(1,0,0) = 1^4 - 0^2 + 0^2 = 1$
$(-1,0,0)$	$f(-1,0,0) = (-1)^4 - 0^2 + 0^2 = 1$		

⇒ Global max value : $\boxed{1}$ (at $(1,0,0), (-1,0,0), (0,0,1), (0,0,-1)$)
Global min value : $\boxed{-1}$ (at $(0,1,0), (0,-1,0)$)

The definition of Lagrange critical points change a bit if the domain has 2 equalities.

Setup (3 variables, 2 equalities)

Setup: Global max/min of $f(x,y,z)$,
on the domain $\{g(x,y,z)=k \text{ and } h(x,y,z)=l\}$.

Lagrange critical points:

(x,y,z) is a Lagrange critical point if the three vectors

$\nabla f(x,y,z), \nabla g(x,y,z), \nabla h(x,y,z)$ lie in some plane. (coplanar)

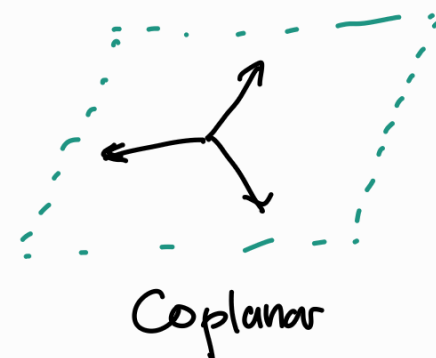
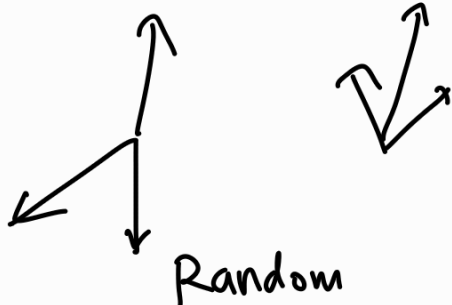
This happens if EITHER (A) $\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 0,0,0 \rangle$

OR (A₂) $\nabla h(x,y,z) = \langle 0,0,0 \rangle$

OR (B) There are scalars λ, μ such that

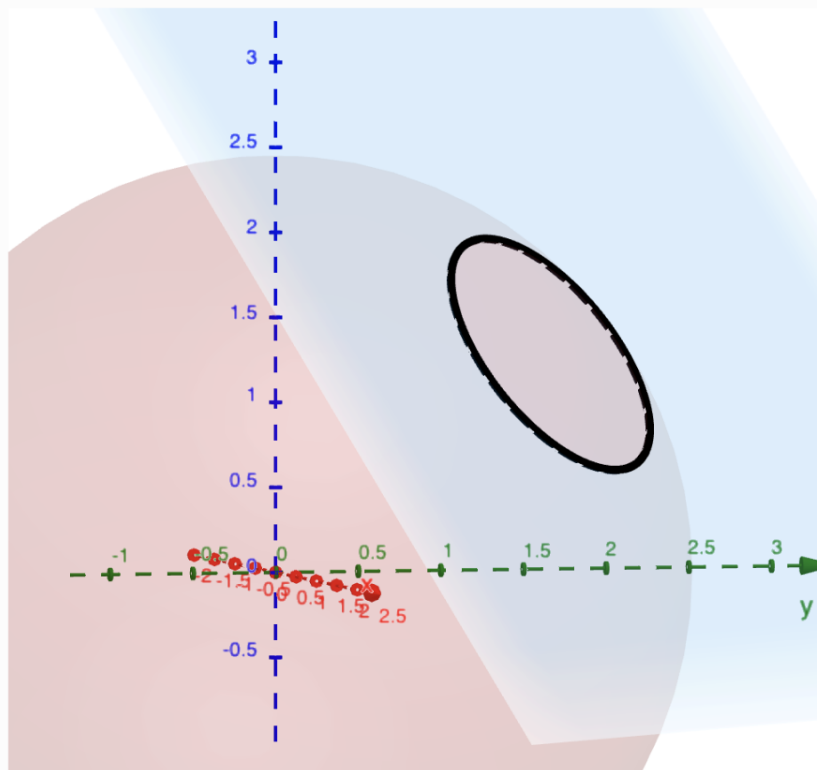
$$\nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z) + \mu \nabla h(x,y,z)$$

Think about the condition of three 3D vectors lying in a single plane. This is quite a restriction: if you choose three random 3D vectors, most of the time they are not contained in some plane. We say 3 vectors are coplanar if they lie on some plane.



In the 1 equality case of Lagrange critical points, the condition of $\nabla f(x,y,z)$ & $\nabla g(x,y,z)$ parallel can be thought of as both vectors lying on some line. In this way 1 equality case & 2 equalities case are analogous.

Ex Find the global max/min values of $f(x,y,z) = x^2 + 2y + 2z$ on the domain $\{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 6, x + y + z = 4\}$.



The solid circle is the domain.

Sol. The domain is $\{g(x,y,z)=6, h(x,y,z)=4\}$ where $g(x,y,z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$, $h(x,y,z) = x + y + z$

The Lagrange critical points are when

EITHER (A₁) $\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$

OR (A₂) $\nabla h(x,y,z) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$

OR (B) $\nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z) + \mu \nabla h(x,y,z)$ for some λ, μ .

$$\textcircled{A_1} \nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 0,0,0 \rangle$$

$\nabla g(x,y,z) = \langle 2x, 2y, 2z \rangle$, so it is $\langle 0,0,0 \rangle$ exactly if $x=y=z=0$.

But this does not satisfy $x^2+y^2+z^2=6$ or $x+y+z=4$.

\Rightarrow No Lagrange critical points in Case $\textcircled{A_1}$

$$\textcircled{A_2} \nabla h(x,y,z) = \langle 0,0,0 \rangle$$

$\nabla h(x,y,z) = \langle 1,1,1 \rangle$, so it is never equal to $\langle 0,0,0 \rangle$.

\Rightarrow No Lagrange critical points in Case $\textcircled{A_2}$

$$\textcircled{B} \nabla f(x,y,z) = \lambda \nabla g(x,y,z) + \mu \nabla h(x,y,z) \text{ for some } \lambda, \mu.$$

$\nabla f(x,y,z) = \langle 2x, 2, 2 \rangle$, so this equation + domain equations give a system of equations

$$\text{Eq 1} \dots 2x = 2\lambda x + \mu$$

$$\text{Eq 2} \dots 2 = 2\lambda y + \mu$$

$$\text{Eq 3} \dots 2 = 2\lambda z + \mu$$

$$\text{Eq 4} \dots x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 6$$

$$\text{Eq 5} \dots x + y + z = 4$$

$$\text{Eq 2} - \text{Eq 3} \Rightarrow 0 = 2\lambda y - 2\lambda z = 2\lambda(y-z).$$

This means EITHER $\lambda=0$ OR $y-z=0$

IF $\lambda=0$... the system of eq becomes

$$\text{Eq 1} \dots 2x = \mu$$

$$\text{Eq 2} \dots 2 = \mu$$

$$\text{Eq 3} \dots 2 = \mu$$

$$\text{Eq 4} \dots x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 6$$

$$\text{Eq 5} \dots x + y + z = 4$$

$$\leadsto \text{Eq 1} \dots \mu = 2 \text{ and } 2x = 2, \text{ or } \text{Eq 1} \dots x = 1$$

Plugging into Eq 4 and Eq 5 \Rightarrow Eq 4 ... $y^2+z^2=5$
Eq 5 ... $y+z=3$

Eq 5 $\Rightarrow y=3-z$ \Rightarrow Eq 4 $\Rightarrow (3-z)^2+z^2=5$, or
 $2z^2-6z+9=5$, or
 $2z^2-6z+4=0$, or
 $z^2-3z+2=0$, or
 $(z-1)(z-2)=0$.

\Rightarrow EITHER $z=1$ OR $z=2$
 \downarrow \downarrow
 $y=2$ $y=1$

\Rightarrow Lagrange critical points are $(1,1,2)$, $(1,2,1)$

IF $y-z=0$... Plugging into Eq 4 and Eq 5

\Rightarrow Eq 4 ... $x^2+2y^2=6$
Eq 5 ... $x+2y=4$

Eq 5 $\Rightarrow x=4-2y$ \Rightarrow Eq 4 \Rightarrow

$(4-2y)^2+2y^2=6$, or

$6y^2-16y+16=6$, or

$6y^2-16y+10=0$, or

$3y^2-8y+5=0$, or

$(3y-5)(y-1)=0$.

\Rightarrow EITHER $y=\frac{5}{3}$ OR $y=1$
 \downarrow \downarrow
 $z=\frac{5}{3}$ $z=1$
 $x=4-\frac{10}{3}=\frac{2}{3}$ $x=4-2=2$

\Rightarrow Lagrange critical points are $(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{3})$, $(2, 1, 1)$

Lagrange critical points in Case (B) : $(1,1,2)$, $(1,2,1)$

$(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{3})$, $(2,1,1)$

As there is no boundary (no inequalities in the domain), the table is..

Types		(x,y,z)	$f(x,y,z)$
Lagrange critical	(A ₁)		N/A
	(A ₂)		N/A
	(B)	$(1,1,2)$	$f(1,1,2) = 1^2 + 2 \times 1 + 2 \times 2 = 7$
		$(1,2,1)$	$f(1,2,1) = 1^2 + 2 \times 2 + 2 \times 1 = 7$
		$(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{3})$	$f(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{3}) = (\frac{2}{3})^2 + 2 \times \frac{5}{3} + 2 \times \frac{5}{3} = \frac{64}{9}$
	$(2,1,1)$	$f(2,1,1) = 2^2 + 2 \times 1 + 2 \times 1 = 8$	
Boundary			N/A

⇒ Global max value: 8

Global min value: 7

This gives a way to deal with global max/min on domains like 3 variables, 2 inequalities but the process is annoying.

(We already learned everything to do it, it's just that the process is long.) That's going to come next time.

For reference: Lagrange critical points for n variables
 m equations.

Setup: Find global max/min value of

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ on the domain } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) = k_1, \\ g_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) = k_2, \\ \vdots \\ g_m(x_1, \dots, x_n) = k_m \end{array} \right\}$$

$\Rightarrow (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is a Lagrange critical point if

EITHER (A_1) $\nabla g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \langle 0, \dots, 0 \rangle$

OR (A_2) $\nabla g_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \langle 0, \dots, 0 \rangle$

...

OR (A_m) $\nabla g_m(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \langle 0, \dots, 0 \rangle$

OR (B) There exist scalars $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$

such that

$$\nabla f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \lambda_1 \nabla g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \dots + \lambda_m \nabla g_m(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$