

Let $f(x, y)$ be defined on a region R containing the point (a, b) , then (a, b) is a local max value of $f(x, y)$ if

and a local min if

If $f(x, y)$ has a local max or min value at an interior point (a, b) of its domain and if the first partial derivative exists there, then

An interior point of the domain of a function $f(x, y)$ where both f_x and f_y are zero or where one or both do not exist is a critical point.

A differentiable function $f(x, y)$ has a saddle point at a critical point (a, b) if in every open disk centered at (a, b) there are domain points (x, y) where $f(x, y) > f(a, b)$ and domain points (x, y) where $f(x, y) < f(a, b)$. The point $(a, b, f(a, b))$ on the surface of $z = f(x, y)$ is a saddle point.

Summary of Max-Min Tests

The extreme values of $f(x, y)$ can occur only at

- i) **boundary points** of the domain of f
- ii) **critical points** (interior points where $f_x = f_y = 0$ or points where f_x or f_y fails to exist).

If the first- and second-order partial derivatives of f are continuous throughout a disk centered at a point (a, b) and $f_x(a, b) = f_y(a, b) = 0$, the nature of $f(a, b)$ can be tested with the **Second Derivative Test**:

- i) $f_{xx} < 0$ and $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 > 0$ at $(a, b) \Rightarrow$ **local maximum**
- ii) $f_{xx} > 0$ and $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 > 0$ at $(a, b) \Rightarrow$ **local minimum**
- iii) $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 < 0$ at $(a, b) \Rightarrow$ **saddle point**
- iv) $f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 0$ at $(a, b) \Rightarrow$ **test is inconclusive**

Relationship between discriminant and determinant

Examples: (write small!!!)

$$f(x, y) = 5xy - 7x^2 + 3x - 6y + 2$$

$$f(x, y) = x^2 - 2xy + 2y^2 - 2x + 2y + 1$$

$$f(x, y) = 1 - \sqrt[3]{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 + 3x^2 - 3y^2 - 8$$

$$f(x, y) = 48xy - 32x^3 - 24y^2, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1$$

$$f(x, y) = x^2 - xy + y^2 + 1, \quad x = 0, \quad y = 4, \quad y = x$$