MATH 241

Lagrange multiplier

Chapter 14, Section 8

The extreme values of a function f(x, y, z) whose variables are subject to a constraint g(x, y, z) = 0 are found on the surface among the points where for some scalar .

Orthogonal Gradient Theorem

Suppose that f(x, y, z) is differentiable in a region whose interior contains a smooth curve:

If P_0 is a point on the curve where f has a local max or local min relative to its values on the curve then

Suppose f(x, y, z) and g(x, y, z) are differentiable and $\nabla g \neq 0$ when g(x, y, z) = 0 then to find the local max and local min values of f subject to the constraints of g(x, y, z) = 0, find the values of x, y, z and λ that simultaneously satisfy

Examples:

 $f(x, y) = xy, g(x, y) = x^{2} + y^{2} - 10 = 0$

 $x^2 y = 2$, nearest the origin

 $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 4$ farthest from the point (1, -1, 1)

 $x^{2} + y^{2} + z^{2} = 25$ where f(x, y, z) = x + 2y + 3z has its max and min values