

# LECTURE 8

GRA 6035

MATHEMATICS

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## PLAN:

① LAGRANGE PROBLEMS  
(REVIEW & CONTINUATION)

② ENVELOPE THEOREMS

③ BORDERED HESSIANS

## READING:

[FMEAJ] 3.1, 3.3-3.4

← No time for bordered Hessians today.

## Midterm, Problem 7:

$$f(x, y, z) = 2x^2 + hy^3 + z^4$$

$$\underline{h=1}: f = 2x^2 + y^3 + z^4$$

$$f'' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 12z^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D_1 = 4 \leftarrow \text{positive}$$

$$D_2 = 24y \leftarrow \text{can be positive or negative}$$

$$y \geq 0: f'' \text{ pos. semidefn.}$$

$$y \leq 0: f'' \text{ ~~neg. semidefn.~~}$$

indefinite  
(since  $D_2 = 24y < 0$ )

$\Downarrow$   
f not convex  
(not concave)

Similar for other values of  $h \neq 0$ .

## Remember:

f convex  $\Leftrightarrow$   $f''(x, y, z)$  pos. semidefn. for all  $(x, y, z)$

# ① LAGRANGE PROBLEMS

Standard form:  $\underline{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

max/min  $f(\underline{x})$  subject to

$$\begin{cases} g_1(\underline{x}) = b_1 \\ g_2(\underline{x}) = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\underline{x}) = b_m \end{cases}$$

Lagrange function = Lagrangian:

$$\begin{cases} \underline{x} = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \\ \underline{\lambda} = \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m \end{cases}$$

variables

Lagrange multipliers

$$L(\underline{x}, \underline{\lambda}) = f(\underline{x}) - \lambda_1 g_1(\underline{x}) - \lambda_2 g_2(\underline{x}) - \dots - \lambda_m g_m(\underline{x})$$

Lagrange conditions:

$\begin{cases} m+n \text{ equations} \\ m+n \text{ unknowns} \end{cases}$

FOC =  
first order  
conditions

$$\left. \begin{cases} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x_1} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x_2} = 0 \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x_n} = 0 \end{cases} \right\} n$$

Constraints =  
C

m

$$\left. \begin{cases} g_1(\underline{x}) = b_1 \\ g_2(\underline{x}) = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\underline{x}) = b_m \end{cases} \right\} m$$

Method: Write down and solve the Lagrange conditions.  
For any solution  $(\underline{x}^*, \underline{\lambda}^*)$ , the point  $\underline{x}^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)$   
is a candidate for max/min.

Tip:

- write down all eqn's before you start solving them
- solve the easiest eqn's first

Ex:  $\max f(x,y) = x+3y$  sub. to  $x^2+y^2=10$   $n=2$   
 $m=1$

Lagrangian:  $L(x,y,\lambda) = \underbrace{x+3y}_f - \lambda \underbrace{(x^2+y^2)}_g$

$\begin{pmatrix} g(x,y) = b \\ x^2+y^2 = 10 \end{pmatrix}$

FOC:  $\begin{cases} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = 1 - \lambda \cdot 2x = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = 3 - \lambda \cdot 2y = 0 & \textcircled{2} \\ x^2 + y^2 = 10 & \textcircled{3} \end{cases}$

In some texts, one prefers to write  $x^2+y^2-10=0$  and  $L = x+3y - \lambda(x^2+y^2-10)$ . The result will be the same FOC's.

Solve:  $\textcircled{1} \quad 1 - \lambda \cdot 2x = 0$

$1 = \lambda \cdot 2x \quad \leftarrow$

$\lambda=0$  is no solution  
ok to divide by  $\lambda$

$x = \frac{1}{2\lambda}$

$\textcircled{2} \quad 3 - \lambda \cdot 2y = 0$

$\lambda=0$  is not solution  
ok to divide by  $\lambda$ .

$3 = \lambda \cdot 2y$

$y = \frac{3}{2\lambda}$

$\textcircled{3} \quad x^2 + y^2 = 10$

$\left(\frac{1}{2\lambda}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{2\lambda}\right)^2 = 10 \quad | \cdot 4\lambda^2$

$\frac{1}{\cancel{4\lambda^2}} \cdot \cancel{4\lambda^2} + \frac{9}{\cancel{4\lambda^2}} \cdot \cancel{4\lambda^2} = 10 \cdot 4\lambda^2$

$10 = 10 \cdot 4\lambda^2$

$\lambda^2 = \frac{10}{40} = \frac{1}{4} \quad \lambda = \pm \frac{1}{2}$

Two solutions:

$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} : x=1, y=3 \rightarrow$

$(x^*, y^*, \lambda^*) = \frac{(1, 3; \frac{1}{2})}{f=10}$

$\lambda = -\frac{1}{2} : x=-1, y=-3 \rightarrow$

$(x^*, y^*, \lambda^*) = \frac{(-1, -3; -\frac{1}{2})}{f=-10}$

Given the list of solutions to the Lagrange conditions, how do we find max/min?

Method 1: Using convexity/concavity.

In the Ex:

Best candidate for max:  $(x^*, y^*; \lambda^*) = (1, 3; 1/2)$  (since  $f=10$  is max.)  
Compute the Hessian of  $L(x, y; \lambda^*)$

$$L = x + 3y - \lambda^* \cdot (x^2 + y^2)$$

We only consider  $L$  as a function of  $(x, y)$  and put in the special value of  $\lambda$  from the pt:  $\lambda^* = 1/2$

$$L(x, y; 1/2) = x + 3y - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$L'_x(x, y; 1/2) = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2x = 1 - x$$

$$L'_y(x, y; 1/2) = 3 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2y = 3 - y$$

$$L''(x, y; 1/2) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} D_1 = -1 \\ D_2 = -1 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{is concave} \\ \text{is concave} \end{array}$$

Conclusion:  $L(x, y; 1/2)$  concave  $\Rightarrow (1, 3; 1/2)$  is max  
(i.e. global max within constraint)

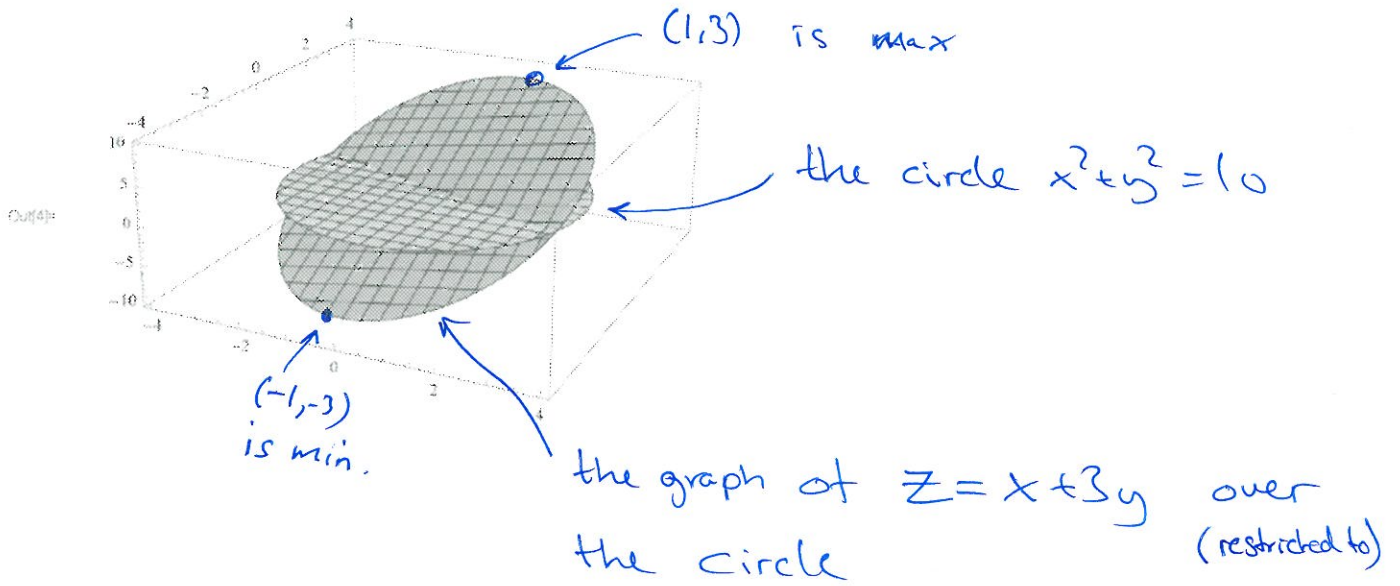
General result:

If  $(\underline{x}^*, \underline{\lambda}^*) = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*; \lambda_1^*, \dots, \lambda_m^*)$  is a solution to the Lagrange conditions, then we have:

$$L(\underline{x}; \underline{\lambda}^*) = L(x_1, \dots, x_n; \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \text{ concave} \Rightarrow (\underline{x}^*; \underline{\lambda}^*) \text{ is max.}$$
$$L(\underline{x}; \underline{\lambda}^*) \text{ — || — convex} \Rightarrow (\underline{x}^*; \underline{\lambda}^*) \text{ is min.}$$

If  $L(\underline{x}; \underline{\lambda}^*)$  is not convex/concave, this method is inconclusive.

```
Plot3D[{x + 3 y, 0}, {x, -4, 4}, {y, -4, 4},  
RegionFunction -> Function[{x, y, z}, x^2 + y^2 <= 10]]
```



## Method 2: Using elimination

Thm:

If  $\underline{x}^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  is a solution to the Lagrange problem (max/min) then we have:

If  $\underline{x}^*$  satisfy NDCQ condition, then there are  $\lambda_1^*, \lambda_2^*, \dots, \lambda_m^*$  such that  $(\underline{x}^*, \lambda^*)$  satisfy the Lagrange conditions.

① We must check that the Lagrange problem has a solution;

Extreme Value Thm:

If  $f$  is continuous, and defined on a closed and bounded set, then  $f$  has a max and a min.

This means: If the constraint-set is bounded, then there is max/min.

$$\{ \underline{x} : g_1(\underline{x}) = b_1, g_2(\underline{x}) = b_2, \dots, g_m(\underline{x}) = b_m \}$$

② We must check if there are points in the constraint set that does not satisfy NDCQ.

NDCQ: non-degenerate constraint qualification

Points in the constraint set that do not satisfy NDCQ, can be max even if they do not satisfy first order conditions (FOC's)

NDCQ: 
$$\text{rk} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} = m$$

Ex: Constraint:  $x^2 + y^2 = 10$      $g_1 = x^2 + y^2$ ,  $m = 1$

NDCQ: 
$$\text{rk} \begin{pmatrix} 2x & 2y \end{pmatrix} = 1$$

Check: If  $(x,y) \neq (0,0)$ , then  $\text{rk} = 1$  (NDCQ satisfied)  
 If  $(x,y) = (0,0)$ , then  $\text{rk} = 0$ . This point does not satisfy  $x^2 + y^2 = 10$ .



Conclusion:

- ① There is a solution.
- ② Make an extended list:

All points satisfy Lagrange conditions

All points that satisfy constraints, but do not satisfy NDCQ

$\{(x,y) : x^2 + y^2 = 10\}$  is bounded.

$(1,3; 1/2)$   
 $(-1,-3; -1/2)$

no pts.

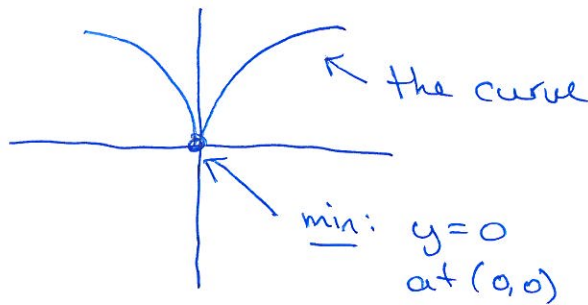
Max/min is the point in the extended list with the largest/smallest value of  $f$ .

$f(1,3) = 10$   
 $f(-1,-3) = -10$   
 $(1,3)$  is max

Strange example:

$$\min y \quad \text{subj. to} \quad x^2 - y^3 = 0$$

Graphical:  
picture



$$x^2 - y^3 = 0$$

$$y^3 = x^2$$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{x^2}$$

See that  $y \geq 0$  for all  $x$  (since  $x^2 \geq 0$ ) and  $(0,0)$  is on the graph.

Hence  $\boxed{\min y \text{ subj. to } x^2 - y^3 = 0}$

has solution  $(0,0)$ ,  
where  $y=0$ .

But: If we compute FOC's + C:

$$L = y - \lambda(x^2 - y^3)$$

$$\text{FOC: } \begin{cases} L'_x = -\lambda \cdot 2x = 0 \\ L'_y = 1 - \lambda \cdot (-3y^2) = 0 \\ C: x^2 - y^3 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} (1) -2\lambda x = 0 \\ (2) 1 + 3\lambda y^2 = 0 \\ (3) x^2 - y^3 = 0 \end{cases}$$

(1)  $\lambda = 0$  or  $x = 0$   
If  $\lambda = 0$ , then (2) gives  $1 = 0$ , a contradiction. So  $x = 0$ . Then (3) gives  $y = 0$   
But again (2) gives  $1 = 0$ , a contradiction.

Concl: No solutions  
to Lagrange cond.

Explanation: NDCQ!

$$\text{NDCQ: } \text{rk} \begin{pmatrix} 2x & -3y^2 \end{pmatrix} = 1$$

NDCQ not satisfied when  $x=0, y=0$ ,  
and this point satisfies constraints.

So:  $(0,0)$  can be min even if it  
does not satisfy FOC's.

It is the min!



## ② Envelope thm

"Smooth dependence of parameters"

Ex:  $\max_{x,y} (13x + qy - C(x,y)) = \pi(x,y)$  (unconstrained problem)

$$\pi(x,y) = 13x + qy - C(x,y),$$

(where  $C(x,y) = 0.04x^2 - 0.01xy + 0.01y^2 + 4x + 2y + 500$ )

$q$ : parameter, the price of product #2.

Solution:

$$\pi'_x = 13 - 0.08x + 0.01y - 4 = 0$$

$$\pi'_y = q + 0.01x - 0.02y - 2 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{320}{3} + \frac{20}{3}q \\ y &= \frac{160}{3}q - \frac{140}{3} \end{aligned}$$

← stationary pt.  
(one pt. for each value of  $q$ )

$$\pi'' = \begin{pmatrix} -0.08 & 0.01 \\ 0.01 & -0.02 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D_1 = -0.08 < 0$$

$$D_2 = 0.0016 - 0.0001 > 0$$

neg. detn.  $\Rightarrow \pi$  concave

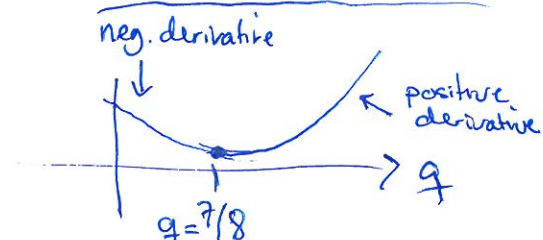
For any  $q$ ,  
the pt.  
 $(x^*(q), y^*(q))$   
maximizes  
profit  $\pi$

Solution:  $(x^*(q), y^*(q)) = \left( \frac{20}{3}q + \frac{320}{3}, \frac{160}{3}q - \frac{140}{3} \right)$

Optimal value function:

$$f^*(q) = f(x^*(q), y^*(q)) = \frac{80}{3}q^2 - \frac{140}{3}q + \frac{80}{3}$$

$$\frac{d}{dq} f^*(q) = \frac{160}{3}q - \frac{140}{3}$$



## Envelope Theorem (Unconstrained version)

The optimal value function of the unconstrained optimization problem

$$\boxed{\max f(x_1, \dots, x_n; a)}$$

satisfy:

$$\frac{d}{da} f^*(a) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial a} \Big|_{x_1=x_1^*(a), x_2=x_2^*(a), \dots, x_n=x_n^*(a)}$$

$$f^*(a) = f(x_1^*(a), x_2^*(a), \dots, x_n^*(a))$$

(optimal value function)

In the example:

$$\max_{x, y} 13x + 9y - C(x, y)$$

"  $\pi(x, y; q)$

$$\frac{d\pi^*(q)}{dq} = y \Big|_{x=x^*(q), y=y^*(q)} = y^*(q) = \underline{\underline{\frac{160}{3}q - \frac{140}{3}}}}$$

## Envelope thm

(Lagrange problem case)

$$\max/\min f(\underline{x}) \text{ subj. to } \begin{cases} g_1(\underline{x}) = 0 \\ g_2(\underline{x}) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\underline{x}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Lagrange  
problem



$$\max/\min f(\underline{x}; a) \text{ subj. to } \begin{cases} g_1(\underline{x}; a) = 0 \\ g_2(\underline{x}; a) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\underline{x}; a) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Lagrange  
problem  
with  
parameter  
a.

Note:  $g_i(\underline{x}; a) = 0$   
(right side is zero)

Ex:  $x^2 + y^2 = 10$   
 $x^2 + y^2 - 10 = 0$

## Envelope thm:

$$\frac{d}{da} f^*(a) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial a} \Big|_{x_1=x_1^*(a), \dots, x_n=x_n^*(a), \lambda_1=\lambda_1^*(a), \dots, \lambda_m=\lambda_m^*(a)}$$

Ex:

$$\max x + 3y \text{ subj. to } \begin{cases} x^2 + y^2 = b \\ x^2 + y^2 - b = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$L = x + 3y - \lambda \cdot (x^2 + y^2 - b)$$

$$\frac{d}{db} f^*(b) = \lambda \Big|_{\lambda = \lambda^*(b)} = \lambda^*(b)$$

Wegen find  $\lambda^*(b)$ :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} L'_x &= 1 - \lambda \cdot 2x = 0 \\ L'_y &= 3 - \lambda \cdot 2y = 0 \\ x^2 + y^2 - b &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} x &= \frac{1}{2\lambda}, y = \frac{3}{2\lambda} \text{ (as before)} \\ \left(\frac{1}{2\lambda}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{2\lambda}\right)^2 - b &= 0 \\ \frac{10}{4\lambda^2} &= b \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 10 &= 4b\lambda^2 \\ b > 0: \lambda^2 &= \frac{10}{4b} \\ \lambda &= \pm \sqrt{\frac{10}{4b}} \end{aligned}$$

$b > 0$  (continued):

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{10}{4b}} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} : x = \sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}, y = 3\sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}, \lambda = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} ; f = \sqrt{10b}$$
$$\lambda = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} : x = -\sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}, y = -3\sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}, \lambda = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} ; f = -\sqrt{10b}$$

Candidate for max:  $(x^*(b), y^*(b); \lambda_i^*(b)) = \left( \sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}, 3\sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}; \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} \right)$

$$d(x, y; \lambda^*(b)) = x + 3y - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$d'' = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{concave} \Rightarrow \left( \sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}, 3\sqrt{\frac{b}{10}}; \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}} \right)$$

is max

Optimal value for  $\lambda$ :  $\lambda^*(b) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}}$

Conclusion:  
(in case  $b > 0$ )

$$\frac{d}{db} f^*(b) = \lambda^*(b) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{10}{b}}$$

(when  $b=10$   
this is  $\frac{1}{2}$ )

Interpretation of Lagrange multipliers

$$\lambda_i^* = \frac{d}{db_i} f^*(\underline{b})$$

$\lambda_i^*$ : marginal rate of change in the optimal value function with respect to  $b_i$ , the constant in the constraint

$$g_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) = b_i$$