

Closing Tue: 14.4, 14.7

Closing Thu: 15.1, 15.2

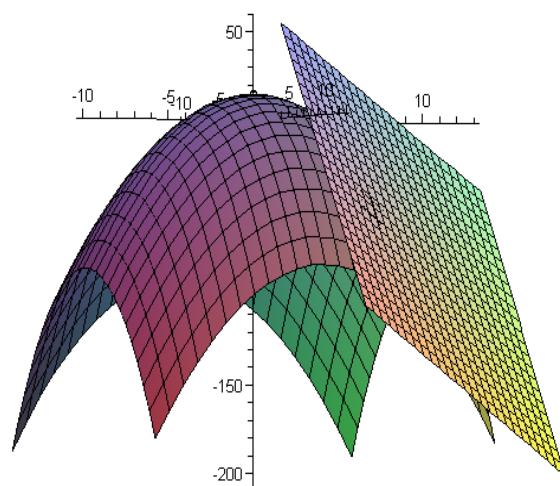
Start on 14.7!!! Types of questions:

- Local max/min (HW 14.7/1-5)
- Global max/min (HW 14.7/6-8)
- Applied max/min (HW 14.7/9-14)

## 14.4 Tangent Planes (linear approx.)

The tangent plane to a surface at a point is the plane that contains all tangent lines at that point.

Example:  $z = 15 - x^2 - y^2$  at  
 $(x, y, z) = (7, 4, -50)$



## Derivation of Tangent Plane

The plane goes thru  $(7, 4, -50)$ .

Now we need a normal vector.

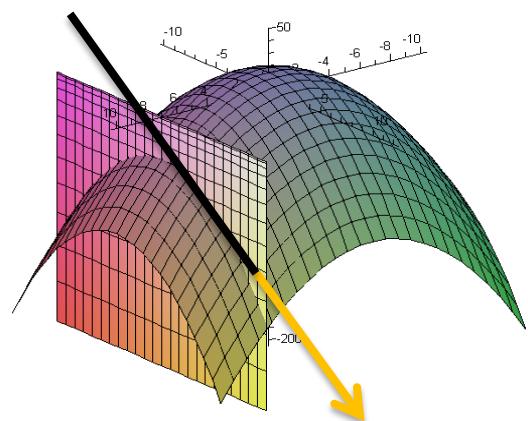
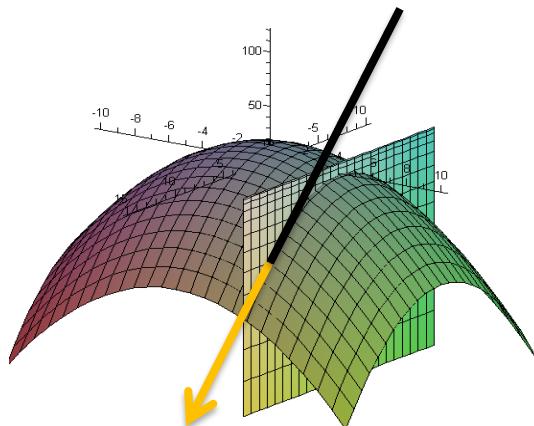
Note:

$$f_x(x, y) = -2x$$

$$f_x(7, 4) = -14$$

$$f_y(x, y) = -2y$$

$$f_y(7, 4) = -8$$



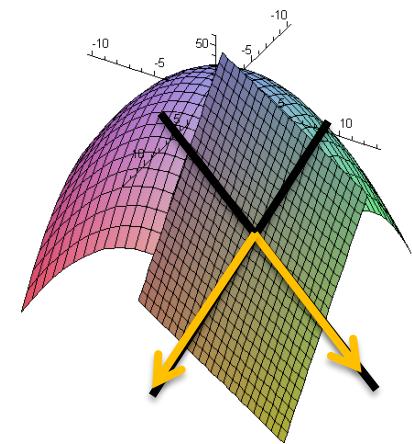
Thus, we can get two vectors that are parallel to the plane:

$$\langle 1, 0, f_x(x_0, y_0) \rangle = \langle 1, 0, -14 \rangle$$

$$\langle 0, 1, f_y(x_0, y_0) \rangle = \langle 0, 1, -8 \rangle$$

So a normal vector is given by

$$\langle 1, 0, -14 \rangle \times \langle 0, 1, -8 \rangle = \langle 14, 8, 1 \rangle$$



**Tangent Plane:**

$$14(x-7) + 8(y-4) + (z+50) = 0$$

Which we rewrite as:

$$z + 50 = -14(x-7) - 8(y-4)$$

## **Aside: General Derivation**

In general, for  $z = f(x, y)$  at  $(x_0, y_0)$ :

1.  $z_0 = f(x_0, y_0) = \text{height.}$
2.  $\langle 1, 0, f_x(x_0, y_0) \rangle = \text{'a tangent in } x\text{-dir.'}$   
 $\langle 0, 1, f_y(x_0, y_0) \rangle = \text{'a tangent in } y\text{-dir.'}$
3. Normal to surface:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 1, 0, f_x(x_0, y_0) \rangle \times \langle 0, 1, f_y(x_0, y_0) \rangle \\ = \langle -f_x(x_0, y_0), -f_y(x_0, y_0), 1 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

**Tangent Plane:**

$$-f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) - f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0) + (z - z_0) = 0$$

which we typically write as:

$$z - z_0 = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0)$$

*Example:*

Find the tangent plane for

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

at  $(x, y) = (2, 1)$ .

*Quick Application:*

Use the ***linear approximation***  
(or ***linearization*** or ***tangent plane approximation***) to

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

at  $(x, y) = (2, 1)$  to estimate the value of  
 $f(1.9, 1.05)$ .

## 14.7 Max/Min

A **critical point** is a point  $(a,b)$  where

**BOTH**

$$f_x(a, b) = 0 \text{ AND } f_y(a, b) = 0$$

or where either partial doesn't exist.

*Example:* Find the critical points of

$$f(x, y) = 3xy - \frac{1}{2}y^2 + 2x^3 + \frac{9}{2}x^2$$

## Second Derivative Test

Let  $(a,b)$  be a critical point.

Compute

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

1. If  $D > 0$ , (concavity SAME in all dir.)

(a) If  $f_{xx} > 0$  (concave UP all dir.)

**Local Minimum**

(b) If  $f_{xx} < 0$  (concave DOWN all dir.)

**Local Maximum**

2. If  $D < 0$  (conc. CHANGES in some dir.)

**Saddle Point**

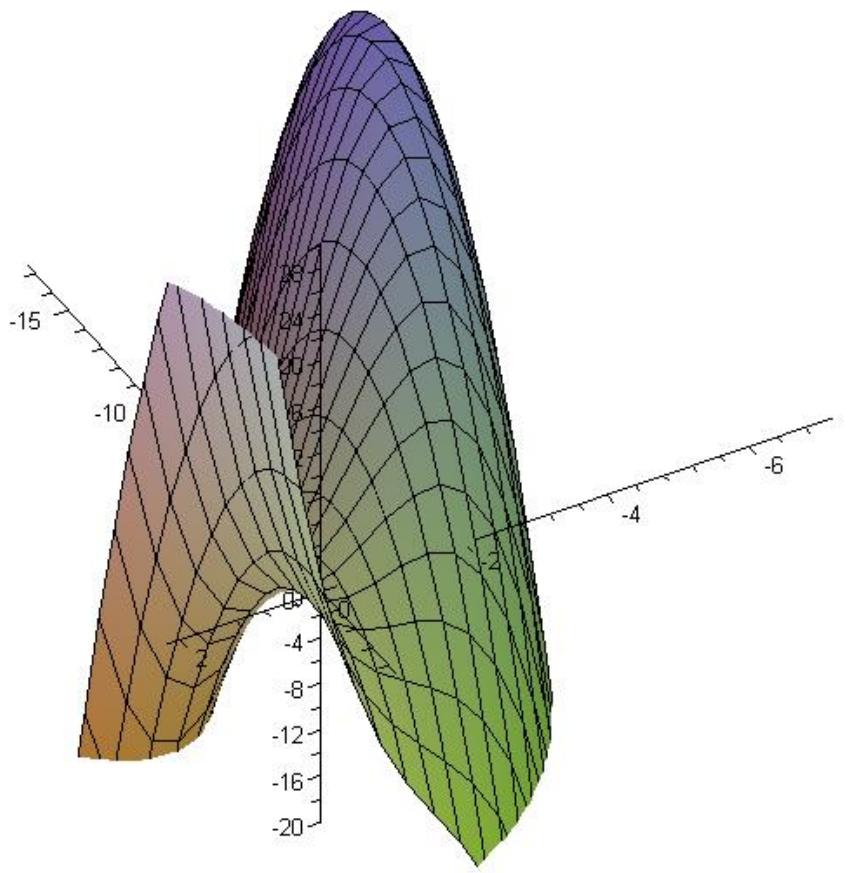
3. If  $D = 0$ , the test is **inconclusive**.

(need a contour map)

*Example: (same example)*

Find and classify all critical points for

$$f(x,y) = 3xy - \frac{1}{2}y^2 + 2x^3 + \frac{9}{2}x^2$$



*Quick Examples:* All three examples have a critical point at (0,0).

1.  $f(x,y) = 15 - x^2 - y^2,$

$$f_{xx} = -2, f_{yy} = -2, f_{xy} = 0$$

$$D = (-2)(-2)-(0)^2 = 4$$

$$D > 0, f_{xx} < 0, f_{yy} < 0$$

2.  $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2,$

$$f_{xx} = 2, f_{yy} = 2, f_{xy} = 0,$$

$$D = (2)(2)-(0)^2 = 4$$

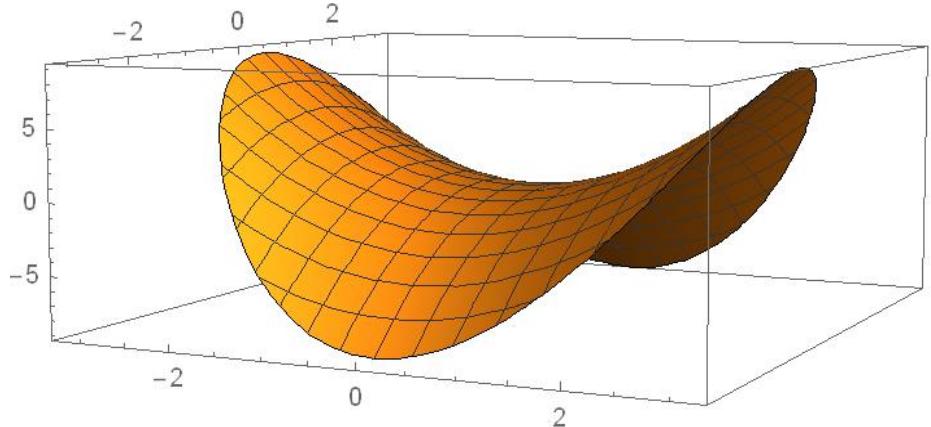
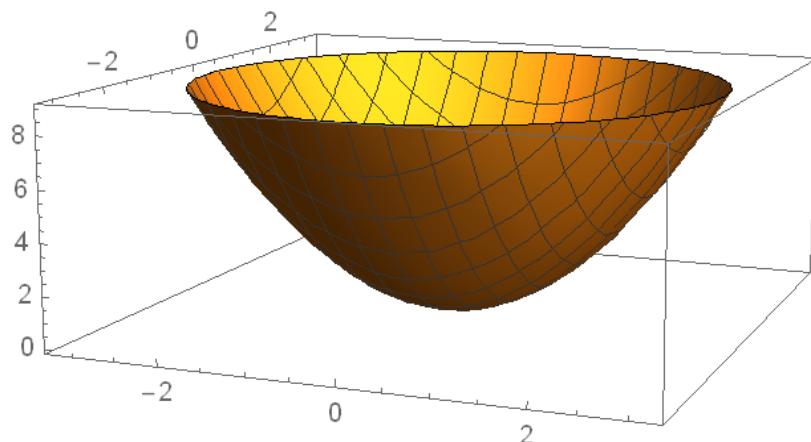
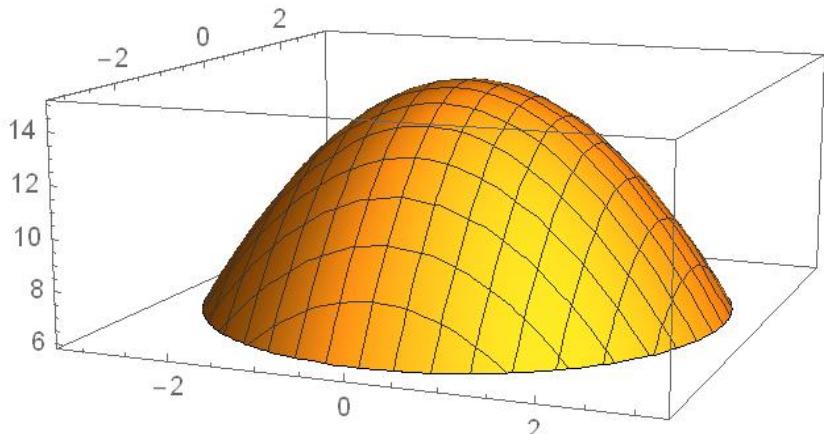
$$D > 0, f_{xx} > 0, f_{yy} > 0$$

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

$$f_{xx} = 2, f_{yy} = -2, f_{xy} = 0,$$

$$D = (2)(-2)-(0)^2 = -4$$

$$D < 0 \text{ (note also, } f_{xx} < 0, f_{yy} > 0)$$



*Examples from old exams:*

1. Find and classify all critical points for

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + 4y - x^2y + 1$$

2. Find and classify all critical points for

$$f(x, y) = \frac{9}{x} + 3xy - y^2$$

3. Find and classify all critical points for

$$f(x, y) = x^2y - 9y - xy^2 + y^3$$

**Global Max/Min:** Consider a surface  $z=f(x,y)$  over region  $R$  on the  $xy$ -plane. The **absolute/global max/min** over  $R$  are the largest/smallest  $z$ -values.

*Key fact (Extreme value theorem)*

The absolute max/min must occur at

1. A critical point, or
2. A boundary point.

How to do global max/min problems:

*Step 1:* Find critical pts inside region.

*Step 2:* Find critical numbers and corners above each boundary.

*Step 3:* Evaluate the function at all pts from steps 1 and 2.

Biggest output = global max

Smallest output = global min

*Easy Example:* Consider the paraboloid  $z = x^2 + y^2 + 3$  above the circular disk  $x^2 + y^2 \leq 4$ . Find the absolute max and min.

## Boundaries (step 2) details:

- i) For each boundary, give an equation in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ .  
Find intersection with surface.
- ii) Find critical numbers and endpoints for this one variable function. Label “corners”.

### *Typical Example:*

Let  $R$  be the triangular region in the  $xy$ -plane with corners at  $(0,-1)$ ,  $(0,1)$ , and  $(2,-1)$ . Above  $R$ , find the *absolute (global)* max and min of

$$f(x,y) = \frac{1}{4}x + \frac{1}{2}y^2 - xy + 1$$

