

Second partials test

1-D

$$f(x) = f(x_0) + \cancel{f'(x_0)(x-x_0)} + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2}(x-x_0)^2 + \mathcal{E}((x_0-x)^2)$$

If x_0 is the point of extrema $\Rightarrow f'(x_0) = 0$ (necessary condition)

$f(x) > f(x_0)$ if $f''(x_0) > 0 \Rightarrow$ local min

Locally

$f(x) < f(x_0)$ if $f''(x_0) < 0 \Rightarrow$ local max

$f(x) ? f(x_0)$ if $f''(x_0) = 0$

2-D

$$f(x,y) = f(x_0,y_0) + \cancel{\nabla f(x_0,y_0) \cdot \langle x-x_0, y-y_0 \rangle} + \frac{1}{2} \langle x-x_0, y-y_0 \rangle \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{pmatrix} \langle x-x_0, y-y_0 \rangle + \mathcal{E}(\dots)$$

If $\langle x_0, y_0 \rangle$ is the point of extrema $\Rightarrow \nabla f(x_0, y_0) = 0$ (necessary cond.)
(f has to be differentiable)

Theorem C. If $f(x,y)$ has continuous second partial derivatives

introduce

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2$$

Locally



$f(x,y) > f(x_0,y_0)$ if $D > 0$ and $f_{xx} > 0 \Rightarrow$ local min

#3 is positive



$f(x,y) < f(x_0,y_0)$ if $D > 0$ and $f_{xx} < 0 \Rightarrow$ local max

#3 is neg



$f(x,y) ? f(x_0,y_0)$ if $D < 0$

\Rightarrow saddle point

#3 CAN BE BOTH

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$f(x,y) ??? f(x_0,y_0)$ if $D = 0 \Rightarrow$ inconclusive