

## CRITICAL POINT TIPS

① To just find the critical points of a function, just solve  $\nabla F = (0, 0, \dots)$ . No need to calculate the Hessian & its eigenvalues. However those eigenvalues are needed to determine the type (max min or saddle) of a critical pt.  $\leftarrow$  plug in the actual point so you have a matrix of numbers!.

② Note that you often have to solve nonlinear equations using a computer (numerically) — eg sagemath or desmos.

③ When solving systems of equations (eg  $\nabla F = (0, 0, \dots)$ ) every equation has to be true at the same time.

For example: If one equation gives

$$A = 0 \quad \text{OR} \quad B = 0$$

The next steps should be

(a) Subst.  $A=0$  in 2<sup>nd</sup> (& 3<sup>rd</sup>...) equation(s) & solve that situation.

(b) Subst.  $B=0$  in 2<sup>nd</sup> (& 3<sup>rd</sup>...) equation(s) & solve that situation.

both these yield critical pts (solutions).

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Now - I'll show in Sagemath how to do these types of computations. We'll do 2.32(b) & find those critical pts - and I'll go further & find a type of one of those points (not asked in homework).

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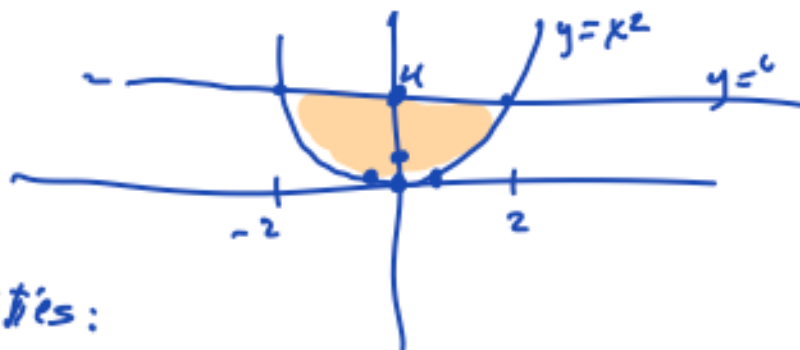
### Example of Optimization

Find the abs. maximum & minimum points for the function

$$g(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^2 - 4y$$

in the region  $R = \{(x, y) : y \leq 4 \text{ and } y \geq x^2\}$

Solution:



inside possibilities:

$$\nabla g = (0, 0) \quad (6x, 4y - 4) = (0, 0)$$

$$x = 0 \quad 4y - 4 = 0$$

$$y = 1$$

(0, 1) actually inside R. ✓

parabola part  $y = x^2$

$$g(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^2 - 4y$$

$$\xrightarrow{y=x^2} 3x^2 + 2x^4 - 4x^2 = 2x^4 - x^2$$

$$f(x) = 2x^4 - x^2, \quad -2 \leq x \leq 2.$$

$$f'(x) = 8x^3 - 2x = 0$$

$$2x(4x^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$x = 0 \text{ or } x^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

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

$$y = x^2 \quad x = 0, x = \frac{1}{2}, x = -\frac{1}{2} \quad (0, 0), \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}\right), \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$y = 0 \quad y = \frac{1}{4}, y = \frac{1}{4}$$

$y=4$  part:

$$g(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^2 - 4y$$

$$h(x) = 3x^2 + 32 - 16 = 3x^2 + 16$$

$$h'(x) = 6x = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$$

$y = 4 \quad (0, 4)$

Last possibilities are  
corner points

$(2, 4), (-2, 4)$



To find absolute max & min:

| $(x, y)$                      | $g(x, y) = 3x^2 + 2y^2 - 4y$       |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| $(0, 1)$                      | $-2$                               |
| $(0, 0)$                      | $0$                                |
| $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4})$  | $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{16} - 1 =$ |
| $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4})$ |                                    |
| $(0, 4)$                      |                                    |
| $(-2, 4)$                     |                                    |
| $(2, 4)$                      |                                    |

find  
greatest  
& least #s.

... to be continued ...