

Contour Diagram
for $G(x,y)$

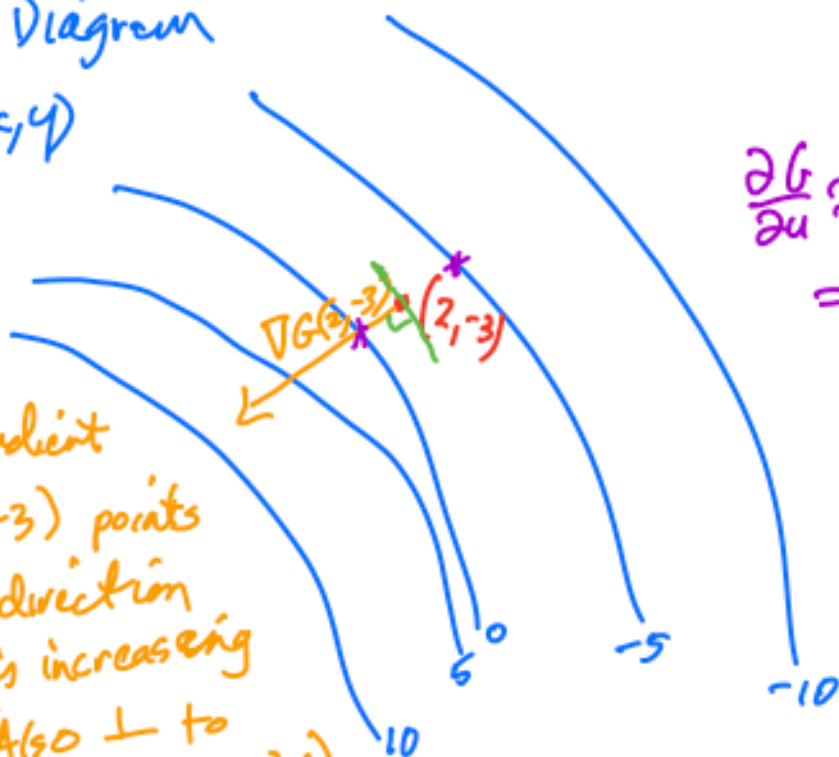
The gradient $\nabla G(2,-3)$ points in the direction where G is increasing fastest. (Also $\perp$ to contour through that point).

$\Leftrightarrow$ If $u = \frac{1}{\|\nabla G(2,-3)\|} \nabla G(2,-3)$, u is the unit vector which gives the greatest directional derivative $\frac{\partial G}{\partial u}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note: } \frac{\partial G}{\partial u} &= \nabla G \cdot u = \nabla G \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\|\nabla G\|} \nabla G \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\|\nabla G\|} \nabla G \cdot \nabla G = \frac{1}{\|\nabla G\|} \|\nabla G\|^2 \\ &= \|\nabla G\|. \end{aligned}$$

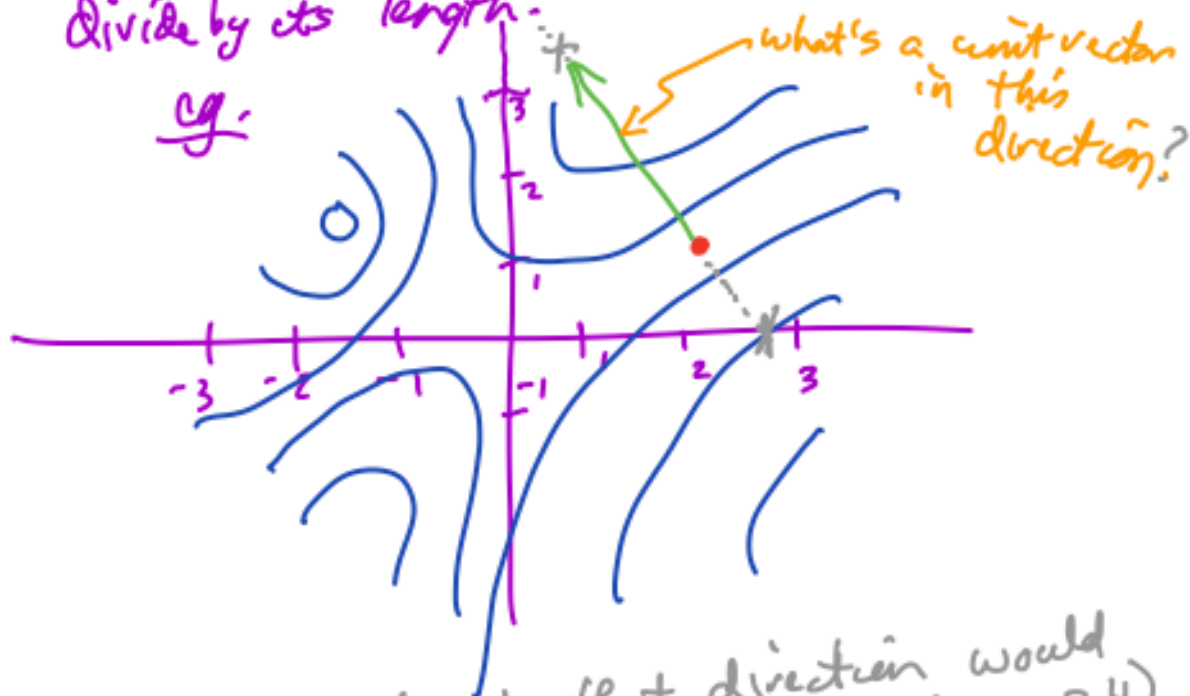
So the length of ∇G is the directional deriv of G in that direction (unit vector).

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial G}{\partial u} &\approx \frac{\Delta G}{\text{dist.}} \\ &= \frac{0 - (-5)}{\text{dist.}} \\ &= \frac{5}{\text{dist.}} \end{aligned}$$



Separate note: If you want to find a unit vector in a certain direction, just find any vector in that direction, then divide by its length.

eg.



one vector in that direction would be $(1, 3.4) - (2.7, 0) \approx (-1.7, 3.4)$

A unit vector in this direction would be

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(-1.7)^2 + (3.4)^2}} (-1.7, 3.4) \approx (-, -)$$

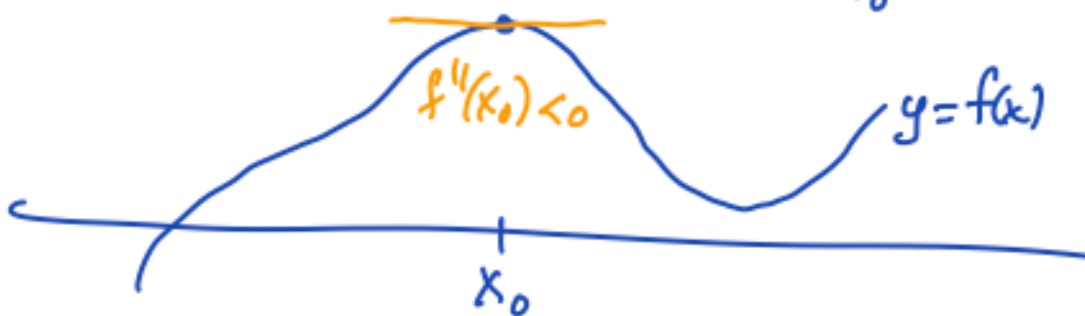
From before: the Hessian matrix,

or 2nd derivative of a function $F(x, y, \dots)$
 is the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} F_{xx} & F_{xy} & F_{xz} & \dots \\ F_{yx} & F_{yy} & F_{yz} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$
 $n \times n$
 square matrix.

What does this tell us?

with fns of 1 variable $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$f'(x_0) = 0 \Rightarrow$ critical point,
 horizontal tangent line
 to its graph $y = f(x)$
 at x_0



3 cases: ① $f''(x_0) > 0$ positive
 Concave up
 type: local min

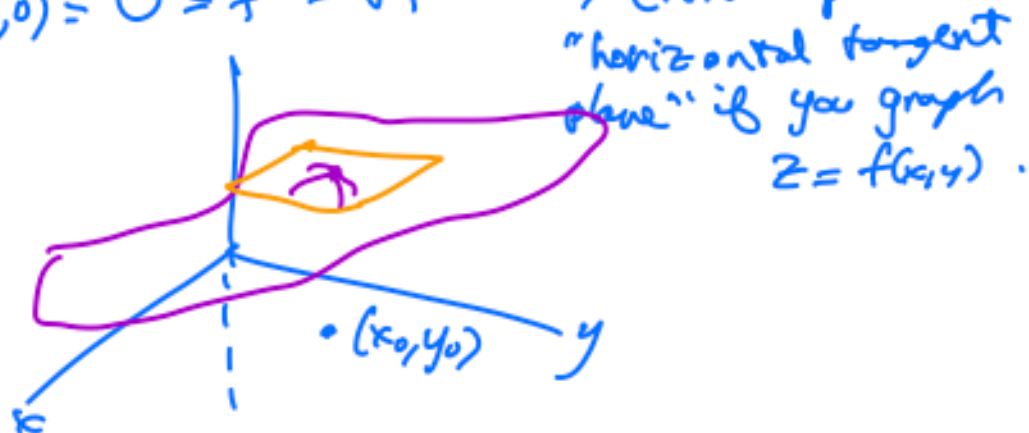
② $f''(x_0) < 0$ neg.
 Concave down
 type: local max.

③ $f''(x_0) = 0$
 ?

In functions of several variables:

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(0,0) = 0 = f' = \nabla f \leadsto \text{critical points } (x_0, y_0)$$



We can tell the type of critical point by looking at the Hessian matrix at that point (x_0, y_0) .

→ Calculate the eigenvalues.

Each eigenvalue will tell the shape restricted to one dimension.



If $\lambda > 0 \rightarrow$ concave up

If $\lambda < 0 \rightarrow$ concave down.

If $\lambda = 0 \rightarrow ???$

For 2 variables: λ_1, λ_2

⌋ both positive $\rightarrow$ local min

⌋ both negative $\rightarrow$ local max

one positive, other negative
Saddle point.



In higher dimensions —
all positive eigenvalues $\Downarrow$
 $\Rightarrow$ local min
(relative min)

all negative eigenvalues
 $\Rightarrow$ local max

some +, some - $\Rightarrow$ saddle point.

Back to previous example:

$$h(x, y) = \left(\frac{1}{2} - x^2 + y^2\right) e^{1-x^2-y^2}$$

$$\nabla h = \left(-2x\left(\frac{3}{2} - x^2 + y^2\right) e^{1-x^2-y^2}, 2y\left(\frac{1}{2} + x^2 - y^2\right) e^{1-x^2-y^2} \right)$$

We solved for $\nabla h = (0, 0)$ to get the critical points:

$$(0, 0), (0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}), (0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}), \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0\right), \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0\right).$$

To find the type of each of these,
we need to calculate the Hessian matrix.

We have $h_x = -2x \left(\frac{3}{2} - x^2 + y^2 \right) e^{1-x^2-y^2}$

$$h_y = 2y \left(\frac{1}{2} + x^2 - y^2 \right) e^{1-x^2-y^2}$$

Then $h_{xx} = -2 \left(\frac{3}{2} - x^2 + y^2 \right) e^{1-x^2-y^2}$

$$+ (-2x)(-2x) e^{1-x^2-y^2}$$

$$+ (-2x) \left(\frac{3}{2} - x^2 + y^2 \right) e^{1-x^2-y^2} \cdot (-2x)$$

$(fgh)' =$
 $f'gh + fg'h$
 $+ fgh'$