

Recap Taylor polynomials of $f(x, y)$ around (x_0, y_0)

①

$$T_1(x, y) = f(x_0, y_0) + \underbrace{f_x}_{f_x(x_0, y_0)} \cdot (x - x_0) + f_y \cdot (y - y_0)$$

$$T_2(x, y) = T_1(x, y) + \frac{1}{2} f_{xx} \cdot (x - x_0)^2 + f_{xy} \cdot (x - x_0)(y - y_0) + \frac{1}{2} f_{yy} \cdot (y - y_0)^2$$

Maxima and minima

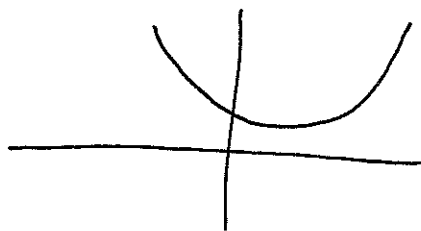
One-variable case $f(x)$

Rule A1: If $x=a$ is a relative maximum (or minimum)
then $x=a$ is a critical point.

Rule A2, (Second derivative test)

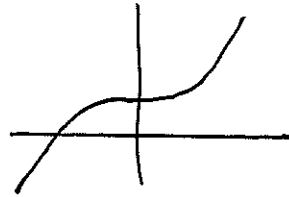
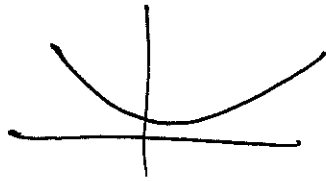
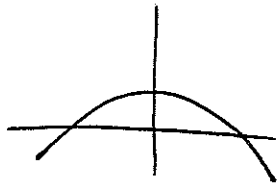
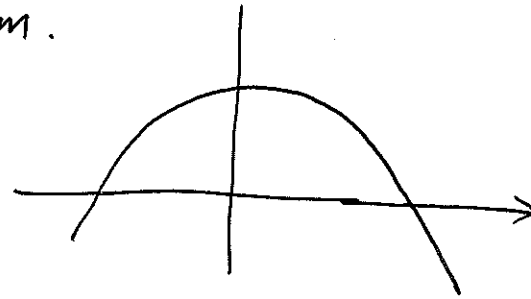
Let $x=a$ be a critical point.

* $f''(a) > 0 \rightarrow x=a$ is a relative minimum



*) $f''(a) < 0 \rightarrow x=a$ is a maximum.

*) $f''(a) = 0 \rightarrow$ inconclusive.



Behavior of quadratic form

$$F(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}Ax^2 + Bxy + \frac{1}{2}Cy^2$$

let $D = AC - B^2$, discriminant

*) $D > 0$ and $A > 0$

$$F(x,y) \Big|_{y=\lambda x} \geq 0 \quad \text{for } \underline{\text{all } \lambda} \text{ and all } x$$

$\rightarrow (0,0)$ is a minimum

*) $D > 0$ and $A < 0$

$$F(x,y) \Big|_{y=\lambda x} \leq 0 \quad \text{for } \underline{\text{all } \lambda} \text{ and all } x$$

$\rightarrow (0,0)$ is a maximum

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Ex. $f(x,y) = x^3 + y^3 - 3xy$

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Find critical points and apply the second derivative test.

Step 1: Find critical points.

$$f_x = 3x^2 - 3y, \quad f_y = 3y^2 - 3x$$

$$\begin{cases} 3x^2 - 3y = 0 \\ 3y^2 - 3x = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x^2 = y \\ y^2 = x \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x^4 = x \\ x^3 = 1 \text{ or } x = 0 \\ x = 1 \text{ or } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Two critical points: $(0,0), (1,1)$

Step 2: Second derivative test.

$$f_{xx} = 6x, \quad f_{xy} = -3, \quad f_{yy} = 6y$$

$$D(x,y) = (6x)(6y) - (-3)^2 = 36xy - 9$$

At $(0,0)$, $D(0,0) = -9 < 0 \rightarrow (0,0)$ is a saddle point.

At $(1,1)$, $D(1,1) = 36 - 9 = 27 > 0$

$f_{xx} \Big|_{(1,1)} = 6 > 0 \rightarrow (1,1)$ is a relative minimum.

Applications

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Maximizing production:

Consider the production function of a product

$$P = f(l, k) = 0.5l^2 - 0.2l^3 + 2k^2 - 0.1k^3$$

Step 1: $f_l = l - 0.6l^2$, $f_k = 4k - 0.3k^2$

$$\begin{cases} l - 0.6l^2 = 0 \\ 4k - 0.3k^2 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} l(1 - 0.6l) = 0 \\ 4k(1 - \frac{0.3}{4}k) = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} l = 0 \text{ or } l = \frac{1}{0.6} = \frac{5}{3} \\ k = 0 \text{ or } k = \frac{4}{0.3} = \frac{40}{3} \end{matrix}$$

Four critical points: $(0, 0)$, $(0, \frac{40}{3})$, $(\frac{5}{3}, 0)$, $(\frac{5}{3}, \frac{40}{3})$

Step 2: $f_{ll} = 1 - 1.2l$, $f_{lk} = 0$, $f_{kk} = 4 - 0.6k$

$$D(l, k) = f_{ll} \cdot f_{kk} - (f_{lk})^2 = (1 - 1.2l)(4 - 0.6k)$$

At $(0, 0) \Rightarrow D(0, 0) = 1 \times 4 = 4 > 0$, $f_{ll} = 1 > 0$

$\rightarrow (0, 0)$ is a minimum

At $(0, \frac{40}{3})$, $D(0, \frac{40}{3}) = 1 \times (4 - 0.6 \times \frac{40}{3}) = 1 \times (4 - 8) = -4 < 0$

$\rightarrow (0, \frac{40}{3})$ is a saddle point.

$$\text{At } \left(\frac{5}{3}, 0\right), \quad D\left(\frac{5}{3}, 0\right) = \left(1 - 1.2 \times \frac{5}{3}\right) \times 4 = -1 \times 4 = -4 < 0$$

→ $\left(\frac{5}{3}, 0\right)$ is a saddle point.

$$\text{At } \left(\frac{5}{3}, \frac{40}{3}\right), \quad D\left(\frac{5}{3}, \frac{40}{3}\right) = \left(1 - 1.2 \times \frac{5}{3}\right) \left(4 - 0.6 \times \frac{40}{3}\right) = (1-2) \times (4-8) \\ = (-1) \times (-4) = 4 > 0$$

$$f_{11} = 1 - 1.2 \times \frac{5}{3} = -1 < 0$$

→ $\left(\frac{5}{3}, \frac{40}{3}\right)$ is a maximum.

Profit maximization (Two products A and B).

A candy company produces two types of candy A and B, respectively with costs $C_A = 2/\text{lb}$ and $C_B = 4/\text{lb}$

The joint demand functions are

$$q_A = 400 (P_B - P_A)$$

$$q_B = 400 (8 + P_A - 2P_B)$$

P_A, P_B : prices of A and B

q_A, q_B : quantities sold of A and B.

Profit as a function prices

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$$P(P_A, P_B) = q_A(P_A - 2) + q_B(P_B - 4) \\ = 400 \left[(P_B - P_A)(P_A - 2) + (8 + P_A - 2P_B)(P_B - 4) \right]$$

Q: How should the company price A and B?

Step 1: $\frac{\partial P}{\partial P_A} = 400 \left[-(P_A - 2) + (P_B - P_A) + (P_B - 4) \right]$
 $= 400 \left[-2P_A + 2P_B - 2 \right]$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial P_B} = 400 \left[(P_A - 2) - 2(P_B - 4) + (8 + P_A - 2P_B) \right]$$
$$= 400 \left[2P_A - 4P_B + 14 \right]$$

$$\begin{cases} -2P_A + 2P_B - 2 = 0 \\ 2P_A - 4P_B + 14 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} P_A = P_B - 1 \\ P_A - 2P_B + 7 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow (P_B - 1) - 2P_B + 7 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow -P_B + 6 = 0 \rightarrow P_B = 6$$

$$\rightarrow P_A = P_B - 1 = 6 - 1 = 5$$

$P_A = 5$
$P_B = 6$

Step 2. $\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A^2} = 400 \times [-2] < 0$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A \partial P_B} = 400 \times [2]$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_B^2} = 400 \times [-4]$$

$$D = \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A^2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_B^2} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A \partial P_B} \right)^2 = (400)^2 \left((-2)(-4) - (2)^2 \right)$$
$$= (400)^2 \times (8 - 4) > 0$$

→ (5, 6) is a maximum.



Profit maximization (two markets A and B)

A company produces a drug with cost $C=2$ and sells it in two markets A and B

The joint demand functions are

$$q_A = 400(4 + P_B - P_A)$$

$$q_B = 400(6 + P_A - 2P_B)$$

P_A, P_B : prices of the drug, respectively in markets A and B.

q_A, q_B : quantities sold in markets A and B.

Profit as a function of prices.

$$P(P_A, P_B) = q_A(P_A - 2) + q_B(P_B - 2)$$

$$= 400[(4 + P_B - P_A)(P_A - 2) + (6 + P_A - 2P_B)(P_B - 2)]$$

Q: How should the company price in markets A and B?

Step 1: $\frac{\partial P}{\partial P_A} = 400[-(P_A - 2) + (4 + P_B - P_A) + (P_B - 2)]$

$$= 400[-2P_A + 2P_B + 4]$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial P_B} = 400[(P_A - 2) + 2(P_B - 2) + (6 + P_A - 2P_B)]$$

$$= 400[2P_A - 4P_B + 8]$$

$$\begin{cases} -2P_A + 2P_B + 4 = 0 \\ 2P_A - 4P_B + 8 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} P_A = P_B + 2 \\ P_A - 2P_B + 4 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow (P_B + 2) - 2P_B + 4 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow -P_B + 6 = 0 \rightarrow P_B = 6$$

$$\rightarrow P_A = P_B + 2 = 8$$

$P_A = 8$ $P_B = 6$

Step 2: $\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A^2} = 400 \times [-2] < 0$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A \partial P_B} = 400 \times [2]$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_B^2} = 400 \times [-4]$$

$$D = \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A^2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_B^2} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial P_A \partial P_B} \right)^2 = (400)^2 [(-2)(-4) - 2^2]$$

$$= (400)^2 (8 - 4) > 0$$

$\rightarrow (8, 6)$ is a maximum.

We view this problem from a different angle.

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$$\text{let } x = P_A, \quad y = P_B, \quad \alpha = 4, \quad \beta = 6$$

We write the profit as

$$F(x, y; \alpha, \beta) = (\alpha + y - x)(x - 2) + (\beta + x - 2y)(y - 2)$$

When $(\alpha, \beta) = (4, 6)$

$(x^*, y^*) = (8, 6)$ is a maximum.

x, y are variables.

α, β are parameters.

$$F(x^*, y^*, 4, 6) = 20$$

Observation: (x^*, y^*) varies with (α, β)

$$x^* = x^*(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$y^* = y^*(\alpha, \beta)$$

Maximum profit at market condition (α, β)

$$F^*(\alpha, \beta) = F(x^*(\alpha, \beta), y^*(\alpha, \beta); \alpha, \beta)$$

$$F^*(\alpha, \beta) \Big|_{(\alpha, \beta) = (4, 6)} = 20$$

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Suppose the market condition changes to

$$\alpha = 4.1, \quad \beta = 6$$

Q: How does the maximum profit $F^*(\alpha, \beta)$ change accordingly?