

SHOW ALL WORK FOR THE PROBLEMS!!! Unsupported answers might not receive full credit.

Problem 1 [10 pts] Use Lagrange multipliers to find the maximum and minimum values of $f(x, y, z) = 10x - 6y + 8z$ subject to the constraint $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 50$.

$$\text{Let } g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 50.$$

Set up the Lagrange system

$$\begin{cases} \nabla f = \lambda \nabla g \\ g = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\nabla f = \langle 10, -6, 8 \rangle, \quad \nabla g = \langle 2x, 2y, 2z \rangle$$

So the system becomes

$$\begin{cases} 10 = 2\lambda x & \dots (1) \\ -6 = 2\lambda y & \dots (2) \\ 8 = 2\lambda z & \dots (3) \\ x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 50 = 0 & \dots (4) \end{cases}$$

The left sides of (1), (2), (3) imply that $\lambda \neq 0, x \neq 0, y \neq 0, z \neq 0$.

Approach 1 Eliminate λ :

$$\frac{(2)}{(1)} \text{ gives } \frac{y}{x} = \frac{-6}{10}, \text{ i.e., } y = -\frac{3}{5}x \dots (5)$$

$$\frac{(3)}{(1)} \text{ gives } \frac{z}{x} = \frac{8}{10}, \text{ i.e., } z = \frac{4}{5}x \dots (6)$$

(see the next page)

Plugging (5) and (6) in (4) gives

$$x^2 + \frac{9}{25}x^2 + \frac{16}{25}x^2 - 50 = 0,$$

which gives $x^2 = 25$, i.e., $x = \pm 5$. Hence we have two points (by (5) and (6))

$$(5, -3, 4) \quad \text{and} \quad (-5, 3, -4)$$

$$f(5, -3, 4) = 100, \quad f(-5, 3, -4) = -100.$$

So f attains a maximum 100 at $(5, -3, 4)$
and a minimum -100 at $(-5, 3, -4)$.

Approach 2. Solve for λ :

(1), (2), (3) give

$$x = \frac{5}{\lambda}, \quad y = \frac{-3}{\lambda}, \quad z = \frac{4}{\lambda} \quad \dots (*)$$

Plugging these in (4) gives

$$\frac{25}{\lambda^2} + \frac{9}{\lambda^2} + \frac{16}{\lambda^2} - 50 = 0$$

i.e.,

$$\frac{50}{\lambda^2} = 50, \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda^2 = 1.$$

So $\lambda = \pm 1$.

When $\lambda = 1$, (*) gives a point $(5, -3, 4)$

When $\lambda = -1$, (*) gives a point $(-5, 3, -4)$

$$f(5, -3, 4) = 100 \quad \text{and} \quad f(-5, 3, -4) = -100$$

So f attains a maximum 100 at $(5, -3, 4)$
and a minimum -100 at $(-5, 3, -4)$