Question

Find the maximum and minimum values of $x^2+y^2+z^2$ subject to the conditions x+y+z=1 and xyz+1=0 by using Lagrange's multiplier method

Solution

Let $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$, g(x, y, z) = x + y + z - 1 = 0, h(x, y, z) = xyz + 1 = 0. The gradient vectors for f, g, h are:

 $\nabla f(x, y, z) = \langle 2x, 2y, 2z \rangle, \qquad \nabla g(x, y, z) = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle, \qquad \nabla h(x, y, z) = (yz, xz, xy).$

According to Lagrange's multiplier method we find all values of x, y, z, λ , μ such that

$$\nabla L(x, y, z) = \nabla f(x, y, z) + \lambda \nabla g(x, y, z) + \mu \nabla h(x, y, z) = 0,$$

$$g(x, y, z) = 0,$$

$$h(x, y, z) = 0.$$

Where λ , μ are the Lagrange's multipliers.

So consider the system:

$$2x + \lambda + \mu yz = 0, 2y + \lambda + \mu xz = 0, 2z + \lambda + \mu xy = 0, x + y + z - 1 = 0, xyz + 1 = 0.$$

Choose the equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda + \mu yz &= -2x, \\ \lambda + \mu xz &= -2y. \end{aligned}$$

Find λ , μ , using Cramer's rules:

$$\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & yz \\ 1 & xz \end{vmatrix} = xz - yz = z(x - y),$$

$$\Delta_{\lambda} = \begin{vmatrix} -2x & yz \\ -2y & xz \end{vmatrix} = -2x^{2}z + 2y^{2}z = -2z(x^{2} - y^{2}),$$

$$\Delta_{\mu} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2x \\ 1 & -2y \end{vmatrix} = -2y + 2x = 2(x - y).$$

Consider two cases, when $\Delta = 0$, and $\Delta \neq 0$.

If $\Delta = 0$, so z = 0 or x - y = 0. But z = 0 don't satisfy the equation xyz + 1 = 0. So we have $z \neq 0$.

Consider when x - y = 0, or x = y. So for the equations x + y + z - 1 = 0, xyz + 1 = 0 we have:

$$2y + z - 1 = 0, \qquad z = 1 - 2y,$$

$$y^{2}z + 1 = 0, \qquad y^{2}(1 - 2y) + 1 = 0.$$

Solve the equation:

$$y^{2} - 2y^{3} + 1 = 0,$$

$$y^{3} - y^{2} + y^{3} - 1 = 0,$$

$$y^{2}(y - 1) + (y - 1)(y^{2} + y + 1) = 0,$$

$$(y - 1)(2y^{2} + y + 1) = 0,$$

$$y = 1 \text{ or } 2y^{2} + y + 1 = 0.$$

So we have y = x = 1, z = -1. Substitute these values in the equations

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda + \mu yz &= -2x, \\ \lambda + \mu xy &= -2z. \end{aligned}$$

We find λ , μ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda - \mu &= -2, \\ \lambda + \mu &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

So $\lambda = 0$, $\mu = 2$.

So we have the first point $M_1 = (1,1,-1)$ and $\lambda_1 = 0$, $\mu_1 = 2$. The equation $2y^2 + y + 1 = 0$ does not have real roots (D < 0). If $\Delta \neq 0$, we have:

$$\lambda = \frac{\Delta_{\lambda}}{\Delta} = -\frac{2z(x^2 - y^2)}{z(x - y)} = -2(x + y),$$
$$\mu = \frac{\Delta_{\mu}}{\Delta} = \frac{2(x - y)}{z(x - y)} = \frac{2}{z}$$

Substitute $\lambda = -2(x + y)$, $\mu = \frac{2}{z}$ in the third equation $\lambda + \mu xy = -2z$:

$$-2(x + y) + \frac{2}{z}xy = -2z,$$

$$z - x - y + \frac{1}{z}xy = 0.$$

Use the equations:

 $x + y + z - 1 = 0, \quad x + y = 1 - z,$ $xyz + 1 = 0, \qquad xy = -\frac{1}{z}.$ So write the equation $z - x - y + \frac{1}{z}xy = 0:$ $2z = \frac{1}{z} - \frac{1}{z}$

$$2z - \frac{1}{z^2} - 1 =$$

We know $z \neq 0$, so we have

$$2z^{3} - z^{2} - 1 = 0,$$

(z - 1)(z² + z + 1) = 0,
z = 1 or z² + z + 1 = 0 (has not real roots).

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Substitute z = 1 in the equations x + y = 1 - z,

$$y = 1 - z,$$
$$xy = -\frac{1}{z}.$$

0,

We have

$$\begin{array}{l} x+y=0,\\ xy=-1. \end{array}$$

We have the solution: x = -1, y = 1 and x = 1, y = -1. And $\lambda = 0$, $\mu = 2$. So we have the points $M_2 = (-1,1,1)$, $M_3 = (1,-1,1)$ and and $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 0$, $\mu_2 = \mu_3 = 2$. For each point $f(M_1) = f(M_2) = f(M_3) = 3$. Define if this value is maximum or minimum value. Write

$$L(x, y, z) = f(x, y, z) + \lambda g(x, y, z) + \mu h(x, y, z)$$

$$L(x, y, z) = x^{2} + y^{2} + z^{2} + \lambda (x + y + z - 1) + \mu (xyz + 1).$$

Then find the matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial y^2} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial y \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x \partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial y \partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial z^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} = 1, \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = yz, \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} = xz, \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} = xy.$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = 2x + \lambda + \mu yz, \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = 2y + \lambda + \mu xz, \frac{\partial L}{\partial z} = 2z + \lambda + \mu xy$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x^2} = 2, \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial y^2} = 2, \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x^2} = 2, \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial z^2} = 2, \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x \partial y} = \mu z, \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x \partial z} = \mu y, \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial y \partial z} = \mu x.$$

So our matrix is:

(0	0	1	1	1
0	0	yz.	XZ.	xy
1	yz	2	μz	μy
1	XZ	μz,	2	μx
(1	xy	μy	μx	2)

For the point $M_1 = (1,1,-1)$ and $\lambda_1 = 0$, $\mu_1 = 2$ this matrix is:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & -2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

If the signs of the corner minors $H_{2m+1,}, H_{2m+2}, ..., H_{m+n}$ of the matrix A equal the signs of $(-1)^m$, then the stationary point is minima of the objective function. If the signs of the corner minors $H_{2m+1,}, H_{2m+2}, ..., H_{m+n}$ of the matrix A interchange, besides the sign of H_{2m+1} , equals the sign of $(-1)^{m+1}$, then the stationary point is maxima of the objective function. Here m is the number of the conditions and n is the number of the variables. In our case m = 2, n = 3. So we define the sign $H_{2m+1,} = H_{m+n} = H_5 = \det A$.

$$\det A = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & -2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_3, R_5 \rightarrow R_5 - R_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 0 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = R_4 \rightarrow R_4 + 4R_3, R_5 \rightarrow R_5 + R_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 8 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 8 \cdot 2 = 32 > 0$$

The sign $H_5 > 0$, and the sign $(-1)^2 > 0$, so for $M_1 = (1,1,-1)$ the function f(x, y, z) has minimum value f(1,1,-1) = 3.

Thus, we have that the minimum value of f is 3. According to the given conditions the function f does not have the maximum value.

Answer: the minimum value of f is 3; the maximum value of f does not exist.