

Name: Solutions

Problem	1 / 2 / 3	4 / 5	6 / 7	8	9	Total
Possible	27	19	26	12	16	100
Received						

**DO NOT OPEN YOUR EXAM UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO.**

**You may use a 3 x 5 card (both sides) of handwritten notes and a calculator.**

**FOR FULL CREDIT,  
SHOW ALL WORK  
RELATED TO FINDING  
EACH SOLUTION.**

hmmmm...  
and yet another  
day has passed  
and I did not  
use Algebra  
once...very  
interesting.



**4 points** 1. In New York City people often take the subway or they take a taxi (taxis and subways are in competition with each other). Let  $f(p_1, p_2)$  be the number of people who take the subway, where  $p_1$  is the price of a subway ride and  $p_2$  is the price of a taxi ride. What would be the sign of each of the following? (Just circle one for each derivative.)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial p_1} \text{ would be: } > 0 \quad = 0 \quad \textcircled{< 0} \quad \text{As } p_1 \uparrow, f \downarrow$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial p_2} \text{ would be: } \textcircled{> 0} \quad = 0 \quad < 0 \quad \text{As } p_2 \uparrow, f \uparrow$$

**14 points** 2. For  $f(x, y) = e^{y/x^2}$ , find the following derivatives:  $f = e^{yx^{-2}}$

$$/3 \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot y \cdot (-2)x^{-3}$$

$$/3 \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot x^{-2}$$

$$/4 \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot x^{-2}) = e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot x^{-2} \cdot x^{-2}$$

$$/4 \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot x^{-2}) = e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot y \cdot (-2)x^{-3} \cdot x^{-2} + e^{yx^{-2}} \cdot (-2)x^{-3}$$

using product rule.

**9 points** 3. Consider the production function  $f(x, y) = 10x^{1/2}y^{1/2}$  where  $x$  is units of labor and  $y$  is units of capital.

$$/3 \quad \text{Find and interpret } f(25, 49) = 10\sqrt{25}\sqrt{49} = 350$$

Production with 25 units labor, 49 units capital.

$$/4 \quad \text{Find and interpret } \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(25, 49). \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 10\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)x^{-1/2}y^{1/2} = \frac{5\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(25, 49) = \frac{5\sqrt{49}}{\sqrt{25}} = 7. \quad \text{If } x \uparrow 1, f \uparrow 7.$$

/2 Find the marginal productivity of labor at  $(x, y) = (25, 49)$ .

9 points 4. Suppose for  $f(x, y)$  that:  $f(1, 2) = 20$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(1, 2) = 10$ , and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(1, 2) = 5$ .

Using this info, estimate each of the following:

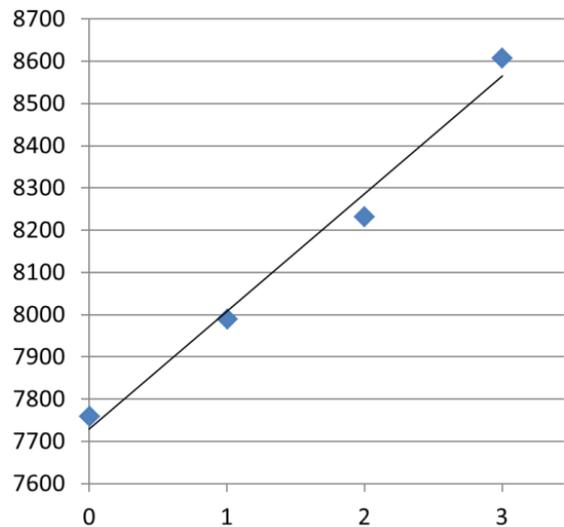
$$\begin{matrix} 1+3 \\ /4 \end{matrix} f(4, 2) \approx 20 + 3 \cdot 10 = 50$$

$$\begin{matrix} 2+2 \\ /4 \end{matrix} f(1, 4) \approx 20 + 2 \cdot 5 = 30$$

$$/1 \quad f(4, 4) \approx 20 + 3 \cdot 10 + 2 \cdot 5 = 60$$

10 points 5. Consider the following data which lists the per capita spending on health care in the United States from 2020 to 2023.

Years $t$ after 2020	Spending $S$
0	\$7760
1	\$8010
2	\$8230
3	\$8600



The line that best fits these data is

$$S = 275t + 7750,$$

where  $t$  is the number of years after 2020.

/2 What does the value 275 represent? (Don't just say slope—explain what it tells us.)

*If  $t \uparrow 1$ , then  $S \uparrow 275$ .*

*That is, spending increases by \$275/year.*

/4 Based on these data (i.e. this line), what do you estimate the per capita spending will be in the year 2030 (10 years after 2020)?

$$S = 275(10) + 7750 = \$10,500.$$

/4 Based on these data, by approximately **what year** do you expect per capita spending to reach \$15,000?

$$15000 = 275t + 7750$$

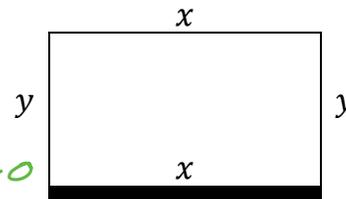
$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{15000 - 7750}{275} \approx 26.36,$$

*so year 2020 + 26.36, i.e. about  $\frac{1}{3}$  through year 2046.*

**13 points** 6. Suppose we are trying to enclose a rectangular garden, where the lower wall is made of stone and costs \$90 per foot, and the upper and two side walls are made of wood at \$30 per foot. So the cost of the four walls would be

$$90x + 30x + 30y + 30y = 120x + 60y = 1200$$

Find the values of  $x$  and  $y$  which maximize the area  $xy$  given the constraint that we have \$1200 to spend on the wall. Use the Lagrange Multiplier Method.



$$F = xy + \lambda(1200 - 120x - 60y)$$

$$= xy + 1200\lambda - 120\lambda x - 60\lambda y$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = y - 120\lambda = 0 &\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{y}{120} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = x - 60\lambda = 0 &\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{x}{60} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \frac{y}{120} &= \frac{x}{60} \\ &\Rightarrow y = 2x \end{aligned}$$

In constraint:  $120x + 60(2x) = 1200$   
 $\Rightarrow x = 5$   
 $y = 10$

Extra credit: by approximately how much would the area increase if we could spend \$1 more on building the wall? Use  $\lambda$  to answer this question.

$$\lambda = \frac{10}{120} \left( = \frac{5}{60} \right) = \frac{1}{12}$$

**13 points** 7. Same information as in the previous problem, but now we want to find the values of  $x$  and  $y$  which minimize cost with the constraint that the area be  $400 \text{ ft}^2$ . Use any Calculus-based method you like—you do not necessarily have to use the Lagrange Multiplier Method (of course you can), but you do need to use Calculus (derivatives) in solving this.

$$F = 120x + 60y + \lambda(400 - xy)$$

$$= 120x + 60y + 400\lambda - \lambda xy$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 120 - \lambda y = 0 &\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{120}{y} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = 60 - \lambda x = 0 &\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{60}{x} \end{aligned} \right\} \frac{120}{y} = \frac{60}{x} \Rightarrow y = 2x$$

In constraint:  $x(2x) = 400 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{200}$   
 $y = 2\sqrt{200}$

**12 points** 8. Suppose a monopolist produces and sells a certain product in two different countries.

Country	Number sold	Price
1	$x$	$90 - \frac{x}{20}$
2	$y$	$100 - \frac{y}{10}$

Then the total revenue is

$$R(x, y) = x \left( 90 - \frac{x}{20} \right) + y \left( 100 - \frac{y}{10} \right).$$

If there is a fixed cost of \$5000 and a cost-per-item of \$10, then the total cost is

$$C(x, y) = 5000 + 10(x + y).$$

Then *Profit = Revenue - Cost*:

$$\begin{aligned} P(x, y) &= x \left( 90 - \frac{x}{20} \right) + y \left( 100 - \frac{y}{10} \right) - [5000 + 10(x + y)] \\ &= -\frac{1}{20}x^2 + 80x - \frac{1}{10}y^2 + 90y - 5000 \end{aligned}$$

**So here is the problem:** find the values of  $x$  and  $y$  which maximize profit

$$P(x, y) = -\frac{1}{20}x^2 + 80x - \frac{1}{10}y^2 + 90y - 5000.$$

Use first derivatives to find the values of  $x$  and  $y$ , and use second derivatives to make sure that you have found where  $P(x, y)$  is *maximized* (rather than *minimized*).

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = -\frac{x}{10} + 80 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 800$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = -\frac{y}{5} + 90 = 0 \Rightarrow y = 450$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{1}{10}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{1}{5}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x \partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial y \partial x} = 0$$

$$D(x, y) = \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{5}\right) - 0^2 = \frac{1}{50}$$

$$D(800, 450) = \frac{1}{50} > 0, \text{ so min or max.}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(800, 450) = -\frac{1}{10} < 0, \text{ so max.}$$

Notice prices are:

$$90 - \frac{800}{20} = 50,$$

$$100 - \frac{450}{10} = 55$$

**16 points** 9. Suppose now that the monopolist in Problem 8 must charge the same price in both countries. That is, it must be that  $90 - \frac{x}{20} = 100 - \frac{y}{10}$ .

Find the values of  $x$  and  $y$  which maximize profit

$$P(x, y) = -\frac{1}{20}x^2 + 80x - \frac{1}{10}y^2 + 90y - 5000.$$

subject to the equal price constraint that  $90 - \frac{x}{20} = 100 - \frac{y}{10}$ , i.e.  $0 = 10 + \frac{x}{20} - \frac{y}{10}$

$$F(x, y) = -\frac{1}{20}x^2 + 80x - \frac{1}{10}y^2 + 90y - 5000 + \lambda \left( 10 + \frac{x}{20} - \frac{y}{10} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{20}x^2 + 80x - \frac{1}{10}y^2 + 90y - 5000 + 10\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{20}x - \frac{\lambda}{10}y$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = -\frac{x}{10} + 80 + \frac{\lambda}{20} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 20 \left( \frac{x}{10} - 80 \right) = 2x - 1600$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = \frac{-y}{5} + 90 - \frac{\lambda}{10} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 10 \left( \frac{-y}{5} + 90 \right) = -2y + 900$$

$$\text{So } 2x - 1600 = -2y + 900 \Rightarrow x = 1250 - y$$

In constraint:

$$\left( 0 = 10 + \frac{1250 - y}{20} - \frac{y}{10} \right) \cdot 20$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 200 + 1250 - y - 2y$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{1450}{3} = 483\frac{1}{3}$$

$$x = 1250 - \checkmark = 766\frac{2}{3}$$

Notice prices:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 90 - \frac{766\frac{2}{3}}{20} &= 51\frac{2}{3} \\ 100 - \frac{483\frac{1}{3}}{10} &= 51\frac{2}{3} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Same, and between original prices of 50 and 55.