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## 1 Optimization Exercises

### 1.1 A.1

Maximize the function  $f(x) = -x^2 + 4x + 4$ .

Find where this function has zero slope:

$$\frac{\partial (-x^2 + 4x + 4)}{\partial x} = 4 - 2x$$

$$4 - 2x = 0$$

$$4 = 2x$$

$$x = 2$$

### 1.2 A.2

Maximize the function  $f(x) = \ln(x) - \frac{1}{4}x + 4$ .

Where is the slope of this equal to zero?

$$\frac{\partial (\log(x) - \frac{1}{4}x + 4)}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{4} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$x = 4$$

### 1.3 A.3

Maximize the function  $f(x, y) = -x^2 - y^2 + 2x + 2y$ .

We need to find an  $x$  and  $y$  where the slope of  $f$  is zero in both directions at the same time.

$$\frac{\partial (-x^2 - y^2 + 2x + 2y)}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (-x^2 - y^2 + 2x + 2y)}{\partial y} = 0$$

Taking these derivatives:

$$2 - 2x = 0$$

$$2 - 2y = 0$$

Solve these:

$$x = 1$$

$$y = 1$$

### 1.4 A.4

Maximize the function  $f(x, y) = x + y$  subject to the constraint  $x + 2y \leq 60$ .

With the Lagrange function, we set up a penalized version of the maximization problem.

*Let's approach the problem intuitively.*

If you have a linear problem, the optimal solution will always be an extreme (where one of the variables is zero).

$$x = 60$$

$$L(x, y) = x + y - \lambda(x + 2y - 60)$$

$$\frac{\partial (x + y - \lambda(x + 2y - 60))}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (x + y - \lambda(x + 2y - 60))}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (x + y - \lambda(x + 2y - 60))}{\partial \lambda} = 0$$

Try to solve these:

$$1 - \lambda = 0$$

$$1 - 2\lambda = 0$$

$$-x - 2y + 60 = 0$$

$$\lambda = 1$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$$

### 1.5 A.5

Maximize  $f(x, y) = xy$  subject to the constraint  $x + 2y \leq 60$ .

$$x + 2y - 60 \leq 0$$

$$L(x, y) = xy - \lambda(x + 2y - 60)$$

Maximize this function unconstrained with respect to  $x, y, \lambda$

$$\frac{\partial (xy - \lambda(x + 2y - 60))}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (xy - \lambda(x + 2y - 60))}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (xy - \lambda(x + 2y - 60))}{\partial \lambda} = 0$$

Take all derivatives:

$$y - \lambda = 0$$

$$x - 2\lambda = 0$$

$$60 = x + 2y$$

Solve this system of equations:

$$y = \lambda$$

$$x - 2(y) = 0$$

$$x = 2y$$

Then plug this relationship into the third one from above (the constraint)

$$60 = (2y) + 2y$$

$$4y = 60$$

$$y = 15$$

$$x = 2(15) = 30$$

## 1.6 A.6

Maximize the function  $f(x, y) = x^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{\frac{1}{2}}$  subject to the constraint  $x + 2y \leq 60$ .

**Try this one at home.**

$$L(x, y) = x^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda(x + 2y - 60)$$

$$\frac{\partial \left( x^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda(x + 2y - 60) \right)}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \lambda$$

$$\frac{\partial \left( x^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda(x + 2y - 60) \right)}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} - 2\lambda$$

$$\frac{\partial \left( x^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda(x + 2y - 60) \right)}{\partial \lambda} = -x - 2y + 60$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} = \lambda$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} - 2 \left( \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\sqrt{x} = 2\sqrt{y}$$

$$x = 4y$$

$$60 = 4y + 2y$$

$$y = 10$$

$$x = 40$$

### 1.7 A.7

Maximize the function  $f(x, y) = \min\{x, y\}$  subject to the constraint  $x + 2y \leq 60$ .  
Write down the “no waste condition”

$$x = y$$

...and the constraint

$$x + 2y = 60$$

Solve these:

$$x + 2(x) = 60$$

$$3x = 60$$

$$x = 20$$

$$y = 20$$

**1.8 A.8**

Maximize  $100 - (x - 10)^2 - (y - 10)^2$  subject to the constraint  $x + 2y \leq 10$

**Try this one at home.**