

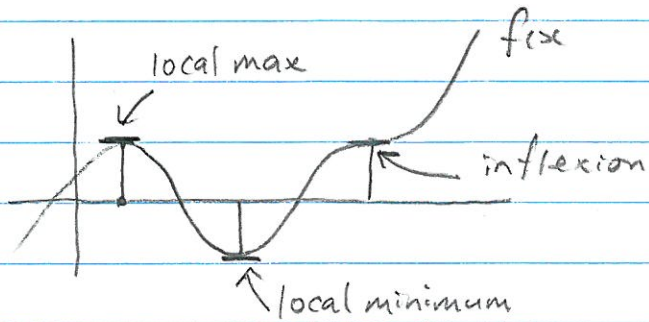
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Lec 6

Critical Points

Given  $f(x)$  the critical points are where  $f'(x) = 0$ .

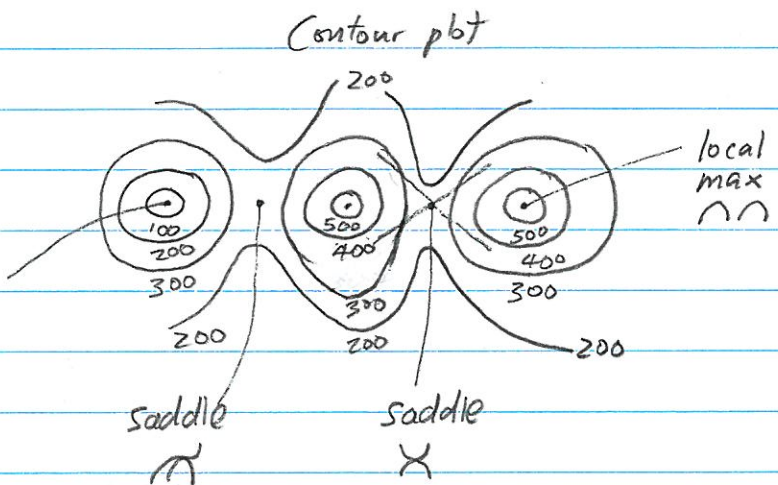
We can distinguish them by computing  $f''(x)$



min	max	inflection
$f''(x) > 0$	$f''(x) < 0$	$f''(x) = 0$

Given  $f(x,y)$  the critical points occur when

$f_x(x,y) = 0$  AND  $f_y(x,y) = 0$



We might guess to distinguish them using.

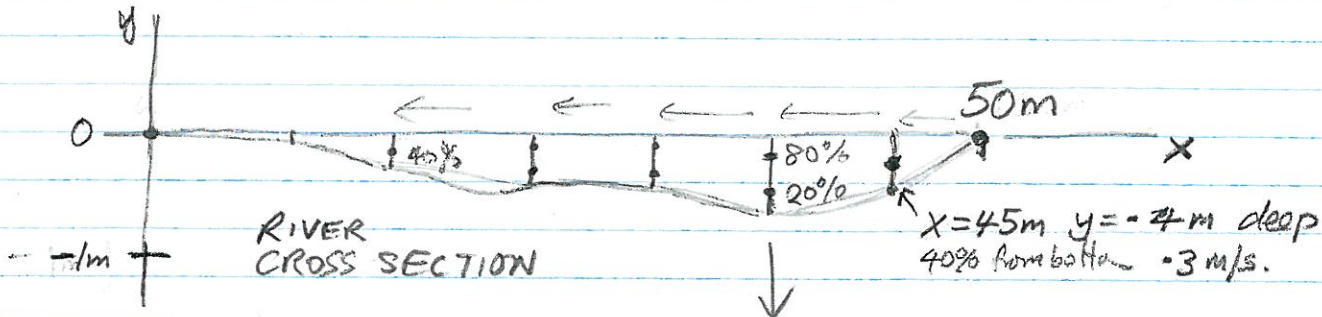
max	min	saddle
$f_{xx}(a,b) < 0$	$f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$	$f_{xx}(a,b) \cdot f_{yy}(a,b) \leq 0$
$f_{yy}(a,b) < 0$	$f_{yy}(a,b) > 0$	↑ different signs.

This doesn't work because if  $f_{xx}(a,b) > 0$  and  $f_{yy}(a,b) > 0$  the point  $(a,b)$  could be a saddle. See X for saddle in above plot.

Let  $D(x,y) = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2$ . Then

- $D(a,b) < 0 \Rightarrow$  saddle
- $D(a,b) > 0 \Rightarrow$  local min or max.

How do we measure the flow rate (in  $m^3/s$ ) of water coming down a river?



$x=40m$   $y=-0.6m$

80% 0.5 m/s

20% 0.3 m/s

Average of two = 0.4 m/s  
is an estimate for  
the average velocity.

①  $flow = \frac{?}{m^2} \times \frac{?}{m/s}$  Average velocity

② velocity  $v(x,y) = \text{some formula??}$

$$flow = \int_{Area} v(x,y)$$

③ We don't have a formula for  $v(x,y)$  near the river bed.  
Approximate river cross-section by trapezoids?  
Can we do better? Simpson's rule? What about  $v(x,y)$

