

Lagrange Multiplier (No. 2)

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Constrained Optimization

Given an open subset U in \mathbf{R}^2 and two functions

$$f, g : U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

問題

Maximize or minimize $z = f(x, y)$ subject to $g(x, y) = 0$.

定理

Assume that $(a, b) \in U$ satisfies the condition $g(a, b) = 0$, $g_y(a, b) \neq 0$. Moreover $f(a, b)$ is a maximal or minimal value of $f(x, y)$ subject to $g(x, y) = 0$. Then there exists $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$ satisfying

$$\begin{cases} f_x(a, b) + \lambda g_x(a, b) = 0 & (1) \\ f_y(a, b) + \lambda g_y(a, b) = 0 & (2) \\ g(a, b) = 0 & (3) \end{cases} \quad (L)$$

In the Theorem the identities (1) and (2) are called **Tangency Condition**.

接線条件

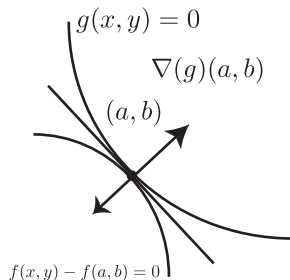
The Tangency Condition is expressed by

$$\nabla(g)(a, b) = -\lambda \cdot \nabla(f)(a, b)$$

Remark that $\nabla(f)(a, b)$ is the normal vector of the tangent line at (a, b) of the contour of $f(x, y)$:

$$f(x, y) - f(a, b) = 0$$

Since the two curves $g(x, y) = 0$ and $f(x, y) - f(a, b) = 0$ share the tangent line at (a, b) , they are tangent each other.



Example (Utility Maximization) Let $I, p, q > 0$. We maximize the utility function

$$u(x, y) = \sqrt{xy}$$

subject to the budget constraint

$$g(x, y) := I - px - qy = 0 \quad (x, y > 0)$$

Constrained Optimization—Application in Microeconomics(2)

If the utility function is maximal at (x, y) under the budget constraint, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$ satisfying

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{lcl} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{x}} + \lambda(-p) & = & 0 \quad (1) \\ \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{y}} + \lambda(-q) & = & 0 \quad (2) \\ I - px - qy & = & 0 \quad (3) \end{array} \right.$$

We consider (1) $\times x$ and (2) $\times y$ to get

$$\sqrt{xy} = 2\lambda px = 2\lambda qy$$

Since it follows from (1) that $\lambda \neq 0$, we get

$$px = qy$$

Moreover it follows from (3) that

$$px = qy = \frac{I}{2} \quad \text{thus} \quad x = \frac{I}{2p}, \quad y = \frac{I}{2q}$$

Constrained Optimization—Application in Microeconomics(3)

$$x(p, q, I) = \frac{I}{2p}, \quad y(p, q, I) = \frac{I}{2q}$$

are called **demand functions**. Moreover Lagrange multiplier obtained from (1)

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2p} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{\frac{I}{2q}}}{\sqrt{\frac{I}{2p}}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{pq}}$$

is called the **Marginal Utulity of Income**.

Marginal Utility of Income

We define **Indirect Utility** function by

$$v(p, q, I) = u(x(p, q, I), y(p, q, I)) = \sqrt{\frac{I}{2p}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{I}{2q}} = \frac{I}{2\sqrt{pq}}$$

Then we have

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial I} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{pq}} = \lambda(p, q, I)$$

This is the reason why the multiplier $\lambda(p, q, I)$ is called the Marginal Utility of Income. Remark that the identity

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial I} = \lambda(p, q, I)$$

holds generally.

Sufficient Condition to be a maximal (minimal) point

Assume

$$g(a, b) = 0, \quad g_y(a, b) \neq 0$$

to apply Implicit Function Theorem.
We can express the curve $g(x, y) = 0$

$$y = \varphi(x)$$

in a neighborhood of (a, b) .

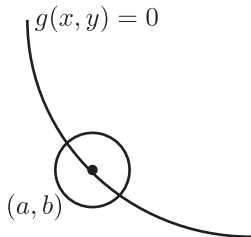
If f is minimal or maximal at (a, b) subject to $g(x, y) = 0$, the function

$$F(t) := f(t, \varphi(t))$$

satisfies $F'(a) = 0$. Moreover if $F'(a) = 0$ and

$$F''(a) > 0 \quad (\text{resp.} \quad F''(a) < 0)$$

then f is minimal (resp. maximal) at (a, b) subject to $g(x, y) = 0$.



Solution(1)

We apply Chain Rule to derivate $f(t, \varphi(t))$ and get

$$F'(t) = f_x(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot 1 + f_y(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F''(t) &= f_{xx}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot 1 + f_{xy}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t) \\ &\quad + \varphi'(t) (f_{yx}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot 1 + f_{yy}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t)) \\ &\quad + f_y(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi''(t) \\ &= f_{xx}(t, \varphi(t)) + 2f_{xy}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t) + f_{yy}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t)^2 \\ &\quad + f_y(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi''(t) \end{aligned}$$

Solution(2)

On the other hand we derivate the both sides of $g(t, \varphi(t)) \equiv 0$ by t to get

$$g_x(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot 1 + g_y(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t) \equiv 0$$

and

$$g_{xx}(t, \varphi(t)) + 2g_{xy}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t) + g_{yy}(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi'(t)^2 \\ g_y(t, \varphi(t)) \cdot \varphi''(t) \equiv 0$$

Solution(3)

We let $P_0(a, b)$ and put substitute $t = a$ in the last identities about g to get

$$\varphi'(a) = -\frac{g_x(P_0)}{g_y(P_0)}$$

and

$$\varphi''(a) = -\frac{1}{g_y(a, b)} (g_{xx}(P_0) + 2g_{xy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a) + g_{yy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a)^2)$$

Solution(4)

We put $t = a$ in the identities about f to get

$$\begin{aligned} F''(a) &= f_{xx}(P_0) + 2f_{xy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a) + f_{yy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a)^2 \\ &\quad + f_y(P_0) \cdot \varphi''(a) \\ &= f_{xx}(P_0) + 2f_{xy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a) + f_{yy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a)^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{f_y(P_0)}{g_y(P_0)} (g_{xx}(P_0) + 2g_{xy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a) + g_{yy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a)^2) \\ &= L_{xx}(P_0, \lambda) + 2L_{xy}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot \varphi'(a) + L_{yy}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot \varphi'(a)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Here we defined λ and L by

$$\lambda = -\frac{f_y(P_0)}{g_y(P_0)}, \quad L(x, y, \lambda) = f(x, y) + \lambda \cdot g(x, y)$$

Solution (5)

Now we eliminate $\varphi'(a)$ in the preceding identities

$$\begin{aligned} & F''(a) \\ &= L_{xx}(P_0, \lambda) + 2L_{xy}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot \left(-\frac{g_x(P_0)}{g_y(P_0)}\right) + L_{yy}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot \left(-\frac{g_x(P_0)}{g_y(P_0)}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{g_y(P_0)^2} \left(L_{xx}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot g_y(P_0)^2 - 2L_{xy}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot g_x(P_0)g_y(P_0) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + L_{yy}(P_0, \lambda) \cdot g_x(P_0)^2 \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{g_y(P_0)^2} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 & g_x(a, b) & g_y(a, b) \\ g_x(a, b) & L_{xx}(a, b, \lambda) & L_{xy}(a, b, \lambda) \\ g_y(a, b) & L_{yx}(a, b, \lambda) & L_{yy}(a, b, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

Theorem Assume that there exists $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$ satisfying

$$\begin{cases} f_x(a, b) + \lambda g_x(a, b) = 0 & (1) \\ f_y(a, b) + \lambda g_y(a, b) = 0 & (2) \\ g(a, b) = 0 & (3) \end{cases} \quad (L)$$

Moreover if

$$B(a, b, \lambda) := \begin{vmatrix} 0 & g_x(a, b) & g_y(a, b) \\ g_x(a, b) & L_{xx}(a, b, \lambda) & L_{xy}(a, b, \lambda) \\ g_y(a, b) & L_{yx}(a, b, \lambda) & L_{yy}(a, b, \lambda) \end{vmatrix}$$

satisfies $B(a, b, \lambda) < 0$ (resp. $B(a, b, \lambda) > 0$), then f is minimal (resp. maximal) at (a, b) subject to $g(x, y) = 0$. Here we defined the function L by

$$L(x, y, \lambda) := f(x, y) + \lambda g(x, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi''(a) &= -\frac{1}{g_y(a, b)} (g_{xx}(P_0) + 2g_{xy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a) + g_{yy}(P_0) \cdot \varphi'(a)^2) \\&= -\frac{1}{g_y(a, b)^3} \left(g_{xx}(P_0) \cdot g_y(P_0)^2 - 2g_{xy}(P_0) \cdot g_x(P_0)g_y(P_0) \right. \\&\quad \left. + g_{yy}(P_0) \cdot g_x(P_0)^2 \right) \\&= \frac{1}{g_y(a, b)^3} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & g_x(a, b) & g_y(a, b) \\ g_x(a, b) & g_{xx}(a, b) & g_{xy}(a, b) \\ g_y(a, b) & g_{yx}(a, b) & g_{yy}(a, b) \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$