

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $x, y > 0$, $x^2 + y^2 + xy - 3x - 3y + 2 = 0$ then:

$$\frac{3x + 2y + 1}{x + y + 6} \leq 1$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

We need to show :

$$\frac{3x + 2y + 1}{x + y + 6} \leq 1 \text{ or, } 3x + 2y + 1 \leq x + y + 6 \text{ or, } 2x + y \leq 5$$

Let $L(x, y) = 2x + y$. Let $G(x, y) \equiv x^2 + y^2 + xy - 3x - 3y + 2 = 0$

Extremum Value theorem(Weierstrass):

If a function $f: X \rightarrow R$ is continuous on a compact set X (closed + bounded), then attains both maximum and minimum value on X .

$X_{min}, X_{max} \in X$ such that $f(X_{min}) \leq f(X) \leq f(X_{max})$ (1)

$$x^2 + y^2 + xy - 3x - 3y + 2 = 0$$

comparing with general equation of 2nd degree:

$$ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0 \text{ we get:}$$

$$a = 1, h = \frac{1}{2}, b = 1, g = -\frac{3}{2}, f = -\frac{3}{2}, c = 2$$

$$\text{then } \Delta = abc + 2fgh - af^2 - bg^2 - ch^2 = -\frac{3}{4} < 0 \text{ and } D = ab - h^2 = 1 - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4} > 0$$

so the given equation represent an ellipse

clearly, set $E = \{(x, y) \in R^2: x^2 + y^2 + xy - 3x - 3y + 2 = 0\}$ is a compact set (2)

Using Lagrange's multipliers at an extremum on the constraints there exist λ with

$$dL - \lambda dG = 0$$

$$(2dx + dy) - \lambda((2x + y - 3)dx + (2y + x - 3)dy) = 0$$

$$(2dx + dy) = \lambda((2x + y - 3)dx + (2y + x - 3)dy)$$

$$\text{comparing : } 2 = \lambda(2x + y - 3) \text{ or } \frac{2}{(2x + y - 3)} = \lambda$$

$$\text{and } 1 = \lambda(2y + x - 3) \text{ or } \frac{1}{(2y + x - 3)} = \lambda$$

$$\text{Therefore } \frac{2}{(2x + y - 3)} = \frac{1}{(2y + x - 3)}$$

$$2(2y + x - 3) = (2x + y - 3) \text{ or } y = 1$$

putting $y = 1$ in $G(x, y)$ we get $x^2 - 2x = 0$ which implies $x = 0, 2$

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Now, $L(x, y) = 2x + y$ then $L(0, 1) = 1$ and $L(2, 1) = 5$

so using (1) and (2) we can say $1 \leq L(x, y) \leq 5$

$$2x + y \leq 5 \text{ or, } \frac{3x + 2y + 1}{x + y + 6} \leq 1,$$

Equaity holds for $x = 2, y = 1$