Daily Announcements & Reminders:

Goals for Today: Sections 14.7, 14.8

- Find global extreme values of continuous functions of two variables on closed & bounded domains
- Apply the method of Lagrange multipliers to find extreme values of functions of two or more variables subject to one or more constraints

Strategy for finding global min/max of $f(x, y)$ on a closed & bounded domain R

1. Find all critical points of f inside R.
2. Find all critical points of f on the boundary of R
3. Evaluate f at each critical point as well as at any endpoints on the boundary.
4. The smallest value found is the global minimum; the largest value found is the global maximum.

Example 70. Find the global minimum and maximum of $f(x, y) = 4x^2 - 4xy + 2y$ on the closed region R bounded by $y = x^2$ and $y = 4$.

Constrained Optimization

Goal: Maximize or minimize $f(x, y)$ or $f(x, y, z)$ subject to a *constraint*, $g(x, y) = c$.

Example 71. A new hiking trail has been constructed on the hill with height $h(x, y) = 4 - \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{1}{4}y^2$, above the points $y = -0.5x^2 + 3$ in the xy-plane. What is the highest point on the hill on this path?

Objective function:

Constraint equation:

Method of Lagrange Multipliers: To find the maximum and minimum values attained by a function $f(x, y, z)$ subject to a constraint $g(x, y, z) = c$, find all points where $\nabla f(x, y, z) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y, z)$ and $g(x, y, z) = c$ and compute the value of f at these points.

If we have more than one constraint $g(x, y, z) = c_1, h(x, y, z) = c_2$, then find all points where $\nabla f(x, y, z) = \lambda \nabla g(x, y, z) + \mu \nabla h(x, y, z)$ and $g(x, y, z) = c_1, h(x, y, z) = c_2$.

Example 72. Find the points on the surface $z^2 = xy + 4$ that are closest to the origin.