

Prop. 3.4.4 (Chain rule for Taylor polynomials)

Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $V \subset \mathbb{R}$  be open.

$f: U \rightarrow V$  and  $g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of class  $C^k$ .

Then (we already know)  $g \circ f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of class  $C^k$

and if  $f(a) = b$ , we have

$$P_{g \circ f, a}^k(a+h) = P_{g, b}^k(P_{f, a}^k(a+h)) \text{ minus the terms of degree } > k.$$



# Understanding (local) extrema and critical points:

Recall:

Theorem 3.6.1 Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}$  be an open interval,

$f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a differentiable function. Then

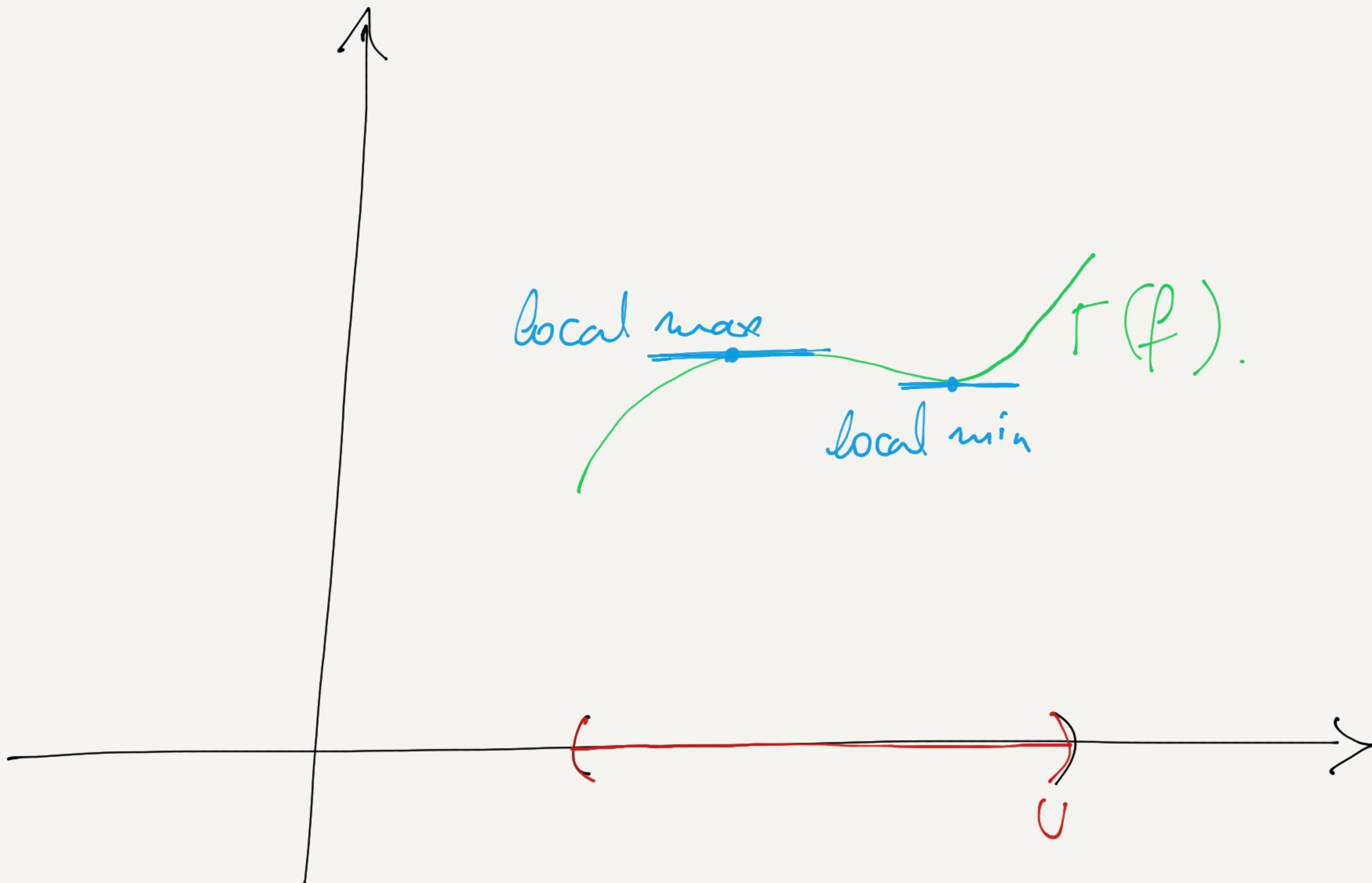
1. If  $x_0 \in U$  is a local extremum for  $f$ , then  $f'(x_0) = 0$

2. If  $f$  is twice differentiable and  $f'(x_0) = 0$  and

(a)  $f''(x_0) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a local minimum at  $x_0$ .

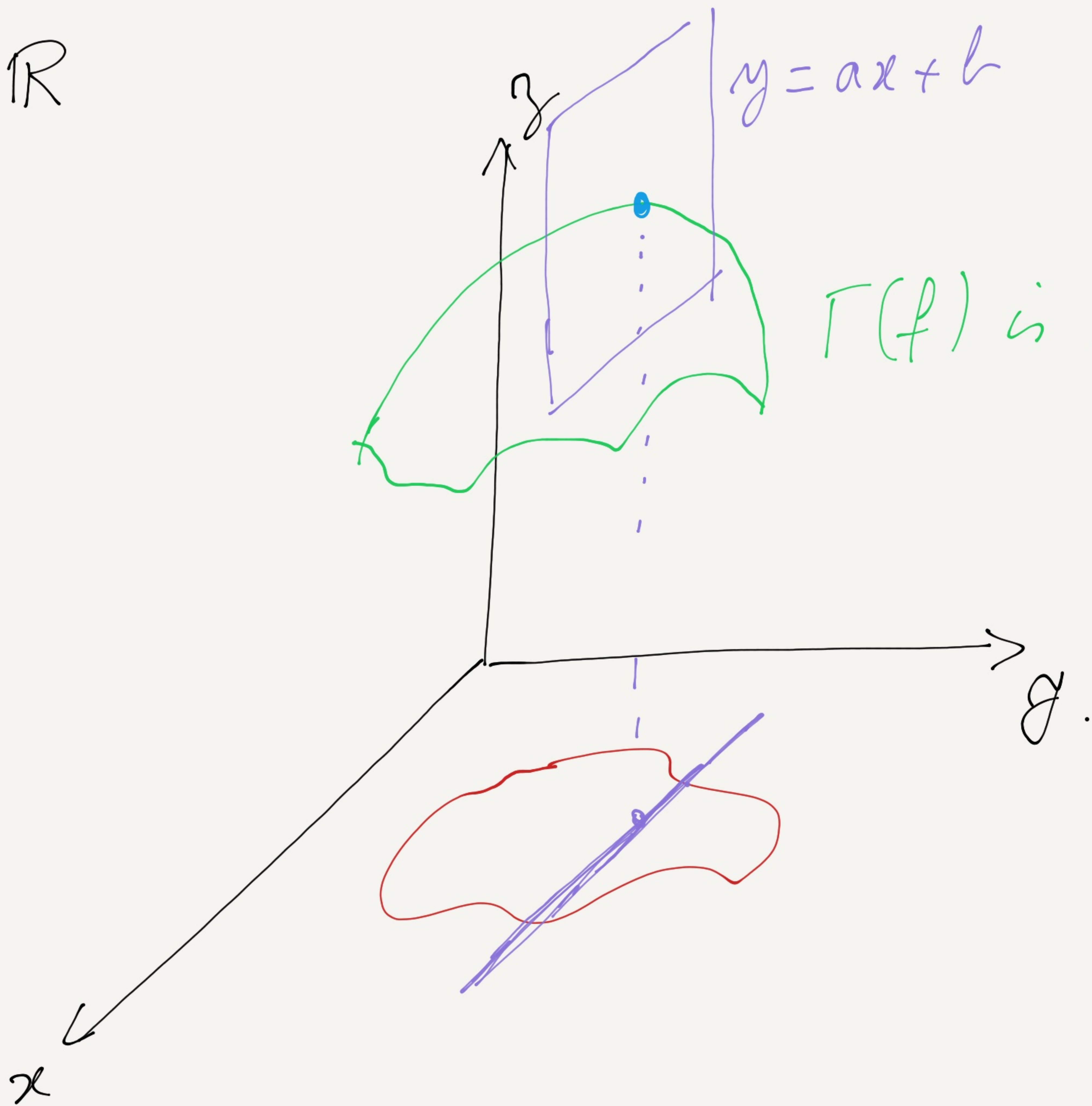
(b)  $f''(x_0) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a local maximum at  $x_0$ .





$$f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$





Theorem 3.6.3 (Derivative is zero at extrema)

$U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  differentiable.

If  $x_0 \in U$  is a local extrema for  $f$ , then  $Df(x_0) = 0$ .

Proof:  $Df(x_0)$  is represented by the Jacobian matrix whose entries are the partial derivatives of  $f$ .

Now, if we take  $g_i(x) := f(a_1, \dots, a_i + x, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n)$

where  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$

If  $f$  has a local maximum or minimum at  $a$ ,

then  $g$  has a local maximum or minimum at 0.

So  $g'(0) = 0$ , but  $g'(x) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(a_1, \dots, a_i + x, \dots, a_n)$



Definition 3.6.2  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open,  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

differentiable. A critical point of  $f$  is a point  $a \in U$   
s.t.  $Df(a) = 0$ . The value of  $f$  at a critical  
point is a critical value.

e.g. all local maximum (or minimum) values of  $f$   
are critical values.

We want to generalize the second derivative test  
to several variables.

We assume  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $C^2$ .

Then  $f$  has a Taylor polynomial of degree 2 at  
any  $a \in U$ .



The terms of degree 2 of the Taylor polynomial are

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{(\partial x_1)^2}(a) h_1^2 + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}(a) h_1 h_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{(\partial x_n)^2}(a) h_n^2$$

This is a homogeneous quadratic polynomial, i.e., all the monomials have degree 2.

Such polynomials can always be written into a sum of  $\pm h_i^2$  where  $h_i$  are homogeneous linear polynomials and are linearly independent.

e.g.:  $x^2 + xy = \left(x + \frac{1}{2}y\right)^2 - \frac{1}{4}y^2$



$xz$

note:  $(x-z)(x+z) = x^2 - z^2$

$x = u - v$  and  $z = u + v$  ?

solve  $u = \frac{1}{2}(x+z)$   $v = \frac{1}{2}(z-x)$

so  $xz = (u-v)(u+v) = u^2 - v^2$   
 $= \frac{1}{4}(x+z)^2 - \frac{1}{4}(x-z)^2$

Note:  $x, z$  are linearly independent (as functions)  
if  $\lambda x + \mu z = 0$  for all  $\forall x, z$ , then  $\lambda = \mu = 0$ .

plug in  $x=1, z=0$  to get  $\lambda=0$

$x=0, z=1$  to get  $\mu=0$



$x, y, z$  are functions  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$x: (a, b, c) \mapsto a$$

$$y: (a, b, c) \mapsto b$$

$$z: (a, b, c) \mapsto c$$

Theorem 3.5.3

For any homogeneous quadratic polynomial  $Q: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

(1) there exist  $m = k + l$  linearly independent linear functions  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

$$Q(x) = \alpha_1(x)^2 + \dots + \alpha_k(x)^2 - \alpha_{k+1}(x)^2 - \dots - \alpha_m(x)^2$$

where  $m$  is a nonnegative integer  $\leq n$ .

(2) The numbers  $k$  and  $l$  depend only on  $Q$



Def 3.5.4 The pair  $(k, l)$  is called the signature of  $Q$ .

Def 3.6.6  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open,  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of class  $C^2$ .

$a \in U$  a critical point of  $f$ . The signature of  $a$  is the signature of the quadratic polynomial

$$Q_{f,a}(h) := \sum_{I \in \mathbb{N}_n^2} \frac{1}{I!} \frac{\partial^I f}{(\partial x)^I}(a) h^I$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{(\partial x_1)^2}(a) h_1^2 + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}(a) h_1 h_2 + \dots$$

Def 3.5.9: If  $Q$  has signature  $(n, 0)$ , we say  $Q$  is positive definite. If  $Q$  has signature  $(0, n)$ , we say  $Q$  is negative definite.



Theorem 3.6.8:  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open,  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of class  $C^2$ .

$a \in U$  critical point of  $f$

1. If  $Q_{f,a}$  is positive definite, then  $a$  is a strict local minimum.
2. If  $Q_{f,a}$  is negative definite, then  $a$  is a strict local maximum.
3. If the signature of  $a$  is  $(k, l)$  with  $l > 0$ , then  $a$  is NOT a local minimum.
4. If the signature of  $a$  is  $(k, l)$  with  $k > 0$ , then  $a$  is NOT a local maximum.



example of positive definite  $Q$ :

$$Q(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2$$

negative definite  $Q = -x_1^2 - \dots - x_n^2$

Def: Saddle: If  $b$  is a critical point with  $Q_{f,b}$  of signature  $(k, l)$  and  $k > 0$  and  $l > 0$ , then we call  $b$  a saddle

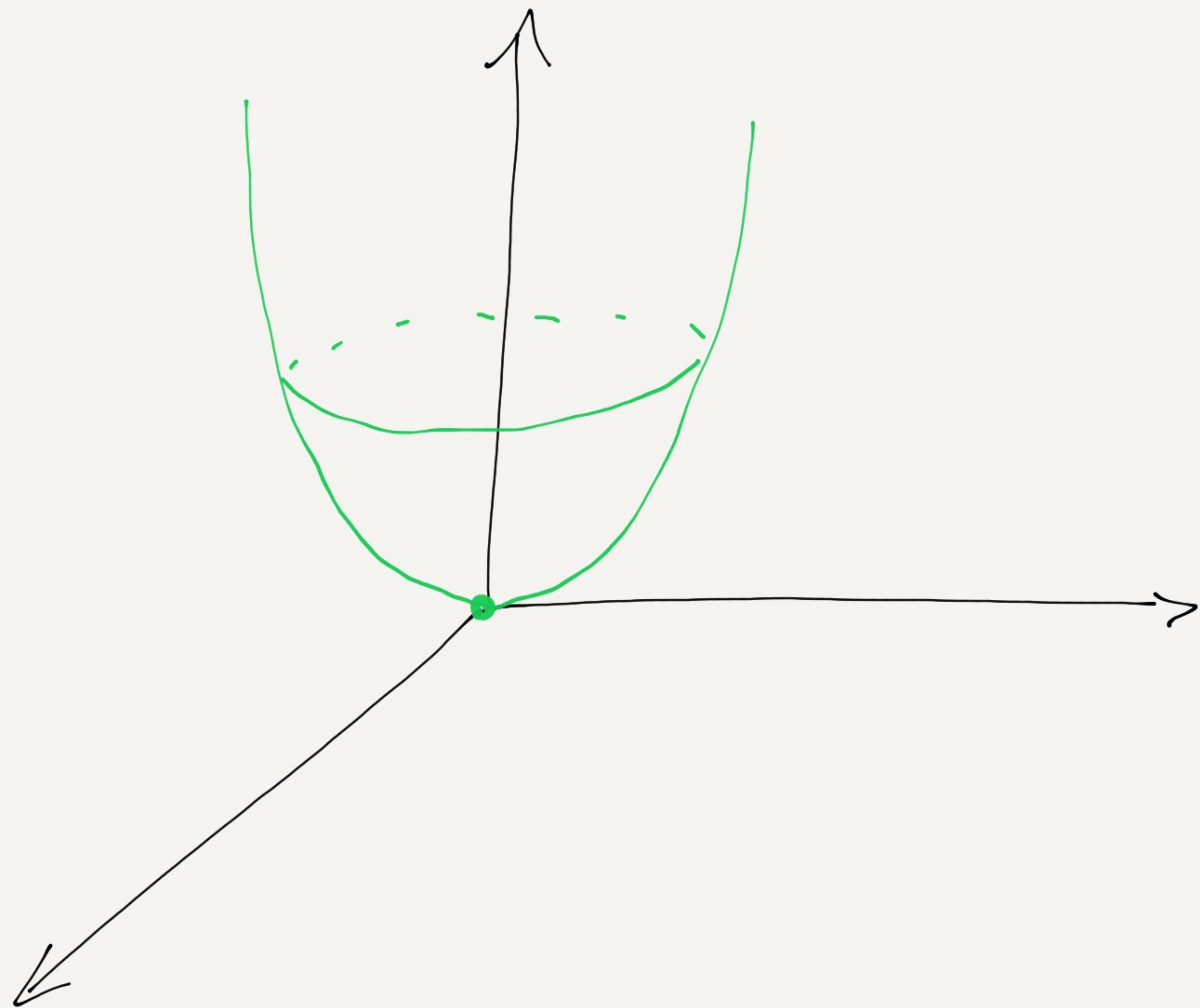
---

Examples:  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$

$$T(f) \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$T(f) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mid z = x^2 + y^2 \right\}$$





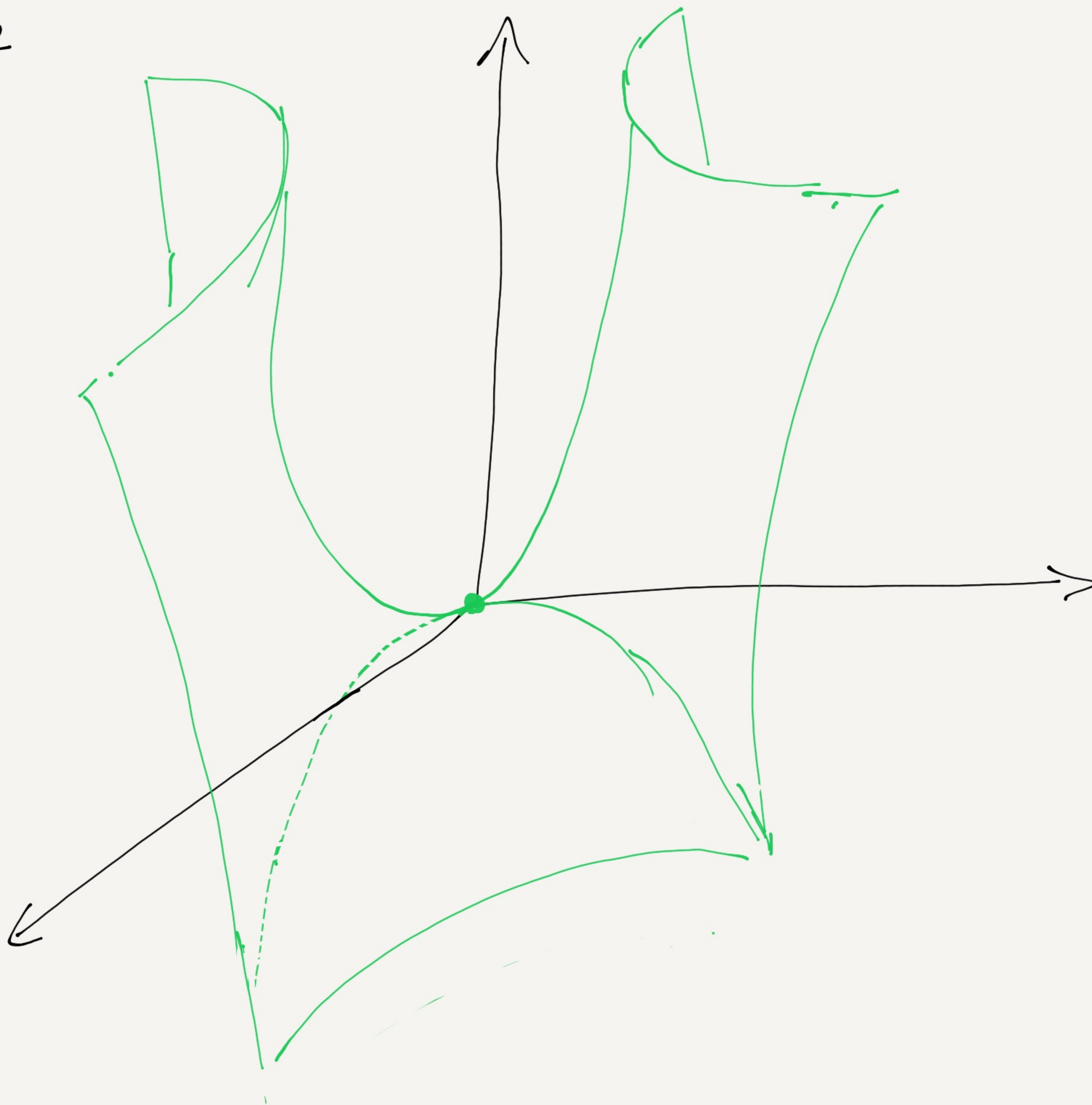
critical point :  $(0, 0)$        $f(0, 0) = 0$

minimum :       $Q_{f,0} = x^2 + y^2$  positive definite.

$f(x, y) = -x^2 - y^2$  has a max at 0.



$$f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$$





Degenerate critical point:  $(k+l < n)$

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^3$$

picture of graph in book  
page 348