

NAME:

STUDENT NO:

Q-5) Find the minimum and the maximum values of the function $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - y^3 + 3z^2$ on the sphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 25$.

Solution: Let $g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 25$. $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g$ gives $(2x, -3y^2, 6z) = \lambda(x, y, z)$,
or:

$$x(\lambda - 2) = 0$$

$$y(\lambda + 3y) = 0$$

$$z(\lambda - 6) = 0.$$

Case 1: $x = 0$.

Case 1.1: $y = 0$. Then $g(0, 0, z) = 0$ gives $z = \pm 5$, $f(0, 0, \pm 5) = 75$.

Case 1.2: $y \neq 0$. Then $y = -\lambda/3$.

Case 1.2.1: $z = 0$. From $g(0, y, 0) = 0$ we get $y = \pm 5$. $f(0, 5, 0) = -125$, $f(0, -5, 0) = 125$.

Case 1.2.2: $z \neq 0$. Then $\lambda = 6$ and hence $y = -2$. From $g(0, -2, z) = 0$ we get $z = \pm\sqrt{21}$. $f(0, -2, \pm\sqrt{21}) = 71$.

Case 2: $x \neq 0$. Then $\lambda = 2$ and this forces $z = 0$.

Case 2.1: $y = 0$. Then $g(x, 0, 0) = 0$ gives $x = \pm\sqrt{5}$. $f(\pm\sqrt{5}, 0, 0) = 25$.

Case 2.2: $y \neq 0$. Then $y = -\lambda/3 = -2/3$. $g(x, -2/3, 0) = 0$ gives $x = \pm\sqrt{25 - 4/9}$.

$$f(\pm\sqrt{25 - 4/9}, -2/3, 0) = 25 - 4/27.$$

Thus we see that the maximal value is 125 and the minimal value is -125 .