

**Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur**  
**Department of Mathematics**

**Assignment-5 (Maxima, Minima and Lagrange multiplier method)**

**Subject: MAL-102**

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1. Examine the following functions for local maxima, local minima and saddle points  
(i)  $4xy - x^4 - y^4$  (ii)  $x^3 - 3xy$
2. Let  $f(x, y) = 3x^4 - 4x^2y + y^2$ . Show that  $f$  has a local minimum at  $(0, 0)$  along every line through  $(0, 0)$ . Does  $f$  have a minimum at  $(0, 0)$ ? Is  $(0, 0)$  a saddle point for  $f$ ?
3. Find the shortest distance from the point  $(1, 0, -2)$  to the plane  $x + 2y + z = 4$ .
4. Assume that among all rectangular boxes with fixed surface area of 20 square meters, there is a box of largest possible volume. Find its dimension.
5. A cardboard box without lid is to have a volume  $32,000\text{cm}^3$ . Find the dimensions that minimize the amount of the cardboard used.
6. Find a point on the curve  $y^2 = (x - 1)^3$  which is nearest to the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
7. Divide the number  $A$  into three parts such that the product of first number, square of second number and cube of third number is the maximum.
8. Find the points on the sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 4$  that are nearest to and farthest from the point  $(3, 1, -1)$ .
9. L&T produces steel boxes at 3 different plants in amounts  $x, y$  and  $z$  respectively, producing an annual revenue of  $R(x, y, z) = 8xyz^2 - 200(x + y + z)$ . The company is to produce 100 units annually. How should production be distributed to maximize revenue?
10. Show that the greatest rectangular parallelepiped that can be inscribed in an ellipsoid
$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$
 is  $\frac{8abc}{3\sqrt{3}}$ .
11. Maximize the quantity  $f(x, y, z) = \frac{5xyz}{x + 2y + 4z}$  subject to constraint  $xyz = 8$ .
12. If  $x, y, z$  are lengths of the perpendiculars dropped from a point inside the triangle of given area  $A$ , on the three sides of the triangle then the minimum value of  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2$  is  $\frac{4A^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$ .
13. Find the point nearest to the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and lying on the line which is the intersection of the planes  $x + 2y + 3z = 6$  and  $x + 3y + 9z = 9$ .
14. The stationary values of  $u(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2}{a^4} + \frac{y^2}{b^4} + \frac{z^2}{c^4}$  subject to the constraints  $lx + my + nz = 0$  and  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$  are the roots of the equation  $\frac{l^2a^4}{1 - a^2u} + \frac{m^2b^4}{1 - b^2u} + \frac{n^2c^4}{1 - c^2u} = 0$ .