

Supplementary Exercises for Sections 13.7

1. Suppose that  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + kxy$ . Find and classify the critical points, and discuss how they change when  $k$  takes on different values.
2. Find the shortest distance from the point  $(0, b)$  to the parabola  $y = x^2$ .
3. Find the shortest distance from the point  $(0, 0, b)$  to the paraboloid  $z = x^2 + y^2$ .
4. Consider the function  $f(x, y) = x^3 - 3x^2y$ .
  - (a) Show that  $(0, 0)$  is the only critical point of  $f$ .
  - (b) Show that the Discriminant test is inconclusive for  $f$ .
  - (c) Determine the traces of  $f$  obtained by setting  $x = k$  for various values of  $k$ .
  - (d) What kind of critical point is  $(0, 0)$ ?
5. Find the volume of the largest rectangular box with edges parallel to the axes that can be inscribed in the ellipsoid  $2x^2 + 72y^2 + 18z^2 = 288$ .