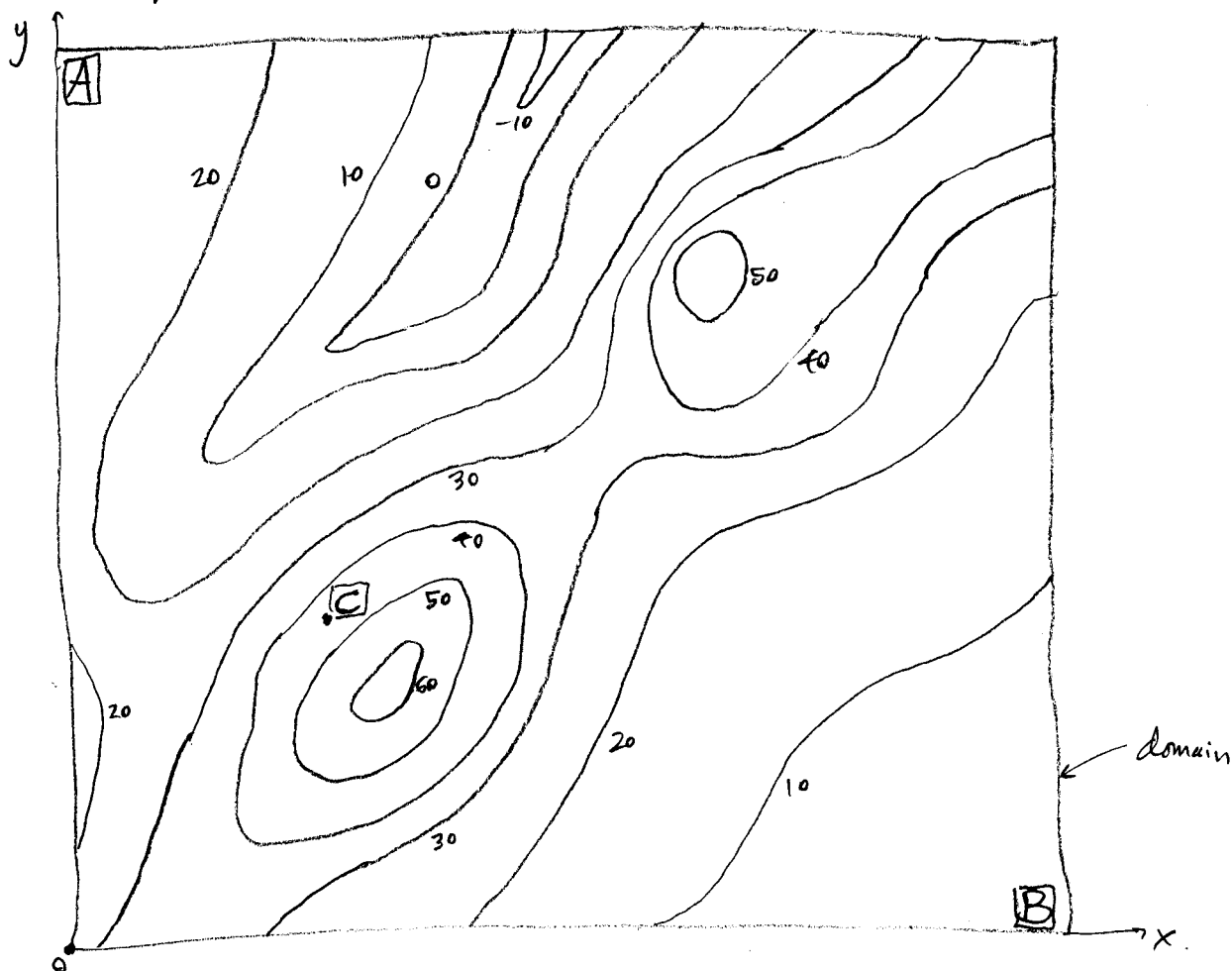


## Contour plots



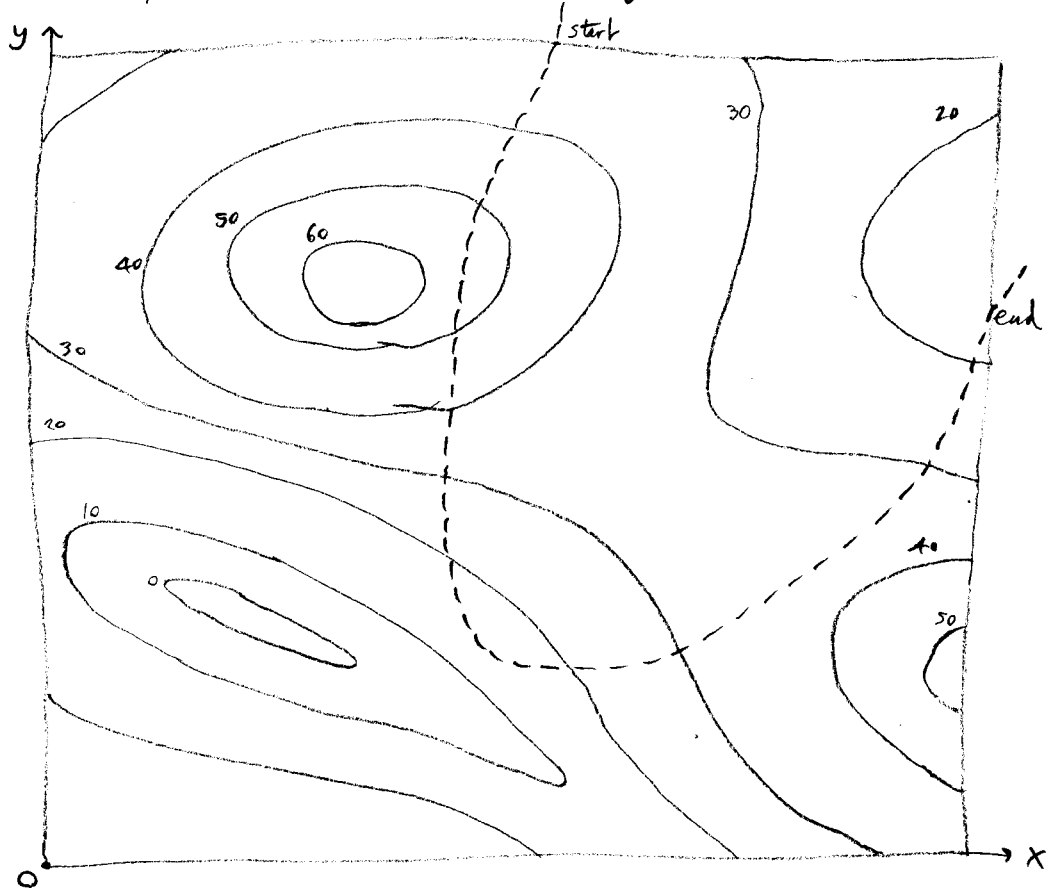
- \* Where is absolute max. height? Estimate its value:
- \* Where is absolute min. height? Estimate its value:
- \* Show where terrain is steepest. & draw the 'uphill' direction there
- \* Show where terrain is flattest.
- \* How many local maxima are there? Label them.
- \* Estimate height at point C:
- \* Is there a locally flat place that is not a local max or min?  
 [Hint: there is a mountain pass from A to B - where do you stop climbing?]

# Constrained Optimization — graphically only

11/30/04  
Barrett

Contours of  $f(x,y)$ :

constraint  $g(x,y) = c$



Domain is  
the square

- Label the absolute max & min of  $f(x,y)$ , unconstrained (ie in full domain)
- Imagine walking along 'path'  $g(x,y) = c$ . Sketch graph of your 'height'  $z = f(x,y)$  along this path:
- Label the absolute max & min of  $f(x,y)$  constrained to path  $g(x,y) = c$ .
- At the constrained extrema, how does the local direction of contour lines compare to the direction of the path? [Sketch closer contour lines to help].
- Are  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  zero at the constrained extrema?