14.7, number 7: Find all local maxima, local minima, and saddle points of $f(x, y) = 2x^2 + 3xy + 4y^2 - 5x + 2y$.

Answer: We compute

$$f_x = 4x + 3y - 5$$

$$f_y = 3x + 8y + 2$$

$$f_{xx} = 4$$

$$f_{xy} = 3$$

$$f_{yy} = 8$$

We see that f_x and f_y are zero when both equations:

$$\begin{cases} 4x + 3y - 5 = 0\\ 3x + 8y + 2 = 0 \end{cases}$$
(2)

are satisfied. The solution set is not changed if we replace Equation 2 by Equation 2 minus $\frac{3}{4}$ times Equation 1:

$$\begin{cases} 4x + 3y - 5 = 0\\ \frac{23}{4}y + \frac{23}{4} = -0 \end{cases}$$

The second equation tells us that y = -1 so the first equation tells us that x = 2. (Be sure to check that (2, 1) really is the solution of (2).)

We apply the Second Derivative Test at (2, 1). We calculate

$$(f_{xx}f_{yy} - (f_{xy})^2)|_{(2,1)} = 4(8) - 9,$$

which is positive. We see that $f_{xx}|_{(2,1)} = 4$, which is also positive. We conclude that

$$(2, 1, f(2, 1))$$
 is a local minimum of the graph of $z = f(x, y)$.