

■ Contour Plots

Here is a way to enter the Cobb-Douglas function in Mathematica:

```
In[1]:= P[K_, L_] = 1.01 K^ (.25) * L^ (.75)
```

```
Out[1]= 1.01 K0.25 L0.75
```

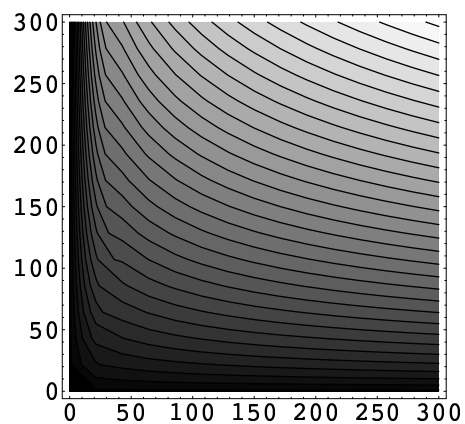
You can now evaluate it:

```
In[2]:= P[300, 300]
```

```
Out[2]= 303.
```

And you can draw its contour plot:

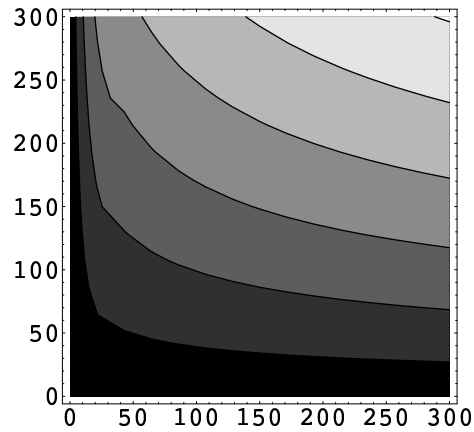
```
In[3]:= ContourPlot[1.01 K^ (.25) * L^ (.75), {K, 0, 300}, {L, 0, 300}, Contours -> 30]
```



```
Out[3]= - ContourGraphics -
```

The Option "Contours -> 30" makes Mathematica draw 30 contour lines, or level curves. You can also specify the levels one by one:

```
In[4]:= ContourPlot[1.01 K^(.25) * L^(.75), {K, 0, 300},
  {L, 0, 300}, Contours -> {50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300}]
```



```
out[4]= - ContourGraphics -
```

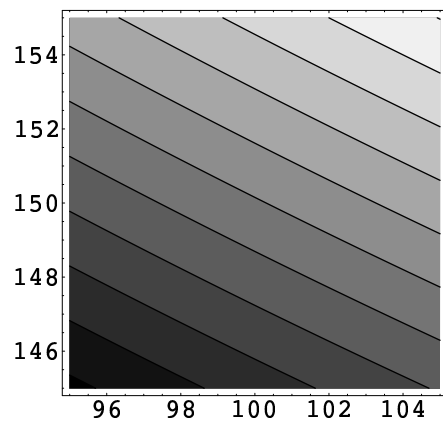
To evaluate the partial derivatives visually around the point $(K, L) = (100, 150)$, let's evaluate $P(100, 150)$:

```
In[5]:= P[100, 150]
```

```
Out[5]= 136.896
```

And let's draw the contours in a small square around $(100, 150)$, with level curves separated by values of 1:

```
In[7]:= ContourPlot[1.01 K^(.25) * L^(.75), {K, 95, 105}, {L, 145, 155},
  Contours -> {130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142}]
```



```
out[7]= - ContourGraphics -
```