Labs
Optimization for Machine Learning
Spring 2018

EPFL

School of Computer and Communication Sciences Martin Jaggi github.com/epfml/OptML_course

Problem Set 1, March 2, 2018 (Convexity, Python Setup)

Convexity

Solve Exercises 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8 from the lecture notes.

Getting Started with Python

Follow the Python setup tutorial python_setup_tutorial.md provided on our github repository here:

 $github.com/epfml/OptML_course/tree/master/labs/ex01/$

After you are set up, clone or download the repository, and start by filling in the template notebook in the folder /labs/ex01.

To get more familiar with vector and matrix operations using NumPy arrays, it is also recommended to go through the npprimer.ipynb notebook in the same folder. For computational efficiency of typical operations in machine learning applications, it is very beneficial to use NumPy arrays together with vectorized commands, instead of explicit for loops. The vectorized commands are better optimized, and bring the performance of Python code (and similarly e.g. for Matlab) closer to lower level languages like C.