

Foundations of Machine Learning in Python

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Derivatives and Gradients

Optimization

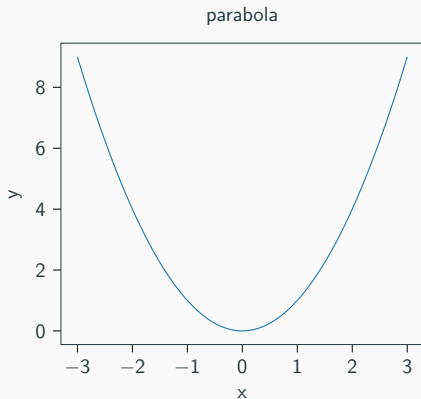
Traditionally, optimization means minimizing using a cost function $f(x)$. Given the cost, we must find the cheapest point x^* on the function, or in other words,

$$x^* = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} f(x) \quad (1)$$

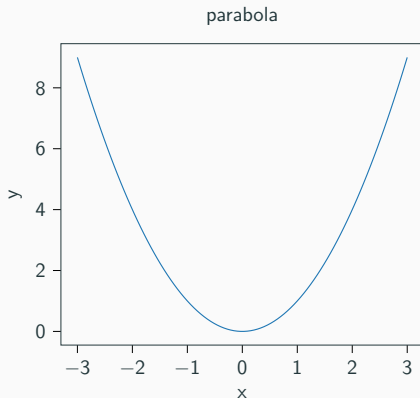
Functions

Functions are mathematical mappings. Consider for example the quadratic function, $f(x) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$:

$$f(x) = x^2 \quad (2)$$



Where is the minimum?



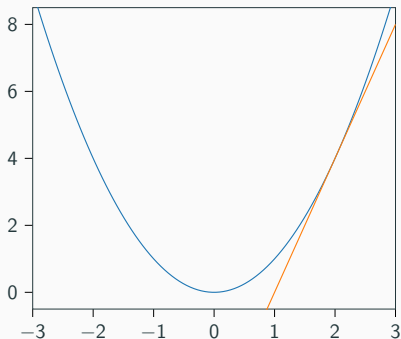
In this case we immediately see it's at zero. Finding it algorithmically requires derivative information.

Derivatives and Gradients

The derivative

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \quad (3)$$

parabola with derivative at two



Derivation of the parabola derivative

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h} \Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - x^2}{h} \quad (4)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2xh + h^2}{h} \quad (5)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(2x + h)}{h} \quad (6)$$

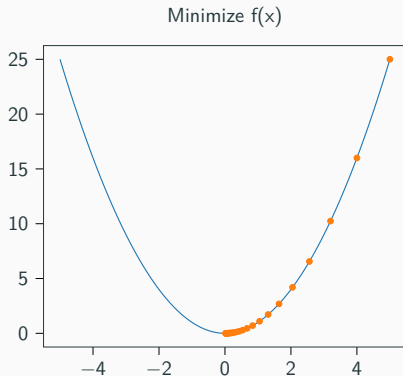
$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 2x + h \quad (7)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2x \quad (8)$$

Steepest descent on the parabola

$$x_n = x_{n-1} - \alpha \cdot \frac{df}{dx} \quad (9)$$

Working with $x_0 = 5$ and $\alpha = 0.1$ for 25 steps leads to:



Multidimensional problems

$$f(x, y) = (a - x)^2 + b(y - x^2)^2 \quad (10)$$

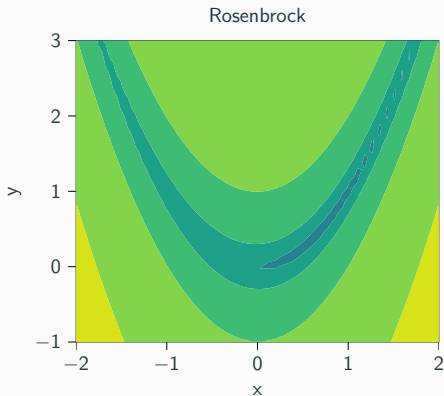


Figure: Rosenbrock function with $a=1$ and $b=100$.

The gradient

$$\nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

$$\nabla f(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} -2a + 2x - 4byx + 4bx^3 \\ 2by - 2bx^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

$$x_0 = [0.1, 3.], \alpha = 0.01$$

$$x_n = x_{n-1} - \alpha \cdot \nabla f(x) \quad (13)$$

Gradient descent on the Rosenbrock function

Rosenbrock Optimization

Rosenbrock Optimization

Optimization

Second order optimization

TODO