

Note: Math Tools

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Lecturer:

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References:	
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• CUHKSZ: MAT3220 - Optimization II. Textbook:	
• 1. <i>Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization: Theory, Algorithms, and Applications with MATLAB</i> , Amir Beck.	
2. <i>Convex Optimization</i> , S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe.	
3. <i>Nonlinear Programming</i> , D. Bertsekas.	
4. <i>First-Order Methods in Optimization</i> , Amir Beck	

1 Nonlinear Optimization

1.1 KKT Conditions

Theorem 1.1 (The Fritz-John necessary conditions). *Let \mathbf{x}^* be a local minimum of the problem*

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

where $f, g_1, \dots, g_m \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Then \exists multipliers $\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0$, which are not all zeros, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_0 \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{aligned}$$

A major drawback of the Fritz-John conditions is, they allow $\lambda_0 = 0$. Under an additional [regularity condition](#), we can assume $\lambda_0 = 1$. Let $I(\mathbf{x}^*)$ be the set of active constraints at \mathbf{x}^* :

$$I(\mathbf{x}^*) = \{i : g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0\}.$$

Theorem 1.2 (The KKT conditions for inequality constrained problems). *Let \mathbf{x}^* be a local minimum of*

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

where $f, g_1, \dots, g_m \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If $\{\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\}_{i \in I(\mathbf{x}^*)}$ are linearly independent. Then $\exists \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1.3 (The KKT conditions for inequality/equality constrained problems). *Let \mathbf{x}^* be a local minimum of*

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \\ & h_j(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where $f, g_1, \dots, g_m, h_1, \dots, h_p \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If $\{\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*), \nabla h_j(\mathbf{x}^*), i \in I(\mathbf{x}^*), j = 1, \dots, p\}$ are linearly independent.

Then $\exists \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_p \in \mathbb{R}$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{j=1}^p \mu_j \nabla h_j(\mathbf{x}^*) &= \mathbf{0}, \\ \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Consider problem (1), a feasible point \mathbf{x}^* is called a **KKT point** if $\exists \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_p \in \mathbb{R}$, such that (2) holds. \mathbf{x}^* is called **regular** if $\{\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*), \nabla h_j(\mathbf{x}^*), i \in I(\mathbf{x}^*), j = 1, \dots, p\}$ are linearly independent.

- The additional requirement of regularity is not required in linearly constrained problems in which no such assumption is needed.