

Continuous Optimization: Assignment 5

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Exercise 1

Consider quadratic function $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^\top Qx + b^\top x$ where Q is a symmetric positive definite matrix. Using Newton's method we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}x^{(1)} &= x^{(0)} - (\nabla^2 f(x^{(0)}))^{-1} \nabla f(x^{(0)}) \\&= x^{(0)} - Q^{-1}(Qx^{(0)} + b) \\&= x^{(0)} - Q^{-1}Qx^{(0)} + Q^{-1}b \\&= x^{(0)} - x^{(0)} + Q^{-1}b \\&= Q^{-1}b\end{aligned}$$

$\nabla f(x^{(1)}) = -QQ^{-1}b + b = 0 \Rightarrow x^{(1)}$ is the global minimizer