

206

# Optimality conditions, second order

Spring 2023

Optimization on manifolds, MATH 512 @ EPFL

Instructor: Nicolas Boumal



# Necessary optimality conditions

Let  $x$  be a point on a manifold  $\mathcal{M}$ .

Consider a smooth function  $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ .

For any smooth curve  $c: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  with  $c(0) = x$ , we have:

$$f(c(t)) = f(x) + t \cdot \underbrace{(f \circ c)'(0)}_{=0} + \frac{t^2}{2} \cdot (f \circ c)''(0) + O(t^3)$$

If  $x$  is a local minimum, what do we learn about the boxed terms?

# Critical points, second order

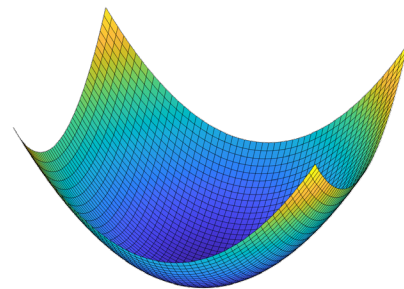
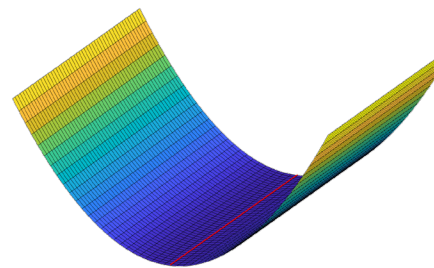
**Def.:** A point  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  is **second-order critical** or **stationary** for  $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  if

$$(f \circ c)'(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (f \circ c)''(0) \geq 0$$

for all smooth curves  $c$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  such that  $c(0) = x$ .

**Fact:** If  $x$  is a local minimum, then it is second-order critical.

**Fact:** On a Riemannian manifold,  $x$  is second-order critical **iff**  $\text{grad}f(x) = 0$  and  $\text{Hess}f(x) \succcurlyeq 0$ .



# Sufficient optimality conditions

**Fact:** On a Riemannian manifold,  
if  $\text{grad}f(x) = 0$  and  $\text{Hess}f(x) \succ 0$ , then  $x$  is a local minimum.

**Proof sketch:**

$$f(R_x(s)) = f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \langle s, \text{Hess}f(x)[s] \rangle_x + O(\|s\|_x^3)$$

Then argue  $R_x$  can reach a nbhd of  $x$ . See §6.1.

