

$$\min f(\underline{x}), \underline{x} \in \Delta_n = \left\{ \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1, x_i \geq 0 \right\}$$

We need to show that stationarity is equiv. to

$$(*) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} (\underline{x}^*) = \begin{cases} = \mu, & x_i^* > 0 \\ \geq \mu, & x_i^* = 0 \end{cases}, \text{ for some } \mu \in \mathbb{R}.$$

1) (*) \Rightarrow Stationarity

We assume $\exists \underline{x}^* \in \Delta_n$ and μ such that (*) holds.

We want to show stationarity, that is

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^\top (\underline{x} - \underline{x}^*) \geq 0 \quad \forall \underline{x} \in \Delta_n.$$

Canonical vector $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
 j-coord. \rightarrow

Because of (*), $\nabla f(\underline{x}^*)$ is a vector $\sum_{j, x_j^* > 0} \mu e_j + \sum_{j, x_j^* = 0} (\mu + \delta_j) e_j$ with $\delta_j \geq 0$.

$$\text{Now, } \nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^\top \underline{x} = \sum_{j, x_j^* > 0} \mu x_j + \sum_{j, x_j^* = 0} (\mu + \delta_j) x_j \geq \sum_{j=1}^n \mu \cdot x_j$$

$$\text{Then, } \nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^\top (\underline{x} - \underline{x}^*) \geq \mu - \nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^\top (\underline{x}^*) \quad \boxed{\mu - \mu \sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \mu.}$$

$$\mu - \mu \sum_{j, x_j^* > 0} x_j^* = \mu - \mu = 0.$$

$\uparrow \underline{x}^* \in \Delta_n$

2) Stationarity \Rightarrow (*)

Assume \underline{x}^* stationary and pick $i \neq j$ such that

$x_i^* > 0$ and $x_j^* > 0$. For sufficiently small δ , take

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x}^+ &= \underline{x}^* + \delta e_i - \delta e_j & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{x}^+ \text{ and } \underline{x}^- \in \Delta_n \\ \underline{x}^- = \underline{x}^* - \delta e_i + \delta e_j \end{array} \right. \\ \underline{x}^- &= \underline{x}^* - \delta e_i + \delta e_j \end{aligned}$$

Using the def. of stationarity with \underline{x}^+ and \underline{x}^-

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^T (\underline{x}^+ - \underline{x}^*) \geq 0$$

and

$$\frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_i} \geq \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_j}$$

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^T (\underline{x}^- - \underline{x}^*) \geq 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_j} \geq \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_i}$$

Implying that
 $\frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_j}$
 for all positive coordinates

Now, we assume that $x_i^* > 0$ and $x_j^* = 0$.

The stationarity condition with \underline{x}^- reads

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^T (\underline{x}^- - \underline{x}^*) &= \nabla f(\underline{x}^*)^T (-\delta \underline{e}_i + \delta \underline{e}_j) \geq 0 \\ &= \delta \left(\frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_i} \right) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_j} \geq \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_i}, \text{ whenever } x_j^* = 0.$$

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