

# Home Assignment 3

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## 1. Convexity

(a)

i.  $e^{ax}$  is convex.

Proof:

$a, x \in \mathbb{R}$  and as we have learned,  $\mathbb{R}$  is a convex region.

$$\begin{aligned}f'(x) &= ae^{ax} \\f''(x) &= a^2 e^{ax} \\f''(x) &\geq 0 \text{ as } a^2 \geq 0, \quad e^{ax} \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

→ From definition 3 to convexity,  $e^{ax}$  is convex. ■

ii.  **$-\log(x)$  is concave when the log base is in  $[0,1)$  and convex when the log base  $>1$ .**

Proof:

$x \in \mathbb{R}^+$  is a convex region:

Let  $\alpha \in [0,1]$  and  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$

Let us look at  $\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y$ :

For  $\alpha = 0$ :  $0 * x + (1 - 0) * y = y \in \mathbb{R}^+$  from assumption.

For  $\alpha = 1$ :  $1 * x + (1 - 1) * y = x \in \mathbb{R}^+$  from assumption.

For  $\alpha \in (0,1)$ :  $\alpha, 1 - \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$

$$\rightarrow \alpha x, (1 - \alpha)y \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

Hence from the definition of convex set,  $\mathbb{R}^+$  is a convex region. ■

Assume  $a$  is the log base:

$$\begin{aligned}f'(x) &= -\frac{1}{x \ln(a)} = -\frac{1}{x} * \frac{1}{\ln(a)} \\f''(x) &= \frac{1}{x^2} * \frac{1}{\ln(a)} \\ \frac{1}{x^2} &> 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{if } 0 \leq a < 1 \rightarrow \ln(a) < 0 \rightarrow f''(x) < 0 \rightarrow f \text{ is concave} \\ \text{if } a = 1 \rightarrow \ln(a) = 0 \rightarrow f''(x) \text{ is undefined} \\ \text{if } a > 1 \rightarrow \ln(a) > 0 \rightarrow f''(x) > 0 \rightarrow f \text{ is convex} \end{cases}$$

From definition 3 to convexity. ■

- iii.  **$\log(x)$  is convex when the log base is in  $[0,1)$  and concave when the log base  $>1$ .**

Proof:

$x \in \mathbb{R}^+$  is a convex region as proved in ii.

Assume  $a$  is the log base:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \frac{1}{x \ln(a)} = \frac{1}{x} * \frac{1}{\ln(a)} \\ f''(x) &= -\frac{1}{x^2} * \frac{1}{\ln(a)} \\ &= -\frac{1}{x^2} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{if } 0 \leq a < 1 \rightarrow \ln(a) < 0 \rightarrow f''(x) > 0 \rightarrow f \text{ is convex} \\ \text{if } a = 1 \rightarrow \ln(a) = 0 \rightarrow f''(x) \text{ is undefined} \\ \text{if } a > 1 \rightarrow \ln(a) > 0 \rightarrow f''(x) < 0 \rightarrow f \text{ is concave} \end{cases}$$

From definition 3 to convexity. ■

- iv.  **$|x|^a, a \geq 1$  is convex.**

Proof:

$x \in \mathbb{R}$  is a convex region.

- If  $a=1$ :

$$f(x) = |x|$$

Let  $\alpha \in [0,1]$  and  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha x + (1-\alpha)y) &\leq \alpha f(x) + (1-\alpha)f(y) \leftrightarrow \\ |\alpha x + (1-\alpha)y| &\leq \alpha|x| + (1-\alpha)|y| \leftrightarrow \\ \alpha, 1-\alpha &\geq 0 \\ |\alpha x + (1-\alpha)y| &\leq |\alpha x| + |(1-\alpha)y| \\ &\text{true from the triangle inequality.} \end{aligned}$$

→ From definition 1 to convexity,  $|x|$  is convex. ■

- If  $a > 1$ :

$$f(x) = |x|^a = \begin{cases} (-x)^a, & x < 0 \\ x^a, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$|x|^a$  is differentiable:

For  $x \neq 0$ :  $|x|^a$  is differentiable as  $x^a, (-x)^a$  are sleek and monotone.

For  $x = 0$ :

$$f'(0) = 0$$

We can observe by the definition of differentiability:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(0) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h) - 0}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|h|^a}{h} \\ &= \begin{cases} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} h^{a-1}, & h \geq 0 \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} (-h)^{a-1}, & h < 0 \end{cases} = \\ &= \begin{cases} 0, & h \geq 0 \\ 0, & h < 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Meaning,

$$0 = f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = 0$$

$\rightarrow |x|^a$  is differentiable for all  $x$ , and:

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} -a * (-x)^{a-1}, & x < 0 \\ a * x^{a-1}, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\geq f(y) + f'(y) * (x - y) \leftrightarrow \\ g(x) &= f(x) - f(y) + f'(y) * (x - y) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

We can observe that when  $x = y$ ,  $g(y) = 0$ :

$$g(y) = f(y) - f(y) - f'(y) * (y - y) = 0 - f'(y) * 0 = 0$$

Let us look at  $g'(x)$  around  $x = y$ :

$$g'(x) = f'(x) - f'(y)$$

$$= \begin{cases} -a * (-x)^{a-1} - (-a * (-y)^{a-1}) = -a((-x)^{a-1} - y^{a-1}), & x < 0 \text{ and } y < 0 (*) \\ -a * (-x)^{a-1} - (a * y^{a-1}) = -a((-x)^{a-1} + y^{a-1}), & x < 0 \text{ and } y \geq 0 (**) \\ a * x^{a-1} - (-a * (-y)^{a-1}) = a(x^{a-1} + (-y)^{a-1}), & x \geq 0 \text{ and } y < 0 (***) \\ a * x^{a-1} - a * y^{a-1} = a(x^{a-1} - y^{a-1}), & x \geq 0 \text{ and } y \geq 0 (****) \end{cases}$$

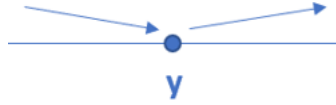
if  $x \leq y < 0$ : From (\*)  $g'(x) = -a((-x)^{a-1} - y^{a-1}) > 0$

if  $x < 0 \leq y$ : From (\*\*)  $g'(x) = -a((-x)^{a-1} + y^{a-1}) < 0$

if  $y < 0 \leq x$ : From (\*\*\*)  $g'(x) = a(x^{a-1} + (-y)^{a-1}) > 0$

if  $y \leq x < 0$ : From (\*\*\*\*)  $g'(x) = a(x^{a-1} - y^{a-1}) > 0$

Overall, for  $x \geq y$ ,  $g'(x) > 0$  and for  $x < y$ ,  $g'(x) < 0$



Meaning,  $x=y$  is global minimum,  $g(y) = 0$ , hence  $g(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

→ From definition 2 to convexity,  $|x|^a$  is convex. ■

v.  **$x^3$  is not convex and not concave.**

Proof:

$x \in \mathbb{R}$  is a convex region.

$$f'(x) = 3x^2$$

$$f''(x) = 6x$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} f''(x) > 0, x > 0 \\ f''(x) \leq 0, x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

→ From definition 3 to convexity,  $x^3$  is not convex and not concave. ■

(b)  **$f(x) = x^T A x + b^T x + c$  is convex under the condition that  $A$  is PSD.**

Let  $\alpha \in [0,1]$  and  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

We will explore when definition 1 to convexity is obtained:

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y) \leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y)^T A(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) + c \\ & \leq \alpha(x^T A x + b^T x + c) + (1 - \alpha)(y^T A y + b^T y + c) \leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (\alpha x^T A + (1 - \alpha) y^T A)(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha) y) + b^T (\alpha x + (1 - \alpha) y) + \epsilon \\ & \leq \alpha x^T A x + \alpha b^T x + \alpha \epsilon + y^T A y + b^T y + \epsilon - \alpha y^T A y - \alpha b^T y \\ & \quad - \alpha \epsilon \leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha x^T A x + (1 - \alpha) \alpha x^T A y + (1 - \alpha) \alpha y^T A x + (1 - \alpha)^2 y^T A y + \cancel{\alpha b^T x} \\ & \quad + \cancel{(1 - \alpha) b^T y} \\ & \leq \alpha x^T A x + \cancel{\alpha b^T x} + y^T A y + \cancel{b^T y} - \alpha y^T A y - \cancel{\alpha b^T y} \leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha x^T A x + \alpha x^T A y - \alpha^2 x^T A y + \alpha y^T A x - \alpha^2 y^T A x + (1 - 2\alpha + \alpha^2) y^T A y \\ \leq \alpha x^T A x + y^T A y - \alpha y^T A y \leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$-\alpha(1-\alpha)[x^T Ax - x^T Ay - y^T Ax + y^T Ay] \leq 0 \leftrightarrow$$

$$\alpha(1 - \alpha)[(x - y)^T A(x - y)] \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\alpha, 1 - \alpha \geq 0$$

$$(x - y)^T A(x - y) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

Denote  $z = x - y$

$$z^T A z \geq 0 \leftrightarrow A \text{ is PSD}$$

(c) Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  differentiable in a convex domain  $\Omega$ .

Need to prove:

$$f \text{ is convex} \Leftrightarrow f(y) \geq f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T(y - x), \quad \forall x, y \in \Omega$$

$(\rightarrow)$ : Assume  $f$  is convex.

Let  $\theta \in [0,1]$  and  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

From convexity we obtain:

$$f(\theta y + (1 - \theta)x) \leq \theta f(y) + (1 - \theta)f(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\theta y + (1 - \theta)x) &= f(\theta y + x - \theta x) = f(x + \theta(y - x)) \\ \theta f(y) + (1 - \theta)f(x) &= \theta f(y) + f(x) - \theta f(x) = f(x) + \theta(f(x) - f(y)) \\ &\rightarrow f(x + \theta(y - x)) \leq f(x) + \theta(f(x) - f(y)) \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

Now, from Taylor expansion, when  $\theta \rightarrow 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f(x + \theta(y - x)) &= f(x) + f'(x) * \theta(y - x) \\ &= f(x) + \theta \nabla f(x)^T (y - x) \quad (**) \end{aligned}$$

From (\*) and (\*\*):

$$\begin{aligned} \cancel{f(x)} + \theta \nabla f(x)^T (y - x) &= f(x + \theta(y - x)) \leq \cancel{f(x)} + \theta (f(x) - f(y)) \\ &\rightarrow \nabla f(x)^T (y - x) \leq f(x) - f(y) \\ &\rightarrow f(y) \geq f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T (y - x) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Assume  $f(y) \geq f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T (y - x)$ ,  $\forall x, y \in \Omega$

Let  $t = (1 - \theta)x + \theta y$  be a point between  $x, y$ .  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ .

By definition 1 for convexity, we need to prove:

$$f(t) = f((1 - \theta)x + \theta y) \leq \theta f(y) + (1 - \theta)f(x)$$

From the assumption:

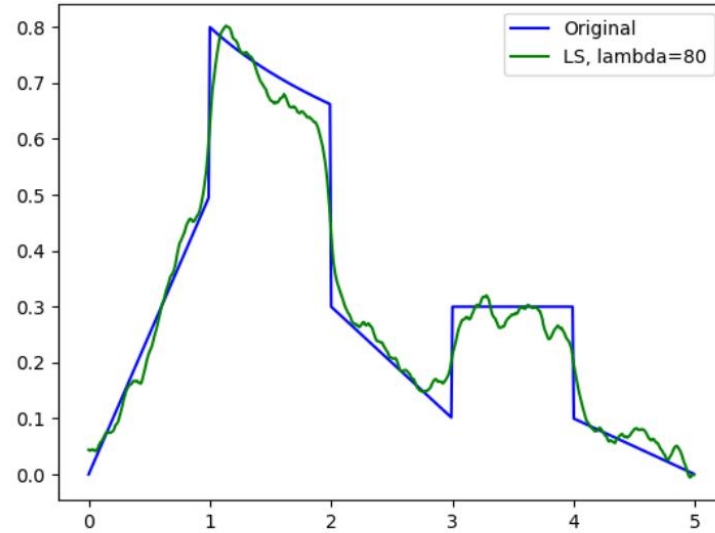
$$\begin{aligned} &\begin{cases} f(y) \geq f(t) + \nabla f(t)^T (y - t) & /* \theta \\ f(x) \geq f(t) + \nabla f(t)^T (x - t) & /* (1 - \theta) \end{cases} \\ &\rightarrow \begin{cases} \theta f(y) \geq \theta f(t) + \theta \nabla f(t)^T (y - t) \\ (1 - \theta)f(x) \geq (1 - \theta)f(t) + (1 - \theta)\nabla f(t)^T (x - t) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

By summing these two equations we get:

$$\begin{aligned} &\theta f(y) + (1 - \theta)f(x) \\ &\geq \cancel{\theta f(t)} + \theta \nabla f(t)^T (y - t) + (1 - \cancel{\theta})f(t) \\ &\quad + (1 - \theta)\nabla f(t)^T (x - t) \\ &= f(t) + \theta \nabla f(t)^T [\theta(y - t) + (1 - \theta)(x - t)] \\ &= f(t) + \theta \nabla f(t)^T [\theta y + (1 - \theta)x - \theta t + (1 - \theta)t] \\ &= f(t) + \theta \nabla f(t)^T [\cancel{t - \theta t} + (1 - \theta)t] = f(t) + \cancel{\theta \nabla f(t)^T t} + \theta \\ &= f(t) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Iterative re-weighted least squares (IRLS) for 1D Total Variation

(a)



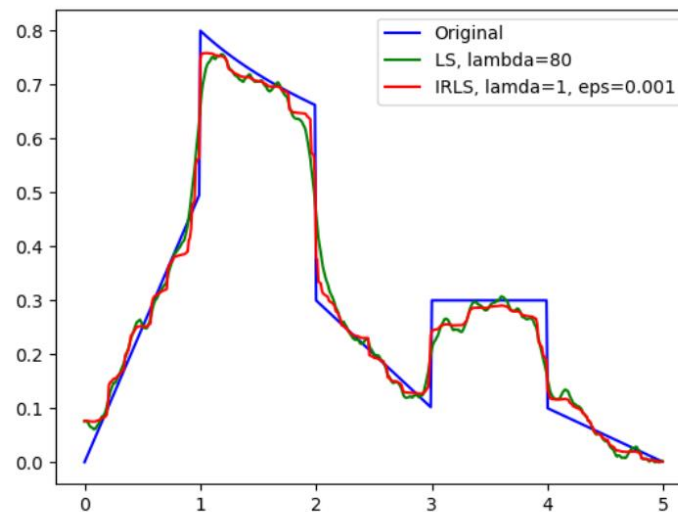
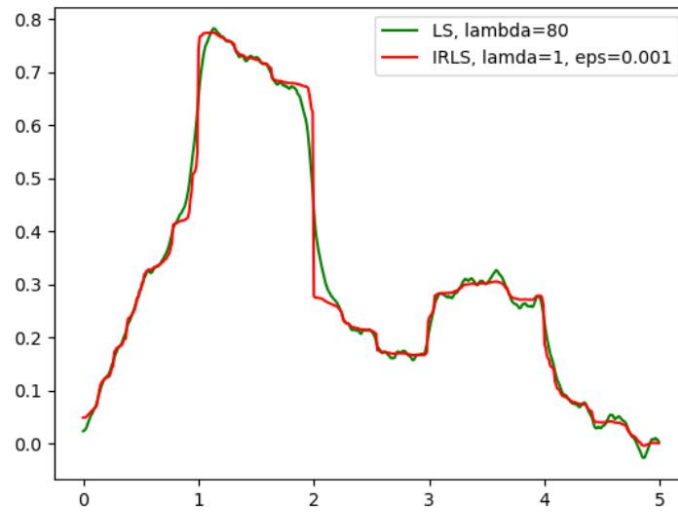
```
x = np.arange(0, 5, 0.01)
n = np.size(x)
one = int(n / 5)
f = np.zeros(x.shape)
f[0:one] = 0.0 + 0.5 * x[0:one]
f[one:2 * one] = 0.8 - 0.2 * np.log(x[100:200])
f[(2 * one):3 * one] = 0.7 - 0.2 * x[(2 * one):3 * one]
f[(3 * one):4 * one] = 0.3
f[(4 * one):(5 * one)] = 0.5 - 0.1 * x[(4 * one):(5 * one)]
G = spdiags([-np.ones(n), np.ones(n)], np.array([0, 1]), n,
n).toarray()
A = np.eye(n)
etta = 0.1 * np.random.randn(np.size(x))
y = f + etta

# regularized non-weighted LS L2
AT = np.transpose(A)
lamb = 80
fn = np.linalg.inv(AT @ A + (lamb / 2) * np.transpose(G) @ G)
@ AT @ y
plt.figure()
plt.plot(x, f, 'b', label="Original")
plt.plot(x, fn, 'g', label="LS, lambda=80")
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```

(b)

```
# IRLS
W = np.eye(n)
GT = np.transpose(G)
lamb = 1
eps = 0.001

for k in range(10):
    x_k = np.linalg.inv(AT @ A + (lamb / 2) * GT @ W @ G) @
    AT @ y
    Gx_k = G @ x_k
    W_diag = [1 / (np.abs(Gx_k[i]) + eps) for i in range(n)]
    W = np.diag(W_diag)
```



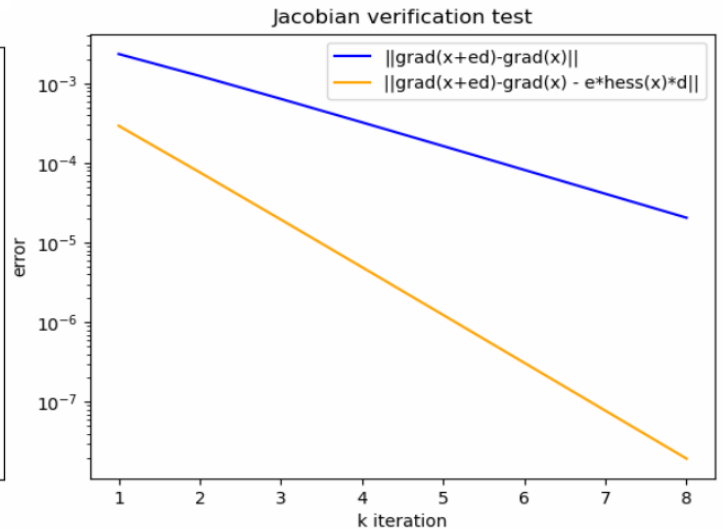
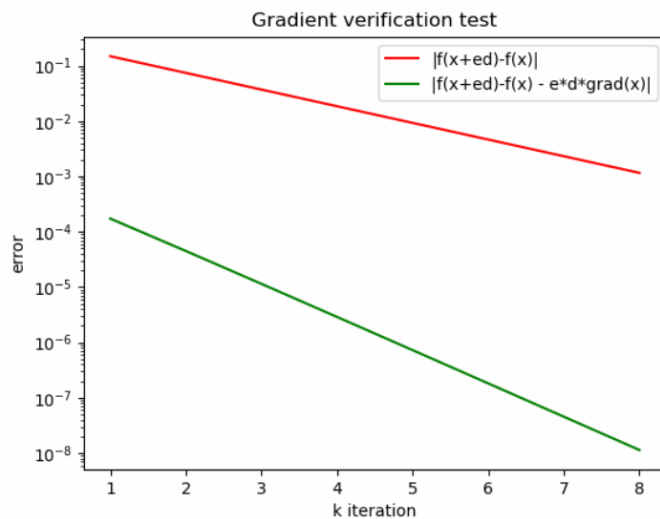


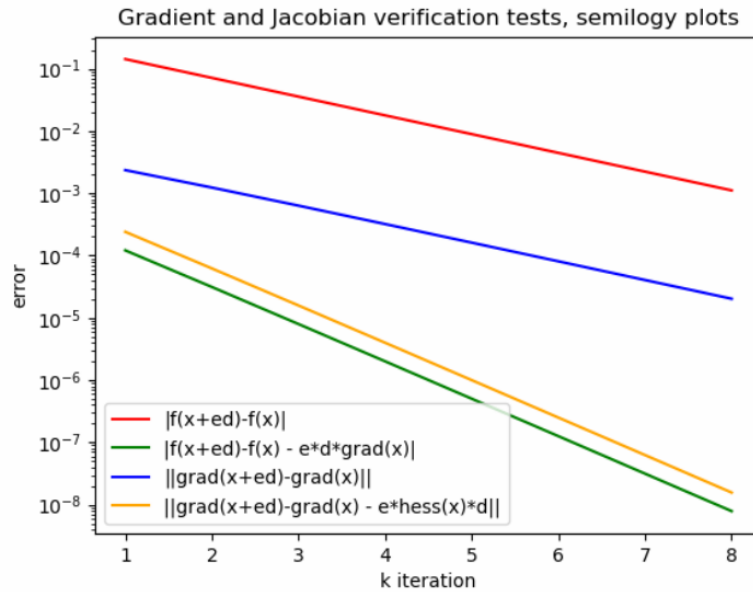
#### 4. Non-linear convex optimization for handwritten digits classification

(a)

```
def sigmoid(x):  
    return 1.0 / (1 + np.exp(-x))  
  
def func(X, w, labels, h=False):  
    # Linear Regression Objective  
    c1 = labels  
    c2 = 1 - c1  
    m = np.shape(X)[1]  
    sigm_XTw = sigmoid(np.transpose(X) @ w)  
    Fw = (-1 / m) * (np.transpose(c1) @ np.log(sigm_XTw)  
                    + np.transpose(c2) @ np.log(1 - sigm_XTw))  
  
    # Gradient  
    Grad = (1 / m) * X @ (sigm_XTw - c1)  
  
    if h:  
        # Hessian  
        D_diag = np.multiply(sigm_XTw, 1 - sigm_XTw)  
        D = np.diag(D_diag)  
        Hess = (1 / m) * X @ D @ np.transpose(X)  
        return Fw, Grad, Hess  
  
    return Fw, Grad
```

(b)





(c)

```
def gradient_descent(A, x, labels):
    c1 = np.array(labels)
    x_axis = []
    y_axis = []

    for i in range(100):
        Fx, grad_x = func(A, x, c1)
        d = -1 * grad_x
        alpha = linesearch(x, Fx, grad_x, d, 0.25, 0.5, 1e-4, c1, A)

        x_axis.append(i)
        y_axis.append(Fx)

        # apply iteration
        x_old = x
        x = x_old + alpha * d
        x = np.clip(x, -1, 1)

        # Convergence criterion
        if np.linalg.norm(x - x_old) / np.linalg.norm(x_old) < 0.001:
            break

    return x_axis, y_axis
```

```

def newton(A, x, labels):
    c1 = np.array(labels)
    x_axis = []
    y_axis = []

    for i in range(100):
        Fx, grad_x, hess_x = func(A, x, c1, True)
        shape = np.shape(hess_x)
        hess_x = hess_x + 0.01 * np.eye(shape[0], shape[1])
        d = -1 * np.linalg.inv(hess_x) @ grad_x
        alpha = linesearch(x, Fx, grad_x, d, 1, 0.5, 1e-4, c1, A)

        x_axis.append(i)
        y_axis.append(Fx)

        # apply iteration
        x_old = x
        x = x_old + alpha * d
        x = np.clip(x, -1, 1)

        # Convergence criterion
        if np.linalg.norm(x - x_old)/np.linalg.norm(x_old) < 0.001:
            break

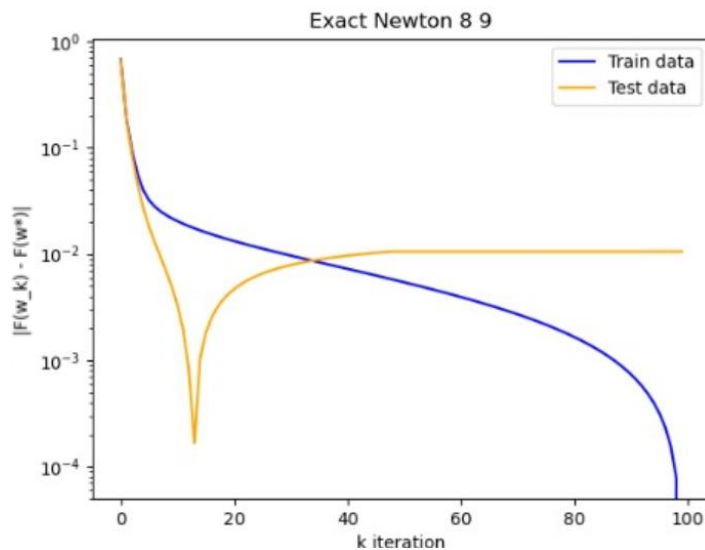
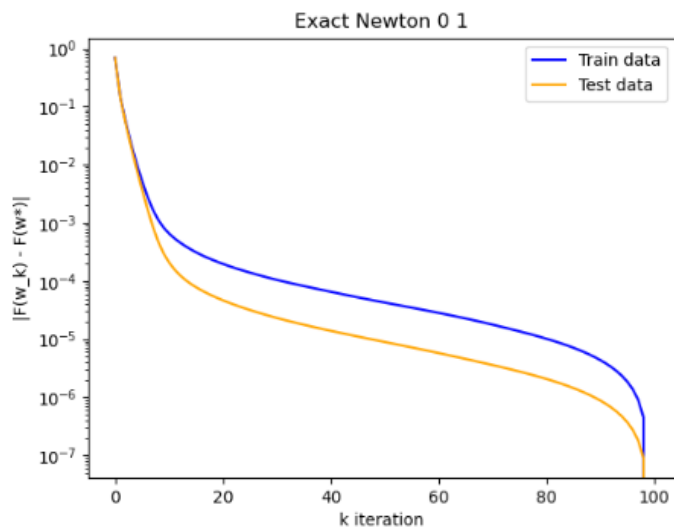
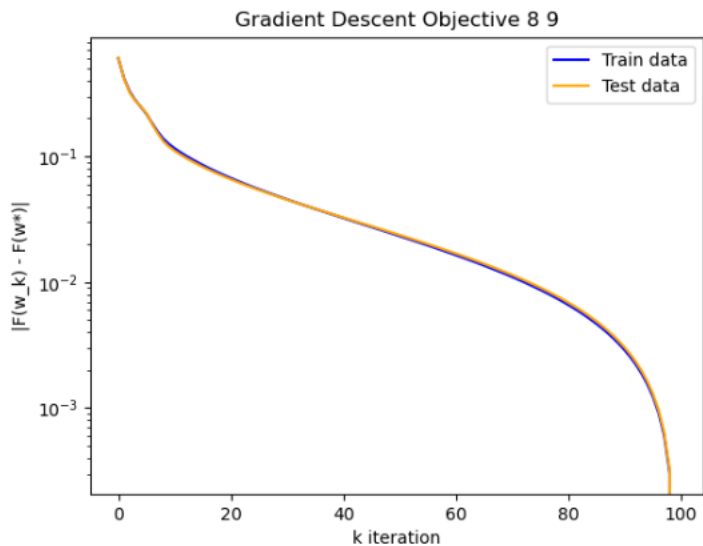
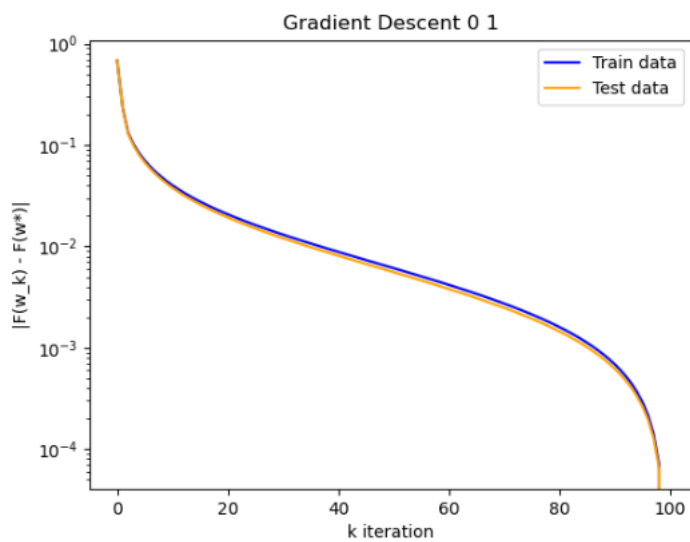
    return x_axis, y_axis

```

```

def linesearch(x, Fx, grad_x, d, alpha, beta, c, c1, A):
    for j in range(10):
        Fx_ad, grad_ad = func(A, x + alpha * d, c1)
        if Fx_ad <= Fx + c * alpha * np.dot(grad_x, d):
            break
    else:
        alpha = beta * alpha
    return alpha

```



Without overfitting – change in the change of Hessian to SPD by adding a scaled identity.

