

**AI3001: Advanced Topics in Machine Learning**  
**Classroom Quiz 2**  
**September 27, 2022**

*Instructions:*

- All the problems are compulsory.
- Total duration of the quiz is 30 minutes.

**Problem 1** (1+2+2= 5 marks). Compute the Bregman Divergence of

1.  $R(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|x\|_2^2$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$
2.  $R(x) = -2 \sum_{i=1}^d \sqrt{x_i}$  for  $x \in (0, +\infty)^d$
3.  $R(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i (\log(x_i) - 1)$  for  $x \in \Delta_d$ . Use  $0 \log(0) = 0$ .

**Problem 2** (1+1+1+2 marks). Prove or disprove the following statements.

1. Bregman divergence  $B_R(x||y)$  is convex in  $x$  even if  $R$  is not convex.
2. If  $f$  is  $\alpha$ -strongly convex and  $g$  is convex then  $f + g$  is  $\alpha$ -strongly convex.
3. Dual norm of 1-norm is  $\infty$ -norm and vice-versa. Here  $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^d |x_i|$  and  $\|x\|_\infty = \max\{|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_d|\}$
4. Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function. Then  $f$  is strongly convex (with respect to norm  $\|\cdot\|$ ) if and only if  $g$  defined as  $g(x) = f(x) - \frac{1}{2} \|x\|^2$  is convex.

**Solution to Problem 1.**

1.

$$\begin{aligned}
B_R(x||y) &= \frac{1}{2}||x||_2^2 - \frac{1}{2}||y||_2^2 - \langle y, x - y \rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{2}||x||_2^2 + \frac{1}{2}||y||_2^2 - \langle y, x \rangle = \frac{1}{2}||x - y||_2^2
\end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}
B_R(x||y) &= -2 \sum_{i=1}^d \sqrt{x_i} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^d \sqrt{y_i} + \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{x_i - y_i}{\sqrt{y_i}} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{x_i + y_i - 2\sqrt{x_i y_i}}{\sqrt{y_i}} = \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{(\sqrt{x_i} - \sqrt{y_i})^2}{\sqrt{y_i}}
\end{aligned}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned}
B_R(x||y) &= \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \log(x_i) - \sum_{i=1}^d x_i - y_i \log(y_i) + \sum_{i=1}^d y_i - \sum_{i=1}^d \log(y_i)(x_i - y_i) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \log(x_i) - \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \log(y_i) = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \log\left(\frac{x_i}{y_i}\right) = KL(x||y).
\end{aligned}$$

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**Solution of Question 2.**1. Take  $R(x) = \log(x)$  for  $x > 0$ . We have  $B_R(x||y) = \log(x) - \log(y) - \langle 1/y, x - y \rangle$ . Clearly $B_R(x||y)$  is not convex since we have  $\nabla_x^2 B_R(x||y) = -1/x^2 < 0$ .2. Note that  $\nabla(f+g)(x) = \nabla f(x) + \nabla g(x)$ . We have from strong convexity of  $f$  and convexity of  $g$  that

$$(1) \quad (\nabla f(y) - \nabla f(x))^T (y - x) \geq \alpha$$

$$(2) \quad (\nabla g(y) - \nabla g(x))^T (y - x) \geq 0$$

adding (1) and (2),

$$\langle \nabla(f+g)(y) - \nabla(f+g)(x), y - x \rangle \geq \alpha$$

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3. Dual norm is given by  $\|y\|^* = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \langle x, y \rangle$ . Let  $i^* = \arg \max_i y_i$ . If  $y_{i^*} \geq 0$  we take  $x'_{i^*} = 1$  and  $x'_i = 0$  for  $i \neq i^*$ . We now show that  $x'$  is the supremum. For contradiction let  $x \neq x'$  be any other vector such that  $x_i \geq 0$ ,  $\sum_i x_i \leq 1$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i > y_{i^*}$ . We have

$$\sum_{i \neq i^*} x_i y_i > (1 - x_{i^*}) y_{i^*}.$$

However, since  $\sum_i x_i \leq 1$  we have  $(1 - x_{i^*}) \geq \sum_{i \neq i^*} x_i$ . We get

$$\sum_{i \neq i^*} x_i y_i > (1 - x_{i^*}) y_{i^*} \geq \sum_{i \neq i^*} x_i y_{i^*} \geq \sum_{i \neq i^*} x_i y_i$$

. A contradiction. The last inequality follows from the fact that  $y_{i^*}$  is the maximal element. On the other hand if  $y_{i^*} < 0$  multiply all  $y_i$  and corresponding  $x_i$ 's by  $-1$  and we land in the previous case. (Essentially, in this case we take  $x'_{i^*} = -1$  and  $x_i = 0$  for all  $i \neq i^*$ ).

4. Not true in general. Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\eta} \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \log(x_i)$  for some  $\eta > 0$ . We have that  $f$  is  $1/\eta$ -strongly convex. However for function  $g(x) = f(x) - 1/2 \|x\|^2$  we have  $\nabla^2 g(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\eta x_1 - 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\eta x_2 - 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1/\eta x_d - 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is convex only when  $x_i \leq 1/\eta$  for all  $i$ . For instance, take  $\eta \geq d+1$  and  $x \in \Delta_d$  we have  $1 = \sum_i x_i \leq d/\eta \leq d/(d+1) < 1$  a contradiction. However, it is true for 1-strongly convex functions as given in the lecture notes.

The other side implication also does not hold. Let  $g$  be twice differentiable convex function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . We have  $g''(x) = f''(x) - 1 \geq 0$ . This implies  $f''(x) \geq 1$ . However, this does not imply strong convexity for  $\alpha < 1$ .

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