

Optimization Assignment - 1

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Problem Statement - Find the maximum isosceles triangle inscribable in a given ellipse, i.e., find the maximum value of xy , having given

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1.$$

1 Solution

Given function is,

$$f(x) = ab \sin \theta (1 - \cos \theta) \quad (1)$$

1.1 Calculation using normal differentiation

Differentiating (1) yields,

$$\nabla f(x) = ab(\cos \theta - \cos 2\theta) \quad (2)$$

Calculating the critical points: $\nabla f(x) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos 2\theta = 0 \quad (4)$$

Therefore, the critical points are

$$\pi n, \quad \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi n \quad (5)$$

1.1.1 Finding absolute maximum Since given interval is $x \in [0, n\pi]$

f attains its maximum value on the interval $[0, 2]$ at $x=1$.

$$\Rightarrow \nabla f(1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 1.999$$

1.2 Calculation of Maxima using gradient ascent algorithm

Maxima of the above equation (1), can be calculated from the following expression,

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \alpha \nabla f(x_n) \quad (6)$$

1.3 Calculation of Maxima using gradient ascent algorithm

$$f(x) = ab \sin \theta (1 - \cos \theta) \quad (7)$$

$$f'(x) = ab \cos \theta - \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \quad (8)$$

we have to attain the maximum value of area of rectangle. This can be seen in Figure. Using gradient ascent method we can find its maxima.

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \alpha \nabla f(x_n) \quad (9)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} = x_n + \alpha(ab \cos \theta - \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) \quad (10)$$

Taking $x_0 = 0.5, \alpha = 0.001$ and precision = 0.00000001, values obtained using python are:

$$\boxed{\text{Maxima} = 1.9999} \quad (11)$$

$$\boxed{\text{Maxima Point} = 0.7853} \quad (12)$$

2 Conclusion

1. At first, the given function has been differentiated and it is solved by setting $f'(x)$ equal to zero. By using x values, $f(x)$ values are calculated.
2. Later, the given function $f(x)$ is solved by gradient ascent algorithm to find maxima and the point at which $f(x)$ is maximum.
3. Then, the given function $f(x)$ is solved by gradient descent algorithm to find minima and the point at which $f(x)$ is minimum.

