

**Convention:** Throughout this discussion a feasible direction  $\mathbf{d}$  at a point is by definition taken to be a nonzero vector, although there is no significant harm even if assumed otherwise. Sometimes I may have forgotten to explicitly write it.

**Notation:**  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = H(\mathbf{x})$  is the Hessian matrix of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{x}$ .

$\nabla f(\mathbf{x})$  is the gradient **row** vector ( or the vector of partial derivatives) written as a row vector).

## Nonlinear Programming

Let  $f$  be a real valued function defined on  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

The problem is to minimize  $f(\mathbf{x})$  subject to  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ , where  $f$  need not be a linear function.

Throughout the discussion we will assume that  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , for some  $n$ .

**Definition 1:** A point (or an element)  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \Omega$  is called a local minimum of  $f$  if there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$ , such that

$\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$  and  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\| < \epsilon$  implies  $f(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq f(\mathbf{x})$ .

**Definition 2:** A point  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \Omega$  is called a global minimum of  $f$  if  $f(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq f(\mathbf{x})$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ .

**Definition 3:** A vector  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{d} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is said to be a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \Omega$ , if there exists a  $c > 0$  such that for all  $t$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq c$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d} \in \Omega$ .

**Example 1:** Let  $\Omega = \{[x_1, x_2]^T : x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}$ .

At  $[0, 0]^T$  if  $\mathbf{d} = [d_1, d_2]^T$  is a feasible direction then  $d_1 \geq 0$  and  $d_2 \geq 0$ .

At  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]^T$  if  $\mathbf{d}$  is a feasible direction then  $d_1 \geq 0$  but  $d_2$  can be any real number.

At  $[\frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$  if  $\mathbf{d}$  is a feasible direction then  $d_2 \geq 0$  but  $d_1$  can be any real number.

At  $[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]^T$  any  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  will be a feasible direction.

**Remark 1:** If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an interior point of  $\Omega$  then any  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{d} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

### *First order necessary conditions for a point to be a local minimum*

The results obtained in this section is based on first order approximation of the function  $f$  near the local minimum point  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

Throughout this discussion we will assume  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{d}$  are elements of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Theorem 1:** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function (that is, the first order partial derivatives of  $f$  exists and are continuous as functions from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ ). If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point then for any feasible direction  $\mathbf{d}$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ,

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0,$$

where  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)$ , the gradient vector of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is written as a row vector (the components of  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  are the first order partial derivatives of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ) and  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a column vector.

**Proof:** Let  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be a local minimum and let  $\mathbf{d}$  be a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

Let  $g(t) = f(\mathbf{x}(t))$ , where  $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}$ .

Since  $f$  is differentiable throughout  $\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{d}$  is a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$

$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}^* + h\mathbf{d}) - f(\mathbf{x}^*)}{h}$  exists.

Since  $g(h) - g(0) = f(\mathbf{x}^* + h\mathbf{d}) - f(\mathbf{x}^*)$ ,  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(h) - g(0)}{h}$  also exists and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(h) - g(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}^* + h\mathbf{d}) - f(\mathbf{x}^*)}{h} = \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d}.$$

Hence  $g'(0)$  exists and if we look at the first order Taylor's approximation of  $g$  around  $t = 0$ , then

$$g(t) = g(0) + tg'(0) + o(t), \text{ where } o(t) \text{ is a function of } t \text{ such that } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{o(t)}{t} = 0. \quad (**)$$

If we take  $0 < t \leq c$ , then  $(**)$  gives,

$$f(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) = f(\mathbf{x}^*) + t\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} + o(t).$$

Since for  $t$  sufficiently small,  $|t\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d}| \geq |o(t)|$ ,  
if  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} < 0$ ,  $f(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) < f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  for all  $t$  sufficiently small, which contradicts that  $\mathbf{x}^*$  minimizes  $f$  locally.

**Theorem 2 :** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function. Let  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be an interior point of  $\Omega$ . If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point of  $f$  then

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$$

**Proof:** Follows from Theorem 1, by taking  $\mathbf{d} = -(\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*))^T$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an interior point we know that every  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{d} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

### Second order necessary conditions for a point to be a local minimum

The following conditions are obtained by considering second order approximation of the function  $f$  near the local minimum point  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

**Theorem 3:** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a twice continuously differentiable function (that is all the second order partial derivatives of  $f$  (given by  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}$ ) exists and are continuous as functions from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ ).

Because of the assumptions on  $f$  our hessian matrix  $\nabla^2 f$  for all our discussions is a symmetric matrix for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ . If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum then for any feasible direction  $\mathbf{d}$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$

1.  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0$ .
2. If  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} = 0$ , then  $\mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0$ .

**Note:** The matrix  $\nabla^2 f$  (also denoted by  $H$ ) is called the Hessian matrix of  $f$ , is the matrix of the second order partial derivatives of  $f$  and the  $(i, j)$  th entry of  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is given by  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^*)$  or  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} |_{\mathbf{x}^*}$ .

**Proof:** Let  $\mathbf{d}$  be a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ . That  $\mathbf{x}^*$  satisfies condition 1 is already shown in Theorem 1.

As before, take  $g(t) = f(\mathbf{x}(t))$ , where  $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}$ .

The second order Taylor's approximation of  $g$  around  $t = 0$  gives,  
 $g(t) = g(0) + tg'(0) + \frac{t^2}{2!}g''(0) + o(t^2)$ , (\*\*)

Since  $g'(t) = (\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}))\mathbf{d} = \sum_i (\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i})(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d})d_i$ ,

$g'(t) = \sum_i h_i(t)d_i$ ,

where  $h_i(t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d})$ .

Hence  $g''(t) = \sum_i h'_i(t)d_i$ ,

where  $h'_i(t) = ((\nabla \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i})(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}))\mathbf{d} = \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i})(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d})d_j = \sum_j (\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}))d_j$ .

Hence  $g''(t) = \sum_i h'_i(t)d_i = \sum_i (\sum_j (\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}))d_j)d_i$ ,

Hence  $g''(0) = \sum_i (\sum_j (\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^*))d_j)d_i = \mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d}$ ,

where  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) (= H(\mathbf{x}^*))$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix whose  $(i, j)$  th entry is given by  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}^*)$ .

Note that because we have assumed  $f$  to be twice continuously differentiable the matrix  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is a symmetric matrix.

Again from (\*\*) we get,

$$f(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) = f(\mathbf{x}^*) + t\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} + \frac{t^2}{2}\mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} + o(t^2).$$

Since for sufficiently small  $t$ ,

$$|\frac{t^2}{2}g''(0)| \geq |o(t^2)|,$$

hence if  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum then it should satisfy the condition

$$\mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0.$$

**Theorem 4:** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a twice continuously differentiable function and let  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be an interior point of  $\Omega$ . If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum of  $f$  then

1.  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ .
2.  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is positive semidefinite( defined later ) .

**Proof:** Follows from the previous theorem and the fact that for an interior point, every nonzero vector  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a feasible direction.

**Definition:** A real symmetric matrix  $A$  is said to be positive semidefinite (negative semidefinite) if  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} \geq 0$  ( $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} \leq 0$ ) for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Definition:** A real symmetric matrix  $A$  is said to be positive definite (negative definite) if  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} > 0$  ( $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} < 0$ ) for all **nonzero** vectors  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Remark:** Note that in general a matrix satisfying the condition  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  need not be symmetric for example  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Theorem:** If  $A$  is a symmetric,  $n \times n$ , real matrix then the following statements are equivalent:

1.  $A$  is positive semidefinite.
2. All eigenvalues of  $A$  are nonnegative.
3. All principal minors of  $A$  are nonnegative.

**Definition:**  $\lambda$  is called an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  if there exists an  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$  ( that is atleast one component of  $\mathbf{x}$  is nonzero) such that  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$ .

For example the  $\mathbf{0}$  matrix has all  $n$  eigenvalues equal to 0, the identity matrix  $I_n$  has all  $n$  eigenvalues equal to 1 and for an upper triangular matrix the diagonal entries are its eigenvalues.

**Definition:** If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix and  $\alpha \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\beta \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  then  $A[\alpha, \beta]$  is the (sub)matrix obtained from  $A$  by deleting all rows of  $A$  which do not belong to  $\alpha$  and by deleting all the columns which do not correspond to  $\beta$ .

If  $\alpha = \beta$  then  $A[\alpha, \alpha]$  is called a principal submatrix of  $A$  and  $\det A[\alpha, \alpha]$  is called a principal minor of  $A$ .

For example if  $\alpha = \beta = \{i\}$  where  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  then  $A[\alpha, \alpha] = [a_{ii}]$  and  $\det A[\alpha, \alpha] = a_{ii}$  the  $i$  th diagonal entry.

If  $\alpha = \beta = \{i, j\}$  where  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $i < j$  then  $A[\alpha, \alpha] = \begin{pmatrix} a_{ii} & a_{ij} \\ a_{ji} & a_{jj} \end{pmatrix}$ . If  $\alpha = \{1, \dots, n\}$  then  $A[\alpha, \alpha] = A$  and  $\det A[\alpha, \alpha] = \det(A)$ .

**Remark:** A nonsingular (nonzero determinant) positive semidefinite matrix is positive definite.

In the following examples there is a slight abuse of notation. Instead of writing  $f([x_1, x_2]^T)$ , to avoid cumbersome notation, I have written it as  $f(x_1, x_2)$ .

**Example 1 :** Consider the following problem:

Minimize  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 - x_1 + x_2 + x_1 x_2$   
subject to  $x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0$ .

One can easily check that  $f$  has a global minimum at  $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}, x_2 = 0$ . Also  $f$  is a twice continuously differentiable function.

At  $[\frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} = 2x_1 - 1 + x_2 = 0$   
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} = 1 + x_1 = \frac{3}{2}$ .

If  $\mathbf{d}$  is a feasible direction at  $[\frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$ , then  $d_2$  has to be nonnegative.

Hence  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x})|_{[\frac{1}{2}, 0]^T} \mathbf{d} = \frac{3}{2}d_2 \geq 0$  for any feasible direction  $\mathbf{d}$ .

Hence the first order necessary conditions for  $\mathbf{x}^* = [\frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$  to be a locally minimum point is satisfied.

Also if  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} = 0$ , then  $d_2 = 0$ , and for all such  $\mathbf{d}$

$$\mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d} = 2d_1^2 \geq 0.$$

Hence the second order necessary conditions for  $\mathbf{x}^*$  to be locally minimum is also satisfied.

**Example 2:** Consider the following problem:

Minimize  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 - x_1^2 x_2 + 2x_2^2$   
subject to  $x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0$ .

$\nabla f(x) = (3x_1^2 - 2x_1 x_2, -x_1^2 + 4x_2) = [0, 0]$  has two solutions  $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0$  and  $x_1 = 6, x_2 = 9$ .

Here  $[6, 9]^T$  an interior point of the feasible region  $\Omega = \{[x_1, x_2]^T : x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}$  satisfies the first order necessary conditions.

But since  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} 6x_1 - 2x_2 & -2x_1 \\ -2x_1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

At  $\mathbf{x}^* = [6, 9]^T$ ,  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \begin{pmatrix} 18 & -12 \\ -12 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  is not positive semidefinite.

Hence  $\mathbf{x}^* = [6, 9]^T$  is not a local minimum point of  $f$ .

Hence the first order necessary conditions are necessary but not sufficient for a point to be a local minimum.

At  $\mathbf{x}^* = [0, 0]^T$  a nonzero direction  $\mathbf{d}$  is feasible if and only if  $d_1 \geq 0$  and  $d_2 \geq 0$ .

Since  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} = 0$  for all  $\mathbf{d}$ .

Since  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d} = 4d_2^2 \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{d}$ .

Since  $[0, 0]^T$  satisfies both the first and second order necessary conditions, we can only say that  $\mathbf{x}^* = [0, 0]^T$  can be a candidate for local minimum, but since these are only necessary conditions we cannot conclude from previous calculations that  $[0, 0]^T$  is indeed a local minimum.

**Exercise:** Check that  $[0, 0]^T$  is a local minimum point of  $f$  in **Example 2**.

**Solution:** Note that  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 - x_1^2 x_2 + 2x_2^2 = x_1^2(x_1 - x_2) + 2x_2^2$  can take values  $< 0$  only when  $x_2 > x_1$ , but then for  $|x_1|, |x_2| < 1$ , clearly  $x_1^2(x_1 - x_2) + 2x_2^2 \geq 0$ , hence  $[0, 0]^T$  is a local minimum.

It is quite clear that for any  $f$ , of the form  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 - x_1^2 x_2 + cx_2^2, c > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^* = [0, 0]^T$  will be a local minimum point of  $f$  for the domain given in **Example 2**.

However if we take  $c = 0$  in the above expression, then  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 - x_1^2 x_2$ , then one can check that  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , is a positive semidefinite matrix, but  $\mathbf{x}^* = [0, 0]^T$  is not a local optimum point.

Hence the first order and the second order necessary conditions are **necessary** but **not sufficient** for a point  $\mathbf{x}^*$  to be a local minimum.

**Sufficient conditions for a local minima :**

**Theorem 4 :** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a twice continuously differentiable function. Let  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be an interior point of  $\Omega$ . If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  satisfies the following conditions

1.  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$
2.  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is positive definite,

then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point of  $f$ .

**Proof:** Since  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an interior point of  $\Omega$ , if  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ , then by Taylor's second order approximation formula for  $f$  near  $\mathbf{x}^*$ , we get

$$f(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) = f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \frac{t^2}{2} \mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d} + o(t^2), \text{ for all } \mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and all } t > 0 \text{ sufficiently small.}$$

For  $t$  small,  $|\frac{t^2}{2} \mathbf{d}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{d}| \geq |o(t^2)|$ ,

hence  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point if  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is positive definite.

**Remark:** Since maximizing  $f$  is same as minimizing  $-f$ , all the previous theorems have corresponding analogues for a maximization problem with some obvious changes. For example  $\leq$  conditions in the results are replaced by  $\geq$  conditions and with positive semidefinite (or positive definite) matrices in the results are appropriately replaced by negative semidefinite matrices (or negative definite matrices).

**Definition 4:** A real valued function  $f$  defined on a convex set  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be a convex function if for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$  and all  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ ,

$$f(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha)f(\mathbf{y}).$$

**Definition 5:** A function  $f$  defined on a convex set  $\Omega$  is said to be concave if  $-f$  is convex.

**Theorem 1 :** If  $f$  is a convex function defined on  $\Omega$  (a convex set), then the set  $S = \{\mathbf{x} : f(\mathbf{x}) \leq c\}$  is a convex set (for all real  $c$ ).

**Proof:** Exercise.

**Theorem 2:** Let  $f$  be a continuously differentiable function defined on a convex set,  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $f$  is convex if and only if  $f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x})$  for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$ .

**Proof:** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function. Then for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$  and all  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ ,

$$f(\alpha \mathbf{y} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{x}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{y}) + (1 - \alpha)f(\mathbf{x}).$$

For all  $\alpha > 0$ , sufficiently small,  

$$\frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \alpha(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x})) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\alpha} \leq f(\mathbf{y}) - f(\mathbf{x})$$

Letting  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  we get

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) \leq f(\mathbf{y}) - f(\mathbf{x}).$$

To show the converse,

$$\text{let } f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) \text{ for all } \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega. \quad (**)$$

Fix  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$ , and let  $\mathbf{z}$  be a point in between and on the straight line segment joining  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ .

That is  $\mathbf{z} = \alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}$  for some  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ . From  $(**)$  we get

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \geq f(\mathbf{z}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{z})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}) \text{ and}$$

$$f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{z}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{z})(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}).$$

By multiplying the first equation by  $\alpha$ , the second by  $(1 - \alpha)$  and adding the two equations we get,

$$\alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha)f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{z}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{z})(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}).$$

Since  $\mathbf{z} = \alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}$  we get

$$\alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha)f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}).$$

Since the above condition is difficult to verify and check, let me state the following result without proof.

**Theorem 3 :** Let  $f$  be a twice continuously differentiable function on a convex set  $\Omega$  (let  $\Omega$  be such that it has atleast one interior point), then  $f$  is convex on  $\Omega$  if and only if for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ ,  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})$  is positive semidefinite.

**Proof:** For those interested in the proof, refer to Luenberger.

**Revisiting Example 2 :** Let  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 - x_1^2 x_2 + 2x_2^2$  be defined on  $\Omega = \{[x_1, x_2]^T : x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}$ .

$$\text{Since } \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} 6x_1 - 2x_2 & -2x_1 \\ -2x_1 & 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\text{at } x_1 = 1, x_2 = 3, \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

is clearly not positive semidefinite, hence  $f$  is not a convex function on  $\Omega$ .

**Remark :** Since minimizing  $f$  is same as maximizing  $-f$ , all the previous theorems for minimizing a convex function have corresponding analogues for maximizing a concave function and the positive semidefinite matrix in the previous theorem can be appropriately replaced by a negative semidefinite matrix.

**Theorem 4:** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function. If  $f$  is convex on  $\Omega$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point of  $f$  if and only if for all feasible direction  $\mathbf{d}$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$   $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0$ .

**Proof:** Since the **only if** part is already shown before, we have to only show the **if** part.

Let  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \Omega$  satisfy  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0$  for all feasible  $\mathbf{d}$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

Since  $f$  is convex  $f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x})$  for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$ .

(1)

Hence for all  $\mathbf{y} \in \Omega$ ,  $f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^*)$ .

Since  $\Omega$  is convex,  $\mathbf{x} = \alpha\mathbf{y} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{x}^* + \alpha(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^*)$  belongs to  $\Omega$ , for all  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ , hence  $(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^*)$  is a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^*) \geq 0$ .

Hence  $f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^*) \geq f(\mathbf{x}^*)$ .

Since  $\mathbf{y} \in \Omega$  was arbitrary,  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum of  $f$  (in fact a global minimum of  $f$ ).

**Corollary 4:** Let  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function. If  $f$  is convex on  $\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{x}^*$  an interior point of  $\Omega$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum for  $f$  if and only if  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ .

**Proof:** Follows from the previous result.

That the above result is not necessarily true if  $f$  is not convex as you have already seen in **Example 2**.

**Theorem 5:** Let  $f$  be a convex function defined on a convex set  $\Omega$ , then the following statements are true.

1. Let  $S$  be the collection of all  $\mathbf{x}$ 's where  $f$  attains its minimum value (that is, the set of all optimal solutions of  $f$  for a minimization problem). Then  $S$  is a convex set, or in other words the set  $S = \{\mathbf{x} : f(\mathbf{x}) \leq f(\mathbf{y}) \text{ for all } \mathbf{y} \in \Omega\}$ , is a convex set.

2. If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point of  $f$  then it is also a global minimum point of  $f$ .

**Proof:**

1. If  $f$  does not have a minimum then the above result is vacuously true.  
If  $f$  takes a minimum value then let  $a = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega} \{f(\mathbf{x})\}$ .  
Since  $f$  is a convex function,  $S_1 = \{\mathbf{x} : f(\mathbf{x}) \leq a\}$  is convex, by Theorem 1.  
Note that  $S_1 = S$ .
2. To show that a local minimum of  $f$  is a global minimum of  $f$ .  
If not, then let  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be a local minimum point of  $f$  and let there exist a  $\mathbf{y} \in \Omega$  such that  $f(\mathbf{y}) < f(\mathbf{x}^*)$ .  
Join  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  by a straight line.  
Since  $\Omega$  is a convex set, the straight line segment joining  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  lies entirely in  $\Omega$ .  
Since  $f$  is a convex function, for all  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ,  
 $f((1 - \alpha)\mathbf{x}^* + \alpha\mathbf{y}) \leq (1 - \alpha)f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \alpha f(\mathbf{y}) < f(\mathbf{x}^*)$ .  
This contradicts that  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point of  $f$ .

**Remark:** A natural question would be whether the conclusions of Theorem 5 holds good when maximizing a convex function. The answer however is not true.

Take  $f(x) = x^2$ ,  $-1 \leq x \leq 2$ .

From previous discussions however it is clear that the above result is true if you are maximizing  $-f$  or maximizing a concave function.

**Remark:** We had seen while minimizing or maximizing a linear function over a polyhedral set, the extremum was attained in at least one extreme point. An extreme point of a polyhedral set, ( more generally convex set) is one which cannot be written as a strict convex combination of two distinct points of that set).

But in the problem of minimizing a convex function over a convex set, the minimum may be attained at an interior point of  $\Omega$ .

The following theorem however gives a similar result when maximizing a convex function over a convex set.

I will just state the result without proof.

**Theorem 6:** Let  $f$  be a convex function defined on a closed and bounded convex set  $\Omega$  (so it has atleast one extreme point), then there exists an extreme point of  $\Omega$ , where  $f$  takes its maximum value. (For proof refer, Luenberger).

**FJ conditions and Karush Kuhn Tucker (KKT ) conditions in constrained optimization problems:**

Consider the following nonlinear programming problem (P) of the form,

Minimize  $f(\mathbf{x})$

subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ , ( $\Omega$  open ) or  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Assume all the functions  $f, g_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . As the name suggests the function  $f$  and the constraint functions  $g_i$  may not be linear functions.

The feasible region now is given by  $S = \text{Fea}(P) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$ .

Since the problem is again of optimizing a function, we are again looking for feasible directions at  $\mathbf{x}^* \in S$  such that starting from  $\mathbf{x}^*$  if we move along  $\mathbf{d}$ , we will get points of the feasible region with better values of the objective function than that obtained at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

Note that for this problem the set  $D$  of feasible directions at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is given by,  
 $D = \{\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) \leq 0, \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \text{ and for all } 0 \leq t \leq c, \text{ for some } c > 0\}$ .

If  $I$  is the set of indices which corresponds to the constraints binding at  $\mathbf{x}^* \in S$  then,  
 $I = \{i \in \{1, \dots, m\} : g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0\}$ . Let  $I^* = \{i \in \{1, \dots, m\} : g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) < 0\}$ .

For all  $i \in I^*$ , we assume that  $g_i$  is continuous at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .  
Then note that for each  $i \in I^*$  there exists  $c_i > 0$  such that  
 $g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) < 0$  for all  $0 \leq t \leq c_i$ ,  
since  $g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) < 0$  and  $g_i$  is continuous at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .  
By taking  $c = \min_{i \in I^*} \{c_i\}$ , we can get a  $c > 0$  (which depends on  $\mathbf{d}$ ) such that  
 $g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) < 0$  for all  $0 \leq t \leq c$  and for all  $i \in I^*$ .

Since  $g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$ , for  $i \in I$ , if  $g_i$ 's are continuously differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\mathbf{d}$  satisfies the condition,  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} < 0$  for all  $i \in I$ ,  
then from Taylor's formula of first order approximation applied to the  $g_i$ 's,  
we get that for each  $i \in I$  there exists an  $a_i > 0$  such that  
 $g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) < 0$  for all  $0 \leq t \leq a_i$ .  
Again by taking  $a = \min_{i \in I} \{a_i\} > 0$ , we get that  $g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) < 0$  for all  $0 \leq t \leq a$  and for all  $i \in I$ .

From the above discussion it is clear that if  
for all  $i \in I^*$ ,  $g_i$ 's are assumed to be continuous at  $\mathbf{x}^*$   
and for all  $i \in I$ , if  $g_i$ 's are assumed to be continuously differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  then  
 $G_0 \subseteq D$ ,  
where  $G_0 = \{\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} < 0 \text{ for all } i \in I\}$ .  
From the first order necessary conditions for a local minimum (discussed earlier) it is already seen that if  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum then it should satisfy the condition that  $F_0 \cap D = \phi$ , where  $D$  is the set of feasible directions at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $F_0 = \{\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} < 0\}$ .  
Since  $G_0 \subseteq D$  under the assumptions made above, hence necessary conditions for  $\mathbf{x}^*$  to be a local minimum is also given by  $F_0 \cap G_0 = \phi$ .

**Theorem 7:** Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function. Consider the problem of minimizing  $f$  subject to the conditions  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , where  $g_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  for all  $i$ . Let  $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^* \in S$ .  
For all  $i \in I^*$ ,  $g_i$ 's are assumed to be continuous at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and for all  $i \in I$ ,  $g_i$ 's are assumed to be continuously differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .  
Then if  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum of  $f$  over  $S$   
there exists nonnegative constants,  $u_0, u_i, i \in I$ , not all zeros such that  
 $u_0 \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i \in I} u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ . (1)

**Proof:** If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point of  $f$  then  $F_0 \cap G_0 = \phi$ , hence the following system  
 $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} < 0$  and  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} < 0$  for  $i \in I$   
does not have a solution.  
That is, the system  $A\mathbf{d} < 0$  does not have a solution,



where the rows of  $A$  are given by  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  and  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ ,  $i \in I$ .

From a theorem of alternative (called Gordon's theorem, proof given at the end) we get that the system

$\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}^T A = \mathbf{0}$  has a solution.

Hence the components of  $\mathbf{u}$  satisfy condition (1).

If all the  $g_i$ 's for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  are continuously differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ , then the above conditions reduces to

$$u_0 \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}, \text{ and } u_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \quad (2)$$

Here  $\mathbf{x}^* \in S$  is called the primal feasibility condition, the condition given in (1) together with non-negativity of the  $u_i$ 's, is called the dual feasibility condition.

$u_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , is called the complementary slackness condition.

All the conditions taken together are called the **FJ (Fritz John)** conditions and the point  $(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{u})$  ( or  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ) is called a **Fritz John**, or an **FJ** point.

$\mathbf{x}^*$  is said to satisfy **KKT** condition if there exists nonnegative constants  $u_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , such that  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i \in I} u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ . (3)

If all the  $g_i$ 's for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  are continuously differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  then the above condition reduces to

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0} \text{ and } u_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \quad (4)$$

The above conditions, that is conditions given by (3) and (4) are called **KKT (Karush, Kuhn, Tucker )** conditions.

Any  $(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{u})$  (or  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ) which satisfies the **Karush Kuhn Tucker (KKT)** conditions is called a **KKT** point.

**Theorem 8:** If in addition to the conditions assumed for  $f$  and  $g_i$ 's, as in the previous theorem,  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ 's for  $i \in I$  are assumed to be linearly independent (as vectors) where  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minima (as in the previous theorem) then it can be easily shown that there exists nonnegative constants  $u_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , such that

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i \in I} u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}. \quad (3)$$

**Proof:** Follows from the previous theorem and the fact that if  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  are LI then the system

$\mathbf{u}' \neq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}' \geq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}'^T A' = \mathbf{0}$  does not have a solution,

where  $A'$  is the matrix whose rows are given by  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ ,  $i \in I$ .

Hence in the FJ conditions which  $\mathbf{x}^*$  must satisfy since it is local minima,  $u_0$  cannot be zero, hence one can divide equation (1) by  $u_0 > 0$  to get condition (3).

**Remark:** Hence from **Theorem 8** it is clear that if  $(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{u})$  ( or  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ) is an **FJ** point and if  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ 's for  $i \in I$  are LI then  $(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{u})$  ( or  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ) is a **KKT** point.

**Remark:** If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  satisfies the **Karush Kuhn Tucker (KKT)** conditions then it necessarily satisfies the **FJ** conditions.

**Remark:** **KKT** conditions basically says that under the assumptions of the theorem, if  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum, then  $-\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  lies in the cone generated by the  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ 's,  $i \in I$ .

**Example 1:** Minimize  $(x_1 - 3)^2 + (x_2 - 2)^2$

subject to

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 5.$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq 4. \\ -x_1 &\leq 0 \\ -x_2 &\leq 0.\end{aligned}$$

By inspection one can see that  $f$  takes its minimum value at  $[2, 1]^T$ .

Solution given by a student **Romel**: The point  $[2, 3]^T$ , is outside the feasible region, hence we can construct circles of larger and larger radius (starting with radius 0) with center at  $[2, 3]^T$ , till it cuts the feasible region  $S$ . The radius of the smallest such circle centered at  $[2, 3]^T$  which intersects  $S$  will give the optimal value, and the point where this circle cuts  $S$  will give optimal solutions.

Here  $g_1(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 5$ ,  $g_2(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 + 2x_2 - 4$ ,  $g_3(\mathbf{x}) = -x_1$  and  $g_4(\mathbf{x}) = -x_2$ .

At  $\mathbf{x}^* = [2, 1]^T$  the binding constraints are  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ .

$\nabla g_1(\mathbf{x}^*) = [4, 2]$  and  $\nabla g_2(\mathbf{x}^*) = [1, 2]$  and  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = [-2, -2]$ .

$\nabla g_1(\mathbf{x}^*)$  and  $\nabla g_2(\mathbf{x}^*)$  are linearly independent.

Take  $u_1 = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $u_2 = \frac{1}{3}$ , then

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^2 u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}.$$

Hence  $[2, 1]^T$  satisfies the KKT condition.

**Example 2:** Minimize  $-x_1$ .

subject to

$$\begin{aligned}x_2 - (1 - x_1)^3 &\leq 0 \\ -x_2 &\leq 0\end{aligned}$$

It is clear that  $\mathbf{x}^* = [1, 0]^T$  is a local minimum.

At  $[1, 0]^T$  both the constraints are binding.

$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = [-1, 0]$ ,  $\nabla g_1(\mathbf{x}^*) = [0, 1]$  and  $\nabla g_2(\mathbf{x}^*) = [0, -1]$ .

Take  $u_0 = 0$ ,  $u_1 = 1$ ,  $u_2 = 1$ , then

$$u_0 \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^2 u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}.$$

But since  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ 's are not LI,  $-\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  does not lie in the cone generated by the  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$ 's,  $i = 1, 2$ . Hence  $[1, 0]^T$  is an FJ point but **not** a KKT point.

Hence the above example shows that the KKT condition is not a necessary condition for a local minima, although FJ conditions are necessary conditions for a local minima.

The following theorem shows that if  $f$  and the  $g_i$ 's are (in addition to conditions already assumed) assumed to be convex functions, then the KKT conditions become a sufficient condition for a local minima (although not necessary).

**Theorem 9:** Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be convex and continuously differentiable. Consider the problem of minimizing  $f$  subject to the conditions  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$ , where  $g_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  for all  $i$ . Let  $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m\}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^* \in S$ . For all  $i \in I^*$ , we assume that  $g_i$  is continuous at  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and for all  $i \in I$ ,  $g_i$ 's are assumed to be continuously differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ . Let all the  $g_i$ 's be convex functions, so that  $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$  is convex. Then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a global minimum of  $f$  over  $S$  if there exists nonnegative constants,  $u_i, i \in I$  such that

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i \in I} u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}. \quad (1)$$

**Proof:** Since this problem now becomes the problem of minimizing a convex function over a convex set hence if at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ,  $F_0 \cap D = \phi$  then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum, hence a global minimum of  $f$ .

To show  $F_0 \cap D = \phi$  at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

Let  $\mathbf{d} \in D$ , where  $D$  is the set of feasible directions at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ . If  $D = \phi$  then since  $S$  is convex,  $\mathbf{x}^*$  should be the only point in  $S$  (since for any  $\mathbf{y} \in S$ ,  $(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^*)$  should be a feasible direction at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ), hence  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is the global minimum.

Hence let  $\mathbf{d} \in D \neq \phi$ ,

then  $g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) \leq 0 = g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$  for all  $t$  sufficiently small and for all  $i \in I$ . (\*\*)

But since  $g_i$ 's are convex functions and continuously differentiable for  $i \in I$ ,  
 $g_i(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d}) \geq g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) + t\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d}$  for all  $t$  sufficiently small and for all  $i \in I$ ,  
 which together with (\*\*) implies  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \leq 0$  for all  $i \in I$ .

Since  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i \in I} u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$  has a solution,  
 $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} + \sum_{i \in I} u_i \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{0}$  has a solution, which implies that  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)\mathbf{d} \geq 0$ . Since  $\mathbf{d} \in D$   
 was arbitrary,  $F_0 \cap D = \phi$ .

Note that for a nonconvex function even if  $\mathbf{x}^*$  satisfies the above conditions it may not be a  
 local minimizer. Check this for the following example by taking  $\mathbf{x}^* = (0, 0)$ .

**Example 3:**  $f(x) = -x^2$  for  $x \leq 0$   
 $= x^2$  for  $x \geq 0$ .

In fact any  $x^*$  for which  $\nabla f(x^*) = 0$  and  $x^*$  not a local minima will provide an example.

**Exercise:** Write the KKT conditions for the linear programming problem  
 Min  $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$   
 subject to,  $A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$ .

**Solution:** Note that we have to write the constraints as :  
 $(A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})_i \leq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,  $(-A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})_i \leq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and  $-x_i \leq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Note that  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{c}^T$ ,  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{a}_i^T$  for the first  $m$  constraints,  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = -\mathbf{a}_i^T$  for the next  
 $m$  constraints and  $\nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = -\mathbf{e}_i^T$  for the nonnegativity constraints,  
 where  $\mathbf{a}_i^T$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , is the  $i$  th row of  $A$ , and  $\mathbf{e}_i^T$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , is the  $i$  th row of  $I_n$ ,  
 respectively.

Since all the functions  $f$  and  $g_i$ 's are continuously differentiable, the KKT conditions reduces to

$$\mathbf{c}^T + \sum_{i=1}^m u_i \mathbf{a}_i^T + \sum_{i=1}^m u'_i (-\mathbf{a}_i^T) + \sum_{i=1}^n v_i (-\mathbf{e}_i^T) = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{and } u_i (A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m \quad (2)$$

$$u'_i (-A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m \quad (3)$$

$$v_i x_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (4)$$

where all  $u_i, u'_i, v_i$  are nonnegative.

Conditions (1), (2), (3) and (4) can be rewritten as:

$$\mathbf{c}^T - \mathbf{y}^T A - \mathbf{v}^T = \mathbf{0}, \text{ or } \mathbf{c}^T - \mathbf{y}^T A = \mathbf{v}^T$$

where  $\mathbf{v} = [v_1, \dots, v_n]^T$  is a nonnegative vector,  $y_i = u'_i - u_i$  and  $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_m]^T$ .

$$(A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})_i y_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

$$\text{and } v_i x_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

The above conditions reduces to the dual feasibility and the complementary slackness conditions  
 in a LPP as follows:

$$\mathbf{y}^T A \leq \mathbf{c}^T,$$

$$(A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})_i y_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, m,$$

$$\text{and } (\mathbf{c}^T - \mathbf{y}^T A)_i x_i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

**Conclusion:** Hence from the above derivation we can conclude that  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \text{Fea}(P)$  is optimal  
 for (P) if and only if  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a KKT point of (P).

**Exercise:** What are the FJ points of the above problem?

**Exercise:** Write the KKT conditions for the linear programming problem  
 Min  $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$   
 subject to,  $A\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$ .

**Gordon's Theorem:** Exactly one of the following two systems has a solution:

$$\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^T A = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^T A > \mathbf{0} \quad (2)$$

**Proof:** System (1) has a solution if and only if

$$\mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{u}^T A = \mathbf{0}, \quad \sum_i u_i = 1 \text{ has a solution,}$$

that is the system

$$\mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{u}^T \begin{bmatrix} A \\ e^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ has a solution,}$$

where  $e$  is the vector with all entries equal to 1.

But we already know (Farka's lemma) that exactly one of the following two systems has a solution

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^T A \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{b} < 0 \quad (2)$$

Hence by using this lemma in the previous systems we get that exactly one of the following two systems has a solution

$$\mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{u}^T \begin{bmatrix} A \\ e^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$[\mathbf{y}^T, a] \begin{bmatrix} A \\ e^T \end{bmatrix} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad [\mathbf{y}^T, a] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} < 0 \quad (2)$$

But system (2) reduces to  $\mathbf{y}^T A > (-a)e^T$ , where  $a < 0$ .

But  $\mathbf{y}^T A > (-a)e^T$ ,  $a < 0$  has a solution, if and only if  $\mathbf{y}^T A > \mathbf{0}$  has a solution.

Hence exactly one of the following two systems has a solution

$$\mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{u}^T \begin{bmatrix} A \\ e^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^T A > \mathbf{0} \quad (2)$$

Or exactly one of the following two systems has a solution:

$$\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{u}^T A = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^T A > \mathbf{0} \quad (2)$$