

Computational statistics, lecture 2

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Today's schedule

- Multivariate Optimization
 - Analytical opt.
 - Newton
 - Steepest ascent
 - Quasi-Newton
 - Nelder-Mead

Multivariate optimization – gradient and Hessian

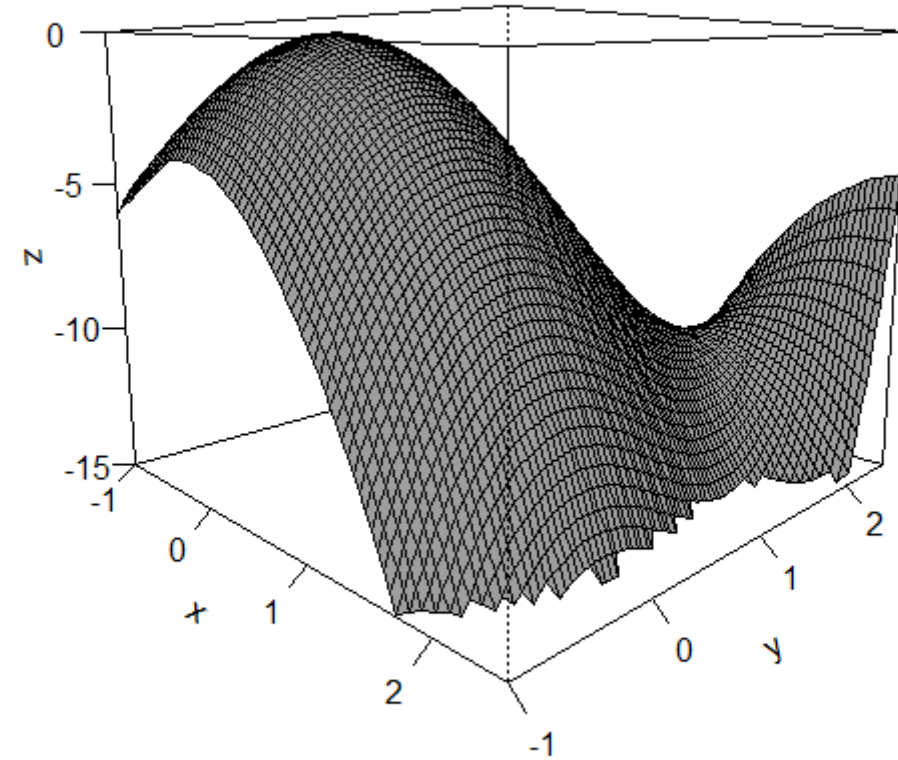
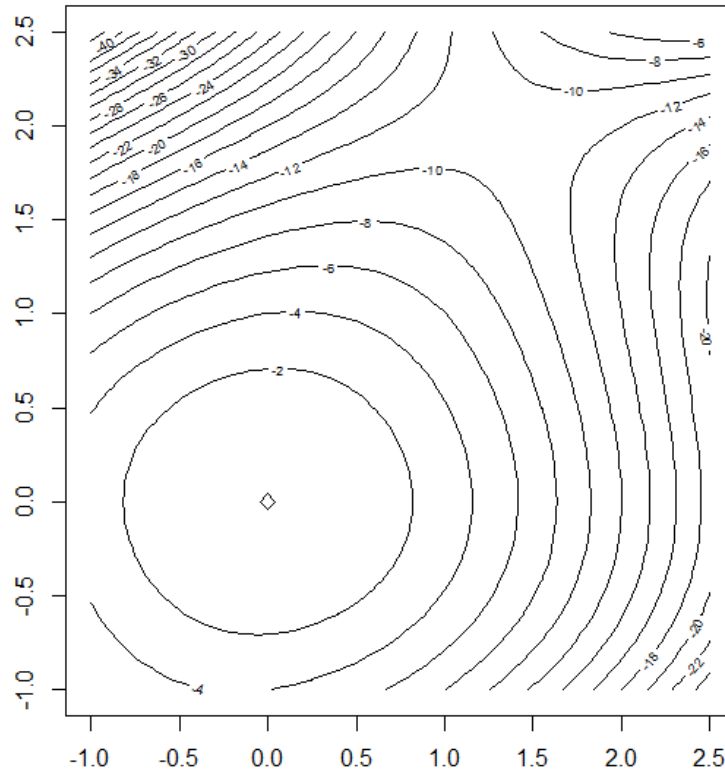
- $g\left(\begin{smallmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ is a real-valued function

- $g'\left(\begin{smallmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{smallmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_p}(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$ is the gradient, $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{pmatrix}$

- $g''\left(\begin{smallmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{smallmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x_1 \partial x_p}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x_p \partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x_p \partial x_p}(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$ is the Hessian matrix

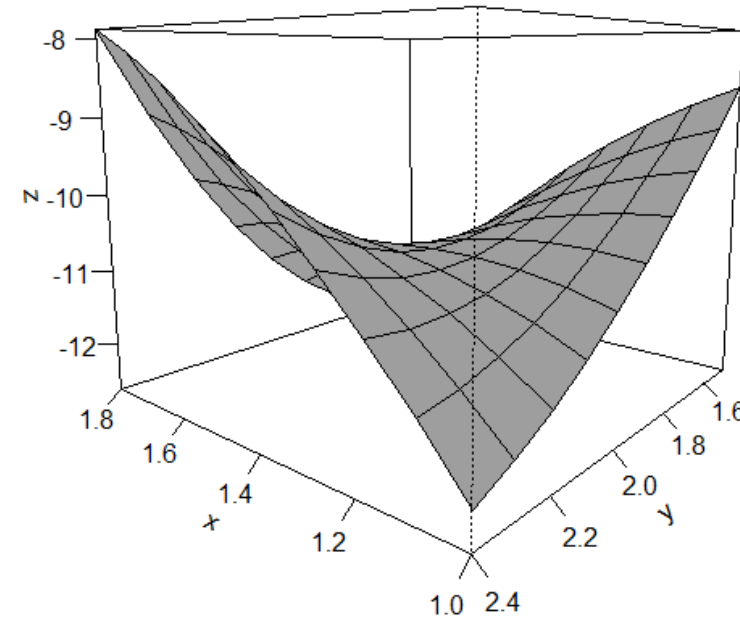
Bivariate optimization – visualization

- $g \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -3x^2 - 4y^2 + xy^3$



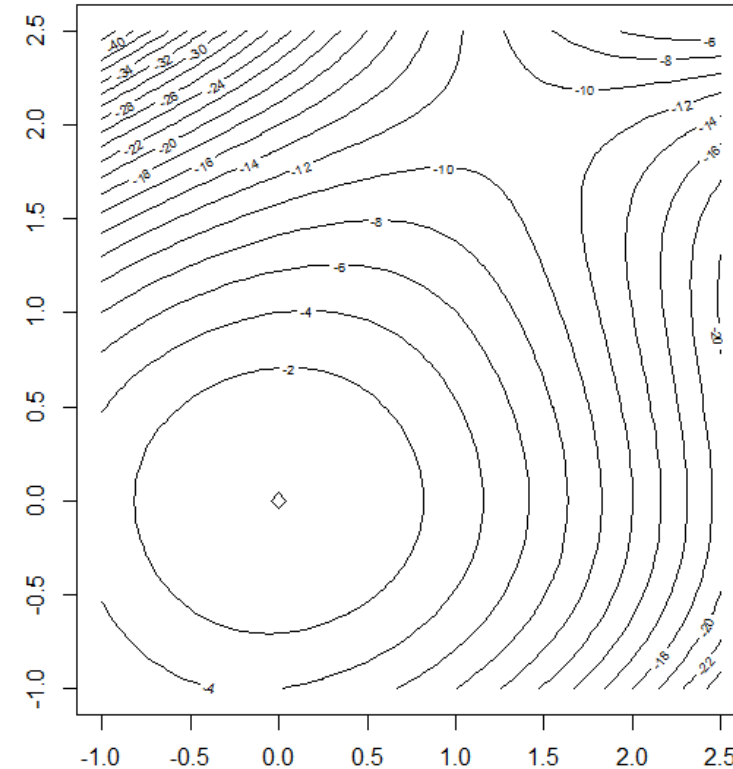
Figures can be drawn using R-core-functions **contour** and **persp**

Multivariate optimization – saddle points



Multivariate optimization – analytical optimization

- $\mathbf{g}\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -3x^2 - 4y^2 + xy^3$
- $\mathbf{g}'\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6x + y^3 \\ -8y + 3xy^2 \end{pmatrix}$
- $\mathbf{g}''\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 3y^2 \\ 3y^2 & -8 + 6xy \end{pmatrix}$
- See calculation in following document:
`CompStat_AnalytOpt.pdf`
- Maximum at (0, 0), saddle point at (4/3, 2)

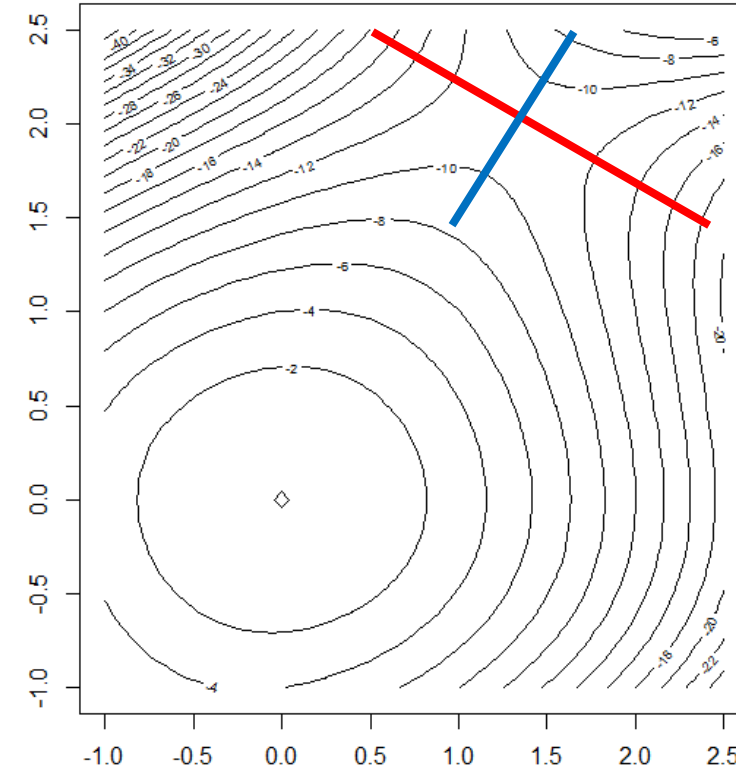


Saddle point and eigenvectors of the Hessian

- $\mathbf{g} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -3x^2 - 4y^2 + xy^3$
- Saddle point at $(4/3, 2)$

- $\mathbf{g}' \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{g}'' \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 12 \\ 12 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$



- Eigenvalues 14.89, -12.89; eigenvectors $\begin{pmatrix} 0.498 \\ 0.867 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} -0.867 \\ 0.498 \end{pmatrix}$

Multivariate Newton

- \mathbf{x} p -dimensional vector, $g: \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ function
 - We search \mathbf{x}^* with $g(\mathbf{x}^*) = \max g(\mathbf{x})$
 - Now, \mathbf{g}' is p -dim. vector and \mathbf{g}'' is $p \times p$ -matrix (“Hessian”)
 - The multivariate version of the Newton method is motivated by the multivariate Taylor expansion
- $$0 = \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^*) \approx \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}) + \mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})(\mathbf{x}^* - \mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$
- The Newton-iteration works as:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \left(\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}) \right)^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

Multivariate Newton

- $\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \left(\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})\right)^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$

- Example:

Let g_1 be the density of $N\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0.6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.6 \end{pmatrix}\right)$, g_2 be density of

$N\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}\right)$, and $g = \frac{g_1 + g_2}{2}$, i.e.

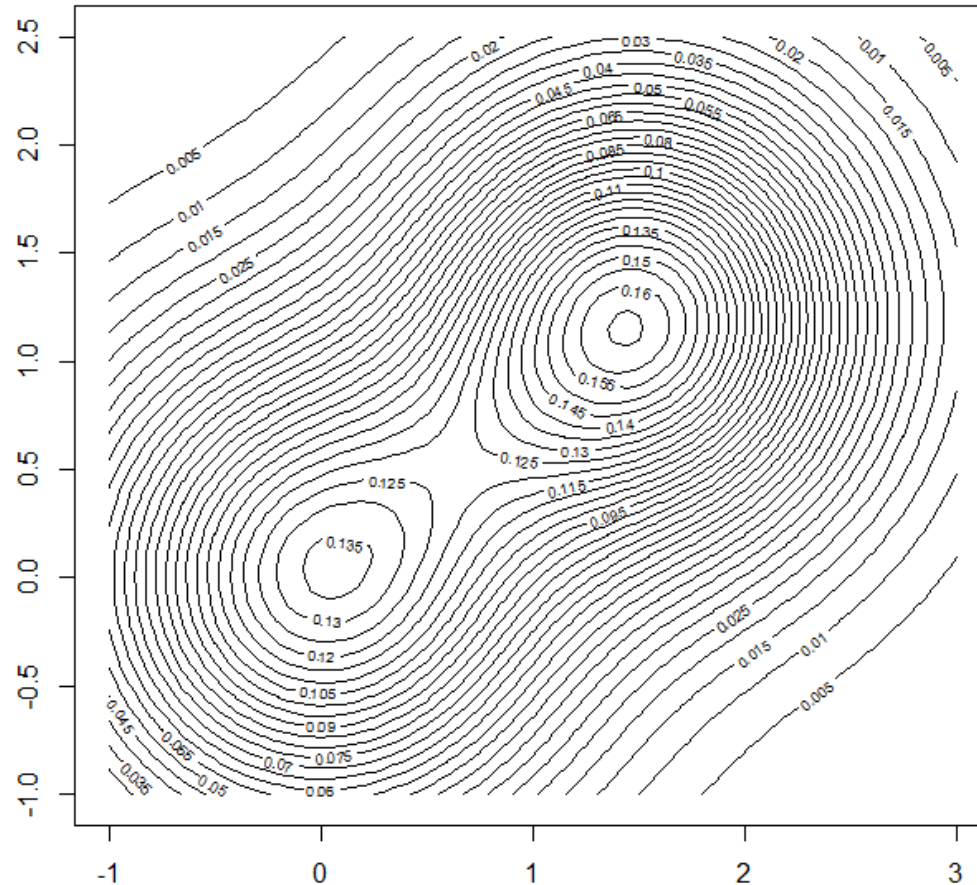
$$g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$$

(g is density of a normal mixture distribution).

- Compute point $\mathbf{x}=(x_1, x_2)$ where density $g(\mathbf{x})$ maximal.

Multivariate Newton

- $g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$



Multivariate Newton

- $\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \left(\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})\right)^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$

- We need \mathbf{g}' and \mathbf{g}'' of

$$g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/(2 \cdot 0.6)} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$$

- $\frac{\partial g}{\partial x_1}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{-2x_1}{1.2 \cdot 0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{-2(x_1 - 1.5)}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$

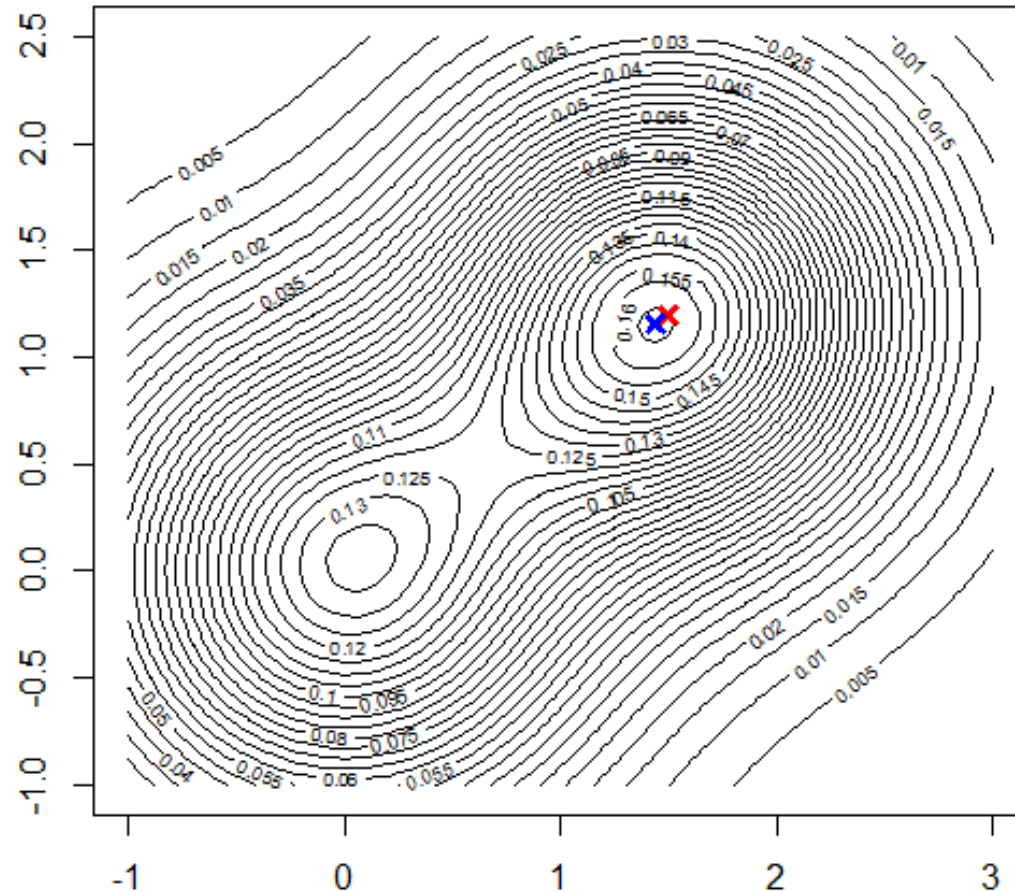
- $\frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{-2x_2}{1.2 \cdot 0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{-2(x_2 - 1.2)}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$

- $\mathbf{g}'(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_1}(x_1, x_2) \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2}(x_1, x_2) \end{pmatrix}$

- $\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial^2 x_1}(x_1, x_2) = \dots; \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}(x_1, x_2) = \dots; \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial^2 x_2}(x_1, x_2) = \dots$ give \mathbf{g}''

Multivariate Newton

- $g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$



- Start with $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.2 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.0153 \\ -0.0123 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.2902 & 0.0306 \\ 0.0306 & -0.3040 \end{pmatrix}$

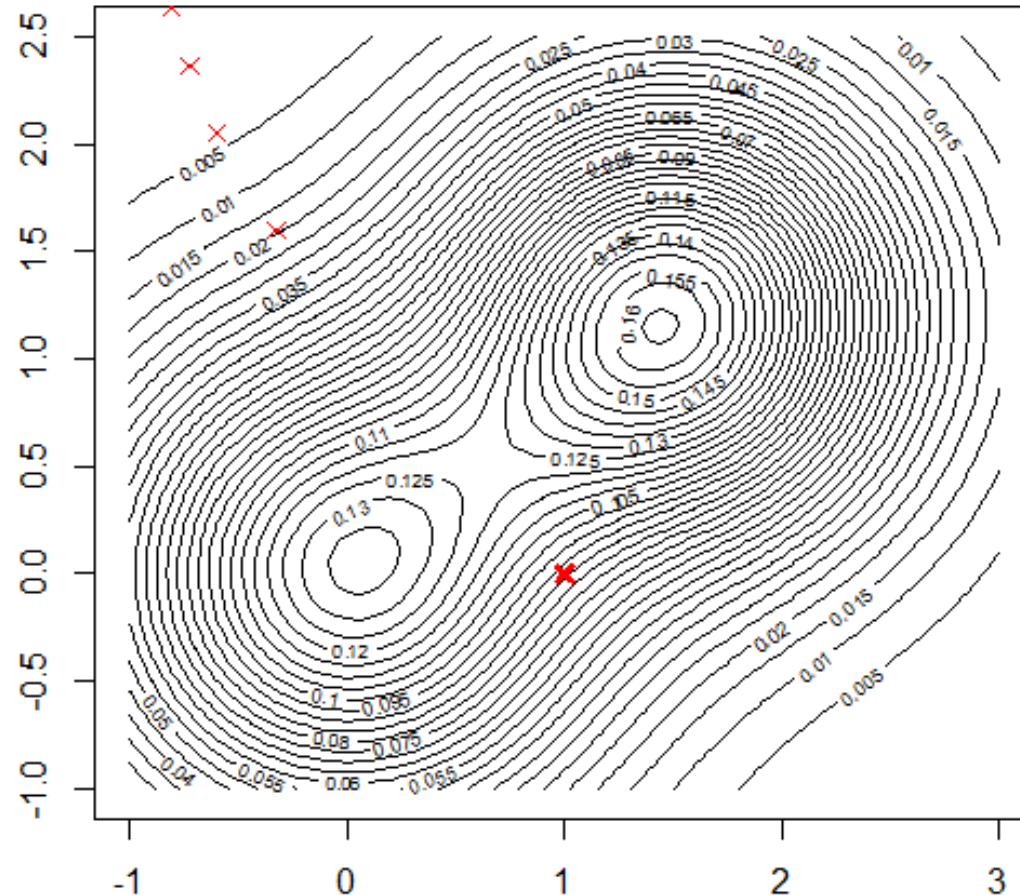
- $\left(\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(0)})\right)^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.058 \\ 0.046 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0.058 \\ 0.046 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.442 \\ 1.154 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(2)} = \mathbf{x}^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1.441 \\ 1.153 \end{pmatrix}$$

Multivariate Newton

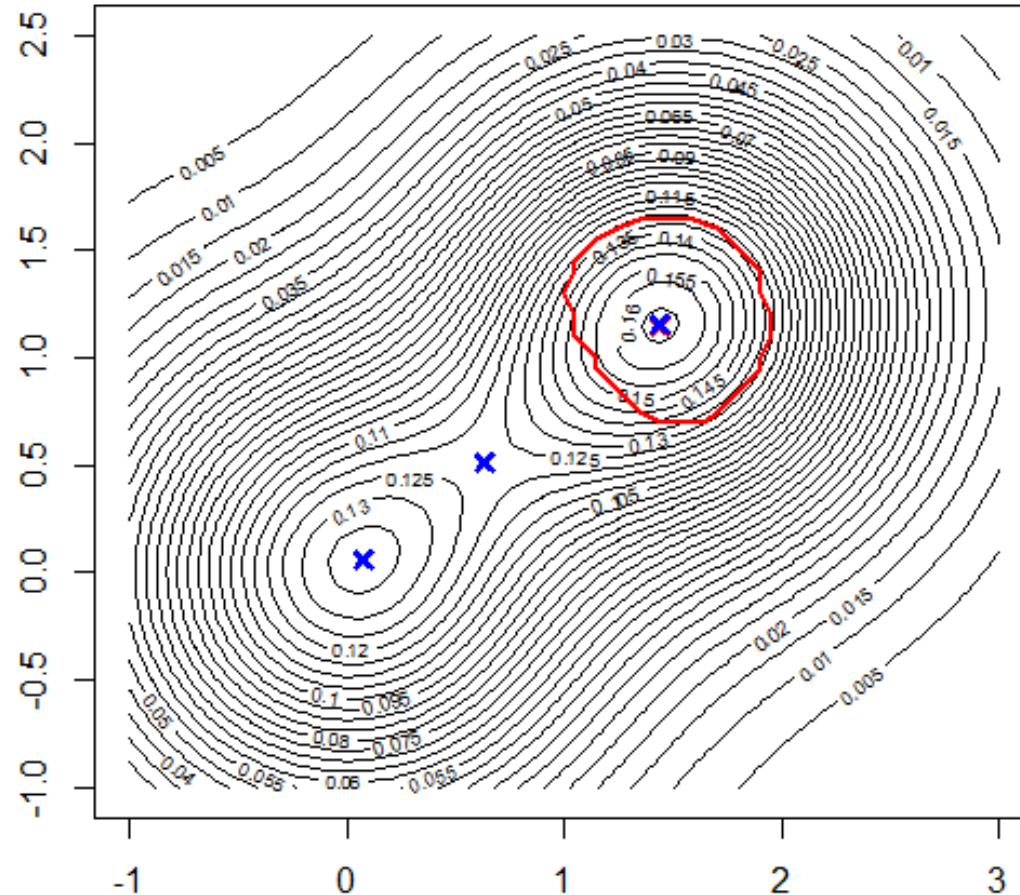
- $g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$



- Start with $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- $\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.0667 \\ +0.0705 \end{pmatrix}$
- $\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.0347 & 0.0705 \\ 0.0705 & 0.0144 \end{pmatrix}$
- $\left(\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(0)})\right)^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1.33 \\ -1.60 \end{pmatrix}$
- $\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1.33 \\ -1.6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -0.33 \\ 1.6 \end{pmatrix}$

Multivariate Newton

- $$g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$$



- Only starting values within the red-marked area converge to the right global maximum
- Convergence very quick
- Other starting values converge to the local maximum or saddle point (both blue-marked) or diverge while searching for a minimum

Stopping criteria

- Stopping criterion e.g. $(\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(t)})^T (\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(t)}) < \epsilon$
- Other stopping criteria:
 - Absolut stopping criterion, $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(t)}\| < \epsilon$,
 - Relative stopping criterion, $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(t)}\| / \|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)}\| < \epsilon$,
 - Modified rel. stopping crit., $\frac{\|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(t)}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)}\| + \epsilon} < \epsilon$
 - Different norms $\|\cdot\|$ can be used

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 - **Steepest ascent**
 - Quasi-Newton
 - Nelder-Mead

Steepest ascent method

- When using Newton, it is not guaranteed that $g(x)$ increases in each step
- To compute the Hessian \mathbf{g}'' can be difficult
- A method forcing improvements in each step is the steepest ascent method

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \underbrace{\left(\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}) \right)^{-1}}_{\downarrow} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$
$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \alpha^{(t)} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

- Other choices instead \mathbf{I} in formula above possible
- We know that g will increase for small α

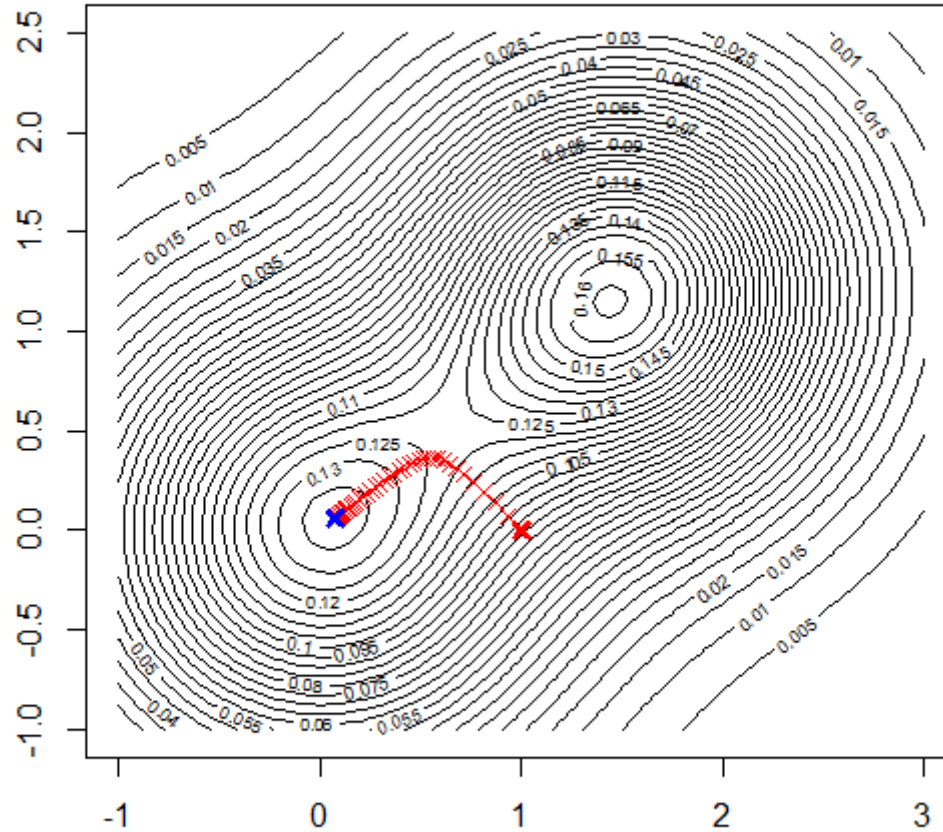
Backtracking line search (for steepest ascent)

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \alpha^{(t)} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

- We know that g will increase for small α
- Try $\alpha^{(t)} = \alpha_0$ first, where α_0 could be set to 1.
- If g decreases, half $\alpha^{(t)}$ until $g(\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)})$ increases (backtracking)
- For the next iteration, either set $\alpha^{(t+1)} = \alpha_0$, or use the reduced α , $\alpha^{(t+1)} = \alpha^{(t)}$ and check again if backtracking is necessary
- More sophisticated is to search α such that g becomes maximal

Steepest ascent

- $g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$



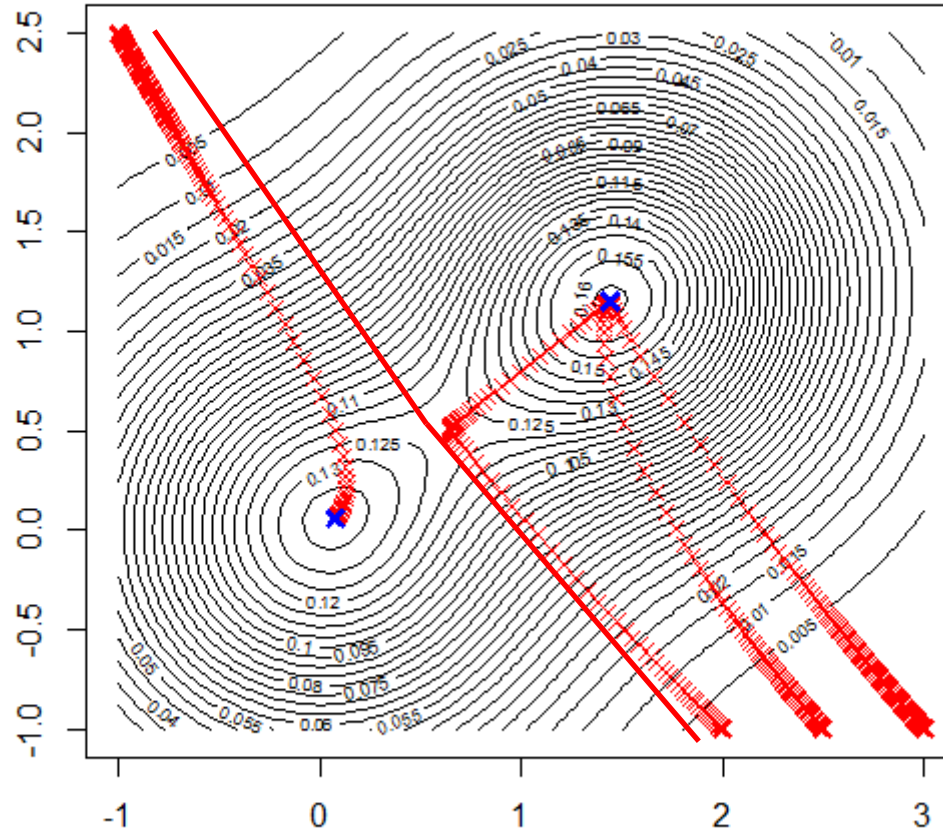
- Start with $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.0667 \\ +0.0705 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \alpha^{(0)} \begin{pmatrix} -0.0667 \\ +0.0705 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.9333 \\ 0.0705 \end{pmatrix}$

Steepest ascent

$$g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{0.6} e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)/1.2} + \frac{1}{0.5} e^{-((x_1 - 1.5)^2 + (x_2 - 1.2)^2)} \right)$$



- Start with $x^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2.5 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2.5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$
- All these paths converge to either the global or local maximum
- Convergence is much slower than for Newton
- Depending on convergence criterion and backtracking rule, convergence not always guaranteed

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Quasi-Newton

- Steepest ascent and Newton method have iteration

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - (\mathbf{M}^{(t)})^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

with $\mathbf{M}^{(t)} = \mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$ for the Newton method and

with $(\mathbf{M}^{(t)})^{-1} = -\alpha^{(t)} \mathbf{I}$ for the steepest ascent method

- Disadvantage of Newton: Need to calculate Hessian $\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$ in each iteration
- Disadvantage of steepest ascent: No information about curvature used
- We can monitor the computed gradients $\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$ and their change gives information about the curvature of g

Quasi-Newton

- Steepest ascent and Newton method have iteration $\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - (\mathbf{M}^{(t)})^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$
- Newton ($\mathbf{M}^{(t)} = \mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$) was motivated with the multidimensional Taylor expansion

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^*) \approx \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}) + \mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})(\mathbf{x}^* - \mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

or

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^*) - \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}) \approx \mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})(\mathbf{x}^* - \mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

- Use approximations $\mathbf{M}^{(t+1)}$ to $\mathbf{g}''(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$ fulfilling this when \mathbf{x}^* replaced by $\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)}$:

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)}) - \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})}_{\mathbf{y}^{(t)}} = \mathbf{M}^{(t+1)} \underbrace{(\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(t)})}_{\mathbf{z}^{(t)}}$$

- This condition is called **secant condition**; there are multiple solutions to this condition; Broyden, Fletcher, Goldfarb, and Shanno (**BFGS**) solution:

$$\mathbf{M}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{M}^{(t)} - \frac{\mathbf{M}^{(t)} \mathbf{z}^{(t)} (\mathbf{M}^{(t)} \mathbf{z}^{(t)})^T}{\mathbf{z}^{(t)T} \mathbf{M}^{(t)} \mathbf{z}^{(t)}} + \frac{\mathbf{y}^{(t)} \mathbf{y}^{(t)T}}{\mathbf{y}^{(t)T} \mathbf{z}^{(t)}}$$

Quasi-Newton

- BFGS (quasi-Newton) method has iteration $\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - (\mathbf{M}^{(t)})^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$
with
$$\mathbf{M}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{M}^{(t)} - \frac{\mathbf{M}^{(t)} \mathbf{z}^{(t)} (\mathbf{M}^{(t)} \mathbf{z}^{(t)})^T}{\mathbf{z}^{(t)T} \mathbf{M}^{(t)} \mathbf{z}^{(t)}} + \frac{\mathbf{y}^{(t)} \mathbf{y}^{(t)T}}{\mathbf{y}^{(t)T} \mathbf{z}^{(t)}}$$

- Initial $\mathbf{M}^{(1)}$ can be set e.g. to the identity matrix
- Ascent not ensured but backtracking can be used to ensure it:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \alpha^{(t)} (\mathbf{M}^{(t)})^{-1} \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

- The **R** function `optim` includes the quasi-Newton BFGS
- Convergence of quasi-Newton methods usually faster than linear but slower than quadratic

Convergence order for deterministic algorithms

- Recall: Convergence order and convergence rate

$$\frac{\{g(\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)}) - g(\mathbf{x}^*)\}}{\{g(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}) - g(\mathbf{x}^*)\}^q} \rightarrow c \quad (\text{for } t \rightarrow \infty)$$

- q is convergence order ($q=1$, $0 < c < 1$ linear; $q=2$, $0 < c < 1$ quadratic)
- c is convergence rate
- Under certain assumption, we have following orders:

Uni-dimensional	Bisection order = roughly 1*		Secant order = $(1 + \sqrt{5})/2$	Newton order = 2
Multi-dimensional		Steepest ascent order = 1	Quasi-Newton order $> 1^{**}$	Newton order = 2

*strictly, the above criterion cannot be proven for bisection

**criterion above fulfilled for $q=1$ and $c=0$; “superlinear”

Convergence speed for an example function

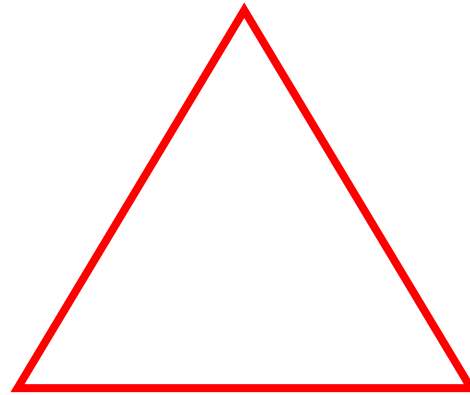
- The convergence of BFGS and Newton can be extremely fast in praxis compared to steepest ascent/descent
- Example from Nocedal and Wright (2006), chapter 6: Rosenbrock function $g(\mathbf{x}) = 100(x_2 - x_1^2)^2 + (1 - x_1)^2$, starting point $(-1.2, 1)$, minimum at $(1,1)$.

#iterations until error $< 10^{-5}$:

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| • Steepest descent | 5264 |
| • BFGS | 34 |
| • Newton | 21 |

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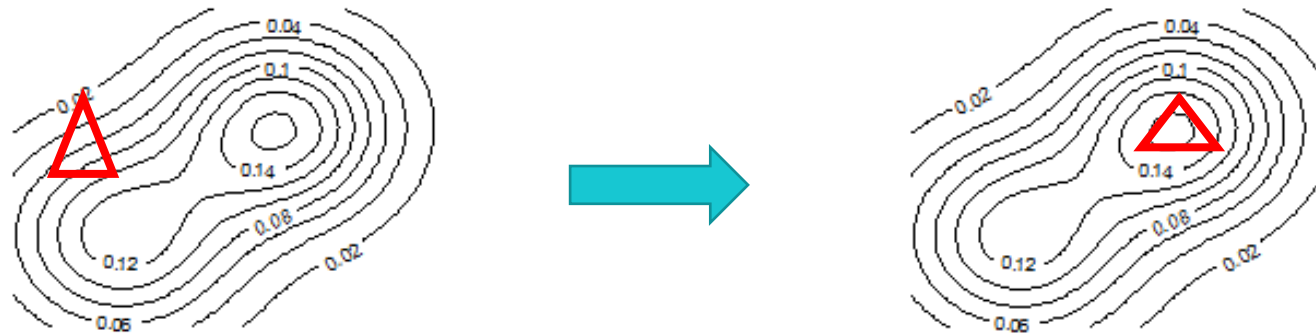


Nelder-Mead algorithm

- \mathbf{x} p -dimensional vector, $g: \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ function
- We search \mathbf{x}^* with $g(\mathbf{x}^*) = \max g(\mathbf{x})$
- Nelder-Mead method is heuristic method for p -dimensional optimization problem (default in **R**-function **optim**)
- Advantage/disadvantages:
 - + No computation of derivatives necessary
 - No theoretical guarantee for convergence (counter examples exist)
 - Might be slow
- Works often well, especially if p not too large

Nelder-Mead algorithm

- Idea: Work with simplex of $p+1$ points; i.e. for two-dimensional cases: triangle
- Aim that triangle includes maximum
- Choose arbitrary starting triangle
- Change vertices to "move the triangle upwards"



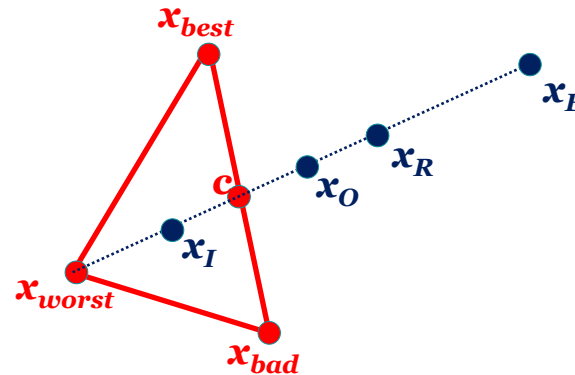
- Two animations:
 - https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/96/Nelder_Mead2.gif
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEGSLQ6TlBM>

Nelder-Mead algorithm

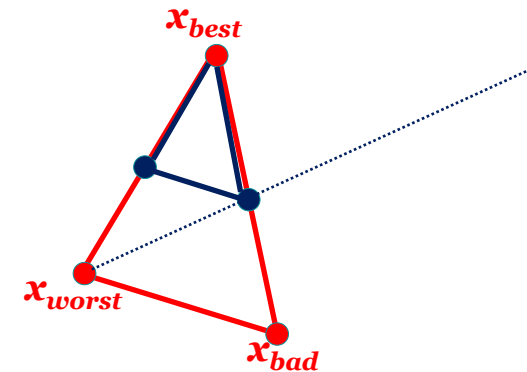
- Identify worst vertex \mathbf{x}_{worst} ($g(\mathbf{x}_{worst})$ minimal among all vertices) and compute average \mathbf{c} of remaining vertices
- Let \mathbf{x}_{best} be best and \mathbf{x}_{bad} be second worst vertex
- Rules for
 - Reflection
 - Expansion
 - Outer contraction
 - Inner contraction
 - Shrinkage

Nelder-Mead algorithm

- Replace \mathbf{x}_{worst} with one of \mathbf{x}_I , \mathbf{x}_O , \mathbf{x}_R , \mathbf{x}_E (rule depends on values for $g(\mathbf{x}_{worst})$, $g(\mathbf{x}_{bad})$, $g(\mathbf{x}_{best})$, $g(\mathbf{x}_I)$, $g(\mathbf{x}_O)$, $g(\mathbf{x}_R)$, $g(\mathbf{x}_E)$; see Givens and Hoeting, page 47-48; Gentle, page 273) and create new simplex/triangle

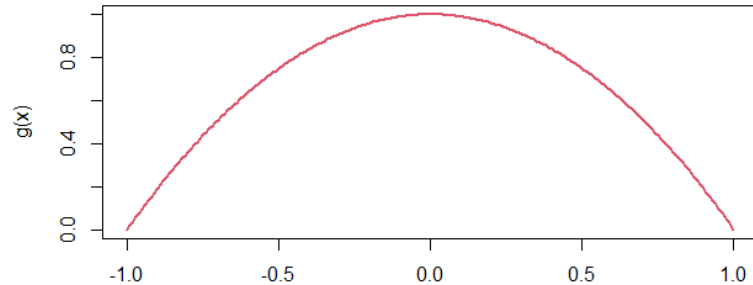


- Or in specific cases: Shrink (keep \mathbf{x}_{best} and move all other vertices towards it)
- Another animation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2gcuRVbwRo>

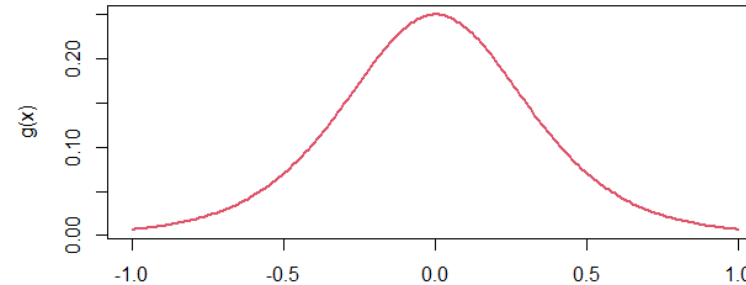


Convexity / Concavity and log likelihood

- Function g concave, if $g((\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{y})/2) \geq (g(\mathbf{x}) + g(\mathbf{y}))/2$ for all \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}



x
concave



x
non-concave

- If g is concave, a local maximum is a global maximum
- Log likelihood for exponential families is concave
- Log likelihoods can be non-concave (e.g. Cauchy-distribution in Lab1 Q1)
- Deep learning optimization problems are often non-concave / non-convex and have multiple local extrema