

## Optimization Problems

**Standard Form:**

$$\begin{aligned} \min. & f_0(x) \quad \text{wrt. } x \in \mathbb{R} \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) \leq 0, \quad i=1, \dots, m \\ & h_j(x) = 0, \quad j=1, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

Implicit:  $x$  in all domains (or use extended value functions).

**Globally optimal:**  $p^* = \inf_x \{f_0(x) \mid f_i(x) \leq 0, h_j(x) = 0\}$ .  
 $p^* = \infty$  if infeasible,  $p^* = -\infty$  if unbounded below.

**Locally optimal:**  $f_0(x) \leq f_0(y) \quad \forall y \in \|x-y\|_2 \leq R$

**Feasibility Problem:**

$$\begin{aligned} \min. & 0 \quad \text{wrt } x \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) \leq 0, h_i(x) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$p^* = 0$  & any  $x$  satisfying constraint is optimal, else  $p^* = \infty$ .

**Equivalent Problems:** Can go from solution of one to another.

**Change of Variables:** For invertible  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \quad \phi(z) = x$ ,

$$\min. f_0(\phi(z)) \quad \text{wrt. } z$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(\phi(z)) \leq 0, \quad h_i(\phi(z)) = 0 \quad \text{is equivalent.}$$

$x^* = \phi'(z^*)$  to recover optimal  $x$ .

**Function Composition:**

$$\min. \psi_0(f_0(x)) \quad \text{w.r.t. } x$$

$$\text{s.t. } \psi_i(f_i(x)) \leq 0, \quad \psi_j(h_j(x)) = 0$$

is equiv. if:  $\psi_0$  is strictly monotone increasing,

$$\psi_i(z) \leq 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad z \leq 0$$

$$\psi_j(z) = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad z = 0$$

$x^*$  is also optimal for old problem.

**Slack Variables:**  $f_i(x) \leq 0$  iff  $\exists s_i \geq 0$   $f_i(x) + s_i = 0$

$$\min. f_0(x) \quad \text{wrt. } x, s_i$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(x) + s_i = 0, \quad h_i(x) = 0.$$

$x^*$  optimal for old problem.

unlike change of vars,  
this does not need  
to be invertible.

**Eliminate Equality Constraint:** If  $\exists \phi: \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.  $x = \phi(z)$

parameterizes feasible  $x$  that satisfy equality constraints,

$$\min. f_0(\phi(z)) \quad \text{wrt. } z$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(\phi(z)) \leq 0$$

is equivalent, and  $x^* = \phi(z^*)$ .

$$\text{eg: } \min. f_0(x) \quad \text{wrt. } x$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(x) \leq 0$$

$$Ax = b.$$

$\Rightarrow$  Find one  $x_0$  s.t.  $Ax_0 = b$ . Let  $R(F) = N(A)$ .

$$\Rightarrow \min. f_0(Fz + x_0) \quad \text{wrt. } z$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(Fz + x_0) \leq 0$$

is equivalent,  $x^* = Fz^* + x_0$

**Optimize Out Variables:**  $\inf_{x,y} f(x,y) = \inf_x \tilde{f}(x) = \inf_x \left[ \inf_y f(x,y) \right]$

**Epigraph Form:** Do the optimization in "graph space".

$$\min. t \quad \text{wrt. } x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_0(x) \leq t$$

$$f_i(x) \leq 0, \quad h_i(x) = 0.$$

use  $x^*$  in optimum  $(x^*, t^*)$

