



JOHNS HOPKINS  
WHITING SCHOOL  
of ENGINEERING



# Introduction to Neural Networks

Johns Hopkins University  
Engineering for Professionals Program  
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Dr. Mark Fleischer

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Module 2.3: Mathematical Review-Calculus Based Optimization



## This Sub-Module Covers ...

- Calculus-based optimization methods and related material:
  - First order necessary conditions.
  - Second order sufficiency conditions.
  - Definition of convexity.
- Sets the stage for further mathematical review by exploring Metric Spaces in the next sub-module.



# First-Order Necessary Conditions

**TFAE**

$$\frac{df(x^*)}{dx} = 0$$

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

$$\forall \mathbf{d}, \quad \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) \cdot \mathbf{d} = 0$$

There exists a  $t' > 0$ , such that for all  $t$ , where  $0 < t < t'$ , and for all non-zero vectors  $\mathbf{d}$

$$(\exists t' > 0, \exists \forall 0 < t < t' \wedge \mathbf{d} > \mathbf{0}),$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}^*) < f(\mathbf{x}^* + t\mathbf{d})$$

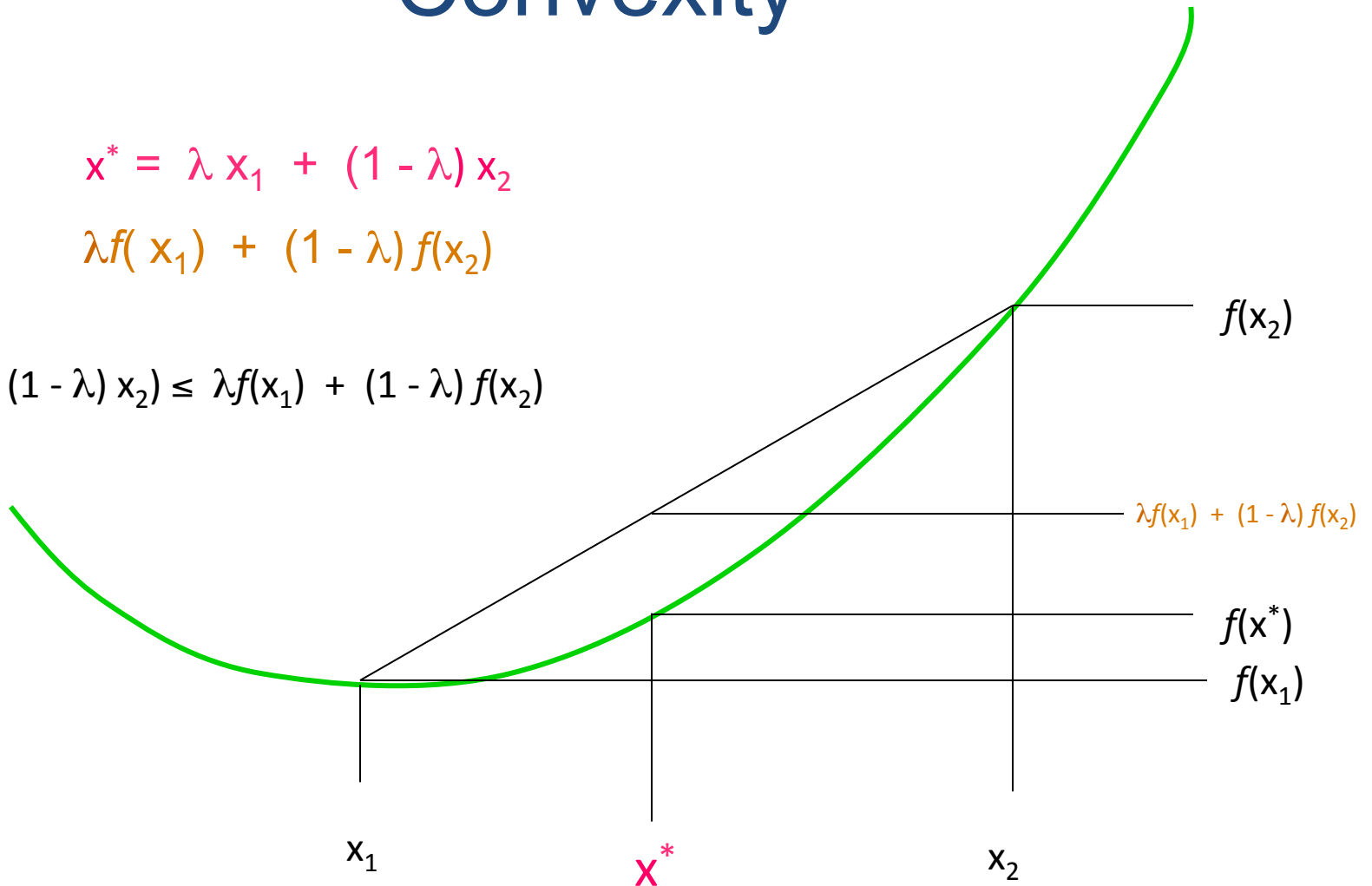


# Convexity

$$x^* = \lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda) x_2$$

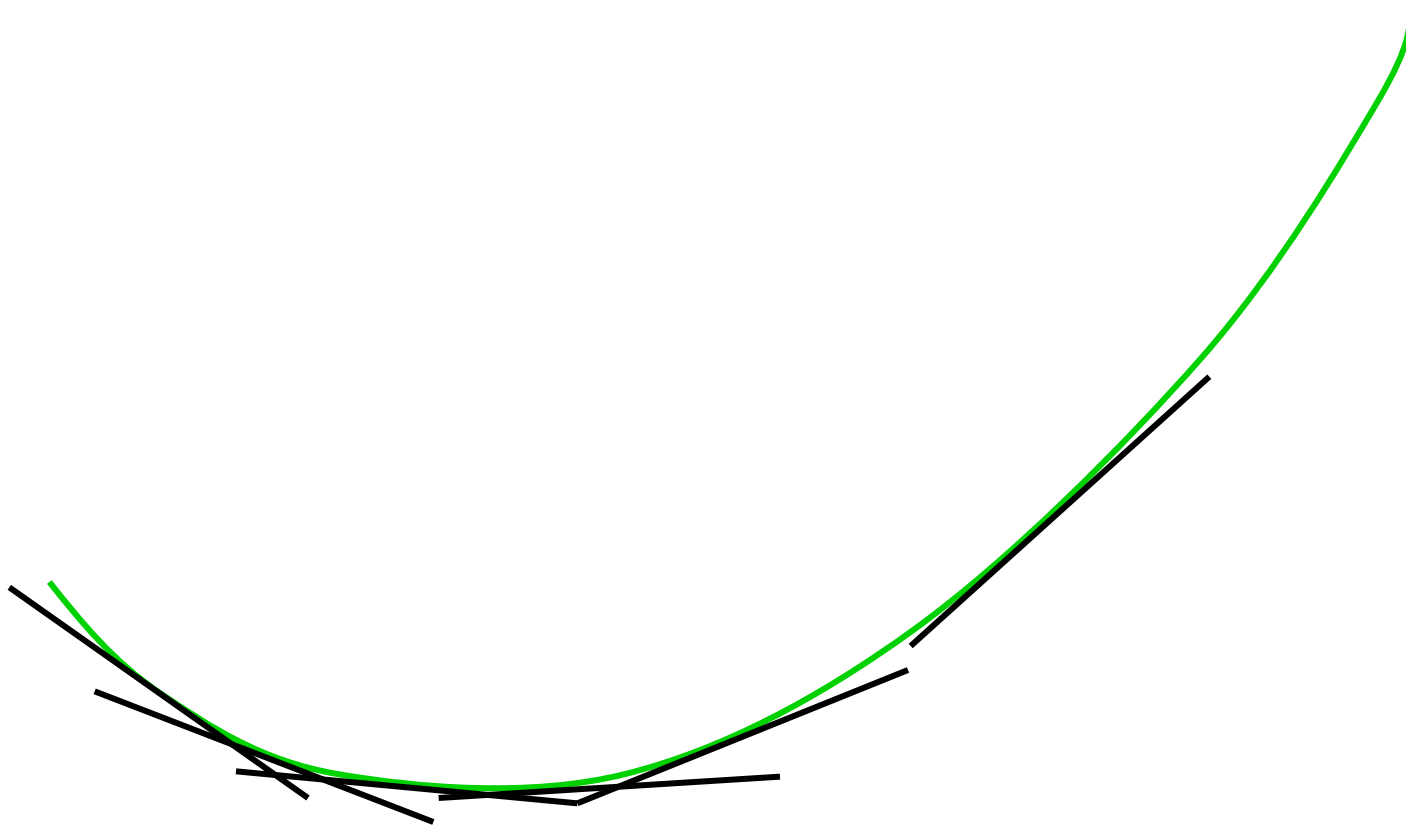
$$\lambda f(x_1) + (1 - \lambda) f(x_2)$$

$$f(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda) x_2) \leq \lambda f(x_1) + (1 - \lambda) f(x_2)$$





# Second Derivatives





# Second-Order Sufficiency Conditions

## TFAE (for determining minima)

1. All **second** derivatives are positive
2. All points in a tangent plane (or hyperplane) have function values less than or equal to the objective function value.
3. The function is convex.

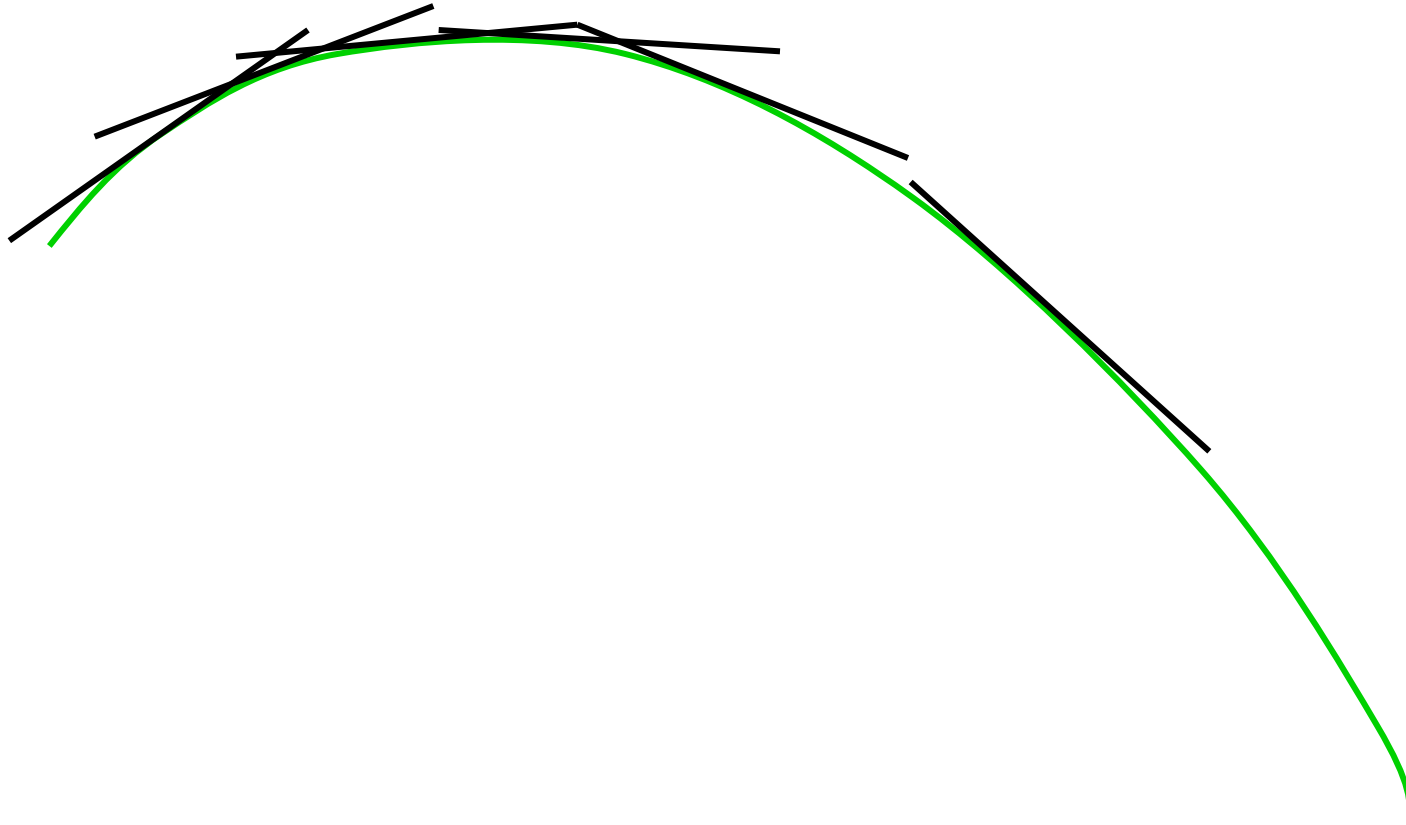
Item 1:

$$d^2y/dx^2 = f''(x^*) > 0$$

The Hessian Matrix  $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x})$  is positive definite,  
*i.e.*, for all  $R^n$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x} \geq 0$ :



# Second Derivatives





# Second-Order Sufficiency Conditions

## TFAE (for determining minima)

1. All second derivatives are positive
2. All points in a tangent plane (or hyperplane) have function values less than or equal to the objective function value.
3. The objective function is convex.

Item 2:

$$2. \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^* \in R^n,$$

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

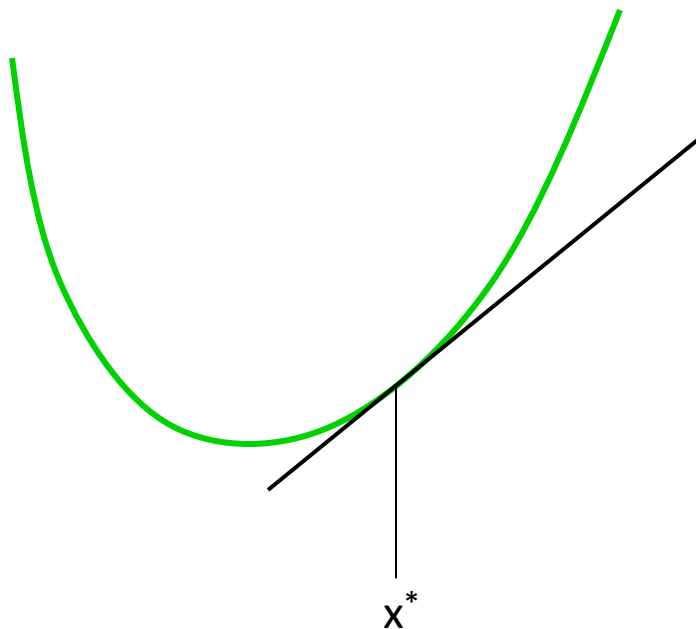




## Item 2: Tangent Plane

2.  $\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

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



$$f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*)(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*)$$

$$= f(\mathbf{x}^*) + m(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*)$$

$$= f(\mathbf{x}^*) + m\mathbf{x} - m\mathbf{x}^*$$

$$= m\mathbf{x} + [f(\mathbf{x}^*) - m\mathbf{x}^*]$$

$$= m\mathbf{x} + b$$



# Second-Order Sufficiency Conditions

## TFAE (for determining minima)

1. All second derivatives are positive
2. All points in a tangent plane (or hyperplane) have function values less than or equal to the objective function value.
3. The objective function is convex.

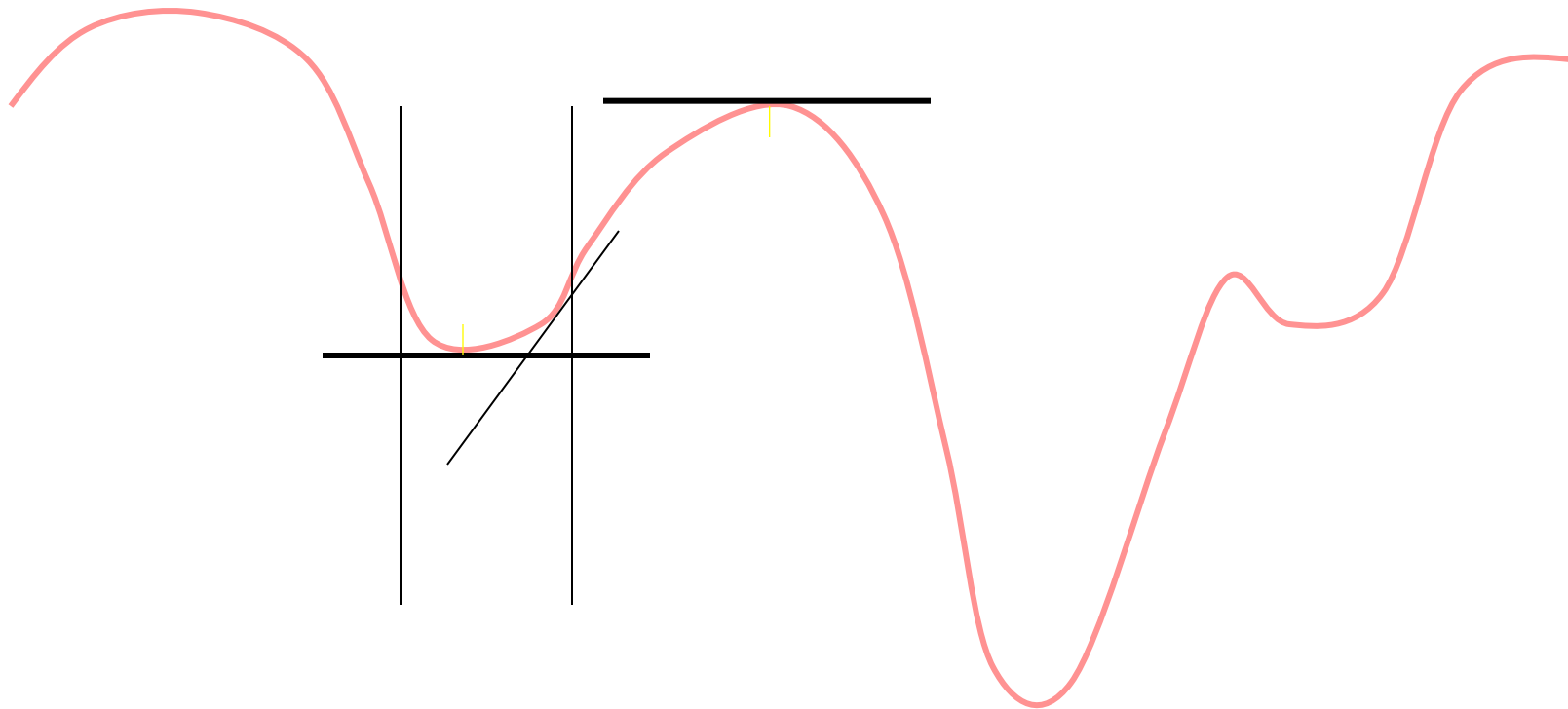
Item 3:

$$3. \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^* \in R^n \text{ and } 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1,$$

$$\lambda f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \lambda)f(\mathbf{x}^*) \geq f(\lambda \mathbf{x} + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{x}^*).$$



# Calculus Based Optimization





# Example

Suppose we want to minimize the function:

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1x_2 - 6x_1 - 3x_2 + 18$$

Taking all partial derivatives, we see that:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} = x_2 - 6 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} = x_1 - 3 = 0$$

$$x_1 = 3; x_2 = 6$$



## Example

To show that it is a minimum, it is *sufficient* to show that one of the three second-order sufficiency conditions holds. Using the condition in item 2, we see that the equation for the tangent plane at say point (4,3) is:

Remembering that

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} = x_2 - 6 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} = x_1 - 3 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_P(x_1, x_2) &= f(4, 3) + \nabla f(4, 3) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - 4 \\ x_2 - 3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -3 + (-3, 1) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - 4 \\ x_2 - 3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -3 - 3(x_1 - 4) + 1(x_2 - 3) \\ &= -3x_1 + x_2 + 6 \end{aligned}$$



## Example

Now consider any point  $(x_1, x_2)$  and compare the value of  $f_P$  with the objective function value  $f$ . For example, at point  $(0,0)$  the value of  $f_P = 6$ . For the objective function,  $f(0,0) = 18$ . Since the relationship between the objective function and tangent plane holds as item 2 above, it *suggests* that the second-order conditions hold. To establish this however requires that we prove this relation holds for *all* points  $(x_1, x_2)$ . Can you prove that they do?

Remembering that  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1x_2 - 6x_1 - 3x_2 + 18$

$$\begin{aligned} f_P(x_1, x_2) &= f(4, 3) + \nabla f(4, 3) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - 4 \\ x_2 - 3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -3 + (-3, 1) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - 4 \\ x_2 - 3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -3 - 3(x_1 - 4) + 1(x_2 - 3) \\ &= -3x_1 + x_2 + 6 \end{aligned}$$



# Taylor's Theorem

## Single variable case

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= a_0 + a_1(x - x_0) + a_2(x - x_0)^2 \dots \\ &= \boxed{f(x_0) + (x - x_0)f'(x_0)} + \frac{1}{2!}(x - x_0)^2 f''(x_0) \dots \end{aligned}$$

## Multi - variable case

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= a_0 + a_1(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) + a_2(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^2 \dots \\ &= \boxed{f(\mathbf{x}_0) + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)\nabla f(\mathbf{x}_0)} + \frac{1}{2!}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^T \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) \dots \end{aligned}$$



# Mathematical Review

So far we've reviewed:

- Basic Vector/Matrix operations: inner, outer products
- Linear Independence
- Differential calculus
- Partial Differentiation,
- Directional Derivatives  $\nabla f(x, y, z) \cdot \mathbf{d} = \|\nabla f(x, y, z)\| \times \|\mathbf{d}\| \times \cos \theta$
- Gradient vector  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = (\partial f(\mathbf{x})/\partial x_1, \partial f(\mathbf{x})/\partial x_2, \dots, \partial f(\mathbf{x})/\partial x_n)$
- First order necessary conditions, Second order sufficiency conditions

In the next sub-modules we will review:

- Metric Spaces:
  - Distance and Magnitude of vectors, matrices
  - Definitional requirements of “norms”
    - **Positivity, homogeneity, Triangle Inequality**