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MATH 565 Continuous Optimization
Midterm Exam

1. (a) Derive an expression for the gradient ∇f .

In order to derive an expression for ∇f we must compute all the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k}$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y_k}$ for all $1 \leq k \leq N$.

In order to compute these partial derivatives, I will first rewrite f in a way that separates the x_k and y_k terms.

$$f(\underline{x}) = \left((x_k - x_k)^2 + (y_k - y_k)^2 - d_{kk}^2 \right)^2 + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right)^2 \\ + \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^N \left((x_i - x_k)^2 + (y_i - y_k)^2 - d_{ik}^2 \right)^2 + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^N \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^N \left((x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 - d_{ij}^2 \right)^2$$

By noting that $(x_i - x_k)^2 = (x_k - x_i)^2$ and that $d_{ik} = d_{ki}$, this can be simplified to

$$f(\underline{x}) = d_{kk}^4 + 2 \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right)^2 + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^N \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^N \left((x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 - d_{ij}^2 \right)^2.$$

Now the partial derivatives of this can be taken easily note that the first and last terms don't contain x_k or y_k . The partial derivatives are

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} = 8 \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^N \left(\left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_k} = 8 \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^N \left(\left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (y_k - y_j) \right)$$

When $j = k$ the terms of these sums are zero, so these can also be expressed as

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} = 8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_k} = 8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (y_k - y_j) \right).$$

Now the gradient of f can be written using these partial derivatives, as follows

$$\underline{\nabla f(\underline{x})} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_N} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_N} \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Derive an expression for the Hessian $\underline{\underline{\nabla^2 f}}$.

The Hessian for this function requires finding all possible partial second derivatives. There are several possible different partial second derivatives. They are $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k^2}$, $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_k^2}$, $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial y_k}$, $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial x_i}$, $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_k \partial y_i}$, and $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial y_i}$, where $k \neq i$.

First I will compute $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k^2}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_k^2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N (x_k - x_j)^3 + \left((y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ &= 8 \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left((x_k - x_j)^3 \right) + \left((y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} ((x_k - x_j)) \\ &= 8 \sum_{j=1}^N 3(x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_k^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (y_k - y_j) \right) \\ &= 8 \sum_{j=1}^N (x_k - x_j)^2 + 3(y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Next I will compute $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial y_k}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial y_k} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ &= 8 \sum_{j=1}^N (x_k - x_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k} \left((y_k - y_j)^2 \right) \\ &= 16 \sum_{j=1}^N (x_k - x_j) (y_k - y_j)\end{aligned}$$

Thirdly I will compute $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial x_i}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_k \partial y_i}$, for $i \neq k$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial x_i} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(8 \left((x_k - x_i)^2 + (y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) (x_k - x_i) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(8(x_k - x_i)^3 + 8 \left((y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) (x_k - x_i) \right) \\ &= -24(x_k - x_i)^2 - 8 \left((y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) \\ &= -8 \left((x_k - x_i)^2 + (y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_k \partial y_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (y_k - y_j) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left(8 \left((x_k - x_i)^2 + (y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) (y_k - y_i) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left(8 \left((x_k - x_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) (y_k - y_i) + (y_k - y_i)^3 \right) \\ &= -8 \left((x_k - x_i)^2 + 3(y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) y_i\end{aligned}$$

Lastly I will compute $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial y_i}$ for $i \neq k$. Note that this is equivalent to $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_i \partial x_k}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial y_i} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left(8 \sum_{j=1}^N \left((x_k - x_j)^2 + (y_k - y_j)^2 - d_{kj}^2 \right) (x_k - x_j) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left(8 \left((x_k - x_i)^2 + (y_k - y_i)^2 - d_{ki}^2 \right) (x_k - x_i) \right) \\ &= -16(x_k - x_i)(y_k - y_i)\end{aligned}$$

Now with all these partial derivatives the Hessian can be shown as a matrix of partial deriva-

tives.

$$\underline{\underline{\nabla^2 f}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_N} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial y_N} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial x_N} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial y_N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N \partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N \partial y_N} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N \partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N \partial x_N} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\underline{\nabla^2 f}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial y_N} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial y_N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_N \partial y_N} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N \partial x_N} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_N^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) Prove that the Hessian, $\underline{\underline{\nabla^2 f}}$ is symmetric positive definite for all $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{2N}$.

Proof.

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