

Unconstrained Minimization (continue)

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Student:

Problem 1

Please prove or disprove that the set of all interior points of a convex set C is a convex set.

Problem 2

In the book [1], we use the composition rules for convex functions to prove that the sum of log-convex functions is log-convex function. Now, we need you to prove this conclusion by definition of log-concave functions.

That is, if $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are two log-convex functions, for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$, $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$(f + g)(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}) \leq (f + g)^\alpha(\mathbf{x}) \cdot (f + g)^{(1-\alpha)}(\mathbf{y}) \quad (1)$$

(Hints: first prove Hölder inequality and thus use Hölder inequality to prove the above conclusion.)

Problem 3

Consider following unconstrained optimization problems:

$$\min f(\mathbf{x}) = - \sum_{i=1}^m \log(1 - a_i^T \mathbf{x}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \log(1 - x_i^2) \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{x} \in R^n$, and $\text{dom } f = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid a_i^T \mathbf{x} < 1, i = 1, \dots, m; |x_i| < 1, i = 1, \dots, n \}$.

Combine *Newton Algorithm* and *Backtracking Line Search* to find the optimal solutions \mathbf{x}^* and optimal value p^* of function $f(\mathbf{x})$ in two scales ($m=50, n=50$) and ($m=100, n=100$). The stopping error of the algorithm is $\|\nabla f(\mathbf{x})\|_2 \leq 10^{-8}$. You need to plot the logarithmic error $\log(f(\mathbf{x}^k) - p^*)$ and iteration step size t^k with respect to the number of iterations k separately. We have given two sets of data and the corresponding coefficient matrix $A \in R^{n \times m}$ in the attachment, where $A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m]$. Note that you need to submit program and analysis documents.

References

- [1] S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe, *Convex Optimization*, Cambridge University Press, 2004. <http://www.stanford.edu/~boyd/cvxbook/>