

写一些不会的东西。

Notational Convention

- $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v}$: vectors
- A, B : matrices
- $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{K}$: domains
- d, m, n : dimensions
- I : identity matrix
- X, Y : random variables
- \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q} : probability distributions

Calculus

Hessian

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \left[\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}) \right]_{1 \leq i, j \leq d}$$

Reference: The Matrix Cookbook

[> link <](#)

Linear Algebra

Positive (Semi-)Definite Matrix

Positive Definite matrix \Rightarrow PD, $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} > 0 \Leftrightarrow A \succ 0$

Positive Semi-Definite matrix \Rightarrow PSD, $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow A \succeq 0$

Inner Product

- Vector Space:

$$\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i y_i$$

- Matrix Space:

$$A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \text{Tr}(A^T B) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} B_{ij}$$

Norm

- Quadratic Norm:

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_A = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}}, A \text{ is positive semi-definite}$$

Dual Norm

$$\|\mathbf{y}\|_* = \sup\{\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x} \mid \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq 1\}$$

The dual norm of l_p -norm is the l_q -norm with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$

Hölder's Inequality: $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|_*$

Norm Relationship

Lemma (Mathematical Equivalence of Norms). Suppose that $\|\cdot\|_a$ and $\|\cdot\|_b$ are norms on \mathbb{R}^d , there exist positive "constants"(**depend on dimension**) α and β , such that

$$\alpha \|\mathbf{x}\|_a \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|_b \leq \beta \|\mathbf{x}\|_a$$

Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|_*$$

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right)$$

$$\left(\int_a^b f(x)g(x)dx \right)^2 \leq \left(\int_a^b f^2(x)dx \right) \cdot \left(\int_a^b g^2(x)dx \right)$$

Matrix Operator Norm

Definition (Matrix Operator Norm). The operator norm (or called induced norm) of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is defined by

$$\|A\|_{\text{op},p} \triangleq \max \left\{ \frac{\|A\mathbf{x}\|_p}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_p} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0} \right\}$$

- l_1 norm:

$$\|A\|_{\text{op},1} = \max_{j \in [n]} \sum_{i=1}^m |A_{ij}|$$

- l_∞ norm:

$$\|A\|_{\text{op},\infty} = \max_{i \in [m]} \sum_{j=1}^n |A_{ij}|$$

- l_2 norm (Spectral Norm):

$$\|A\|_{\text{op},2} = \max_{i \in [r]} |\sigma_i|$$

Where $A = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$, namely, σ_i is the i -th singular value.

Matrix Entrywise Norm

Definition (Matrix Entrywise Norm). The entrywise norm of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is defined by

$$\|A\|_{\text{en},p} \triangleq \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n |A_{i,j}|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

$$\|A\|_F = \|A\|_{\text{en},2}$$

Eigen Value Decomposition

Let A be an $d \times d$ PSD matrix, then it can be factored as

$$A = Q\Lambda Q^T$$

where

- $Q = (\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_d) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ is orthogonal, and $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_d$ are eigenvectors
- $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d)$, and $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d$ are eigenvalues

Some properties:

- $A = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$
- $\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^d \lambda_i$
- $\text{Tr}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i$
- $\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i^2}$

Singular Value Decomposition

Suppose $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ has a rank r , then it can be factored as

$$A = U \Sigma V^T$$

where

- $U = (\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$ satisfies $U^T U = I$; $V = (\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ satisfies $V^T V = I$
- $\Sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r)$ and $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$ are singular values.

Some properties:

- $A = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$
- $\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i^2}$

Schatten Norm

Definition (Matrix Schatten Norm). The Schatten norm of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ with rank r is defined by

$$\|A\|_{\text{Sc}, p} \triangleq \left(\sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i^p \right)^{1/p}$$

Probability and Statistics

Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality in Probability

$$(\mathbb{E}[XY])^2 \leq \mathbb{E}[X^2] \cdot \mathbb{E}[Y^2]$$

Concentration Inequalities

Theorem (Markov's Inequality). Let X be a non-negative random variable with $\mathbb{E}[X] < \infty$, then for all $t > 0$,

$$\Pr[X \geq t\mathbb{E}[X]] \leq \frac{1}{t}$$

Theorem (Chebyshev's Inequality). Let X be a non-negative random variable with $\mathbb{E}[X], \text{Var}[X] < \infty$, then for all $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\Pr[|X - \mathbb{E}[X]| \geq \epsilon] \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{\epsilon^2}$$

Theorem (Hoeffding's Inequality). Let X_1, \dots, X_m be independent random variables with X_i taking values in $[a_i, b_i]$ for all $i \in [m]$. Then, for any $\epsilon > 0$, the following inequalities hold for $S_m = \sum_{i=1}^m X_i$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[S_m - \mathbb{E}[S_m] \geq \epsilon] &\leq \exp\left(\frac{-2\epsilon^2}{\sum_{i=1}^m (b_i - a_i)^2}\right) \\ \Pr[S_m - \mathbb{E}[S_m] \leq -\epsilon] &\leq \exp\left(\frac{-2\epsilon^2}{\sum_{i=1}^m (b_i - a_i)^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Entropy

Definition (Entropy). The entropy of a discrete random variable X with probability mass function $\mathbf{p}(x) = \Pr[X = x]$ is denoted by $H(X)$:

$$H(X) = - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbf{p}(x) \log \mathbf{p}(x)$$

The entropy is a lower bound on lossless data compression.

A explanation of entropy: $\log_2(1/\mathbf{p}(x))$ is the code length needed to encode the information, and $H(X)$ measures the expected code length to encode a distribution \mathbf{p} .

Definition (Condition Entropy).

$$\begin{aligned}
H(Y|X) &= - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbf{p}(x, y) \log \left[\frac{\mathbf{p}(x, y)}{\mathbf{p}(x)} \right] \\
&= - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbf{p}(x, y) \log \mathbf{p}(x, y) + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbf{p}(x) \log \mathbf{p}(x) \\
&= H(X, Y) - H(X)
\end{aligned}$$

Definition (Mutual Information).

$$\begin{aligned}
I(X, Y) &= KL(\mathbf{p}(x, y) \| \mathbf{p}(x)\mathbf{p}(y)) \\
&= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbf{p}(x, y) \log \left[\frac{\mathbf{p}(x, y)}{\mathbf{p}(x)\mathbf{p}(y)} \right] \\
&= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbf{p}(x, y) \log \mathbf{p}(x, y) - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbf{p}(x) \log \mathbf{p}(x) - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbf{p}(y) \log \mathbf{p}(y) \\
&= H(X) + H(Y) - H(X, Y)
\end{aligned}$$

with the conventions: $0 \log 0 = 0$, $0 \log \frac{0}{0} = 0$, and $a \log \frac{a}{0} = +\infty$ for $a > 0$

KL Divergence (Relative Entropy)

Definition (KL Divergence). The KL divergence of two distributions p and q is defined by $KL(\mathbf{p} \| \mathbf{q})$:

$$KL(\mathbf{p} \| \mathbf{q}) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbf{p}(x) \log \left[\frac{\mathbf{p}(x)}{\mathbf{q}(x)} \right]$$

with the conventions: $0 \log 0 = 0$, $0 \log \frac{0}{0} = 0$, and $a \log \frac{a}{0} = +\infty$ for $a > 0$

Some properties:

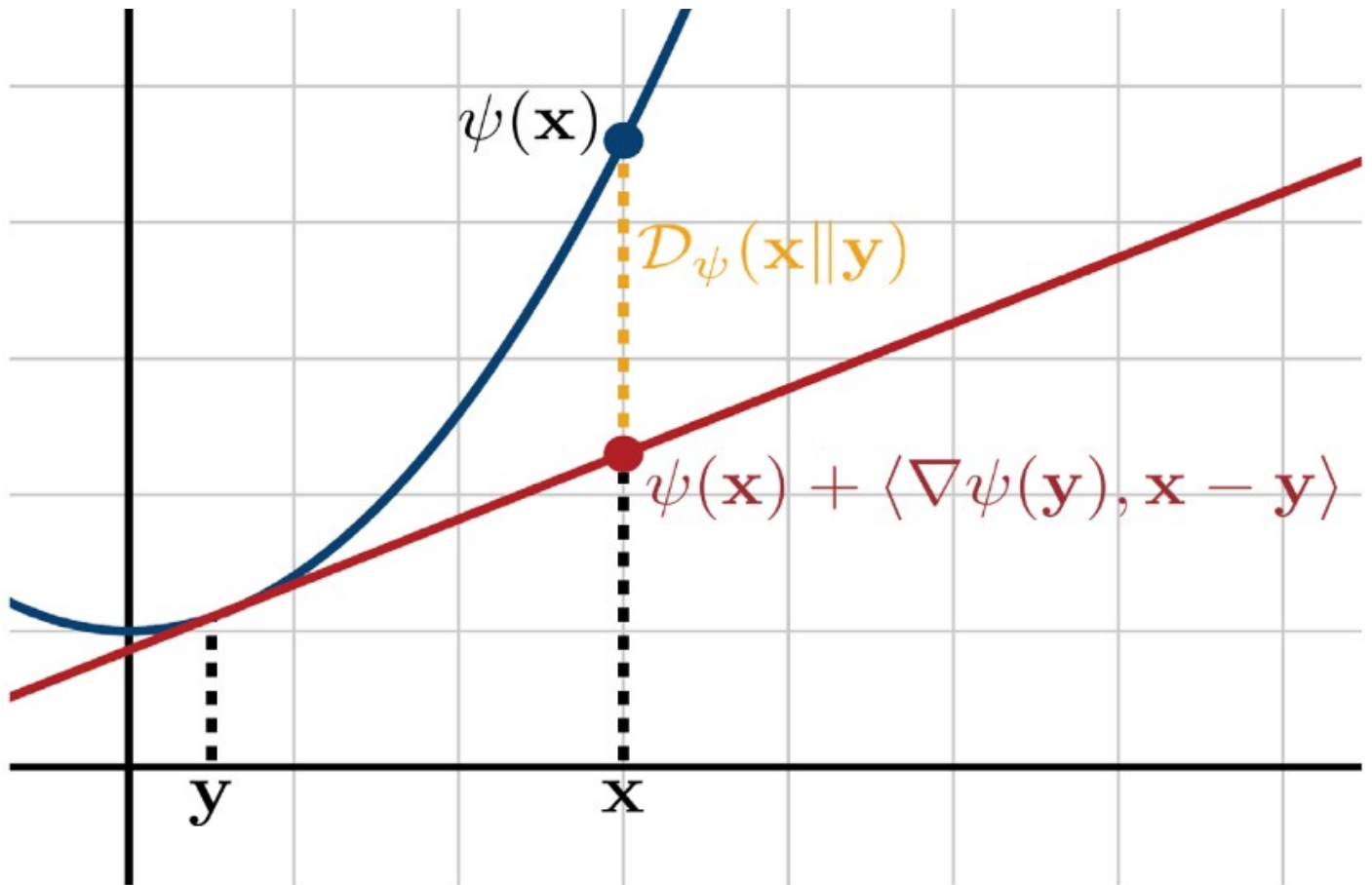
- KL divergence is always non-negative
- Pinsker's Inequality: $KL(\mathbf{p} \| \mathbf{q}) \geq \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_1^2$
- $KL(\mathbf{p} \| \mathbf{q})$ doesn't always equal to $KL(\mathbf{q} \| \mathbf{p})$

Bregman Divergence

Definition (Bregman Divergence). Let ψ be a convex and differentiable function over a convex set \mathcal{K} , and then for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{K}$, the bregman divergence \mathcal{D}_ψ associated to ψ is defined as

$$\mathcal{D}_\psi(\mathbf{x} \| \mathbf{y}) = \psi(\mathbf{x}) - \psi(\mathbf{y}) - \langle \nabla \psi(\mathbf{y}), \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \rangle$$





Bregman divergence measures the difference of a function and its linear approximation.

KL divergence is a special case when $\mathbf{p}(x)$ is defined as negative entropy: $\mathbf{p}(x) = \sum_i x_i \log x_i$.

Asymptotic Notations

Definition

- $\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{there exist positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$
- $\mathcal{O}(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{there exist positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq f(n) \leq c g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$
- $\Omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{there exist positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq c g(n) \leq f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$
- $o(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{for any positive constant } c > 0, \text{ there exists a constant } n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq f(n) < c g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$
- $\omega(a(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{for any positive constant } c > 0, \text{ there exists a constant } n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } f(n) > c a(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$

$n_0 > 0$ such that $0 \leq cg(n) < f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$ }.

Optimization in Machine Learning

Learning by Optimization

The fundamental goal of (supervised) learning: **Risk Minimization**.

$$\min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, y \in \mathcal{D}} [f(h(\mathbf{x}), y)]$$

where:

- h denotes the hypothesis (model) from the hypothesis space \mathcal{H}
- (\mathbf{x}, y) is an instance chosen from a unknown distribution \mathcal{D}
- $f(h(\mathbf{x}), y)$ denotes the loss of using hypothesis h on the instance (\mathbf{x}, y)

Empirical Risk Minimization

The distribution of the data is unavailable, and the risk can't be computed.

In practice, the learner instead tries to optimize empirical risk.

$$\min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m f(h(\mathbf{x}_i), y_i)$$

- IID assumption: **independent** and **identically distributed** random variables.
- ERM approximates RM: All instance are i.i.d. sampled from the same distribution.

Structured ERM

In practice, we often explicitly control the complexity of the learner by adding a **regularization term** in the optimization objective.

$$\min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m f(h(\mathbf{x}_i), y_i) + \lambda \mathcal{R}(h)$$

(Constrained) Optimization Problem

$$\min f(\mathbf{x}), \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$$

Unconstrained Optimization

Add a barrier/indicator function.

$$\begin{aligned} \min h(\mathbf{x}) &\triangleq f(\mathbf{x}) + \delta_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \delta_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathbf{x}) &= \begin{cases} 0 & , \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \\ +\infty & , \quad \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Convex Optimization

Convex Set

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Projection onto Convex Sets

Definition(Projection). The projection a given point \mathbf{y} onto a convex set \mathcal{X} is defined as the closet point inside the convex set. Formally,

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \Pi_{\mathcal{X}}[\mathbf{y}] \triangleq \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|$$

Theorem(Pythagoras Theorem). Let $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ be a convex, $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Then for any $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{X}$ we have

$$\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}\| \geq \|\Pi_{\mathcal{X}}[\mathbf{y}] - \mathbf{z}\|$$

Convex Function

Definition(Convex Function). A function $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called *convex* if for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$,

$$\forall \alpha \in [0, 1], f(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{y}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha) f(\mathbf{y})$$

Definition(Concave Function). A function $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called *concave* if for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$,

$$\forall \alpha \in [0, 1], f(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{y}) \geq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha) f(\mathbf{y})$$

Theorem. A function f is convex iff $\text{dom } f$ is convex and one one of the following properties

hold, for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \text{dom } f$ and $\alpha \in [0, 1]$,

1. $f(\alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{y}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha)f(\mathbf{y})$
2. $f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle \leq f(\mathbf{y})$
3. $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \succeq 0$

Jensen's Inequality

Theorem(Jesen Inequality). If X is a random variable such that $X \in \text{dom } f$ with probability 1, and f is convex, then we have

$$f(\mathbb{E}[X]) \leq \mathbb{E}[f(X)]$$

Convex Optimization Problem

- minimization language:

$$\begin{aligned} & \min f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

$\text{dom } f$ should be convex or half-plane.

Subgradient

Definition(Subgradient). Let $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a proper function and let $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$. A vector $\mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is called *subgradient* of f at \mathbf{x} if

$$f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle, \forall \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

- If $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$, its subgradients exist, then f is convex.
- f is convex doesn't imply that if $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$, its subgradients exist. (e.g. $f = -\sqrt{x}$, $x \geq 0$. When $x = 0$, the subgradient doesn't exist). \Rightarrow Only consider interior point of feasible domain of f .

Subdifferential

Definition(Subdifferential). The set of all subgradients of f at \mathbf{x} is called *subdifferential* of f at \mathbf{x} and is denoted as by $\partial f(\mathbf{x})$,

$$\partial f(\mathbf{x}) \triangleq \{\mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{R}^d | f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle, \forall \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$$

Optimality Condition

Fermat's Optimality Condition

- Unconstrained case

Theorem(Fermat's Optimality Condition). Let $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$ be a proper convex function. Then

$$\mathbf{x}^* \in \arg \min \{f(\mathbf{x}) | \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$$

iff $\mathbf{0} \in \partial f(\mathbf{x}^*)$.

First-order Optimality Condition

- Constrained case

Theorem(First-order Optimality Condition). Let f be convex and \mathcal{X} be a closed convex set on which f is differentiable. Then $\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x})$ iff there exists $\mathbf{g} \in \partial f(\mathbf{x})$ such that

$$\langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^* \rangle \geq 0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$$

KKT Conditions

Theorem(KKT Conditions). Consider the minimization problem

$$\min f(\mathbf{x}), \quad \text{s.t.} \quad g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i \in [m] \quad (1)$$

where f, g_1, \dots, g_m are real-valued convex functions.

1. Let \mathbf{x}^* be optimal solution of (1), and assume that Slater's condition is satisfied. Then there exist $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0$ for which

$$\mathbf{0} \in \partial f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \partial g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \quad (2)$$

$$\lambda_i \partial g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, \quad i \in [m] \quad (3)$$

2. If \mathbf{x}^* satisfies conditions (2) and (3) for some $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0$, then it is an optimal solution of problem (1).

Function Properties

Lipschitz Continuity

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Lipschitzness and Subgradient

Theorem Let $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function. Consider the following two claims:

1. Lipschitzness: $|f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{y})| \leq G\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|, \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$
2. Bounded subgradient: $\|\mathbf{g}\|_* \leq G, \forall \mathbf{g} \in \partial f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$

Then

- $2 \Rightarrow 1$
 - Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} |f(\mathbf{y}) - f(\mathbf{x})| &\leq |\langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle| \leq \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{g}\|_* \\ &\quad \because \|\mathbf{g}\|_* \leq G \\ \therefore |f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{y})| &\leq G\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\| \end{aligned}$$

- If \mathcal{X} is open, then $1 \Leftrightarrow 2$

Smoothness

Definition(Smoothness). A function f is L -smooth with respect to the $\|\cdot\|$ norm if, for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \text{dom } f$,

$$\|\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y})\|_* \leq L\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|$$

- Why use dual norm?

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y}), \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \rangle| &\leq \|\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y})\|_* \cdot \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\| \\ |\langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y}), \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \rangle| &\leq L\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma(Descent Lemma). Let f be L -smooth function over a given convex set \mathcal{X} . Then for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$

$$f(\mathbf{y}) \leq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) + \frac{L}{2}\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\|^2$$

Theorem(First-order Characterizations of L -smoothness). Let $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function, differentiable over \mathcal{X} . Then the following claims are equivalent:

1. f is L -smoothness
2. $f(\mathbf{y}) \leq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) + \frac{L}{2}\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\|^2$, for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$
3. $f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2L}\|\nabla f(\mathbf{y}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x})\|_*^2$, for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$
4. $\langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y}), \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \rangle \geq \frac{1}{L}\|\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{y})\|_*^2$, for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$
5. $f(\lambda\mathbf{x} + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{y}) \geq \lambda f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \lambda)f(\mathbf{y}) - \frac{L}{2}\lambda(1 - \lambda)\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$ for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}, \lambda \in [0, 1]$

Theorem(Second-order Characterizations of L -smoothness). Let f be a twice continuously differentiable function over \mathbb{R}^d . L -smoothness w.r.t. the l_p -norm($p \in [0, +\infty]$) is equivalent to

$$\|\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})\|_{\text{op},p} \leq L$$

for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Strong Convexity

Definition(Strong Convexity). A function f is σ -strongly convex with respect to norm $\|\cdot\|$ if, for any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \text{dom } f$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$,

$$f(\lambda \mathbf{x} + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{y}) \leq \lambda f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \lambda)f(\mathbf{y}) - \frac{\sigma}{2}\lambda(1 - \lambda)\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$$

Theorem(First-order Characterizations of Strong Convexity). Let f be a proper closed and convex function. The followings equal:

1. f is σ -strongly convex.
2. For any $\mathbf{x} \in \text{dom}(\partial f)$, $\mathbf{y} \in \text{dom}(f)$ and $\mathbf{g} \in \partial f(\mathbf{x})$,

$$f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle + \frac{\sigma}{2}\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\|^2$$

3. For any $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \text{dom}(\partial f)$, $\mathbf{g}_x \in \partial f(\mathbf{x})$, $\mathbf{g}_y \in \partial f(\mathbf{y})$,

$$\langle \mathbf{g}_x - \mathbf{g}_y, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \rangle \geq \sigma\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$$

4. $f(\cdot) - \frac{\sigma}{2}\|\cdot\|^2$ is convex.

Theorem(Second-order Characterizations of Strong Convexity). Let \mathcal{X} be a Euclidean space. Then f is σ -strongly convex iff for $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{X}$,

$$\mathbf{w}^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{w} = \|\mathbf{w}\|_{\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})}^2 \geq \sigma\|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

When using l_2 -norm, $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \succeq \sigma I$.

Theorem Let f be a proper closed and σ -strongly convex function. Then

1. f has a unique minimizer, denoted by \mathbf{x}^* .
2. $f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}^*) \geq \frac{\sigma}{2}\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\|^2, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \text{dom } f$.

Strongly Convex and Smooth

If function f is both σ -strongly convex and L -smooth w.r.t. l_2 -norm, then

1. $\sigma I \preceq \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \preceq LI$

2. f is γ -well-conditioned where $\gamma \triangleq \sigma/L \leq 1$ is called the condition number.

Theorem(Conjugate Correspondence). Consider the conjugate function:

$$f^*(\mathbf{y}) \triangleq \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \{\langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - f(\mathbf{x})\}$$

1. If the function f is convex and $1/\sigma$ -smooth w.r.t. the norm $\|\cdot\|$, then its conjugate f^* is σ -strongly convex w.r.t. the dual norm $\|\cdot\|_*$.
2. If the function f is convex and σ -strongly convex w.r.t. the norm $\|\cdot\|$, then its conjugate f^* is $1/\sigma$ -smooth w.r.t. the dual norm $\|\cdot\|_*$.

Some understanding from [Kimi](#).