

AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
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Course: Data-Driven Optimization

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1. Show the following.

(a) for sigmoid function $\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-t}}$ show that its derivative is $\sigma'(t) = \sigma(t)[1 - \sigma(t)]$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma'(t) &= \frac{e^{-t}}{(1+e^{-t})^2} = \frac{e^{-t} + 1 - 1}{(1+e^{-t})^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{1+e^{-t}} \left[1 - \frac{1}{1+e^{-t}} \right] \\ &= \sigma(t)[1 - \sigma(t)]\end{aligned}$$

(b) If $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g(x) = \log(\sigma(f(x)))$, then show that $\nabla g(x) = [1 - \sigma(f(x))]\nabla f(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla g(x) &= \frac{\nabla \sigma f(x)}{\sigma f(x)} \\ &= \frac{\sigma'(f(x))\nabla f(x)}{\sigma f(x)} \\ &= \sigma(f(x))[1 - \sigma(f(x))]\nabla f(x) \\ &= [1 - \sigma(f(x))]\nabla f(x)\end{aligned}$$

(c) (left as an exercise to the curious) Show that the Hessian matrix of $g(x) = \log(\sigma(f(x)))$ (defined in 3b)) is given by show that the hessian matrix of $g(x) = \log(\sigma f(x))$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 g(x) &= \nabla(\nabla g(x)) = \nabla[(1 - \sigma(f(x)))\nabla f(x)] \\ &= \nabla[1 - \sigma(f(x))]\nabla f(x) + [1 - \sigma(f(x))]\nabla^2 f(x) \\ &= -\sigma'(f(x))\nabla f(x)\nabla f(x)^T + (1 - \sigma(f(x)))\nabla^2 f(x) \\ &\quad - [\sigma(f(x))][1 - \sigma(f(x))]\nabla f(x)\nabla f(x)^T + (1 - \sigma(f(x)))\nabla^2 f(x) \\ &= [1 - \sigma(f(x))][\nabla^2 f(x) - \sigma(f(x))\nabla f(x)\nabla f(x)^T]\end{aligned}$$