

Q1

1E411 HW #2

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a)  $f(x_1, x_2) = (4x_1^2 - x_2)^2$

$$= 16x_1^4 - 8x_1^2x_2 + x_2^2$$

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 64x_1^3 - 16x_1x_2 \\ -8x_1^2 + 2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16x_1(4x_1^2 - x_2) \\ -2(4x_1^2 - x_2) \end{bmatrix} = \underline{0}$$

$\Rightarrow$  All points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  which satisfy  $4x_1^2 = x_2$  are stationary points.

$$\nabla^2 f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 192x_1^2 - 16x_2 & -16x_1 \\ -16x_1 & 2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\nabla^2 f(\underline{x}^*) = \begin{bmatrix} 128x_1^2 & -16x_1 \\ -16x_1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{p.s.d. due to leading determinants}$$

Since Hessian is p.s.d, stationary points can either be local mins or saddles. Notice that since  $f$  is a quadratic function, it is bounded by below with 0, hence points  $(x_1, 4x_1^2)$  are nonstrict global minimum.

b)  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 4x_1^4 - 2x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 2x_2x_3 + 2x_3^2$

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 16x_1^3 - 4x_1 \\ 2x_2 + 2x_3 \\ 2x_2 + 4x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4x_1(4x_1^2 - 1) \\ 2(x_2 + x_3) \\ 2(x_2 + 2x_3) \end{bmatrix} = \underline{0} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} x_1 = 0, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \\ x_2 = x_3 = 0 \\ \text{stationary points} \end{matrix}$$

$$\nabla^2 f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 48x_1^2 - 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla^2 f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{indefinite due to eigenvalues } \text{tr}(A)=2, \text{ but } \det(A)=-16$$

$$\nabla^2 f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \nabla^2 f\left(\begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\hookrightarrow$  p.d. due to leading determinants

$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a saddle point due to the necessary condition,

and  $\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  &  $\begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  are strict local minimum points due to the sufficient condition.

They are also nonstrict global minimum points since  $f\left(\begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$  and they bound  $f$  by below since any other values for  $x_2$  &  $x_3$  will increase the value.

$$c) f(x_1, x_2) = 2x_2^3 - 6x_2^2 + 3x_1^2x_2$$

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 6x_1x_2 \\ 6x_2^2 - 12x_2 + 3x_1^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6x_1x_2 \\ 6x_2(x_2 - 2) + 3x_1^2 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{0}$$

$\Rightarrow x_1 = 0$  &  $x_2 = 0, 2$  stationary points

$$\nabla^2 f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 6x_2 & 6x_1 \\ 6x_1 & 12(x_2 - 1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla^2 f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{n.s.d due to eigenvalues}$$

$$\nabla^2 f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{p.d due to leading determinants}$$

$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  either can be a local max or saddle due to n.s.d.

In  $x_2$  direction, it is a local maximum. In  $x_1$  direction, for  $x_2 = 0$ ,  $f$  is 0, but for any infinitesimal positive  $x_2$ , in  $x_1$  direction, function first decreases then increases. For a small neighborhood,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a local maximum point. X

$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  is a strict local minimum point due to p.d. (It cannot be global since  $f$  is not bounded by below)

$$d) f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^4 + 2x_1^2x_2 + x_2^2 - 4x_1^2 - 8x_1 - 8x_2$$

$$\nabla f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 4x_1^3 + 4x_1x_2 - 8x_1 - 8 \\ 2x_1^2 + 2x_2 - 8 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2 = -x_1^2 + 4$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x_1^3 + 4x_1(-x_1^2 + 4) - 8x_1 - 8 = 0$$

$$4x_1^3 - 4x_1^3 + 16x_1 - 8x_1 - 8 = 0$$

$$x_1 = 1 \Rightarrow x_2 = 3$$

$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is a stationary point

$$\nabla^2 f(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 12x_1^2 + 4x_2 - 8 & 4x_1 \\ 4x_1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla^2 f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 16 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{p.d. due to eigenvalues (or leading determinants)}$$

$\Rightarrow \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is a strict local minimizer

$$(x_1^2 + x_2 - 4)^2 = x_1^4 + 2x_1^2x_2 + x_2^2 - 8x_1^2 - 8x_2 + 16$$

$$f(\underline{x}) = (x_1^2 + x_2 - 4)^2 + 4x_1^2 - 16 - 8x_1$$

$$= (x_1^2 + x_2 - 4)^2 + 4(x_1 - 1)^2 - 20$$

$$f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = 1 + 6 + 9 - 4 - 8 - 24 = -20$$

$f(\underline{x}) \geq -20 \Rightarrow \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is also a strict global minimum point.



Q4  $S = \{ \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 - x_2^2 + x_1 + x_2 \leq 4 \}$   
 $= \{ \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \underline{x}^T (A\underline{x} + \underline{b}) \leq 4, A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \underline{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \}$

Consider,  $\underline{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\underline{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$\underline{x}_1^T (A\underline{x}_1 + \underline{b}) = -8 \leq 4 \Rightarrow \underline{x}_1 \in S$$

$$\underline{x}_2^T (A\underline{x}_2 + \underline{b}) = -18 \leq 4 \Rightarrow \underline{x}_2 \in S \quad \checkmark$$

Let  $\underline{x}_3 = \frac{1}{2} \underline{x}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \underline{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , i.e., a convex combination of  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$ .

$$\underline{x}_3^T (A\underline{x}_3 + \underline{b}) = 12 > 4 \Rightarrow \underline{x}_3 \notin S$$

$$\Rightarrow S \text{ is not convex.} \quad \checkmark$$

Q5  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid (x_1 - 1)^2 + x_2^2 = 1\}$

Show that  $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1 > 0\} \cup \{[0]\}$  is  $\text{cone}(S)$ .

To prove, we need show two expressions:

①:  $A \subseteq \text{cone}(S)$

②:  $\text{cone}(S) \subseteq A$ .

Start by proving ② since it's easier to show:

Let  $\underline{d} \in \text{cone}(S)$ .

Then, by definition,  $\underline{d}_i = \sum_i \underbrace{\lambda_i}_{\geq 0} \underbrace{x_i}_{\geq 0}$  because  $x_i \in S$ .

$$\Rightarrow \underline{d}_i \geq 0$$

$$\text{However, } \underline{d}_i = 0 \iff \sum_i \lambda_i x_i = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{d} = \underline{0} \text{ because } \lambda_i = 0 \text{ or } x_i = \underline{0} \text{ for } \forall i.$$

If there are non-zero  $\lambda_i$ , then the corresponding vector must be  $[0, 0]^T$  to satisfy  $x_i \in S$ .

Hence,  $\forall \underline{d} \in \text{cone}(S), \underline{d} \in A \Rightarrow \text{cone}(S) \subseteq A$ .

Now, show ①:

Let  $\underline{a} \in A$ . For  $\underline{a} = [0, 0]^T$ , by conic hull definition it is obvious that  $\underline{a} \in \text{cone}(S)$ . For  $a_1 > 0$ , first, let's redefine  $S$ .

$$(x_1 - 1)^2 + x_2^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2x_1 + 1 = 1 \Rightarrow x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2x_1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x^T(\underline{x} + \underline{b}) = 0, \underline{b} = [-2, 0]^T\}$$

We must show that  $\forall \underline{a} \in A, \exists k \in \mathbb{R}, k \geq 0$ , s.t.,  $\frac{1}{k} \underline{a} \in S$ .  
(We need to show this because if  $\underline{a} = k\underline{s}, \underline{s} \in S$ , then it is obvious that  $\underline{a} \in \text{cone}(S)$  for  $k \geq 0$ .)

$$\frac{1}{k} \underline{a} \in S \Rightarrow \frac{1}{k} \underline{a}^T \left( \frac{1}{k} \underline{a} + \underline{b} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{k^2} \|\underline{a}\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{k} \underline{a}^T \underline{b} = 0$$

For  $k > 0$ :  
( $k \neq 0$  is arbitrary due to  $a_1 > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{k} \|\underline{a}\|_2^2 + \underline{a}^T \underline{b} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \|\underline{a}\|_2^2 - 2a_1 = 0 \Rightarrow k = \frac{\|\underline{a}\|_2^2}{2a_1} \geq 0$$

Notice that  $\|\underline{a}\|_2^2 \geq 0$  and by initial assumption,  $a_1 > 0$ . Hence  $k \geq 0$ .

$$\text{Hence, } \forall \underline{a} \in A, \underline{a} = \sum_i \lambda_i \underline{x}_i, \lambda_i \geq 0, \underline{x}_i \in S$$

$$= k \underline{s}, \underline{s} \in S, k \geq 0$$

$$\forall \underline{a} \in A, \underline{a} \in \text{cone}(S) \Rightarrow A \subseteq \text{cone}(S)$$

① & ②

$\Rightarrow A$  is equivalent to  $\text{cone}(S)$ .



Q6 Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $a \neq b$ . For what values of  $\mu$  is the set

$$S_\mu = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|x - a\|_2 \leq \mu \|x - b\|_2\} \text{ convex?}$$

First, consider  $\mu < 0$ :

$\forall \mu < 0$ ,  $S_\mu = \emptyset$  because  $\|x - a\|_2 < 0$  cannot be satisfied for  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  due to definition of norm. So, we must check if empty set is convex or not.

Consider two convex sets,  $A$  and  $B$ . Let  $x, y \in A \cap B$ .

Notice that  $2x + (1-2)y \in A \cap B$ ,  $\forall 2 \in (0,1)$  since  $x, y \in A \cap B \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} x \in A, y \in B \\ y \in A, x \in B \end{matrix}$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + (1-2)y \in A$$

$$2x + (1-2)y \in B$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + (1-2)y \in A \cap B$$

$$\Rightarrow A \cap B \text{ is convex.}$$

So, for any  $A, B$ ,  $A \cap B$  is also convex if  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint sets, i.e.  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ , then  $\emptyset$  also must be convex w.h.o.g.

Hence  $\mu < 0$ ,  $S_\mu$  is convex.

Now consider  $\mu = 0$ :

$$\|x - a\|_2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = a, S_\mu = \{a\} \Rightarrow \text{convex}$$

$$2a + (1-2)a = a$$

For  $\mu > 0$ , things are more complex. First, consider  $\mu = 1$ , where  $S_\mu$  is a half plane, i.e. convex. Then, for  $\mu > 0$ :

$$\|x - a\|_2 \leq \mu \|x - b\|_2 \Rightarrow \|x - a\|_2^2 \leq \mu^2 \|x - b\|_2^2 \quad (\mu > 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|x\|_2^2 + \|a\|_2^2 - 2x^T a \leq \mu^2 \|x\|_2^2 + \mu^2 \|b\|_2^2 + 2\mu^2 x^T b$$

$$\|x\|_2^2 (1 - \mu^2) - 2x^T (a - \mu^2 b) + (\|a\|_2^2 - \mu^2 \|b\|_2^2) \leq 0$$

① If  $(1 - \mu^2) > 0$ , i.e.,  $\mu < 1$  (or  $0 < \mu < 1$  due to initial condition)

$$\|x\|_2^2 - 2x^T \left( \frac{a - \mu^2 b}{1 - \mu^2} \right) + \left( \frac{\|a\|_2^2 - \mu^2 \|b\|_2^2}{1 - \mu^2} \right) \leq 0$$

$$\text{Let } m = \frac{a - \mu^2 b}{1 - \mu^2}, n = \frac{\|a\|_2^2 - \mu^2 \|b\|_2^2}{1 - \mu^2}. \text{ Then,}$$

$$x^T x - 2m^T x + n \leq 0 \Rightarrow \text{We have a quadratic term where } A = I.$$

Let  $S_- = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x^T x - 2m^T x + n \leq 0, m \in \mathbb{R}^n, n \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . If  $S_-$  is convex, then  $S_\mu$  will be convex for  $\mu < 1$ .

Also, let's examine it for  $\forall A$ , i.e.,  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x^T A x - 2m^T x + n \leq 0\}$



If  $S_-$  is convex, then any line segment through it should also be convex. Let  $L = \{t\bar{x} + x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Then,

$$S_- \cap L = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid (t\bar{x} + x_0)^T A (t\bar{x} + x_0) - 2m^T(t\bar{x} + x_0) + n \leq 0\}$$

$$(t\bar{x} + x_0)^T A (t\bar{x} + x_0) - 2m^T(t\bar{x} + x_0) + n \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\bar{x}^T A \bar{x}) t^2 + (2x_0^T A \bar{x} - 2m^T \bar{x}) t + (x_0^T A x_0 - 2m^T x_0 + n) \leq 0$$

Notice that if  $\bar{x}^T A \bar{x} \geq 0, \forall \bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  then this function will always increase moving away from the minimum w.r.t. parameter  $t$ . The last expression is bounded above by zero, and is valid for  $\forall t \in [r_1, r_2]$  where  $r_1, r_2$  are the roots of the expression. Since the arbitrary line segment is convex due to  $t$  being continuous in a range, we can infer that  $S_-$  is convex if  $A$  is positive semidefinite. In our problem,  $A = I$ , which satisfies the condition. Hence, for  $0 < \mu < 1$   $S_\mu$  is convex, since even if the minimum of the expression is positive, set will be empty set, which is also convex.

② If  $\mu > 1$ , then  $\bar{x}^T \bar{x} - 2m^T \bar{x} + n \geq 0 \Rightarrow -\bar{x}^T \bar{x} + 2m^T \bar{x} - n \leq 0$ .  
Using the previous line argument, if the maximum of parametric function is positive, then  $S_\mu$  will be non-convex.

$$(-\bar{x}^T A \bar{x}) t^2 + (-2x_0^T A \bar{x} - 2m^T \bar{x}) t + (-x_0^T A x_0 - 2m^T x_0 + n) \leq 0$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Always decreasing while moving away from the maximum. Expression is satisfied if  $t \in (-\infty, r_1] \cup [r_2, \infty)$ , where  $r_1, r_2$  are the roots, which isn't continuous necessarily.

Assuming parametric functions have real roots and empty sets are convex, then  $S_\mu$  is convex for  $\mu \leq 1$ .  
(For  $\mu = 1$ ,  $S_\mu$  is a half space, which is convex).

## Q2

$a = 1.8314$

$b = -2.8289$

$c = 0.9759$

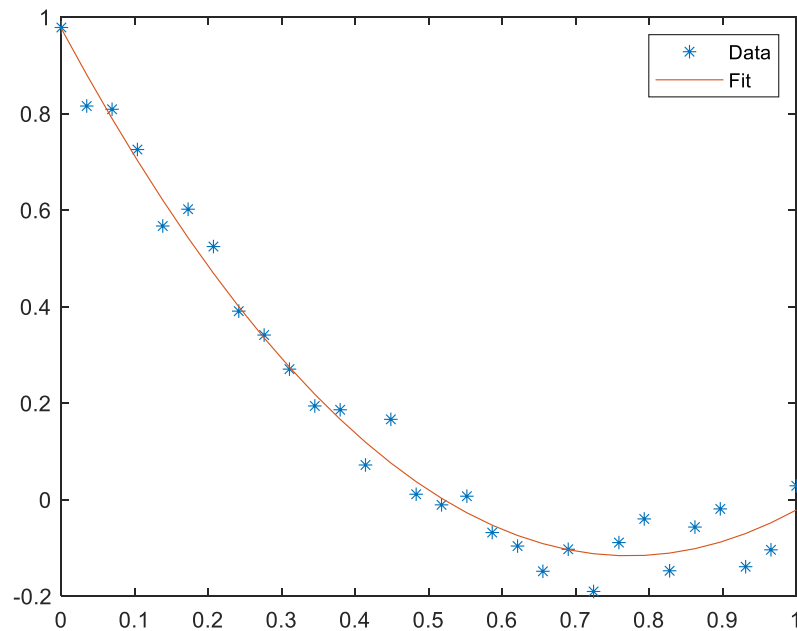


Figure 1.1 Data points and fit.

### MATLAB code:

```
rand("seed", 314);  
x = linspace(0, 1, 30).';  
y = 2*x.^2 - 3*x + 1 + 0.05*randn(size(x));  
  
A = zeros(size(x, 1), size(x, 2)+2);  
  
for i = 1:3  
    A(:, i) = x.^(3-i);  
end  
  
params = (A.'*A)\A.'*y;  
fit = polyval(params, x);  
  
figure;  
xlabel("Data Index");  
ylabel("Data Value");  
plot(x, y, "*");  
hold on;  
plot(x, fit);  
legend("Data", "Fit");
```


### Q3

#### Part (a):

Iterations: 3301, 

Optimal solution = [-0.0067; 0.0557; -0.0525; -0.1147; 0.1255]

#### Part (b):

Iterations: 3732, 

Optimal solution = [-0.0056; 0.0452; -0.0365; -0.1090; 0.1119]

#### Part (c):

Iterations: 1271, 

Optimal solution = [-0.0067; 0.0554; -0.0522; -0.1146; 0.1252]

#### Main code:

```
%% Initialize
A = hilb(5);
x = [1;2;3;4;5];
epsilon = 1e-4;

%% Part a
[x_opt1, val_opt1, iter1] = gm_backtrack(A, x, 1, 0.5, 0.5, epsilon);

%% Part b
[x_opt2, val_opt2, iter2] = gm_backtrack(A, x, 1, 0.1, 0.5, epsilon);

%% Part c
[x_opt3, val_opt3, iter3] = gm_exact(A, x, epsilon);
```

#### gm backtrack:

```
function [x_opt, val_opt, iter] = gm_backtrack(A, x_init, s, alpha, beta, epsilon)

    x = x_init;
    f = x.'*A*x;
    grad = 2*A*x;
    iter=0;

    while (norm(grad)>epsilon)
        iter=iter+1;
        d = -grad;
        t=s;
        while (f - ((x + t*d).'*(A)*(x + t*d)) < -alpha*t*grad.'*d)
            t=beta*t;
        end
        x = x + t*d; % update solution
        f = x.'*A*x; % new value
        grad = 2*A*x; % new gradient
        fprintf("Iteration: %3d, Value: %2.6f, Gradient Norm: %2.6f \n", iter, f,
norm(grad));
```



```

end

x_opt = x;
val_opt = f;

end

gm_exact:

function [x_opt, val_opt, iter] = gm_exact(A, x_init, epsilon)

    % f = xT A x, grad = 2 Ax

    x = x_init;
    grad = 2*A*x;
    iter = 0;

    while (norm(grad) > epsilon)
        iter = iter + 1;
        d = -grad/norm(grad); % compute optimal direction
        t = -(d.'*grad)/(2*d.'*A*d); % compute optimal stepsize
        x = x + t*d; % update solution

        grad = 2*A*x; % new gradient
        f = x.'*A*x; % new value
        fprintf("Iteration: %3d, Value: %2.6f, Gradient Norm: %2.6f \n", iter, f,
norm(grad));
    end

    x_opt = x;
    val_opt = f;

end

```

## Index of comments

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