
DATA130026 Optimization
Assignment 9
Due Time: at the beginning of the class, May 25, 2021

1. Let f be a convex and continuous differentiable function over \mathbb{R}^n . For a fixed $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, define the function

$$g_x(y) = f(y) - \nabla f(x)^T y.$$

Suppose ∇f is L Lipschitz continuous, i.e.,

$$\|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

- (a) Prove that x is a minimizer of g_x over \mathbb{R}^n .
(b) Show that for any $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$g_x(x) \leq g_x(y) - \frac{1}{2L} \|\nabla g_x(y)\|^2.$$

- (c) Show that for any $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T(y - x) + \frac{1}{2L} \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|^2 \leq f(y).$$

2. Let $F(x) = Ax + b$ be an affine function, with A an $n \times n$ -matrix. What properties of the matrix A correspond to the following conditions (a)-(e) on F ? Suppose that A is symmetric, so $F(x)$ is the gradient of a quadratic function

- (a) Monotonicity:

$$(F(x) - F(y))^T(x - y) \geq 0, \forall x, y.$$

- (b) Strict monotonicity:

$$(F(x) - F(y))^T(x - y) > 0, \forall x, y.$$

- (c) Strong monotonicity (for the Euclidean norm):

$$(F(x) - F(y))^T(x - y) \geq m\|x - y\|_2^2, \forall x, y,$$

where m is a positive constant.

- (d) Lipschitz continuity (for the Euclidean norm):

$$\|F(x) - F(y)\|_2 \leq L\|x - y\|_2, \forall x, y,$$

where L is a positive constant.

- (e) Co-coercivity (for the Euclidean norm):

$$(F(x) - F(y))^T(x - y) \geq \frac{1}{L} \|F(x) - F(y)\|_2^2, \forall x, y,$$

where L is a positive constant.