

MATLAB Brush Up Course

Practice Set 3

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Problem 1: Symbolic Mathematics

1. Differentiating, Integrating, and Evaluating a Symbolic Function:

- Define a symbolic expression $f(x) = \cos(x) - x^3$.
- Differentiate $f(x)$ with respect to x and evaluate the derivative at $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$.
- Integrate $f(x)$ with respect to x over the interval from 0 to π .
- Display the results of both the differentiation and integration.

2. Solving Symbolic Equations:

- Define and solve the equation $x^3 - 3x^2 + 2 = 0$ symbolically.
- Display the solutions.
- Define and solve the following system of equations symbolically:

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 3y - z &= 1, \\ -x + y + z &= 3, \\ x - 2y + 3z &= -1.\end{aligned}$$

- Display the solutions for x , y , and z .

Problem 2: Anonymous Functions and Optimization

1. Utility Function Evaluation and Optimization

Define an anonymous function $U(c) = \sqrt{c}$, where c represents consumption.

- (a) Evaluate this function at $c = 25$.

2. Unconstrained Utility Maximization

Consider a utility maximization problem for an individual with the utility function $U(x, y) = 2\sqrt{x} + 3\sqrt{y}$, where x and y represent quantities of two goods.

- (a) Define the utility function as an anonymous function in MATLAB.

- (b) Use `fminunc` to find the optimal quantities of x and y that maximize utility, starting from an initial guess of $x = 1$ and $y = 1$.
- (c) Is something weird happening?

3. Constrained Optimization Problem

Consider a cost function $C(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = 2x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + x_3^2 + 4x_4 + 5x_5$ representing the total cost involving five different inputs. The objective is to minimize this cost function subject to the following constraints:

- (a) Inequality constraints:
 - $x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 \leq 50$
 - $2x_4 + 3x_5 \leq 40$
- (b) Equality constraint:
 - $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 60$
- (c) Lower bounds: $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0$
- (d) Upper bounds: $x_1, x_2, x_3 \leq 20, x_4 \leq 15, x_5 \leq 10$

Problem 3: Local Functions

1. Temperature Conversion Function

- Create a local function named `convertTemperature` that converts temperatures between Fahrenheit and Celsius.
- The function should take three arguments: the temperature value, the current temperature scale ('F' or 'C'), and the target scale to convert to ('F' or 'C').
- Test this function by converting 32°F to Celsius and 100°C to Fahrenheit.

2. Present Value Calculation

- Write a local function named `calculatePresentValue` that calculates the present value of a series of future cash flows.
- The function should accept three arguments: a vector of cash flows, the interest rate (as a decimal), and the number of periods.
- The function should return the present value of the cash flows, assuming they occur at the end of each period.
- Test this function with the following data: Cash flows of \$100, \$200, \$300 over 3 years and an annual interest rate of 5%.