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- **Definition 1:** A point (or an element) $\mathbf{x}^* \in \Omega$ is called a local minimum (maximum) of f if there exists an $\epsilon > 0$, such that $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ and $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\| < \epsilon$ implies $f(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq f(\mathbf{x})$ ($f(\mathbf{x}^*) \geq f(\mathbf{x})$) .

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First order necessary conditions for a local minimum

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- So $[6, 9]^T$ and $[0, 0]^T$ satisfies the **first order necessary conditions** for a **local minimum**.
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- **Exercise:** Will $[0, 0]^T$ be a **local minimum point** of f given in **Example 1**, if $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^2$?

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- Check that f has a **global minimum** at $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}, x_2 = 0$

Second order necessary conditions for a point to be a local minimum

- **Theorem 3:** Let $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a **twice continuously differentiable** function (that is all the second order partial derivatives of f (given by $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}$) exists and are continuous as functions from Ω to \mathbb{R}).

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- For example the **0** matrix has all n eigenvalues equal to 0, the identity matrix I_n has all n eigenvalues equal to 1, and for an **upper triangular matrix**, the diagonal entries are its eigenvalues.

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- **Remark:** Since **maximizing** f is same as **minimizing** $-f$, all the previous theorems have corresponding analogues for a **maximization** problem with some obvious changes.
- **Definition 4:** A real valued function f defined on a **convex set** $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is said to be a **convex function** on Ω if for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega$ and all $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$,

$$f(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{y}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha) f(\mathbf{y}).$$
- **Definition 5:** An $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (Ω convex) is said to be a **concave function** if $-f$ is a **convex function**.
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$$f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) \text{ for all } \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \Omega.$$

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Hence f is **not a convex function** on Ω .

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- The above result is **not** necessarily true if f is **not convex** as you have already seen in **Example 1**.
- **Remark :** Since minimizing f is same as maximizing $-f$, all the previous theorems for **minimizing a convex function** have corresponding analogues for **maximizing a concave function**.

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- **Theorem 6:** Let f be a **convex function** defined on a **closed** and **bounded convex set** Ω (so it has at least one extreme point), then there exists an extreme point of Ω , where f takes its **maximum** value.