



Introduction to Optimization

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Optimization thus far

minimize (or maximize) –

- * Specific functions **without** constraints

Least squares

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- * Specific functions subject to **linear** constraints Minimum ℓ_2 norm

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 - * Nonlinear $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ functions subject to **general** constraints

Equality constraints Lagrange multipliers

Inequality constraints Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions

Problems with equality constraints

minimize $f(x)$

subject to $h_i(x) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$h_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad m \leq n.$

First-order necessary condition

Lagrange's theorem for $n = 2, m = 1$

Theorem – Let x^* be a minimizer of $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ subject to the constraint

$$h(x) = 0, h : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

Then, $\nabla f(x^*)$ and $\nabla h(x^*)$ are parallel. That is, if

$$\nabla h(x^*) \neq 0,$$

then there exists a scalar λ such that

$$\nabla f(x^*) + \lambda \nabla h(x^*) = 0.$$

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Why? Illustrate on board.

An example

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } x_1x_2 + 1 \\ & \text{subject to } x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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We have

$$\nabla f(x) = [x_2 \quad x_1]^\top \quad ; \quad \nabla h(x) = [2x_1 \quad 2x_2]^\top$$

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Therefore,

$$x_2 + \lambda \cdot 2x_1 = 0$$

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$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1$$

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- Consider $\tilde{x} = [1 \quad 1 \quad \frac{A-2}{4}]^\top$ Is \tilde{x} feasible?

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- Is $\tilde{x}_1\tilde{x}_2\tilde{x}_3 < x_1^*x_2^*x_3^*$?

Lagrange's theorem

General case

Definition – A point x^* satisfying the constraints

$$h_1(x^*) = 0, \dots, h_m(x^*) = 0$$

is said to be a **regular point** of the constraints if the gradient vectors $\nabla h_1(x^*), \dots, \nabla h_m(x^*)$ are **linearly independent**.

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Example: $n = 3, m = 2$ and $h_1(x) = x_1 ; h_2(x) = x_2 - x_3^2$.

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Lagrange's theorem – Let x^* be a local minimizer (or maximizer) of $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ subject to

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Assuming that x^* is a regular point, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that

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$$\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) := f(x) + \lambda^\top h(x).$$

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That is,

$$D_x \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = Df(x) + \lambda^\top Dh(x) = 0^\top \quad \text{Lagrange's theorem}$$

$$D_\lambda \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = h(x) = 0^\top \quad \text{Constraints}$$

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FONC on (unconstrained) \mathcal{L} yields

$$D_x \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = Df(x) + \lambda^\top Dh(x) = 0^\top \quad \text{Lagrange's theorem}$$

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$n + m$ equations in $n + m$ unknowns

An example

$n = 3$ variables, $m = 2$ constraints

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize } 4x_1 + 6x_2 - 2x_3 \\ & \text{subject to } 2x_1 + x_2 + 5x_3 = 1 \\ & \text{and } x_2^2 + 2x_3^3 = 22. \end{aligned}$$

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By Lagrange's theorem,

$$\nabla f(x) = \lambda_1 \nabla h_1(x) + \lambda_2 \nabla h_2(x)$$

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(complete on board)

Second-order necessary conditions

Let x^* be a local minimizer of $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ subject to

$$h(x) = 0 ; \quad h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m, m \leq n.$$

Assuming that x^* is a regular point, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that

$$\text{i. } Df(x^*) + \lambda^\top Dh(x^*) = 0^\top$$

where

$T(x^*) = \{y : Dh(x^*)y = 0\}$ and
 $L(x^*, \lambda)$ is the Hessian of $\mathcal{L}(x^*, \lambda)$.

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- i. $Df(x^*) + \lambda^\top Dh(x^*) = 0^\top$
- ii. For all $y \in T(x^*)$, $y^\top L(x^*, \lambda)y \geq 0$.

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That is,

$$L(x, \lambda) = F(x) + \lambda_1 H_1(x) + \cdots + \lambda_m H_m(x).$$

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Converse: **Second-order sufficient conditions**

Second-order sufficient conditions

Theorem – Suppose that $f, h \in \mathcal{C}^2$ and there exists a point $x^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that:

- i. $Df(x^*) + \lambda^\top Dh(x^*) = 0^\top$
- ii. For all $y \in T(x^*), y^\top L(x^*, \lambda)y > 0.$

Then, x^* is a strict local minimizer of f subject to $h(x) = 0$.

An example

Quadratic programming

$$\text{minimize } \frac{1}{2}x^\top Qx \text{ subject to } Ax = b$$

where $Q > 0, A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, m < n, \text{rank } A = m.$

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rewriting which yields

$$x^* = Q^{-1}A^\top \lambda$$

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Since $Ax^* = b$ and since $AQ^{-1}A^\top$ is invertible (why?),

$$\lambda = (AQ^{-1}A^\top)^{-1}b$$

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$$L(x^*, \lambda) = Q > 0.$$

Problems with inequality constraints

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && f(x) \\ & && \text{subject to} \\ & && h(x) = 0, \\ & && g(x) \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m; \quad m \leq n, \quad g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p.$$

Problems with inequality constraints

minimize $f(x)$ subject to $h(x) = 0, g(x) \leq 0,$

where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m; m \leq n, g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p.$

The inequality constraint:

$$g_j(x) \leq 0 \quad \begin{array}{ll} \text{active at } x^* & \text{if } g_j(x^*) = 0. \\ \text{inactive at } x^* & \text{if } g_j(x^*) < 0. \end{array}$$

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The inequality constraint:

$$\begin{array}{lll} g_j(x) \leq 0 & \text{active at } x^* & \text{if } g_j(x^*) = 0. \\ g_j(x) \leq 0 & \text{inactive at } x^* & \text{if } g_j(x^*) < 0. \end{array}$$

Let x^* satisfy $h(x^*) = 0$ and $g(x^*) \leq 0$, and

$$J(x^*) = \{j : g_j(x^*) = 0\} \quad \text{"active constraints"}$$

Then, we say that x^* is a **regular point** if the vectors

$$\nabla h_i(x^*), \nabla g_j(x^*), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, j \in J(x^*)$$

are linearly independent.

Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions

minimize $f(x)$ subject to $h(x) = 0, g(x) \leq 0,$

where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m; m \leq n, g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p.$

Theorem – Let $f, g, h \in \mathcal{C}$. Let x^* be a regular point and a local minimizer for the problem

minimize $f(x)$ subject to $h(x) = 0, g(x) \leq 0.$

Then, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^p$ such that

- i. $\mu \geq 0$
- ii. $Df(x^*) + \lambda^\top Dh(x^*) + \mu^\top Dg(x^*) = 0^\top$
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- iii. $\mu^\top g(x^*) = 0.$ Complementary slackness

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Solve for x^*, λ, μ using the above.

An example

Communication over parallel channels $i = 1, \dots, k$

- The communication rate over channel i is given by

$$\frac{1}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{x_i}{\sigma_i^2} \right)$$

where σ_i^2 is the noise power and x_i denotes the signal power.

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$$\max_{x_1, \dots, x_k} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \log \left(1 + \frac{x_i}{\sigma_i^2} \right) \text{ subject to } \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \leq P, \\ x_i \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

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$$J(x^n, \mu, \mu^n) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \log \left(1 + \frac{x_i}{\sigma_i^2} \right) + \mu \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - P \right) + \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i (-x_i - 0).$$

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Stationarity: $\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_i} \Big|_{x_i^*} = 0$

Primal feasibility: $\begin{cases} \sum_i x_i^* \leq P, \\ x_i^* \geq 0 \end{cases}$

Complementary slackness: $\begin{cases} \mu_i x_i^* = 0, \\ \mu (\sum_i x_i^* - P) = 0 \end{cases}$

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which yields

$$2\mu = 2\mu_i + \frac{1}{x_i + \sigma_i^2}.$$

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Case 1: $\boxed{\frac{1}{2\mu} \leq \sigma_i^2}$

Case 2: $\boxed{\frac{1}{2\mu} > \sigma_i^2}$

(continue on board)

An example

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Dual feasibility: $\begin{cases} \mu_i \geq 0, \\ \mu \geq 0 \end{cases}$

The solution is given by

$$x_i^* = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \frac{1}{2\mu} \leq \sigma_i^2 \\ \frac{1}{2\mu} - \sigma_i^2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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The solution is given by

$$x_i^* = \left(\frac{1}{2\mu} - \sigma_i^2 \right)_+ ; \quad (a)_+ = \max\{a, 0\}.$$

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By complementary slackness, we choose μ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^* = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{2\mu} - \sigma_i^2 \right)_+ = P.$$



Thank You!