

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 **without** constraints Gradient methods
- * 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

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } f(x) \\ & \text{subject to } h_i(x) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & \text{where } x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \\ & \quad f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\ & \quad h_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad m \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

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

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

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We have

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Therefore,

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

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

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Another example

Given a **fixed area** of cardboard, say $A \text{ m}^2$, we wish to construct a closed (cuboidal) box with the **maximum volume**.

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$$\text{Ans: } x_1^* = x_2^* = x_3^* = \sqrt{A/6}.$$

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· Consider $\tilde{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \frac{A-2}{4} \end{bmatrix}^\top$

Is \tilde{x} feasible?

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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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Introduce a Lagrangian function

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

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$$D\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} D_x \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) & D_\lambda \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) \end{bmatrix}^\top = 0^\top.$$

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$$D\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = [D_x\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) \quad D_\lambda\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda)]^\top = 0^\top.$$

That is,

$$\begin{array}{ll} D_x\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = Df(x) + \lambda^\top Dh(x) & = 0^\top & \text{Lagrange's theorem} \\ D_\lambda\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = h(x) & = 0^\top & \text{Constraints} \end{array}$$

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FONC on (unconstrained) \mathcal{L} yields

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

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

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

An example

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

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

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By Lagrange's theorem,

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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

$$T(x^*) = \{y : Dh(x^*)y = 0\} \text{ and}$$

$$L(x^*, \lambda) \text{ is the Hessian of } \mathcal{L}(x^*, \lambda).$$

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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

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$$x^* = Q^{-1}A^\top \lambda \quad \implies \quad Ax^* = AQ^{-1}A^\top \lambda.$$

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

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

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

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Is x^* the minimum or the maximum?

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

Problems with inequality constraints

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

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

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The inequality constraint:

$g_j(x) \leq 0$	active at x^*	if $g_j(x^*) = 0$.
$g_j(x) \leq 0$	inactive at x^*	if $g_j(x^*) < 0$.

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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

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

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

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

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

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Solve for x^*, λ, μ using the above.

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

The constraints in the problem are

- iv. $h(x^*) = 0$ Primal feasibility
- v. $g(x^*) \leq 0.$ Primal feasibility

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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Lagrangian function:

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

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

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

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

An example

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

The solution is given by

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

An example

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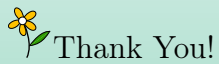
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By complementary slackness, we choose μ such that

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



Thank You!