

④ Let  $f(x,y) = x^2 + 2y^2$ . Starting with  $x_1 = (1,1)$

a) What is the minimal function value that can be achieved with one step of the gradient descent, i.e. find the minimum of  $f(x_2)$ .

Gradient descent:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \gamma \nabla f(x_k)$$

$$\nabla f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 4y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \gamma \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 \\ 4y_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-2\gamma \\ 1-4\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f(x_2) = (1-2\gamma)^2 + 2(1-4\gamma)^2$$

To find the minima, take derivative and set to 0

$$\frac{\partial f(x_2)}{\partial \gamma} = 2(1-2\gamma) \cdot (-2) + 4(1-4\gamma) \cdot (-4) = 0$$

$$-4 + 8\gamma - 16 + 64\gamma = 0$$

$$20 = 72\gamma$$

$$\gamma = \frac{5}{18}$$

$$f(x_2) = \left(1 - \frac{10}{18}\right)^2 + 2\left(1 - \frac{20}{18}\right)^2 = \frac{16}{81} + \frac{2}{81} = \frac{2}{9}$$

b) How close to the actual minimum  $x^*$  of function  $f$  can we get with one step of the gradient descent, i.e., find minimum of the distance from  $x^*$  to  $x_2$ .

We need to find  $\min \|x_2 - x^*\| = \min \|x_2\|$  <sup>monotone increasing</sup>  $= \min \|x_2\|^2$

$$x^* = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|x_2\|^2 = (1-2\gamma)^2 + (1-4\gamma)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \|x_2\|^2}{\partial \gamma}$$

$$= 2(1-2\gamma) \cdot (-2) + 2(1-4\gamma) \cdot (-4) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_2 - x^*\| &= \|x_2\| = \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{6}{10}\right)^2 + \left(1 - \frac{12}{10}\right)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{16}{100} + \frac{4}{100}} = \sqrt{\frac{20}{100}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{5}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \end{aligned}$$

$$-4 + 8\gamma + 8 + 32\gamma = 0$$

$$12 = 40\gamma$$

$$\gamma = \frac{3}{10}$$