

Review  
Critical points:

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

$$\text{Gradient } \nabla f(\vec{x}_0) = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right) \quad \vec{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \quad (*)$$

necessary  
condition  
for  
minumum

Let  $\vec{x}^*$  be a local minimiser of  $f$  and let  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \Rightarrow \nabla f(\vec{x}^*) = \vec{0}$

Not sufficient  $\Rightarrow$  max and double points also have vanishing gradients

$$\text{Hessian of } f: \nabla^2 f(\vec{x}) = \left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \Leftarrow \text{symmetric } n \times n \text{ matrix}$$

Recall in 1D:  $x^*$  is a local min of  $f \in C^2([0, 5])$  then  $f'(x^*) = 0$  and  $f''(x^*) \geq 0$

| guarantees local  
minimum

Higher space dimension  $\Rightarrow$  function has double points, which are necessary condition

$$\vec{A} \text{ is pos. semidef} \Rightarrow \vec{x}^\top \vec{A} \vec{x} \geq 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  sufficient condition

Thus let  $f \in C^2(U)$  for some open set  $U$  and  $\vec{x}^* \in U$ . If

$\vec{x}^* \in U$  is local min  $\Rightarrow \nabla f(\vec{x}^*) = \vec{0}$  and  $\nabla^2 f(\vec{x}^*)$  is pos. semidef.

If  $\nabla f(\vec{x}^*) = \vec{0}$  and  $\nabla^2 f(\vec{x}^*)$  pos. def  $\Rightarrow \vec{x}^* \in U$  is strict local min.

Only local minimisers, no global. If  $f$  is convex then the above function has a unique global minimiser

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  2nd partial derivative test

Ex Quadratic function

$$f(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \vec{x}^\top \vec{A} \vec{x} + \vec{b}^\top \vec{x} + c$$

$\vec{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  symmetric  
 $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

provide inner product:

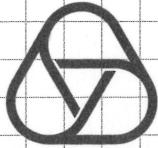
$$\begin{aligned} \vec{x}^\top \vec{A} \vec{x} + (\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n) & \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = (\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n) \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_i x_j \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} x_i^2 + 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} a_{ij} x_i x_j \quad \text{(skip)} \end{aligned}$$

Calculate partial derivative

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j + b_i \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2} = a_{ii}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla f(\vec{x}) = \vec{A} \vec{x} + \vec{b} \quad \nabla^2 f(\vec{x}) = \vec{A}$$

If  $\vec{A}$  is pos. semidef  $\Rightarrow f$  is convex



## Typical example

$$f(\vec{x}) = \|\vec{A}\vec{x} - \vec{b}\|^2 = (\vec{A}\vec{x} - \vec{b})^T (\vec{A}\vec{x} - \vec{b}) = \vec{x}^T \vec{A}^T \vec{A} \vec{x} - 2\vec{b}^T \vec{A} \vec{x} + \vec{b}^T \vec{b}$$

is always symmetric  
and semidefinite

Directional derivative: measures how much a function changes in a given direction in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\nabla_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\vec{x} + \epsilon \vec{u}) - f(\vec{x})}{\epsilon}$$

$$\text{In particular } \nabla_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}) = \vec{u} \cdot \nabla f(\vec{x})$$

Gradient always goes in direction of maximal ascent because

$$\nabla_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}) = \nabla f(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{u} = \|\nabla f(\vec{x})\| \|\vec{u}\| \cos \theta$$

angle between  $\nabla f(\vec{x})$  and  $\vec{u}$

If we max  $\nabla_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x})$  over all directions  $\vec{u}$  (assuming  $\|\vec{u}\|=1$ ) we see that max occurs when  $\theta=0 \Rightarrow \nabla_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}) = \|\nabla f(\vec{x})\| \vec{u} = \frac{\nabla f(\vec{x})}{\|\nabla f(\vec{x})\|}$

$$\text{Steepest direction } \theta=\pi \Rightarrow \vec{u} = -\frac{\nabla f(\vec{x})}{\|\nabla f(\vec{x})\|} \quad \leftarrow \text{ basis of many algorithms}$$

Frechet differentiability: Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .  $f$  is called Frechet differentiable if there exists a linear map  $J_f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  such that

$$\lim_{\vec{u} \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|f(\vec{x} + \vec{u}) - f(\vec{x}) - J_f(\vec{x})\vec{u}\|_2}{\|\vec{u}\|} = 0$$

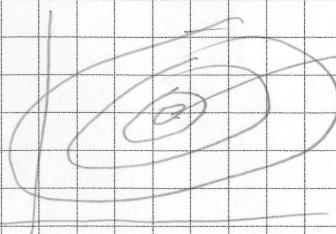
If  $\vec{y} = (f_1(\vec{x}), \dots, f_m(\vec{x}))^T$  and all partial derivatives exist then  $J_f$  can be represented by the Jacobian

$$J_f(\vec{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

Contour plots: useful for visualisation functions in 2D,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , level

Level set is a set of the form  $\{\vec{x} : f(\vec{x}) = c\}$   $c \in \mathbb{R}$  is the level

Convex function



only one sink



## Linear algebra review

vector space

Inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , satisfying

$$\text{i)} \langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle = \langle \vec{y}, \vec{x} \rangle \quad \text{symmetry}$$

$$\text{ii)} \langle a\vec{x} + b\vec{y}, \vec{z} \rangle = a \langle \vec{x}, \vec{z} \rangle + b \langle \vec{y}, \vec{z} \rangle \quad \text{linearity}$$

$$\text{iii)} \langle \vec{x}, \vec{x} \rangle > 0 \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V, \vec{x} \neq \vec{0} \quad \text{pos. def.}$$

Every scalar product induces a norm  $\|\vec{x}\| = \sqrt{\langle \vec{x}, \vec{x} \rangle}$

Ex. Euclidean product in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \vec{x}^T \vec{y} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i \quad \begin{aligned} \vec{x} &= (x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ \vec{y} &= (y_1, \dots, y_n) \end{aligned}$$

Norm  $\|\cdot\|: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function satisfying

$$\text{i)} \|\vec{x}\| \geq 0 \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V \text{ and } \|\vec{x}\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow \vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

$$\text{ii)} \|\lambda \vec{x}\| = |\lambda| \|\vec{x}\| \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{x} \in V$$

$$\text{iii)} \|\vec{x} + \vec{y}\| \leq \|\vec{x}\| + \|\vec{y}\| \quad \text{triangle inequality}$$

Examples: 1-norm  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$

2-norm  $\|\vec{x}\|_2 = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \Leftarrow \text{induced by Euclidean inner product}$

$\infty$ -norm  $\|\vec{x}\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|$

Cauchy-Schwarz  $|\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle| \leq \|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{y}\|$

Basis of a linear vector space  $\{b_1, \dots, b_k\}$  is a basis of  $V$  if for every  $\vec{x} \in V$  there exists a unique representation  $\vec{x} = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i b_i$

Basis orthonormal if  $\langle b_i, b_j \rangle = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  and  $\|b_i\| = 1$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$

Classical example:  $V = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  where  $e_i = (0, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, 0)$   $\sum_{i \text{, 1st entry}}$

Solving linear systems:  $\vec{A}\vec{x} = \vec{b}$   $\vec{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$\Rightarrow$  when does a solution exist?  
when is it unique?

$$\text{Im}(\vec{A}) = \{ \vec{A}\vec{x} : \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \}$$

↑  
image

$$\text{ker } \vec{A} = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \vec{A}\vec{x} = \vec{0} \} \Leftarrow \text{null space}$$

↑  
kernel

Equivalent conditions:

1.  $\vec{A}$  is invertible

2.  $\text{rk } \vec{A} = n$

3.  $\text{ker } \vec{A} = \{ \vec{0} \}$

4.  $\text{im } \vec{A} = \mathbb{R}^m$

5. rows of  $\vec{A}$  are linearly independent

6. columns of  $\vec{A}$  are linearly indep.