



How do I solve the following multivariable minimization optimization problem?

Asked 2 days ago Active today Viewed 60 times



minimize $b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + b_3x_3 + b_4x_4$
subject to $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 1$

$$d(1)x(1) + d(2)x(2) + d(3)x(3) + d(4)x(4) \leq Dt$$
$$b(1) > b(2) > b(3) > b(4)$$
$$d(1) < d(2) < d(3) < d(4)$$

- The four variables $x(1)$ to $x(4)$ represent percentages and must add up to 1
- Is there a minimum for the objective function such that all the constraints are satisfied? How to approach such a problem?

linear-algebra optimization maxima-minima lagrange-multiplier

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edited 17 hours ago

asked 2 days ago

Mohamed R
21 2

New contributor

- ▲

Please clarify your specific problem or provide additional details to highlight exactly what you need. As it's currently written, it's hard to tell what you're asking. – Community ♦ 2 days ago
- ▲

Do you correctly formulate the problem? You want to minimize the sum, but you claim that it is equal to 1. – user376343 2 days ago
- ▲

As it is stated, if the admissible region, S , is non-empty, the minimum is 1 and that value is attained at every point in S . Maybe you want to ask for a maximum? – PierreCarre 2 days ago
- ▲

@user376343 Hello, I have edited the problem. Does the new formulation make sense? – Mohamed R 23 hours ago
- ▲

@PierreCarre Hello, I have edited the problem. Does the new formulation make sense? – Mohamed R 23 hours ago

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This tag is for the questions about the method of Lagrange multipliers (also known as the method of Lagrange). It provides a systematic way to find the maxima and minima of a function subject to constraints. [View tag](#)

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Calling

0

$$\begin{cases} f(x) = \sum_k b_k x_k^2 \\ r_1(x) = \sum_k x_k^2 - 1 \\ r_2(x, s) = \sum_k d_k x_k^2 - D + s^2 \end{cases}$$

we have the lagrangian

$$L(x, \lambda, \mu, s) = f(x) + \lambda r_1(x) + \mu r_2(x, s)$$

here s is a slack variable to transform the inequality into an equivalent equation.

The **stationary points** are the solutions for

$$\nabla L = \begin{cases} b_j x_j + \lambda x_j + \mu d_j x_j = 0, & j = 1, \dots, 4 \\ \sum_k x_k^2 - 1 = 0 \\ \sum_k d_k x_k^2 - D + s^2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

giving

f	x_1^2	x_2^2	x_3^2	x_4^2	λ	μ	s^2	condition
b_1	1	0	0	0	$-b_1$	0	$D - d_1$	$D \geq d_1$
b_2	0	1	0	0	$-b_2$	0	$D - d_2$	$D \geq d_2$
b_3	0	0	1	0	$-b_3$	0	$D - d_3$	$D \geq d_3$
b_4	0	0	0	1	$-b_4$	0	$D - d_4$	$D \geq d_4$
$\frac{b_2(d_1-D)}{d_1-d_2} + \frac{b_1(d_2-D)}{d_2-d_1}$	$\frac{d_2-D}{d_2-d_1}$	$\frac{d_1-D}{d_1-d_2}$	0	0	$\frac{b_1d_2-b_2d_1}{d_1-d_2}$	$\frac{b_2-b_1}{d_1-d_2}$	0	$d_1 \leq D \leq d_2$
$\frac{b_3(d_1-D)}{d_1-d_3} + \frac{b_1(d_3-D)}{d_3-d_1}$	$\frac{d_3-D}{d_3-d_1}$	0	$\frac{d_1-D}{d_1-d_3}$	0	$\frac{b_1d_3-b_3d_1}{d_1-d_3}$	$\frac{b_3-b_1}{d_1-d_3}$	0	$d_1 \leq D \leq d_3$
$\frac{b_3(d_2-D)}{d_2-d_3} + \frac{b_2(d_3-D)}{d_3-d_2}$	0	$\frac{d_3-D}{d_3-d_2}$	$\frac{d_2-D}{d_2-d_3}$	0	$\frac{b_2d_3-b_3d_2}{d_2-d_3}$	$\frac{b_3-b_2}{d_2-d_3}$	0	$d_2 \leq D \leq d_3$
$\frac{b_4(d_1-D)}{d_1-d_4} + \frac{b_1(d_4-D)}{d_4-d_1}$	$\frac{d_4-D}{d_4-d_1}$	0	0	$\frac{d_1-D}{d_1-d_4}$	$\frac{b_1d_4-b_4d_1}{d_1-d_4}$	$\frac{b_4-b_1}{d_1-d_4}$	0	$d_1 \leq D \leq d_4$
$\frac{b_4(d_2-D)}{d_2-d_4} + \frac{b_2(d_4-D)}{d_4-d_2}$	0	$\frac{d_4-D}{d_4-d_2}$	0	$\frac{d_2-D}{d_2-d_4}$	$\frac{b_2d_4-b_4d_2}{d_2-d_4}$	$\frac{b_4-b_2}{d_2-d_4}$	0	$d_2 \leq D \leq d_4$
$\frac{b_4(d_3-D)}{d_3-d_4} + \frac{b_3(d_4-D)}{d_4-d_3}$	0	0	$\frac{d_4-D}{d_4-d_3}$	$\frac{d_3-D}{d_3-d_4}$	$\frac{b_3d_4-b_4d_3}{d_3-d_4}$	$\frac{b_4-b_3}{d_3-d_4}$	0	$d_3 \leq D \leq d_4$

NOTE

We used x_k^2 to assure the positiveness. When $s = 0$ indicates that $r_2(x, s)$ is actuating. The table of results should be interpreted according to the given condition at the last column.

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edited 57 mins ago

answered 10 hours ago



Cesareo

22.7k

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