

Midterm Exam

In class. No book. No calculator. 1/2 sheet of notes allowed.
(100 points possible)

1. Let $f(x) = x_1^3 + x_1^2 x_2 + x_3$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

(a) (10 pts) Compute the gradient and Hessian of f at $x_k = (-1, 1, 1)^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

$$\nabla f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 3x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 \\ x_1^2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \nabla f(x_k) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 6x_1 + 2x_2 & 2x_1 & 0 \\ 2x_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \nabla^2 f(x_k) = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) (5 pts) Show that f has no local minima. (Hint: Explain using an appropriate 1st- or 2nd-order necessary or sufficient condition.)

f has no local min. because $\nabla f(x) \neq 0$ for any x .

(this uses the 1st-order necessary condition)

note 3rd entry of $\nabla f(x)$ is 1 always

(c) (5 pts) Is $p = (1, 2, 3)^T$ a descent direction for f at x_k from part (a)?

We compute

$$\nabla f(x_k)^T p = [1 \ 1 \ 1] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 6 > 0$$

but " $\nabla f(x)^T p < 0$ " for descent directions,

so no

2. (a) (5 pts) Does the sequence of real numbers defined by $x_0 = 1$ and

$$x_{k+1} = \frac{1}{k+1} x_k,$$

for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, converge to $x_* = 0$ superlinearly? Show why your answer is true.

$$e_k = x_k - x_* = x_k \quad \leftarrow (\text{in this case})$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{k+1} |x_k|}{|x_k|} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k+1} = 0$$

so $\{x_k\}$ converges superlinearly

(b) (5 pts) Show that the sequence

$$x_k = 3^{(-2^k)}$$

converges quadratically. (Hint: Start by identifying the point x_* to which the sequence converges.)

$$x_* = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = 0 \quad \left(= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 3^{-n} \right)$$

$$\text{So } \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|^2} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^{(-2^{k+1})}}{3^{(-2^k)^2}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 1 = 1 = c$$

and $0 < c < \infty$ so $\{x_k\}$ converges quadratically

3. (10 pts) Consider $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^4 - x^2 + 2x$ and $x_0 = 1$. Compute x_1 from Newton's method for the optimization problem $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} f(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= x_0 - \frac{f'(x_0)}{f''(x_0)} = 1 - \frac{1 - 2 + 2}{3 - 2} \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{1} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= x^3 - 2x + 2 \\ f''(x) &= 3x^2 - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Extra Credit. (3 pts) Consider the equation $f(x) = 0$ where $f: \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ is twice continuously differentiable. Assume that the iterates x_k from Newton's method converge to x_* satisfying the equation. Also assume that $f'(x_*) \neq 0$. Show that $x_k \rightarrow x_*$ quadratically. (Use space on the back page, or a separate sheet of paper.)

see back

4. Consider the optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && f(x) = \cos(x_1) - x_2^3 + \exp(x_1^4 + x_2^2) \\ & \text{subject to} && 2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3 = -1 \\ & && x_1 + 4x_2 \geq -3 \\ & && 7x_2 - 5x_3 \geq 2 \end{aligned}$$

(a) (3 pts) Is $x = (1, 1, 1)^T$ feasible?

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \cdot 1 - 4 \cdot 1 + 1 &= -1 \quad \checkmark \\ 1 + 4 \cdot 1 &\geq -3 \quad \checkmark \\ 7 \cdot 1 - 5 \cdot 1 &\geq 2 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

yes

(b) (3 pts) Which constraints are active and which are inactive at $x = (1, 1, 1)^T$?

equality constraint is active
1st inequality constraint is inactive
2nd inequality constraint is active

(c) (10 pts) Consider general problems of the same form, with linear equality constraints $a_j^T x = b_j$ for $j \in \mathcal{E}$ and inequality constraints $a_i^T x \geq b_i$ for $i \in \mathcal{I}$, and assume \bar{x} is feasible. Show that if $a_j^T p = 0$ for all $j \in \mathcal{E}$ and $a_i^T p \geq 0$ for all $i \in \hat{\mathcal{I}}$, where $\hat{\mathcal{I}}$ is the set of indices where the constraint $a_i^T x \geq b_i$ is active at \bar{x} , then p is a feasible direction.

$$\frac{j \in \mathcal{E}:}{a_j^T (\bar{x} + \alpha p)} = a_j^T \bar{x} + \alpha a_j^T p = b_j + 0 = b_j$$

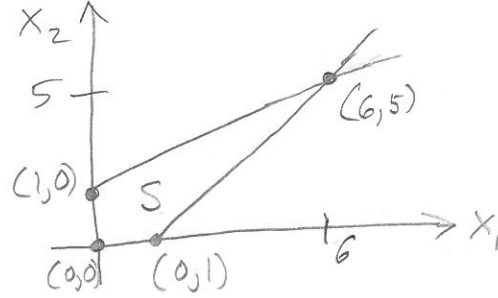
$$\frac{i \in \hat{\mathcal{I}}:}{a_i^T (\bar{x} + \alpha p)} = a_i^T \bar{x} + \alpha a_i^T p \geq b_i + 0 = b_i$$

so $\bar{x} + \alpha p$ is feasible so p is a feasible direction

(d) (4 pts) Fill in the blanks: For the same general class of problems as described in (c), and assuming x is feasible and that p is a feasible direction, the ratio test determines the maximum value of α so that $x + \alpha p$ is feasible. Only the inequality constraints which are inactive are needed for this test.

5. (a) (8 pts) Sketch the feasible set for the following linear programming problem:

minimize $z = -2x_1 + x_2$
 subject to $-2x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 3$
 $-x_1 + x_2 \geq -1$
 $x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0$



$-2x + 3y = 3$
 $y = 1 + \frac{2}{3}x$
 $-x + y = -1$
 $y = -1 + x$

$1 + \frac{2}{3}x = -1 + x$
 $2 = \frac{1}{3}x$
 $x = 6$

(b) (7 pts) Convert the problem in (a) to standard form.

min. $z = -2x_1 + x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4$
 s.t. $-2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 3$
 $-x_1 - x_2 + x_4 = 1$
 $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0$

$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
 $b = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
 $c = [-2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]^T$

(c) (10 pts) Let x be the basic feasible solution, to the problem in (b), for which $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = 0$. Use the template to complete one iteration of the (reduced) simplex method. In particular, at bottom, fill in the basic and non-basic variables (indices) at the completion of this first iteration.

$B = \{3, 4\}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, c_B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, Bx_B = b \Rightarrow x_B = \hat{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
 $N = \{1, 2\}, N = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, c_N = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$B^T y = c_B \Rightarrow y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \hat{c}_N = c_N - N^T y = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\hat{c}_N \geq 0$? : stop with optimum $\hat{c}_N \rightarrow$ index of $t = \boxed{1} \rightarrow B\hat{A}_t = \hat{A}_t \Rightarrow \hat{A}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{a}_{1,t} \\ \vdots \\ \hat{a}_{m,t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\hat{A}_t \leq 0$? : stop, unbounded $\left\{ \frac{\hat{b}_i}{\hat{a}_{i,t}} \right\} = \left\{ \frac{3}{-2}, \frac{1}{1} \right\}$ index of \rightarrow min over $\hat{a}_{i,t} > 0$ $s = \boxed{4}$

result: $B = \{3, 1\}, N = \{4, 2\}$

6. (a) (5 pts) Given a linear programming problem in standard form

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & z = c^T x \\ \text{subject to} & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0. \end{array}$$

What is the dual problem?

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & w = b^T y \\ \text{s. t.} & A^T y \leq c \end{array}$$

(b) (5 pts) Fill in the blank to state the following theorem and prove the theorem. Please justify any inequalities.

Theorem (weak duality). Let x be a feasible point for the primal problem in standard form, and let y be a feasible point for the dual problem. Then

$$\underline{z = c^T x \geq b^T y = w}$$

Proof.

because $x \geq 0$,

$$z = c^T x \geq (A^T y)^T x = y^T (Ax) = y^T b = w$$



7. (5 pts) Given a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, define what it means for A to be positive definite.

def. $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is positive definite if

$$p^T A p > 0 \quad \text{for all non zero vectors } p$$

Extra Credit We know $f(x_*) = 0$ and $e_k = x_k - x_*$ has limit zero. By Taylor's theorem,

$$0 = f(x_*) = f(x_k) + f'(x_k)(x_* - x_k) + \frac{1}{2} f''(\xi)(x_* - x_k)^2$$

Equivalently

$$-f(x_k) + f'(x_k)x_k - f'(x_k)x_* = \frac{1}{2} f''(\xi) e_k^2$$

or, assuming $f'(x_k) \neq 0$,

$$\underbrace{\left(x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)} \right)}_{= x_{k+1} \text{ by Newton's method.}} - x_* = \frac{f''(\xi)}{2f'(x_k)} e_k^2$$

Thus

$$e_{k+1} = \frac{f''(\xi)}{2f'(x_k)} e_k^2.$$

As $k \rightarrow \infty$ we know $x_k \rightarrow x_*$ so $\xi \rightarrow x_*$. Since $f'(x)$ is continuous and $f'(x_*) \neq 0$, $f'(x_k) \neq 0$ for large k . Thus

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|e_{k+1}|}{|e_k|^2} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f''(\xi)}{2f'(x_k)} = \frac{f''(x_*)}{2f'(x_*)} = C.$$

We know $C < \infty$. Thus $x_k \rightarrow x_*$ (at least) quadratically.