

SySc 512, Session 11, Constrained Opt

General Constrained Optimization Problem:

Find  $\vec{x}^* \in \mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  that minimizes  $f(\vec{x})$

Subject to the constraints:

$$c_i(\vec{x}^*) = 0 \quad (\text{equality constraint})$$

Example 1:  $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)$   
 $c(x) = x + y - 1$



Constraint slices through objective function  
 At  $\vec{x}^*$ : Gradients of  $f$  &  $c$  are parallel

$$\Rightarrow \nabla_x f(\vec{x}) \Big|_{\vec{x}=\vec{x}^*} = \underbrace{\vec{\lambda}_i}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{(proportionality constant)}}} \cdot \nabla c_i(\vec{x}) \Big|_{\vec{x}=\vec{x}^*}$$

Define "Lagrangian" to obtain opt. conditions:

$$\mathcal{L}(\vec{x}, \vec{\lambda}) = f(\vec{x}) - \vec{\lambda} \cdot \vec{c}(\vec{x})$$

w/  $\vec{\lambda}$  are Lagrange multipliers

1st Order Conditions

$$\nabla_{(x, \lambda)} \mathcal{L}(\vec{x}, \vec{\lambda}) \Big|_{\substack{\vec{x}=\vec{x}^* \\ \vec{\lambda}=\vec{\lambda}^*}} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nabla_x (f(\vec{x}) - \vec{\lambda} \cdot \vec{c}(\vec{x})) \\ \vec{c}(\vec{x}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

In 2-Dim w/ 1-constraint:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \mathcal{L} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} f(x_1, x_2) - \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} c(x_1, x_2) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \mathcal{L} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} f(x_1, x_2) - \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} c(x_1, x_2) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \mathcal{L} = c(x_1, x_2) = 0$$

( $\lambda$  is like the strength of the constraint force)

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$$\mathcal{L}(x, y, \lambda) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1)$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 

$$\nabla \mathcal{L} = \begin{bmatrix} x - \lambda \\ y - \lambda \\ x + y - 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \lambda = x \\ \lambda = y \\ x = 1 - y \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow x = y$$

$$\text{Trace} \Rightarrow x^* = y^* = \frac{1}{2}, \lambda = \frac{1}{2}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> Order Conditions

Project down to accessible space:

 $\Rightarrow$  perpendicular to gradient of constraint.~~if~~If  $\vec{n} \cdot (\nabla C) = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{n}$  in nullspace of  $\nabla C$ .Project Hessian of  $\mathcal{L}$  to nullspace of  $\nabla C$ 

Find eigenvalues of:

$$H_{\text{proj}} = \vec{n}^T (\nabla_x^2 \mathcal{L}(\vec{x}^*)) \vec{n}$$

If eigenvalues of  $H_0(x^*, x^*) > 0 \Rightarrow$  min.

$$\text{Example 1 } \nabla_x^2 \mathcal{L}(x, y, \lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla_x C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, (\nabla C) \cdot \vec{n} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{n} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Project: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = 2$$

Since  $2 > 0 \Rightarrow$  minimum

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Constr Opt, Examp 2

$$\min f(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 - 1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}x_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } c(\vec{x}) = -x_1 + b x_2^2 = 0$$

1<sup>st</sup> Order Condition

$$(a) \partial_1 \mathcal{L} = (x_1 - 1) + \lambda = 0$$

$$(b) \partial_2 \mathcal{L} = x_2 - 2\lambda b x_2 = x_2(1 - 2\lambda b) = 0$$

$$(c) \partial_\lambda \mathcal{L} = -x_1 + b x_2^2 = 0$$

(I)

$$(b) \Rightarrow x_2 = 0, \Rightarrow (c) x_1 = 0, \Rightarrow (a) \lambda = 1, \Rightarrow (\vec{x}^*, \lambda^*) = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$(b) \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{2b}, \Rightarrow (a) x_1 = 1 - \frac{1}{2b}, \text{ \& } (c) x_2^2 = \frac{1}{b} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2b}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{x}^*, \lambda^*) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2b}, \pm \frac{1}{b} \sqrt{b - \frac{1}{2}}, \frac{1}{2b}\right)$$

2<sup>nd</sup> Order Condition

If  $\vec{n} \cdot (\nabla_x c) = 0$ , & eigenvalues of  $(\vec{n}^T (\nabla_x^2 \mathcal{L}) \vec{n}) > 0$

$\Rightarrow$  minimum.

$$\nabla c = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2b x_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{n} = \begin{bmatrix} 2b x_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\nabla_x^2 \mathcal{L}] = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_{11}^2 \mathcal{L} & \partial_{12}^2 \mathcal{L} \\ \partial_{21}^2 \mathcal{L} & \partial_{22}^2 \mathcal{L} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - 2\lambda b \end{bmatrix}$$

Project onto null-space:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2b x_2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - 2\lambda b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2b x_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 2b x_2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2b x_2 \\ 1 - 2\lambda b \end{bmatrix} = 4b^2 x_2^2 + 1 - 2\lambda b$$

(I) If  $(\vec{x}^*, \lambda^*) = (0, 0, 1)$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - 2b > 0 \quad \text{if } b < \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{min}}$$

$$\text{if } b > \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{max}}$$

(II) If  $(\vec{x}^*, \lambda^*) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2b}, \pm \frac{1}{b} \sqrt{b - \frac{1}{2}}, \frac{1}{2b}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow 4b^2 \left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^2 \left(b - \frac{1}{2}\right) + 1 - \frac{2b}{2b}$$

$$= 4\left(b - \frac{1}{2}\right) > 0 \quad \text{if } b > \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{min}}$$

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Rayleigh's Quotient:  $Q(\vec{v}) = \frac{\vec{v}^T A \vec{v}}{\vec{v}^T \vec{v}}$ ,  $A = A^T$

Show: ~~Normalized~~ Eigenvectors of  $A$  are  
 minimizers of  $Q(\vec{v})$ , if  $\vec{v}^T \vec{v} = 1$

$\Rightarrow$

Minimize  $\vec{v}^T A \vec{v}$  (More generally,  
 subject to  $\vec{v}^T \vec{v} = 1$   $\vec{v}$  is a vector)

Lagrangian:  $\mathcal{L}(\vec{v}) = \vec{v}^T A \vec{v} + \lambda (1 - \vec{v}^T \vec{v})$

1<sup>st</sup> Order Cond:  $\nabla \mathcal{L} = 0$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v_j} \mathcal{L} = \frac{\partial}{\partial v_j} \left( \sum_{i,k} A_{ijk} v_i v_k + \lambda (1 - \sum_i v_i^2) \right)$$

$$= \sum_k A_{ijk} v_k + \sum_i A_{ij} v_i - 2\lambda v_j$$

$$= 2(\sum_k A_{jk} v_k - \lambda v_j) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\nabla \mathcal{L} = 2(A\vec{v} - \lambda \vec{v}) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{A\vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v}}$$

Thus,  $\vec{v}$  is an eigenvector &  $\lambda$  is eigenvalue of  $A$ .

Sensitivity to constraint

Minimize  $f(x_1, x_2)$

subject to  $C(\vec{x}) = g(x_1, x_2) - b$

Lagrangian:  $\mathcal{L}(x_1, x_2, \lambda) = f(x_1, x_2) + \lambda [b - g(x_1, x_2)]$

\*  $\rightarrow$  What is the change in  $\mathcal{L}$  caused by changing  $b$ ?

$$\frac{d}{db} \mathcal{L} = \partial_1 f \frac{dx_1^*}{db} + \partial_2 f \frac{dx_2^*}{db} + [b - g(\vec{x}^*)] \frac{d\lambda}{db} + \lambda \left( 1 - \partial_1 g \frac{dx_1}{db} - \partial_2 g \frac{dx_2}{db} \right)$$

$$= (\partial_1 f - \lambda \partial_1 g) \frac{dx_1}{db} + (\partial_2 f - \lambda \partial_2 g) \frac{dx_2}{db} + [b - g] \frac{d\lambda}{db} + \lambda$$

At  $(\vec{x}^*, \lambda^*)$ ,  $\partial_1 f - \lambda^* \partial_1 g = 0$ ,  $\partial_2 f - \lambda^* \partial_2 g = 0$   
 $\& b - g(x_1^*, x_2^*) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{db} \mathcal{L} = \lambda^*$ , Thus,  $\lambda^*$  gives sensitivity of optimum on  $b$ .