

Optimization

Fourth Class

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Chapter One

Basic Concepts

Lecture 6

Theorem (6):

- If**
- 1: $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ has continuous first partial derivatives in a convex set $D \subset R^n$.**
 - 2: X^* is a local minimizer or maximizer of f over D .**
- Then $g(X^*) = 0$, where g is the gradient of f .**

Note (14):

The converse of Theorem (6) is not in general true.

Note (15):

If X^* is a local minimizer of f over D , then X^* is also critical point of f , but the converse is not true. For example the function $f: R \rightarrow R$ defined by $f(x) = x^3, x \in R$ has $x^* = 0$ is a critical point but it is not a local minimizer of f .

Definition (16):

Let $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ has continuous first partial derivatives in a convex set $D \subset R^n$. The point $X^* \in D$ is called **a saddle point** if and only if X^* is a critical point of f but it is not a local minimizer or maximizer of f .

Theorem (7):

If

1: $f: R^n \rightarrow R$ has continuous first and second partial derivatives in an open convex set D containing X^* .

2: X^* is a critical point of f in D .

3: $G(X^*)$ is positive definite matrix, where G is the Hessian matrix of f .

Then X^* is a strict local minimizer of f over D .

Example (12):

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(X) = x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2, X \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

1: Find the gradient vector of f .

2: Find the critical points of f .

3: Find the Hessian matrix at critical points.

4: Determine whether the critical points are local minimizers or not.

Solution:

1: The gradient vector of f is defined by

$$g(X) = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \right]^T.$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} = 2x_1 + x_2, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} = x_1 + 2x_2.$$

$$\therefore g(X) = [2x_1 + x_2, x_1 + 2x_2]^T.$$

2: Set $g(X) = 0$.

$$\therefore 2x_1 + x_2 = 0 \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

And

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

Multiply (1) by 2, we get

$$4x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

From (2) and (3) we get $x_1 = 0$.

From (1) we get $x_2 = 0$.

\therefore The critical point is $[0, 0]^T$.

3: The Hessian matrix of f is defined by

$$G(X) = \left[\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right] \quad i, j = 1, 2.$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} = 2, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} = 2.$$

$$\therefore G(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4: By using Theorem (7), we must prove that $G(X)$ is positive definite matrix.

Let $X \in R^2$.

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore X^T G X &= [x_1, x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = [2x_1 + x_2, x_1 + 2x_2] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= 2x_1^2 + x_2x_1 + x_1x_2 + 2x_2^2 \\ &= 2x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + 2x_2^2 \\ &= 2x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + 2x_2^2 = 2[x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2] \\ &= 2[x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + \frac{1}{4}x_2^2 + \frac{3}{4}x_2^2] \\ &= 2 \left[\left(x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 \right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}x_2^2 \right] > 0, \text{ for } X \neq 0 .\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore G(X)$ is positive definite matrix.

\therefore By Theorem (7), the critical point $[0, 0]^T$ is a strict local minimizer of f .

Example (13):

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(X) = x_1^3 - 2x_1^2x_2 + x_2^2$, $X \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

- 1: Find the gradient vector of f .**
- 2: Find the critical points of f .**
- 3: Find the Hessian matrix at critical points.**
- 4: Determine whether the critical points are local minimizers or not.**

Solution:

1: The gradient vector of f is defined by

$$\mathbf{g}(X) = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \right]^T.$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} = 3x_1^2 - 4x_1x_2, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} = -2x_1^2 + 2x_2.$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{g}(X) = [3x_1^2 - 4x_1x_2, -2x_1^2 + 2x_2]^T.$$

2: Set $g(X) = 0$.

$$3x_1^2 - 4x_1x_2 = 0 \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

And

$$-2x_1^2 + 2x_2 = 0 \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

$$\text{From (2) we get } x_2 = x_1^2 \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

From (3) and (1) we get

$$3x_1^2 - 4x_1^3 = 0 \rightarrow x_1^2 [3 - 4x_1] = 0 \rightarrow x_1 = 0 \text{ or } x_1 = \frac{3}{4}.$$

$$\therefore x_2 = 0 \text{ or } x_2 = \frac{9}{16}.$$

\therefore The critical points are $X^* = [0, 0]^T$ and $X^* = [\frac{3}{4}, \frac{9}{16}]^T$.

3: The Hessian matrix of f is defined by

$$G(X) = \left[\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right] \quad i, j = 1, 2.$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} = 6x_1 - 4x_2, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} = -4x_1, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} = -4x_1, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} = 2.$$

$$\therefore G(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 6x_1 - 4x_2 & -4x_1 \\ -4x_1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{When } X^* = [0, 0]^T, \text{ then } G(X^*) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{When } X^* = \left[\frac{3}{4}, \frac{9}{16} \right]^T, \text{ then } G(X^*) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{4} & -3 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4: We know that from Theorem (7) if the Hessian matrix is positive definite at the critical point, then the critical point is a strict local minimizer.

$$\text{Let } X^* = [0, 0]^T, \text{ then } G(X^*) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $V \in R^2$.

$$\therefore V^T G(X^*) V = [v_1, v_2] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = [0, 2v_2] \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = 2v_2^2 > 0$$

for $V \neq 0$.

$\therefore G(X^) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ is positive definite matrix.*

\therefore By Theorem (7), $X^ = [0, 0]^T$ is a strict local minimizer of f .*

$$\text{Let } X^* = \left[\frac{3}{4}, \frac{9}{16} \right]^T \text{ and } G(X^*) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{4} & -3 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $V \in R^2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore V^T G(X^*)V &= [v_1, v_2] \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{4} & -3 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \left[\frac{9}{4}v_1 - 3v_2, -3v_1 + 2v_2 \right] \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \frac{9}{4}v_1^2 - 3v_2v_1 - 3v_1v_2 + 2v_2^2 = \frac{9}{4}v_1^2 - 6v_1v_2 + 2v_2^2 \\
&= \frac{9}{4} \left[v_1^2 - \frac{24}{9}v_1v_2 + \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 \right] = \frac{9}{4} \left[v_1^2 - \frac{8}{3}v_1v_2 + \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 \right] \\
&= \frac{9}{4} \left[v_1^2 - \frac{8}{3}v_1v_2 + \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 + \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 - \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 \right] \\
&= \frac{9}{4} \left[v_1^2 - \frac{8}{3}v_1v_2 + \frac{16}{9}v_2^2 - \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 \right] \\
&= \frac{9}{4} \left[\left(v_1 - \frac{4}{3}v_2 \right)^2 - \frac{8}{9}v_2^2 \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Let $V = [1, 0]^T \rightarrow V^T G(X^*)V = \frac{9}{4} > 0$. *Let* $V = [\frac{4}{3}, 1]^T \rightarrow V^T G(X^*)V = -2 < 0$.

Hence $G(X^*)$ is indefinite matrix and so nothing can be conclude about the nature of critical point $X^* = [\frac{3}{4}, \frac{9}{16}]^T$.