

Proper local minimum

Function $f(x)$ has a proper local minimum in point \hat{x} , if there exists $\delta > 0$ such, that for $\forall x \in E$

$$f(\hat{x}) < f(x)$$

where: $E = X \cap \Delta$

$$\Delta = \{x : 0 < \|\hat{x} - x\| < \delta\}$$

Weak local minimum

Function $f(x)$ has a weak local minimum in point \hat{x} , if there exists $\delta_i > 0$ such that, for $\forall x \in E_i$

$$f(\hat{x}) \leq f(x)$$

where:

$$E_i = X \cap \Delta_i$$

$$\Delta_i = \{x : 0 < \|\hat{x} - x\| < \delta_i\}$$

Local minimum and global minimum of a function $f(x)$

The point \hat{x} determines a local minimum of a function $f(x)$ in R^n space, When: there exists $E \subset R^n$ for point \hat{x} , that

$$\forall x \in E \quad f(\hat{x}) < f(x)$$

When $f(\hat{x}) < f(x)$ for $x \neq \hat{x}$ then the proper local minimum exists.

The point \hat{x} determines a global minimum of a function $f(x)$ in R^n space, when

$$\forall x \in R^n \quad f(\hat{x}) \leq f(x)$$

When $f(\hat{x}) < f(x)$ for $x \neq \hat{x}$ then the proper global minimum exists.

The Weierstrass extreme value theorem

A continuous function $f(x)$ defined on a compact set of admissible solutions (on a closed and bounded set)

is bounded on this set and obtains its bounds: two points exist, $x_1, x_2 \in X$ such that for each $x \in X$

the following relation is valued: $f(x_1) \leq f(x) \leq f(x_2)$

Definition of a convex set

In Euclidean space the set $X \subset R^n$ is convex, if for every pair of points $x^1, x^2 \in X$ within the set, every point on the straight line segment that joins the pairs of points is also within this set X :

$$X = \{x : x = \lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2, 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}$$

Definition of a convex function

In Euclidean space the set $X (X \subset R^n)$ is convex. Function $f(x) f: X \rightarrow R^1$ will be a convex function, if for every pair of points $x^1, x^2 \in X$ and each $\lambda \in [0,1]$ the following inequality is fulfilled:

$$f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) \leq \lambda f(x^1) + (1 - \lambda)f(x^2)$$

Definition of a strictly convex function

In Euclidean space the set $X \subset R^n$ is convex. Function $f(x): X \rightarrow R^1$

Will be strictly convex, if for every pair of points $x^1, x^2 \in X$

And each $\lambda \in [0,1]$ the following inequality is fulfilled:

$$f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) < \lambda f(x^1) + (1 - \lambda)f(x^2)$$

Definition of a concave function

In Euclidean space the set $X (X \subset R^n)$ is convex. Function $f(x) f: X \rightarrow R^1$ will be a concave function, if for every pair of points $x^1, x^2 \in X$

and each $\lambda \in [0,1]$ the following inequality is fulfilled:

$$f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) \geq \lambda f(x^1) + (1 - \lambda)f(x^2)$$

Collorary: Function $f(x)$ is concave if and only if function $-f(x)$ is convex.

Is a function $f(x)$ – a convex function

A matrix A (dim $n \times n$) is called hessian, when its elements are partial derivative of second order of a function $f(x)$:

$$A(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

Lemma 1

Let $f: X \rightarrow R^1$ has continuous partial derivative with second order and let $X \subset R^n$ is a convex set. $f(x)$ is a convex function if and only if

her hessian $A(x)$ is positive half-definite for each $x \in X$.

Definition of a positive half-definite matrix A

A matrix A is a positive half-definite matrix, when for each $x \in R^n$

$$\langle x, Ax \rangle \geq 0$$

Definition of a positive definite matrix A

A matrix A is a positive definite matrix, when for each $x \in R^n$

$$\langle x, Ax \rangle > 0$$

**Sylwester Criterion –
Practical testing of a function convexity**

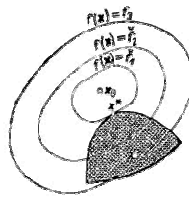
A square symmetric matrix A is positive half-definite matrix, if and only if:

$$a_{11} \geq 0, \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \geq 0, \dots, \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & \dots & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix} \geq 0$$

A square symmetric matrix A is a positive definite matrix, if and only if:

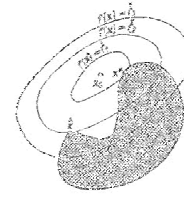
$$a_{11} > 0, \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} > 0, \dots, \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & \dots & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix} > 0$$

Fig.1 The convex set X



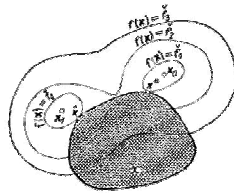
Convex function $f(x)$

Fig.2 The non-convex set of X



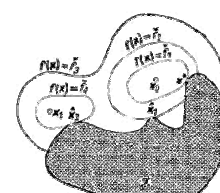
Function $f(x)$ – a convex function.

Fig.3 The convex set of X



Function $f(x)$ – non-convex function

Fig.4 The non-convex set of X



Function $f(x)$ – non-convex function.

Convex function

Theorem 2

Let our set $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ will be convex set and let function $f(x)$ will be differentiable.

Then function $f(x)$ will be convex $\forall x, x^0 \in X$, if and only if

$$f(x) \geq f(x^0) + \langle \nabla f(x^0), x - x^0 \rangle$$

Function $f(x)$ is a convex function on a range (a,b) if and only if the function diagram lays above the diagram of a tangent to a curve for each point x^0 from a range (a,b).

Theorem 3

Let a function $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$, for $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ will be convex function, than for each real value α the set

$$X_\alpha = \{x : f(x) \leq \alpha\}$$

is convex.

Theorem 4

Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a convex set. When $f_i: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ for $i=1, \dots, k$ are convex functions and if scalar value $\alpha_i \geq 0$

for $i=1, \dots, k$ then function $f(x)$

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i f_i(x)$$

is a convex function.

Theorem 5

The local minimum of a convex function on a convex set $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ of admissible solutions, is global minimum of that function on the set X .

Proof:

Let the function $f(x)$ has his local minimum in point $x^1 \in X$.

It means that there exists such $\varepsilon > 0$, that:

$$f(x^1) = \min_{x \in V} f(x)$$

where: $V = \{x \in X, \|x - x^1\| \leq \varepsilon\}$

Assume, that $x^2 \in X$, $x^1 \neq x^2$. Let us consider $0 < \lambda < 1$ and

$$\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2 \in V$$

In view of convexity of a function $f(x)$:

$$\lambda f(x^1) + (1 - \lambda)f(x^2) \geq f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2)$$

$$f(x^2) \geq \frac{f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) - \lambda f(x^1)}{1 - \lambda} \geq \frac{f(x^1) - \lambda f(x^1)}{1 - \lambda} = f(x^1)$$

which completes the proof.

Theorem 6

Strictly convex function $f(x)$ defined on a convex set of admissible solutions has at most one minimum on this set.

Example

Let $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $d \in \mathbb{R}^1$. Try to show, that function $f(x) = c^T x + d$ defined as follows:

$$f(x) = c^T x + d$$

is simultaneously convex and concave function on a set of \mathbb{R}^n .

Theorem 7

When

$$f(x) = c^T x + d$$

is concave function and X is a bounded, closed and convex set, there exists extreme point of a set X , where the function $f(x)$ achieves the minimum value on this set.

Colorary

The linear function $f(x)$ defined on a polyhedron (the convex set of admissible solutions) achieves it's bounds on extreme points of a polyhedron.