### constrained convex optimization

virgil pavlu

#### convex set

a set X in a vector space is **convex** if for any  $w_1, w_2 \in X$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ we have  $\lambda w_1 + (1 - \lambda)w_2 \in X$ 



2

## convex function

a function f is **convex(concave)** on  $X \subseteq Dom(f)$  if for any  $w_1, w_2 \in X$ and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  we have  $f(\lambda w_1 + (1 - \lambda)w_2) \leq (\geq)\lambda f(w_1) + (1 - \lambda)f(w_2)$ 

if f is strict convex and twice differentiable on X then :



### convex and differentiable

if f is convex and differentiable then for any  $w_1, w_2$  we have

$$1.f'(w_2)(w_2 - w_1) \ge f(w_2) - f(w_1) \ge f'(w_1)(w_2 - w_1)$$

$$2.\exists w = \lambda w_1 + (1 - \lambda) w_2, \lambda \in [0, 1]$$
 such that

$$f(w_2) - f(w_1) = f'(w)(w_2 - w_1)$$



# unconstrained optimization

#### one variable

interval cutting Newton's Method

#### several variables

gradient descent conjugate gradient descent

# constrained optimization

given convex functions  $f, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k, h_1, h_2, \dots, h_m$  on convex set X, the problem

```
minimize f(\mathbf{w})
subject to g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0 ,for all i
h_j(\mathbf{w}) = 0 ,for all j
```

has as its solution a convex set. If f is strict convex the solution is unique (if exists)

we will assume all the good things one can imagine about functions  $f, g_1, g_2, ..., g_k, h_1, h_2, ..., h_m$  like convexity, differentiability etc. That will still not be enough though....

### equality constraints only

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $h_j(\mathbf{w}) = 0$ , for all j

define the lagrangian function

$$L(\mathbf{w},\beta) = f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{j} \beta_{j} h_{j}(\mathbf{w})$$

**Lagrange theorem** nec[essary] and suff[icient] conditions for a point  $\tilde{w}$  to be an optimum (ie a solution for the problem above) are the existence of  $\tilde{\beta}$  such that

$$\delta_{\mathbf{w}}L(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}},\widetilde{eta})=$$
0;  $\delta_{eta_j}L(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}},\widetilde{eta})=$ 0

7



alpha

# inequality constraints

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  ,for all i $h_j(\mathbf{w}) = 0$  ,for all j

we can rewrite every inequality constraint  $h_j(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  as two inequalities  $h_j(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  and  $h_j(\mathbf{w}) \geq 0$ . so the problem becomes

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  ,for all i

# Karush Kuhn Tucker theorem

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  ,for all iwere  $g_i$  are **qualified constraints** 

define the lagrangian function

$$L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} g_{i}(\mathbf{w})$$

**KKT theorem** nec and suff conditions for a point  $\tilde{w}$  to be a solution for the optimization problem are the existence of  $\tilde{\alpha}$  such that

$$\delta_{\mathbf{w}} L(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}, \widetilde{\alpha}) = 0$$
;  $\widetilde{\alpha}_i g_i(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}) = 0$   
 $g_i(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}) \le 0$ ;  $\widetilde{\alpha}_i \ge 0$ 

10

# KKT - sufficiency

Assume  $(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}, \widetilde{\alpha})$  satisfies KKT conditions

 $\delta_{\mathbf{w}} L(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \tilde{\alpha}) = \delta_{\mathbf{w}} f(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \widetilde{\alpha_{i}} \delta_{\mathbf{w}} g_{i}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = 0$  $\delta_{\alpha_{i}} L(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \tilde{\alpha}) = g_{i}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \leq 0$  $\widetilde{\alpha_{i}} g_{i}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = 0; \ \widetilde{\alpha_{i}} \geq 0$ 

Then  
$$f(\mathbf{w}) - f(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) \ge (\delta_{\mathbf{w}} f(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}))^T (\mathbf{w} - \tilde{\mathbf{w}}) =$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{k} \widetilde{\alpha_{i}}(\delta_{\mathbf{w}} g_{i}(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}))^{T}(\mathbf{w} - \widetilde{\mathbf{w}}) \geq -\sum_{i=1}^{k} \widetilde{\alpha_{i}}(g_{i}(\mathbf{w}) - g_{i}(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}})) =$$

 $-\sum_{i=1}^{k} \widetilde{\alpha_i} g_i(\mathbf{w}) \geq 0$ 

so  $\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}$  is solution

#### saddle point

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  ,for all i

and the lagrangian function

$$L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} g_{i}(\mathbf{w})$$

 $(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}, \widetilde{\alpha})$  with  $\widetilde{\alpha_i} \ge 0$  is saddle point if  $\forall (\mathbf{w}, \alpha), \alpha_i \ge 0$ 

$$L(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}, \alpha) \leq L(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}, \widetilde{\alpha}) \leq L(\mathbf{w}, \widetilde{\alpha})$$



alpha

# saddle point - sufficiency

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  ,for all i

lagrangian function  $L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} g_{i}(\mathbf{w})$ ( $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \tilde{\alpha}$ ) is saddle point  $\forall (\mathbf{w}, \alpha), \alpha_{i} \geq 0 : L(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \alpha) \leq L(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \tilde{\alpha}) \leq L(\mathbf{w}, \tilde{\alpha})$ 

then

1. $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$  is solution to optimization problem 2. $\tilde{\alpha}_i g_i(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) = 0$  for all i

# saddle point - necessity

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$ , for all iwere  $g_i$  are **qualified constraints** 

lagrangian function  $L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_i \alpha_i g_i(\mathbf{w})$  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$  is solution to optimization problem

then

 $\exists \tilde{\alpha} \geq 0 \text{ such that } (\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \tilde{\alpha}) \text{ is saddle point} \\ \forall (\mathbf{w}, \alpha), \alpha_i \geq 0 : L(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \alpha) \leq L(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}, \tilde{\alpha}) \leq L(\mathbf{w}, \tilde{\alpha}) \end{cases}$ 

# constraint qualifications

minimize  $f(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0$  , for all i

let  $\Upsilon$  be the feasible region  $\Upsilon = \{\mathbf{w}|g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0 \ \forall i\}$ 

then the following additional conditions for functions  $g_i$ are connected  $(i) \Leftrightarrow (ii)$  and  $(iii) \Rightarrow (i)$ :

(*i*) there exists  $w \in \Upsilon$  such that  $g_i(\mathbf{w}) \leq 0 \ \forall i$ (*ii*) for all nonzero  $\alpha \in [0,1)^k \ \exists w \in \Upsilon$  such that  $\alpha_i g_i(\mathbf{w}) = 0 \ \forall i$ (*iii*) the feasible region  $\Upsilon$  contains at least two distinct elements, and  $\exists w \in \Upsilon$  such that all  $g_i$  are are strictly convex at w w.r.t.  $\Upsilon$ 

# KKT-gap

Assume  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$  is the solution for optimization problem. Then for any  $(\mathbf{w}, \alpha)$  with  $\alpha \geq 0$  and satisfying

$$\delta_{\mathbf{w}}L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = 0$$
 ;  $\delta_{\alpha_i}L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) \geq 0$ 

we have

$$f(\mathbf{w}) \ge f(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}) \ge f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_i g_i(\mathbf{w})$$

# duality

$$f(\mathbf{w}) \ge f(\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}) \ge f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_i g_i(\mathbf{w})$$

#### dual maximization problem :

maximize  $L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = f(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_i g_i(\mathbf{w})$ subject to  $\alpha \ge 0$ ;  $\delta_{\mathbf{w}} L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = 0$ 

#### OR

```
set \theta(\alpha) = \inf_{\mathbf{w}} L(\mathbf{w}, \alpha)
maximize \theta(\alpha)
subject to \alpha \ge 0
```

the primal and dual problems have the same objective value iff the gap can be vanished