

Math 2270-3  
Wednesday Dec. 9.

§ 8.3 → "optional"; hw won't be graded  
& we won't cover this section  
in class, or final exam.

§ 8.2: positive definite matrices & 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative test  
(this is a rewrite of part of yesterday's notes).

- Friday will be review of entire course;
- I'll have review materials posted tonight.
- Saturday (11-1?) will be a chance to go over previous final exams.

Def: A symmetric matrix  $A$  is positive definite

iff 
$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} x_i x_j > 0 \quad \forall \vec{x} \neq \vec{0}.$$

$A$  is negative definite iff 
$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} < 0 \quad \forall \vec{x} \neq \vec{0}.$$

Theorem  $A$  <sup>symmetric</sup> is positive definite iff all eigenvalues are positive  
" negative " " " " negative

Proof. Let  $S = [\vec{u}_1 | \vec{u}_2 | \dots | \vec{u}_n]$  be an orthogonal matrix of eigenvectors of  $A$ .

Consider the usual change of variables formula

$$\vec{x} = S \vec{x}'$$

Then 
$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = \vec{x}'^T S^T A S \vec{x}' = \vec{x}'^T \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ \vdots \\ x'_n \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i (x'_i)^2.$$

the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i (x'_i)^2$  is positive  $\forall \vec{x}' \neq \vec{0}$

iff all  $\lambda_i > 0$

and negative  $\forall \vec{x}' \neq \vec{0}$  iff all  $\lambda_i < 0$  ■

A great application of + or - definite matrices is to the  
2<sup>nd</sup> derivative test for functions of several variables.

So let's talk about that, and also look at examples from yesterday's notes

alternate discussion of page 4 Tuesday: Max/Min.

Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = f\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

Let  $\vec{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  a unit vector

Then  $\left. \frac{d}{dt} f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) \right|_{t=0}$  is rate of change of  $f$  in the  $\vec{u}$  direction, at  $\vec{x}_0$ .

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) \overbrace{\frac{d}{dt}(\vec{x}_{0,i} + tu_i)}^{u_i} = \nabla f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) \cdot \vec{u}.$$

so @  $t=0$ , this rate of change is  $\boxed{\nabla f(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{u}} = D_{\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}_0)$

Definition Let  $f$  be a differentiable function. Then  $\vec{x}_0$  is a critical point for  $f$  iff  $\nabla f(\vec{x}_0) = \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}(\vec{x}_0), \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}(\vec{x}_0), \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}(\vec{x}_0) \right] = \vec{0}$ .

Local extrema of functions occur at critical points, but not all critical points are locations of local extrema.

Def  $\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) \right|_{t=0} = D_{\vec{u}\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}_0)$  is the 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative of  $f$  in the  $\vec{u}$  direction.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} f(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) &= \frac{d}{dt} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) u_i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \frac{d}{dt} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) u_j \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \sum_{j=1}^n u_j \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\vec{x}_0 + t\vec{u}) \end{aligned}$$

Hessian matrix  $[D^2 f(\vec{x}_0)]$

@  $t=0$   
 $D_{\vec{u}\vec{u}} f(\vec{x}_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \sum_{j=1}^n u_j \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\vec{x}_0) = \vec{u}^T \left[ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(\vec{x}_0) \right] \vec{u}$

Therefore  $f$  is concave up in every direction  $\vec{u}$  at  $\vec{x}_0$  iff  $[D^2 f(\vec{x}_0)]$  is positive definite  
 $f$  is concave down " " " " " " is negative definite

This explains the second derivative test on page 5 Tuesday notes