

Homework Exercise 5

Due on 24th October, 2009

1. Consider the half space defined by $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} + \alpha \geq 0\}$ where $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ are given. Formulate and solve the optimization problem for finding the point \mathbf{x} in \mathcal{H} that has the smallest Euclidean norm.

(2 Marks)

2. Let $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}^*) = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\}$ be the active index set at \mathbf{x}^* for the constraints g_i 's in the primal problem discussed in class (I guess equation (4.85) in the notes, but please confirm). Show that the set

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{s} \mid \mathbf{s}^T \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) < 0, \mathbf{s}^T \nabla h_j(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0 \text{ for } j = 1 \dots k, \text{ and } \mathbf{s}^T \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq 0 \text{ for } i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}^*)\}$$

is empty if and only if there exist multipliers λ_j^* for $1 \leq j \leq k$ and $\mu_i^* \geq 0$, such that

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j^* \nabla h_j(\mathbf{x}^*) - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}^*)} \mu_i^* \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*)$$

This lemma is known as the Extension of Farkas lemma.

(4 Marks)