

1. (*Lagrange multipliers II*) Let Ω be an open subset of \mathbf{R}^m and suppose that $\varphi: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ and $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ (with $n < m$) are continuously differentiable on Ω and that the point $c = (c_1, \dots, c_m)$ is in the set $M = \{x \in \Omega : f(x) = 0 \in \mathbf{R}^n\}$. Further, suppose that Df has rank n throughout Ω (or, to simplify, assume that the $n \times n$ matrix whose ij -element is $\partial f_i / \partial x_j$ is nonsingular). Finally, assume that the restriction of φ to M has a local extremum (max or min) at c – this means that there is some neighborhood V of c so that either $\varphi(x) \leq \varphi(c)$ for all $x \in V \cap M$ or $\varphi(x) \geq \varphi(c)$ for all $x \in V \cap M$. Show that there is a (unique) vector $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ such that

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j}(c) + \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}(c) = 0. \quad (1 \leq j \leq m) \quad (*)$$

The point of this is that if one seeks points c at which $\varphi|_M$ has local extrema, then one need only search among those $c \in M$ for which the system (*) has a solution λ (so one need only consider solutions $c_1, \dots, c_m, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ of the system of $m + n$ equations $\partial f / \partial x_i = 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ and (*)). The variables $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ are known as *Lagrange multipliers*.

2. Use Lagrange multipliers I and/or II to solve the following:
- (a) Find the point on the hyperplane $M = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i = b\}$ that is closest to the origin in \mathbf{R}^n . (Consider the function $\varphi(x) = |x|^2$ restricted to the hyperplane.)
- (b) Prove that if x_1, \dots, x_n are numbers for which $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = 1$ (in other words, (x_1, \dots, x_n) is a point on the unit sphere in \mathbf{R}^n , then

$$\prod_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \leq \frac{1}{n^n},$$

and equality occurs if and only if $x_i^2 = 1/n$ for all i .

- (c) Prove that if r_1, \dots, r_n are non-negative real numbers, then

$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^n r_i \right)^{1/n} \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n r_i,$$

and equality occurs if and only if $a_i = a_1$ for all i . This is called the *arithmetic-geometric mean inequality*. (Set $x_i^2 = a_i / \sum a_j$ in (b)).

3. The object of this exercise is to show that the orthogonal group $O(n)$, consisting of $n \times n$ (real) matrices M satisfying $MM^t = I$ has precisely two connected components. Recall that in class, we showed that the $O(n)$ is a compact subset of \mathbf{R}^{n^2} and that the determinant of an orthogonal matrix is ± 1 (so there are *at least* two connected components). In this problem, we'll write $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ for the dot product of the vectors \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} .

(a) Even though we did this in class, show that if $M \in O(n)$, then $\langle M\mathbf{x}, M\mathbf{y} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ for all vectors \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} .

(b) Let \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} be any non-antipodal pair of points on the unit sphere $S^{n-1} \subset \mathbf{R}^n$, so $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = 1$ and $\mathbf{y} \notin \{\mathbf{x}, -\mathbf{x}\}$. Show that the vector $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{y} - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{x}$ is nonzero, and is perpendicular to \mathbf{x} , and $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle^2 = 1 - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle^2$.

(c) Let α be defined via $\cos \alpha = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$. Show that the curve

$$G(\sigma) = \cos \sigma \mathbf{x} + \sin \sigma \left(\frac{\mathbf{y} - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{x}}{|\mathbf{y} - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{x}|} \right), \quad 0 \leq \sigma \leq \alpha$$

satisfies $G(0) = \mathbf{x}$, $G(\alpha) = \mathbf{y}$ and $\langle G(\sigma), G(\sigma) \rangle = 1$ for all $\sigma \in [0, \alpha]$. Also, show that the arc-length of the curve $G(\sigma)$ is α . (In the language of differential geometry, $G(\sigma)$ is the unique shortest geodesic connecting \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} on S^{n-1} , and has length α). We can rewrite this as

$$G(\sigma) = \cos \sigma \mathbf{x} + \sin \sigma \left(\frac{\mathbf{y} - \cos \alpha \mathbf{x}}{\sin \alpha} \right).$$

(d) If \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are non-antipodal points in $S^{n-1} \subset \mathbf{R}^n$, in other words if \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are linearly independent unit vectors in \mathbf{R}^n , then there is a unique element $M \in SO(n)$ (i.e., an orthogonal map with determinant +1) that maps \mathbf{y} to \mathbf{x} and leaves fixed the $n - 2$ -dimensional subspace of \mathbf{R}^n consisting of all vectors perpendicular to both \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} . Show that for $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^n$, this mapping is given by

$$M\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} - \frac{\langle \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}{1 + \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle} \mathbf{y} + \left\langle \frac{1 + 2\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle}{1 + \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle} \mathbf{y} - \frac{1}{1 + \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle} \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v} \right\rangle \mathbf{x}.$$

(e) If \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} happen to be antipodal points of S^{n-1} for $n \geq 3$, then there are many elements of $SO(n)$ that map \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} . Prove this (i.e., find at least two different ones).

(f) If \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are any points on $S^{n-1} \subset \mathbf{R}^n$, show that there is a continuous one-parameter family of elements of $SO(n)$, i.e., a continuous map from

the interval $[0, 1]$ to $SO(n)$, say R_t , such that R_0 is the identity matrix (so $R_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$) and $R_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{y}$. (You're all set up to do this using parts (c) and (d) – if \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are antipodal you have to make an intermediate step.)

(g) Let $M \in SO(n)$. Show that there is a one-parameter family of elements of $SO(n)$, say M_t such that $M_0 = M$ and $M_1(\mathbf{e}_1) = \mathbf{e}_1$ (where $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ is the standard orthonormal basis of \mathbf{R}^n). (Write $M_t = R_t M_0$ and use part (f).)

(h) Explain why the matrix of M_1 in part (g) has the form:

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & 0^{1 \times n} \\ \hline 0^{n \times 1} & B_1 \end{array} \right]$$

where $B_1 \in SO(n-1)$ (what are $\langle \mathbf{e}_1, M_1(\mathbf{e}_2) \rangle, \dots, \langle \mathbf{e}_1, M_1(\mathbf{e}_n) \rangle$?).

(i) Explain how to successively connect M to matrices of the form

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} I^{p \times p} & 0^{p \times n} \\ \hline 0^{n \times p} & B_p \end{array} \right]$$

where $B_p \in SO(n-p)$, and so ultimately to the $n \times n$ identity matrix.

(j) Explain why the conclusion of part (i) is that $SO(n)$ is connected. Why does this prove that $O(n)$ has precisely two connected components?

4. Explain how to modify the reasoning in the preceding problem to show that $GL(n)$ has precisely two connected components (the connected component that contains the identity matrix is called $SL(n)$, for “special linear” group).