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# Mathematical Economics

## Lecture Notes (in extracts)

Winter Term 2019/20

### **Annotation:**

1. These lecture notes do not replace your attendance of the lecture. Numerical examples are only presented during the lecture.
2. The symbol  $\Leftrightarrow$  points to additional, detailed remarks given in the lecture.
3. I am grateful to Julia Lange for her contribution in editing the lecture notes.

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# Chapter 1

## Basic mathematical concepts

### 1.1 Preliminaries

#### Quadratic forms and their sign

**Definition 1:**

If  $A = (a_{ij})$  is a matrix of order  $n \times n$  and  $\mathbf{x}^T = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then the term

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \cdot A \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

is called a *quadratic form*.

Thus:

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) = Q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \cdot x_i \cdot x_j$$

EXAMPLE 1

**Definition 2:**

A matrix  $A$  of order  $n \times n$  and its associated quadratic form  $Q(\mathbf{x})$  are said to be

1. *positive definite*, if  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \cdot A \cdot \mathbf{x} > 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x}^T = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \neq (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ ;
2. *positive semi-definite*, if  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \cdot A \cdot \mathbf{x} \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ;
3. *negative definite*, if  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \cdot A \cdot \mathbf{x} < 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x}^T = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \neq (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ ;
4. *negative semi-definite*, if  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \cdot A \cdot \mathbf{x} \leq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ;
5. *indefinite*, if it is neither positive semi-definite nor negative semi-definite.

**Remark:**

In case 5., there exist vectors  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\mathbf{y}^*$  such that  $Q(\mathbf{x}^*) > 0$  and  $Q(\mathbf{y}^*) < 0$ .

**Definition 3:**

The *leading principle minors* of a matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  of order  $n \times n$  are the determinants

$$D_k = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1k} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \cdots & a_{kk} \end{vmatrix}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

(i.e.,  $D_k$  is obtained from  $|A|$  by crossing out the last  $n - k$  columns and rows).

**Theorem 1**

Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix of order  $n \times n$ . Then:

1.  $A$  positive definite  $\iff D_k > 0$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
2.  $A$  negative definite  $\iff (-1)^k \cdot D_k > 0$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
3.  $A$  positive semi-definite  $\implies D_k \geq 0$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
4.  $A$  negative semi-definite  $\implies (-1)^k \cdot D_k \geq 0$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

*now:* necessary and sufficient criterion for positive (negative) semi-definiteness

**Definition 4:**

An (arbitrary) *principle minor*  $\Delta_k$  of order  $k$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n$ ) is the determinant of a submatrix of  $A$  obtained by deleting all but  $k$  rows and columns in  $A$  with the same numbers.

**Theorem 2**

Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix of order  $n \times n$ . Then:

1.  $A$  positive semi-definite  $\iff \Delta_k \geq 0$  for all principle minors of order  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
2.  $A$  negative semi-definite  $\iff (-1)^k \cdot \Delta_k \geq 0$  for all principle minors of order  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

## EXAMPLE 2



$\rightarrow$  alternative criterion for checking the sign of  $A$ :

**Theorem 3**

Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix of order  $n \times n$  and  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the *real* eigenvalues of  $A$ . Then:

1.  $A$  positive definite  $\iff \lambda_1 > 0, \lambda_2 > 0, \dots, \lambda_n > 0$ .
2.  $A$  positive semi-definite  $\iff \lambda_1 \geq 0, \lambda_2 \geq 0, \dots, \lambda_n \geq 0$ .
3.  $A$  negative definite  $\iff \lambda_1 < 0, \lambda_2 < 0, \dots, \lambda_n < 0$ .
4.  $A$  negative semi-definite  $\iff \lambda_1 \leq 0, \lambda_2 \leq 0, \dots, \lambda_n \leq 0$ .
5.  $A$  indefinite  $\iff A$  has eigenvalues with opposite signs.

## EXAMPLE 3

Level curve and tangent line

consider:

$$z = F(x, y)$$

level curve:

$$F(x, y) = C \quad \text{with} \quad C \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\implies$  slope of the level curve  $F(x, y) = C$  at the point  $(x, y)$ :

$$y' = -\frac{F_x(x, y)}{F_y(x, y)}$$

(See Werner/Sotskov(2006): *Mathematics of Economics and Business*, Theorem 11.6, implicit-function theorem.)

*equation of the tangent line  $T$ :*

$$\begin{aligned} y - y_0 &= y' \cdot (x - x_0) \\ y - y_0 &= -\frac{F_x(x_0, y_0)}{F_y(x_0, y_0)} \cdot (x - x_0) \\ \implies F_x(x_0, y_0) \cdot (x - x_0) + F_y(x_0, y_0) \cdot (y - y_0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

ILLUSTRATION: equation of the tangent line  $T$

**Remark:**

The gradient  $\nabla F(x_0, y_0)$  is orthogonal to the tangent line  $T$  at  $(x_0, y_0)$ .

## EXAMPLE 4

generalization to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :

let  $\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)$

→ gradient of  $F$  at  $\mathbf{x}^0$ :

$$\nabla F(\mathbf{x}^0) = \begin{pmatrix} F_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}^0) \\ F_{x_2}(\mathbf{x}^0) \\ \vdots \\ F_{x_n}(\mathbf{x}^0) \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ equation of the tangent hyperplane  $T$  at  $x^0$ :

$$F_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}^0) \cdot (x_1 - x_1^0) + F_{x_2}(\mathbf{x}^0) \cdot (x_2 - x_2^0) + \dots + F_{x_n}(\mathbf{x}^0) \cdot (x_n - x_n^0) = 0$$

or, equivalently:

$$[\nabla F(\mathbf{x}^0)]^T \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0) = 0$$

### Directional derivative

→ measures the rate of change of function  $f$  in an arbitrary direction  $\mathbf{r}$

#### **Definition 5:**

Let function  $f : D_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , be continuously partially differentiable and  $\mathbf{r} = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $|\mathbf{r}| = 1$ . The term

$$[\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^0)]^T \cdot \mathbf{r} = f_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}^0) \cdot r_1 + f_{x_2}(\mathbf{x}^0) \cdot r_2 + \dots + f_{x_n}(\mathbf{x}^0) \cdot r_n$$

is called the *directional derivative* of function  $f$  at the point  $x^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0) \in D_f$ .

EXAMPLE 5



### Homogeneous functions and Euler's theorem

#### **Definition 6**

A function  $f : D_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , is said to be *homogeneous of degree  $k$*  on  $D_f$ , if  $t > 0$  and  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in D_f$  imply

$$(t \cdot x_1, t \cdot x_2, \dots, t \cdot x_n) \in D_f \text{ and } f(t \cdot x_1, t \cdot x_2, \dots, t \cdot x_n) = t^k \cdot f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

for all  $t > 0$ , where  $k$  can be positive, zero or negative.

**Theorem 4 (Euler's theorem)**

Let the function  $f : D_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , be continuously partially differentiable, where  $t > 0$  and  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in D_f$  imply  $(t \cdot x_1, t \cdot x_2, \dots, t \cdot x_n) \in D_f$ . Then:

$f$  is homogeneous of degree  $k$  on  $D_f \iff$

$x_1 \cdot f_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}) + x_2 \cdot f_{x_2}(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + x_n \cdot f_{x_n}(\mathbf{x}) = k \cdot f(\mathbf{x})$  holds for all  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in D_f$ .

EXAMPLE 6

Linear and quadratic approximations of functions in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ 

*known:* Taylor's formula for functions of **one** variable (See Werner/Sotskov (2006), Theorem 4.20.)

$$f(x) = f(x_0) + \frac{f'(x_0)}{1!} \cdot (x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!} \cdot (x - x_0)^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!} \cdot (x - x_0)^n + R_n(x)$$

$R_n(x)$  - remainder

*now:*  $n = 2$

$z = f(x, y)$  defined around  $(x_0, y_0) \in D_f$

let:  $x = x_0 + h, y = y_0 + k$

Linear approximation of  $f$ :

$$f(x_0 + h, y_0 + k) = f(x_0, y_0) + f_x(x_0, y_0) \cdot h + f_y(x_0, y_0) \cdot k + R_1(x, y)$$

Quadratic approximation of  $f$ :

$$f(x_0 + h, y_0 + k) = f(x_0, y_0) + f_x(x_0, y_0) \cdot h + f_y(x_0, y_0) \cdot k + \frac{1}{2} [f_{xx}(x_0, y_0) \cdot h^2 + 2f_{xy}(x_0, y_0) \cdot h \cdot k + f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) \cdot k^2] + R_2(x, y)$$

*often:*  $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$

EXAMPLE 7

Implicitly defined functions

exogenous variables:  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

endogenous variables:  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$



$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) &= 0 \\
F_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) &= 0 \\
&\vdots \\
F_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

( $m < n$ )

Is it possible to put this system into its reduced form:

$$\begin{aligned}
y_1 &= f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\
y_2 &= f_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\
&\vdots \\
y_m &= f_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

### Theorem 5

Assume that:

- $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_m$  are continuously partially differentiable;
- $(\mathbf{x}^0, \mathbf{y}^0) = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0; y_1^0, y_2^0, \dots, y_m^0)$  satisfies (1);
- $|J(\mathbf{x}^0, \mathbf{y}^0)| = \det\left(\frac{\partial F_j(\mathbf{x}^0, \mathbf{y}^0)}{\partial y_k}\right) \neq 0$   
(i.e., the Jacobian determinant is regular).

Then the system (1) can be put into its reduced form (2).

EXAMPLE 8



## 1.2 Convex sets

### Definition 7


A set  $M$  is called *convex*, if for any two points (vectors)  $\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2 \in M$ , any convex combination  $\lambda \mathbf{x}^1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}^2$  with  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$  also belongs to  $M$ .

ILLUSTRATION: Convex set



### Remark:

The intersection of convex sets is always a convex set, while the union of convex sets is not necessarily a convex set.

ILLUSTRATION: Union and intersection of convex sets 

### 1.3 Convex and concave functions

**Definition 8**Let  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a convex set.A function  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *convex* on  $M$ , if

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

for all  $\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2 \in M$  and all  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . $f$  is called *concave*, if

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

for all  $\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2 \in M$  and all  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ .ILLUSTRATION: Convex and concave functions **Definition 9**

The matrix

$$H_f(\mathbf{x}^0) = (f_{x_i x_j}(\mathbf{x}^0)) = \begin{pmatrix} f_{x_1 x_1}(\mathbf{x}^0) & f_{x_1 x_2}(\mathbf{x}^0) & \cdots & f_{x_1 x_n}(\mathbf{x}^0) \\ f_{x_2 x_1}(\mathbf{x}^0) & f_{x_2 x_2}(\mathbf{x}^0) & \cdots & f_{x_2 x_n}(\mathbf{x}^0) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_{x_n x_1}(\mathbf{x}^0) & f_{x_n x_2}(\mathbf{x}^0) & \cdots & f_{x_n x_n}(\mathbf{x}^0) \end{pmatrix}$$

is called the *Hessian matrix* of function  $f$  at the point  $\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0) \in D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .**Remark:**If  $f$  has continuous second-order partial derivatives, the Hessian matrix is symmetric.

**Theorem 6**

Let  $f : D_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , be twice continuously differentiable and  $M \subseteq D_f$  be convex. Then:

1.  $f$  is convex on  $M \iff$  the Hessian matrix  $H_f(\mathbf{x})$  is positive semi-definite for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ ;
2.  $f$  is concave on  $M \iff$  the Hessian matrix  $H_f(\mathbf{x})$  is negative semi-definite for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ ;
3. the Hessian matrix  $H_f(\mathbf{x})$  is positive definite for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M \implies f$  is strictly convex on  $M$ ;
4. the Hessian matrix  $H_f(\mathbf{x})$  is negative definite for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M \implies f$  is strictly concave on  $M$ .

## EXAMPLE 9

**Theorem 7**

Let  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a convex set. Then:

1.  $f, g$  are convex on  $M$  and  $a \geq 0, b \geq 0 \implies a \cdot f + b \cdot g$  is convex on  $M$ ;
2.  $f, g$  are concave on  $M$  and  $a \geq 0, b \geq 0 \implies a \cdot f + b \cdot g$  is concave on  $M$ .

**Theorem 8**

Let  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  being convex and let  $F : D_F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $R_f \subseteq D_F$ . Then:

1.  $f$  is convex and  $F$  is convex and increasing  $\implies (F \circ f)(\mathbf{x}) = F(f(\mathbf{x}))$  is convex;
2.  $f$  is convex and  $F$  is concave and decreasing  $\implies (F \circ f)(\mathbf{x}) = F(f(\mathbf{x}))$  is concave;
3.  $f$  is concave and  $F$  is concave and increasing  $\implies (F \circ f)(\mathbf{x}) = F(f(\mathbf{x}))$  is concave;
4.  $f$  is concave and  $F$  is convex and decreasing  $\implies (F \circ f)(\mathbf{x}) = F(f(\mathbf{x}))$  is convex.

## EXAMPLE 10

**1.4 Quasi-convex and quasi-concave functions****Definition 10**

Let  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a convex set and  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . For any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , the set

$$P_a = \{\mathbf{x} \in M \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \geq a\}$$

is called an *upper level set* for  $f$ .

## ILLUSTRATION: Upper level set

**Theorem 9**

Let  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a convex set and  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then:

1. If  $f$  is concave, then

$$P_a = \{\mathbf{x} \in M \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \geq a\}$$

is a convex set for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ;

2. If  $f$  is convex, then the lower level set

$$P^a = \{\mathbf{x} \in M \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \leq a\}$$

is a convex set for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition 11**

Let  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a convex set and  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Function  $f$  is called *quasi-concave*, if the upper level set  $P_a = \{\mathbf{x} \in M \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \geq a\}$  is convex for any number  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Function  $f$  is called *quasi-convex*, if  $-f$  is quasi-concave.

**Remark:**

$f$  quasi-convex  $\iff$  the lower level set  $P^a = \{\mathbf{x} \in M \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \leq a\}$  is convex for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$

## EXAMPLE 11

**Remarks:**

1.  $f$  convex  $\implies f$  quasi-convex  
 $f$  concave  $\implies f$  quasi-concave
2. The sum of quasi-convex (quasi-concave) functions is not necessarily quasi-convex (quasi-concave).

**Definition 12**

Let  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a convex set and  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Function  $f$  is called *strictly quasi-concave*, if

$$f(\lambda \mathbf{x}^1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}^2) > \min\{f(\mathbf{x}^1), f(\mathbf{x}^2)\}$$

for all  $\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2 \in M$  with  $\mathbf{x}^1 \neq \mathbf{x}^2$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ .

Function  $f$  is *strictly quasi-convex*, if  $-f$  is strictly quasi-concave.

**Remarks:**

1.  $f$  strictly quasi-concave  $\implies f$  quasi-concave
2.  $f : D_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , strictly increasing (decreasing)  $\implies f$  strictly quasi-concave
3. A strictly quasi-concave function cannot have more than one global maximum point.

**Theorem 10**

Let  $f : D_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, D_f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , be twice continuously differentiable on a convex set  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and

$$B_r = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & f_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & f_{x_r}(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & f_{x_1x_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & f_{x_1x_r}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ f_{x_r}(\mathbf{x}) & f_{x_rx_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & f_{x_rx_r}(\mathbf{x}) \end{vmatrix}, \quad r = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Then:

1. A *necessary* condition for  $f$  to be quasi-concave is that  $(-1)^r \cdot B_r(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$  and all  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ;
2. A *sufficient* condition for  $f$  to be strictly quasi-concave is that  $(-1)^r \cdot B_r(\mathbf{x}) > 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$  and all  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

## EXAMPLE 12



## Chapter 2

# Unconstrained and constrained optimization

### 2.1 Extreme points

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &\longrightarrow \min! \quad (\text{or max!}) \\ \text{s.t.} & \\ &\mathbf{x} \in M, \end{aligned}$$

where  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \emptyset \neq M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

$M$  - set of feasible solutions

$\mathbf{x} \in M$  - feasible solution

$f$  - objective function

$x_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  - decision variables (choice variables)

often:

$$M = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$$

where  $g_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

#### 2.1.1 Global extreme points

##### Definition 1

A point  $\mathbf{x}^* \in M$  is called a *global minimum point* for  $f$  in  $M$  if

$$f(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq f(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in M.$$

The number  $f^* := \min\{f(\mathbf{x}) \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$  is called the *global minimum*.

similarly:

- global maximum point
- global maximum

(global) extreme point: (global) minimum or maximum point

**Theorem 1** (necessary first-order condition)

Let  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable and  $\mathbf{x}^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)$  be an interior point of  $M$ . A necessary condition for  $\mathbf{x}^*$  to be an extreme point is

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0},$$

$$\text{i.e., } f_{x_1}(\mathbf{x}^*) = f_{x_2}(\mathbf{x}^*) = \dots = f_{x_n}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0.$$

**Remark:**

$\mathbf{x}^*$  is a *stationary point* for  $f$

**Theorem 2** (sufficient condition)

Let  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  being a convex set. Then:

1. If  $f$  is convex on  $M$ , then:
  - $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a (global) minimum point for  $f$  in  $M \iff$
  - $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a stationary point for  $f$ ;
2. If  $f$  is concave on  $M$ , then:
  - $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a (global) maximum point for  $f$  in  $M \iff$
  - $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a stationary point for  $f$ .

EXAMPLE 1



### 2.1.2 Local extreme points

**Definition 2**

The set

$$U_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}^*) := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*| < \epsilon\}$$

is called an (*open*)  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood  $U_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}^*)$  with  $\epsilon > 0$ .

**Definition 3**

A point  $\mathbf{x}^* \in M$  is called a *local minimum point* for function  $f$  in  $M$  if there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that

$$f(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq f(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in M \cap U_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}^*).$$

The number  $f(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is called a *local minimum*.

similarly:

- local maximum point
- local maximum

(local) *extreme point*: (local) minimum or maximum point

ILLUSTRATION: Global and local minimum points ⇒

**Theorem 3** (necessary optimality condition)

Let  $f$  be continuously differentiable and  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be an interior point of  $M$  being a local minimum or maximum point. Then

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}.$$

**Theorem 4** (sufficient optimality condition)

Let  $f$  be twice continuously differentiable and  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be an interior point of  $M$ . Then:

1. If  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$  and  $H(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is positive definite, then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point.
2. If  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$  and  $H(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is negative definite, then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local maximum point.

**Remarks:**

1. If  $H(\mathbf{x}^*)$  is only positive (negative) semi-definite and  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$ , then the above condition is only *necessary*.
2. If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a stationary point and  $|H_f(\mathbf{x}^*)| \neq 0$  and neither of the conditions in (1) and (2) of Theorem 4 are satisfied, then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a saddle point. The case  $|H_f(\mathbf{x}^*)| = 0$  requires further examination.

EXAMPLE 2 ⇒



## 2.2 Equality constraints

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned}
 z &= f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \longrightarrow \min! \quad (\text{or max!}) \\
 \text{s.t.} \\
 g_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= 0 \\
 g_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= 0 \\
 &\vdots \\
 g_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= 0 \quad (m < n)
 \end{aligned}$$

→ apply Lagrange multiplier method:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) &= L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m) \\
 &= f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \cdot g_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

$L$  - Lagrangian function

$\lambda_i$  - Lagrangian multiplier

**Theorem 5** (necessary optimality condition, Lagrange's theorem)

Let  $f$  and  $g_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , be continuously differentiable,  $\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)$  be a local extreme point subject to the given constraints and let  $|J(x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)| \neq 0$ . Then there exists a  $\lambda^0 = (\lambda_1^0, \lambda_2^0, \dots, \lambda_m^0)$  such that

$$\nabla L(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0) = \mathbf{0}.$$

The condition of Theorem 5 corresponds to

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{x_j}(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0) &= 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n; \\
 L_{\lambda_i}(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0) &= g_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 6** (sufficient optimality condition)

Let  $f$  and  $g_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , be twice continuously differentiable and let  $(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0)$  with  $\mathbf{x}^0 \in D_f$  be a solution of the system  $\nabla L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) = \mathbf{0}$ .

Moreover, let

$$H_L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 & L_{\lambda_1 x_1}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & \cdots & L_{\lambda_1 x_n}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & L_{\lambda_m x_1}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & \cdots & L_{\lambda_m x_n}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) \\ L_{x_1 \lambda_1}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & \cdots & L_{x_1 \lambda_m}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & L_{x_1 x_1}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & \cdots & L_{x_1 x_n}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ L_{x_n \lambda_1}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & \cdots & L_{x_n \lambda_m}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & L_{x_n x_1}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) & \cdots & L_{x_n x_n}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) \end{pmatrix}$$

be the bordered Hessian matrix and consider its leading principle minors  $D_j(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0)$  of the order  $j = 2m + 1, 2m + 2, \dots, n + m$  at point  $(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0)$ . Then:

1. If all  $D_j(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0), 2m + 1 \leq j \leq n + m$ , have the sign  $(-1)^m$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)$  is a local minimum point of function  $f$  subject to the given constraints.
2. If all  $D_j(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0), 2m + 1 \leq j \leq n + m$ , alternate in sign, the sign of  $D_{n+m}(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0)$  being that of  $(-1)^n$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)$  is a local maximum point of function  $f$  subject to the given constraints.
3. If neither the condition 1. nor those of 2. are satisfied, then  $\mathbf{x}^0$  is not a local extreme point of function  $f$  subject to the constraints.

Here the case when one or several principle minors have value zero is not considered as a violation of condition 1. or 2.

special case:  $n = 2, m = 1 \implies 2m + 1 = n + m = 3$

$\implies$  consider only  $D_3(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0)$

$D_3(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0) < 0 \implies$  sign is  $(-1)^m = (-1)^1 = -1$

$\implies \mathbf{x}^0$  is a local minimum point according to 1.

$D_3(\mathbf{x}^0; \lambda^0) > 0 \implies$  sign is  $(-1)^n = (-1)^2 = 1$

$\implies \mathbf{x}^0$  is a local maximum point according to 2.

EXAMPLE 3



**Theorem 7** (sufficient condition for global optimality)

If there exist numbers  $(\lambda_1^0, \lambda_2^0, \dots, \lambda_m^0) = \lambda^0$  and an  $\mathbf{x}^0 \in D_f$  such that  $\nabla L(\mathbf{x}^0, \lambda^0) = \mathbf{0}$ , then:

1. If  $L(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^0 \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x})$  is concave in  $x$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^0$  is a maximum point.
2. If  $L(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^0 \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x})$  is convex in  $x$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^0$  is a minimum point.

EXAMPLE 4



## 2.3 Inequality constraints

Consider:

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \longrightarrow \min!$$

s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &\leq 0 \\ g_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &\leq 0 \\ &\vdots \\ g_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &\leq 0 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

$$\implies L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \cdot g_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda^T \cdot g(\mathbf{x}),$$

where

$$\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad g(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ g_2(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

### Definition 4

A point  $(\mathbf{x}^*; \lambda^*)$  is called a *saddle point* of the Lagrangian function  $L$ , if

$$L(\mathbf{x}^*; \lambda) \leq L(\mathbf{x}^*; \lambda^*) \leq L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda^*) \tag{2.1}$$

for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$ .

### Theorem 8

If  $(\mathbf{x}^*; \lambda^*)$  with  $\lambda^* \geq \mathbf{0}$  is a saddle point of  $L$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an optimal solution of problem (3).

*Question:* Does any optimal solution correspond to a saddle point?

→ additional assumptions required

Slater condition (S):

There exists a  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that for all nonlinear constraints  $g_i$  inequality  $g_i(\mathbf{z}) < 0$  is satisfied.

**Remarks:**

1. If all constraints  $g_1, \dots, g_m$  are nonlinear, the Slater condition implies that the set  $M$  of feasible solutions contains interior points.
2. Condition **(S)** is one of the *constraint qualifications*.

**Theorem 9** (Theorem by Kuhn and Tucker)

If condition **(S)** is satisfied, then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an optimal solution of the convex problem

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \longrightarrow \min!$$

s.t.

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \tag{4}$$

$$f, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m \text{ convex functions}$$

if and only if  $L$  has a saddle point  $(\mathbf{x}^*; \lambda^*)$  with  $\lambda^* \geq \mathbf{0}$ .

**Remark:**

Condition (2.1) is often difficult to check. It is a global condition on the Lagrangian function. If all functions  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  are continuously differentiable and convex, then the saddle point condition of Theorem 9 can be replaced by the following equivalent local conditions.

**Theorem 10**

If condition **(S)** is satisfied and functions  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  are continuously differentiable and convex, then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an optimal solution of problem (4) if and only if the following Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT)-conditions are satisfied.

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \cdot \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0} \tag{2.2}$$

$$\lambda_i^* \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0 \tag{2.3}$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq 0 \tag{2.4}$$

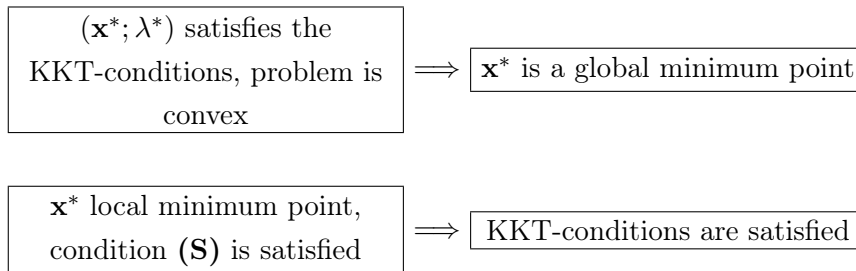
$$\lambda_i^* \geq 0 \tag{2.5}$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

**Remark:**

Without convexity of the functions  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  the KKT-conditions are only a necessary optimality condition, i.e.: If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimum point, condition **(S)** is satisfied and functions  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  are continuously differentiable, then the KKT-conditions (2.2)-(2.5) are satisfied.

Summary:



EXAMPLE 5 ⇒

## 2.4 Non-negativity constraints

Consider a problem with additional non-negativity constraints:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & f(\mathbf{x}) \longrightarrow \min! \\
 & \text{s.t.} \\
 & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \\
 & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

EXAMPLE 6 ⇒

→ To find KKT-conditions for problem (5) introduce a Lagrangian multiplier  $\mu_j$  for any non-negativity constraint  $x_j \geq 0$  which corresponds to  $-x_j \leq 0$ .

KKT-conditions:

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) - \mu^* = \mathbf{0} \tag{2.6}$$

$$\lambda_i^* \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \tag{2.7}$$

$$\mu_j^* \cdot x_j^* = 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \tag{2.8}$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq 0 \tag{2.9}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^* \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \lambda^* \geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mu^* \geq \mathbf{0} \tag{2.10}$$

Using (2.6) to (2.10), we can rewrite the KKT-conditions as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \nabla g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &\geq \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_i^* \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \\ x_j^* \cdot \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \cdot \frac{\partial g_i}{\partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}^*) \right) &= 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &\leq 0 \\ \mathbf{x}^* &\geq \mathbf{0}, \quad \lambda^* \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

i.e., the new Lagrangian multipliers  $\mu_j$  have been eliminated.

EXAMPLE 7 ☞

Some comments on quasi-convex programming

**Theorem 11**

Consider a problem (5), where function  $f$  is continuously differentiable and quasi-convex. Assume that there exist numbers  $\lambda_1^*, \lambda_2^*, \dots, \lambda_m^*$  and a vector  $\mathbf{x}^*$  such that

1. the KKT-conditions are satisfied;
2.  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) \neq \mathbf{0}$ ;
3.  $\lambda_i^* \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x})$  is quasi-convex for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

Then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is optimal for problem (5).

**Remark:**

Theorem 11 holds analogously for problem (3).

# Chapter 3

## Sensitivity analysis

### 3.1 Preliminaries

*Question:* How does a change in the parameters affect the solution of an optimization problem?

→ *sensitivity analysis* (in optimization)

→ *comparative statics (or dynamics)* (in economics)

EXAMPLE 1



### 3.2 Value functions and envelope results

#### 3.2.1 Equality constraints

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{r}) &\longrightarrow \min! \\ \text{s.t.} & \\ g_i(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{r}) &= 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where  $\mathbf{r} = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k)^T$  - vector of parameters

**Remark:**

In (6), we optimize w.r.t.  $x$  with  $r$  held constant.

Notations:

$x_1(\mathbf{r}), x_2(\mathbf{r}), \dots, x_n(\mathbf{r})$  - optimal solution in dependence on  $\mathbf{r}$

$f^*(\mathbf{r}) = f(x_1(\mathbf{r}), x_2(\mathbf{r}), \dots, x_n(\mathbf{r}))$  - (minimum) value function

$\lambda_i(\mathbf{r})$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) - Lagrangian multipliers in the necessary optimality condition

Lagrangian function:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda; \mathbf{r}) &= f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{r}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{r}) \\ &= f(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{r}); \mathbf{r}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i(\mathbf{r}) \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{r}); \mathbf{r}) = L^*(\mathbf{r}) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 1** (Envelope Theorem for equality constraints)

For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , we have:

$$\frac{\partial f^*(\mathbf{r})}{\partial r_j} = \left( \frac{\partial L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda; \mathbf{r})}{\partial r_j} \right) \Big|_{(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{r}), \lambda(\mathbf{r}))} = \frac{\partial L^*(\mathbf{r})}{\partial r_j}$$

**Remark:**

Notice that  $\frac{\partial L^*}{\partial r_j}$  measures the total effect of a change in  $r_j$  on the Lagrangian function, while  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial r_j}$  measures the partial effect of a change in  $r_j$  on the Lagrangian function with  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\lambda$  being held constant.

EXAMPLE 2 ⇒

### 3.2.2 Properties of the value function for inequality constraints

Consider:

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) \longrightarrow \min!$$

s.t.

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

minimum value function:

$$\mathbf{b} \longrightarrow f^*(\mathbf{b})$$

$$f^*(\mathbf{b}) = \min\{f(\mathbf{x}) \mid g_i(\mathbf{x}) - b_i \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$$

$\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{b})$  - optimal solution

$\lambda_i(\mathbf{b})$  - corresponding Lagrangian multipliers

$$\implies \frac{\partial f^*(\mathbf{b})}{\partial b_i} = -\lambda_i(\mathbf{b}), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

**Remark:**

Function  $f^*$  is not necessarily continuously differentiable.



**Theorem 2**

If function  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is concave and functions  $g_1(\mathbf{x}), g_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, g_m(\mathbf{x})$  are convex, then function  $f^*(\mathbf{b})$  is concave.

EXAMPLE 3:

A firm has  $L$  units of labour available and produces 3 goods whose values per unit of output are  $a, b$  and  $c$ , respectively. Producing  $x, y$  and  $z$  units of the goods requires  $\alpha x^2, \beta y^2$  and  $\gamma z^2$  units of labour, respectively. We maximize the value of output and determine the value function.

**3.2.3 Mixed constraints**

Consider:

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) \longrightarrow \min!$$

s.t.

$$\mathbf{x} \in M(\mathbf{r}) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid g_i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) \leq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m'; g_i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) = 0, i = m' + 1, m' + 2, \dots, m\}$$

(minimum) value function:

$$f^*(\mathbf{r}) = \min \{f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) = f(x_1(\mathbf{r}), x_2(\mathbf{r}), \dots, x_n(\mathbf{r})) \mid \mathbf{x} \in M(\mathbf{r})\}$$

Lagrangian function:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda; \mathbf{r}) &= f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{r}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{r}) \\ &= f(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{r}); \mathbf{r}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i(\mathbf{r}) \cdot g_i(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{r}); \mathbf{r}) = L^*(\mathbf{r}) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3** (Envelope Theorem for mixed constraints)

For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , we have:

$$\frac{\partial f^*(\mathbf{r})}{\partial r_j} = \left( \frac{\partial L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda; \mathbf{r})}{\partial r_j} \right) \Big|_{(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{r}))} = \frac{\partial L^*(\mathbf{r})}{\partial r_j}$$

EXAMPLE 4

### 3.3 Some further microeconomic applications

#### 3.3.1 Cost minimization problem

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned}
 C(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{w}^T \cdot \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{w}, y) \longrightarrow \min! \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \\
 & y - f(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \\
 & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, y \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

- Assume that  $\mathbf{w} > \mathbf{0}$  and that the partial derivatives of  $C$  are  $> 0$ .
- Let  $\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{w}, y)$  be the optimal input vector and  $\lambda(\mathbf{w}, y)$  be the corresponding Lagrangian multiplier.

$$L(\mathbf{x}; \lambda; \mathbf{w}, y) = \mathbf{w}^T \cdot \mathbf{x} + \lambda \cdot (y - f(\mathbf{x}))$$

$$\implies \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = \lambda = \lambda(\mathbf{w}, y) \quad (3.1)$$

i.e.,  $\lambda$  signifies marginal costs

*Shepard(-McKenzie) Lemma:*

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial w_i} = x_i = x_i(\mathbf{w}, y), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (3.2)$$

**Remark:**

Assume that  $C$  is twice continuously differentiable. Then the Hessian  $H_C$  is symmetric.

Differentiating (3.1) w.r.t.  $w_i$  and (3.2) w.r.t.  $y$ , we obtain

*Samuelson's reciprocity relation:*

$$\implies \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial w_i} = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial w_j} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial w_i}, \quad \text{for all } i \text{ and } j$$

Interpretation of the first result:

A change in the  $j$ -th factor input w.r.t. a change in the  $i$ -th factor price (output being constant) must be equal to the change in the  $i$ -th factor input w.r.t. a change in the  $j$ -th factor price.

### 3.3.2 Profit maximization problem of a competitive firm

Consider:

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{p}^T \cdot \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{w}^T \cdot \mathbf{x} \longrightarrow \max! \quad (-\pi \longrightarrow \min!)$$

s.t.

$$g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y} - f(\mathbf{x}) \leq \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0},$$

where:

$\mathbf{p} > \mathbf{0}$  - output price vector

$\mathbf{w} > \mathbf{0}$  - input price vector

$\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$  - produced vector of output

$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  - used input vector

$f(\mathbf{x})$  - production function

Let:

$\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w}), \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w})$  be the *optimal solutions of the problem* and

$\pi(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{p}^T \cdot \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w}) - \mathbf{w}^T \cdot \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w})$  be the (*maximum*) *profit function*.

$$L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \lambda; \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w}) = -\mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + \lambda \cdot (\mathbf{y} - f(\mathbf{x}))$$

The Envelope theorem implies

*Hotelling's lemma:*

$$1. \quad \frac{\partial(-\pi)}{\partial p_i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial p_i} = -y_i \quad \text{i.e.:} \quad \frac{\partial \pi}{\partial p_i} = y_i > 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \quad (3.3)$$

$$2. \quad \frac{\partial(-\pi)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial w_i} = x_i \quad \text{i.e.:} \quad \frac{\partial \pi}{\partial w_i} = -x_i < 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \quad (3.4)$$

Interpretation:

1. An increase in the price of any output increases the maximum profit.
2. An increase in the price of any input lowers the maximum profit.

**Remark:**

Let  $\pi(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{w})$  be twice continuously differentiable. Using (3.3) and (3.4), we obtain

*Hotelling's symmetry relation:*

$$\frac{\partial y_j}{\partial p_i} = \frac{\partial y_i}{\partial p_j}, \quad \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial w_i} = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial w_j}, \quad \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial p_i} = -\frac{\partial y_i}{\partial w_j}, \quad \text{for all } i \text{ and } j.$$

# Chapter 4

## Differential equations

### 4.1 Preliminaries

**Definition 1**

A relationship

$$F(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$$

between the independent variable  $x$ , a function  $y(x)$  and its derivatives is called an *ordinary differential equation*. The *order of the differential equation* is determined by the highest order of the derivatives appearing in the differential equation.

*Explicit representation:*

$$y^{(n)} = f(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n-1)})$$

EXAMPLE 1

**Definition 2**

A function  $y(x)$  for which the relationship  $F(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$  holds for all  $x \in D_y$  is called a *solution* of the differential equation.

The set

$$S = \{y(x) \mid F(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0 \text{ for all } x \in D_y\}$$

is called the *set of solutions* or the *general solution* of the differential equation.

in economics often:

time  $t$  is the independent variable, solution  $x(t)$  with

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt}, \quad \ddot{x} = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}, \quad \text{etc.}$$

## 4.2 Differential equations of the first order

*implicit form:*

$$F(t, x, \dot{x}) = 0$$

*explicit form:*

$$\dot{x} = f(t, x)$$

Graphical solution:

given:  $\dot{x} = f(t, x)$

At any point  $(t_0, x_0)$  the value  $\dot{x} = f(t_0, x_0)$  is given, which corresponds to the slope of the tangent at point  $(t_0, x_0)$ .

→ *graph the direction field* (or slope field)

EXAMPLE 2



### 4.2.1 Separable equations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(t, x) = g(t) \cdot h(x) \\ \implies \int \frac{dx}{h(x)} &= \int g(t) \cdot dt \\ \implies H(x) &= G(t) + C \end{aligned}$$

→ solve for  $x$  (if possible)

$x(t_0) = x_0$  given:

→  $C$  is assigned a particular value

⇒  $x_p$  - particular solution

EXAMPLE 3



EXAMPLE 4



### 4.2.2 First-order linear differential equations

$$\dot{x} + a(t) \cdot x = q(t) \quad q(t) \text{ - forcing term}$$

(a)  $a(t) = a$  and  $q(t) = q$ → multiply both sides by the integrating factor  $e^{at} > 0$ 

$$\implies \dot{x}e^{at} + axe^{at} = qe^{at}$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}(x \cdot e^{at}) = qe^{at}$$

$$\implies x \cdot e^{at} = \int qe^{at} dt = \frac{q}{a}e^{at} + C$$

i.e.

$$\dot{x} + ax = q \iff x = Ce^{-at} + \frac{q}{a} \quad (C \in \mathbb{R}) \quad (4.1)$$

$$C = 0 \implies x(t) = \frac{q}{a} = \text{constant}$$

$$x = \frac{q}{a} \quad - \text{equilibrium or stationary state}$$

**Remark:**

The equilibrium state can be obtained by letting  $\dot{x} = 0$  and solving the remaining equation for  $x$ . If  $a > 0$ , then  $x = Ce^{-at} + \frac{q}{a}$  converges to  $\frac{q}{a}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , and the equation is said to be stable (every solution converges to an equilibrium as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ).

EXAMPLE 5 ⇒(b)  $a(t) = a$  and  $q(t)$ → multiply both sides by the integrating factor  $e^{at} > 0$ 

$$\implies \dot{x}e^{at} + axe^{at} = q(t) \cdot e^{at}$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}(x \cdot e^{at}) = q(t) \cdot e^{at}$$

$$\implies x \cdot e^{at} = \int q(t) \cdot e^{at} dt + C$$

i.e.

$$\dot{x} + ax = q(t) \iff x = Ce^{-at} + e^{-at} \int e^{at} q(t) dt \quad (4.2)$$

(c) General case→ multiply both sides by  $e^{A(t)}$ 

$$\implies \dot{x}e^{A(t)} + a(t)xe^{A(t)} = q(t) \cdot e^{A(t)}$$

→ choose  $A(t)$  such that  $A(t) = \int a(t)dt$  because

$$\frac{d}{dt}(x \cdot e^{A(t)}) = \dot{x} \cdot e^{A(t)} + x \cdot \underbrace{\dot{A}(t)}_{a(t)} \cdot e^{A(t)}$$

$$\implies x \cdot e^{A(t)} = \int q(t) \cdot e^{A(t)} dt + C \quad | \cdot e^{-A(t)}$$

$$\implies x = Ce^{-A(t)} + e^{-A(t)} \int q(t) \cdot e^{A(t)} dt, \quad \text{where } A(t) = \int a(t)dt$$

EXAMPLE 6

#### (d) Stability and phase diagrams

Consider an autonomous (i.e. time-independent) equation

$$\dot{x} = F(x) \tag{4.3}$$

and a phase diagram:

Illustration: Phase diagram

#### **Definition 3**

A point  $a$  represents an *equilibrium* or *stationary state* for equation (4.3) if  $F(a) = 0$ .

→  $x(t) = a$  is a solution if  $x(t_0) = x_0$ .

→  $x(t)$  converges to  $x = a$  for any starting point  $(t_0, x_0)$ .

Illustration: Stability

### 4.3 Second-order linear differential equations and systems in the plane

$$\ddot{x} + a(t)\dot{x} + b(t)x \equiv q(t) \tag{4.4}$$

Homogeneous differential equation:

$$q(t) \equiv 0 \implies \ddot{x} + a(t)\dot{x} + b(t)x = 0 \tag{4.5}$$

**Theorem 1**

The homogeneous differential equation (4.5) has the general solution

$$x_H(t) = C_1x_1(t) + C_2x_2(t), \quad C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

where  $x_1(t)$ ,  $x_2(t)$  are two solutions that are not proportional (i.e., linearly independent).

The non-homogeneous equation (4.4) has the general solution

$$x(t) = x_H(t) + x_N(t) = C_1x_1(t) + C_2x_2(t) + x_N(t),$$

where  $x_N(t)$  is any particular solution of the non-homogeneous equation.

(a) Constant coefficients  $a(t) = a$  and  $b(t) = b$

$$\ddot{x} + a\dot{x} + bx = q(t)$$

*Homogeneous equation:*

$$\ddot{x} + a\dot{x} + bx = 0$$

→ use the setting  $x(t) = e^{\lambda t}$  ( $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$\implies \dot{x}(t) = \lambda e^{\lambda t}, \quad \ddot{x}(t) = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

⇒ Characteristic equation:

$$\lambda^2 + a\lambda + b = 0 \tag{4.6}$$

3 cases:

1. (4.6) has two distinct real roots  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$

$$\implies x_H(t) = C_1e^{\lambda_1 t} + C_2e^{\lambda_2 t}$$

2. (4.6) has a real double root  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$

$$\implies x_H(t) = C_1e^{\lambda_1 t} + C_2te^{\lambda_1 t}$$

3. (4.6) has two complex roots  $\lambda_1 = \alpha + \beta \cdot i$  and  $\lambda_2 = \alpha - \beta \cdot i$

$$x_H(t) = e^{\alpha t}(C_1 \cos \beta t + C_2 \sin \beta t)$$

*Non-homogeneous equation:*

$$\ddot{x} + a\dot{x} + bx = q(t)$$



Discussion of special forcing terms:

Forcing term $q(t)$	Setting $x_N(t)$
1. $q(t) = p \cdot e^{st}$	(a) $x_N(t) = A \cdot e^{st}$ - if $s$ is <i>not</i> a root of the characteristic equation (b) $x_N(t) = A \cdot t^k e^{st}$ - if $s$ is a root of multiplicity $k$ ( $k \leq 2$ ) of the characteristic equation
2. $q(t) = p_n t^n + p_{n-1} t^{n-1} + \dots + p_1 t + p_0$	(a) $x_N(t) = A_n t^n + A_{n-1} t^{n-1} + \dots + A_1 t + A_0$ - if $b \neq 0$ in the homogeneous equation (b) $x_N(t) = t^k \cdot (A_n t^n + A_{n-1} t^{n-1} + \dots + A_1 t + A_0)$ - with $k = 1$ if $a \neq 0$ , $b = 0$ and $k = 2$ if $a = b = 0$
3. $q(t) = p \cos st + r \sin st$	(a) $x_N(t) = A \cos st + B \sin st$ - if $si$ is <i>not</i> a root of the characteristic equation (b) $x_N(t) = t^k \cdot (A \cos st + B \sin st)$ - if $si$ is a root of multiplicity $k$ of the characteristic equation

—→ Use the above setting and insert it and the derivatives into the non-homogeneous equation. Determine the coefficients  $A, B$  and  $A_i$ , respectively.

EXAMPLE 7 ⇒

(b) Stability

Consider equation (4.4)

**Definition 4**

Equation (4.4) is called *globally asymptotically stable* if every solution  $x_H(t) = C_1 x_1(t) + C_2 x_2(t)$  of the associated homogeneous equation tends to 0 as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for all values of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ .

**Remark:**

$$x_H(t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty \iff x_1(t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } x_2(t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

EXAMPLE 8 ⇒

**Theorem 2**

Equation  $\ddot{x} + a\dot{x} + bx = q(t)$  is globally asymptotically stable if and only if  $a > 0$  and  $b > 0$ .

(c) Systems of equations in the plane

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= f(t, x, y) \\ \dot{y} &= g(t, x, y)\end{aligned}\tag{7}$$

Solution: pair  $(x(t), y(t))$  satisfying (7)

*Initial value problem:*

The initial conditions  $x(t_0) = x_0$  and  $y(t_0) = y_0$  are given.

*A solution method:*

Reduce the given system (7) to a second-order differential equation in only one unknown.

1. Use the first equation in (7) to express  $y$  as a function of  $t, x, \dot{x}$ .

$$y = h(t, x, \dot{x})$$

2. Differentiate  $y$  w.r.t.  $t$  and substitute the terms for  $y$  and  $\dot{y}$  into the second equation in (7).
3. Solve the resulting second-order differential equation to determine  $x(t)$ .
4. Determine

$$y(t) = h(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t))$$

## EXAMPLE 9

(d) Systems with constant coefficients

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= a_{11}x + a_{12}y + q_1(t) \\ \dot{y} &= a_{21}x + a_{22}y + q_2(t)\end{aligned}$$

*Solution of the homogeneous system:*

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

we set

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t} \\ \implies \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} &= \lambda \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t} \end{aligned}$$

$\implies$  we obtain the eigenvalue problem:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\longrightarrow$  Determine the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  and the corresponding eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{z}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1^1 \\ z_2^1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{z}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1^2 \\ z_2^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$\longrightarrow$  Consider now the cases in a similar way as for a second-order differential equation, e.g.  $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ .

$\implies$  General solution:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_H(t) \\ y_H(t) \end{pmatrix} = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} z_1^1 \\ z_2^1 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} z_1^2 \\ z_2^2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_2 t}$$

*Solution of the non-homogeneous system:*

A particular solution of the non-homogeneous system can be determined in a similar way as for a second-order differential equation. Note that *all* occurring specific functions  $q_1(t)$  and  $q_2(t)$  have to be considered in each function  $x_N(t)$  and  $y_N(t)$ .

EXAMPLE 10



(e) Equilibrium points for linear systems with constant coefficients and forcing term

Consider:

$$\dot{x} = a_{11}x + a_{12}y + q_1$$

$$\dot{y} = a_{21}x + a_{22}y + q_2$$

For finding an equilibrium point (state), we set  $\dot{x} = \dot{y} = 0$  and obtain

$$a_{11}x + a_{12}y = -q_1$$

$$a_{21}x + a_{22}y = -q_2$$

Cramer's rule  $\implies$  equilibrium point:

$$x^* = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -q_1 & a_{12} \\ -q_2 & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{a_{12}q_2 - a_{22}q_1}{|A|}$$

$$y^* = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & -q_1 \\ a_{21} & -q_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{a_{21}q_1 - a_{11}q_2}{|A|}$$

EXAMPLE 11 

**Theorem 3**

Suppose that  $|A| \neq 0$ . Then the equilibrium point  $(x^*, y^*)$  for the linear system

$$\dot{x} = a_{11}x + a_{12}y + q_1$$

$$\dot{y} = a_{21}x + a_{22}y + q_2$$

is globally asymptotically stable if and only if

$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = a_{11} + a_{22} < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad |A| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} > 0,$$

where  $\operatorname{tr}(A)$  is the trace of  $A$  (or equivalently, if and only if both eigenvalues of  $A$  have negative real parts).

EXAMPLE 12 

(f) Phase plane analysis

Consider an autonomous system:

$$\dot{x} = f(x, y)$$

$$\dot{y} = g(x, y)$$

→ Rates of change of  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  are given by  $f(x(t), y(t))$  and  $g(x(t), y(t))$ , e.g.

if  $f(x(t), y(t)) > 0$  and  $g(x(t), y(t)) < 0$  at a point  $P = (x(t), y(t))$ , then (as  $t$  increases) the system will move from point  $P$  *down* and to the *right*.

⇒  $(\dot{x}(t), \dot{y}(t))$  gives *direction of motion*, length of  $(\dot{x}(t), \dot{y}(t))$  gives *speed of motion*

Illustration: Motion of a system



Graph a sample of these vectors. ⇒ *phase diagram*

*Equilibrium point:* point  $(a, b)$  with  $f(a, b) = g(a, b) = 0$

→ equilibrium points are the points of the intersection of the nullclines  
 $f(x, y) = 0$  and  $g(x, y) = 0$

→ Graph the nullclines:

- At point  $P$  with  $f(x, y) = 0$ ,  $\dot{x} = 0$  and the velocity vector is vertical, it points up if  $\dot{y} > 0$  and down if  $\dot{y} < 0$ .
- At point  $Q$  with  $g(x, y) = 0$ ,  $\dot{y} = 0$  and the velocity vector is horizontal, it points to the right if  $\dot{x} > 0$  and to the left if  $\dot{x} < 0$ .

→ Continue and graph further arrows.

EXAMPLE 13



# Chapter 5

## Optimal control theory

### 5.1 Calculus of variations

Consider:

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} F(t, x, \dot{x}) dt \longrightarrow \max! \quad (8)$$

s.t.

$$x(t_0) = x_0, \quad x(t_1) = x_1$$

ILLUSTRATION



*necessary optimality condition:*

Function  $x(t)$  can only solve problem (8) if  $x(t)$  satisfies the following differential equation.

→ Euler equation:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} - \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial \dot{x}} \right) = 0 \quad (5.1)$$

we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial F(t, x, \dot{x})}{\partial \dot{x}} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t \partial \dot{x}} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial \dot{x}} \cdot \dot{x} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial \dot{x} \partial \dot{x}} \cdot \ddot{x}$$

⇒ (5.1) can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial \dot{x} \partial \dot{x}} \cdot \ddot{x} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial \dot{x}} \cdot \dot{x} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t \partial \dot{x}} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 0$$

**Theorem 1**

If  $F(t, x, \dot{x})$  is concave in  $(x, \dot{x})$ , a feasible  $x^*(t)$  that satisfies the Euler equation solves the maximization problem (8).

## EXAMPLE 1

More general terminal conditions

Consider:

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} F(t, x, \dot{x}) dt \longrightarrow \max!$$

s.t.

(9)

$$x(t_0) = x_0$$

$$(a) \quad x(t_1) \text{ free} \quad \text{or} \quad (b) \quad x(t_1) \geq x_1$$

## ILLUSTRATION

$\implies$  transversality condition needed to determine the second constant

**Theorem 2** (Transversality conditions)

If  $x^*(t)$  solves problem (9) with either (a) or (b) as the terminal condition, then  $x^*(t)$  must satisfy the Euler equation.

With the terminal condition (a), the transversality condition is

$$\left( \frac{\partial F^*}{\partial \dot{x}} \right)_{t=t_1} = 0. \quad (5.2)$$

With the terminal condition (b), the transversality condition is

$$\left( \frac{\partial F^*}{\partial \dot{x}} \right)_{t=t_1} \leq 0 \quad \left[ \left( \frac{\partial F^*}{\partial \dot{x}} \right)_{t=t_1} = 0, \text{ if } x^*(t_1) > x_1 \right] \quad (5.3)$$

If  $F(t, x, \dot{x})$  is concave in  $(x, \dot{x})$ , then a feasible  $x^*(t)$  that satisfies both the Euler equation and the appropriate transversality condition will solve problem (9).

## EXAMPLE 2

## 5.2 Control theory

### 5.2.1 Basic problem

Let:

$x(t)$  - characterization of the state of a system

$u(t)$  - control function;  $t \geq t_0$

$J = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f(t, x(t), u(t)) dt$  - objective function

Given:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= g(t, x(t), u(t)), \\ x(t_0) &= x_0 \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

*Problem:*

Among all pairs  $(x(t), u(t))$  that obey (10) find one such that

$$J = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f(t, x(t), u(t)) dt \longrightarrow \max!$$

EXAMPLE 3



*Optimality conditions:*

Consider:

$$J = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f(t, x(t), u(t)) dt \longrightarrow \max! \tag{5.4}$$

s.t.

$$\dot{x}(t) = g(t, x(t), u(t)), \quad x(t_0) = x_0, \quad x(t_1) \text{ free} \tag{5.5}$$

→ Introduce the Hamiltonian function

$$H(t, x, u, p) = f(t, x, u) + p \cdot g(t, x, u)$$

$p = p(t)$  - costate variable (adjoint function)



**Theorem 3** (Maximum principle)

Suppose that  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  is an optimal pair for problem (5.4) - (5.5).

Then there exists a continuous function  $p(t)$  such that

1.  $u = u^*(t)$  maximizes

$$H(t, x^*(t), u, p(t)) \quad \text{for } u \in (-\infty, \infty) \tag{5.6}$$

- 2.

$$\dot{p}(t) = -H_x(t, x^*(t), u^*(t), p(t)), \quad \underbrace{p(t_1) = 0}_{\text{transversality condition}} \tag{5.7}$$

**Theorem 4**

If the condition

$$H(t, x, u, p(t)) \text{ is concave in } (x, u) \text{ for each } t \in [t_0, t_1] \tag{5.8}$$

is added to the conditions in Theorem 3, we obtain a sufficient optimality condition, i.e., if we find a triple  $(x^*(t), u^*(t), p^*(t))$  that satisfies (5.5), (5.6), (5.7) and (5.8), then  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  is optimal.

EXAMPLE 4



**5.2.2 Standard problem**

Consider the „standard end constrained problem“ :

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} f(t, x, u) dt \quad \longrightarrow \max!, \quad u \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \tag{5.9}$$

s.t.

$$\dot{x}(t) = g(t, x(t), u(t)), \quad x(t_0) = x_0 \tag{5.10}$$

with one of the following terminal conditions

$$(a) \quad x(t_1) = x_1, \quad (b) \quad x(t_1) \geq x_1 \quad \text{or} \quad (c) \quad x(t_1) \text{ free.} \tag{5.11}$$

Define now the Hamiltonian function as follows:

$$H(t, x, u, p) = p_0 \cdot f(t, x, u) + p \cdot g(t, x, u)$$

**Theorem 5** (Maximum principle for standard end constraints)

Suppose that  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  is an optimal pair for problem (5.9) - (5.11).

Then there exist a continuous function  $p(t)$  and a number  $p_0 \in \{0, 1\}$  such that for all  $t \in [t_0, t_1]$  we have  $(p_0, p(t)) \neq (0, 0)$  and, moreover:

1.  $u = u^*(t)$  maximizes the Hamiltonian  $H(t, x^*(t), u, p(t))$  w.r.t.  $u \in U$ , i.e.,

$$H(t, x^*(t), u, p(t)) \leq H(t, x^*(t), u^*(t), p(t)) \quad \text{for all } u \in U$$

- 2.

$$\dot{p}(t) = -H_x(t, x^*(t), u^*(t), p(t)) \quad (5.12)$$

3. Corresponding to each of the terminal conditions (a), (b) and (c) in (5.11), there is a transversality condition on  $p(t_1)$ :

(a') no condition on  $p(t_1)$

(b')  $p(t_1) \geq 0$  (with  $p(t_1) = 0$  if  $x^*(t_1) > x_1$ )

(c')  $p(t_1) = 0$

**Theorem 6** (Mangasarian)

Suppose that  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  is a feasible pair with the corresponding costate variable  $p(t)$  such that conditions 1. - 3. in Theorem 5 are satisfied with  $p_0 = 1$ . Suppose further that the control region  $U$  is convex and that  $H(t, x, u, p(t))$  is concave in  $(x, u)$  for every  $t \in [t_0, t_1]$ .

Then  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  is an optimal pair.

*General approach:*

1. For each triple  $(t, x, p)$  maximize  $H(t, x, u, p)$  w.r.t.  $u \in U$  (often there exists a unique maximization point  $u = \hat{u}(t, x, p)$ ).
2. Insert this function into the differential equations (5.10) and (5.12) to obtain

$$\dot{x}(t) = g(t, x, \hat{u}(t, x(t), p(t)))$$

and

$$\dot{p}(t) = -H_x(t, x(t), \hat{u}(t, x(t), p(t)))$$

(i.e., a system of two first-order differential equations) to determine  $x(t)$  and  $p(t)$ .

3. Determine the constants in the general solution  $(x(t), p(t))$  by combining the initial condition  $x(t_0) = x_0$  with the terminal conditions and transversality conditions.

$\implies$  state variable  $x^*(t)$ , corresponding control variable  $u^*(t) = \hat{u}(t, x^*(t), p(t))$

**Remarks:**

1. If the Hamiltonian is not concave, there exists a weaker sufficient condition due to Arrow:  
If the *maximized Hamiltonian*

$$\hat{H}(t, x, p) = \max_u H(t, x, u, p)$$

is concave in  $x$  for every  $t \in [t_0, t_1]$  and conditions 1. - 3. of Theorem 5 are satisfied with  $p_0 = 1$ , then  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  solves problem (5.9) - (5.11).

(Arrow's sufficient condition)

2. If the resulting differential equations are non-linear, one may linearize these functions about the equilibrium state, i.e., one can expand the functions into Taylor polynomials with  $n = 1$  (see linear approximation in Section 1.1).

## EXAMPLE 5

**5.2.3 Current value formulations**

Consider:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{u \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R}} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f(t, x, u) e^{-rt} dt, \quad \dot{x} = g(t, x, u) \\ x(t_0) = x_0 \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

- (a)  $x(t_1) = x_1$  (b)  $x(t_1) \geq x_1$  or (c)  $x(t_1)$  free

$e^{-rt}$  - discount factor

$\implies$  Hamiltonian

$$H = p_0 \cdot f(t, x, u) e^{-rt} + p \cdot g(t, x, u)$$

$\implies$  Current value Hamiltonian (multiply  $H$  by  $e^{rt}$ )

$$H^c = H e^{rt} = p_0 \cdot f(t, x, u) + e^{rt} \cdot p \cdot g(t, x, u)$$

$\lambda = e^{rt} \cdot p$  - current value shadow price,  $\lambda_0 = p_0$

$$\implies H^c(t, x, u, \lambda) = \lambda_0 \cdot f(t, x, u) + \lambda \cdot g(t, x, u)$$

**Theorem 7** (Maximum principle, current value formulation)

Suppose that  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  is an optimal pair for problem (11) and let  $H^c$  be the current value Hamiltonian.

Then there exist a continuous function  $\lambda(t)$  and a number  $\lambda_0 \in \{0, 1\}$  such that for all  $t \in [t_0, t_1]$  we have  $(\lambda_0, \lambda(t)) \neq (0, 0)$  and, moreover:

1.  $u = u^*(t)$  maximizes  $H^c(t, x^*(t), u, \lambda(t))$  for  $u \in U$

2.

$$\dot{\lambda}(t) - r\lambda(t) = - \frac{\partial H^c(t, x^*(t), u^*(t), \lambda(t))}{\partial x}$$

3. The transversality conditions are:

(a') no condition on  $\lambda(t_1)$

(b')  $\lambda(t_1) \geq 0$  (with  $\lambda(t_1) = 0$  if  $x^*(t_1) > x_1$ )

(c')  $\lambda(t_1) = 0$

**Remark:**

The conditions in Theorem 7 are sufficient for optimality if  $\lambda_0 = 1$  and

$$H^c(t, x, u, \lambda(t)) \text{ is concave in } (x, u) \quad (\text{Mangasarian})$$

or more generally

$$\hat{H}^c(t, x, \lambda(t)) = \max_{u \in U} H^c(t, x, u, \lambda(t)) \text{ is concave in } x \quad (\text{Arrow}).$$

EXAMPLE 6



**Remark:**

If explicit solutions for the system of differential equations are not obtainable, a phase diagram may be helpful.

ILLUSTRATION: Phase diagram for example 6

