

Alternative method: NDCQ

The alternative method is described in [MEJ] 19.5, and works for both Lagrange and Kuhn-Tucker problems.

Ex: max y when $x^2 + y^3 = 0$

Alternative method:

~~Use the Lagrangian~~

Use the Lagrangian

$$L = \lambda_0 \cdot y - \lambda_1 (x^2 + y^3)$$

FOC:

$$L'_x = -\lambda_1 \cdot 2x = 0$$

$$L'_y = \lambda_0 - \lambda_1 \cdot 3y^2 = 0$$

C:

$$x^2 + y^3 = 0$$

Note the new Lagrangian, with an extra multiplier λ_0 . In addition to the usual condition, we add

- i) $\lambda_0 = 0$ or $\lambda_0 = 1$
- ii) $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1) \neq (0, 0)$

Solution:

$-\lambda_1 \cdot 2x = 0$ gives $x = 0$ or $\lambda_1 = 0$

$\lambda_1 = 0$ means $\lambda_0 = 0$ from second FOC

$\Rightarrow (\lambda_0, \lambda_1) = (0, 0)$ not possible

$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 \neq 0, x = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0$ by constr. $\Rightarrow \lambda_0 = 0$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (x, y, \lambda_0, \lambda_1) = (0, 0, 0, \lambda_1) \\ \text{with } \lambda_1 \neq 0 \\ \underline{f = y = 0.} \end{array} \right\}$$

Original method:

$$h = y - \lambda_1 (x^2 + y^3)$$

$$h'_x = -\lambda_1 \cdot 2x = 0$$

$$h'_y = 1 - \lambda_1 \cdot 3y^2 = 0$$

$$x^2 + y^3 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 0 \text{ or } x = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 0 \text{ not poss.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 \neq 0, x = 0$$

$$y = 0$$

\Downarrow

not poss. since

$$1 - \lambda_1 \cdot 3y^2 = 1 \neq 0$$

\Downarrow

no solution
of FOC + C

NDCQ:

$$rk \begin{pmatrix} 2x & 3y^2 \end{pmatrix} = 1$$

NDCQ fails:

$$2x = 3y^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = y = 0 \text{ which is admissible}$$

Solution

$$(x, y) = (0, 0) \text{ of NDCQ fails + C}$$

In alternative method:

Solutions with $\lambda_0=1$

— || — $\lambda_0=0$



Original method

Solutions of FOC + C

Solutions where NDCQ
falls + C (ie. adm.
pts where NDCQ falls)

General result for Lagrange problems:

Problem: max/min $f(\underline{x})$ when $\begin{cases} g_1(\underline{x})=a_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\underline{x})=a_m \end{cases}$

Form the Lagrangian $L(\underline{x}; \lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) = f(\underline{x}) \cdot \lambda_0 - \lambda_1 g_1(\underline{x}) - \dots - \lambda_m g_m(\underline{x})$

Consider the conditions

i) $L'_{x_1} = 0$ $L'_{x_2} = 0$... $L'_{x_n} = 0$

ii) $g_1(\underline{x}) = a_1$ $g_2(\underline{x}) = a_2$... $g_m(\underline{x}) = a_m$

iii) $\lambda_0 = 0$ or $\lambda_0 = 1$, and $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \neq (0, 0, \dots, 0)$

If the problem has a solution \underline{x}^* , then there are multipliers λ_0^* , $\lambda_1^*, \dots, \lambda_m^*$ such that conditions i)–iii) hold.

General result for Kuhn-Tucker problems:

Problem: max $f(\underline{x})$ when $\begin{cases} g_1(\underline{x}) \leq a_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_m(\underline{x}) \leq a_m \end{cases}$

Form the Lagrangian $L(\underline{x}; \lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_m) = f(\underline{x}) \cdot \lambda_0 - \lambda_1 g_1(\underline{x}) - \dots - \lambda_m g_m(\underline{x})$

Consider the conditions

i) $L'_{x_1} = 0$ $L'_{x_2} = 0$... $L'_{x_n} = 0$

ii) $g_1(\underline{x}) \leq a_1$ $g_2(\underline{x}) \leq a_2$... $g_m(\underline{x}) \leq a_m$

iii) $\lambda_1 \geq 0, \lambda_2 \geq 0, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0$ and $\lambda_1(g_1(\underline{x}) - a_1) = 0, \dots, \lambda_m(g_m(\underline{x}) - a_m) = 0$

iv) $\lambda_0 = 0$ or $\lambda_0 = 1$, $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \neq (0, 0, \dots, 0)$

If the problem has a solution \underline{x}^* , then there are multipliers $\lambda_0^*, \lambda_1^*, \dots, \lambda_n^*$ such that conditions i) - iv) hold.

Conclusion:

In both Lagrange / Kuhn-Tucker problems, the candidates for max/min are only the solutions to the conditions i) - iii) or i) - iv) above.

It is not necessary to consider NDCQ separately when you use \mathcal{L} with extra multiplier λ_0 ; admissible pts where NDCQ fails come out as candidates with $\lambda_0 = 0$.

Ex: max xy when $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda_0 \cdot xy - \lambda_1 (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}'_x = \lambda_0 y - \lambda_1 \cdot 2x = 0 \\ \mathcal{L}'_y = \lambda_0 x - \lambda_1 \cdot 2y = 0 \\ x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \end{cases} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{New} \\ \text{FOC's} \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{c}$$

$$\lambda_1 \geq 0, \lambda_1 (x^2 + y^2 - 1) = 0 \left\} \text{CSC}$$

$$\lambda_0 = 0 \text{ or } \lambda_0 = 1, (\lambda_0, \lambda_1) \neq (0, 0) \left\} \begin{array}{l} \text{New} \\ \text{Cond.} \\ \text{on } \lambda_0 \end{array} \right.$$

Conclusion:

Best cand:

$$\begin{cases} (\sqrt{1/2}, \sqrt{1/2}; 1/2) & f = 1/2 \\ (-\sqrt{1/2}, -\sqrt{1/2}; 1/2) & f = 1/2 \end{cases} \left. \right\} \lambda_0 = 1$$

since no more candidates (not necessary to check NDCQ)

$x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$ is bounded, so this is max

a) $\lambda_0 = 0$: $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ since $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1) \neq (0, 0)$

FOC: $x = 0, y = 0$ c: ok

CSC: $\lambda_1 \cdot (-1) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0$ not possible

b) $\lambda_0 = 1$: (Usual FOC + C + CSC)

FOC: $y = 2\lambda_1 x$

$x = 2\lambda_1 y = 2\lambda_1 (2\lambda_1 x)$

$x(1 - 4\lambda_1^2) = 0$

$x \neq 0$ or $1 = 4\lambda_1^2$

$\lambda_1^2 = 1/4$

$\lambda_1 = 1/2$ since $\lambda_1 \geq 0$

\Rightarrow If $x = 0$: $y = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0 \Rightarrow$ Cand: $(0, 0; 0)$ $f = 0$

If $x \neq 0, \lambda_1 = 1/2$: $y = x, x^2 + y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = y^2 = 1/2$

\Rightarrow Cand: $(\pm\sqrt{1/2}, \pm\sqrt{1/2}; 1/2)$ $f = \pm 1/2$