

Students may use the formulae sheet and a pocket calculator. All solutions must be properly justified.

1. Decide if the following statements are true/false. Provide a brief explanation or a counter-example. (0.2/item)

- a) The composition of two convex functions is convex.
- b) The Golden Section line search may diverge if the function is not unimodal.
- c) In Linear Programming, if the primal problem is unbounded then the constraints in the dual problem are infeasible (i.e. empty set).
- d) The Modified Newton method does not use second derivatives of the function.
- e) The Steepest Descent method produces descent search directions for whatever implementation of a line search.

2. Consider the function $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + e^{-4xy}$.

- a) Prove that $\min_{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(x, y)$ exists and calculate it. (0.5)
- b) Apply the Newton method to f starting from $(x_0, y_0) = (1, 0)$. Verify that the method converges and explain what kind of point you get as an answer (i.e. local/global min/max, saddle point or something else). (0.5)

3. a) Consider the following LP problem

$$\min(2x_1 + x_2 + 4x_3) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 3, \\ 2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 5, \\ \text{all } x_i \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

State the dual problem, solve the dual problem graphically and use the Complementary Slackness Principle to solve the problem above. (0.6)

- b) Does the vector $(3, 2, 1)$ belong to the convex hull of $(2, 1, 2)$, $(1, 1, 1)$, $(4, 3, 2)$ and $(2, 1, -1)$? (0.4)

Please, turn over

4. a) Is the function $\ln(1 + \|x\|)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, convex? (0.3)

b) Is the set $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: \ln(1 + \|x\|) \leq \text{const}\}$ convex? (0.3)

c) For what $a \in \mathbb{R}$ is the function

$$f(x, y) = \frac{x^a}{y}$$

convex in $\{(x, y): x > 0, y > 0\}$? (0.4)

5. Use the KKT necessary condition to solve the optimization problem

$$\min(z - x - y) \quad \text{subject to } z \leq x^2 + y^2, \quad z \geq 2x^2 + 2y^2 - 1.$$

6. a) State the sufficient KKT condition and explain how it could be used to solve Problem 5 more easily. (0.4)

b) Prove that if g is convex and increasing and h is convex then $g \circ h$ is convex. (0.3)

c) Let H be a symmetric matrix. Prove that any two eigenvectors of H , corresponding to distinct eigenvalues, are H -conjugate. (0.3)

GOOD LUCK!