# ON GENERALIZED DERIVATIVES FOR $C^{1,1}$ VECTOR OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS 

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We introduce generalized definitions of Peano and Riemann directional derivatives in order to obtain second-order optimality conditions for vector optimization problems involving $C^{1,1}$ data. We show that these conditions are stronger than those in literature obtained by means of second-order Clarke subdifferential.

## 1. $C^{1,1}$ vector functions and second-order subdifferentials

A function $f: \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ is said to be locally lipschitzian (or of class $C^{0,1}$ ) at $x_{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$ when there exist constants $K_{x_{0}}$ and $\delta_{x_{0}}$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|f\left(x_{1}\right)-f\left(x_{2}\right)\right\| \leq K_{x_{0}}\left\|x_{1}-x_{2}\right\|, \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $x_{1}, x_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{m},\left\|x_{1}-x_{0}\right\| \leq \delta_{x_{0}}$, and $\left\|x_{2}-x_{0}\right\| \leq \delta_{x_{0}}$. For this type of functions, according to Rademacher theorem, $f$ is differentiable almost everywhere (in the sense of Lebesgue measure). Then the first-order Clarke generalized Jacobian of $f$ at $x_{0}$, denoted by $\partial f\left(x_{0}\right)$, exists and is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\partial f\left(x_{0}\right):=\operatorname{clconv}\left\{\lim f^{\prime}\left(x_{k}\right): x_{k} \longrightarrow x_{0}, f^{\prime}\left(x_{k}\right) \text { exists }\right\}, \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where clconv $\{\cdots\}$ stands for the closed convex hull of the set under the parentheses. Now, assume that $f$ is a differentiable vector function from

[^0]$\mathbb{R}^{m}$ to $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ whose directional derivative is of class $C^{0,1}$ at $x_{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$. In this case, we say that $f$ is of class $C^{1,1}$ at $x_{0}$. The second-order Clarke subdifferential of $f$ at $x_{0}$, denoted by $\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)$, is defined as
\[

$$
\begin{equation*}
\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right):=\operatorname{clconv}\left\{\lim f^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{k}\right): x_{k} \longrightarrow x_{0}, f^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{k}\right) \text { exists }\right\} . \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

\]

Thus $\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)$ is a subset of the finite-dimensional space $L\left(\mathbb{R}^{m} ; L\left(\mathbb{R}^{m} ; \mathbb{R}^{n}\right)\right)$ of linear operators from $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ to the space $L\left(\mathbb{R}^{m} ; \mathbb{R}^{n}\right)$ of linear operators from $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ to $\mathbb{R}^{n}$. The elements of $\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)$ can therefore be viewed as a bilinear function on $\mathbb{R}^{m} \times \mathbb{R}^{m}$ with values in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$. For the case $n=1$, the term "generalized Hessian matrix" was used in [9] to denote the set $\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)$. By the previous construction, the second-order subdifferential enjoys all properties of the generalized jacobian. For instance, $\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)$ is a nonempty convex compact set of the space $L\left(\mathbb{R}^{m} ; L\left(\mathbb{R}^{m} ; \mathbb{R}^{n}\right)\right)$ and the set-valued map $x \mapsto \partial^{2} f(x)$ is upper semicontinuous. Let $u \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$; in the following we will denote by $L u$ the value of a linear operator $L: \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ at the point $u \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$ and by $H(u, v)$ the value of a bilinear operator $H: \mathbb{R}^{m} \times \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ at the point $(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^{m} \times \mathbb{R}^{m}$. So we will set

$$
\begin{align*}
\partial f\left(x_{0}\right)(u) & =\left\{L u: L \in \partial f\left(x_{0}\right)\right\},  \tag{1.4}\\
\partial f\left(x_{0}\right)(u, v) & =\left\{H(u, v): H \in \partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)\right\} .
\end{align*}
$$

Some important properties are listed here (see [8]).
(i) Mean value theorem: let $f$ be of class $C^{0,1}$ and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
f(b)-f(a) \in \operatorname{cl} \operatorname{conv}\{\partial f(x)(b-a): x \in[a, b]\}, \tag{1.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\text { where }[a, b]=\operatorname{conv}\{a, b\} \text {. }
$$

(ii) Taylor expansion: let $f$ be of class $C^{1,1}$ and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
f(b)-f(a) \in f^{\prime}(a)(b-a)+\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{cl} \operatorname{conv}\left\{\partial^{2} f(x)(b-a, b-a): x \in[a, b]\right\} . \tag{1.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Several problems of applied mathematics including, for example, portfolio analysis, data classification, and so forth involve functions with no hope of being twice differentiable (see [4,5,13] and Example $4.3)$ but they can be approximated by $C^{1,1}$ objects. Furthermore, the theory of $C^{1,1}$ functions has revealed its importance in some penalty methods, as shown in the following examples.

Example 1.1. Let $g: \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be twice continuously differentiable on $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ and consider $f(x)=\left[g^{+}(x)\right]^{2}$, where $g^{+}(x)=\max \{g(x), 0\}$. Then $f$ is $C^{1,1}$ on $\mathbb{R}^{m}$.

Example 1.2. Consider the minimization problem $\min f_{0}(x)$ over all $x \in$ $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ such that $f_{1}(x) \leq 0, \ldots, f_{k}(x) \leq 0$. Letting $r$ denote a positive parameter, the augmented Lagrangian $L_{r}$ [20] is defined on $\mathbb{R}^{m} \times \mathbb{R}^{k}$ as

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{r}(x, y)=f_{0}(x)+\frac{1}{4 r} \sum_{i=1}^{k}\left\{\left[y_{i}+2 r f_{i}(x)\right]^{+}\right\}^{2}-y_{i}^{2} \tag{1.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Upon setting $y=0$ in the previous expression, we observe that

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{r}(x, 0)=f_{0}(x)+r \sum_{i=1}^{k}\left[f_{i}^{+}(x)\right]^{2} \tag{1.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

is the ordinary penalized version of the minimization problem. The augmented Lagrangian $L_{r}$ is differentiable everywhere on $\mathbb{R}^{m} \times \mathbb{R}^{k}$ with

$$
\begin{gather*}
\nabla_{x} L_{r}(x, y)=\nabla f_{0}(x)+\sum_{j=1}^{k}\left[y_{j}+2 r f_{j}(x)\right]^{+} \nabla f_{j}(x)  \tag{1.9}\\
\frac{\partial L_{r}}{\partial y_{i}}(x, y)=\max \left\{f_{i}(x),-\frac{y_{i}}{2 r}\right\}, \quad i=1, \ldots, k
\end{gather*}
$$

when $f_{i}$ are $C^{2}$ on $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ and $L_{r}$ is $C^{1,1}$ on $\mathbb{R}^{m+k}$.
Optimality conditions for $C^{1,1}$ scalar functions have been studied by many authors and numerical methods have been proposed too (see [7, $9,10,15,17,18,21,22,23])$. In [7], Guerraggio and Luc have given necessary and sufficient optimality conditions for vector optimization problems expressed by means of $\partial^{2} f(x)$. In this paper, we introduce generalized Peano and Riemann directional derivatives for $C^{1,1}$ vector functions and we study second-order optimality conditions for set-constrained optimization problems.

## 2. Generalized directional derivatives for $C^{1,1}$ vector functions

Let $\Omega$ be an open subset of $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ and let $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function. For such a function we define

$$
\begin{equation*}
\delta_{2}^{d} f(x ; h)=f(x+2 h d)-2 f(x+h d)+f(x) \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $x \in \Omega, h \in \mathbb{R}$, and $d \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$. The following result characterizes a function of class $C^{1,1}$ in terms of $\delta_{2}^{d}$. It has been proved, for the scalar case, in [12, Theorem 2.1].

Proposition 2.1. Assume that the function $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ is bounded on a neighborhood of the point $x_{0} \in \Omega$. Then $f$ is of class $C^{1,1}$ at $x_{0}$ if and only if there exist neighborhoods $U$ of $x_{0}$ and $V$ of $0 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\left\|\delta_{2}^{d} f(x ; h)\right\| / h^{2}$ is bounded on $U \times V \backslash\{0\}$, for all $d \in S^{1}=\left\{d \in \mathbb{R}^{m}:\|d\|=1\right\}$.

Proof. The proof follows from recalling that a vector function is of class $C^{1,1}$ at $x_{0}$ if and only if each component of $f$ is of class $C^{1,1}$ at $x_{0}$.

The following definition extends to the vector case the well-known definition of the Riemann directional derivative [2].

Definition 2.2. The second Riemann directional derivative of $f$ at $x_{0} \in \Omega$ in the direction $d \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$ is defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)=\left\{l=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{\delta_{2}^{d} f\left(x_{0} ; t_{k}\right)}{h_{k}^{2}}, t_{k} \downarrow 0\right\} \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

that is, the set of all cluster points of sequences $\delta_{2}^{d} f\left(x_{0} ; t_{k}\right) / t_{k^{\prime}}^{2}, t_{k} \downarrow 0, k \rightarrow$ $+\infty$.

If $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then $\sup _{l \in f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)} l\left(\inf _{l \in f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)} l\right)$ coincides with the classical definition of the second upper Riemann directional derivative $\bar{f}_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ (second lower Riemann directional derivative $\underline{f}_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ ). If we define $\Delta_{2}^{d} f(x ; h)=f(x+h d)-2 f(x)+f(x-h d)$, then one can introduce the corresponding Riemann directional derivatives. Riemann [19] introduced (for scalar functions) the notion of second-order directional derivative while he was studying the convergence of trigonometric series. For properties and applications of Riemann directional derivatives, see [1, 2, 8].

Remark 2.3. If we define $\delta_{2}^{u, v} f(x ; s, t)=f(x+s u+t v)-f(x+s u)-f(x+$ $t v)+f(x)$ with $x \in \Omega, s, t \in \mathbb{R}$, and $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$, then the set

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{C}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; u, v\right)=\left\{l=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{\delta_{2}^{u, v} f\left(x_{0} ; s_{k}, t_{k}\right)}{s_{k} t_{k}}, s_{k}, t_{k} \downarrow 0\right\} \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

is an extension to the vector case of the definition according to Cominetti and Correa [6]. It is clear that $f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset f_{C}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d, d\right)$.

Definition 2.4. The second Peano directional derivative of $f$ at $x_{0} \in \Omega$ in the direction $d$ is defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)=\left\{l=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} 2 \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d}{t_{k}^{2}}, t_{k} \downarrow 0\right\} \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

that is, the set of all cluster points of sequences $2\left(f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-\right.$ $\left.t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d\right) / t_{k^{\prime}}^{2}, t_{k} \downarrow 0, k \rightarrow+\infty$.

If $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then $\sup _{l \in f_{p}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)} l\left(\inf _{l \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)} l\right)$ coincides with the classical definition of the second upper Peano directional derivative $\bar{f}_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ (second lower Peano directional derivative $\underline{f}_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ ). Peano [16], studying the Taylor expansion formula for real functions, introduced a concept of a higher-order directional derivative of a function $f$ at a point $x_{0}$ known thereafter as the Peano directional derivative. A similar directional derivative (parabolic directional derivative) is also used in [3] in the scalar case. Furthermore, in [14] some optimality conditions for $C^{1,1}$ vector optimization problems involving inequality constraints are given by using this type of generalized directional derivative. In this paper we study optimality conditions for set constraints.

It is trivial to prove that the previous sets are nonempty compact subsets of $\mathbb{R}^{n}$. The aim of the next sections is to investigate some properties of these generalized directional derivatives for $C^{1,1}$ vector functions and then apply them in order to obtain second-order optimality conditions for vector optimization problems.

## 3. Preliminary properties

Let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ scalar function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$. The following theorem states an inequality between second upper Peano and Riemann directional derivatives.

Theorem 3.1 [11]. Let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ scalar function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$. Then $\bar{f}_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \leq \bar{f}_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$.

Now, let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$.
Lemma 3.2. For all $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$, there exists $\tilde{r}_{\xi} \in f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ such that $\xi\left(p-\tilde{r}_{\xi}\right) \leq 0$, for all $p \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$.

Proof. In fact, for all $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$ and eventually by extracting subsequences, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\overline{\zeta f}_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \leq \overline{\zeta f}_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)=\xi \tilde{r}_{\xi}, \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\tilde{r}_{\xi} \in f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$. So, for all $p \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$, we have $\xi p \leq \bar{\zeta}_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \leq \xi \tilde{r}_{\xi}$ and then the thesis follows.

Theorem 3.3. Let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$. Then $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset \operatorname{conv} f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$.

Proof. Ab absurdo, there exists $p^{*} \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ such that $p^{*} \notin \operatorname{conv} f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$. Since conv $f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ is a compact convex set of $\mathbb{R}^{m}$, then, by standard separation argument, there exists $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \zeta \neq 0$, such that $\xi\left(p^{*}-r\right)>0$, for all $r \in \operatorname{conv} f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$. From Lemma 3.2, there exists $\tilde{r}_{\xi} \in f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ such that $\xi\left(p-\tilde{r}_{\xi}\right) \leq 0$, for all $p \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$. So $\xi\left(p^{*}-\tilde{r}_{\xi}\right) \leq 0$ and $\xi\left(p^{*}-\tilde{r}_{\xi}\right)>$ 0 .

Theorem 3.4. Let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$. Then $f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset \partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)(d, d)$.

Proof. Let $r \in f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
r=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{f\left(x_{0}+2 t_{k} d\right)-2 f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)+f\left(x_{0}\right)}{t_{k}^{2}} \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $t_{k} \downarrow 0$. By Taylor formula and the upper semicontinuity of the map $x \mapsto \partial^{2} f(x)$, for all $\epsilon>0$, there exists $k_{0}(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$ such that, for all $k \geq$ $k_{0}(\epsilon)$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{f\left(x_{0}+2 t_{k} d\right)-2 f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)+f\left(x_{0}\right)}{t_{k}^{2}} \in \partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)(d, d)+\epsilon B(0,1) \tag{3.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $B(0,1)$ is the closed unit ball in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$. So, taking the limit when $k \rightarrow$ $+\infty$ and $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have $f_{R}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset \partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)(d, d)$.

Corollary 3.5. Let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$. Then $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset \partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)(d, d)$.

The following example shows that the inclusion is strict.
Example 3.6. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2}, f(x)=\left(x^{4} \sin (1 / x)+x^{4}, x^{4}\right)$. The function $f$ is of class $C^{1,1}$ at $x_{0}=0$ and $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}(0 ; d)=(0,0) \in \partial^{2} f(0)(d, d)=\left[-d^{2}, d^{2}\right] \times$ $\{0\}$.

Theorem 3.7. Let $f: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function at $x_{0} \in \Omega$. Then

$$
\begin{align*}
& f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \\
& \quad=\left\{l=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} 2 \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}}{t_{k}^{2}}, t_{k} \downarrow 0, d_{k} \longrightarrow d\right\} . \tag{3.4}
\end{align*}
$$

Proof. Let

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathcal{A}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \\
& \quad=\left\{l=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} 2 \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}}{t_{k}^{2}}, t_{k} \downarrow 0, d_{k} \rightarrow d\right\} \tag{3.5}
\end{align*}
$$

Then the inclusion $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset \mathcal{A}$ follows immediately considering $d_{k}=$ $d$. Vice versa, let $l \in \mathcal{A}$, there exist $t_{k} \downarrow 0, d_{k} \rightarrow d$ such that

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{l}{2}= & \lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}}{t_{k}^{2}} \\
= & \lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)}{t_{k}^{2}}  \tag{3.6}\\
& +\frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right)\left(d_{k}-d\right)}{t_{k}^{2}} .
\end{align*}
$$

Taking eventually a subsequence

$$
\begin{gather*}
\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d}{t_{k}^{2}}=\frac{p}{2}, \quad p \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \\
\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty}\left|\frac{f_{i}\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}\right)-f_{i}\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-t_{k} \nabla f_{i}\left(x_{0}\right)\left(d_{k}-d\right)}{t_{k}^{2}}\right|  \tag{3.7}\\
\quad=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty}\left|\frac{t_{k} \nabla f_{i}\left(\xi_{k}\right)\left(d_{k}-d\right)-t_{k} \nabla f_{i}\left(x_{0}\right)\left(d_{k}-d\right)}{t_{k}^{2}}\right| \\
\quad \leq \lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{K\left\|d_{k}-d\right\|\left\|\xi_{k}-x_{0}\right\|}{t_{k}}=0
\end{gather*}
$$

where $K$ is the Lipschitz modulus of the derivative $\nabla f$ around $x_{0}, \xi_{k} \in$ $\left[x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}, x_{0}+t_{k} d\right]$ and $\left(\xi_{k}-x_{0}\right) / t_{k} \rightarrow d$. Therefore

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right)\left(d_{k}-d\right)}{t_{k}^{2}}=0 \tag{3.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and then $p=l$.

## 4. Set-constrained optimization problems

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be a $C^{1,1}$ vector function and consider the following setconstrained optimization problem:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min _{x \in X} f(x) \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $X$ is a subset of $\mathbb{R}^{m}$. For such a problem, the following definition states the classical notion of local minimum point and local weak minimum point.

Definition 4.1. Let $C$ be a pointed closed convex cone of $\mathbb{R}^{n}$. Then $x_{0} \in X$ is called a local minimum point of (4.1) if there exists a neighborhood $N \cap X$ of $x_{0}$ such that no $x \in N \cap X$ satisfies $f\left(x_{0}\right)-f(x) \in C \backslash\{0\}$.

Definition 4.2. Let $C$ be a pointed closed convex cone of $\mathbb{R}^{n}$. Then $x_{0} \in X$ is called a local weak minimum point of (4.1) if there exists a neighborhood $N \cap X$ of $x_{0}$ such that no $x \in N \cap X$ satisfies $f\left(x_{0}\right)-f(x) \in \operatorname{int} C$.

The following example shows the importance of the class of $C^{1,1}$ vector functions in order to obtain smooth approximations of strongly nondifferentiable optimization problems.

Example 4.3. In many applications in portfolio analysis, data classification, and approximation theory $[4,5,13]$, one can be interested in solving optimization problems as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min _{x \in X}(f(x), \operatorname{supp}(x)) \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $f: \mathbb{R}^{m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a smooth function, $X$ is a subset of $\mathbb{R}^{m}$, and $\operatorname{supp}(x)=$ $\left|\left\{i: x_{i} \neq 0\right\}\right|(|A|$ is the cardinality of the set $A \subset \mathbb{N})$. For example, in portfolio optimization, the variables correspond to commodities to be bought, the function $\operatorname{supp}(x)$ specifies that not too many different types of commodities can be chosen, the function $f(x)$ is a "measure of risk," and the constraints $X$ prescribe levels of "performance." In data classification context, the function $f$ is a measure of the margin between the
separating planes, and the minimization of $\operatorname{supp}(x)$ concerns the number of features of $x$, that is, the number of nonzero components of the vector, in order to keep the complexity of the classification rule low (this improves the understandability of the model results).

This type of optimization problems involves strongly nondifferentiable functions; one way to solve it is to replace the function $\operatorname{supp}(x)$ with an approximation $\operatorname{supp}_{\alpha}^{*}(x)$ as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{supp}_{\alpha}^{*}(x)=\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left[\max \left\{e^{-\alpha x_{i}}, e^{\alpha x_{i}}\right\}\right]^{2} \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then the function $x \rightarrow\left(f(x), \operatorname{supp}_{\alpha}^{*}(x)\right)$ is a $C^{1,1}$ vector function, for all $\alpha>0$.

Definition 4.4. Let $A$ be a given subset of $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ and $x_{0} \in \mathrm{cl} A$. The sets

$$
\begin{gather*}
W F\left(A, x_{0}\right)=\left\{d \in \mathbb{R}^{n}: \exists t_{k} \downarrow 0, x_{0}+t_{k} d \in X\right\}, \\
T\left(A, x_{0}\right)=\left\{d \in \mathbb{R}^{n}: \exists t_{k} \downarrow 0, \exists d_{k} \rightarrow d, x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k} \in X\right\} \tag{4.4}
\end{gather*}
$$

are called cone of weak feasible directions and tangent cone to $A$ at $x_{0}$.
Theorem 4.5 (necessary optimality condition). If $x_{0}$ is a local weak minimum point, then, for all $d \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$ such that $-\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \in C$ and $d \in W F\left(X, x_{0}\right)$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \not \subset-\operatorname{int} C . \tag{4.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. Ab absurdo, there exist $d \in \mathbb{R}^{n},-\nabla f(x) d \in C$, and $d \in W F\left(X, x_{0}\right)$ such that $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset-\operatorname{int} C$. Now, for all $l \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d}{t_{k}^{2}}=l+o\left(t_{k}^{2}\right) \tag{4.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $l \in f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset-\operatorname{int} C$ and there exists $k_{0}$ such that for all $k \geq k_{0}$ we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \frac{f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d}{t_{k}^{2}} \in-\operatorname{int} C \tag{4.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

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and then

$$
\begin{equation*}
f\left(x_{0}+t_{k} d\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right) \in t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d-\operatorname{int} C \subset-\operatorname{int} C \tag{4.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Corollary 4.6. If $x_{0}$ is a local weak minimum point, then, for all $d \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$ such that $-\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \in C$ and $d \in W F\left(X, x_{0}\right)$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)(d, d) \not \subset-\operatorname{int} C . \tag{4.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Example 4.7. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2}, f(x)=\left(x^{4} \sin (1 / x)-x^{2} / 4,-x^{2}\right)$, and $C=\mathbb{R}_{+}^{2}$. The point $x_{0}=0$ is not a local weak minimum point. We have $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}(0 ; d)=$ $\left(-d^{2} / 2,-2 d^{2}\right) \in-\operatorname{int} \mathbb{R}_{+}^{2}$ (the necessary condition is not satisfied) but $\partial^{2} f(0)(d, d)=\left[-3 d^{2} / 2, d^{2} / 2\right] \times\left\{-2 d^{2}\right\}$ (the necessary condition is satisfied).

Theorem 4.8 (sufficient optimality condition). Let $x_{0} \in X$ and suppose that $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \notin-\mathrm{int} C$, for all $d \in T\left(X, x_{0}\right)$. If for all $d \neq 0, d \in T\left(X, x_{0}\right)$, and $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \in-(C \backslash \operatorname{int} C)$ there exists a neighborhood $U$ of $d$ such that, for all $v \in U(d), \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) v \notin-\operatorname{int} C$, and $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right) \subset \operatorname{int} C$, then $x_{0}$ is a local minimum point.

Proof. Ab absurdo, there exists $x_{k} \in X, x_{k} \rightarrow x_{0}$ such that $f\left(x_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right) \in$ $-C \backslash\{0\}$. If $d_{k}=\left(x_{k}-x_{0}\right) /\left\|x_{k}-x_{0}\right\|$, then, eventually by extracting subsequence, $x_{k}=x_{0}+t_{k} d_{k}$ and $d_{k} \rightarrow d,\|d\|=1$. So $d \in T\left(X, x_{0}\right)$. Furthermore,

$$
\begin{equation*}
f\left(x_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)=t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}+o\left(t_{k}\right) \tag{4.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

and then $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \in-C$ since $C$ is closed. So $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \in-(C \backslash \operatorname{int} C)$ and then there exists $U(d)$ such that $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) v \notin-$ int $C$, for all $v \in U(d)$.

Let $p=\lim _{k \rightarrow+\infty} 2\left(\left(f\left(x_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}\right) / t_{k}^{2}\right) \in \operatorname{int} C$, then $p \in$ $f_{P}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{0} ; d\right)$ and, since int $C$ is open, there exists $k_{0}$ such that, for all $k \geq k_{0}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \frac{f\left(x_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right)-t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}}{t_{k}^{2}} \in \operatorname{int} C \tag{4.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

and then

$$
\begin{equation*}
f\left(x_{k}\right)-f\left(x_{0}\right) \in t_{k} \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d_{k}+\operatorname{int} C \subset(-\operatorname{int} C)^{c}+\operatorname{int} C \subset(-C)^{c} \tag{4.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

Corollary 4.9. Let $x_{0} \in X$ and suppose that $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \notin-\operatorname{int} C$, for all $d \in$ $T\left(X, x_{0}\right)$. If for all $d \neq 0, d \in T\left(X, x_{0}\right)$, and $\nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) d \in-(C \backslash \operatorname{int} C)$, there exists a neighborhood $U$ of $d$ such that, for all $v \in U, \nabla f\left(x_{0}\right) v \notin-\operatorname{int} C$, and $\partial^{2} f\left(x_{0}\right)(d, d) \subset \operatorname{int} C, x_{0}$ is a local minimum point.

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