Barriers & Penalties

Constrained optimization using algorithms for unconstrained problems

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Suppose that we wish to minimize a nonlinear function subject to nonlinear equality &/or inequality constraints:

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\text{Minimize } f(x) \\
&\text{subject to} \\
&\qquad h_i(x) = 0, \quad i=1,2,..m_1 \\
&\qquad g_i(x) \le 0, \quad i=1,2, ...m_2 \\
&\qquad\qquad x \in R^n
\end{aligned}
$$

SUMT:
***S**equential*
***U**nconstrained*
***M**inimization*
***T**echnique*

The approach to be presented here will replace the constrained problem with a sequence of unconstrained nonlinear optimization problems:

$$\underset{x \in R^n}{\text{Minimize}} \quad \Phi(x) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m_1} \psi[h_i(x)] + \sum_{i=1}^{m_2} \phi[g_i(x)]$$

There are two types of such approaches:

- ***barrier functions*** (inequality case only)

  For x interior to the feasible region, a large penalty is incurred as the point nears the boundary

  Example: $\Phi(x,r) = f(x) + r/g(x)$

  $\Phi(x,r) \to \infty$ as $g(x) \to 0$

- ***penalty functions***

  A large penalty is incurred for infeasible values of x.

  Example: $\Phi(x,r) = f(x) + r\,[g^+(x)]^2$

  where $z^+ = \max\{0, z\}$

  $\Phi(x,r)$ is large for $g(x) > 0$ (infeasible)

⇨ **Penalty functions**

⇨ **Barrier functions**

Penalty Functions

Minimize $f(x)$
subject to

$$h_i(x) = 0, \quad i=1,2,..m_1$$
$$g_i(x) \leq 0, \quad i=1,2, \ldots m_2$$
$$x \in X \subseteq R^n$$

$$\Phi(x) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m_1} \psi[h_i(x)] + \sum_{i=1}^{m_2} \phi[g_i(x)]$$

where and are continuous functions satisfying

$$\begin{cases} \psi(y)=0 & \text{if } y=0 \\ \psi(y)>0 & \text{if } y\neq 0 \end{cases} \qquad \begin{cases} \phi(y)=0 & \text{if } y\leq 0 \\ \phi(y)>0 & \text{if } y>0 \end{cases}$$

Typical Penalty Functions

$$\psi[h_i(x)] = r\,|h_i(x)|^p$$

$$\phi[g_i(x)] = r\,[g_i(x)^+]^p = r\,[\max\{0, g_i(x)\}]^p$$

for some positive integer **p** and parameter **r**.

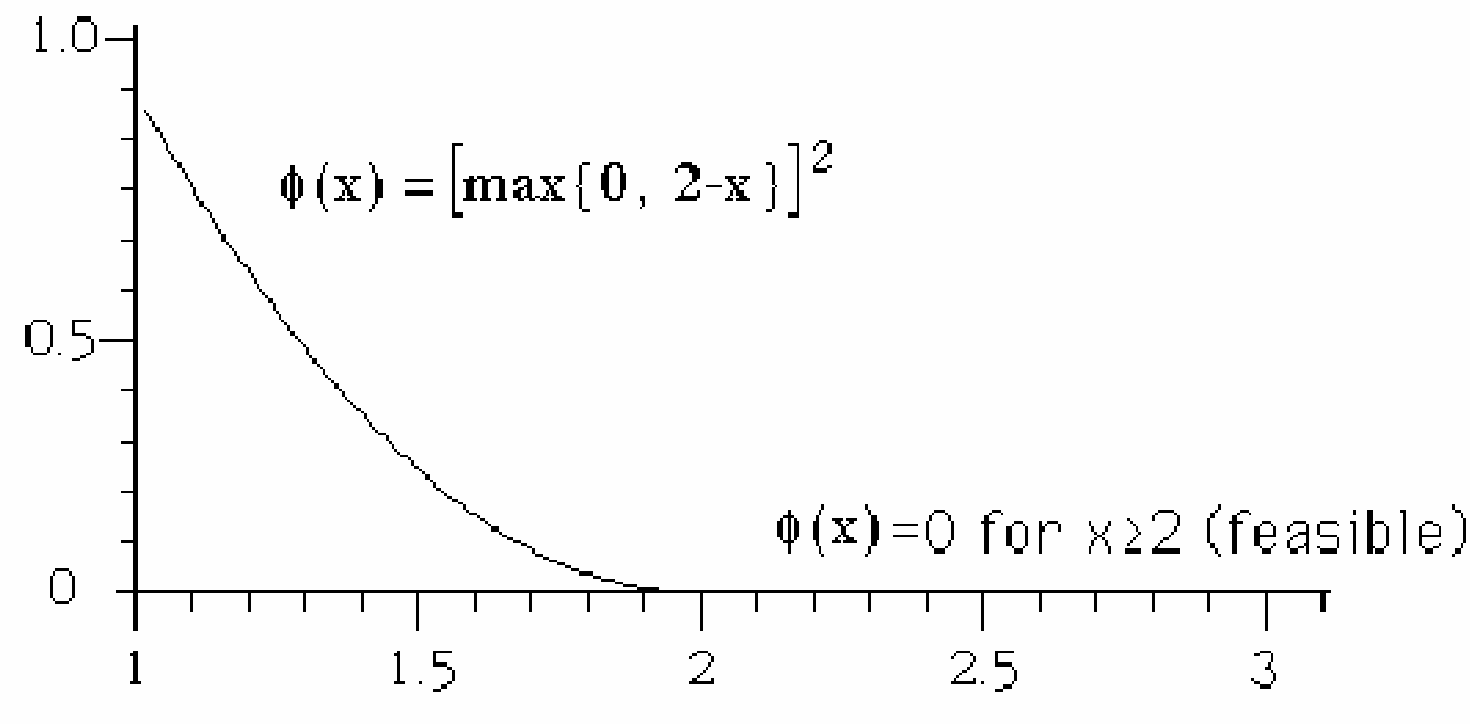
Example

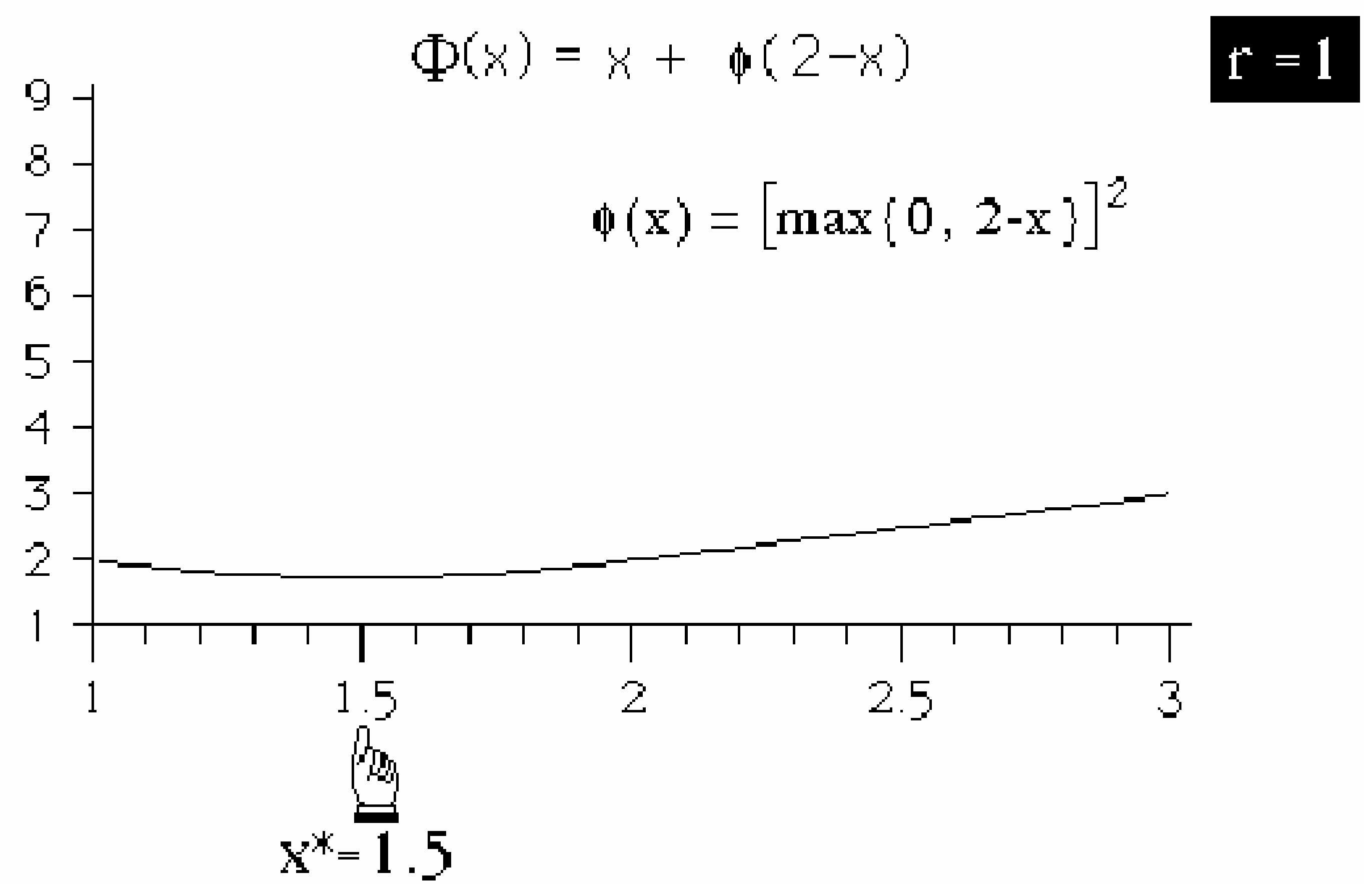
Minimize x

subject to $-x + 2 \le 0$

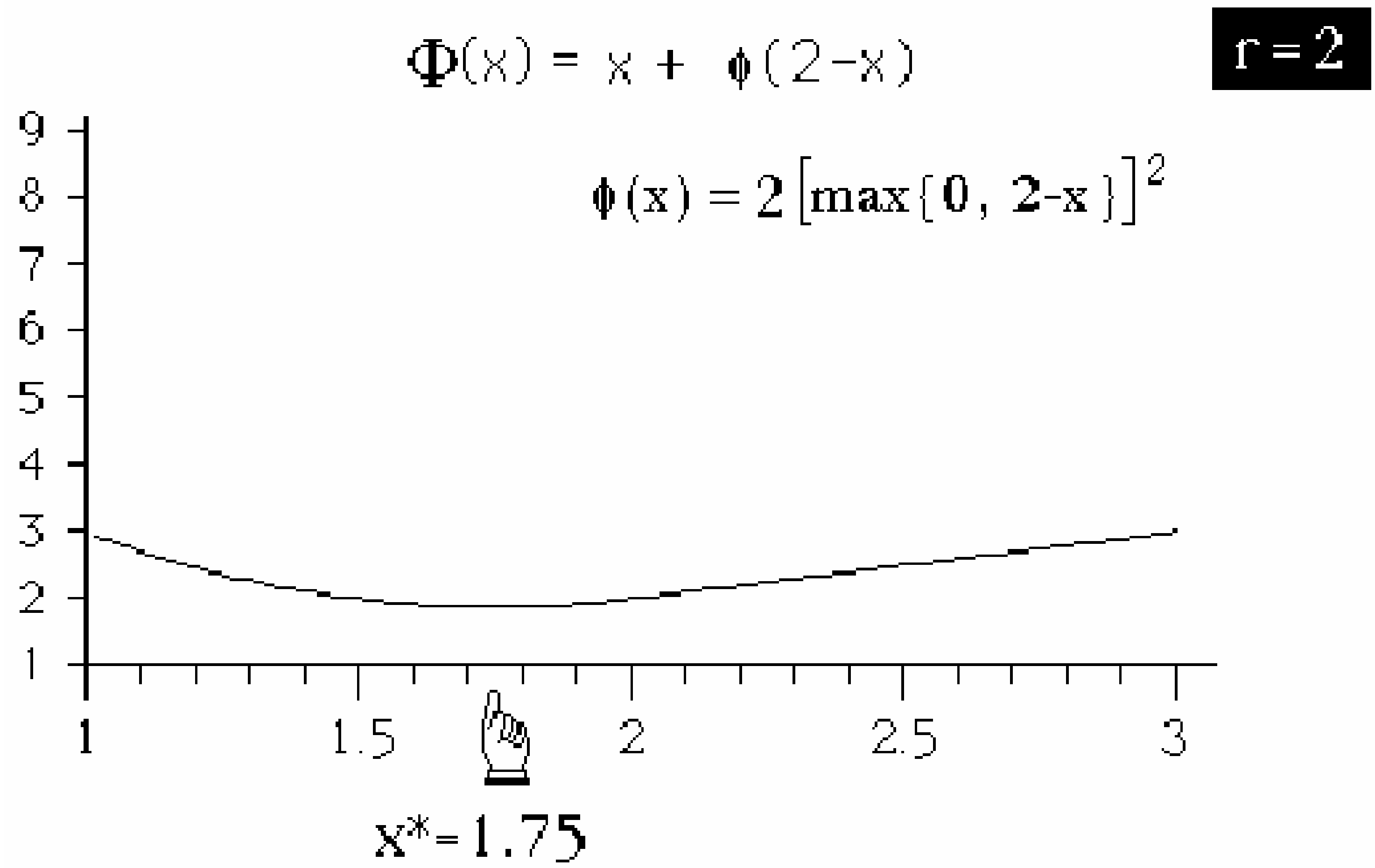
i.e., $x \ge 2$

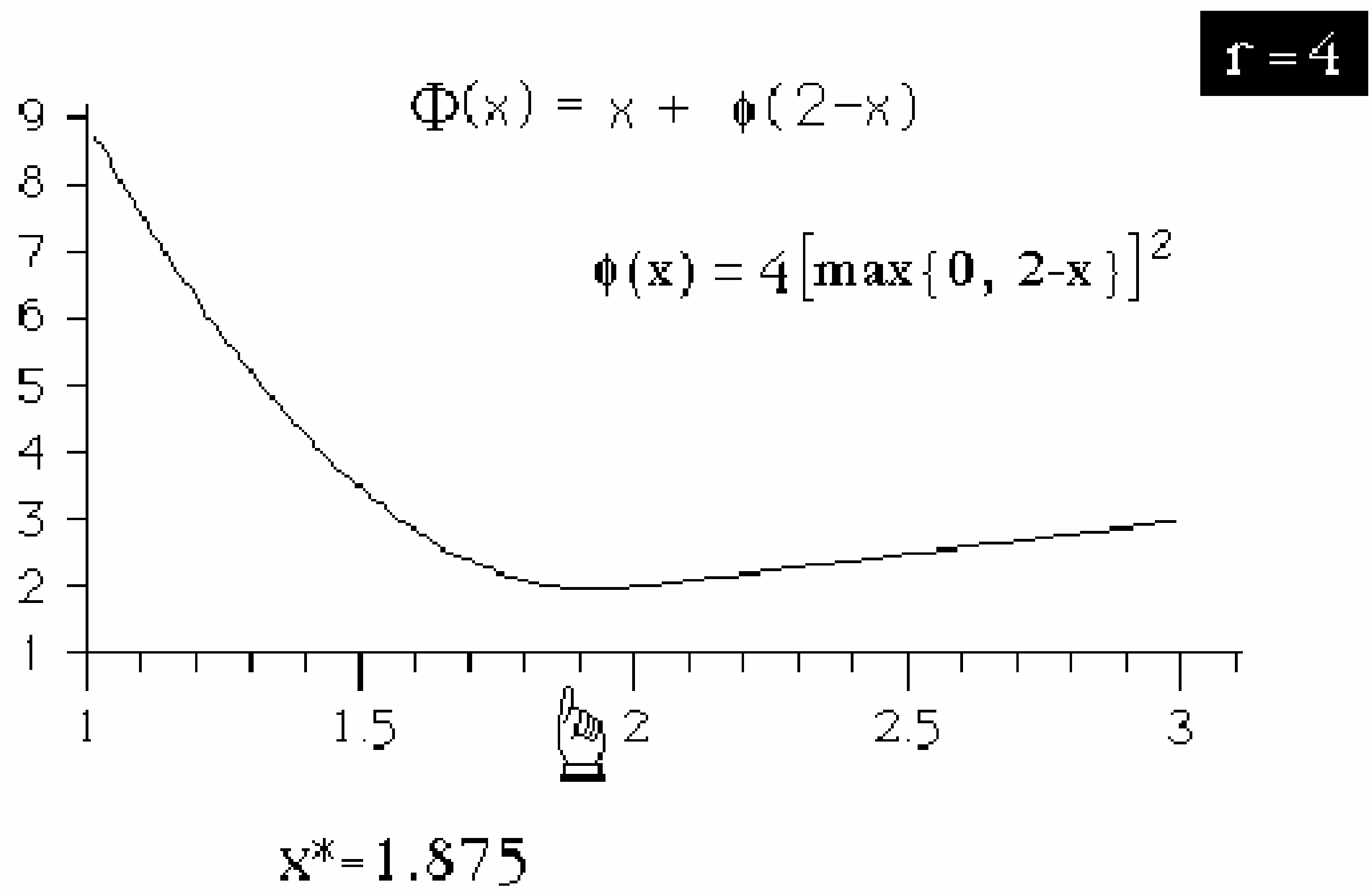
Let $\quad \phi(y) = r\,[y^+]^2$

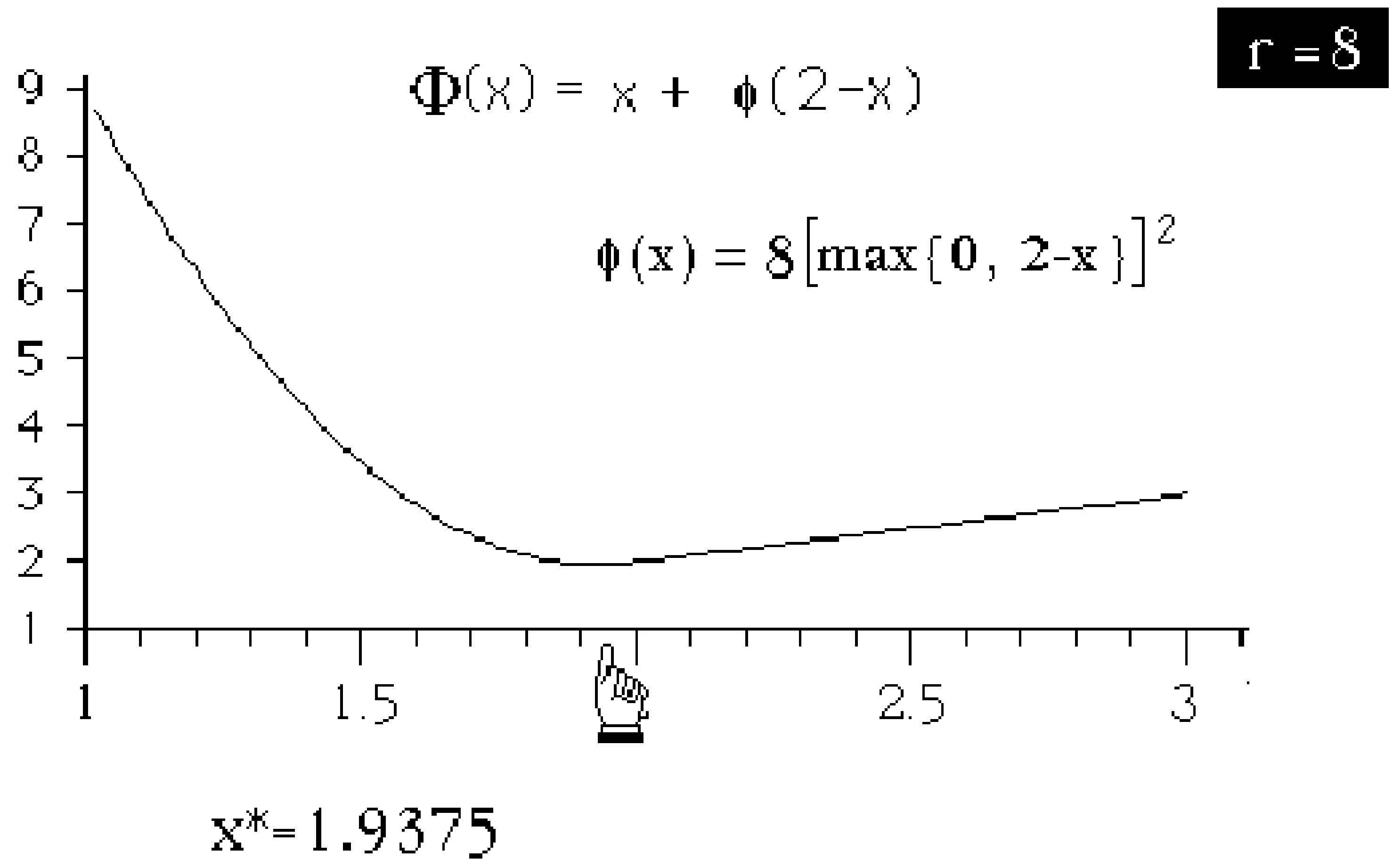

1.0
0.5
0
$\phi(x) = [\max\{0, 2-x\}]^2$
$\phi(x)=0$ for $x \geq 2$ (feasible)
1
1.5
2
2.5
3



Φ(x) = x + φ(2−x)
r = 1
φ(x) = [max{0, 2-x}]^2
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
1
1.5
2
2.5
3
x*=1.5


Φ(x) = x + ϕ(2−x)
r = 2
ϕ(x) = 2[max{0, 2-x}]²
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
1
1.5
2
2.5
3
x* = 1.75


r = 4
Φ(x) = x + φ(2−x)
φ(x) = 4[max{0, 2-x}]²
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
1
1.5
2
2.5
3
x*=1.875



r = 8
Φ(x) = x + φ(2-x)
φ(x) = 8[max{0, 2-x}]^2
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
1
1.5
2.5
3
x*=1.9375

$$\Phi(x) = x + \phi(2-x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 2 \quad \text{i.e., } 2-x \leq 0 \\ x + rx^2 - 4rx + 4r & \text{if } x \leq 2 \end{cases}$$

The minimum of $\Phi(x)$ occurs at $x^*(r) = 2 - \dfrac{1}{2r}$

which approaches the solution of the original problem $(x^* = 2)$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

Example

optimum: $\frac{1}{2}$ at $\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

Minimize $x_1^2 + x_2^2$

subject to

$$x_1 + x_2 - 1 = 0$$

Penalty function approach:

Minimize $\Phi(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + r\,(x_1 + x_2 - 1)^2$

subject to $x \in R^2$

$\Phi(x)$ *is convex for any* $r \geq 0$

The necessary & sufficient conditions for a minimum of $\Phi(x)$ are

$$\nabla\Phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + r(x_1 + x_2 - 1) \\ x_2 + r(x_1 + x_2 - 1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Longrightarrow \quad x_1^*(r) = x_2^*(r) = r/(2r+1)$$

As $r \to \infty$, $x^*(r) \to \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = x^*$

Penalty Function Algorithm

parameters:

tolerance $\varepsilon > 0$

penalty reduction factor $\beta > 1$

Step 0: Choose an initial point x^0 & penalty factor r^0
Let $k=0$

Step 1: Starting with x^k, minimize $\Phi(x)$ s.t. $x \in R^n$
Denote the optimal solution by x^{k+1}

Step 2: If $\Phi(x^{k+1}) - f(x^{k+1}) < \varepsilon$, stop; otherwise,
let $r^{k+1} = \beta r^k$, $k = k+1$, and go to step 1.

Theorem Suppose that

- the problem has a feasible solution
- f, h_i $(1 \le i \le m_1)$, and g_i $(1 \le i \le m_2)$ are continuous functions
- for each r, there exists a solution $x^*(r)$ to the problem

  Minimize $\Phi(x)$ s.t. $x \in \mathbf{X}$, and

  $\{x^*(r)\}$ is contained in a compact subset of $\mathbf{X}$.

Then

⇨ $$\lim_{r \to \infty} \Phi\left(x^*(r)\right) = \sup_{r \geq 0} \Phi\left(x^*(r)\right)$$

$$= \inf \{f(x): g(x) \leq 0,\ h(x) = 0,\ x \in X\}$$

⇨ the limit of any convergent subsequence of $\{x^*(r)\}$ is an optimal solution

Example 9.2.3 of Bazaraa & Shetty

Problem Dimensions

```
# variables     = N  = 2
# equations     = M1 = 1
# inequalities  = M2 = 0
```

$$\text{Minimize } f(x) = (x_1 - 2)^2 + (x_1 - 2x_2)^2$$

$$\text{subject to } \quad h(x) = x_1^2 - x_2 = 0$$

$$x \in R^2$$

Objective

```
Z←F X
⍝
⍝       Objective function for SUMT Example
⍝
X←2↑X
Z←((X[1]-2)*4)+(X[1]-2×X[2])*2
```

Equality Constraint

```
V←H X
⍝
⍝         Equality constraint function  for SUMT
⍝                       example problem
⍝                  (1 equality constraint)
⍝
V←,(X[1]*2)-X[2]
```

SUMT Major iteration #1

```
x = 2 1
F(x)= 0
Gradient = 0 0
h(x) = 3
MU = 0.1

*** CONVERGED ***
Penalty = 0.1830744119
```

SUMT Major iteration #2

```
x = 1.453892768 0.7607542487
F(x)= 0.0935148741
Gradient = ¯0.7867004892 0.2704629175
h(x) = 1.353049932
MU = 1

*** CONVERGED ***
Penalty = 0.3909294277
```

SUMT Major iteration #3

```
x = 1.168718621 0.7406597209
F(x)= 0.5752399796
Gradient = ¯2.922958905 1.250403282
h(x) = 0.6252434947
MU = 10

*** CONVERGED ***
Penalty = 0.1928179711
```

SUMT Major iteration #4

```
x = 0.9906183671 0.8424658384
F(x)= 1.520128905
Gradient = ¯5.502265698 2.777253239
h(x) = 0.1388589108
MU = 100

*** CONVERGED ***
Penalty = 0.02715804514
```

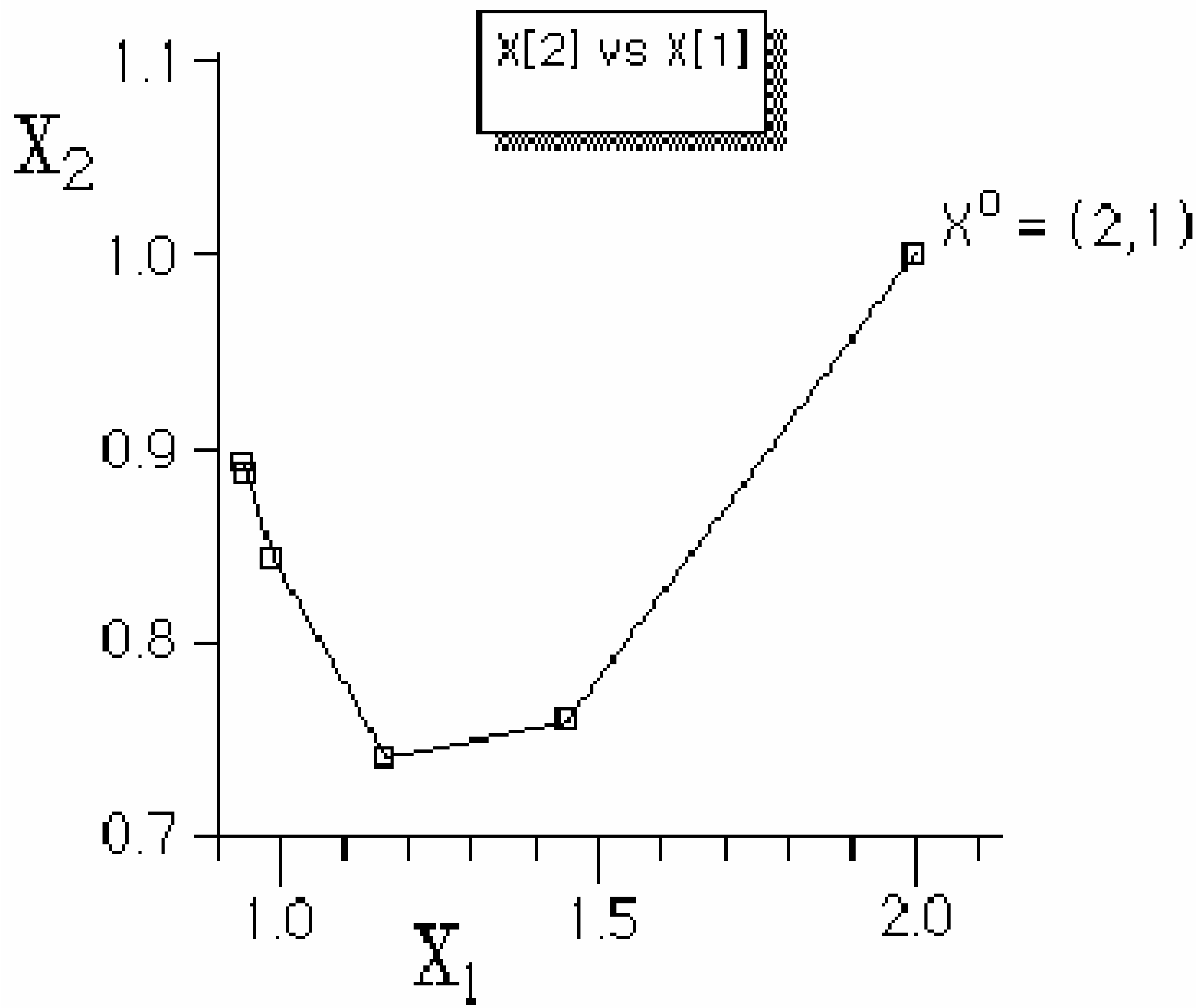
```
SUMT
Major iteration
#5
```

```
x = 0.9507994925 0.8875399768
F(x)= 1.891246705
Gradient = ¯6.268491688 3.297121844
h(x) = 0.01647969816
MU = 1000

*** CONVERGED ***
Penalty = 0.002776926753
```

```
SUMT
Major iteration
#6
```

```
x = 0.9460951922 0.8934297013
F(x)= 1.940573033
Gradient = ¯6.363881385 3.363056842
h(x) = 0.00166641134
MU = 10000

*** CONVERGED ***
Penalty = 0.0002840056842
```

```
*** SUMT HAS CONVERGED ***

SUMT final solution

Example 9.2.3 of Bazaraa & Shetty

x = 0.9454762468 0.8937568085

F(x) = 1.945616183
∇F(x) = ¯6.374682217 3.368149481

h(x) = 0.0001685246819
```


X[2] vs X[1]
X_2
1.1
1.0
0.9
0.8
0.7
$X^0 = (2,1)$
1.0
1.5
2.0
X_1

Barrier Functions

Minimize $f(x)$
subject to
$$g_i(x) \le 0, \quad i=1,2, \ldots m$$
$$x \in R^n$$

$$\Theta(x) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \phi[g_i(x)]$$

where ϕ is a function of one variable, continuous over domain $\{y: y<0\}$, and satisfies

$$\phi(y) \ge 0 \quad \text{if} \quad y<0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \lim_{y \to 0^-} \phi(y) = \infty$$

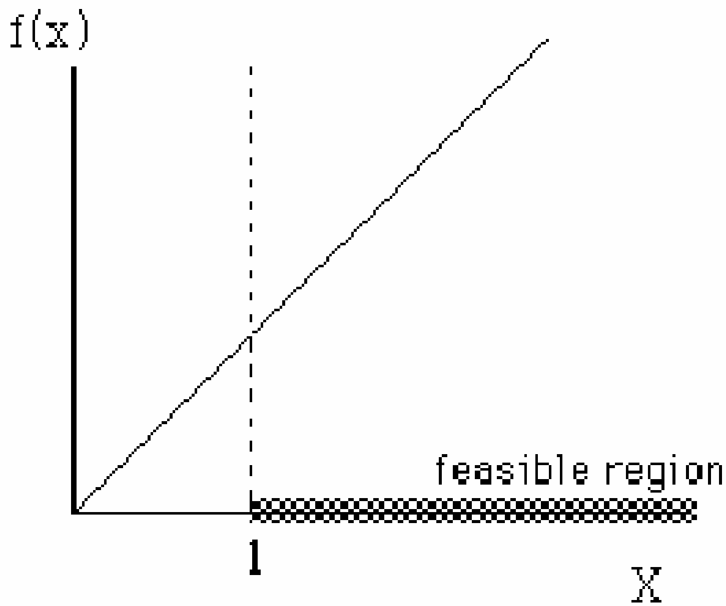
Typical barrier functions

$$\phi_1(g(x)) = -\,{}^{1}\!/_{g(x)}$$

$$\phi_2(g(x)) = -\frac{1}{[g(x)]^2}$$

$$\phi_3(g(x)) = -\ln\left|g(x)\right|$$

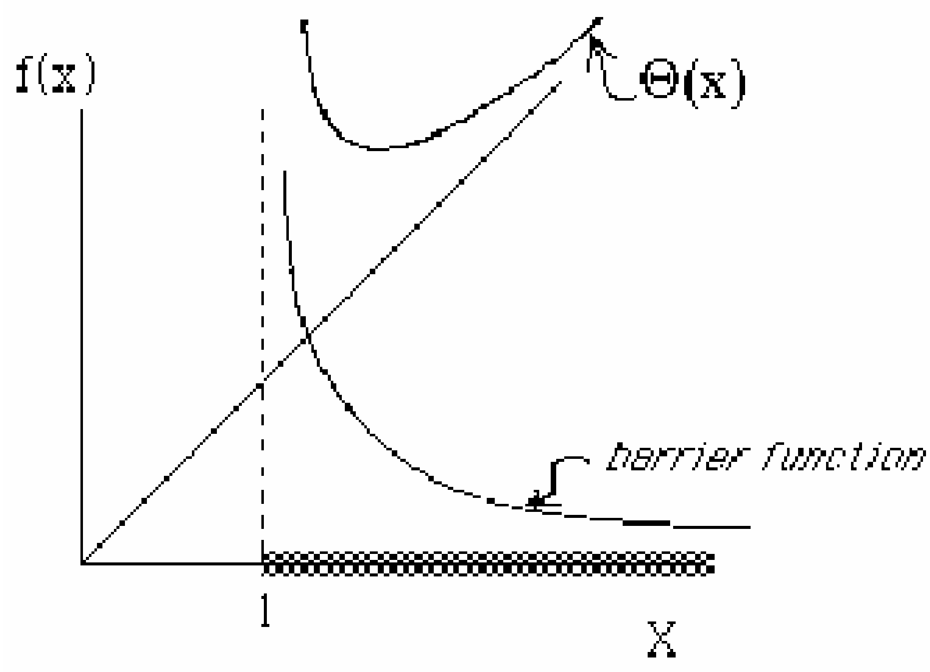
Example



Minimize x

subject to $-x + 1 \leq 0$

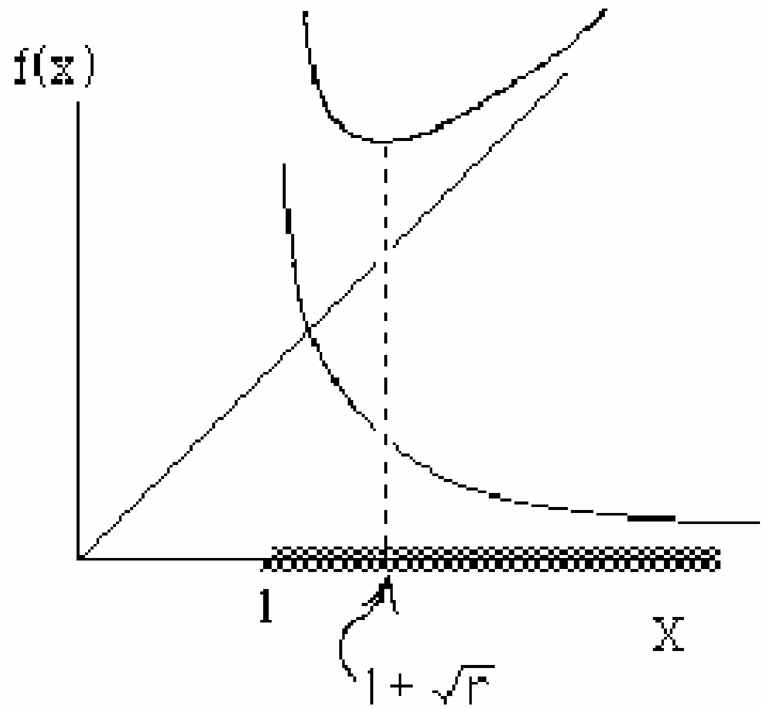
i.e., $x \geq 1$



$$\Theta(x) = x + \phi(-x+1)$$

where $\phi(y) = -\,{}^{r}\!/_{y}$

$$\Theta(x) = x - \frac{r}{1-x}$$



$$\Theta(x) = x - \frac{r}{1-x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\Theta(x) = 1 + \frac{r}{(1-x)^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 1 + \sqrt{r}$$

As $r \to 0$, $x^* \to 1$