

# Homework 5 for "Convex Optimization" Part. 4

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We consider the  $l1$ -regularized problem

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2 + \mu \|x\|_1 \quad (1)$$

where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mu > 0$  are given. We denote  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2 + \mu \|x\|_1$ ,  $g(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2$ ,  $h(x) = \|x\|_1$ .

## 1 Adagrad

We consider to fix the step size to be  $s$  and apply continuation strategy. We have three parameters  $\alpha, M_1, M_2$  for continuation strategy. We have one parameter  $\delta$  for Adagrad. We set  $\mu_0 = \max\{\mu, \alpha \|A^T b\|_\infty\}$  and set  $i = 0$ . We then set  $r_0 = 0$ . For each  $\mu_i$ , because  $f(x)$  is not smooth, we consider to take the subgradient of  $f_i(x) = g(x) + \mu_i h(x)$  to optimize. We denote the subgradient by  $p_i(x) = A^T(Ax - b) + \text{sign}(x)$ . We update  $x_{k+1}$  in the following way:

$$\begin{cases} g_k = p_i(x_k) \\ r_{k+1} = r_k + g_k \odot g_k \\ x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{s}{\sqrt{r_{k+1}} + \delta} \odot g_k \end{cases} \quad (\text{Adagrad-upd})$$

If  $\mu_i > \mu$ , after  $M_1$  iterations, we update  $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha \mu_i\}$  and  $i = i + 1$ . We then reset  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$  and  $k = 0$ .

If  $\mu_i = \mu$ , after  $M_2$  iterations, we stop our algorithm. The algorithm of Adagrad is given below. In practice, we take  $s = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0.1$ ,  $M_1 = 280$ ,  $M_2 = 280$ ,  $\delta = 10^{-8}$ .

**Algorithm 1** Adagrad with continuation strategy**Input:**  $t$ , continuation parameter  $\alpha$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ .

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1: Calculate  $\mu_0 = \max\{\alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty, \mu\}$ . Let  $i = 0$ ,  $r^0 = 0$ ,  $k = 0$ .
2: while  $\mu_i > \mu$  do
3:   while  $k < M_1$  do
4:     Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1})$  by (Adagrad-upd),  $k = k + 1$ 
5:   end while
6:    $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$ ,  $i = i + 1$ 
7:   Set  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $k = 0$ .
8: end while
9: while  $k < M_2$  do
10:  Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1})$  by (Adagrad-upd),  $k = k + 1$ 
11: end while
12: return  $x_k$ 

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## 2 Adam

We consider to fix the step size to be  $s$  and apply continuation strategy. We have three parameters  $\alpha, M_1, M_2$  for continuation strategy. We have three parameters  $\rho_1, \rho_2, \delta$  for Adam. We set  $\mu_0 = \max\{\mu, \alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty\}$  and set  $i = 0$ . We then set  $r_0 = 0, u_0 = 0$ . For each  $\mu_i$ , because  $f(x)$  is not smooth, we consider to take the subgradient  $p_i(x)$  to optimize. We update  $x_{k+1}$  in the following way:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g_k = p_i(x_k) \\ r_{k+1} = \rho_1 r_k + (1 - \rho_1) g_k \\ u_{k+1} = \rho_2 u_k + (1 - \rho_2) g_k \odot g_k \\ x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{s \sqrt{1 - \rho_2^k}}{1 - \rho_1^k} \frac{r_{k+1}}{\sqrt{u_{k+1}} + \delta} \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{Adam-upd})$$

Note the operations are applied element-wise.

If  $\mu_i > \mu$ , after  $M_1$  iterations, we update  $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$  and  $i = i + 1$ . We then reset  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $u_0 = u_k$  and  $k = 0$ .

If  $\mu_i = \mu$ , after  $M_2$  iterations, we stop our algorithm. The algorithm of Adam is given below.

In practice, we take  $s = 0.1$ ,  $\alpha = 0.5$ ,  $M_1 = 50$ ,  $M_2 = 300$ ,  $\rho_1 = 0.9$ ,  $\rho_2 = 0.999$ ,  $\delta = 10^{-8}$ .

**Algorithm 2** Adam with continuation strategy**Input:**  $t$ , continuation parameter  $\alpha$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ .

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1: Calculate  $\mu_0 = \max\{\alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty, \mu\}$ . Let  $i = 0$ ,  $r^0 = 0$ ,  $u_0 = 0$ ,  $k = 0$ .
2: while  $\mu_i > \mu$  do
3:   while  $k < M_1$  do
4:     Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1}, u_{k+1})$  by (Adam-upd),  $k = k + 1$ 
5:   end while
6:    $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$ ,  $i = i + 1$ 
7:   Set  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $u_0 = u$ ,  $k = 0$ .
8: end while
9: while  $k < M_2$  do
10:  Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1}, u_{k+1})$  by (Adam-upd),  $k = k + 1$ 
11: end while
12: return  $x_k$ 

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### 3 RMSProp

We consider to apply continuation strategy. We have three parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  for continuation strategy. We have two parameters  $\rho, \delta$  for RMSProp. We also have two parameters  $s, \beta$  for step size. Here we choose to gradually decay step size. We set  $\mu_0 = \max\{\mu, \alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty\}$  and set  $i = 0$ . We then set  $r_0 = 0$ ,  $s_0 = s$ . For each  $\mu_i$ , because  $f(x)$  is not smooth, we consider to take the subgradient  $p_i(x)$  to optimize. We update  $x_{k+1}$  in the following way:

$$\begin{cases} g_k = p_i(x_k) \\ r_{k+1} = \rho r_k + (1 - \rho)g_k \odot g_k \\ x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{s_i}{\sqrt{r_{k+1}} + \delta} \odot g_k \end{cases} \quad (\text{RMSProp-upd})$$

Note the operations are applied element-wise.

If  $\mu_i > \mu$ , after  $M_1$  iterations, we update  $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$ , step size  $s_{i+1} = \beta s_i$  and  $i = i + 1$ .

We then reset  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $u_0 = u_k$  and  $k = 0$ .

If  $\mu_i = \mu$ , after  $M_2$  iterations, we stop our algorithm. The algorithm of RMSProp is given below.

In practice, we take  $s = 0.04$ ,  $\beta = 0.14$ ,  $\alpha = 0.1$ ,  $M_1 = 280$ ,  $M_2 = 280$ ,  $\rho = 0.9$ .

### 4 Momentum

We consider to apply continuation strategy. We have three parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  for continuation strategy. We have two parameters  $\rho, \delta$  for Momentum. We also have two parameters  $s, \beta$

**Algorithm 3** RMSProp with continuation strategy

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**Input:**  $t$ , continuation parameter  $\alpha$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ .

- 1: Calculate  $\mu_0 = \max\{\alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty, \mu\}$ . Let  $i = 0$ ,  $r^0 = 0$ ,  $k = 0$ .
- 2: **while**  $\mu_i > \mu$  **do**
- 3:   **while**  $k < M_1$  **do**
- 4:     Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1})$  by (RMSProp-upd),  $k = k + 1$
- 5:   **end while**
- 6:    $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$ ,  $s_{i+1} = \beta s_i$ ,  $i = i + 1$
- 7:   Set  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $k = 0$ .
- 8: **end while**
- 9: **while**  $k < M_2$  **do**
- 10:   Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1})$  by (RMSProp-upd),  $k = k + 1$
- 11: **end while**
- 12: **return**  $x_k$

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for step size. Here we choose to gradually decay step size. We set  $\mu_0 = \max\{\mu, \alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty\}$  and set  $i = 0$ . We then set  $r_0 = 0$ ,  $s_0 = s$ . For each  $\mu_i$ , because  $f(x)$  is not smooth, we consider to take the subgradient  $p_i(x)$  to optimize. We update  $x_{k+1}$  in the following way:

$$\begin{cases} g_k = p_i(x_k) \\ r_{k+1} = \rho r_k + g_k \\ x_{k+1} = x_k - s_i r_k \end{cases} \quad (\text{Momentum-upd})$$

If  $\mu_i > \mu$ , after  $M_1$  iterations, we update  $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$ , step size  $s_{i+1} = \beta s_i$  and  $i = i + 1$ . We then reset  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $u_0 = u_k$  and  $k = 0$ .

If  $\mu_i = \mu$ , after  $M_2$  iterations, we stop our algorithm. The algorithm of Momentum is given below.

In practice, we take  $s = 5 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $\beta = 0.9$ ,  $\alpha = 0.5$ ,  $M_1 = 50$ ,  $M_2 = 300$ ,  $\rho = 0.9$ .

## 5 Numerical result

The whole test program is named *Test\_hw05\_02.m*. This time we run all algorithms mentioned before with same  $A$  and  $b$ . Suppose the value of objective function from *cvx mosek* is  $f_c$ , the value from proposed method is  $f_p$ , then the value of *objval to cvx mosek* is  $\frac{f_p - f_c}{f_c}$ . The numerical result is given in the following tables:

**Algorithm 4** Momentum with continuation strategy**Input:**  $t$ , continuation parameter  $\alpha$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ .

- 1: Calculate  $\mu_0 = \max\{\alpha\|A^T b\|_\infty, \mu\}$ . Let  $i = 0$ ,  $r^0 = 0$ ,  $k = 0$ .
- 2: **while**  $\mu_i > \mu$  **do**
- 3:   **while**  $k < M_1$  **do**
- 4:     Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1})$  by (Momentum-upd),  $k = k + 1$
- 5:   **end while**
- 6:    $\mu_{i+1} = \max\{\mu, \alpha\mu_i\}$ ,  $s_{i+1} = \beta s_i$ ,  $i = i + 1$
- 7:   Set  $x_0 = x_k$ ,  $r_0 = r_k$ ,  $k = 0$ .
- 8: **end while**
- 9: **while**  $k < M_2$  **do**
- 10:   Update  $(x_{k+1}, r_{k+1})$  by (Momentum-upd),  $k = k + 1$
- 11: **end while**
- 12: **return**  $x_k$

Table 1 Random seed is 2. The cpu time of cvx mosek is 1.08

Method	cpu time	objval to cvx mosek	error to cvx mosek
Adagrad	0.97	$-2.98 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.67 \times 10^{-6}$
Adam	0.68	$-8.30 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.76 \times 10^{-6}$
RMSProp	0.97	$-4.05 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.63 \times 10^{-6}$
Momentum	0.61	$-1.10 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.92 \times 10^{-6}$

Table 2 Random seed is 7. The cpu time of cvx mosek is 1.06

Method	cpu time	objval to cvx mosek	error to cvx mosek
Adagrad	0.99	$-1.85 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.75 \times 10^{-6}$
Adam	0.64	$-2.33 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.87 \times 10^{-6}$
RMSProp	0.96	$-1.65 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.72 \times 10^{-6}$
Momentum	0.56	$-2.45 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.92 \times 10^{-6}$

Table 3 Random seed is 9. The cpu time of cvx mosek is 1.02

Method	cpu time	objval to cvx mosek	error to cvx mosek
Adagrad	0.94	$-6.78 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.19 \times 10^{-6}$
Adam	0.70	$-1.15 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.29 \times 10^{-6}$
RMSProp	0.94	$-4.88 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.11 \times 10^{-6}$
Momentum	0.56	$-1.37 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.35 \times 10^{-6}$