

# 1 Preliminaries

Check if requirements on functions are stated and defined.

Throughout this thesis I consider the optimization Problem

$$\min_x f(x), \quad x \in X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \quad (1)$$

where  $f$  is a possibly nonsmooth function. When it comes to nonsmooth objective functions the derivative based framework of nonlinear optimization methods does not work any more. Therefore the most important definitions and results needed when working with nonsmooth functions are stated in this section.

Just definition, lemma, theorem or a bit explanation around it?

See if requirements in definitions and theorems meet what is needed/provided later.

**Definition 1.1.** The function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *Lipschitz near*  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  if there exist  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$|f(y_2) - f(y_1)| \leq C|y_2 - y_1| \quad \forall y_1, y_2 \in \mathbf{B}_\varepsilon(x).$$

**Definition 1.2.** The function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *locally Lipschitz* if it is Lipschitz on each bounded subset  $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

$$|f(y) - f(x)| \leq C\|y - x\| \quad \forall x, y \in B, \quad C > 0.$$

**Definition 1.3.** The *directional derivative* of  $f$  at  $x$  in direction  $d$  is

$$f'(x, d) := \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \lambda d) - f(x)}{\lambda}.$$

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $f$  convex. The *subdifferential*  $\partial f(x)$  of  $f$  at  $x$  is the nonempty compact convex set

$$\partial f(x) = \{g \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \langle g, d \rangle \leq f'(x, d) \forall d \in \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

**Definition 1.5.** The *generalized directional derivative* of  $f$  at  $x$  in direction  $d$  is given by

$$f^\circ(x, d) := \limsup_{\substack{y \rightarrow x \\ \lambda \downarrow 0}} \frac{f(y + \lambda d) - f(y)}{\lambda}.$$

**Definition 1.6.** The *generalized gradient* of  $f$  at  $x$  is a nonempty convex compact set  $\partial f(x)$  given by

$$\partial f(x) := \{g \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f^\circ(x, d) \geq \langle g, d \rangle \forall d \in \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

If  $f$  is a convex function it coincides with the subdifferential  $\partial f$  of  $f$  [1].

## 2 Bundle Methods

### introduction

When bundle methods were first introduced in 1975 by Claude Lemaréchal and Philip Wolfe they were developed to minimize a convex (possibly nonsmooth) function  $f$  for which at least one subgradient at a point can be computed [9].

To provide an easier understanding of the proximal bundle method in [13] and stress the most important ideas of how to deal with nonconvexity and inexactness first a basic bundle method is shown here.

Bundle methods can be interpreted in two different ways: From the dual point of view one tries to approximate the  $\varepsilon$ -subdifferential to finally ensure first order optimality conditions. The primal point of view interprets the bundle method as a stabilized form of the cutting plane method where the objective function is modeled by tangent hyperplanes [5]. I focus here on the primal approach.

### 2.1 A basic bundle method

This section gives a short summery of the derivations and results of chapter XV in [6] where a primal bundle method is derived as a stabilized version of the cutting plane method. If not otherwise indicated the results in this section are therefore taken from [6].

The optimization problem considered in this section is

$$\min_x f(x) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x \in X \quad (2)$$

with the convex function  $f$  and the closed and convex set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

#### explanation

#### 2.1.1 Derivation of the bundle method

The geometric idea of the cutting plane method is to build a piecewise linear model of the objective function  $f$  that can be minimized more easily than the original objective function.

This model is built from a *bundle* of information that is gathered in the previous iterations. In the  $k$ 'th iteration, the bundle consists of the previous iterates  $x^j$ , the respective function values  $f(x^j)$  and a subgradient at each point  $g^j \in \partial f(x^j)$  for all indices  $j$  in the index set  $J_k$ . From each of these triples, one can construct a linear function

$$l_j(x) = f(x^j) + (g^j)^\top (x - x^j) \quad (3)$$

with  $f(x^j) = l_j(x^j)$  and due to convexity  $f(x) \geq l_j(x)$ ,  $x \in X$ .

One can now model the objective function  $f$  by the piecewise linear function

$$m_k(x) = \max_{j \in J_k} l_j(x) \quad (4)$$

and find a new iterate  $x^{k+1}$  by solving the subproblem

$$\min_x m_k(x) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x \in X. \quad (5)$$

This subproblem should of course be easier to solve than the original task. A question that depends a lot on the structure of  $X$ . If  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  or a polyhedron, the problem can be solved easily. Still there are some major drawbacks to the idea. For example if  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  the solution of the subproblem in the first iteration is always  $-\infty$ .

In general one can say that the subproblem does not necessarily have to have a solution. To tackle this problem a penalty term is introduced to the subproblem:

$$\tilde{m}_k(x) = m_k(x) + \frac{1}{2t} \|x - x^k\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x \in X \quad (6)$$

This new subproblem is strongly convex and has therefore always a unique solution.  
[how much explanation here?](#)

The second major step towards the bundle algorithm is the introduction of a so called *stability center* or *serious point*  $\hat{x}^k$ . It is the iterate that yields the “best” approximation of the optimal point up to the  $k$ 'th iteration ([not necessarily the best function value though](#)).

The updating technique for  $\hat{x}^k$  is crucial for the convergence of the method: If the next iterate yields a decrease of  $f$  that is “big enough”, namely bigger than a fraction of the decrease suggested by the model function for this iterate, the stability center is moved to that iterate. If this is not the case, the stability center remains unchanged.

In practice this looks the following:

Define first the *nominal decrease*  $\delta_k$  which is the decrease of the model for the new iterate  $x^{k+1}$  compared to the function value at the current stability center  $\hat{x}^k$ .

$$\delta^k = f(\hat{x}^k) - \tilde{m}_k(x^{k+1}) + a_k \geq 0 \quad (7)$$

[The nominal decrease is in fact stated a little differently for different versions of the bundle algorithm, this is why I added the constant  \$a\_k \in \mathbb{R}\$  here for generalization. In practice the difference between the decreases is not influencing the algorithm as  \$\delta\_k\$  is weighted by the constant  \$m \in \(0, 1\)\$  for the descent test which compensates  \$a\_k\$ .](#)

If the actual decrease of the objective function is bigger than a fraction of the nominal decrease

$$f(\hat{x}^k) - f(x^{k+1}) \geq m\delta_k, \quad m \in (0, 1)$$

set the stability center to  $\hat{x}^{k+1} = x^{k+1}$ . This is called a *serious* or *descent step*.

If this is not the case a *null step* is executed and the serious iterate remains the same  $\hat{x}^{k+1} = \hat{x}^k$ .

The subproblem can be rewritten as a smooth optimization problem. For convenience rewrite the affine functions  $l_j$  with respect to the stability center  $\hat{x}^k$ .

$$l_j(x) = f(x^j) + g^j{}^\top (x - x^j) \quad (8)$$

$$= f(\hat{x}^k) + g^j{}^\top (x - \hat{x}^k) - (f(\hat{x}^k) - f(x^j) + g^j{}^\top (x^j - \hat{x}^k)) \quad (9)$$

$$= f(\hat{x}^k) + g^j{}^\top (x - \hat{x}^k) - e_j^k \quad (10)$$

where

$$e_j^k = f(\hat{x}^k) - f(x^j) + g^j{}^\top (x^j - \hat{x}^k) \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in J_k \quad (11)$$

is the *linearization error*. The nonnegativity property is essential for the convergence theory and will also be of interest when moving on to the case of nonconvex and inexact objective functions.

The subproblem can now be written as

$$\min_{\hat{x}^k + d \in X} \tilde{m}_k(d) = f(\hat{x}^k) + \max_{j \in J_k} \{g^j{}^\top d - e_j^k\} + \frac{1}{2t_k} \|d\|^2 \quad (12)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \min_{\hat{x}^k + d \in X} \xi + \frac{1}{2t_k} \|d\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f(\hat{x}^k) + g^j{}^\top d - e_j^k - \xi \leq 0, \quad j \in J_k \quad (13)$$

If  $X$  is a polyhedron this is a quadratic optimization problem that can be solved using standard methods of nonlinear optimization. The pair  $(\xi_k, d^k)$  solves (13) if and only if  $d^k$  solves the original subproblem (12) and  $\xi_k = f(\hat{x}^k) + \max_{j \in J_k} g^j{}^\top d^k - e_j^k$ . The new iterate is then given by  $x^{k+1} = \hat{x}^k + d^k$ .

### 2.1.2 Aggregate objects

The constraint  $\hat{x}^k + d \in X$  can also be incorporated directly in the objective function by using the indicator function

$$\mathbb{I}_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x \in X \\ +\infty, & \text{if } x \notin X \end{cases}.$$

The subproblem then writes as

$$\min_{\hat{x}^k + d \in R^n} \xi + \mathbb{I}_X + \frac{1}{2t_k} \|d\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad g^j{}^\top d - e_j^k - \xi \leq 0, \quad j \in J_k \quad (14)$$

One gets the following results about the step  $d^k$  of the subproblem:

**Lemma 2.1.** *The optimization problem (14) has for  $t_k > 0$  a unique solution given by*

$$d^k = -t_k(G^k + \nu^k), \quad G^k \in \partial m_k(d^k), \quad \nu^k \in \partial \mathbb{I}_X. \quad (15)$$

Furthermore

$$m_k(\hat{x}^k + d) \geq f(\hat{x}^k) + G^{k\top} d - E_k \quad \forall d \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad (16)$$

where

$$E_k := f(\hat{x}^k) - m_k(x^{k+1}) + G^{k\top} d^k. \quad (17)$$

The quantities  $G^k$  and  $E^k$  are the *aggregate subgradient* and the *aggregate error*.

Explain aggregation process in more detail

From the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions (KKT-conditions) one can see that in the optimum there exist Lagrange or *simplicial multiplier*  $\alpha_j^k$ ,  $j \in J_k$  such that

$$\alpha_j^k \geq 0, \quad \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k = 1 \quad (18)$$

From the dual problem one obtains that the aggregate subgradient and error can also be expressed as

$$E_k = \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k e_j^k \quad \text{and} \quad G^k = \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k g^j. \quad (19)$$

The nominal decrease in this case is defined as:

$$\delta_k := E_k + t_k \|G^k + \nu^k\|^2 = f(\hat{x}^k) - m_k(x^{k+1}) - \nu^{k\top} d^k \quad (20)$$

The following basic bundle algorithm can now be stated:

algorithm

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### Basic bundle method

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Select descent parameter  $m \in (0, 1)$  and a stopping tolerance  $\text{tol} \geq 0$ . Choose a starting point  $x^1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and compute  $f(x^1)$  and  $g^1$ . Set the initial index set  $J_1 := \{1\}$  and the initial stability center to  $\hat{x}^1 := x^1$ ,  $f(\hat{x}^1) = f(x^1)$  and select  $t_1 > 0$ .

For  $k = 1, 2, 3 \dots$

1. Calculate

$$d^k = \arg \min_{d \in \mathbb{R}^n} m_k(\hat{x}^k + d) + \mathbb{I}_X + \frac{1}{2t_k} \|d\|^2$$

and the corresponding Lagrange multiplier  $\alpha_j^k$ ,  $j \in J_k$ .

2. Set

$$G^k = \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k g_j^k, \quad E_k = \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k e_j^k, \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_k = E_k + t_k \|G^k + \nu^k\|^2$$

If  $\delta_k \leq \text{tol} \rightarrow \text{STOP}$ .

3. Set  $x^{k+1} = \hat{x}^k + d^k$ .

4. Compute  $f(x^{k+1})$ ,  $g^{k+1}$ .

If

$$f^{k+1} \leq \hat{f}^k - m\delta_k \rightarrow \text{serious step.}$$

Set  $\hat{x}^{k+1} = x^{k+1}$ ,  $f(\hat{x}^{k+1}) = f(x^{k+1})$  and select suitable  $t_{k+1} > 0$ .

Otherwise  $\rightarrow$  nullstep.

Set  $\hat{x}^{k+1} = \hat{x}^k$ ,  $f(\hat{x}^{k+1}) = f(x^{k+1})$  and choose  $t_{k+1}$  in a suitable way.

5. Select new bundle index set  $J_{k+1} = \{j \in J_k | \alpha_j^{k+1} \neq 0\} \cup k+1$ , calculate  $e_j$  for  $j \in J_{k+1}$  and update the model  $m_k$ .

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In steps 4 and 5 of the algorithm the updates of the steplength  $t_k$  and the index set  $J_k$  are only given in a very general form.

The “suitable” choice of  $t_k$  will be discussed more closely in the convergence analysis of **decide which method; say that  $t_k > 0 \forall k$ ...**

For the choice of the new index set  $J_{k+1}$  different aggregation methods to keep the memory size controllable are available. The most easy and intuitive one is to just take those parts of the model function, that are actually active in the current iteration. This is done in this basic version of the method.

**Refer to low memory bundling if later in thesis.**

## 2.2 Proximal bundle method for nonconvex functions with inexact information

### introduction

This section focuses on the proximal bundle method presented in [13].

The idea is to extend the basic bundle algorithm for nonconvex functions with both inexact function and subgradient information.

The key idea of the algorithm is the one already developed for [5]: When dealing with nonconvex functions a very critical difference to the convex case is that the linearization errors are not necessarily nonnegative any more. To tackle this problem the errors are manipulated to enforce nonnegativity. In this case this is done by modeling not the objective function directly but a convexified version of it.

### 2.2.1 New subsubsection?

“assumptions and notations”

introduce exact optimization problem that is used in this section and its properties if not already introduce in “Preliminaries”.

Throughout this section the optimization problem

$$\min_x f(x) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x \in X \quad (21)$$

where  $f$  is locally Lipschitz is considered.  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is assumed to be a convex compact set. Both the function value as well as the subgradient can be provided in an inexact form.

For the function value inexactness is defined straight forwardly: If

$$\|\tilde{f} - f(x)\| \leq \sigma \quad (22)$$

then  $\tilde{f}$  approximates the value  $f(x)$  within  $\sigma$ .

For the subgradients inexactness is interpreted in the following way:  $\tilde{g} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  approximates a subgradient  $g \in \partial f(x)$  within  $\theta \geq 0$  if

$$\tilde{g} \in \partial f(x) + B_\theta(0). \quad (23)$$

In the paper it is assumed that the errors are bounded although the bound does not have to be known.

$$|\sigma_j| \leq \bar{\sigma} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \theta_j \leq \bar{\theta} \quad \forall j \in J_k. \quad (24)$$

In the context of inexact information it is important to make a distinction between the (unknown) exact function value and its approximation. Throughout this chapter I therefore write  $f(x)$  for the exact function value whereas the approximation will be written as  $f_j$  or  $\hat{f}_k$  for the approximation at the current stability center.

The objective function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is assumed to be proper, (subdifferentially) regular and locally Lipschitz continuous with full domain.

**Definition 2.2.** [11] A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}} = [-\infty, +\infty]$  is called *proper* if  $f(x) < \infty$  for at least one  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f(x) > -\infty \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Definition 2.3.** [11]  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  is called *subdifferentially regular* at  $\bar{x}$  if  $f(\bar{x})$  is finite and the epigraph

$$\text{epi}(f) := \{(x, \alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \mid \alpha \geq f(x)\}$$

is Clarke regular at  $\bar{x}, f(\bar{x})$ .

Closed convex sets are Clarke regular, so in particular the epigraph of lower  $\mathcal{C}^2$ -functions?.

Definition semismooth for later:

**Definition 2.4.** A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *semismooth* at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  if  $f$  is Lipschitz near  $x$  and for each  $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and for any sequences  $\{t_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\{\theta^k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\{g^k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\{t_k\} \downarrow 0, \quad \{\theta^k/t_k\} \rightarrow 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{and} \quad g^k \in \partial f(x + t_k d + \theta^k),$$

the sequence  $\{\langle g^k, d \rangle\}$  has exactly one accumulation point.

**Definition 2.5.** *Stationary point:* (for nonsmooth optimization, possibly nonconvex)  $\rightarrow$  see Mifflin “Modification”? or Kiwiel “aggregate subgradients”

### explanation

A main issue both nonconvexity and inexactness entail is that the linearization errors  $e_j^k$  are not necessarily nonnegative any more.

So based on the results in [12] not the objective function but a convexified version of it is modeled as the objective function of the subproblem.

When looking at the subproblem formulated as in (12) one can see that the new iterate  $x^{k+1}$  is in fact a *proximal point* of the subproblem.

The *proximal point mapping* or *prox-operator* is defined as

$$\text{prox}_{t,f}(x) = \arg \min_y \left\{ \check{f}(y) + \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 \right\}, \quad t > 0 \quad (25)$$

For  $\check{f}(x) := m(x) + \mathbb{I}_X(x)$  and  $\mu := \frac{1}{t_k}$  this is just subproblem (12) with the constraint  $x \in X$  incorporated in the objective function. Because of this special form of the subproblems primal bundle methods are also called proximal bundle methods.

explain in much more detail when read about calculation of proximal points for nonconvex functions. At the moment just main ideas.

The key idea is now to use the relation

$$\text{prox}_{R=\mu+\eta,f}(x) = \text{prox}_{\mu,f+\eta/2 \cdot |\cdot-x|^2}(x). \quad (26)$$

This means, that the proximal point of the function  $f$  for parameter  $R = \eta + \mu$  is the same as calculating the proximal point of the regularized function

$$\tilde{f}(y) = f(y) + \frac{\eta}{2} |y - x|^2 \quad (27)$$

with respect to the parameter  $\mu$ .  $\eta$  is therefore called the *convexification parameter* and  $\mu$  is the *prox-parameter*.



So the function that will be modeled by the cutting plane approximation is no longer the original objective function  $f$  but the convexified version  $\tilde{f}$ .

The linear functions forming the model have therefore a tilted slope

$$s_j^k = g^j + \eta_k (x^j - \hat{x}^k). \quad (28)$$

$\eta$  is defined to be such that the augmented linearization error is nonnegative:

$$\eta_k \geq \max \left\{ \max_{j \in J_k, x^j \neq \hat{x}^k} \frac{-2e_j^k}{\|x^j - \hat{x}^k\|^2}, 0 \right\} + \gamma \quad (29)$$

With the “savinguarding parameter”  $\gamma \geq 0$

explain, why linearization errors are defined like that

$$0 \leq c_j^k := e_j^k + b_j^k, \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} e_j^k := \hat{f}_k - f_j - \langle g^j, \hat{x}^k - x^j \rangle \\ b_j^k := \frac{\eta_k}{2} \|x^j - \hat{x}^k\|^2 \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

The new model function can therefore be written as

$$M_k(d) := \hat{f}_k + \max_{j \in J_k} \{s_j^{k\top} d - c_j^k\} \quad (31)$$

The definition of the aggregate objects follows straightforward:

$$S^k := \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k s_j^k \quad (32)$$

$$C_k := \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k c_j^k \quad (33)$$

explain how  $\delta_k$  is derived.

$$\delta^k := C_k + t_k \|S^k + \nu^k\|^2 \quad (34)$$

algorithm

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### Nonconvex proximal bundle method with inexact information

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Select parameters  $m \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$  and a stopping tolerance  $\text{tol} \geq 0$ .

Choose a starting point  $x^1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and compute  $f_1$  and  $g^1$ . Set the initial index set  $J_1 := \{1\}$  and the initial prox-center to  $\hat{x}^1 := x^1$ ,  $\hat{f}_1 = f_1$  and select  $t_1 > 0$ .

For  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

1. Calculate

$$d^k = \arg \min_{d \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ M_k(\hat{x}^k + d) + \mathbb{I}_X(\hat{x}^k + d) + \frac{1}{2t_k} \|d\|^2 \right\}.$$

2. Set

$$\begin{aligned} G^k &= \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k s_j^k, \quad \nu^k = -\frac{1}{t_k} d^k - G^k \\ C_k &= \sum_{j \in J_k} \alpha_j^k c_j^k \\ \delta_k &= C_k + t_k \|G^k + \nu^k\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

If  $\delta_k \leq \text{tol} \rightarrow \text{STOP}$ .

3. Set  $x^{k+1} = \hat{x}^k + d^k$ .

4. Compute  $f^{k+1}, g^{k+1}$

If

$$f^{k+1} \leq \hat{f}^k - m\delta_k \rightarrow \text{serious step}$$

Set  $\hat{x}^{k+1} = x^{k+1}, \hat{f}^{k+1} = f^{k+1}$  and select  $t_{k+1} > 0$ .

Otherwise  $\rightarrow$  nullstep

Set  $\hat{x}^{k+1} = \hat{x}^k, \hat{f}^{k+1} = f^{k+1}$  and choose  $0 < t_{k+1} \leq t_k$ .

5. Select new bundle index set  $J_{k+1}$ , keeping all active elements. Calculate

$$\eta_k \geq \max \left\{ \max_{j \in J_{k+1}, x^j \neq \hat{x}^{k+1}} \frac{-2e_j^k}{|x^j - \hat{x}^{k+1}|^2}, 0 \right\} + \gamma$$

and update the model  $M^k$

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## 2.3 Convergence analysis

### 2.3.1 Results for objectives with exact information

The main ideas of the algorithm are basically the ones developed in [5] for the redistributed proximal bundle method for exact nonconvex problems.

Setting the error bounds  $\bar{\sigma}$  and  $\bar{\theta}$  to zero results therefore in the following convergence theorem.

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let the sequence  $\{\eta_k\}$  be bounded,  $\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty}$  and the cardinality of the set  $\{j \in J_k | \alpha_j^k > 0\}$  be uniformly bounded in  $k$ .*

*Then every accumulation point of sequence of serious iterates  $\{\hat{x}^k\}$  is a stationary point of the problem.*

think last condition only interesting in inexact case.

In the exact case boundedness of the sequence  $\{\eta_k\}$  is proven for lower- $\mathcal{C}^2$  functions in [5]. This is not possible in the inexact case, even if the objective function  $f$  is convex.

A further simplification of the method for exact information is not necessary as the method is already almost as simple as the basic bundle method for nonconvex exact functions. Additionally no new concepts needed to be introduced when doing the step from nonconvex exact problems, for which the algorithm was originally designed, to problems with inexact information.

*Remark:* I want to add here, that the simplicity of the algorithm is rather special for methods suitable for nonconvex problems. Often a linesearch algorithm has to be inserted in the nonconvex case, which is not needed here.

### 2.3.2 Nonconvex bundle methods

There are different approaches for handling nonconvexity of the objective function in bundle methods. As the nonnegativity property of the linearization errors  $e_j^k$  is crucial for the convergence proof of convex bundle methods an early idea was forcing the errors to be so by different downshifting strategies. A very common one is using the *subgradient locality measure* [7, 8]. Here the linearization error is essentially replaced by the nonnegative number

$$\tilde{e}_j^k := \max\{|e_j^k|, \gamma \|\hat{x}^k - x^j\|^2\}. \quad (35)$$

*Remark on dual view? How subgradient locality measure measures how close subgradient is to subdifferential of  $f$ ???*

Methods using this kind of manipulation of the model function are endowed with a line search to provide sufficient decrease of the objective function. For the linesearch to terminate finitely, semismoothness of the objective function is usually needed.

It can be proven that every accumulation point of the sequence of serious points  $\{\hat{x}^k\}$  is a stationary point of the objective function  $f$  under the additional assumptions that  $f$  is locally Lipschitz and the level set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | f(x) \leq f(\hat{x}^1)\}$  is bounded [4].

A drawback to the method described above is that it is primarily supported from the dual point of view of the bundle algorithm. Newer concepts focus also on the primal point of view. This invokes for example having different model functions for the subproblem.

In [2, 3] the difference function

$$h(d) := f(x^j + d) - f(x^j) \quad j \in J_k \quad (36)$$

is approximated to find descent direction of  $f$ .

The negative linearization errors are addressed by having two different bundles. One containing the indices with nonnegative linearization errors and one containing the other

ones. From these two bundles two cutting plane approximations can be constructed which provide the bases for the calculation of the new iterate.

Convergence of the method to a stationary point is proven under the assumption of  $f$  being locally Lipschitz and semismooth.

In [10] Noll et al. follow an approach of approximating a local model of the objective function. The model can be seen as a nonsmooth generalization of the Taylor expansion and looks the following:

$$\Phi(y, x) = \phi(y, x) + \frac{1}{2}(y - x)^\top Q(x)(y - x) \quad (37)$$

The so called *first order model*  $\phi(., x)$  is convex but possibly nonsmooth and can be approximated by cutting planes. The *second order part* is a quadratic but not necessarily convex. The algorithm then proceeds a lot in the lines of a general bundle algorithm.

For a locally Lipschitz objective function with a bounded levelset  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | f(x) \leq f(\hat{x}^1)\}$  convergence to a stationary point is established.

### 2.3.3 if convex function

Convergence for inexact convex functions:

- states in paper [13] (p. 14) that for convex functions error of  $\bar{\sigma}$  instead of  $2\bar{\sigma}$  possible (and for lower models; see depth paper?)

To Do:

- proof serious steps
- proof null steps
- limit of  $G^k$
- proof in book; see if possible to leave out  $D$ ; compare should be possible if bounded level sets assumed; check this! compare with “depth”  $\rightarrow \phi$
- see if  $\eta_k$  can be bounded in exact case - yes for the class of functions mentioned in the paper
- find counterexample, that  $\eta$  can't be bounded in inexact case??? - main argument: have to assure, that convexified objective function is “convex on all bundle points  $x^j$ ” from a certain  $\eta^k$  on
- compare nonconvex exact  $\leftrightarrow$  inexact convergence results only look at exact paper again if better results!
  - check if correct: inexact more general because choice of  $t_k$  more freely??? in exact  $\mu_k$  only changed when restart
  - update strategy not important for convergence; maybe for convergence speed?
  - check if update strategy important for convergence speed? - yes see napsu ...

“Comparison ...”

- check if (ii) in Theorem 6 in paper can be assured by choice of  $t_k$  in algorithm (think yes)
- compare to convergence results of other papers  
check if better results can be carried over - results all the same; check for prerequisites on functions
- check if other papers have better prerequisites  
check if results can be carried over  
all need locally Lipschitz and either a compact? subset or bounded lower level sets  
Better in other papers?: neither  $\{j \in J_k | \alpha_j^k > 0\}$  nor  $\{\eta_k\}$  need to be bounded??  
any prerequisites on  $t_k$  in other papers???
- most other solutions for nonconvex functions: based on dual idea; remark on dual view on bundle method?
- write that down nicely
- read depth paper
  - see what kind my algorithm is
  - check Lemma 5 (iv) stronger?
- remark on that inexactness makes objective nonconvex  $\rightarrow$  relate to nonconvexity paper?
- check again uniformly bounded  $J_k$   
aggregated objects (3.4), 5.2, 7.1 in “depth”
- generalized gradients may only be shifted not tilted?  
is this realistic assumption?
- ask Simon to  $\varepsilon$ -subdifferentials
- Algorithm:
  - print something useful in every iteration
  - $\eta$  should not get too big

If (newer) papers needed: look at citations of the ones I have.

(sub-)Level sets of continuous functions are closed (image of closed set closed under continuous function); should also hold for lower semicontinuous functions in metrizable(???) space

### 3 How is inexact information dealt with?

## 4 Extension with Limited Memory approach

#### 4.0.4 Thoughts about line search

- after what is written in “nonconv, inex”-paper: Line search not provable to be finite if inexact information
- is line search standard in all variable metric methods?
  - looks like it
  - there do exist versions without line search → other update???
  - does it work without line search??? -think yes
- does prox-parameter  $t_k$  have some relation to linesearch/stepsize?

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