

Modification of proof

September 1, 2022

In this note we fix a little typo involving the proof for the first-order potential reduction.

Recall that in the note we claim the following relation

$$\mathbf{H} \succeq -\frac{\rho}{f(\mathbf{x})^2} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) \nabla f(\mathbf{x})^\top = -\frac{2\rho}{\|\mathbf{Ax}\|^2} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Axx}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \succeq -2\rho\gamma$$

but since $f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax}\|^2$, we actually have

$$-\frac{\rho}{f(\mathbf{x})^2} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) \nabla f(\mathbf{x})^\top = -\frac{4\rho}{\|\mathbf{Ax}\|^4} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Axx}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$$

and the eigen-value bound becomes \mathbf{x} -dependent since

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\mathbf{u} \neq 0} \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2}, \frac{4\rho}{\|\mathbf{Ax}\|^4} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Axx}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Au} \right\rangle \\ &= \max_{\mathbf{u} \neq 0} \frac{4\rho(\mathbf{x} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Au})^2}{\|\mathbf{Ax}\|^4 \|\mathbf{u}\|^2} \\ &\leq \frac{2\rho}{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax}\|^2} \max_{\mathbf{u} \neq 0} \frac{\|\mathbf{Au}\|^2}{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2} \leq \frac{2\rho\gamma}{f(\mathbf{x})}. \end{aligned}$$

By the modified bound and appealing to (3) in the original proof, we have

$$\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{Hd} \rangle \geq -\frac{\rho\gamma}{f(\mathbf{x})} \|\mathbf{d}\|^2 \geq -\frac{\rho\gamma\beta^2}{f(\mathbf{x})}.$$

Though the bound is worse, it does not matter since it is a high-order term of β .

Therefore,

$$\phi(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d}) - \phi(\mathbf{x}) \leq -\beta + \frac{\rho\gamma\beta^2}{2f(\mathbf{x})} + \frac{\beta^2}{2} + \frac{\rho\gamma\beta^2}{f(\mathbf{x})} \leq -\beta + \frac{3\rho\gamma\beta^2}{2f(\mathbf{x})} + \frac{\beta^2}{2}$$

and the rest of the results still apply to guarantee the $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon}))$ result.