

# Non-Convex Optimization: Matrix Sensing & Factored Model

---

Enayat Ullah<sup>1</sup>

Guide: Prof Raman Arora<sup>2</sup>

September 24, 2016

<sup>1</sup>Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

<sup>2</sup>Johns Hopkins University

# Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Non-Convex Optimization
3. Some Non-Convex Optimization Problems

# Introduction

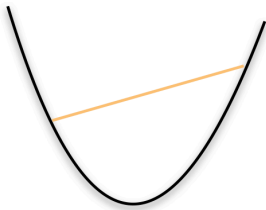
---

# Convex Optimization

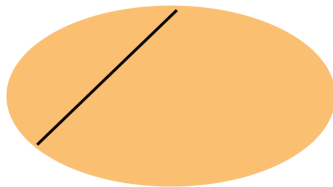
$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{C}} f(x)$$

$f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a **convex** function

$\mathcal{C} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is a **convex** set



Convex function



Convex Set

**Figure 1:** Convex function and Domain

## Examples

- Linear Programming
- Quadratic Programming

## Techniques

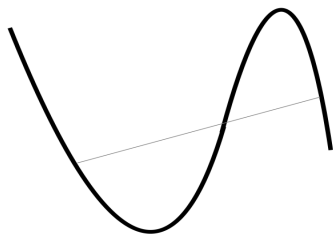
- Projected Subgradient Methods
- Interior Point Methods

# Non-Convex Optimization

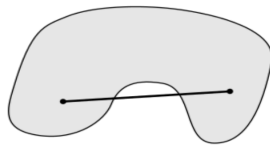
---

# Non-Convex Optimization

Non-convex objective or Non-convex Domain (or both).



Non-Convex function



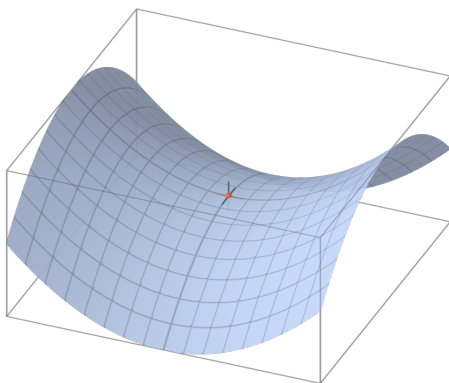
Non-Convex Set

**Figure 2:** Non-convex function and Domain

# Non-Convex Optimization

## Challenges

- Exact minimization is NP-Hard.
- Proliferation of Saddle points



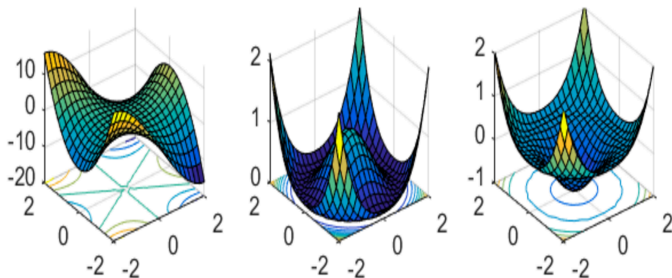
**Figure 3:** Saddle Point



# Strict Saddle Property

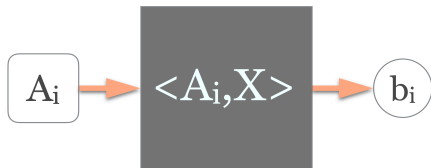
## Strict Saddle

A twice differentiable function  $f(w)$  is strict saddle, if all its local minima have  $\nabla^2 f(w) > 0$  and all its other stationary points satisfy  $\lambda_{\min}(\nabla^2 f(w)) < 0$ .



**Figure 4:** Non-strict-saddle Saddle Points

Source: ?



**Figure 5:** Matrix Sensing

## Optimization problem

$$\min_{U, V} f(U, V) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\langle \mathcal{A}_i, UV^T \rangle - \langle \mathcal{A}_i, X \rangle)$$

## Expected Optimization problem

$$\min_{U, V} \mathbb{E}_{[\mathcal{A}_i]_{jk} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)} [f(U, V)] = \|UV^T - X\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2$$

## Gradient

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nabla_{\alpha} \\ \nabla_{\beta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \operatorname{vec}((UV^T - X) V) \\ 2 \operatorname{vec}((UV^T - X)^T U) \end{bmatrix}$$

## Hessian

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nabla_{\alpha\alpha}^2 & \nabla_{\beta\alpha}^2 \\ \nabla_{\alpha\beta}^2 & \nabla_{\beta\beta}^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V^T V \otimes \mathbb{I}_m & (V^T \otimes U) \mathcal{K}(n, k) + (\mathbb{I}_k \otimes (UV^T - X)) \\ (U^T \otimes V) \mathcal{K}(m, k) + (\mathbb{I}_k \otimes (UV^T - X)^T) & U^T U \otimes \mathbb{I}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Gradient = 0

- $U = 0, V = 0$

Strict Saddle

Gradient = 0

- $U = 0, V = 0$
- $UV^T = X$

Strict Saddle

Global Minima

## Gradient = 0

- $U = 0, V = 0$
- $UV^T = X$
- $U = 0, V \neq 0, XV = 0$

Strict Saddle

Global Minima

Strict Saddle

## Gradient = 0

- $U = 0, V = 0$
- $UV^T = X$
- $U = 0, V \neq 0, XV = 0$
- $V = 0, U \neq 0, X^T U = 0$

Strict Saddle

Global Minima

Strict Saddle

Strict Saddle

## Gradient = 0

- $U = 0, V = 0$  Strict Saddle
- $UV^T = X$  Global Minima
- $U = 0, V \neq 0, XV = 0$  Strict Saddle
- $V = 0, U \neq 0, X^T U = 0$  Strict Saddle
- $U \neq 0, V \neq 0, UV^T \neq X, (UV^T - X)V = 0, (UV^T - X)^T U = 0$  Not Possible



## **Some Non-Convex Optimization Problems**

---

# Low Rank Matrix Regression

## Data

$$X_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$y_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

## Model

$$y_i = \langle X_i, W \rangle + \epsilon_i \text{ or}$$

$$y_i = \mathcal{B}(\sigma(\langle X_i, W \rangle))$$

$$W = UV^T$$

$$U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$$

$$V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$$

$$\text{where } k \leq \min(m, n)$$

## Low rank Matrices (*Non-Convex Set*)

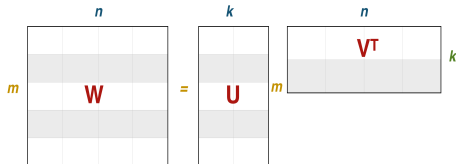


Figure 6: Low rank Matrix Decomposition

# Low Rank Matrix Regression

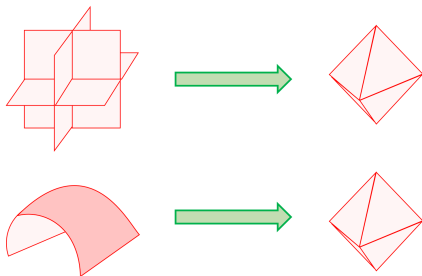
## Why Low rank?

- Low Intrinsic Dimensionality.
- eg: Factor Analysis, Collaborative Filtering.

## Optimization Problem

$$\min_W f(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(W, X_i, y_i) \text{ s.t rank } (W) \leq k$$

# Convex Relaxation

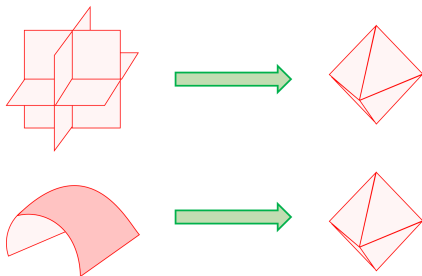


**Figure 7:** Convex Relaxation

## Convex relaxation

$$\min_W f(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(W, X_i, y_i) + \lambda \|W\|_*^2$$

# Convex Relaxation



**Figure 8:** Convex Relaxation

## Convex relaxation

$$\min_W f(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(W, X_i, y_i) + \lambda \|W\|_*^2$$

**SLOW (SVD)**

# Non-Convex Reparametrization

## Non-Convex Reparametrization

$$\min_U f(U, V) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(UV^T, X_i, y_i) + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\|U\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 + \|V\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2)$$

## Advantages

- Equivalent to nuclear norm minimization.
- Convex in one variable when the other is kept fixed.

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{U, V} f(U, V) \\ & \text{s.t } U \in \mathcal{C}_1, V \in \mathcal{C}_2 \end{aligned}$$

---

**Algorithm 1** Alternating Minimization

---

- 1: Initialize  $U_0, V_0$
  - 2: **for**  $t = 0$  to  $T - 1$  **do**
  - 3:    $U_t = \arg \min_{U \in \mathcal{C}_1} f(U, V_{t-1})$
  - 4:    $V_t = \arg \min_{V \in \mathcal{C}_2} f(U_t, V)$
  - 5: **end for**
-

# Matrix Linear Regression

## Model

$$y_i = \langle W, X_i \rangle + \epsilon_i, \text{ where } W = UV^T$$

## Optimization problem

$$\min_{U, V} f(U, V) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\|U\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 + \|V\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2)$$

Alternate closed form solutions.



# Matrix Linear Regression - Algorithm

## Alternating Exact Minimization!

---

### Algorithm 2 Matrix Linear Regression

---

- 1: Initialize  $U, V$
  - 2: **for**  $t = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**
  - 3:    $\text{vec}(U) = \left( N\lambda \mathbb{I}_{mk} + \sum_{i=1}^N \text{vec}(X_i) \text{vec}(X_i V)^T \right)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \text{vec}(X_i V)$
  - 4:    $\text{vec}(V) = \left( N\lambda \mathbb{I}_{nk} + \sum_{i=1}^N \text{vec}(X_i^T U) \text{vec}(X_i^T U)^T \right)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \text{vec}(X_i^T U)$
  - 5: **end for**
-

# Matrix Logistic Regression

## Model

$$y_i = \mathcal{B}(\sigma(\langle W, X_i \rangle)), \text{ where } W = UV^T$$

## Optimization problem

$$\min_{U, V} f(U, V) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log(1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\|U\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 + \|V\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2)$$

No (alternate) closed form solutions.

# Matrix Logistic Regression (with Gradient Descent)

Alternating Minimization with gradient descent!

---

**Algorithm 3** Matrix Logistic Regression with Gradient Descent

---

- 1: Initialize  $U, V$
  - 2: **for**  $t = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**
  - 3:    $\nabla_U = \lambda U - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle) (X_i V)}{1 + \exp(y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)}$
  - 4:    $\alpha_{opt} = \text{backtrack}(X, Y, U, V)$
  - 5:    $U = U - \alpha_{opt} \nabla_U$
  - 6:    $\nabla_V = \lambda V - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle) (X_i U)}{1 + \exp(y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)}$
  - 7:    $\alpha_{opt} = \text{backtrack}(X, Y, U, V)$
  - 8:    $V = V - \alpha_{opt} \nabla_V$
  - 9: **end for**
-

## Second-Order Taylor Approximation of $f$

$$\begin{aligned} f(U, V) = & f(U_0, V_0) + \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(V - V_0)^T & \text{vec}(U - U_0)^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nabla_{\alpha} f(U_0, V_0) \\ \nabla_{\beta} f(U_0, V_0) \end{bmatrix} + \\ & \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(V - V_0)^T & \text{vec}(U - U_0)^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nabla_{\alpha\alpha} f(U_0, V_0) & \nabla_{\beta\alpha} f(U_0, V_0) \\ \nabla_{\alpha\beta} f(U_0, V_0) & \nabla_{\beta\beta} f(U_0, V_0) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(U - U_0) \\ \text{vec}(V - V_0) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Matrix Logistic Regression - Newton's Method

$\nabla_{\alpha}$
$\nabla_{\beta}$

**Gradient**

$\nabla_{\alpha\alpha}^2$	$\nabla_{\beta\alpha}^2$
$\nabla_{\alpha\beta}^2$	$\nabla_{\beta\beta}^2$

**Hessian**

## Updates

$$\text{vec}(U) = \text{vec}(U_0) - (\nabla_{\alpha\alpha}^2)^{-1} (\nabla_{\beta\alpha}^2 \text{vec}(V - V_0) + \nabla_{\alpha})$$

$$\text{vec}(V) = \text{vec}(V_0) - (\nabla_{\beta\beta}^2)^{-1} (\nabla_{\alpha\beta}^2 \text{vec}(U - U_0) + \nabla_{\beta})$$

# Matrix Logistic Regression - Newton's Method

## Alternating Minimization with Newton Method!

---

### Algorithm 3 Matrix Logistic Regression with Newton Method

---

- 1: Initialize  $U, V$
- 2: **for**  $t = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**
- 3:  $\nabla_{\alpha} = \lambda \text{vec}(U) - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle) \text{vec}(X_i V)}{1 + \exp(y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)}$
- 4:  $\nabla_{\beta} = \lambda \text{vec}(V) - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle) \text{vec}(X_i U)}{1 + \exp(y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)}$
- 5:  $\nabla_{\alpha\alpha}^2 = \lambda \mathbb{I}_{mk} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i^2 \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle) \text{vec}(X_i V) \text{vec}(X_i V)^T}{(1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle))^2}$
- 6:  $\nabla_{\alpha\beta}^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)}{(1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle))} \left( \frac{y_i \text{vec}(X_i^T U) \text{vec}(X_i V)^T}{1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)} - (\mathbb{I}_k \otimes X_i^T) \right)$
- 7:  $\nabla_{\beta\alpha}^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)}{(1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle))} \left( \frac{y_i \text{vec}(X_i V) \text{vec}(X_i^T U)^T}{1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle)} - (\mathbb{I}_k \otimes X_i) \right)$
- 8:  $\nabla_{\beta\beta}^2 = \lambda \mathbb{I}_{nk} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{y_i^2 \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle) \text{vec}(X_i^T U) \text{vec}(X_i^T U)^T}{(1 + \exp(-y_i \langle UV^T, X_i \rangle))^2}$
- 9:  $\text{vec}(U) = \text{vec}(U_0) - \nabla_{\alpha\alpha}^{-1} (\nabla_{\beta\alpha} \text{vec}(V - V_0) + \nabla_{\alpha})$
- 10:  $\text{vec}(V) = \text{vec}(V_0) - \nabla_{\beta\beta}^{-1} (\nabla_{\alpha\beta} \text{vec}(U - U_0) + \nabla_{\beta})$
- 11:  $U_0 = U$
- 12:  $V_0 = V$
- 13: **end for**

- Convex vs Non-Convex Optimization.
- Convex Relaxation based methods.
- Non-convex Reparametrization.
- Alternating Newton method vs Alternate Gradient Descent.
- Implementations of Matrix Linear Regression, Matrix Logistic Regression and Robust PCA.

# Acknowledgements

I thank Prof Raman Arora, Tuo Zhao, Xingguo Li, Poorya Mianjy, Anirbit Mukherjee and Bhuvesh Kumar for their continued support and guidance throughout the project.



**Questions?**