

1. (Equality constrained entropy maximization.) Consider the equality constrained entropy maximization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^5 x_i \log x_i \\ \text{subject to} \quad & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{dom}(\log x) = \mathbb{R}_+$$

where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $b = \begin{bmatrix} 20 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$  with  $\text{dom } f = \mathbb{R}_{++}^n$ .

Compute the solution of the problem using the following methods.

- (a) Standard Newton method (Algorithm 10.1) with initial point  $x^{(0)} = [1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5]^T$ . (30%)  
 (b) Infeasible start Newton method (Algorithm 10.2) with initial point  $\nu^{(0)} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $x^{(0)} = [1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5]^T$ , and also  $x^{(0)} = [5 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5]^T$ . (30%)

Verify that the two methods compute the same optimal point.

**Note** that  $\text{dom } f$  is not  $\mathbb{R}^5$  and thus in the update step of  $x$ , you have to check that  $x + t\Delta x \in \text{dom } f$ .

2. You were asked to prove that  $x^* = (1, 1/2, -1)$  is optimal for the following optimization problem in HW#4:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & f_0(x) = (1/2)x^T P x + q^T x + r \\ \text{subject to} \quad & -1 \leq x_i \leq 1, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 13 & 12 & -2 \\ 12 & 17 & 6 \\ -2 & 6 & 12 \end{bmatrix}, \quad q = \begin{bmatrix} -22 \\ -14.5 \\ 13 \end{bmatrix}, \quad r = 1.$$

Implement a barrier method for solving this QP. Assume that the initial point is  $x^*(0) = (0, 0, 0)$ . Plot the duality gap versus Newton steps (such as Fig. 11.4). Verify that the barrier method computes the optimal point.

(40%)

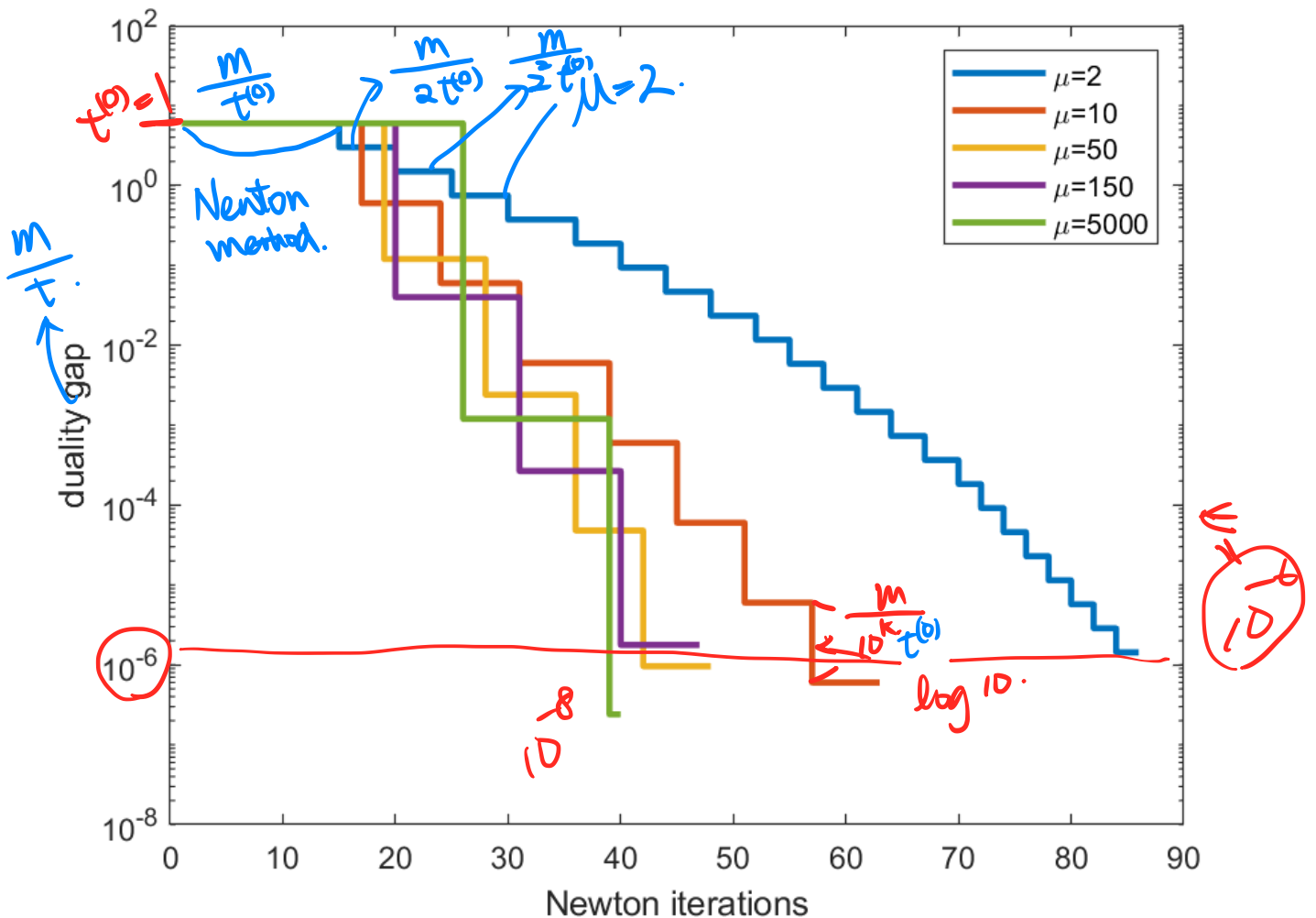
$$x^{(0)} = (0, 0, 0), \quad t^{(0)} = 1, \quad \alpha = 0.1, \quad \beta = 0.05$$

Strictly feasible  
tolerance  $10^{-6}$

consider the feasibility of the modified objective function during the backtracking line search.

minimize  $f_0(x) + \left| \frac{1}{t} \Phi(x) \right|$  (log ~)

$x^{(0)} \rightarrow$  do a Newton method  
check the update is feasible



## Feasibility and Phase I method.

- The barrier method requires a strictly feasible starting point  $x^{(0)}$ .
- When such a point is not known, the barrier method is preceded by a preliminary stage, called **Phase I**, in which a strictly feasible point is computed. (or the constraints are found to be infeasible.)
- The strictly feasible point found during phase I is then used as the starting point for the barrier method, which is called the **Phase II** stage.

## Basic phase I method.

Find  $x$  such that

$$f_i(x) < 0, \quad i=1, \dots, m. \quad Ax=b. \quad (2)$$

— phase I optimization

$$\text{minimize } S \quad S \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(x) \leq S, \quad i=1, \dots, m \quad (3)$$

$$Ax = b.$$

- If  $x, S$  feasible with  $S < 0$ , then  $x$  is strictly feasible for (2)
- If optimal value  $\bar{p}^*$  of (3) is positive, the problem (2) is infeasible.
- If  $\bar{p}^* = 0$  and attained, then problem (3) is feasible (but not strictly).
- If  $\bar{p}^* = 0$  and not attained, then (3) is infeasible.