

# Numerical Computing 2023

## Lecture 8: Introduction to the conjugate-gradient method

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- Motivation  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$
- Gradient-based Methods
  - Solve equivalent minimization problem to  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$
  - Method of Steepest Descent
  - Conjugate-Gradient Method
- Outlook: Preconditioning

Let us consider the solution of a system of linear equations  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ , with **nonsingular** coefficient matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , constant vector  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and (unknown) solution vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Direct methods* compute the exact solution in  $n$  steps (in absence of roundoff error):

- Cost for classical Gaussian Elimination:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$
- Cost for sparse matrices:  $\mathcal{O}(n^{1.5})$  or  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- High memory consumption due to additional fill-in elements

**Problem:** Complexity of Gaussian Elimination (“direct method”) for LARGE (sparse) linear systems of equations is too high.

**Potential solution:** Use iterative methods.

*Iterative methods* use an (arbitrary) initial guess (“starting point”) to compute an approximate solution:

- Cost for conjugate-gradient algorithms: between  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(n^{3/2})$  (for an approximation using a fixed accuracy, e.g.,  $10^{-6}$ )
- No need for additional memory
- Convergence after a few iterations (this depends, of course, also on  $A$ ).

**However**, iterative methods are very often less robust and not as general as direct methods.

# Sketch of an iterative method

Structure of the algorithm:

Start:  $m = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^{(m)} = \text{Initial value}$

**Iterate** until error estimate  $< \epsilon$ :

Find a new solution  $\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}$

Compute new error estimate

- Is the new iterate always better?
- How can we get an error estimate?

# Definition of Error and Residual

The *error* in step  $m$  is the deviation of  $\mathbf{x}^{(m)}$  from the exact solution  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$\mathbf{e}^{(m)} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{(m)} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{x}^{(m)}$$

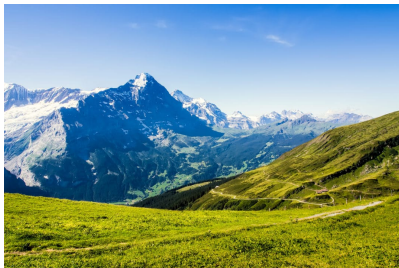
Unfortunately we do not know the error during the iterations (otherwise we would know also the exact solution, thus defying the purpose of using iterative solvers)

The *residual* provides us a measure for the real error. It is relatively easy to compute:

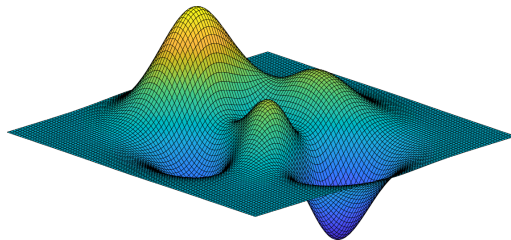
$$\mathbf{r}^{(m)} = \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}^{(m)} = A\mathbf{e}^{(m)}$$

The fact that the residual is equivalent the  $A$ -transformed error ( $A\mathbf{e}^{(m)}$ ) will be used later. Its *residual norm* is defined as  $\|\mathbf{r}^{(m)}\|$ , whereas the *relative residual norm* is  $\frac{\|\mathbf{r}^{(m)}\|}{\|\mathbf{b}\|}$ .

- $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the scalar product:  $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \rangle = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i$
- $\mathbf{x} := A^{-1} \mathbf{b}$  denotes the exact solution
- $\mathbf{x}^{(m)}$  is the approximation in the  $m$ -th iteration



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A class of first order methods utilized for finding the nearest local minimum of a function, by following the direction of its negative gradient at the current point (Cauchy 1847).



# Minimization problem - 1D Case

*Basic idea:* Instead of  $a \cdot x = b$  solve an equivalent minimization problem

$$f(x) := \frac{1}{2}a \cdot x^2 - b \cdot x \quad (1)$$

*Precondition:* Let  $a$  be *symmetric positive definite (spd)*, i.e. in this case  $a > 0$ .  
If we take the derivative of (1), it will lead to:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}x - b \\ &= ax - b \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Setting the equation to zero will lead to the original problem  $a \cdot x = b$ .

# Minimization problem

*Basic idea:* Instead of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  solve an equivalent minimization problem

$$f(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{1}{2} \langle A\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \quad (3)$$

*Precondition:* Let  $A$  be a *symmetric positive definite (spd) matrix*:

$$\langle A\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle > 0, \quad \text{if } \mathbf{x} \neq \text{zero vector} \quad (4)$$

If we take the derivative of (3), it will lead to:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{2} A^T \mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2} A \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \\ &= A \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \end{aligned} \quad \left| \text{Condition: } A^T = A \right. \quad (5)$$

Setting the equation to zero will lead to the original problem  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ .

# Minimization problem, Example

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

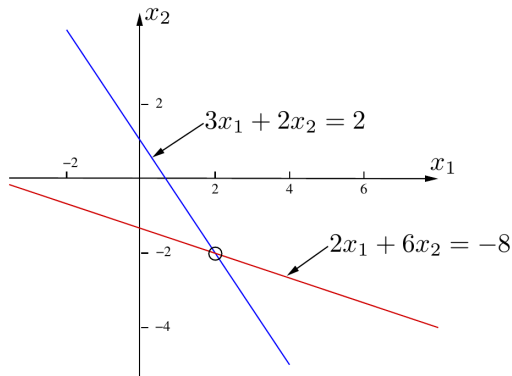


Figure: Linear equations with solution at the intersection of both lines.

# Minimization problem, Example

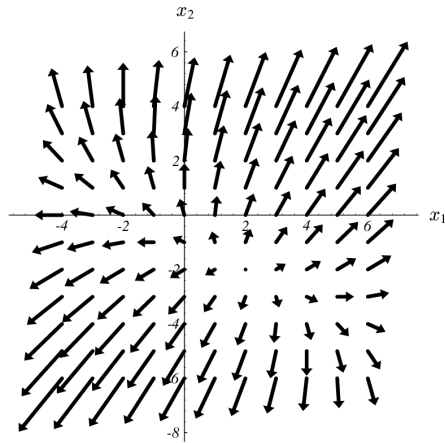
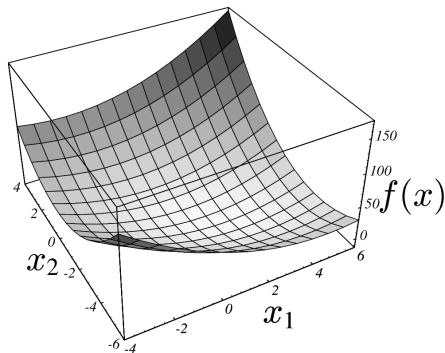


Figure: Quadratic Form  $f(x)$  and gradients  $f'(x)$

# Method of steepest descent

**Basic idea:** Take one step in the direction of the negative gradients at the point  $\mathbf{x}^{(m)}$ , i.e. in the direction of  $-f'(\mathbf{x}^{(m)})$ .

- Use a step length, until  $f$  is minimal along the search direction
- From equation (5) it follows, that  $-f'(\mathbf{x}^{(m)}) = \mathbf{r}^{(m)}$

Start:  $\mathbf{r}^{(0)} = \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$

**until**  $\|\mathbf{r}^{(m)}\| < \epsilon$ :

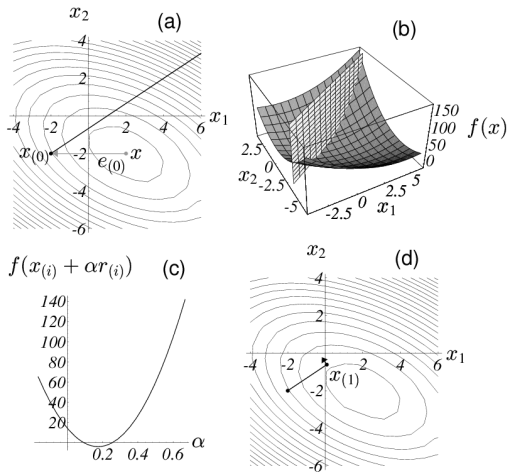
Find  $\alpha$ , such that  $f(\mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha\mathbf{r}^{(m)})$  minimal

$$\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha\mathbf{r}^{(m)}$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}$$

- The residual is a measure for both the *error* and *the search direction*!

# Method of steepest descent



# Method of steepest descent

Minimize  $f$  along the search vector  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$ :

Approach:

$$f(\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}) = f(\mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha \mathbf{p}^{(m)}) \stackrel{!}{=} \min \iff \frac{d}{d\alpha} f(\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}) = 0 \quad (6)$$

with the chain rule

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\alpha} f(\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}) &= \langle f'(\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}), \frac{d}{d\alpha} (\mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha \mathbf{p}^{(m)}) \rangle \\ &= \langle f'(\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}), \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

for steepest descent we will use  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m)}$ . The more general (and interesting) case with  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \neq \mathbf{r}^{(m)}$  will be discussed later.

# Method of steepest descent

We search for an  $\alpha$ , such that  $\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} \perp \mathbf{p}^{(m)}$ .



# Method of steepest descent

We search for an  $\alpha$ , such that  $\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} \perp \mathbf{p}^{(m)}$ .

Rearranging for  $\alpha$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle &= 0 \\
 \langle b - A\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle &= 0 \\
 \langle b - A(\mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha \mathbf{p}^{(m)}), \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle &= 0 \\
 \langle b - A\mathbf{x}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle - \alpha \langle A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle &= 0 \\
 \langle b - A\mathbf{x}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle &= \alpha \langle A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle \\
 \langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle &= \alpha \langle A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle \\
 \alpha &= \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Method of steepest descent

- The final algorithm will be:

Start:  $\mathbf{r}^{(0)} = \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$

**until**  $\|\mathbf{r}^{(m)}\| < \epsilon$ :

$$\alpha^{(m)} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle A\mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m)} \rangle}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha^{(m)} \mathbf{r}^{(m)}$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m)} - \alpha^{(m)} A\mathbf{r}^{(m)}$$

- We avoid the matrix-vector product  $A\mathbf{x}^{(m)}$  for the computation of  $\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}$  since  $\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m)} - \alpha^{(m)} A\mathbf{r}^{(m)}$

# Method of steepest descent

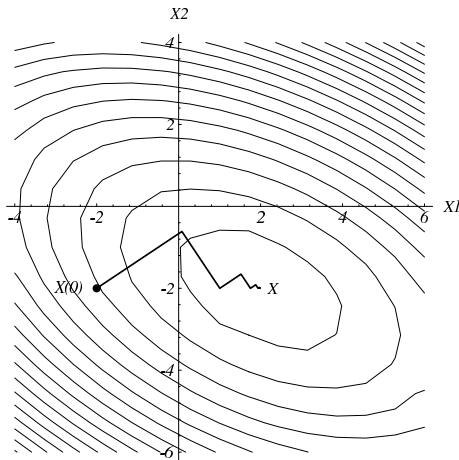


Figure: Method of steepest descent with  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = (-2 \ -2)^T$

# Convergence of steepest descent

Consider the functional  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle A\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ , which we would like to minimize to compute the solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ .

**Example:**  $n = 2$

$A$  has 2 orthonormal eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  with associated eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ . We can write each vector  $\mathbf{x}$  as a linear combination of eigenvectors  $\mathbf{x} = a_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1 + a_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2$ ,  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

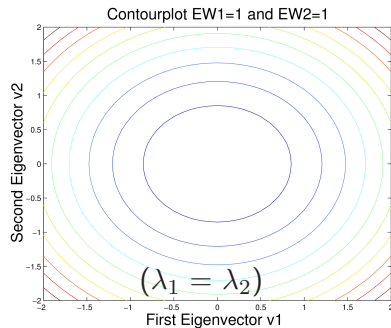
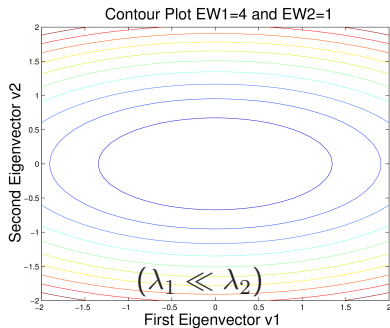
The following equation holds ( $\mathbf{b} = 0$ ):

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2} (a_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{v}_2)^T (a_1 \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + a_2 \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2) \quad (7)$$

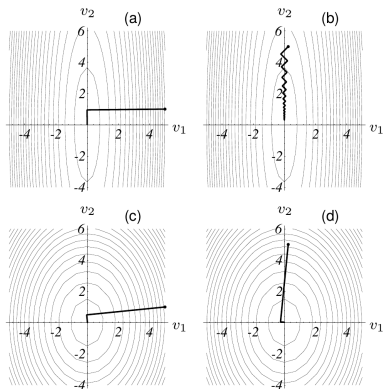
$$= \frac{1}{2} (a_1^2 \lambda_1 + a_2^2 \lambda_2) \quad (8)$$

# Convergence of steepest descent

## Contour lines of the functional:

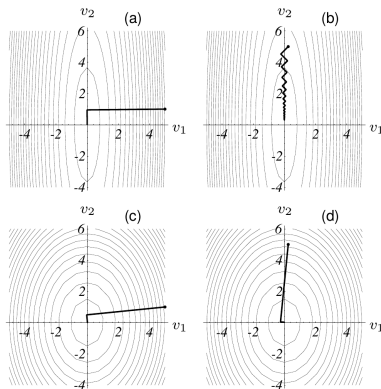


# Impact on the convergence



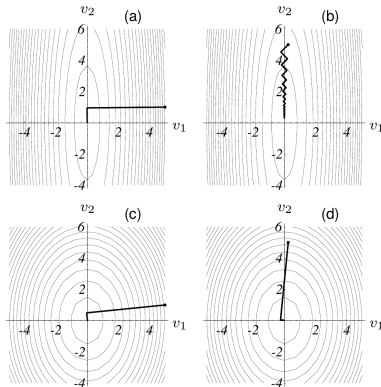
- (a) Large condition number, good starting point  $\rightarrow$  by accident fast convergence using steepest descent

# Impact on the convergence



- (a) Large condition number, good starting point  $\rightarrow$  by accident fast convergence using steepest descent (b) Large condition number, bad starting point  $\rightarrow$  very slow convergence

# Impact on the convergence



- (a) Large condition number, good starting point  $\rightarrow$  by accident fast convergence using steepest descent
- (b) Large condition number, bad starting point  $\rightarrow$  very slow convergence
- (c-d) Small condition number  $\rightarrow$  good convergence independent of the starting vector  $\rightarrow$  **Preconditioning**

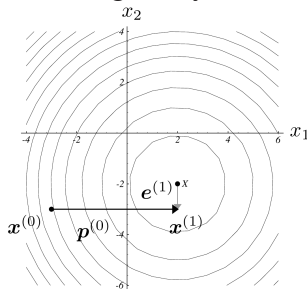


# «Conjugate Gradient Method»

# Conjugate Gradient Search Directions

*Basic idea:* In each iteration we take one optimal search step.

- *Approach:* We define  $n$  orthogonal search directions  $\mathbf{p}^{(0)}$  until  $\mathbf{p}^{(n-1)}$ . Use maximally  $n$  steps.
- The minimization criteria is the orthogonality of  $\mathbf{e}^{(m+1)}$ , with:  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \perp \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)}$



- Using this step we eliminate the error component of this particular search direction
- If  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \perp \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)}$ , then the scalar-product must be  $= 0$ :

$$\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)} \rangle = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{e}^{(m)} + \alpha^{(m)} \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle = 0 \quad (10)$$

$$\alpha^{(m)} = - \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{e}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle} \quad (11)$$

- Using this step we eliminate the error component of this particular search direction
- If  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \perp \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)}$ , then the scalar-product must be  $= 0$ :

$$\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)} \rangle = 0 \quad (12)$$

$$\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{e}^{(m)} + \alpha^{(m)} \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle = 0 \quad (13)$$

$$\alpha^{(m)} = - \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{e}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle} \quad (14)$$

- This is not really helpful since we do not know  $\mathbf{e}^{(m)}$  !

# Conjugate Search Direction

One solution is, instead of orthogonal direction, we will use *A-orthogonal* or *conjugate* vectors.

Definition: Two vectors  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  are *A-orthogonal* or *conjugate* if and only if:

$$\mathbf{a}^T A \mathbf{b} = \langle \mathbf{a}, A \mathbf{b} \rangle = 0 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{a} \perp_A \mathbf{b}$$

Let  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \perp_A \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)}$  and  $\mathbf{r}^{(m)} = A \mathbf{e}^{(m)}$ , then

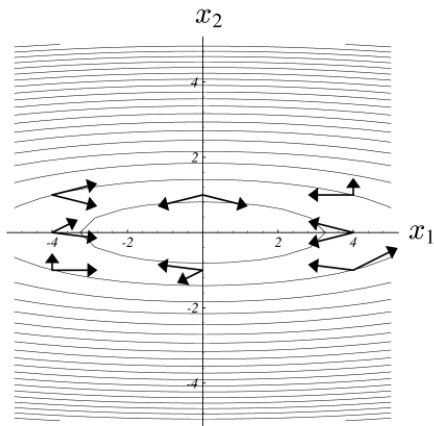
$$\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)} \rangle = 0 \quad (15)$$

$$\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A \mathbf{e}^{(m)} + \alpha^{(m)} A \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle = 0 \quad (16)$$

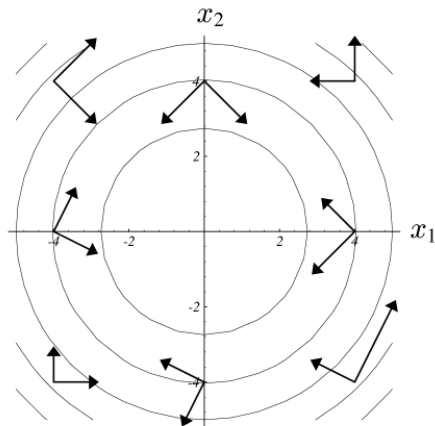
$$\alpha^{(m)} = - \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A \mathbf{e}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle} \quad (17)$$

$$= \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle} \quad (18)$$

# Conjugate Search Direction

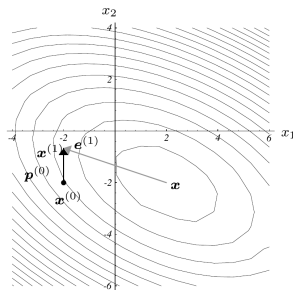


A-Conjugate vectors

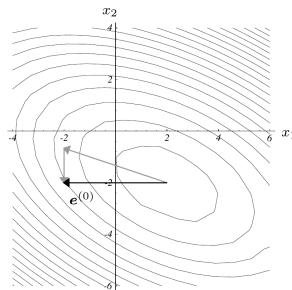


rectified vectors

# Elimination of A-orthogonal components



(a)



(b)

(a)  $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$  is computed such that  $\mathbf{e}^{(1)}$  is A-orthogonal to  $\mathbf{p}^{(0)}$ .

(b)  $\mathbf{e}^{(m)}$  can be expressed as a sum of A-orthogonal components (gray arrows). Each iteration eliminates such a component.

# Conjugate Directions

Condition: We would like to minimize  $f'(x^{(m)} + \alpha p^{(m)}) \stackrel{!}{=} \min$  (see (16))

The algorithm must satisfy the following iteration:

Start:  $\mathbf{r}^{(0)} = \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$

**For all**  $m = 1, \dots, n$ :

Select search vector  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$  which is conjugate  
to all previously computed  $\mathbf{p}^{(l)}, l < m$

$$\alpha^{(m)} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha^{(m)} \mathbf{p}^{(m)}$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m)} - \alpha^{(m)} A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$$

Question: How to find  $n$  A-orthogonal search vectors?



# Conjugate Gradient Method

*Basic idea:* Use the residual to construct the next conjugate search direction, where

$$\mathbf{p}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} + \underbrace{\beta^{(m+1)}}_{\text{search for}} \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \quad (19)$$

and  $\underbrace{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m+1)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}_{A\text{-orthogonal}} = 0$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle \mathbf{p}^{(m+1)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle \\ &= \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} + \beta^{(m+1)} \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}_{(19) \text{ used}} \\ &= \langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle + \beta^{(m+1)} \langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle \\ \beta^{(m+1)} &= - \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, A\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

# Conjugate Gradient Method

- the *initial-search vector* is  $\mathbf{r}^{(0)}$  (as in steepest descent)
- similar to the steepest descent we can eliminate the additional matrix-vector product (exercise):

$$\beta^{(m+1)} = -\frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m)} \rangle}$$

- The method how to construct the  $n$  conjugate vectors is the *Gram-Schmidt process*.
- The iterative construction of the search space is of the form

$$U_m := \text{span}\{\mathbf{p}^{(0)}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p}^{(0)}, \mathbf{A}^2\mathbf{p}^{(0)}, \dots, \mathbf{A}^m\mathbf{p}^{(0)}\}$$

This space is called *Krylov-Subspace*.

# Conjugate Gradient Method

Start:  $\mathbf{r}^{(0)} := \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$  with  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$  arbitrary  
 $\mathbf{p}^{(0)} := \mathbf{r}^{(0)}$

**for all**  $m = 0, \dots, n - 1$  :

$$\alpha^{(m)} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}{\langle A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}, \mathbf{p}^{(m)} \rangle}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \alpha^{(m)} \mathbf{p}^{(m)}$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m)} - \alpha^{(m)} A\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$$

$$\beta^{(m+1)} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{r}^{(m)}, \mathbf{r}^{(m)} \rangle}$$

$$\mathbf{p}^{(m+1)} = \mathbf{r}^{(m+1)} + \beta^{(m+1)} \mathbf{p}^{(m)}$$

Hestenes & Stiefel 1952.

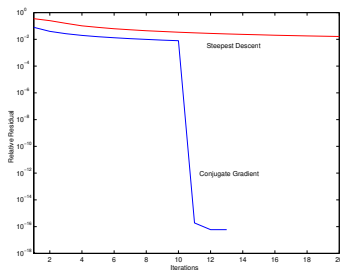
Elements of the algorithm:

- $\mathbf{x}^{(m)}$  : Exact solution.
- $\mathbf{r}^{(m)}$  : Residual of the exact solution.
- $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$  : Search direction.
- $\alpha^{(m)}$  : Optimal step length (factor) in the search direction  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$  for next iterate  $\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}$ .
- $\beta^{(m+1)}$ : Factor for  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$  to compute from  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$  and  $\mathbf{r}^{(m+1)}$  a new search direction  $\mathbf{p}^{(m+1)}$  which is A-orthogonal to  $\mathbf{p}^{(m)}$ .

- The exact solution will be computed after  $n$  iterations
- As a result CG is actually a direct method
- In praxis we usually need much less iterations since we only need to compute an approximate solution.

# Test example

Convergence of steepest descent and conjugate gradients  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ , where  $\mathbf{A} = \text{tridiag}(-1, 2, -1) \in \mathbb{R}^{20 \times 20}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is a random vector.



After  $n$  iterations, where  $n = \dim(\mathbf{A})$  the CG-methods converges against the exact solution.

# Other popular Krylov Subspace Methods

Book: «[Templates for the Solution of Linear System](#)»

[http://www.netlib.org/linalg/html\\_templates/Templates.html](http://www.netlib.org/linalg/html_templates/Templates.html)

Some popular iterative Krylov Subspace methods:

Name		Condition
MinRES	Minimal Residual	$A = A^T$ , $A$ indef.
CG	Conjugate Gradient	$A = A^T$ , $A$ s.p.d
QMR	Quasi-Minimal Residual	unsymmetric
BICGSTAB	Biconjugate Gradient Stabilized	unsymmetric
CGS	Conjugate Gradient Square	unsymmetric
GMRES	Generalized Minimal Residual	unsymmetric

# « Preconditioning »



*Problem:* The rate of convergence of CG heavily depends on the condition number  $\kappa(A)$ . More precisely we have

$$\|x^{(m)} - x^*\|_A \leq 2 \left( \frac{\sqrt{\kappa(A)} - 1}{\sqrt{\kappa(A)} + 1} \right)^m \|x_0 - x^*\|_A.$$

where

$$\kappa(A) = \|A\|_2 \|A^{-1}\|_2 = \frac{\lambda_{\max}(A)}{\lambda_{\min}(A)}.$$

Thus, if  $\kappa(A) \gg 1$ , slow convergence.

**Basic idea:** Improve the conditioning number of  $A$  through a multiplication with a "preconditioner"  $M$ :  $\kappa(M^{-1}A) \ll \kappa(A)$

- Solve equivalent problem:  $M^{-1}Ax = M^{-1}b$
- $M$  should be easy to invert
- In order to use the CG method, the resulting matrix  $M^{-1}A$  must be symmetric positive definite
- We can split  $M$  in the following form  $EE^T = M$ , so that we can transform the problem  $Ax = b$  into

$$E^{-1}AE^{-T}\hat{x} = E^{-1}b, \quad \hat{x} = E^T x \quad (20)$$

where the matrix  $E^{-1}AE^{-T}$  is *spd*.

Here are a few method

- *Diagonal preconditioning*. Choose:  $M = \text{diag}(\textcolor{red}{A})$
- *Incomplete LU-Decomposition*. Choose:  $M = LU = \textcolor{red}{A} - R$ .
  - Important that the Fill-In and the time for the factorization will be small.

→ In Project 4 you will see CG and different preconditioners in practice!

- Jonathan R. Shewchuk, *An Introduction to the Conjugate Gradient method without the Agonizing Pain*, 1994. <http://www-2.cs.cmu.edu/~jrs/jrspapers.html#cg>
- Book: «[Templates for the Solution of Linear System](http://www.netlib.org/linalg/html_templates/Templates.html)» [http://www.netlib.org/linalg/html\\_templates/Templates.html](http://www.netlib.org/linalg/html_templates/Templates.html)
- James W. Demmel, *Applied Numerical Linear Algebra*, Siam 1997

## QUESTIONS?

*Basic idea*: Solve the equation for every component  $x_j$  using the current approximation of  $\mathbf{x}$ :

- For each individual elements of  $\mathbf{x}$  we will use the following iterations method:

$$x_j^{(m+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{jj}} \left( b_j - \sum_{k \neq j} a_{jk} x_k^{(m)} \right) \quad (21)$$

- We will only use elements from the previous iteration.
- Note that the order in which the equations are examined is irrelevant, since the Jacobi method treats them independently.

Jacobi Iteration Method: Example for  $j = 1$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} x_1^{(m)} \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1^{(m+1)} = \frac{1}{1.5}(2 - 0.5 * 3) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix formulation: Split  $A$  in:

$$A = D + E$$

where  $D$  are all diagonal elements of  $A$  and  $E$  are the off-diagonal elements of  $A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A\mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{b} \\ D\mathbf{x} &= -E\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{x} &= \underbrace{-D^{-1}E}_{R_J}\mathbf{x} + \underbrace{D^{-1}\mathbf{b}}_{\mathbf{c}_J} \\ \mathbf{x} &= R_J\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}_J, \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

Renaming results in:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} = R_J\mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \mathbf{c}_J. \tag{23}$$

# Convergence of the Jacobi iteration

The fundamental convergence results can be proven by using an eigenvalue analyses of  $R$ .

We need to remember the following two definitions:

- The *Spectral Radius* of matrix  $A$  is:

$$\rho(A) = \max\{|\lambda| : \lambda \text{ eigenvalue of } A\}. \quad (24)$$

- The *Spectral condition number* is given by:

$$\kappa = \lambda_{\max} / \lambda_{\min}. \quad (25)$$



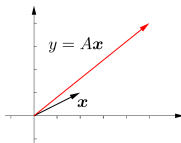
# Excursus: Eigenvectors and eigenvalues

- Let  $A$  a symmetric, real  $n \times n$  matrix. The vector  $\mathbf{x}$  *is called an eigenvector to the scalar eigenvalue*  $\lambda$ , if the following equation is satisfied:

$$A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \quad (26)$$

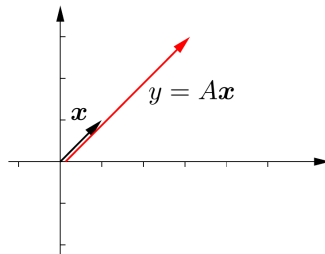
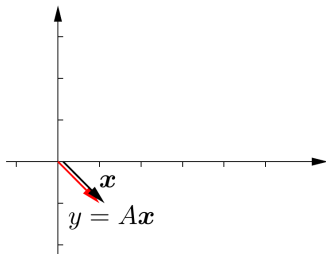
- Geometric interpretation of the matrix-vector multiplication: The multiplication of a matrix  $A$  with a vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is a linear operator, which consists of a scaling and a rotation of a vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , e.g.:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Eigenvalue analysis

- The eigenvector  $x$  to the associated eigenvalue will be scaled with  $\lambda$  under the transformation  $Ax = \lambda x$ .
- The matrix  $A$  has the following eigenvalues and eigenvectors:  $x_1 = (1 \ 1)^T$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 3$  and  $x_2 = (1 \ -1)^T$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 1$ .



# Eigenvalue analysis

**Theorem:** A symmetric, real matrix of dimension  $n \times n$  has  $n$  eigenvalues  $\lambda_k$  with associated eigenvectors  $\mathbf{x}_k$  ( $k=1, \dots, n$ ). The eigenvectors  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  build a complete system of  $n$  orthonormal vectors, e.g.

$$\langle x_i, x_j \rangle = 1 \quad \text{if } i = j, \quad \text{and} \quad \langle x_i, x_j \rangle = 0 \quad \text{if } i \neq j \quad (27)$$

- A simple—but practically irrelevant—alternative to compute the eigenvalues of matrix  $A$  is the *characteristic polynomial*:

$$p(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda E). \quad (28)$$

Example:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2 - \lambda)^2 - 1 = 0 \quad \implies \quad \lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 3$$

# Convergence of the Jacobi-Iteration

**Theorem:** The iteration  $\mathbf{x}^{(m)} = R_J \mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} + \mathbf{c}_J$  converges for all starting vectors  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$  against a solution  $\mathbf{x}^*$  if and only if  $\rho(R_J) < 1$ .

**Explanation:** Every vector from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be written as a linear combination of eigenvectors from  $R$  (if  $R$  is not singular). If one eigenvalue is larger than 1, then the Jacobi-Iteration will not converge.

General criteria for good convergence :

- $\kappa \approx 1$  , small  $\rho$
- $A$  “close” to the identity matrix  $I$
- All these methods will convergence in one iteration of  $A = \beta I$

Here we can see how the iteration will affect the error term  $\mathbf{e}^{(m)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{x}^{(m+1)} &= R_J \mathbf{x}^{(m)} + \mathbf{c}_J \\
 &= R_J (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}^{(m)}) + \mathbf{c}_J \\
 &= \underbrace{R_J \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}_J}_{\text{siehe (23)}} + R_J \mathbf{e}^{(m)} \\
 &= \mathbf{x} + R_J \mathbf{e}^{(m)} \\
 \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)} &= R_J \mathbf{e}^{(m)}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{29}$$

$$\left| (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{(m+1)}) = \mathbf{e}^{(m+1)} \right|$$

- If  $\rho(R) < 1$ , then the error will converges 0 (with  $m \rightarrow \infty$ )

# Gauss-Seidel Iteration

- A better, but still very easy method, is the *Gauss-Seidel-Iteration*.
- In principle, the idea is very similar to the Jacobi method, but it uses immediately new components of  $x_j^{(m+1)}$

$$x_j^{(m+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{jj}} \left( b_j - \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^{j-1} a_{jk} x_k^{(m+1)}}_{\text{new } x_j} - \underbrace{\sum_{k=j+1}^n a_{jk} x_k^{(m)}}_{\text{old } x_j} \right) \quad (30)$$