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This is a note of paper “A Newton-Type Method for Positive-Semidefinite Linear Complementarity Problems”, which provides a newton method of solving LCP problem which we meet in Ben. Moll (2017). The file “LCP.m” utilizes a slightly modified newton method, which could accelerate the algorithm, while the main idea is not changed.

LCP problem:

$$Mx + q = y, y^T x = 0, y, x \geq 0. M \text{ is a } n \times n \text{ matrix, } x, y \text{ is } n \times 1 \text{ vector}$$

Notation:  $|\cdot|$ , norm;

Define a mapping:

$$T(w) := [(Mx + q - y)_{n \times 1}, \phi(w_1), \phi(w_2), \dots, \phi(w_n)]^T$$

Where:  $w_i := (x_i, y_i)$  and the function:  $\phi(a, b) := \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - a - b$ . We have to note that  $\phi$  equals to zero if and only if  $ab = 0, a, b \geq 0$ .

**General idea:**  $w = (w_1; w_2; \dots)$  is the solution if and only if  $|T(w)| = 0$ .

As some elements will be zero and  $\nabla T(x, y)$  may be singular/non-exist. Therefore, we introduce  $G(w)$ :

$$G(w) = \begin{bmatrix} M & \text{diag}(-1) \\ \text{diag}(\mu(w_i)) & \text{diag}(\nu(w_i)) \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\mu(w_i) = -1 + \frac{x_i}{\sqrt{x_i^2 + y_i^2}}, \nu(w_i) = -1 + \frac{y_i}{\sqrt{x_i^2 + y_i^2}}$

Algorithm:

Step 0. Choose  $w^0$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ . Set  $k = 0$ .

Step 1. If  $|T(w)| = 0$ , stop.

Step 2. Determine  $\widehat{w}^k$  as solution of:

$$G(\overline{w}^k)(w - \overline{w}^k) + T(\overline{w}^k) = 0$$

Step 3. Update  $w$ .

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**Algorithm A.**

Step 0. Choose  $w^0 \in R^{2n}$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ . Set  $k := 0$ .

Step 1. If  $\|T(\bar{w}^k)\| = 0$ , then stop.

Step 2. Determine  $\hat{w}^k \in R^{2n}$  as solution of

$$G(\bar{w}^k)(w - \bar{w}^k) + T(\bar{w}^k) = 0.$$

Step 3. Find the largest number  $t_k \in \{(1/2)^j | j \in N\}$  such that

$$\|T(\bar{w}^k + t_k(\hat{w}^k - \bar{w}^k))\| \leq (1 - \lambda t_k) \|T(\bar{w}^k)\|.$$

Step 4. Set  $w^{k+1} := \bar{w}^k + t_k(\hat{w}^k - \bar{w}^k)$  and  $k := k + 1$ . Go to Step 1.

```

function x = LCP(M,q,l,u,x0,display)
%LCP Solve the Linear Complementarity Problem.
%
% USAGE
%   x = LCP(M,q) solves the LCP
%
%            $x \geq 0$ 
%        $Mx + q \geq 0$ 
%    $x'(Mx + q) = 0$ 
%
%   x = LCP(M,q,l,u) solves the generalized LCP (a.k.a MCP)
%
%    $l < x < u \Rightarrow Mx + q = 0$ 
%        $x = u \Rightarrow Mx + q < 0$ 
%    $l = x \Rightarrow Mx + q > 0$ 
%
%   x = LCP(M,q,l,u,x0,display) allows the optional initial value 'x0' and
%   a binary flag 'display' which controls the display of iteration data.
%
% Parameters:
%   tol      - Termination criterion. Exit when  $0.5 \cdot \phi(x)' \cdot \phi(x) < \text{tol}$ .
%   mu       - Initial value of Levenberg-Marquardt mu coefficient.
%   mu_step  - Coefficient by which mu is multiplied / divided.
%   mu_min   - Value below which mu is set to zero (pure Gauss-Newton).
%   max_iter - Maximum number of (successful) Levenberg-Marquardt steps.
%   b_tol    - Tolerance of degenerate complementarity: Dimensions where
%                $\max(\min(\text{abs}(x-l), \text{abs}(u-x)), \text{abs}(\phi(x))) < b\_tol$ 
%               are clamped to the nearest constraint and removed from
%               the linear system.
%
% ALGORITHM
%   This function implements the semismooth algorithm as described in [1],
%   with a least-squares minimization of the Fischer-Burmeister function using
%   a Levenberg-Marquardt trust-region scheme with mu-control as in [2].
%
%   [1] A. Fischer, A Newton-Type Method for Positive-Semidefinite Linear
%   Complementarity Problems, Journal of Optimization Theory and
%   Applications: Vol. 86, No. 3, pp. 585-608, 1995.
%
%   [2] M. S. Bazaraa, H. D. Sherali, and C. M. Shetty, Nonlinear
%   Programming: Theory and Algorithms. John Wiley and Sons, 1993.
%
% Copyright (c) 2008, Yuval Tassa
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```

```

tol          = 1.0e-12;
mu           = 1e-3;
mu_step      = 5;
mu_min       = 1e-5;
max_iter     = 20;
b_tol        = 1e-6;

n            = size(M,1);

```

```

if nargin < 3 || isempty(l)
    l = zeros(n,1);
    if nargin < 4 || isempty(u)
        u = inf(n,1);
        if nargin < 5 || isempty(x0)
            x0 = min(max(ones(n,1),l),u);
            if nargin < 6
                display = false;
            end
        end
    end
end
end

```

Initialize the output

```

lu           = [l u];
x            = x0;

```

```

[psi,phi,J]  = FB(x,q,M,l,u);
new_x        = true;
warning off MATLAB:nearlySingularMatrix
for iter = 1:max_iter

```

```

    if new_x
        [mlu,ilu] = min([abs(x-l),abs(u-x)],[],2);
        bad       = max(abs(phi),mlu) < b_tol;
        psi       = psi - 0.5*phi(bad)'*phi(bad);
        J         = J(~bad,~bad);
        phi       = phi(~bad);
        new_x     = false;
        nx        = x;
        nx(bad)   = lu(find(bad)+(ilu(bad)-1)*n);
    end

```

Clear the singular part and consider the optimization problem in a subspace

```

H            = J'*J + mu*speye(sum(~bad));
Jphi        = J'*phi;

d            = -H\Jphi;

```

Intuitively, we should follow [1]'s newton method, so we need to find out the Jacobian. [2] develops a new method with drift  $\mu$ , so  $H$  is kind of new Jacobian.

Newton Method

Newton Update

```
nx(~bad)      = x(~bad) + d;
[npsi,nphi,nJ] = FB(nx,q,M,l,u);
r              = (psi - npsi) / -(Jphi'*d + 0.5*d'*H*d); % actual reduction
/ expected reduction
if r < 0.3      % small reduction, increase mu
    mu = max(mu*mu_step,mu_min);
end
if r > 0        % some reduction, accept nx
    x      = nx;
    psi    = npsi;
    phi    = nphi;
    J      = nJ;
    new_x  = true;
    if r > 0.8   % large reduction, decrease mu
        mu = mu/mu_step * (mu > mu_min);
    end
end
if display
    disp(sprintf('iter    =    %2d,    psi    =    %3.0e,    r    =    %3.1f,    mu
= %3.0e',iter,psi,r,mu));
end
if psi < tol
    break;
end
end
warning on MATLAB:nearlySingularMatrix
x = min(max(x,l),u);
```

In addition, I guess it is common to use adjustable mu to accelerate the algorithm and this criteria can be found in some convex optimization book.

---

```
function [psi,phi,J] = FB(x,q,M,l,u)
n      = length(x);
Zl     = l > -inf & u == inf;
Zu     = l == -inf & u < inf;
Zlu    = l > -inf & u < inf;
Zf     = l == -inf & u == inf;

a      = x;
b      = M*x+q;

a(Zl)  = x(Zl)-l(Zl);

a(Zu)  = u(Zu)-x(Zu);
b(Zu)  = -b(Zu);
```

Four possible boundaries

More details from  
note.

```
if any(Zlu)
    nt    = sum(Zlu);
    at    = u(Zlu)-x(Zlu);
    bt    = -b(Zlu);
    st    = sqrt(at.^2 + bt.^2);
    a(Zlu) = x(Zlu)-l(Zlu);
    b(Zlu) = st -at -bt;
end
```

```
s        = sqrt(a.^2 + b.^2);
phi      = s - a - b;
phi(Zu)  = -phi(Zu);
phi(Zf)  = -b(Zf);

psi      = 0.5*phi'*phi;
```

G-Matrix depends  
on J

```
if nargout == 3
    if any(Zlu)
        M(Zlu,:) = -sparse(1:nt,find(Zlu),at./st-ones(nt,1),nt,n)
        sparse(1:nt,1:nt,bt./st-ones(nt,1))*M(Zlu,:);
    end
    da    = a./s-ones(n,1);
    db    = b./s-ones(n,1);
    da(Zf) = 0;
    db(Zf) = -1;
    J      = sparse(1:n,1:n,da) + sparse(1:n,1:n,db)*M;
end
```