

LINMA2460 Nonlinear Programming

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Definitions and Notations

The Taylor expansion of order p of the function f around x_k and evaluated at y is:

$$T_p(y; x_k) = f(x_k) + \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{i!} D^i f(x_k) (y - x_k)^i$$
 (1.1)

• We can thus define the gradient w.r.t. y of the Taylor expansion of order p of f around x_k and evaluated at x_{k+1} :

$$\nabla_{y} T_{p}(x_{k+1}; x_{k}) = \left. \nabla_{y} T_{p}(y; x_{k}) \right|_{y = x_{k+1}}$$
(1.2)

• An oracle is a "black box" that gives information about the derivatives based on *x*. The general form of an oracle is:

p-order oracle:
$$x \mapsto \{D^i f(x)\}_{i=0}^p$$
 (1.3)

And so we have the following simple oracles examples:

Zeroth-order oracle:
$$x \mapsto \{f(x)\}$$

First-order oracle: $x \mapsto \{f(x), \nabla f(x)\}$ (1.4)
Second-order oracle: $x \mapsto \{f(x), \nabla f(x), \nabla^2 f(x)\}$

- $C_L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$: Class of functions p-times continuously differentiable with L-Lipschitz continuous p-order derivative, i.e. $\|D^p f(x) D^p f(y)\| \le L\|x y\|$, $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$. And so we have the following simple classes of problems:
 - $C_L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$: Class of continuously differentiable functions with L-Lipschitz gradient;
 - $C_L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$: Class of continuously differentiable functions with L-Lipschitz hessian.

TODO

We can generalise the property of a L-Lipschitz function to $f \in \mathcal{C}^p_L(\mathbb{R}^n)$. For p = 1, we had

$$f(y) \le f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), y - x_k \rangle + \frac{L}{2} ||y - x_k||^2 \qquad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
 (2.1)

For a general value of *p*, it becomes

$$f(y) \le T_p(y; x_k) + \frac{L}{(p+1)!} ||y - x_k||^{p+1} \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
 (2.2)

Using this, we need a *p*-th order oracle for the method to work.

To solve $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$, we can use the iteration

$$x_{k+1} = \arg\min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} T_p(y; x_k) + \frac{M}{(p+1)!} ||y - x_k||^{p+1}$$
 (2.3)

where the constant M is an approximation of the Lipschitz constant L. Assuming $f \in \mathcal{C}_L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have

$$f(x_{k+1}) \leq T_{p}(x_{k+1}; x_{k}) + \frac{L}{(p+1)!} \|x_{k+1} - x_{k}\|^{p+1}$$

$$= \underbrace{T_{p}(x_{k+1}; x_{k}) + \frac{M}{(p+1)!} \|x_{k+1} - x_{k}\|^{p+1}}_{\leq f(x_{k})} + \underbrace{\frac{(L-M)}{(p+1)!} \|x_{k+1} - x_{k}\|^{p+1}}_{\leq f(x_{k})}$$
(2.4)

where the inequality $\leq f(x_k)$ is due to the decrease of f and equation (2.3). Suppose that M > 2L. After some algebraic manipulations, we get

$$f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1}) \ge \frac{L}{(p+1)!} ||x_{k+1} - x_k||^{p+1}$$
(2.5)

On the other hand, using the triangular inequality,

$$\|\nabla f(x_{k+1})\| \leq \|\nabla f(x_{k+1}) - \nabla_y T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k)\|$$

$$+ \underbrace{\left\|\nabla_y T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k) + \nabla\left(\frac{M}{(p+1)!} \| \cdot - x_k \|^{p+1}\right)\right\|_{y=x_{k+1}}}_{=0}$$

$$+ \left\|\nabla\left(\frac{M}{(p+1)!} \| \cdot - x_k \|^{p+1}\right)\right\|_{y=x_{k+1}}$$

$$\leq \underbrace{\frac{L}{p!}} \|x_{k+1} - x_k \|^p + \underbrace{\frac{M}{p!}} \|x_{k+1} - x_k \|^p$$
(2.6)

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$$\Longrightarrow \|x_{k+1} - x_k\| \ge \left(\frac{p!}{L+M}\right)^{1/p} \|\nabla f(x_{k+1})\|^{1/p} \tag{2.7}$$

Combining equations (2.5) and (2.7),

$$f(x_{k}) - f(x_{k+1}) \ge \underbrace{\frac{L}{(p+1)!} \left(\frac{p!}{L+M}\right)^{\frac{p+1}{p}}}_{=:C(L)} \|\nabla f(x_{k+1})\|^{\frac{p+1}{p}}$$
(2.8)

Let $T(\varepsilon) = \inf\{k \in \mathbb{N} : \|\nabla f(x_k)\| \le \varepsilon\}$. Assume that $T(\varepsilon) \ge 2$ and $f(x) \ge f_{low}$ $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Summing up (2.8) for $k = 0, \ldots, T(\varepsilon) - 2$,

$$f(x_{0}) - f_{low} \ge f(x_{0}) - f(x_{T(\varepsilon)-1}) = \sum_{k=0}^{T(\varepsilon)-2} f(x_{k}) - f(x_{k+1})$$

$$\ge (T(\varepsilon) - 1)C(L)\varepsilon^{\frac{p+1}{p}}$$

$$\Longrightarrow T(\varepsilon) \le 1 + \frac{f(x_{0}) - f_{low}}{C(L)}\varepsilon^{-\frac{p+1}{p}} \equiv \mathcal{O}\left(\varepsilon^{-\frac{p+1}{p}}\right)$$
(2.9)