LINMA2460 Nonlinear Programming

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Contents

Definitions, notations and random properties

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

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

- 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}:

$$\nabla_y T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k) = \nabla_y T_p(y; x_k)\big|_{y=x_{k+1}} \tag{1.2}$$

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

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

And so we have the following simple oracles examples:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Zero}^{th}\text{-order oracle:} &\quad x \mapsto \{f(x)\} \\ \text{First-order oracle:} &\quad x \mapsto \{f(x), \nabla f(x)\} \\ \text{Second-order oracle:} &\quad x \mapsto \{f(x), \nabla f(x), \nabla^2 f(x)\} \end{aligned} \tag{1.4}$$

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

  - $\mathcal{C}_L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$: Class of continuously differentiable functions with L-Lipschitz gradient;

  - $\mathcal{C}_L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$: Class of continuously differentiable functions with L-Lipschitz hessian.

- p order method (generalization of GM):

$$x_{k+1} = \arg\min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Omega_{x_k, y, p}(y) \equiv T_{x_k, p}(y) + \frac{M}{(p+1)!} \|y - x_k\|^{p+1} \tag{1.5}$$

1.1 Properties

- For a function $f \in \mathcal{C}^1(\Omega)$ and Ω is bounded, the following holds: $\|\nabla f(x)\| \leq L$ for all $x \in \Omega$ for some $L \geq 0$.

- By the mean value theorem, for a continuously differentiable function f, $\forall x, y \in \Omega$, $\exists z \in \Omega : f(y) - f(x) = \langle \nabla f(z), y - x \rangle$.

- For a matrix A and a scalar b, $\|A\| \leq b \implies |\lambda(A)| \leq b \implies |A| \preceq b I_n$, where the absolute value of the matrix is taken component wise.

1.2 Complexity table

Method	Lipschitz	∇f	$\nabla^2 f$	$\ldots$	$\nabla^p f$
Zero order		$O(n\varepsilon^{-2})$			
First order	$p = 1$	$O(\varepsilon^{-2})$			
Second order	$p = 2$	X	$O(\varepsilon^{-3/2})$		
$\vdots$		X	X	$\ddots$	
p order		X	X	X	$O(\varepsilon^{-\frac{p+1}{p}})$

TODO

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

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

For a general value of p, it becomes

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

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

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

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

$$
\begin{aligned}
f(x_{k+1}) &\leq T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k) + \frac{L}{(p+1)!} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^{p+1} \\
&= \underbrace{T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k) + \frac{M}{(p+1)!} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^{p+1}}_{\leq f(x_k)} + \frac{(L-M)}{(p+1)!} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^{p+1} \qquad (2.4)
\end{aligned}
$$

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

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

On the other hand, using the triangular inequality,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|\nabla f(x_{k+1})\| &\leq \|\nabla f(x_{k+1}) - \nabla_y T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k)\| \\
&\quad + \underbrace{\left\| \nabla_y T_p(x_{k+1}; x_k) + \nabla \left(\frac{M}{(p+1)!} \|\cdot - x_k\|^{p+1} \right) \Big|_{y=x_{k+1}} \right\|}_{=0} \\
&\quad + \left\| \nabla \left(\frac{M}{(p+1)!} \|\cdot - x_k\|^{p+1} \right) \Big|_{y=x_{k+1}} \right\| \\
&\leq \frac{L}{p!} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^p + \frac{M}{p!} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^p
\end{aligned}
\qquad (2.6)
$$

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

Combining equations (2.5) and (2.7),

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

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

$$f(x_0) - f_{low} \geq f(x_0) - f(x_{T(\varepsilon)-1}) = \sum_{k=0}^{T(\varepsilon)-2} f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})$$

$$\geq (T(\varepsilon) - 1)C(L)\varepsilon^{\frac{p+1}{p}} \tag{2.9}$$

$$\implies T(\varepsilon) \leq 1 + \frac{f(x_0) - f_{low}}{C(L)}\varepsilon^{-\frac{p+1}{p}} \equiv \mathcal{O}\left(\varepsilon^{-\frac{p+1}{p}}\right)$$

Gradient descent without gradient

For this problem consider an adversarial attack on block-based image classifier. We have a machine learning model that given an image $a \in \mathbb{R}^p$ it returns $c(a) \in \mathbb{R}^m$, where $c_j(a) \in [0,1]$ is the probability of image a to be in class j. The classifier prediction is: $j(a) = \arg\max_{j \in [1,\ldots,m]} c_j(a)$.
TODO

Given x_k let us decide:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{1}{\sigma} g_{h_k}(x_k) \qquad h_k > 0,\ \sigma > 0 \tag{3.1}$$

where $g_{h_k}(x_k) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is given by:

$$[g_{h_k}(x_k)]_j = \frac{f(x_k + he_j) - f(x_k)}{h_k} \qquad \forall j \in [1,\ldots,m] \tag{3.2}$$

Suppose that $f \in \mathcal{C}^1_L(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Then,

$$\|\nabla f(x_k) - g_{h_k}(x_k)\| \leq \frac{L\sqrt{n}}{2} h_k \tag{3.3}$$

Thus

$$
\begin{aligned}
f(x_{k+1}) \leq f(x_k) \quad & + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle + \frac{L}{2}\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \\
= f(x_k) \quad & + \langle g_{h_k}(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle + \frac{\sigma}{2}\|x_{k+1} - x_k\| \\
& + \langle \nabla f(x_k) - g_{h_k}(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle + \frac{(L-\sigma)}{2}\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \\
\leq f(x_k) \quad & - \frac{1}{\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 \\
& + \|\nabla f(x_k) - g_{h_k}(x_k)\|\frac{1}{\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\| + \frac{(L-\sigma)}{2\sigma^2}\|g_{h_k}\|^2 \\
\leq f(x_k) \quad & - \frac{1}{2\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{L\sqrt{n}}{2}h_k\frac{1}{\sigma}\|g_{h_k}\| + \frac{(L-\sigma)}{2\sigma^2}\|g_{h_k}\|^2 \\
\leq f(x_k) \quad & - \frac{1}{2\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{L}{2}\left(\frac{nh_k^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2\right) + \frac{(L-\sigma)}{2\sigma^2}\|g_{h_k}\|^2 \\
= f(x_k) \quad & - \left(\frac{2\sigma - L - 2(L-\sigma)}{4\sigma^2}\right)\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{Ln}{4}h_k^2 \\
= f(x_k) \quad & - \frac{(4\sigma - 3L)}{4\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{Ln}{4}h_k^2
\end{aligned}
\tag{3.4}
$$

$$\implies \frac{(4\sigma - 3L)}{4\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 \leq f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1}) + \frac{Ln}{4}h_k^2 \tag{3.5}$$

If $\sigma \gg L$, then

$$\frac{1}{4\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 \leq f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1}) + \frac{\sigma n}{4}h_k^2 \tag{3.6}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\|\nabla f(x_k)\| &\leq \|\nabla f(x_k) - g_{h_k}(x_k)\| + \|g_{h_k}(x_k)\| \\ &\leq \frac{L\sqrt{n}}{2}h_k + \|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|\end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

Using Trick n°3

$$\begin{aligned}\implies \|\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 &\leq 2\left(\frac{L\sqrt{n}}{2}h_k\right)^2 + 2\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{L^2 n}{2}h_k^2 + 2\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2\end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

$$\implies \frac{1}{8\sigma}\|\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \leq \frac{L^2 n}{16\sigma}h_k^2 + \frac{1}{4\sigma}\|g_{h_k}(x_k)\|^2 \tag{3.9}$$

$$\implies \frac{1}{8\sigma}\|\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \leq f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1}) + \frac{\sigma n}{4}h_k^2 + \frac{\sigma n}{16}h_k^2 \tag{3.10}$$

Let $T(\varepsilon) = \inf\{k \in \mathbb{N} : \|\nabla f(x_k)\| \leq \varepsilon\}$, with $f(x)$ bounded below by f_{low}, summing up (3.10) for $k = 0, \ldots, T(\varepsilon) - 1$:

$$\frac{T(\varepsilon)}{8\sigma}\varepsilon^2 \leq f(x_0) - f_{low} + \frac{5\sigma n}{4}\sum_{k=0}^{T(\varepsilon)-1} h_k^2 \tag{3.11}$$

If $\{h_k^2\}$ is summable

$$\implies T(\varepsilon) \leq 8\sigma(f(x_0) - f_{low} + \frac{5\sigma n}{4}\sum_{k=0}^{T(\varepsilon)-1} h_k^2)\varepsilon^2 = O(\varepsilon^2) \tag{3.12}$$

In terms of call to the oracle, we have a complexity bound of $O(n\varepsilon^2)$

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Local rates of convergence

4.1 Linear rate of GM

Let $f \in C_M^{2,2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Assume f has a local minimizer x^* such that

$$\mu I_n \preceq \nabla^2 f(x^*) \preceq M I_n \tag{4.1}$$

Let $x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{1}{L}\nabla f(x_k)$ for a given $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$
Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla f(x_k) &= \nabla f(x_k) - \nabla f(x^*) \\
&= \int_0^1 \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*))(x_k - x^*)d\tau \\
&= \int_0^1 \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*))d\tau(x_k - x^*) \\
&= G_k(x_k - x^*)
\end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|x_{k+1} - x^*\| &= \|x_k - \frac{1}{L}\nabla f(x_k) - x^*\| \\
&= \|(I_n - \frac{1}{L}G_k)(x_k - x^*)\| \\
&\leq \|I_n - \frac{1}{L}G_k\|\|x_k - x^*\|
\end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

Since $f \in C_M^{2,2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have $\|\nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) - \nabla^2 f(x^*)\| \leq \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|$ and using this we get:

$$|\langle \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) - \nabla^2 f(x^*)v, v\rangle| \leq \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|\|v\|^2 \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^n \tag{4.4}$$

Using the bound (4.1) and the previous inequality, we get:

$$\tau M\|x_k - x^*\|\|v\|^2 \leq |\langle \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) - \nabla^2 f(x^*)v, v\rangle| \leq \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|\|v\|^2 \tag{4.5}$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x^*) - \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|I_n \preceq \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) \preceq \nabla^2 f(x^*) + \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|I_n \tag{4.6}$$

$$(\mu - \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|)I_n \preceq \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) \preceq (L + \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|)I_n \tag{4.7}$$

By the properties of the semi-definite matrices, and the trick (5.2), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^1 (\mu - \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|)\|v\|^2 d\tau &\leq \int_0^1 \langle \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*))v, v\rangle d\tau \\
&\leq \int_0^1 (L + \tau M\|x_k - x^*\|)\|v\|^2 d\tau \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^n
\end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

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By using G_k and some constants, we get:

$$-\frac{1}{L}(L + \frac{M}{2}\|x_k - x^*\|)I_n \preceq -\frac{1}{L}G_k \preceq -\frac{1}{L}(\mu - \frac{M}{2}\|x_k - x^*\|)I_n \qquad (4.9)$$

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{L}(L + \frac{M}{2}\|x_k - x^*\|)\right)I_n \preceq I_n - \frac{1}{L}G_k \preceq \left(1 - \frac{1}{L}(\mu - \frac{M}{2}\|x_k - x^*\|)\right)I_n \quad (4.10)$$

And finally, we get:

$$\|I_n - \frac{1}{L}G_k\| \leq \max\{|1 - \frac{1}{L}(L + \frac{M}{2}\|x_k - x^*\|)|, |1 - \frac{1}{L}(\mu - \frac{M}{2}\|x_k - x^*\|)|\}$$
$$= \max\{\frac{M}{2L}\|x_k - x^*\|, 1 - \frac{\mu}{L} + \frac{M}{2L}\|x_k - x^*\|\} \qquad (4.11)$$
$$= 1 - \frac{\mu}{L} + \frac{M}{2L}\|x_k - x^*\|$$

Suppose that $\frac{M}{2L}\|x_k - x^*\| \leq \frac{\mu}{2L} \iff \|x_k - x^*\| \leq \frac{\mu}{M}$
Then, in (4.11), we get:

$$\|I_n - \frac{1}{L}G_k\| \leq 1 - \frac{\mu}{2L} < 1 \qquad (4.12)$$

And so, by (4.2)

$$\|x_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq \|I_n - \frac{1}{L}G_k\|\|x_k - x^*\| < \|x_k - x^*\| \qquad (4.13)$$

If $\|x_0 - x^*\| < \frac{\mu}{M}$, it follows from the previous reasoning that:

$$\|x_2 - x^*\| \leq (1 - \frac{\mu}{2L})\|x_1 - x^*\| \leq (1 - \frac{\mu}{2L})^2\|x_0 - x^*\| \leq \frac{\mu}{M} \qquad (4.14)$$

And so by induction, we can conclude that:

$$\|x_k - x^*\| \leq (1 - \frac{\mu}{2L})^k\|x_0 - x^*\| \quad \forall k \geq 0 \qquad (4.15)$$

$\boxed{\Rightarrow \text{Linear rate of convergence}}$
Given $\varepsilon > 0$, let $T(\varepsilon) = \inf\{k \in \mathbb{N} : \|x_k - x^*\| \leq \varepsilon\}$
Then, if $T(\varepsilon) \geq 1$ and using (4.15), we get:

$$\varepsilon < \|x_{T(\varepsilon)-1} - x^*\| \leq (1 - \frac{\mu}{2L})^{T(\varepsilon)-1}\|x_0 - x^*\|$$
$$\log\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\|x_0 - x^*\|}\right) \leq (T(\varepsilon) - 1)\log\left(1 - \frac{\mu}{2L}\right) \qquad (4.16)$$
$$T(\varepsilon) - 1 \leq \frac{\log\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\|x_0 - x^*\|}\right)}{\log\left(1 - \frac{\mu}{2L}\right)} = \frac{\log\left(\|x_0 - x^*\|\varepsilon^{-1}\right)}{|\log\left(1 - \frac{\mu}{2L}\right)|}$$

$\boxed{T(\varepsilon) \leq \mathcal{O}(\log(\varepsilon^{-1}))}$
$\implies$ Convexity was never assumed

4.2 Local quadratic convergence of Newton's method

Let $f \in \mathcal{C}_M^{2,2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Assume f has a local minimizer x^* such that

$$\mu I_n \preceq \nabla^2 f(x^*) \quad \mu > 0 \tag{4.17}$$

Given $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, let:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \nabla^{-2} f(x_k) \nabla f(x_k) \tag{4.18}$$

We have by the previous equation and the definition of G_k (4.2):

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|x_{k+1} - x^*\| &= \|x_k - \nabla^{-2} f(x_k) \nabla f(x_k) - x^*\| \\
&= \|(x_k - x^*) - \nabla^{-2} f(x_k) G_k (x_k - x^*)\| \\
&= \left\| \nabla^{-2} f(x_k) \left(\nabla^2 f(x_k) - \int_0^1 \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) d\tau \right) (x_k - x^*) \right\| \\
&= \left\| \nabla^{-2} f(x_k) \left(\int_0^1 \nabla^2 f(x_k) - \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) d\tau \right) (x_k - x^*) \right\| \\
&\leq \|\nabla^{-2} f(x_k)\| \left(\int_0^1 \|\nabla^2 f(x_k) - \nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*))\| d\tau \right) \|x_k - x^*\| \\
&\leq \|\nabla^{-2} f(x_k)\| \left(\int_0^1 M(1 - \tau)\|x_k - x^*\| d\tau \right) \|x_k - x^*\| \\
&\leq \|\nabla^{-2} f(x_k)\| \|x_k - x^*\|^2 \frac{M}{2}
\end{aligned}
\tag{4.19}
$$

Since $f \in \mathcal{C}_M^{2,2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have

$$\nabla^2 f(x^* + \tau(x_k - x^*)) - \nabla^2 f(x^*) \succeq \tau M \|x_k - x^*\| I_n \tag{4.20}$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\nabla^2 f(x_k) &\succeq \nabla^2 f(x^*) - M \|x_k - x^*\| I_n \\
&\succeq (\mu - M \|x_k - x^*\|) I_n \\
\lambda_{\min}(\nabla^2 f(x_k)) &\geq \mu - M \|x_k - x^*\|
\end{aligned}
\tag{4.21}
$$

Suppose that $-M \|x_k - x^*\| \geq -\frac{\mu}{2} \Leftrightarrow \|x_k - x^*\| \leq \frac{\mu}{2M}$
Then,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\lambda_{\min}(\nabla^2 f(x_k)) &\geq \frac{\mu}{2} \\
\lambda_{\max}(\nabla^{-2} f(x_k)) &\leq \frac{2}{\mu} \\
\Rightarrow \|\nabla^{-2} f(x_k)\| &\leq \frac{2}{\mu}
\end{aligned}
\tag{4.22}
$$

Therefore, by (4.19), we conclude that:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|x_{k+1} - x^*\| &\leq \frac{M}{2} \|\nabla^{-2} f(x_k)\| \|x_k - x^*\| \\
&\leq \frac{M}{\mu} \|x_k - x^*\|^2
\end{aligned}
\tag{4.23}
$$

Tips and Tricks

- Approximation of the max:

$$\max\{z, 0\} = \frac{z + |z|}{2} = \frac{z + \sqrt{z^2}}{2} \approx \frac{z + \sqrt{z^2 + \delta}}{2} \tag{5.1}$$

- $ab \leq \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2}$

- $(a + b)^2 \leq 2a^2 + 2b^2$

- V-trick:

$$\langle xv, v \rangle \leq \|x\| \|v\|^2 \tag{5.2}$$