

CH2.3 AUGMENTED LAGRANGIANS

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- Augmented method adds robustness to the dual ascent method.
- Yields convergence without assuming strict convexity or finiteness of objective function f

LAGRANGIAN: $L(x, y) = f(x) + y^T (Ax - b)$

AUGMENTED LAGRANGIAN: $L_p(x, y) = f(x) + y^T (Ax - b) + \left(\frac{p}{2}\right) \|Ax - b\|_2^2$

$p > 0$: "penalty parameter"

If $p=0$, then Augmented is equal to original Lagrangian.

Augmented Problem: $\text{minimize: } f(x) + \left(\frac{p}{2}\right) \|Ax - b\|_2^2$
 subject to: $Ax = b$

Augmented Dual: $g_p(y) = \inf_x L_p(x, y)$

Augmented Algorithm: $\begin{cases} x^{k+1} := \arg\min_x L_p(x, y^k) \rightarrow \text{x-minimization step} \\ y^{k+1} := y^k + p(Ax^{k+1} - b) \rightarrow \text{multiplier update step} \end{cases}$
 "Method of Multipliers"
 for solving (2.1)

(2.1) $\begin{cases} \text{minimize } f(x) \\ \text{subject to } Ax = b \end{cases}$

This is the same as the standard Dual ascent, except that the x-minimization step uses the Augmented Lagrangian, and uses the penalty parameter p instead of step size α^k .

The Method of Multipliers (MoM) converges under more general conditions than dual ascent, even in cases when f takes on $+\infty$ or is not strictly convex.

MoM does not even require f to be differentiable.

Choice of penalty parameter p :

Assume f differentiable.

$Ax^* - b = 0, \nabla f(x^*) + A^T y^* = 0$, (primal and dual feasibility)
 x^{k+1} minimizes $L_p(x, y^k)$

$\hookrightarrow 0 = \nabla_x L_p(x^{k+1}, y^k)$ $\xrightarrow{\text{k-th iteration of } y, \text{ transposed}}$

$0 = \nabla_x \left(f(x^{k+1}) + y^{kT} (Ax^{k+1} - b) + \left(\frac{p}{2}\right) \|Ax^{k+1} - b\|_2^2 \right)$ $\xrightarrow{\text{k+1 iteration, NOT power!}}$

$0 = \nabla_x f(x^{k+1}) + y^{kT} \nabla_x Ax^{k+1} + \nabla_x \frac{p}{2} (Ax^{k+1} - b)^T (Ax^{k+1} - b)$
 $= \frac{p}{2} \nabla_x (x^T A^T A x - x^T A^T b - b^T A x + b^T b)$
 $= \frac{p}{2} \nabla_x (x^T A^T A x - 2x^T A^T b + b^T b)$
 $= \frac{p}{2} (2A^T A x - 2A^T b)$

$0 = \nabla_x f(x^{k+1}) + A^T y^k + p(A^T A x - 2A^T b)$

$0 = \nabla_x f(x^{k+1}) + A^T y^k + pA^T (Ax - 2b)$

$$0 = \nabla_x f(x^{k+1}) + A^T \underbrace{(y^k + \rho(Ax - 2b))}_{= y^{k+1}}$$

$$0 = \nabla_x f(x^{k+1}) + A^T y^{k+1}$$