

Activity 18

Setup

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
In [2]: def prxgraddescent_l1(X,y,tau,lam,w_init,it):

    ## compute it iterations of L2 proximal gradient descent starting at w
    ## w_{k+1}= (w_k - tau*X'*(X*w_k - y))/(1+lam*tau)
    ## step size tau
    W = np.zeros((w_init.shape[0], it+1))
    Z = np.zeros((w_init.shape[0], it+1))
    W[:,0] = w_init
    for k in range(it):
        Z[:,k+1] = W[:,k] - tau * X.T @ (X @ W[:,k] - y);
        W[:,k+1] = np.sign(Z[:,k+1])* np.clip(np.abs(Z[:,k+1]))-1

    return W,Z
```

```
In [3]: ## Proximal gradient descent trajectories
## Least Squares Problem
X = np.array([[2, 1]])
y = np.array([[4]])

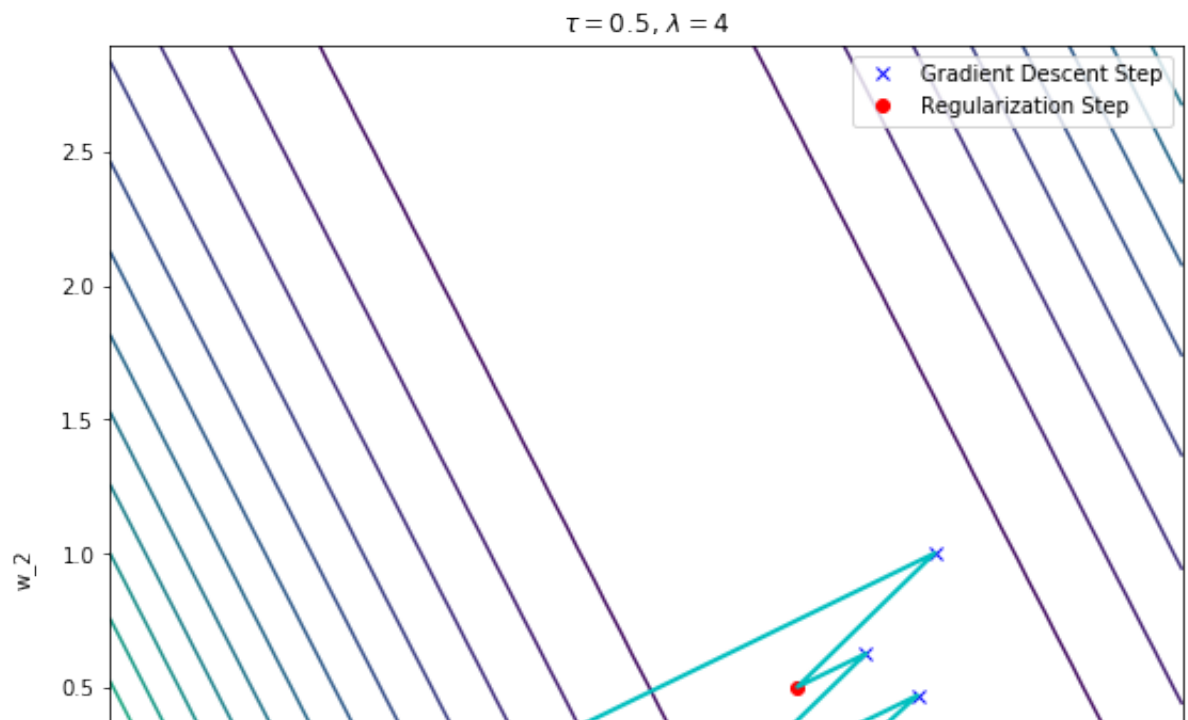
### Find values of f(w), the contour plot surface for
w1 = np.arange(-1,3,.1)
w2 = np.arange(-1,3,.1)
fw = np.zeros((len(w1), len(w2)))
for i in range(len(w2)):
    for j in range(len(w1)):
        w = np.array([ w1[j], w2[i] ])
        fw[i,j] = (X @ w - y)**2
```

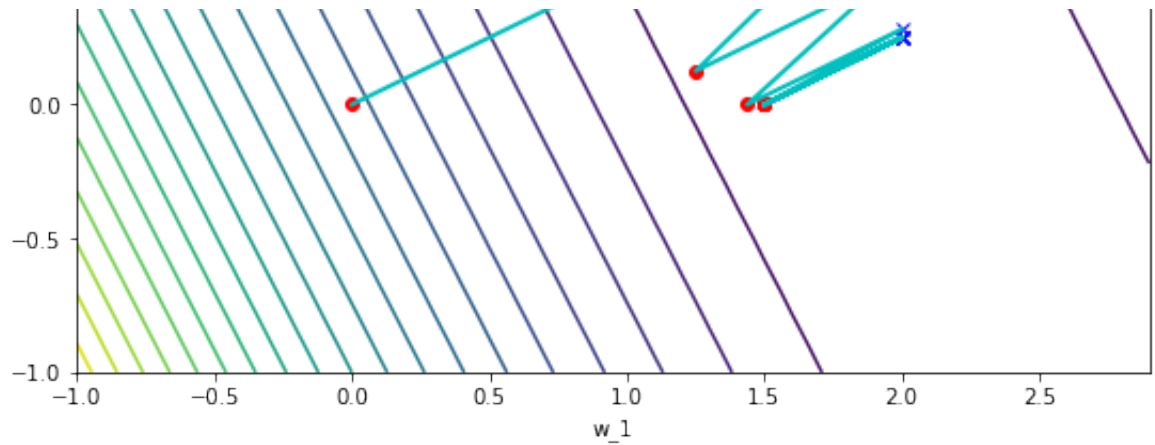
Question 3a)

```
In [4]: ## Find and display weights generated by gradient descent

w_init = np.array([[0],[0]])
lam = 4;
it = 10
tau = 0.25
W,Z = prxgraddescent_l1(X,y,tau,lam,w_init,it)
# Concatenate gradient and regularization steps to display trajectory
G = np.zeros((2,0))
for i in range(it):
    G = np.hstack((G,np.hstack((W[:,[i]],Z[:,[i+1]]))))

plt.figure(figsize=(9,9))
plt.contour(w1,w2,fw,20)
plt.plot(Z[0,1:],Z[1,1:], 'bx',linewidth=2, label="Gradient Descent Step")
plt.plot(W[0,:],W[1,:], 'ro',linewidth=2, label="Regularization Step")
plt.plot(G[0,:],G[1,:], '-c',linewidth=2)
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel('w_1')
plt.ylabel('w_2')
plt.title('$\\tau = $'+str(.5)+'', $\\lambda = $'+str(lam));
```



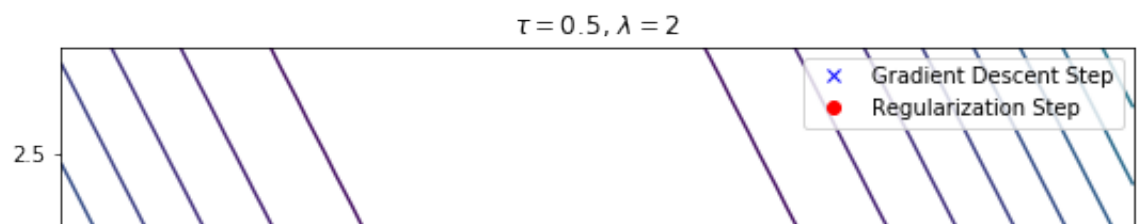


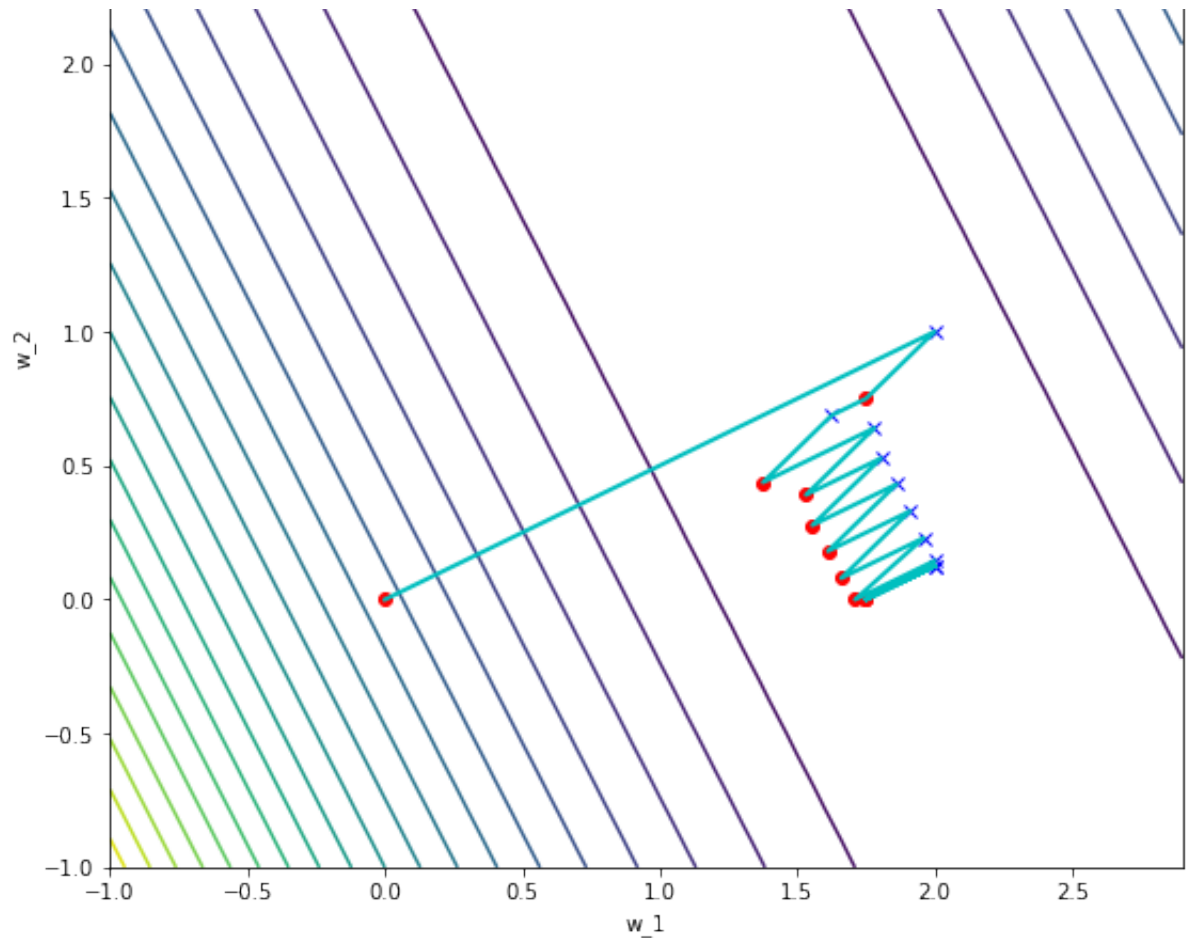
It takes 5 iterations. The converged value for w is $w^T = [2, 0]$

Question 3b)

```
In [5]: w_init = np.array([[0],[0]])
lam = 2;
it = 10
tau = 0.25
W,Z = prxgraddescent_l1(X,y,tau,lam,w_init,it)
# Concatenate gradient and regularization steps to display trajectory
G = np.zeros((2,0))
for i in range(it):
    G = np.hstack((G,np.hstack((W[:,[i]],Z[:,[i+1]]))))

plt.figure(figsize=(9,9))
plt.contour(w1,w2,fw,20)
plt.plot(Z[0,1:],Z[1,1:], 'bx',linewidth=2, label="Gradient Descent Step")
plt.plot(W[0,:],W[1,:], 'ro',linewidth=2, label="Regularization Step")
plt.plot(G[0,:],G[1,:], '-c',linewidth=2)
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel('w_1')
plt.ylabel('w_2')
plt.title('$\tau = 0.5, \lambda = 2$');
```





9 iterations were needed for convergence. $wT = [2, 0]$

Question 3c)

When λ decreases, the regularization strength decreases, thus gradient descent dominates and more iterations are needed to drift the solution towards the w_1 axis.

Question 4a)

$$t_{\max} = 2 / \|A\|_{\text{op}}^2 = 2 / \lambda_{\max} = 2 / \sqrt{5}$$

Question 4b)

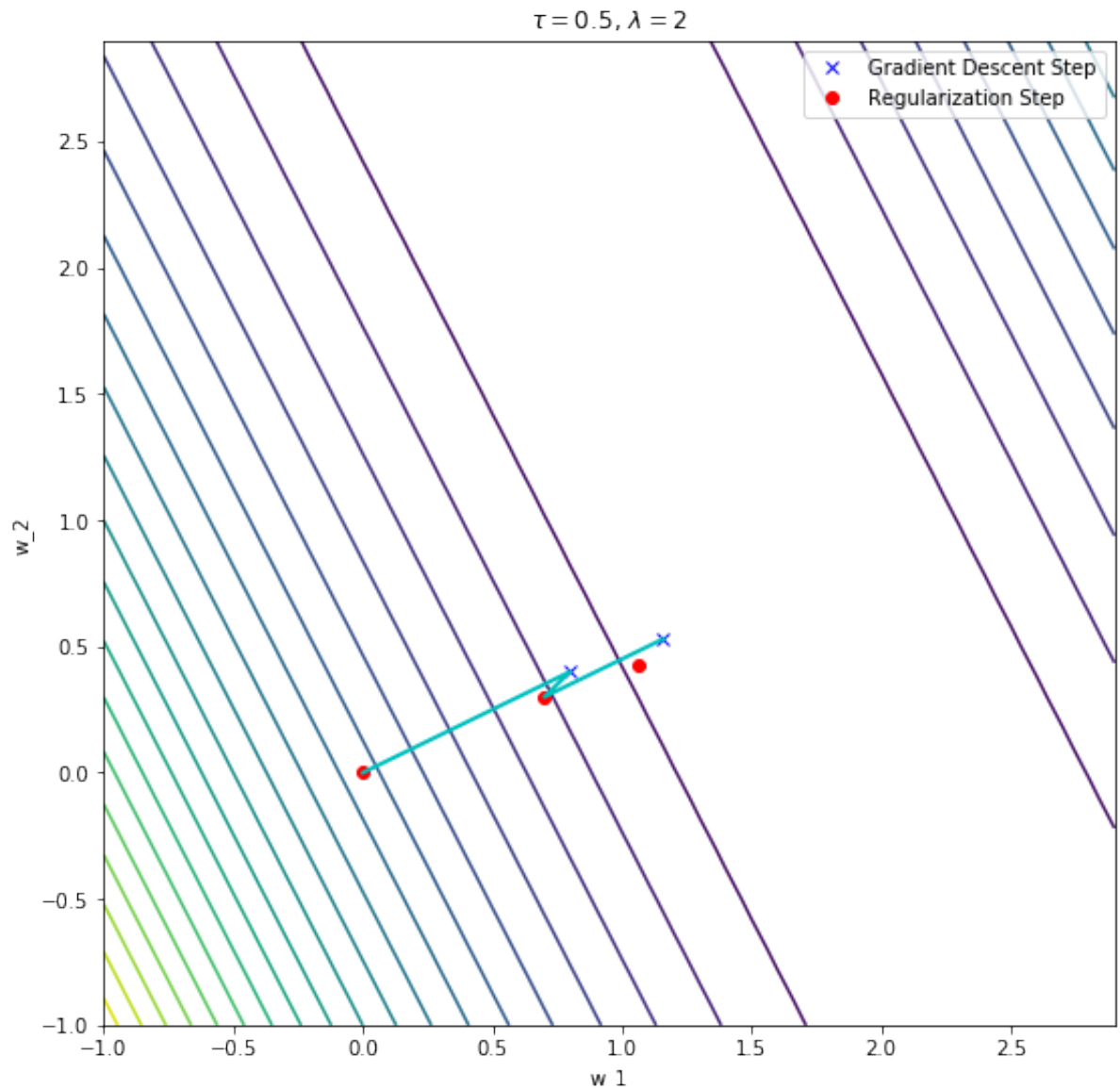
```
In [9]: w_init = np.array([[0],[0]])
        lam = 2;
```

```

it = 2
tau = 0.1
W,Z = prxgraddescent_l1(X,y,tau,lam,w_init,it)
# Concatenate gradient and regularization steps to display trajectory
G = np.zeros((2,0))
for i in range(it):
    G = np.hstack((G,np.hstack((W[:,[i]],Z[:,[i+1]]))))

plt.figure(figsize=(9,9))
plt.contour(w1,w2,fw,20)
plt.plot(Z[0,1:],Z[1,1:], 'bx',linewidth=2, label="Gradient Descent Step")
plt.plot(W[0,1:],W[1,1:], 'ro',linewidth=2, label="Regularization Step")
plt.plot(G[0,1:],G[1,1:], '-c',linewidth=2)
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel('w_1')
plt.ylabel('w_2')
plt.title('$\tau = 0.5 +', '$\lambda = 2');

```



w_0 -> initial red dot at (0,0)

z_1 -> blue cross connected to w_0

w_1 -> the other red dot connected to z_1

z_2 -> the second blue cross

w_2 -> the remaining red dot

In []: