

# HW2

1a. Derive the steps of the ADMM algorithm in Alg 1.

Step 1:  $x^{(k+1)} \leftarrow (A^T A + \rho I)^{-1} (A^T y + \rho(z^{(k)} - u^{(k)}))$

Note that  $x^{(k+1)} = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, v) = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - y\|_2^2 + \alpha \|z\|_1 + \frac{\rho}{2} \|x - z + u\|_2^2 \right\}$   
 $= \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - y\|_2^2 + \frac{\rho}{2} \|x - z + u\|_2^2 \right\}$

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $u = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\rho \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ .

The partial derivative of  $\mathcal{L}_\rho(x, v)$  w.r.t. the  $c$ th coordinate  $x_c$  of  $x$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_c} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_c} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - y\|_2^2 + \frac{\rho}{2} \|x - z + u\|_2^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_c} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ (Ax)^T (Ax) - 2y^T Ax + y^T y + \rho(x - z + u)^T (x - z + u) \right] \right\} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_c} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^m \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ji} x_i \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{j=1}^m y_j \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ji} x_i + y^T y + \rho \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - z_i + u_i)^2 \right] \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} 2 \sum_{j=1}^m \left( a_{jc} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ji} x_i - y_j \right) \right) + \rho (x_c - z_c + u_c). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$\nabla \mathcal{L} = A^T A x - A^T y + \rho(x - z + u)$  is the gradient of  $\mathcal{L}_\rho(x, v)$ .

Set  $\nabla \mathcal{L}$  equal to zero and solve for  $x$ :

$$0 = A^T A x - A^T y + \rho(x - z + u)$$

$$A^T y + \rho(z - u) = (A^T A + \rho I) x$$

$$x = (A^T A + \rho I)^{-1} (A^T y + \rho(z - u)).$$

Note:  $A^T A + \rho I$  invertible for any matrix  $A$

Step 2:  $z^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_\rho(x^{(k+1)}, u^{(k)})$

Note that  $z^{(k+1)} = \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_\rho(x^{(k+1)}, u^{(k)}) = \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \alpha \|z\|_1 + \frac{\rho}{2} \|x^{(k+1)} - z + u^{(k)}\|_2^2 \right\}$   
 $= \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i| + \frac{\rho}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^{(k+1)} - z_i + u_i^{(k)})^2 \right\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z_c} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z_c} \left\{ \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i| + \frac{\rho}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^{(k+1)} - z_i + u_i^{(k)})^2 \right\} \\ &= \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial z_c} |z_c| - \rho (x_c^{(k+1)} - z_c + u_c^{(k)}) \end{aligned}$$

NOTE: subdifferential of  $|z_c| \in \begin{cases} \{-1\}, & z_c < 0, \\ [-1, 1], & z_c = 0, \\ \{1\}, & z_c > 0. \end{cases}$

Find  $z_c^{(k+1)}$  by setting  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z_c}$  equal to zero; consider all possible values of  $z_c$ .

Case:  $z_c < 0$ :  $0 = -\alpha - \rho(x_c^{(k+1)} - z_c + u_c^{(k)})$

$$z_c^{(k+1)} = x_c^{(k+1)} + u_c^{(k)} + \frac{\alpha}{\rho}$$

Case  $z_c > 0$ :  $0 = \alpha - \rho \left( x_c^{(k+1)} - z_c^{(k+1)} + u_c^{(k)} \right)$

$$z_c^{(k+1)} = x_c^{(k+1)} + u_c^{(k)} - \frac{\alpha}{\rho}$$

Case  $z_c = 0$   $0 = \alpha [-1, 1] - \rho \left( x_c^{(k+1)} - z_c^{(k+1)} + u_c^{(k)} \right)$

$$z_c^{(k+1)} \in x_c^{(k+1)} + u_c^{(k)} - \frac{\alpha}{\rho} [-1, 1]$$

Combine the derived coordinatewise optimality conditions to obtain  $z^{(k+1)}$ :

$$z^{(k+1)} = \begin{cases} x^{(k+1)} + u^{(k)} + \frac{\alpha}{\rho}, & x^{(k+1)} + u^{(k)} < -\frac{\alpha}{\rho}, \\ x^{(k+1)} + u^{(k)} - \frac{\alpha}{\rho}, & x^{(k+1)} + u^{(k)} > \frac{\alpha}{\rho}, \\ 0, & -\frac{\alpha}{\rho} \leq x^{(k+1)} + u^{(k)} \leq \frac{\alpha}{\rho}. \end{cases}$$

Equivalently,  $z^{(k+1)} = S_{\frac{\alpha}{\rho}} \left( x^{(k+1)} + u^{(k)} \right)$ .

STEP 3:  $u^{(k+1)} \leftarrow u^{(k)} + x^{(k+1)} - z^{(k+1)}$

Given  $u^{(k)}$  and steps 1 and 2, we obtain  $u^{(k+1)}$ .