

Optimization algorithms with approximation

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Notation	2
3	Gradient method	3
4	Accelerated gradient method	7

1 Introduction

We consider a Hilbert space $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ with induced norm $\|\cdot\|$ and the minimization of a smooth strictly convex function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$:

$$\inf_{x \in X} f(x) = \inf \{f(x) \mid x \in X\}.$$

We suppose that a unique minimizer x^* exists. As a motivation we consider the solution of a scalar elliptic semi-linear PDE, where X is a Sobolev space and f corresponds to the underlying energy functional of the PDE.

Our purpose is to analyse gradient algorithms on a sequence of subspaces (finite element spaces for the PDE)

$$X_0 \subset \cdots \subset X_k \subset X_{k+1} \subset \cdots \subset X, \quad P_k : X \rightarrow X_k,$$

such that a typical iteration reads:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - t_k P_k \nabla f(x_k), \quad (1)$$

where P_k is the orthogonal projector on X_k and $\nabla f(x) \in X$ is defined by the Riesz map. In order to generate the subspaces X_k , we suppose to have an error estimators $\eta_k : X_k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and a refinement algorithm satisfying typical hypothesis from the theory of AFEM. In the case $f \in S_{\mu, L}^{1,1}(X)$, X finite-dimensional, and $t_k = 2/(\mu + L)$ for all k we have the following convergence estimate (Theorem 2.1.15 in [1]) for the gradient method (**GM**):

$$\|x_n - x^*\| \leq \rho^n \|x_0 - x^*\|, \quad \rho = 1 - 1/\kappa, \quad (2)$$

such that $\varepsilon > 0$ is achieved in $n(\varepsilon) = O(\kappa) \ln(1/\varepsilon)$ iterations. It is well-known that **GM** is not optimal for this class of functions. The accelerated gradient method (**AGM**) [1] yields an improved estimate $n(\varepsilon) = O(\sqrt{\kappa}) \ln(1/\varepsilon)$.

Our aim is to establish a similar iteration count for the method on a sequence of subspaces. There is important progress of adaptive finite element methods (AFEM) for nonlinear elliptic equations, see [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9], and our development is based on these works. However, here, we wish to work out the optimization point of view.

2 Notation

We throughout suppose that $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex and C^1 and we use the the Fréchet-Riesz theorem to define

$$\langle \nabla f(y), x \rangle = f'(y)(x) \quad \forall x, y \in X.$$

It is then easy to see, that $P_Y \nabla f(y) = \nabla f|_Y$ for all y in a closed subspace $Y \subset X$ and $P_Y : X \rightarrow Y$ its orthogonal projector.

Let $X_0 \subset X$ be a subspace. We suppose to have a lattice of admissible closed subspaces

$$\mathcal{X}(X_0) = \{X_0 \subset Y \subset X\}. \quad (3)$$

The partial order on $\mathcal{X}(X_0)$ is given by $Y \geq Z$ if and only if Y is a superspace of Z . We then have the finest common coarsening $Y \wedge Z$ and the coarsest common refinement $Y \vee Z$, respectively. We let

$$\mathcal{X}(Y) = \{Z \in \mathcal{X}(X_0) \mid Y \wedge Z = Y\}, \quad Y \in \mathcal{X}(x_0).$$

We make the following assumptions There exist constants $C_{\text{stab}}, C_{\text{eff}}, C_{\text{rel}}$ and $0 \leq q_{\text{red}} < 1$ such that for all $Y \in \mathcal{X}(x_0)$:

$$C_{\text{eff}}^{-1} \eta(y, Y) \leq \|(I - P_Y) \nabla f(y)\| \leq C_{\text{rel}} \eta(y, Y) \quad \forall y \in Y, x \in X \quad (\text{H1})$$

$$\eta^2(y^+, Y^+) \leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(y, Y) + C_{\text{stab}}^2 \|y^+ - y\|^2 \quad \forall y \in Y, y \in Y^+ = \mathbf{REF}(Y, \eta(y, Y)), \quad (\text{H2})$$

$$|\eta(y, Y) - \eta(z, Y)| \leq C_{\text{stab}} \|y - z\| \quad \forall y, z \in Y \quad (\text{E3})$$

For the complexity estimate, we introduce notion from nonlinear approximation. Let for $Y \in \mathcal{X}(X_0)$ and $N \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\varepsilon(Y) := \inf_{y \in Y} (f(y) - f^*), \quad \varepsilon(N) := \inf \{\varepsilon(Y) \mid Y \in \mathcal{X}(X_0), \dim Y \leq N\}.$$

For $s > 0$, we suppose that

$$\alpha_f(s) := \sup \{\varepsilon(N) N^s \mid N \in \mathbb{N}\} < +\infty. \quad (4)$$

Newt we suppose that $(X_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{X}(X_0)$ and $x_k \in X_k$ are sequences such that with $\rho < 1$ we have quasi-geometrical convergence, for all $m, k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$e_{k+m} \leq C \rho^m e_k, \quad e_k := (f(x_k) - f^*) + \eta_k^2(x_k, X_k). \quad (5)$$

We wish to avoid the technical details of AFEM, and instead make the following hypothesis.

We formulate the following property: there exist $\gamma > 0$ and $C > 0$ such that for all refinement steps k and any $X_k^+ \in \mathcal{X}(X_k)$ there holds

$$\min_{x^+ \in X_k^+} f(x^+) - f^* \leq \gamma e_k \Rightarrow \|(I - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k)\| \leq C \|(P_{X_k^+} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k)\|. \quad (6)$$

Then we make the hypothesis

$$(6) \ \& \ (4) \ \& \ (5) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{k=0}^n \dim X_k \leq C \varepsilon_n^{-1/s} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (\text{H3})$$

Remark 1. (6) mimics the argument in AFEM for optimality of the Dörfler marking [10] and [6]. At each step, the assumption on approximation speed implies to existence of a refinement leading to better error with controlled complexity. Then the implication of (6) shows that the overall estimator is dominated by the refined part only.

For $t > 0$ and $Z \in \mathcal{X}(X_0)$ let

$$\begin{cases} Q(x; y, t) := f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 & x, y \in X, \\ Q^*(y, t, Z) := \min_{x \in Z} Q(x; y, t) = f(y) - \frac{t}{2} \|P_Z \nabla f(y)\|^2, & y \in Z, \\ \tilde{x}(y, t, Z) := \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in Z} Q(x; y, t) = y - t P_Z \nabla f(y), & y \in Z. \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

3 Gradient method

Algorithm 1: Adaptive GM

Inputs: $X_0, x_0 \in X_0, t_0 > 0, \lambda > 0, 1 > \omega > 0$. Set $k = 0$.

- (1) While $Q^*(x_k, t_k, X_k) < f(\tilde{x}(x_k, t_k, X_k))$: $t_k = \omega * t_k$.
 - (2) $x_{k+1} = \tilde{x}(x_k, t_k, X_k)$.
 - (3) If $\eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_k) > q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \lambda t_k (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1}))$: $X_{k+1} = \mathbf{REF}(X_k, \eta(x_k, X_k))$
 - (4) $t_{k+1} = t_k / \omega$.
 - (5) Increment k and go to (1).
-

Lemma 1. If the level set $\mathcal{L}_f(x_0) := \{x \in X \mid f(x) \leq f(x_0)\}$ is bounded and ∇f is L -Lipschitz on this set, the line-search step (1) terminates and its number of iterations is uniformly bounded with step sizes $t_k \geq 1/(2L)$. If in addition f is μ -strictly convex we have $t_k \leq 1/\mu$.

Proof. The lower bound of the step-size follows from the following standard inequality for a function with L -Lipschitz gradient

$$f(x) \leq f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|x - y\|^2,$$

which implies for $t_k \leq 1/L$ with $\tilde{x} := \tilde{x}(x_k, t_k, X_k)$

$$f(\tilde{x}) \leq Q(x_k, \tilde{x}, \frac{1}{L}) = Q(x_k, \tilde{x}, t_k) + \frac{1}{2} (L - \frac{1}{t_k}) \|\tilde{x} - x_k\|^2 \leq Q^*(x_k, t_k, X_k).$$

The upper bound of the step-size follows from the definition of μ -convexity:

$$f(x) \geq f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x - y\|^2,$$

giving

$$f(\tilde{x}) \geq Q_{1/\mu}(x_k, \tilde{x}, X_k) = Q^*(x_k, t_k, X_k) + \frac{1}{2} (\mu - \frac{1}{t_k}) \|\tilde{x} - x_k\|^2.$$

The step-size-loop stops if $Q^*(x_k, t_k, X_k) \geq f(\tilde{x})$, which implies $t_k \leq 1/\mu$. □

Lemma 2. *The iterates of GM satisfy*

$$f(x_{k+1}) - f(x_k) \leq -\frac{1}{2t_k} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \quad (8)$$

and

$$f(x_{k+1}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{1}{2t_k} \left(\|x_k - x^*\|^2 - \|x_{k+1} - x^*\|^2 \right) + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(x_k, X_k). \quad (9)$$

Proof. We have by the line-search step (1)

$$f(x_{k+1}) \leq Q^*(x_k, t_k, X_k) = f(x_k) - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \quad (10)$$

which immediately gives (8), and by μ -convexity

$$f(x^*) \geq f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x^* - x_k \rangle + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^* - x_k\|^2,$$

such that with (H1)

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k) - f(x^*) &\leq \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^* - x_k\|^2 \\ &= \langle P_k \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle + \langle (I - P_k) \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^* - x_k\|^2 \\ &\leq \langle P_k \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|(I - P_k) \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \\ &\leq \langle P_k \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) \end{aligned}$$

Adding (10), it then follows with the binomial identity that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_{k+1}) - f(x^*) &\leq \langle P_k \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) \\ &= \frac{1}{2t_k} \left(2\langle t_k P_k \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x^* \rangle - \|t_k P_k \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \right) + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) \\ &= \frac{1}{2t_k} \left(\|x_k - x^*\|^2 - \|x_k - x^* - t_k P_k \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \right) + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) \\ &= \frac{1}{2t_k} \left(\|x_k - x^*\|^2 - \|x_{k+1} - x^*\|^2 \right) + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(x_k, X_k). \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 1. *We suppose that f is continuously differentiable, μ -strongly convex, the level set $\mathcal{L}_f(x_0)$ is bounded and ∇f is L -Lipschitz on $\mathcal{L}_f(x_0)$.*

Suppose that

$$\bar{t} \geq t_k \geq \underline{t} > 0 \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (11)$$

Let

$$e_k := f(x_k) - f(x^*) + C_1 \eta^2(x_k, X_k), \quad C_1 := \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu}. \quad (12)$$

Then we have for all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and arbitrary $\lambda > 0$

$$e_{m+n} \leq (C+1)\rho^n e_m, \quad C = \max \left\{ \frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \frac{2 \max \{\lambda, 2C_{\text{stab}}^2\} C_{\text{rel}}^2 \bar{t}}{\mu(1 - q_{\text{red}})}, \frac{1 + q_{\text{red}}}{1 - q_{\text{red}}} \right\}, \quad \rho = 1 - 1/(C+1). \quad (13)$$

Remark 2. Supposing that \underline{t} and \bar{t} are proportional to $1/L$, we find that C is proportional to $\kappa_f = L/\mu$ as in the standard gradient method.

Proof. We first claim that

$$\eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_{k+1}) \leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \tilde{\lambda} \bar{t} (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})), \quad \tilde{\lambda} := \max \{\lambda, 2C_{\text{stab}}^2\}. \quad (14)$$

If no refinement happens, this follows by rule (3) of the algorithm and the assumption (21). If a refinement step happens from k to $k+1$, we have by (H2) and (8)

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_{k+1}) &\leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + C_{\text{stab}}^2 \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \\ &\leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + 2C_{\text{stab}}^2 \underline{t}_k (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})). \end{aligned}$$

Now let

$$\Delta_k := f(x_k) - f(x^*), \quad \eta_k^2 = \eta^2(x_k, X_k), \quad \zeta_k := \|x_k - x^*\|^2.$$

From (9), (24) and the assumption on the step-length (21), we have for $\beta := \frac{2C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu(1-q_{\text{red}})}$

$$\Delta_{k+1} + \beta \eta_{k+1}^2 \leq \left(q_{\text{red}} + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu\beta} \right) \beta \eta_k^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_k - \zeta_{k+1}).$$

such that with $\widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} := q_{\text{red}} + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu\beta} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + q_{\text{red}}) < 1$

$$\Delta_{k+1} + \beta \eta_{k+1}^2 \leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_k^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_k - \zeta_{k+1})$$

Summing up yields

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{N+1} (\Delta_k + \beta \eta_k^2) \leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \sum_{k=n}^N \eta_k^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_n) - f(x_{N+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_n - \zeta_{N+1})$$

such that

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{N+1} \Delta_k + (1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}) \beta \sum_{k=n+1}^{N+1} \eta_k^2 \leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_n) - f(x_{N+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_n - \zeta_{N+1})$$

This proves $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} x_N \rightarrow x^*$ and then, with $\zeta_n = \|x_n - x^*\|^2 \leq \frac{2}{\mu} \Delta_n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \Delta_k + (1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}) \beta \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \eta_k^2 &\leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_n) - f(x^*)) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} \zeta_n \\ &\leq \left(\tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} + \frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} \right) \Delta_n + \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 \end{aligned}$$

With

$$C_1 = (1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}) \beta = \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} (\Delta_k + C_1 \eta_k^2) &\leq \left(\frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} \right) \Delta_n + \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 \\ &\leq \left(\frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \frac{\tilde{\lambda} C_1}{1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}} \bar{t} \right) \Delta_n + \frac{\widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}}{1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}} C_1 \eta_n^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \frac{2\tilde{\lambda} C_1}{1 - q_{\text{red}}} \bar{t} \right) \Delta_n + \frac{1 + q_{\text{red}}}{1 - q_{\text{red}}} C_1 \eta_n^2 \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 2. *If λ satisfies*

$$\lambda \geq 2C_{\text{stab}} + 8\kappa_f^2 \frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2} \quad (15)$$

we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \dim X_k \leq C\varepsilon_n^{-1/s} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Proof. By the Lipschitz-continuity we have

$$\|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\| = \|(I - P_{X_k})(\nabla f(x_k) - \nabla f(x^*))\| \leq L \|x^* - x_k\|,$$

such that

$$\|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \leq \frac{L^2}{\mu} (f(x_k) - f(x^*)).$$

Let $\tilde{X}_k \in \mathcal{X}(X_0)$ and $\tilde{x}_k := \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \tilde{X}_k} f(x)$. If $f(\tilde{x}_k) - f(x^*) \leq \gamma e_k$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k) - f(x^*) &= f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k) + f(\tilde{x}_k) - f(x^*) \\ &\leq f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k) + \gamma(f(x_k) - f(x^*) + C_1\eta^2(x_k, X_k)) \end{aligned}$$

and then for $\gamma < 1$

$$(1 - \gamma)f(x_k) - f(x^*) \leq (f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k)) + \gamma C_1\eta^2(x_k, X_k)$$

By strong convexity we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k) &\leq \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_k - \tilde{x}_k \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\|^2 \\ &= \langle P_{X_k} \nabla f(x_k), x_k - \tilde{x}_k \rangle + \langle (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k), x_k - \tilde{x}_k \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\underline{t}_k} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\| \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\| + \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\| \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\| - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\underline{t}^2 \mu} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

From the refinement criterion we have

$$\eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_k) > q_{\text{red}}\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \lambda \underline{t}_k (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})) \geq q_{\text{red}}\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \lambda \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2$$

With (E3) and (8) we have

$$\lambda \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \leq (1 - q_{\text{red}})\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + C_{\text{stab}}^2 \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2$$

such that with $\xi := \lambda - 2C_{\text{stab}}^2 > 0$

$$\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \leq \frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\xi} \eta^2(x_k, X_k).$$

Combining these inequalities we get with (H1)

$$\begin{aligned} \|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 &\leq \frac{L^2}{\mu} (f(x_k) - f(x^*)) \leq \frac{L^2}{\mu(1 - \gamma)} ((f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k)) + \gamma C_1\eta^2(x_k, X_k)) \\ &\leq \frac{L^2}{\mu(1 - \gamma)} \left(\left(\frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2 \mu \xi} + \gamma C_1 \right) \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \frac{1}{\mu} \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2 \right) \\ &\leq \frac{L^2}{\mu(1 - \gamma)} \left(\left(\frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2 \mu \xi} + \gamma C_1 \right) C_{\text{eff}}^2 \|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Then for

$$\gamma \leq \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\mu}{4L^2 C_1 C_{\text{eff}}^2} \right\}, \quad \xi \geq \frac{8L^2}{\mu} \frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2 \mu}$$

we finally have

$$\|(I - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \leq 4\kappa_f^2 \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2$$

□

4 Accelerated gradient method

Algorithm 2: Adaptive AGM

Inputs: $X_0, x_0 \in X_0, t_0 > 0, \lambda > 0, \beta > 0$. Set $y_0 = x_0$ and $k = 0$.

- (1) While $Q_{t_k}^*(y_k, X_k) < f(\tilde{x}(y_k, t_k, X_k))$: $t_k = t_k/2$.
- (2) $x_{k+1} = \tilde{x}(y_k, t_k, X_k)$.
- (3) $y_{k+1} = x_{k+1} + \beta(x_{k+1} - x_k)$.
- (4) If $\eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_k) > q_{\text{red}}\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \lambda t_k(f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1}))$: $X_k = \mathbf{REF}(X_k, \eta(x_k, X_k))$
- (5) $t_k = 2t_k$.
- (6) Increment k and go to (1).

Lemma 3. *The iterates of AGM satisfy*

$$f(x_{k+1}) \leq f(y_k) - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 \quad (16)$$

$$f(x_{k+1}) - f(x_k) \leq \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - x_k \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 - \frac{1}{2L} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k) - P_k \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \quad (17)$$

and

$$f(x_{k+1}) - f(x^*) \leq \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(y_k, X_k). \quad (18)$$

Proof. (16) follows from the line search:

$$f(x_{k+1}) \leq Q_{t_k}(y_k, x_{k+1}) = Q_{t_k}^*(y_k) = f(y_k) - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2.$$

Next we have by convexity and Lipschitz continuity

$$f(x_k) \geq f(y_k) + \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), x_k - y_k \rangle + \frac{1}{2L} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k) - P_k \nabla f(x_k)\|^2,$$

which, subtracted from (16) gives (17).

Similarly, we have

$$f(x^*) \geq f(y_k) + \langle \nabla f(y_k), x^* - y_k \rangle + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^* - y_k\|^2,$$

which gives with (16)

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x_{k+1}) - f(x^*) &\leq \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 + \langle (I - P_k) \nabla f(y_k), y_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^* - y_k\|^2 \\
&\leq \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|(I - P_k) \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 \\
&\leq \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - x^* \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(y_k, X_k)
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 4. *Let*

$$\Delta f_k := f(x_k) - f(x^*) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{x}_{k+1} = x_{k+1} + \frac{\beta}{1-\beta} (x_{k+1} - x_k). \quad (19)$$

We have

$$\Delta f_{k+1} - \beta \Delta f_k \leq \frac{1-\beta}{2t_k} \left(\|\bar{x}_k - x^*\|^2 - \|\bar{x}_{k+1} - x^*\|^2 \right) + \frac{(1-\beta)C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(y_k, X_k) \quad (20)$$

Proof. Multiplying (17) by β and (18) by $1 - \beta$ we have

$$\Delta f_{k+1} - \beta \Delta f_k \leq \langle P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - \beta x_k - (1-\beta)x^* \rangle - \frac{t_k}{2} \|P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 + (1-\beta) \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{2\mu} \eta^2(y_k, X_k)$$

By the binomial formula $2ab - a^2 = b^2 - (b - a)^2$ and the update rule for y_k we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&2\langle t_k P_k \nabla f(y_k), y_k - \beta x_k - (1-\beta)x^* \rangle - \|t_k P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 \\
&= \|y_k - \beta x_k - (1-\beta)x^*\|^2 - \|y_k - \beta x_k - (1-\beta)x^* - t_k P_k \nabla f(y_k)\|^2 \\
&= \|x_k - \beta x_{k-1} - (1-\beta)x^*\|^2 - \|x_{k+1} - \beta x_k - (1-\beta)x^*\|^2 \\
&= (1-\beta) \left(\|\bar{x}_k - x^*\|^2 - \|\bar{x}_{k+1} - x^*\|^2 \right)
\end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 3. *We suppose that f is continuously differentiable, μ -strongly convex, the level set $\mathcal{L}_f(x_0)$ is bounded and ∇f is L -Lipschitz on $\mathcal{L}_f(x_0)$.*

Suppose that

$$\bar{t} \geq t_k \geq \underline{t} > 0 \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (21)$$

Let

$$e_k := f(x_k) - f(x^*) + C_1 \eta^2(x_k, X_k), \quad C_1 := \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu}. \quad (22)$$

Then we have for all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and arbitrary $\lambda > 0$

$$e_{m+n} \leq (C+1)\rho^n e_m, \quad C = \max \left\{ \frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \frac{2 \max \{\lambda, 2C_{\text{stab}}^2\} C_{\text{rel}}^2 \bar{t}}{\mu(1-q_{\text{red}})}, \frac{1+q_{\text{red}}}{1-q_{\text{red}}} \right\}, \quad \rho = 1-1/(C+1). \quad (23)$$

Remark 3. *Supposing that \underline{t} and \bar{t} are proportional to L , we find that C is proportional to $\kappa_f = L/\mu$ as in the standard gradient method.*

Proof. We first claim that

$$\eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_{k+1}) \leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \tilde{\lambda} \bar{t} (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})), \quad \tilde{\lambda} := \max \{ \lambda, 2C_{\text{stab}}^2 \}. \quad (24)$$

If no refinement happens, this follows by rule (4) of the algorithm and the assumption (21). If a refinement step happens from k to $k+1$, we have by (H2) and (8)

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_{k+1}) &\leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + C_{\text{stab}}^2 \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \\ &\leq q_{\text{red}} \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + 2C_{\text{stab}}^2 t_k (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})). \end{aligned}$$

Now let

$$\Delta_k := f(x_k) - f(x^*), \quad \eta_k^2 = \eta^2(x_k, X_k), \quad \zeta_k := \|x_k - x^*\|^2.$$

From (9), (24) and the assumption on the step-length (21), we have for $\beta := \frac{2C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu(1-q_{\text{red}})}$

$$\Delta_{k+1} + \beta \eta_{k+1}^2 \leq \left(q_{\text{red}} + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu\beta} \right) \beta \eta_k^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_k - \zeta_{k+1}).$$

such that with $\widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} := q_{\text{red}} + \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu\beta} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + q_{\text{red}}) < 1$

$$\Delta_{k+1} + \beta \eta_{k+1}^2 \leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_k^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_k - \zeta_{k+1})$$

Summing up yields

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{N+1} (\Delta_k + \beta \eta_k^2) \leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \sum_{k=n}^N \eta_k^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_n) - f(x_{N+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_n - \zeta_{N+1})$$

such that

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{N+1} \Delta_k + (1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}) \beta \sum_{k=n+1}^{N+1} \eta_k^2 \leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_n) - f(x_{N+1})) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} (\zeta_n - \zeta_{N+1})$$

This proves $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} x_N \rightarrow x^*$ and then, with $\zeta_n = \|x_n - x^*\|^2 \leq \frac{2}{\mu} \Delta_n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \Delta_k + (1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}) \beta \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \eta_k^2 &\leq \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} (f(x_n) - f(x^*)) + \frac{1}{2\underline{t}} \zeta_n \\ &\leq \left(\tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} + \frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} \right) \Delta_n + \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 \end{aligned}$$

With

$$C_1 = (1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}) \beta = \frac{C_{\text{rel}}^2}{\mu}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} (\Delta_k + C_1 \eta_k^2) &\leq \left(\frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \tilde{\lambda} \beta \bar{t} \right) \Delta_n + \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}} \beta \eta_n^2 \\ &\leq \left(\frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \frac{\tilde{\lambda} C_1}{1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}} \bar{t} \right) \Delta_n + \frac{\widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}}{1 - \widetilde{q_{\text{red}}}} C_1 \eta_n^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{4\mu\underline{t}} + \frac{2\tilde{\lambda} C_1}{1 - q_{\text{red}}} \bar{t} \right) \Delta_n + \frac{1 + q_{\text{red}}}{1 - q_{\text{red}}} C_1 \eta_n^2 \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 4. *If λ satisfies*

$$\lambda \geq 2C_{\text{stab}} + 8k_f^2 \frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2} \quad (25)$$

we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \dim X_k \leq C\varepsilon_n^{-1/s} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Proof. By the Lipschitz-continuity we have

$$\|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\| = \|(I - P_{X_k})(\nabla f(x_k) - \nabla f(x^*))\| \leq L \|x^* - x_k\|,$$

such that

$$\|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \leq \frac{L^2}{\mu} (f(x_k) - f(x^*)).$$

Let $\tilde{X}_k \in \mathcal{X}(X_0)$ and $\tilde{x}_k := \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \tilde{X}_k} f(x)$. If $f(\tilde{x}_k) - f(x^*) \leq \gamma e_k$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k) - f(x^*) &= f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k) + f(\tilde{x}_k) - f(x^*) \\ &\leq f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k) + \gamma(f(x_k) - f(x^*) + C_1\eta^2(x_k, X_k)) \end{aligned}$$

and then for $\gamma < 1$

$$(1 - \gamma)f(x_k) - f(x^*) \leq (f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k)) + \gamma C_1\eta^2(x_k, X_k)$$

By strong convexity we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k) &\leq \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_k - \tilde{x}_k \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\|^2 \\ &= \langle P_{X_k} \nabla f(x_k), x_k - \tilde{x}_k \rangle + \langle (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k), x_k - \tilde{x}_k \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{t_k} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\| \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\| + \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\| \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\| - \frac{\mu}{2} \|x_k - \tilde{x}_k\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\underline{t}^2 \mu} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

From the refinement criterion we have

$$\eta^2(x_{k+1}, X_k) > q_{\text{red}}\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \lambda t_k (f(x_k) - f(x_{k+1})) \geq q_{\text{red}}\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \lambda \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2$$

With (E3) and (8) we have

$$\lambda \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \leq (1 - q_{\text{red}})\eta^2(x_k, X_k) + C_{\text{stab}}^2 \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2$$

such that with $\xi := \lambda - 2C_{\text{stab}}^2 > 0$

$$\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \leq \frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\xi} \eta^2(x_k, X_k).$$

Combining these inequalities we get with (H1)

$$\begin{aligned} \|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 &\leq \frac{L^2}{\mu} (f(x_k) - f(x^*)) \leq \frac{L^2}{\mu(1 - \gamma)} ((f(x_k) - f(\tilde{x}_k)) + \gamma C_1\eta^2(x_k, X_k)) \\ &\leq \frac{L^2}{\mu(1 - \gamma)} \left(\left(\frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2 \mu \xi} + \gamma C_1 \right) \eta^2(x_k, X_k) + \frac{1}{\mu} \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2 \right) \\ &\leq \frac{L^2}{\mu(1 - \gamma)} \left(\left(\frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2 \mu \xi} + \gamma C_1 \right) C_{\text{eff}}^2 \|(I - P_{X_k})\nabla f(x_k)\|^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Then for

$$\gamma \leq \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\mu}{4L^2 C_1 C_{\text{eff}}^2} \right\}, \quad \xi \geq \frac{8L^2}{\mu} \frac{1 - q_{\text{red}}}{\underline{t}^2 \mu}$$

we finally have

$$\|(I - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k)\|^2 \leq 4\kappa_f^2 \left\| (P_{\tilde{X}_k} - P_{X_k}) \nabla f(x_k) \right\|^2$$

□

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