

Homework 1 (Due 3/12/2022)

Advanced Statistical Computing

February 26, 2022

- Univariate optimization
Chapter 2: PROBLEMS 2.1, 2.2, 2.4
- Multivariate optimization
Chapter 2: PROBLEMS 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7
- Consider a multivariate Gaussian distribution constrained on a unit sphere, whose p.d.f. is

$$f(p) \propto \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(p - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1}(p - \mu) \right\} \cdot \mathbf{1}(\|p\|_2 = 1).$$

Such a distribution is called *Fisher-Bingham distribution* in directional statistics. Assuming $\|\mu\|_2 > 1$, we want to find out the point on the unit sphere that maximizes $f(p)$. Theorem 4.3 in Nocedal and Wright (1999) suggests a numerical optimization method for this problem. To find the maximum point is equivalent to find the p^* satisfying $(\Sigma^{-1} + \lambda I) p^* = \Sigma^{-1} \mu$ for some λ s.t. $\Sigma^{-1} + \lambda I$ is positive definite. Define

$$p(\lambda) = (\Sigma^{-1} + \lambda I)^{-1} \Sigma^{-1} \mu,$$

then we only need to seek a value λ such that

$$\|p(\lambda)\| = 1,$$

and $\Sigma^{-1} + \lambda I$ is positive definite.

Generate μ and Σ using the following code in R, and find the maximum point p^* that maximizes $f(p)$.

```
set.seed(2022)
mu = rnorm(10, .5, .1)
Sigma = rWishart(1, 10, diag(runif(10)))[, , 1]
```

Hint: For a symmetric real matrix, it is positive definite if and only if all its eigenvalues are positive.

Note (a). If you are asked to implement an algorithm in a problem, you are expected to code the algorithm in R, python or other languages by your self; otherwise, you can “use” or “apply” a prepackaged software, with a clear statement about which package you used and how you used it.

Note (b). Please present your results, codes and necessary mathematical details into one single pdf or html file. R markdown is recommended and Jupyter Notebook is also acceptable.

References

- [1] Nocedal, J. and Wright, S. (1999) *Numerical Optimization. (2nd ed.)* New York, NY: Springer.