A Family of ODE-solver based Fast ADMM with Applications to Sparse Regression

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A joint work with Dr. Zi-Hang Zhang from PKU

Outline

Introduction

PDHG and CP

Primal-Dual Flow Dynamics

Accelerated Primal-Dual Flow

Time Discretization

Numerical Results

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Problem setting

Equality constrained separable minimization

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}, v \in \mathcal{V}} F(u, v) := f(u) + g(v) \quad \text{s.t. } Au + Bv = b$$
 (1)

Assumptions:

- $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V}, \Lambda$: Hilbert spaces with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle^{-1}$
- $A(B): \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{V}) \to \Lambda$: bounded linear operators, $b \in \Lambda$
- $f(g): \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{V}) \to (-\infty, +\infty]$: CCP ² with constants $\mu_f(\mu_g) \geq 0$
- Consistent condition: $b \in A \operatorname{dom} f + B \operatorname{dom} g$
- ▶ Composite convex minimization (b = 0, B = -I)

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} P(u) := f(u) + g(Au)$$
 (2)

¹When no confusion arises, we use the same bracket $\langle\cdot,\cdot\rangle$ for the inner products on $\mathcal{U},\ \mathcal{V}$ and Λ .

²CCP means closed, convex and proper.

Preliminary

▶ Introduce $\mathbf{x} = (u, v), \mathbf{A} = (A, B)$ and restate the single block form

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}} F(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = b$$
 (3)

Define the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x},\lambda) := F(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \lambda, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - b \rangle, \quad (\mathbf{x},\lambda) \in \mathcal{X} := \operatorname{dom} F \times \Lambda^*.$$

▶ Saddle-point $(\widehat{\mathbf{x}}, \widehat{\lambda}) \in \mathcal{X}$:

$$\mathcal{L}(\widehat{\mathbf{x}}, \lambda) \leq \mathcal{L}(\widehat{\mathbf{x}}, \widehat{\lambda}) \leq \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \widehat{\lambda}) \quad \forall (\mathbf{x}, \lambda) \in \mathcal{X}$$

Monotone inclusion

$$0 \in M(\widehat{\mathbf{x}}, \widehat{\lambda}), \quad M(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} \partial F(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{A}^{\top} \lambda \\ b - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \end{pmatrix}$$

Applications

Many variational/optimization problems are related to (1)/(2)/(3):

- Image processing
 - Image denoising: TV-based model, ROF
 - Image deconvolution
 - ...
- Dynamical optimal transport/Benamou–Brenier problem
- Sparse regression: Lasso, least absolute deviation (LAD)
- **.**...

Existing (Lagrangian-based) methods

▶ Augmented Lagrangian method (ALM) for (3):

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda_k), \quad \lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \sigma(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - b)$$

with
$$\mathcal{L}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) := \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) + \sigma/2 \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - b\|^2$$
, $\sigma > 0$.

- Hestenes (1969) and Powell (1969)
- Dual formulation = Proximal point algorithm (Rockafellar)
- Uzawa method
- Not easy to update $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = (u_{k+1}, v_{k+1})$

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- Not easy to update $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = (u_{k+1}, v_{k+1})$
- Alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM):

$$u_{k+1} = \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_{\sigma}(u, v_k, \lambda_k)$$

$$v_{k+1} = \underset{v}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_{\sigma}(u_{k+1}, v, \lambda_k)$$
Decouple u and v

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \sigma(Au_{k+1} + Bv_{k+1} - b)$$

 Numerical solution of PDEs from mechanics, physics and differential geometry (Glowinski, 1976/2014)

- Popular application to image processing, statistical learning, data mining (Boyd et al., Found Trends Mach Learn, 2010)
- Successive computation, similar with Alternating Direction Method (ADM) and Gauss-Seidel iteration
- Dual formulation = DRSM
- Convergence rate:

$$O(1/\sqrt{k})$$
, $O(1/k)(\text{Ergodic})$, $O(1/k^2)(\mu_f + \mu_g > 0, \text{Ergodic})$

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"Ergodic" means average of historical iterates:

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- Primal-dual solvers for (2):
 - Arrow-Huricz, PDHG (Zhu and Chan, 2008)
 - Chambolle-Pock's method (JMIV, 2011)
 - Tight connection with ADMM
 - Ergodic convergence rate O(1/k)

▶ For unconstrained problem: $\min f(x)$

$$\begin{cases} O(1/k) & \mu_f = 0 \\ O(e^{-k/\text{cond}(f)}) & \mu_f > 0 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} O(1/k^2) & \mu_f = 0 \\ O(e^{-k/\sqrt{\text{cond}(f)}}) & \mu_f > 0 \end{cases}$$

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Ensure sparsity or low-rankness; see Li and Lin (JSC,2019), Tran-Dinh and Zhu (SIOPT, 2020)

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 - For $\mu_f = \mu_q = 0$
 - Li and Lin (JSC, 2017): O(1/k)
 - Ouyang et al. (SIIS, 2015): $O\left(\frac{L}{k^2} + \frac{\|A\|}{k}\right)$ (mixed-type)

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 - Li and Lin (JSC, 2017): O(1/k)
 - Ouyang et al. (SIIS, 2015): $O\left(\frac{L}{k^2} + \frac{\|A\|}{k}\right)$ (mixed-type)
 - For $\mu_f + \mu_g > 0$: $O(1/k^2)$
 - Tran-Dinh et al.(SIOPT, 2020): semi-ergodic rate
 - Sabach and Teboulle (SIOPT, 2022)
 - Zhang et al. (arXiv:2206.05088, 2022)
 - He et al. (arXiv:2310.16404, 2023)

Main contribution

- A continuous ODE-based framework:
 - A family of accelerated ADMM from a systematic way
 - A unified Lyapunov analysis approach
 - Sharp mixed-type estimate and nonergodic rates
 - Both convex ($\mu_f=\mu_g=0$) and (partially) strongly convex ($\mu_f+\mu_q>0$)

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 - Both convex ($\mu_f=\mu_g=0$) and (partially) strongly convex ($\mu_f+\mu_q>0$)
- Applications to sparse regression: fast nonergodic convergence and sparsity maintaining

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$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda_k) + \frac{1}{2\tau} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k\|^2$$
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► PDHG/Arrow–Hurwicz algorithm ³

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- Preconditioned PPA without symmetric property ⁴

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▶ Rewriting CP method as a semi-implicit discretization

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- Scaling parameters $\theta' = -\theta$ and $\gamma' = \mu \gamma$ with $\mu = \mu_F$
- Exponential decay of the Lyapunov function

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) := \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \widehat{\lambda}) - \mathcal{L}(\widehat{\mathbf{x}}, \lambda) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \widehat{\mathbf{x}}\|^2 + \frac{\theta}{2} \|\lambda - \widehat{\lambda}\|^2$$

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▶ Main idea: Combining primal-dual form with acceleration

 $^{^{7}}$ L. and L. Chen. From differential equation solvers to accelerated first-order methods for convex optimization. MAPR, 195: 735–781, 2022.

- ▶ Main idea: Combining primal-dual form with acceleration
- Nesterov accelerated gradient flow for $\min F(\mathbf{x})^{-7}$

$$\gamma \mathbf{x}'' + (\mu + \gamma)\mathbf{x}' + \partial F(\mathbf{x}) \ni 0$$
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Introduce $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}'$ to obtain

 First-order system is convenient for discretization and analysis than second-order ODE

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Two block APD flow

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- ► For two block problem (1), we introduce **block diagonal scaling parameters**:

$$\gamma \Longrightarrow \Gamma = \operatorname{diag}(\gamma I, \beta I), \quad \mu \Longrightarrow \mu = \operatorname{diag}(\mu_f I, \mu_g I)$$

$$\gamma' = \mu - \gamma \Longrightarrow \Gamma' = \mu - \Gamma$$

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► Two block APD flow

$$x' = \bar{x} - x$$

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(2block-APD Flow)

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Exponential decay of

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{x},\lambda) := \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x},\widehat{\lambda}) - \mathcal{L}(\widehat{\mathbf{x}},\lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \left\| \bar{\mathbf{x}} - \widehat{\mathbf{x}} \right\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{\theta}{2} \|\lambda - \widehat{\lambda}\|^2$$

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▶ Denote the step size $\alpha_k > 0$ and consider

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$$\frac{\Gamma_{k+1} - \Gamma_k}{\alpha_k} = \mu - \Gamma_{k+1}, \quad \frac{\theta_{k+1} - \theta_k}{\alpha_k} = -\theta_{k+1}$$

▶ Denote the step size $\alpha_k > 0$ and consider

$$\begin{split} &\frac{\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k}{\alpha_k} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_{k+1} \\ &\Gamma_k \frac{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_k}{\alpha_k} \in -\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{k+1}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1}) \\ &\theta_k \frac{\lambda_{k+1} - \lambda_k}{\alpha_k} = \boldsymbol{A} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} - b \end{split}$$

Parameter equation

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 - $\bar{\lambda}_{k+1} \sim (u_k, v_k)$: decoupled \implies splitting + parallelization \checkmark

Discrete Lyapunov function (From the continuous one)

$$\mathcal{E}_k := \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}_k, \widehat{\lambda}) - \mathcal{L}(\widehat{\mathbf{x}}, \lambda_k) + \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{\mathbf{x}}_k - \widehat{\mathbf{x}}\|_{\Gamma_k}^2 + \frac{\theta_k}{2} \|\lambda_k - \widehat{\lambda}\|^2$$

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Lemma 1

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Optimization algorithm (informal)

$$\begin{cases} u_{k+1} = \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_{\sigma_{k}}(u, v_{k}, \widehat{\lambda}_{k}) + \frac{\eta_{f, k}}{2\alpha_{k}^{2}} \|u - \widetilde{u}_{k}\|^{2} \right\} \\ \bar{u}_{k+1} = u_{k+1} + (u_{k+1} - u_{k})/\alpha_{k} \\ v_{k+1} = \mathbf{prox}_{\tau_{k}g}(\widetilde{v}_{k} - \tau_{k}B^{*}\bar{\lambda}_{k}) \\ \bar{v}_{k+1} = v_{k+1} + (v_{k+1} - v_{k})/\alpha_{k} \\ \lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_{k} + \alpha_{k}/\theta_{k}(A\bar{u}_{k+1} + B\bar{v}_{k+1} - b) \end{cases}$$
(Fast-ADMM-1)

with last iterate u_k, v_k, λ_k , intermediate sequence $\widehat{\lambda}_k, \overline{\lambda}_k, \widetilde{u}_k, \widetilde{v}_k$ and parameter sequence $\tau_k, \eta_{f,k}, \eta_{g,k}$.

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lacktriangle Sequential inner solvers: \mathbf{prox}_{f+A^*A} and \mathbf{prox}_g

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where

$$\begin{split} R_k := \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(u_k, v_k, \widehat{\lambda}) - \mathcal{L}(\widehat{u}, \widehat{v}, \lambda_k)}_{\text{Lagrange gap}} \\ E_k := \underbrace{\|Au_k + Bv_k - b\|}_{\text{Feasibility violation}} + \underbrace{\left|F(u_k, v_k) - \widehat{F}\right|}_{\text{Objective residual}} \end{split}$$

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Objective residual

When
$$B=-I, b=0$$
,
$$0 \le P(u_k) - P(\widehat{u}) \lesssim \min\left\{\frac{\|B\|}{k}, \frac{\|B\|^2}{\mu_0 k^2}\right\}$$

When
$$B=-1, b=0$$
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- ► Take the step size $\alpha_k^2 \|B\|^2 = \theta_k \beta_k$
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Objective residual

▶ When B = -I, b = 0,

$$0 \le P(u_k) - P(\widehat{u}) \lesssim \min \left\{ \frac{\|B\|}{k}, \frac{\|B\|^2}{u_k k^2} \right\}$$

Linearization of $f = f_1 + f_2$

$$\min \left\{ \frac{\|B\|}{\sqrt{\beta_0 k}}, \frac{\|B\|^2}{\mu_0 k^2} \right\} + \min \left\{ \frac{L_f}{\gamma_0 k^2}, \exp\left(-\frac{k}{4}\sqrt{\frac{\mu_f}{L_f}}\right) \right\}$$

More schemes

- ► The symmetric choice $\bar{\lambda}_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \alpha_k/\theta_k(A\bar{u}_k + B\bar{v}_{k+1} b)$
 - Sequential inner solvers: \mathbf{prox}_{g+B^*B} and \mathbf{prox}_f :

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- Linearization of $f=f_1+f_2$

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More schemes

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- ► The second choice $\bar{\lambda}_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \alpha_k/\theta_k(A\bar{u}_k + B\bar{v}_k b)$
 - Parallel inner solvers: \mathbf{prox}_f and \mathbf{prox}_g

$$\min\left\{\frac{\left\|B\right\|}{k},\,\frac{\left\|B\right\|^{2}}{\mu_{g}k^{2}}\right\}+\min\left\{\frac{\left\|A\right\|}{k},\,\frac{\left\|A\right\|^{2}}{\mu_{f}k^{2}}\right\}$$

- Linearization of $f = f_1 + f_2$

$$\min\left\{\frac{\|B\|}{\sqrt{\beta_0}k},\frac{\|B\|^2}{\mu_0k^2}\right\} + \min\left\{\frac{\|A\|}{\sqrt{\gamma_0}k} + \frac{L_f}{\gamma_0k^2},\frac{\|A\|^2}{\mu_fk^2} + \exp\left(-\frac{k}{4}\sqrt{\frac{\mu_f}{L_f}}\right)\right\}.$$

▶ All can be extended to $g = g_1 + g_2$

Introduction

PDHG and CP

Primal-Dual Flow Dynamics

Accelerated Primal-Dual Flow

Time Discretization

Numerical Results

LAD regression

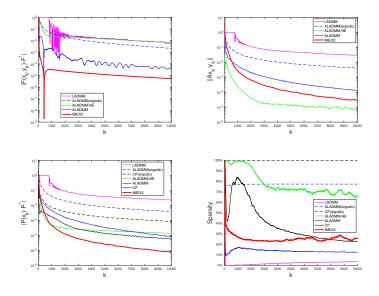
Consider the least absolute deviation (LAD) regression problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} P(x) := f(x) + ||Ax - b||_1, \tag{4}$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ are given data with $m \ll n$, and f is a regularization function. Consider two types of regularizer:

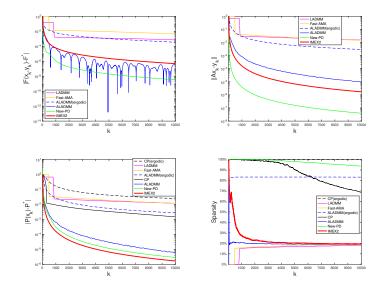
- Case 1: $f(x) = \lambda ||x||_1$,
- Case 2: $f(x) = \lambda ||x||_1 + \mu_f/2 ||x||^2$.

We generate the matrix A from the standard normal distribution and set $b=Ax^{\#}+e$, where $x^{\#}$ is sparse and e is a Gaussian noise.



 \blacksquare 1: LAD regression, *Case 1*, with (m, n) = (400, 4000) and sparsity 10%.

No worse (or comparable) convergence but good sparsity



No worse (or comparable) convergence but good sparsity

References

This talk is mainly based on



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Accelerated primal-dual methods for linearly constrained convex optimization problems. arXiv:2109.12604, 2021.

Any questions?

Thanks for your listening!