
Série d'exercices 4

2020

First order methods

Exercise 1 Subgradients

Compute the subgradients of the following functions.

$$f(x) = \|x\|; \quad g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in C \\ \infty & \text{if } x \notin C \end{cases}$$

where C is a nonempty convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

Exercise 2

Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function. Show that a vector $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a subgradient of f at x if and only if the function $d'y - f(y)$ attains its maximum at $y = x$.

Exercise 3

Let $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be nonempty closed and convex set. Consider the function $\varphi_C : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $\varphi_C(x) = \frac{1}{2}d_C^2(x) = \frac{1}{2}\|x - P_C(x)\|_2^2$, where P_C is the orthogonal projection mapping.

- Show that: $\nabla \varphi_C(x) = x - P_C(x)$.
- Compute $\partial d_C(x)$

Exercise 4 Proximal operators

Compute the prox of the following functions.

- Negative sum of Logs ($\lambda > 0$):

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} -\lambda \sum_{j=1}^n \log x_j, & \mathbf{x} > 0 \\ \infty & \text{else,} \end{cases}$$

- ℓ_0 -norm: $g(x) = \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_0$ where $\lambda > 0$.
- Norms: $h_1(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\tau}{2} \|\mathbf{x}\|^2$, $h_2(\mathbf{x}) = \tau \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$.
- Loss function: $h_4(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\tau}{2} \|A \cdot -y\|^2$, for $A \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$.

Exercise 5

Prove the four proximal calculus rules.

Exercise 6

Apply the ADMM algorithm to Lasso problem.