

Reading Notes

Alto

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Abstract

Reports on papers read. This is a LaTeX file for my own notes taking. It may accelerate the process of writing my thesis for my PhD degree.

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Chapter 1

The Basics of Optimization Theories

{def:bregman-div} Notations in this chapter are not shared, and they are for this chapter only.

Definition 1.0.1 (Bregman Divergence) Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ be a differentiable function. Define Bregman Divergence:

$$\text{\small {ass:smooth-add-nonsmooth}} \quad D_f : \mathbb{R}^n \times \text{dom } \nabla f \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}} := (x, y) \mapsto f(x) - f(y) - \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle.$$

Assumption 1.0.2 (smooth plus nonsmooth) Let $F = f + g$ where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ is differentiable and there exists $q \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $g - q/2 \|\cdot\|^2$ is convex.

Definition 1.0.3 (proximal gradient operator) Suppose $F = f + g$ satisfies Assumption 1.0.2. Define the proximal gradient operator by:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\beta^{-1}, f, g}(x) &= \text{prox}_{\beta^{-1}g}(x - \beta^{-1}\nabla f(x)) \\ &= \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ g(z) + f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), z - x \rangle + \frac{\beta}{2} \|x - z\|^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

{thm:pg-ineq-wcnvx-generic}

Theorem 1.0.4 (weakly convex generic proximal gradient inequality)

Suppose $F = f + g$ satisfies Assumption 1.0.2 with $\beta > 0$ and $q \in \mathbb{R}$. Then for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, z \in \mathbb{R}^n$, define $\bar{x} = T_{\beta^{-1}, f, g}(x)$, it has:

$$\frac{q}{2} \|z - x^+\|^2 \leq F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - \langle \beta(x - \bar{x}), z - \bar{x} \rangle + D_f(x, \bar{x}) - D_f(z, x).$$

Proof. Nonsmooth analysis calculus rules has

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} &\in \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ g(z) + \langle \nabla f(x), z \rangle + \frac{\beta}{2} \|z - x\|^2 \right\} \\ \implies \mathbf{0} &\in \partial g(x^+) + \nabla f(x) + \beta(x^+ - x) \\ \iff \partial g(x^+) &\ni -\nabla f(x) - \beta(x^+ - x). \end{aligned}$$

The subgradient inequality for weak convexity has

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{q}{2}\|z - \bar{x}\|^2 &\leq g(z) - g(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(x) + \beta(\bar{x} - x), z - \bar{x} \rangle \\
&= g(z) - g(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(x), z - \bar{x} \rangle + \langle \beta(\bar{x} - x), z - \bar{x} \rangle \\
&= g(z) - g(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(x), z - x \rangle + \langle \nabla f(x), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \langle \beta(\bar{x} - x), z - \bar{x} \rangle \\
&= g(z) - g(\bar{x}) + (-D_f(z, x) + f(z) - f(x)) \\
&\quad + (D_f(\bar{x}, x) - f(\bar{x}) + f(x)) + \langle \beta(\bar{x} - x), z - \bar{x} \rangle \\
&= F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - D_f(z, x) + D_f(\bar{x}, x) - \langle \beta(x - \bar{x}), z - \bar{x} \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

{thm:cnvx-pg-ineq}

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Theorem 1.0.5 (convex proximal gradient inequality) Suppose $F = f + g$ satisfies Assumption 1.0.2 such that $q = \mu_g \geq 0$, $\beta \geq L_f$. In addition, suppose that $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has L_f Lipschitz continuous gradient, and it's $\mu_f \geq 0$ strongly convex. For all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, z \in \mathbb{R}^n$, define $\bar{x} = T_{\beta^{-1}, f, g}(x)$ it has

$$0 \leq F(z) - F(\bar{x}) + \frac{\beta - \mu_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 - \frac{\beta + \mu_g}{2}\|z - \bar{x}\|^2.$$

Proof. The Bregman Divergence of f has inequality

$$(\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y \in \mathbb{R}^n) \quad \frac{\mu_f}{2}\|x - y\|^2 \leq D_f(x, y) \leq \frac{L_f}{2}\|x - y\|^2.$$

Specializing Theorem 1.0.4, let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and define $\bar{x} = T_{\beta^{-1}, f, g}(x)$ it has $\forall z \in \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\mu_g}{2}\|z - \bar{x}\|^2 &\leq F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - D_f(z, x) + D_f(\bar{x}, x) - \langle \beta(x - \bar{x}), z - \bar{x} \rangle \\
&\leq F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - \frac{\mu_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 + \frac{L_f}{2}\|x - \bar{x}\|^2 - \langle \beta(x - \bar{x}), z - x + x - \bar{x} \rangle \\
&= F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - \frac{\mu_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 + \left(\frac{L_f}{2} - \beta \right) \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 - \langle \beta(x - \bar{x}), z - x \rangle \\
&\leq F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - \frac{\mu_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 - \frac{\beta}{2}\|x - \bar{x}\|^2 - \langle \beta(x - \bar{x}), z - x \rangle \\
&= F(z) - F(\bar{x}) - \frac{\mu_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 - \frac{\beta}{2}(\|x - \bar{x}\|^2 + 2\langle x - \bar{x}, z - x \rangle) \\
&= F(z) - F(\bar{x}) + \frac{\beta - \mu_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 - \frac{\beta}{2}\|z - \bar{x}\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

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Chapter 2

Linear Convergence of First Order Method

In this chapter, we are specifically interested in characterizing linear convergence of well known first order optimization algorithms. In this section, D_f will denote the Bregman Divergence as defined in Definition [1.0.1](#).

2.1 Necoara's et al's Paper

2.1.1 The Settings

{ass:necoara-2019-settings} The assumption follows give the same setting as Necoara et al. [\[1\]](#).

Assumption 2.1.1 Consider optimization problem:

$$-\infty < f^+ = \min_{x \in X} f(x). \quad (2.1.1)$$

{problem:necoara-2019} $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a closed convex set. Assume projection onto X , denoted by Π_X is easy. Denote $X^+ = \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in X} f(x) \neq \emptyset$, assume it's a closed set. Assume f has L_f Lipschitz continuous gradient, i.e: for all $x, y \in X$:

$$\|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \leq L_f \|x - y\|.$$

Some immediate consequences of Assumption [2.1.1](#) now follows. The variational inequality characterizing optimal solution has:

$$\text{{ineq:pg-opt-cond}} \quad x^+ \in X^+ \implies (\forall x \in X) \langle \nabla f(x^+), x - x^+ \rangle \geq 0. \quad (2.1.2)$$

The converse is true if f is convex. The gradient mapping in this case is:

$$\{\text{def:necoara-scnvx}\} \quad \mathcal{G}_{L_f}x = L_f(x - \Pi_X x).$$

Definition 2.1.2 (strong convexity) Suppose f satisfies Assumption 2.1.1. Then $f \in \mathbb{S}(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$ is strongly convex iff

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \quad \kappa_f \|x - y\|^2 \leq D_f(x, y) \leq L_f \|x - y\|^2.$$

Then it's not hard to imagine the following natural relaxation of the above conditions.

Definition 2.1.3 (relaxations of strong convexity)

\{\text{def:necoara-weaker-scnvx}\} Suppose f satisfies Assumption 2.1.1. Let $L_f \geq \kappa_f \geq 0$ such that for all $x \in X$, $\bar{x} = \Pi_{X^+} x$. We define the following:

\{\text{def:neocara-qscnvx}\}

(i) *Quasi-strong convexity (Q-SCNVX)*: $0 \leq D_f(\bar{x}, x) - \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2$. Denoted by $\mathbb{S}'(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$.

\{\text{def:necoara-qup}\}

(ii) *Quadratic under approximation (QUA)*: $0 \leq D_f(x, \bar{x}) - \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2$. Denoted by $\mathbb{U}(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$.

\{\text{def:necoara-qgg}\}

(iii) *Quadratic Gradient Growth (QGG)*: $0 \leq D_f(x, \bar{x}) + D_f(\bar{x}, x) - \kappa_f/2 \|x - \bar{x}\|^2$. Denoted by $\mathbb{G}(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$.

\{\text{def:necoara-qfg}\}

(iv) *Quadratic Function Growth (QFG)*: $0 \leq f(x) - f^* - \kappa_f/2 \|x - \bar{x}\|^2$. Denoted by $\mathbb{F}(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$.

\{\text{def:necoara-peb}\}

(v) *Proximal Error Bound (PEB)*: $\|\mathcal{G}_{L_f}x\| \geq \kappa_f \|x - \bar{x}\|$. Denoted by $\mathbb{E}(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$.

Remark 2.1.4 The error bound condition in Necoara et al. is sometimes referred to as the "Proximal Error Bound".

2.1.2 Weaker conditions of strong convexity

\{\text{thm:qscnvx-means-qua}\} In Necoara's et al, major results assume convexity of f .

Theorem 2.1.5 (Q-SCNVX implies QUA) Let f satisfies Assumption 2.1.1 and assume f is convex:

$$\mathbb{S}'(L_f, \kappa_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{U}(L_f, \kappa_f, X).$$

Proof. We proof by induction. Convexity of f makes X^+ convex and $\Pi_{X^+}X$ unique for all $x \in X$. Make inductive hypothesis that there exists $\kappa^{(k)} \geq 0$ such that

$$(\forall x \in X) \quad f(x) \geq f^+ + \langle \nabla f(\Pi_{X^+}x), x - \Pi_{X^+}x \rangle + \kappa^{(k)}/2 \|x - \Pi_{X^+}x\|^2.$$

The base case is true by convexity of f with $\kappa_f^{(0)} = 0$. Choose any $x \in X$ define $\bar{x} = \Pi_{X^+}x$. Consider $x_\tau = \bar{x} + \tau(x - \bar{x})$ for $\tau \in [0, 1]$. Calculus rule has

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), x - \bar{x} \rangle d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), \tau(x - \bar{x}) \rangle d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), x_\tau - \bar{x} \rangle d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

f is Q-SCNVX so

$$\begin{aligned} f^+ - f(x_\tau) &\geq \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), \Pi_{X^+}x_\tau - x_\tau \rangle + \kappa_f/2 \|x_\tau - \Pi_{X^+}x_\tau\|^2 \\ &= \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), \bar{x} - x_\tau \rangle + \kappa_f/2 \|x_\tau - \bar{x}\|^2 \\ \iff \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), x_\tau - \bar{x} \rangle &\geq f(x_\tau) - f^+ + \kappa_f/2 \|x_\tau - \bar{x}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

We used $\Pi_{X^+}x_\tau = \bar{x}$ by convexity of f . Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\geq f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \left(f(x_\tau) - f^+ + \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x_\tau - \bar{x}\|^2 \right) d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \left(f(x_\tau) - f^+ \right) + \frac{\tau \kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 d\tau \\ &\geq f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \left(\langle \nabla f(\Pi_{X^+}x_\tau), x_\tau - \Pi_{X^+}x_\tau \rangle + \frac{\kappa_f^{(k)}}{2} \|x_\tau - \Pi_{X^+}x_\tau\|^2 \right) + \frac{\tau \kappa_f}{2} \|x - \Pi_{X^+}x_\tau\|^2 d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \left(\langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x_\tau - \bar{x} \rangle + \frac{\kappa_f^{(k)}}{2} \|x_\tau - \bar{x}\|^2 \right) + \frac{\tau \kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \frac{\tau \kappa_f^{(k)}}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 + \frac{\tau \kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \frac{\kappa_f^{(k)} + \kappa_f}{4} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

This is the new inductive hypothesis, and it has $\kappa_f^{(k+1)} = (\kappa_f^{(k)} + \kappa_f)/2$. The induction admits recurrence:

$$\kappa_f^{(n)} = (1/2^n)(\kappa_f^{(0)} + (2^n - 1)\kappa_f).$$

Inductive hypothesis is true for $\kappa_f^{(0)} = 0$ and f being convex is sufficient. It has $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \kappa_f^{(n)} = \kappa_f$. \blacksquare

Remark 2.1.6 This is Theorem 1 in the paper. Convexity assumption of f makes X^+ convex, so the projection is unique, and it has $\Pi_{X^+}x_\tau = \bar{x}$ for all $\tau \in [0, 1]$. In addition, the inductive hypothesis has $\kappa_f^{(n)} \geq 0$, which is not sufficient for convexity, but necessary. The projection property remains true for nonconvex X^+ , however the base case require rethinking.

{thm:qgg-implies-qua}

Theorem 2.1.7 (QGG implies QUA) *Let f satisfies Assumption 2.1.1, under convexity it has*

$$\mathbb{G}(L_f, \kappa_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{U}(L_f, \kappa_f, X).$$

Proof. For all $x \in X$, define $\bar{x} = \Pi_{X^+}x$, $x_\tau = \bar{x} + \tau(x - \bar{x}) \forall \tau \in [0, 1]$. Observe that $\frac{d}{d\tau}x_\tau = x - \bar{x}$ and $\Pi_{X^+}x_\tau = \bar{x} \forall \tau \in [0, 1]$. Using calculus and Theorem 2.1.3 (iii):

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(\bar{x}) + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla f(x_\tau), x - \bar{x} \rangle d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla f(x_\tau) - \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \langle \nabla f(x_\tau) - \nabla f(\bar{x}), \tau(x - \bar{x}) \rangle d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \langle \nabla f(x_\tau) - \nabla f(\bar{x}), x_\tau - \bar{x} \rangle d\tau \\ &\geq f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \int_0^1 \tau^{-1} \kappa_f \|\tau(x - \bar{x})\|^2 d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \int_0^1 \tau \kappa_f \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 d\tau \\ &= f(\bar{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle + \frac{\kappa}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

■

Remark 2.1.8 This is Theorem 3 in Neocara et al. [1]. There is no immediate use of convexity besides that the projection $\bar{x} = \Pi_{X^+}x$ is a singleton.

{thm:qscnvx-implies-qgg}

Theorem 2.1.9 (Q-SCNVX implies QGG) *Under Assumption 2.1.1 and convexity of f , it has*

$$\mathbb{S}'(L_f, \kappa_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{G}(L_f, \kappa_f, X).$$

Proof. If $f \in \mathbb{S}'(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$ then Theorem 2.1.5 has $f \in \mathbb{U}(L_f, \kappa_f, X)$. Then, add (ii), (i) in Definition 2.1.3 yield the results. ■

Remark 2.1.10 This is Theorem 2 in the Necoara et al. [1], right after it claims $\mathbb{U}(L_f, \kappa_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{G}(L_f, \kappa_f/2, X)$ under convexity.

Theorem 2.1.11 (sufficiency of QFG) *Let f satisfies Assumption 2.1.1. For all $0 < \beta < 1$, $x \in X$, let $x^+ = \Pi_X(x - L_f^{-1}\nabla f(x))$. If*

$$\|x^+ - \Pi_{X^+}x^+\| \leq \beta\|x - \Pi_{X^+}x\|,$$

then f satisfies the QFG condition with $\kappa_f = L_f(1 - \beta)^2$.

Proof. The proof is direct.

$$\|x - \Pi_{X^+}x\| \leq \|x - \Pi_{X^+}x^+\| \quad (2.1.3)$$

$$\leq \|x - x^+\| + \|x^+ - \Pi_{X^+}x^+\| \quad (2.1.4)$$

$$\leq \|x - x^+\| + \beta\|x - \Pi_{X^+}x\| \quad (2.1.5)$$

$$\iff 0 \leq \|x - x^+\| - (1 - \beta)\|x - \Pi_{X^+}x\|. \quad (2.1.6)$$

x^+ has descent lemma hence we have

$$f^+ - f(X) \leq f(x^+) - f(x) \leq -\frac{L_f}{2}\|x^+ - x\|^2 \leq -\frac{L_f}{2}(1 - \beta)^2\|x - \Pi_{X^+}x\|^2.$$

Hence, it gives the quadratic growth condition. ■

Remark 2.1.12 It's unclear where convexity is used. However, it's still assumed in Necoara et al. paper.

Before we start, we will specialize Theorem 1.0.5 because it will be used in later proofs. In Assumption 2.1.1, it can be seemed as taking $F = f + g$ in Assumption 1.0.2 with $g = \delta_X$. This makes $\mu_g = 0$ and assuming f is convex we have $\mu_f = 0$. Let $\beta = L_f$, and $x^+ = \Pi_X(x - L_f^{-1}\nabla f(x))$, it has for all $z \in X$:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq f(z) - f(x^+) + \frac{L_f}{2}\|z - x\|^2 - \frac{L_f}{2}\|z - x^+\|^2 \\ &= f(z) - f(x^+) + L_f\langle z - x^+, x^+ - x \rangle + \frac{L_f}{2}\|x - x^+\|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.1.7)$$

Take note that when $z = x$ it has

$$0 \leq f(x) - f(x^+) - \frac{L_f}{2}\|x - x^+\|^2. \quad (2.1.8)$$

The following theorems are about the relation between PEB and QFG.

{thm:qfg-peb-equiv}

Theorem 2.1.13 (equivalence between QFG and PEB) *If f is convex and satisfies Assumption 2.1.1. Then we have:*

$$\mathbb{E}(L_f, \kappa_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{F}(L_f, \kappa^2/L_f, X),$$

$$\mathbb{F}(L_f, \kappa_f) \subseteq \mathbb{E}\left(L_f, \frac{\kappa_f}{\kappa_f/L_f + 1 + \sqrt{\kappa_k/L_f + 1}}, X\right).$$

Proof. **Firstly, we show that PEB implies QFG.** For any $x \in X$, define the gradient projection steps by $x^+ = \Pi_X(x - L_f^{-1}\nabla f(x))$. Denote $\bar{x}_\Pi^+ = \Pi_{X^+}x^+$. Using (2.1.7) with $z = \bar{x}_\Pi^+$ it yields:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq f(x^+) - f(x_\Pi^+) - L_f \langle x_\Pi^+ - x^+, x^+ - x \rangle - \frac{1}{L_f} \|L_f(x - x^+)\|^2 \\ &\geq \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\|^2 - \|L_f(x - x^+)\| \|x_\Pi^+ - x^+\| - \frac{1}{2L_f} \|L_f(x - x^+)\|^2 && \text{QFG, Cauchy} \\ &= \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\|^2 - \frac{1}{2L_f} (\|L_f(x - x^+)\|^2 + L_f \|L_f(x - x^+)\| \|x_\Pi^+ - x^+\|) \\ &= \frac{\kappa_f + L_f}{2} \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\|^2 - \frac{1}{2L_f} (\|L_f(x - x^+)\| + L_f \|x - x_\Pi^+\|)^2 \end{aligned}$$

From the last line, by positivity of norm it has

$$\begin{aligned} \|L_f(x - x^+)\| + L_f \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\| &\geq \sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\| \\ \iff \|L_f(x - x^+)\| &\geq \left(\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} - L_f \right) \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\|. \end{aligned}$$

Using property of projection onto X we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - \bar{x}\| &\leq \|x - x_\Pi^+\| \leq \|x - x^+\| + \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\| \\ &= \frac{1}{L_f} \|L_f(x - x^+)\| + \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\| \\ \iff \|x - \bar{x}\| - \frac{1}{L_f} \|L_f(x - x^+)\| &\leq \|x^+ - x_\Pi^+\|. \end{aligned}$$

Combining the two above inequalities gives

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\leq \|L_f(x - x^+)\| - \left(\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} - L_f \right) \left(\|x - \bar{x}\| - \frac{1}{L_f} \|L_f(x - x^+)\| \right) \\
&= - \left(\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} - L_f \right) \|x - \bar{x}\| + \left(L_f^{-1} \left(\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} - L_f \right) + 1 \right) \|L_f(x - x^+)\| \\
&= - \left(\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} - L_f \right) \|x - \bar{x}\| + \sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} \|L_f(x - x^+)\| \\
&\iff \frac{\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)} - L_f}{\sqrt{L_f(\kappa_f + L_f)}} \|x - \bar{x}\| \leq \|\mathcal{G}_{L_f} x\|.
\end{aligned}$$

Skipping algebra, the fraction simplifies to

$$\frac{\kappa_f}{\kappa_f/L_f + 1 + \sqrt{\kappa_k/L_f + 1}}.$$

This gives PEB condition. **We now show QFG implies PEB.** From the error bound condition using κ_f it has

$$\kappa_f^2 \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 \leq \|\mathcal{G}_{L_f}(x)\|^2 \stackrel{(2.1.8)}{\leq} 2L_f(f(x) - f(x^+)) \leq 2L_f(f(x) - f^+).$$

■

The following theorem summarizes the hierarchy of the conditions listed in Definition [2.1.3](#). {thm:q-cnvx-hierarchy}

Theorem 2.1.14 (Hierarchy of weaker S-CNVX conditions) *Let f satisfy Assumption [2.1.1](#), assuming convexity then the following relations are true:*

$$\mathbb{S}(\kappa_f, L_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{S}'(\kappa_f, L_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{G}(\kappa_f, L_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{U}(\kappa_f, L_f, X) \subseteq \mathbb{F}(\kappa_f, L_f, X).$$

Proof. $\mathbb{S}' \subseteq \mathbb{G}$ is proved in Theorem [2.1.9](#) and $\mathbb{G} \subseteq \mathbb{U}$ is proved in [2.1.7](#). $\mathbb{S} \subseteq \mathbb{S}'$ is obvious and it remains to show $\mathbb{U} \subseteq \mathbb{F}$. Let $f \in \mathbb{U}(\kappa_f, L_f, X)$, it has for all $x \in X$:

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\leq f(x) - f^+ - \langle \nabla f(\bar{x}), x - \bar{x} \rangle - \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2 \\
&\stackrel{(2.1.2)}{\leq} f(x) - f^+ - \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x - \bar{x}\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

■

Remark 2.1.15 It's Theorem 4 in Necoara et al. [\[1\]](#).

2.1.3 Hoffman error bound and Q-SCNVX

2.1.4 Feasible descent and accelerated feasible descent

This section summarizes results from Necoara et al. on the method of feasible descent, fast feasible descent, and fast feasible descent with restart.

Definition 2.1.16 (projected gradient algorithm)

The projected gradient algorithm generates a sequence of iterates $(x_k)_{k \geq 0}$ such that they satisfy for all $k \geq 0$

$$x_{k+1} = \Pi_X(x_k - \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k)),$$

Where $\alpha_k \geq L_f^{-1}$ for all $k \geq 1$.

Under Assumption 2.1.1, convexity of X means obtuse angle theorem from projection and it specializes to

$$(\forall x \in X) \langle x_{k+1} - (x_k + \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k)), x_{k+1} - x \rangle \leq 0. \quad (2.1.9)$$

Theorem 2.1.17 *feasible descent linear convergence under Q-SCNVX* Under Assumption 2.1.1, assume that f is Q-CNVX with μ_f, L_f , then the sequence that satisfies Definition 2.1.16 has a linear convergence rate. Let $\bar{x}_k = \Pi_{X^+} x_k, \bar{x}_0 = \Pi_{X^+} x_0$. For all $k \geq 1$, the iterates satisfy

$$\|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 \leq \left(\frac{1 - \kappa_f/L_f}{1 + \kappa_f/L_f} \right)^k \|x_0 - \bar{x}_0\|^2.$$

Proof. Our proof makes use of the following properties which we label it in advance for swift exposition:

- (i) Inequality (2.1.9), from the projected gradient and convexity of X .
- (ii) $f \in \mathbb{S}'$ which is the hypothesis that f is Q-CNVX.
- (iii) $\alpha_k \leq L_f^{-1}$, the stepsize is sufficient to apply descent lemma globally.
- (iv) $f \in \mathbb{Q}$ satisfying Q-Growth, a consequence of Q-CNVX by Theorem 2.1.14.

With $\overline{(\cdot)} = \Pi_{X^+}(\cdot)$ to denote the projection of a vector to the set of minimizers. The sequence of inequalities and equalities proves the theorem.

$$\|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_k\|^2 = \|x_{k+1} - x_k + x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 = \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 + 2\langle x_{k+1} - x_k, x_k - \bar{x}_k \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (-\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2) + 2\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + 2\langle x_{k+1} - x_k, x_k - \bar{x}_k \rangle \\
&= -\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 + 2\langle x_{k+1} - x_k, x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_k \rangle \\
&= -\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 \\
&\quad + 2\langle x_{k+1} - x_k + \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_k \rangle - 2\alpha_k \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_k \rangle \\
&\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} -\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 - 2\alpha_k \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_k \rangle \\
&= -\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 + 2\alpha_k \langle \nabla f(x_k), \bar{x}_k - x_k \rangle + 2\alpha_k \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} -\|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 + \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 \\
&\quad + 2\alpha_k \left(f^+ - f(x_k) - \frac{\kappa_f}{2} \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 \right) + 2\alpha_k \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle \\
&= (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 \\
&\quad + 2\alpha_k (f^+ - f(x_k)) - 2\alpha_k \left(\langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle + \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \right) \\
&= (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 + 2\alpha_k f^+ \\
&\quad - 2\alpha_k \left(f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle + \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \right) \\
&\stackrel{(iii)}{\leq} (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 + 2\alpha_k f^+ \\
&\quad - 2\alpha_k \left(f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle + \frac{L_f}{2} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \right) \\
&\leq (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 + 2\alpha_k f^+ - 2\alpha_k f(x_{k+1}) \\
&\stackrel{(iv)}{\leq} (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 - \alpha_k \kappa_k \|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_{k+1}\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore it has

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\leq \|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_k\|^2 - \|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_{k+1}\|^2 \\
&\leq (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 - \alpha_k \kappa_k \|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_{k+1}\|^2 - \|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_{k+1}\|^2 \\
&= (1 - \alpha_k \kappa_f) \|x_k - \bar{x}_k\|^2 - (1 + \alpha_k \kappa_k) \|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}_{k+1}\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Unrolling recursively, then use (iii), the claim is proved. ■

2.1.5 Application, KKT of linear programming

This section extends and ideas in the discussion section of Necoara et al. [1].

Let X_1, X_2, Y be Hilbert spaces. Define linear mapping $E : X_1 \times X_2 \rightarrow Y := (x_1, x_2) \mapsto E_1 x_1 + E_2 x_2$ where E_1, E_2 each are mappings of $X_1 \rightarrow Y, X_2 \rightarrow Y$. Denote the adjoint of

linear mapping by $(\cdot)^*$. Let $c = (c_1, c_2) \in X_1 \times X_2$, $b \in Y$. Suppose that $\mathcal{K} \subseteq X_1$ is a simple cone and \mathcal{K}^* is its dual cone. We consider the following linear programming problem

$$\{\text{problem:lp-cannon-form}\} \quad \inf_{x \in X_1 \times X_2} \{ \langle -c, x \rangle \mid Ex = b, x \in \mathcal{K} \times X_2 \}. \quad (2.1.10)$$

Define linear mapping g, F and indicator function h by the following:

$$\begin{aligned} g : X_1 \times X_2 &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} := x \mapsto \langle -c, x \rangle, \\ F : X_1 \times X_2 &\rightarrow Y \times X_1 := (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (E_1 x_1 + E_2 x_2, x_1), \\ h : Y \times X_1 &\rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}} := (y, z) \mapsto \delta_{\{0\}}(y - b) + \delta_{\mathcal{K}^*}(z). \end{aligned}$$

It's not hard to identify that problem in (2.1.10) has representations

$$\inf_{x \in X_1 \times X_2} \{g(x) + h(Fx)\}.$$

The dual problem of the above is given by

$$- \inf_{u \in Y \times X_1} \{h^*(u) + g^*(-F^*u)\}.$$

Where h^*, g^* are the conjugate of h, g and $F^* : Y \times X_1 \rightarrow X_1 \times X_2 = (y, z) \mapsto (E_1^* y + z, E_2^* y)$ is the adjoint operator of F . Note that $g^*(x) = \delta_0(x + c)$ and $h^*((y, z)) = \langle b, y \rangle + \delta_{\mathcal{K}^*}(z)$. This gives the following dual problem

$$- \inf_{(y, z) \in Y \times \mathcal{K}^*} \{ \langle b, y \rangle \mid E_1^* y + z = c_1, E_2^* y = c_2 \}.$$

The KKT conditions give the following convex feasibility problem

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 x_1 + E_2 x_2 &= b, \\ E_1^* y + z &= c_1, \\ E_2^* y &= c_2, \\ \langle b, y \rangle &= \langle c_1, x_1 \rangle + \langle c_2, x_2 \rangle, \\ (x_1, x_2) &\in \mathcal{K} \times X_2, \\ (y, z) &\in Y \times \mathcal{K}^*. \end{aligned}$$

Allow $X_1 = \mathbb{R}^{n_1}, X_2 = \mathbb{R}^{n_2}, Y = \mathbb{R}^m$. Define

$$\mathbf{K} := \mathcal{K} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_2} \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathcal{K}^*,$$

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} E_1 & E_2 & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & E_1^T & I_{n_1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & E_2^T & \mathbf{0} \\ c_1^T & c_2^T & -b^T & 0 \end{bmatrix}, v := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{K}, d := \begin{bmatrix} b \\ c_1 \\ c_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The KKT conditions is a convex feasibility problem which can be formulated by best approximation problem:

$$\{\text{problem:lp-kkt-min}\} \quad \min_{v \in \mathbf{K}} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - d\|^2. \quad (2.1.11)$$

It is minimizing a quadratic problem on a simple cone. Solving (2.1.10) can be approached by optimizing (2.1.11). It's necessary to investigate the matrices A, A^T which are essential to solving it numerically. The properties of $A^T A$ will determine the convergence rate of algorithms. The matrix is a block matrix and possibly sparse in practice. Let $v = (x_1, x_2, y, z)$, it admits implicit representation:

$$Av = (E_1 x_1 + E_2 x_2, E_1^T y + z, E_2^T y, c_1^T x_1 + c_2^T x_2 - b^T y).$$

It involves

- (i) Two multiplications of E : x_1, x_2 on the right and y on the right,
- (ii) inner product using x_1, x_2 and y .

Let $\bar{v} = (\bar{y}, \bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \xi) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^{n_1} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_2} \times \mathbb{R}$ then the right multiplication of has:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{v}^T A &= (E_1^T \bar{y} + \xi c_1^T, E_2^T \bar{y} + \xi c_2^T, \bar{x}_1^T E_1^T + \bar{x}_2^T E_2^T - \xi b^T, \bar{x}_1^T) \\ &= (E_1^T \bar{y} + \xi c_1, E_2^T \bar{y} + \xi c_2, E_1 \bar{x}_1 + E_2 \bar{x}_2 - \xi b, \bar{x}_1)^T. \end{aligned}$$

- (i) Two multiplications of E : \bar{y} on the left and for \bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2 on the right,
- (ii) one vector addition with $c = (c_1, c_2)$ and b .

Therefore, computing $A^T A v$ has four vector multiplications using E . In practice, a sparse matrix E from the model can speed up computations.

Another key operation would be $A^T A v$. Let $\bar{v} = Av$, then

$$\begin{aligned} A^T A v &= \begin{bmatrix} E_1^T(E_1 x_1 + E_2 x_2) + (c_1^T x_1 + c_2^T x_2 - b^T y)c_1 \\ E_2^T(E_1 x_1 + E_2 x_2) + (c_1^T x_1 + c_2^T x_2 - b^T y)c_2 \\ E_1(E_1^T y + z) + E_2 E_2^T y - (c_1^T x_1 + c_2^T x_2 - b^T y)b \\ E_1^T y + z \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (E_1^T E_1 + c_1^T)c_1 x_1 + (E_1^T E_2 + c_2^T)c_1 x_2 - (c_1 b^T)y \\ (E_2^T E_1 + c_1^T)c_2 x_1 + (E_2^T E_2 + c_2^T)c_2 x_2 - (c_2 b^T)y \\ -(bc_1^T)x_1 - (bc_2^T)x_2 + (E_2 E_2^T + E_1 E_1^T + bb^T)y + (E_1 E_1^T)z \\ E_1^T y + z \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

In practice, implicitly representing the process of $A^T Av$ is better in computing software. Here we write it out to view, for theoretical interests.

Let $f(v) = (1/2)\|Av - d\|^2$ to be the objective function of optimization problem (2.1.11). Its gradient, objective value, and Bregman Divergence have:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla f(v) &= A^T Av - A^T d, \\ f(v) &= \frac{1}{2}\langle x, \nabla f(v) - A^T d \rangle + \frac{1}{2}\|d\|^2, \\ D_f(x, y) &= \langle x - y, A^T A(x - y) \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

The value $\nabla f(v), f(v)$ when evaluated together, require minimal additional computations. This fact is favorable for implementations in practice.

Chapter 3

Advanced Enhancement Techniques in Accelerated Proximal Gradient

We review advanced enhancement techniques in Accelerated Proximal Gradient method. The review will be based on several papers.

There are several notable enhancements of the FISTA for function that are not strongly convex. Monotone variants of FISTA proposed by Beck and Nesterov imposes monotonicity in function value at the iterates. Backtracking strategies from Chambolle shows that the underestimating Lipschitz constant using a backtracking technique to choose a next iterate improves the average runtime of the algorithm in practice. They showed that the convergence rate is bounded by the estimates of the Lipschitz constant. Restart is a technique pioneer early by ??? . Necoara et al. [1] showed that there exists an optimal restarting interval to achieve fast line convergence rate for all functions with quadratic growth condition.

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In this chapter, we will go through the details of these enhancements of FISTA and discuss why they are important in theories, and in practice.

3.1 FISTA made simple

{ass:standard-fista}

Most literatures overcomplicate the proofs and the matters regarding FISTA algorithm and its convergence rate. We showcase the theories using a generic similar triangle representations of the algorithm which tremendously simplifies the arguments.

Assumption 3.1.1 (the standard FISTA setting) Let $F = f + g$ where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ is L Lipschitz smooth, g is convex. Suppose that $\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} F(x) \neq \emptyset$.

Specializing Theorem 1.0.5, we have the following lemma:

Lemma 3.1.2 (proximal gradient inequality) *If $F = f + g$ satisfies Assumption 3.1.1, then for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, z \in \mathbb{R}^n$, define $\bar{x} = T_{L^{-1},f,g}(x)$ it has*

$$0 \leq F(z) - F(\bar{x}) + \frac{L}{2}\|z - x\| - \frac{L}{2}\|z - \bar{x}\|^2.$$

Proof. Use Theorem 1.0.5. ■

Definition 3.1.3 (gradient mapping) *Suppose $F = f + g$ satisfies Assumption 3.1.1, define the gradient mapping for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$*

$$\mathcal{G}_{\beta,f,g}(x) = \beta^{-1}(x - T_{\beta,f,g}(x)).$$

If f, g are clear in the context then we simply omit subscript and present \mathcal{G}_β . The following definition can capture monotone variants of FISTA with line search, including backtracking strategies.

Definition 3.1.4 (generic monotone proximal gradient with line search)

Bibliography

- [1] I. NECOARA, Y. NESTEROV, AND F. GLINEUR, *Linear convergence of first order methods for non-strongly convex optimization*, Mathematical Programming, 175 (2019), pp. 69–107.