

CS5321 Numerical Optimization Homework 1

Due Oct 28

1. (30%) For a single variable unimodal function $f \in [0, 1]$, we want to find its minimum. We have introduced the binary search algorithm in the class. But in each iteration, we need two function evaluations, $f(x_k)$ and $f(x_k + \epsilon)$. Here is another type of algorithms, called ternary search. Figure 1 illustrates the idea. The initial triplet of x values is $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$.

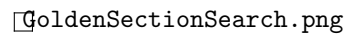
GoldenSectionSearch.png

Figure 1: The idea of ternary search.

[Answers are put here.](#)

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- (a) (10%) For the search direction, show that to find the minimum point, if $f(x_4) = f_{4a}$, the triplet $\{x_1, x_2, x_4\}$ is chosen for the next iteration. If $f(x_4) = f_{4b}$, the triplet $\{x_2, x_4, x_3\}$ is chosen. (Hint: use the property of unimodal.)
- (b) (10%) For either case, we want these three points keep the same ratio, which means

$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{c}{b-c}.$$

Show that under this condition, the ratio of $b/a = (\sqrt{5} + 1)/2$, which is the golden ratio ϕ . (So this algorithm is called the *Golden-section search*).

- (c) (10%) If we let each iteration of the algorithm has two function evaluations, show the convergence rate of the Golden-section search is ϕ^{-2} . (This means it is faster than the binary search algorithm under the same number of function evaluations.)

a) In this situation, if $f(x_4) = f_{4a}$, which means the lowest point is on the left of x_4 , so the next iteration is $\{x_1, x_2, x_4\}$; If $f(x_4) = f_{4b}$, the lowest point is on the right of x_2 , so the next iteration is $\{x_2, x_4, x_3\}$

b) golden ratio means : $(a + b)/a = a/b = (5 + 1)/2$ ($a > b > 0$). $a/b = c/a = c/(b - c)$: take $c = a * a/b \Rightarrow a(a * a + a * b - b * b) = 0 \Rightarrow a(a + b) = b * b \Rightarrow b/a = (a + b)/b$, then we find it is golden ratio

c) we set a, b, ϵ .

$b - 0.618(b - a) \Rightarrow a(1)f(a(1)) \Rightarrow f1$

$a + 0.618(b - a) \Rightarrow a(2)f(a(2)) \Rightarrow f2$

if $f1 < f2$: $a(2) \Rightarrow b, a(1) \Rightarrow a(2), f1 \Rightarrow f2, b - 0.618(b - a) \Rightarrow a(1), f(a(1)) \Rightarrow f1$

$else, a(1) \Rightarrow a, a(2) \Rightarrow a(1), f2 \Rightarrow f1, a + 0.618(b - a) \Rightarrow a(2), f(a(2)) \Rightarrow f2$
 $if b - a \leq \epsilon$ end
 else go if f1 less than f2...
 in these steps, we have two function evaluations
 so every epoch we combine two function together
 so $\frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = \phi$, the rate of Golden-section search is ϕ^{-2}

2. (15%) Show that Newton's method for single variables is equivalent to build a quadratic model

$$q(x) = f(x_k) + f'(x_k)(x - x_k) + \frac{f''(x_k)}{2}(x - x_k)^2$$

at the point x_k and use the minimum point of $q(x)$ as the next point.
 (Hint: to show the next point $x_{k+1} = x_k - f'(x_k)/f''(x_k)$)

in x_k , we need to find the point where the derivative is 0, so we need to differentiate both sides of the above equation at the same time, which is $q'(x) = f''(x_k)(x - x_k) + f'(x_k) = 0$, so the next point is $x_{k+1} = x_k - f'(x_k)/f''(x_k)$. just same as build a quadratic model.

3. (15%) Matrix A is an $n \times n$ symmetric matrix. Show that all A 's eigenvalues are positive if and only if A is positive definite.

In mathematics, a symmetric matrix A with real entries is positive-definite if the real number $x^T A x$ is positive for every nonzero real column vector. And spectral theorem is a result about when a linear operator or matrix can be diagonalized. Since the symmetric matrix A is a positive definite matrix, there is an orthogonal matrix T , so that the elements on the diagonal of $T^T A T$ are all positive values, and the elements on the diagonal are all eigenvalues of A , that is, the eigenvalues of A are all positive numbers

4. (50%) Consider a function $f(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 - x_2)^3 + 2(x_1 - 1)^2$.

- (a) Suppose $\vec{x}_0 = (1, 2)$. Compute \vec{x}_1 using the steepest descent step with the optimal step length.

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^3 + 2x_1^2 - 3x_1^2 x_2 - 3x_1 x_2^2 - 4x_1 + x_2^3 + 2$$

$$\Delta f(x_1, x_2) = [3x_1^2 + 4x_1 - 6x_1 x_2 + 3x_2^2 - 4, -3x_1^2 + 6x_1 x_2 - 3x_2^2] = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 6x_1 + 4 - 6x_2 & -6x_1 + 6x_2 \\ -6x_1 + 6x_2 & -6x_2 + 6x_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 6 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_0 = (1, 2), \text{ so } p = -g = -\Delta f(1, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{-g^T p}{p^T H p} = -0.1$$

$$\min f(x_0 - \alpha \Delta f) = (1 - 3\alpha - (2 + 3\alpha))^3 + 2(1 - 3\alpha - 1)^2$$

$f'(x_0 - \alpha \Delta f)$ cannot be zero

since α should be (0,1), α should be 1 so $x_1 = x_0 + \alpha p = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

- (b) What is the Newton's direction of f at $(x_1, x_2) = (1, 2)$? Is it a descent direction?

$$g = \Delta f(1, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 6 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p = -H^{-1}g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-g^T H^{-1}g = \frac{3}{2}$$

It is not a descent direction, because in that place, $g^T p$ is positive

- (c) Compute the LDL decomposition of the Hessian of f at $(x_1, x_2) = (1, 2)$. (No pivoting)

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 6 & -6 \end{bmatrix} = LDL^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (d) Compute the modified Newton step using LDL modification.

$$LDL^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{H} = L\hat{D}L^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 21 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p = -\hat{H}^{-1}g = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{9}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = x_0 + p = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{3}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

- (e) Suppose $\vec{x}_0 = (1, 1)$ and $\vec{x}_1 = (1, 2)$, and the $B_0 = I$. Compute the quasi Newton direction p_1 using BFGS.

$$g_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p_0 = -B_0^{-1}g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$s_0 = x_1 - x_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad g_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \quad y_0 = g_1 - g_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_1 = B_0 - \frac{B_0 s_0 s_0^T B_0}{s_0^T B_0 s_0} + \frac{y_0 y_0^T}{y_0^T s_0} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p_1 = -B_1^{-1}g_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$