

# DSA5103 Assignment 3

**Instructions** While all languages are acceptable, it is recommended that you code using Python or MATLAB. You must write your own code. Due on April 16, 11:59pm. Please submit a pdf file including answers for **every** question. In addition, you should submit the codes for Q2 (.m file or .ipynb file) that I can run for generating the numerical results reported in the pdf file. No programming is required for Q1.

1. **ADMM** Consider finding a point in intersection of two convex sets  $C, D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  via solving

$$\min_x \delta_C(x) + \delta_D(x)$$

where  $\delta_C$  is the indicator function of the set  $C$ .

(a) Transform the above problem into the 2-block separable structure that ADMM can handle. [2 marks]

(b) Give the explicit formulae of the ADMM iterations. [3 marks — 1 mark for each variable]

(c) Set  $\sigma = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $C = [1, 2] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,  $D = [1.5, 3] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Initialize every variable by zero. Compute the first two iterations of ADMM. [2 marks — 1 mark for each iteration]

Solution. (a)  $\min_{x,y} \delta_C(x) + \delta_D(y) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x - y = 0$

(b) For  $\sigma > 0$ , the augmented Lagrangian function is

$$L_\sigma(x, y, z) = \delta_C(x) + \delta_D(y) + \langle z, x - y \rangle + \frac{\sigma}{2} \|x - y\|^2 = \delta_C(x) + \delta_D(y) + \frac{\sigma}{2} \|x - y + \sigma^{-1} z\|^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma} \|z\|^2$$

The ADMM takes the iterations

$$\begin{aligned} x^{(k+1)} &= \Pi_C(y^{(k)} - \sigma^{-1} z^{(k)}) \\ y^{(k+1)} &= \Pi_D(x^{(k+1)} + \sigma^{-1} z^{(k)}) \\ z^{(k+1)} &= z^{(k)} + \tau \sigma (x^{(k+1)} - y^{(k+1)}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma > 0$ ,  $\tau > 0$ ,  $\Pi_C(\cdot)$  is a projection onto  $C$ .

(c)  $k = 0$ .

$$x^{(1)} = \Pi_C(y^{(0)} - \sigma^{-1} z^{(0)}) = \Pi_C(0) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}y^{(1)} &= \Pi_D(x^{(1)} + \sigma^{-1}z^{(0)}) = \Pi_D(1) = 1.5 \\z^{(1)} &= z^{(0)} + \tau\sigma(x^{(1)} - y^{(1)}) = 0 + (1 - 1.5) = -0.5\end{aligned}$$

$k = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}x^{(2)} &= \Pi_C(y^{(1)} - \sigma^{-1}z^{(1)}) = \Pi_C(1.5 + 0.5) = 2 \\y^{(2)} &= \Pi_D(x^{(2)} + \sigma^{-1}z^{(1)}) = \Pi_D(2 - 0.5) = 1.5 \\z^{(2)} &= z^{(1)} + \tau\sigma(x^{(2)} - y^{(2)}) = -0.5 + (2 - 1.5) = 0\end{aligned}$$

2. **Robust PCA** In this question, we will develop ADMM for Robust Principal Component Analysis and use it for the problem of foreground-background segmentation. Let  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be the data matrix and we aim to decompose it into a low-rank matrix  $L$  and a sparse matrix  $S$

$$\min_{L, S} \|L\|_* + \lambda \|S\|_1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad L + S = M$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_*$  denotes the nuclear norm and  $\|\cdot\|_1$  denotes the  $\ell_1$  norm. The input of the ADMM should be  $M$  and  $\lambda$  and the output should be  $L$  and  $S$ . By default, we set  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\max(m, n)}}$ . We always use the zero matrix as the initial point. The method is terminated when

$$r^{(k)} := \max \left\{ \frac{\|L^{(k)} - L^{(k-1)}\|_F}{1 + \|L^{(k)}\|_F}, \frac{\|S^{(k)} - S^{(k-1)}\|_F}{1 + \|S^{(k)}\|_F} \right\} < 10^{-4}$$

or the number of iterations exceeds 200.

- (a) Set  $m = 500$ ,  $n = 1000$ . Generate an  $m \times 10$  random matrix  $W$  and a  $10 \times n$  random matrix  $H$  where each entry  $W_{ij}$  or  $H_{ij}$  is a random variable drawn from the standard normal distribution  $N(0, 1)$ . Let  $L_0 = WH$ . In addition generate a random sparse matrix  $S_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  with approximately  $0.05mn$  nonzero entries (by “scipy.sparse.random” in Python or “sprandn” in MATLAB). Let  $M = L_0 + S_0$ . Run your algorithm and then report the differences between your approximate solutions  $L, S$  generated by ADMM and the truth  $L_0, S_0$ :

$$\|L - L_0\|_F, \|S - S_0\|_F.$$

In addition report the number of iterations and running time. (Your algorithm should converge very quickly) [2 marks —  $\|L - L_0\|_F, \|S - S_0\|_F$  should be roughly  $O(10^{-2})$  or even better]

- (b) You may further speed up the codes by the following tricks:

- Use economy or reduced SVD instead of full SVD (most likely the full SVD cannot be stored for high-dimensional data)

- Tune parameter  $\sigma$  in every iteration via

$$\sigma^{(0)} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\max}(M)} \quad \text{inverse of the largest singular value of } M$$

$$\sigma^{(k+1)} = \rho \sigma^{(k)} \quad \text{the ratio } \rho \geq 1 \text{ can be, e.g., } \rho = 1.1$$

(c) Apply your code for foreground-background segmentation of the Basketball player video:  $n = 112$ ,  $m = 918 \times 1374 = 1261332$ . Download from

<https://1drv.ms/u/s!AgcVCsHBmAstgYwKd0hmNQ4AgMbJag?e=w8simu>

The file “BasketballPlayer.csv” is the data matrix  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  where each column is a video frame. Report the number of iteration, running time, the term  $r^{(k)}$  defined above, the rank of your estimated matrix  $L$ , and the number of nonzero entries in your estimated matrix  $S$ . [3 marks —  $r^{(k)}$  should be  $< 10^{-4}$ ]

(d) Visualize the 20-th frame:  $M_{.20}$ ,  $L_{.20}$ ,  $S_{.20}$ , namely reshape the 20-th column of the raw video frame  $M_{.20}$ , the 20-th column of the background  $L_{.20}$ , the 20-th column of the foreground  $S_{.20}$  into  $918 \times 1374$  images and show the images. Make sure that you first find the maximal and minimal values in  $L$  and  $S$ , then scale the entries into  $[0, 1]$ , otherwise the images will not look correct. [1 mark — the basketball player should be totally and clearly separated from the background]

(e) Visualize  $L$  and  $S$  by making a background video and a moving object video. [2 marks — in video of  $L$ , the background should not contain (any residual of) the basketball player.]

Solution. (a)

$$\|L - L_0\|_F = 9.3 \times 10^{-3}, \|S - S_0\|_F = 2.6 \times 10^{-2}, \text{ iteration} = 63, \text{ time} = 2.5 \text{ sec.}$$

(c)

$$\text{iteration} = 77, \text{ time} = 511.8 \text{ sec}, r^{(k)} = 9.2 \times 10^{-5}, \text{rank}(L) = 45, \text{nnz}(S) = 133163367.$$

(d)



(e) <https://youtu.be/Civ1g784zf4>

<https://youtu.be/DWSzc1nqXzc>