

# E0 230 : Computational Methods of Optimization

## Assignment 4

### Instructions:

- Attempt all questions
- For Numerical Answer questions, insert only the digits **with no leading or trailing spaces** in the MS Teams Form provided
- You can submit the MS Teams Form **only once**. No further changes can be made, so click on *Submit* wisely.
- For the file **a4.csv**, each column is a 3d vector of the form  $[x_i, y_i]$ ;  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , and  $y_i \in \{\pm 1\}$ .
- Late Submissions will be penalised.

1. Consider the problem

$$x^* = \arg \min \frac{1}{2} \|Cx + d\|^2 \text{ such that } Ax = b$$

(a) Suppose we want to project a point  $u$  onto the set  $\{x : Ax = b\}$ , where  $A$  is full rank and  $b$  is nonzero. What is the closed form solution to the projection  $x$ ?

- A.  $x = u - A^T(AA^T)^{-1}(b - Au)$
- B.  $x = u - A^T(A^T A)^{-1}(b - Au)$
- C.  $x = u - A^T(AA^T)^{-1}(Au - b)$
- D.  $x = u - A^T(A^T A)^{-1}(Au - b)$

(b) Suppose  $A$  is of full rank,  $C^T C$  is invertible and  $b$  is nonzero. What is the closed form solution to this problem?

- A.  $x^* = (C^T C)^{-1} A^T (A(C^T C)^{-1} A^T)^{-1} (b + A(C^T C)^{-1} C^T d) - (C^T C)^{-1} C^T d$
- B.  $x^* = (C^T C)^{-1} A (A^T (C^T C)^{-1} A)^{-1} (b - A^T (C^T C)^{-1} C^T d) - (C^T C)^{-1} C^T d$
- C.  $x^* = (C^T C)^{-1} A^T (A^T A)^{-1} b - (C^T C)^{-1} C^T d$
- D.  $x^* = (C^T C)^{-1} A (A A^T)^{-1} b - (C^T C)^{-1} C^T d$

(c) Suppose

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad d = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Starting at  $(0, 0, 0)$ , how many iterations of projected gradient descent with stepsize  $\eta = 0.5$  are required to reach a point  $z$  such that  $\|z - x^*\| \leq 0.001$ ?

- (d) Starting at  $(0, 0, 0)$ , how many iterations of projected gradient descent with stepsize  $\eta = 0.25$  are required to reach a point  $z$  such that  $\|z - x^*\| \leq 0.001$ ?
- (e) Starting at  $(0, 0, 0)$ , how many iterations of projected gradient descent with stepsize  $\eta = 2.5$  are required to reach a point  $z$  such that  $\|z - x^*\| \leq 0.001$ ?

Consider the sets  $S(0, 1) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  and  $S(a, r) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x - a\|^2 \leq r^2\}$ .

2. (a) What is the projection  $x$  of a point  $y$  onto  $S(0, 1)$ ?

- A.  $x = \frac{1}{\|y\|} y$  for all  $y$ .
- B.  $x = y \frac{1}{\max\{1, \|y\|\}}$  for all  $y$
- C.  $x = y \frac{1}{\min\{1, \|y\|\}}$  for all  $y$

(b) What is the projection  $x$  of a point  $y$  onto  $S(a, r)$ ?

- A.  $x = \frac{r}{\|y - a\|} (y - a)$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus S(a, r)$
- B.  $x = \frac{r}{\|y - a\|} (y - a) + a$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus S(a, r)$
- C.  $x = \frac{r}{\|y - a\|} (y - a) - a$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus S(a, r)$

(c) Suppose  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $S := S(0, 1) \cap S((-1, 1), 1/\sqrt{2})$ . Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix},$$

and consider the problem

$$x^* = \arg \min_{x \in S} \|Ax + b\|.$$

We'll solve this problem with projected gradient descent. How many iterations are needed to reach a point  $z$  such that  $\|z - x^*\| \leq 0.0001$  with a stepsize  $\alpha = 0.01$ , starting at  $x_0 = (3, 0)$  and what is the final answer?

Use the following algorithm to project any point  $z \in \mathbb{R}^2$  onto  $S$ :

Algorithm:

1. Initialize:  $C = S(0, 1)$ ,  $D = S((-1, 1), 1/\sqrt{2})$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}^2$   $w_0 = P_C(z)$
2. while  $\|w_k - y_k\| \geq 0.0001$ , Compute:
  - (a)  $y_k = P_D(x_k)$
  - (b)  $w_{k+1} = P_C(y_k)$
3. Output  $w = w_{k+1} = P_S(z)$

3. Consider the problem

$$\arg \min_{w, b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2$$

such that  $y_i(w^T x_i + b) \geq 1$

where  $y_i \in \{\pm 1\}$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are given scalars. We have provided data  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{10}$  in **a4.csv**.

- (a) Consider the problem stated above. We will use active set methods to solve this problem. Initialize the problem with  $w_0 = [132.1473, -53.9619, 0]$ . What is the initial working set?
- (b) Find the feasible direction for this set.
- (c) What is the next step you need to take?
  - A. Find the blocking constraints
  - B. Check the feasibility of  $x + u$
  - C. Compute the Lagrange multipliers/
- (d) If you chose (a), what is the optimal stepsize? If you chose (b), is the point feasible? If you chose (c), what is the smallest Lagrange multiplier?
- (e) What is the working set after you complete this iteration?

4. Consider the problems

$$m_1 = \arg \min_m \sum_i \|x_i - m\|_1$$

and

$$m_\infty = \arg \min_m \sum_i \|x_i - m\|_\infty.$$

We will use the data given in **a4.csv** to answer the following questions. You may use any LP solver you please, such as **linprog**, **sedumi**, or **cvx/cvxpy**.

- (a) Reformulate the problem of finding  $m_\infty$  into a linear program, and solve it.
  - A.  $m_\infty = (-.116, .167)$
  - B.  $m_\infty = (0.821, 0.733)$
  - C.  $m_\infty = (.137, .924)$
  - D.  $m_\infty = (-.137, .924)$

- (b) Now consider the problem

$$x^* = \arg \min \|x\|_1 \text{ such that } Ax = b.$$

We aim to solve this problem with linear programming. Consider the following change of variables:  $x = u - v$ , where  $u_i = \max\{x_i, 0\}$  and  $v_i = \max\{-x_i, 0\}$ . Using this change of variables, convert the problem into a linear program and solve it. Use the following problem data:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8147 & 0.6324 & 0.9575 & 0.9572 \\ 0.9058 & 0.0975 & 0.9649 & 0.4854 \\ 0.1270 & 0.2785 & 0.1576 & 0.8003 \\ 0.9134 & 0.5469 & 0.9706 & 0.1419 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4218 \\ 0.9157 \\ 0.7922 \\ 0.9595 \end{bmatrix}$$

- A.  $x = (0.1060, 0.5418, 0.0233, 0.5866)$
  - B.  $x = (3.1400, -12.9328, 4.2818, -1.8395)$ .
  - C.  $x = (17.268, 0.838, -15.893, 1.088)$
  - D.  $x = (2.8825, -0.5676, 0.9225, 10.0653)$
- (c) We will now try and convert the problem of finding  $m_1$  into a linear program as well. Suppose we use the substitution of variables we defined in the previous part. Reformulate the problem of finding  $m_1$  into a linear program, and find the answer.
- A.  $m_1 = (-0.8407, 0.1580)$
  - B.  $m_1 = (0.0032, 0.0264)$
  - C.  $m_1 = (-0.1660, -0.0313)$
  - D.  $m_1 = (0.0264, 0.0108)$