

# Today: Conjugate Gradient

Goal: Let  $A^T = A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , solve  $Ax = b$

$A$  positive definite, i.e.  $x^T A x > 0, \forall x \neq 0$

Idea: Turn  $Ax = b$  into a minimization problem

Since  $A$  is positive definite,  $\|x\|_A = \sqrt{x^T A x}$

Let  $x_* \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be exact solution to  $Ax = b$

$x_*$  solves  $Ax = b \iff x^* = \underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|x - x_*\|_A^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - x_*\|_A^2 &= (x - x_*)^T A (x - x_*) \\ &= x^T A x - 2(Ax_*)^T x + \|x_*\|_A^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\iff x^* = \underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\operatorname{argmin}} (x^T A x - 2b^T x)$

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T A x - b^T x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

want to find  $x_* = \underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^d}{\operatorname{argmin}} f(x)$   $\longleftarrow$  optimization algorithms

• Method 1: Steepest gradient descent

Given  $x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , try to find  $x_{k+1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

such that  $x_{k+1} = x_k - \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k)$   $\longleftarrow$  downhill direction

want  $f(x_{k+1}) \leq f(x_k)$

so choose  $\alpha_k = \underset{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{argmin}} f(\underbrace{x_k - \alpha \nabla f(x_k)}_{-d_k})$   $\longleftarrow$  line search

Note that  $\nabla f(x) = Ax - b$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x + \alpha y) &= \frac{1}{2} (x + \alpha y)^T A (x + \alpha y) - b^T (x + \alpha y) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x^T A x - b^T x + \alpha y^T (Ax - b) + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} y^T A y \end{aligned}$$

$$= f(x) + \alpha y^T (Ax - b) + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} y^T A y$$

$$d_k = -\nabla f(x_k) = b - Ax_k = r_k$$

$$f(x_k - \alpha d_k) = f(x_k) + \alpha d_k^T r_k + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} d_k^T A d_k$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_k = \frac{d_k^T r_k}{d_k^T A d_k} = \frac{r_k^T r_k}{r_k^T A r_k}$$

Note also that  $r_k = b - A(x_{k-1} + \alpha_{k-1} d_{k-1})$   
 $= r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} A d_{k-1} = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} \underbrace{A r_{k-1}}_{w_{k-1}}$

• Algorithm Given  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $r_0 = b - Ax_0 = d_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$

For  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$w_{k-1} = A d_{k-1}$$

$$\alpha_{k-1} = \frac{d_{k-1}^T r_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1}}$$

• Cost:  $O(n)$  memory

$O(n)$  flops

+ compute one  $Ad$  per iteration

$$x_k = x_{k-1} + \alpha_{k-1} d_{k-1}$$

$$r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} w_{k-1}$$

$$d_{k-1} = r_{k-1}$$

end

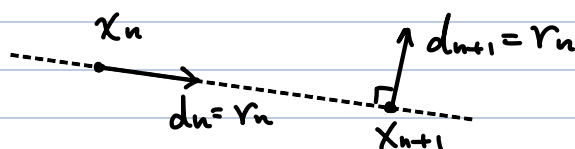
← search direction has no memory

• Convergence of Steepest GD

1) Two consecutive search directions are orthogonal

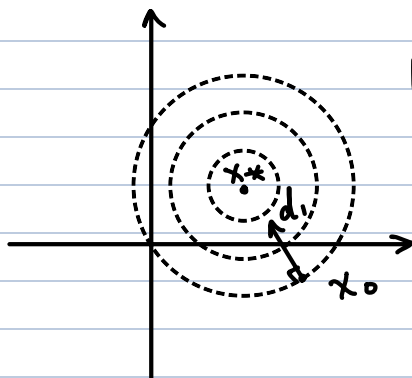
$$\text{From } r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} A r_{k-1}$$

$$\xRightarrow{r_{k-1}^T} r_{k-1}^T r_k = r_{k-1}^T r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} r_{k-1}^T A r_{k-1} = 0$$



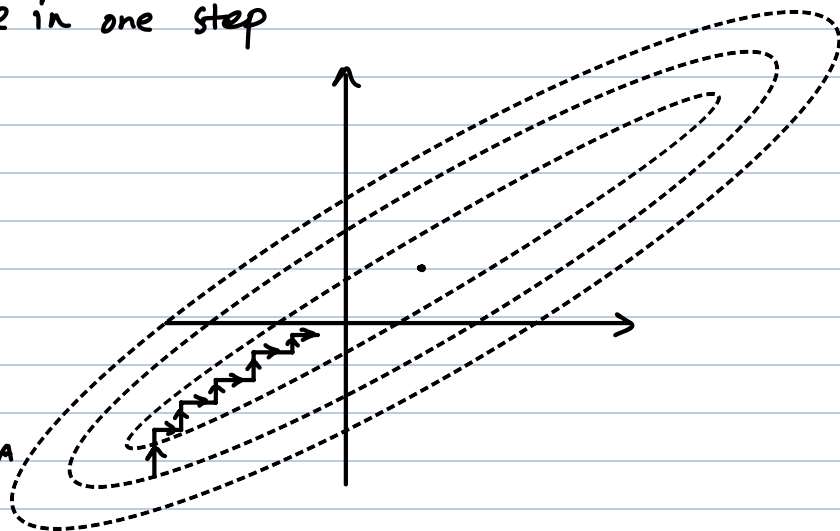
$$2) \quad \|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq \left( \frac{\kappa_2(A) - 1}{\kappa_2(A) + 1} \right)^k \|x_0 - x_*\|_A$$

Slow convergence if  $\kappa_2(A) \gg 1$



$$\kappa_2(A) = 1$$

converge in one step



$$\kappa_2(A) \gg 1$$

$$\|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\kappa_2(A) + 1} \right)^k \|x_0 - x_*\|_A$$

$$\leq \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow k \geq O\left(\frac{\log(\varepsilon)}{\log\left(1 - \frac{2}{\kappa_2(A) + 1}\right)}\right) \approx O(\kappa_2(A) \log(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}))$$

$$\text{Pf: } \|x_k - x_*\|_A^2 = (x_k - x_*)^T A (x_k - x_*)$$

$$= f(x_k) + x_*^T A x_*$$

$$(\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$\leq f(x_{k-1} + \alpha \gamma_{k-1}) + x_*^T A x_*$$

$$= (x_{k-1} + \alpha \gamma_{k-1} - x_*)^T A (x_{k-1} + \alpha \gamma_{k-1} - x_*)^T$$

$$= \|(\mathbf{I} - \alpha A)(x_{k-1} - x_*)\|_A$$

A eig. values

$$0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$$

$$\leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |1 - \alpha \lambda_i| \|x_{k-1} - x_*\|_A$$

$$\text{Note that } \min_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |1 - \alpha \lambda_i| = \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda_1}{\lambda_n + \lambda_1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda_1}{\lambda_n + \lambda_1} \|x_{k-1} - x_*\|_A \leq \left( \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda_1}{\lambda_n + \lambda_1} \right)^k \|x_0 - x_*\|_A$$



## Method 2: Conjugate Gradient (Krylov subspace method)

Each step, we still do one-dimensional search

$$x_k = x_{k-1} + \alpha_{k-1} d_{k-1}$$

Choose  $\alpha_{k-1} = \underset{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{argmin}} f(x_{k-1} + \alpha d_{k-1})$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_{k-1} = \frac{d_{k-1}^T r_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^T A d_{k-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} A d_{k-1} \Rightarrow d_{k-1}^T r_k = 0 \leftarrow \text{search direction}$$

• How to choose "best"  $d_k$ ?

- Because we do 1D search each step, after  $k$  steps,

$$x_k = x_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i, \quad \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Hope to choose  $d_0, d_1, \dots, d_{k-1}$

s.t. 1)  $\operatorname{span}\{d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}\} = \mathcal{K}_k(A, r_0) =: \mathcal{K}_k$

$$2) f(x_k) = \min_{x \in x_0 + \mathcal{K}_k} f(x)$$

- Since  $x_k$  is optimal, we have

$$\partial_{\alpha_j} f(x_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i)$$

$$= \partial_{\alpha_j} \left[ f(x_0) + \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i \right)^T (A x_0 - b) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i \right)^T A \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i \right) \right]$$

$$= d_j^T (A x_0 - b) + d_j^T A \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i \right)$$

$$= d_j^T (Ax_k - b) = -d_j^T r_k$$

when  $\partial_{x_j} f(x_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i) = 0$ ,

$$\Rightarrow d_j^T r_k = 0, \quad \forall j = 0, \dots, k-1$$

$$= d_j^T (Ax_{j+1} - b) - d_j^T A \sum_{i=j+1}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i$$

$$= \underbrace{-d_j^T r_{j+1}}_{=0} - \underbrace{d_j^T \sum_{i=j+1}^{k-1} \alpha_i A d_i}_{\sum_{i=j+1}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_j^T A d_i}$$

$\alpha_i$ 's are fixed as long as  $d_i$ 's are chosen

so want to choose  $d_i$  s.t.  $d_j^T A d_i = 0 \quad j = 0, \dots, i-1$   
 $d_j \perp_A d_i$

Idea: As we generate the residual, use Gram-Schmidt to generate search directions that are  $A$ -conjugate.

- At the  $k$ <sup>th</sup> step, we have compute  $r_k, d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}$

$$\text{then } d_k = r_k - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_i \frac{d_i^T A r_k}{d_i^T A d_i} \quad \leftarrow \text{need to store all } d_i\text{'s not a great idea!}$$

- We can simplify it a lot:

Actually, we have the following properties:

$$1) \quad d_j \perp r_k, \quad j = 0, \dots, k-1$$

$$2) \quad r_i \perp r_k, \quad i = 0, \dots, k-1$$

$$3) \quad d_i \perp_A r_k, \quad i = 0, \dots, k-2,$$

Proof: 1) Follows from the optimality of  $\alpha_{k-1}$  (\*)

$$2) \text{ From } (*), \quad d_i^T r_k = 0, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( r_i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} d_j \frac{d_j^T A r_i}{d_j^T A d_j} \right)^T r_k = 0 \Rightarrow r_i^T r_k = 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, k-1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Since } r_{i+1} = r_i - \alpha_i A d_i \Rightarrow A d_i = \frac{r_i - r_{i+1}}{\alpha_i}$$

$$\text{So } d_i^T A r_k = \left( \frac{r_i - r_{i+1}}{\alpha_i} \right)^T r_k \quad (*) \quad , \quad i = 0, \dots, k-1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{for } i = 0, \dots, k-2, \quad d_i^T A r_k = 0. \quad \leftarrow d_i \perp_A r_k, i = 0, \dots, k-2$$



- From 3),

$$d_k = r_k - d_{k-1} \frac{d_{k-1}^T A r_k}{d_{k-1}^T A d_{k-1}} =: \beta_k$$

$\beta_k$  can also be computed as follows (Just to be consistent with the usual form of CG)

$$\beta_k = \left( \frac{r_{k-1} - r_k}{\alpha_{k-1}} \right)^T r_k / (d_{k-1}^T A d_{k-1})$$

$$\stackrel{2) + \alpha_{k-1}}{=} \frac{r_k^T r_k}{d_{k-1}^T r_{k-1}}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def of } d_{k-1} + 1)}{=} \frac{r_k^T r_k}{r_{k-1}^T r_{k-1}}$$

### • Algorithm: Conjugate Gradient

Given initial  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $r_0 = b - A x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $d_0 = r_0$

For  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$w_{k-1} = A d_{k-1}$$

$$\alpha_{k-1} = \frac{d_{k-1}^T r_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1}}$$

$$x_k = x_{k-1} + \alpha_{k-1} d_{k-1}$$

$$r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} w_{k-1}$$

$\overbrace{x_{k-1}, r_{k-1}, d_{k-1}, w_{k-1}, \alpha_{k-1}, \beta_{k-1}}^{4n+2}$

• Cost:  $O(n)$  memory

compute one  $A d$   
+  $O(n)$  flops  
per iteration

if  $\|r_k\|_2 \leq \epsilon$ , break

$$d_k = r_k + d_{k-1} \underbrace{\frac{r_k^T r_k}{r_{k-1}^T r_{k-1}}}_{\beta_k} \quad \leftarrow \text{only difference from steepest gradient descent}$$

end

- Does  $\text{span}\{d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}\} = K_k(A, r_0)$  ?  $\checkmark$

Actually, also  $K_k(A, r_0) = \text{span}\{r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{k-1}\}$

By induction,  $\text{span}\{d_0\} = \text{span}\{r_0\} = K_1(A, r_0)$

Assume  $\text{span}\{d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}\} = K_k(A, r_0)$

then  $r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} A d_{k-1} \in K_{k+1}(A, r_0)$

$$d_k = r_k + d_{k-1} \beta_k \in K_{k+1}(A, r_0)$$

but  $r_k \perp r_i, i=0, 1, \dots, k-1$  linearly indep. ( $r_k \neq 0$ )

$$d_k \perp_A d_i, i=0, 1, \dots, k-1$$

$$\Rightarrow K_{k+1}(A, r_0) = \text{span}\{r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{k-1}\} = \text{span}\{d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}\}$$

CG is Krylov subspace method!

- Convergence of CG

$$\text{From } x_k = x_0 + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j d_j \in x_0 + K_k$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x_k) = \min_{x \in x_0 + K_k} f(x)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \|x_k - x_*\|_A = \min_{x \in x_0 + K_k} \|x - x_*\|_A$$

$$= \min_{p \in P_{k-1}} \|x_0 - x_* + p(A) r_0\|_A$$

$$= \min_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{k-1}} \| (I - p(A)A)(x_0 - x_*) \|_A$$

$$= \min_{\substack{q \in \mathcal{P}_k \\ q(0)=1}} \| q(A)(x_0 - x_*) \|_A$$

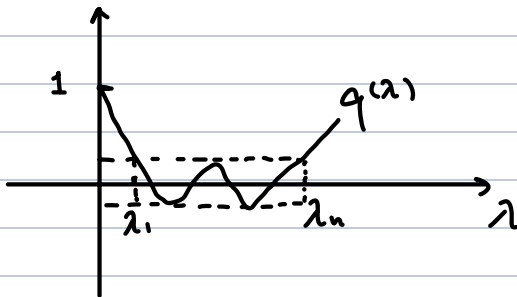
Assume  $A = Q^* \Lambda Q$  eigendecomposition ( $A^T = A$ )

$$(0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n)$$

$$\|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq \min_{\substack{q \in \mathcal{P}_k \\ q(0)=1}} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |q(\lambda_i)| \|x_0\|_A$$

$$=: \Sigma_k(A)$$

if  $k \geq n$ ,  $\Sigma_k(A) = 0$   
CG converges in  $n$  steps



Thm  $\min_{\substack{q = a_k \lambda^k + \dots + a_0 \in \mathcal{P}_k \\ a_k = 1}} \max_{\lambda \in [0, 1]} |q(\lambda)| = 1$

achieved by  $q_* = T_k(\lambda)$  ← Chebyshev polynomial

$$T_k(\lambda) = \begin{cases} \cos(k \arccos(\lambda)), & |\lambda| \leq 1 \\ \frac{1}{2}(\lambda + \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 1})^k + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda - \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 1})^k, & |\lambda| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Apply this to  $\Sigma_k(A)$

$$\Sigma_k(A) \leq \min_{\substack{q \in \mathcal{P}_k \\ q(0)=1}} \max_{\lambda \in [\lambda_1, \lambda_n]} |q(\lambda)|$$



$$= \max_{\lambda \in [\lambda_1, \lambda_n]} \left| \frac{T_k \left( 1 + 2 \frac{\lambda - \lambda_n}{\lambda_n - \lambda_1} \right)}{T_k \left( 1 + 2 \frac{-\lambda_n}{\lambda_n - \lambda_1} \right)} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left| T_k \left( 1 - \frac{2\lambda_n}{\lambda_n - \lambda_1} \right) \right|} = \frac{1}{\left| T_k \left( \frac{K_2(A) + 1}{K_2(A) - 1} \right) \right|}$$

Note that  $\frac{K_2(A) + 1}{K_2(A) - 1} + \sqrt{\left( \frac{K_2(A) + 1}{K_2(A) - 1} \right)^2 - 1} = \frac{\sqrt{K_2(A)} + 1}{\sqrt{K_2(A)} - 1}$

$$\Rightarrow \zeta_k(A) \leq \left( \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\sqrt{K_2(A)} + 1}{\sqrt{K_2(A)} - 1} \right)^k + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\sqrt{K_2(A)} + 1}{\sqrt{K_2(A)} - 1} \right)^{-k} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\leq 2 \left( \frac{\sqrt{K_2(A)} - 1}{\sqrt{K_2(A)} + 1} \right)^k \quad \leftarrow \text{When } A^* = A \text{ in GMRES, the error bound is similar!}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq 2 \left( \frac{\sqrt{K_2(A)} - 1}{\sqrt{K_2(A)} + 1} \right)^k \|x_0 - x_*\|_A$$

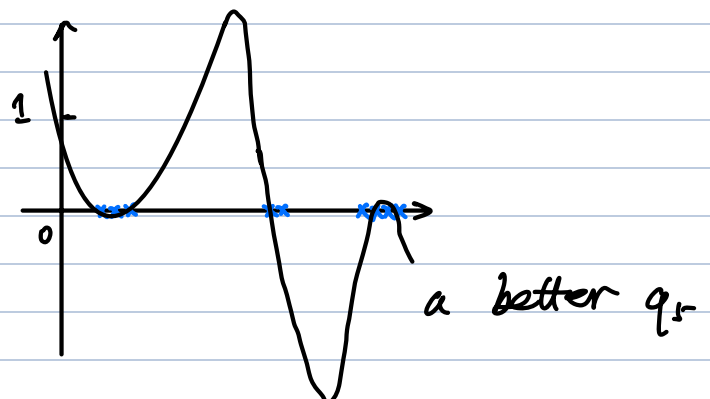
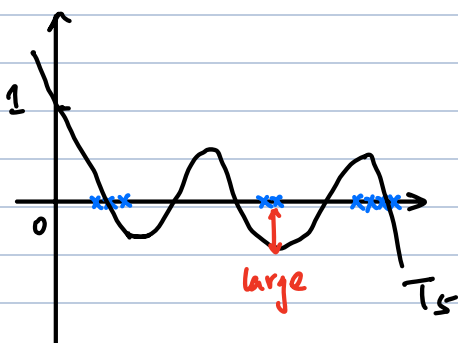
When  $K_2(A) \gg 1$ ,  $\left( \frac{\sqrt{K_2} - 1}{\sqrt{K_2} + 1} \right)^k \approx \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\sqrt{K_2}} \right)^k \approx e^{-2k/\sqrt{K_2}}$

to make  $\|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq \varepsilon$

we need  $k \geq O(\underbrace{\sqrt{K_2(A)}}_{\text{better than steepest GD}} \log(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}))$

$\leftarrow$  better than steepest GD

— Remark 1: Only worst case bound, convergence can be faster



Actual convergence rate depends on the structure of the spectra of  $A$ . # cluster is important.

- Remark 2: CG is mathematically equivalent to FOM. Actually, we can derive CG from FOM directly by solving the equation  $H_k y_k = \beta_1 e_1$  by LU decomposition. (See pset 3)

- Remark 3: If  $A$  is not symmetric, can we use the idea of GMRES to extend CG? (CG is computationally saving)

$$\text{In GMRES, } \|b - Ax_k\|_2 = \min_{x \in x_0 + K_k} \|b - Ax\|_2$$

$$= \min_{x \in x_0 + K_k} \|A(x - x_*)\|_2$$

$$= \min_{x \in x_0 + K_k} \|x - x_*\|_{A^T A}$$

$\Rightarrow$  apply CG to  $A^T A x = A^T b$   $\longleftarrow$  CGN / CGNR / Conjugate Residual...

But convergence rate is only  $O\left(1 - \frac{1}{\kappa(A)}\right)^k$