

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

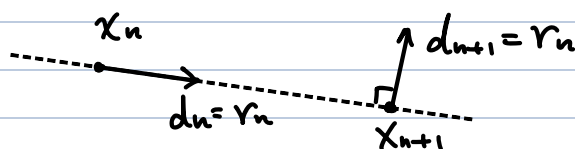
← search direction has no memory

• Convergence of Steepest GD

1) Two consecutive search directions are orthogonal

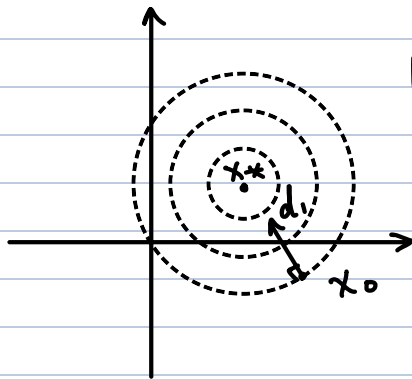
$$\text{From } r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} A r_{k-1}$$

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



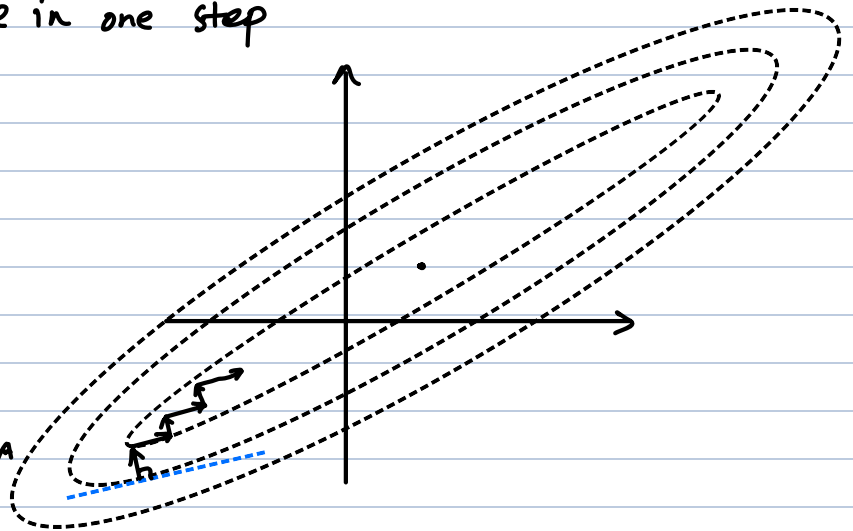
$$2) \quad \|x_k - x_*\|_A \leq \left(\frac{\kappa_2(A) - 1}{\kappa_2(A) + 1} \right)^k \|x_0 - x_*\|_A$$

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



$$\kappa_2(A) = 1$$

converge in one step



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

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

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

$$\text{Pf: } \|x_k - x_*\|_A^2 \stackrel{(\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R})}{\leq} \|x_{k-1} + \alpha y_{k-1} - x_*\|_A$$

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

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

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

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

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

$$= d_j^T (Ax_k - b) = -d_j^T r_k \quad \leftarrow \text{when } \partial_{d_j} f(x_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i d_i) = 0, \Rightarrow d_j^T r_k = 0, \quad \forall j = 0, \dots, k-1 \quad (\star)$$

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

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

α_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^{th} step, we have previous search directions d_0, \dots, d_{k-1} , for new r_k we have $d_k = r_k - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_i \frac{d_i^T A r_k}{d_i^T A d_i}$ \leftarrow need to store all d_i 's not a great idea!

- We can simplify it a lot:

clearly, by $r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_{k-1} A d_{k-1}$
 by induction, we know

Actually, we have the following properties: $\text{span}\{d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}\} \subseteq K_{k+1}(A, r_0)$

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

2) $r_i \perp r_k, \quad i = 0, \dots, k-1 \quad \leftarrow$ for GD, only true for $i = k-1$

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

Proof: 1) Follows from the optimality of α_{k-1} (\star)

2) From (\star), $d_i^T r_k = 0, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$

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

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

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

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



- From 3),

$$d_k \stackrel{3)}{=} r_k - d_{k-1} \frac{d_{k-1}^T A r_k}{d_{k-1}^T A d_{k-1}} =: \beta_k$$

β_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 $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

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

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

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

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

• Cost: $O(n)$ memory

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

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

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

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

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

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

but $r_k \perp r_i, i=0, 1, \dots, k-1$ thus r_0, \dots, r_{k-1}
 $d_k \perp_A d_i, i=0, 1, \dots, k-1$, and d_0, \dots, d_{k-1} linearly indep. ($r_k \neq 0$)

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

CG is Krylov subspace method !

- Convergence of CG

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

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

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

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

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

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

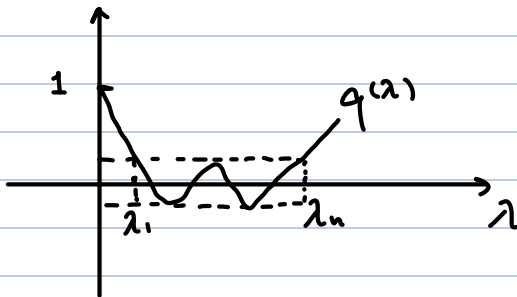
Assume $A = Q^* \Lambda Q$ eigendecomposition ($A^T = A$)

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

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

$$=: \Sigma_k(A)$$

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

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.

Actually, note that

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

If $\{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^n$ has only k distinct values, then RHS of $(*)$ vanishes.

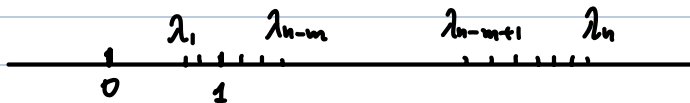
If $\{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^n$ has only k large values, then the following estimate is useful.

$$\|x_{k+1} - x_*\|_A \leq \frac{\lambda_{n-k} - \lambda_1}{\lambda_{n-k} + \lambda_1} \|x_0 - x_*\|_A$$

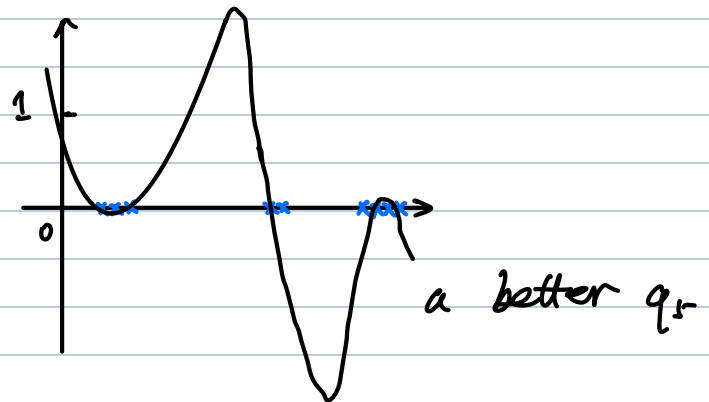
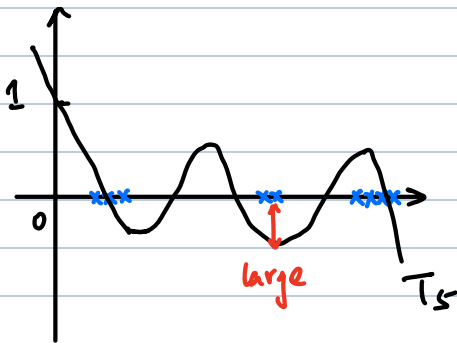
(Hint: take $q(\lambda)$ s.t.

$$q(\lambda_i) = 0, \quad i = n, n-1, \dots, n-k+1$$

$$q\left(\frac{\lambda_1 + \lambda_{n-k}}{2}\right) = 0$$



If $\{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^n$ cluster around k groups, then RHS of $(*)$ can be made small.



— 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 $O\left(1 - \frac{1}{\kappa(A)}\right)^k$