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AMATH 515

Homework Set 2

(1) Recall that

$$\text{prox}_{tf}(y) = \arg \min_x \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + f(x)$$

$$f_t(y) = \min_x \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + f(x).$$

Suppose  $f$  is convex.

(a) Prove that  $f_t$  is convex.

*Proof.* Let  $h(x, y) = \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + f(x)$ , so  $f_t(y) = \min_x h(x, y)$ .  $h$  is a convex function of  $x$  as it is the sum of a  $\ell_2$ -norm and a convex function. Only the first term depends on  $y$ , which is a  $\ell_2$ -norm, which is convex, so  $h$  is convex as a function of  $y$ .

Now, using the convexity, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} f_t(\lambda y_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_2) &= \min_x h(x, \lambda y_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_2) \\ &\leq h(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2, \lambda y_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_2) \\ &\leq \lambda h(x_1, y_1) + (1 - \lambda)h(x_2, y_2). \end{aligned}$$

We can choose  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  to be anything. For instance, we could choose  $x_1 = \arg \min_x h(x, y_1)$  and  $x_2 = \arg \min_x h(x, y_2)$ . In this case, we'd have that

$$f_t(\lambda y_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_2) \leq \lambda h(x_1, y_1) + (1 - \lambda)h(x_2, y_2) = \lambda f_t(y_1) + (1 - \lambda)f_t(y_2),$$

so  $f_t$  is convex.  $\square$

(b) Prove that  $\text{prox}_{tf}$  is a single-valued mapping.

*Proof.* In  $h$ , the first term is strongly convex with  $\alpha = t^{-1} \geq 0$ . Since  $h$  is the sum of convex functions,  $h$  will also be strongly convex with  $\alpha \geq 0$ . Therefore,  $h$  has a unique global minimizer, so  $\text{prox}_{tf}$  is a single-valued mapping.  $\square$

(c) Compute  $\text{prox}_{tf}$  and  $f_t$ , where  $f(x) = \|x\|_1$ .

*Proof.* We can rewrite the objective as a sum of positive terms

$$\frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + \|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{1}{2t} (x_i - y_i)^2 + |x_i| \right].$$

Each term is independent of each other, so we can minimize each term separately. The derivative of each term is undefined at  $x_i = 0$ , but otherwise,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{1}{2t} (x_i - y_i)^2 + |x_i| \right) = \frac{x_i - y_i}{t} + \text{sign}(x_i).$$

Solving for  $x_i$  when  $|y_i| \geq t$ , we find  $x_i = y_i - \text{sign}(y_i)t$ . Otherwise, we note that the derivative is negative when  $x_i < 0$  and positive when  $x_i > 0$ , so the solution must be  $x_i = 0$ . Thus, we have that

$$[\text{prox}_{tf}(y)]_i = \begin{cases} y_i - \text{sign}(y_i)t, & |y_i| \geq t; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

□

(d) Compute  $\text{prox}_{tf}$  and  $f_t$  for  $f = \delta_{\mathbb{B}_\infty}(x)$ , where  $\mathbb{B}_\infty = [-1, 1]^n$ .

*Proof.* We can use a similar strategy as the previous problem and treat each term separately. In this case, we have that

$$\frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + \delta_{\mathbb{B}_\infty}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{1}{2t} (x_i - y_i)^2 + \delta_{[-1, 1]}(x_i) \right].$$

For each term, we have that

$$\frac{1}{2t} (x_i - y_i)^2 + \delta_{[-1, 1]}(x_i) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2t} (x_i - y_i)^2, & x_i \in [-1, 1]; \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This can easily be seen to be minimized by  $x_i = y_i$  when  $y_i \in [-1, 1]$ ,  $x_i = 1$  when  $y_i > 1$  and  $x_i = -1$ , when  $y_i < -1$ , so we have that

$$[\text{prox}_{tf}(y)]_i = \begin{cases} y_i, & y_i \in [-1, 1]; \\ -1, & y_i < -1; \\ 1, & y_i > 1. \end{cases}$$

□

(2) More prox identities.

(a) Suppose  $f$  is convex and let  $g(x) = f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \|x - x_0\|^2$ . Find formulas for  $\text{prox}_{tg}$  and  $g_t$  in terms of  $\text{prox}_{tf}$  and  $f_t$ .

*Proof.* We would like to minimize the objective

$$\frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \|x - x_0\|^2 = \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|x\|^2 + f(x) - \langle x_0, x \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \|x_0\|^2.$$

We can drop the last term when calculating  $\text{prox}_{tg}(y)$  since it does not depend on  $x$ . We have that

$$\text{prox}_{tg}(y) = \arg \min_x \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|x\|^2 + f(x) - \langle x_0, x \rangle.$$

From Problem (2)(c), we'll have that

$$\text{prox}_{\frac{t}{2}\|\cdot\|^2}(y) = \frac{1}{1+t}y.$$

$x \mapsto -\langle x_0, x \rangle$  is differentiable, so we can differentiate  $x \mapsto \frac{1}{2t}\|x - y\|^2 - \langle x_0, x \rangle$ , set it equal to 0, and solve for  $x$  to get

$$\text{prox}_{-t\langle x_0, \cdot \rangle}(y) = y + tx_0.$$

We can decompose  $\text{prox}_{tg}(y) = \text{prox}_{t\left(\frac{\|\cdot\|^2}{2} + f + \langle x_0, \cdot \rangle\right)}(y)$ . Yu's *On Decomposing the Proximal Map* tells us how to relate this decomposition to the individual proximal operators.

Because  $x \mapsto -\langle x_0, x \rangle$  is affine, we can apply Theorem 3, which gives us

$$\begin{aligned} \text{prox}_{tg}(y) &= \left( \text{prox}_{t\left(\frac{\|\cdot\|^2}{2} + f\right)} \circ \text{prox}_{-t\langle x_0, \cdot \rangle} \right)(y) \\ &= \text{prox}_{t\left(\frac{\|\cdot\|^2}{2} + f\right)}(y + tx_0) \end{aligned}$$

by our earlier calculation.

Next, we note that  $\text{prox}_{\frac{t}{2}\|\cdot\|^2}(y) = \frac{1}{1+t}y$  and  $\frac{1}{1+t} \in [0, 1]$ , so we can apply Theorem 4 to get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{prox}_{tg}(y) &= \text{prox}_{t\left(\frac{\|\cdot\|^2}{2} + f\right)}(y + tx_0) \\ &= \left( \text{prox}_{t\frac{\|\cdot\|^2}{2}} \circ \text{prox}_{tf} \right)(y + tx_0) \\ &= \text{prox}_{t\frac{\|\cdot\|^2}{2}}(\text{prox}_{tf}(y + tx_0)). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we can apply our previous result to get

$$\text{prox}_{tg}(y) = \frac{1}{1+t} \text{prox}_{tf}(y + tx_0).$$

□

- (b) The elastic net penalty is used to detect groups of correlated predictors:

$$g(x) = \beta \|x\|_1 + (1 - \beta) \frac{1}{2} \|x\|^2, \quad \beta \in (0, 1).$$

Write down the formula for  $\text{prox}_{tg}$  and  $g_t$ .

*Proof.* We can use the previous result (with  $x_0 = 0$ ) along with Problem (1)(c) to get

$$\text{prox}_{tg}(y) = \frac{1}{1+t(1-\beta)} \text{sign}(y) (|y| - t\beta)_+,$$

where

$$\text{sign}(y)_i = \begin{cases} 1, & y_i > 0; \\ -1, & y_i < 0; \\ 0, & y_i = 0. \end{cases}$$

$$[x_+]_i = \begin{cases} x_i, & x_i \geq 0; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

□

(c) Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}\|Cx\|^2$ . Write  $\text{prox}_{tf}(y)$  in closed form.

*Proof.* By definition,

$$\text{prox}_{tf}(y) = \arg \min_x \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|Cx\|^2.$$

This is differentiable, so we can just take the derivative, set it to 0, and solve for  $x$ . This yields

$$\text{prox}_{tf}(y) = (tC^T C + I)^{-1} y,$$

which is well defined since  $tC^T C + I$  is always invertible. □

(d) Let  $f(x) = \|x\|_2$ . Write  $\text{prox}_{tf}(y)$  in closed form.

*Proof.* By definition,

$$\text{prox}_{tf}(y) = \arg \min_x \frac{1}{2t} \|x - y\|^2 + \|x\|_2.$$

This is differentiable except at  $x = 0$ . For  $x \neq 0$ , we can just take the derivative, set it to 0, and solve for  $x$ . This yields

$$\frac{x - y}{t} + \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} = 0 \Rightarrow x + t \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} = y.$$

The second term of the objective only depends on the magnitude of  $x$ , so geometrically, we can see that we always want  $x$  to be in the same direction as  $y$ , that is,  $x = ky$  for some  $k \geq 0$ , that is, the gradient can be rewritten

$$\frac{x - y}{t} + \frac{x}{\|x\|_2} = \left( k + \frac{t}{\|y\|_2} - 1 \right) \frac{y}{t}$$

The derivative doesn't exist when  $x = 0$ , so we need to be careful in that neighborhood. If  $\|y\|_2 < t$ , for all values of  $k$  the gradient is pointing in the same direction as  $y$ , which implies the function decreases in the direction towards the origin. Solving for  $x$  (by solving for  $k$ ) gives us a vector in the opposite direction ( $k < 0$ ), so we want  $x = 0$  in that case. Thus, we have

$$\text{prox}_{tf}(y) = \begin{cases} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\|y\|_2}\right) y, & \|y\|_2 \geq t; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

□

## Coding Assignment

See attached pages.

# AMATH 515 Homework 2

Due Date: 02/19/2020

Homework Instruction: Please follow order of this notebook and fill in the codes where commented as `TODO`.

```
In [1]: UW_ID = "1772371"
        FIRST_NAME = "Philip"
        LAST_NAME = "Pham"
```

```
In [2]: import numpy as np
        import scipy.io as sio
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

## Please complete the solvers in `solver.py`

```
In [3]: import sys
        sys.path.append('./')
        from solvers import *
```

## Problem 3: Compressive Sensing

Consider the optimization problem,

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

In the following, please specify the  $f$  and  $g$  and use the proximal gradient descent solver to obtain the solution.

```
In [4]: # create the data
        np.random.seed(123)
        m = 100 # number of measurements
        n = 500 # number of variables
        k = 10 # number of nonzero variables
        s = 0.05 # measurements noise level
        #
        A_cs = np.random.randn(m, n)
        x_cs = np.zeros(n)
        x_cs[np.random.choice(range(n), k, replace=False)] = np.random.choice([-1.0, 1.0], k)
        b_cs = A_cs.dot(x_cs) + s*np.random.randn(m)
        #
        lam_cs = 0.1*norm(A_cs.T.dot(b_cs), np.inf)
```

```
In [5]: # define the function, prox and the beta constant
        def func_f_cs(x):
            return np.sum(np.square(np.matmul(A_cs, x) - b_cs)) / 2.

        def func_g_cs(x):
            return lam_cs * np.sum(np.abs(x))

        def grad_f_cs(x):
            return np.matmul(A_cs.T, np.matmul(A_cs, x) - b_cs)

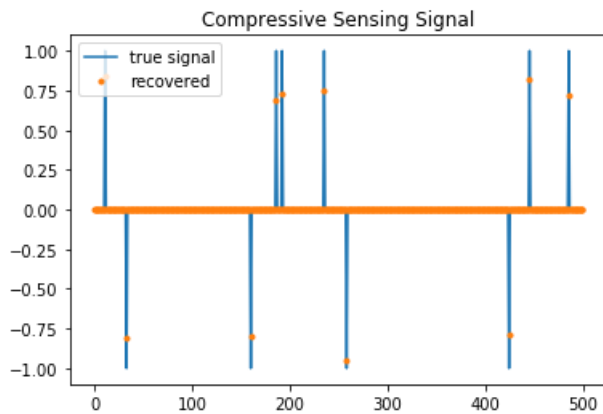
        def prox_g_cs(x, t):
            delta = t * lam_cs
            return np.where(np.abs(x) >= delta, x - np.sign(x) * delta, 0.)
        # Largest eigenvalue of Gramian matrix.
        beta_f_cs = sorted(np.abs(np.linalg.eigvals(np.matmul(A_cs.T, A_cs))))[-1]
```

## Proximal gradient descent on compressive sensing

```
In [6]: # apply the proximal gradient descent solver
x0_cs_pgd = np.zeros(x_cs.size)
x_cs_pgd, obj_his_cs_pgd, err_his_cs_pgd, exit_flag_cs_pgd = \
    optimizeWithPGD(x0_cs_pgd, func_f_cs, func_g_cs, grad_f_cs, prox_g_cs, beta_f_cs)
```

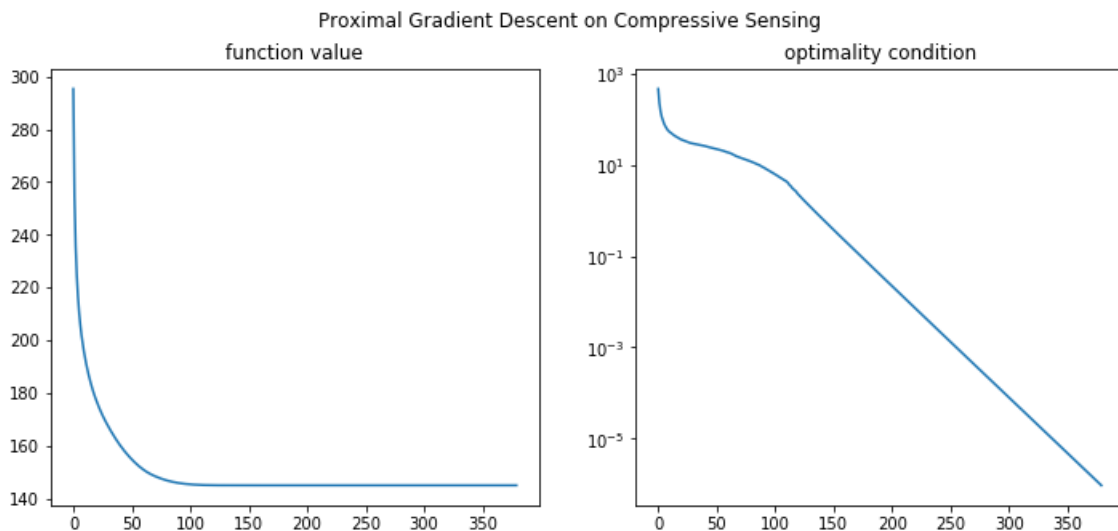
```
In [7]: # plot signal result
plt.plot(x_cs)
plt.plot(x_cs_pgd, '.')
plt.legend(['true signal', 'recovered'])
plt.title('Compressive Sensing Signal')
```

Out[7]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Compressive Sensing Signal')



```
In [8]: # plot result
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(12,5))
ax[0].plot(obj_his_cs_pgd)
ax[0].set_title('function value')
ax[1].semilogy(err_his_cs_pgd)
ax[1].set_title('optimality condition')
fig.suptitle('Proximal Gradient Descent on Compressive Sensing')
```

Out[8]: Text(0.5, 0.98, 'Proximal Gradient Descent on Compressive Sensing')

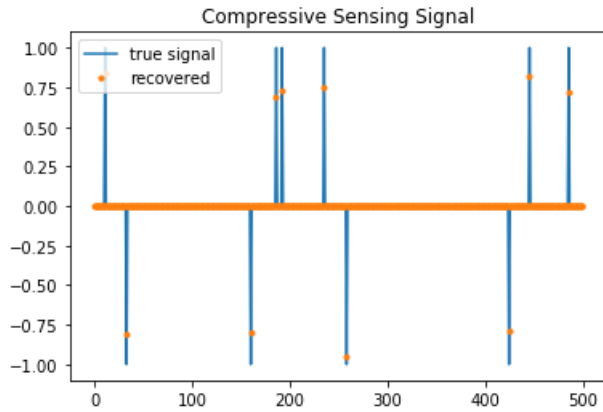


## Accelerate proximal gradient descent on compressive sensing

```
In [9]: # apply the proximal gradient descent solver
x0_cs_apgd = np.zeros(x_cs.size)
x_cs_apgd, obj_his_cs_apgd, err_his_cs_apgd, exit_flag_cs_apgd = \
    optimizeWithAPGD(x0_cs_apgd, func_f_cs, func_g_cs, grad_f_cs, prox_g_cs, beta_f_cs)
```

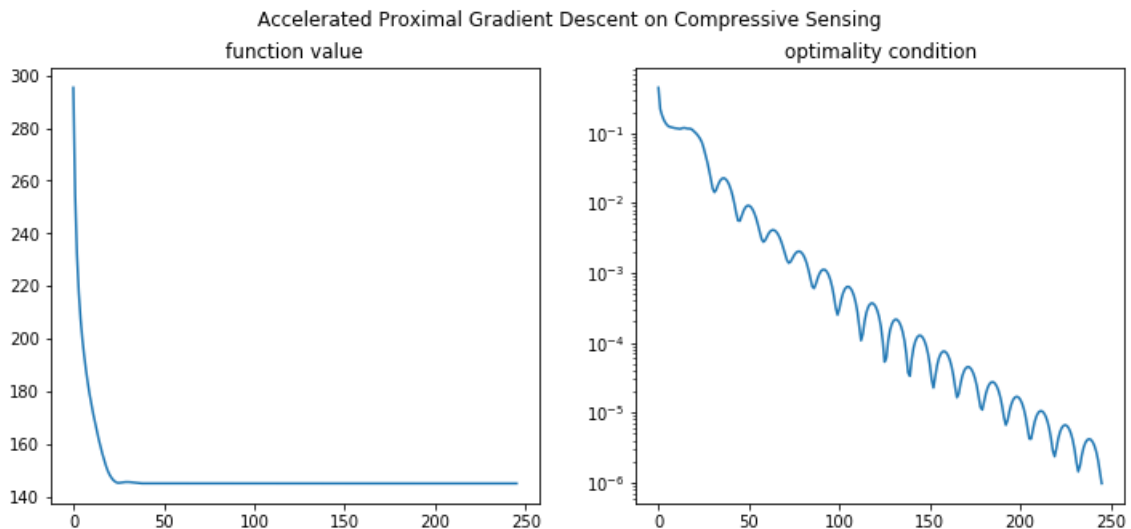
```
In [10]: # plot signal result
plt.plot(x_cs)
plt.plot(x_cs_apgd, '.')
plt.legend(['true signal', 'recovered'])
plt.title('Compressive Sensing Signal')
```

Out[10]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Compressive Sensing Signal')



```
In [11]: # plot result
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(12,5))
ax[0].plot(obj_his_cs_apgd)
ax[0].set_title('function value')
ax[1].semilogy(err_his_cs_apgd)
ax[1].set_title('optimality condition')
fig.suptitle('Accelerated Proximal Gradient Descent on Compressive Sensing')
```

Out[11]: Text(0.5, 0.98, 'Accelerated Proximal Gradient Descent on Compressive Sensing')





## Problem 4: Logistic Regression on MINST Data

Now let's play with some real data, recall the logistic regression problem,

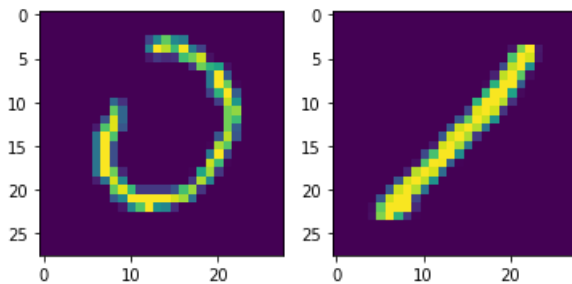
$$\min_x \sum_{i=1}^m \{ \log(1 + \exp(\langle a_i, x \rangle)) - b_i \langle a_i, x \rangle \} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x\|^2.$$

Here our data pair  $\{a_i, b_i\}$ ,  $a_i$  is the image and  $b_i$  is the label. In this homework problem, let's consider the binary classification problem, where  $b_i \in \{0, 1\}$ .

```
In [12]: # import data
mnist_data = np.load('mnist01.npy', allow_pickle=True)
#
A_lgt = mnist_data[0]
b_lgt = mnist_data[1]
A_lgt_test = mnist_data[2]
b_lgt_test = mnist_data[3]
#
# set regularizer parameter
lam_lgt = 0.1
#
# beta constant of the function
beta_lgt = 0.25*norm(A_lgt, 2)**2 + lam_lgt
```

```
In [13]: # plot the images
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2)
ax[0].imshow(A_lgt[0].reshape(28,28))
ax[1].imshow(A_lgt[7].reshape(28,28))
```

Out[13]: <matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x11f3ad9b0>



```
In [14]: # define function, gradient and Hessian
def lgt_func(x):
    logits = np.matmul(A_lgt, x)
    return np.sum(np.log(1 + np.exp(logits)) - b_lgt * logits) + 0.5 * lam_lgt * np.sum(np.square(x))
#
def lgt_grad(x):
    logits = np.matmul(A_lgt, x)
    exp_logits = np.exp(logits)
    return np.sum(A_lgt.T * exp_logits / (1 + exp_logits), axis=1) - np.matmul(A_lgt.T, b_lgt) + lam_lgt * x
#
def lgt_hess(x):
    n_lgt = A_lgt.shape[-1]
    logits = np.matmul(A_lgt, x)
    exp_logits = np.exp(logits)
    rescaled_A_T = A_lgt.T * np.sqrt(exp_logits) / (1 + exp_logits)
    return np.matmul(rescaled_A_T, rescaled_A_T.T) + np.eye(n_lgt) * lam_lgt
```

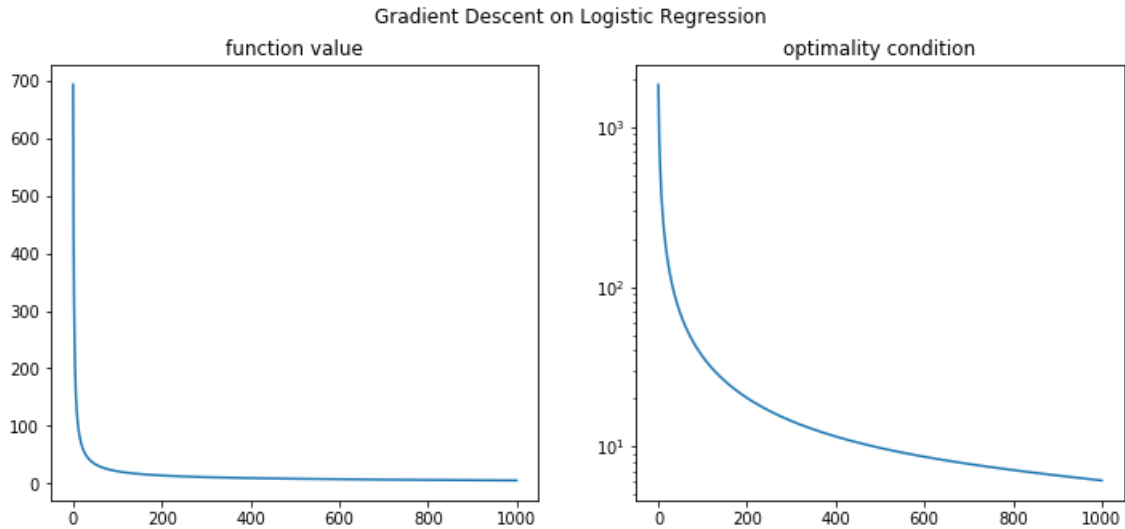
Gradient descent on logistic regression

```
In [15]: # apply the gradient descent
x0_lgt_gd = np.zeros(A_lgt.shape[1])
x_lgt_gd, obj_his_lgt_gd, err_his_lgt_gd, exit_flag_lgt_gd = \
    optimizeWithGD(x0_lgt_gd, lgt_func, lgt_grad, beta_lgt)
```

Gradient descent reach maximum number of iteration.

```
In [16]: # plot result
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(12,5))
ax[0].plot(obj_his_lgt_gd)
ax[0].set_title('function value')
ax[1].semilogy(err_his_lgt_gd)
ax[1].set_title('optimality condition')
fig.suptitle('Gradient Descent on Logistic Regression')
```

Out[16]: Text(0.5, 0.98, 'Gradient Descent on Logistic Regression')



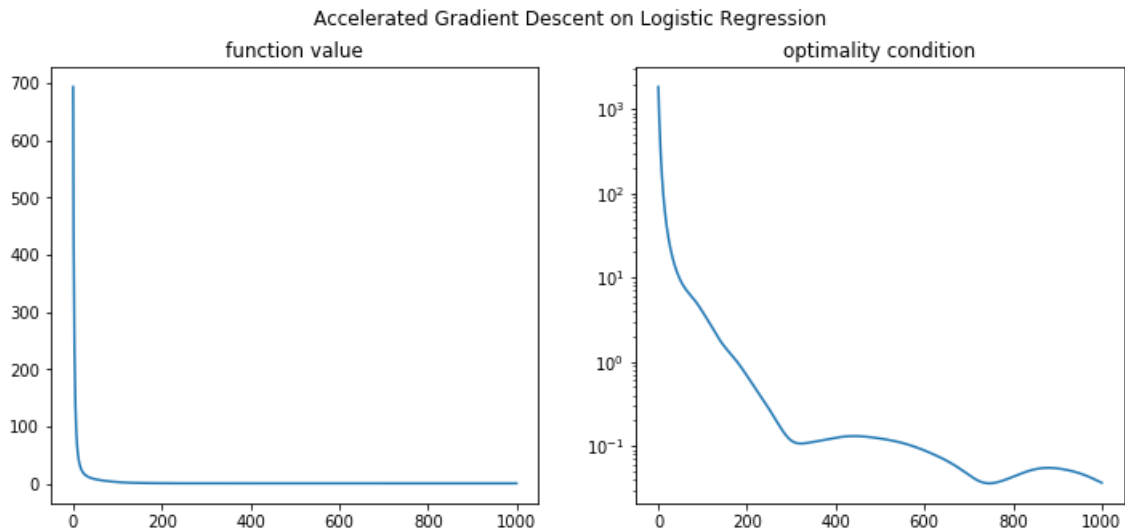
## Accelerate Gradient descent on logistic regression

```
In [17]: # apply the accelerated gradient descent
x0_lgt_agd = np.zeros(A_lgt.shape[1])
x_lgt_agd, obj_his_lgt_agd, err_his_lgt_agd, exit_flag_lgt_agd = \
    optimizeWithAGD(x0_lgt_agd, lgt_func, lgt_grad, beta_lgt)
```

Accelerated gradient descent reach maximum number of iteration

```
In [18]: # plot result
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(12,5))
ax[0].plot(obj_his_lgt_agd)
ax[0].set_title('function value')
ax[1].semilogy(err_his_lgt_agd)
ax[1].set_title('optimality condition')
fig.suptitle('Accelerated Gradient Descent on Logistic Regression')
```

Out[18]: Text(0.5, 0.98, 'Accelerated Gradient Descent on Logistic Regression')

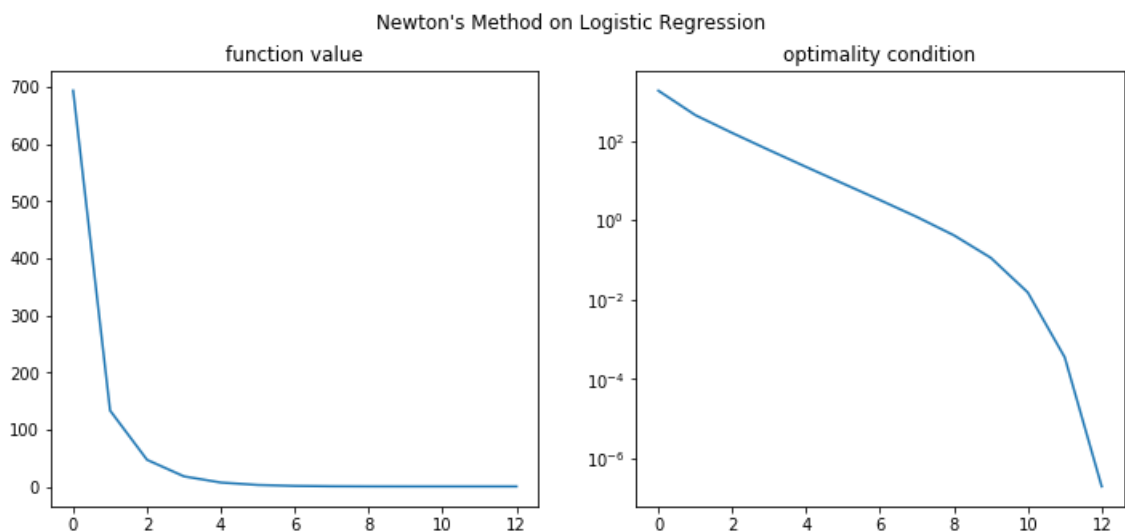


## Newton's Method on logistic regression

```
In [19]: # apply the accelerated gradient descent
x0_lgt_nt = np.zeros(A_lgt.shape[1])
x_lgt_nt, obj_his_lgt_nt, err_his_lgt_nt, exit_flag_lgt_nt = \
    optimizeWithNT(x0_lgt_nt, lgt_func, lgt_grad, lgt_hess)
```

```
In [20]: # plot result
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(12,5))
ax[0].plot(obj_his_lgt_nt)
ax[0].set_title('function value')
ax[1].semilogy(err_his_lgt_nt)
ax[1].set_title('optimality condition')
fig.suptitle('Newton\'s Method on Logistic Regression')
```

Out[20]: Text(0.5, 0.98, "Newton's Method on Logistic Regression")



## Test Logistic Regression

```
In [21]: # define accuracy function
def accuracy(x, A_test, b_test):
    r = A_test.dot(x)
    b_test[b_test == 0.0] = -1.0
    correct_count = np.sum((r*b_test) > 0.0)
    return correct_count/b_test.size
```

```
In [22]: print('accuracy of the result is %0.3f' % accuracy(x_lgt_nt, A_lgt_test, b_lgt_test))
accuracy of the result is 1.000
```