

Let $y^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathcal{A}$ be a fixed vector. Define the following function

$$\tilde{F}(y) = f(y) - \langle \nabla f(y^0), y \rangle,$$

and similarly to the paper [BS2015] we define

$$\tilde{h}(x, y) = h(x, y) - \langle \nabla f(y^0), x \rangle.$$

It is clear that $x \mapsto \tilde{h}(x, y)$ is still quadratic function with associated matrix $L(y)I$. Therefore, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{h}(x, y) &= \tilde{h}(y, y) + \langle \nabla_x \tilde{h}(y, y), x - y \rangle + L(y) \|x - y\|^2 \\ &= \tilde{F}(y) + \langle 2\nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0), x - y \rangle + L(y) \|x - y\|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

On the other hand, from [BS2015, Lemma 3.1 (i), Page 7] we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{h}(x, y) &= h(x, y) - \langle \nabla f(y^0), x \rangle \geq 2f(x) - f(y) - \langle \nabla f(y^0), x \rangle \\ &= 2\tilde{F}(x) - \tilde{F}(y) + \langle \nabla f(y^0), y - x \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where the last inequality follows from the definition of \tilde{F} .

Combining (1) and (2) yields

$$\begin{aligned} 2\tilde{F}(x) &\leq 2\tilde{F}(y) + 2\langle \nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0), x - y \rangle + L(y) \|x - y\|^2 \\ &= 2\tilde{F}(y) + 2\langle \nabla \tilde{F}(y), x - y \rangle + L(y) \|x - y\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Dividing the inequality by 2 and we get

$$\tilde{F}(x) \leq \tilde{F}(y) + \langle \nabla \tilde{F}(y), x - y \rangle + \frac{L(y)}{2} \|x - y\|^2. \quad (3)$$

It is clear that the optimal point of \tilde{F} is y^0 since $\nabla \tilde{F}(y^0) = 0$, therefore from (3) we obtain

$$\tilde{F}(y^0) \leq \tilde{F}\left(y - \frac{1}{L(y)} \nabla \tilde{F}(y)\right) \leq \tilde{F}(y) + \langle \nabla \tilde{F}(y), -\frac{1}{L(y)} \nabla \tilde{F}(y) \rangle + \frac{L(y)}{2} \left\| \frac{1}{L(y)} \nabla \tilde{F}(y) \right\|^2$$

$$= \tilde{f}(y) - \frac{1}{2L(y)} \|\nabla \tilde{f}(y)\|^2.$$

Thus, using the definition of \tilde{f} and the fact that $\nabla \tilde{f}(y) = \nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0)$, yields that

$$f(y^0) \leq f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y^0), y^0 - y \rangle - \frac{1}{2L(y)} \|\nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0)\|^2.$$

Now, following the same arguments we can show that

$$f(y) \leq f(y^0) + \langle \nabla f(y), y - y^0 \rangle - \frac{1}{2L(y^0)} \|\nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0)\|^2$$

and combining these two inequalities yields that

$$\left(\frac{1}{2L(y^0)} + \frac{1}{2L(y)} \right) \|\nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0)\|^2 \leq \langle \nabla f(y^0) - \nabla f(y), y^0 - y \rangle,$$

that is

$$\|\nabla f(y) - \nabla f(y^0)\| \leq \frac{2L(y^0)L(y)}{L(y^0) + L(y)} \|y^0 - y\|^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

for all $y^0, y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A$.

You need to use this result in Page 12 when I wrote $(*)$ instead of your argument.