



# Numerical Optimization in Robotics

## Lecture 2: Unconstrained Optimization

无约束优化 Hession free方法



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# Recommended Reading List

1. Liu DC, Nocedal J. On the limited memory BFGS method for large scale optimization. *Mathematical Programming*. 1989 Aug;45(1):503-28.
2. Li DH, Fukushima M. On the global convergence of the BFGS method for nonconvex unconstrained optimization problems. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*. 2001;11(4):1054-64.
3. Lewis AS, Overton ML. Nonsmooth optimization via quasi-Newton methods. *Mathematical Programming*. 2013 Oct;141(1):135-63.
4. Nash SG, Nocedal J. A numerical study of the limited memory BFGS method and the truncated-Newton method for large scale optimization. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*. 1991 Aug;1(3):358-72.
5. Shewchuk JR. An introduction to the conjugate gradient method without the agonizing pain.
6. Nash SG. Preconditioning of truncated-Newton methods. *SIAM Journal on Scientific and Statistical Computing*. 1985 Jul;6(3):599-616.



# Recommended Reading List

## Hessian-Free Optimization

1. Liu DC, Nocedal J. On the limited memory BFGS method for large scale optimization. *Mathematical Programming*. 1989 Aug;45(1):503-28.
2. Li DH, Fukushima M. On the global convergence of the BFGS method for nonconvex unconstrained optimization problems. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*. 2001;11(4):1054-64.
3. Lewis AS, Overton ML. Nonsmooth optimization via quasi-Newton methods. *Mathematical Programming*. 2013 Oct;141(1):135-63. **BFGS-Type Quasi-Newton Methods**

4. Nash SG, Nocedal J. A numerical study of the limited memory BFGS method and the truncated-Newton method for large scale optimization. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*. 1991 Aug;1(3):358-72.
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**Newton-CG Method** 用于求解线性方程

牛顿法的特点是：收敛速度快，迭代次数少，但是当Hessian矩阵很稠密时，每次迭代的计算量很大。随着数据规模的增大，那么hessian矩阵会越来越大，需要存储的空间会增多，计算量也会增大，有时候大到不可计算，所以随着海量数据，牛顿法不再使用

拟牛顿法是构造近似矩阵，并用它取代牛顿法中Hessian矩阵的逆

# Quasi-Newton Methods



# Recall Newton's Method

回顾牛顿方法

By second-order Taylor expansion,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \approx \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \triangleq f(\mathbf{x}_k) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k)^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k) + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k)^T \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k) (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k)$$

Minimizing quadratic approximation

$$\nabla \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k) (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_k - [\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k)]^{-1} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

hessian矩阵的逆

provided  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k) \succ O$  Positive Definite (PD)

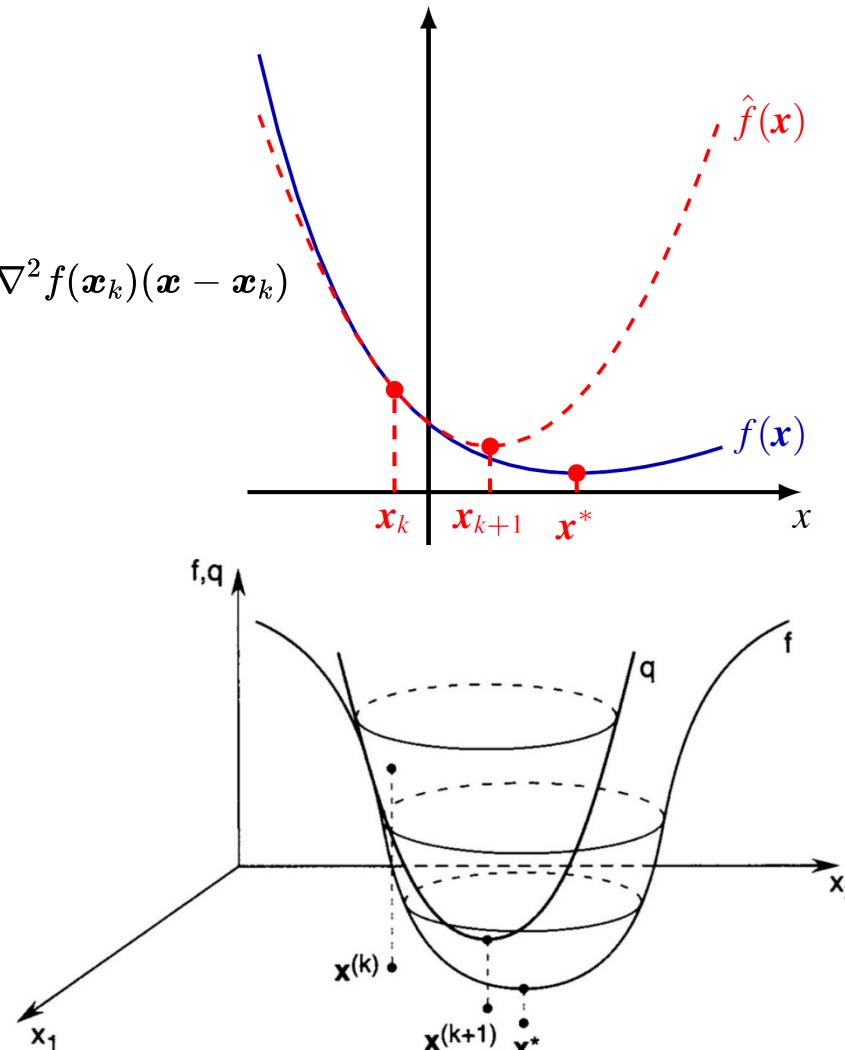
需要保证hessian矩阵严格正定

Newton step

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k - [\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k)]^{-1} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

Note. If the function is quadratic, then Newton's method gets to the optimum in a single step.

如果函数本身是一个二次型，得出的曲率就是自身，可以一步迭代

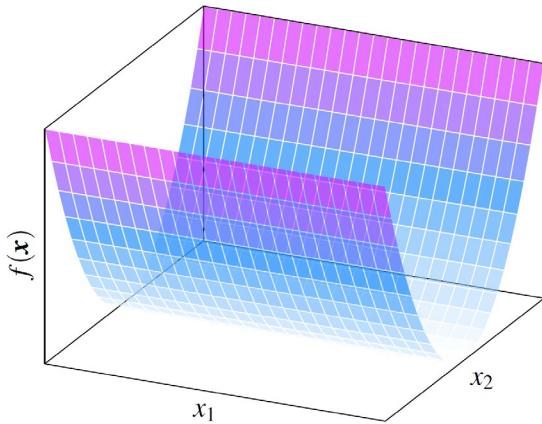




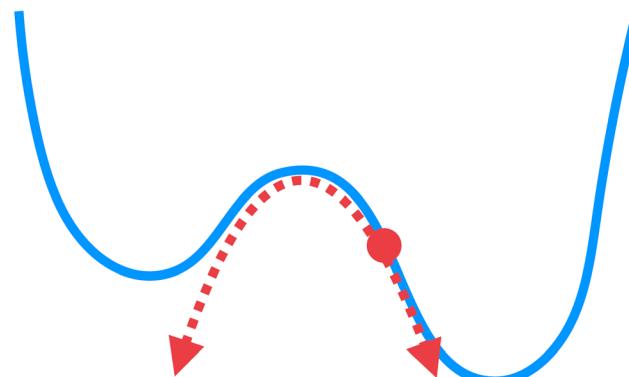
# Recall Newton's Method

Drawbacks: In practice Hessian can be singular and indefinite

$$\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{x}_k - [\nabla^2 f(\boldsymbol{x}_k)]^{-1} \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}_k)$$



Singular Hessian!



If start at a point of negative curvature, the Newton goes up!

(negative) search direction: must form an acute angle with the gradient

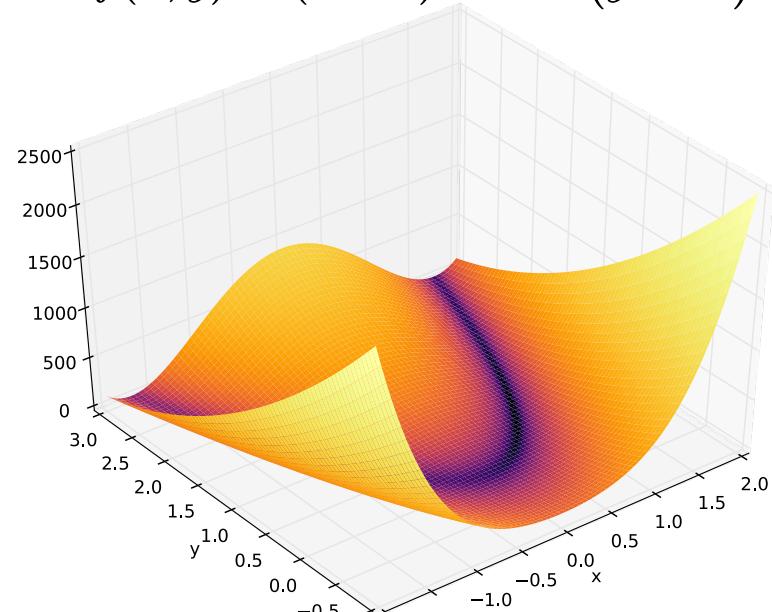


# Why Quasi-Newton Methods

- Gradient descent is cheap
  - Compute partials:  $O(N)$
- Newton's method is expensive
  - Compute mixed partials:  $O(N^2)$
  - Linear solver:  $O(N^3)$
- Other problems
  - When quadratic approximation is bad, Newton's is a waste
  - Hessian becomes poorly conditioned
  - Nonconvex problems: indefinite Hessian = ascent step

Rosenbrock banana function

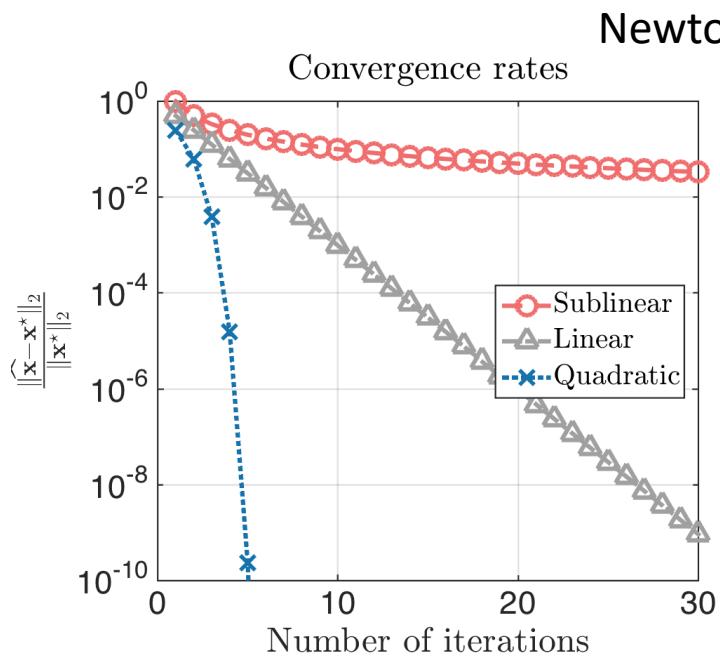
$$f(x, y) = (1 - x)^2 + 100(y - x^2)^2$$





# Why Quasi-Newton Methods

Normally, for **convex smooth** functions, we have



Newton's Method

Gradient Methods

Linear

$$e^k = x^k - x^*$$

Quadratic

$$\|e^{k+1}\| = C \|e^k\|$$

Superlinear

$$\|e^{k+1}\| = C \|e^k\|^2$$

As good as quadratic (why?)

Attain **super-linear performance** without all the fuss



# Quasi-Newton Methods

Newton approximation (PD Hessian  $H$ )

$$f(x) - f(x^k) \approx (x - x^k)^T g + \frac{1}{2} (x - x^k)^T H (x - x^k)$$

Solve  $H^k d^k = -g^k$

Quasi-Newton approximation

$$f(x) - f(x^k) \approx (x - x^k)^T g^k + \frac{1}{2} (x - x^k)^T M^k (x - x^k)$$

Solve  $M^k d^k = -g^k$  自己设置一个M矩阵

What conditions should  $M$  satisfy?

- It should not need full 2<sup>nd</sup>-order derivatives
- The linear equations have closed-form solutions
- It should be lightweight and compact to store
- It must preserves descent directions
- It should contain curvature information (local quadratic apprx.)



# Quasi-Newton Methods

When is descent direction preserved?

$$M^k d^k = -g^k$$

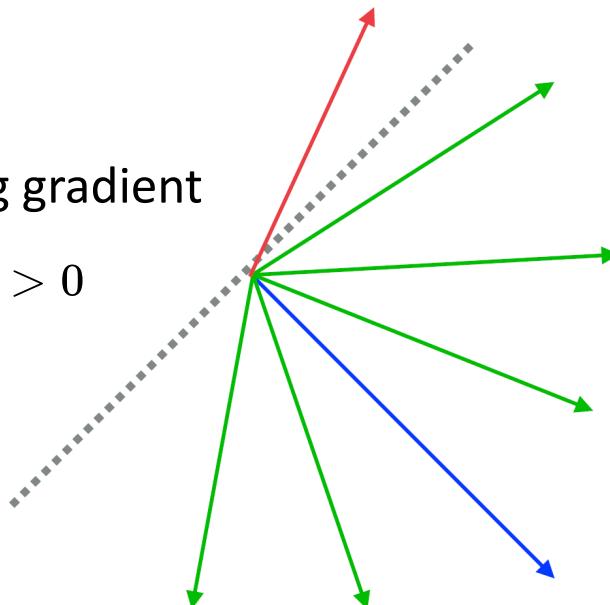
Search direction

Negative gradient step

Search direction makes **acute angle** with neg gradient

$$\langle -g, -M^{-1}g \rangle = \langle g, M^{-1}g \rangle = g^T M^{-1}g > 0$$

**Must be PD** (Positive Definite)





# Quasi-Newton Methods

Which kind of curvature info is needed?

$$\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y) \approx H(x - y)$$

梯度泰勒展开

$$\Delta x = x^{k+1} - x^k$$

$$\Delta g = \nabla f(x^{k+1}) - \nabla f(x^k)$$

Secant  
condition



$$\Delta g \approx M^{k+1} \Delta x$$

or

$$\Delta x \approx B^{k+1} \Delta g, \quad M^{k+1} B^{k+1} = I$$

Construct  $B$  directly from gradient/variable diff



# Quasi-Newton Methods

Infinitely many  $B$  satisfy the secant condition?

$$\Delta x = B^{k+1} \Delta g$$

How to choose the best one?

- Assume the function is convex
- Assume an initial guess is given

$$\min_B \|B - B^k\|^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } B = B^T$$

$$\Delta x = B \Delta g$$



scale invariant

$$\min_B \|H^{\frac{1}{2}}(B - B^k)H^{\frac{1}{2}}\|^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } B = B^T$$

$$\Delta x = B \Delta g$$

$$H = \int_0^1 \nabla^2 f[(1-\tau)x^k + \tau x^{k+1}] d\tau$$



# Quasi-Newton Methods

Recover the curvature (approx. inv. Hessian) from gradients

Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (BFGS) update

$$B^{k+1} = \left( I - \frac{\Delta x \Delta g^T}{\Delta g^T \Delta x} \right) B^k \left( I - \frac{\Delta g \Delta x^T}{\Delta g^T \Delta x} \right) + \frac{\Delta x \Delta x^T}{\Delta g^T \Delta x}$$

$$B^0 = I, \Delta x = x^{k+1} - x^k, \Delta g = \nabla f(x^{k+1}) - \nabla f(x^k)$$

What conditions should  $M = 1/B$  satisfy?

- It should not need full 2<sup>nd</sup>-order derivatives ✓
- The linear equations have closed-form solutions ✓
- It should be lightweight and compact to store ✓
- It must preserves descent directions ? strict convexity (necessary?)
- It should contain curvature information ✓

BFGS update preserves PD if  $\Delta g^T \Delta x > 0$  向量内积>0



# Quasi-Newton Methods

BFGS method for **strictly convex** functions

```
initialize  $x^0, g^0 \leftarrow \nabla f(x^0), B^0 \leftarrow I, k \leftarrow 0$ 
while  $\|g^k\| > \delta$  do
     $d \leftarrow -B^k g^k$ 
     $t \leftarrow$  backtracking line search (Armijo)
     $x^{k+1} \leftarrow x^k + td$ 
     $g^{k+1} \leftarrow \nabla f(x^{k+1})$ 
     $B^{k+1} \leftarrow \text{BFGS}(B^k, g^{k+1} - g^k, x^{k+1} - x^k)$ 
     $k \leftarrow k + 1$ 
end while
return
```

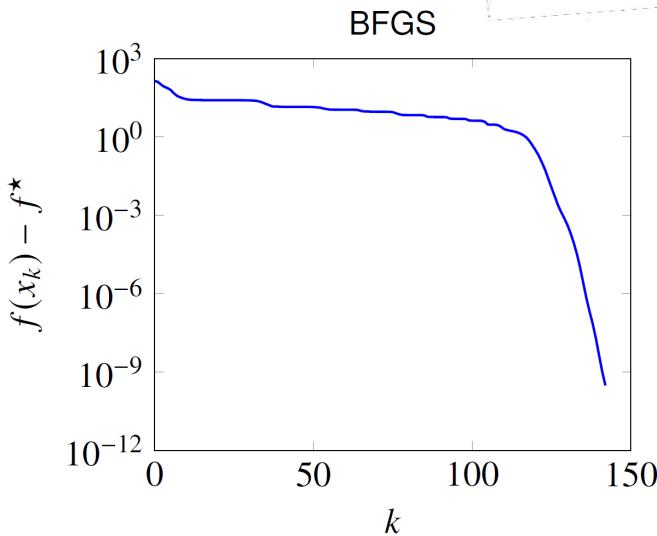
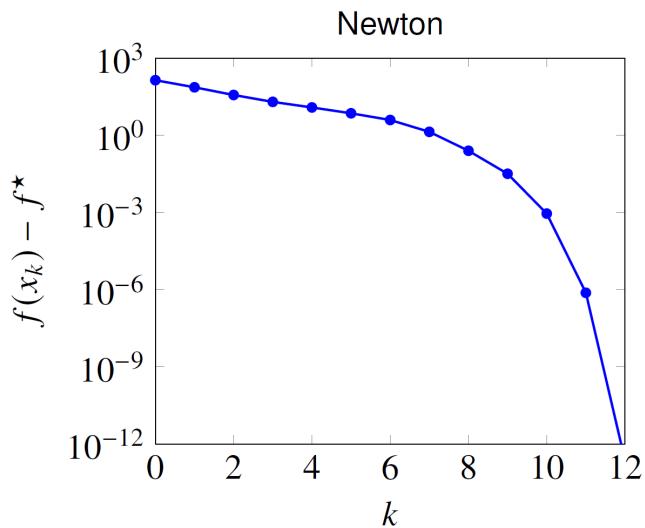
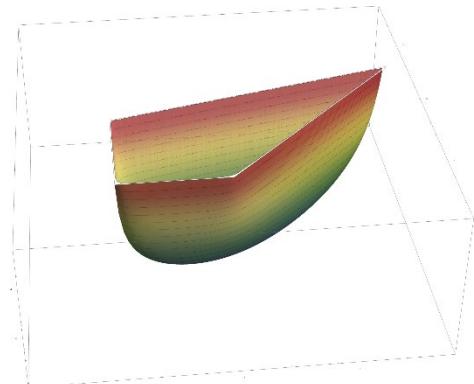


# Quasi-Newton Methods

Example

$$f(x) = c^T x - \sum_{i=1}^m \log(b_i - a_i^T x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

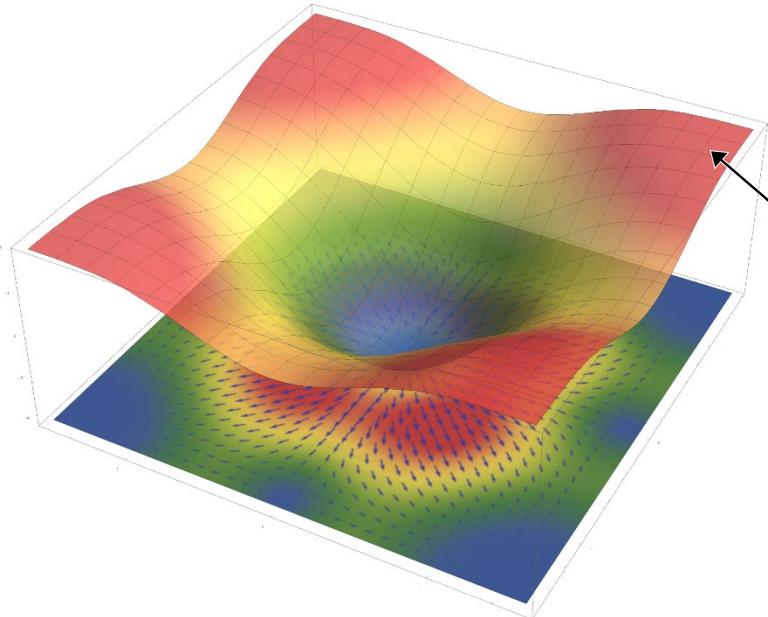
$$n = 100, m = 500$$



- cost per Newton iteration:  $O(n^3)$
- cost per BFGS iteration:  $O(n^2)$



# Quasi-Newton Methods



## Restrictions:

- Strict gradient monotonicity does **not hold in general**
- Curvature info **far from optimum** is less important
- Iteration cost is quadratic **in dim**
- Applicability to nonconvex function remains to be verified
- Applicability to nonsmooth function remains to be verified

- negative curvature
- nonconvex
- non-monotonic grad

How to apply to more **nonconvex/nonsmooth** functions?

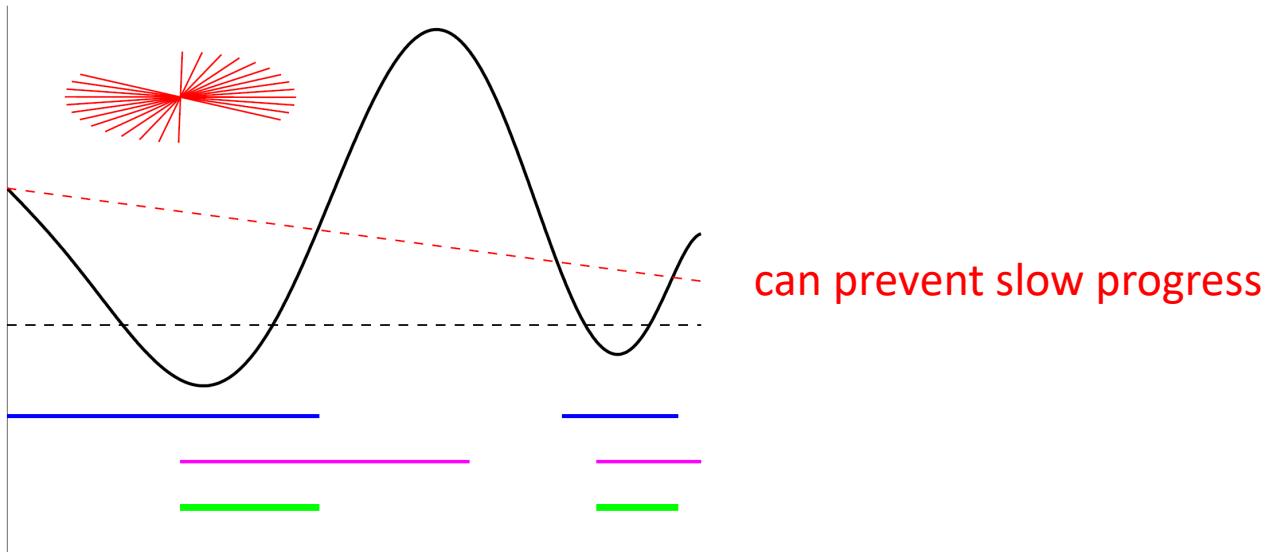


# Quasi-Newton Methods

$\Delta g^T \Delta x > 0$  ? Ensure PD of approximation: Wolfe conditions!

1. weak Wolfe conditions  $0 < c_1 < c_2 < 1$  typically  $c_1 = 10^{-4}$ ,  $c_2 = 0.9$

$$f(x^k) - f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq -c_1 \cdot \alpha d^T \nabla f(x^k) \quad \text{sufficient decrease condition}$$
$$d^T \nabla f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq c_2 \cdot d^T \nabla f(x^k) \quad \text{curvature condition}$$



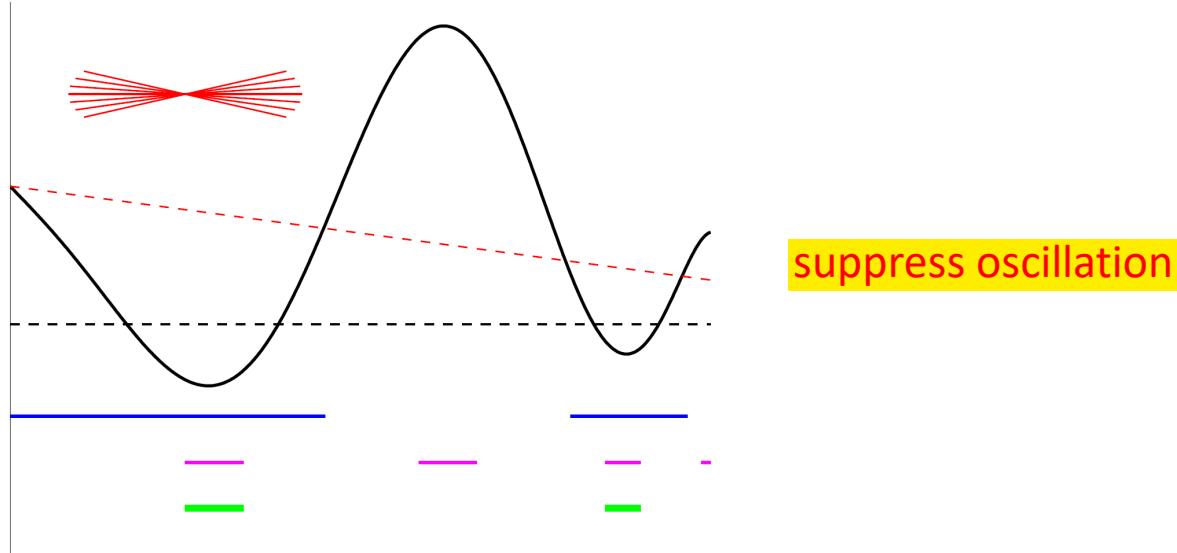


# Quasi-Newton Methods

$\Delta g^T \Delta x > 0$  ? Ensure PD of approximation: Wolfe conditions!

2. strong Wolfe conditions  $0 < c_1 < c_2 < 1$  typically  $c_1 = 10^{-4}$ ,  $c_2 = 0.9$

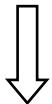
$$f(x^k) - f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq -c_1 \cdot \alpha d^T \nabla f(x^k) \quad \text{sufficient decrease condition}$$
$$|d^T \nabla f(x^k + \alpha d)| \leq |c_2 \cdot d^T \nabla f(x^k)| \quad \text{strong curvature condition}$$





# Quasi-Newton Methods

strong Wolfe conditions



weak Wolfe conditions



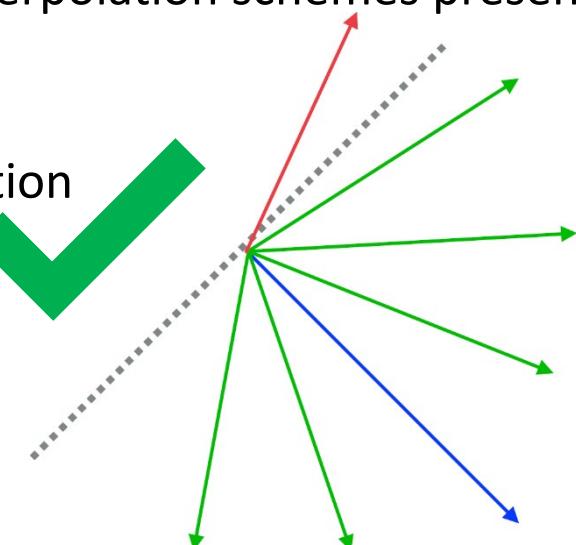
$$\Delta g^T \Delta x > 0$$



BFGS update is PD

Inexact line search suffices (detailed later)  
Various interpolation schemes presented

descent direction





# Quasi-Newton Methods

Wolfe conditions **cannot guarantee** the convergence of BFGS

The **cautious update** (Li and Fukushima 2001) with mild conditions is needed.

$$B^{k+1} = \begin{cases} \left( I - \frac{\Delta x \Delta g^T}{\Delta g^T \Delta x} \right) B^k \left( I - \frac{\Delta g \Delta x^T}{\Delta g^T \Delta x} \right) + \frac{\Delta x \Delta x^T}{\Delta g^T \Delta x} & \text{if } \Delta g^T \Delta x > \epsilon ||g_k|| \Delta x^T \Delta x, \quad \epsilon = 10^{-6} \\ B^k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The cautious update guarantees zero grad to be an accumulation point if

- The func has **bounded sub-level sets**
- The func has **Lipschitz continuous grad**



# Quasi-Newton Methods

BFGS method for possibly nonconvex functions

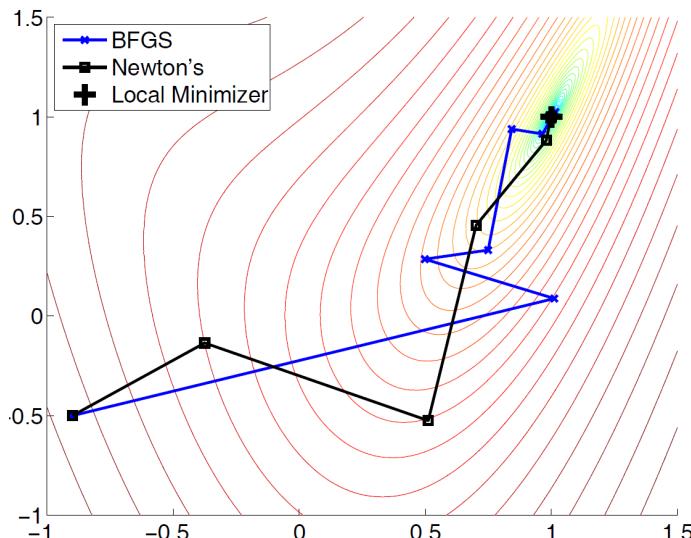
```
initialize  $x^0, g^0 \leftarrow \nabla f(x^0), B^0 \leftarrow I, k \leftarrow 0$ 
while  $\|g^k\| > \delta$  do
     $d \leftarrow -B^k g^k$ 
     $t \leftarrow$  inexact line search (Wolfe)
     $x^{k+1} \leftarrow x^k + td$ 
     $g^{k+1} \leftarrow \nabla f(x^{k+1})$ 
     $B^{k+1} \leftarrow$  Cautious-BFGS( $B^k, g^{k+1} - g^k, x^{k+1} - x^k$ )
     $k \leftarrow k + 1$ 
end while
return
```



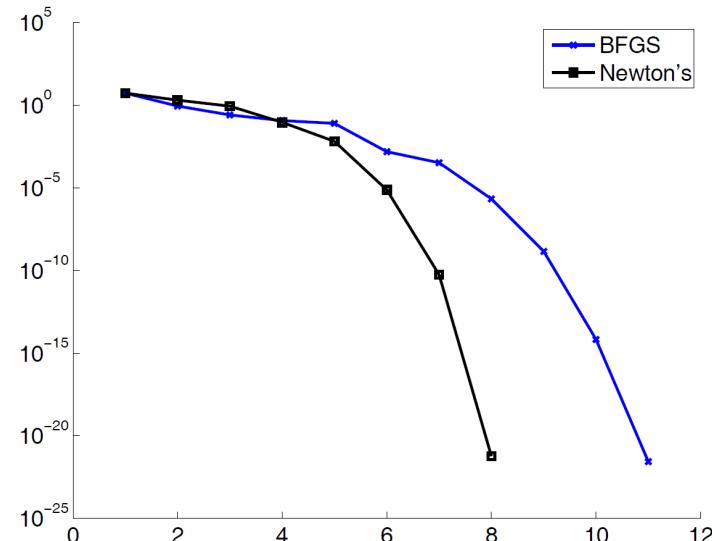
# Quasi-Newton Methods

## Example

$$f(x) = (1 - x_1)^2 + (x_2 - x_1^2)^2$$



(a) Paths followed.



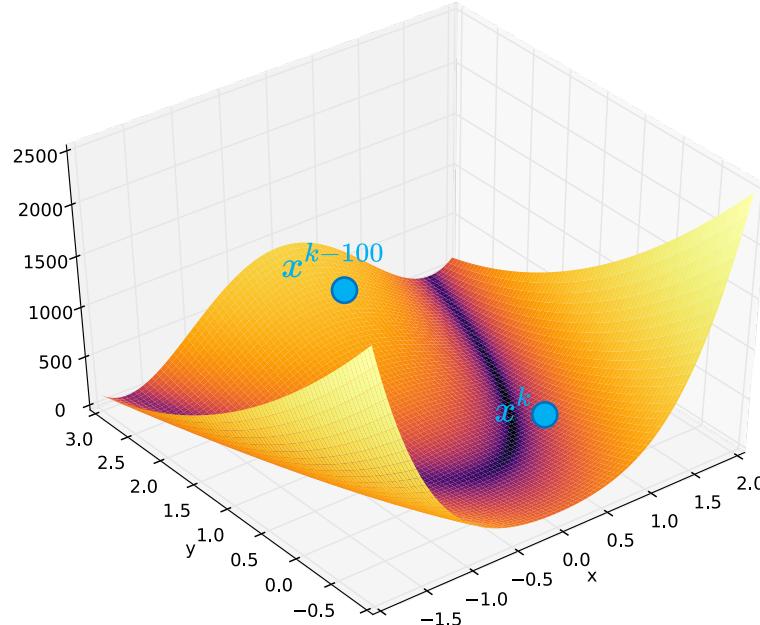
(b) Function value at each iterate.

Satisfactory convergence rate



# Quasi-Newton Methods

保留历史的delta g 与  
delta x



- Is the curvature info at  $x^{k-100}$  useful to iteration at  $x^k$  ?
- Is it possible to further reduce the  $O(n^2)$  cost per iteration?

Only exploit last  $m+1$  pairs of  $\{x^k, g^k\}$  !

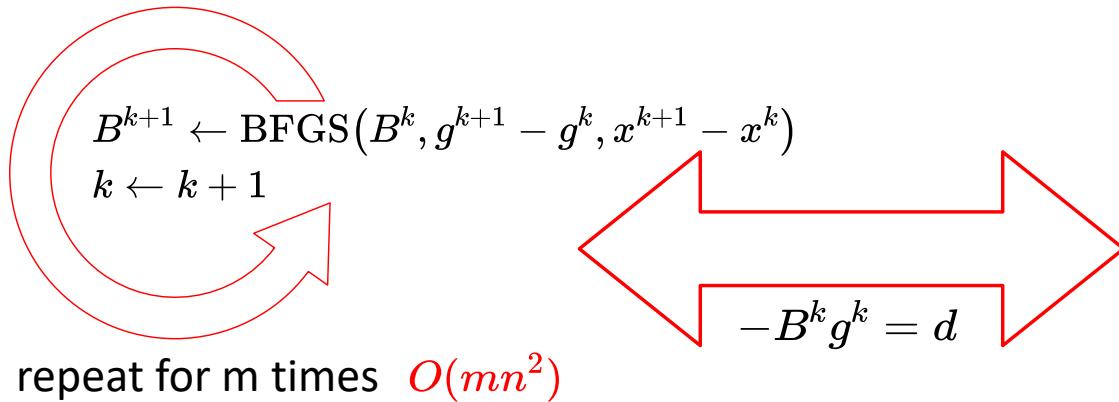


# Quasi-Newton Methods

Limited-memory BFGS (**L-BFGS**): do not store  $B^k$  explicitly

$$s^k = x^{k+1} - x^k, \quad y^k = g^{k+1} - g^k, \quad \rho^k = 1/\langle s^k, y^k \rangle \text{ where } \langle a, b \rangle := a^T b$$

- Instead we store up to m (e.g., m = 30) values of  $s^k, y^k, \rho^k$



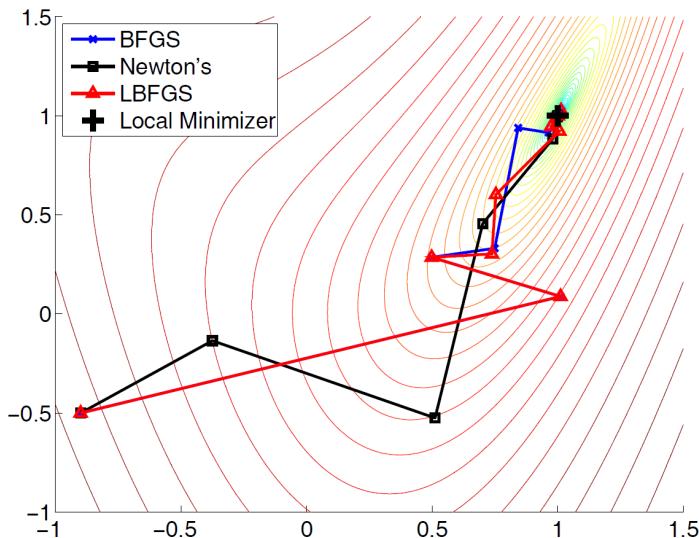
```
d ← gk O(mn)
for i = k - 1, k - 2, ..., k - m
    αi ← ρi⟨si, d⟩
    d ← d - αiyi
end (for)
γ ← ρk-1⟨yk-1, yk-1⟩
d ← d / γ
for i = k - m, k - m + 1, ..., k - 1
    β ← ρi⟨yi, d⟩
    d ← d + si(αi - β)
end (for)
return search direction d
```



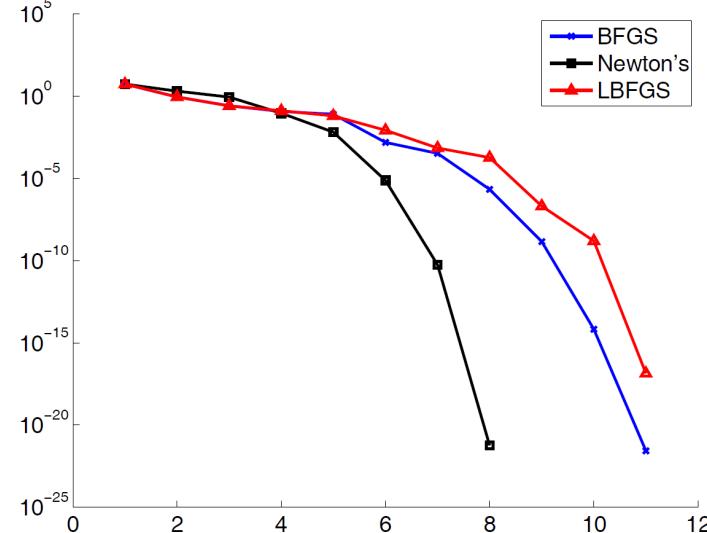
# Quasi-Newton Methods

## Example

$$f(x) = (1 - x_1)^2 + (x_2 - x_1^2)^2$$



(a) Paths followed.



(b) Function value at each iterate.

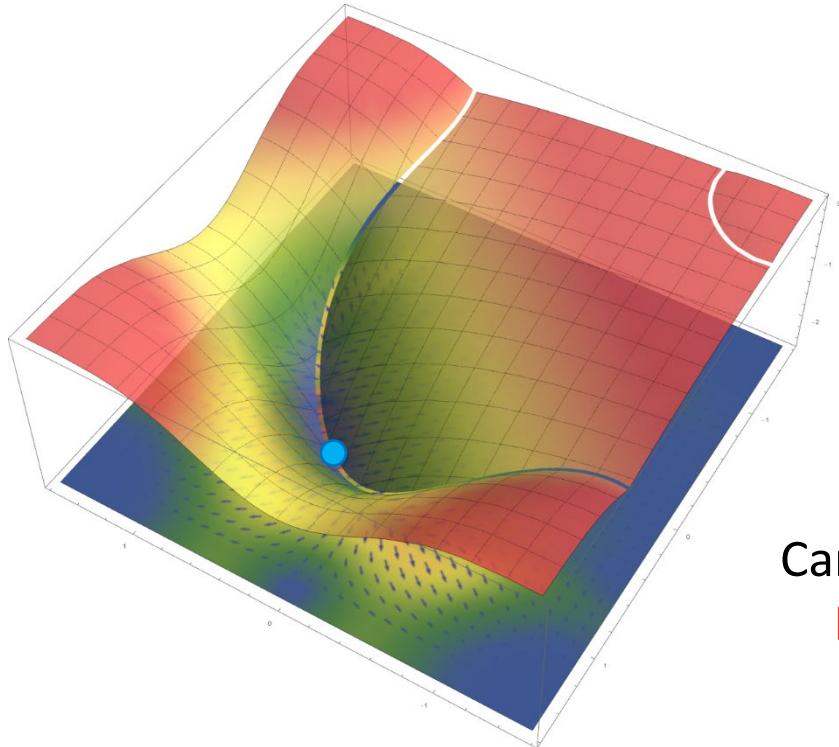
	Newton's	BFGS	LBFGS
Work per iteration	$\mathcal{O}(n^3)$	$\mathcal{O}(n^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(mn)$

L-BFGS is almost the **1<sup>st</sup> choice** for efficient smooth nonconvex opt



# Quasi-Newton Methods

处理非光滑的场景



What if functions are nonsmooth?

Troubles with nonsmoothness :

- Gradient may not exist 梯度不存在
- Negative sub-grad does not descent 方向不对
- Curvature can be very large

Can we apply L-BFGS to nonsmooth function?  
Practically yes! (Lewis and Overton 2013)

收敛速率会降低



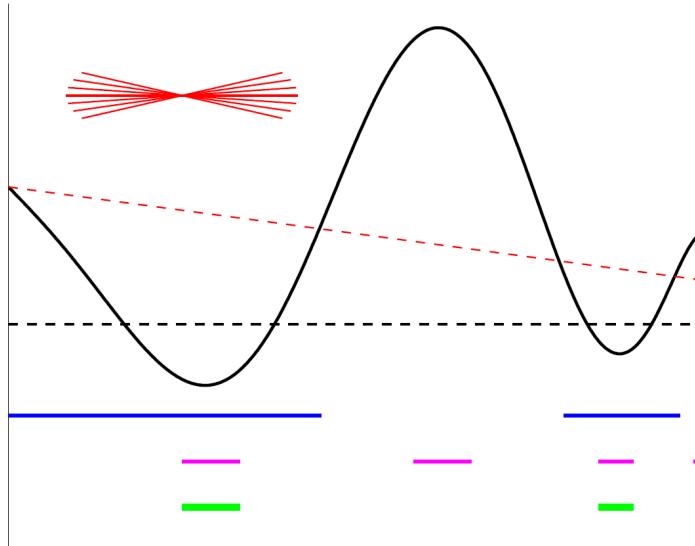
# Quasi-Newton Methods

Key issues when applying L-BFGS to nonsmooth functions

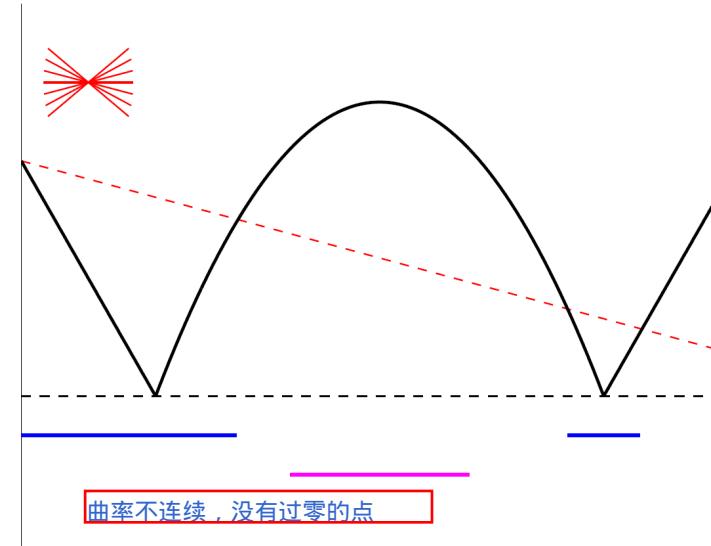
Recall: **strong Wolfe conditions**

$$\begin{aligned} f(x^k) - f(x^k + \alpha d) &\geq -c_1 \cdot \alpha d^T \nabla f(x^k) \\ |d^T \nabla f(x^k + \alpha d)| &\leq |c_2 \cdot d^T \nabla f(x^k)| \end{aligned}$$

sufficient decrease condition  
strong curvature condition



(a)  $Smooth \phi(\alpha).$



(b)  $nonsmooth \phi(\alpha).$  conditions fail!



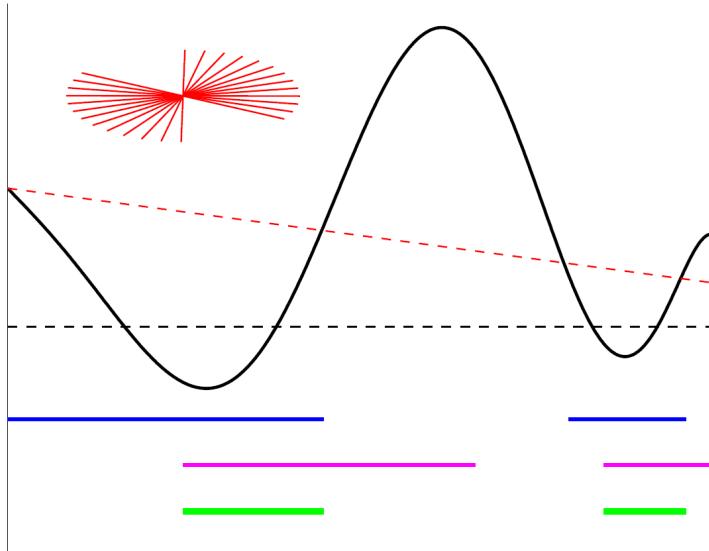
# Quasi-Newton Methods

Key issues when applying L-BFGS to nonsmooth functions

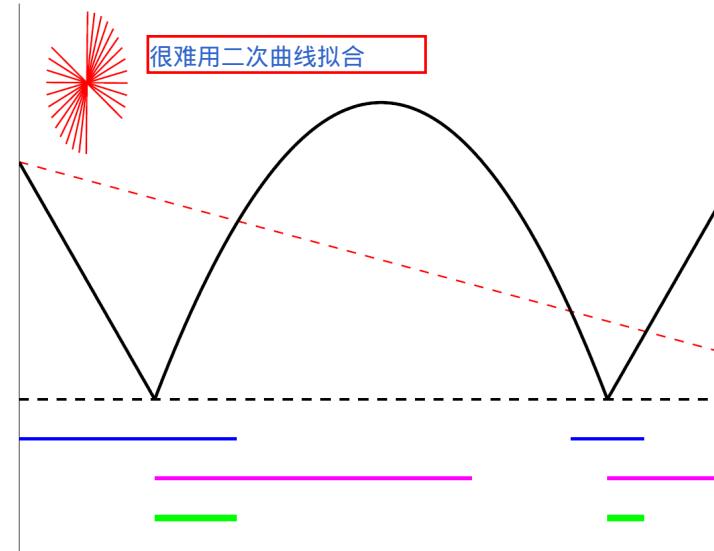
Recall: **weak Wolfe conditions**

$$f(x^k) - f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq -c_1 \cdot \alpha d^T \nabla f(x^k)$$
$$d^T \nabla f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq c_2 \cdot d^T \nabla f(x^k)$$

sufficient decrease condition  
curvature condition



(a) *Smooth  $\phi(\alpha)$ .*



(b) *nonsmooth  $\phi(\alpha)$ . conditions work!*

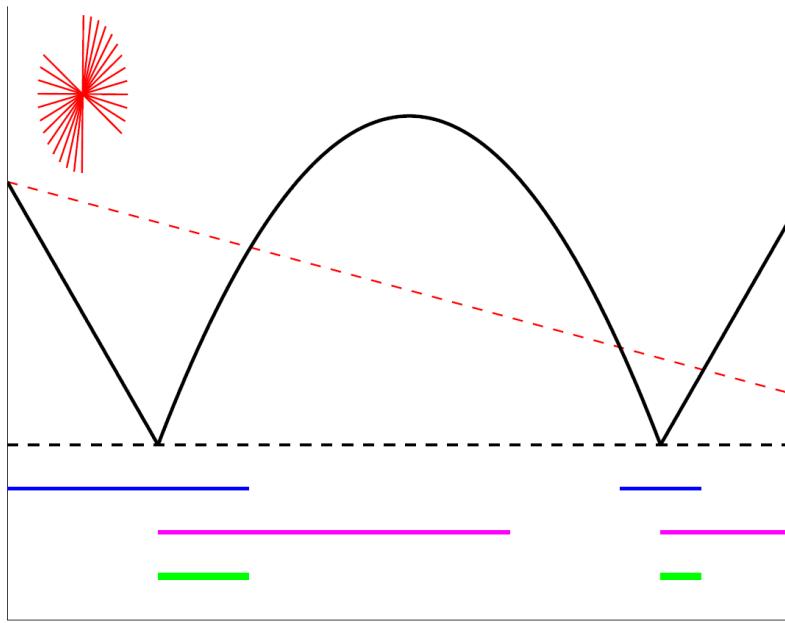


# Quasi-Newton Methods

weak Wolfe conditions should be used  
for nonsmooth functions

$$S(\alpha) : f(x^k) - f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq -c_1 \cdot \alpha d^T \nabla f(x^k)$$

$$C(\alpha) : d^T \nabla f(x^k + \alpha d) \geq c_2 \cdot d^T \nabla f(x^k)$$



Lewis & Overton line search:

- weak Wolfe conditions
- no interpolation used

$l \leftarrow 0$

$u \leftarrow +\infty$

$\alpha \leftarrow 1$

**repeat**

**if**  $S(\alpha)$  fails

$u \leftarrow \alpha$

**else if**  $C(\alpha)$  fails

$l \leftarrow \alpha$

**else**

**return**  $\alpha$

**if**  $u < +\infty$

$\alpha \leftarrow (l + u)/2$

**else**

$\alpha \leftarrow 2l$

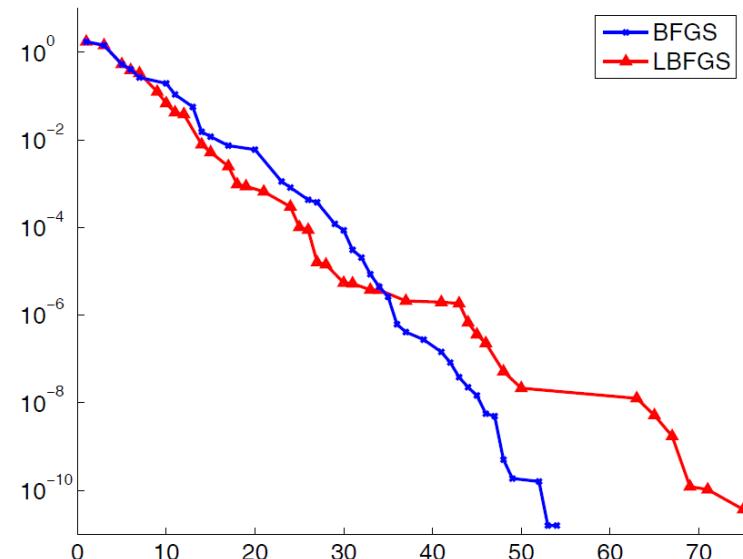
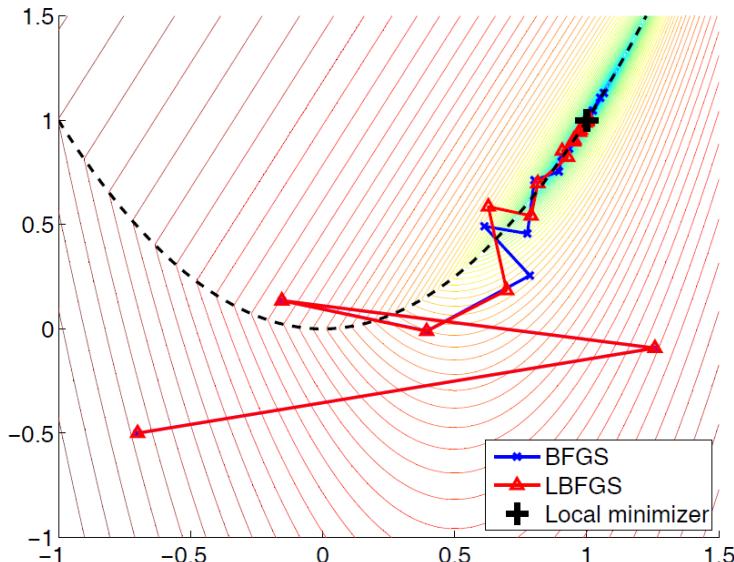
**end (repeat)**



# Quasi-Newton Methods

Example

$$f(x) = (1 - x_1)^2 + |x_2 - x_1^2|$$



(b) Function value at each iterate after the line search.

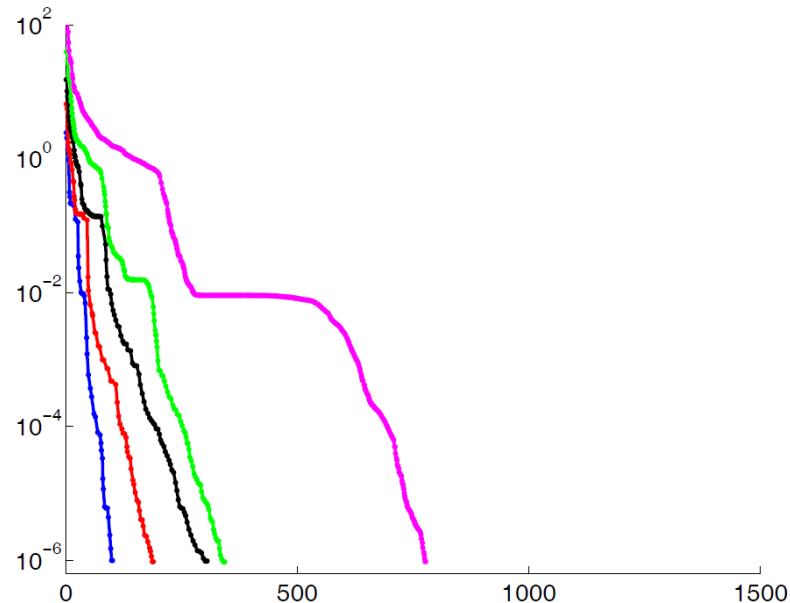


# Quasi-Newton Methods

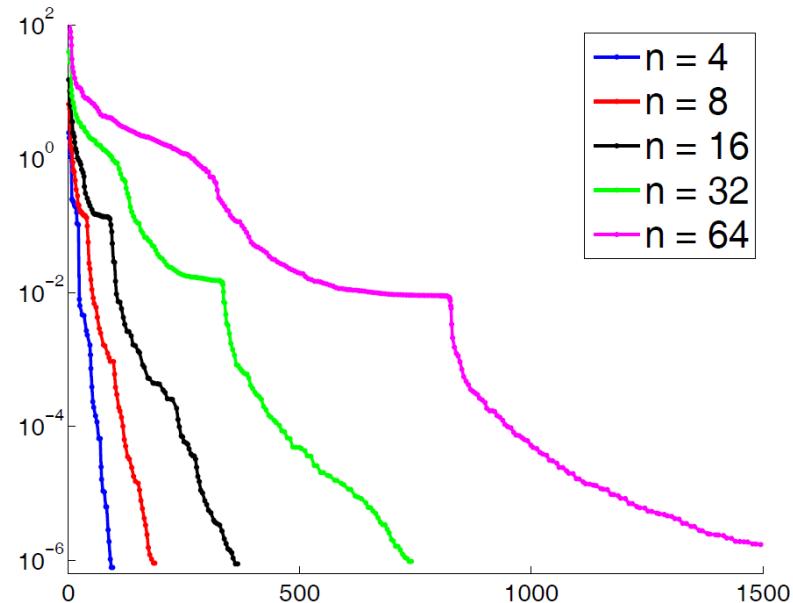
Example

$$f(x) = 4\|Ax\| + 3e_1^T Ax, \kappa(A) = n^2, f^* \equiv 0$$

Ill-conditioned nonsmooth func whose  $A$  is PD and randomly generated



*LBFGS with  $m = 25$*



*BFGS*



# Quasi-Newton Methods

L-BFGS method for possibly nonconvex nonsmooth functions

```
initialize  $x^0, g^0 \leftarrow \nabla f(x^0), B^0 \leftarrow I, k \leftarrow 0$ 
while  $\|g^k\| > \delta$  do
     $d \leftarrow -B^k g^k$ 
     $t \leftarrow$  Lewis Overton line search
     $x^{k+1} \leftarrow x^k + td$ 
     $g^{k+1} \leftarrow \nabla f(x^{k+1})$ 
     $B^{k+1} \leftarrow$  Cautious-Limited-Memory-BFGS( $g^{k+1} - g^k, x^{k+1} - x^k$ )
     $k \leftarrow k + 1$ 
end while
return
```



# Quasi-Newton Methods

Now we have detailed a practically powerful quasi-newton method:

BFGS Update

+

Cautious Update

+

Limited Memory Two-Loop Recursion

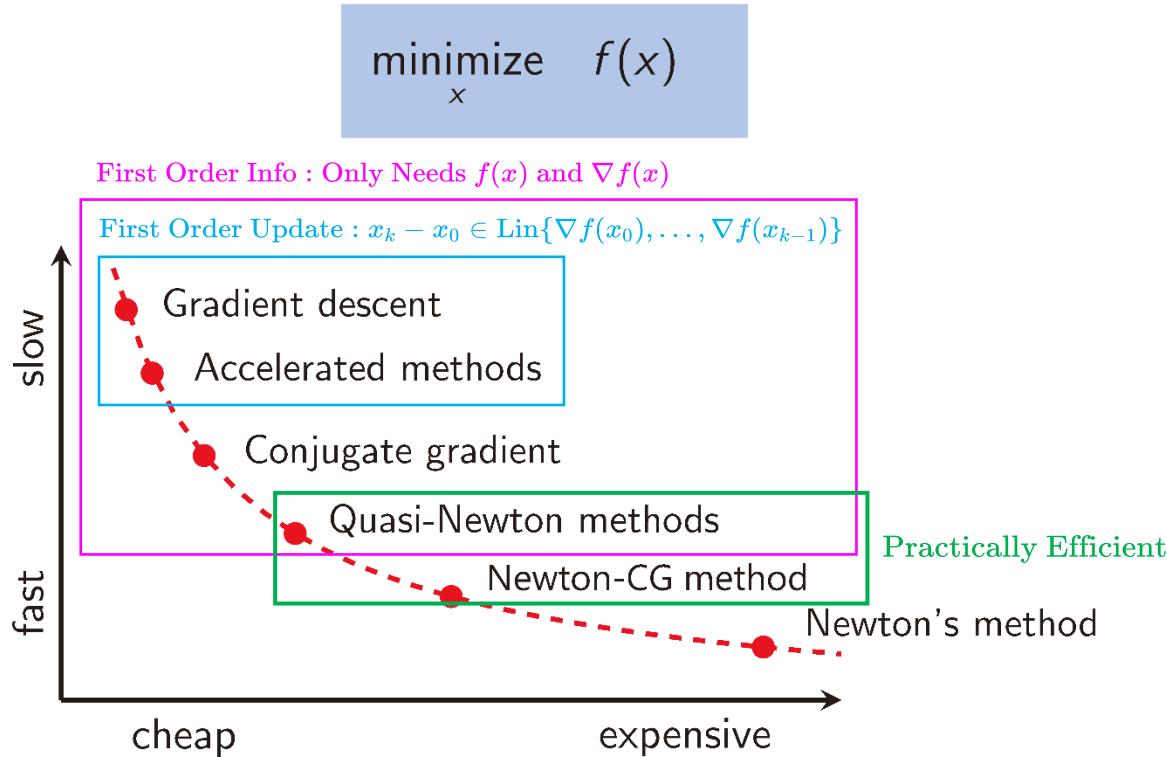
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Lewis-Overton Line Search



# Quasi-Newton Methods

Is quasi-Newton class the only way to avoid Hessian?



# **Newton-CG Method**



# Newton-CG Method

Complexity of function/gradient/Hessian

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad = \quad \nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} \quad < \quad \nabla^2 f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} & & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Function                  Gradient                  Hessian

About computational complexity :

- Computing gradient is at least  $O(n)$
- Computing gradient is **as easy as** computing the function
- Computing Hessian is at least  $O(n^2)$  whose inversion is about  $O(n^3)$



# Newton-CG Method

Fortunately



# Newton-CG Method

Complexity of function/gradient/Hessian-vec product

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad = \quad \nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} \quad = \quad (\nabla^2 f)\xi = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} & & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n^2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \\ \vdots \\ \xi_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Function                      Gradient                      Hessian-vec product

Even if exact value is not available, just compute  $(\nabla^2 f)\xi \approx \frac{\nabla f(x + \delta\xi) - \nabla f(x)}{\delta}$

However, we need inverse-Hessian-vec product.  
What can be exploited via Hessian-vec product?



# Newton-CG Method

The most prominent large-scale linear solver:  
**(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method**

$$Ax = b$$

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ : a known PD mat

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : an unknown vec

$b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : a known vec

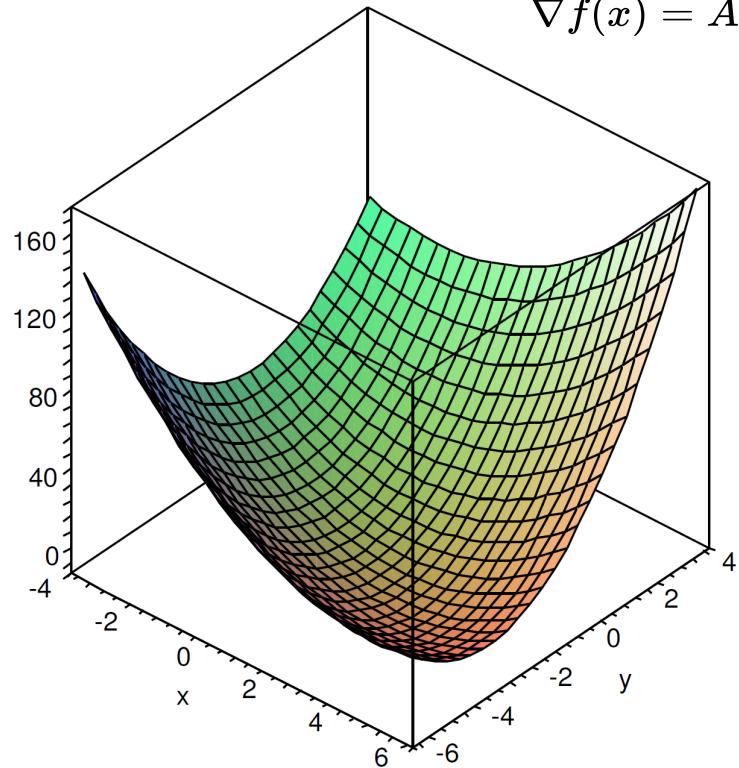
Solve  $Ax = b$  via the interface  $\gamma(x) := Ax$



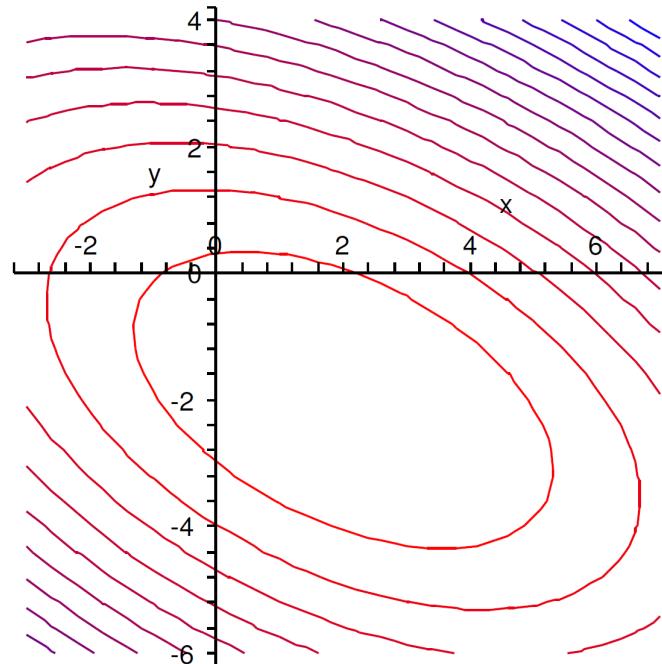
# Newton-CG Method

(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

$$Ax = b \quad \nabla f(x) = Ax - b = 0$$



$$\arg \min_x f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T A x - b^T x$$

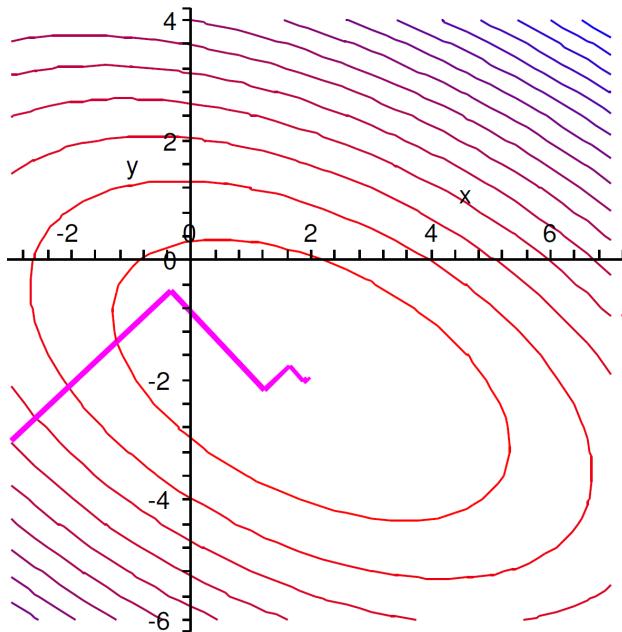




# Newton-CG Method

## (Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

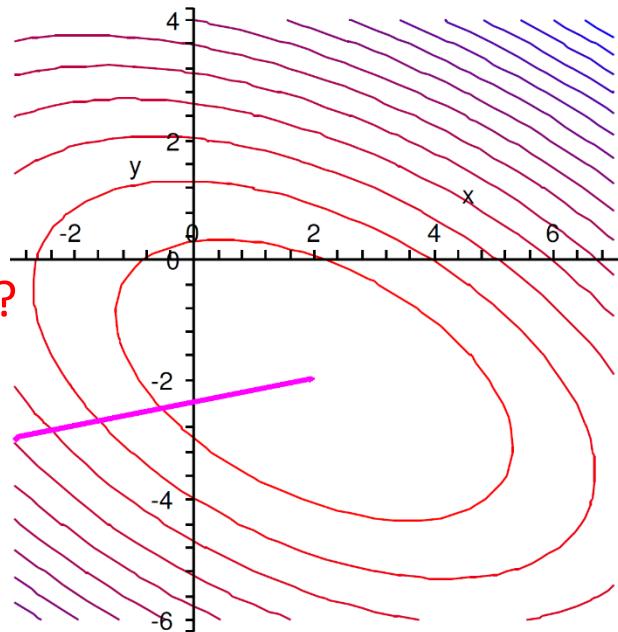
Recall steepest gradient descent



Infinite steps for an exact solution

Any trade-off?

Recall Newton's method

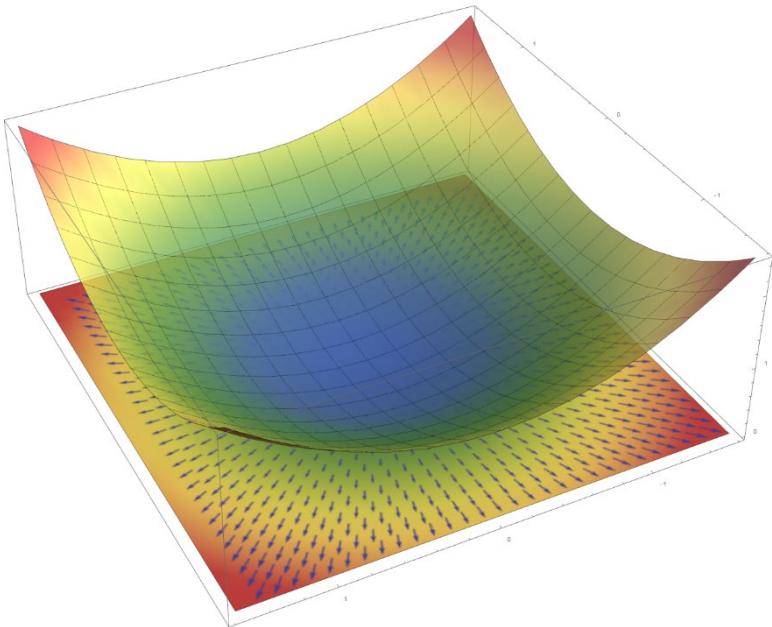


One step for an exact solution but with Hessian-inv

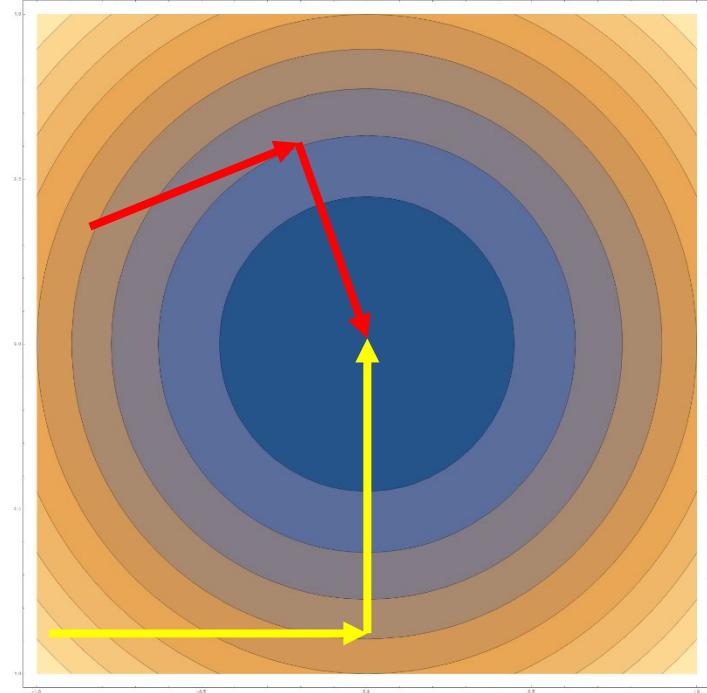


# Newton-CG Method

(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method



A simple case:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T x - b^T x$

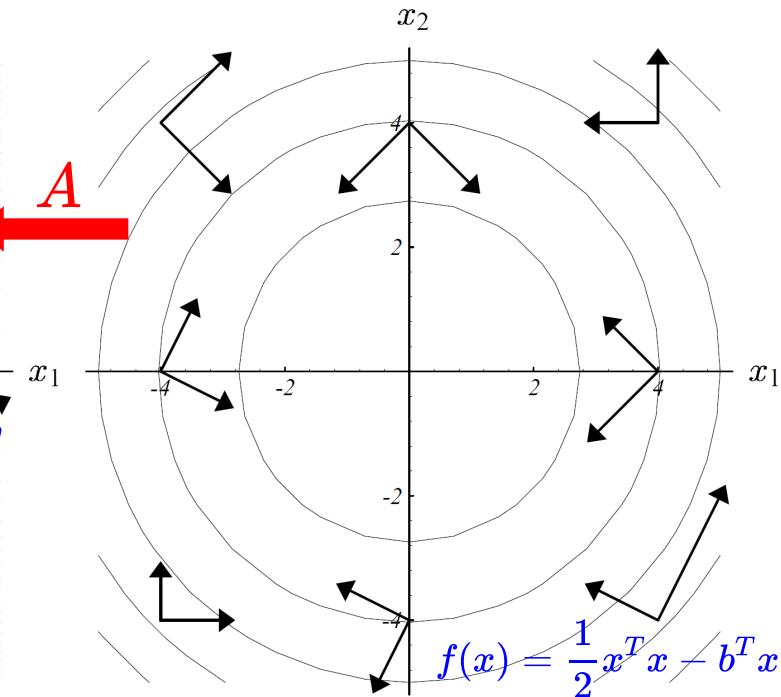
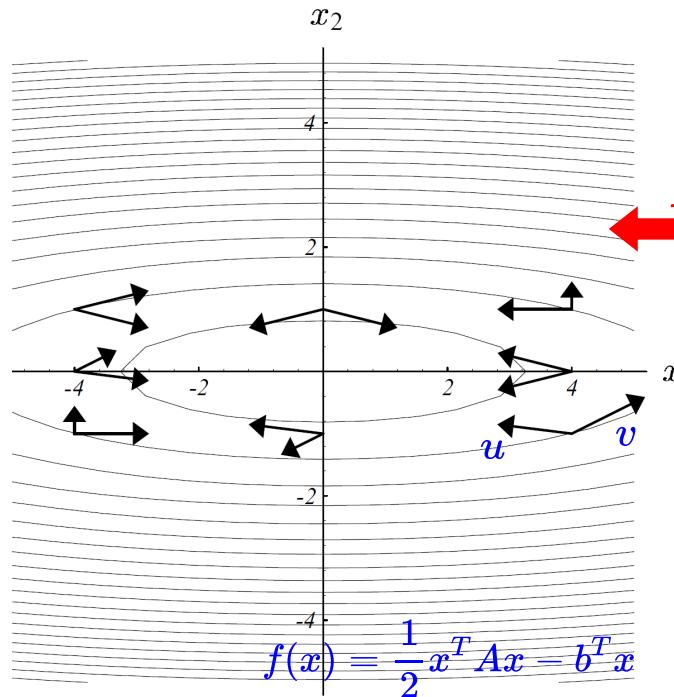


At most  $n$  orthogonal steps with exact line search



# Newton-CG Method

## (Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

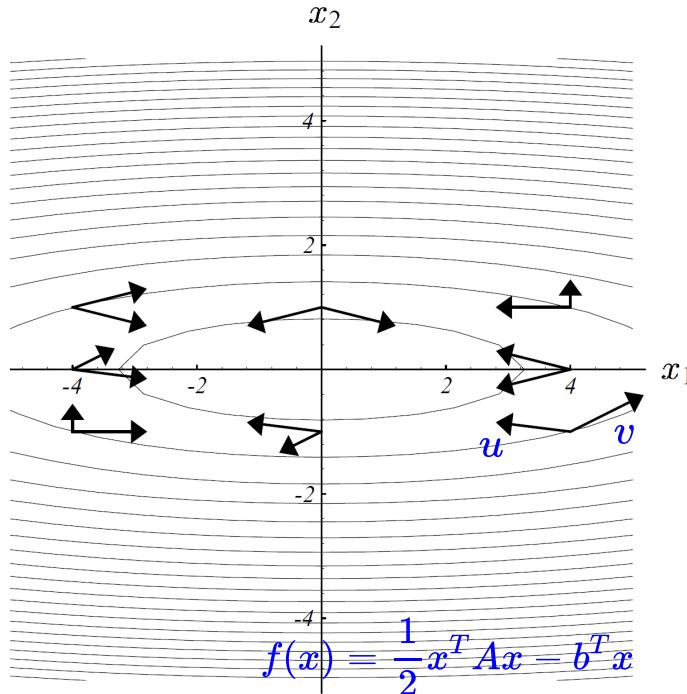


$u$  and  $v$  is conjugate  $\iff$   $u^T A v = 0$   $\iff$   $u$  and  $v$  is  $A$ -orthogonal



# Newton-CG Method

(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method



$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T A x = b^T x$$

Given  $n$  mutually conjugate directions

$$u^1, u^2, \dots, u^n$$

Successively conduct **closed-form exact line search**

$$\alpha \leftarrow \frac{b^T u^k - (x^k)^T [Au^k]}{(u^k)^T [Au^k]}$$

interface  $\gamma(u^k)$

$$x^{k+1} \leftarrow x^k + \alpha u^k$$

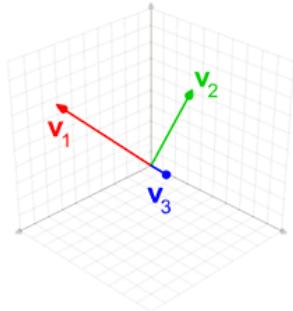
Obtain an exact solution in  $n$  steps

How to find conjugate directions?



# Newton-CG Method

## (Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method



$$\mathbf{u}^1 = \mathbf{v}^1,$$

$$\mathbf{u}^2 = \mathbf{v}^2 - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^1}(\mathbf{v}^2),$$

$$\mathbf{u}^3 = \mathbf{v}^3 - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^1}(\mathbf{v}^3) - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^2}(\mathbf{v}^3),$$

$$\mathbf{u}^4 = \mathbf{v}^4 - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^1}(\mathbf{v}^4) - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^2}(\mathbf{v}^4) - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^3}(\mathbf{v}^4),$$

 $\vdots$ 

$$\mathbf{u}^k = \mathbf{v}^k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^j}(\mathbf{v}^k),$$

$$\mathbf{e}^1 = \frac{\mathbf{u}^1}{\|\mathbf{u}^1\|}$$

$$\mathbf{e}^2 = \frac{\mathbf{u}^2}{\|\mathbf{u}^2\|}$$

$$\mathbf{e}^3 = \frac{\mathbf{u}^3}{\|\mathbf{u}^3\|}$$

$$\mathbf{e}^4 = \frac{\mathbf{u}^4}{\|\mathbf{u}^4\|}$$

 $\vdots$ 

$$\mathbf{e}^k = \frac{\mathbf{u}^k}{\|\mathbf{u}^k\|}.$$

conjugate Gram–Schmidt process

Gram–Schmidt process

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_A}{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle_A} \mathbf{u}, \quad \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_A = \mathbf{u}^T A \mathbf{v}$$



$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle} \mathbf{u}$$

construct conjugate directions via (conjugate) Gram–Schmidt process



# Newton-CG Method

(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

linearly independent  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$



conjugate Gram–Schmidt process



mutually conjugate  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$

$$u^k = v^k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \text{proj}_{u^j}(v^k)$$

but the recurrence is too long!



# Newton-CG Method

(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method Chooses  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  Such That

- All linearly independent vectors are generated **on the fly**
- The conjugate Gram–Schmidt enjoys a **short recurrence**



# Newton-CG Method

(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

If the linearly independent vector is chosen as

$$\mathbf{v}^k = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k$$

The history-dependent coefficients in conjugate G-S process becomes

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^j}(\mathbf{v}^k) = 0, \forall j \leq k-2$$

Thus we get a short recurrence

$$\mathbf{u}^k = \mathbf{v}^k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}^j}(\mathbf{v}^k) = \mathbf{v}^k + \frac{\|\mathbf{v}^k\|^2}{\|\mathbf{v}^{k-1}\|^2} \mathbf{u}^{k-1}$$



# Newton-CG Method

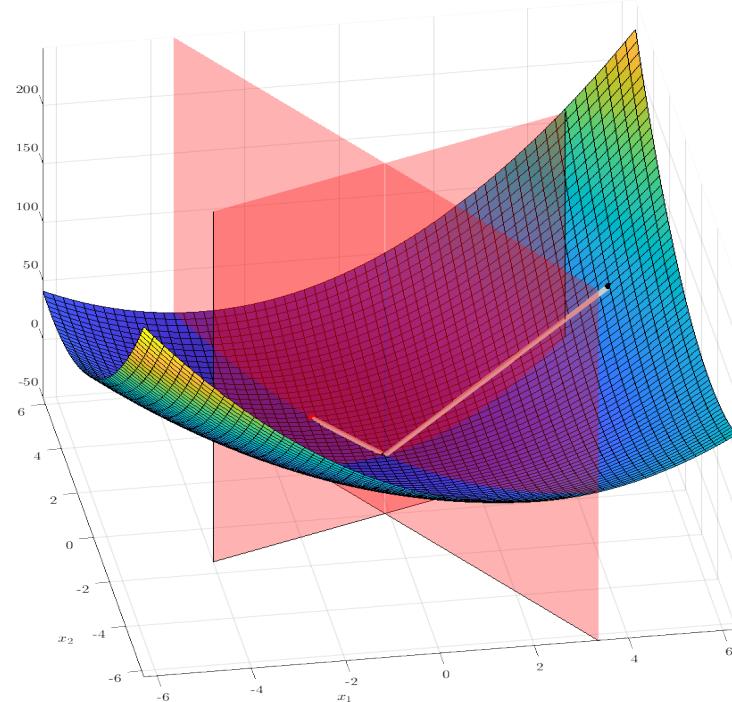
(Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

```
x1 ← xini
v1 ← b - Ax1
u1 ← v1
k ← 1
while vk ≠ 0
    α ← ||vk||2 / (uk)T Auk
    xk+1 ← xk + αuk
    vk+1 ← vk - αAuk
    β ← ||vk+1||2 / ||vk||2
    uk+1 ← vk+1 + βuk
    k ← k + 1
end (while)
return xk
```

float-point precision:

$$\|v^k\| \geq \epsilon$$

interface  $\gamma(u^k)$



If exact arithmetic is used, CG always finds an exact solution in n steps



# Newton-CG Method

## (Linear) Conjugate Gradient Method

```
x1 ← xini
v1 ← b - Ax1
u1 ← v1
k ← 1
while vk ≠ 0
    α ← \|vk\|^2 / (uk)T Auk
    xk+1 ← xk + αuk
    vk+1 ← vk - αAuk
    β ← \|vk+1\|^2 / \|vk\|^2
    uk+1 ← vk+1 + βuk
    k ← k + 1
end (while)
return xk
```

float-point precision:  
 $\|v^k\| \geq \epsilon$

### Features:

- CG can either be interpreted as a direct or iterative solver
- CG is often used with preconditioner
- CG only requires mat-vec product
- CG directly exploits mat sparsity without producing fill-in
- CG normally converges fast

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{555 \times 555}$ , $\kappa(A) > 10^{10}$		
Method	Number of Iterations	
Gauss Seidel	208,000	
Block SOR methods	765	
Preconditioned conjugate gradient	25	



# Newton-CG Method

## Newton-CG Method

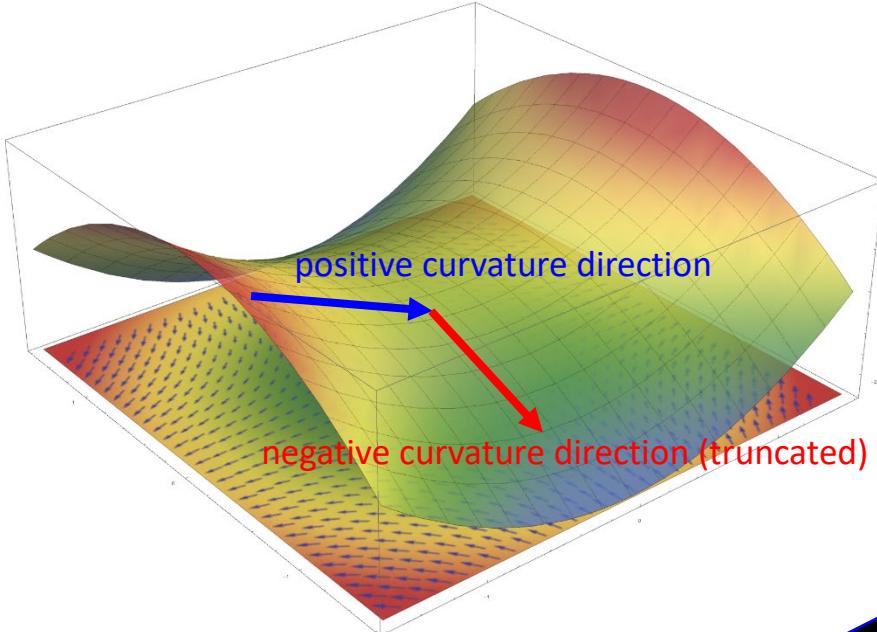
Apply CG to solve  $(\nabla^2 f)d = -\nabla f$  via the interface  $\gamma(\xi) := (\nabla^2 f)\xi$

- How to handle indefinite Hessian?
- Should the linear system be solved exactly?



# Newton-CG Method

## Newton-CG Method



Truncated CG:

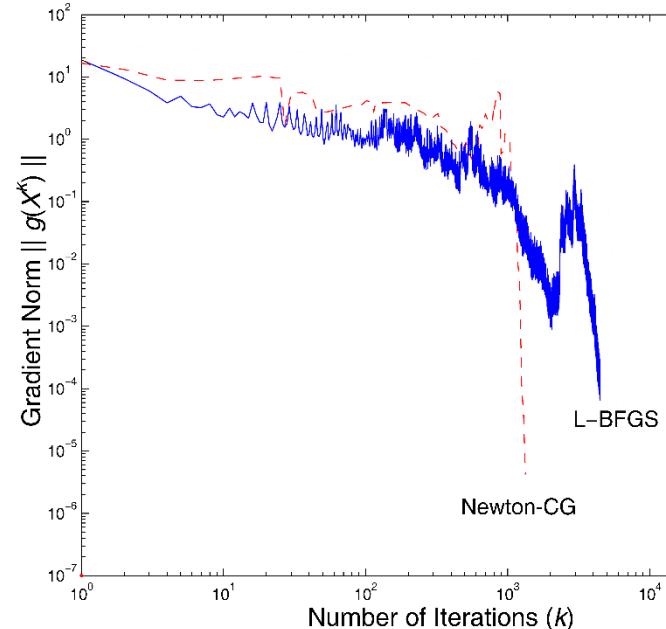
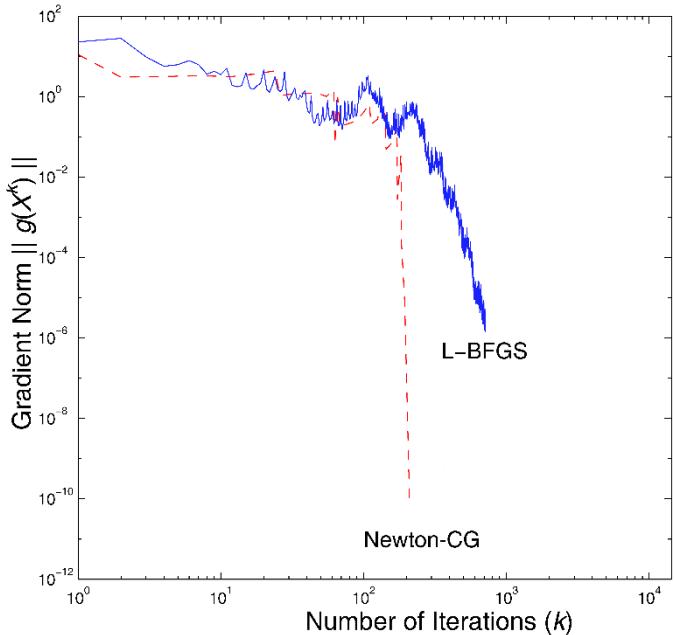
- Start with zero as the initial direction
- Truncating negative curvature direction

```
x1 ← xini, k ← 1
while ‖∇f(xk)‖ > δ
    εk ← min(1, ‖∇f(xk)‖)/10
    d1 ← 0, v1 ← -∇f(xk)
    u1 ← v1, j ← 1
    while ‖vj‖ > εk ‖∇f(xk)‖
        if (uj)T ∇2f(xk) uj ≤ 0
            if j = 1
                dj ← -∇f(xk)
            end (if)
        break
    end (if)
    α ← ‖vj‖2 / (uj)T ∇2f(xk) uj
    dj+1 ← dj + α uj
    vj+1 ← vj - α A uj
    β ← ‖vj+1‖2 / ‖vj‖2
    uj+1 ← vj+1 + β uj
    j ← j + 1
end (while)
α ← backtracking line search (Armijo)
xk+1 ← xk + α dj
end (while)
```



# Newton-CG Method

## Newton-CG Method



Molecular Dynamics Simulation (66 variables)

Minimizer	Iters.(Hess.-vec calls.)	$f$	$\ \nabla f\ $	$f & \nabla$ evals.	CPU time
Newton-CG	29(210)	-15.25	$7.67 \times 10^{-11}$	44	1.12 sec.
L-BFGS	711	-15.25	$1.4 \times 10^{-6}$	740	1.39

Molecular Dynamics Simulation (1704 variables)

Minimizer	Iters.(Hess.-vec calls.)	$f$	$\ \nabla f\ $	$f & \nabla$ evals.	CPU time
Newton-CG	65(1335)	-2773.70	$4.2 \times 10^{-6}$	240	5.21 min.
L-BFGS	4486	-2792.96	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$	4622	12.61

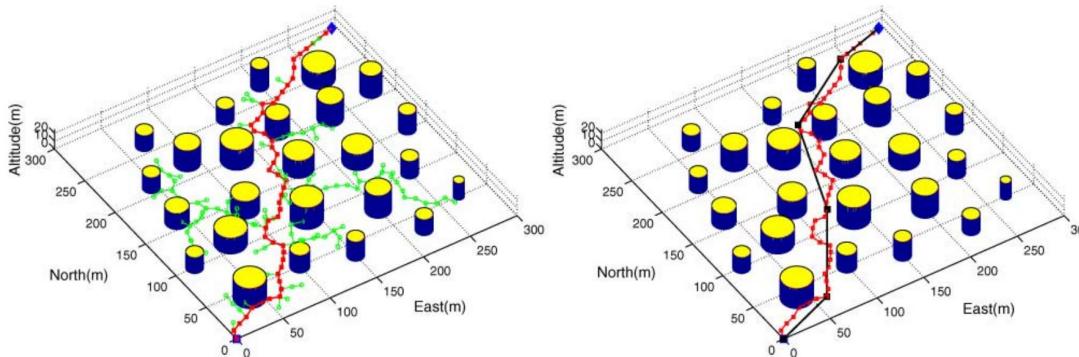
Newton-CG normally achieves lower gradient norm.

LBFS的应用

# Application: Smooth Navigation Path Generation

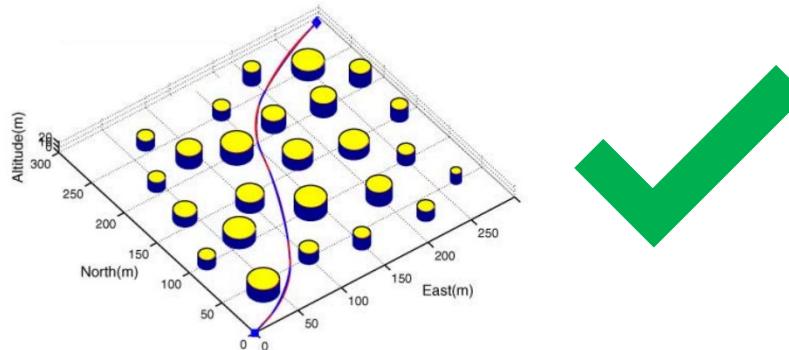


# Smooth Navigation Path Generation



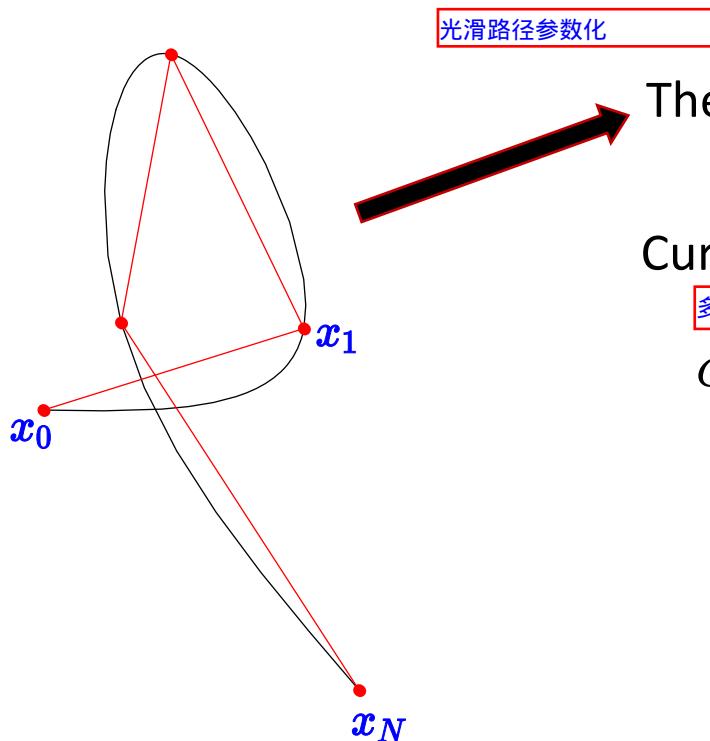
- RRT\*-like planners generate **low-dim** paths efficiently.
- Nonsmooth paths are unsatisfactory for mobile robots.
- Unconstrained opt can efficiently smooth these paths.

使用无约束优化进行处理



# Smooth Navigation Path Generation

Cubic Spline (Minimum Stretch Energy) Path Parameterization



The  $i$ -th segment  $p_i(s) = a_i + b_i s + c_i s^2 + d_i s^3, s \in [0, 1]$

Curve and its 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> order derivative are continuous.

多项式的零阶导数，一阶导数，二阶导数连续

$$C^2 : p_{i-1}(1) = p_i(0), p_{i-1}^{(1)}(1) = p_i^{(1)}(0), p_{i-1}^{(2)}(1) = p_i^{(2)}(0),$$

Assume stationary boundary conditions.

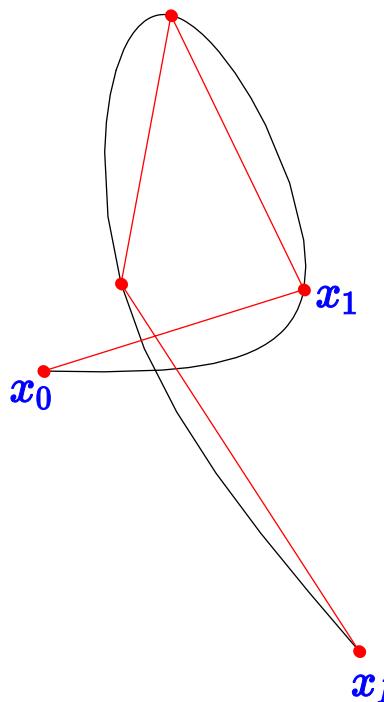
假设开始与结束的速度为0

$$p_1^{(1)}(0) = 0, p_N^{(1)}(1) = 0$$



# Smooth Navigation Path Generation

Cubic Spline (**Minimum Stretch Energy**) Path Parameterization



A cubic curve sequentially crossing  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_N$  is given by

$$a_i = x_i$$

$$b_i = D_i$$

$$c_i = 3(x_{i+1} - x_i) - 2D_i - D_{i+1}$$

$$d_i = 2(x_i - x_{i+1}) + D_i + D_{i+1}$$

where

带状矩阵求解线性方程 , Di表示的是速度

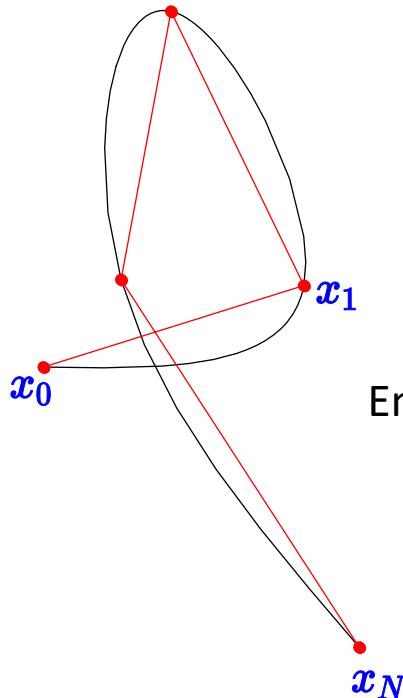
$$\begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \\ D_4 \\ \vdots \\ D_{n-2} \\ D_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & & & & & \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & & & & \\ & 1 & 4 & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & 4 & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ & & & & & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 3(x_2 - x_0) \\ 3(x_3 - x_1) \\ 3(x_4 - x_2) \\ 3(x_5 - x_3) \\ \vdots \\ 3(x_{n-1} - x_{n-3}) \\ 3(x_n - x_{n-2}) \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } D_0 = D_N = 0$$

Thus the entire trajectory is determined by  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_N$



# Smooth Navigation Path Generation

Cubic Spline (**Minimum Stretch Energy**) Path Generation



Minimize the stretch energy to make it as smooth as possible

多项式系数，有解析解

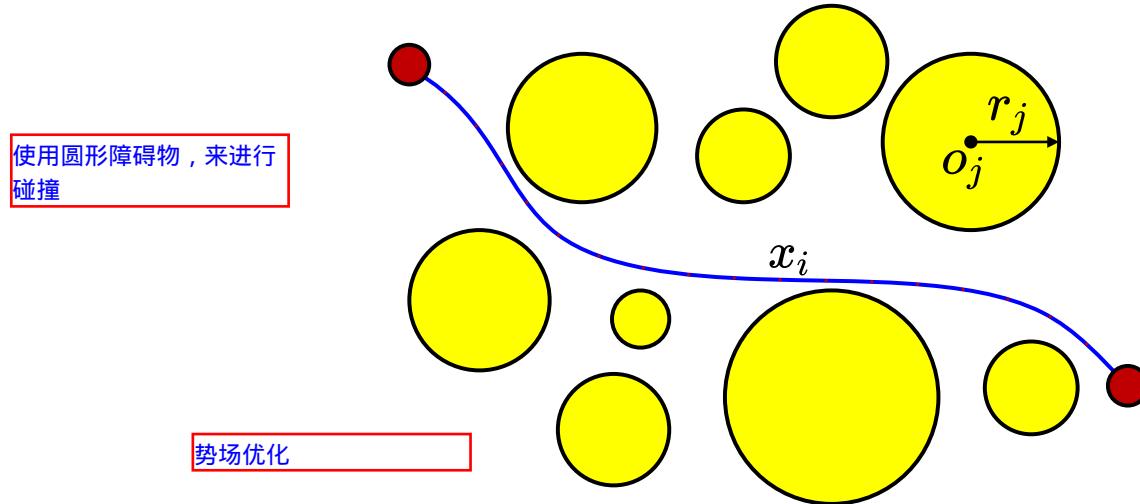
$$\text{Energy}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N-1}) = \sum_{i=0}^N \int_0^1 \|p_i^{(2)}(s)\|^2 ds$$

Energy is a function of points since all **coefficients** are determined by **points**.



# Smooth Navigation Path Generation

Cubic Spline (**Minimum Stretch Energy**) Path Generation



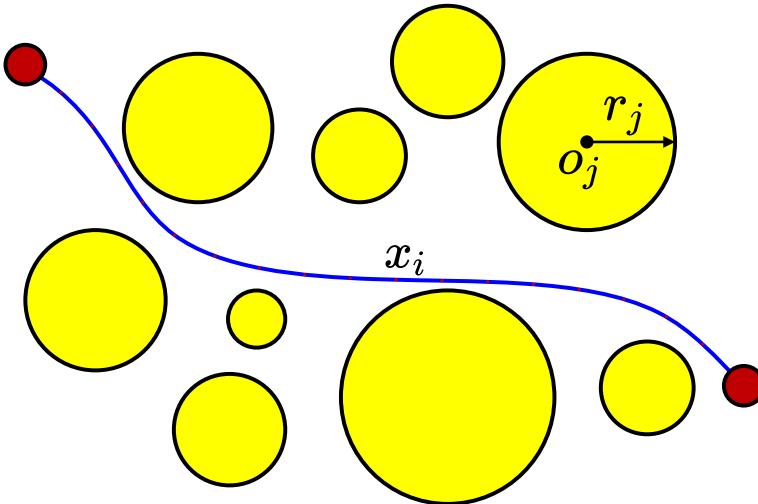
$$\text{Potential}(x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1}) = 1000 \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^M \max(r_j - \|x_i - o_j\|, 0)$$

Ensure the curve is collision-free via potential functions!



# Smooth Navigation Path Generation

Cubic Spline (**Minimum Stretch Energy**) Path Generation



Complete the smooth path generation by unconstrained minimization:

potential 非连续

$$\min_{x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1}} \text{Energy}(x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1}) + \text{Potential}(x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1})$$

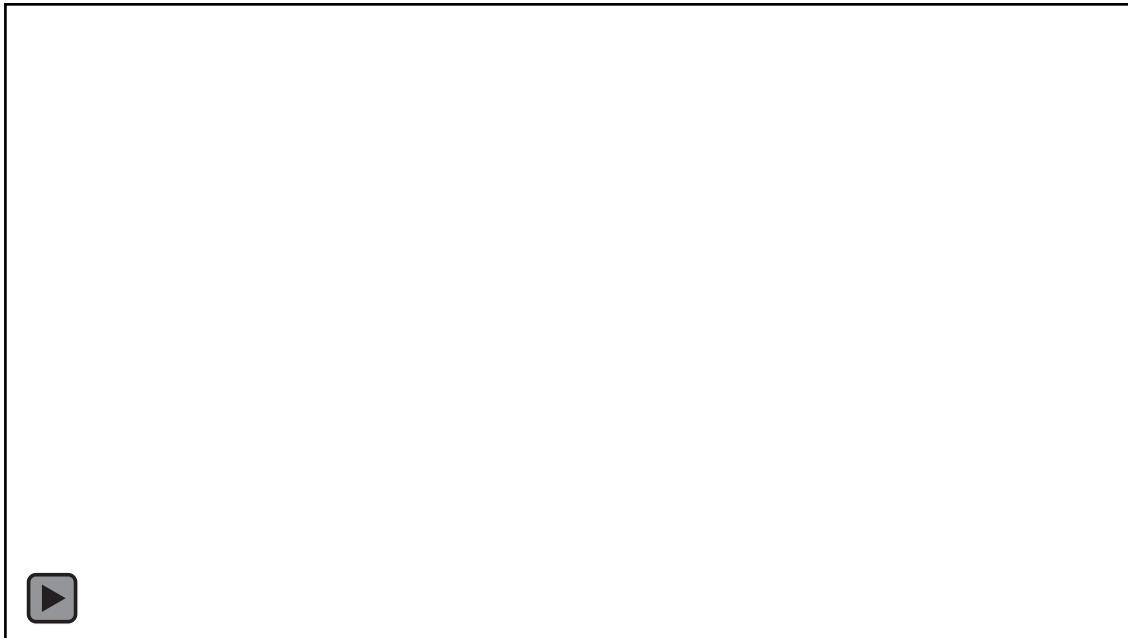
The non-smooth path can provide an initial guess for decision variables.



# Smooth Navigation Path Generation

Cubic Spline (**Minimum Stretch Energy**) Path Generation

$$\min_{x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1}} \text{Energy}(x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1}) + \text{Potential}(x_1, x_2 \dots, x_{N-1})$$



# Thanks for Listening!

*Ack.: The slide is prepared by Zhepei Wang and Fei Gao,  
improved by Lingfeng Wang, Song Zhao, and Shuo Yang.*