

Lecture 21: Recall:
Gradient descent method

Goal: Look for an iterative scheme:

$$\underbrace{\vec{z}^{k+1}}_{\mathbb{R}^n} = \underbrace{\vec{z}^k}_{\mathbb{R}^n} + \underbrace{\alpha_k}_{\mathbb{R}} \underbrace{\vec{d}^k}_{\mathbb{R}^n}, \quad k=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

time step *search direction*

such that:

$$f(\vec{z}^1) > f(\vec{z}^2) > \dots > f(\vec{z}^k) > f(\vec{z}^{k+1})$$

where $f(\vec{x}) = \vec{x}^T A \vec{x} - \vec{b}^T \vec{x}$.

Remark:

- $\vec{d}^k$ is chosen as $-\nabla f(\vec{z}^k) = -(A\vec{z}^k - \vec{b})$
- Optimal α_k is:
$$\alpha_k = \frac{-(A\vec{z}^k - \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{d}^k}{\vec{d}^k \cdot A \vec{d}^k} = \frac{-\vec{r}^k \cdot \vec{d}^k}{\langle \vec{d}^k, \vec{d}^k \rangle_A} = \frac{\vec{d}^k \cdot \vec{d}^k}{\langle \vec{d}^k, \vec{d}^k \rangle_A}$$

where $\vec{r}^k = A\vec{z}^k - \vec{b}$ and $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle_A = \vec{u} \cdot A \vec{v}$.

Convergence analysis Assume A is symmetric positive definite.

We consider the gradient descent method with constant α
(small enough α)

Then: $\vec{e}^k = (I - \alpha A)^k \vec{e}_0$, where $\vec{e}^n = \vec{x}^n - \vec{x}^*$ and $\vec{x}^*$ is the solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$.

• Converges if $\alpha < \frac{2}{\lambda_{\max}}$ $\lambda_{\max} = \max \{ \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \}$

In practice, we choose $\alpha = \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}}$

Then: $\rho(I - \alpha A) = 1 - \frac{\lambda_{\min}}{\lambda_{\max}}$ ($\lambda_{\min} = \min \{ \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \}$)

Define: $\frac{\lambda_{\max}}{\lambda_{\min}} = \kappa(A) = \underline{\text{condition number of } A}$

$$\therefore \rho(I - \alpha A) = 1 - \frac{1}{\kappa(A)} < 1.$$

$\therefore$ Gradient descent method converges

Remark: Convergence depends on the condition number.

If condition number is BIG, the convergence is slow!!

Conjugate gradient method

Goal: Minimize a quadratic functional.

$$\vec{x}_* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \varphi(\vec{x}) \quad ; \quad \varphi(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \vec{x}^T A \vec{x} - \vec{b}^T \vec{x}$$

where A = symmetric positive definite matrix in $M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ and $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Recall: $\nabla \varphi(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x} - \vec{b}$ and $\underbrace{\varphi''(\vec{x})}_{\text{Hessian}} = A$

Minimizer $\vec{x}^*$ of $\varphi(\vec{x})$ satisfies $A\vec{x}^* = \vec{b} \iff \left(\frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)$

Strategy: Given a current approximation $\vec{x}_k$, find a new approximation

by : $\vec{x}_{k+1} = \vec{x}_k + \alpha_k \vec{p}_k$ $\left(\begin{array}{l} \vec{p}_k = \text{search direction} \\ \alpha_k = \text{time step} \end{array} \right)$

But we want to choose: time step α_k to be the optimal
and search direction such that $\vec{p}_i \cdot A \vec{p}_j = 0$ for $i \neq j$.

Motivation:

For $A \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$, if $\vec{x}^*$ = sol of $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$.

Ideally, we want to find $\vec{p}_1$ such that the direction allows us to move directly to $\vec{x}_*$.

$$\therefore \vec{p}_1 \parallel \vec{x}^* - \vec{x}_1 \Rightarrow \vec{p}_1 = c(\vec{x}^* - \vec{x}_1)$$

But: $A\vec{p}_1 = \underset{\uparrow \mathbb{R}}{c} (A \underbrace{\vec{x}_x}_{\vec{b}} - A\vec{x}_1) = \underset{\uparrow \mathbb{R}}{c} (\vec{b} - A\vec{x}_1)$

$$A \vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_0 = c \underbrace{(\vec{b} - A\vec{x}_1)}_{-\nabla \varphi(\vec{x}_1)} \cdot \vec{p}_0 = -c \nabla \varphi(\vec{x}_0 + \alpha_0 \vec{p}_0) \cdot \vec{p}_0$$

$$= -c \left. \frac{d}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha=\alpha_0} \varphi(\vec{x}_0 + \alpha \vec{p}_0) = 0$$

$$\therefore \vec{A} \vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_0 = 0$$

Get convergence in JUST 2 steps!!

Summary:

(Goal:)

Find search ^① directions $\vec{p}_j$ ($j=0,1,2,\dots$) such that $\vec{p}_j^T A \vec{p}_k = 0$ for $j \neq k$ and find optimal time ^② step α_j .

Choice of time step α_k (Given $\vec{p}_0, \vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_k$)

Optimal α_k :

$$\varphi(\vec{x}_k + \alpha \vec{p}_k) = \varphi(\vec{x}_k) + \alpha \nabla \varphi(\vec{x}_k) \cdot \vec{p}_k + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \vec{p}_k^T A \vec{p}_k$$

(Taylor expansion)

Minimum attained at $\alpha = \frac{-\nabla \varphi(\vec{x}_k) \cdot \vec{p}_k}{\vec{p}_k^T A \vec{p}_k}$

$\therefore$ we choose $\alpha_k = \frac{-\vec{r}_k \cdot \vec{p}_k}{\langle \vec{p}_k, \vec{p}_k \rangle_A}$

where $\vec{r}_k = A \vec{x}_k - \vec{b}$ and $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle_A \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \vec{u} \cdot A \vec{v}$.

Choice of the search directions $\vec{p}_j$ ($j=0,1,2,\dots$)

Suppose $\vec{p}_0, \vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_{k-1}$ are known. Then, we proceed to find the search direction $\vec{p}_k$ in the form:

$$\vec{p}_k = -\vec{r}_k - \beta_{k-1} \vec{p}_{k-1} \quad \text{where} \quad \beta_{k-1} = -\frac{\vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{r}_k}{\vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{p}_{k-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow A \vec{p}_k = -A \vec{r}_k - \beta_{k-1} A \vec{p}_{k-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{p}_k = -\vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{r}_k - \beta_{k-1} \vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{p}_{k-1}$$

$$\overset{0}{\Rightarrow} \beta_{k-1} = -\frac{\vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{r}_k}{\vec{p}_{k-1}^T A \vec{p}_{k-1}}$$

Next time: we can prove:

$$\vec{r}_i \cdot \vec{r}_j = 0 \quad \text{for } i \neq j.$$



Conjugate gradient method converges in n iterations
because:

$$\{ \vec{r}_0, \vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_{n-1}, \vec{r}_n, \vec{r}_{n+1}, \dots \}$$