

# Optimization Methods in Machine Learning Lecture 22

Katya Scheinberg

Lehigh University

[katyas@lehigh.edu](mailto:katyas@lehigh.edu)

Splitting, alternating linearization  
and alternating direction  
methods

## Augmented Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & f_0(x), \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & f_i(x) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

Augmented Lagrangian function

$$L(x, y) = f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{2\mu_i} \|f_i(x)\|^2$$

Augmented Lagrangian method

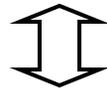
For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$x^k = \operatorname{argmin}_x L(x, \lambda^k)$$

$$\lambda_i^{k+1} = \lambda_i^k - \frac{1}{\mu_i} f_i(x^k), \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

## Alternating directions (splitting) method

- Consider:  $\min_x F(x) = f(x) + g(x)$



$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x,y} \quad & f(x) + g(y) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & y = x \end{aligned}$$

- Relax constraints via Augmented Lagrangian technique

$$\min_{x,y} f(x) + g(y) + \lambda^\top (y - x) + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|y - x\|^2 = Q_\lambda(x, y)$$

Assume that  $f(x)$  and  $g(y)$  are both such that the above functions are easy to optimize in  $x$  or  $y$

# Alternating direction method (ADM)

- $x^{k+1} = \min_x Q_\lambda(x, y^k)$
- $y^{k+1} = \min_y Q_\lambda(x^{k+1}, y)$
- $\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^k + \frac{1}{\mu}(y^{k+1} - x^{k+1})$

Widely used method without complexity bounds

Combettes and Wajs, '05

Eckstein and Bertsekas, '92,

Eckstein and Svaiter, '08

Glowinski and Le Tallec, '89

Kiwiel, Rosa, and Ruszczynski, '99

Lions and Mercier '79

## A slight modification of ADM

- $x^{k+1} = \min_x Q_\lambda(x, y^k)$
- $\lambda^{k+\frac{1}{2}} = \lambda^k + \frac{1}{\mu}(y^k - x^{k+1})$
- $y^{k+1} = \min_y Q_\lambda(x^{k+1}, y)$
- $\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^{k+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{\mu}(y^{k+1} - x^{k+1})$

This turns out to be equivalent to.....

## Alternating linearization method (ALM)

- $x^{k+1} = \min_x Q_g(x, y^k)$
- $y^{k+1} = \min_y Q_f(x^{k+1}, y)$

$$Q_g(x, y) = f(x) + \nabla g(y)^\top (x - y) + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|y - x\|^2 + g(y)$$

$$Q_f(x, y) = f(x) + \nabla f(x)^\top (y - x) + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|y - x\|^2 + g(y)$$

## Convergence rate for ALM

- $x^{k+1} = \min_x Q_g(x, y^k)$
- $y^{k+1} = \min_y Q_f(x^{k+1}, y)$

Th: If  $\mu \leq 1/L$  then in  $O(L/\epsilon)$  iterations finds  $\epsilon$ -optimal solution

# Convergence rate for fast ALM

- $x^k := \min_x Q_g(x, z^k)$
- $y^k := \min_y Q_f(x^k, y)$
- $t_{k+1} := (1 + \sqrt{1 + 4t_k^2})/2$
- $z^{k+1} := y^k + \frac{t_k - 1}{t_{k+1}} [y^k - y^{k-1}]$

Th: If  $\mu \leq 1/L$  then in  $O(\sqrt{L}/\epsilon)$  iterations finds  $\epsilon$ -optimal solution

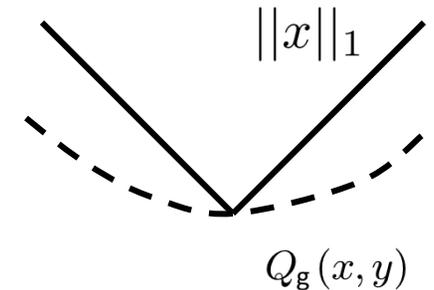
# Alternating linearization method for nonsmooth $g$

$$\min_x F(x) = \min_x f(x) + g(x)$$

$$|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

~~$$|\nabla g(x) - \nabla g(y)| \leq L\|x - y\|$$~~

This is not true  
for  $\|x\|_1$ !!!



$Q_g(x, y)$  may not be an upper approximation of  $F(x)$ !

Idea: with line search can accept different  $\mu$  values, including zero, for  $g$

# Examples of applications of alternating linearization method

# Sparse Inverse Covariance Selection

$$\max_{X \succ 0} (\underbrace{\ln \det(X) - \text{Tr}(AX)}_{f(x)} - \underbrace{\rho \|X\|_1}_{g(x)})$$

$$X^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_X \left\{ f(X) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|X - (Y^k + \mu_{k+1}\Lambda^k)\|_F^2 \right\}$$

**Eigenvalue decomposition  $O(n^3)$  ops. Same as one gradient of  $f(X)$**

$$Y^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_Y \left\{ g(Y) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|Y - (X^{k+1} - \mu_{k+1}(A - (X^{k+1})^{-1}))\|_F^2 \right\}$$

**Shrinkage  $O(n^2)$  ops**

# Sparse Inverse Covariance Selection

$$\max_{X \succ 0} (\underbrace{\text{ln det}(X) - \text{Tr}(AX)}_{f(x)} - \underbrace{\lambda \|X\|_1}_{g(x)})$$

$$X^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_X \left\{ f(X) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|X - (Y^k + \mu_{k+1}\Lambda^k)\|_F^2 \right\}$$

$V\text{Diag}(d)V^\top$  - the spectral decomposition of  $Y^k + \mu_{k+1}(\Lambda^k - A)$

$$\gamma_i = \left( d_i + \sqrt{d_i^2 + 4\mu_{k+1}} \right) / 2, \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

$$X^{k+1} := V\text{Diag}(\gamma)V^\top$$

**Eigenvalue decomposition  $O(n^3)$  ops. Same as one gradient of  $f(X)$**

## Lasso or group Lasso

$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|^2 + \rho \|x\|_1$$

$f(x)$

$g(x)$

$$x^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_x \left\{ f(x) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|x - (y^k + \mu_{k+1}\lambda^k)\|^2 \right\}$$

**Eigenvalue decomposition  $O(n^3)$  ops. Same as one gradient of  $f(X)$**

$$y^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_y \left\{ g(y) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|y - (x^{k+1} - \mu_{k+1}A^\top(Ax - b))\|^2 \right\}$$

**Shrinkage  $O(n^2)$  ops**

# Robust PCA

$$\min_X \|X\|_* + \rho \|M - X\|_1$$

$$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{f(x)} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{g(x)}$$

$$X^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_X \left\{ f(X) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|X - (Y^k + \mu_{k+1}\Lambda^k)\|_F^2 \right\}$$

**Eigenvalue decomposition  $O(n^3)$  ops. Same as one gradient of  $f(X)$**

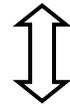
$$Y^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_Y \left\{ g(Y) + \frac{1}{2\mu_{k+1}} \|Y - (X^{k+1} - \mu_{k+1}\Lambda^{k+\frac{1}{2}})\|_F^2 \right\}$$

**Shrinkage  $O(n^2)$  ops**

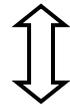
## Recall Collaborative Prediction?

$$\min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}} f(X) + \|X\|_*$$

$$\min_Y Q_f(X, Y)$$



$$\min_Y \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \|Y - Z\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_* \right]$$



$$Z = P \text{diag} \{ \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n \} Q^\top$$

Closed form  
solution!  
 $O(n^3)$  effort

$$Y^* = P \text{diag} \{ \sigma_1^*, \sigma_2^*, \dots, \sigma_n^* \} Q^\top, \quad \sigma_i^* = \begin{cases} \sigma_i - \mu & \text{if } \sigma_i > \mu \\ 0 & \text{if } -\mu \leq \sigma_i \leq \mu \\ \sigma_i + \mu & \text{if } \sigma_i < -\mu \end{cases}$$