

**SWFR ENG 4TE3 (6TE3)**

**COMP SCI 4TE3 (6TE3)**

**Continuous Optimization Algorithm**

# **Conjugate gradient**

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# Conjugate directions:

## Generalization of orthogonality

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  symmetric PD matrix.

We consider the strictly convex quadratic function

$$q(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T Ax - b^T x.$$

**Definition 1.** *The directions (vectors)  $s^1, \dots, s^k \in R^n$  are conjugate ( $A$ -orthogonal) directions if  $(s^i)^T A s^j = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq k$ .*

(Conjugate  $\equiv$  orthogonal if  $A = I$ .)

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a linear subspace,  $\mathcal{H}_1 := y^1 + \mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2 := y^2 + \mathcal{L}$  be two parallel affine spaces, and let  $x^1$  and  $x^2$  be the minimizers of  $q(x)$  over  $\mathcal{H}_1$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2$ , respectively. Then for every  $s \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $(x^2 - x^1)$  and  $s$  are conjugate w.r.t.  $A$ .*

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $s^1, \dots, s^k \in R^n$  be conjugate directions w.r.t.  $A$ . Let  $x^1$  be given and let  $x^{i+1} := \operatorname{argmin} q(x^i + \lambda s^i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .*

*Then  $x^{k+1}$  minimizes  $q(x)$  on the affine space  $\mathcal{H} = x^1 + \mathcal{L}(s^1, \dots, s^k)$ .*

# Proof of the Theorems

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## Proof of Theorem 1

$$x^1 + \lambda s \in \mathcal{H}_1 \Rightarrow q(x^1 + \lambda s) \geq q(x^1) \Rightarrow s^T \nabla q(x^1) = 0$$

$$x^2 + \lambda s \in \mathcal{H}_2 \Rightarrow q(x^2 + \lambda s) \geq q(x^2) \Rightarrow s^T \nabla q(x^2) = 0$$

This implies  $s^T (\nabla q(x^2) - \nabla q(x^1)) = s^T A(x^1 - x^2) = 0$ . □

## Proof of Theorem 2

One has to show that  $\nabla q(x^{k+1}) \perp \mathcal{L}(s^1, \dots, s^k)$ , i.e.  $\nabla q(x^{k+1}) \perp s^1, \dots, s^k$ .

$$x^{i+1} := x^i + \lambda^i s^i \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

where  $\lambda^i$  indicates the line-minimum, thus

$$x^{k+1} := x^1 + \lambda^1 s^1 + \dots + \lambda^k s^k = x^i + \lambda^i s^i + \dots + \lambda^k s^k.$$

Due to exact line-search we have  $\nabla q(x^{i+1})^T s^i = 0$ .

Using  $\nabla q(x) = Ax - b$  we get

$$\nabla q(x^{k+1}) := \nabla q(x^i + \lambda^i s^i) + \sum_{j=i+1}^k \lambda^j A s^j.$$

$$(s^i)^T \nabla q(x^{k+1}) := (s^i)^T \nabla q(x^{i+1}) + \sum_{j=i+1}^k \lambda^j (s^i)^T A s^j.$$

Hence  $(s^i)^T \nabla q(x^{k+1}) = 0$ . □

# Powell's algorithm - I

## Conjugate directions without using gradient

$$\text{minimize } q(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T Ax - b^T x.$$

Let  $s^1, \dots, s^n$  be linearly independent directions; and  $x^1$  be an initial point,  $A$  is symmetric PD.

**Cycle 1.** Let  $z^1 = x^1$  and

$$z^{i+1} := \operatorname{argmin} q(z^i + \lambda s^i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$x^2 = \operatorname{argmin} q(z^{n+1} + \lambda t^1), \text{ where } t^1 = z^{n+1} - x^1.$$

$$\text{Let } s^i = s^{i+1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1 \text{ and } s^n = t^1.$$

**Cycle 2.** Let  $z^1 = x^2$  and

$$z^{i+1} := \operatorname{argmin} q(z^i + \lambda s^i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$x^3 = \operatorname{argmin} q(z^{n+1} + \lambda t^2) \text{ with } t^2 = z^{n+1} - x^2.$$

Then due to Thm 1.  $t^1$  and  $t^2$  are conjugate.

$$\text{Let } s^i = s^{i+1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1 \text{ and } s^n = t^2.$$

**Cycle  $k$ .** Let  $z^1 = x^k$  and

$$z^{i+1} := \operatorname{argmin} q(z^i + \lambda s^i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$x^{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin} q(z^{n+1} + \lambda t^k) \text{ with } t^k = z^{n+1} - x^k.$$

Then due to Thm 1.  $t^1, \dots, t^k$  are conjugate.

$$\text{Let } s^i = s^{i+1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1 \text{ and } s^n = t^k.$$

# Powell's algorithm - II

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## Conjugate directions without using gradient

$$\text{minimize } q(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T Ax - b^T x.$$

**Cycle  $n$ .** Let  $z^1 = x^n$  and

$$z^{i+1} := \arg \min q(z^i + \lambda s^i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$x^{n+1} = \operatorname{argmin} q(z^{n+1} + \lambda t^n) \text{ with } t^n = z^{n+1} - x^n.$$

Then due to Thm 1.  $t^1, \dots, t^n$  are conjugate.

Let  $s^i = s^{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$  and  $s^n = t^n$ .

Thus  $s^1, \dots, s^n$  are conjugate.

**Cycle  $n+1$ .** Let  $z^1 = x^n$  and

$$z^{i+1} := \arg \min q(z^i + \lambda s^i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

then due to Thm 2  $x^* = z^{n+1}$  is the minimizer of  $q(x)$ .

**Observe:** Without any gradient information we were able to find the exact minimum of a strictly convex quadratic function in a finite number of steps. For this at most  $(n+1)^2$  line-searches are needed. We also need to store  $n$  direction vectors.

# Fletcher and Reeves

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## Conjugate gradient method

$$\text{minimize } q(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T Ax - b^T x.$$

Let  $x_1$  be an initial point,  $A$  is symmetric PD.

**Step 1.** Let  $s_1 = -\nabla q(x_1)$  and  $x_2 := \arg \min q(x_1 + \lambda s_1)$ .

**Step  $k$ .** Let  $x_k$ ,  $\nabla q(x_k)$  and  $s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}$  conjugate directions be given. First we find  $s_k$  in the space of the negative gradient and the previous directions:

$$s_k := -\nabla q(x_k) + \beta_k^1 s_1 + \dots + \beta_k^{k-1} s_{k-1}.$$

$s_k$  should be conjugate to  $s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}$ . Therefore there holds  $s_i^T A s_k = 0$ , which implies:

$$\beta_k^i = \frac{\nabla q(x_k)^T A s_i}{s_i^T A s_i}$$

Then  $x_{k+1} := \arg \min q(x_k + \lambda s_k)$ .

With a bit of analysis we show  $\beta_k^i = 0$  if  $i < k - 1$ , thus

$$s_k = -g_k + \beta_k^{k-1} s_{k-1}, \text{ where } g_k = \nabla q(x_k).$$

# Fletcher and Reeves - II

## Calculating the coefficients $\beta_k^i$

$$\beta_k^i = \frac{g_k^T A s_i}{s_i^T A s_i}.$$

Observe that

$$g_{i+1} - g_i = A(x_{i+1} - x_i) = \lambda_i A s_i$$

thus

$$\beta_k^i = \frac{g_k^T (g_{i+1} - g_i)}{s_i^T (g_{i+1} - g_i)}.$$

Note  $g_k^T g_i = 0$  if  $i < k$ , because

$$g_i := -s_i + \beta_i^1 s_1 + \cdots + \beta_i^{i-1} s_{i-1}$$

$$g_k^T g_i := -g_k^T s_i + \beta_i^1 g_k^T s_1 + \cdots + \beta_i^{i-1} g_k^T s_{i-1} = 0$$

because  $g_k \perp s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}$ , by using Theorem 2.

Similarly,  $g_i^T g_i = -g_i^T s_i$ , thus

$$\beta_k^i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i < k - 1, \\ \frac{g_k^T g_k}{-s_{k-1}^T g_{k-1}} = \frac{\|g_k\|^2}{\|g_{k-1}\|^2} & \text{if } i = k - 1. \end{cases}$$

# Fletcher and Reeves - III

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## Calculating the coefficients $\beta_k^i$

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Thus the direction  $s^k$  is given by

$$s_k = -g_k + \frac{\|g_k\|^2}{\|g_{k-1}\|^2} s_{k-1},$$

Only the previous direction has to be stored and to minimize  $q(x)$  at most  $n$  line-searches are needed.

### Polak-Ribière Method

For the nonlinear problem  $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$ ,

Linear Search might be inexact. FR-CG:  $\beta_{k+1}^{FR} = \frac{\|g_{k+1}\|^2}{\|g_k\|^2}$ ;

Note that in case that  $f(x)$  is quadratic and the line search is exact, it holds  $\|g_{k+1}\|^2 = g_{k+1}^T (g_{k+1} - g_k)$ . Another choice is PR-CG where:

$$\beta_{k+1}^{PR} = \frac{g_{k+1}^T (g_{k+1} - g_k)}{\|g_k\|^2};$$

Numerical experience shows PR-CG is more robust and efficient.



# Quasi-Newton Methods

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## Approximate the inverse Hessian

$$\text{minimize } q(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^T Ax - b^T x.$$

Let  $x_1$  be an initial point,  $A$  is symmetric PD.

For any two points  $x^k, x^{k+1}$  we have

$$\nabla q(x^{k+1}) - \nabla q(x^k) = Ax^{k+1} - b - (Ax^k - b) = A(x^{k+1} - x^k).$$

Let  $y^k = \nabla q(x^{k+1}) - \nabla q(x^k)$  and  $\sigma^k = x^{k+1} - x^k = \lambda^k s^k$ , so we get:

$$\sigma^k = A^{-1}y^k$$

We are going to approximate  $A^{-1}$  by a matrix  $H_k$ . The matrix  $H_k$  should behave like the inverse Hessian  $A^{-1}$ . The search direction is calculated by

$$s^k = -H_k \nabla q(x^k) \quad \text{and} \quad x^{k+1} := \arg \min q(x^k + \lambda s^k)$$

In the iterations the update  $H_{k+1} = H_k + D_k$  will be used.

# Quasi-Newton - II

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## Desired properties of the update

- 1. Symmetric and PD:** To guarantee a decreasing direction we need  $H_{k+1}$  to be symmetric and positive definite.
- 2. Quasi-Newton (QN):** Maintain the Newton property  $\sigma^k = H_{k+1}y^k$ .
- 3. Hereditary:** For all  $1 \leq i \leq k$   $\sigma^i = H_{k+1}y^i$ .

# Quasi-Newton - III

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## Choices for $D_k$

**Symmetric rank-one (SR1) update:**

$$D_k = \frac{(\sigma_k - H_k y_k)(\sigma_k - H_k y_k)^T}{(\sigma_k - H_k y_k)^T y_k}.$$

No guarantee to keep positive definiteness, need  $(\sigma_k - H_k y_k)^T y_k > 0$ .

**Davidon-Fletcher-Powell (DFP) rank-2:**

$$D_k = \frac{\sigma_k \sigma_k^T}{\sigma_k^T y_k} - \frac{H_k y_k y_k^T H_k}{y_k^T H_k y_k}.$$

If  $H_k$  is positive definite, then so is  $H_{k+1}$ .

# Quasi-Newton - IV

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Consider now using approximations of  $A$  itself, denoted  $B_k$ , with

$$B_{k+1} = B_k + \Delta B_k.$$

**Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno update:**

$$\Delta B_k = \frac{y_k y_k^T}{\sigma_k^T y_k} - \frac{B_k \sigma_k \sigma_k^T B_k}{\sigma_k^T B_k \sigma_k}.$$

Taking its inverse,

$$D_k = \left( 1 + \frac{y_k^T H_k y_k}{\sigma_k^T y_k} \right) \frac{\sigma_k \sigma_k^T}{\sigma_k^T y_k} - \frac{\sigma_k y_k^T H_k + H_k y_k \sigma_k^T}{\sigma_k^T y_k}$$

If  $B_k$  is positive definite, then so is  $B_{k+1}$  (same proof as for DFP).

# QN Method - V

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## Broyden's family:

$$\begin{aligned} B_{k+1}(\phi) &= (1 - \phi)B_{k+1}^{BFGS} + \phi B_{k+1}^{DFP} \\ &= B_{k+1}^{BFGS} + \phi \sigma_k^T B_k \sigma_k w_k w_k^T \end{aligned}$$

where

$$w_k = \frac{y_k}{\sigma_k^T y_k} - \frac{B_k \sigma_k}{\sigma_k^T B_k \sigma_k}.$$

and its inverse form

$$\begin{aligned} H_{k+1}(\theta) &= (1 - \theta)H_{k+1}^{DFP} + \theta H_{k+1}^{BFGS} \\ &= H_{k+1}^{DFP} + \theta y_k^T H_k y_k v_k v_k^T \end{aligned}$$

where

$$v_k = \frac{\sigma_k}{\sigma_k^T y_k} - \frac{H_k y_k}{y_k^T H_k y_k}.$$

If  $\phi, \theta \geq 0$  then  $B_{k+1}, H_{k+1}$  remain positive definite.

In practice, BFGS has been found to be the most efficient update in Broyden's family.