

COMPSCI 514: ALGORITHMS FOR DATA SCIENCE

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University of Massachusetts Amherst. Fall 2021.

Lecture 25 (Final Lecture!)

- Problem Set 5 is due Dec 13. Can be used to replace your lowest problem set grade.
- Problem Set 4 solutions are posted.
- Exam is next Thursday Dec 16, from 10:30am-12:30pm in class.
- See course website/Moodle/Piazza for exam review guide, practice exam, additional office hours schedule.
- It would be really helpful if you could fill out SRTIs for this class (they close Dec 18).
- <http://owl.umass.edu/partners/courseEvalSurvey/uma/>.

Question 6: was on a topic we will cover today (convex sets). It will count only as bonus.

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Question 5: $f(\vec{\theta}) = \theta(1) + 2\theta(2) - 2\theta(3)$

$$\vec{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta(1) \\ \theta(2) \\ \theta(3) \end{bmatrix}$$

Consider the function $f(\vec{\theta}) = \vec{x}^T \vec{\theta}$ for $[\vec{x}^T] = [0] = \langle \vec{x}, \vec{\theta} \rangle$
 $\vec{x} = [1, 2, -2]$. Give the minimum value of G such that $f(\vec{\theta})$ is G -Lipschitz. Give your answer to 2 decimal places.

$$G = \|\vec{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{1+4+4} = 3$$

$$\max_{\vec{\theta}} \frac{\|\nabla f(\vec{\theta})\|_2}{\nabla f(\vec{\theta})} = \vec{x}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta(1)} = 1 \quad \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta(2)} = 2$$

Last Class:

- Analysis of gradient descent for **convex** and **Lipschitz** functions.

This Class:

- Extend gradient descent to constrained optimization via **projected gradient descent**.
- Course wrap up and review.

Theorem – GD on Convex Lipschitz Functions: For convex G -Lipschitz function f , GD run with $t \geq \frac{R^2 G^2}{\epsilon^2}$ iterations, $\eta = \frac{R}{G\sqrt{t}}$, and starting point within radius R of $\vec{\theta}_*$, outputs $\hat{\theta}$ satisfying:

$$f(\hat{\theta}) \leq f(\vec{\theta}_*) + \epsilon.$$

Step 1: For all i , $f(\vec{\theta}_i) - f(\vec{\theta}_*) \leq \frac{\|\vec{\theta}_i - \vec{\theta}_*\|_2^2 - \|\vec{\theta}_{i+1} - \vec{\theta}_*\|_2^2}{2\eta} + \frac{\eta G^2}{2}$ "overshoot"



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Step 2: $\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t f(\vec{\theta}_i) - f(\vec{\theta}_*) \leq \frac{R^2}{2\eta \cdot t} + \frac{\eta G^2}{2} < \epsilon$

"average error"
 \ni min error

Often want to perform **convex optimization with convex constraints**.

$$\vec{\theta}^* = \arg \min_{\vec{\theta} \in \mathcal{S}} f(\vec{\theta}),$$

$$f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

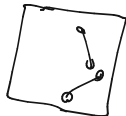
where \mathcal{S} is a **convex set**.

CONSTRAINED CONVEX OPTIMIZATION

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- convex function
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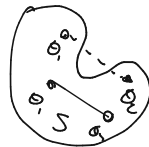
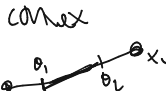
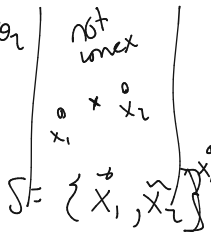
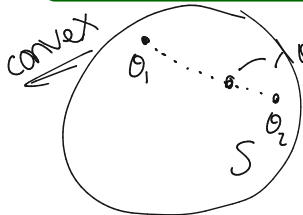


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Definition – Convex Set: A set $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is convex if and only if, for any $\vec{\theta}_1, \vec{\theta}_2 \in \mathcal{S}$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$:

$$\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$(1 - \lambda)\vec{\theta}_1 + \lambda \cdot \vec{\theta}_2 \in \mathcal{S}$$



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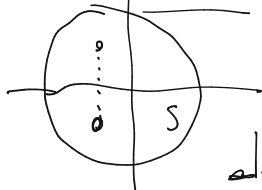
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$$(1 - \lambda)\vec{\theta}_1 + \lambda \cdot \vec{\theta}_2 \in \mathcal{S}$$

$$\mathcal{S} = \{ \vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\vec{\theta}\|_* \leq 1 \}$$

E.g. $\mathcal{S} = \{ \vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\vec{\theta}\|_2 \leq 1 \}$. $\theta_1 \in \mathcal{S} \Rightarrow \|\theta_1\| \leq 1$

$$\theta_2 \in \mathcal{S} \Rightarrow \|\theta_2\| \leq 1$$



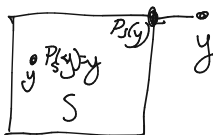
for any λ

$$\| (1 - \lambda)\theta_1 + \lambda\theta_2 \|_2 \leq \underbrace{\| (1 - \lambda)\theta_1 \|_2}_{\leq 1 - \lambda} + \| \lambda\theta_2 \|_2 \leq 1 - \lambda + \lambda \leq 1$$

PROJECTED GRADIENT DESCENT

For any convex set let $P_S(\cdot)$ denote the projection function onto S .

- $P_S(\vec{y})$ = $\arg \min_{\vec{\theta} \in S} \|\vec{\theta} - \vec{y}\|_2$.



PROJECTED GRADIENT DESCENT

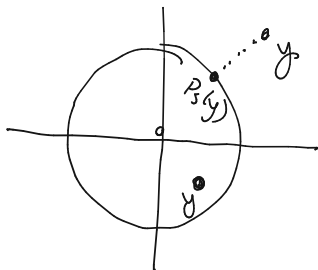
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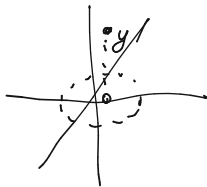
$$P_S: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$$

- For $S = \{\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\vec{\theta}\|_2 \leq 1\}$ what is $P_S(\vec{y})$?



$$P_S(\vec{y}) = \begin{cases} \frac{y}{\|y\|} & \text{if } \|y\| \geq 1 \\ y & \text{if } \|y\| \leq 1 \end{cases}$$



PROJECTED GRADIENT DESCENT

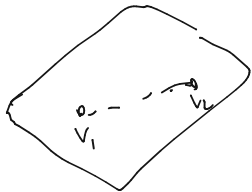


$$\mathcal{S}_1 = \{x : \|x\| \leq 10\} \quad \mathcal{S}_2 = \{x : \|x\| = 10\}$$

For any convex set let $P_S(\cdot)$ denote the projection function onto S .

- $P_S(\vec{y}) = \arg \min_{\vec{\theta} \in S} \|\vec{\theta} - \vec{y}\|_2$.
- For $S = \{\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\vec{\theta}\|_2 \leq 1\}$ what is $P_S(\vec{y})$?
- For S being a k dimensional subspace of \mathbb{R}^d , what is $P_S(\vec{y})$?

is S convex?



let $V \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ be a basis for the subspace

$$\theta_1, \theta_2 \in S$$

$$\theta_1 = Vc_1 \quad \theta_2 = Vc_2$$

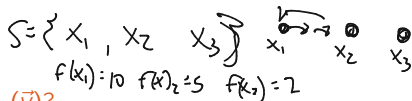
$$\lambda \theta_1 + (1-\lambda) \theta_2 = V(\lambda c_1 + (1-\lambda)c_2) \in S$$

$$= W^T y$$

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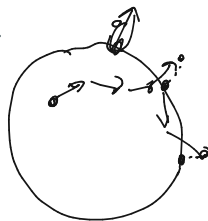
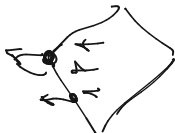
- For S being a k dimensional subspace of \mathbb{R}^d , what is $P_S(\vec{y})$?

Projected Gradient Descent

- Choose some initialization $\vec{\theta}_1$ and set $\eta = \frac{R}{G\sqrt{t}}$.

- For $i = 1, \dots, t-1$

$$\begin{cases} \vec{\theta}_{i+1}^{(out)} = \vec{\theta}_i - \eta \cdot \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{\theta}_i) \\ \vec{\theta}_{i+1} = P_S(\vec{\theta}_{i+1}^{(out)}) \end{cases}$$



- Return $\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\vec{\theta}_i} f(\vec{\theta}_i)$.



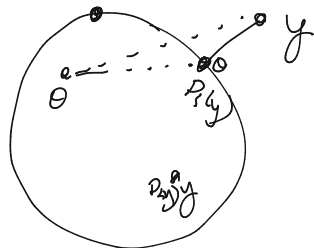
Projected gradient descent can be analyzed identically to gradient descent!

CONVEX PROJECTIONS

Projected gradient descent can be analyzed identically to gradient descent!

Theorem – Projection to a convex set: For any convex set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$, $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and $\vec{\theta} \in S$,

$$\|P_S(\vec{y}) - \vec{\theta}\|_2 \leq \|\vec{y} - \vec{\theta}\|_2.$$



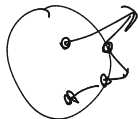
Theorem – Projected GD: For convex G -Lipschitz function f , and convex set \mathcal{S} , Projected GD run with $t \geq \frac{R^2 G^2}{\epsilon^2}$ iterations, $\eta = \frac{R}{G\sqrt{t}}$, and starting point within radius R of $\vec{\theta}_*$, outputs $\hat{\theta}$ satisfying:

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Recall: $\vec{\theta}_{i+1}^{(out)} = \vec{\theta}_i - \eta \cdot \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{\theta}_i)$ and $\vec{\theta}_{i+1} = \underbrace{P_S(\vec{\theta}_{i+1}^{(out)})}$.



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by convexity
 $\vec{\theta} \in S$

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Step 2: $\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t f(\vec{\theta}_i) - f(\vec{\theta}_*) \leq \frac{R^2}{2\eta \cdot t} + \frac{\eta G^2}{2} \implies$ **Theorem.**

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- Focus on problems that are easy on small datasets but hard at massive scale – set size estimation, load balancing, distinct elements counting (MinHash), checking set membership (Bloom Filters), frequent items counting (Count-min sketch), near neighbor search (locality sensitive hashing).

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- Just the tip of the iceberg on randomized streaming/sketching/hashing algorithms. Check out 690RA if you want to learn more.
- In the process covered **probability/statistics tools** that are very useful beyond algorithm design: concentration inequalities, higher moment bounds, law of large numbers, central limit theorem, linearity of expectation and variance, union bound, median as a robust estimator.

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find

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- Spectral graph theory – nonlinear dimension reduction and spectral clustering for community detection.
- In the process covered **linear algebraic tools** that are very broadly useful in ML and data science: eigendecomposition, singular value decomposition, projection, norm transformations.

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- Foundational concepts like convexity, convex sets, Lipschitzness, directional derivative/gradient.
- How to analyze gradient descent in a simple setting (convex Lipschitz functions).
- Simple extension to projected gradient descent for optimization over a convex constraint set.
- Lots that we didn't cover: online and stochastic gradient descent, accelerated methods, adaptive methods, second order methods (quasi-Newton methods), practical considerations. Gave mathematical tools to understand these methods.

Thanks for a great semester!

It felt really good to be back teaching in person, especially with all the participation in this class.

