Optimization Part VIII: Unfolded algorithms

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Deep learning: generalities



(extracted from: datasciencepr.com)

- Deep networks are composed of a stack of layers.
- Each layer is composed with linear transforms (e.g. convolution, pooling), nonlinear transforms (i.e. activation functions).

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- Database: $S = \{(\overline{u}_{\ell}, z_{\ell}) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{G} \mid \ell \in \{1, \dots, L\}\}$
- \bullet Goal: Learn a prediction function d_Θ

$$\widehat{\Theta} \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\Theta} \operatorname{E}(\Theta) := rac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f(z_{\ell}, \operatorname{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}))$$
 (1)

• Feedforward neural network model:

$$d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \eta^{[K]} (W^{[K]} \dots \eta^{[1]} (W^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]})$$

- $W^{[k]}$ denotes a weight matrix,
- $b^{[k]}$ is a bias vector,
- $\eta^{[k]}$ is the nonlinear activation function.

Standard activation functions

- Most basic: $\eta = Id = prox_0$,
- Saturated linear activation function: $\eta = \text{prox}_{\iota_{\mathcal{C}}}$ with $\mathcal{C} = [-1, 1]$,
- Rectified linear unit (ReLU): $\eta = \text{prox}_{\iota_{\mathcal{C}}}$ with $\mathcal{C} = [0, +\infty[$,
- Parametric ReLU,
- Bent identity,
- Inverse square root,
- Unimodal sigmoid
- Elliot function
- Softmax
 - \rightarrow Most of activation functions are proximity operators.

→ **Exhaustive list** in P. L. Combettes and J.-C. Pesquet, Deep neural network structures solving variational inequalities, Set-Valued and Variational Analysis, vol. 28, pp. 491–518, September 2020. [PDF]

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- \bullet Goal: Learn a prediction function d_Θ

$$\widehat{\Theta} \in \operatorname*{Argmin}_{\Theta} \operatorname{E}(\Theta) := \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f\big(z_{\ell}, \operatorname{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) \big)$$

• Feedforward neural network model:

$$\mathbf{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \eta^{[K]} \big(W^{[K]} \dots \eta^{[1]} (W^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \big)$$

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- $\eta^{[k]}$ is the nonlinear activation function.

- Database: $S = \{(\overline{u}_{\ell}, z_{\ell}) \in \mathcal{H}_0 \times \mathcal{H}_K \mid \ell \in \{1, \dots, L\}\}$
- \bullet Goal: Learn a prediction function d_Θ

$$\widehat{\Theta} \in \operatorname*{Argmin}_{\Theta} \operatorname{E}(\Theta) := \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f\big(z_{\ell}, \operatorname{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) \big)$$

• Feedforward neural network model:

$$\mathbf{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \eta^{[K]} \big(W^{[K]} \dots \eta^{[1]} (W^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \big)$$

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- Database: $S = \{(\overline{u}_{\ell}, z_{\ell}) \in \mathcal{H}_0 \times \mathcal{H}_K \mid \ell \in \{1, \dots, L\}\}$
- \bullet Goal: Learn a prediction function d_Θ

$$\widehat{\Theta} \in \operatorname*{Argmin}_{\Theta} \operatorname{E}(\Theta) := \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f(z_{\ell}, \operatorname{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}))$$

• Feedforward neural network model:

 $d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \operatorname{prox}_{f^{[K]}} \left(W^{[K]} \dots \operatorname{prox}_{f^{[1]}}^{[1]} (W^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \right)$

- $W^{[k]}$ denotes a weight matrix,
- $b^{[k]}$ is a bias vector,
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• Feedforward neural network model:

$$d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \operatorname{prox}_{f^{[K]}} \left(W^{[K]} \dots \operatorname{prox}_{f^{[1]}}^{[1]} (W^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \right)$$

- $W^{[k]} \colon \mathcal{H}_{k-1} o \mathcal{H}_k$ denotes a bounded linear operator,
- $b^{[k]}$ is a bias vector,
- $\eta^{[k]}$ is the nonlinear activation function.

- Database: $S = \{(\overline{u}_{\ell}, z_{\ell}) \in \mathcal{H}_0 \times \mathcal{H}_K \mid \ell \in \{1, \dots, L\}\}$
- \bullet Goal: Learn a prediction function d_Θ

$$\widehat{\Theta} \in \operatorname*{Argmin}_{\Theta} \operatorname{E}(\Theta) := \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f(z_{\ell}, \operatorname{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}))$$

• Feedforward neural network model:

$$\mathrm{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \mathrm{prox}_{f^{[K]}} \left(\mathcal{W}^{[K]} \dots \mathrm{prox}_{f^{[1]}}^{[1]} (\mathcal{W}^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \right)$$

- $W^{[k]} \colon \mathcal{H}_{k-1} o \mathcal{H}_k$ denotes a bounded linear operator,
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• Feedforward neural network model:

$$\mathrm{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \mathrm{prox}_{f^{[K]}} \left(\mathcal{W}^{[K]} \dots \mathrm{prox}_{f^{[1]}}^{[1]} (\mathcal{W}^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \right)$$

- $W^{[k]} \colon \mathcal{H}_{k-1} \to \mathcal{H}_k$ denotes a bounded linear operator,
- $b^{[k]} \in \mathcal{H}_k$ is a bias vector,
- $f^{[k]} \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H}_k).$

- Database: $S = \{(\overline{u}_{\ell}, z_{\ell}) \in \mathcal{H}_0 \times \mathcal{H}_K \mid \ell \in \{1, \dots, L\}\}$
- Goal: Learn a prediction function d_Θ

$$\widehat{\Theta} \in \underset{\Theta}{\operatorname{Argmin}} \operatorname{E}(\Theta) := \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f(z_{\ell}, d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}))$$

Feedforward neural network model:

$$\mathbf{d}_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \mathrm{prox}_{f^{[K]}} \left(W^{[K]} \dots \mathrm{prox}_{f^{[1]}}^{[1]} (W^{[1]}u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]} \right)$$

where for every $k \in \{1,\ldots,K\}$,

- $W^{[k]} \colon \mathcal{H}_{k-1} \to \mathcal{H}_k$ denotes a bounded linear operator,
- $b^{[k]} \in \mathcal{H}_k$ is a bias vector,
- $f^{[k]} \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H}_k).$

 \rightarrow This model allows to derive tight Lipschitz bounds for feedforward neural networks in order to evaluate their stability.

More details in P. L. Combettes and J.-C. Pesquet, Deep neural network structures solving variational inequalities, Set-Valued and Variat. Anal., vol. 28, pp. 491–518, 2020. [PDF]⁵

Unfolded Forward-Backward

• Reminder: One iteration of Forward-Backward to solve

$$\min_{x} f(x) + g(x)$$

is, for some
$$\gamma > 0$$
, $x_{k+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma g}(x_k - \gamma \nabla f(x_k))$

• Specific case: Considering the specific minimization problem minimize $\frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|$

 $\underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$

the iteration are

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma\lambda\|\cdot\|_1} (x_k - \gamma A^* A x_k + \gamma A^* z) \\ &= \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma\lambda\|\cdot\|_1} ((I - \gamma A^* A) x_k + \gamma A^* z) \end{aligned}$$

which can be equivalently written

$$x_{k+1} = \eta^{[k]} (W^{[k]} x_k + b^{[k]}) \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} W^{[k]} = I - \gamma A^* A \\ b^{[k]} = \gamma A^* z \\ \eta^{[k]} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma \lambda || \cdot ||_1} \end{cases}$$

• Reminder: One iteration of Condat-Vũ splitting to solve

$$\min_{x} f(x) + g(Lx)$$

is, for some $\sigma, \tau > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= x_k - \tau \nabla f(x_k) - \tau L^* y_k \\ y_{k+1} &= \operatorname{prox}_{\sigma g^*} \left(y_k + \sigma L(2x_{k+1} - x_k) \right) \end{aligned}$$

• Specific case: Considering the specific minimization problem

$$\underset{x}{\operatorname{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2 + \lambda \|Lx\|_1$$

the iteration are

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= x_k - \tau A^* (Ax_k - z) - \tau L^* y_k \\ y_{k+1} &= \operatorname{prox}_{\sigma g^*} (y_k + \sigma L(2x_{k+1} - x_k)) \end{aligned}$$

• Specific case: Considering the specific minimization problem

$$\underset{x}{\operatorname{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2 + \lambda \|Lx\|_1$$

the iteration are

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= x_k - \tau A^* (A x_k - z) - \tau L^* y_k \\ y_{k+1} &= \operatorname{prox}_{\sigma g^*} (y_k + \sigma L(2 x_{k+1} - x_k)) \end{aligned}$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= (\mathrm{Id} - \tau A^* A) x_k - \tau L^* y_k + \tau A^* z \\ y_{k+1} &= \mathrm{prox}_{\sigma \|\cdot\|^*} \big(\sigma L (\mathrm{Id} - 2\tau A^* A) x_k + (\mathrm{Id} - 2\tau \sigma L L^*) y_k + 2\tau \sigma L A^* z \big). \end{aligned}$$

which can be equivalently written

$$u_{k+1} = \eta^{[k]} (W^{[k]} u_k + b^{[k]})$$
 where $\begin{cases} 1 \\ b^{[k]} \\ \eta^{[k]} \end{cases}$

$$\begin{cases} u_k = (x_k, y_k) \\ D^{[k]} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathrm{Id} - \tau A^* A & -\tau L^* \\ \sigma L (\mathrm{Id} - 2\tau A^* A) & \mathrm{Id} - 2\tau \sigma L L^* \end{pmatrix} \\ b^{[k]} = \begin{pmatrix} \tau A^* z \\ 2\tau \sigma L A^* z \\ \eta^{[k]} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathrm{Id} \\ \mathrm{prox}_{\sigma \| \cdot \|^*} \end{pmatrix} \end{cases}$$

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• Reminder: Predictor designed from proximal algorithm

$$d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}) = \eta^{[K]} (D^{[K]} \dots \eta^{[1]} (D^{[1]} u_{\ell} + b^{[1]}) \dots + b^{[K]})$$

- Learn the parameters Θ : The parameter to learn can be the algorithmix step-size γ_k but also $D^{[k]}$ or $b^{[k]}$.
- Algorithmic strategy: based on stochastic gradient descent to estimate

$$\min_{\Theta} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f(z_{\ell}, d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}))$$

 \rightarrow require the computation of the gradient of f_{Θ} (backpropagation strategy, automatic differentiation)

Image restoration on MNIST database: original x̄, degraded z, restored ones by EPLL, TV, NLTV, IRCNN, MWCC, and the proposed full DeepPDNet (K = 6). (first row) uniform 3 × 3 blur and Gaussian noise with α = 20, (second row) uniform 5 × 5 blur and Gaussian noise with α = 20, (third row) uniform 7 × 7 blur and Gaussian noise with α = 20.



 \rightarrow Results extracted from M. Jiu and N. Pustelnik, A deep primal-dual proximal network for image restoration, accepted to IEEE JSTSP, 2021. [PDF]

• Image restoration on MNIST database: Performance PSNR/SSIM for different configurations.

	Method	3×3 Blur			5×5 Blur	7×7 Blur
Data		$\alpha = 10$	$\alpha = 20$	$\alpha = 30$	$\alpha = 20$	$\alpha = 20$
		PSNR/SSIM	PSNR/SSIM	PSNR/SSIM	PSNR/SSIM	PSNR/SSIM
MNIST	EPLL [18]	24.02/0.8564	20.99/0.7628	19.05/0.6871	16.42/0.5629	13.97/0.3265
	TV [8]	25.07/0.8583	19.58/0.7004	18.86/0.6681	18.86/0.6681	16.31/0.5665
	NLTV [57]	25.49/0.8697	21.98/0.7738	20.73/0.7353	20.73/0.7353	16.79/0.6228
	MWCNN [58]	19.16/0.7219	18.53/0.6782	17.78/0.6499	15.83/0.5343	13.04/0.3175
	IRCNN [59]	28.52 /0.8904	25.00/0.8193	22.63/0.7723	21.46/0.7698	18.29/0.6546
	Partial DeepPDNet	23.67/0.8366	22.03/0.7983	20.93/0.7750	17.96/0.6534	16.21/0.5505
	Full DeepPDNet	27.40/ 0.9410	25.09/0.9254	23.61/0.9097	22.43/0.8738	20.43/0.8157

 \rightarrow Results extracted from M. Jiu and N. Pustelnik, A deep primal-dual proximal network for image restoration, accepted to IEEE JSTSP, 2021.

Unfolded Condat-Vũ splitting algorithm: robustness

Image restoration on MNIST database: Robustness to additional noise.



 \rightarrow Results extracted from M. Jiu and N. Pustelnik, A deep primal-dual proximal network for image restoration, accepted to IEEE JSTSP, 2021.

Optimization Part VIII: Recent advances (Acceleration, non-convexity, stochastic)

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Make algorithms faster

Beck-Teboulle proximal gradient algorithm (FISTA) [Beck, Teboulle, 2009]:

- **Goal**: $\min_{x \in \mathcal{H}} f(x) + g(x)$ with f is ν -Lipschitz differentiable.
- Iterations: Let $\gamma \in]0, 1/\nu[$, $x_0 = z_0 \in \mathcal{H}$, $t_0 = 1$, and

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) \qquad \begin{cases} x_{n+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma g}(z_n - \gamma \nabla f(z_n)) \\ t_{n+1} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{4t_n^2 + 1}}{2} \\ \lambda_n = \frac{t_n - 1}{t_{n+1}} \\ z_{n+1} = x_{n+1} + \lambda_n (x_{n+1} - x_n). \end{cases}$$

- Convergence of $(f(x_n) + g(x_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ with rate $O(1/n^2)$.
- Convergence of $(x_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ not secured theoretically.

Chambolle-Dossal proximal gradient algorithm [Chambolle, Dossal, 2015]:

- **Goal**: $\min_{x \in \mathcal{H}} f(x) + g(x)$ with f is ν -Lipschitz differentiable.
- Iterations: Let $\gamma \in]0, 1/\nu[$, $x_0 = z_0 \in \mathcal{H}$, a > 2, and

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) \qquad \begin{cases} x_{n+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\beta^{-1}g}(z_n - \beta^{-1}\nabla f(z_n)) \\ \lambda_n = \frac{n-1}{n+a} \\ z_{n+1} = x_{n+1} + \lambda_n(x_{n+1} - x_n). \end{cases}$$

- Convergence of $(f(x_n) + g(x_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ with rate $O(1/n^2)$.
- Weak convergence of $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$.

Acceleration: strong convexity

Chambolle-Pock algorithm [Chambolle,Pock,2011]:

- Goal: $\min_{x \in \mathcal{H}} f(x) + g(Lx)$.
- Iterations: Let $x_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ and $y_0 \in \mathcal{G}$. Set τ_0 , $\sigma_0 > 0$ with $\tau_0 \sigma_0 \|L\|^2 \le 1$,

	$\int y_{n+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\sigma_n g^*} (y_n + \sigma_n L \overline{x}_n)$
	$x_{n+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\tau_n f}(x_n - \tau_n L^* y_n)$
$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N})$	$\theta_n = 1/\sqrt{1+2\gamma\tau_n}$
(VII € 13)	$\tau_{n+1} = \theta_n \tau_n$
	$\sigma_{n+1} = \sigma_n / \theta_n$
	$\left(\overline{x}_{n+1} = x_{n+1} + \theta_n(x_{n+1} - x_n)\right)$

- $O(1/n^2)$ convergence rate.
- Convergence of $(x_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ secured theoretically.

Acceleration: strong convexity – Illustration



 \rightarrow extracted from B. Pascal, N. Pustelnik, P. Abry, M. Serres, V. Vidal Joint estimation of local variance and local regularity for texture segmentation. Application to multiphase flow characterization, IEEE ICIP, Athens, Greece, Oct. 7-10, 2018. [PDF]

Acceleration: strong convexity – Illustration



Figure 1: Piecewise homogeneous fractal texture and local variance and regularity estimates. (a) Synthesis mask $(H_0, \Sigma_0) = (0.5, 0.6)$ and $(H_1, \Sigma_1) = (0.8, 0.65)$; (b) sample texture (see Section [4]), (c) and (d) linear regression based estimates of local variance and regularity \hat{v}_{LR} and \hat{h}_{LR} ; (e) and (f) Total variation based estimates of local regularity \hat{h}_{ROF} and segmentation \widehat{M}_{ROF} obtained with Alg. [1]

		Configuration I			Configuration III		
		T-ROF	T-joint	T-coupled	T-ROF	T-joint	T-coupled
Iterations (10^3 it.)	DFB	96 ± 48	> 250	> 250	241 ± 18	> 250	> 250
	FISTA	1.7 ± 0.4	50.2 ± 21.0	231 ± 37	3.7 ± 0.7	48.1 ± 3.4	> 250
	PD	31.8 ± 17.0	> 250	> 250	201 ± 69	> 250	> 250
	AcPD	1.5 ± 0.4	31.4 ± 4.6	$\bf 125 \pm 67$	45.2 ± 43	40.5 ± 2.8	$\bf 121 \pm 42$
Time (s)	DFB	$1,090\pm520$	$4,840\pm15$	$4,210\pm76$	$2,010\pm73$	$4,810\pm215$	$4,200\pm76$
	FISTA	16 ± 4	$1,030\pm410$	$4,800\pm560$	30 ± 5	989 ± 64	$5,110\pm340$
	PD	297 ± 150	$4,180\pm69$	$4,110\pm43$	$1,580\pm490$	$4,150\pm18$	$4,100\pm15$
	AcPD	$f 15\pm 4$	619 ± 96	$2,420 \pm 1,300$	349 ± 330	785 ± 59	$2,320 \pm 790$

Table 2: Number of iterations and computational time necessary to reach Condition (26) for the different proximal algorithms investigated, illustrated on two configurations I ($\Delta H = 0.2$, $\Delta \Sigma^2 = 0.1$) and III ($\Delta H = 0.1$, $\Delta \Sigma^2 =$ 0.1). **DFB**: Dual Forward-Backward, **FISTA**: inertial acceleration of DFB, **PD**: primal-dual, **AcPD**: strong-convexity based acceleration of PD.

Acceleration: strong convexity - Illustration



Fig. 3: Multiphase flow image (a) and zooms (b). PLOVER estimates for local variance (c) and regularity (d). State-of-the-art segmentations applied on x (e) and (f), K-means based segmentation from disjoint estimates (g) and PLOVER (h).

Acceleration: strong convexity - Illustration



* $(Q_G, Q_L) = (300,300) \text{ mL/min}$ + $(Q_G, Q_L) = (1200,300) \text{ mL/min}$

Acceleration: preconditioning

Variable metric forward-backward [Combettes, Vũ, 2012]:

- **Goal**: $\min_{x \in \mathcal{H}} f(x) + g(Lx)$.
- Iterations: Let $x_0 \in \mathcal{H}$, $\gamma < 2/(\beta \sup_n \|P_n\|)$, and

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N})$$
 $x_{n+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma f}^{P}(x_n - \gamma P_n \nabla g(x_n))$

where $\operatorname{prox}_{\gamma f}^{P_n}(x) = \arg \min_y \frac{1}{2} \langle x - y, P(x - y) \rangle + f(y).$

- Convergence of $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ secured theoretically under specific assumptions on $(P_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$. [Chouzenoux et al, 2014]
- Diagonal preconditionner is the more suited choice to have a closed form expression of $\mathrm{prox}_{\gamma f}^{P}.$
- -Primal-dual with preconditioning in [Vũ,2015][Lorentz-Pock, 2015]

Deal with non-convexity

Proximal map for nonconvex functions [Rockafellar,Wets,1998] Let $f : \mathbb{R}^N \to] - \infty, +\infty$] be a proper, l.s.c function with $\inf_{\mathbb{R}^N} f > -\infty$. Given $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\gamma > 0$, the proximal map associated to f is defined as

$$\operatorname{prox}_{\gamma f}(x) = \arg\min \frac{1}{2} \|x - u\|_2^2 + \gamma f(u)$$

- $\operatorname{prox}_{\gamma f}(x)$ is nonempty and compact.
- $\operatorname{prox}_{\gamma f}(x)$ is a set-valued map.
- If f is also convex: unicity of $prox_{\gamma f}(x)$.

Optimization algorithm: non-convex

Gauss-Seidel/alternating minimization/coordinated descent method

[Auslender,1971]

- **Goal**: $\min_{x,y} \Psi(x,y)$
- **Iterations**: Let $y_0 \in \mathcal{H}$.

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) \qquad \begin{cases} x_{n+1} \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{x} \Psi(x, y_{n}) \\ y_{n+1} \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{y} \Psi(x_{n+1}, y) \end{cases}$$

• Guarantees:

- Convergence to a critical point of Ψ if the minimum in each step is uniquely attained. Else the method may cycle indefinitely without converging.

- Convergence if Ψ strictly convex w.r.t one argument when the other one is fixed.

Optimization algorithm: non-convex

Proximal reguarization of the Gauss-Seidel scheme

- Goal: $\min_{x,y} \Psi(x,y)$
- Let $y_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ and $x_0 \in \mathcal{G}$. Set $c_n > 0$ and $d_n > 0$.

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) \qquad \begin{cases} x_{n+1} \in \arg\min_x \frac{c_n}{2} \|x - x_n\|_2^2 + \Psi(x, y_n) \\ y_{n+1} \in \arg\min_y \frac{d_n}{2} \|y - y_n\|_2^2 + \Psi(x_n, y) \end{cases}$$

- Until 2000, only convergence of the subsequences can be established when Ψ convex w.r.t one argument when the other one is fixed.
- [Attouch et al, 2013] convergence of the sequences in the general nonconvex and nonsmooth setting.

Optimization algorithm: non-convex

Proximal Alternating Linearized Algorithm (PALM) [Bolte et al, 2014]

- Goal: $\min_{x,y} \Psi(x,y) := f(x) + g(y) + H(x,y)$
- Iterations: Let $y_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ and $x_0 \in \mathcal{G}$. Set $c_n > 0$ and $d_n > 0$.

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) \qquad \begin{cases} x_{n+1} \in \operatorname{prox}_{f/c_n}(x_n - \frac{1}{c_n} \nabla_x H(x_n, y_n)) \\ y_{n+1} \in \operatorname{prox}_{g/d_n}(y_n - \frac{1}{d_n} \nabla_y H(x_{n+1}, y_n)) \end{cases}$$

• Guarantees:

- Convergence to a critical point established under some technical assumptions.

Nonconvexity : example - Mumford-Shah

$$\underset{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{e}}{\text{minimize }} \Psi(\mathbf{u},\mathbf{e}) := \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u};\mathbf{z}) + \beta \|(1-\mathbf{e}) \odot D\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \lambda \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{e})$$

•
$$\Omega = \{1, \dots, N_1\} \times \{1, \dots, N_2\};$$

- $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\Omega|}$: input data = image/graph (e.g. $\mathbf{z} = A\overline{\mathbf{u}} + \epsilon$);
- $\textbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\Omega|}$: piecewise smooth approximation of z;
- \mathcal{L} : data fidelity term convex, l.s.c., proper;
- $D \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathbb{E}| \times |\Omega|}$: models a finite difference operator;
- $e \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathbb{E}|}$: edges between nodes whose value is 1 when a contour change is detected and 0 otherwise;
- \mathcal{R} : favors sparse solution (i.e. "short $|\mathcal{K}|$ "), convex, l.s.c., proper.



Nonconvexity : example – Mumford-Shah



 \rightarrow extracted from M. Foare, N. Pustelnik, and L. Condat, Semi-linearized proximal alternating minimization for a discrete Mumford-Shah model, IEEE Trans. on Image Processing, vol. 29, pp 2176-2189, Oct. 2019. [PDF]

Nonconvexity : example – Mumford-Shah

TV Discret AT Quadratic- ℓ_1 (Strekalovskiy, Cremers, 2014) (Foare et al., 2016) SNR = 24.67 dBSNR = 22.42 dBSNR = 23.43 dBSNR = 23.75 dBSSIM = 0.944SSIM = 0.855SSIM = 0.867SSIM = 0.877

Time = $29.25 \, s$

Time = 1.92s

Time = 1992s

Time = 57.848

Nonconvexity : example – Mumford-Shah

Convergence PALM versus SL-PALM: $\Psi(\mathbf{u}^{[\ell]}, \mathbf{e}^{[\ell]})$ w.r.t. iterations ℓ



Handle with large scale problems

Stochasticity appears in optimization from different problems:

• intrinsically stochastic problem [Robbins-Monro, 1951]

 $\min_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbb{E}_{\omega \in \Omega} \left[f(x, \omega) \right], \text{ solved by } \quad x^{[k+1]} = x^{[k]} - \gamma_k \nabla_x f(x^{[k]}, \omega_k),$

where ω denotes realizations of a random process.

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where $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ denotes realizations of a random process.

• separable variables problems (random block-coordinate strategies)

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{x}=(x_i)_{i=1}^N\in\mathcal{H}}\;\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^N f_i(x_i), \text{ solved by } \quad \boldsymbol{x}^{[k+1]}=\boldsymbol{x}^{[k]}-\gamma_k\nabla f_{i_k}(\boldsymbol{x}^{[k]}_{i_k}),$$

where $i_k : \Omega \to \{1, \dots, N\}$ is a sequence of random indices s. t., $(\forall k) (\forall i), P[i_k = i] = 1/N.$

Convergence rates

Stochastic gradient descent (a.k.a Robbins-Monro)

$$x^{[k+1]} = x^{[k]} - \gamma_k \nabla f_{i_k}(x_{i_k}^{[k]})$$

Classical setting $\gamma_k = Ck^{-\alpha}$ [Bach-Moulines, 2011]

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- $\alpha = 1$: not robust to the choice of *C*.
- $O(\max\{k^{1/2-3\alpha/2,k^{-\alpha/2},k^{\alpha-1}}\})$ rate for $\alpha \in]1/3, 1[.$
- Strongly convex: $O(k^{-1})$ rate for $\alpha = 1$.

Polyak-Ruppert averaging: $\overline{x}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} x^{[k]}$

- $\alpha \in]1/2, 1[$ is robust with averaging.
- $O(n^{-1/2})$ rate with averaging for $\alpha = 1/2$.
- Strongly convex: $O(n^{-1})$ rate with averaging for $\alpha \in]1/2, 1[$.

Convergence rates

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Example (machine learning): minimization of the empirical risk

$$\min_{\Theta} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^{l} f(z_{\ell}, d_{\Theta}(u_{\ell}))$$

where $(u_{\ell}, z_{\ell})_{\ell=1}^{I}$ is the training dataset.

Non-smooth stochastic optimization

Goal: minimization composite non-smooth objective function

$$f(x) = F(x) + \lambda R(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_i(x_i) + \lambda R(x)$$

where R is a non-smooth regularizer.

Reminder: Standard forward-backward iterations

$$x^{[k+1]} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma_k \lambda R}(x^{[k]} - \gamma_k \nabla F(x^{[k]}))$$

Stochastic forward-backward iterations

$$x^{[k+1]} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma_k R}(x^{[k]} - \gamma_k \nabla f_{i_k}(x_{i_k}))$$

where $i_k : \Omega \to \{1, \dots, N\}$ is a sequence of random indices s. t., $(\forall k) (\forall i), P[i_k = i] = 1/N.$

Stochastic forward-backward convergence

Stochastic forward-backward iterations $x^{[k+1]} = \operatorname{prox}_{\gamma_k R}(x^{[k]} - \gamma_k \nabla f_{i_k}(x_{i_k}))$ where $i_k : \Omega \to \{1, \dots, N\}$ is a sequence of random indices s. t., $(\forall k) (\forall i), P[i_k = i] = 1/N.$

- Assumptions
 - $\widehat{x} \in \arg\min f(x)$ exists.
 - Let $x^{[0]}$ such that $E[\|x^{[0]}\|^2] < +\infty$,
 - F is μ -strongly convex and R is ν -strongly convex with $\mu + \nu > 0$.
 - F is β -Lispchitz
 - Let C>0, $\alpha\in]0,1[$ and $\gamma_k=Ck^{-lpha}<rac{1-arepsilon}{1+2\sigma^2}eta$
- Results [Rosasco-Villa-Vũ, 2014]
 - $O(n^{-\theta})$ rate for $E[||x^{[n]} \widehat{x}||^2]$.
 - Almost sure convergence of $(x^{[n]})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$.