# Mathematics of Data: From Theory to Computation

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#### Lecture 11: Constrained convex minimization II

Laboratory for Information and Inference Systems (LIONS) École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

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# Outline

- This class:
  - 1. Frank-Wolfe method
  - 2. Universal primal-dual gradient methods
  - 3. ADMM
- Next class
  - 1. Disciplined convex programming



# **Recommended reading material**

- M. Jaggi, Revisiting Frank-Wolfe: Projection-Free Sparse Convex Optimization In Proc. 30th International Conference on Machine Learning, 2013.
- A. Yurtsever, Q. Tran-Dinh and V. Cevher, A Universal Primal-Dual Convex Optimization Framework In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 28, 2015.
- S. Boyd, N. Parikh, E. Chu, B. Peleato, and J. Eckstein, Distributed Optimization and Statistical Learning via the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers Foundations and Trends in Machine Learning, Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 1–122, 2011.



## Motivation

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Evaluating the proximal operator is costly for many real world constrained optimization problems. This lecture covers the basics of the proximal-free numerical methods for constrained convex minimization, which use *cheaper Fenchel-type oracles* as a building block.





## Swiss army knife of convex formulations

# A primal problem prototype

$$f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{K}, \ \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \right\},\tag{1}$$

- f is a proper, closed and convex function
- $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  are nonempty, closed convex sets
- $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n imes p}$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are known
- An optimal solution  $\mathbf{x}^{\star}$  to (1) satisfies  $f(\mathbf{x}^{\star}) = f^{\star}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{\star} = \mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\star} \in \mathcal{X}$





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## Recall: Definition of $\epsilon$ -accurate solutions [6]

Given a numerical tolerance  $\epsilon \geq 0$ , a point  $\mathbf{x}_{\epsilon}^{\star} \in \mathbb{R}^{p}$  is called an  $\epsilon$ -solution of (1) if

 $\begin{cases} f(\mathbf{x}_{\epsilon}^{\star}) - f^{\star} \leq \epsilon & \text{(objective residual)}, \\ \text{dist} \left(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{\epsilon}^{\star} - \mathbf{b}, \mathcal{K}\right) \leq \epsilon & \text{(feasibility gap)}, \\ \mathbf{x}_{\epsilon}^{\star} \in \mathcal{X} & \text{(exact feasibility for the simple set)}. \end{cases}$ 

- When  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is unique, we can also obtain  $\|\mathbf{x}^*_{\epsilon} \mathbf{x}^*\| \leq \epsilon$  (iterate residual).
- $\blacktriangleright$   $\epsilon$  can be different for the objective, feasibility gap, or the iterate residual.





## Recall the proximal operator

Proximal operator

Most primal dual methods require the computation of the prox-operator of f

$$\operatorname{prox}_{f}(\mathbf{x}) := \arg\min_{\mathbf{z}} \{f(\mathbf{z}) + (1/2) \|\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{x}\|^{2} \}.$$

Prox-operator helps us processing nonsmooth terms "efficiently"!

Problem: Not all nonsmooth functions are proximal-friendly!





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Problem: Not all nonsmooth functions are proximal-friendly!

Example (Nuclear norm)

For  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{p imes p}$ ,

 $f(\mathbf{X}) = \|\mathbf{X}\|_{\star} \quad \rightarrow \quad \operatorname{prox}_{f}(\mathbf{X}) = \operatorname{SingValThreshold}(\mathbf{X}, 1).$ 

Requires computation of the singular value decomposition!  $\rightarrow \mathcal{O}(p^3)$ 





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Requires computation of the singular value decomposition!  $\rightarrow \mathcal{O}(p^3)$ 

## Can we avoid the prox-operator for something cheaper?



## Frank-Wolfe's method: Earliest example

#### Problem setting

$$f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \right\},\tag{2}$$

#### Assumptions

- $\mathcal{X}$  is nonempty, convex, closed and bounded.
- $f \in \mathcal{F}_{L}^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^{p})$  (i.e., convex with Lipschitz gradient).
- $\blacktriangleright$  Note also that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{b}\in\mathcal{K}$  is missing from our prototype problem.

#### Frank-Wolfe's method (see [3] for a review)

 $\begin{array}{l} \hline \textbf{Conditional gradient method (CGM)} \\ \hline \textbf{1. Choose } \mathbf{x}^0 \in \mathcal{X}. \\ \hline \textbf{2. For } k = 0, 1, \dots \text{ perform:} \\ \begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k & := \arg\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{x}, \\ \mathbf{x}^{k+1} & := (1 - \gamma_k) \mathbf{x}^k + \gamma_k \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \end{cases} \\ \hline \textbf{where } \gamma_k := \frac{2}{k+2} \text{ is a given relaxation parameter.} \end{array}$ 





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## Frank-Wolfe's method (see [3] for a review)

Conditional gradient method (CGM) 1. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0 \in \mathcal{X}$ . 2. For k = 0, 1, ... perform:  $\begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k & := \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathcal{X}} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{x}, (*) \\ \mathbf{x}^{k+1} & := (1 - \gamma_k)\mathbf{x}^k + \gamma_k \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \end{cases}$ where  $\gamma_k := \frac{2}{k+2}$  is a given relaxation parameter.

#### When $\mathcal{X}$ is **nuclear-norm** ball, $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k$ corresponds to **rank-1 updates!**



## Recall: Fenchel conjugate

We need the definition of **Fenchel conjugation** and its basic properties to show the correspondence between CGM and DSM.

### Definition

Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be a predefined Euclidean space and  $Q^*$  be its dual space. Given a proper, closed and convex function  $f: \mathcal{Q} \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ , the function  $f^*: Q^* \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  such that

$$f^*(\mathbf{y}) = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathsf{dom}(f)} \left\{ \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x} - f(\mathbf{x}) \right\}$$

is called the Fenchel conjugate (or conjugate) of f.



Figure: The conjugate function  $f^*(\mathbf{y})$  is the maximum gap between the linear function  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$  (red line) and  $f(\mathbf{x})$ .

- ▶ f\* is a convex and lower, semicontinuous function by construction (as the supremum of affine functions of y).
- ▶ The conjugate of the conjugate of a convex function f is ... the same function f; i.e.,  $f^{**} = f$  for  $f \in \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Q})$ .



# \*Basic properties of Fenchel conjugation

#### Property 1: Fenchel-Young inequality

Let  $f: \mathcal{Q} \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  and  $f^*: Q^* \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  be a function and its conjugation; here  $Q^*$  be the dual space of  $\mathcal{Q}$ . Then, the following inequality holds true:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) + f^*(\mathbf{y}) \ge \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}, \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in Q, \mathbf{y} \in Q^*.$$

#### Property 2: Subgradient property

Let  $\mathbf{y}\in\partial f(\mathbf{x})$  for some  $\mathbf{x}\in\mathsf{dom}(f).$  Then  $\mathbf{y}\in\mathsf{dom}(f^*)$  and vise versa. Moreover, we have

$$\mathbf{u} \in \partial f(\mathbf{x}) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} \in \partial f^*(\mathbf{u}).$$

Property 3: Duality of strong convexity and Lipschitz smoothness [4] Let f be a convex and lower semi-continuos function. Then, strong convexity and Lipschitz gradients are dual in the following sense:

f has Lipschitz continuos gradients  $\iff f^*$  is strongly convex

f is strongly convex  $\iff f^*$  has Lipschitz continuos gradients





## **Towards Fenchel-type operators**

## Generalized sharp operators [8]

We define the (generalized) sharp operator of a convex function f as follows:

$$\left[\mathbf{z}\right]_{f}^{\sharp} := \operatorname*{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} \rangle \right\}.$$

Special case:

• [indicator function] If  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow [-\mathbf{x}]_f^{\sharp}$  is linear minimization oracle.





## Towards Fenchel-type operators

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#### Example (Nuclear norm)

Let  $\sigma$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  represent the largest singular value and the associated right and left singular vectors of a matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  respectively:

$$[\mathbf{u},\sigma,\mathbf{v}] = \texttt{svds}(\mathbf{X},1)$$

• If  $\phi(\mathbf{X}) = \delta_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathbf{X})$  with  $\mathcal{X} := \{\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p} : \|\mathbf{X}\|_{\star} \le \kappa\}$ , then  $\kappa \mathbf{uv}^T \in [\mathbf{X}]_{\phi}^{\sharp}$ 

• If  $\psi(\mathbf{X}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{X}\|_{\star}^2$ , then  $\sigma \mathbf{u} \mathbf{v}^T \in [\mathbf{X}]_{\psi}^{\sharp}$ 

Computation of  $[\mathbf{X}]^{\sharp}_{\phi}$  and  $[\mathbf{X}]^{\sharp}_{\psi}$  are essentially the same.



# **Revisiting Frank-Wolfe's method**

## Problem setting

$$f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \bigg\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \bigg\},\$$

#### Assumptions

- $\mathcal{X}$  is nonempty, convex, closed and bounded.
- $f \in \mathcal{F}_L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^p)$  (i.e., convex with Lipschitz gradient).
- $\blacktriangleright$  Note that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{b}\in\mathcal{K}$  is missing from our prototype problem

# Frank-Wolfe's method (see [3] for a review)

**Conditional gradient method (CGM)**  
**1.** Choose 
$$\mathbf{x}^0 \in \mathcal{X}$$
.  
**2.** For  $k = 0, 1, ...$  perform:  

$$\begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k & := \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathcal{X}} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{x} & \equiv [-\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^k)]_{\delta_{\mathcal{X}}}^{\sharp}, \\ \mathbf{x}^{k+1} & := (1 - \gamma_k) \mathbf{x}^k + \gamma_k \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \end{cases}$$
where  $\gamma_k := \frac{2}{k+2}$  is a given relaxation parameter.

$$\mathbf{z}]_{\delta_{\mathcal{X}}}^{\sharp} := \operatorname*{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \delta_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathbf{x}) - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} \rangle \right\}.$$





# **Revisiting Frank-Wolfe's method**

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$$f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \bigg\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \bigg\},$$

#### Assumptions

- $\mathcal{X}$  is nonempty, convex, closed and bounded.
- $f \in \mathcal{F}_L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^p)$  (i.e., convex with Lipschitz gradient).

**Next:** Constrained problem  $\underline{Ax - b \in \mathcal{K}}$  and nonsmooth f(x) with the sharp-operator

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$$\min_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{x}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{X} \right\}$$

Dual averaging subgradient method:

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{For} \, k = 0 \, \operatorname{to} \, k_{\max} : \\ & \mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \gamma_k \nabla d(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) \\ & \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \left\{ \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}^{k+1} \rangle - \beta_k \phi(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

End for

 $\mathbf{x}^0 = 0$ ,  $\beta_{k+1} \leq \beta_k$ , and  $\phi$  is a strongly convex function (that we can choose).





$$\min_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{x}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{X} \right\}$$

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End for

Choose

 $\beta_k = 1$ ,

 $\phi = f^*$  (strongly convex due to Fenchel duality, since f is smooth)



$$\min_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{x}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{X} \right\}$$

Dual averaging subgradient method:

For 
$$k = 0$$
 to  $k_{\max}$ :  
 $\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \gamma_k (\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) - \mathbf{r}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k))$   
 $\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \left\{ \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}^{k+1} \rangle - f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right\}$ 

End for

• Augment the dual:

$$d(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \min_{\mathbf{r}} \underbrace{\{f(\mathbf{r}) - \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{r} \rangle\}}_{-f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda})} + \min_{\mathbf{x}} \{\langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x} \rangle : \ \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}\}$$

 $\nabla d(\pmb{\lambda}^k) = \mathbf{x}^*(\pmb{\lambda}^k) - \mathbf{r}^*(\pmb{\lambda}^k)$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k = \nabla f(\mathbf{r}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k)) \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{r}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) \in \partial f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k)$$

Due to Fenchel duality.

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$$\min_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{x}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{X} \right\}$$

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$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \left\{ \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}^{k+1} \rangle - f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right\}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} \in \partial f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1}) \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = 
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$$\min_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{x}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{X} \right\}$$

Dual averaging subgradient method:  $\implies$  CGM

For k = 0 to  $k_{\max}$ :  $\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \gamma_k(\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) - \mathbf{x}^k)$  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^{k+1})$ 

End for

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \left\{ \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{x}^{k+1} \rangle - f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right\}$$

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Due to Fenchel duality.

We can choose  $\mathbf{r}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) = \mathbf{x}^k$  since  $\mathbf{r}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) \in \partial f^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k)$ 

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### Finding an optimal solution

# A plausible algorithmic strategy for $\min_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathcal{X}} \{f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}\}$ :

A natural minimax formulation:

$$(\mathbf{x}^{\star}, \lambda^{\star}) \in \arg \max_{\lambda} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \{ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) := f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \lambda, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \rangle \}.$$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Lagrangian subproblem:} & \mathbf{x}^*(\lambda) \in \arg\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) \\ \text{Dual problem:} & \lambda^* \in \arg\max_{\lambda} \left\{ d(\lambda) := \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*(\lambda), \lambda) \right\} \end{array}$ 

- $\lambda$  is called the Lagrange multiplier.
- The function  $d(\lambda)$  is called the dual function, and it is concave!
- The optimal dual objective value is d<sup>\*</sup> = d(λ<sup>\*</sup>).

**Our strategy**  $\Rightarrow$  Make progress on the dual and obtain the primal solution

For notational simplicity, we denote  $g(\lambda) = -d(\lambda)$  and consider convex minimization.



## Finding an optimal solution

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## Challenges for the plausible strategy above

- 1. Establishing its correctness
- 2. Computational efficiency of finding an  $\bar{\epsilon}$ -approximate optimal dual solution  $\lambda_{\bar{\epsilon}}^{\star}$
- 3. Mapping  $\lambda_{\overline{\epsilon}}^{\star} \to \mathbf{x}_{\epsilon}^{\star}$



## Finding an optimal solution

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For notational simplicity, we denote  $g(\lambda) = -d(\lambda)$  and consider convex minimization.

#### Challenges for the plausible strategy above

- 1. Establishing its correctness: Assume  $f^{\star} > -\infty$  and Slater's condition for  $f^{\star} = d^{\star}$
- 2. Computational efficiency of finding an  $\bar{\epsilon}$ -approximate optimal dual solution  $\lambda_{\bar{\epsilon}}^{\star}$
- 3. Mapping  $\lambda_{\overline{\epsilon}}^{\star} \to \mathbf{x}_{\epsilon}^{\star}$



### Efficiency considerations for the dual problem

If  $g(\boldsymbol{\lambda})$  is non-smooth (with bounded subgradients)

$$\exists G > 0: \|\mathbf{v}\|_2 \le G, \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \partial g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}), \; \forall \boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

• Subgradient method in the dual  $\rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ 





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# If $g(\lambda)$ is smooth (Lipschitz gradients)

$$\|\nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) - \nabla g(\boldsymbol{\eta})\|_2 \le L \|\boldsymbol{\lambda} - \boldsymbol{\eta}\|_2, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

 $\rightarrow$ 

• Accelerated gradient method in the dual

$$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}\right).$$

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Our strategy: Hölder smoothness in the dual

We assume that  $\nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda})$  is Hölder continuous for some  $\nu \in [0,1]$ :

$$\|
abla g(oldsymbol{\lambda}) - 
abla g(oldsymbol{\eta})\|_2 \le M_
u \|oldsymbol{\lambda} - oldsymbol{\eta}\|_2^
u, \quad orall oldsymbol{\lambda}, oldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- Theoretical lowerbound:  $\mathcal{O}\left(\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{\frac{2}{1+3\nu}}\right)$ .
  - $\nu = 0$  is equivalent to the bounded (sub)gradient assumption.
  - $\nu = 1$  is equivalent to the Lipschitz gradients assumption.

## If $g(\boldsymbol{\lambda})$ is smooth (Lipschitz gradients)

$$\|\nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) - \nabla g(\boldsymbol{\eta})\|_2 \le L \|\boldsymbol{\lambda} - \boldsymbol{\eta}\|_2, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

• Accelerated gradient method in the dual  $\rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}\right)$ .



## Brief detour: Exploring the smoothness in depth

Consider the following unconstrained convex minimization

 $\min_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathbb{R}^p}g(\mathbf{x})$ 

## Practical difficulty of using Hölder continuity

Hölder continuous (sub)gradients ensures the following basic surrogate for any  $\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}\in\mathcal{X}:$ 

$$g(\mathbf{y}) \le g(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \nabla g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle + \frac{M_{\nu}}{1+\nu} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^{1+\nu}$$
(3)

In practice, smoothness parameters u and  $M_{
u}$  are usually not known.





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In practice, smoothness parameters  $\nu$  and  $M_{\nu}$  are usually not known.

## Nesterov's universal gradient lemma [5].

Let g satisfy (3). Then for any  $\epsilon > 0$  and

$$M \ge \left[\frac{1-\nu}{1+\nu} \cdot \frac{1}{\delta}\right]^{\frac{1-\nu}{1+\nu}} M_{\nu}^{\frac{2}{1+\nu}}$$

we have

$$g(\mathbf{y}) \le g(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \nabla g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle + \frac{M}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$





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#### This lemma provides us the linesearch condition!

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#### Nesterov's universal gradient methods

Universal primal gradient method (PGM)<sup>1</sup> 1. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0 \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $M_{-1} > 0$  and accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$ . 2. For  $k = 0, 1, \dots$  perform:  $\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k - M_k^{-1} \nabla g(\mathbf{x}^k)$ using line-search to find  $M_k \ge 0.5M_{k-1}$  that satisfies:  $g(\mathbf{x}^{k+1}) \le g(\mathbf{x}^k) + \langle \nabla g(\mathbf{x}^k), \mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}^k \rangle + \frac{M_k}{2} \|\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{x}^{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ 

#### Nesterov's universal gradient method [5]

- Adapt to the unknown  $\nu$  via an line-search strategy
- Universal since they ensure the best possible rate of convergence for each u

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>PGM in [5] uses the Bregman / prox setup.





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#### Nesterov's universal gradient methods

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#### Nesterov's universal gradient method [5]

- Adapt to the unknown  $\nu$  via an line-search strategy
- Universal since they ensure the best possible rate of convergence for each u

Yes, there is an accelerated version [5].

#### New: Our FISTA variant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>PGM in [5] uses the Bregman / prox setup.





#### Our universal primal-dual gradient methods: The main steps

$$\left[\mathbf{z}\right]_{f}^{\sharp} := \operatorname*{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{f(\mathbf{x}) - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} \rangle\right\}$$

Universal primal-dual gradient method (UniPDGrad)

Input initial dual point  $\lambda^0$  and desired accuracy  $\epsilon$ . Then, at each iteration:

1. Solve Lagrangian subproblem (i.e., evaluate the sharp operator)

$$\mathbf{x}^{*}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k}) \in \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathcal{X}}\left\{f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \rangle\right\} \equiv \left[-\mathbf{A}^{T}\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k}\right]_{f+\delta_{\mathcal{X}}}^{\sharp}$$

2. Take a gradient step in the dual (find  $M_k$  by the inexact line-search condition)

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} := \boldsymbol{\lambda}^k - \frac{1}{M_k} \nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) = \boldsymbol{\lambda}^k + \frac{1}{M_k} \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) - \mathbf{b} \right)$$

3. Take the weighted average for primal reconstruction

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}^k := \left(\sum_{i=0}^k \frac{1}{M_i}\right)^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^k \frac{1}{M_i} \mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^i)$$





#### Summary of the algorithms and convergence guarantees - I

 $\begin{array}{l} \hline \textbf{Universal primal-dual gradient method (UniPDGrad)} \\ \hline \textbf{Initialization: Choose $\lambda^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\epsilon > 0$. Estimate a value $M_{-1} < 2M_{\epsilon}$. \\ \hline \textbf{Iteration: For $k = 0, 1, \dots$ perform:} \\ \hline \textbf{1. Primal step: $\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) = [-\mathbf{A}^T\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k]_f^{\sharp}$ \\ \hline \textbf{2. Dual gradient: $\nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k)$ \\ \hline \textbf{3. Line-search: Find $M_k \in [0.5M_{k-1}, 2M_{\epsilon}]$ from line-search condition and: $\lambda^{k+1} = \boldsymbol{\lambda}^k - M_k^{-1}\nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k)$ \\ \hline \textbf{4. Primal averaging: $\mathbf{x}^k := S_k^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^k M_j^{-1}\mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^j)$ where $S_k = \sum_{j=0}^k M_j^{-1}$. \end{array}$ 

$$g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1}) \leq g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k) + \langle \nabla g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^k), \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} - \boldsymbol{\lambda}^k \rangle + \frac{M}{2} \| \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} - \boldsymbol{\lambda}^k \|^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

#### Theorem [8]

 $\mathbf{x}^k$  obtained by **UniPDGrad** satisfy:

$$\begin{cases} -\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{b}\| \|\boldsymbol{\lambda}^\star\| \le -f(\mathbf{x}^k) - f^\star & \le \frac{M_{\epsilon}\|\boldsymbol{\lambda}^0\|^2}{k+1} + \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \\ \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{b}\| & \le \frac{4M_{\epsilon}\|\boldsymbol{\lambda}^0 - \boldsymbol{\lambda}^\star\|}{k+1} + \sqrt{\frac{2M_{\epsilon}\epsilon}{k+1}}. \end{cases}$$



#### Summary of the algorithms and convergence guarantees - II

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Accelerated universal primal-dual gradient method (AccUniPDGrad)} \\ \hline \textbf{Initialization: Choose } \lambda^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ \epsilon > 0. \ \text{Set } t_0 = 1. \ \text{Estimate a value } M_{-1} < 2M_{\epsilon}. \\ \hline \textbf{Iteration: For } k = 0, 1, \dots \ \text{perform:} \\ \hline \textbf{1. Primal step: } \mathbf{x}^*(\hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}^k) = [-\mathbf{A}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}^k]_f^{\sharp}, \\ \hline \textbf{2. Dual gradient: } \nabla g(\hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}^k) = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x}^*(\hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}^k), \\ \hline \textbf{3. Line-search: Find } M_k \in [M_{k-1}, 2M_{\epsilon}] \ \text{from line-search condition and:} \\ \hline \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}^k - M_k^{-1} \nabla g(\hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}^k), \\ \hline \textbf{4. } t_{k+1} = 0.5[1 + \sqrt{1 + 4t_k^2}], \\ \hline \textbf{5. } \hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{k+1} + \frac{t_k - 1}{t_{k+1}} (\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{k+1} - \boldsymbol{\lambda}_k), \\ \hline \textbf{6. Primal averaging: } \mathbf{x}^k := S_k^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^k t_j M_j^{-1} \mathbf{x}^*(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^j) \ \text{where } S_k = \sum_{j=0}^k t_j M_j^{-1}. \end{array}$ 

$$g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1}) \leq g(\boldsymbol{\hat{\lambda}}^k) + \langle \nabla g(\boldsymbol{\hat{\lambda}}^k), \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} - \boldsymbol{\hat{\lambda}}^k \rangle + \frac{M}{2} \| \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{k+1} - \boldsymbol{\hat{\lambda}}^k \|^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{2t_k}$$

#### Theorem [8]

 $\mathbf{x}^k$  obtained by AccUniProx satisfy:

$$\begin{aligned} -\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\|\|\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{\star}\| &\leq \quad f(\mathbf{x}^{k}) - f^{\star} \quad \leq \frac{4M_{\epsilon}\|\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{0}\|^{2}}{\frac{1+3\nu}{(k+2)\frac{1+3\nu}{1+\nu}}} + \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \\ \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\| \quad \leq \frac{16M_{\epsilon}\|\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{0} - \boldsymbol{\lambda}^{\star}\|}{(k+2)\frac{1+3\nu}{1+\nu}} + \sqrt{\frac{8M_{\epsilon}\epsilon}{(k+2)\frac{1+3\nu}{1+\nu}}}. \end{aligned}$$



## The general constraint case

# Handling to the constraint $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{b}\in\mathcal{K}$

the universal dual accelerated gradient method:

$$\begin{cases} t_k & := 0.5 \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 + 4t_{k-1}^2} \right) \\ \hat{\lambda}^k & := \bar{\lambda}^k + \frac{t_{k-1}-1}{t_k} \left( \bar{\lambda}^k - \hat{\lambda}^{k-1} \right) \\ \lambda^{k+1} & := \hat{\lambda}^k + \frac{1}{M_k} \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^* (\hat{\lambda}^k) - \mathbf{b} \right). \end{cases}$$





## The general constraint case

#### Handling to the constraint $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{b}\in\mathcal{K}$

Only one prox change in the universal dual accelerated gradient method:

$$\begin{cases} t_k &:= 0.5 \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 + 4t_{k-1}^2} \right) \\ \hat{\lambda}^k &:= \bar{\lambda}^k + \frac{t_{k-1}-1}{t_k} \left( \bar{\lambda}^k - \hat{\lambda}^{k-1} \right) \\ \lambda^{k+1} &:= \operatorname{prox}_{M_k^{-1}h} \left( \hat{\lambda}^k + \frac{1}{M_k} \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^* (\hat{\lambda}^k) - \mathbf{b} \right) \right) \end{cases}$$

Here, h is defined by  $h(\lambda):=\sup_{\mathbf{r}\in\mathcal{K}}\langle\lambda,\mathbf{r}\rangle.$ 





# Theoretical guarantees

#### Universality of the method [8]

We derive the following worst-case iteration complexity results to obtain  $\epsilon-{\rm accurate}$  solution  ${\bf x}^k$  in the sense

#### Note:

w

• Both UniPDGrad and AccUniPDGrad require 2 sharp operators queries per iteration on average.





## \*Example: Phase retrieval

#### Phase retrieval

Aim: Recover signal  $\mathbf{x}^{\natural} \in \mathbb{C}^p$  from the measurements  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$b_i = \left| \langle \mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{x}^{\natural} \rangle \right|^2 + \omega_i.$$

 $(\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{C}^p \text{ are known measurement vectors, } \omega_i \text{ models noise}).$ 

• Non-linear measurements  $\rightarrow$  **non-convex** maximum likelihood estimators.

#### PhaseLift [1]

Phase retrieval can be solved as a convex matrix completion problem, following a combination of  $% \left( {{{\mathbf{r}}_{\mathbf{r}}}_{\mathbf{r}}} \right)$ 

- semidefinite relaxation  $(\mathbf{x}^{\natural}\mathbf{x}^{\natural}^{H} = \mathbf{X}^{\natural})$
- convex relaxation  $(\texttt{rank} 
  ightarrow \| \cdot \|_*)$

albeit in terms of the lifted variable  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times p}$ .



## Example: Phase retrieval - II

#### Problem formulation

We solve the following PhaseLift variant:

$$f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times p}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b} \|_{2}^{2} : \| \mathbf{X} \|_{*} \le \kappa, \ \mathbf{X} \ge 0 \right\}.$$
(4)

#### Experimental setup [7]

Coded diffraction pattern measurements,  $\mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_L]$  with L=20 different masks

$$\mathbf{b}_\ell = |\mathtt{fft}(\mathbf{d}_\ell^H \odot \mathbf{x}^\natural)|^2$$

- $\rightarrow$   $\odot$  denotes Hadamard product;  $|\cdot|^2$  applies element-wise
- $\rightarrow$   $d_\ell$  are randomly generated octonary masks (distributions as proposed in [1])
- $\rightarrow$  Parametric choices:  $\lambda^0 = \mathbf{0}^n$ ;  $\epsilon = 10^{-2}$ ;  $\kappa = \text{mean}(\mathbf{b})$ .



#### Example: Phase retrieval - III



Test with synthetic data: Prox vs sharp

- $\rightarrow$  Synthetic data:  $\mathbf{x}^{\natural} = \operatorname{randn}(p, 1) + i \cdot \operatorname{randn}(p, 1).$
- $\rightarrow$  Stopping criteria:  $\frac{\|\mathbf{x}^{\natural} \mathbf{x}^{k}\|_{2}}{\|\mathbf{x}^{\natural}\|_{2}} \leq 10^{-2}$ .
- $\rightarrow$  Averaged over 10 Monte-Carlo iterations.

#### Note that the problem is $p \times p$ dimensional!



#### Scalability example: Phase retrieval - IV



#### Test with images

We use real images of

- EPFL campus of size  $1280 \times 720 \rightarrow p^2 \approx 10^{12}$  (dashed lines)
- Milky Way galaxy of size  $1920 \times 1080 \rightarrow p^2 \approx 4 \cdot 10^{12}$

(dashed lines) (solid lines)

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#### Example: Phase retrieval - V



EPFL campus image of size  $1280\times720,$  reconstructed in 20 minutes by 41 iterations of AccUniPDGrad: <code>PSNR = 45.54 dB</code>





## Scalability example: Phase retrieval - VI



Milky Way galaxy image of size  $1920\times 1080,$  reconstructed in 42 minutes by 40 iterations of AccUniPDGrad: <code>PSNR = 54.44 dB</code>





# Example: Quantum tomography with Pauli operators - I

#### Problem formulation

Let  $\mathbf{X}^{\natural} \in S^{p}_{+}$  be a density matrix which characterizes a q-qubit quantum system, where  $p = 2^{q}$ . Using Pauli operators  $\mathcal{A}$  [2], we can deduce the state from  $\mathbf{b} = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) \in \mathcal{C}^{n}$  based on the following convex optimization formulation:

$$\varphi^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{S}_{+}^{p}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b} \|_{2}^{2} : \mathsf{tr}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 \right\}.$$
(5)

The recovery is also robust to noise.





# Example: Quantum tomography with Pauli operators - I

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(5)

The recovery is also robust to noise.

Perfect scalability test: tuning free constraint + Lipschitz continuous gradient

## Setup

Synthetic random pure quantum state (e.g., rank-1  $\mathbf{X}^{\natural}$ ) with:

- q = 14 qubits, that corresponds to  $2^{28} = 268'435'456$  dimensional problem.
- $n := 2p \log(p) = 138'099$  number of Pauli measurements.
- Input parameters  $\lambda^0 = \mathbf{0}^n$  and  $\epsilon = 2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ .



#### Example: Quantum tomography with Pauli operators - II



Figure: The performance of (Acc)UniPDGrad and Frank-Wolfe algorithms for (5).



# Outline

Yet another template from source separation





# Bonus: ADMM<sup>2</sup>

#### Primal problem with a specific decomposition structure

 $f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{x} := (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) := g(\mathbf{u}) + h(\mathbf{v}) : \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{b}, \ \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}, \ \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V} \right\}$ 

- $\mathcal{X} := \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}$  nonempty, closed, convex and bounded.
- $\bullet \mathbf{A} := [\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}].$

#### The Fenchel dual problem

$$d^{\star} := \max_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ d(\lambda) := -g_{\mathcal{U}}^{\star}(-\mathbf{B}^T \lambda) - h_{\mathcal{V}}^{\star}(-\mathbf{C}^T \lambda) + \langle \mathbf{b}, \lambda \rangle \right\}$$

•  $g^*_{\mathcal{U}}$  and  $h^*_{\mathcal{U}}$  are the Fenchel conjugate of  $g_{\mathcal{U}} := g + \delta_{\mathcal{U}}$  and  $h_{\mathcal{V}} := h + \delta_{\mathcal{V}}$ , resp.

#### The dual function

$$d(\lambda) := \underbrace{\min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ g(\mathbf{u}) + \langle \mathbf{B}^T \lambda, \mathbf{u} \rangle \right\}}_{d^1(\lambda)} + \underbrace{\min_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}} \left\{ h(\mathbf{v}) + \langle \mathbf{C}^T \lambda, \mathbf{v} \rangle \right\}}_{d^2(\lambda)} - \langle \mathbf{b}, \lambda \rangle.$$

<sup>2</sup>Q. Tran-Dinh and V. Cevher, *Splitting the Smoothed Primal-dual Gap: Optimal Alternating Direction Methods* Tech. Report, 2015, (http://arxiv.org/pdf/1507.03734.pdf) / (http://lions.epfl.ch/publications)





#### Standard ADMM as the dual Douglas-Rachford method

We can derive ADMM via the Douglas-Rachford splitting on the dual:

$$0 \in \mathbf{B} \partial g^*_{\mathcal{U}}(-\mathbf{B}^T \lambda) + \mathbf{C} \partial h^*_{\mathcal{V}}(-\mathbf{C}^T \lambda) + \mathbf{c},$$

which is the optimality condition of the dual problem.

Douglas-Rachford splitting method

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{z}_g^k & := \operatorname{prox}_{\eta_k^{-1}g_{\mathcal{U}}^*(-\mathbf{B}^T\cdot)}(\lambda^k) \\ \mathbf{z}_h^k & := \operatorname{prox}_{\eta_k^{-1}h_{\mathcal{V}}^*(-\mathbf{C}^T\cdot)}(2\mathbf{z}_g^k - \lambda^k) \\ \lambda^{k+1} & := \lambda^k + (\mathbf{z}_g^k - \mathbf{z}_h^k). \end{array}$$

## Standard ADMM

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u}^{k+1} &:= \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\mathbf{u}\in\mathcal{U}} \left\{ g(\mathbf{u}) + \langle \lambda^k, \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} \rangle + \frac{\eta_k}{2} \|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v}^k - \mathbf{b}\|^2 \right\} \\ \mathbf{v}^{k+1} &:= \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\mathbf{v}\in\mathcal{V}} \left\{ h(\mathbf{v}) + \langle \lambda^k, \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v} \rangle + \frac{\eta_k}{2} \|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}^{k+1} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 \right\} \\ \lambda^{k+1} &:= \lambda^k + \eta_k \left( \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}^{k+1} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v}^{k+1} - \mathbf{b} \right). \end{cases}$$

Here,  $\eta_k > 0$  is a given penalty parameter.



# \*Splitting the smoothed gap

## Smoothing the gap

• The dual components  $d^1$  and  $d^2$  are nonsmooth. We smooth one, e.g.,  $d^1$ , using:

$$d_{\gamma}^{1}(\lambda) := \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ g(\mathbf{u}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{c}) \|^{2} + \langle \lambda, \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u} \rangle \right\}$$

• Recall: We also approximate f by  $f_\beta$  as:

$$f_{eta}(\mathbf{x}) := f(\mathbf{x}) + rac{1}{2eta} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 o f(\mathbf{x}) ext{ as } \mathbf{x} ext{ becomes feasible}$$

# Three key properties of $d^1_{\gamma}$

- $d_{\gamma}^1$  is concave and smooth.
- $\nabla d_{\gamma}^1$  is Lipschitz continuous with  $L := \gamma^{-1}$ .
- $d^1_{\gamma}$  approximates  $d^1$  as:

$$d^1_{\gamma}(\lambda) - \gamma D_{\mathcal{U}} \le d^1(\lambda) \le d^1_{\gamma}(\lambda),$$

where  $D_{\mathcal{U}} := \max\left\{(1/2) \| \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_c) \|^2 : \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U} \right\}.$ 



# \*Our ADMM scheme: D-R on the smoothed gap

 Our new ADMM scheme consists of three steps: ADMM step, acceleration step, and primal averaging.

# Step 1: The main ADMM steps

$$\begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{u}}^{k+1} &:= \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\mathbf{u}\in\mathcal{U}} \left\{ \frac{g_{\gamma_{k+1}}(\mathbf{u}) + \langle \hat{\lambda}^{k}, \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} \rangle + \frac{\rho_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{C}\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} \right\} \\ \hat{\mathbf{v}}^{k+1} &:= \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\mathbf{v}\in\mathcal{V}} \left\{ h(\mathbf{v}) + \langle \hat{\lambda}^{k}, \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v} \rangle + \frac{\eta_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{u}}^{k+1} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} \right\} \\ \lambda^{k+1} &:= \hat{\lambda}^{k} + \eta_{k} \left( \mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{u}}^{k+1} + \mathbf{C}\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{k+1} - \mathbf{b} \right). \end{cases}$$

where  $g_{\gamma}(\cdot) := g(\cdot) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\mathbf{B}(\cdot - \mathbf{u}_c)\|^2$ .

### \*The dual accelerated and primal averaging steps

• Step 2: [Dual acceleration]  $\hat{\lambda}^k$  is computed as:

$$\hat{\lambda}^k := (1 - \tau_k)\lambda_k + \frac{\tau_k}{\beta_k} (\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}^k + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{v}^k - \mathbf{b}).$$

• Step 3: [Averaging] The primal iteration  $\mathbf{x}^k := (\mathbf{u}^k, \mathbf{v}^k)$  is updated as:

$$\mathbf{u}^{k+1} := (1 - \tau_k)\mathbf{u}^k + \tau_k \hat{\mathbf{u}}^{k+1} \text{ and } \mathbf{v}^{k+1} := (1 - \tau_k)\mathbf{v}^k + \tau_k \hat{\mathbf{v}}^{k+1}.$$





# \*How do we update parameters?

## Duality gap and smoothed gap functions

- The duality gap:  $G(\mathbf{w}) := f(\mathbf{x}) d(\lambda)$ , where  $\mathbf{w} := (\mathbf{x}, \lambda)$ .
- $\bullet \ \, \text{The smoothed gap:} \ \, \overline{G_{\gamma\beta}(\mathbf{w}):=f_\beta(\mathbf{x})-d_\gamma(\lambda)} \ \, \text{with} \ \, d_\gamma:=d_\gamma^1+d^2.$

# Model-based gap reduction

The gap reduction model provides conditions to derive parameter update rules:

$$G_{\gamma_{k+1}\beta_{k+1}}(\mathbf{w}^{k+1}) \le (1-\tau_k)G_{\gamma_k\beta_k}(\mathbf{w}^k) + \tau_k(\eta_k + \rho_k)D_{\mathcal{X}}$$

where  $\gamma_{k+1} < \gamma_k$ ,  $\beta_{k+1} < \beta_k$  and  $D_{\mathcal{X}} := \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ (1/2) \| \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{C} \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{b} \|^2 \right\}$ .

#### Update rules

- The smoothness parameters:  $\gamma_{k+1} := \frac{2\gamma_0}{k+3}$  and  $\beta_k := \frac{9(k+3)}{\gamma_0(k+1)(k+7)}$ .
- The penalty parameters:  $\eta_k := \frac{\gamma_0}{k+3}$  and  $\rho_k := \frac{3\gamma_0}{(k+3)(k+4)}$ .
- The step-size  $\tau_k := \frac{3}{k+4} \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)$ .



# \*Convergence guarantee & Other cases of interest

#### Convergence rate guarantee

• Rate on the primal objective residual and constraint feasibility:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}^{k}) - f^{\star} &\leq \frac{2\gamma_{0}D_{\mathcal{U}}}{k+2} + \frac{3\gamma_{0}D_{\mathcal{X}}}{2(k+3)} \left(1 + \frac{6}{k+2}\right) &\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) \\ \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\| &\leq \frac{18D_{d}^{\star}}{\gamma_{0}(k+2)} + \frac{6}{k+2} \sqrt{D_{\mathcal{U}} + \frac{3(k+8)}{2(k+3)}D_{\mathcal{X}}} &\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $D_d^*$  is the diameter of the dual solution set  $\Lambda^*$ .

- Lower bound:  $-D_d^* \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k \mathbf{b}\| \le f(\mathbf{x}^k) f^*$ .
- Rate on the dual objective residual:

$$d^{\star} - d(\lambda^{k}) \leq \frac{18(D_{d}^{\star})^{2}}{\gamma_{0}(k+2)} + \frac{6D_{d}^{\star}}{k+2} \sqrt{D_{\mathcal{U}} + \frac{3(k+8)}{2(k+3)}D_{\mathcal{X}}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right).$$

Special cases: cf., http://lions.epfl.ch/publications

- Full-column rank or orthogonality of A: Using smoothing term  $(\gamma/2) \|\mathbf{u} \mathbf{u}_c\|^2$ .
- Strong convexity of g: We do not need to smooth  $d^1$ .
- Decomposability of g and  $\mathcal{U}$ : Using smoothing term

$$(\gamma/2)\sum_{i=1}^{\circ} \|\mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{u}_i - \mathbf{u}_{c,i})\|^2.$$

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# \*A comparison to the theoretical bounds

## A stylized example: Square-root LASSO

$$f^{\star} := \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}} \left\{ f(\mathbf{x}) := \|\mathbf{u}\|_2 + \kappa \|\mathbf{v}\|_1 : \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{u} = c \right\}.$$



See the preprint for more examples, enhancements, …



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