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Note Title

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Conjugate Gradient Methods

Popular for solving Sparse Systems of linear eqns.

We want to solve the linear system

$$Ax = b$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is symmetric and positive definite.

Definition

Let $U = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ and $V = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$.

The inner product of u and v can be written as

$$\langle u, v \rangle = U^T v = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i \quad (\text{scalar sum})$$

Clearly $\langle u, v \rangle = \langle v, u \rangle$

Example

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, v = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{then } \langle u, v \rangle = U^T v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (1)(4) + (2)(5) +$$

$$3(6)$$

if u and v are mutually orthogonal,

then $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$

Definition

$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T$$

An A -inner product of two vectors u and v is defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\langle u, v \rangle_A &= \langle Au, v \rangle \\ &= (Au)^T v \quad \text{by definition of inner product} \\ &= U^T A^T v\end{aligned}$$

Two non zero vectors u and v are said to be

$$A\text{-conjugate if } \langle u, v \rangle_A = 0$$

i.e.

$$U^T A^T v = 0$$

An $n \times n$ matrix A is positive definite if

$$\langle x, x \rangle_A > 0 \quad [x^T A^T x > 0]$$

for all non zero vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Note that generally, expressions such as $\langle u, v \rangle$ and $\langle u, v \rangle_A$ reduce to 1×1 matrices which are just scalar values.

Definition

A quadratic form is a scalar quadratic function of a vector of the form

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle x, Ax \rangle - \langle b, x \rangle + c$$

where

x and b are vectors

A is a matrix

c is a scalar constant.

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^3 + xy$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x + 0 + y$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0 + 3y^2 + x$$

The gradient of the quadratic form is

$$f'(x) = \left[\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1} \quad \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2} \quad \dots \quad \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_n} \right]^T$$

Note that

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_i x_j - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i x_i + c$$

So

$$\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_k} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sum_{j=1}^n a_{kj} x_j + 2 a_{kk} x_k + \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^n a_{ik} x_i \right] - b_k$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\sum_{j=1}^n a_{jj} x_j + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{kk} x_k \right] - b_k \quad \text{True for } k=1, 2, \dots, n$$

Hence

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} A^T x + \frac{1}{2} Ax - b$$

If A is symmetric then $A^T = A$. So

$$f'(x) = Ax - b$$

Setting the gradient equal to zero, we get

$$0 = Ax - b$$

i.e.

$Ax = b$ which is the linear system to be solved?

Conclusion

The solution of $Ax = b$ is a critical point of $f(x)$

We observe that if A is symmetric and positive definite then $f(x)$ is minimized by the solution of $Ax = b$.

So an alternative way of solving the linear

System $Ax = b$ is to find an x that minimizes $f(x)$.

Example

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Is A positive definite?

Question:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} > 0 ?$$

for all non zero $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$.