

today: • away-step FW
• FW convergence & properties

away-step FW

comment: $x_t = \sum_u p_u^t s_u$

$$x_{t+1} = (1 - \gamma_t) x_t + \gamma_t s_t$$

$$= \sum_u \underbrace{p_u^t (1 - \gamma_t)}_{p_u^{t+1}} s_u + \gamma_t s_t$$

$p_u^{t+1} \rightarrow$ previous coordinates shrunk by $(1 - \gamma_t)$

* FW step moves mass uniformly away from active set $\{s_u\}_{u=1}^t$ to FW corner s_t

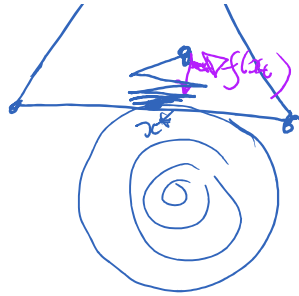
$\rightarrow$ unless step size $\gamma_t = 1$, FW is never removing a corner from its expansion

$\Rightarrow$ Zig-zag phenomenon close to boundary on polytopes (this is why $\mathcal{L}(\frac{1}{t})$ rate even if f is μ -strongly convex)



$$\langle -\nabla f(x_t), d_t \rangle \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

$\|s_t - x_t\| \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$ slows rate



$$\langle -\nabla f(x_t), d_t \rangle \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

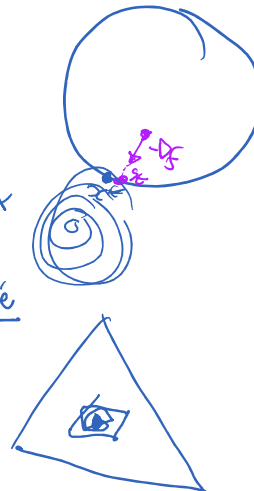
$$\frac{1}{\|\nabla f(x_t)\| \|d_t\|} \rightarrow \text{slow rate}$$

* but FW has no problem

on "strongly convex sets"

sublevel set of a strongly convex set,

when solution is in the interior of M



for strongly convex set,
rate $O(\exp(-\mu t))$

away-step FW fix: (solve the zig-zagging problem)

in addition to compute $S_t = \arg \min_{S \in M} \langle \nabla f(x_t), S \rangle$

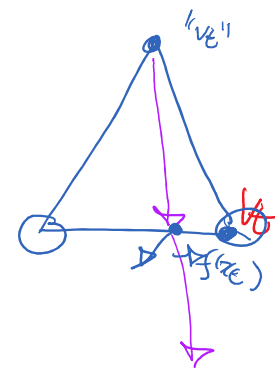
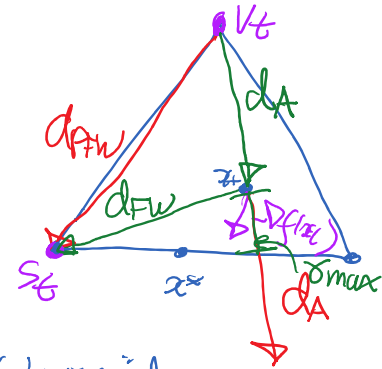
compute $V_t = \arg \max_{S \in \text{active set}(x_t)} \langle \nabla f(x_t), S \rangle$

$$d_{FW} \triangleq S_t - x_t$$

$$d_A \triangleq x_t - V_t$$

$\rightarrow$ FW picks the direction with best inner product

$\rightarrow$ (aside: Wolfe's original alg. used whole M here $\Rightarrow$ non-convergent)



$$u_A = x_t - v_t$$

* AFW picks the direction with best inner-product

$$\text{i.e. pick } d_A \text{ if } \underbrace{\langle d_A, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle}_{\text{"}g_A\text{"}} > \underbrace{\langle d_{FW}, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle}_{\substack{\text{run-conjugent} \\ g_{FW}}}$$

o.w. pick d_{FW}

g_A can be zero when $\nabla f(x_t)$ is $\perp$ to active set

* if use d_A , let $\delta_t = \arg\min_{\delta \in [0, \delta_{\max}]} f(x_t + \delta d_A)$

where $\delta_{\max}$ depends on λ_u^t coefficients

$$\text{i.e. suppose } x_t = \sum_u \alpha_u s_u$$

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + \delta_t \underbrace{(x_t - v_t)}_{d_A}$$

$$= \sum_u (1 + \delta_t) \alpha_u s_u - \delta_t v_t$$

let α be coefficient of v_t

$$(1 + \delta_{\max})\alpha - \delta_{\max} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\delta_{\max} = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha}}$$

* when $\delta_t = \delta_{\max}$

"drop step" $\rightarrow$ removed v_t from expansion

⇒ when run AFW:

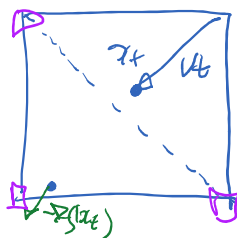
either you maintain some expression of $x_t = \sum_u \lambda_u s_u$

OR

you have a feasibility oracle + away-step oracle

[see NIPS 2016 paper]
Meshi & Garber

↳ they assume $\text{corners}(M) \subseteq \{0,1\}^n$ ^{assumption to prove convergence}



M is described as $x \geq 0$ and $Ax = b$
↳ assumption to run alg.

AFW has linear convergence rate on polytopes when f is strongly convex

14h36

* Combining dFW & dA → pairwise FW

$$d_{FW} + d_A = s_t - x_t + x_t - v_t = s_t - v_t$$

$$\langle -\nabla f(x_t), d_{FW} \rangle = g_{FW} + g_A$$

$$\text{during AFW: } g_t = \langle -\nabla f(x_t), d_t \rangle \geq \max\{g_{FW}, g_A\}$$

$$g_k \approx g_{\text{FW}}/2$$

⊗ note: if $M = \text{conv}(A)$ where A is some finite set (called "atoms")

$$\text{LMO}(r) := \min_{S \in M = \text{conv}(A)} \langle S, r \rangle = \min_{a \in A} \langle a, r \rangle$$

↳ lot of application in ML

e.g.: • $A \rightarrow$ integer flows
 $\text{conv}(A) \rightarrow$ flow polytope

LMO $\rightarrow$ min cost network flow

• $A \rightarrow$ clique assignment in graph
 $\text{conv}(A) \rightarrow$ marginal polytope

LMO $\rightarrow$ max-product
 or
 graph-cut dg.
 for submodular potentials
 (see later)

more properties of FW

6) convergence for non-convex f:

aside: necessary ^{first order} condition for constrained opt.

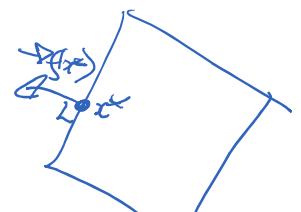
$$\min_{x \in M} f(x)$$

x^* global min

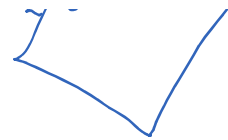
$$\Rightarrow \langle \nabla f(x^*), s - x^* \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall s \in M$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \min (\quad) \geq 0$$

"stationary pt." for const. opt. problem



$$\min_{S \in M} (\quad) \geq 0$$



$$\Leftrightarrow \max_{S \in M} \langle -\nabla f(x^*), S - x^* \rangle \leq 0$$

(sufficient cond. if f is M concave)

FW-gap(x^*)

↳ quantify the "non-stationarity"

See L-J. 2016 arxiv

$\min_{S \in M} \text{gap}(x_s) \leq O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\right)$ for FW with
 line search
 and
 f L -smooth and
 M bounded & convex
 but f is not rec. convex

4) affine covariance of FW

let $\tilde{M}$ be a new domain s.t. $\tilde{M} \xrightarrow[A \text{ linear trans.}]{\text{subjective}} M$

$$\text{i.e. } M = A\tilde{M}$$

$$\text{define } \tilde{f}(\tilde{x}) \triangleq f(A\tilde{x})$$

$$\min_{\tilde{x} \in \tilde{M}} \tilde{f}(\tilde{x}) = \min_{\tilde{x} \in \tilde{M}} f(A\tilde{x}) = \min_{x \in A\tilde{M}} f(x)$$

$$\min_{\tilde{x} \in \tilde{M}} f(x) = \min_{\tilde{x} \in \tilde{M}} f(A\tilde{x}) = \min_{\substack{x \in A\tilde{M} \\ \parallel \\ M}} f(x)$$

affine covariance of FW: if run FW on $\tilde{f}$ & $\tilde{M}$ to get $\tilde{x}_t$ iterates

$x_t \stackrel{A}{\leftarrow} \tilde{x}_t$ then $x_t \in A\tilde{x}_t$ corresponds to running FW on f & M
 (modulo tie-breaking) (?)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{FW} & \nearrow & \text{FW} \\ f \text{ \& } M & \xrightarrow{A} & \tilde{f} \text{ \& } \tilde{M} \end{array}$$

why? $\rightarrow$ inner product is affine invariant $\nabla_{\tilde{x}} \tilde{f}(\tilde{x}) = \nabla_{\tilde{x}} f(A\tilde{x}) = A^T \nabla_x f(x(\tilde{x}))$

$$\tilde{s}_t = \arg\min_{\tilde{s} \in \tilde{M}} \langle \tilde{s}, \nabla_{\tilde{x}} \tilde{f}(\tilde{x}_t) \rangle \quad x_t = A\tilde{x}_t$$

$$\langle \tilde{s}, A^T \nabla_x f(x_t) \rangle$$

$$\langle \underbrace{A\tilde{s}}_{s=A\tilde{s}}, \nabla_x f(x_t) \rangle$$

$$s_t = \arg\min_{\substack{s \in M \\ \parallel \\ A\tilde{M}}} \langle s, \nabla_x f(x_t) \rangle$$

$$\underline{\underline{s_t = A\tilde{s}_t}} \quad (\text{modulo tie breaking})$$

$$\tilde{s}_t = A\tilde{s}_t$$

$\Rightarrow$ we want affine invariant analysis

Curvature constant

$$C_f \triangleq \sup_{\substack{\delta \in [1, L] \\ x, s \in \mathcal{M}}} \frac{2}{\delta^2} \left[f(x_\delta) - (f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), x_\delta - x \rangle) \right]$$

$x_\delta = (1-\delta)x + \delta s$
step-size
potential FW step

worst-case deviation from linear approximation

this is
affine invariant
 $\Rightarrow C_f$ is aff. inv.

$\rightarrow$ we'll get an affine invariant descent lemma