

Lecture 16 - FW & AFW

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 14:19

today: • properties of FW
• AFW alg.

Properties of FW

$$1) f(x_t) - \min_{x \in M} f(x) = f^* \quad O\left(\frac{1}{t}\right)$$

$$2) \text{FW-gap } g_t \geq f(x_t) - f^* \rightarrow \text{certificate of subopt.}$$

$$\min_{s \leq t} g_s \leq O\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \quad [\text{ie. will stop in } O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) \text{ iterations.}]$$

$$3) x_t = p_0^t x_0 + \sum_{u=1}^t p_u^t s_{u-1} \quad \leadsto x_t \text{ has a "sparse" expansion in terms of the FW corners } \{s_u\}_{u=1}^{t-1}$$

where $\sum_u p_u^t = 1$
 $p_u^t \geq 0$

⊛ ⊛ "sparse method"
→ popular in ML

→ see later how to apply on dual of SVM struct

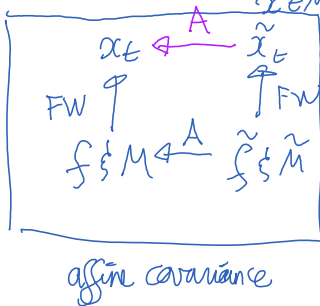
$$4) \text{there is a } \Omega\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \text{ lower bound for FW-like methods for } t \leq d$$

$$5) \text{FW is affine covariant (like Newton's method):}$$

$$\text{let } \tilde{M} \text{ be a new constraint set s.t. } \tilde{M} \xrightarrow{A} M \quad \text{ie. } M = A\tilde{M}$$

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

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



if run FW on $\tilde{f} \mid \tilde{M}$ to get $\tilde{x}_t$ as iterates

then $x_t \triangleq A\tilde{x}_t$ corresponds to running FW on $f \mid M$
(modulo tie breaking)

why? → inner product with gradient

$$\tilde{s}_t = \arg \min \langle \tilde{s}, D_{\tilde{x}} \tilde{f}(\tilde{x}) \rangle \quad x_+ \triangleq A\tilde{x}_+$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{s} \in \tilde{M} & \quad \langle \tilde{s}, A^T \nabla_x f(x_t) \rangle \\ & \quad \langle A\tilde{s}, \nabla_x f(x_t) \rangle \\ & \quad \underset{s=A\tilde{s}}{\langle s, \nabla_x f(x_t) \rangle} \\ s_t = \arg \min_{\substack{s \in M \\ = A\tilde{M}}} & \quad \Rightarrow \underline{s_t = A\tilde{s}_t} \quad (\text{modulo tie breaking}) \\ & \quad \tilde{s}_t = A^T s_t \\ & \quad \uparrow \\ & \quad \text{set of fcs} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$ we want an affine invariant analysis

$$\leadsto C_S \leq L \| \cdot \| (\text{diam}_{\| \cdot \|}(M))^2 \text{ for any } \| \cdot \|$$

affine invariant constant (we'll see later)

6) convergence for non-convex f

asides necessary first order condition for constrained opt.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in M} f(x) \quad x^* \text{ is a local min} \\ \Rightarrow \langle \nabla f(x^*), s - x^* \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall s \in M \end{aligned}$$



"stationary pt." for const. opt. problem

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow \min_{s \in M} \langle \nabla f(x^*), s - x^* \rangle \geq 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow \max_{s \in M} \langle -\nabla f(x^*), s - x^* \rangle \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

FW gap(x*)
quantify the 'non-stationarity'

(if f & M are convex, then this is a sufficient condition for global min)

see L.-J. 2016 article

$$\min_{s \in M} \text{gap}(x_s) \leq O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\right) \text{ for FW with line search}$$

"non-convex FW"
f is L-smooth and lower bounded
M bounded & convex
but f is not nec. convex

15h23

away-step FW

comment: $x_t = \sum_u \overset{\text{"coordinate"}}{p_u^t} s_u$

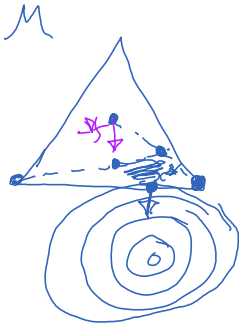
$$\begin{aligned} x_{t+1} &= (1-\gamma_t) x_t + \gamma_t s_t \\ &= \sum_u \underline{p_u^t} (1-\gamma_t) s_u + \gamma_t s_t \end{aligned}$$

u
 $P_u^{t+1} \rightarrow$ previous coordinates shrunk by $(1-\delta_t)$

* FW step moves mass uniformly away from active set S_t to FW corner S_t

$\rightarrow$ unless step-size $\delta_t \rightarrow 1$, FW never removes a corner from active set / expansion

$\Rightarrow$ Zig-zag phenomenon close to boundary on polytopes



(this is why you get $\Omega(\frac{1}{t})$ rate even if f is μ -strongly convex)

$$\left\langle \frac{-\nabla f(x_t)}{\|\nabla f(x_t)\|}, \frac{d_t}{\|d_t\|} \right\rangle \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

* but FW has no problem

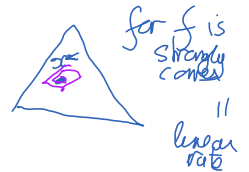
on "strongly convex" sets

$\rightarrow$ subset of a strongly convex set

when sol'n is in the relative interior of M



$\Rightarrow$ linear convergence rate $O(\exp(-\delta t))$



for f is strongly convex

"linear rate"

away-step FW fix: (solves zig-zagging problem)

in addition to compute FW corner

$$S_t = \arg \min_{s \in M} \langle s, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle$$

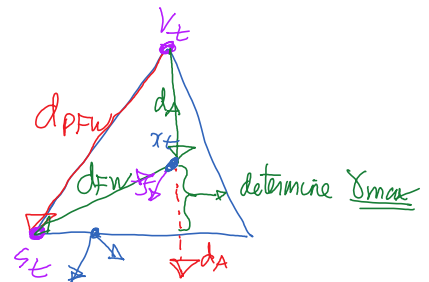
also compute the "away corner"

$$V_t = \arg \max_{s \in \text{activeset}(x_t)} \langle s, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle$$

$$d_{FW} = S_t - x_t$$

$$d_A \triangleq x_t - V_t$$

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



* AFW picks direction with best inner product with ∇f

$$\int \text{ie pick } d_A \text{ if } \underbrace{\langle d_A, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle}_{\text{"}Q_A\text{"}} > \underbrace{\langle d_{FW}, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle}_{Q_{FW}}$$

i.e. pick d_A if $\underbrace{\langle \alpha_A, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle}_{"g_A"} < \langle \alpha_{FW}, \nabla f(x_t) \rangle$
 o.w. pick d_{FW}

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

* if use d_A , let $\gamma_t = \arg \min_{\gamma \in [0, \gamma_{\max}]}$ $f(x_t + \gamma d_A)$
 where $\gamma_{\max}$ depends on p_u coefficients

i.e. suppose $\alpha_t = \sum_u \alpha_u s_u$
 $x_{t+1} = x_t + \gamma_t \underbrace{d_A}_{\alpha_t - v_t}$
 $= \sum_u (1 + \gamma_t \alpha_u) s_u - \gamma_t v_t$
 let α be coeff. of v_t in expansion for α_t

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1 + \gamma) \alpha - \gamma &\geq 0 \\
 (1 + \gamma_{\max}) \alpha - \gamma_{\max} &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \gamma_{\max} &= \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha}
 \end{aligned}$$

* when $\gamma_t = \gamma_{\max}$

call this a "drop step" $\rightarrow$ removing v_t from expansion

(*) when run AFW algo:

either you maintain some expansion $x_t = \sum_u p_u s_u$

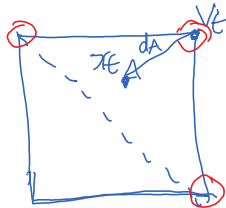
or
 you have a feasibility oracle + away-step oracle
 get $\gamma_{\max}$ get v_t

[see NIPS 2016 paper by Meshi & Gonen]

$\rightarrow$ they assume $\text{corners}(M) \subseteq \{0, 1\}^d$

and

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



$\rightarrow$ assumption needed for convergence result

AFW has linear convergence rate on polytopes when f is strongly convex (vs. FW $\rightarrow O(\frac{1}{t})$)

* combine d_{FW} & $d_A \rightarrow$ pairwise FW direction

$$d_{FW} = d_{FW} + d_A = s_t - \cancel{x_t} + \cancel{x_t} - v_t = \underbrace{s_t - v_t}_{d_{FW}}$$

$$\underbrace{\langle -\nabla f(x_t), d_{FW} \rangle}_{g_{FW}} = g_{FW} + g_A \quad g_{FW} + g_A \leq 2 \max \dots$$

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

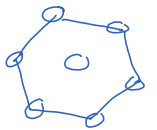
$$g_t \geq \frac{g_{FW}}{2}$$

⊗ 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 applications in ML

where LMO is efficient



e.g.: $A \leftrightarrow$ integer flows

$\text{conv}(A) \rightarrow$ flow polytope

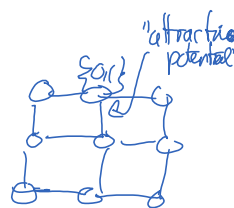
LMO $\rightarrow$ min cost network algorithm

• $A \rightarrow$ clique assignments in graph

$\text{conv}(A) \rightarrow$ marginal polytope

$$(\delta_{yc})_{c \in C}$$

LMO $\rightarrow$ max product alg.



or
Graph cut alg.
for Ising model with attractive potential
("Associative Markov network")
($\rightarrow$ "submodular potentials")
(see later)