# An Introduction to Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers (ADMM)

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#### Distributed Optimization and Statistical Learning via the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers

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Stephen Boyd and Lieven Vandenberghe

Convex Optimization

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Prom Dual Asent to ADMM





## Lagrangian Duality

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### 3 Why ADMM

### ADMM in CliPP

#### **Primary Problem**

$$\begin{split} \min_{x} f(x) \\ \text{s.t.} h_i(x) &\leq 0, i \in \{1, \cdots, I\} \\ \ell_j(x) &= 0, j \in \{1, \cdots, J\} \end{split}$$

- The objective function f(x) usually has poor properties (non-convex or no Lipschitz continuity).
- The feasible region is not always a convex set.

#### Lagrangian of the Primary Problem

$$L(x,\lambda,\nu) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{I} \lambda_i h_i(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{J} \nu_j \ell_j(x),$$

where  $\lambda, \nu$  are Lagrangian multipliers. **Dual function** 

$$g(\lambda,\nu) = \inf_{x \in \operatorname{dom} f} (f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{I} \lambda_i h_i(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{J} \nu_j \ell_j(x)).$$

Note that,  $g(\lambda, \nu)$  is concave w.r.t  $\lambda, \nu$ , and the above infimum is taken over the domain of f.

# A brief introduction to Lagrangian Duality

#### **Primary Problem**

#### **Dual Problem**

 $egin{aligned} &\min_x \, f(x) \ & ext{s.t.} \, h_i(x) \leq 0, i \in \{1, \cdots, I\} \ & ext{$\ell_j(x) = 0, j \in \{1, \cdots, J\}$} \end{aligned} \qquad egin{aligned} &\max_{\lambda, 
u} \, g(\lambda, 
u) \ & ext{s.t.} \, \lambda \geq 0. \end{aligned}$ 

The dual problem is much easier to solve, as it is a convex optimization with linear constraints.

Saddle Point Visualization:  $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ 









### ADMM in CliPP

### Dual Asent

Consider an easier problem  $\min_x f(x)$  s.t. Ax = b. Its dual function is

$$g(y) = \inf_{x \in \text{dom}f} f(x) + y^T (Ax - b).$$

The gradient of g(y) is  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = Ax^* - b$ 

#### The dual asent algorithm is

- Initialize dual guess  $y^{(0)}$
- repeat for k = 1, 2, 3, ...
   x<sup>(k)</sup> = arg min<sub>x∈domf</sub> f(x) + (y<sup>(k-1)</sup>)<sup>T</sup>Ax
   y<sup>(k)</sup> = y<sup>(k-1)</sup> + t<sub>k</sub>(Ax<sup>(k)</sup> b)



The disadvantage of dual ascent is that it requires strong conditions to ensure convergence, i.e., convexity and Lipschitz continuity, etc. (It can be considered similar to the gradient descent algorithm.) We propose a new primal problem

$$\min_{x} f(x) + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax - b||_{2}^{2}$$
  
s.t.  $Ax = b$ 

The benefit that comes with the quadratic penalty term is that we can always adjust  $\rho$  such that the objective function is convex (under mild assumptions), as long as matrix A has full column rank.

$$\min_{x} f(x) + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax - b||_{2}^{2}$$
  
s.t.  $Ax = b$ 

- Initialize dual guess y<sup>(0)</sup>
- repeat for *k* = 1, 2, 3, · · ·
  - $x^{(k)} = \arg\min_{x \in \text{domf}} f(x) + (y^{(k-1)})^T Ax + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax b||_2^2$ •  $y^{(k)} = y^{(k-1)} + t_k (Ax^{(k)} - b)$

# Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers (ADMM)

Consider the problem

$$\min_{x,z} f(x) + g(z)$$
  
s.t.  $Ax + Bz = c$ 

The augmented Lagrangian is

$$L_{\rho}(x, z, u) = f(x) + g(z) + u^{T}(Ax + Bz - c) + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax + Bz - c||_{2}^{2}$$

The algorithm is

• repeat for 
$$k = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$$
  
•  $x^{(k)} = \arg \min_{x} L_{\rho}(x, z^{(k-1)}, u^{(k-1)})$   
•  $z^{(k)} = \arg \min_{z} L_{\rho}(x^{(k)}, z, u^{(k-1)})$   
•  $u^{(k)} = u^{(k-1)} + t_k(Ax^{(k)} + Bz^{(k)} - c)$ 

### Lagrangian Duality

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### ADMM in CliPP

# Divide and Conquer

It can split a large problem into a series of subproblems. Usually, each subproblem has a closed form solution. Consider problem

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

We can transform it into

$$\min_{x} f(x) + g(z), \text{ s.t. } Ax - z = 0.$$

$$L_{\rho}(x, z, u) = f(x) + g(z) + u^{T}(Ax + Bz - c) + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax + Bz - c||_{2}^{2}$$

• repeat for 
$$k = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$$
  
•  $x^{(k)} = \arg \min_x g(z) + (u^{(k-1)})^T Ax + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax + Bz^{(k-1)} - c||_2^2$   
•  $z^{(k)} = \arg \min_z f(x) + (u^{(k-1)})^T Bz + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax^{(k)} + Bz - c||_2^2$   
•  $u^{(k)} = u^{(k-1)} + t_k (Ax^{(k)} + Bz^{(k)} - c)$ 

# Distributed Optimization

Given  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ , we have the group lasso problem as

$$\min_{\beta} \frac{1}{2} ||y - X\beta||_{2}^{2} + \lambda \sum_{g=1}^{G} c_{g} ||\beta_{g}||_{2}$$

Rewrite as

$$\min_{\alpha,\beta} \frac{1}{2} ||y - X\beta||_2^2 + \lambda \sum_{g=1}^G c_g ||\alpha_g||_2, \text{ s.t. } \beta - \alpha = 0.$$

ADMM steps:

• repeat for 
$$k = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$$
  
•  $\beta^{(k)} = (X^T X + \rho I)^{-1} (X^T y + \rho(\alpha^{(k-1)} - \omega^{(k-1)}))$   
• for  $g = 1, \cdots, G$  do in parallel  
•  $\alpha_g^{(k)} = R_{c_g \lambda / \rho} (\beta^{(k)} + \omega_g^{(k-1)})$   
•  $\omega^{(k)} = \omega^{(k-1)} + \beta^{(k)} - \alpha^{(k)}$ 

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# ADMM in CliPP

The problem, eq.(8), in CliPP is

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \ -\ell(\boldsymbol{\omega}) + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq s} p_{\lambda}(|\omega_i - \omega_j|).$$

Define  $\eta_{ij} = \omega_i - \omega_j$ , we can rewrite it as

$$\min_{oldsymbol{\omega},oldsymbol{\eta}} \ -\ell(oldsymbol{\omega}) + \sum_{1\leq i < j \leq s} p_\lambda(|\eta_{ij}|).$$

Then the augmented Lagrangian is

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(oldsymbol{\omega},oldsymbol{\eta},oldsymbol{ au},\lambda) &= -\,\ell(oldsymbol{\omega}) + \sum_{1\leq i < j \leq s} p_\lambda(|\eta_{ij}|) + rac{lpha}{2} \sum_{1\leq i < j \leq s} (\eta_{ij} - \omega_i - \omega_j)^2 \ &- \sum_{1\leq i < j \leq s} au_{ij}(\eta_{ij} - \omega_i - \omega_j). \end{aligned}$$

• repeat for  $k = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$ • eq.(S3)  $\omega^{(k)} = (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{B} + \alpha \mathbf{\Delta}^T \mathbf{\Delta})^{-1} [\alpha \mathbf{\Delta}^T (\mathbf{\eta}^{(k-1)} - \mathbf{\tau}^{(k-1)}) - \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{A}]$ • eq.(S4)  $\eta^{(k)}_{ij} = \arg \min_{\eta_{ij}} \frac{\alpha}{2} (\delta_{ij} - \eta_{ij})^2 + p_{\lambda} (|\eta_{ij}|)$ • eq.(S5)  $\mathbf{\tau}^{(k)} = \mathbf{\tau}^{(k-1)} - \alpha (\mathbf{\Delta} \omega^{(k)} - \mathbf{\eta}^{(k)})$ 

#### https://github.com/wwylab/CliPP/blob/master/src/kernel.cpp

> 264 265 266

268 269

• Update  $\omega$ 

- Update  $\eta$
- ullet Update au

linear = DELTA * (alpha * eta_old + tau_new) - B.cwiseProduct(A);
<pre>Winw = 1.0 / ((B.cwiseProduct(8)).array() + double(Wo_mutation) * alpha); Winw_diag = Winw.asDiagonal();</pre>
<pre>trace_p = -ilpla * Kinv.se(); ff(isen(trace_p)) std::cont &lt;= lambds : " &lt;&lt; Lambda &lt;&lt; "\timertion: " &lt;&lt; k &lt;&lt; "\timertion" &lt;&lt; std::end; return -1; }</pre>
<pre>Minv_outer = Ninv * (Minv.transpose());</pre>
<pre>inverted = Minv_diag.array() - 1.0 / (1.0 + trace_g) * (-alpha) * Minv_outer.array(); w_new = inverted * linear;</pre>

eta\_sew(i, 0) = temp \* tag1 + ST(temp, Lambda / alpha) \* tag2 + ST(temp, gamma \* Lambda / ((gamma - 1.0) \* alpha)) / (1.8 - 1.0 / ((gamma - 1.0) \* alpha)) \* tag3 \*tag4;

tau\_mew(i, 0) = tau\_old(i, 0) - alpha \* (w\_mew(ids(i, 0), 0) - w\_mew(ids(i, 1), 0) - eta\_mew(i, 0));

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Thank you! Questions? Stephen Boyd, Neal Parikh, Eric Chu, Borja Peleato, Jonathan Eckstein, et al.

Distributed optimization and statistical learning via the alternating direction method of multipliers.

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