IFT 6113 BACKGROUND: LINEAR ALGEBRA AND OPTIMIZATION

http://tiny.cc/ift6113



Mikhail Bessmeltsev

ROUGH PLAN

- (intro) Matrices and Eigenvalues
- Linear problems
- Unconstrained optimization
- Equality-constrained optimization
- Variational problems

ON THE BOARD

- Vectors
- inner products and norms
- affine and vector spaces
- function spaces

How are those matrices special?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(0.4) & -\sin(0.4) & 0 \\
\sin(0.4) & \cos(0.4) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & 3 \\
0 & 1 & 4 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

How are those matrices special?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Diagonal

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Symmetric $A = A^T$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Skew-symmetric $A^T = -A$

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(0.4) & -\sin(0.4) & 0 \\
\sin(0.4) & \cos(0.4) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

Orthogonal $A^{-1} = A^T$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Upper triangular

What is the geometric meaning of those?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Diagonal

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(0.4) & -\sin(0.4) & 0 \\
\sin(0.4) & \cos(0.4) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

Orthogonal
$$A^{-1} = A^T$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Upper triangular

INTRO TO INTRO

What is the geometric meaning of those?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Non-uniform scaling

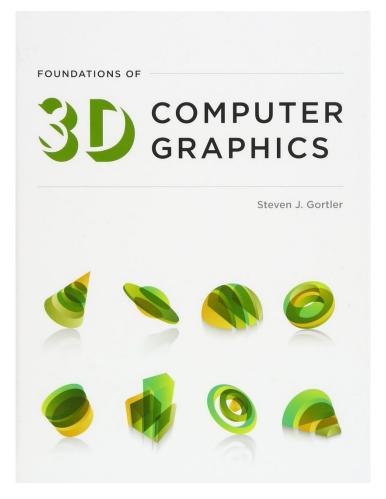
$$\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(0.4) & -\sin(0.4) & 0 \\
\sin(0.4) & \cos(0.4) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

Rotation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Translation in 2D*

NO IDEA WHAT THOSE ARE?



https://umontreal.on.worldcat.org/oclc/829434522
Free online at UdeM library
Chapters I.3, I.4

EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS

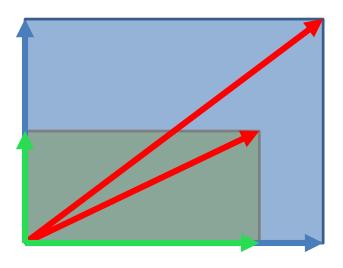
$$Ax = \lambda x$$

EIGENVECTORS/VALUES

Geometric meaning?

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

Vectors which **only** scale



DIAGONAL MATRICES

- Those are the eigenvalues!
- Scaling along coordinate axes
- $\Theta(n)$ space to store (just *n* of course)
- O(n) time to invert

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & -2 & \\ & & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$
 Diagonal

SYMMETRIC MATRICES

- All eigenvalues are real
- All eigenvectors are orthogonal

Can be diagonalized by an orthogonal matrix: $D = Q^{T} \mathbf{A} Q$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$
Symmetric
$$A = A^{T}$$

ORTHOGONAL MATRICES

- $AA^T = I$
- Columns have zero dot product
- Doesn't change length of vectors or angles between them (*isometry*)
- Determinant is ±1

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(0.4) & -\sin(0.4) & 0 \\
\sin(0.4) & \cos(0.4) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

Orthogonal
$$A^{-1} = A^T$$

- Geometric transformations
- Linear operators on (discrete) functions

MATRIX IS POSITIVE SEMIDEFINITE

$$A \geqslant 0$$



All eigenvalues are nonnegative

Geometric meaning?

ROUGH PLAN

- (intro) Matrices and Eigenvalues
- Linear problems
- Unconstrained optimization
- Equality-constrained optimization
- Variational problems

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$
s.t. $g(x) = 0$

$$h(x) \ge 0$$

MOTIVATION

Numerical problems are everywhere in geometric modeling!

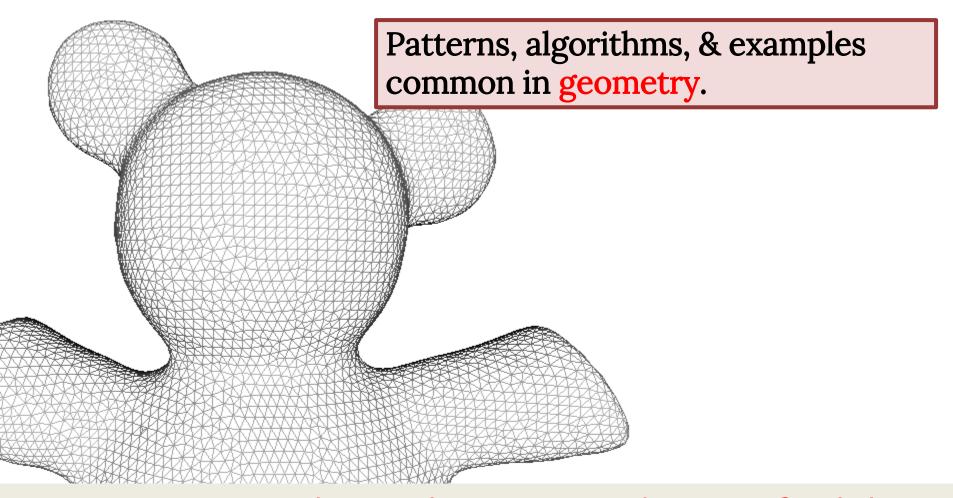
Quick summary!

Mostly for common ground: You may already know this material. First half is important; remainder summarizes interesting recent tools.

ROUGH PLAN

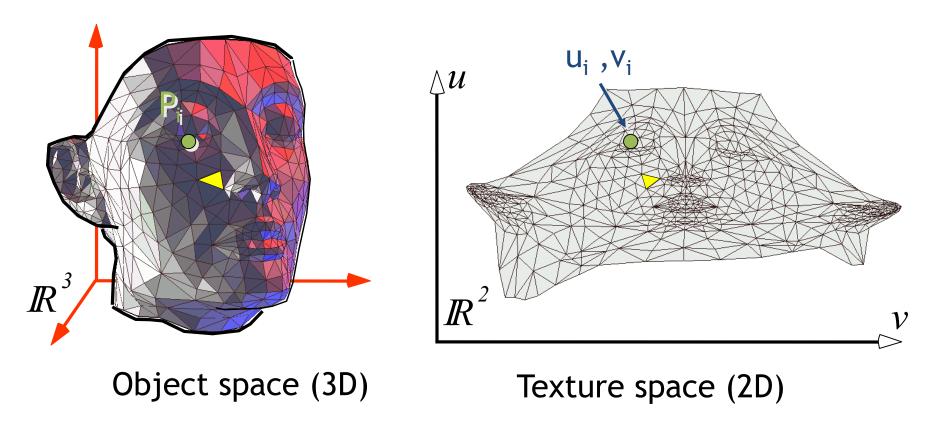
- (intro) Matrices and Eigenvalues
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OUR BIAS



Numerical analysis is a huge field.

How to flatten a mesh?





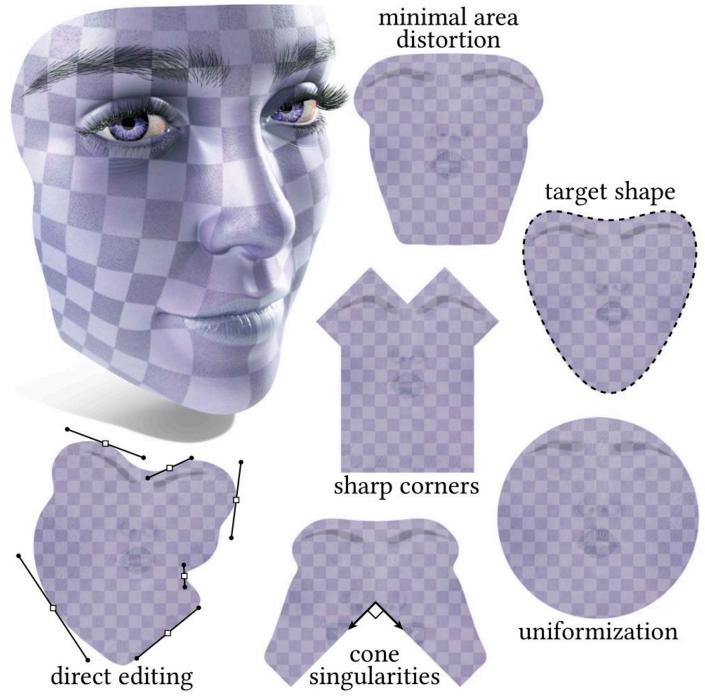
How to flatten a mesh?

$$\min_{u_i,v_i\in\mathbb{R}^2} f(u_1,v_1,\ldots,u_n,v_n)$$

Fit a target 2D shape?

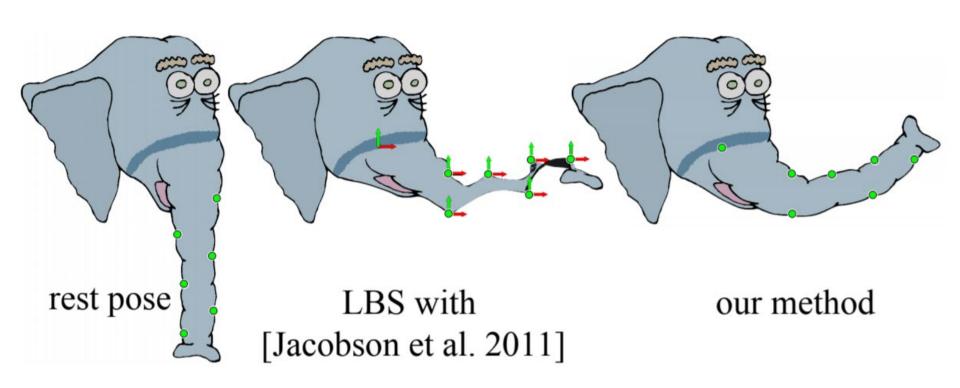
Triangle distortion?

More sharp corners?



"Boundary First Flattening" by Rohan Sawhney and Keenan Crane

How to animate a character?



How to animate a character?

$$\min_{\substack{x_i, y_i \in \mathbb{R}^2}} f(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n)$$
s.t. $x_j - x_j' = 0$

$$y_j - y_j' = 0$$
Known positions

Triangle distortion?

Some smoothness?

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$
s.t. $g(x) = 0$

$$h(x) \ge 0$$

Objective function (*Energy*)

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$
s.t. $g(x) = 0$

$$h(x) \ge 0$$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$

Equality constraints

s.t.
$$g(x) = 0$$

 $h(x) \ge 0$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$
s.t. $g(x) = 0$

$$h(x) \ge 0$$

Inequality constraints

$$Ax = b \qquad \Leftrightarrow \quad \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} ||Ax - b||_2^2$$

$$Ax = \lambda x \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \frac{\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} ||Ax||_2^2}{\text{s.t. } ||x|| - 1 = 0}$$

VECTOR SPACES AND LINEAR OPERATORS

$$\mathcal{L}[\vec{x} + \vec{y}] = \mathcal{L}[\vec{x}] + \mathcal{L}[\vec{y}]$$

$$\mathcal{L}[c\vec{x}] = c\mathcal{L}[\vec{x}]$$

EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

Discrete (matrix)

or

$$\mathcal{L}[f(x)] = \lambda f(x)$$

Continuous (operator)

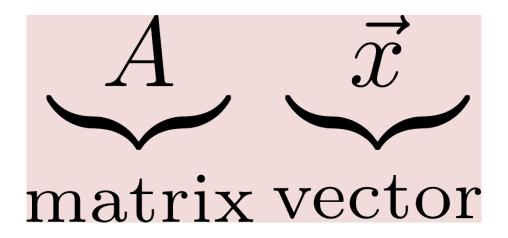
ABSTRACT EXAMPLE

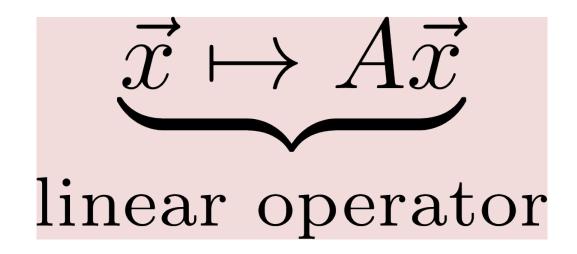
$$C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$$

$$\mathcal{L}[f] := df/dx$$

Eigenvectors?

IN FINITE DIMENSIONS





LINEAR SYSTEM OF EQUATIONS

$$\left(\begin{array}{c}A\end{array}\right)\left(\vec{x}\right)=\left(\vec{b}\right)$$

Simple "inverse problem"

COMMON STRATEGIES

- Gaussian elimination
 - $O(n^3)$ time to solve Ax=b or to invert
- But: Inversion is unstable and slower!

• Never ever compute A⁻¹ if you can avoid it.

SIMPLE EXAMPLE

$$\frac{d^2f}{dx^2} = g, f(0) = f(1) = 0$$

Discretization?

On the board

SIMPLE EXAMPLE

$$\frac{d^2f}{dx^2} = g, f(0) = f(1) = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & & & & & \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & & & & \\ & 1 & -2 & 1 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & \\ & & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ & & & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ \vdots \\ g_n \end{pmatrix}$$

STRUCTURE?

$$\begin{pmatrix}
-2 & 1 \\
1 & -2 & 1 \\
& 1 & -2 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$1 & -2 & 1 \\
& 1 & -2$$

LINEAR SOLVER CONSIDERATIONS

- Never construct A^{-1} explicitly (if you can avoid it)
- Added structure helps
 Sparsity, symmetry, positive definiteness, bandedness

$$inv(A)*b \ll (A'*A) \setminus (A'*b) \ll A \setminus b$$

LINEAR SYSTEMS: SOLVERS

- Direct (explicit matrix)
 - Dense: Gaussian elimination/LU, QR for leastsquares
 - Sparse: Reordering (SuiteSparse, Eigen)
- Iterative (apply matrix repeatedly)
 - Positive definite: Conjugate gradients
 - Symmetric: MINRES, GMRES
 - Generic: LSQR

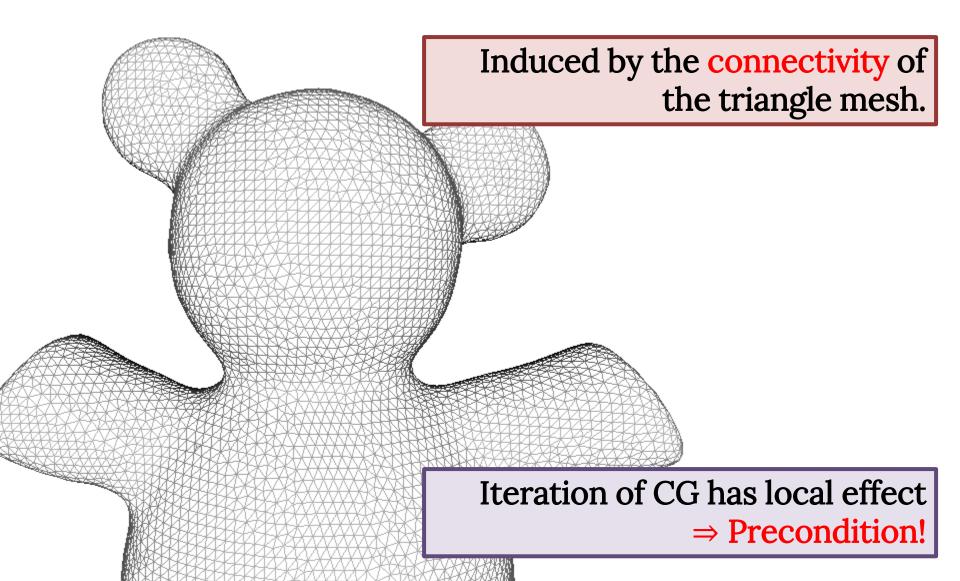
GENERIC ADVICE

Generic tools are often not too effective!

GENERIC ADVICE

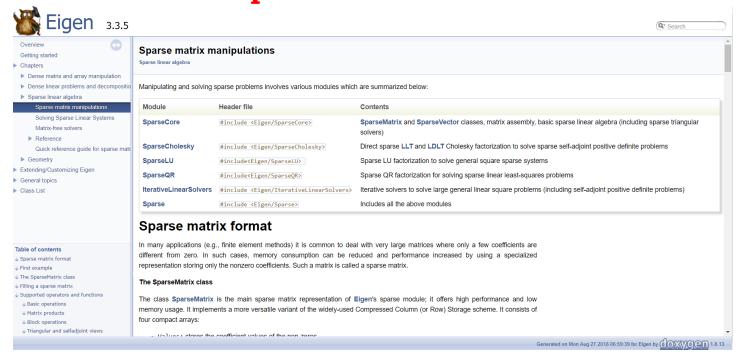
Try the simplest solver first.

VERY COMMON: SPARSITY



FOR IFT 6113

- No need to implement a linear solver
- If a matrix is sparse, your code should store it as a sparse matrix!



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UNCONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION

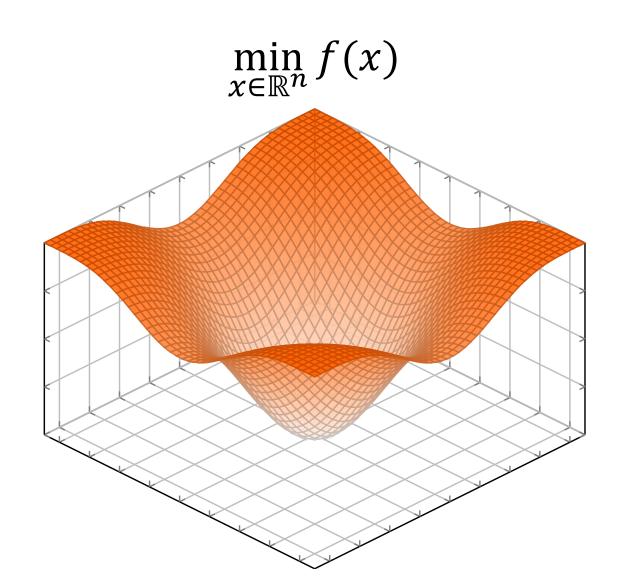
$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$

Trivial when f(x) is linear

Easy when f(x) is quadratic

Hard in case of generic non-linear.

UNCONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION



$$f(x,y) = 3x^{2} - y$$

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right) = (6x, -1)$$

Geometric meaning?

Gradient

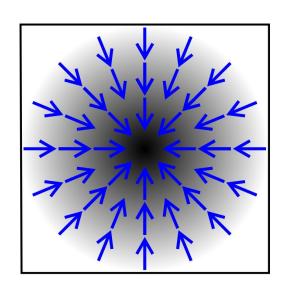
$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$$

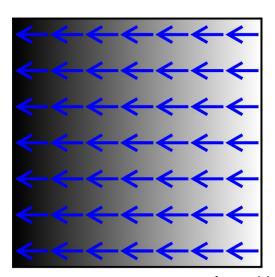
$$\rightarrow \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}\right)$$

Gradient

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$$

$$\rightarrow \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}\right)$$





https://en.wikipedia.org/?title=Gradient

Gradient

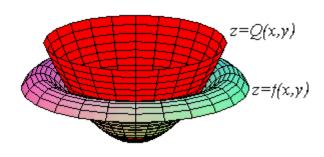
$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\to (Df)_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$$

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacobian_matrix_and_determinant

Jacobian

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R} \to H_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$$

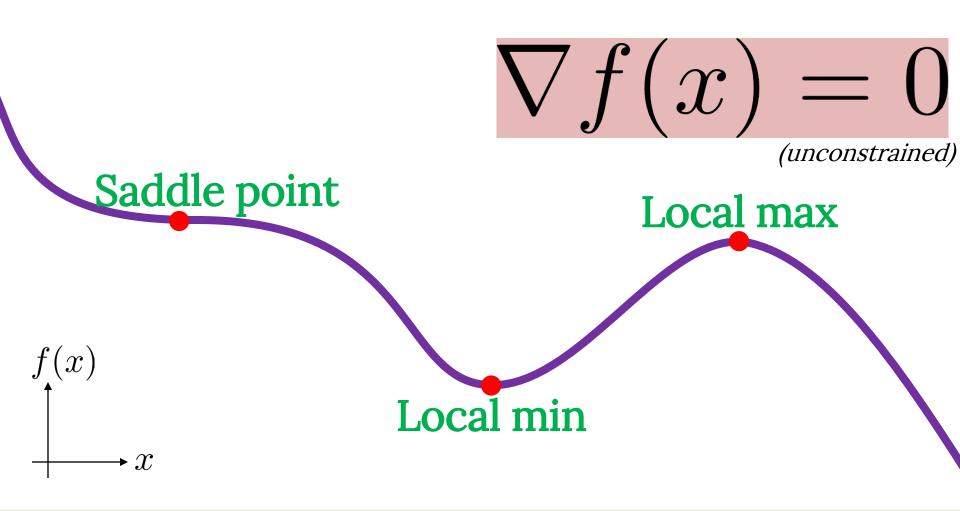


$$f(x) \approx f(x_0) + \nabla f(x_0)^{\top} (x - x_0) + (x - x_0)^{\top} H f(x_0) (x - x_0)$$

http://math.etsu.edu/multicalc/prealpha/Chap2/Chap2-5/10-3a-t3.gif

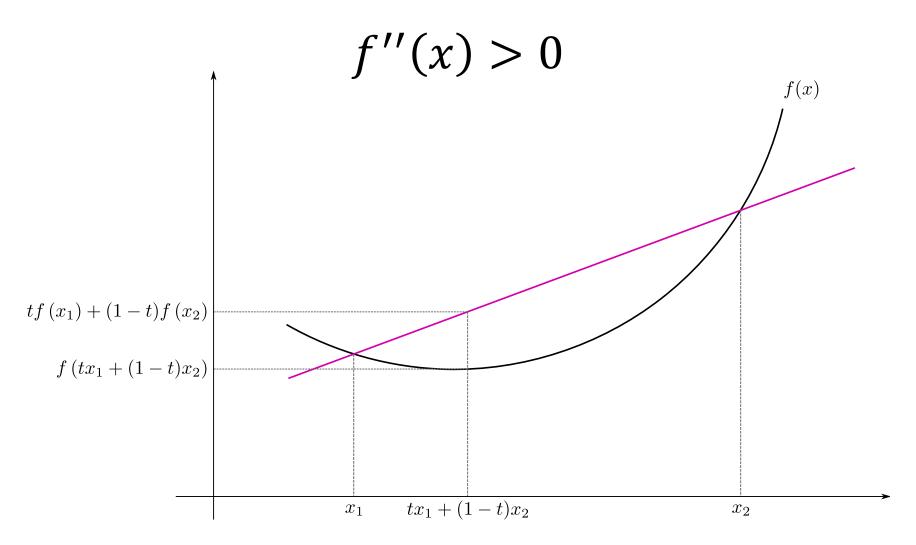
Hessian

OPTIMIZATION TO ROOT-FINDING



Critical point

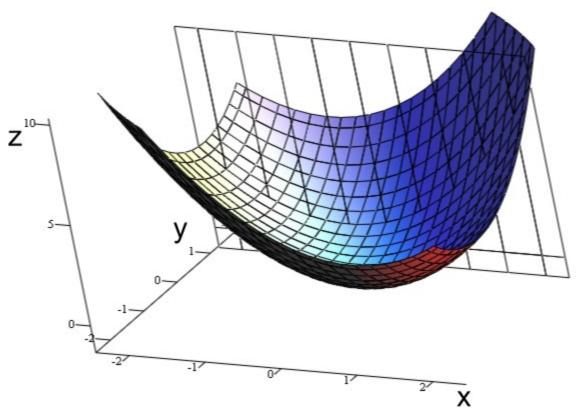
CONVEX FUNCTIONS



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convex_function

CONVEX FUNCTIONS

$$H(x) \geqslant 0$$



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convex_function

SPECIAL CASE: LEAST-SQUARES

$$\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} ||Ax - b||_{2}^{2}$$

$$\to \min_{x} \frac{1}{2} x^{\top} A^{\top} A x - b^{\top} A x + \|b\|_{2}^{2}$$

$$\implies A^{\top}Ax = A^{\top}b$$

Normal equations (better solvers for this case!)

USEFUL DOCUMENT

The Matrix Cookbook

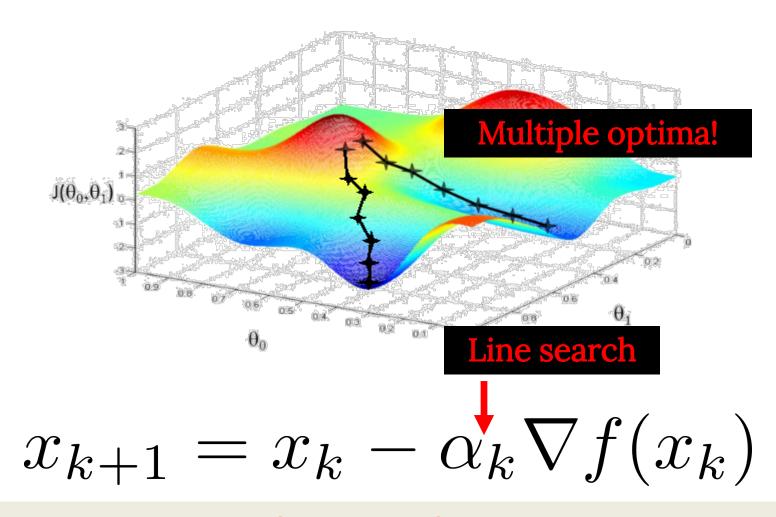
Petersen and Pedersen

http://www2.imm.dtu.dk/pubdb/views/edoc_download.php/3274/pdf/imm3274.pdf

UNCONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION

$$\min f(x)$$

$$x$$
Unstructured.



Gradient descent

$$\lambda_0 = 0, \lambda_s = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{1 + 4\lambda_{s-1}^2}), \gamma_s = \frac{1 - \lambda_2}{\lambda_{s+1}}$$

$$y_{s+1} = x_s - \frac{1}{\beta} \nabla f(x_s)$$

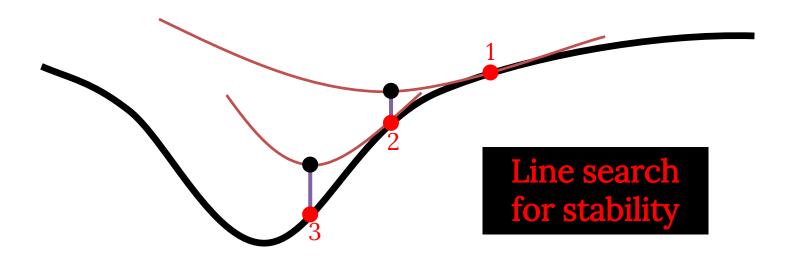
$$x_{s+1} = (1 - \gamma_s)y_{s+1} + \gamma_s y_s$$

Quadratic convergence on convex problems! (Nesterov 1983)

A very cool intro: https://distill.pub/2017/momentum/

Accelerated gradient descent

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - [Hf(x_k)]^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$$



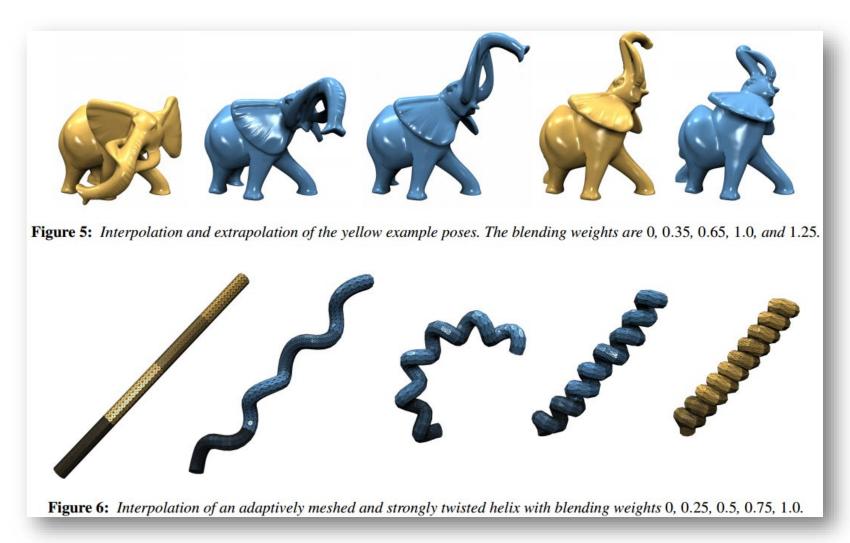
Newton's Method

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - M_k^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$$
Hessian approximation

- (Often sparse) approximation from previous samples and gradients
- Inverse in closed form!

Quasi-Newton: BFGS and friends

EXAMPLE: SHAPE INTERPOLATION



Fröhlich and Botsch. "Example-Driven Deformations Based on Discrete Shells." CGF 2011.

INTERPOLATION PIPELINE

Roughly:

1. Linearly interpolate edge lengths and dihedral angles.

$$\ell_e^* = (1 - t)\ell_e^0 + t\ell_e^1$$
$$\theta_e^* = (1 - t)\theta_e^0 + t\theta_e^1$$

2. Nonlinear optimization for vertex positions.

$$\min_{x_1,\ldots,x_m} \lambda \sum_e w_e (\ell_e(x) - \ell_e^*)^2$$

Sum of squares: Gauss-Newton

$$+ \mu \sum w_b(\theta_e(x) - \theta_e^*)^2$$

SOFTWARE

- Matlab: fminunc or minfunc
- C++: libLBFGS, dlib, others

Typically provide functions for function and gradient (and optionally, Hessian).

Try several!

SOME TRICKS

Lots of small elements:
$$||x||_2^2 = \sum_i x_i^2$$

Lots of zeros:
$$||x||_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$$

Uniform norm:
$$||x||_{\infty} = \max_i |x_i|$$

Low rank:
$$||X||_* = \sum_i \sigma_i$$

Mostly zero columns:
$$||X||_{2,1} = \sum_{j} \sqrt{\sum_{i} x_{ij}^2}$$

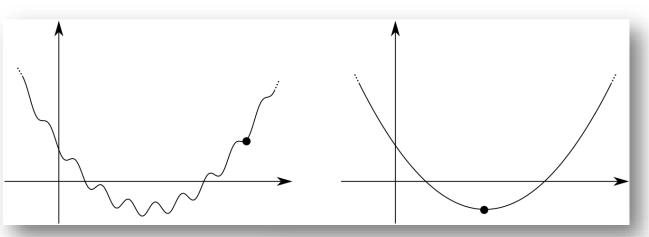
Smooth:
$$\int \|\nabla f\|_2^2$$

Piecewise constant:
$$\int \|\nabla f\|_2$$

???: Early stopping

Regularization

SOME TRICKS





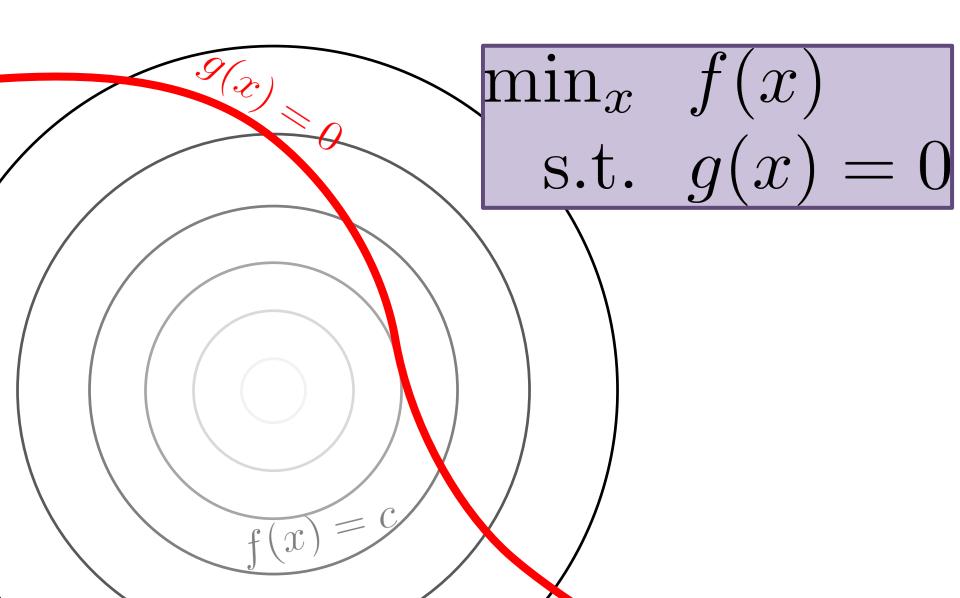


Multiscale/graduated optimization

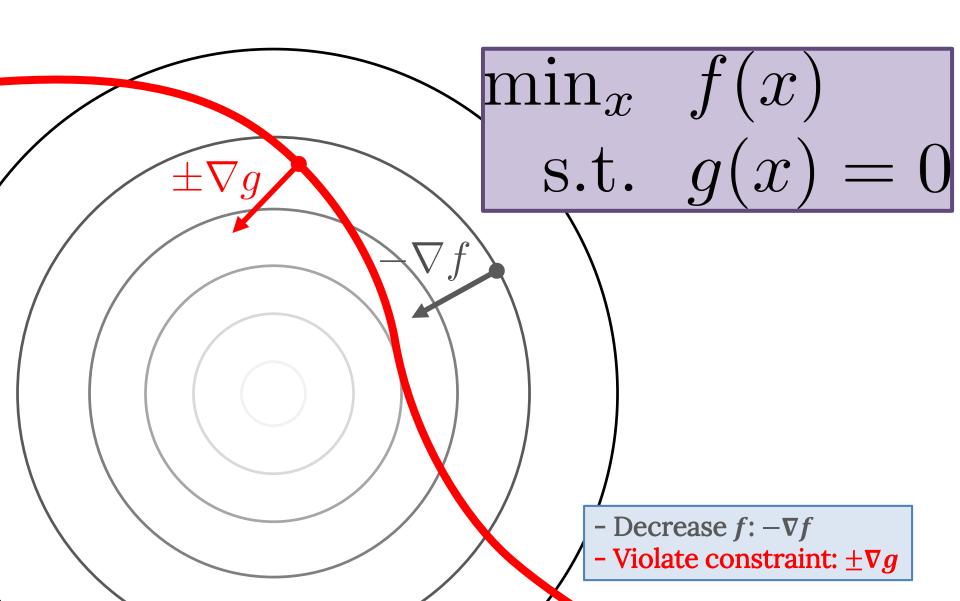
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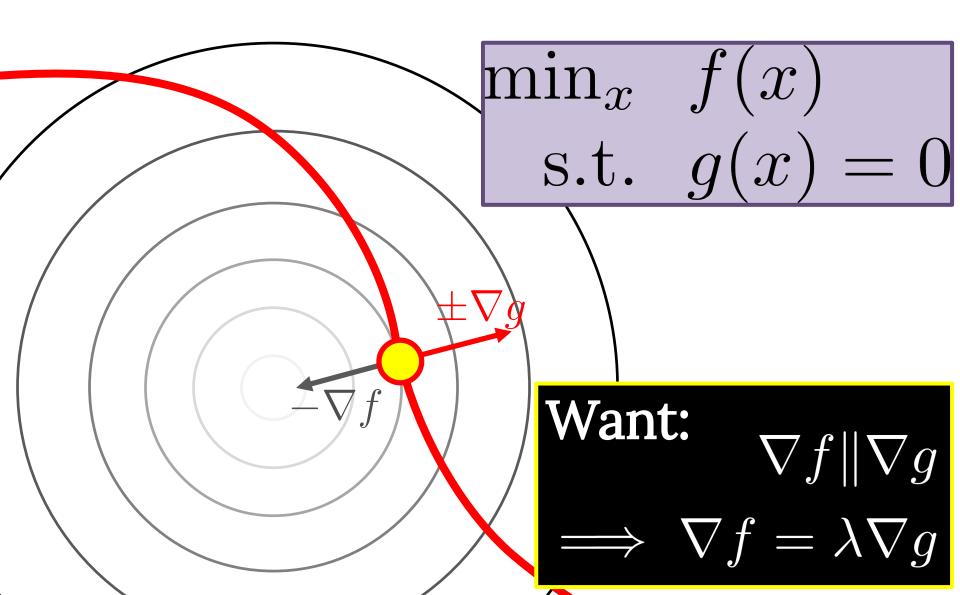
LAGRANGE MULTIPLIERS: IDEA



LAGRANGE MULTIPLIERS: IDEA



LAGRANGE MULTIPLIERS: IDEA



USE OF LAGRANGE MULTIPLIERS

Turns constrained optimization into unconstrained root-finding.

$$\nabla f(x) = \lambda \nabla g(x)$$
$$g(x) = 0$$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$

$$s.t. g(x) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} g(x) = 0$$

QUADRATIC WITH LINEAR EQUALITY

$$\min_{x} \quad \frac{1}{2}x^{\mathsf{T}}Ax - b^{\mathsf{T}}x + c$$

s.t.
$$Mx = v$$

(assume A is symmetric and positive definite)

QUADRATIC WITH LINEAR EQUALITY

$$\min_{x} \quad \frac{1}{2}x^{\top}Ax - b^{\top}x + c$$

s.t.
$$Mx = v$$

(assume A is symmetric and positive definite)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & M^{\top} \\ M & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$

$$s.t. g(x) = 0$$

$$nonlinear$$

MANY OPTIONS

Reparameterization

Eliminate constraints to reduce to unconstrained case

Newton's method

Approximation: quadratic function with linear constraint

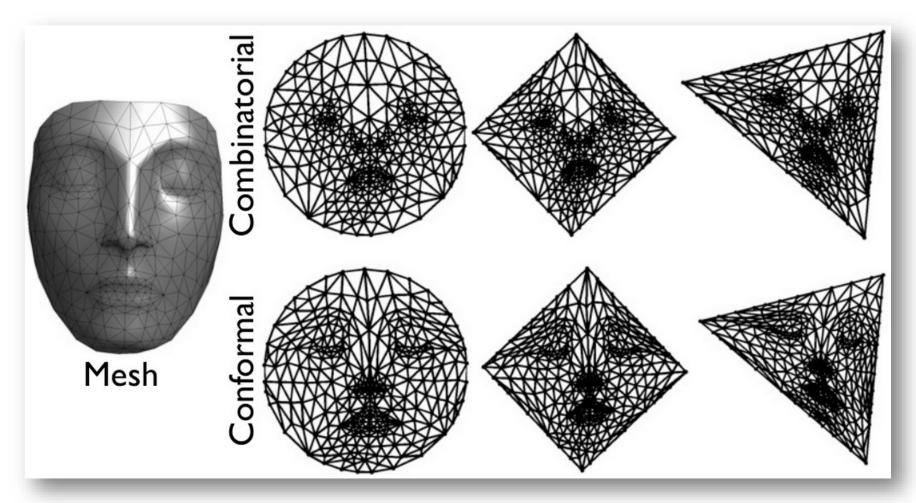
Penalty method

Augment objective with barrier term, e.g. $f(x) + \rho |g(x)|$

EXAMPLE: SYMMETRIC EIGENVECTORS

$$f(x) = x^{\top} Ax \implies \nabla f(x) = 2Ax$$
$$g(x) = ||x||_2^2 \implies \nabla g(x) = 2x$$
$$\implies Ax = \lambda x$$

EXAMPLE: MESH EMBEDDING



G. Peyré, mesh processing course slides

LINEAR SOLVE FOR EMBEDDING

$$x_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\min_{\substack{x_1, \dots, x_{|V|} \\ \text{s.t.}}} \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E}} w_{ij} ||x_i - x_j||_2^2$$

- $w_{ij} \equiv 1$: Tutte embedding
- w_{ij} from mesh: Harmonic embedding

Assumption: w symmetric.

$$\min_{x_1, \dots, x_{|V|}} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} ||x_i - x_j||_2^2$$
s.t. $x_v \text{ fixed } \forall v \in V_0$

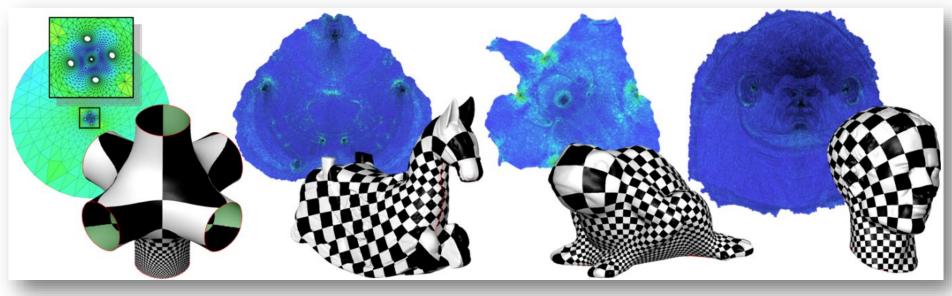
What if $V_0 = \{\}$?

NONTRIVIALITY CONSTRAINT

$$\left\{\begin{array}{cc} \min_{x} & \|Ax\|_{2} \\ \text{s.t.} & \|x\|_{2} = 1 \end{array}\right\} \mapsto A^{\top}Ax = \lambda x$$

Prevents trivial solution $x \equiv 0$.

Extract the smallest eigenvalue.



Mullen et al. "Spectral Conformal Parameterization." SGP 2008.

$$\min_{\substack{u \\ u^{\top}Be=0 \longleftarrow \textit{Easy fix} \\ u^{\top}Bu=1}} u^{\top} L_C u \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad L_c u = \lambda B u$$

BASIC IDEA OF EIGENALGORITHMS

$$A\vec{v} = c_1 A \vec{x}_1 + \dots + c_n A \vec{x}_n$$

$$= c_1 \lambda_1 \vec{x}_1 + \dots + c_n \lambda_n \vec{x}_n \text{ since } A \vec{x}_i = \lambda_i \vec{x}_i$$

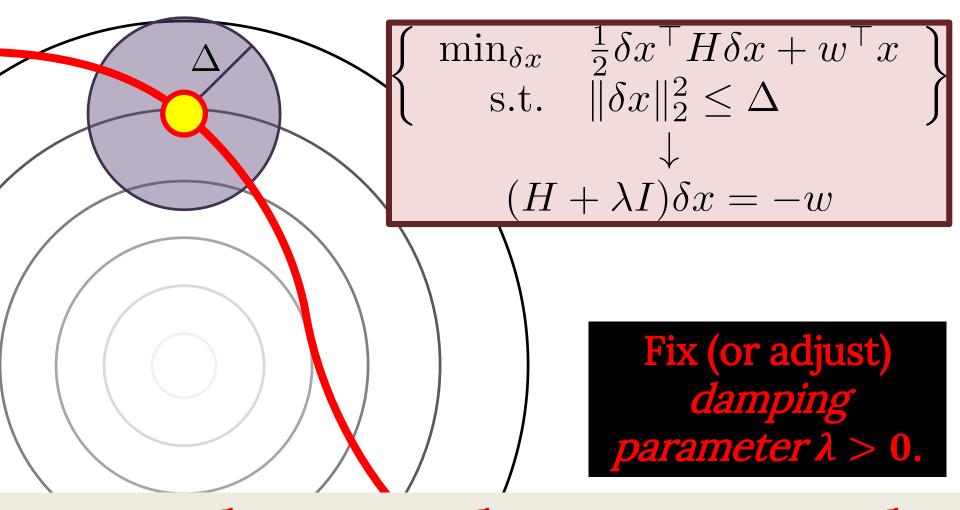
$$= \lambda_1 \left(c_1 \vec{x}_1 + \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} c_2 \vec{x}_2 + \dots + \frac{\lambda_n}{\lambda_1} c_n \vec{x}_n \right)$$

$$A^2 \vec{v} = \lambda_1^2 \left(c_1 \vec{x}_1 + \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \right)^2 c_2 \vec{x}_2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\lambda_n}{\lambda_1} \right)^2 c_n \vec{x}_n \right)$$

$$\vdots$$

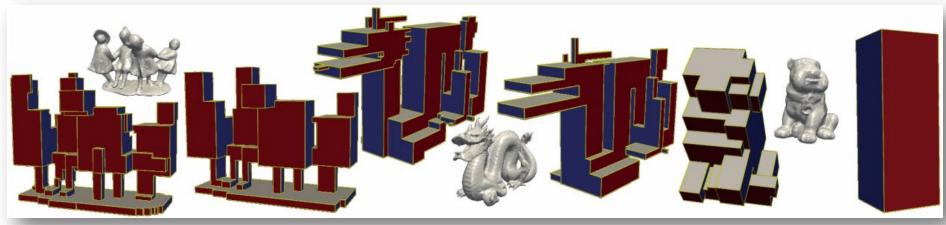
$$A^k \vec{v} = \lambda_1^k \left(c_1 \vec{x}_1 + \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \right)^k c_2 \vec{x}_2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\lambda_n}{\lambda_1} \right)^k c_n \vec{x}_n \right).$$

TRUST REGION METHODS



Example: Levenberg-Marquardt

EXAMPLE: POLYCUBE MAPS



Huang et al. "L1-Based Construction of Polycube Maps from Complex Shapes." TOG 2014.

Align with coordinate axes

$$\min_{X} \sum_{b_i} \mathcal{A}(b_i; X) \| n(b_i; X) \|_1$$

s.t.
$$\sum_{b_i} \mathcal{A}(b_i; X) = \sum_{b_i} \mathcal{A}(b_i; X_0)$$

Note: Final method includes more terms!

Preserve area



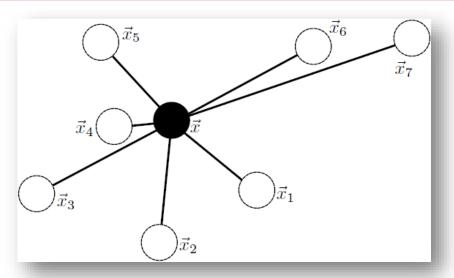
Convex Optimization Tools



Try lightweight options

ITERATIVELY REWEIGHTED LEAST SQUARES

$$\min_{x} \sum_{i} \phi(x^{\top} a_i + b_i) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \min_{x, y_i} & \sum_{i} y_i (x^{\top} a_i + b_i)^2 \\ \text{s.t.} & y_i = \phi(x^{\top} a_i + b_i) (x^{\top} a_i + b_i)^{-2} \end{cases}$$

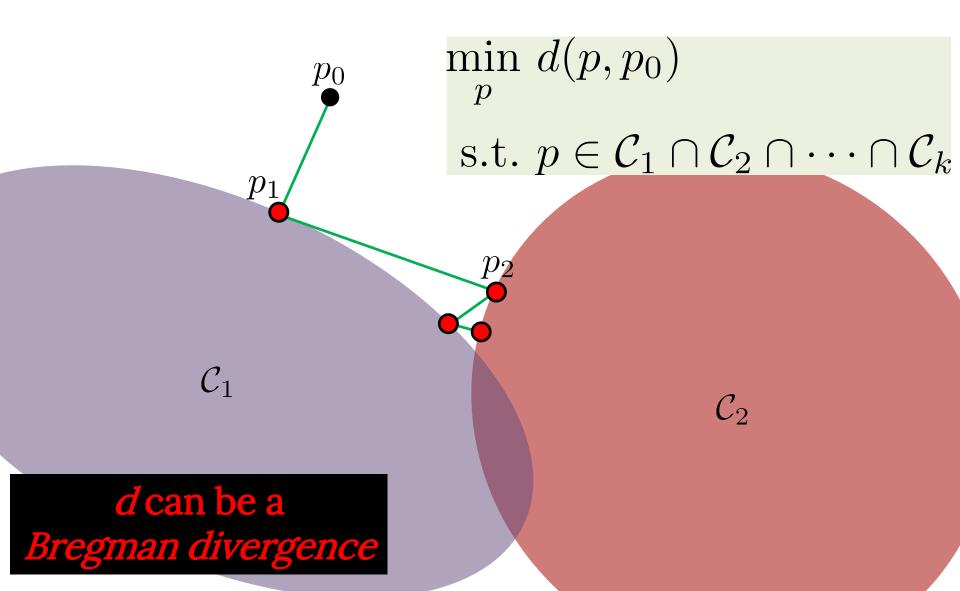


"Geometric median"

$$\min_{x} \sum_{i} \|x - p_i\|_2 \implies \begin{cases} x &\leftarrow \min_{x} \sum_{i} y_i \|x - p_i\|_2^2 \\ y_i &\leftarrow \|x - p_i\|_2^{-1} \end{cases}$$

Repeatedly solve linear systems

ALTERNATING PROJECTION



AUGMENTED LAGRANGIANS

Add constraint to objective

ALTERNATING DIRECTION METHOD OF MULTIPLIERS (ADMM)

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

$$\Lambda_{\rho}(x, z; \lambda) = f(x) + g(z) + \lambda^{\top} (Ax + Bz - c) + \frac{\rho}{2} ||Ax + Bz - c||_{2}^{2}$$

$$x \leftarrow \arg\min_{x} \Lambda_{\rho}(x, z, \lambda)$$

$$z \leftarrow \arg\min_{z} \Lambda_{\rho}(x, z, \lambda)$$

$$\lambda \leftarrow \lambda + \rho(Ax + Bz - c)$$

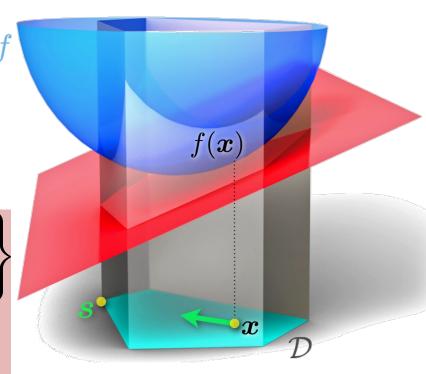
FRANK-WOLFE



To minimize f(x) s.t. $x \in \mathcal{D}$:

$$s_k \leftarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{s.t.}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}_s} & s^{\top} \nabla f(x_k) \\ & \text{s.t.} & s \in \mathcal{D} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\gamma \leftarrow \frac{2}{k+2}$$
$$x_{k+1} \leftarrow x_k + \gamma(s_k - x_k)$$



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank%E2%80%93Wolfe_algorithm

Linearize objective, preserve constraints

ROUGH PLAN

- (intro) Matrices and Eigenvalues
- Linear problems
- Unconstrained optimization
- Equality-constrained optimization
- Variational problems

VARIATIONAL CALCULUS: BIG IDEA

Sometimes your unknowns are not numbers!

Can we use calculus to optimize anyway?

ON THE BOARD

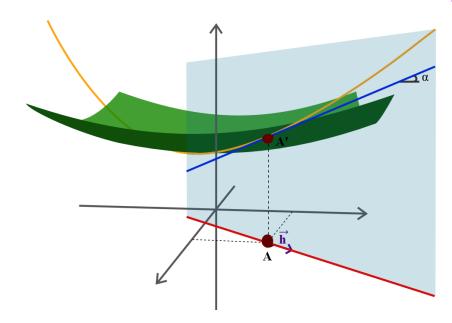
$$\min_{f} \int_{\Omega} \|\vec{v}(x) - \nabla f(x)\|_2^2 d\vec{x}$$

$$\min_{\int_{\Omega} f(x)^2 d\vec{x} = 1} \int_{\Omega} \|\nabla f(x)\|_2^2 d\vec{x}$$

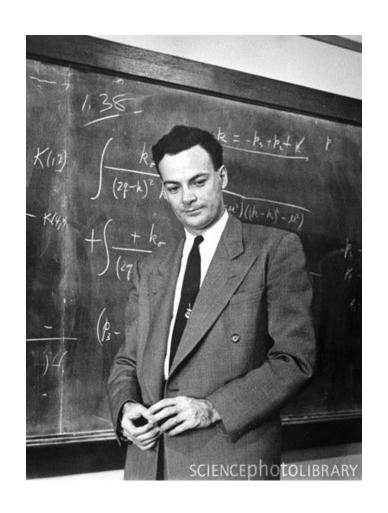
GÂTEAUX DERIVATIVE

$$d\mathcal{F}[u;\psi] := \frac{d}{dh}\mathcal{F}[u+h\psi]|_{h=0}$$

Vanishes for all ψ at a critical point!



Analog of derivative at u in ψ direction



"I got a great reputation for doing integrals, only because my box of tools was different from everybody else's, and they had tried all their tools on it before giving the problem to me."