

**EE270**  
**Large scale matrix computation,  
optimization and learning**

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Tuesday, Feb 18 2020

Randomized Linear Algebra and Optimization  
Lecture 14: Second-Order Optimization Algorithms,  
Strong Convexity and Randomized Preconditioners

## Recap: Gradient Descent with momentum

- ▶  $\min_x f(x)$
- ▶ Gradient Descent with Momentum

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu_t \nabla f(x_t) + \beta_t (x_t - x_{t-1})$$

- ▶ the term  $\beta_t (x_t - x_{t-1})$  is referred to as **momentum**

## Computational complexity

- ▶ Gradient Descent ( $\beta = 0$ ) total computational cost  $\kappa nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$  for  $\epsilon$  accuracy
- ▶ Gradient Descent with Momentum total computational cost  $\sqrt{\kappa} nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$  for  $\epsilon$  accuracy
- ▶ we need to know eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  to find optimal step-sizes

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- ▶ we need to know eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  to find optimal step-sizes
- ▶ Conjugate Gradient doesn't require the eigenvalues explicitly and results in  $\sqrt{\kappa} nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$  operations

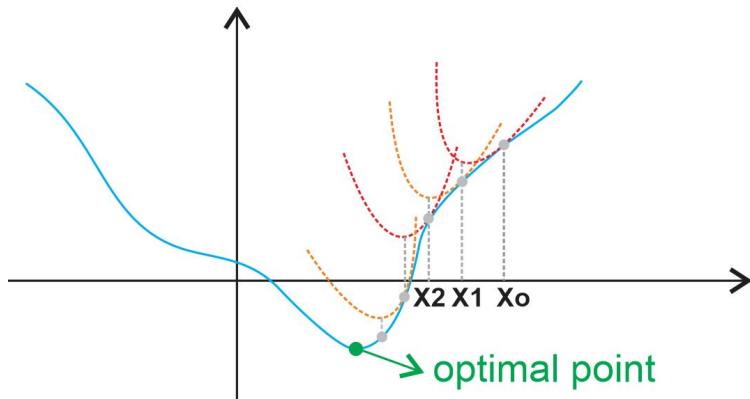
# Newton's Method

- ▶ Suppose  $f$  is twice differentiable, and consider a second order Taylor approximation at a point  $x_t$

$$f(y) \approx f(x_t) + \nabla f(x_t)^T (y - x_t) + \frac{1}{2} (y - x_t)^T \nabla^2 f(x_t) (y - x_t)$$

- ▶ and minimize the approximation
- ▶  $x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu_t (\nabla^2 f(x_t))^{-1} \nabla f(x_t)$
- ▶ for minimizing functions  $f(Ax)$  where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$
- ▶ complexity  $O(nd^2)$  to form the Hessian and  $O(d^3)$  to invert
- ▶ or alternatively  $O(nd^2)$  for factorizing the Hessian

# Newton's Method in one dimension



# Newton's Method for least squares converges in one step

- ▶ Consider

$$\min_x \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2}_{f(x)}$$

- ▶ gradient  $\nabla f(x) = A^T(Ax - b)$
- ▶ Hessian  $\nabla^2 f(x) = A^T A$
- ▶ Gradient Descent:

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu A^T(Ax_t - b)$$

- ▶ Newton's Method:

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu(A^T A)^{-1} A^T(Ax_t - b)$$

- ▶ fixed step size  $\mu_t = \mu$



# Newton's Method with Random Projection

- ▶ Randomized Newton's Method:

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T (A x_t - b)$$

- ▶ fixed step size  $\mu_t = \mu$
- ▶ computational cost:
- ▶  $O(nd \log n)$  to form  $SA$  using Fast Johnson Lindenstrauss Transform and  $O(d^3)$  to invert  $(A^T S^T S A)^{-1}$
- ▶ alternatively  $O(md^2)$  to factorize  $SA$

# Analyzing Newton's Method with Random Projection

- ▶ Randomized Newton's Method:

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T (Ax_t - b)$$

- ▶ Define  $\Delta_t = A(x_t - x^*)$

# Analyzing Newton's Method with Random Projection

- ▶ Randomized Newton's Method:

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T (A x_t - b)$$

- ▶ Define  $\Delta_t = A(x_t - x^*)$

$$\Delta_{t+1} = \Delta_t - \mu A(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T \Delta_t$$

- ▶ after  $M$  iterations

$$\Delta_M = (I - \mu A(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T)^M \Delta_0$$

## Analyzing Newton's Method with Random Projection

- ▶ Let  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  be the Singular Value Decomposition of  $A$
- ▶  $A(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T = U(U^T S^T S U)U^T$   
 $\Delta_M = (I - \mu U(U^T S^T S U)^{-1} U^T)^M \Delta_0$
- ▶  $\Delta_t \in \text{Range}(A)$  implies  $UU^T \Delta_t = \Delta_t$  and  $\|U^T \Delta_t\|_2 = \|\Delta_t\|_2$

# Analyzing Newton's Method with Random Projection

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 $U^T \Delta_M = U^T (I - \mu U(U^T S^T S U)^{-1} U^T)^M UU^T \Delta_0$
- ▶ Note that  
 $U^T (I - \mu U(U^T S^T S U)^{-1} U^T) = (I - \mu (U^T S^T S U)^{-1}) U^T$   
 $U^T \Delta_M = (I - \mu (U^T S^T S U)^{-1})^M U^T \Delta_0$

## Analyzing Newton's Method with Random Projection

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 $U^T \Delta_M = (I - \mu (U^T S^T S U)^{-1})^M U^T \Delta_0$
- ▶  $\|\Delta_M\|_2 \leq \sigma_{\max} (I - \mu (U^T S^T S U)^{-1})^M \|\Delta_0\|_2$
- ▶  $\|\Delta_M\|_2 \leq \max_{i=1, \dots, d} |1 - \mu \lambda_i ((U^T S^T S U)^{-1})|^M \|\Delta_0\|_2$

## Eigenvalues of randomly projected matrices

- ▶  $\lambda_i((U^T S^T S U)^{-1}) = \lambda_i(U^T S^T S U)^{-1}$
- ▶ Recall that Approximate Matrix Multiplication for  $U^T U = I$   
 $\| \underbrace{U^T U}_I - U^T S^T S U \|_F \leq \epsilon$  implies  
 $\sigma_{\max}(I - U^T S^T S U) \leq \epsilon$
- ▶ which is identical to  $|1 - \lambda_i(U^T S^T S U)| \leq \epsilon \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, d$
- ▶ All eigenvalues of  $U^T S^T S U$  are in the range  $[1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon]$

## Optimal step-size

- ▶ All eigenvalues of  $U^T S^T S U$  are in the range  $[1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon]$
- ▶ All eigenvalues of  $(U^T S^T S U)^{-1}$  are in the range  $[\frac{1}{1-\epsilon}, \frac{1}{1+\epsilon}]$

$$\|\Delta_M\|_2 \leq \max_{i=1, \dots, d} \left| 1 - \mu \lambda_i ((U^T S^T S U)^{-1}) \right|^M \|\Delta_0\|_2 \quad (1)$$

$$= \max \left( \left| 1 - \mu \frac{1}{1-\epsilon} \right|, \left| 1 - \mu \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \right| \right)^M \|\Delta_0\|_2 \quad (2)$$

- ▶ optimal step-size that minimizes the upper-bound satisfies

$$\left| 1 - \mu^* \frac{1}{1-\epsilon} \right| = \left| 1 - \mu^* \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \right|$$

- ▶  $\mu^* = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{1-\epsilon} + \frac{1}{1+\epsilon}} = (1 - \epsilon)(1 + \epsilon)$



## Convergence rate

$$\blacktriangleright \mu^* = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{1-\epsilon} + \frac{1}{1+\epsilon}} = (1-\epsilon)(1+\epsilon)$$

$$\|\Delta_M\|_2 \leq \max \left( \left| 1 - \mu \frac{1}{1-\epsilon} \right|, \left| 1 - \mu \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \right| \right)^M \|\Delta_0\|_2 \quad (3)$$

$$= \max (|1 - (1 + \epsilon)|, |1 - (1 - \epsilon)|)^M \|\Delta_0\|_2 \quad (4)$$

$$= \epsilon^M \|\Delta_0\|_2 \quad (5)$$

## Row Sampling Setch

- ▶ We may pick a row sampling matrix  $S$   
as in Approximate Matrix Multiplication  $A^T S^T S A \approx A^T A$

$$x^{t+1} = x_t - \mu(A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T (A x_t - b)$$

- ▶  $A^T S^T S A$  is a subsampled Hessian

## How to choose the sketch

- ▶ According to the convergence analysis we need  $\|U^T S^T S U - U^T U\|_2 \leq \epsilon$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$  since

$$\|\Delta_M\|_2 \leq \sigma_{\max} \left( I - \mu(U^T S^T S U)^{-1} \right)^M \|\Delta_0\|_2$$

- ▶ Row sampling
  - ▶ Nonuniform row sampling. Probabilities  $p_i = \frac{\|u_i\|_2^2}{\sum_{j=1}^n \|u_j\|_2^2}$   
(leverage scores, or optimal AMM for  $U^T U = I$ )
  - ▶ Uniform row sampling
- ▶ Johnson Lindenstrauss Embeddings:
  - ▶ i.i.d. Gaussian, Rademacher
  - ▶ Sparse JL Transform (one/few non-zeros per column)
  - ▶ Fast JL Transform (*PHD* based on Randomized Hadamard)

# Number of samples/sketches required

- ▶ In order to obtain the approximation

$$\mathbb{E} \| U^T S^T S U - U^T U \|_2 \leq \epsilon$$

- ▶ Row sampling

- ▶ Nonuniform row sampling with  $p_i = \frac{\|u_i\|_2^2}{\sum_{j=1}^n \|u_j\|_2^2}$

$m = \frac{d \log d}{\epsilon^2}$  samples are needed

- ▶ Uniform row sampling

$m = \frac{\mu n \log(\mu n)}{\epsilon^2}$  samples are needed where

$$\mu := \mu(U) := \max_i \|u_i\|_2^2$$

- ▶ Johnson Lindenstrauss Embeddings:

- ▶ i.i.d. Gaussian, Rademacher  $m = \frac{d}{\epsilon^2}$

- ▶ Sparse JL Transform (one non-zeros per column)  $m = \frac{d^2}{\epsilon^2}$

- ▶ Sparse JL Transform ( $O(\frac{\log d}{\epsilon})$  non-zeros per column)  $m = \frac{d}{\epsilon^2}$

- ▶ Fast JL Transform (Randomized Hadamard)  $m = \frac{d \log d}{\epsilon^2}$

## Coherence of a matrix

- ▶ Coherence parameter is defined as

$$\mu := \mu(U) = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} \|u_i\|_2^2$$

- ▶ Note that  $u_i^\top u_i = e_i^\top U U^\top e_i = e_i^\top P e_i = P_{ii}$  and  $\text{tr} P = d$  therefore  $\frac{d}{n} \leq \mu U \leq 1$

- ▶ Uniform row sampling

$m = \frac{\mu n \log(\mu n)}{\epsilon^2}$  samples are required to obtain the subspace embedding

$$\|U^T S^T S U - U^T U\|_2 \leq \epsilon$$

$m$  can be between  $\frac{d \log d}{\epsilon^2}$  (best case) and  $\frac{n \log d}{\epsilon^2}$  (worst case) depending on the distribution of  $\|u_i\|_2^2$

- ▶ Non-uniform (leverage score) sampling, or JL embeddings does not have the  $\mu(U)$  coherence factor

## How to prove sampling results: Matrix Concentration

- ▶ Suppose that we sample the rows of  $U$  non-uniformly wrt a distribution  $p_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ . How large is the spectral norm error  $\|U^T S^T S U - U^T U\|_2$ ? In AMM, we considered Frobenius norm error.
- ▶ Concentration of sums of matrices

**Theorem:**<sup>1</sup> Let  $\tilde{u}_1, \dots, \tilde{u}_m$  be i.i.d. vectors such that  $\|\tilde{u}_i\|_2 \leq B, \forall i$ , then

$$\mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \tilde{u}_j \tilde{u}_j^T - \mathbb{E} \tilde{u}_1 \tilde{u}_1^T \right\|_2 \leq \epsilon := \text{constant} \times B \sqrt{\frac{\log m}{m}}$$

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<sup>1</sup>Can be improved to a high probability result: Sampling from Large Matrices: An Approach through Geometric Functional Analysis, Rudelson and Vershynin, 2007

## How to prove sampling results: Matrix Concentration

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- ▶ non-uniform row sampling  $\tilde{u}_1 = u_i / \sqrt{p_i}$  with probability  $p_i \forall i$ .

Note that

$$\mathbb{E} u_1 u_1^T = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{u_i}{\sqrt{p_i}} \frac{u_i^T}{\sqrt{p_i}} p_i = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i u_i^T = U^T U = I.$$

$B = \max_i \|u_i\|_2 / \sqrt{p_i}$ , ideally needs to be small.

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# How to prove sampling results: Matrix Concentration

**Theorem:**<sup>2</sup> Let  $\tilde{u}_1, \dots, \tilde{u}_m$  be i.i.d. vectors such that  $\|\tilde{u}_i\|_2 \leq B, \forall i$ , then

$$\mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \tilde{u}_j \tilde{u}_j^T - \mathbb{E} \tilde{u}_1 \tilde{u}_1^T \right\|_2 \leq \epsilon := \text{constant} \times B \sqrt{\frac{\log m}{m}}$$

- ▶ non-uniform row sampling  $\tilde{u}_1 = u_i / \sqrt{p_i}$  with probability  $p_i \forall i$ .
  - ▶ Using leverage score distribution  $p_i = \frac{\|u_i\|_2^2}{\sum_{j=1}^n \|u_j\|_2^2}$  we have  $B = \max_i \|u_i\|_2 / \|u_i\|_2 \sum_{j=1}^n \|u_j\|_2^2 = \text{tr} U^T U = d$
  - ▶ Using uniform distribution  $p_i = \frac{1}{n}$ , we have  $B = \max_i \|u_i\|_2 / \sqrt{1/n} = n\mu(U)$  where  $\mu(U) := \max_i \|u_i\|_2$  is the coherence parameter of  $U$ .
  - ▶ Picking  $m = c \frac{B^2}{\epsilon^2} \log\left(\frac{B^2}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  we obtain the sampling results  $m = \frac{d \log d}{\epsilon^2}$  and  $m = \frac{\mu n \log(\mu n)}{\epsilon^2}$  respectively.

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## Computational complexity

- ▶ For  $\epsilon$  accuracy in the objective value, i.e.,  $\|A\hat{x} - Ax^*\|_2 \leq \epsilon$
- ▶ Gradient Descent (GD) total computational cost  $\kappa nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$
- ▶ Gradient Descent with Momentum (GD-M) total computational cost  $\sqrt{\kappa} nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$
- ▶ Note that we need to know eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  to find optimal step-sizes for GD and GD-M. Conjugate Gradient (CG) doesn't require the eigenvalues explicitly and results in  $\sqrt{\kappa} nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$  operations
- ▶ Randomized Newton Method (using randomized Hadamard based fast JL,  $m = \text{constant} \times d \log d$ ) total computational cost  $nd \log n + d^3 \log d + nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$  for  $n \gg d$ , the complexity is  $O(nd \log(1/\epsilon))$   
uniform row sampling, leverage score sampling and other sketching matrices also work with different sketch sizes.

# Preconditioning Least Squares Problems

$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

- ▶ Convergence of GD, GD-M or CG depend on the condition number  $\kappa := \frac{\lambda_{\max}(A^T A)}{\lambda_{\min}(A^T A)}$ .
- ▶ We can precondition the problem by a variable change  $x = Rx'$  where  $R$  is an invertible matrix. Then, we form the problem

$$\min_{x'} \|ARx' - b\|_2^2$$

whose solution is  $(AR)^\dagger b = (R^T A^T AR)^{-1} R^T A^T b = R^{-1} (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b = R^{-1} A^\dagger b$ .

Then we can recover  $x^* = Rx' = RR^{-1} A^\dagger b = A^\dagger b$

- ▶ Condition number of  $AR$  can be better than  $A$  for carefully chosen preconditioners  $R$ , and hence GD, GD-M or CG can converge faster. Ideally, eigenvalues of  $R^T A^T AR$  should be all near 1.

# Preconditioning Trade-off

- ▶ original problem

$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

- ▶ preconditioned problem

$$\min_{x'} \|ARx' - b\|_2^2$$

- ▶  $R = I$  is the original problem  $R^T A^T AR = A^T A$ . Condition number is the same.
- ▶  $R = (A^T A)^{-1}$  perfectly preconditions since  $(A^T A)^{-1/2} A^T A (A^T A)^{-1/2} = I$ . Condition number is 1.
  - ▶ Recovering the solution requires solving  $A^T Ax = x'$ !  
we need a cheaply invertible matrix that preconditions the eigenvalues
- ▶ example: diagonal preconditioner  $R = \text{diag}(A)^{-1}$

# Randomized Preconditioners

- ▶ original problem

$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

- ▶ preconditioned problem

$$\min_{x'} \|ARx' - b\|_2^2$$

Condition number of  $R^T A^T AR$  should be small.  
exploring different options

- ▶  $R$  i.i.d random, e.g., Gaussian?

# Randomized Preconditioners

- ▶ original problem

$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

- ▶ preconditioned problem

$$\min_{x'} \|ARx' - b\|_2^2$$

Condition number of  $R^T A^T A R$  should be small.  
exploring different options

- ▶  $R$  i.i.d random, e.g., Gaussian?
- ▶  $R = A^T S^T S A$ ?

# Randomized Preconditioners

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$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

- ▶ preconditioned problem

$$\min_{x'} \|ARx' - b\|_2^2$$

Condition number of  $R^T A^T AR$  should be small.  
exploring different options

- ▶  $R$  i.i.d random, e.g., Gaussian?
- ▶  $R = A^T S^T SA$ ?
- ▶ Let  $R = (A^T S^T SA)^{-1/2}$ . Then we have

$$R^T A^T AR = (A^T S^T SA)^{-1/2} A^T A (A^T S^T SA)^{-1/2}$$

## Hessian Square Root $(A^T S^T S A)^{-1/2}$ Preconditioner

- ▶ Let  $R = (A^T S^T S A)^{-1/2}$ . Then we have
- ▶ Note that  $R^T A^T A R$  and  $A R R^T A^T$  have the same non-zero eigenvalues
- ▶  $A R R^T A^T = A (A^T S^T S A)^{-1/2} (A^T S^T S A)^{-1/2} A^T = A (A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T$

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- ▶ Note that  $R^T A^T A R$  and  $A R R^T A^T$  have the same non-zero eigenvalues
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- ▶ Let  $A = U \Sigma V^T$  the Singular Value Decomposition  
Then we have  $A (A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T = U (U^T S^T S U)^{-1} U^T$ ,  
whose eigenvalues are the eigenvalues of  $(U^T S^T S U)^{-1}$
- ▶ Therefore, subspace approximation  $\|U^T S^T S U - I\|_2 \leq \epsilon$   
implies that eigenvalues of  $U^T S^T S U$  are in  $(1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon)$ .
- ▶ Consequently, eigenvalues of  $R^T A^T A R$  are also in  $(1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon)$ , which improves the condition number to  $\kappa(AR) = \frac{1+\epsilon}{1-\epsilon}$   
Non-uniform row sampling, uniform row sampling (with extra coherence dependence), JL embeddings will work



## Implementing Randomized Preconditioning

- ▶ Generate a sketching matrix  $S$ . Recall  $R = (A^T S^T S A)^{-1/2}$
- ▶ Apply QR factorization to  $SA$  to obtain  $SA = Q_{SA} R_{SA}$  where  $R_{SA}$  is upper triangular and  $Q_{SA}$  is orthonormal.

Observe that

$$R = (A^T S^T S A)^{-1/2} = (R_{SA}^T Q_{SA}^T Q_{SA} R_{SA})^{-1} = (R_{SA}^T R_{SA})^{-1/2}$$

and an inverse square root is given by  $R_{SA}$

Since  $R_{SA}$  is upper triangular, we can apply it to vectors in linear time using back-substitution.

## Implementing Randomized Preconditioning

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Since  $R_{SA}$  is upper triangular, we can apply it to vectors in linear time using back-substitution.

- ▶ Solve

$$\min_{x'} \|ARx' - b\|_2^2$$

using Conjugate Gradient method or Gradient Descent with Momentum (since we know about the eigenvalues). Note that each steps requires gradient calculation  $R^T A^T (A(Rx) - b)$ , which can be done with back-substitution and matrix vector products

## Randomized Newton vs Preconditioning

- ▶ Both approaches remove the condition number dependence
- ▶ Randomized Preconditioning requires QR decomposition and back-substitution steps
- ▶ Randomized Newton (also called Iterative Hessian Sketch) is more flexible since QR decomposition is not required. We can use approximate sub-solvers

$$\begin{aligned}x^{t+1} &= x_t - (A^T S^T S A)^{-1} A^T (A x_t - b) \\ &= x_t + \arg \min_z \frac{1}{2} \|S A z\|_2^2 + z^T (A^T (A x_t - b))\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ e.g., CG to approximately solve the system  $(A^T S^T S A)z = A^T (A x_t - b)$
- ▶ Furthermore, Randomized Newton generalizes to arbitrary functions: **HessianSketch**<sup>-1</sup>**gradient**

# Gradient Descent for Convex Optimization Problems

- ▶ Strong convexity

A convex function  $f$  is called strongly convex if there exists two positive constants  $\beta_- \leq \beta_+$  such that

$$\beta_- \leq \lambda_i(\nabla^2 f(x)) \leq \beta_+$$

for every  $x$  in the domain of  $f$

- ▶ Equivalent to

$$\lambda_{\min}(\nabla^2 f(x)) \geq \beta_-$$

$$\lambda_{\max}(\nabla^2 f(x)) \leq \beta_+$$

# Gradient Descent for Strongly Convex Functions

- ▶  $x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu_t \nabla f(x_t)$
- ▶ Suppose that  $f$  is strongly convex with parameters  $\beta_-, \beta_+$   
let  $f^* := \min_x f(x)$

## Theorem

- ▶ Set constant step-size  $\mu_t = \frac{1}{\beta_+}$   
$$f(x_{t+1}) - f^* \leq \left(1 - \frac{\beta_-}{\beta_+}\right)(f(x_t) - f^*)$$
recursively applying we get
- ▶  $f(x_M) - f^* \leq \left(1 - \frac{\beta_-}{\beta_+}\right)^M (f(x_0) - f^*)$

# Gradient Descent for Strongly Convex Functions

- ▶  $x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu \nabla f(x_t)$
- ▶ step-size  $\mu = \frac{1}{\beta_+}$
- ▶  $f(x_M) - f^* \leq (1 - \frac{\beta_-}{\beta_+})^M (f(x_0) - f^*)$
- ▶ For optimizing functions  $f(Ax)$   
computational complexity  $O(\kappa nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon}))$   
where  $\kappa = \frac{\beta_+}{\beta_-}$

# Gradient Descent with Momentum (Heavy Ball Method) for Strongly Convex Functions

- ▶  $x_{t+1} = x_t - \mu \nabla f(x_t) + \beta(x_t - x_{t-1})$
- ▶ step-size parameter  $\mu = \frac{4}{(\sqrt{\beta_+} + \sqrt{\beta_-})^2}$
- ▶ momentum parameter  $\beta = \max\left(|1 - \sqrt{\mu\beta_-}|, |1 - \sqrt{\mu\beta_+}|\right)^2$
- ▶ For optimizing functions  $f(Ax)$   
computational complexity  $O(\sqrt{\kappa}nd \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon}))$   
where  $\kappa = \frac{\beta_+}{\beta_-}$

Questions?



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