

Frank-Wolfe Splitting via Augmented Lagrangian Method



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Why Frank-Wolfe is wonderful.

- ▶ Constrained optimization algorithm:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

f convex, \mathcal{C} convex *compact*.

- ▶ Interesting for highly structured constraint sets:

Alignment constraint: [Alayrac
et al., 2016]

Permutahedron: [Lancia and
Serafini, 2018] [Evangelopoulos
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- ▶ Interesting when projection is **not practical**:

Projection **Linear Minimization Oracle**

- ▶ When projection is practical **better use** projected gradient method.

Why Frank-Wolfe sometimes is not enough.

- ▶ FW requires *linear minimization* (LMO) over these set.

$$\text{LMO}(\mathbf{d}) := \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$$

- ▶ Intersection of constraint sets: $\mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2$.
- ▶ $\text{LMO}_{\mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2}(\mathbf{d})$ may be too expensive.
- ▶ FW-AL just requires $\text{LMO}_{\mathcal{C}_1}(\mathbf{d})$ and $\text{LMO}_{\mathcal{C}_2}(\mathbf{d})$.

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Simultaneously sparse and low rank matrix recovery

Proposed by Richard et al. [2012]:

$$\min_{S \succeq 0, \|S\|_1 \leq \beta_1, \|S\|_* \leq \beta_2} \|S - \hat{\Sigma}\|_2^2.$$

- ▶ Sparsity constraint: $\mathcal{C}_1 := \{S \succeq 0, \|S\|_1 \leq \beta_1\}$,

LMO $_{\mathcal{C}_1}(D)$ = Largest coefficient of the matrix: $O(d^2)$

- ▶ Low rank constraint: $\mathcal{C}_2 := \{S \succeq 0, \|S\|_* \leq \beta_2\}$.

LMO $_{\mathcal{C}_2}(D)$ = Largest eigenvector: $O(d^2/\sqrt{\epsilon})$

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Multiple sequence alignment

Proposed by Yen et al. [2016a]:

$$\min_{W \in \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{P}} \langle W, D \rangle$$

- ▶ W : alignment the sequences. D : cost matrix.
- ▶ \mathcal{A} : *alignment constraint*. Each alignment with the consensus sequence is valid.
- ▶ \mathcal{P} : *consensus constraint*. Alignments consistent between each other.

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Structured SVM

Proposed by Yen et al. [2016b]:

dual problem:
$$\min_{\alpha_f \in \Delta^{|\mathcal{Y}_f|}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{F \in \mathcal{T}} \|A_F \alpha\|_2^2 - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \delta_j^\top \alpha_j$$

s.t. $M_{fi} \alpha_f = \alpha_i, \quad f \in F, F \in \mathcal{T}, i \in \mathcal{N}(f).$

- ▶ \mathcal{V} : Variables. \mathcal{T} : Factor templates. $\mathcal{N}(f)$: neighbors of f .
- ▶ Consistency constraint: $M_{11}x^{(1)} = \alpha_1, M_{12}x^{(1)} = \alpha_2, \dots$



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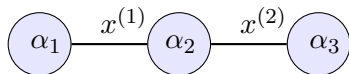
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General Formulation

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(k)}}{\text{minimize}} && f(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(k)}), \\ & \mathbf{x}^{(k)} \in \mathcal{C}_k, && k \in [K], \quad \sum_{k=1}^K A_k \mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ f is convex and smooth (gradient Lipschitz).
- ▶ $\mathcal{C}_k, k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ are convex compact.

Augmented Lagrangian Method

- ▶ Augmented Lagrangian trick to get rid of $\sum_{k=1}^K A_k \mathbf{x}^{(k)} = 0$.
- ▶ M s.t. $M\mathbf{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=1}^K A_k \mathbf{x}^{(k)} = 0$ and the functions,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \mathbf{y}, M\mathbf{x} \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|M\mathbf{x}\|^2.$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) := \max_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \begin{cases} f(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } M\mathbf{x} = 0, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Augmented Lagrangian formulation of our problem,

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \max_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ & \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} := \times_{k=1}^K \mathcal{C}_k . \end{aligned}$$

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- ▶ Standard AL method:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \underset{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}}{\text{arg min}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_t) & (\textit{argmin step}) , \\ \mathbf{y}_{t+1} = \mathbf{y}_t + \eta_t M \mathbf{x}_{t+1} & (\textit{Gradient ascent step}) . \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Replace arg min steps by FW steps. FW-AL:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \text{FW}(\mathbf{x}_t; \mathcal{L}(\cdot, \mathbf{y}_t)) & (\textit{Frank-Wolfe step}) , \\ \mathbf{y}_{t+1} = \mathbf{y}_t + \eta_t M \mathbf{x}_{t+1} & (\textit{Gradient ascent step}) . \end{cases}$$

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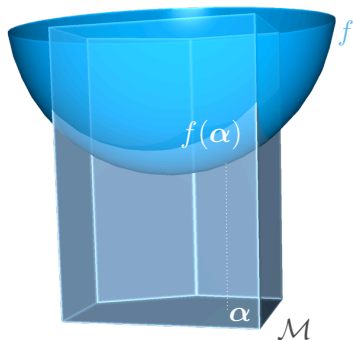
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Algorithm 1 One Frank-Wolfe step

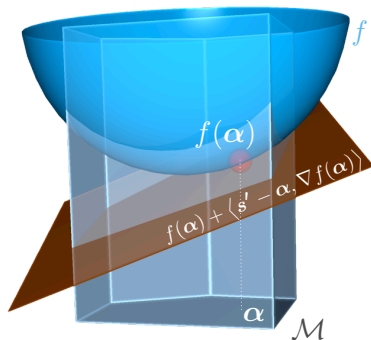
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 - 2: Compute $\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$
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 - 5: **if** $g_t \leq \epsilon$ **then return** $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$
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The FW algorithm

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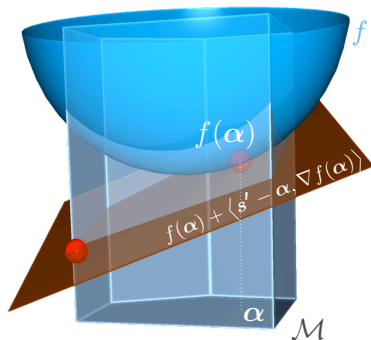
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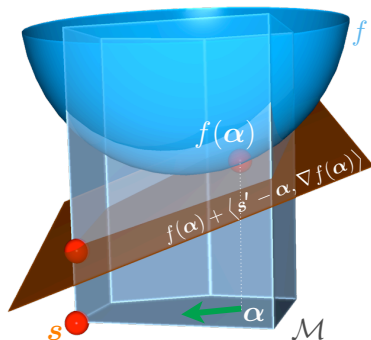
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- ▶ Replace arg min step by a FW step initially proposed by Yen et al. [2016a] to solve MSA problem.
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Contributions:

- ▶ Extension of GDMM for general convex sets. (e.g. Trace norm ball)
- ▶ Fix a crucial missing part in the previous proofs.

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Additional assumption:

Slater's condition: $\exists \mathbf{x}^{(k)} \in \text{relint}(\mathcal{C}_k), k \in [K]$ s.t. $\sum_{k=1}^K A_k \mathbf{x}^{(k)} = 0$.

New lemma:

Let d be the augmented dual function,

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There exist a constant $\alpha > 0$ such that close enough to \mathcal{Y}^* ,

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With decreasing step size $\eta_t := O\left(\frac{1}{t+1}\right)$,

$$\text{subopt: } \Delta_t \leq \frac{O(1)}{t}, \quad \text{feasibility: } \min_{t_0 \leq s \leq t} \|M\mathbf{x}_s\|^2 \leq \frac{O(1)}{t}.$$

- ▶ **For \mathcal{X} a polytope:**

With small enough constant step size η_t :

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Only holds for generalized strongly convex function and uses a variant of FW with away-step.

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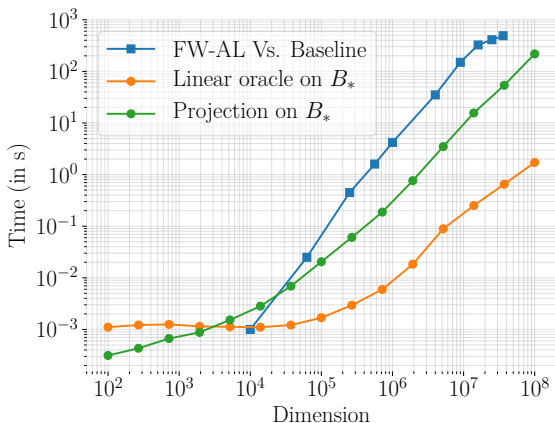
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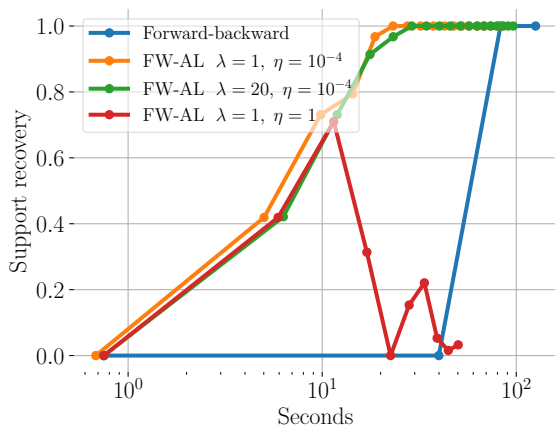
Experiments

LMO vs. projection for trace norm ball:



Experiments

Support recovered by FW-AL and the generalized forward backward algorithm as a function of time:



Conclusion

Task: Minimize a function over an *intersection* of convex sets.

Problem:

- ▶ Projections or linear minimization oracle (LMO) over the intersection is **expensive**.
- ▶ Projection onto each individual set is **expensive**.

Our solution:

- ▶ Requires **linear minimization oracles** over **individual constraints**.
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Thank You !

Slides available on www.di.ens.fr/~gidel and
www-ens.iro.umontreal.ca/~gidelgau.

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