



Fast-Lipschitz Optimization for Non-convex and Convex Problems

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Optimization is pervasive over networks

Parallel computing



Environmental monitoring



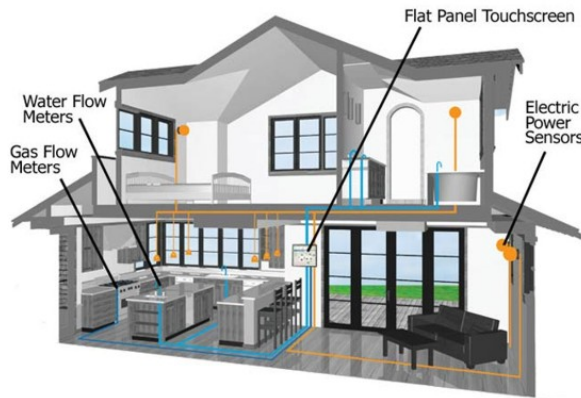
Intelligent transportation systems



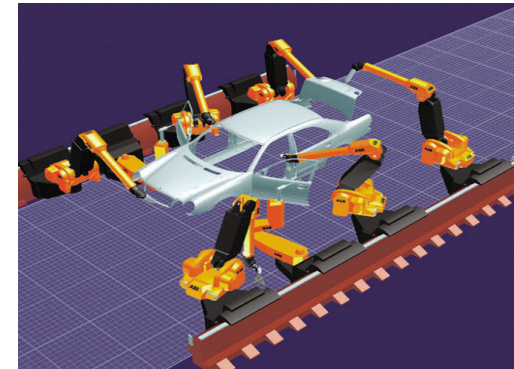
Smart grids



Smart buildings

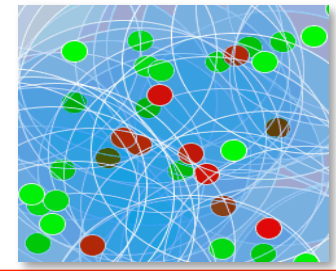


Industrial control





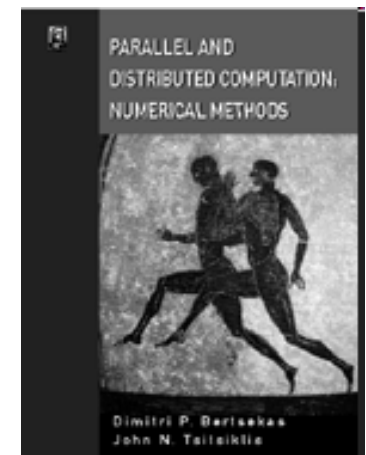
Optimization over networks



- Optimization needs fast solver algorithms of low complexity
 - Time-varying networks, little time to compute solution
 - Distributed computations
 - E.g., networks of parallel processors, cross layer networking, distributed detection, estimation, content distribution,

- Parallel and distributed computation
 - Fundamental theory for optimization over networks
 - Drawback over energy-constrained wireless networks: the cost for communication not considered

- An alternative theory is needed
 - In a number of cases, Fast-Lipschitz optimization



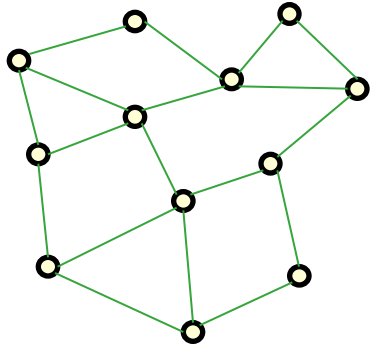


Outline

- **Motivating example: distributed detection**
- Definition of Fast-Lipschitz optimization
- Computation of the optimal solution
- Problems in canonical form
- Examples
- Conclusions



Distributed binary detection



$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_i(s) &= w_i(s) \quad \text{if } H_0 \\ \Gamma_i(s) &= E + w_i(s) \quad \text{if } H_1\end{aligned}$$

measurements at node i

$$T_i = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S \Gamma_i(s) \stackrel{\geq}{\leq} x_i$$

hypothesis testing with S
measurements and threshold x_i

$$P_{\text{fa}}^{(i)}(x_i) = \Pr[T_i > x_i | H_0]$$

probability of false alarm

$$P_{\text{md}}^{(i)}(x_i) = \Pr[T_i \leq x_i | H_1]$$

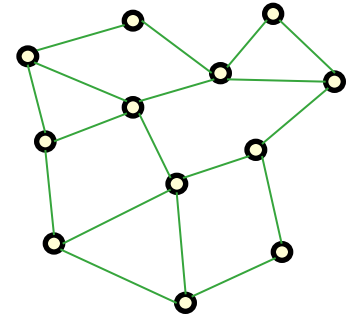
probability of misdetection

- A threshold minimizing the prob. of false alarm maximizes the prob. of misdetection.
- How to choose optimally the thresholds when nodes exchange opinions?



Threshold optimization in distributed detection

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n P_{\text{fa}}^{(i)}(x_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n b_{i,j} P_{\text{md}}^{(j)}(x_j) \leq c_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \\ & 0 \preceq \mathbf{x} \preceq E\mathbf{1}. \end{aligned}$$



- How to solve the problem by distributed operations among the nodes?
- The problem is convex
 - Lagrangian methods (interior point) can be applied
 - Drawback: too many message passing (Lagrangian multipliers) among nodes to compute iteratively the optimal solution
- An alternative method: Fast-Lipschitz optimization

C. Fischione, "Fast-Lipschitz Optimization with Wireless Sensor Networks Applications", *IEEE TAC*, 2011



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The Fast-Lipschitz optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

$$f_0(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

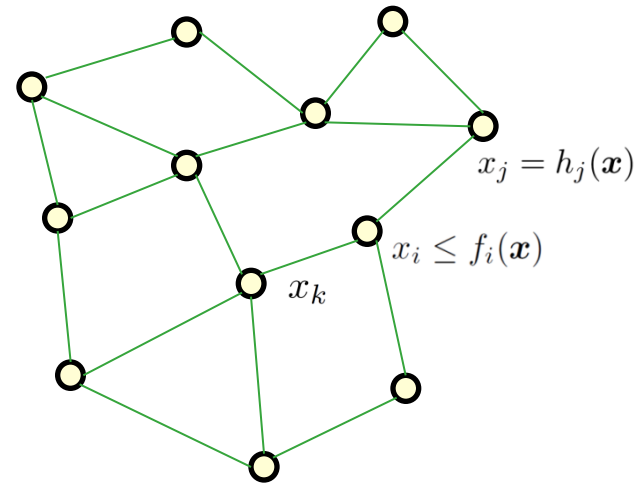
$$f_i(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad i = 1, \dots, l$$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n$$

$\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ nonempty compact set containing the vertexes of the constraints

Computation of the solution

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$



Network of n nodes

- Centralized optimization
 - Problem solved by a central processor
- Distributed optimization
 - Decision variables and constraints are associated to nodes that cooperate to compute the solution in parallel



Pareto Optimal Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

Definition : Consider the following set

$$\mathcal{A} = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D} : x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), i = 1, \dots, l, \\ x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), i = l + 1, \dots, n \},$$

and let $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^l$ be the image set of $f_0(\mathbf{x})$, namely $f_0(\mathbf{x}) : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$. Then, we make the natural assumption that the set \mathcal{B} is partially ordered in a natural way, namely if $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{B}$ then $\mathbf{x} \succeq \mathbf{y}$ if $x_i \geq y_i \forall i$ (e.g., \mathbb{R}_+^l is the ordering cone).

Definition (Pareto Optimal): A vector \mathbf{x}^* is called a Pareto optimal (or an Edgeworth-Pareto optimal) point if there is no $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $f_0(\mathbf{x}) \succeq f_0(\mathbf{x}^*)$ (i.e., if $f_0(\mathbf{x}^*)$ is the maximal element of the set \mathcal{B} with respect to the natural partial ordering defined by the cone \mathbb{R}_+^l).



Notation

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} F_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ F_2(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ F_n(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \quad F_i(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \forall i$$

$$\text{Gradient } \nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dF_1(\mathbf{x})}{dx_1} & \frac{dF_2(\mathbf{x})}{dx_1} & \cdots & \frac{dF_n(\mathbf{x})}{dx_1} \\ \frac{dF_1(\mathbf{x})}{dx_2} & \frac{dF_2(\mathbf{x})}{dx_2} & \cdots & \frac{dF_n(\mathbf{x})}{dx_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{dF_1(\mathbf{x})}{dx_n} & \frac{dF_2(\mathbf{x})}{dx_n} & \cdots & \frac{dF_n(\mathbf{x})}{dx_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|\nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})|_\infty = \max_j \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{dF_i(\mathbf{x})}{dx_j} \right|$$

Norm infinity: sum along a row

$$|\nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})|_1 = \max_j \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{dF_j(\mathbf{x})}{dx_i} \right|$$

Norm 1: sum along a column



Qualifying conditions

Now that we have introduced basic notation and concepts, we give some conditions for which a problem is Fast-Lipschitz



Qualifying conditions

1.a $\nabla f_0(\mathbf{x}) \succ 0$, i.e., $f_0(\mathbf{x})$ is strictly increasing,

1.b $|\nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})|_\infty < 1$,

and either

2.a $\nabla_j F_i(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall i, j$,

or

3.a $\nabla_i f_0(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla_j f_0(\mathbf{x})$,

3.b $\nabla_j F_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \quad \forall i, j$,

3.c $|\nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})|_1 < 1$,

or

4.a $f_0(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$,

4.b $|\nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})|_1 \leq \frac{\delta}{\delta + \Delta}$,

$$\delta = \min_{i, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}} \nabla_i f_0(\mathbf{x}),$$

$$\Delta = \max_{i, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}} \nabla_i f_0(\mathbf{x}).$$

$$\max_{\mathbf{x}} f_0(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l$$

$$x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n$$

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D},$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = [f_1(\mathbf{x}), f_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_l(\mathbf{x})]^T$$

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) = [h_{l+1}(\mathbf{x}), h_{l+2}(\mathbf{x}), \dots, h_n(\mathbf{x})]^T$$

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = [F_i(\mathbf{x})] = [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})^T]^T$$

Functions may be non-convex



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Optimal Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

Theorem: Let an F-Lipschitz optimization problem be feasible. Then, the problem admits a unique optimum $\mathbf{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}$ given by the solution of the set of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^* &= f_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ x_i^* &= h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

- The Pareto optimal solution is just given by a set of (in general non-linear) equations.
- Solving a set of equations is much easier than solving an optimization problem by traditional Lagrangian methods!

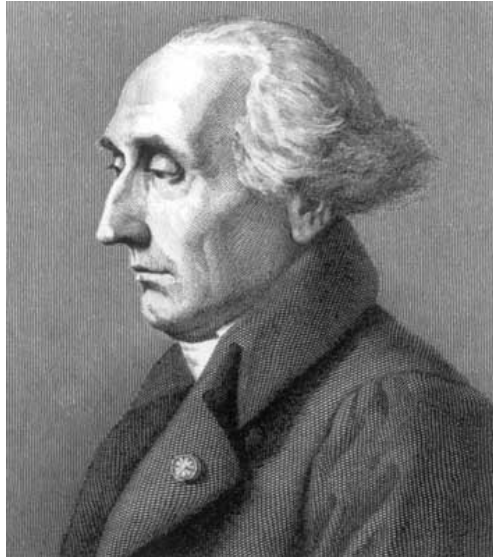


Lagrangian methods

- Let's have a closer look at the Lagrangian methods, which are normally used to solve optimization problems

- Lagrangian methods are the essential to solve, for example, convex problems

Lagrangian methods



G. L. Lagrange, 1736-1813

"The methods I set forth require neither constructions nor geometric or mechanical considerations. They require only algebraic operations subject to a systematic and uniform course"



Lagrangian methods

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l+1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

Theorem: Consider a feasible F-Lipschitz problem. Then, the KKT conditions are necessary and sufficient.

➤ KKT conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} x_i - f_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &\leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ x_i - h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= 0 \quad i = l+1, \dots, n \\ \lambda_i^* &\geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ \lambda_i^* f_i(\mathbf{x}^*) &= 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} L(\mathbf{x}^*, \boldsymbol{\lambda}^*) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$L(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = -f_0(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^l \lambda_i(x_i - f_i(\mathbf{x})) + \sum_{i=l+1}^n \lambda_i(x_i - h_i(\mathbf{x})) \quad \text{Lagrangian}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}(k+1) &= \mathbf{x}(k) - \beta \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} L(\mathbf{x}(k), \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k)) \\ \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k+1) &= \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k) - \beta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} L(\mathbf{x}(k), \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k)) \end{aligned}$$

Lagrangian methods to compute the solution



Lagrangian methods

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l+1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

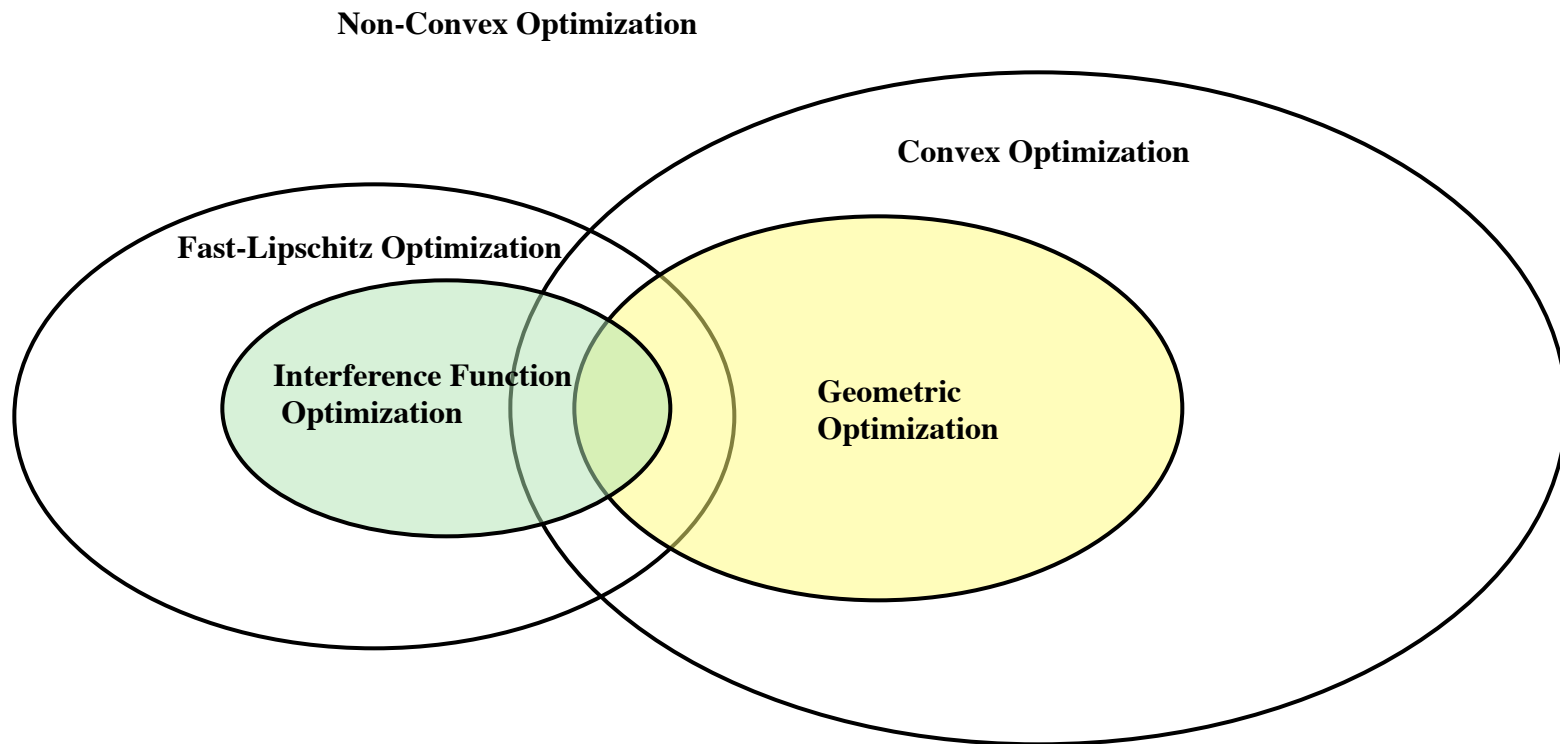
$$L(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = -f_0(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^l \lambda_i(x_i - f_i(\mathbf{x})) + \sum_{i=l+1}^n \lambda_i(x_i - h_i(\mathbf{x})) \quad \text{Lagrangian}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = \mathbf{x}(k) - \beta \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} L(\mathbf{x}(k), \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k))$$

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}(k+1) = \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k) - \beta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} L(\mathbf{x}(k), \boldsymbol{\lambda}(k))$$

- Lagrangian methods need
 1. a central computation of the Lagrangian function
 2. an endless collect-and-broadcast iterative message passing of primal and dual variables
- Fast-Lipschitz methods avoid the central computation and substantially reduce the collect-and-broadcast procedure

The Fast-Lipschitz optimization



Fast-Lipschitz optimization problems can be convex, geometric, quadratic, interference-function,...



Fast-Lipschitz methods

Let us see how a Fast-Lipschitz problem is solved without Lagrangian methods



Centralized optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

- The optimal solution is given by iterative methods to solve systems of non-linear equations (e.g., Newton methods)

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = \mathbf{x}(k) - \beta (\mathbf{x}(k) - \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}(k)))$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = [f_1(\mathbf{x}), f_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_l(\mathbf{x})]^T$$

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) = [h_{l+1}(\mathbf{x}), h_{l+2}(\mathbf{x}), \dots, h_n(\mathbf{x})]^T$$

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})^T]^T$$

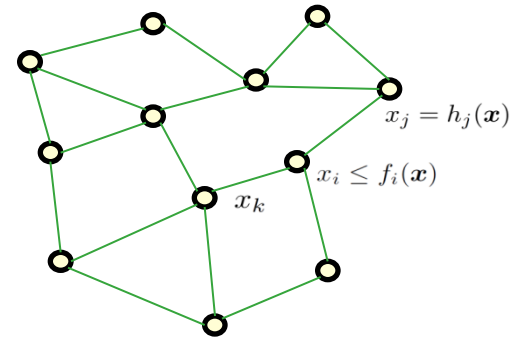
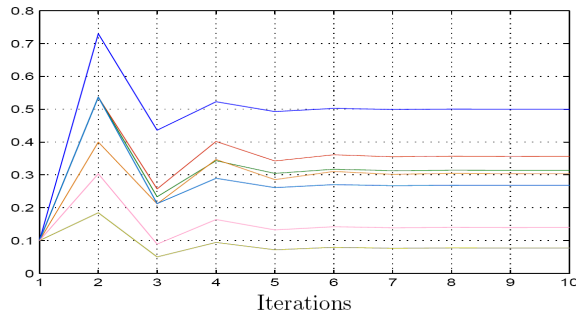
β is a matrix to ensure and maximize convergence speed

- Many other methods are available, e.g., second-order methods



Distributed optimization

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\mathbf{x}} f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ & \text{s.t. } x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & \quad x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = l+1, \dots, n \\ & \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$



Proposition : Let $\mathbf{x}(0) \in \mathcal{D}$ be an initial guess of the optimal solution to a feasible F -Lipschitz problem. Let $\mathbf{x}^i(k) = [x_1(\tau_1^i(k)), x_2(\tau_2^i(k)), \dots, x_n(\tau_n^i(k))]$ the vector of decision variables available at node i at time $k \in \mathbb{N}_+$, where $\tau_j^i(k)$ is the delay with which the decision variable of node j is communicated to node i . Then, the following iterative algorithm converges to the optimal solution:

$$\begin{aligned} x_i(k+1) &= [f_i(\mathbf{x}^i(k))]^{\mathcal{D}} \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ x_i(k+1) &= h_i(\mathbf{x}^i(k)) \quad i = l+1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

where $k \in \mathbb{N}_+$ is an integer associated to the iterations.



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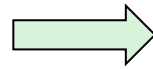


Problems in canonical form

Canonical form

Bertsekas, *Non Linear Programming*, 2004

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & g_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & p_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$



Fast-Lipschitz form

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & f_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \leq f_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l, \\ & x_i = h_i(\mathbf{x}) \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n, \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

$$f_0(\mathbf{x}) = -g_0(\mathbf{x}),$$

$$f_i(\mathbf{x}) = x_i - \gamma_i g_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad \gamma_i > 0$$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}) = x_i - \mu_i p_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mu_i \in \mathbb{R}$$



Problems in canonical form

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & g_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, l \\ & p_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad i = l + 1, \dots, n \\ & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}, \end{aligned}$$

Theorem : Consider the optimization problem in canonical form. Suppose that $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}$

1.a $\nabla g_0(\mathbf{x}) \prec 0,$

1.b $\nabla_i G_i(\mathbf{x}) > 0 \quad \forall i,$

and either

2.a $\nabla_j G_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \quad \forall j \neq i,$

2.b $\nabla_i G_i(\mathbf{x}) > \sum_{j \neq i} |\nabla_i G_j(\mathbf{x})| \quad \forall i,$

or

3.a $g_0(\mathbf{x}) = -c\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{x} \quad c \in \mathbb{R}^+,$

3.b $\nabla_j G_i(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall j \neq i,$

3.c $\nabla_i G_i(\mathbf{x}) > \sum_{j \neq i} |\nabla_i G_j(\mathbf{x})| \quad \forall i,$

or

4.a $g_0(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R},$

4.b $\frac{\delta}{\delta + \Delta} \nabla_i G_i(\mathbf{x}) > \sum_{j \neq i} |\nabla_i G_j(\mathbf{x})| \quad \forall i.$

Then, the problem is F-Lipschitz.



Fast-Lipschitz Matlab Toolbox

F-Lipschitz Optimization Tool

Problem definition

Customized function:

Objective function:

Gradient:

Library objective function:

Function type:

Constraints:

Constraint function:

Gradient:

Bounds: Lower: Upper:

F-Lipschitz property

Status:

Choose solver and compute solution

Solver:

Algorithm:

Start point:

X tolerance:

Function tolerance:

Constraint tolerance:

Results:

Canonical form



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Example 1: from canonical to Fast-Lipschitz

$$\min_{x,y} \quad ae^{-x_1} + be^{-x_2} \quad a > 0, b > 0$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad x_1 - 0.5x_2 - 1 \leq 0$$

$$-x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 0$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, \quad x_2 \geq 0,$$

- The problem is both convex and Fast-Lipschitz:

$$\nabla_x(x - 0.5y - 1) = 1 > |\nabla_y(x - 0.5y - 1)| = 0.5,$$

Off-diagonal
monotonicity

$$\nabla_y(-x + 2y) = 2 > |\nabla_x(-x + 2y)| = 1,$$

Diagonal
dominance

- The optimal solution is given by the constraints at the equality, trivially

$$x_1 - 0.5x_2 - 1 = 0 \quad x_1 = 4/3$$

$$-x_1 + 2x_2 = 0, \quad x_2 = 2/3$$



Example 2: hidden Fast-Lipschitz

- Non Fast-Lipschitz

$$\min_{x,y,z} ae^{-x} + be^{-y} + ce^z$$

$$\text{s.t. } 2x - 0.5y + z + 3 \leq 0$$

$$-x + 2y - z^{-1} + 1 \leq 0$$

$$-3x - y + z^{-2} + 2 \leq 0$$

$$x_{\min} \leq x \leq x_{\max}, \quad y_{\min} \leq y \leq y_{\max}, \quad z_{\min} \leq z \leq z_{\max},$$

- Simple variable transformation, $t = z^{-1}$, gives a Fast-Lipschitz form

$$\max_{x,y,t} -ae^{-x} - be^{-y} - ce^{-t}$$

$$\text{s.t. } 2x - 0.5y + t^{-1} + 3 \leq 0$$

$$-0.5x + 2y - t + 1 \leq 0$$

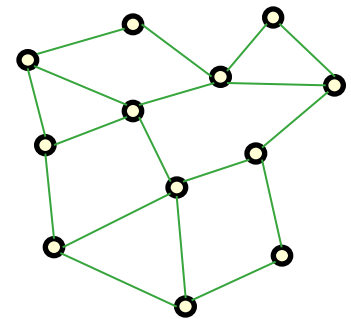
$$-0.5x - y + t^2 + 2 \leq 0$$

$$x_{\min} \leq x \leq x_{\max}, \quad y_{\min} \leq y \leq y_{\max}, \quad 1/z_{\max} \leq t \leq 1/z_{\min}$$



Threshold optimization in distributed detection

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n P_{\text{fa}}^{(i)}(x_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n b_{i,j} P_{\text{md}}^{(j)}(x_j) \leq c_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \\ & 0 \preceq \mathbf{x} \preceq E\mathbf{1}. \end{aligned}$$



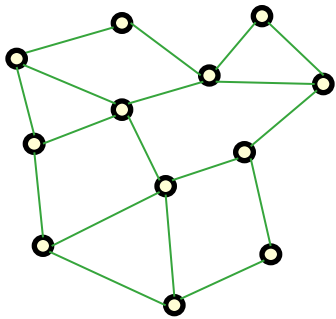
- How to solve the problem by parallel and distributed operations among the nodes?
- The problem is convex
 - Lagrangian methods (interior point methods) could be applied
 - Drawback: too many message passing (Lagrangian multipliers) among nodes to compute iteratively the optimal solution
- An alternative method: F-Lipschitz optimization



Distributed detection: Fast-Lipschitz vs Lagrangian methods

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n P_{\text{fa}}^{(i)}(x_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n b_{i,j} P_{\text{md}}^{(j)}(x_j) \leq c_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \\ & 0 \preceq \mathbf{x} \preceq E\mathbf{1}. \end{aligned}$$

10 nodes network



Fast-Lipschitz

Lagrangian methods
(interior point)

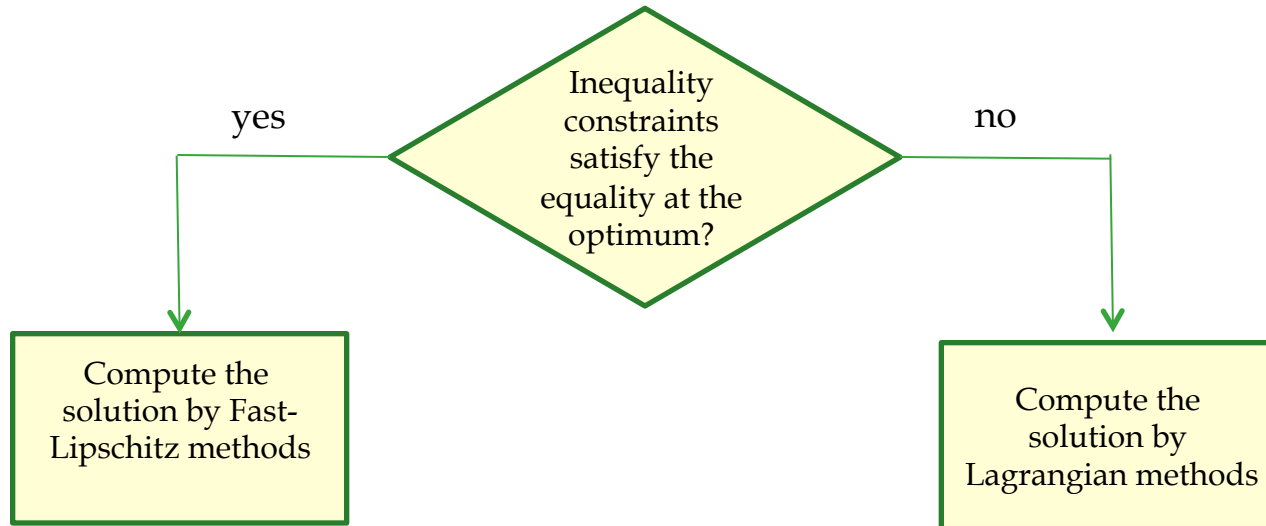


Number of iterations

Number of function evaluations



Summary



- Fast-Lipschitz optimization: a class of problems for which all the constraints are active at the optimum
- Optimum: the solution to the set of equations given by the constraints
- No Lagrangian methods, which are computationally expensive, particularly on wireless networks



Conclusions

- Existing methods for optimization over networks are too expensive
- Proposed the Fast-Lipschitz optimization
 - Application to distributed detection, many other cases
- Fast-Lipschitz optimization is a panacea for many cases, but still there is a lack of a theory for fast parallel and distributed computations
- How to generalize it for
 - static optimization?
 - dynamic optimization?
 - stochastic optimization?
 - game theoretical extensions?



Selected bibliography

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