Convex Optimization and Modeling

Jun.-Prof. Matthias Hein

Exercise Sheet 8 - 02.06.2010

due: 09.06.2010

Exercise 18 - Implementation of Gradient Descent and Newton method

a. (6 Points)

- Implement gradient descent with the Armijo rule in Matlab,
- Implement the Newton method (stepsize selection with Armijo rule) in Matlab,
- use separate functions for
 - 1. getStepSize: stepsize selection with Armijo rule. One chooses $\beta \in (0,1)$ and $\sigma \in (0,1)$ and s > 0. Then the stepsize α^k is defined as $\alpha^k = \beta^m s$, where m is the first non-negative integer such that

$$f(x^{k+1}) - f(x^k) = f(x^k + \beta^m s d^k) - f(x^k) \le \sigma \beta^m s \left\langle \nabla f(x^k), d^k \right\rangle.$$

We fix s = 1 and use only the parameters σ and β . input: current point, current gradient, descent direction, β , σ . output: stepsize.

- 2. f: returns the function value evaluated at a point input: a point x, output: the objective evaluated at x.
- gradf: returns the gradient of f evaluated at a point input: a point x, output: the gradient of f evaluated at x.
- Hessf: returns the Hessian of f evaluated at a point input: a point x,

output: the Hessian of f evaluated at x.

Sample matlab files NewtonExercise.m and DescentExercise.m can be downloaded from the course webpage.

As a function f use the example from the book (Equation 9.20),

 $f(x_1, x_2) = e^{x_1 + 3x_2 - 0.1} + e^{x_1 - 3x_2 - 0.1} + e^{-x_1 + 0.1}$

As initial point take a random sample from a Gaussian (x=randn(2,1)).

Stopping criterion: $\|\nabla f\| \le 10^{-4}$.

Test your code ! If it does not run $\implies 0$ points.

- b. (2 Points) Run the gradient descent code for $\sigma = \{0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9\}$ and $\beta = \{0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9\}$ for 10 different starting values for each set of parameters σ, β in the stepsize selection. Plot the average number of required steps in dependency of σ, β . Explain the plot.
- c. (2 Points) Run the Newton method for $\sigma = \{0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9\}$ and $\beta = \{0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9\}$ for 10 different starting values for each set of parameters σ, β in the stepsize selection. Plot the average number of required steps in dependency of σ, β . Explain the plot.
- d. (2 Points) Verify the experiment done in BV (page 481). Use gradient descent with the norms P_1 and P_2 (see Equation 9.25, page 476) and run it once for the gradient descent for P_1 and P_2 and directly Newton's method. All runs with the same starting point. Plot $f(x^k) p^*$ as on page 482 for all three cases.