

Improved Analysis of Restarted Accelerated Gradient and Augmented Lagrangian Methods via Inexact Proximal Point Frameworks

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1 Introduction

2 LOrA

- Dual: Inexact Augmented Lagrangian Method

3 FLOrA

- Primal: Restarted ACG
- Dual: Inexact Fast Augmented Lagrangian Method

4 Numerical Experiments

1 Introduction

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4 Numerical Experiments

Problem I: CSCO

Problem: Convex Smooth Composite Optimization

$$\phi_* = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{\phi(x) := f(x) + h(x)\}$$

- f is closed proper convex and L_f -smooth on \mathbb{R}^n , i.e.,

$$\|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \leq L_f \|x - y\|$$

for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

- h is convex and simple, i.e.,

$$\text{prox}_{\eta h}(x) := \underset{y \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{argmin}} \left\{ \eta h(y) + \frac{1}{2} \|y - x\|^2 \right\}$$

is efficiently computable for all $\eta > 0$.

Goal ε -solution: find $x \in \text{dom } h$ satisfying

$$\phi(x) - \phi_* \leq \varepsilon.$$

Motivation

- Nesterov's accelerated composite gradient (ACG) method achieves optimal complexity $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1/2})$ for solving CSCO.
- Restarted ACG methods are a widely used strategy to improve ACG empirical performance and suppress oscillations.
- Heuristic restart schemes: gradient (O'Donoghue and Candès [2015]), function value (O'Donoghue and Candès [2015]), speed (Su et al. [2016]).
No rigorous analysis for global convergence.
- **Goal:** develop an efficient restarted ACG method with optimal complexity via the inexact proximal point (IPP) framework.

Problem II: LC-CSCO

Problem: Linearly Constrained Convex Smooth Composite Optimization

$$\hat{\phi}_* = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{\phi(x) := f(x) + h(x) : Ax = b\}$$

- $\text{dom } f \supset \text{dom } h$
- f is closed proper convex and L_f -smooth on \mathbb{R}^n .
- h is convex and simple.
- Slater's condition is satisfied.
- $\text{dom } h$ is bounded with diameter $D \geq 1$.

Goal ε -primal-dual solution: find $(x, \lambda) \in \text{dom } h \times \mathbb{R}^m$ satisfying

$$v \in \nabla f(x) + \partial h(x) + A^\top \lambda, \quad \|v\| \leq \varepsilon, \quad \|Ax - b\| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Alternative: ε -primal solution $x \in \text{dom } h$

$$|\phi(x) - \hat{\phi}_*| \leq \varepsilon, \quad \|Ax - b\| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Motivation

A classical method for solving LC-CSCO problems is the augmented Lagrangian method (ALM), also known as the method of multipliers, which has the iteration

$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= \operatorname{argmin}_{u \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}_\rho(u, \lambda_k), \\ \lambda_{k+1} &= \lambda_k + \rho(Ax_{k+1} - b),\end{aligned}$$

where the augmented Lagrangian with penalty coefficient $\rho > 0$ is

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho(x, \lambda) = \phi(x) + \langle \lambda, Ax - b \rangle + \frac{\rho}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2.$$

It is known from Rockafellar [1976] that ALM can be reformulated as a proximal point method in the dual,

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ d(\lambda) - \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\},$$

where $d(\lambda) := \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda)$ and $\rho > 0$ is now the proximal stepsize.

Motivation

In practice, the ALM primal update is computed approximately (usually by ACG)

$$x_{k+1} \approx \underset{u \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{L}_\rho(u, \lambda_k).$$

Hence, referred to as I-ALM. It is thus natural to suppose that I-ALM is equivalent to an IPP method in the dual

$$\lambda_{k+1} \approx \underset{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m}{\operatorname{argmax}} \left\{ d(\lambda) - \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\},$$

for some suitable definition of “inexactness”.

Current convergence analyses of I-ALM do not take either this perspective or the full advantage of powerful modern IPP frameworks.

Goal: Develop a straightforward analysis of I-ALM via IPP framework, further propose a “dual accelerated” I-ALM in spirit of Restarted ACG.

Preliminary: Gradient Mapping

For CSCO objective $\phi(x) := f(x) + h(x)$, define the **gradient mapping** as

$$\mathcal{G}_\phi^\lambda(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda}(x - \text{prox}_{\lambda h}(x - \lambda \nabla f(x))) = \frac{x - x^+}{\lambda}.$$

Crucially: $\|\mathcal{G}_\phi^\lambda(x)\| \leq \varepsilon$ implies

- there exists a subgradient $v \in \partial\phi(x^+)$ satisfying $\|v\| \leq 2\varepsilon$
- if $\text{dom } h$ has diameter $D < \infty$, then $\phi(x^+) - \phi_* \leq D\varepsilon$.

Problem: Regularized CSCO

$$\min \{ \psi(x) := g(x) + h(x) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n \}$$

where

- $g(\cdot)$ is $(L + \mu)$ -smooth on \mathbb{R}^n and μ -strongly convex with $\text{dom } g \supset \text{dom } h$
- $h(\cdot)$ is closed proper convex and simple

Goal: ε -small gradient mapping norm

Algorithm: Accelerated Composite Gradient (ACG)

Algorithm Accelerated Composite Gradient

Require: given initial point $x_0 \in \text{dom } \psi$, $L \geq 0$, and $\mu \geq 0$, set $A_0 = 0$, $\tau_0 = 1$, and $y_0 = x_0$.

for $j = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**

1. Compute

$$a_j = \frac{\tau_j + \sqrt{\tau_j^2 + 8\tau_j A_j L}}{4L}, \quad A_{j+1} = A_j + a_j, \quad \tau_{j+1} = \tau_j + \mu a_j,$$
$$\tilde{x}_j = \frac{A_j}{A_{j+1}} y_j + \frac{a_j}{A_{j+1}} x_j.$$

2. Compute

$$\tilde{y}_{j+1} = \underset{u \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{argmin}} \left\{ \ell_g(u; \tilde{x}_j) + h(u) + \frac{2L + \mu}{2} \|u - \tilde{x}_j\|^2 \right\},$$

$$y_{j+1} = \underset{\psi}{\text{argmin}} \{ \psi(y_j), \psi(\tilde{y}_{j+1}) \},$$

$$x_{j+1} = \frac{(2L + \mu)a_j \tilde{y}_{j+1} - \frac{2A_j a_j L}{A_{j+1}} y_j}{A_{j+1} \mu + 1}.$$

end for

ACG Convergence Rates

Standard Fact:

$$A_{j+1} \geq \frac{1}{2L} \max \left\{ \frac{(j+1)^2}{4}, \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{2L}} \right)^{2j} \right\}.$$

Lemma

Define $R_0 = \min\{\|x - x_0\| : x \in X_*\}$, where X_* is the set of optimal solutions to $\min\{\psi(x) := g(x) + h(x) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$. Then, for all $j \geq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(y_j) - \psi(x_*) &\leq \frac{R_0^2}{2A_j}, \\ \|\mathcal{G}_\psi^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_{j-1})\| &\leq \frac{(2L + \mu)R_0}{\sqrt{LA_j}}. \end{aligned}$$

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Lower Oracle Approximation (LORa) Framework

Algorithm Lower Oracle Approximation (LORa) Framework

Require: given initial point $x_0^L \in \text{dom } \Phi$, $\sigma_L \in (0, 1)$, $\lambda_L > 0$, set $y_0^L = x_0^L$.

for $k = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**

1. Choose $\delta_k^L > 0$.

2. Find $(y_{k+1}^L, \Gamma_k^L) \in \text{dom } \Phi \times \overline{\text{Conv}}_{1/\lambda_L}(\text{dom } \Phi)$ such that

$$\Gamma_k^L(\cdot) \leq \Phi(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|\cdot - x_k^L\|^2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\lambda_L \hat{u}_{k+1}^L\|^2 + 2\lambda_L \left[\Phi(y_{k+1}^L) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 - \Gamma_k^L(x_{k+1}^L) \right] \\ \leq \sigma_L \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 + 2\lambda_L \delta_k^L, \end{aligned}$$

where for some $\mathcal{A}_k^L \in (0, \infty]$,

$$x_{k+1}^L = \underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{argmin}} \left\{ \Gamma_k^L(x) + \frac{1}{2\mathcal{A}_k^L} \|x - x_k^L\|^2 \right\}, \quad \hat{u}_{k+1}^L = \frac{x_k^L - x_{k+1}^L}{\mathcal{A}_k^L}.$$

end for

LORa Conditions

1 Lower model

$$\Gamma_k^L(\cdot) \leq \Phi(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|\cdot - x_k^L\|^2.$$

2 Error bound

$$\begin{aligned} \|\lambda_L \hat{u}_{k+1}^L\|^2 + 2\lambda_L \left[\Phi(y_{k+1}^L) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 - \Gamma_k^L(x_{k+1}^L) \right] \\ \leq \sigma_L \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 + 2\lambda_L \delta_k^L \end{aligned}$$

Proposition

Let \hat{x}_*^L be the minimizer of the proximal subproblem at iteration k ,

$$\hat{x}_*^L = \operatorname{argmin}_{z \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \Phi(z) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|z - x_k^L\|^2 \right\}.$$

Then, y_{k+1}^L obtained by the LORa framework satisfies

$$\Phi(y_{k+1}^L) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 - \Phi(\hat{x}_*^L) - \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|\hat{x}_*^L - x_k^L\|^2 \leq \frac{\sigma_L}{2\lambda_L} \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 + \delta_k^L.$$

Theorem (LOrA Suboptimality Guarantees)

Let X_* be the set of optimal solutions to $\min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(y)$. Define $R_0^L := \|x_0^L - x_*\| = \min\{\|x_0^L - x\| : x \in X_*\}$ and $\bar{\delta}_k^L := k^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i^L$. Suppose that $\mathcal{A}_k^L = \infty$ at all iterations. Then, for every $k \geq 1$, we have

$$\min_{1 \leq i \leq k} \|y_i^L - x_{i-1}^L\| \leq \frac{R_0^L}{\sqrt{1 - \sigma_L} \sqrt{k}} + \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda_L \bar{\delta}_k^L}{1 - \sigma_L}}.$$

Moreover,

$$\min_{1 \leq i \leq k} \Phi(y_i^L) - \Phi(x_*) \leq \frac{(R_0^L)^2}{2\lambda_L k} + \bar{\delta}_k^L.$$

The LHS $\min_{1 \leq i \leq k} \Phi(y_i^L) - \Phi(x_*)$ can be replaced with $\Phi(\hat{y}_k^L) - \Phi(x_*)$ where

$$\hat{y}_k^L = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k y_i^L.$$

Warm-up: Proximal Gradient Method

Problem: CSCO

Goal: ε -solution

Algorithm: Proximal Gradient Method (PGM)

$$x_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \langle \nabla f(x_k), x - x_k \rangle + h(x) + \frac{1}{2\eta} \|x - x_k\|^2 \right\}.$$

Folklore: $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$ complexity

More examples: proximal subgradient method, mirror descent, extragradient method, primal-dual hybrid gradient method, proximal bundle method, Newton proximal extragradient method, ...

$$x_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \langle \nabla f(x_k), x - x_k \rangle + h(x) + \frac{1}{2\eta} \|x - x_k\|^2 \right\}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\cdot) &= f(\cdot) + h(\cdot), & \Gamma_k^L(\cdot) &= \ell_f(\cdot; x_k) + h(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2\eta} \|\cdot - x_k\|^2, & \lambda_L &= \eta; \\ \sigma_L &= \eta L_f, & \mathcal{A}_k^L &= \infty, & \delta_k^L &= 0, & y_{k+1}^L &= x_{k+1}^L = x_{k+1}, & \hat{u}_{k+1}^L &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

- ① Lower Model: $\ell_f(\cdot; x_k) + h(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2\eta} \|\cdot - x_k\|^2 \leq f(\cdot) + h(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2\eta} \|\cdot - x_k\|^2$
- ② Error Bound: By L_f -smoothness and $\eta \leq 1/2L_f$:

$$\begin{aligned} & 2\lambda_L \left[\Phi(y_{k+1}^L) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_L} \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2 - \Gamma_k^L(x_{k+1}^L) \right] \\ & \stackrel{(1)}{=} 2\eta [f(x_{k+1}) - \ell_f(x_{k+1}; x_k)] \leq \eta L_f \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|^2 \stackrel{(1)}{=} \sigma_L \|y_{k+1}^L - x_k^L\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$ complexity ✓

Dual Application: Inexact Augmented Lagrangian Method

Problem: LC-CSCO

Goal: ε -primal-dual solution

Algorithm: I-ALM

$$x_{k+1} \approx \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, \lambda_k) := \phi(x) + \langle \lambda_k, Ax - b \rangle + \frac{\rho}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 \right\}$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \rho(Ax_{k+1} - b)$$

Complexity: ?

Existing I-ALM Complexity Results (and Preview)

Paper	Alg.	Complexity	ρ	ϕ	Conv. Pt.
Lan and Monteiro [2016]	I-ALM	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-7/4})$	Static	$f + \delta_Q$	Non-Erg.
Patrascu et al. [2017]	IFAL	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Static	$f + \delta_Q$	Erg.
Liu et al. [2019]	I-ALM	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-2})$	Static	$f + h$	Non-Erg.
Xu [2021]	I-ALM	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Geo.	$f + h$	Non-Erg.
	I-ALM	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	St./Geo.	$f + h$	Erg.
Lu and Zhou [2023]	al-ALM	$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Geo.	$f + h$	Non-Erg.
Li and Lin [2019]	LPALM	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Static	$f + h$	Non-Erg.
This work	I-ALM	$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Static	$f + h$	Non-Erg.
This work	I-FALM	$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Static	$f + h$	Non-Erg.

Existing I-ALM Complexity Results (and Preview)

Paper	Alg.	Complexity	ρ	ϕ	Conv. Pt.
Lan and Monteiro [2016]	I-ALM	$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-7/4})$	Static	$f + \delta_Q$	Non-Erg.
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This work	I-FALM	$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\varepsilon^{-1})$	Static	$f + h$	Non-Erg.

Background: I-ALM as IPPM I

Exact ALM

Primal

$$x_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, \lambda_k)$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \rho(Ax_{k+1} - b)$$

Dual

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ d(\lambda) - \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\}$$

Inexact ALM

Primal

$$x_{k+1} \approx \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, \lambda_k)$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \rho(Ax_{k+1} - b)$$

Dual

$$\lambda_{k+1} \approx \operatorname{argmax}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ d(\lambda) - \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\}$$

Proposition (Theorem 4 of Rockafellar [1976])

Fix $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $x \in \text{dom } h$ and define

$$\lambda_*^+ = \operatorname{argmax}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ d(\lambda) - \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_0\|^2 \right\},$$

$$\lambda^+ = \lambda_0 + \rho(Ax - b).$$

Then

$$\frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda^+ - \lambda_*^+\|^2 \leq \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, \lambda_0) - \min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}_\rho(y, \lambda_0).$$

- Enables absolute error IPPM, requires $\rho_k \rightarrow \infty$ for $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$ nonergodic complexity [Xu, 2021, Lu and Zhou, 2023].
- Can we obtain $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1})$ nonergodic complexity with constant ρ ?
- Can we use **relative error** IPPM?

Algorithm Inexact Augmented Lagrangian Method

Require: given initial point $x_0 \in \text{dom } h$, $\rho > 0$, $\varepsilon_0 > 0$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\varepsilon > 0$, set $\lambda_0 = 0$, and choose $\sigma \in (0, 1)$ such that $2\sigma\rho \leq D/\varepsilon$.

for $k = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**

1. Define

$$\varepsilon_k = (\varepsilon_0 \alpha^k + \sigma \rho \varepsilon^2) / 2$$

and use ACG to find a \tilde{x}_k satisfying $\|\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{L}_\rho(\cdot, \lambda_k)}^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_k)\| \leq \varepsilon_k / (2D)$ and set

$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{x}_k - (2L + \mu)^{-1} \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{L}_\rho(\cdot, \lambda_k)}^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_k).$$

2. Compute $\lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_k + \rho(Ax_{k+1} - b)$.

3. If $\|\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{L}_\rho(\cdot, \lambda_k)}^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_k)\| \leq \varepsilon$ and $\|Ax_{k+1} - b\| \leq \varepsilon$, then **return** (x_{k+1}, λ_{k+1}) .

end for

Inner/Outer Perspective

Inner Complexity (Proved by standard ACG arguments [Nesterov, 2013])

Proposition

Each call to ACG in Step 1 of I-ALM requires

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(1 + \frac{D(\sqrt{L_f} + \sqrt{\rho}\|A\|)}{\sqrt{\sigma\rho\varepsilon}} \right)$$

ACG iterations.

Outer Complexity

Proposition

I-ALM terminates in

$$\mathcal{O} \left(1 + \frac{R_\Lambda^2 + \rho\varepsilon}{(1-\sigma)\rho^2\varepsilon^2} \right)$$

outer iterations, where $R_\Lambda = \min\{\|\lambda_*\| : d(\lambda_*) = \hat{\phi}_*\}$.

Proof by reduction to LOrA

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\cdot) &= -d(\cdot), & \Gamma_k^L(\cdot) &= -\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \cdot) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\cdot - \lambda_k\|^2, & \mu_L &= 0, & \lambda_L &= \rho, & \sigma_L &= \sigma; \\ \mathcal{A}_k^L &= \infty, & \delta_k^L &= \varepsilon_0 \alpha^k, & y_k^L &= x_k^L = \lambda_k, & \hat{u}_{k+1}^L &= 0, & \alpha_L &= \alpha.\end{aligned}$$

- ❶ **Lower Model:** By definition for all $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ we have

$$-\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \lambda) \leq -\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = -d(\lambda)$$

- ❷ **Exact minimizer:** By definition

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ -\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \lambda) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\}$$

- ❸ **Error bound: ?**

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\cdot) &= -d(\cdot), & \Gamma_k^L(\cdot) &= -\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \cdot) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\cdot - \lambda_k\|^2, & \mu_L &= 0, & \lambda_L &= \rho, & \sigma_L &= \sigma; \\ \mathcal{A}_k^L &= \infty, & \delta_k^L &= \varepsilon_0 \alpha^k, & y_k^L &= x_k^L = \lambda_k, & \hat{u}_{k+1}^L &= 0, & \alpha_L &= \alpha.\end{aligned}$$

1 **Lower Model:** By definition for all $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ we have

$$-\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \lambda) \leq -\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = -d(\lambda)$$

2 **Exact minimizer:** By definition

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ -\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \lambda) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\}$$

3 **Error bound: ?**

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\cdot) &= -d(\cdot), & \Gamma_k^L(\cdot) &= -\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \cdot) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\cdot - \lambda_k\|^2, & \mu_L &= 0, & \lambda_L &= \rho, & \sigma_L &= \sigma; \\ \mathcal{A}_k^L &= \infty, & \delta_k^L &= \varepsilon_0 \alpha^k, & y_k^L &= x_k^L = \lambda_k, & \hat{u}_{k+1}^L &= 0, & \alpha_L &= \alpha.\end{aligned}$$

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$$-\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \lambda) \leq -\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = -d(\lambda)$$

❷ **Exact minimizer:** By definition

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ -\mathcal{L}(x_{k+1}, \lambda) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda - \lambda_k\|^2 \right\}$$

❸ **Error bound: ?**

Condition to prove:

$$-d(\lambda_{k+1}) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \|\lambda_{k+1} - \lambda_k\|^2 - \Gamma_k^L(\lambda_{k+1}) \leq \varepsilon_0 \alpha^k + \frac{\sigma}{2\rho} \|\lambda_{k+1} - \lambda_k\|^2, \quad (2)$$

3 (Non-Exclusive) Case Proof

Case I) If $\|Ax_{k+1} - b\| \geq \varepsilon$, then (2) holds.

Case II) If $\|\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{L}_\rho(\cdot, \lambda_k)}^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_k)\| \geq \varepsilon/2$, then (2) holds (using $2\sigma\rho \leq D/\varepsilon$).

Case III) If neither I) or II) hold, then (x_{k+1}, λ_{k+1}) is an ε -primal-dual solution, and I-ALM terminates.

I-ALM Complexity

Theorem

Given $\varepsilon > 0$, we choose $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon$, $\sigma = 1/2$, and $\rho = \varepsilon^{-1}$. Then, I-ALM finds an ε -primal-dual solution to the LC-CSCO problem in

$$\tilde{O} \left((1 + R_\Lambda^2) \left(1 + D \left(\frac{\sqrt{L_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} + \frac{\|A\|}{\varepsilon} \right) \right) \right)$$

ACG iterations, where $R_\Lambda = \|\lambda_* - \lambda_0\| = \min\{\|\lambda - \lambda_0\| : \lambda \in \Lambda_*\}$, where Λ_* is the set of maximizers to the dual problem.

Corollary

Under the conditions and parameter choices of the above theorem, I-ALM finds an ε -primal solution to the LC-CSCO problem in

$$\tilde{O} \left((1 + R_\Lambda^2) \left(1 + D \left(\frac{\sqrt{(R_\Lambda + D)L_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} + \frac{(R_\Lambda + D)\|A\|}{\varepsilon} \right) \right) \right)$$

ACG iterations.

Comparison with Previous Work

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left((1 + R_\Lambda^2) \left(1 + D \left(\frac{\sqrt{(R_\Lambda + D)L_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} + \frac{(R_\Lambda + D)\|A\|}{\varepsilon} \right) \right) \right)$$

Lower Bound: $\Omega \left(D\sqrt{\frac{L_f}{\varepsilon}} + \frac{\max\{R_\Lambda D, \|A\|\}}{\varepsilon} \right)$ [Ouyang and Xu, 2021]

- Near-optimal in ε , L_f , $\|A\|$, suboptimal in D , R_Λ
- Gradient mapping termination
 - Efficiently computable
 - Removes two-phase structure used by Lan and Monteiro [2016] by utilizing gradient mapping for inner termination

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Fast LOrA (FLOrA) Framework

Combine LOrA with Acceleration

Algorithm FLOrA Framework

Require: given initial point $x_0^F \in \text{dom } \Phi$, $\mu_F \geq 0$, $\sigma_F \in (0, 1]$, $\lambda_F > 0$, $\tau_0 = 1$, $\delta_0^F \geq 0$, set $B_0 = 0$ and $y_0^F = x_0^F$ and choose an $\alpha_F \geq 0$ satisfying $\alpha_F < (1 + \sqrt{\lambda_F \mu_F})^{-2}$.

for $k = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**

1. Set $\delta_k^F = \delta_0^F (\alpha_F)^k$ and compute

$$b_k = \frac{\lambda_F \tau_k + \sqrt{\lambda_F^2 \tau_k^2 + 4\lambda_F \tau_k B_k}}{2}, \quad B_{k+1} = B_k + b_k, \quad \tau_{k+1} = \tau_k + b_k \mu_F,$$
$$\tilde{x}_k^F = \frac{B_k}{B_{k+1}} y_k^F + \frac{b_k}{B_{k+1}} x_k^F.$$

2. Find $(\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F, z_{k+1}, \Gamma_k^F) \in \text{dom } \Phi \times \text{dom } \Phi \times \overline{\text{Conv}}_{\mu_F + \lambda_F^{-1}}(\text{dom } \Phi)$ such that the FLOrA conditions are

satisfied.

3. Choose y_{k+1}^F satisfying $\Phi(y_{k+1}^F) \leq \Phi(\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F)$ and compute

$$u_{k+1}^F = \hat{u}_{k+1}^F + \frac{\tilde{x}_k^F - z_{k+1}^F}{\lambda_F}, \quad x_{k+1}^F = \frac{1}{\tau_{k+1}} \left(\tau_k x_k^F + b_k \mu_F z_{k+1}^F - b_k u_{k+1}^F \right).$$

end for

FLOrA Conditions

Find $(\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F, z_{k+1}^F, \Gamma_k^F) \in \text{dom } \Phi \times \text{dom } \Phi \times \overline{\text{Conv}}_{\mu_F + \lambda_F^{-1}}(\text{dom } \Phi)$ such that the following hold:

FLOrA Conditions

$$\Gamma_k^F(\cdot) \leq \Phi(\cdot) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_F} \|\cdot - \tilde{x}_k^F\|^2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\lambda_F \hat{u}_{k+1}^F\|^2 + 2\lambda_F \left[\Phi(\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F) + \frac{1}{2\lambda_F} \|\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F - \tilde{x}_k^F\|^2 - \Gamma_k^F(z_{k+1}^F) \right] \\ \leq \sigma_F \|\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F - \tilde{x}_k^F\|^2 + 2\lambda_F \delta_k^F, \end{aligned}$$

where for some $\mathcal{A}_k^F \in (0, \infty]$,

$$z_{k+1}^F = \underset{v \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{argmin}} \left\{ \Gamma_k^F(v) + \frac{1}{2\mathcal{A}_k^F} \|v - \tilde{x}_k^F\|^2 \right\}, \quad \hat{u}_{k+1}^F = \frac{\tilde{x}_k^F - z_{k+1}^F}{\mathcal{A}_k^F}.$$

Theorem

Let X_* be the set of optimal solutions to $\min_x \Phi(x)$. Define $R_0^F := \|x_0^F - x_*\| = \min\{\|x_0^F - x\| : x \in X_*\}$. Then, for every $k \geq 0$,

$$\Phi(y_{k+1}^F) - \Phi_* \leq \frac{(R_0^F)^2}{2B_{k+1}} + \frac{\delta_0^F C_F}{B_{k+1}},$$

where $C_F := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} B_{i+1}(\alpha_F)^i < \infty$. Furthermore, if $\sigma_F < 1$, then for every $k \geq 0$, we have

$$\|\tilde{y}_{k+1}^F - \tilde{x}_k^F\| \leq \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_F} R_0^F + \sqrt{2\lambda_F \delta_0^F C_F}}{\sqrt{(1 - \sigma_F) B_{k+1}}},$$

$$\min_{0 \leq i \leq k} \|\tilde{y}_{i+1}^F - \tilde{x}_i^F\| \leq \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_F} R_0^F + \sqrt{2\lambda_F \delta_0^F C_F}}{\sqrt{(1 - \sigma_F) \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} B_i}}.$$

$$B_k \geq \lambda_F \max \left\{ \frac{k^2}{4}, \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_F \mu_F}}{2} \right)^{2(k-1)} \right\}$$

Primal: Restarted ACG

Problem: CSCO. Additionally assume

- f is μ_f -strongly convex with $\mu_f \geq 0$
- $L_f \geq 2\mu_f$

Goal: ε -solution

Algorithm: Restarted ACG

Complexity (Preview):

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(\min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{L_f}{\mu_f}}, \frac{\|x_0 - x_*\| \sqrt{L_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \right\} \right)$$

Algorithm Restarted ACG

Require: given initial point $w_0 \in \text{dom } h$, $\sigma \in (0, 1)$, $L_f \geq 0$, $\mu_f \geq 0$, and $\lambda > 0$, set $B_0 = 0$, $\tau_0 = 1$, and $v_0 = w_0$.

for $k = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**

1. Compute

$$b_k = \frac{\tau_k \lambda + \sqrt{\tau_k^2 \lambda^2 + 4\tau_k \lambda B_k}}{2}, \quad B_{k+1} = B_k + b_k, \quad \tau_{k+1} = \tau_k + b_k \mu_f,$$

$$\tilde{v}_k = \frac{B_k}{B_{k+1}} w_k + \frac{b_k}{B_{k+1}} v_k.$$

2. Call ACG with the proximal subproblem and perform j iterations until

$$\frac{\lambda}{A_j} \|y_j - \tilde{v}_k\|^2 + 2\lambda[\psi(y_j) - \Theta_j(x_j)] \leq \sigma \|y_j - \tilde{v}_k\|^2,$$

where y_j and x_j are the ACG iterates, respectively, and Θ_j and A_j^{-1} are the ACG estimating sequences.

3. Choose $w_{k+1} \in \text{Argmin} \{\phi(u) : u \in \{w_k, y_j\}\}$ and compute

$$v_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\tau_{k+1}} \left(\tau_k v_k + b_k \mu_f x_j - b_k \frac{A_j + \lambda}{\lambda A_j} (\tilde{v}_k - y_j) \right).$$

end for

Proposition

Assume that $\lambda \geq 1/(L_f - \mu_f)$. Then in each call to ACG in Step 2 of Restarted ACG, after at most

$$1 + \left\lceil \min \left\{ 2\sqrt{10\sigma^{-1}\lambda(L_f - \mu_f)}, \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda(L_f - \mu_f)}{1 + \lambda\mu_f}} \right) \ln(10\sigma^{-1}\lambda(L_f - \mu_f)) \right\} \right\rceil.$$

ACG iterations, the termination condition is satisfied.

Restarted ACG as FLOrA

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\cdot) &= \phi(\cdot), \quad \Gamma_k^F(\cdot) = \Theta_j(\cdot), \quad \mathcal{A}_k^F = A_j, \quad \delta_k^F = \alpha_F = 0, \quad \mu_F = \mu_f; \\ \sigma_F &= \sigma, \quad \lambda_F = \lambda, \quad y_k^F = w_k, \quad x_k^F = v_k, \quad \tilde{x}_k^F = \tilde{v}_k; \\ \tilde{y}_{k+1}^F &= y_j, \quad z_{k+1}^F = x_j, \quad u_{k+1}^F = \frac{A_j + \lambda}{A_j \lambda} (\tilde{v}_k - y_j), \quad \hat{u}_{k+1}^F = \frac{\tilde{v}_k - y_j}{A_j}.\end{aligned}$$

Proposition

For every $k \geq 1$, the function value gap $\phi(w_k) - \phi_*$ satisfies

$$\phi(w_k) - \phi_* \leq \min \left\{ \frac{2R_0^2}{\lambda k^2}, \quad \frac{R_0^2}{2\lambda} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{\lambda\mu_f}}{2} \right)^{-2(k-1)} \right\},$$

where R_0 denotes the distance from initial point w_0 to solution set X_* , i.e.,

$$R_0 = \|w_0 - x_*\| = \min\{\|w_0 - x\| : x \in X_*\}.$$

Theorem

For given $\varepsilon > 0$, the following statements hold:

- a) if $\mu_f = 0$ and $1/L_f \leq \lambda \leq R_0^2/\varepsilon$, then the total iteration-complexity of Restarted ACG to find an ε -solution is $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}\left(R_0\sqrt{L_f/\varepsilon}\right)$;
 - b) if $\mu_f > 0$ and $1/(L_f - \mu_f) \leq \lambda \leq \min\{1/\mu_f, R_0^2/\varepsilon\}$, then the total iteration-complexity of Restarted ACG to find an ε -solution is $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\min\{\sqrt{L_f/\mu_f}, R_0\sqrt{L_f/\varepsilon}\})$.
- For $\lambda \leq 1/(L_f - \mu_f)$, the number of inner ACG iterations is $\mathcal{O}(1)$.
 - If λ sufficiently small, Restarted ACG reduces to ACG.

Dual: Inexact Fast Augmented Lagrangian Method

Problem: LC-CSCO

Goal: ε -primal-dual solution

Algorithm: Inexact Fast Augmented Lagrangian Method (I-FALM)

Complexity (Preview):

$$\tilde{O} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{D^2 + D\hat{R}_\Lambda} \|A\|}{\varepsilon} + \frac{\sqrt{D + \hat{R}_\Lambda} \|A\|}{\sqrt{L_f \varepsilon}} + \frac{\sqrt{DL_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \right)$$

- 1 Add primal/dual perturbations

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_\rho(x, \lambda) := \phi(x) + \frac{\gamma_p}{2} \|x - x_0\|^2 + \langle \lambda, Ax - b \rangle + \frac{\rho}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 - \frac{\gamma_d}{2} \|\lambda - \lambda_0\|^2.$$

- 2 Apply FLOrA acceleration to outer loop

Algorithm Inexact Fast Augmented Lagrangian Method

Require: given initial $x_0 \in \text{dom } h$, $\rho > 0$, $\gamma_d > 0$, $\varepsilon > 0$, and $\varepsilon_0 \geq \varepsilon$, set $B_0 = 0$, $\tau_0 = 1$, $\gamma_p = \varepsilon/(2D)$, and $\lambda_0 = \nu_0 = 0$, and choose $\sigma \in (0, 1)$ such that $4\sigma\rho\varepsilon \leq 1$, and $\alpha \geq 0$ satisfying $\alpha < (1 + \sqrt{\gamma_d\rho})^{-2}$.

for $k = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**

1. Set $\varepsilon_k = (7\varepsilon_0\alpha^k + \sigma\rho\varepsilon^2)/8$ and compute

$$b_k = \frac{\rho\tau_k + \sqrt{\rho^2\tau_k^2 + 4\rho\tau_k B_k}}{2}, \quad B_{k+1} = B_k + b_k, \quad \tau_{k+1} = \tau_k + b_k\gamma_d;$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_k = \frac{B_k}{B_{k+1}}\lambda_k + \frac{b_k}{B_{k+1}}\nu_k.$$

2. Use ACG to find a \tilde{x}_k satisfying $\|\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{L}_\rho(\cdot, \tilde{\nu}_k)}^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_k)\| \leq \varepsilon_k/(2D)$ and set

$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{x}_k - (2L + \mu)^{-1} \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{L}_\rho(\cdot, \tilde{\nu}_k)}^{(2L+\mu)^{-1}}(\tilde{x}_k).$$

3. Compute $\lambda_{k+1} = \tilde{\nu}_k + \rho(Ax_{k+1} - b)$.

4. If $\|v\| \leq \varepsilon/2$ and $\|Ax_{k+1} - b\| \leq \varepsilon$, then return (x_{k+1}, λ_{k+1}) and **terminate**; otherwise, compute

$$\nu_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\tau_{k+1}} \left(\tau_k \nu_k + b_k \gamma_d \frac{\lambda_{k+1}}{1 + \gamma_d \rho} - \frac{b_k}{\rho} \left(\tilde{\nu}_k - \frac{\lambda_{k+1}}{1 + \gamma_d \rho} \right) \right),$$

and continue.

end for

Inner/Outer Perspective

Proposition (Inner Complexity)

For $\gamma_p = \varepsilon/2D$, each call to ACG in Step 2 of I-FALM requires

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{D}(\sqrt{L_f} + \sqrt{\rho}\|A\|)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \right).$$

ACG iterations^a.

^aReduced from $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\varepsilon^{-1})$ to $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\varepsilon^{-1/2})$ by primal γ_p -perturbation.

Proposition (Outer Complexity)

For $\gamma_d = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon/(\hat{R}_\Lambda + D))$, I-FALM terminates in

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{\hat{R}_\Lambda + D}}{\sqrt{\rho\varepsilon}} \right)$$

outer iterations, where $\hat{R}_\Lambda = \max\{1, \min\{\|\lambda_*\| : d(\lambda_*) = \hat{\phi}_*\}\}$ ^a.

^aReduced from $\mathcal{O}(\rho^{-2}\varepsilon^{-2})$ to $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\rho^{-1/2}\varepsilon^{-1/2})$ by dual γ_d -perturbation.

I-FALM Complexity

Theorem (I-FALM Primal-Dual Complexity (Informal))

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ satisfy $\varepsilon \leq \|A\|^2/L_f$. Choose $\rho = L_f/\|A\|^2$, $\varepsilon_0 = \rho^{-1}$, $\sigma = 1/4$, $\gamma_p = \varepsilon/(2D)$, $\gamma_d = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon/(\hat{R}_\Lambda + D))$. Then, Algorithm 6 finds an ε -primal-dual solution to the LC-CSCO problem in

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{D^2 + D\hat{R}_\Lambda}\|A\|}{\varepsilon} + \frac{\sqrt{D + \hat{R}_\Lambda}\|A\|}{\sqrt{L_f\varepsilon}} + \frac{\sqrt{DL_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} \right)$$

total ACG iterations, where $\hat{R}_\Lambda = \max\{1, \|\lambda_* - \lambda_0\|\}$, with $\lambda_* = \operatorname{argmin}\{\|\lambda - \lambda_0\| : \lambda \in \Lambda_*\}$ and Λ_* is the set of maximizers to the dual problem.

Corollary (I-FALM Primal Complexity (Informal))

Let $\varepsilon_g > 0$ satisfy $\varepsilon_g \leq 2\|A\|^2(D + \hat{R}_\Lambda)/L_f$. Then, using the parameters above with $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_g/(2(D + \hat{R}_\Lambda))$, I-FALM finds an ε_g -primal solution to the LC-CSCO problem in

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(\sqrt{\hat{R}_\Lambda + D} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{D}(D + \hat{R}_\Lambda)\|A\|}{\varepsilon_g} + \frac{\sqrt{D + \hat{R}_\Lambda}\|A\|}{\sqrt{L_f\varepsilon_g}} + \frac{\sqrt{DL_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_g}} \right) \right)$$

ACG iterations.

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(\sqrt{\hat{R}_\Lambda + D} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{D}(D + \hat{R}_\Lambda)\|A\|}{\varepsilon_g} + \frac{\sqrt{D + \hat{R}_\Lambda}\|A\|}{\sqrt{L_f\varepsilon_g}} + \frac{\sqrt{DL_f}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_g}} \right) \right) \quad (3)$$

- Near-optimal complexity in terms of ε , L_f , $\|A\|$ if $\varepsilon_g \leq L_f$
 - $\varepsilon \leq \|A\|^2/L_f$: Complexity is $\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(\sqrt{L_f/\varepsilon_g} + \|A\|/\varepsilon_g \right)$
 - $\varepsilon \geq \|A\|^2/L_f$: By rescaling ϕ , ε_g , complexity is $\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left(\sqrt{L_f/\varepsilon_g} + L_f/\|A\| \right)$
- Improved (but still suboptimal) dependence on D , R_Λ

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Numerical Experiments: Restarted ACG

Problem: LASSO

$$\phi_* := \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \phi(x) := \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|x\|_1 \right\}. \quad (4)$$

Randomly generated $A \in \mathbb{R}^{500 \times 1000}$ with 20% density, $b \in \mathbb{R}^{500}$, $x_0 = 0$.

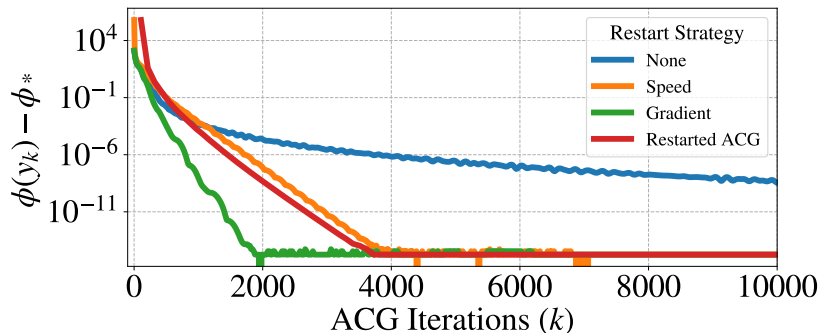


Figure: Comparison with baseline ACG, gradient restarting [O’Donoghue and Candès, 2015], and speed restarting [Su et al., 2016]

Numerical Experiments: I-(F)ALM

Problem: Linearly Constrained Quadratic Programming

$$\hat{\phi}_* := \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \phi(x) := \frac{1}{2} x^\top M x + c^\top x + \delta_Q(x) : Ax = b \right\},$$

where $Q = \{x : -10 \leq x_i \leq 10 \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Set $n = 200$, $m = 100$, $\|Q\| = 1$, $\text{rank}(Q) = 150$, A set to 20% density.

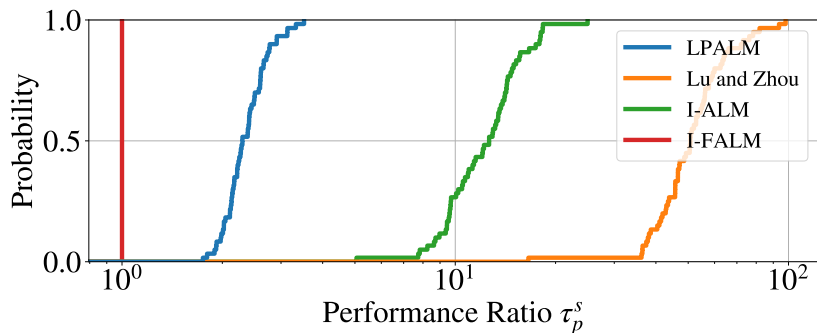


Figure: Performance profile of ALM variants: I-ALM, I-FALM, Lu and Zhou [2023], and LPALM Li and Lin [2019].

Thank you!

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