

Quasi-Tensor Methods



Mathematical
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Oxford
Mathematics



- 1** Motivation
 - Why tensor methods?
- 2** Higher-order secant updates
 - Derivation
 - Characterization
 - Convergence
- 3** Experiments
 - Convergence of quasi-tensor methods

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Why tensor methods?

- Unconstrained nonconvex optimization
 - Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be sufficiently smooth. Find $\mathbf{x}_* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(\mathbf{x})$.
- AR p : Iteratively minimize $T_p(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{s}) + \frac{\sigma_k}{p+1} \|\mathbf{s}\|^{p+1}$
- More derivatives = faster convergence

	$p = 1$	$p = 2$	$p = 3$	\dots
Global complexity ¹	$O(\varepsilon^{-2})$	$O(\varepsilon^{-3/2})$	$O(\varepsilon^{-4/3})$	$O(\varepsilon^{-(p+1)/p})$
Local convergence ²	linear	quadratic	cubic	p th-order

¹For adaptive regularization methods (AR p)

²Under the right assumptions

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Secant equation

$$\mathbf{B}_{k+1}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k) = \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

Secant equation

$$\mathbf{B}_{k+1}\mathbf{s}_k = \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k\mathbf{s}_k, \quad \mathbf{s}_k = \mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k, \quad \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k = \int_0^1 \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k + t\mathbf{s}_k) dt$$

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Quasi-Newton updates

- PSB: $\min_{\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{n \times n}} \|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B}_k\|_F$ s.t. $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{s}_k = \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k\mathbf{s}_k$
- DFP: $\min_{\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{n \times n}} \|\mathbf{W}_k^T(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B}_k)\mathbf{W}_k\|_F$ s.t. $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{s}_k = \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k\mathbf{s}_k$
- BFGS: $\min_{\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{n \times n}} \|\mathbf{W}_k^{-1}(\mathbf{B}^{-1} - \mathbf{B}_k^{-1})\mathbf{W}_k^{-T}\|_F$ s.t. $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{s}_k = \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k\mathbf{s}_k$

Secant equation

$$\mathbf{B}_{k+1} \mathbf{s}_k = \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k \mathbf{s}_k, \quad \mathbf{s}_k = \mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k, \quad \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k = \int_0^1 \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k + t \mathbf{s}_k) dt$$

Quasi-Newton updates

$$\mathbf{B}_{k+1} := \arg \min_{\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{n \times n}} \|\mathbf{W}_k^T (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B}_k) \mathbf{W}_k\|_F \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}_k = \widetilde{\mathbf{B}}_k \mathbf{s}_k$$

Higher-order secant equation

$$\mathbf{C}_{k+1}[\mathbf{s}_k] = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_k[\mathbf{s}_k] = D^{p-1}f(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) - D^{p-1}f(\mathbf{x}_k), \quad \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_k = \int_0^1 D^p f(\mathbf{x}_k + t\mathbf{s}_k) dt$$

Higher-order secant updates

$$\mathbf{C}_{k+1} := \arg \min_{\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}} \|(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}_k)[\mathbf{W}_k]^p\|_F \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{C}[\mathbf{s}_k] = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_k[\mathbf{s}_k] \quad (\text{HOSU})$$

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{C}_\bullet \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{C}} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$, a nonsingular matrix $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and a nonzero $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be given. The following equations all have the same unique solution $\mathbf{C}_+ \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$ using $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{W}^{-T} \mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{s}$:

a $\mathbf{C}_+ = \arg \min_{\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}} \|(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}_\bullet)[\mathbf{W}]^p\|_F$ s.t. $\mathbf{C}[\mathbf{s}] = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}[\mathbf{s}]$

b $\mathbf{C}_+ = \mathbf{C}_\bullet + \sum_{j=1}^p \binom{p}{j} (-\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{s})^{-j} P_{\text{sym}}\left(\left(\otimes^j \mathbf{v}\right) \otimes \left(\mathbf{C}_\bullet - \tilde{\mathbf{C}}\right)[\mathbf{s}]^j\right)$

c $\mathbf{C}_+ = \mathbf{C}_\bullet + P_{\text{sym}}(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{v})$ and $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p-1 n}$ is the unique $(p-1)$ -tensor s.t.
 $P_{\text{sym}}(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{v})[\mathbf{s}] = (\tilde{\mathbf{C}} - \mathbf{C}_\bullet)[\mathbf{s}]$

d $(\mathbf{C}_+ - \tilde{\mathbf{C}})[\mathbf{W}]^p = (\mathbf{C}_\bullet - \tilde{\mathbf{C}})[\mathbf{W}]^p \left[\mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{s} \mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{W}^{-T}}{\mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{W}^{-T} \mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{s}} \right]^p$

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{C}_\bullet \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{C}} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$, a nonsingular matrix $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and a nonzero $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be given. The following equations all have the same unique solution $\mathbf{C}_+ \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$ using $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{W}^{-T} \mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{s}$:

- a** $\mathbf{C}_+ = \arg \min_{\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}} \|(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}_\bullet)[\mathbf{W}]^p\|_F$ s.t. $\mathbf{C}[\mathbf{s}] = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}[\mathbf{s}]$
- b** *Explicit formula to compute update*
- c** *Update has a certain low-rank structure*
- d** *Recursive formula for the approximation error*

Theorem (convergence to the true derivative)

Let $\mathbf{C}_0 \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes p n}$ be given and update the approximations \mathbf{C}_k according to (HOSU). Assume \mathbf{x}_k converge to $\mathbf{x}_* \in \mathbb{R}^n$, \mathbf{W}_k converge to some nonsingular matrix $\mathbf{W}_* \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and the steps are uniformly linearly independent. Then \mathbf{C}_k converges to $\mathbf{C}_* := D^p f(\mathbf{x}_*)$.

Remark

In practice, only convergence up to $\sqrt{\varepsilon_{\text{mach}}}$ because of cancellation errors.

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- AR3 method + HOSU = quasi-tensor method
- Custom AR3 implementation (joint work with C. Cartis, R. A. Hauser, Y. Liu, W. Zhu)
- Test problems: 34 MGH problems ($2 \leq n \leq 40$) and 100-dim. Rosenbrock
- Problem solved when $\frac{f(\mathbf{x}_k) - f^*}{\max(1, |f^*|)} < 10^{-8}$

	$f(\mathbf{x}_k)$	$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k)$	$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}_k)$	$\nabla^3 f(\mathbf{x}_k)$
Successful iterations	0	1	0	0
Evaluation cost	1	n	$\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$	$\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6}$

Convergence of quasi-tensor methods

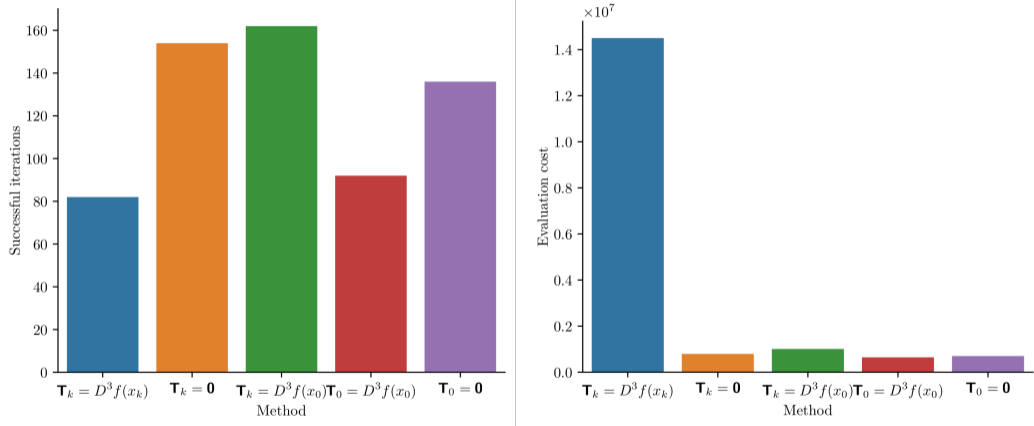


Figure: Performance on 100-dim. Rosenbrock function

Convergence of quasi-tensor methods

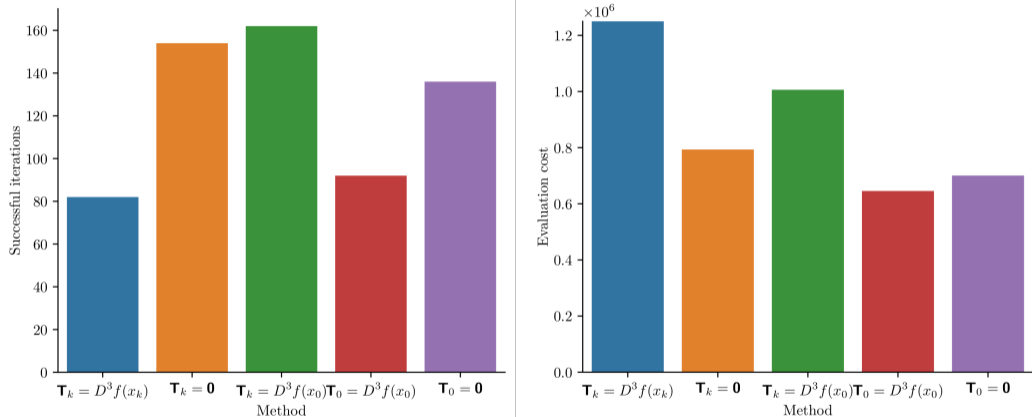


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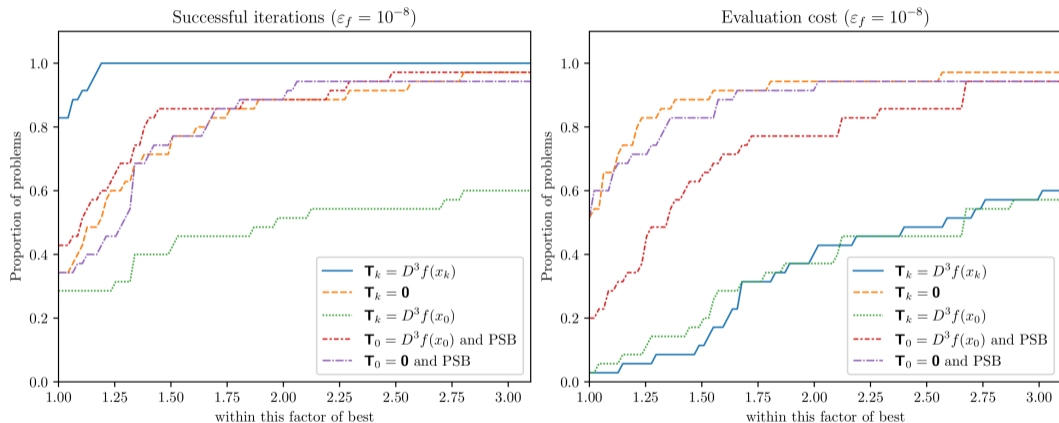


Figure: Performance profiles for the complete test set

- Quasi-Newton updates can be generalized to higher order
- HOSU provide cheap approximations of third derivatives
- Quasi-tensor methods can outperform second-order methods on certain problems

- Reference for HOSU
 - Welzel, K., & Hauser, R. A. (2024). Approximating Higher-Order Derivative Tensors Using Secant Updates. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*, 34(1), 893–917.
<https://doi.org/10.1137/23M1549687>