Parameter Optimization: Unconstrained

We will begin our study by developing some tools and concepts associated with the *general* optimization process applied to problems that are *independent of time*

- \Rightarrow These are known as *parameter optimization* problems
- We shall utilize a useful class of algorithms known as *iterative* methods
 - Iterative methods generate a sequence of points, $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, x^{(3)}, \ldots$, or more compactly $\{x^{(k)}\}$, that converge to a fixed point x^* which is the solution to a given problem
- For example, let us define a *line* as a set of points $x(\alpha) = x' + \alpha s$ where x' is a fixed point and s is the *direction* of the line (see a 2-D representation in Figure 3.1)
- An iterative scheme might systematically choose new directions *s* at each step and then minimize function values along those directions to generate a sequence of solution points {*x*^(k)}

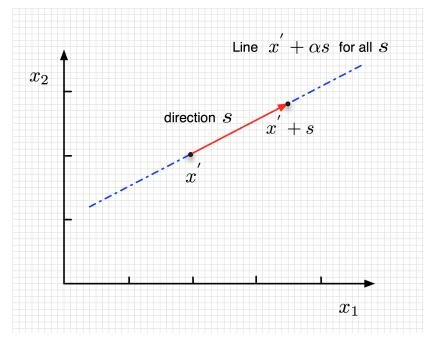


Figure 3.1 A line in two dimensions

- An acceptable iterative optimization algorithm exhibits the following properties:
 - iterations $x^{(k)}$ move steadily toward the neighborhood of a local minimizer x^*
 - iterations converge rapidly to the point x^* , i.e., for $h^{(k)} = x^{(k)} x^*$, $h^{(k)} \rightarrow 0$ for some appropriate measure of $h^{(k)}$
 - rate of convergence is an important measure of goodness of the algorithm
- A method is usually based on a *model* an approximation of the objective function – which enables an estimate of the local minimizer to be made
 - most successful have been quadratic models

3.1: Unconstrained Optimization: The Basics

- To begin, we must first define the goals we hope to achieve through optimization
 - We introduce an *index of performance*, or *objective function*, that captures the natue of our optimization goal – we'll call this function L
 - In general, *L* will be a function of one, two or many variables; i.e., $L = f(u_1, u_2, ..., u_m)$, where the u_i are scalar parameters
 - NOTE: it's also customary to use *J* to denote an objective function and *x_k* for the independent variables; e,g.,

 $J = f\left(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_m\right)$

- SImply put, our main task will be to select the decision variables $\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_m\}$ such that *L* is minimized
 - Recall here that maximization can be achieved by simply switching the sign on a minimization problem
- But what exacly do we mean by a *minimum*? We generally consider two definitions:

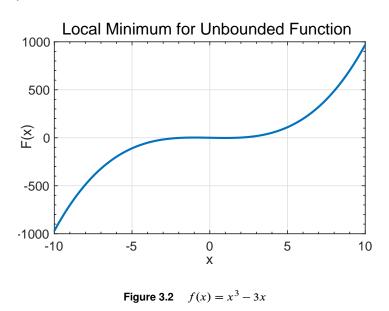
absolute (or global) minimum

 $\Rightarrow L(u_1^* + \Delta u_1, u_2^* + \Delta u_2, \dots, u_m^* + \Delta u_m) > L(u_1^*, u_2^*, \dots, u_m^*)$ for *all* changes $\Delta u_1, \Delta u_2, \dots, \Delta u_m$

local minimum

 $\Rightarrow L(u_1^* + \Delta u_1, u_2^* + \Delta u_2, \dots, u_m^* + \Delta u_m) > L(u_1^*, u_2^*, \dots, u_m^*)$ for all *infinitesimal* changes $\Delta u_1, \Delta u_2, \dots, \Delta u_m$, where values u^* denote the optimal (minimizing) values of u

- An optimization problem usually assumes that an optimum solution *u*^{*} exists, is unique and can be found, but this ideal situation may not hold for a number of reasons:
 - $\circ L(u)$ is unbounded below
 - $\circ L(u)$ is bounded below
 - $\circ u^*$ is not unique
 - local minimum exists that is not a global minimum
 - local minimum exists although $L(\mathbf{u})$ is unbounded below (see Figure 3.2)



- The conditions for a local minimum are considerably easier to solve than for a global minimum; we'll address the local minimum problem in this course
- NOTE: We will focus on *minimizing* performance indices (or objective functions). The problem of maximizing an objective function fits easily within this framework by simply letting $\hat{L} = -L$

Conditions for Local Minima

- Along any line u(α) = u* + αs through u*, L [u(α)] has both zero slope and non-negative curvature at u* (see Figure 3.3)
- This is the usual condition derived from a Taylor series for a local minimum of a function of one variable

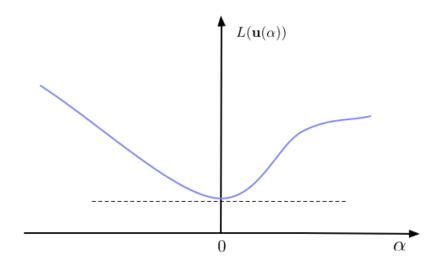


Figure 3.3 Zero slope and non-negative curvature at $\alpha = 0$

3.2: Unconstrained Optimization: One and Two Parameters

Single Parameter Problem

• Consider the function: $L(u) = (u - 1)^2$

How do we find the minimum?

$$\frac{dL}{du} = 0 = 2(u-1) \implies u = 1$$
$$\frac{d^2L}{du^2} = 2 > 0$$

- Why does this work?
 - if we let u^* denote a local minimum of L(u), then L can be expanded in a Taylor series about u^* :

$$L(u) = L(u^*) + \frac{dL}{du}\Big|_{u^*} \Delta u + \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{d^2L}{du^2} \right|_{u^*} \Delta u^2 + \cdots$$

or

$$\Delta L = L(u) - L(u^*) = \left. \frac{dL}{du} \right|_{u^*} \Delta u + \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{d^2 L}{du^2} \right|_{u^*} \Delta u^2 + \cdots$$

- Since u^* is a local minimum, we know two things:
 - 1. $L(u) L(u^*) > 0$ for all u in a neighborhood of u^*
 - 2. $\triangle u$ is an arbitrary, but infinitesimal change in u away from $u^* \Rightarrow$ higher order terms in Taylor series expansion are insignificant:

$$\Rightarrow \quad \Delta L \approx \left. \frac{dL}{du} \right|_{u^*} \Delta u$$

But since $\triangle u$ is arbitrary, $\frac{dL}{du}\Big|_{u^*} \neq 0 \implies \triangle L < 0$ for some $\triangle u$, and by deduction,

 $\Rightarrow u^* \text{ can only be a minimum if } \left. \frac{dL}{du} \right|_{u^*} = 0$ If $\left. \frac{dL}{du} \right|_{u^*} = 0$, $\Delta L \approx \left. \frac{d^2 L}{du^2} \right|_{u^*} \Delta u^2$ but $\Delta u^2 > 0$ for all Δu , so $\Delta L > 0$ if $\left. \frac{d^2 L}{du^2} \right|_{u^*} > 0$ $\Rightarrow u^*$ will be a minimum if $\left. \frac{d^2 L}{du^2} \right|_{u^*} > 0$ <u>Sufficient Conditions For a Local Minimum</u>

$$\frac{dL}{du}\Big|_{u^*} = 0; \qquad \frac{d^2L}{du^2}\Big|_{u^*} > 0$$
• What if $\frac{d^2L}{du^2}\Big|_{u^*} = 0$?

 Must go to higher order derivatives (odd derivatives must be zero, 1st even derivatives must be positive)

Necessary Conditions For a Local Minimum

$$\left. \frac{dL}{du} \right|_{u^*} = 0; \qquad \left. \frac{d^2L}{du^2} \right|_{u^*} \ge 0$$

QUESTION: What is the difference between necessary and sufficient conditions?

Two-Parameter Problem

- Consider the function $L(u_1, u_2)$ where $L(u_1^*, u_2^*)$ is a local minimum
- We'll use the same Taylor series arguments as above to develop conditions for a minimum, but now the Taylor series is more complicated:

$$L(u_1, u_2) = L(u_1^*, u_2^*) + \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_1} \Big|_{u_1^*, u_2^*} \Delta u_1 + \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_2} \Big|_{u_1^*, u_2^*} \Delta u_2$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_1^2} \Big|_* \Delta u_1^2 + 2 \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2} \Big|_* \Delta u_1 \Delta u_2 + \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_2^2} \Big|_* \Delta u_2^2 \right\} + \cdots$$

• Clearly, (u_1^*, u_2^*) can only be a minimum if the following stationarity condition is attained:

$$\left. \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_1} \right|_* = \left. \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_2} \right|_* = 0$$

- If these conditions are satisfied, then the second-order term in the Taylor series expansion must be greater than or equal to to zero for $\begin{pmatrix} u_1^*, u_2^* \end{pmatrix}$ to be a minimizer
- Let's re-write the 2nd-order term to see how we can validate this condition:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_1^2} \Big|_* \Delta u_1^2 + 2 \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2} \Big|_* \Delta u_1 \Delta u_2 + \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_2^2} \Big|_* \Delta u_2^2 \right\}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\Delta u_1 \Delta u_2 \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_1^2} \Big|_* & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2} \Big|_* \\ \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_2 \partial u_1} \Big|_* & \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u_2^2} \Big|_* \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \Delta u_1 \\ \Delta u_2 \end{array} \right]$$

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$$=\frac{1}{2} \triangle \boldsymbol{u}^T \left[\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}^2}\right] \triangle \boldsymbol{u}$$

- NOTE: $\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u^2}$ is the *Hessian* of *L*
- This result clearly indicates that the 2nd-order term in the Taylor series expansion will be greater than or equal to zero if

$$\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u^2}$$
 is positive semidefinite

Sufficient Conditions For a Local Minimum

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial u} = \mathbf{0}$$
 $\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u^2}$ positive definite

Necessary Conditions For a Local Minimum

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial u} = \mathbf{0}$$
 $\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u^2}$ positive semidefinite

<u>N-Parameter Problem</u>

• The vector notation introduced in the 2-parameter problem above is ideally suited to the *N*-parameter problem and leads to precisely the same necessary and sufficient conditions as those stated above

Example 1

• Consider the following four cases:

1.
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}} = \left[\begin{array}{cc} 2x_1 & 2x_2 \end{array} \right] = \boldsymbol{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0\\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} > 0$$

2.
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = -x_1^2 + -x_2^2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 & -2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} < 0$$
3.
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 - x_2^2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 & -2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \text{ indeterminate}$$
4.
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = -x_1^2 + x_2^2$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 & 2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 & 2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

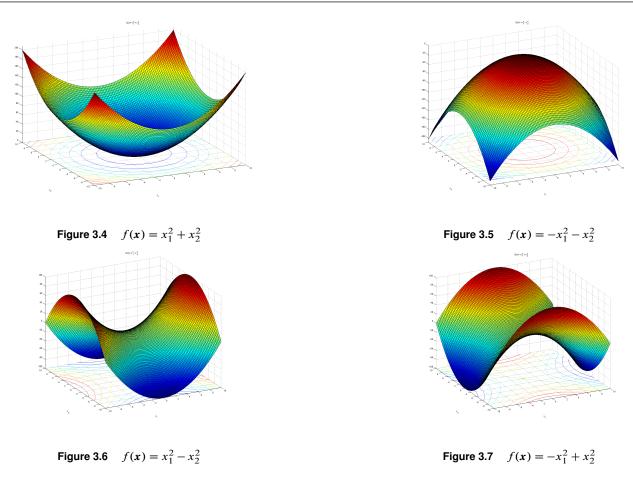
$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 & 2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 & 2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

Corresponding function surface graphs are depicted in the following figures



Example 2

• Consider the objective function given by:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1 - x_2 + 2)^2 + (x_1 + x_2 - 4)^4$$
$$\left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right]^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2(x_1 - x_2 + 2) + 4(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^3 \\ -2(x_1 - x_2 + 2) + 4(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$4(x_1 - x_2 + 2) = 0$$
$$x_1 - x_2 = -2$$
$$x_1 + x_2 = -2$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 3 \end{array} \right]^T$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 & -2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 \\ -2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 & 2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 & | -2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 \\ -2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 & | 2 + 12(x_1 + x_2 - 4)^2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \lambda_1 = 4, \ \lambda_2 = 0$$

Necessary conditions are satisfied; sufficient conditions are not.

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \ge 0 \ \forall (x_1, x_2)$$

 $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \text{ for } (1, 3)$

 \Rightarrow f(1, 3) is a local minimum

For many multi-parameter optimization problems, the necessary condition

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} = 0$$

generates a set of equations that are too difficult to solve analytically.

• So what do we do? Compute numerically!

3.3: Line Search Methods for Unconstrained Optimization

- Here we seek an iterative method for unconstrained optimization, i.e., one that iterates u^(k) so that it moves rapidly toward the neighborhood of a local minimizer u^{*} and converges rapidly to the point u^{*} itself
 - Order of convergence is a useful measure of algorithm behavior
 - Define the error vector,

$$\boldsymbol{h}^{(k)} = \boldsymbol{u}^{(k)} - \boldsymbol{u}^*$$

• Then if $h^{(k)} \rightarrow 0$ (convergence), it may be possible to give *local* convergence results:

$$\frac{\left\|\boldsymbol{h}^{(k+1)}\right\|}{\left\|\boldsymbol{h}^{(k)}\right\|^{p}} \to a$$

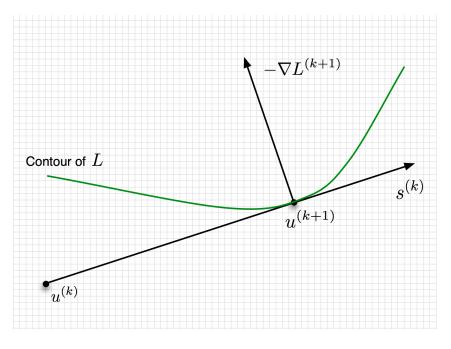
where a > 0 implies the order of convergence is p^{th} order.

- Here the notation $\|\bullet\|$ denotes a vector norm and,
 - $\circ p = 1 \Rightarrow$ first order or linear convergence
 - $\circ p = 2 \Rightarrow$ second order or quadratic convergence

Line Search Algorithms

- The basic idea is to search for a minimum function value along coordinate directions, or in more general directions
- First we generate an initial estimate $u^{(1)}$, then for each k^{th} iteration,
 - 1. Determine a direction of search $s^{(k)}$
 - 2. Find $\alpha^{(k)}$ to minimize $L(\mathbf{u}^{(k)} + \alpha \mathbf{s}^{(k)})$ with respect to α
 - 3. Set $u^{(k+1)} = u^{(k)} + \alpha^{(k)} s^{(k)}$

- Different methods correspond to different ways of choosing s^(k) in step 1
- Step 2 is the line search subproblem and involves sampling *L*(*u*) (and possibly its derivatives) along the line
 - Ideally, an exact minimizing value of $\alpha^{(k)}$ is required, but this is not practical in a finite number of steps
- It is apparent that the slope of $dL/d\alpha$ at $\alpha^{(k)}$ must be zero, which gives



$$\nabla L^{(k+1)T} \mathbf{s}^{(k)} = 0$$

Figure 3.8 Exact line search

- Generally, *inexact* or *approximate* line searches are used to satisfy this minimizing condition
- Requirement that $L^{(k+1)} < L^{(k)}$ is unsatisfactory by itself because reductions in *L* might be negligible
- Aim of a line search is to:

- find a step $\alpha^{(k)}$ which gives a significant reduction in *L* on each iteration
- ensure points are not near the extremes of the interval $[0, \bar{\alpha}^{(k)}]$, where $\bar{\alpha}^{(k)}$ denotes the least positive value of α for which $L(\mathbf{u}^{(k)} + \alpha \mathbf{s}^{(k)}) = L(\mathbf{u}^{(k)})$
- Goldstein Conditions meet the above requirements:

$$-f(\alpha) \le f(0) + \alpha \rho f'(0)$$
$$f(\alpha) \ge f(0) + \alpha (1-\alpha) f'(0)$$

$$-f(\alpha) \ge f(0) + \alpha(1-\rho)f'(0)$$

 $\rho \in \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ is a fixed parameter; the geometry is illustrated in accompanying Figure 3.9.

 The second of these conditions might exclude the minimizing point of f(α), so an alternate condition is often used:

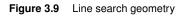
 $|f'(\alpha)| < -\sigma f'(0)$

$$f(\alpha)$$

$$f(\mathbf{u}^{(k)} + \alpha \mathbf{s}^{(k)})$$

$$f'(0)$$

$$\rho = .25$$



- If $\hat{\alpha}$ is the least value of $\alpha > 0$ at which the $f(\alpha)$ curve intersects the ρ -line, and $\sigma > \rho$, then it can be shown there exists an interal of acceptable points satisfying the Goldstein conditions (proof omitted).
- In practice, it is customary to use $\sigma=0.1$ and $\rho=0.01$, though the behavior is not really too sensitive to choice of ρ
- Line search algorithm comprises two phases: *bracketing* and *sectioning:*
 - Bracketing: iterates α_i move out to the right in increasingly large jumps until an acceptable interval is located
 - Sectioning: generates a sequence of brackets $[a_j, b_j]$ whose lengths tend toward zero

3.4: Line Search Algorithm: Bracketing

Bracketing Algorithm For i = 1, 2, ...1. evaluate $f(\alpha_i)$ 2. if $f(\alpha_i) \leq f_{min} \Rightarrow$ terminate line search 3. if $f(\alpha_i) > f(0) + \alpha \rho f'(0)$ or $f(\alpha_i) \ge f(\alpha_{i-1})$ (a) $a_i = \alpha_{i-1}$ (b) $b_i = \alpha_i$ \Rightarrow terminate bracket 4. evaluate $f'(\alpha_i)$ 5. if $|f'(\alpha_i)| \leq -\sigma f'(0) \Rightarrow$ terminate line search 6. if $f'(\alpha_i) \ge 0$ (a) $a_i = \alpha_i$ (b) $b_i = \alpha_{i-1}$ \Rightarrow terminate bracket 7. if $\mu \leq 2\alpha_i - \alpha_{i-1}$ (a) $\alpha_{i+1} = \mu$ 8. else (a) choose $\alpha_{i+1} \in [2\alpha_i - \alpha_{i-1}, \min(\mu, \alpha_i + \tau_1(\alpha_i - \alpha_{i-1}))]$ end

- Parameter τ_1 is preset and governs the size of the jumps; $\tau_1 = 9$ is a reasonable choice
- Choice of α_{i+1} can be made in any way, but a sensible choice is to minimize a cubic polynomial interpolating f(α_i), f'(α_i), f(α_{i-1}), and f'(α_{i-1}).

Example: Bracketing

• Consider the quadratic function

$$f(\alpha) = 0.5 + 2(\alpha - 3)^2$$

Since this is a quadratic, it's somewhat of a special case. For this example, we choose the following parameters for the start of the line search:

$$\alpha_0 = 0$$
 $\alpha_1 = 1$ $\rho = 0.25$ $\sigma = 0.5$

- For simplicity, we select $\overline{f} = 0$ as an absolute lower bound (although it's obviously bounded by 0.5)
- We begin the first iteration of the bracketing algorithm (i = 1)

1.
$$f(\alpha_1) = 8.5$$

2. Test: $f(\alpha_1) \le \overline{f}$ No
3. Test: $f(\alpha_1) > f(0) + \alpha_i \rho f'(0)$
 $8.5 > 18.5 + (1) (0.25) (-12) = 15.5$ No
4. $f'(\alpha_1) = -8$
5. Test: $|f'(\alpha_1)| \le -\sigma f'(0)$
 $|-8| \le -(0.5) (-12) = 6$ No
6. Test: $f'(\alpha_1) > 0$ No
7. Test: $\mu \le 2\alpha_1 - \alpha_0$ No

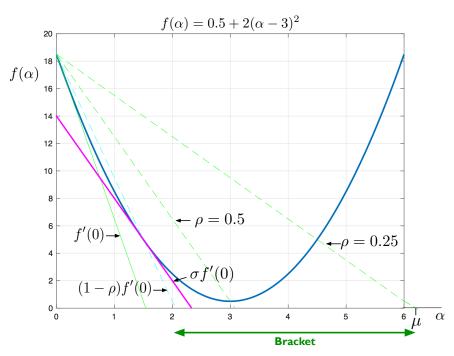
 \Rightarrow Therefore, choose the next iterate within the interval

$$\alpha_2 \in \left[2, \min\left(6.1667, 1 + \tau_1 \left(\alpha_1 - \alpha_0 \right) \right) \right]$$

Subsituting values,

$$\alpha_2 \in \left[2, \min\left(6.1667, 1+9(1-0) \right) \right] = \left[2, 6.1667 \right]$$

- Quadratic interpolation over this interval will give $\alpha_2 = 3$ as the next iterate; this will terminate the line search in the next bracket iteration at Step 5
 - The bracketing sequence is depicted in the plot below



3.5: Line Search Algorithm: Sectioning

Sectioning Algorithm
For
$$j = i, i + 1, ...$$

1. choose $\alpha_j \in [a_j + \tau_2 (b_j - a_j), b_j - \tau_3 (b_j - a_j)]$
2. evaluate $f(\alpha_j)$
3. if $f(\alpha_j) > f(0) + \rho \alpha_j f'(0)$ or $f(\alpha_j) \ge f(a_j)$
(a) $a_{j+1} = a_j$
(b) $b_{j+1} = \alpha_j$
4. else
(a) evaluate $f'(\alpha_j)$
(b) if $|f'(\alpha_j)| \le -\sigma f'(0) \Rightarrow$ terminate line search
i. $a_{j+1} = \alpha_j$
(c) if $(b_j - a_j) f'(\alpha_j) \ge 0$
i. $b_{j+1} = a_j$
(d) else
i. $b_{j+1} = b_j$
(e) end
end

 Parameters τ₂ and τ₃ are preset and restrict α_j from getting too close to the extremes of the interval [a_j, b_j]:

$$0 < \tau_2 < \tau_3 \le \frac{1}{2}$$

• Typical values are: $\tau_2 = 0.1$ and $\tau_3 = 0.5$

Polynomial Interpolation

• For the quadratic case, we can define the 2^{nd} -order polynomial $p_{\rm q}(z) = p_2 z^2 + p_1 z + p_0$

Considering the normalized interval z = [0, 1] corresponding to $[a_j, b_j]$ allows us to write the interpolation conditions:

$$p_{q}(0) = f(a_{j})$$

$$p_{q}(1) = f(b_{j})$$

$$p'_{q}(0) = f'_{z}(a_{j})$$

$$p'_{q}(1) = f'_{z}(b_{j})$$

Assuming we can compute the values $f(a_j)$, $f'_z(a_j)$, and $f(b_j)$, substituting for *z* allows us to write

$$p_q(0) = p_0 = f(a_j)$$

$$p'_q(0) = p_1 = f'_z(a_j)$$

$$p_q(1) = p_2 + p_1 + p_0 = f(b_j)$$

or, assembling in matrix-vector form,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_2 \\ p_1 \\ p_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f(b_j) \\ f'_z(a_j) \\ f(a_j) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Solving this system of equations yields

$$p_0 = f(a_j)$$

$$p_1 = f'_z(a_j)$$

$$p_2 = f(b_j) - f(a_j) - f'_z(a_j)$$

giving the interpolating polynomial:

$$p_q(z) = \left[f(b_j) - f(a_j) - f'_z(a_j) \right] z^2 + \left[f'_z(a_j) \right] z + f(a_j)$$

- Note that the mapping transformation is given by

$$\alpha = a + z \left(b - a \right)$$

where by the chain rule we have

$$f'_z = \frac{df}{dz} = \frac{df}{d\alpha} \cdot \frac{d\alpha}{dz} = (b-a)\frac{df}{d\alpha}$$

which relates the derivatives of the mapped variables.

- The inverse mapping is,

$$z = \frac{1}{b-a} \left(\alpha - a \right)$$

• If in addition $f'(b_j)$ is available, we can find the cubic interpolating polynomial:

$$p_c(z) = p_3 z^3 + p_2 z^2 + p_1 z + p_0$$

where we assemble the interpolation equations:

$$p_{c}(1) = p_{3} + p_{2} + p_{1} + p_{0} = f(b_{j})$$

$$p_{c}'(1) = 3p_{3} + 2p_{2} + p_{1} = f_{z}'(b_{j})$$

$$p_{c}'(0) = p_{1} = f_{z}'(a_{j})$$

$$p_{c}(0) = p_{0} = f(a_{j})$$

or in matrix form,

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} p_3 \end{bmatrix}$		$\left[f\left(b_{j} ight) ight]$
3 2 1 0	<i>p</i> ₂		$f_{z}^{\prime}\left(b_{j} ight)$
0 0 1 0	p_1	—	$f_{z}^{\prime}\left(a_{j}\right)$
0 0 0 1	p_0		$f(a_j)$

Thus giving the solution:

$$p_{0} = f(a_{j})$$

$$p_{1} = f'_{z}(a_{j})$$

$$p_{2} = 3(f(b_{j}) - f(a_{j})) - 2f'_{z}(a_{j}) - f'_{z}(b_{j})$$

$$p_{3} = f'_{z}(a_{j}) + f'_{z}(b_{j}) - 2(f(b_{j}) - f(a_{j}))$$

Example 3

• Consider the function,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 100 \left(x_2 - x_1^2\right)^2 + (1 - x_1)^2$$

and let

$$\boldsymbol{x}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and $\boldsymbol{s}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 \end{bmatrix}$

• We then have,

$$f(\alpha) = 100\alpha^{4} + (1 - \alpha)^{2}$$
$$f'(\alpha) = 400\alpha^{3} - 2(1 - \alpha)$$

• Choosing parameters,

$$\sigma = 0.1$$

 $\rho = 0.01$
 $\tau_1 = 9$
 $\tau_2 = 0.1$
 $\tau_3 = 0.5$

gives the following results for the cases $\alpha_1 = 0.1$ and $\alpha_1 = 1$:

ECE5570, Parameter Optimization: Unconstrained

0	1	2	3	4
0	0.1	0.2	0.160948	
1	0.82	0.8	0.771111	
-2	-1.4	1.6	-0.010423	
0	1	0.1	0.19	0.160922
1	100	0.82	0.786421	0.771112
-2		-1.4	1.1236	-0.011269
	0 1 -2 0 1	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

Table 3.1	LINE SEARCH EXAMPLE

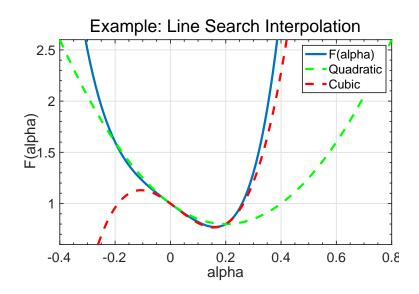


Figure 3.10 Example 3: $f(\alpha) = 100\alpha^4 + (1 - \alpha)^2$

3.6: Descent Methods

• Descent methods are line search methods where the the search direction satisfies the *descent property*:

$$\boldsymbol{s}^{(k)T}\boldsymbol{g}^{(k)} < 0$$

where

$$\boldsymbol{g}^{(k)} = \nabla L(\boldsymbol{u})$$

- This condition ensures
 - The slope of $dL/d\alpha$ is always negative at $\alpha = 0$ (unless $u^{(k)}$ is a stationary point)
 - The function $L(\mathbf{u})$ can be reduced in the line search for some $\alpha^{(k)} > 0$

Steepest Descent Methods

Steepest descent is defined by the condition:

$$\boldsymbol{s}^{(k)} = -\boldsymbol{g}^{(k)}$$

for all k .

- This condition ensures that L(u) decreases most rapidly local to $u^{(k)}$
- Although appealing, the steepest descent method is not suited for practical use, largely because:
 - it usually exhibits oscillatory behavior
 - it usually terminates far from the exact solution due to round-off errors

- Inadequacy of steepest descent is due mostly to the model: the steepest descent property along the line holds only at $\alpha = 0$ (not for all α)
- An exception occurs for *quadratic* models, which we'll investigate in more detail later

<u>Convergence</u>

- It is important to be able to determine when an algorithm has converged to an acceptable solution
- A useful test would be: $L^{(k)} L^* \le \epsilon$ or $|\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)} \mathbf{x}_i^*| \le \epsilon_i$, but these are not practical because they require the solution!
- A practical alternative is: $\|g^{(k)}\| \le \epsilon$, though in practice it's hard to choose an appropriate ϵ
- Far more practical are tests of the following form:

$$\left|x_{i}^{(k+1)} - x_{i}^{(k)}\right| \le \epsilon_{i} \qquad \forall i$$

or

$$L^{(k+1)} - L^{(k)} \le \epsilon$$

3.7: Newton's Method

- It was shown previously that there is a great advantage to deriving a method based on a quadratic model
- Newton's method is the most straightforward such technique
- The key to this algorithm is that the values of *u* which minimize *L* are the same as the ones which satisfy

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} = \boldsymbol{0}$$

- So, we'll set up an algorithm which searches for a solution to this problem
- Writing the truncated Taylor series expansion of L(u) about $u^{(k)}$:

$$L(\boldsymbol{u}^{k}) + \boldsymbol{\delta}) \approx q^{(k)}(\boldsymbol{\delta}) = L^{(k)} + \boldsymbol{g}^{(k)T}\boldsymbol{\delta} + \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\delta}^{T}G^{(k)}\boldsymbol{\delta}$$

where $\delta = u - u^{(k)}$, and $q^{(k)}(\delta)$ is the resulting quadratic approximation for iteration *k*.

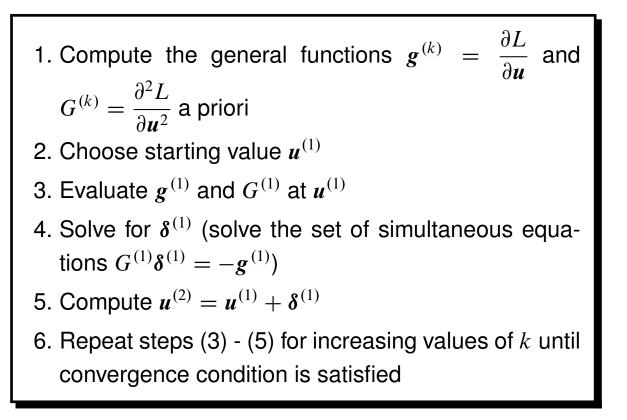
- Iteration $u^{(k+1)}$ is computed as $u^{(k)} + \delta^{(k)}$ where the correction $\delta^{(k)}$ minimizes $q^{(k)}(\delta)$
- Method requires the zero, first and second order derivatives of L(u)
- The basic algorithm can be written:

- solve for
$$G^{(k)} \boldsymbol{\delta} = -\boldsymbol{g}^{(k)}$$
 for $\boldsymbol{\delta} = \boldsymbol{\delta}^{(k)}$

- set
$$\boldsymbol{u}^{(k+1)} = \boldsymbol{u}^{(k)} + \boldsymbol{\delta}^{(k)}$$

• Newton's method exhibits second-order convergence

Complete Algorithm =



• The biggest problem with this algorithm is that the calculation of the Hessian $\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial u^2}$ may be extremely tedious

Example 4

Let

$$L(\boldsymbol{u}) = u_1^4 + u_1 u_2 + (1 + u_2)^2$$

where

$$\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)} = \left[\begin{array}{c} 1.25\\ -0.2 \end{array} \right]$$

Implementing Newton's method for values of k from 1 to 7 gives the results summarized in the table below; a graphical representation is

shown in Figure 3.11. Here we use the (idealized) definition of $h^{(k)} = u^k - u^*$.

k	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$u_1^{(k)}$	1.25	0.9110	0.7451	0.69932	0.6959029	0.6958844	0.6958843
$u_{2}^{(k)}$	-0.2	-1.455	-1.3726	-1.34966	-1.347951	-1.3479422	-1.3479422
$g_1^{(k)}$	7.6125	1.5683	0.2823	-0.018382	0.0000982235	-0.000000028559	0
$g_2^{(k)}$	2.8500	0	0	0	0	0	0
$L^{(k)}$	2.8314	-0.4298	-0.5757	-0.582414	-0.5824452	-0.5824452	-0.5824452
$\boldsymbol{h}^{(k)}$	1.2727	0.24046	0.0550691	0.00384881	0.0000206765	0.0000000064497	0

Table 3.2 NEWTON'S METHOD EXAMPLE

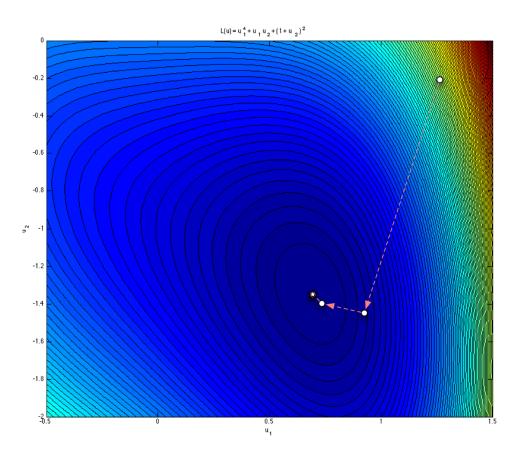


Figure 3.11 Newton's method example

From the above, it can be shown that the ratio $\|\mathbf{h}^{(k+1)}\|/\|\mathbf{h}^{(k)}\|^2 \to a$ where $a \approx 1.4$, indicating second-order convergence.

- Basic Newton method is not suitable for a general purpose algorithm:
 - $G^{(k)}$ may not be be positive definite when $x^{(k)}$ is far from the solution
 - even if $G^{(k)}$ is positive definite, algorithm still may not converge
 - convergence can be addressed by using Newton's method with line search:

$$s^{(k)} = -G^{(k)-1}g^{(k)} \Rightarrow$$
 search direction

Example 5

• Returning to the function of Example 4,

$$L(\boldsymbol{u}) = u_1^4 + u_1 u_2 + (1 + u_2)^2$$

If we choose

$$\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$

then we have,

$$\boldsymbol{g}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad G^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0&1\\1&2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{s}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} -2\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- A search along ±s⁽¹⁾ changes only the x₁ component of x⁽¹⁾ which finds x₁ = 0 as the minimizing value in the search ⇒ algorithm fails to make progress!
- Reason for this is: $s^{(1)T}g^{(1)} = 0 \Rightarrow$ directions are not downhill!
 - This stems from the fact that $\lambda(G^{(1)}) = 2.1412, -0.4142 \Rightarrow G^{(1)}$ not positive definite

• But function *L*(*u*) has a well defined minimum which can be found by searching along steepest descent direction

3.8 Modifications to Newton's Method

- Clearly, some modification is required to make the Newton algorithm generally applicable
- Modification 1: Revert to steepest descent direction $s^{(k)} = -g^{(k)}$ whenever $G^{(k)}$ is not positive definite
 - Unfortunately, this exhibits slow oscillatory behavior since the method ignores information in the model quadratic function
- Modification 2: Adjust the Newton search direction by giving it a bias towards the steepest descent vector, -g^(k):

$$\left(G^{(k)}+\nu I\right)\boldsymbol{s}^{(k)}=-\boldsymbol{g}^{(k)}$$

- Method adds factor ν to the eigenvalues of $G^{(k)}$ to (hopefully) make it positive definite
- Takes into account more of the function's quadratic information (except in the vicinity of a saddle point)
- Other modifications exist, but they are beyond the scope of this course

1st-order Gradient Methods (a simplified approach)

 Instead of using knowledge about the "curvature" of L to help us find δ, let's simply step by some amount (???) in the direction of decreasing L until we reach a minimum - the solution of the linear equation $G\delta = -g$ can be expressed as

$$\boldsymbol{\delta} = -G^{-1}\boldsymbol{g}$$

(though in practice this is not how we would solve it)

- we now replace G^{-1} by a positive scalar constant K so that

$$\delta = -Kg$$

- we can now perform the same iterative algorithm outlined above
- Can I convince you that this will work?
 - remember, $L(\boldsymbol{u} + \boldsymbol{\delta}) = L(\boldsymbol{u}) + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} \boldsymbol{\delta} + \mathcal{O}(2)$

– if
$$\boldsymbol{\delta} = -K \frac{\partial L}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}$$
, then

$$L(\boldsymbol{u}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-L(\boldsymbol{u})\approx -K\left|\frac{\partial L}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}\right|^2<0$$

- so, to first order, we are moving in the right direction!

- This verification also provides some insight into the problem of selecting *K* :
 - if K is too big, the 2nd-order term in the Taylor series may become significant and the algorithm may overshoot the stationary point and not converge at all.
 - if K is too small, the higher-order-terms will be truly insignificant but it may take forever to get to the solution
 - how is it done in practice? Vary K during the iteration process

3.9: Quasi-Newton Methods

- Main disadvantage of Newton's method is that the user must supply explicit formulae to compute the second derivative matrix *G*
- But methods very similar to Newton's method can be derived when only first derivative formulae are available
- One straighforward approach is the *Finite Difference Newton Method:*
 - estimate $G^{(k)}$ by using finite differences in the gradient vectors, i.e., the (i, j) element of estimate $\hat{G}^{(1)}$ is computed as:

$$\hat{G}_{ij} = \frac{\left(\boldsymbol{g}_{j}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(k)} + h_{i}\boldsymbol{e}_{i}) - \boldsymbol{g}_{j}^{(k)}\right)}{h_{i}}$$

where h_i is an increment length in the coordinate direction, e_i .

– make \hat{G} symmetric by computing

$$\hat{G}_s = \frac{1}{2} \left(\hat{G} + \hat{G}^T \right)$$

– use \hat{G}_s in place of $G^{(k)}$ in Newton's method

- The method can be useful, but has some disadvantages:
 - $-\hat{G}_s$ may not be positive definite
 - *n* gradient evaluations are required to estimate $G^{(k)}$
 - a set of linear equations must be solved at each iteration

Quasi-Newton Methods

- Quasi-Newton methods avoid some of the disadvantages outlined above by –
 - employing Newton's method with line search

- approximating $G^{(k)-1}$ by a symmetric positive definite matrix $H^{(k)}$ which is updated at each iteration
- Basic Algorithm:
 - initialize $H^{(1)}$ to any positive definite matrix ($H^{(k)} = I$ is a good choice)
 - set search direction $s^{(k)} = -H^{(k)}g^{(k)}$
 - perform line search along $s^{(k)}$ giving $u^{(k+1)} = u^{(k)} + \alpha^{(k)}s^{(k)}$
 - update $H^{(k)}$ giving $H^{(k+1)}$
- Advantages to this method:
 - only first derivatives are required
 - positive definite $H^{(k)}$ implies the descent property
 - order of n^2 multiplications per iteration
- New aspect is the update calculation of $H^{(k+1)}$ from $H^{(k)}$
 - attempts to augment $H^{(k)}$ with second derivative information gained from k^{th} iteration
 - ideally, want the update to change $H^{(1)}$ into a close approximation of $G^{(k)-1}$
 - one method of doing this involves defining the differences:

$$\delta^{(k)} = \alpha^{(k)} s^{(k)} = x^{(k+1)} - x^{(k)}$$

$$\gamma^{(k)} = g^{(k+1)} - g^{(k)}$$

then the Taylor series of the gradient $g^{(k)}$ gives

$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(k)} = G^{(k)}\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(k)} + o\left(\left\|\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(k)}\right\|\right)$$

where higher order terms can be neglected.

- since $\delta^{(k)}$ and $\gamma^{(k)}$ can only be calculated after the line search, $H^{(k)}$ does not usually relate them correctly
- thus, $H^{(k+1)}$ is chosen to correctly relate the differences (quasi-Newton condition):

$$H^{(k+1)}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(k)} = \boldsymbol{\delta}^{(k)}$$

- Computationally, one approach is to introduce a recursive form: $H^{(k+1)} = H^{(k)} + E^{(k)}$
 - let $E^{(k)}$ be the rank one symmetric matrix $a \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}^T$
 - satisfying the quasi-Newton condition requires:

$$H^{(k)}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(k)} + a\boldsymbol{v}\boldsymbol{v}^T\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(k)} = \boldsymbol{\delta}^{(k)}$$

- which gives rise to the rank one formula:

$$H^{(k+1)} = H + \frac{(\boldsymbol{\delta} - H\boldsymbol{\gamma})(\boldsymbol{\delta} - H\boldsymbol{\gamma})^{T}}{(\boldsymbol{\delta} - H\boldsymbol{\gamma})^{T}\boldsymbol{\gamma}}$$

Example 6

• Consider the quadratic function:

$$L(\boldsymbol{u}) = 10u_1^2 + u_2^2$$
$$= \boldsymbol{u}^T \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{u}$$

$$\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Gradient:

$$\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{u}) = \begin{bmatrix} 20u_1 \\ 2u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Hessian:

$$G(\boldsymbol{u}) = \left[\begin{array}{cc} 20 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

Iteration k = 1

$$\boldsymbol{g}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\2 \end{bmatrix} \quad H^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0\\0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{s}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} -2\\-2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(1)} = 0.0909$$

<u>Iteration k = 2</u>

$$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{u}^{(2)} = \boldsymbol{u}^{(1)} + \alpha^{(1)} \boldsymbol{s}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} .1\\1 \end{bmatrix} + (0.0909) \begin{bmatrix} -2\\-2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.0818\\0.8182 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{g}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} -1.6364\\1.6364 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(1)} = \boldsymbol{u}^{(2)} - \boldsymbol{u}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.0818\\0.8182 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0.1\\1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.1818\\0.1818 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(1)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(2)} - \boldsymbol{g}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} -1.6364\\1.6364 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2\\2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3.6363\\-0.3636 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{v}^{(1)} = \boldsymbol{\delta}^{(1)} - H^{(1)} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.1818 \\ 0.1818 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -3.6363 \\ -.3636 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.4545 \\ 0.1818 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$H^{(2)} = H^{(1)} + \frac{\left(\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(1)} - H^{(1)} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(1)}\right) \left(\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(1)} - H^{(1)} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(1)}\right)^{T}}{\left(\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(1)} - H^{(1)} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(1)}\right)^{T} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(1)}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0550 & -0.0497 \\ -0.0497 & 0.9974 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{s}^{(2)} = -H^{(2)}\boldsymbol{g}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0550 & -0.0497 \\ -0.0497 & 0.9974 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1.6364 \\ 1.6364 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1713 \\ -1.7135 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(2)} = 0.4775$$

Iteration k = 3

$$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{u}^{(3)} = \boldsymbol{u}^{(2)} + \alpha^{(2)} \boldsymbol{s}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.0818\\0.8182 \end{bmatrix} + (0.4775) \begin{bmatrix} 0.1713\\-1.7135 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{g}^{(3)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\delta}^{(2)} = \boldsymbol{u}^{(3)} - \boldsymbol{u}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -0.0818\\0.8182 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0818\\-0.8182 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(2)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(3)} - \boldsymbol{g}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -1.6364\\1.6364 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.6364\\-1.6364 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{v}^{(2)} = \boldsymbol{\delta}^{(2)} - H^{(2)} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.0895\\0.8953 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$H^{(3)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.05 & 0\\0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Note that the algorithm terminates with $g^* = 0$ and $H^* = G^{-1}$
- It can be proven that under some mild conditions, the method terminates on a quadratic function in at most n + 1 steps, with $H^{(n+1)} = G^{-1}$

• Two other well-known quasi-Newton algorithms are:

- DAVIDON-FLETCHER-POWELL (DFP):

$$H_{DFP}^{(k+1)} = H + \frac{\delta \delta^{T}}{\delta^{T} \gamma} - \frac{H \gamma \gamma^{T}}{\gamma^{T} H \gamma}$$

- BROYDEN-FLETCHER-GOLDFARB-SHANNO (BFGS):

$$H_{BFGS}^{(k+1)} = H + \left(1 + \frac{\boldsymbol{\gamma}^T H \boldsymbol{\gamma}}{\boldsymbol{\delta}^T \boldsymbol{\gamma}}\right) \frac{\boldsymbol{\delta}\boldsymbol{\delta}^T}{\boldsymbol{\delta}^T \boldsymbol{\gamma}} - \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{\delta}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^T H + H \boldsymbol{\gamma}\boldsymbol{\delta}^T}{\boldsymbol{\delta}^T \boldsymbol{\gamma}}\right)$$

 The BFGS algorithm is perhaps the most widely used Quasi-Newton numerical algorithm and works well with low accuracy line searches (mostly blank)

(mostly blank)