

In practice:

except for $V = \text{quadratic}$ & $h = \text{affine}$ using procedure (15.6) is harder than it seems since we cannot get a nice (*) formula for $d(\lambda)$

\Rightarrow cannot easily find $\hat{\lambda}$ in this way

Use of a "trick" largely overcomes this problem, and also often makes things work for non-convex (P) as well.

The trick is to modify π to π_r ($r > 0$):

$$\pi_r(y) \triangleq \pi(y) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2$$

\leftarrow augmented perturbation function

* By a nice formula for $d(\lambda)$ we mean one which can be maximized analytically.

Our formula for $d(\lambda)$ yields a value for $d(\lambda)$ relatively easily but is not easy to maximize analytically.

Then, for big enough r

$\pi_r \cong$ approximately quadratic in y

\leftarrow with nice computational consequences

Substituting π by π_r , we can re-do the "duality theory" using:

$$d_r(\lambda) \triangleq \min_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} \{ \pi_r(y) + \lambda^T y \}$$

\leftarrow augmented dual function

for which the easily-evaluable formula is:

$$d_r(\lambda) = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{ V(x) + \frac{r}{2} \|h(x)\|^2 + \lambda^T h(x) \}$$

Then, we get:

\leftarrow still

$$\hat{V} = \max_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m} d_r(\lambda) \quad \text{with} \quad \hat{\lambda} \stackrel{!}{=} -\nabla \pi(0)$$

\leftarrow independent of r

and:

$$\hat{x} = \tilde{x} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{ V(x) + \frac{r}{2} \|h(x)\|^2 + \hat{\lambda}^T h(x) \}$$

for primal problem (P)

Nothing much has changed so far ...

so what is the point of making the augmentations?

The important thing is that:

[which justifies using π_r]

$$\hat{\lambda} \cong \lambda + r h(\bar{x}), \forall \lambda \quad (\$)$$

with approximation error
decreasing as r increases

depends on λ

where:

$$\bar{x} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ V(x) + \frac{r}{2} \|h(x)\|^2 + \lambda^T h(x) \right\}$$

Amazing consequence:

(\\$) provides a way to find $\hat{\lambda}$ accurately
(if r is big enough) without us needing
a nice formula for $d(\lambda)$

(or for $d_r(\lambda)$).

Motivation for (§):

(making the "singleton assumption" and
using the approach employed in the proof
of Th. (14.3))

Consider:

$$\min_{\substack{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ y \in \mathbb{R}^m}} \left\{ J(x, y) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda^T y \right\} \quad (\#)$$

$$\begin{cases} V(x) & \text{if } h(x) = y \\ +\infty & \text{if } h(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

call the minimizers \bar{x} & \bar{y}

$$= \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ J(x, y) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda^T y \right\}$$

for each x , the minimizing
 y is $\hat{y}(x) = h(x)$ (d)
as in the proof of Th. (14.3)

= ...

$$= \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ V(x) + \frac{r}{2} \|h(x)\|^2 + \lambda^T h(x) \right\} \quad (\gamma)$$

the minimizer here must be the minimizer \bar{x} for (#) (and vice versa). So, from (d), the minimizer \bar{y} for (#) must be $\bar{y} = \hat{y}(\bar{x}) = h(\bar{x})$.

Summarizing:

- the minimizer \bar{x} for (#) \equiv the minimizer x for (γ)
- the minimizer \bar{y} for (#) $\equiv h(\bar{x})$ where \bar{x} can be found by minimizing (γ).

Also, going back to (#) again:

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ J(x, y) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda^T y \right\}$$

$$= \min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^m} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ J(x, y) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda^T y \right\}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{see Th (14.3)}}{=} \min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ \pi(y) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda^T y \right\} \quad (d)$$

the minimizer here must be the minimizer $\bar{y} = h(\bar{x})$ for (#)

$$\stackrel{\approx}{=} \min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^m} \left\{ \pi(0) + \nabla \pi(0)^T (y-0) + \frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda^T y \right\} \quad (\beta)$$

1-st-order expansion for $\pi(y)$ with approximation error swamped by $\frac{r}{2} \|y\|^2$ if r is big enough.

a quadratic in y , for which the minimizing y is $-\frac{1}{r} [\nabla \pi(0) + \lambda]$

Hence:

$$-\frac{1}{r} [\nabla \pi(0) + \lambda] \approx \bar{y} = h(\bar{x})$$

because we argue that, since opt. problems (α) and (β) are approximately the same, their minimizers $\bar{y} = h(\bar{x})$ and $-\frac{1}{r} [\nabla \pi(0) + \lambda]$ are approximately equal.

That is:

$$-\nabla \pi(0) \cong \lambda + r h(\bar{x})$$

with approximation error decreasing as r increases

$$\text{i.e. } \hat{\lambda} \cong \lambda + r h(\bar{x})$$

depends on λ

with approximation error decreasing as r increases

which is (β) , as required.

Now, we can state "the multiplier algorithm"

for solving: $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{V(x) : h(x) = 0\}$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

and based on duality but does not need a nice formula for $d(\lambda)$.

↓

The Multiplier Algorithm

Choose scalars $r_0 > 0$, $\psi > 1$, $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$

Set $j=0$

1) [At iteration j] Find

$$\bar{x}_j = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ V(x) + \frac{r_j}{2} \|h(x)\|^2 + \lambda_j^T h(x) \right\}$$

using a standard alg. for unconstrained optimization

2) Set $\lambda_{j+1} := \lambda_j + r_j h(\bar{x}_j)$

from (β) : this makes λ_{j+1} an approx. to $\hat{\lambda}$ which improves as j increases since r_j increases with j

3) Set $r_{j+1} = \gamma r_j$

[to increase r_j]

4) Set $j := j+1$ and go to 1)

Remark:

if $(P) \neq \text{too nasty}$

- $\lambda_j \rightarrow \lambda \leftarrow$ [owing to (\mathcal{F}) and r_j increasing with j]
- $\bar{x}_j \rightarrow \hat{x}$ for $(P) \leftarrow$ [because $\lambda_j \rightarrow 1$]

Stop iterating when:

(A) $\|h(\bar{x}_j)\| < \varepsilon_1 \Rightarrow$

[an adequate approxim. to satisfaction of $h(x) = 0$ has been achieved]

(B) $\|\bar{x}_j - \bar{x}_{j-1}\| < \varepsilon_2 \Rightarrow$

[no significant change during last iteration]