

## 20 elliptic functionals; iterative methods

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We are going to continue generalizing results to Hilbert spaces. Today, we will start with elliptic functionals, for which we can prove nice iterative convergence results.

**Def 13.7/6** Given a Hilbert space  $V$ , a functional  $J: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **elliptic** if it is continuously differentiable on  $V$ , and if there is some constant  $\alpha > 0$  s.t.

$$\langle \nabla J_v - \nabla J_u, v - u \rangle \geq \alpha \|v - u\|^2 \quad \forall u, v \in V$$

**Thm 13.6/13.8** Let  $V$  be a Hilbert space

(1) An elliptic functional  $J: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is strictly convex and coercive.

Furthermore,  $J(v) - J(u) \geq \langle \nabla J_u, v - u \rangle + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|v - u\|^2 \quad \forall u, v \in V$ .

(2) If  $U \subseteq V$  nonempty, convex, and closed, and if  $J$  is an elliptic functional, then  $u = \operatorname{arg\,min}_{v \in U} J(v)$  is unique.

(3) Suppose  $U \subseteq V$  is convex and  $J$  is elliptic. Then  $u \in U$  is a minimum w.r.t.  $U$  iff

$$\langle \nabla J_u, v - u \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall v \in U$$

in the general case, or

$$\nabla J_u = 0 \quad \text{if } U = V.$$

(4) A functional  $J$  which is twice differentiable in  $V$  is elliptic iff

$$\langle \nabla^2 J_u(w), w \rangle \geq \alpha \|w\|^2 \quad \forall u, w \in V.$$

**proof.** (1) We will use Taylor's formula with integral remainder:

$$\begin{aligned} J(v) - J(u) &= \int_0^1 dJ_{u+t(v-u)}(v-u) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \langle \nabla J_{u+t(v-u)}, v-u \rangle dt \\ &= \langle \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla J_{u+t(v-u)} - \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle dt \\ &= \langle \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle + \int_0^1 \frac{1}{t} \langle \nabla J_{u+t(v-u)} - \nabla J_u, t(v-u) \rangle dt \\ &\geq \langle \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle + \int_0^1 \alpha t \|v-u\|^2 dt \quad (\text{J is elliptic}) \\ &= \langle \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|v-u\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $J(v) > J(u) + \langle \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle$ ,  $\forall v \neq u$ , so  $J$  is strictly convex.

Also, by Cauchy-Schwarz,  $J(v) \geq J(0) + \langle \nabla J_0, v \rangle + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|v\|^2$

$$\geq J(0) - \underbrace{\|\nabla J_0\| \|v\|}_{\rightarrow +\infty \text{ as } \|v\| \rightarrow +\infty} + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|v\|^2$$

$\rightarrow +\infty$  as  $\|v\| \rightarrow +\infty$ .

$\Rightarrow J$  is coercive.



(2)  $J$  is coercive and strictly convex, so it has a unique min. on a nonempty, convex, closed  $U \subseteq V$ .

(3) These are the conditions in Theorem 4.5 for part (2).

(4) Assume  $J$  is elliptic and twice differentiable.

$$D^2 J_u(w, w) = D_w [D J_u(w)] = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{D J_{u+\theta w}(w) - D J_u(w)}{\theta}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \langle \nabla^2 J_u(w), w \rangle &= \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\langle \nabla J_{u+\theta w} - \nabla J_u, w \rangle}{\theta} \\ &= \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\theta^2} \langle \nabla J_{u+\theta w} - \nabla J_u, \theta w \rangle \\ &\geq \alpha \|w\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, assume  $\langle \nabla^2 J_u(w), w \rangle \geq \alpha \|w\|^2 \quad \forall u, w \in V$ .

Define  $g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $g(w) = \langle \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle = d J_u(v-u) = D_{v-u} J(w)$ . (fix  $u, v \in V$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } d g_{u+\theta(v-u)}(v-u) &= D_{v-u} g(u+\theta(v-u)) = D_{v-u} D_{v-u} J(u+\theta(v-u)) \\ &= D^2 J_{u+\theta(v-u)}(v-u, v-u). \end{aligned}$$

Applying the Taylor-Maclaurin formula,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \nabla J_v - \nabla J_u, v-u \rangle &= g(v) - g(u) \\ &= d g_{u+\theta(v-u)}(v-u) \quad (\text{for some } 0 < \theta < 1) \\ &= D^2 J_{u+\theta(v-u)}(v-u, v-u) \\ &= \langle \nabla^2 J_{u+\theta(v-u)}(v-u), v-u \rangle \\ &\geq \alpha \|v-u\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow J$  is elliptic.



Corollary 13.1/13.9 If  $J: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a quadratic function given by  $J(v) = \frac{1}{2} \langle Av, v \rangle - \langle b, v \rangle$ , where  $A$  is symmetric, then  $J$  is elliptic iff  $A$  is positive definite.

proof.  $\langle \nabla^2 J_u(w), w \rangle = \langle Aw, w \rangle \geq \lambda_1 \|w\|^2$ , where  $\lambda_1$  is the smallest eigenvalue of  $A$ .

Similarly,  $\langle \nabla^2 J_u(w), w \rangle \leq \lambda_n \|w\|^2$ ;  $\lambda_n$  the largest eigenvalue of  $A$ .

This leads us now to iterative methods on unconstrained problems

Similarly,  $\langle v, v \rangle = \|v\|^2$ ;  $d_1$  the largest eigenval of  $A$ .

This leads us now to iterative methods on unconstrained problems, such as Newton's method, or things like Gauss-Seidel for solving  $Ax=b$ .

### Sec. 13.5 Iterative methods for unconstrained problems

Recall: Given a desired solution  $u$  (e.g. a minimum of  $J$ , or  $u$  s.t.  $Au=b$ ), an iterative method takes an initial vector  $u_0$  and provides a rule for constructing a sequence  $(u_k)_{k \geq 0}$  that converges to  $u$ .

Vid 1, Ch. 9: Wanted to solve  $Au=b$ ,  $A$  invertible,  $A=D-E-F$ , where  $D$  diagonal,  $E$  below diagonal,  $F$  above diagonal.

Let  $B = M^{-1}N$

Jacobi: Let  $M = D$        $N = E + F$

Gauss-Seidel:  $M = D - E$        $N = F$

Method of Relaxation:  $M = \left(\frac{D}{\omega} - E\right)$        $N = \left(\frac{1-\omega}{\omega}D + F\right)$ ,  $0 < \omega < 2$

Then  $u = Bu + M^{-1}b$ , and if  $\rho(B) < 1$ , then  $\forall u_0$   $(u_k)_{k \geq 0}$ , where  $u_{k+1} = Bu_k + M^{-1}b$ , converges to  $u$ .

Let's review Gauss Seidel in more detail:

$$u_{k+1} = (D-E)^{-1}Fu_k + (D-E)^{-1}b$$

$$\Rightarrow Du_{k+1} = Eu_{k+1} + Fu_k + b$$

$$\begin{matrix} a_{11}u_1^{k+1} & = & 0 & -a_{12}u_2^k & -a_{13}u_3^k & \dots & -a_{1n}u_n^k & + b_1 \\ a_{22}u_2^{k+1} & = & -a_{21}u_1^{k+1} & 0 & -a_{23}u_3^k & \dots & -a_{2n}u_n^k & + b_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \\ a_{nn}u_n^{k+1} & = & -a_{n1}u_1^{k+1} & -a_{n2}u_2^{k+1} & \dots & \dots & -a_{n,n-1}u_{n-1}^{k+1} & 0 & + b_n \end{matrix}$$

### Back to optimization

#### Iterated line search

Consider the problem of finding  $u = \arg \min_{v \in V} J(v)$ ,  $V$  a Hilbert space.

Optimizing over a Hilbert space is hard. But optimizing over a single variable is easier, so let's try that iteratively.

- (1) At the current  $u_k$ , find a **descent direction**  $d_k$ , usually determined from the gradient of  $J$  at various pts. We need  $\langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle < 0$ .
- (2) **Exact line search**: Consider the line  $\{u_k + \mathbb{R}^+ d_k\}$

determined from the gradient of  $J$  at various pts. We need  $\langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle < 0$ .

(2) **Exact line search:** Consider the line  $\{u_k + \mathbb{R}^+ d_k\}$ .

$$\text{Find } \rho_k \in \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ s.t. } J(u_k + \rho_k d_k) = \inf_{\rho \in \mathbb{R}^+} J(u_k + \rho d_k)$$

If  $\rho_k$  is unique, set  $u_{k+1} = u_k + \rho_k d_k$ .

(Also called line search or line minimization) ↖ something called "step-size"

**Prop 13.3/13.11** If  $J$  is a quadratic elliptic functional of the form

$$J(v) = \frac{1}{2} a(v, v) - h(v),$$

then given  $d_k$ ,  $\exists$  a unique  $\rho_k$  solving the line search.

**proof.** Lemma (Prop. 13.2/13.3):  $J(u + \rho v) = \frac{\rho^2}{2} a(v, v) + \rho \langle \nabla J_u, v \rangle + J(u)$ .

proof sketch: direct computation, and using  $\nabla J_u = Au - b$ .  $\square$

$$\text{Applying the lemma, } J(u_k + \rho d_k) = \frac{\rho^2}{2} \underbrace{a(d_k, d_k)}_{> 0 \text{ since } J \text{ elliptic}} + \rho \langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle + J(u_k).$$

Then  $\frac{d}{d\rho} (u_k + \rho d_k) = \rho a(d_k, d_k) + \langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle = 0$  at the minimum.

$$\Rightarrow \rho = \frac{-\langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle}{a(d_k, d_k)} > 0 \text{ is the minimum. } \square$$

Unfortunately, step 2 (line search) is often too slow, so people have come up with alternatives, such as:

(3) **Backtracking line search:** Pick  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$  and  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,

and set  $t = 1$ . Given a descent direction  $d_k$  at  $u_k \in \text{dom}(J)$ ,

**while**  $J(u_k + t d_k) > J(u_k) + \alpha t \langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle$ , **do**  $t := \beta t$

Then set  $\rho_k = t$ ;  $u_{k+1} = u_k + \rho_k d_k$ .

Instead of finding the actual minimum, we just try to decrease the value by "sufficiently much", and then pick a new direction.

We start with a big jump, and then backtrack geometrically.

### Cyclic coordinate descent (Method of relaxation)

Simplest method to pick directions in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  in a cyclic fashion

$$\text{Let } u_k = (u_1^k, u_2^k, \dots, u_n^k)$$

$$\text{Then } J(u_1^{k+1}, u_2^k, \dots, u_n^k) = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} J(\lambda, u_2^k, \dots, u_n^k)$$

$$J(u_1^{k+1}, u_2^{k+1}, u_3^k, \dots, u_n^k) = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} J(u_1^{k+1}, \lambda, u_3^k, \dots, u_n^k)$$

$$J(u_1^{k+1}, u_2^{k+1}, u_3^k, \dots, u_n^k) = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} J(u_1^{k+1}, \lambda, u_3^k, \dots, u_n^k)$$

$$J(u_1^{k+1}, u_2^{k+1}, \dots, u_{n-1}^{k+1}, u_n^{k+1}) = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} J(u_1^{k+1}, \dots, u_{n-1}^{k+1}, \lambda)$$

If  $J$  is differentiable and convex, then necessary and sufficient conditions are that  $dJ_v(e_i) = 0$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$   
 $(\Leftrightarrow) \langle \nabla J_v, e_i \rangle = 0$

Prop. 13.4 If the functional  $J: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is elliptic, then the relaxation method converges.

Aside: If  $J(v) = \frac{1}{2} v^T A v - b^T v$ , where  $A$  is symm. pos. def., then  $\nabla J_v = A v - b = 0$  for  $v$  that minimize  $J$ .

Turns out that using the "method of relaxation" on minimizing  $J$  is equivalent to Gauss-Seidel on the system  $A v = b$ .

## 13.6 Gradient descent

A moment ago we chose to cycle through each coordinate to determine which direction to go. What are other obvious choices?

Recall: Needed  $\langle \nabla J_{u_k}, d_k \rangle < 0$ . What if we use  $d_k = -\nabla J_{u_k}$  instead?

Note  $J(u_k + w) = J(u_k) + \langle \nabla J_{u_k}, w \rangle + \varepsilon(w) \|w\|$ , with  $\lim_{w \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon(w) = 0$ . (Taylor's Thm)

So if  $\nabla J_{u_k} \neq 0$ , the 1st order part of the variation in  $J$  is bounded by  $\|\nabla J_{u_k}, w\| \|w\|$  by Cauchy-Schwarz, and equality achieved if  $\nabla J_{u_k}$  and  $w$  are colinear.

Gradient descent iteration:  $u_{k+1} = u_k - \rho_k \nabla J_{u_k}$ , where  $\rho_k > 0$ .

Choosing  $\rho_k$ :

- (1) Gradient method with fixed stepsize parameter.  $\rho_k = \rho$ , a constant for all  $k$ .
- (2) Gradient method with variable stepsize parameter.  $\rho_k$  is variable.
- (3) Gradient method with optimal stepsize. Also called steepest descent for the Euclidean norm. Choose  $\rho_k$  by the line search

$$J(u_k - \rho_k \nabla J_{u_k}) = \inf_{\rho \in \mathbb{R}} J(u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k})$$

$$J(u_k - \rho_k \nabla J_{u_k}) = \inf_{\rho \in \mathbb{R}} J(u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k})$$

As in other optimal line searches, only works if always a unique min.

(4) Gradient descent with backtracking line search.

**Prop 13.5/13.3** Let  $J: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an elliptic functional. Then the gradient method with optimal stepsize parameter converges

**proof.** Since  $J$  is elliptic,  $J$  has a unique min. at  $\nabla J_u = 0$ .

NIS that the sequence  $(u_k)_{k \geq 0}$  converges to  $u$ , from any start  $u_0$ .

WLOG,  $u_{k+1} \neq u_k$  and  $\nabla J_{u_k} \neq 0$ , or else we're done after finite steps.

**Lemma 1:** Any two consecutive descent directions are orthogonal and

$$J(u_k) - J(u_{k+1}) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2} \|u_k - u_{k+1}\|^2.$$

**proof.** Let  $\varphi_k: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $\varphi_k(\rho) = J(u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k})$ , which is strictly convex and coercive.

So  $\varphi_k$  has a unique min  $\rho_k$  at  $\varphi_k'(\rho) = 0$ .

By the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_k'(\rho) &= dJ_{u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k}}(-\nabla J_{u_k}) \\ &= -\langle \nabla J_{u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k}}, \nabla J_{u_k} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$(u_{k+1} = u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k}) \quad = -\langle \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, \nabla J_{u_k} \rangle = 0. \quad (\text{proved orthogonality})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Furthermore, } \langle \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, u_{k+1} - u_k \rangle \\ = \langle \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, -\rho \nabla J_{u_k} \rangle = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then by **Thm 13.6/13.8**,

$$J(u_k) - J(u_{k+1}) \geq \langle \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, u_{k+1} - u_k \rangle + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|u_k - u_{k+1}\|^2 = \frac{\alpha}{2} \|u_k - u_{k+1}\|^2. \quad \square$$

**Lemma 2:**  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|u_k - u_{k+1}\| = 0$ .

**proof.** Clearly, by Lemma 1,  $(J(u_k))_{k \geq 0}$  is decreasing and bounded below by  $J(u)$ .

Therefore, the sequence must converge to something

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (J(u_k) - J(u_{k+1})) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|u_k - u_{k+1}\| = 0. \quad \square$$

**Lemma 3:**  $\|\nabla J_{u_k}\| \leq \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\|$ .

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proof. Consecutive descent directions are orthogonal, so by Cauchy Schwarz,

$$\begin{aligned}\|\nabla J_{u_k}\|^2 &= \langle \nabla J_{u_k}, \nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}} \rangle \\ &\leq \|\nabla J_{u_k}\| \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\| \\ \Rightarrow \|\nabla J_{u_k}\| &\leq \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\| \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4:  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla J_{u_k}\| = 0$ .

proof. Because  $(J(u_k))_{k \geq 0}$  is decreasing, and  $J$  is coercive,  $(u_k)_{k \geq 0}$  must be bounded.

By hypothesis,  $dJ$  is continuous so it is uniformly continuous over compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (because  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is finite dim)

Thus,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , if  $\|u_k - u_{k+1}\| < \varepsilon$ , then

$$\|dJ_{u_k} - dJ_{u_{k+1}}\|_2 < \varepsilon \quad \leftarrow \text{induced operator norm.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{But } \|dJ_{u_k} - dJ_{u_{k+1}}\|_2 &= \sup_{\|w\| \leq 1} |dJ_{u_k}(w) - dJ_{u_{k+1}}(w)| \quad (\text{operator norm def}) \\ &= \sup_{\|w\| \leq 1} |\langle \nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, w \rangle| \\ &\leq \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\|. \quad (\text{Cauchy-Schwarz})\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{And } \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\|^2 &= \langle \nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, \nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}} \rangle \\ &= dJ_{u_k}(\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}) - dJ_{u_{k+1}}(\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}) \\ &\leq \|dJ_{u_k} - dJ_{u_{k+1}}\|_2 \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\|\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|dJ_{u_k} - dJ_{u_{k+1}}\|_2 = \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\|.$$

Thus,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|dJ_{u_k} - dJ_{u_{k+1}}\|_2 = 0$   
 $\nearrow$  since  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|u_k - u_{k+1}\| = 0$  (Lem 2) and  $dJ$  is continuous

And by Lem 3,  $\|\nabla J_{u_k}\| \leq \|\nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}\|$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla J_{u_k}\| = 0. \quad \square$$

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proof.  $J$  is elliptic and  $\nabla J_u = 0$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \|u_k - u\|^2 &\leq \langle \nabla J_{u_k} - \nabla J_u, u_k - u \rangle \\ &= \langle \nabla J_{u_k}, u_k - u \rangle \\ &\leq \|\nabla J_{u_k}\| \|u_k - u\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|u_k - u\| \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \|\nabla J_{u_k}\|$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|u_k - u\| \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla J_{u_k}\| = 0$$



For an elliptic functional  $J: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the optimal step-size method can be given as follows:

Note  $J(v) = \frac{1}{2} \langle Av, v \rangle - \langle b, v \rangle$  and  $\nabla J_v = Av - b$ , so

$$0 = \langle \nabla J_{u_{k+1}}, \nabla J_{u_k} \rangle = \langle A(u_k - \rho_k(Au_k - b)) - b, Au_k - b \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_k = \frac{\|w_k\|^2}{\langle Aw_k, w_k \rangle}, \quad w_k = Au_k - b = \nabla J_{u_k}.$$

- So we get steps:
- (1)  $w_k = Au_k - b$
  - (2)  $\rho_k = \frac{\|w_k\|^2}{\langle Aw_k, w_k \rangle}$
  - (3)  $u_{k+1} = u_k - \rho_k w_k.$

} fast especially  
if  $Aw$  is cheap to compute  
e.g. if  $A$  is sparse.

Convergence proofs for other variants of gradient descent are available, though they may require more or fewer conditions, e.g. see 13.7 for convergence of gradient descent with variable step-sizes in (infinite-dim) Hilbert spaces where  $J$  is elliptic and the gradient of  $J$  is Lipschitz. (Prop. 13.6)

Alternately, can also do steepest descent w.r.t. another norm (instead of Euclidean 2-norm)

### 13.10 Conjugate gradients for unconstrained optimization

One more method for unconstrained optimizations.

Intuition is that setting descent  $d_k = -\nabla J_{u_k}$  is not always optimal.

Consider ordinary gradient descent. We have  $\langle \nabla J_{u_k}, \nabla J_{u_{k+1}} \rangle \geq 0$  for consecutive directions. But you might "repeat" directions during a long run. Can we ensure that



Consider ordinary gradient descent. We have  $\langle \nabla J_{u_k}, \nabla J_{u_{k+1}} \rangle \geq 0$  for consecutive directions.  
 But you might "repeat" directions during a long run. Can we ensure that we never repeat directions?

Normally, given  $u_k$ ,  $u_{k+1} = u_k - \rho_k \nabla J_{u_k}$ , where  $\rho_k = \inf_{\rho \in \mathbb{R}} J(u_k - \rho \nabla J_{u_k})$

Instead, let's try minimizing  $J$  over  $u_k + \mathcal{G}_k$ , where  $\mathcal{G}_k = \text{span}\{\nabla J_{u_0}, \dots, \nabla J_{u_k}\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

i.e. Find  $u_{k+1} \in u_k + \mathcal{G}_k$  and  $J(u_{k+1}) = \inf_{v \in u_k + \mathcal{G}_k} J(v)$ .

Has several nice properties, assuming  $J$  is elliptic.

(1) The gradients  $\nabla J_{u_i}$  and  $\nabla J_{u_j}$  are orthogonal  $\forall i, j$  with  $0 \leq i < j \leq k$ .

Thus, if  $\nabla J_{u_i} \neq 0$  for  $i=0, \dots, k$ , then  $\{\nabla J_{u_i}\}_{i=0, \dots, k}$  are lin. ind., so

the method terminates in at most  $n$  steps.

(2) Let  $\Delta_\ell = u_{\ell+1} - u_\ell = -\rho_\ell d_\ell$ . Then  $\langle A \Delta_\ell, \Delta_i \rangle = 0$   $0 \leq i < \ell \leq k$ .

i.e.  $\Delta_\ell$  and  $\Delta_i$  are "A-conjugate." Thus, if  $\Delta_\ell \neq 0$  for  $\ell=0, \dots, k$ , then  $\Delta_\ell$  are lin. ind.

(3) There is a simple formula to compute  $d_{k+1}$  from  $d_k$  and to compute  $\rho_k$ .

If  $\nabla J_{u_i} \neq 0$  for  $i=0, \dots, k$ , then we can write

$$d_\ell = \sum_{i=0}^{\ell-1} \lambda_i^\ell \nabla J_{u_i} + \nabla J_{u_\ell}, \quad 0 \leq \ell \leq k.$$

$$\text{Then } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda_i^k = \frac{\|\nabla J_{u_k}\|^2}{\|\nabla J_{u_i}\|^2}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq k-1 \\ d_0 = \nabla J_{u_0} \\ d_\ell = \nabla J_{u_\ell} + \frac{\|\nabla J_{u_\ell}\|^2}{\|\nabla J_{u_{\ell-1}}\|^2} d_{\ell-1}, \quad 1 \leq \ell \leq k. \end{array} \right.$$

We will not prove these properties in class due to time constraints.