

# Two-Point Gradient Methods for Nonlinear Ill-Posed Problems

Simon Hubmer and Ronny Ramlau

Johann Radon Institute for Computational and Applied Mathematics (RICAM)  
Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)  
Linz, Austria

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 TPG Methods
- 3 Convergence Analysis
- 4 Numerical Examples
- 5 Recent Developments

## The Problem

- Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ , with norms  $\|\cdot\|$ .
- Operator  $F : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ , continuously Fréchet differentiable.
- Noisy data  $y^\delta \in \mathcal{Y}$  and noise level  $\delta \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .

### Problem

$$F(x) = y^{(\delta)}$$

The noisy data  $y^\delta$  satisfies

$$\|y - y^\delta\| \leq \delta.$$

# Tikhonov Regularization

Required:

- Initial guess  $x_0$  and regularization parameter  $\alpha$ .

The method:

$$\min_x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|F(x) - y^\delta\|^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|x - x_0\|^2 \right\}$$

Properties:

- + Weak conditions necessary for analysis.
- + Very versatile (different norms, regularization functionals).
- Computation of the minimum  $\leftrightarrow$  HOW??

# Landweber Iteration

Required:

- Initial guess  $x_0$  and stopping criterion.

The method:

$$x_{k+1}^\delta = x_k^\delta + F'(x_k^\delta)^*(y^\delta - F(x_k^\delta))$$

Properties:

- + Easy to implement.
- Strong conditions necessary for analysis.
- Slow convergence, i.e., lots of iterations required.

## Second Order Methods

### Levenberg-Marquardt method

$$x_{k+1}^\delta = x_k^\delta + (F'(x_k^\delta)^* F'(x_k^\delta) + \alpha_k I)^{-1} F'(x_k^\delta)^* (y^\delta - F(x_k^\delta))$$

### Iteratively regularized Gauss-Newton method

$$x_{k+1}^\delta = x_k^\delta + (F'(x_k^\delta)^* F'(x_k^\delta) + \alpha_k I)^{-1} (F'(x_k^\delta)^* (y^\delta - F(x_k^\delta)) + \alpha_k (x_0 - x_k^\delta))$$

### Properties:

- + Require much less iterations.
- Very strong conditions necessary for analysis.
- Require inversion of  $(F'(x)^* F'(x) + \alpha I)$  in every iteration step  
→ difficult and takes time.

## Acceleration Techniques

- Landweber Iteration with operator approximation:

$$x_{k+1}^{\delta} = x_k^{\delta} + \tilde{F}'(x_k^{\delta})^*(y^{\delta} - \tilde{F}(x_k^{\delta}))$$

- Landweber Iteration in Hilbert Scales:

$$x_{k+1}^{\delta} = x_k^{\delta} + L^{-2s} F'(x_k^{\delta})^*(y^{\delta} - F(x_k^{\delta}))$$

- Landweber Iteration with intelligent stepsizes:

$$x_{k+1}^{\delta} = x_k^{\delta} + \alpha_k^{\delta} F'(x_k^{\delta})^*(y^{\delta} - F(x_k^{\delta}))$$

Examples: Steepest Descent, Barzilai-Borwein, Neubauer.

## Connection: Residual Functional

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left\| F(x) - y^\delta \right\|^2$$

- Tikhonov = Minimize{  $\Phi(x) + \text{Regularization}(x)$  }.
- Landweber = Gradient Descent for  $\Phi(x)$ .
- Levenberg Marquardt = 2nd order descent for  $\Phi(x)$ .
- Iteratively regularized Gauss-Newton  
= 2nd order descent for  $\Phi(x) + \text{Tikhonov Type Stabilization}$ .



# Nesterov Acceleration

General minimization problem

$$\min_x \{\Phi(x)\}$$

**Yurii Nesterov:** Instead of using gradient descent:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \omega \nabla \Phi(x_k),$$

use the following iteration:

$$z_k = x_k + \frac{k-1}{k+\alpha-1} (x_k - x_{k-1}),$$
$$x_{k+1} = z_k - \omega \nabla \Phi(z_k).$$

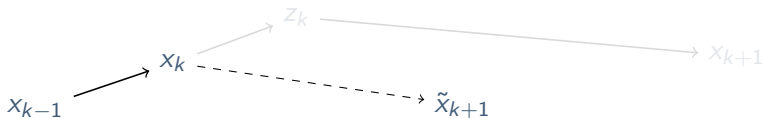
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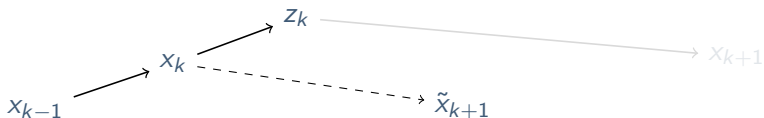


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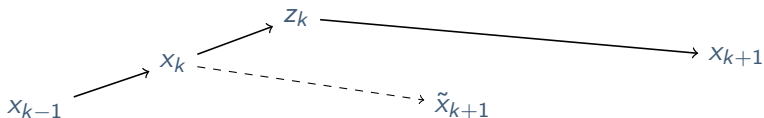
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$$x_{k+1} = z_k - \omega \nabla \Phi(z_k)$$

# What's so good about that?

■ **Assume:**  $\Phi$  is convex.

■ **Gradient Descent:**

$$\left\| \Phi(x_k) - \Phi(x^\dagger) \right\| = \mathcal{O}(k^{-1})$$

■ **Nesterov Acceleration:**

$$\left\| \Phi(x_k) - \Phi(x^\dagger) \right\| = \mathcal{o}(k^{-2})$$



H. Attouch, J. Peypouquet, The rate of convergence of Nesterov's accelerated forward-backward method is actually  $\mathcal{o}(k^{-2})$ , *SIAM Journal on Optimization*



Y. Nesterov, A method of solving a convex programming problem with convergence rate  $\mathcal{O}(1/k^2)$ , *Soviet Mathematics Doklady*, 27, 2, 1983

## Application to Nonlinear Ill-Posed Problems

For our problem, the method reads

$$\begin{aligned}z_k^\delta &= x_k^\delta + \frac{k-1}{k+\alpha-1}(x_k^\delta - x_{k-1}^\delta), \\x_{k+1}^\delta &= z_k^\delta + \alpha_k^\delta F'(z_k^\delta)^*(y^\delta - F(z_k^\delta)).\end{aligned}$$

There is a generalization to deal with

$$\min\{\Phi(x) + \Psi(x)\},$$

which reads

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⇒ Sparsity Constraints, Projections, etc.



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## Neubauer's Linear Results

- **Assumptions:** Linear operator  $F(x) = Tx$ , source condition  $x^\dagger \in \mathcal{R}((T^*T)^\mu)$ , a priori stopping rule.

- If  $0 \leq \mu \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , then

$$k(\delta) = \mathcal{O}(\delta^{-\frac{1}{2\mu+1}}), \quad \left\| x_{k(\delta)}^\delta - x^\dagger \right\| = o(\delta^{\frac{2\mu}{2\mu+1}}).$$

- If  $\mu > \frac{1}{2}$ , then

$$k(\delta) = \mathcal{O}(\delta^{-\frac{2}{2\mu+3}}), \quad \left\| x_{k(\delta)}^\delta - x^\dagger \right\| = o(\delta^{\frac{2\mu+1}{2\mu+3}}).$$

- Similar results also when using the discrepancy principle.



A. Neubauer, On Nesterov acceleration for Landweber iteration of linear ill-posed problems, J. Inv. Ill-Posed Problems, Vol. 25, No. 3, 2017

## Two-Point Gradient (TPG) Methods

How about general methods of the form

$$\begin{aligned} z_k^\delta &= x_k^\delta + \lambda_k^\delta (x_k^\delta - x_{k-1}^\delta), \\ x_{k+1}^\delta &= z_k^\delta + \alpha_k^\delta F'(z_k^\delta)^* (y^\delta - F(z_k^\delta)). \end{aligned}$$

**Question:** Do they converge under standard assumptions?

- Yes for linear problems and  $\lambda_k^\delta = \frac{k-1}{k+\alpha-1} \leftarrow$  Neubauer
- Yes for  $\lambda_k^\delta \rightarrow 0$  fast enough
- Yes for some explicit choices of  $\lambda_k^\delta$
- Yes for  $\lambda_k^\delta$  defined via a backtracking search
- Yes for  $\lambda_k^\delta = \frac{k-1}{k+\alpha-1}$  and a **locally convex residual functional**

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# Convergence Conditions I

## ■ Nonlinearity Condition

$$\|F(x) - F(\tilde{x}) - F'(x)(x - \tilde{x})\| \leq \eta \|F(x) - F(\tilde{x})\| ,$$
$$x, \tilde{x} \in \mathcal{B}_{4\rho}(x_0) \subset \mathcal{D}(F), \quad \eta < \frac{1}{2} .$$

## ■ Parameters $0 \leq \lambda_k^\delta \leq 1$ and stepsizes $\alpha_k^\delta \geq \alpha_{\min} > 0$ satisfy

$$\lambda_k^\delta (\lambda_k^\delta + 1) \left\| x_k^\delta - x_{k+1}^\delta \right\|^2 - \left( 1 + \frac{\Psi}{\mu} \right) \alpha_k^\delta \left\| F(z_k^\delta) - y^\delta \right\|^2$$
$$+ (\alpha_k^\delta)^2 \left\| F'(z_k^\delta)^* (F(z_k^\delta) - y^\delta) \right\|^2 \leq 0 .$$

## ■ Parameters $\lambda_k^\delta$ satisfy

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \lambda_k^0 \left\| x_k^0 - x_{k-1}^0 \right\| < \infty .$$

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## Some Possible Choices

For the stepsizes  $\alpha_k^\delta$ , one can use

- a constant stepsize  $\alpha_k^\delta = \omega$ ,
- the steepest descent stepsize or the minimal error stepsize.

The parameters  $\lambda_k^\delta$  can be chosen

- as any sequence decaying sufficiently fast,
- explicitly via

$$\lambda_k^\delta = \min \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\Psi(\tau\delta)^2}{\mu\bar{\omega}^2 \|x_k^\delta - x_{k-1}^\delta\|^2}}, 1 \right\},$$

- via a backtracking algorithm.

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## Main Result I

Discrepancy Principle:

$$\left\| y^\delta - F(z_{k_*}^\delta) \right\| \leq \tau \delta < \left\| y^\delta - F(z_k^\delta) \right\|, \quad 0 \leq k < k_* = k_*(\delta, y^\delta).$$

### Theorem

*Under the above assumptions, there holds*

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} z_{k_*(\delta, y^\delta)}^\delta = x_*.$$

*If additionally  $\mathcal{N}(F'(x^\dagger)) \subset \mathcal{N}(F'(x))$ , then we have*

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## Backtracking Algorithm

For many stepsizes  $\alpha_k^\delta$ , the *coupling condition* above reduces to

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**Idea:** Given a *summable* sequence  $(q_n)_n$ , choose  $\lambda_k^\delta$  via

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where the subsequence  $(q_{n_k})_k$  is chosen such that the above inequality is satisfied. With this choice, one also has

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## Convergence Conditions II

$$\Phi^\delta(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|F(x) - y^\delta\|^2$$

- $\Phi^0$  is convex in  $\mathcal{B}_{6\rho}$

$$\Phi^0(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2) \leq \lambda \Phi^0(x_1) + (1 - \lambda)\Phi^0(x_2)$$

- $\Phi^0$  is Lipschitz continuous with constant  $L$  in  $\mathcal{B}_{6\rho}$

$$\|\Phi^0(x_1) - \Phi^0(x_2)\| \leq L \|x_1 - x_2\|$$

- $\alpha > 3$  and the scaling satisfies  $0 < \omega \leq 1/L$

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## Main Result II

Adapted Discrepancy Principle:

$$\|y^\delta - F(x_{k_*}^\delta)\|^2 \leq \frac{2(k + \alpha - 1)^2}{k(\alpha - 3)} \Delta(\delta) + \tau^2 \delta^2 < \|y^\delta - F(x_k^\delta)\|^2$$

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*Under the above assumptions, one gets weak subsequential convergence of  $x_{k_*}^\delta(\delta, y^\delta)$  to an element  $x_*$  in the solution set*

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## Example Problem: Hammerstein

$$F(x)(s) = \int_0^1 k(s, t)\phi(x(t)) dt$$

$$x^\dagger(t) = 1 + 10^{-2}(7 - 3t^2 + 2t^3) \quad x_0(t) = 1$$

Choice of $\lambda_k^\delta$	$k_*$	Time
$\lambda_k^\delta = 0$	125	79 s
Backtracking	41	26 s
Explicit	35	22 s
Nesterov	14	9 s

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Nesterov	14	9 s

# Example Problem: SPECT

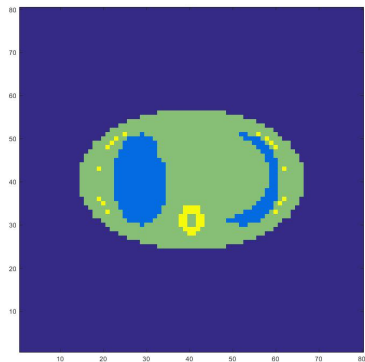
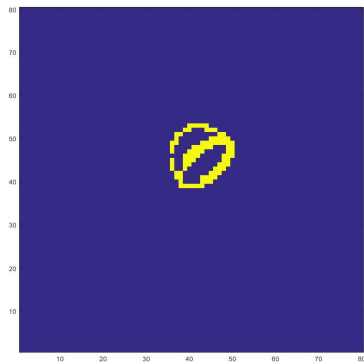


Figure: Activity function  $f_*$  (left) and attenuation function  $\mu_*$  (right).

## Example Problem: SPECT

$$A(f, \mu)(s, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(s\omega^\perp + t\omega) \exp\left(-\int_t^\infty \mu(s\omega^\perp + r\omega) dr\right) dt$$

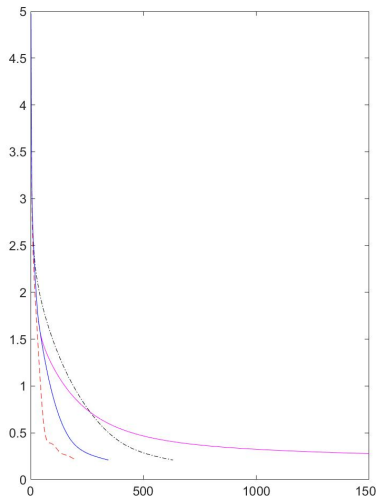
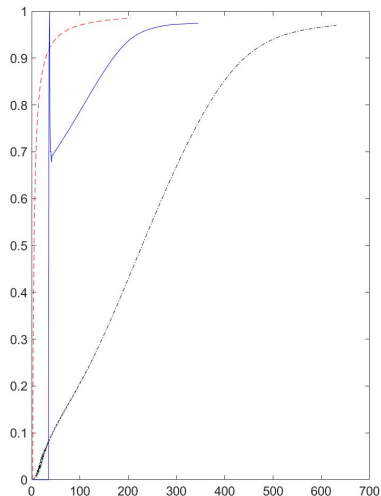
Choice of $\lambda_k^\delta$	$k_*$	Time
$\lambda_k^\delta = 0$	3433	489 s
Backtracking	349	77 s
Explicit	631	90 s
Nesterov	205	30 s

## Example Problem: SPECT

$$A(f, \mu)(s, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(s\omega^\perp + t\omega) \exp\left(-\int_t^\infty \mu(s\omega^\perp + r\omega) dr\right) dt$$

Choice of $\lambda_k^\delta$	$k_*$	Time
$\lambda_k^\delta = 0$	3433	489 s
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Nesterov	205	30 s

# Evolution of $\lambda_k^\delta$ and Residuals



## Example Problem: Autoconvolution

$$F(x)(s) = (x * x)(s) = \int_0^1 x(s-t)x(t) dt$$

$$x^\dagger = \quad x_0(t) =$$



## Example Problem: Autoconvolution

$$F(x)(s) = (x * x)(s) = \int_0^1 x(s-t)x(t) dt$$

$$x^\dagger = 10 + \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi s) \quad x_0(t) = 10 + \frac{27}{28} \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi s)$$

Choice of $\lambda_k^\delta$	$k_*$	Time	Rel. Error
$\lambda_k^\delta = 0$	526	57 s	0.0244 %
Nesterov	50	6 s	0.0271 %

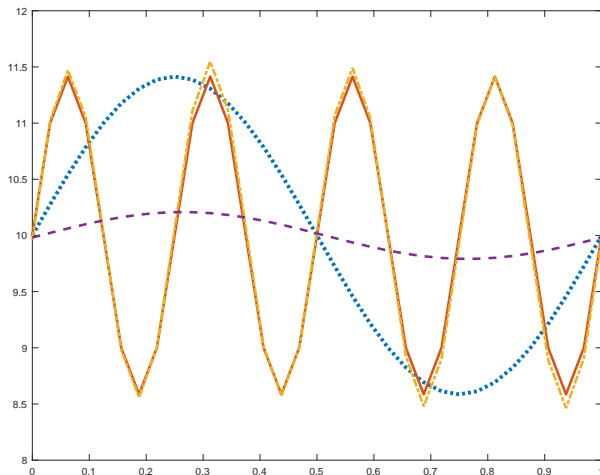
## Example Problem: Autoconvolution

$$F(x)(s) = (x * x)(s) = \int_0^1 x(s-t)x(t) dt$$

$$x^\dagger = 10 + \sqrt{2} \sin(8\pi s) \quad x_0(t) = 10 + \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi s)$$

Choice of $\lambda_k^\delta$	$k_*$	Time	Rel. Error
$\lambda_k^\delta = 0$	10000	1067 s	9.57 %
Nesterov	797	87 s	0.65 %

# Example Problem: Autoconvolution



## Some Recent Developments - 2018



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Y. Zhang, R. Gong, Second order asymptotical regularization methods for inverse problems in partial differential equations [Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics](#), 2020.

## Summary

### Two-Point Gradient (TPG) methods

$$\begin{aligned}z_k^\delta &= x_k^\delta + \lambda_k^\delta(x_k^\delta - x_{k-1}^\delta), \\x_{k+1}^\delta &= z_k^\delta + \alpha_k^\delta F'(z_k^\delta)^*(y^\delta - F(z_k^\delta)),\end{aligned}$$

- converge under standard assumptions,
- are very easy to implement,
- require no more computation time than Landweber iteration,
- and lead to a considerable speed-up in practice.

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Thank you for your attention!



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**Thank you for your attention!**