Cyclic CQ scheme for handling multiple dose-volume constraints in inverse planning of Intensity-Modulated Photon or Proton Therapy

Aviv Gibali

ORT Braude College & The University of Haifa Israel

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* Joint work with Mark Brooke, Yair Censor, Scott Penfold, Reinhard Schulte and Frank Van Den Heuvel

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The Convex Feasibility Problem (CFP)

Given *m* nonempty, closed and convex sets $C_i \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, the CFP is formulated as follows:

find a point
$$x^* \in \bigcap_{i=1}^m C_i \neq \emptyset$$
. (1)



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Linear Convex Feasibility Problem

Consider the system of linear equations represented by

$$Ax = b \tag{2}$$

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where $A \in \mathcal{M}at_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

Denote by A^i the i-th row of A, the corresponding entries b_i of b, and

$$H_i := \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \langle A^i, x \rangle = b_i \}.$$
(3)

Linear Convex Feasibility Problem



Applications - Image Recovery





Applications - Image Recovery



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Applications - Image Recovery



Projection methods for solving Ax = b



The Split Convex Feasibility Problem (SCFP)

Given two nonempty, closed and convex sets $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ and a matrix $A \in \mathcal{M}at_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$, the SFP is formulated as follows:

find a point
$$x^* \in C$$
 and $Ax^* \in Q$. (4)



The Multiple-Sets Split Feasibility Problem



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$$x^{k+1} = P_C\left(x^k - \gamma A^T\left(Ax^k - P_Q\left(Ax^k\right)\right)\right)$$
(5)



Brook, Censor, Gibali, Penfold, Schulte, Van Den Heuvel

Cyclic CQ scheme

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$$x^{k+1} = P_C\left(x^k - \gamma A^T\left(Ax^k - P_Q\left(Ax^k\right)\right)\right)$$
(6)

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$$\boldsymbol{x}^{k+1} = \boldsymbol{P}_{\boldsymbol{C}}\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{k} - \gamma \boldsymbol{A}^{T}\left(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}^{k} - \boldsymbol{P}_{\boldsymbol{Q}}\left(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}^{k}\right)\right)\right)$$
(7)

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$$x^{k+1} = P_C\left(x^k - \gamma A^T\left(Ax^k - P_Q\left(Ax^k\right)\right)\right)$$
(8)

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$$x^{k+1} = P_C\left(x^k - \gamma A^T\left(Ax^k - P_Q\left(Ax^k\right)\right)\right)$$
(9)

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Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)

Treatment plan

Dose distribution





intensity vector $\mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{0}$ over $\sim 10^3$ beamlets dose vector $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x})$ over $\sim 10^6$ voxels V_j

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• \mathbb{R}^{J-} radiation intensity space.

- 2 \mathbb{R}^{l} the dose space.
- 3 $x = (x_j)_{j=1}^J \in \mathbb{R}^J$ the intensities vector.
- $a_{ij} \ge 0$ denotes the dose absorbed in voxel *i* due to radiation of unit intensity from the j-th beamlet.
- $d = (d_i)_{i=1}^I \in \mathbb{R}^I$ denote the dose vector, where its entries, d_i represent the total dose absorbed in voxel *i*, therefore

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$$d_i = \sum_{j=1}^J a_{ij} x_j.$$

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- $d = (d_i)_{i=1}^l \in \mathbb{R}^l$ denote the dose vector, where its entries, d_i represent the total dose absorbed in voxel *i*, therefore

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$$d_i = \Sigma_{j=1}^J a_{ij} x_j.$$

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Brook, Censor, Gibali, Penfold, Schulte, Van Den Heuvel

Cyclic CQ scheme

A fully-discretized modeling approach for inverse radiation therapy treatment planning leads to the following linear feasibility problem.

$$c \leq Ax \leq b,$$
 (10)

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where A is the dose matrix, x is the unknown vector of intensities and the vectors b and c contain upper and lower bounds on the total dose Ax permitted and required in volume elements (voxels) of sensitive organs/tissues and target areas, respectively, inside the irradiated body. Consider a subset of size m_1 of the linear inequalities described by $c \le Ax \le b$ before.

$$A_1 x \le b^1 \tag{11}$$

Now, up to a α % of m_1 , the right (left) hand side bounds may be potentially violated by up to a fraction β % of their values. This results in.

$$A_1 x \le (1+\beta)b^1 \tag{12}$$

and

$$\|(Ax - b^1)_+\|_0 \le \alpha m_1.$$
 (13)

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where for $z \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $||(z)_+||_0 := |\{z_i \mid z_i > 0\}|$.

S. Penfold, R. Zalas, M. Casiraghi, M. Brooke, Y. Censor and R. Schulte, *Physics in Medicine and Biology* 2017

Split NON-CONVEX feasibility problem

find
$$x \in C$$
 such that $A_1 x \in Q$. (14)

where

$$\boldsymbol{C} := \{\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \boldsymbol{c} \le \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} \le \boldsymbol{b}\} \cap \mathbb{R}^n_+ \tag{15}$$

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and

$$Q := \left\{ \boldsymbol{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1} \mid \left\| \left(\boldsymbol{y} - \boldsymbol{b}^1 \right)_+ \right\|_0 \le \alpha m_1 \right\}.$$
 (16)

Apply CQ algorithm and the Automatic Relaxation Method (ARM) is used to approximate P_C .

Results

Dose-Volume Split Feasibility algorithm with two DVCs, one on the OAR (brainstem) and one on the PTV. **CQ-SARP** refers to the use of the Self-Adaptive Relaxation Parameter method. The ARM is used for the projections onto *C*.



Brook, Censor, Gibali, Penfold, Schulte, Van Den Heuvel

Cyclic CQ scheme

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Results

The percentage of voxels violating their constraints are shown here as a function of the number of algorithm cycles. The dotted lines show that the convergence rate generally increases using the CQ-SARP method. The vertical dotted reference lines indicate the cycles at which the algorithm's performance is evaluated and the parameters are updated accordingly.



Brook, Censor, Gibali, Penfold, Schulte, Van Den Heuvel

Cyclic CQ scheme

• Given $C_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, $1 \le i \le p$ and $Q_j \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$, $1 \le j \le r$, are closed and convex sets.

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- $A_j \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, for $1 \le j \le r$.
- Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be another convex set.

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Masad and Reich *Constrained Multiple Set Split Convex Feasibility Problem* (CMSSCFP) consists of finding a point $x^* \in \Omega$ such that

find
$$x^* \in \bigcap_{i=1}^p C_i$$
 such that $A_j x^* \in Q_j$. (17)

We propose a self-adaptive string-averaging CQ-algorithm, in particular the following cyclic CQ variant for **CONVEX** sets:

$$x^{k+1} = P_{C[k]}(x^k - \gamma_{[k]}A_{[k]}^T(A_{[k]}x^k - P_{Q[k]}(A_{[k]}x^k)))$$
(18)

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where
$$\{\gamma_{[k]}^k\}_{k\geq 0} \subseteq \left(0, \frac{2}{\|A_{[k]}\|}\right)$$
 and $[k] := k \mod p$.

*Enable to replace $\|(\cdot)_+\|_0$ with (convex) I1 approximation $\|z\|_1 := \sum_{i=1}^d |z_i|.$

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*Enable to replace $\|(\cdot)_+\|_0$ with (convex) I1 approximation $\|z\|_1 := \sum_{i=1}^d |z_i|.$ Mathematical theory for the CQ algorithm which is not restricted to convex setting. In case of multiple sets in each space the method has a simultaneous nature, for example:

$$x^{k+1} = P_C\left(x^k - \gamma \sum_{j=1}^r A_j^T (A_j x^k - P_{Q_j}(A_j x^k))\right)$$
(19)

"Deciding what not to do is as important as deciding what to do."

- Steve Jobs





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