

## Supplementary Material of Lifted Proximal Operator Machines

### Optimality Conditions of (Zeng et al., 2018)

The optimality conditions of (Zeng et al., 2018) are (obtained by differentiating the objective function w.r.t.  $X^n$ ,  $\{X^i\}_{i=2}^{n-1}$ ,  $\{W^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$ , and  $\{U^i\}_{i=2}^n$ , respectively):

$$\frac{\partial \ell(X^n, L)}{\partial X^n} + \mu(X^n - \phi(U^n)) = \mathbf{0}, \quad (1)$$

$$(W^i)^T (W^i X^i - U^{i+1}) + (X^i - \phi(U^i)) = \mathbf{0}, \quad i = 2, \dots, n-1, \quad (2)$$

$$(W^i X^i - U^{i+1})(X^i)^T = \mathbf{0}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1, \quad (3)$$

$$(U^i - W^{i-1} X^{i-1}) + (\phi(U^i) - X^i) \circ \phi'(U^i) = \mathbf{0}, \quad i = 2, \dots, n \quad (4)$$

where  $\circ$  denotes the element-wise multiplication.

### Proof of Theorem 2

If  $f(x)$  is contractive:  $\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \rho \|x - y\|$ , for all  $x, y$ , where  $0 \leq \rho < 1$ . Then the iteration  $x_{k+1} = f(x_k)$  is convergent and the convergence rate is linear (Kreyszig, 1978). If  $f(x)$  is continuously differentiable, then  $\|\nabla f(x)\| \leq \rho$  ensures that  $f(x)$  is contractive.

Now we need to estimate the Lipschitz coefficient  $\rho$  for the mapping  $X^{i,t+1} = f(X^{i,t}) = \phi\left(W^{i-1} X^{i-1} - \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} (W^i)^T (\phi(W^i X^i) - X^{i+1})\right)$ . Its Jacobian matrix is:

$$\begin{aligned} J_{kl,pq} &= \frac{\partial [f(X^{i,t})]_{kl}}{\partial X_{pq}^{i,t}} \\ &= \frac{\partial \phi\left([W^{i-1} X^{i-1}]_{kl} - \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} [(W^i)^T (\phi(W^i X^i) - X^{i+1})]_{kl}\right)}{\partial X_{pq}^{i,t}} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \frac{\partial [(W^i)^T (\phi(W^i X^i) - X^{i+1})]_{kl}}{\partial X_{pq}^{i,t}} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \frac{\partial \sum_r W_{rk}^i [\phi((W^i X^i)_{rl}) - X_{rl}^{i+1}]}{\partial X_{pq}^{i,t}} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \sum_r W_{rk}^i \phi'((W^i X^i)_{rl}) \frac{\partial (W^i X^i)_{rl}}{\partial X_{pq}^{i,t}} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \sum_r W_{rk}^i \phi'((W^i X^i)_{rl}) \frac{\partial \sum_s W_{rs}^i X_{sl}^{i,t}}{\partial X_{pq}^{i,t}} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \sum_r W_{rk}^i \phi'((W^i X^i)_{rl}) \sum_s W_{rs}^i \delta_{sp} \delta_{lq} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \sum_r W_{rk}^i \phi'((W^i X^i)_{rl}) W_{rp}^i \delta_{lq}, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where  $c_{kl}^{i,t} = [W^{i-1} X^{i-1}]_{kl} - \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} [(W^i)^T (\phi(W^i X^i) - X^{i+1})]_{kl}$ ,  $\delta_{sp}$  is the Kronecker delta function, it is 1 if  $s$  and

$p$  are equal, and 0 otherwise. Its  $l_1$  norm is upper bounded by:

$$\begin{aligned} \|J\|_1 &= \max_{pq} \sum_{kl} |J_{kl,pq}| \\ &= \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \max_{pq} \sum_{kl} \left| \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \sum_r W_{rk}^i \phi'((W^i X^i)_{rl}) W_{rp}^i \delta_{lq} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \max_p \sum_k \sum_r |W_{rk}^i| |W_{rp}^i| \\ &\leq \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \max_p \sum_k ((W^i)^T \|W^i\|)_{kp} \\ &= \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \| (W^i)^T \| \|W^i\|_1. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Its  $l_\infty$  norm is upper bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} \|J\|_\infty &= \max_{kl} \sum_{pq} |J_{kl,pq}| \\ &= \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \max_{kl} \sum_{pq} \left| \phi'(c_{kl}^{i,t}) \sum_r W_{rk}^i \phi'((W^i X^i)_{rl}) W_{rp}^i \delta_{lq} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \max_k \sum_p \sum_r |W_{rk}^i| |W_{rp}^i| \\ &\leq \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \max_k \sum_p ((W^i)^T \|W^i\|)_{kp} \\ &= \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \| (W^i)^T \| \|W^i\|_\infty. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Therefore, by using  $\|A\|_2 \leq \sqrt{\|A\|_1 \|A\|_\infty}$  (Golub and Van Loan, 2012), the  $l_2$  norm of its Jacobian matrix is upper bounded by

$$\|J\|_2 \leq \frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\mu_i} \gamma^2 \sqrt{\| (W^i)^T \| \|W^i\|_1 \| (W^i)^T \| \|W^i\|_\infty}, \quad (8)$$

which is the Lipschitz coefficient  $\rho$ .

### Proof of Theorem 3

The proof of the first part is the same as that of Theorem 2. So we only detail how to estimate the Lipschitz coefficient  $\tau$  for the mapping  $X^{n,t+1} = f(X^{n,t}) = \phi\left(W^{n-1} X^{n-1} - \frac{1}{\mu_n} \frac{\partial \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X^{n,t}}\right)$ . Its Jacobian matrix is:

$$\begin{aligned} J_{kl,pq} &= \frac{\partial [f(X^{n,t})]_{kl}}{\partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \\ &= \frac{\partial \phi\left((W^{n-1} X^{n-1})_{kl} - \frac{1}{\mu_n} \frac{\partial \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t}}\right)}{\partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{\mu_n} \phi'(d_{kl}^{n,t}) \frac{\partial \frac{\partial \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t}}}{\partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{\mu_n} \phi'(d_{kl}^{n,t}) \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}}, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where  $d_{kl}^{n,t} = (W^{n-1}X^{n-1})_{kl} - \frac{1}{\mu_n} \left( \frac{\partial \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X^{n,t}} \right)_{kl}$ . Its  $l_1$  norm is upper bounded by:

$$\begin{aligned} \|J\|_1 &= \max_{pq} \sum_{kl} |J_{kl,pq}| \\ &= \frac{1}{\mu_n} \max_{pq} \sum_{kl} \left| \phi'(d_{kl}^{n,t}) \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\gamma}{\mu_n} \max_{pq} \sum_{kl} \left| \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \right| \\ &= \frac{\gamma}{\mu_n} \left\| \left\| \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \right\| \right\|_1 \\ &\leq \frac{\gamma\eta}{\mu_n}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Its  $l_\infty$  norm is upper bounded by:

$$\begin{aligned} \|J\|_\infty &= \max_{kl} \sum_{pq} |J_{kl,pq}| \\ &= \frac{1}{\mu_n} \max_{kl} \sum_{pq} \left| \phi'(d_{kl}^{n,t}) \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\gamma}{\mu_n} \max_{kl} \sum_{pq} \left| \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \right| \\ &= \frac{\gamma}{\mu_n} \left\| \left\| \frac{\partial^2 \ell(X^{n,t}, L)}{\partial X_{kl}^{n,t} \partial X_{pq}^{n,t}} \right\| \right\|_1 \\ &\leq \frac{\gamma\eta}{\mu_n}. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Therefore, the  $l_2$  norm of  $J$  is upper bounded by

$$\|J\|_2 \leq \sqrt{\|J\|_1 \|J\|_\infty} \leq \frac{\gamma\eta}{\mu_n} = \tau. \quad (12)$$

#### Proof of Theorem 4

The  $L_\varphi$ -smoothness of  $\varphi$ :

$$\|\nabla\varphi(x) - \nabla\varphi(y)\| \leq L_\varphi \|x - y\|, \forall x, y$$

enables the following inequality (Nesterov, 2004):

$$\varphi(z) \leq \varphi(y) + \langle \nabla\varphi(y), z - y \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z - y\|^2, \forall x, y. \quad (13)$$

By putting  $z = Ax$  and  $y = Ay_k$ , where  $y_k$  is yet to be chosen, we have

$$\varphi(Ax) \leq \varphi(Ay_k) + \langle \nabla\varphi(Ay_k), A(x - y_k) \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x - y_k)\|^2. \quad (14)$$

As assumed,

$$x_{k+1} = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} \langle \nabla\varphi(Ay_k), A(x - y_k) \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x - y_k)\|^2 + h(x) \quad (15)$$

is easy to solve. This gives

$$-L_\varphi A^T A(x_{k+1} - y_k) \in A^T \nabla\varphi(Ay_k) + \partial h(x_{k+1}). \quad (16)$$

Then by (14) and the convexity of  $h$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_{k+1}) &= \varphi(Ax_{k+1}) + h(x_{k+1}) \\ &\leq \varphi(Ay_k) + \langle \nabla\varphi(Ay_k), A(x_{k+1} - y_k) \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 \\ &\quad + h(u) - \langle \xi, u - x_{k+1} \rangle \\ &\leq \varphi(Au) + \langle \nabla\varphi(Ay_k), A(u - y_k) \rangle + \langle \nabla\varphi(Ay_k), A(x_{k+1} - y_k) \rangle \\ &\quad + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 + h(u) - \langle \xi, u - x_{k+1} \rangle \\ &= F(u) - \langle A^T \nabla\varphi(Ay_k) + \xi, u - x_{k+1} \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 \\ &= F(u) + L_\varphi \langle A^T A(x_{k+1} - y_k), u - x_{k+1} \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 \\ &= F(u) + L_\varphi \langle A(x_{k+1} - y_k), A(u - x_{k+1}) \rangle + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

where  $\xi$  is any subgradient in  $\partial h(x_{k+1})$ ,  $u$  is any point, and the third equality used (16). Thus

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_{k+1}) &\leq F(u) + L_g \langle A(x_{k+1} - y_k), A(u - x_{k+1}) \rangle \\ &\quad + \frac{L_g}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2, \quad \forall u. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Let  $u = x_k$  and  $u = x^*$  in (18), respectively. Then multiplying the first inequality with  $\theta_k$  and the second with  $1 - \theta_k$  and adding them together, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_{k+1}) &\leq \theta_k F(x_k) + (1 - \theta_k) F(x^*) \\ &\quad + L_\varphi \langle A(x_{k+1} - y_k), A[\theta_k(x_k - x_{k+1}) + (1 - \theta_k)(x^* - x_{k+1})] \rangle \\ &\quad + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 \\ &= \theta_k F(x_k) + (1 - \theta_k) F(x^*) \\ &\quad + L_\varphi \langle A(x_{k+1} - y_k), A[\theta_k x_k - x_{k+1} + (1 - \theta_k)x^*] \rangle \\ &\quad + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 \\ &= \theta_k F(x_k) + (1 - \theta_k) F(x^*) \\ &\quad + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \{ \|A[(x_{k+1} - y_k) + (\theta_k x_k - x_{k+1} + (1 - \theta_k)x^*)]\|^2 \\ &\quad - \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 - \|A[\theta_k x_k - x_{k+1} + (1 - \theta_k)x^*]\|^2 \} \\ &\quad + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|A(x_{k+1} - y_k)\|^2 \\ &= \theta_k F(x_k) + (1 - \theta_k) F(x^*) \\ &\quad + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \{ \|A[\theta_k x_k - y_k + (1 - \theta_k)x^*]\|^2 \\ &\quad - \|A[\theta_k x_k - x_{k+1} + (1 - \theta_k)x^*]\|^2 \}. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

In order to have a recursion, we need to have:

$$\theta_k x_k - y_k + (1 - \theta_k)x^* = \sqrt{\theta_k} [\theta_{k-1} x_{k-1} - x_k + (1 - \theta_{k-1})x^*].$$

By comparing the coefficient of  $x^*$ , we have

$$1 - \theta_k = \sqrt{\theta_k} (1 - \theta_{k-1}). \quad (20)$$

Accordingly,

$$y_k = \theta_k x_k - \sqrt{\theta_k} (\theta_{k-1} x_{k-1} - x_k). \quad (21)$$

With the above choice of  $\{\theta_k\}$  and  $y_k$ , (19) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} & F(x_{k+1}) - F(x^*) + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z_{k+1}\|^2 \\ & \leq \theta_k \left( F(x_k) - F(x^*) + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z_k\|^2 \right), \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

where  $z_k = A[\theta_{k-1}x_{k-1} - x_k + (1 - \theta_{k-1})x^*]$ . Then by recursion, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & F(x_k) - F(x^*) + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z_k\|^2 \\ & \leq \left( \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \theta_i \right) \left( F(x_1) - F(x^*) + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z_1\|^2 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

It remains to estimate  $\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \theta_i$ . We choose  $\theta_0 = 0$  and prove

$$1 - \theta_k < \frac{2}{k+1} \quad (24)$$

by induction. (24) is true for  $k=0$ . Suppose (24) is true for  $k-1$ , then by  $1 - \theta_k = \sqrt{\theta_k}(1 - \theta_{k-1})$ , we have

$$1 - \theta_k = \sqrt{\theta_k}(1 - \theta_{k-1}) < \sqrt{\theta_k} \frac{2}{k}. \quad (25)$$

Let  $\tilde{\theta}_k = 1 - \theta_k$ , then the above becomes  $k^2 \tilde{\theta}_k^2 < 4(1 - \tilde{\theta}_k)$ . So

$$\tilde{\theta}_k < \frac{-4 + \sqrt{16 + 16k^2}}{2k^2} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 + k^2}} < \frac{2}{k+1}. \quad (26)$$

Thus (24) is proven.

Now we are ready to estimate  $\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \theta_i$ . From  $1 - \theta_k = \sqrt{\theta_k}(1 - \theta_{k-1})$ , we have

$$1 - \theta_{k-1} = \sqrt{\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \theta_i (1 - \theta_0)} = \sqrt{\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \theta_i}.$$

So  $\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \theta_i = (1 - \theta_{k-1})^2 < \frac{4}{k^2}$ . Hence

$$F(x_k) - F(x^*) + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z_k\|^2 \leq \frac{4}{k^2} \left( F(x_1) - F(x^*) + \frac{L_\varphi}{2} \|z_1\|^2 \right).$$

The three equations, (20), (21), and (15) constitute the major steps in Algorithm 2.

## Convergence Analysis of Algorithm 1

If the loss function is differentiable and both  $\phi$  and  $\phi^{-1}$  are strictly increasing, then the objective function of LPOM is differentiable and the block coordinate descent in Algorithm 1 converges to stationary points by subsequence (Bertsekas, 1999). Since the objective function of LPOM is block multi-convex (Theorem 1), the convergence result may be stronger (Xu and Yin, 2013).

## References

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