
Supplementary Material: Memory-Efficient Learning of Stable Linear Dynamical Systems for Prediction and Control

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A Gradient Descents for SOC algorithm

Here we derive the gradient descents for the SOC algorithm, shown in equations (7) through (10) in the main paper. Let

$$f = \frac{1}{2} \|Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU\|_F^2$$

Using the identity

$$\|X\|_F^2 = \text{Tr}(X^T X)$$

and expanding the product $(Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU)^T(Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU)$, we rewrite the optimization problem as

$$\begin{aligned} f = & \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(Y^T Y - Y^T S^{-1}OCSX - Y^T BU \\ & - X^T S^T C^T O^T S^{-T} Y + X^T S^T C^T O^T S^{-T} S^{-1}OCSX + X^T S^T C^T O^T S^{-T} BU \\ & - U^T B^T Y + U^T B^T S^{-1}OCSX + U^T B^T BU). \end{aligned}$$

To calculate the gradients of f , we use the identities

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial X} \text{Tr}(AXB) = A^T B^T \tag{12}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial X} \text{Tr}(AX^T B) = BA \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial X} \text{Tr}(B^T X^T C X B) = (C^T + C) X B B^T. \tag{14}$$

The gradient of f with respect to C is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial C} f = & \frac{1}{2} (-O^T S^{-T} Y X^T S^T - O^T S^{-T} Y X^T S^T + (2O^T S^{-T} S^{-1} O) C S X X^T S^T \\ & + O^T S^{-T} B U X^T S^T + O^T S^{-T} B U X^T S^T) \\ = & -O^T S^{-T} (Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU) X^T S^T. \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Similarly, the gradient of f with respect to O is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial O}f &= \frac{1}{2}(-S^{-T}YX^T S^T C^T - S^{-T}YX^T S^T C^T + (2S^{-T}S^{-1})OCSX X^T S^T C^T) \\ &\quad + S^{-T}BUX^T S^T C^T + S^{-T}BUX^T S^T C^T) \\ &= -S^{-T}(Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU)X^T S^T C^T.\end{aligned}\tag{16}$$

The gradient of f with respect to B is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial B}f &= \frac{1}{2}(-YU^T + S^{-1}OCSXU^T - YU^T + S^{-1}OCSXU^T + 2BUU^T) \\ &= -(Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU)U^T.\end{aligned}\tag{17}$$

Last, the gradient of f with respect to S is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{1}{2}\|Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU\|_F^2 = \langle R - Y | R - Y \rangle,$$

where $R = S^{-1}OCSX + BU$. Then, using the property

$$\frac{\partial X^{-1}}{\partial q} = -X^{-1} \frac{\partial X}{\partial q} X^{-1}$$

we calculate

$$\dot{R} = -S^{-1}\dot{S}S^{-1}OCSX + S^{-1}OC\dot{S}X,$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{f} &= \frac{1}{2}\langle \dot{R} | R - Y \rangle + \langle R - Y | \dot{R} \rangle \\ &= \langle R - Y | \dot{R} \rangle \\ &= \langle R - Y | -S^{-1}\dot{S}S^{-1}OCSX + S^{-1}OC\dot{S}X \rangle \\ &= \langle -S^{-T}(R - Y)X^T S^T C^T O^T S^{-T} + C^T O^T S^{-T}(R - Y)X^T | \dot{S} \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the gradient of f with respect to S is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial S}f &= S^{-T}(Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU)X^T S^T C^T O^T S^{-T} \\ &\quad - C^T O^T S^{-T}(Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU)X^T.\end{aligned}\tag{18}$$

To simplify the notations, we use $E = Y - S^{-1}OCSX - BU$ and rewrite the gradients (15) through (18) as

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_C f &= -O^T S^{-T} E X^T S^T \\ \nabla_O f &= -S^{-T} E X^T S^T C^T \\ \nabla_B f &= -E U^T \\ \nabla_S f &= S^{-T} E X^T S^T C^T O^T S^{-T} - C^T O^T S^{-T} E X^T,\end{aligned}$$

where we use the notation $\nabla_X(\cdot) \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial X}(\cdot)$.