

A modified self-adaptive conjugate gradient method for solving convex constrained monotone nonlinear equations with applications to signal recovery problems

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Abstract In this article, we propose a modified self-adaptive conjugate gradient algorithm for handling nonlinear monotone equations with the constraints being convex. Under some nice conditions, the global convergence of the method was established. Numerical examples reported show that the method is promising and efficient for solving monotone nonlinear equations. In addition, we applied the proposed algorithm to solve sparse signal reconstruction problems.

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1. Introduction

Suppose Ω is a nonempty, closed and convex subset of R^n , F a continuous function from R^n to R^n . A constrained nonlinear monotone equation involves finding a point $x \in \Omega$, such that

$$
F(x) = 0.\tag{1.1}
$$

Many algorithms have been proposed in literature to solve nonlinear constrained equations, some of which are the trust region [3] and the Levenberg-Marquardt method [6]. However, the nee[d fo](#page-24-0)r these methods t[o c](#page-25-0)ompute and store matrix in every iteration, make them unsuitable for solving large-scale nonlinear equations.

Conjugate gradient (CG) meth[ods](#page-24-1) is an iterative method developed for handling unconstrained optimization problem [1, 9, 11, 15, 16, 20, 27, 28]. CG methods does not [req](#page-25-1)uire matrix storage, which makes it one of the efficient methods for handling largescale unconstrained optimization problems. Moreover, generating a descent direction does not always hold based on the secant conditions. In order to obtain a descent direction, Narushima et al. [15] and Zhang et al. [28] proposed three term CG methods, which always generate a descent direction, and established the convergence of the methods under some suitable conditions. Also in $[16]$, Narushima proposed a smoothing CG algorithm, which combine the smoothing approach with the Polak–Ribière–Polyak CG methods in [27], to handle unconstrained non-smooth equations. The convergence of [th](#page-24-2)e method was established under some mild conditions.

Methods for solving unconstrained problems sometimes become less useful, as in many practical applications, such as equilibrium problems, the solution of the unconstrained problem may lie outside the constrained set Ω . [Th](#page-24-3)is reason made researchers shift their attention to the con[str](#page-24-4)ained case (1.1). In the last few years, many kinds of algorithms for solving nonlinear monotone equations with convex cons[trai](#page-24-2)ned set Ω have been developed and one of [the](#page-24-4) [po](#page-24-3)pular is the projection method. For example, in [23] Wang et al. proposed a projection method for solving systems of monotone nonlinear equations with conv[ex c](#page-25-2)onstraints. The method was based on the inexact Newton backtracking technique an[d t](#page-24-5)he direction was obtained by minimization of a linear [sy](#page-24-6)stem [to](#page-24-7)gether with the constrained condit[ion](#page-25-2) at each iteration. Also, in [22] Wang et al. presented a modification of the method in $[18]$, and the global convergence as well as the [sup](#page-25-2)er-linear rate of convergence were established under same conditi[ons](#page-25-3) in [23]. However, the direction of the methods in [18, 22] were determined by minimization of linear equations at each step. In trying to avoid solving the linear equation to obtain the direction at each step, Xiao and Zhu [26] proposed a projected CG methods, which combines the CG-DESCENT method in $[10]$ and the projection technique by Solodov and Svaiter $[19]$. In $[14]$, a modi[fica](#page-25-3)tion of the method in [26] was proposed by Liu and Li. The advantage of this modification was that it improves the numerical perform[anc](#page-25-3)e of the method in [26] and still retains its nice properties. Furthermore, Wang et al. [24] [pr](#page-25-3)oposed a self-adaptive three-term CG methods for solving constrained nonlinear monotone equations. The method can be viewed as combination of the CG methods, the projection method and the self-adaptive method.

Motivated by the above methods, we propose a modification of the method in [24] for solving nonlinear monotone equations with convex constraints. The modification improves the numerical performance of the method in $[24]$ and still inherits its nice properties. The difference between the two methods is that y_{k-1} in [24] is replaced by w_{k-1} (More details

can be found in the next section). Under appropriate conditions, the global convergence of the proposed method is established. Numerical results presented show that the proposed method is efficient and promising compared to some similar existing algorithms.

The remaining part of this paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we state some preliminaries and then present the algorithm. The global convergence of the proposed method is proved in section 3. In section 4, we report some numerical experiments to show its performance in solving nonlinear monotone equations with convex constraints, and lastly apply it to solve some signal recovery problems.

2. Preliminaries and algorithm

This section gives some basic concepts and properties of the projection mapping as well as some assumptions. *∥ · ∥* denotes the Euclidean norm throughout the paper.

Definition 2.1. Let $\Omega \subset R^n$ be a nonempty closed convex set. Then for any $x \in R^n$, its orthogonal projection onto Ω , denoted by $P_{\Omega}(x)$, is defined by

$$
P_{\Omega}(x) = \arg \min \{ ||x - y|| : y \in \Omega \}.
$$

The following lemma provides us with some well-known properties of the projection mapping.

Lemma 2.2. $[24]$ Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ [be](#page-1-0) a nonempty, closed and convex set. Then the following *statements are true:*

1. $(x - P_{\Omega}(x))^{T} (P_{\Omega}(x) - z) \geq 0$, $\forall x \in R^{n}, z \in \Omega$. *2.* $||P_{\Omega}(x) - P_{\Omega}(y)|| \leq ||x - y||$, $\forall x, y \in R^n$. 3. $||P_{\Omega}(x) - z||^2 \le ||x - z||^2 - ||x - P_{\Omega}(x)||^2$, $\forall x \in R^n, z \in \Omega$.

All through this article, we assume the following

- (A_1) The solution set of (1.1) , denoted by Ω' , is nonempty.
- (A_2) The mapping *F* is monotone, that is,

$$
(F(x) - F(y))^T (x - y) \ge 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R^n.
$$

 (A_3) The mapping $F(.)$ is Lipschitz continuous, that is there exists a positive constant *L* such that

$$
||F(x) - F(y)|| \le L||x - y||, \quad \forall x, y \in R^n.
$$

Algorithm 2.3. *Modified Self-adaptive CG method (MSCG)*

Step 0. Given an arbitrary initial point $x_0 \in \Omega$, parameters $\beta > 0$, $r > 0$, $0 < \mu < 2$, $\sigma > 0, 0 < \rho < 1, Tol > 0, and set k := 0.$

Step 1. If $||F(x_k)|| ≤ Tol$ *, stop, otherwise go to Step 2.*

(2.6)

Step 2. Compute

$$
d_k = \begin{cases} -F(x_k), & \text{if } k = 0, \\ -F(x_k) + \beta'_k d_{k-1} - \theta'_k w_{k-1}, & \text{if } k \ge 1, \end{cases} \tag{2.1}
$$

where

$$
\beta'_{k} = \frac{F(x_{k})^{T} w_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^{T} w_{k-1}}, \quad \theta'_{k} = \frac{F(x_{k})^{T} d_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^{T} w_{k-1}}
$$
\n(2.2)

$$
y_{k-1} = F(x_k) - F(x_{k-1}) + rs_{k-1}, \quad s_{k-1} = x_k - x_{k-1}, \tag{2.3}
$$

$$
w_{k-1} = y_{k-1} + t_{k-1}d_{k-1}, \quad t_{k-1} = 1 + \max\left\{0, -\frac{d_{k-1}^T y_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^T d_{k-1}}\right\}.
$$
 (2.4)

Step 3. Compute the step length $\alpha_k = \beta \rho^{m_k}$ and m_k is the smallest non-negative *integer m such that*

$$
-\langle F(x_k + \beta \rho^m d_k), d_k \rangle \ge \sigma \beta \rho^m \|d_k\|^2. \tag{2.5}
$$

Step 4. Set $z_k = x_k + \alpha_k d_k$ *and compute*

$$
x_{k+1} = P_{\Omega}[x_k - \mu \zeta_k F(z_k)]
$$

where

$$
\zeta_k = \frac{F(z_k)^T (x_k - z_k)}{\|F(z_k)\|^2}.
$$

Step 5. Let $k = k + 1$ *and go to <i>Step 1*.

It can be observed that the modification made is by replacing β_k^{HS} , θ_k in [24] with β'_k , θ'_{k} respectively in the proposed algorithm.

Remark 2.4.

$$
F(x_k)^T d_k
$$

= $-F(x_k)^T F(x_k) + \frac{F(x_k)^T (F(x_k)^T w_{k-1}) d_{k-1} - F(x_k)^T (F(x_k)^T d_{k-1}) w_{k-1}}{d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1}}$
= $-||F(x_k)||^2 + \frac{(F(x_k)^T d_{k-1})(F(x_k)^T w_{k-1}) - (F(x_k)^T w_{k-1})(F(x_k)^T d_{k-1})}{d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1}}$
= $-||F(x_k)||^2$.

Using Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we get

 $||F(x_k)|| \le ||d_k||$ *.* (2.7)

Remark 2.5. From the definition of w_{k-1} , t_{k-1} and (2.7), we have

$$
d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1} \ge d_{k-1}^T y_{k-1} + ||d_{k-1}||^2 - d_{k-1}^T y_{k-1} = ||d_{k-1}||^2
$$
\n(2.8)

3. Convergence analysis

To prove the global convergence of Algorithm 2.3, the following lemmas are needed. The following lemma shows that Algorithm 2.3 is well-defined.

Lemma 3.1. *Suppose that assumptions (A*1*)-(A*3*) hold, then there exists a step-length α*_{*k*} *satisfying the line search* (2.5) $\forall k \geq 0$ *.*

Proof. Sup[pos](#page-3-2)e there exists $k_0 \geq 0$ such that (2.5) does not hold for any non-negative integer *i*, i.e.,

.

$$
-\langle F(x_{k_0} + \beta \rho^i d_{k_0}), d_{k_0} \rangle < \sigma \beta \rho^i \| d_{k_0} \|^2
$$

Using assumption (A_3) (A_3) (A_3) and allowing $i \to \infty$, we get

$$
-\langle F(x_{k_0}), d_{k_0} \rangle \le 0. \tag{3.1}
$$

Also from (2.6) , we have

$$
-\langle F(x_{k_0}), d_{k_0} \rangle = ||F(x_{k_0})||^2 > 0,
$$

which contradicts (3.1) . The proof is complete.

Lemma 3.2. *Suppose that* (A_3) *hold and the sequences* $\{x_k\}$ *and* $\{z_k\}$ *be generated by Algorithm 2.3. The we have*

$$
\alpha_k \ge \rho \min \left\{ \beta, \rho \frac{\|F(x_k)\|^2}{(L+\sigma)\|d_k\|^2} \right\}.
$$

Proof. Suppose $\alpha_k \neq \beta$, then $\frac{\alpha_k}{\rho}$ does not satisfy equation (2.5), that is

$$
-F\left(x_k+\frac{\alpha_k}{\rho}d_k\right)^Td_k<\sigma\frac{\alpha_k}{\rho}\|d_k\|^2.
$$

This combined with (2.6) and the fact that *F* is Lipschitz continuous yields

$$
||F(x_k)||^2 = -F(x_k)^T d_k
$$

\n
$$
= \left(F(x_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{\rho} d_k) - F(x_k)\right)^T d_k - F\left(x_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{\rho} d_k\right)^T d_k
$$

\n
$$
\leq L \frac{\alpha_k}{\rho} ||d_k||^2 + \sigma \frac{\alpha_k}{\rho} ||d_k||^2
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{L + \sigma}{\rho} \alpha_k ||d_k||^2.
$$
\n(3.2)

The above equation implies

$$
\alpha_k \ge \rho \frac{\|F(x_k)\|^2}{(L+\sigma)\|d_k\|^2},
$$

which completes the proof.

Lemma 3.3. *Suppose that assumptions* (A_1) - (A_3) *hold, then the sequences* $\{x_k\}$ *and {zk} generated by Algorithm 2.3 are bounded. Moreover, we have*

$$
\lim_{k \to \infty} \|x_k - z_k\| = 0,\tag{3.3}
$$

and

$$
\lim_{k \to \infty} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\| = 0. \tag{3.4}
$$

Proof. We will start by showing that the sequences $\{x_k\}$ and $\{z_k\}$ are bounded. Suppose $\bar{x} \in \Omega'$, then by monotonicity of *F*, we get

$$
\langle F(z_k), x_k - \bar{x} \rangle \ge \langle F(z_k), x_k - z_k \rangle. \tag{3.5}
$$

Also by definition of z_k and the line search (2.5) , we have

$$
\langle F(z_k), x_k - z_k \rangle \ge \sigma \alpha_k^2 \|d_k\|^2 \ge 0. \tag{3.6}
$$

So, we have

$$
||x_{k+1} - \bar{x}||^{2}
$$

\n
$$
= ||P_{\Omega}[x_{k} - \mu \zeta_{k} F(z_{k})] - \bar{x}||^{2}
$$

\n
$$
\leq ||x_{k} - \mu \zeta_{k} F(z_{k}) - \bar{x}||^{2}
$$

\n
$$
= ||x_{k} - \bar{x}||^{2} - 2\mu \zeta_{k} \langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - \bar{x} \rangle + ||\mu \zeta_{k} F(z_{k})||^{2}
$$

\n
$$
= ||x_{k} - \bar{x}||^{2} - 2\mu \frac{\langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - z_{k} \rangle}{||F(z_{k})||^{2}} \langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - \bar{x} \rangle + \mu^{2} \left(\frac{\langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - z_{k} \rangle}{||F(z_{k})||} \right)^{2}
$$

\n
$$
\leq ||x_{k} - \bar{x}||^{2} - 2\mu \frac{\langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - z_{k} \rangle}{||F(z_{k})||^{2}} \langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - z_{k} \rangle + \mu^{2} \left(\frac{\langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - z_{k} \rangle}{||F(z_{k})||} \right)^{2}
$$

\n
$$
\leq ||x_{k} - \bar{x}||^{2} - \mu(2 - \mu) \left(\frac{\langle F(z_{k}), x_{k} - z_{k} \rangle}{||F(z_{k})||} \right)^{2}
$$

\n
$$
= ||x_{k} - \bar{x}||^{2} - \mu(2 - \mu) \frac{\sigma^{2} ||x_{k} - z_{k}||^{4}}{||F(z_{k})||^{2}}.
$$
\n(3.7)

Thus the sequence $\{||x_k - \bar{x}||\}$ is non increasing and convergent, and hence $\{x_k\}$ is bounded. Furthermore, from equation (3.7) , we have

$$
||x_{k+1} - \bar{x}||^2 \le ||x_k - \bar{x}||^2,
$$
\n(3.8)

and we can deduce recursively that

$$
||x_k - \bar{x}||^2 \le ||x_0 - \bar{x}||^2, \quad \forall k \ge 0.
$$

Then from Assumption (A_3) , we obtain

 $||F(x_k)|| = ||F(x_k) - F(\bar{x})|| \le L||x_k - \bar{x}|| \le L||x_0 - \bar{x}||.$

If we let $L||x_0 - \bar{x}|| = \omega$, then the sequence $\{F(x_k)\}\$ is bounded, that is,

$$
||F(x_k)|| \le \omega, \quad \forall k \ge 0. \tag{3.9}
$$

By the definition of z_k , equation (3.6), monotonicity of *F* and the Cauchy-Schwatz inequality, we get

$$
\sigma \|x_k - z_k\| = \frac{\sigma \|\alpha_k d_k\|^2}{\|x_k - z_k\|} \le \frac{\langle F(z_k), x_k - z_k \rangle}{\|x_k - z_k\|} \le \frac{\langle F(x_k), x_k - z_k \rangle}{\|x_k - z_k\|} \le \|F(x_k)\|.
$$
\n(3.10)

The boundedness of the sequence ${x_k}$ together with equations (3.9)-(3.10), implies that the sequence $\{z_k\}$ is boun[ded.](#page-5-0)

Since $\{z_k\}$ is bounded, then for any $\bar{x} \in \Omega'$, the sequence $\{z_k - \bar{x}\}$ is also bounded, that is, there exists a positive constant $\nu > 0$ such that

 $||z_k - \bar{x}|| \leq \nu$, $\forall k \geq 0$.

This together with Assumption (*A*3) yields

$$
||F(z_k)|| = ||F(z_k) - F(\bar{x})|| \le L||z_k - \bar{x}|| \le L\nu.
$$

Therefore, using equation (3.7), we have

$$
\mu(2-\mu)\frac{\sigma^2}{(L\nu)^2}||x_k - z_k||^4 \le ||x_k - \bar{x}||^2 - ||x_{k+1} - \bar{x}||^2,
$$

which implies

$$
\mu(2-\mu)\frac{\sigma^2}{(L\nu)^2}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}||x_k - z_k||^4 \le \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (||x_k - \bar{x}||^2 - ||x_{k+1} - \bar{x}||^2) \le ||x_0 - \bar{x}|| < \infty.
$$
\n(3.11)

Equation (3.11) implies

$$
\lim_{k \to \infty} ||x_k - z_k|| = 0.
$$

However, using statement 2 of lemma 2.2, the definition of *ζ^k* and the Cauchy-Schwatz inequality, we have

$$
||x_{k+1} - x_k|| = ||P_{\Omega}[x_k - \mu \zeta_k F(z_k)] - x_k||
$$

$$
= ||x_k - \mu \zeta_k F(z_k) - x_k||
$$

$$
= ||\mu \zeta_k F(z_k)||
$$

$$
= \mu ||x_k - z_k||, \forall k \ge 0,
$$
 (3.12)

which yields

lim $\lim_{k \to \infty} ||x_{k+1} - x_k|| = 0.$

п

Remark 3.4. By equa[tion](#page-2-0) (3.3) and definition of z_k , we have

$$
\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k \|d_k\| = 0. \tag{3.13}
$$

Theorem 3.5. *Suppose that [assum](#page-7-0)ptions* (A_1) - (A_3) *hold and let the sequence* $\{x_k\}$ *be generated by Algorithm 2.3, then*

$$
\liminf_{k \to \infty} \|F(x_k)\| = 0. \tag{3.14}
$$

Proof. Assume that equation (3.14) is not true, then there exists a constant $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$
||F(x_k)|| \ge \epsilon, \quad \forall k \ge 0. \tag{3.15}
$$

We will first show that the sequence $\{d_k\}$ is bounded. From the definition of t_{k-1} , we have

$$
|t_{k-1}| = \left| 1 + \max\left\{ 0, -\frac{d_{k-1}^T y_{k-1}}{\|d_{k-1}\|^2} \right\} \right|
$$

\n
$$
\leq 1 + \frac{|d_{k-1}^T y_{k-1}|}{\|d_{k-1}\|^2}
$$

\n
$$
\leq 1 + \frac{|d_{k-1}||\|y_{k-1}\|}{\|d_{k-1}\|^2}
$$

\n
$$
= 1 + \frac{\|y_{k-1}\|}{\|d_{k-1}\|}.
$$
\n(3.16)

Also from definition of y_{k-1} and assumption (A_3) , we have

$$
||y_{k-1}|| \le ||F(x_k) - F(x_{k-1})|| + r||s_{k-1}||
$$

\n
$$
\le (L+r)||s_{k-1}||
$$
\n(3.17)

$$
\leq (L+r)\alpha_{k-1}||d_{k-1}||.
$$

Furthermore by definition of w_{k-1} , (3.16) and (3.17) , we obtain

$$
||w_{k-1}|| = ||y_{k-1} + t_{k-1}d_{k-1}||
$$

\n
$$
\le ||y_{k-1}|| + |t_{k-1}||d_{k-1}||
$$

\n
$$
\le (L+r)\alpha_{k-1}||d_{k-1}|| + \left(1 + \frac{||y_{k-1}||}{||d_{k-1}||}\right) ||d_{k-1}||
$$

\n
$$
= (L+r)\alpha_{k-1}||d_{k-1}|| + ||d_{k-1}|| + ||y_{k-1}||
$$
\n(3.18)

 $\leq (2(L+r)\alpha_{k-1}+1)$ $||d_{k-1}||$.

Therefore, by (2.1) , (2.8) , (3.9) , (3.18) and Cauchy-Schwatz inequality, we have

$$
||d_k|| \le ||F(x_k)|| + \frac{||F(x_k)|| ||w_{k-1}|| ||d_{k-1}||}{|d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1}|} + \frac{||F(x_k)|| ||d_{k-1}|| ||w_{k-1}||}{|d_{k-1}^T w_{k-1}|}
$$

\n
$$
\le ||F(x_k)|| + (4(L+r)\alpha_{k-1} + 2)||F(x_k)||
$$

\n
$$
= (1 + 4(L+r)\alpha_{k-1} + 2)||F(x_k)||
$$

\n
$$
\le (1 + 4(L+r)\beta + 2)\omega.
$$

\n(3.19)

Letting *C* = (1 + 4(*L* + *r*)*β* + 2)*ω*, then *∥dk∥ ≤ C, ∀k ≥* 0*.* Combining (2.7) and (3.15) , w[e](#page-8-1) have

$$
||d_k|| \ge ||F(x_k)|| \ge \epsilon, \quad \forall k \ge 0.
$$

As $z_k = x_k + \alpha_k d_k$ and $\lim_{k \to \infty} ||x_k - z_k|| = 0$, we get $\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k ||d_k|| = 0$ and

$$
\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0. \tag{3.20}
$$

On the other side, lemma 3.2 and (3.19) i[mply](#page-2-0) $\alpha_k ||d_k|| \ge \min \left\{ \beta \epsilon \frac{\epsilon^2}{(L+\sigma)^2} \right\}$ $(L+\sigma)C^2$ } [,](#page-24-7) which contradicts with (3.20) . Therefore, (3.14) must hold.

4. Some Applications and Numerical examples

This section reports some numerical results to show the efficiency of Algorithm 2.3. For convenience sake, we denote Algorithm 2.3 by **MSCG** method. We also divide this section into two. First we compare **MSCG** method with **PCG** method [14] by solving some monotone nonlinear equations with convex constraints using different initial points and several dimensions. Secondly, the **MSCG** method is applied to solve signal recovery problems. All codes were written in MATLAB R2017a and run on a PC with intel COREi5 processor with 4GB of RAM and CPU 2.3GHZ.

4.1. Numerical examples on some convex constrained nonlinear monotone equations

Same line search implementation was used for both **MSCG** and **PCG** and the specific parameters used for each method are as follows:

MSCG method: $\beta = 1$, $\mu = 1.8$, $\rho = 0.6$, $r = 0.1$, $\sigma = 0.0001$.

PCG method: All parameters are choosen as in [14].

All runs were stopped whenever

 $||F(x_k)||$ < 10^{−6}.

We test problems 1 to 9 with dimensions of *n* = 1000*,* 5000*,* 10*,* 000*,* 50*,* 000*,* 100*,* 000 and different initial points: $x_1 = (1, 1, ..., 1)^T$, $x_2 = (2, 2, ..., 2)^T$, $x_3 = (3, 3, ..., 3)^T$, $x_4 = (5, 5, ..., 5)^T, x_5 = (8, 8, ..., 8)^T, x_6 = (0.5, 0.5, ...0.5)^T, x_7 = (0.1, 0.1, ..., 0.1)^T,$ $x_8 = (10, 10, \ldots, 10)^T$. The numerical results in Tables 1-9 report the number of iterations (ITER), number of function evaluations (FVAL), CPU time in seconds (TIME) and the norm at the approximate solution (NORM). The symbol '*−*' is used to indicate that the number of iterations exceeds 1000 and/or the number of function evaluations exceeds 2000.

The problem functions $F(x) = (f_1(x), f_2(x), ..., f_n(x))^T$, where $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)^T$, and feasible sets $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ tested are listed as follows:

Problem 1 Modified exponential function

$$
F_1(x) = e^{x_1} - 1
$$

\n
$$
F_i(x) = e^{x_i} + x_{i-1} - 1
$$
 for $i = 2, 3, ..., n$
\nand $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n_+$.

Problem 2 Logarithmic Function

$$
F_i(x) = \ln(|x_i| + 1) - \frac{x_i}{n}
$$
, for $i = 2, 3, ..., n$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}_+^n$.

Problem 3 [29]

 $F_i(x) = 2x_i - \sin |x_i|, i = 1, 2, 3, ..., n$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n_+$.

Problem 4 [13]

$$
F_i(x) = \min(\min(|x_i|, x_i^2), \max(|x_i|, x_i^3))
$$
 for $i = 2, 3, ..., n$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}_+^n$.

Problem 5 Strictly convex function [23]

 $F_i(x) = e^{x_i} - 1$, for $i = 2, 3, ..., n$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n_+$.

Problem 6 Linear monotone problem

 $F_1(x) = 2.5x_1 + x_2 - 1$ $F_i(x) = x_{i-1} + 2.5x_i + x_{i+1} - 1$ for $i = 2, 3, ..., n - 1$ $F_n(x) = x_{n-1} + 2.5x_n - 1$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n_+$.

Problem 7 Tridiagonal Exponential Problem [4]

$$
F_1(x) = x_1 - e^{\cos(h(x_1 + x_2))}
$$

\n
$$
F_i(x) = x_i - e^{\cos(h(x_{i-1} + x_i + x_{i+1}))}
$$
 for $i = 2, 3, ..., n - 1$
\n
$$
F_n(x) = x_n - e^{\cos(h(x_{n-1} + x_n))}
$$
,
\nwhere $h = \frac{1}{n+1}$
\nand $\Omega = \mathbb{R}_+^n$.

Problem 8

$$
F_1(x) = 3x_1^3 + 2x_2 - 5 + \sin(x_1 - x_2)\sin(x_1 + x_2)
$$

\n
$$
F_i(x) = 3x_i^3 + 2x_{i+1} - 5 + \sin(x_i - x_{i+1})\sin(x_i + x_{i+1}) + 4x_i - x_{i-1}e^{x_{i-1} - x_i} - 3
$$

\nfor $i = 2, 3, ..., n - 1$
\n
$$
F_n(x) = x_{n-1}e^{x_{n-1} - x_n} - 4x_n - 3,
$$

\nwhere $h = \frac{1}{n+1}$
\nand $\Omega = \mathbb{R}_+^n$.

Problem 9

 $F_i(x) = x_i - \sin |x_i - 1|, i = 1, 2, 3, ..., n$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n_+$.

The numerical results indicate that the **MSCG** method is more effective than the **PCG** method for the given problems as it solves and win 7 out of 9 of the problems tested both in terms of number of iterations, number of function evaluations and CPU time (see Tables 1-7). In particular, the **PCG** method fails to solve problems 4 completely while **MSCG** was able to solve all the problems except for the initial points x_6 and x_7 (see Table 4). Therefore, we can conclude that **MSCG** method is a very effecient tool for solving nonlinear monotone equations with convex constraints, especially for large-scale dimensions.

4.2. Experiments on solving some signal recovery problems in compressive sensing

There are many problems in signal processing and statistical inference involving finding sparse solutions to ill-conditioned linear systems of equations. Among popular approach is minimizing an objective function which contains quadratic (ℓ_2) error term and a sparse *ℓ*1*−*regularization term, i.e.,

$$
\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|y - Ax\|_2^2 + \tau \|x\|_1,\tag{4.1}
$$

Table 1. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 1 with given initial points and dimensions

where $x \in R^n$, $y \in R^k$ is an observation, $A \in R^{k \times n}$ $(k \ll n)$ is a linear operator, τ is a nonnegative parameter, $||x||_2$ denotes the Euclidean norm of *x* and $||x||_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$ is the *ℓ*1*−*norm of *x*. It is easy to see that problem (4.1) is a convex unconstrained minimization problem. Due to the fact that if the original signal is sparse or approximately sparse in some orthogonal basis, problem (4.1) frequently appears in compressive sensing, and hence an exact restoration can be produced by solving (4.1).

Table 2. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 2 with given initial points and dimensions

Iterative methods for solving (4.1) have been presented in many literatures, (see [2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 21]). The most popular method among these methods is the gradient based method and the earliest gradient projection method for sparse reconstruction (GPRS) was proposed by Figueiredo et al. [8]. The first step of the GPRS method is to express (4.1) as a quadratic problem using the following process.

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and splitting it into its positive and negative parts. Then x can be formulated

Table 3. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 3 with

as

$$
x = u - v, \qquad u \ge 0, \quad v \ge 0,
$$

where $u_i = (x_i)_+, v_i = (-x_i)_+$ for all $i = 1, 2, ..., n$, and $(.)_+ = \max\{0, .\}$. By definition of ℓ_1 -norm, we have $||x||_1 = e_n^T u + e_n^T v$, where $e_n = (1, 1, ..., 1)^T \in R^n$. Now (4.1) can be

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Table 4. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 4 with given initial points and dimensions

written as

$$
\min_{u,v} \frac{1}{2} \|y - A(u-v)\|_2^2 + \tau e_n^T u + \tau e_n^T v, \qquad u \ge 0, \quad v \ge 0,
$$
\n(4.2)

which is a bound-constrained quadratic program. However, from $[8]$, equation (4.2) can be written in standard form as

$$
\min_{z} \frac{1}{2} z^T D z + c^T z, \qquad \text{such that} \quad z \ge 0,
$$
\n
$$
(4.3)
$$

Table 6. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 6 with given initial points and dimensions

where
$$
z = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}
$$
, $c = \tau e_{2n} + \begin{pmatrix} -b \\ b \end{pmatrix}$, $b = A^T y$, $D = \begin{pmatrix} A^T A & -A^T A \\ -A^T A & A^T A \end{pmatrix}$.
Clearly, *D* is a positive semi-definite matrix which implies that equation (4.3) is

Clearly, D is a positive semi-definite matrix, which implies that equation (4.3) is a convex quadratic problem.

Xiao et al. [26] translated (4.3) into a linear variable inequality problem which is equivalent to a linear complementarity problem. Furthermore, they pointed out that *z*

is a solution of the linear complementarity problem if and only if it is a solution of the nonlinear equation:

$$
F(z) = \min\{z, Dz + c\} = 0.
$$
\n(4.4)

It was proved in $[17, 25]$ that $F(z)$ is continuous and monotone. Therefore problem (4.1) can be translated into problem (1.1) and thus **MSCG** method can be applied to solve (4.1).

		MSCG				PCG			
DIMENSION	INITIAL POINT	ITER	FVAL	TIME	NORM	ITER	FVAL	\tt{TIME}	$\rm NORM$
	\boldsymbol{x}_1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\,1$	0.001779	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$1\,$	0.001328	$\overline{0}$
	x_2	41	356	0.180046	$9.5E-07$	18	128	0.072022	$5.55E-07$
	\boldsymbol{x}_3	40	352	0.166179	$9.02E-07$	19	137	0.082537	8.24E-07
	x_4	53	473	0.213444	7.73E-07	19	138	0.081841	4.96E-07
	x_5	31	284	0.142613	5.81E-07	45	313	0.167576	$9.2E-07$
1000	x_6	40	360	0.156393	8.3E-07	46	314	0.171545	7.72E-07
	x_7	31	279	0.123888	7.98E-07	32	219	0.125863	7.83E-07
	x_8	35	283	0.127523	$9.52E-07$	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$		\overline{a}
	\boldsymbol{x}_1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	0.001711	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	0.001672	$\overline{0}$
	\boldsymbol{x}_2	56	489	0.865066	8.21E-07	19	135	0.278625	4.25E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_3	44	383	0.655966	8E-07	20	144	0.304117	6.27E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_4	42	381	0.687588	7.45E-07	20	145	0.31177	3.73E-07
5000	x_5	$\sqrt{28}$	257	0.438179	8.43E-07	48	$331\,$	0.665478	9.68E-07
	x_6	37	333	0.578789	7.75E-07	20	141	0.276562	4.24E-07
	x_7	$30\,$	270	0.4597	7.02E-07	29	199	0.384523	8.46E-07
	x_8	53	453	0.770932	8.01E-07	48	295	0.585834	7.16E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	0.003212	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	0.004846	$\boldsymbol{0}$
	\boldsymbol{x}_2	30	252	0.827242	7.1E-07	19	135	0.502917	6.37E-07
	x_3	52	445	1.444882	9.42E-07	20	144	0.544719	9.58E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_4	$39\,$	354	1.164713	7.61E-07	20	145	0.542192	5.52E-07
10000	\boldsymbol{x}_5	$27\,$	248	0.825987	9.85E-07	48	$331\,$	1.314858	7.51E-07
	x_6	36	324	1.102443	7.47E-07	20	141	0.524563	3.81E-07
	x_7	$30\,$	270	0.88172	7.45E-07	$27\,$	187	0.696947	$6.15E-07$
	$\boldsymbol{x_8}$	$59\,$	504	1.628672	7.67E-07	32	220	0.830439	$6.31E-07$
	\boldsymbol{x}_1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	0.01418	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\,1\,$	0.009638	$\overline{0}$
	\boldsymbol{x}_2	29	255	3.750516	8.09E-07	20	142	2.473295	5.46E-07
	x_3	46	398	5.801909	9.64E-07	$21\,$	151	2.648615	8.04E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_4	38	345	4.969609	9.49E-07	$21\,$	152	2.619938	$4.6E-07$
50000	x_5	26	239	3.471028	8.45E-07	42	293	5.07355	8.25E-07
	x_6	34	306	4.479681	7.04E-07	20	141	2.425991	7.18E-07
	x_7	28	252	3.612033	8.54E-07	24	167	2.9087	8.62E-07
	x_{8}	$51\,$	443	6.361079	9.55E-07	$21\,$	154	2.627603	$4.8E-07$
	x_1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	0.027051	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\,1$	0.024137	$\overline{0}$
	\boldsymbol{x}_2	$\,29$	255	7.270722	9.08E-07	20	142	5.192622	8.61E-07
	x_3	44	368	10.87012	7.71E-07	$22\,$	158	5.5671	3.91E-07
100000	\boldsymbol{x}_4	37	336	9.77921	9.4E-07	$21\,$	152	5.24037	7.3E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_5	$\sqrt{26}$	239	7.044853	9.27E-07	43	299	10.94874	6.69E-07
	x_6	33	297	8.681605	8.44E-07	22	156	5.462871	5.41E-07
	x_7	27	243	7.180561	8.73E-07	23	161	5.708924	6.57E-07
	x_8	47	416	12.17001	7.77E-07	21	154	5.476608	6.48E-07

Table 8. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 8 with given initial points and dimensions

In this experiment, we consider a simple compressive sensing possible situation, where our goal is to reconstruct a sparse signal of length *n* from *k* observations. The quality of restoration is assessed by mean of squared error (MSE) to the original signal \tilde{x} ,

$$
MSE = \frac{1}{n} ||\tilde{x} - x_*||^2,
$$

where x_* is the recovered or restored signal. The signal size is chosen as $n = 2^{12}$, $k = 2^{10}$

		MSCG				PCG			
DIMENSION	INITIAL POINT	ITER	FVAL	TIME	$\rm NORM$	ITER	FVAL	\tt{TIME}	$\rm NORM$
	x_1	13	66	0.007835	3.04E-07	10	36	0.008142	$3.03E-07$
	x_2	13	64	0.012285	6.68E-07	10	$34\,$	0.011219	$6.61E-07$
	\boldsymbol{x}_3	13	64	0.012086	6.68E-07	10	34	0.011537	7.04E-08
	x_4	13	65	0.019151	6.68E-07	11	37	0.009902	3.94E-07
$1000\,$	x_5	13	64	0.009038	6.68E-07	11	38	0.012195	$1.5E-07$
	x_6	10	51	0.011598	5.96E-07	8	29	0.010377	4.31E-07
	x_7	12	61	0.012959	$6.38E-07$	$\boldsymbol{9}$	32	0.008083	5.32E-07
	x_8	13	65	0.016145	6.68E-07	12	40	0.011124	$9.64E-07$
	\boldsymbol{x}_1	13	66	0.039759	6.79E-07	$10\,$	$36\,$	0.029266	6.77E-07
	x_2	14	69	0.039939	3.18E-07	11	$38\,$	0.031945	6.23E-07
	x_3	14	69	0.036569	3.18E-07	10	34	0.028428	1.57E-07
	x_4	14	70	0.044959	3.18E-07	11	37	0.02743	8.81E-07
5000	x_5	14	69	0.04045	3.18E-07	11	38	0.029214	3.36E-07
	x_6	11	56	0.029751	2.84E-07	$\,8\,$	29	0.026799	$9.65E-07$
	x_7	13	66	0.036743	$3.04E-07$	10	36	0.025915	5.02E-07
	x_{8}	14	70	0.03723	3.18E-07	13	44	0.035078	9.09E-07
	x_1	13	66	0.093164	9.61E-07	10	$36\,$	0.042408	9.57E-07
10000	x_2	14	69	0.080892	4.5E-07	11	38	0.066548	8.82E-07
	x_3	14	69	0.055136	4.5E-07	10	34	0.049121	2.23E-07
	x_4	14	70	0.080006	4.5E-07	12	41	0.051811	5.26E-07
	x_5	14	69	0.084106	4.5E-07	11	38	0.052024	4.75E-07
	x_6	11	56	0.04438	4.02E-07	$\,9$	33	0.042029	5.75E-07
	x_7	13	66	0.074654	4.3E-07	10	36	0.048007	7.1E-07
	x_8	14	70	0.072395	4.5E-07	14	47	0.066632	8.67E-08
	\boldsymbol{x}_1	14	71	0.222734	4.58E-07	11	40	0.165454	$9.02E-07$
50000	x_2	15	74	0.259981	2.15E-07	12	41	0.187299	1.33E-07
	x_3	15	74	0.218328	2.15E-07	10	34	0.148232	4.98E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_4	15	75	0.222071	2.15E-07	13	44	0.203704	7.93E-08
	x_5	15	74	0.230332	2.15E-07	12	42	0.1771	4.48E-07
	x_6	11	56	0.168722	8.99E-07	10	36	0.158327	8.68E-08
	x_7	13	66	0.190625	$9.62E-07$	11	39	0.175721	1.07E-07
	x_{8}	15	75	0.253142	2.15E-07	14	47	0.22066	1.94E-07
	x_1	14	71	0.462082	6.48E-07	12	43	0.381488	8.61E-08
	\boldsymbol{x}_2	15	74	0.552861	3.04E-07	12	41	0.365063	1.88E-07
100000	\boldsymbol{x}_3	15	74	0.538822	$3.04E-07$	10	34	0.295517	7.04E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_4	15	75	0.595913	3.04E-07	13	44	0.379492	1.12E-07
	\boldsymbol{x}_5	15	74	0.51213	3.04E-07	12	42	0.359235	6.34E-07
	x_6	12	61	0.461306	2.71E-07	10	36	0.305215	1.23E-07
	x_7	14	$71\,$	0.507379	2.9E-07	11	$39\,$	0.373767	1.51E-07
	x_{8}	15	75	0.525749	$3.04E-07$	14	47	0.42366	2.74E-07

Table 9. Numerical Results for **MSCG** and **PCG** for Problem 9 with given initial points and dimensions

and the original signal contains $2⁷$ randomly nonzero elements. A is the Gaussian matrix generated by the command *rand*(*m, n*) in MATLAB. In addition, the measurement *y* is distributed with noise, that is, $y = A\tilde{x} + \eta$, where η is the Gaussian noise distributed normally with mean 0 and variance 10^{-4} $(N(0, 10^{-4}))$.

To show the performance of the **MSCG** method in compressive sensing, we compare it with the **PCG** method. The parameters in both **MSCG** and **PCG** methods are chosen as $\beta = 1, \sigma = 10^{-4}, \rho = 0.8$, and $r = 0.1$ and the merit function used is

 $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Ax\|_2^2 + \tau \|x\|_1$. To achieve fairness in comparison, each code was run from same initial point, same continuation technique on the parameter τ , and observed only the behaviour of the convergence of each [m](#page-21-0)[et](#page-22-0)hod to have a similar accurate solution. The experiment is initialized by $x_0 = A^T y$ a[nd](#page-23-1) terminates when

$$
\frac{\|f_k - f_{k-1}\|}{\|f_{k-1}\|} < 10^{-5},
$$

where f_k is the function evaluation at x_k .

In Fig. 1, **MSCG** and **PCG** methods recovered the disturbed signal almost exactly. In order to show visually the performance of both methods, four figures were plotted to demonstrate their convergence behaviour based on MSE, objective function values, number of iterations and CPU time (see Fig. 2-5). Furthermore, the experiment was repeated for 25 different noise samples (see Table 10). From the Table, it can be observed that the **MSCG** is more efficient in terms of iterations and CPU time than **PCG** method in most cases.

FIGURE 1. From top to bottom: the original image, the measurement, and the recovered signals by **PCG** and **MSCG** methods.

Figure 2. Iterations

Figure 3. CPU time (seconds)

5. Conclusions

In this paper, a modified three-term conjugate gradient method for solving monotone nonlinear equations with convex constraints was presented. The proposed algorithm is suitable for solving non-smooth equations because it requires no Jacobian information of the nonlinear equations. Under some assumptions, global convergence properties of the proposed method was proved. Numerical experiments presented clearly shows how effective the **MSCG** algorithm is compared to the **PCG** algorithm of [14] for the given constrained problems. In addition, the **MSCG** algorithm was also shown to be effective in signal recovery problems.

Figure 4. Iterations

Figure 5. CPU time (seconds)

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		MSCG	PCG			
	MSE	ITER	CPU(s)	MSE	ITER	CPU(s)
$r = 0.1$	9.90E-04	101	3.97	1.48E-05	145	5.5
	1.58E-03	103	3.31	$1.63E-05$	140	$4.5\,$
	7.68E-04	113	3.17	1.30E-05	133	3.47
	1.07E-03	128	3.45	1.70E-05	145	3.95
	1.23E-03	122	3.2	1.38E-05	143	3.77
	$1.62E-03$	88	$2.34\,$	1.48E-05	139	3.72
	1.66E-03	114	$3.19\,$	1.84E-05	$132\,$	3.59
	2.63E-03	95	$2.75\,$	1.83E-05	123	3.41
	1.16E-03	99	2.67	$1.22E-05$	113	$2.92\,$
	1.91E-03	107	$2.84\,$	1.79E-05	114	2.92
	2.18E-03	106	2.69	2.09E-05	110	$2.81\,$
	8.60E-04	107	$2.77\,$	$1.63E-05$	131	$3.38\,$
	1.33E-03	102	2.78	1.27E-05	143	$3.78\,$
	1.03E-03	119	4.53	$1.06E-05$	140	$5.34\,$
	1.15E-03	110	3.03	1.48E-05	135	3.61
	1.77E-03	110	4.27	1.69E-05	148	5.75
	1.36E-03	103	3.83	1.47E-05	114	4.34
	1.67E-03	112	3.42	1.78E-05	120	3.88
	$1.21E-03$	107	$4.38\,$	1.47E-05	114	4.91
	9.99E-04	101	$3.86\,$	1.47E-05	145	5.55
	1.58E-03	103	2.78	1.63E-05	140	$3.7\,$
	7.68E-04	113	3.16	1.30E-05	133	3.92
	1.07E-03	128	4.77	1.70E-05	145	$5.59\,$
	1.23E-03	122	$3.23\,$	1.38E-05	143	3.91
	1.62E-03	88	2.41	1.48E-05	139	3.81

Table 10. Twenty five experiment results of *ℓ*1*−*norm regularization problem for **MSCG** and **PCG** methods

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