

# Two new Levenberg-Marquardt methods for nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problems

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**ABSTRACT:** The Levenberg-Marquardt method and its variants are of particular importance for solving nonsmooth systems of equations. In this paper, we present two kinds of new Levenberg-Marquardt method for nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problems. Under some assumptions, the present methods are shown to be convergent. Results of numerical experiments are also given.

**KEYWORDS:** convergence

## INTRODUCTION

Nonlinear complementarity problem have been proposed in the study of the nonlinear programming problems, the variational inequality, equilibrium problems, and engineering mechanics<sup>1-3</sup>. There has been intense research on nonlinear complementarity problems and related nonlinear equations<sup>4,5</sup>. In the past few years, there has been a growing interest in the study of nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problems<sup>6,7</sup>. In this paper, we focus on the nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problem

$$F(x) \geq 0, \quad Z(x) \geq 0, \quad Z(x)^T F(x) = 0, \quad (1)$$

where  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is locally Lipschitzian and  $Z : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is continuously differentiable. When  $Z(x) = x$ , (1) is the problem, which has been considered in Refs. 2, 3.

In the next section, we recall some results of generalized Jacobian and semismoothness. We then give the new Levenberg-Marquardt methods for the nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problem. The convergence results of the new Levenberg-Marquardt algorithms are also given. Finally, numerical experiments are described.

## PRELIMINARIES

A quantity with a subscript  $k$  denotes that quantity evaluated at  $x_k$ . The vector norm is the  $l_2$  norm. We write  $F(x) = (f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x))^T$ ,  $Z(x) = (z_1(x), \dots, z_n(x))^T$ .

Let  $H$  be locally Lipschitzian. Then  $H$  is almost everywhere F-differentiable. Let the set of points

where  $H$  is F-differentiable be denoted by  $D_H$ . Then for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\partial_B H(x) = \{V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid \exists \{x_k\} \in D_H, \{x_k\} \rightarrow x, \{H'(x_k)\} \rightarrow V\}.$$

The general Jacobian of  $H(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  at  $x$  in the sense of Clark is

$$\partial H(x) = \text{conv } \partial_B H(x).$$

**Proposition 1 (Ref. 3)** *If  $\partial_B H(x)$  is a nonempty and compact set for any  $x$ , the point to set B-subdifferential map is upper semicontinuous.*

**Definition 1**  $H(x)$  is semismooth at  $x$  if  $H(x)$  is locally Lipschitz at  $x$  and

$$\lim_{\substack{V \in \partial H(x+th) \\ h' \rightarrow h, t \downarrow 0}} Vh'$$

exists for any  $h \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $H(x)$  is semismooth at  $x$ , we know  $Vh - H'(x; h) = o(\|h\|)$ ,  $\forall V \in \partial H(x + h)$ ,  $h \rightarrow 0$ . If for any  $V \in \partial H(x + h)$ ,  $h \rightarrow 0$ ,  $Vh - H'(x; h) = o(\|h\|^2)$ , we say that the function  $H(x)$  strongly semismooth at  $x$ .

**Proposition 2 (Ref. 3)** *If  $H(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is locally Lipschitz continuous and semismooth at  $x$ , then*

$$\lim_{\substack{V \in \partial H(x+th) \\ h \rightarrow 0}} \frac{\|H(x+h) - H(x) - Vh\|}{\|h\|} = 0.$$

If  $H(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is locally Lipschitz continuous, strongly semismooth at  $x$ , and directionally differentiable in a neighbourhood of  $x$ , then

$$\limsup_{\substack{V \in \partial H(x+th) \\ h \rightarrow 0}} \frac{\|H(x+h) - H(x) - Vh\|}{\|h\|^2} < \infty.$$

**NEW LEVENBERG-MARQUARDT METHODS AND THEIR CONVERGENCE**

Evidently, the above nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problem can be reformulated as the nonsmooth equation

$$\min\{z_i(x), f_i(x)\} = 0, i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2)$$

Let

$$G(x) = (g_1(x), \dots, g_n(x))^T,$$

where

$$g_i(x) = \min\{z_i(x), f_i(x)\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Hence (2) can be rewritten as

$$G(x) = 0. \quad (3)$$

In Ref. 7 they define the set-valued mapping  $x \rightarrow V(x)$  as

$$V(x) = V_1(x) \times \dots \times V_n(x), \quad (4)$$

where

$$V_i(x) = \begin{cases} \{\nabla z_i(x)\}, & z_i(x) \leq f_i(x); \\ \partial_B f_i(x), & z_i(x) > f_i(x). \end{cases}$$

Newton's method for solving the nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problem is given by

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \xi_k^{-1} G(x_k), \quad \xi_k \in V(x_k).$$

Because  $V(x)$  is not a subdifferential of  $G(x)$  and not even upper-semicontinuous, a kind of subdifferential of  $G(x)$  was also given in Ref. 7 by the set-valued mapping

$$\bar{V}(x) = \bar{V}_1(x) \times \dots \times \bar{V}_n(x),$$

where

$$\bar{V}_i(x) = \begin{cases} \{\nabla z_i(x)\}, & z_i(x) < f_i(x); \\ \{\nabla z_i(x)\} \cup \partial_B f_i(x), & z_i(x) = f_i(x); \\ \partial_B f_i(x), & z_i(x) > f_i(x). \end{cases}$$

It is easy to see that  $V(x) \subset \bar{V}(x)$  for  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . The following propositions give the properties of  $\bar{V}(x)$ .

**Proposition 3 (Ref. 7)** The set-valued mapping  $\bar{V}(x)$  is upper-semicontinuous.

**Proposition 4 (Ref. 7)** Suppose  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . If all  $V_0 \in \bar{V}(x_0)$  are nonsingular, then there exists  $\bar{\beta} > 0$  such that

$$\|V_0^{-1}\| \leq \bar{\beta}, \quad \forall V_0 \in V(x_0).$$

The Levenberg-Marquardt method is one of the most used methods for solving optimization problems<sup>8,9</sup>. We are now in the position to consider the local versions of Levenberg-Marquardt type methods for the nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problem (1). Similar methods have also been mentioned in Ref. 10. Given a starting vector  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $x_{k+1} = x_k + d_k$ , where  $d_k$  is the solution of the system

$$\begin{aligned} ((V_k)^T V_k + \sigma_k I)d &= -(V_k)^T G(x_k), \\ V_k &\in \bar{V}(x_k), \quad \sigma_k \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

In the inexact versions of this method,  $d_k$  can be given by the solution of the system

$$\begin{aligned} ((V_k)^T V_k + \sigma_k I)d &= -(V_k)^T G(x_k) + r_k, \\ V_k &\in \bar{V}(x_k), \quad \sigma_k \geq 0, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where  $r_k$  is the vector of residuals and we can assume  $\|r_k\| \leq \alpha_k \|(V_k)^T G(x_k)\|$  for some  $\alpha_k \geq 0$ . We now give a local convergence Levenberg-Marquardt type method for (1).

**Algorithm 1** Levenberg-Marquardt Method I

Step 1: We are given  $x_0, \epsilon > 0, \lambda_i^k \in \mathbb{R}^n, 0 < |\lambda_i^k| < +\infty$ .

Step 2: Solve the system to get  $d_k$ :

$$\begin{aligned} ((V_k)^T V_k + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k)))d &= \\ - (V_k)^T G(x_k) + r_k, \quad V_k &\in V(x_k), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $r_k$  is the vector of residuals

$$\|r_k\| \leq \alpha_k \|(V_k)^T G(x_k)\|, \quad \alpha_k \geq 0.$$

Step 3: Set  $x_{k+1} = x_k + d_k$ . If  $\|G(x_k)\| \leq \epsilon$ , terminate. Otherwise, let  $k := k + 1$  and go to Step 2.

Based upon the above analysis, we give the following local convergence result for Algorithm 1.

**Lemma 1** Suppose that  $x^*$  is a solution of the problem (1). We have

$$\|\text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k))\| \leq M,$$

for  $\forall x \in U(x^*, \delta)$ , for  $\lambda_i^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \dots, n$ .

*Proof:* Use the fact that the function in (1) is locally Lipschitzian and continuous.  $\square$

**Theorem 1** Suppose that  $\{x_k\}$  is a sequence generated by the above method and there exist constants  $a > 0$ ,  $\alpha_k \leq a$  for all  $k$ . Let  $x^*$  be a solution of the problem (1),  $G$  be semismooth at  $x^*$ , and all  $V_* \in \bar{V}(x_*)$  be nonsingular. Then the sequence  $\{x_k\}$  converge  $Q$ -linearly to  $x^*$  for  $\|x_0 - x^*\| \leq \epsilon$ .

*Proof:* By Lemma 1, for all  $x_k$  sufficiently close to  $x^*$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \|((V_k)^T V_k + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k)))^{-1}\| \\ & \leq \frac{\bar{\beta}^2}{1 - \bar{\beta}^2(M + \epsilon)}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $C = \bar{\beta}^2 / (1 - \bar{\beta}^2(M + \epsilon))$ . We have

$$\|((V_k)^T V_k + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k)))^{-1}\| \leq C.$$

Furthermore, by Proposition 2, there exists  $\bar{\delta} > 0$ , which can be taken arbitrarily small, such that

$$\|G(x_k) - G(x^*) - V_k(x_k - x^*)\| \leq \bar{\delta} \|x_k - x^*\|$$

for all  $x_k$  in a sufficiently small neighbourhood of  $x^*$  depending on  $\bar{\delta}$ . By Proposition 3 and the upper semicontinuity of the  $\bar{V}(x)$ , we also know that for all  $V_k \in V(x) \subset \bar{V}(x)$  and all  $x_k$  sufficiently close to  $x^*$

$$\|(V_k)^T\| \leq c_1,$$

where  $c_1 > 0$  is a suitable constant. From the locally Lipschitz continuity of  $G(x)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(V_k)^T G(x_k)\| & \leq \|(V_k)^T\| \|G(x_k) - G(x^*)\| \\ & \leq c_1 L \|x_k - x^*\|, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x_k$  in a sufficiently small neighbourhood of  $x^*$  and a constant  $L > 0$ . We also know that

$$\begin{aligned} & [(V_k)^T V_k + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k))](x_{k+1} - x^*) \\ & = [(V_k)^T V_k + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k))](x_k - x^*) \\ & \quad - (V_k)^T G(x_k) + r_k \\ & = (V_k)^T [G(x^*) - G(x_k) + V_k(x_k - x^*)] \\ & \quad + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k))(x_k - x^*) + r_k. \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the above equation by  $[(V_k)^T V_k + \text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k))]^{-1}$  and taking into account the

above results, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{k+1} - x^*\| & \leq C(\|(V_k)^T\| \|G(x_k) - G(x^*)\| \\ & \quad - V_k(x_k - x^*)\| + \|\text{diag}(\lambda_i^{(k)} g_i(x_k))\| \\ & \quad \|x_k - x^*\| + a\|(V_k)^T G(x_k)\|) \\ & \leq C(c_1 \bar{\delta} \|x_k - x^*\| \\ & \quad + M \|x_k - x^*\| + ac_1 L \|x_k - x^*\|) \\ & = C(c_1 \bar{\delta} + M + ac_1 L) \|x_k - x^*\|. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\vartheta = C(c_1 \bar{\delta} + M + ac_1 L)$ . Then

$$\|x_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq \vartheta \|x_k - x^*\|.$$

Since  $\bar{\delta}$  can be chosen to be arbitrarily small, by taking  $x_k$  sufficiently close to  $x^*$ , there exist  $M > 0$  and  $a > 0$  such that  $\vartheta < 1$ , so that the  $Q$ -linear convergence of  $\{x_k\}$  to  $x^*$  follows by taking  $\|x_0 - x^*\| \leq \epsilon$  for a small enough  $\epsilon > 0$ . Thus we complete the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

**Theorem 2** Suppose that  $\{x_k\}$  is a sequence generated by the above method and there exist constants  $a > 0$ ,  $\alpha_k \leq a$  for all  $k$  such that  $\|r_k\| \leq \alpha_k \|G(x_k)\|$ ,  $\alpha_k \geq 0$ . Let  $x^*$  be a solution of the problem (1),  $G$  be semismooth at  $x^*$ , and all  $V_* \in \bar{V}(x_*)$  be nonsingular. Then the sequence  $\{x_k\}$  converge  $Q$ -linearly to  $x^*$  for  $\|x_0 - x^*\| \leq \epsilon$ .

The proof of Theorem 2 is similar to that for Theorem 1 so we omit it.

**Remark 1** Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 hold with  $\|r_k\| = 0$ .

**Remark 2** In Algorithm 1, if  $d_k$  is computed by (5) instead of (6), then Theorem 1, Theorem 2, and Remark 1 can also be obtained.

In the following, we give the global versions of the Levenberg-Marquardt type method for the above nonsmooth nonlinear complementarity problem (1). In this section, we assume that the merit function

$$\Psi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|G(x)\|^2$$

is continuously differentiable.

We now describe the new Levenberg-Marquardt method for (1). The global convergence of the method is also given.

**Algorithm 2** Levenberg-Marquardt Method II

Step 1: We are given  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\mu_0 = \|G(x_0)\|^2$ ,  $k := 0$ .

Step 2: If  $\|\nabla\Psi\| = 0$  then stop. Otherwise, compute  $d_k$  by the system of linear equations

$$(V_k^T V_k + \mu_k I)d = -V_k^T G(x_k), \quad (7)$$

where  $V_k \in V(x_k)$ .

Step 3: If  $d_k$  satisfies

$$\|G(x_k + d_k)\| \leq \gamma \|G(x_k)\|, \quad (8)$$

set  $x_{k+1} = x_k + d_k$ , otherwise compute  $x_{k+1}$  by  $x_{k+1} = x_k + \beta^{m_k} d_k$ , where  $m_k$  is the smallest nonnegative integer  $m$  such that

$$\Psi(x_k + \beta^m d_k) - \Psi(x_k) \leq \alpha \beta^m \nabla\Psi(x_k)^T d_k. \quad (9)$$

If  $\|\nabla\Psi\| = 0$ , terminate. Otherwise, let  $\mu_{k+1} = \|G(x_{k+1})\|^2$ ,  $k := k + 1$ , and go to Step 2.

In the following, we give the global convergence result.

**Theorem 3**  $\{x_k\}$  is a sequence generated by Algorithm 2. Then any accumulation point  $x^*$  of  $\{x_k\}$  is a stationary points of  $\Psi$ .

*Proof:* Since  $\nabla\Psi \neq 0$  implies  $d_k \neq 0$ , from (7) and the above analysis, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla\Psi(x_k)^T d_k &= (V_k^T V_k)^T d_k \\ &= -((V_k^T V_k + \mu_k I)d_k)^T d_k < 0. \end{aligned}$$

By (8) and (9), we know  $\{\Psi(x_k)\}$  is monotonically decreasing and  $\mu_k$  has a limit. If  $\mu_k \rightarrow 0$ , then any accumulation point of  $\{x_k\}$  is a solution of (1). If

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu_k = \bar{\mu} > 0,$$

then we have

$$\nabla\Psi(x_k)^T d_k = -((V_k^T V_k + \mu_k I)d_k)^T d_k < -\bar{\mu} \|d_k\|^2.$$

Hence any accumulation point of  $\{x_k\}$  is a solution of (1). So we complete the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 3** The different merit functions can be based on the well-known Fischer-Burmeister function

$$\varphi(a, b) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - a - b.$$

Then we can see that (1) is equivalent to the problem

$$\Phi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \psi(F_1, Z_1) \\ \vdots \\ \psi(F_n, Z_n) \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

**Table 1** Numerical tests for Example 1 using Algorithm 1.

iteration	$x_k$	$G(x)$
2	(0.5009, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.2509, 0.1254) <sup>T</sup>
3	(0.2509, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.0630, 0.0315) <sup>T</sup>
4	(0.1257, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.0158, 0.0079) <sup>T</sup>
5	(0.0630, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.0039, 0.0019) <sup>T</sup>
6	(0.0315, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.99, 0.49) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-3}$
7	(0.0158, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.25, 0.12) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-3}$
8	(0.0079, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.62, 0.31) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-4}$
9	(0.0039, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.15, 0.07) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-4}$
10	(0.0019, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.39, 0.19) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-5}$
11	(0.0009, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.99, 0.49) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-6}$
12	(0.0004, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.24, 0.12) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-6}$
13	(0.0002, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.62, 0.31) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-7}$
14	(0.0001, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.15, 0.07) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-7}$
15	(0.0000, 1.0000) <sup>T</sup>	(0.39, 0.19) <sup>T</sup> $\times 10^{-8}$

The merit function  $\Psi(x)$  in the above methods can be defined by

$$\Psi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|\Phi(x)\|.$$

Then the above merit function is a continuously differentiable map and the Fischer-Burmeister function can also be replaced by the family of new nonlinear complementarity problem functions<sup>11</sup>

$$\phi_{\text{new}}(a, b) = \|(a, b)\|_p - (a + b),$$

where  $p$  is any fixed real number in the interval  $(1, +\infty)$  and  $\|(a, b)\|_p$  denotes the  $p$ -norm of  $(a, b)$ . Then we can see that (1) is equivalent to the problem

$$\Phi_p(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{\text{new}}(F_1, Z_1) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_{\text{new}}(F_n, Z_n) \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

The merit function  $\Psi(x)$  in the above methods can also be defined by

$$\Psi_p(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|\Phi_p(x)\|.$$

By some assumptions, we can give the global convergence results of Algorithm 2 by using  $\Psi_p(x)$ .

**NUMERICAL TESTS**

In this section, in order to show the performance of the above new Levenberg-Marquardt type methods, we present some numerical results for them. The results indicate that the new Levenberg-Marquardt algorithms work quite well in practice.

**Example 1** We consider the complementarity problem

$$F(x) \geq 0, Z(x) \geq 0, \quad Z(x)^T F(x) = 0,$$

**Table 2** Numerical tests for Example 1 using Algorithm 2.

iteration	$x_k$	$G(x)$
2	$(0.5009, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.2509, 0.1254)^T$
3	$(0.1866, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0348, 0.0174)^T$
4	$(0.1703, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0290, 0.0145)^T$
5	$(0.1580, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0249, 0.0124)^T$
6	$(0.1481, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0219, 0.0109)^T$
7	$(0.1400, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0196, 0.0098)^T$
8	$(0.1331, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0177, 0.0088)^T$
9	$(0.1272, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0161, 0.0080)^T$
10	$(0.1221, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0149, 0.0074)^T$
11	$(0.1175, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0138, 0.0069)^T$
12	$(0.1134, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0128, 0.0064)^T$
13	$(0.1098, 1.0000)^T$	$(0.0120, 0.0060)^T$

where the functions

$$F(x_1, x_2) = (\max\{x_1^2, \frac{5}{6}x_1^2\}, \max\{x_1^2, x_1^2 + 3x_2^2\})^T,$$

$$Z(x_1, x_2) = (2x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 10, \frac{1}{2}x_1^2)^T.$$

We use Algorithm 1 to compute Example 1. Results for Example 1 with initial point  $x_0 = (0.1, 0.7)^T$ ,  $\alpha_k \equiv 1$  and  $\lambda_1 = 0.01, \lambda_2 = 0.01, \epsilon = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  are presented in Table 1.

Now we use Algorithm 2 to compute Example 1. Results for Example 1 with initial point  $x_0 = (1, 1)^T$  and  $\lambda_1 = 0.01, \lambda_2 = 1, \epsilon = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  are presented in Table 2.

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