CppAD's Abs-normal Representation

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Non-Smooth Functions

f(x)

 $f: \mathbf{R}^n \to \mathbf{R}^m$ where the only non-smooth nodes in its computational graph are $|\cdot|$.



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a(x)

Let s be number of $|\cdot|$ in f. We define $a : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^s$ where $a_i(x)$ is the result for the *i*-th absolute value.

Smooth Functions

z(x, u)

There is a smooth $z : \mathbb{R}^{n+s} \to \mathbb{R}^s$ where $z_i(x, u)$ is argument to *i*-th absolute value when $u_j = a_j(x)$ for j < i.

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g(x, u)

The function $g: \mathbf{R}^{n+s} \to \mathbf{R}^{m+s}$ is defined by

$$g(x,u) = \left[\begin{array}{c} y(x,u) \\ z(x,y) \end{array}\right]$$

$$z[\hat{x}](x,u) = z(\hat{x},a(\hat{x})) + \partial_x z(\hat{x},a(\hat{x}))(x-\hat{x}) + \partial_u z(\hat{x},a(\hat{x}))(u-a(\hat{x}))$$

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Note that $z_0(x, u)$ does not depend on u:

 $a_0[\hat{x}](x) = |z_0(\hat{x}, a(\hat{x})) + \partial_x z_0(\hat{x}, a(\hat{x}))(x - \hat{x})|$

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$$a(x) = a[\hat{x}](x) + o(x - \hat{x})$$

Representation

f.abs_normal_fun(g, a)

Given the ADFun<Base> object f for f(x), this creates the two ADFun<Base> objects g, a for g(x, u) and a(x) respectively.

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Advantages

Any AD operation can be computed for the smooth function g; e.g., any order forward and reverse mode, sparsity patterns, and sparse derivatives.

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$$y[\hat{x}](x,u) = y(\hat{x},a(\hat{x})) + \partial_x y(\hat{x},a(\hat{x}))(x-\hat{x}) + \partial_u y(\hat{x},a(\hat{x}))(u-a(\hat{x}))$$

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$$f(x) = y[\hat{x}](x, a[\hat{x}](x)) + o(x - \hat{x})$$

abs_eval(n, m, s, g_hat , g_jac , delta_x)
Evaluates $y[\hat{x}](x, a[\hat{x}](x))$

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- g_hat is $g[\hat{x}, a(\hat{x})]$
- g_jac is $g^{(1)}[\hat{x}, a(\hat{x})]$
- delta_x is $x \hat{x}$

Problem

minimize $\tilde{f}(x) = y[\hat{x}](x, a(\hat{x}))$ w.r.t x subject to $-b \le x \le b$ using the assumption that $\tilde{f}(x)$ is convex.

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1. Start at with point $x = \hat{x}$ and C an empty set of cutting planes.

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2. Add affine apprimation for $\tilde{f}(x)$ at x to C.

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4. If change in x for this this iteration is small, return x as solution. Otherwise, goto step 2.