

**New Hybrid CG Algorithm Based  
on PR and FR-CG Steps**

**Abbas Y. Al-Bayati      Khalil K. Abbo      Asma M. Abdalah**  
*College of Computers Sciences and Mathematics*  
*University of Mosul*

**Received on: 12/11/2003**

**Accepted on: 9/6/2004**

**المخلص**

في هذا البحث تم استحداث خوارزمية هجينية للتدرج المترافق المعتمد على خطوات PR و FR وفي الأمثلة اللاحقة تم عرض بعض النتائج النظرية في هذا المجال، وتم إجراء بعض التجارب العملية التي أثبتت كفاءة الخوارزمية المقترحة مقارنة بمثيلاتها من FR و PR.

**ABSTRACT**

In this paper, a new hybrid conjugate gradient algorithm is proposed for unconstrained optimization. This algorithm combines the desirable computation aspects of Polak-Ribier steps and useful theoretical features of Fletcher-Reeves CG-steps. Computational results for this algorithm are given and compared with those of the Fletcher and Polak standard CG methods showing a considerable improvement over the latter two methods.

## 1. Introduction

The problem of interest can be stated as that of finding a local solution  $x^*$  to the problem.

$$\text{Minimize } f(x); x \in \mathbb{R}^n \dots \dots (1)$$

Usually  $x^*$  exists and is locally unique. There are two particular types that must be made. One is that these methods do not guarantee to find a global solution of equation (1). Another type is that the objective function  $f(x)$  must be sufficiently smooth in some cases, for more detail see (Fletcher, 1993). There are some basic theoretical results on the non-quadratic models (see Al-Bayati, 1993).

Methods for unconstrained optimization differ according to how much information the user is able to provide. The most desirable situation from the point of view of providing useful information is that the user provides subroutines from which  $f(x)$ ,  $g(x)$  (where  $g(x) = \nabla f(x)$ ) and  $G(x)$ , ( $G(x) = \nabla^2 f(x)$ ) can be evaluated for any  $x$ . These methods are generally iterative methods in which the user typically provides an initial estimate  $x$  of  $x^*$  and possibly some additional information. Such that at each step the search for minimum is carried out along the descent direction  $d_k$  i.e

$$d_k^T g_k < 0 \dots \dots (2)$$

A sequence of iterates  $\{x_k\}$  is then generated from

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \lambda_k d_k \dots \dots (3)$$

If the line search is exact, the step size  $\lambda_k$  is defined by

$$\lambda_k = \arg \min_{\lambda} f(x_k + \lambda d_k) \dots \dots (4)$$

In practice however an exact line search is not usually possible and any value of  $\lambda_k$  that satisfies certain standard conditions is accepted Fletcher, (1980) suggests that  $\lambda_k$  is such that  $x_{k+1}$  satisfies the condition

$$|g_{k+1}^T d_k| < -\sigma g_k^T d_k \dots \dots (5)$$

together with

$$f(x_{k+1}) \leq f(x_k) + \rho \lambda_k g_k^T d_k \dots \dots (6)$$

Where  $\rho \in (0, 1/2)$ ,  $\sigma \in (0, 1)$  and  $\rho < \sigma$

Conjugate gradient (CG) method is one of the few practical methods for solving large dimensionality problems because it does not require matrix storage and its iteration cost is very low. Normally the initial direction  $d_k$  is given by

$$d_1 = -g_1 \dots \dots (7)$$

The search direction for the next iteration has the following form (see Al-Bayati and Al-Assady, 1994).

$$d_{k+1} = -g_{k+1} + \beta_k d_k \dots \dots (8)$$

Where  $\beta_k$  is a constant parameter defined either by

$$\beta_k = \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_{k+1}}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k} \dots \dots \dots \quad (9a)$$

or

$$\beta_k = \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T (\mathbf{g}_{k+1} - \mathbf{g}_k)}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k} \dots \dots \dots \quad (9b)$$

The definition  $\beta_k$  in (9a) is due to Fletcher and Reeves 1964 and  $\beta_k$  in (9b) is due to Polak-Ribier 1969. Extensive numerical experience has shown that the PR algorithm is more efficient than the original FR algorithm.

There is theoretical explanation which shows that PR-formula is better than FR formula. On general non-quadratic functions it can happen (see Fletcher, 1987) that the search direction  $\mathbf{d}_k$  becomes almost orthogonal to  $-\mathbf{g}_k$  and hence little progress can be made. In this event,  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k$  and  $\mathbf{g}_{k+1} = \mathbf{g}_k$  so FR method then gives

$$\mathbf{d}_{k+1} \cong -\mathbf{g}_{k+1} = \mathbf{d}_k \quad (10a)$$

While the PR method becomes

$$\mathbf{d}_{k+1} \cong -\mathbf{g}_{k+1} \quad (10b)$$

So, in this circumstance the PR algorithm tends to restart automatically to the steepest descent direction. Thus, it seems that this formula should be used when solving large problems. Many extensions and modifications have been proposed in this field (see Al-Bayati and Ahmed, 1996).

## 2. Theoretical results on CG methods:

Various formulas for  $\beta_k$  have been given suggested in equation (8), but for purpose of this paper, attention will be focused on the (9a and 9b).

We shall assume that the level set

$$\{x: f(x) \leq f(x_1)\} \dots \dots \dots \quad (11)$$

is bounded. This assumption will ensure that  $\lambda_k$  is well defined for all  $k$ . It is clear that

$$\mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{g}_1 = -\mathbf{g}_1^T \mathbf{g}_1 < 0$$

so the descent property in eq.(2) holds on the first iteration for any conjugate gradient method. Moreover, if the line search is exact, then

$$\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{d}_k = 0, \quad k \geq 1 \dots \dots \dots \quad (12)$$

therefore from equation (8) and (12) it follows that

$$\mathbf{g}_{l+1}^T \mathbf{d}_{k+1} = \mathbf{g}_{l+1}^T (-\mathbf{g}_{k+1} + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_k) = -\|\mathbf{g}_{k+1}\|^2 \dots \dots \dots \quad (13)$$

This shows that a descent property holds on all iterations for any conjugate gradient method with exact line search, and in particular for both FRCG and PRCG methods.

Powell, (1983) shows that if the level set eq. (11) is bounded, if  $\lambda_k$  is defined so that eq.(12) holds for all k and if  $f(X)$  is twice continuously differentiable then FRCG method achieves the limit:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \inf \|\mathbf{g}_k\| = 0 \dots \dots \dots \quad (14)$$

Furthermore Al-Baali (1984) extends this result to show that even for an inexact line search satisfying (5) and (6), the descent property holds for all k and global convergence is achieved for the Fletcher-Reeves method.

Although in numerical computations (9b) is generally far more successful than formula (9a) (see Powell, 1977, 1985, for a theoretical explanation). It has not been possible to establish these global convergence results for the Polak-Ribier method unless the additional condition is imposed that the step lengths  $\|\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k\|$  tend to zero (see Powell, 1977). In fact, Powell, (1983) shows that if  $\beta_k$  is chosen to satisfy (9b) rather than (9a), then even with exact line search and exact arithmetic there exist twice continuously differentiable functions with bounded level set eq. (11) for which the gradient norms  $\|\mathbf{g}_k\|$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  are bounded away from zero. This has consequently led to thoughts on how to combine the desirable computational aspects of formula (9b) and the useful theoretical features of formula (9a).

### 3. New hybrid CG algorithm:

In this new hybrid algorithm we assume that an inexact line search is used for non-quadratic objective function.

It can be shown that if at every iteration of the Polak-Ribier algorithm (see Story and Touti, 1990) we have

$$\mathbf{g}_{l+1}^T \mathbf{g}_k \leq \|\mathbf{g}_{k+1}\|^2 \dots \dots \dots \quad (15)$$

Then the convergence proofs given by Powell (1983) and Al-Baali (1985) for Fletcher-Reeves method apply to Polak-Ribier method also-equation (15) which is an equivalent form at the equation given below is unfortunately not always satisfied

$$0 \leq \beta_{PR} \leq \beta_{FR}$$

Consider the formula (9b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \beta_{PR} &= \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T (\mathbf{g}_{k+1} - \mathbf{g}_k)}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k} = \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_{k+1} - \mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_k}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k} \\
 &= \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_{k+1}}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k} - \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_k}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k} \\
 &= \frac{\|\mathbf{g}_{k+1}\|^2}{\|\mathbf{g}_k\|^2} - \frac{\|\mathbf{g}_{k+1}\| \|\mathbf{g}_k\| \cos \varphi}{\|\mathbf{g}_k\|^2} \\
 &= \beta_{FR} - \sqrt{b_{FR}} \cos \theta \quad \dots \quad (16)
 \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\mathbf{g}_{k+1}$  and  $\mathbf{g}_k$  without loss of generality suppose  $\theta \in (0, \pi/2)$

and hence

$$\beta_{PR} = \beta_{FR} - \sqrt{b_{FR}} \cos \theta \leq \beta_{FR} - \sqrt{b_{FR}}$$

i.e if

$$0 < \beta_{PR} \leq \beta_{FR} - (b_{FR})^{1/2} \dots \dots \dots (17)$$

Consequently we considered the use of hybrid conjugate gradient using formula (9b) whenever condition in eq. (17) is satisfied and formula (9a) otherwise, a descent property holds for all  $k$  and global convergence is achieved for this new hybrid algorithm when either an exact or an inexact line search is used. This algorithm was tested on several test functions and the results obtained show, in many cases, a significant improvement on the Fletcher-Reeves and Polak-Ribier methods. There were also cases, however, where the Polak algorithm performed better than this new hybrid algorithm.

#### 4. Algorithm (New hybrid CG):

Step1: Let  $x_1$  be an initial estimate at the minimizer  $x^*$  of  $f$

Step2: set  $k = 1$  and set  $d_k = -g_k$

Step3: do a line search : set  $x_{k+1} = x_k + \lambda_k d_k$

Step4: if  $\|\mathbf{g}_{k+1}\| < \epsilon$ , where  $\epsilon = 5 \times 10^{-5}$ , take  $x^*$  as  $x_{k+1}$  and stop otherwise go to step 5

Step5: if  $k + 1 > n > 2$  then go to step 11; otherwise, go to step 6

Step6: set the vector

$$\bar{d}_k = d_k - \left( \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T d_k}{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_{k+1}} \right) \mathbf{g}_{k+1}$$

Step7: with

$$\Gamma = \min \left( 1, \sqrt{\zeta} / \sqrt{\bar{d}_k^T \bar{d}_k} \right), \text{ where } \zeta$$

the machine accuracy (say,  $\zeta = 1 \times 10^{-16}$ ), we assume that  $\bar{\mathbf{g}}_k = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_{k+1} - \mathbf{G}\bar{\mathbf{d}}_k)$  and find

$$\beta_{FR} = \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{g}_{k+1}}{\mathbf{g}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k}, \beta_{PR} = \frac{\mathbf{g}_{k+1}^T (\mathbf{g}_{k+1} - \bar{\mathbf{g}}_k)}{\bar{\mathbf{g}}_k^T \mathbf{g}_k}$$

Step8: if  $0 < \beta_{PR} \leq \beta_{FR} - \sqrt{\beta_{FR}}$  set  $\beta_k = \beta_{PR}$

and go to step 9 otherwise  $\beta_k = \beta_{FR}$  go to step 9

Step9: set the search direction at the iteration  $(k + 1)$

$$\mathbf{d}_{k+1} = -\mathbf{g}_{k+1} + \beta_k \bar{\mathbf{d}}_k$$

Step10: set  $k = k + 1$  and go to step 3

Step11: set  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_1$  and go to step 2

### 5. Numerical Results:

All the three algorithms described in this paper, namely;

- (i): The standard FRCG method
- (ii): Polak-Ribier CG method
- (iii): New proposed hybrid CG method

are coded in double precision Fortran 90. The numerical results are obtained on the personal Pentium II computer. The complete set of results are given in tables (1, 2, 3, 1a, 2a and 3a). In comparison of algorithms the number of function evaluations (NOF) is normally assumed to be the most costly factor in an iteration. The total number of iterations (NOI) required to achieve convergence is also valuable in comparing similar algorithms and is also presented here. The actual convergence criterion employed was

$$\mathbf{g}_{1+1}^T \mathbf{g}_{k+1} < 1 * 10^{-5}$$

for all the three algorithms. Well-known test functions with different dimensions are employed in this comparison. Tables (1a), (2a) and (3a) give the percentage of improvements of the new proposed algorithm against FR and PR.

Table 1: Comparison results for FR, PR and the new proposed algorithm  
 $2 \leq n \leq 60$

Test fun.	N	FR		PR		New HPF	
		NOI	NOF	NOI	NOF	NOI	NOF
Cubic	2	19	56	19	52	18	52
Rosen	2	38	99	33	85	23	78
Powell (4)	4	44	155	24	72	14	40
Miele	4	39	131	69	237	27	96
Dixon	10	21	45	20	43	20	43
Cubic	20	42	110	64	156	34	88
Wood	40	85	217	68	144	48	121
Beal	40	42	87	10	26	30	68
Shallow	60	47	97	53	107	26	57
Rosen	60	122	271	92	231	63	145
Total		499	1268	442	1193	303	988

Table 2: Comparison results for FR, PR and the new proposed algorithm  
 $80 \leq n \leq 200$

Test fun.	N	FR		PR		New HPF	
		NOI	NOF	NOI	NOF	NOI	NOF
Rocen	80	102	245	98	230	82	186
Shallow	80	53	107	47	97	26	57
Powell	100	199	408	129	270	162	332
Wood	100	276	828	103	213	57	138
Beal	120	47	95	12	28	30	59
Shallow	120	49	101	53	109	29	63
Miele	140	189	431	175	397	154	351
Powell	140	185	381	201	460	164	340
Rosen	200	223	495	218	473	96	213
Beal	200	47	96	16	38	53	107
Total		1370	3187	1152	2315	853	1846

Table 3: Comparison results for FR, PR and the new proposed algorithm  
 $240 \leq n \leq 600$

Test fun.	N	FR		PR		New HPF	
		NOI	NOF	NOI	NOF	NOI	NOF
Beal	240	49	99	16	34	32	65
Shallow	240	50	101	54	113	29	63
Miele	300	302	733	313	656	208	505
Rosen	300	223	495	139	306	96	213
Shallow	360	49	101	54	111	29	63
Wood	360	307	742	106	219	57	138
Cubic	400	212	447	314	659	209	434
Powell	400	346	708	413	877	405	825
Rocen	600	332	720	282	591	96	213
Wood	600	307	740	108	273	62	148
Total		2175	4866	1799	3839	1223	2667

Table (1a) Performance of the new algorithm compared with PR and FR for  
 $2 \leq n \leq 60$

	NOI	NOF
New	100%	100%
FR	154	128
PR	145	120

Table (2a) Performance of the new algorithm compared with PR and FR for  
 $80 \leq n \leq 200$

	NOI	NOF
New	100%	100%
FR	150	158
PR	135	125

Table (3a) Performance of the new algorithm compared with PR and FR for  
 $240 \leq n \leq 600$

	NOI	NOF
New	100%	100%
FR	167	162
PR	147	143



## 6. Conclusions:

A new proposed hybrid algorithm which combines PR and FR steps is investigated both theoretically and experimentally with obtaining a robust numerical results.

## 8. Appendix:

### 1. Generalized Sum of Quadratics Function:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - i)^4, \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (2; \dots)^T.$$

### 2. Generalized Osp (Oren and Spedicato Function):

$$f(x) = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n i x_i^2 \right]^2, \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (1; \dots)^T.$$

### 3. Generalized Edger and Himmel Function:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ (x_{2i-1} - 2)^4 + (x_{2i} - 2)^2 x_{2i}^2 + (x_{2i} + 1)^2 \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 0; \dots)^T.$$

### 4. Generalized Cantreal Function:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/4} \left[ (\exp(x_{4i-3}) - x_{4i-2})^4 + 100(x_{4i-2} - x_{4i-1})^6 + \arctan(x_{4i-1} - x_{4i})^4 + x_{4i-3} \right],$$

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 2, 2, 2; \dots)^T.$$

### 5. Generalized Recip Function:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/3} \left[ (x_{3i-1} - 5)^2 + x_{9i-1}^2 + \frac{x_{3i}^2}{(x_{3i-1} - x_{3i-2})^2} \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (2, 5, 1; \dots)^T.$$

### 6. Generalized Cubic Function:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \left[ 100(x_{2i} - x_{2i-1}^3)^2 + (1 - x_{2i-1})^2 \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (-1, 2, 1; \dots)^T.$$

**7. Generalized Miele Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/4} \left[ \exp(x_{4i-3} - x_{4i-1})^2 + 100(x_{4i-2} - x_{4i-1})^6 + \left[ (\tan(x_{4i-1} - x_{4i}))^4 + x_{4i-3}^8 + (x_{4i} - 1)^2 \right] \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 2, 2, 2; \dots)^T.$$

**8. Generalized Dixon Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ (1 - x_1)^2 + (1 - x_n)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (x_i^2 - x_{i+1})^2 \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (-1; \dots)^T.$$

**9. Generalized Penalty (1) Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ (x_i - 1)^2 + \exp(x_i^2 - 0.25)^2 \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 2, \dots, n)^T.$$

**10. Generalized Penalty (2) Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \exp(x_i - 1)^2 + (x_i^2 - 0.25)^2 \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (1, 2, \dots, n)^T.$$

**11. Generalized Powell Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/4} \left[ (x_{4i-3} + 10x_{4i-2})^2 + 5(x_{4i-1} - x_{4i})^2 + \left[ (x_{4i-2} - 2x_{4i-1})^4 + 10(x_{4i-3} - x_{4i})^4 \right] \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (3, -1, 0, 3; \dots)^T.$$

**12. Generalized Powell 3 Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/3} \left\{ 3 - \left[ \frac{1}{1 + (x_i - x_{2i})^2} \right] - \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_{2i} x_{3i}}{2}\right) - \exp\left[-\left(\frac{x_i + x_{3i}}{x_{2i}} - 2\right)^2\right] \right\}, \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (0, 1, 2; \dots)^T.$$

**13. Generalized Rosenbrock Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \left[ 100(x_{2i} - x_{2i-1}^2)^2 + (1 - x_{2i-1})^2 \right], \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (-1, 2, 1; \dots)^T.$$

**14. Generalized Beale Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [1.5 - x_{2i-1}(1 - x_{2i})]^2 + [2.25 - x_{2i-1}(1 - x_{2i}^2)]^2 \\ + [2.625 - x_{2i-1}(1 - x_{2i}^2)]^2 \end{array} \right\}, \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; \dots)^T.$$

**15. Generalized Shallow Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} [x_{2i-1}^2 - x_{2i}]^2 + (1 - x_{2i-1})^2, \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (-\mathbf{2}, -\mathbf{2}; \dots)^T.$$

**16. Non-Diagonal Variant of Rosenbrock Function:**

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=2}^n [100(x_i - x_i^2)^2 + (1 - x_i)^2]; \quad \mathbf{n} > \mathbf{1}, \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (-\mathbf{1}; \dots)^T.$$

**REFERENCES**

- [1] Al-Baali, M.(1985) "**Descent properly and Global Convergence of the Fletcher-Reeves Method with inexact line search**", *IMA Journal of Numerical Analysis*, Vol. 5.
- [2] Al-Bayati A. Y (1993) "**A new non-quadratic model for nconstrained nonlinear optimization**", *J. of Mu'ta, Jordan*, Vol. (8), pp. 131-155.
- [3] Al-Bayati A. Y and Ahmed H. (1996) "**Investigations of single update . . . CG-methods**", *Qatar University Sci, Qatar*, Vol. (11), pp.183-192.
- [4] Al-Bayati A. Y and Al-Assady N. H (1994) "**Minimization of extended quadratic function with . . . line search**", *JOTA, USA*, Vol. (82), pp. 139-147.
- [5] Fletcher R (1980): "**Practical methods at optimization**", Vol. 1, *Unconstrained optimization*. Wiley Chichester, England 1980.
- [6] Fletcher R (1987) "**Practical methods at optimization**", *John Wiley and Sons, Chichester, New York, Brisbane, Toronto and Singapore*.
- [7] Fletcher R (1993): "**An overview at unconstrained optimization**". *Numerical Analysis Report NA/149*, June 1993
- [8] Fletcher R and Reeves CM (1964) "**Function minimization by conjugate gradient**", *Computer Journal* 7.
- [9] Polak E (1969) "**Computational methods in optimization a unified approach**", *Academic Press, New York*.
- [10] Powell M. J. D (1983) "**Noncenuex minimization calculations and the conjugate coradiant method**", *Report No. DAMTP 1983/NA14*, *Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England*.
- [11] Powell M. J. D (1977) "**Restart procedure for the conjugate gradient method**", *Mathematical Programming*.
- [12] Powell MJD (1985) "**Convergena properties of algorithms for non-linear optimization**" No. *DAMTP 1985/NA1*. *Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics. University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England, 1985*.
- [13] Touati-Ahmed D and Storey (1990) "**Efficient hybrid conjugate coradiant techniques**", *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, Vol. 64, No. 2, 1990.