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## Numerically Checking the Dislocation Hyperbolic Augmented Lagrangian Algorithm for Nonconvex Optimization Problems

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Abstract

In this note, we ensure that the dislocation hyperbolic augmented Lagrangian algorithm converges to a global minimizer, assuming nonconvexity assumptions. The subproblem generated by this algorithm is solved with the DIRECT algorithm. Finally, we present computational experiments to show the proposed algorithm's good performance.

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## Abstract

In this note, we ensure that the dislocation hyperbolic augmented Lagrangian algorithm converges to a global minimizer, we assuming nonconvexity assumptions. The subproblem generated by this algorithm is solved with the DIRECT algorithm. Finally, we present computational experiments to show the good performance of the proposed algorithm.

**Keywords:** Augmented Lagrangian, Box-constrained, Nonconvex problem, Deterministic algorithm

# 1 Introduction

In this note, we are interested in solving the following inequality constrained nonconvex optimization problem:

$$(P) \quad \min f(x) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad g(x) \leq 0, \quad x \in \Omega,$$

where the functions  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  are continuously differentiable, and let  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : -\infty < a_1 \leq x \leq a_2 < \infty\}$ , is a nonempty closed subset in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . In particular, augmented Lagrangian type algorithms solve the problem (P), examples are: Lagrangian function based on the quadratic penalty [2] and class of nonquadratic Lagrangian functions [7]. In [7], an interesting feature of these algorithms is the detection of infeasibility. The study of this class of Lagrangian algorithms can be seen in paper [10].

The hyperbolic penalty function was used in the hyperbolic penalty algorithm proposed by [14]. The dislocation hyperbolic augmented Lagrangian function (DHALF) was proposed in [15]. This type of hyperbolic function caught the attention of different researchers, thus, works appeared from the computational point of view, see [1], [5] and [13]; and theoretical works, see [6] and [4]. All this motivates us to continue investigating this function and propose our dislocation hyperbolic augmented Lagrangian algorithm to find global solutions to nonconvex optimization problems. Some characteristics of our algorithm are that we consider a nonquadratic penalty, and the safeguard technique to update the Lagrange multipliers is not considered. The contributions of our work are as follows:

- This work contributes to ensuring that the sequence generated by our proposed algorithm converges to a global solution of the problem (P) using DHALF. To solve the box-constrained subproblem generated by our algorithm, we use the global deterministic optimization algorithm called DIRECT (see [8] and [9]).

The note is organized as follows: In Section 2, we state some definitions and basic results that are used during this work and we present our proposed algorithm. In Section 3, a convergence result is proposed. In Section 4, some computational examples are presented in order to show how our proposed algorithm works.

## 2 Deterministic Global Dislocation Hyperbolic Augmented Lagrangian Algorithm (DGDHALA)

The Lagrangian function of problem (P) is defined by  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$L(x, \lambda) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i g_i(x),$$

for  $x \in \Omega$  and where  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , they are the Lagrange multiplier. We define the dislocation hyperbolic penalty function (DHPF) related to the constraints

of problem (P), as follows,  $p : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{++} \times \mathbb{R}_{++} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} p(g_i(x), \lambda_i, \tau) &= \tau \left( \frac{\lambda_i g_i(x)}{\tau} + \sqrt{\left( \frac{\lambda_i g_i(x)}{\tau} \right)^2 + 1} - 1 \right) \\ &= \tau h \left( \frac{\lambda_i g_i(x)}{\tau} \right), \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

where the function  $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , is defined as  $h(t) = t + \sqrt{t^2 + 1} - 1$ . This function is a smoothing of the exact penalty function studied by [16]. Henceforth, we will call the  $h$  function as dislocation hyperbolic function (DHF). In the following, we are going to present some properties of  $h$ : (H1)  $h(0) = 0$  and  $h'(0) = 1$ ; (H2)  $h'(t) = 1 + \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}} > 0, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$ ; (H3)  $h''(t) = \frac{1}{(t^2 + 1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} > 0, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

We are going to consider function (2.1) to define the DHALF of problem (P) by  $l_H : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_{++}^m \times \mathbb{R}_{++} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$l_H(x, \lambda, \tau) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m p(g_i(x), \lambda_i, \tau) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \tau h \left( \frac{\lambda_i g_i(x)}{\tau} \right). \quad (2.2)$$

Next, we introduce our algorithm DGDHALA.

## 2.1 Algorithm DGDHALA

**Step 1.** Let  $x^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\lambda^0 = (\lambda_1^0, \dots, \lambda_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^m$ ,  $\tau^0 \in \mathbb{R}_{++}$ ,  $1 < \alpha$ , and  $0 < \theta < 1$ . Compute  $W_i^0 = \max\{g_i(x^0), 0\}$ . Set  $k = 1$ .

**Step 2.** Find  $x^k \in \mathbb{R}^n$  as an approximate global solution of the problem

$$\min_{x \in \Omega} l_H(x, \lambda^k, \tau^k). \quad (2.3)$$

**Step 3.** Updating of Lagrange multiplier. Compute

$$\lambda_i^{k+1} = \lambda_i^k h' \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x^k)}{\tau^k} \right), \quad i = 1, \dots, m. \quad (2.4)$$

**Step 4.** Update penalty parameter. Compute

$$W_i^k = \min\{-g_i(x^k), \lambda_i^k\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

If,

$$\|W^k\|_{\infty} \leq \theta \|W^{k-1}\|_{\infty}, \quad (2.5)$$

set,  $\tau^{k+1} = \tau^k$ . Otherwise, set  $\tau^{k+1} = \alpha \tau^k$ .

**Step 5.**  $k := k + 1$ . Go to Step 2.

In **Step 2**, we are going to consider the DIRECT algorithm to solve the subproblem (2.3), which is a global deterministic optimization algorithm for box-constrained problems. In **Step 3**, the new estimates of the multipliers are updated. In **Step 4**, the condition (2.5) considered to update the penalty parameter, this condition is also studied by [5]. Throughout our work, we will consider the following assumption

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \tau^k = \tilde{\tau} > 0,$$

that is, the sequence  $\{\tau^k\}$  converges to a strictly positive point.

## 2.2 Characteristics of DGDHALA

For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we define the following sets of indices  $I_0 = \{i \in \{1, \dots, m\} \mid g_i(x) = 0\}$  and  $I_- = \{i \in \{1, \dots, m\} \mid g_i(x) < 0\}$ . Let us consider the following cases: (c1) If  $i \in I_0$ , then we have at the  $k$ -th iteration  $g_i(x^k) = 0$ , then by (2.4) and (H1), we get,  $\lambda_i^{k+1} = \lambda_i^k$ ; (c2) If  $i \in I_-$ , then we have at the  $k$ -th iteration  $g_i(x^k) < 0$ , then by (2.4), (H3), (H1), and by a development similar to the previous case we can obtain  $\lambda_i^k > \lambda_i^{k+1}$ . The following result ensures the feasibility of the estimated multipliers.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\{\lambda^k = (\lambda_1^k, \dots, \lambda_m^k) \mid k = 1, 2, \dots\} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ . If*

$$\lambda^k \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^m \quad \text{then} \quad \lambda^{k+1} \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^m.$$

*Proof.* See Remark 3.3 of [12]. □

## 3 Convergence

In this section, we present our main results. Let us consider the following assumption:

**(A1)** For all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we obtain  $x^k \in \Omega$  such that

$$l_H(x^k, \lambda^k, \tau^k) \leq l_H(x, \lambda^k, \tau^k) + \epsilon^k, \quad \forall x \in \Omega,$$

where the sequence of tolerances  $\{\epsilon^k\} \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  is bounded.

The assumption **(A1)** is considered in Chapter 5 of [3], to ensure global minimization. The following results are similar to Theorem 5.1 and Theorem 5.2 of [3] (see also [2] and [5]). In the following result, we ensure that the sequence generated by the algorithm DGDHALA converges to a feasible point.

**Theorem 2.** *The sequences  $\{x^k\}$  and  $\{\lambda^k\}$  are generated by DGDHALA. Suppose that the sequence  $\{\lambda^k\}$  is bounded and the whole sequence  $\{x^k\}$  is convergent, i.e.,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x^k = x^*$ . Then, every limit point  $x^*$  is a feasible point.*

*Proof.* Let  $x^k \in \Omega$  and we know that the set  $\Omega$  is closed, then  $x^* \in \Omega$ . Since that  $\{\tau^k\}$  is bounded, then there exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\tau^k = \tau^{k_0} = \tilde{\tau} > 0$  for all,  $k \geq k_0$ . Then the condition (2.5) is verified for all  $k \geq k_0$ . Thus,

$$\|W^k\|_\infty \rightarrow 0, \quad (3.6)$$

so,

$$-g_i(x^k) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda_i^k \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{with,} \quad g_i(x^k) < 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad (3.7)$$

this implies

$$g_i(x^k)_+ \rightarrow 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m,$$

and we obtain that the limit point is feasible.  $\square$

Now, we ensure that the sequence generated by the algorithm DGDHALA converges to a global solution.

**Theorem 3.** *The sequence  $\{x^k\}$  and  $\{\lambda^k\}$  are generated by DGDHALA. Assume that the sequence  $\{\lambda^k\}$  is bounded,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon^k = 0$ , the problem (P) has a non-empty set of feasible solutions and the whole sequence  $\{x^k\}$  is convergent, i.e.,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x^k = x^*$ . Then,  $x^*$  is a global minimizer of the problem (P).*

*Proof.* The whole sequence is convergent, i.e.,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x^k = x^*$ , where  $x^*$  is feasible by Theorem 2 since the problem (P) has a non-empty set of feasible solutions. Since  $\{\tau^k\}$  is bounded, then there exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\lim_{k \geq k_0} \tau^k = \tau^{k_0} = \tilde{\tau} > 0$ , for all,  $k \in K \subset \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k \geq k_0$  (with  $x \in \Omega$ ), By (A1) we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & f(x^k) + \sum_{i=1}^m \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x^k)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \\ & \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) + \epsilon^k, \quad \forall k \geq k_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

Since we have  $g(x) \leq 0$ , we can get,

$$\frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x)}{\tau^{k_0}} \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad \forall k \geq k_0,$$

we apply (H2) in the inequality above, so

$$\tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq \tau^{k_0} h(0), \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad \forall k \geq k_0,$$

by (H1), it follows  $\tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,  $\forall k \geq k_0$ , we rewrite as follows

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq 0, \quad \forall k \geq k_0. \quad (3.9)$$

By (3.9) in (3.8), we have

$$f(x^k) + \sum_{i=1}^m \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^k g_i(x^k)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq f(x) + \epsilon^k, \quad \forall k \geq k_0. \quad (3.10)$$

Since  $\{\lambda^k\}$  is bounded, then there exists a infinite subset of indices  $K_1 \subset K$ , and by Proposition 1 we have

$$\lim_{k \in K_1} \lambda_i^k = \lambda_i^* \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

We know that  $g_i(x^*) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$ , and taking limits in the inequality above (3.10) for  $k \in K_1$ , we have

$$f(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^* g_i(x^*)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq f(x).$$

We rewrite the above as

$$f(x^*) + \sum_{i \in I_-(x^*)} \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^* g_i(x^*)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) + \sum_{i \in I_0(x^*)} \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^* g_i(x^*)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq f(x),$$

considering (H1) in the case  $i \in I_0(x^*)$ , in the inequality above, therefore we only have

$$f(x^*) + \sum_{i \in I_-(x^*)} \tau^{k_0} h \left( \frac{\lambda_i^* g_i(x^*)}{\tau^{k_0}} \right) \leq f(x), \quad \forall k \geq k_0. \quad (3.11)$$

On the other hand, since that  $\{\tau^k\}$  is bounded and since we have  $g_i(x^*) < 0$  in (3.11) and by (2.5) we obtain

$$\lim_{k \in K_1} \lambda_i^k = \lambda_i^* = 0. \quad (3.12)$$

Then, from (3.11) and (3.12) we obtain

$$f(x^*) + \sum_{\{i: g_i(x^*) < 0\}} \tau^{k_0} h(0) \leq f(x),$$

from (H1) and the inequality above it follows that  $f(x^*) \leq f(x)$ , where  $x$  is an arbitrary feasible point.  $\square$

## 4 Computational Examples

Let us consider the following examples to verify the performance of our proposed algorithm.

**Example 1.** See Problem 2 of [18], Example 3 of [17].

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(x) &= -x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t. } g_1(x) &= -2x_1^4 + 8x_1^3 - 8x_1^2 + x_2 - 2 \leq 0, \\ g_2(x) &= -4x_1^4 + 32x_1^3 - 88x_1^2 + 96x_1 + x_2 - 36 \leq 0, \\ x \in \Omega &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq x_1 \leq 3, 0 \leq x_2 \leq 4\}. \end{aligned}$$

The global solution is  $\tilde{x} = (2.3295, 3.1783)^T$  with optimal value  $f(\tilde{x}) = -5.5079$ .

**Example 2.** See Example 2 of [17].

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} f(x) &= -x_1 x_2 x_3 \\ \text{s.t. } g_1(x) &= x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 - 72 \leq 0, \\ g_2(x) &= -x_1 - 2x_2 - 2x_3 \leq 0, \\ x \in \Omega &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 0 \leq x_i \leq 42, i = 1, 2, 3\}. \end{aligned}$$

The global solution is  $\tilde{x} = (24, 12, 12)$  with function value  $f(\tilde{x}) = -3456$ .

**Example 3.** See Example 6.1 of [11]

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^5} f(x) &= c^T x - 0.5x^T Q x \\ \text{s.t. } g_1(x) &= 20x_1 + 12x_2 + 11x_3 + 7x_4 + 4x_5 - 40 \leq 0, \\ x \in \Omega &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^5 : 0 \leq x_i \leq 1, i = 1, \dots, 5\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $c = (42, 44, 45, 47, 47.5)^T$ ,  $Q = 100I$ , and  $I$  is the identity matrix. The global solution is  $\tilde{x} = (1, 1, 0, 1, 0)^T$  with function value  $f(\tilde{x}) = -17$ .

**Example 4.** See Problem 2 of [7].

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(x) &= -x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t. } g_1(x) &= x_1 x_2 - 4 \leq 0, \\ x \in \Omega &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq x_1 \leq 6, 0 \leq x_2 \leq 4\}. \end{aligned}$$

The problem possesses two strict local minima at points  $\tilde{x} = (1, 4)$  and  $\tilde{x} = (6, 0.666667)$  with objective function values of  $-5$  and  $-6.66667$ , respectively.

**Example 5.** See Problem 5 of [7]

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(x) &= x_1^4 - 14x_1^2 + 24x_1 - x_2^2 \\ \text{s.t. } g_1(x) &= -x_1 + x_2 - 8 \leq 0, \\ g_2(x) &= x_2 - x_1^2 - 2x_1 + 2 \leq 0, \\ x \in \Omega &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : -8 \leq x_1 \leq 10, 0 \leq x_2 \leq 10\}. \end{aligned}$$

The global solution is  $\tilde{x} = (-3.173599, 1.724533)$  with  $f(\tilde{x}) = -118.704860$ .



## 4.1 Results

The algorithms were coded in Python and run on a Compaq, Microsoft Windows 10 home, with Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-5005U CPU@2.00GHz, 2000 Mhz. We consider as stopping criteria, the condition of feasibility and complementarity, as follows:  $\|\lambda^{k+1}g(x^k)\|_{l_1} \leq \epsilon_{com}$  and  $\|g(x^k)\|_{l_1} \leq \epsilon_{cons}$ , where  $\epsilon_{com}$  and  $\epsilon_{cons}$  are tolerances.

- **Example 1:**

Initial values:  $x^0 = (0, 0)$ ,  $\lambda^0 = (1, 1)$ ,  $\epsilon_{cons} = 10^{-7}$  and  $\epsilon_{com} = 10^{-5}$ ,  $\tau^0 = 0.000002$ ,  $\theta = 0.5$  and  $\alpha = 2.5$ .

The results obtained were the following:

Number of iterations used: 1,  
 $x^* = (2.32952576, 3.17846635)$ ,  
 $\lambda^* = (3.83943892 \times 10^{-4}, 7.21484914 \times 10^{-1})$ ,  
 $\tau = 4.9999999999999996 \times 10^{-6}$ ,  
 $f(x^*) = -5.50799210699463$ ,  
 $\|\tilde{x} - x^*\|_2 = 0.0001683327065662843$ ,  
 $f(\tilde{x}) - f(x^*) = 9.21069946295816 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  
*time (s) : 0.09375.*

- **Example 2:**

Initial values:  $x^0 = (0, 0, 0)$ ,  $\lambda^0 = (1, 1)$ ,  $\epsilon_{cons} = 10^{-5}$  and  $\epsilon_{com} = 10^{-3}$ ,  $\tau^0 = 0.000002$ ,  $\theta = 0.25$  and  $\alpha = 2$ .

The results obtained were the following:

Number of iterations used: 9,  
 $x^* = (24.06582669, 11.92485902, 12.04221917)$ ,  
 $\lambda^* = (1.76677387, 1.11022301 \times 10^{-16})$ ,  
 $\tau = 0.000512$ ,  
 $f(x^*) = -3455.89520954783$ ,  
 $\|\tilde{x} - x^*\|_2 = 0.10845173261504679$ ,  
 $f(\tilde{x}) - f(x^*) = 0.10479045217016392$ ,  
*time (s) : 1.328125.*

- **Example 3:**

Initial values:  $x^0 = (0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $\lambda^0 = 1$ ,  $\epsilon_{cons} = 10^{-7}$  and  $\epsilon_{com} = 10^{-5}$ ,  $\tau^0 = 0.00002$ ,  $\theta = 0.5$  and  $\alpha = 2.5$ .

The results obtained were the following:

Number of iterations used: 1.  
 $x^* = (9.99771376 \times 10^{-1}, 9.99771376 \times 10^{-1}, 6.85871056 \times 10^{-4}, 9.99771376 \times 10^{-1}, 2.28623685 \times 10^{-4})$ ,  
 $\lambda^* = 1.99817163 \times 10^{-10}$ ,  
 $\tau = 5 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  
 $f(x^*) = -16.920129996661075$ ,

$\|\tilde{x} - x^*\|_2 = 0.0008243146819810678,$   
 $f(\tilde{x}) - f(x^*) = 0.07987000333892524,$   
 $time(s) : 0.078125.$

- Example 4:

Initial values:  $x^0 = (0, 0), \lambda^0 = 1, \epsilon_{cons} = 10^{-7}, \epsilon_{com} = 10^{-5}, \tau^0 = 0.0000002,$   
 $\theta = 0.5$  and  $\alpha = 2.5.$

The results obtained were the following:

Number of iterations used: 1,  
 $x^* = (5.99999812, 0.66666667),$   
 $\lambda^* = 0.01247206,$   
 $\tau = 5 \times 10^{-7},$   
 $f(x^*) = -6.666664784990243,$   
 $\|\tilde{x} - x^*\|_2 = 1.908743042017182 \times 10^{-6},$   
 $f(\tilde{x}) - f(x^*) = 5.215009756476263 \times 10^{-6},$   
 $time(s) : 0.03125.$

- Example 5:

Initial values:  $x^0 = (0, 0), \lambda^0 = (1, 1), \epsilon_{cons} = 10^{-7}, \epsilon_{com} = 10^{-5}, \tau^0 = 0.00001,$   
 $\theta = 0.5$  and  $\alpha = 2.5.$

The results obtained were the following:

Number of iterations used: 3,  
 $x^* = (-3.17283951, 1.72122901),$   
 $\lambda^* = (5.06159559 \times 10^{-11}, 3.36584419),$   
 $\tau = 6.25 \times 10^{-5},$   
 $f(x^*) = -118.70483724449679,$   
 $\|\tilde{x} - x^*\|_2 = 0.003390158547944282,$   
 $f(\tilde{x}) - f(x^*) = 2.275550320973707 \times 10^{-5},$   
 $time(s) : 0.125.$

In work [7], 5 augmented Lagrangian algorithms were studied; in [2] only one algorithm was studied; in [11] they study 4 algorithms and in [17] they study 4 algorithms. In Table 1, we are only going to place the best results obtained in [7], [2], [11] and [17]. In Table 1, the symbol “—” means that the respective example was not solved in the respective work.

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**Table 1** Number of iterations

k	DGDHALA	[7]	[2]	[11]	[17]
Example 1	1	–	–	4	3
Example 2	9	–	–	–	4
Example 3	1	–	–	2	–
Example 4	1	3	5	–	–
Example 5	3	4	3	–	–

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