

# Riemannian Optimization with its Application to Clustering Problems

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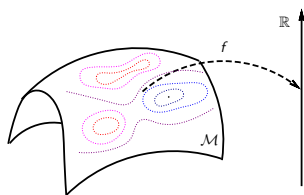
- Problem statement
- Motivation
- Smooth optimization framework
- Literature review
- A Riemannian optimization approach to clustering problems
- Riemannian proximal gradient methods
- Numerical experiments

# Problem Statement

**Problem:** Given  $f(x) : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  
solve

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} f(x)$$

where  $\mathcal{M}$  is a Riemannian manifold.

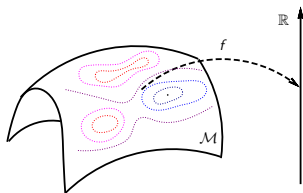


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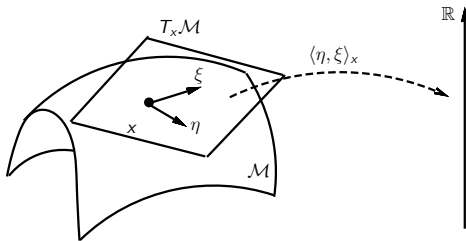
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## Manifolds:

- Stiefel:  $\text{St}(p, n) = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} : X^T X = I_p\}$ ;
- Grassmann: the set of  $p$  dimensional linear spaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ;
- Fixed rank:  $\mathbb{R}_r^{m \times n} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} : \text{rank}(X) = r\}$  or tensor;
- Symmetric positive definite:  $\mathcal{S}_{++}^n = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} : X \succ 0\}$ ;
- And many more;

# Riemannian Manifolds

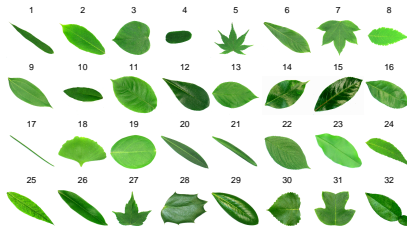
Roughly, a Riemannian manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  is a smooth set with a smoothly-varying inner product on the tangent spaces.



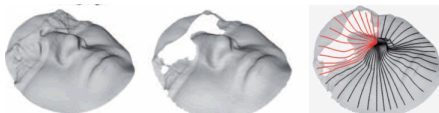
Riemannian manifold = Manifold + Riemannian metric (inner products)

# Motivation

One example



- Classification  
[LKS<sup>+</sup>12, HGSA15]
- Face recognition  
[DBS<sup>+</sup>13]



# Motivation

## One example

- Elastic shape analysis invariants:
  - Rescaling
  - Translation
  - Rotation
  - Reparametrization
- The shape space is a quotient space

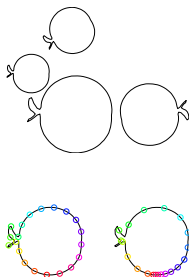
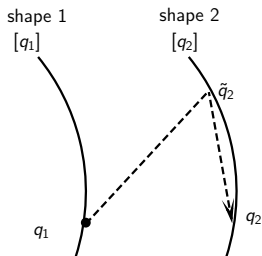


Figure: All are the same shape.

# Motivation

## One example



- Optimization problem  $\min_{q_2 \in [q_2]} \text{dist}(q_1, q_2)$  is defined on a Riemannian manifold



# Motivation

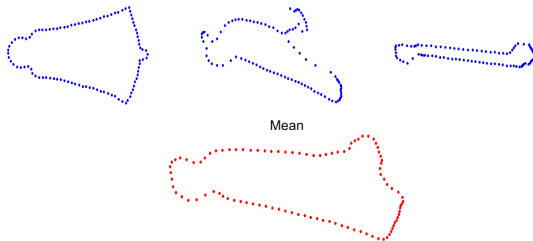
One example



- Computation of a geodesic between two shapes
- Interpolation in shape space

# Motivation

One example



- Computation of Karcher mean of a population of shapes

# Motivation

## More Applications

- Role model extraction
- Computations on SPD matrices
- Blind source separation
- Phase retrieval problem
- Blind deconvolution
- Synchronization of rotations
- Computations on low-rank tensor
- Low-rank approximate solution for Lyapunov equation

# Optimization Framework

## Iterations on the Manifold

Consider the following generic update for an iterative Euclidean optimization algorithm:

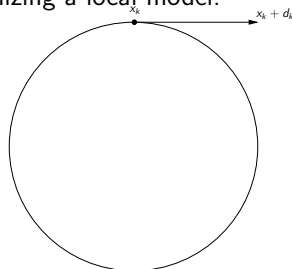
$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \Delta x_k = x_k + \alpha_k s_k .$$

This iteration is implemented in numerous ways, e.g.:

- Steepest descent:  $x_{k+1} = x_k - \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k)$
- Newton's method:  $x_{k+1} = x_k - [\nabla^2 f(x_k)]^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$
- Trust region method:  $\Delta x_k$  is set by optimizing a local model.

### Riemannian Manifolds Provide

- Riemannian concepts describing **directions** and **movement** on the manifold
- Riemannian analogues for **gradient** and **Hessian**



# Optimization Framework

## Riemannian gradient and Riemannian Hessian

### Definition

The **Riemannian gradient** of  $f$  at  $x$  is the unique tangent vector in  $T_x \mathcal{M}$  satisfying  $\forall \eta \in T_x \mathcal{M}$ , the directional derivative

$$Df(x)[\eta] = \langle \text{grad } f(x), \eta \rangle$$

and  $\text{grad } f(x)$  is the direction of steepest ascent.

### Definition

The **Riemannian Hessian** of  $f$  at  $x$  is a symmetric linear operator from  $T_x \mathcal{M}$  to  $T_x \mathcal{M}$  defined as

$$\text{Hess } f(x) : T_x \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_x \mathcal{M} : \eta \rightarrow \nabla_\eta \text{grad } f,$$

where  $\nabla$  is the affine connection.

# Optimization Framework

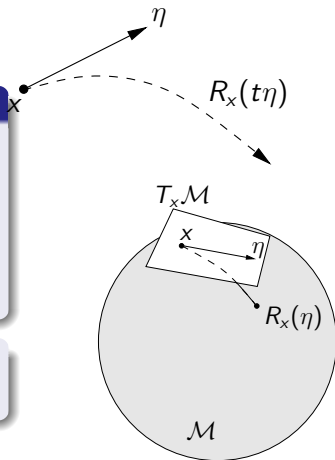
## Retractions

Euclidean	Riemannian
$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k d_k$	$x_{k+1} = R_{x_k}(\alpha_k \eta_k)$

### Definition

A **retraction** is a mapping  $R$  from  $T\mathcal{M}$  to  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfying the following:

- $R$  is continuously differentiable
  - $R_x(0) = x$
  - $D R_x(0)[\eta] = \eta$
- 
- maps tangent vectors back to the manifold
  - defines curves in a direction



# Optimization Framework

Categories of Riemannian smooth optimization methods

Retraction-based: local information only

Line search-based: use local tangent vector and  $R_x(t\eta)$  to define line

- Steepest decent
- Newton

Local model-based: series of flat space problems

- Riemannian trust region Newton (RTR)
- Riemannian adaptive cubic overestimation (RACO)

# Optimization Framework

Categories of Riemannian smooth optimization methods

## Retraction and transport-based: information from multiple tangent spaces

- Nonlinear conjugate gradient: multiple tangent vectors
- Quasi-Newton e.g. Riemannian BFGS: transport operators between tangent spaces

Additional element required for optimizing a cost function;

- formulas for combining information from multiple tangent spaces.



# Optimization Framework

## Vector Transports

### Vector Transport

- Vector transport: Transport a tangent vector from one tangent space to another
- $\mathcal{T}_{\eta_x} \xi_x$ , denotes transport of  $\xi_x$  to tangent space of  $R_x(\eta_x)$ .  $R$  is a retraction associated with  $\mathcal{T}$

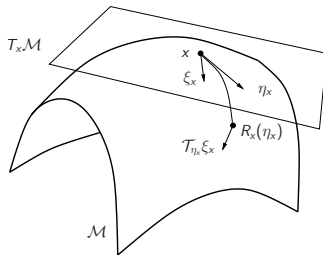


Figure: Vector transport.

# Optimization Framework

## Retraction/Transport-based Riemannian Optimization

Given a retraction and a vector transport, we can generalize many Euclidean methods to the Riemannian setting. Do the Riemannian versions of the methods work well?

# Optimization Framework

## Retraction/Transport-based Riemannian Optimization

Given a retraction and a vector transport, we can generalize many Euclidean methods to the Riemannian setting. Do the Riemannian versions of the methods work well?

No

- Lose many theoretical results and important properties;
- Impose restrictions on retraction/vector transport;

# Optimization Framework

## Riemannian optimization methods

Elements required for optimizing a cost function  $(\mathcal{M}, g)$ :

- an representation for points  $x$  on  $\mathcal{M}$ , for tangent spaces  $T_x \mathcal{M}$ , and for the inner products  $g_x(\cdot, \cdot)$  on  $T_x \mathcal{M}$ ;
- choice of a retraction  $R_x : T_x \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ ;
- formulas for  $f(x)$ ,  $\text{grad } f(x)$  and  $\text{Hess } f(x)$  (or its action);
- Computational and storage efficiency;

# Optimization Framework

## Riemannian Metric

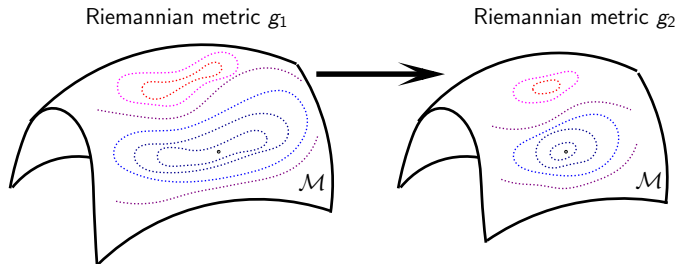


Figure: Changing metric may influence the difficulty of a problem.

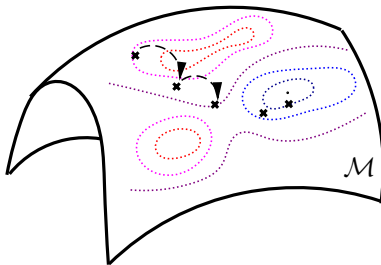
Riemannian metric influences

- Riemannian gradient
- Riemannian Hessian

# Optimization Framework

## Comparison with Constrained Optimization

- All iterates on the manifold
- Convergence properties of unconstrained optimization algorithms
- No need to consider Lagrange multipliers or penalty functions
- Exploit the structure of the constrained set



# Optimization Framework

## Retraction/Transport-based Riemannian Optimization

### Benefits

- Increased generality does not compromise the **important theory**
- Less expensive than or similar to previous approaches
- May provide theory to explain behavior of algorithms specifically developed for a particular application – or closely related ones

### Possible Problems

- May be inefficient compared to algorithms that exploit application details

# A non-exhaustive review

## Some History of Optimization On Manifolds

- Smooth unconstrained problems
  - Steepest descent: Smith 1994; Helmke-Moore 1994; Iannazzo-Porcelli 2019;
  - Conjugate gradient: Smith 1994; Gallivan-Absil 2010; Ring-Wirth 2012; Sato-Iwai 2015;
  - Quasi-Newton: Ring-Wirth 2012; Huang-Absil-Gallivan 2018; Huang-Gallivan 2022
  - Trust region Newton: Absil-Baker-Gallivan 2007;
- Nonsmooth unconstrained problems
  - Proximal point method: Ferreira-Oliveira 2002;
  - Optimality conditions: Yang-Zhang-Song 2014;
  - Gradient sampling: Huang 2013; Hosseini and Uschmajew 2017;
  - $\epsilon$ -subgradient-based methods: Grohs-Hosseini 2015;
  - Proximal gradient methods: Huang-Wei 2022;
- Constrained problems:
  - Augmented Lagrangian methods: Boumal-Liu 2019;



# A non-exhaustive review

## Some History of Optimization On Manifolds

- Smooth unconstrained problems:
  - Stiefel manifold: Wen-Yin 2012; Jiang-Dai 2014; Xiao-Liu-Yuan 2020; Dai-Wang-Zhou 2020
  - Symmetric positive definite manifold: Bini-Iannazzo 2013; Zhang 2017; Yuan-Huang-Absil-Gallivan 2020;
  - Fixed rank manifold: Wen-Yin-Zhang 2012; Mishra 2014; Sutti-Vandereycken 2021; Levin-Kileel-Boumal 2022
- Nonsmooth unconstrained problems:
  - Stiefel Manifold: Huang-Wei 2019; Chen-Ma-So-Zhang 2020; Xiao-Liu-Yuan 2020;
  - Fixed rank manifold: Cambier-Absil 2016;
  - Matrix manifolds: Zhou-Bao-Ding-Zhu 2022
- Constrained problems:
  - Stiefel + non-negativity: Jiang-Meng-Wen-Chen 2019;
  - Symmetric positive definite + zeros: Phan-Menickelly 2020;

# A non-exhaustive review

## Some History of Optimization On Manifolds

Riemannian optimization libraries for general problems:

- Boumal, Mishra, Absil, Sepulchre(2014)  
Manopt (Matlab library)
- Townsend, Koep, Weichwald (2016)  
Pymanopt (Python version of manopt)
- Bergmann (2019)  
Manoptjl (Julia, nonsmooth methods)
- Huang, Absil, Gallivan, Hand (2018)  
ROPTLIB (C++ library, interfaces to Matlab and Julia)
- Martin, Raim, Huang, Adraghi (2018)  
ManifoldOptim (R wrapper of ROPTLIB)
- Meghawanshi, Jawanpuria, Kunchukuttan, Kasai, Mishra (2018)  
McTorch (Python, GPU acceleration)

# A non-exhaustive review

## Our Work

- Smooth unconstrained problems
  - Broyden family including BFGS method [HGA15, HAG17, HAG18]
  - Trust-region symmetric rank-one method [HAG15]
  - Their limited-memory versions [HG22]
- Nonsmooth unconstrained problems
  - $\epsilon$ -subgradient with quasi-Newton method [HHY18]
  - Proximal gradient methods [HW21a]
  - Proximal Newton method [SAH<sup>+</sup>23]
- Applications:
  - Elastic shape analysis [HGSA15]
  - Blind deconvolution [HH18]
  - Phase retrieval [HGZ16]
  - Sparse principal component analysis [HW21c]
  - Gray/color image completion [CH23, PH23]
- Library: ROPTLIB [HAGH18]

## Clustering problems

The task of clustering is to group a set of objects such that the objects in the same group are more similar or closely connected under certain criterion to each other than to those in other groups.

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Clustering problems that can be formulated as

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} f(X),$$

where  $\mathcal{A}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, X \geq 0, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$ .

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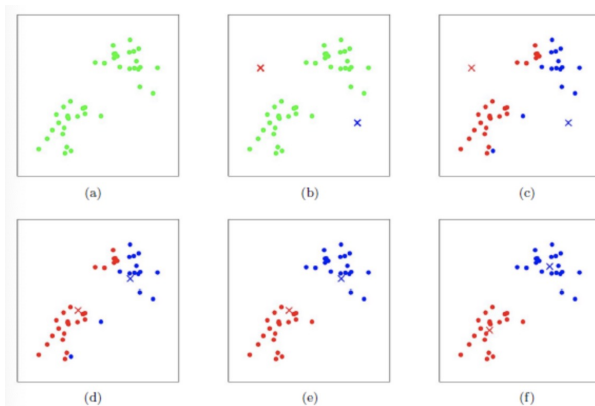
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- Spectral clustering
- Normalized cuts
- $k$ -means
- Community detection
- Etc

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem:  $k$ -means



- 0 Initial estimations for the means
- 1 Assign points to their closest means and creates groups
- 2 Means are updated by computing the means of the new groups

<sup>0</sup>The figure is from <https://www.cnblogs.com/xiaxuexiaoab/p/10211279.html>

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem:  $k$ -means

## 0 Initial estimations for the means

---

$n$  points  $a_i$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  represented by  $A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ ,  $k$  clusters;

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- 1 Find an indicator matrix  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  such that  
 $Y = \operatorname{argmin}_Y \|A - YM\|_F^2$ ;

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- 

Optimization problem [BDM09]:

$$\min_Y \|A - Y(Y^T Y)^{-1} Y^T A\|_F^2,$$

where  $Y$  is an indicator matrix

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem:  $k$ -means

Optimization problem:

$$\min_Y \|A - Y(Y^T Y)^{-1} Y^T A\|_F^2 \iff \min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} \|A - XX^T A\|_F^2$$

where  $\mathcal{A}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, X \geq 0, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$ .

---

For  $X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}$ ,

- Only one entry is nonzero in each row
- All positive entries in a column have the same value
- $X_{ij} \neq 0$  implies that point  $i$  is in the cluster  $j$

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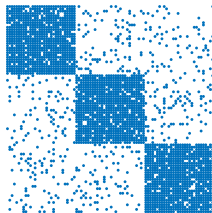
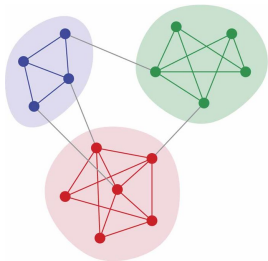
$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} f(X),$$

where  $f$  is smooth.

# Problem Statement

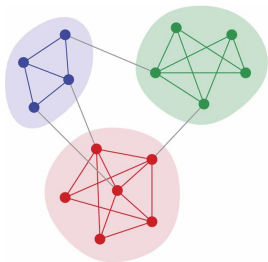
A clustering problem: community detection

- Adjacency matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  (Undirected)



# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: community detection



- Adjacency matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  (Undirected)
- Ideal adjacency matrix  $A = ZZ^T$
- $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  defines the communities

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: community detection

Existing methods:

- The GN algorithm [New04]
- The spectral modularity maximization algorithm [New06]
- The Louvain method [BGLL08]
- The infomap algorithm [RB08]
- Statistical inference [NL07]
- Deep learning [YCH<sup>+</sup>16].



# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: community detection

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Modularity optimization approaches have shown to be highly effective [For10]

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: community detection

Maximize modularity:

$$\tilde{f} : \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{n,k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : Y \mapsto \text{trace}(Y^T M Y),$$

where  $M = A - \frac{A \mathbf{1}_n \mathbf{1}_n^T A}{\mathbf{1}_n^T A \mathbf{1}_n}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{n,k}$  is the set of indicator matrices.

---

For ideal graph:

- $A = ZZ^T$
- The global minimizer of  $\tilde{f}$  is  $Z$
- $Z_{ij} = 1$  implies that node  $i$  is in the community  $j$

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: community detection

Maximize modularity with modifications [WHGVD21]:

$$\tilde{f} : \mathcal{A}_{n,k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : X \mapsto \text{trace}(X^T M X),$$

where  $\mathcal{A}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, X \geq 0, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$  and  
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For idea graph, i.e.,  $A = ZZ^T$ , it can be proven that the maximizer  $\tilde{Z}$  of  $f$  is given by normalizing the columns of  $Z$ . Therefore,  $\tilde{Z}$  defines the same communities.

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A clustering problem: community detection

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---

The optimization problem is also in the form of

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} f(X) = -\tilde{f}(X),$$

where  $f$  is smooth.

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: normalized cut

Normalized cut:

$$\min_{Y^T D Y = I_q, Y \geq 0, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(Y)} \text{trace}(Y^T L Y),$$

where  $L \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is the Laplacian matrix of a graph and  $D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is the diagonal matrix of the node degrees.

---

Normalized cut reformulation: (Let  $D^{1/2} Y = X$ )

$$\min_{X^T X = I_q, X \geq 0, v \in \text{span}(X)} \text{trace}(X^T D^{-1/2} L D^{-1/2} X),$$

where  $v = \text{diag}(D^{1/2}) > 0$ .

# Problem Statement

A clustering problem: normalized cut

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---

Note that it is required here that  $v \in \text{span}(X)$  instead of  $\mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)$ . We only discuss  $\mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)$  for simplicity. But the following derivations still work for  $v \in \text{span}(X)$  and  $v > 0$ .

# Problem Statement

Reformulation of the optimization problem

$$k\text{-means: } \min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} \|A - XX^T A\|_F^2 \quad \text{com. det.: } \min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} -\text{trace}(X^T M X)$$

Expression:

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} f(X),$$

$$\text{where } \mathcal{A}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, X \geq 0, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$$

---

Variant:

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{B}_{n,k}} f(X),$$

$$\text{where } \mathcal{B}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, \|X\|_0 = n, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$$

# Problem Statement

## Reformulation of the optimization problem

$$k\text{-means: } \min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} \|A - XX^T A\|_F^2 \quad \text{com. det.: } \min_{X \in \mathcal{A}_{n,k}} -\text{trace}(X^T M X)$$

Expression:

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Variant:

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{F}_{n,k}} f(X) + \lambda \|X\|_1,$$

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# Community Detection

A representative model for community detection

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{F}_{n,k}} f(X) + \lambda \|X\|_1,$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$

---

Riemannian proximal gradient methods consider

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} F(x) = f(x) + g(x),$$

- $\mathcal{M}$  is a Riemannian manifold;
- $f$  is continuously differentiable and may be nonconvex; and
- $g$  is continuous, but may be not differentiable.

# Community Detection

A representative model for community detection

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Riemannian proximal gradient methods consider

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} F(x) = f(x) + g(x),$$

- Prove that  $\mathcal{F}_{n,k}$  is a manifold
- Use a Riemannian proximal gradient method

## Theorem

*The set  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  is an embedded submanifold of  $\text{St}(q, n)$  with dimension  $\dim(\text{St}(q, n)) - (n - q) = nq - q(q + 1)/2 - n + q$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  is also an embedded submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times q}$  with the same dimension and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  is compact.*

---

Verify [Bou20, Definition 8.70]

- Any  $X \in \mathcal{F}_{n,q}$ , find a function  $h : \mathcal{U} \subseteq \text{St}(q, n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-q}$  such that
  - $h^{-1}(0) = \mathcal{F}_{n,q} \cap \mathcal{U}$
  - $\text{rank } D h(X) = n - q$
- $h$  is constructed from the exponential mapping on  $\text{St}(q, n)$

# Riemannian Manifold Structure of $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$

- Riemannian metric:  $\langle U, V \rangle = \text{trace}(U^T V)$ ,  $\forall U, V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times q}$
- Tangent space:

$$T_X \mathcal{F}_{n,q} = \{X\Omega + X_\perp K : \Omega^T = -\Omega, K \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-q) \times q}, KX^T \mathbf{1}_n = 0\}$$

and orthogonal projection is

$$P_{T_X}(Z) = X \frac{X^T Z - Z^T X}{2} + (I - XX^T)Z(I - \hat{\alpha}\hat{\alpha}^T)$$

where  $\hat{\alpha} = X^T \mathbf{1}_n / \|X^T \mathbf{1}_n\|$

Retractions on  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  are given by

$$R_X(\eta_x) = \mathbf{1}_n q_*^T / \sqrt{n} + R_X^{\text{St}}(\eta_x)(I - q_* q_*^T)$$

where  $q_* = R_X^{\text{St}}(\eta_x)^T \mathbf{1}_n / \|R_X^{\text{St}}(\eta_x)^T \mathbf{1}_n\|$  and  $R_X^{\text{St}}$  is a retraction on the Stiefel manifold  $\text{St}(q, n)$ .

---

- For any  $X \in \text{St}(q, n)$  with  $X^T \mathbf{1}_n \neq 0$ :

$$\mathbf{1}_n q_*^T / \sqrt{n} + X(I - q_* q_*^T) = \underset{Y \in \mathcal{F}}{\text{argmin}} \|X - Y\|^2 \quad (1)$$

- Combine a retraction on  $\text{St}(q, n)$  with the orthogonal projection (1)
- If  $X \notin \text{St}(q, n)$ , the closed form solution of (1) is unknown

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

Euclidean setting

**Optimization with Structure:**  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} F(x) = f(x) + g(x), \quad (2)$$

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A proximal gradient method<sup>1</sup>:

initial iterate:  $x_0$ ,

$$\begin{cases} d_k = \arg \min_{p \in \mathbb{R}^n} \langle \nabla f(x_k), p \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|p\|_F^2 + g(x_k + p), & \text{(Proximal mapping)} \\ x_{k+1} = x_k + d_k. & \text{(Update iterates)} \end{cases}$$

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<sup>1</sup>The update rule:  $x_{k+1} = \arg \min_x \langle \nabla f(x_k), x - x_k \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|x - x_k\|^2 + g(x)$ .



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# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method in [CMSZ20]

## Euclidean proximal mapping

$$d_k = \arg \min_{p \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}} \langle \nabla f(x_k), p \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|p\|_F^2 + g(x_k + p)$$

## A Riemannian proximal mapping [CMSZ20]

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \eta_k = \arg \min_{\eta \in T_{x_k}} \mathcal{M} \langle \nabla f(x_k), \eta \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|\eta\|_F^2 + g(x_k + \eta);$$

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<sup>1</sup>[CMSZ18]: S. Chen, S. Ma, M. C. So, and T. Zhang, Proximal gradient method for nonsmooth optimization over the Stiefel manifold. SIAM Journal on Optimization, 30(1):210-239, 2020

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# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method in [HW21a]

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## RPG [HW21a]

- 1  $\eta_k = \arg \min_{\eta \in T_{x_k} \mathcal{M}} \langle \text{grad} f(x_k), \eta \rangle_{x_k} + \frac{L}{2} \|\eta\|_{x_k}^2 + g(R_{x_k}(\eta));$
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# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

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- 2  $x_{k+1} = R_{x_k}(\eta_k);$

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A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method in [HW21a]

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- General framework for Riemannian optimization;
- Any limit point is a critical point;

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A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method in [HW21a]

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- $O(1/k)$  sublinear convergence rate for retraction-convex  $f$  and  $g$ ;



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A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method in [HW21a]

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- General framework for Riemannian optimization;
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- $O(1/k)$  sublinear convergence rate for retraction-convex  $f$  and  $g$ ;
- Local convergence rate by Riemannian KL property;
- Solving the proximal mapping by exploring the manifold structure or using the semi-smooth Newton iteratively;

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method without solving the subproblem exactly

Both ManPG and RPG require the Riemannian proximal mapping to be solved exactly

- Theoretically, but not practical numerically
- Can we relax this requirement and still preserve desired convergence properties?
- ManPG (yes)
- RPG [HW21b]

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# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

Semi-smooth Newton method in ManPG

The Riemannian proximal mapping in [CMSZ20] can be rewritten as

$$\arg \min_{B_x^T \eta = 0} \langle \xi_x, \eta \rangle + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|\eta\|_F^2 + g(x + \eta)$$

where  $B_x^T \eta = (\langle b_1, \eta \rangle, \langle b_2, \eta \rangle, \dots, \langle b_m, \eta \rangle)^T$ , and  $\{b_1, \dots, b_m\}$  forms an orthonormal basis of  $N_x \mathcal{M}$ .

---

The Lagrangian function:

$$\mathcal{L}(\eta, \Lambda) = \langle \xi_x, \eta \rangle + \frac{1}{2\mu} \langle \eta, \eta \rangle + g(X + \eta) - \langle \Lambda, B_x^T \eta \rangle.$$

Therefore

$$\text{KKT: } \begin{cases} \partial_\eta \mathcal{L}(\eta, \Lambda) = 0 \\ B_x^T \eta = 0 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \eta = \text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x \\ B_x^T \eta = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $\text{Prox}_{\mu g}(z) = \arg\min_{v \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \frac{1}{2} \|v - z\|_F^2 + \mu g(v)$ .

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

Semi-smooth Newton method in ManPG

Semi-smooth Newton method finds the  $\Lambda$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi(\Lambda) &:= B_x^T (\text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x) = 0 \\ \eta_* &= \text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x\end{aligned}$$

- $\Psi$  is not differentiable everywhere but semi-smooth;
- Semi-smooth Newton:
  - ①  $J_\Psi(\Lambda_k)[d] = -\Psi(\Lambda_k)$ , where  $J_\Psi$  is the generalized Jacobian of  $\Psi$ ;
  - ②  $\Lambda_{k+1} = \Lambda_k + d_k$
- Regularized semi-smooth Newton [XLWZ18a]

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

Semi-smooth Newton method in ManPG

Semi-smooth Newton method finds the  $\Lambda$  such that

$$\Psi(\Lambda) := B_x^T (\text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x) \approx 0$$

- $\Psi$  is not differentiable everywhere but semi-smooth;
- Semi-smooth Newton:
  - ①  $J_\Psi(\Lambda_k)[d] = -\Psi(\Lambda_k)$ , where  $J_\Psi$  is the generalized Jacobian of  $\Psi$ ;
  - ②  $\Lambda_{k+1} = \Lambda_k + d_k$
- Regularized semi-smooth Newton [XLWZ18a]
- Solving the equation inexactly

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

Semi-smooth Newton method in ManPG

Solving the equation inexactly implies:

$$\Psi(\Lambda) = \epsilon \neq 0.$$

---

If  $\Psi(\Lambda) = \epsilon$ ,

- $\eta_* = \text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x$  is not even in the tangent space  $T_x \mathcal{M}$  in this case
- Use  $\hat{v}(\Lambda) = P_{T_x \mathcal{M}}(\text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x)$  instead
- How small does  $\epsilon$  need to be?



# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

Semi-smooth Newton method in ManPG

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- Use  $\hat{v}(\Lambda) = P_{T_x \mathcal{M}}(\text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x)$  instead
- How small does  $\epsilon$  need to be?

$$\|\epsilon\|_F \leq \sqrt{4\mu^2 L_g^2 + \|\hat{v}(\Lambda)\|_F^2 / 2} - 2\mu L_g,$$

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

ManPG without solving the subproblem exactly

---

**Algorithm 1** ManPG without solving the subproblem exactly

---

- 1: Given  $x_0, \nu \in (0, 1), \sigma \in (0, 1/(8\mu)), \mu > 0$ ;
- 2: **for**  $k = 0, 1, \dots$  **do**
- 3:   Approximately solve

$$\min_{\eta \in T_{x_k} \mathcal{M}} \langle \text{grad } f(x_k), \eta \rangle + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|\eta\|_F^2 + g(x_k + \eta)$$

such that  $\|\Psi_k(\Lambda)\|_F \leq \sqrt{4\mu^2 L_g^2 + \|\hat{v}_k(\Lambda)\|_F^2}/2 - 2\mu L_g$ ;

- 4:   Set  $\eta_k = \hat{v}_k(\Lambda)$  and set  $\alpha = 1$ ;
  - 5:   **while**  $F(R_{x_k}(\alpha\eta_{x_k})) > F(x_k) - \sigma\alpha\|\eta_{x_k}\|_F^2$  **do**
  - 6:      $\alpha = \nu\alpha$ ;
  - 7:   **end while**
  - 8:    $x_{k+1} = R_{x_k}(\alpha\eta_{x_k})$ ;
  - 9: **end for**
-

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

ManPG without solving the subproblem exactly

## Assumption

*The function  $f$  is Lipschitz continuously differentiable on  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $g$  is Lipschitz continuous on  $\mathcal{M}$ .*

## Theorem

*Suppose the assumption holds. Then for any  $\mu > 0$ , there exists a constant  $\bar{\alpha} \in (0, 1]$  such that for any  $0 < \alpha < \bar{\alpha}$ , the sequence  $\{x_k\}$  generated by Algorithm 1 satisfies*

$$F(R_{x_k}(\alpha\eta_{x_k})) - F(x_k) \leq -\frac{\alpha}{8\mu} \|\eta_{x_k}\|_F^2.$$

*Moreover, the step size  $\alpha > \rho\bar{\alpha}$  for all  $k$ .*

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

ManPG without solving the subproblem exactly

## Theorem

*Suppose the assumption holds. Then any accumulation point of the sequence  $\{x_k\}$  generated by Algorithm 1 is a stationary point, i.e., if  $x_*$  is an accumulation point of the above sequence, then  $0 \in P_{T_{x_*} \mathcal{M}} \partial F(x_*)$ .*

# A Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

ManPG without solving the subproblem exactly

## Theorem

*Suppose the assumption holds. Then any accumulation point of the sequence  $\{x_k\}$  generated by Algorithm 1 is a stationary point, i.e., if  $x_*$  is an accumulation point of the above sequence, then  $0 \in P_{T_{x_*} \mathcal{M}} \partial F(x_*)$ .*

---

Ideas in the proofs (Suppose  $\Psi(\Lambda) = \epsilon \neq 0$ )

- Consider the nearby optimization problem:

$$\arg \min_{B_x^T \eta = \epsilon} \langle \xi_x, \eta \rangle + \frac{1}{2\mu} \|\eta\|_F^2 + g(x + \eta)$$

- Its minimizer is given by  $v(\Lambda) = \text{Prox}_{\mu g}(x - \mu(\xi_x - B_x \Lambda)) - x$
- Show that  $\hat{v}(\Lambda) = P_{T_x \mathcal{M}} v(\Lambda)$  satisfies the same properties as  $\eta_*$
- The vein of the remaining proofs follows [CMSZ20, HW21c]

# Numerical experiments

## Community detection

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{F}_{n,k}} -\text{trace}(X^T M X) + \lambda \|X\|_1,$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, \mathbf{1}_n \in \text{span}(X)\}$ .

### Comparing models and effectiveness

		$\mu_{LFR}$								
		0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
Lou.(k)	NMI	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.998	0.980	0.298	0.084
	AMI	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.997	0.965	0.238	0.039
	Mod.	0.949	0.849	0.750	0.650	0.549	0.449	0.347	0.209	0.196
	time	0.544	0.747	1.033	1.204	1.700	2.076	2.767	5.452	5.506
	k	20	20	20	20	20	20	19	12	12
New.(k)	NMI	0.998	0.683	0.678	0.667	0.549	0.391	0.280	0.134	0.049
	AMI	0.998	0.599	0.599	0.602	0.470	0.307	0.209	0.090	0.023
	Mod.	0.948	0.474	0.446	0.400	0.305	0.237	0.191	0.157	0.146
	time	0.645	0.466	0.437	0.452	0.423	0.341	0.365	0.321	0.311
	k	20	18	17	18	15	9	7	6	6
I-A.	NMI	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.999	0.960	0.451	0.129
	AMI	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.999	0.953	0.403	0.056
	Mod.	0.949	0.849	0.750	0.650	0.549	0.449	0.341	0.173	0.111
	time	0.635	0.469	0.587	0.949	0.674	0.472	1.033	1.630	1.675
	k	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

- Louvain method [BGLL08]
- Newman algorithm [New06]
- I-AManPG (With cceleration)

# Numerical experiments

## Community detection

### Comparing models and effectiveness

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	k	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

- The generalized LFR benchmark graphs [LF09]
- The larger  $\mu$  is, the more difficult the community detection is
- An average of 10 random runs
- NMI: normalized mutual information [DDGDA05], AMI: adjusted mutual information [VEB10]



Comparing efficiency of ManPG with/without solving the subproblem exactly

K.	$q = 2$		$q = 3$		$q = 4$		$q = 5$	
	Exactly	Approx	Exactly	Approx	Exactly	Approx	Exactly	Approx
Measurements	1	1	0.811	0.811	0.687	0.687	0.542	0.542
NMI	1	1	0.672	0.672	0.505	0.505	0.364	0.364
AMI	0.372	0.372	0.373	0.373	0.420	0.420	0.382	0.382
Mod.	0.372	0.372	0.373	0.373	0.420	0.420	0.382	0.382
time(s)	6.568	6.170	6.278	3.675	3.520	2.735	5.394	2.137

Less computational time, same effectiveness

# Numerical experiments

Normalized cut for image segmentation

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{F}_{n,k}} -\text{trace}(X^T D^{-1/2} W D^{-1/2} X) + \lambda \|X\|_1,$$

where  $W$  is the weight/affinity matrix,

$$\mathcal{F}_{n,k} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} : X^T X = I_k, v \in \text{span}(X)\}.$$

# Numerical experiments

Normalized cut for image segmentation

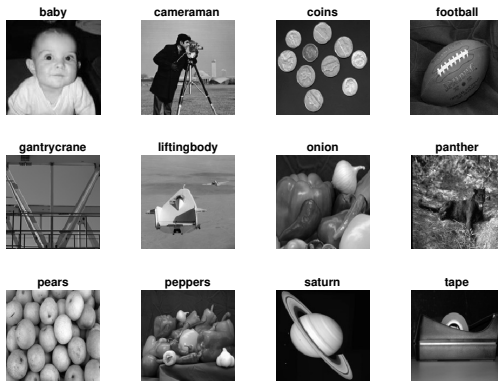
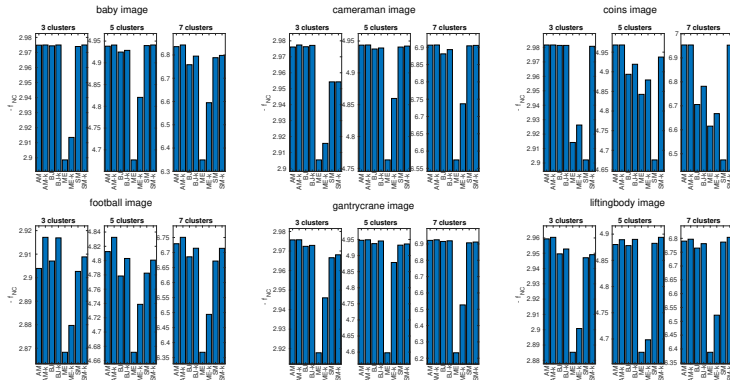


Figure: The tested images

# Numerical experiments

## Normalized cut for image segmentation

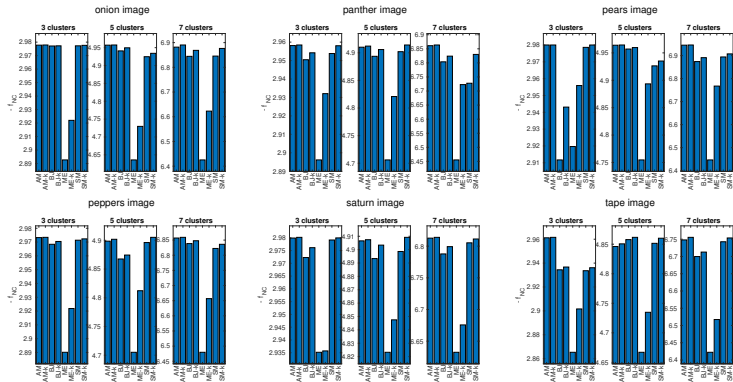


Compare four methods and their combination with kernel  $k$ -means:

- Bach and Jordan [BJ03] (BJ), Shi and Malik [SM00] (SM), Karypis and Kumar [KK98] (ME), our method (AM)
- Their combination with kernel  $k$ -means, denoted by BJ-k, SM-k, ME-k, and AM-k respectively

# Numerical experiments

## Normalized cut for image segmentation



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- Their combination with kernel  $k$ -means, denoted by BJ-k, SM-k, ME-k, and AM-k respectively

# Numerical experiments

## Normalized cut for image segmentation



The segmentations by the Riemannian approach look more intuitive, especially for 7 clusters.

- Riemannian optimization problem statement
- Motivation
- Smooth optimization framework
- Literature review
- Clustering Problem

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# Thank you

Thank you!