

Complexity of a Riemannian direct-search algorithm

Bastien Cavarretta, *F. Goyens* , *C. Royer* and *F. Yger*

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- **Derivative Free Optimization:** Only function values.
Goal: use as little evaluations as possible $\rightarrow$ scales badly with dimension.

Introduction

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- **Optimization on manifolds:** [Boumal, 2023], [Zhang and Sra, 2016]

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} f(x), \quad \text{where } \mathcal{M} \text{ is a Riemannian manifold.}$$

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- **Our work:**
 - Complexity bound of this Riemannian direct-search $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2})$
 - Compare performance of two versions (projection?)

Table of content

- 1 Direct-search : from $\mathbb{R}^n$ to $\mathcal{M}$
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 - Proof sketch
- 3 Choice of the polling directions
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Positive spanning sets (PSSs)

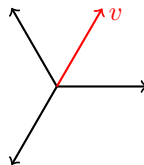
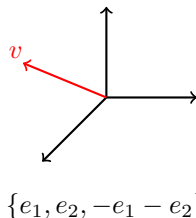
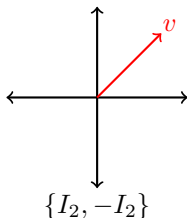
Definition

A *Positive Spanning Set* (PSS) of $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a set $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ s.t

$$\text{cone}(D) = \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The *cosine measure* of D is

$$\text{cm}(D) := \min_{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}} \max_{d \in D} \frac{\langle v, d \rangle}{\|v\| \|d\|}$$



PSS in $\mathbb{R}^2$.

Directional direct-search

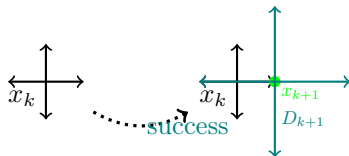
Start: $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$. At each step k :

- Take a PSS $D_k \subset \mathbb{R}^n$
- If there exists $d \in D_k$ s.t. $f(x_k + \alpha_k d) \leq f(x_k) - c\alpha_k^2 \|d\|^2$ ($\rightarrow$ *successful step*):

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k d, \quad \alpha_{k+1} = \min(\Gamma \alpha_k, \alpha_{\max}).$$

- Else ($\rightarrow$ *unsuccessful step*):

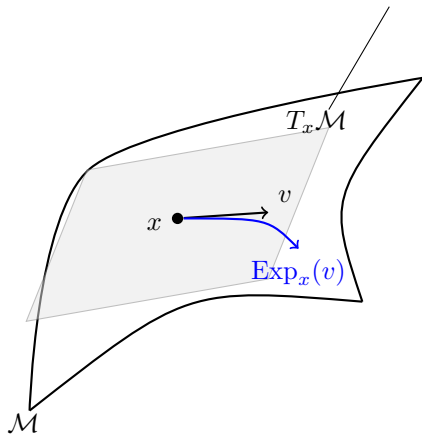
$$x_{k+1} = x_k, \quad \alpha_{k+1} = \gamma \alpha_k$$



$$\Gamma > 1 > \gamma > 0 \text{ and } c > 0$$

Moving along a manifold

"The tangent space of $\mathcal{M}$ at x " directions

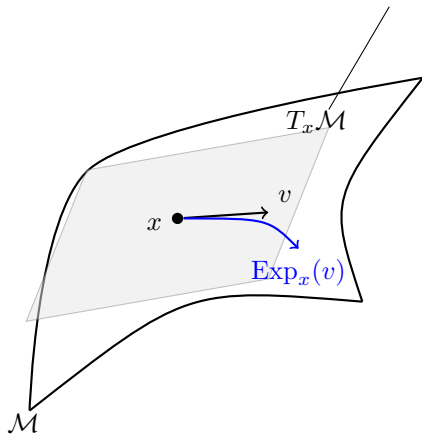


Euclidean
 $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Riemannian
 $x \in \mathcal{M}$

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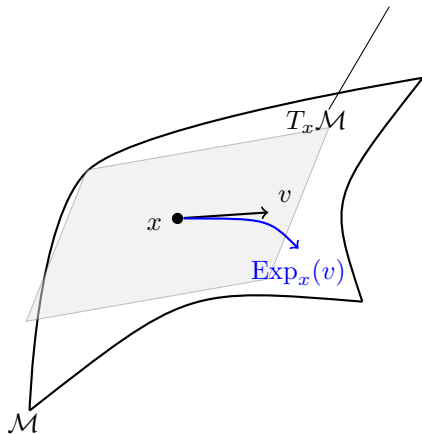
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$$x \in \mathcal{M}$$

$$v \in T_x\mathcal{M}$$

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$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

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$$\langle u, v \rangle = u^T v$$

Riemannian

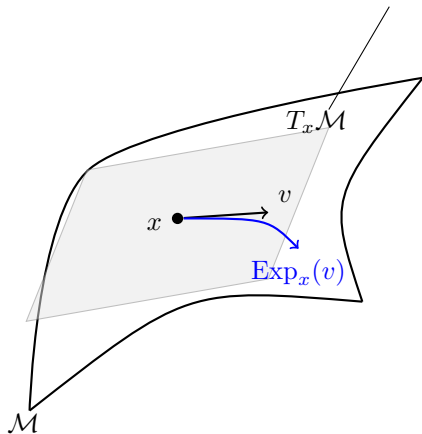
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$$\langle u, v \rangle_x$$

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Euclidean

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

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$$\langle u, v \rangle = u^T v$$

$$y = x + v$$

Riemannian

$$x \in \mathcal{M}$$

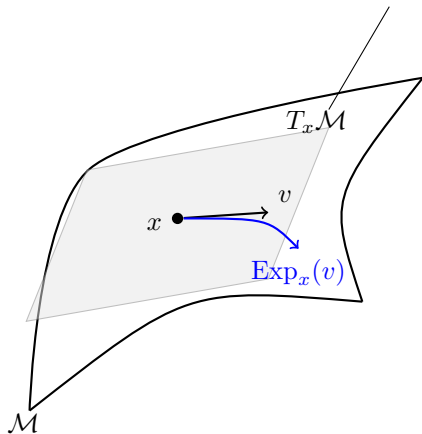
$$v \in T_x \mathcal{M}$$

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$$y = \text{Exp}_x(v)$$

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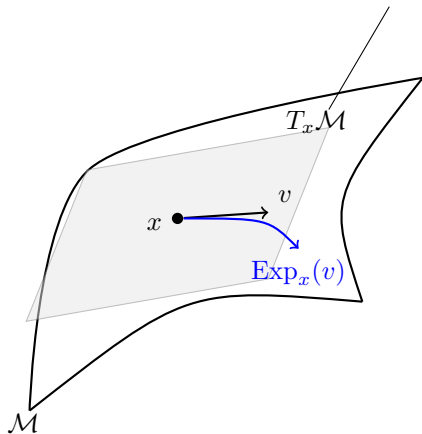
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$$\nabla f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

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$$\text{grad} f(x) \in T_x \mathcal{M}$$

Positive spanning sets (PSSs) in $T_x\mathcal{M}$

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Riemannian directional direct-search ¹

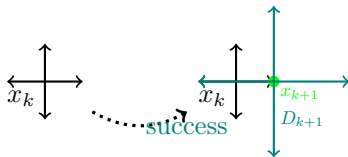
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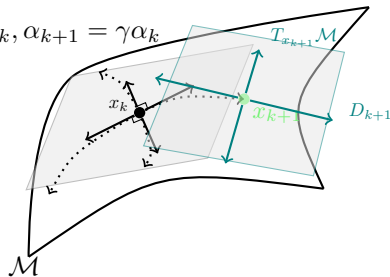
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Assumptions:

- ① $f \geq f_{low}$ and

$$Lev_{\leq f(x_0)} := \{x \in \mathcal{M} \mid f(x) \leq f(x_0)\}$$

is bounded

- ② For all k , for all $d \in D_k$:

$$\text{cm}_{T_{x_k} \mathcal{M}}(D_k) \geq \kappa,$$

$$d_{\min} \leq \|d\|_{x_k} \leq d_{\max}.$$

- ③ $\mathcal{M}$ connected Riemannian manifold with $\text{inj}(\mathcal{M}) > d_{\max} \alpha_{max}$
- ④ f is geodesically L_g -smooth.

Complexity bound

Goal: $\|\text{grad}f(x_k)\|_{x_k} \leq \epsilon$ with k small.

Theorem

Reach $\|\text{grad}f\| \leq \epsilon$ in ²

$$\mathcal{O}(\kappa^{-2}\epsilon^{-2})$$

iterations

$$\mathcal{O}(\ell\kappa^{-2}\epsilon^{-2})$$

function evaluations

where

- κ : a lower bound on $\text{cm}_{T_{x_k}\mathcal{M}}(D_k) := \min_{v \in T_{x_k}\mathcal{M} \setminus \{0\}} \max_{d \in D} \frac{\langle v, d \rangle}{\|v\| \|d\|}$.
- ℓ : upper bound on the cardinal $|D_k|$ of D_k .

²where constants depend on $f(x_0), f_{low}, d_{\min}, d_{\max}, c, \gamma, \Gamma, L_g, \alpha_0, \alpha_{\max}$

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Preliminary lemma

Lemma ([Kungurste et al., 2024])

If iteration k is unsuccessful then:

$$\|\text{grad} f(x_k)\|_{x_k} \leq \frac{d_{\max}(c + L_g/2)}{\kappa} \alpha_k$$

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Sketch of proof

$$\begin{aligned} \langle -\text{grad} f(x_k), \alpha_k d \rangle_{x_k} - \frac{L_g}{2} \|\alpha_k d\|_{x_k}^2 &\stackrel{L_g\text{-smoothness}}{\leq} f(x_k) - f(\text{Exp}_{x_k}(\alpha_k d)) \\ &\stackrel{\text{failure}}{\leq} c \alpha_k^2 \|d\|_{x_k}^2. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\max_{d \in D_k} \frac{\langle -\text{grad} f(x_k), d \rangle_{x_k}}{\|d\|_{x_k}} \leq \left(c + \frac{L_g}{2} \right) \alpha_k d_{\max}$$

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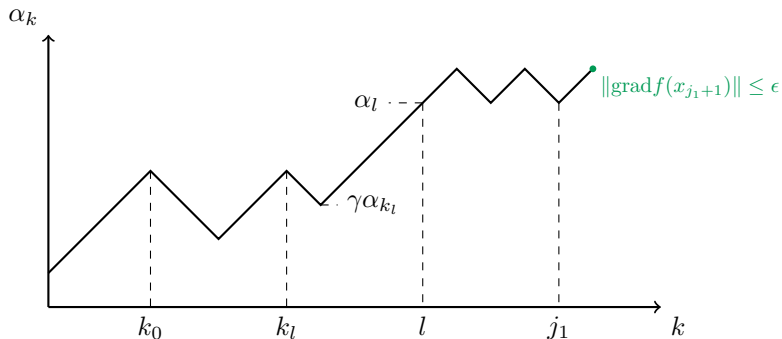
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$$\kappa \|\text{grad} f(x_k)\|_{x_k} \leq \max_{d \in D_k} \frac{\langle -\text{grad} f(x_k), d \rangle_{x_k}}{\|d\|_{x_k}} \leq \left(c + \frac{L_g}{2} \right) \alpha_k d_{\max}$$

Notations

k_0	index of first failure
j_1	first index after k_0 s.t. $\ \text{grad} f(x_{j_1+1})\ \leq \epsilon$
$ \mathcal{U}_{k_0}^{j_1} $	Number of failures in $\llbracket k_0, j_1 \rrbracket$
$ \mathcal{S}_{k_0}^{j_1} $	Number of successes in $\llbracket k_0, j_1 \rrbracket$
k_l	last index of failure before index l



Lemma

- The number of successes $|\mathcal{S}_{k_0}^{j_1}|$ is upper bounded:

$$|\mathcal{S}_{k_0}^{j_1}| \leq \mathbf{cst} \epsilon^{-2}$$

- The number of failures $|\mathcal{U}_{k_0}^{j_1}|$ is upper bounded:

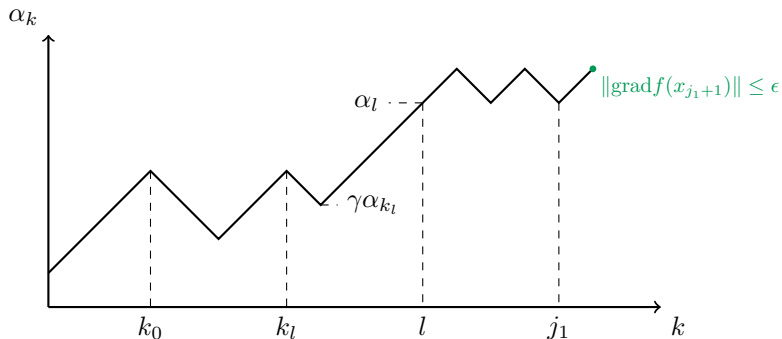
$$|\mathcal{U}_{k_0}^{j_1}| \leq \mathbf{cst} |\mathcal{S}_{k_0}^{j_1}| + \mathbf{cst} \log(\epsilon) + \mathbf{cst}$$

- The index of first failure k_0 is upper bounded:

$$k_0 \leq \mathbf{cst}$$

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Proof on the upper bound of #success

Goal:

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Before j_1

$$\|\text{grad} f(x_l)\|_{x_l} > \epsilon$$

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$l = \text{success}$, k_l previous failure

$$\alpha_{k_l} \geq \mathbf{cst} \|\text{grad} f(x_{k_l})\|_{x_{k_l}}$$

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Only successes until l

$$\alpha_l \geq \gamma \alpha_{k_l}$$

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So by success

$$f(x_l) - f(x_{l+1}) \geq \text{cst} \cdot \alpha_l^2 \geq \mathbf{cst} \epsilon^2$$

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$$|\mathcal{S}_{k_0}^{j_1}| \leq \mathbf{cst} \epsilon^{-2}$$

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$$f(x_l) - f(x_{l+1}) \geq \mathbf{cst} \cdot \alpha_l^2 \geq \mathbf{cst} \epsilon^2$$

Sum for all success in $\llbracket k_0, j_1 \rrbracket$

$$f(x_0) - f_{low} \geq \mathbf{cst} \epsilon^2 |\mathcal{S}_{k_0}^{j_1}|$$

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Cardinal/cosine measure trade-off: Euclidean case

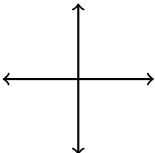
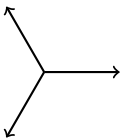
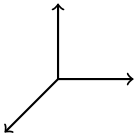
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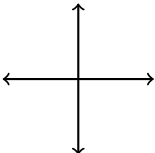
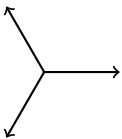
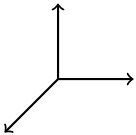
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PSS	$(I_n, -I_n)$	uniform angles	$(I_n, -\sum_{i=1}^n e_i)$
size ℓ	$2n$	$n + 1$	$n + 1$
cm κ	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$	$\frac{1}{n}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2 + 2(n-1)\sqrt{n}}}$
$\ell \kappa^{-2}$	$2n^2$	$n^3 + n^2$	$n^3 + 2(n^2 - 1)\sqrt{n} + n^2$

Popular PSSs in $\mathbb{R}^n$

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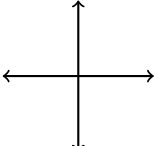
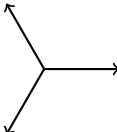
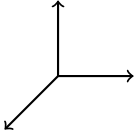
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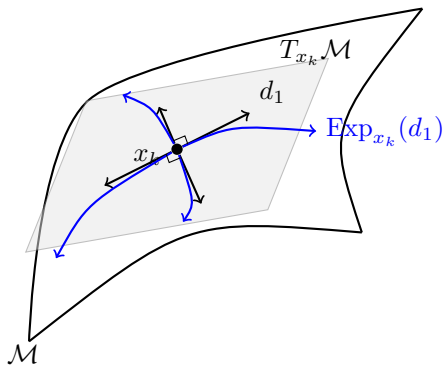
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PSS	$(I_n, -I_n)$	uniform angles	$(I_n, -\sum_{i=1}^n e_i)$
size ℓ	$2n$	$n + 1$	$n + 1$
cm κ	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$	$\frac{1}{n}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2 + 2(n-1)\sqrt{n}}}$
$\ell \kappa^{-2}$	$2n^2$	$n^3 + n^2$	$n^3 + 2(n^2 - 1)\sqrt{n} + n^2$

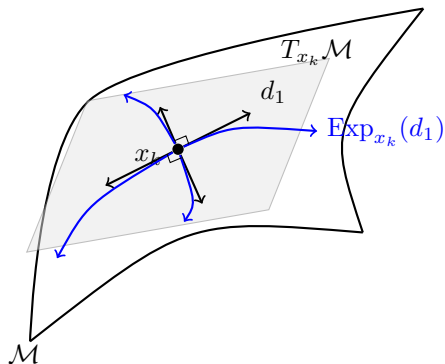
Popular PSSs in $\mathbb{R}^n$

→ for Riemannian Manifolds ?

Method 1: Designing PSS in the tangent space

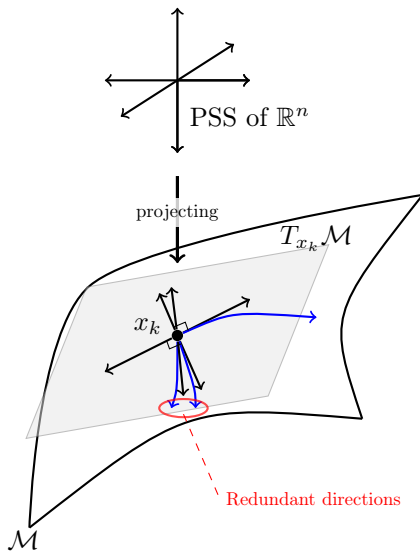


Method 1: Designing PSS in the tangent space

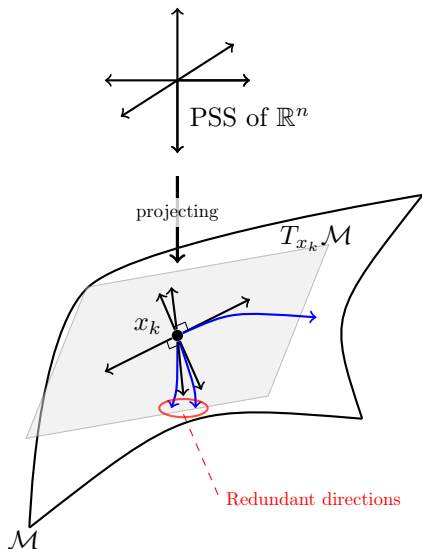


- ✗ Requires orthogonal bases of $T_{x_k}\mathcal{M}$
- ✓ Computable cosine measure
- ✓ Can be reused via parallel transport (consistent κ)

Method 2: Projecting PSS to the tangent space



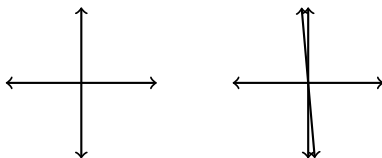
Method 2: Projecting PSS to the tangent space



- ✓ Easily obtained
- ✗ Requires the orthogonal projection
- ✗ Only applies to embedded manifolds
- ✗ Redundancy

Cardinal/cosine measure trade-off: Riemannian case

Complexity: $\mathcal{O}(\ell \kappa^{-2} \epsilon^{-2})$



Method 1

Method 2

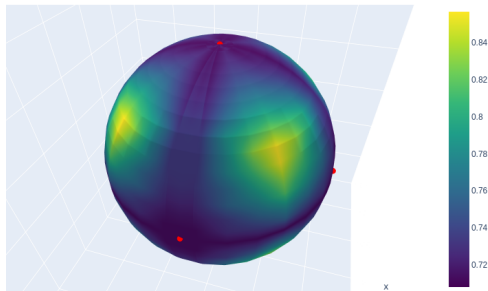
PSS D_k	$(I_m^k, -I_m^k)$	$\text{proj}_{T_{x_k} \mathcal{M}}(I_n, -I_n)$
size ℓ	$2m$	$2n$
cm κ	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}$	?
$\ell \kappa^{-2}$	$2m^2$	?

Which³ PSS in $T_{x_k} \mathcal{M}$

³ m = Manifold dimension

A toy case: the sphere $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{S}^{n-1} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|x\|^2 = 1\}$

cosine measure of the projection of $(\ln, -\ln)$ of $\mathbb{R}^2$ in the tangent space



PSS D_k	$(I_m^k, -I_m^k)$	$proj_{T_{x_k} \mathcal{M}}(I_n, -I_n)$
size ℓ	$2(n-1)$	$2n$
cm κ	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n-1}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n-1}} ?$
$\ell \kappa^{-2}$	$2(n-1)^2$	$2n(n-1)$

Table of content

- 1 Direct-search : from $\mathbb{R}^n$ to $\mathcal{M}$
- 2 Complexity bound
 - Convergence result
 - Proof sketch
- 3 Choice of the polling directions
- 4 Numerical experiments

Problem instances

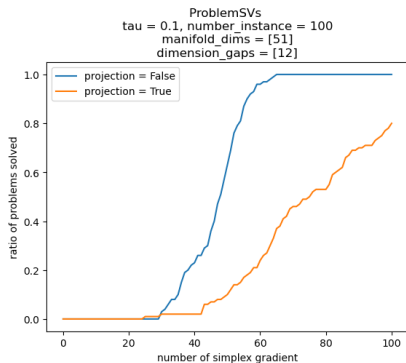
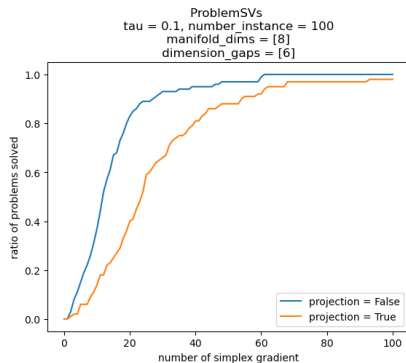
[Boumal, 2023][Kungurstev et al., 2024]

Data profiles:

- Budget: 100 gradient simplex
- Solved *iff.* $\frac{f(x) - f_{\text{low}, \text{dfo}}}{f(x_0) - f_{\text{low}, \text{dfo}}} \leq \tau$ where $\tau > 0$.
- Random initialization and parameters

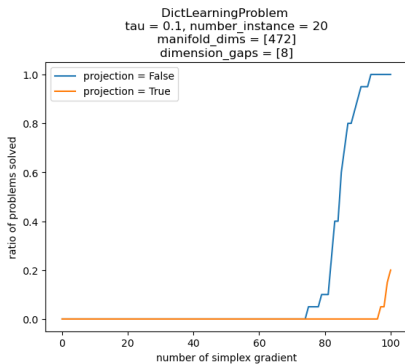
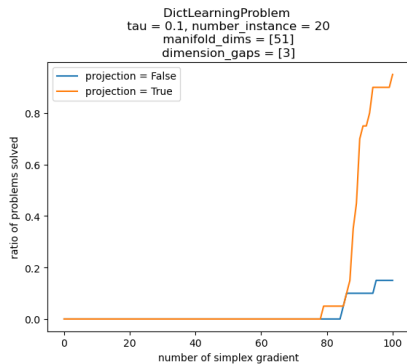
Problem	Data	Manifold	Cost function
Lowest r Sing. Val.	$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ $D \in \text{diag}^+(r)$	$St(m, r)$ $\times St(n, r)$	$f(U, V) =$ $\sum_j \langle (UD)_{\cdot j}, (AV)_{\cdot j} \rangle$
Dict. Learning	$Y \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ $\lambda > 0, \epsilon > 0$	$Ob(m, r)$ $\times \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$	$f(D, C) = \ Y - DC\ _{\text{Fro}}^2$ $+ \lambda \sum_{i,j} \sqrt{C_{i,j}^2 + \epsilon^2}$

Singular values problem



Left : $m = 8$, Right : $m = 51$

Dictionary Learning



Left : $m = 51$, Right : $m = 472$
Higher dimension favors Method 1

Conclusion

Achieved :

- Complexity bound generalized to Riemannian manifolds.
- Preliminary experiments favor PSSs in tangent space.

Further work:

- Test other PSSs (than orthogonal)
- Compute cosine measure κ of projected PSSs
- Random subspace directions.

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Retraction-based direct search methods for derivative-free Riemannian optimization.

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Vicente, L. (2013).

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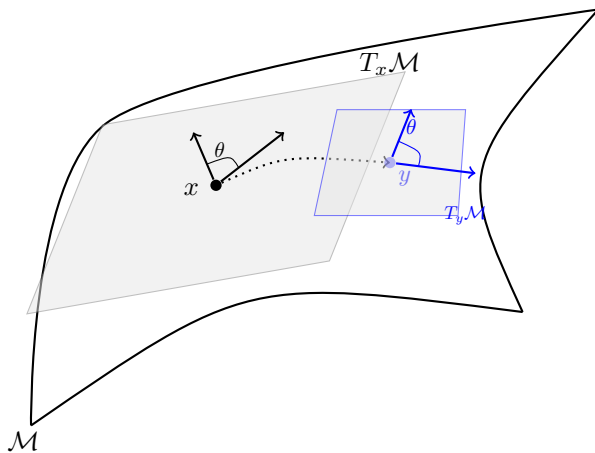
Zhang, H. and Sra, S. (2016).

First-order methods for geodesically convex optimization.

In Conf. Learn. Theory. PMLR.

Thank you for your time !
Questions ?

Parallel transport



Caption

Geodesic smoothness

Definition (geodesic L_g -smoothness [Zhang and Sra, 2016])

A function $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of class $\mathcal{C}^1$ has *Lipschitz gradient* or is *geodesically L_g -smooth* if for any $a, b \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $\text{dist}(a, b) < \text{inj}(\mathcal{M})$,

$$\|\text{grad} f(a) - \text{grad} f(b)\|_a \leq L_g \text{dist}(a, b)$$

where $L_g > 0$ and Γ_a^b is the parallel transport along $t \mapsto \text{Exp}_a(t \text{Log}_a b)$.

This implies, respecting the injectivity radius:

$$f(\text{Exp}_a(v)) \leq f(a) + \langle \text{grad} f(a), v \rangle_a + \frac{L_g}{2} \|v\|_a^2.$$

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A more detailed complexity bound

$$j_1 \leq \frac{f(x_0) - f_{low}}{c} \left(\frac{d_{max}(c + L_g/2)}{\gamma b} \right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{\log(\Gamma)}{\log(\gamma)} \right) \kappa^{-2} \epsilon^{-2} \\ + \frac{1}{\log(\gamma)} \log \left(\frac{\gamma}{d_{max}(c + L_g/2)} \kappa \epsilon \right) + \frac{f(x_0) - f_{low}}{c \alpha_0^2} - \frac{\log \alpha_{max}}{\log \gamma} - 1$$