Information geometry:

A short introduction to the geometry of dual structures

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Sony CSL

Information geometry (IG): Rationale and scope

- IG field originally born by investigating **geometric structures** of statistical/probability models (e.g, space of Gaussians, space of multinomials)
- **Statistical models**: parametric vs nonparametric models, regular vs singular (ML) models, hierarchical (ML) or simple models, ...
- Define **statistical invariance**, use **language of geometry** (e.g., ball, projection, bisector) to design algorithms in statistics, information theory, statistical machine learning, etc.
- IG study **interplays** of **statistical/parameter divergences** with geometric structures
- Relationships between **many types of dualities** in IG: dual connections, reference duality (dual f-divergences), Legendre duality, duality of representations/monotone embeddings, etc

Information geometry: Rationale and scope

- More generally, **Information Geometry = Dual geometry of models**:

quantum information geometry of quantum models (space of density matrices with unit trace for modeling quantum states)

- **Geometric objects** are defined **globally** and can be expressed **locally in *any* convenient coordinate systems** to ease computations, change of coordinate systems (atlas of manifolds)

- Because the information-geometric structures are **purely geometric** (i.e., there is no attached meanings to objects), information-geometric structures can also be used in **non-statistical contexts** too, like *mathematical programming (e.g., IG of barrier functions)*


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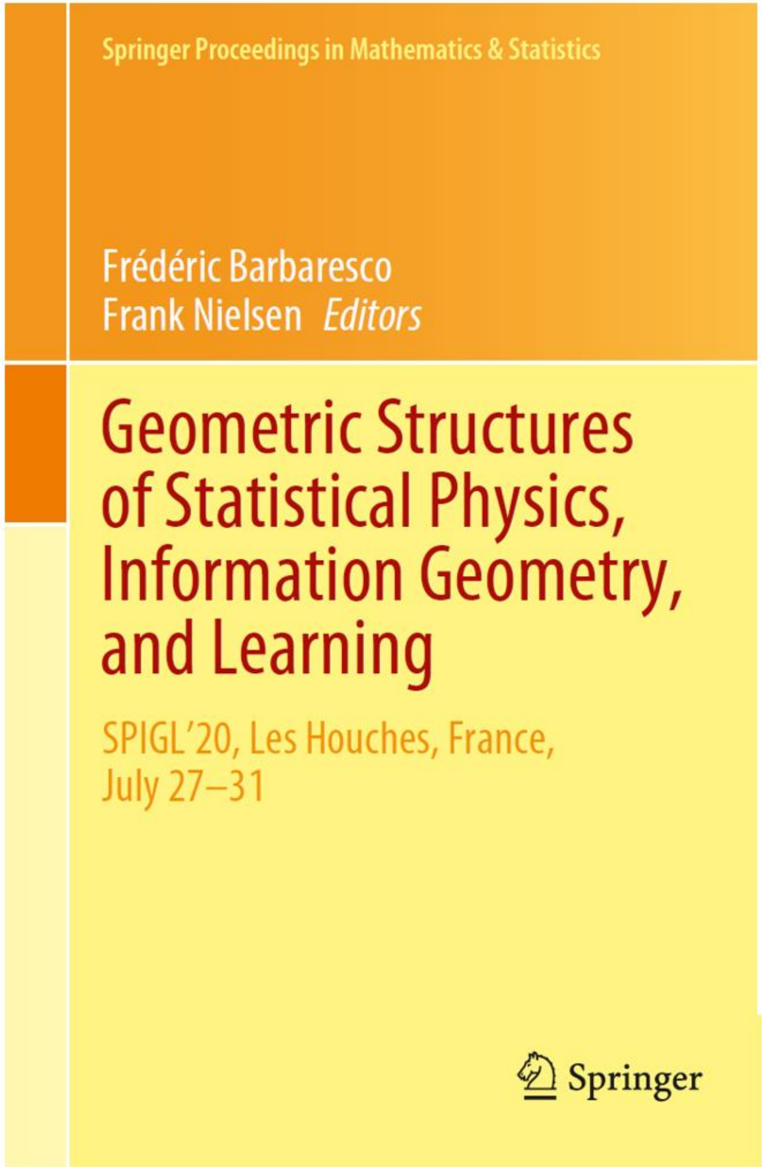
Geometric science of information (GSI)

Further extend broadly the original scope of information geometry by unravelling **connections** of information geometry (IG) with **other domains of geometry** like:

- geometry of domains and cones (e.g., Siegel/Vinberg/Koszul)
- geometric mechanics for dynamic models (symplectic/contact geometry)
- thermodynamics/thermostatistics and deformed statistical models
- geometric statistics (eg, computational anatomy/medical imaging)
- shape space analysis and deformation (computer vision)
- algebraic statistics (manifolds versus algebraic surfaces/varieties)
- dynamics of learning (singularity, plateau)
- neurogeometry (neuroscience)
- etc.

franknielsen.github.io/GSI/



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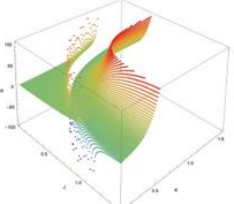

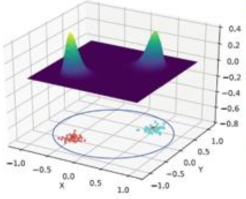

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Information geometry:

Geometry of dual structures

Applications:

- Geometry of statistical models
- Geometry of divergences

Some resources

Open Access Review

An Elementary Introduction to Information Geometry

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The Many Faces of Information Geometry

Frank Nielsen

Information geometry [Ama16, AJLS17, Ama21] aims at unravelling the geometric structures of families of probability distributions and at studying their uses in information sciences. Information sciences is an umbrella term regrouping statistics, information theory, signal processing, machine learning and AI, etc. Information geometry was born independently from econometrician H. Hotelling (1930) and statistician C. R. Rao (1945) from the mathematical curiosity of considering a parametric family of

μ, usually chosen as the Lebesgue mesure μ_L or the counting measure μ_c), and consider a parametric family $\mathcal{P} = \{P_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}$ of probability distributions, all dominated by μ. Let $p_\theta(x) := \frac{dP_\theta(x)}{d\mu}$ denote the Radon-Nikodym derivative, the probability density function of random variable $X \sim p_\theta$. By definition, the Fisher Riemannian metric g_F expressed in the θ-coordinate system is the Fisher information matrix (FIM) of the random variable X: $[g_F]_\theta := I_X(\theta)$

Short overview 10 pages

https://www.ams.org/journals/notices/202201/rnoti-p36.pdf

Introduction to Information Geometry

Frank NIELSEN

July 2022

Sony CSL

https://franknielsen.github.io/IG/index.html

"Introduction to Information Geometry" by Frank Nielsen

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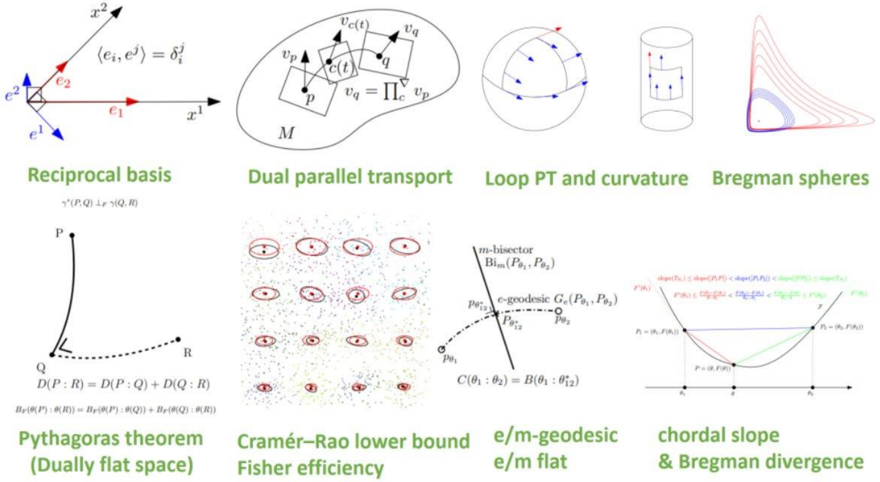
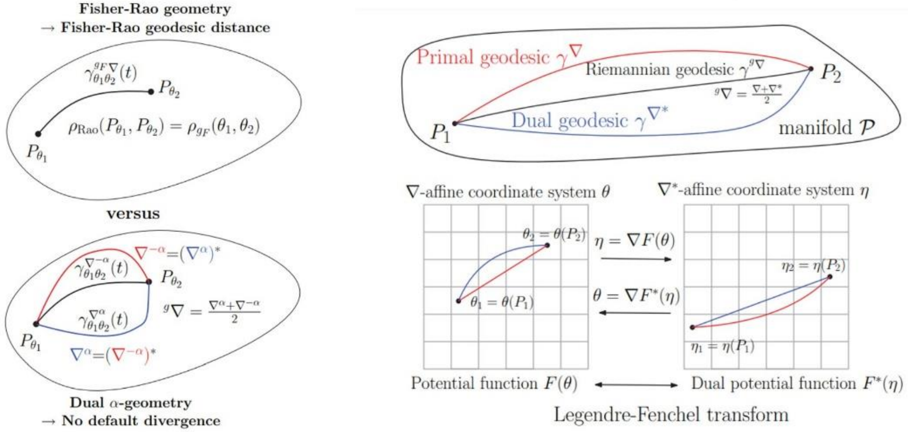
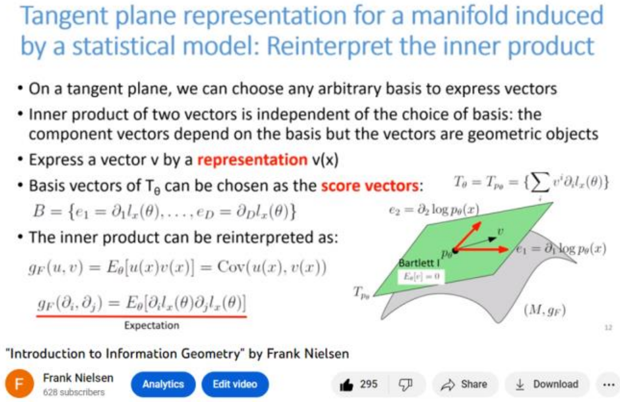
40 min. video introduction

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6r_jsEBlgU



The Many Faces of Information Geometry

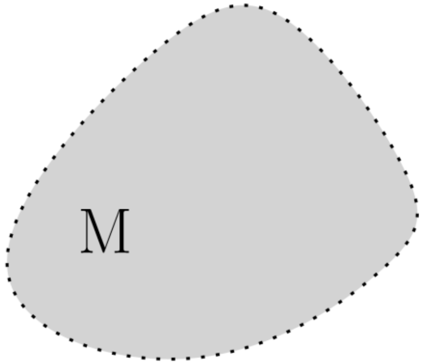




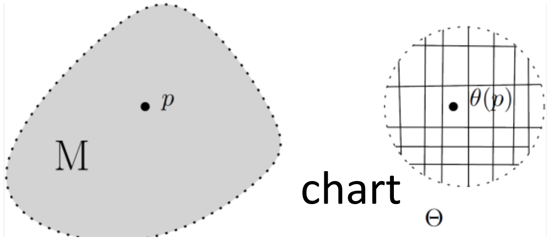
Build your own information geometry in three steps

Choose

① manifold M

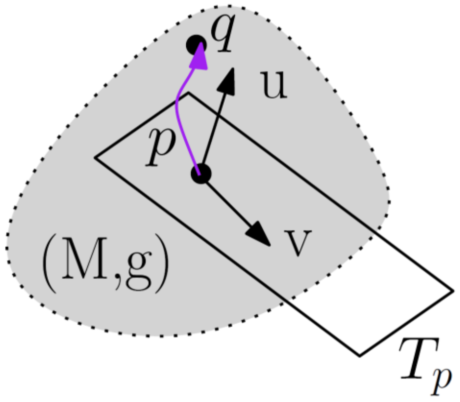


Examples:
Gaussians
SPD cone
Probability simplex



Concepts:
local coordinates
locally Euclidean

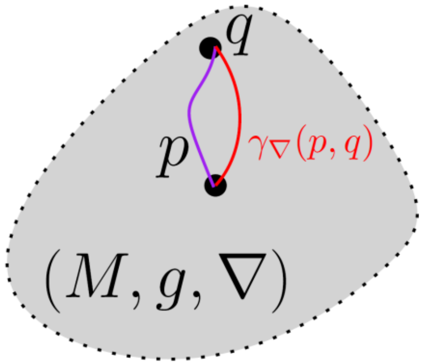
② metric tensor g



Examples:
Fisher information metric
metric g^D from divergence
trace metric

Concepts:
vector length
vector orthogonality
Riemannian geodesic
Riemannian distance
Levi-Civita connection ∇^g

③ affine connection ∇



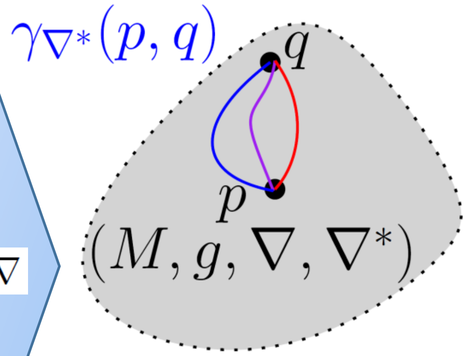
Examples:
exponential connection
mixture connection
metric connection ∇^g
divergence connection ∇^D
α-connection

Concepts:
covariant derivative ∇
∇-geodesic
∇-parallel transport
curvature

dual connection

$$\nabla^* = 2\nabla^g - \nabla$$

Get dual IG manifold (M,g,∇,∇^*)



$$\nabla^g = \frac{\nabla + \nabla^*}{2} = \bar{\nabla}$$

Concepts:
dual connections coupled to metric g
dual parallel transport preserve metric g

From dual information geometry to ±α-geometry, α∈ℝ

Choose

① manifold M

② metric tensor g

③ affine connection ∇
by defining Christoffel symbols Γ^{∇}_{ijk}

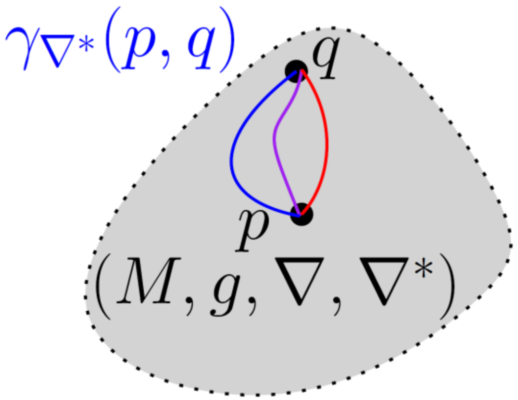
④ choose α

Examples:

Amari-Chentsov cubic tensor $T_{ijk}(\theta)=E[\partial_i l \partial_j l \partial_k l]$

Cubic tensor from divergence $T_{ijk}(\theta)=\partial_i\partial_j\partial_k F(\theta)$

Get dual IG manifold
(M,g,∇,∇*)



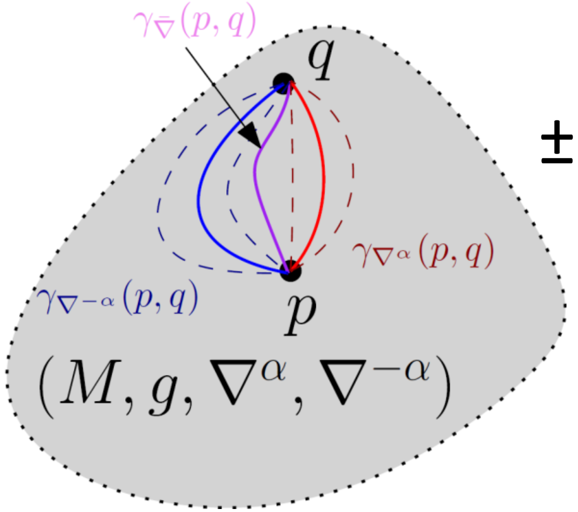
$$\nabla^g=\frac{\nabla+\nabla^*}{2}=\bar{\nabla}$$

Cubic tensor

$$T_{ijk}=\Gamma^*_{ijk}-\Gamma_{ijk}$$
$$T_{ijk}=\nabla_i g_{jk}$$

Get a family of dual connections/IG
(M,g,∇^α,∇^-α)

$$\nabla^{\alpha}=\bar{\Gamma}_{ijk}-\frac{\alpha}{2}T_{ijk}$$
$$\nabla^{-\alpha}=\bar{\Gamma}_{ijk}+\frac{\alpha}{2}T_{ijk}$$



±α-geometry

$(M,g,\nabla^{\alpha},\nabla^{-\alpha})$

0-geometry
= Riemannian geometry
with geodesic distance

Information geometry from statistical models: $(M, g^F, \nabla^{-\alpha}, \nabla^{\alpha})$

- Consider a parametric **statistical/probability model**: $\mathcal{P} := \{p_\theta(x)\}_{\theta\in\Theta}$
- Define metric tensor g from Fisher information = **Fisher metric g^F**

$$_{\mathcal{P}}I(\theta) := E_\theta\left[\partial_i l \partial_j l\right]_{ij} \succeq 0 \qquad \partial_i l :=: \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta_i} l(\theta; x) \qquad l(\theta; x) := \log L(\theta; x) = \log p_\theta(x).$$

covariance of the score $s_\theta = \nabla_\theta l = (\partial_i l)_i$ log-likelihood

- Model is **regular** if partial derivatives of $l_\theta(x)$ smooth and Fisher metric is well-defined and positive-definite
- **Amari-Chentsov cubic tensor**: $C_{ijk} := E_\theta\left[\partial_i l \partial_j l \partial_k l\right] \Rightarrow \boxed{\{(\mathcal{P}, {}_{\mathcal{P}}g, {}_{\mathcal{P}}\nabla^{-\alpha}, {}_{\mathcal{P}}\nabla^{+\alpha})\}_{\alpha\in\mathbb{R}}}$
- **α-connections** $\nabla^\alpha = \frac{1+\alpha}{2}\nabla^e + \frac{1-\alpha}{2}\nabla^m$

$$\begin{aligned} {}_{\mathcal{P}}\Gamma^\alpha{}_{ij,k}(\theta) &:= E_\theta\left[\partial_i\partial_j l \partial_k l\right] + \frac{1-\alpha}{2} C_{ijk}(\theta), \\ &= E_\theta\left[\left(\partial_i\partial_j l + \frac{1-\alpha}{2}\partial_i l \partial_j l\right)(\partial_k l)\right] \end{aligned}$$

α=1 **exponential connection**

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{e}_{\mathcal{P}}\nabla &:= E_\theta\left[(\partial_i\partial_j l)(\partial_k l)\right], \\ {}^{m}_{\mathcal{P}}\nabla &:= E_\theta\left[(\partial_i\partial_j l + \partial_i l \partial_j l)(\partial_k l)\right] \end{aligned}$$

α=-1 **mixture connection**

- **Fisher-Rao geometry when α=0,** get geodesic distance called **Rao distance**

$$D_\rho(p, q) := \int_0^1 \|\gamma'(t)\|_{\gamma(t)} \mathrm{d}t = \int_0^1 \sqrt{g_{\gamma(t)}(\dot\gamma(t), \dot\gamma(t))}\mathrm{d}t$$

[Hotelling 1930] [Rao 1945] [Amari Nagaoka 1982]

Rao distance on the Fisher-Rao manifold

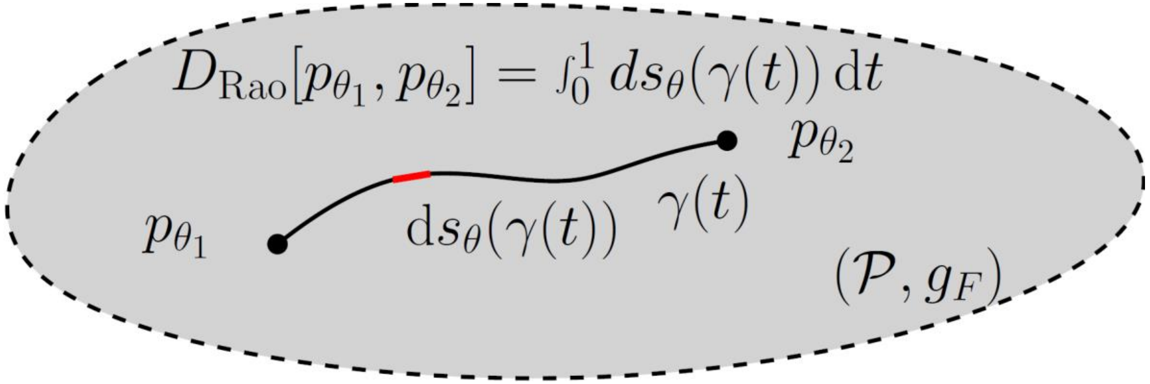
$$\begin{aligned} D_{\mathrm{Rao}}[p_{\theta_1}, p_{\theta_2}] &= \rho_g(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \int_0^1 \sqrt{g_{\gamma(t)}(\dot\gamma(t), \dot\gamma(t))}\,\mathrm{d}t, \gamma(0) = \theta_1, \gamma(1) = \theta_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 ds_\theta(\gamma(t))\,\mathrm{d}t \end{aligned}$$

Here, γ is the Riemannian geodesic
(or add a minimizer on all paths γ)

Length element

$$\dot\theta_k(t) = \frac{d}{\mathrm{d}t}\theta_k(t)$$

$$\mathrm{d}s_\theta^2(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{D}\sum_{j=1}^{D} g_{ij}(\theta)\dot\theta_i(t)\dot\theta_j(t)$$



In practice:

- Need to calculated geodesics which are curves locally minimizing the length linking two endpoints (equivalently minimize the energy of squared length elements)
- Finding Fisher-Rao geodesics is a non-trivial tasks.
- **Good news 2023**: closed-form geodesics with boundary conditions for **MultiVariate Normals**

Fisher-Rao and pullback Hilbert cone distances on the multivariate Gaussian manifold with applications to simplification and quantization of mixtures, ICML ws TAGML 2023

Information geometry from divergences: $(M, g^D, \nabla^D, \nabla^{D*})$

- A **statistical divergence** like the Kullback-Leibler divergence is a smooth non-metric distance between probability measures

$$\mathrm{KL}[p:q] = \int p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \mathrm{d}\mu(x)$$

- A statistical divergence between two densities of a statistical model is a **parametric divergence** (e.g., KLD between two normal distributions)

$$D^{\mathcal{P}}_{\mathrm{KL}}(\theta_1 : \theta_2) := D_{\mathrm{KL}}[p_{\theta_1} : p_{\theta_2}]$$

- Construction of *dual geometry from asymmetric parametric divergence* $D(\theta_1 : \theta_2)$
- **Dual divergence** is $D^*(\theta_1 : \theta_2) = D(\theta_2 : \theta_1)$, *reverse divergence*

[Eguchi 1983]

Dual structure:

$$\begin{aligned} {}^D g &:= -\partial_{i,j} D(\theta : \theta')|_{\theta=\theta'} = {}^{D^*} g, \\ {}^D \Gamma_{ijk} &:= -\partial_{ij,k} D(\theta : \theta')|_{\theta=\theta'}, \\ {}^{D^*} \Gamma_{ijk} &:= -\partial_{k,ij} D(\theta : \theta')|_{\theta=\theta'}. \end{aligned}$$

Cubic tensor:

$${}^D C_{ijk} = {}^{D^*}\Gamma_{ijk} - {}^D\Gamma_{ijk}.$$

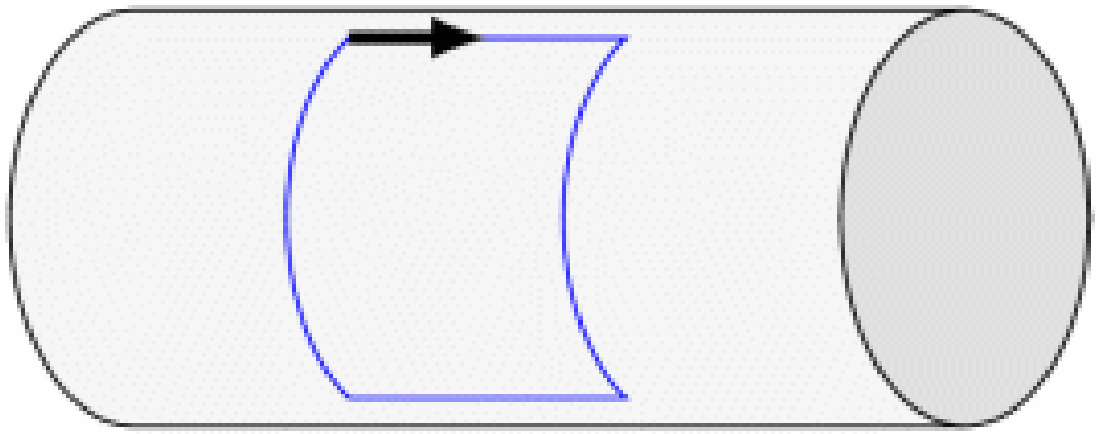
$${}^D\nabla^* = {}^{D^*}\nabla.$$

$$\partial_{i,jk} f(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^j \partial y^k} f(x,y)$$

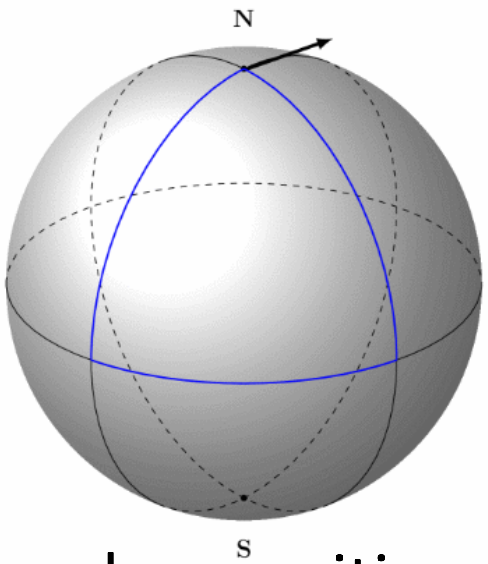
$$\partial_{i,\cdot} f(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} f(x,y), \quad \partial_{\cdot,j} f(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} f(x,y), \; \partial_{ij,k} f(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^k} f(x,y)$$

Curvature is associated to affine connection ∇

- For Riemannian structure (M,g), use default **Levi-Civita connection $\nabla=\nabla^g$**
- Riemannian manifolds of dim d can always be embedded into Euclidean spaces E^D of dim $D=O(d^2)$
- Euclidean spaces have a natural affine connection $\nabla=\nabla^E$



Cylinder is flat, 0 curvature:
Parallel transport along a loop of a vector preserves the orientation



Sphere has positive constant curvature:
Parallel transport along a loop exhibits an angle defect related to curvature

Dually flat spaces (M,g,∇,∇^*)

- **Fundamental theorem of information geometry**: If torsion-free affine connection ∇ is of constant curvature κ, then curvature of dual torsion-free affine connection ∇^* is also constant κ

- <u>Corollary</u>: if ∇ is flat (κ=0) then ∇^* is flat: **Dually flat space (M,g,∇,∇^*)**

- A connection ∇ is flat if there exists a local coordinate system θ such that $\Gamma(\theta)=0$

- In ∇-affine coordinate system $\theta(.)$, ∇-geodesics are visualized as line segments

$\Gamma(\theta)=0$

$$\frac{d^2\theta_k}{dt^2} + \cancel{\sum_{i=1}^{p}\sum_{j=1}^{p}\Gamma_{ij}^{k}\frac{d\theta_i}{dt}\frac{d\theta_j}{dt}} = 0, \quad k = 1,\ldots,p, \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \text{geodesics=line segments in } \theta$$

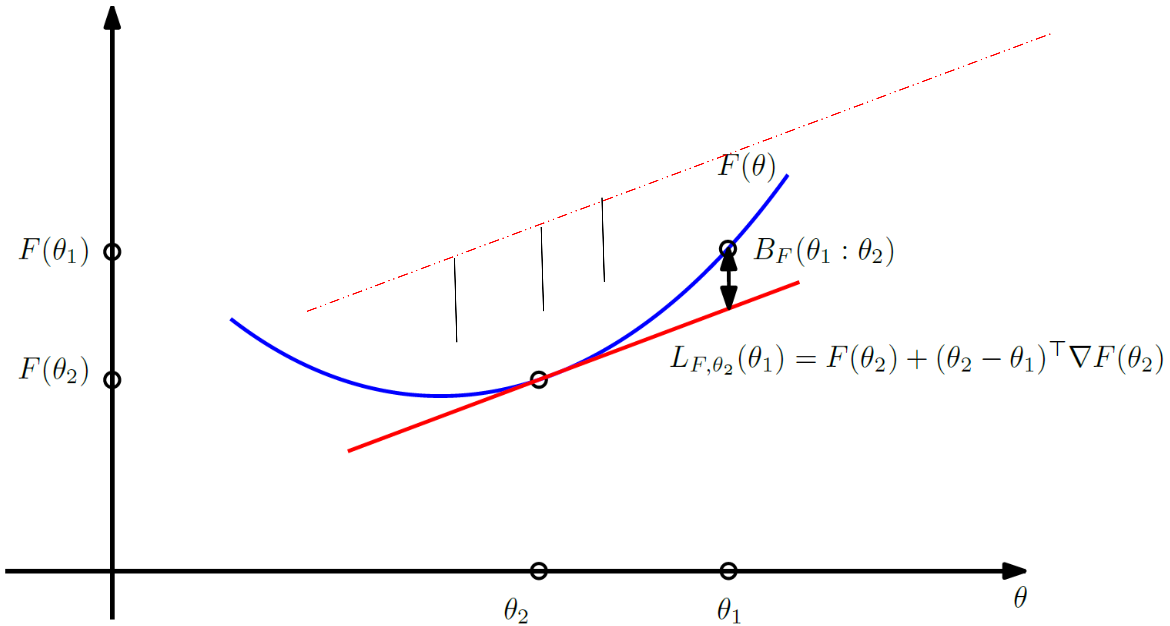
Canonical divergences of DFSs: Bregman divergences

- Dually flat structure (M,g,∇,∇*) can be realized by a Bregman divergence

$$(M, g, \nabla, \nabla^*) \longleftarrow (M, g^{B_F}, \nabla^{B_F}, \nabla^{B_F{}^*})$$

- Let F(θ) be a strictly convex and differentiable function defined on an open convex domain Θ
- Bregman divergence interpreted as the vertical gap between

point $(\theta_1, F(\theta_1))$ and the linear approximation of F(θ) at θ_2 evaluated at θ_1 :



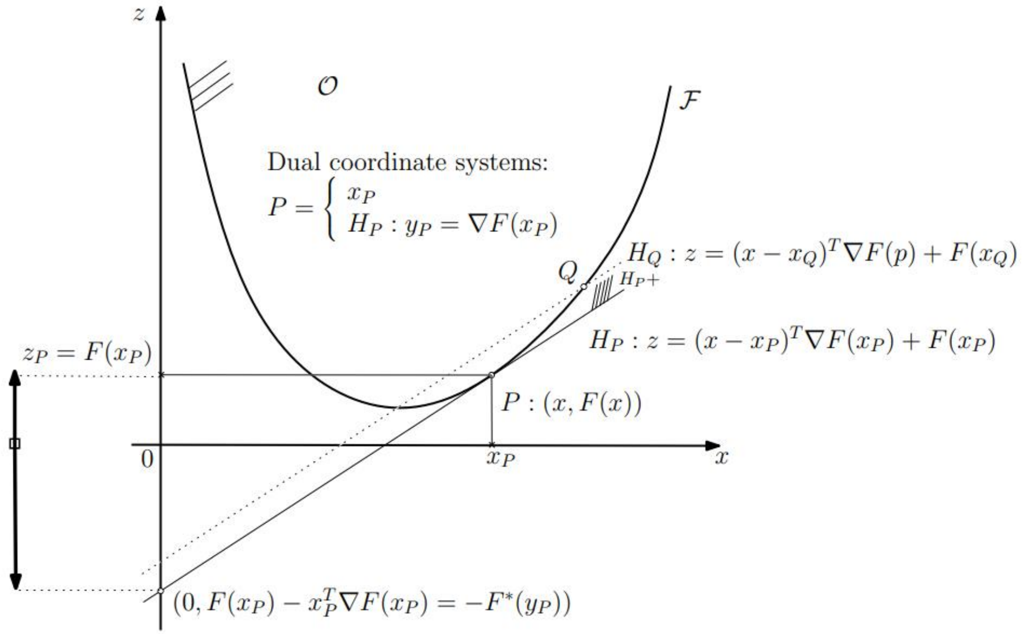
$$\begin{aligned} B_F(\theta_1 : \theta_2) &= F(\theta_1) - \underbrace{\left(F(\theta_2) + (\theta_2 - \theta_1)^\top \nabla F(\theta_2)\right)}_{L_{F,\theta_2}(\theta_1)} \\ &= F(\theta_1) - F(\theta_2) - (\theta_1 - \theta_2)^\top \nabla F(\theta_2) \end{aligned}$$

[Bregman 1967]

Legendre-Fenchel transformation

- Consider a Bregman generator of **Legendre-type** (proper, lower semi-continuous). Then its **convex conjugate** obtained from the **Legendre-Fenchel transformation** is a Bregman generator of Legendre type.

$$
\begin{aligned}
F^*(\eta) &= \sup_{\theta\in\Theta}\{\theta^\top\eta - F(\theta)\} \\
&= -\inf_{\theta\in\Theta}\{F(\theta) - \theta^\top\eta\}
\end{aligned}
$$



<u>Concave programming:</u>

$$F^*(\eta) = \sup_{\theta\in\Theta}\{\theta^\top\eta - F(\theta)\} = \sup_{\theta\in\Theta}\{E(\theta)\}$$

$$\nabla E(\theta) = \eta - \nabla F(\theta) = 0 \Rightarrow \eta = \nabla F(\theta)$$

- Analogy of the Halfspace/Vertex representation of the **epigraph** of F
- Fenchel-Moreau's **biconjugation theorem** for F of Legendre-type: $F = (F^*)^*$

[Touchette 2005] Legendre-Fenchel transforms in a nutshell
[2010] Legendre transformation and information geometry

Mixed coordinates and the Legendre-Fenchel divergence

- Dual **<u>Legendre-type</u>** functions $\theta = \nabla F^*(\eta) \Longleftrightarrow \eta = \nabla F(\theta)$
- Convex conjugate of F is $F^*(\eta) = \eta^\top \nabla F^*(\eta) - F(\nabla F^*(\eta))$
- **Fenchel-Young inequality** : $F(\theta_1) + F^*(\eta_2) \geq \theta_1^\top \eta_2$

with equality holding if and only if $\eta_2 = \nabla F(\theta_1)$

$\nabla F^* = (\nabla F)^{-1}$

Gradient are inverse of each other

- **Fenchel-Young divergence** make use of the mixed coordinate systems θ et η to express a Bregman divergence as $B_F(\theta_1 : \theta_2) = Y_{F,F^*}(\theta_1 : \eta_2)$

$$\boxed{Y_{F,F^*}(\theta_1 : \eta_2) := F(\theta_1) + F^*(\eta_2) - \theta_1^\top \eta_2 = Y_{F^*,F}(\eta_2, \theta_1)}$$

Generalized Pythagoras theorem in dually flat spaces

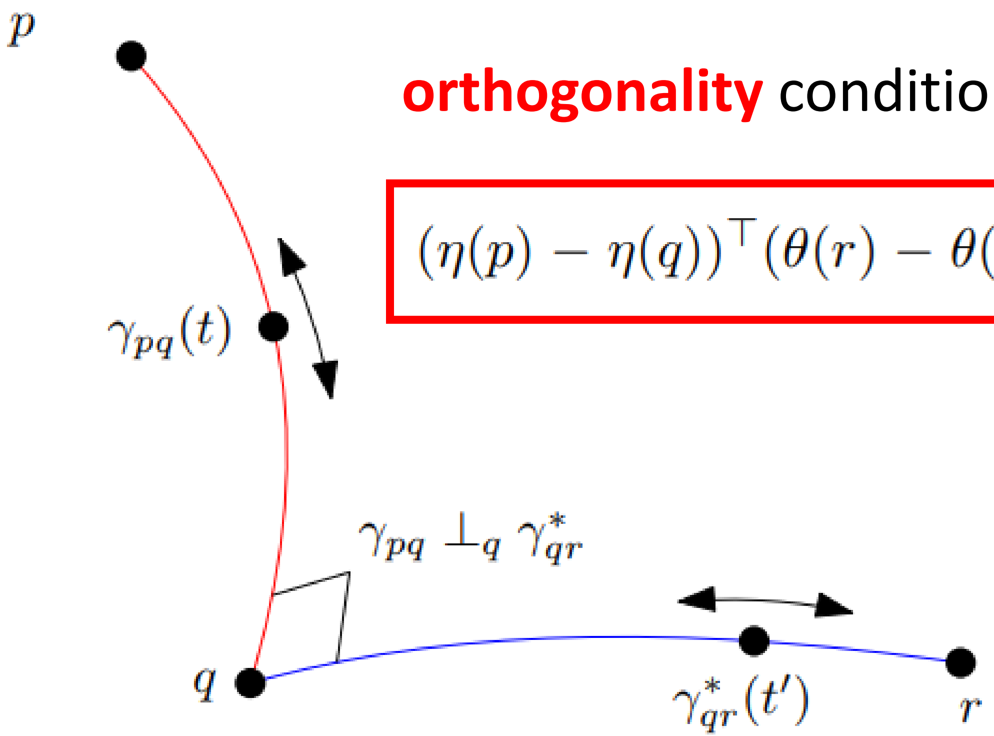
In general, **Identity of Bregman divergence with three parameters** = law of cosines

$$B_F(\theta_1 : \theta_2) = B_F(\theta_1 : \theta_3) + B_F(\theta_3 : \theta_2) - (\theta_1 - \theta_3)^\top (\nabla F(\theta_2) - \nabla F(\theta_3)) \geq 0$$

Generalized Pythagoras' theorem

orthogonality condition:

$$\boxed{(\eta(p) - \eta(q))^\top (\theta(r) - \theta(q)) = 0}$$

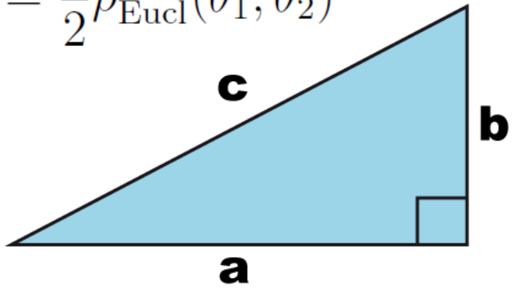


$$D_F(\gamma_{pq}(t) : \gamma_{qr}(t')) = D_F(\gamma_{pq}(t) : q) + D_F(q : \gamma^*_{qr}(t')), \quad \forall t, t' \in (0,1).$$

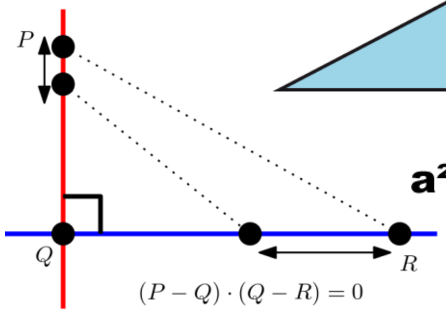
Pythagoras' theorem in **the Euclidian geometry (Self-dual)**

$$F_{\mathrm{Eucl}}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}\theta^\top\theta \qquad g_{F_{\mathrm{Euc}}} = I$$

$$B_{F_{\mathrm{Eucl}}}(\theta_1 : \theta_2) = \frac{1}{2}\rho^2_{\mathrm{Eucl}}(\theta_1, \theta_2)$$

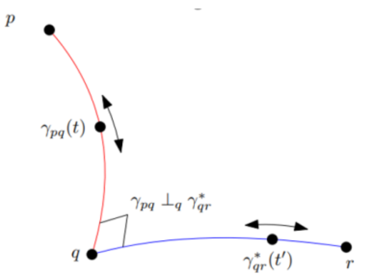


$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$



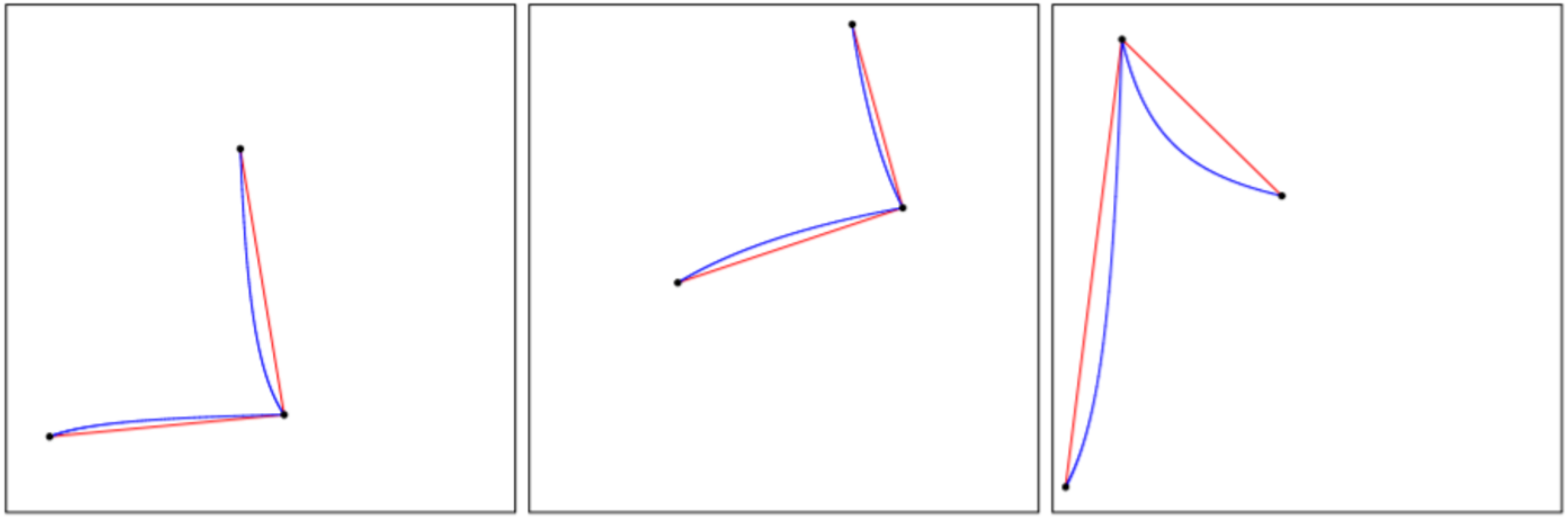
$$\|P-Q\|^2 + \|Q-R\|^2 = \|P-R\|^2$$

Triples of points (p,q,r) with dual Pythagorean theorems holding simultaneously at q



$$\gamma_{pq} \perp_q \gamma^*_{qr} \Leftrightarrow (\theta(p)-\theta(q))^\top(\eta(r)-\eta(q)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow D_F(p:q) + D_F(q:r) = D_F(p:r)$$

$$\gamma^*_{pq} \perp_q \gamma_{qr} \Leftrightarrow (\eta(p)-\eta(q))^\top(\theta(r)-\theta(q)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow D_F(r:q) + D_F(q:p) = D_F(r:p)$$



Itakura-Saito Manifold

(solve quadratic system)

Two blue-red geodesic pairs orthogonal at q

https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.03935

Dually flat space from a smooth strictly convex function F(θ)

- A smooth strictly convex function F(θ) define a Bregman divergence and hence a dually flat space via Eguchi's divergence-based IG

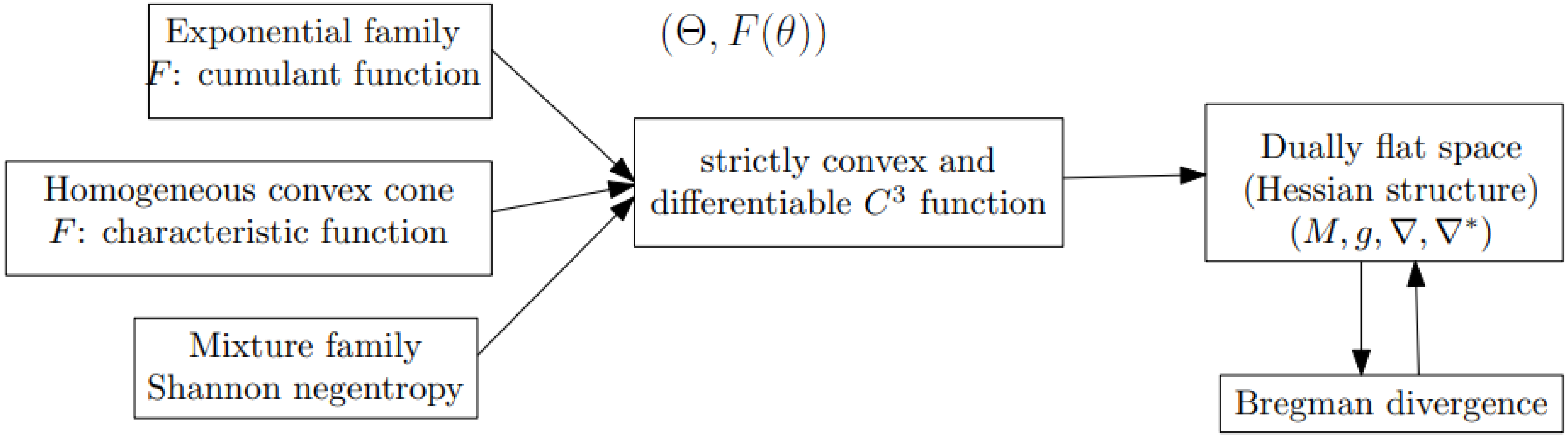
$$(\Theta, F(\theta)) \longrightarrow (M, g^{B_F}, \nabla^{B_F}, \nabla^{{B_F}^*}) = (M, g^F, \nabla^F, \nabla^{F^*})$$

Domain

dual Bregman divergences

$$\boxed{(\nabla^F)^* = \nabla^{(F^*)}}$$

- Examples of DFSs induced by convex functions:



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