For a given dimension d, number of sets s and a series of measurements $M_i^k \in \mathbb{C}^d \otimes \mathbb{C}^d$ our problem is as follows:

$$\min -\sum_{i < j}^{s} \sum_{k l}^{d} \sqrt{1 - \operatorname{tr}(M_k^i M_l^j)} \tag{1}$$

subject to:

$$M_k^i \succeq 0 \tag{2}$$

$$\sum_{k}^{d} M_{k}^{i} = \mathbb{I} \tag{3}$$

$$\operatorname{tr}(M_k^i) = 1 \tag{4}$$

$$(M_k^i)^2 = M_k^i \tag{5}$$

Need to define three functions for this method: the objective function f(x), the constraint function g(x) and the function X(x) converting between the vector form x and the matrix form such that X(x) is positive semidefinite. These functions do not need to be linear.

In our case X(x) takes the form:

$$X(x) = \sum_{a}^{n} x_a A_a + B \tag{6}$$

such that it turns a vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ containing the unique elements of the measurements into a matrix $X(x) \in \mathbb{R}^p \otimes \mathbb{R}^p$ which contains the real components on the block diagonals and the imaginary components on the off-diagonals, with $p = 2d^2n$. For instance, in the d = 2, n = 2 case, if each $M_i^k = R_i^k + iI_i^k$:

$$X(x) = \begin{pmatrix} R_1^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_1^1 & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & R_2^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_2^1 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & R_1^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_1^2 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & R_2^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_2^2\\ I_1^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & R_1^1 & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & I_2^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & R_2^1 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & I_1^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & R_1^2 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I_2^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & R_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (7)

Many of these elements are defined in relation to others such that the vector x contains as little information as needed, whilst also forcing the submatrices of any X(x) to satisfy the identity and trace constraints. This also has the benefit of meaning in our case g(x) is only used for the projective constraint.

Splitting the objective function into real and imaginary components and using the identity $\operatorname{tr}(M_k^i M_l^j) = M_k^i \cdot M_l^j$:

$$f(x) = -\sum_{i < j}^{s} \sum_{k,l}^{d} \sqrt{1 - R_k^i \cdot R_l^j + I_k^i \cdot I_l^j}$$
 (8)

Now defining the extraction matrices C_k^i , D_k^i , E_k^i and F_k^i such that $C_k^i X D_k^i = R_k^i$ and $E_k^i X F_k^i = I_k^i$ with the notation that X = X(x):

$$f(x) = -\sum_{i \le j}^{s} \sum_{k,l}^{d} \sqrt{1 - C_k^i X D_k^i \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j + E_k^i X F_k^i \cdot E_l^j X F_l^j}$$
(9)

Now taking the first derivative of this, letting d_{kl}^{ij} be the value inside the above square root:

$$\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_b} = -\sum_{i=1}^{s} \sum_{l=1}^{d} \frac{1}{2} (d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} (-C_k^i A_b D_k^i \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j - C_k^i X D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_b D_l^j$$
 (10)

$$+E_k^i A_b F_k^i \cdot E_l^j X F_l^j + E_k^i X F_k^i \cdot E_l^j A_b F_l^j) \quad (11)$$

Then the second derivative, remembering that d_k^i has a dependence on x:

$$\frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_b \partial x_c} = \sum_{i < i}^{s} \sum_{k = l}^{d} \frac{1}{4} (d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{3}{2}} (-C_k^i A_b D_k^i \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j - C_k^i X D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_b D_l^j$$
 (12)

$$+E_k^i A_b F_k^i \cdot E_l^j X F_l^j + E_k^i X F_k^i \cdot E_l^j A_b F_l^j) \tag{13}$$

$$\left(-C_k^i A_c D_k^i \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j - C_k^i X D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_c D_l^j\right) \tag{14}$$

$$+E_k^i A_c F_k^i \cdot E_l^j X F_l^j + E_k^i X F_k^i \cdot E_l^j A_c F_l^j) \tag{15}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}(d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}}(-C_k^i A_b D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_c D_l^j - C_k^i A_c D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_b D_l^j$$
 (16)

$$+E_k^i A_b F_k^i \cdot E_l^j A_c F_l^j + E_k^i A_c F_k^i \cdot E_l^j A_b F_l^j) \tag{17}$$

Computationally many things here are different, such that X is only ever calculated once per iteration and the extraction matrices are unneeded, instead the submatrices are extracted directly from the cached X using Eigen's "X.block()" routine, which claims O(0) scaling when compiled with optimisations. Note that in the above expressions many of these terms are zero, for instance $C_k^i A_b D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_b D_l^i = 0$ since each A matrix will only have non-zero components for a single measurement, so one of those two extractions must result in a zero matrix.

In order to enforce that the measurements are projectors we define the constraint function g(x):

$$g(x) = |X^2 - X|^2 (18)$$

$$= (X^2 - X) \cdot (X^2 - X) \tag{19}$$

And its first derivative:

$$\frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial x_b} = 2(X^2 - X) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x_b} (X^2 - X) \tag{20}$$

$$= 2(X^2 - X) \cdot (2A_bX - A_b) \tag{21}$$

And its second derivative:

$$\frac{\partial^2 g(x)}{\partial x_b \partial x_c} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_c} 2(X^2 - X) \cdot (2A_b X - A_b)$$

$$= \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x_c} 2(X^2 - X) \right] \cdot (2A_b X - A_b) + 2(X^2 - X) \cdot \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x_c} (2A_b X - A_b) \right]$$
(22)

$$= [2(2A_cX - A_c)] \cdot (2A_bX - A_b) + 2(X^2 - X) \cdot [2A_bA_c]$$
(24)

$$= 2 (2A_cX - A_c) \cdot (2A_bX - A_b) + 4(X^2 - X) \cdot A_bA_c$$
 (25)

Putting these all together we can construct the Lagrangian and it's first/second derivatives, which are then used as in the paper.

$$L(x) = f(x) - yq(x) - X \cdot Z \tag{26}$$

$$\nabla L(x) = \nabla f(x) - y \nabla g(x) - \nabla (X \cdot Z)$$
 (27)

Now for a KKT point:

$$\nabla L(x) = 0$$
 and $g(x) = 0$ and $Z = 0$ (28)
 $\Rightarrow \nabla f(x) = 0$ (29)

$$\implies \nabla f(x) = 0 \tag{29}$$

for
$$b = 1, ..., n$$
 (30)

$$\sum_{i < j}^{s} \sum_{k,l}^{d} (d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} (-C_k^i A_b D_k^i \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j - C_k^i X D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_b D_l^j$$
 (31)

$$+E_{k}^{i}A_{b}F_{k}^{i} \cdot E_{l}^{j}XF_{l}^{j} + E_{k}^{i}XF_{k}^{i} \cdot E_{l}^{j}A_{b}F_{l}^{j}) = 0$$
 (32)

$$\implies \sum_{i< j}^{s} \sum_{k,l}^{d} (d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} (-C_k^i A_1 D_k^i \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j - C_k^i X D_k^i \cdot C_l^j A_1 D_l^j$$
 (33)

$$+E_k^i A_1 F_k^i \cdot E_l^j X F_l^j + E_k^i X F_k^i \cdot E_l^j A_1 F_l^j) = 0$$
 (34)

This A_1 only has non-zero components in the real section and for i = 1:

$$\sum_{j\neq 1}^{s} \sum_{k,l}^{d} (d_{kl}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} C_k^1 A_1 D_k^1 \cdot C_l^j X D_l^j = 0$$
(35)

This A_1 is also only non-zero for k = 1 and k = d:

$$\sum_{j\neq 1}^{s} \sum_{l}^{d} \left[(d_{1l}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} C_{1}^{1} A_{1} D_{1}^{1} \cdot C_{l}^{j} X D_{l}^{j} + (d_{dl}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} C_{d}^{1} A_{1} D_{d}^{1} \cdot C_{l}^{j} X D_{l}^{j} \right] = 0$$
 (36)

Moving things as far out of the sum as we can and using that $C_1^1 A_1 D_1^1 =$ $-C_d^1 A_1 D_d^1$:

$$C_1^1 A_1 D_1^1 \cdot \sum_{j \neq 1}^s \sum_{l}^d \left[(d_{1l}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} - (d_{dl}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] C_l^j X D_l^j = 0$$
 (37)

Since this can be repeated for all the A matrices referring to the real parts of measurement matrix 1, each of which are linearly independent, all of the components of the quantity on the right must equal zero:

$$\sum_{j\neq 1}^{s} \sum_{l}^{d} \left[(d_{1l}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} - (d_{dl}^{1j})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] C_{l}^{j} X D_{l}^{j} = 0$$
(38)

Repeating for other matrices, real and imaginary components:

for
$$i \in 1, ..., s$$
 $k \in 1, ..., d-1$ (39)

$$\sum_{j\neq i}^{s} \sum_{l}^{d} \left[(d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} - (d_{dl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] C_{l}^{j} X D_{l}^{j} = 0$$
(40)

$$\sum_{j\neq i}^{s} \sum_{l}^{d} \left[(d_{kl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} - (d_{dl}^{ij})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] E_{l}^{j} X F_{l}^{j} = 0$$
(41)

For the optimal MUB measurements all $d_{kl}^{ij}=1-1/d$, now I need to try to find an example of the above being true without the optimal