

**Problem 1 Score:** \_\_\_\_\_. **Fréchet mean on hemisphere**

Consider the  $(d-1)$ -dimensional hemisphere

$$\mathcal{M} = \{x = (x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(d)}) \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x\| = 1, x^{(d)} > 0\},$$

viewed as a Riemannian submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (with standard Euclidean inner product). The Riemannian distance between two points  $x, y \in \mathcal{M}$  is given by

$$d : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad d(x, y) = \arccos(x^\top y).$$

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{M}$ , and define

$$f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2} d(x, x_i)^2.$$

A minimizer of  $f$  can be interpreted as an intrinsic Fréchet mean of the points  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  on the hemisphere.

- (1) Show that  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is smooth.  
using the flowing fact. Define the function

$$g : (-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad g(t) = \frac{1}{2} \arccos(t)^2.$$

There is a smooth function  $\bar{g} : (-1, 2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\bar{g} = g$  for all  $t \in (-1, 1]$ , and  $\bar{g}'(t) = -\frac{\arccos(t)}{\sqrt{1-t^2}}$  for all  $t \in (-1, 1)$  and  $\bar{g}'(1) = -1$ .

- (2) Given  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ , give an expression for the Riemannian gradient of  $f$  at  $x$ .

**Solution:** (1) To show that  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which is a sum of functions is smooth, it suffices to show that the function

$$h : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} d(x, y)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \arccos(x^\top y)^2 = g(x^\top y)$$

is smooth. To do so, we build a smooth extension  $\bar{h}$  of  $h$ .

As  $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$  and  $x^{(d)}, y^{(d)} > 0$ , we have  $x^\top y = \sum_{i=1}^d x^{(i)} y^{(i)} = \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} x^{(i)} y^{(i)} + x^{(d)} y^{(d)} \in (-1, 1]$ .

Thus we can have  $\bar{h}$  on  $d^{-1}(-1, 2)$  by defining  $\bar{h}(x, y) = \bar{g}(x^\top y)$  for all  $x, y \in$  some neighborhood of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then  $\bar{h}$  is smooth and therefore  $h$  is smooth, which implies that  $f$  is smooth.

- (2) Consider the following function:

$$h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x) = g(x^\top y)$$

Given  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ , we compute the Riemannian gradient of  $h$  at first:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{grad} h(x) &= \text{Proj}(\text{grad} \bar{h}(x)) \\ &= (I - xx^\top) \text{grad} \bar{h}(x) \\ &= (I - xx^\top) y \bar{g}'(x^\top y) \\ &= -(I - xx^\top) y \frac{\arccos(x^\top y)}{\sqrt{1 - (x^\top y)^2}} \\ &= (x \cos(d(x, y)) - y) \frac{d(x, y)}{\sin(d(x, y))}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the Riemannian gradient of  $f$  at  $x$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{grad} f(x) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{grad} h(x_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x \cos(d(x, x_i)) - x_i) \frac{d(x, x_i)}{\sin(d(x, x_i))}. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Problem 2 Score:** \_\_\_\_\_. **Product of spheres**

Let  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{S}^{m-1} \times \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  which is an embedded submanifold of  $\mathcal{E} = \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . Endow  $\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$  with its usual Euclidean structure:

$$\langle (u, v), (u, v) \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} u^\top & v^\top \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = u^\top u + v^\top v$$

for  $(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . We can turn  $\mathcal{M}$  into a Riemannian manifold by using the Euclidean structure of the ambient space  $\mathcal{E} = \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Maximizers of the following function are closely related to the singular value decomposition:

$$f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = x^\top M y.$$

- (1) Show that  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is smooth.
- (2) Give a formula for orthogonal projection from  $\mathcal{E}$  onto the tangent space  $T_{(x,y)}\mathcal{M}$ .
- (3) Given  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$ , give an expression for the Riemannian gradient of  $f$  at  $(x, y)$ .

**Solution:** (1) Clearly, the function  $\bar{f} : \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \bar{f}(x, y) = x^\top M y$  is smooth, which can be a smooth extension of  $f$ . Therefore,  $f$  is smooth.

- (2) Given  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$ , we have the tangent space

$$\begin{aligned} T_{(x,y)}\mathcal{M} &= T_{(x,y)}(\mathbb{S}^{m-1} \times \mathbb{S}^{n-1}) \\ &= T_x\mathbb{S}^{m-1} \times T_y\mathbb{S}^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

As the orthogonal projection from  $\mathbb{R}^m$  onto  $T_x\mathbb{S}^{m-1}$  is  $Proj_x(u) = (I - xx^\top)u$  and from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $T_y\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  is  $Proj_y(v) = (I - yy^\top)v$ , the orthogonal projection from  $\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $T_{(x,y)}\mathcal{M}$  is

$$Proj_{(x,y)}(u, v) = ((I - xx^\top)u, (I - yy^\top)v).$$

- (3) Given  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$ , which is a Riemannian submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} grad f(x, y) &= Proj_{(x,y)}(grad \bar{f}(x, y)) \\ &= Proj_{(x,y)}(My, M^\top x) \\ &= ((I - xx^\top)My, (I - yy^\top)M^\top x) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Problem 3 Score:** \_\_\_\_\_. **The product metric**

Let  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}'$  be embedded submanifolds of Euclidean spaces  $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}'$ , respectively.

Turn  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$  into Riemannian manifolds by giving them the Riemannian metrics  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle^a$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle^b$ , respectively. We can turn  $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}'$  into a Riemannian manifold by giving it the Riemannian product metric: for all  $(u, u'), (v, v')$  in the tangent space  $T_{(x,x')}\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}'$ ,

$$\langle (u, u'), (v, v') \rangle_{(x,x')} := \langle u, v \rangle_x^a + \langle u', v' \rangle_{x'}^b.$$

- (1) What are the tangent spaces of  $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}'$ ? How do they relate to  $T_x\mathcal{M}$  and  $T_{x'}\mathcal{M}'$ ?
- (2) For a smooth function  $f : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , show that

$$grad f(x, x') = (grad(x \mapsto f(x, x'))(x), grad(x' \mapsto f(x, x'))(x')),$$

where  $x \mapsto f(x, x')$  and  $x' \mapsto f(x, x')$  are functions from  $\mathcal{M}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  obtained from  $f$  by fixing the other argument.

**Solution:** (1)  $T_{(x,x')}\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}' = T_x\mathcal{M} \times T_{x'}\mathcal{M}'$ .

- (2) Let  $(x, u) \in T\mathcal{M}, (x', u') \in T\mathcal{M}'$  and smooth curves:

$$\begin{aligned} c : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathcal{M}, & c(0) &= x, & c'(0) &= u, \\ c' : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathcal{M}', & c'(0) &= x', & c'(0) &= u'. \end{aligned}$$

Then define two new smooth curves:

$$C : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}', \quad C(t) = (c(t), c'(t)),$$

$$C' : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}', \quad C'(t) = (x, c'(t)).$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (u, u'), \text{grad}f(x, x') \rangle_{(x, x')} &= Df(x, x')[u, u'] \\ &= Df(x, x')[u, 0] + Df(x, x')[0, u'] \\ &= D(x \mapsto f(x, x'))(x)[u] + D(x' \mapsto f(x, x'))(x')[u'] \\ &= \langle u, \text{grad}(x \mapsto f(x, x'))(x) \rangle_x^a + \langle u', \text{grad}(x' \mapsto f(x, x'))(x') \rangle_{x'}^b \\ &= \langle (u, u'), (\text{grad}(x \mapsto f(x, x')), \text{grad}(x' \mapsto f(x, x'))) \rangle_{(x, x')}. \end{aligned}$$

As the equation above holds for all  $(u, u') \in T_{(x, x')} \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}'$ ,  $\text{grad}f(x, x') = (\text{grad}(x \mapsto f(x, x'))(x), \text{grad}(x' \mapsto f(x, x'))(x'))$ .

□

**Problem 4 Score:** \_\_\_\_\_. **Distorted  $\mathbb{R}^d$**

Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\mathcal{E} = \mathbb{R}^d$ , and denote the Euclidean inner product on  $\mathcal{E}$  by  $\langle u, v \rangle_{\mathcal{E}} = u^\top v$ . Let  $G : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  be a smooth map such that  $G(x)$  is symmetric and positive definite for all  $x \in U$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be  $U$  equipped with the Riemannian metric  $\langle u, v \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} = u^\top G(x)v$ .

- (1) Show that  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{M}}$  is a Riemannian metric on  $U$ .
- (2) Let  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a smooth function. Derive an expression for the Riemannian gradient of  $f$ ,  $\text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f$ , in terms of the Euclidean gradient of  $f$ ,  $\text{grad}_{\mathcal{E}}f$ .
- (3) If  $U = \mathbb{R}^d$ , argue that  $R_x(u) = x + u$  is a retraction on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Write down Riemannian gradient descent on  $\mathcal{M}$  with retractions  $R$ . Compare this algorithm to
  - (a) gradient descent on  $\mathcal{E}$  with a preconditioner
  - (b) Newton's method on  $\mathcal{E}$
- (4) Consider a particular case known as the Poincaré ball model of hyperbolic space. Let  $r > 0$  and  $U = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d := \mathbb{R}^d : \|x\|_{\mathcal{E}} < r\}$ , and

$$G(x) = \frac{4r^4}{(r^2 - \|x\|_{\mathcal{E}}^2)^2} I, \quad \forall x \in U.$$

With  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  smooth, give an expression for the Riemannian gradient of  $f$ ,  $\text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f$  in terms of the Euclidean gradient of  $f$ ,  $\text{grad}_{\mathcal{E}}f$ .

**Solution:** (1) As  $U$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , for  $x \in U$ ,  $T_x U = \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Then for  $u, v \in T_x U = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\langle u, v \rangle_x = u^\top G(x)v$  is an inner product on  $T_x U$  as  $G(x)$  is symmetric and positive definite. Furthermore, for smooth vector fields  $V_1, V_2 : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , the map  $x \mapsto \langle V_1(x), V_2(x) \rangle_x = V_1(x)^\top G(x)V_2(x)$  is smooth. Therefore,  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{M}}$  is a Riemannian metric on  $U$ .

- (2) For  $v \in T_x U = \mathbb{R}^d$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f(x), v \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} &= Df(x)[v] \\ &= v^\top G(x) \text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f(x) \\ &= \langle v, G(x) \text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f(x) \rangle_{\mathcal{E}} \\ &= \langle v, \text{grad}_{\mathcal{E}}f(x) \rangle_{\mathcal{E}}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\text{grad}_{\mathcal{E}}f(x) = G(x) \text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f(x)$ , i.e.,  $\text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f(x) = G(x)^{-1} \text{grad}_{\mathcal{E}}f(x)$ .

- (3) For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d, u \in T_x \mathbb{R}^d = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $R_x(u) = x + u$  is clearly smooth and  $R_x(0) = x$ .

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} R_x(tu) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (x + tu) \right|_{t=0} = u.$$

Therefore,  $R_x(u) = x + u$  is a retraction on  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The Riemannian gradient descent on  $\mathcal{M}$  with retractions  $R$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= R_{x_k}(-\eta_k \text{grad}_{\mathcal{M}}f(x_k)) \\ &= x_k - \eta_k G(x_k)^{-1} \text{grad}_{\mathcal{E}}f(x_k), \end{aligned}$$

which can be interpreted as the gradient descent on  $\mathcal{E}$  with a preconditioner  $G(x_k)^{-1}$ ; and by setting  $\eta_k = 1$ , it is equivalent to Newton's method on  $\mathcal{E}$ .

(4) From (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{grad}_{\mathcal{M}} f(x) &= G(x)^{-1} \operatorname{grad}_{\mathcal{E}} f(x) \\ &= \frac{(r^2 - \|x\|_{\mathcal{E}}^2)^2}{4r^4} \operatorname{grad}_{\mathcal{E}} f(x). \end{aligned}$$

□