



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

TMA4500 - INDUSTRIAL MATHEMATICS, SPECIALIZATION  
PROJECT

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# Optimization using second order information on the Symplectic Stiefel manifold

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What date should I use?

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# 1 Introduction

## 2 Theory

### 2.1 Foundational definitions

This section is designed to be a reference work to set notation, and to ensure that the reader has the necessary background to understand the optimization algorithms we will be studying.

**Definition 1** (General Linear group). *The real General Linear group is defined as the set of all invertible matrices in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , denoted by  $\text{GL}(n)$ . [4, Example 9.11]*

**Definition 2** (Orthogonal group). *The real Orthogonal group is defined as the set of all orthogonal matrices in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , denoted by  $\text{O}(n)$ . [5, p. 3]*

**Definition 3** (Quotient manifold). *We define the definition of quotient manifold as in [1, p. 27] Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a manifold equipped with the operation  $\sim$  called the equivalence relation. The equivalence relation has the following properties:*

1. (reflexive)  $p \sim p$  for all  $p \in \mathcal{M}$ ,
2. (symmetric)  $p \sim q$  if and only if  $q \sim p$  for all  $q, p \in \mathcal{M}$ , and
3. (transitive) given  $p \sim q$  and  $q \sim r$  this implies that  $p \sim r$  for all  $p, q, r \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Given the set  $[p] := \{q \in \mathcal{M} : q \sim p\}$  called the equivalence class of all points equivalent to  $p$ , the set

$$\mathcal{M}/\sim := \{[p] \mid p \in \mathcal{M}\}$$

is called the quotient of  $\mathcal{M}$  by  $\sim$ . It is the set of all equivalence classes of  $\sim$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . The mapping  $\pi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}/\sim$  called the natural- or canonical projection, defined by  $p \mapsto [p]$ .

**Definition 4** (Tangent Space). *Following [4, Def. 8.33], for a point  $p$  on a smooth manifold  $\mathcal{M}$ , denote the set of smooth curves [4, Def. 8.5] passing through  $p$  at  $t = 0$  as  $C_p$ . This means that  $\alpha(0) = p$  for all  $\alpha \in C_p$ . For  $\alpha, \beta \in C_p$  we say that they are equivalent if*

$$(\phi \circ \alpha)'(0) = (\phi \circ \beta)'(0)$$

*meaning their derivatives match in a coordinate chart (defined as in [7, p. 4]) if their derivatives in the coordinate chart at zero are equal. Denote this equivalence relation as  $\alpha \sim \beta$ . It has analogous properties to the equivalence relation in Definition 3. The equivalence class is defined as  $[\alpha] = \{\beta \in C_p \mid \alpha \sim \beta\}$ . Every equivalence class is called a tangent vector to  $\mathcal{M}$  at  $p$ . The tangent space at  $p$  is the quotient set*

$$T_p\mathcal{M} = C_p/\sim = \{[\alpha] \mid \alpha \in C_p\}.$$

**Definition 5** (Riemannian manifold). *As defined in [3, def 2.6, p. 179]: a smooth manifold  $\mathcal{M}$ , as defined in [7, p. 13], is a Riemannian manifold if we can define a field of symmetric, positive definite, bilinear forms  $g(\cdot, \cdot)$ , called the Riemannian metric. By field we mean that  $g_p$  is defined on the tangent space  $T_p\mathcal{M}$  at each point  $p \in \mathcal{M}$  [3, def 2.1, p. 178]. We will assume that  $g$  is smooth, meaning that it is of class  $\mathcal{C}^\infty$ .*

**Definition 6** (Vector field on Riemannian manifold). *Following Appendix A of [6], a smooth vector field  $\mathcal{X} : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T\mathcal{M}$ ,  $p \mapsto \mathcal{X}(p) \in T_p\mathcal{M}$  on a Riemannian manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  can be expressed through local coordinates as*

$$\mathcal{X}(p) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \partial_i =: \alpha^T \partial,$$

*where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\partial$  is the canonical basis of  $T_p\mathcal{M}$ .*

**Definition 7** (Horizontal & Vertical Space). Using Definition 3, given a Riemannian manifold  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$  with Riemannian metric  $\overline{g}$ , denote a quotient manifold of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$  as  $\mathcal{M} = \overline{\mathcal{M}} / \sim$ . Following the definitions in Absil et al. [1, p. 43], for a point  $p \in \mathcal{M}$ , the equivalence class  $[p] = \pi^{-1}(p)$  induces an embedded submanifold of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$  (see Definition 3), hence it admits a tangent space,

$$\mathcal{V}_{\overline{p}} = T_{\overline{p}}(\pi^{-1}(p))$$

named the vertical space at  $\overline{p}$ . Canonically chosen as the orthogonal complement of  $\mathcal{V}_{\overline{p}}$  in  $T_{\overline{p}}\overline{\mathcal{M}}$ , the horizontal space [1, p. 48] is defined as

$$\mathcal{H}_{\overline{p}} := \mathcal{V}_{\overline{p}}^\perp = \{Y_{\overline{p}} \in T_{\overline{p}}\overline{\mathcal{M}} \mid \overline{g}(Y_{\overline{p}}, Z_{\overline{p}}) = 0 \quad \forall \quad Z_{\overline{p}} \in \mathcal{V}_{\overline{p}}\}.$$

The horizontal lift at  $\overline{p} \in \pi^{-1}(p)$  of a tangent vector  $X_p \in T_p\mathcal{M}$  is the unique tangent vector  $X_{\overline{p}} \in \mathcal{H}_{\overline{p}}$  that satisfies  $D\pi(\overline{p})[X_{\overline{p}}] = X_p$ . Note that given the horizontal space on  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{\overline{p}} \oplus \mathcal{V}_{\overline{p}} = T_{\overline{p}}\overline{\mathcal{M}}$ , where  $\oplus$  denotes the Whitney sum.

**Definition 8** (Riemannian connection). The Riemannian connection, also known as the Levi-Civita connection, is the unique affine connection which is torsion free, and metric compatible [9, Def. 6.4]. In Appendix A of [6], denoting  $\mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{M})$  as the space of smooth vector fields on  $\mathcal{M}$ , it is defined as the unique  $\mathbb{R}$ -bilinear smooth map on  $\mathcal{M}$  with Riemannian metric  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_p$

$$\nabla : \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{M}) \times \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{M}), \quad (X, Y) \mapsto \nabla_X Y,$$

such that the following properties hold. Given  $X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{M})$ , and  $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{M})$ ,  $\nabla_X Y$  has the following properties:

1. (first argument linearity)  $\nabla_f X Y = f \nabla_X Y$ ,
2. (Leibnitz)  $\nabla_X (fY) = (Xf)Y + f \nabla_X Y$ ,
3. (torsion free)  $\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X = [X, Y]$ , where  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  is the Lie bracket, and
4. (metric compatibility)  $Z \langle X, Y \rangle = \langle \nabla_Z X, Y \rangle + \langle X, \nabla_Z Y \rangle$ .

**Definition 9** (Christoffel symbols). The method we will employ to completely describe a connection (as defined in Definition 8) locally is to describe them through Christoffel symbols. Following the definition of [9, p. 100], let  $\nabla$  be an affine connection on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Denote a coordinate vector field on the coordinate open set  $(U, p^1, \dots, p^n) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  by  $\partial_i := \partial / \partial p^i$ . In this coordinate frame there exist the numbers called Christoffel symbols,  $\Gamma_{ij}^k$ , defined through the following

$$\nabla_{\partial_i} \partial_j = \sum_{k=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k =: \Gamma_{ij}^T \partial.$$

**Definition 10** (Retraction). Following [4, Def. 3.47], a retraction on a smooth manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  is a smooth map,

$$\mathcal{R} : T\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}, \quad (p, X) \mapsto \mathcal{R}_p(X)$$

such that every curve generated from  $c(t) = \mathcal{R}_p(tX)$  satisfies  $c(0) = p$  and  $\dot{c}(0) = X$ . Equivalently the conditions can be stated as in [4, p. 40] without the use of curves. For all  $p \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_p(0) = p$ , and  $D\mathcal{R}_p(0) : T_p\mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_p\mathcal{M}$ ,  $D\mathcal{R}_p(0)[X] = X$  is the identify map.

**Definition 11.**

**Definition 12.**

For the rest of this paper we denote  $\mathcal{M}$  as being a Riemannian manifold.

After the basic definitions, talk about how the rest of the theory is a highlighted summary through BZ and JZ. The goal is to look at the findings in JZ, however it relies heavily on theory derived in BZ. It will be mentioned of some parts are from other works, or if they are original work.

define w  
sum! i wrote  
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the H and V  
space file!

In JZ this  
was stated  
wrongly  
citation

do i need  
a source to  
define this?

## 2.2 The Symplectic group

The real *symplectic group* is the space overarching the Symplectic Stiefel manifold, and we will look at this space first. To be able to define the symplectic group we first need some preliminary definitions. Define the *symplectic identity* as the following block matrix,

$$J_{2n} := \begin{bmatrix} 0_n & I_n \\ -I_n & 0_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $I_n$  denotes the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.  $J_{2n}$  has some properties we will take advantage of frequently:

$$J_{2n}^T = -J_{2n} = J_{2n}^{-1} \quad (2.1)$$

The symplectic group is a quotient space of the general linear group (defined in Definition 1). It is defined as the set of matrices which define the symplectic structure in the following sense. We define the real symplectic group as

$$\mathrm{Sp}(2n) := \{p \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2n} \mid p^+ p = I_{2n}\}, \quad (2.2)$$

where  $p^+$  is the *symplectic inverse* of  $p$ , as defined as

$$p^+ := J_{2n}^T p^T J_{2n}. \quad (2.3)$$

The Lie algebra of  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$  is the symplectic groups' tangent space at the identity. It is given by

$$\mathfrak{sp}(2n) := \{\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2n} \mid \Omega^+ = -\Omega\}, \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\Omega$  is called the Hamiltonian matrix [ref ??](#). Now we can define the tangent space of  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$  at any point  $p$  as

$$T_p \mathrm{Sp}(2n) = \{p\Omega, \Omega p \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2n} \mid \Omega \in \mathfrak{sp}(2n)\}. \quad (2.5)$$

## 2.3 The Symplectic Stiefel manifold

Now that we have defined the symplectic group, we introduce the manifold of interest, the real symplectic Stiefel manifold. It is defined as

$$\mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k) := \{p \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2k} \mid p^T J_{2n} p = J_{2k}\}. \quad (2.6)$$

Following [2, Prop. 3.1], it is explicitly connected to the symplectic group in the sense that  $\mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  is diffeomorphic to the following quotient manifold of  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$ :

$$\mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k) \cong \mathrm{Sp}(2n) / \mathrm{Sp}(2(n - k)),$$

where the notion of quotient manifold is as in Definition 3. It has dimension  $\dim(\mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k)) = (2n - 2k + 1)k$ .

The following piece of insight can give some further intuition on what the Symplectic Stiefel manifold is. We note that the Stiefel manifold is a quotient space, as defined in Definition 3, of the orthogonal group as defined in Definition 2 such that  $\mathrm{St}(2n, 2k) = \mathrm{O}(n) / \mathrm{O}(n - k)$ .

The expression for the tangent space follows straightforwardly from the definition of  $\mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ . Assume we have a curve,  $c(t) \in \mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ , s.t.  $c(0) = p$  and  $\dot{c}(0) := \frac{d}{dt}c(t)|_{t=0} = X$ . Since  $c(t)$  is a curve in  $\mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ , by (2.6) it must satisfy the following condition:

$$c(t)^T J_{2n} c(t) = J_{2k}. \quad (2.7)$$

Taking the derivative of (2.7) with respect to  $t$  at  $t = 0$  we get

$$\dot{c}^T(t) J_{2n} c(t) + c^T(t) J_{2n} \dot{c}|_{t=0} = X^T J_{2n} p + p^T J_{2n} X = 0_{2k}.$$

After moving the first term over to the left hand side, and multiplying with  $J_{2n}$  from the left, we get

$$p^+ X = -X^+ p.$$

We recognize this condition as  $p^+ X \in \mathfrak{sp}(2k)$  as defined in (2.4). This means that for a point  $p$ ,

$$T_p \mathrm{SpSt}(2n, 2k) = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2k} \mid p^+ X \in \mathfrak{sp}(2k)\}. \quad (2.8)$$

Why do we need  $\mathfrak{sp}$ ? We will use quotient properties to map stuff to  $\mathrm{Spst}$

Do I want to find a historical reference?

maybe explain a little more how we get this tangent space

Is a version of this info too much of a detour?

## 2.4 Right-invariant framework

One of the key insights of Bendokat and Zimmermann [2, p. 11] is that using a right invariant framework one is able to construct geodesics on  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ . Geodesics are an essential part many popular optimization algorithms on manifolds. In this section we will first define a right-invariant metric on  $\text{Sp}(2n)$  and its corresponding geodesics, then transport this metric to  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ . This will allow us to define geodesics on  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ .

We begin by defining the point-wise right-invariant metric on  $\text{Sp}(2n)$  as the mapping  $g_p^{\text{Sp}} : T_p\text{Sp}(2n) \times T_p\text{Sp}(2n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$g_p^{\text{Sp}}(X_1, X_2) := \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}((X_1 p^+)^T X_2 p^+), \quad X_1, X_2 \in T_p\text{Sp}(2n). \quad (2.9)$$

It is right-invariant in the sense that  $g_{pq}^{\text{Sp}}(X_1 q, X_2 q) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}((X_1 q q^+ p^+)^T X_2 q q^+ p^+) = g_p^{\text{Sp}}(X_1, X_2)$  for all  $p \in \text{Sp}(2n)$ .

Define geodesics as in BZ, prop. 2.1. Maybe do the proof?

Now that we have defined  $g_p^{\text{Sp}}$ , we want to, in a sense, transport it to  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  in a way that preserves the right-invariance. To achieve this we will use a *horizontal lift* to define a metric on  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  through 2.9. Split  $T_p\text{Sp}(2n)$  into two parts: the horizontal- and vertical part, with respect to  $g_p^{\text{Sp}}$  and  $\pi$ :

rewrite these two sentences

$$T_p\text{Sp}(2n) = \text{Ver}_p^\pi \text{Sp}(2n) \oplus \text{Hor}_p^\pi \text{Sp}(2n). \quad (2.10)$$

Define  $\text{Ver}_p^\pi \text{Sp}(2n)$  and  $\text{Hor}_p^\pi \text{Sp}(2n)$  in a smart way. Maybe just a reference if I do not have the space.

Rework the following paragraph. see obsidian

The point-wise right-invariant Riemannian metric on  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  is defined as the mapping  $g_p : T_p\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k) \times T_p\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g_p(X_1, X_2) := g_p^{\text{Sp}}((X_1)_p^{\text{hor}}, (X_2)_p^{\text{hor}})$ . More explicitly

Look at 20, Theorem 2.28 in BZ to maybe skip the derivation up to gp

$$g_p(X_1, X_2) = \text{tr} \left( X_1^T \left( I_{2n} - \frac{1}{2} J_{2n}^T p (p^T p)^{-1} p^T J_{2n} \right) X_2 (p^T p)^{-1} \right), \quad (2.11)$$

for  $X_1, X_2 \in T_p\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ . For this metric,  $\pi$  denotes a Riemannian submersion.

Define geodesics as in BZ

pi here is weird, change this so it is more clear what it does

## 2.5 Geodesics

To define geodesics on  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ , we will first define them on  $\text{Sp}(2n)$ .

Give more detail on the roadmap of this section. Maybe also write a motivation for why we want to introduce geodesics

Following [2, Prop. 2.1], given  $p \in \text{Sp}(2n)$ ,  $X \in T_p\text{Sp}(2n)$  and the right-invariant Riemannian metric (2.9), the respective geodesic  $\gamma(t)$  defined as

$$\gamma(t) := \exp_p(t(X p^+ - (X p^+)^T)) \exp_p(t(X p^+)^T) p,$$

where  $\gamma(0) = p$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = X$  and  $+$  is the symplectic inverse (as in 2.3). Bendokat and Zimmermann proposes that "the proof of cite[Prop. 4.2]something can be transferred straightforwardly to [the setting we are in]".

is this sentence superfluous?

ref

## 2.6 Riemannian gradient of the Symplectic Stiefel manifold

Now that we have chosen a metric, we can justify a choice for a Riemannian gradient.

**Proposition 1.** *Given a function  $f : \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the Riemannian gradient with respect to  $g_p$  is given by*

$$\text{grad } f(p) = \nabla f(p) p^T p + J_{2n} p (\nabla f(p))^T J_{2n} p, \quad (2.12)$$

where  $\nabla f(p)$  is the Euclidean gradient of a smooth extension around  $p \in \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2k}$  at  $p$ .

*Proof.* We can see that this is the Riemannian gradient by the following two observations stated in [BZ], which we verify ourselves below.

Firstly, gradient must be in  $T_p \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ , which means by ref ?? that  $0 = p^+ \text{grad } f(p) + (\text{grad } f(p))^+ p$ . Computing this we get

$$p^T J \nabla f(p) p^T p + p^T J J p (\nabla f(p))^T J p + p^T p (\nabla f(p))^T J p + p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T J p = 0$$

where we have used  $JJ = -J^T J = -I_{2n}$  and (2.1).

Secondly, the gradient also has to satisfy  $g_p(\text{grad } f(p), X) = d f_p(X) = \text{tr}((\nabla f(p))^T X)$  for all  $X \in T_p \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ :

$$g_p(\text{grad } f(p), X) = \text{tr}((p^T p (\nabla f(p))^T + p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T)(I_{2n} - \frac{1}{2}G)X(p^T p)^{-1}),$$

where  $G := J^T p (p^T p)^{-1} p^T J$ . Expanding this expression we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{tr}(p^T p (\nabla f(p))^T X(p^T p)^{-1}) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(p^T p (\nabla f(p))^T G X(p^T p)^{-1}) \\ &+ \text{tr}(p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T X(p^T p)^{-1}) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T G X(p^T p)^{-1}), \end{aligned}$$

where the cancellations used the fact that the trace is invariant under circular shifts. Noting that the first term is by definition  $d f_p(X)$ , and inserting the definition of  $G$ , the expression becomes

$$\begin{aligned} &= d f_p(X) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}((\nabla f(p))^T J^T p (p^T p)^{-1} p^T J X) \\ &+ \text{tr}(p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T X(p^T p)^{-1}) \\ &- \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T J^T p (p^T p)^{-1} p^T J X(p^T p)^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

After using  $J^T J^T = -I_{2n}$  and (2.1) on the last term, we notice that we can cancel  $p^T p (p^T p)^{-1}$ , making it equal to the second to last term. Now focusing on the second term: for the first equality we use the fact that for any matrix,  $A$ ,  $\text{tr}(A) = \text{tr}(A^T)$ , and for the second equality we utilize the cyclic property of the trace, and (2.1),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}((\nabla f(p))^T J^T p (p^T p)^{-1} p^T J X) &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^T J^T p (p^T p)^{-1} p^T J \nabla f(p)) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(p^T J^T \nabla f(p) X^T J^T p (p^T p)^{-1}) \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Inserting (2.13) into our expression we end up with:

$$d f_p(X) = d f_p(X) + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(p^T J \nabla f(p) X^T J^T p (p^T p)^{-1}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(p^T J^T \nabla f(p) p^T J^T X(p^T p)^{-1}),$$

where the last two terms cancel after applying (2.1), and the tangent space condition  $p^T J X = -X^T J p$ . □

add general def of R grad.?

add ref to Tspspt

## 2.7 Riemannian Hessian

(Christoffel symbols)

Define the remaining preliminaries for Hessian. Make an intro to section

loosly following Appendix A in Jz

For two smooth vector fields,  $\mathcal{X}(p) = \alpha^T \partial$  and  $\mathcal{Y}(p) = \beta^T \partial$  defined as in Definition 6, the covariant derivative (defined through the Riemannian connection by definition 8) written in local coordinates is

$$\nabla_{\mathcal{X}} \mathcal{Y} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \partial_i (\beta_j) \partial_j + \alpha_i \beta_j \sum_{k=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k.$$

In preparation for the Hessian, we include [9, p. 96] to restrict the covariant derivative further. We want to define the covariant derivative of a vector field along a curve  $c(t)$ .  $c(t)$  is the smooth curve,  $c : I \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ ,  $t \mapsto (\gamma_1(t), \dots, \gamma_n(t))$ , where  $I := [a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Since we have an affine connection on  $\mathcal{M}$ , the following unique map exists:

$$\frac{D}{dt} : \Gamma(T\mathcal{M}|_{c(t)}) \rightarrow \Gamma(T\mathcal{M}|_{c(t)}),$$

where  $\Gamma(T\mathcal{M}|_{c(t)})$  denotes the the vector space of all smooth vector fields along  $c(t)$ . If  $V \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{M}|_{c(t)})$  is induced by  $\mathcal{X}$ , meaning  $V(t) = \mathcal{X}|_{c(t)}$ , then

$$\frac{DV}{dt}(t) = \nabla_{\dot{c}(t)} \mathcal{X} = \dot{\alpha}(t) + \Gamma(\alpha(t), \dot{\gamma}(t)), \quad \Gamma(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} u^T \Gamma^1 v \\ \vdots \\ u^T \Gamma^n v \end{bmatrix}.$$

$\Gamma(u, v)$  is called the *Christoffel function*. If  $\dot{c}(t)$  is a geodesic, the expression above reduces to

$$\ddot{\gamma}(t) = -\Gamma(\dot{\gamma}(t), \dot{\gamma}(t)), \quad (2.14)$$

since by definition  $\frac{D}{dt} \dot{\gamma}(t) = 0$  and  $\dot{\alpha}(t) = \dot{\gamma}(t)$ . Importantly, once we have found the Christoffel symbols through (2.14), we can still use them for curves that are not geodesics. This is because the Christoffel symbols only depend on the Riemannian metric, and the local coordinates. To do this, we recover the Christoffel function for two different inputs through polarization [5, p. 312]

$$\Gamma(X, Y) = \frac{1}{4} (\Gamma(X + Y, X + Y) - \Gamma(X - Y, X - Y)),$$

where  $X, Y \in \Gamma(T\mathcal{M}|_{c(t)})$ .

i do not understand polarization.

To find the Christoffel symbols for  $\text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  with respect to the right invariant metric  $g$  defined in (2.11), we differentiate the geodesic formula from ref, and use (2.14) to achieve the following formula,

$$\Gamma(X, X) = -\ddot{\gamma}(0) = -(\overline{\Omega}(X) - \overline{\Omega}(X)^T)(X + \overline{\Omega}(X)^T p) - (\overline{\Omega}(X)^T)^2 p.$$

Here  $X = \dot{\gamma}(0) \in T_p \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ ,  $p \in \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ , and  $\overline{\Omega}(X)$  is as in ref. With our metric  $g$ , the Hessian at  $p$  of a smooth function  $f : \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the endomorphism  $\text{Hess } f(p) : T_p \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k) \rightarrow T_p \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$ ,

$$\text{Hess } f(p)[X] = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \text{grad } f(c(t)) \right|_{t=0} + \Gamma(\text{grad } f(p), X),$$

where  $\text{grad } f(\cdot)$  is as in 2.12.  $c(t) \in \text{SpSt}(2n, 2k)$  is an arbitrary curve such that  $c(0) = p$  and  $c'(0) = X$

### 3 Algorithms

### 4 Numerical Experiments

### 5 Conclusion

i felt JZ was unclear. Is this correct?

refs

ref geod.

define this somewhere



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Note: If I've only written ISBN, It's because I couldn't find the DOI.

Question: Is BZ not published?

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