

# The Intrinsic Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method for Convex Optimization

Ronny Bergmann\*, Hajg Jasa\*, Paula John†, Max Pfeffer\*  
 hajg.jasa@ntnu.no

\*Department of Mathematical Sciences,  
 NTNU, Trondheim, Norway

†Institute for Numerical and Applied Mathematics,  
 Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany

## Motivation

Optimization problems of the form

$$\arg \min_{p \in \mathcal{M}} f(p) = g(p) + h(p)$$

arise, e.g. when solving

- convex constrained smooth optimization
- regularized minimization

in Euclidean space. We generalize this splitting with

- $\mathcal{M}$  a Riemannian manifold with curvature in  $[\kappa_l, \kappa_u]$
- $g$  an  $L_g$ -smooth and  $g$ -convex function
- $h$  a  $g$ -convex function

**Algorithm: CRPG** (available in [Manopt.jl](#)<sup>1</sup>)

Require:  $g, \text{grad } g, h, \text{prox}_{\lambda h}, \lambda_k, p_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ .

```

1: while not converged do
2:    $p_{k+1} = \text{prox}_{\lambda_k h}(\exp_{p_k}(-\lambda_k \text{grad } g(p_k)))$ 
3:   Set  $k \leftarrow k + 1$ 
4: end while

```

with

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda h}(p) = \arg \min_{q \in \mathcal{M}} \left\{ h(q) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} d^2(p, q) \right\}$$

and  $d$  the Riemannian distance

## Convergence Rates

On Hadamard manifolds ( $\kappa_u \leq 0$ ) with  $f$

- **g-convex:** sublinear rate  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\omega}{k}\right)$
- **strongly g-convex:** linear rate  $\mathcal{O}\left(\Omega^k\right)$

where  $\omega$  and  $\Omega$  include dependence on curvature, smoothness, and geodesic convexity



<sup>1</sup>[manoptjl.org/stable/solvers/proximal\\_gradient\\_method/](https://manoptjl.org/stable/solvers/proximal_gradient_method/)

# Optimize Geodesically Convex Problems with an Intrinsic Riemannian Proximal Gradient Method

## Prox-Grad Inequality (PGI)

$$\begin{aligned} & z(q) = \exp_q(-\lambda \text{grad } g(q)) \\ & T_\lambda(q) = \text{prox}_{\lambda h}(z(q)) \\ & l_g(p, q) = g(p) - g(q) - (\text{grad } g(q), \log_p q) \\ & 4\lambda[f(p) - f(T_\lambda(q))] \geq 4\lambda l_g(p, q) + \mathbf{A} d^2(p, T_\lambda(q)) \\ & \quad - \mathbf{B} d^2(p, q) + \mathbf{C} d^2(q, z(q)) \\ & \quad + \mathbf{D} d^2(q, T_\lambda(q)) + \mathbf{E} d^2(z(q), T_\lambda(q)) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} &= 1 + \zeta_{2, \kappa_u}(D_3) & \mathbf{D} &= \zeta_{2, \kappa_u}(D_1) - 1 \\ \mathbf{B} &= \zeta_{1, \kappa_l}(D_2) + 1 & \mathbf{E} &= \zeta_{2, \kappa_u}(D_3) - 1 \\ \mathbf{C} &= \zeta_{2, \kappa_u}(D_1) - \zeta_{1, \kappa_l}(D_2) \end{aligned}$$

with  $D_1 = D(q, z(q), T_\lambda(q))$ ,  $D_2 = D(q, z(q), p)$ , and  $D_3 = D(T_\lambda(q), z(q), p)$ , where  $D(p, q, r)$  is the diameter of the uniquely geodesic triangle with vertices  $p, q, r \in \mathcal{M}$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_{1, \kappa_l}(s) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \kappa_l \geq 0, \\ \sqrt{-\kappa_l} s \coth(\sqrt{-\kappa_l} s) & \text{if } \kappa_l < 0, \end{cases} \\ \zeta_{2, \kappa_u}(s) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \kappa_u \leq 0, \\ \sqrt{\kappa_u} s \cot(\sqrt{\kappa_u} s) & \text{if } \kappa_u > 0. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

- if  $g = 0$ , PGI  $\implies$  proximal point convergence rate
- if  $h = 0$ , PGI  $\implies$  gradient descent convergence rate
- (!) otherwise, PGI  $\nRightarrow$  CRPG convergence rate

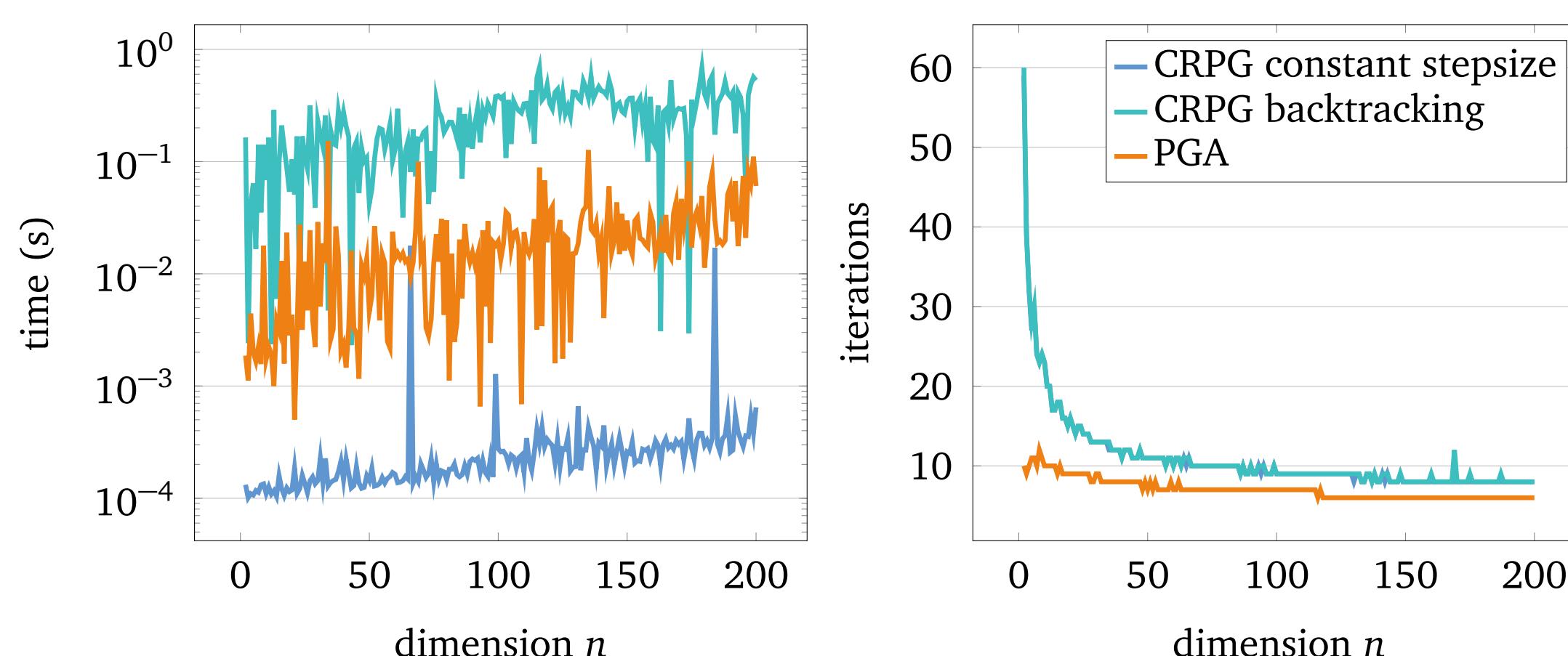


## Example

**Constrained Mean on  $\mathcal{H}^n$**  On the hyperbolic space  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{H}^n$  with the Minkowski metric, let  $\{q_1, \dots, q_N\} \subset \mathcal{M}$  be  $N = 400$  randomly generated data points,  $\mathcal{B}(q_0, r)$  a geodesic ball of radius  $r$  around a point  $q_0 \in \mathcal{M}$  and

$$g(p) = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{j=1}^N d^2(p, q_j), \quad h(p) = \chi_{\mathcal{B}(q_0, r)}(p),$$

where  $\chi_{\mathcal{B}(q_0, r)}(p)$  is the characteristic function of  $\mathcal{B}(q_0, r)$ . Then  $\text{prox}_{\lambda h}$  is the projection onto  $\mathcal{B}(q_0, r)$ .



CRPG and the Projected Gradient Algorithm (PGA), varying dimension  $n \in \{2, 3, \dots, 200\}$ .