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Nonlinear Fenchel conjugates

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joint work with

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The Fenchel Conjugate

The **Fenchel conjugate** of a function $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ is given by

$$f^*(\xi) := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \langle \xi, x \rangle - f(x) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} x \\ f(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

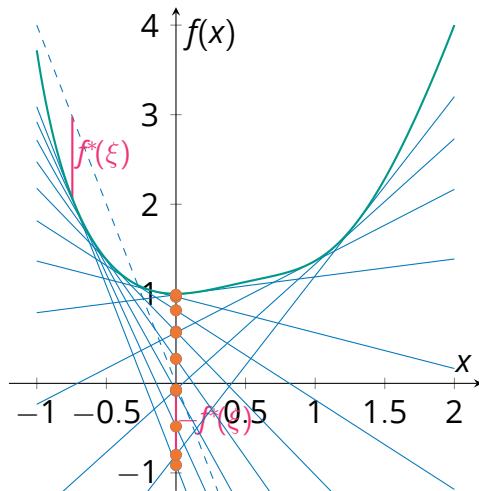
- ▶ given $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$: maximize the distance between $\xi^T \cdot$ and f
- ▶ **can also** be written in the epigraph

The **Fenchel biconjugate** reads

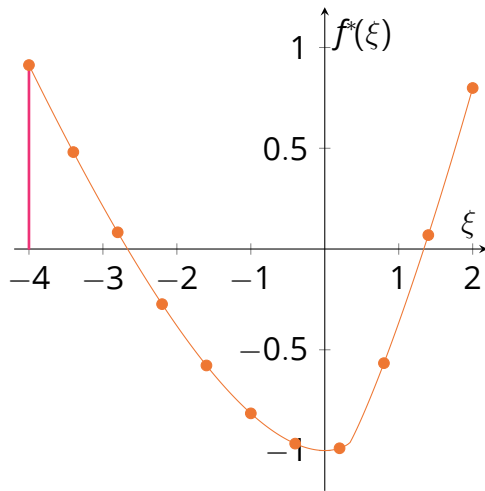
$$f^{**}(x) = (f^*)^*(x) = \sup_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n} \langle \xi, x \rangle - f^*(\xi).$$

Illustration of the Fenchel Conjugate

The function f



The Fenchel conjugate f^*



The Chambolle–Pock Algorithm

From the pair of primal-dual problems

[Chambolle, Pock, 2011]

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \quad & f(x) + g(Kx), \quad K \text{ linear,} \\ \max_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^m} \quad & -f^*(-K^*\xi) - g^*(\xi) \end{aligned}$$

we obtain for f, g proper convex, lsc the optimality conditions of a solution $(\hat{x}, \hat{\xi})$ as

$$\begin{aligned} -K^*\hat{\xi} &\in \partial f(\hat{x}) \\ K\hat{x} &\in \partial g^*(\hat{\xi}) \end{aligned}$$

The Chambolle–Pock Algorithm

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we obtain for f, g proper convex, lsc the

Chambolle–Pock Algorithm. with $\sigma > 0$, $\tau > 0$, $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ reads

$$\begin{aligned} x^{(k+1)} &= \text{prox}_{\sigma f}(x^{(k)} - \sigma K^* \bar{\xi}^{(k)}) \\ \xi^{(k+1)} &= \text{prox}_{\tau g, *}(\xi^{(k)} + \tau K x^{(k+1)}) \\ \bar{\xi}^{(k+1)} &= \xi^{(k+1)} + \theta(\xi^{(k+1)} - \xi^{(k)}) \end{aligned}$$

Applications of the Fenchel conjugate

The Fenchel conjugate is at the core of nonsmooth optimization

$$\arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x) + g(Kx)$$

as a so-called **splitting method**

- ▶ primal-dual (PD) algorithms [Esser, Zhang, Chan, 2010; Chambolle, Pock, 2011]
- ▶ PD with non-linear operators K [Valkonen, 2014; Mom, Langer, Sixou, 2022]
- ▶ several variants: hybrid gradient, primal/dual relaxed, linearized,...

Recently this has been generalised Riemannian manifolds using

- ▶ a tangent space approach [RB, Herzog, Silva Louzeiro, Tenbrinck, Vidal-Núñez, 2021]
- ▶ a tangent bundle approach [Silva Louzeiro, RB, Herzog, 2022]
- ▶ Busemann functions [de Carvalho Bento, Neto, Melo, 2023]



The Nonlinear Fenchel Conjugate

[Schiela, Herzog, RB, 2024]

In the Fenchel conjugate we use **linear** test functions $\varphi(x) = \langle \xi, x \rangle$.

💡 Use use **arbitrary** test functions

Let \mathcal{M} be a set. We define the domain of the sum (difference) of two extended real-valued functions $f, g \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ as

$$\mathcal{D}(f \pm g) := \{x \in \mathcal{M} \mid f(x) \pm g(x) \text{ is defined}\}.$$

Definition

The **nonlinear Fenchel conjugate** of $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} f^* : \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M}) &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty} \\ \varphi &\mapsto f^*(\varphi) := \sup\{\varphi(x) - f(x) \mid x \in \mathcal{D}(\varphi - f)\}. \end{aligned}$$

A few properties

The following properties carry over to the nonlinear case, just being a bit careful with the domain of the test functions.

Suppose that $f, g \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$.

[Schiela, Herzog, RB, 2024]

1. For $\alpha > 0$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\alpha f^*(\varphi) + \beta = (\alpha f)^*(\alpha \varphi + \beta) = (\alpha f - \beta)^*(\alpha \varphi).$$

2. If $\mathcal{D}(f - \psi) = \mathcal{D}(\varphi + \psi) = \mathcal{M}$, then

$$(f - \psi)^*(\varphi) = f^*(\varphi + \psi).$$

3. If $\mathcal{D}(f + g) = \mathcal{D}(\varphi + \psi) = \mathcal{M}$ and $f^*(\varphi) + g^*(\psi)$ is defined, then

$$(f + g)^*(\varphi + \psi) \leq f^*(\varphi) + g^*(\psi).$$

4. $\varphi \geq \psi$ and $f \leq g$ implies $f^*(\varphi) \geq g^*(\psi)$.

5. f^* is convex on $\mathcal{P}_{\infty}(\mathcal{M})$.

The Fenchel-Young inequality

An important inequality in the classical case is the Fenchel-Young inequality

$$f(x) + f^*(\xi) \geq \langle \xi, x \rangle$$

This carries over to the nonlinear case, with a bit of carefulness as to when the sum is defined.

Theorem (Fenchel-Young inequality)

Suppose that $f, \varphi \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ and $x \in \mathcal{M}$.

The Fenchel-Young inequalities

- ▶ $f^*(\varphi) \geq \varphi(x) - f(x)$
- ▶ $f(x) \geq \varphi(x) - f^*(\varphi)$
- ▶ $\varphi(x) \leq f(x) + f^*(\varphi)$

hold, provided that the respective right-hand side is defined in $\mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}$.

Nonlinear dual map

Motivation. In the classical case, we saw K^* the adjoint or dual map of K .

Definition

Suppose \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{N} are two non-empty sets and $A: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ is some map. The map

$$\begin{aligned} A^\otimes: \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{N}) &\rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M}) \\ \psi &\mapsto A^\otimes(\psi) := \psi \circ A \end{aligned}$$

is called the **dual or adjoint map of A** , or the pullback by A .

- ▶ $A^\otimes(\alpha\psi_1 + \psi_2) = \alpha A^\otimes(\psi_1) + A^\otimes(\psi_2)$ is a homomorphism
- ▶ If A is bijective, then $(f \circ A^{-1})^\otimes = f^\otimes \circ A^\otimes$
- ▶ more generally:
defining $(f \bullet A^{-1})(y) := \inf_{x \in A^{-1}(y)} f(x)$, we obtain $(f \bullet A^{-1})^\otimes = f^\otimes \circ A^\otimes$.

Motivation: The biconjugate

- ▶ approximate f its maximal convex, lsc. minorant
- ▶ linear setting: Γ -regularization, the pointwise supremum of continuous affine functions. [Ch. I.3 Ekeland, Temam, 1999]
- $\Rightarrow f^{**} \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(V)$ coincides with Γ -regularization of f , i. e. the largest convex lsc. minorant of $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(V)$
- ▶ **Fenchel-Moreau:** [Thm. 13.32 Bauschke, Combettes, 2011]
 $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\infty}(V)$ is convex, lsc. $\Leftrightarrow f^{**} = f$.

Nonlinear case.

Find a suitable subset $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ as a generalization for affine functions.

? Can we state a biconjugation theorem as well?

\mathcal{F} regularization

Suppose that $\emptyset \neq \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ and denote by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}} := \{\varphi + c \mid \varphi \in \mathcal{F}, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

the set of all φ that result from a shift of elements of \mathcal{F} .

We define the \mathcal{F} -regularization of $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ as

$$\lfloor f \rfloor_{\mathcal{F}}(x) := \sup\{\varphi(x) \mid \varphi \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}, \varphi \leq f\}.$$

💡 $\lfloor f \rfloor_{\mathcal{F}}$ is the pointwise supremum of all minorants of f taken from \mathcal{F} and its constant shifts.

In short we write: $\lfloor f \rfloor_{\mathcal{F}} = \sup\{\varphi \mid \varphi \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}, \varphi \leq f\}$

Some properties of \mathcal{F} regularization

1. $f \leq g$ and $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ implies $[f]_{\mathcal{F}} \leq [g]_{\mathcal{G}}$.
2. For $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$ and $c \in \mathbb{R}$ we have $[f + \varphi + c]_{\mathcal{F}} = [f]_{\mathcal{F}} + \varphi + c$.
3. $[f]_{\mathcal{F}} \leq f$, thus $f \leq [f]_{\mathcal{F}} \Leftrightarrow [f]_{\mathcal{F}} = f$
4. $f \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow [f]_{\mathcal{F}} = f$.
5. $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ implies $[[f]_{\mathcal{G}}]_{\mathcal{F}} = [f]_{\mathcal{F}}$.
6. if \mathcal{F} is a convex cone we obtain for $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 > 0$ and $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ with $[f_1]_{\mathcal{F}} \neq -\infty$ and $[f_2]_{\mathcal{F}} \neq -\infty$ we obtain

$$\alpha_1 [f_1]_{\mathcal{F}} + \alpha_2 [f_2]_{\mathcal{F}} \leq [\alpha_1 f_1 + \alpha_2 f_2]_{\mathcal{F}} \leq \alpha_1 f_1 + \alpha_2 f_2$$

Examples

1. For \mathcal{M} is a locally convex linear topological space.
 - ▶ $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{M}^*$ is its topological dual space
 - ▶ $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ is the space of all continuous affine functions
 - ▶ $[f]_{\mathcal{M}^*}$ is the pointwise supremum over all affine minorants of f .
2. Suppose that \mathcal{M} is a metric space.
 - ▶ choosing $\mathcal{F} = C(\mathcal{M})$, $\text{sup-cl}(\mathcal{F}) := \{[f]_{\mathcal{F}} \mid f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})\}$ consists of the cone of lower semi-continuous functions in $\mathcal{P}_{\infty}(\mathcal{M})$
3. alternate generalization: the \mathcal{C} -conjugate [Martínez-Legaz, 2005]
 For a coupling function $c: \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}$ defined as

$$f^c(y) := \sup_{x \in \mathcal{M}} c(x, y) - f(x) \quad \text{for } y \in \mathcal{N}.$$

Generalizes duality pairing instead of the set of test functions.

\mathcal{F} biconjugates

- ▶ We denote the restriction of the conjugate $f^* \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ to \mathcal{F} by

$$f^*|_{\mathcal{F}}: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}$$

- ▶ Let the evaluation (Dirac) functions be given by

$$\delta_x: \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}, \quad \varphi \mapsto \delta_x(\varphi) := \varphi(x).$$

- ➡ The restriction $\delta_x|_{\mathcal{F}}$ to \mathcal{F} is a linear function on \mathcal{F} and continuous.

Definition

Suppose that \mathcal{F} is a linear subspace of $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{M})$.

We define the \mathcal{F} -biconjugate $f_{\mathcal{F}}^{**}$ of $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ as

$$f_{\mathcal{F}}^{**}: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}, \quad x \mapsto (f^*|_{\mathcal{F}})^*(\delta_x).$$

Note. We employ the embedding of \mathcal{M} into the dual space of \mathcal{F} via

$$J_{\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}'}: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}', \quad x \mapsto \delta_x.$$

\mathcal{F} biconjugate theorem

Remember.

For the classical Fenchel biconjugate the set \mathcal{F} are all affine functions and $\lfloor f \rfloor_{\mathcal{F}}$ is largest convex lsc. minorant of $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(V)$

Theorem

Suppose that \mathcal{F} is a linear subspace of $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{M})$. The \mathcal{F} -biconjugate satisfies $f_{\mathcal{F}}^{\circ\circ} = \lfloor f \rfloor_{\mathcal{F}}$ for all $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$.

➡ If $f = \lfloor f \rfloor_{\mathcal{F}}$, or in other words f agrees with the pointwise supremum of all minorants from \mathcal{F} , then we recover f from its \mathcal{F} -biconjugate.

Motivation: The subdifferential

With the Fenchel conjugate $f^*: V^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}$ of a proper, convex, lsc. function $f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\pm\infty}$ on a vector space V we have

$$\xi \in \partial f(x) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad x \in \partial f^*(\xi)$$

can define the subdifferential.



Nonlinear case.

We need “more structure on \mathcal{M} ” to define a subdifferential of f .

In practice/numerics we use Riemannian manifolds.

In the following we consider a manifold \mathcal{M} , that is locally homeomorphic to a Banach space \mathcal{X} , or a **Banach manifold** for short.

The viscosity Fréchet Subdifferential

A function $f \in \mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ is lower semi-continuous at $x \in \mathcal{M}$ if,
 $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists$ a neighbourhood \mathcal{U} of x s.t. that $f(y) \geq f(x) - \varepsilon$ for all $y \in \mathcal{U}$.
 We denote by $\text{lsc}_{\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ the set of all functions that are lower semi-continuous at every $x \in \mathcal{M}$.

Definition

Suppose that \mathcal{M} is a C^1 -Banach manifold, $f \in \text{lsc}_{\infty}(\mathcal{M})$, $x \in \mathcal{M}$ and $f(x) \neq +\infty$.

The (viscosity) Fréchet subdifferential $\partial_F f(x)$ of f is defined as follows:

$$\partial_F f(x) := \{ \varphi'(x) \mid \varphi \in C^1(\mathcal{M}), f - \varphi \text{ attains a local minimum at } x \} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_x^* \mathcal{M},$$

where $\mathcal{T}_x^* \mathcal{M} := (\mathcal{T}_x \mathcal{M})^*$ denotes the cotangent space at x . In case $f(x) = +\infty$, we set $\partial_F f(x) := \emptyset$.

Subdifferential Classification

Theorem

Suppose that \mathcal{M} is a C^1 -Banach manifold.

Let $x \in \mathcal{M}$, f be lower semicontinuous at every $x \in \mathcal{M}$ and $\varphi \in C^1(\mathcal{M})$.

- 1. If $f^*(\varphi) = \varphi(x) - f(x)$, i. e. we have equality in the Fenchel-Young inequality,
then $\varphi'(x) \in \partial_F f(x)$ and the Dirac function $\delta_x \in \partial(f^*|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})})(\varphi)$.*
- 2. Conversely, if $\delta_x \in \partial(f^*|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})})(\varphi)$, then $f^*(\varphi) = \varphi(x) - f(x)$.*

Motivation: Infimal convolution

Infimal convolution is defined as

$$(f \star_{\text{inf}} g)(x) := \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} \{f(y) + g(x - y)\}.$$

The infimal convolution formula shows that

[Prop. 13.21 [Bauschke, Combettes, 2011](#)]

$$(f \star_{\text{inf}} g)^* = f^* + g^*$$

Nonlinear case.

With slightly “more structure” to generalise infimal convolution, a way to define “ $x - y \in \mathcal{M}$ ” to be precise.

? Can we then get the same result for the nonlinear Fenchel conjugate? And what is a suitable restriction of $\mathcal{P}_{\pm\infty}(\mathcal{M})$ then?

Using Lie groups

Let

- ▶ \mathcal{M} be a Riemannian manifold
- ▶ $\cdot: \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ be a group operation
- ➡ (\mathcal{M}, \cdot) is a Lie group.

We generalize **infimal convolution** to functions $f, g \in \mathcal{P}_\infty(\mathcal{M})$ as

$$(f \star_{\text{inf}} g)(x) := \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} f(x \cdot y^{-1}) + g(y) = \inf_{z \in \mathcal{M}} f(z) + g(z^{-1} \cdot x).$$

Consider the linear space of group homomorphisms

$$\mathcal{H} := \text{Hom}((\mathcal{M}, \cdot), (\mathbb{R}, +))$$

Then the get the relation

$$(f \star_{\text{inf}} g)^*(\varphi) = f^*(\varphi) + g^*(\varphi) \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{H}.$$

Chambolle-Pock algorithm

Special case: Test functions on $\mathcal{T}_x\mathcal{M}$

For a $x \in \mathcal{M}$ consider a neighbourhood V of the origin in the tangent space $\mathcal{T}_x\mathcal{M}$ on which the exponential map \exp_x is a diffeomorphism to $\mathcal{V} := \exp_x(V) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$.

As set of test functions we use

[Ahmadi Kakavandi, Amini, 2010; Silva Louzeiro, RB, Herzog, 2022]

$$\mathcal{F}_x := \{x^* \circ \exp_x^{-1} \in C^\infty(\mathcal{V}, \mathbb{R}) \mid x^* \in \mathcal{T}_x^*\mathcal{M}\}$$

We also consider a **localised** version of the nonlinear conjugate

$$(f + \iota_{\mathcal{V}})^{\circledast}(\varphi) = \sup_{y \in \mathcal{V}} \{\varphi(y) - f(y)\} \quad \text{for } \varphi \in \mathcal{F}_x.$$

This indeed agrees with the classical Fenchel conjugate on the tangent space as $f_x(x^*) := (f \circ \exp_x + \iota_V)^*(x^*)$

Saddle Point Formulation on Manifolds

On manifolds, we consider for

$$\min_{p \in \mathcal{M}} f(p) + g(\Lambda p), \quad \Lambda: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N},$$

where f is geodesically convex, and $g \circ \exp_n$ is convex for some $n \in \mathcal{N}$.

Saddle point formulation. Using the n -Fenchel conjugate g_n^* of g :

$$\min_{p \in \mathcal{C}} \max_{\xi_n \in \mathcal{T}_n^* \mathcal{N}} \langle \xi_n, \log_n \Lambda(p) \rangle + f(p) - g_n^*(\xi_n).$$

But. Λ is inherently nonlinear and inside a logarithmic map \Rightarrow no adjoint.

Approach. Linearization: Choose m such that $n = \Lambda(m)$ and [Valkonen, 2014]

$$\Lambda(p) \approx \exp_{\Lambda(m)} D\Lambda(m)[\log_m p].$$

The exact Riemannian Chambolle–Pock Algorithm

[RB, Herzog, Silva Louzeiro, Tenbrinck, Vidal-Núñez, 2021; Chambolle, Pock, 2011]

Input: $m, p^{(0)} \in \mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{M}$, $n = \Lambda(m)$, $\xi_n^{(0)} \in \mathcal{T}_n^* \mathcal{N}$, and $\sigma, \tau, \theta > 0$

1: $k \leftarrow 0$

2: $\bar{p}^{(0)} \leftarrow p^{(0)}$

3: **while** not converged **do**

4: $\xi_n^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \text{prox}_{\tau g_n^*} \left(\xi_n^{(k)} + \tau \left(\log_n \Lambda(\bar{p}^{(k)}) \right)^\flat \right)$

5: $p^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \text{prox}_{\sigma f} \left(\exp_{p^{(k)}} \left(P_{p^{(k)} \leftarrow m} \left(-\sigma D\Lambda(m)^* [\xi_n^{(k+1)}] \right)^\sharp \right) \right)$

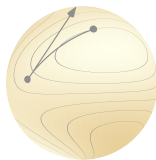
6: $\bar{p}^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \exp_{p^{(k+1)}} \left(-\theta \log_{p^{(k+1)}} p^{(k)} \right)$

7: $k \leftarrow k + 1$

8: **end while**

Output: $p^{(k)}$

Manopt.jl



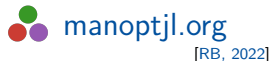
Goal. Provide optimization algorithms on Riemannian manifolds.

Features. Given a `Problem p` and a `SolverState s`,
implement `initialize_solver!(p, s)` and `step_solver!(p, s, i)`
⇒ an algorithm in the `Manopt.jl` interface

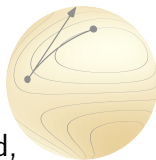
Highlevel interfaces like `gradient_descent(M, f, grad_f)`
on any manifold `M` from `Manifolds.jl`.

All provide `debug` output, `recording`, `cache` & `counting` capabilities,
as well as a library of `step sizes` and `stopping criteria`.

Manopt family.



List of Algorithms in Manopt.jl



Derivative Free Nelder-Mead, Particle Swarm, CMA-ES

Subgradient-based Subgradient Method, Convex Bundle Method, Proximal Bundle Method

Gradient-based Gradient Descent, Conjugate Gradient, Stochastic, Momentum, Nesterov, Averaged, ...
Quasi-Newton with (L-)BFGS, DFP, Broyden, SR1,...
Levenberg-Marquard

Hessian-based Trust Regions, Adaptive Regularized Cubics (ARC)

nonsmooth Chambolle-Pock, Douglas-Rachford, Cyclic Proximal Point

constrained Augmented Lagrangian, Exact Penalty, Frank-Wolfe, Interior Point Newton

nonconvex Difference of Convex Algorithm, DCPA

Riemannian Chambolle-Pock in Manopt.jl

To call the [exact Riemannian Chambolle-Pock algorithm](#) in `Manopt.jl`:

```
ChambollePock(M, N, F, p, X, m, n, prox_f, prox_g_n, DΛ*; kwargs...)
```

- ▶ `M`, `N` are the manifolds f and g , resp., are defined on
- ▶ `F` is the objective function $f + g$
- ▶ `p`, `n`, `m` are the initial, Fenchel conjugate base, and linearization point, resp.
- ▶ `X` is the initial tangent vector
- ▶ `prox_f`, `prox_g_n` are the proximal maps of f and g_n^* , resp.
- ▶ $D\Lambda^*$ is the adjoint of the linearization of Λ

Summary







The [Nonlinear Fenchel Conjugate](#) generalises the Fenchel conjugate. A lot of properties can be proven more generally as well:


- ▶ Fenchel-Young inequality
- ▶ Biconjugate theorem
- ▶ Subdifferential classification
- ▶ Infimal convolution

➡ Unified framework for the existing generalisations and hence for nonsmooth optimization on Riemannian manifolds.

Example Chambolle-Pock algorithm on Riemannian manifolds and its implementation in [Manopt.jl](#).

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