

Geomstats

A deep dive into discrete surfaces implementation

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Acknowledgments

- based on (Hartman, 2023)¹
- original code: [emmanuel-hartman/H2_SurfaceMatch](#)
- initial implementation by Emmanuel: see [geomstats/#1711](#)

¹Hartman et al., “Elastic Shape Analysis of Surfaces with Second-Order Sobolev Metrics”, 2023.

Setup

<https://github.com/luisfpereira/esi25>

Computations and **statistics** on **manifolds** with geometric structures

- Python (powered by `numpy`, `autograd`, or `pytorch`)
- open-source (MIT license)
- object-oriented
- `sklearn`-inspired API
- thoroughly tested with (extended) `pytest`

¹Guigui, Miolane, and Pennec, “[Introduction to Riemannian Geometry and Geometric Statistics](#)”, 2022.

Motivation: Riemannian geometry

Let $A, B \in \mathcal{X}$, where \mathcal{X} is some non-linear space:

1. how to compute **distances** between A and B ?
2. how to **interpolate** between A and B ?
3. how to **extrapolate**?

Why these questions?

1. notion of distance \implies can do statistics
2. interpolation \implies can meaningfully move between points
3. extrapolation \implies strong predicting ability

Motivation: why Geomstats?

A platform implementing **consistently** and **flexibly** different Riemannian manifolds (and more).

Consequences:

- code reuse
- (hopefully) less bugs (easier testing)
- easy experimentation
- productivity gains (after mastering structure)
- sense of community

Backend

```
import geomstats.backend as gs
```

	numpy	autograd	pytorch
numerical precision		float64	
gpu			✓
automatic differentiation		✓	✓

```
import os
```

```
os.environ["GEOMSTATS_BACKEND"] = "pytorch"
```

or

```
export GEOMSTATS_BACKEND=pytorch
```

About today's presentation

- assumes familiarity with `geomstats`
- transform abstract/high-level knowledge in actual practical knowledge
- representative, but `geomstats` is much more

Every time you see
`space` or `space.metric`
think I could have instantiated your favorite manifold/metric instead.

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Dive in warning

Main goal:

introduce **parameterized surfaces**

- show **space/metric** in `geomstats`
- reveal auxiliary, but invaluable, **computational objects**
- present strategy to solve **geodesic boundary value problem**

Triangle mesh

Triangle mesh M :

1. ordered pair $(V(M), F(M))$
2. set $V(M) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ of vertices
3. set $F \subseteq \{1, \dots, |V|\}^3$ of triangular faces
4. $f = (f_1, f_2, f_3) \in F$ defines a triangular face enclosed by the corresponding vertices v_{f_1} , v_{f_2} , and v_{f_3}

Faces implicitly define the edges $E(F)$ between the vertices.

Parameterized surfaces and Sobolev metric

Set of triangle meshes with **fixed combinatorial structure** \mathfrak{M} .

- fixed number of vertices V
- fixed connectivities: fixed set of faces F (and edges E)

A surface is fully defined by the **location of the vertices**

Second-order Sobolev metric (aka elastic metric):

$$G_q(h, k) = \int_M \left(\langle h, k \rangle + g_q^{-1}(dh, dk) + \langle \Delta_q h, \Delta_q h \rangle \right) \text{vol}_q$$

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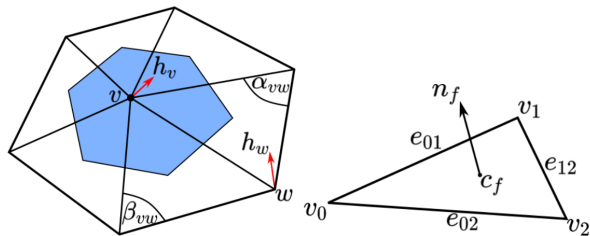
$$G_q(h, k) = \int_M \left(\langle h, k \rangle + g_q^{-1}(dh, dk) + \langle \Delta_q h, \Delta_q h \rangle \right) \text{vol}_q$$

Discretization of (spatial) quantities¹

- tangent vectors discretized on the vertices V :

$$h := \{h_v \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid v \in V\} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$$

- first-order terms discretized on the faces F
- Laplace operator discretized on the dual cell
- volume form both at a vertex and at a face (from face to vertex)



¹Crane, “Discrete differential geometry: An applied introduction”, 2018.

Discretization of (spatial) quantities (cont'd)

$$G_q(h, k) = \int_M \left(\langle h, k \rangle + g_q^{-1}(dh, dk) + \langle \Delta_q h, \Delta_q h \rangle \right) \text{vol}_q$$

- $e_{ij} = v_j - v_i$

- $dq_f = \begin{bmatrix} e_{01} \\ e_{02} \end{bmatrix}$

- $dh = \begin{bmatrix} h_1 - h_0 \\ h_2 - h_0 \end{bmatrix}$

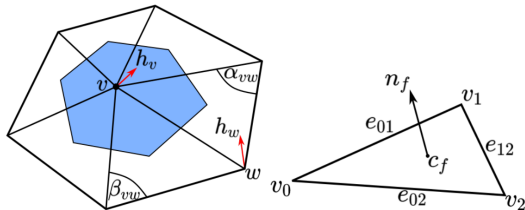
- $g_f = \begin{bmatrix} |e_{01}|^2 & e_{01} \cdot e_{02} \\ e_{01} \cdot e_{02} & |e_{02}|^2 \end{bmatrix}$

- $\text{vol}_f = \frac{1}{2} |e_{01} \times e_{02}|$

- $n_f = \frac{e_{01} \times e_{02}}{|e_{01} \times e_{02}|}$

- $(\Delta_q h)_v = \sum_{\substack{w|(v,w) \in E \\ \text{or } (w,v) \in E}} (\cot(\alpha_{vw}) + \cot(\beta_{vw})) (h_v - h_w)$

- $\text{vol}_v = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{f|v \in f} \text{vol}_f$



Discretization of (spatial) quantities (cont'd)

$$\begin{aligned} G_q^{a_0, a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1, a_2}(h, k) = & \int_M a_0 \langle h, k \rangle + a_1 g_q^{-1}(dh_m, dk_m) \\ & + b_1 g_q^{-1}(dh_+, dk_+) + c_1 g_q^{-1}(dh_\perp, dk_\perp) \\ & + d_1 g_q^{-1}(dh_0, dk_0) + a_2 \langle \Delta_q h, \Delta_q h \rangle \text{vol}_q \end{aligned}$$

becomes

$$\begin{aligned} G_q^{a_0, a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1, a_2}(h, k) = & \sum_{v \in V} a_0 \langle h, k \rangle \text{vol}_v \\ & + \sum_{f \in F} \left(a_1 g_f^{-1}(dh_m, dk_m) + b_1 g_f^{-1}(dh_+, dk_+) \right. \\ & \left. + c_1 g_f^{-1}(dh_\perp, dk_\perp) + d_1 g_f^{-1}(dh_0, dk_0) \right) \text{vol}_f \\ & + \sum_{v \in V} a_2 \langle \Delta_q h, \Delta_q k \rangle \text{vol}_v \end{aligned}$$

Translating into code¹

```
class DiscreteSurfaces(Manifold):

    def __init__(self, faces, equip=True):
        self.faces = faces
        # ...

    def belongs(self, point, atol=gs.atol):
        # check if point belongs to manifold

    def random_point(self, n_samples=1):
        # create random point
```

```
class ElasticMetric(RiemannianMetric):

    def __init__(
        self, space, a0, a1, b1, c1, d1, a2
    ):
        # ...

    def inner_product(self,
        tangent_vec_a, tangent_vec_b,
        base_point
    ):
        # compute inner product
```

```
space = DiscreteSurfaces(faces, equip=False)
space.equip_with_metric(ElasticMetric)

# point : array, shape=(..., n_vertices, 3)
space.metric.squared_dist(point_a, point_b)
```

¹check out `geomstats.geometry.discrete_surfaces`

Riemannian geometry: inner product and distance

Discrete surfaces (\mathfrak{M}, G) :

smooth manifold + inner product

We have an **inner product** at each point q

$$G_q(\cdot, \cdot) \text{ on } T_q\mathfrak{M}$$

Distance as the norm of a tangent vector

$$d^2(q, p) = G_q(v, v), \text{ where } v = \text{Log}_q(p)$$

Back to code: Log¹

```
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# point : array, shape=(..., n_vertices, 3)
space.metric.squared_dist(point_a, point_b)
```

is the same as:

```
tangent_vec = space.metric.log(point_b, point_a)
space.metric.inner_product(tangent_vec, tangent_vec, point_a)

# or
space.metric.squared_norm(tangent_vec, point_a)
```

- code is slow? log solver is the culprit!

¹check out `geomstats.geometry.riemannian_metric`

Back to code: Log¹

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Geodesic boundary value problem

Find **paths** of shortest length connecting p_0 and p_1 .

Induced geodesic distance:

$$\begin{aligned}d_G(p_0, p_1) &= \inf_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{p_0}^{p_1}} L_G(p) \\&= \inf_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{p_0}^{p_1}} \int_0^1 \sqrt{G_{p(t)}(\partial_t p(t), \partial_t p(t))} dt\end{aligned}$$

with:

$$\mathcal{P}_{p_0}^{p_1} := \{p \in C^\infty([0, 1], \mathfrak{M}) : p(0) = p_0, p(1) = p_1\}$$

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Path

Let $q : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ denote a path of triangular meshes.

In practice, we discretize:

$$V_i = q(t_i), \quad t_i = \frac{i}{N}, i = 0, \dots, N$$

Using finite differences,

$$\dot{V}_i = N (V_{i+1} - V_i)$$

Back to code: geodesic¹

```
# q : callable
# float -> array, shape=(..., n_vertices, 3)
q = space.metric.geodesic(point_a, point_b)

geod_point = q(0.5)

# behind the scenes
# q: UniformlySampledDiscretePath
# V: array, shape=(..., n_grid, n_vertices, 3)
V = q.interpolator.data
```

```
class UniformlySampledDiscretePath:
    def __init__(self, path, interpolator):
        # ...

    def __call__(self, t):
        # ...

class UniformUnitIntervalLinearInterpolator:
    def __init__(self, data, point_ndim):
        # ...

    def interpolate(self, t):
        # ...
```

¹check out `geomstats.numerics.geodesic/path/interpolation`

Riemannian energy: time discretization

Let $q : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ denote a path of triangular meshes.

$$E(q) := \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 G_{q(t)}(\dot{q}(t), \dot{q}(t)) dt$$

Discrete counterpart:

$$E(V) = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} G_{V_i}(\dot{V}_i, \dot{V}_i)$$

Back to code: Riemannian energy¹

```
# q : callable
# float -> array, shape=(..., n_vertices, 3)
q = space.metric.geodesic(point_a, point_b)

# array, shape=(..., n_grid, n_vertices, 3)
V = q.interpolator.data

path_energy = UniformlySampledPathEnergy(space)

path_energy(V)
```

```
class UniformlySampledPathEnergy:
    def __init__(self, space):
        # ...

    def __call__(self, path):
        # returns path energy
        # ...

    def energy_per_time(self, path):
        # handles finite differences
        # ...
```

¹check out `geomstats.numerics.path`

Path straightening

Find discrete path V that minimizes Riemannian energy $E(V)$:

$$V^* = \arg \min_V E(V)$$

Can be solved with **gradient**-based algorithms.

Algorithm 1 Geodesic BVP for Parameterized Surfaces

Require:

V_0, V_1 : source and target surfaces

V : initial guess for discrete path

$\text{cost}(V) \leftarrow E([V_0, V, V_1])$

$V \leftarrow \text{L-BFGS}(V, \text{cost})$

Back to code: path straightening¹

```
# q : callable  
# float -> array, shape=(..., n_vertices, 3)  
q = space.metric.geodesic(point_a, point_b)
```

is the same as:

```
log_solver = PathStraightening(  
    space, path_energy, n_nodes, optimizer  
)  
  
log_solver.geodesic_bvp(point_b, point_a)
```

```
class PathStraightening(LogSolver):  
    def discrete_geodesic_bvp(  
        self, point, base_point,  
    ):  
        # returns energy-minimizing discrete path  
  
    def geodesic_bvp(self, point, base_point):  
        # calls discrete_geodesic_bvp  
        # returns UniformlySampledDiscretePath  
  
    def log(self, point, base_point):  
        # calls discrete_geodesic_bvp  
        # returns tangent vector
```

¹check out `geomstats.numerics.geodesic`

More code: optimizer¹

```
class ScipyMinimize(Minimizer):
    def __init__(
        self,
        method,
        autodiff_jac, # bool
        # ...
    ):
        # ...

    def minimize(self, fun, x0):
        # wraps scipy.optimize.minimize
```

Alternatives: TorchLBFGS, TorchminMinimize

¹check out `geomstats.numerics.optimization`

Zooming out

- from an **inner product**, we get **distances** and **geodesics** by solving an **optimization problem**
- optimization problem finds **position of vertices** of meshes in a path

NB: most of the introduced objects are **generic**
(e.g. PathStraightening)

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Dive in warning

Main goal:

introduce **unparameterized surfaces**

- introduce **varifold** distance and **kernels**
- present strategy to solve **relaxed alignment problem**

Unparameterized surfaces

Set of triangle meshes with ~~fixed combinatorial structure~~ \mathfrak{M} .

- ~~fixed number of vertices~~ V
- ~~fixed connectivities: fixed set of edges~~ E and faces F

Each point is an **equivalence class**:

$$[q] = \{q \circ \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{D}\}$$

Implementation heavily relies on **parameterized surfaces**.

Relaxed alignment problem

$$d_G([p_0], [p_1]) = \inf_{\varphi \in \mathcal{D}} \inf_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{p_0}^{\varphi \cdot p_1}} L_G(p)$$

Can be written as:

$$\min_{\tilde{p}_1 \in \mathfrak{M}_0} d_G(p_0, \tilde{p}_1) \quad \text{subject to} \quad d_G(\tilde{p}_1, [p_1]) = 0$$

Or, more interestingly:

$$\arg \min_{\tilde{p}_1 \in \mathfrak{M}_0} E_G(p) + \lambda \Gamma(p(1), p_1), \text{ where } p \in \mathcal{P}_{p_0}^{\tilde{p}_1}$$

i.e. $\Gamma(p(1), p_1)$ enforces orbit membership.

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Varifold distance

Where can we find such Γ ? **Varifold theory** comes to rescue!

A **varifold distance** (between two surfaces) is blind to reparameterizations.

In other words, it is $\mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{D}$ -invariant:

$$d_V(p_0, p_1) = d_V(p_0 \circ \varphi_0, p_1 \circ \varphi_1)$$

Therefore, we can use

$$\Gamma(p(1), p_1) = d_V^2(p(1), p_1)$$

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Kernels

$$\langle q_0, q_1 \rangle_V = \sum_{f_0 \in F_0} \sum_{f_1 \in F_1} K(c_{f_0}, c_{f_1}, n_{f_0}, n_{f_1}) \text{vol}_{f_0} \text{vol}_{f_1}$$

Kernel factorization (positional \times spherical):

$$K(c_{f_0}, c_{f_1}, n_{f_0}, n_{f_1}) = K_p(c_{f_0}, c_{f_1}) K_s(n_{f_0}, n_{f_1})$$

Kernels

$$\langle q_0, q_1 \rangle_V = \sum_{f_0 \in F_0} \sum_{f_1 \in F_1} K(c_{f_0}, c_{f_1}, n_{f_0}, n_{f_1}) \text{vol}_{f_0} \text{vol}_{f_1}$$

Kernel factorization (positional \times spherical):

$$K(c_{f_0}, c_{f_1}, n_{f_0}, n_{f_1}) = K_p(c_{f_0}, c_{f_1}) K_s(n_{f_0}, n_{f_1})$$

(Some) kernels¹

Positional:

- Gaussian: $K_p(x, y) = e^{-\|x-y\|^2/\sigma^2}$
- Cauchy: $K_p(x, y) = \frac{1}{1+\|x-y\|^2/\sigma^2}$

Spherical:

- Linear: $K_s(u, v) = \langle u, v \rangle$
- Binet: $K_s(u, v) = \langle u, v \rangle^2$
- "Squared restricted Gaussian": $K_s(u, v) = e^{-2\langle x, y \rangle^2/\sigma^2}$
- Restricted Gaussian: $K_s(u, v) = e^{-2\langle x, y \rangle/\sigma^2}$

Kernel addition results in a valid kernel.

¹Charon et al., “12 - Fidelity metrics between curves and surfaces”, 2020.

Back to code: kernels and varifold metric^{1,2}

```
position_kernel = GaussianKernel(sigma=1.0, init_index=0)
tangent_kernel = BinetKernel(
    init_index=position_kernel.new_variable_index()
)
kernel = SurfacesKernel(
    position_kernel,
    tangent_kernel,
    signal_kernel=None,
)

varifold_metric = VarifoldMetric(kernel)
```

```
class SurfacesKernel:
    def __call__(self, point_a, point_b):
        # evaluates kernel
        # ...

class VarifoldMetric:
    def scalar_product(self, point_a, point_b):
        # simply calls kernel
        # ...

    def squared_distance(self, point_a, point_b):
        # ...

    def loss(self, target_point):
        # outputs a callable
        # ...
```

¹check out `geomstats.varifold`

²thank you pykeops team!

Oriented varifolds

Oriented varifolds¹ generalize:

- a model of measures for point clouds²: $K_s(u, v) = 1$
- currents³: $K_s(u, v) = \langle u, v \rangle$
- varifolds⁴: orientation-invariant kernel
 - ▶ $K(u, v) = K(u, -v) = K(-u, v)$
 - ▶ e.g. $K_s(u, v) = \langle u, v \rangle^2$

¹Kaltenmark, Charlier, and Charon, “A General Framework for Curve and Surface Comparison and Registration With Oriented Varifolds”, 2017.

²Glaunes, Trounev, and Yones, “Diffeomorphic matching of distributions”, 2004.

³Vaillant and Glaunès, “Surface Matching via Currents”, 2005.

⁴Charon and Trounev, “The Varifold Representation of Nonoriented Shapes for Diffeomorphic Registration”, 2013.

Back to code: surface¹

```
varifold_metric = VarifoldMetric(kernel)
```

```
point_a = Surface(vertices_a, faces_a)  
point_b = Surface(vertices_b, faces_b)
```

```
varifold_metric.squared_dist(point_a, point_b)
```

```
class Surface:  
    def __init__(  
        self,  
        vertices,  
        faces,  
        signal=None  
    ):  
        # ...  
        self.face_centroids = # ...  
        self.face_normals = # ...  
        self.face_areas = # ...
```

¹check out `geomstats._mesh`

More code: relaxed path straightening¹

```
log_solver = RelaxedPathStraightening(  
    space,  
    path_energy,  
    n_nodes,  
    optimizer,  
    discrepancy_loss,  
)  
  
log_solver.geodesic_bvp(point_b, point_a)
```

```
class RelaxedPathStraightening(LogSolver, AlignerAlgorithm):  
    def discrete_geodesic_bvp(  
        self, point, base_point,  
    ):   
        # returns energy-minimizing discrete path  
  
    def geodesic_bvp(self, point, base_point):  
        # returns UniformlySampledDiscretePath  
  
    def log(self, point, base_point):  
        # returns tangent vector  
  
    def align(self, point, base_point):  
        # aligns point to base point
```

¹check out `geomstats.geometry.discrete_surfaces`

More code: relaxed path straightening (cont'd)¹

```
class RelaxedPathStraightening(LogSolver, AlignerAlgorithm):
    def __init__(
        total_space,
        n_nodes=3,
        lambda_=1.0,
        discrepancy_loss=None,
        path_energy=None,
        optimizer=None,
        initialization=None,
    ):
        # ...
```

¹check out `geomstats.geometry.discrete_surfaces`

More code: quotient structure^{1,2}

```
log_solver = RelaxedPathStraightening(  
    space, path_energy, n_nodes, optimizer  
)  
  
log_solver.geodesic_bvp(point_b, point_a)
```

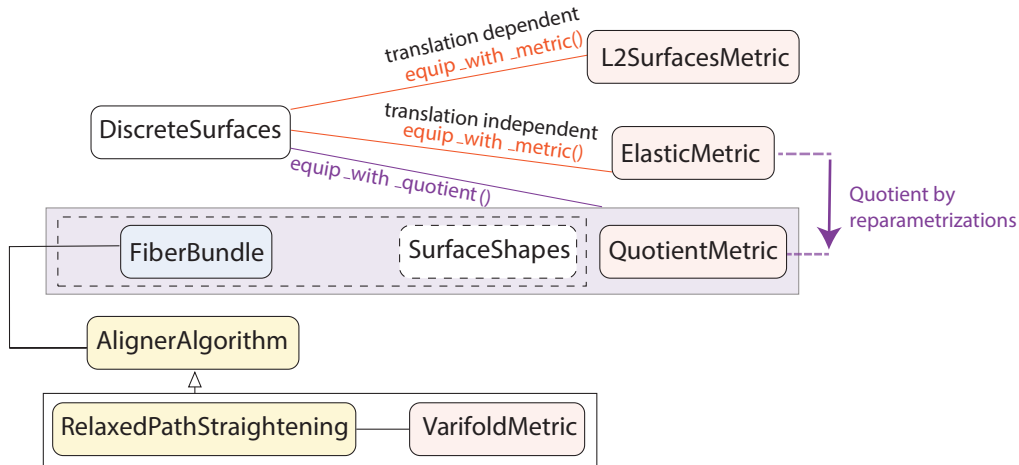
is the same as:

```
space = DiscreteSurfaces(faces)  
space.equip_with_metric(ElasticMetric)  
space.equip_with_group_action("reparametrizations")  
space.equip_with_quotient_structure()  
  
space.quotient.metric.geodesic(base_point, point)
```

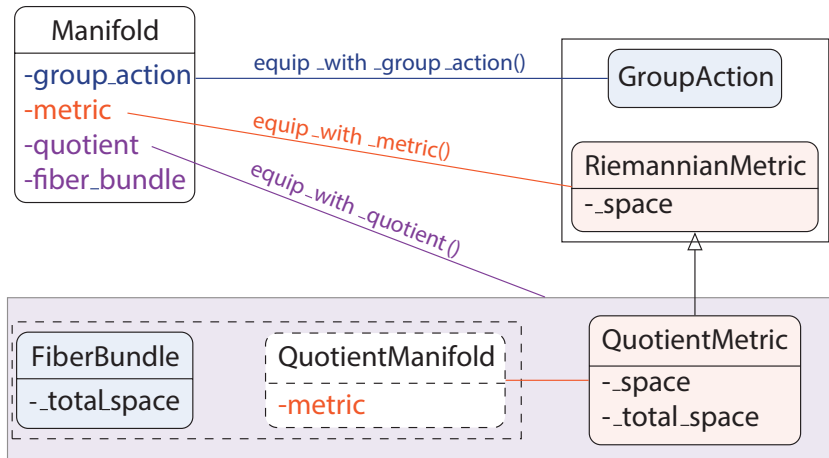
¹Pereira et al., [Learning from landmarks, curves, surfaces, and shapes in Geomstats](#), 2024.

²check out `geomstats.geometry.discrete_surfaces`

Quotient structure: surfaces



(Abstract) quotient structure



Applies to **landmarks**, **curves**, **surfaces**, **full-rank correlation matrices**.

Zooming out

- **parameterized surfaces** and **varifold distance** can be leveraged for computations with **unparameterized surfaces**

Composing objects

- objects presented can be seen as **building blocks** to more complex algorithms
- e.g. `MultiresPathStraightening` may use `PathStraightening` at each iteration
 - ▶ not done yet
 - ▶ good first contribution
- `RelaxedPathStraightening` can be used to implement a `LambdaAdaptiveRelaxedPathStraightening`
 - ▶ see unofficial implementation in `polpo.registration.surface`

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Back to code: multiresolution path straightening¹

```
log_solver = PathStraightening(  
    space, path_energy, n_nodes, optimizer  
)  
  
geod = None  
for n_nodes in n_nodes_ls:  
    log_solver.n_nodes = n_nodes  
    if geod is not None:  
        times = gs.linspace(0, 1, n_nodes)  
        log_solver.initialization = geod(times)[1:-1]  
  
    geod = log_solver.geodesic_bvp(point, base_point)
```

*needs slight adaptations to actually work

¹check out `geomstats.numerics.geodesic`

Wrapping up







- a lot of objects
- users do not necessarily need to be aware of them
- performance is tied to choice of numerical parameters
- reusability of objects makes long-term development easier and more reliable

Thank you for your attention!

<https://geomstats.ai/>

<https://github.com/geomstats/geomstats>

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