

# A Variational Model for Data Fitting on Manifolds by Minimizing the Acceleration of a Bézier Curve

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Kolloquium, Department Mathematik, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg,

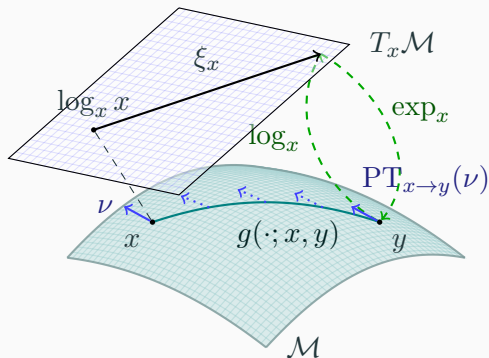
Erlangen, December 11, 2018

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<sup>a</sup>joint work with P.-Y. Gousenbourger, UCLouvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.

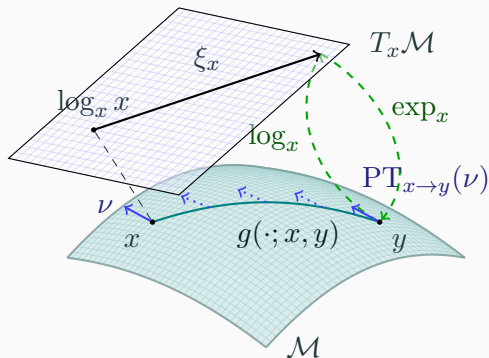
1. Riemannian Manifolds & Optimization
2. Data Fitting on Riemannian Manifolds
3. Bézier Curves and Generalized Bézier Curves
4. Discretized Acceleration of a Bézier Curve
5. Gradient Descent on a Manifold
6. Numerical Examples

# An $m$ -dimensional Riemannian Manifold $\mathcal{M}$



A  $d$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold can be informally defined as a set  $\mathcal{M}$  covered with a 'suitable' collection of charts, that identify subsets of  $\mathcal{M}$  with open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and a continuously varying inner product on the tangential spaces.

# An $m$ -dimensional Riemannian Manifold $\mathcal{M}$



**Geodesic**  $g(\cdot; x, y)$  shortest path (on  $\mathcal{M}$ ) between  $x, y \in \mathcal{M}$

**Tangent space**  $T_x \mathcal{M}$  at  $x$ , with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_x$

**Logarithmic map**  $\log_x y = \dot{g}(0; x, y)$  "speed towards  $y$ "

**Exponential map**  $\exp_x \xi_x = g(1)$ , where  $g(0) = x$ ,  $\dot{g}(0) = \xi_x$

**Parallel transport**  $PT_{x \rightarrow y}(\nu)$  of  $\nu \in T_x \mathcal{M}$  along  $g(\cdot; x, y)$

# Optimization on Manifolds

Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be a Riemannian manifold and  $E: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

We aim to solve

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathcal{N}} E(x)$$

- often: product manifold  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{M}^n$
  - for  $n \in \mathbb{N}^2$ : manifold-valued image processing
- $\Rightarrow$  highdimensional problem
- locally: convexity defined via geodesics

# Variational Methods on Manifolds

Variational methods model a trade-off between staying **close to the data** and **minimizing a certain property**

$$E(x) = D(x; f) + \alpha R(x)$$

- $\alpha > 0$  is a weight
- $f \in \mathcal{N}$  is given Data
- data or similarity term  $D(x; f)$
- regularizer / prior  $R(x)$

# Differential and Gradient

The **differential**  $D_x f = Df: T\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of a real-valued function  $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the **push-forward** of  $f$ .

**Intuition:** Given  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\xi \in T_x \mathcal{M}$ , then  $Df(x)[\xi]$  is the directional derivative of  $f$ .

The **gradient**  $\nabla f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T\mathcal{M}$  is the tangent vector fulfilling

$$\langle \nabla_{\mathcal{M}} f(x), \eta \rangle_x = Df(x)[\eta] \text{ for all } \eta \in T_x \mathcal{M}$$

$\Rightarrow$  gradient descent (with e.g. Armijo's rule)

# Data Fitting on Manifolds

Given data points  $d_0, \dots, d_n$  on a Riemannian manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  and time points  $t_i \in I$ , find a “nice” curve  $\gamma: I \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , such that  $\gamma(t_i) = d_i$  (interpolation) or  $\gamma(t_i) \approx d_i$  (approximation).

- $\Gamma$  set of geodesics & approximation: geodesic regression  
[Rentmeesters, '11; Fletcher, '13; Boumal '13]
- $\Gamma$  Sobolev space of curves: Infinite-dimensional problem  
[Samir et. al., '12]
- $\Gamma$  composite Bézier curves; LSs in tangent spaces  
[Arnould et. al. '15; Gousenbourger, Massart, Absil, '18]
- Discretized curve,  $\Gamma = \mathcal{M}^N$ ,  
[Boumal, Absil, '11]

## This talk

“nice” means minimal (discretized) acceleration (“as straight as possible”) for  $\Gamma$  the set of composite Bézier curves.

In Euclidean space: Natural cubic splines as closed form solution.



# (Euclidean) Bézier Curves

## Definition

[Bézier, '62]

A **Bézier curve**  $\beta_K$  of degree  $K \in \mathbb{N}_0$  is a function  $\beta_K: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  parametrized by **control points**  $b_0, \dots, b_K \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and defined by

$$\beta_K(t; b_0, \dots, b_K) := \sum_{j=0}^K b_j B_{j,K}(t),$$

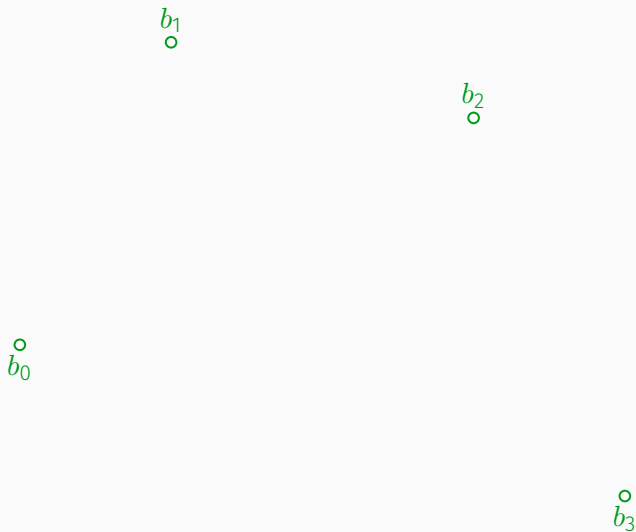
[Bernstein, 1912]

where  $B_{j,K} = \binom{K}{j} t^j (1-t)^{K-j}$  are the **Bernstein polynomials** of degree  $K$ .

Evaluation via **Casteljau's algorithm**.

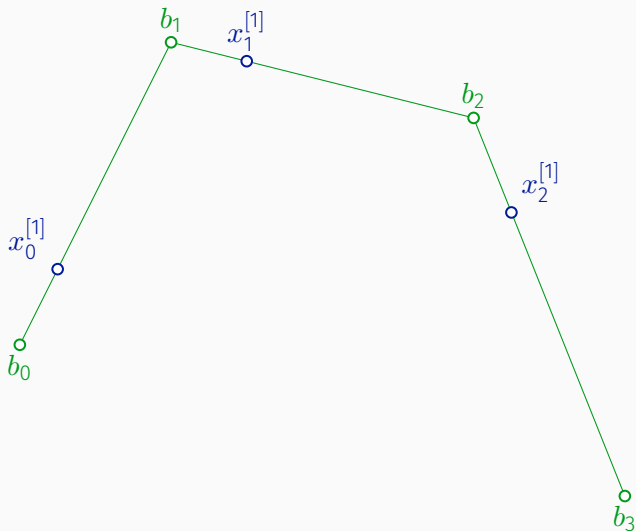
[de Casteljau, '59]

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



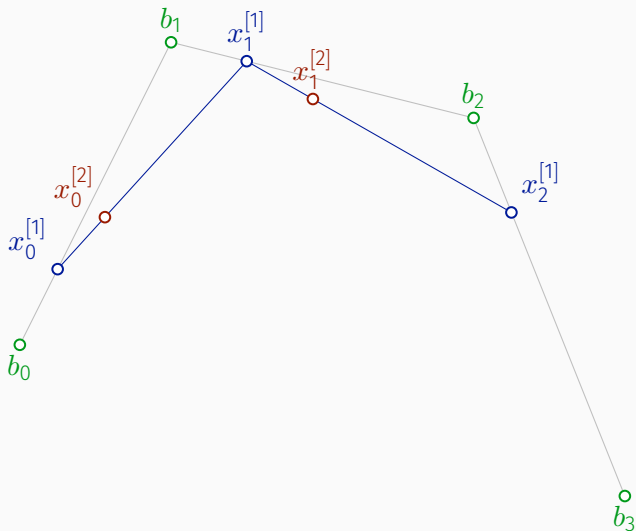
The set of control points  $b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3$ .

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



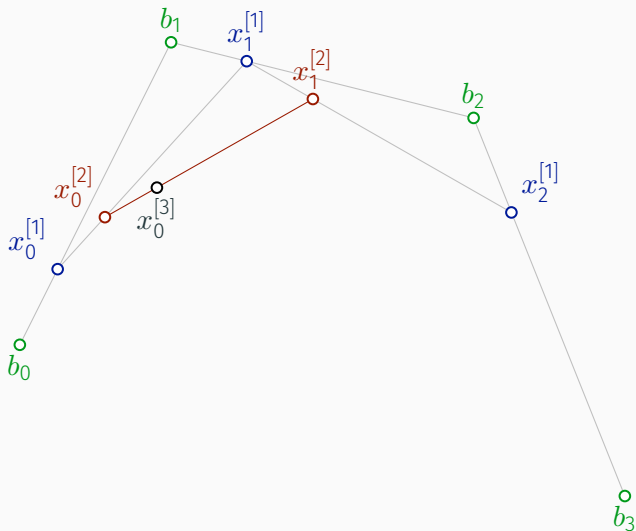
Evaluate line segments at  $t = \frac{1}{4}$ , obtain  $x_0^{[1]}, x_1^{[1]}, x_2^{[1]}$ .

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



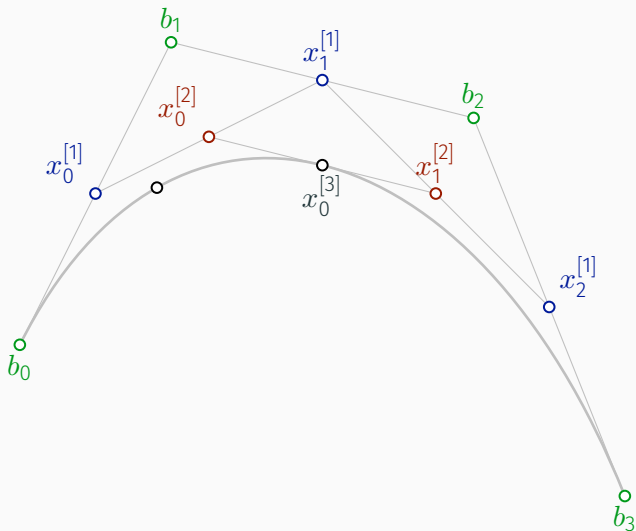
Repeat evaluation for new line segments to obtain  $x_0^{[2]}, x_1^{[2]}$ .

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



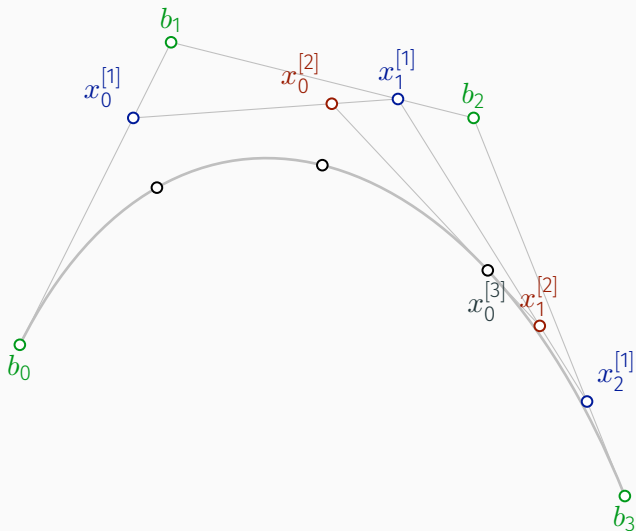
Repeat for the **last segment** to obtain  $\beta_3(\frac{1}{4}; b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3) = x_0^{[3]}$ .

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



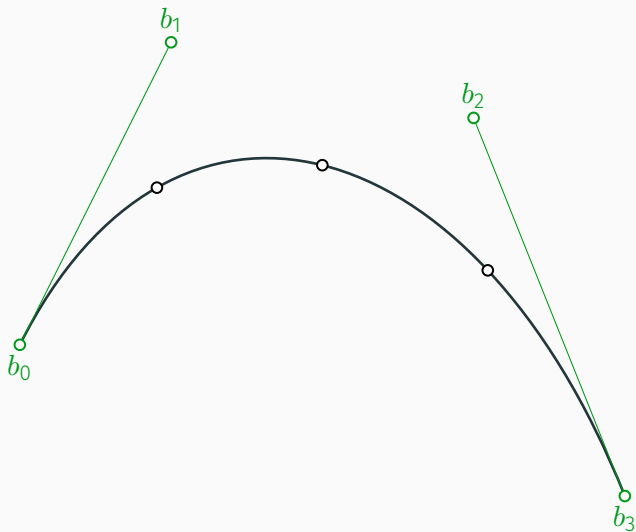
Same procedure for evaluation of  $\beta_3(\frac{1}{2}; b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3)$ .

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



Same procedure for evaluation of  $\beta_3(\frac{3}{4}; b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3)$ .

# Illustration of de Casteljau's Algorithm



Complete curve  $\beta_3(t; b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3)$ .



# Composite Bézier Curves

## Definition

A **composite Bézier curve**  $B: [0, n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is defined as

$$B(t) := \begin{cases} \beta_K(t; b_0^0, \dots, b_K^0) & \text{if } t \in [0, 1], \\ \beta_K(t - i; b_0^i, \dots, b_K^i), & \text{if } t \in (i, i + 1], \quad i = 1, \dots, n - 1. \end{cases}$$

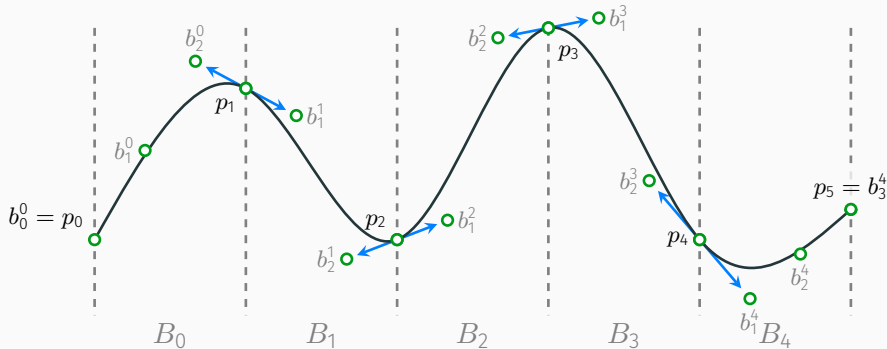
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Denote  $i$ th segment by  $B_i(t) = \beta_K(t; b_0^i, \dots, b_K^i)$  and  $p_i = b_0^i$ .



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Denote  $i$ th segment by  $B_i(t) = \beta_K(t; b_0^i, \dots, b_K^i)$  and  $p_i = b_0^i$ .

- **continuous** iff  $B_{i-1}(1) = B_i(0)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$   
 $\Rightarrow b_K^{i-1} = b_0^i = p_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$
- **continuously differentiable** iff  $p_i = \frac{1}{2}(b_{K-1}^{i-1} + b_1^i)$

# Bézier Curves on a Manifold

## Definition.

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a Riemannian manifold and  $b_0, \dots, b_K \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $K \in \mathbb{N}$ . [Park, Ravani, 1995; Popiel, Noakes, 2007]

The (generalized) Bézier curve of degree  $k$ ,  $k \leq K$ , is defined as

$$\beta_k(t; b_0, \dots, b_k) = g(t; \beta_{k-1}(t; b_0, \dots, b_{k-1}), \beta_{k-1}(t; b_1, \dots, b_k)),$$

if  $k > 0$ , and

$$\beta_0(t; b_0) = b_0.$$

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- Bézier curves  $\beta_1(t; b_0, b_1) = g(t; b_0, b_1)$  are geodesics.
- composite Bézier curves  $B: [0, n] \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  completely analogue (using geodesics for line segments)

# Bézier Curves on a Manifold

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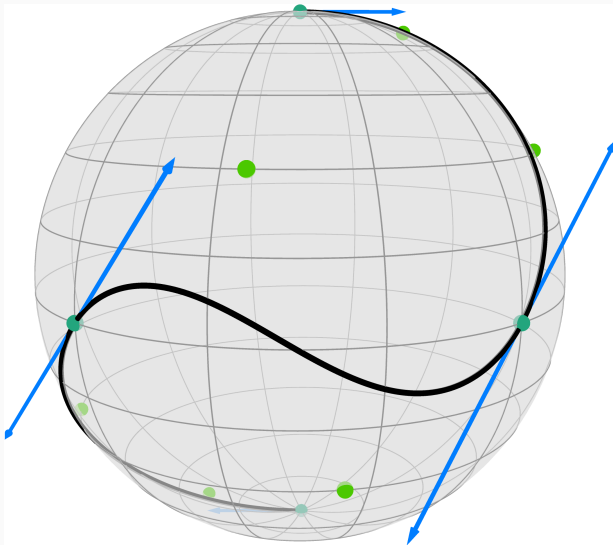
if  $k > 0$ , and

$$\beta_0(t; b_0) = b_0.$$

The Riemannian composite Bezier curve  $B(t)$  is

- **continuous** iff  $B_{i-1}(1) = B_i(0)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$   
 $\Rightarrow b_{K-1}^{i-1} = b_0^i =: p_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$
- **continuously differentiable** iff  $p_i = g(\frac{1}{2}; b_{K-1}^{i-1}, b_1^i)$  or  
 $b_{K-1}^{i-1} = g(2; b_1^i, p_i)$

# Illustration of a Composite Bézier Curve on the Sphere $\mathbb{S}^2$



The **directions**, e.g.  $\log_{p_j} b_j^1$ , are now tangent vectors.

## A Variational Model for Data Fitting

Let  $d_0, \dots, d_n \in \mathcal{M}$ . A model for data fitting reads

$$E(B) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n d_{\mathcal{M}}^2(B(k), d_k) + \int_0^n \left\| \frac{D^2 B(t)}{dt^2} \right\|_{B(t)}^2 dt \quad \lambda > 0,$$

where  $B \in \Gamma$  is from the set of continuously differentiable composite Bezier curve of degree  $K$  with  $n$  segments.

- **Goal:** find minimizer  $B^* \in \Gamma$
- finite dimensional optimization problem in the control points  $b_j^i$ , i.e. on  $\mathcal{M}^L$  with
  - $L = n(K - 1) + 2$
  - $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  yields interpolation ( $p_k = d_k$ )  $\Rightarrow L = n(K - 2) + 1$
- **On  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^m$ :** closed form solution, natural (cubic) splines



# Interlude: Second Order Differences on Manifolds

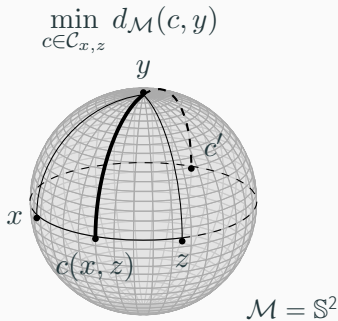
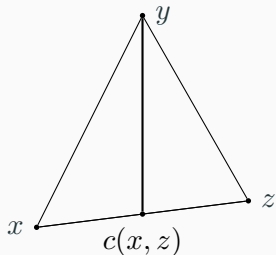
Second order difference:

[RB et al., 2014; RB, Weinmann, 2016; Bačák et al., 2016]

$$d_2(x, y, z) := \min_{c \in \mathcal{C}_{x,z}} d_{\mathcal{M}}(c, y), \quad x, y, z \in \mathcal{M},$$

$\mathcal{C}_{x,z}$  mid point(s) of geodesic(s)  $g(\cdot; x, z)$

$$\frac{1}{2} \|x - 2y + z\|_2 = \left\| \frac{1}{2}(x + z) - y \right\|_2$$



# Discretizing the Data Fitting Model

We discretize the absolute second order covariant derivative

$$\int_0^n \left\| \frac{D^2 B(t)}{dt^2} \right\|_{\gamma(t)}^2 dt \approx \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{\Delta_s d_2^2[B(s_{i-1}), B(s_i), B(s_{i+1})]}{\Delta_s^4}.$$

on equidistant points  $s_0, \dots, s_N$  with step size  $\Delta_s = s_1 - s_0$ .

Evaluating  $E(B)$  consists of evaluation of geodesics and squared (Riemannian) distances

- $(N + 1)K$  geodesics to evaluate the Bézier segments
- $N$  geodesics to evaluate the mid points
- $N$  squared distances to obtain the second order absolute finite differences squared

## Gradient and Chain Rule on a Manifold

The **gradient**  $\nabla_{\mathcal{M}}f(x) \in T_x\mathcal{M}$  of  $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ , is defined as the tangent vector that fulfills

$$\langle \nabla_{\mathcal{M}}f(x), \xi \rangle_x = Df(x)[\xi] \quad \text{for all } \xi \in T_x\mathcal{M}.$$

For a composition  $F(x) = (g \circ h)(x) = g(h(x))$  of two functions  $g, h: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  the **chain rule** reads for  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\xi \in T_x\mathcal{M}$  as

$$D_xF[\xi] = D_{h(x)}g[D_xh[\xi]],$$

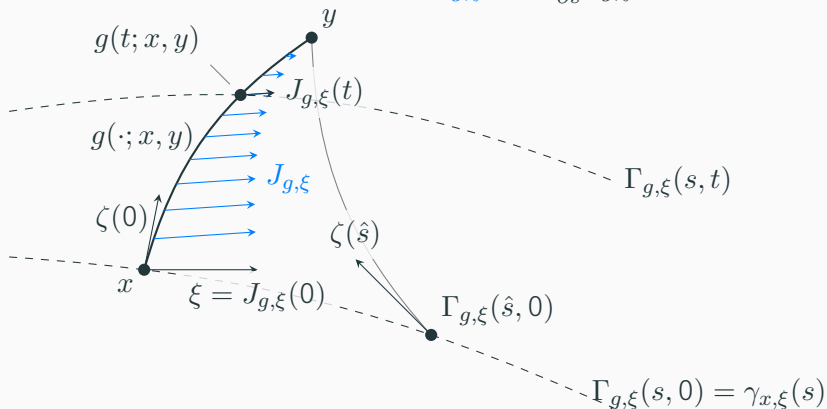
where  $D_xh[\xi] \in T_{h(x)}\mathcal{M}$  and  $D_xF[\xi] \in T_{F(x)}\mathcal{M}$ .

# The Differential of a Geodesic w.r.t. its Start Point

The **geodesic variation**

$$\Gamma_{g,\xi}(s, t) := \exp_{\gamma_{x,\xi}(s)}(t\zeta(s)), \quad s \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon), t \in [0, 1], \varepsilon > 0.$$

is used to define the **Jacobi field**  $J_{g,\xi}(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \Gamma_{g,\xi}(s, t)|_{s=0}$ .



Then the differential reads  $D_x g(t, \cdot, y)[\xi] = J_{g,\xi}(t)$ .

# Implementing Jacobi Fields on Symmetric Spaces

A manifold is **symmetric** if for every geodesic  $g$  and every  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  the mapping  $g(t) \mapsto g(-t)$  is an isometry at least locally around  $x = g(0)$ .

Then

- one can diagonalize the curvature tensor  $R$ ,
- let  $\kappa_\ell$  denote its eigenvalues.
- let  $\{\xi_1, \dots, \xi_m\} \subseteq T_x \mathcal{M}$  be an ONB of eigenvectors with  $\xi_1 = \log_x y$ .
- parallel transport  $\Xi_j(t) = \text{PT}_{x \rightarrow g(t;x,y)} \xi_j, j = 1, \dots, m$

# Implementing Jacobi Fields on Symmetric Spaces II

Decompose  $\eta = \sum_{i=1}^m \eta_i \xi_i$ . Then

$$D_x g(t; x, y)[\eta] = J_{g,\eta}(t) = \sum_{\ell=1}^m \eta_\ell J_{g,\xi_\ell}(t),$$

with

$$J_{g,\xi_\ell}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sinh(d_g(1-t)\sqrt{-\kappa_\ell})}{\sinh(d_g\sqrt{-\kappa_\ell})} \Xi_\ell(t) & \text{if } \kappa_\ell < 0, \\ \frac{\sin(d_g(1-t)\sqrt{\kappa_\ell})}{\sin(\sqrt{\kappa_\ell}d_g)} \Xi_\ell(t) & \text{if } \kappa_\ell > 0, \\ (1-t)\Xi_\ell(t) & \text{if } \kappa_\ell = 0. \end{cases}$$

# Implementing the Gradient using adjoint Jacobi Fields.

The adjoint Jacobi fields

$$J_{g,\cdot}^*(t): T_{g(t)}\mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_x\mathcal{M}$$

are characterized by

$$\langle J_{g,\xi}(t), \eta \rangle_{g(t)} = \langle \xi, J_{g,\eta}^*(t) \rangle_x, \quad \text{for all } \xi \in T_x\mathcal{M}, \eta \in T_{g(t;x,y)}\mathcal{M}.$$

- can be computed without extra efforts, i.e. the same ODEs occur.
- ⇒ can be used to calculate the gradient
- the gradient of iterated evaluations of geodesics can be computed by composition of (adjoint) Jacobi fields

# Gradient Descent on a Manifold

Let  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{M}^L$  be the product manifold of  $\mathcal{M}$ ,

## Input.

- $f: \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,
- its gradient  $\nabla_{\mathcal{N}} f$ ,
- initial data  $x^{(0)} = b \in \mathcal{N}$
- step sizes  $s_k > 0, k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Output:**  $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{N}$

$k \leftarrow 0$

**repeat**

$$x^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \exp_{x^{(k)}}(-s_k \nabla_{\mathcal{N}} f(x^{(k)}))$$

$$k \leftarrow k + 1$$

**until** a stopping criterion is reached

**return**  $\hat{x} := x^{(k)}$



## Armijo Step Size Rule

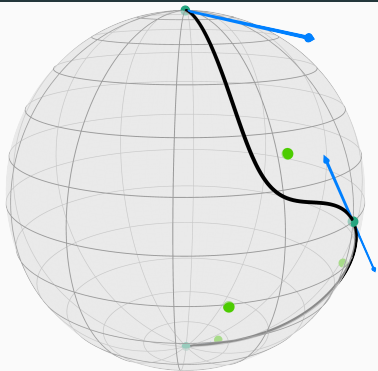
Let  $x = x^{(k)}$  be an iterate from the gradient descent algorithm,  
 $\beta, \sigma \in (0, 1), \alpha > 0$ .

Let  $m$  be the smallest positive integer such that

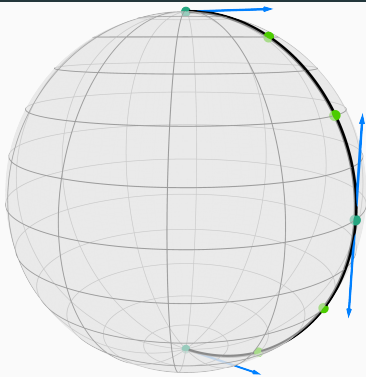
$$f(x) - f(\exp_x(-\beta^m \alpha \nabla_{\mathcal{N}} f(x))) \geq \sigma \beta^m \alpha \|\nabla_{\mathcal{N}} f(x)\|_x$$

Set the step size  $s_k := \beta^m \alpha$ .

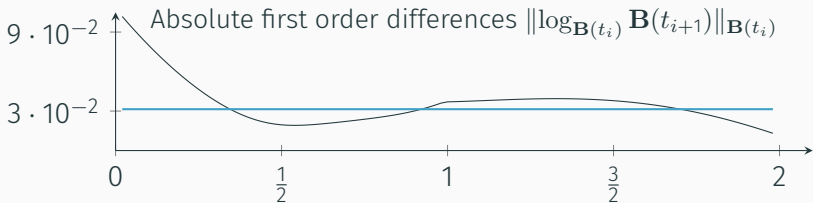
# Minimizing with Known Minimizer



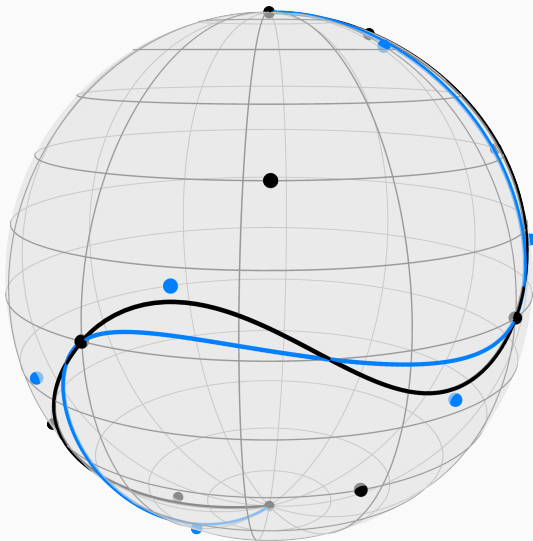
Original



Minimized



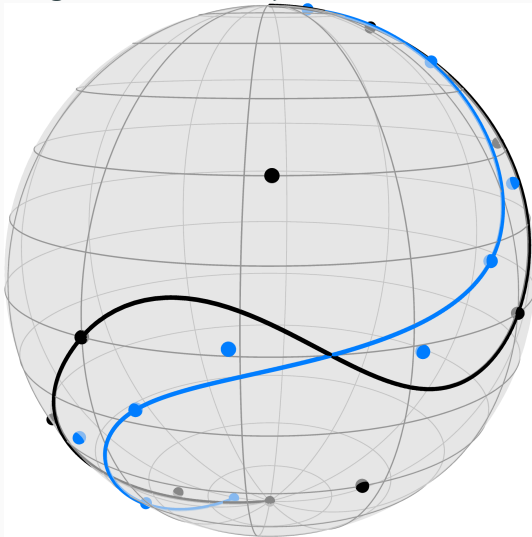
# Interpolation by Bézier Curves with Minimal Acceleration.



A comp. Bézier curve (black) and its minimizer (blue).

# Approximation by Bézier Curves with Minimal Acceleration.

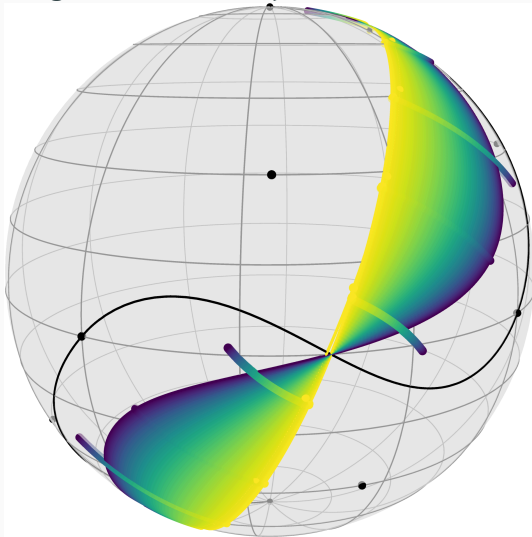
In the following video  $\lambda$  is slowly decreased from 10 to 0.



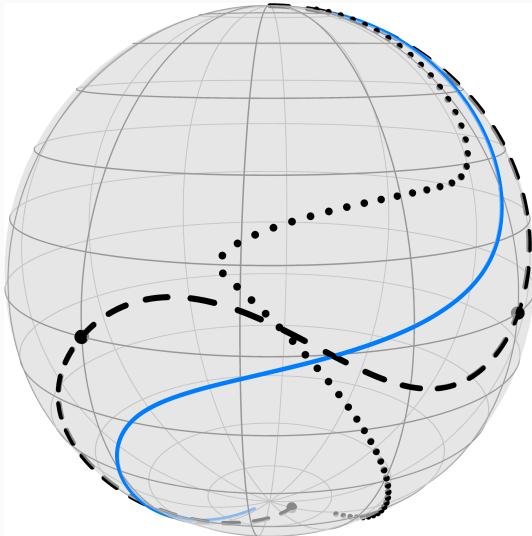
The initial setting,  $\lambda = 10$ .

# Approximation by Bézier Curves with Minimal Acceleration.

In the following video  $\lambda$  is slowly decreased from 10 to 0.



Summary of the video.

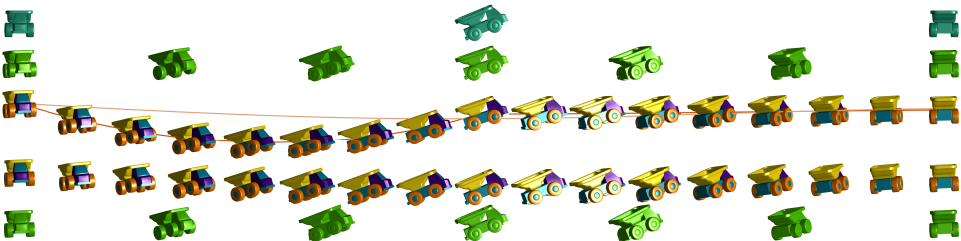


This curve (dashed) is “too global” to be solved in a tangent space (dotted) correctly, while our method (blue) still works.

# An Example of Rotations $\mathcal{M} = \text{SO}(3)$

Initialization with approach from composite splines

[Gousenbourger, Massart, Absil, 2018]



Our method outperforms the approach of solving linear systems in tangent spaces, **but** their approach can serve as an initialization.

# Summary

- Data fitting on manifolds with Bézier curves minimizing their acceleration
- computed the gradient with respect to control points
- employed Jacobi fields and their adjoints.
- implemented within the MVIR toolbox (available soon)  
[ronnybergmann.net/mvirt/](https://ronnybergmann.net/mvirt/)
- a Julia implementation in preparation (Manopt.jl)





M. Bačák, R. Bergmann, G. Steidl, and A. Weinmann. “A Second Order Non-Smooth Variational Model for Restoring Manifold-Valued Images”. In: *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing* 38.1 (2016), A567–A597. DOI: 10.1137/15M101988X.



R. Bergmann and P.-Y. Gousenbourger. “A variational model for data fitting on manifolds by minimizing the acceleration of a Bézier curve”. In: *Frontiers in Applied Mathematics and Statistics* (2018). DOI: 10.3389/fams.2018.00059. arXiv: 1807.10090.



P.-A. Absil, R. Mahony, and R. Sepulchre. *Optimization Algorithms on Matrix Manifolds*. Princeton University Press, 2008. DOI: 10.1515/9781400830244.



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