



# Orthogonalization-free Approaches for Optimization Problems on Stiefel Manifold

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OWOS, December 14, 2020

# Optimization Problem with Orthogonality Constraints



## General form

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & f(X) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & X^T X = I. \quad (\text{OCP}) \end{aligned}$$

- $n > p$
- $p(p + 1)/2$  constraints -- nonconvex
- Stiefel manifold:

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,p} := \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid X^T X = I\}.$$

## Why interesting?

- Special manifold optimization
- Emerging application



## Homogeneous quadratic objective – Rayleigh-Ritz trace maximization

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & f(X) := \mathbf{tr}(X^T A X), \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & X^T X = I. \end{aligned}$$

- Subspace approaches:
  - LOBPCG: [Knyazev 2001](#),
  - LMSVD: [Liu-Wen-Zhang 2013](#),
  - ARRABIT: [Wen-Zhang 2017](#)
- Penalty function approaches:
  - EIGPEN: [Wen-Yang-Liu-Zhang 2016](#),
  - SLRP: [Liu-Wen-Zhang 2015](#)



# Emerging Applications (Cont'd)

## Smooth objective

### – Discretized Kohn-Sham total energy minimization

$$\min E(X) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad X^\top X = I, \quad X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p},$$

where, for  $\rho(X) := \text{diag}(XX^\top)$ ,

$$E(X) := \frac{1}{4} \text{tr}(X^\top L X) + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^\top V_{ion} X) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_l |x_i^\top w_l|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \rho^\top L^\dagger \rho + \frac{1}{2} e^\top \epsilon_{xc}(\rho).$$

- 1 Kinetic energy ( $L$ : discretized Laplacian operator)
  - 2 Local ionic potential energy ( $V_{ion}$ : discretized ionic pseudopotentials)
  - 3 Nonlocal ionic potential energy ( $w_l$ : projection function)
  - 4 Hartree potential energy ( $L^\dagger$ : pseudo-inverse of  $L$ )
  - 5 Exchange correlation energy ( $\epsilon_{xc}$ : interaction between electrons)
- Self-Consistent Field Iteration: Gao-Yang-Meza 2009, Liu-Wang-Wen-Y. 2014, Liu-Wen-Wang-Ulbrich-Y. 2015
  - Optimization: Yang-Meza-Wang 2007, Wen-Milzarek-Ulbrich-Zhang 2013, Dai-Liu-Zhang-Zhou, 2017

# Emerging Applications (Cont'd)



## Smooth objective (Cont'd) – Spectral Clustering

- Ratio cut: [Chen-Liu-Y. 2020](#)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & \text{tr}(X^T L X), \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & X^T X = I, \\ & X \geq 0, \\ & e^T X X^T e = n. \end{aligned}$$

- Connected subgraph: [Liu-Ng-Zhang-Zhang 2018](#)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, H \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & f(X, H) = \text{tr}[H^T \mathcal{L}(A \circ X)H] - \beta \cdot \text{tr}(AX), \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & X \in [0, 1]^{n \times n} \cap \mathcal{S}_A^n, \\ & H^T H = I_d. \end{aligned}$$



# Emerging Applications (Cont'd)

## Nonsmooth objective – statistic data analysis

- Sparse principal component analysis: **Jolliffe-Reendafilov-Uddin 2003, Zou-Xue 2018**

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & -\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^T L X) + \gamma \|X\|_1 \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & X^T X = I_p, \end{aligned}$$

- Sparse variable PCA: **Ulfarsson-Solo 2008, Chen-Zou-Cook 2010**;  
regularized discriminative feature selection: **Tang-Liu 2012**

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^T M X) + \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j \|X_j\|_2 \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & X^T X = I_p, \end{aligned}$$

- Dual principal component pursuit: **Xu-Caramanis-Sanghavi 2010**

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & \|W^T Y\|_1 \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & W^T W = I_p, \end{aligned}$$



# Part I. Smooth Objective



# Many Existing Methods, including

## Optimization on matrix manifolds

- Steepest descent: Helmke-Moore 1994; Udriste 1994
- Conjugate gradient: Edelman-Arias-Smith 1998; Brace-Manton 2006; Smith 1994; Gallivan-Absil 2010
- Newton: Smith 1994; Edelman-Arias-Smith 1998
- Quasi-Newton: Edelman-Arias-Smith 1998; Brace-Manton 2006; Gallivan-Absil 2010; Huang-Gallivan-Absil 2015
- Trust region: Absil-Baker-Gallivan 2007
- Geodesic search in canonical metric: Abrudan-Eriksson-Koivunen 2008
- Cayley transformation: Nishimori-Akaho 2005

## Searching in tangent space

- Projection-based method: Manton 2002; Absil-Mahony-Sepulchre 2008; Dai-Zhang-Zhou 2019
- Constraint preserving update scheme: Wen-Yin 2012; Jiang-Dai 2014
- Structured Quasi-Newton: Hu-Jiang-Lin-Wen-Yuan 2018
- Regularized Newton: Hu-Wen-Milzarek-Yuan 2017

## Other type of works

- Splitting and alternating: Lai-Osher 2014; Rosman-Tai-Kimmel-Bruckstein 2014
- Multiplier correction framework including GR/GP, CBCD: Gao-Liu-Chen-Y. 2018, *SIAM Journal on Optimization*



# Bottleneck (when $p$ is large)



Feasibility/Orthogonalization

- Orthonormalization — lacks of concurrency
- Column-wise parallelization — lacks of scalability

Our Approach: **infeasible method**

- Key point: **efficient in serial**
- To keep the structure: **penalty function method**
- Nonsmooth penalty function is intractable

$$\min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} f(X) + \gamma \|X^T X - I_p\|_1$$

# Augmented Lagrangian Method (ALM)



## Augmented Lagrangian penalty function

(Powell 1969; Hestenes 1969)

$$\mathcal{L}(X, \Lambda) := f(X) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\Lambda(X^\top X - I_p)) + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^\top X - I_p\|_F^2.$$

- Exact penalty function

## ALM with dual ascent

- 1 Choose an initial point  $X_0, \Lambda_0, k = 0$
  - 2 Update  $X_k$  by  $X_{k+1} = \arg \min_X \mathcal{L}(X, \Lambda_k)$
  - 3 Update  $\Lambda_k$  by  $\Lambda_{k+1} = \Lambda_k - \tau_k \beta (X_{k+1}^\top X_{k+1} - I_p)$
- Solving subproblem with fixed multiplier
  - Updating multiplier by dual ascent
  - Numerically inefficient



## First-order Optimality (OCP)

$$\begin{cases} \nabla f(X) - X\Lambda & = 0; \\ X^T X & = I. \end{cases}$$

Lagrangian multipliers:  $\Lambda = X^T \nabla f(X)$   
at any first-order stationary point.

## Updating multipliers in closed-form

$$\Lambda_{k+1} := \Phi(X_k^T \nabla f(X_k)),$$

$\Phi : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mapsto \mathbb{S}^n$  is defined by  $\Phi(A) := \frac{1}{2}(A + A^T)$ .



# Explicit Multiplier Updating Scheme

Gao-Liu-Y. 2019, SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing

## Proximal Linearized Augmented Lagrangian Method (PLAM)

- $\Lambda_k = \Phi(X_k^\top \nabla f(X_k)), \quad \Phi(M) = \frac{1}{2}(M + M^\top)$
- Gradient step in  $\min \mathcal{L}(X, \Lambda_k)$ :

$$X_{k+1} = X_k - \eta_k \nabla_X \mathcal{L}(X_k, \Lambda_k).$$

- Exact penalty, global convergence, local linear convergence
- Comparable with existent algorithms with subtly selected  $\beta$

## Column-wise block minimization of PLAM (PCAL)

- Column-wise normalization:

$$(X_{k+1})_i = (X_k - \eta_k \nabla_X \mathcal{L}(X_k, \Lambda_k))_i / \|(X_k - \eta_k \nabla_X \mathcal{L}(X_k, \Lambda_k))_i\|_2$$

- Not sensitive with  $\beta$
- Comparable with feasible algorithms
- Much better scalability in parallel computing

# PCAL Applied in Electronic Structure Calculation



Gao-Hu-Kuang-Liu, An Orthogonalization-free Parallelizable Framework for All-electron Calculations in Density Functional Theory, arXiv:2007.14228

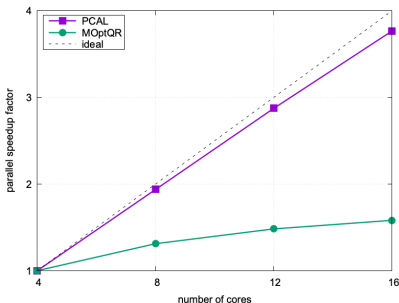
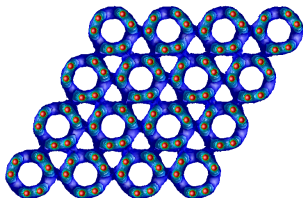


Figure 1: Calculation on AFEABIC:  $C_{384}$  with  $n = 380233$ ,  $p = 1152$ . Left: the isosurface of the electron density at value 0.2. Right: the speedup factor for this example.



## PLAM & PCAL

- Understanding of the merit function

$$h(X) := f(X) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \Phi \left( X^\top \nabla f(X) \right) (X^\top X - I_p) \right) + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^\top X - I_p\|_F^2$$

- Why PCAL is better?
- Possible extension: second-order method?



# Exact Penalty Function

## Is $h(x)$ an exact penalty function?

- If  $X^*$  is a first-order stationary point of (OCP), then

$$\nabla h(X^*) = 0.$$

- How about the other way round?

$$\nabla h(X) = 0 \Rightarrow X^T X = I_p?$$

## A crucial Issue:

$h(X)$  may be **unbounded** from below – an example

- $f(X) = \frac{1}{4} \|X^T X\|_F^2$
- $h(X) = \frac{1}{4} \|X^T X\|_F^2 - 2\text{tr}((X^T X)^2(X^T X - I_p)) + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^T X - I_p\|_F^2$
- $\|X\|_F \rightarrow +\infty \Rightarrow h(X) \rightarrow -\infty.$



# A New Penalty Model

Xiao-Liu-Y., A Class of Smooth Exact Penalty Function Methods for Optimization Problems with Orthogonality Constraints, optimization online: 2020/02/7607

**Restrict  $h(X)$  in a bounded set**

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{M}} h(X). \quad (\text{PenC})$$

- $\mathcal{M}$  is convex and compact,  $\mathcal{S}_{n,p} \subset \mathcal{M}$
- Projection to  $\mathcal{M}$  can be easily calculated

**Possible choices of  $\mathcal{M}$ :**

- Ball ( $\mathcal{B}$ ) with radius  $K \geq \sqrt{p}$
- Convex hull of Stiefel manifold:  $\{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|X\|_2 \leq 1\}$
- Convex hull of Oblique manifold:  $\{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|(X)_i\|_2 \leq 1\}$
- ...





## Assumption 1

$f(X)$  is differentiable,  $\nabla f(X)$  is Lipschitz continuous.

- Does not imply the existence of  $\nabla h(X)$

## Assumption 2

$f(X)$  is twice continuous differentiable, and  $\nabla^2 f(X)$  is Lipschitz continuous for each  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ .

- Does not imply the existence of  $\nabla^2 h(X)$

## Constants

- $M_0 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \max\{1, \|\nabla f(X)\|_{\mathbb{F}}\}, \quad M_1 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \max\{1, \|\Lambda(X)\|_{\mathbb{F}}\};$
- $C_1 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \tilde{h}(X) - \inf_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \tilde{h}(X), \quad L_1 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{1}{\|X - Y\|_2} \|\Lambda(X) - \Lambda(Y)\|_2;$
- $L_2 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}, Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|\nabla \tilde{h}(X + tY) - \nabla \tilde{h}(X)\|_{\mathbb{F}}}{t\|Y\|_{\mathbb{F}}}, \quad M_3 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \max\{1, \|\nabla^2 f(X)\|_{\mathbb{F}}\}.$



# Properties of Penalty Model

## First-order Stationarity

### Theorem 1

Suppose Assumption 1 holds. Let  $\tilde{X}$  be a first-order stationary point of (PenC) with  $\beta \geq \max\{2(M_0 + M_1), 2pL_1\}$ , then either  $\tilde{X}$  is a first-order stationary point of problem (OCP), or

$$\sigma_{\min}(\tilde{X}^\top \tilde{X}) \leq \frac{2M_1 + \sqrt{2}L_1}{2\beta}.$$

### Lemma 1

Suppose Assumption 1 holds. Let  $0 < \delta \leq \frac{1}{3}$  and

$\beta \geq \max\left\{2(M_0 + M_1), 2pL_1, \left(3M_1 + \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}L_1\right), \frac{2C_1}{\delta^2}\right\}$ . For any  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ , it holds that

$$\sup_{\|X^\top X - I_p\|_F \leq \delta} h(X) < \inf_{\|X^\top X - I_p\|_F \geq 2\delta} h(X).$$

Moreover, any global minimizer  $X^*$  of PenC satisfies  $X^{*\top} X^* = I_p$  which further implies that it is a global minimizer of problem (OCP).



## Second-order Stationarity

### Theorem 2

*Suppose Assumption 2 holds, and  $M$  is chosen as*

*$\mathcal{B} := \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|X\|_F \leq K, K > \sqrt{p}\}$  and*

$$\beta \geq \max \left\{ 2(M_0 + M_1), 2pL_1, 6M_1 + 3\sqrt{2}L_1, 2L_2 + 1, \frac{6L_2 + 12KM_2 + 1}{5} \right\}.$$

*Then, any second-order stationary point  $\tilde{X}$  of (PenC) satisfies  $\tilde{X}^\top \tilde{X} = I_p$ . Moreover,  $\tilde{X}$  is a second-order stationary point of problem (OCP).*



## Problem reformulation

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & f(X) \\ \text{s.t.} & X^\top X = I_p, \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \min_{X \in \mathcal{B}} h(X).$$

- $K > \sqrt{p}$

## Gradient of $h(X)$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla h(X) = & \nabla f(X) - X\Lambda(X) + \beta X(X^\top X - I_p) \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \left( \nabla f(X)(X^\top X - I_p) + \nabla^2 f(X)[X(X^\top X - I_p)] \right) \end{aligned}$$

Denote  $G(X) := \nabla f(X) - X\Lambda(X) + \beta X(X^\top X - I_p)$

- Exact gradient involves  $\nabla^2 f(X)$ , unaffordable
- Omit the **red part**

# First-order Method for Penalty Model with Compact Convex Constraints (PenCF)



- 1 Choose an initial guess  $X_0$ , set  $k = 0$ ;
- 2 Compute  $\Lambda(X_k)$ ;
- 3 Update  $X_k$  by

$$X_{k+1} = X_k - \eta_k(\nabla f(X_k) - X_k \Lambda(X_k) + \beta X_k (X_k^\top X_k - I_p));$$

- 4 If  $\|X_{k+1}\|_F \geq K$ , project  $X_{k+1}$  back to  $\mathcal{B}$ ;
- 5 If certain stopping criterion is satisfied, return  $X_{k+1}$ ; Otherwise, set  $k := k + 1$  and go to Step 2.



## Theorem 3

Suppose Assumption 1 holds,  $\delta \in \left(0, \frac{1}{3}\right]$ ,  $K \geq \sqrt{p + \delta \sqrt{p}}$ , and  $\beta \geq \max \left\{ 2(M_0 + M_1), 2pL_1, 3M_1 + \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}L_1 \right\}$ . Let  $\{X_k\}$  be the iterate sequence generated by PenCF initiated from  $X_0 \in \mathcal{M}$  satisfying  $\|X_0^\top X_0 - I_p\|_F \leq \delta$ , and the stepsize  $\eta_k \in \left[\frac{1}{2}\bar{\eta}, \bar{\eta}\right]$ , where  $\bar{\eta} = \min \left\{ \frac{\delta}{8KM_4}, \frac{\beta\delta^2}{9K^2L_1M_4^2}, \frac{1}{45(L_0+M_1)+137\beta} \right\}$ ,  $M_4 = M_0 + M_1K + \beta\delta K$ . Then, the iterate sequence  $\{X_k\}$  has at least one cluster point, and each cluster point of  $\{X_k\}$  is a stationary point of problem (OCP). More precisely, for any  $N \geq 1$ , it holds that

$$\min_{0 \leq i \leq N-1} \max \left\{ \|X_i^\top X_i - I_p\|_F, \|G_i\|_F \right\} \leq \max \left\{ \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3M_1}, 1 \right\} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{5C_1 + \frac{5}{4}\beta\delta^2}{N\bar{\eta}}},$$

where  $G_i = G(X_i)$ .



## Theorem 4

Suppose Assumption 2 holds,  $X^*$  is an isolated local minimizer of (OCP), and we denote

$$\tau := \inf_{Y^T X^* + X^{*\top} Y = 0} \frac{\nabla^2 f(X^*)[Y, Y] - \text{tr}(Y^T Y \Lambda(X^*))}{\|Y\|_F^2}.$$

The algorithm parameters satisfy  $\beta \geq \frac{1}{2}M_3 + \frac{\sqrt{3}M_0}{3} + \frac{1}{2}\tau$  and  $\eta_k \in [\frac{\bar{\eta}}{2}, \bar{\eta}]$ , where  $\bar{\eta} \geq M_3 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}M_0}{3} + 2\beta$ . Then, there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that starting from any  $X_0$  satisfying  $\|X_0 - X^*\|_F < \varepsilon$ , the iterate sequence  $\{X_k\}$  generated by PenCF converges to  $X^*$  Q-linearly.



# PLAM and PCAL – Further Explanation

## PLAM

- $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$
- $h(x)$  is not bounded below: small  $\beta \Rightarrow$  divergence

## PCAL

- $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{OB}_{n,p}$
- (PenC) is bounded below: accept smaller  $\beta$

## PenCF

- $\mathcal{M} = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|X\|_F \leq K\} \Rightarrow$  cheap projection
- Constraint becomes inactive when close to  $\mathcal{S}_{n,p}$

Both PLAM and PCAL can be regarded as applying approximate gradient method to solve corresponding (PenC).

- better than ALM
- Comparable with existing retraction-based first-order methods





## Running Platform

- ThundeRobot personal computer with an Intel Core i7-9700 CPU @ 3.6GHz×8 and 16 GB of RAM
- Ubuntu 18.04
- MATLAB R2018b

## Stopping criteria

- Substationarity:  $\|\nabla f(X_k) - X_k \Lambda(X_k)\|_F \leq 10^{-8}$
- Max iteration: 2000 for PenCF, 10 for PenCS.



## Problem 1

*Simplified Kohn-Sham total energy minimization including the non-classical and quantum interaction between electrons.*

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^T L X) + \frac{1}{4} \rho^T L^\dagger \rho - \frac{3\gamma}{4} \rho^T \rho^{\frac{1}{3}} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X^T X = I_p, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\rho = \text{Diag}(X X^T)$  and  $\gamma$  is a constant.



## Problem 2

*Minimizing quadratic function over Stiefel manifold*

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & tr(X^T A X) + tr(G^T X) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X^T X = I_p. \end{aligned}$$

*Both  $A$  and  $G$  are randomly generated with Gaussian distribution.*

# Default Setting



Barzilai-Borwein stepsize: Barzilai-Borwein 1988

$$\eta_k^{\text{BB1}} := \frac{|\langle S_{k-1}, Y_{k-1} \rangle|}{\langle S_{k-1}, S_{k-1} \rangle}, \quad \text{or} \quad \eta_k^{\text{BB2}} := \frac{\langle Y_{k-1}, Y_{k-1} \rangle}{|\langle S_{k-1}, Y_{k-1} \rangle|},$$

where

$$S_k = X_k - X_{k-1},$$

$$Y_k = \nabla_X \mathcal{L}(X_k, \Lambda_k) - \nabla_X \mathcal{L}(X_{k-1}, \Lambda_{k-1})$$

Alternating BB strategy: Dai-Fletcher 2005

$$\eta_k^{\text{ABB}} := \begin{cases} \eta_k^{\text{BB1}}, & \text{for odd } k, \\ \eta_k^{\text{BB2}}, & \text{for even } k. \end{cases}$$



# Post-process by Orthonormalization

## Why Post-process?

- To attain high accuracy on feasibility
- To maintain mild accuracy on the substationarity

## How to Post-process?

- $X_k^{\text{orth}} := UV^T$ , economy-size SVD:  $X_k = U\Sigma V$

## Proposition 1

*Suppose Assumption 1 holds,  $\beta \geq 1 + 2L_0 + 2L_1 + 2M_1$  and  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ . Let  $X = U\Sigma V^T$  be the economy-size SVD for  $X$  and  $\text{orth}(X) = UV^T$ . Then, it holds that*

$$h(X^{\text{orth}}) \leq h(X) - \frac{1}{4} \|X^T X - I_p\|_F^2.$$



# Experiments on Kohn-Sham DFT

## Problem generation

- **Yang-Meza-Lee-Wang 2009** KSSOLV a Matlab toolbox for solving the Kohn-Sham equations, *ACM Trans. Math. Softw.* 36, 135
- Downloadable from <http://crd-legacy.lbl.gov/~chao/KSSOLV/>

## Testing Methods

- **SCF**: self-consistent field method
- **TRDCM**: trust-region direct constrained minimization  
**Meza-Wang-Yang 2007**
- **MOptQR**: optimization algorithms on manifold with retraction based on QR factorization + BB step size **Boumal-Mishra-Absil-Sepulchre, 2014(version 4.0 2018)**  
(downloadable from <http://www.manopt.org> )
- **OptM**: algorithm by **Wen-Yin 2013** (BB stepsize)  
(downloadable from <http://optman.blogs.rice.edu>)
- **PCAL**: algorithm by **Gao-Liu-Yuan 2019**  $\eta = \eta_{ABB}, \beta = 1$   
(downloadable from <http://lsec.cc.ac.cn/~liuxin/index.html>)
- **PenCF**:  $\eta = \eta_{ABB}, \beta = 1, K = 1.1 \sqrt{\rho}$ .



| Solver                       | $E_{tot}$            | Substationarity | Iteration | Feasibility | CPU time(s) |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| alanine, $n = 12671, p = 18$ |                      |                 |           |             |             |
| SCF                          | -6.1161921213050e+01 | 3.14e-09        | 20        | 7.31e-15    | 21.63       |
| TRDCM                        | -6.1161921213046e+01 | 2.28e-06        | 200       | 4.91e-15    | 150.53      |
| ManOptQR                     | -6.1161921213050e+01 | 5.68e-09        | 185       | 3.89e-15    | 30.10       |
| OptM                         | -6.1161921213050e+01 | 2.30e-09        | 105       | 3.79e-14    | 18.23       |
| PCAL                         | -6.1161921213050e+01 | 5.94e-09        | 106       | 3.63e-15    | 19.47       |
| PenCF                        | -6.1161921213050e+01 | 5.96e-09        | 113       | 3.55e-15    | 18.92       |
| al, $n = 16879, p = 12$      |                      |                 |           |             |             |
| SCF                          | -1.5769678051112e+01 | 1.08e-01        | 200       | 5.59e-15    | 175.33      |
| TRDCM                        | -1.5803817596149e+01 | 3.33e-08        | 200       | 3.68e-15    | 133.41      |
| ManOptQR                     | -1.5630343515632e+01 | 9.67e-01        | 2000      | 6.39e-15    | 311.84      |
| OptM                         | -1.5803791154679e+01 | 2.47e-09        | 1942      | 1.10e-14    | 303.16      |
| PCAL                         | -1.5803817596151e+01 | 1.90e-08        | 2000      | 1.54e-12    | 310.82      |
| PenCF                        | -1.5803817596151e+01 | 9.93e-09        | 1722      | 1.67e-14    | 266.62      |
| benzene, $n = 8407, p = 15$  |                      |                 |           |             |             |
| SCF                          | -3.7225751362902e+01 | 3.45e-09        | 17        | 7.21e-15    | 9.20        |
| TRDCM                        | -3.7225751362902e+01 | 8.83e-09        | 44        | 6.77e-15    | 16.68       |
| ManOptQR                     | -3.7225751362902e+01 | 1.27e-09        | 135       | 2.62e-15    | 11.97       |
| OptM                         | -3.7225751362902e+01 | 2.42e-09        | 99        | 2.17e-14    | 9.20        |
| PCAL                         | -3.7225751362902e+01 | 9.13e-09        | 89        | 2.44e-15    | 8.72        |
| PenCF                        | -3.7225751362902e+01 | 5.70e-09        | 95        | 3.04e-15    | 8.72        |
| c12h26, $n = 5709, p = 37$   |                      |                 |           |             |             |
| SCF                          | -8.1536091936606e+01 | 3.19e-09        | 23        | 1.15e-14    | 29.92       |
| TRDCM                        | -8.1536091936555e+01 | 6.80e-06        | 200       | 9.83e-15    | 149.25      |
| ManOptQR                     | -8.1536091936606e+01 | 9.26e-09        | 822       | 5.56e-15    | 141.71      |
| OptM                         | -8.1536091936606e+01 | 1.41e-09        | 120       | 9.51e-14    | 23.07       |
| PCAL                         | -8.1536091936606e+01 | 9.05e-09        | 117       | 1.19e-14    | 24.45       |
| PenCF                        | -8.1536091936606e+01 | 8.54e-09        | 108       | 5.95e-15    | 20.85       |



| Solver                         | $E_{tot}$            | Substationarity | Iteration | Feasibility | CPU time(s)  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| glutamine, $n = 16517, p = 29$ |                      |                 |           |             |              |
| SCF                            | -9.1839425243648e+01 | 3.75e-09        | 23        | 8.69e-15    | 71.50        |
| TRDCM                          | -9.1839425243571e+01 | 9.55e-06        | 200       | 8.11e-15    | 496.17       |
| ManOptQR                       | -9.1839425243648e+01 | 6.01e-09        | 119       | 6.61e-15    | 59.35        |
| OptM                           | -9.1839425243648e+01 | 1.18e-09        | 143       | 5.67e-15    | 71.75        |
| PCAL                           | -9.1839425243648e+01 | 9.28e-09        | 127       | 9.53e-15    | 66.50        |
| PenCF                          | -9.1839425243648e+01 | 5.02e-09        | 128       | 5.99e-15    | <b>62.64</b> |
| graphene16, $n = 3071, p = 37$ |                      |                 |           |             |              |
| SCF                            | -9.4032618962855e+01 | 6.28e-02        | 200       | 1.24e-14    | 129.52       |
| TRDCM                          | -9.4046217544979e+01 | 8.13e-06        | 200       | 9.09e-15    | 104.55       |
| ManOptQR                       | -9.4046217545036e+01 | 7.08e-09        | 746       | 5.61e-15    | 77.18        |
| OptM                           | -9.4046217545036e+01 | 1.66e-09        | 298       | 5.01e-15    | 31.89        |
| PCAL                           | -9.4046217545036e+01 | 8.83e-09        | 276       | 5.44e-15    | 32.45        |
| PenCF                          | -9.4046217545036e+01 | 6.07e-09        | 270       | 5.44e-15    | <b>28.41</b> |
| ptnio, $n = 4069, p = 43$      |                      |                 |           |             |              |
| SCF                            | -2.2678884272587e+02 | 5.39e-09        | 99        | 1.50e-14    | <b>88.09</b> |
| TRDCM                          | -2.2678883639168e+02 | 2.89e-04        | 200       | 1.05e-14    | 136.59       |
| ManOptQR                       | -2.2678884272587e+02 | 9.52e-09        | 697       | 5.01e-15    | 100.67       |
| OptM                           | -2.2678884272587e+02 | 2.40e-09        | 864       | 4.52e-15    | 125.62       |
| PCAL                           | -2.2678884272587e+02 | 9.70e-09        | 699       | 5.36e-15    | 110.28       |
| PenCF                          | -2.2678884272587e+02 | 7.83e-09        | 693       | 4.38e-15    | 95.34        |
| ctube661, $n = 12599, p = 48$  |                      |                 |           |             |              |
| SCF                            | -1.3463843176502e+02 | 6.79e-09        | 19        | 1.39e-14    | 62.98        |
| TRDCM                          | -1.3463843176491e+02 | 1.05e-05        | 200       | 1.04e-14    | 487.15       |
| ManOptQR                       | -1.2304610718869e+02 | 7.04e+00        | 2000      | 6.70e-15    | 967.80       |
| OptM                           | -1.3463843176501e+02 | 1.97e-09        | 120       | 5.91e-15    | 64.29        |
| PCAL                           | -1.3463843176502e+02 | 8.39e-09        | 112       | 5.75e-15    | 61.94        |
| PenCF                          | -1.3463843176502e+02 | 3.17e-09        | 120       | 7.61e-15    | <b>59.55</b> |





Suppose computing  $\nabla^2 f(X)$  is affordable

- To compute  $\nabla h(X)$  becomes affordable:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla h(X) = & \nabla f(X) - X\Lambda(X) + \beta X(X^\top X - I_p) \\ & - \left( \nabla f(X)(X^\top X - I_p) + \nabla^2 f(X)[X(X^\top X - I_p)] \right)\end{aligned}$$

- To compute  $\nabla^2 h(X)$  is still intractable
- **Solution: approximate  $\nabla^2 h(X)$  by  $\nabla f$  and  $\nabla^2 f$**

## Motivation: delete high-order terms in Hessian



$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 h(X)[D, D] &= \nabla^2 f(X)[D, D] \\ &\quad - \text{tr} \left( \Lambda(X) D^\top D - D^\top \nabla f(X) \Phi(D^\top X) - X^\top \nabla^2 f(X)[D] \Phi(D^\top X) \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \left( D^\top \nabla^2 f(X)[D] + \frac{1}{2} X^\top \nabla^3 f(X)[D, D] \right) (X^\top X - I_p) \right) \\ &\quad + \text{tr} \left( \beta X^\top X D^\top D + \beta D^\top X X^\top D + \beta X^\top D X^\top D - \beta D^\top D \right).\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}W(X)[D, D] &:= \nabla^2 f(X)[D, D] \\ &\quad - \text{tr} \left( \Lambda(X) D^\top D - D^\top \nabla f(X) \Phi(D^\top X) - X^\top \nabla^2 f(X)[D] \Phi(D^\top X) \right) \\ &\quad + \text{tr} \left( \beta X^\top X D^\top D + \beta D^\top X X^\top D + \beta X^\top D X^\top D - \beta D^\top D \right).\end{aligned}$$

■  $\|W(X) - \nabla^2 h(X)\|_F \rightarrow 0$  as  $\|X^\top X - I_p\|_F \rightarrow 0$



## Subproblem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \frac{1}{2} W(X_k)[D, D] + \text{tr}(D^\top \nabla h(X_k)) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|X_k + D\|_F \leq K. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{TRS})$$

- Trust region subproblem: computing global minimizer is tractable
- $\nabla h(X)$  is sufficiently small  $\Rightarrow$  inactive constraint



# Second-order Method for Penalty Model with Compact Convex Constraints (PenCS)

- 1 Choose an initial guess  $X_0$ , set  $k = 0$ ;
- 2 Compute stepsize  $\eta_k$ ;
- 3 Compute  $D_k$  by solving (TRS), set  $X_{k+1} = X_k + \eta_k D_k$ ;
- 4 If certain stopping criterion is satisfied, return  $X_{k+1}$ ; Otherwise, set  $k := k + 1$  and go to Step 2.



## Theorem 5

Suppose Assumption 2 holds.  $X^*$  is an isolated local minimizer of (OCP) with

$$\tau := \inf_{Y^T X^* + X^{*T} Y = 0} \frac{\nabla^2 f(X^*)[Y, Y] - \text{tr}(Y^T Y \Lambda(X^*))}{\|Y\|_F^2} > 0.$$

When  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{3})$ ,  $K \geq \sqrt{p + \delta \sqrt{p}}$ ,

$\beta \geq \max \left\{ 2pL_1, \frac{2p(M_0 + M_1)}{3}, 6M_1 + 12L_1, \frac{2(L_2 + pM_1)}{3}, 2L_2 + 1, \frac{4L_2^2 + \tau^2}{\tau} \right\}$  and stepsize  $\eta_k = 1$ , there exists a sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$  such that when  $\|X_0 - X^*\|_F \leq \varepsilon$ ,  $X_k$  generated by PenCS converges to  $X^*$  quadratically.



## Problem 3

*Kohn-Sham total energy minimization including the non-classical and quantum interaction between electrons.*

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^T L X) + \frac{\alpha}{4} \text{tr}(\rho^T L^\dagger \rho) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X^T X = I_p, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\rho = \text{Diag}(X X^T)$  and  $\alpha$  is a constant.



## Testing methods

- **ARNT**: Adaptive regularized Newton method  
Hu-Wen-Milzarek-Yuan 2017
- **RTR**: Riemann trust-region method  
Absil-Baker-Gallivan 2007,  
Boumal-Mishra-Absil-Sepulchre 2013  
(downloadable from <https://github.com/NicolasBoumal/manopt>)
- **PenCS**:  $\beta = \|\nabla h(X_0)\|_F$ ,  $K = 1.1 \sqrt{p}$ ,  $b_1 = 1$ .

## Implementation

- $L$  is tri-diagonal (gallery('tridiag',  $n$ ,  $-1$ ,  $2$ ,  $-1$ ))
- $X_0$  is computed by GR-BB with KKT violation  $\leq 10^{-4}$
- Orthonormalization process in the last step for PenCS

# Numerical Tests for Different $n$



| Solver                            | fval         | iter. | inner iter. | substationarity | feasibility | CPU time(s)  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (5000, 80, 1)$  |              |       |             |                 |             |              |
| ARNT                              | 1.114821e+04 | 100   | 511         | 1.55e-09        | 5.34e-15    | 11.16        |
| RTR                               | 1.114821e+04 | 15    | 1757        | 8.51e-12        | 5.01e-15    | 17.30        |
| PenCS                             | 1.114821e+04 | 4     | 1124        | 7.33e-12        | 5.25e-15    | <b>10.81</b> |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (8000, 80, 1)$  |              |       |             |                 |             |              |
| ARNT                              | 1.114821e+04 | 100   | 579         | 1.23e-09        | 5.10e-15    | <b>16.51</b> |
| RTR                               | 1.114821e+04 | 14    | 1337        | 9.75e-12        | 6.68e-15    | 23.61        |
| PenCS                             | 1.114821e+04 | 3     | 988         | 8.34e-12        | 5.30e-15    | 16.72        |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (10000, 80, 1)$ |              |       |             |                 |             |              |
| ARNT                              | 1.114821e+04 | 100   | 1444        | 2.32e-09        | 4.91e-15    | 34.72        |
| RTR                               | 1.114821e+04 | 10    | 1275        | 7.92e-12        | 5.19e-15    | 28.71        |
| PenCS                             | 1.114821e+04 | 3     | 1108        | 9.88e-12        | 6.29e-15    | <b>22.76</b> |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (15000, 80, 1)$ |              |       |             |                 |             |              |
| ARNT                              | 1.114821e+04 | 100   | 1221        | 1.25e-09        | 5.08e-15    | 50.25        |
| RTR                               | 1.114821e+04 | 9     | 1268        | 9.96e-12        | 4.96e-15    | 45.98        |
| PenCS                             | 1.114821e+04 | 3     | 1145        | 8.21e-12        | 5.24e-15    | <b>37.47</b> |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (20000, 80, 1)$ |              |       |             |                 |             |              |
| ARNT                              | 1.114821e+04 | 100   | 553         | 3.14e-09        | 4.56e-15    | 49.28        |
| RTR                               | 1.114821e+04 | 9     | 1266        | 9.29e-12        | 5.78e-15    | 62.61        |
| PenCS                             | 1.114821e+04 | 3     | 1025        | 8.06e-12        | 5.46e-15    | <b>48.48</b> |

Table 1: Comparison with fixed  $p$  and  $\alpha$ .



# Numerical Tests for Different $p$



| Solver                             | fval         | iter. | inner iter. | substationarity | feasibility | CPU time(s) |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (10000, 50, 1)$  |              |       |             |                 |             |             |
| ARNT                               | 2.810709e+03 | 100   | 269         | 2.50e-09        | 3.90e-15    | 8.18        |
| RTR                                | 2.810709e+03 | 5     | 821         | 7.31e-12        | 3.84e-15    | 10.28       |
| PenCS                              | 2.810709e+03 | 3     | 663         | 8.09e-12        | 5.01e-15    | 8.26        |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (10000, 80, 1)$  |              |       |             |                 |             |             |
| ARNT                               | 1.114821e+04 | 100   | 1444        | 2.32e-09        | 4.91e-15    | 34.98       |
| RTR                                | 1.114821e+04 | 10    | 1275        | 7.92e-12        | 5.19e-15    | 28.64       |
| PenCS                              | 1.114821e+04 | 3     | 1108        | 9.88e-12        | 6.29e-15    | 22.83       |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (10000, 100, 1)$ |              |       |             |                 |             |             |
| ARNT                               | 2.156071e+04 | 100   | 4656        | 3.28e-09        | 6.10e-15    | 114.23      |
| RTR                                | 2.156071e+04 | 14    | 3257        | 9.43e-12        | 5.75e-15    | 91.45       |
| PenCS                              | 2.156071e+04 | 3     | 1270        | 9.24e-12        | 6.54e-15    | 37.24       |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (10000, 120, 1)$ |              |       |             |                 |             |             |
| ARNT                               | 3.702321e+04 | 100   | 4821        | 2.92e-09        | 6.48e-15    | 153.30      |
| RTR                                | 3.702321e+04 | 41    | 3056        | 1.02e-11        | 7.76e-15    | 112.14      |
| PenCS                              | 3.702321e+04 | 4     | 1613        | 8.97e-12        | 8.19e-15    | 55.69       |
| $(n, p, \alpha) = (10000, 140, 1)$ |              |       |             |                 |             |             |
| ARNT                               | 5.853571e+04 | 100   | 3879        | 2.70e-09        | 6.21e-15    | 159.86      |
| RTR                                | 5.853571e+04 | 41    | 2821        | 1.47e-11        | 6.74e-15    | 123.79      |
| PenCS                              | 5.853571e+04 | 6     | 1397        | 9.15e-12        | 1.62e-15    | 63.66       |

Table 2: Comparison with fixed  $n$  and  $\alpha$ .



## Part II. Nonsmooth Objective

# How About Nonsmooth Cases?



## Extension to nonsmooth cases – seems impossible

- Main idea: closed-form expression of the multipliers at any stationary point
- $\Lambda = \nabla f(X)^\top X$  – gradient is involved
- Nonsmooth cases: gradient is not available

## Extension to nonsmooth cases – special cases

- Sparse variable PCA
- Regularized discriminative feature selection



# $\ell_{2,1}$ Norm Regularization Minimization with Orthogonality Constraints

Xiao-Liu-Y., Exact Penalty Function for  $\ell_{2,1}$  Norm Minimization over the Stiefel Manifold, optimization online: 2020/07/7908

## General form

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & f(X) + r(X) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X^T X = I. \quad (\text{OCPR}) \end{aligned}$$

- $f : \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$
- $r(X) = \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j \|X(j, :)\|_2$ ,  $X_j := X(j, :)^T$ ,  $X_i = X(:, i)$
- $n > p$
- $p(p+1)/2$  constraints -- nonconvex
- Stiefel manifold:

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,p} := \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid X^T X = I\}.$$



## Subgradient methods

- Subgradient method on Riemann manifold: **Ferreira-Oliveria 1998**
- $\varepsilon$  subgradient method: **Grohs-Hosseini 2016**
- Gradient sampling method: **Hosseini-Uchmajew 2017**
- .....

**How to fully exploit the composite structure ?**



## ADMM-based proximal gradient methods

- Splitting for orthogonality constrained problems (SOC):  
Lai-Osher 2014
- Manifold ADMM (MADMM): Kovnatsky-Glashoff-Bornstein  
2016
- PAMAL: Chen-Ji-You 2016

## Properties of these approaches

- Simple subproblems
- Multiple-block alternating updating  $\Rightarrow$  usually not very efficient;
- Updating multiplier via dual-ascend  $\Rightarrow$  many parameters need to be tuned.



## Proximal gradient approaches

- Proximal gradient method on manifold (ManPG):  
Chen-Ma-So-Zhang 2020

$$\min_{D \in \mathcal{T}_{X_k}} \langle D, \nabla f(X_k) \rangle + r(X_k + D) + \frac{\|D\|_F^2}{2\eta_k} \quad (\text{proximal mapping})$$

- Riemannian proximal gradient method: Huang-Wei 2019

## Computational cost per outer iteration

- No closed-form solution for proximal mapping  $\Rightarrow$  semismooth Newton method: Qi-Sun 1993 Sun-Sun 2002
- Orthonormalization process is required in each iteration  $\Rightarrow$  lacks scalability



## Definition 1

(Yang-Zhang-Song 2014)

A point  $X \in \mathcal{S}_{n,p}$  is called as first-order stationary point of (OCPR) if and only if it satisfies

$$0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{T}_X}(\nabla f(X) + \partial r(X)),$$

where  $\mathcal{T}_X$  denotes the tangent space at  $X$ ,

$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{T}_X}(\mathcal{Y}) := \{Y - X\Phi(Y^\top X) \mid Y \in \mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}\}$  consists of all the projection points of  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$  onto the tangent space  $\mathcal{T}_X$ , and  $\partial R$  stands for the Clarke subdifferential of  $R$ .

## Equivalent version

- There exists  $D \in \partial r(X)$  and  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ :

$$\begin{cases} X\Lambda = \nabla f(X) + D \\ \Lambda = \Lambda^\top \\ X^\top X = I_p \end{cases}$$





# Motivation: Exact Penalty Model with Compact Convex Constraints

## Smooth case

- $\Lambda(X) = \Phi(X^\top \nabla f(X));$

$$\min f(X)$$

$$\text{s.t. } X^\top X = I_p$$

$$\implies \min_{X \in \mathcal{M}} f(X) - \frac{1}{2} \langle \Lambda(X), X^\top X - I_p \rangle + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^\top X - I_p\|_F^2.$$

## $\ell_{2,1}$ -norm regularized case

$$\Lambda(X) \in \Phi\left(X^\top \nabla f(X) + X^\top \partial r(X)\right)$$

- Can we choose  $\Lambda(X)$  for (OCPR) by its first-order optimality conditions?



# Motivation: Explicit Expression

## Expression for $\partial r(X)$

- $\partial r(X) = [\gamma_1 \partial(\|X_1\|_2), \gamma_2 \partial(\|X_2\|_2), \dots, \gamma_n \partial(\|X_n\|_2)]^\top$

- $\partial(\|X_j\|_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{X_j^\top}{\|X_j\|_2}, & \text{if } \|X_j\|_2 \neq 0, \\ u_j \text{ satisfying } \|u_j\|_2 = 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

- For any  $D \in \partial r(X)$ ,

$$X^\top D = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i S(X_i), \quad \text{where } S(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{xx^\top}{\|x\|_2}, & \text{if } x \neq 0; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- $S(x)$  Lipschitz continuous.

Hence,

$$\Lambda(X) = \Phi(X^\top \nabla f(X)) + \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i S(X_i)$$

- Closed-form expression;
- Lipschitz continuous.



# Penalty Function

## Exact penalty function

$$h(X) := f(X) - \frac{1}{2} \langle \Lambda(X), X^\top X - I_p \rangle + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^\top X - I_p\|_F^2 + r(X),$$

where

$$\Lambda(X) = \Phi(X^\top \nabla f(X)) + \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j S(X_j).$$

■  $X^*$  is a first-order stationary point of (OCPR)  $\Rightarrow 0 \in \partial h(X^*)$ ;

\*  $0 \in \partial h(X) \Rightarrow X^\top X = I_p$ ?

$h$  may be **unbounded** from below - the example in smooth case is also true for nonsmooth case

■  $f(X) = \frac{1}{4} \|X^\top X - I_p\|_F^2$ ,  $\gamma_i = 0$ ;

■  $h(X) = \frac{1}{4} \|X^\top X\|_F^2 - 2\text{tr}((X^\top X)^2(X^\top X - I_p)) + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^\top X - I_p\|_F^2$

$\Rightarrow \|X\|_F \rightarrow +\infty \Rightarrow h(X) \rightarrow -\infty$ .



## Restrict $h$ in a bounded set

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{M}} h(X). \quad (\text{PenC})$$

- $\mathcal{M}$  is a convex compact set,  $\mathcal{S}_{n,p} \subset \mathcal{M}$
- ⇒ Projection to  $\mathcal{M}$  can be easily calculated

## Several Examples

- Ball with radius  $K$  in F-norm :  $\mathcal{B} := \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|X\|_F \leq K\}$
- Closure of Oblique manifold :  $\{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|X_{:,i}\|_2 \leq 1\}$
- ...



## Assumption 3

- $f(X)$  is differentiable and  $\nabla f(X)$  is Lipschitz continuous.

## Constants

- $M_0 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \|\nabla f(X)\|_F$ ;
- $M_2 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} r(X)$ ;
- $L_0 := \sup_{X, Y \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{\|\nabla f(X) - \nabla f(Y)\|_F}{\|X - Y\|_F}$ ;
- $L_r := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}, D \in \partial r(X)} \|D\|_F$ ;
- $M_1 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \|\Lambda(X)\|_2$ ;
- $C_1 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \tilde{h}(X) - \inf_{X \in \mathcal{M}} \tilde{h}(X)$ ;
- $L_1 := \sup_{X \in \mathcal{M}, Y \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{\|\Lambda(X) - \Lambda(Y)\|_F}{\|X - Y\|_F}$ ;
- $\bar{\gamma} = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i$ .



## Theorem 6

Suppose Assumption 3 holds. Let  $\tilde{X}$  be a first-order stationary point of (PenC) with  $\beta \geq \max\{2(M_0 + M_1), 2pL_1\}$ , then either  $\tilde{X}$  is a first-order stationary point of (OCPR), or  $\sigma_{\min}(\tilde{X}^\top \tilde{X}) \leq \frac{2M_1 + \sqrt{2}L_1}{2\beta}$ .

## Lemma 7

For any  $0 < \delta \leq \frac{1}{3}$ , when

$\beta \geq \max\left\{2(M_0 + M_1), 2pL_1, \left(3M_1 + \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}L_1\right), \frac{2C_1}{\delta^2}\right\}$ , we have

$$\sup_{\|X^\top X - I_p\|_F \leq \delta} h(X) < \inf_{\|X^\top X - I_p\|_F \geq 2\delta} h(X).$$

Moreover, any global minimizer  $X^*$  of (PenC) satisfies  $X^* \in \mathcal{S}_{n,p}$ , which further implies that it is a global minimizer of problem (OCPR).



## Problem reformulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \quad & f(X) + r(X) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X^T X = I_p, \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \min_{X \in \mathcal{B}} \quad h(X).$$

- $\mathcal{B} := \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \mid \|X\|_F \leq K\}$  where  $K > \sqrt{p}$ .

## Difficulties in computing proximal mapping

$$h(X) := f(X) + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^T X - I_p\|_F^2 - \frac{1}{2} \langle \Lambda(X), X^T X - I_p \rangle + r(X).$$

- $f(X) + \frac{\beta}{4} \|X^T X - I_p\|_F^2$ : smooth
- $r(X)$ : nonsmooth, row-wise separable
- $\frac{1}{2} \langle \Lambda(X), X^T X - I_p \rangle$ : nonconvex, nonsmooth  $\Rightarrow$  approximate

# Proximal Gradient Method for Solving PenC with Exact Lambda (PenCPG)



- 1 Choose  $X_0$ , set  $k = 0$ ;
- 2 Choose stepsize  $\eta_k$ ;
- 3 Compute  $D_k = \nabla f(X_k) + \beta X_k [(X_k^\top X_k - I_p) - \Lambda(X_k)]$ ;
- 4 Update  $X_k$  by

$$X_{k+1} = \arg \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}} \langle X - X_k, D_k \rangle + r(X) + \frac{\|X - X_k\|_F^2}{2\eta_k}$$

- 5 If  $\|X_{k+1}\|_F > K$ , project  $X_{k+1}$  back to  $\mathcal{B}$ ;
- 6 If certain stopping criterion is satisfied, return  $X_{k+1}$ ; Otherwise, set  $k := k + 1$  and go to Step 2.





## Theorem 8

Suppose Assumption 3 holds. Let  $0 < \delta \leq \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $K \geq \frac{\sqrt{6p}}{2}$  and  $\beta \geq \max\{6M_1, \max\{2p, 12\sqrt{6}\}L_1, 2(M_0 + M_1), \frac{2C_1}{\delta^2}\}$ . Suppose that  $\{X_k\}$  is the iterate sequence generated by PenCPG, starting from the initial point  $X_0 \in \mathcal{B}$  satisfying  $\|X_0^\top X_0 - I_p\|_F \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$ , and adopting the stepsize  $\eta_k \in [\frac{1}{2}\eta^+, \eta^+]$  where

$$\eta^+ = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{L_0 + 4\beta + \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}L_1 + M_1}, \frac{1}{15 \left( M_0 + \frac{2\sqrt{3p}}{3}M_1 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{9}\beta + L_r \right)}, \frac{1}{4(L_0 + 4\beta + M_1)} \right\}.$$

Then  $\{X_k\}$  exists clustering point and any clustering point is a first-order stationary point of (OCPR). More precisely, for any  $N \geq 1$ , it holds that

$$\min_{0 \leq k \leq N-1} \|X_{k+1} - X_k\|_F \leq \sqrt{\frac{(16C_1 + \beta\delta^2)\eta^+}{2N}}.$$



## Remark 1

*The sublinear convergence rate of  $\|X_{k+1} - X_k\|_F$  illustrated in Theorem 8 actually tells us that PenCPG terminates after  $O(1/\epsilon^2)$  iterations, if the stopping criterion is set as  $\|X_{k+1} - X_k\|_F < \epsilon$ .*

*Meanwhile, we have  $\|X_{k+1}^\top X_{k+1} - I_p\|_F < \frac{6\sqrt{6}}{\eta+\beta} \epsilon$ .*

# PenCPG and ManPG - A Comparison



## ManPG

- Proximal gradient method  $\Rightarrow$  outperforms ADMM and subgradient methods, fewer parameters
- Difficult proximal mapping  $\Rightarrow$  expensive

$$\min_{D \in \mathcal{T}_{X_k}(\mathbb{S}_{n,p})} \langle D, \nabla f(X_k) \rangle + r(D) + \frac{1}{2\eta_k} \|D - X_k\|_F^2.$$

- Feasible, retraction based  $\Rightarrow$  orthonormalization process lacks scalability

## PenCPG

- Proximal gradient method
- Explicit solution for proximal mapping  $\Rightarrow$  easy to compute
- Infeasible, only requires matrix-matrix multiplication  $\Rightarrow$  high scalability

# Comparison on Computational Complexity



| ManPG                                     |  |                      |
|---|--|----------------------|
| Computing gradient                        | $\nabla f(X_k)$  | 1 first-order oracle |
| Computing Riemann gradient                | $\nabla f(X_k) - X_k \Phi(X_k^\top \nabla f(X_k))$       | $4np^2$              |
| Retraction <sup>1</sup>                   | $qr(X_{k+1})$  | $2np^2$              |
| SSN for proximal subproblem <sup>23</sup> | $E(\Lambda_k) \text{vec}(\Lambda_{k+1}) = -D(\Lambda_k)$ | $2np^2 \cdot l_{CG}$ |
| total                                     | 1 first-order oracle + $6np^2 + 2np^2 \cdot l_{CG}$      |                      |
| PenCPG                                    |  |                      |
| Computing gradient                        | $\nabla f(X_k)$  | 1 first-order oracle |
| Computing $D_k$                           | $D_k$  | $6np^2$              |
| Solving subproblem                        | thresholding   | $2np$                |
| Retraction                                | no retraction in PenCPG                                  | 0                    |
| total                                     | 1 first-order oracle + $6np^2$                           |                      |

<sup>1</sup>Grad-Schmidt orthonormalization

<sup>2</sup> $l_{CG}$  denotes the total iterations in CG method for solving the linear system, and ManPG can take multiple SSN steps in each iteration.

<sup>3</sup> $l_{CG} \gg 1$ .



## Running Platform

- Intel(R) Xeon(R) Silver 4110 CPU @ 2.10GHz and 394GB RAM
- Ubuntu 18.10
- MATLAB R2018a

## Stopping Criteria

- Substationarity:  $\frac{\|X_{k+1} - X_k\|_F}{\eta_k} \leq 10^{-4}$ ;
- Max iteration: 20000 for PenCPG.

## Testing Problems

- Problem 1: Sparse variable PCA
- Problem 2: Canonical correlation analysis

# Default Setting



## A possible choice of fixed $\beta$

$$\beta := \|\nabla f(X_0)\|_F + \bar{\gamma}.$$

## BB Stepsize for Nonsmooth Optimization

Wen-Yin-Goldfarb-Zhang 2010, Chen-Hager-Yashtini-Zhang 2013

$$\eta_k^{\text{BB1}} := \frac{\langle S_{k-1}, S_{k-1} \rangle}{|\langle S_{k-1}, Y_{k-1} \rangle|}, \quad \text{or} \quad \eta_k^{\text{BB2}} := \frac{|\langle S_{k-1}, Y_{k-1} \rangle|}{\langle Y_{k-1}, Y_{k-1} \rangle},$$

where

$$S_k = X_k - X_{k-1},$$

$$Y_k = \left[ \nabla f(X_k) - X_k \Lambda(X_k) + \beta X_k (X_k^\top X_k - I_p) \right] \\ - \left[ \nabla f(X_{k-1}) - X_{k-1} \Lambda(X_{k-1}) + \beta X_{k-1} (X_{k-1}^\top X_{k-1} - I_p) \right]$$



# Post-process by Orthonormalization

## Projection after convergence

- Obtain  $X_k$ , and economy-size SVD:  $X_k = U\Sigma V^\top$ ;
- Return  $X^{\text{orth}} := UV^\top$ .

## Proposition 2

Given  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{3}]$ ,  $K \geq \sqrt{p + \delta \sqrt{p}}$ . Then for

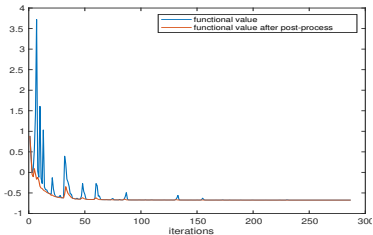
$\beta \geq \max\{6M_1, 36L_1, 2(M_0 + M_1), \frac{2C_1}{\delta^2}, 2(L_0 + L_1 + 3M_1 + 2M_2)\}$ .

Suppose PenCPG starts with initial value  $\|X_0^\top X_0 - I_p\|_F \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$  with stepsize  $\eta_k \in [\frac{1}{2}\eta^+, \eta^+]$ , and generates a sequence  $\{X_k\}$ . Then for any  $k > 0$ , let  $X_k$  has compact SVD  $U_k \Sigma_k V_k^\top$  and define  $X^{\text{orth}} = U_k V_k^\top$ , then

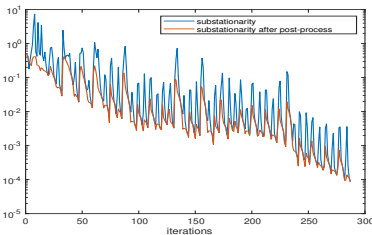
$$h(X_k) \geq h(X^{\text{orth}}). \quad (1)$$

- Eliminate feasibility violation
- Reduce penalty function value

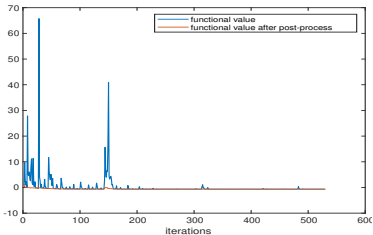
# Numerical Experiments for Post-process



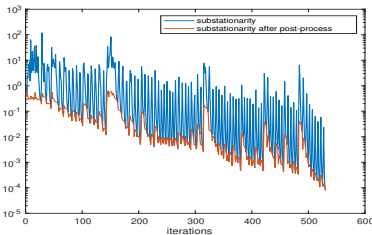
(a) Functional value,  $\beta = s$ .



(b) Substationarity,  $\beta = s$ .



(c) Functional value,  $\beta = 10s$ .



(d) Substationarity,  $\beta = 10s$ .

Figure 2: Problem 1 with  $n = 500$ ,  $p = 4$ ,  $\gamma = 0.09$ .





## Problem generation

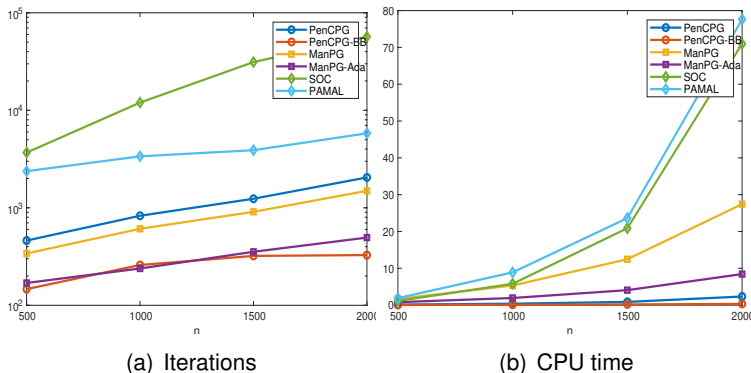
- Randomly generate uniformly distributed samples,  $N = 200$ , and set  $A$  as their covariance matrix;  $\gamma_i = \frac{b}{2} \sqrt{\log(2n)/50}$
- 10 experiments with random initial points



## Testing methods

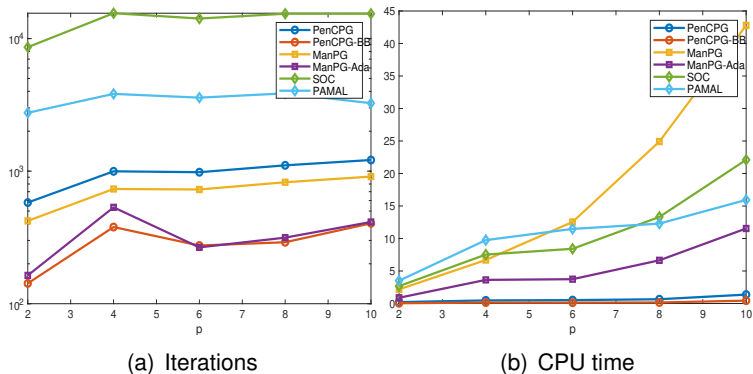
- SOC: Splitting method for orthogonality constrained problems, [Lai-Osher 2014](#) ;
- PAMAL: Proximal alternating minimized augmented Lagrangian, [Chen-Ji-You 2016](#) ;
- ManPG : Manifold proximal gradient method, [Chen-Ma-So-Zhang 2020](#) ;
- ManPG-Ada: Accelerated version of ManPG, [Chen-Ma-So-Zhang 2020](#) ;
- PenCPG:  $\beta = s, K = 10\sqrt{p}$ , fixed stepsize  $\eta_k = \frac{1}{2s}$ ;
- PenCPG-BB: PenCPG with BB1 stepsize,  $\beta = s, K = 10\sqrt{p}$ .

# Numerical Results on $n$



- Comparable in the aspect of iterations
- Less CPU time

# Numerical Results on $p$



■ Cheap proximal mapping  $\Rightarrow$  high scalability



## Contributions

- **PLAM** and **PCAL** – updating multipliers by closed-form expression
- PenC model – an **exact penalty model** with simple convex constraint
  - First-order approaches: **PCAL**, **PenCF**
  - Second-order approach: **PenCS**
  - Algorithm for  $\ell_{2,1}$  regularized objective: **PenCPG**

## Further development

- Extension to general nonsmooth cases: **SLPG**



Thanks for your attention!

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