

# ON THE USE OF GEODESIC TRIANGLES BETWEEN GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION PROBLEMS

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A. Collas<sup>1</sup>, F. Bouchard<sup>2</sup>, G. Ginolhac<sup>3</sup>, A. Breloy<sup>4</sup>, C. Ren<sup>1</sup>, J.-P. Ovarlez<sup>1,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>SONDRA, CentraleSupélec, Univ. Paris-Saclay

<sup>2</sup>CNRS, L2S, CentraleSupélec, Univ. Paris-Saclay

<sup>3</sup>LISTIC, Univ. Savoie Mont Blanc

<sup>4</sup>LEME, Univ. Paris Nanterre

<sup>5</sup>DEMR, ONERA, Univ. Paris-Saclay

E-mail: antoine.collas@centralesupelec.fr

# **Time series in remote sensing and classification**

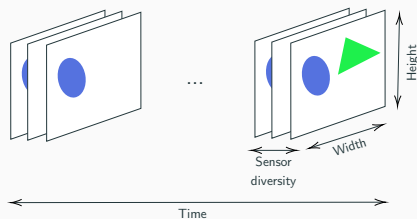
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# Time series in remote sensing

In recent years, many image time series have been taken from the **earth** with different technologies: **SAR, multi/hyper spectral imaging, ...**

## Objective

**Segment semantically** these data using **spatial** information, **temporal** information and **sensor diversity** (spectral bands, polarization...).



**Figure 1:** Multivariate image time series.

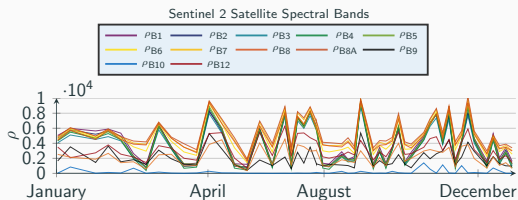
## Applications

Disaster assessment, activity monitoring, land cover mapping, crop type mapping, ...

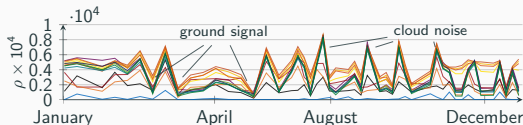
# Example of multi-spectral time series

*Breizhcrops*<sup>1</sup> [1]:

- more than 600 000 crop time series across the whole Brittany,
- 13 spectral bands, 9 classes.



**Figure 2:** Reflectances  $\rho$  of a time series of **meadows**.



**Figure 3:** Reflectances  $\rho$  of a time series of **corn**.

<sup>1</sup><https://breizhcrops.org/>

# Clustering/classification pipeline and Riemannian geometry

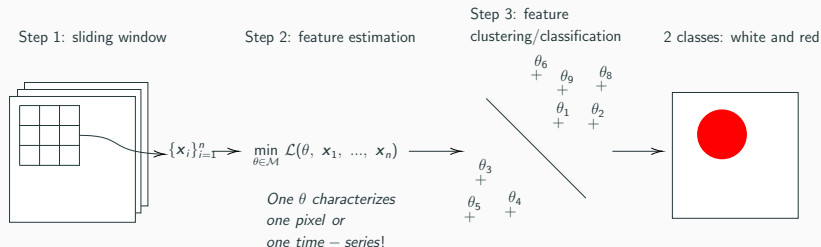


Figure 4: Clustering/classification pipeline.

## Examples of $\theta$ :

$\theta = \Sigma$  a covariance matrix,  $\theta = (\mu, \Sigma)$  a vector and a covariance matrix, ...

# **Riemannian geometry and optimization**

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# What is a Riemannian manifold ?

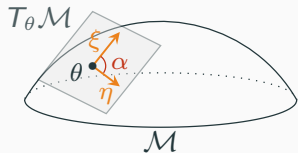


Figure 5: A Riemannian manifold.

Curvature induced by:

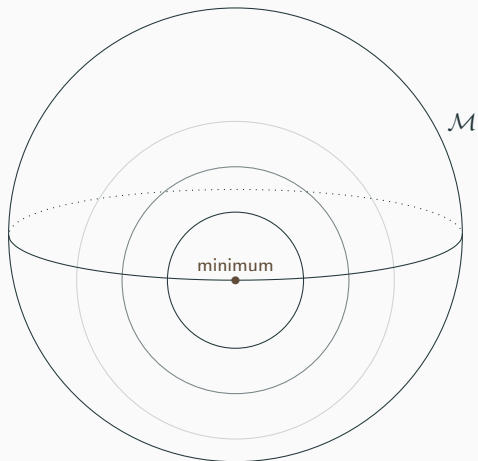
- constraints, e.g. the sphere:  $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$ ,
- the Riemannian metric, e.g. on  $\mathcal{S}_p^{++}$ :  
$$\langle \xi_\Sigma, \eta_\Sigma \rangle_\Sigma^{\text{FIM}} = \text{Tr} (\Sigma^{-1} \xi_\Sigma \Sigma^{-1} \eta_\Sigma).$$

## Examples of Riemannian manifolds $\mathcal{M}$ :

- linear space (no constraints):  $\mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$
- orthogonality constraints:  $\text{St}_{p,k} = \{\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times k} : \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}_k\}$
- positivity constraints:  $\mathcal{S}_p^{++} = \{\Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_p : \forall \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^p, \mathbf{x}^T \Sigma \mathbf{x} > 0\}$
- norm constraints:  $\mathcal{S}^{p^2-1} = \{\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p} : \|\mathbf{X}\|_F = 1\}$

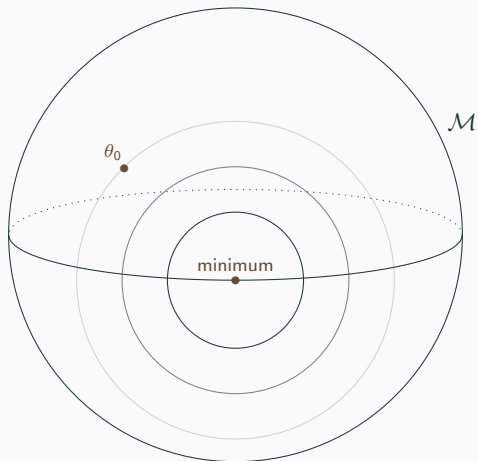
For a detailed introduction on optimization on Riemannian manifolds: see [2].

# Optimization on a manifold

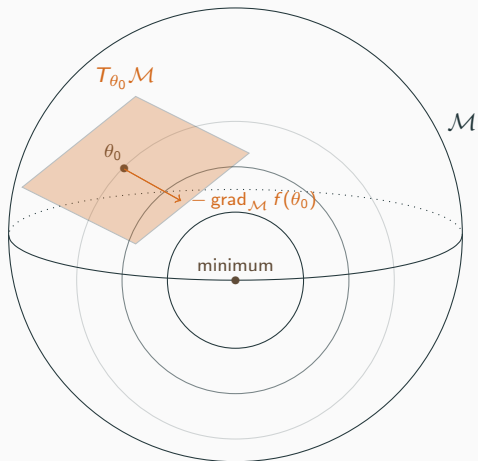




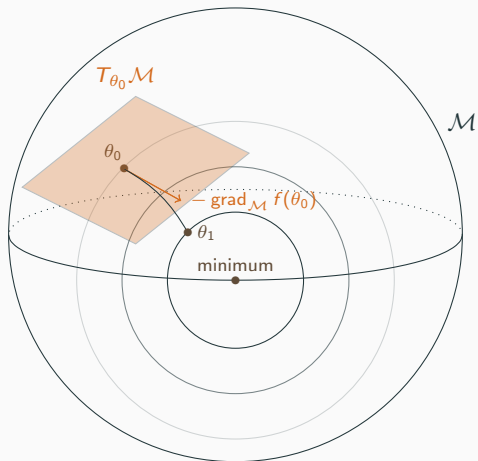
# Optimization on a manifold



# Optimization on a manifold



# Optimization on a manifold



## Existing work (1/2)

$\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$  realizations of  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ ,  $\Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_p^{++}$  (set of  $p \times p$  symmetric positive definite matrices).

### Step 2: maximum likelihood estimator

$$\theta = \hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^T. \quad (1)$$

### Step 3: Riemannian geometry of centered Gaussian distributions

$\mathcal{S}_p^{++}$  with the Fisher information metric:

$\forall \xi_\Sigma, \eta_\Sigma$  in the tangent space at  $\Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_p^{++}$

$$\langle \xi_\Sigma, \eta_\Sigma \rangle_\Sigma^{\text{FIM}} = \text{Tr} \left( \Sigma^{-1} \xi_\Sigma \Sigma^{-1} \eta_\Sigma \right). \quad (2)$$

NB: invariance property by affine transformations:

$$\langle D\phi(\Sigma)[\xi_\Sigma], D\phi(\Sigma)[\eta_\Sigma] \rangle_{\phi(\Sigma)}^{\text{FIM}} = \langle \xi_\Sigma, \eta_\Sigma \rangle_\Sigma^{\text{FIM}}. \quad (3)$$

where  $\phi(\Sigma) = \mathbf{A}\Sigma\mathbf{A}^T$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  invertible.

## Existing work (2/2)

### Step 3

Riemannian distance between  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  in  $\mathcal{S}_p^{++}$ :

$$d_{\mathcal{S}_p^{++}}(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2) = \left\| \log \left( \Sigma_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Sigma_2 \Sigma_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \right\|_2. \quad (4)$$

NB: invariance property by affine transformations:

$$d_{\mathcal{S}_p^{++}}(\phi(\Sigma_1), \phi(\Sigma_2)) = d_{\mathcal{S}_p^{++}}(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2) \quad (5)$$

Riemannian mean of a set  $\{\Sigma_i\}$ :

$$\Sigma_{\text{mean}} = \arg \min_{\Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_p^{++}} \sum_i d_{\mathcal{S}_p^{++}}^2(\Sigma, \Sigma_i). \quad (6)$$

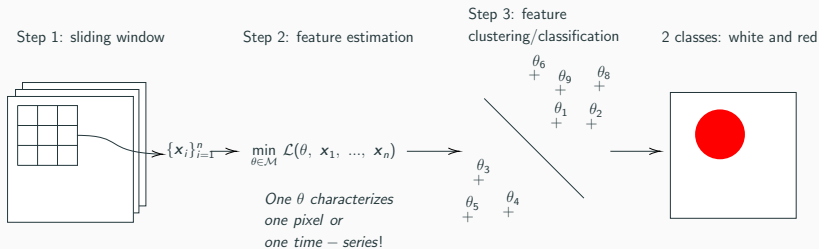
Enough to apply a *K-means* or a *Nearest centroid classifier*.

For a full description of the manifold  $\mathcal{S}_p^{++}$  and its associated center of mass: see [3], [4].

# **Geodesic triangles for classification problems**

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# Geodesic triangles for machine learning



**Figure 6:** Clustering/classification pipeline.

## Statistical model

Let  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$  distributed as  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$  with  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  
 $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathcal{S}_p^{++}$ .

Goal: classify  $\theta = (\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ .

# Riemannian geometry of Gaussian distributions

## Riemannian geometry of non-centered Gaussian distributions

$\mathbb{R}^p \times \mathcal{S}_p^{++}$  with the Fisher information metric:  $\forall \xi = (\xi_\mu, \xi_\Sigma), \eta = (\eta_\mu, \eta_\Sigma)$   
in the tangent space

$$\langle \xi, \eta \rangle_{(\mu, \Sigma)}^{\text{FIM}} = \xi_\mu^T \Sigma^{-1} \eta_\mu + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left( \Sigma^{-1} \xi_\Sigma \Sigma^{-1} \eta_\Sigma \right). \quad (7)$$

NB: invariance property by affine transformations:

$$\langle D\phi(\mu, \Sigma)[\xi], D\phi(\mu, \Sigma)[\eta] \rangle_{(\mu, \Sigma)}^{\text{FIM}} = \langle \xi, \eta \rangle_{(\mu, \Sigma)}^{\text{FIM}} \quad (8)$$

with  $\phi(\mu, \Sigma) = (\mathbf{A}\mu + \mu_0, \mathbf{A}\Sigma\mathbf{A}^T)$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  invertible,  $\forall \mu_0 \in \mathbb{R}^p$ .

## Problem

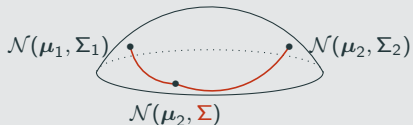
Problem: this Riemannian geometry is not fully known... (see [5], [6])





# Geodesic triangles for machine learning

## Solution: use of geodesic triangles



Divergence  $\delta$ :  
arc length of  
the path between  
 $(\mu_1, \Sigma_1)$  and  $(\mu_2, \Sigma_2)$ .

$$\delta_c : (\mu_1, \Sigma_1) \rightarrow (\mu_1, c\Sigma_1) \rightarrow (\mu_2, \Sigma_2), \quad \forall c > 0$$

$$\delta_{\perp} : (\mu_1, \Sigma_1) \rightarrow (\mu_1, \Sigma_1 + \Delta\mu\Delta\mu^T) \rightarrow (\mu_2, \Sigma_2), \quad \Delta\mu = \mu_2 - \mu_1$$

NB: both divergences are invariant by affine transformations.

## Riemannian center of mass $(\mu_{\text{mean}}, \Sigma_{\text{mean}})$ of $\{(\mu_i, \Sigma_i)\}$

$$(\mu_{\text{mean}}, \Sigma_{\text{mean}}) = \arg \min_{(\mu, \Sigma) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathcal{S}_p^{++}} \sum_i \delta^2((\mu, \Sigma), (\mu_i, \Sigma_i)) \quad (9)$$

# Riemannian optimization

Minimize  $f : (\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

## Proposition (Riemannian gradient)

The Riemannian gradient of  $f$  at  $(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$  is

$$\text{grad } f(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma) = \left( \Sigma \mathbf{G}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \Sigma \left( \mathbf{G}_{\Sigma} + \mathbf{G}_{\Sigma}^T \right) \Sigma \right)$$

where  $\text{grad}_{\epsilon} f(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma) = (\mathbf{G}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \mathbf{G}_{\Sigma}) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  is the Euclidean gradient of  $f$ .

## Proposition (Second order retraction)

A second order retraction at  $(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$  of  $\xi$  in the tangent space is

$$R_{(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\Sigma}) = \left( \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} + \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\Sigma} \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \Sigma + \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\Sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\Sigma} \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\Sigma} - \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}^T \right] \right).$$

## Riemannian gradient descent

**Input** : Initial iterate  $(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1)$ .

**Output:** Sequence of iterates  $\{(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)\}$ .

$k := 1$ ;

**while** *no convergence* **do**

    Compute a step size  $\alpha$  and set

$(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{k+1}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k+1}) := R_{(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}(-\alpha \text{grad } f(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k))$ ;

$k := k + 1$ ;

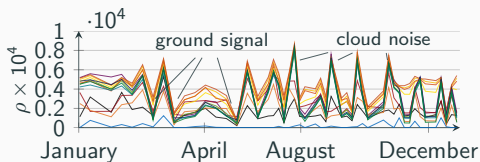
**end**

**Algorithm 1:** Riemannian gradient descent

# Geodesic triangles for machine learning

*Breizhcrops* dataset [1]:

- more than 600 000 crop time series across the whole Brittany,
- 9 classes,
- 13 spectral bands.



**Figure 7:** Reflectances of a Sentinel-2 time series.

Estimator	Geometry	OA (%)	AA (%)
$\mathbf{X}$	$\mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$	10.1	18.5
Mean $\hat{\mu}$	$\mathbb{R}^p$	13.2	14.8
Covariance matrix $\hat{\Sigma}$	$\mathcal{S}_p^{++}$	43.9	28.1
Centered covariance matrix $\hat{\Sigma}$	$\mathcal{S}_p^{++}$	46.7	30.1
Proposed - $(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\Sigma})$	$\delta_c$	<b>54.3</b>	<b>37.0</b>
Proposed - $(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\Sigma})$	$\delta_{\perp}$	53.3	35.7

**Table 1:** Accuracies of *Nearest centroid classifiers* on the *Breizhcrops* dataset. OA = Overall Accuracy, AA = Average Accuracy

## Conclusion

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# Conclusion

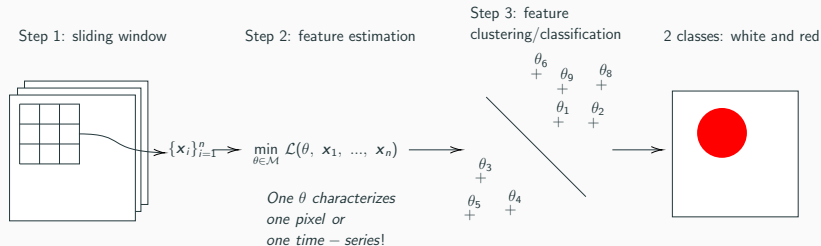


Figure 8: Clustering/classification pipeline.

## Theoretical contributions:

- new divergences:  $\delta_c, \delta_\perp$
- new algorithm to compute Riemannian centers of mass.

**Application** on a real dataset of multispectral time-series classification:  
*Breizhcrops*.

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E-mail: antoine.collas@centralesupelec.fr

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