

Bresch, J. et al. (2024) – Matrix-free stochastic calculation of operator norms without using adjoints, **SIAM J. Matrix Anal. Appl.**
Bresch, J. et al. (2025) – Computing adjoint mismatch of linear maps, **arXiv:2503.21361**
Bresch, J. et al. (2025) – Stochastic zeroth-order method for computing the generalized Rayleigh quotient, **arXiv:2512.05520**
Bresch, J. (2025) – Geometry-Aware Ansätze in Image Processing and Stochastic Calculations of Matrix Quantities, **Dissertation**



Stochastic Zeroth-Order Method for Computing Matrix Quantities

Jonas Bresch | Technical University Berlin | joint work with
Oleh Melnyk, Martin Schoen, Gabriele Steidl,
Dirk Lorenz, Felix Schneppe, Maximilian Winkler

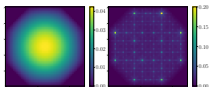
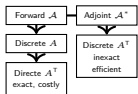
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Motivation: Adjoint Mismatch

- **Inverse problems:** $\mathcal{A}x = y$
- might **not solvable**, instead $\min_{x \in \mathbb{X}} \|\mathcal{A}x - y\|_{\mathbb{Y}}$ where $\mathcal{A}: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$
- **Normal equation:** $\mathcal{A}^* \mathcal{A}x = \mathcal{A}^* y$
→ pseudo inverse $\mathcal{A}^\dagger$, noncontinuous
- discretization $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$
→ exact adjoint A^* may be **expensive** or **unavailable**
- Replacing A^* by a discretized adjoint $V^* \rightarrow$ **adjoint mismatch**
- **Affects** convergence $\|V\|, \|A - V\|$
 $\min_{x \in \mathbb{X}} f(Ax) + g(x) = \min_{x \in \mathbb{X}} \max_{y \in \mathbb{Y}} g(x) + \langle Ax, y \rangle - f^*(y)$
- spectral properties of $V^* A + \kappa I$
 $\min_{x \in \mathbb{X}} \|y - Ax\|_{\mathbb{X}}^2 + g(x) + \frac{\kappa}{2} \|x\|_{\mathbb{X}}^2$
- VV^* unavailable for estimating
- $V^* A$ nonnormal $\rightarrow$ not convergent



Extensions, Restrictions of $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

- Operator norms $\|A\|, \|A/B\|$
- Adjoint mismatch $\|A - V\|$

Optimization Target

- Maximize the **generalized Rayleigh quotient** $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \max_{v \neq 0} \frac{\langle v, Av \rangle}{\langle v, Bv \rangle}$
- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$, B Hermitian pos. def.
 $\langle v, Av \rangle = 1/2 (\langle v, Av \rangle + \langle A^* v, v \rangle) = \langle v, A^H v \rangle$
- $B = I_d \rightarrow$ **top spectral problem**
- general $B \rightarrow$ leading **generalized eigenvector** of $B^{-1} A^H$
 $\leftrightarrow \max \lambda$ s.t. $\begin{cases} A^H v = \lambda B v \\ \langle v, B v \rangle = 1 \end{cases}$

Rieman. Grad.: First & Zeroth Order

- Riemannian gradient, retraction
- **requires** adjoint A^* , inverse B^{-1}
- **Surrogate** stochastic gradient
- Sample $\tilde{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$, $x^k = P_{v^k} \tilde{x}$
- **Estimate** $\hat{\nabla}_1 f(v^k) = \frac{f(R_{v^k}(\mu_k x^k)) - f(v^k)}{\mu_k} x^k$
- **Choice** of the step size!

Specific Construction, Estimator

- **Solve** quadratic subproblem

$$\arg \min_{\tau \in \mathbb{R}} \begin{cases} \langle R_{v^k}(\tau x^k), A R_{v^k}(\tau x^k) \rangle \\ \langle R_{v^k}(\tau x^k), B R_{v^k}(\tau x^k) \rangle \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} a_k := \langle v^k, A^H v^k \rangle \\ b_k := 2 \langle x^k, A^H v^k \rangle \end{cases}$$

- **Estimator** $\mathbb{E}[b_k x^k] = \frac{1}{d-1} \nabla_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} f(v^k)$,
 $\mathbb{E}[b_k^2 | v^k] = \frac{4}{d-1} \|P_{v^k} A^H v^k\|^2 = \frac{1}{d-1} \|\nabla_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} f(v^k)\|^2$

Riemannian Formulation

- Work on the ellipsoid
 $\mathbb{S}_B^{d-1} = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \langle v, Bv \rangle = 1\} = h^{-1}(\{0\})$
- smooth, embedded Riemannian manifold $h(v) = \langle v, Bv \rangle - 1$
- tangent space
 $\mathbb{T}_v = \ker(Dh[v]) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \langle x, Bv \rangle = 0\}$
- Then $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \max_{v \in \mathbb{S}_B^{d-1}} \langle v, A^H v \rangle$

Convergence, Rates

$\text{dist}(G_{\max}, v^k) \rightarrow 0$, $r(A, B, v^k) \nearrow \lambda_{\max}$, $k \rightarrow \infty$, a.s.

$$\min_{k=0, \dots, n} \mathbb{P}(\|A^H v^k - a_k B v^k\|^2 \geq \varepsilon) \in \mathcal{O}(1/n)$$

$$\min_{k=0, \dots, n} \mathbb{E}[b_k^2] = \min_{k=0, \dots, n} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla_{\mathbb{S}_B^{d-1}} f(v^k)\|^2] \in \mathcal{O}(1/n)$$

