# **Geometric Variational Inference**



#### USING RIEMANNIAN GEOMETRY TO ENHANCE VARIATIONAL METHODS

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- 2. Non-linear (non-Gaussian) posterior distributions
  - 2.1 Point estimates (e.g. MAP) not sufficient

# Variational Inference

Kullback-Leibler divergence

$$\operatorname{KL}\left[\mathcal{Q}_{\sigma}||\mathcal{P}\right] = -\int \log\left(\frac{\mathcal{P}(\xi|d)}{\mathcal{Q}_{\sigma}(\xi)}\right) \ \mathcal{Q}_{\sigma}(\xi) \ \mathrm{d}\xi$$

Posterior:  $\mathcal{P}(\xi|d)$ ; approximation:  $\mathcal{Q}_{\sigma}(\xi)$ ; variational parameters:  $\sigma$ .

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Use a transformed standard normal distribution for  $\mathcal{Q}$ :  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}; 0, 1)$ 

Choose a coordinate system  $y = g(\xi)$  such that the *posterior* distribution is close to a standard Normal distribution.

# **Geometric Variational Inference**



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Fisher information metric  $\mathcal{M}_{lh}(\xi)$ :  $\langle \dot{e} \rangle$ 

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{H}(d|\xi)}{\partial \xi \partial \xi'} \right\rangle_{\mathcal{P}(d|\xi)}$$



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+ Write Fisher metric as pullback:  $\mathcal{M}(\xi) = \mathcal{M}_{lh}(\xi) + \mathbb{1} = \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial \xi}\right)^T \frac{\partial x}{\partial \xi} + \mathbb{1}.$ 

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Local Euclidean isometry around  $\bar{\xi}$ 

$$y = g(\xi; \bar{\xi}) = \xi - \bar{\xi} + \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial \xi}\right)^T \bigg|_{\xi = \bar{\xi}} \left(x(\xi) - x(\bar{\xi})\right)$$

Likelihood transformation:  $x(\xi) = x(s(\xi))$ , expansion point:  $\overline{\xi}$ .



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Variational approximation with transformed distribution  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{Q}}$ 

$$\mathcal{Q}_{ar{\xi}}(\xi) = \mathcal{N}(y|0,1)|_{y=g(\xi;ar{\xi})} \left| \left| \frac{\partial g(\xi;ar{\xi})}{\partial \xi} \right| \right|$$



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0.5

 $P(\xi_{2})$ 

0.0

-4 -3



0

-2 -1

 $\xi_1$ 

0.5 0.0

 $P(\xi_2)$ 

-4 -3 -2 -1 0

 $\xi_1$ 



 $10^{-3}10^{-2}10^{-1} 10^{0} \underbrace{\overline{5}}_{2}$  $Q_{MGVI}$ 4  $Q_{\rm MGVI}(\xi_1,\xi_2)$ 2 \$ 0  $^{-2}$ -40.50.0  $^{-1}$ 0 2 1  $P(\xi_{2})$  $\xi_1$ 

 $\text{KL}(P; Q_{\text{geoVI}}) = 0.0490 \quad \text{KL}(Q_{\text{geoVI}}; P) = 0.0477$ ----- $10^{-3}10^{-2}10^{-1}$   $10^{0}$ 2  $Q_{\text{geoVI}}$  $Q_{\text{geoVI}}(\xi_1, \xi_2)$ 2 0  $^{-2}$ -40.50.0 -10 1 2  $P(\xi_2)$ ξ1

 $\text{KL}(P; Q_{\text{D}}) = 0.0661 \quad \text{KL}(Q_{\text{D}}; P) = 0.0582$ ----- $10^{-3}10^{-2}10^{-1}$   $10^{0}$ 2 Q<sub>D</sub>  $Q_{\rm D}(\xi_1, \xi_2)$ 2 5 0  $^{-2}$ -4 $0.25 \quad 0.00$ -10 1 2  $P(\xi_2)$  $\xi_1$ 

















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- + Geometric variational inference; Frank, Leike, Enßlin; https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.10470
- + Numerical information field theory (Nifty7); https://gitlab.mpcdf.mpg.de/ift/nifty





