

# Hessian Riemannian Gradient Flows in Convex Programming

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# Outline

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1. Motivation: scaling the Euclidean gradient.
2. Riemannian gradient flows on convex sets.
3. Hessian metrics, existence, convergence and examples.

# 1. Motivation: gradient method

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Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a smooth function,  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

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*Continuous gradient method:*

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\nabla f(x), t > 0.$$

Continuous flow  $\leftrightarrow$  discrete method.

# 1. Scaling and Newton's method

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Newton's correction:  $x_{k+1} = x_k - \lambda_k \nabla^2 f(x_k)^{-1} \nabla f(x_k).$

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$$\nabla f(x(t)) = e^{-t} \nabla f(x_0)$$

Scale invariant rate of convergence on a straight line !

back.

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■ Properties:

- $\frac{d}{dt} f(x) = - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x) \right|^2 \leq 0 \rightsquigarrow$  descent method on  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$ .
- $x_i(0) > 0 \Rightarrow \forall t > 0, x_i(t) > 0 \rightsquigarrow$  interior point trajectory.

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•  $x_i(0) > 0 \Rightarrow \forall t > 0, x_i(t) > 0 \rightsquigarrow$  interior point trajectory.

• The equation may be written as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \log(x_i) = - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x)$$

Scaling  $\rightsquigarrow$  logarithmic barrier to force  $x(t) > 0$  !

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where

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where

$$h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log(x_i) - x_i$$

Thus

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x) \Leftrightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = -\nabla^2 h(x)^{-1} \nabla f(x)$$

Remark the analogy with **Newton's method**



## 2. Riemannian gradient flows

---

- Problem:  $\min_{x \in C} f(x)$ , with  $C = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x \in \overline{Q}, Ax = b\}$ .
  - $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  nonempty, **open** and convex.
  - $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$  with  $m \leq n$ .

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- Strategy:

- Introduce a *Riemannian metric*  $H(x) \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$  on  $Q$ ,

$$(u, v)_x = \langle H(x)u, v \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n H_{ij}(x)u_i v_j, \quad x \in Q.$$

- Consider the gradient flow

$$\frac{dx}{dt}(t) = -\nabla_H f(x(t)), \quad t > 0,$$

## 2. Riemannian gradient

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- Let  $M, (\cdot, \cdot)$  be a Riemannian manifold.
- $T_x M$ : *tangent space* to  $M$  at  $x \in M$ .

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The gradient  $\text{grad} f$  of  $f \in \mathcal{C}^1(M; \mathbb{R})$  is uniquely determined by

- Tangency: for all  $x \in M$ ,

$$\text{grad} f(x) \in T_x M.$$

- Duality: for all  $x \in M, v \in T_x M$ ,

$$df(x)v = (\text{grad} f(x), v)_x,$$

where  $df(x) : T_x M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the differential of  $f$ .

## 2. Riemannian gradient in our case

---

- $M = Q \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = b\}$  with  $Q$  open set, then
$$\Rightarrow T_x M \simeq \text{Ker } A.$$
- $(\cdot, \cdot)_x = \langle H(x)\cdot, \cdot \rangle$  with a **barrier/penalty** effect near  $\partial Q$ .

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$$\nabla_H f = H^{-1}[I - A^T(AH^{-1}A^T)^{-1}AH^{-1}]\nabla f,$$

where  $\nabla_H$  stands for **grad** to stress the dependence on  $H$ .

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where  $\nabla_H$  stands for **grad** to stress the dependence on  $H$ .

- Projection  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector field in the tangent space.
- Scaling  $\rightsquigarrow$  interior point method  $x(t) \in Q$ .

## 2. Example

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$$C = \Delta_{n-1} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1\}$$



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- $M = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x > 0, \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1\}$ .
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- $T_x M = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \sum_{i=1}^n v_i = 0\}$ .

Take  $H(x) = \text{diag}(1/x_1, \dots, 1/x_n)$ , then

- $(u, v)_x = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{u_i v_j}{x_i} \rightsquigarrow \textit{Shahshahani metric}.$

- $\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} + \sum_{j=1}^n x_i x_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \rightsquigarrow \textit{Lotka-Volterra type eq}.$

## 2. Barrier effect: Legendre functions

We focus on the case  $H(x) = \nabla^2 h(x)$ ,  $x \in Q$  with

- $(H_0)$  {
- $h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is closed, convex and proper.
  - $\text{int dom } h = Q$ .
  - $h$  is of **Legendre** type.
  - $h|_Q \in \mathcal{C}^2(Q; \mathbb{R})$  and  $\nabla^2 h(x) > 0$ .
  - $\nabla^2 h$  is locally Lipschitz.

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- \*  $h$  is strictly convex and  $\mathcal{C}^1$  on  $\text{int dom } h$ .
  - \*  $\text{int dom } h \ni x^j \rightarrow x \in \partial \text{int dom } h, \|\nabla h(x^j)\| \rightarrow +\infty$ .

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## 2. Example of Legendre function

$$h(x) = \sum_{i \in I} \theta(g_i(x)).$$

where

- $I = \{1, \dots, p\}$ ,  $g_i \in \mathcal{C}^3(\mathbb{R}^n)$  concave.
- $Q = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid g_i(x) > 0, i \in I\} \neq \emptyset$ .
- $\forall x \in Q$ ,  $\text{span} \{\nabla g_i(x) \mid i \in I\} = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

and

- (i)  $(0, \infty) \subseteq \text{dom}\theta \subseteq [0, \infty)$ ,  $\theta \in \mathcal{C}^3(0, \infty)$ .
- (ii)  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} \theta'(s) = -\infty$  and  $\forall s > 0$ ,  $\theta''(s) > 0$ .
- (iii) Either  $\theta$  is nonincreasing or  $\forall i \in I$ ,  $g_i$  is affine.

# 3. Questions

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Given  $x_0 \in M = Q \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = b\}$ :

$$\frac{dx}{dt}(t) = -\nabla_H f(x(t)), t > 0,$$

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Given  $x_0 \in M = Q \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = b\}$ :

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- Well posedness: **global existence** for all  $t > 0$ .
- Asymptotic behavior: **convergence** to an equilibrium as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , rate of convergence,...

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**Main difficulty: singular behavior near  $\partial Q$ .**

*$\Rightarrow$  Classical results do not apply.*



# 3. Well posedness: global existence

**Thm. 2** The trajectory  $x(t)$  is defined for all  $t \geq 0$  under any of the following conditions:

$(C_1)$   $\{x \in C \mid f(x) \leq f(x_0)\}$  is bounded.

$(C_2)$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (i) \text{ dom } h = \overline{Q} \\ (ii) \forall y \in \overline{Q}, \forall \gamma \in \mathbb{R}, \{x \in C \mid D_h(y, x) \leq \gamma\} \text{ is bdd.} \\ (iii) \text{ Argmin}_C f \neq \emptyset \text{ and } f \text{ quasiconvex.} \end{array} \right.$

$(C_3)$   $\exists K \geq 0, L \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\forall x \in Q, \|H(x)^{-1}\| \leq K|x| + L.$$

# 3. Why Hessian metrics ?

---

Suppose  $f$  is **convex** and  $A = 0$  and  $b = 0$ .

Euclidean case:  $y \in \text{Argmin}_C f \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in C, \langle \nabla f(x), x - y \rangle \geq 0$ .

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$$\varphi_y(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|x - y\|^2$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\dot{x} = -\nabla f(x) \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_y(x) = \langle \nabla \varphi_y(x), \dot{x} \rangle = \langle x - y, -\nabla f(x) \rangle \leq 0.$$

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$\varphi_y(x)$  is a *Lyapunov function* for the gradient flow

# 3. Characterization of Hessian metrics

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Riemannian case:

$$y \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\overline{Q}} f \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in Q, (\nabla_H f(x), x - y)_x \geq 0.$$

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**Thm. 1**  $H \in \mathcal{C}^1(Q; \mathbb{S}_{++}^n)$  satisfies

$$\forall y \in Q, \exists \varphi_y \in \mathcal{C}^1(Q; \mathbb{R}), \nabla_H \varphi_y(x) = x - y$$

$\Updownarrow$

?

# 3. Characterization of Hessian metrics

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$\exists h \in \mathcal{C}^3(Q)$  such that  $H = \nabla^2 h$  on  $Q$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_y(x) &= D_h(y, x) = h(y) - h(x) - \langle \nabla h(x), y - x \rangle \\ &= \text{Bregman pseudo-distance induced by } h. \end{aligned}$$

# 3. Implicit proximal iteration

---

$$x_{k+1} \in \operatorname{Argmin} \left\{ f(x) + \frac{1}{\lambda_k} D_h(x, x_k) \mid Ax = b \right\},$$



$$\frac{1}{\lambda_k} [\nabla h(x_{k+1}) - \nabla h(x_k)] \in -\nabla f(x_{k+1}) + \operatorname{Im} A^T, \quad Ax_{k+1} = b$$

Bregman 67, Censor-Zenios 92, Teboulle 92, Eckstein 93, Kiwiel 97,...



# 3. Implicit proximal iteration

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{Argmin} \left\{ f(x) + \frac{1}{\lambda_k} D_h(x, x_k) \mid Ax = b \right\},$$



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But  $\frac{dx}{dt} = -\nabla_H f(x) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \nabla h(x) \in -\nabla f(x) + \text{Im } A^T, \\ Ax(t) = b, t \geq 0. \end{cases}$

★ This link was already noticed by Iusem-Svaiter-Da Cruz Neto '99, together with convergence results for a *linear* objective function.

# 3. Convergence: Bregman functions

---

A Legendre function  $h$  with  $\text{dom}h = \overline{Q}$  is of *Bregman type* if

(i)  $\{x \in Q \mid D_h(y, x) \leq \gamma\}$  is bdd.  $\forall y \in \overline{Q}, \forall \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(ii)  $\forall y \in \overline{Q}, \forall y^j \rightarrow y$  with  $y^j \in Q, D_h(y, y^j) \rightarrow 0$ .

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(ii)  $\forall y \in \overline{Q}, \forall y^j \rightarrow y$  with  $y^j \in Q, D_h(y, y^j) \rightarrow 0$ .

**Thm. 3** *Suppose*

- $(H_0)$  with  $h$  of Bregman type.

- $f$  is quasiconvex and  $\text{Argmin}_C f \neq \emptyset$ .

Then  $\exists x_\infty \in C$  such that  $x(t) \rightarrow x_\infty$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  with

$$-\nabla f(x_\infty) \in N_{\overline{Q}}(x_\infty) + \text{Ker } A^\perp,$$

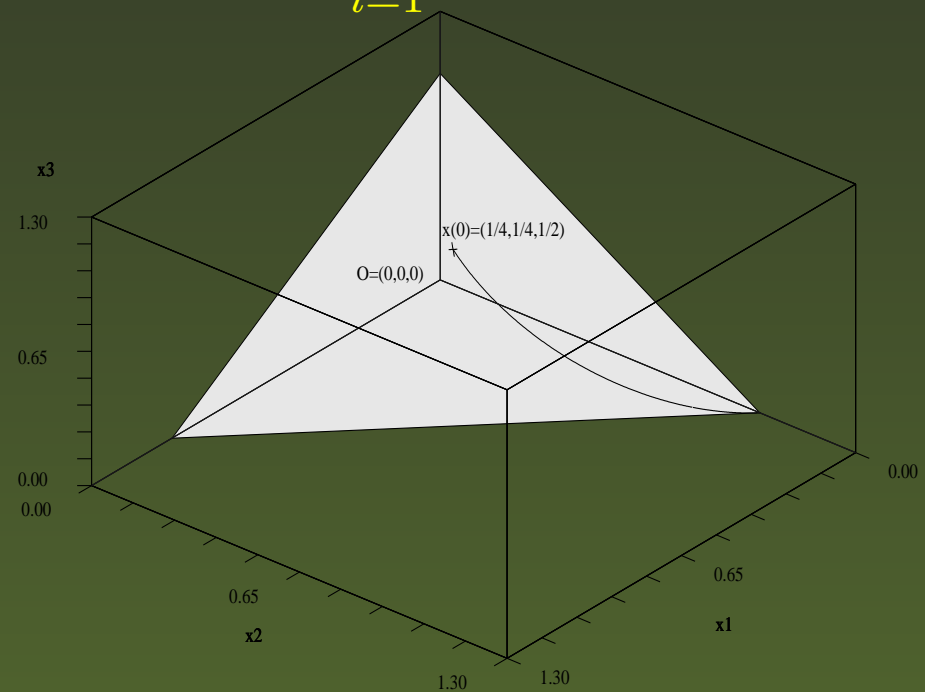
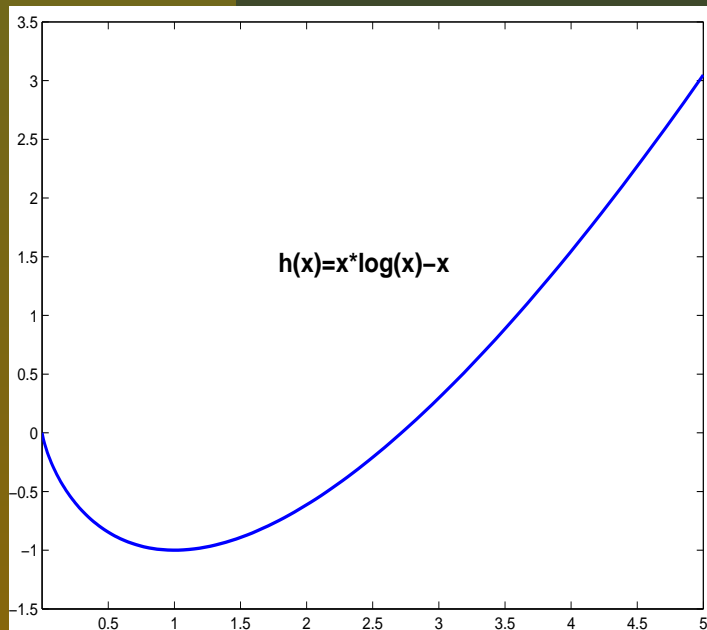
where  $N_{\overline{Q}}(x_\infty)$  is the normal cone to  $\overline{Q}$  at  $x_\infty$ .

### 3. Examples on $\Delta_{n-1}$

*Boltzmann-Shanon entropy:*  $h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log(x_i) - x_i.$

*Shahshahani metric:*  $H(x) = \nabla^2 h(x) = \text{diag}(1/x_1, \dots, 1/x_n).$

*Kullback-Liebler divergence:*  $D_h(y, x) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log(y_i/x_i) + x_i - y_i.$



*Lotka-Volterra type flow*

# 3. Other examples

$$h(x) = -2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{x_i}$$

- $H(x) = \nabla^2 h(x) = \frac{1}{2} \text{diag}(1/x_1^{3/2}, \dots, 1/x_n^{3/2})$ .
- $D_h(y, x) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\sqrt{y_i} - \sqrt{x_i}) / \sqrt{x_i}$ .
- *Flow*:  $\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -2x_i^{3/2} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} - \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{x_j^{3/2}}{\sum_{k=1}^n x_k^{3/2}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \right)$ .

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$$h(x) = - \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i) \quad (h(0) = +\infty \text{ so that } h \text{ is not Bregman}).$$

- $H(x) = \nabla^2 h(x) = \text{diag}(1/x_1^2, \dots, 1/x_n^2)$ .
- $D_h(y, x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i/y_i) + (y_i - x_i)/x_i$ .
- *Flow*:  $\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i^2 \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} - \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{x_j^2}{\sum_{k=1}^n x_k^2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \right)$ .

# 3. Further developments

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- *Rate of convergence.*
- *Dual trajectory and its convergence.*
- *Geodesic type characterization of trajectories.*
- *Connections with completely integrable Hamiltonian systems.*

*Reference: A.-Bolte-Brahic, to appear in SIAM J. on Control Optim.*

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Continuous version of similar results for proximal iterations:  
Iusem-Monteiro '00.



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Generalizations of results on the log-metric in linear programming:  
Bayer-Lagarias '89.

# 4. Duality when $Q = \mathbb{R}_{++}^n$

$$(P) \quad \min\{f(x) \mid x \geq 0, Ax = b\}$$

Assume:

- $f$  is convex and  $S(P) \neq \emptyset$ .
- $\exists x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_0 > 0, Ax_0 = b$ .

Dual problem:

$$(D) \quad \min\{p(\lambda) \mid \lambda \geq 0\}$$

where  $p(\lambda) = \sup\{\langle \lambda, x \rangle - f(x) \mid Ax = b\}$ . Then

$$S(D) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \lambda \geq 0, \lambda \in \nabla f(x^*) + \text{Im } A^T, \langle \lambda, x^* \rangle = 0\},$$

where  $x^*$  is any solution of  $(P)$ .

# 4. Dual trajectory

Integrating the differential inclusion

$$\frac{d}{dt} \nabla h(x(t)) \in -\nabla f(x(t)) + \text{Im } A^T,$$

we obtain

$$\lambda(t) \in c(t) + \text{Im } A^T,$$

where  $c(t) = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \nabla f(x(\tau)) d\tau$  and

$$\lambda(t) = \frac{1}{t} [\nabla h(x^0) - \nabla h(x(t))].$$

If  $h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta(x_i)$ , then  $\lambda_i(t) = \frac{1}{t} [\theta'(x_i^0) - \theta'(x_i(t))]$ .

# 4. Dual penalty scheme

We have:  $\lambda(t) = \frac{1}{t} [\nabla h(x^0) - \nabla h(x(t))]$ .

But

$$h \text{ is Legendre} \Rightarrow \nabla h^{-1} = \nabla h^*,$$

with  $h^*(\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta^*(\lambda_i)$  being the *Fenchel conjugate* of  $h$ .

Hence  $x(t) = \nabla h^*(\nabla h(x^0) - t\lambda(t))$ , where

Take  $A\tilde{x} = b$ . Since  $Ax(t) = b$ , we have

$$\tilde{x} - \nabla h^*(\nabla h(x^0) - t\lambda(t)) \in \text{Ker}A.$$

Then,  $\lambda(t)$  solves

$$\min_{\lambda} \left\{ \langle \tilde{x}, \lambda \rangle + \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^n \theta^*(\theta'(x_i^0) - t\lambda_i) \mid \lambda \in c(t) + \text{Im}A^T \right\}$$

# 4. Dual trajectory: convergence

Example:  $\theta(s) = s \log(s) - s \Rightarrow \theta^*(s^*) = \exp(s^*), s^* \in \mathbb{R}.$

Then

$$\min_{\lambda} \left\{ \langle \tilde{x}, \lambda \rangle + \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^0 \exp(-t\lambda_i) \mid \lambda \in c(t) + \text{Im}A^T \right\}$$

Convergence:

- $f(x) = \langle c, x \rangle \Rightarrow c(t) = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \nabla f(x(\tau)) d\tau \equiv c$   
 $\Rightarrow$  by Cominetti-San Martin '96, Auslender et al. '97, Cominetti '00,... convergence to the  $\theta^*$ -center of  $S(D)$ .
- Otherwise,  $x(t)$  bounded  $\Rightarrow \nabla f(x(t)) \rightarrow \nabla f(x^*)$  for  $x^* \in S(P)$   
 $\Rightarrow c(t) \rightarrow \nabla f(x^*) \Rightarrow$  convergence by Iusem-Monteiro '00.