



Relaxing the Objective

structures do not



- So far: **deterministic** matches
- Want: **soft**, fractional assignments



Submodular Optimal Transport Problem

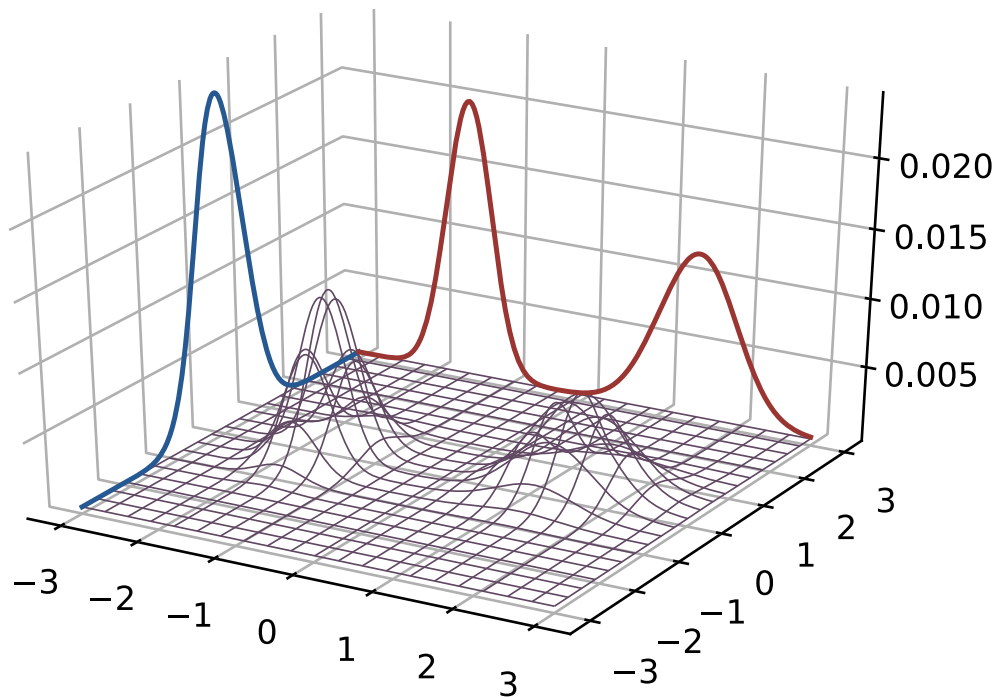




$$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(a,b)} f(\Gamma)$$

$$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} \max_{\kappa \in \mathcal{B}_F} \langle \Gamma, \kappa \rangle$$

→ Lovász Extension!!



*Theorem. If the singleton cost function is a metric, this yields a semi-metric between **a** and **b**.*

Classic OT

Submodular OT

Relaxed Formulation

Strict
Formulation

$$\min_M \sum_{(i,j) \in M} C_{ij}$$

$$\min_M F(M)$$

$$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(a,b)} f(\Gamma)$$

$$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} \sum_{(i,j)} c_{ij} \Gamma_{ij}$$

Structured OT

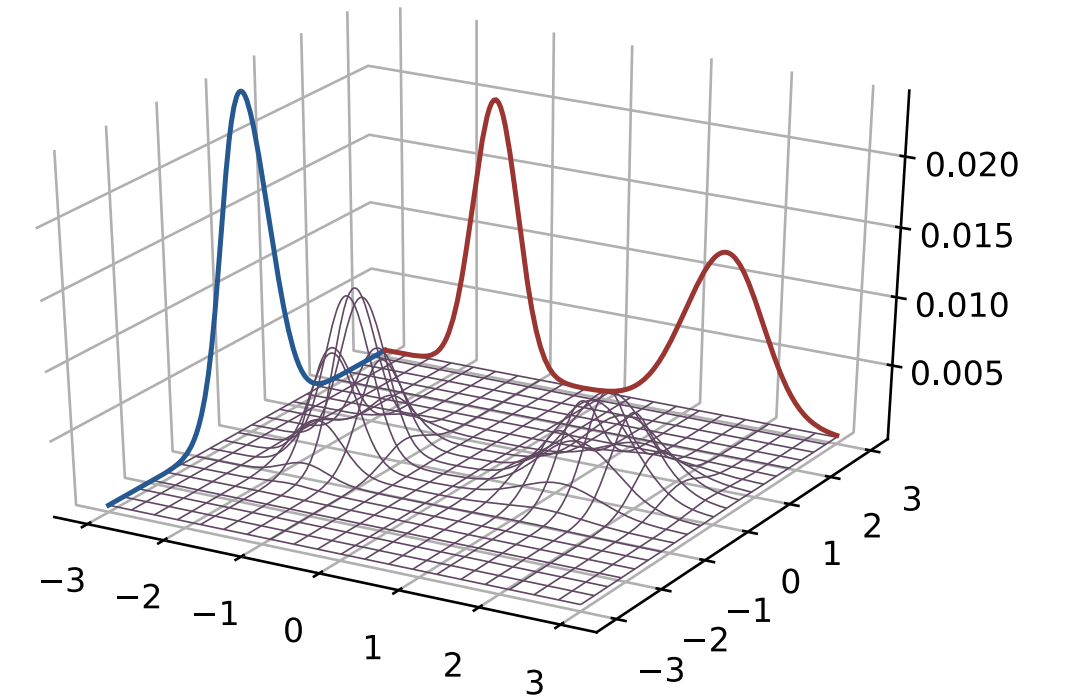
Relaxing the Objective

- So far: **deterministic** matches
- Want: **soft**, fractional assignments

	Classic OT	Submodular OT
Strict Formulation	$\min_M \sum_{(i,j) \in M} C_{ij}$	$\min_M F(M)$
Relaxed Formulation	$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} \sum_{(i,j)} C_{ij} \Gamma_{ij}$	$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} f(\Gamma) \longrightarrow \text{Lovász Extension!!}$

$$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} f(\Gamma) \equiv \min_{\Gamma \in \Pi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} \max_{\kappa \in \mathcal{B}_F} \langle \Gamma, \kappa \rangle$$

Submodular Optimal Transport Problem



Theorem. If the singleton cost function is a metric, this yields a semi-metric between \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} .

Structured OT

Game Theoretic Interpretation

$$\min_{\Gamma \in \Pi} \max_{\kappa \in \mathcal{B}_F} \langle \Gamma, \kappa \rangle$$