

The background of the slide features a repeating pattern of pink line-art flowers and leaves, resembling a stylized rose or peony, set against a light pink background.

# **Meta Optimal Transport**

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# Outline

1. Meta Optimal Transport(OT)
2. Meta OT between discrete measures
3. Meta OT between continuous measures
4. Experiments

# Meta Optimal Transport(OT)

## Optimal Transport(OT)

Kantorovich problem:

$$\pi^*(\alpha, \beta, c) \in \arg \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{U}(\alpha, \beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} c(x, y) d\pi(x, y) \quad (1)$$

where

- ▶  $(\alpha, \beta)$ : two measures on domains  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$
- ▶  $\mathcal{U}(\alpha, \beta)$ : a set of admissible couplings between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$
- ▶  $\pi^*$ : optimal coupling, a joint distribution over the product space
- ▶  $c : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ : ground cost between elements in  $\mathcal{X}$  and elements in  $\mathcal{Y}$

# Meta Optimal Transport(OT)

## Optimal Transport(OT)

Kantorovich problem:

$$\pi^*(\alpha, \beta, c) \in \arg \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{U}(\alpha, \beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} c(x, y) d\pi(x, y) \quad (1)$$

Standard (1) solver:

- ▶ once: computationally expensive
- ▶ repeatedly: re-solve the optimization problems from scratch  
ignore shared structure and information between different coupling problems

# Meta Optimal Transport(OT)

- ▶ Meta OT:  
use **amortized optimization** to ***predict*** OT maps from the input measures

*[reference]*

Tianlong Chen, Xiaohan Chen, Wuyang Chen, Howard Heaton, Jialin Liu, Zhangyang Wang, and Wotao Yin. ***Learning to optimize: A primer and a benchmark.*** arXiv preprint arXiv:2103.12828, 2021.

Brandon Amos. ***Tutorial on amortized optimization for learning to optimize over continuous domains.*** arXiv preprint arXiv:2202.00665, 2022.

# Meta Optimal Transport(OT)

## Amortized optimization

Unconstrained Continuous optimization problems

$$z^*(\phi) \in \arg \min_z J(z; \phi) \quad (2)$$

where

- ▶  $J$  is the objective
- ▶  $z \in \mathcal{Z}$  is the domain
- ▶  $\phi \in \Phi$  is some context or parameterization conditions the objective but is not optimized over

# Meta Optimal Transport(OT)

## Amortized optimization

**Unconstrained** Continuous optimization problems

$$z^*(\phi) \in \arg \min_z J(z; \phi) \quad (13)$$

- Learn a model  $\hat{z}_\theta$  to approximate (13) with parameter  $\theta$

$$\hat{z}_\theta(\phi) \approx z^*(\phi)$$

- $J$  is differentiable: objective-based learning

$$\min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\phi \sim \mathcal{P}(\phi)} J(\hat{z}_\theta(\phi); \phi) \quad (14)$$

where  $\mathcal{P}(\phi)$  is a distribution over contexts

# Meta Optimal Transport(OT)

Kantorovich problem:

$$\pi^*(\alpha, \beta, c) \in \arg \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{U}(\alpha, \beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} c(x, y) d\pi(x, y) \quad (1)$$

Denote a joint meta-distribution over the input measures and costs

$$\mathcal{D}(\alpha, \beta, c)$$

Could we directly predict the primal solution to (1)?

$$\pi_\theta(\alpha, \beta, c) \approx \pi^*(\alpha, \beta, c), \quad (\alpha, \beta, c) \sim \mathcal{D}$$

Not primal space!

optimal coupling is often a high-dimensional joint distribution with non-trivial marginal constraints



# Meta OT between discrete measures

## Outline:

- ▶ Entropic OT dual
- ▶ Recover primal solution from duals
- ▶ Mapping between duals
- ▶ Sinkhorn algorithm
- ▶ Meta OT between discrete measures

# Meta OT between discrete measures

Discrete OT:

$$P^*(\alpha, \beta, c) \in \arg \min_{P \in U(a,b)} \langle C, P \rangle \quad (3)$$

$$U(a, b) := \left\{ P \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times m} : P 1_m = a, \quad P^\top 1_n = b \right\}$$

where

- ▶  $P$  is a coupling matrix
- ▶  $P^*(\alpha, \beta)$  is the optimal coupling
- ▶  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is discretized cost matrix with entries  $C_{ij} := c(x_i, y_j)$

$$\langle C, P \rangle := \sum_{ij} C_{ij} P_{ij}$$

- ▶  $a \in \Delta_{m-1}, b \in \Delta_{n-1}$  in probability simplex
- ▶  $\alpha := \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \delta_{x_i}$  and  $\beta := \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \delta_{y_i}$  discrete measures

# Meta OT between discrete measures

Entropic OT:

$$P^*(\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon) \in \arg \min_{P \in U(a,b)} \langle C, P \rangle - \epsilon H(P) \quad (4)$$

where

$$H(P) := - \sum_{ij} P_{ij} (\log (P_{ij}) - 1)$$

is the discrete entropy of  $P$ .

[reference]

Roberto Cominetti and J San Martín. **Asymptotic analysis of the exponential penalty trajectory in linear programming.** *Mathematical Programming*, 67(1):169–187, 1994.

Marco Cuturi. **Sinkhorn distances: Lightspeed computation of optimal transport.** *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 26:2292–2300, 2013.

# Meta OT between discrete measures

Entropic OT dual:

$$f^*, g^* \in \arg \max_{f \in \mathbb{R}^n, g \in \mathbb{R}^m} \langle f, a \rangle + \langle g, b \rangle - \epsilon \langle \exp\{f/\epsilon\}, K \exp\{g/\epsilon\} \rangle \quad (5)$$

$$K_{i,j} := \exp \{ -C_{i,j}/\epsilon \}$$

where

- ▶  $K \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ : the Gibbs kernel
- ▶  $f \in \mathbb{R}^n, g \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : dual variables or potentials
- ▶  $f^*(\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon), g^*(\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon)$ : optimal duals

[reference] Prop. 4.4

Gabriel Peyr , Marco Cuturi, et al. Computational optimal transport: With applications to data science. Foundations and Trends  in Machine Learning, 11(5-6):355–607, 2019.

## Meta OT between discrete measures

- Recover primal solution from duals: given optimal duals  $f^*, g^*$

$$P_{ij}^*(\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon) := \exp \{f_i^*/\epsilon\} K_{ij} \exp \{g_j^*/\epsilon\} \quad (6)$$

- Mapping between duals: first-order optimality conditions of (5)

$$g(f; b, c) := \epsilon \log b - \epsilon \log \left( K^\top \exp \{f/\epsilon\} \right) \quad (8)$$

It is sufficient to predict one of the potentials, e.g.  $f$ , and recover the other.

# Meta OT between discrete measures

## Sinkhorn algorithm

closed-form block coordinate ascent updates on (5)

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**Algorithm 1** Sinkhorn( $\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon, f_0 = 0, g_0 = 0$ )

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**for** iteration  $i = 1$  to  $N$  **do**

$f_i \leftarrow \epsilon \log a - \epsilon \log (K \exp\{g_{i-1}/\epsilon\})$

$g_i \leftarrow \epsilon \log b - \epsilon \log (K^\top \exp\{f_{i-1}/\epsilon\})$

**end for**

Compute  $P_N$  from  $f_N, g_N$  using eq. (6)

**return**  $P_N \approx P^\star$

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[reference] Remark. 4.21

Gabriel Peyr , Marco Cuturi, et al. Computational optimal transport: With applications to data science. Foundations and Trends  in Machine Learning, 11(5-6):355–607, 2019.

# Meta OT between discrete measures

## Amortization objective

Re-formulate (5) to just optimize over  $f$ :

$$f^*(\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon) \in \arg \min_{f \in \mathbb{R}^n} J(f; \alpha, \beta, c) \quad (15)$$

where  $-J(f; \alpha, \beta, c) := \langle f, a \rangle + \langle g, b \rangle$  is the dual objective over  $f$ .

# Meta OT between discrete measures

## Amortization model

Predict the solution to (15) with  $\hat{f}_\theta(\alpha, \beta, c)$  parameterized by  $\theta$

- ▶ a computationally efficient approximation  $\hat{f}_\theta \approx f^\star$
- ▶ model  $\hat{f}_\theta$  depends on representations of the input measures and cost
- ▶  $\hat{f}_\theta$  as **a fully-connected MLP** mapping from the measures to the duals

*Multilayer Perception - fully connected layer + vector input*



# Meta OT between discrete measures

## Amortization loss

Apply (14) to (15)

$$\min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{(\alpha, \beta, c) \sim \mathcal{D}} J\left(\hat{f}_{\theta}(\alpha, \beta, c); \alpha, \beta, c\right) \quad (16)$$

expectation of the dual objective

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**Algorithm 3** Training Meta OT

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Initialize amortization model with  $\theta_0$

**for** iteration  $i$  **do**

    Sample  $(\alpha, \beta, c) \sim \mathcal{D}$

    Predict duals  $\hat{f}_{\theta}$  or  $\hat{\varphi}_{\theta}$  on the sample

    Estimate the loss in eq. (16) or eq. (17)

    Update  $\theta_{i+1}$  with a gradient step

**end for**

---

# Meta OT between discrete measures

## Amortization convergence

The model  $\hat{f}_\theta$  distills information between the problem instances into the parameters  $\theta$ .

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**Algorithm 4** Fine-tuning with Sinkhorn

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Predict duals  $\hat{f}_\theta(\alpha, \beta, c)$   
Compute  $\hat{g}$  from  $\hat{f}_\theta$  using eq. (8)  
**return** Sinkhorn( $\alpha, \beta, c, \epsilon, \hat{f}_\theta, \hat{g}$ )

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Meta OT methods surpass standard algorithms by restricting the set of problems rather than considering the average-or worst-case performance.

# Meta OT between discrete measures

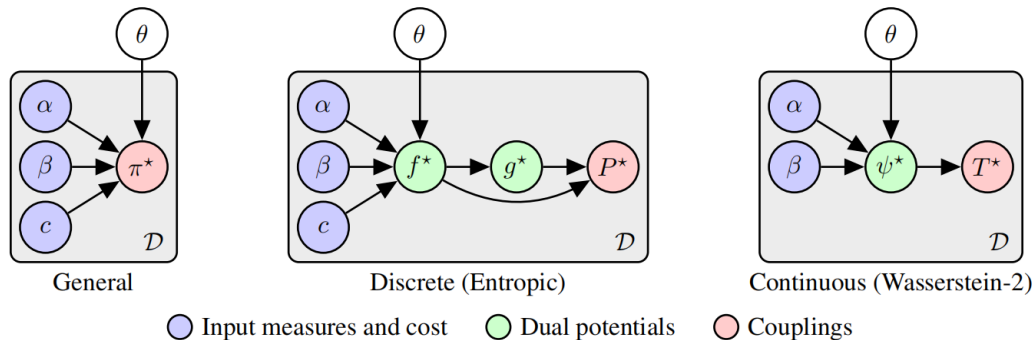


Figure 1: Meta OT uses objective-based amortization for optimal transport. In the general formulation, the *parameters*  $\theta$  capture shared structure in the *optimal couplings*  $\pi^*$  between multiple input measures and costs over some *distribution*  $\mathcal{D}$ . In practice, we learn this shared structure over the *dual potentials* which map back to the coupling:  $f^*$  in discrete settings and  $\psi^*$  in continuous ones.

# Meta OT between continuous measures

## Outline:

- ▶ Wasserstein-2 distance
- ▶ Convex dual potentials
- ▶ Recover primal solution from dual
- ▶ Wasserstein-2 Generative Network(W2GN)
- ▶ Meta OT between continuous measures

# Meta OT between continuous measures

Wasserstein-2 distance

$$W_2^2(\alpha, \beta) := \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{U}(\alpha, \beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \, d\pi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \min_T \int_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathbf{x} - T(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2 \, d\alpha(\mathbf{x}) \quad (9)$$

where

- ▶  $\#$ : pushforward operator, for all measurable set  $B$

$$T_{\#}\alpha(B) := \alpha(T^{-1}(B))$$

- ▶  $T$ : transport map pushing  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$ , denoted as  $T_{\#}\alpha = \beta$
- ▶  $\alpha, \beta$ : continuous measures in Euclidean space  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- ▶ ground cost == squared Euclidean distance

difficulty of representing the coupling + satisfying the constraints!

# Meta OT between continuous measures

Convex dual potentials:

$$\psi^*(\cdot; \alpha, \beta) \in \arg \min_{\psi \in \text{convex}} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \psi(x) d\alpha(x) + \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \bar{\psi}(y) d\beta(y) \quad (10)$$

where

- ▶  $\psi$ : a convex function, a convex potential
- ▶  $\bar{\psi}(y)$ : convex conjugate of  $\psi$  or Legendre-Fenchel transform

$$\bar{\psi}(y) := \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \langle x, y \rangle - \psi(x)$$

[reference]

Ashok Makkuva, Amirhossein Taghvaei, Sewoong Oh, and Jason Lee. Optimal transport mapping via input convex neural networks. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 6672–6681. PMLR, 2020.

Amirhossein Taghvaei and Amin Jalali. 2-wasserstein approximation via restricted convex potentials with application to improved training for gans. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1902.07197*, 2019.

Alexander Korotin, Vage Egiazarian, Arip Asadulaev, Alexander Safin, and Evgeny Burnaev. Wasserstein-2 generative networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1909.13082*, 2019.

# Meta OT between continuous measures

## Recover primal solution from the dual

Given optimal  $\psi^*$  for (10), an optimal map for (9) can be obtained with differentiation:

$$T^*(x) = \nabla_x \psi^*(x) \quad (11)$$

Potential  $\psi$  is often approximated with an input-convex neural network (ICNN)

*[reference]*

Brandon Amos, Lei Xu, and J Zico Kolter. Input convex neural networks. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 146–155. PMLR, 2017.

Yann Brenier. Polar factorization and monotone rearrangement of vector-valued functions. *Communications on pure and applied mathematics*, 44(4):375–417, 1991.

# Meta OT between continuous measures

## Wasserstein-2 Generative Network(W2GN)

Model  $\psi_\varphi$  and  $\overline{\psi}_\varphi$  with two separate ICNNs parameterized by  $\varphi$ .

$$\mathcal{L}(\varphi) := \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{x \sim \alpha} [\psi_\varphi(x)] + \mathbb{E}_{y \sim \beta} [\langle \nabla \overline{\psi}_\varphi(y), y \rangle - \psi_\varphi(\nabla \overline{\psi}_\varphi(y))]}_{\text{Cyclic monotone correlations (dual objective)}} + \gamma \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{y \sim \beta} \|\nabla \psi_\varphi \circ \nabla \overline{\psi}_\varphi(y) - y\|_2^2}_{\text{Cycle-consistency regularizer}}, \quad (12)$$

where

- ▶  $\varphi$  is a detached copy of the parameters
- ▶ first term: optimize the dual objective in (10)
- ▶ second term: estimate conjugate  $\overline{\psi}_\varphi$

[reference]

Alexander Korotin, Vage Egiazarian, Arip Asadulaev, Alexander Safin, and Evgeny Burnaev. Wasserstein-2 generative networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1909.13082*, 2019.



# Meta OT between continuous measures

## Wasserstein-2 Generative Network(W2GN)

Optimize the loss using samples from the measures:

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**Algorithm 2** W2GN( $\alpha, \beta, \varphi_0$ )

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**for** iteration  $i = 1$  to  $N$  **do**

    Sample from  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and estimate  $\mathcal{L}(\varphi_{i-1})$

    Update  $\varphi_i$  with approximation to  $\nabla_{\varphi} \mathcal{L}(\varphi_{i-1})$

**end for**

**return**  $T_N(\cdot) := \nabla_x \psi_{\varphi_N}(\cdot) \approx T^*(\cdot)$

---

# Meta OT between continuous measures

## Meta ICNN

Meta ICNN predicts the parameters  $\varphi$  of an ICNN  $\psi_\varphi$  that approximates the optimal dual potentials.

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**Algorithm 5** Fine-tuning with W2GN

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Predict dual ICNN parameters  $\hat{\varphi}_\theta(\alpha, \beta, c)$

**return** W2GN( $\alpha, \beta, c, T, \hat{\varphi}_\theta$ )

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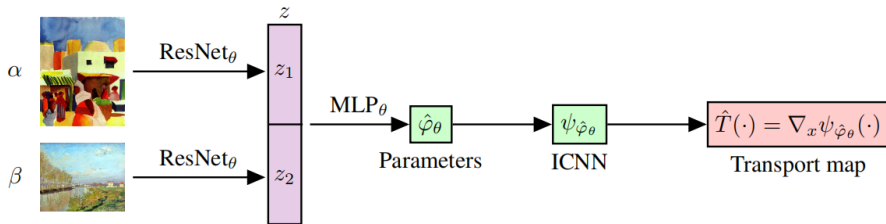


Figure 3: A Meta ICNN for image-based input measures. A shared ResNet processes the input measures  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  into latents  $z$  that are decoded with an MLP into the parameters  $\varphi$  of an ICNN dual potential  $\psi_\varphi$ . The derivative of the ICNN provides the transport map  $\hat{T}$ .

# Meta OT between continuous measures

## Amortization loss

Apply objective-based amortization (14) to W2GN loss in (12):

$$\min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{(\alpha, \beta) \sim \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{L}(\hat{\varphi}_{\theta}(\alpha, \beta); \alpha, \beta) \quad (17)$$

Here cost  $c$  is not included in meta-distribution  $(\alpha, \beta) \sim \mathcal{D}(\alpha, \beta)$ , as it remains fixed to the squared Euclidean cost everywhere.

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**Algorithm 3** Training Meta OT

---

Initialize amortization model with  $\theta_0$

**for** iteration  $i$  **do**

    Sample  $(\alpha, \beta, c) \sim \mathcal{D}$

    Predict duals  $\hat{f}_{\theta}$  or  $\hat{\varphi}_{\theta}$  on the sample

    Estimate the loss in [eq. \(16\)](#) or [eq. \(17\)](#)

    Update  $\theta_{i+1}$  with a gradient step

**end for**

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# Meta OT between continuous measures

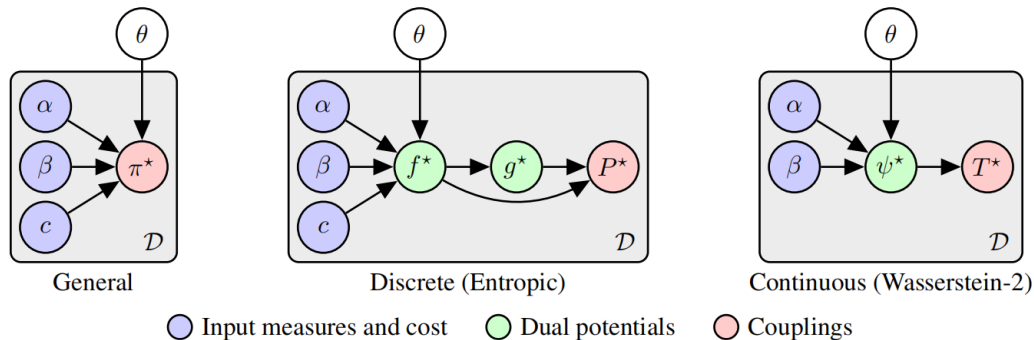


Figure 1: Meta OT uses objective-based amortization for optimal transport. In the general formulation, the *parameters*  $\theta$  capture shared structure in the *optimal couplings*  $\pi^*$  between multiple input measures and costs over some *distribution*  $\mathcal{D}$ . In practice, we learn this shared structure over the *dual potentials* which map back to the coupling:  $f^*$  in discrete settings and  $\psi^*$  in continuous ones.

# Experiments

## Discrete

- ▶ Interpolation between MNIST test digits  
Goal: compute the optimal transport interpolation between two measures
- ▶ Supply-demand transport on spherical data  
supply and demands may change locations or quantities frequently, creating another Meta OT setting to be able to rapidly solve the new instances

## Continuous

- ▶ Wasserstein-2 color transfer  
color transfer between two images: mapping the color palette of one image into the other one

## Experiments - Discrete OT between MNIST digits

Given a pair of images  $\alpha_0$  and  $\alpha_1$ , each grayscale image is cast as a discrete measure in 2-dimensional space where intensities define the probabilities of atoms.

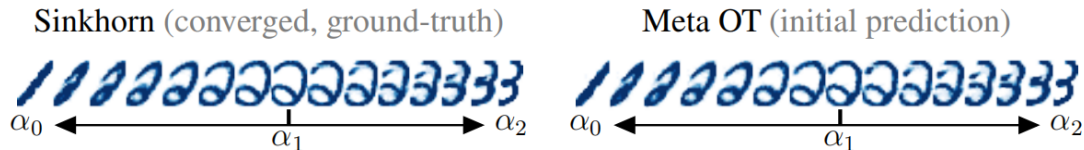


Figure 2: Interpolations between MNIST test digits using couplings obtained from (left) solving the problem with Sinkhorn, and (right) Meta OT model's initial prediction, which is  $\approx 100$  times computationally cheaper and produces a nearly identical coupling.

even without fine-tuning, Meta OT's predicted Wasserstein interpolations are close to the ground-truth interpolations obtained from Sinkhorn algorithm.

# Experiments - Discrete OT

measures on 2-sphere:

$\mathcal{S}_2 := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \|x\| = 1\}$ , i.e.

$\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{S}_2$

transport cost: the spherical

distance  $c(x, y) = \arccos(\langle x, y \rangle)$

Table 1: Discrete OT runtime (in seconds) to reach a marginal error of  $10^{-3}$  and Meta OT's runtime.

	MNIST	Spherical
Sinkhorn	$3.3 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 1.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \pm 0.64$
Meta OT + Sinkhorn	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 3.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$0.48 \pm .24$
Meta OT (Initial prediction)	$4.6 \cdot 10^{-5} \pm 2.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$4.4 \cdot 10^{-5} \pm 3.2 \cdot 10^{-6}$

improved runtime!

<http://github.com/facebookresearch/meta-ot>

## Experiments - Discrete OT

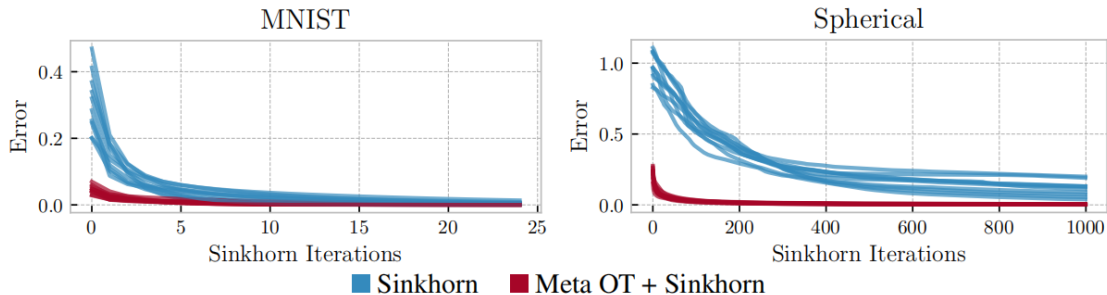


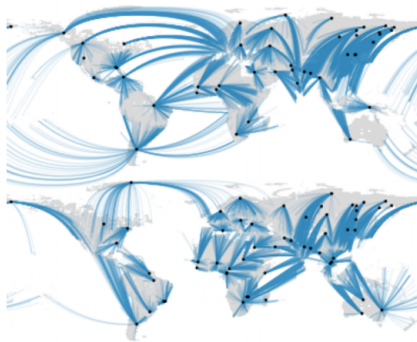
Figure 4: Sinkhorn convergence on test instances. Meta OT successfully predicts warm-start initializations that significantly improve the convergence of Sinkhorn iterations.

near-optimal predictions can be quickly refined in fewer iterations than running Sinkhorn with the default initialization.



# Experiments - Discrete OT on spherical data

Sinkhorn (converged, ground-truth)



Meta OT (initial prediction)



Figure 5: Test set coupling predictions of the spherical transport problem. Meta OT's initial prediction is  $\approx 37500$  times faster than solving Sinkhorn to optimality. Supply locations are shown as black dots and the blue lines show the spherical transport maps  $T$  going to demand locations at the end. The sphere is visualized with the Mercator projection.

predicted transport maps are close to the optimal maps obtained from Sinkhorn

# Experiments - Continuous Wasserstein-2 color transfer

Table 2: Color transfer runtimes and values.

	Iter	Runtime (s)	Dual Value
Meta OT + W2GN	None	$3.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 2.7 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$0.90 \pm 6.08 \cdot 10^{-2}$
	1k	$0.93 \pm 2.27 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$1.0 \pm 2.57 \cdot 10^{-3}$
	2k	$1.84 \pm 3.78 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$1.0 \pm 5.30 \cdot 10^{-3}$
W2GN	1k	$0.90 \pm 1.62 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$0.96 \pm 2.62 \cdot 10^{-2}$
	2k	$1.81 \pm 3.05 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$0.99 \pm 1.14 \cdot 10^{-2}$

$\approx 200$  public domain images from  
WikiArt (<https://www.wikiart.org/>)

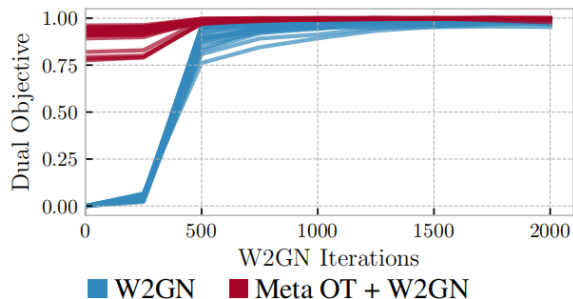


Figure 7: Convergence on color transfer test instances using W2GN. Meta ICNNs predicts warm-start initializations that significantly improve the (normalized) dual objective values.

# Experiments - Continuous Wasserstein-2 color transfer

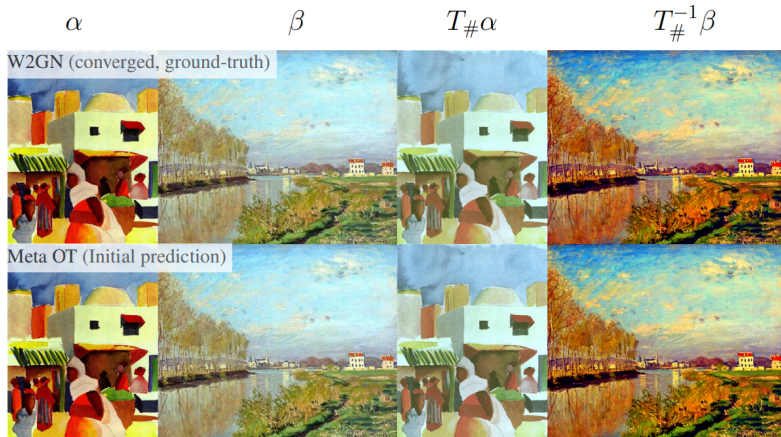


Figure 6: Color transfers with a Meta ICNN on test pairs of images. The objective is to optimally transport the continuous RGB measure of the first image  $\alpha$  to the second  $\beta$ , producing an invertible transport map  $T$ . Meta OT's prediction is  $\approx 1000$  times faster than training W2GN from scratch. The image generating  $\alpha$  is *Market in Algiers* by August Macke (1914) and  $\beta$  is *Argenteuil, The Seine* by Claude Monet (1872), obtained from WikiArt.

*Thanks!*