

For a given finite set  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , we want to study the following problem:  
 Given two probability spaces  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}^d, \mu)$  and  $(S, \text{Pot}(S), \nu)$ , we want to minimize

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|x - T(x)\|^2 d\mu \quad (0.1)$$

over all measurable maps  $T : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$  satisfying  $T_{\#}\mu = \nu$ .

Recall that as we are working with a finite probability space  $(S, \text{Pot}(S), \nu)$ , we can write  $\nu$  as a finite sum of Dirac measures

$$\nu = \sum_{s \in S} \nu_s \delta_s \quad \text{where } \nu_s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \text{ such that } \sum_{s \in S} \nu_s = 1. \quad (0.2)$$

Thus, the problem we are considering translates to find a measurable map  $T$  that minimizes the functional in (0.1) and such that  $\mu(T^{-1}(s)) := \mu(T^{-1}(\{s\})) = \nu_s$  for all  $s \in S$ . For any  $s \in S$ , we call  $\mu(T^{-1}(s))$  the *capacity* of  $s$ .

TODO: cite/mention existence of solution

Following the exposition in [?], we will now show that finding a minimizer of the functional (0.1) is equivalent to finding the maximum of a concave function and thus, can be computed with standard optimization methods. The formulation of this optimization problem is done in two steps. First, we find a minimizer over all measurable functions with prescribed equal capacities. This optimal solution  $T_W$  will be inspired geometrically and constructed using a predefined *weight vector*  $W$ . The next step will consist in adapting this weight vector such that the condition  $T_{W\#}\mu = \nu$  is fulfilled.

The motivation behind this approach is inspired geometrically by studying a generalization of *Voronoi diagrams*. For clarity, we recall the definition of these diagrams and review the necessary concepts needed for this approach.

**Definition 0.1** (Voronoi Diagrams). Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a finite set. We define for every point  $s \in S$

$$\text{reg}(s) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x - s\| \leq \|x - \tilde{s}\| \text{ for all } \tilde{s} \in S \setminus \{s\}\}.$$

We call this the *region* or *cell* of the point  $s$ . The partition of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  created by the union of the regions of all points is called the Voronoi diagram of  $S$ .

*Remark.* Note that the partition of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  generated by the Voronoi diagram of  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , consists of convex regions. Such a partition induces naturally a map  $T : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$ , which assigns each point in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  the corresponding point in  $S$  of the cell where it is located, i.e

$$T(x) = s \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad x \in \text{reg}(s). \quad (0.3)$$

By definition, some points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  may belong to more than one region. By convention,  $T$  assigns those points an arbitrary one in  $S$  of a region where it is located. We call  $T$ , the by the Voronoi diagram *induced assignment*.

A generalization of the presented concepts arise when using another distance function

for the definition of the regions. One application of this amounts to using the *power function* with weights  $W$ , which we now define.

**Definition 0.2** (Power function). Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a finite set and  $W : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a function on  $S$ . The power function with weights  $W$  is defined as

$$\text{pow}_W(x, s) := \|x - s\|^2 - W(s).$$

We call  $W$  *weight function* on  $S$  or simply *weights* of  $S$ .

*Remark.* For simplicity of notation we will write sometimes the weight function  $W : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  as a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ . We call then  $W$  *weight vector* of  $S$ .

As in the case of Voronoi diagrams, we can define regions on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  by using the power function with weights  $W$ . For a point  $s \in S$  we call

$$\text{reg}_W(s) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \text{pow}_W(x, s) \leq \text{pow}_W(x, \tilde{s}) \text{ for all } \tilde{s} \in S \setminus \{s\}\}$$

the *power region* (or *power cell*) of  $s$  with weights  $W$ . Power regions also create a partition of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  which is called the *power diagram* of  $S$  with weights  $W$ .

The geometric intuition behind this definition becomes clear by looking at spheres around  $s \in S$  with positive radius  $\sqrt{W(s)}$

$$\mathbb{S}_{\sqrt{W}}^{d-1}(s) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x - s\| = \sqrt{W(s)}\}.$$

For a fixed  $s \in S$ , the power function  $\text{pow}(\cdot, s)$  returns a negative (resp. positive) value, whenever  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is inside (resp. outside) the sphere  $\mathbb{S}_{\sqrt{W}}^{d-1}(s)$  and zero when  $s$  lies on the sphere. Thus, increasing (resp. decreasing) the values of the weights  $W(s)$  on each point  $s$  would expand (resp. shrink) the power cells.

*Remark.* Unlike Voronoi diagrams, the power cells of a point  $s \in S$  may not contain the point  $s$  or may even be empty. Nevertheless, the power diagram still partitions  $\mathbb{R}^d$  in convex polyhedron.

A small plot of this case

By replacing  $\text{reg}$  with  $\text{reg}_W$  in (0.3) we obtain a map  $T_W : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$  depending on the weight vector  $W$ . Similarly as with Voronoi diagrams, we assign those points sharing different cells, an arbitrarily point  $s \in S$  of those shared regions. We call this map, the *power assignment* of  $S$  with weights  $W$ .

Power assignments have a natural optimization property, since by definition it holds

$$(T_W(x) = s \Leftrightarrow x \in \text{reg}_W(s)) \Leftrightarrow T_W(x) = \arg \min_{s \in S} \|x - s\|^2 - W(s) \quad (0.4)$$

for all points  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  which don't share different regions. In fact, power assignments even minimize the functional (0.1) for prescribed capacities. We will prove this in Lemma 0.4. As a consequence, the natural question which remains to be clarified is how to choose the weight vector  $W$ , such that the condition  $T_{W\#}\mu = \nu$  is fulfilled.

For the proof of Lemma 0.4 we recall the change of variables theorem from measure theory.

Necessary? Cite it?

**Theorem** (change of variables). *Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a measure space,  $(Y, \mathcal{U})$  a measurable space and  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  a measurable function.*

*For a measurable function  $f : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  the following are equivalent*

$$(i) \quad f \in \mathcal{L}(T_{\#}\mu)$$

$$(ii) \quad f \circ T \in \mathcal{L}(\mu)$$

*In case any of these statements is true we have also*

$$\int_{T^{-1}(B)} f \, dT_{\#}\mu = \int_B f \circ T \, d\mu \quad \text{for all } B \in \mathcal{U}. \quad (0.5)$$

*Proof.* Measure theory, e.g p.191 [J.E] □

*Remark 0.3.* Note that as the power region with weights  $W$  of a point  $s \in S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is either an empty set or a convex polyhedra, it is measurable with respect to the Lebesgue measure  $\lambda^d$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Denoting by  $\text{int}(B)$  the interior of a set  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  with respect to the standard topology, we get

$$\lambda^d(\text{reg}_W(s)) = \lambda^d(\text{int}(\text{reg}_W(s))).$$

For a probability space  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}^d, \mu)$  such that  $\mu \ll \lambda^d$ , we have then

$$\mu(\text{reg}_W(s)) = \mu(\text{int}(\text{reg}_W(s))) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{s \in S} \mu(\text{reg}_W(s)) = 1.$$

**Lemma 0.4.** *Let  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$  be a probability space, such that  $\mu \ll \lambda^d$ . Let  $S$  be a finite subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with weights  $W$  and  $\zeta : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  be a function on  $S$ . Then, the power assignment  $T_W$  minimizes*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|x - T(x)\|^2 \, d\mu$$

*over all measurable maps  $T : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$  with capacities  $\mu(T^{-1}(s)) = \zeta(s)$  for all  $s \in S$ .*

*Proof.* Using the minimality condition (0.4) of power assignments, we see that for a fixed  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  holds

$$\text{pow}_W(x, T_W(x)) \leq \text{pow}_W(x, s) \quad \text{for all } s \in S.$$

Consequently,  $T_W$  minimizes

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{pow}_W(x, T(x)) \, d\mu = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|x - T(x)\|^2 \, d\mu - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} W(T(x)) \, d\mu$$

over all measurable maps  $T : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$ . Using the fact that  $\mathbb{R}^d = \bigcup_{s \in S} \text{reg}_W(s)$  together

with remark 0.3, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} W(T(x)) \, d\mu &= \sum_{s \in S} \int_{\text{reg}_W(s)} W(T(x)) \, d\mu \\
&\stackrel{(0.5)}{=} \sum_{s \in S} \int_s W \, dT_{\#}\mu \\
&= \sum_{s \in S} \mu(T^{-1}(s)) W(s) \\
&= \sum_{s \in S} \zeta(s) W(s)
\end{aligned}$$

which is constant for a fixed  $\zeta$  and  $W$ . □

The natural question to handle next, is how to choose  $W$  such that the condition  $T_{W\#}\mu = \nu$  holds. As we will show below, this question can be equivalently formulated as finding the maximum of a concave function. In order to achieve this, we recall the original setting of our original problem and introduce some definitions.

Let  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$  and  $(S, \text{Pot}(S), \nu)$  be two probability spaces such that  $\mu \ll \lambda^d$ . As in equation (0.2), we write the measure  $\nu$  as a finite sum of Dirac measures  $\nu = \sum_{s \in S} \nu_s \delta_s$ . For  $\mathcal{F} := \{f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S : f \text{ is measurable}\}$ , define

$$L : \mathcal{F} \times \mathbb{R}^{|S|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (T, W) \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{pow}_W(x, T(x)) \, d\mu.$$

This map has important properties, which we will show below and use for formulation of the concave optimization problem. For a map  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ , let

$$\zeta_T : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad s \mapsto \mu(T^{-1}(s)) \tag{0.6}$$

be the vector of capacities induced by  $T$  and

$$Q : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad T \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|x - T(x)\|^2 \, d\mu$$

be the functional that we want to minimize. As shown in the proof of Lemma 0.4, it holds

$$L(T, W) = Q(T) - \langle \zeta_T, W \rangle. \tag{0.7}$$

And hence,  $L_T := L(T, \cdot)$  defines a linear function on  $\mathbb{R}^{|S|}$  for any fixed  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Recall that for a given  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , the minimality condition for power assignments (0.4) states

$$\text{pow}_W(x, T_W(x)) \leq \text{pow}_W(x, s) \quad \text{for all } s \in S.$$

Consequently, for a fixed  $W \in \mathbb{R}^d$  we must have

$$T_W = \arg \min_{T \in \mathcal{F}} L(T, W). \quad (0.8)$$

This two properties lead us to the definition of a smooth concave function.

**Theorem 0.5.** *The function*

$$F : \mathbb{R}^{|S|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad W \mapsto L(T_W, W) = L_{T_W}(W)$$

*is smooth and concave*

*Proof.* **TODO: Argue why F is differentiable (Proof was wrong) see: [Bruno Levy]** We show now the convexity of  $F$ . Let  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  and  $W_1, W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ , then

Probably better argumentation with envelopes

$$\begin{aligned} F(\alpha W_1 + (1 - \alpha)W_2) &= L_{T_{\alpha W_1 + (1 - \alpha)W_2}}(\alpha W_1 + (1 - \alpha)W_2) \\ &\stackrel{\text{lin}}{=} L_{T_{\alpha W_1 + (1 - \alpha)W_2}}(\alpha W_1) + L_{T_{\alpha W_1 + (1 - \alpha)W_2}}((1 - \alpha)W_2) \\ &\stackrel{(0.8)}{\geq} L_{T_{\alpha W_1}}(\alpha W_1) + L_{T_{(1 - \alpha)W_2}}((1 - \alpha)W_2) \\ &\stackrel{\text{lin}}{=} \alpha L_{T_{\alpha W_1}}(W_1) + (1 - \alpha)L_{T_{(1 - \alpha)W_2}}(W_2) \\ &\stackrel{(0.8)}{\geq} \alpha L_{T_{W_1}}(W_1) + (1 - \alpha)L_{T_{W_2}}(W_2) = \alpha F(W_1) + (1 - \alpha)F(W_2) \end{aligned}$$

□

Consider now the function

$$\begin{aligned} H^\nu : \mathbb{R}^{|S|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad W \mapsto F(W) + \langle \nu, W \rangle &= Q(T_W) - \langle \zeta_{T_W}, W \rangle + \langle \nu, W \rangle \\ &= \langle \nu - \zeta_{T_W}, W \rangle + Q(T_W). \end{aligned}$$

This function is concave and differentiable as a sum of concave differentiable functions. Furthermore we have

$$\nabla H^\nu(W) = \nabla F(W) + \nu \stackrel{\text{Thm 0.5}}{=} -\zeta_{T_W} + \nu \quad (0.9)$$

and hence also

$$T_W \# \mu(s) = \mu(T_W^{-1}(s)) = \zeta_{T_W}(s) = \nu_s \quad \text{for all } s \in S \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \nabla H^\nu(W) = 0.$$

Thus, because of Lemma 0.4, we see that finding a solution of our original problem is indeed equivalent to finding a maximum of the concave function  $H^\nu$ . Regarding (0.9), we have

$$\frac{\partial H^\nu}{\partial W(s)} = -\mu(\text{reg}_W(s)) + \nu_s.$$

TODO: motivate this part, connect with what follows

This optimization problem has a probabilistic interpretation. If we realize  $X$  as a random variable of distribution  $\mu$ , i.e  $X \sim \mu$ . Then, defining

$$h_W^\nu(x) := \min_{s \in S} \text{pow}_W(x, s) + \langle W, \nu \rangle = \text{pow}_W(x, T_W(x)) + \langle W, \nu \rangle,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[h_W^\nu(X)] &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{pow}_W(x, T_W(x)) \, d\mu + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \langle W, \nu \rangle \, d\mu \\ &= L(T_W, W) + \langle W, \nu \rangle = H^\nu(W). \end{aligned}$$

In other words, our problem can be stated as maximizing the expected value of  $h_W^\nu(X)$ .