

Lifting functionals defined on maps to measure-valued maps via optimal transport

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Bocconi University



2023 LMS Invited Lecture Series, Durham (United Kingdom),
July 19, 2023

online: <https://cvgmt.sns.it/paper/6151/>

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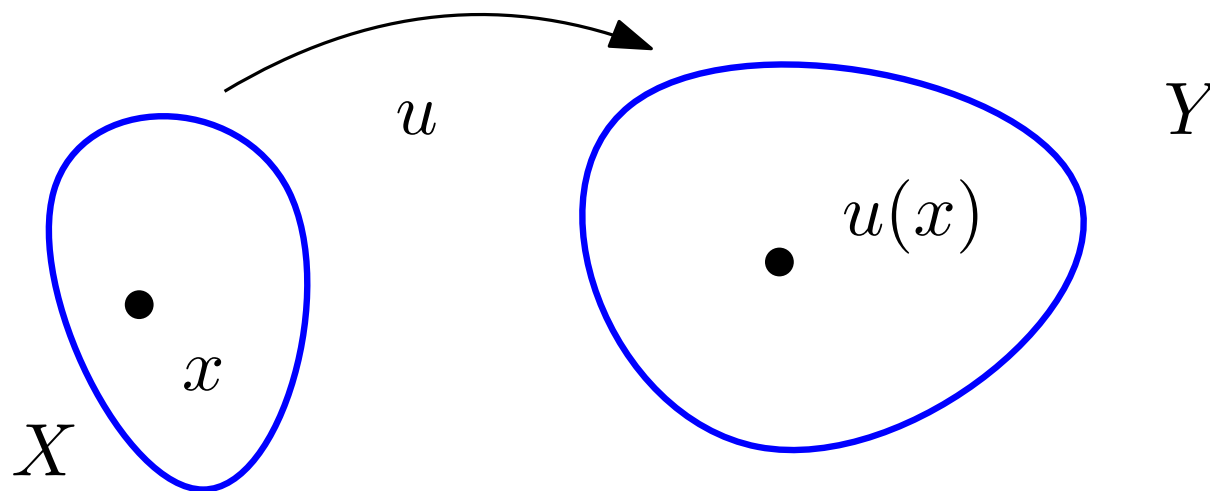
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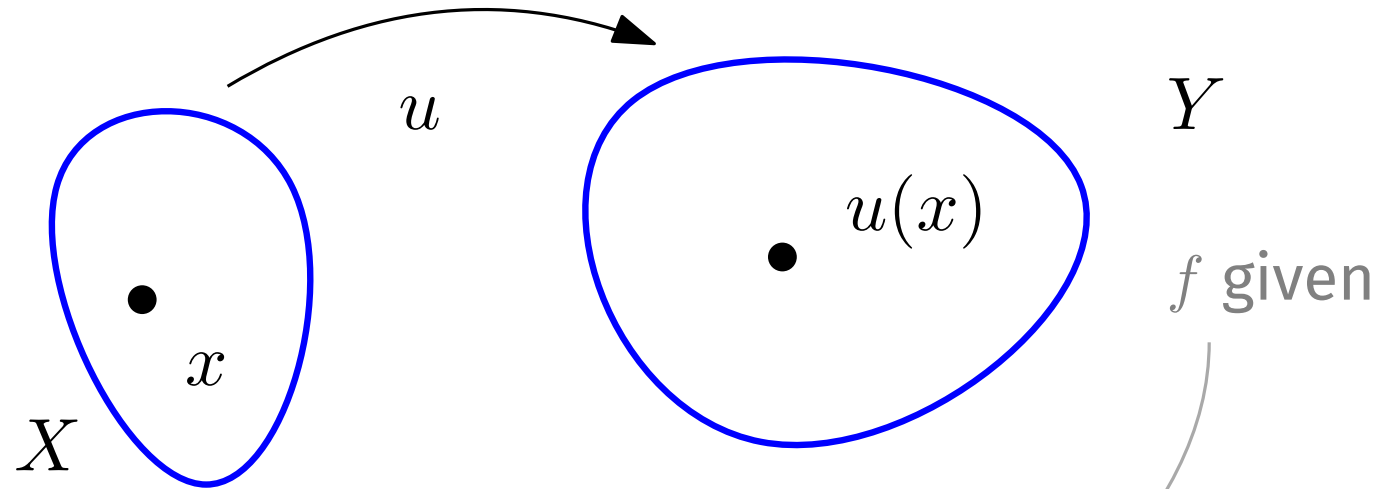
Lifting of functionals defined on maps



Given

$$u \rightarrow E(u) \in [0, +\infty]$$

Lifting of functionals defined on maps



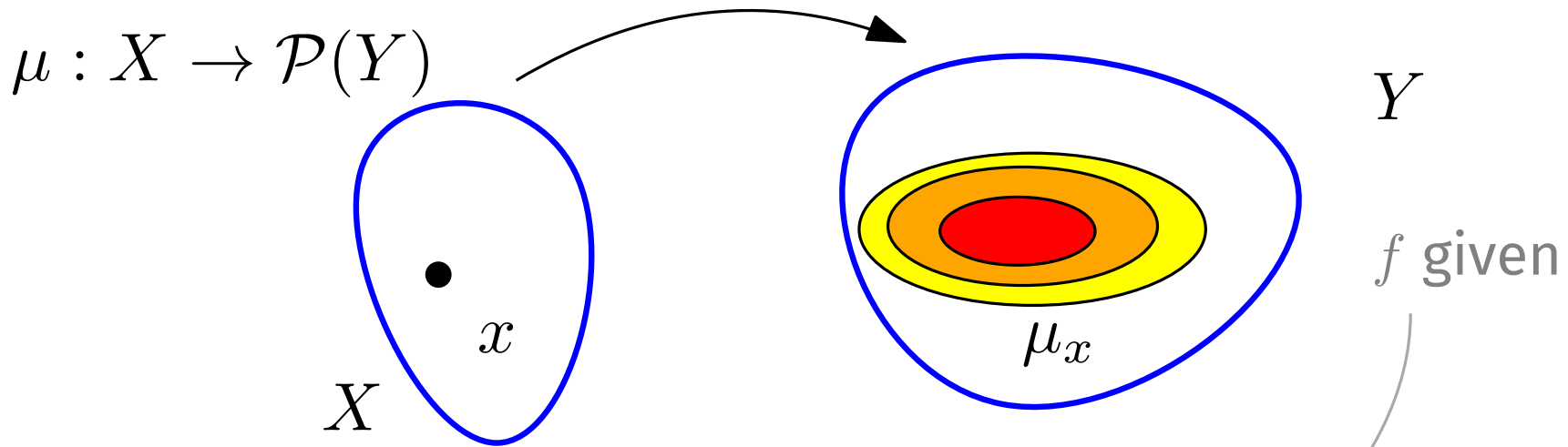
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Example:

$$E(u) = \int_X f(x, u(x)) \, dx$$

Lifting of functionals defined on maps



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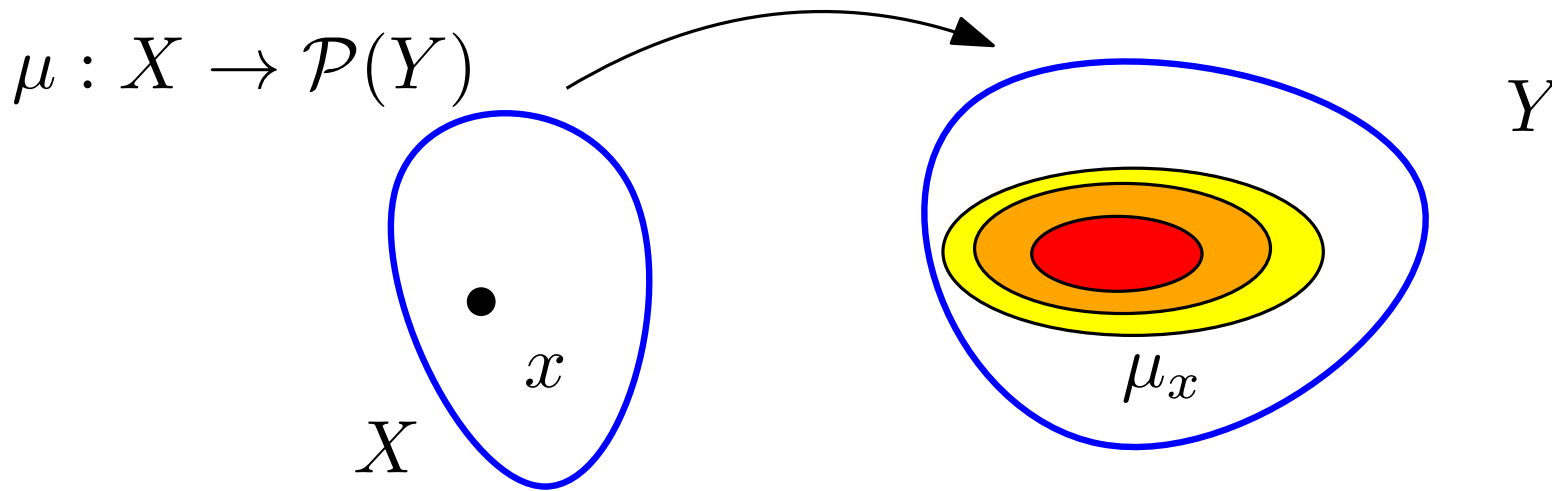
$$E(u) = \int_X f(x, u(x)) \, dx$$

Looking for

$$\mu \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_E(\mu) \in [0, +\infty]$$

$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu) = \int_X \left(\int_Y f(x, y) \, d\mu_x(y) \right) dx$$

Lifting of functionals defined on maps



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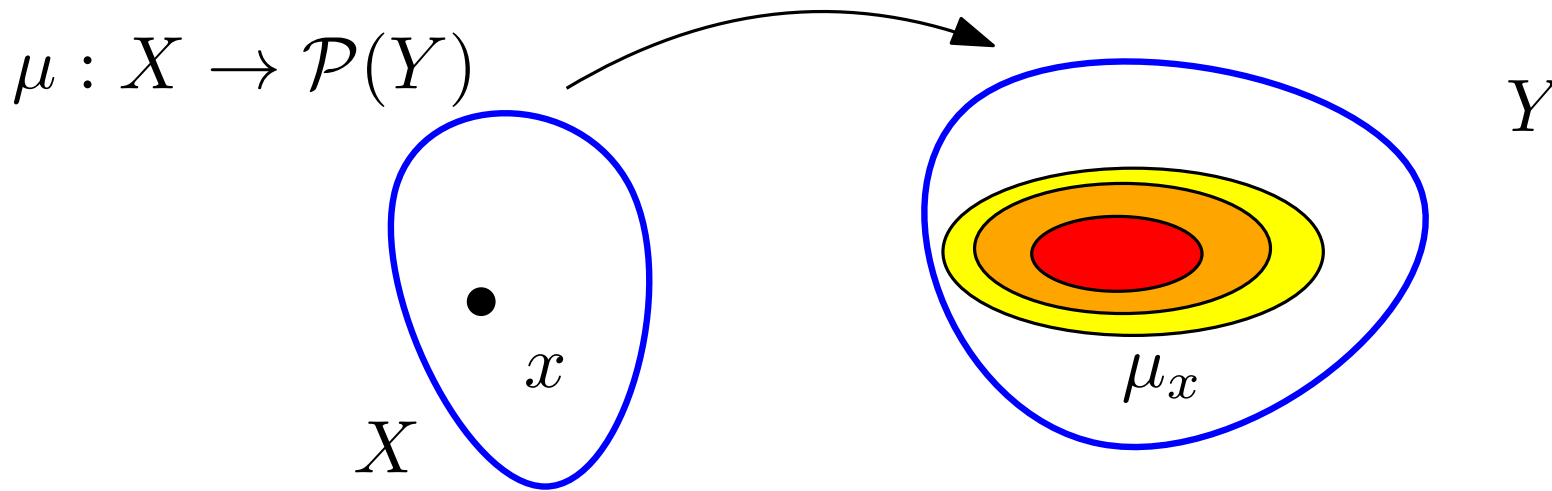
$$E(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_X |\nabla u(x)|^2 dx$$

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$$\mu \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_E(\mu) \in [0, +\infty]$$

???

Lifting of functionals defined on maps



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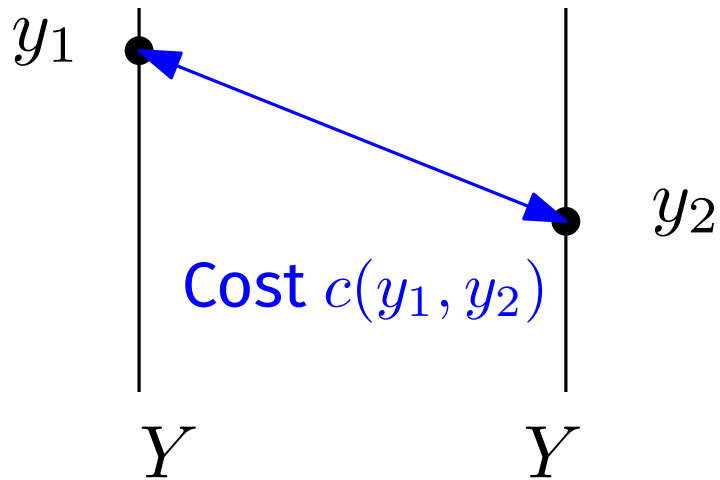
???

Today

- “Lagrangian” answer \mathcal{T}_E
- “Eulerian” answer $\mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}$

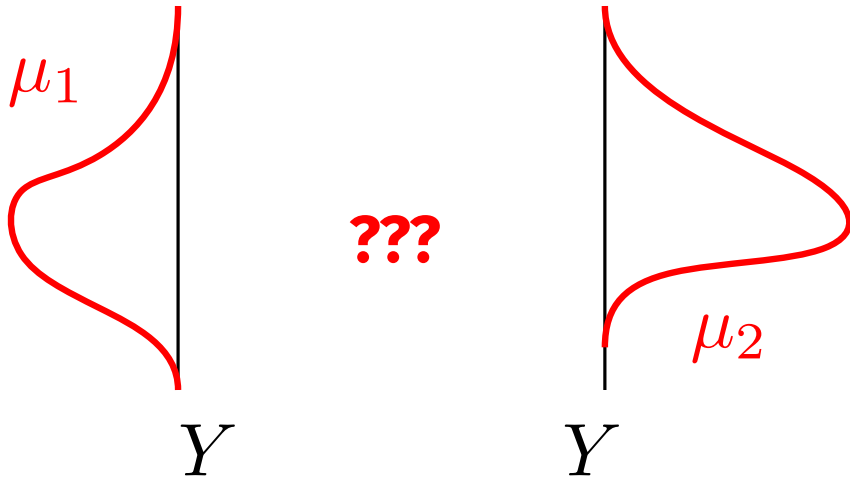
The link with optimal transport

Simpler question: $c : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



The link with optimal transport

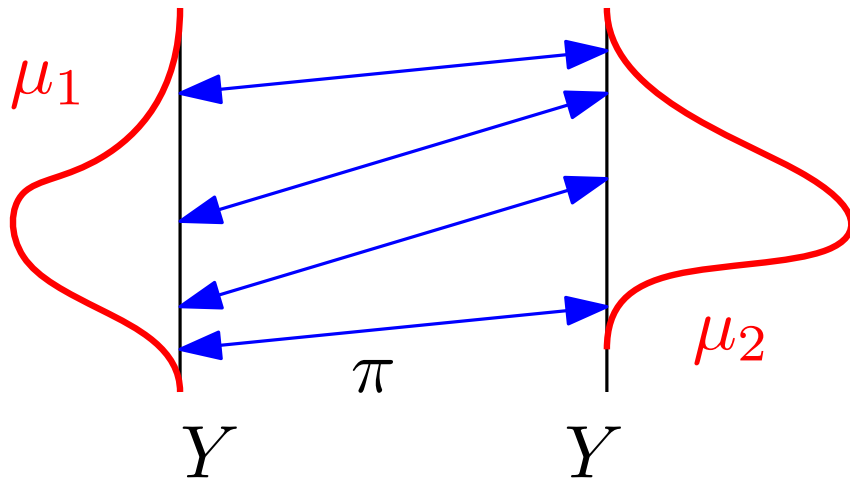
Simpler question: $c : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



Question: how to extend c into
 $\mathcal{T}_c : \mathcal{P}(Y) \times \mathcal{P}(Y) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$

The link with optimal transport

Simpler question: $c : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



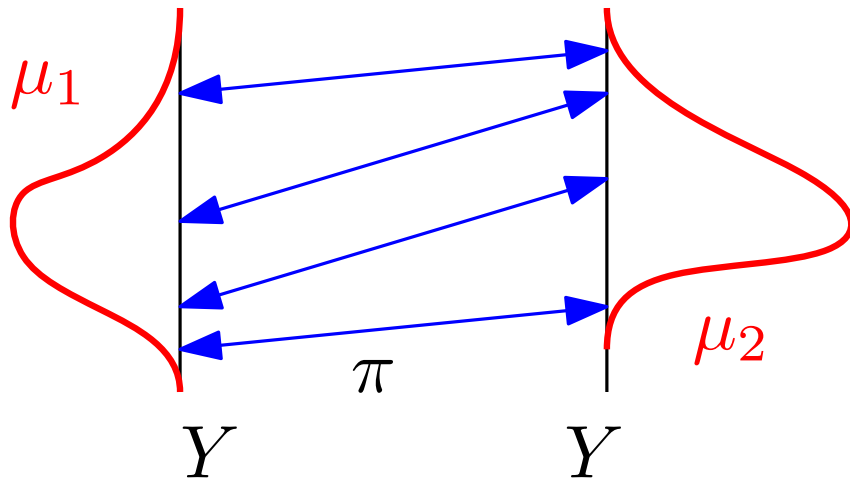
Question: how to extend c into $\mathcal{T}_c : \mathcal{P}(Y) \times \mathcal{P}(Y) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$

Probabilities on $Y \times Y$ with
marginals μ_1, μ_2

$$\mathcal{T}_c(\mu_1, \mu_2) = \min_{\pi} \left\{ \int_{Y \times Y} c(y_1, y_2) \pi(dy_1, dy_2) : \pi \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2) \right\}$$

The link with optimal transport

Simpler question: $c : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



Question: how to extend c into $\mathcal{T}_c : \mathcal{P}(Y) \times \mathcal{P}(Y) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$

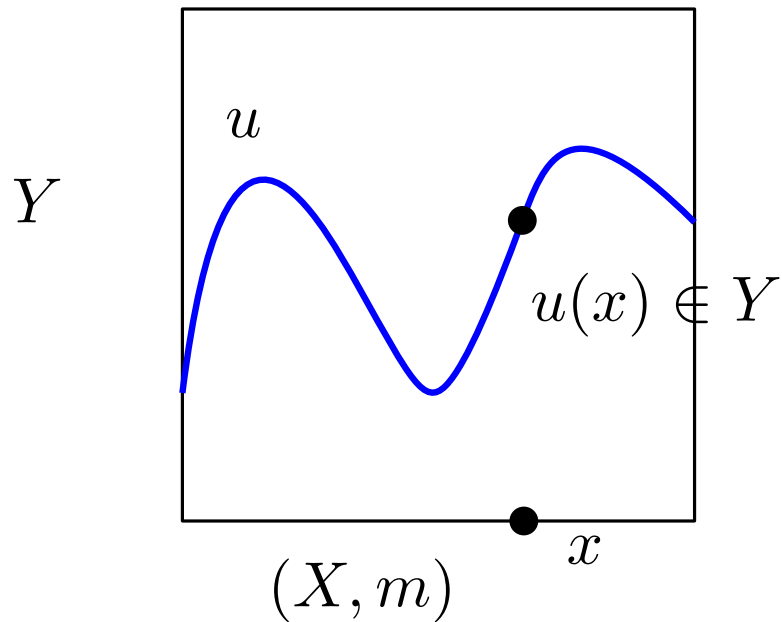
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$$\mathcal{T}_c(\mu_1, \mu_2) = \min_{\pi} \left\{ \int_{Y \times Y} c(y_1, y_2) \pi(dy_1, dy_2) : \pi \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2) \right\}$$

Theorem. \mathcal{T}_c is the largest **convex** and **lower semi continuous** functional on $\mathcal{P}(Y) \times \mathcal{P}(Y)$ such that $\mathcal{T}_c(\delta_{y_1}, \delta_{y_2}) = c(y_1, y_2)$ for any y_1, y_2 .

w.r.t. narrow convergence if c l.s.c. and, e.g. Y polish space

Today's question

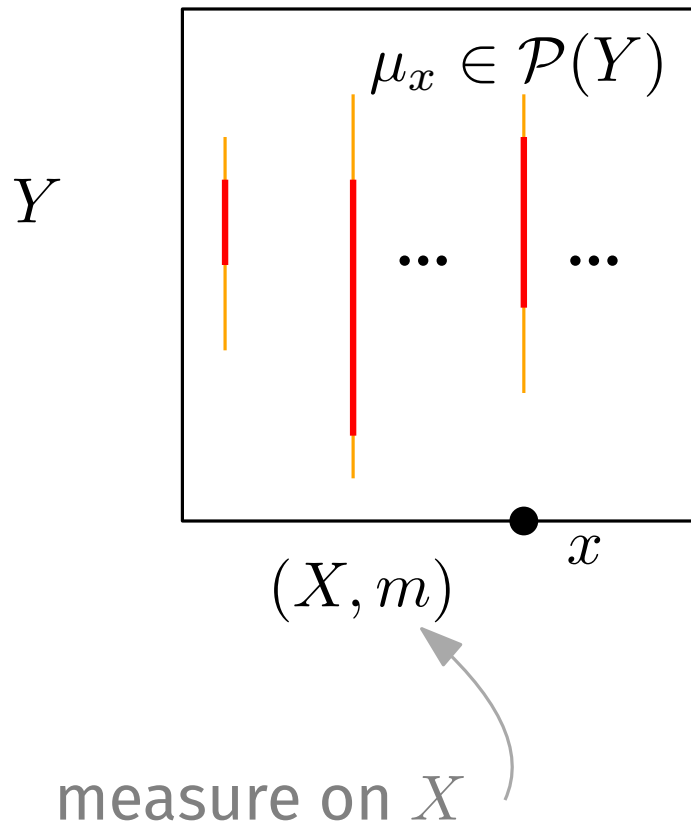


measure on X

Maps $u : X \rightarrow Y$, equivalent if equal m -a.e.

$$E : L^0(X, Y, m) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$$

Today's question

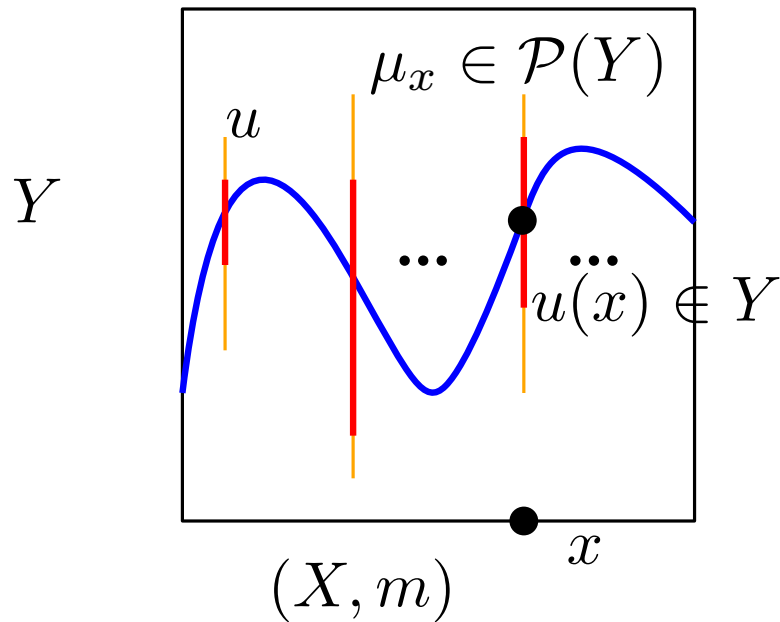


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Want to extend to $L^0(X, \mathcal{P}(Y), m)$

Today's question



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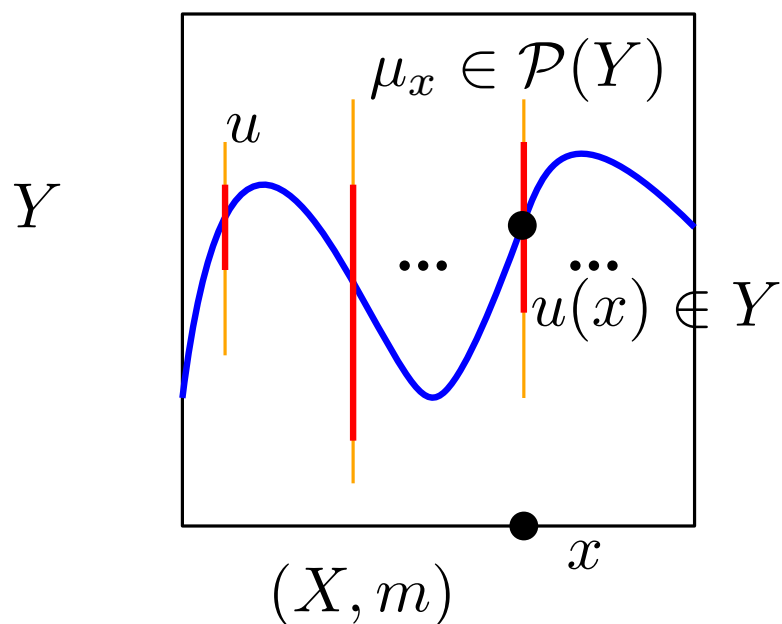
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Define $\mu_u : x \mapsto \delta_{u(x)}$.

Today's question



Maps $u : X \rightarrow Y$, equivalent if equal m -a.e.

$$E : L^0(X, Y, m) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$$

Want to extend to $L^0(X, \mathcal{P}(Y), m)$

Define $\mu_u : x \mapsto \delta_{u(x)}$.

Question. What is the **largest** convex and **lower semi continuous** (for which topology?) functional

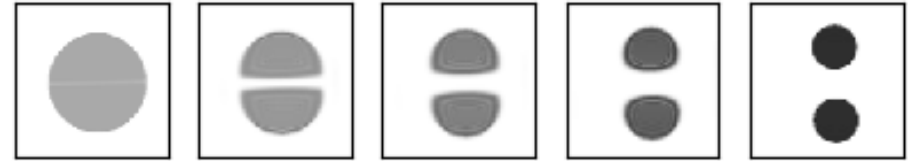
$$\mathcal{T} : L^0(X, \mathcal{P}(Y), m) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$$

such that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_u) = E(u)$ for all u ?

Why? Motivation coming from Optimal Transport

For curves ($X = [0, 1]$), $E(u) = \int_0^1 |\dot{u}_t|^2 dt$

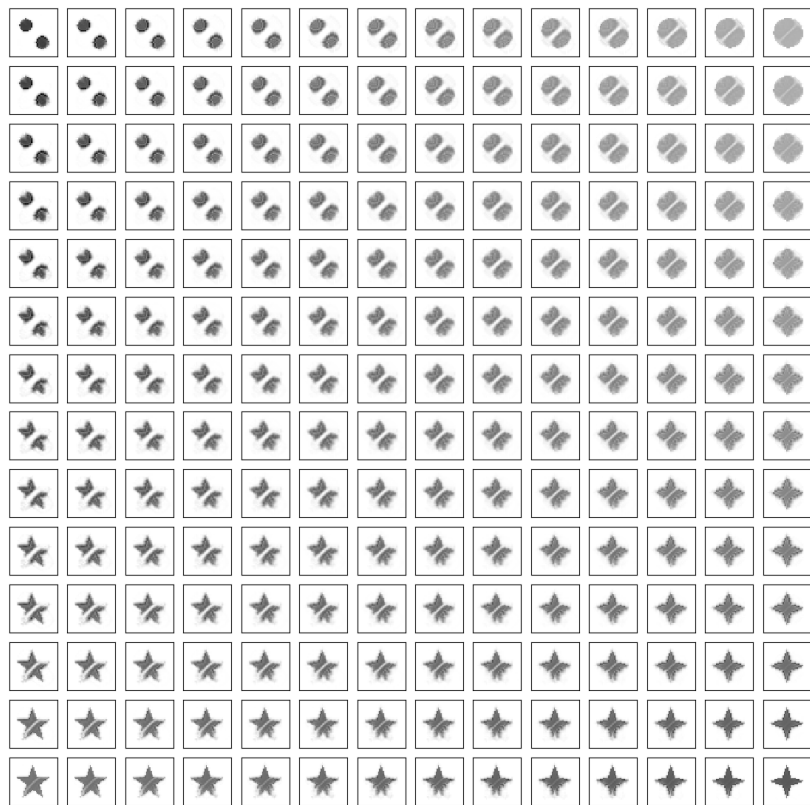
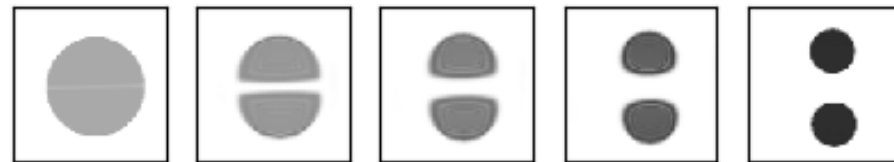
Minimizers of the lifted action are **geodesics**.



Why? Motivation coming from Optimal Transport

For curves ($X = [0, 1]$), $E(u) = \int_0^1 |\dot{u}_t|^2 dt$

Minimizers of the lifted action are **geodesics**.



For maps, $E(u) = \int |\nabla u(x)|^2 dx$

Minimizers of the **Eulerian** lifting of the Dirichlet energy are **harmonic maps**.

Brenier (2003). Extended Monge-Kantorovich theory.

Solomon, Guibas and Butscher (2013). Dirichlet energy for analysis and synthesis of soft maps.

Lavenant (2019). Harmonic mappings valued in the Wasserstein space.

Why? Motivation coming from imaging

Map denoising:

$$\text{minimize} \quad E(u) = \int W(\nabla u(x)) \, dx + \int f(x, u(x)) \, dx$$

Why? Motivation coming from imaging

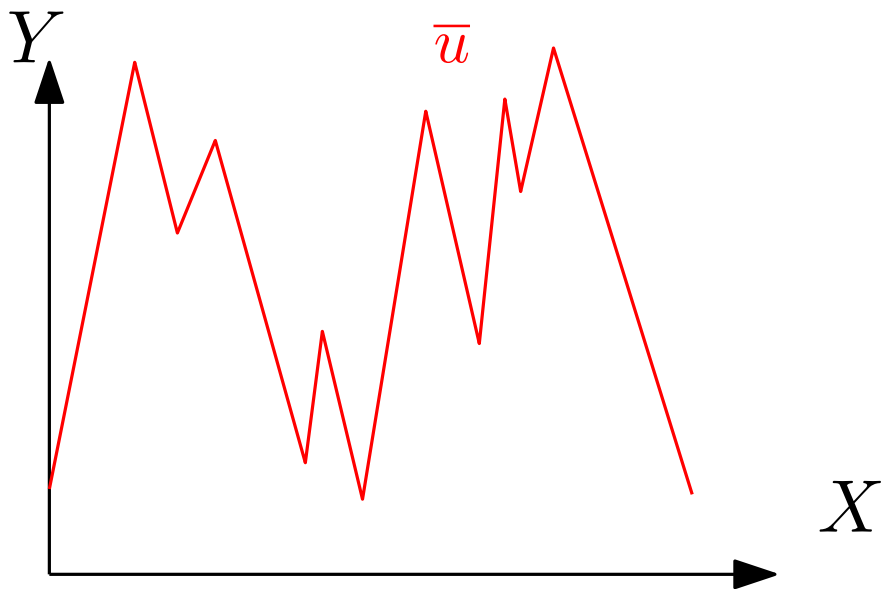
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Regularization

data fitting, like

$$f(x, u(x)) = |u(x) - \bar{u}(x)|^2$$



Why? Motivation coming from imaging

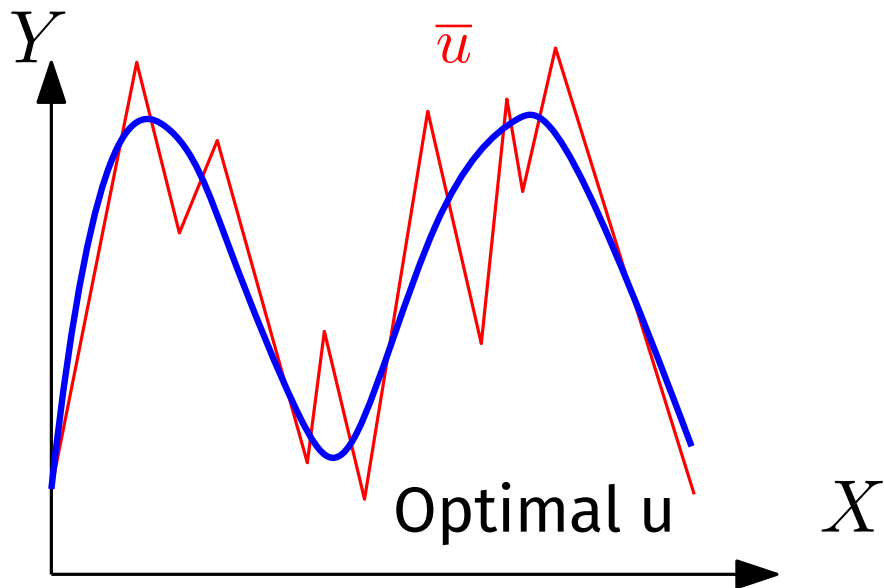
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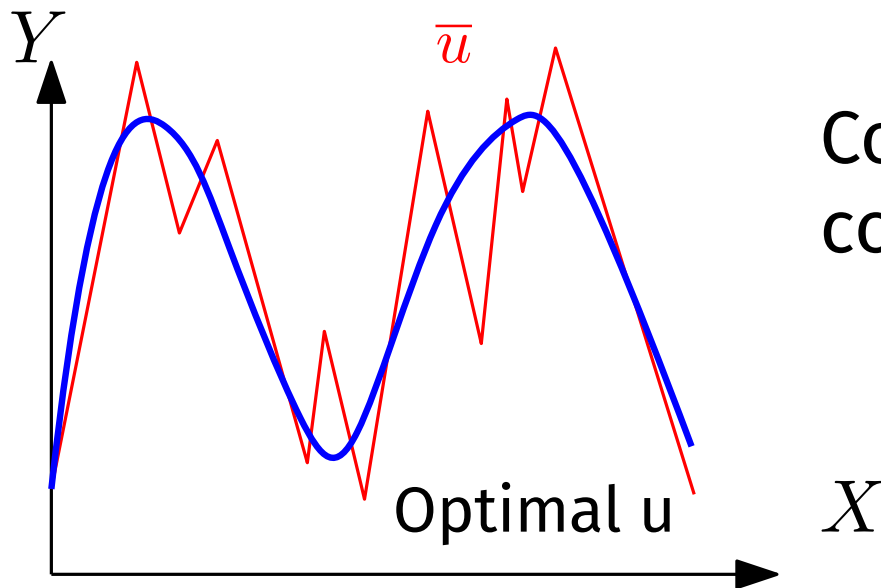
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Codomain of u manifold, or f non convex \rightarrow **convexification**.

Why? Motivation coming from imaging

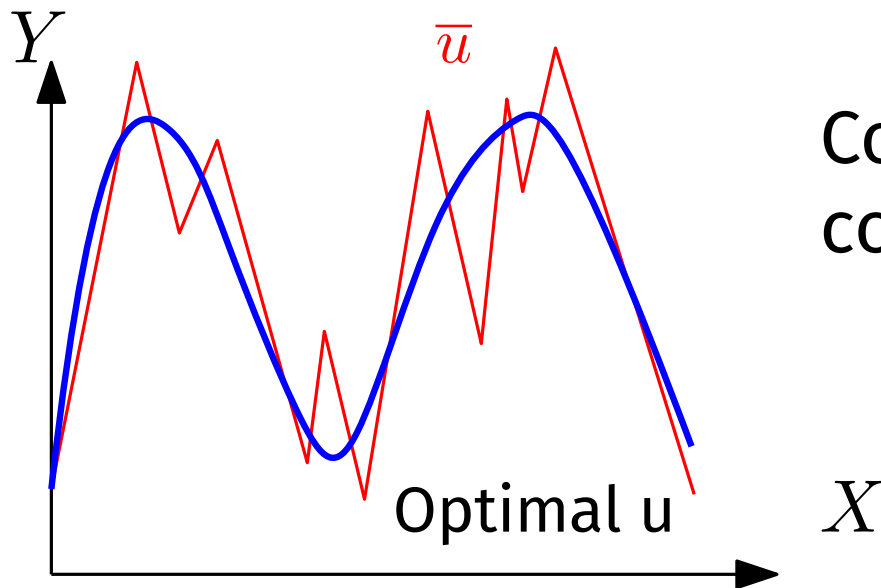
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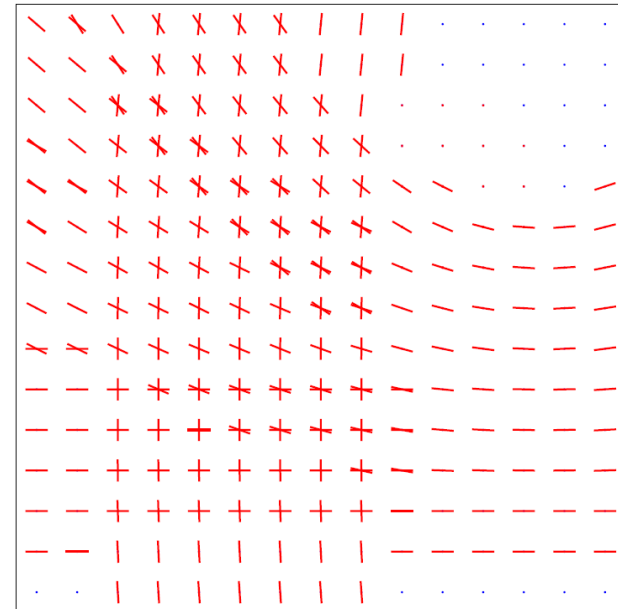
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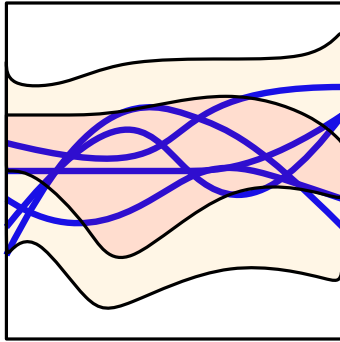


Codomain of u manifold, or f non convex \rightarrow **convexification.**



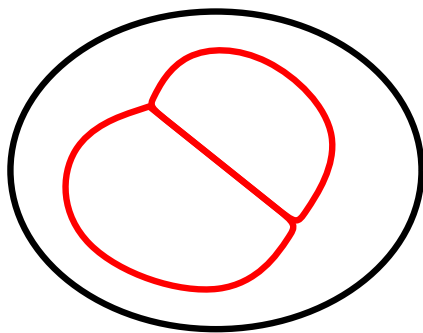
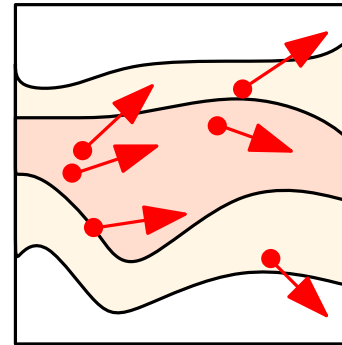
Data really measure-valued:

Magnetic Resonance Imaging:
distributions of directions, in $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^2)$



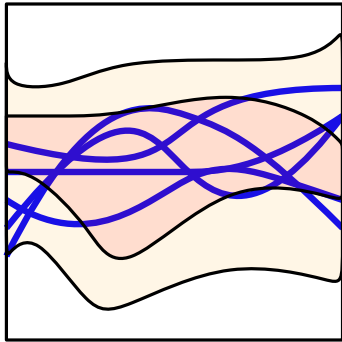
1 - The Lagrangian lifting or optimal transport with an infinity of marginals

2 - The Eulerian lifting



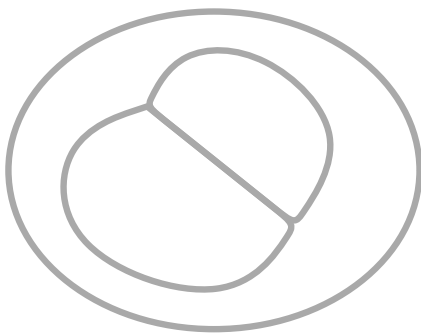
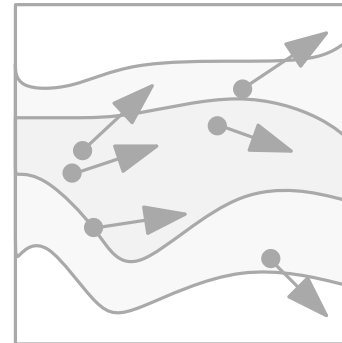
3 - Understanding the difference: localization of functionals

X, Y polish (metric, complete, separable) spaces.



1 - The Lagrangian lifting or optimal transport with an infinity of marginals

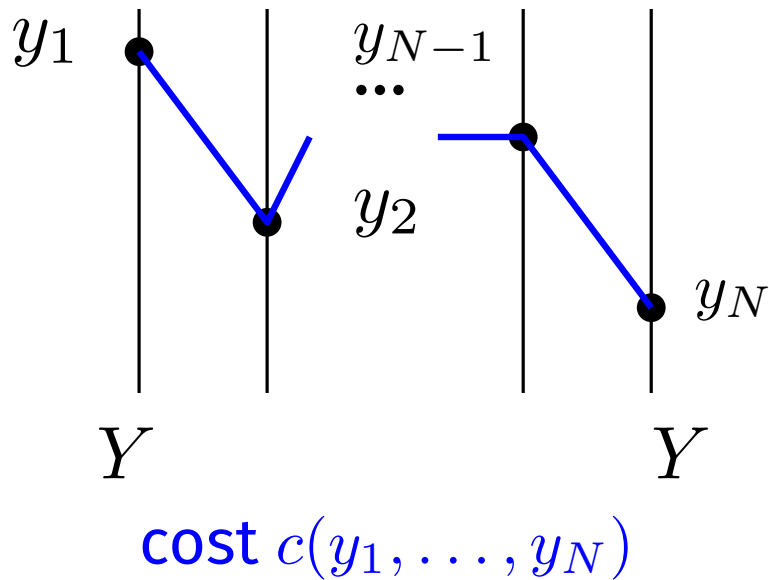
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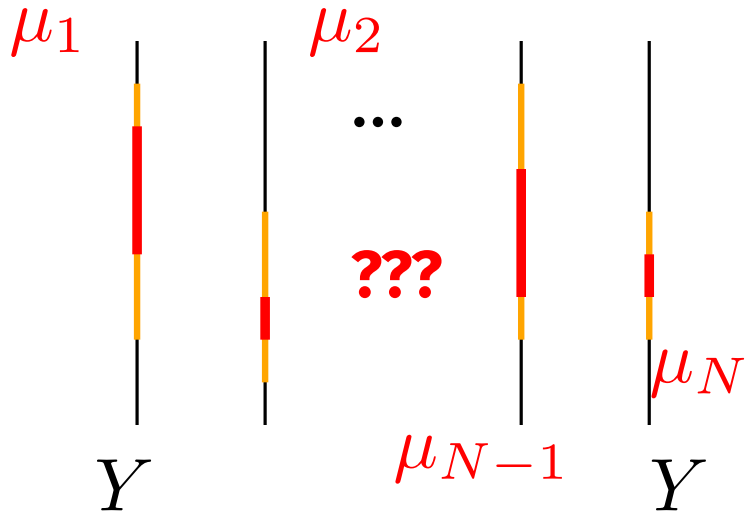
Optimal transport with several marginals

Transport problem with N marginals: $c : Y^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



Optimal transport with several marginals

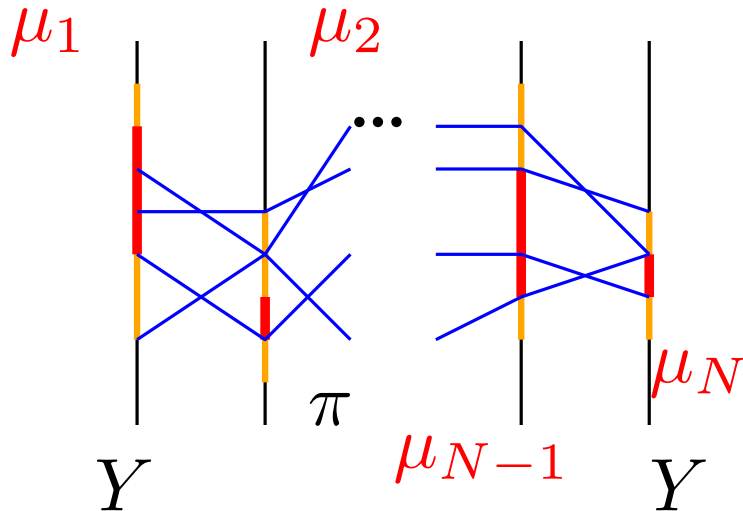
Transport problem with N marginals: $c : Y^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



Question: how to extend c
into $\mathcal{T}_c : \mathcal{P}(Y)^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$

Optimal transport with several marginals

Transport problem with N marginals: $c : Y^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



Question: how to extend c into $\mathcal{T}_c : \mathcal{P}(Y)^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$

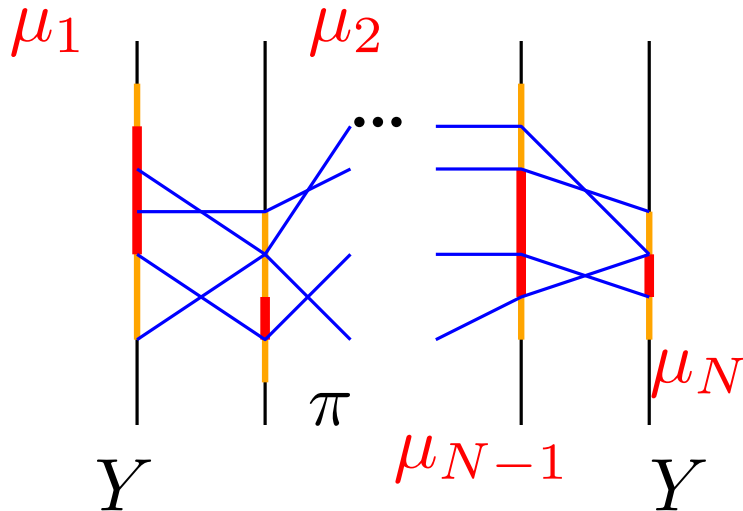
Probabilities on Y^N with marginals μ_1, \dots, μ_N

$$\mathcal{T}_c(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N) = \min_{\pi} \left\{ \int_{Y^N} c(y_1, \dots, y_N) \pi(dy_1, \dots, dy_N) : \pi \in \Pi(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N) \right\}$$

Largest convex l.s.c. such that $\mathcal{T}_c(\delta_{y_1}, \dots, \delta_{y_N}) = c(y_1, \dots, y_N)$.

Optimal transport with several marginals

Transport problem with N marginals: $c : Y^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$



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Largest convex l.s.c. such that $\mathcal{T}_c(\delta_{y_1}, \dots, \delta_{y_N}) = c(y_1, \dots, y_N)$.

Idea: take limit $N \rightarrow +\infty$: indexing set $\{1, \dots, N\}$ becomes X

Optimal transport with several marginals

Transport problem with N marginals: $c : Y^N \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$

Y^N becomes $X \rightarrow Y$,
and c becomes E

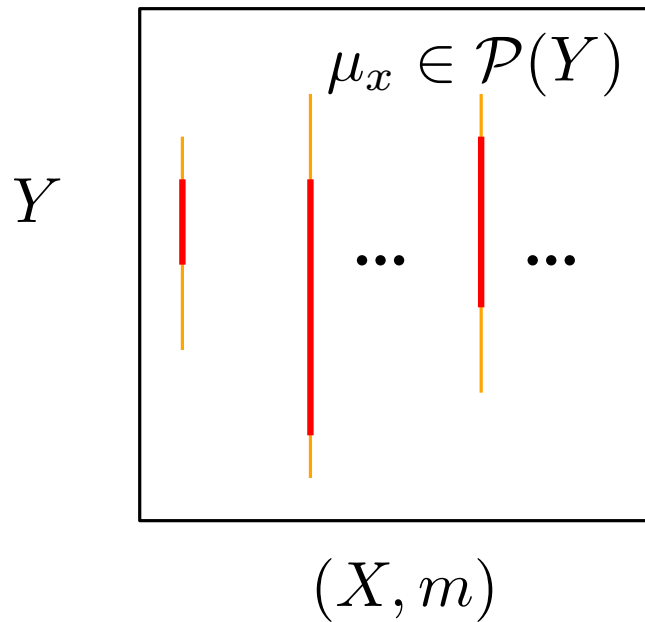
$\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N \in \mathcal{P}(Y)^N$
becomes
 $\mu : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$

π becomes Q probability
on maps $X \rightarrow Y$.

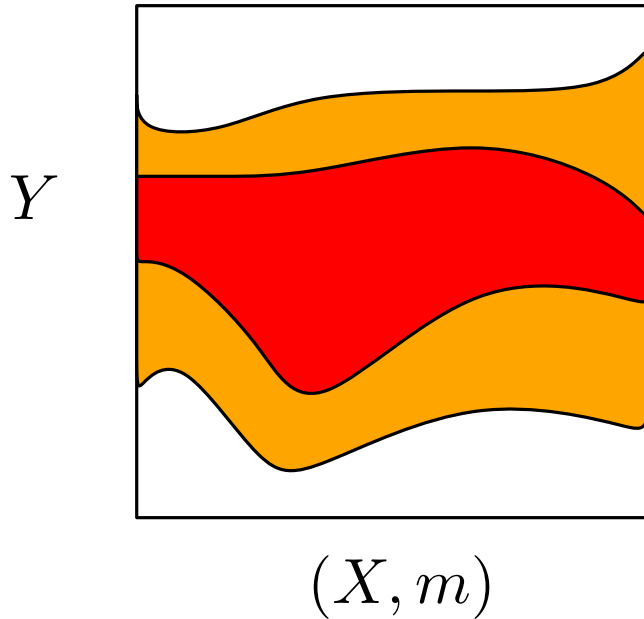
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Idea: take limit $N \rightarrow +\infty$: indexing set $\{1, \dots, N\}$ becomes X

Maps of measures and measures on maps



Maps of measures and measures on maps

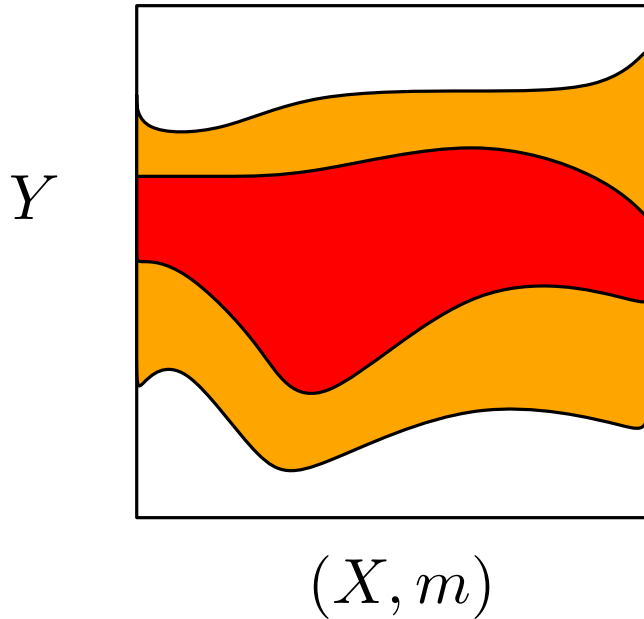


$$\mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)^N$$

View μ as measure on $X \times Y$ by

$$\int_{X \times Y} \varphi \, d\mu = \int_X \left(\int_Y \varphi(x, y) \, d\mu_x(y) \right) dm(x)$$

Maps of measures and measures on maps



$$\mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)^N$$

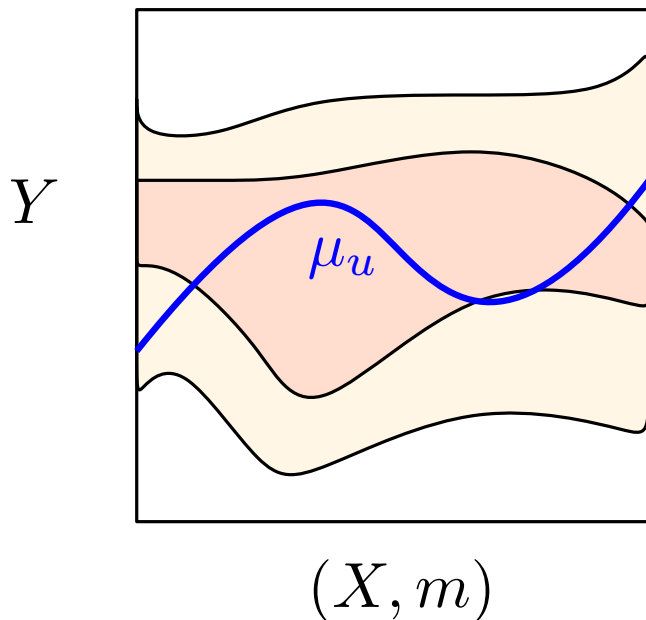
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Theorem. (disintegration). As sets, $L^0(X, \mathcal{P}(Y), m)$ coincides with measures on $X \times Y$ whose first marginal is m .

Maps of measures and measures on maps

$$\mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)^N$$



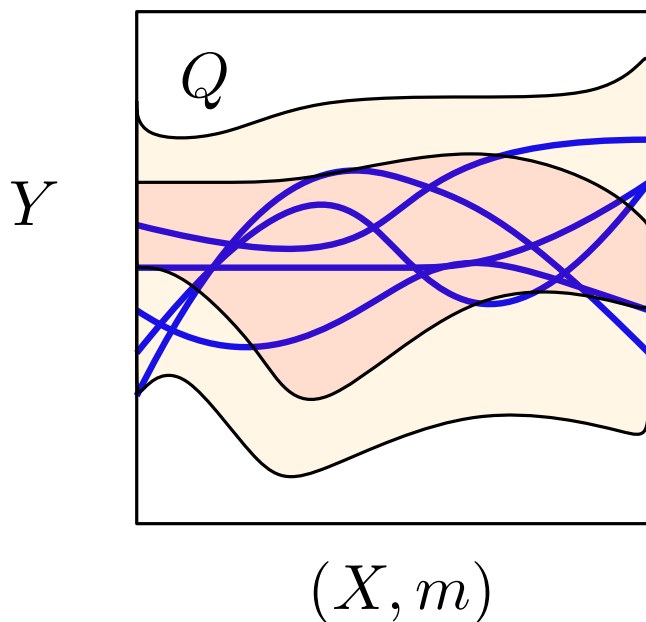
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Theorem. (disintegration). As sets, $L^0(X, \mathcal{P}(Y), m)$ coincides with measures on $X \times Y$ whose first marginal is m .

Recall: $\mu_u : x \mapsto \delta_{u(x)}$.

Maps of measures and measures on maps



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Theorem. (disintegration). As sets, $L^0(X, \mathcal{P}(Y), m)$ coincides with measures on $X \times Y$ whose first marginal is m .

Recall: $\mu_u : x \mapsto \delta_{u(x)}$.

$$Q \leftrightarrow \pi$$

$$L^0(X, Y, m) \leftrightarrow Y^N$$

Definition. $Q \in \mathcal{P}(L^0(X, Y, m))$ belongs to $\Pi(\mu)$ if

$$\mu = \int_{L^0(X, Y, m)} \mu_u \, dQ(u).$$

Proposition. $\Pi(\mu)$ is never empty (if X, Y polish spaces).

Multimarginal OT with an infinity of marginals

- $E : L^0(X, Y, m) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$,
- μ measure on $X \times Y$ with first marginal m .

Definition.

$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu) = \inf_Q \left\{ \int_{L^0(X, Y, m)} E(u) \, dQ(u) : Q \in \Pi(\mu) \right\}.$$

Multimarginal OT with an infinity of marginals

- $E : L^0(X, Y, m) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$,
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Definition.

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Theorem.

- \mathcal{T}_E is always convex.
- Under additional assumption, it is the largest convex and l.s.c. functional such that

$$\forall u, \quad \mathcal{T}_E(\mu_u) = E(u)$$

See next slides

Narrow convergence on $\mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y)$

Idea of the proof

Any \mathcal{T} convex l.s.c. such that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_u) = E(u)$

Idea of the proof

Any \mathcal{T} convex l.s.c. such that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_u) = E(u)$

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu) = \mathcal{T} \left(\int_{L^0} \mu_u \, dQ(u) \right) \quad \text{Using def of } Q \in \Pi(\mu)$$

Idea of the proof

Any \mathcal{T} convex l.s.c. such that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_u) = E(u)$

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu) = \mathcal{T} \left(\int_{L^0} \mu_u \, dQ(u) \right) \quad \text{Using def of } Q \in \Pi(\mu)$$

$$\leq \int_{L^0} \mathcal{T}(\mu_u) \, dQ(u) \quad \text{Jensen}$$

Idea of the proof

Any \mathcal{T} convex l.s.c. such that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_u) = E(u)$

$$\mathcal{T}(\mu) = \mathcal{T} \left(\int_{L^0} \mu_u \, dQ(u) \right)$$

Using def of $Q \in \Pi(\mu)$

$$\leq \int_{L^0} \mathcal{T}(\mu_u) \, dQ(u)$$

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Idea of the proof

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$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{T}_E(\mu)$$

Minimizing in $Q \in \Pi(\mu)$

Idea of the proof

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$$\leq \int_{L^0} \mathcal{T}(\mu_u) \, dQ(u)$$

Jensen

$$= \int_{L^0} E(u) \, dQ(u)$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{T}_E(\mu)$$

Minimizing in $Q \in \Pi(\mu)$

Left to do: prove that \mathcal{T}_E is lower semi continuous.

Assumption on E

To guarantee existence of optimal $Q \in \Pi(\mu)$ and l.s.c. of \mathcal{T}_E .

Assumption. E is l.s.c. and for any $\psi : Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ with compact sublevel sets, the following functional has compact sublevel sets in $L^0(X, Y, m)$:

$$u \mapsto E(u) + \int_X \psi(u(x)) \, dm(x).$$

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Think $E(u) = \int |\nabla u|^2$ ✓

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$$u \mapsto E(u) + \int_X \psi(u(x)) \, dm(x).$$

“Coercivity of E + Tightness of μ ”

Think $E(u) = \int |\nabla u|^2$ ✓

Assumption on E

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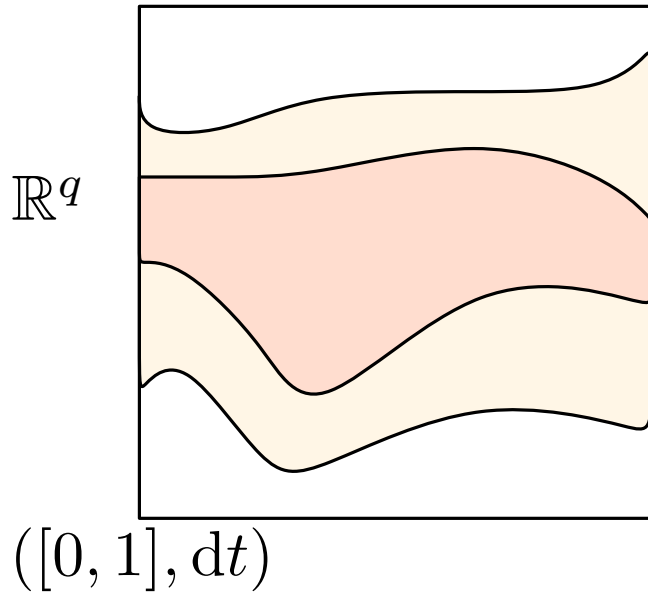
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Remark. If X finite, no assumption needed on E besides l.s.c.

Curves of measures and measures of curves

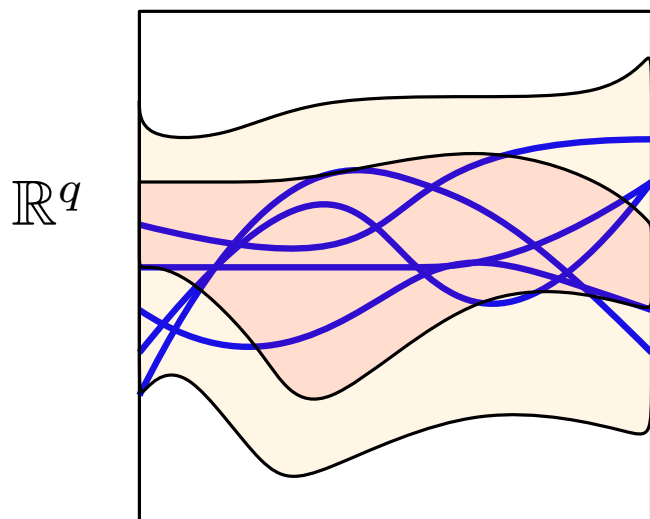


$$E(u) = \int_0^1 |\dot{u}_t|^p dt$$

Lisini (2007). Characterization of absolutely continuous curves in Wasserstein spaces.

Ambrosio, Gigli and Savaré (2008). Gradient flows in metric spaces and in the space of probability measures.

Curves of measures and measures of curves



$$E(u) = \int_0^1 |\dot{u}_t|^p dt$$

Curves are continuous, define $e_t : u \mapsto u_t$

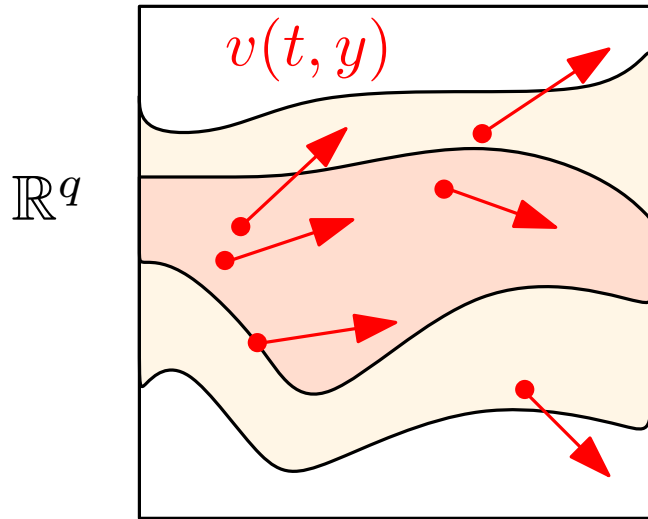
$([0, 1], dt)$

$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu) = \inf_Q \left\{ \int_{C(X,Y)} \int_0^1 |\dot{u}_t|^p dt Q(du) : \forall t \in [0, 1], e_t \# Q = \mu_t \right\}$$

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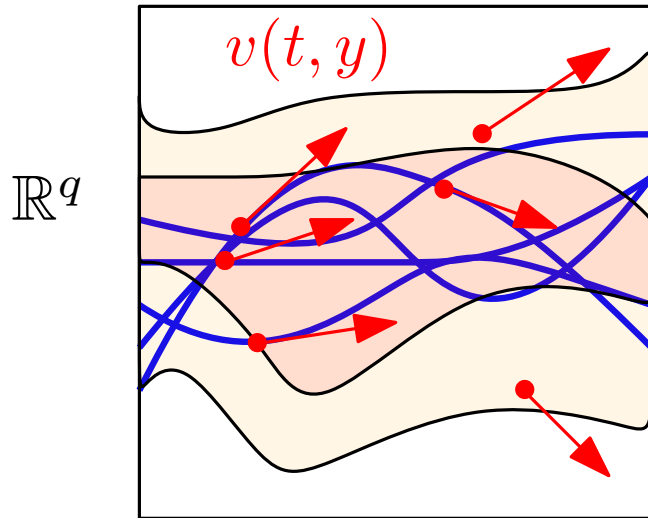
Theorem. We can write $\mathcal{T}_E(\mu)$ as

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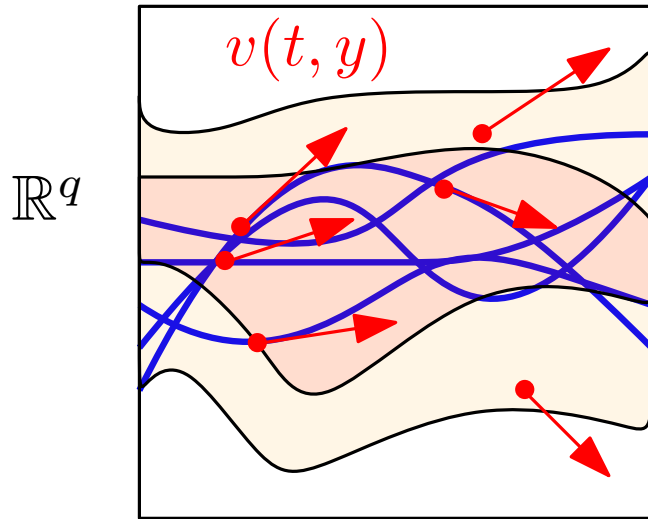
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Curves of measures and measures of curves



$$E(u) = \int_0^1 |\dot{u}_t|^p dt$$

$$E(u) = \int_0^1 |\ddot{u}|^2 dt \text{ for splines.}$$

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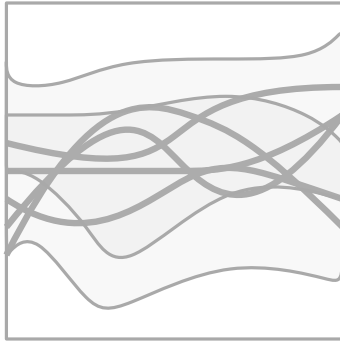
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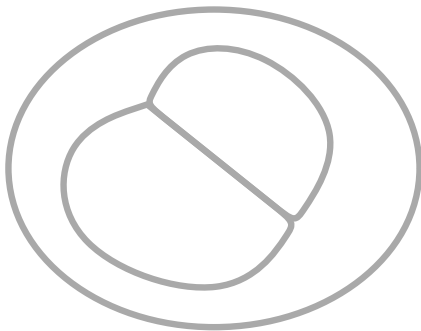
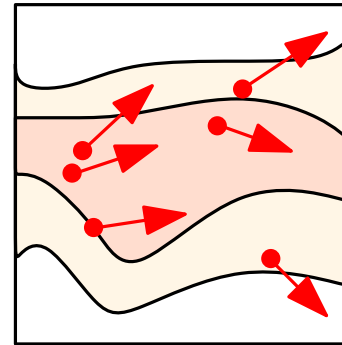
Benamou, Gallouët, Vialard (2019). Second-order models for optimal transport and cubic splines on the Wasserstein space.

Chen, Conforti, Georgiou (2018). Measure-valued spline curves: An optimal transport viewpoint.



1 - The Lagrangian lifting or optimal transport with an infinity of marginals

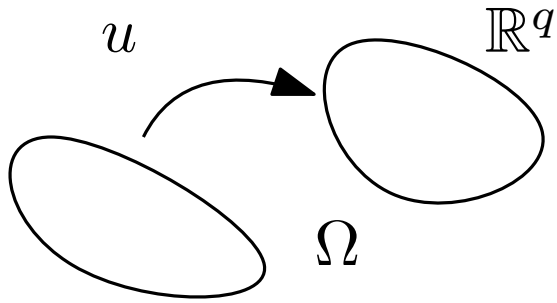
2 - The Eulerian lifting



3 - Understanding the difference: localization of functionals

The Eulerian lifting

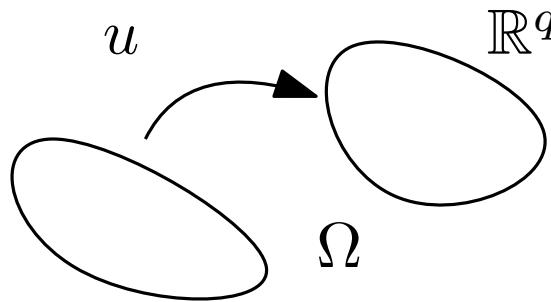
$X = \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with Lebesgue measure, $Y = \mathbb{R}^q$, and W **convex**



$$E(u) = \int_{\Omega} W(\nabla u(x)) dx$$

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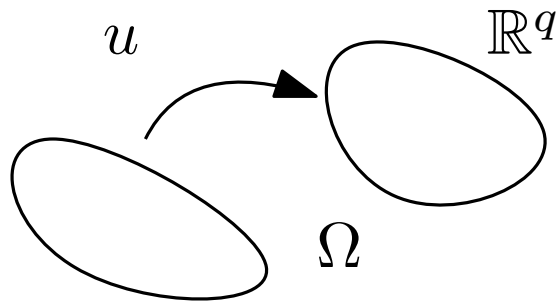
Definition. We define $\mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu)$ as

$$\min_v \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \int_{\mathbb{R}^q} W(v(x, y)) d\mu_x(y) dx \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \nabla_x \mu + \text{div}_y(v\mu) = 0 \right\}$$

$v : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{q \times d}$ “density of Jacobian matrix”.

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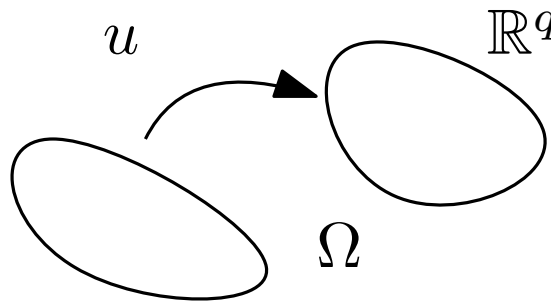
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Remark. To have a convex formulation: $(\mu, v) \leftrightarrow (\mu, v\mu)$.

Example: harmonic maps valued in the Wasserstein space

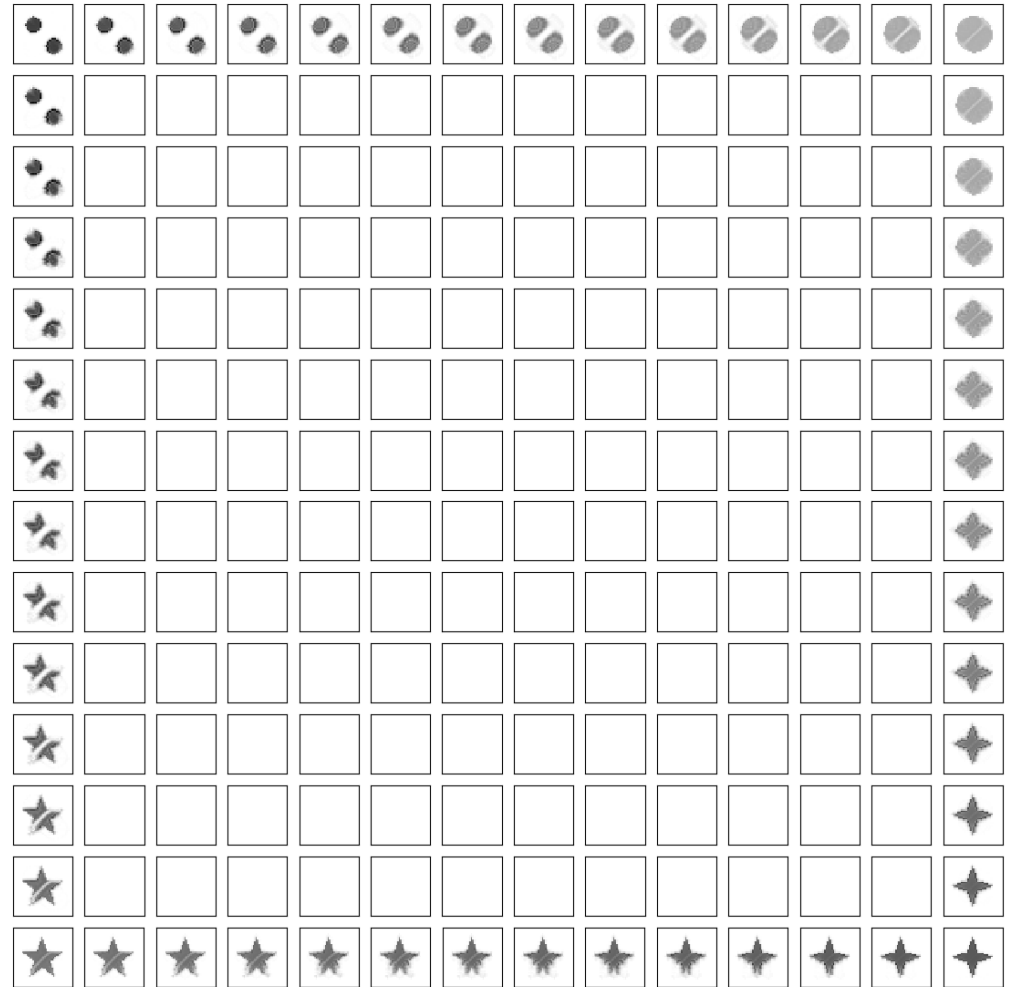
$$E(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x)|^2 dx$$

Dirichlet problem.

$$\min_{\mu} \{ \mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu) \}$$

$$\mu_x \text{ given for } x \in \partial\Omega \}$$

Solutions are **harmonic** maps.



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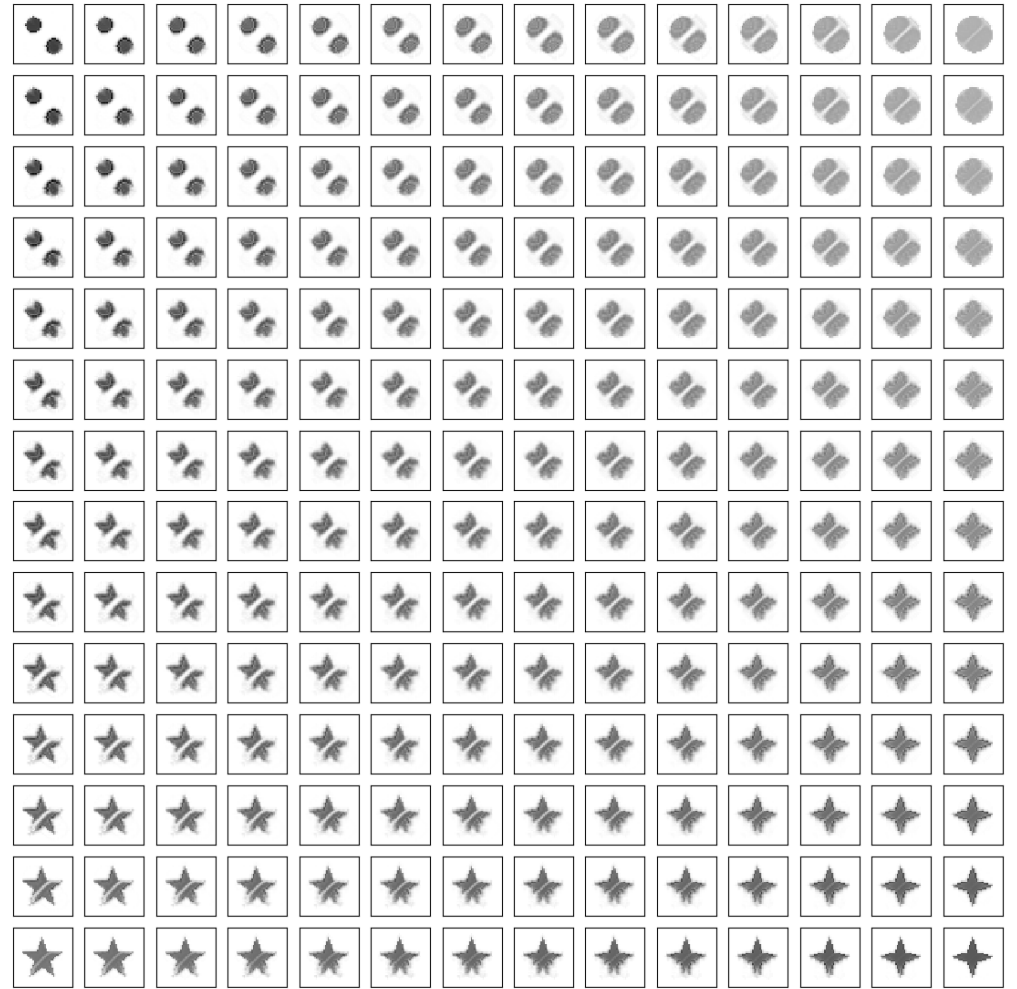
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Dirichlet problem.

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Solutions are **harmonic** maps.

Theorem. If $x \in \partial\Omega \rightarrow \mu_x$ is Lipschitz for $(\mathcal{P}(Y), W_2)$ then there exists a minimizer.



Some properties

Restrict to the case $E(u) = \int_{\Omega} W(\nabla u)$.

Proposition. The functional $\mu \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu)$ is convex and l.s.c.

under **assumption** that W grows at least like $|v|^p$ for some $p \geq 1$.

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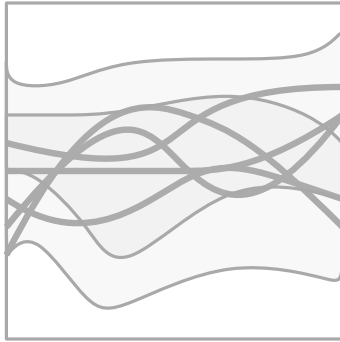
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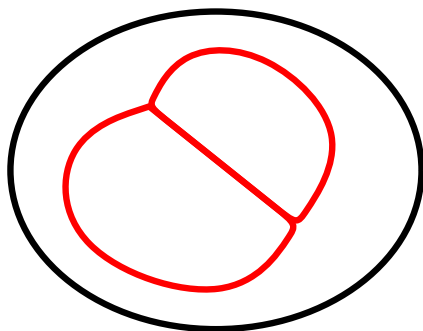
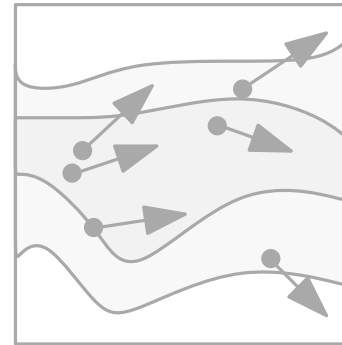
Proposition. $\mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu_u) = E(u)$ for any u .

Consequence: $\mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}} \leq \mathcal{T}_E$. \longrightarrow Equal if $\Omega = [0, 1]$ is a segment!



1 - The Lagrangian lifting or optimal transport with an infinity of marginals

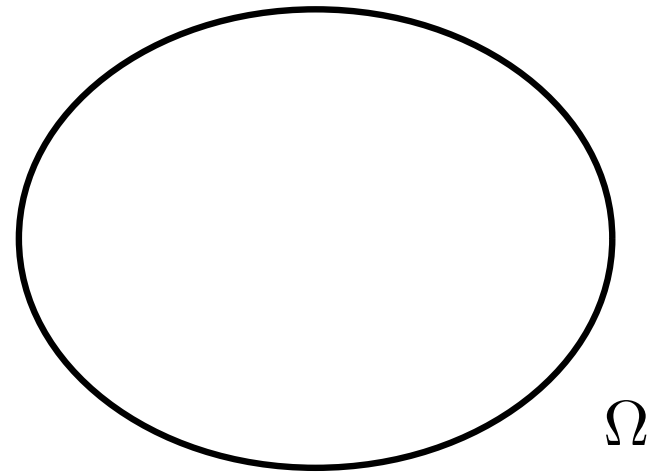
2 - The Eulerian lifting



**3 - Understanding the difference:
localization of functionals**

Localization of functionals

Previously: E depends on u : $E(u) = \int_{\Omega} W(\nabla u).$



Localization of functionals

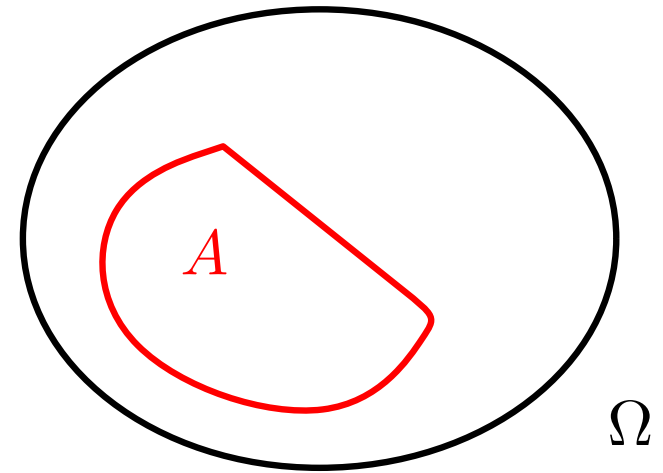
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Localized version:

$$E(u, \textcolor{red}{A}) = \int_{\textcolor{red}{A}} W(\nabla u)$$

Function

Open set $A \subseteq \Omega$



Localization of functionals

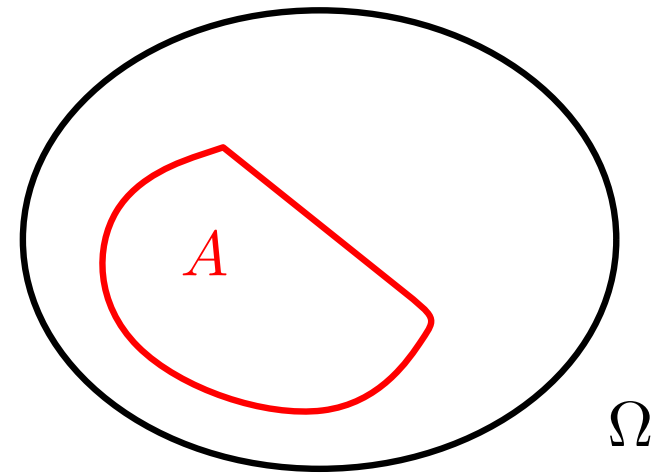
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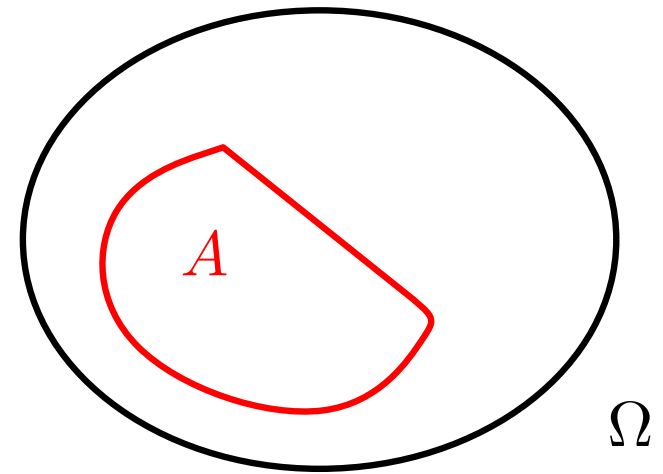
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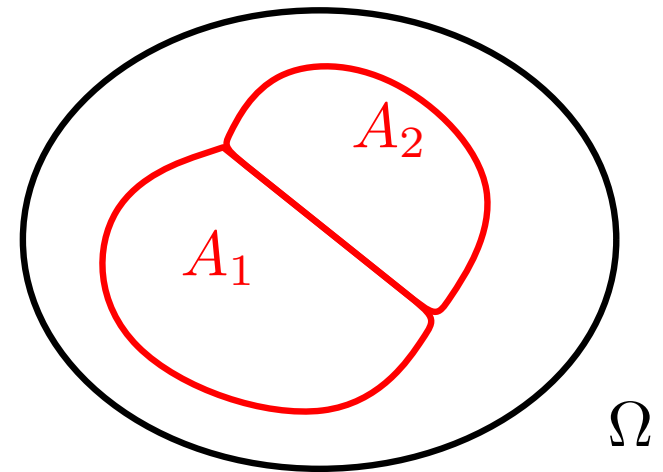
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- **additive** if for any u, A_1, A_2 with A_1, A_2 disjoint:
$$E(u, A_1 \cup A_2) = E(u, A_1) + E(u, A_2).$$

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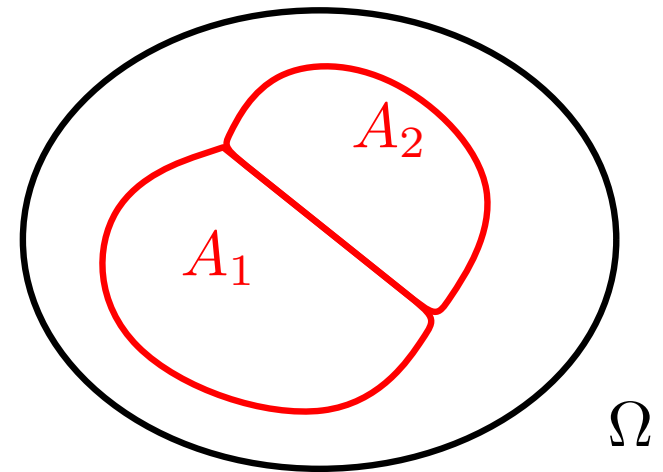
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- **a measure** if $A \mapsto E(u, A)$ is a measure.

For the Eulerian lifting

Under **assumption** that W grows at least like $|v|^p$ for some $p \geq 1$.

The functional
$$E(u, A) = \int_A W(\nabla u)$$
 is **convex, l.s.c., local** and a **measure**.

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for $v : A \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{q \times d}$

Proposition. This lifting is **convex, l.s.c., local** and a **measure**.

For the Lagrangian lifting

Localized version:

$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A) = \inf_Q \left\{ \int_{L^0(X, Y, m)} E(u, A) \, dQ(u) \ : \ Q \in \Pi(\mu) \right\}.$$

\mathcal{T}_E is **local** if E is local.

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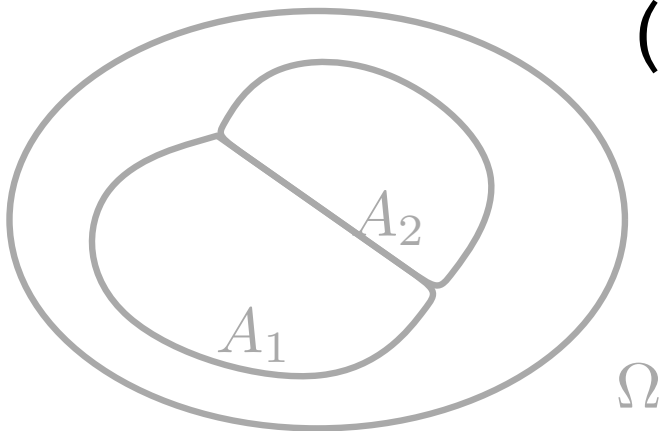
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Proposition. If E is a measure, then \mathcal{T}_E is **superadditive**.

(But not a additive: see next slide)



$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A_1 \cup A_2) \geq \mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A_1) + \mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A_2)$$

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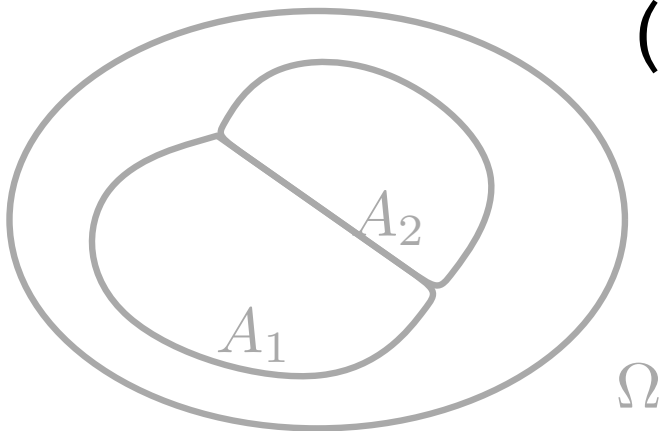
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superadditive is sufficient

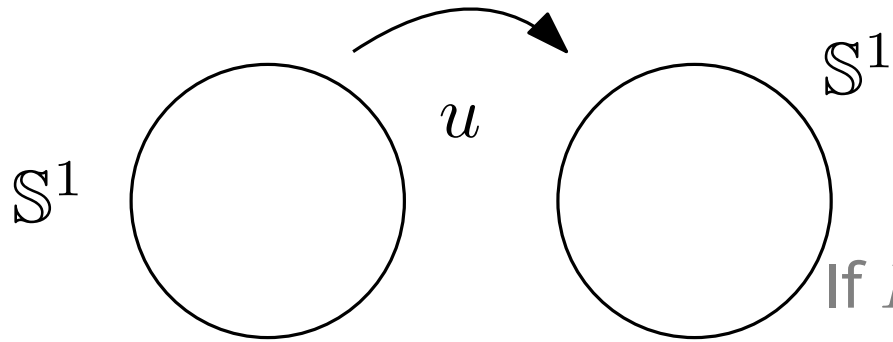
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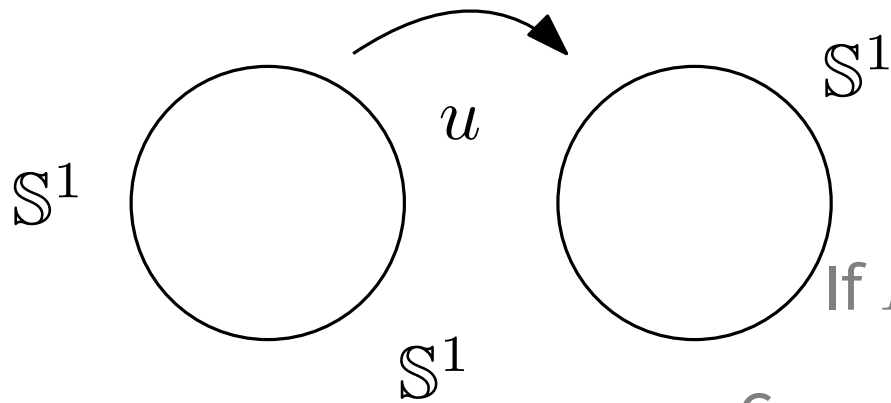
Counterexample for the Lagrangian lifting



$$E(u, A) = \frac{1}{2} \int_A |\dot{u}_t|^2 dt$$

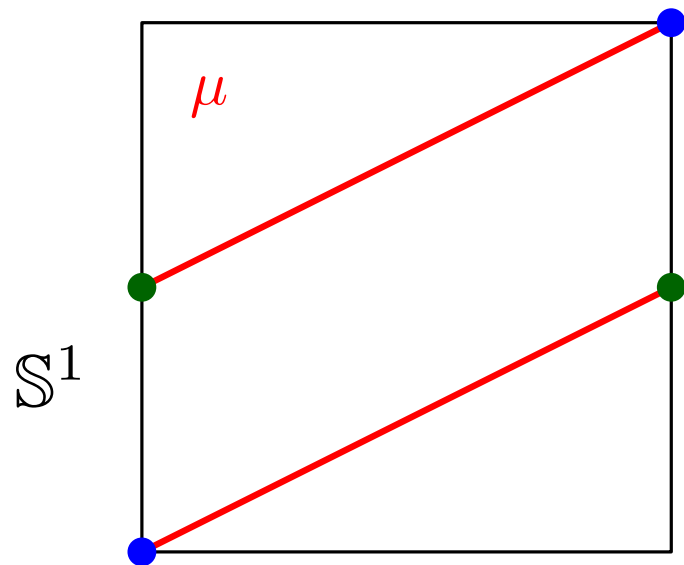
If $E(u, A) < +\infty$ then u continuous over A .

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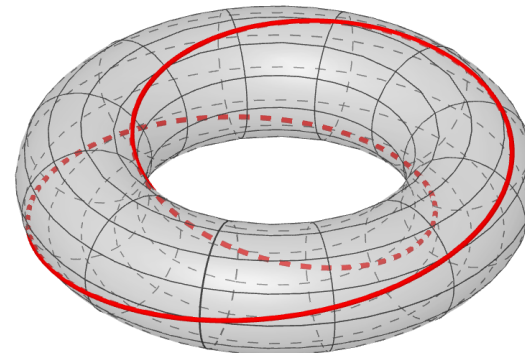


Complex square root

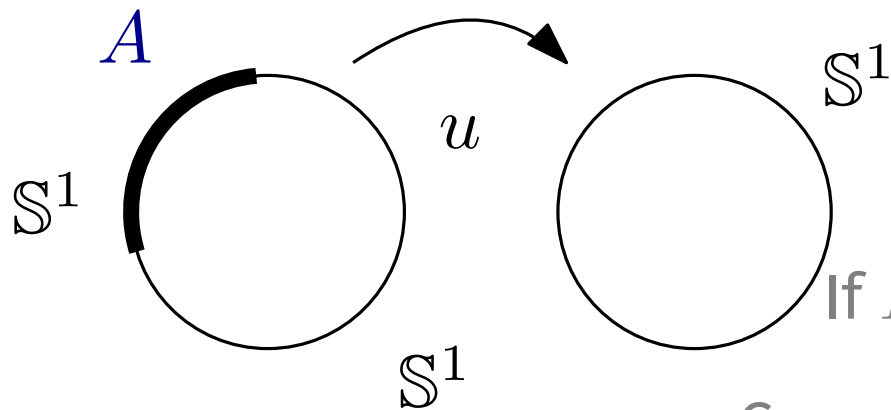
Define

$$\mu_x \rightarrow \frac{\delta_{\sqrt{x}} + \delta_{-\sqrt{x}}}{2}$$

3d visualization

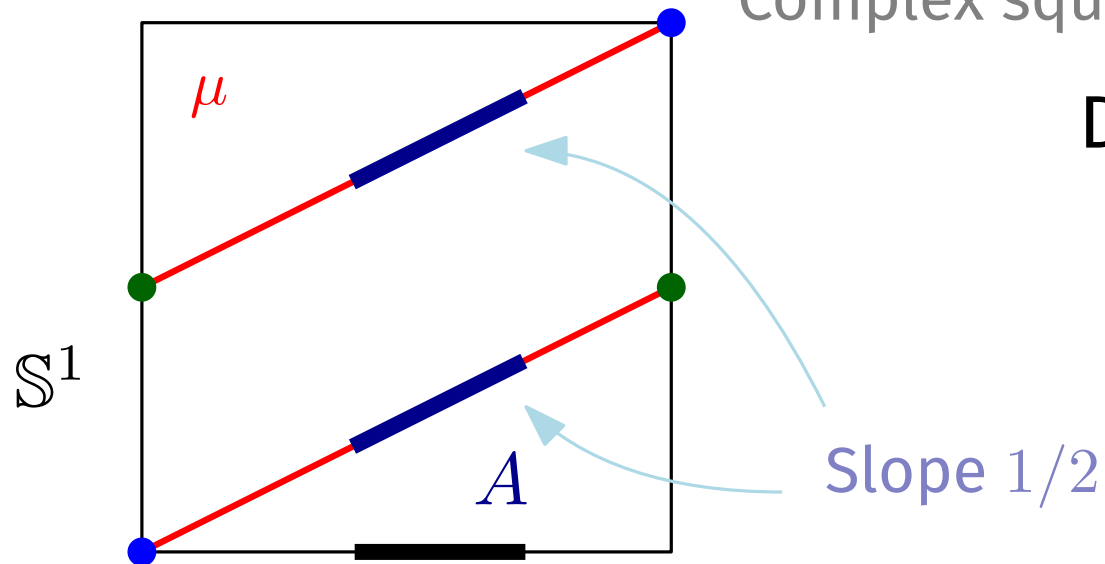


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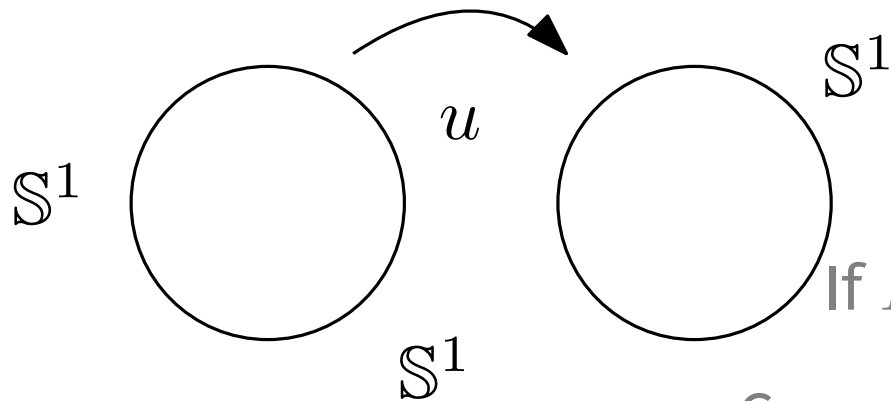
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If A not dense in S^1

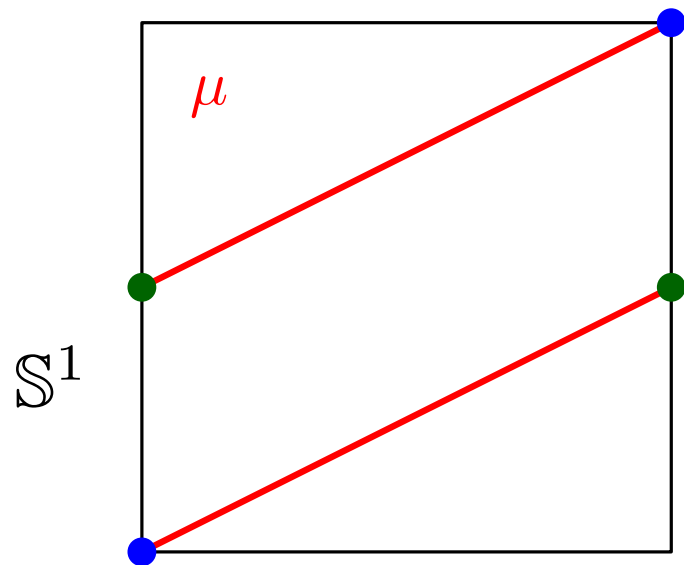
$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A) \leq \frac{1}{8} |A|$$

Counterexample for the Lagrangian lifting



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Complex square root

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But $\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, \mathbb{S}^1) = +\infty$.

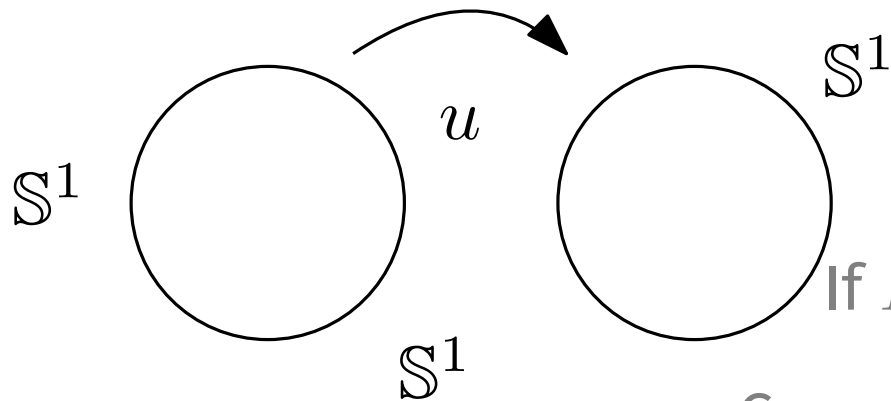
No **continuous** selection of the complex square root exists.

If A not dense in \mathbb{S}^1

$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A) \leq \frac{1}{8} |A|$$

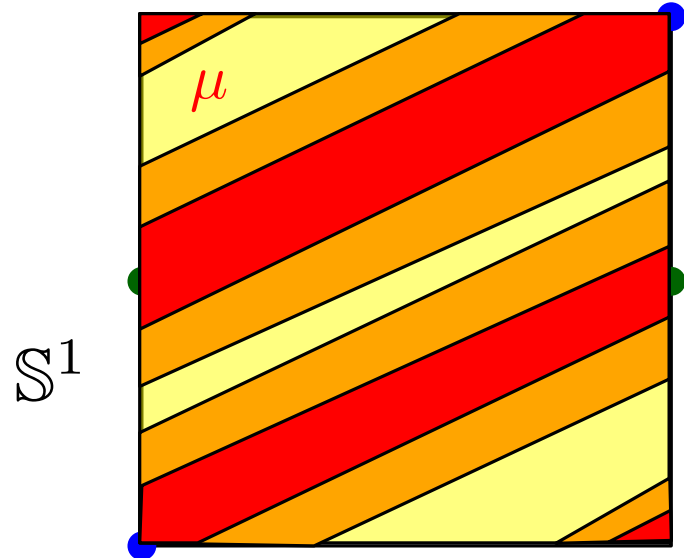
Thus $\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, \cdot)$ is **not** additive.

Counterexample for the Lagrangian lifting



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If $E(u, A) < +\infty$ then u continuous over A .



Complex square root

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But $\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, S^1) = +\infty$.

No **continuous** selection of the complex square root exists.

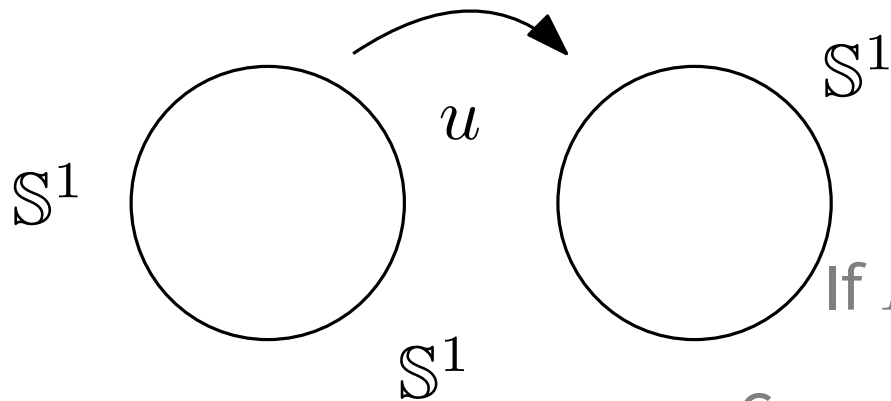
If A not dense in S^1

$$\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A) \leq \frac{1}{8} |A|$$

Thus $\mathcal{T}_E(\mu, \cdot)$ is **not** additive.

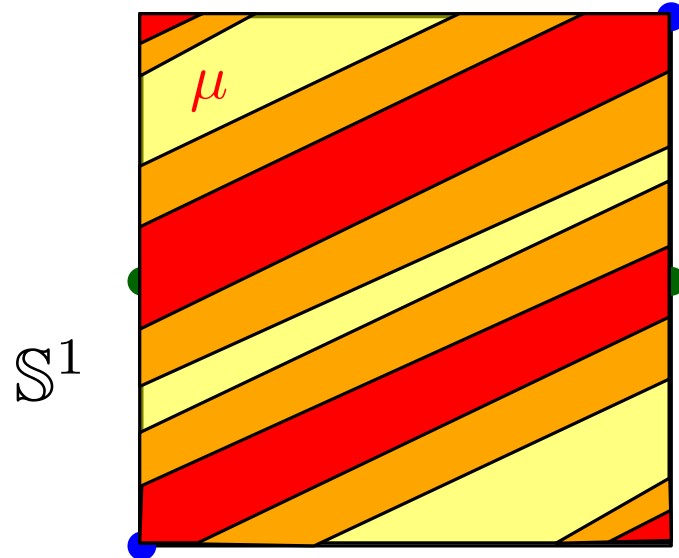
- Extension to smoothed version.

Counterexample for the Lagrangian lifting



$$E(u, A) = \frac{1}{2} \int_A |\dot{u}_t|^2 dt$$

If $E(u, A) < +\infty$ then u continuous over A .



Complex square root

Define

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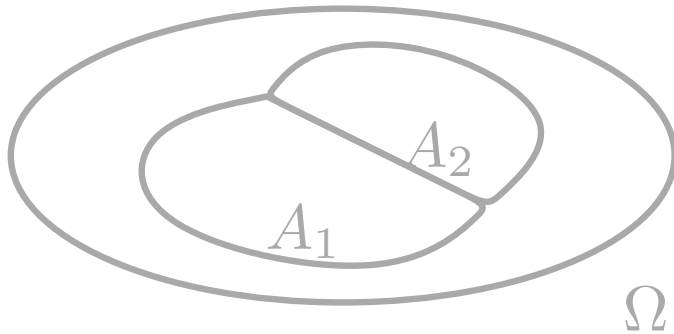
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- Extension to smoothed version.
- Extension to maps $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$.

Optimality of the Eulerian lifting

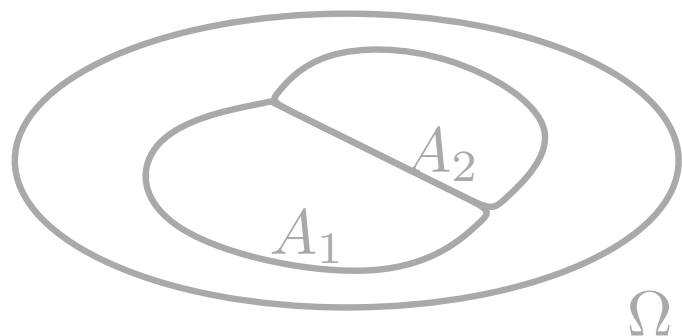
We define $\overline{\mathcal{T}}_E$ the largest \mathcal{T} **convex, l.s.c., subadditive,** increasing and inner regular such that $\mathcal{T}(\mu_u, A) = E(u, A)$.



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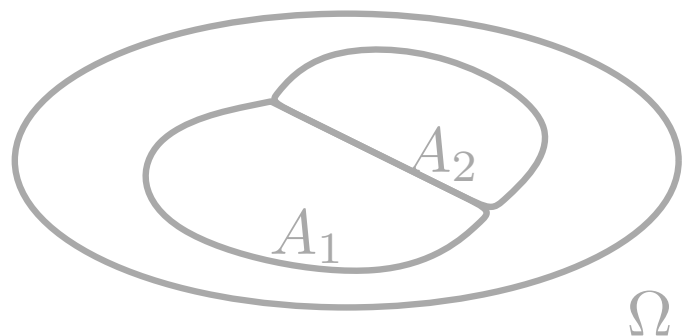
Theorem. For $W : \mathbb{R}^{qd} \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ convex, approximately radial

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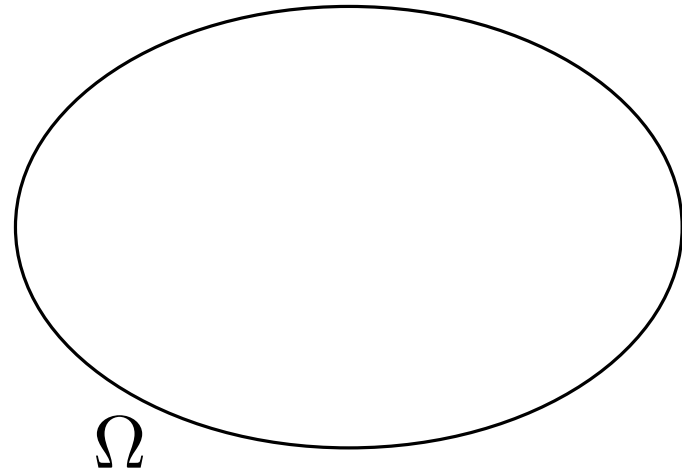
Theorem. For $W : \mathbb{R}^{qd} \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ convex, approximately radial and $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ cont.

define
$$E(u, A) = \int_A W(\nabla u) + \int_A f(x, u(x)) \, dx.$$

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Idea of the proof

Q optimal for \mathcal{T}_E



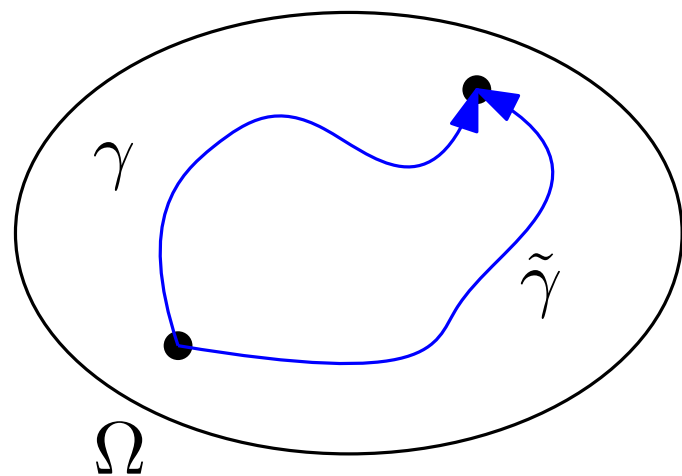
If $\mathcal{T}_E(\mu) = \mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu)$ then for Q -a.e.
map $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$

$$\nabla u(x) = v(x, u(x))$$

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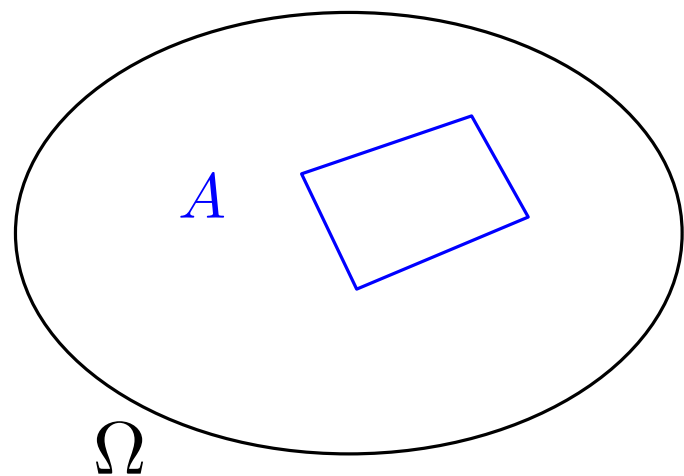
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For any $\gamma : I \rightarrow \Omega$, $y(t) = u(\gamma_t)$ solution of ODE $\dot{y}_t = v(t, y_t)\dot{\gamma}_t$.

\rightsquigarrow incompatibility for different $\gamma, \tilde{\gamma}$ joining same points.

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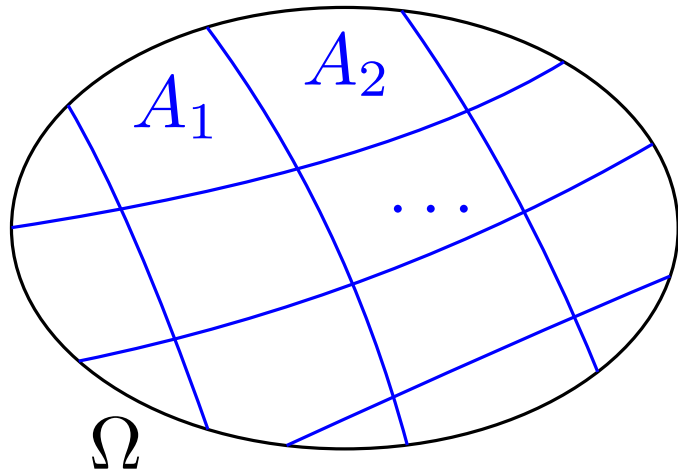
Lemma. If v is smooth, for $A \subseteq \Omega$ starshaped,

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Small if A is small

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Regularize (μ, v) , cut Ω in pieces A_1, \dots, A_n of diameters ε ,

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\mathcal{T}}_E(\mu, \Omega) &\leq \sum_i \mathcal{T}_E(\mu, A_i) \leq \sum_i \mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu, A_i) + C\varepsilon m(A_i) \\ &\leq \mathcal{T}_{E, \text{Eul}}(\mu, \Omega) + C\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

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Eulerian formulation, subadditive envelope

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Thank you for your attention