

# Parametrization and Computation of Wasserstein Hamiltonian flows

Shu Liu (UCLA)

Joint work with Hao Wu (Georgia Tech), , Xiaojing Ye (Georgia State),  
and Haomin Zhou (Georgia Tech)

August 1, 2023

# Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow

Hamiltonian systems are used to describe the evolution of a physical system. They are ubiquitous in our physical world.



(a) Solar system



(b) Pendulum clock



(c) Lissajou curve as a complex harmonic motion

Figure: Examples of Hamiltonian systems

# Wasserstein Hamiltonian (WH) flows

- ▶ WH flow <sup>1</sup> is a Hamiltonian system lifted to the probability manifold.
- ▶ It is related to classical particle Hamiltonian systems.
- ▶ Links to many PDE systems such as Schrödinger equation or Schrödinger Bridge problem.

Our goal: a **scalable** and **sampling-friendly** method for computing WH flows.

---

<sup>1</sup>S. Chow, W. Li, H. Zhou Wasserstein Hamiltonian flows, JDE 2020

# Wasserstein Hamiltonian (WH) flow

Consider the following Hamiltonian defined on the cotangent bundle of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ :

$$\mathcal{H}(\rho, \Phi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \Phi|^2 \rho dx + \mathcal{F}(\rho)$$

The WHF is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho_t = \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi} \mathcal{H}(\rho, \Phi), \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Phi_t = -\frac{\delta}{\delta \rho} \mathcal{H}(\rho, \Phi).$$

# Wasserstein Hamiltonian (WH) flow

Consider the particle Hamiltonian system:

$$\frac{d}{dt} X_t = v_t, \quad , \quad \frac{d}{dt} v_t = -\nabla_{X_t} \frac{\delta}{\delta \rho_t} \mathcal{F}(\rho_t, X_t),$$

with  $X_0 \sim \rho_0$ ,  $v_0 = \nabla \Phi_0(X_0)$ , and  $0 \leq t \leq T$ .

The connection between WHF and particle Hamiltonian is:

$$X_t \sim \rho_t, \quad v_t = \nabla \Phi_t(X_t), \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T].$$

# A Lagrangian perspective of WH flow

- ▶ Consider the following Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(\rho_t, \partial_t \rho_t) = \frac{1}{2} g^W(\partial_t \rho_t, \partial_t \rho_t) - \mathcal{F}(\rho_t),$$

- ▶ Use  $L$  in a two-endpoint value problem

$$\mathcal{I}(\rho_t) = \inf_{\{\rho_t\}} \left\{ \int_0^T \mathcal{L}(\rho_t, \partial_t \rho_t) dt : \rho_0 = \rho^0, \rho_T = \rho^T \right\}.$$

and its Euler-Lagrange equation is

$$\partial_t \frac{\delta}{\delta \partial_t \rho_t} \mathcal{L}(\rho_t, \partial_t \rho_t) = \frac{\delta}{\delta \rho_t} \mathcal{L}(\rho_t, \partial_t \rho_t) + C(t).$$

# A Lagrangian perspective of WH flow

Applying Legendre transform (with  $\rho$  fixed), we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}(\rho, \eta) = \sup_{\Phi} \{ \langle \eta, \Phi \rangle - \mathcal{H}(\rho, \Phi) \}$$

where the optimal  $\Phi$  satisfies  $-\nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \Phi) = \eta$ .

The dual  $\Phi$  in WHF relates to the velocity  $\eta = \partial_t \rho_t$  accordingly:

$$-\nabla \cdot (\rho_t \nabla \Phi_t) = \partial_t \rho_t$$

This links to the Wasserstein metric

$$g^W(\rho)(\eta_1, \eta_2) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla \Phi_1 \cdot \nabla \Phi_2 \rho dx.$$

where  $\Phi_i$  solves the elliptic equation  $-\nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \Phi_i) = \eta_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

# Parametrization of Push-forward Mapping

- ▶ Consider a parametric push-forward map  $T_\theta$ :

$$T_\theta : \quad z \sim \lambda \quad \mapsto \quad T_\theta(z) \sim \rho_\theta := T_\theta \# \lambda$$

where  $\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ . Here  $\rho_\theta(\cdot) = \lambda(T_\theta^{-1}(\cdot)) \det(\nabla T_\theta^{-1}(\cdot))$ .

- ▶ If  $\theta_t$  is time-varying, we obtain a trajectory of push-forward densities:

$$\rho_{\theta(t)} = T_{\theta(t)\#} \lambda \quad (\approx \rho(t, \cdot)?)$$

- ▶ Parameterized densities form a submanifold of  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ :

$$\mathcal{P}_\Theta = \{\rho_\theta = T_{\theta\#} \lambda \mid \theta \in \Theta\} \subset (\mathcal{P}, g^W)$$

For every  $\theta$ ,  $T_{\theta\#}$  also induces a push-forward of tangent vector  $\dot{\theta} \in T_\theta \Theta$  to  $(T_{\theta\#})_* \dot{\theta} \in T_{\rho_\theta} \mathcal{P}_\Theta$ .

# Parametrized Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow

Consider  $L = \mathcal{L} \circ (T_{\sharp}, (T_{\sharp})_*): \mathcal{T}\Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then:

$$L(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \mathcal{L}(\rho_\theta, \frac{\partial \rho_\theta}{\partial \theta} \dot{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\theta}^\top \mathbf{G}(\theta) \dot{\theta} - F(\theta),$$

with  $F(\theta) = \mathcal{F}(\rho_\theta)$ .

Here the metric tensor  $\mathbf{G}(\theta)$  is the analogy of  $g^W$  on  $\Theta$ :

$$\mathbf{G}(\theta) = \int \nabla \Psi_\theta \nabla \Psi_\theta^\top \rho_\theta \, dx$$

where  $-\nabla \cdot (\rho_\theta \nabla \psi_{\theta,i}) = -\nabla \cdot (\rho_\theta \partial_{\theta,i} T_\theta \odot T_\theta^{-1})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and  $\Psi_\theta = (\psi_{\theta,i})_i$ .

# Parametrized Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow

By taking  $p = \nabla_v L(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = G(\theta)\dot{\theta}$ , the related Hamiltonian is

$$H(\theta, p) = \dot{\theta}p - L(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2}p^\top G(\theta)^{-1}p + F(\theta).$$

The Hamiltonian system of  $H(\theta, p)$  is

$$\dot{\theta} = \nabla_p H(\theta, p) = G(\theta)^{-1}p,$$

$$\dot{p} = -\nabla_\theta H(\theta, p) = \frac{1}{2}[p^\top G(\theta)^{-\top} (\partial_{\theta_k} G(\theta)) G(\theta)^{-1} p]_{k=1}^m - \nabla_\theta F(\theta).$$

We call this ODE system the **Parametrized Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow**.

# Derivation of parametrized WH flow

Starting with a given Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}(\rho, \Phi)$



By taking Legendre Transform of  $\mathcal{H}$ , we obtain Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}(\rho, \partial_t \rho)$



Using  $\mathcal{L}$ , we can define  $L$  on  $T\Theta$  as  $L(\theta, \dot{\theta}) = \mathcal{L}((T_{\#}\lambda)(\theta), (T_{\theta}\# \lambda)_*\dot{\theta})$



Apply Legendre transform to  $L$ , we obtain the Hamiltonian  $H(\theta, p)$  on  $T^*\Theta$



We formulate the parameterized Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow as

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = \partial_p H(\theta(t), p(t)),$$

$$\dot{p}(t) = -\partial_\theta H(\theta(t), p(t)).$$

# Variant of Parametrized Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow

$G(\theta)$  is often difficult to compute.

We replace it with a simplified version

$$\widehat{G}(\theta) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_\theta T_\theta(z)^\top \partial_\theta T_\theta(z) d\lambda(z).$$

Either  $G(\theta)$  or  $\widehat{G}(\theta)$  could be degenerate for certain choices of  $T_\theta$ .  
We use its pseudo-inverse  $\widehat{G}(\theta)^\dagger$  to get a variant of parameterized  
WH flow:

$$\dot{\theta} = \widehat{G}(\theta)^\dagger p$$

$$\dot{p} = \frac{1}{2} [(\widehat{G}(\theta)^\dagger p)^\top (\partial_{\theta_k} \widehat{G}(\theta)) \widehat{G}(\theta)^\dagger p]_{k=1}^m - \nabla_\theta F(\theta)$$

It is also a *Hamiltonian system* with

$$H(\theta, p) = \frac{1}{2} p^\top \widehat{G}^\dagger p + F(\theta)$$

where  $p_0$  is in the range of  $\widehat{G}(\theta_0)$ .

# Symplectic integrator for PWHF

To solve parameterized WH flow, we use the *symplectic Euler scheme*:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\theta_{k+1} - \theta_k}{h} &= \nabla_p H(\theta_{k+1}, p_k) = \hat{G}(\theta_{k+1})^\dagger p_k, \\ \frac{p_{k+1} - p_k}{h} &= -\nabla_\theta H(\theta_{k+1}, p_k),\end{aligned}$$

The first equation is implicit and we solve it using least squares solver.

# Pushforward map

- ▶ Since the trajectory of the Hamiltonian flow can intersect in the configuration space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we don't require the pushforward map  $T_\theta$  to be invertible.
- ▶ There are different ways to choose  $T_\theta$ :
  - ▶  $T_\theta$ : Affine,  $T_\theta(x) = Ux + b$ ,  $\theta = (U, b)$ ,  $U \in GL_d(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ;
  - ▶  $T_\theta$ : Fourier series;
  - ▶  $T_\theta$ : Invertible neural networks such as normalizing flow;
  - ▶  $T_\theta$ : Non-invertible neural networks, for example, multi-layer perceptron (MLP)

# Harmonic Oscillator as Wasserstein Hamiltonian flow

Take the potential function and initial  $\Phi$  to be:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{1}{2} (a_i x_i)^2 \\ \Phi(0, x) &= \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{1}{2} b_i x_i^2 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Then the  $i$ -th component of solution is given as:

$$X_i(t, x) = \sqrt{1 + b_i^2} \cdot x_0^i \cdot \cos(|a_i| \cdot t - \arctan(b_i)) \tag{2}$$

In this example the solution  $\rho_t$  may develop singularity in finite time  $t_s$ , i.e., choose  $t_s = \frac{1}{|a_i|} (\frac{\pi}{2} + \arctan(b_i))$ , we have:

$$X_i(t_s, x) = 0 \text{ and } \rho_{t_s}(x) = \delta_0(x), \quad \forall x \tag{3}$$

## Examples 1: 2-D Harmonic Oscillator with linear pushforward map

We take  $d = 2$ ,  $V(x) = \frac{1}{2}(0.7x_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(0.6x_2)^2$ , we choose the affine transformation as the pushforward map:

$$T_\theta(z) = \Gamma z + b, \theta = (\Gamma, b), \Gamma \in R^{2 \times 2} \quad (4)$$

Assume the initial condition is:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_0 &= \mathcal{N}(\vec{0}, I), \quad \Phi_0(x) = -\frac{1}{2}x_1^2 \\ \theta_0 &= (\text{diag}(0.7, 0.6), \vec{0}), \quad p_0 = (\text{diag}(-0.7, 0), \vec{0}) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

## Examples 1: 2-D Harmonic Oscillator with linear pushforward map

We randomly choose a test sample, compare its trajectory with our network solution:

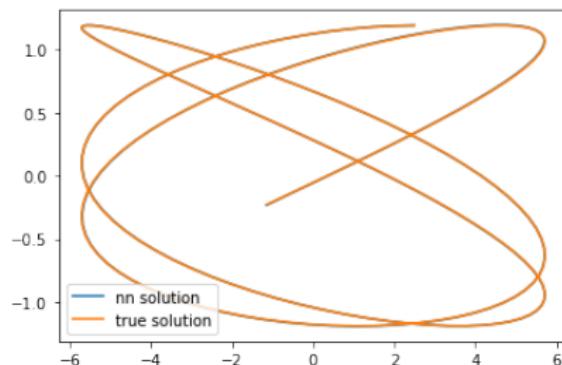


Figure: Trajectory under the Hamiltonian dynamics,  $t_1 = 20$

**Observation:** Our method can compute beyond the singular time of WHF.

## Examples 1: Verification of linear error against stepsize

We verify the solution error against stepsize on this example. We change the stepsize from 0.002 to 0.01 and plotted the error-stepsize curve. For convenience, we only consider the trajectory error here:

$$\text{error} = \sup_{0 < t < 1} \int ||X_t(z) - X_{\theta_t}(z)||_{l^2} p(z) dz \quad (6)$$

We can see the linear dependence in the results:

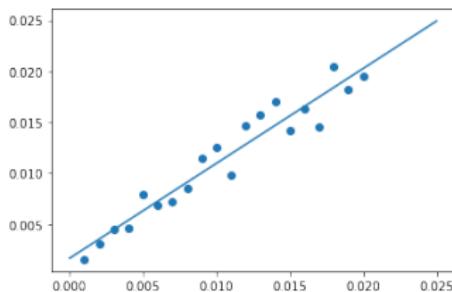


Figure: error vs stepsize  $\Delta t$

## Examples 1: Symplectic preservation of the symplectic Euler scheme

Here we compare our symplectic scheme with explicit Euler discretization on the harmonic oscillator example:

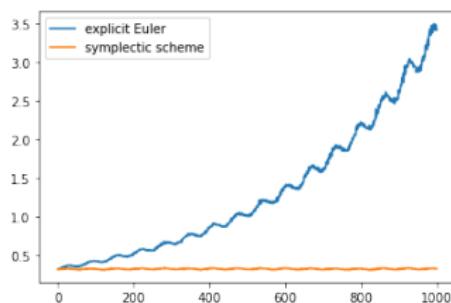


Figure: Hamiltonian, stepsize=0.1

## Examples 2: 2-dim Harmonic Oscillator with MLP pushforward map

We also run the experiments for a 2-dimensional harmonic oscillator. Take  $V(x) = \frac{1}{2}x_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}(0.75x_2)^2$ ,  $\Phi(0, x) = -\frac{1}{2}x_1^2$ .

Figure: Trajectory of a random initial point

## Examples 2: 10-dim Harmonic Oscillator with MLP pushforward map

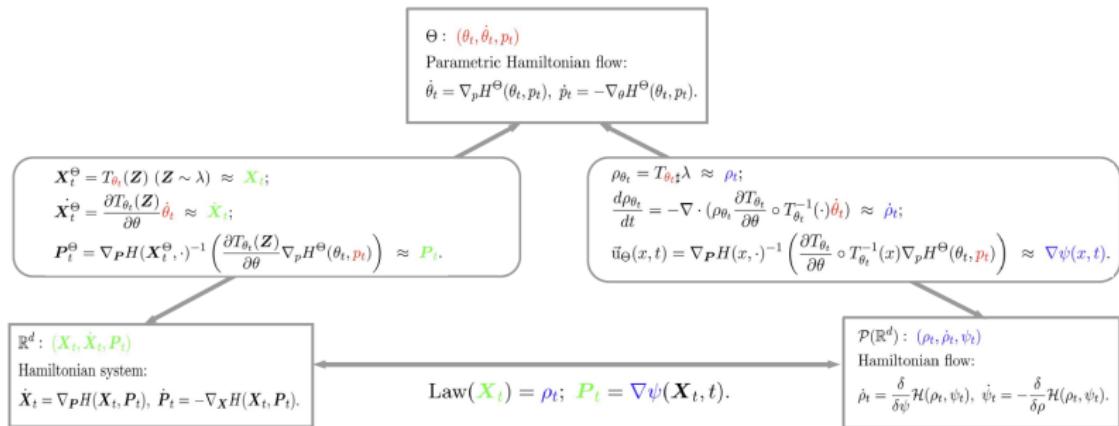
And here is an example of 10-dim harmonic oscillator . The following is projection of pushforward distribution compared to the true density function:

Figure: histogram: projection of pushforward distribution

# Summary

PWHF naturally builds the connection between Eulerian (PDE) formulation and Lagrangian (particle) formulation of physical systems:

## Parametric



Lagrangian

Eulerian

# Summary and Future work

## Possible future directions

- ▶ Experiments on other types of  $T_\theta$  such as Neural ODE;
- ▶ Apply the method to Schrödinger equation;
- ▶ Apply the method to more general Hamiltonian flows with non-quadratic kinetic energy. (In this case, the MINRES algorithm used in the symplectic Euler scheme should be replaced by a nonlinear solver, which could make the computation more challenging. )

Preprint at <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2306.00191.pdf>.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.

*Thank you!*