## Computational Optimal Transport

# Regularized Optimal Transport methods for solving variational Mean-Field Games

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## 1 Quadratic Mean-field games

A mean-field game [8, 9] is a strategic decision-making problem with a very large, continuously-distributed number of interacting agents inside a state space: the overall theory developed by Lasry and Lions can be used as a means to model large, computationally intractable games. In the continuous-time setting explored in [9], each agent evolves according to some dynamics – leading to a so-called differential game – with the response to his choices depends on other agents' states and actions through a mean-field effect.

The general setup of a MFG has every agent penalize a running cost on the control and mean-field interaction, as well as a terminal cost on the its final position and the overall final distribution of agents (see [9]). The framework of [3, 4] focuses on games with agent dynamics  $dX_t = \alpha_t dt + dW_t$  and quadratic running cost on the control  $\alpha$ 

$$\int_0^T L(\alpha_t) = \int_0^T \frac{\alpha_t^2}{2}$$

The (Nash) equilibrium agent-control dynamics can be summarized by the system of coupled nonlinear partial differential equations:

$$-\partial_t u - \frac{1}{2}\Delta u + \frac{1}{2}|\nabla u|^2 = f[\rho_t], \quad (t, x) \in (0, T) \times \Omega$$
 (1.1a)

$$\partial_t \rho_t - \frac{1}{2} \Delta \rho_t - \operatorname{div}(\rho_t \nabla u) = 0$$
(1.1b)

$$\rho_0$$
 given (1.1c)

$$u(T, \cdot) = g[\rho_T] \tag{1.1d}$$

where and  $t\mapsto \rho_t$  is a trajectory in the space of measures, and  $\Omega$  a subset of the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The applications  $f[\mu]$  and  $g[\mu]$  are supposed to be derivatives of some real-valued functionals F and G on the space of measures. For instance, if  $G(\mu)=\int_{\Omega}\Psi\,d\mu(x)$  then its derivative is  $g[\mu](x)=\Psi(x)$ .

Equations (1.1a) and (1.1b) form a coupled system of control (Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman) and diffusion (Fokker-Planck) partial differential equations. They can be solved in some cases using finite-difference methods (see Achdou, Camilli, and Capuzzo-Dolcetta [1]).

## 2 Variational formulations for the quadratic MFG

The first idea of [3] is to cast the MFG partial differential equations to a variational problem over an appropriate function space. Denote  $\mathbb{W}_2(\Omega) = (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{W}_2)$  the set of probability measures with finite second moment, equipped with the Wasserstein metric

$$W_2(\mu,\nu)^2 = \inf_{\gamma \in \Pi(\mu,\nu)} \int |x-y|^2 d\gamma \tag{2.1}$$

where  $\Pi(\mu,\nu) = \{ \gamma \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega \times \Omega) : P_\#^1 \gamma = \mu, \ P_\#^2 \gamma = \nu \}$  is the set of transport plants from  $\mu$  to  $\nu$ . Then,  $\mathcal{C}([0,T], \mathbb{W}_2(\Omega))$  is the Wiener space of continuous  $\mathbb{W}_2$ -valued trajectories. Benamou, Carlier, and Santambrogio [3] show that the MFG can be reformulated to the following variational problem:

$$\inf_{\rho,v} J(\rho,v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |v_t|^2 d\rho_t(x) dt + \int_0^T F(\rho_t) dt + G(\rho_T)$$
s.t.  $\partial_t \rho_t - \frac{1}{2} \Delta \rho_t + \operatorname{div}(\rho_t v) = 0$ 

$$\rho_0 \in \mathbb{W}_2(\Omega)$$
(2.2)

where  $\rho = (\rho_t)_{t \in [0,T]} \in \mathcal{C}([0,T], \mathbb{W}_2(\Omega))$  is a trajectory in  $\mathbb{W}_2$  and v is a sufficiently regular function on  $[0,T] \times \Omega$ , most likely lying in a Sobolev space – see [3] for further discussion on regularity.

This point of view [3] is called *Eulerian*: we minimize over both the velocity v and the time-trajectory of the agents' density  $\rho$ . This can be solved by introducing Lagrange multipliers, exploiting duality, and using a finite element method, as shown in [3].

Benamou, Carlier, and Santambrogio [3] and Benamou et al. [4] also introduce a *Lagrangian* point of view, which allows to use tools from optimal transport theory: the variational problem is changed to optimize over the space of probability distributions on the space of agent trajectories.

#### 2.1 Lagrangian formulation

Wiener space and measure. This new point of view involves a change in function spaces. We denote  $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{C}([0,T],\Omega)$  the Wiener space of (agents') trajectories  $[0,T] \to \Omega$ . Following [3,2], we equip it with the Wiener measure (the law of a Wiener process with any starting point x)

$$R = \int_{\Omega} \delta_{x+W} \, dx$$

where W is a standard Wiener process in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . It is an analogue in the space  $\mathcal{X}$  to the usual finite-dimensional Lebesgue measure<sup>1</sup>.

Measures  $Q \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  can also be seen as trajectories  $(Q_t)_{t \in [0,T]}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  with

$$Q_t = e_{t\#}Q \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$$

the push-forward of Q by the evaluation map  $e_t : \xi \in \mathcal{X} \longmapsto \xi(t)$ . This naturally defines an injection  $\underline{i} : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \to \mathcal{C}([0,T],\mathcal{P}(\Omega))$ . We also introduce the more general marginals  $Q_{t_1,\dots,t_n} = (e_{t_1},\dots,e_{t_n})_{\#}Q$  for  $0 \le t_1 < \dots < t_N \le T$ .

Marginals of the Wiener measure. In particular,  $R_t$  is the Lebesgue measure  $\mathcal{L}^d$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and we have that the final marginals have densities:

$$R_{s,t}(x,y) = P_{t-s}(y-x). (2.3)$$

where  $P_t$  is the standard d-dimensional heat kernel:

$$P_t(u) = \frac{1}{(2\pi t)^{d/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{|u|^2}{2t}\right)$$
 (2.4)

The N-marginals are given by

$$R_{t_1,\dots,t_N}(x_1,\dots,x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{N-1} P_h(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$
(2.5)

Benamou, Carlier, and Santambrogio [3] and Benamou and Carlier [2] then re-cast the Eulerian variational game (2.2) into a Lagrangian optimization problem over the set of Borel probability measures. This new problem is also solved in [3] using a finite element method.

**Integration** Partial integration with respect to the 2-marginal measure  $R_{0,h}$  is actually convolution with respect to the heat kernel  $P_h$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} u(x) R_{0,h}(x,y) \, dx = \int_{\Omega} u(x) P_h(y-x) \, dx = (u * P_h)(y)$$

The effect of integration against the N-marginal can then be deduced by induction.

#### 2.2 Entropic Lagrangian

Instead of using finite element methods, Benamou et al. [4] propose using an entropy minimization approach to allow for a more computationally efficient method adapted from the Sinkhorn algorithm introduced by Cuturi [6]. This method introduces entropic regularization in the problem, but this time on the measure over the trajectory space

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infinite-dimensional\_Lebesgue\_measure

 $\mathcal{X}$ . The resulting numerical algorithm becomes a regularization of the Lagrangian from [3, 2].

The entropic Lagrangian variational problem is

$$\inf_{Q \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} H(Q|R) + \int_0^T F(Q_t) \, dt + G(Q_T) \quad \text{s.t. } Q_0 = \rho_0$$
 (2.6)

Intuitively, this is the same as fixing the marginals  $\rho_t$ , finding the optimal bridge Q between them that has minimal entropy relative to the Wiener measure, and then optimizing over the  $\rho_t$ .

#### 2.3 Viscosity and the deterministic limit

We change the MFG problem to one following the agent dynamics  $dX_t = \alpha_t dt + \sigma dW_t$  with a diffusion coefficient  $\sigma$ . The MFG equilibrium equations become

$$-\partial_t u - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta u + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla u|^2 = f[\rho_t]$$

$$\partial_t \rho - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \rho - \operatorname{div}(\rho \nabla u) = 0$$
(2.7)

This can be used to approximate first-order MFGs by setting a low viscosity parameter  $\sigma$ . Denoting  $\varepsilon = \sigma^2$ , the entropic variational problem (2.6) becomes

$$\inf_{Q \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} \varepsilon H(Q|\mathbf{R}_{\varepsilon}) + \int_{0}^{T} F(Q_{t}) dt + G(Q_{T}) \quad \text{s.t. } Q_{0} = \rho_{0}$$
 (2.8)

where  $R_{\varepsilon}$  is the Wiener measure associated with Wiener processes scaled by  $\varepsilon$ .

## 3 Numerical algorithm

#### 3.1 Time discretization

Let N be the number of discrete steps for the time discretization of the problem, and h = T/N the time step.

Benamou et al. [4] propose a discretization of (2.6) obtained by connecting the marginals through a multimarginal OT problem:

$$S(\mu_0, \dots, \mu_N) = \inf_{\gamma \in \Pi(\mu_0, \dots, \mu_N)} H(\gamma | R^N)$$
(3.1)

where  $t_k = kh$ ,  $R^N = R_{t_0,...,t_N}$  and the marginals  $\mu_k \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ . Then, define

$$\mathcal{U}(\mu_0, \dots, \mu_N) = h \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} F(\mu_k) + G(\mu_N).$$
 (3.2)

Thus, the discretized entropy minimization problem can be written as

inf 
$$\{S(\mu_0, \dots, \mu_N) + \mathcal{U}(\mu_0, \dots, \mu_N) : \mu_k \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \ \mu_0 = \rho_0\}$$
.

Expanding the inf-within-inf leads to the following convex optimization problem:

$$\inf_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega^{N+1})} \text{KL}(\gamma | R^N) + \iota_{\rho_0}(\mu_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} F(\mu_k) + G(\mu_N)$$
s.t.  $\mu_k = P_{\#}^k \gamma$  (3.3)

where  $i_{\rho_0}(\mu) = +\infty$  if  $\mu \neq \rho_0$  and 0 otherwise is the convex indicatrix of the measure  $\rho_0$ . This is a generalized multimarginal optimal transport problem.

Benamou et al. [4] provide the corresponding dual problem involving the convex conjugates and potential functions, by using a multimarginal generalization of a result from Chizat et al. [5]:

$$\sup_{u} \int_{\Omega^{N+1}} \left( 1 - \exp\left(\bigoplus_{k=0}^{N} u_k\right) \right) dR^N - i_{\rho_0}^*(-u_0) - \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} F^*(-u_k) - G^*(-u_N)$$
 (3.4)

where the supremum is taken over  $u = (u_0, \dots, u_N) \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)^{N+1}$ .

Benamou et al. [4] introduce a Sinkhorn-like iterative algorithm to solve the above dual problem. We rewrite it more explicitly with slightly different notations inspired by [5].

**Algorithm 1.** Denote for k = 0, ..., N and  $(a_j)_{j \neq k}$ 

$$\mathcal{I}_{k}((a_{j})_{j \neq k})(\tilde{x}_{k}) = \int_{\Omega^{N}} \prod_{j \neq k} a_{j}(x_{j}) R^{N}(dx_{0:k-1}, \tilde{x}_{k}, dx_{k+1:N})$$

the partial integral of the  $a_j, j \neq k$  with respect to  $R^N$  without variable  $x_k$ . For convenience we use the shorthand

$$\mathcal{I}_{k}^{(n)} = \mathcal{I}_{k} \left( \left( a_{j}^{(n+1)} \right)_{j < k}, \left( a_{j}^{(n)} \right)_{j > k} \right)$$

for the nth iterate where we denote  $a_j = \exp(-u_j)$ .

Then we compute the dual potentials iteratively:

$$\begin{cases} u_0^{(n+1)} = \underset{v \in L^{\infty}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \int_{\Omega} (1 - e^{-v(x_0)}) \mathcal{I}_0^{(n)} dx_0 - \imath_{\rho_0}^*(v) \\ u_k^{(n+1)} = \underset{v \in L^{\infty}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \int_{\Omega} (1 - e^{-v(x_k)}) \mathcal{I}_k^{(n)} dx_k - h F^*(v), \quad 1 \le k < N \\ u_N^{(n+1)} = \underset{v \in L^{\infty}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \int_{\Omega} (1 - e^{-v(x_N)}) \mathcal{I}_N^{(n)} dx_N - G^*(v) \end{cases}$$
(3.5)

until convergence.

Using duality, we find that the iterates  $u_k^{(n)}$  satisfy

$$a_k^{(n)} = \exp\left(-u_k^{(n)}\right) = \frac{\operatorname{prox}_{F_k}^{\mathrm{KL}}(\mathcal{I}_k^{(n)})}{\mathcal{I}_k^{(n)}}$$
(3.6)

where

$$\operatorname{prox}_F^{\operatorname{KL}}(z) = \operatorname*{argmin}_s F(s) + \operatorname{KL}(s|z)$$

is the KL-proximal operator.

**Remark 1** (Some convex conjugates). In practice, the convex conjugates of the cost functions are difficult to compute. For some of the examples in the paper, we have closed-form conjugates.

- The conjugate of the convex indicatrix  $i_{\nu}$  of any measure  $\nu$  is given by  $i_{\nu}^{*}(u) = \langle u, \nu \rangle$ .
- The hard congestion constraint

$$C(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \rho \le \bar{m} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

has convex conjugate (on the domain  $\rho \geq 0$ )

$$C^*(u) = \sup_{\rho \le \bar{m}} \langle u, \rho \rangle = \langle u^+, \bar{m} \mathbb{1} \rangle$$

• Obstacle constraints, given by

$$F(\rho) = \int_{\Omega} V(x) \, d\rho(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \rho = 0 \text{ on } \mathscr{O} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = \imath_0(\mathbb{1}_{\mathscr{O}}\rho)$$

where V is the convex indicatrix of the complement  $\Omega \backslash \mathscr{O}$  of the obstacles. Its conjugate is given by

$$F^*(u) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u \leq 0 \text{ on } \Omega \backslash \mathscr{O} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

#### 3.2 Spatial discretization

For full numerical implementation, all measures are replaced by multi-dimensional arrays representing discrete histograms over a fixed grid of points  $x_i$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  of size  $M = N_1 \times \cdots \times N_d$ , and we naturally exchange convolution with the heat kernel for discrete convolution. This will be the main computational issue.

**Projections.** In the general case, the KL-projections in the Sinkhorn iterations can be solved using the Python library CVXPY<sup>2,3</sup>. Some can be computed explicitly.

**Proposition 1.** The KL-projection on the hard congestion constraint of a measure  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^M$  is given by

$$\operatorname{prox}_{C}^{\mathrm{KL}}(\beta) = \min(\beta, \overline{m}) \tag{3.7}$$

where the minimum is taken element-wise.

The KL-projection on the obstacle constraint is

$$\operatorname{prox}^{\operatorname{KL}}(\beta) = \beta \mathbb{1}_{\Omega \setminus \mathscr{O}} \tag{3.8}$$

If we also add the obstacle constraint on a set  $\mathcal O$  of points in the grid, then the proximal operator reads

$$\operatorname{prox}_{F}^{\mathrm{KL}}(\beta) = \min(\beta, \bar{m}) \mathbb{1}_{\Omega \setminus \mathcal{O}}. \tag{3.9}$$

**Efficient convolution.** Denote  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{M^N}$  the discretized measure  $R^N$ . Summation of multiple vectors  $u_0, \ldots, u_N$  with respect to  $\mathbf{R}$  is the following tensor contraction

$$\mathbf{R}[u_0, \dots, u_N] = \sum_{i_0, \dots, i_N} \mathbf{R}_{i_0, \dots, i_N} \prod_{k=0}^N u_{i_k}$$

The multi-marginal kernel **R** can be factorized as  $\mathbf{R}_{i_0,\dots,i_N} = \prod_{k=0}^{N-1} \mathbf{P}_{i_k,i_{k+1}}$  where **P** is the discrete heat kernel on  $\mathbb{R}^M$ . This allows us to write the partial convolution  $\mathcal{I}_k$  (leaving the kth component out) as

$$\mathcal{I}_k = \mathbf{R}[(u_j)_{j \neq k}] = \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \odot \mathbf{B}_{k+1}$$
(3.10)

where  $\mathbf{A}_k = \mathbf{P}^T(a_k \odot \mathbf{P}^T(a_{k-1} \odot \cdots))$  and  $\mathbf{B}_k = \mathbf{P}(a_k \odot \mathbf{P}(a_{k+1} \odot \cdots))$ .

## 4 Examples

#### 4.1 Transport with a soft target

#### 4.1.1 Two-marginal case

We start with a very simplified approximation of the crowd displacement problem on  $\Omega = [0, 1]^2$ , with only the first step (with initial agent distribution) and final step decided by the terminal penalty function G.

We set G to be the obstacle constraint related to a subset  $\mathscr{O}$  of  $\Omega$  as well as a potential  $\Psi(x) = d(x, \mathscr{A})^{\beta}$  for some  $\beta > 0$ , related to the distance to a target subset  $\mathscr{A}$  (see fig. 1):

$$G(\mu) = \int_{\Omega} \Psi \, d\mu + \imath_0(\mu \mathbb{1}_{\mathscr{O}})$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://github.com/cvxgrp/cvxpy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Steven Diamond and Stephen Boyd. "CVXPY: A Python-Embedded Modeling Language for Convex Optimization". In: *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 17.83 (2016), pp. 1–5.

Thus, the agents engage in a one-round mean-field game where they are only concerned with moving to regions with lower potential  $\Psi$  – as close as possible to  $\mathscr{A}$  – whilst obeying physical constraints related to the obstacles.

The discretized MFG problem with viscosity parameter  $\varepsilon = \sigma^2$  can be written as the following transport problem:

$$\inf_{\gamma} \langle \Psi, \gamma^T \mathbb{1} \rangle + \varepsilon \operatorname{KL}(\gamma | \mathbf{R})$$
s.t.  $\gamma \mathbb{1} = \rho_0, \quad \gamma^T \mathbb{1} \odot \mathbb{1}_{\mathscr{Q}} = 0$  (4.1)

In this two-marginal case, the matrix  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{P}$  is the discretization of the heat kernel  $P_h$  as discussed in section 3.2:

$$\mathbf{R}_{i,j} = P_{h\varepsilon}(x_j - x_i)$$

for all grid indices i, j.

In this problem we want to observe the optimal target distribution  $\rho_1^* = (\gamma^*)^T \mathbb{1}$  the agents reach at the final time t = 1.

**Proposition 2.** Problem (4.1) can be solved in closed form: the Lagrange multiplier  $u_0^*$  for the marginal law constraint satisfies

$$a_0^* = e^{-u_0^*/\varepsilon} = \frac{\rho_0}{\mathbf{R}a_1^*}$$

where  $a_1^* = e^{-\Psi/\varepsilon} \odot \mathbb{1}_{\Omega \setminus \mathscr{O}}$ , and the optimal coupling is

$$\gamma^* = \mathbf{R} \odot (a_0^* \otimes a_1^*)$$

It satisfies, as expected, that  $\gamma_{i,j}^* = 0$  for all  $j \in \mathcal{O}$ . The final distribution of agents is

$$\rho_1 = \gamma^T \mathbb{1} = a_1^* \odot \mathbf{R} a_0^*$$

Numerical experiment We ran a numerical experiment by implementing the solutions given by proposition 2 to the discrete MFG (4.1). fig. 2a provides a representation of both . We also checked the results when removing the constraints on the obstacles (essentially setting  $\mathcal{O}$ ), and when lowering the viscosity parameter  $\sigma = \sqrt{\varepsilon}$  (see figs. 2b and 2c).

Since the kernel  ${\bf R}$  on the domain is separable, the convolution can be sped up [10, ch. 4].

Remark 2 (A "smarter" (more realistic) potential for crowd dynamics). The results shown fig. 2 are satisfactory for the given potential  $\Psi$  – as expected the agents try to stay near the low-potential regions. However, for modeling of crowd dynamics they would be deeply nonphysical because the potential is inadequate. In a room evacuation scenario, for instance, agents would seek to minimize the time-to-exit: the literature shows this leads to the Eikonal equation, a kind of Hamilton-Jacobi PDE. We computed the adequate potential shown fig. 3a using the Fast Sweeping method [11], as well as the discrete MFG fig. 3b.

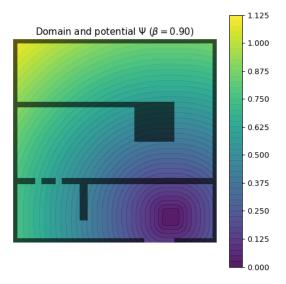


Figure 1: Computational domain of the game  $\Omega$  with set of obstacles  $\mathscr{O}$  (transparent grey), and contour of the potential function  $\Psi(x) = d(x, \mathscr{A})^{\beta}$ .

#### 4.1.2 Three time steps

We now go up to three marginals  $(\rho_0, \rho_1, \rho_2)$ . We assign to the single intermediate marginal  $\rho_1$  the congestion constraint  $\rho_1 \leq \bar{m}$  and the obstacle constraint. The primal problem then reads

$$\inf_{\gamma,\rho_{1},\rho_{2}} \langle \Psi, \rho_{2} \rangle + \varepsilon \operatorname{KL}(\gamma | \mathbf{R})$$
s.t.  $P_{\#}^{k} \gamma = \rho_{k}, \ k = 0, 1, 2$ 

$$\rho_{1} \leq \bar{m}$$

$$\rho_{1} \odot \mathbb{1}_{\mathscr{O}} = 0$$

$$\rho_{2} \odot \mathbb{1}_{\mathscr{O}} = 0$$
(4.2)

Contraction/convolution with the kernel R in this case satisfies

$$\mathbf{R}[\cdot, v, w] = \mathbf{P}(v \odot \mathbf{P}w)$$

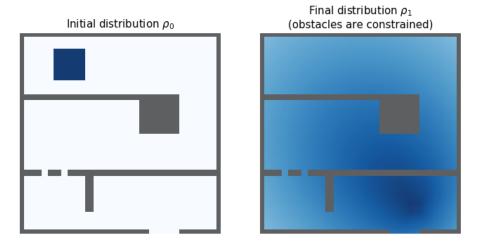
$$\mathbf{R}[u, \cdot, w] = (\mathbf{P}^T u) \odot (\mathbf{P}w)$$

$$\mathbf{R}[u, v, \cdot] = \mathbf{P}^T (v \odot \mathbf{P}^T u)$$

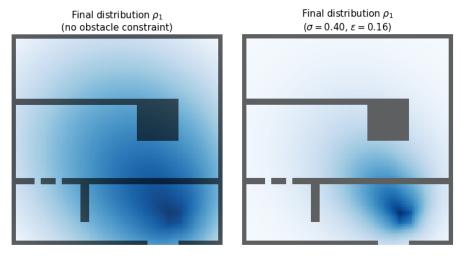
**Proposition 3.** The Lagrange multipliers  $u_i^*$  at the optimum satisfy the fixed-point conditions:

$$a_0^* = \frac{\rho_0}{\mathbf{R}[\cdot, a_1^*, a_2^*]}$$

$$a_1^* = \min\left(\frac{\bar{m}}{\mathbf{R}[a_0^*, \cdot, a_2^*]}, 1\right)$$

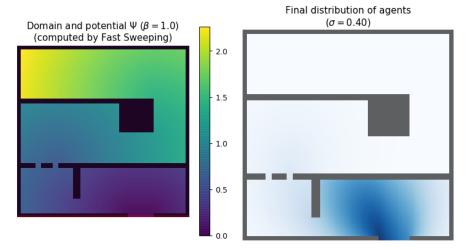


(a) Result of the "fuzzy" transport problem with enforcement of the obstacle constraints and viscosity parameter  $\sigma=1.$ 



(b) Final distribution  $\rho_1^*$  without en- (c) Obstacles are constrained as in forcing the obstacles. The mass of the fig. 2a, but with viscosity parameter distribution "bleeds" through the ob-  $\sigma=0.4$ . stacles.

Figure 2: Marginal distributions of the solution of two-step MFG or "fuzzy transport" problem (4.1), with a few variations.



(a) Domain and potential associated (b) Optimal terminal distribution  $\rho_1^*$  with the fastest path distance. of the discrete MFG with the potential from fig. 3a.

Figure 3: Setup and solution for the discrete MFG using the time-to-exit potential discussed in remark 2.

where  $a_i^* = \exp(-u_i^*)$ ,  $a_1^*$  is supported on  $\Omega \setminus \mathcal{O}$  and  $a_2^* = e^{-\Psi/\varepsilon} \odot \mathbb{1}_{\Omega \setminus \mathcal{O}}$ , and we denote  $\mathbf{R}[\cdot,\cdot,\cdot]$  the appropriate tensor contraction by  $\mathbf{R}$ .

The marginals are obtained as

$$\rho_1^* = a_1^* \odot \mathbf{R}[a_0^*, \cdot, a_2^*] = a_1^* \odot (\mathbf{P}^T a_0^*) \odot (\mathbf{P} a_2^*)$$

and

$$\rho_2^* = a_2^* \odot \mathbf{R}[a_0^*, a_1^*, \, \cdot \,] = a_2^* \odot \mathbf{P}^T(a_1^* \odot \mathbf{P}^T a_0^*)$$

The fixed point can then computed using an iterative algorithm à la generalized Sinkhorn, just as in the Algorithm 1 suggested by [4].

The issue of computational efficiency is more pronounced here than before due to the tensor product and need for multiple iterations until convergence.

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