

# OT-based Distillation

How to formulate LM-RNN distillation as an optimal transport problem,  
more precisely, a fused gromov wasserstein 1-barycenter problem,  
with a single distribution and no marginal constraint on the barycenter.

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# LM-RNN Distillation Reminders

We start from a learned recurrent model      (*presentation by Sri*)

- We can sample sequences on demand
- We gather an "infinity" of (*one for every token in every sequence we generate*)
  - **points** / latent vectors / hidden states: the internal representation of the LM-RNN
  - **edges** / transitions: from a point to another, annotated with a token/letter

Goal: use this dataset to "learn" an automata (PFA)

Remarks

- a good baseline is k-means + stats on transitions
- the actual graph is a tree (but we don't use that)

# (Wasserstein) Barycenter

Given  $B$  distributions  $\{\mu^b\}_b$ , and weights  $\{\lambda_b\}_b$  (with  $\sum_b \lambda_b \neq 0$ )

$$\arg \min_{\nu} \sum_{b=1}^B \lambda_b W(\mu^b, \nu)$$

1-barycenter,  $B = 1$

$$\arg \min_{\nu} W(\mu, \nu)$$

We can parametrize/constrain the form  $\nu$  (e.g. few discrete diracs, small graph for GW, ...)

# K-means

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{c}_k\}_k, \{\mathbf{z}_i\}_i} \sum_{i=1}^N d(x_i, \mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{z}_i})^2$$

- $\mathbf{c}_k$ : position of the  $k^{th}$  cluster mean
- $\mathbf{z}_i$ : index of the center that is closest to point  $x_i$

# Wasserstein 1-Barycenter

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{c}_k\}_k, \mathbf{T} \in \Pi} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K d(x_i, \mathbf{c}_k)^2 \mathbf{T}_{ik}$$

- $\mathbf{c}_k$  the position of the  $k^{th}$  cluster mean
- $\mathbf{T}_{ik}$  the mass of point  $i$  that is sent to center  $k$ 
  - considering the vector  $T_i$ .
  - the optimal is
    - to set the whole mass to the closest  $k$
    - i.e.,  $\mathbf{T}_{ik} = 0, \forall k \neq \mathbf{z}_i$
- Notes on  $\Pi$ 
  - we do not constrain/fix the marginal "on  $k$ "  
(the cluster mass/weight is not fixed)

# Fused-GW 1-Barycenter

The formulation that does distillation.

Principle: a 1-barycenter formulation, with

- a Wasserstein term (k-means like)
  - data:  $\{x_i\}_i$  in the latent space
  - barycenter: "cluster means"  $\{\mathbf{c}_k\}_k$  in the latent space
- a Gromov-Wasserstein term (graph reduction)
  - data:  $\{d_{ii'}\}_{i,i'}$  observed transitions (token, one-hot encoded)
  - barycenter with edges between clusters described with  $\{d_{kk'}\}_{k,k'}$  (distribution)
  - a loss  $l_{\text{comp}}$ , to be defined, unperfectly set to  $l_2^2$  for now
- a weighting of these two terms, controlled by  $\alpha$ , an hyper-parameter

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{c}_k\}_k, \{d_{kk'}\}_{k,k'}, \mathbf{T} \in \Pi} \alpha \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K d(x_i, \mathbf{c}_k)^2 \mathbf{T}_{ik} + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{i'=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K l_{\text{comp}}(d_{ii'}, d_{kk'}) \mathbf{T}_{ik} \mathbf{T}_{i'k'}$$

# Optimization Algorithm

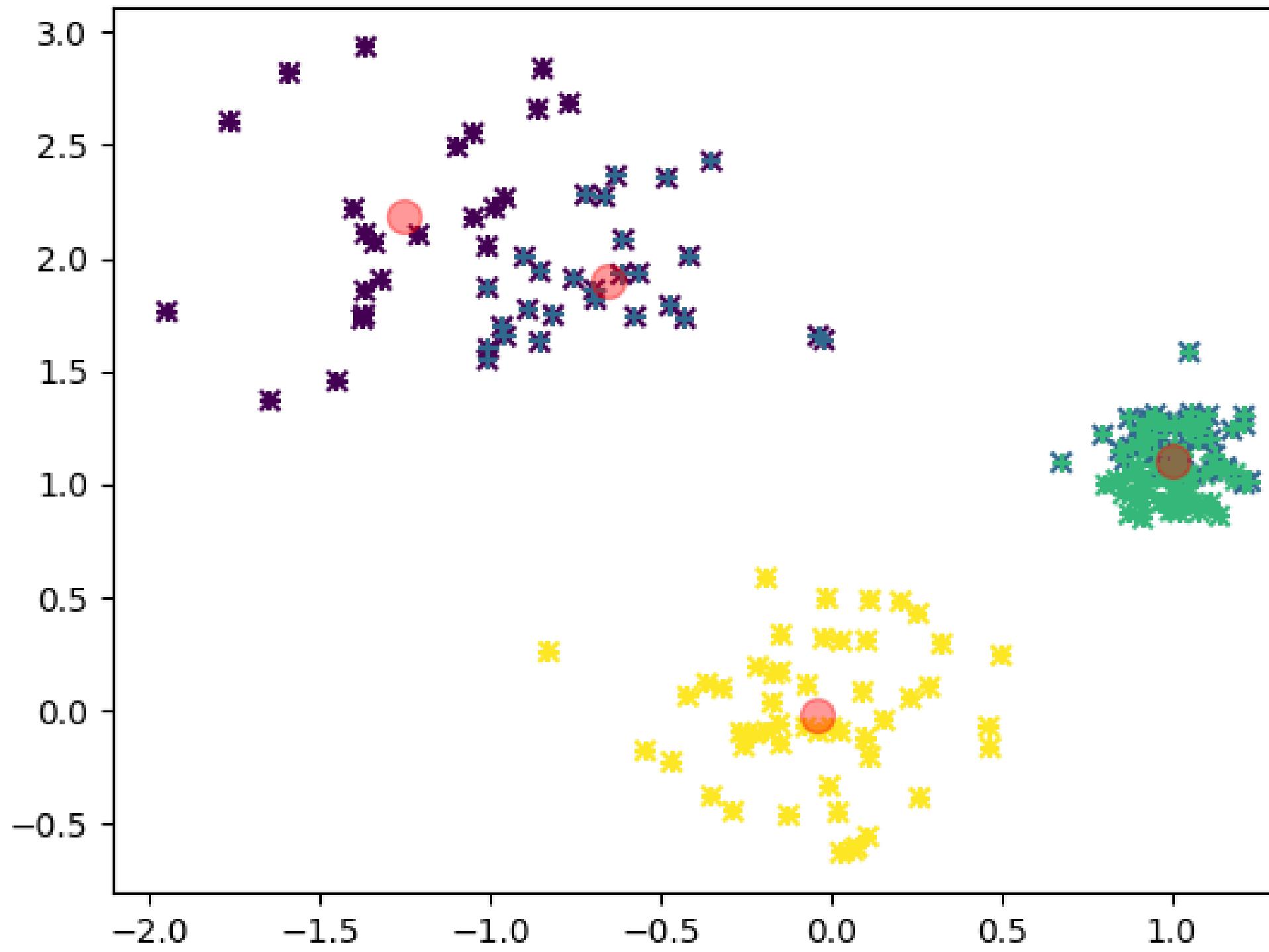
Alternating estimation of  $\mathbf{T}$  and  $\{\mathbf{c}_k, d_{kk'}\}$       Credit: Tanguy Kerdoncuff

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{c}_k\}_k, \{d_{kk'}\}_{k,k'}, \mathbf{T} \in \Pi} \alpha \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K d(x_i, \mathbf{c}_k)^2 T_{ik} + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{i'=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K l_{\text{comp}}(d_{ii'}, d_{kk'}) T_{ik} T_{i'k'}$$

- Initialize with a random  $\mathbf{T}$
- Repeat
  - update, with  $\mathbf{T}$  fixed
    - $\mathbf{c}_k$  as T-weighted means (1)
    - $d_{kk'}$  as in GW 1-barycenter (2)
  - update  $\mathbf{T}$  with the rest fixed (3)
    - using Frank-Wolfe

(repeat with several initializations)

# Illustration with $\alpha = 1.000$ (k-means)



# Issues / TO DO

- Used  $l_2^2$  for  $l_{\text{comp}}$  -> use a KL
- Scalability -> stochastic version
- Tested on synthetic data -> move to real data
- PFA -> sparsity-inducing  $l_{\text{comp}}$  to have a DFA
- more ideas? suggestions?

A photograph of a forest path. In the foreground, a large, mossy log lies across the path. To its left, another tree trunk stands vertically. The path itself is made of wooden planks and leads into a dense background of green trees.

Discussion, Questions?