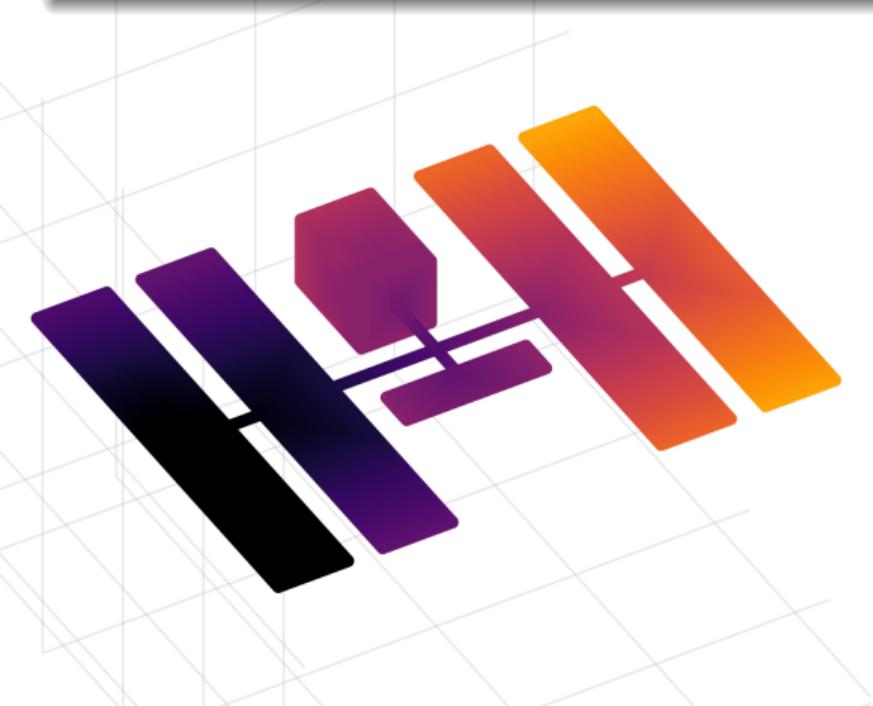


Optimal control problems and Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equations in some curved metric spaces



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supervised by
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June 19, 2025

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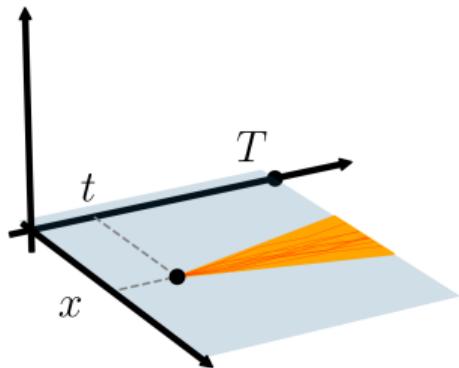
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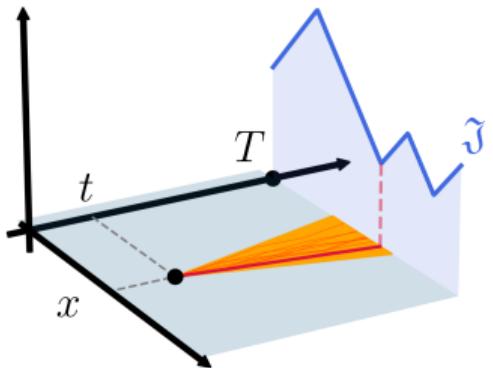
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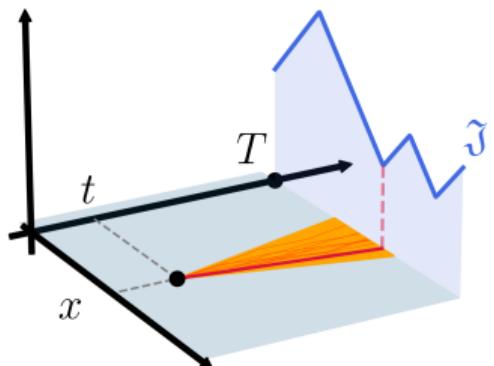
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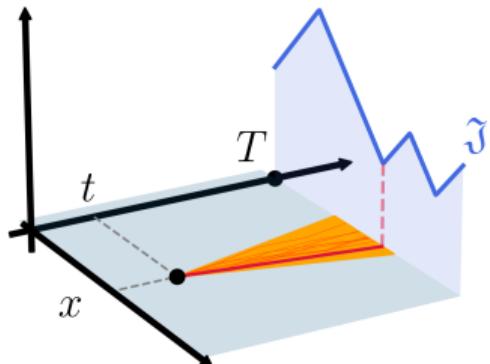
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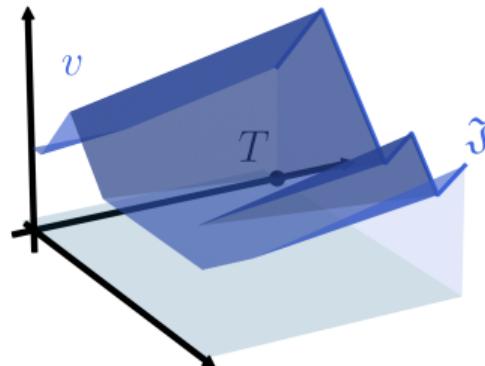
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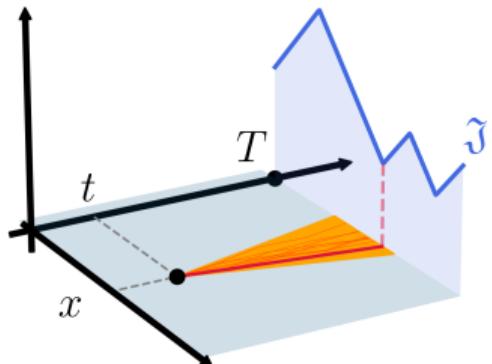
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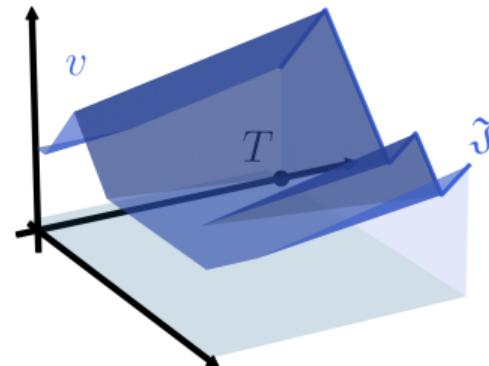
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Control of measures [CQ08,
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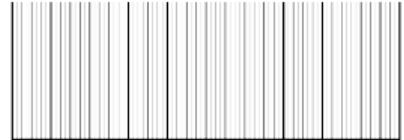
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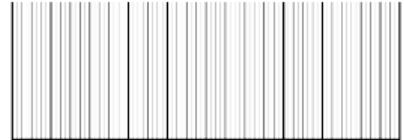
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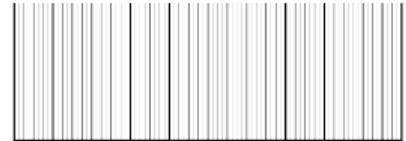
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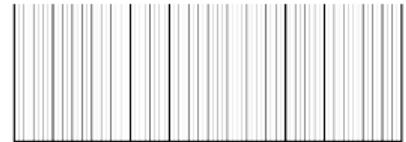


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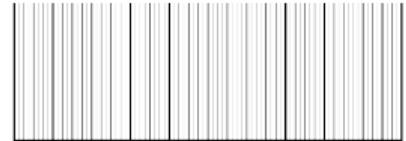


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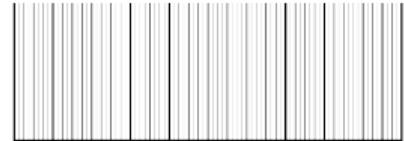


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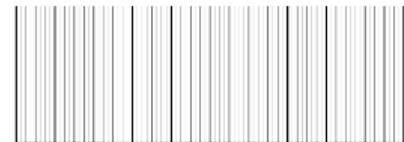
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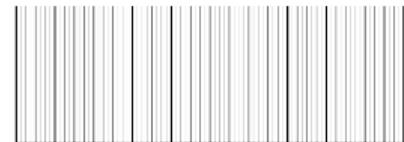
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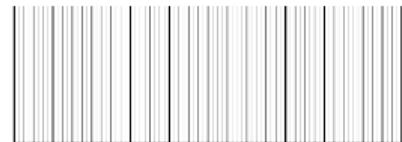
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Combining properties of gradient flows and mutations, well-posedness.

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- consider a sequence $(y_n, \dot{y}_n)_n$ of solutions,
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Here $y_n^+(s) \in T_{y_n(s)}\Omega$, not Hilbert.

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Here $y_n^+(s) \in T_{y_n(s)}\Omega$, not Hilbert. Reformulation:

Proposition For such f , y solves $\dot{y}_t \cap f(y_t) \neq \emptyset$ iff some measurable selection $(E_t)_t$ of $t \mapsto f(y_t)$ satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{d^2(y_t, z)}{2} \leq E_t(y_t) - E_t(z) \quad \forall z, \text{ for a.e. } t.$$

Existence in the optimal control problem

In \mathbb{R}^d , the set of solutions of $\dot{y}_s \in f(y_s)$ is closed if $f(x)$ is closed and *convex* (Filippov-Aumann).

Def Define $\overline{\text{conv}}f(x)$ in Lipschitz DC functions endowed with $\|\cdot\|_{1,\infty}$.

THEOREM Assume $f : \Omega \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ locally Lipschitz with linear growth. The set of trajectories of $\overline{\text{conv}}f$ issued from $x \in \Omega$ is compact, and is the closure in $\text{AC}([0, T]; \Omega)$ of the trajectories of f .

Usual argument:

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This definition supports a strong comparison principle (Theorem 3.1.12, [AJZ24]).

Application to the Wasserstein space

$(\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d), d_{\mathcal{W}})$ is CBB(0), so we can turn to the Mayer problem

Minimize $\mathfrak{J}(\mu_T^{0,\nu,u})$ over $u \in L^1(0, T; U)$, subject to $\partial_s \mu_s + \operatorname{div}(f[\mu_s, u(s)] \cdot \mu_s) = 0$ and $\mu_0 = \nu$.

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THEOREM Assume f, \mathfrak{J} Lipschitz. Then the value function V is the unique viscosity solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\partial_t v(t, \mu) + H(\mu, D_\mu v(t, \mu)) = 0 \\ v(T, \cdot) = \mathfrak{J} \end{cases}$$

where $H(\mu, p) := \sup_{b \in \overline{\operatorname{conv}} f[\mu, U]} -p(\pi_T^\mu b)$.

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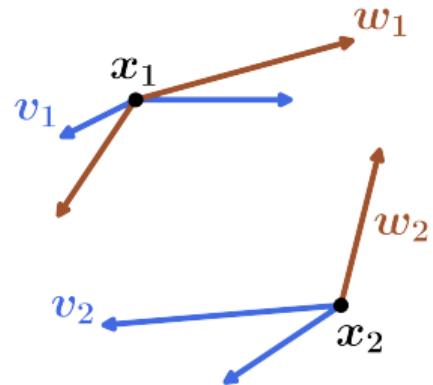
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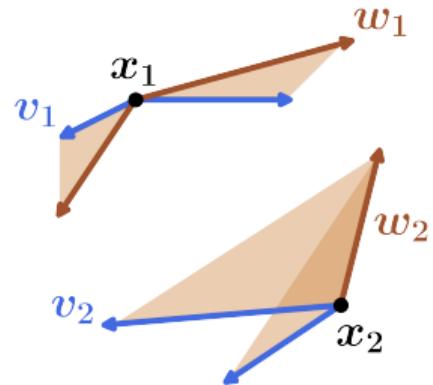
$$\Gamma_\mu(\xi, \zeta) := \left\{ \alpha = \alpha(dx, dv, dw) \mid (\pi_x, \pi_v)_\# \alpha = \xi, (\pi_x, \pi_w)_\# \alpha = \zeta \right\},$$



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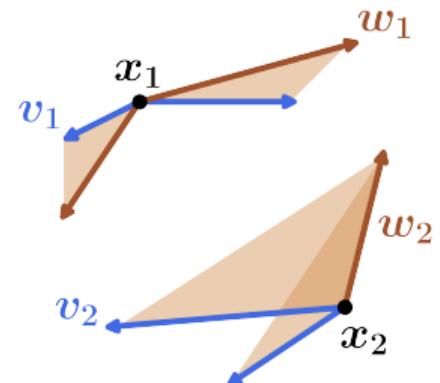


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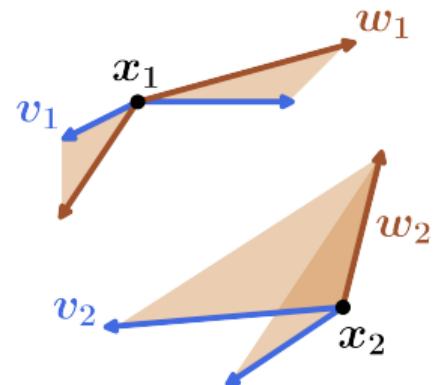
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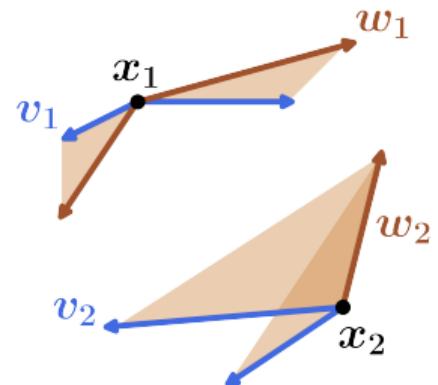
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Def The tangent cone \mathbf{Tan}_μ is

$$\overline{\left\{ \lambda \cdot \xi \in \mathcal{P}_2(T\mathbb{R}^d)_\mu \mid (\pi_x, \pi_x + \pi_v)_\# \xi \text{ opt, } \lambda \geq 0 \right\}}^{W_\mu}.$$

Def The solenoidal cone \mathbf{Sol}_μ is

$$\left\{ \zeta \in \mathcal{P}_2(T\mathbb{R}^d)_\mu \mid \langle \xi, \zeta \rangle_\mu = 0 \quad \forall \xi \in \mathbf{Tan}_\mu \right\}.$$

Classification

Denote by $h \mapsto \exp_\mu(h \cdot \xi) := (\pi_x + h\pi_v)_\# \xi$ the exponential of $\xi \in \mathcal{P}_2(T\mathbb{R}^d)_\mu$.

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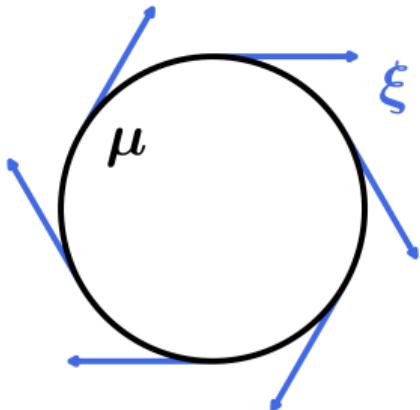
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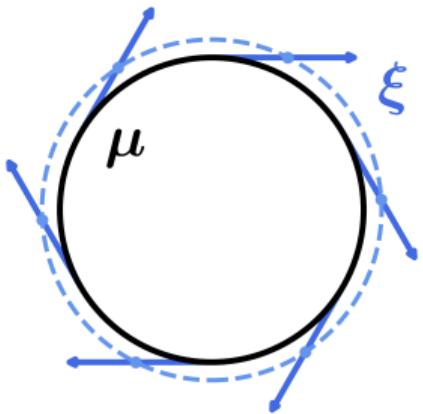
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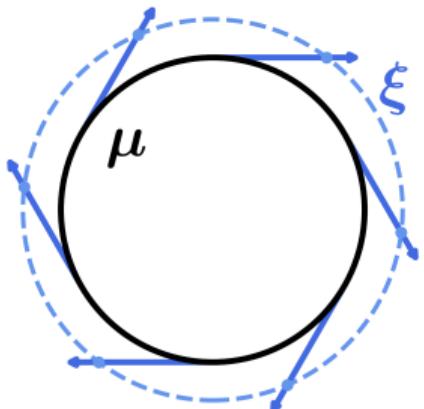
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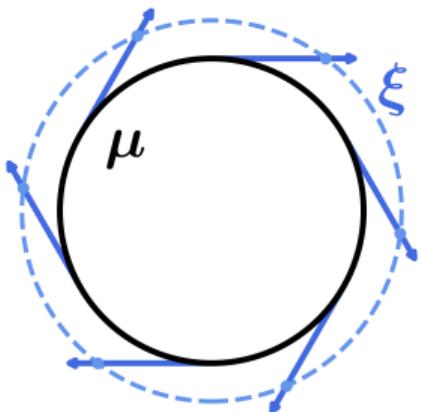


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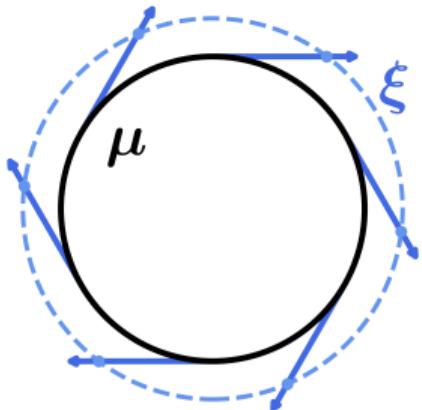
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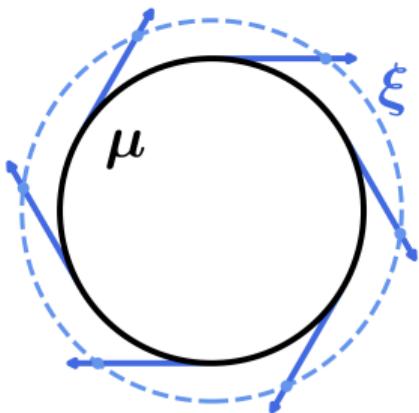
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- (E_T) and (E_S) hold if μ is purely atomic or absolutely continuous.
- Neither (E_T) or (E_S) holds in general.

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Remark If $\xi, \zeta \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathrm{T}\mathbb{R}^d)_\mu$ are centred,
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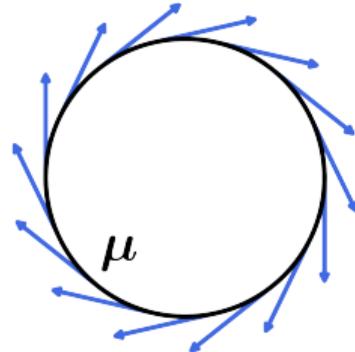
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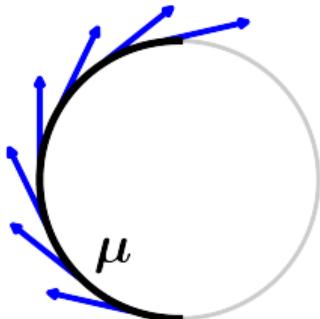
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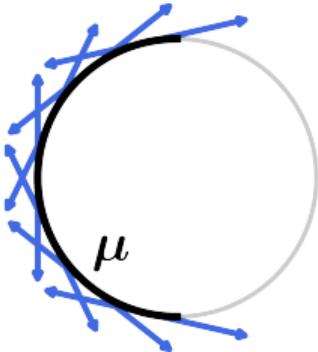
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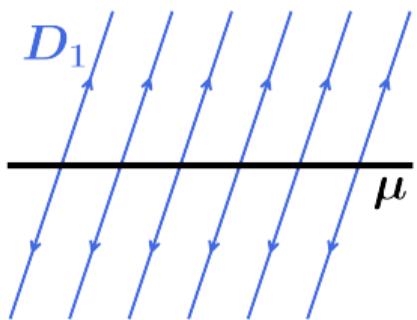
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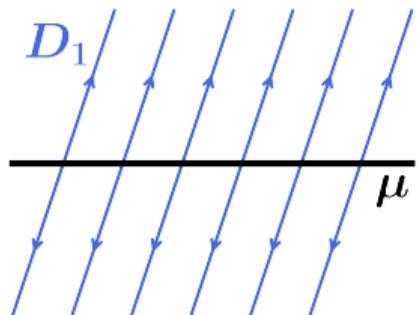


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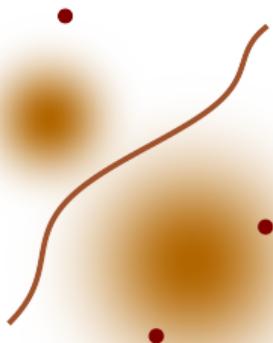
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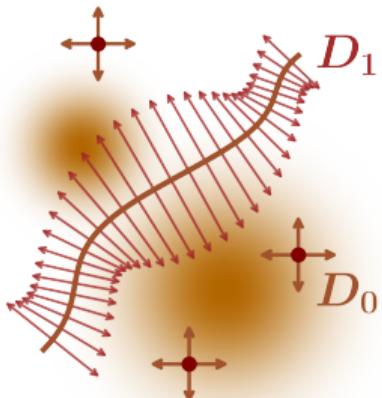
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- based on the regular directions;
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For instance, $\varphi := d_{\mathcal{W}}^2 \left(\cdot, \frac{\delta_{-1} + \delta_1}{2} \right)$ has

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Complete decomposition

Conjecture: the decomposition $\mu = \sum_{k=0}^d m_k \mu^k$ satisfies

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Other tangent cones

Similar yet distinct decompositions and spaces exist in relation with Lipschitz functions [BCJ05, AM16]. Any link?

Thank you!

Details on the HJB formulation in CAT(0) spaces

Let $H : (x, p) \mapsto \sup_{\varphi \in \overline{\text{conv}} f(x)} -p(\nabla_x \varphi)$, and consider the following Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation:

$$(HJB) \quad -\partial_t v + H(x, D_x v(t, x)) = 0, \quad v(T, \cdot) = \mathfrak{J}.$$

Def [JZ23] A viscosity solution $v \in \mathcal{C}([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R})$ of (HJB) is both a

subsolution: if φ is \mathcal{C}^2 in time, **semiconvex** in space, and touches v from **above** at (t, x) ,

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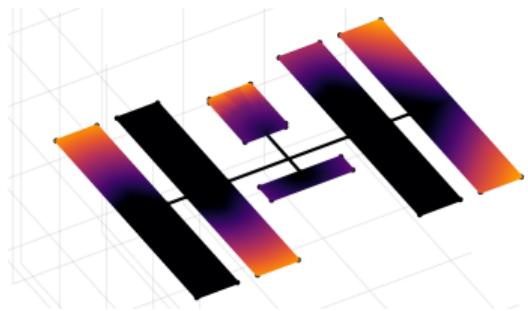
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Under the technical assumption **[A2.1.3]** to approximate the gradient flows of functions in \mathcal{E} by geodesics, the following holds.

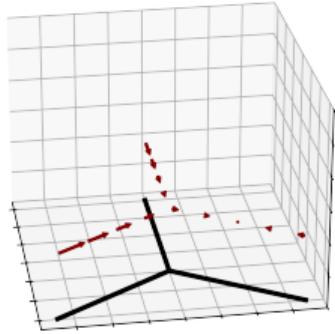
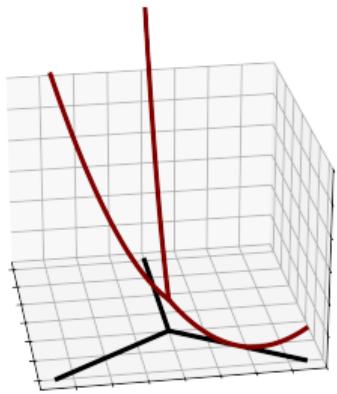
Proposition Assume f, \mathfrak{J} Lipschitz and bounded. Then V is the unique viscosity solution of (HJB).



Details on the convexification procedure

A dynamic f is valued in a set $\mathcal{E} \subset \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R})$ of concave functions. Its closed convex hull is defined in the Banach space \mathbb{E} of limit points of Lipschitz DC functions, quotiented by constants, with respect to

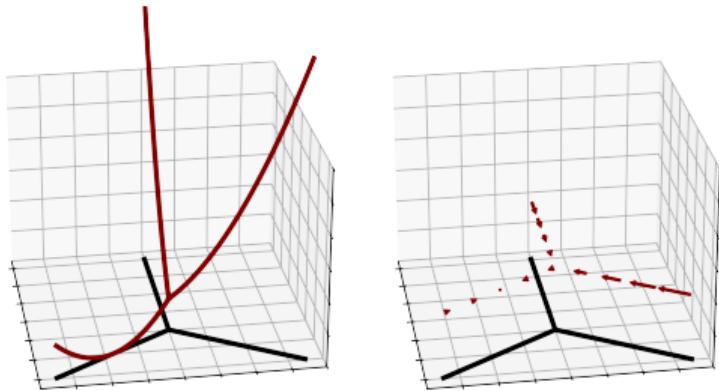
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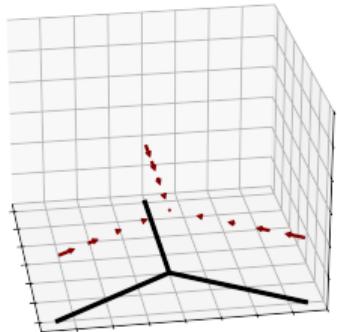
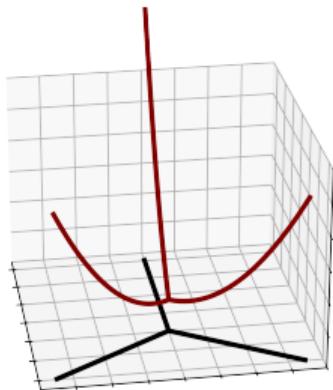
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Proposition Assume that each $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}$ satisfies $D_x \varphi = \langle \nabla_x \varphi, \cdot \rangle_x$. If $(y_t)_t$ solves $\dot{y}_t \in \int_{\varphi \in \mathcal{E}} \varphi d\omega_s(\varphi)$ for $\omega \in L^1(0, T; \mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{E}))$, then

$$y_t^+ = \text{Bary}_{T_{y_t} \mathbb{R}^d} (\nabla_{y_t \#} \omega_t) \quad a.e. \text{ in } [0, T].$$

Details on the comparison principle in CBB(0) spaces

We consider

$$-\partial_t v(t, x) + H(x, D_x v(t, x)) = 0, \quad v(T, \cdot) = \mathfrak{J}.$$

The notion of viscosity solution is based on semiconcave/semiconvex test functions.

THEOREM Assume $H(y, -\lambda D_y d^2(x, \cdot)) - H(x, \lambda D_x d^2(\cdot, y)) \leq \lambda C d(x, y)(1 + d(x, y))$ for $\lambda \geq 0$, and $H(x, \cdot)$ Lipschitz. Let $u, -v$ be locally uniformly upper semicontinuous and locally bounded, with u subsolution and v supersolution. Then $\sup_{[0, T] \times \Omega} u - v \leq \sup_{\Omega} u(T, \cdot) - v(T, \cdot)$.

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Here

- “strong” upper semicontinuity is equivalent to $B \mapsto \sup_B u$ upper semicontinuous in the Hausdorff topology over nonempty compact sets.
- The argument employs the Ekeland-Borwein-Preiss-Zhu principle [BZ05].
- Growth conditions are avoided owing to the variable t and a clever penalization from [FGŚ17].

Details about the classification $\mathbf{Tan}_\mu/\mathbf{Sol}_\mu$

The equivalences

$$\xi \in \mathbf{Tan}_\mu \Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \searrow 0} \frac{d_{\mathcal{W}}(\mu, \exp_\mu(h \cdot \xi))}{h} = \|\xi\|_\mu \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta \in \mathbf{Sol}_\mu \Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \searrow 0} \frac{d_{\mathcal{W}}(\mu, \exp_\mu(h \cdot \zeta))}{h} = 0$$

hold

- if ξ, ζ are induced by maps;
- in dim 1, if μ is purely atomic or absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure.

All results in this directions are consequences of the following lemma:

Let $\xi \in \mathcal{P}_2(T\Omega)_\mu$ such that $\lim_{h \searrow 0} \frac{d_{\mathcal{W}}(\mu, \exp_\mu(h \cdot \xi))}{h} = \|\xi\|_\mu$. Then there exists $(h_n)_n \searrow 0$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\gamma \in \frac{1}{h_n} \cdot \exp_\mu^{-1}(\exp_\mu(h_n \cdot \xi))} d_{\mathcal{W}, T\Omega}(\gamma, \xi) = 0.$$

Details on a counterexample to (E_S)

Decompose $\mu = m_a \mu^a + m_d \mu^d$, with $\mu^a \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$ purely atomic and $\mu^d \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$ diffuse (atomless).

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For μ the Cantor measure,

$$\xi := \frac{(id, -1)_\# \mu + (id, 1)_\# \mu}{2}$$

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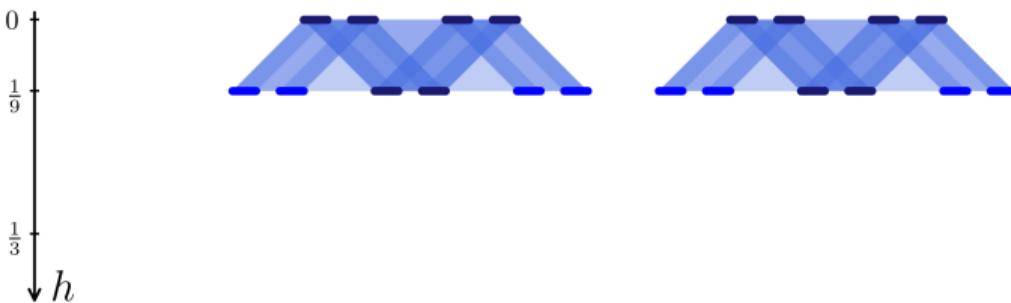
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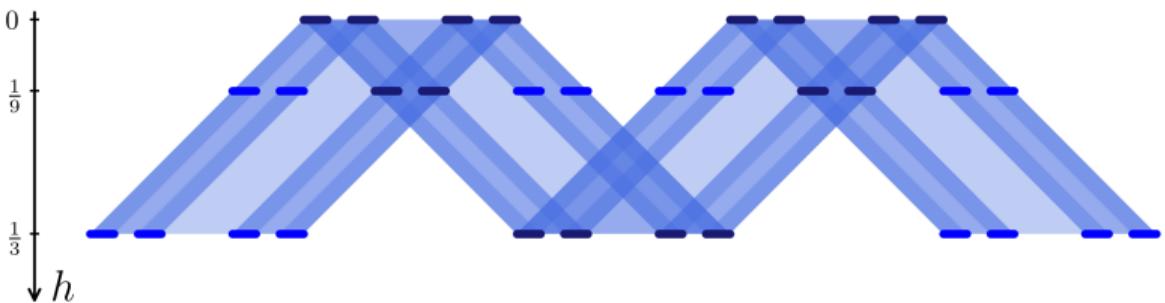
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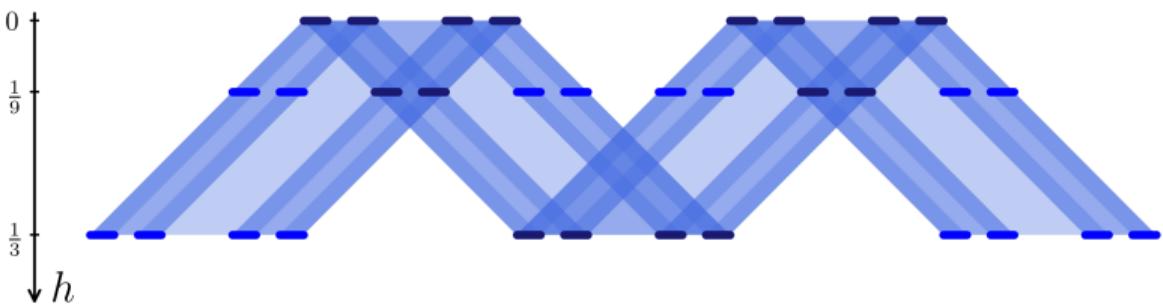
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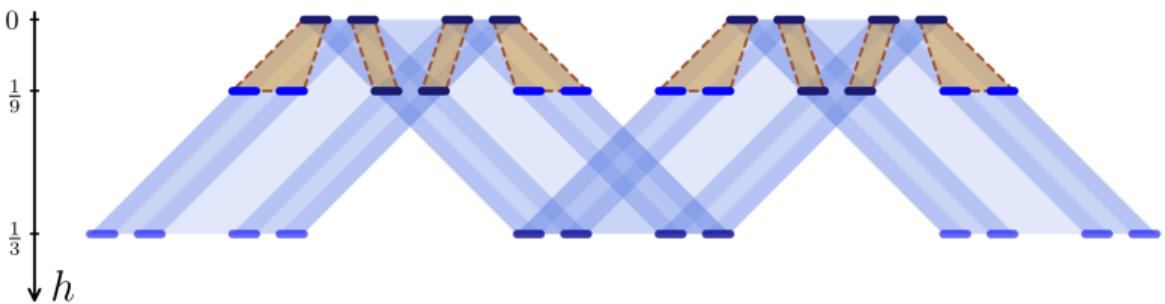
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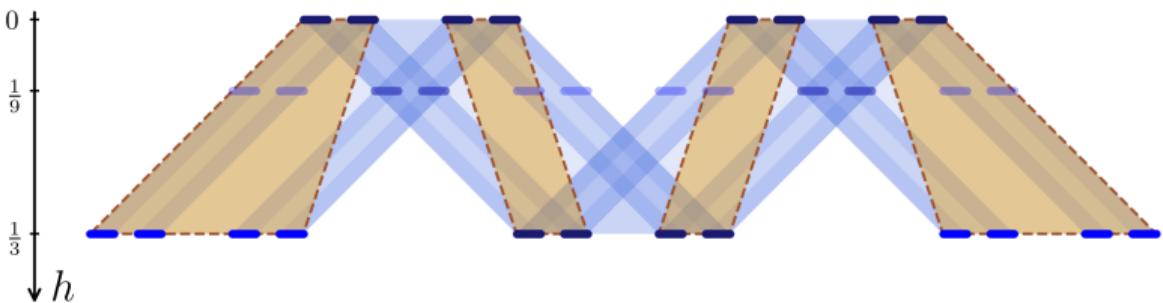
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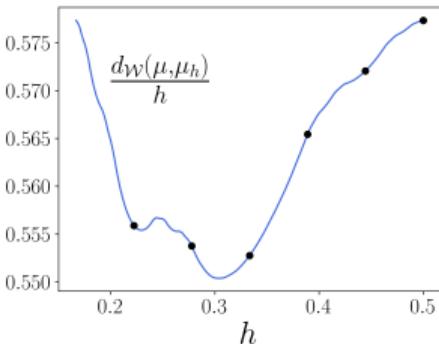
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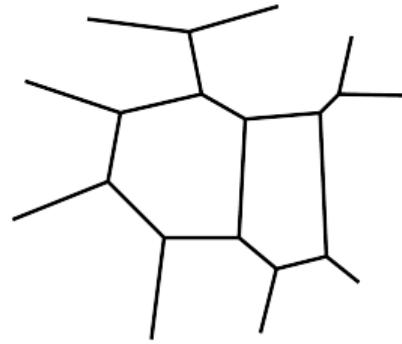
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Details on the directional differentiability in CAT(0) spaces (1/3)

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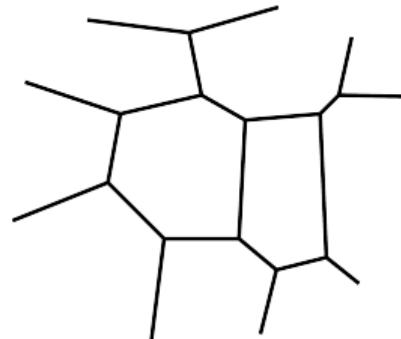


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Let $\mathcal{G} \subset \text{AC}([0, 1]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ be the set of unit-speed geodesics, and $e_h : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ the evaluation at time $h \in [0, 1]$, i.e. $e_h(\gamma) = \gamma_h$.



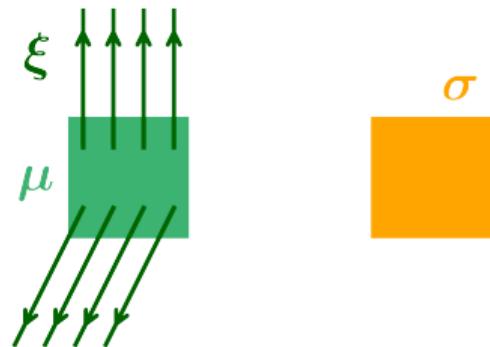
THEOREM Let $\xi \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{G})$ and $\sigma \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Then

$$\lim_{h \searrow 0} \frac{d_{\mathcal{W}}^2((e_h)_\# \xi, \sigma) - d_{\mathcal{W}}^2((e_0)_\# \xi, \sigma)}{h} = \inf_{\substack{\alpha \in \Gamma(\xi, \sigma) \\ (e_0(\pi_\gamma), \pi_z)_\# \alpha \text{ opt.}}} \int_{(\gamma, z) \in \mathcal{G} \times \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{d}{dh} \Big|_{h=0} d^2(\gamma(\cdot), z) d\alpha(\gamma, z).$$

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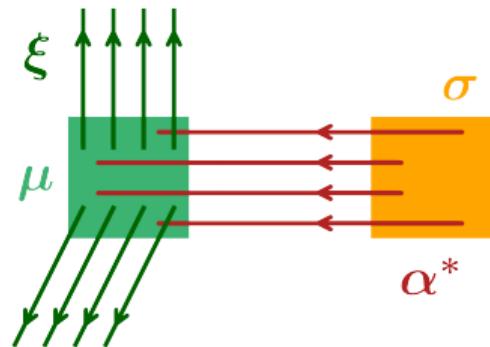
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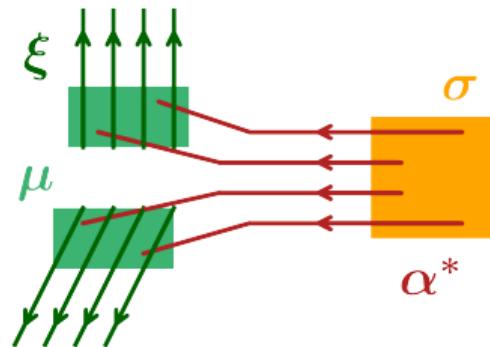
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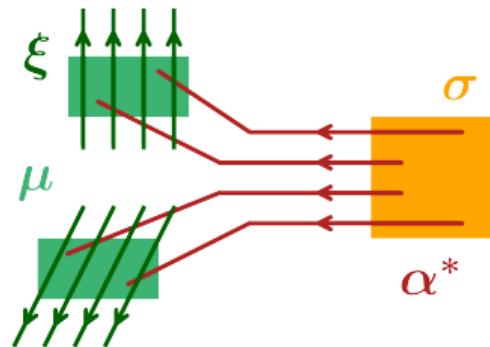
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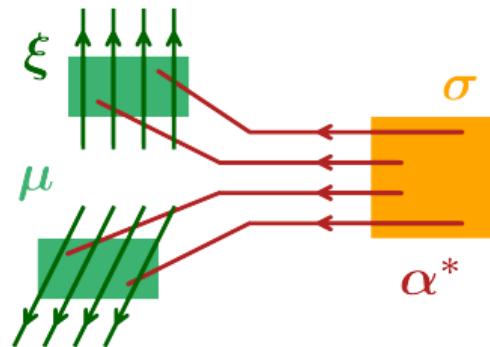
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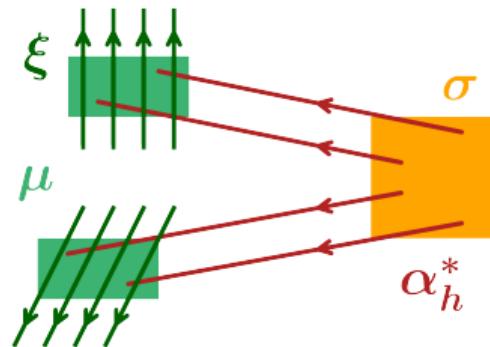
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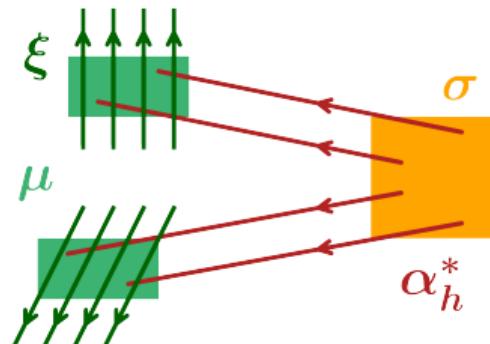


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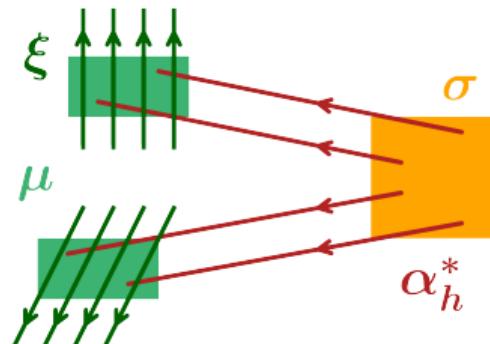


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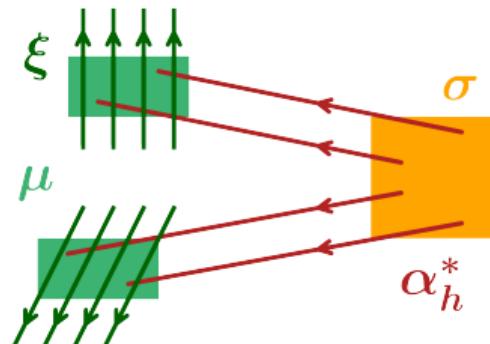


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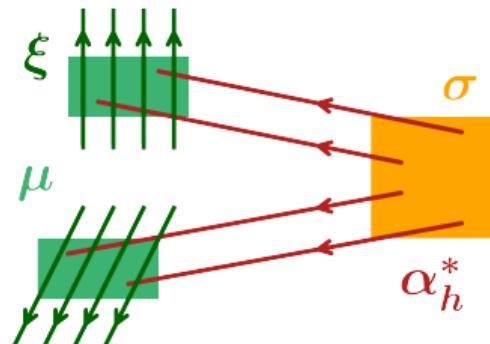
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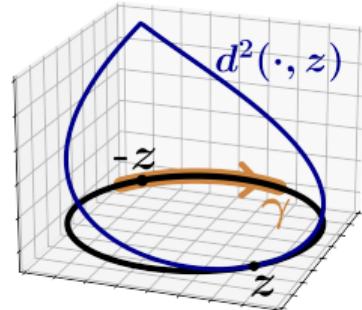


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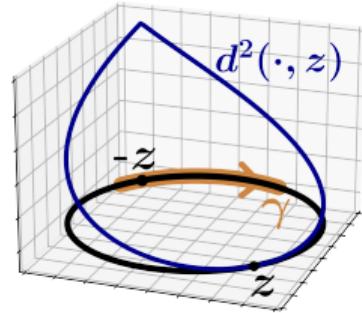
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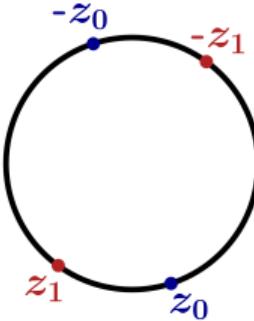
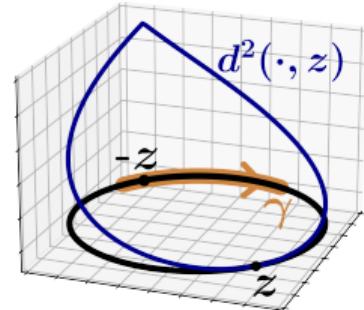
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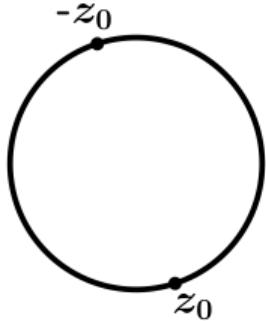
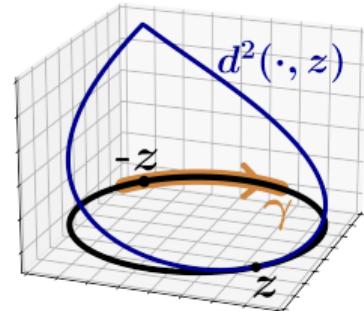
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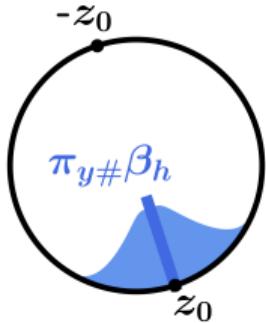
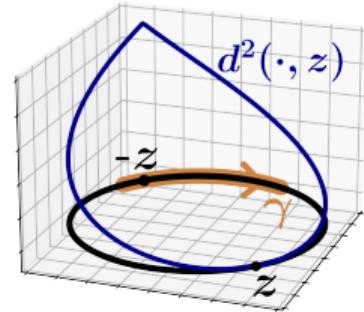
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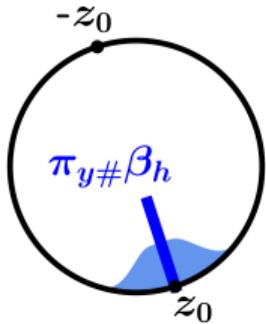
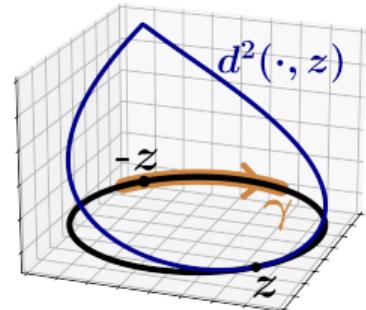
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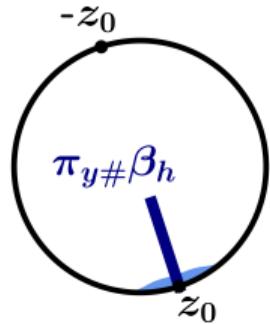
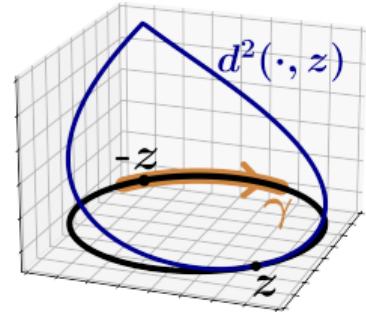
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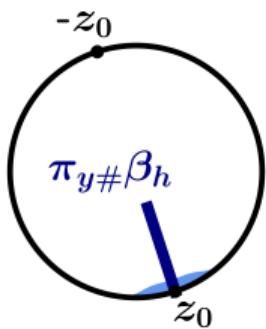
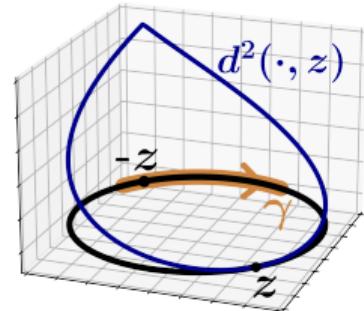


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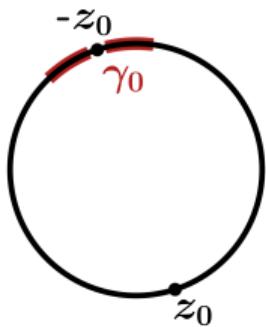
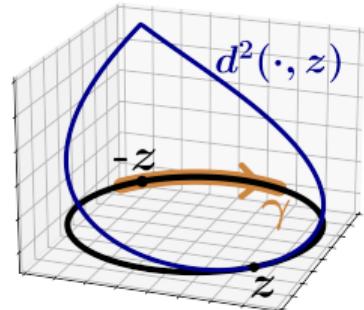
- **Loops.** Here the estimate fails on (γ, z) such that $\gamma_{]0,h[}$ contains $-z$.

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- Let β_h be $(e_h \circ \pi_\gamma, \pi_z)_\# \alpha_h^*$ conditioned on **this set**, with narrow limit β .
- β is optimal *and* concentrated on pairs $(-z, z)$. Hence $\beta = \delta_{(-z_0, z_0)}$.
- $\pi_y \# \beta_h \rightarrow \delta_{z_0}$, and $\pi_y \# \beta_h \leq \iota^{-1} \sigma$; by contraposition, $\pi_y \# \beta_h(\{z_0\}) \rightarrow 1$.

Hence for small h , α_h^* puts mass $\frac{\iota}{2}$ on the **bad** (γ, z) **for $z = z_0$ fixed**.

As before, all such γ are issued from γ_0 near $-z_0$, and

$$\frac{\iota}{2} \leq \alpha_h^*(\text{such } (\gamma, z_0)) \leq \mu(\mathcal{B}(-z_0, h) \setminus \{-z_0\}) \xrightarrow[h \searrow 0]{} 0.$$



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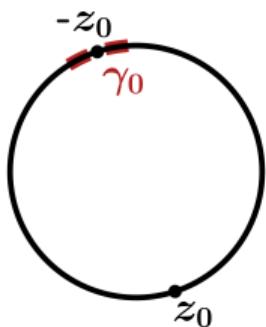
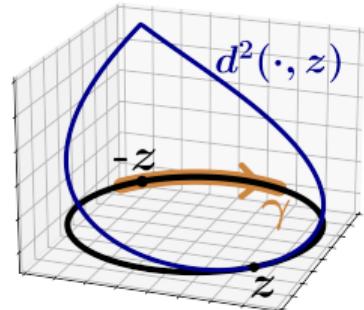
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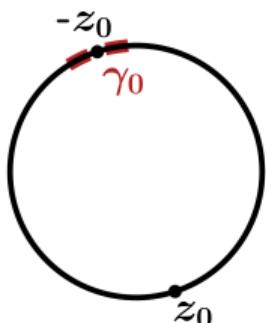
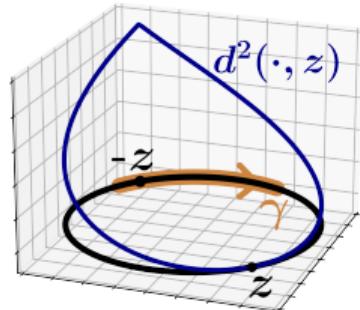
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- **Conclusion.** The bad set vanishes, $d_{\mathcal{W}}^2(\cdot, v)$ directionally differentiable.

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