

# Regularity as Regularization: Smooth and Strongly Convex Brenier Potentials in Optimal Transport

F-P. PATY

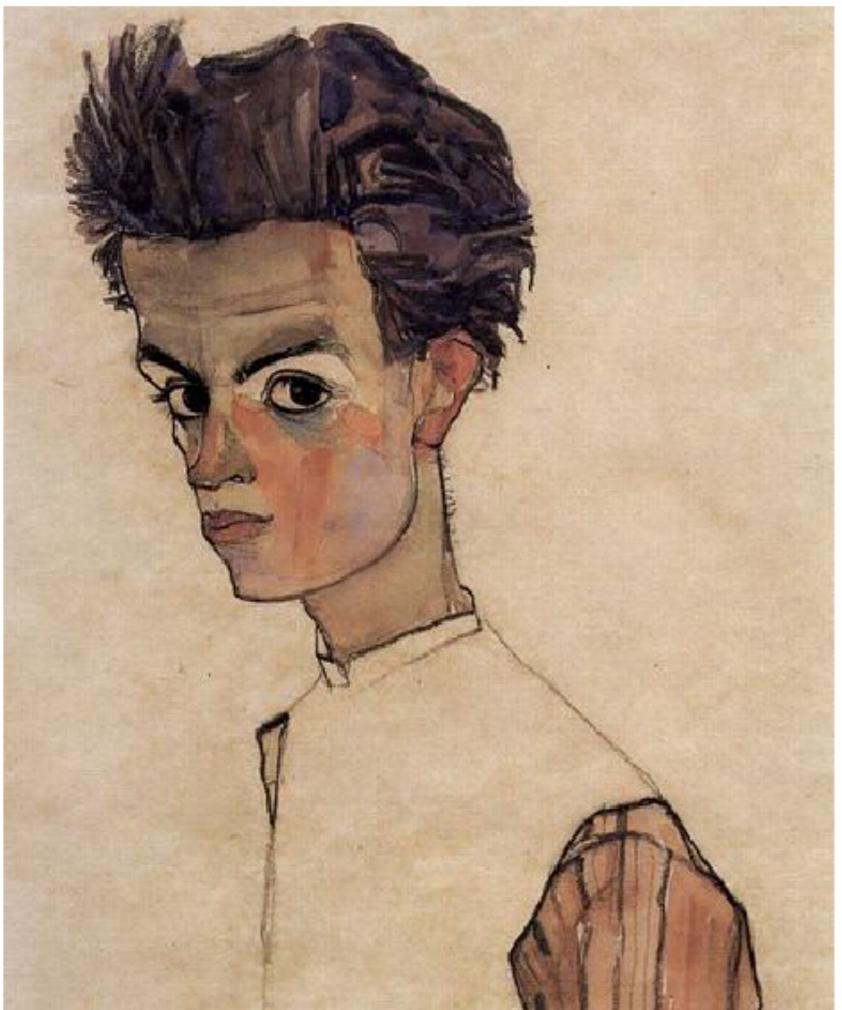
A. D'ASPREMONT

M. CUTURI



Google AI  
Brain Team

# INTRODUCTION



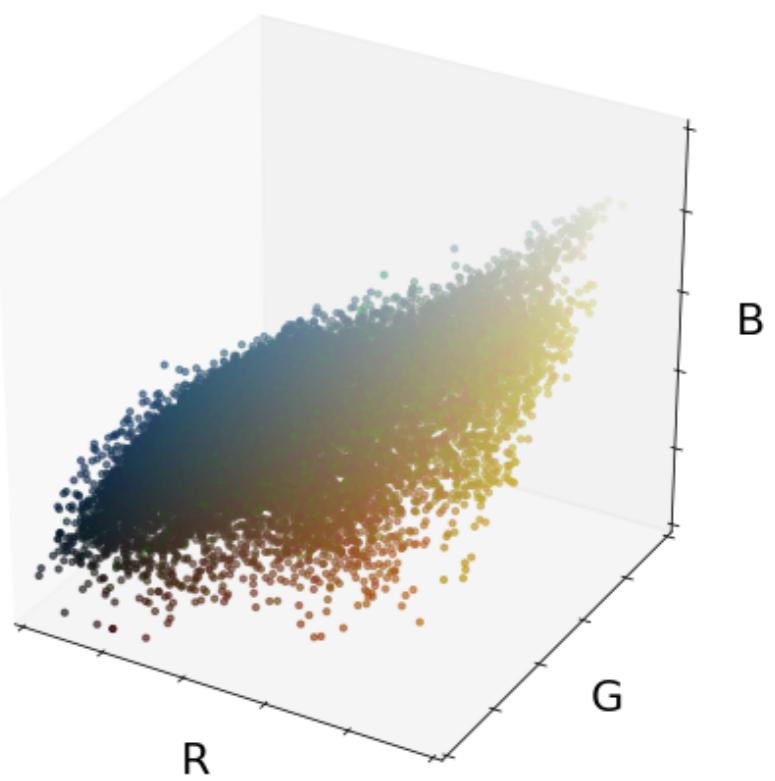
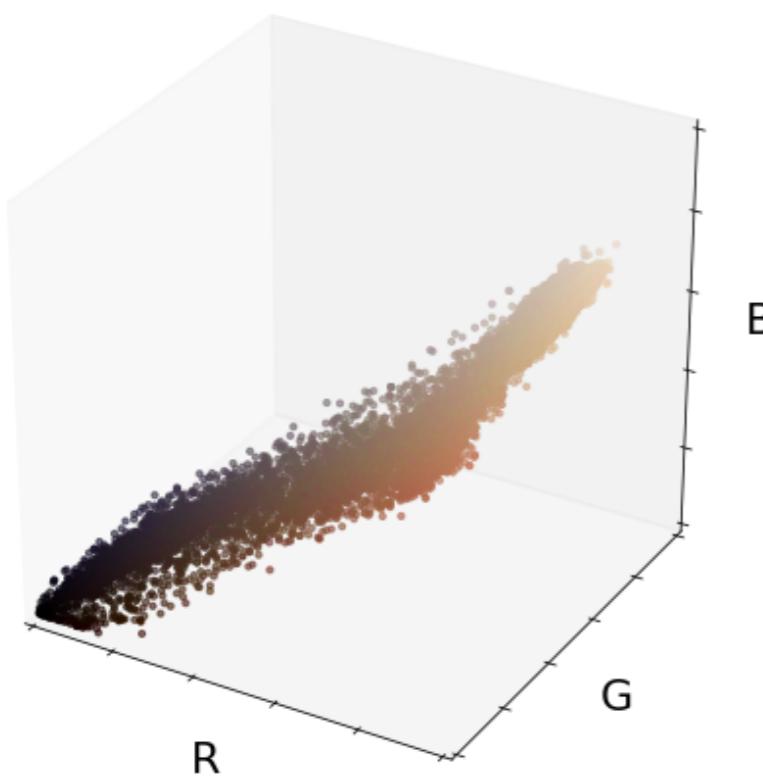
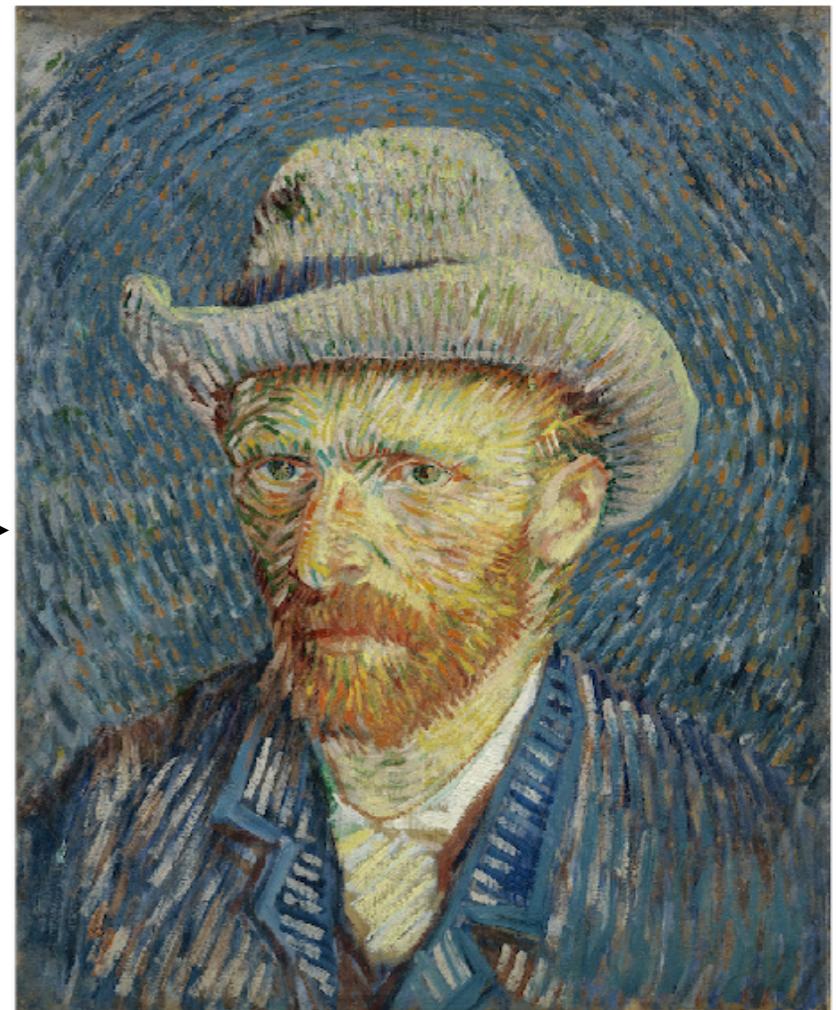


Color Transfer Map



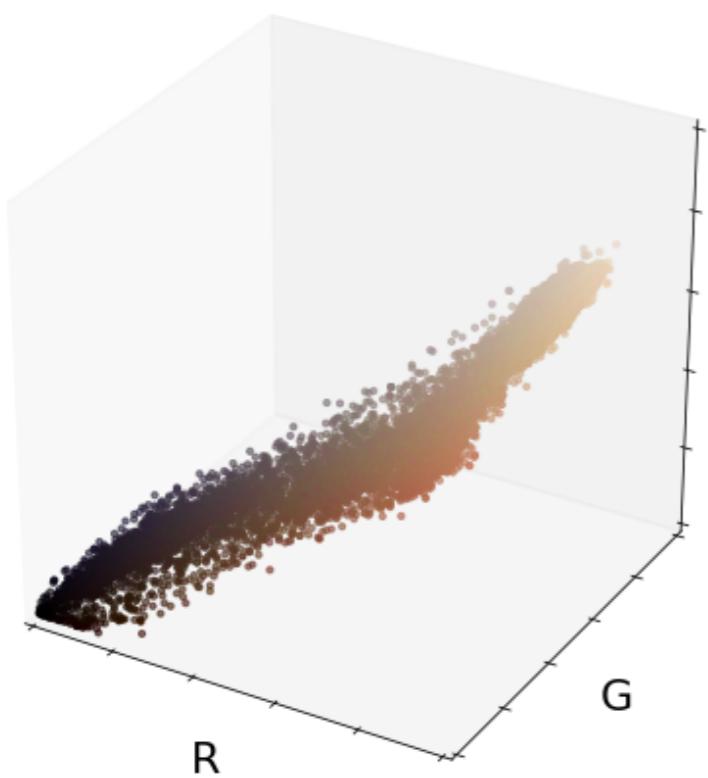


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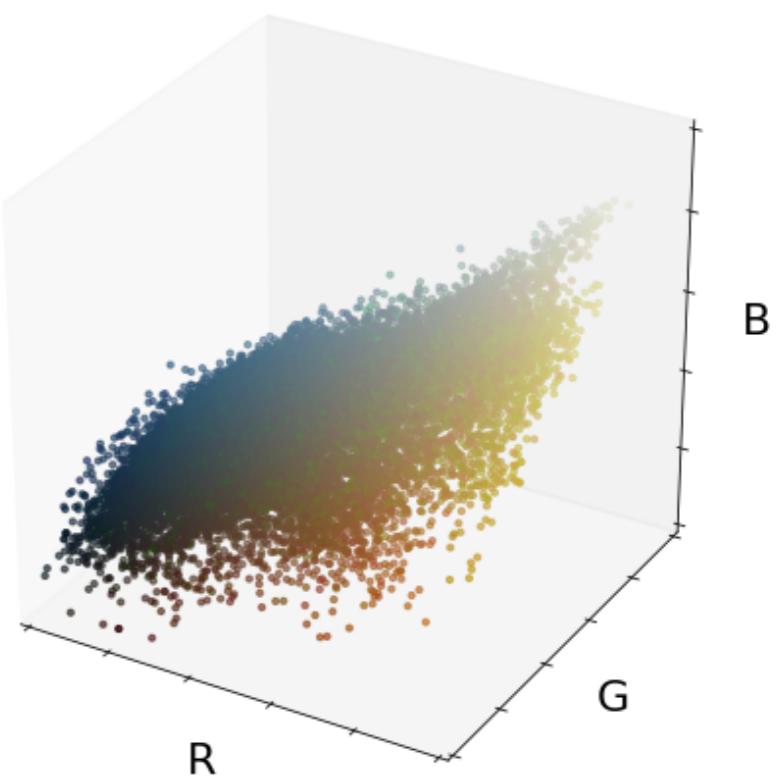




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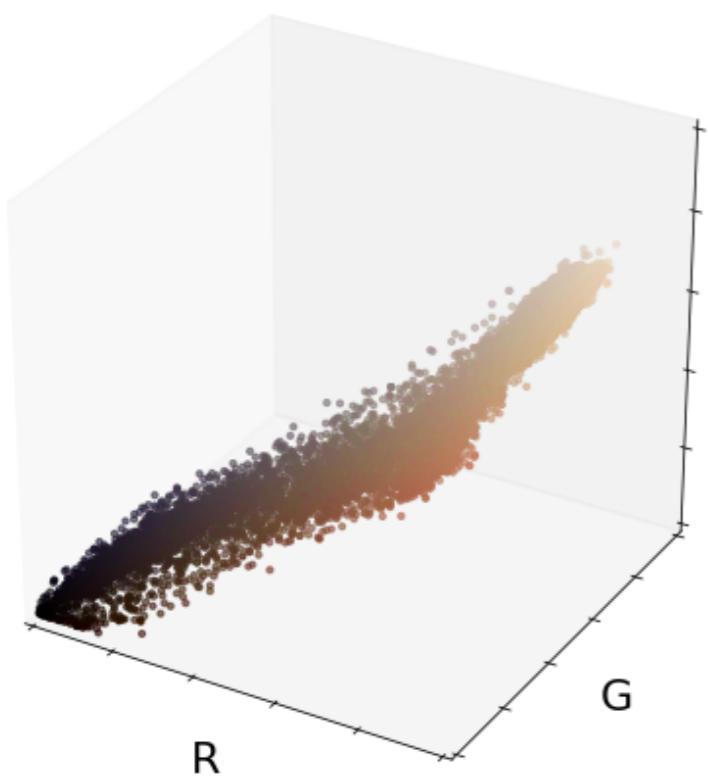


Matching

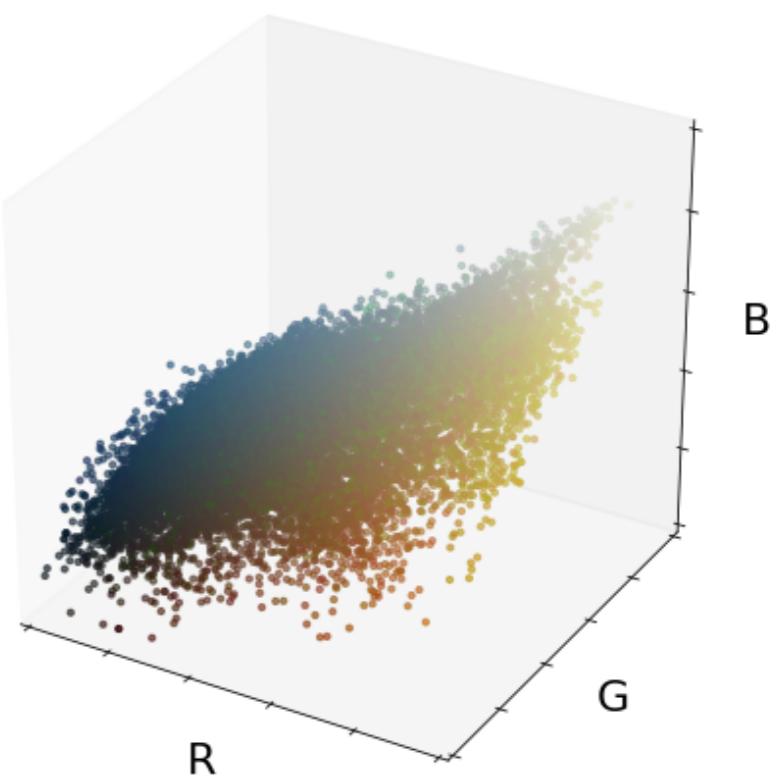


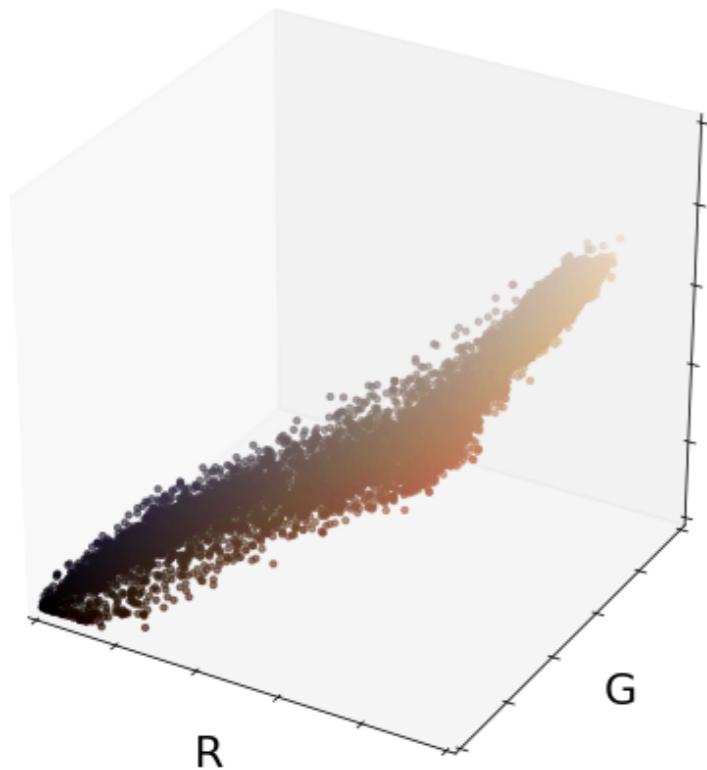


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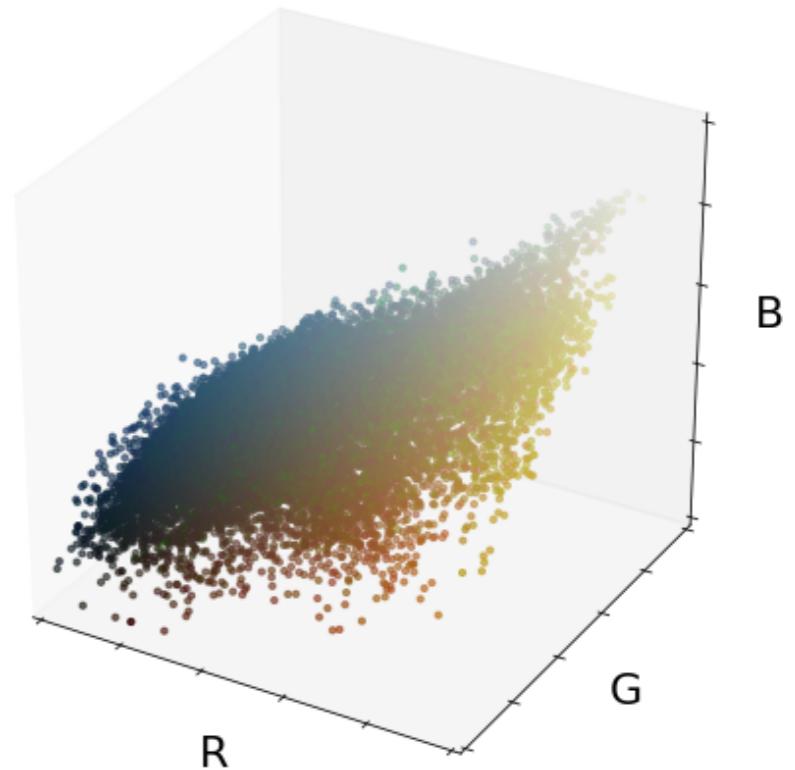
Matching





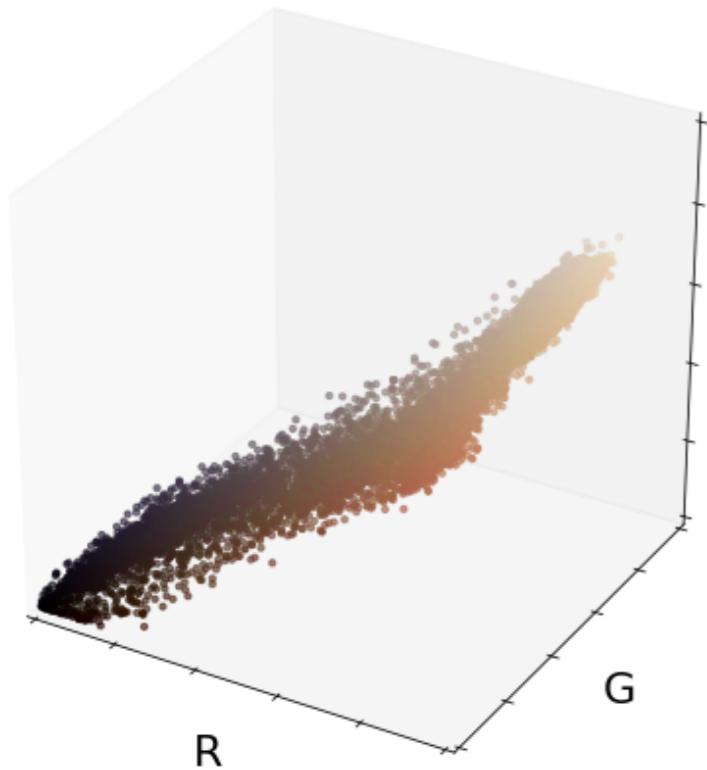
Matching

$$\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$$

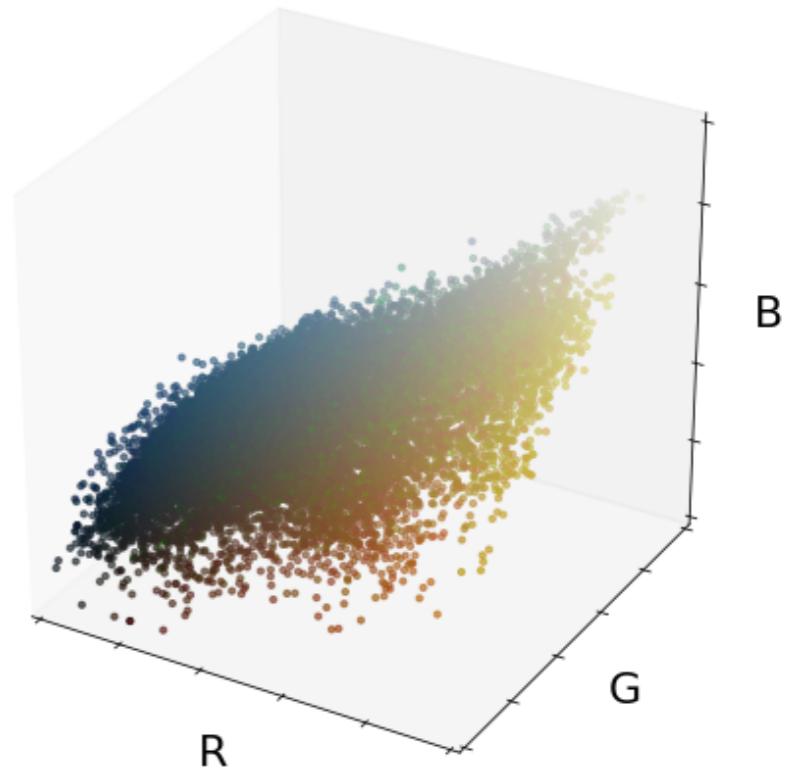


$x_1, \dots, x_n$

$y_1, \dots, y_n$



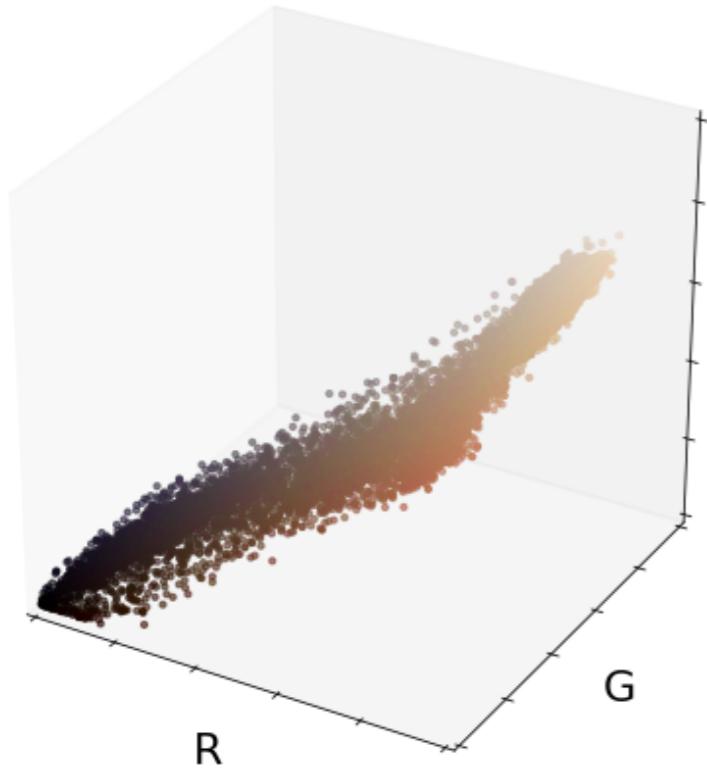
Matching



$x_1, \dots, x_n$

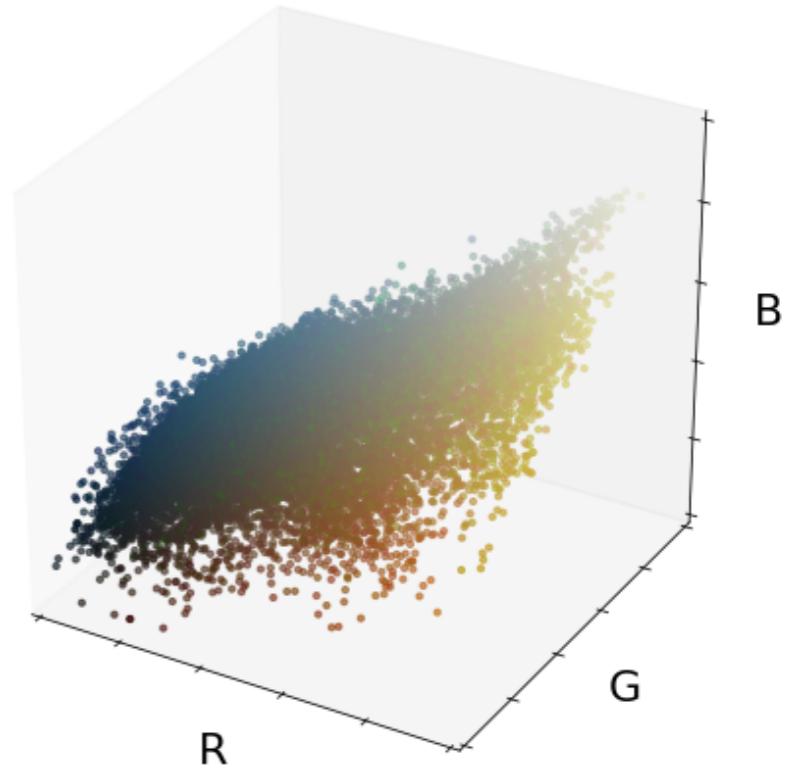
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Matching

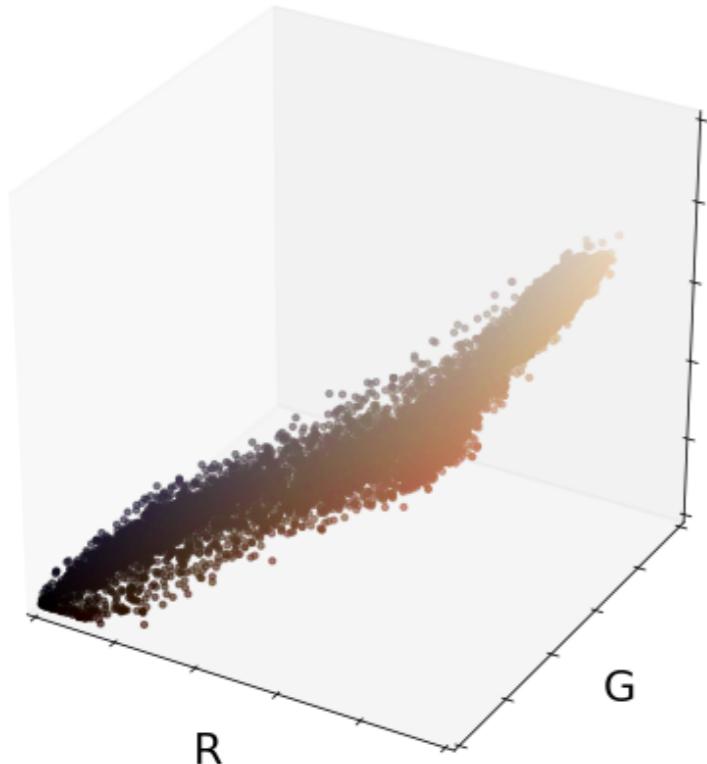
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$$x_1, \dots, x_n$$

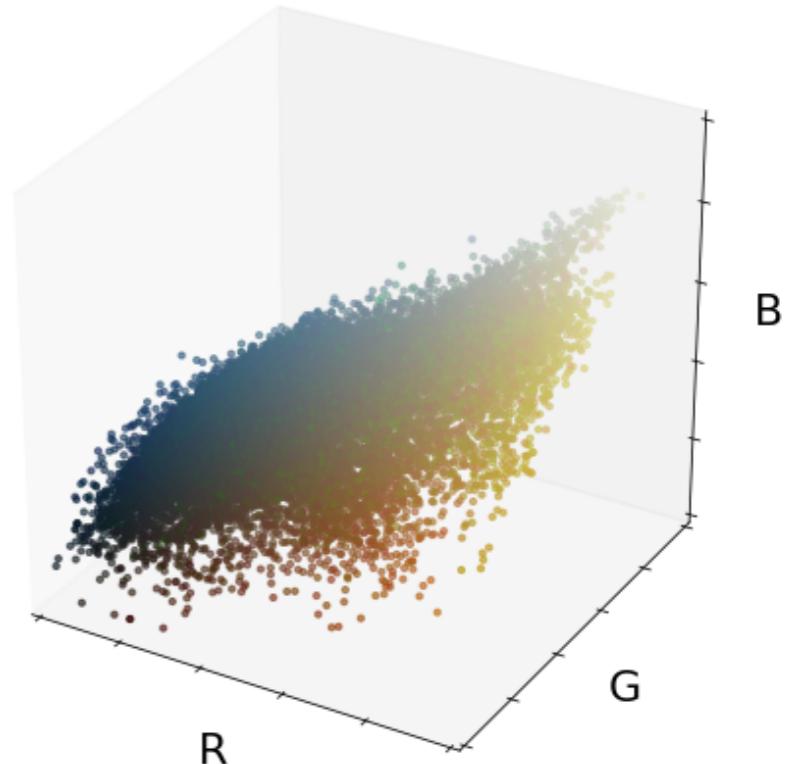
$$y_1, \dots, y_n$$

$$\|x_i - y_{\sigma(i)}\|^2$$



Matching

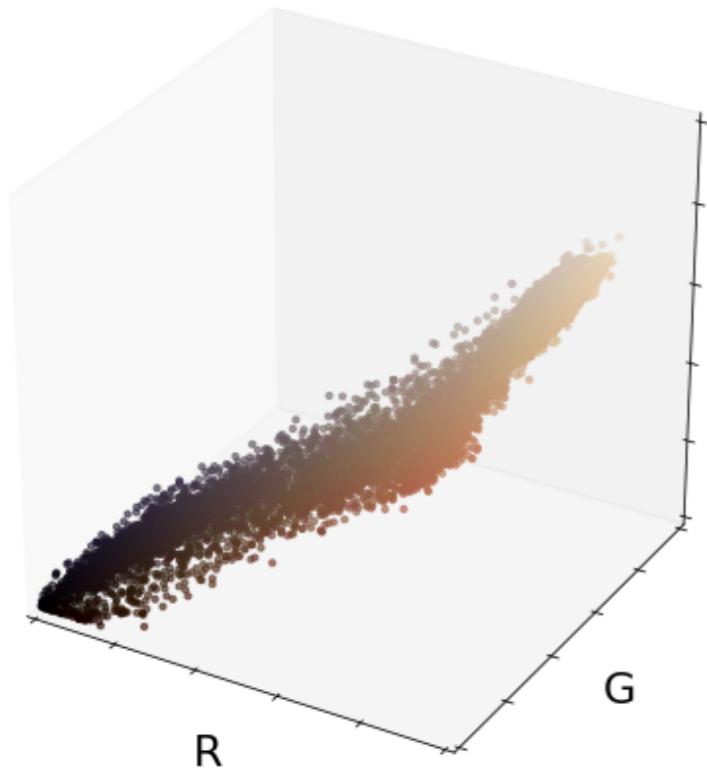
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$$x_1, \dots, x_n$$

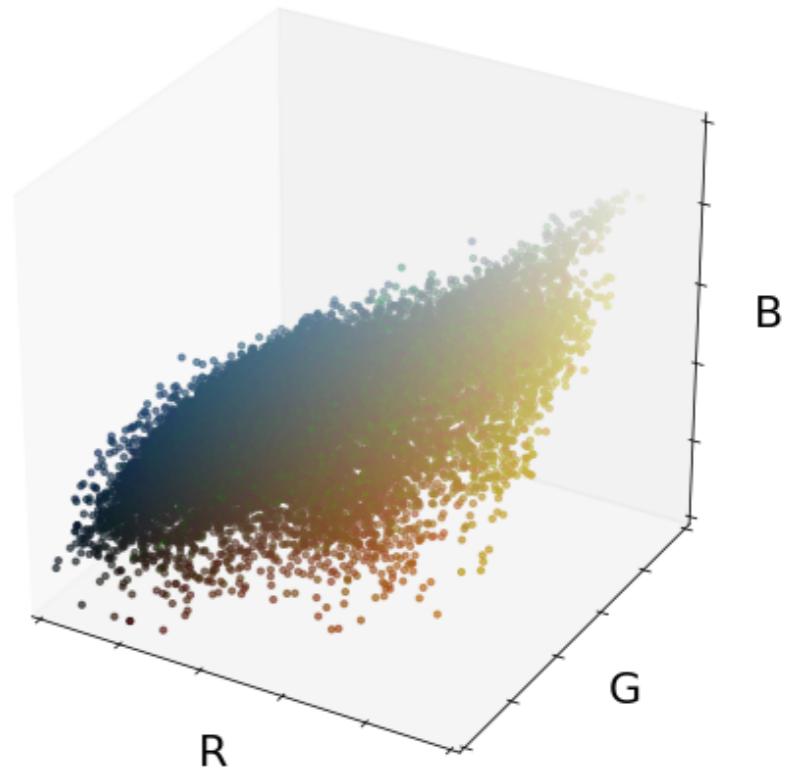
$$y_1, \dots, y_n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i - y_{\sigma(i)}\|^2$$



Matching

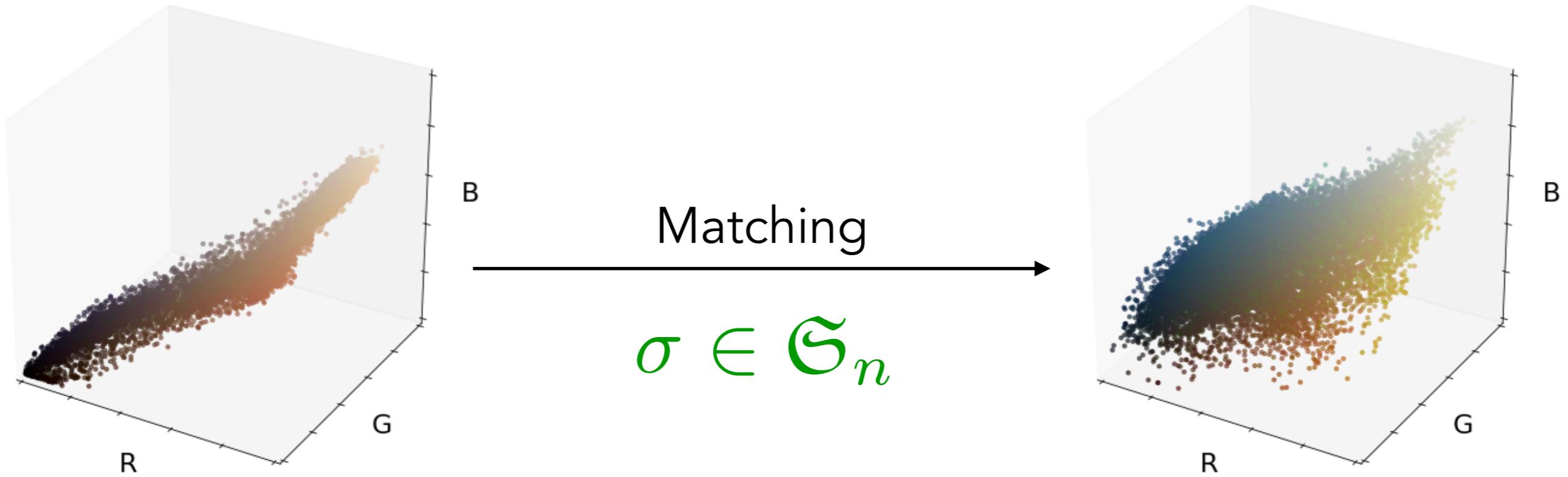
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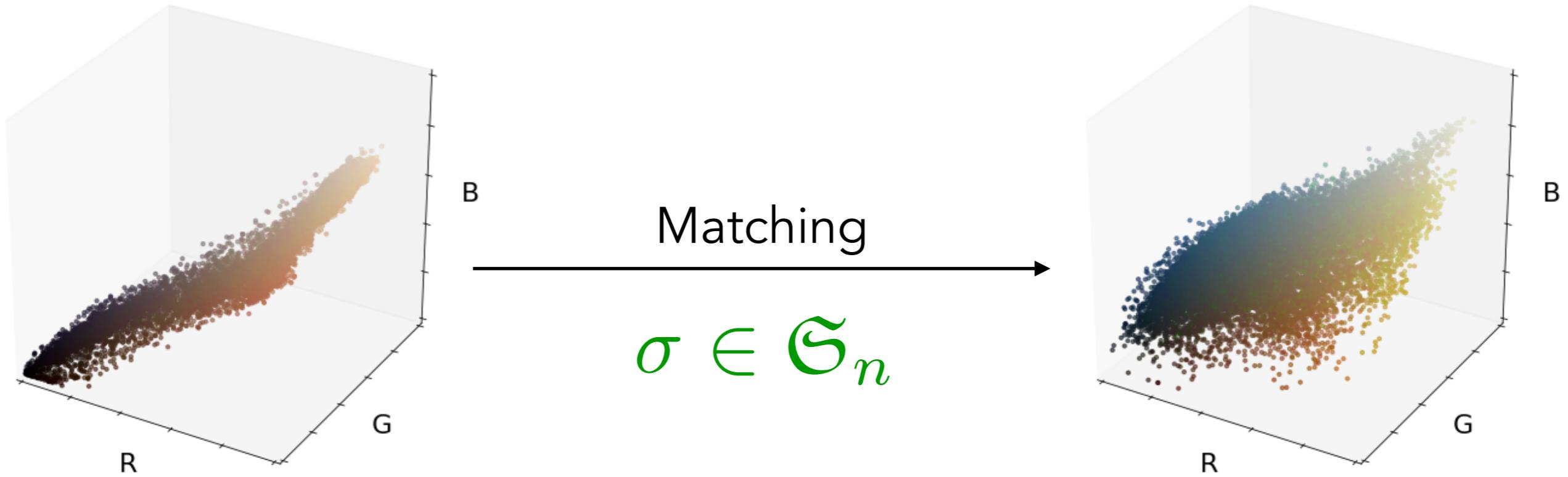
$$y_1, \dots, y_n$$

$$\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i - y_{\sigma(i)}\|^2$$



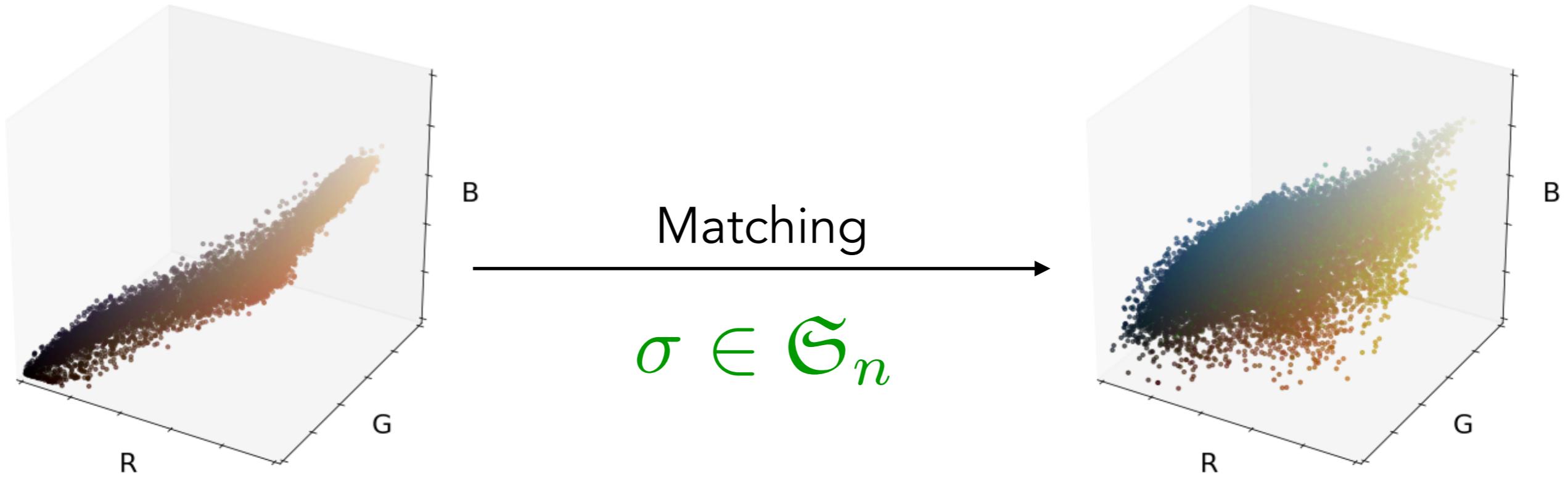
## Discrete Monge Problem (1781)

$$\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i - y_{\sigma(i)}\|^2$$



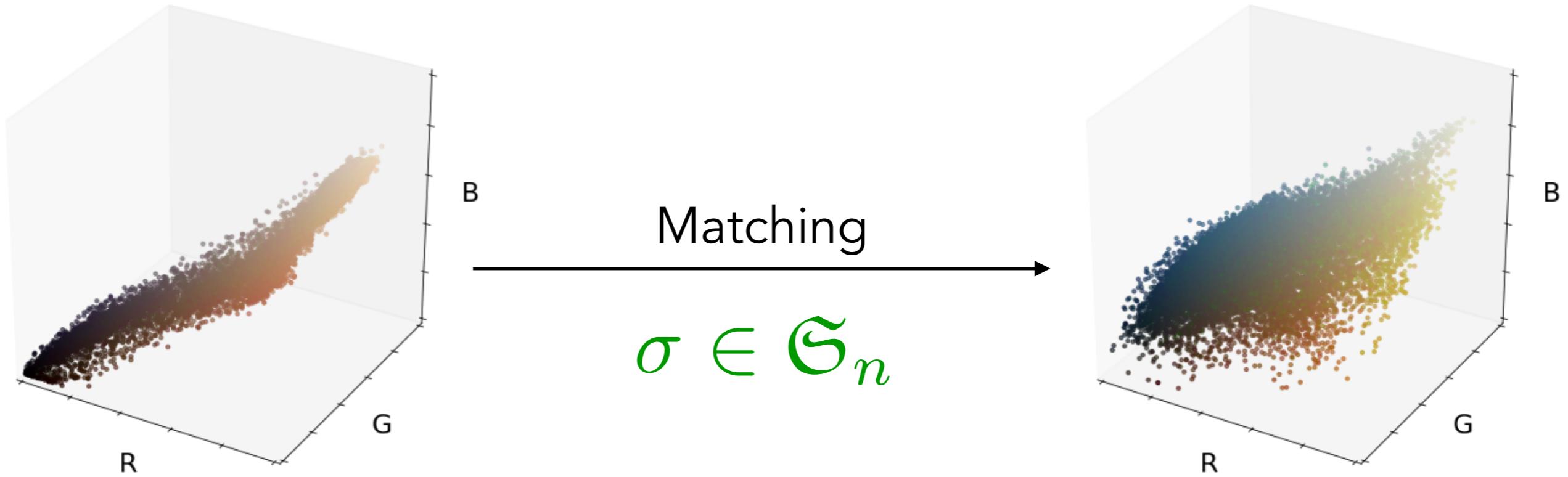
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$$\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i - y_{\sigma(i)}\|^2$$

- (i) How to handle repeated points ?
- (ii) How to handle different numbers of points ?
- (iii) How to compute this combinatorial problem ?

# OPTIMAL TRANSPORT

Leonid Kantorovich

$$\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \| \textcolor{red}{x}_{\textcolor{red}{i}} - \textcolor{blue}{y}_{\sigma(i)} \|^2$$

$$\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \| \textcolor{red}{x}_{\textcolor{red}{i}} - \textcolor{blue}{y}_j \|^2 \, 1_{\sigma(\textcolor{violet}{i}) = \textcolor{blue}{j}}$$

$$\min_{P \in \mathfrak{P}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \| \textcolor{red}{x_i} - \textcolor{blue}{y_j} \|^2 P_{ij}$$

$$\mathfrak{P}_n = \left\{ P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ permutation matrix} \right\}$$

$$\min_{P \in \mathfrak{P}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \|x_i - y_j\|^2 P_{ij}$$

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We only have to convexify and generalize  $\mathfrak{P}_n$ .

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If  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  are probability weights, we define the associated **transportation polytope**:

$$\min_{P \in \mathfrak{P}_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \|\textcolor{red}{x}_i - \textcolor{blue}{y}_j\|^2 P_{ij}$$

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We only have to convexify and generalize  $\mathfrak{P}_n$ .

If  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  are probability weights, we define the associated **transportation polytope**:

$$\mathfrak{U}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \{P \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times m} \mid P\mathbf{1}_m = \mathbf{a}, P^\top \mathbf{1}_n = \mathbf{b}\}$$

# Discrete Kantorovitch Problem

$$W_2^2(\mu, \nu) = \min_{P \in \mathfrak{U}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \|x_i - y_j\|^2 P_{ij}$$

where  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{a}_i \delta_{x_i}$  and  $\nu = \sum_{j=1}^m \mathbf{b}_j \delta_{y_j}$  are probability measures

2-Wasserstein distance

If  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  are probability weights, we define the associated **transportation polytope**:

$$\mathfrak{U}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \{P \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times m} \mid P \mathbf{1}_m = \mathbf{a}, P^\top \mathbf{1}_n = \mathbf{b}\}$$

In practice, one color should be mapped to exactly one color. In other words, we want to find a map

$$T : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

that is optimal in some sense.



# Monge problem

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$$\inf_{T \sharp \mu = \nu} \int \| x - T(\textcolor{red}{x}) \|^2 d\mu(x)$$

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$$\inf_{T \# \mu = \nu} \int \|x - T(x)\|^2 d\mu(x)$$



$$X \sim \mu \implies T(X) \sim \nu$$

# REGULARITY THEORY

Alessio Figalli

Let  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  be two probability measures over  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

$$\inf_{T \# \mu = \nu} \int \|x - T(x)\|^2 d\mu(x)$$

When does the Monge problem admit a solution ?  
What can be said about it ?

Let  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  be two probability measures over  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

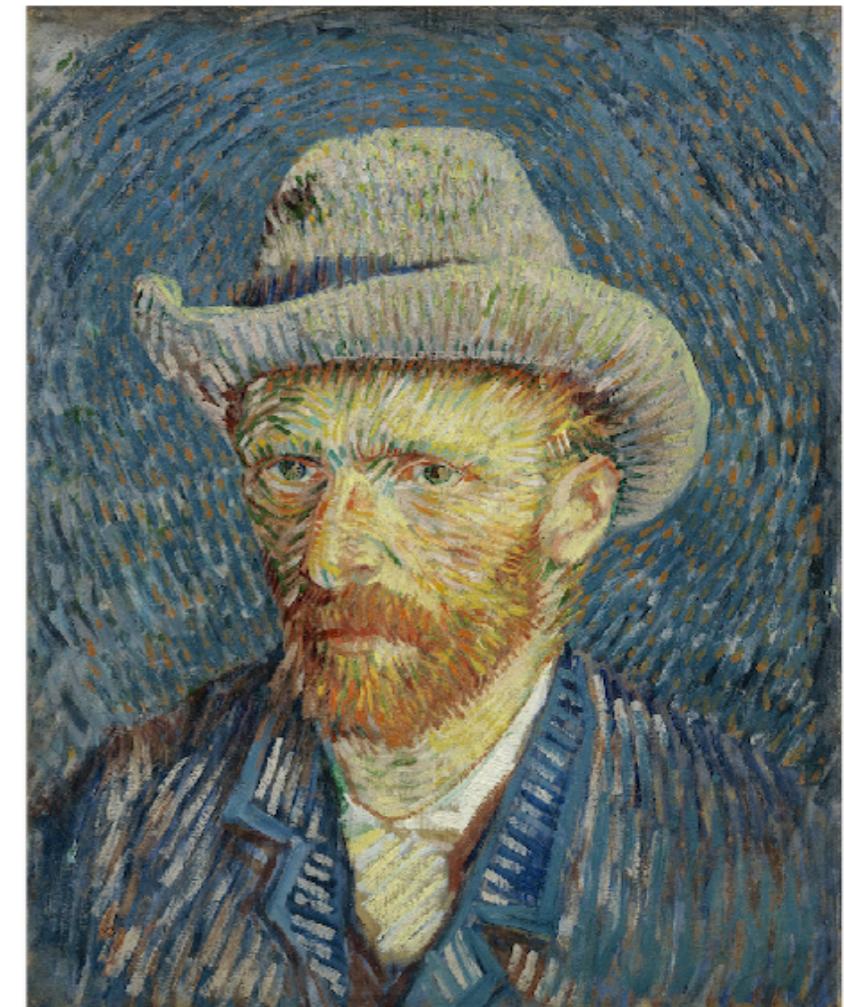
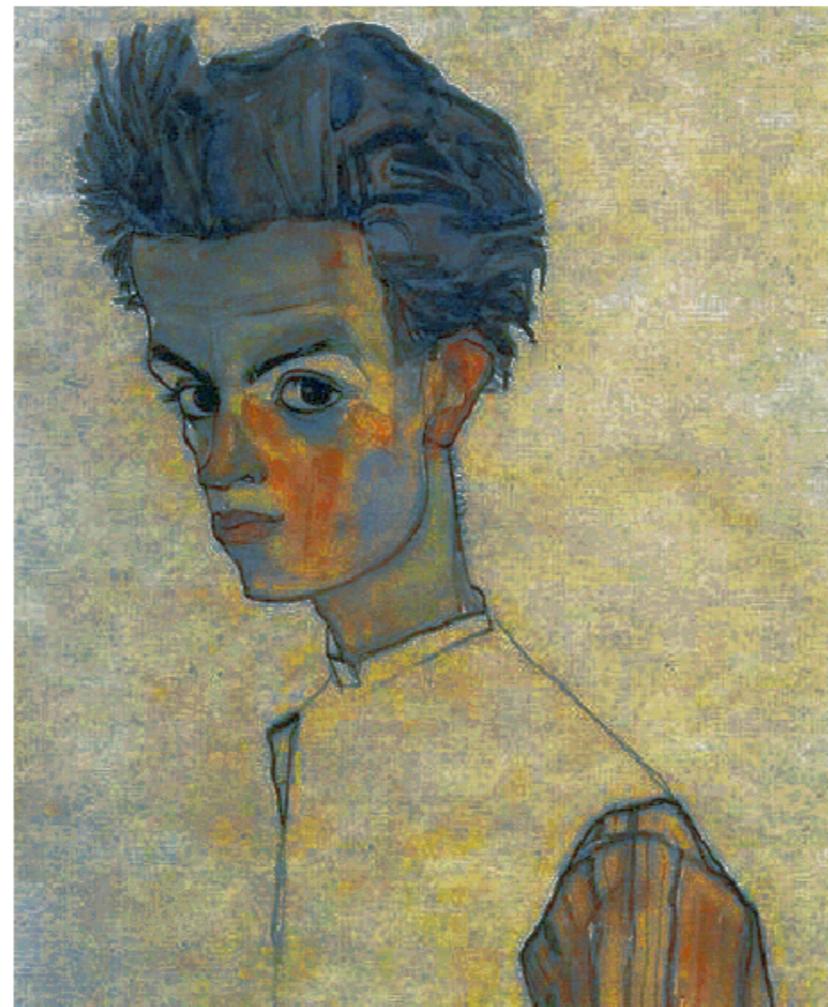
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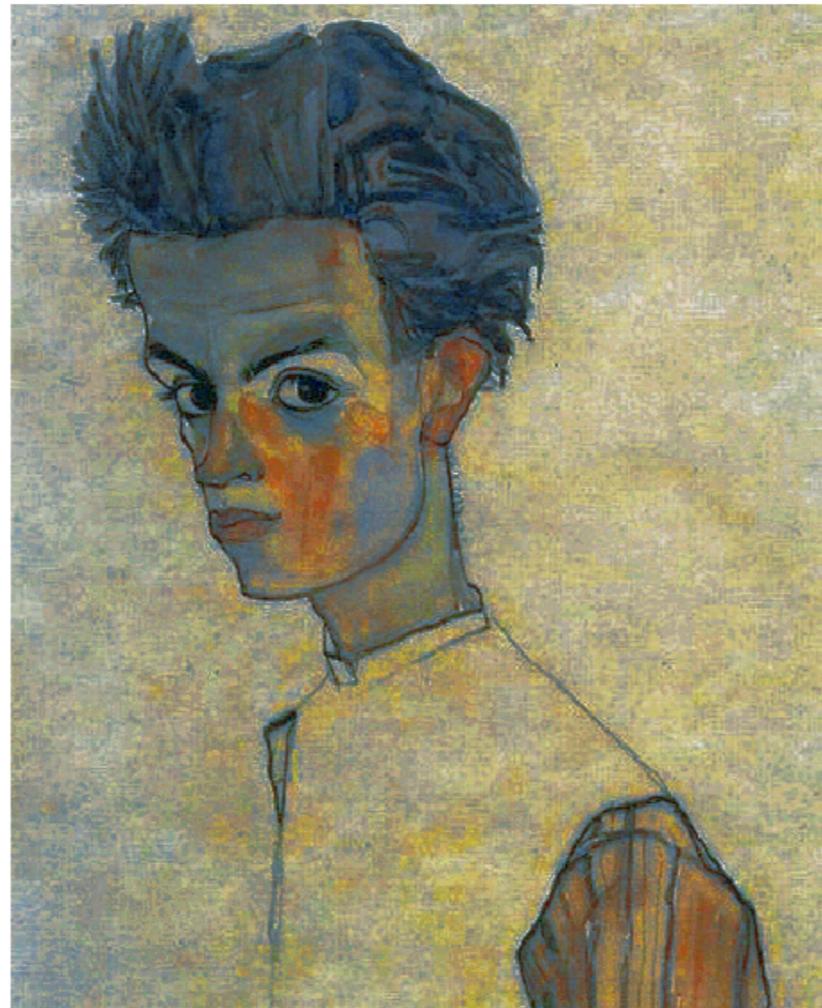
## Brenier Theorem

1. If  $\mu$  is *absolutely continuous* with respect to the Lebesgue measure, the Monge problem admits a unique solution
2. If the Monge problem admits a solution  $T$ , then there exists a convex function  $f$ , called a **Brenier potential**, s.t.

$$T = \nabla f$$



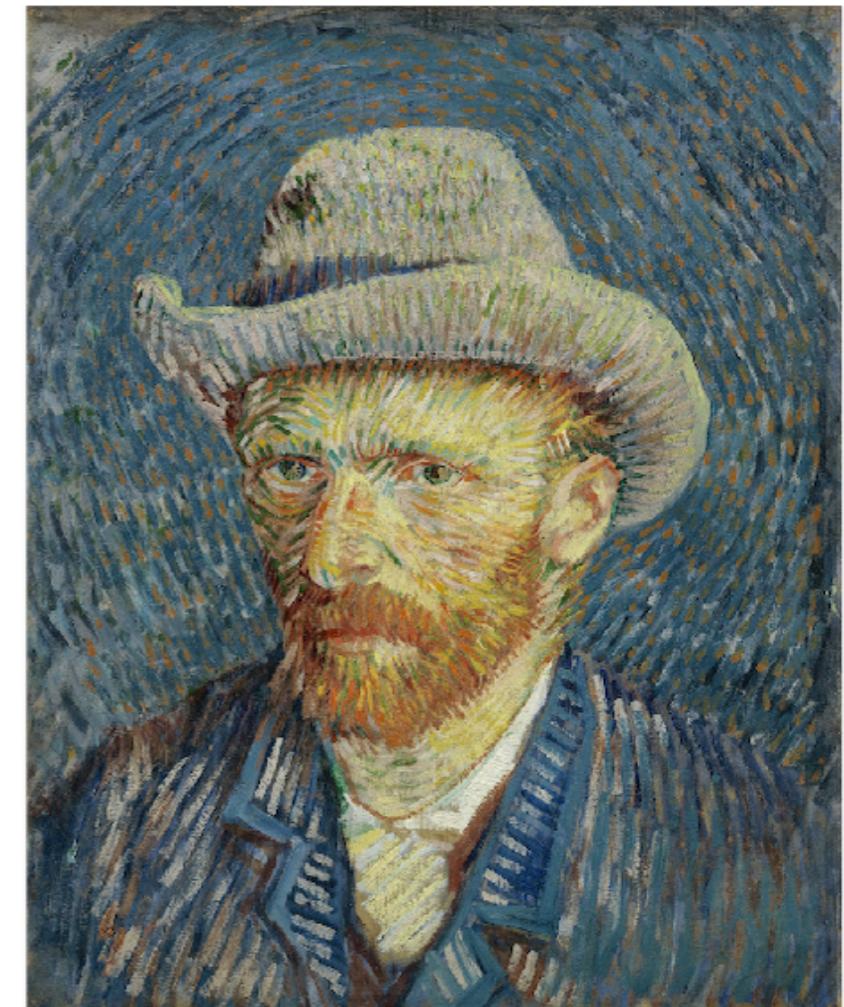
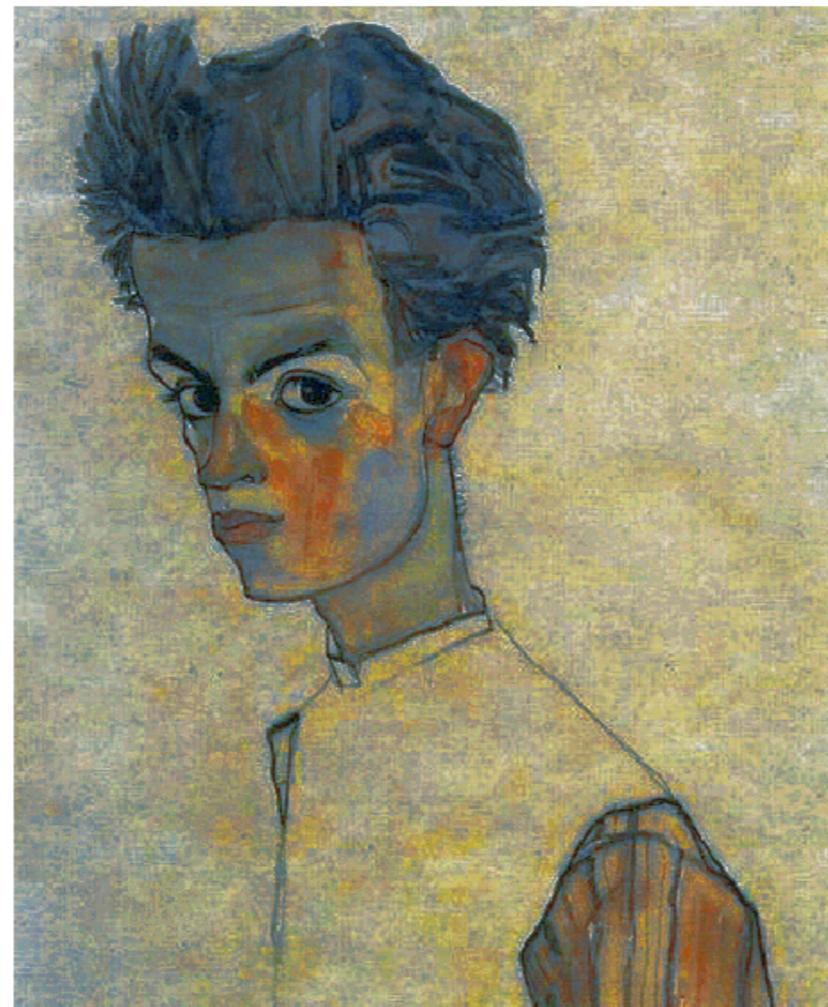


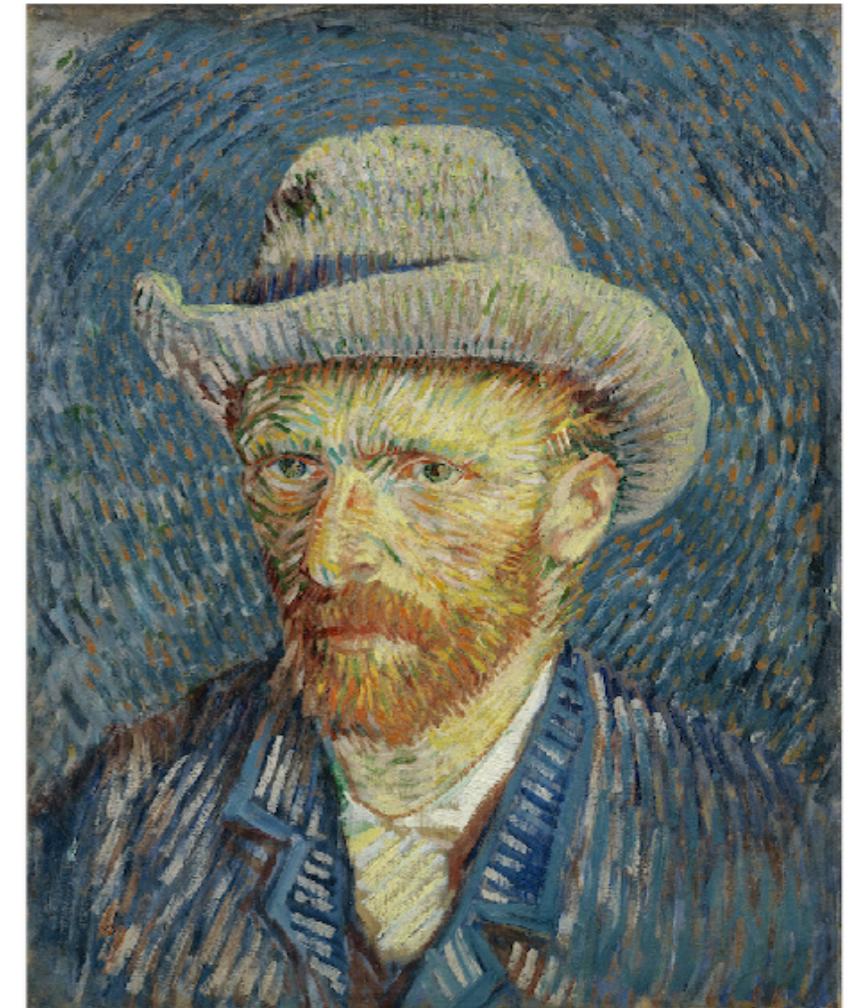
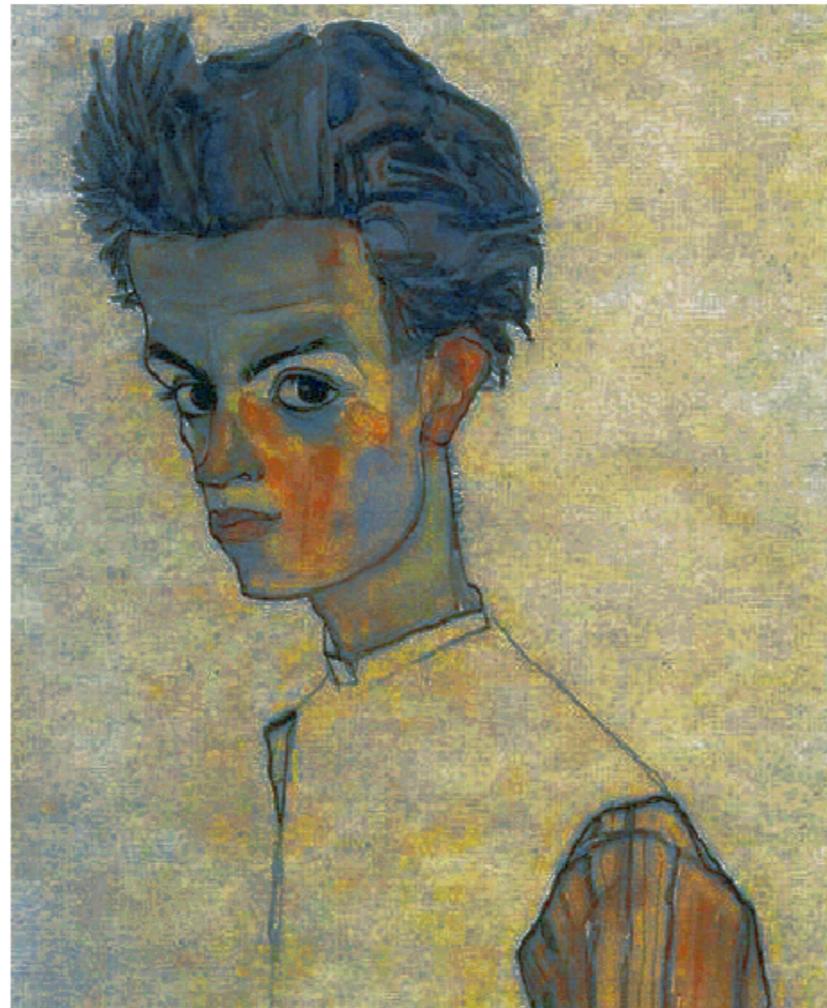


Instead of finding assumptions under which the optimal map exists and exhibits some regularity, we will enforce such existence/regularity directly in the OT problem.

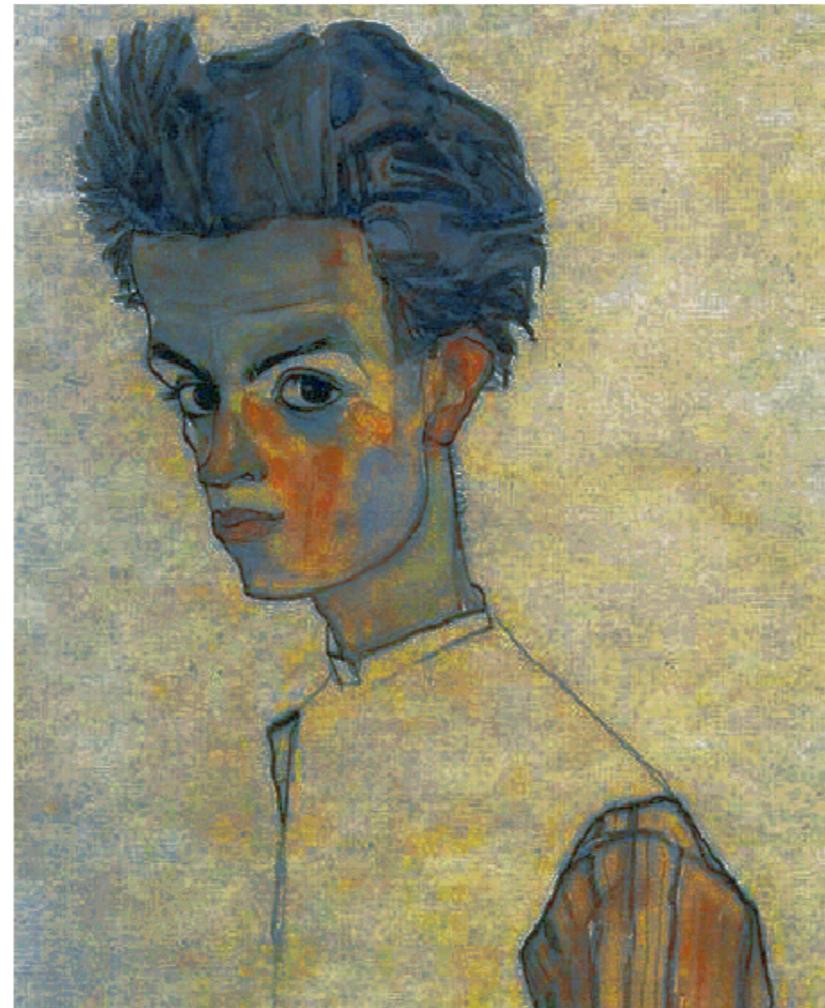


# SMOOTH AND STRONGLY CONVEX BRENIER POTENTIALS



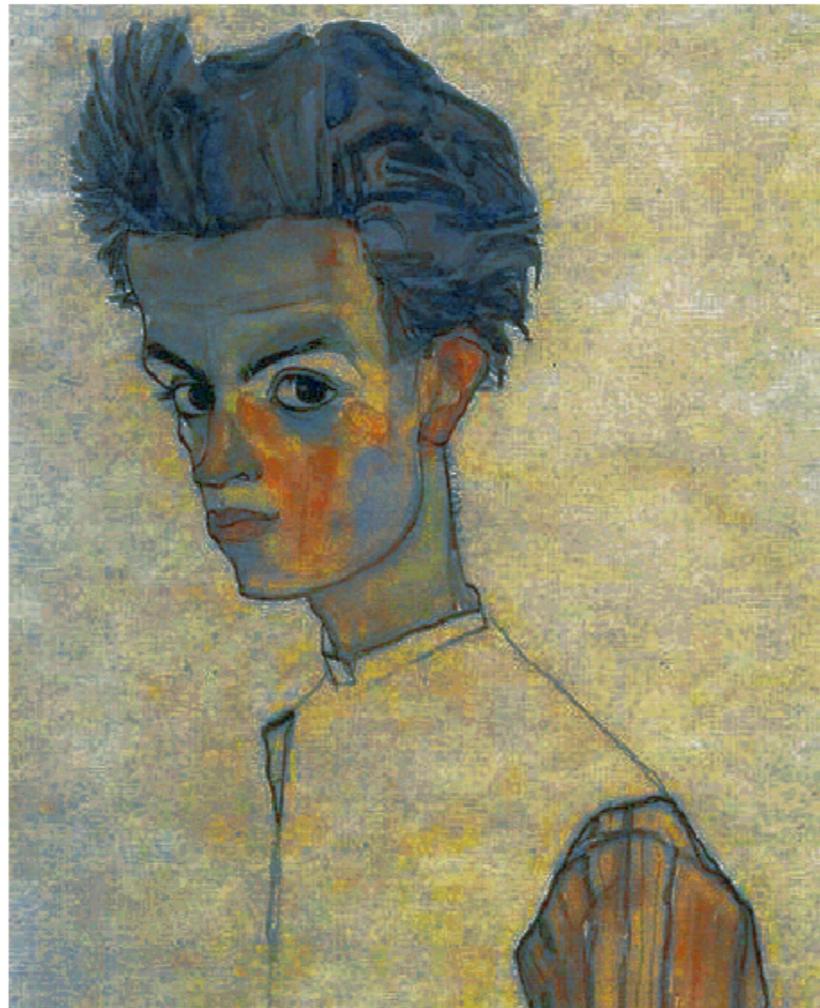


$$\ell\|x - y\| \leq \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$



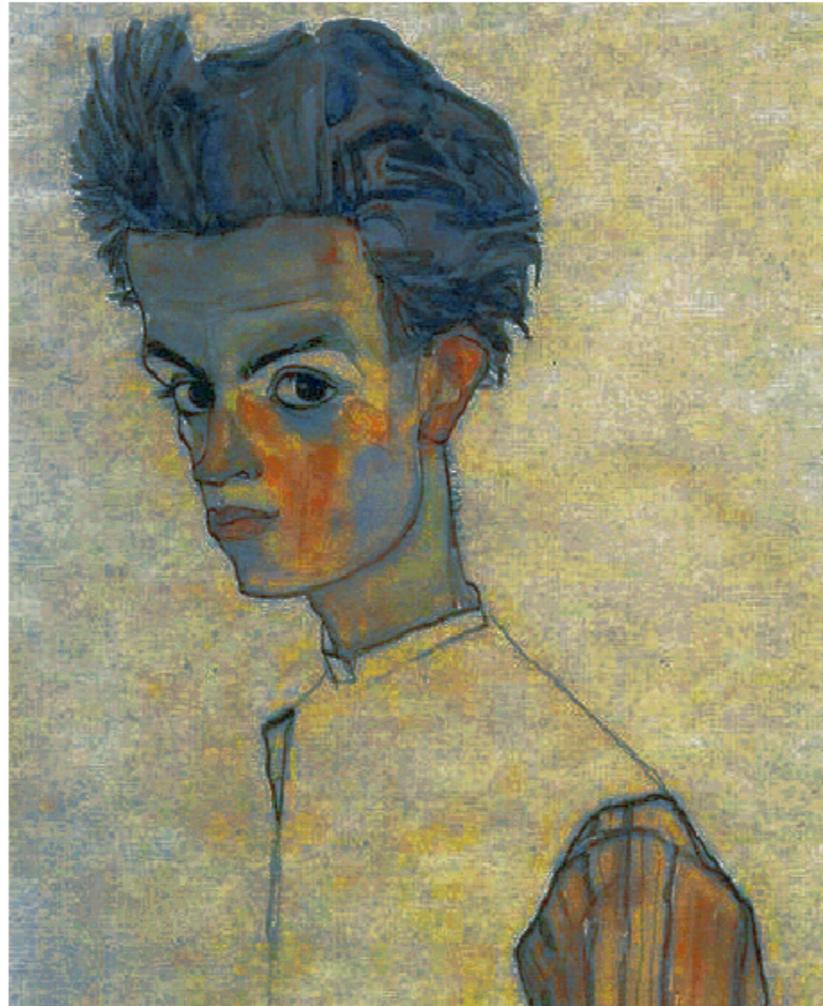
$$\ell\|x - y\| \leq \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

We ask that  $T = \nabla f$  is a bi-Lipschitz map



$$\ell\|x - y\| \leq \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

We ask that  $f$  is **smooth** and **strongly convex**



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We ask that  $f$  is **smooth** and **strongly convex**

$$\hookrightarrow f \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell, L}$$

But there may not even such a regular  $f$  that is admissible for the Monge problem, i.e. such that  $(\nabla f)_{\sharp} \mu = \nu$ .

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Instead, we will try to best approximate  $\nu$  as a push-forward of  $\mu$  through a regular map:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell, L}} W_2 [\nabla f_{\sharp} \mu, \nu]$$

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Smooth and Strong Convex  
Brenier Potentials

Even when the measures are discrete, this is a  
*infinite dimensional* optimization problem !

$$\min_{\textcolor{green}{f} \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \textcolor{red}{\mu}, \textcolor{blue}{\nu}]$$

Even when the measures are discrete, this is a *infinite dimensional* optimization problem !

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \mu, \nu]$$



Finite dimensional  
double minimization

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$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \mu, \nu]$$
$$\min_{\substack{z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ u \in \mathbb{R}^n}} W_2^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \delta_{z_i}, \nu \right)$$

Finite dimensional  
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Even when the measures are discrete, this is a *infinite dimensional* optimization problem !

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Finite dimensional double minimization

$$u_i \geq u_j + \langle z_j, x_i - x_j \rangle$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2(1 - \ell/L)} \left( \frac{1}{L} \|z_i - z_j\|^2 + \ell \|x_i - x_j\|^2 - 2 \frac{\ell}{L} \langle z_j - z_i, x_j - x_i \rangle \right)$$

$$\textcolor{red}{x}_1,\ldots,\textcolor{red}{x}_n\sim \mu$$

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\textcolor{red}{x}_i}$$

$$y_1,\ldots,y_n\sim \nu$$

$$\hat{\nu}_n = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\textcolor{blue}{y}_i}$$

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$$\textcolor{violet}{f}^\star \in \argmin_{\textcolor{violet}{f} \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2\left[\nabla f_\sharp \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n\right]$$

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \sim \mu$$

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim \nu$$

$$\hat{\nu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{y_i}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} f^\star \in \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n]$$

Solved by alternating minimization  
on  $f$  and Wasserstein computation

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \sim \mu$$

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim \nu$$

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$$\textcolor{red}{f^\star} \in \arg \min_{\textcolor{red}{f} \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f_\# \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n]$$

Solved by alternating minimization  
on  $\textcolor{red}{f}$  and Wasserstein computation

We can easily compute the map on any new point  $\textcolor{brown}{x}$   
by solving a cheap QCQP

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \sim \mu$$

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim \nu$$

$$\hat{\nu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{y_i}$$

  $f^* \in \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell, L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n]$

Solved by alternating minimization  
on  $f$  and Wasserstein computation

We can easily compute the map on any new point  $x$   
by solving a cheap QCQP

$$\min_{v \in \mathbb{R}, g \in \mathbb{R}^d} v$$

$$\text{s.t. } \forall i, v \geq u_i + \langle z_i^*, x - x_i \rangle$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2(1 - \ell/L)} \left( \frac{1}{L} \|g - z_i^*\|^2 + \ell \|x - x_i\|^2 - 2 \frac{\ell}{L} \langle z_i^* - g, x_i - x \rangle \right)$$

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \sim \mu$$

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim \nu$$

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$$\textcolor{red}{f^\star} \in \arg \min_{\textcolor{red}{f} \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n]$$

Solved by alternating minimization  
on  $\textcolor{red}{f}$  and Wasserstein computation

We can easily compute the map on any new point  $\textcolor{brown}{x}$   
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This defines an estimator  $\nabla \textcolor{red}{f}^\star$  of the optimal transport  
map sending  $\mu$  to  $\nu$

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$$\textcolor{red}{f^\star} \in \arg \min_{\textcolor{red}{f} \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell,L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n]$$

Solved by alternating minimization  
on  $\textcolor{red}{f}$  and Wasserstein computation

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This defines an estimator  $\nabla \textcolor{red}{f}^\star$  of the optimal transport  
map sending  $\mu$  to  $\nu$

We define the SSNB estimator as a plug-in:

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \sim \mu$$

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n \sim \nu$$

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$$\textcolor{red}{f^*} \in \arg \min_{\textcolor{red}{f} \in \mathcal{F}_{\ell, L}} W_2 [\nabla f \sharp \hat{\mu}_n, \hat{\nu}_n]$$

Solved by alternating minimization  
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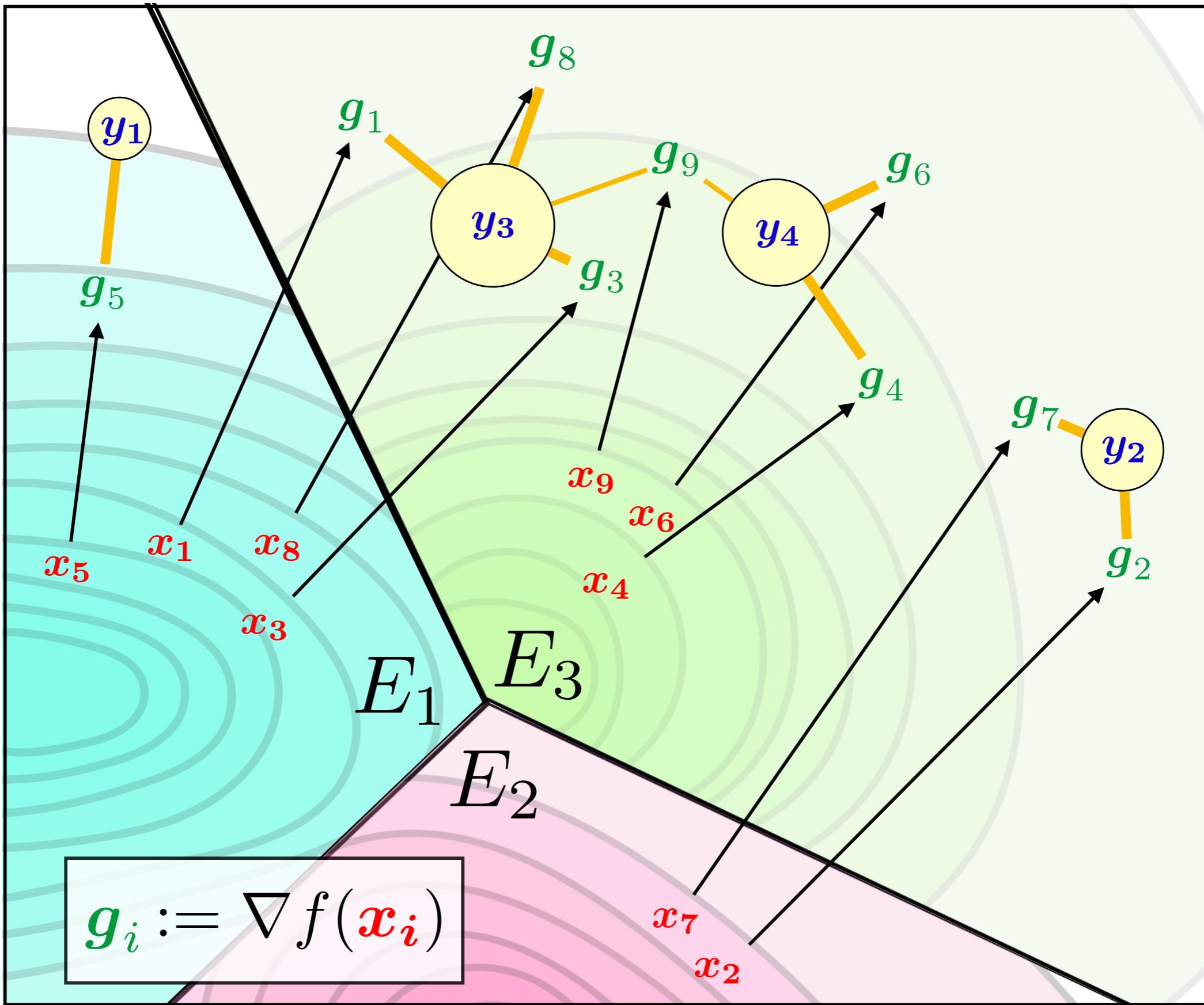
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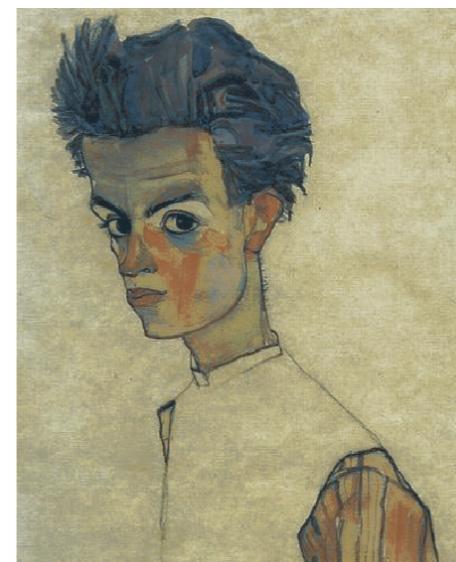
This defines an estimator  $\nabla f^*$  of the optimal transport  
map sending  $\mu$  to  $\nu$

We define the SSNB estimator as a plug-in:

$$\widehat{W}_2^2 = \int \| \textcolor{brown}{x} - \nabla f^*(\textcolor{brown}{x}) \|^2 d\mu(\textcolor{brown}{x})$$

# Regularity “by part”



 $L = 1$  $\ell = 0$  $\ell = 0.5$  $\ell = 1$  $L = 2$  $L = 5$ 