



Università Commerciale  
Luigi Bocconi



# Gradient Flows in the Geometry of the Sinkhorn Divergence

Mathis Hardion

10/10/2024

# Introduction

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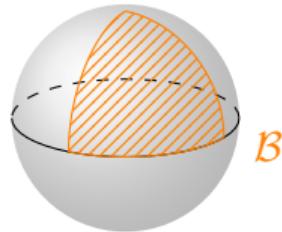
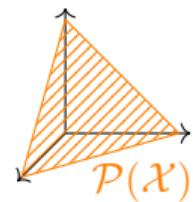
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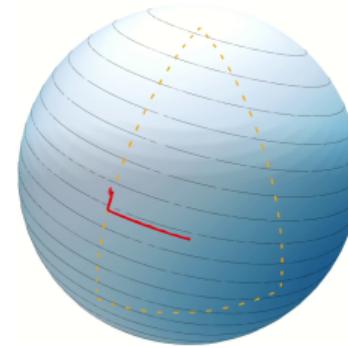
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as  $\tau \rightarrow 0$  : ?? → We derive the equation, analyze its structure and properties.

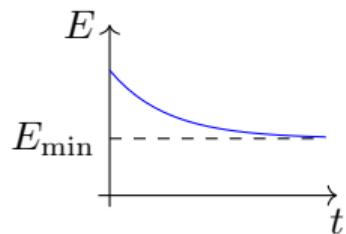
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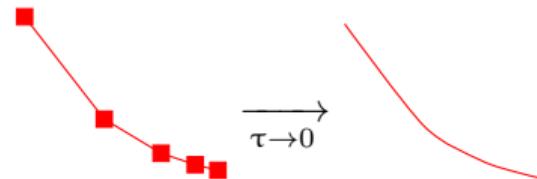
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2. The equation and its structure

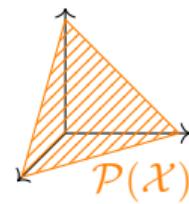


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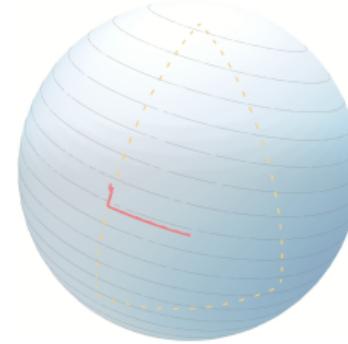


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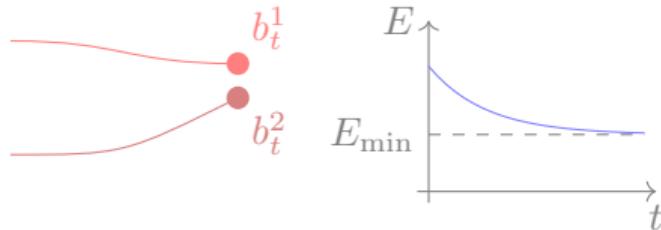
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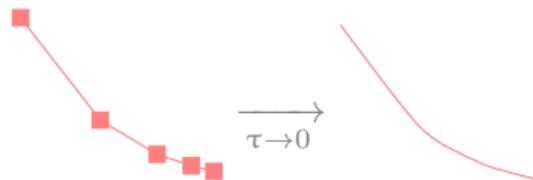
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- ↪  $\mathcal{H}_\mu$  depends on  $\mu \implies$  change of variables

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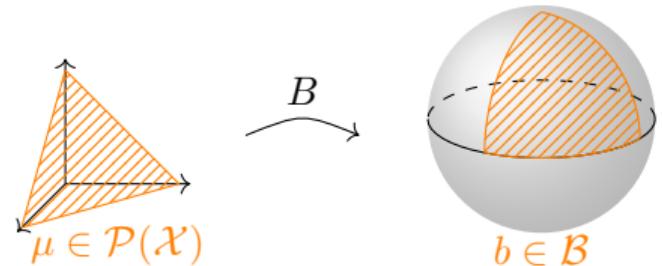
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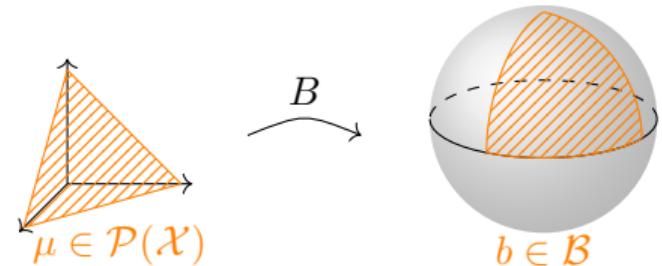
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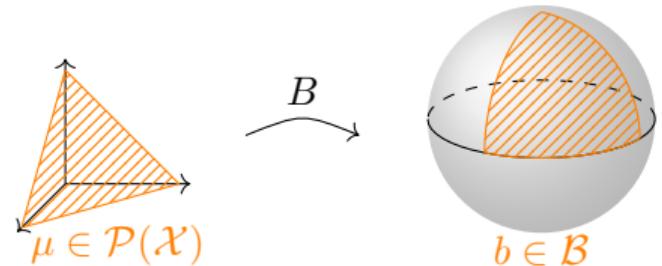
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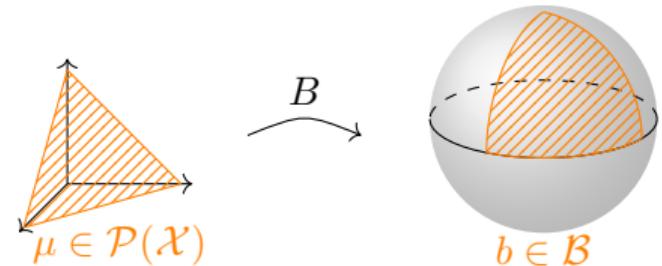
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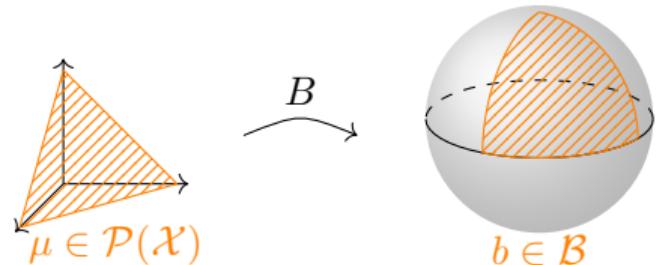
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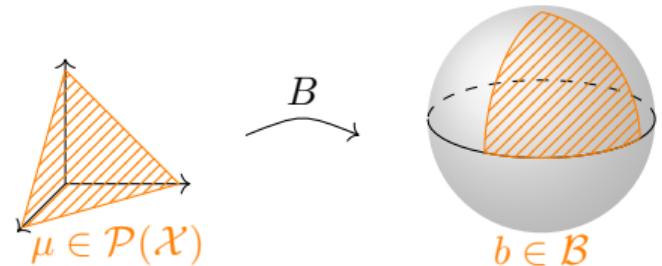
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$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mu \geq 0 & & \langle \mu, 1 \rangle = 1 \end{array}$$

Admissible paths:  $(b_t)_t \in \mathcal{H}^1([0, 1], \mathcal{H}_c)$  valued in  $\mathcal{B}$ .



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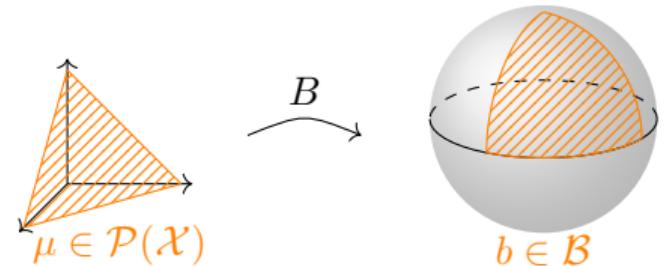
**Theorem.** The map  $B$  is a homeomorphism onto its image

$$\mathcal{B} := [H_c[\mathcal{M}_+(\mathcal{X})]] \cap \{b \in \mathcal{H}_c \mid \|b\|_{\mathcal{H}_c} = 1\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mu \geq 0 & & \langle \mu, 1 \rangle = 1 \end{array}$$

Admissible paths:  $(b_t)_t \in \mathcal{H}^1([0, 1], \mathcal{H}_c)$  valued in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

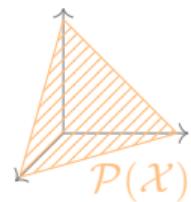
Geodesic distance  $d_S$  defined by minimizing  $\int_0^1 \tilde{\mathbf{g}}_{\mu_t} (\dot{b}_t, \dot{b}_t) dt$  over admissible paths.



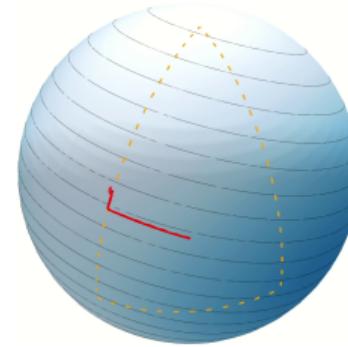
$$\mathbf{g}_\mu \longleftrightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{g}}_\mu$$

$$G_\mu \longleftrightarrow \tilde{G}_\mu$$

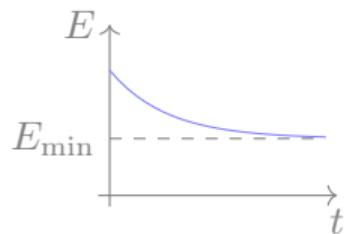
# Plan



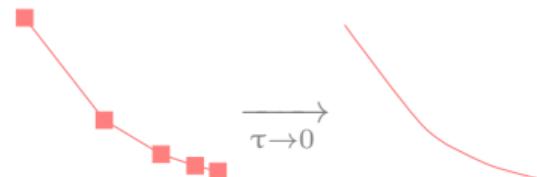
1. The Riemannian Geometry of  $S_\varepsilon$



2. The equation and its structure



3. Well posedness and properties



4. Convergence of the SJKO scheme

## Derivation of the equation

$$\mu_{k+1}^\tau \in \arg \min_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} \langle \mu, V \rangle + \frac{1}{2\tau} S_\varepsilon(\mu, \mu_k^\tau)$$

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1st order conditions + formal limit:

$$\begin{cases} G_{\mu_t}[\dot{\mu}_t] + V + p_t = 0 \\ p_t \leq 0 \\ \langle \mu_t, p_t \rangle = 0 \\ \mu_t \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \end{cases}$$

Gradient flow of  $\mu \mapsto \langle \mu, V \rangle$

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the set of **pressure vectors** at  $b$ .

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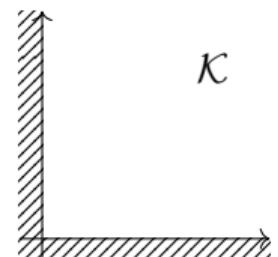
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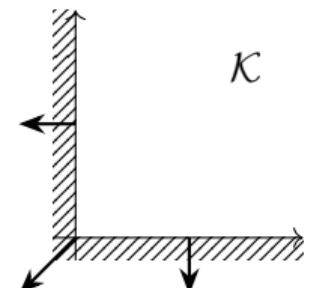
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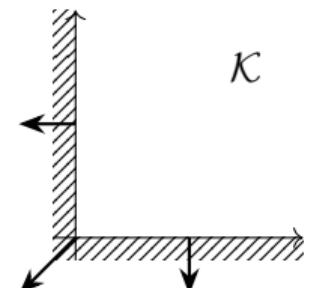
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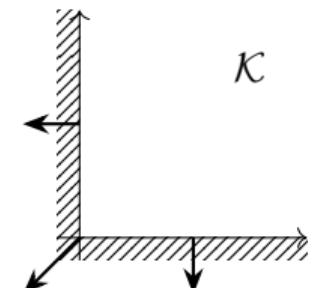
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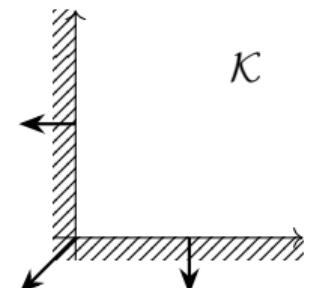
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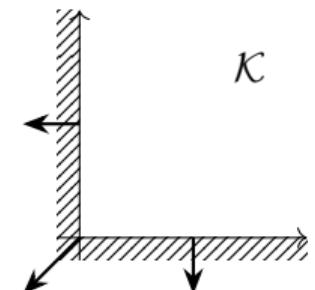
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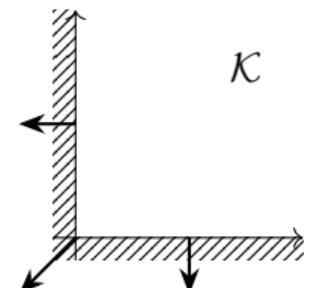
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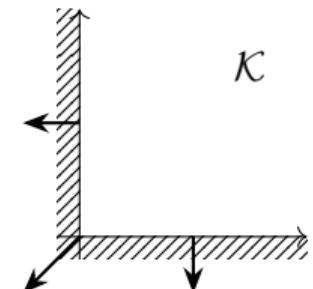
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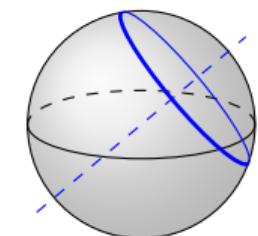
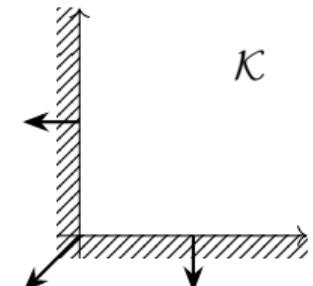
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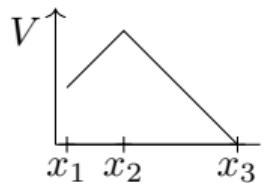
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# Numerics on the 3-point space



--- Boundary of  $\mathcal{B}$

— Theoretical rotation lines

—● SJKO Flow (embedded)

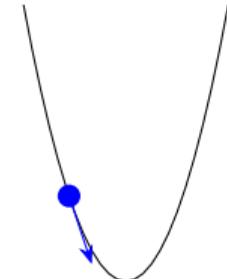


Potential energy  $\langle H_c^{-1}b, Vb \rangle$

# Flow of a Dirac mass

**Proposition.** If  $(x_t)_t \subset \mathcal{X}$  is a smooth trajectory and  $b_t = B(\delta_{x_t})$  then

$$\dot{b}_t + \mathbf{W}b_t + \mathfrak{P}b_t \ni 0 \iff \dot{x}_t \in -\partial V(x_t).$$

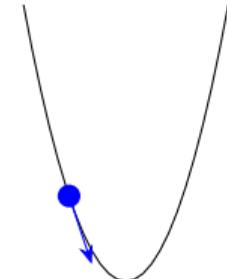


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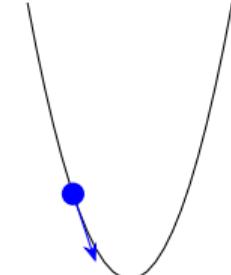
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**Corollary.** For  $V$  convex and any  $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}$ , the Sinkhorn potential flow starting at  $b_0 = B(\delta_{x_0})$  is given by  $B(\delta_{x_t})$  with  $(x_t)_t$  the subgradient flow of  $V$ .

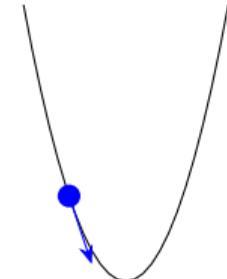


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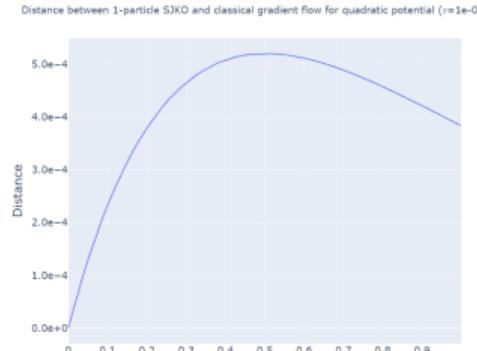
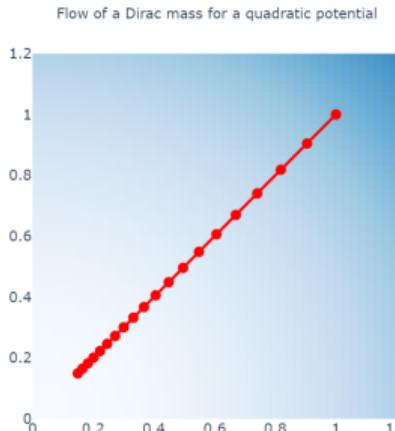
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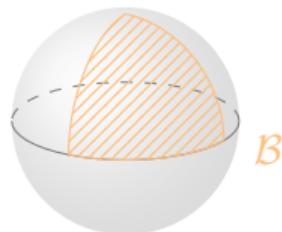
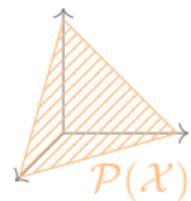
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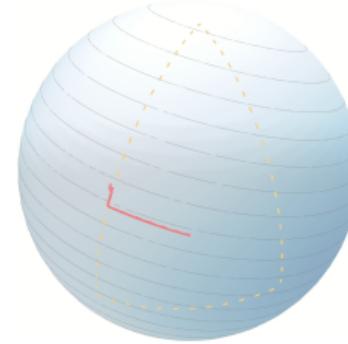
**Corollary.** For  $V$  convex and any  $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}$ , the Sinkhorn potential flow starting at  $b_0 = B(\delta_{x_0})$  is given by  $B(\delta_{x_t})$  with  $(x_t)_t$  the subgradient flow of  $V$ .



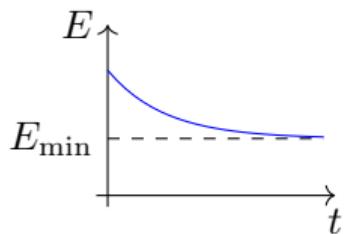
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1. The Riemannian Geometry of  $S_\varepsilon$



2. The equation and its structure



3. Well posedness and properties



4. Convergence of the SJKO scheme

## Existence, uniqueness, contractivity

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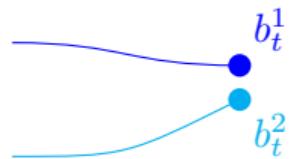
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$x_1$	$x_4$	$x_7$
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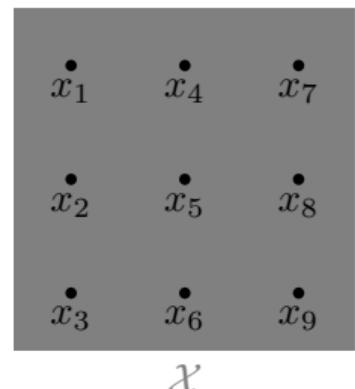
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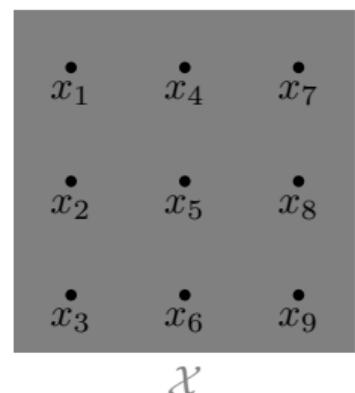


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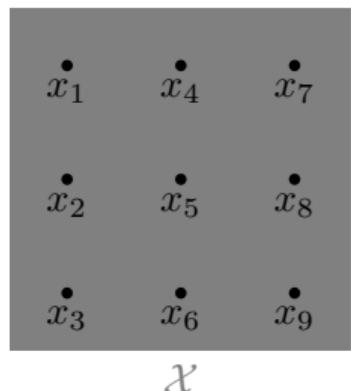
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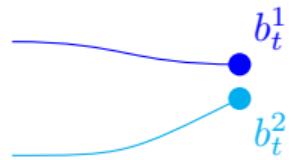
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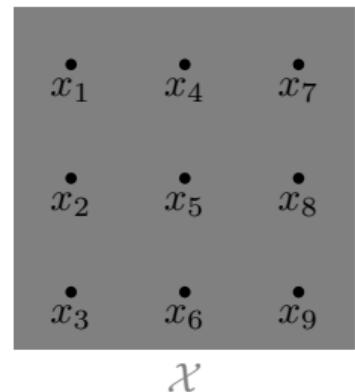
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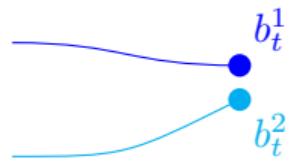
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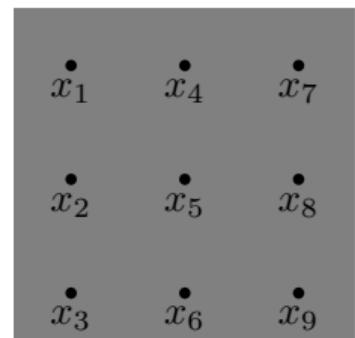
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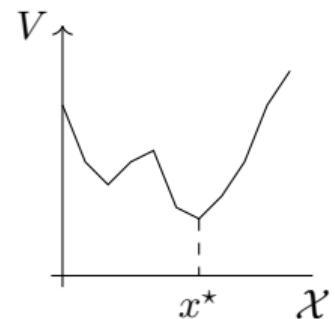


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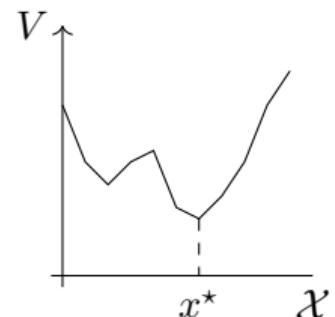
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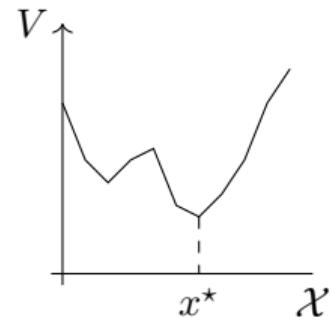
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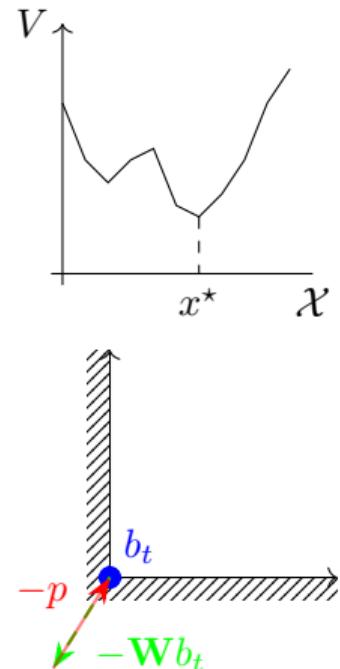
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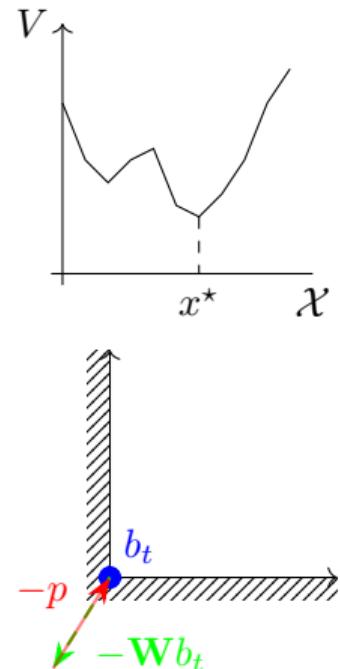
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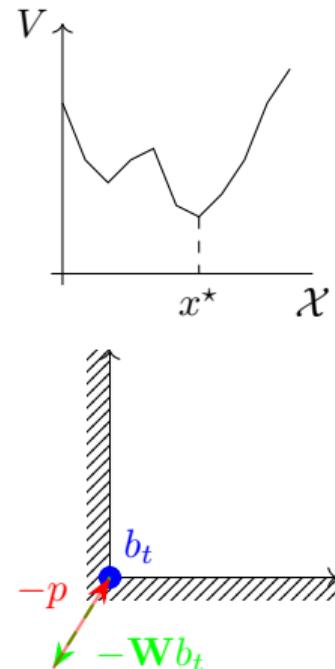
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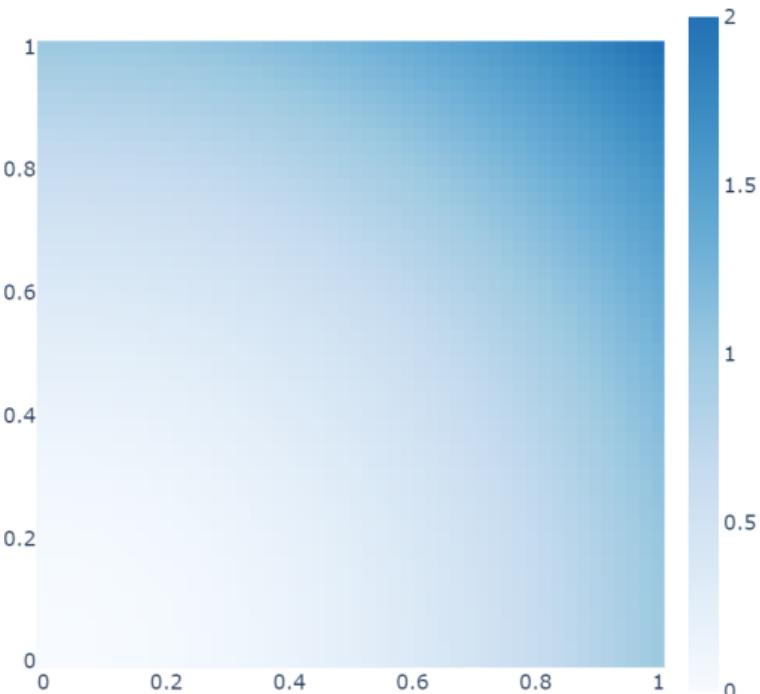
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Because vertical perturbations are admissible for Sinkhorn!



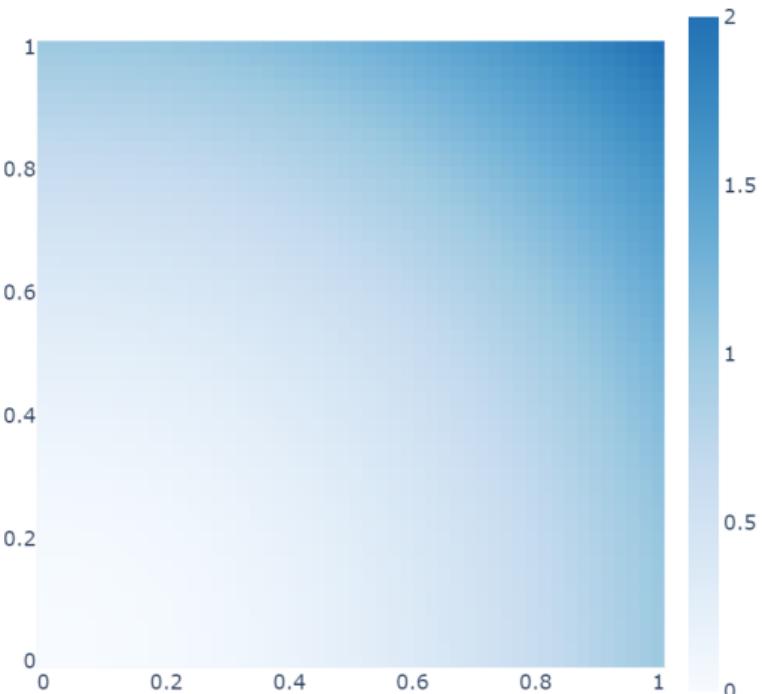
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Sinkhorn flow ( $\varepsilon = 0.2$ )

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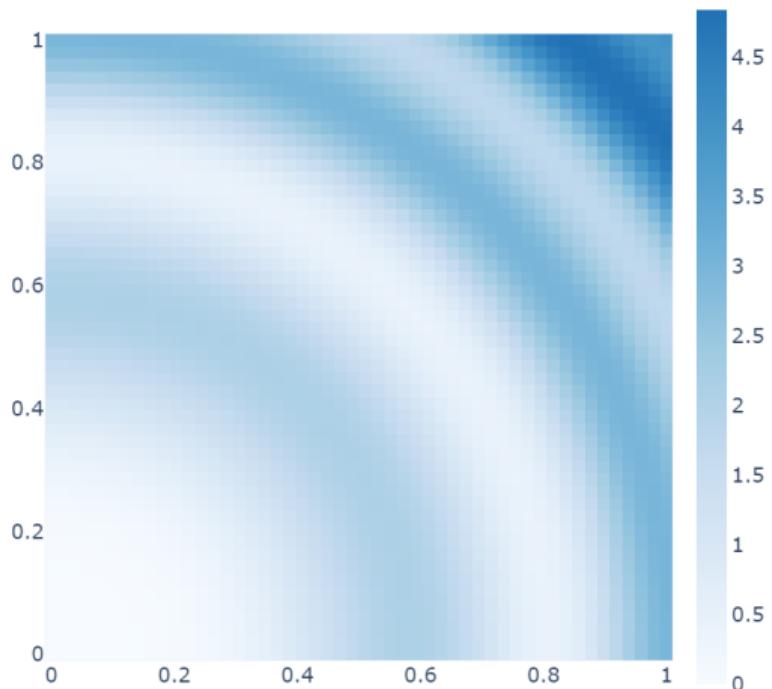
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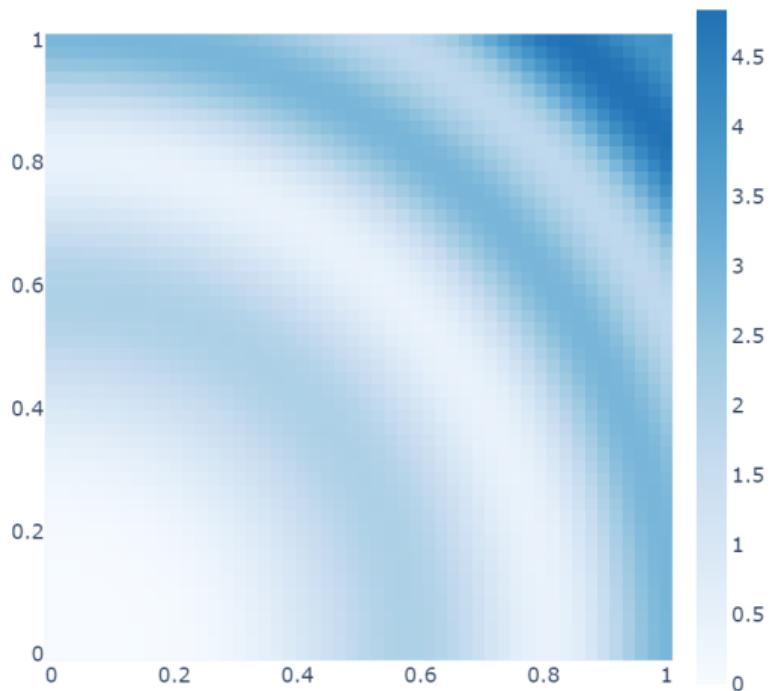
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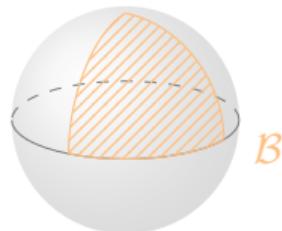
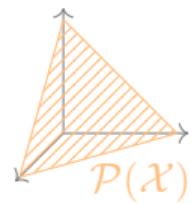
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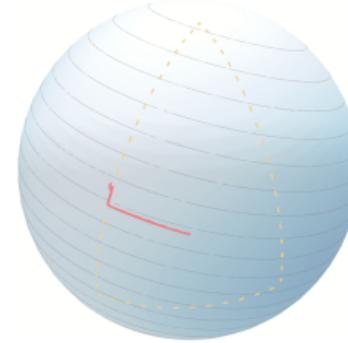
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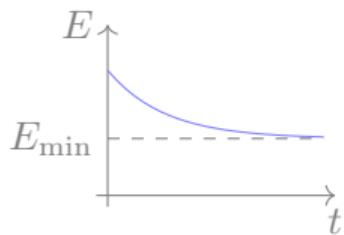
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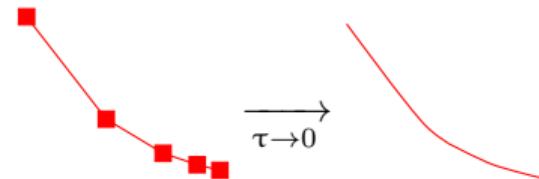
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**Hope:**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{SJKO}_n & \xrightarrow{\tau \rightarrow 0} & \text{Flow}_n \\ & & \downarrow n \rightarrow \infty \\ & & \text{Flow} \end{array}$$

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# Limit of the SJKO scheme as $\tau \rightarrow 0$ (finite $\mathcal{X}$ )

**Theorem.** On a finite space, with  $(b_k^\tau)_k$  given by the SJKO scheme after embedding,  $(\bar{b}_t^\tau)_t$  the piecewise constant interpolation,  $(b_t^\tau)_t$  the piecewise geodesic interpolation, then

$$b^\tau, \bar{b}^\tau \xrightarrow[\tau \rightarrow 0]{} b \text{ uniformly on } [0, T]$$

with  $b$  the Sinkhorn potential flow of  $V$  starting at  $b_0$ .

**Hope:**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{SJKO}_n & \xrightarrow[\tau \rightarrow 0]{} & \text{Flow}_n \\ \downarrow ? & & \downarrow n \rightarrow \infty \\ \text{SJKO} & \dashrightarrow ? ? - \dashrightarrow & \text{Flow} \end{array}$$

SKETCH OF PROOF:

■ Classical estimates and compactness yields a limit

■ Optimality condition of SJKO:  $\frac{1}{2\tau} \left( f_{\mu_{k+1}^\tau, \mu_k^\tau} - f_{\mu_{k+1}^\tau} \right) + V + p_{k+1}^\tau = 0$

$$\frac{1}{2\tau} (f_{t,t-\tau}^\tau - f_{t,t}^\tau) = -\frac{1}{2\tau} \int_{t-\tau}^t \boxed{\frac{\partial f_{t,s}^\tau}{\partial s}} ds \quad \text{Only valid in finite space !}$$

In the general case, tangent spaces are incompatible.

$$\xrightarrow[\tau \rightarrow 0]{} -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial f_{t,t}}{\partial t} = G_{\mu_t} [\dot{\mu}_t]$$

## Conclusion and perspective

What we have seen:

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Thank you for listening!

# Appendix

## Challenges in the general case

$$\frac{\partial f_{t,s}}{\partial s} = -\varepsilon (\text{Id} - K_{t,s} K_{s,t})^{-1} H_{t,s} [\dot{\mu}_s]$$

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$$\mathcal{H}_{\mu_t, \mu_s}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mu_t, \mu_s}$$

$$\text{where } \mathcal{H}_{\mu,\nu} := \exp\left(\frac{f_{\mu,\nu}}{\varepsilon}\right) \mathcal{H}_c$$

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But generally speaking  $\mathcal{H}_{\mu_s,0}^* \not\subset \mathcal{H}_{\mu_t,\mu_s}^*$  !

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mu_t,\mu_s}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mu_t,\mu_s}$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_{\mu,\nu} := \exp\left(\frac{f_{\mu,\nu}}{\varepsilon}\right) \mathcal{H}_c$

# Finite space case

**Theorem.** On a finite space, the differential inclusion

$$\begin{cases} \dot{b}_t + \mathbf{W}b_t + p_t = 0 \\ p_t \in \partial\iota_{\mathcal{K}}(b_t) \\ b_t \in \mathcal{B} \end{cases}$$

has a solution that additionally verifies

- (a)  $p_t = \arg \min_{p \in \partial\iota_{\mathcal{K}}(b_t)} \|\mathbf{W}b_t + p\|_{\mathcal{H}_c}$
- (b)  $\frac{d}{dt} E(b_t) = -\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_{\mu_t}(\dot{b}_t, \dot{b}_t) \implies \begin{cases} (E(b_t))_t \text{ decreases} \\ \int_0^T \|\dot{b}_t\|_{\mathcal{H}_c}^2 dt \text{ bounded} \end{cases}$
- (c)  $\|\dot{b}_t\|_{\mathcal{H}_c}$  decreases.

The flow is contractive.

