# The Optimal Transport Problem

Master Thesis

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# Transport Problem

**Master Thesis** 

by

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#### **Preface**

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Oscar Ramirez Barcelona, September 2018

#### Contents

1	Preliminaries.           1.1 Notation	
2	Basics in Convex Analysis.	3
3	Linear Programming 3.1 Interior Methods	<b>5</b>
4	Optimal Transport Theory 4.1 Kantorovich formulation as relaxation	<b>7</b> 7
5	Computational Optimal Transport  5.1 Linear Programming Formulation. 5.1.1 Sinkhorn-Knopp Algorithm. 5.1.2 Simplex Method Algorithm. 5.1.3 Simulated Annealing.  5.2 Continuous Formulation.	9 9
6	Applications16.1 Nash Equilibrium.16.2 Track of a Dynamic.16.3 Domain Adaptation.16.4 Isoperimetric Inequality.16.5 Barycenter of a Fourier Power Spectrum.1	11 11 11
Bi	bliography 1	13

#### Preliminaries.

#### **Notation**

```
\mathbb{R}
             Real numbers field.
\bar{\mathbb{R}}
             \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}. That is [-\infty, \infty]
            The set of nonnegative real numbers, that is the interval [0, \infty).
\mathbb{R}_{+}
\bar{\mathbb{R}}_{+}
             The set of nonnegative extended real numbers, that is the interval [0, \infty]
            The Dirac mass at point x.
            The d-dimensional Euclidean space.
\mathcal{P}(X)
             Space of probabilities on X.
\mu \ll \nu
            The measure is absolutely continuous with respect to \nu.
            Indicator function of a set \Omega. If x \in \Omega then \mathbb{1}_{\Omega}(x) = 1. If x \in \Omega^c, we have \mathbb{1}_{\Omega}(x) = 0.
\mathbb{1}_{\Omega}
\mu LA
             A measure \mu restricted to a set A.
            The Measure of the unite ball in \mathbb{R}^d.
\omega_d
             The min operator, that is a \wedge b := \min\{a, b\}.
Λ
V
            The max operator, that is a \lor b := \max\{a, b\}.
T_{\#}\mu
            The image measure of \mu through the map T.
             The restriction of a function f to a set \Omega.
f_{|\Omega}
\Pi(\mu,\nu)
            The set of transport plans from \mu to \nu.
            First variation of F: \mathcal{P}(X) \to \mathbb{R}, that is \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\epsilon} F(\rho + \epsilon \chi) \Big|_{\epsilon=0} = \int \frac{\delta F}{\delta \rho} \mathrm{d}\chi
\dot{W_p}
             Wasserstein distance of order p.
\dot{\mathbb{W}}_p
             Wasserstein space of order p.
             The transport plan in \Pi(\mu, \nu).
M(T)
             Monge cost of a map T.
K(\gamma)
             Kantorovich cost of a plan \gamma.
             The product measure of \mu and \nu such that \mu \otimes \nu(A \times B) = \mu(A)\nu(B).
\mu \otimes \nu
M^{k \times h}
            The set of real matrices with k rows and h columns.
M^{\mathsf{T}}
            Transpose of a matrix M.
i.i.d.
            Independent and identical probability distributions.
1.s.c.
            Lower semicontinuous.
```

#### Definitions.

**Definition 1** (Lower Semicontinuity.). On a complete metric space X, a function  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$  is said to be lower semi-continuous (l.s.c.) if for every sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converging to  $x \in X$ , we have

$$f(x) \le \liminf_{n \in \mathbb{N}} f(x_n)$$

**Definition 2** (Sequentially compact.). A subset K of a metric space X is said to be compact if from any sequence  $x_n$ , we can extract a converging subsequence  $x_{n_k} \to x \in K$ .

We can see from the above definition that any continuous function is lower-semicontinuous.

2 1. Preliminaries.

**Definition 3** (Compactness.). A subset *K* of a metric space *X* is compact if every open cover of *K* has a finite subcover.

Theorem 1. A subset of a metric space is compact if and only if it is sequentially compact.

**Theorem 2.** Maxima and Minima Let X be a compact metric space and  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$  is continuous, real-valued function. Then f is bounded on X and attains its maximum and minimum. That is, there are x, y belonging to X such that,

$$f(x) = \inf_{z \in X} f(z)$$
 and  $f(y) = \sup_{z \in X} f(z)$ 

Continuity is a strong requirement. Luckily we can assure the existence of a minimizer on lower-semicontinuous functions (or maximizer on upper-semicontinuous). The usual procedure to prove existence of a minimizer is making use of Weierstrass' criterion, we take a minimizer sequence and we prove the space in which we are trying to find a minimizer element is compact.

**Theorem 3.** Weierstrass' criterion for existence of minimizers. If  $f: X \to \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  is lower semi-continuous and X is compact, then there exists  $\hat{x} \in X$ .

*Proof.* Define  $l := \inf\{f(x) : x \in X\} \in \mathbb{R}$ , notice that  $l = +\infty$  only if f is identically  $+\infty$ , then this case is trivial since any point minimizes f. By compactness there exists a minimizing sequence  $x_n$ , that is  $f(x_n) \to l$ . By compactness we can extract a subsequence converging to some  $\hat{x}$  such that  $\hat{x} \in X$ . By lower-semicontinuity of f, we have that  $f(\hat{x}) \liminf_n f(x_n) = l$ . Since l is the infimum  $l \le f(\hat{x})$ . This proves that  $l = f(\hat{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

We can apply the above analysis using a notion of upper-semicontinuity and compactness to find the maximum.

#### **Definition 4.** Topological dual

**Definition 5.** Weak compactness in dual spaces A sequence  $x_n$  in a Banach space X is said to be weakly convergin to x, and we write  $x_n \to x$ , if for every  $\xi \in X^*$ . We have  $\langle \xi, x_n \rangle \to \langle \xi, x \rangle$ . A sequence

Let  $(X_1,\mathcal{A}_1,\mu_1)$  and  $(X_2,\mathcal{A}_2,\mu_2)$  be two spaces with finite nonnegative measures. On the space  $X_1\times X_2$  we consider sets of the form  $\mathcal{A}1\times \mathcal{A}_2$ , where  $A_i\in \mathcal{A}_i$ , called measurable rectangles. Let  $\mu_1\times \mu_2(A_1\times A_2):=\mu$  1 (A 1) $\mu$  2 (A 2). Extending the function  $\mu$  1  $\times \mu$  2 by additivity to finite unions of pairwise disjoint measurable rectangles we obtain a finitely additive function on the algebra R generated by such rectangles. We observe that such an extension of  $\mu$  1  $\times \mu$  2 to R is well-defined (is independent of partitions of the set into pairwise disjoint measurable rectangles), which is obvious by the additivity of  $\mu$  1 and  $\mu$  2. Fi- nally, let A 1  $\square$ A 2 denote the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by all measurable rectangles; this  $\sigma$ -algebra is called the product of the  $\sigma$ -algebras A 1 and A 2.

**Theorem 4.** The set function  $\mu_1 \times \mu_2$  is countably additive on the algebra generated by all measurable rectangles and uniquely extends to a countably additive measure, denoted by  $\mu_1 \otimes \mu_2$ , on the Lebesgue completion of this algebra denoted by  $\mathcal{A}1 \otimes \mathcal{A}2$ 

## Basics in Convex Analysis.

**Proposition 1.** Let  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$  be a convex and lower-semicontinuous function. Assume that there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $f(x_0) = -\infty$ . Then f is nowhere finite on X.

# 3

# **Linear Programming**

**Interior Methods** 

## **Optimal Transport Theory**

**Problem 1.** Given two probability measures  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$  and a cost function  $c: X \times Y \to \{0, +\infty\}$ , solve

$$\inf \left\{ M\left(T\right) := \int c(x, T(x)) \mathrm{d}\mu(x) : \ T_{\#}\mu = \nu \right\} \tag{MP}$$

Definition 6. coupling

**Problem 2.** Given  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ ,  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ , and  $c: X \times Y \to [0, +\infty]$ , we consider the problem

$$\inf \left\{ K(\gamma) := \int_{X \times Y} c d\gamma : \gamma \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) \right\}$$
 (KP)

where  $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$  is the set of transport plans.

#### Kantorovich formulation as relaxation

## **Computational Optimal Transport**

Linear Programming Formulation.
Sinkhorn-Knopp Algorithm.
Simplex Method Algorithm.
Simulated Annealing.
Continuous Formulation.



Nash Equilibrium.
Track of a Dynamic.
Domain Adaptation.
Isoperimetric Inequality.
Barycenter of a Fourier Power Spectrum.

# Bibliography