

# The Optimal Transport Problem

Master Thesis

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## Master Thesis

by

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# Preface

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*Barcelona, September 2018*



# Contents

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





# 1

## Preliminaries.

### Notation

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

### Definitions.

**Definition 1** (Lower Semicontinuity.). *On a complete metric space  $X$ , a function  $f : X \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  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*

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

**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  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in K$ .*

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

**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  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  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,*

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

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 minimizing sequence and then we prove that the space in which we are trying to find a minimizer element is compact.

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

*Proof.* Define  $l := \inf\{f(x) : x \in X\} \in \bar{\mathbb{R}}$ , 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  $f(x_n) \rightarrow l$ . 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  $f(\hat{x}) \leq \liminf_n f(x_n) = l$ . Since  $l$  is the infimum  $l \leq f(\hat{x})$ . This proves that  $l = f(\hat{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$ .  $\square$

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 converging to  $x$ , and we write  $x_n \rightharpoonup x$ , if for every  $\xi \in X^*$ . We have  $\langle \xi, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \langle \xi, x \rangle$ . 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  $A_1 \times A_2$ , 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  $\mathcal{R}$  generated by such rectangles. We observe that such an extension of  $\mu_1 \times \mu_2$  to  $\mathcal{R}$  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  $\mu_2$ . Finally, let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_1 \otimes \mathcal{A}_2$  denote the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by all measurable rectangles; this  $\sigma$ -algebra is called the product of the  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$ .

**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  $\mathcal{A}_1 \otimes \mathcal{A}_2$*

# 2

## Basics in Convex Analysis.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $f : X \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  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  $X$ .*

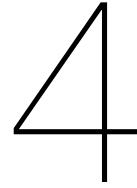


# 3

## 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  $c : X \times Y \rightarrow \{0, +\infty\}$ , solve

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

**Definition 6.** coupling

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

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

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

## Kantorovich formulation as relaxation





# 5

## Computational Optimal Transport

**Linear Programming Formulation.**

**Sinkhorn-Knopp Algorithm.**

**Simplex Method Algorithm.**

**Simulated Annealing.**

**Continuous Formulation.**



# 6

## Applications

**Nash Equilibrium.**

**Track of a Dynamic.**

**Domain Adaptation.**

**Isoperimetric Inequality.**

**Barycenter of a Fourier Power Spectrum.**



# Bibliography