

# Existence of Monge maps for the Gromov–Wasserstein distance

Stage de fin d'études – MVA & Mines Paris

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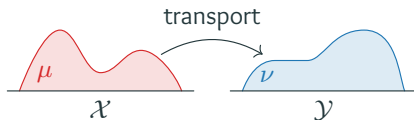
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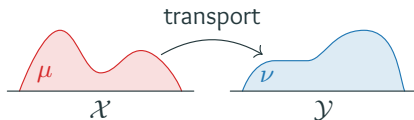
## 1. Introduction

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## Setup :

- $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$  Polish spaces
- probability measures  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})$
- cost function  $c : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



### Monge problem [Monge, 1781]

We consider the following minimization problem:

$$\min_{T_{\#}\mu=\nu} \int_{\mathcal{X}} c(x, T(x)) \, d\mu(x).$$

where  $T_{\#}\mu(B) = \mu(T^{-1}(B))$  for all Borel  $B \subset \mathcal{Y}$ .

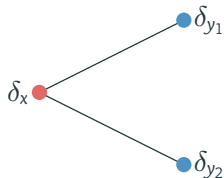
- solutions  $T$  are called *Monge maps* or *optimal maps*

## Monge problem [Monge, 1781]

We consider the following minimization problem:

$$\min_{T_{\#}\mu=\nu} \int_{\mathcal{X}} c(x, T(x)) \, d\mu(x) .$$

- problems:
  1. constraints are not linear!
  2. minimum not reached
  3. no maps s.t.  $T_{\#}\mu = \nu$

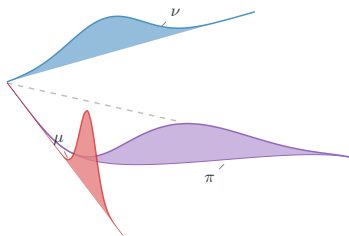


**Figure 1:** We need to “split”  $\delta_x$ : no map can do this.

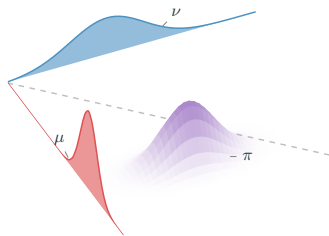
## Transport plan [Kantorovich, 1942]

A **transport plan** between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  is a (probability) measure  $\pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})$  of marginals  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ :

$$\Pi(\mu, \nu) \triangleq \left\{ \pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) \mid p_{\#}^1 \pi = \mu, p_{\#}^2 \pi = \nu \right\}.$$



$\pi$  is induced by a map  $T$ :  $\pi = (\text{id}, T)_{\#} \mu$ .



$\pi$  is the product plan  $\pi = \mu \otimes \nu$ .

**Figure 2:** Deterministic or non-deterministic transport plans.

## Kantorovich problem

We consider the following minimization problem:

$$\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} c(x, y) \, d\pi(x, y) . \quad (\text{KP})$$

- always non-empty (contains  $\mu \otimes \nu$ ), existence of a minimizer
- *linear program in  $\pi$ !*
- if  $c(x, y) = |x - y|_p^p$ ,  $p$ -Wasserstein distance  $W_p(\mu, \nu)^p$

## Question

Is the relaxation *tight*? under some assumptions, yes!



## 1. Introduction

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### 1.1. Map solutions of OT

### Brenier's theorem [Brenier, 1987]

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $c(x, y) = |x - y|^2$ . If  $\mu \ll \mathcal{L}^n$ , then there exists a unique solution to (KP) and it is induced by a **map**  $T = \nabla f$ , with  $f$  convex.

- generalize for manifolds  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  and for other cost functions  $c$

**Twist condition** [Villani, 2008, McCann and Guillen, 2011]

We say that  $c$  satisfies the **twist condition** if

$$\text{for all } x_0 \in \mathcal{X}, \quad y \mapsto \nabla_x c(x_0, y) \in T_{x_0} \mathcal{X} \text{ is injective.} \quad (\text{Twist})$$

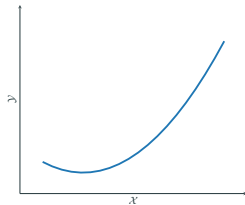
Suppose that  $c$  satisfies (Twist) and assume that *any  $c$ -concave function is differentiable  $\mu$ -a.e. on its domain*. If  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  have *finite transport cost*, then (KP) admits a unique optimal transport plan  $\pi^*$  and it is induced by a **map** which is the gradient of a  $c$ -convex function  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\pi^* = (\text{id}, c\text{-exp}_x(\nabla f))_{\#} \mu.$$

- $c\text{-exp}_x(p)$  is the unique  $y$  such that  $\nabla_x c(x, y) + p = 0$ :

$$c\text{-exp}_x(p) = (\nabla_x c)^{-1}(x, -p).$$

- usual Riemannian exp when  $c(x, y) = d(x, y)^2 / 2$



## Twist condition [Villani, 2008, McCann and Guillen, 2011]

We say that  $c$  satisfies the **twist condition** if

$$\text{for all } x_0 \in \mathcal{X}, \quad y \mapsto \nabla_x c(x_0, y) \in T_{x_0} \mathcal{X} \text{ is injective.} \quad (\text{Twist})$$

Suppose that  $c$  satisfies (Twist) and assume that *any  $c$ -concave function is differentiable  $\mu$ -a.e. on its domain*. If  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  have *finite transport cost*, then (KP) admits a unique optimal transport plan  $\pi^*$  and it is induced by a **map** which is the gradient of a  $c$ -convex function  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ :

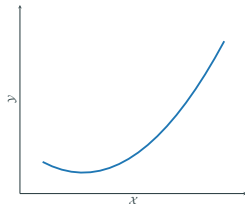
$$\pi^* = (\text{id}, c\text{-exp}_x(\nabla f))_{\#} \mu.$$

- examples:

	twist
$ x - y ^2$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$	✓
$\langle x, y \rangle$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$	✓
$\langle x, y \rangle$ on $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$	.

- other formulation:

$$\forall y_1 \neq y_2, \quad x \mapsto c(x, y_1) - c(x, y_2) \text{ has no critical point.}$$



**Subtwist condition** [Ahmad et al., 2011, Chiappori et al., 2010]

We say that  $c$  satisfies the **subtwist condition** if

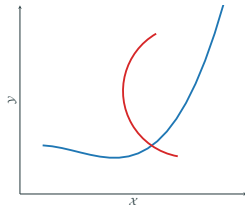
$$\forall y_1 \neq y_2, \quad x \mapsto c(x, y_1) - c(x, y_2) \quad \text{has at most 2 critical points.} \quad (\text{Subtwist})$$

Suppose that  $c$  satisfies (Subtwist). Under the *same assumptions than before*, (KP) admits a unique optimal transport plan  $\pi^*$  and it is induced by the **union of a map and an anti-map**:

$$\pi^* = (\text{id}, G)_\# \bar{\mu} + (H, \text{id})_\# (\nu - G_\# \bar{\mu})$$

for  $G : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ ,  $H : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and  $0 \leq \bar{\mu} \leq \mu$  s.t.  $\nu - G_\# \bar{\mu}$  vanishes on the range of  $G$ .

		twist	subtwist
$\langle x, y \rangle$	on $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$	.	✓



## m-twist condition [Moameni, 2016]

We say that  $c$  satisfies a  $m$ -twist condition if

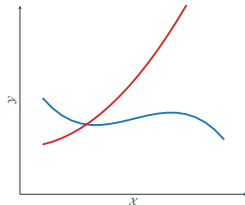
$$\forall x_0 \in \mathcal{X}, y_0 \in \mathcal{Y}, \quad \text{card} \{y \mid \nabla_x c(x_0, y) = \nabla_x c(x_0, y_0)\} \leq m. \quad (m\text{-twist})$$

Suppose that  $c$  satisfies (m-twist) and is *bounded*. Under the *same assumptions than before*, each optimal plan  $\pi^*$  of (KP) is supported on the **graphs of  $k \leq m$  measurable maps  $T_i : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$** :

$$\pi^* = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i (\text{id}, T_i)_\# \mu,$$

in the sense  $\pi^*(S) = \sum_{i=1}^k \int_{\mathcal{X}} \alpha_i(x) \mathbb{1}_S(x, T_i(x)) d\mu$  for any Borel  $S \subset \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ .

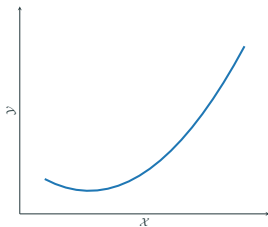
		twist	subtwist	2-twist
$1 - \cos(x - y)$	on $[0, 2\pi)$	.	✓	✓
our cost!	in $\mathbb{R}^n$	.	.	✓



Twist



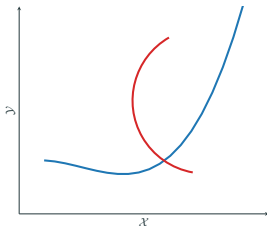
map



Subwist



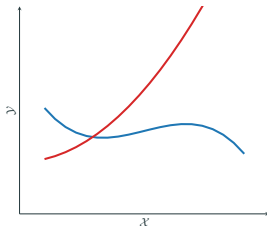
map/anti-map



2-twist



bimap



- all assumptions needed to apply them are satisfied when  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  have compact support and  $\mu$  has a density

## 1. Introduction

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### 1.2. Gromov–Wasserstein



## sup formulation

Set couplings  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

$$\left\{ R \subset A \times B \mid P^1(R) = A, P^2(R) = B \right\}$$

## $L^p$ formulation

Transport plans  $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$

$$\left\{ \pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) \mid P_{\#}^1 \pi = \mu, P_{\#}^2 \pi = \nu \right\}$$

**Hausdorff** distance  $H_{\mathcal{Z}}$

between **sets**  $A, B$

$$\inf_{R \in \mathcal{R}(A, B)} \left( \sup_{(a, b) \in R} d_{\mathcal{Z}}(a, b) \right)$$

**Wasserstein** distance  $W_p$

between **measures**  $\mu, \nu$

$$\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \left( \int |x - y|^p d\pi \right)^{1/p}$$

sup formulation

$L^p$  formulation

Set couplings  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

Transport plans  $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$

$$\left\{ R \subset A \times B \mid P^1(R) = A, P^2(R) = B \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) \mid P_{\#}^1 \pi = \mu, P_{\#}^2 \pi = \nu \right\}$$

**Hausdorff** distance  $H_{\mathcal{Z}}$

**Wasserstein** distance  $W_p$

between **sets**  $A, B$

between **measures**  $\mu, \nu$

$$\inf_{R \in \mathcal{R}(A, B)} \left( \sup_{(a, b) \in R} d_{\mathcal{Z}}(a, b) \right)$$

$$\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \left( \int |x - y|^p d\pi \right)^{1/p}$$

**Gromov–Hausdorff** distance GH

between **metric spaces**  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \inf_{R \in \mathcal{R}} \left( \sup_{(x, y), (x', y') \in R} |d_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - d_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')| \right)$$

sup formulation

$L^p$  formulation

Set couplings  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

Transport plans  $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$

$$\left\{ R \subset A \times B \mid P^1(R) = A, P^2(R) = B \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) \mid P_{\#}^1 \pi = \mu, P_{\#}^2 \pi = \nu \right\}$$

**Hausdorff** distance  $H_{\mathcal{Z}}$

between **sets**  $A, B$

$$\inf_{R \in \mathcal{R}(A, B)} \left( \sup_{(a, b) \in R} d_{\mathcal{Z}}(a, b) \right)$$

**Wasserstein** distance  $W_p$

between **measures**  $\mu, \nu$

$$\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \left( \int |x - y|^p d\pi \right)^{1/p}$$

**Gromov–Hausdorff** distance  $GH$

between **metric spaces**  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \inf_{R \in \mathcal{R}} \left( \sup_{(x, y), (x', y') \in R} |d_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - d_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')| \right)$$

**Gromov–Wasserstein** distance  $GW_p$

between **measure metric spaces**  $\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}$

$$\inf_{\pi \in \Pi} \left( \int |d_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - d_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')|^p d\pi \otimes \pi \right)^{1/p}$$

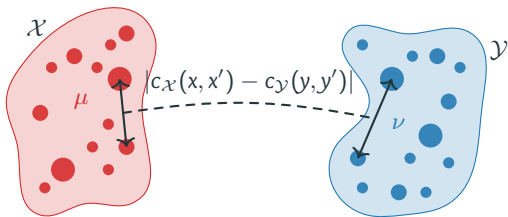
# Gromov–Wasserstein

- match measure metric spaces  $(\mathcal{X}, d, \mu)$  (e.g. point clouds) up to isometry: no notion of transport here, but rather of *correspondence*
- applications in vision, biology...

## Gromov–Wasserstein problem

We consider the following quadratic minimization problem:

$$\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \iint_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} |c_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - c_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')|^p d\pi(x, y) d\pi(x', y'). \quad (\text{GW})$$



- distance between mm-spaces up to isometry, i.e.  $\text{GW}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) = 0$  iff  $\mathbb{X} = (\mathcal{X}, d_{\mathcal{X}}^q, \mu)$  and  $\mathbb{Y} = (\mathcal{Y}, d_{\mathcal{Y}}^q, \nu)$  are *strongly isomorphic* [Mémoli, 2011]

## Gromov–Wasserstein problem

We consider the following quadratic minimization problem:

$$\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \iint_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} |c_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - c_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')|^p d\pi(x, y) d\pi(x', y'). \quad (\text{GW})$$

- quadratic in  $\pi$  + non-convex  $\implies$  much harder than OT
- for  $p = 2$ , discrete formulation: with  $D^{\mathcal{X}}, D^{\mathcal{Y}}$  two similarity matrices on  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ ,

$$\min_{P \in U(a, b)} \sum_{i, j, i', j'} |D_{i, i'}^{\mathcal{X}} - D_{j, j'}^{\mathcal{Y}}|^p P_{i, j} P_{i', j'}.$$

particular case of the *quadratic assignment problem* (QAP), NP-hard

- bonus: compare measures living in incomparable spaces

### Question

What can be said on the existence of Monge maps for the Gromov–Wasserstein distance?

- quadratic...

## 1. Introduction

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### 1.3. Existing results and contributions

Let  $n \geq d$ . We consider the GW problem for  $\mu, \nu \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^d$  in 2 different settings:

1. the *inner product case*, where  $c_{\mathcal{X}} = c_{\mathcal{Y}} = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ :

$$\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \iint_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} |\langle x, x' \rangle - \langle y, y' \rangle|^2 d\pi(x, y) d\pi(x', y'), \quad (\text{GW inner prod})$$

- e.g. on a  $d$ -dimensional sphere  $\mathbb{S}^{d-1}$

2. the *quadratic case*, where  $c_{\mathcal{X}} = c_{\mathcal{Y}} = |\cdot|^2$ :

$$\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \iint_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} \left| |x - x'|^2 - |y - y'|^2 \right|^2 d\pi(x, y) d\pi(x', y'), \quad (\text{GW quadratic})$$

- standard choice for  $c_{\mathcal{X}}$  and  $c_{\mathcal{Y}}$

→ both studied in the literature [Alvarez-Melis et al., 2019, Vayer, 2020]

In the following,  $n = d$ .



## Existing results

1. the *inner product case*, where  $c_{\mathcal{X}} = c_{\mathcal{Y}} = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ :

[Vayer, 2020]

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  of finite second order moment with  $\mu \ll \mathcal{L}^n$ . Suppose that there exists a solution  $\pi^*$  such that  $M^* = \int y \otimes x \, d\pi^*(x, y)$  is of *full rank*. Then there exists an optimal map  $T = \nabla f \circ M^*$  with  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  convex.

2. the *quadratic case*, where  $c_{\mathcal{X}} = c_{\mathcal{Y}} = |\cdot|^2$ :

[Sturm, 2020]

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with *density, rotationally invariant* around their barycenter. Then optimal transport plans are *induced by a map* which is the monotone increasing rearrangement between the radial distributions of  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ .

[Vayer, 2020]

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with compact support. Assume that  $\mu \ll \mathcal{L}^n$  and that both  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are centered. Suppose that there exists  $\pi^*$  such that  $M^* = \int y \otimes x \, d\pi^*(x, y)$  is of *full rank* and that there exists a differentiable convex  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|T(x)|_2^2 = F'(|x|_2^2)$ , then there exists an optimal map  $T = \nabla f \circ M^*$  with  $f$  convex.

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  of *compact support*. Suppose  $\mu \ll \mathcal{L}^n$ .

1. **Theorem:** The (GW inner prod) problem admits a *map* as a solution.
2. **Theorem:** The (GW quadratic) problem either admits a *map*, a *bimap* or a *map/anti-map* as a solution.
3. **Conjecture:** The second claim is *tight*: there exists cases where optimal solutions of (GW quadratic) are *not maps*.

Optimality of the monotone rearrangements  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  and  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  in 1D for (GW quadratic):

4. **Algorithm:** There exists measures  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  for which the  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  and  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  are *not optimal*;  
and having  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  or  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  as optimal is *not stable* by perturbations of  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ .
5. **(Theorem:** When measures  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are composed of two distant parts,  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  or  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  is *optimal*.)

## 2. Monge maps for GW

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**Trick:** relaxation of GW into OT problem

- $(\text{GW}) = \min_{\pi} F(\pi, \pi)$  with  $F$  symmetric bilinear
- *first-order condition*:  $\pi^*$  minimizes (GW)  $\implies$  minimizes  $\pi \mapsto 2F(\pi, \pi^*)$ :

$$\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \int C_{\pi^*}(x, y) d\pi(x, y), \quad \text{with } C_{\pi^*}(x, y) = \int |c_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - c_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')|^p d\pi^*(x', y')$$

- converse implication? [Séjourné et al., 2021]:

## Tightness

If  $\iint |c_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x') - c_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y')|^p d\alpha \otimes \alpha \leq 0$  for all (signed) measures  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})$  with **null marginals**, then the relaxation of  $\text{GW}_2^2$  *is tight*.

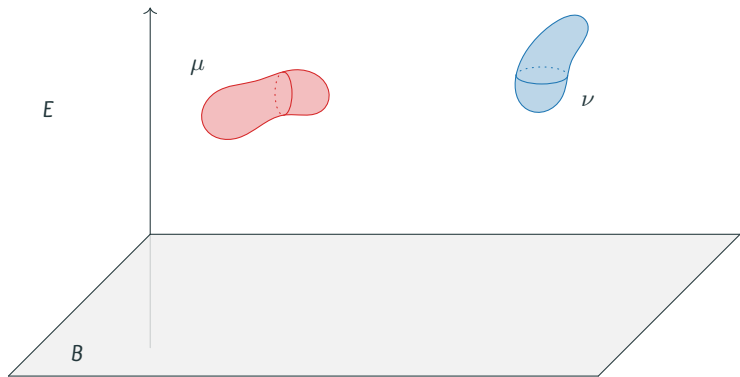
- twist conditions for our linearized costs?...

## 2. Monge maps for GW

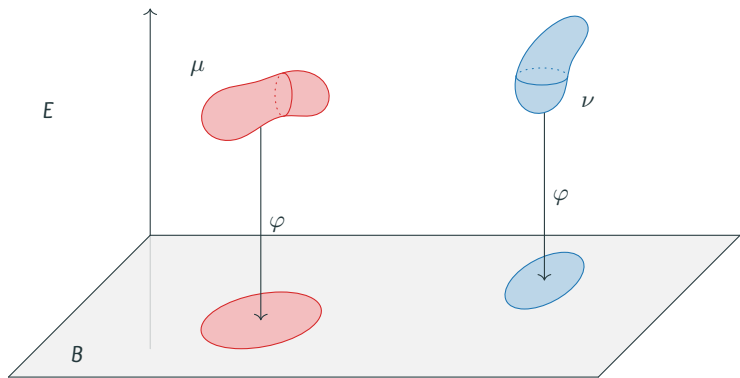
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### 2.1. A key lemma

“Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(E)$ .



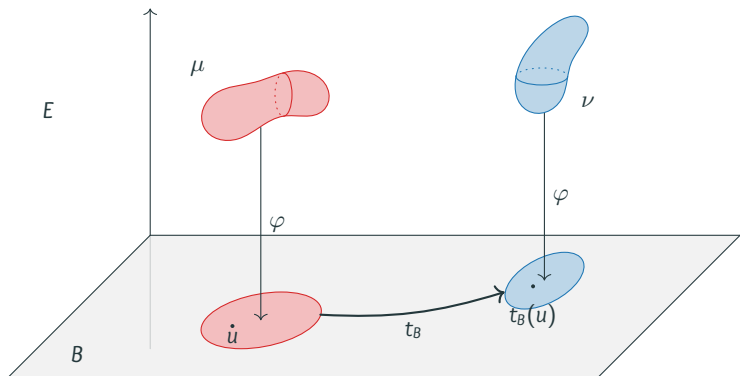
“Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(E)$ . If we can send  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  in a space  $B$  by a function  $\varphi$ ,



“Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(E)$ . If we can send  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  in a space  $B$  by a function  $\varphi$ , s.t.

$$c(x, y) = \tilde{c}(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in E$$

with  $\tilde{c}$  a *twisted* cost on  $B$ ,

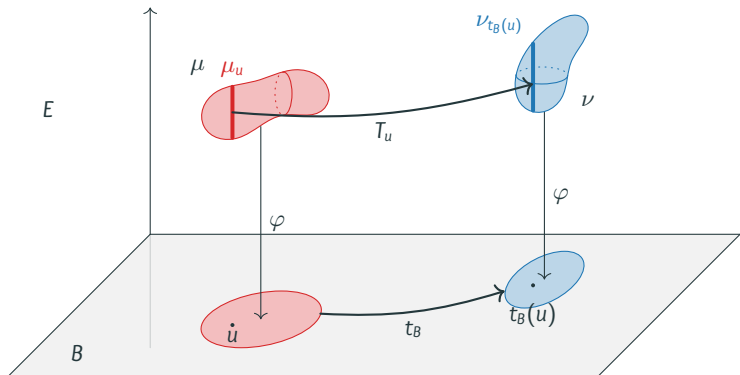




“Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(E)$ . If we can send  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  in a space  $B$  by a function  $\varphi$ , s.t.

$$c(x,y) = \tilde{c}(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) \quad \text{for all } x,y \in E$$

with  $\tilde{c}$  a *twisted* cost on  $B$ , then *we can construct an optimal map between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ .*”



### Theorem: existence of a Monge map, inner product cost

Let  $E_0$  be a measurable space and  $B_0$  and  $F$  be complete Riemannian manifolds. Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(E_0)$  with **compact support**. Assume that there exists a set  $E \subset E_0$  s.t.  $\mu(E) = 1$  and that there exists a measurable map  $\Phi : E \rightarrow B_0 \times F$  that is injective and whose inverse on its image is measurable as well. Let  $\varphi \triangleq p_B \circ \Phi : E \rightarrow B_0$ . Let  $c : E_0 \times E_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and suppose that there exists a **twisted**  $\tilde{c} : B_0 \times B_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

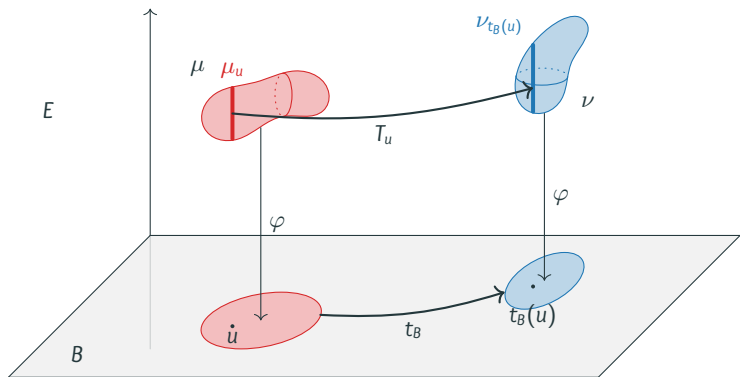
$$c(x, y) = \tilde{c}(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in E_0.$$

Assume that  $\varphi_{\#}\mu \ll \mathcal{L}_{B_0}$  and let thus  $t_B$  denote the unique Monge map between  $\varphi_{\#}\mu$  and  $\varphi_{\#}\nu$  for this cost. Suppose that there exists a disintegration  $((\Phi_{\#}\mu)_u)_u$  of  $\Phi_{\#}\mu$  by  $p_B$  s.t. for  $\varphi_{\#}\mu$ -a.e.  $u$ ,  $(\Phi_{\#}\mu)_u \ll \text{vol}_F$ .

Then **there exists an optimal map**  $T$  between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  for the cost  $c$  that can be decomposed as

$$\Phi \circ T \circ \Phi^{-1}(u, v) = (t_B(u), t_F(u, v)) = \left( \underbrace{\tilde{c} - \exp_u(\nabla f(u))}_{\in B}, \underbrace{\exp_v(\nabla g_u(v))}_{\in \text{fiber}} \right),$$

with  $f : B_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   $\tilde{c}$ -convex and  $g_u : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   $d_F^2/2$ -convex for  $\varphi_{\#}\mu$ -a.e.  $u$ .



1. **transport in  $B$ :**  $\tilde{c}$  satisfies (Twist) on  $B$ ;
2. **transport the fibers:** choose a map for each couple of fibers  $(\mu_u, \nu_{t_B(u)})$
3. is  $T(u, x) = T_u(x)$  **measurable**? need theorem! adaptation of [Fontbona et al., 2010] to the manifold setting

**Take-home message:**  $c(x, y) = \tilde{c}(\varphi(x), \varphi(y))$  with  $\tilde{c}$  twisted  $\implies$  map

## 2. Monge maps for GW

---

### 2.2. Application: inner product cost

Let's work on (GW inner prod):

$$\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \iint |\langle x, x' \rangle - \langle y, y' \rangle|^2 d\pi(x, y) d\pi(x', y') \quad (\text{GW inner prod})$$

$$\iff \min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \iint -\langle x, x' \rangle \langle y, y' \rangle d\pi(x, y) d\pi(x', y')$$

$$\implies \text{OT problem with } c(x, y) = - \int \langle x, x' \rangle \langle y, y' \rangle d\pi^*(x', y') = \dots = -\langle M^* x, y \rangle$$

$$\text{where } M^* \triangleq \int y' x'^T d\pi^*(x', y') \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

$\text{rk } M^*$	$= n$	$\leq n - 1$
twist	✓	·
subtwist	✓	·
$m$ -twist, $m \geq 2$	✓	·

1. *a simplification*: up to SVD, suppose  $M^*$  is a diagonal matrix of singular values:

$$M^* = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \sigma_h & \\ & & & 0 & \ddots \\ & & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. *rephrase the cost*:

$$\begin{aligned} c(x, y) &= -\langle M^* x, y \rangle \\ &= -\sum_{i=1}^h \sigma_i x_i y_i \\ &\triangleq \tilde{c}(p(x), p(y)) \end{aligned} \quad \text{with } p \text{ the orthogonal projection on } \mathbb{R}^h.$$

3. *apply key lemma!*

- $B$  is  $\mathbb{R}^h$
- fibers are  $\mathbb{R}^{n-h}$
- $\tilde{c}$  is twisted on  $\mathbb{R}^h$

$\Rightarrow$  optimal map + structure!

$$\text{for } x = (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^h \times \mathbb{R}^{n-h}, \quad T(u, v) = (\nabla f \circ M^*(u), \nabla g_u(v)).$$



## 2. Monge maps for GW

---

### 2.3. Application: quadratic cost

Similarly, we work on (GW quadratic) and relax to a classical OT problem with

$$c(x,y) = -|x|^2|y|^2 - 4\langle M^*x, y \rangle.$$

$\text{rk } M^*$	$= n$	$= n - 1$	$\leq n - 2$
twist	.	.	.
subtwist	✓	.	.
2-twist	.	✓	.
$m$ -twist, $m \geq 3$	.	.	.



Similarly, we work on (GW quadratic) and relax to a classical OT problem with

$$c(x,y) = -|x|^2|y|^2 - 4\langle M^*x, y \rangle.$$

$\text{rk } M^*$	$= n$	$= n - 1$	$\leq n - 2$
twist	.	.	.
subtwist	✓	.	.
2-twist	.	✓	.
$m$ -twist, $m \geq 3$	.	.	.
	⇓	⇓	⇓
	map/anti-map	bimap	...

### Theorem: quadratic cost

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  of compact support. Suppose that  $\mu$  has a density. Let  $\pi^*$  be an optimal plan and  $M^* \triangleq \int y' x'^\top d\pi^*(x', y')$ . Then:

- ✓ if  $\text{rk } M^* = n$ , there is an optimal *map/anti-map*,
- ✓ if  $\text{rk } M^* = n - 1$ , there is an optimal *bimap*,
- (!!) if  $\text{rk } M^* \leq n - 2$ , *there is an optimal map!*

1. *a simplification*: up to SVD,  $M^*$  is diagonal:

$$M^* = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \sigma_h & \\ & & & 0 & \\ & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{We note } x = (\underbrace{x_1, \dots, x_h}_{x_H}, \underbrace{x_{h+1}, \dots, x_n}_{x_\perp}).$$

2. *rephrase the cost*:

$$\begin{aligned} -c(x, y) &= |x|^2 |y|^2 + 4 \langle M^* x, y \rangle \\ &= |x_H|^2 |y_H|^2 + |x_H|^2 |y_\perp|^2 + |x_\perp|^2 |y_H|^2 + |x_\perp|^2 |y_\perp|^2 + 4 \langle \tilde{M} x_H, y_H \rangle \\ &= |x_H|^2 |y_H|^2 + |x_H|^2 n(y) + n(x) |y_H|^2 + n(x) n(y) + 4 \langle \tilde{M} x_H, y_H \rangle \\ &\triangleq -\tilde{c}(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)), \end{aligned}$$

with  $n : x \mapsto |x_\perp|^2$  and  $\varphi : x \mapsto (x_H, |x_\perp|^2)$ .

3. *apply key lemma!*

- $B$  is  $\mathbb{R}^h \times \mathbb{R}^+$
- the fibers are spheres  $\mathbb{S}^{n-h-1}$
- $\tilde{c}$  is twisted on  $\mathbb{R}^h \times \mathbb{R}^+$

$\Rightarrow$  optimal map + structure!

$$\text{for } x \approx (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^h \times \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{S}^{n-h-1}, \quad T(u, v) = (\tilde{c}\text{-exp}_u(\nabla f(u)), \text{exp}_v(\nabla g_u(v))).$$



### 3. Complementary study of the quadratic cost in 1D

---

## Preliminary remarks in 1D

- $\mu, \nu$  centered
- linearized problem:

$$\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \int (-x^2 y^2 - 4mxy) d\pi(x, y), \quad \text{where } m = \int x' y' d\pi^*(x', y') = \langle C_{xy}, \pi^* \rangle,$$

and  $m \in [m_{\min}, m_{\max}]$  with  $m_{\min} = \min_{\pi} \langle C_{xy}, \pi \rangle$  and  $m_{\max} = \max_{\pi} \langle C_{xy}, \pi \rangle$

- in 1D, *submodularity* [Carlier, 2008, Santambrogio, 2015]

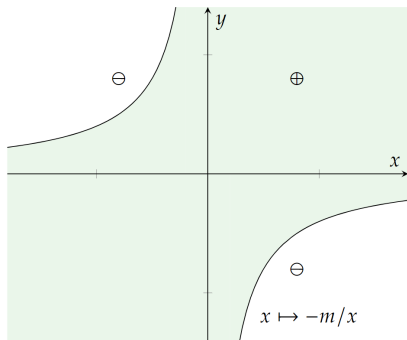
### Submodular cost

Let  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} \subset \mathbb{R}$ . We say that  $c \in \mathcal{C}^2 : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **submodular** if

$$\text{for all } x, y \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}, \quad \partial_{xy} c(x, y) \leq 0. \quad (\text{Submod})$$

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})$  of finite transport cost. If  $c$  satisfies (Submod), then  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  is an optimal plan for (KP).

## Preliminary remarks in 1D



- $c(x,y) = -x^2y^2 - 4mxy$  is submodular on the region  $S = \{(x,y) \mid xy \geq -m\}$  if  $m \geq 0$
- expect increasing on  $S$  and decreasing elsewhere?

### 3. Complementary study of the quadratic cost in 1D

---

#### 3.1. Computation of non-monotone optimal plans

## Sub-optimality of the monotone rearrangements

### Theorem [Vayer, 2020]

In the discrete case in dimension 1 with  $N = M$  and  $a = b = \mathbb{1}_N$ , *either*  $\pi_{mon}^{\oplus}$  (eq. identity  $\sigma(i) = i$ ) *or*  $\pi_{mon}^{\ominus}$  (eq. anti-identity  $\sigma(i) = N + 1 - i$ ) *is optimal* for (GW quadratic).

- **empirically:** very often true when generating points at random
- **literature:** *counter-example* by [Beinert et al., 2022] for  $N \geq 7$  points
- **here:** procedure to *automatically* obtain additional *counter-examples*

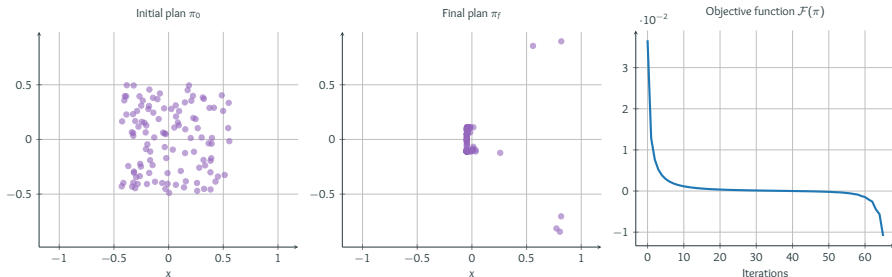


# Sub-optimality of the monotone rearrangements

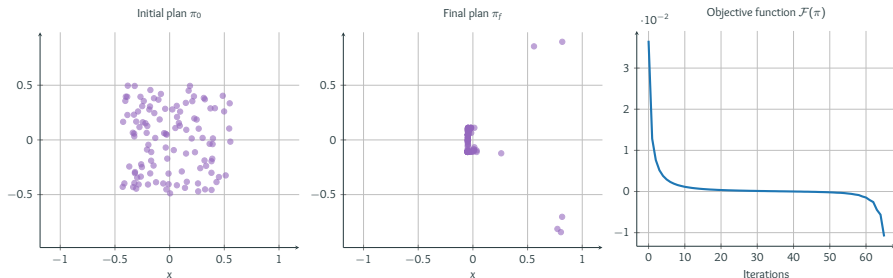
## Theorem [Vayer, 2020]

In the discrete case in dimension 1 with  $N = M$  and  $a = b = \mathbb{1}_N$ , *either*  $\pi_{mon}^{\oplus}$  (eq. identity  $\sigma(i) = i$ ) *or*  $\pi_{mon}^{\ominus}$  (eq. anti-identity  $\sigma(i) = N + 1 - i$ ) *is optimal* for (GW quadratic).

- **empirically:** very often true when generating points at random
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- **here:** procedure to *automatically* obtain additional *counter-examples*



# Sub-optimality of the monotone rearrangements



(Left) Objective function  $\mathcal{F}$ . (Center) Initial plan  $\pi_0$ , generated at random. (Right) Final plan  $\pi_f$ .

## Procedure:

- $\pi = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{(x_i, y_i)}$
- move away from measures of optimal plans  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  and  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  by gradient descent:

$$\mathcal{F}(\pi) \triangleq \underbrace{c_{\text{GW}}(\pi)}_{\text{performance of } \pi} - \underbrace{\min \{c_{\text{GW}}(\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}), c_{\text{GW}}(\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus})\}}_{\text{performance of the monotone rearrangements of the marginals of } \pi}$$

- results similar to [Beinert et al., 2022]! 

## What happens? + computation of optimal bimap

- still,  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  and  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  are very often optimal in practice: *what happens?*
- generate measures with  $N$  points at random and look at the optimal plan for GW! **how to find it?**
  1.  $\pi^*$  optimal for GW
  2.  $\implies$  optimal for *linearized*  $\text{GW}(m(\pi^*))$
  3. consider all linearized  $\text{GW}(m)$  for  $m \in [m_{\min}, m_{\max}]$  and take all optimal plans  $\pi_m^*$  (easy, linear programs!)
  4.  $\pi^*$  is the one that performs best on GW

# What happens? + computation of optimal bimap

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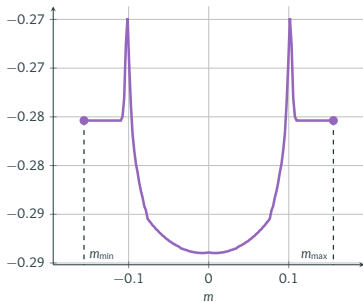


Figure 3: Graph of  $m \mapsto \text{GW}(\pi_m^*)$ .

## What happens? + computation of optimal bimap

- **Note:** sum of Diracs  $\mu = (X, \mathbb{1}_N) \rightarrow$  density  $\mu = (\hat{X}, a)$  by convolution with small Gaussian  $\sigma$
- evolution of  $\pi_m^*$  as a function of  $m$ 
  - with  $N$  random points: *[all]*, *[zoom]*

## What happens? + computation of optimal bmaps

- **Note:** sum of Diracs  $\mu = (X, \mathbb{1}_N) \rightarrow$  density  $\mu = (\hat{X}, a)$  by convolution with small Gaussian  $\sigma$
- evolution of  $\pi_m^*$  as a function of  $m$ 
  - with  $N$  random points: *[all], [zoom]*
  - with counter-examples of before: *[all], [zoom]*
- **Note:** *a priori* no reason to work, and indeed it does not work most of the time

---

**Algorithm 1** Generating bimap from adversarial examples.

---

**Input:** an adversarial plan  $\pi_f = \text{id}(X_f, Y_f)$

**Parameters:**  $\sigma, N_{\Delta x}, N_{\Delta m}$

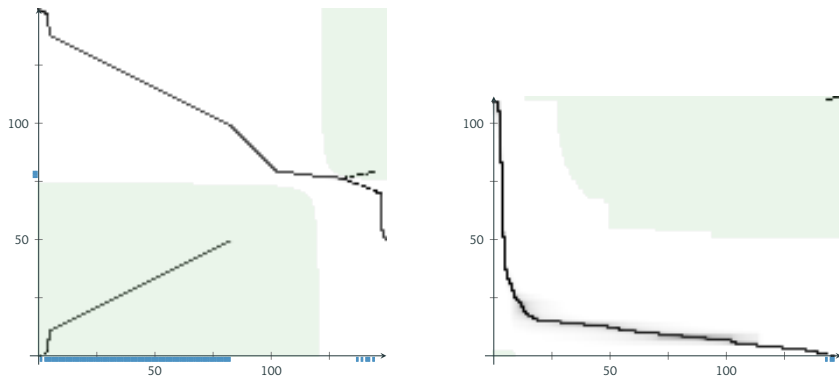
**Algorithm:**

- 1:  $a \leftarrow \text{convolution}(X_f, \sigma, N_{\Delta x})$
- 2:  $b \leftarrow \text{convolution}(Y_f, \sigma, N_{\Delta x})$  ▷ (optional)
- 3:  $m_{\min} \leftarrow \min_{\pi \in U(a,b)} \langle C_{xy}, \pi \rangle$  ▷ solve linear programs
- 4:  $m_{\max} \leftarrow \max_{\pi \in U(a,b)} \langle C_{xy}, \pi \rangle$
- 5:  $\text{GW\_scores} \leftarrow []$
- 6: **for**  $m \in \{m_{\min}, \dots, m_{\max}\}$  **do** ▷ with  $N_{\Delta m}$  points
- 7:      $\pi_m^* \leftarrow \arg \min_{\pi \in U(a,b)} \langle C_{\text{GW}(m)}, \pi \rangle$  ▷ solve linear program
- 8:     append  $\text{GW}(\pi_m^*)$  to  $\text{GW\_scores}$
- 9: **end for**
- 10:  $\pi^* \leftarrow \arg \max_{\pi} \text{GW\_scores}$  ▷ take best plan for GW
- 11: return  $\pi^*$

**Outputs:**  $\pi^*$  optimal for GW

---

## Computation of optimal bimap



**Figure 4:** Optimal correspondence plan  $\pi^*$  (in log scale), **(Left)** starting from a plan with both marginals convolved or **(Right)** with only  $\mu$  convolved. Parameters:  $\sigma = 5.10^{-3}$ ,  $N_{\Delta x} = 150$ ,  $N_{\Delta m} = 2000$ .

- small bimap region for **(Right)** ?
- “but it’s a map from  $\mathcal{Y}$  to  $\mathcal{X}$ !” no, in both cases, no map neither  $\mu \rightarrow \nu$  nor  $\nu \rightarrow \mu$



### 3. Complementary study of the quadratic cost in 1D

---

#### 3.2. Instability of the optimality of monotone optimal plans

# Instability of the optimality of monotone rearrangements

## Question

Is having  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  or  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  as optimal *stable*?

- minimum are optimal correspondence plans

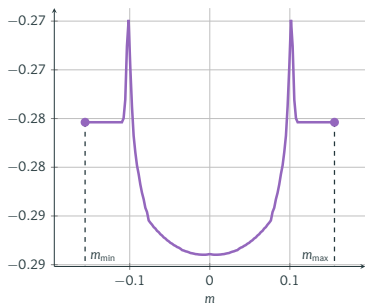


Figure 5: Graph of  $m \mapsto \text{GW}(\pi_m^*)$ .

# Instability of the optimality of monotone rearrangements

## Question

Is having  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus}$  or  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  as optimal *stable*?

- minimum are optimal correspondence plans
  - small  $\sigma$ : optimal plan not monotone by construction;
  - large  $\sigma$ : monotone are optimal again.
  - *phase transition*: landscape of  $m \mapsto \text{GW}(\pi_m^*)$  while increasing  $\sigma$

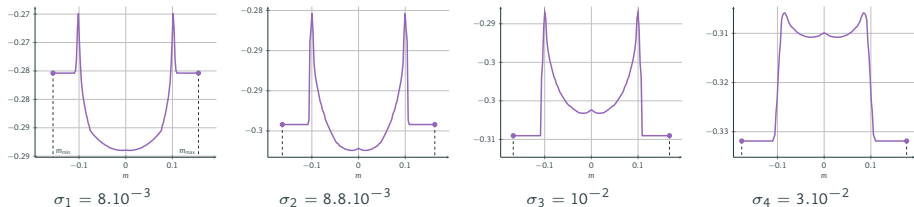


Figure 5: Graphs of  $m \mapsto \text{GW}(\pi_m^*)$  with [Beinert et al., 2022],  $N = 7$  points.

### 3. Complementary study of the quadratic cost in 1D

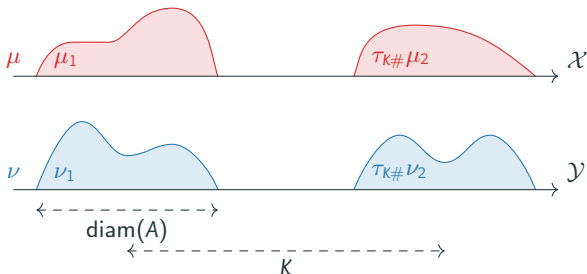
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#### 3.3. (A positive result for measures with two components)

## (A positive result for measures with two components)

Let  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \nu_1, \nu_2$  probability measures on  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  compact. Fix  $t \in (0, 1)$  and  $K > \text{diam}(A)$ . Let  $\tau_K : x \mapsto x + K$ . Introduce measures

$$\mu = (1 - t)\mu_1 + t\tau_{K\#}\mu_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu = (1 - t)\nu_1 + t\tau_{K\#}\nu_2.$$



### Theorem

For  $K$  large enough, the unique optimal plan for the quadratic cost between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  is given by *one of the two monotone maps* (increasing or decreasing).

## 4. Summary & discussion

---

## Contributions

1. **Thm:** always a *map* for (GW inner prod)
2. **Thm:** a *map*, *bimap* or *map/anti-map* for (GW quadratic)
3. **Conj:** this second claim is *tight*
4. **Algo:** *non-optimality* of monotone + *instability* for (GW quadratic)
5. (**Thm:** monotone rearrangement optimal for (GW quadratic) between measures composed of *two distant parts*)

## Very soon:

- remove assumption of compact support
- try to show decomposition  $\pi_{\text{mon}}^{\oplus} + \pi_{\text{mon}}^{\ominus}$  for (GW quadratic)

## Future work:

- quadratic cost:
  - better understanding of the 1d case (maybe simpler)
- inner product cost:
  - is (GW inner prod) computationally tractable?
- other cost functions
  - apply key lemma to other costs  $c_{\mathcal{X}}$  and  $c_{\mathcal{Y}}$ ?

- *preprint* on HAL and arxiv: “*On the existence of Monge maps for the Gromov–Wasserstein distance*” <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-03818500>
- (soon) *code* on GitHub at <https://github.com/theodumont/monge-gromov-wasserstein>



Thank you!



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- the figure on slides 3 and 4, as well as the ones on slide 5 are adapted from a talk by Lénaïc Chizat;
- the GW figure on slide 13 is adapted from [Peyré et al., 2019];
- all other figures are my own.