

Lecture 1d, 4/22/2022

⊙ (Continuous) OT: Monge's formulation

⊙ (Continuous) OT: Kantorovich's formulation

### Monge's formulation

Assume:

⊙  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$ : measurable spaces

$(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$ : the product measure space

⊙  $\mathcal{P}(X) = \mathcal{P}(X, \mathcal{F}), \mathcal{P}(Y) = \mathcal{P}(Y, \mathcal{G})$ : spaces of probability measures.

⊙  $c: X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  measurable

⊙  $\forall \mu \in \mathcal{P}(X) \forall \nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ :

$\mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu) = \{T: X \rightarrow Y: \text{measurable}, T\#\mu = \nu\}$

Define the Monge cost functional  $E_{\mu, \nu}: \mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$

$$E_{\mu, \nu}[T] = \int_X c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu).$$

Monge's OT problem  $\min_{T \in \mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu)} E_{\mu, \nu}[T]$ .

If  $\hat{T} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu)} E_{\mu, \nu}[\cdot]$  exists, then  $\hat{T}$  is called an optimal (transport) map.

Recall (Pushforward (measure)):  $T\#\mu = \mu \circ T^{-1}: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ .

$$(T\#\mu)(A) = \mu(T^{-1}(A)), \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{F}.$$

$T$  is a random variable  $\Rightarrow \nu = T\#\mu$  is the distribution of  $T$ , the law of  $T$ , w.r.t. the prob. space  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ .

## Kantorovich's formulation Denote

$\mathcal{P}(X \times Y) = \{ \text{probability measures on } (X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}) \}$ .  
X-projection:  $\pi^X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$ ,  $\pi^X(x, y) = x$ ,  
Y-projection:  $\pi^Y: X \times Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\pi^Y(x, y) = y$ ,  $\forall (x, y) \in X \times Y$ .

If  $\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(X \times Y)$  then  $\pi_{\#}^X \gamma \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  and  $\pi_{\#}^Y \gamma \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ .  
They are marginal probability measures.

Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ ,  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ . Define

$$\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) = \{ \gamma \in \mathcal{P}(X \times Y) : \pi_{\#}^X \gamma = \mu, \pi_{\#}^Y \gamma = \nu \}.$$

Define Kantorovich's cost functional  $E_K: \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$

$$E_K[\gamma] = \int_{X \times Y} c(x, y) d\gamma(x, y), \quad \gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu).$$

Kantorovich's OT problem:  $\min_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_K[\gamma]$ .

Call  $\hat{\gamma} = \arg \min_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_K[\gamma]$ , if exists, an optimal

(transport) plan.

Basic questions structure/properties of  $\mathcal{P}(\mu, \nu)$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$ ; existence, uniqueness, and characterization of optimal maps/plans; duality; Wasserstein metric and its convergence properties, related gradient flows; etc.

Assumptions Unless otherwise stated, we always

assume: both  $X, Y$ : Polish spaces: complete + separable metric spaces (e.g.  $\mathbb{R}^d, L^p, W^{k,p}, 1 \leq p < \infty$ ),  
 $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{B}_X, \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{B}_Y$ : Borel  $\sigma$ -algebras.

⊙ In the case  $X=Y$ , we often consider  $c(x,y) = d(x,y)$  or  $d(x,y)^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ), where  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the metric of  $d$ .

⊙ Sometimes, we shall assume that  $X$  and  $Y$  are locally compact.

⊙ Even more often, we assume that  $X=Y=\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{G} =$  Lebesgue  $\sigma$ -algebra.

Examples ⊙ The discrete OT ( $M$  or  $K$  version) is a special case of (general, continuous) OT.

$X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  and  $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ .

$\mathcal{F} = \{\text{all subsets of } X\}, \mathcal{G} = \{\text{all subsets of } Y\}$

$\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X) \leftrightarrow a \in \mathcal{P}_m, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y) \leftrightarrow b \in \mathcal{P}_n, a_i = \mu(\{x_i\}), b_j = \nu(\{y_j\})$

$c: X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty) \leftrightarrow C = [c_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, C \geq 0, c_{ij} = c(x_i, y_j)$ .

$\mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{J}(a, b), T: X \rightarrow Y$ .

$T \in \mathcal{G}(a, b) \Leftrightarrow b_j = \sum_{i: T(x_i) = y_j} a_i \quad \forall j \Leftrightarrow \nu(\{y_j\}) = \mu(T^{-1}(\{y_j\})) \quad \forall j$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \nu = T\# \mu \Leftrightarrow T \in \mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu)$

$$\begin{aligned} E_M[T] &= \int c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) = \int_{\bigcup_{i=1}^m \{x_i\}} c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{\{x_i\}} c(x_i, T(x_i)) d\mu = \sum_{i=1}^m c(x_i, T(x_i)) \mu(\{x_i\}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m a_i c(x_i, T(x_i)), \text{ where } a_i = \mu(\{x_i\}) \quad \forall i. \\ &= E_M^{\text{disc}} [T]. \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $\rho \in \mathcal{A}(a, b) \iff \gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$ .  $\gamma(\{(x_i, y_j)\}) = \rho_{ij}$ .

$$E_K[\gamma] = \int_{X \times Y} c(x, y) d\gamma(x, y) = \sum_{i,j} \int_{\{(x_i, y_j)\}} c(x, y) d\gamma(x, y)$$

$$= \sum_{i,j} c(x_i, y_j) \gamma(\{(x_i, y_j)\}) = \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} \rho_{ij} = \langle c, \rho \rangle = F_K^{\text{disc}}[\rho].$$

$\odot (X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$ : measurable spaces,  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ ,  $y_0 \in Y$ .  
 $\nu = \delta_{y_0}$ .  $T \in \mathcal{J}(\mu, \nu) \iff \mu(T^{-1}(B)) = \nu(B) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_0 \in B, \\ 0 & \text{if } y_0 \notin B. \end{cases}$

clearly,  $y_0 \in \text{Range}(T)$ . i.e.,  $\exists x_0 \in X$  s.t.  $T(x_0) = y_0$ .  
 Otherwise,  $y_0 \notin \text{Range}(T) =: B \subseteq Y$ .  $T\# \mu(B) = \mu(T^{-1}(B)) = \mu(X) = 1$ , and  $\nu(B) = \delta_{y_0}(B) = 0$ , contradicting  $T\# \mu = \nu$ .

Now, assume  $y_0 \in \text{Range}(T)$ . Denote  $A_{y_0} = \{x \in X : T(x) \neq y_0\}$ . Then,  $T\# \mu = \delta_{y_0} \iff \mu(T^{-1}(A_{y_0})) = 0$ . Thus

$$E_M[T] = \int_X c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) = \int_{A_{y_0}} + \int_{X \setminus A_{y_0}} = \int_{X \setminus A_{y_0}} c(x, y_0) d\mu(x)$$

$$= \int_{\{x \in X : T(x) = y_0\}} c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) = \int_{T^{-1}(\{y_0\})} c(x, y_0) d\mu(x) = \int_X c(x, y_0) d\mu(x).$$

Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  and  $\nu = \delta_{y_0}$  with  $y_0 \in Y$ . If  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$ , then  $\gamma = \mu \times \delta_{y_0}$ , i.e.,  $\gamma(A \times B) = \mu(A) \delta_{y_0}(B) \forall A \in \mathcal{B}(X), B \in \mathcal{B}(Y)$ .

In fact, if  $y_0 \notin B$ , then  $0 \leq \gamma(A \times B) \leq \gamma(X \times B) = \delta_{y_0}(B) = 0$ , hence  $\gamma(A \times B) = \mu(A) \nu(B) = 0$ . If  $y_0 \in B$  then  $y_0 \in Y \setminus B$ .

Hence  $\gamma(A \times Y) - \gamma(A \times B) = \gamma(A \times (Y \setminus B)) = 0$ , i.e.,  $\gamma(A \times B) = \gamma(A \times Y) = \mu(A) = \mu(A) \nu(B)$  as  $\nu(B) = \delta_{y_0}(B) = 1$ . Now,

$$E_K[\gamma] = \int_{X \times Y} c(x, y) d\gamma(x, y) = \int_{X \times Y} c(x, y) d(\mu \times \delta_{y_0})(x, y)$$

$$= \int_X \left( \int_Y c(x, y) d\delta_{y_0}(y) \right) d\mu(x) = \int_X c(x, y_0) d\mu(x) = E_M[T].$$

So, if  $\nu = \delta_{y_0}$  for some  $y_0 \in Y$ , and  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ , then  $E_K[\gamma] = E_M[T]$  for any  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$  and any  $T \in \mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu)$ .

### Marge vs. Kantorovich

①  $\mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu) = \emptyset$ : possible, e.g., discrete OT.

In general, let  $\mu = \delta_{x_0}$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ . Suppose  $T: X \rightarrow Y$  is measurable. Then  $T\# \mu = \delta_{T(x_0)}$ . In fact, let  $B \in \mathcal{G}$ .  $T(x_0) \in B \iff x_0 \in T^{-1}(B)$ . Hence,  $(T\# \mu)(B) = \mu(T^{-1}(B)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_0 \in T^{-1}(B) \\ 0 & \text{if } x_0 \notin T^{-1}(B) \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1 & T(x_0) \in B \\ 0 & T(x_0) \notin B \end{cases} = \int \mathbb{1}_B(T(x_0)) d\mu(x_0)$ . Thus, if  $\mu = \delta_{x_0}$ , unless  $\nu = \delta_{y_0}$  for some  $y_0 \in Y$ , the set  $\mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu) = \emptyset$ .

$\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) \neq \emptyset$  as  $\mu \times \nu \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$ .

Both  $\mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu)$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$  are convex.

①  $\gamma \mapsto E_K[\gamma]$  is linear.

$T \mapsto E_M[T]$  is (in general) nonlinear.

① K-OT is a relaxation of M-OT.

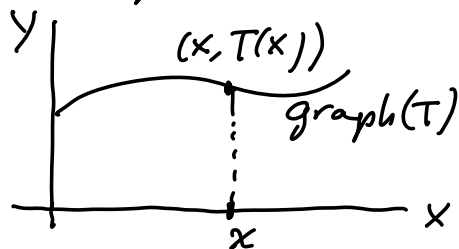
Let  $T \in \mathcal{T}(\mu, \nu)$ . Let  $\gamma_T = (\text{Id} \times T)\# \mu$ . Here  $\text{Id} \times T: X \rightarrow X \times Y$  is defined by  $(\text{Id} \times T)(x) = (x, T(x)) \forall x$ .  $\text{Id} \times T$  is measurable. Moreover,

$$\gamma_T(X \times Y) = \mu((\text{Id} \times T)^{-1}(X \times Y)) = \mu(X) = 1.$$

Hence  $\gamma_T \in \mathcal{P}(X \times Y)$ . Now,

$$\pi_X^{\#} \gamma_T = \pi_X^{\#} ((\text{Id} \times T)\# \mu)$$

$$= ((\text{Id} \times T)\# \mu) \circ (\pi_X)^{-1} = \mu \circ (\text{Id} \times T)^{-1} \circ (\pi_X)^{-1}$$



$$= \mu \circ (\pi^Y \circ \text{Id}_{X \times T})^{-1} = \mu \circ (\text{Id})^{-1} = \mu.$$

$$\pi^Y_{\#} \gamma_T = \pi^Y_{\#} ((\text{Id}_{X \times T})_{\#} \mu) = ((\text{Id}_{X \times T})_{\#} \mu) \circ (\pi^Y)^{-1}$$

$$= \mu \circ (\text{Id}_{X \times T})^{-1} \circ (\pi^Y)^{-1} = \mu \circ (\pi^Y \circ (\text{Id}_{X \times T}))^{-1} = \mu \circ T^{-1} = T_{\#} \mu = \nu.$$

Hence,  $\gamma_T \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$ . Now, by the change of variable formula (see next lecture),

$$\begin{aligned} E_K[\gamma_T] &= \int_{X \times Y} c(x, y) d\gamma_T(x, y) = \int_X c \circ (\text{Id}_{X \times T}) d\mu \\ &= \int_X c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) = E_M[T]. \end{aligned}$$

So, in general,  $\inf_{\mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu)} E_M[\cdot] \geq \inf_{\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_K[\cdot]$ .

○ Note  $\gamma_T$  is the measure on  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  defined by

$$\int_{X \times Y} \zeta(x, y) d\gamma_T(x, y) = \int_X \zeta(x, T(x)) d\mu(x).$$

for any  $\zeta: X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  measurable. [Need proper structural assumptions on  $X, Y, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$ .]

○  $X=Y$ : Polish space,  $x_0, y_0 \in X$ ,  $\mu = \delta_{x_0}$ ,  $\nu = \delta_{y_0}$   
 $c(x, y) = d(x, y)$ .

$$T \in \mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu) \iff \mu \circ T^{-1} = \nu \iff \forall B \subseteq X=Y: (\mu \circ T^{-1})(B) = \nu(B)$$

$$\iff \delta_{x_0}(T^{-1}(B)) = \delta_{y_0}(B) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_0 \in B \\ 0 & \text{if } y_0 \notin B \end{cases} \iff T(x_0) = y_0$$

So,  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu) = \{T: X \rightarrow Y: \text{measurable}, T(x_0) = y_0\}$

Note that  $T_0(x) = y_0 \forall x \in X$  defines  $T_0 \in \mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu)$ . So,

$\mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu) \neq \emptyset$ . Moreover,

$$E_M[T] = \int_X d(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) = d(x_0, T(x_0)) = d(x_0, y_0).$$

In particular,  $\min_{T \in \mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu)} E_M[T] = d(x_0, y_0)$ .

Now,  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) = \mathcal{A}(d_{x_0}, d_{y_0}) \iff \gamma = \mathcal{J}_{(x_0, y_0)}$ .

$$E_K[\gamma] = \int_{X \times Y} d(x, y) d\hat{d}_{x_0}^{(x)} d\hat{d}_{y_0}^{(y)} = d(x_0, y_0).$$

So,  $\min_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_K[\gamma] = d(x_0, y_0)$ .  $K=M$  in this case.

⊙ A related result (A Polish space is a complete and separable metric space.)

Theorem Let  $X, Y$  be Polish spaces,  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ . Suppose  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$ ,  $\Gamma \subseteq X \times Y$  is a  $\gamma$ -measurable graph and  $\gamma$  is concentrated on  $\Gamma$ . Then there exists a Borel map  $T \in \mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu)$  such that  $\gamma = (\text{Id} \times T) \# \mu$ . QED

⊙ The following result shows the relation between the M. and U. OT problems in the continuum setting, quite different from the discrete setting. A key assumption is that  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  is  $\mu$  contains no atoms:  $\mu(\{x\}) = 0 \forall x \in X$ .

Theorem (Pratelli) Let  $X, Y$  be Polish, and  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ . Assume  $c: X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is continuous. Assume also that  $\mu$  contains no atoms. Then

$$\inf_{\mathcal{G}(\mu, \nu)} E_M[\cdot] = \inf_{\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_K[\cdot]. \quad \underline{\text{QED}}$$