

Lecture 24, Friday, 5/20/2022

Theorem (Kantorovich duality) Let X, Y be Polish, $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X), \nu \in \mathcal{P}(Y), c: X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ lower semi-continuous.

Then
$$\inf_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_c[\gamma] = \sup_{(\varphi, \psi) \in \mathcal{F}_c(\mu, \nu)} J[\varphi, \psi].$$

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

$\mathcal{F}_c(\mu, \nu) = \{(\varphi, \psi) \in L^1(\mu) \times L^1(\nu) : \varphi(x) + \psi(y) \leq c(x, y),$
 $\mu\text{-a.e. } x \in X, \nu\text{-a.e. } y \in Y\}$.

$$E_c[\gamma] = \int_{X \times Y} c(x, y) d\gamma(x, y).$$

$$J[\varphi, \psi] = \int_X \varphi d\mu + \int_Y \psi d\nu.$$

Lemma (Weak duality) $\forall \gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) \forall (\varphi, \psi) \in \mathcal{F}_c(\mu, \nu)$:

$$J[\varphi, \psi] \leq E_c[\gamma], \text{ and } \sup_{\mathcal{F}_c(\mu, \nu)} J = \inf_{\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_c.$$

Proof: See last lecture. QED

Definition (Legendre-Fenchel transform) Let E be a (real) normed vector space and E^* its dual space. Let $f: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ be a convex function. The Legendre-Fenchel transform of f is $f^*: E^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$f^*(x^*) = \sup_{x \in E} [\langle x^*, x \rangle - f(x)],$$

where $\langle x^*, x \rangle = x^*(x)$.

Theorem (Fenchel-Rockafellar duality) Let E be a normed vector space and E^* its dual. Let $f, g: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ be convex. Assume $\exists x_0 \in E$

such that $f(x_0) < \infty$, $g(x_0) < \infty$, and f is continuous at z_0 . Then

$$\inf_E f(f+g) = \max_{x^* \in E^*} [-f^*(-x^*) - g^*(x^*)].$$

Proof: See last lecture. QED

Theorem (Duality for compact spaces X and Y).

Assume X and Y are compact and $C: X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is continuous. Then the conclusion of the theorem is true.

Proof Define $f, g: C_b(X \times Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ by

$$f(u) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u(x, y) \geq -C(x, y) \quad \forall (x, y) \in X \times Y \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$g(u) = \begin{cases} \int_X \varphi d\mu + \int_Y \psi d\nu & \text{if } u(x, y) = \varphi(x) + \psi(y) \quad \forall (x, y) \in X \times Y \\ & \text{for some } \varphi \in C_b(X), \psi \in C_b(Y). \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Note that g is well-defined: $u(x, y) = \varphi(x) + \psi(y) = \tilde{\varphi}(x) + \tilde{\psi}(y)$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(x) - \tilde{\varphi}(x) = \tilde{\psi}(y) - \psi(y) = a \in \mathbb{R} \text{ for all } x \in X, y \in Y.$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(x) = \tilde{\varphi}(x) + a \text{ and } \psi(y) = \tilde{\psi}(y) - a \quad \forall x, y. \text{ Thus}$$

$$\int_X \varphi d\mu + \int_Y \psi d\nu = \int_X (\tilde{\varphi} + a) d\mu + \int_Y (\tilde{\psi} - a) d\nu = \int_X \tilde{\varphi} d\mu + \int_Y \tilde{\psi} d\nu.$$

Since $f = 0$ in $\text{Dom}(f) = \{u \in C_b(X \times Y) : f(u) < \infty\}$, f is convex.

Similarly, g is linear in $\text{Dom}(g)$, g is convex. Let $u_0(x, y) = 1 \quad \forall (x, y)$. So, $u_0 \in C_b(X \times Y)$, and $f(u_0) < \infty$, $g(u_0) < \infty$, and f is continuous at u_0 .

Since X and Y are compact, by Riesz's Thm, $[C_b(X \times Y)]^* = \mathcal{M}(X \times Y)$ (finite signed measures with the norm being the total variation). Now, applying the Fenchel-Rockafellar duality with

$E = C_b(X \times Y)$, $E^* = \mathcal{M}(X \times Y)$, and with u_0 replacing x_0 in the theorem, we have

$$\inf_{u \in C_b(X \times Y)} [f(u) + g(u)] = \max_{\gamma \in \mathcal{M}(X \times Y)} [-f^*(-\gamma) - g^*(\gamma)]. \quad (*)$$

The l.h.s. of (*) is, after replacing (φ, ψ) by $(-\varphi, -\psi)$,

$$\inf \left\{ \int_X \varphi du + \int_Y \psi d\nu : \varphi(x) + \psi(y) \geq -c(x, y) \forall (x, y) \in X \times Y, \varphi \in C_b(X), \psi \in C_b(Y) \right\}$$

$$= -\sup \left\{ J[\varphi, \psi] : (\varphi, \psi) \in \mathcal{F}_c(\mu, \nu) \cap (C_b(X) \times C_b(Y)) \right\} \quad (**)$$

To calculate the r.h.s. of (*), let us fix $\gamma \in \mathcal{M}(X \times Y)$.

$$f^*(-\gamma) = \sup \left\{ - \int_{X \times Y} u d\gamma : u \in C_b(X \times Y), u \geq -c \right\}$$

$$= \sup \left\{ \int_{X \times Y} u d\gamma : u \in C_b(X \times Y), u \leq c \right\}.$$

If $\gamma \notin \mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y)$ then $\exists \nu \in C_b(X \times Y)$, $\nu \geq 0$ s.t. $\int_{X \times Y} \nu d\gamma < 0$.

Let $u_\lambda = -\lambda \nu \in C_b(X \times Y)$ with $\lambda > 0$. Then, $u_\lambda \leq 0 \leq c$. Moreover, $\int_{X \times Y} u_\lambda d\gamma \rightarrow \infty$. Hence, $f^*(-\gamma) = \infty$.

If $\gamma \in \mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y)$ then $\int_{X \times Y} u d\gamma \leq \int_{X \times Y} c d\gamma$ if $u \leq c$, hence

Since c is continuous, and $X \times Y$ is compact, $c \in C_b(X \times Y)$.

Thus, $f^*(-\gamma) = \int_{X \times Y} c d\gamma$. Hence

$$f^*(-\gamma) = \begin{cases} \int_{X \times Y} c d\gamma & \text{if } \gamma \in \mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y), \\ +\infty & \text{if } \gamma \notin \mathcal{M}_+(X \times Y). \end{cases} \quad (***)$$

Now, consider $\gamma \in \mathcal{M}(X \times X)$ again. Since $g(u) = +\infty$ if $u \notin \text{Dom}$, we have

$$g^*(\gamma) = \sup_{u \in C_b(X \times Y)} [\langle \gamma, u \rangle - g(u)]$$

$$= \sup_{u \in \text{Dom}(g)} [\langle \gamma, u \rangle - g(u)].$$

Assume $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$. If $u \in \text{Dom}(g)$, then $u(x, y) = \varphi(x) + \psi(y) \quad \forall x \in X, \forall y \in Y$, for some $\varphi \in C_b(X)$, $\psi \in C_b(Y)$, and $g(u) = \int_X \varphi d\mu + \int_Y \psi d\nu$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \gamma, u \rangle - g(u) &= \int_{X \times Y} u d\gamma - \int_X \varphi d\mu - \int_Y \psi d\nu \\ &= \int_{X \times Y} u d\gamma - \int_{X \times Y} \varphi(x) d\gamma(x, y) - \int_{X \times Y} \psi(y) d\gamma(x, y) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

(Hence, $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) \Rightarrow g^*(\gamma) = 0$. Assume $\gamma \notin \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)$.

Then $\pi_{\#}^X \gamma \neq \mu$, and $\exists \varphi \in C_b(X)$ s.t. $\int_X \varphi d\mu \neq \int_{X \times Y} \varphi(x) d\gamma(x, y)$,

set $u(x, y) = \varphi(x)$, or $\pi_{\#}^Y \gamma \neq \nu$, and $\exists \psi \in C_b(Y)$ s.t.

$\int_Y \psi d\nu \neq \int_{X \times Y} \psi(y) d\gamma(x, y)$, set $u(x, y) = \psi(y)$. In any case,

$\exists \hat{u} \in \text{Dom}(g)$ s.t. $\langle \gamma, \hat{u} \rangle \neq g(\hat{u})$. Then, since for any $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda \hat{u} \in \text{Dom}(g)$ and $\langle \gamma, \lambda \hat{u} \rangle - g(\lambda \hat{u}) = \lambda [\langle \gamma, \hat{u} \rangle - g(\hat{u})]$.

We have

$$g^*(\gamma) \geq \sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} [\langle \gamma, \lambda \hat{u} \rangle - g(\lambda \hat{u})] = +\infty.$$

Thus,

$$g^*(\gamma) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu), \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (****)$$

Since $\mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu) \in \mathcal{M}_+(\mu, \nu)$, it now follows from (*) — (****) that

$$\begin{aligned} & - \sup \left\{ J[\varphi, \psi] : (\varphi, \psi) \in \mathcal{F}_c(\mu, \nu) \cap (C_b(X) \times C_b(Y)) \right\} \\ &= \max_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} \left(- \int_{X \times Y} c d\gamma \right) = - \min_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}(\mu, \nu)} \int_{X \times Y} c d\gamma. \end{aligned}$$

which is

$$\sup_{\mathbb{F}_C(\mu, \nu) \cap (C_b(X) \times C_b(Y))} J[\cdot] = \min_{\mathbb{A}(\mu, \nu)} E_C[\cdot]. \quad (\star)$$

Finally, for any $(\varphi, \psi) \in L^1(\mu) \times L^1(\nu)$, there exist $(\varphi_n, \psi_n) \in \mathbb{F}_C(\mu, \nu) \cap (C_b(X) \times C_b(Y))$ s.t. (see below.)

$$\int_X \varphi_n d\mu \rightarrow \int_X \varphi d\mu \quad \text{and} \quad \int_Y \psi_n d\nu \rightarrow \int_Y \psi d\nu.$$

Hence, we can replace C_b by L^1 in (\star) . QED

Proposition Let (X, d) be a Polish space, $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$, and $\varphi \in L^1(\mu)$. There exist $\varphi_n \in C_b(X)$ ($n=1, 2, \dots$) s.t.

$$\int_X \varphi_n d\mu \rightarrow \int_X \varphi d\mu.$$

Proof Since μ is finite, and $L^1(\mu)$ -functions can be approximated by simple functions, we need only to consider $\varphi = \mathbb{1}_A$ for $A \in \mathcal{B}(X)$. By the regularity of μ , $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\exists U \subseteq X$, $K \subseteq X$, s.t. U is open, K is compact, $K \subseteq A \subseteq U$, $\mu(U \setminus K) < \varepsilon$.

Define $\varphi_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{d(x, U^c)}{d(x, K) + d(x, U^c)}$, $x \in X$. Then $\varphi_\varepsilon \in C_b(X)$.

In fact $0 \leq \varphi_\varepsilon \leq 1$. $\varphi_\varepsilon = 1$ on K . $\varphi_\varepsilon = 0$ on U^c . Moreover,

$$\left| \int_X \mathbb{1}_A d\mu - \int_X \varphi_\varepsilon d\mu \right| = \left| \int_{A \setminus K} d\mu - \int_{U \setminus K} \varphi_\varepsilon d\mu \right| \leq \mu(A \setminus K) + \mu(U \setminus K) \leq 2\mu(U \setminus K) = 2\varepsilon. \quad \underline{\text{QED}}$$