

IX Partial differential equations, optimal design and numerics  
Benasque 2024, Aug 19 – 30

Kantorovich-Rubinstein duality for the Hessian  
and convex order.

G. Bouchitté, IMATH, Université de Toulon

joint work with:

Karol Bolbotowski, Lagrange Mathematics and Computation  
Research Center, Paris

# Initial motivation: optimal design of a grillage (OGP)

The (OGP) problem consists in finding a measure  $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathcal{S}^{d \times d}$  (symmetric tensor valued) solving

$$\min_{\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{S}^{d \times d})} \left\{ \int \rho^0(\sigma) : \text{spt}(\sigma) \subset \bar{\Omega}, \text{div}^2 \sigma = f \right\}$$

where:

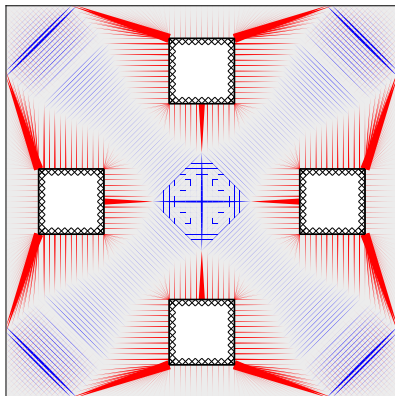
- $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  convex design domain ( $d = 2, 3$ )
- $f \in \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega})$  a source term (distribution of order one)
- $\rho^0(S) := \sum_{i=1}^d |\lambda_i(S)|$  for all  $S \in \mathcal{S}^{d \times d}$  (schatten norm)

If  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $f$  a signed measure, existence of optimal  $\sigma$  iff:

$$\int f = 0, \quad [f] := \int x f(dx) = 0.$$

# Optimal grillage clamped on four columns

$\sigma^{\text{opt}}$  approximated by rank one measures (M. Gilbert, L He, Rozvany)



$\Omega =$  the large square ,  $\Sigma_0 =$  4 small squares ,  $f = \mathcal{L}^2 \llcorner (\Omega \setminus \Sigma_0)$

# Important issues

- dimension of the optimal measure  $\sigma$  and justification of its approximation by trusses of bars in bending regime (“grillage”)
- how to relate the support of an optimal measure  $\sigma$  to the support of  $f$  when  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$  ?

$$\text{spt}(\sigma) \subset \text{co}(\text{spt}(f)) ?$$

- relation with an OT problem ?
- how to handle loads of 1st order like  $f = f_0 - \text{div } F$  where  $f_0 \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $F \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  (s. t.  $[f_0] + \int F = 0$ ) ?

# The Hessian constraint problem

Assume that  $f = \nu - \mu$ , where  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\overline{\Omega})$  share the same barycenter  $[\mu] = [\nu]$ . By standard convex analysis and duality:

$$\min(OGP) = \mathcal{I}(f, \Omega)$$

- $\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega)$  is the maximum of the Hessian constrained problem:

$$\max \{ \langle f, u \rangle : u \in W^{2,\infty}(\Omega), \rho(\nabla^2(u)) \leq 1 \text{ in } \Omega \}.$$

- $\rho(A) = \sup\{|\lambda_i(A)|\}$  is the *spectral* norm related to  $\rho^0$  through

$$\rho^0(S) = \sup\{\langle A, S \rangle : \rho(A) \leq 1\}.$$

Case  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$  (or  $\Omega$  convex)

$$\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) = \max_{u \in C^{1,1}(\Omega)} \left\{ \int u d\nu - \int u d\mu : \text{Lip}(\nabla u) \leq 1 \right\}$$

- Generalizations to higher order derivatives haven been considered in [V.M. Zolotarev \(Theory Prob. Appl. 1977\)](#) and recently used by [M. Fathi \(arxiv\)](#)
- Up to now no link with optimal transport was evidenced

# Novelty: an unexpected link with convex order

Let  $\mu, \nu$  in  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that  $[\mu] = [\nu]$  and set:

$$\mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu) = \min \{ \text{var}(\rho) : \rho \succeq_c \mu, \rho \succeq_c \nu \}.$$

where  $\succeq_c$  denotes the convex order relation.

- This problem enters in the larger class of stochastic optimization problems under dominance constraints motivated by mathematical finance, statistical decision theory, economics, see for instance: D. Dentcheva and A. Ruszczyński, SIOPT (2003); A. Müller and M. Scarsini, SIOPT (2006); Johannes Wiesel and Erica Zhang (2023).
- Different objective functionals on  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  can be considered as for instance  $F(\rho) = \int |x|^p d\rho$  for  $p \neq 2$   
work in progress: KB, G. Carlier, F. Santambrogio, Q. Merigot

# Connection of (OG) with optimal transport

We will construct a 3 marginals OT problem whose admissible plans  $\gamma$  have marginals  $(\mu, \nu, \rho)$  with  $\rho \succeq_c \mu$ ,  $\rho \succeq_c \nu$ .

As a result, for  $\rho \in \operatorname{argmin} \mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu)$ , we have the following equality:

$$\mathcal{I}(f, \mathbb{R}^d) = \operatorname{var}(\rho) - \frac{\operatorname{var}(\mu) + \operatorname{var}(\nu)}{2}$$

Moreover:

- optimal stress measures  $\sigma$  for the (OG) problem can be recovered from optimal plans  $\gamma$
- $\nu \succeq \mu \iff u(x) = \frac{|x|^2}{2}$  is optimal for  $\mathcal{I}(f)$   
 $(\nu \succeq \mu \iff \rho = \nu \text{ solves } \mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu) \iff \mathcal{I}(f) = \frac{1}{2}(\operatorname{var}(\nu) - \operatorname{var}(\mu)))$ .



# Plan of the talk

1. Back to the first order gradient case ;
2. OT formulation in the Hessian case ;
3. Relation between (OT3) and martingale OT;
4. Explicit examples.

# 1- Back to the first order gradient case.

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  a domain and  $f \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$  compactly supported such that  $\int f = 0$ . We set

$$\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) = \sup \{ \langle f, u \rangle : |\nabla u| \leq 1 \text{ in } \Omega \}.$$

- A classical duality scheme relates this to Beckmann problem

$$\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) = \min_{\lambda \in \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega}; \mathbb{R}^d)} \left\{ \int |\lambda| : -\operatorname{div} \lambda = f \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^d \right\}$$

- If  $\Omega$  is convex, the Euclidean distance  $d_\Omega(x, y) = |x - y|$  is involved in the equivalence:

$$|\nabla u| \leq 1 \text{ a.e. in } \Omega \iff |u(x) - u(y)| \leq d_\Omega(x, y) \text{ in } \Omega^2$$

(otherwise  $d_\Omega$  is the geodesic distance in  $\Omega$ )

# Connexion with Monge optimal transport

**Def :** Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{M}_+(\overline{\Omega})$  such that  $\mu(\overline{\Omega}) = \nu(\overline{\Omega})$ ; the Monge distance is given by

$$W_1(\mu, \nu) := \min \left\{ \int_{\overline{\Omega} \times \overline{\Omega}} \overbrace{|x - y|}^{\text{subadditive cost } c(x, y)} \gamma(dx dy) : \gamma \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) \right\}$$

(Kantorovich relaxation of  $\inf \{ \int_{\overline{\Omega}} |x - Tx| \mu(dx) : T^\#(\mu) = \nu \}$ ).

We set  $W_1(\mu, \nu) = +\infty$  if  $\mu(\overline{\Omega}) \neq \nu(\overline{\Omega})$

**THM** (*Kantorovich-Rubintein duality*) Let  $\Omega$  be a convex domain,  $f$  balanced compactly supported in  $\overline{\Omega}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) = W_1(f_+, f_-)$$

- If  $\Omega$  not convex, we need to define  $W_1$  with, as cost  $c(x, y)$ , the geodesic distance in  $\bar{\Omega}$ ;
- $\text{spt}(f) \subset \bar{\Omega}$  is necessary to have  $\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) < +\infty$ .
- The balance condition in  $\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega)$  can be removed if we add a Dirichlet constraint  $u = 0$  is prescribed on a non void compact subset  $\Sigma_0$ . If, for instance,  $f \geq 0$ , we get

$$\begin{cases} I(f, \Omega, \Sigma_0) = \min\{W_1(f, \nu) ; \text{spt}(\nu) \subset \Sigma_0\} \\ u_{\text{opt}} = d(x, \Sigma_0) \end{cases}$$

G. Buttazzo, P. Seppecher, GB (1997), G. Buttazzo, GB: JEMS (2001)

## Recovering $(u_{\text{opt}}, \sigma_{\text{opt}})$ from $\gamma_{\text{opt}}$

- Let  $\gamma_{\text{opt}} \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$  solving MK-problem. Then a solution  $\lambda_{\text{opt}}$  to Beckmann problem is given by the vector measure:

$$\lambda_{\text{opt}} = \iint \lambda^{x,y} \gamma_{\text{opt}}(dx dy) ,$$

where  $\lambda^{x,y} = \mathcal{H}^1 \llcorner [x, y] \frac{y-x}{|y-x|}$   $(-\operatorname{div} \lambda^{x,y} = \delta_y - \delta_x)$

- All solutions  $\lambda$  are associated to such an optimal  $\gamma$  (thanks to Smirnov decomposition Thm)
- Any optimal  $u_{\text{opt}}$  satisfies

$$|u_{\text{opt}}(y) - u_{\text{opt}}(x)| = |x - y| \quad \gamma_{\text{opt}} \text{ a.e.}$$

Hence  $u_{\text{opt}}$  is affine with slope 1 on every  $[x, y]$  such that  $(x, y) \in \operatorname{spt}(\gamma_{\text{opt}})$ .

# Support of optimal measures $\lambda$

- As a consequence of the representation through optimal plan  $\gamma$  and whenever  $\Omega$  is convex:

$$\text{spt}(\lambda_{\text{opt}}) \subset \text{co}(\text{spt}(f)).$$

- the same inclusion holds if  $f$  belongs to the completion  $\mathcal{M}_{0,1}(\Omega)$  of balanced measures with respect to the MK norm ( $f = f_0 - \text{div } F$ , where  $F \in \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega}; \mathbb{R}^d)$  is *tangential*).  
T. Champion, Jimenez, GB, *Revista Parma (2005)* and A. Arroyo-Rabasa, GB *in progress*
- If  $\Omega$  is not convex, the same inclusion holds with  $\text{co}(\cdot)$  replaced by the geodesic envelope.

## 2- OT formulation in the Hessian case

Recall that for  $f = \nu - \mu$ :

$$\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) = \max_{u \in C^{1,1}(\Omega)} \left\{ \int u d\nu - \int u d\mu : \text{Lip}(\nabla u) \leq 1 \right\} .$$

The two-points cost is then:  $c(x, y) = \mathcal{I}(\delta_x - \delta_y) = \delta_\Omega(x, y)$ .

Difficulties are two fold:

- Need a counterpart for  $\text{Lip}(\nabla u) \leq 1$  of the two-point condition:  $|\nabla u| \leq 1 \iff u(x) - u(y) \leq |x - y|$ .
- the barycenter condition  $[\mu] = [\nu]$  fails if  $\mu = \delta_x$  and  $\nu = \delta_y$ .

$$\mathcal{I}(\delta_x - \delta_y) = +\infty \quad \text{whenever } x \neq y.$$

# The three points alternative

Consider a third point  $z \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and the cost  $c(x, y, z) = \mathcal{I}(f^{x,y,z})$  attached to the first order distribution:

$$f^{x,y,z} := \delta_x - \delta_y - \operatorname{div} \left( (z - x)\delta_x - (z - y)\delta_y \right)$$

Note that  $\operatorname{spt}(f^{x,y,z}) = \{x, y\}$  and that  $\langle f^{x,y,z}, u \rangle = 0$  for all affine functions. Next we introduce  $S^{d \times d}$ -valued measures:

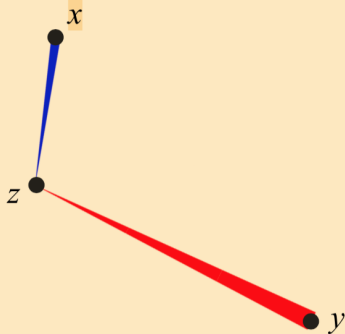
$$\sigma^{a,b} = \tau_{a,b} \otimes \tau_{a,b} \mathcal{H}^1 \llcorner [a, b], \quad \tau_{a,b} := \frac{b - a}{|b - a|}$$

$$\sigma^{x,y,z}(d\xi) := |\xi - z| (\sigma^{z,y}(d\xi) - \sigma^{x,z}(d\xi))$$

(affine stress density,  $\leq 0$  on  $[x, z]$  and  $\geq 0$  on  $[z, y]$ )



Density of  $\sigma^{x,y,z}$  wrt.  $\mathcal{H}^1 \llcorner ([x, z] \cup [z, y])$



# Fundamental Lemma

- $\sigma^{x,y,z}$  satisfies  $\operatorname{div}_2 \sigma^{x,y,z} = f^{x,y,z}$ .
- Assume that  $z \in B(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{|x-y|}{2})$ . Then  $\sigma^{x,y,z}$  is optimal for  $\mathcal{I}(f^{x,y,z})$  and

$$\mathcal{I}(f^{x,y,z}) = c(x, y, z) := \frac{1}{2}(|x - z|^2 + |y - z|^2).$$

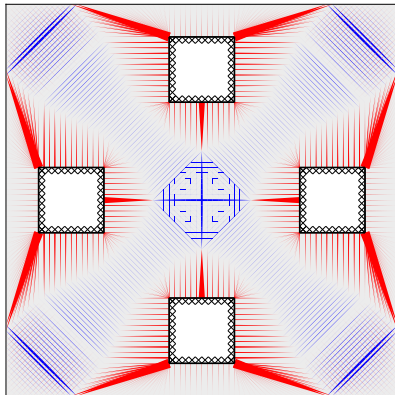
The idea is now to extend this result to any admissible measure  $f$  searching for optimal  $\sigma$  in the form

$$\sigma = \int \sigma^{x,y,z} \gamma(dx dy dz),$$

being  $\gamma$  a three marginals plan satisfying

$$f = \int f^{x,y,z} \gamma(dx dy dz).$$

# Underlying mechanical intuition



# The three points condition

We use the 3-points cost:

$$c(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}(|x - z|^2 + |y - z|^2)$$

**Theorem** ((E. Le Gruyer (2009) *Geom. Funct. Anal.*)

For every  $\varphi \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , the conditions (i)(ii)(iii) are equivalent:

(i)  $\text{Lip}(\nabla\varphi) \leq 1$

(ii) For all  $(x, y, z) \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^3$ , it holds:

$$(\varphi(x) + \langle \nabla\varphi(x), z - x \rangle) - (\varphi(y) + \langle \nabla\varphi(y), z - y \rangle) \leq c(x, y, z);$$

(iii) For all  $(x, y) \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^2$  and  $z \in B(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{|x-y|}{2})$ , it holds:

$$(\varphi(x) + \langle \Phi(x), z - x \rangle) - (\varphi(y) + \langle \Phi(y), z - y \rangle) \leq c(x, y, z) .$$

Moreover (iii) implies that  $\Phi = \nabla\varphi$ .

## Extension à la “Kirschbaum”

**Corollary 1:** Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and consider functions  $\varphi : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\Phi : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  such that for any  $(x, y) \in E \times E \times \mathbb{R}^d$ :

$$(\varphi(x) + \langle \Phi(x), z - x \rangle) - (\varphi(y) + \langle \Phi(y), z - y \rangle) \leq c(x, y, z),$$

Then, it exists  $u \in W_{\text{loc}}^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that

$$(u, \nabla u) = (\varphi, \Phi) \text{ in } E, \quad \rho(\nabla^2 u) \leq 1 \text{ a.e. in } \mathbb{R}^d$$

An extension function is given by  $u = g_{\varphi, \Phi}^{**}(x) - \frac{|x|^2}{2}$  where:

$$g_{\varphi, \Phi}(x) := \inf_{\xi \in E} \left\{ \varphi(\xi) + \langle \Phi(\xi), x - \xi \rangle + \frac{1}{2} |x - \xi|^2 \right\} + \frac{|x|^2}{2}$$

# Reducing $\mathcal{I}(f)$ to a three-points constrained problem

To any subset  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , we associate its *ball-extension* defined by:

$$\mathcal{B}(E) := \bigcup_{(x,y) \in E^2} B\left(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{x-y}{2}\right).$$

**Collorary 2:** Assume that  $f = f_0 - \operatorname{div} F$  is balanced. Then:

$$\mathcal{I}(f) = \sup \left\{ \int \varphi df + \int \Phi dF, \right.$$

where the supremum is taken over all pairs  $(\varphi, \Phi) \in (C^0(\mathbb{R}^d))^{1+d}$  s. t.

$$(\varphi(x) + \langle \Phi(x), z - x \rangle) - (\varphi(y) + \langle \Phi(y), z - y \rangle) \leq c(x, y, z),$$

for all  $(x, y, z) \in \operatorname{spt} f \times \operatorname{spt} f \times \mathcal{B}(\operatorname{spt} f)$

- Same statement for  $\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega)$  provided  $\mathcal{B}(\operatorname{spt} f) \subset \bar{\Omega}$ .
- From Corollary 1, can show that (OGP) admits a solution  $\bar{\sigma} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d, S^{d \times d})$  supported in  $\mathcal{B}(\operatorname{spt} f)$  ( $\operatorname{spt} \bar{\sigma} \subset \operatorname{co}(\operatorname{spt} f)$  is not true in general)

# The 3-points OT problem

Given  $\gamma \in \mathcal{M}_+(\bar{\Omega}^3)$  with bounded first moment, we denote:

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_1 := \Pi_{\#}^1(\gamma), & M_1(\gamma) := \Pi_{\#}^1((z-x)\gamma) \\ \gamma_2 := \Pi_{\#}^2(\gamma), & M_2(\gamma) := \Pi_{\#}^2((z-y)\gamma) \end{cases}$$

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{M}_+(\bar{\Omega})$  such that  $\int d\mu = \int d\nu$ ,  $\int x d\mu = \int y d\nu$ . Then we may associate the admissible family:

$$\Sigma(\mu, \nu) := \left\{ \gamma \in \mathcal{M}_+(\bar{\Omega}^3) : \gamma_1 = \mu, \gamma_2 = \nu, M_1(\gamma) = M_2(\gamma) = 0 \right\}$$

It is convex *non empty* and weakly\* compact.

## Second order version of Kantorovich-Rubinstein

**Theorem** Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega}; \mathbb{R})$  be an admissible measure such that  $\mathcal{B}(\text{spt } f) \subset \bar{\Omega}$ . Then:

(i) We have the no-gap equality  $\mathcal{I}(f, \Omega) = \inf(\text{OT3})$  where:

$$(\text{OT3}) \quad \min \left\{ \int c(x, y, z) \gamma(dx dy dz) : \gamma \in \Sigma(f_+, f_-) \right\}$$

(ii) There exists an optimal plan  $\bar{\gamma}$  for (OT3) supported in  $(\text{spt}(f))^2 \times \mathcal{B}(\text{spt}(f))$ , thus a solution to (OGP)

$$\bar{\sigma} = \int \sigma^{x,y,z} \bar{\gamma}(dx dy dz)$$

satisfying  $\text{spt}(\bar{\sigma}) \subset \mathcal{B}(\text{spt}(f))$ .



Proof: the inequality  $\mathcal{I}(f) \leq \inf(OT3)$  is easy.

- From classical convex analysis and duality, we find that  $\inf(OT3) = \sup(OT3)^*$  where:

$$\sup \left\{ \int \varphi d\mu + \int \psi d\nu, \right. \quad (OT3)^*$$

where the supremum is taken over all pairs  $(\varphi, \psi) \in (C^0(\mathbb{R}^d))^2$  such that, for suitable  $\Phi, \Psi \in (C^0(\mathbb{R}^d))^d$ , it holds :

$$(\varphi(x) + \langle \Phi(x), z - x \rangle) + (\psi(y) + \langle \Psi(y), z - y \rangle) \leq c(x, y, z)$$

- By restricting to pairs  $(\varphi, \psi)$  and  $(\Phi, \Psi)$  such that  $\psi = -\varphi$  and  $\Psi = -\Phi$  and in virtue of Corollary 1 that we apply to  $f = \nu - \mu$  and  $F = 0$ , we get:

$$\inf(OT3) = \sup(OT3)^* \geq \mathcal{I}(f).$$

# Proof of the no-gap equality $\mathcal{I}(f) = \inf(OT3)$

We need a second order version of the  $c$ -transform

**$c$ -transform:** when  $c(x, y) = |x - y|$ , the  $c$ -transform of  $\varphi$  is  $\varphi^c(y) := \inf_y \{|x - y| - \varphi(x)\}$ . It satisfies  $\text{lip } \varphi^c \leq 1$  while  $\varphi^c = -\varphi$  if  $\varphi$  is 1-Lipschitz.

**$\diamond$ -transform:** Let  $c(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}(|x - z|^2 + (y - z)^2)$ .

$$\varphi \in C^{0,1} \mapsto \varphi^\diamond(y) := g_{\varphi, \nabla \varphi}^{**}(y) - \frac{|y|^2}{2},$$

$$g_{\varphi, \Phi}(y) := \inf_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ \varphi(\xi) + \langle \Phi(\xi), y - \xi \rangle + \frac{1}{2} |y - \xi|^2 \right\} + \frac{|y|^2}{2}$$

**Lemma [Azagra, Legruyer, Mudarra (2018)]:**  $\varphi^\diamond$  is  $C^{1,1}$  and  $\text{lip}(\nabla \varphi^\diamond) \leq 1$ . Moreover:

$$\text{lip}(\nabla \varphi) \leq 1 \implies \varphi^\diamond = -\varphi.$$

From admissible  $(\varphi, \Phi)$  to  $(\varphi^\diamond, \varphi^{\diamond\diamond})$

- The pairs  $(\varphi, \Phi)$  and  $(\varphi^\diamond, \nabla\varphi^\diamond)$  are also admissible while

$$\int \varphi d\mu + \int \varphi^\diamond d\nu \geq \int \varphi d\mu + \int \Phi d\nu.$$

- The pairs  $(\varphi^{\diamond\diamond}, \nabla\varphi^{\diamond\diamond})$  and  $(\varphi^\diamond, \nabla\varphi^\diamond)$  are also admissible while

$$\int \varphi^{\diamond\diamond} d\mu + \int \varphi^\diamond d\nu \geq \int \varphi d\mu + \int \varphi^\diamond d\nu.$$

Thus as  $\varphi^{\diamond\diamond} = -\varphi^\diamond$  is admissible for  $\mathcal{I}(f)$ , we get

$$\mathcal{I}(f) \geq \int \varphi^\diamond d(\nu - \mu) = \int \varphi^{\diamond\diamond} d\mu + \int \varphi^\diamond d\nu \geq \int \varphi d\mu + \int \Phi d\nu.$$



# Optimality conditions

An admissible pair  $(u, \pi)$  for  $\mathcal{I}(f)$  and (OT3) respectively is optimal iff the equality below holds  $\pi$ -a.e.  $(x, y, z)$ :

$$u(x) + \langle \nabla u(x), z - x \rangle - (u(y) + \langle \nabla u(y), z - y \rangle) = \frac{|x - z|^2 + |y - z|^2}{2}$$

**Remark:** The equality above needs to be checked only for

$$\bar{z}(x, y, u) = \frac{1}{2}(x + y + \nabla u(x) - \nabla u(y))$$

Furthermore  $\bar{\pi}$  solving (OT3) must be of the form

$$\langle \bar{\pi}, \varphi(x, y, z) \rangle = \iint \varphi(x, y, \bar{z}(x, y, u)) \gamma(dx dy),$$

being  $u$  optimal for  $\mathcal{I}(f)$  and  $\gamma \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$ .

### 3- Connection with stochastic optimization under convex order constraint

**Background:** Given two probability measures  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , we say that  $\nu \succeq_c \mu$  if  $\int f d\nu \geq \int f d\mu$  for every convex function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- $\nu \succeq_c \mu \implies [\mu] = [\nu]$ ;  $\nu \succeq_c \delta_{[\nu]}$  (Jensen inequality);
- **Strassen Theorem:**  $\nu \succeq_c \mu$  iff there exists a  $\mu$ -measurable map  $x \mapsto p^x \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that:
  1.  $[p^x] = x$   $\mu$ -a.e.
  2.  $\nu(B) = \int p^x(B) \mu(dx)$  for any Borel set  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .
- a martingale transport from  $\mu$  to  $\nu$  is a pairing measure  $\gamma \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$  of the form

$$\langle \gamma, \varphi \rangle = \int \left( \int \varphi(x, y) p^x(dy) \right) \mu(dx),$$

where  $[p^x] = x$   $\mu$ -a.e.

## How (OT3) is related to martingale OT ?

Let  $(\mu, \nu, \rho)$  denote the marginals of an admissible  $\gamma \in \Sigma(\mu, \nu)$ . We claim that:

$$M_1(\gamma) = 0 \implies \rho \succeq_c \mu \quad , \quad M_2(\gamma) = 0 \implies \rho \succeq_c \nu$$

Indeed  $M_1(\gamma) = 0$  implies that, for every  $\psi \in C_0(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$ :

$$(*) \quad \iiint \langle z - x, \psi(x) \rangle \gamma(dx dy dz) = \iint \langle z - x, \psi(x) \rangle \gamma_{1,3}(dx dz) = 0.$$

Since  $(\mu, \rho) \in \Pi(\gamma_{1,3})$ , it exists a family  $\{p^x\}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that:

$$\gamma_{1,3}(dx dz) = \int \delta_x \otimes p^x(dz) \mu(dx) \quad , \quad \rho(dz) = \int p^x(dz) \mu(dx).$$

Then (\*) implies that  $\int \langle [p^x] - x, \psi \rangle d\mu = 0$ , thus  $[p^x] = x$   $\mu$ - a.e.

# The set of admissible $\rho$

**Lemma:** Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and

$$\mathcal{A} := \{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) : \exists \gamma \in \Sigma(\mu, \nu) \text{ such that } \Pi_3^\#(\gamma) = \rho\}.$$

Then:

- i)  $\mathcal{A} = \{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) : \rho \succeq \mu, \rho \succeq \nu\}$ .
- ii)  $\forall R > 0, \{\rho \in \mathcal{A} : \text{var}(\rho) \leq R\}$  is weakly\* compact.

Moreover

**Proof.**

The inclusion  $\subset$  is already proved. The converse is obtained by constructing martingale pairings  $\gamma_{1,3} \in \Pi(\mu, \rho), \gamma_{2,3} \in \Pi(\nu, \rho)$  (exists by Strassen Theorem), and then by gluing  $\gamma_{1,3}$  to  $\gamma_{3,2}$ .

□

## Looking for optimal $\rho$

For every  $\gamma \in \Sigma(\mu, \nu)$  with third marginal  $\rho$ , one has:

$$\begin{aligned}\int c(x, y, z) d\gamma &= \left( \int \frac{|x|^2}{2} d\mu + \int \frac{|y|^2}{2} d\nu \right) + \int |z|^2 d\rho - \int \langle x + y, z \rangle d\gamma \\ &= \int |z|^2 d\rho - \frac{1}{2} \left( \int |x|^2 d\mu + \int |y|^2 d\nu \right),\end{aligned}$$

where in the last line we used that  $M_1(\gamma) = M_2(\gamma) = 0$ . Thus, by minimizing over  $\mathcal{A}$  with the help of previous Lemma, we infer that

$$\mathcal{I}(f) = \min(OT3) = \mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu) - \frac{1}{2}(\text{var}(\mu) + \text{var}(\nu)),$$

where:

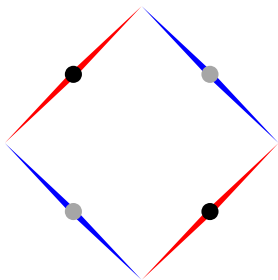
$$\mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu) = \min \{ \text{var}(\rho) : \rho \succeq_c \mu, \rho \succeq_c \nu \}$$



## 4. Explicit examples

## Example 1: from 2 Dirac masses to 2 Dirac masses

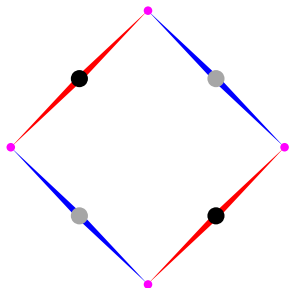
$\mu$  = equi-distributed on 2 points in black ,  $\nu$  equi-distributed on 2 points in



red= positive  $\sigma_{\text{opt}}$  , blue= negative  $\sigma_{\text{opt}}$

# The third marginal $\rho$

$\rho$  equi-distributed on the 4 points in pink



**Remark:**  $\text{spt}(\bar{\sigma})$  and  $\text{spt}(\rho)$  are subsets of  $\mathcal{B}(\text{spt}(f))$ .

## Example 2: from a gaussian to a gaussian

Let  $\mu, \nu$  two centered gaussian laws with correlation matrices  $M, N$ :

$$M_{ij} = \int x_i x_j \mu(dx) , \quad N_{ij} = \int y_i y_j \nu(dx).$$

As convex order for gaussians is equivalent to order between correlation tensors (as quadratic forms)

$$\mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu) = \min\{Tr(X) : X \in \mathcal{S}^{d \times d} , X \geq M , X \geq N\}$$

which is reached for  $R = M + (N - M)_+$ ,

where for a spectral decomposition  $N - M = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i a_i \otimes a_i$ , we set  $(N - M)_+ := \sum_{i=1}^d (\lambda_i)_+ a_i \otimes a_i$ . Thus:

- $\rho$  solving  $\mathcal{V}(\mu, \nu)$  is the gaussian with correlation matrix  $R$ ;
- An optimal potential for  $\mathcal{I}(\nu - \mu)$  is given by

$$u(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d \operatorname{sgn}(\lambda_i) (x | a_i)^2.$$

### Example 3: case $\text{spt } \mu \perp \text{spt } \nu$ .

Assume that  $MN = NM = 0$ . Then no need that  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are gaussians !

- $R = M \vee N = M + N$ ;
- $\rho = \mu * \nu$ ;
- Same formula for the optimal potential  $u$  with

$$N - M := \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i a_i \otimes a_i \quad , \quad u(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d \text{sgn}(\lambda_i) (x|a_i)^2.$$

## Example 4: from Lebesgue to several Dirac masses

Optimal measures  $\rho$  consist of parts of dimension 0, 1, 2

See forthcoming talk by Karol !

Thank you for listening