

Presentation: Neural Optimal Transport

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1. [Introduction](#page-1-0)

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Introduction

- OT as loss faithful to the ground metric, approximated with NNs: widely used in generative modeling since WGAN and extensions (rich literature: [\[3,](#page-61-0) [30,](#page-63-0) [14,](#page-62-0) [22,](#page-62-1) [9,](#page-61-1) [12,](#page-62-2) [25,](#page-63-1) [10\]](#page-61-2)...)
- \blacksquare More recently, OT map/plan itself as generator
- **Previous works still have limitations:**
	- Restrictive assumptions on existence of Monge/Brenier maps
	- High dimensional sampling with diffusion models
	- Difficulties to scale
	- Often difficult to train

Studied paper: generalization to WOT, try to obtain scaleable procedure

2. [OT and WOT in generative modeling](#page-3-0)

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Definition

$$
\mathbb{M}(\alpha,\beta):=\inf_{T_{\sharp}\alpha=\beta}\int_{\mathcal{X}}c(x,T(x))d\alpha(x)
$$

Monge/Kantorovitch OT Definition $M(\alpha, \beta) := \inf_{T_{\sharp} \alpha = \beta}$ Z $\int_{\mathcal{X}} c(x, T(x)) d\alpha(x)$

 \blacksquare OT map T: unpaired translation/style transfer, inpainting, faithful to the original image.

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$$

- **Instead of using the deterministic** $T(x)$, sample OT plan $\pi(\cdot|x)$.
- use the average $\int_{\mathcal{Y}} y d\pi(y|x)$ if a deterministic map is needed.

For a "weak" cost $C : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y}) \to \mathbb{R}$,

$$
\mathbb{T}(\alpha,\beta) \coloneqq \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\alpha,\beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X}} C(x,\pi(\cdot|x)) d\alpha(x).
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- Added flexibility: directly regularize the generator $\pi(\cdot|x)$ through C.

e.g. γ -weak cost:

$$
C_{\gamma}(x,\mu) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} ||x - y||^2 \, d\mu(y) - \frac{\gamma}{2} \text{Var}(\mu).
$$

Dual OT problems usually enjoy simpler optimization procedures

Dual WOT

Dual OT problems usually enjoy simpler optimization procedures

Proposition

Under appropriate assumptions,

$$
\mathbb{T}(\alpha,\beta) = \sup_{f \in \mathscr{C}_{b,s}(\mathcal{Y})} \left(\int_{\mathcal{X}} f^C(x) d\alpha(x) + \int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\beta(y) \right),
$$

where

$$
\forall x \in \mathcal{X}, f^C(x) = \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})} C(x, \mu) - \int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\mu(y).
$$

3. [Contributions of the paper, strengths and shortcomings](#page-16-0)

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Contribution of the paper

Proposition

We consider atomless distribution ζ on \mathcal{Z} "the outsourcing distribution".

The dual WOT problem can be rewritten as

$$
\mathbb{T}(\alpha,\beta) = \sup_{f \in \mathscr{C}_{b,s}(\mathcal{Y})} \inf_{T: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{Y}} \mathcal{L}_{\alpha,\beta}(f,T)
$$

where

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\alpha,\beta}(f,T)=\int_{\mathcal{Y}}f(y)d\beta(y)+\int_{\mathcal{X}}\left(C\left(x,T(x,\cdot)_\sharp\zeta\right)-\int_{\mathcal{Z}}f(T(x,z))d\zeta(z)\right)d\alpha(x).
$$

Contribution of the paper

Figure 1: Extracted from the paper: Stochastic map illustration

Intuition

Proposition

Dual WOT reformulation

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\mathbb{T}(\alpha,\beta) = \sup_{f \in \mathscr{C}_{b,s}(\mathcal{Y})} \inf_{T: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{Y}} \mathcal{L}_{\alpha,\beta}(f,T)
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$$

- \blacksquare $T(x, \cdot)_{\sharp}$ ζ corresponds to the conditional $\pi(\cdot|x)$
- \blacksquare The paper shows that neural networks are universal approximators of stochastic transport maps

Strenghts/Limitations

Proposition

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$$

- \blacksquare T is easily interpretable.
- **Freedom** in the choice of ζ (and \mathcal{Z}).
- Easy to sample
- **F**ew hyperparameters
- Maximin problem: slow to optimize and potentially unstable
- Added biais with γ -weak cost.

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4. [Experiments](#page-21-0)

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- The distribution on X is $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{x_i}$
- \blacksquare The distribution on $\mathcal Y$ is made of m uniform circles of center y_i and radius r.
- $\blacksquare \zeta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.01 I_4)$

$$
\blacksquare C(x,\mu) \coloneqq \big\|x - \int_{\mathcal{X}} y d\mu(y)\big\|^2
$$

Toy 2D Dataset

Figure 2: Toy 2D example with discrete input and multimodal target. Note how the algorithm fails to recover the upper right mode.

MNIST to KMNIST

(a) Sample from the MNIST Dataset

(b) Sample from the KMNIST Dataset

MNIST to KMNIST: Training

FIGURE 4: Evolution of the output during training (the intervals are irregular)

(a) Random Images (b) Random Test Images

(c) Sample from the KMNIST Dataset

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- 5. [Further research](#page-27-0)
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Definition

Entropic OT:

$$
\mathbb{S}_{\varepsilon}(\alpha,\beta)=\inf_{\pi\in\Pi(\alpha,\beta)}\left(\int_{\mathcal{X}\times\mathcal{Y}}c(x,y)d\pi(x,y)+\varepsilon\mathrm{KL}\left(\pi||\alpha\otimes\beta\right)\right)
$$

Proposition

$$
\mathbb{S}_{\varepsilon}(\alpha,\beta)=\mathbb{T}_{\varepsilon}(\alpha,\beta),
$$

with \mathbb{T}_{ε} the WOT for the cost

$$
C_{\varepsilon}(x,\mu):=\int_{\mathcal{Y}}c(x,y)d\mu(y)+\varepsilon \mathrm{KL}\left(\mu||\beta\right).
$$

15/22 12/12/2023 [Further research](#page-27-0)

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C_{\varepsilon}(x,\mu) \coloneqq \int_{\mathcal{Y}} c(x,y) d\mu(y) + \varepsilon \mathrm{KL}\left(\mu||\beta\right).
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- However, regularization may enforce samples to appear 'likely' from β

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- However, regularization may enforce samples to appear 'likely' from β
- The challenge to avoid divergence of the KL to $+\infty$ could be solved by adding the regularization mid-way

Proposition

Define

$$
\tilde C_\gamma: x, \mu \mapsto \int_{\mathcal{Y}} c(x,y) d\mu(y) + \gamma \text{Var}\left(\mu\right),
$$

Then, it holds that

$$
\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\alpha,\beta)} \lim_{\gamma \to +\infty} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \tilde{C}_{\gamma}(x,\pi(\cdot|x)) d\alpha(x) = \inf_{T_{\sharp}\alpha = \beta} \int_{\mathcal{X}} c(x,T(x)) d\alpha(x). \tag{1}
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■ Future work could:

• Swap inf and lim under appropriate conditions

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Future work could:

- Swap inf and lim under appropriate conditions
- Study convergence of arginf if possible (\tilde{C}_{γ}) is concave)
- Convergence is observed on a toy dataset (appendix)

$$
\mathbb{M}(\alpha,\beta) := \inf_{T_{\sharp}\alpha=\beta} \int_{\mathcal{X}} c(x,T(x))d\alpha(x),\tag{2}
$$

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\mathbb{T}(\alpha,\beta) := \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\alpha,\beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X}} C(x,\pi(\cdot|x)) d\alpha(x). \tag{3}
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■ *T* replaced by
$$
\mathscr{T}
$$
: $\begin{vmatrix} \mathcal{X} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y}) \\ x & \longmapsto & \mathscr{T}_x := \pi(\cdot|x) \end{vmatrix}$

18/22 12/12/2023 **[Further research](#page-27-0)**

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\pi \in \Pi(\alpha, \beta) \iff \begin{cases} \pi_1 = \alpha \\ \int_{\mathcal{X}} \mathcal{T}_x(A) d\alpha(x) = \beta(A) \end{cases}
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\iff \begin{cases} \pi_1 = \alpha \\ \int_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})} \mu(A) d(\mathcal{I}_\sharp \alpha)(\mu) = \beta(A) \end{cases}
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\iff \begin{cases} \pi_1 = \alpha \\ \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{I}_\sharp \alpha] = \beta \end{cases}
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Proposition

The following equality holds:

$$
\mathbb{T}(\alpha,\beta) = \inf_{\mathbb{E}\left[\mathcal{P}_{\sharp}\alpha\right] = \beta} \int_{\mathcal{X}} C(x,\mathcal{I}_x) d\alpha(x) =: \mathbb{SM}(\alpha,\beta). \tag{4}
$$

Proposition

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$$

Since WOT may not be convex for nonconvex costs like the previous case, this motivates the Kantorovitch relaxation

Definition

The stochastic Kantorovitch cost between two probability measures α, β is defined as

$$
\mathbb{SK}(\alpha,\beta) := \inf_{\substack{\mathbb{E}[\Gamma_1] = \alpha \\ \mathbb{E}[\Gamma_2] = \beta}} \int_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})} C(\mu,\nu) d\Gamma(\mu,\nu) \tag{5}
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where Γ denotes an element of $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y}))$ and Γ_1, Γ_2 its respective marginals.

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SK is a convex and symmetric optimization problem, recovers SM when $\Gamma = (\delta, \mathscr{T})_{\sharp} \alpha$

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- SK is a convex and symmetric optimization problem, recovers SM when $\Gamma = (\delta, \mathscr{T})_{\sharp} \alpha$
- A dual can be derived similary to the Kantorovitch duality

Proposition

Assuming duality holds, the dual Stochastic Kantorovitch reads

$$
\mathbb{SK}(\alpha,\beta) = \inf_{\langle f,\cdot\rangle \oplus \langle g,\cdot\rangle \le C} \langle f,\alpha \rangle + \langle g,\beta \rangle, \tag{6}
$$

where $\langle f, \mu \rangle \coloneqq \int f d\mu, \langle f, \cdot \rangle \oplus \langle g, \cdot \rangle : (\mu, \nu) \mapsto \langle f, \mu \rangle + \langle g, \nu \rangle.$

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■ Further work could:

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Further work could:

- Study the tightness of SK vs SM
- Potentially deduce existence/unicity of stochastic Monge maps (or equivalently WOT plans) in a more general setting than previous proofs (limited to convex weak cost [\[31\]](#page-63-2))

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Further work could:

- Study the tightness of SK vs SM
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- Find under which conditions duality holds
- Possibly reformulate the dual SK with some generalization of C-transform and derive an approach similar to [\[19\]](#page-62-3)

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6. [Summary](#page-51-0)

Summary

- WOT can prove useful when using an OT plan as generator since it allows direct regularization
- [\[19\]](#page-62-3) suggests a noise outsourcing formulation and derive a neural approximation scheme
	- More general than previous works, can function well on some decently large datasets
	- Slow training, can fail to recover all modes
- EOT could be used as regularzied cost in this WOT framework
- Monge maps could be approached with a variance regularization
- A Kantorovitch relaxation of WOT could be explored to try and prove more general results, dual could be extended for practical use

Appendix

Proof of (1)

First, observe that for $x \in \mathcal{X}, \pi \in \Pi(\alpha, \beta)$,

$$
\tilde{C}_{\gamma}(x,\pi(\cdot|x)) \xrightarrow[\gamma \to +\infty]{\gamma \to +\infty} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} c(x,T(x)) & \text{if } \pi(\cdot|x) = \delta_{T(x)} \text{ for some } T(x) \in \mathcal{Y} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right.
$$

since for a probability measure μ , Var $(\mu) = 0 \iff \exists y, \mu = \delta_y$. Therefore, by Beppo-Levi's lemma (the sequence is increasing in γ and nonnegative), one has

$$
\int_{\mathcal{X}} \tilde{C}_{\gamma}(x, \pi(\cdot | x)) \xrightarrow[\gamma \to +\infty]{\sim} \begin{cases} \int_{\mathcal{X}} c(x, T(x)) d\alpha(x) & \text{if } \pi(\cdot | x) = \delta_{T(x)} \text{ a-a.e. for } T : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$
\n(7)

Notice that if $\pi(\cdot|x) = \delta_{T(x)}$ α -a.e., then $T(x) = \int_{\mathcal{Y}} y d\pi(y|x)$ and therefore T is measurable (at least when restricted to a set of probability 1 under α). Additionally in that case, for any continuous bounded $f: \mathcal{Y} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$, one has

$$
\int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\beta(y) = \int_{\mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{X}} f(y) d\pi(y|x) d\alpha(x)
$$

$$
= \int_{\mathcal{X}} f(T(x)) d\alpha(x)
$$

Proof of (1)

i.e. $T_{\sharp}\alpha = \beta$. Conversely, if there is some measurable T such that $T_{\sharp}\alpha = \beta$, the coupling π defined by its first marginal $\pi_1 = \alpha$ and conditional $\pi(\cdot|x) \coloneqq \delta_{T(x)}$ does indeed verify $\pi \in \Pi(\alpha, \beta)$ using the same computation: for any continuous bounded f,

$$
\int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\pi_2(y) = \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\pi(x, y)
$$

$$
= \int_{\mathcal{X}} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\pi(y|x) d\alpha(x)
$$

$$
= \int_{\mathcal{X}} f(T(x)) d\alpha(x)
$$

$$
= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y) d\beta(y).
$$

As a result, the (possibly empty) set of πs for which the limiting cost in [\(7\)](#page-54-0) is finite is exactly described by the set of measurable maps T verifying $T_{\text{H}}\alpha = \beta$, hence proving [\(1\)](#page-32-0).

Toy illustration of Monge as limit of WOT

FIGURE 6: Toy experiment illustrating the difference between the γ -weak cost enforcing higher variance [6a](#page-56-0) and our alternative definition penalizing it instead [6b.](#page-56-1) One can see that as expected, we recover a basically deterministic map in the latter case.

Proof of EOT as WOT

Since any $\pi \in \Pi(\alpha, \beta)$ such that the cost in EOT is finite verifies $\pi \ll \alpha \otimes \beta$, it also holds that for any $x \in \mathcal{X}$, $\pi(\cdot|x) \ll \beta$, as one can easily obtain its Radon-Nikodym derivative: $d\pi(y|x) = \frac{d\pi(x,y)}{d(\alpha \otimes \beta)} d\beta(y)$. Thus, one has

$$
\inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\alpha,\beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X}} C_{\varepsilon}(x, \pi(\cdot|x)) d\alpha(x) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\alpha,\beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left(c(x, y) + \varepsilon \log \left(\frac{d\pi(y|x)}{d\beta} \right) \right) d\pi(y|x) d\alpha
$$

$$
= \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\alpha,\beta)} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} \left(c(x, y) + \varepsilon \log \left(\frac{d\pi(x, y)}{d(\alpha \otimes \beta)} \right) \right) d\pi(x, y)
$$

$$
= \mathbb{S}_{\varepsilon}(\alpha, \beta).
$$

Proof of SK duality

Note that if the optimal coupling is of the form $(\delta, \mathscr{T})_{\sharp}\alpha$ with $\delta : x \mapsto \delta_x$, we recover the stochastic Monge OT [\(4\)](#page-41-0). Additionally, as in K, the fact that Γ is a probability measure is implied by the marginal constraints: if $\mathbb{E}[\Gamma_1] = \alpha$, one has

$$
\int_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} 1 d\Gamma_1(\mu) = \int_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} \mu(\mathcal{X}) d\Gamma_1(\mu)
$$

$$
= \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_1] (\mathcal{X})
$$

$$
= \alpha(\mathcal{X})
$$

$$
= 1,
$$

and therefore

$$
\Gamma(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})) = \Gamma_1(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}))
$$

= 1.

Denoting $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y}))$ the set of nonnegative measures over $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})$, one can therefore take the infimum over $\Gamma \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y}))$ verifying the

Proof of SK duality

marginal constraints. Assuming duality holds i.e. sup and inf can be swapped, one has

$$
\mathbb{SK}(\alpha, \beta) = \inf_{\Gamma} \sup_{f,g} \langle C, \Gamma \rangle + (\langle f, \alpha \rangle - \langle f, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_1] \rangle) + (\langle g, \beta \rangle - \langle g, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_2] \rangle)
$$

=
$$
\sup_{f,g} \langle f, \alpha \rangle + \langle g, \beta \rangle + \inf_{\Gamma} \langle C, \Gamma \rangle - \langle f, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_1] \rangle - \langle g, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_2] \rangle
$$

Where the infimum is over $\Gamma \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y}))$ and f, g continuous bounded functions on \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} respectively. For such functions, the definition of $E[\Gamma_1]$ is equivalent to

$$
\langle f, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_1] \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{P}(X)} \int_{\mathcal{X}} f(x) d\mu(x) d\Gamma_1(\mu)
$$

$$
= \int_{\mathcal{P}(X)} \langle f, \mu \rangle d\Gamma_1(\mu),
$$

Proof of SK duality

and the same can be said for $\langle g, \mathbb{E}[\Gamma_2] \rangle$, whence

$$
\inf_{\Gamma} \langle C, \Gamma \rangle - \langle f, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_1] \rangle - \langle g, \mathbb{E} [\Gamma_2] \rangle = \inf_{\Gamma} \int_{\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(Y)} (C(\mu, \nu) - \langle f, \mu \rangle - \langle g, \nu \rangle) d\Gamma(\mu, \nu)
$$

$$
= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \langle f, \cdot \rangle \oplus \langle g, \cdot \rangle \le C \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$

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