# From Monge Transport to Skorokhod Embeddings

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# Monge Transport and Skorokhod Embedding

Move snow from  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ 



to  $\nu$ , optimally!



$$\inf_{T_{\sharp}\mu=\nu}\int c(y,T(y))\mu(dy)$$

Given  $W_0 \sim \mu$ 



find a stopping-time with  $W_ au \sim 
u$ 



as a barrier, 
$$\tau = \inf\{t; W_t \in R\}$$
.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \bullet & \text{Fixed end-time: } c^L(y,z) = \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 \Big\{ L(t,\gamma,\dot{\gamma}) dt; \gamma(0) = y, \gamma(1) = z \Big\}. \\ & \text{E.g. } L(t,x,v) = \frac{1}{2} |v|^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad c^L(y,z) = \frac{1}{2} |z-y|^2. \end{array}$ 

Benamou-Brenier, Bernard-Buffoni, Fathi-Figalli

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- $\bullet$  \* Free end-time:  $c_L(y,z) = \inf_{\gamma,\tau} \int_0^{\tau} \left\{ L(t,\gamma,\dot{\gamma}) dt; \gamma(0) = y, \gamma(\tau) = z \right\}.$
- **3** Controlled Dynamics:  $t \mapsto A \in \mathbb{A}$ ,  $\dot{\gamma} = f(\gamma, A)$  Minimize  $\int_0^\tau L(t, \gamma, A) dt$ . Lee-Agrachev (Fixed end-time)

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- **1** Add Diffusion:  $dX_t = f(X_t, A_t)dt + \sigma(X_t, A_t)dW_t$ ,

$$\inf_{A,\tau} \Big\{ E \left[ \int_0^\tau L(t,X_t,A_t) dt \right]; \quad X_0 \sim \mu, \ X_\tau \sim \nu \Big\}.$$

Mikame-Theullen, Gentil-Léonard-Ripani (Fixed end-time)



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E.g. 
$$L(t, x, v) = \frac{1}{2}|v|^2 \implies c^L(y, z) = \frac{1}{2}|z - y|^2$$
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Mikame-Theullen, Gentil-Léonard-Ripani (Fixed end-time)

Skorokhod Embedding (without control):

$$\inf_{\tau} \Big\{ E \left[ \int_{0}^{\tau} L(t, W_{t}) dt \right]; \quad W_{0} \sim \mu, \ W_{\tau} \sim \nu \Big\}.$$

Literature in probability and finance; Beiglböck-Cox-Heusmann



Classical Existence and Uniqueness of Transport.
 Gangbo-McCann, Kantorovich, Sudakov, Evans-Gangbo for Monge

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- Understanding Regularity; Viscosity Solutions / Weak Solutions. Everyone here to name a few

#### Part 1: Free End-Time and Eulerian formulation

Optimal Transport:

$$V(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{T_{\sharp}\mu = \nu} \int c_L(y, T(y)) d\mu(y)$$



built from dynamic optimization

$$c_L(y,z) := \inf_{\tau,\gamma(\cdot)} \Big\{ \int_0^\tau L\big(t,\gamma(t),\dot{\gamma}(t)\big) dt; \ \gamma(0) = y, \ \gamma(\tau) = z \Big\}.$$

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**Eulerian Formulation:** 

Thm: 
$$V(\mu,\nu) = E(\mu,\nu) := \inf_{\eta,\rho} \int_0^\infty \int_{T\mathbb{R}^n} L(t,x,v) \eta(t,dx,dv) dt$$

Phase-Space Density  $\eta: \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathcal{M}(T\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\eta \geqslant 0$ ,  $\int_{T_x\mathbb{R}^n} \eta(0, x, dv) = \mu(x)$  Stopping-Measure  $\rho \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\rho \geqslant 0$ ,  $\int_0^\infty \rho(dt, x) = \nu(x)$ 

$$\rho(t,x) + \partial_t \int_{T_x \mathbb{R}^n} \eta(t,x,dv) + \nabla_x \cdot \int_{T_x \mathbb{R}^n} v \ \eta(t,x,dv) = 0$$

# Duality Review: Optimal Transport for Fixed End-Time

The general Kantorovich dual problem is

$$W(\mu,\nu) := \sup \left\{ \int \psi d\nu - \int \phi d\mu; \quad \psi(z) - \phi(y) \leqslant c^{L}(y,z) \right\}$$

Optimizer satisfies 
$$\left(c^L(y,z)=\inf_{\gamma}\int_0^1L(t,\gamma,\dot{\gamma})dt;\gamma(0)=y,\gamma(1)=z\right)$$

$$\phi(y) = \sup_{z} \{ \psi(z) - c^{L}(y, z) \} = \sup_{\gamma} \left\{ \psi(\gamma(1)) - \int_{0}^{1} L(t, \gamma, \dot{\gamma}) dt \right\}.$$

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Bernard-Buffoni, Fathi-Figalli:  $\phi = J_{\psi}(0,\cdot)$ ,

Let  $H(t, x, p) = \sup\{p \cdot v - L(t, x, v)\}$ 

$$\partial_t J_{\psi}(t,x) + Hig(t,x,
abla J_{\psi}(t,x)ig) = 0, \quad J_{\psi}(1,\cdot) = \psi.$$

Hamiltonian flow,  $p(t) = \nabla J_{\psi}(t, \gamma(t))$ :

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = D_p H(t, \gamma(t), p(t)), \quad \dot{p}(t) = -D_x H(t, \gamma(t), p(t))$$

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#### Eulerian Duality: Free End-Time

The dual problem via Eulerian formulation:

$$Thm': W(\mu,\nu) = D(\mu,\nu) := \sup_{(J,\psi) \in N(L)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(z)\nu(dz) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} J(0,y)\mu(dy),$$

$$(J,\psi)\in N(L)$$
 satisfy

$$\psi(x) - J(t, x) \le 0$$
$$\partial_t J(t, x) + v \cdot \nabla J(t, x) - L(t, x, v) \le 0.$$

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  $(J, \psi) \in N(L)$  satisfy

$$\psi(x) - J(t, x) \le 0$$
$$\partial_t J(t, x) + v \cdot \nabla J(t, x) - L(t, x, v) \le 0.$$

Thm": Optimal  $J_{\psi}$  satisfies the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman inequality:

$$\max \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \psi(t,x) - J_{\psi}(t,x), \\ \partial_t J_{\psi}(t,x) + H\!\left(t,x,\nabla J_{\psi}(t,x)\right) \end{array} \right\} = 0.$$

 $H(t,x,p) = \sup_{v \in \mathbb{R}} \{p \cdot v - L(t,x,v)\}$  (proof by Perron's method)

Dynamic programming shows equivalence:

$$\phi(y) = \sup_{z} \{\psi(z) - c_L(y, z)\} = \sup_{\gamma, \tau} \{\psi(\gamma(\tau)) - \int_0^{\tau} L(t, \gamma, \dot{\gamma}) dt\}.$$

# Monotonicity by Viscosity Solution Methods

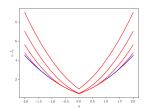
#### Proposition

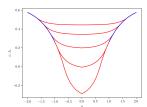
A.  $t \mapsto L$  increasing  $\Rightarrow t \mapsto J_{\psi}$  decreasing.

B.  $t \mapsto L$  decreasing  $\Rightarrow t \mapsto J_{\psi}$  increasing.

Let  $s(x) = \inf\{t; J_{\psi}(t, x) = \psi(x)\}$  (for A., for B. use sup); We have the transversality condition:

$$H(s(x), x, \nabla \psi(x)) = 0.$$





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#### Hitting-Time

With A. or B., and good H,  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$ :

#### Theorem

Unique optimal  $\pi^* \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$  given by  $T(x) := \gamma^x(\tau^x)$ . Pontryagin transversality

$$H(\tau^x, T(x), \nabla \psi(T(x)) = 0$$
, so  $\tau^x = s(T(x))$ .

Hamiltonian flow for  $t < \tau^x$ ,  $p(\tau^x) = \nabla \psi(T(x))$ :

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = D_p H(t, \gamma(t), p(t)), \quad \dot{p}(t) = -D_x H(t, \gamma(t), p(t))$$

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Optimal attainment of Eulerian problem with supp  $\rho \in \{(s(x), x)\}.$ 



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Optimal attainment of Eulerian problem with supp  $\rho \in \{(s(x), x)\}$ . If  $J \in C^1$  then  $\hat{\eta} = \int_{T \times \mathbb{R}^n} d\eta$  is determined by (for A.)

$$\partial_t \hat{\eta} + \nabla_x \cdot D_p H(\nabla J) \hat{\eta} = 0, \quad t < s(x)$$

Unresolved: Is  $\eta$  uniquely determined with J Lipschitz?

# Relationship to Classical Problems

Suppose

$$L(t,x,v) := \left\{ egin{array}{ll} g'(t), & |v| \leqslant 1 \ \infty, & |v| > 1 \end{array} 
ight\}$$

B.

with g(0) = 0 and  $g'(t) \ge 0$ .

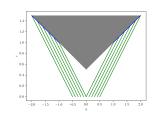
If g is convex or concave, characteristics are straight lines, cost is

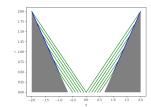
$$c_L(y,z) = g(|z-y|).$$

Gangbo-McCann for Monge Map

A.  $\Leftrightarrow$  g convex

B.  $\Leftrightarrow$  g concave





# Part 2: Skorokhod Embeddings

Uncontrolled diffusion  $W_0 \sim \mu$ 

Stopping-time to transport  $W_{\tau} \sim \nu$ .

28 constructions in 1-D Azéma-Yor, Perkins, Root, Rost ...

Our problem is (multi-D):



$$V(\mu,\nu) := \inf_{\tau} E\left[\int_0^{\tau} L(t,W_t)dt; \ W_0 \sim \mu, \ W_\tau \sim \nu\right].$$

(Real applications in mathematical finance; options pricing)

Hobson, Obłój, Henry-Labordere ...



# Eulerian Formulation and Duality

No optimal transportation cost!

Eulerian Formulation:

$$\begin{split} E(\mu,\nu) := \inf_{(\eta,\rho) \in \Gamma(\mu,\nu)} \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} L(t,x) \eta(t,x) dx dt, \\ (\eta,\rho) \in \Gamma(\mu,\nu) \text{ if } \eta \geqslant 0, \ \rho \geqslant 0, \text{ and (weakly)} \\ \rho + \partial_t \eta = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \eta, \quad \eta(0,\cdot) = \mu, \ \int_0^\infty \rho(dt,\cdot) = \nu. \end{split}$$

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Dual Problem (via Eulerian Formulation):

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Thm}: \textit{V}(\mu,\nu) &= \textit{E}(\mu,\nu) = \textit{D}(\mu,\nu) := \sup_{(J,\psi) \in \Upsilon(L)} \int \psi d\nu - \int J(0,\cdot) d\mu, \\ (J,\psi) &\in \Upsilon(L) \text{ if} \\ \psi(x) - J(t,x) &\leqslant 0 \\ \partial_t J(t,x) + \frac{1}{2} \Delta J(t,x) &\leqslant L(t,x) \\ &\downarrow \text{The leading points} \end{aligned}$$

#### **Dual Attainment**

Maximize:

$$\int \psi d\nu - \int J_{\psi}(0,\cdot) d\mu; \quad \max \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \psi - J_{\psi}, \\ \partial_t J_{\psi} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta J_{\psi} - L \end{array} \right\} = 0.$$

Remaining degrees of freedom for  $(\psi, J_{\psi})$ 

- Subtract a positive function from  $\psi$ . (Let  $\psi = \inf_{t \ge 0} J_{\psi}$ .)
- Subtract a subharmonic function from  $\psi$  and  $J_{\psi}$ . (Harder to handle. This shows that  $D(\mu,\nu)=\infty$  unless  $\mu\leqslant_{\it SH}\nu$ .)

$$\int h \ d\mu \leqslant \int h \ d\nu \ \forall \ h \ \text{s.t.} \ \Delta h \geqslant 0$$

#### Theorem (in progress)

Under suitable assumptions the dual problem is attained at regular  $(\psi, J_{\psi})$ .

# Complementary Slackness

• To verify optimality:

$$(\eta, \rho) \in \Gamma(\mu, \nu)$$
 and  $(\psi, J_{\psi}) \in \Upsilon(L)$  are optimal if and only if

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} L(t,x) \eta(t,x) dx dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi d\nu - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} J(0,\cdot) d\mu.$$

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• If  $(\psi, J_{\psi})$  and  $(\eta, \rho)$  are optimal and regular then:

$$\psi(x) = J_{\psi}(t,x), \ \rho \text{ a.e. } (t,x),$$

and

$$\partial_t J_{\psi}(t,x) + rac{1}{2}\Delta J_{\psi}(t,x) = L(t,x), \ \eta \ \text{a.e.} \ (t,x).$$



#### Proposition

A.  $t \mapsto L$  is increasing  $\Rightarrow t \mapsto J_{\psi}$  is decreasing.

B.  $t \mapsto L$  is decreasing  $\Rightarrow t \mapsto J_{\psi}$  is increasing.

 $s(x) = \inf\{t; J_{\psi}(t,x) = \psi(x)\}$  (For B. use sup). We can choose  $\psi$  to solve

$$\frac{1}{2}\Delta\psi(x)=L\big(s(x),x\big).$$

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• By complementary slackness,  $\eta(t,\cdot) \in H^1_0(\{x;\ t < s(x)\}),$  is unique given s and A. If  $s \in C^1$ ,  $\nu(x) = \nabla s(x) \cdot \nabla \eta(s(x),x).$ 

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- Rigidity Theorem: If s is optimal for increasing L, s is optimal for any increasing  $\tilde{L}$  (For B. t > s(x) and  $-\nu$ ).

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- Rigidity Theorem: If s is optimal for increasing L, s is optimal for any increasing  $\tilde{L}$  (For B. t > s(x) and  $-\nu$ ).
- Martingale Duality of Beigleböck-Cox-Huesmann: Maximize  $\int \psi d\nu - E[M_0]$ ,  $W_0 \sim \mu$ ,  $M_t$  martingale,

$$\psi(W_t) - M_t \leqslant 0 \text{ a.s.} \quad M_t = J_{\psi}(t, W_t) + E\left[\int_t^{\tau} L(s, W_s) ds\right]$$

#### Stochastic Transportation

General stochastic control with free end-time:

$$V(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\tau, A(\cdot)} E\left[\int_0^{\tau} L(t, X_t, A_t) dt\right]$$

with  $dX_t = f(X_t, A_t)dt + \sigma(X_t, A_t)dW_t, X_0 \sim \mu, X_\tau \sim \nu$ . Eulerian form:

$$\rho + \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{A}} d\eta + \nabla \cdot \int_{\mathbb{A}} f \ d\eta = \frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 \cdot \int_{\mathbb{A}} \sigma^2 d\eta.$$

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$$\rho + \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{A}} d\eta + \nabla \cdot \int_{\mathbb{A}} f \ d\eta = \frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 \cdot \int_{\mathbb{A}} \sigma^2 d\eta.$$

Dual problem is

$$W(\mu,
u) := \sup_{\psi,J} \left\{ \int \psi d
u - \int J(0,\cdot) d\mu 
ight\}$$

subject to

$$\psi(x) - J(t, x) \leq 0$$
$$\partial_t J + f(\cdot, A) \cdot \nabla J + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(\cdot, A) \cdot \nabla^2 J \leq L(\cdot, \cdot, A).$$

Many interesting questions!