

On the Total Variation Wasserstein Gradient Flow

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Total variation gradient flows

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$$\partial_t u = \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{Du}{|Du|} \right), \quad \text{on } (0, T) \times \Omega, \quad u|_{t=0} = u_0$$

with boundary condition

$$\nabla u \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.$$

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Studies of the TV gradient flow with **other Hilbertian norms** have been popular, in particular, the H^{-1} norm (Giga and Giga, 2010).

The total variation Wasserstein gradient flow

We consider the fourth-order nonlinear evolution equation

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div} \left(\rho \nabla \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\nabla \rho}{|\nabla \rho|} \right) \right) = 0, \quad \text{on } (0, T) \times \Omega, \quad \rho|_{t=0} = \rho_0,$$

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Applications and numerical solvers:

- Burger, Franek & Schönlieb. Regularized regression and density estimation based on optimal transport. 2012.
- Düring & Schönlieb. A high-contrast 4th order PDE from imaging: numerical solution by ADI splitting. 2012.
- Benning & Calatroni & Düring & Schönlieb. A primal-dual approach for a total variation Wasserstein flow. 2013.

Relation to the TV Wasserstein variational problem: JKO scheme

Due to the work of **Jordan, Kinderlehrer and Otto** for the Fokker-Planck equation,

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho \nabla(-E'(\rho))) = 0, \text{ on } (0, T) \times \Omega, \quad \rho|_{t=0} = \rho_0,$$

with zero-flux boundary condition can be obtained, at the limit $\tau \rightarrow 0^+$, of the JKO Euler implicit scheme:

$$\rho_0^\tau = \rho_0, \quad \rho_{k+1}^\tau \in \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\tau} W_2^2(\rho_k^\tau, \rho) + E(\rho), \quad \rho \in \operatorname{BV}(\Omega) \cap \mathcal{P}_2(\bar{\Omega}) \right\}$$

where $\mathcal{P}_2(\bar{\Omega})$ is the space of Borel probability measures $\bar{\Omega}$ with finite second moment and W_2 is the quadratic Wasserstein distance:

$$W_2^2(\rho_0, \rho_1) := \inf_{\gamma \in \Pi(\rho_0, \rho_1)} \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y|^2 d\gamma(x, y) \right\},$$

$\Pi(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ denoting the set of transport plans between ρ_0 and ρ_1 i.e. the set of probability measures on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$ having ρ_0 and ρ_1 as marginals.

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This talk

In this talk, we present a study of solutions to the variational problem and its gradient flow.

- 1 Properties of the JKO iterates:
 - 1 a maximum principle.
 - 2 establish the optimality conditions.
 - 3 regularity of the level sets.
 - 4 analysis for step function initial data.
- 2 Convergence of the JKO scheme as $\tau \rightarrow 0$ in 1D, for strictly positive initial density ρ_0 .

Some notation and definitions

Given an open subset Ω of \mathbb{R}^d and $\rho \in L^1(\Omega)$,

- the **total variation** of ρ is given by

$$J(\rho) := |D\rho|(\Omega) = \sup \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}(z)\rho : z \in C_c^1(\Omega), \|z\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1 \right\}$$

and $BV(\Omega)$ is by definition the subspace of $L^1(\Omega)$ consisting of those ρ 's in $L^1(\Omega)$ such that $J(\rho)$ is finite.

- By defining

$$\Gamma_d := \left\{ \xi \in L^d(\Omega) : \exists z \in L^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^d), \|z\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1, \operatorname{div}(z) = \xi, z \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \right\}$$

we have that Γ_d is closed and convex in $L^d(\Omega)$ and $J : L^{d/(d-1)} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is its **support function**:

$$J(\mu) = \sup_{\xi \in \Gamma_d} \int_{\Omega} \xi \mu, \quad \forall \mu \in L^{\frac{d}{d-1}}(\Omega).$$

- the **subdifferential** of J at ρ is

$$\partial J(\rho) = \left\{ \xi \in \Gamma_d : \int_{\Omega} \xi \rho = J(\rho) \right\}.$$

Some examples in 1D

Let

$$\Phi(\rho) := \frac{1}{2\tau} W_2^2(\rho_0, \rho) + J(\rho), \quad \forall \rho \in \text{BV}(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

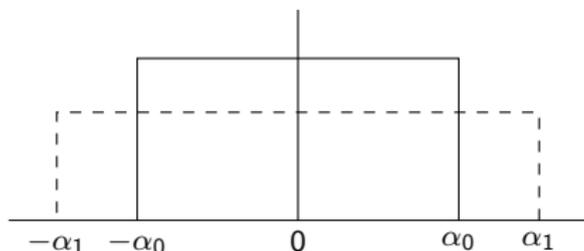
A sufficient optimality condition: ρ_1 is the minimizing solution if there exists $z \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$ with $\|z\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1$, $\text{div}(z) \in L^d$ and $J(\rho_1) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{div}(z) \rho_1$ such that

$$\frac{\varphi}{\tau} \geq -\text{div}(z), \quad \text{with equality } \rho_1\text{-a.e.}$$

where φ is a Kantorovich potential from ρ_1 to ρ_0 .

Characteristic function

Let $\rho_0 := \frac{1}{2\alpha_0} \chi_{[-\alpha_0, \alpha_0]}$. Then, $\rho_1 := \frac{1}{2\alpha_1} \chi_{[-\alpha_1, \alpha_1]}$ where $\frac{\alpha_1^2(\alpha_1 - \alpha_0)}{\tau} = 3$.



Setting $\rho^\tau(t) = \rho_{k+1}^\tau$ for $t \in (k\tau, (k+1)\tau]$,

- ρ^τ converges to $\rho(t, \cdot) = \frac{1}{2\alpha(t)} \chi_{[-\alpha(t), \alpha(t)]}$ with $\alpha(t) = (\alpha_0^3 + 9t)^{1/3}$ in $L^\infty((0, T), (\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}), W_2))$ and in $L^p((0, T) \times \mathbb{R})$ for any $p \in (1, \infty)$.
- Moreover, ρ solves the continuity equation $\partial_t \rho + (-\rho z_{xx})_x = 0$ where

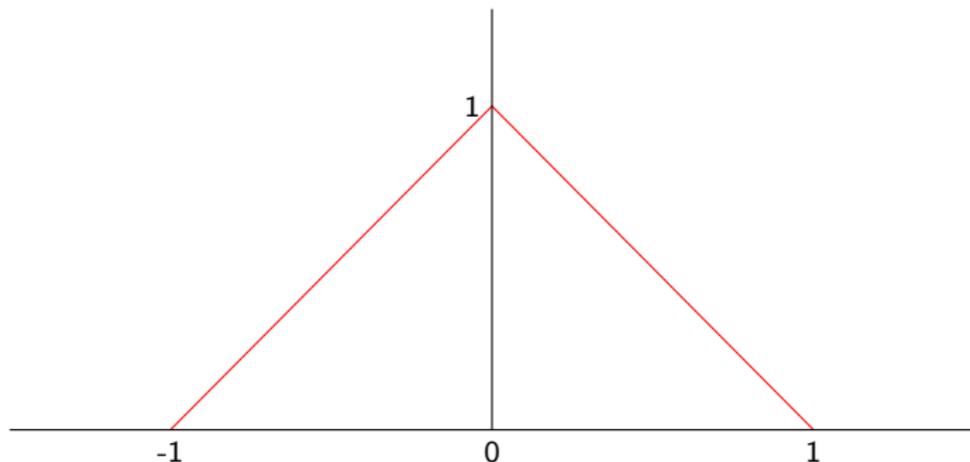
$$z(t, x) = -\frac{\alpha'(t)}{6\alpha(t)} x^3 + \frac{3}{2\alpha(t)} x, \quad x \in [-\alpha(t), \alpha(t)].$$

Instantaneous creation of discontinuities

Let $\rho_0 = (1 - |x|)_+$. Then one can show that

$$\rho_1(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \beta/2 & \text{if } |x| < \beta, \\ (1 - |x|)_+ & \text{if } |x| \geq \beta, \end{cases}$$

for $\beta \in (0, 1)$.



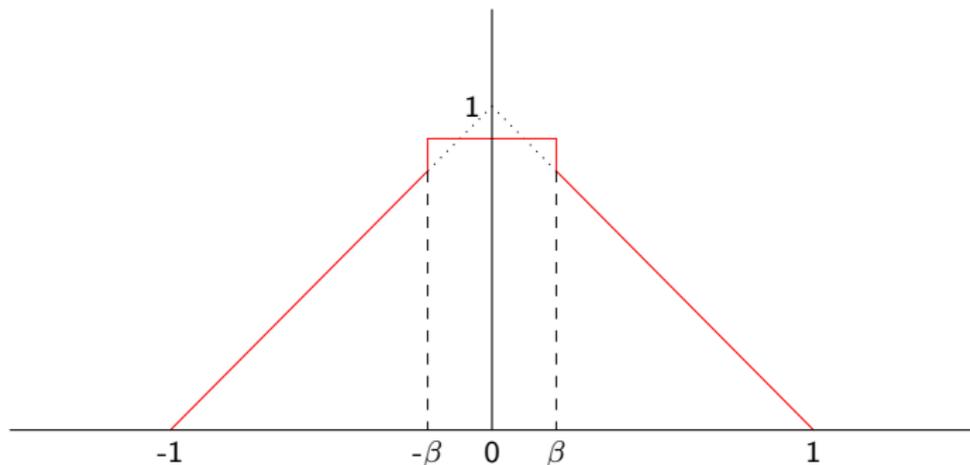
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One step of the JKO flow

- Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a convex open bounded subset.
- $\mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)$ the set of Borel probability measures on Ω that are absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure

Given $\rho_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)$ and $\tau > 0$, we consider one step of the TV-JKO scheme:

$$\inf_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\tau} W_2^2(\rho_0, \rho) + J(\rho) \right\}. \quad (\mathcal{P}_\tau)$$

- Existence of solutions follows by the direct method of the calculus of variations.
- Since J is convex and $\rho \mapsto W_2^2(\rho, \rho_0)$ is strictly convex whenever $\rho_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)$ (Santambrogio, 2015), the minimizer is in fact unique, and in the sequel we denote it by ρ_1 .

Maximum principle

Theorem (Carlier & P. 2017)

Let $\rho_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$ and let ρ_1 be the solution of (\mathcal{P}_τ) , then $\rho_1 \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ with

$$\|\rho_1\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq \|\rho_0\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}.$$

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TOOL 1 – BV estimate by De Philippis, Mészáros, Santambrogio & Velichkov (2016): given $\mu \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega) \cap \text{BV}(\Omega)$, and $G : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$, proper convex l.s.c., the solution of

$$\hat{\rho} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} W_2^2(\mu, \rho) + \int_{\Omega} G(\rho(x)) dx \right\}$$

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Choose

$$G(\rho) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \rho \in K, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad K := \{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega) : \rho \leq \|\rho_0\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}\}$$

Let $\hat{\rho}_1 = \operatorname{argmin}_{\rho \in K} W_2^2(\rho_1, \rho)$. Then, $J(\hat{\rho}_1) \leq J(\rho_1)$. Is $W_2(\hat{\rho}_1, \rho_0) \leq W_2(\rho_1, \rho_0)$?

Maximum principle

Tool II: generalized geodesics

Given $\bar{\mu}$, μ_0 and μ_1 in $\mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)$, and denoting by T_0 (respectively T_1) the optimal transport (Brenier) map between $\bar{\mu}$ and μ_0 (respectively μ_1), the **generalized geodesic with base $\bar{\mu}$** joining μ_0 to μ_1 is by definition the curve of measures:

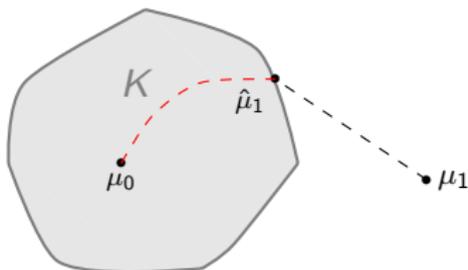
$$\mu_t := ((1-t)T_0 + tT_1)_{\#}\bar{\mu}, \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

Lemma (Ambrosio, Gigli & Savaré (2008))

Suppose that K is a nonempty subset of $\mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)$ such that: for $\mu_0 \in K$, $\mu_1 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{ac}}(\Omega)$, $\hat{\mu}_1 \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mu \in K} W_2^2(\mu_1, \mu)$ implies that the generalized geodesic joining μ_0 to $\hat{\mu}_1$ with base μ_1 remains in K .

Then,

$$W_2^2(\mu_0, \hat{\mu}_1) + W_2^2(\mu_1, \hat{\mu}_1) \leq W_2^2(\mu_0, \mu_1).$$



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Valid choices:

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Valid choices:

- $K = \{\mu; \|\mu\|_{L^p} \leq C\}$ for any $p \in [1, \infty]$.
- In 1D, $K := \{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_{ac}(\Omega) : \rho \geq \alpha\}$.

Proposition (Minimum principle in 1D, Carlier & P. 2017)

Assume that $d = 1$, that Ω is a bounded interval and that $\rho_0 \geq \alpha > 0$ a.e. on Ω then the solution ρ_1 of (\mathcal{P}_τ) also satisfies $\rho_1 \geq \alpha > 0$ a.e. on Ω .

Optimality condition

By considering directly the first order condition of Φ , one can see that there exists a Kantorovich potential φ from ρ_1 to ρ_0 such that

$$\tau^{-1} \int \varphi \mu \leq J(\mu)$$

for all $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(X)$ such that $\text{Supp}(\mu) \subset \text{Supp}(\rho_1) =: \Omega_1$, and with equality when $\mu = \rho_1$.

Problems:

- Assuming that $\partial\Omega_1$ is Lipschitz, one deduce that on Ω_1 , $\tau^{-1}\varphi = \text{div}(z)$ with $\|z\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1$.
- How should we define $\text{div}(z)$ outside of Ω_1 ? Which function space does it belong to?

Entropic approximation

Given $h > 0$ we consider the following approximation of (\mathcal{P}_τ) :

$$\inf_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\tau} W_2^2(\rho_0, \rho) + J(\rho) + hE(\rho) \right\} \quad (\mathcal{E}_h)$$

where

$$E(\rho) := \int_{\Omega} \rho(x) \log(\rho(x)) dx.$$

(\mathcal{E}_h) admits a unique solution ρ_h and since $J(\rho_h)$ is bounded, up to a subsequence, ρ_h converges as $h \rightarrow 0$ a.e. and strongly in $L^p(\Omega)$ for every $p \in [1, \frac{d}{d-1})$ to ρ_1 the solution of (\mathcal{P}_τ) .

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Lemma

There is an $\alpha_h > 0$ such that $\rho_h \geq \alpha_h$ a.e.. In particular, $\beta_h := h \log(\rho_h)$ is uniformly bounded from below and is bounded in $L^p(\Omega)$ for any $p \geq 1$. Moreover, $\max(0, \beta_h)$ converges to 0 strongly in L^p .

The optimality condition

We then have the following characterization for ρ_h :

Proposition (Carlier & P. 2017)

There exists $z_h \in L^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^d)$ such that $\operatorname{div}(z_h) \in L^p(\Omega)$ for every $p \in [1, +\infty)$, $\|z_h\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1$, $z_h \cdot \nu = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$, $J(\rho_h) = \int_\Omega \operatorname{div}(z_h)\rho_h$ and

$$\frac{\varphi_h}{\tau} + \operatorname{div}(z_h) = -h \log(\rho_h), \text{ a.e. in } \Omega$$

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By taking the limit as $h \rightarrow 0$:

Theorem (Carlier & P. 2017)

If ρ_1 solves (\mathcal{P}_τ) , there exists φ a Kantorovich potential between ρ_0 and ρ_1 (in particular $\operatorname{id} - \nabla\varphi$ is the optimal transport between ρ_1 and ρ_0), $\beta \in L^\infty(\Omega)$, $\beta \geq 0$ and $z \in L^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^d)$ such that

$$\frac{\varphi}{\tau} + \operatorname{div}(z) = \beta,$$

and

$$\beta \rho_1 = 0, \quad \|z\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1, \quad J(\rho_1) = \int_\Omega \operatorname{div}(z) \rho_1, \quad z \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.$$

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- **Barozzi, Massari, Tamanini (1975-1995)**: A set of finite perimeter $E \subset \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is said to have **variational mean curvature** $g \in L^1(\Omega)$ precisely when E minimizes

$$\min_{F \subset \Omega} \operatorname{Per}(F) + \int_F g.$$

If, in addition, $g \in L^p(\Omega)$ with $p \in (d, +\infty]$, then the reduced boundary $\partial^* E$ is a $(d-1)$ -dimensional manifold of class $C^{1,\alpha}$ with $\alpha \geq \frac{p-d}{2p}$ and $\mathcal{H}^s((\partial E \setminus \partial^* E) \cap \Omega) = 0$ for all $s > d-8$.

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- **Chambolle, Goldman & Novaga (2015)**: pointwise geometric meaning to $z \cdot D\chi_E$. If $d=2$ or $d=3$, if $g = -\operatorname{div}(z) \in L^d(\Omega)$ is a variational mean curvature for the set E , then any point $x \in \partial^* E$ is a Lebesgue point of z and $z(x) = \nu_{\partial E}(x)$.

Regularity of the level set boundaries

For every level set $F_t = \{\rho_1 > t\}$ with $t \geq 0$,

$$\text{Per}(F_t) = \int_{F_t} \text{div}(z) \text{ and } F_t \in \underset{G \subset \Omega}{\text{argmin}} \left\{ \text{Per}(G) - \int_G \text{div}(z) \right\}.$$

So, $-\text{div}(z)$ is a variational mean curvature of F_t .

Theorem (Carlier & P. 2017)

If ρ_1 solves (\mathcal{P}_τ) , then for every $t > 0$, the level set $F_t = \{\rho_1 > t\}$ has the property that its reduced boundary, $\partial^ F_t$ is a $C^{1, \frac{1}{2}}$ hypersurface and $(\partial F_t \setminus \partial^* F_t) \cap \Omega$ has Hausdorff dimension less than $d - 8$.*

Step functions remain step functions

Theorem (Carlier & P. 2017)

Let $d = 1$, $\Omega = (a, b)$ and ρ_0 be a step function with at most N -discontinuities i.e.:

$$\rho_0 := \sum_{j=0}^N \alpha_j \chi_{[a_j, a_{j+1})}, \quad a_0 = a < a_1 \cdots < a_N < a_{N+1} = b,$$

then the solution ρ_1 of (\mathcal{P}_τ) is also a step function with at most N discontinuities.

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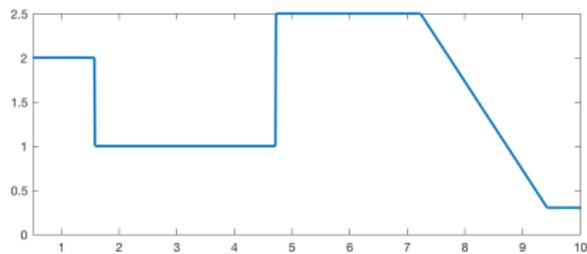
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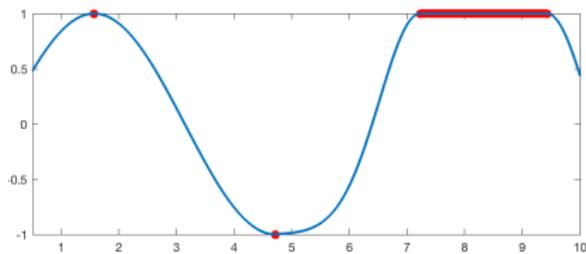
- Reduce the problem to the case $\rho_0 > \alpha > 0$ a.e.
- There exists $z \in W^{3,\infty}$ such that $|z| \leq 1$ such that $J(\rho_1) = \int_a^b z' \rho_1 = - \int_a^b z \cdot D\rho_1$.

Step functions remain step functions

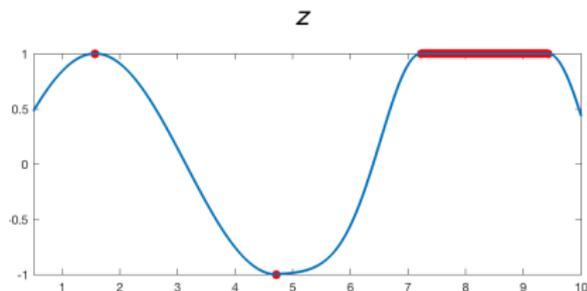
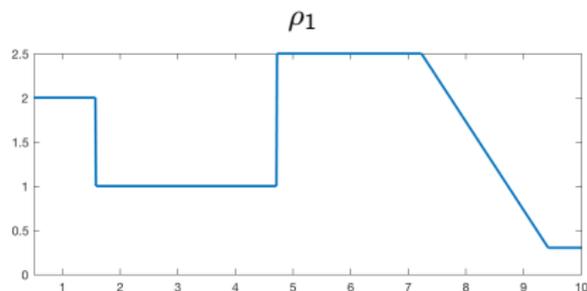
ρ_1



z

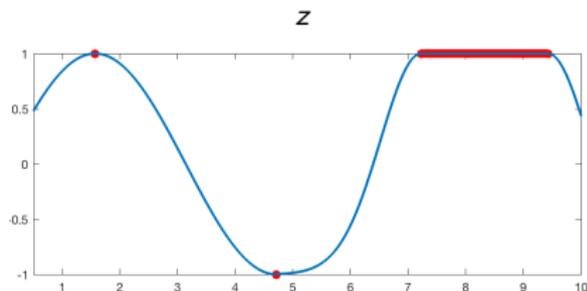
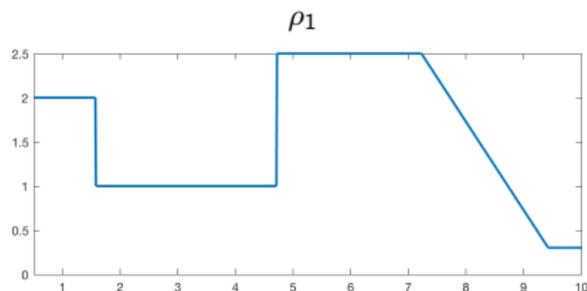


Step functions remain step functions



- $T(x) = x - \varphi'(x) = x + \tau z''(x)$ is the optimal transport from ρ_1 to ρ_0 . So, $T(x) = x$ whenever $z''(x) = 0$. Since z achieves its extremal values on $A := \text{Supp}(D\rho_1)$, $z' = 0$ on A . So, $z'' = 0$ on the limit points of A .

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- Decompose $\mu = D\rho_1$ into its atomic and nonatomic parts, then

$$\mu = \sum_{x \in J} \mu(\{x\}) \delta_x + \tilde{\mu}.$$

$\tilde{A} = \text{Supp}(\tilde{\mu})$ is the limit points of $A \implies T(x) = x$ on $\tilde{A} \implies \rho_0 = \rho_1$ on \tilde{A} .

Convergence of the TV-JKO scheme in 1D

Let $\Omega = (0, 1)$ and let $\rho_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{ac}(\Omega) \cap BV(\Omega)$ with $\rho_0 \geq \alpha > 0$ a.e. on Ω .

Fix T and for small τ , define

$$\rho_0^\tau = \rho_0, \rho_{k+1}^\tau \in \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\tau} W_2^2(\rho_k^\tau, \rho) + J(\rho), \rho \in BV \cap \mathcal{P}_{ac}((0, 1)) \right\}$$

for $k = 0, \dots, N_\tau$ with $N_\tau := \lfloor \frac{T}{\tau} \rfloor$.

Since ρ_0 is uniformly bounded from above (as an element of BV) and away from 0,

$$M := \|\rho_0\|_{L^\infty} \geq \rho_k^\tau \geq \alpha.$$

Define piecewise constant interpolation:

$$\rho^\tau(t, x) = \rho_{k+1}^\tau(x), \quad t \in (k\tau, (k+1)\tau], \quad k = 0, \dots, N_\tau, \quad x \in (0, 1).$$

Convergence of the TV-JKO scheme in 1D

Definition

A weak solution of

$$\partial_t \rho + \left(\rho \left(\frac{\rho_x}{|\rho_x|} \right)_{xx} \right)_x = 0, \quad (t, x) \in (0, T) \times (0, 1), \quad \rho|_{t=0} = \rho_0,$$

is a $\rho \in L^\infty((0, T), BV((0, 1))) \cap C^0((0, T), (\mathcal{P}, W_2))$ such that there exists $z \in L^\infty((0, T) \times (0, 1)) \cap L^2((0, T), H^2 \cap H_0^1((0, 1)))$ with

$$\|z(t, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1 \text{ and } J(\rho(t, \cdot)) = \int_0^1 z_x(t, x) \rho(x) dx, \text{ for a.e. } t \in (0, T),$$

and ρ is a weak solution of

$$\partial_t \rho - (\rho z_{xx})_x = 0, \quad \rho|_{t=0} = \rho_0, \quad \rho z_{xx} = 0 \text{ on } (0, T) \times \{0, 1\}.$$

i.e. for every $u \in C_c^1([0, T] \times [0, 1])$

$$\int_0^T \int_0^1 (\partial_t u \rho - (\rho z_{xx}) u_x) dx dt = - \int_0^1 u(0, x) \rho_0(x) dx.$$

Convergence of the TV-JKO scheme in 1D

Theorem (Carlier & P. 2017)

There exists a vanishing sequence of time steps $\tau_n \rightarrow 0$ such that the sequence ρ^{τ_n} converges strongly in $L^p((0, T) \times (0, 1))$ for any $p \in [1, +\infty)$ and in $C^0((0, T), (\mathcal{P}([0, 1]), W_2))$ to $\rho \in L^\infty((0, T), BV((0, 1))) \cap C^0((0, T), (\mathcal{P}([0, 1]), W_2))$, a weak solution of

$$\partial_t \rho + \left(\rho \left(\frac{\rho_x}{|\rho_x|} \right)_{xx} \right)_x = 0, \quad (t, x) \in (0, T) \times (0, 1), \quad \rho|_{t=0} = \rho_0,$$

The proof is fairly standard, let us make some remarks:

- By construction, one has

$$\frac{1}{2\tau} \sum_{k=0}^{N_\tau} W_2^2(\rho_k^\tau, \rho_{k+1}^\tau) \leq J(\rho_0), \quad \sup_{t \in [0, T]} J(\rho^\tau(t, \cdot)) \leq J(\rho_0).$$

Using the Aubin-Lions Compactness Theorem of Savaré and Rossi (2003), refinement of Arzèla Ascoli and fact that $BV(0, 1)$ compactly embeds into $L^p((0, 1))$ for all $p \in [1, \infty)$,

$$\rho^\tau \rightarrow \rho \text{ a.e. in } (0, T) \times (0, 1) \text{ and in } L^p((0, T) \times (0, 1)), \quad \forall p \in [1, +\infty)$$

and

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} W_2(\rho^\tau(t, \cdot), \rho(t, \cdot)) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \tau \rightarrow 0,$$

for some limit curve $\rho \in C^{0, \frac{1}{2}}((0, T), (\mathcal{P}([0, 1]), W_2)) \cap L^p((0, T) \times (0, 1))$. By the uniform bounds on the JKO iterates, $M \geq \rho \geq \alpha$.

Convergence of the TV-JKO scheme in 1D

- for each $k = 0, \dots, N_\tau$, there exists $z_k^\tau \in W^{2,\infty}((0,1))$ such that

$$\|z_k^\tau\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1, \quad z_k^\tau(0) = z_k^\tau(1) = 0, \quad J(\rho_k^\tau) = \int_0^1 (z_k^\tau)_x \rho_k^\tau,$$

and $T_{k+1}^\tau = \text{id} + \tau(z_{k+1}^\tau)_{xx}$ is the optimal transport T_{k+1}^τ from ρ_{k+1}^τ to ρ_k^τ .

$$\begin{aligned} W_2^2(\rho_k^\tau, \rho_{k+1}^\tau) &= \int_0^1 (x - T_{k+1}^\tau(x))^2 \rho_{k+1}^\tau(x) dx \\ &= \tau^2 \int_0^1 (z_{k+1}^\tau)_{xx}^2 \rho_{k+1}^\tau(x) dx \geq \alpha \tau^2 \int_0^1 (z_{k+1}^\tau)_{xx}^2 dx \end{aligned}$$

Let z^τ be the piecewise constant interpolation of z_k^τ . We thus get an $L^2((0, T), H^2((0, 1)))$ bound

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- ▶ $\rho^\tau z_{xx}^\tau \rightharpoonup \rho z_{xx}$ in $L^1((0, T) \times (0, 1))$.
- ▶ $z^\tau \rightharpoonup z$ in $L^2((0, T), H^2((0, 1)))$, and weakly $*$ in $L^\infty((0, T) \times (0, 1))$.
- ▶ $J(\rho(t, \cdot)) = \int_0^1 z_x(t, x) \rho(x) dx$ for a.e. $t \in (0, T)$.

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 - ▶ $J(\rho(t, \cdot)) = \int_0^1 z_x(t, x) \rho(x) dx$ for a.e. $t \in (0, T)$.
- By standard computations, let $u \in C_c^1([0, T] \times [0, 1])$ then

$$\int_0^T \int_0^1 \partial_t u \rho^\tau - (\rho^\tau z_{xx}^\tau) u_x dx dt = - \int_0^1 u(0, x) \rho_0(x) dx + R_\tau(u).$$

Taking the limit concludes this proof.

Summary

We discussed some properties of the JKO iterates:

- 1 a maximum principle (and a minimum principle in 1D).
- 2 establish the optimality conditions.
- 3 regularity of the level sets.
- 4 analysis for step function initial data.

Thanks to the minimum principle, we have convergence of the JKO scheme as $\tau \rightarrow 0$ in 1D, for strictly positive initial density ρ_0 .

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Thank you for your attention.