

Constrained Optimal Transport

Marcel Nutz

Columbia University

(with Mathias Beiglböck, Florian Stebegg and Nizar Touzi)

February 2016

Outline

- 1 Classical Optimal Transport
- 2 Martingale Optimal Transport
- 3 Supermartingale Optimal Transport

Monge Optimal Transport

Given:

- Probabilities μ, ν on \mathbb{R} .
- Reward (cost) function $f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.



Objective:

- Find a map $T : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\nu = \mu \circ T^{-1}$ such as to maximize the total reward,

$$\max_T \int f(x, T(x)) \mu(dx).$$

Monge–Kantorovich Optimal Transport

Relaxation:

- Find a probability P on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ with marginals μ, ν such as to maximize the reward:

$$\max_{P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)], \quad \text{where } \Pi(\mu, \nu) := \{P : P_1 = \mu, P_2 = \nu\}$$

and $(X, Y) = \text{Id}_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}}$.

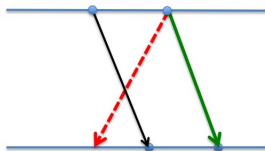
- $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$ is a **Monge transport** if of the form $P = \mu \otimes \delta_{T(x)}$.

Example: Hoeffding–Frechet Coupling

Theorem: Let f satisfy the **Spence–Mirrlees** condition $f_{xy} > 0$. Then the optimal P is unique and given by the **Hoeffding–Frechet Coupling**:

- P is the law of $((F_\mu)^{-1}, (F_\nu)^{-1})$ under the uniform measure on $[0, 1]$.
- If μ is diffuse, P is of Monge type with $T = (F_\nu)^{-1} \circ F_\mu$.
- P is characterized by **monotonicity**:

if $(x, y), (x', y') \in \text{supp}(P)$ and if $x < x'$, then $y \leq y'$.



Kantorovich Duality

- Buy $\varphi(X)$ at price $\mu(\varphi) := E^\mu[\varphi]$ and $\psi(Y)$ at $\nu(\psi)$ to **superhedge**,

$$f(X, Y) \leq \varphi(X) + \psi(Y).$$

- Then for all $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$,

$$E^P[f(X, Y)] \leq E^P[\varphi(X) + \psi(Y)] = \mu(\varphi) + \nu(\psi).$$

- Theorem** (Kantorovich, Kellerer): For any measurable $f \geq 0$,

$$\sup_{P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)] = \inf_{\varphi, \psi} \mu(\varphi) + \nu(\psi)$$

and dual optimizers $\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}$ exist.

Kantorovich Duality

- Buy $\varphi(X)$ at price $\mu(\varphi) := E^\mu[\varphi]$ and $\psi(Y)$ at $\nu(\psi)$ to **superhedge**,

$$f(X, Y) \leq \varphi(X) + \psi(Y).$$

- Then for all $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$,

$$E^P[f(X, Y)] \leq E^P[\varphi(X) + \psi(Y)] = \mu(\varphi) + \nu(\psi).$$

- **Theorem** (Kantorovich, Kellerer): For any measurable $f \geq 0$,

$$\sup_{P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)] = \inf_{\varphi, \psi} \mu(\varphi) + \nu(\psi)$$

and **dual optimizers** $\hat{\varphi}$, $\hat{\psi}$ exist.

Application: Fundamental Theorem of Optimal Transport

Let $\Gamma = \{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) = f(x, y)\}$ and $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$. TFAE:

- (1) P is optimal.
- (2) $P(\Gamma) = 1$.
- (3) $\text{supp}(P)$ is f -cyclically monotone P -a.s.; i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_{\sigma(i)}) \quad \forall (x_i, y_i) \in \text{supp}(P), \quad \sigma \in \text{Perm}(n).$$

- (1)(2) If $P(\Gamma) < 1$, then P charges $\{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) > f(x, y)\}$ and thus $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) > E^P[f(X, Y)]$.
- (2)(1) If $P(\Gamma) = 1$, then $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) = E^P[f(X, Y)]$, hence $P, \hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}$ are optimal.
- (2)(3) This argument even shows: if $\tilde{P}(\Gamma) = 1$, then \tilde{P} is an optimal transport between its own marginals. Apply this with discrete $\tilde{P} \Rightarrow \Gamma$ is cyclically monotone.

Application: Fundamental Theorem of Optimal Transport

Let $\Gamma = \{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) = f(x, y)\}$ and $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$. TFAE:

- (1) P is optimal.
- (2) $P(\Gamma) = 1$.
- (3) $\text{supp}(P)$ is f -cyclically monotone P -a.s.; i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_{\sigma(i)}) \quad \forall (x_i, y_i) \in \text{supp}(P), \quad \sigma \in \text{Perm}(n).$$

- (1)(2) If $P(\Gamma) < 1$, then P charges $\{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) > f(x, y)\}$ and thus $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) > E^P[f(X, Y)]$.
- (2)(1) If $P(\Gamma) = 1$, then $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) = E^P[f(X, Y)]$, hence $P, \hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}$ are optimal.
- (2)(3) This argument even shows: if $\tilde{P}(\Gamma) = 1$, then \tilde{P} is an optimal transport between its own marginals. Apply this with discrete $\tilde{P} \Rightarrow \Gamma$ is cyclically monotone.

Application: Fundamental Theorem of Optimal Transport

Let $\Gamma = \{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) = f(x, y)\}$ and $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$. TFAE:

- (1) P is optimal.
- (2) $P(\Gamma) = 1$.
- (3) $\text{supp}(P)$ is f -cyclically monotone P -a.s.; i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_{\sigma(i)}) \quad \forall (x_i, y_i) \in \text{supp}(P), \quad \sigma \in \text{Perm}(n).$$

- (1)(2) If $P(\Gamma) < 1$, then P charges $\{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) > f(x, y)\}$ and thus $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) > E^P[f(X, Y)]$.
- (2)(1) If $P(\Gamma) = 1$, then $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) = E^P[f(X, Y)]$, hence $P, \hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}$ are optimal.
- (2)(3) This argument even shows: if $\tilde{P}(\Gamma) = 1$, then \tilde{P} is an optimal transport between its own marginals. Apply this with discrete $\tilde{P} \Rightarrow \Gamma$ is cyclically monotone.

Application: Fundamental Theorem of Optimal Transport

Let $\Gamma = \{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) = f(x, y)\}$ and $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$. TFAE:

- (1) P is optimal.
- (2) $P(\Gamma) = 1$.
- (3) $\text{supp}(P)$ is f -cyclically monotone P -a.s.; i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_{\sigma(i)}) \quad \forall (x_i, y_i) \in \text{supp}(P), \quad \sigma \in \text{Perm}(n).$$

- (1)(2) If $P(\Gamma) < 1$, then P charges $\{(x, y) : \hat{\varphi}(x) + \hat{\psi}(y) > f(x, y)\}$ and thus $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) > E^P[f(X, Y)]$.
- (2)(1) If $P(\Gamma) = 1$, then $\mu(\hat{\varphi}) + \nu(\hat{\psi}) = E^P[f(X, Y)]$, hence $P, \hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}$ are optimal.
- (2)(3) This argument even shows: if $\tilde{P}(\Gamma) = 1$, then \tilde{P} is an optimal transport between its own marginals. Apply this with discrete $\tilde{P} \Rightarrow \Gamma$ is cyclically monotone.

Outline

- 1 Classical Optimal Transport
- 2 Martingale Optimal Transport**
- 3 Supermartingale Optimal Transport

Dynamic Hedging

- **Dynamically tradable** underlying $S = (S_0, S_1, S_2)$.
- Semi-static superhedge:

$$f((S_t)_t) \leq \varphi(S_1) + \psi(S_2) + H_0(S_1 - S_0) + H_1(S_2 - S_1).$$

- With $S_0 = 0$, $S_1 = X \sim \mu$, $S_2 = Y \sim \nu$ and normalization $H_0 = 0$:

$$f(X, Y) \leq \varphi(X) + \psi(Y) + h(X)(Y - X).$$

- Formally, duality with $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$ satisfying the constraint that

$$E^P[h(X)(Y - X)] = 0 \quad \forall h; \quad \text{i.e.} \quad E^P[Y|X] = X.$$

Dynamic Hedging

- **Dynamically tradable** underlying $S = (S_0, S_1, S_2)$.
- Semi-static superhedge:

$$f((S_t)_t) \leq \varphi(S_1) + \psi(S_2) + H_0(S_1 - S_0) + H_1(S_2 - S_1).$$

- With $S_0 = 0$, $S_1 = X \sim \mu$, $S_2 = Y \sim \nu$ and normalization $H_0 = 0$:

$$f(X, Y) \leq \varphi(X) + \psi(Y) + h(X)(Y - X).$$

- Formally, **duality** with $P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$ satisfying the **constraint** that

$$E^P[h(X)(Y - X)] = 0 \quad \forall h; \quad \text{i.e.} \quad E^P[Y|X] = X.$$

Martingale Transport

- Set of **martingale transports**:

$$\mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu) = \{P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) : E^P[Y|X] = X\}.$$

- **Theorem** (Strassen): $\mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)$ is nonempty iff $\mu \leq_c \nu$; i.e.,

$$\mu(\phi) \leq \nu(\phi) \quad \forall \phi \text{ convex.}$$

- **Martingale Optimal Transport problem**: Given $\mu \leq_c \nu$,

$$\sup_{P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)].$$

- Beiglöck, Henry-Labordère, Penkner; Galichon, Henry-Labordère, Touzi; Hobson; Beiglöck, Juillet; Acciaio, Bouchard, Brown, Campi, Cheridito, Cox, Davis, Dolinsky, Fahim, Ghoussoub, Huang, Källblad, Kim, Kupper, Lassalle, Lim, Martini, Neuberger, Obłój, Rogers, Schachermayer, Soner, Stebegg, Tan, Tangpi, Zaev, ...

Martingale Transport

- Set of martingale transports:

$$\mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu) = \{P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) : E^P[Y|X] = X\}.$$

- **Theorem** (Strassen): $\mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)$ is nonempty iff $\mu \leq_c \nu$; i.e.,

$$\mu(\phi) \leq \nu(\phi) \quad \forall \phi \text{ convex.}$$

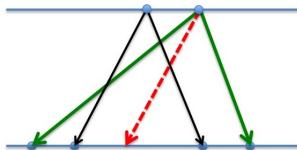
- **Martingale Optimal Transport** problem: Given $\mu \leq_c \nu$,

$$\sup_{P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)].$$

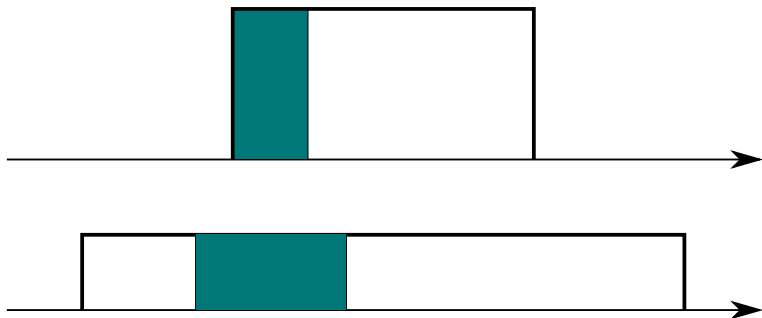
- Beiglöck, Henry-Labordère, Penkner; Galichon, Henry-Labordère, Touzi; Hobson; Beiglöck, Juillet; Acciaio, Bouchard, Brown, Campi, Cheridito, Cox, Davis, Dolinsky, Fahim, Ghoussoub, Huang, Källblad, Kim, Kupper, Lassalle, Lim, Martini, Neuberger, Obłój, Rogers, Schachermayer, Soner, Stebegg, Tan, Tangpi, Zaev, ...

Example: Left-Curtain Coupling

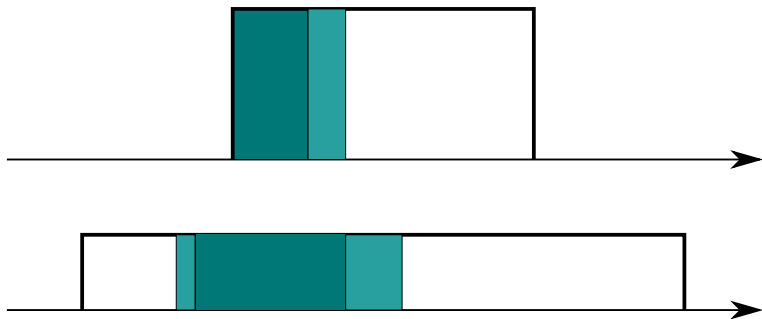
- **Theorem** (Beiglböck, Juillet): Let f satisfy the **martingale Spence–Mirrlees** condition $f_{xyy} > 0$. Then the optimal P is given by the **Left-Curtain Coupling**:



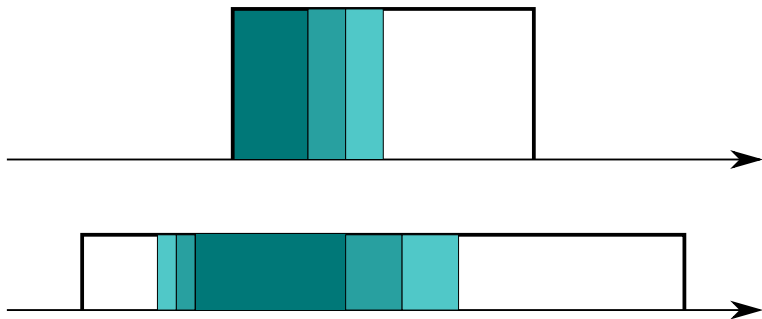
Left-Curtain Coupling for Uniform Marginals



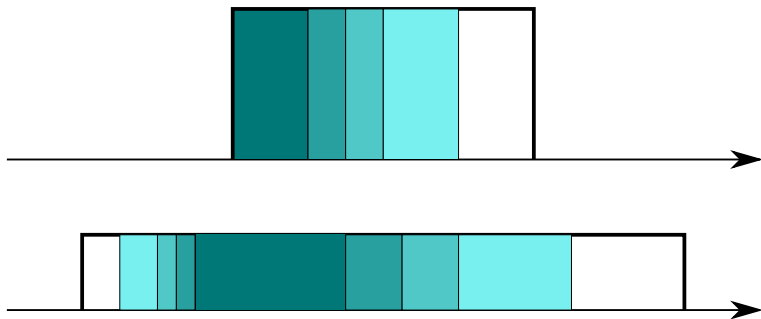
Left-Curtain Coupling for Uniform Marginals



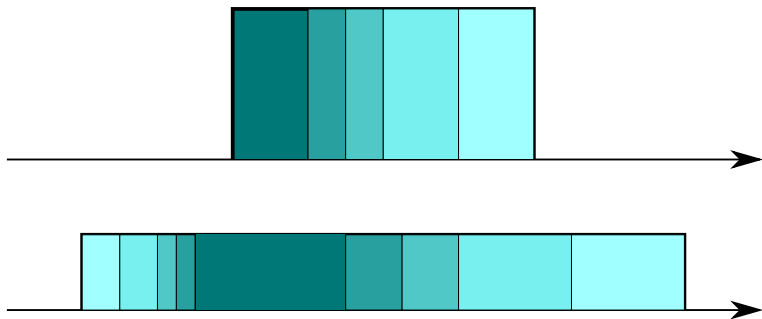
Left-Curtain Coupling for Uniform Marginals



Left-Curtain Coupling for Uniform Marginals



Left-Curtain Coupling for Uniform Marginals



Duality for Martingale Optimal Transport

In analogy to Monge–Kantorovich duality we want:

(1) No duality gap:

$$\sup_{P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)] = \inf_{\varphi, \psi, h} \mu(\varphi) + \nu(\psi).$$

(2) Dual existence: $\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}, \hat{h}$.

Theorem (Beiglböck, Henry-Labordère, Penkner):

- For upper semicontinuous $f \leq 0$, there is no duality gap.
- Dual existence fails in general, even if f is bounded, continuous and μ, ν are compactly supported.

Duality for Martingale Optimal Transport

In analogy to Monge–Kantorovich duality we want:

(1) No duality gap:

$$\sup_{P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)] = \inf_{\varphi, \psi, h} \mu(\varphi) + \nu(\psi).$$

(2) Dual existence: $\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}, \hat{h}$.

Theorem (Beiglböck, Henry-Labordère, Penkner):

- For **upper semicontinuous** $f \leq 0$, there is **no duality gap**.
- **Dual existence fails** in general, even if f is bounded, continuous and μ, ν are compactly supported.

An Example with Duality Gap

- Let f be the bounded, **lower** semicontinuous function

$$f(x, y) = \mathbf{1}_{x \neq y} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{on the diagonal,} \\ 1 & \text{off the diagonal.} \end{cases}$$

- Let $\mu = \nu =$ Lebesgue measure on $[0, 1]$.
- There exists a **unique** martingale transport P , **concentrated on the diagonal** ($T(x) = x$).
- Primal value: $\sup_{P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)] = 0$.
- Dual optimizers **exist**, $\hat{\phi} = 1$, $\hat{\psi} = 0$, $\hat{h} = 0$ but
- there is a **duality gap**: dual value = $1 > 0$.

An Example with Duality Gap

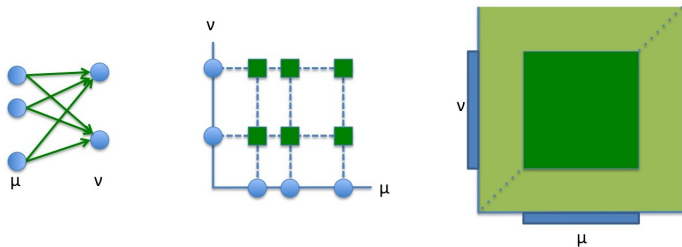
- Let f be the bounded, **lower** semicontinuous function

$$f(x, y) = \mathbf{1}_{x \neq y} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{on the diagonal,} \\ 1 & \text{off the diagonal.} \end{cases}$$

- Let $\mu = \nu =$ Lebesgue measure on $[0, 1]$.
- There exists a **unique** martingale transport P , **concentrated on the diagonal** ($T(x) = x$).
- Primal value: $\sup_{P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)} E^P[f(X, Y)] = 0$.
- Dual optimizers **exist**, $\hat{\phi} = 1$, $\hat{\psi} = 0$, $\hat{h} = 0$ but
- there is a **duality gap**: **dual value** = $1 > 0$.

Ordinary and Martingale OT: What is the Difference?

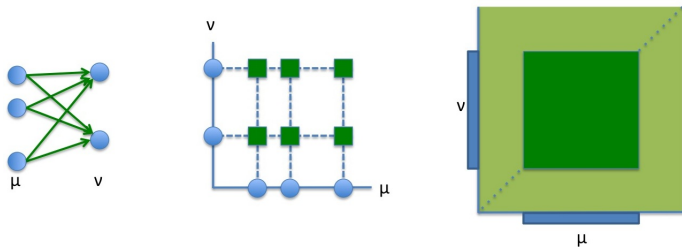
- In ordinary OT, all roads $x \rightarrow y$ can be used.
- E.g., in the discrete case, $\mu \times \nu$ already has full support.



- Theorem (Kellerer): $A \subseteq \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ is $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$ -polar if and only if
$$A \subseteq (N_1 \times \mathbb{R}) \cup (\mathbb{R} \times N_2), \quad \text{where } \mu(N_1) = \nu(N_2) = 0.$$

Ordinary and Martingale OT: What is the Difference?

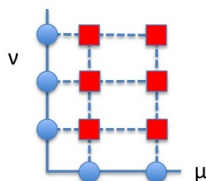
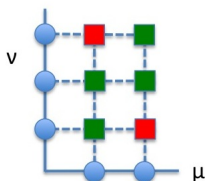
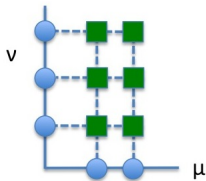
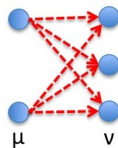
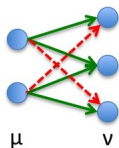
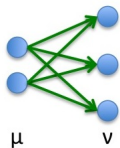
- In ordinary OT, all roads $x \rightarrow y$ can be used.
- E.g., in the discrete case, $\mu \times \nu$ already has full support.



- **Theorem (Kellerer):** $A \subseteq \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ is $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$ -polar if and only if
$$A \subseteq (N_1 \times \mathbb{R}) \cup (\mathbb{R} \times N_2), \quad \text{where } \mu(N_1) = \nu(N_2) = 0.$$

Obstructions for Martingale Transport

- In martingale OT, some roads $x \rightarrow y$ can be blocked.



Potential Functions

Potential $u_\mu(x) := \int |t - x| \mu(dt) = E[|X - x|]$ under any $P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)$.

- $\mu \leq_c \nu \iff u_\mu \leq u_\nu$.

- If

$$u_\mu(x) = u_\nu(x); \quad \text{i.e.} \quad E[|X - x|] = E[|Y - x|] \quad (*),$$

then x is a **barrier** for any martingale transport:

1. Jensen: $|X - x| = |E[Y|X] - x| = |E[Y - x|X]| \leq E[|Y - x| | X]$
2. Under $(*)$, it follows that $|X - x| = E[|Y - x| | X]$ a.s. Hence,

$$E[|Y - x| \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}] = E[|X - x| \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}] = E[(X - x) \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}] = E[(Y - x) \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}]$$

so that $Y \geq x$ a.s. on $\{X \geq x\}$.

→ Partition \mathbb{R} into intervals $\{u_\mu < u_\nu\}$.

Potential Functions

Potential $u_\mu(x) := \int |t - x| \mu(dt) = E[|X - x|]$ under any $P \in \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)$.

- $\mu \leq_c \nu \iff u_\mu \leq u_\nu$.

- If

$$u_\mu(x) = u_\nu(x); \quad \text{i.e.} \quad E[|X - x|] = E[|Y - x|] \quad (*),$$

then x is a **barrier** for any martingale transport:

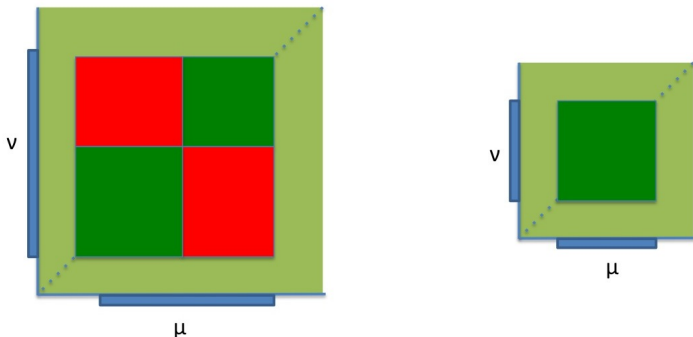
1. Jensen: $|X - x| = |E[Y|X] - x| = |E[Y - x|X]| \leq E[|Y - x| | X]$
2. Under $(*)$, it follows that $|X - x| = E[|Y - x| | X]$ a.s. Hence,

$$E[|Y - x| \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}] = E[|X - x| \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}] = E[(X - x) \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}] = E[(Y - x) \mathbf{1}_{X \geq x}]$$

so that $Y \geq x$ a.s. on $\{X \geq x\}$.

→ **Partition** \mathbb{R} into intervals $\{u_\mu < u_\nu\}$.

Structure of $\mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)$ -polar Sets



Theorem: “These are precisely the $\mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)$ -polar sets.”

Duality Result

Theorem

Let $f \geq 0$ be measurable and consider the *quasi-sure relaxation* of the dual problem:

$$f(X, Y) \leq \varphi(X) + \psi(Y) + h(X)(Y - X) \quad \mathcal{M}(\mu, \nu)\text{-q.s.}$$

Then,

- (1) *there is no duality gap,*
- (2) *dual optimizers $\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi}, \hat{h}$ exist.*

- The superhedge is pointwise **on each component** (e.g., $\mu = \delta_{x_0}$).
- Dual existence in the **pointwise formulation typically fails** as soon as there is more than one component.
- Application as in the FTOT.

Key Argument for Compactness

Core step: make almost-optimal φ_n, ψ_n converge.

- Control φ_n, ψ_n by a **single**, convex function χ_n .
- Suppose there is **only one component**; thus $\nu - \mu >_c 0$.
- After a normalization, $\chi_n(0) = \chi'_n(0) = 0$ and

$$0 \leq \int \chi_n d(\nu - \mu) \leq \text{const.}$$

- This **bounds the convexity of χ_n** .
- ⇒ Relative compactness of (χ_n) .
- ⇒ Relative compactness of (φ_n, ψ_n) ; Komlos.

Outline

- 1 Classical Optimal Transport
- 2 Martingale Optimal Transport
- 3 Supermartingale Optimal Transport**

Supermartingale Optimal Transport

- Set of **supermartingale transports**:

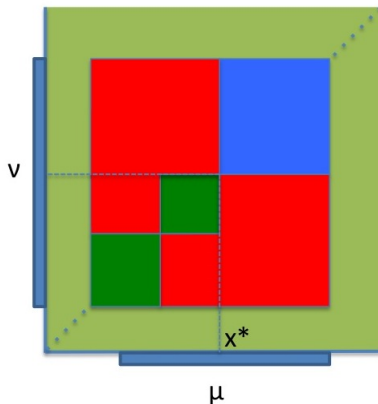
$$\mathcal{S}(\mu, \nu) = \{P \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) : E^P[Y|X] \leq X\}.$$

- $\mathcal{S}(\mu, \nu)$ is nonempty iff $\mu \leq_{cd} \nu$; i.e.,

$$\mu(\phi) \leq \nu(\phi) \quad \forall \phi \text{ convex decreasing.}$$

- Coincides with MOT if μ, ν have same mean, and with OT if supports are ordered.

Structure of $\mathcal{S}(\mu, \nu)$ -polar Sets



Theorem: There exist a maximal barrier x^* such that:

- martingale transport on $(-\infty, x^*]$,
- single component of strict supermartingale transport on $[x^*, \infty)$.

Duality for Supermartingale Transport

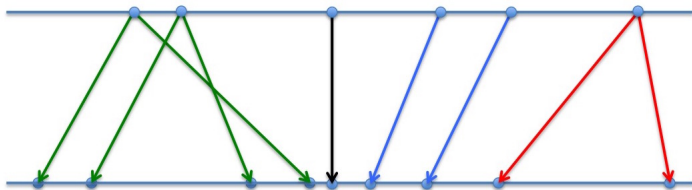
- Duality results similar to martingale case,
- with additional constraint $h \geq 0$ (long-only hedging).
- Duality leads to a version of the Fundamental Theorem with an additional condition of complementary slackness:

$$E^P[h(X)(Y - X)] = 0.$$

Decomposition of Optimal Supermartingale Couplings

Let $P \in \mathcal{S}(\mu, \nu)$ be **optimal**. Then $J_0 := \{h = 0\}$ and $J_1 := \{h > 0\}$ yield a (non-unique) decomposition:

- $\mathbb{R} = J_0 \cup J_1$, $\mu = \mu_0 + \mu_1 := \mu|_{J_0} + \mu|_{J_1}$,
- $P|_{J_0 \times \mathbb{R}}$ is an optimal **Monge–Kantorovich** transport from μ_0 to $P(\mu_0)$,
- $P|_{J_1 \times \mathbb{R}}$ is an optimal **martingale** transport from μ_1 and $P(\mu_1)$.



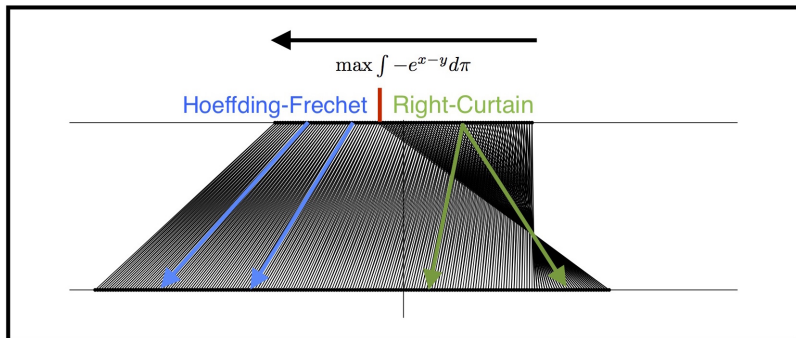
First Canonical Coupling

Theorem: Let f satisfy

1) $f_{xy} > 0$ and $f_{xyy} < 0$ e.g., $f(x, y) = -\exp(x - y)$;

Then the optimal P exists, is **unique** and **independent** of f .

- Obtained by sending each bit of mass to the **minimal destination** relative to the convex-decreasing order.
- Here we work from **right to left**.



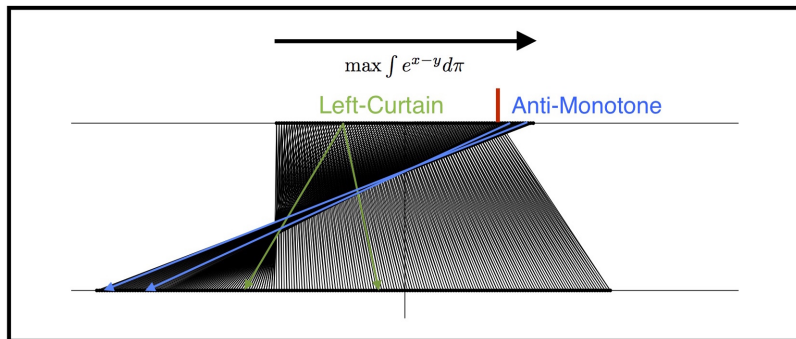
Second Canonical Coupling

Theorem: Let f satisfy

2) $f_{xy} < 0$ and $f_{xyy} > 0$ e.g., $f(x, y) = \exp(x - y)$;

Then the optimal P is **exists**, is **unique** and **independent** of f .

- Here we work from **left to right**.
- (No) symmetry?



Conclusion

- Interesting **new couplings** arise from problems in mathematical finance.
- Duality in a **quasi-sure** sense is useful for their analysis.
- We expect **other constraints** to be tractable as well: ongoing work with **Florian Stebegg**.

Thank you.

Conclusion

- Interesting **new couplings** arise from problems in mathematical finance.
- Duality in a **quasi-sure** sense is useful for their analysis.
- We expect **other constraints** to be tractable as well: ongoing work with **Florian Stebegg**.

Thank you.