

# Unbalanced Optimal Transport: Convex Relaxation and Dynamic Perspectives

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Kantorovich Initiative Seminar

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- 1 Unbalanced Optimal Transport: a relaxation viewpoint**
- 2 The Hellinger-Kantorovich metric between positive measures of arbitrary mass
- 3 Geodesics and geodesic convexity
- 4 Regularity of solutions to the Conical Hopf-Lax semigroup

## Unbalanced Optimal Transport starting from Dirac masses

$X_i$  Polish topological spaces (the topology is induced by a separable and complete metric).

$\mathcal{M}(X)$  is the space of nonnegative Borel measures  $\mu$  on  $X$  with finite mass  $\mu(X) < \infty$ .

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We introduce a function  $h : (X_0 \times \mathbb{R}_+) \times (X_1 \times \mathbb{R}_+) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$  which characterizes the cost of connecting two Dirac measures with possibly different mass:

$$h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) := \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(r_0\delta_{x_0}, r_1\delta_{x_1}) \quad x_i \in X_i, r_i \geq 0$$

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Simplifying assumptions: for every  $x_0, x_1$

$$\begin{cases} h(x_0, r_0; x_1, 0) \text{ is independent of } x_1, & h(x_0, 0; x_1, r_1) \text{ is independent of } x_0. \\ (r_0, r_1) \mapsto h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) \text{ is } \mathbf{positively\ 1-homogeneous\ and\ convex} \end{cases}$$

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**Cone space:** identify all the points  $(x, 0)$  with the vertex  $\circ$  (they correspond to the null measure  $0\delta_x = 0$ )

$$\mathfrak{C}[X] := (X \times [0, \infty)) / \sim, \quad (x', r') \sim (x'', r'') \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x' = x'', r' = r'' \neq 0, \\ r' = r'' = 0 \end{cases}$$

**The Balanced OT case:**  $c : X_0 \times X_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a cost function,

$$h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) = \begin{cases} rc(x_0, x_1) & \text{if } r_0 = r_1 = r; \\ +\infty & \text{if } r_0 \neq r_1 \end{cases}$$

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$$h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) = \begin{cases} (\sqrt{r_0} - \sqrt{r_1})^2 = r_0 + r_1 - 2\sqrt{r_0 r_1} & \text{if } x_0 = x_1 \\ +\infty & \text{if } x_0 \neq x_1 \end{cases}$$



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**The Entropic Unbalanced Cost**

$$\begin{aligned} h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) &= r_0 + r_1 - 2\sqrt{r_0 r_1} e^{-c(x_0, x_1)} \\ &= (\sqrt{r_0} - \sqrt{r_1})^2 + 2\sqrt{r_0 r_1} (1 - e^{-c(x_0, x_1)}). \end{aligned}$$

What is the most natural way (from the convex analysis viewpoint) to extend  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}$

$$h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) := \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(r_0 \delta_{x_0}, r_1 \delta_{x_1}) \quad x_i \in X_i, r_i \geq 0$$

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**$\Gamma$ -relaxation of  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}$ : the largest convex and l.s.c. functional**  $\Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} : \mathcal{M}(X_0) \times \mathcal{M}(X_1) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$   
dominated by  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}$ :

$$\begin{cases} \Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(r_0 \delta_{x_0}, r_1 \delta_{x_1}) \leq \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(r_0 \delta_{x_0}, r_1 \delta_{x_1}) & \text{for every } r_i \geq 0, x_i \in X_i \\ \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} \text{ convex, l.s.c., } \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} \leq \Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} & \Rightarrow \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} \leq \Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} \end{cases}$$

## Two equivalent constructions

If  $\mathcal{F} : V \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$  is a given function, defined in a vector space  $V$  in duality with  $V'$ , its  $\Gamma$ -regularization can be characterized in two equivalent ways:

- Using the **Legendre transform thanks to Fenchel-Moreau Theorem**:

$$\mathcal{F}^*(\phi) := \sup_{v \in V} \langle \phi, v \rangle - \mathcal{F}(v), \quad \phi \in V'$$

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- Computing the **convex envelope**:

$$\text{co}\mathcal{F}(v) := \inf \left\{ \sum_i \alpha_i \mathcal{F}(v_i) : \alpha_i \geq 0, \sum_i \alpha_i = 1, \sum_i \alpha_i v_i = v \right\}$$

and then taking the **I.s.c. relaxation** of  $\text{co}\mathcal{F}(v)$ . If  $\mathcal{F}$  is coercive we have the integral description

$$\Gamma\text{-}\mathcal{F}(v) = \min \left\{ \int_V \mathcal{F}(w) d\alpha(w) : \alpha \in \mathcal{P}(V), \int_V w d\alpha(w) = v \right\}.$$

$\Gamma$ -UOT<sub>Dirac</sub> can be computed by **Legendre transform thanks to Fenchel-Moreau Theorem**, using the duality between  $\mathcal{M}(X)$  and  $C_b(X)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}^*(\phi_0, \phi_1) &= \sup \left\{ r_0 \phi_0(x_0) + r_1 \phi_1(x_1) - h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) : r_i \geq 0, x_i \in X_i \right\} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r_0 \phi_0(x_0) + r_1 \phi_1(x_1) \leq h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1), \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

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$\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}^*$  is just the **indicator function of a convex set  $K[h]$  of admissible Kantorovich potentials**  $(\phi_0, \phi_1) \in C_b(X_0) \times C_b(X_1)$ .

### The dual Kantorovich formulation of Unbalanced Optimal Transport

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(\mu_0, \mu_1) &= \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}^{**}(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \\ &= \sup \left\{ \int \phi_0 d\mu_0 + \int \phi_1 d\mu_1 : (\phi_0, \phi_1) \in K[h] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

How to represent convex combinations of pair of Dirac masses?

Given  $\alpha_k \geq 0$ ,  $\sum_k \alpha_k = 1$ , we may consider

$$(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \sum_k \alpha_k (r_{0,k} \delta_{x_{0,k}}, r_{1,k} \delta_{x_{1,k}})$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \leq \sum_k \alpha_k h(x_{0,k}, r_{0,k}; x_{1,k}, r_{1,k}) = \int h d\alpha$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \alpha = \sum_k \alpha_k \delta_{(x_{0,k}, r_{0,k}; x_{1,k}, r_{1,k})} \in \mathcal{P}(X_0 \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times X_1 \times \mathbb{R}_+)$$



## Primal formulation

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$$\begin{aligned}(\mu_0, \mu_1) &= \sum_k \alpha_k (r_{0,k} \delta_{x_{0,k}}, r_{1,k} \delta_{x_{1,k}}) \\ &\rightsquigarrow \Gamma\text{-UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \leq \sum_k \alpha_k h(x_{0,k}, r_{0,k}; x_{1,k}, r_{1,k}) = \int h \, d\alpha \\ &\rightsquigarrow \alpha = \sum_k \alpha_k \delta_{(x_{0,k}, r_{0,k}; x_{1,k}, r_{1,k})} \in \mathcal{P}(X_0 \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times X_1 \times \mathbb{R}_+)\end{aligned}$$

Constraints:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_0(A) &= \sum_k \alpha_k r_{0,k} \delta_{x_{0,k}}(A) = \int_{A \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times X_1 \times \mathbb{R}_+} r_0 \, d\alpha(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) \\ &= \mathfrak{h}_0 \alpha(A) \\ \mu_1(B) &= \sum_k \alpha_k r_{1,k} \delta_{x_{1,k}}(B) = \int_{X_0 \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times B \times \mathbb{R}_+} r_1 \, d\alpha(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) \\ &= \mathfrak{h}_1 \alpha(B)\end{aligned}$$

$$\mu_0 = \mathfrak{h}_0 \alpha = \pi_{\#}^{X_0}(r_0 \alpha), \quad \mu_1 = \mathfrak{h}_1 \alpha = \pi_{\#}^{X_1}(r_1 \alpha) \quad \text{1-homogeneous marginals of } \alpha$$

We introduce the set of plans with homogeneous marginals  $\mu_0, \mu_1$ :

$$\mathfrak{H}(\mu_0, \mu_1) := \left\{ \alpha \in \mathcal{P}(X_0 \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times X_1 \times \mathbb{R}_+) : \right. \\ \left. h_0 \alpha = \pi_{\#}^{X_0}(r_0 \alpha) = \mu_0, h_1 \alpha = \pi_{\#}^{X_1}(r_1 \alpha) = \mu_1 \right\}$$

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**Primal formulation**

$$\text{UOT}(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \min \left\{ \int h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) d\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{H}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \right\}$$

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It is possible to check that **UOT is convex, l.s.c., and it is dominated by  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}$** , so that

$$\text{UOT}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \leq \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}^{**}(\mu_0, \mu_1)$$

On the other hand it is also immediate to check that

$$\text{UOT}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \geq \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}^{**}(\mu_0, \mu_1),$$

### Primal-dual equivalence of Unbalanced Optimal Transport

$$\text{UOT}(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}^{**}(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \sup \left\{ \int \phi_0 d\mu_0 + \int \phi_1 d\mu_1 : (\phi_0, \phi_1) \in \mathcal{K}[h] \right\},$$

$$\mathcal{K}[h] = \left\{ (\phi_0, \phi_1) \in \mathcal{C}_b(X_0) \times \mathcal{C}_b(X_1) : r_0 \phi_0(x_0) + r_1 \phi_1(x_1) \leq h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) \right\}.$$

## The link with Optimal Transport in the cone space

Consider the space  $\mathfrak{C}[X_i] = (X_i \times \mathbb{R}_+)/ \sim$  and the cost functional  $h$ . It induces the OT problem

$$\text{OT}_h(\alpha_0, \alpha_1) = \min \left\{ \int h \, d\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma(\alpha_0, \alpha_1) \right\}.$$

We have

### Optimal transport formulation via homogeneous marginals

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**How to choose interesting costs  $h$ ?** We discuss the particular case of the hellinger-Kantorovich metric, induced by the natural cone distance on  $\mathfrak{C}[\mathbb{R}^d]$ .

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## The dynamic perspective

Let  $\mu \in C^0([0, 1]; \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d))$ ,  $(\mathbf{v}, w) : \mathbb{R}^d \times (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  be a Borel vector field satisfying

$$\int_0^1 \int \left( |\mathbf{v}_t(\mathbf{x})|^2 + w_t^2(\mathbf{x}) \right) d\mu_t(\mathbf{x}) dt < \infty.$$

**Continuity equation with reaction** governed by the field  $(\mathbf{v}, w)$  if

$$\partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}_t \mu_t) = 2w_t \mu_t \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^d \times (0, 1)) \quad (\text{CER})$$



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### The Hellinger-Kantorovich distance via dynamic interpolation

$$\mathbf{HK}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \min \left\{ \int_0^1 \int \left( |\mathbf{v}_t|^2 + |w_t|^2 \right) d\mu_t dt : \mu \in C([0, 1]; \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)), \right. \\ \left. \partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}_t \mu_t) = 2w_t \mu_t, \quad \mu_{t=i} = \mu_i \right\}.$$

This approach has been independently proposed by

KONDRATIEV, MONSAINGEON, VOROTNIKOV and CHIZAT, PEYRÉ, VIALARD, SCHMITZER.

## The distances between two Dirac masses

Suppose that  $\mu_i = r_i^2 \delta_{x_i}$ ; if we look for  $\mu_t := r^2(t) \delta_{x(t)}$

$$\partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (\mu_t \mathbf{v}_t) = 2w_t \mu_t, \quad \mathbf{v}_t(x(t)) = \dot{x}(t), \quad w_t(x(t)) = \dot{r}(t)/r(t)$$

We can compute

$$\mathbb{H}^2(r_0^2 \delta_{x_0}, r_1^2 \delta_{x_1}) = \min \left\{ \int_0^1 \left( r^2(t) |\dot{x}(t)|^2 + |\dot{r}(t)|^2 \right) dt : \right. \\ \left. (x, r) : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+, (x(i), r(i)) = (x_i, r_i) \ i = 0, 1 \right\}$$

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**HK is associated to the cone distance:**

$$d_{\mathcal{C}}^2((x_0, r_0), (x_1, r_1)) = r_0^2 + r_1^2 - 2r_0 r_1 \cos_{\pi}(|x_1 - x_0|)$$

where  $\cos_{\alpha}(r) = \cos(r \wedge \alpha)$ .  $d_{\mathcal{C}}((x_0, r_0), (x_1, r_1))$  is a **length distance**.

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**Truncation effect:** when  $|x_0 - x_1| \geq \pi/2$  a better competitor is provided by  $\mu_t := [(1-t)r_0]^2 \delta_{x_0} + (tr_1)^2 \delta_{x_1}$  and we have

$$\mathbb{H}^2(r_0^2 \delta_{x_0}, r_1^2 \delta_{x_1}) = r_0^2 + r_1^2.$$

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**HK is associated to the cone distance:**

$$d_{\mathcal{C}}^2((x_0, r_0), (x_1, r_1)) = r_0^2 + r_1^2 - 2r_0 r_1 \cos_{\pi}(|x_1 - x_0|)$$

where  $\cos_{\alpha}(r) = \cos(r \wedge \alpha)$ .  $d_{\mathcal{C}}((x_0, r_0), (x_1, r_1))$  is a **length distance**.

**Truncation effect:** when  $|x_0 - x_1| \geq \pi/2$  a better competitor is provided by  $\mu_t := [(1-t)r_0]^2 \delta_{x_0} + (tr_1)^2 \delta_{x_1}$  and we have

$$\mathbb{H}^2(r_0^2 \delta_{x_0}, r_1^2 \delta_{x_1}) = r_0^2 + r_1^2.$$

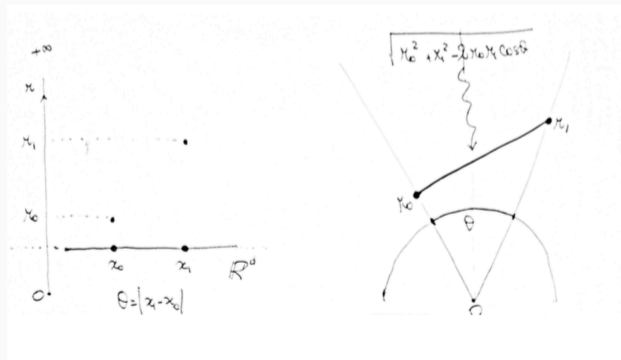
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# The Cone space

**Cone metric:**  $d_{\mathcal{C}}^2((x_0, r_0), (x_1, r_1)) = r_0^2 + r_1^2 - 2r_0r_1 \cos_{\pi}(|x_1 - x_0|)$

**Cone space:** identify all the points  $(x, 0)$  with the vertex  $o$ .

$$\mathcal{C} := (\mathbb{R}^d \times [0, \infty)) / \sim, \quad (x', r') \sim (x'', r'') \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x' = x'', r' = r'' \neq 0, \\ r' = r'' = 0 \end{cases}$$

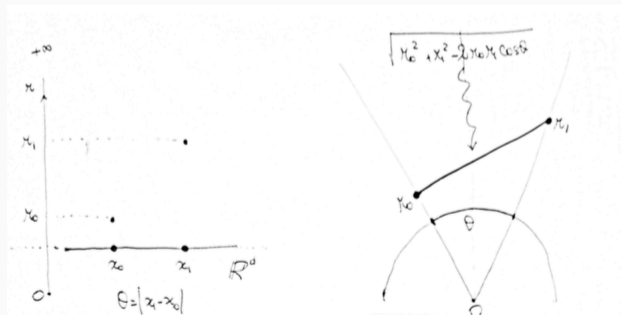


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$\mathcal{C} \setminus \{o\}$  can be considered as a **smooth Riemannian manifold** with metric

$$(1, 1), \quad 2(1, 1)^2 + (1, 1)^2$$

$\mathbb{H}^2$  is a **convex and subadditive functional**

We introduce a function  $h : (\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)^2 \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  which characterizes the cost of connecting two Dirac measures with possibly different mass:

$$\begin{aligned} h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1) &:= \mathbb{H}^2(r_0\delta_{x_0}, r_1\delta_{x_1}) = d_{\mathbb{C}}^2((x_0, \sqrt{r_0}), (x_1, \sqrt{r_1})) \\ &= r_0 + r_1 - 2\sqrt{r_0 r_1} \cos_{\pi/2}(|x_1 - x_0|) \quad x_i \in X_i, r_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



## Unbalanced transport: the link with the relaxation viewpoint

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$(r_0, r_1) \mapsto h(x_0, r_0; x_1, r_1)$  is **positively 1-homogeneous and convex**

thanks to the truncation ( $-\cos_{\pi/2} \leq 0$ ). Define  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}(\mu_0, \mu_1) := \mathbf{HK}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1)$  if  $\mu_i = r_i\delta_{x_i}$ ,  $+\infty$  otherwise.

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### Theorem

$\mathbf{HK}^2$  is the  $\Gamma$ -relaxation of  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}$ : the **largest convex and lower semicontinuous functional** defined in  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d) \times \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$  dominated by  $\text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}}$ :

$$\widehat{\text{UOT}}_{\text{convex, l.s.c.}}, \widehat{\text{UOT}} \leq \text{UOT}_{\text{Dirac}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \widehat{\text{UOT}} \leq \mathbf{HK}^2.$$

$$\mathfrak{H}(\mu_0, \mu_1) := \left\{ \alpha \in \mathcal{P}(X_0 \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times X_1 \times \mathbb{R}_+) : \right. \\ \left. \mathfrak{h}^0 \alpha = \pi_{\#}^{X_0}(r_0^2 \alpha) = \mu_0, \mathfrak{h}^1 \alpha = \pi_{\#}^{X_1}(r_1^2 \alpha) = \mu_1 \right\}$$

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### Primal formulation

$$\mathbb{H}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \min \left\{ \int h(x_0, r_0^2; x_1, r_1^2) d\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{H}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \right\} \\ = \min \left\{ \int d_{\mathbb{C}}^2((x_0, r_0), (x_1, r_1)) d\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{H}(\mu_0, \mu_1) \right\}$$

## Transport-growth pairs

We can represent  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{H}(\mu_0, \mu_1)$  as  $\alpha = ((\mathbf{T}_0, q_0), (\mathbf{T}_1, q_1))_{\#} \lambda$  where  $\lambda \in \mathcal{M}(Y)$ ,  $Y$  is some Polish space, and  $(\mathbf{T}_i, q_i) : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$  with  $q_i \in L^2(\lambda)$ .

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$$\mathbb{H}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \min \left\{ \int_{Y \times Y} \left( q_0^2 + q_1^2 - 2q_0 q_1 \cos_{\pi/2} |\mathbf{T}_0 - \mathbf{T}_1| \right) d\lambda \mid \lambda \in \mathcal{M}(Y), \right. \\ \left. Y \text{ Polish, } (\mathbf{T}_i, q_i) : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mu_i := (\mathbf{T}_i, q_i)_{\star} \lambda \right\};$$

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moreover, it is not restrictive to choose  $Y = \mathfrak{C}[\mathbb{R}^d] \times \mathfrak{C}[\mathbb{R}^d]$ .

### Problem (Monge formulation of HK)

Given  $\mu_0, \mu_1 \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  find an optimal transport-growth pair  $(\mathbf{T}, q) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$  minimizing the cost

$$\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{T}, q; \mu_0) := \int \left( 1 + q^2(x) - 2q(x) \cos_{\pi/2} |\mathbf{T}(x) - x| \right) d\mu_0(x) \quad (1)$$

among all the transport-growth maps satisfying  $(\mathbf{T}, q)_{\star} \mu_0 = \mu_1$

## Duality with the conical Hamilton-Jacobi equation

If

$$\partial_t \xi_t + \frac{1}{2} |D\xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2(x) \leq 0 \quad (\text{CHJ})$$

and

$$\partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}_t \mu_t) = 2w_t \mu_t$$

then

$$\int \xi_1 d\mu_1 - \int \xi_0 d\mu_0 \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \int (|\mathbf{v}_t|^2 + w_t^2) d\mu_t dt.$$



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### HK in duality with subsolutions to the conical Hamilton-Jacobi equations

$$\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{HK}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \sup \left\{ \int \xi_1 d\mu_1 - \int \xi_0 d\mu_0 : \xi \in C^1([0, 1]; \text{Lip}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)) \right. \\ \left. \partial_t \xi_t + \frac{1}{2} |D\xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2 \leq 0 \right\}.$$

## Conical Hopf-Lax representation formula

Given  $\xi_0 \in \text{Lip}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  with  $\xi_0 > -1/2$ , the viscosity solution (or the maximal subsolution) of the conical Hamilton Jacobi equation

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$$\mathcal{P}_t \xi(x) := \inf_y \frac{1}{2t} \left[ 1 - \frac{\cos^2_{\pi/2}(|y-x|)}{1 + 2t\xi(x)} \right] \quad (\text{CHL})$$

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### Conical Hopf-Lax representation for HK

$$\frac{1}{2} \mathbb{H}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \sup \left\{ \int \xi_1 d\mu_1 - \int \xi_0 d\mu_0 : \xi_1 = \mathcal{P}_1 \xi_0 \right\}$$

## Conical lift of the Hopf-Lax formula

Formally, if  $\xi$  is a solution of

$$\partial_t \xi_t + \frac{1}{2} |D\xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2 \leq 0 \quad (\text{CHJ})$$

then  $\zeta_t(x, r) := \xi_t(x)r^2$  is a solution of

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since

$$\frac{1}{2} |D_e \zeta|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mathfrak{g}^*(D_x \zeta, \partial_r \zeta) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} |D_x \zeta|^2 + (\partial_r \zeta)^2 \right) = \left( \frac{1}{2} |D\xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2 \right) r^2$$

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**The Hopf-Lax semigroup in  $\mathcal{C}$**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}_t^{\mathcal{C}} \zeta(x, r) &= \min_{y, s} \zeta(y, s) + \frac{1}{2t} d_{\mathcal{C}}^2((x, r), (y, s)) \\ &= \min_{y, s} \xi(y) s^2 + \frac{1}{2t} \left( r^2 + s^2 - 2rs \cos(|x - y|\pi) \right) \end{aligned}$$

yields

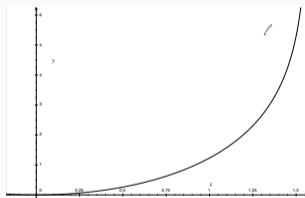
$$\mathcal{Q}_t^{\mathcal{C}} \zeta(x, r) = \xi_t(x) r^2, \quad \xi_t = \mathcal{P}_t \xi.$$

## Dual formulation (II)

**Change of variable:**  $\varphi_1 := -\frac{1}{2} \log(1 - 2\xi_1)$ ,  $\varphi_0 := \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + 2\xi_0)$

$$2\xi_1(\mathbf{y}) \leq 1 - \frac{\cos^2_{\pi/2}(|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}|)}{1 + 2\xi_0(\mathbf{x})} \Leftrightarrow \varphi_1(\mathbf{y}) - \varphi_0(\mathbf{x}) \leq \ell(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}),$$

$$\ell(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{2} \log \left( \cos^2_{\pi/2} |\mathbf{r}| \right) = \frac{1}{2} \log \left( 1 + \tan^2_{\pi/2} |\mathbf{r}| \right), \quad D\ell(\mathbf{r}) = \underline{\tan}(\mathbf{r})$$

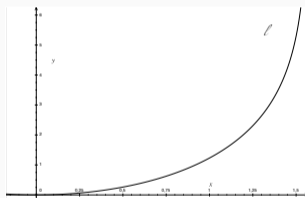


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### Dual Kantorovich formulation

$$\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{HK}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \sup \left\{ \int \frac{1}{2} (1 - e^{-2\varphi_1}) d\mu_1 - \int \frac{1}{2} (e^{2\varphi_0} - 1) d\mu_0 : \right. \\ \left. \varphi_1(y) - \varphi_0(x) \leq \ell(y-x) \right\}$$

The **Legendre conjugate** of  $G(\varphi) := \frac{1}{2}(e^{2\varphi} - 1)$  is

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### Logarithmic Entropy-Transport (LET) formulation

$$\mathbb{L}\mathbb{E}T(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \min_{\gamma \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \left( \mathcal{E}(\gamma_0 | \mu_0) + \mathcal{E}(\gamma_1 | \mu_1) + 2 \int \ell(y - x) d\gamma(x, y) \right)$$

where  $\ell(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \tan^2_{\pi/2}(|\mathbf{r}|))$ .

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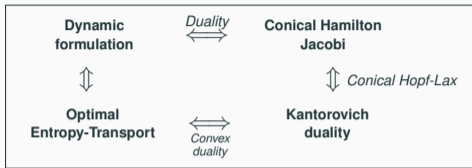
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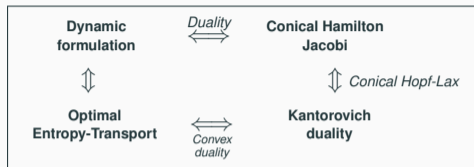
where  $\ell(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \tan^2_{\pi/2}(|\mathbf{r}|))$ .

$$\mathbb{H}\mathbb{K}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \mathbb{L}\mathbb{E}\mathbb{T}(\mu_0, \mu_1)$$

# Four equivalent formulations for HK



# Four equivalent formulations for $\mathbb{H}\mathbb{K}$



$$\mathbb{H}\mathbb{K}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \min \left\{ \int_0^1 \int (|v_t|^2 + |w_t|^2) d\mu_t dt : \mu \in \mathcal{C}([0, 1]; \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)), \right. \\ \left. \partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (v_t \mu_t) = 2w_t \mu_t, \quad \mu_{t=i} = \mu_i \right\} \quad (\text{CER})$$

$$= 2 \sup \left\{ \int \xi_1 d\mu_1 - \int \xi_0 d\mu_0 : \xi \in C^1([0, 1]; \text{Lip}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)) \right. \\ \left. \partial_t \xi_t + \frac{1}{2} |D\xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2 \leq 0 \right\} \quad (\text{CHJ})$$

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$$= \min_{\gamma} \mathcal{E}(\gamma_0 | \mu_0) + \mathcal{E}(\gamma_1 | \mu_1) + 2 \int \ell(x, y) d\gamma(x, y). \quad (\text{LET})$$

- 1 Unbalanced Optimal Transport: a relaxation viewpoint
- 2 The Hellinger-Kantorovich metric between positive measures of arbitrary mass
- 3 Geodesics and geodesic convexity
- 4 Regularity of solutions to the Conical Hopf-Lax semigroup

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## Important properties

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### Problem

*Characterize geodesics and study the convexity properties of integral functionals.*

In particular, we want to prove that power-like entropies

$$\mathcal{E}_\alpha(\mu) := \int c^\alpha dx, \quad \mu = c\mathcal{L}^d$$

are **geodesically convex** if  $\alpha \geq 1$  (reinforced McCann condition).

## The $\pi/2$ threshold and HK geodesics between Dirac masses

$\mu_0 = r_0^2 \delta_{x_0}$ ,  $\mu_1 = r_1^2 \delta_{x_1}$ ,  $|x_1 - x_0| \in [0, \pi]$ ,  $\mu_t := r_t \delta_{x_t}$  geodesic.

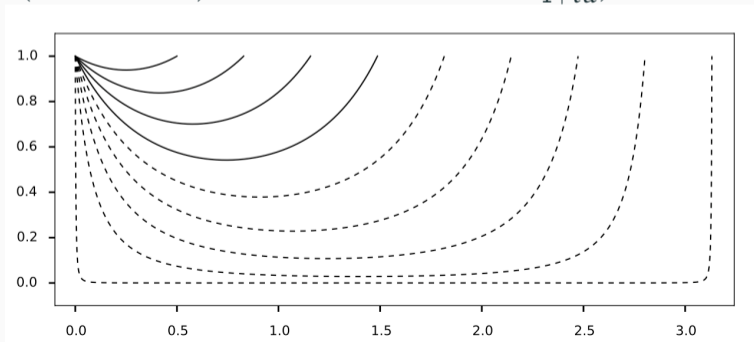
Initial velocities  $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\mathbf{u} := \frac{r_1}{r_0} \cos(|x_1 - x_0|) - 1$$

$$\mathbf{v} := \frac{r_1}{r_0} \underline{\sin}(x_1 - x_0), \quad \underline{\sin}(\mathbf{w}) := \sin(|\mathbf{w}|) \frac{\mathbf{w}}{|\mathbf{w}|}$$

curve:

$$r_t := r_0 \left( (1 + t\mathbf{u})^2 + t^2 |\mathbf{v}|^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad x_t := x_0 + \underline{\arctan} \left( \frac{t\mathbf{v}}{1 + t\mathbf{u}} \right)$$



### Theorem

For every  $\mu_0, \mu_1 \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  there exists a pair of optimal potentials  $(\varphi_0, \varphi_1)$  such that  $\varphi_1(y) - \varphi_0(x) \leq 2\ell(y - x)$  and

$$\mathbb{H}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \int (1 - e^{-2\varphi_1}) d\mu_1 - \int (e^{2\varphi_0} - 1) d\mu_0.$$

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$$\mathbb{H}^2(\mu_0, \mu_1) = \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{T}, q; \mu_0) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (4\xi_0^2 + |\nabla \xi_0|^2) d\mu_0$$

Tangent space:  $\text{Tan}_{\mu_0} \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d) = \mathbb{H}^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mu_0)$ .

Recalling

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the geodesic interpolations can be obtained by rescaling  $\xi_0 \rightsquigarrow t\xi_0$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ :

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They provide an explicit characterization of the **unique HK geodesic connecting  $\mu_0$  to  $\mu_1$** :

$$\mu_t = (\mathbf{T}_{0 \rightarrow t}, q_{0 \rightarrow t})_* \mu_0, \quad \mu_t = c_t \mathcal{L}^d, \quad c_t(\mathbf{T}_{0 \rightarrow t}(x)) = c_0(x) \frac{q_{0 \rightarrow t}^2(x)}{\det D\mathbf{T}_{0 \rightarrow t}(x)}$$



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**Simplifying assumption:**  $\mu_0, \mu_1$  have compact support,  $\text{supp}(\mu_1) \subset B_{\pi/2}(\text{supp}(\mu_0))$ ,  $\text{supp}(\mu_0) \subset B_{\pi/2}(\text{supp}(\mu_1))$ .

**Optimal potentials**  $\varphi_0$  and  $\xi_0$  are semiconvex,  $\varphi_1$  and  $\xi_1$  are semiconcave, all the functions are globally Lipschitz and for suitable constants  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$-\frac{1}{2} < -a \leq \xi_0(x) \leq b, \quad -b \leq \xi_1(y) \leq a < \frac{1}{2}.$$

### Theorem (Formal)

A continuous curve  $(\mu)_{t \in [0,1]}$  is a geodesic if and only if there exists a curve  $(\xi_t)_{t \in [0,1]}$  such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (\mu_t \mathbf{v}_t) = 2w_t \mu_t \\ \partial_t \xi_t + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2 \leq 0 \\ \partial_t \xi_t + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \xi_t|^2 + 2\xi_t^2 = 0 \quad \text{on the support of } \mu, \\ \mathbf{v}_t = \nabla \xi_t \\ w_t = 2\xi_t \end{array} \right.$$

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**Characteristic flow:** fix  $s \in (0, 1)$   $\mathbf{T}(t, \cdot) := \mathbf{T}_{s \rightarrow t}(\cdot)$ ,  $q(t, \cdot) := q_{s \rightarrow t}(\cdot)$ ,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{\mathbf{T}}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t, \mathbf{x})) \\ \dot{q}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 4\xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t, \mathbf{x}))q(t, \mathbf{x}) \\ \mathbf{T}(s, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}, \\ q(s, \mathbf{x}) = 1. \end{array} \right.$$

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$$\ddot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = \partial_t \nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t)) + \mathbf{D}^2 \xi_t \nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t)),$$

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### Second order relations

$$\ddot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = 4\xi_t \nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t))$$

$$\ddot{q}(t) = |\nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t))|^2 q(t)$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -4 \left( \nabla \xi_t \otimes \nabla \xi_t + \xi_t D^2 \xi_t \right) \circ \mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t)$$

$$\ddot{\delta}(t) = \left( (\Delta \xi_t)^2 - |D^2 \xi_t|^2 - 4|\nabla \xi_t|^2 - 4\xi_t \Delta \xi_t \right) \circ \mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \delta(t).$$

## Structural second order estimates for the densities

$\mu_t = c(t, \cdot) \mathcal{L}^d$  with

$$c(t) = \frac{q^2(t)}{\delta(t)} = \frac{q^{d+2}(t)}{q^d(t)\delta(t)} = \frac{q^{d+2}(t)}{\rho^d(t)}, \quad \boxed{\rho(t) := q(t)\delta^{1/d}(t)}$$

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**Structural estimates**

$$\boxed{\frac{\ddot{q}(t)}{q(t)} \geq 0, \quad \frac{\ddot{\rho}(t)}{\rho(t)} \leq \left(1 - \frac{4}{d}\right) \frac{\ddot{q}(t)}{q(t)}}.$$

since the previous identities yield

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### Theorem

The density  $c(t, \cdot)$  is **convex along the characteristics**:

$$\frac{\ddot{c}}{c} \geq 6 \frac{\ddot{q}}{q} \geq 0.$$

The functional  $\mu \mapsto \|d\mu/d\mathcal{L}^d\|_{L^\infty}$  is **geodesically convex**.

## Application: geodesic convexity of integral functionals

Consider a functional

$$\mathcal{E}(\mu) := \int E(c(x)) \, dx, \quad c = \frac{d\mu}{d\mathcal{L}^d}$$

where  $E$  is convex (smooth).

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**McCann condition:**

$$\varepsilon_2(c) \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{d}\right)(\varepsilon_1(c) - \varepsilon_0(c)) \geq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad r^d E(r^{-d}) \text{ convex, nonincreasing.}$$

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### Theorem

$\mathcal{E}$  is geodesically convex w.r.t. HK if and only if

$$G(c) := \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_2(c) - \frac{d-1}{d}(\varepsilon_1(c) - \varepsilon_0(c)) & \varepsilon_2(c) - \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_1(c) - \varepsilon_0(c)) \\ \varepsilon_2(c) - \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_1(c) - \varepsilon_0(c)) & \varepsilon_2(c) + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_1(c) \end{pmatrix} \geq 0, \quad \varepsilon_1 \geq \varepsilon_0.$$

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### Theorem

Define

$$N(\rho, q) := \left(\frac{\rho}{q}\right)^d \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{q^{d+2}}{\rho^d}\right)$$

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**Main examples:** the power functions  $E(c) := c^p$  are convex if  $p \geq 1$ .

In dimension  $d = 2$  also  $E(c) = -\sqrt{c}$  is convex.

In dimension  $d = 1$  all the power functions  $E(c) = -c^p$ ,  $p \in [1/3, 1/2]$  induces convex functionals.



- 1 Unbalanced Optimal Transport: a relaxation viewpoint
- 2 The Hellinger-Kantorovich metric between positive measures of arbitrary mass
- 3 Geodesics and geodesic convexity
- 4 Regularity of solutions to the Conical Hopf-Lax semigroup

Conical Hopf-Lax representation formula:

$$\mathcal{P}_t \xi(x) := \inf_y \frac{1}{2t} \left[ 1 - \frac{\cos^2_{\pi/2}(|y-x|)}{1+2t\xi(x)} \right] \quad (\text{CHL})$$

It is useful to introduce the reverse evolution (Villani '09)

$$\mathcal{R}_t \bar{\xi}(x) := -\mathcal{P}_{1-t}(-\bar{\xi})(x) = \sup_y \frac{1}{2(1-t)} \left[ \frac{\cos^2_{\pi/2}(|y-x|)}{1-2(1-t)\bar{\xi}(x)} - 1 \right] \quad (\text{RCHL})$$

*If  $\bar{\xi}_1 : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow [-b, a]$  with  $-\infty < -b < a < 1/2$  then the functions  $\bar{\xi}_t := \mathcal{R}_t \bar{\xi}_1(x)$  are globally bounded, Lipschitz and semiconvex,  $\bar{\xi}_t = \mathcal{P}_{t-s} \bar{\xi}_s$ ,  $\bar{\xi}_1 < 1/2$ .*

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## Theorem (Differentiability on the contact set)

If  $\bar{\xi}_1 = \xi_1 = \mathcal{P}_1(\xi_0)$ ,  $\xi_0 = \mathcal{R}_1\xi_1$  then  $\xi_t \geq \bar{\xi}_t$  and the **contact set**

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$$\mathbf{T}_{s \rightarrow t}(x) := x + \arctan\left(\frac{(t-s)g_s(x)}{1 + 2(t-s)g_s(x)}\right)$$

the map  $\mathbf{T}_{s \rightarrow t}$  is **Lipschitz**, it satisfies  $\mathbf{T}_{s \rightarrow t}(\Xi_s) = \Xi_t$  and

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Setting

$$q_{s \rightarrow t}^2(x) := (1 + 2(t-s)\xi_s(x))^2 + (t-s)^2 |g_s(x)|^2$$

we have  $q_{t_1 \rightarrow t_2} \circ \mathbf{T}_{t_0 \rightarrow t_1} \cdot q_{t_0 \rightarrow t_1} = q_{t_0 \rightarrow t_2}$



### Theorem

For every  $s \in (0, 1)$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$  the transport-growth pair  $(\mathbf{T}_{s \rightarrow t}, q_{s \rightarrow t})$  is the **unique solution to the Monge formulation** for the  $\mathbb{H}K$  problem between  $\mu_s$  and  $\mu_t$ .

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In particular, if for given  $\mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_s$

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If  $\text{supp}(\nu_s) \subset \text{supp}(\mu_s)$  then  $\nu_t := (T_{s \rightarrow t}, q_{s \rightarrow t})_* \nu_s$  is a geodesic.

## Second order regularity of CHL (III)

Let  $\mathcal{D}_s \subset \Xi_s$  the set of points of density 1 where  $g_s$  is differentiable.

### Theorem

$A_s := Dg_s$  is **symmetric**.  $\xi_s$  has a **second order Taylor expansion** in terms of  $g_s$  and  $A_s$ . We thus can set  $g_s = \nabla \xi_s$ ,  $B_s = D\nabla \xi_s = D^2 \xi_s$  in  $\mathcal{D}_s$ .

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{T}(t) = 4\xi_t \nabla \xi_t(T(t)) \\ \ddot{q}(t) = |\nabla \xi_t(T(t))|^2 q(t) \\ \ddot{B}(t) = -4 \left( \nabla \xi_t \otimes \nabla \xi_t + \xi_t D^2 \xi_t \right) \circ T(t) \cdot B(t) \\ \ddot{\delta}(t) = \left( (\Delta \xi_t)^2 - |D^2 \xi_t|^2 - 4|\nabla \xi_t|^2 - 4\xi_t \Delta \xi_t \right) \circ T(t) \cdot \delta(t). \end{cases}$$

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The maps  $\mathbf{T}(t) := \mathbf{T}_{s \rightarrow t}$ ,  $B(t, \cdot) := D\mathbf{T}(t, \cdot)$ ,  $\delta(t, \cdot) := \det B(t, \cdot)$  are analytic in time and satisfy the characteristic systems of ODE.

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{\mathbf{T}}(t) = 4\xi_t \nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t)) \\ \ddot{q}(t) = |\nabla \xi_t(\mathbf{T}(t))|^2 q(t) \\ \ddot{\mathbf{B}}(t) = -4 \left( \nabla \xi_t \otimes \nabla \xi_t + \xi_t D^2 \xi_t \right) \circ \mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \mathbf{B}(t) \\ \ddot{\delta}(t) = \left( (\Delta \xi_t)^2 - |D^2 \xi_t|^2 - 4|\nabla \xi_t|^2 - 4\xi_t \Delta \xi_t \right) \circ \mathbf{T}(t) \cdot \delta(t). \end{cases}$$

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