

# On the extremality, uniqueness and optimality of transference plans

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# Transference plans

Let  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}([0, 1])$ .

## Definition (Transference plans)

The *set of transference plans* between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  is

$$\Pi(\mu, \nu) := \left\{ \pi \in \mathcal{P}([0, 1]^2) : (P_1)_\# \pi = \mu \wedge (P_2)_\# \pi = \nu \right\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$  is a convex subset of  $\mathcal{P}([0, 1]^2)$ .

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We will denote the *measurable sets* of a Borel measure  $\xi$  as  $\Theta_\xi$ , and the  $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$ -*universally measurable sets* as

$$\Theta(\mu, \nu) := \bigcap \{ \Theta_\pi : \pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) \}.$$

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**Optimality** for a fixed  $\Theta(\mu, \nu)$ -measurable cost  $c : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ , find sufficient conditions on a transference plan  $\pi$  such that

$$\int c\pi = \inf \left\{ \int c\pi : \pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) \right\}$$



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one sees a similar structure in the above problems:

*there is a set  $A$ , a measure  $\pi$  with  $\pi(A) = 1$  and its carriage  $\Gamma \subset A$ .*

# Admissible perturbations

The constraints

$$\mu = (P_1)_\# \pi \quad \nu = (P_2)_\# \pi$$

imply that the admissible perturbations are in the set

$$\Lambda := \left\{ \lambda \in \mathcal{M}([0, 1]) : (P_1)_\# \lambda = (P_2)_\# \lambda = 0 \right\}.$$

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Finally we have to require that

$$\pi + \lambda \text{ is concentrated on } A.$$



# Cyclical perturbations

A particular family of perturbations are the *n-cyclical perturbations*: for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $m \in \mathcal{M}^+([0, 1]^{2n})$ , then

$$\lambda = \int_{[0,1]^{2n}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\delta_{(x_{i+1} \bmod n, y_i)} - \delta_{(x_i, y_i)}) m(dx_1 dy_1 \dots dx_n dy_n).$$

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In order to have  $\lambda$  concentrated on  $A$ , one requires

$$m\left(\left\{(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n) : (x_i, y_i), (x_{i+1} \bmod n, y_i) \in A\right\}\right) = 1.$$

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In order to have  $\pi + \lambda \geq 0$ , one requires

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (P_{(x_i, y_i)})_{\#} m \leq \pi.$$

# Acyclicity and cyclical monotonicity

The analysis if a set  $\Gamma$  can carry perturbations of the above types leads naturally to the following definition for sets.

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**c-cyclically monotone**  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n \subset \Gamma$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (c(x_{i+1 \bmod n}, y_i) - c(x_i, y_i)) \geq 0.$$

In [5] it is proved that if  $A$  is analytic, then

$$\sup \left\{ \xi(A), (P_i)_\# \xi = \eta_i, i = 1, \dots, n \right\} = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \int h_i \eta_i, \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \geq \chi_A \right\},$$



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# A counterexample

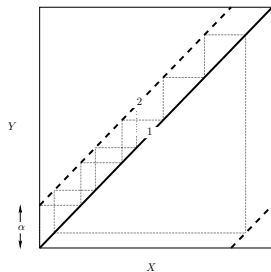
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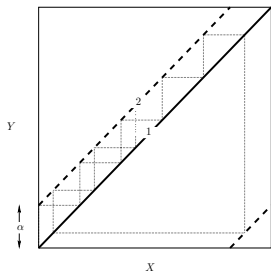
$$\Gamma = \{(x, y) : y = x + \alpha \pmod{1}\}.$$

$\Gamma$  is acyclic in  $A$ , but the measure

$$(x, x + \alpha \pmod{1})_{\#} \mathcal{L}^1$$

is not unique in  $\Pi^f(\mathcal{L}^1, \mathcal{L}^1)$  nor optimal for

$$c(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & y = x \\ 2 & y = x + \alpha \pmod{1} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$



## Disintegration Theorem [3]

Let  $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  be a partition of  $[0, 1]$  and  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}([0, 1])$ . Let  $h : X \rightarrow A$  be the quotient map and

$$m = h_{\#}\mu, \text{ meaning that } h^{-1}(B) \in \Theta_\mu \text{ (} m(B) = \mu(h^{-1}(B))\text{)}.$$



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### Definition (Disintegration)

The *disintegration* of  $\mu$  consistent with  $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is a map  $\alpha \mapsto \mu_\alpha$

1. for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mu_\alpha(B)$  is  $m$ -measurable;
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$$\mu(B \cap h^{-1}(A)) = \int_A \mu_\alpha(B) m(d\alpha).$$

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We say that the disintegration is *strongly consistent* if  $\mu_\alpha(X_\alpha) = 1$ .

## A theorem on linear preorders

### Definition (Preorder)

$R \subset [0, 1]^2$  is a *preorder* if

$$(x, y), (y, z) \in R \Rightarrow (x, z) \in R.$$

$R$  is a *linear preorder* if  $R \cup R^{-1} = [0, 1]^2$ .

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### Theorem

If  $R \in \Theta(\mu, \mu)$  is a linear preorder  $\preceq$  on  $[0, 1]$ , then the disintegration w.r.t.  $E$  is strongly consistent, and the image set  $B'$  in the quotient space is a set of uniqueness of  $\Pi(m, m)$ .

## A natural preorder relation

### Definition (Axial preorder)

We say that  $x \preceq x'$ ,  $x, x' \in \Gamma$ , if  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n \subset \Gamma$  s.t.

$$\{(x_{i+1 \pmod n}, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n \subset A \wedge (x_1 = x, x_{n+1} = x').$$

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The equivalence relation  $E$  is the closed cycles relation:  $(x, x') \in E$   
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The relation  $E$  and the set  $\Gamma$  satisfy a *crosswise relation*: if  $Y_\alpha := P_2(\Gamma \cap X_\alpha \times [0, 1])$  then

$$\Gamma \cap X_\alpha \times [0, 1] = \Gamma \cap [0, 1] \times Y_\alpha = \Gamma \cup X_\alpha \times Y_\alpha = \Gamma_\alpha. \quad (2)$$



## A sufficient condition

### Theorem (Sufficient condition)

*Assume that  $\Gamma$  is acyclic/ $A$ -acyclic/ $c$ -cyclically monotone and the axial preorder  $\preceq$  can be extended into a  $\Theta(\mu, \mu)$ -measurable linear preorder. Then the transference plan  $\pi$  concentrated on  $\Gamma$  is extremal/unique/optimal.*

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### Sketch of the proof

*Step 1.* Theorem 6 implies that the disintegration  $\mu = \int \mu_\alpha m(d\alpha)$  is strongly supported. The crosswise structure (2) of  $\Gamma$  yields that the same happens for  $\nu$  and  $\pi$ :

$$\nu = \int \nu_\alpha m(d\alpha), \quad \pi = \int \pi_\alpha m(d\alpha), \quad \pi_\alpha \in \Pi(\mu_\alpha, \nu_\alpha).$$

*Step 2.* If  $h_X, h_Y$  are the quotient maps, then by assumption

$$A' := (h_X \otimes h_Y)(A) \in \Theta(m, m)$$

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In the original space this means that the disintegration of any  $\pi' \in \Pi^f(\mu, \nu)$  w.r.t.  $h_X \otimes h_Y$  is given by

$$\pi' = \int \pi'_{\alpha\beta} n(d\alpha d\beta) = \int \pi'_\alpha m(d\alpha), \quad \pi'_\alpha = \pi'_{\alpha\alpha}.$$

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$\exists \{C_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}, \{D_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  Borel and Borel functions  $f_k : C_k \rightarrow D_{k-1}$ ,  $g_k : D_k \rightarrow C_k$ , such that  $\pi$  is concentrated on the union of the following graphs

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*optimality* has two Borel optimal potentials  $\phi_\alpha, \psi_\alpha$ :

$$c(x, y) - \phi_\alpha(x) - \psi_\alpha(y) \begin{cases} = 0 & (x, y) \in \Gamma \\ \geq 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



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**Step 4.** Finally, Step 2 implies that all perturbations occurs only in the equivalence classes  $\{\Gamma_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$ , and Step 3 implies that our measure is extremal/unique/optimal in each class.

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