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► **To cite this version:**

Benedetto Piccoli. Transport equation with source and generalized Wasserstein distance. NETCO 2014 - New Trends in Optimal Control, Jun 2014, Tours, France. hal-01031203

HAL Id: hal-01031203

<https://inria.hal.science/hal-01031203>

Submitted on 22 Jul 2014

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Transport equation with source and generalized Wasserstein distance

Benedetto Piccoli

Rutgers University - Camden

joint work with
Francesco Rossi

NetCo 2014
Tours, June 23rd 2014

Outline

- 1 Wasserstein distance and optimal transport
- 2 Generalized Wasserstein distance

Optimal transport

Given μ measure and measurable $\gamma : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$(\gamma\#\mu)(E) = \mu(\gamma^{-1}(E)).$$

Given μ, ν probability measures, look for γ such that $\gamma\#\mu = \nu$ and minimizes the cost

$$\int c(x, \gamma(x)) d\mu.$$

Optimal transport first proposed by Monge problem in 1781.
Particular case is given by the cost $c(x, y) = |x - y|^p$ with $p \geq 1$,
defining the Wasserstein distance:

$$W_p(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\gamma\#\mu=\nu} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\gamma(x) - x|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p}.$$

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Wasserstein distance

Take $\mu = \delta_1$, $\nu = \frac{1}{2}\delta_0 + \frac{1}{2}\delta_2$: but there exists no γ with $\nu = \gamma\#\mu$, since γ cannot separate masses.

A probability measure π on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$, one can interpret it as a method to transfer a measure. μ is sent to ν if:

$$|\mu| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} d\pi(x, \cdot) = d\mu(x), \quad |\nu| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} d\pi(\cdot, y) = d\nu(y).$$

Monge-Kantorovich problem. Wasserstein distance:

$$W_p(\mu, \nu) = \left(|\mu| \min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y|^p d\pi(x, y) \right)^{1/p}.$$

where $\Pi(\mu, \nu)$ is the set of transference plans from μ to ν .

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The function $v : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow C^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ satisfies

- $v[\mu]$ is uniformly Lipschitz and uniformly bounded, i.e. there exist L, M not depending on μ , such that for all $\mu \in \mathcal{M}, x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$|v[\mu](x) - v[\mu](y)| \leq L|x - y| \quad |v[\mu](x)| \leq M.$$

- v is a Lipschitz function, i.e. there exists K such that

$$\|v[\mu] - v[\nu]\|_{C^0} \leq KW_p(\mu, \nu).$$

Under such assumption there exists a unique solution to the transport equation:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mu + \nabla \cdot (v[\mu] \mu) = 0 \\ \mu(0) = \mu_0 \end{cases}.$$

Replacing W with L^1 (total variation) we lose uniqueness.

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Generalized Wasserstein distance

Three different admissible actions on μ, ν : either add/remove mass to μ , or add/remove mass to ν or transport mass from μ to ν .

\mathcal{M} space of Borel measures with finite mass.

Given $a, b \in (0, \infty)$ and $p \geq 1$, the generalized Wasserstein distance is given by

$$W_p^{a,b}(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\substack{\tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\nu} \in \mathcal{M}^p \\ |\tilde{\mu}| = |\tilde{\nu}|}} (a^p |\mu - \tilde{\mu}| + a |\nu - \tilde{\nu}|^p + b^p W_p(\tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\nu}))^{1/p}.$$

Proposition

The operator $W_p^{a,b}$ is a distance. Moreover, one can restrict the computation to $\tilde{\mu} \leq \mu, \tilde{\nu} \leq \nu$ and the infimum is always attained.

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Properties of the generalized Wasserstein distance

Theorem

Let $\mu_n, \mu \in \mathcal{M}$. Then

$W_p^{a,b}(\mu_n, \mu) \rightarrow 0$ is equivalent to $\mu_n \rightharpoonup \mu$ and μ_n is tight.

Moreover, M is complete with respect to $W_p^{a,b}$.

Proposition

$W_p^{a,b}$ is equivalent to the Levy-Prokhorov distance for probability measures:

$$d_{LP}(\mu, \nu) := \inf \{ \alpha > 0 : \text{for any closed } A, \mu(A) \leq \nu(A^\alpha) + \alpha \}.$$

Proposition

We have (see Kantorovich-Rubinstein duality):

$$W_1^{1,1}(\mu, \nu) = \sup \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f d(\mu - \nu) \mid \|f\|_{C^0} \leq 1, \|f\|_{Lip} \leq 1 \right\}.$$

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Benamou-Brenier formula

Consider the transport equation with source:

$$\partial_t \mu_t + \nabla \cdot (v_t \mu_t) = h_t. \quad (1)$$

Define:

$$\mathcal{B}[\mu, v, h] := a^2 \left(\int_0^1 dt \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} d|h_t| \right) \right)^2 + b^2 \int_0^1 dt \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} d\mu_t |v_t|^2 \right).$$

Proposition

We have

$$\left(W_2^{a,b} \right)^2 = \inf \left\{ \mathcal{B}[\mu, v, h] \mid \begin{array}{l} \mu \text{ is a solution of (1) for } v, h \\ \text{and } \mu(0) = \mu_0, \mu(1) = \mu_1 \end{array} \right\}.$$

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