

## Lecture 15

Recall:

Thm: Given  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ ,

$$\inf_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(\mu, \nu)} K_1(\gamma) = \sup_{\varphi \in C(X), \|\varphi\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq 1} \int \varphi d(\mu - \nu)$$

and  $\exists \varphi^*$  that achieves maximum.

Remark: More generally, if  $X = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\inf_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(\mu, \nu)} K_1(\gamma) = \sup_{\varphi \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^d), \|\varphi\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq 1} \int \varphi d(\mu - \nu)$$

Exercise:  $W_p(\mu, \nu) \leq W_q(\mu, \nu) \forall p \leq q$ .  
If  $\text{supp } \mu, \text{supp } \nu$  are compact,  $\exists C$  s.t.  
 $W_q(\mu, \nu) \leq C W_p(\mu, \nu) \forall p \leq q$ .

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Goal: Prove  $W_2$  is a metric on  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Our proof will use Brenier's theorem... which requires  $\mu \ll \mathcal{L}^d$ .

We need a way to approximate  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  by  $\mu_\varepsilon$  that are abs cts.

Prop: ( $W_2$  jointly lsc wrt narrow convergence) Polish space  
Suppose  $\mu_n, \nu_n \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  satisfying  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  and  $\nu_n \rightarrow \nu$  narrowly.

Then  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} W_2(\mu_n, \nu_n) \geq W_2(\mu, \nu)$ .

## Approximation by Convolution

Def: (mollifier)  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ , bdd, meas  
 $\varphi(x) = \varphi(-x)$ ,  $\int \varphi(x) dx = 1$   
 $\varphi_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^d} \varphi\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right)$   
 $\int \varphi_\varepsilon(x) dx = 1$

Def: Given  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , define

$$\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * \mu(x) = \int \mathcal{P}_\varepsilon(x-y) d\mu(y)$$

We will often abuse notation and write

$$\underbrace{d(\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * \mu)(x)}_{\in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)} = \underbrace{\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * \mu(x)}_{\text{density}} dx \stackrel{\text{Note: } \int \mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * \mu(x) dx}{=} \int \int \mathcal{P}_\varepsilon(x-y) d\mu(y) dx = \int \int \mathcal{P}_\varepsilon(x-y) dx d\mu(y) = \int 1 d\mu(y) = 1$$

Lemma: Suppose  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

(i) For any  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  meas, bdd below,

$$\int f d(\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * \mu) = \int (\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * f) d\mu$$

"associativity of convolution"

(ii)  $\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon * \mu \rightarrow \mu$  narrowly, as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

Now, we consider behavior of  $W_2$  and convolution.

Lemma: Given  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\mathcal{Q}_\varepsilon$  as above,

$$(i) W_2(\mu, \mathcal{Q}_\varepsilon * \mu) \leq \varepsilon (M_2(\mu))^{1/2} \leftarrow \int |x|^2 \varphi(x) dx$$

$$(ii) W_2(\mathcal{Q}_\varepsilon * \mu, \mathcal{Q}_\varepsilon * \nu) \leq W_2(\mu, \nu)$$

$$(iii) \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} W_2(\mathcal{Q}_\varepsilon * \mu, \mathcal{Q}_\varepsilon * \nu) = W_2(\mu, \nu)$$

$$M_2(\mu) := \int |x|^2 d\mu(x)$$

Thm  $(W_2, \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d))$  is a metric space.

Pf:

Note that, since  $|x^1 - x^2|^2 \leq 2|x^1|^2 + 2|x^2|^2$ ,  $\gamma$  is an OT plan from  $\mu$  to  $\nu$

$$\begin{aligned} W_2(\mu, \nu) &= \int |x^1 - x^2|^2 d\gamma \\ &\leq 2 \int |x^1|^2 d\gamma + 2 \int |x^2|^2 d\gamma \\ &= 2M_2(\mu) + 2M_2(\nu) \\ &< +\infty \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $W_2: \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \times \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ .

Furthermore,  $W_2$  is symmetric since

$\gamma$  is an OT plan from  $\mu$  to  $\nu$  iff

$\tilde{\gamma}$  is an OT plan from  $\nu$  to  $\mu$  where

$$\tilde{\gamma}(A \times B) = \gamma(B \times A).$$

$$W_2(\mu, \nu) = \int |x^1 - x^2|^2 d\gamma = \int |x^2 - x^1|^2 d\tilde{\gamma} = W_2(\nu, \mu)$$

Interchanging roles of  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ ,  
 $W_2(\nu, \mu) \leq W_2(\mu, \nu)$ .

Thus,  $W_2(\mu, \nu) = W_2(\nu, \mu)$ , so  $W_2$  is symmetric.

To see that  $W_2$  is nondgenerate, suppose  $W_2(\mu, \nu) = 0$ . Then, if  $\gamma$  is an OT plan from  $\mu$  to  $\nu$ ,

$$\int |x^1 - x^2|^2 d\gamma = 0.$$

Thus  $x^1 = x^2$   $\gamma$ -a.e.

Hence, for any  $f \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int f(x^1) d\mu(x^1) &= \int f(x^1) d\gamma(x^1, x^2) \\ &= \int f(x^2) d\gamma(x^1, x^2) \\ &= \int f(x^2) d\nu(x^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = \nu.$$

Conversely, if  $\mu = \nu$ ,  $\gamma = (\text{id} \times \text{id}) \# \mu$  is a transport plan from  $\mu$  to  $\nu$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{W}_2(\mu, \nu) &\leq \left( \int |x^1 - x^2|^2 d\gamma \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \left( \int |x - x|^2 d\mu \right)^{1/2} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show the triangle inequality.

First, suppose  $\mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  are abs cts wrt  $\mathcal{L}^d$ .

By Brenier's Theorem,  $\exists$  OT maps  $t_1 \# \mu_0 = \mu_1$ ,  $t_2 \# \mu_1 = \mu_2$ .

$$(t \circ s) \# \mu = t \# (s \# \mu)$$

Note that  $(t_2 \circ t_1) \# \mu_0 = \mu_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} W_2(\mu_0, \mu_2) &\leq \left( \int |t_2 \circ t_1(x) - x|^2 d\mu_0(x) \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \left( \int |t_2 \circ t_1(x) - t_1(x)|^2 d\mu_0(x) \right)^{1/2} \\ &\quad + \left( \int |t_1(x) - x|^2 d\mu_0(x) \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \left( \int |t_2(x) - x|^2 d\mu_1(x) \right)^{1/2}$$

$$+ W_2(\mu_0, \mu_1)$$

$$= W_2(\mu_1, \mu_2) + W_2(\mu_0, \mu_1).$$

Finally, for general  $\mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , fix a mollifier  $\varrho_\varepsilon$ , so  $\varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_i \ll \mathcal{L}^d$ , for  $i=0, 1, 2$ . Then

$$W_2(\mu_0, \mu_2) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} W_2(\varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_0, \varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_2)$$

$$\leq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} W_2(\varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_0, \varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_1) + W_2(\varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_1, \varrho_\varepsilon * \mu_2)$$

$$= W_2(\mu_0, \mu_1) + W_2(\mu_1, \mu_2) \quad \square$$

Now, we will characterize the topology of  $(W_2, \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d))$ .

Thm: Given  $\mu_n, \mu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} W_2(\mu_n, \mu) = 0 \iff \begin{array}{l} \mu_n \rightarrow \mu \text{ narrowly} \\ M_2(\mu_n) \rightarrow M_2(\mu) \end{array}$$

Recall from Lec 7, narrow conv  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  is equivalent to

$$\int f d\mu_n \rightarrow \int f d\mu \quad \forall f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^d) \quad (*)$$

*added after class*

Lemma:  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  narrowly iff  $\int f d\mu_n \rightarrow \int f d\mu$   
 $\forall f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Pf:

" $\Rightarrow$ " obvious

" $\Leftarrow$ "

Fix  $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Fix  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . Know  $\varphi_\varepsilon * f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  
 $\varphi_\varepsilon * f \rightarrow f$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Thus,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int \varphi_\varepsilon * f d\mu_n = \int \varphi_\varepsilon * f d\mu$ .

Fix  $\delta > 0$ .  $\exists \varepsilon_\delta$  s.t.  $\|\varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f - f\|_{L^\infty} < \frac{\delta}{4}$ .

$\exists n_\delta$  s.t.  $\forall n > n_\delta$ ,  $|\int \varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f d\mu_n - \int \varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f d\mu| < \frac{\delta}{2}$ .

Thus,  $\forall n > n_\delta$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |\int f d\mu_n - \int f d\mu| &= |\int (\varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f - f) d\mu_n| + |\int (\varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f - f) d\mu| \\ &\quad + |\int \varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f d\mu_n - \int \varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f d\mu| \\ &\leq 2\|\varphi_{\varepsilon_\delta} * f - f\|_{L^\infty} + \frac{\delta}{2} \\ &< \delta \end{aligned}$$

□.



Pf: (of Theorem)

Suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} W_2(\mu_n, \mu) = 0$ .

Note that,  $\forall \nu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\gamma$  is OT plan,  $x^2 = 0$   $\gamma$ -a.e.  
 $W_2^2(\nu, \delta_0) = \int |x^1 - x^2|^2 d\gamma = \int |x^1|^2 d\gamma = m_2(\nu)$ .

Thus,  $\gamma(A \times B) \leq \gamma(\mathbb{R}^d \times B) = \delta_0(B)$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m_2(\mu_n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} W_2^2(\mu_n, \delta_0) \\ &= W_2^2(\mu, \delta_0) \\ &= m_2(\mu). \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  narrowly. Fix  $f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . Will show (\*)

By exercise,

$$\begin{aligned} W_2(\mu_n, \mu) &\geq W_1(\mu_n, \mu) \\ &= \sup \int \psi d\mu_n - \int \psi d\mu \end{aligned}$$

$$\psi \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^d), \|\psi\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq 1 \quad \checkmark$$

If  $\|f\|_{\text{Lip}} = 0$ ,  $f = 0$  and the result holds trivially.

Otherwise, define  $\psi = \frac{f}{\|f\|_{\text{Lip}}}$ .

$$W_2(\mu_n, \mu) \geq \frac{1}{\|f\|_{\text{Lip}}} \left| \int f d\mu_n - \int f d\mu \right|$$

This shows  $\int f d\mu_n \rightarrow \int f d\mu$ .

Since  $f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  was arbitrary,  
 $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$  narrowly.