# Mirror Descent with Relative Smoothness in Measure Spaces, with application to Sinkhorn and Expectation-Maximization (EM)

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- Rigorous proof of convergence of Mirror Descent (MD) under relative smoothness and convexity, in the infinite-dimensional setting of optimization over measure spaces
- New and simple way to derive rates of convergence for Sinkhorn's algorithm as an MD over transport plans
- New expression of Expectation-Maximization (EM) as MD, convergence rates when restricted to the latent distribution, coincides with Lucy-Richardson's algorithm in signal processing

Let  $\mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})$  the space of Radon measures on  $\mathcal{X}$ , convex functionals  $\mathcal{F}, \phi : \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X}) \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ , convex  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})$ , consider mirror descent:

$$\min_{\mu\in\mathcal{C}}\mathcal{F}(\mu)$$

$$\mu_{n+1} = \underset{\nu \in \mathcal{C}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \boldsymbol{d}^{+} \mathcal{F}(\mu_{n})(\nu - \mu_{n}) + L \boldsymbol{D}_{\phi}(\nu | \mu_{n}) \}$$
(1)

#### Under which assumptions does it converge and at which rate?

## Examples of optimization of measures

The "Kullback-Leibler divergence" or relative entropy is

$$\mathsf{KL}(\mu|ar{\mu}) = \left\{ egin{array}{c} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \log\left(rac{\mu}{ar{\mu}}(x)
ight) d\mu(x) & ext{if } \mu \ll ar{\mu} \ +\infty & ext{else.} \end{array} 
ight.$$

- Entropic optimal transport  $\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu,\nu)} \operatorname{KL}(\pi|R)$  for  $R \propto \exp(-c(x,y)/\epsilon)\mu \otimes \nu$
- Expectation-Maximization  $\min_{q \in Q} KL(\bar{\nu}|p_{\mathcal{Y}}p_q)$  with the observations  $\bar{\nu}$
- Bayesian inference  $\min_{\mu\in\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})}\mathsf{KL}(\mu|\bar{\mu})$  with the posterior  $\bar{\mu}\propto\exp(-V)$
- Optimization of 1-hidden layer neural network

 $\min_{\mu \in \mathcal{C}} \mathsf{MMD}^2(\mu | \bar{\mu})$ 

## Definitions of derivatives

$$\mu_{n+1} = \underset{\nu \in C}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ d^{+} \mathcal{F}(\mu_{n})(\nu - \mu_{n}) + LD_{\phi}(\nu | \mu_{n}) \}$$

The KL does not have a Gâteaux derivative! Need for weaker notions:

(directional derivative) $d^+\mathcal{F}(\nu)(\mu) = \lim_{h \to 0^+} \frac{\mathcal{F}(\nu + h\mu) - \mathcal{F}(\nu)}{h},$ (2)(first variation) $\langle \nabla_C \mathcal{F}(\mu), \xi \rangle = d^+\mathcal{F}(\mu)(\xi) \quad \xi + \mu \in \operatorname{dom}(\mathcal{F}) \cap C,$ (3)(Bregman divergence) $D_{\phi}(\nu|\mu) = \phi(\nu) - \phi(\mu) - d^+\phi(\mu)(\nu - \mu).$ (4)

### Convergence result for mirror descent under relative smoothness

 $\mathcal{F}$  is *L*-smooth relative to  $\phi$  over *C* for  $L \ge 0$  if, for any  $\mu, \nu \in C \cap \operatorname{dom}(\mathcal{F}) \cap \operatorname{dom}(\phi)$ ,

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}(
u|\mu) = \mathcal{F}(
u) - \mathcal{F}(\mu) - \mathcal{d}^+\mathcal{F}(\mu)(
u-\mu) \leq \mathcal{L}\mathcal{D}_{\phi}(
u|\mu).$$

Conversely,  $\mathcal{F}$  is *l*-strongly convex relative to  $\phi$ , for  $l \ge 0$ , if we have

 $D_{\mathcal{F}}(
u|\mu) \geq ID_{\phi}(
u|\mu).$ 

#### Theorem 1

Assume that  $\mathcal{F}$  is *I*-strongly convex and *L*-smooth relative to  $\phi$ , with  $I, L \ge 0$ . Consider the mirror descent scheme (1), and assume that for each  $n \ge 0$ ,  $\nabla_C \phi(\mu_n)$  exists. Then for all  $n \ge 0$  and all  $\nu \in C \cap \operatorname{dom}(\mathcal{F}) \cap \operatorname{dom}(\phi)$ :

$$\mathcal{F}(\mu_n) - \mathcal{F}(\nu) \leq \frac{lD_{\phi}(\nu|\mu_0)}{\left(1 + \frac{l}{L-l}\right)^n - 1} \leq \frac{L}{n} D_{\phi}(\nu|\mu_0)$$

# Entropic optimal transport and Sinkhorn

Entropic optimal transport  $\min_{\pi \in \Pi(\bar{\mu}, \bar{\nu})} \mathsf{KL}(\pi | e^{-c/\epsilon} \bar{\mu} \otimes \bar{\nu})$ 

The Sinkhorn algorithm in its primal formulation does alternative (entropic) projections on  $\Pi(\bar{\mu}, *)$  and  $\Pi(*, \bar{\nu})$ , i.e. initializing with  $\pi_0 \in \Pi_c$ , iterate

$$\pi_{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \underset{\pi \in \Pi(\bar{\mu},*)}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{KL}(\pi | \pi_n),$$

$$\pi_{n+1} = \underset{\pi \in \Pi(*,\bar{\nu})}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{KL}(\pi | \pi_{n+\frac{1}{2}}).$$
(6)

For  $c \in L^{\infty}$ , define  $C = \Pi(*, \bar{\nu})$  and the objective function  $F_{S}(\pi) = KL(p_{\chi}\pi|\bar{\mu})$ .

The Sinkhorn iterations can be written as a mirror descent with objective  $F_S$  and Bregman divergence KL over the constraint  $C = \Pi(*, \bar{\nu})$ , with  $\nabla F_S(\pi_n) = \ln(d\mu_n/d\bar{\mu}) \in L^{\infty}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})$ ,  $\mu_n = p_{\mathcal{X}}\pi_n$ 

$$\pi_{n+1} = \underset{\pi \in \mathcal{C}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \langle \nabla F_{\mathsf{S}}(\pi_n), \pi - \pi_n \rangle + \mathsf{KL}(\pi | \pi_n)$$
(7)

## Entropic optimal transport and Sinkhorn (cont.)

The functional  $F_{S}(\pi) = KL(p_{\mathcal{X}}\pi|\bar{\mu})$  is convex and is 1-relatively smooth w.r.t. KL over  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})$ .

 $D_c := \frac{1}{2} \sup_{x,y,x',y'} [c(x,y) + c(x',y') - c(x,y') - c(x',y)]$ . For  $\tilde{\pi}, \pi \in \Pi_c \cap C$ , we have that

$$\mathsf{KL}(\tilde{\pi}|\pi) \leq (1 + 4e^{3D_c/\epsilon}) \,\mathsf{KL}(p_{\mathcal{X}}\tilde{\pi}|p_{\mathcal{X}}\pi),$$

i.e.  $F_S$  is  $(1 + 4e^{3D_c/\epsilon})^{-1}$ -relatively strongly convex w.r.t. KL over  $\Pi_c \cap C$  (cyclically invariant).

For all  $n \ge 0$ , the Sinkhorn algorithm is a mirror descent and verifies, for  $\pi_*$  the optimum of EOT and  $\mu_*$  its first marginal,

$$\mathsf{KL}(\mu_n|\mu_*) \leq \frac{\mathsf{KL}(\pi_*|\pi_0)}{(1+4e^{\frac{3Dc}{\epsilon}})\left(\left(1+4e^{-\frac{3Dc}{\epsilon}}\right)^n-1\right)} \leq \frac{\mathsf{KL}(\pi_*|\pi_0)}{n}.$$

8/10

# EM and latent EM

We posit a joint distribution  $p_q(dx, dy)$  parametrized by an element q of some given set Q. For  $p_{\mathcal{Y}}p_q(dy) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} p_q(dx, dy)$ , the goal is to infer q by solving

$$\min_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathsf{KL}(\bar{\nu}|\boldsymbol{p}_{\mathcal{Y}}\boldsymbol{p}_{q}), \tag{8}$$

EM then proceeds by alternate minimizations of  $KL(\pi, p_q)$ :

$$q_n = \underset{q \in \mathcal{Q}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{KL}(\pi_n | p_q), \tag{9}$$

$$\pi_{n+1} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\pi \in \Pi(*,\bar{\nu})} \mathsf{KL}(\pi|\boldsymbol{p}_{q_n}). \tag{10}$$

Define the constraint set  $C = \Pi(*, \bar{\nu})$  and  $F_{\mathsf{EM}}(\pi) = \inf_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathsf{KL}(\pi|p_q)$ .

EM is a mirror descent, with  $\nabla F_{\text{EM}}(\pi_n) = \ln(d\pi_n/dp_{q_n})$ ,

$$\pi_{n+1} = \underset{\pi \in \mathcal{C}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \langle \nabla F_{\mathsf{EM}}(\pi_n), \pi - \pi_n \rangle + \mathsf{KL}(\pi | \pi_n)$$
(11)

# EM and latent EM (cont.)

 $F_{\text{EM}} = \inf_{q \in Q} \text{KL}(\pi | p_q)$  is in general non-convex. However, writing  $p_q(dx, dy) = \mu(dx)K(x, dy)$  and optimizing only over its first marginal, i.e.  $q = \mu$ , makes  $F_{\text{EM}}$  convex.

Define  $F_{\mathsf{LEM}}(\pi) := \mathsf{KL}(\pi | p_{\mathcal{X}} \pi \otimes K) = \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} \mathsf{KL}(\pi | \mu \otimes K)$ 

Latent EM can be written as mirror descent with objective  $F_{\text{LEM}}$ , Bregman potential  $\phi_e$  and the constraints  $C = \Pi(*, \bar{\nu})$ ,

$$\pi_{n+1} = \underset{\pi \in \mathcal{C}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \langle \nabla \mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{LEM}}(\pi_n), \pi - \pi_n \rangle + \mathsf{KL}(\pi | \pi_n)$$
(12)

Set  $\mu_* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} \mathsf{KL}(\bar{\nu} | \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{K}}(\mu))$  where  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{K}} : \mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \mapsto \int_{\mathcal{X}} \mu(dx) \mathcal{K}(x, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{Y})$ . The functional  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{LEM}}$  is convex and 1-smooth relative to  $\phi_e$ . For  $\pi_0 \in \Pi(*, \bar{\nu})$ ,

$$\mathsf{KL}(\bar{\nu}|T_{K}\mu_{n}) \leq \mathsf{KL}(\bar{\nu}|T_{K}\mu_{*}) + \frac{\mathsf{KL}(\mu_{*}|\mu_{0}) + \mathsf{KL}(\bar{\nu}|T_{K}\mu_{*}) - \mathsf{KL}(\bar{\nu}|T_{K}\mu_{0})}{n}.$$
 (13)