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# Variational Wasserstein gradient flow

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# Optimization over distributional space

$$\min_P \mathcal{F}(P)$$

- Kullback-Leibler divergence w.r.t. target distribution  $Q$

$$\mathcal{D}(P||Q) := \int \log \left( \frac{dP}{dQ} \right) dP$$

- Generalized entropy

$$\mathcal{G}(P) := \frac{1}{m-1} \int P^m(x) dx, \quad m > 1$$

- Jensen-Shannon divergence

$$\text{JSD}(P||Q) := \mathcal{D} \left( P \left\| \frac{P+Q}{2} \right. \right) + \mathcal{D} \left( Q \left\| \frac{P+Q}{2} \right. \right)$$

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$$\Rightarrow \text{f-divergence} \quad D_f(P\|Q) = \mathbb{E}_Q \left[ f \left( \frac{dP}{dQ} \right) \right]$$

# Wasserstein Gradient Flow (WGF)

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \left( P \nabla \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta P} \right)$$

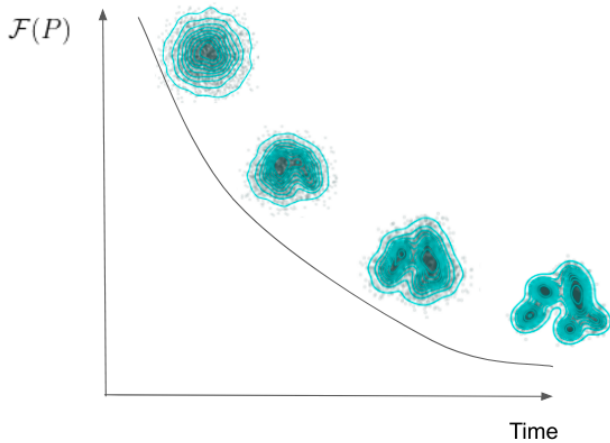
$\mathcal{F}(P)$	PDE $\partial P / \partial t =$	Class
$\int \log P dP + \int V dP$	$\nabla \cdot (P \nabla V) + \Delta P$	Fokker-Planck equation
$\frac{1}{m-1} \int P^m(x) dx \ (m > 1)$	$\Delta P^m$	Porous media equation
$\int f \left( \frac{dP}{dQ} \right) dQ$	$\nabla \cdot \left( P \nabla f' \left( \frac{P}{Q} \right) \right)$	WGF of $f$ -divergence

## Proposition

If  $\mathcal{F}(P)$  can be written as  $D_f(P \| Q)$ , then

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{F}(P_t) = -\mathbb{E}_{P_t}(\|\nabla f'(P_t/Q)\|^2)$$

# Time discretization



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JKO scheme (1998)

$$P_{k+1} = \arg \min_P \frac{1}{2a} W_2^2(P, P_k) + D_f(P \| Q)$$

(Step1) Brenier's Theorem:

if  $\nu$  admits density,  $\exists \nabla \varphi$  s.t.

$$W_2^2(\nu, \mu) = \int \|x - \nabla \varphi(x)\|^2 d\nu(x)$$

(Step2) Variational formula of  $D_f(P \| Q)$ :

if  $P \ll Q$  and  $f$  is differentiable

$$D_f(P \| Q) = \sup_h \mathbb{E}_P[h(X)] - \mathbb{E}_Q[f^*(h(Y))]$$

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$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} [xy - f(x)]$  is convex conjugate of  $f$

# Specialization of $f$ -divergence

$$P_{k+1} = \nabla \varphi_k \# P_k$$

$$\nabla \varphi_k = \arg \min_{\varphi} \frac{1}{2a} \int \|x - \nabla \varphi(x)\|_2^2 dP_k(x) + \max_h \mathbb{E}_P[h(X)] - \mathbb{E}_Q[f^*(h(Y))]$$

$$X \sim P_k \Rightarrow \nabla \varphi_k(X) \sim P_{k+1}$$

$\mathcal{F}(P)$	$f(x)$	$f^*(y)$
KL divergence	$x \log x$	$\exp(y - 1)$
Generalized entropy	$\frac{1}{m-1}(x^m - x)$	$\left(\frac{(m-1)y+1}{m}\right)^{\frac{m}{m-1}}$
JSD	$-(x+1) \log((1+x)/2) + x \log x$	$-\log(2 - \exp(y))$

# Specialization of $f$ -divergence

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$$P_{k+1} = T_k \# P_k$$
$$T_k = \arg \min_T \frac{1}{2a} \int \|x - T(x)\|_2^2 dP_k(x) + \max_h \mathbb{E}_P[h(X)] - \mathbb{E}_Q[f^*(h(Y))]$$



# Computational complexity

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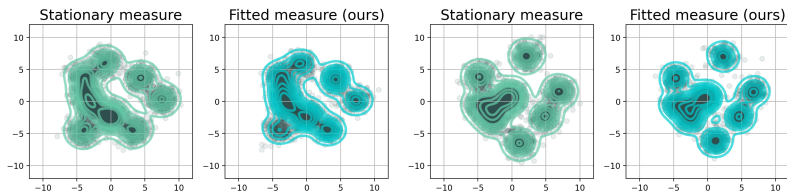
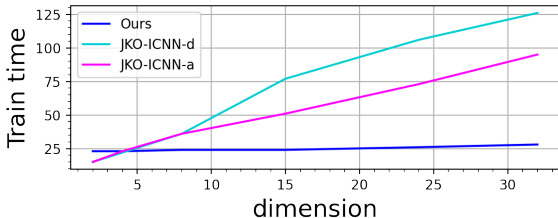
$n$  = dimension,  $m$  = # conjugate gradient steps,  
 $M$  = batch size,  $H$  = neural network size

- Mokov et al. 2021, Alvarez-Melis et al. 2021
  - $O(n^3 + (k + n)MH)$  if exactly compute  $\log |\nabla^2 \varphi|$
  - $O(mn^2 + (k + n)MH)$  if approximate  $\log |\nabla^2 \varphi|$
- Ours:  $O(kMH)$

[Mokov et al.] "Large-Scale Wasserstein Gradient Flows" Neurips 2021

[Alvarez-Melis et al.] "Optimizing Functionals on the Space of Probabilities with Input Convex Neural Networks." Neurips OTML Workshop 2021

# KL divergence: Sampling from target distribution $Q$

Dimension  $n = 64$ Dimension  $n = 128$ 

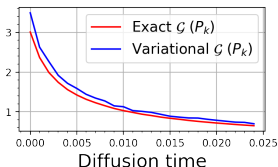
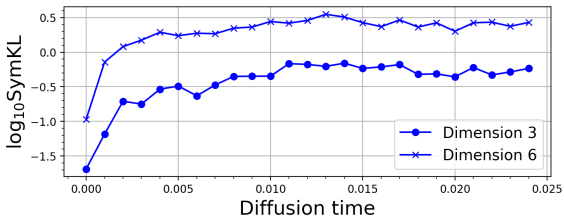
[JKO-ICNN-d] "Large-Scale Wasserstein Gradient Flows" Neurips 2021

[JKO-ICNN-a] "Optimizing Functionals on the Space of Probabilities with Input Convex Neural Networks." Neurips OTML Workshop 2021

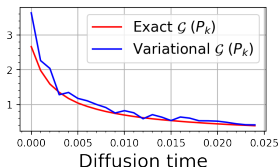
# Generalized entropy: Porous media equation

Barenblatt profile

$$P(t, x) = (t + t_0)^{-\alpha} \left( C - \beta \|x - x_0\|^2 (t + t_0)^{\frac{-2\alpha}{n}} \right)_+^{\frac{1}{m-1}}$$

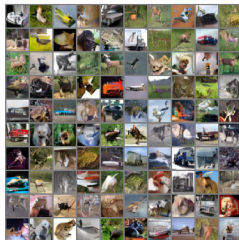
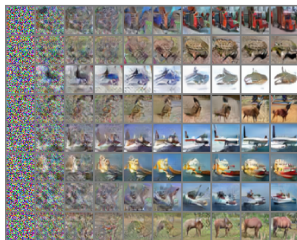
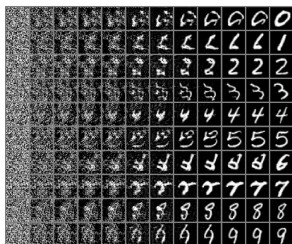


Dimension  $n = 3$



Dimension  $n = 6$

# JSD: Gradient flow in pixel space



Trajectory

Uncurated samples



# Thank you!

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Contact:

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arXiv:

`https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.02424`

code:

`https://github.com/sbyebs/variational\_wgf`