

# Mirror and Preconditioned Gradient Descent in Wasserstein Space

Clément Bonet<sup>1</sup>, Théo Uscidda<sup>1</sup>, Adam David<sup>2</sup>,  
Pierre-Cyril Aubin-Frankowski<sup>3</sup>, Anna Korba<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>ENSAE, CREST, Institut Polytechnique de Paris

<sup>2</sup>TU Berlin

<sup>3</sup>TU Wien

NeurIPS 2024



# Goal

Let  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{\mu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d), \int \|x\|_2^2 d\mu(x) < \infty\}$ ,  $\mathcal{F} : \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

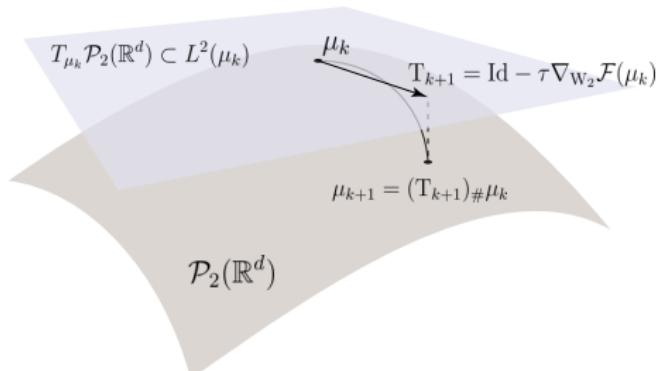
## Goal:

$$\min_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \mathcal{F}(\mu)$$

## Applications:

- $\mathcal{F}(\mu) = \text{KL}(\mu || \mu^*)$  for sampling from  $\mu^* \propto e^{-V}$
- $\mathcal{F}(\mu) = D(\mu, \nu)$  for modeling the dynamic of population of cells

## Setting: Wasserstein Gradient Descent



# Contributions

Study schemes of the form

$$\begin{cases} T_{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{T \in L^2(\mu_k)} d(T, \text{Id}) + \tau \langle \nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_k), T - \text{Id} \rangle_{L^2(\mu_k)} \\ \mu_{k+1} = (T_{k+1})_\# \mu_k, \end{cases}$$

and provide **convergence conditions**.

Considered divergences:

- For  $d(T, \text{Id}) = \frac{1}{2} \|T - \text{Id}\|_{L^2(\mu)}^2$ : **Wasserstein gradient descent**
- For  $d_{\phi_\mu}(T, \text{Id}) = \phi_\mu(T) - \phi_\mu(\text{Id}) - \langle \nabla \phi_\mu(\text{Id}), T - \text{Id} \rangle_{L^2(\mu)}$  (**Bregman divergence** on  $L^2(\mu)$ ): extends **Mirror Descent** (Beck and Teboulle, 2003) to  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .
- For  $d(T, \text{Id}) = \int h(T(x) - x) d\mu(x)$ : extends **Preconditioned Gradient Descent** (Maddison et al., 2021) to  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

# Theoretical Results

**Results:** descent and convergence under relative smoothness and convexity

**Mirror Descent:** For any  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , let  $\phi_\mu \in L^2(\mu)$  be a Bregman potential. Then, under assumptions of smoothness and convexity of  $\mathcal{F}$  relative to  $\phi_\mu$ , and some technical assumptions,

$$\mathcal{F}(\mu_{k+1}) \leq \mathcal{F}(\mu_k) - \beta d_{\phi_{\mu_k}}(\text{Id}, T_{k+1}),$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\mu_k) - \mathcal{F}(\mu^*) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right).$$

**Preconditioned Gradient Descent:** Let  $\phi_\mu^h(T) = \int h \circ T \, d\mu$ . Under relative smoothness and convexity of  $\phi_\mu^{h^*}$  relative to  $\mathcal{F}^*$ ,

$$\phi_{\mu_{k+1}}^{h^*}(\nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_{k+1})) \leq \phi_{\mu_k}^{h^*}(\nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_k)) - \beta d_{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{\mu_k}}(T_{k+1}, \text{Id}),$$

$$\phi_{\mu_k}^{h^*}(\nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_k)) - h^*(0) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right).$$

# Implementation of the scheme

## Mirror Descent:

- For  $\phi_\mu(T) = \int V \circ T \, d\mu$  (Potential energy),

$$\forall k \geq 0, \quad T_{k+1} = \nabla V^* \circ (\nabla V - \tau \nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_k))$$

→ Wasserstein Mirror Descent ([Sharrock et al., 2023](#))

- For  $\phi_\mu$  pushforward compatible (i.e.  $\phi_\mu(T) = \phi(T \# \mu)$  with  $\phi : \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ):

$$\forall k \geq 0, \quad \nabla_{W_2} \phi(\mu_{k+1}) \circ T_{k+1} = \nabla_{W_2} \phi(\mu_k) - \tau \nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_k)$$

Implicit in  $T_{k+1} \rightarrow$  Newton method

*Example:*  $\phi_\mu(T) = \iint W(T(x) - T(y)) \, d\mu(x)d\mu(y)$  (Interaction energy)

## Preconditioned Gradient Descent:

$$\forall k \geq 0, \quad T_{k+1} = \text{Id} - \tau \nabla h^* \circ \nabla_{W_2} \mathcal{F}(\mu_k)$$

**In practice:** for  $\mu_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i^k}$  and for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $x_i^{k+1} = T_{k+1}(x_i^k)$ .

# Mirror Descent on Interaction Energy

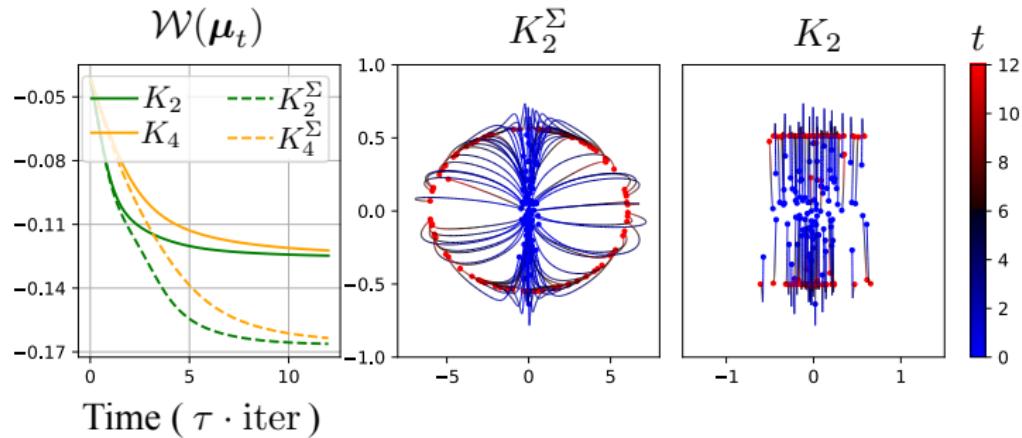
**Goal:** Let  $\Sigma \in S_d^{++}(\mathbb{R})$  possibly ill-conditioned,

$$\min_{\mu} \mathcal{W}(\mu) = \iint W(x - y) d\mu(x)d\mu(y) \quad \text{with} \quad W(z) = \frac{1}{4}\|z\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^4 - \frac{1}{2}\|z\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^2$$

Bregman potential:  $\phi_{\mu}(T) = \iint K(T(x) - T(y)) d\mu(x)d\mu(y)$  with

$$K_2(z) = \frac{1}{2}\|z\|_2^2, \quad K_2^{\Sigma}(z) = \frac{1}{2}\|z\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^2,$$

$$K_4(z) = \frac{1}{4}\|z\|_2^4 + \frac{1}{2}\|z\|_2^2, \quad K_4^{\Sigma}(z) = \frac{1}{4}\|z\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^4 + \frac{1}{2}\|z\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^2.$$



# Mirror Descent on Gaussian

Goal:

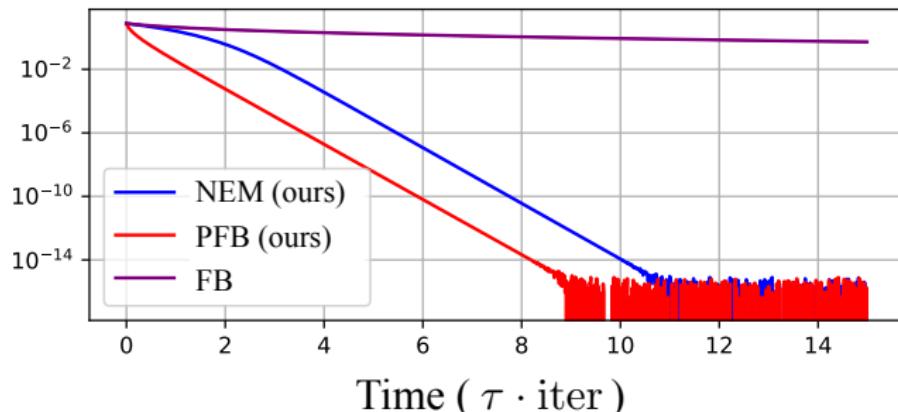
$$\min_{\mu} \mathcal{F}(\mu) = \text{KL}(\mu, \mu^*) = \int V d\mu + \mathcal{H}(\mu) + \text{cst} \quad \text{with} \quad V(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T \Sigma^{-1} x$$

→ minimum  $\mu^* = \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$ .

Comparison between:

- Forward-Backward (FB) on the Bures-Wasserstein space ([Diao et al., 2023](#))
- Preconditioned Forward-Backward (PFB) scheme with  $\phi(\mu) = \int V d\mu$
- NEM: MD with  $\phi(\mu) = \mathcal{H}(\mu) = \int \log(\mu(x)) d\mu(x)$  and restriction to Gaussian

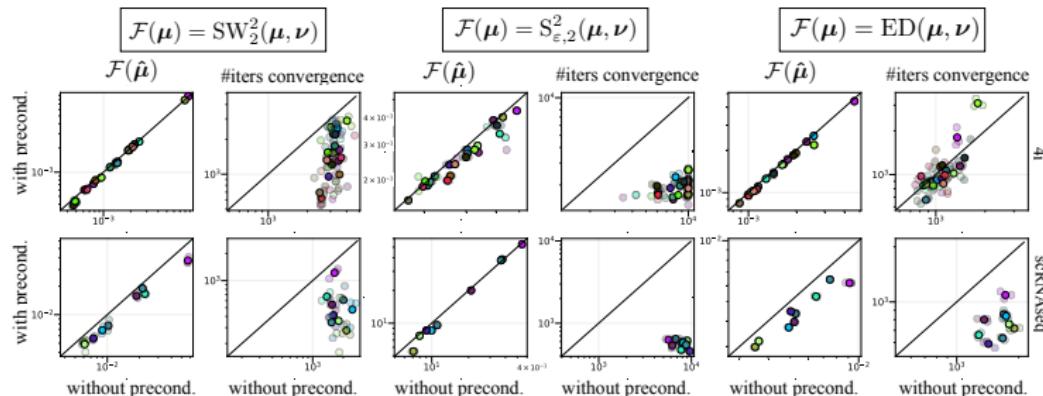
$$\text{KL}(\mu_t || \mu^*)$$



# Preconditioned GD on Single-Cells

**Goal:**  $\min_{\mu} \mathcal{F}(\mu) = D(\mu, \nu)$  with  $\mu_0$  untreated cell and  $\nu$  perturbed cell

Use PGD with  $h^*(x) = (\|x\|_2^a + 1)^{1/a} - 1$  with  $a \in \{1.25, 1.5, 1.75\}$ , which is well suited to minimize functions growing in  $\|x - x^*\|^{a/(a-1)}$  near  $x^*$ .

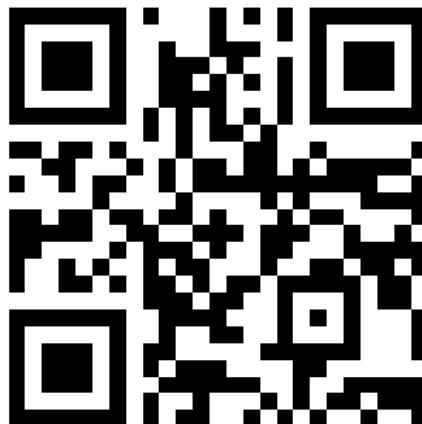


- Rows: 2 profiling technologies
  - Columns/subcolumns: Different objectives  $\mathcal{F}$ /measure of convergence and number of iterations to converge
  - Points: For treatment  $i$ ,  $z_i = (x_i, y_i)$  with  $x_i$  value of  $\mathcal{F}(\hat{\mu}) = D(\hat{\mu}, \nu)$  (1st subcolumn) or number of iterations (2nd subcolumn) without preconditioning and  $y_i$  with preconditioning
  - Colors: treatments
- Points below the diagonal: PGD provides a better minimum or converges faster

## Conclusion

Thank you!

Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.08938>



## References |

- Amir Beck and Marc Teboulle. Mirror Descent and Nonlinear Projected Subgradient Methods for Convex Optimization. *Operations Research Letters*, 31(3):167–175, 2003.
- Michael Ziyang Diao, Krishna Balasubramanian, Sinho Chewi, and Adil Salim. Forward-backward Gaussian variational inference via JKO in the Bures-Wasserstein Space. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 7960–7991. PMLR, 2023.
- Chris J Maddison, Daniel Paulin, Yee Whye Teh, and Arnaud Doucet. Dual Space Preconditioning for Gradient Descent. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*, 31(1):991–1016, 2021.
- Louis Sharrock, Lester Mackey, and Christopher Nemeth. Learning rate free bayesian inference in constrained domains. In *NeurIPS*, 2023.