

# Adapted Wasserstein distance between the laws of SDEs

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Benjamin A. Robinson

University of Vienna

March 9, 2023 — GPSD23, Essen

*Joint work with*

**Julio Backhoff-Veraguas (University of Vienna) and Sigrid Källblad (KTH Stockholm)**

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<http://arxiv.org/abs/2209.03243>

# Distances between stochastic processes

$(X_t)_{t \in [0,1]}$ ,  $(Y_t)_{t \in [0,1]}$  continuous-time real-valued processes

$\rightsquigarrow \mu, \nu$  probability measures on  $\Omega := C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$

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E.g. **Wasserstein distance**  $\mathcal{W}_p$  — from **optimal transport**

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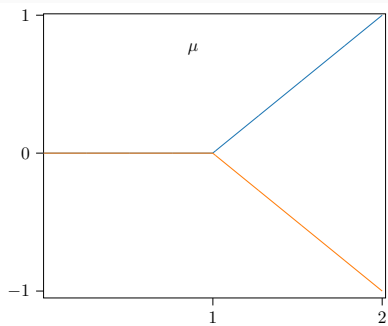
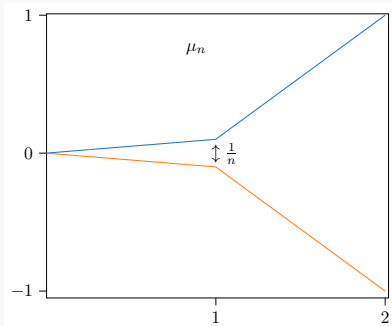
How to choose a “good” distance  $d(\mu, \nu)$ ?

E.g. Wasserstein distance  $\mathcal{W}_p$ :

$$\mathcal{W}_p^p(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\pi \in \text{Cpl}(\mu, \nu)} \mathbb{E}^\pi \left[ \int_0^1 |\omega_t - \bar{\omega}_t|^p dt \right]$$

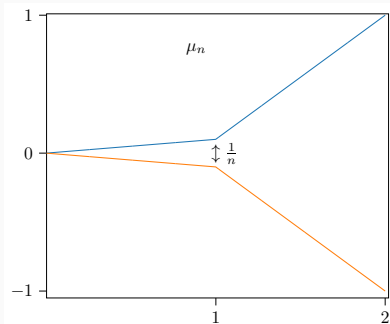
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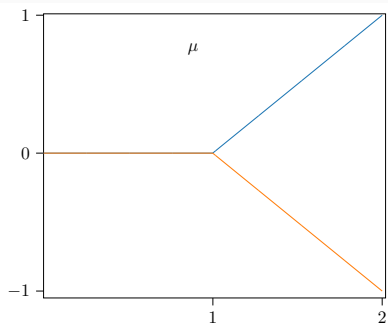




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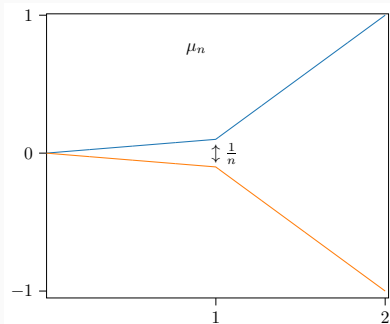


$$V_n := \sup_{\tau} \mathbb{E}^{\mu_n}[X_{\tau}]$$

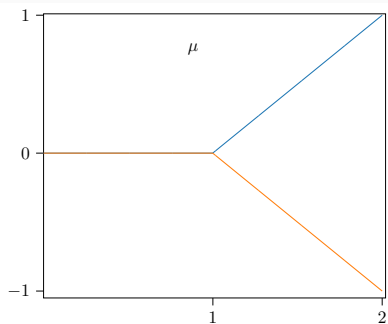


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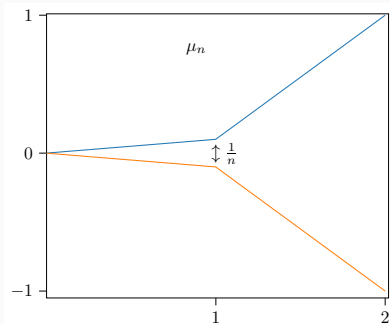


$$V_n := \sup_{\tau} \mathbb{E}^{\mu_n}[X_{\tau}] \approx \frac{1}{2}$$

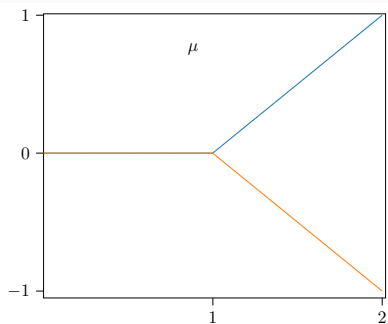


$$V := \sup_{\tau} \mathbb{E}^{\mu}[X_{\tau}] = 0$$

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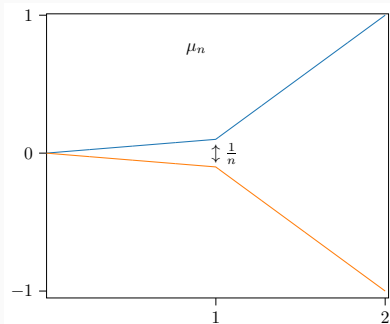
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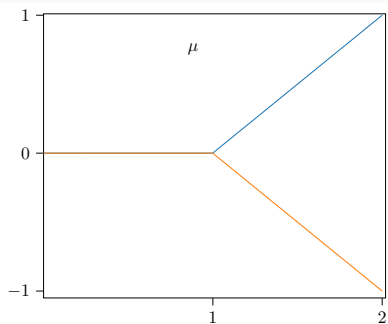
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$$V_n \not\rightarrow V$$

# Distances between stochastic processes



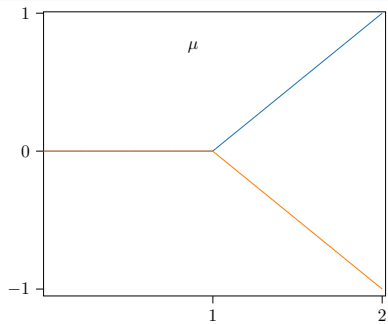
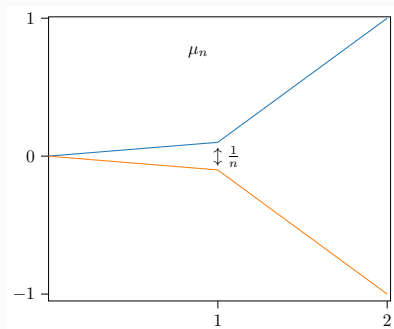
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$$V := \sup_{\tau} \mathbb{E}^{\mu}[X_{\tau}] = 0$$

$$V_n \not\rightarrow V \quad \text{but} \quad \mathcal{W}_p(\mu_n, \mu) \rightarrow 0$$

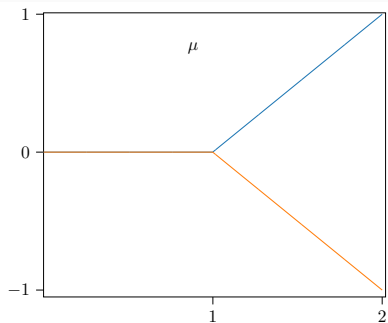
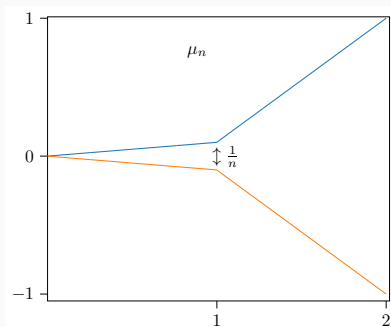
# Distances between stochastic processes



Want

$$d(\mu_n, \mu) \not\rightarrow 0$$

# Distances between stochastic processes



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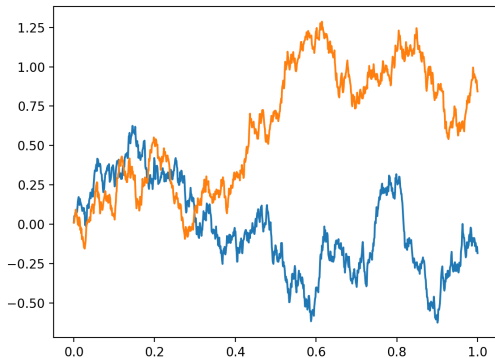
$$d(\mu_n, \mu) \not\rightarrow 0$$

E.g. Acciaio, Aldous, Backhoff-Veraguas, Bartl, Beiglböck, Bion-Nadal, Eder, Hellwig, Lassalle, Pammer, Pflug, Pichler, Talay, among others ...

# Coupling SDEs

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \mu$$

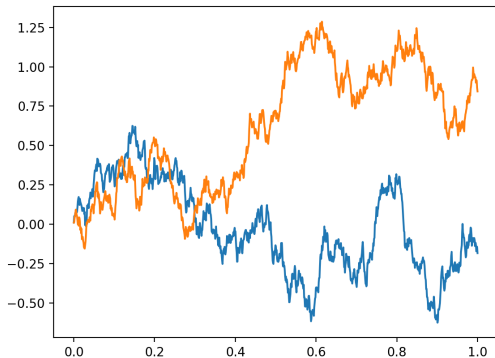
$$d\bar{X}_t = \bar{b}(\bar{X}_t)dt + \bar{\sigma}(\bar{X}_t)d\bar{W}_t \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \nu.$$



# Coupling SDEs

Usual couplings

$$\text{Cpl}(\mu, \nu) := \{\pi \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega \times \Omega) : \pi \text{ has marginals } \mu, \nu\}.$$

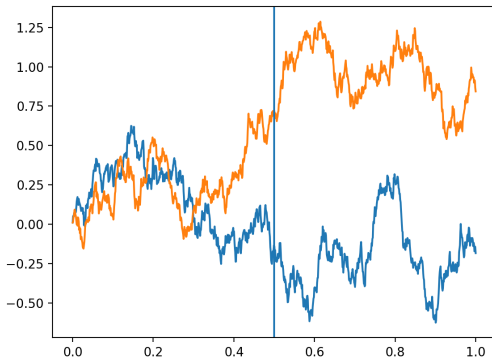




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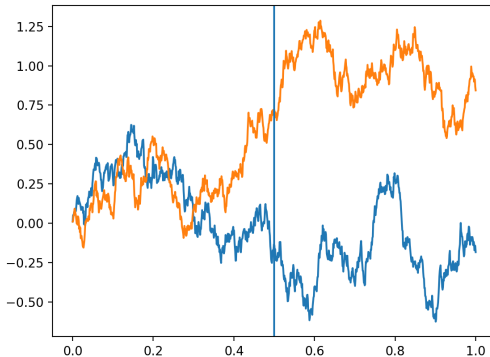
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# Coupling SDEs

Introduce

$$\text{Cpl}_{\text{bc}}(\mu, \nu) := \{\pi \in \text{Cpl}(\mu, \nu) : \pi \text{ is bi-causal}\}$$



# Adapted Wasserstein distance

Introduce

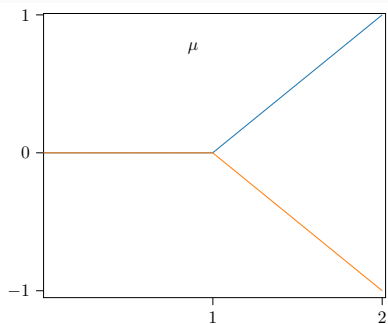
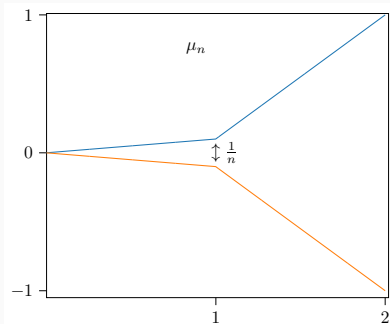
$$\text{Cpl}_{\text{bc}}(\mu, \nu) := \{\pi \in \text{Cpl}(\mu, \nu) : \pi \text{ is bi-causal}\}$$

**The problem:**

Find adapted Wasserstein distance:

$$\mathcal{AW}_p^p(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\pi \in \text{Cpl}_{\text{bc}}(\mu, \nu)} \mathbb{E}^\pi \left[ \int_0^1 |\omega_t - \bar{\omega}_t|^p dt \right].$$

# Adapted Wasserstein distance



$$\mathcal{AW}_p(\mu_n, \mu) \not\rightarrow 0$$

## Adapted Wasserstein distance

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \mu$$

$$d\bar{X}_t = \bar{b}(\bar{X}_t)dt + \bar{\sigma}(\bar{X}_t)d\bar{W}_t \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \nu.$$

**The problem:**

Find

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**Theorem 1 [Backhoff-Veraguas, Källblad, R. '22]**

Optimising over **bi-causal couplings**

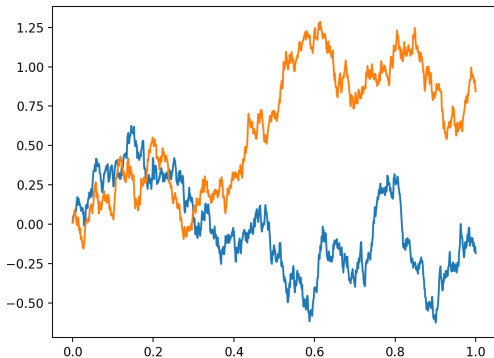
$\Leftrightarrow$

Optimising over **correlations** between  $W, \bar{W}$ .

# Adapted Wasserstein distance

## Example

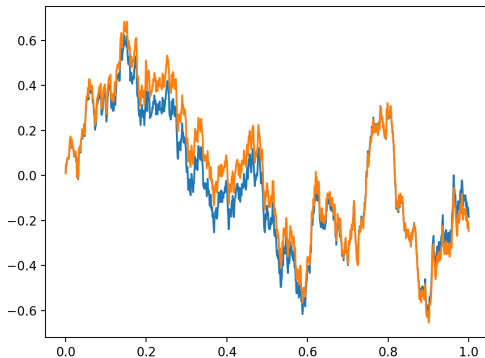
Product coupling —  $W, \bar{W}$  independent



# Adapted Wasserstein distance

## Synchronous coupling

Choose the **same driving Brownian motion**  $W = \bar{W}$ .





## Adapted Wasserstein distance

$$\begin{aligned}dX_t &= b(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t && \rightsquigarrow & \mu \\d\bar{X}_t &= \bar{b}(\bar{X}_t)dt + \bar{\sigma}(\bar{X}_t)d\bar{W}_t && \rightsquigarrow & \nu.\end{aligned}$$

### **Theorem 2** [Backhoff-Veraguas, Källblad, R. '22]

Suppose that the coefficients are **continuous** with **linear growth** and that **pathwise uniqueness** holds.

Then the **synchronous coupling** is optimal for  $\mathcal{AW}_p(\mu, \nu)$ .

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Suppose that the coefficients are continuous with linear growth and that pathwise uniqueness holds.

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### [Bion-Nadal, Talay '19]

For **smooth** coefficients using PDE methods

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### Example

If all coefficients are **Lipschitz**, the synchronous coupling is optimal.

# Discretisation

$$\mu_n, \nu_n \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightsquigarrow \inf_{\pi \in \text{Cpl}_{\text{bc}}(\mu_n, \nu_n)} \mathbb{E}^\pi \left[ \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k - y_k|^p \right].$$

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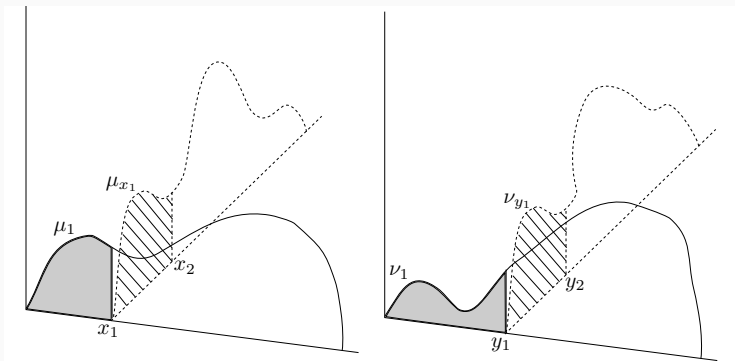
**Knothe–Rosenblatt rearrangement**

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## Knothe–Rosenblatt rearrangement

— generalisation of **monotone rearrangement**



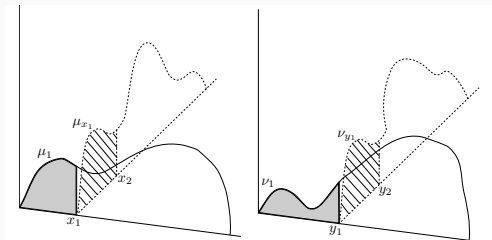
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## Knothe–Rosenblatt rearrangement

$$U_k \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Unif}(0, 1), \quad X_k = F_{\mu_{X_1, \dots, X_{k-1}}}^{-1}(U_k), \quad Y_k = F_{\nu_{Y_1, \dots, Y_{k-1}}}^{-1}(U_k),$$

$$\pi^{\text{KR}}(\mu_n, \nu_n) := \text{Law}(X, Y).$$



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## Theorem [Rüschendorf '85]

If  $\mu_n$  and  $\nu_n$  are both **stochastically increasing**, then the unique optimiser is the **Knothe–Rosenblatt** coupling  $\pi^{\text{KR}}(\mu_n, \nu_n)$ .



## Adapted Wasserstein distance

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### Theorem 2 [Backhoff-Veraguas, Källblad, R. '22]

Suppose that the coefficients are continuous with linear growth and that pathwise uniqueness holds. Then the synchronous coupling is optimal for  $\mathcal{AW}_p(\mu, \nu)$ .

Under additional conditions,  $\mathcal{AW}_p(\mu_n, \nu_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{AW}_p(\mu, \nu)$ .

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“Synchronous is **continuous-time limit** of Knothe–Rosenblatt”

## A monotone numerical scheme

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt$$

### Euler scheme

$$X_0^h = X_0,$$

$$X_t^h = X_{kh}^h + b(X_{kh})(t - kh), \quad t \in (kh, (k+1)h].$$

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## Corollary

The unique **discrete-time** bi-causal optimal coupling between  $\mu^h, \nu^h$  is the **Knothe–Rosenblatt** coupling.

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Suppose that  $(W, \bar{W})$   $\rho$ -correlated induces an optimal coupling for  $\mathcal{AW}_p(\mu^h, \nu^h)$ , for all  $h > 0$ .

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## Additional results

- **Stability** of (degenerate) correlated SDEs;
- **Equivalence of topologies** on a compact set;
- Extension to **SDEs with irregular drifts** — *work in progress with Michaela Szölgyenyi*
- Convergence of **optimisers** — *work in progress with Julio Backhoff and Sigrid Källblad*



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- Stability of (degenerate) correlated SDEs;
- Equivalence of topologies on a compact set;
- Extension to SDEs with irregular drifts — *work in progress with Michaela Szölgyenyi*
- Convergence of optimisers — *work in progress with Julio Backhoff and Sigrid Källblad*

Open questions in **discrete** and **continuous** time:

- Non-Markovianity
- Higher dimensions
- ...

# Summary

- We **prove optimality** of the synchronous coupling;
- We introduce a *monotone numerical scheme*;
- We show a **stability result** for bi-causal transport.



Julio Backhoff-Veraguas, Sigrid Källblad, and Benjamin A Robinson, *Adapted Wasserstein distance between the laws of SDEs*, arXiv:2209.03243 [math] (2022).