

Numerical algorithm for large-scale matching for teams and Wasserstein barycenter

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Joint work with:

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 - each population contains an **infinite continuum of agents**.
- Our goal is to develop a numerical algorithm for **computing a matching equilibrium**.

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- The matching between the i -th population of agents and the good is described by a joint probability measure $\gamma_i \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z})$.

Matching for teams

Definition (Matching equilibrium [Carlier and Ekeland 2010])

A **matching equilibrium** $(\varphi_i)_{i=1:N}, \nu, (\gamma_i)_{i=1:N}$ satisfies:

- **(conservation)** for $i = 1, \dots, N$, $\gamma_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \nu) := \{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}) : \text{the marginals of } \gamma \text{ on } \mathcal{X}_i \text{ and } \mathcal{Z} \text{ are } \mu_i \text{ and } \nu\}$;
- **(balance)** $\sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i(z) = 0$ for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$;
- **(rationality)** for $i = 1, \dots, N$, $\varphi_i^{c_i}(x_i) + \varphi_i(z) = c_i(x_i, z)$ for γ_i -almost all $(x_i, z) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}$, where

$$\varphi_i^{c_i}(x_i) := \inf_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} \{c_i(x_i, z) - \varphi_i(z)\} \quad \forall x_i \in \mathcal{X}_i. \quad (c_i\text{-transform of } \varphi_i)$$

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- In particular, due to the **Kantorovich duality**:

$$\inf_{\gamma_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \nu)} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i d\gamma_i \right\} = \sup_{\varphi_i \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z})} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} \varphi_i^{c_i} d\mu_i + \int_{\mathcal{Z}} \varphi_i d\nu \right\},$$

conservation and rationality conditions $\Rightarrow \gamma_i$ solves the **optimal transport** problem:

$$W_{c_i}(\mu_i, \nu) := \inf_{\gamma_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \nu)} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i d\gamma_i \right\}.$$

Primal and dual characterizations of matching equilibrium

Theorem (Primal and dual characterizations of matching equilibrium [Carlier and Ekeland 2010])

- 1 *There exists a matching equilibrium.*
- 2 $(\varphi_i)_{i=1:N}, \nu, (\gamma_i)_{i=1:N}$ *form a matching equilibrium if and only if:*
 - $(\varphi_i)_{i=1:N}$ *is an **optimizer** of:*

$$\sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} \tilde{\varphi}_i^{c_i} d\mu_i : (\tilde{\varphi}_i : \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R})_{i=1:N} \text{ are continuous, } \sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{\varphi}_i = 0 \right\}; \quad (\text{MT}^*)$$

- ν *is an **optimizer** of:*

$$\inf_{\tilde{\nu} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Z})} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N W_{c_i}(\mu_i, \tilde{\nu}) \right\}; \quad (\text{MT})$$

- *for $i = 1, \dots, N$, γ_i is an **optimizer** of $\inf_{\tilde{\gamma}_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \nu)} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i d\tilde{\gamma}_i \right\}$, i.e., $\int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i d\gamma_i = W_{c_i}(\mu_i, \nu)$.*

- 3 (MT) and (MT*) *have **identical optimal values**.*

Application 1: business locations

- Consider a business in a city.
- The first $N - 1$ populations of agents represent $N - 1$ **categories of employees**:
 - $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_{N-1}$: geographical distributions of **home addresses**;
 - $c_1, \dots, c_{N-1}$: **commuting costs**;
 - $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{N-1}$: **salaries**;
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- The N -th population of agents represents the **business owners**:
 - μ_N : geographical distribution of **suppliers**;
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- At **matching equilibrium**: employees choose workplace **rationally**, business owners choose business locations **rationally**, ν reflects the **optimal spatial distribution** of businesses.

Application 2: Wasserstein barycenter

- For $p \in [1, \infty)$, the optimal transport problem with cost $\|\cdot - \cdot\|^p$ induces a metric $W_p(\cdot, \cdot)$ called the **Wasserstein distance** of order p on $\mathcal{P}_p(\mathbb{R}^d)$, i.e.,

$$W_p(\mu, \nu) := \left(\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma(\mu, \nu)} \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^p \gamma(\mathrm{d}\mathbf{x}, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{x}') \right\} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

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- When $\mathcal{X}_1 = \dots = \mathcal{X}_N = \mathcal{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $c_i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) := \lambda_i \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|^p$ for $i = 1, \dots, N$ where $\lambda_1 > 0, \dots, \lambda_N > 0$, $\sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i = 1$, (MT) corresponds to:

$$\inf_{\tilde{\nu} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Z})} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i W_p(\mu_i, \tilde{\nu})^p \right\},$$

and ν that minimizes (MT) is called a **p -Wasserstein barycenter** of $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N$ with weights $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N$ [Agueh and Carlier 2011].

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- Wasserstein barycenter has widespread applications in:
 - large-scale Bayesian inference (e.g., Srivastava, Li, Dunson [2018]),
 - unsupervised clustering (e.g., Ye et al. [2017]),
 - generative modeling (e.g., Fan, Taghvaei, Chen [2020], Korotin et al. [2022]),
 - personalized federated learning (e.g., Farnia et al. [2022]), etc.

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 - admits **polynomial computational complexity**;
 - computes **feasible and approximately optimal solutions** of (MT) and (MT*);
 - computes a **sub-optimality bound** that is typically **less conservative than theoretical bounds**.

Parametric approximation

- Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} \varphi_i^{c_i} d\mu_i : (\varphi_i)_{i=1:N} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z}), \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i = 0 \right\} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} \psi_i d\mu_i : \begin{array}{l} (\varphi_i)_{i=1:N} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z}), \psi_i \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{X}_i) \forall 1 \leq i \leq N, \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i = 0 \\ \psi_i(x) + \varphi_i(z) \leq c_i(x, z) \forall (x, z) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}, \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \end{array} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

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- parametrizing φ_i with basis functions $\mathcal{H} = \{h_1, \dots, h_k\} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z})$: $\varphi_i = \sum_{l=1}^k w_{i,l} h_l$,

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$$\begin{aligned} & \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} \varphi_i^{c_i} d\mu_i : (\varphi_i)_{i=1:N} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z}), \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i = 0 \right\} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} \psi_i d\mu_i : \begin{array}{l} (\varphi_i)_{i=1:N} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z}), \psi_i \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{X}_i) \forall 1 \leq i \leq N, \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i = 0 \\ \psi_i(x) + \varphi_i(z) \leq c_i(x, z) \forall (x, z) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}, \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \end{array} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

- We obtain a **parametric approximation** of (MT*) by:

- parametrizing φ_i with basis functions $\mathcal{H} = \{h_1, \dots, h_k\} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z})$: $\varphi_i = \sum_{l=1}^k w_{i,l} h_l$,
- parametrizing ψ_i with basis functions $\mathcal{G}_i = \{g_{i,1}, \dots, g_{i,m_i}\} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{X}_i)$: $\psi_i = y_{i,0} + \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} y_{i,j} g_{i,j}$.

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$$\text{subject to} \quad \left(y_{i,0} + \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} y_{i,j} g_{i,j}(x) \right) + \left(\sum_{l=1}^k w_{i,l} h_l(z) \right) \leq c_i(x, z) \quad \forall (x, z) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}, \forall 1 \leq i \leq N, \quad (\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$$

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Duality results

- $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ is a **linear semi-infinite programming (LSIP) problem** and admits the following **dual optimization problem**:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underset{(\theta_i)}{\text{minimize}} && \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i \, d\theta_i \\
 & \text{subject to} && \theta_i \in \Gamma(\bar{\mu}_i, \bar{\nu}_i) && \forall 1 \leq i \leq N, \\
 & && \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} g \, d\bar{\mu}_i = \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} g \, d\mu_i && \forall g \in \mathcal{G}_i, \forall 1 \leq i \leq N, \\
 & && \int_{\mathcal{Z}} h \, d\bar{\nu}_i = \int_{\mathcal{Z}} h \, d\nu_1 && \forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \forall 1 \leq i \leq N.
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- We call $(\theta_i)_{i=1:N}$ a ς -feasible ϵ -optimizer of (MT_{par}) if:
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- $\sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i \, d\theta_i \leq (\text{MT}_{\text{par}}) + \epsilon.$

Duality results

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underset{(y_{i,0}, y_i, w_i)}{\text{maximize}} && \sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0} + \langle \bar{g}_i, y_i \rangle \\
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 & && \sum_{i=1}^N w_i = \mathbf{0}, \\
 & \underset{(\theta_i)}{\text{minimize}} && \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i \, d\theta_i && && (\text{MT}_{\text{par}}) \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

- **Strong duality** can be established via classical LSIP theory [Goberna and López 1998].

Theorem (Strong duality)

The strong duality between $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^)$ and (MT_{par}) holds, i.e., the optimal values of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and (MT_{par}) are identical.*

Computational complexity

- The computational complexity of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and (MT_{par}) can be analyzed using the **global minimization oracle** defined as follows.

Definition (Global minimization oracle)

$\text{Oracle}(i, \mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{w}_i, \tau)$ approximately solves the global minimization problem (intuition: approximately determining the “most violated” constraint in $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$):

$$\min_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} \{c_i(x, z) - \langle \mathbf{g}_i(x), \mathbf{y}_i \rangle - \langle \mathbf{h}(z), \mathbf{w}_i \rangle\}$$

and returns:

- a τ -optimizer $(\tilde{x}_i, \tilde{z}_i) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}$,
- its objective $\tilde{\beta}_i := c_i(\tilde{x}_i, \tilde{z}_i) - \langle \mathbf{g}_i(\tilde{x}_i), \mathbf{y}_i \rangle - \langle \mathbf{h}(\tilde{z}_i), \mathbf{w}_i \rangle$,
- a lower bound $\underline{\beta}_i$ satisfying

$$\underline{\beta}_i \leq \min_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} \{c_i(x, z) - \langle \mathbf{g}_i(x), \mathbf{y}_i \rangle - \langle \mathbf{h}(z), \mathbf{w}_i \rangle\} \leq \tilde{\beta}_i \leq \underline{\beta}_i + \tau.$$

(Note that the computational cost of $\text{Oracle}(i, \mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{w}_i, \tau)$ does not depend on N .)

Computational complexity

Theorem (Computational complexity)

Let $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_N, \mathcal{Z}$ be Euclidean and let $\mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{G}_N, \mathcal{H}$ be explicitly constructed continuous piece-wise affine functions (see the next slide). Let $m_i := |\mathcal{G}_i| \ \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$, $k := |\mathcal{H}|$, and let $n := N(k+1) + \sum_{i=1}^N m_i$ denote the total number of decision variables in $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$. Then, an **ϵ -optimizer** of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and a **ς -feasible ϵ -optimizer** of (MT_{par}) can be jointly computed with $O(n \log(\frac{n}{\rho\epsilon})N)$ calls to $\text{Oracle}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \frac{\epsilon}{2N})$ and $O(n^{\omega+1} \log(\frac{n}{\rho\epsilon}) + n^{\omega} k^{\omega} \log(n)^2 \log(\frac{n}{\varsigma}))$ additional arithmetic operations, where $\rho := \min_{1 \leq i \leq N} \{ \min_{g \in \mathcal{G}_i} \{ \int_{\mathcal{X}_i} g \, d\mu_i \} \}$.

$O(n^{\omega})$ denotes the computational complexity of the multiplication of two $n \times n$ matrices.

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- The overall computational complexity is **polynomial in N** , which indicates that our method is scalable to large number N of agent populations.

Explicit construction of continuous piece-wise affine functions

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Construction of approximate matching equilibrium

- Construction of an **approximate optimizer** of (MT^*) given an ϵ^* -optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$:

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 - for $i = 1, \dots, N - 1$, $\tilde{\varphi}_i(z) := \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}_i} \{c_i(x, z) - \hat{y}_{i,0} - \langle g_i(x), \hat{y}_i \rangle\} \quad \forall z \in \mathcal{Z}$;

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 \hat{\nu}_1 & \xrightarrow{\hat{\theta}_1} & \hat{\mu}_1 \\
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 \vdots & & \vdots \\
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 \end{array}$$

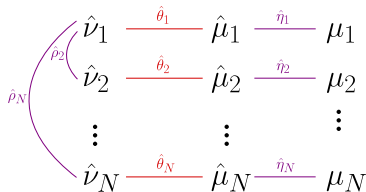
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 \end{array}$$

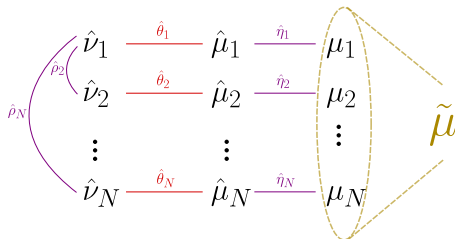
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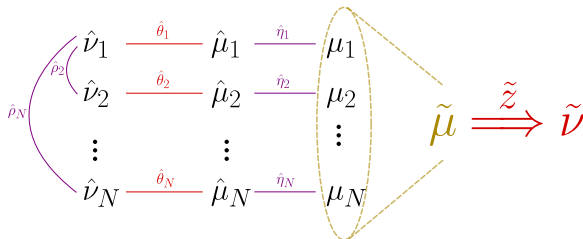
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 - step 2:** glue $\hat{\gamma}_1 \in \Gamma(\mu_1, \hat{\nu}_1), \dots, \hat{\gamma}_N \in \Gamma(\mu_N, \hat{\nu}_1)$ together to get $\tilde{\mu} \in \Gamma(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N)$;



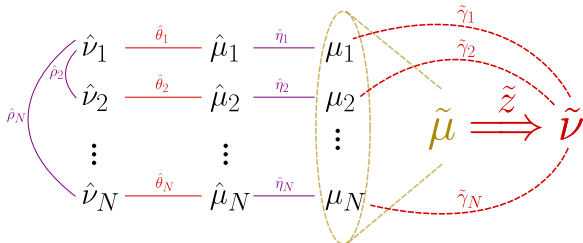
Construction of approximate matching equilibrium

- Construction of an **approximate optimizer** of (MT^*) given an ϵ^* -optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$:
 - for $i = 1, \dots, N-1$, $\tilde{\varphi}_i(z) := \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}_i} \{c_i(x, z) - \hat{y}_{i,0} - \langle g_i(x), \hat{y}_i \rangle\} \forall z \in \mathcal{Z}$;
 - $\tilde{\varphi}_N(z) := -\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \tilde{\varphi}_i(z) \forall z \in \mathcal{Z}$.
- Construction of an **approximate optimizer** of (MT) given a ς -feasible ϵ -optimizer $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of (MT_{par}) via gluing:
 - step 1:** for $i = 1, \dots, N$, glue $\hat{\theta}_i \in \Gamma(\hat{\mu}_i, \hat{\nu}_i)$ with a W_1 -optimal coupling $\hat{\eta}_i \in \Gamma(\hat{\mu}_i, \mu_i)$ and a W_1 -optimal coupling $\hat{\rho}_i \in \Gamma(\hat{\nu}_i, \nu_1)$ to get $\hat{\gamma}_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \nu_1)$;
 - step 2:** glue $\hat{\gamma}_1 \in \Gamma(\mu_1, \nu_1), \dots, \hat{\gamma}_N \in \Gamma(\mu_N, \nu_1)$ together to get $\tilde{\mu} \in \Gamma(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N)$;
 - step 3:** let $\tilde{\nu} := \tilde{z} \# \tilde{\mu}$, and let $\tilde{\gamma}_i := (\text{proj}_i, \tilde{z}) \# \tilde{\mu}$ for $i = 1, \dots, N$, where $\tilde{z}(x_1, \dots, x_N) \in \arg \min_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N c_i(x_i, z) \right\} \forall (x_1, \dots, x_N) \in \mathcal{X}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{X}_N$.



Construction of approximate matching equilibrium

- Construction of an **approximate optimizer** of $(\mathbf{MT}^*)$ given an ϵ^* -optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\mathbf{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$:
 - for $i = 1, \dots, N-1$, $\tilde{\varphi}_i(z) := \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}_i} \{c_i(x, z) - \hat{y}_{i,0} - \langle \mathbf{g}_i(x), \hat{y}_i \rangle\} \forall z \in \mathcal{Z}$;
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 - **step 1:** for $i = 1, \dots, N$, glue $\hat{\theta}_i \in \Gamma(\hat{\mu}_i, \hat{\nu}_i)$ with a W_1 -optimal coupling $\hat{\eta}_i \in \Gamma(\hat{\mu}_i, \mu_i)$ and a W_1 -optimal coupling $\hat{\rho}_i \in \Gamma(\hat{\nu}_i, \hat{\nu}_1)$ to get $\hat{\gamma}_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \hat{\nu}_1)$;
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Construction of approximate matching equilibrium

Theorem (Approximate matching equilibrium)

Suppose that:

- c_i is L_c -Lipschitz continuous for $i = 1, \dots, N$;
- $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ is an ϵ_0^* -optimizer of $(\mathbf{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$;
- $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ is a ς -feasible ϵ_0 -optimizer of $(\mathbf{MT}_{\text{par}})$;
- $\epsilon := \epsilon_0^* + \epsilon_0 + L_c \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \sup_{\mu'_i \approx_{\varsigma} \mu_i} \{W_1(\mu_i, \hat{\mu}_i)\} + \sup_{\nu \approx_{\varsigma} \nu'} \{W_1(\nu, \nu')\} \right)$.

Then, the constructed $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $\tilde{\nu}$, $(\tilde{\gamma}_i)_{i=1:N}$ satisfy:

- 1 $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$ is an ϵ -optimizer of $(\mathbf{MT}^*)$;
- 2 $\tilde{\nu}$ is an ϵ -optimizer of $(\mathbf{MT})$;
- 3 for $i = 1, \dots, N$, $\tilde{\gamma}_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \tilde{\nu})$ and $\int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i \, d\tilde{\gamma}_i \leq W_{c_i}(\mu_i, \tilde{\nu}) + \epsilon$.

Such $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $\tilde{\nu}$, $(\tilde{\gamma}_i)_{i=1:N}$ is called an ϵ -**approximate matching equilibrium**.

Convergence to true matching equilibrium

- In the Euclidean case, choosing the aforementioned continuous piece-wise affine functions as $\mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{G}_N, \mathcal{H}$ guarantees that $\sup_{\mu'_i \underset{\varsigma}{\approx} \mu_i} \{W_1(\mu_i, \hat{\mu}_i)\}$ and $\sup_{\nu \underset{\varsigma}{\approx} \nu'} \{W_1(\nu, \nu')\}$ can be **controlled to be arbitrarily small** for sufficiently small ς .

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Theorem (Convergence to true matching equilibrium)

Let $(\varphi_i^{(l)})_{i=1:N}, \nu^{(l)}, (\gamma_i^{(l)})_{i=1:N}$ be an $\epsilon^{(l)}$ -approximate matching equilibrium with $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon^{(l)} = 0$. Then:

- for $i = 1, \dots, N$, $(\varphi_i^{(l)}(\cdot) + \kappa_i^{(l)})_{l \in \mathbb{N}}$ has at least one accumulation point in $(\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{Z}), \|\cdot\|_{\infty})$ for some $(\kappa_i^{(l)})_{i=1:N, l \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\sum_{i=1}^N \kappa_i^{(l)} = 0 \ \forall l \in \mathbb{N}$;
- $(\nu^{(l)})_{l \in \mathbb{N}}$ has at least one accumulation point in $(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Z}), W_1)$;
- for $i = 1, \dots, N$, $(\gamma_i^{(l)})_{l \in \mathbb{N}}$ has at least one accumulation point in $(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}), W_1)$.

If $\varphi_i^{(l_t)}(\cdot) + \kappa_i^{(l_t)} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{\text{unif.}} \varphi_i^{(\infty)}(\cdot) \ \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$, $\nu^{(l_t)} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{W_1} \nu^{(\infty)}$, and $\gamma_i^{(l_t)} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{W_1} \gamma_i^{(\infty)} \ \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$, then $(\varphi_i^{(\infty)})_{i=1:N}, \nu^{(\infty)}, (\gamma_i^{(\infty)})_{i=1:N}$ is a **true matching equilibrium**.

Numerical algorithm

- We first develop a **cutting-plane algorithm** for computing an approximate optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and an approximate optimizer $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of (MT_{par}) .

Algorithm 1: Cutting-plane discretization algorithm

Input: $(\bar{g}_i)_{i=1:N}$, finite sets $(\mathcal{K}_i^{(0)} \subseteq \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z})_{i=1:N}$, $\text{Oracle}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$, $\epsilon_0 > 0$, $0 \leq \tau < \frac{\epsilon_0}{N}$.

1 **for** $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ **do**

2 Solve the LP relaxation of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ obtained through replacing $\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z} \leftarrow \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)} \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$, denote the optimal value by $\alpha^{(r)}$, and denote the computed primal and dual optimizers by $(y_{i,0}^{(r)}, y_i^{(r)}, w_i^{(r)})_{i=1:N}$ and $(\theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)})_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}, i=1:N}$, $\xi^{(r)}$.

3 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

4 Call $\text{Oracle}(i, y_i^{(r)}, w_i^{(r)}, \tau)$ and let $(\tilde{x}_i^{(r)}, \tilde{z}_i^{(r)})$ be the τ -optimizer, let $\tilde{\beta}_i^{(r)}$ be its objective value, and let $\underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$ be a lower bound.

5 Let $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_i^{(r)} \subseteq \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}$ be a finite set such that $(\tilde{x}_i^{(r)}, \tilde{z}_i^{(r)}) \in \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_i^{(r)}$, and update $\mathcal{K}_i^{(r+1)} \leftarrow \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)} \cup \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_i^{(r)}$.

6 **if** $\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \leq \epsilon_0$ **then** skip to Line 7, **else** continue to the next iteration.

7 $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}} \leftarrow \alpha^{(r)}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}} \leftarrow \alpha^{(r)} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \right)$.

8 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

9 $\hat{y}_{i,0} \leftarrow \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{y}_i \leftarrow y_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{w}_i \leftarrow w_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{\theta}_i \leftarrow \sum_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}} \theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)} \delta_{(x,z)}$.

Output: $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$.

Numerical algorithm

- We first develop a **cutting-plane algorithm** for computing an approximate optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and an approximate optimizer $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of (MT_{par}) .

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1 **for** $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ **do**

2 **Solve the LP relaxation of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ obtained through replacing $\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z} \leftarrow \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)} \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$, denote the optimal value by $\alpha^{(r)}$, and denote the computed primal and dual optimizers by $(y_{i,0}^{(r)}, y_i^{(r)}, w_i^{(r)})_{i=1:N}$ and $(\theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)})_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}, i=1:N}$, $\xi^{(r)}$.**

3 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

4 Call $\text{Oracle}(i, y_i^{(r)}, w_i^{(r)}, \tau)$ and let $(\tilde{x}_i^{(r)}, \tilde{z}_i^{(r)})$ be the τ -optimizer, let $\tilde{\beta}_i^{(r)}$ be its objective value, and let $\underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$ be a lower bound.

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6 **if** $\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \leq \epsilon_0$ **then** skip to Line 7, **else** continue to the next iteration.

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Output: $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$.

Numerical algorithm

- We first develop a **cutting-plane algorithm** for computing an approximate optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and an approximate optimizer $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of (MT_{par}) .

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6 **if** $\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \leq \epsilon_0$ **then** skip to Line 7, **else** continue to the next iteration.

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8 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

9 $\hat{y}_{i,0} \leftarrow \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{y}_i \leftarrow y_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{w}_i \leftarrow w_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{\theta}_i \leftarrow \sum_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}} \theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)} \delta_{(x,z)}$.

Output: $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$.

Numerical algorithm

- We first develop a **cutting-plane algorithm** for computing an approximate optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and an approximate optimizer $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of (MT_{par}) .

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Input: $(\bar{g}_i)_{i=1:N}$, finite sets $(\mathcal{K}_i^{(0)} \subseteq \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z})_{i=1:N}$, $\text{Oracle}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$, $\epsilon_0 > 0$, $0 \leq \tau < \frac{\epsilon_0}{N}$.

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6 **if** $\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \leq \epsilon_0$ **then** skip to Line 7, **else** continue to the next iteration.

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Output: $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}}, \alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}}, (\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}, (\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$.

Numerical algorithm

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6 **if** $\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \leq \epsilon_0$ **then** skip to Line 7, **else** continue to the next iteration.

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8 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

9 $\hat{y}_{i,0} \leftarrow \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{y}_i \leftarrow y_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{w}_i \leftarrow w_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{\theta}_i \leftarrow \sum_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}} \theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)} \delta_{(x,z)}$.

Output: $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$.

Numerical algorithm

- We first develop a **cutting-plane algorithm** for computing an approximate optimizer $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ and an approximate optimizer $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ of (MT_{par}) .

Algorithm 1: Cutting-plane discretization algorithm

Input: $(\bar{g}_i)_{i=1:N}$, finite sets $(\mathcal{K}_i^{(0)} \subseteq \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z})_{i=1:N}$, $\text{Oracle}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$, $\epsilon_0 > 0$, $0 \leq \tau < \frac{\epsilon_0}{N}$.

1 **for** $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ **do**

2 Solve the LP relaxation of $(\text{MT}_{\text{par}}^*)$ obtained through replacing $\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z} \leftarrow \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)} \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$, denote the optimal value by $\alpha^{(r)}$, and denote the computed primal and dual optimizers by $(y_{i,0}^{(r)}, y_i^{(r)}, w_i^{(r)})_{i=1:N}$ and $(\theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)})_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}, i=1:N}$, $\xi^{(r)}$.

3 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

4 Call $\text{Oracle}(i, y_i^{(r)}, w_i^{(r)}, \tau)$ and let $(\tilde{x}_i^{(r)}, \tilde{z}_i^{(r)})$ be the τ -optimizer, let $\tilde{\beta}_i^{(r)}$ be its objective value, and let $\underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$ be a lower bound.

5 Let $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_i^{(r)} \subseteq \mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}$ be a finite set such that $(\tilde{x}_i^{(r)}, \tilde{z}_i^{(r)}) \in \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_i^{(r)}$, and update $\mathcal{K}_i^{(r+1)} \leftarrow \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)} \cup \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_i^{(r)}$.

6 **if** $\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \leq \epsilon_0$ **then** skip to Line 7, **else** continue to the next iteration.

7 $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}} \leftarrow \alpha^{(r)}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}} \leftarrow \alpha^{(r)} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^N y_{i,0}^{(r)} - \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)} \right)$.

8 **for** $i = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

9 $\hat{y}_{i,0} \leftarrow \underline{\beta}_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{y}_i \leftarrow y_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{w}_i \leftarrow w_i^{(r)}$, $\hat{\theta}_i \leftarrow \sum_{(x,z) \in \mathcal{K}_i^{(r)}} \theta_{i,x,z}^{(r)} \delta_{(x,z)}$.

Output: $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MT}_{\text{par}}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$.

Numerical algorithm

- Using the outputs of **Algorithm 1**, we then develop an **algorithm for computing an approximate matching equilibrium** via constructing random variables on a probability space.

Algorithm 2: Computation of approximate matching equilibrium

Input: $(\bar{g}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\mathcal{K}_i^{(0)})_{i=1:N}$, $\text{Oracle}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$, $\epsilon_0 > 0$, $0 \leq \tau < \frac{\epsilon_0}{N}$.

- 1 Run Algorithm 1 and let $\alpha_{\text{MTpar}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MTpar}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ be the outputs.
 - 2 Let $\tilde{\varphi}_i(z) := \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}_i} \{c_i(x, z) - \hat{y}_{i,0} - \langle \bar{g}_i(x), \hat{y}_i \rangle\} \forall z \in \mathcal{Z}$ for $i = 1, \dots, N-1$, let $\tilde{\varphi}_N(z) := -\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \tilde{\varphi}_i(z) \forall z \in \mathcal{Z}$.
 - 3 Let $\hat{\nu}_i$ denote the marginal of $\hat{\theta}_i$ on $\mathcal{Z}$ for $i = 1, \dots, N$. Choose arbitrary $\hat{i} \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ and set $\hat{\nu} \leftarrow \hat{\nu}_{\hat{i}}$.
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- Output:** $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $\tilde{\nu}$, $(\tilde{\gamma}_i)_{i=1:N}$, α^{LB} , α^{UB} , ϵ_{sub} .
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Numerical algorithm

- Using the outputs of **Algorithm 1**, we then develop an **algorithm for computing an approximate matching equilibrium** via constructing random variables on a probability space.

Algorithm 2: Computation of approximate matching equilibrium

Input: $(\bar{g}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\mathcal{K}_i^{(0)})_{i=1:N}$, $\text{Oracle}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$, $\epsilon_0 > 0$, $0 \leq \tau < \frac{\epsilon_0}{N}$.

- 1 **Run Algorithm 1** and let $\alpha_{\text{MTpar}}^{\text{UB}}$, $\alpha_{\text{MTpar}}^{\text{LB}}$, $(\hat{y}_{i,0}, \hat{y}_i, \hat{w}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $(\hat{\theta}_i)_{i=1:N}$ be the outputs.
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Output: $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $\tilde{\nu}$, $(\tilde{\gamma}_i)_{i=1:N}$, α^{LB} , α^{UB} , ϵ_{sub} .

Numerical algorithm

Theorem (Algorithm for computing approximate matching equilibrium)

Under suitable conditions, for any $\epsilon > 0$, one can **explicitly construct** $\mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{G}_N, \mathcal{H}$ and choose the inputs $(\mathcal{K}_i^{(0)})_{i=1:N}$, ϵ_0 , τ of **Algorithm 2** such that its outputs $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $\tilde{\nu}$, $(\tilde{\gamma}_i)_{i=1:N}$, α^{LB} , α^{UB} , ϵ_{sub} satisfy:

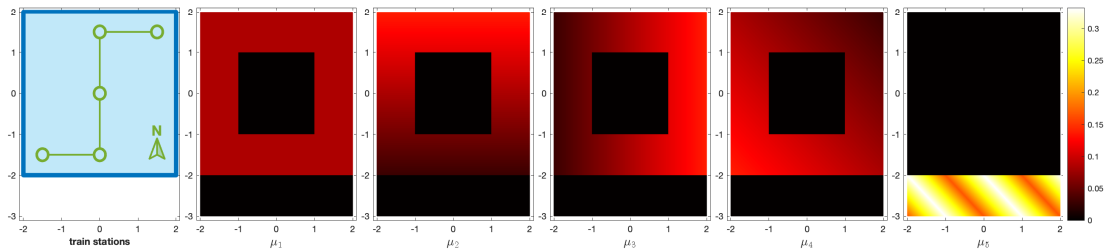
- 1 $\alpha^{\text{LB}} \leq (\text{MT}^*) = (\text{MT}) \leq \alpha^{\text{UB}}$ and $\epsilon_{\text{sub}} := \alpha^{\text{UB}} - \alpha^{\text{LB}} \leq \epsilon$ (typically $\epsilon_{\text{sub}} \ll \epsilon$ in practice);
- 2 $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$ is an ϵ_{sub} -optimizer of (MT^*) ;
- 3 $\tilde{\nu}$ is an ϵ_{sub} -optimizer of (MT) ;
- 4 for $i = 1, \dots, N$, $\tilde{\gamma}_i \in \Gamma(\mu_i, \tilde{\nu})$ and $\int_{\mathcal{X}_i \times \mathcal{Z}} c_i \, d\tilde{\gamma}_i \leq W_{c_i}(\mu_i, \tilde{\nu}) + \epsilon_{\text{sub}}$.

In particular, $(\tilde{\varphi}_i)_{i=1:N}$, $\tilde{\nu}$, $(\tilde{\gamma}_i)_{i=1:N}$ form an ϵ_{sub} -approximate matching equilibrium.

Experiment 1: business locations

- Settings:

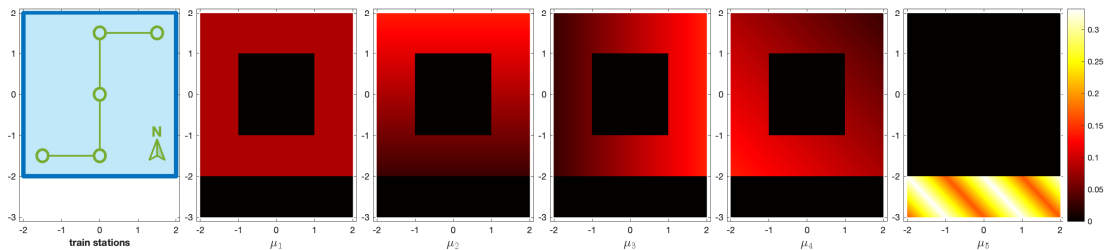
- $N = 5$, i.e., 4 categories of employees;



Experiment 1: business locations

Settings:

- $N = 5$, i.e., 4 categories of employees;
- the city has a railway line with 5 stations;

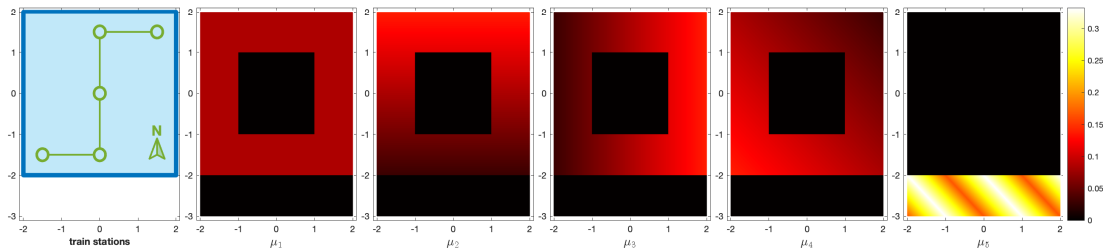


Experiment 1: business locations

Settings:

- $N = 5$, i.e., 4 categories of employees;
- the city has a railway line with 5 stations;
- **commuting costs:**

$$c_i(x, z) := \min \left\{ \underbrace{c_{\text{walk}} \|x - z\|_1}_{\text{walk from home to workplace}}, \min_{1 \leq j, k \leq 5} \left\{ \underbrace{c_{\text{walk}} \|x - u_j\|_1}_{\text{walk from home to station } j} + \underbrace{c_{\text{train}} |j - k|}_{\text{take train from station } j \text{ to station } k} + \underbrace{c_{\text{walk}} \|u_k - z\|_1}_{\text{walk from station } k \text{ to workplace}} \right\} \right\};$$



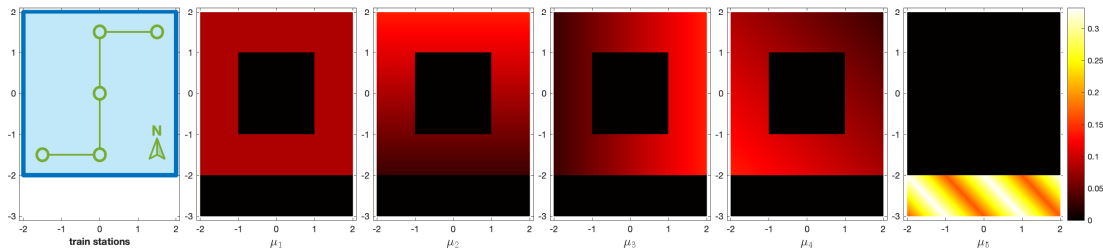
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- **commuting costs:**

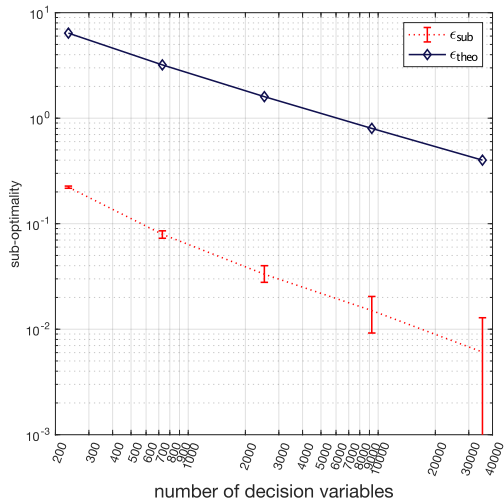
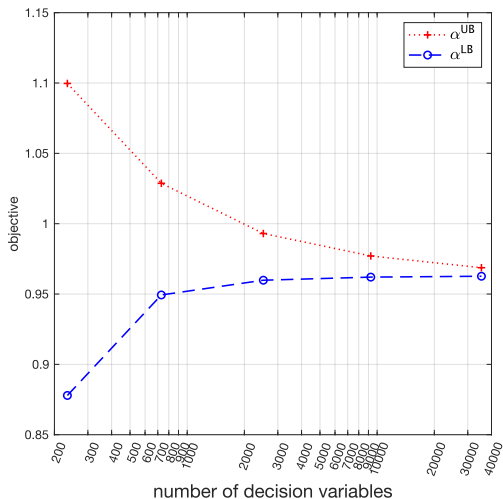
$$c_i(x, z) := \min \left\{ \underbrace{c_{\text{walk}} \|x - z\|_1}_{\text{walk from home to workplace}}, \min_{1 \leq j, k \leq 5} \left\{ \underbrace{c_{\text{walk}} \|x - u_j\|_1}_{\text{walk from home to station } j} + \underbrace{c_{\text{train}} |j - k|}_{\text{take train from station } j \text{ to station } k} + \underbrace{c_{\text{walk}} \|u_k - z\|_1}_{\text{walk from station } k \text{ to workplace}} \right\} \right\};$$

- **restocking cost:** $c_N(x, z) := c_{\text{restock}} \|x - z\|_1$.



Experiment 1: business locations

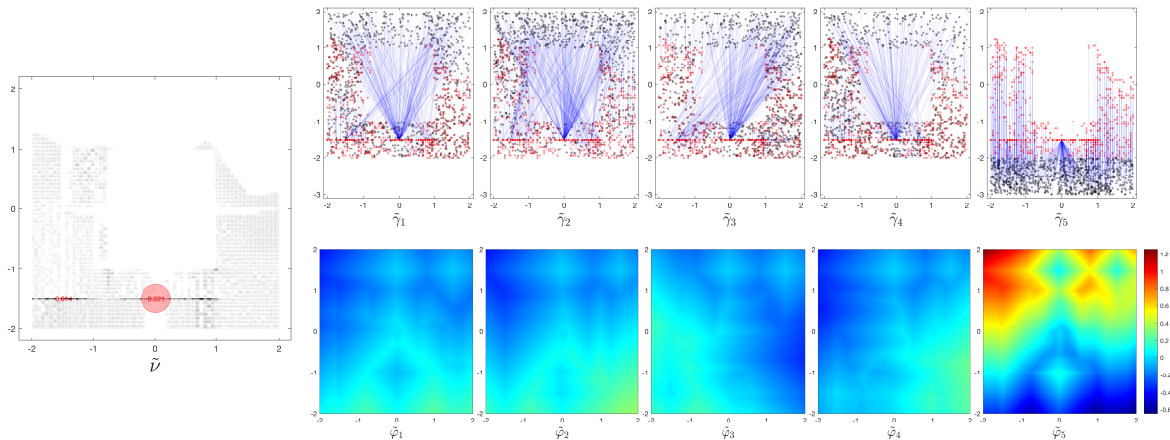
- Computed bounds α^{LB} , α^{UB} and sub-optimality estimates ϵ_{sub} :



Note that the theoretical sub-optimality bound ϵ_{theo} is much more conservative than ϵ_{sub} .

Numerical results

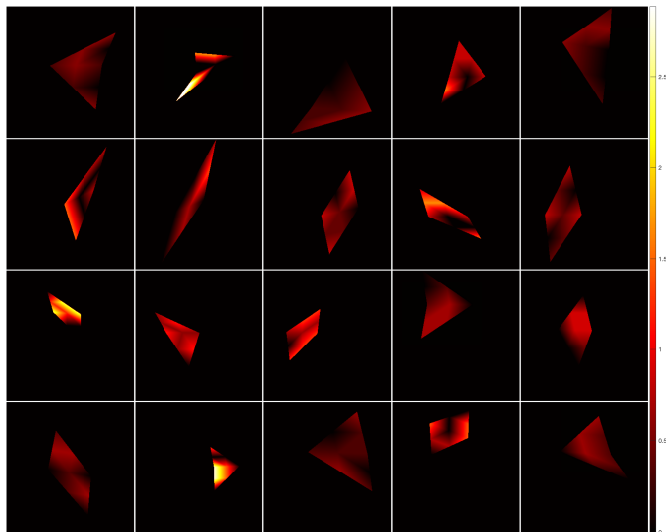
- Computed approximate matching equilibrium:



Experiment 2: Wasserstein barycenter

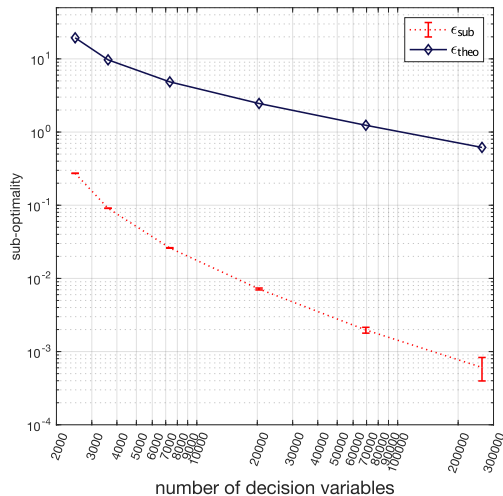
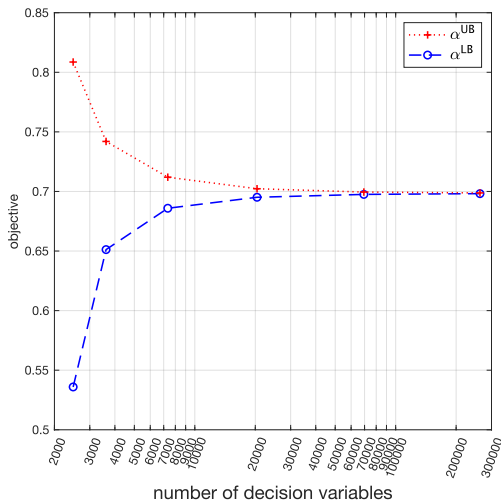
- **Settings:**

- We compute the Wasserstein barycenter of $N = 20$ probability measures, (each with a continuous piece-wise affine probability density function).



Experiment 2: Wasserstein barycenter

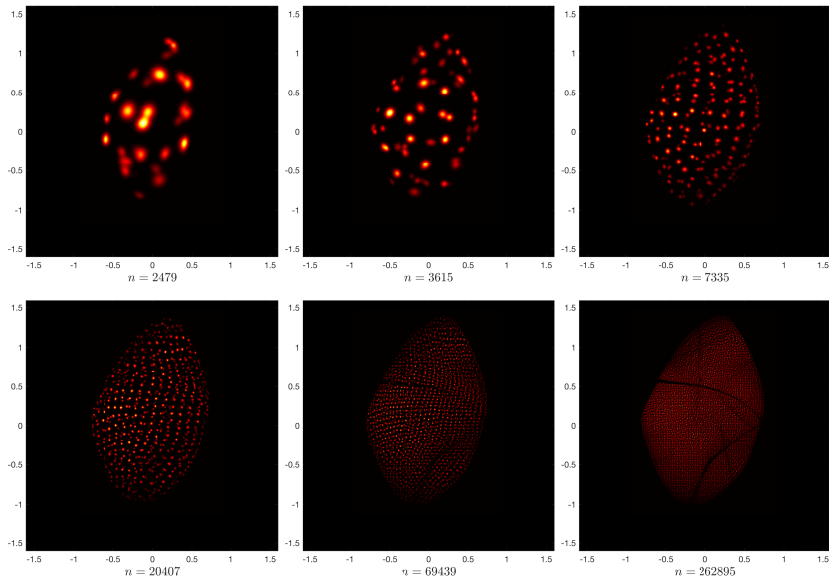
- Computed bounds α^{LB} , α^{UB} and sub-optimality estimates ϵ_{sub} :



Note that the theoretical sub-optimality bound ϵ_{theo} is much more conservative than ϵ_{sub} .

Experiment 2: Wasserstein barycenter

- Computed approximate Wasserstein barycenters:



Experiment 2: Wasserstein barycenter

- Comparison with state-of-the-art Wasserstein barycenter algorithms:

Algorithm	Objective	Sub-optimality
(fixed-support) Staib et al. [2017]	0.735321	3.7164×10^{-2}
(GenNN + ICNN) Fan et al. [2021]	0.699104	9.4682×10^{-4}
(ICNN + regularization) Korotin et al. [2021]	0.705472	7.3150×10^{-3}
(GenNN + fixed-point) Korotin et al. [2022]	0.698804	6.4663×10^{-4}
(Multi-marginal OT) Neufeld and Xiang [2022]	0.698849	6.9213×10^{-4}
our algorithm	0.698537	3.7984×10^{-4}

Conclusion

• Theoretical contributions:

- Development of a **parametric approximation scheme** (MT_{par}^*) of (MT^*) .
- Analysis of the **computational complexity** of (MT_{par}^*) and (MT_{par}) .
- Construction of **ϵ -optimizers** of (MT) and (MT^*) (referred to as **ϵ -approximate matching equilibrium**), and showing their **convergence to a true matching equilibrium**.
- Explicit construction of (MT_{par}^*) to **control the approximation error**.

• Numerical method:

- Development of a **numerical algorithm** which can **compute ϵ_0 -optimizers** of (MT_{par}) and (MT_{par}^*) for any $\epsilon_0 > 0$.
- Development of a **numerical algorithm** which can **compute an ϵ -approximate matching equilibrium** as well as **lower and upper bounds** $\alpha^{\text{LB}} \leq (MT^*) = (MT) \leq \alpha^{\text{UB}}$ with $\alpha^{\text{UB}} - \alpha^{\text{LB}} \leq \epsilon$ for any $\epsilon > 0$.
- Application to the **business location distribution problem** and the **Wasserstein barycenter problem**.

References

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- ② G. Carlier and I. Ekeland. Matching for teams. *Economic Theory*, 42(2):397–418, 2010.
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- ④ M. A. Goberna and M. A. López. *Linear semi-infinite optimization*. John Wiley & Sons, 1998.