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## Probability Theory

# The strong solution of the Monge–Ampère equation on the Wiener space for log-concave densities

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### Abstract

Let  $(W, H, \mu)$  be an abstract Wiener space, assume that  $d\nu = L d\mu$  is a second probability measures on  $(W, \mathcal{B}(W))$  such that  $L = \frac{1}{c} \exp -f$ , with  $f \in \mathbb{D}_{2,1}$  lower bounded and  $H$ -convex. Let  $T = I_W + \nabla\varphi$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ , be the solution of the Monge problem transporting  $\mu$  to  $\nu$  and realizing the  $H$ -Wasserstein distance between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ . We prove that  $\varphi \in \mathbb{D}_{2,2}$  hence the Gaussian Jacobian  $\Lambda = \det_2(I + \nabla^2\varphi) \exp\{\mathcal{L}\varphi - 1/2|\nabla\varphi|_H^2\}$  is well-defined and  $T$  is the strong solution of the Monge–Ampère equation  $\Lambda L \circ T = 1$  a.s. on  $W$ . **To cite this article:** D. Feyel, A.S. Üstünel, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, Ser. I 339 (2004).

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### Résumé

**La solution forte de l'équation de Monge–Ampère sur l'espace de Wiener pour les densités log-concaves.** Soit  $(W, H, \mu)$  un espace de Wiener abstrait, on suppose que  $d\nu = L d\mu$  est une autre probabilité sur  $(W, \mathcal{B}(W))$  où  $L = \frac{1}{c} \exp -f$ , avec  $f \in \mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ , inférieurement bornée et  $H$ -convexe. Soit  $T = I_W + \nabla\varphi$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ , la solution du problème de Monge qui transporte  $\mu$  sur  $\nu$  et qui réalise la distance de Wasserstein entre  $\mu$  et  $\nu$  par rapport à la métrique de Cameron–Martin. Nous montrons qu'en fait  $\varphi \in \mathbb{D}_{2,2}$ . Par conséquent le jacobien gaussien  $\Lambda = \det_2(I + \nabla^2\varphi) \exp\{\mathcal{L}\varphi - 1/2|\nabla\varphi|_H^2\}$  est bien défini et  $T$  est la solution forte de l'équation de Monge–Ampère  $\Lambda L \circ T = 1$  p.s. **Pour citer cet article :** D. Feyel, A.S. Üstünel, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, Ser. I 339 (2004).

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### Version française abrégée

Soit  $(W, H, \mu)$  un espace de Wiener abstrait :  $W$  est un Fréchet séparable localement convexe,  $\mu$  est une mesure gaussienne dont le support est  $W$  et  $H$  est l'espace de Cameron–Martin dont le produit scalaire et la norme sont notés respectivement  $(\cdot, \cdot)_H$  et  $|\cdot|_H$ . On notera par  $\nabla$  la fermeture par rapport à  $\mu$  de la dérivée dans la direction

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de  $H$ . En particulier, pour un espace hilbertien  $M$ ,  $\mathbb{D}_{2,k}(M)$  est l'espace de classes d'équivalences de fonctions mesurables, à valeurs dans  $M$ , dont les dérivées d'ordre  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  sont de carré intégrables par rapport à la norme du produit tensoriel Hilbert–Schmidt  $M \otimes H^{\otimes k}$ , où  $H^{\otimes k}$  est l'espace des  $k$ -tenseurs Hilbert–Schmidt ; si  $M = \mathbb{R}$  alors nous noterons  $\mathbb{D}_{2,k}$  au lieu de  $\mathbb{D}_{2,k}(\mathbb{R})$  (cf. [7,12,13]). On notera par  $\delta$  l'adjoint de  $\nabla$  par rapport à  $\mu$ , qui est une application continue de  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}(M \otimes H^{\otimes k+1})$  dans  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}(M \otimes H^{\otimes k})$ . Rappelons que  $\delta \circ \nabla$  est l'opérateur d'Ornstein–Uhlenbeck, il sera noté  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Soit  $\nu$  une autre probabilité, notons par  $\Sigma(\mu, \nu)$  l'ensemble des probabilités sur  $W \times W$  de marginales  $\mu$  et  $\nu$ . On note  $J$  la fonctionnelle définie sur  $\Sigma(\mu, \nu)$  par  $J(\beta) = \int_{W \times W} |x - y|_H^2 d\beta(x, y)$ . Dans le cas où  $W$  est de dimension finie, le problème de Monge–Kantorovitch consiste à trouver une mesure  $\gamma \in \Sigma(\mu, \nu)$  telle que la distance de Wasserstein

$$d_H^2(\mu, \nu) = \inf \{ J(\beta) : \beta \in \Sigma(\mu, \nu) \}$$

soit atteinte en  $\gamma$ . Ce problème a été résolu dans [2] en dimension finie (cf. aussi [6] pour un survol rapide). Nous l'avons résolu dans [9,10] (cf. aussi [11]) quand la dimension de  $H$  est infinie. Expliquons plus précisément le cas particulier qui sera utilisé dans cette Note : si  $\nu$  est de la forme  $d\nu = L d\mu$ , alors il existe une fonction  $\varphi$ , appelée le potentiel de transport, appartenant à  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ , telle que  $T : W \rightarrow W$  définie par  $T = I_W + \nabla \varphi$  satisfasse  $T\mu = \nu$  et telle que  $\gamma = (I_W \times T)\mu$  soit l'unique mesure dans  $\Sigma(\mu, \nu)$  satisfaisant  $J(\gamma) = d_H^2(\mu, \nu)$ . De plus  $\varphi$  est 1-convexe : une variable aléatoire  $f : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$  est dite  $r$ -convexe,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , si  $h \mapsto \frac{r}{2}|h|_H^2 + f(w + h)$  est convexe sur  $H$  à valeurs dans  $\mathbb{L}^0(\mu)$  [8] ; si  $r = 0$ , on l'appelle  $H$ -convexe. Avec les hypothèses ci-dessus  $T$  admet un inverse p.s., noté  $S$ , de la forme  $S = I_W + \eta$ . De plus si  $\nabla$  est fermable par rapport à  $\nu$  alors  $\eta : W \rightarrow H$  est de la forme  $\eta = \nabla \psi$  où  $\psi \in L^2(\nu)$  est  $\nu$ -differentiable dans la direction de  $H$ . Dans le cas qui nous intéresse, il est important de savoir si  $\varphi$  est un élément de  $\mathbb{D}_{2,2}$  au lieu de  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ , pour pouvoir calculer le jacobien

$$\Lambda = \det_2(I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi) \exp \left\{ -\mathcal{L}\varphi - \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \varphi|_H^2 \right\},$$

où  $\det_2(I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi)$  est le déterminant modifié de Carleman–Fredholm (cf. [5,14]).

## 1. Main results

Here is the first notable result of this Note:

**Theorem 1.1.** *Assume that  $\nu$  is of the form  $d\nu = \frac{1}{c} e^{-f} d\mu$ , where  $c$  is the normalization constant,  $f \in \mathbb{D}_{2,1}$  is  $H$ -convex, lower bounded, i.e.,  $f \geq -\alpha$  a.s., for some  $\alpha > 0$ . Then the transport potential  $\varphi$  belongs to the second order Sobolev space  $\mathbb{D}_{2,2}$ .*

For the proof we need the following lemma whose proof, in a much more general situation, can be found in [14], Appendix B:

**Lemma 1.2.** *Assume that  $N : W \rightarrow W$  is a map of the form  $N = I_W + u$ , where  $u \in \mathbb{D}_{2,1}(H)$  such that the image measure  $N\mu$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . For any smooth, cylindrical map  $\xi : W \rightarrow H$ , we have*

$$\delta\xi \circ N = \delta(\xi \circ N) + (\xi \circ N, u)_H + \text{trace}(\nabla \xi \circ N \cdot \nabla u).$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Let  $(e_n, n \geq 1)$  be a CONB of  $H$ , denote by  $V_n$  the sigma algebra on  $W$  generated by  $\{\delta e_1, \dots, \delta e_n\}$  and let  $L_n = E[P_{1/n}L|V_n]$ , where the conditional expectation is with respect to the Wiener measure  $\mu$  and  $P_{1/n}$  denotes the Ornstein–Uhlenbeck semigroup  $e^{-t\mathcal{L}}$  at  $t = 1/n$ . From [8],  $L_n$  is of the form  $\frac{1}{c} e^{-f_n}$ , where  $f_n$  is an  $H$ -convex function of the form  $\tilde{f}_n(\delta e_1, \dots, \delta e_n)$  such that  $\tilde{f}_n$  is a smooth, convex function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . From the

results of Caffarelli [3,4], the transport potentials  $\varphi_n$  and  $\psi_n$  associated to the measures  $(\mu, \nu_n)$ , where  $d\nu_n = L_n d\mu$ , are  $C^2$ -functions. Moreover  $\nabla \varphi_n$  and  $T_n = I_W + \nabla \varphi_n$  are 1-Lipschitz maps, i.e.,  $|\nabla \varphi_n(x+h) - \nabla \varphi_n(x)|_H \leq |h|_H$  and  $|T_n(x+h) - T_n(x)|_H \leq |h|_H$  for any  $x \in W$ ,  $h \in H$ . Consequently  $\varphi_n \in \mathbb{D}_{2,2}$ . Besides, the Lipschitz property combined with the Poincaré inequality, cf. [13] or the Appendix of [14], implies that

$$\sup_n E[\exp \varepsilon |\nabla \varphi_n|_H^2] < \infty, \quad (1)$$

for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $\delta \circ \nabla = \mathcal{L}$  and since the dual transport potential is  $C^2$ , we have, using Lemma 1.2

$$\mathcal{L}\psi_n \circ T_n = \delta(\nabla \psi_n \circ T_n) + (\nabla \psi_n \circ T_n, \nabla \varphi_n)_H + \text{trace}(\nabla^2 \psi_n \circ T_n \cdot \nabla^2 \varphi_n). \quad (2)$$

Note that  $L_n$  is strictly positive, hence  $I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n(x)$  is invertible for  $\mu$ -almost all  $x \in W$ . Besides, it is easy to see that

$$\text{trace}(\nabla^2 \psi_n \circ T_n \cdot \nabla^2 \varphi_n) = -\text{trace}((I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n)^{-1} \cdot (\nabla^2 \varphi_n)^2).$$

Inserting this relation in (2) and taking the expectation of both sides w.r.to  $\mu$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} E[\text{trace}((I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n)^{-1} \cdot (\nabla^2 \varphi_n)^2)] &= -E[(\nabla \psi_n \circ T_n, \nabla \varphi_n)_H] - E[\mathcal{L}\psi_n \circ T_n] \\ &= E[|\nabla \varphi_n|_H^2] - E[\mathcal{L}\psi_n L_n]. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

In the equality (3), we have used the fact that  $\nabla \psi_n \circ T_n = -\nabla \varphi_n$  and that  $T_n d\mu = L_n d\mu$ . Since  $(L_n, n \geq 1)$  is bounded in  $L^\infty(\mu)$  by some  $K$ , we have

$$E[\mathcal{L}\psi_n L_n] = E[(\nabla \psi_n, \nabla L_n)_H] = -E[(\nabla \psi_n, \nabla f_n)_H L_n] \leq K \|\nabla \psi_n\|_{L^2(\mu, H)} \|f\|_{2,1},$$

where  $\|f\|_{2,1} = \{E[|\nabla f|_H^2 + |f|^2]\}^{1/2}$  is the norm of  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ . Note that, from the finite dimensional Jacobi theorem, we have  $L_n \circ T_n \Lambda_n = 1$  a.s., where  $\Lambda_n = \det_2(I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n) \exp(-\mathcal{L}\varphi_n - (1/2)|\nabla \varphi_n|_H^2)$ . Hence  $S_n(d\mu) = \Lambda_n d\mu$ , where  $S_n = I_W + \nabla \psi_n$  is the inverse of  $T_n$ . Moreover, from the Young inequality

$$\begin{aligned} E[|\nabla \psi_n|_H^2] &= E[|\nabla \varphi_n \circ S_n|_H^2] \\ &= E[|\nabla \varphi_n|_H^2 \Lambda_n] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} E[\Lambda_n \log \Lambda_n] + E[\exp \varepsilon |\nabla \varphi_n|_H^2], \end{aligned}$$

which is uniformly bounded w.r.to  $n$  by (1) and by the fact that  $E[\Lambda_n \log \Lambda_n] = E[-\log L_n] = \log c + E[f_n] \leq \log c + \|f\|_{2,1}$ . Consequently

$$\sup_n E[\text{trace}((I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n)^{-1} \cdot (\nabla^2 \varphi_n)^2)] < \infty. \quad (4)$$

Recalling that the operator norm  $\|I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n\|_{\text{op}} \leq 1$ , we finally get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_n E[\|\nabla^2 \varphi_n\|_2^2] &= \sup_n E[\text{trace}(\nabla^2 \varphi_n)^2] \\ &\leq \sup_n E[\|(I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n)^{-1/2} \nabla^2 \varphi_n\|_2^2] \\ &= \sup_n E[\text{trace}((I_H + \nabla^2 \varphi_n)^{-1} (\nabla^2 \varphi_n)^2)] < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_2$  denotes the Hilbert–Schmidt norm. This result implies that the sequence  $(\varphi_n, n \geq 1)$  is bounded in  $\mathbb{D}_{2,2}$ , since it converges to  $\varphi$  in  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}$ , cf. [10],  $\varphi$  should be an element of  $\mathbb{D}_{2,2}$ .  $\square$

The following corollary follows from Theorem 1.1 and the Fatou lemma:

**Corollary 1.3.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be the function defined by*

$$\Lambda = \det_2(I_H + \nabla^2\varphi) \exp\left[-\mathcal{L}\varphi - \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\varphi|_H^2\right].$$

*Then  $T$  is a subsolution of the Monge–Ampère equation in the sense that*

$$\Lambda \leq \frac{1}{L \circ T}$$

*almost surely.*

Now we can prove the main result of this Note:

**Theorem 1.4.**  *$T$  is the strong solution of the Monge–Ampère equation, in other words*

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{L \circ T}$$

*almost surely.*

**Proof.** Let  $(\phi'_n, n \geq 1)$  be the sequence such that  $\phi'_n$  is constructed from the finite convex combinations of the tail sequence  $(\varphi_k, k \geq n)$  in such a way that  $(\phi'_n, n \geq 1)$  converges to  $\varphi$  in  $\mathbb{D}_{2,2}$ . Let  $\Lambda(\phi'_n)$  be the Jacobian

$$\Lambda(\phi'_n) = \det_2(I_H + \nabla^2\phi'_n) \exp\left[-\mathcal{L}\phi'_n - \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\phi'_n|_H^2\right].$$

Since the function  $A \rightarrow -\log \det_2(I_H + A)$  is convex on the space of symmetric Hilbert–Schmidt operators lower bounded by  $-I_H$ , cf. [1], we have

$$-\log \Lambda(\phi'_n) \leq \sum_i -t_i \log \Lambda(\varphi_{n_i}), \quad (5)$$

where  $\Lambda(\varphi_{n_i})$  is the Gaussian Jacobian of  $T_{n_i} = I_W + \nabla\varphi_{n_i}$ , and  $t_i \geq 0$ , with  $\sum_i t_i = 1$ . Recall that  $\Lambda(\varphi_n) = 1/L_n \circ T_n$ ,  $T_n = I_W + \nabla\varphi_n$ ,  $(\varphi_n, n \geq 1)$  converges to  $\varphi$  in  $\mathbb{D}_{2,1}$  and  $(L_n, n \geq 1)$  is uniformly integrable. Then a standard argument (cf. [14]) using the Lusin theorem implies that  $(1/L_n \circ T_n, n \geq 1)$  converges to  $1/L \circ T$  in probability. Hence the right-hand side of the inequality (5) converges to  $\log L \circ T$  and the left-hand side converges to  $-\log \Lambda$  in probability. This implies that

$$-\log \Lambda \leq \log L \circ T,$$

i.e.,  $\Lambda \geq (L \circ T)^{-1}$  a.s. Since the reverse inequality is already proven in Corollary 1.3, the proof is completed.  $\square$

Let us give an immediate corollary:

**Corollary 1.5.** *We have the following expression for the Wasserstein distance:*

$$\frac{1}{2}d_H^2(\mu, \nu) = -E[f \circ T] - \log c + E[\log \det_2(I_H + \nabla^2\varphi)] = E[L \log L] + E[\log \det_2(I_H + \nabla^2\varphi)]. \quad (6)$$

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