

# **Duality on gradient estimates and Wasserstein controls**

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# §1 Motivation

# Equivalent conditions for a lower Ricci curvature bound

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## (von Renesse & Sturm '05, etc...)

$X$ : complete Riemannian manifold

$P_t$ : heat semigroup associated with  $\Delta$

- (i)  $\text{Ric} \geq k$ ,
- (ii)  $d_p^W(P_t^*\mu, P_t^*\nu) \leq e^{-kt} d_p^W(\mu, \nu)$   
for some  $p \in [1, \infty]$ .
- (iii)  $|\nabla P_t f|(x) \leq e^{-kt} P_t(|\nabla f|^q)(x)^{1/q}$   
for some  $q \in [1, \infty]$ ,

Our goal:

Generalization of (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii), to obtain  
a (ii)/(iii)-type estimate from the other one.

(ii)  $d_p^W(P_t^*\mu, P_t^*\nu) \leq e^{-kt} d_p^W(\mu, \nu)$   
( $L^p$ -Wasserstein control)

(iii)  $|\nabla P_t f|(x) \leq e^{-kt} P_t(|\nabla f|^q)(x)^{1/q}$   
( $L^q$ -gradient estimate)

## §2 Framework and Main Result

$(X, d)$ : Polish metric space.

- $(P_x)_{x \in X} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  s.t.  $x \mapsto P_x$  continuous,  
 $P : \mathcal{B}_b(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_b(X)$

$$Pf(x) := \int_M f \, dP_x,$$

$$P^*\mu(A) := \int_X P_x(A) \mu(dx)$$

(e.g.  $P = P_t$ : heat semigroup)

- $\tilde{d}$ : continuous distance function on  $X$ .  
(e.g.  $\tilde{d} = e^{-kt}d$ )

For  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ ,  $\Pi(\mu, \nu) \subset \mathcal{P}(X \times X)$  by

$$\Pi(\mu, \nu) := \left\{ \pi \mid \begin{array}{l} \pi(A \times X) = \mu(A), \\ \pi(X \times A) = \nu(A) \end{array} \right\}.$$

## $L^p$ -Wasserstein distance

For  $p \in [1, \infty]$ ,

$$d_p^W(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \|d\|_{L^p(\pi)} \in [0, \infty].$$

# Gradient

$$|\nabla_d f|(x) := \lim_{\textcolor{green}{r} \downarrow 0} \sup_{\mathbf{y} \in B_{\textcolor{green}{r}}(x)} \left| \frac{f(\mathbf{y}) - f(x)}{d(\mathbf{y}, x)} \right|,$$

$$\|\nabla_d f\|_\infty := \sup_{x \in X} |\nabla_d f|(x).$$

$f$ : Lipschitz  $\Rightarrow |\nabla_d f|$  is an upper gradient of  $f$ .

i.e. for any 1-Lipschitz curve  $\gamma : [a, b] \rightarrow X$   
joining  $x$  and  $y$ ,

$$f(y) - f(x) \leq \int_a^b |\nabla_d f|(\gamma(s)) ds.$$

## $L^{\textcolor{blue}{p}}$ -Wasserstein control

$$d_{\textcolor{blue}{p}}^W(P^*\mu, P^*\nu) \leq \tilde{d}_{\textcolor{blue}{p}}^W(\mu, \nu) \quad (C_p)$$

for  $p \in [1, \infty]$  and  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

## $L^{\textcolor{blue}{q}}$ -gradient estimate

$$|\nabla_{\tilde{d}} P f|(x) \leq P(|\nabla_d f|^{\textcolor{blue}{q}})(x)^{1/q} \quad (G_q)$$

for  $q \in [1, \infty)$  and  $f \in C_b^{\text{Lip}}(X)$ ,

$$|\nabla_{\tilde{d}} P f|(x) \leq \|\nabla_d f\|_{\infty} \quad (G_{\infty})$$

for  $q = \infty$ .

$v$ : Radon measure on  $X$  with  $\text{supp}(v) = X$ .

Assumption 1  $(X, d)$ : proper length space.

Assumption 2  $(X, d, v)$  supports

- local (uniform) volume doubling condition,
- $(1, \rho)$ -local Poincaré inequality ( $\exists \rho \geq 1$ ).

Assumption 3  $\tilde{d}$ : geodesic distance.

Assumption 4  $P_x \ll v$ ,  $x \mapsto \frac{dP_x}{dv}(y)$ : continuous.

## Local volume doubling condition

$$\exists D > 0, \exists R_1 > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall x \in X, \forall r < R_1$$
$$v(B_{2r}(x)) \leq Dv(B_r(x)).$$

## ( $1, \rho$ )-local Poincaré inequality

$$\forall R > 0, \exists \lambda \geq 1, \exists C_P > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall r < R,$$

$$\fint_{B_r(x)} |f - f_{x,r}| dv \leq C_P r \left( \fint_{B_{\lambda r}(x)} g^\rho dv \right)^{1/\rho}$$

for  $\forall f$  and  $\forall g$ : upper gradient of  $f$ , where

$$f_{x,r} := \frac{1}{v(B_r(x))} \int_{B_r(x)} f dv =: \fint_{B_r(x)} f dv.$$

## Theorem (K.)

For  $p, q \in [1, \infty]$  with  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ ,

- (i)  $(C_p) \Rightarrow (G_q)$ .
- (ii) Under Assumption 1-4,  $(G_q) \Rightarrow (C_p)$ .

## Remarks

- For  $p' > p$ ,  $\begin{cases} (G_p) \Rightarrow (G_{p'}), \\ (C_{p'}) \Rightarrow (C_p). \end{cases}$   
(without Assumption 1-4)
- $(G_\infty) \Leftrightarrow (C_1)$  is well-known.  
$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{via Kantorovich-Rubinstein formula;} \\ \text{without Assumption 1-4} \end{array} \right)$$
- $(C_\infty) \Rightarrow (G_1)$  is essentially well-known.

## §3 Examples and Applications

How do we obtain  $(C_p)$ ?

(A) Known derivation of  $(C_p)$

(  $X$ : cpl. Riem. mfd.,  $P = P_t$ ,  $\tilde{d} = e^{-kt} d$  )

- Coupling by parallel transport of B.m.'s:

$$\boxed{\text{Ric} \geq k \Rightarrow (C_\infty)}$$

~~~ Extension to backward Ricci flow.

★  $\tilde{d}$  is essentially different from  $d$ !

- Gradient flow formulation of the heat flow  $\mu_t$ :

$$\partial_t \mu_t = -\nabla E(\mu_t).$$

○  $\text{Ric} \geq k \Leftrightarrow \text{“Hess } E \geq k\text{”}$ ,

○  $\boxed{\text{Hess } E \geq k \Rightarrow (C_2)}$  for  $\mu_t$  ( $= P_t^* \mu$ ).

~~~ Extension to singular spaces (e.g. Alex. sp.).

## Remark

To obtain  $(C_p)$ , we have used some notion of lower curvature bound which is different from  $(G_q)$ .

E.g. in von Renesse & Sturm '05,

$$(G_\infty) \Rightarrow \text{Ric} \geq k \quad (\text{Bochner})$$

$$\Rightarrow (C_\infty) \quad (\text{coupling method})$$

$$\Rightarrow (G_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow (G_\infty) \quad (\text{monotonicity})$$

## (B) Hörmander-type operators on a Lie group

$X$ : Lie group with a right-Haar measure  $\nu$ .

$\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$ : left-invariant, linearly independent vector fields generating all left-invariant vector fields in the sense of Lie algebra (**Hörmander condition**).

$$P_t := e^{tA}, \quad A := \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2.$$

$$|\nabla f|^2 := \frac{1}{2} (A(f^2) - 2fAf) = \sum_{i=1}^n |X_i f|^2.$$

### $L^q$ -Gradient estimate

$$|\nabla P_t f|(x) \leq K_q(t) P_t(|\nabla f|^q)(x)^{1/q}. \quad (G_q^*)$$

## Known results

- 3-dim. Heisenberg group,  $K_q(t) \equiv K_q > 1$ 
  - $q > 1$ : Driver & Melcher '05.
  - $\textcolor{blue}{q = 1}$ : H.-Q. Li '06 / Bakry et al. '08.
- $X$ : general,  $q > 1$ : Melcher '08  
( $K_q(t) \equiv K_q$  if  $X$ : nilpotent).
- $X$ : group of type H,  $\textcolor{blue}{q = 1}$ ,  $K_q(t) \equiv K_q$ :  
Eldredge '09.
- $X = SU(2)$ ,  $q > 1$ ,  $K_q(t) = K_q e^{-t}$ :  
Baudoin & Bonnefont '09.

$X, v, \{X_i\}_{i=1}^n, P$ : as before.

## Carnot-Caratheodory distance

For  $V \in T_x X$ ,

$$|V| = \begin{cases} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right)^{1/2} & \text{if } V = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i(x), \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$d(x, y) := \inf \left\{ \int_0^1 |\dot{\gamma}_s| ds \mid \begin{array}{l} \gamma_0 = x, \\ \gamma_1 = y \end{array} \right\}.$$

## Proposition

$(X, d, v)$ ,  $P = P_t$ : as above.

(i)  $(X, d, v; P)$  satisfies Assumption 1-4

(ii) “ $(G_q^*) \Rightarrow (G_q)$ ”.

## Corollary

$(G_q^*) \Rightarrow (C_p)$  for  $q \in [1, \infty]$ .

# Examples

## 3-dim. Heisenberg group

$X = \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $v$ : Lebesgue.

$$(x, y, z) \cdot (x', y', z')$$

$$= (x + x', y + y', z + z' + \frac{1}{2}(xy' - yx')),$$

$$X_1 = \partial_x - \frac{y}{2}\partial_z, \quad X_2 = \partial_y + \frac{x}{2}\partial_z.$$

Associated diffusion  $(B_t^1, B_t^2, B_t^3)$  from  $(x, y, z)$ :

$$B_t^1 = W_t^1, \quad B_t^2 = W_t^2,$$

$$B_t^3 = z + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t W_t^1 dW_t^2 - W_t^2 dW_t^1,$$

where  $(W_t^1, W_t^2)$ : 2-dim. BM from  $(x, y)$ .

$(C_\infty)$ : For each  $t > 0$ ,  $\exists$  a coupling  $(\mathbf{B}_t, \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_t)$  of  $(B_t^1, B_t^2, B_t^3)$  with initial conditions  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  respectively s.t.

$$d(\mathbf{B}_t, \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_t) \leq K_1 d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s..}$$



In this case,  $\exists C_1, C_2 > 0$  s.t.

$$C_1 \|\mathbf{b}^{-1} \mathbf{a}\| \leq d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) \leq C_2 \|\mathbf{b}^{-1} \mathbf{a}\|,$$

where  $\|(x, y, z)\| = ((x^2 + y^2)^2 + z^2)^{1/4}$ .

## Definition

$X$ : a group of type H iff, for  $\mathcal{X}$ : Lie alg.

associated with  $X$  with a scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ ,

- $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{V} \oplus \mathcal{Z}$  with  $[\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{V}] = \mathcal{Z}$ ,  
 $[\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{Z}] = [\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{Z}] = 0$ .
- $J : \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \text{End } \mathcal{V}$  given by

$$\langle J(Z)V_1, V_2 \rangle := \langle Z, [V_1, V_2] \rangle$$

satisfies  $J(Z)^2 = -\|Z\|\text{Id}$ .

$\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$  will be an ONB of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

## Remarks

- Any group of type H is a stratified nilpotent Lie group of step 2.
- $\forall m$ , the  $(2m + 1)$ -dim. Heisenberg group is of type H.
- A free nilpotent Lie group of step 2 is of type H iff it is the 3-dim. Heisenberg group.
- Possible dimension of a group of type H is completely determined.

## §4 Sketch of the Proof of $(G_q) \Rightarrow (C_p)$

Recall:

$$d_p^W(P^*\mu, P^*\nu) \leq \tilde{d}_p^W(\mu, \nu), \quad (C_p)$$

$$|\nabla_{\tilde{d}} P f|(x) \leq P(|\nabla_d f|^q)(x)^{1/q}. \quad (G_q)$$

- The case  $p = 1$  ( $q = \infty$ ) is well-known.
- $d_p^W(\mu, \nu) \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow \infty} d_\infty^W(\mu, \nu) \in [0, \infty]$ .  
⇒ We may assume  $p < \infty$ .
- $(C_p)$  for  $\mu = \delta_x, \nu = \delta_y \Rightarrow (C_p)$ .  
(disintegration of measures)

# General theory of the Hamilton-Jacobi semigroup

(Lott & Villani '07, Balogh et al. '09)

$$Q_t f(x) := \inf_{y \in X} \left[ f(y) + t \cdot \frac{1}{p} \left( \frac{d(x, y)}{t} \right)^p \right].$$

- Under Assumption 1,  
 $Q_\cdot f \in C_b^{\text{Lip}}([0, \infty) \times X)$  if  $f \in C_b^{\text{Lip}}(X)$ .
- Under Assumption 1-2, for  $\forall t > 0$ ,  $v$ -a.e.

$$\partial_t Q_t f(x) = -\frac{1}{q} |\nabla_d Q_t f|(x)^q .$$

(Note:  $q^{-1} u^q = \sup_{s \geq 0} (us - p^{-1} s^p)$ )

## Kantorovich duality

$$d_p^W(\mu, \nu)^p = \sup_{f \in C_b^{\text{Lip}}} \left[ \int_X f^* d\mu - \int_X f d\nu \right],$$

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(x) &:= \inf_{y \in X} [f(y) + d(x, y)^p] \\ &= p Q_1(p^{-1}f)(x). \end{aligned}$$



$$\frac{d_p^W(\mu, \nu)^p}{p} = \sup_f \left[ \int_X Q_1 f d\mu - \int_X f d\nu \right].$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow X \quad \tilde{d}\text{-minimal geodesic}, \\ \gamma_0 = y, \gamma_1 = x, \\ \tilde{d}(\gamma_s, \gamma_t) = |t - s| \tilde{d}(x, y). \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{Assumption 3})$$

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$$\frac{d_p^W(P_x, P_y)^p}{p} = \sup_f [PQ_1 f(x) - Pf(y)]$$

“ = ”  
interpolation

$$\sup_f \left[ \int_0^1 \partial_t (PQ_t f(\gamma_t)) dt \right].$$

$$\partial_t(PQ_tf(\gamma_t))$$

$$“=” P(\partial_t Q_tf)(\gamma_t) + \langle \nabla PQ_tf(\gamma_t), \dot{\gamma}_t \rangle$$

HJ eq.

$$\boxed{\leq} - \frac{1}{q} P(|\nabla_d Q_tf|^q)(\gamma_t)$$

up. grad.

$$+ \tilde{d}(x, y) |\nabla_{\tilde{d}} PQ_tf|(\gamma_t)$$

$$(G_q) \boxed{\leq} \tilde{d}(x, y) \sigma - \frac{1}{q} \sigma^q \leq \frac{\tilde{d}(x, y)^p}{p}.$$

$$\left( \sigma := P(|\nabla_d Q_tf|^q)(\gamma_t)^{1/q} \right)$$

■

## Questions

- (i) When does  $(C_{\textcolor{brown}{p}}) \Rightarrow (C_{\textcolor{violet}{p}'}) / (G_{\textcolor{violet}{p}'}) \Rightarrow (G_{\textcolor{brown}{p}})$  occur for  $\textcolor{violet}{p}' > \textcolor{brown}{p}$ ?  
(OK if  $X$ : Riem.,  $P = P_t$ )
- (ii) When does  $(C_p) \Rightarrow$  “pathwise control” occur?  
(in the case  $P = P_t$ )
- (iii) Relation between Bakry-Émery’s  $\Gamma_2$ -criterion  
and  $(G_q)$  (in the case  $P = P_t$ ,  $\tilde{d} = e^{-kt} d$ )  
(When does  $|\nabla_d f| = \Gamma(f, f)^{1/2}$  hold?).
- (iv) Relation with other “lower curvature bounds”...