# Linear-Time Gromov Wasserstein Distances using Low Rank Couplings and Costs





### Overview

**Problem:** How to obtain an efficient procedure to compute an approximation of the Gromov Wasserstein cost?

### **Contributions**:

- We show first that a low-rank factorization (or approximation) of the two input cost matrices that define GW, one for each measure, can be exploited to lower the complexity of the entropic GW problem from cubic to quadratic.
- We show next, independently, that by imposing a lownonnegative rank on the couplings involved in the GW problem we obtain a solver only requiring  $O(n^2)$  operations with no prior assumption on input cost matrices.
- Finally, we show that both low-rank assumptions (on costs and couplings) can be combined to shave yet another factor and reach a linear  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  GW approximation.
- We show *experimentally* the efficiency of our approach.

## **Entropic Gromov Wasserstein**

Discrete Distributions: $\mu = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}$	$\sum a_i \delta_{x_i}$ and $\nu =$	$\sum^{m} b_{j} \delta_{y_{j}}$
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Cost matrices:  $A = [d_{\mathcal{X}}(x_i, x_j)]_{1 \le i,j \le n}, B = [d_{\mathcal{Y}}(y_i, y_j)]_{1 \le i,j \le m}$ 

Definition of Entropic Gromov Wasserstein:

$$GW_{\varepsilon}((a, A), (b, B)) := \min_{\substack{P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}_{+} \\ P\mathbf{1}_{m} = a, P^{T}\mathbf{1}_{n} = b}} \mathscr{E}_{A, B}(P) - \varepsilon \mathsf{H}(P)$$

where 
$$\mathscr{C}_{A,B}(P) := \sum_{i,j,i',j'} |A_{i,i'} - B_{j,j'}|^2 P_{i,j} P_{i',j'}$$

**Mirror Descent Scheme:** Shannon entropy Init:  $a, A, b, B, \varepsilon, P$ for t = 0, ..., T:  $\mathsf{KL}(P, K)$ P = arg $\min_{P \ge 0, P\mathbf{1}_m = \mathbf{a}, P^T\mathbf{1}_n = \mathbf{b}}$ Solve the entropic OT:  $\mathcal{O}(nm)$  Meyer SCETBON, Gabriel PEYRÉ, Marco CUTURI

### Low-rank Costs







### **Mirror-Descent Scheme**

