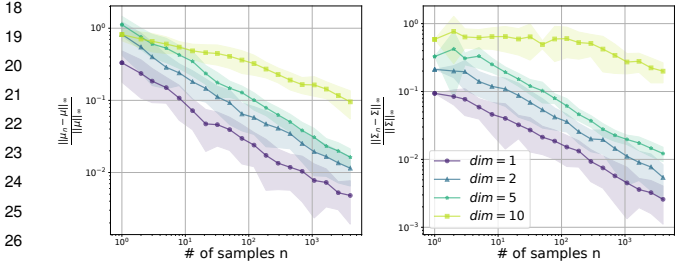


1 We thank the reviewers for their appreciative and thoughtful feedback.

2 **Reviewer 1.** *“However, the authors fail to bring the result to their impact of the current state*  
 3 *of OT [...]. Does having this closed form solution provide better ways to design algorithms, faster*  
 4 *algorithms, etc?”* As discussed in L59-L73, the first obvious impact of our contribution is that it  
 5 provides the first example for which regularized (unbalanced) OT admits a closed form expression.  
 6 These formulas provide a testbed for any theoretical conjecture that tries to understand better entropic  
 7 OT, or any novel stochastic optimization algorithm designed to compute it faster. Additionally, our  
 8 formulas offer a principled solution to alleviate the differentiability issues of the Bures metric that  
 9 arise for singular matrices (L.129-130). Finally, one can foresee that applications relying on entropic  
 10 OT might benefit from some local Gaussian approximations to use these closed form, in the spirit of  
 11 sliced Wasserstein approaches. We will further emphasize these aspects. *“Line 110: Please define*  
 12 *what is a centered measure.”* A measure with 0 mean. We will clarify this.

13 **Reviewer 2.** *“If the paper could show the formula for that case [TV] that would be*  
 14 *supercool. Though maybe there isn’t a closed-form for that.”* A glance at the prox-  
 15 div operator of TV (<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1607.05816.pdf>) shows that after the first iter-  
 16 ation, the (log) dual variable would be the pointwise projection of a quadratic func-  
 17 tion over the box  $[-\frac{\lambda}{\varepsilon}, \frac{\lambda}{\varepsilon}]$  which is not obvious to convolve with a Gaussian kernel.



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27 Figure 1: Large dimensions need more samples to approxi-  
28 mimate the moments of the unbalanced optimal transport plan.

*“[Transport plan experiment] How many samples do you “need” before you stop making huge mistakes? (...) as the ambient dimension explodes”*

To answer this question we computed the distance between the ground truth (formulas of Thm 3) and the empirical moments  $(\mu_n, \Sigma_n)$  of the transport plan using random inputs and fixed parameters  $\sigma = 0.01, \gamma = 0.2, m_\alpha = 1, m_\beta = 1.1$ . See Fig.1 on left.

29 **Reviewer 3.** *““Figure 1 illustrates the convergence”... the convergence of what?”* This conver-  
 30 gence is in terms of number of samples from 2 Gaussian distributions:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \text{OT}_\sigma(\alpha_n, \beta_n) \rightarrow$   
 31  $\text{OT}_\sigma(\alpha, \beta)$ . We will clarify this. *“Figure 2 is also difficult to understand. Both source and*  
 32 *target measures are sampled, and then Sinkhorn algorithm is used on a discretized measure?”*

33 Exactly, both measures are sampled, we run Sinkhorn to obtain an empirical transportation plan that  
 34 we visualize by computing a histogram on a uniform 2D grid. *“[On the proof of prop 2] Could*  
 35 *the authors explain why the uniform bound is not necessary here?”* Thank you for pointing this  
 36 out, a uniform bound is indeed required and we will update our proof. From (42) and using Weyl’s  
 37 inequality, we can bound the smallest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{F}_n$  from below:  $\forall n, \lambda_d(\mathbf{F}_n) \geq \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_1(\mathbf{A})}$  (where  
 38  $\lambda_d(\mathbf{F})$  is the smallest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{F}$  and  $\lambda_1(\mathbf{A})$  is the biggest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ ). Hence, the iterates  
 39 live in  $\mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{S}_{++}^d \cap \{\mathbf{X} : \lambda_d(\mathbf{X}) \geq \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_1(\mathbf{A})}\}$ . Finally, for all  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $\|(\text{Id} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{B}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{B}^{-\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}\|_{\text{op}} =$

$$40 \frac{1}{\lambda_d(\text{Id} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{B}^{-1/2} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{B}^{-1/2})} = \frac{1}{1 + \sigma^2 \lambda_d(\mathbf{B}^{-1/2} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{B}^{-1/2})} \leq \frac{1}{1 + \sigma^2 \lambda_d(\mathbf{B}^{-1}) \lambda_d(\mathbf{X})} \leq \left(1 + \frac{\sigma^4}{\lambda_1(\mathbf{B}) \lambda_1(\mathbf{A})}\right)^{-1}.$$

41 Which proves the uniform bound. *“on l. 423, I think the authors could better explain why AB*  
 42 *and C have same eigenvectors”* Because  $AB$  is a quadratic polynomial of  $C$  (Eq 21). As explained

43 in L157-158,  $C$  has positive eigenvalues, writing its EVD as:  $C = QDQ^{-1}$  in eq (21) leads to:  
 44  $Q(D^2 + \sigma^2 D)Q^{-1} = AB$  which is an EVD of  $AB$ .  $AB$  and  $C$  have the same eigenvectors  $Q$ . In  
 45 the appendix, we wrote EVD of  $AB$  instead of  $C$ , we will correct this. *“l. 201 “Moreover, the*  
 46 *objective admits a lower bound if and only if ...” has not a clear meaning”* This is the condition  
 47 for the entropy KL to be finite. We will replace the previous statement. *“Could the authors add a*  
 48 *reference for the dual formulation of (9)? [...] is [11] enough [...]?”* We have cited [33], the context  
 49 of [11] is more restrictive since they considered probability spaces  $(X, Y$  with reference measures  
 50 having unit mass). *“In Equation (6), [...] depends on the scalar product”* the gradient is given for  
 51 the Frobenius inner product. We will clarify this point. *“- l. 149: The authors say that a sequence*  
 52 *is contractive, but for which distance?”* In the matrix operator norm, as per the proof of Proposition  
 53 2. We will explicitly state this.