

Recent Developments in Weak  
Convergence Methods for Nonlinear PDE

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# Recent Developments in Weak Convergence Methods for Nonlinear PDE

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SIAM Short  
Course -  
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Key problem:

Approximations -  
nonlinear PDE  
operator

$$A_k[u_k] = f_k$$

( $k=1, 2, \dots$ )

solution of approx.  
problem

- Assume -
- $f_k \rightarrow f$
  - $A_k[v] \rightarrow A[v] \quad \forall \text{ smooth } v$
  - $u_k \rightarrow u$  **WEAKLY**

Is it true that

$$A[u] = f ??$$

[E3] LCE, Weak Convergence Methods for  
Nonlinear PDE, AMS (1991) /2

1. Weak convergence
2. Convexity
3. Quasiconvexity
4. Concentrated compactness
5. Compensated compactness
6. Maximum principle methods

Today:

1. Convexity methods
2. Oscillations and cancellation
3. Concentration

Emphasis is not so much on powerful, new estimators, but rather what to do without such estimators.

# I. CONVEXITY METHODS

- A. Hidden convex structures
- B. Quasi convexity
- C. Convex integration

# II. OSCILLATIONS & CANCELLATION

- A. Homogenization
- B. Jacobians
- C. Hardy space methods
- D. Null forms
- E. Commutators

# III. CONCENTRATION

- A. Defect measures
- B. Semiclassical defect measures
- C. Microlocal defect measures
- D. Other concentration phenomena

Today's topics

Major omission - Compensated compactness methods for conservation laws -  
See survey by G. Q. Chen [Ch], etc

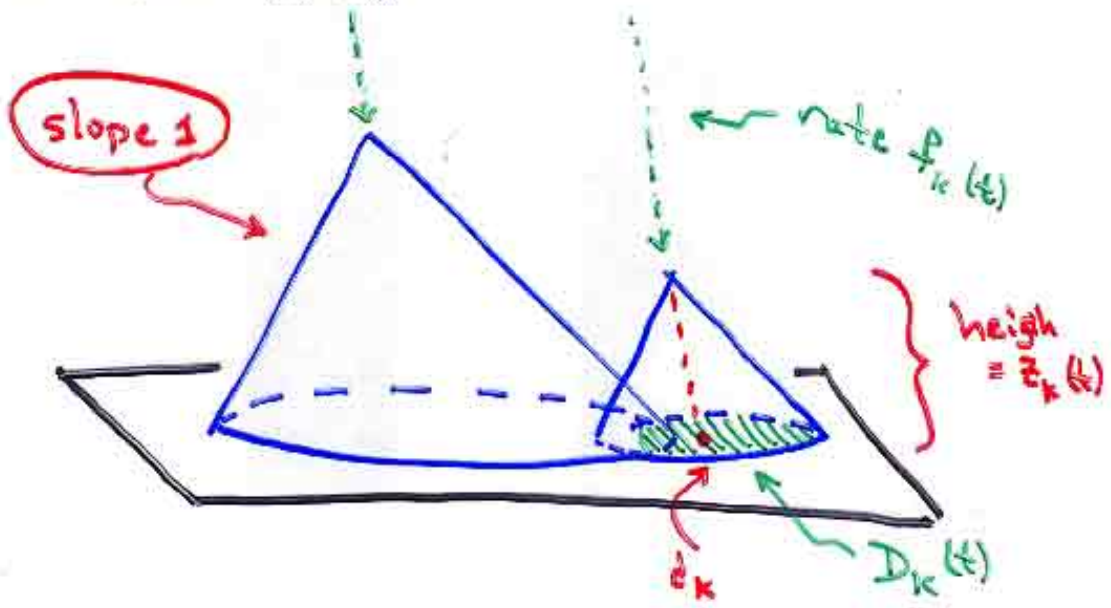


# Topic I: CONVEXITY METHODS

## A. Hidden Convex structures

- A first example - interacting sandcones

Aronsson [Ar]



ODE for heights:

$$\dot{z}_k = \frac{f_k}{|D_k|}$$

area of region where  $k$ -th cone is tallest

( $k=1,2,\dots$ )

What is "hidden" convex structure??

$$I[u] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |\nabla u| \leq 1 \text{ a.e. } \Omega \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

CONVEX FUNCTION

System of ODE for cone heights

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$f - u_t \in \partial I[u]$$

for  $f = \sum_{k=1}^m f_k(x) \delta_{d_k}$

Interacting sand cones = gradient flow in  $L^2$   
governed by  $\partial I[\cdot]$

[A-E-W], Prigozhin [Pr]

• Monotonicity and Convexity

Notation  $H =$  (real) Hilbert space

Def  $A : \underbrace{D(A)}_{\subseteq H} \rightarrow H$  is monotone

if

$$(x - \hat{x}, A[x] - A[\hat{x}]) \geq 0$$

$$\forall x, \hat{x} \in D(A)$$

Krylov [Ky]: (See this for details) 107

$$G(x, y) = \sup_z \{ (x-z, A[z]) + (z, y) \}$$

A max monotone

- Then
- $G$  is convex
  - $G(x, y) \geq (x, y) \quad \forall x, y$
  - $G(x, y) = (x, y) \iff y = A[x]$

Application:  $-\operatorname{div}(\beta(\nabla u_k)) = f_k$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A[x_k] = y_k \\ y_k \rightarrow y \\ x_k \rightarrow x \end{array} \right. \implies A[x] = y \quad (\text{Brouder-Minty})$$

Proof:

$$(x, y) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (x_k, y_k) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} G(x_k, y_k)$$

by convexity  $\implies \geq G(x, y)$

So  $G(x, y) \leq (x, y)$ . Thus

$$G(x, y) = (x, y) \implies y = A[x] \quad \square$$



Relaxation = Convexification  
(best kind of convex problem)

• Relaxation, linear programming

Review:

$A \in M^{m \times n}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$   
m x n matrices

primal problem  
(P)

Find  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to minimize  
 $c \cdot x$ ,  
subject to  $Ax = b$ ,  $x \geq 0$

dual problem  
(D)

Find  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$  to maximize  
 $b \cdot y$ ,  
subject to  $A^T y \leq c$ .

"Complementary slackness"

If  $x$  solves (P) and  $y$  solves (D),  
then  $c \cdot x = b \cdot y$



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# Application 1: Weak KAM theory

(Fathi [F], Mather [Ma])

- Lagrangian:  $L = L(x, v)$ 
  - ↖  $\pi T$ -periodic in  $x$
  - ↖ Unif. Convex in  $v$

- Action of a curve:  $A_T[\underline{\gamma}] = \int_0^T L(\underline{\gamma}(t), \dot{\underline{\gamma}}(t)) dt$

Original problem: Find  $\underline{\gamma}: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$   
 s.t.  $A_T[\underline{\gamma}] \leq A_T[\hat{\underline{\gamma}}]$

for all  $T > 0$  and all  $\hat{\underline{\gamma}}(0) = \underline{\gamma}(0), \hat{\underline{\gamma}}(T) = \underline{\gamma}(T)$   
 and such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\underline{\gamma}(t)}{t} = \sqrt{v} \leftarrow \text{given}$$



Relaxed problem: Find probability measure  $\mu$  to minimize

$$A[\mu] = \int_{\Omega^n} \int_{\Pi^n} L(x, v) d\mu,$$

subject to  $\int_{\Omega^n} \int_{\Pi^n} v \cdot \nabla \phi d\mu = 0 \quad \forall \phi \in C_x^1$

$$\int_{\Omega^n} \int_{\Pi^n} v d\mu = \bar{V}, \quad \mu \geq 0$$

This is (an infinite dimensional) linear programming problem. Study dual problem, etc.

Forni-Matthei [F-M], [E-G1], [E-G2]

Application 2: optimal mass transport

•  $f^\pm \geq 0, \int f^+ dx = \int f^- dy$

•  $\underline{S}: \Omega^n \rightarrow \Omega^n, \underline{S}_\# f^+ = f^-$

push forward

$\underline{S}$  rearranges the mass  $f^+ dx$  to  $f^- dy$

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• Cost  $C[\underline{\varepsilon}] = \int_{\Omega^n} c(x, \underline{\varepsilon}(x)) f^+ dx$

↖ given  $c(x,y)$

Original problem: Find  $\underline{\varepsilon}: \Omega^n \rightarrow \Omega^n$   
such that

$$C[\underline{\varepsilon}] \leq C[\hat{\underline{\varepsilon}}]$$

among all maps that rearrange  $f^+ dx$  into  $f^- dy$

Relaxed problem: Find a nonnegative measure  $\gamma$  on  $\Omega^n \times \Omega^n$  to minimize

$$C[\gamma] = \int_{\Omega^n} \int_{\Omega^n} c(x,y) d\gamma$$

subject to

$$\text{proj}_x \gamma = f^+ dx$$

$$\text{proj}_y \gamma = f^- dy \quad \gamma \geq 0$$

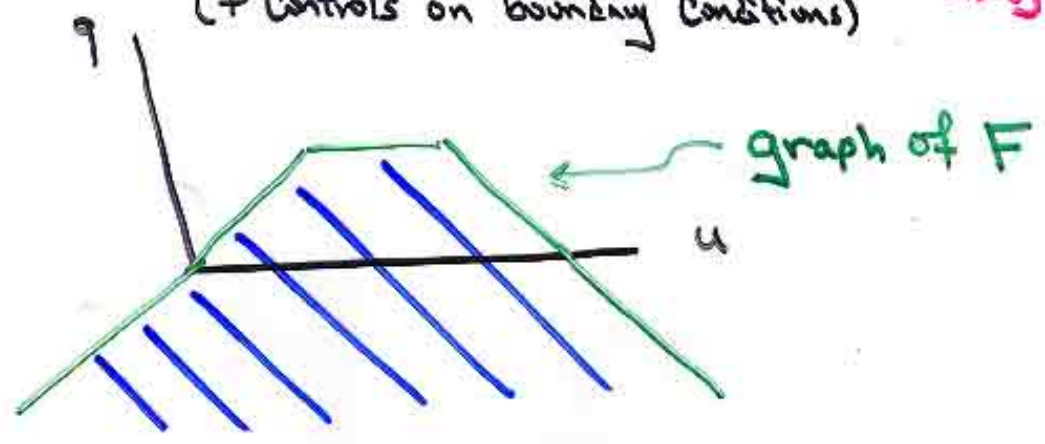
This is (an infinite dimensional) linear programming problem. Study dual problem, etc

See [E2], Villani [V]



# Application 3: Control of traffic flow

- $u_t + F(u)_x = 0$  (u = traffic density)  
 (+ Controls on boundary conditions)



- Relaxation: 
$$\begin{cases} u_t + q_x = 0 \\ q \leq F(u) \end{cases}$$

G. Gomes + R. Horowitz, "Optimal freeway ramp metering using asymmetric cell transmission model", to appear.





• Displacement Convexity

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McCann [MC]

A non convex minimization problem:

$$\mathcal{P} = \{ \rho: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \rho \geq 0, \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \rho dx = 1 \}$$

$$E[\rho] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \rho^2 dx + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \rho(x)\rho(y)V(x-y) dx dy}_{\text{not convex in } \rho}$$

Assume  $V \geq 0, V$  convex

Mass transfer

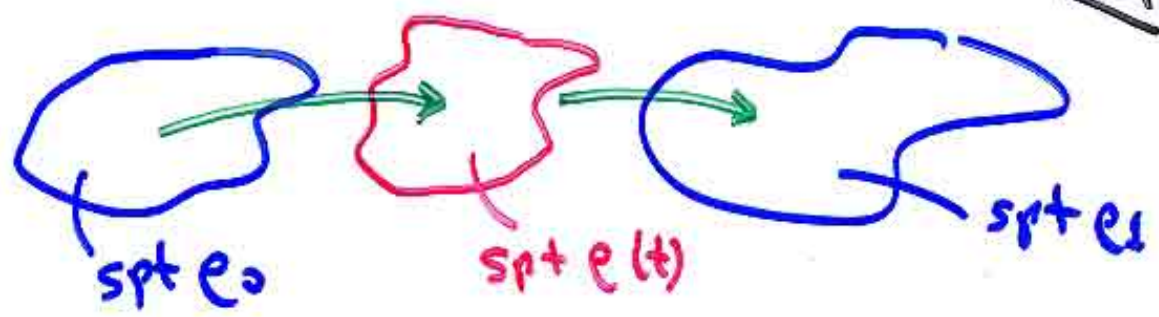
$$c(x,y) = |x-y|^2$$

$\underline{s}$  = optimal transfer plan  
from  $\rho_0$  to  $\rho_1$

Define:  $\rho(t) = [(1-t)I + t\underline{s}] \# \rho_0$   
( $0 \leq t \leq 1$ )

Theorem

$t \mapsto E[\rho(t)]$  is  
convex for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$



$E[\cdot]$  is convex along this path

cf: Villani [V], Jordan-Kinderlehrer-Otto [J-K-O], Otto [Ot], etc

**B. Quasiconvexity**

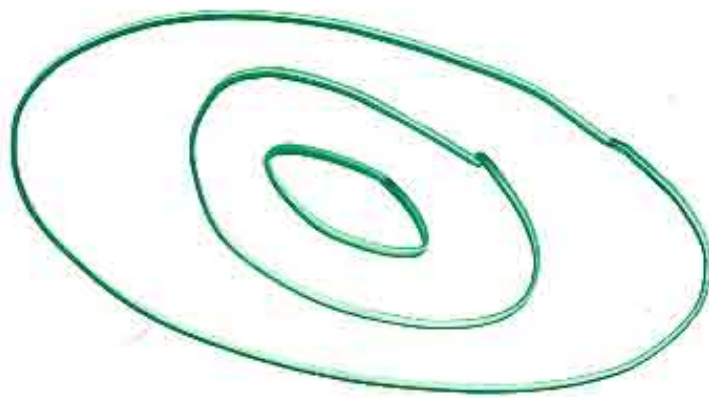
← 2 different meanings

- Level set convexity

Def  $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **level set convex**

if  $\forall c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

the set  $S \times \{F(x) \leq c\}$  is convex



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level sets of  $F$

Level set convexity is called "quasi convexity" in math econ literature

Application

$$A_F[u] = \frac{\partial F(\nabla u)}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial F(\nabla u)}{\partial p_j} u_{x_i x_j} = 0$$

"Aronsson's equation"

Barron-Jensen-Wang [B-J-W]:

Boundary value problems for  $A_F$  are well-posed  $\Leftrightarrow F$  is level set convex

• Morrey quasi convexity

Def  $F: \mathbb{M}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is quasi convex in the sense of Morrey if ...



$$F(A) \leq \int_{B(0,1)} F(A + \nabla \psi) dx$$

$$\forall A \in \mathbb{M}^{m \times n}, \forall \psi \in C_0^1(B(0,1))$$

New examples, counterexamples - Sverak

• If  $\underline{u} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , its energy is

$$I[\underline{u}] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} F(\nabla \underline{u}) dx$$

Dal Maso - Francfort - Toader [DM-F-T]

Theorem (i) If  $\underline{u}_k \rightarrow \underline{u}$  in  $H^1$ , then

$$I[\underline{u}] \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} I[\underline{u}_k]$$

(ii) If  $\underline{u}_k \rightarrow \underline{u}$  and  $I[\underline{u}_k] \rightarrow I[\underline{u}]$ ,

$$\text{then } \nabla F(\nabla \underline{u}_k) \rightarrow \nabla F(\nabla \underline{u})$$

Interesting new observation



Proof  $\forall \eta > 0$

$$\int \frac{F(\underline{v}_k + \eta \underline{\Psi}) - F(\underline{v}_k)}{\eta} \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int \frac{F(\underline{v}_k + \eta \underline{\Psi}) - F(\underline{v}_k)}{\eta}$$

$$\approx \int \nabla F(\underline{v}_k) : \underline{\Psi}$$

So  $\int \nabla F(\underline{v}_k) : \underline{\Psi} \leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int \nabla F(\underline{v}_k) : \underline{\Psi}$

Replace  $\underline{\Psi}$  by  $-\underline{\Psi}$  □

### C. Convex integration

- Differential inclusions

Given  $K \subset \mathbb{M}^{m \times n}$ ,  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$

$g: \bar{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

# BASIC PROBLEM:

$$\text{Find } \underline{u} : \overline{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \text{ such that}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta \underline{u} \in K \text{ a.e. in } U \\ \underline{u} = \underline{g} \text{ on } \partial U \end{array} \right.$$

Many PDE can be put into this form ↗

Method of convex integration (Gromov, Müller-Sierak)

- (i) Build approximate solutions  $\underline{u}^k$  ( $k=1, \dots$ )
- (ii) Show  $\underline{u}^k \rightarrow \underline{u}$  strongly in  $W^{1,1}$  ( $\Delta \underline{u}^k \rightarrow \Delta \underline{u}$  a.e.)

Approximation: Given  $G \supset K$  and  $\underline{v}$  solving

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta \underline{v} \in G \text{ a.e. in } U \\ \underline{v} = \underline{g} \text{ on } \partial U, \end{array} \right.$$

modify  $\underline{v}$  to build  $\underline{u}^k$  satisfying ...

(\*)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \underline{u}^k \in Q \text{ a.e. in } U \\ \| \text{dist}(\nabla \underline{u}^k, K) \|_{L^1} \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right.$

such that  $\underline{u}^k = g$  on  $\partial U$ ,  
 such that  $\nabla \underline{u}^k \rightarrow \nabla \underline{u}$  a.e.

See page 12/13

How can we do this??

• Building approximations

★ Sychev [Sy] ★

Approximation hypothesis:  $\forall A \in Q \forall \epsilon > 0$

$\exists$  a piecewise affine function  $v$  such that

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla v \in Q \text{ a.e. in } U \\ \| \text{dist}(\nabla v, K) \|_{L^1} \leq \epsilon \\ v = Ax \text{ on } \partial U \end{array} \right.$



$v = Ax$   
on  $\partial U$

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**Principle**: "Controlled  $L^\infty$  convergence  
of  $\underline{u}^k$  implies  $L^1$  convergence of  $\nabla \underline{u}^k$ "

Kinchheim [Kr] lecture notes,  
Zhang [Z2]



But

$$\nabla \underline{u}^k \rightarrow \nabla \underline{u} \text{ a.e.}$$

if

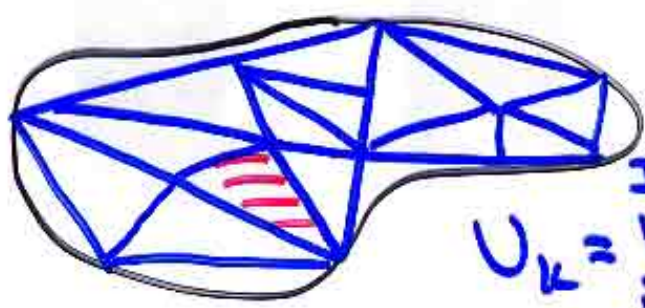
$\|\underline{u}^k - \underline{u}\|_{L^\infty}$  is small compared to  
oscillations of  $\nabla \underline{u}^k$



Theorem Suppose  $g$  is piecewise affine,  
 $\nabla g \in G$  a.e. in  $U$ .  
 Then  $\exists \underline{u}$  such that  $G \not\equiv K$   
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \underline{u} \in K \text{ a.e. in } U \\ \underline{u} = g \text{ on } \partial U \end{array} \right.$

Proof We will build  $\underline{u}^k$  as above, with  
 $\underline{u}^k \rightarrow \underline{u}$  strongly in  $W^{1,1}$

- $\underline{u}^k := g$ . Given  $\underline{u}^k$ , build  $\underline{u}^{k+1}$ :



$U_k = \bigcup_{i=1}^{I_k} T_k^i$   
 tetrahedron

- $Du^k|_{T_k^i}$  is constant

Apply **Approximation hypothesis** on  $T_k^i$ . 19

$$\underline{u}^{k+1} = \underline{u}^k + \phi_k^i \text{ on } T_k^i$$

when  $\phi_k^i$  is piecewise affine,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla(\underline{u}^k + \phi_k^i) \in G \\ \|\text{dist}(\nabla \underline{u}^k + \nabla \phi_k^i, G)\|_{L^1(T_k^i)} \leq \frac{1}{2k} \\ \|\phi_k^i\|_{L^\infty(T_k^i)} \leq \frac{S_k}{k} \end{array} \right. \xrightarrow{\text{fast}} 0$$

• Check  $\underline{u}^k \rightarrow u$  uniformly



$$\underline{v}^k := \begin{cases} u & \text{on vertices of } T_k^i \\ \text{affine} & \text{inside } T_k^i \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\|\underline{u}^k - \underline{v}^k\|_{L^\infty(T_k^i)} \text{ is small}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\nabla \underline{u}^k - \nabla \underline{v}^k\|_{L^\infty(T_k^i)} \text{ is small,}$$

since  $\underline{u}^k, \underline{v}^k$  are affine on  $T_k^i$

$$\text{Now } \nabla \underline{v}^k \approx \nabla u$$

□

Applications (deep): Müller-Sverak <sup>2D</sup>  
[M-S!]

There exists Lipschitz  $u$  solving

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla F(\nabla u)) = 0,$$

$F$  strictly quasiconvex

but  $u \notin C^1(V)$  for any open set  $V$ .

COUNTEREXAMPLE TO PARTIAL  
REGULARITY for critical points  
(bad)  $\nabla F$

• Baire category methods

Dacorogna-Marcellini [D-M!]

Model problem

$$\begin{cases} F(\nabla u) = 0 & \text{a.e. in } U \\ u = g & \text{on } \partial U \end{cases}$$



Assume:  $F$  is convex,  $\lim_{|p| \rightarrow \infty} F(p) = \infty$ , 21

$$g = a \cdot x, \quad F(a) < 0$$

affine boundary  
conditions

Theorem  $\exists$   $\infty$  many Lipschitz solutions

Proof  $\mathcal{X} = \{u \in C^{0,1} \mid u = g \text{ on } \partial U, F(\nabla u) \leq 0 \text{ a.e.}\}$ ,

with sup-norm topology.

$$V_k := \{u \in \mathcal{X} \mid \int_U F(\nabla u) dx > -\frac{1}{k}\}$$

Claim #1  $V_k$  is open

Proof let  $u_j \in \mathcal{X} - V_k$ ,  $u_j \rightarrow u$  uniformly,  
 $\nabla u_j \rightharpoonup^* \nabla u$

$$\int F(\nabla u) \leq \liminf \int F(\nabla u_j) \leq -\frac{1}{k}$$



So  $u \in \mathbb{X} - V_k$ .

Claim #2  $V_k$  is dense (See [D-M I])

Since  $\mathbb{X}$  is complete metric space,

$\bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} V_k$  is dense in  $\mathbb{X}$ .

Finite  
Taking  
things

$u \in \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} V_k \Rightarrow F(\nabla u) = 0$  a.e.

□

The book [D-M I] has many other examples —



- See references for recent work on gradient flows  $\dot{u} = -\nabla I[u]$

# Topic II: OSCILLATIONS AND CANCELLATION

## A. Homogenization

### • Two-scale Convergence

Nguenetsung [Ng], Allaire [A], Tartar

Def A sequence  $\{u^{\epsilon_i}\}$  two-scale  
converges to  $u = u(x,y)$  if

$$\lim_{\epsilon_i \rightarrow 0} \int_U u^{\epsilon_i}(x) \phi(x, \frac{x}{\epsilon_i}) dx = \int_U \int_{\mathbb{T}^n} u(x,y) \phi(x,y) dy dx$$

$\forall \phi \in C^\infty(U \times \mathbb{T}^n)$

We write  $u^{\epsilon_i} \rightharpoonup u$

## Theory -

- If  $\{u^\varepsilon\}$  is bounded in  $L^2$ ,  $\exists$  a subsequence  $\{u^{\varepsilon_j}\}$  that 2-scale converges
- Suppose  $u^\varepsilon \rightharpoonup u$  in  $H^1$ . Then  $\exists \tilde{u} \in L^2(\cup, H^1(\mathbb{T}^n))$  such that

$$\nabla u^\varepsilon \rightharpoonup \nabla u + \nabla_y \tilde{u}$$

Application: standard homogenization

$$-(a_{ij}(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}) u_{x_i}^\varepsilon)_{x_j} = f$$

Multiply by  $\phi(x) + \varepsilon \tilde{\phi}(x, \frac{x}{\varepsilon})$

*Perturbed  
test  
function*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\cup} a_{ij}(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}) u_{x_i}^\varepsilon (\phi_{x_j} + \tilde{\phi}_{y_j} + \varepsilon \tilde{\phi}_{x_j}) dx \\ = \int_{\cup} f (\phi + \varepsilon \tilde{\phi}) dx \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_j \rightarrow 0$

...

$$\int_{\nu} \int_{\pi^n} a_{ij}(y) (u_{x_i} + \tilde{u}_{y_i}) (\psi_{x_i} + \tilde{\psi}_{y_i}) dx dy = \int_{\nu} f \psi dx$$

This holds  $\forall \psi, \tilde{\psi}$

- $(a_{ij}(y) (u_{x_i} + \tilde{u}_{y_i}))_{y_j} = 0$
- $(\int_{\pi^n} a_{ij}(y) (u_{x_i} + \tilde{u}_{y_i}) dy)_{x_j} = f$

Solve these to get usual formulas, etc.  $\square$

- See Allaire [A] for homogenization of  $I_{\varepsilon}[v] = \int F(\nabla v, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}) dx$

- See Cioranescu - Danilovian et al [C-D-G] [C-D-DA] for periodic unfolding method.



• Large oscillations

Capdeboscq [CP], Allaire - Capdeboscq  
- Piatnitski - Siess - Varinathan [A-C-P-S-V]

Model problem:

$$(*) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\varepsilon^2 \Delta u^\varepsilon + V\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right) u^\varepsilon = \lambda_0 u^\varepsilon + \varepsilon^2 f \end{array} \right.$$

← periodic    perturbation

Eigenvalue problem:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\Delta \phi + V(y) \phi = \lambda_0 \phi \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^n \\ \phi > 0 \end{array} \right.$$

← principal eigenfunction

$\phi^\varepsilon(x) = \phi\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right)$  solves

$$-\varepsilon^2 \Delta \phi^\varepsilon + V\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right) \phi^\varepsilon = \lambda_0 \phi^\varepsilon$$

Try  $u^\varepsilon(x) = \underbrace{\phi\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right)}_{\text{large oscillations}} v^\varepsilon(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \cancel{\varepsilon^2} ( |\phi^\varepsilon|^2 v_{x_i}^\varepsilon )_{x_i} \\
& = - \varepsilon^2 ( |\phi^\varepsilon|^2 ( \frac{u^\varepsilon}{\phi^\varepsilon} )_{x_i} )_{x_i} \\
& = - \varepsilon^2 ( u_{x_i}^\varepsilon \phi^\varepsilon - u^\varepsilon \phi_{x_i}^\varepsilon )_{x_i} \\
& = - \varepsilon^2 ( \Delta u^\varepsilon \phi^\varepsilon - u^\varepsilon \Delta \phi^\varepsilon ) \\
& = \cancel{\varepsilon^2} f \phi^\varepsilon
\end{aligned}$$

So 
$$- ( |\phi(\frac{x}{\varepsilon})|^2 v_{x_i}^\varepsilon )_{x_i} = f \phi(\frac{x}{\varepsilon})$$

Routine to find PDE solved by  $v = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} v^\varepsilon$

Open question: fully nonlinear versions?  
Stochastic homogenization - many interesting questions?  
 What do the effective equations "mean"?

### 13. Jacobians

Key identities:

- $A^T \text{cof } A = (\det A) I$
- $\text{div}(\text{cof } \nabla \underline{u}) \equiv 0$

Use these to understand effects of oscillation / cancellation

Reference: book by Iwaniec & Martin [I-M2]

- Mappings with gradients in  $SO(n)$

$$A A^T = I, \det A = 1$$

Reshetnyak's Thm Suppose  $\underline{u}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
 $\nabla \underline{u} \in SO(n)$ . Then  
 $\underline{u}(x) = Ax + a$

Proof  $(\nabla \underline{u})^T \text{cof } \nabla \underline{u} = (\det \nabla \underline{u}) \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{I}^{1/2}$

$$(\nabla \underline{u})^T \nabla \underline{u} = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \underline{u} = \text{cof } \nabla \underline{u}$$

$$\therefore 0 = \text{div}(\text{cof } \nabla \underline{u}) = \text{div}(\nabla \underline{u}) = \Delta \underline{u}$$

Also,  $\Delta(|\nabla \underline{u}|^2 - n) = 2 \nabla \underline{u} \cdot \nabla \Delta \underline{u} + 2|\nabla^2 \underline{u}|^2$   
 $= 0$

and

$$|\nabla \underline{u}|^2 = \text{tr}(\nabla \underline{u}^T \nabla \underline{u}) = n$$

$$\therefore |\nabla^2 \underline{u}|^2 \equiv 0$$

□

Plate theories (=  $\Gamma$ -limit of 3-D  
elasticity models)

Friesecke-James-Müller

[F-J-M]



Key estimate:

$$\|\nabla u - \Omega\|_{L^2} \leq C \|\text{dist}(\nabla u, SO(n))\|_{L^2}$$

for some  $\Omega \in SO(n)$

### C. Hardy space methods

References: Stein's book [St], Chapters 3 & 4

#### • Definitions, theory

Let  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(B(0,1))$ ,  $\int \phi dx = 1$

$$\bullet g^*(x) = \sup_{r>0} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \phi\left(\frac{y-x}{r}\right) dy$$

$$\bullet \|g\|_{\mathcal{H}^1} = \|g^*\|_{L^1}$$

Hardy space

$$(\mathcal{H}^1)^* = \text{BMO} \quad (\text{C. Fefferman})^{\frac{31}{}}$$

$\mathcal{H}^1$  is a "replacement" for  $L^1$   
 $\text{BMO} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad L^\infty$

• Div-Curl methods

Coifman - Lions - Meyer - Semmes  
 [C-L-M-S]

Theorem Suppose  $\underline{a} \in L^2$ ,  $w \in \mathcal{H}^1$   
 $\nabla \cdot \underline{a} = 0$ .

Then  $\underline{a} \cdot \nabla w \in \mathcal{H}^1$

obviously  $\in L^1$

Proof:  $\phi_r = \psi\left(\frac{y-x}{r}\right)$

$$\int_{B(x,r)} \underline{a} \cdot \nabla w \phi_r \, dy = - \int_{B(x,r)} (w - (w)_{x,r}) \underline{a} \cdot \nabla \phi_r \, dy$$

average  
over  $B(x,r)$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| \int_{B(x_0)} \underline{a} \cdot \nabla w \phi_r dy \right| &\leq \frac{C}{r^{n+1}} \int_{B(x_0)} |w - (w)_{x_0}| g \\
 &\leq C \left( \int_{B(x_0)} |\nabla w|^s dx \right)^{1/s} \left( \int_{B(x_0)} |g|^t dy \right)^{1/t} \\
 &\leq C \left[ m(|\nabla w|^s)^{2/s} + m(|g|^t)^{2/t} \right] \\
 &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\in L^1} \text{maximal functions}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Application #1: Wente's Lemma

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = f_x g_y - f_y g_x & (n=2) \\ f, g \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^2). \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\|u\|_{L^\infty} \leq C (\|f\|_{H^1}^2 + \|g\|_{H^1}^2)$$

Proof

$$f_x g_y - f_y g_x = \underline{a} \cdot \nabla w$$

$$f_x g_y - f_y g_x = \underline{a} \cdot \nabla w \quad \nabla \cdot \underline{a} = 0$$



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So  $f_x g_y - f_y g_x \in \mathcal{H}^1$ .

$$\mathbb{I} = \log r \in \text{BMO}$$

$$\Rightarrow u = \mathbb{I} * (f_x g_y - f_y g_x) \in L^\infty$$

Application #2: Harmonic maps into spheres

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = |\nabla u|^2 u & (n \geq 2) \\ |u| = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$u \in H^1$$

Theorem

$$|\nabla u|^2 u \in \mathcal{H}^1$$

Proof  $|u|^2 \equiv 1 \rightarrow u^i u_{x_k}^i \equiv 0$

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla u|^2 u^i &= u_{x_k}^i u_{x_k}^i u^i \\ &= u_{x_k}^i (u_{x_k}^i u^i - u^i u_{x_k}^i) \\ &= u_{x_k}^i a_{ij}^k \end{aligned}$$

Helein

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a_{ij}^k)_{x_k} &= (\Delta u^i u^i - \Delta u^i u^i) \\
 &= -|\nabla \underline{u}|^2 (u^i u^i - u^i u^i) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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Consequences:

(n=2)  $\underline{u}$  is continuous,  $\therefore$  smooth

(n=2) partial regularity for studying harmonic maps

[ES], Bethuel [Be], Helein's book [H]

(n $\geq$ 3) biharmonic maps

Chang-Wang-Yang [C-W-Y]

\* Riviere [Rv], Riviere-Struwe [Rv-S]:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \Delta \underline{u} = \underline{\Omega} : \nabla \underline{u} \\
 \text{anti-symmetric} \\
 + \text{gauge transformations}
 \end{array} \right.$$

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Application #3 : Navier-Stokes equations

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_t + (\underline{u} \cdot \nabla) \underline{u} - \nu \Delta \underline{u} = -\nabla p \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{u} = 0 \end{cases}$$

See P L Lions' books on fluid mechanics,  
Vol I [L1]:

$$\underline{D}^2 p \in L^1(0, T, \mathcal{H}^1)$$

Proof  $-\Delta p = u_{x_i}^i u_{x_i}^i \in \mathcal{H}^1$

Application #4 : Geometric problems ( $n=2$ )

Sternik-Müller [M-S2]

Strzelecki [S7]

$$\Delta \underline{u} = 2H(\underline{u})(\underline{u}_x \times \underline{u}_y)$$



More "div-curl" methods:

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Bourgain-Brezis [B-B] [B-B2]

Van Schaftingen [VS]  $\nabla \cdot \underline{f} = 0$

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times \underline{z} = \underline{f} \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{z} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\underline{z} = \bar{\Delta}^{-1}(\nabla \times \underline{f})$$

(n=3)

$$\|\underline{z}\|_{L^{3/2}} \leq C \|\underline{f}\|_{L^1}$$

• Nonnegative vorticity Delort [DL]

E-Möller [E-M], Semmes [S]

Theorem

$$u \in H^1, \quad \omega \geq 0$$

(n=2)

$$-\Delta u = \omega$$

then

$$u_x u_y, \quad u_x^2 - u_y^2 \in \mathcal{D}'$$

## Interpretation

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$$\omega = \text{vorticity}$$

$$\underline{v} = \nabla u^T = \text{velocity}$$

$$v^1 v^2, (v^1)^2 - (v^2)^2 \in \mathcal{H}^1$$

DiPerna-Majda reformulate 2-D Euler equations in terms of  $v^1 v^2, (v^1)^2 - (v^2)^2$

New paper by Tom Hou - Delort

## D. Noll forms

Klainerman, Klainerman-Machedon [K-M]  
Shatah-Struwe [S-S], Sogge [Sg]

$$\square u = u_{tt} - \Delta u = \underbrace{\varphi(\nabla u, \nabla u)}_{\text{quadratic in } \nabla u, \text{ "Jacobian" structure}}$$

Tools: Klainerman-Sobolev  $\leq$ , Fourier analysis

• Passing to weak limits

Wave maps into spheres:

$$\begin{cases} \square \underline{u} = (|\nabla_x \underline{u}|^2 - |\underline{u}_t|^2) \underline{u} \\ |\underline{u}| = 1 \end{cases}$$

Approximation  $\square \underline{u}^\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} (|\underline{u}^\epsilon|^2 - 1) \underline{u}^\epsilon = 0$

Weak Convergence:  $\nabla \underline{u}^\epsilon \rightharpoonup \nabla \underline{u}$  in  $L^2$

$$(\square u^{\epsilon,i}) u^{\epsilon,i} - (\square u^{\epsilon,ij}) u^{\epsilon,ij} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( u_{\underline{t}}^{\epsilon,i} u^{\epsilon,ij} \right)_{\underline{t}} - \left( u_{x_k}^{\epsilon,ij} u^{\epsilon,ij} \right)_{x_k} \\ & - \left( u_{\underline{t}}^{\epsilon,ij} u^{\epsilon,i} \right)_{\underline{t}} + \left( u_{x_k}^{\epsilon,ij} u^{\epsilon,ij} \right)_{x_k} \end{aligned}$$

Pass to weak limits:

$$(\square u^i) u^i - (\square u^j) u^j = 0$$

$$\square \underline{u} \text{ is } \llcorner \text{ to } \underline{u} \quad \square \underline{u} = \lambda \underline{u}$$

$\lambda = |\nabla_x \underline{u}|^2 - |\underline{u}_t|^2$



• Estimates for null forms

Vectorfields:

rotations

$$R_{jk} = x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - x_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$$

$$R_j = x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + t \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$$

dilation

$$S = t \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + x_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$$

translations

$$T_0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

$$T_{jk} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$$

conformal


$$K_0 = (|x|^2 - t^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - 2tS$$

$$K_i = (|x|^2 - t^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} - 2x_i S$$

Recall  $[X, Y] = XY - YX$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(u, v) &= u_t v_t - \nabla_x u \cdot \nabla_x v \\ \varphi_{k\ell}(u, v) &= u_{x_k} v_{x_\ell} - u_{x_\ell} v_{x_k} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \varphi(u, v) \\ \varphi_{k\ell}(u, v) \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 40 \\ \text{null} \\ \text{forms} \end{array}$$

$$[\Gamma, \varphi](u, v) = \Gamma \varphi(u, v) - \varphi(\Gamma u, v) - \varphi(u, \Gamma v)$$


vector field

Study:

$$[\mathcal{R}_{k\ell}, \varphi] = 0$$

$$[S, \varphi_{k\ell}] = 0$$

$$[S, \varphi] = -2\varphi$$

$$[\mathcal{R}_{k\ell}, \varphi_{ij}] = \dots$$

See references for more details...

Applications: Local well posedness of

$$\square u = \varphi$$

for less regular initial data, ...

# E. Commutators

• BASIC idea

• Let  $Tu(x) = \int K(x-y)u(y) dy$

Eg:  $T = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} (-\Delta)^{-1}$  Singular C-7 kernel

• Given a function  $\phi$

• Look at

$[\phi, T]u(x) = \phi(Tu) - T(\phi u)$   
Commutator

$= \int K(x-y) (\phi(x) - \phi(y)) u(y) dy$

Use this term to "cancel" part of singularity of  $K$

Coifman, Coifman-Meyer [C-M]



(See also Feireisl [Fe]) 42  
Application: PL Lions [L2], Vol 2.

### Compressible Navier-Stokes equation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho \underline{u}) = 0 \\ (\rho \underline{u})_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho \underline{u} \otimes \underline{u}) - \mu \Delta \underline{u} \\ - \gamma (\nabla \cdot \underline{u}) + \nabla p^\delta = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$p$  = pressure =  $p^\delta$

$\rho$  = density

$\underline{u}$  = velocity

$$\begin{array}{l} \mu > 0 \\ \mu + \gamma > 0 \end{array}$$

Convergence of solutions Let  $(\rho^k, \underline{u}^k)$  be a  
sequence of solutions.

$$\bullet \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int \rho^k |\underline{u}^k|^2 + (\rho^k)^\delta dx \\ + \int_0^T \int |\nabla \underline{u}^k|^2 dx dt \leq C$$

$$\bullet \|\rho^k\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T))} \leq C \quad (q > \delta)$$

Weak limits :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p^k \rightharpoonup p \quad \text{in } L^\infty(0, T, L^r) \\ \underline{u}^k \rightharpoonup \underline{u} \quad \text{in } L^2(0, T, H^1) \\ \sqrt{p^k} \rightharpoonup r \quad \dots \\ \sqrt{p^k} \underline{u}^k \rightharpoonup \underline{v} \quad \dots \\ p^k \underline{u}^k \rightharpoonup \underline{m} \quad \dots \\ p^k \underline{u}^{k,i}, \underline{u}^{k,j} \rightharpoonup e_{ij} \quad \dots \end{array} \right.$$

and

$$(p^k)^\delta \rightarrow p$$

Theorem (i)  $\underline{v} = r \underline{u}$ ,  $\underline{m} = p \underline{u}$ ,  
 $e_{ij} = p u^i u^j$

(ii) If  $p_0^k \rightarrow p_0$  in  $L^1$ , then

$$\underline{p^k} \rightarrow \underline{p} \text{ in } L^r \quad (1 \leq r < \infty)$$

and  $(p, \underline{u})$  solves compressible N-S

$$p = p^\delta$$

Main ideas of proof:

• Lemma let  $\begin{cases} g^k \rightarrow g \\ h^k \rightarrow h \end{cases}$  in  $L^q_t L^p_x$  in  $L^q_t L^{p'}_x$

Control in (i)  $\{g^k\}$  is bounded in  $L^2(0, T, W^{-m, 2})$

Control in (ii)  $\|h^k(\cdot, 0) - h^k(\cdot + \gamma, t)\|_{L^q_t L^{p'}_x} = o(1)$  as  $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$

Then  $g^k h^k \rightarrow gh$  in  $\mathcal{D}'$

• Use Lemma to prove (i):

$$\begin{cases} e_t + \nabla \cdot (e u) = 0 \\ (e u)_t + \nabla \cdot (e u \otimes u) - \mu \Delta u - \rho(\nabla \cdot u) + \nabla p = 0 \end{cases}$$

Key question - Is  $p = e^\delta$ ?

Recall  $p = \text{weak limit of } (e^k)^\delta$



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- Let 
$$\begin{cases} s = e \log e \\ s^k = e^k \log e^k \rightarrow \bar{s} \\ (e^k)^{\alpha+1} \rightarrow \pi \end{cases} \quad e^k \rightarrow e$$

- Use Commutator smoothing effect to show

$$(\bar{s} - s)_t + \nabla \cdot (u (\bar{s} - s)) + \frac{1}{\mu + \eta} (\pi - p e) = 0$$

- Observe that

$$\begin{array}{l} \pi \geq p e \\ \bar{s} \geq s \end{array}$$

So  $\int_{\Omega} \underbrace{\bar{s} - s}_{\geq 0} dx \leq 0$

hence  $\bar{s} = s$  if  $\bar{s}^0 = s^0$ .

Then  $e^k \rightarrow e$  strongly  $\square$

# Topic III : CONCENTRATION

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## A. Defect measures

### • Definitions

Suppose  $u^k \rightharpoonup u$  weakly in  $L^2$

Definition (i)  $\nu_k(E) := \int_E |u^k - u|^2 dx$

(ii) If  $\nu_k \rightarrow \nu$  as measures, we call  $\nu$  a **defect measure** for the weak convergence  $u^k \rightharpoonup u$ .

Facts •  $\nu \equiv 0 \iff u^k \rightarrow u$  strongly in  $L^2$

$$\bullet \int |u^k|^2 dx \rightarrow \int |u|^2 dx + \nu$$

Proof 
$$\int_E |u^k - u|^2 dx = \int_E (u^k)^2 - 2u^k u + |u|^2 dx$$

So 
$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_E |u^k|^2 dx = \int_E |u|^2 dx + \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\int_E (u^k - u)^2 dx}_{\rightarrow 0}$$

□

Applications to PDE : Study properties of  $v$  when  $u^k$  solve certain PDE

Time-dependent problems : Derive an evolution equation for  $v$ . Or differential inequality.

(Example:  $\frac{d}{dt} \int \bar{s} - s dx \leq 0$ )

Static problems : Derive an equation (or variational principle) for  $v$

...



EXAMPLE Stationary harmonic maps

$$\underline{u} : U \rightarrow \underbrace{N \subset \mathbb{R}^m}_{\text{target}}$$



- \$\underline{u}\$ is weakly harmonic if \$\Delta \underline{u} \perp T\_u N\$  
 $\underline{u} \in H^1$   
target space of \$N\$ at \$\underline{u}\$

- \$\underline{u}\$ is stationary if

$$\int_U \nabla \cdot \underline{\phi} |\nabla \underline{u}|^2 - 2 \phi_{x_p}^x \underline{u}_{x_i} \cdot \underline{u}_{x_p} dx = 0$$

\$\nabla \underline{\phi} \in C\_c^1\$



F-H Li-Tian Shen:

Thm Let \$\underline{u}^k\$ be stationary, \$\underline{u}^k \rightharpoonup \underline{u}\$ in \$H^1\$

(i) \$\int |\nabla \underline{u}^k|^2 dx \rightharpoonup \int |\nabla \underline{u}|^2 dx + \underbrace{\nu}\_{\text{defect measure}}

(ii) \$\int\_U \text{div} \frac{\underline{\phi}}{r^2} dv + \int\_U \nabla \cdot \underline{\phi} |\nabla \underline{u}|^2 - 2 \phi\_{x\_p}^x \underline{u}\_{x\_i} \cdot \underline{u}\_{x\_p} dx = 0\$



When  $\Sigma$  is countably,  $(n-2)$  rectifiable 49

$$\nu \ll \underbrace{H^{n-2}}_{\text{Hausdorff measure}} \llcorner \Sigma$$

If  $\mu$  is stationary, then

$$\int \operatorname{div}_{\Sigma} \phi \, d\nu = 0$$

See also Lin-Wang [L-W], Li-Tian [L-T], etc.

★★ Wonderful paper by R. Moser [M] on stationary measures. ★★

### B. Semiclassical defect measures

to study concentrations / oscillations  
with  $\epsilon$  known small length scale  
 $\epsilon > 0$

Notation  $\langle z \rangle = (1 + |z|^2)^{1/2}$  50

$$S^0 = \{ \underbrace{a(x, z)}_{\text{symbol}} \mid |D_x^\alpha D_z^\beta a| \leq C_{\alpha\beta} \langle z \rangle^{-|\beta|} \}$$

Def The Weyl quantization of  $a$  is the operator

$$a^W(x, \epsilon D)f = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} a\left(\frac{x+y}{2}, \frac{z}{\epsilon}\right) e^{i(x-y) \cdot z / \epsilon} f(y) dy dz$$

$a^W : L^2 \rightarrow L^2$  is bounded

Def The Wigner transform of  $a$  is the function

$$W^\epsilon(u)(x, z) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} u\left(x - \frac{\epsilon v}{2}\right) \overline{u\left(x + \frac{\epsilon v}{2}\right)} e^{i v \cdot z} dv$$

Identity:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} W^\varepsilon(u) a \, dx \, dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \bar{u} a^W(x, \varepsilon D) u \, dx$$

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Theorem If  $\{u^\varepsilon\}$  is bounded in  $L^2$ ,  $\exists$   
 $\varepsilon_j \rightarrow 0$  and a measure  $\mu \geq 0$   
such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \bar{u}^{\varepsilon_j} a^W(x, \varepsilon_j D) u^{\varepsilon_j} \, dx \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} a \, d\mu$$

for all symbols  $a \in S^0$

We call  $\mu$  a **semiclassical defect measure** (or **Wigner measure**)

Lions-Paul [L-P], Gerard-  
Markowich-Mausser-Poupaud [G-M-M-P]  
E-Zworski [E-Z], etc



Goals Suppose  $u^\epsilon$  solves a linear PDE involving a known small scale  $\epsilon > 0$ . Show localization and transport properties of  $\mu$ :

- If  $\|a^\omega(x, \epsilon D)u^\epsilon\|_{L^2} = o(\Delta)$ ,  
 $\|u^\epsilon\|_{L^2} = 1$ ,

then

$$\text{supp } \mu \subseteq \{a = 0\}$$

localization

- If  $\|a^\omega(x, \epsilon D)u^\epsilon\|_{L^2} = o(\epsilon)$ ,

then

$$\int_{|\eta| \geq \eta} \langle a, b \rangle d\mu = 0$$

invariance

for all  $b \in C_c^\infty$

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \nabla_x a \cdot \nabla_\eta b - \nabla_\eta a \cdot \nabla_x b$$

★ See especially papers by P. Gerard ★



C. Microlocal defect measures

(aka "H-measures")

L. Tartar, P. Gerard (← see references)

to study concentration/oscillation when we do not have a known small length scale

Good review paper by G. Francfort [Fr]

Notation  $S_h = \{a \in S \mid a(x, \xi) = a(x, \eta) \}$   
Symbols homogeneous of degree 0.

Theorem Suppose  $u^\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  in  $L^2$ . Then  $\exists \epsilon_j \rightarrow 0$  and a measure  $\mu \geq 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times S^{n-1}$  such that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \overline{u^{\epsilon_j}} a(x, D) u^{\epsilon_j} dx \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{S^{n-1}} a d\mu$  for all  $a \in S_h$

Goals: Show localization and transport properties of  $\mu$  - See references ... /54

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## D. Other Concentration phenomena

See references ...

### A. Soliton dynamics

Bronski - Terras  
(Nonlinear Schrödinger equation  
→ classical dynamics)

### B. Renormalized solutions

Lions - DiPerna

### C. Critical nonlinear wave equation

Grillakis,  
Shatah - Strauss

### D. Yamabe-type problems

E. Landau - Ginzburg problems

$$I_\epsilon[u] = \int \epsilon \frac{|\nabla u|^2}{2} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} (1 - |u|^2)^2 dx$$

- Static problems

Bethuel - Brezis - Hlein book

- Dynamic problems

E - Sorn - Songmidis  
 Bethuel - Orlandi - Smets  
 Jerrard - Sonner ...

PLEASE TELL ME  
 ABOUT OTHER  
 INTERESTING WORK