Kinetic Description of Hamilton-Jacobi PDE I

Fraydoun Rezakhanlou

Department of Mathematics UC Berkeley

PDE/Probability Student Seminar

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Motivation

Convex Duality

Tessellation and Triangulation

Second Polytope

Minkowski-Alexandrov Problem and Optimal Transport

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Hamilton-Jacobi Dynamics

In many models of interest we encounter an interface that separates different phases and is evolving with time. The interface at a location *x* and time *t* changes with a rate that depends on (*x*, *t*), and the inclination of the interface at that location. If the interface is represented by a graph of a function $(x, t) \mapsto u(x, t), \quad u : \mathbb{R}^d \times [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$, then a natural model for its evolution is a Hamilton-Jacobi PDE:

$$u_t = H(x, t, u_x), \quad u(x, 0) = g(x).$$

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$$u_t = H(x, t, u_x), \quad u(x, 0) = g(x).$$

Select *g* according to a (reasonable) probability measure μ^0 .

Let us write μ^t for the law of $u(\cdot, t)$ at time t. Note: If Φ_t is the flow (in other words $u(\cdot, t) = (\Phi_t g)(\cdot)$), then $\mu^t = \Phi_t^* \mu^0$. Question: Can we find a nice/tractable/explicit evolution equation for μ^t ?

We may also keep track of $\rho = u_x$ (more natural). The law of $\rho(\cdot, t)$ is denoted by ν^t . Equilibrium Measure: $\nu^t = \nu^0$.

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Assume H(x, t, p) = H(p) depends on p only:

$$u_t = H(u_x), \quad u(x,0) = g(x).$$

This equation does not possess classical solutions in general. The theory of viscosity solutions offers a unique generalized solution for a given Lipschitz initial g. This solution has a variational description when either g or H is convex. Recall

$$g^*(\rho) = \sup_x (x \cdot \rho - g(x))$$

$$f^*(x) = \sup_{\rho} (x \cdot \rho - f(\rho)),$$

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(We are solving $u_t = H(u_x)$, $u(\cdot, 0) = g$) If g is convex, then

$$u(x,t)=(g^*-tH)^*(x).$$

More explicitly

$$U^*(\rho, t) = \sup_{x} \left(x \cdot \rho - g(x) - tH(\rho) \right),$$

$$u(x,t) = \sup_{\rho} \left(x \cdot \rho - g^*(\rho) + t H(\rho) \right),$$

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$$u(x,t) = \sup_{y} \left(g(y) - tL\left(\frac{y-x}{t}\right) \right),$$

where $L = H^*$ is the Legendre transform of H. **Remark** Define the semigroup $\Phi = (\Phi_t : t \ge 0)$, by $\Phi_t g(x) = u(x, t)$. When H is convex, then Φ_t is strongly monotone: If $(g_a : a \in A)$ is a family of initial data, then

$$\Phi_t\left(\sup_{a\in A}g_\alpha\right)=\sup_{a\in A}\Phi_tg_a.$$

This is an immediate consequence of HLO Formula

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Hopf-Lax-Oleinik Formula (Convex H)

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Observe $u(x, t) = x \cdot \rho + a + tH(\rho)$ is a solution for initial $u(x, 0) = x \cdot \rho + a$. g convex means $g = g^{**}$:

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Write C for the set of convex functions. It is an invariant set for the dynamics. When $g \in C$ is convex, then Hopf Formula offers a rather simple dynamics for the evolution of $\Phi_t g$: If we define $\Psi_t h := (\Phi_t h^*)^*$, then

$$\Psi_t h = (h - tH)^{**} =: (h - tH)^o.$$

(f^o means Convex Hull of f)

In words, the flow Ψ is associated with a linear motion with velocity -H.

Since h - tH may not be convex, we need to take its convex hull to stay in C.

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Observe that when both *H* and *g* are convex, then it is possible that $(h - tH)^o \neq h - tH$ for every t > 0. Indeed this would always be the case if *g* is piecewise linear and *H* is strictly

convex. Nonetheless (as will see later on), there is a kinetic description for Ψ that would give a local description of the dynamics as opposed to what is given on the right-hand side that involves a convex hull.

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Take a function $h : \mathbb{R}^d \to (-\infty, +\infty]$.

$$P = Dom(h) := \{ \rho : h(\rho) \neq \infty \}.$$

Define

$$u(x) = h^*(x) = \sup_{\rho} (x \cdot \rho - h(\rho)) = \sup_{\rho \in P} (x \cdot \rho - h(\rho)).$$

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We write $\partial h(a)$ for the set of subgradients of *h* at *a*:

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As Hopf's formula, it is more convenient to assume our convex function can be expressed as $u = h^*$, where $h : \mathbb{R}^d \to (-\infty, \infty]$ with Dom(h) =: P a closed subset of \mathbb{R}^d .

We always assume that the restriction of *h* to the set *P* is continuous, and

$$\lim_{\rho|\to\infty}\frac{h(\rho)}{|\rho|}=\infty,$$

so that *u* is a finite-valued convex function.

We say the set *P* is *minimal*, if the set *P* cannot be replaced with any proper subset of *P* in

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