

Higher regularity in congested traffic dynamics

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Monday's Nonstandard Seminar

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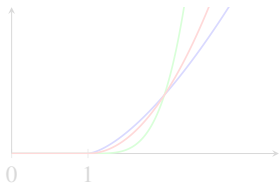
Very degenerate PDEs

Model case of a very degenerate PDE

$$\operatorname{div} \left((|\nabla u| - 1)_+^{p-1} \frac{\nabla u}{|\nabla u|} \right) = f$$

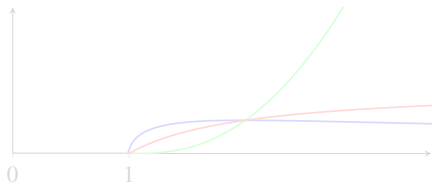
⇔ Minimizing the variational integral

$$F(u) = \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{1}{p} (|\nabla u| - 1)_+^p + fu \right] dx$$



$$h(t) = (t-1)_+^p$$

$$p = \frac{3}{2}, p = 2, p = 4$$



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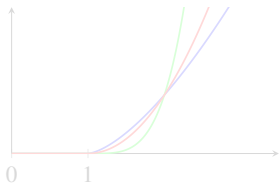
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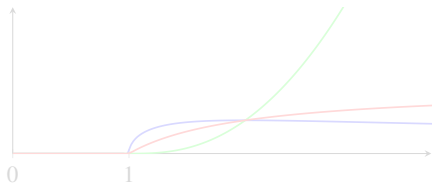
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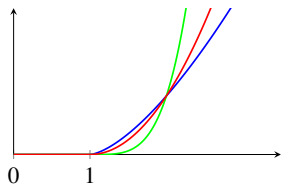
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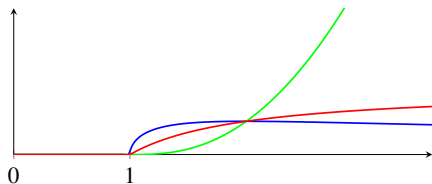
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Wardrop equilibrium (Wardrop 1952)

Relies on two principles:

- **User equilibrium:** each user chooses the route that is the best \Rightarrow journey times in all routes actually used are equal and less than those that would be experienced by a single vehicle on any unused route
- **System optimality:** average journey time is at a minimum (in particular, users behave cooperatively in choosing their routes to ensure the most efficient use of the whole system)

Model by Monge-Kantorovich problem

- $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ($\bar{\Omega}$ models the city for $n = 2$)
- μ_0, μ_1 probability measures on $\bar{\Omega}$ (distribution of residents and services in the city $\bar{\Omega}$)
- $\Pi(\mu_0, \mu_1)$: set of transportation plans (probability measures on $\bar{\Omega} \times \bar{\Omega}$ having μ_0 and μ_1 as marginals)
- $c \in C(\bar{\Omega} \times \bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R})$ cost function

Monge-Kantorovich optimal transportation problem

$$\inf_{\gamma \in \Pi(\mu_0, \mu_1)} \int_{\bar{\Omega} \times \bar{\Omega}} c(x, y) \, d\gamma(x, y).$$

What is **not realistic** in this model:

- model is path independent (individual's travelling strategies are irrelevant)
- congestion effects are not considered (the cost $c(x, y)$ is independent of "how crowded" the used path is)

Carlier, Jimenez, Santambrogio (2008) introduced the notion of a **transportation strategy** taking into account

- different possible paths
- congestion effects

This model results in the following [minimization problem](#):

$$\min \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{H}(\sigma) \, dx : \sigma \in L^q(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n), \operatorname{div} \sigma = \mu_0 - \mu_1, \sigma \cdot \nu_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \right\},$$

where σ represents the traffic flow and

$$\mathcal{H}(\sigma) = H(|\sigma|), \quad \text{with } H(t) = t + \frac{1}{q}t^q \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1.$$

The function $g(t) = H'(t) = 1 + t^{q-1}$ models the congestion effect.

By duality one can show that $\sigma = \nabla \mathcal{H}^*(\nabla u)$

- \mathcal{H}^* is the Legendre transform of \mathcal{H}
- u solves the Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{div} \nabla \mathcal{H}^*(\nabla u) = \mu_0 - \mu_1 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \nabla \mathcal{H}^*(\nabla u) \cdot \nu = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

Literature on traffic congestion problem models:

- Warprop (1952)
- Carlier, Jimenez, Santambrogio (2008)
Derivation of the model and existence of minimizers
- Brasco, Carlier, Santambrogio (2010)
Characterization by the very degenerate elliptic PDE
- ...

Very degenerate PDEs

Since

$$\mathcal{H}(\zeta) = \frac{1}{q}|\zeta|^q + |\zeta|$$

we compute

$$\mathcal{H}^*(z) = \frac{1}{p}(|z| - 1)_+^p, \quad \text{where } p = \frac{q}{q-1}.$$

This results in the very degenerate PDE

$$\operatorname{div} \left((|\nabla u| - 1)_+^{p-1} \frac{\nabla u}{|\nabla u|} \right) = f$$

- Weak solutions are **Lipschitz continuous**
 - Scalar setting: Brasco & Carlier & Santambrogio, Brasco
 - Vectorial setting: Clop & Giova & Hathami & Passarelli di Napoli
 - As special case of an asymptotically regular problem: Chipot & Evans, Raymond, Foss, Foss & Passarelli di Napoli & Verde, ...
- Even if $f \equiv 0$: **better than Lipschitz is not possible**:

$$(|\nabla u| - 1)_+ = 0 \quad \text{if } |\nabla u| \leq 1$$

- **Sobolev regularity:** $\mathcal{G} \in W^{1,2}$ for $\mathcal{G} = (|\nabla u| - 1)_+^{\frac{p}{2}} \frac{\nabla u}{|\nabla u|}$
 - Brasco & Carlier & Santambrogio (2010)
 - Clop & Giova & Hatami & Passarelli di Napoli (2019): Vector valued case
- **Continuity:** $g(\nabla u)$ is continuous for any continuous function $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $g = 0$ on B_1
 - Santambrogio & Vespri (2010): $n = 2$
 - Colombo & Figalli (2014): $n \geq 2$

Vectorial setting

Consider weak solutions $u: \mathbb{R}^n \supset \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ with $N \geq 1$ of

$$\operatorname{div} \left((|Du| - 1)_+^{p-1} \frac{Du}{|Du|} \right) = f,$$

where $p > 1$ and $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$.

What is the optimal regularity?

- **Contra:** Solutions are less regular in the vectorial case (even unbounded; counterexample by De Giorgi)
- **Pro:** Solutions of the p -Laplace system

$$\Delta_p u = 0$$

are of class $C^{1,\alpha}$ for some $\alpha > 0$ (first proof by Uhlenbeck)

- $\frac{(|Du|-1)_+^{p-1}}{|Du|}$ depends only on the modulus of Du

\Rightarrow there is some **hope for regularity**

Regularity in the vectorial setting

Consider weak solutions $u: \mathbb{R}^n \supset \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ with $N \geq 1$ of

$$\operatorname{div} \left((|Du| - 1)_+^{p-1} \frac{Du}{|Du|} \right) = f.$$

Theorem (B., Duzaar, Giova, Passarelli di Napoli)

Let $p > 1$ and

$$f \in L^{n+\sigma}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N) \quad \text{for some } \sigma > 0.$$

Then

$g(Du)$ is continuous

for any continuous function $g: \mathbb{R}^{Nn} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ vanishing on $\{|\xi| \leq 1\}$.

- We treat any $p > 1$
- On the set where $|Du| \leq 1$, Du could be discontinuous
- Hölder continuity of $g(Du)$ is not true: counterexample
- $f \in L^n$ is not enough: Du possibly unbounded

- **Lipschitz regularity.** Du is bounded on any compact subset of Ω
- **Regularization.** Consider solution u_ε of

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{div} \left((|Du_\varepsilon| - 1)_+^{p-1} \frac{Du_\varepsilon}{|Du_\varepsilon|} \right) + \varepsilon \Delta u_\varepsilon = f, & \text{in } B_R \subset \Omega, \\ u_\varepsilon = u, & \text{on } \partial B_R. \end{cases}$$

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Sketch of the Proof II

- **Hölder-continuity.** For any $\delta \in (0, 1]$

$G_\delta(Du_\varepsilon)$ is Hölder continuous with exponent α_δ

where $G_\delta(\xi) := \frac{(|\xi| - 1 - \delta)_+}{|\xi|} \xi$.

Constants are independent of ε !

- **Passage to the limit.**

- $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$: $G_\delta(Du)$ is Hölder continuous with exponent α_δ
- $\delta \rightarrow 0$: Continuity of

$$\frac{(|Du| - 1)_+}{|Du|} Du$$

- **Continuity of $g(Du)$.**

- $\xi \mapsto \frac{(|\xi| - 1)_+}{|\xi|} \xi$ is invertible on the set $\{|\xi| > 1\}$

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Hölder-continuity of $G_\delta(Du_\varepsilon)$

Our goal (abbreviate $Du = Du_\varepsilon$):

$$\int_{B_r(x_o)} |G_\delta(Du) - \Gamma_{x_o}|^2 dx \leq c \left(\frac{r}{\varrho}\right)^{2\alpha} \quad \forall B_r(x_o) \subset B_\varrho(x_o) \subset B_R$$

- Suppose

$$\sup_{B_\varrho(x_o)} |G_\delta(Du)| \leq \mu$$

- Distinguish between two regimes ($0 < \nu \ll 1$):

$$(D) \quad |E_\varrho^\nu(x_o)| \leq (1 - \nu)|B_\varrho(x_o)|,$$

$$(ND) \quad |E_\varrho^\nu(x_o)| > (1 - \nu)|B_\varrho(x_o)| \quad \text{and} \quad \mu \geq \delta,$$

where

$$E_\varrho^\nu(x_o) := B_\varrho(x_o) \cap \{|G_\delta(Du)| > (1 - \nu)\mu\}.$$

Universal energy inequality

In the weak form use the test-function

$$\varphi = \zeta \phi(|Du|) D_\beta u,$$

where $\beta \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, ζ cut-off function, ϕ non-negative and non-decreasing. We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_R} \left[\mathcal{A}(D^2 u, D^2 u) \phi(|Du|) + \mathcal{B}(\nabla |Du|, \nabla |Du|) \phi'(|Du|) |Du| \right] \zeta dx \\ + \int_{B_R} \mathcal{B}(\nabla |Du|, \nabla \zeta) \phi(|Du|) |Du| dx \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(Du)$ and $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}(Du)$ are bilinear forms.

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where $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(Du)$ and $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}(Du)$ are bilinear forms.

- $\nabla|Du|$ is a subsolution to an elliptic equation
- Reduction of the supremum by a De Giorgi type argument:

$$\sup_{B_{\varrho/2}(x_o)} |G_{\delta}(Du)| \leq \kappa\mu, \quad \kappa < 1$$

Non-degenerate regime

- Define the excess

$$\Phi(x_o, \varrho) := \int_{B_{\varrho}(x_o)} |Du - (Du)_{x_o, \varrho}|^2 dx$$

- The measure theoretic information yields

$$\Phi(x_o, \varrho) \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad |(Du)_{x_o, \varrho}| \geq 1 + \delta + \frac{1}{2}\mu$$

- Compare u with the solution v of a linear elliptic system

$$\int_{B_{\varrho/2}(x_o)} |Du - Dv|^2 dx \leq c \Phi(x_o, \varrho)^{1+\vartheta} \quad \text{for some } \vartheta > 0$$

- Excess decay

$$\Phi(x_o, \tau\varrho) \leq c \tau^2 \Phi(x_o, \varrho) \quad \text{for } \tau \in (0, 1)$$

- Iteration

- The limit $\Gamma_{x_o} := \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} (G_{\delta}(Du))_{\tau^i \varrho}$ exists
- Campanato-type estimate: $\int_{B_r} |G_{\delta}(Du) - \Gamma_{x_o}|^2 dx \leq c \left(\frac{r}{\varrho}\right)^{2\beta}$

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Combining both regimes

- Define $\varrho^i = 2^{-i}\varrho$
- Suppose that (D) is satisfied on $B_{\varrho^i}(x_o)$ for $i = 0, \dots, i_o - 1$:

$$\sup_{B_{\varrho^i}(x_o)} |G_\delta(Du)| \leq \kappa^i \mu =: \mu_i$$

- Suppose that (D) is **not** satisfied on $B_{\varrho^{i_o}}(x_o)$

$$\int_{B_r} |G_\delta(Du) - \Gamma_{x_o}|^2 dx \leq c \left(\frac{r}{\varrho^{i_o}} \right)^{2\beta} \quad \text{for } r \leq \varrho^{i_o}$$

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