

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

$0 < k \leq n$ fixed
 $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ open

We consider $\Phi: \{\text{geometric objects}\} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$.

where geometric object = $\begin{cases} \text{a } k\text{-dim current in } U \\ \text{a } k\text{-dim varifold in } U \end{cases}$

(1)

Recall:

$\mathcal{D}^k(U) = \mathcal{D}(U, \wedge^k \mathbb{R}^n)$ - the space of smooth compactly supported differential k -forms on U endowed with locally convex topology (non-metrizable TVS)

$\mathcal{D}'_k(U) = \mathcal{D}'(U, \wedge^k \mathbb{R}^n)$ - continuous linear functionals on $\mathcal{D}(U, \wedge^k \mathbb{R}^n)$
 = k -dim currents in U

$\wedge^k \mathbb{R}^n$ - antisymmetric k -linear forms: $\underbrace{\mathbb{R}^n \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}^n}_{k \text{ times}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

$\mathcal{R}_k(U) \subseteq \mathcal{D}'_k(U)$ - rectifiable currents, i.e.,

- $T \in \mathcal{R}_k(U) \Leftrightarrow$
- $\text{spt } T \subseteq U$ is compact.
 - $\exists E \subseteq \text{spt } T$ \mathcal{H}^k -measurable (\mathcal{H}^k, k) -rectifiable ($\mathcal{H}^k(E) < \infty$)

[F, 4.1.28 (4)]

Notation:

$$\vec{T}(x) = \frac{\eta(x)}{|\eta(x)|}$$

$$\|T\| = |\eta(x)| \cdot (\mathcal{H}^k \llcorner E)$$

↑ multiplicity

orientation

$$\exists \eta \in L^1(\mathcal{H}^k \llcorner E; \wedge^k \mathbb{R}^n)$$

for \mathcal{H}^k almost all $x \in E$

$|\eta(x)| \in \mathbb{N}$, $\eta(x)$ is simple,

$$\text{Tan}^k(\mathcal{H}^k \llcorner E, x) = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n : \eta(x) \wedge v = 0\}$$

$$\forall \phi \in \mathcal{D}'_k(U)$$

$$T(\phi) = \int_E \langle \eta(x), \phi(x) \rangle d\mathcal{H}^k(x)$$

$\mathbb{I}_k(U) \subseteq \mathcal{R}_k(U)$ - integral currents

$$\mathbb{I}_k(U) = \cup \{ \mathbb{I}_{k,K}(U) : K \subseteq U \text{ compact} \}$$

$$\mathbb{I}_{k,K}(U) = \{ T \in \mathcal{R}_k(U) : \exists T \in \mathcal{R}_{k-1}(U), \text{spt } T \subseteq K \}$$

Recall. $T \in \mathcal{D}'_k(U) \Rightarrow \exists T \in \mathcal{D}'_{k-1}(U)$ s.t. $\partial T(\phi) = T(d\phi)$

Given $\Phi: U \times \wedge^k \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\Phi(z, r\alpha) = r \Phi(z, \alpha) \text{ whenever } r > 0$$

Parametric integrand

and $T \in \mathcal{R}_k(U)$ we define the action:

$$\langle \Phi, T \rangle = \int \Phi(z, \vec{T}(z)) d\|T\|(z)$$

Example: $\Phi(z, \alpha) = |\alpha| = \sqrt{\alpha \circ \alpha}$ ← the area integrand (positive)

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

(2)

Φ is called positive if $\Phi(z, \alpha) > 0$ whenever $\alpha \neq 0$.

If $a \in U$, then $\Phi_a: \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\Phi_a(\alpha) = \Phi(a, \alpha)$,

Definition: Φ is called elliptic at $a \in U$ if

[F, 5.1.2]

$\exists c(a) > 0 \quad \forall P \in G(m, k), \forall R \in \mathcal{R}_k(\mathbb{R}^m) \forall S \in \mathcal{R}_k(\mathbb{R}^m)$

$\text{spt } S \in P = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^m : v_1 \gamma = 0\}, \vec{S}(z) = \gamma$ for $\|S\|$ almost all z .

$$\partial S = \partial R$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \Phi_a(\vec{R}(z)) d\|R\|(z) - \int \Phi_a(\vec{S}(z)) d\|S\|(z) \geq c(a)(\|R\|(U) - \|S\|(U))$$

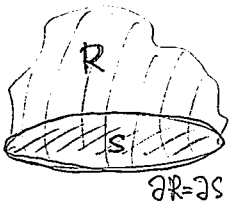
Remark:

If $c(a) = 0$, then Φ is called semielliptic at a .

Φ is elliptic if $\inf \{c(a) : a \in K\} > 0$ for any $K \subseteq U$ compact.

Observe For R, S, γ as above we have

$$\partial(R-S) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad R-S = \partial([\mathbb{0}] \times (R-S))$$



Hence, if $\chi \in \text{Hom}(\Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R})$ and $\phi: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \Lambda^k \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\simeq \Lambda^k \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\phi(x) = \chi \leftarrow \text{constant}$$

$$\Rightarrow d\phi = 0$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \chi \left(\int \vec{R} d\|R\| - \int \vec{S} d\|S\| \right) &= \int \chi \circ \vec{R} d\|R\| - \int \chi \circ \vec{S} d\|S\| \\ &= (R-S)(\phi) = ([\mathbb{0}] \times (R-S))(d\phi) = 0; \end{aligned}$$

thus,

(*)

$$\int \vec{R} d\|R\| = \int \vec{S} d\|S\| = \|S\|(U) \cdot \gamma$$

Let $F: \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

$$F(\alpha) = \Phi_a(\alpha) - c|\alpha| \quad \Rightarrow \quad F(t\alpha) = tF(\alpha) \text{ for } t > 0$$

Note: F is convex $\Leftrightarrow F(\alpha + \beta) \leq F(\alpha) + F(\beta)$

Lemma: If F is convex, then Φ is elliptic at a and $c(a) \geq c$.

Proof. $\int \Phi_a \circ \vec{S} d\|S\| - c\|S\|(U) = F(\|S\|(U) \cdot \gamma)$

$$\begin{aligned} & (*) = F \left(\int \vec{R} d\|R\| \right) \leq \int (F \circ \vec{R}) d\|R\| = \int (\Phi_a \circ \vec{R}) d\|R\| - c\|R\|(U) \\ & \quad \text{(Jensen)} \end{aligned}$$

□

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

(3)

Remark: If Φ_a is convex, then Φ is semielliptic at a .

Def. If $G: V \rightarrow U \in C^1$, then pull-back

$$G^* \Phi(z, \alpha) = \Phi(G(z), \langle \alpha, \lambda_k DG(z) \rangle)$$

[F, 5.1.4] Thm. If G is an immersion and Φ is elliptic, then $G^* \Phi$ is elliptic

invariance under immersions

[F, 5.1.5] Thm. If Φ is positive and semielliptic

$K \subseteq U$ is compact,

[F, 4.1.12] Flat norm
 $E_k(T) = \sup \left\{ \int T(\phi) : \begin{array}{l} \|\phi(x)\| \leq 1 \\ \|\partial \phi(x)\| \leq 1 \\ \text{for } x \in K \end{array} \right\}$ then

$$\mathcal{R}_{k,K}(U) \ni T \mapsto \langle \Phi, T \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$$

is l.s.c. w.r.t. the flat norm on $\mathcal{R}_{k,K}(U)$ ("weak convergence")

[F, 5.1.9] Def. $\tilde{\Phi}: U \times \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\tilde{\Phi}(z, \sigma) = \Phi(z, (\lambda_k \sigma)(e_1, \dots, e_k))$$

Note. If $F: \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is injective of class C^1
 $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k$ compact, $F[K] \subseteq U$

then $\langle \Phi, \underbrace{F_*}_{\text{current canonically associated to image } F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n} (E^k \llcorner K) \rangle = \langle F^* \Phi, E^k \llcorner K \rangle = \int_K \tilde{\Phi}(F(x), DF(x)) dL^k(x)$

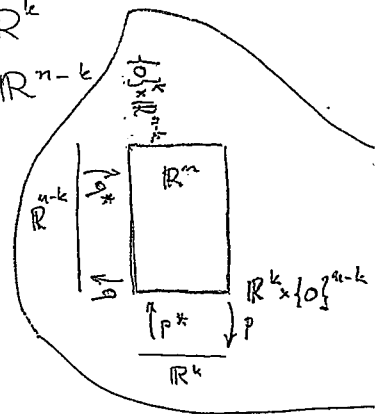
Def

$$p(z_1, \dots, z_n) = (z_1, \dots, z_k) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$$

$$q(z_1, \dots, z_n) = (z_{k+1}, \dots, z_n) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$$

$$\Phi^\S : U \times \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^{n-k}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Phi^\S(z, \tau) = \tilde{\Phi}(z, p^* + q^* \circ \tau)$$



Nonparametric integrand

Note If $f: \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-k} \in C^1$, $F = p^* + q^* \circ f$,
 $F[K] \subseteq U$
 then

$$\langle \Phi, \underbrace{F_*}_{\text{graph of } f \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n} (E^k \llcorner K) \rangle = \int_K \Phi^\S(\underbrace{F(x)}_{(x, f(x)) \in \mathbb{R}^n}, DF(x)) dL^k(x)$$

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

(4)

Remark: If Φ is elliptic and of class C^2 , then for $w \in U, \lambda \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^{n-k})$

[F. 5.1.10, 5.2.3, 5.2.17] $\mathcal{D}^2 \Phi_w^\lambda : \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^{n-k}) \times \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^{n-k}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 (2-linear symmetric form)

is strongly elliptic in the sense that it satisfies the nonparametric Legendre condition, i.e.,

$\exists c > 0 \forall \bar{z} \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}) \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$

$\bar{z}y \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^{n-k})$
of rank one

$\mathcal{D}^2 \Phi_w^\lambda(\bar{z}y, \bar{z}y) \geq c |\bar{z}|^2 |y|^2$

Remark If $\Theta : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$ is of class C^1 ,

[F. 5.1.9]

$F = p^* + q^* \circ f : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \Rightarrow F(x) = (x, f(x))$

$K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k$ compact, $F[K] \subseteq U$, $\text{spt } \Theta \subseteq K$,

$h_t(z) = z + t(q^* \circ \Theta \circ p)(z)$ for $t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon), z \in \mathbb{R}^m$

then we have

$\delta[F_*(E^k \llcorner K), \Phi, h] := \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \langle \Phi, h_t \circ F_*(E^k \llcorner K) \rangle$

$= \int_K \mathcal{D} \Phi^\lambda(F(x), Df(x)) (q^* \circ \Theta(x), D\Theta(x)) dL^k(x)$

Integrating by parts yields system of E-L equations in which second order derivatives of f are coupled with coefficients of $\mathcal{D}^2 \Phi_{F(x)}^\lambda$.

$\forall \nu \in \{1, \dots, n-k\}$. $\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\mu=1}^{n-k} \mathcal{D}^2 \Phi_{F(x)}^\lambda(Df(x)) (X_i \nu_j, X_j \nu_\mu) \cdot \mathcal{D}^2 f_\mu(x)(e_i, e_j)$
 where (e_1, \dots, e_k) and (X_1, \dots, X_k) are dual o.m.b of \mathbb{R}^k and $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R})$
 and $(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_{n-k})$ is an o.m.b. of \mathbb{R}^{n-k}
 and $f_\mu(x) = f(x) \circ \nu_\mu$.

Bottom line (Morel historic)

- Convex functions provide examples of elliptic integrands.
- Ellipticity of Φ implies ellipticity of E-L equations satisfied by Φ -stationary points which are locally graphs.

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

$$\begin{array}{l} U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \text{ open} \\ 0 \leq k \leq m \in \mathbb{N} \end{array}$$

(5)

Recall. $V_k(U)$ - space of Radon measures over $U \times G(m, k)$
 = k -dim varifolds in U

$$\approx \mathcal{K}(U \times G(m, k))^*$$

see [F, 2.5.19]

↑ continuous compactly supported functions
 endowed with locally convex topology

Remark. There is no useful notion of a boundary for $V \in V_k(U)$.

Given $\Phi: U \times G(m, k) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ we define its action on $V \in V_k(U)$

by
$$\langle \Phi, V \rangle = \int \Phi(x, S) dV(x, S)$$

Def. $\Sigma \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ is called a k -set if $\mathcal{H}^k(\Sigma \cap K) < \infty$ for all $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ compact

Def. Σ is called a rectifiable k -set if Σ is \mathcal{H}^k -measurable and countably (\mathcal{H}^k, k) rectifiable k -set.

Def If $\Sigma \subseteq U$ is a rect. k -set, then

$$\nu_k(\Sigma)(\alpha) = \int_{\Sigma} \alpha(x, \text{Tan}^k(\mathcal{H}^k \llcorner \Sigma, x)) d\mathcal{H}^k(x) \text{ for } \alpha \in \mathcal{K}(U \times G(m, k))$$

and $\nu_k(\Sigma) \in V_k(U)$.

Notation:
$$\langle \Phi, \nu_k(\Sigma) \rangle = \langle \Phi, \Sigma \rangle$$

Def. If $a \in U$, then $\Phi^a(x, T) = \Phi(a, T) \quad \forall x \in U \quad \forall T \in G(m, k)$

Def. Φ is called Almgren uniformly elliptic at a if (AUE)
 $\exists c(a) > 0 \quad \forall \Sigma, \forall T \in G(m, k)$

- $D = T \cap B(0, 1), \circ B = T \cap \partial B(0, 1)$
- Σ is a compact rect. k -set which cannot be deformed onto B by any map $f \in \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^m)$ such that $f(x) = x$ for $x \in B$, and $\mathcal{H}^k(\Sigma) > \mathcal{H}^k(D)$.

$$\langle \Phi^a, \Sigma \rangle - \langle \Phi^a, D \rangle > c(a) (\mathcal{H}^k(\Sigma) - \mathcal{H}^k(D))$$

• Φ is called Almgren elliptic at a if $c(a) = 0$. (AE)

Def. $F \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^N, \mathbb{R}^m)$ pull-back

$$\leadsto F^* \Phi(x, T) = \Phi(F(x), DF(x)[T]) \|\wedge_k DF(x)|_T\|$$

Remark. (AUE) and (AE) are invariant under diffeomorphisms.

Remark. If Φ is (AUE), then one can find a minimizer of $\langle \Phi, \cdot \rangle$ in any class of competitors that is closed under taking Lip. deformations and local Hausdorff limits, [Fang-K., 2018, Calc. Var. PDE]

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

⑥

The problem: Given Φ how can we check whether it is (AUE) or (AE)?

Assume $\Psi: \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex and positive homogeneous

does it follow that $\Phi(x, T) = \Psi(T_{\sharp})$ is (AE)?

$$\left[\text{[F, 3.2.29]} : \begin{aligned} G_0(n, k) &= \{ \mathbb{Z} \in \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m : \mathbb{Z} \text{ is simple and } |\mathbb{Z}| = 1 \} \subseteq \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m \\ G(n, k) &= T[G_0(n, k)] \subseteq \odot_2 \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m \\ &\text{where } T(\mathbb{Z}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{Z}^2, \quad T: \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \odot_2 \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m. \end{aligned} \right]$$

The same question if $\Psi: \odot_2 \Lambda_k \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex.

[Recall the computation from page 2]

Recall: If $F \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$, then

$$F_* V(\alpha) = \int \alpha(F(x), DF(x)[T]) \|\Lambda_k DF(x) \circ T_{\sharp}\| dV(x, T) \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^n \times G(n, k))$$

Def If $g: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is smooth compactly supported vectorfield in U

$$\varphi_t(x) = x + tg(x) \quad \text{for } t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon), \quad V \in \mathcal{V}_k(U)$$

then
$$\delta_{\Phi} V(g) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \langle \Phi, \varphi_t \# V \rangle$$

[DPDRG, 2017, CPAM]

$$= \int \langle g(x), D\Phi_T(x) \rangle + B_{\Phi}(x, T) \bullet Dg(x) dV(x, T)$$

where $\Phi_T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\Phi_x: G(n, k) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\Phi_T(x) = \Phi_x(T) = \Phi(x, T)$

and $B_{\Phi}(x, T) \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$ is char. by

$$B_{\Phi}(x, T) \bullet L = \Phi(x, T) \cdot T_{\sharp} \bullet L + \langle T^{\perp} \circ L \circ T + (T^{\perp} \circ L \circ T)^*, D\Phi_x(T) \rangle$$

$$\forall L \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

Def. Φ satisfies (AC) at $a \in U$ if

$\forall \mu \in \text{Prob. measure over } G(n, k)$

$$A_a(\mu) = \int B_{\Phi}(a, T) d\mu(T) \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

a) $\dim \ker A_x(\mu) \leq n - k$

b) if $\dim \ker A_x(\mu) = n - k$, then $\mu = \text{Dirac}(T_0)$ for some $T_0 \in G(n, k)$

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

(7)

Def. Φ satisfies (BC) at $a \in U$ if
 $\forall W \in \mathcal{V}_k(\mathbb{R}^m)$. $\forall \mu \in \text{Prob. meas. over } G(m, k)$ $\forall T \in G(m, d)$
 $W = (H^k \llcorner T) \times \mu$
a) if $\delta_{\Phi} W = 0$, then $d \geq k$
b) if $k = d$ and $\delta_{\Phi} W = 0$, then $\mu = \text{Dirac}(T)$.

Lemma (De Rosa - K. - forthcoming)

Φ satisfies (AC) $\Leftrightarrow \Phi$ satisfies (BC).

Lemma (De Rosa - K.)

If Φ sat. (BC), then there exists a rectifiable minimizer of $\langle \Phi, \cdot \rangle$ in any class of k -sets closed under Lip. deform. and local Hausdorff convergence.

Theorem [DPDRG, 2017, CPAM]

If Φ satisfies (AC), $V \in \mathcal{V}_k(U)$, $\mathbb{H}_*^k(\|V\|, x) > 0$ for $\|V\|$ a.e. x ,
at every $a \in U$

and $\|\delta_{\Phi} V\|$ is a Radon measure

then V is a rectifiable varifold, i.e.,

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \nu_k(\Sigma_i) \quad \text{for some rectifiable } k\text{-sets } \Sigma_i \\ \text{and } c_i \in (0, \infty).$$

Moreover

If Φ does not satisfy (AC) at $a \in U$, then

there exists $V \in \mathcal{V}_k(\mathbb{R}^m)$ such that

$\|\delta_{\Phi} V\|$ is Radon but $V \llcorner \{(x, T) : \mathbb{H}_*^k(\|V\|, x) > 0\}$ is not rectifiable.

Theorem [DPDRG]

If $k = m-1$, then $\Phi : U \times G(m, m-1) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ satisfies (AC) at $a \in U$

if and only if the function $G(\lambda v) = |\lambda| \cdot \Phi(a, v^\perp)$ for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}, v \in S^{m-1}$
 $G : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow (0, \infty)$

is strictly convex:

Conjecture [De Rosa - K.]

If Φ satisfies (BC) at a , then Φ satisfies (AE) at a .

Idea of the proof:

Wlog $\Phi = \Phi^a$, i.e., $\Phi(x, T) = \Phi(a, T) \quad \forall x \in U \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{G}(m, k)$

Assume Φ satisfies (BC) but not (AE).

Choosing the basis of \mathbb{R}^m appropriately we obtain

$$\otimes \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \text{ a compact rect. } k\text{-set, } \mathcal{H}^k(S) > \mathcal{H}^k([0,1]^k) \\ \Sigma \text{ cannot be deformed onto } \partial [0,1]^m \cap (\mathbb{R}^k \times \{0\}^{m-k}) = B \\ \text{and, setting } Q = [0,1]^m \cap (\mathbb{R}^k \times \{0\}^{m-k}) = [0,1]^k, \end{array} \right.$$

$$\langle \Phi, S \rangle - \langle \Phi, Q \rangle \leq 0$$

Since Φ satisfies (BC) we can find a minimizer of $\langle \Phi, \cdot \rangle$ in the class of all sets satisfying \otimes - denote it R .

If $\langle \Phi, R \rangle < \langle \Phi, S \rangle$, then we set $\Sigma = R$

Note $\mathcal{H}^k(R) > \mathcal{H}^k(Q)$

Otherwise $\langle \Phi, R \rangle = \langle \Phi, S \rangle = \langle \Phi, Q \rangle$ and we set $\Sigma = S$.

In any case, setting $V = \nu_k(\Sigma)$, we have

$$\mathcal{H}^k(\Sigma) > \mathcal{H}^k(Q)$$

$$\text{and } \int_{\Phi} V(q) = 0$$

$$\langle \Phi, \Sigma \rangle \leq \langle \Phi, Q \rangle$$

for $q \in \mathcal{C}_c^1(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$

$\text{spt } q \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \setminus B$

We define

$$X_N = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}} (\mu_{2^{-N}} \circ \tau_z) * V$$

and $X = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} X_N$ (possibly a subsequence)

$$(\mu_{2^{-N}} \circ \tau_z)[Q] \subseteq Q$$

$$\text{and } W = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}} \tau_z * X$$

Observe $\langle \Phi, X_N \rangle = \langle \Phi, \Sigma \rangle = \langle \Phi, V \rangle$

Observe $\text{spt } W = \mathbb{R}^k \times \{0\}^{m-k} =: T$, W is Radon,

and $\tau_x * W = W$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^k \times \{0\}^{m-k}$ by construction.

Hence, $W = \Theta(\mathcal{H}^k \llcorner T) \times \mu$ where μ is some prob. meas. over $G(m, k)$ and $\Theta \in (0, \infty)$ is constant.

Actually, $\Theta = \frac{\mathcal{H}^k(\Sigma)}{\mathcal{H}^k(Q)} > 1$.

BLOW-UP

Ellipticity in geometric variational problems

⑨

If we knew that $\delta_{\Phi} W = 0$, then from (BC) it would follow that $\mu = \text{Dirac}(T)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Phi, Q \rangle &< \infty \langle \Phi, Q \rangle = \langle \Phi, X \rangle \\ &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Phi, X_N \rangle = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Phi, \Sigma \rangle \leq \langle \Phi, Q \rangle \quad \text{!} \end{aligned}$$

However, we do not know whether $\delta_{\Phi} W = 0$ (!)

because $\delta_{\Phi} V(g) \neq 0$ for $g \in \mathcal{C}_c^1(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n)$
with $\text{spt } g \cap B \neq \emptyset$.

Moreover, if $A \in O(n)$ is a rotation or reflection

then $\delta_{\Phi}(A_* V)(g) \neq 0$ even when $\text{spt } g \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B$.
due to anisotropy of Φ .
