

Meanfield jump processes on graphs and the upwind transportation metric

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Joint work with Antonio Esposito, Francesco Patacchini and Dejan Slepčev

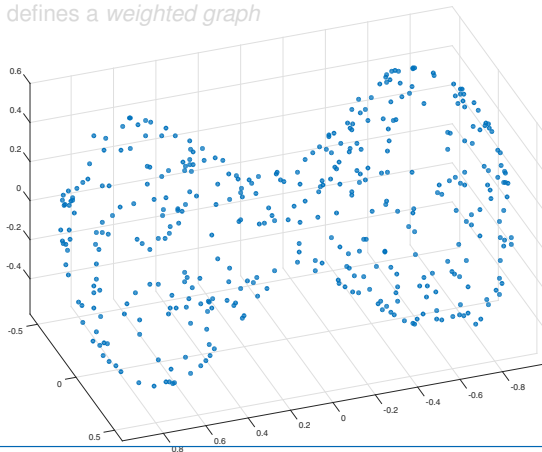
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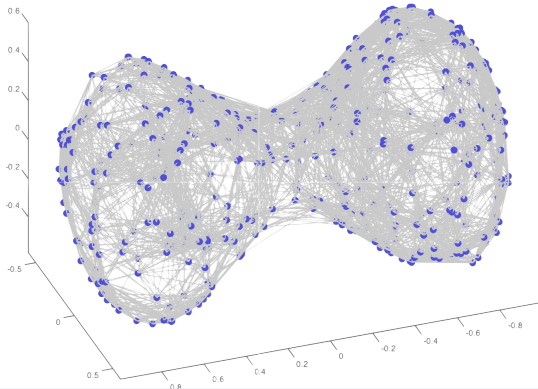
Ingredients:

- n points $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ sampled from $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ according to $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$
 \Rightarrow empirical measure $\mu^n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$
- a symmetric *weight function* $\eta : G \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ with $G = \Omega \times \Omega \setminus \{x = y\}$
 $\Rightarrow (\mu^n, \eta)$ defines a *weighted graph*



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Goal: Evolution equations on graphs

For $\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$ and symmetric $K \in C(\Omega \times \Omega)$ define the *interaction energy*

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\Omega \times \Omega} K(x, y) \, d\rho(x) \, d\rho(y)$$

Goal: Define (gradient flow) dynamic for energy \mathcal{E} on weighted graph (μ, η) .

Subgoals:

- Dynamic should be stable under *graph limit* $n \rightarrow \infty$ such that $\mu^n \rightarrow \mu$
 (μ^n, η) becomes a continuous graph/graphon $(\mu, \eta) \Rightarrow$ jump process
- Dynamic should be consistent/stable for *local limit*:
For $\mu = \text{Leb}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $\eta^\delta(x, y) = \delta^{-d} \eta\left(\frac{x-y}{\delta}\right)$, the limit $\delta \rightarrow 0$ shall be the interaction/aggregation equation

$$\partial_t \rho_t = \nabla \cdot (\rho_t \nabla K * \rho_t) \tag{IE}$$

(IE) is Wasserstein gradient flow for $\mathcal{E} \Rightarrow$ find suitable nonlocal metric \mathcal{T} on (μ, η) .

\Rightarrow Gradient flow of \mathcal{E} wrt \mathcal{T} is *nonlocal interaction equation on weighted graph* (μ, η)

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Recent advances in discrete/nonlocal gradient flows

- [Maas '11] / [Mielke '11] / [Chow, Huang, Li, Zhou '12]
Markov chains and chemical reaction networks on finite graphs
- [Gigli, Maas '13] Gromov-Hausdorff convergence to Wasserstein
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from weakly interacting Markov chains to nonlinear Markov chains
- [Trillos '19] Gromov-Hausdorff convergence of random point clouds

Above works are built around of gradient flows for free energies/(relative) entropies:

$$\mathcal{F}^{\sigma}(\rho) = \sigma \int \rho(x) \log \rho(x) \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \iint K(x, y) \, d\rho(x) \, d\rho(y)$$

Goal: Want to consider $\sigma = 0$.

Problem: The above introduced nonlocal metrics seem to not have a clear/well-defined limit for $\sigma \rightarrow 0$!

Question: What is a suitable metric for gradient structure of interaction energies?

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What is the **nonlocal** analog of the continuity equation:

$$\partial_t \rho_t + \nabla \cdot j_t = 0 \quad \text{with flux} \quad j_t(x) = \rho_t(x) v_t(x) ?$$

Fluxes j_t are defined on **edges** $(x, y) \in G$ and the divergence is **nonlocal**

$$\partial_t \rho_t(x) + (\bar{\nabla} \cdot j_t)(x) = \partial_t \rho_t(x) + \int_{\Omega} j_t(x, y) \eta(x, y) \, dy = 0 . \quad (\text{div})$$

Given a **nonlocal vectorfield** $v_t : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: *velocity of a particle going from x to y .*

What is the flux j_t induced by the vectorfield v_t given ρ_t ?

Problem: Choice is not canonical and has a lot of influence on the resulting dynamic.

So far a *general mean function* $\theta : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ multiplies the velocity:

$$j_t(x, y) = \theta(\rho_t(x), \rho_t(y)) v_t(x, y).$$

Choice is reasonable for **diffusive** equations, but not suitable for **first order** ones.

Upwind flux: Set $(a)_+ = \max\{0, a\}$ and $(a)_- = \max\{0, -a\}$ and define

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Tentative definition of **upwind transportation metric** via Benamou-Brenier

$$\inf_{(\rho, v) \in \text{CE}(\rho_0, \rho_1)} \left\{ \int_0^1 \iint_G (|v_t(x, y)_+|^2 \rho_t(x) + |v_t(x, y)_-|^2 \rho_t(y)) \eta(x, y) \, d\mu(x) \, d\mu(y) \, dt \right\}$$

Formal nonlocal Otto calculus leads to the **nonlocal interaction equation (NLIE)**:

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Today:

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Difficulties:

- ρ might contain atoms, even if μ is Lebesgue
 \Rightarrow measure valued framework
- Benamou-Brenier functional is not jointly convex in (ρ_t, v_t)
 \Rightarrow flux variables
- Ω might be non-compact, for instance \mathbb{R}^d
 \Rightarrow need to ensure tightness/integrability: $\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$, η has certain moments
- η might be singular towards diagonal
Motivation: Want for suitable choice (μ, η^δ) the local limit

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_G |\bar{\nabla} V(x, y)|^2 \eta^\delta(x, y) \, d\mu(y) \, d\rho(x) \\ = \iint_G \left| \frac{V(x) - V(y)}{|x - y|} \right|^2 |x - y|^2 \eta^\delta(x, y) \, d\mu(y) \, d\rho(x) \rightarrow \int_\Omega |\nabla V(x)|^2 \, d\rho(x) \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow Expect only uniform integrability of $\int_{B_\varepsilon(x)} |x - y|^2 \eta^\delta(x, y) \, d\mu(y)$

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Nonlocal continuity equation in measure valued flux form

A pair $(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t)_{t \in [0, T]} \in \text{CE}_T$ provided that $(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t) \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{M}(G)$ for all $t \in [0, T]$:

$$\partial_t \rho_t + \overline{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j}_t = 0 \quad \text{in } C_c^\infty([0, T] \times \Omega)^*$$

That is $\overline{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j}$ is adjoint of $\overline{\nabla} \varphi(x, y) = \varphi(y) - \varphi(x)$ defined by

$$\int_0^T \int_\Omega \partial_t \varphi_t(x) \, d\rho_t(x) \, dt + \int_0^T \iint_G \overline{\nabla} \varphi_t(x, y) \, \eta(x, y) \, d\mathbf{j}_t(x, y) \, dt = 0 .$$

$|\overline{\nabla} \varphi(x, y)| \leq \|\varphi\|_{C^1(\Omega)} (2 \wedge |x - y|) \Rightarrow$ well-defined under integrability condition

$$\int_0^T \iint_G (2 \wedge |x - y|) \, \eta(x, y) \, d|\mathbf{j}_t|(x, y) \, dt < +\infty .$$

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Action

For $\mathbf{j} \in \mathcal{M}(G)$, set $|\lambda| = |\rho \otimes \mu| + |\mu \otimes \rho| + |\mathbf{j}| \in \mathcal{M}^+(G)$ and define

$$\mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, \mathbf{j}) = \iint_G \left(\alpha \left(\frac{d\mathbf{j}}{d|\lambda|}, \frac{d(\rho \otimes \mu)}{d|\lambda|} \right) + \alpha \left(-\frac{d\mathbf{j}}{d|\lambda|}, \frac{d(\mu \otimes \rho)}{d|\lambda|} \right) \right) \eta d|\lambda|.$$

Hereby, the lsc convex, and pos. one-homogeneous function α is defined by

$$\alpha(j, r) := \begin{cases} \frac{(j_+)^2}{r} & \text{if } r > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } j = 0 \text{ and } r = 0, \\ +\infty & \text{if } j \neq 0 \text{ and } r = 0, \end{cases} \quad \text{with } j_+ = \max\{0, j\}.$$

Proposition

Let $(\rho, \mathbf{j}) \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ such that $\mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, \mathbf{j}) < \infty$, then:

- there exists a measurable nonlocal vectorfield $v : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$d\mathbf{j}(x, y) = v(x, y)_+ \eta(x, y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y) - v(x, y)_- \eta(x, y) d\mu(x) d\rho(y),$$

and it holds

$$\mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, \mathbf{j}) = \iint_G (|v(x, y)_+|^2 + |v(y, x)_-|^2) \eta(x, y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y).$$

- there exists an antisymmetric $\mathbf{j}^{as} \in \mathcal{M}^{as}(G)$ such that

$$\overline{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \overline{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j}^{as}, \quad \text{that is} \quad \iint_G \overline{\nabla} \phi \eta d\mathbf{j} = \iint_G \overline{\nabla} \phi \eta d\mathbf{j}^{as} \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty(\Omega),$$

and an antisymmetric $v^{as} : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with

$$\mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, \mathbf{j}^{as}) = 2 \iint_G |v^{as}(x, y)_+|^2 \eta d\rho(x) d\mu(y) \leq \mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, \mathbf{j}).$$

Assumption (weight function)

The μ -measurable nonnegative symmetric lsc. function $\eta: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies:

- for some $C_\eta \in (0, \infty)$

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} \int_{\Omega} (|x - y|^2 \vee |x - y|^4) \eta(x, y) \, d\mu(y) \leq C_\eta .$$

Consequences:

- **Lower semicontinuity:** if $\mu^n \rightarrow \mu$ in $\mathcal{M}(\Omega)$, $\rho^n \rightarrow \rho$ in $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$, and $j^n \rightarrow j$ in $\mathcal{M}(G)$, then

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{A}(\mu^n; \rho^n, j^n) \geq \mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, j)$$

- **Integrability of flux:** For $\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ and $j \in \mathcal{M}(G)$ it holds

$$\iint_G (2 \wedge |x - y|) \eta(x, y) \, d|j|(x, y) \leq 2\sqrt{C_\eta \mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho, j)} .$$

\Rightarrow well-posedness of CE provided $\int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho_t, j_t) \, dt < \infty!$

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Continuity equation in measure valued flux form

A pair $(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t)_{t \in [0, T]} \in \text{CE}_T$ provided that $(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t) \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega) \times \mathcal{M}(G)$ for all $t \in [0, T]$:

$$\partial_t \rho_t + \bar{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j}_t = 0 \quad \text{in } C_c([0, T) \times \Omega)^*$$

That is $\bar{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j}$ is adjoint of $\bar{\nabla} \varphi(x, y) = \varphi(y) - \varphi(x)$ defined by

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \partial_t \varphi_t(x) \, d\rho_t(x) \, dt + \int_0^T \iint_G \bar{\nabla} \varphi_t(x, y) \eta(x, y) \, d\mathbf{j}_t(x, y) \, dt = 0 .$$

$|\bar{\nabla} \varphi(x, y)| \leq \|\varphi\|_{C^1(\Omega)} (2 \wedge |x - y|) \Rightarrow$ well-defined under integrability condition

$$\int_0^T \iint_G (2 \wedge |x - y|) \eta(x, y) \, d|\mathbf{j}_t|(x, y) \, dt < +\infty .$$

- Existence of measure valued narrowly continuous solutions
- $\{\rho_0^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ with $\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} M_2(\rho_0^n) < +\infty$ and $(\rho^n, \mathbf{j}^n) \in \text{CE}_T$ such that $\sup_n \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\rho_t^n, \mathbf{j}_t^n) \, dt < +\infty$, then also $\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} M_2(\rho_t^n) < +\infty$.

Assumption (weight function)

The μ -measurable nonnegative symmetric lsc. function $\eta: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies:

- The measure $\eta(\cdot, \cdot) d\mu$ is uniformly integrable close to diagonal, that is

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \sup_{x \in \Omega} \int_{B_\varepsilon(x)} |x - y|^2 \eta(x, y) d\mu(y) = 0, \quad B_\varepsilon(x) = \{y \in \Omega : |x - y| < \varepsilon\}.$$

Compactness: Let $(\rho^n, j^n) \in \text{CE}_T$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} M_2(\rho_0^n) < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_n \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\rho_t^n, j_t^n) dt < +\infty.$$

Then, there exists $(\rho, j) \in \text{CE}_T$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_t^n &\rightharpoonup \rho_t \quad \text{in } \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega) \text{ for all } t \in [0, T] \\ j^n &\rightharpoonup j \quad \text{in } \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(G \times [0, T]). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, the action is lower semicontinuous

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\rho_t^n, j_t^n) dt \geq \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\rho_t, j_t) dt.$$

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Definition

For $\rho_0, \rho_1 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ the *nonlocal upwind transportation quasimetric* is defined by

$$\mathcal{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)^2 = \inf \left\{ \int_0^1 \mathcal{A}(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t) dt : (\rho, \mathbf{j}) \in \text{CE}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \right\}.$$

Properties:

- The infimum is attained for $(\rho, \mathbf{j}) \in \text{CE}(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ with $\mathcal{A}(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t) = \mathcal{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)^2$.
- Comparison with Wasserstein $W_1(\rho^0, \rho^1) \leq 2 \sqrt{C_\eta} \sqrt{\mathcal{T}(\rho^0, \rho^1)}$.
 \Rightarrow topology is stronger than W_1 .
- \mathcal{T} is jointly narrowly lower semicontinuous.
- \mathcal{T} is a **quasimetric** on $\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$, in particular it is in general **non-symmetric**!
- $\{\rho_t\}_{t \in [0,1]} \in \text{AC}(0,1; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}))$ iff $\int_0^1 \sqrt{\mathcal{A}(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t)} dt < \infty$.
- For $\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ holds $\mathbf{j} \in T_\rho \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ iff $\mathbf{j}^+ \ll \rho \otimes \mu$ and for the density $v_+ = \frac{d\mathbf{j}^+}{d(\rho \otimes \mu)}$ it holds that v defined by

$$v(x, y) := v_+(x, y) - v_+(y, x) \quad \text{satisfies} \quad v \in \overline{\{\nabla \varphi \mid \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\Omega)\}}^{L^2(\eta \rho \otimes \mu)}.$$

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Properties:

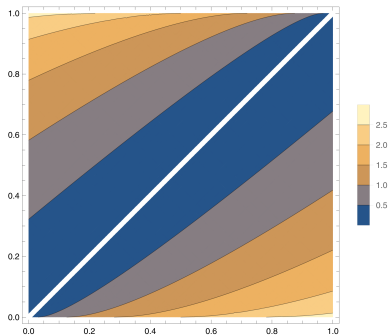
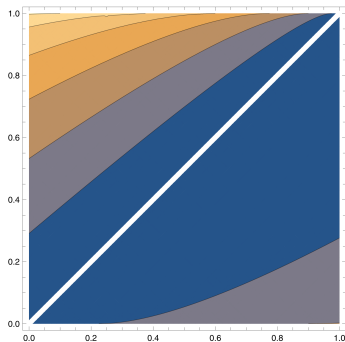
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Two-point space

Fix the graph $\Omega = \{0, 1\}$ with $\eta(0, 1) = \eta(1, 0) = \alpha > 0$, $\mu(0) = p \in (0, 1)$ and $\mu(1) = q \in (0, 1)$ such that $p + q = 1$. For all $\rho, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$ it holds

$$\mathcal{T}(\rho, \nu) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\alpha p}} \left(\sqrt{\rho(1)} - \sqrt{\nu(1)} \right), & \text{if } \rho_0 < \nu_0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{2}{\alpha q}} \left(\sqrt{\rho(0)} - \sqrt{\nu(0)} \right), & \text{if } \nu_0 < \rho_0. \end{cases}$$



By previous representation: Associate to $(\rho_t)_{t \in [0,1]} \in \text{AC}(0,1; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}))$ an antisymmetric $(w_t)_{t \in [0,1]}$ such that $(\rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t)_{t \in [0,1]} \in \text{CE}$ and

$$d\mathbf{j}_t(x, y) = w_t(x, y)_+ d\rho(x) d\mu(y) - w_t(x, y)_- d\mu(x) d\rho(y) .$$

The geometry induced by \mathcal{T} is **Finslerian**:

\Rightarrow inner product in tangent space depends on ρ and $w \in T_\rho \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)!$

Finslerian inner product

For $\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ and $w \in T_\rho \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ define $g_{\rho, w}: T_\rho \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega) \times T_\rho \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\rho, w}(u, v) = & \iint_G u(x, y) v(x, y) \eta(x, y) \times \\ & \times (\chi_{\{w>0\}}(x, y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y) + \chi_{\{w<0\}}(x, y) d\mu(x) d\rho(y)) . \end{aligned}$$

\rightarrow define gradient flow for interaction energy \mathcal{E} in terms of **curves of maximal slope**

See also [Ohta-Sturm '09, '12] and [Agueh '12] for gradient flows in Finslerian setting.

$$g_{\rho,w}(u,v) = \iint_G u(x,y)v(x,y) \eta(x,y) \times \\ \times (\chi_{\{w>0\}}(x,y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y) + \chi_{\{w<0\}}(x,y) d\mu(x) d\rho(y)) .$$

■ **Chain-rule:** For $(\rho_t)_{t \in [0,1]} \in \text{AC}(0,1; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}))$ and $\varphi \in C_c^\infty(\Omega)$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \varphi d\rho_t = \iint \bar{\nabla} \varphi(x,y) \eta(x,y) d\mathbf{j}_t(x,y) = g_{\rho_t, w_t}(w_t, \bar{\nabla} \varphi) .$$

■ **One-sided Cauchy-Schwarz:** For all $v, w \in T_\rho \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega)$ holds

$$g_{\rho,w}(w,v) = \iint_G v(x,y) \eta(x,y) (w(x,y)_+ d\rho(x) d\mu(y) - w(x,y)_- d\mu(x) d\rho(y)) \\ \leq \iint_G v(x,y)_+ w(x,y)_+ \eta(x,y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y) \\ + \iint_G v(x,y)_- w(x,y)_- \eta(x,y) d\mu(x) d\rho(y) \\ \leq \sqrt{g_{\rho,v}(v,v) g_{\rho,w}(w,w)} .$$

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Recall: interaction energy \mathcal{E}

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\Omega \times \Omega} K(x, y) \, d\rho(x) \, d\rho(y) .$$

Assumption: The potential $K : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies

(K1) $K \in C(\Omega \times \Omega)$;

(K2) K is symmetric, i.e. $K(x, y) = K(y, x)$, for all $(x, y) \in \Omega \times \Omega$;

(K3) for some $L \geq 1$ and for all $(x, y), (\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}) \in \Omega \times \Omega$

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local Lipschitz and at most quadratic growth

Chain rule

Let $\rho \in \text{AC}(0, T; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}))$, then $\forall 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho_t) - \mathcal{E}(\rho_s) = \int_s^t \iint_G \bar{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho}(x, y) \eta(x, y) \, d\mathbf{j}_\tau(x, y) \, d\tau = \int_s^t g_{\rho_\tau, w_\tau} \left(w_\tau, \bar{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho} \right) \, d\tau$$

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Curves of maximal slope: For any $\rho \in \text{AC}(0, T; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}))$ holds

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho_T) - \mathcal{E}(\rho_0) \geq -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^T g_{\rho_t, -\overline{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}(\rho_t)}{\delta \rho}} \left(-\overline{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho}, -\overline{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho} \right) dt - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T g_{\rho_t, w_t}(w_t, w_t) dt .$$

with equality iff $w_t = -\overline{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}(\rho_t)}{\delta \rho} = -\overline{\nabla} K * \rho_t$

\Rightarrow Define the nonnegative **de Giorgi functional** by

$$\mathcal{G}_T(\rho) = \mathcal{E}(\rho_T) - \mathcal{E}(\rho_0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \mathcal{D}(\rho_t) dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\rho_t, w_t) dt \geq 0 ,$$

where

$$\mathcal{D}(\rho_t) = 2 \int_G \left| \overline{\nabla} \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}(\rho_t)}{\delta \rho}(x, y) \right|^2 \eta(x, y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y) .$$

The de Giorgi functional gives a variation characterization of solutions to

$$\partial_t \rho + \overline{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0 \quad \text{in } C_c^\infty([0, T] \times \Omega)^*, \quad (\text{NLIE})$$

where the flux \mathbf{j} is given by

$$d\mathbf{j}(x, y) = \overline{\nabla}(K * \rho)(x, y) - \eta(x, y) d\rho(x) d\mu(y) - \overline{\nabla}(K * \rho)(x, y) + \eta(x, y) d\rho(y) d\mu(x).$$

Theorem (Curves of maximal slope characterization)

Let $(\rho_t)_{t \in [0, T]} \in AC^2(0, T; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}))$ be such that $\int_0^T \mathcal{D}(\rho_t, w_t) dt < \infty$, then

- $\mathcal{G}_T(\rho) \geq 0$
- $\mathcal{G}_T(\rho) = 0$ iff $(\rho_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$ is a weak solution to (NLIE).

- Minimizers exist by direct method, however not necessarily global!
- Possibility: Redo the minimizing movement scheme in the quasimetric setting
- Instead: Show existence via finite dimensional approximation and stability
- Alternatively: Existence of (strong) solutions via classical fix-point argument

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 - Alternatively: Existence of (strong) solutions via classical fix-point argument

Let $\mu^n \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ be such that $\mu^n \rightharpoonup \mu$ and define

$$\mathcal{G}_T(\mu^n; \rho^n) = \mathcal{E}(\rho_T^n) - \mathcal{E}(\rho_0^n) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\mu^n; \rho_t^n, \mathbf{j}_t^n) dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \mathcal{D}(\mu^n; \rho_t^n) dt .$$

Stability of gradient flows à la Sandier-Serfaty

Let $\rho^n \in AC^2(0, T; (\mathcal{P}_2(\Omega), \mathcal{T}_{\mu^n}))$ such that $\sup_n \mathcal{G}_T(\mu^n; \rho^n) < \infty$.

Then, there exists $\rho \in AC^2(0, T; (\mathcal{P}(\Omega), \mathcal{T}_\mu))$ such that

$$\rho_t^n \rightharpoonup \rho_t \quad \text{in } \mathcal{P}_2(\Omega) \text{ for a.e. } t \in [0, T]$$

$$\mathbf{j}^n \rightharpoonup \mathbf{j} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(G \times [0, T])$$

$$\liminf_n \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\mu^n; \rho_t^n, \mathbf{j}_t^n) dt \geq \int_0^T \mathcal{A}(\mu; \rho_t, \mathbf{j}_t) dt$$

$$\liminf_n \int_0^T \mathcal{D}(\mu^n; \rho_t^n) dt \geq \int_0^T \mathcal{D}(\mu; \rho_t) dt .$$

In particular weak solutions of (NLIE) on graph (μ^n, η) converge to ones on (μ, η) .

Corollary: Existence of weak solution to (NLIE) via finite-dimensional approximation.

Let $\mu^n \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ be such that $\mu^n \rightharpoonup \mu$ and define

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Let $\mu^n \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ be such that $\mu^n \rightarrow \mu$ and define

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In particular weak solutions of (NLIE) on graph (μ^n, η) converge to ones on (μ, η) .

Corollary: Existence of weak solution to (NLIE) via finite-dimensional approximation.

- convexity vs. contractivity vs. stability
⇒ in Finslerian geometry these become different concepts [Ohta-Sturm '12]
- local limit $\delta \rightarrow 0$ to obtain interaction equation
- diagonal limits: $N \rightarrow \infty$ and $\delta \rightarrow 0$ to obtain even different PDEs
- minimizing movement schemes (JKO)
⇒ extend classical theory to quasimetric setting and beyond
- Free energies including entropies

$$\mathcal{F}^\sigma(\rho) = \sigma \int \log \rho(x) \, d\rho(x) + \frac{1}{2} \int K(x, y) \, d\rho(x) \, d\rho(y)$$

For $\sigma > 0$ expect a Scharfetter-Gummel gradient structure with flux

$$j^\sigma(x, y) = v(x, y) \frac{\rho(x) e^{\frac{v(x, y)}{\sigma}} - \rho(y) e^{-\frac{v(x, y)}{\sigma}}}{e^{\frac{v(x, y)}{\sigma}} - e^{-\frac{v(x, y)}{\sigma}}} \xrightarrow{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \rho(x) v(x, y) - \rho(y) v(x, y)$$

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Thank you for your attention!