

Geometric regularity theory for fully nonlinear PDEs

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Outline of the Presentation

1. Introductory remarks

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3. The elliptic setting: Sobolev regularity;
4. The parabolic case: Sobolev regularity and a universal modulus of continuity;
5. Concluding remarks.

Introduction - model problems

Our model problems are:

Problem 1 – Elliptic setting

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Problem 2 – Parabolic setting

$$u_t - F(D^2u) = g(x, t) \quad \text{in} \quad B_1 \times (-1, 0) =: Q_1.$$

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Continuity of the source term: in line with the theory of **continuous viscosity solutions**; however, our results depend on f or g through their norms in appropriate **Lebesgue** spaces.

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Theory of **classical** solutions;

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$$\beta_F(x_0, x) := \sup_{M \in B_1^{S(d)}} \frac{|F(x_0, M) - F(x, M)|}{\|M\|}$$

is such that

$$\|\beta_F(x_0, \cdot)\|_{L^p(B_1)} \ll 1.$$

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Winter (09): Sobolev regularity up to the boundary.

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Assumes $g \in L^p(B_1)$ and proves estimates in

$W_{loc}^{2,1;p}(B_1)$.

Regularity of solutions - counterexamples

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Caffarelli & Stefanelli (08): parabolic case – solutions may fail to be of class $C^{2,1}$.

Approximation argument

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Various manners to design such a path: we focus on the idea of *recession function*.

The recession function - definition

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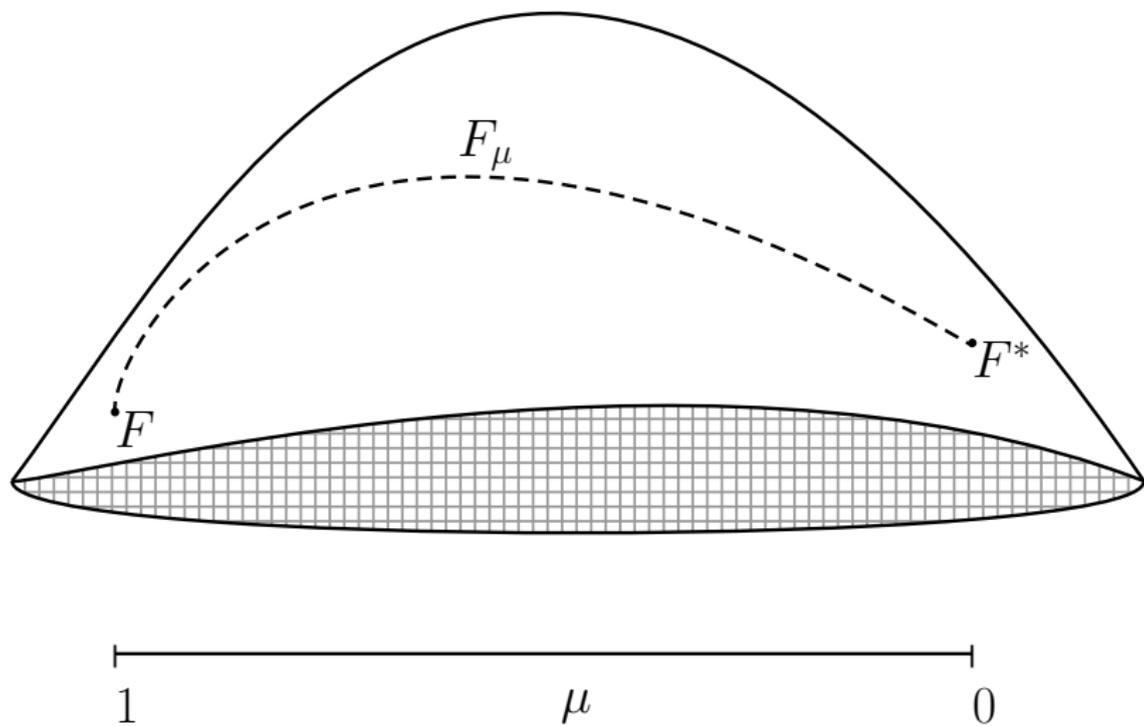
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From the *heuristic* viewpoint, F^* encodes the behavior of F at *the ends of $\mathcal{S}(d)$* .

A graphical representation



Example 1 - Eigenvalue q -momentum operator

Let $q \in 2\mathbb{N} + 1$ and consider:

$$F_q(M) = F_q(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d) := \sum_{i=1}^d (1 + \lambda_i^q)^{1/q} - d$$

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Hence: F_q^* is the Laplacian operator.

Example 2 - Perturbation of the special Lagrangian equation

Let $0 < \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d < +\infty$ and consider:

$$F(M) := \sum_{i=1}^d (\alpha_i \lambda_i + \arctan \lambda_i)$$

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Therefore: F^* is a perturbation of the Laplacian operator.

Main results and a few consequences

Regularity in $W_{loc}^{2,p}(B_1)$ – elliptic setting

Theorem (P. & Teixeira, *J. Math. Pures Appl.*, 16)

Let $u \in C(B_1)$ be a viscosity solution to

$$F(D^2u) = f(x) \quad \text{in } B_1.$$

Suppose that $f \in L^p(B_1)$, for $p > d$ and F^* has $C_{loc}^{1,1}(B_1)$ estimates.

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Then, $u \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(B_1)$ and

$$\|u\|_{W^{2,p}(B_{1/2})} \leq C \left(\|u\|_{L^\infty(B_1)} + \|f\|_{L^p(B_1)} \right),$$

where $C > 0$ is a universal constant.

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satisfies

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Main ideas behind the proof

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1. $C^{1,1}$ -estimates: **competing inequality**;
2. Made rigorous by means of an **Approximation Lemma**

Approximation Lemma

Proposition

Let $u \in \mathcal{C}(B_1)$ be a viscosity solution to

$$F_\mu(D^2u) = f(x) \quad \text{in } B_1.$$

Suppose that $f \in L^p(B_1)$, for $p > d$ and F^* has $\mathcal{C}_{loc}^{1,1}(B_1)$ estimates.

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$$\mu + \|f\|_{L^p(B_1)} \leq \varepsilon$$

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Given $\delta > 0$, there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that, if

$$\mu + \|f\|_{L^p(B_1)} \leq \varepsilon,$$

there exists $h \in \mathcal{C}_{loc}^{1,1}(B_1)$, solution to

$$F^*(D^2u) = 0 \quad \text{in } B_{3/4},$$

satisfying

$$\|u - h\|_{L^\infty(B_{3/4})} \leq \delta.$$

Improved regularity

Corollary

Let $u \in \mathcal{C}(B_1)$ be a viscosity solution to

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Suppose that $f \in p\text{-BMO}(B_1)$, for $p > d$ and F^* is convex.

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Then, $u \in q\text{-BMO}(B_1)$ and there exists a universal constant $C > 0$, so that

$$\|u\|_{q\text{-BMO}(B_{1/2})} \leq C \left(\|u\|_{L^\infty(B_1)} + \|f\|_{q\text{-BMO}(B_1)} \right),$$

for $q > 1$.

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Let $u \in \mathcal{C}(B_1)$ be a viscosity solution to

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Suppose that $f \in L^p(B_1)$, for $p > d$. Given $\delta > 0$, there exists a sequence $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in W_{loc}^{2,p}(B_1) \cap S(\lambda - \delta, \Lambda + \delta, f)$, converging locally uniformly to u .

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Main idea of the proof: the sequence $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ solve

$$F^n(D^2u_n) = f(x) \quad \text{in } B_1,$$

where

$$F^n(M) := \max \{F(M), L_\delta(M) - C_n\}$$

with

$$L_\delta(M) := (\Lambda + \delta) \sum_{e_i > 0} e_i + (\lambda - \delta) \sum_{e_i < 0} e_i.$$

Sobolev regularity in the parabolic setting

Theorem (Castillo & P.)

Let $u \in \mathcal{C}(Q_1)$ be a viscosity solution to

$$u_t - F(D^2 u) = g(x, t) \quad \text{in } Q_1.$$

Suppose that $g \in L^p(Q_1)$, for $p > d + 1$ and F^* has $C_{loc}^{1,0;1}(Q_1)$ estimates.

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Suppose that $g \in L^p(Q_1)$, for $p > d + 1$ and F^* has $C_{loc}^{1,0;1}(Q_1)$ estimates.

Then, u_t and D^2u are in $L_{loc}^p(Q_1)$ and

$$\|u_t\|_{L^p(Q_{1/2})} + \|D^2u\|_{L^p(Q_{1/2})} \leq C \left(\|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_1)} + \|g\|_{L^p(Q_1)} \right),$$

where $C > 0$ is a universal constant.

Regularity in q -BMO spaces: the parabolic setting

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Let $u \in \mathcal{C}(Q_1)$ be a nonnegative viscosity solution to

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Corollary

Sobolev regularity follows under the condition $p > d + 1 - \varepsilon_p$.

Universal modulus of continuity

Theorem (Castillo & P.)

Let $u \in \mathcal{C}(Q_1)$ be a viscosity solution to

$$u_t - F(D^2u) = g(x, t) \quad \text{in } Q_1.$$

Then, we have $u \in C_{loc}^{\alpha^*, \frac{\alpha^*}{2}}(Q_1)$ and the following estimate is satisfied:

$$\|u\|_{C^{\alpha^*, \frac{\alpha^*}{2}}(Q_{1/2})} \leq C \left[\|u\|_{L^\infty(Q_1)} + \|f\|_{L^{d+1-\varepsilon_p}(Q_1)} \right],$$

where

$$\alpha^* = \alpha^*(d, \varepsilon_p) = \frac{d - 2\varepsilon_p}{d + 1 - \varepsilon_p}.$$

Main ingredients of the proof

Step 1 It suffices to verify the existence of a sequence $(\xi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that

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Step 4 Study the equation v_m satisfies and conclude the case $k = m + 1$.

Further comments

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Thank you very much