

Weak solutions of the skeleton equation

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I. The kinetic formulation of the skeleton equation

The skeleton equation: in the case of the zero range process,

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \Phi(\rho) - \nabla \cdot (\Phi^{\frac{1}{2}}(\rho) g) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \times (0, T),$$

for an L^2 -control $g \in (L^2_{t,x})^d$. We specialize to the case, for some $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$,

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g).$$

The kinetic formulation: for $\chi = \mathbf{1}_{\{0 < \xi < \rho\}}$,

$$\partial_t \chi = \alpha \xi^{\alpha-1} \Delta \chi + \partial_\xi q - \partial_\xi (\xi^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot \nabla \chi) + \nabla \cdot (\xi^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} (\partial_\xi \chi) g),$$

for a locally finite, nonnegative measure q on $\mathbb{T}^d \times \mathbb{R} \times [0, T]$ with

$$q \geq \delta_\rho (\alpha \xi^{\alpha-1} |\nabla \rho|^2).$$

We have that, for $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d \times (0, \infty))$,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi(x, \xi) \chi \Big|_{r=0}^{r=t} &= - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \alpha \rho^{\alpha-1} \nabla \rho \cdot (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho) - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \partial_\xi \psi q \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho) + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (\partial_\xi \psi)(x, \rho) \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot \nabla \rho. \end{aligned}$$

I. The kinetic formulation of the skeleton equation

Well-posedness of renormalized kinetic solutions [F., Gess; 2023]

Let $\rho_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{T}^d)$ be nonnegative and $g \in (L^2_{t,x})^d$. Then, there exists a unique renormalized kinetic solution of the equation

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \Phi(\rho) - \nabla \cdot (\Phi^{\frac{1}{2}}(\rho) g) \text{ in } \mathbb{T}^d \times (0, T) \text{ with } \rho(\cdot, 0) = \rho_0.$$

Furthermore, if ρ_1 and ρ_2 are two solutions with initial data $\rho_{1,0}$ and $\rho_{2,0}$, then

$$\max_{t \in [0, T]} \|\rho_1(x, t) - \rho_2(x, t)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{T}^d)} = \|\rho_{1,0} - \rho_{2,0}\|_{L^1(\mathbb{T}^d)}.$$

The entropy estimate: we have that

$$\max_{t \in [0, T]} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho \log(\rho) + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}|^2 \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho_0 \log(\rho_0) + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |g|^2.$$

An interpolation inequality: we have that

$$\|\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}\|_{L_t^2 L_x^2} \lesssim \|\rho_0\|_{L_x^1}^\alpha + \|\nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}\|_{L_t^2 L_x^2}.$$

The skeleton equation: we have that

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) = 2 \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}) - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g).$$

I. The kinetic formulation of the skeleton equation

Weak solutions of the skeleton equation [F., Gess; 2023]

A weak solution is a nonnegative $\rho \in C([0, T]; L^1(\mathbb{T}^d))$ that satisfies:

The entropy estimate: we have

$$\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \in L^2([0, T]; H^1(\mathbb{T}^d)).$$

The equation: for every $\psi \in C^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d)$ and $t \in [0, T]$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho(x, s) \psi(x) \Big|_{s=0}^{s=t} = -2 \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \cdot \nabla \psi + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot \nabla \psi.$$

The kinetic formulation: for $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d \times (0, \infty))$,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi(x, \xi) \chi \Big|_{r=0}^{r=t} &= - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \alpha \rho^{\alpha-1} \nabla \rho \cdot (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho) - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \partial_\xi \psi q \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho) + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (\partial_\xi \psi)(x, \rho) \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot \nabla \rho. \end{aligned}$$

Weak-strong continuity: does a *weakly convergent* sequence $g_n \rightharpoonup g \in (L^2_{t,x})^d$ induce a *strongly convergent* sequence $\rho_n \rightarrow \rho \in L^1_{t,x}$?

II. Scalar conservation laws

Burger's equation: in one-dimension,

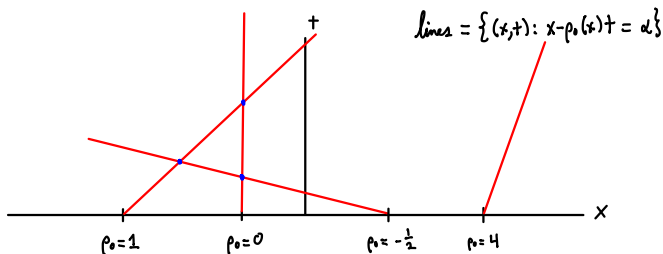
$$\partial_t \rho + \partial_x \left(\frac{1}{2} \rho^2 \right) = \partial_t \rho + \rho \partial_x \rho = 0.$$

The characteristics: In this case, $A'(\rho) = \rho$ and the characteristic equations are

$$\dot{X}_t^x = A'(\rho_0(x)) = \rho_0(x) \quad \text{with} \quad X_t^x = x + \rho_0(x)t.$$

We therefore have, for the inverse characteristics Y_t^x ,

$$Y_t^x = x - \rho_0(x)t \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(x, t) = \rho_0(x - \rho_0(x)t).$$



II. Scalar conservation laws

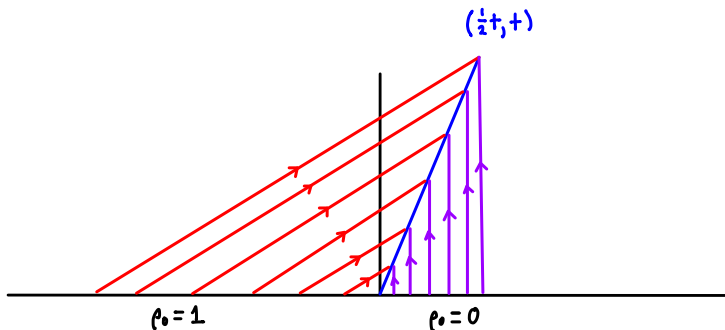
Burger's equation: in one-dimension,

$$\partial_t \rho + \rho \partial_x \rho = 0,$$

and we have, for the inverse characteristics Y_t^x ,

$$Y_t^x = x - \rho_0(x)t \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(x, t) = \rho_0(x - \rho_0(x)t).$$

Shock vs. Rarefaction Wave:



II. Entropy solutions

The regularized equation: for $\eta \in (0, 1)$, the equation

$$\partial_t \rho_\eta - \eta \Delta \rho_\eta + \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (\rho_\eta)^2 = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \times (0, \infty) \quad \text{with } \rho_\eta(\cdot, 0) = \rho_0.$$

A selection principle as $\eta \rightarrow 0$: if S is convex and ϕ is nonnegative,

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi(x) S(\rho_\eta) \right) &= \eta \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi(x) S'(\rho_\eta) \Delta \rho_\eta - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi(x) S'(\rho_\eta) \nabla(\rho_\eta)^2 \\ &= -\eta \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} S'(\rho_\eta) \nabla \rho_\eta \cdot \nabla \phi - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi S''(\rho_\eta) |\nabla \rho_\eta|^2 + \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \beta(\rho_\eta) \nabla \phi, \end{aligned}$$

for $\beta(0) = 0$ and $\beta'(\xi) = S'(\xi)\xi$.

The entropy inequality: as $\eta \rightarrow 0$, if $\rho_\eta \rightarrow \rho$,

$$\partial_t \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi(x) S(\rho) \right) \leq \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \beta(\rho_\eta) \nabla \phi,$$

or, in the sense of distributions,

$$\partial_t S(\rho) + \nabla \cdot \beta(\rho) \leq 0.$$

— an ensemble of equations for all “entropy-flux pairs” (S, β)

II. Scalar conservation laws

Inviscid and Viscous Burger's equations: in one-dimension,

$$\partial_t \rho + \rho \partial_x \rho = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_t \rho_\eta + \rho_\eta \partial_x \rho_\eta = \eta \Delta \rho_\eta,$$

and we have, for the inverse characteristics Y_t^x ,

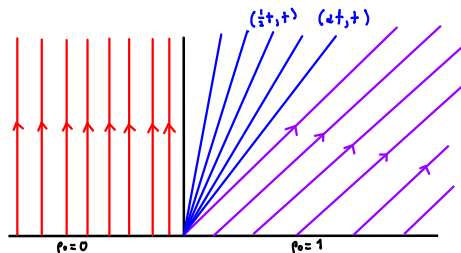
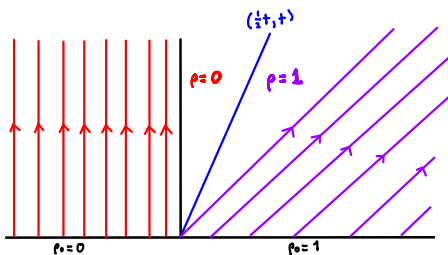
$$Y_t^x = x - \rho_0(x)t \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(x, t) = \rho_0(x - \rho_0(x)t).$$

The kinetic formulation: for the kinetic function $\chi = \mathbf{1}_{\{0 < \xi < \rho(x, t)\}} - \mathbf{1}_{\{\rho(x, t) < \xi < 0\}}$,

$$\partial_t \chi_\eta + \xi \nabla_x \chi_\eta = \eta \Delta \chi_\eta + \partial_\xi q_\eta,$$

and for a *nonnegative* “defect measure” $q = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \eta |\nabla \rho_\eta|^2$ and $q_\eta = \eta |\nabla \rho_\eta|^2$.

Shock vs. Rarefaction Wave:



II. Scalar conservation laws

DiPerna–Lions theory [DiPerna, Lions; 1989], [Ambrosio; 2004]

Let $b \in (L_t^1 BV_x)^d$ and $(\nabla \cdot b) \in (L_t^1 L_x^\infty)^d$. Then, for every $\rho_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d)$,

$$\partial_t \rho = \nabla \cdot (\rho b),$$

has a unique weak solution in $(L^1 \cap L^\infty)(\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T])$.

Relaxed assumptions: a one-sided bounded on $\nabla \cdot b$ is sufficient [Ambrosio; 2004]

Optimality: counterexamples for b failing to be BV on hyperplane [Depauw; 2003]

Commutator estimates: for a weak solution ρ , for $\rho_\varepsilon = (\rho * \kappa_\varepsilon)$,

$$\partial_t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} S(\rho_\varepsilon) \phi(x) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi(x) S'(\rho_\varepsilon) \nabla \cdot (\rho b)_\varepsilon \simeq \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi(x) S'(\rho_\varepsilon) \nabla \cdot (\rho_\varepsilon b).$$

The skeleton equation: for $g \in (L_{t,x}^2)^d$, for any $m \in (0, \infty)$,

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^m - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{m}{2}} g).$$

III. Weak solutions of the skeleton equation

Equivalence of weak and kinetic solutions: for initial data with finite entropy, is a weak solution

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho(x, s) \psi(x) \Big|_{s=0}^{s=t} = -2 \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \cdot \nabla \psi + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot \nabla \psi,$$

a kinetic solution

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \chi \psi \Big|_{s=0}^{s=t} = & - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \alpha \rho^{\alpha-1} \nabla \rho \cdot (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho) - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\partial_\xi \psi)(x, \xi) q \\ & + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (\partial_\xi \psi)(x, \rho) \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot \nabla \rho + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g \cdot (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho)? \end{aligned}$$

Deriving the kinetic form: for $\partial_\xi \Psi(x, \xi) = \psi(x, \xi)$, for $\rho_\varepsilon = (\rho * \kappa^\varepsilon)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \int \Psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) &= \int \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) \partial_t \rho_\varepsilon \\ &= -2 \int (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho_\varepsilon) \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}})_\varepsilon - \int (\nabla \psi)(x, \rho_\varepsilon) \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g)_\varepsilon \\ &\quad - 2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (\partial_\xi \psi)(x, \rho_\varepsilon) \nabla \rho_\varepsilon \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}})_\varepsilon - \int (\partial_\xi \psi)(x, \rho_\varepsilon) \nabla \rho_\varepsilon \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g)_\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

II. Weak solutions of the skeleton equation

The equation satisfied by the convolution: for $\rho = (\rho * \kappa^\varepsilon)$,

$$\partial_t \rho_\varepsilon = -(2\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon) + (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon).$$

Deriving the kinetic form: if ρ is a weak solution, for $\partial_\xi \Psi(x, \xi) = \psi(x, \xi)$,

$$\partial_t \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \Psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) = -2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon) + \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon).$$

A useful decomposition: let $\text{Supp}(\psi) \subseteq \mathbb{T}^d \times [0, M]$ and let

$$A_k = \{(x, t) : \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}(x, t) \geq M^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} + k\} \text{ and let } A_0 = (\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T]) \setminus A_1.$$

We then write, for $\mathbf{1}_k = \mathbf{1}_{A_{k+1} \setminus A_k}$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) (\mathbf{1}_{A_0} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) (\mathbf{1}_k \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon) (\mathbf{1}_{A_0} \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g * \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon) \\ &\quad + \varepsilon^{-1} \|g\|_{L_{t,x}^2} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (M^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} + k + 1)^2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\psi(x, \rho_\varepsilon)| (\mathbf{1}_{A_k} * |\varepsilon \nabla \kappa^\varepsilon|) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

II. Weak solutions of the skeleton equation

Equivalence of weak and renormalized kinetic solutions [F., Gess; 2023]

Under assumptions including $\Phi(\xi) = \xi^m$ for every $m \in [1, \infty)$, a nonnegative function $\rho \in C([0, T]; L^1(\mathbb{T}^d))$ that satisfies

$$\Phi^{\frac{1}{2}}(\rho) \in L^2([0, T]; H^1(\mathbb{T}^d))$$

is a renormalized kinetic solution of the skeleton equation

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \Phi(\rho) - \nabla \cdot (\Phi^{\frac{1}{2}}(\rho) g) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \times (0, T) \quad \text{with } \rho(\cdot, 0) = \rho_0,$$

for a nonnegative ρ_0 with finite entropy if and only if ρ is a weak solution. In particular, weak solutions exist and are unique.

- equivalence of renormalized and weak solutions [DiPerna, Lions; 1989], [Ambrosio; 2004].
- strong continuity with respect to weak convergence of the control
- for example, $\Phi^{\frac{1}{2}}$ convex or concave or Φ satisfies that $0 < \lambda \leq \Phi' \leq \Lambda$.

II. Weak solutions of the skeleton equation

Weak-strong continuity [F., Gess; 2023]

If ρ_n are solutions of the skeleton equation with controls $g_n \rightharpoonup g$ and initial data $\rho_{0,n} \rightharpoonup \rho_0$ with uniformly bounded entropy, then $\rho_n \rightarrow \rho$ for ρ the solution of the skeleton equation with control g and initial data ρ_0 .

The entropy estimate: if $\partial_t \rho_n = \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g_n)$ then

$$\max_{t \in [0, T]} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho_n \log(\rho_n) + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla \rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}|^2 \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho_{0,n} \log(\rho_{0,n}) + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |g_n|^2.$$

Compactness since the g_n are uniformly $(L_{t,x}^2)^d$ -bounded,

ρ_n is strongly compact in $L_{t,x}^1$ and $\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}$ is weakly compact in $L_t^2 H_x^1$.

Uniqueness of the limit: We have for some ρ that, along a subsequence,

$$\rho_n \rightarrow \rho \text{ in } L_{t,x}^1 \text{ and } \rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \rightharpoonup \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \text{ in } L_t^2 H_x^1,$$

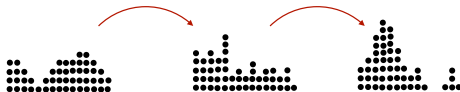
from which we conclude that

$$\partial_t \rho = 2 \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}) - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g),$$

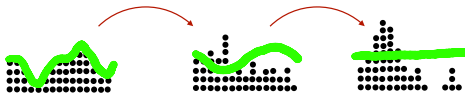
and that $\rho_n \rightarrow \rho$ along the full sequence $n \rightarrow \infty$.

III. L.s.c. envelope of the rate function

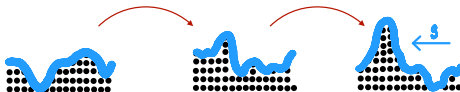
The zero range process: μ^N on $\mathbb{T}^1 \times [0, T]$ for $N = 15$ and $T(k) \sim ke^{-kt}$,



The heat equation: the hydrodynamic limit $\partial_t \bar{\rho} = \Delta \bar{\rho}$,



The skeleton equation: the controlled equation $\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho - \nabla \cdot (\sqrt{\rho} \cdot g)$,



The rate function: we have $\mathbb{P}(\mu^N \simeq \rho) \simeq \exp(-NI(\rho))$ for

$$I(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \inf \{ \|g\|_{L^2_{t,x}}^2 : \partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho - \nabla \cdot (\sqrt{\rho} g) \}.$$

III. L.s.c. envelope of the rate function

The rate function: we have that

$$I(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \inf \left\{ \|g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)}^2 : \partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \cdot g) \right\}.$$

Large Deviations Principle [Benois, Kipnis, Landim; 1995]

For every closed $A \subseteq D([0, T]; \mathcal{M}_+(\mathbb{T}^d))$,

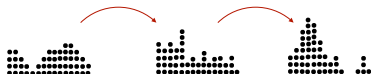
$$\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \log (\mathbb{P}(\mu^N \in A)) \leq - \inf_{m \in A} I(m).$$

For the space of smooth fluctuations

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\partial_t m = \Delta m^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (m^\alpha \nabla H) : H \in C^{3,1}(\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T])\},$$

for every open subset $A \subseteq D([0, T]; \mathcal{M}_+(\mathbb{T}^d))$,

$$\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \log (\mathbb{P}(\mu^N \in A)) \geq - \inf_{\rho \in A} \overline{I(\rho)}^{\text{lsc}}.$$



IV. L.s.c. envelope of the rate function

The rate function: we have

$$I(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \inf \left\{ \|g\|_{L^2}^2 : \partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) \right\}.$$

The Hilbert space: $H_{\rho^\alpha}^1$ is the strong closure w.r.t. the inner product

$$\langle \nabla \psi, \nabla \phi \rangle = \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^\alpha \nabla \psi \cdot \nabla \phi \text{ for } \phi, \psi \in C^\infty.$$

Unique minimizer: the equation defines

$$\partial_t \rho - \Delta \rho^\alpha = -\nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) \in H_{\rho^\alpha}^{-1},$$

and if $I(\rho) < \infty$ then the minimizer $g = \rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \nabla H$ for $H \in H_{\rho^\alpha}^1$ and

$$I(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^\alpha |\nabla H|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|H\|_{H_{\rho^\alpha}^1}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|\partial_t \rho - \Delta \rho^\alpha\|_{H_{\rho^\alpha}^{-1}}^2.$$

The “ill-posed” equation: we have the formally “supercritical” equation

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^\alpha \nabla H).$$

IV. L.s.c envelope of the rate function

The space of smooth fluctuations: we have that

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\partial_t m = \Delta m^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (m^\alpha \nabla H) : H \in C^{3,1}(\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T])\}.$$

The recovery sequence: given an arbitrary fluctuation

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g),$$

to show that $\overline{I|_{\mathcal{S}}}^{lsc}(\rho) = I(\rho)$ we need to find a sequence $\rho_n \in \mathcal{S}$ such that

$$\rho_n \rightarrow \rho \in L^1_{t,x} \quad \text{and} \quad I(\rho_n) \rightarrow I(\rho).$$

A first attempt: there exists $H \in H^1_{\rho^\alpha}$ such that

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^\alpha \nabla H) \quad \text{and} \quad I(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \rho^\alpha |\nabla H|^2.$$

Let ρ_ε solve

$$\partial_t \rho_\varepsilon = \Delta \rho_\varepsilon^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_\varepsilon^\alpha (\nabla H * \kappa_\varepsilon)).$$

- supercritical with no stable estimates with respect to ∇H
- the Hilbert space framework is too rigid

IV. L.s.c envelope of the rate function

A second attempt: for some $g \in L^2_{t,x}$ and ρ_0 with finite entropy,

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) \quad \text{with } \rho(\cdot, 0) = \rho_0.$$

Regularizing the data: we consider

$$\rho_{0,n} = \left((\rho_0 \wedge n) \vee \frac{1}{n} \right) * \kappa_x^{\frac{1}{n}} \quad \text{and} \quad g_n = g * \kappa_{t,x}^{\frac{1}{n}},$$

and solve

$$\partial_t \rho_n = \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g_n) \quad \text{with } \rho_n(\cdot, 0) = \rho_{0,n}.$$

There exists $H_n \in H^1_{\rho_n^\alpha}$ such that

$$\partial_t \rho_n = \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^\alpha \nabla H_n) \quad \text{with } \rho_n(\cdot, 0) = \rho_{0,n}.$$

Deducing the regularity of H_n : we have the elliptic equation

$$-\nabla \cdot (\rho_n^\alpha \nabla H_n) = \partial_t \rho_n - \Delta \rho_n^\alpha.$$

- is not necessarily uniformly elliptic
- how regular is ρ_n ?

IV. L.s.c envelope of the rate function

The final attempt: for some $g \in L^2_{t,x}$ and ρ_0 with finite entropy,

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) \quad \text{with } \rho(\cdot, 0) = \rho_0.$$

Regularizing the data: we consider

$$\rho_{0,n} = \left((\rho_0 \wedge n) \vee \frac{1}{n} \right) * \kappa_x^{\frac{1}{n}} \quad \text{and} \quad g_n = g * \kappa_{t,x}^{\frac{1}{n}},$$

“Turning off” the control: for $\sigma_n(\xi) = 0$ if $\xi \leq \frac{1}{n}$ or $\xi \geq n$, solve

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho_n &= \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sigma_n(\rho_n) g_n) \\ &= \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \tilde{g}_n), \end{aligned}$$

for the control $\tilde{g}_n = \sigma_n(\rho_n) g_n$.

Regularity of ρ_n : we have that $\frac{1}{n} \leq \rho_n \leq n$ and $\rho_n \in C^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T])$.

Deducing the regularity of H_n : There exists $H_n \in H^1_{\rho_n^\alpha}$ such that

$$\partial_t \rho_n = \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^\alpha \nabla H_n) \quad \text{and} \quad -\nabla \cdot (\rho_n^\alpha \nabla H_n) = \partial_t \rho_n - \Delta \rho_n^\alpha.$$

IV. L.s.c. envelope of the rate function

The fluctuation: for some $g \in L^2_{t,x}$ and ρ_0 with finite entropy,

$$\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) \quad \text{with } \rho(\cdot, 0) = \rho_0.$$

The recovery sequence: for $\sigma_n(\xi) = 0$ if $\xi \leq \frac{1}{n}$ or $\xi \geq n$, solve

$$\partial_t \rho_n = \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sigma_n(\rho_n) g_n) = \Delta \rho_n^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho_n^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \tilde{g}_n),$$

for the control $\tilde{g}_n = \sigma_n(\rho_n) g_n$ and with $\rho_n(\cdot, 0) = \rho_{0,n}$.

Compactness: the ρ_n satisfy uniformly the entropy estimate and

$$\rho_n \rightarrow \rho \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma(\rho_n) g_n \mathbf{1}_{\{\rho > 0\}} \rightarrow g \mathbf{1}_{\{\rho > 0\}} \quad \text{and} \quad I(\rho_n) \leq \|\sigma(\rho_n) g_n\|_2^2 \rightarrow \|g\|_2^2.$$

Large deviations of the zero range process [F., Gess; 2023]

For the space of smooth fluctuations

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\partial_t m = \Delta m^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (m^\alpha \nabla H) : H \in C^{3,1}(\mathbb{T}^d \times [0, T])\},$$

we have that

$$\overline{I(\rho)} \Big|_{\mathcal{S}}^{\text{lsc}} = I(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \inf \{ \|g\|_2^2 : \partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^\alpha - \nabla \cdot (\rho^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} g) \}.$$

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