# Periodic solutions of Euler-Lagrange equations in an Orlicz-Sobolev space setting by the dual least action principle

Sonia Acinas \*

Dpto. de Matemática, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales Universidad Nacional de La Pampa (L6300CLB) Santa Rosa, La Pampa, Argentina

sonia.acinas@gmail.com

Fernando D. Mazzone †

Dpto. de Matemática, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, Físico-Químicas y Naturales Universidad Nacional de Río Cuarto (5800) Río Cuarto, Córdoba, Argentina,

fmazzone@exa.unrc.edu.ar

#### **Abstract**

### 1 Introduction

This paper deals with system of equations of the type:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} D_y \mathcal{L}(t, u(t), u'(t)) = D_x \mathcal{L}(t, u(t), u'(t)) & \text{a.e. } t \in (0, T) \\ u(0) - u(T) = u'(0) - u'(T) = 0, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where  $\mathcal{L}:[0,T]\times\mathbb{R}^d\times\mathbb{R}^d\to\mathbb{R},\ d\geqslant 1$ , is called the *Lagrange function* or *lagrangian* and the unknown function  $u:[0,T]\to\mathbb{R}^d$  is absolutely continuous. In other words, we are interested in finding *periodic weak solutions* of *Euler-Lagrange system of ordinary equations*. This topic was deeply addressed for the *Lagrange function* 

$$\mathcal{L}_{p,F}(t,x,y) = \frac{|y|^p}{p} + F(t,x), \tag{2}$$

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<sup>†</sup>SECyT-UNRC, FCEyN-UNLPam and CONICET

for  $1 . For example, the classic book [Mawhin and Willem, 1989] deals mainly with problem (1), for the lagrangian <math>\mathcal{L}_{2,F}$ , through various methods: direct, dual action, minimax, etc. The results in [Mawhin and Willem, 1989] were extended and improved in several articles, see [Tang, 1995, Tang, 1998, Wu and Tang, 1999, Tang and Wu, 2001, Zhao and Wu, 2004] to cite some examples. Lagrange functions (2) for arbitrary 1 were considered in [Tian and Ge, 2007, Tang and Zhang, 2010] and in this case (1) is reduced to the <math>p-laplacian system

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \left( u'(t)|u'|^{p-2} \right) = \nabla F(t, u(t)) & \text{a.e. } t \in (0, T) \\ u(0) - u(T) = u'(0) - u'(T) = 0. \end{cases}$$
 (3)

In this context, it is customary to call F a potential function, and it is assumed that F(t,x) is differentiable with respect to x for a.e.  $t \in [0,T]$  and the following conditions are verified:

- (C) F and its gradient  $\nabla F$ , with respect to  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , are Carathéodory functions, i.e. they are measurable functions with respect to  $t \in [0,T]$ , for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and they are continuous functions with respect to  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for a.e.  $t \in [0,T]$ .
- (A) For a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ , it holds that

$$|F(t,x)| + |\nabla F(t,x)| \le a(|x|)b(t). \tag{4}$$

In this inequality we assume that the function  $a:[0,+\infty) \to [0,+\infty)$  is continuous and non decreasing and  $0 \le b \in L^1([0,T],\mathbb{R})$ .

In [Acinas et al., 2015] it was treated the case of a lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}$  which is lower bounded by a Lagrange function

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Phi,F}(t,x,y) = \Phi(|y|) + F(t,x), \tag{5}$$

where  $\Phi$  is an N-function (see section 2 for the definition of this concept). In the paper [Acinas et al., 2015] it was assumed a condition of *bounded oscillation* on F (see xxxxx below). In this paper we apply the dual method ([Mawhin and Willem, 1989, Ch. 3]) to obtain solutions of (1).

### 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we give a short introduction to known results on Orlicz and Orlicz-Sobolev spaces of vector valued functions (anisotropic Orlicz Spaces) and other brief introduction to superposition operators between these spaces. References for these topics are [Schappacher, 2005, Skaff, 1969, Desch and Grimmer, 2001] and [Płuciennik, 1987, Nguen Hong Thai, 1987, Płuciennik, 1985b, Płuciennik, 1985a].

Hereafter we denote by  $\mathbb{R}^+$  the set of all non negative real numbers. A function  $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}_+$  is called an *Young's function* if  $\Phi$  is convex,  $\Phi(0) = 0$ ,  $\Phi(-x) = \Phi(x)$  and  $\Phi(x) \to +\infty$ , when  $|x| \to +\infty$ .

Following [Schappacher, 2005] we say that  $\Phi$  is *coercive* if

$$\lim_{|x|\to\infty}\frac{\Phi(x)}{|x|}=+\infty.$$

The coercivity of a Young's function  $\Phi$  implies that for every K > 0 there exists a function F := F(K) such that if |x| > F(K) then  $\Phi(x) > K$ .

Con menores estrictos????

It is possible to define a function F that satisfies the property above as follows

$$F(s) = \sup\{|x| : \Phi(x) \leqslant s\},\tag{6}$$

where  $\Phi$  is a coercive Young's function.

As  $\alpha\Phi(\frac{x}{\alpha})$  is non decreasing with respect to  $\alpha$ , we get that the function  $\alpha F(\frac{x}{\alpha})$  is also increasing with respect to  $\alpha$ . That is, if  $0 < \alpha \le \beta$ , we have

$$\alpha F\left(\frac{s}{\alpha}\right) = \alpha \sup\left\{|x| : \Phi(x) \leqslant \frac{s}{\alpha}\right\} = \sup\left\{\alpha|x| : \alpha \Phi(x) \leqslant s\right\} =$$

$$\sup\left\{|y| : \alpha \Phi\left(\frac{y}{\alpha}\right) \leqslant s\right\} \leqslant \sup\left\{|y| : \beta \Phi\left(\frac{y}{\beta}\right) \leqslant s\right\} =$$

$$\sup\left\{\beta|x| : \beta \Phi(x) \leqslant s\right\} = \sup\beta\{|x| : \Phi(x) \leqslant \frac{x}{\beta}\} =$$

$$\beta F\left(\frac{x}{\beta}\right).$$

It is easy to see that  $|x| \le F(\Phi(x))$ ; and, if  $\Phi$  is a scalar function, then  $F = \Phi^{-1}$ . No me convence como está escrito lo anterior porque no sé cómo referenciarlo

cuando lo aplicamos para obtener las desigualdades.

We also say that a non decreasing function  $\eta: \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  satisfies the  $\Delta_2^{\infty}$ -condition, denoted by  $\eta \in \Delta_2^{\infty}$ , if there exist constants K > 0 and  $M \geqslant 0$  such that

$$\eta(2x) \leqslant K\eta(x),\tag{7}$$

for every  $|x| \ge M$ .

If  $\Phi$  is a Young function we define its *Fenchel conjugate*  $\Phi^* : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}_+$  by:

$$\Phi^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} x \cdot y - \Phi(x) \tag{8}$$

Let d be a positive integer. We denote by  $\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{M}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  the set of all measurable functions (i.e. functions which are limits of simple functions) defined on [0,T] with values on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and we write  $u=(u_1,\ldots,u_d)$  for  $u\in\mathcal{M}$ . For the set of functions  $\mathcal{M}$ , as for other similar sets, we will omit the reference to codomain  $\mathbb{R}^d$  when d=1.

Given an N-function  $\Phi$  we define the modular function  $\rho_{\Phi}: \mathcal{M} \to \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{+\infty\}$  by

$$\rho_{\Phi}(u) \coloneqq \int_0^T \Phi(u) \ dt.$$

Here  $|\cdot|$  is the euclidean norm of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Now, we introduce the *Orlicz class*  $C^{\Phi}$  =  $C^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  by setting

$$C^{\Phi} := \{ u \in \mathcal{M} | \rho_{\Phi}(u) < \infty \}. \tag{9}$$

The Orlicz space  $L^{\Phi} = L^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  is the linear hull of  $C^{\Phi}$ ; equivalently,

$$L^{\Phi} := \{ u \in \mathcal{M} | \exists \lambda > 0 : \rho_{\Phi}(\lambda u) < \infty \}. \tag{10}$$

The Orlicz space  $L^{\Phi}$  equipped with the Luxemburg norm

$$\|u\|_{L^\Phi}\coloneqq\inf\left\{\lambda\left|\rho_\Phi\left(\frac{v}{\lambda}\right)dt\leqslant1\right.\right\},$$

is a Banach space. By  $u \cdot v$  we denote the usual dot product in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  between u and v. The subspace  $E^{\Phi} = E^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  is defined as the closure in  $L^{\Phi}$  of the subspace  $L^{\infty}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  of all  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued essentially bounded functions. It is shown that (see [Schappacher, 2005, Thm. 5.1])  $u \in E^{\Phi}$  if and only if  $\rho_{\Phi}(\lambda u) < \infty$  for any  $\lambda > 0$ . The equality  $L^{\Phi} = E^{\Phi}$  is true if and only if  $\Phi \in \Delta_2^{\infty}$  (see [Schappacher, 2005, Thm. 5.2]). Another alternative characterization of  $E^{\Phi}$ , which is particularly useful for us, is that  $u \in E^{\Phi}$  if and only if u has absolutely continuous norm, i.e. if  $E_n \subset [0,T]$ ,  $n=1,2,\ldots$ then  $\|\chi_{E_n} u\| \to 0$  when  $|E_n| \to 0$ .

A generalized version of Hölder's inequality holds in Orlicz spaces (see [Skaff, 1969, Thm. 4.1]). Namely, if  $u \in L^{\Phi}$  and  $v \in L^{\Phi^*}$  then  $u \cdot v \in L^1$  and

$$\int_{0}^{T} v \cdot u \, dt \le 2 \|u\|_{L^{\Phi}} \|v\|_{L^{\Phi^{*}}}. \tag{11}$$

Like in [Krasnosel'skiĭ and Rutickiĭ, 1961] we will consider the subset  $\Pi(E^{\Phi}, r)$ of  $L^{\Phi}$  given by

$$\Pi(E^{\Phi}, r) \coloneqq \{u \in L^{\Phi} | d(u, E^{\Phi}) < r\}.$$

This set is related to the Orlicz class  $C^{\Phi}$  by means of inclusions, namely,

$$\Pi(E^{\Phi}, r) \subset rC^{\Phi} \subset \overline{\Pi(E^{\Phi}, r)}$$
(12)

for any positive r (see [Schappacher, 2005, Thm. 5.6]). If  $\Phi \in \Delta_2^{\infty}$ , then the sets  $L^{\Phi}$ ,  $E^{\Phi}$ ,  $\Pi(E^{\Phi}, r)$  and  $C^{\Phi}$  are equal.

Following to [Desch and Grimmer, 2001] we introduce the next definition.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $u_n, uL^{\Phi}([0,T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ . We say that  $u_n$  converges monotonically to u if there exists  $\alpha_n \in \|_{L^{\infty}}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $n=1,2,\ldots$ , such that  $0 \leqslant \alpha_n(t) \leqslant \alpha_{n+1}(t)$ ,  $\alpha_n(t) \to 1$  a.e., when  $n \to \infty$  and  $u_n(t) = \alpha_n(t)u(t)$ .

As usual, if  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  is a normed space and  $(Y, \|\cdot\|_Y)$  is a linear subspace of X, we write  $Y \hookrightarrow X$  and we say that Y is *embedded* in X when there exists C > 0 such that  $||y||_X \le C||y||_Y$  for any  $y \in Y$ . With this notation, Hölder's inequality states that  $L^{\Phi^*} \hookrightarrow [L^{\Phi}]^*$ , where a function  $v \in L^{\Phi^*}$  is associated to  $F_v \in [L^{\Phi}]^*$  where

$$F_v(u) \coloneqq \langle v, u \rangle = \int_0^T v \cdot u \, dt, \tag{13}$$

In [Desch and Grimmer, 2001, Thm 2.9] it was characterized a subspace of  $[L^{\Phi}]^*$ which is identified with  $L^{\Phi^*}$ . Namely  $L^{\Phi^*} = P^{\Phi^*}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  where  $F \in P^{\Phi^*}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$ if and only if  $F \in [L^{\Phi}]^*$  and satisfying the monotone convergence property, which is

if  $u_n$  converges monotonically to u then  $F(u_n) \to F(u)$ . If  $\Phi \in \Delta_2^{\infty}$  and  $\Phi$  is coercive then  $L^{\Phi^*}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d) = \left[L^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)\right]^*$  is satisfied (see [Desch and Grimmer, 2001, Thm. 2.9, Thm. 2.10]). We define the *Sobolev-Orlicz space*  $W^1L^{\Phi}$  by

 $W^1L^\Phi([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)\coloneqq\{u|u\text{ is absolutely continuous on }[0,T]\text{ and }u'\in L^\Phi([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)\}.$ 

 $W^1L^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  is a Banach space when equipped with the norm

$$||u||_{W^1L^{\Phi}} = ||u||_{L^{\Phi}} + ||u'||_{L^{\Phi}}.$$
(14)

And, we introduce the following subspaces of  $W^1L^{\Phi}$ 

$$W^{1}E^{\Phi} = \{u \in W^{1}L^{\Phi} | u' \in E^{\Phi}\},$$

$$W^{1}E^{\Phi}_{T} = \{u \in W^{1}E^{\Phi} | u(0) = u(T)\}.$$
(15)

We will use repeatedly the decomposition  $u = \overline{u} + \widetilde{u}$  for a function  $u \in L^1([0,T])$ where  $\overline{u} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T u(t) \ dt$  and  $\widetilde{u} = u - \overline{u}$ .

The following lemma is an elementary generalization to anisotropic Sobolev-Orlicz

spaces of known results of Sobolev spaces.

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \to [0, +\infty)$  be a Young's function and let  $u \in W^1L^{\Phi}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ 

Let  $F: \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  be the function defined by (6).

1. For every  $s, t \in [0, T]$ ,  $s \neq t$ ,

$$\Phi\left(\frac{u(t) - u(s)}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}|s - t|}\right) \leqslant \frac{1}{|s - t|}$$
 (Morrey's inequality)

$$\left\| \Phi\left(\frac{u}{2\max\{1,T\}\|u\|_{W^1L^{\Phi}}}\right) \right\|_{L^{\infty}} \leqslant \frac{1}{T}$$
 (Sobolev's inequality)

Versiones con F!!!

$$|u(t) - u(s)| \le ||u'||_{L^{\Phi}} |s - t| F\left(\frac{1}{|s - t|}\right)$$
 (Morrey's inequality)

$$||u||_{L^{\infty}} \le 2F\left(\frac{1}{T}\right) \max\{1, T\} ||u||_{W^1L^{\Phi}}$$
 (Sobolev's inequality)

2. We have  $\widetilde{u} \in L^{\infty}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  and

$$\left\| \Phi\left(\frac{\widetilde{u}}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}T}\right) \right\|_{L^{\infty}} \leqslant \frac{1}{T}$$
 (Sobolev-Wirtinger's inequality)

$$\|\widetilde{u}\|_{L^{\infty}} \leqslant TF\left(\frac{1}{T}\right)\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}$$
 (Sobolev-Wirtinger's inequality)

3. The space  $W^1L^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  is compactly embedded in the space of continuous functions  $C([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

*Proof.* By the absolutely continuity of u and Jensen's inequality, we have

$$\Phi\left(\frac{u(t) - u(s)}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}|s - t|}\right) \leqslant \Phi\left(\frac{1}{|s - t|} \int_{s}^{t} \frac{u'(r)}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}} dr\right) 
\leqslant \frac{1}{|s - t|} \int_{s}^{t} \Phi\left(\frac{u'(r)}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}}\right) dr \leqslant \frac{1}{|s - t|}.$$

As  $\Phi$  is coercive, by (quizás referencia a la intro???) there exists a function  $F: \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\frac{|u(t) - u(s)|}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}|s - t|} \leqslant F\left(\frac{1}{|s - t|}\right),$$

then 1 holds.

Morrey's inequality implies Sobolev-Wirtinger's inequality according to the following argument. Taking into account that  $\alpha\Phi(x/\alpha)$  is a non increasing function with respect to  $\alpha \in [0, \infty)$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  we have

$$\Phi\left(\frac{u(t) - u(s)}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}T}\right) \leqslant \frac{1}{T}.$$

Dividing by T this inequality, integrating respect to s and using Jensen's inequality again

$$\Phi\left(\int_0^T \frac{u(t) - u(s)}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}} T^2} ds\right) \leqslant \frac{1}{T}.$$

which implies

$$\Phi\left(\frac{u(t)-\overline{u}}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}T}\right)\leqslant \frac{1}{T}.$$

Then, by ?? there exists  $F: \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\frac{|u(t) - \overline{u}|}{\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}T} \leqslant F\left(\frac{1}{T}\right),$$

and Sobolev-Wirtinger's inequality follows easily.

For the Sobolev's inequality we note that (we write  $T^* = \max\{1, T\}$ )

$$\begin{split} \Phi\left(\frac{u}{2T^{*}\|u\|_{W^{1}L^{\Phi}}}\right) &\leqslant \frac{1}{2}\Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{u}}{T^{*}\|u\|_{W^{1}L^{\Phi}}}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\Phi\left(\frac{\overline{u}}{T^{*}\|u\|_{W^{1}L^{\Phi}}}\right) \\ &\leqslant \frac{1}{2}\Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{u}}{T^{*}\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\Phi\left(\frac{\overline{u}}{T^{*}\|u\|_{L^{\Phi}}}\right) \\ &=: I_{1} + I_{2} \end{split}$$

Using Sobolev-Wirtinger's inequality, the inequality  $T^* \geqslant T$  and that  $\Phi$  is increasing function we get

$$2I_1 \leqslant \Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{u}}{T\|u'\|_{L^{\Phi}}}\right) \leqslant \frac{1}{T}$$

Using Jensen's inequality and that  $T^* \ge 1$  we have

$$2I_{2} = \Phi\left(\frac{1}{T} \int_{0}^{T} \frac{u(s)}{T^{*} \|u\|_{L^{\Phi}}} ds\right) \leqslant \frac{1}{T} \int_{0}^{T} \Phi\left(\frac{u(s)}{\|u\|_{L^{\Phi}}}\right) ds \leqslant \frac{1}{T}$$

Then  $I_1 + I_2 \le 1/T$ . Now, by ?? there exists a function  $F : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  such tha

$$\frac{|u|}{2T^*\|u\|_{W^1L^\Phi}}\leqslant F\left(\frac{1}{T}\right)$$

and we obtain Sobolev's inequality immediately.

Next we prove part 3 of the lemma. First we prove that there exists a non decreasing function  $F:(0,+\infty)\to (0,+\infty)$  such that  $\|u\|_{L^\infty}\leqslant F(\|\Phi(u)\|_{L^\infty})$ . In fact, since  $\Phi(x)\to +\infty$  when  $\|x\|\to +\infty$ , for every K>0 there exist G(K)>0 such that  $|x|\geqslant G(K)$  then  $\Phi(x)\geqslant K$ . Suppose that, for certain  $u,\|u\|_{L^\infty}>G(\|\Phi(u)\|_{L^\infty})$ . Then there exists a set  $A\subset [0,T]$  with positive measure such  $|u(t)|>G(\|\Phi(u)\|_{L^\infty})$ , when  $t\in A$ . Then  $\Phi(u(t))>\|\Phi(u)\|_{L^\infty}$ , for  $t\in A$ , which is a contradiction. Now we take  $F(K):=\sup\{G(s)|0< s\leqslant k\}$ .

We take a bounded sequence  $u_n$  in  $W^1L^{\Phi}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)$  and suppose that  $u_n$  has not convergent subsequence.

## 3 Superposition operators in anisotropic Orlicz spaces

Vamos escribiendo lo que queremos...(de acuerdo a mis apuntes y sin ver las hojitas de la semana pasada)

For  $f:[0,T]\times\mathbb{R}^d\to\mathbb{R}$  we denote by  $\mathfrak{f}$  the Nemytskii (o superposition) operator defined for functions  $u:[0,T]\to\mathbb{R}^d$  by

$$\mathfrak{f}u(t) = f(t, u(t))$$

Referencias y alguna propiedad interesante medibles en medibles? [Krasnosel'skii et al., 2011, Krasnosel'skii and Rutickii, 1961]

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $\Phi_1, \Phi_2, \ldots, \Phi_n$  be N-functions. Assume that M is another N-functions that satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition. We write  $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \ldots, y_n)$  with  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $f(t, x_1, \ldots, x_n, y_1, \ldots, y_n)$  be a function Charathéodory? with  $f: [0,T] \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^n \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^n \to \mathbb{R}^{d'}$ .

Suppose that  $a:(\mathbb{R}^d)^n \to [0,+\infty)$  is a bounded function on bounded sets and  $b \in L^M([0,T])$ , for a.e.  $t \in [0,T]$  such that

$$|f| \le a(x)[b(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} M^{-1}(\Phi_i(|y_i|))],$$
 (16)

then

$$\mathfrak{f}: \left(\prod_{i=1}^n L^{\infty}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)\right) \times \left(\prod_{i=1}^n \Pi(E^{\Phi_i}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d),\lambda=1)\right) \to L^M.$$

*Proof.* If  $(u,v) \in \left(\prod_{i=1}^n L^{\infty}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^d)\right) \times \left(\prod_{i=1}^n \Pi(E_d^{\Phi_i},\lambda=1)\right)$ . By [Krasnosel'skiĭ and Rutickiĭ, 1961, Thm. 17.6] (y otras cosas), we get

$$|\mathfrak{f}u(t)| = |f(t,u(t),v(t))| \le M_a[b_j(t) + \sum_{i=1}^n M_j^{-1}(\Phi_i(|v_i(t)|))] \in L_1^{M_j}.$$

We define the space X by  $X = \{v = (v_1, v_2) : v_1 \in W^1L_T^{\Phi_1}, v_2 \in W^1L_T^{\Phi_2}\}$  and  $X^* = \{v = (v_1, v_2) : v_1 \in (W^1L_T^{\Phi_1})^*, v_2 \in (W^1L_T^{\Phi_2})^*\}$  where  $(W^1L_T^{\Phi_i})^*$  stands for the conjugate space of  $W^1L_T^{\Phi_i}$  for i = 1, 2.

**Corollary 3.2.** We will consider the Lagrange function  $\mathcal{L}:[0,T]\times\mathbb{R}^d\times\mathbb{R}^d\times\mathbb{R}^d\times$  $\mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ ,  $(t, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) \to \mathcal{L}(t, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)$  which is measurable in t for each  $(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$  and continuously differentiable in  $(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)$ for almost every  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Let  $x = (x_1, x_2)$ ,  $y = (y_1, y_2)$  with  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and let

$$I(x) = \int_0^T \mathcal{L}(t, x, y) dt$$
 (17)

If there exist  $a \in C(\mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, b \in L^1_1([0, T])$ ,  $j = 1, \ldots, d'$  for a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$  and every  $(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$  satisfying the structure conditions The nonlinear operator  $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto D_x \mathcal{L}(t, x_1, y_1, y_2)$  is continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda) \times \cdots \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_n}(\lambda)$  with the strong topology into  $L^1([0, T])$  with the strong topology

The nonlinear operator  $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto D_y \mathcal{L}(t, x_1, y_1, y_2)$  is continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times$  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda) \times \cdots \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_n}(\lambda)$  with the strong topology into X with the weak\* topology.

The function I is Gâteaux differentiable on  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  and its derivative I' is demicontinuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  into  $X^*$ . Moreover, I' is given by the following expression

$$\langle I'(x), w \rangle = \int_0^T [(D_{x_1} \mathcal{L}(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), y_1(t), y_2(t)), w_1(t)) + (D_{x_2} \mathcal{L}(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), y_1(t), y_2(t)), w_2(t)) + (D_{y_1} \mathcal{L}(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), y_1(t), y_2(t)), w_1'(t)) + (D_{y_2} \mathcal{L}(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), y_1(t), y_2(t)), w_2'(t))] dt$$

$$(18)$$

If  $\Phi^* \in \Delta_2$  then I' is continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  into  $X^*$  when both spaces are equipped with the strong topology.

We denote by  $\mathfrak{A}(a,b,c,\lambda,f,\Phi)$  the set of all Lagrange functions satisfying (??), (??) and (??).

### Proof. OJO!!!! Es algo que teníamos del trabajo anterior!!! con algunas adaptaciones a 2 variables sin controlar y a lo bruto!!!!!

Let  $u \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$ . Step 1. The non linear operator  $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto (D_{x_1}\mathcal{L}(t, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2), D_{x_1}\mathcal{L}(t, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2))$  is continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  into  $L_d^1([0, T]) \times L_d^1([0, T])$  with the strong topol-

ogy on both sets.

If  $u \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$ , from (??) and (??), we obtain Let  $\{x_n = (x_{1n}, x_{2n})\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  and let  $x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  such that  $x_n \to x$  in X. From  $x_{in} \to x_i$  in  $L^{\Phi_i}$ , there exists a subsequence  $x_{in_k}$  such that  $x_{in_k} \to x_i$  a.e.; and, as  $x_{in} \to x_i \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi}(\lambda)$ , by Lemma ??, there exist a subsequence of  $x_{in_k}$  (again denoted  $x_{in_k}$ ) and a function  $h_i \in \Pi(E_1^{\Phi}, \lambda)$ ) such that  $x_{in_k} \to u_i$  a.e. and  $|x_{in_k}| \le h_i$  a.e. Since  $x_{in_k}$ , k = 1, 2, ..., is a strong convergent sequence in  $W^1L_d^{\Phi_i}$ , it is a bounded sequence in  $W^1L_d^{\Phi_i}$ . According to Lemma 2.2 and Corollary  $\ref{eq:condition}$ , there exist  $M_i > 0$  such that  $\|a(x_{in_k})\|_{L^\infty} \leqslant M_i, \, k = 1, 2, \ldots$  From the previous facts and (??), we get

$$|D_{x_i}\mathcal{L}(\cdot, x_{1n_k}, x_{2n_k}, y_{1n_k}, y_{2n_k})| \leq M_i(b + \Phi_i(|h_i|)) \in L_1^1 \ i = 1, 2.$$

On the other hand, by the continuous differentiability of  $\mathcal{L}$ , we have

$$D_{x_i}\mathcal{L}(t, x_{in_k}(t), y_{in_k}(t)) \to D_{x_i}\mathcal{L}(t, x_i(t), y_i(t))$$
 for a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Applying the Dominated Convergence Theorem we conclude the proof of step 1. Step 2. The non linear operator  $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto (D_{y_1} \mathcal{L}(t, x_1, y_1, D_{y_2} \mathcal{L}(t, x_2, y_2))$  is continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_1}(\lambda) \times \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi_2}(\lambda)$  with the strong topology into X with the weak\* topology.

Note that (??), (??) and the imbeddings  $W^1L_d^{\Phi} \to L_d^{\infty}$  and  $L_d^{\Phi^*} \to [L^{\Phi}]^*$  imply that the second member of (18) defines an element in  $\left[W^1L_d^{\Phi}\right]^*$ .

Let  $(x_{1n}, x_{2n}) \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi}(\lambda)$  such that  $(x_{1n}, x_{2n}) \to (x_1, x_2)$  in the norm of X. We must prove that  $D_{y_i}\mathcal{L}(\cdot,x_{1n},x_{2n})\stackrel{w^*}{\rightharpoonup} D_{y_i}\mathcal{L}(\cdot,x_1,x_2,y_1,y_2)$  para i=1,2. On the contrary, there exist  $v=(v_1,v_2)\in L^{\Phi_1}\times L^{\Phi_2},\ \epsilon>0$  and a subsequence of  $\{x_n\}$ (denoted  $\{x_n\}$  for simplicity) such that

$$|\langle D_{u_i} \mathcal{L}(\cdot, x_{1n}, x_{2n}, y_{1n}, y_{2n}), v \rangle - \langle D_{u_i} \mathcal{L}(\cdot, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, v) | \ge \epsilon.$$
 (19)

We have  $x_n \to x$  in X and  $y_n \to y$  in X. By Lemma  $\ref{eq:condition}$ , there exist a subsequence  $x_{n_k}$  and a function  $h \in \Pi(E_1^{\Phi_1}, \lambda) \times \Pi(E_1^{\Phi_2}, \lambda)$  such that  $x_{n_k} \to x$  a.e.,  $y_{n_k} \to y$  a.e. and  $|y_{n_k}| \le h$  a.e. As in the previous step, since  $x_n$  is a convergent sequence, the Corollary ?? implies that  $a(|y_n(t)|)$  is uniformly bounded by a certain constant M > 0. Therefore, with  $x_{n_k}$  instead of x, inequality (??) becomes Consequently, as  $v \in L^{\Phi}$  and employing Hölder's inequality, we obtain that

$$\sup_{k} |D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(\cdot, u_{n_k}, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}}_{n_k}) \cdot v| \in L_1^1.$$

Finally, from the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem, we deduce

$$\int_0^T D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, u_{n_k}, \boldsymbol{u}_{n_k}) \cdot \boldsymbol{v} dt \to \int_0^T D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \boldsymbol{u}) \cdot \boldsymbol{v} dt$$
 (20)

which contradicts the inequality (19). This completes the proof of step 2.

Step 3. We will prove (18). The proof follows similar lines as [Mawhin and Willem, 1989, Thm. 1.4]. For  $u \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi}(\lambda)$  and  $\mathbf{0} \neq v \in W^1 L_d^{\Phi}$ , we define the function

$$H(s,t) \coloneqq \mathcal{L}(t,u(t) + sv(t), \boldsymbol{u}(t) + s\boldsymbol{v}(t)).$$

From [Krasnosel'skiĭ and Rutickiĭ, 1961, Lemma 10.1] (or [Schappacher, 2005, Thm. 5.5] ) we obtain that if  $|u| \le |v|$  then  $d(u, E^{\Phi}) \le d(v, E^{\Phi})$ . Therefore, for  $|s| \le s_0 := (\lambda - d(\dot{\boldsymbol{u}}, E^{\Phi})) / \|v\|_{W^1L^{\Phi}}$  we have

$$d\left(\boldsymbol{u}+s\boldsymbol{v},E^{\Phi}\right)\leqslant d\left(|\boldsymbol{u}|+s|\boldsymbol{v}|,E_{1}^{\Phi}\right)\leqslant d\left(|\boldsymbol{u}|,E_{1}^{\Phi}\right)+s\|\boldsymbol{v}\|_{L^{\Phi}}<\lambda.$$

Thus  $u+sv\in\Pi(E^{\Phi},\lambda)$  and  $|u|+s|v|\in\Pi(E_1^{\Phi},\lambda)$ . These facts imply, in virtue of Theorem ?? item ??, that I(u+sv) is well defined and finite for  $|s| \le s_0$ . And, using Corollary ??, we also see that

$$||a(|u+sv|)||_{L^{\infty}} \le A(||u+sv||_{W^1L^{\Phi}}) \le A(||u||_{W^1L^{\Phi}} + s_0||v||_{W^1L^{\Phi}}) =: M$$

Now, applying Chain Rule,  $(\ref{eq:condition})$ ,  $(\ref{eq:condition})$ , the monotonicity of  $\varphi$  and  $\Phi$ , the fact that  $v \in L_d^\infty$  and  $\dot{v} \in L^\Phi$  and Hölder's inequality, we get

$$|D_{s}H(s,t)| = |D_{x}\mathcal{L}(t, u + sv, \dot{u} + s\dot{v}) \cdot v + D_{y}\mathcal{L}(t, u + sv, \dot{u} + s\dot{v}) \cdot \dot{v}|$$

$$\leq M \left[ \left( b(t) + \Phi \left( \frac{|\dot{u}| + s_{0}|\dot{v}|}{\lambda} + f(t) \right) \right) |v| + \left( c(t) + \varphi \left( \frac{|\dot{u}| + s_{0}|\dot{v}|}{\lambda} + f(t) \right) \right) |\dot{v}| \right] \in L_{1}^{1}.$$
(21)

Consequently, I has a directional derivative and

$$\langle I'(u), v \rangle = \frac{d}{ds} I(u + sv) \Big|_{s=0} = \int_0^T \{ D_{\boldsymbol{x}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \boldsymbol{u}) \cdot v + D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \boldsymbol{u}) \cdot v \} dt.$$

Moreover, from (??), (??), Lemma 2.2 and the previous formula, we obtain

$$|\langle I'(u), v \rangle| \le ||D_{\boldsymbol{x}}\mathcal{L}||_{L^1} ||v||_{L^{\infty}} + ||D_{\boldsymbol{y}}\mathcal{L}||_{L^{\Phi^*}} ||\dot{\boldsymbol{v}}||_{L^{\Phi}} \le C||v||_{W^1L^{\Phi}}$$

with a appropriate constant C. This completes the proof of the Gâteaux differentiability of I.

Step 4. The operator  $I': \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi}(\lambda) \to \left[W^1 L_d^{\Phi}\right]^*$  is demicontinuous. This is a consequence of the continuity of the mappings  $u \mapsto D_{\boldsymbol{x}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}})$  and  $u \mapsto D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}})$ . Indeed, if  $u_n, u \in \mathcal{E}_d^{\Phi}(\lambda)$  with  $u_n \to u$  in the norm of  $W^1 L_d^{\Phi}$  and  $v \in W^1 L_d^{\Phi}$ , then

$$\langle I'(u_n), v \rangle = \int_0^T \{ D_{\boldsymbol{x}} \mathcal{L}(t, u_n, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}}_n) \cdot v + D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, u_n, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}}_n) \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{v}} \} dt$$

$$\to \int_0^T \{ D_{\boldsymbol{x}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}}) \cdot v + D_{\boldsymbol{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, u, \dot{\boldsymbol{u}}) \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{v}} \} dt$$

$$= \langle I'(u), v \rangle.$$

In order to prove item  $\ref{eq:continuous}$ , it is necessary to see that the maps  $u\mapsto D_{\boldsymbol{x}}\mathcal{L}(t,u,\boldsymbol{u})$  and  $u\mapsto D_{\boldsymbol{y}}\mathcal{L}(t,u,\boldsymbol{u})$  are norm continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  into  $L_d^1$  and  $L_d^{\Phi^*}$  respectively. The continuity of the first map has already been proved in step 1. Let  $u_n,u\in\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  with  $\|u_n-u\|_{W^1L^\Phi}\to 0$ . Therefore, there exist a subsequence  $u_{n_k}\in\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  and a function  $h\in\Pi(E_d^\Phi,\lambda)$  such that  $\ref{eq:continuous}$  holds true. And, as  $\Phi^*\in\Delta_2$  then the right hand side of  $\ref{eq:continuous}$  belongs to  $E_1^{\Phi^*}$ . Now, invoking Lemma  $\ref{eq:continuous}$ , we prove that from any sequence  $u_n$  which converges to u in  $W^1L_d^\Phi$  we can extract a subsequence such that  $D_{\boldsymbol{y}}\mathcal{L}(t,u_{n_k},u_{n_k})\to D_{\boldsymbol{y}}\mathcal{L}(t,u,u)$  in the strong topology. The desired result is obtained by a standard argument.

The continuity of I' follows from the continuity of  $D_x \mathcal{L}$  and  $D_y \mathcal{L}$  using the formula (18).

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