

Stuff that may well go into the project report

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Abstract

Funker dette?

1 Basics

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be an open, simply connected domain. Then the filtration-, or general porous medium equation is

$$\partial_t u = \Delta \Phi(u) + f, \quad (1)$$

where $u, f : \Omega \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $\phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. More specific assumptions on the nonlinearity Φ and the forcing term f will follow.

1.1 Problem statement

I will consider on the following Dirichlet problem:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta \Phi(u) + f, & \text{in } Q_T \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), & \text{in } \Omega \\ u(x, t) = 0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T). \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Here $Q_T = \Omega \times (0, T)$, where T may very well be infinite.

1.2 Weak formulation

Definition 1 (Weak solutions). A locally integrable function u defined in Q_T is said to be a **weak solution** of 2 if

- i) $u \in L^1(Q_T)$ and $\Phi(u) \in L^1(0, T; W_0^{1,1}(\Omega))^1$;
- ii) u satisfies

$$\iint_{Q_T} \{\nabla \Phi(u) \cdot \nabla \eta - u \partial_t \eta\} dx dt = \int_{\Omega} u_0(x) \eta(x, 0) dx + \iint_{Q_T} f \eta dx dt \quad (3)$$

for any $\eta \in C^1(\overline{Q_T})$ that vanishes on the boundary and has compact support.

2 Some estimates

Now we need to make some assumptions on Φ and f :

- i) The function $\Phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, strictly increasing and we assume $\Phi(0) = 0$ without any loss of generality.

¹ $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is an element of $W^{k,p}(\Omega)$ if all weak derivatives with $|\alpha| \leq k$ exists and are in $L^p(\Omega)$. $W_0^{k,p}$ is the closure of $C_c^\infty(\Omega)$ in $W^{k,p}(\Omega)$.

For now the assumption that $\Phi'(u) > 0$ is kind of strong, but I hope to generalise (or find analogues for) most of the estimates to the case $\Phi'(u) \geq 0$. In that case (1) changes from nondegenerate parabolic to degenerate parabolic. But hopes are high. In the following proof of uniqueness of weak solutions I'll try out assuming that $\Phi'(u) \geq 0$.

3 Uniqueness

Theorem 1 (Uniqueness). *Assuming $u \in L^2(Q_T)$ and that $\Phi \in L^2(0, T : H_0^1(\Omega))$, (2) has at most one weak solution.*

Proof. This is a pretty neat proof using a smart choice of η . So let's assume u_1 and u_2 are weak solutions. Then

$$\iint_{Q_T} \nabla(\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1)) \cdot \nabla \eta - (u_2 - u_1) \partial_t \eta \, dx dt = 0.$$

Now the inspired move² is choosing

$$\eta(x, t) = \begin{cases} \int_t^T (\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1)) \, ds, & \text{if } 0 < t < T \\ 0 & \text{if } t \geq T. \end{cases}$$

It is then easily verified that

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \eta &= -(\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1)) \\ \nabla \eta &= \int_t^T \nabla(\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1)) \, ds, \end{cases}$$

which put into the integral equality above yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \iint_{Q_T} (\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1))(u_2 - u_1) \, dx dt \\ & + \iint_{Q_T} \nabla(\Phi(u_2(t)) - \Phi(u_1(t))) \cdot \left(\int_t^T \nabla(\Phi(u_2(s)) - \Phi(u_1(s))) \, ds \right) dt dx = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Let's take these in order:

- i) In the first integral we notice that $u_2 > u_1 \Rightarrow \Phi(u_2) \geq \Phi(u_1)$ and vice versa, so this integral is nonnegative.
- ii) For the second integral it is helpful to first only consider integration of the temporal dimensions, leaving us with

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \int_t^T \nabla(\Phi(u_2(t)) - \Phi(u_1(t))) \cdot \nabla(\Phi(u_2(s)) - \Phi(u_1(s))) \, ds dt \\ & = \int_0^T \int_0^s \nabla(\Phi(u_2(t)) - \Phi(u_1(t))) \cdot \nabla(\Phi(u_2(s)) - \Phi(u_1(s))) \, dt ds. \end{aligned}$$

Due to the symmetry about the line $s = t$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \int_0^s \nabla(\Phi(u_2(t)) - \Phi(u_1(t))) \cdot \nabla(\Phi(u_2(s)) - \Phi(u_1(s))) \, dt ds \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_0^T \nabla(\Phi(u_2(t)) - \Phi(u_1(t))) \cdot \nabla(\Phi(u_2(s)) - \Phi(u_1(s))) \, dt ds \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \left(\int_0^T \nabla(\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1)) \, dt \right)^2, \end{aligned}$$

which is also nonnegative, and therefore the second integral in (4) must also be nonnegative.

²Of course, this isn't my proof so that sort of horn-tooting is in good taste.

From this we may conclude that both integral terms in (4) are zero, which in turn implies that $(\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1))(u_2 - u_1) = 0$ a.e. in Q_T . Wherever $\Phi'(u) > 0$ we have $u_2 = u_1$, but more care is needed when u_1 and u_2 take values where $\Phi'(u) = 0$. So suppose $u_1 \neq u_2$ on a set $E \subset Q_T$ of positive measure. That means $\nabla(\Phi(u_2) - \Phi(u_1)) = 0$ a.e. in E , and so we can deduce that

$$\iint_{Q_T} (u_2 - u_1) \partial_t \eta \, dx dt = 0$$

for all test functions η with support in E . This gives us that $u_2 = u_1$ a.e. in E as well, so $u_2 = u_1$. Whoop-dee-doo! \square