**Title:** A decomposition of vector fields in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ 

**Abstract:** Given a vector field  $\rho(1, \mathbf{b}) \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d+1})$  such that  $\operatorname{div}_{t,x}(\rho(1, \mathbf{b}))$  is a measure, we consider the problem of uniqueness of the representation  $\eta$  of  $\rho(1, \mathbf{b})\mathcal{L}^{d+1}$  as a superposition of characteristics  $\gamma: (t_{\gamma}^-, t_{\gamma}^+) \to \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(t) = (t, \gamma(t))$ . We give conditions in terms of a local structure of the representation  $\eta$  on suitable sets in order to prove that there is a partition of  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  into disjoint trajectories  $\wp_{\mathfrak{a}}$ ,  $\mathfrak{a} \in \mathfrak{A}$ , such that the PDE

$$\operatorname{div}_{t,x}(u\rho(1,\mathbf{b})) \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}), \qquad u \in L^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{+} \times \mathbb{R}^{d}),$$

can be disintegrated into a family of ODEs along  $\wp_{\mathfrak{a}}$  with measure r.h.s.. The decomposition  $\wp_{\mathfrak{a}}$  is essentially unique. We finally show that  $\mathbf{b} \in L^1_t(\mathrm{BV}_x)_{\mathrm{loc}}$  satisfies this local structural assumption and this yields, in particular, the renormalization property for nearly incompressible BV vector fields.