

# Hyperbolic Conservation Laws Tutorial

Topic 4: Continuity estimates  
for vanishing viscosity  
method. Existence of entropy  
solutions.

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# Topic 4: Continuity estimates for vanishing viscosity method. Existence of entropy solutions.

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# 1. Main result.

Theorem Let  $u$  be the solution of

$$u_t(t, x) + \operatorname{div} f(u(t, x)) = \varepsilon \Delta u(t, x), \quad \varepsilon > 0. \quad (P)$$
$$u(0, x) = u_0(x)$$

where  $u_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n; [a, b])$  (in part:  $u_0 \in L^\infty$ ) and

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x+y) - u_0(x)| dx \leq \omega(|y|) \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

for some modulus of continuity  $\omega$ . Then, there is a constant  $C = C(a, b)$  s.t.

$$\bullet \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x+y) - u(t, x)| dx \leq \omega(|y|) \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\bullet \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)| dx \leq$$
$$\leq C \left[ h^{2/3} + \varepsilon h^{1/3} \right] \|u_0\|_{L^1} + \omega(h^{1/3})$$

Comment on the assumption with modulus of continuity.

Any  $L^1$  function satisfies that with

$$\omega(h) = \sup_{|y| \leq h} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x+y) - u(x)| dy$$

This function is clearly monotone when  $h \rightarrow 0$ .

Moreover,  $\omega(h) \rightarrow 0$  when  $h \rightarrow 0$ . This is clear when  $u$  is  $C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$  because  $u$  is uniformly continuous. For general  $u \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , fix  $\varepsilon > 0$  and take  $u_n$  s.t.  $\|u_n - u\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x+y) - u(x)| dy &\leq 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x) - u_n(x)| dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_n(x+y) - u_n(x)| dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \omega(h) \leq 2\varepsilon + \sup_{|y| \leq h} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_n(x+y) - u_n(x)| dy$$

$$\Rightarrow \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \omega(h) \leq 2\varepsilon.$$

□

## 2. Continuity in space

We want to prove an estimate

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x+y) - u(t, x)| dx \leq \omega(|y|).$$

Recall contraction property for (P). When  $u, v$  solve (D) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x) - v(t, x)| dx &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(s, x) - v(s, x)| dx \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(0, x) - v(0, x)| dx \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $u(t, x+y)$  solves (P) with initial condition  $u_0(x+y)$ . Hence contraction property implies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x+y) - u(t, x)| dx &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x+y) - u_0(x)| dx \leq \\ &\leq \omega(|y|) \quad \text{by assumption.} \end{aligned}$$

(Btw: using contraction property with  $v=0$  we get  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x)| dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x)| dx \Rightarrow u \in L^{\infty}_+ L^1_x$ ).

### 3. Continuity in time

We want to control  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)| dx$  by some modulus of continuity. Fix some  $h > 0$ . As equation is satisfied pointwisely (for  $t > 0$ ), we can multiply by  $\Psi(x)$  and integrate in time

$$u_t + \operatorname{div} f(u(t, x)) = \varepsilon \Delta u$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Psi(x) (u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_t^{t+h} \varepsilon \Delta \Psi(x) u(s, x) ds dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_t^{t+h} f(u(s, x)) \nabla \Psi(x) ds dx$$

$\rightsquigarrow t$  fixed here!

Whog,  $f(0) = 0$ . Let  $v(x) = u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)$ . To conclude the proof, we would like to take  $\Psi(x) = \operatorname{sgn} v(x)$  but:

- $\Psi$  is not compactly supported: this is not a problem.

In fact, formulation above can be generalized for bounded and smooth  $\Psi$  because  $u \in L^{\infty}_t L^1_x$ . Moreover, as  $u \in L^{\infty}$  and  $f$  is locally Lipschitz

$$|f(u(t, x))| = |f(u(t, x)) - f(0)| \leq C |u(t, x)| \in L^{\infty}_t L^1_x$$

- such  $\Psi$  is not regular enough. To this end, we introduce regularization with standard mollifier  $\eta_\delta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\delta$  will depend on  $h$  in the future.

So we take  $\Psi_\delta(x) = \eta_\delta * \text{sgn}(v(x))$ . Recall that

- $\nabla \Psi_\delta(x) = \nabla \eta_\delta * \text{sgn}(v)$
- $\Delta \Psi_\delta(x) = \Delta \eta_\delta * \text{sgn}(v)$

By Young's inequality,

$$\|f * g\|_{L^r} \leq \|f\|_{L^p} \|g\|_{L^q}, \quad \frac{1}{r} + 1 = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q}.$$

we have estimates for derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nabla \Psi_\delta\|_\infty &\leq \|\nabla \eta_\delta\|_1 \overset{=1}{\|\text{sgn } v\|_\infty} \leq \int \frac{1}{\delta^n} |\nabla \eta| \left(\frac{x}{\delta}\right) \frac{1}{\delta} dx \\ &= \int_{B_1(\delta)} \frac{1}{\delta^{n+1}} |\nabla \eta| \left(\frac{x}{\delta}\right) = \int_{B_1(0)} \frac{1}{\delta} |\nabla \eta|(y) dy \leq \frac{C_1(\eta)}{\delta} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $\|\Delta \Psi_\delta\|_\infty \leq \frac{C_2(\eta)}{\delta^2}$ .

We come back to the integral identity

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Psi^\delta(x) v(x) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_t^{t+h} \mathcal{E} \Delta \Psi^\delta(x) u(s,x) ds dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_t^{t+h} f(u(s,x)) \nabla \Psi^\delta(x) ds dx.$$

The terms on the (RHS) are easily estimated:

$$\bullet \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_t^{t+h} \mathcal{E} \Delta \Psi^\delta(x) u(s,x) ds dx \right| \leq$$

$$\leq \frac{C_2(\eta)}{\delta^2} \cdot h \sup_{s \in [t, t+h]} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(s,x)| dx \leq \frac{C_2(\eta) h}{\delta^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x)| dx.$$

$$\bullet \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_t^{t+h} f(u(s,x)) \nabla \Psi^\delta(x) ds dx \right| \leq \begin{array}{l} f \text{ is locally Lip,} \\ u \text{ is bounded} \end{array}$$

$$\leq \frac{C_1(\eta) h}{\delta} \sup_{s \in [t, t+h]} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(s,x)| dx \leq \frac{C_1(\eta) h}{\delta} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x)| dx$$

We see we need to choose  $\delta = h^{1/3}$ . Then, these terms are controlled with:



$$\left[ C_1(\eta) h^{2/3} + \varepsilon C_2(\eta) h^{1/3} \right].$$

Finally, we need to replace  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi^\delta(x) v(x) dx$  with  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x)| dx$ . Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi^\delta(x) v(x) dx &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\operatorname{sgn} v * \eta_\delta)(x) v(x) dx = \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \operatorname{sgn} v(x) v * \eta_\delta(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

$$2. |v(x)| = \operatorname{sgn}(v(x)) \cdot v(x).$$

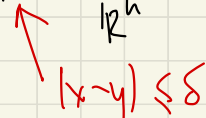
Therefore,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left[ \psi^\delta(x) v(x) - |v(x)| \right] dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \operatorname{sgn} v(x) \cdot \left[ v * \eta_\delta(x) - v(x) \right] dx$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \operatorname{sgn} v(x) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta_\delta(y) \left[ v(x-y) - v(x) \right] dy dx.$$

It follows that

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \psi^\delta(x) v(x) - |v(x)| \right) dx \right| \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta_\delta(y) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x-y) - v(x)| dx dy$$



$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\psi^\delta(x) v(x) - |v(x)|) dx \right| \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta_\delta(y) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x-y) - v(x)| dx dy$$

$|y| \leq \delta$

Recall that  $v(x) = u(t+h, x) - u(t, x)$ . From continuity in space estimates the latter term can be estimated with

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta_\delta(y) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t+h, x-y) - u(t+h, x)| dx dy + \\ & + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta_\delta(y) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x-y) - u(t, x)| dx dy \\ & \leq 2\omega(h^{1/3}). \end{aligned}$$

We conclude

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x)| dx \leq C_1(\gamma) h^{2/3} + \varepsilon (C_2(\gamma) h^{1/3} + 2\omega(h^{1/3})),$$

as desired.

## 4. Existence of entropy solutions.

Theorem Let  $u_0 \in L^1 \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $f$  be locally Lipschitz continuous. Then, there exists an entropy solution to

$$\partial_t u + \operatorname{div} f(u) = 0, \quad u(0, x) = u_0(x).$$

Moreover,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x)| dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x)| dx, \quad \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{\infty} \leq \|u_0\|_{\infty}.$$

Proof: We multiply regularization with  $\eta'(u^\varepsilon)$

$$\partial_t u^\varepsilon + \operatorname{div} f(u^\varepsilon) = \varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon$$

to get

$$\partial_t \eta(u^\varepsilon) + \operatorname{div} Q(u^\varepsilon) = (\varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon) \eta'(u^\varepsilon)$$

where  $(\eta, Q)$  is an admissible entropy / entropy-flux pair. Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} (\varepsilon \Delta u^\varepsilon) \eta'(u^\varepsilon) &= \varepsilon \Delta \eta(u^\varepsilon) - \underbrace{\varepsilon |\nabla u^\varepsilon|^2 \eta''(u^\varepsilon)}_{\geq 0} \\ &\leq \varepsilon \Delta \eta(u^\varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

so we discover

$$\partial_t \eta(u^\varepsilon) + \operatorname{div} Q(u^\varepsilon) \leq \varepsilon \Delta \eta(u^\varepsilon)$$

Take a smooth test function and rewrite it in the sense of distributions

$$\begin{aligned} - \int \eta(u^\varepsilon) \partial_t \varphi - \int Q(u^\varepsilon) \cdot \nabla \varphi - \int \eta(u_0) \varphi(x, 0) &\leq \\ &\leq \int \varepsilon \Delta \varphi \eta(u^\varepsilon) \end{aligned} \quad (*)$$

We need strong convergence of  $\{u^\varepsilon\}$  to pass to the limit.

As  $\eta, Q$  are continuous, we only need to get  $u^\varepsilon \rightarrow u$  a.e. and invoke Dominated Convergence ( $|\eta(u^\varepsilon)|, |Q(u^\varepsilon)| \leq C$  and  $\varphi$  has compact support).

We want to use Kolmogorov theorem on each  $[0, R] \times B_R(0)$  ball in time + space. Indeed,

- $\{u^\varepsilon\}$  is bounded in  $L^1([0, R] \times B_R(0))$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^R \int_{B_R(0)} |u^\varepsilon(s, x)| \, dx \, ds &\leq \int_0^R \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |u_0(x)| \, dx \, ds \\ &\leq R \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |u_0(x)| \, dx < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

- translations are uniformly continuous:

$$\int_0^R \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u^\varepsilon(t, x+y) - u^\varepsilon(t, x)| dx dt \leq \tilde{\omega}(|y|)$$

$$\int_0^R \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u^\varepsilon(t+h, x) - u^\varepsilon(t, x)| dx dt \leq \tilde{\omega}(|h|).$$

This is satisfied due to our continuity estimates.

Hence  $\forall R$  we can choose subsequence converging in

$L^1([0, R] \times B_R(0))$ . We can choose further subsequence

converging a.e. and so by diagonal argument we can

choose subsequence  $u^{\varepsilon_{k_j}} \rightarrow u$  a.e. in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Passing to the limit in (\*)

$$- \int \eta(u) \partial_t \varphi - \int Q(u) \cdot \nabla \varphi - \int \eta(u_0) \varphi(0, x) dx \leq 0$$

as  $\varepsilon \int \Delta \varphi \eta(u^\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$ . It follows that  $u$  satisfies

$$\partial_t \eta(u) + \operatorname{div} Q(u) \leq 0 \quad \text{in the sense of distributions.}$$

so that  $u$  is an entropy solution (recall that we know

that entropy inequality implies  $\partial_t u + \operatorname{div} f(u) = 0$ ).

Finally,  $\|u\|_\infty \leq \|u_0\|_\infty$  follows from  $\|u^\varepsilon\|_\infty \leq \|u_0\|_\infty$  and pointwise convergence while  $L^1$  estimates follows from

Fatou lemma:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, x)| dx &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} |u^\varepsilon(t, x)| dx \leq \\ &\leq \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u^\varepsilon(t, x)| dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

□.