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Stationary mean-field games Diogo A. Gomes



We consider is the periodic stationary MFG,

$$\begin{cases} -\epsilon \Delta u + \frac{|Du|^2}{2} + V(x) = g(m) + \overline{H} \\ -\epsilon \Delta m - \operatorname{div}(mDu) = 0, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where the unknowns are $u : \mathbb{T}^d \to \mathbb{R}$, $m : \mathbb{T}^d \to \mathbb{R}$, with $m \ge 0$ and $\int m = 1$, and $\overline{H} \in \mathbb{R}$.



We suppose that $V : \mathbb{T}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ is C^{∞} , $g : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}$ (or $g : \mathbb{R}_0^+ \to \mathbb{R}$), C^{∞} in the set m > 0, satisfying

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} g(m) \leq C + rac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} mg(m).$$

We say that (u, m, \overline{H}) or (u, m) is a classical solution of, respectively, (1) if u and m are C^{∞} , m > 0, (u, m) solves (1).





Bounds for \overline{H}

Proposition

Let u be a classical solution of (1). Suppose that $g \ge 0$. Then,

 $\overline{H} \leq \sup_{\mathbb{T}^d} V.$



Because u is periodic, it achieves a minimum at a point, x_0 . At this point, $Du(x_0) = 0$ and $\Delta u \ge 0$. Consequently,

$$V(x_0) \geq \overline{H} + g(m) \geq \overline{H}.$$

Hence, $\overline{H} \leq \sup V$.



Proposition

There exists a constant, C, such that, for any classical solution, (u, m, \overline{H}) , of (1), we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{|Du|^2}{2}(1+m) + \frac{1}{2}g(m)m\mathrm{d}x \leq C.$$



Multiply the Hamilton-Jacobi equation by (m-1) and Fokker Planck equation by -u, adding them , and integrating by parts gives

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{|Du|^2}{2}(1+m) + mg(m) \mathrm{d}x = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V(m-1) + g(m) \mathrm{d}x.$$

Using the assumption on g, we obtain the result.



Corollary

Let (u, m, \overline{H}) be a classical solution of (1). Suppose that $g \ge 0$. Then, there exists a constant, C, not depending on the particular solution, such that

$$|\overline{H}| \leq C.$$





We have:

$$\blacktriangleright \ \frac{|Du|^2}{2} \in L^1.$$

From the assumptions and the preceding estimate, $g(m) \in L^1$. Therefore, integrating the Hamilton-Jacobi equation, we obtain the bound for \overline{H} .



Bernstein estimates

Here, we examine the Hamilton-Jacobi equation,

$$-\Delta u(x) + \frac{|Du(x)|^2}{2} + V(x) = \bar{H},$$

with $V \in L^p$. Our goal is to bound the norm of Du in L^q for some q > 1.



Lemma Let $u \in C^3$ and $v = |Du|^2$. Suppose that $V \in C^1$. Then, there exist, c, C > 0, which do not depend on u or V such that, for every p > 1,

$$-\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^p \Delta v \mathrm{d} x \ \geq \ \frac{4\rho c}{(p+1)^2} \left[\left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{\frac{(p+1)d}{d-2}} \mathrm{d} x \right)^{\frac{d-2}{d}} - C \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{p+2} \mathrm{d} x \right)^{\frac{p+1}{p+2}} \right]$$

and

$$-2\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} DV\cdot Du\,v^p\mathrm{d} x\leq \frac{1}{2}\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left|D^2u\right|^2v^p\mathrm{d} x+C_p\int_{\mathbb{T}^d}|V|^2\,v^p\mathrm{d} x.$$



By integration by parts, we have the identity

$$-\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^p \Delta v \mathrm{d}x = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} p v^{p-1} |Dv|^2 \mathrm{d}x = \frac{4p}{(p+1)^2} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |Dv^{\frac{p+1}{2}}|^2 \mathrm{d}x.$$

Next, we use Sobolev's inequality to obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |Dv^{\frac{p+1}{2}}|^2 \mathrm{d}x + \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{p+1} \mathrm{d}x \ge c \left\| v^{\frac{p+1}{2}} \right\|_{2^*}^2 = c \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{\frac{(p+1)d}{d-2}} \mathrm{d}x \right)^{\frac{d-2}{d}},$$

moreover, from Young's inequality,

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{p+1} \mathrm{d} x \leq \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{p+2} \mathrm{d} x \right)^{\frac{p+1}{p+2}},$$



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For the second inequality, we integrate again by parts to get

$$-\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} DV \cdot Du \, v^p \mathrm{d}x = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V \Delta u \, v^p \mathrm{d}x + p \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V \, v^{p-1} Dv \cdot Du \mathrm{d}x.$$

Next, we apply a weighted Cauchy inequality to each of the terms in the prior identity to get

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V \cdot \Delta u \, v^p \mathrm{d}x \leq \frac{1}{8} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left| D^2 u \right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x + C \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left| V \right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x.$$

Next, because $v = |Du|^2$, we have $Dv = 2D^2uDu$, hence

$$p\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V v^{p-1} Dv \cdot Du \mathrm{d}x \leq 2p \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |V| v^p |D^2 u| \mathrm{d}x \leq \frac{1}{8} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left|D^2 u\right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x + C_p \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |V|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x$$

Using the two preceding bounds, we get the second estimate.



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Bernstein estimate

Theorem

Let u be C^3 and $V \in C^1$. Then, for any p > 1, there exists a constant, $C_p > 0$, that depends only on $|\bar{H}|$, such that

$$\left\| Du \right\|_{L^{\frac{2d(p+1)}{d-2}}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_p \left(1 + \left\| V \right\|_{L^{\frac{2d(1+p)}{d+2p}}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \right).$$

Note that $\gamma_p = \frac{2d(1+p)}{d+2p} \rightarrow d$ when $p \rightarrow \infty$ and that γ_p is increasing when d > 2.



We set $v = |Du|^2$. Differentiating the Hamilton-Jacobi equation

$$\Delta u_{x_i}=\frac{1}{2}v_{x_i}+V_{x_i}.$$

Thus,

$$-\Delta v = -2\sum_{i,j=1}^{d} (u_{x_i x_j})^2 - 2\sum_{i=1}^{d} u_{x_i} \Delta u_{x_i}$$
(2)
$$= -2\sum_{i,j=1}^{d} (u_{x_i x_j})^2 - 2\sum_{i=1}^{d} u_{x_i} \left(\frac{1}{2}v_{x_i} + V_{x_i}\right).$$

By multiplying (2) by v^p and integrating over \mathbb{T}^d , we have

$$\begin{split} &-\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^p \Delta v \mathrm{d} x \,+\, 2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left| D^2 u \right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d} x \\ &= -\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} D u \cdot D v \, v^p \mathrm{d} x \,-\, 2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} D V \cdot D u \, v^p \mathrm{d} x. \end{split}$$

The Lemma provides bounds for the first term on the left-hand side and the last term on the right-hand side. For $\delta > 0$, there exists a constant, $C_{\delta} > 0$, such that

$$-\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} Du \cdot Dv \, v^p \mathrm{d}x \, \leq \, \delta \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left| D^2 u \right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x \, + \, \frac{C_\delta}{p+1} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{p+2} \mathrm{d}x,$$

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for every p > 1.

Now, we claim that for any large enough p > 1, there exists $C_p > 0$ that does not depend on u, such that

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{\frac{d(p+1)}{d-2}} \mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{(d-2)}{d(p+1)}} \leq C_p \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |V|^{2\beta_p} \,\mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta_p}} + C_p, \quad (3)$$

where β_p is the conjugate exponent of $\frac{d(p+1)}{(d-2)p}$. Further, $\beta_p \to \frac{d}{2}$ when $p \to \infty$.



To prove the previous claim, we use the lemma to get

$$\begin{split} c_{p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} v^{\frac{d(p+1)}{d-2}} \mathrm{d}x \right)^{\frac{d-2}{d}} &+ 2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} \left| D^{2} u \right|^{2} v^{p} \mathrm{d}x \leq \\ c_{p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} v^{p+2} \mathrm{d}x \right)^{\frac{p+1}{p+2}} &- \int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} Du \cdot Dv \, v^{p} \mathrm{d}x - 2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} DV \cdot Du \, v^{p} \mathrm{d}x, \end{split}$$

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where $c_{\rho} := rac{4\rho ilde{C}}{(p+1)^2}$, for some constant $ilde{C}$.

From the second estimate in the Lemma, and Young's inequality, $(z^{\frac{p+1}{p+2}} \leq \epsilon z + C_{p,\epsilon})$, we have

$$\begin{split} c_{p}\left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}}v^{\frac{d(p+1)}{d-2}}\mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{d-2}{d}} + \left[2 - \left(\frac{1}{2} + \delta\right)\right]\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}}\left|D^{2}u\right|^{2}v^{p}\mathrm{d}x \leq \\ C_{p}\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}}\left|V\right|^{2}v^{p}\mathrm{d}x + \left(\frac{C_{\delta}}{p+1} + \delta\right)\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}}v^{p+2}\mathrm{d}x + C_{p,\delta}. \end{split}$$



The key idea is now to use the Hamilton-Jacobi equation again:

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left| D^2 u \right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x \ge \frac{1}{d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\Delta u|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x = \frac{1}{d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left| \frac{v}{2} + V - \overline{H} \right|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{3d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x - \frac{1}{d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x - \frac{1}{d} C \int v^p \mathrm{d}x \\ \geq c \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{p+2} \mathrm{d}x - C \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} V^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x - C_p,$$

where the second inequality follows from $(a - b - c)^2 \ge \frac{1}{3}a^2 - b^2 - c^2$.



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For a small δ and a large enough p, the preceding inequalities give

$$\begin{split} & \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{\frac{d(p+1)}{d-2}} \mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{d-2}{d}} \leq C_p \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |V|^2 v^p \mathrm{d}x \quad + \ C_p \\ & \leq C_p \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{\frac{d(p+1)}{d-2}} \mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{(d-2)p}{d(p+1)}} \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |V|^{2\beta_p} \, \mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta_p}} + \ C_p. \end{split}$$

Hence,

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v^{\frac{d(p+1)}{d-2}} \mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{(d-2)}{d(p+1)}} \leq C_p \left(\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |V|^{2\beta_p} \,\mathrm{d}x\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta_p}} + C_p.$$

This last estimate gives (3), and the theorem follows.



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We fix a C^2 potential, $V: \mathbb{T}^d \to \mathbb{R}$, and look for a solution, (u, m, \overline{H}) , of the MFG

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u(x) + \frac{|Du(x)|^2}{2} + V(x) = \bar{H} + m^{\alpha}, \\ -\Delta m - \operatorname{div}(mDu) = 0, \\ \int u \mathrm{d}x = 0, \ \int m \mathrm{d}x = 1, \end{cases}$$
(4)

with $u, m : \mathbb{T}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ and $\overline{H} \in \mathbb{R}$.



Theorem

Let (u, m, \overline{H}) solve (4) and $0 < \alpha \leq \frac{1}{d-1}$. Suppose that $u, m \in C^2(\mathbb{T}^d)$. Then, for every q > 1, there exists a constant, $C_q > 0$, that depends only on $\|V\|_{L^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}(\mathbb{T}^d)}$, such that $\|Du\|_{L^q(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_q$.



- We use Bernstein's estimate with V replaced by $V(x) m^{\alpha}$.
- By the previous results, we have

$$|\overline{H}| \leq C, \|m^{\alpha}\|_{L^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C.$$

▶ Because $d \le 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}$, $\gamma_p \le 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}$, Bernstein estimate gives

$$\|Du\|_{L^q(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_q$$
 for every $q > 1$.



Proposition

Let (u, m, \overline{H}) solve (4) with u and m in $C^{\infty}(\mathbb{T}^d)$, and let m > 0. Then, there exists a constant, C > 0, such that

$$\|\ln m\|_{W^{1,q}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C.$$

Hence, $m, \frac{1}{m} \in L^{\infty}$.



Standard elliptic regularity theory applied to Hamilton-Jacobi equation yields

$$\|u\|_{W^{2,q}(\mathbb{T}^d)}\leq C_q,$$

for every q > 1. Therefore, Morrey's Embedding Theorem implies that $u \in C^{1,\beta}(\mathbb{T}^d)$, for some $\beta \in (0,1)$.



Next, set $w = -2 \ln m$. Straightforward computations show that w satisfies

$$-\Delta w + \frac{1}{2}|Dw|^2 - Du \cdot Dw + 2\operatorname{div}(Du) = 0.$$

Integrating, we conclude that $Dw \in L^2$.





The Bernstein estimate gives

$$\begin{split} \|Dw\|_{L^{\frac{2d(p+1)}{d-2}}(\mathbb{T}^d)} &\leq C_p \left(C + \|Du \cdot Dw\|_{L^{\frac{2d(1+p)}{d+2p}}(\mathbb{T}^d)} + \|\operatorname{div}(Du)\|_{L^{\frac{2d(1+p)}{d+2p}}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \right). \\ \\ \text{Since } \frac{2d(p+1)}{d-2} &> \frac{2d(1+p)}{d+2p}, \text{ we get } Dw \in L^q \text{ for any } q \geq 1. \end{split}$$



Bootstrapping regularity

Hence, $\ln m$ is a Hölder continuous function. Because $\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} m dx = 1$, m is bounded from above and from below. Consequently, $\|\ln m\|_{L^q(\mathbb{T}^d)}$ is a priori bounded by some universal constant that depends only on q.



Proposition

Let (u, m, \overline{H}) solve (4) with u and m in $C^{\infty}(\mathbb{T}^d)$, and let m > 0. For any $k \ge 1$ and q > 1, there exists a constant, $C_{k,q} > 0$, such that

$$\left\|D^{k}u\right\|_{L^{q}(\mathbb{T}^{d})}, \left\|D^{k}m\right\|_{L^{q}(\mathbb{T}^{d})} \leq C_{k,q}.$$



The preceding results give

$$\|u\|_{W^{2,a}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_a$$

for every $1 < a < \infty$. Also, Proposition 7 gives
 $\|\ln m\|_{W^{1,a}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C$

for any $1 < a < \infty.$ By differentiating the first equation in (4), we obtain

$$-D_{x}\Delta u = D_{x}g(m) - D^{2}uDu.$$
(5)

Finally, we observe that the right-hand side of (5) is bounded in $L^{a}(\mathbb{T}^{d})$. Thus,

$$||u||_{W^{3,a}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_{3,a},$$

which leads to

$$\|m\|_{W^{2,a}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_{2,a}.$$

The proof proceeds by iterating this procedure up to order $k_{\rm e}$



Here, we illustrate the continuation method by proving the existence of smooth solutions of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + \frac{|Du|^2}{2} + V(x) = \overline{H} + g(m), \\ -\Delta m - \operatorname{div}(Dum) = 0, \\ \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u = 0, \quad \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} m = 1. \end{cases}$$
(6)



First, for $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$, we consider the family of problems

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta m_{\lambda} - \operatorname{div}(Du_{\lambda}m_{\lambda}) = 0, \\ \Delta u_{\lambda} - \frac{|Du_{\lambda}|^{2}}{2} - \lambda V + \overline{H}_{\lambda} + g(m_{\lambda}) = 0, \\ \int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} u_{\lambda} = 0, \quad \int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}} m_{\lambda} = 1. \end{cases}$$
(7)



Set

$$\dot{H}^{k}(\mathbb{T}^{d},\mathbb{R})=\left\{ f\in H^{k}(\mathbb{T}^{d},\mathbb{R}):\int_{\mathbb{T}^{d}}f\mathrm{d}x=0
ight\}$$

and consider $F^k = \dot{H}^k(\mathbb{T}^d, \mathbb{R}) \times H^k(\mathbb{T}^d, \mathbb{R}) \times \mathbb{R}$,, which is a Hilber space with norm

$$\|w\|_{F^{k}}^{2} = \|\psi\|_{\dot{H}^{k}(\mathbb{T}^{d},\mathbb{R})}^{2} + \|f\|_{H^{k}(\mathbb{T}^{d},\mathbb{R})}^{2} + |h|^{2}$$

for $w = (\psi, f, h) \in F^k$.

► H^k₊(T^d, R), for k > ^d/₂ is the set of (everywhere) positive functions in H^k(T^d, R).

• For any
$$k > \frac{d}{2}$$
, let

$$F^k_+ = \dot{H}^k(\mathbb{T}^d,\mathbb{R}) imes H^k_+(\mathbb{T}^d,\mathbb{R}) imes \mathbb{R}$$

A classical solution is a tuple, $(u_{\lambda}, m_{\lambda}, \overline{H}_{\lambda}) \in \bigcap_{k \ge 0} F_{+}^{k}$.



Theorem

Assume that $g, V \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{T}^d)$ with g'(z) > 0 for $z \in (0, +\infty)$ and that we have the a priori estimate for any solution of (7):

$$|\overline{H}| + \left\|\frac{1}{m_{\lambda}}\right\|_{L^{\infty}(\mathbb{T}^d)} + \|u_{\lambda}\|_{W^{k,p}(\mathbb{T}^d)} + \|m_{\lambda}\|_{W^{k,p}(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq C_{k,p}.$$

Then, there exists a classical solution to (6).



Proof

For large enough k, define $E : \mathbb{R} \times F_+^k \to F^{k-2}$ by

$$E(\lambda, u, m, \overline{H}) = \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta m - \operatorname{div}(Dum) \\ \Delta u - \frac{|Du|^2}{2} - \lambda V + \overline{H} + g(m) \\ -\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} m + 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Our system equivalent to $E(\lambda, v_{\lambda}) = 0$, where $v_{\lambda} = (u_{\lambda}, m_{\lambda}, \overline{H}_{\lambda})$.



Proof

The partial derivative of *E* in the second variable at $v_{\lambda} = (u_{\lambda}, m_{\lambda}, \overline{H}_{\lambda})$,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\lambda} = \mathcal{D}_2 \mathcal{E}(\lambda, v_{\lambda}) \colon \mathcal{F}^k \to \mathcal{F}^{k-2},$$

is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}(w)(x) = \left(egin{array}{c} -\Delta f(x) - {
m div}(Du_{\lambda}f(x)+m_{\lambda}D\psi)\ \Delta\psi(x) - Du_{\lambda}D\psi + g'(m_{\lambda}(x))f(x)+h\ -\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} f\end{array}
ight),$$

where $w = (\psi, f, h) \in F^k$. In principle, \mathcal{L}_{λ} is a linear map on F^k for a large enough k. However, it is easy to see that it admits a unique extension to F^k for any k > 1.

Proof

Let

 $\Lambda := \{ \lambda \mid 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1, (7) \text{ has a classical solution } (u_{\lambda}, m_{\lambda}, \overline{H}_{\lambda}) \}.$

- Note that 0 ∈ Λ as (u₀, m₀, H
 ₀) ≡ (0, 1, -g(1)) is a solution to (7) for λ = 0.
- Our goal is to prove $\Lambda = [0, 1]$.
- ► The a priori bounds in the statement mean that A is a closed set.
- To prove that Λ is open, we s apply the implicit function theorem.



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Proof

Let $F = F^1$. For $w_1, w_2 \in F$ with smooth components, set

$$B_{\lambda}[w_1, w_2] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} w_2 \cdot \mathcal{L}_{\lambda}(w_1).$$

For smooth w_1, w_2 ,

$$B_{\lambda}[w_1, w_2] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} [m_{\lambda} D\psi_1 \cdot D\psi_2 + f_1 Du_{\lambda} D\psi_2 - f_2 Du_{\lambda} D\psi_1 + g'(m_{\lambda})f_1f_2 + Df_1 D\psi_2 - Df_2 D\psi_1 + h_1f_2 - h_2f_1].$$

This last expression defines a bilinear form $B_{\lambda} \colon F \times F \to \mathbb{R}$.



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A priori estimates

Continuation method – stationary problems

Proof

Claim B_{λ} is bounded, i.e.,

$|B_{\lambda}[w_1, w_2]| \leq C ||w_1||_F ||w_2||_F.$

To prove the claim, we use Holder's inequality on each summand.



Proof

Claim

There exists a linear bounded mapping, A: $F \to F$, such that $B_{\lambda}[w_1, w_2] = (Aw_1, w_2)_F$.

This claim follows from Claim 10 and the Riesz Representation Theorem.



Proof

Claim

There exists a positive constant, c, such that $||Aw||_F \ge c||w||_F$ for all $w \in F$.

If the previous claim were false, then there would exist a sequence, $w_n \in F$, with $||w_n||_F = 1$ such that $Aw_n \to 0$.



Proof

Let
$$w_n = (\psi_n, f_n, h_n)$$
. Then,

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} m_\lambda |D\psi_n|^2 + g'(m_\lambda) f_n^2 = B_\lambda[w_n, w_n] \to 0.$$
(8)

By combining the a priori estimates on $\frac{1}{m_{\lambda}}$ with the fact that g is strictly increasing and smooth, we have $g'(m_{\lambda}) > \delta > 0$.



Proof

Then, (8) implies that $\psi_n \to 0$ in \dot{H}_0^1 and $f_n \to 0$ in L^2 . Taking $\check{w}_n = (f_n - \int f_n, 0, 0) \in F$, we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} [|Df_n|^2 + m_\lambda D\psi_n \cdot Df_n + f_n Du_\lambda Df_n] = B[w_n, \check{w}_n] = (Aw_n, \check{w}_n),$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{2}\|Df_n\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2 - C\left(\|D\psi_n\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2 + \|f_n\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2\right) \le (Aw_n, \check{w}_n) \to 0,$$

where the constant, C, depends only on u_{λ} . Because $D\psi_n, f_n \to 0$ in L^2 , we have $f_n \to 0$ in $H^1(\mathbb{T}^d)$.



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Proof

Finally, we take $\breve{w} = (0, 1, 0)$. Accordingly, we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} [-Du_{\lambda}D\psi_n + g'(m_{\lambda})f_n] + h_n = B[w_n, \breve{w}] = (Aw_n, \breve{w}) \to 0.$$

Because $D\psi_n, f_n \to 0$ in L^2 , we have $h_n \to 0$. Hence, $||w_n||_F \to 0$, which contradicts $||w_n||_F = 1$.



A priori estimates

Continuation method – stationary problems

Proof

Claim *R*(*A*) *is closed in F*. This claim follows from the preceding one.



Proof

 $\frac{\mathsf{Claim}}{R(A)} = F.$

By contradiction, suppose that $R(A) \neq F$.

▶ Then, because R(A) is closed in F, there exists a vector, $w \neq 0$, with $w \perp R(A)$. Let $w = (\psi, f, h)$. Then,

$$0=(Aw,w)=B_\lambda[w,w]\geq\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} heta|D\psi|^2+\delta|f|^2.$$

Therefore, $\psi = 0$ and f = 0.

Next, we choose w̄ = (0,1,0). Similarly, we have h = B_λ[w̄, w] = (Aw̄, w) = 0. Thus, w = 0, and, consequently, R(A) = F.



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Proof I

Claim

For any $w_0 \in F^0$, there exists a unique $w \in F$ such that $B_{\lambda}[w, \tilde{w}] = (w_0, \tilde{w})_{F^0}$ for all $\tilde{w} \in F$. Consequently, w is the unique weak solution of the equation $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}(w) = w_0$. Moreover, $w \in F^2$ and $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}(w) = w_0$ in the sense of F^2 .



Proof

Consider the functional $\tilde{w} \mapsto (w_0, \tilde{w})_{F^0}$ on F. By the Riesz Representation Theorem, there exists $\omega \in F$ such that $(w_0, \tilde{w})_{F^0} = (\omega, \tilde{w})_F$. Taking $w = A^{-1}\omega$, we get

$$B[w, \tilde{w}] = (Aw, \tilde{w})_F = (\omega, \tilde{w})_F = (w_0, \tilde{w})_{F^0}.$$

Therefore, f is a weak solution to

$$-\Delta f - \operatorname{div}(m_{\lambda}D\psi + fDu_{\lambda}) = \psi_0$$

and ψ is a weak solution to

$$\Delta \psi - D u_{\lambda} D \psi + g'(m_{\lambda}) f + h = f_0.$$



(日)

Proof

- Standard results from the regularity theory for elliptic equations combined with bootstrapping arguments give w = (ψ, f, h) ∈ F². Thus, L_λ(w) = w₀.
- Consequently, L_λ is a bijective operator from F² to F⁰. Then, L_λ is injective as an operator from F^k to F^{k-2} for any k ≥ 2.
- ► To prove that it is also surjective, take any w₀ ∈ F^{k-2}. Then, there exists w ∈ F² such that L_λ(w) = w₀.
- Finally elliptic regularity and bootstrapping imply that w ∈ F^k. Hence, L_λ: F^k → F^{k-2} is surjective and, therefore, also bijective.



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Proof

Claim \mathcal{L}_{λ} is an isomorphism from F^k to F^{k-2} for any $k \ge 2$. Because $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda} \colon F^k \to F^{k-2}$ is bijective, we just need to check that it is also bounded. The boundedness follows directly from bounds on u_{λ} and m_{λ} and the smoothness of V and g.



└─A priori estimates

Continuation method – stationary problems

Proof

Claim The set Λ is open.



Proof

- We choose k > d/2 + 1 so that $H^{k-1}(\mathbb{T}^d, \mathbb{R})$ is an algebra.
- ► For each $\lambda_0 \in \Lambda$, the partial derivative, $\mathcal{L} = D_2 E(\lambda_0, v_{\lambda_0})$: $F^k \to F^{k-2}$, is an isomorphism.
- By the Implicit Function Theorem, there exists a unique solution v_λ ∈ F^k₊ to E(λ, v_λ) = 0, in some neighborhood, U, of λ₀.

Finally, because $H^{k-1}(\mathbb{T}^d, \mathbb{R})$ is an algebra, bootstrapping yields that u_{λ} and m_{λ} are smooth. Therefore, v_{λ} is a classical solution to (6). Hence, $U \subset \Lambda$, which proves that Λ is open.



Proof

We have proven that Λ is both open and closed; hence, $\Lambda=[0,1].$ This argument ends the proof of the theorem.

