

# Entropy dissipation methods for diffusion equations

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# Literature

## Main references

A. Jüngel. Entropy Methods for Diffusive Partial Differential Equations. BCAM Springer Briefs, Springer, 2016.

- D. Matthes. Entropy methods and related functional inequalities. Lecture Notes, 2008.
- A. Jüngel and D. Matthes. An algorithmic construction of entropies in higher-order nonlinear PDEs. *Nonlinearity* 19 (2006), 633-659.
- A. Jüngel. The boundedness-by-entropy method for cross-diffusion systems. *Nonlinearity* 28 (2015), 1963-2001.
- L. Evans. Entropy & partial differential equations. Lect. Notes, 2001.

# What mathematics skills are needed?

## Entropy methods are intradisciplinary!

- Partial differential equations: Fokker-Planck equations, parabolic equations, Sobolev spaces
- Functional analysis: Lemma of Lax-Milgram, fixed-point theorems, compactness
- Stochastics: Markov processes, Markov chain theory
- Numerics: Finite-difference methods, finite-volume methods
- Differential geometry: Geodesic convexity of entropy (*not covered in these lectures*)

# Entropy in physics

- Entropy = measure of molecular disorder or energy dispersal
- Introduced by Clausius (1865) in thermodynamics (measure of irreversibility)
- Statistical definition by Boltzmann, Gibbs, Maxwell (1870s)

$$S = -k_B \sum_i p_i \log p_i, \quad p_i : \text{probability of } i\text{th microstate}$$

- Von Neumann (1927): Quantum mechanical entropy
- Bekenstein, Hawking (1970s): Black hole entropy (to satisfy second law of thermodynamics), entropy  $\sim$  radius<sup>2</sup>: description of volume encoded on its boundary

# Entropy in information theory

- Shannon 1948: Concept of information entropy (measure of information density)
- Information content:  $I(p) = -\log_2 p$ ,  $p$ : probability of event
- Rationale:  $I(1) = 0$ : no information content of sure events,  $I(p_1 p_2) = I(p_1) + I(p_2)$ : information of independent events additive
- Entropy = expected information content

$$S = \sum_{i \in \Sigma} p_i I(p_i) = - \sum_{i \in \Sigma} p_i \log_2 p_i$$

- Applications: Redundancy in language structure, data compression (entropy coding, idea: minimize entropy)

# Entropy in mathematics

- Mathematical entropy is **nonincreasing**, i.e. negative physical entropy
- **Hyperbolic conservation laws** (Lax 1971):

$$\partial_t u + \partial_x f(u) = 0, \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$h$  is an entropy if  $\exists q : \partial_i q(u) = \sum_j \partial_{u_i} f_j(u) \partial_{u_j} h(u)$  and entropy inequality:  $\partial_t h(u) + \partial_x q(u) \leq 0$

- **Kinetic equations**: entropy  $h(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f \log f \, dx$  gives a priori estimates for Boltzmann equation (DiPerna/Lions 1989), large-time behavior of solutions (Desvillettes/Villani 1990, Mouhot 2006)
- Large-time behavior for stochastic processes (Bakry/Emery 1985) and parabolic equations (Toscani 1997)
- Regularity for parabolic equations (Nash 1958)
- Relations to gradient flows in metric spaces (Ambrosio, Otto, Savaré...), functional inequalities (Gross, Arnold et al., Dolbeault...)

## Entropy and partial differential equations

Generally: **Entropy**  $S(E, X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is function of internal energy  $E$  and state variables  $X_i$  (e.g. volume, mole number) such that

$S$  is concave,  $\frac{\partial S}{\partial E} > 0$ ,  $S$  homogeneous of order one.

Def. temperature  $\frac{1}{\theta} = \frac{\partial S}{\partial E}$ , chem. potential  $\mu = -\theta \frac{\partial S}{\partial \rho}$  ( $\rho$ : mass density)

- Euler equations in thermodynamics:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho v) &= 0, \\ \partial_t(\rho v) + \operatorname{div}(\rho v \otimes v - T) &= 0, \\ \partial_t(\rho e) + \operatorname{div}(\rho v e + q) &= T : \nabla v\end{aligned}$$

where  $v$ : velocity,  $T$ : stress tensor,  $e$ : internal energy,  $q$ : heat flux

- Energy balance:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( \frac{\rho}{2} |v|^2 + \rho e \right) dx = 0$$

- Monoatomic ideal gas: energy density  $\rho e = \frac{3}{2} \rho \theta$ ,  
entropy density  $\rho s = -\rho \log(\rho/\theta^{3/2}) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial(\rho s)}{\partial(\rho e)} = \frac{1}{\theta} > 0$



## Aims of lecture course

- To introduce into several entropy methods for partial differential equations (PDEs) → [Arnold, Jüngel, Schmeiser](#)
- To use entropy methods to prove the qualitative behavior of solutions to PDEs → [Arnold, Jüngel, Schmeiser](#)
- To prove functional inequalities (convex Sobolev inequalities) → [Arnold](#)
- To relate entropy methods to physical principles and the theory of stochastic processes → [Schmeiser](#)
- To introduce into the theory of cross-diffusion systems → [Jüngel](#)

# Overview

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## Example: Heat equation

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u, \quad u(0) = u_0 \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \text{ (torus), } t > 0$$

- Steady state:  $u_\infty = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u_0 dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u(t) dx$ ,  $\text{meas}(\mathbb{T}^d) = 1$
- **Question:**  $u(t) \rightarrow u_\infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  in which sense and how fast?
- Define the functional  $H_2[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (u - u_\infty)^2 dx$
- Compute time derivative: entropy production

$$\frac{dH_2}{dt}[u] = 2 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (u - u_\infty) \partial_t u dx = -2 \overbrace{\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla u|^2 dx}^{\text{entropy production}} \leq 0$$

- Poincaré inequality:  $H_2[u] = \|u - u_\infty\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C_P \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2$
- Combining expressions:

$$\frac{dH_2}{dt} = -2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \leq -2C_P^{-1} H_2[u]$$

- By Gronwall's inequality,  $\|u(t) - u_\infty\|_{L^2}^2 \leq e^{-2C_P^{-1}t} \|u_0 - u_\infty\|_{L^2}^2$

## Example: Heat equation

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u, \quad u(0) = u_0 \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \text{ (torus), } t > 0$$

- Conclusion:  $\|u(t) - u_\infty\|_{L^2} \leq e^{-C_P^{-1}t} \|u_0 - u_\infty\|_{L^2}$
- Same result with spectral theory:  $C_P^{-1}$  = first eigenvalue of  $-\Delta$
- Since spectral analysis gives the same result: What is the benefit?

First answer: Different “distances” admissible

- Entropy functional  $H_1[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u \log(u/u_\infty) dx \geq 0$

$$\frac{dH_1}{dt}[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left( \log \frac{u}{u_\infty} + 1 \right) \partial_t u dx = -4 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla \sqrt{u}|^2 dx$$

- Logarithmic Sobolev ineq.:  $\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u \log(u/u_\infty) dx \leq C_L \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla \sqrt{u}|^2 dx$
- By Gronwall inequality,

$$\frac{dH_1}{dt}[u] \leq -4C_L^{-1} H_1[u] \quad \Rightarrow \quad H_1[u(t)] \leq e^{-4C_L^{-1}t} H_1[u_0], \quad t \geq 0$$

## Example: Heat equation

Second answer: Method applicable to nonlinear equations

- Quantum diffusion equation:  $\partial_t u = -\operatorname{div}(u \nabla \frac{\Delta \sqrt{u}}{\sqrt{u}})$  in  $\mathbb{T}^d$
- Occurs in quantum semiconductor modeling,  $u$ : electron density
- Entropy functional:  $H_1[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u \log(u/u_\infty) dx$
- Entropy production:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dH_1}{dt}[u] &= - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \operatorname{div} \left( u \nabla \frac{\Delta \sqrt{u}}{\sqrt{u}} \right) \log u dx = - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{\Delta \sqrt{u}}{\sqrt{u}} \Delta u dx \\ &\leq -\kappa \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} (\Delta \sqrt{u})^2 dx \leq -\frac{\kappa}{C_P} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla \sqrt{u}|^2 dx \leq -\frac{\kappa}{C_P C_L} H_1[u] \end{aligned}$$

- Exponential decay of  $u(t)$  to  $u_\infty$  with explicit rate:

$$H_1[u(t)] \leq e^{-\kappa t / (C_P C_L)} H_1[u_0], \quad t \geq 0$$

# Strategy

$$\partial_t u + A(u) = 0, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0$$

## Strategy:

- Given an entropy  $H[u]$ , compute entropy production:  
 $-dH/dt = \langle A(u), H'[u] \rangle$
- Find relation between entropy and entropy production:  
 $H[u] \leq C \langle A(u), H'[u] \rangle \Rightarrow dH/dt \leq -CH$
- By Gronwall's inequality, conclude exponential decay:  
 $H[u(t)] \leq e^{-Ct} H[u_0]$

## Entropy methods can do much more:

- Self-similar asymptotics
- A priori estimates and global-in-time existence analysis
- Proof of functional inequalities (like logarithmic Sobolev ineq.)
- Positivity of solutions and  $L^\infty$  bounds (no maximum principle!)
- Uniqueness of weak solutions
- Stability of numerical discretizations (structure-preservation)

## Definitions

### Setting:

- $A : D(A) \subset X \rightarrow X'$  operator, consider  $\partial_t u + A(u) = 0$ ,  $t > 0$ ,  $u(0) = u_0$
- Steady state:  $u_\infty \in D(A)$  solves  $A(u_\infty) = 0$

### Definitions:

- Lyapunov functional:  $H : D(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\frac{dH}{dt}[u(t)] \leq 0$ ,  $t \geq 0$
- Entropy:  $H : D(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  convex Lyapunov functional such that
  - $\exists \Phi \in C^0(\mathbb{R})$ :  $\Phi(0) = 0$  and
  - $d(u, u_\infty) \leq \Phi(H[u] - H[u_\infty])$  for  $u \in D(A)$  and some metric  $d$ .
- Entropy production:  $EP[u(t)] = -\frac{dH}{dt}[u(t)]$
- Entropy of  $k$ th order: contains  $k$ th-order partial derivatives

No clear definition of (mathematical) entropy in the literature!

Examples:  $F_1$ : Fisher information

$$H_\alpha[u] = \int_{\Omega} (u^\alpha - u_\infty^\alpha) dx, \quad F_\alpha[u] = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u^{\alpha/2}|^2 dx, \quad \alpha \geq 1$$

## Heat equation revisited

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u, \quad u(0) = u_0 \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \text{ (torus), } t > 0$$

**Claim:**  $H_1[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u \log(u/u_\infty) dx$  is an *entropy* for the heat equation

**Proof:**

- Lyapunov functional:  $\frac{dH_1}{dt}[u] = - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} |\nabla \sqrt{u}|^2 dx \leq 0$
- Convexity:  $u \mapsto H_1[u]$  is convex
- Csiszár-Kullback inequality for  $\Phi(s) = C_\phi \sqrt{s}$ ,  $d(f, g) = \|f - g\|_{L^1}$ :  
 $d(u, u_\infty) \leq C_\phi (H_1[u] - H_1[u_\infty])^{1/2}$  using  $H_1[u_\infty] = 0$

### Lemma (Csiszár-Kullback-Pinsker)

Let  $\phi \in C^2(\mathbb{R})$  be strictly convex,  $\phi(1) = 0$ , and  $\int_{\mathbb{T}^d} f dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} g dx = 1$ .  
 Then, for some  $C_\phi > 0$ ,

$$\|f - g\|_{L^1}^2 \leq C_\phi \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \phi\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) g dx$$

**Proof:** Taylor expansion of  $\phi$  around 1



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## Systematic integration by parts: Motivation

Second time derivative  $d^2H/dt^2$  requires well chosen integrations by parts.

**Aim:** Make the integrations by parts systematic.

**Motivation:** Consider thin-film equation

$$\partial_t u = -(u^\beta u_{xxx})_x \text{ in } \mathbb{T} \text{ (torus), } t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0 \geq 0$$

- Models the flow of thin liquid along surface with film height  $u(x, t)$
- Entropy  $H_\alpha[u] = \frac{1}{\alpha(\alpha-1)} \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^\alpha dx$ : For which  $\alpha > 1$  is  $H_\alpha$  an entropy?

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dH_\alpha}{dt}[u] &= \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha-1} \partial_t u dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-2} u_{xxx} u_x dx \\ &= -(\alpha+\beta-2) \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-3} u_x^2 u_{xx} dx - \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-2} u_{xx}^2 dx, \quad u_x^2 u_{xx} = \frac{1}{3} (u_x^3)_x \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (\alpha+\beta-2)(\alpha+\beta-3) \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha-\beta-4} u_x^4 dx - \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-2} u_{xx}^2 dx \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

if  $2 \leq \alpha + \beta \leq 3$  but  $\frac{3}{2} \leq \alpha + \beta \leq 3$  is optimal!

## Idea of method

**Example:** Thin-film equation  $\partial_t u = -(u^\beta u_{xxx})_x$  on torus  $\mathbb{T}$

- Entropy production for  $H_\alpha[u] = \frac{1}{\alpha(\alpha-1)} \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^\alpha dx$

$$\frac{dH_\alpha}{dt} = \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha-1} \partial_t u dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-2} u_x u_{xxx} dx =: -EP[u] \leq 0?$$

- Standard integration by parts:

$$EP[u] = - \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-2} u_x u_{xxx} dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{u^{\alpha+\beta-1}}{\alpha+\beta-1} u_{xxxx} dx$$

- Formalization of integration by parts:

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta} \left( (\alpha+\beta-1) \frac{u_x}{u} \frac{u_{xxx}}{u} + \frac{u_{xxxx}}{u} \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} (u^{\alpha+\beta-1} u_{xxx})_x dx = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow EP[u] = EP[u] + c I_3 \text{ with } c = \frac{1}{\alpha+\beta-1}$$

# Integration-by-parts rules

$$EP[u] = - \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta-2} u_x u_{xxx} dx \geq 0?$$

**Question:** How many independent rules of integration by parts?

$$I_1 = \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta} \left( (\alpha + \beta - 3) \left( \frac{u_x}{u} \right)^4 + 3 \left( \frac{u_x}{u} \right)^2 \frac{u_{xx}}{u} \right) dx = 0$$

$$I_2 = \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta} \left( (\alpha + \beta - 2) \left( \frac{u_x}{u} \right)^2 \frac{u_{xx}}{u} + \left( \frac{u_{xx}}{u} \right)^2 + \frac{u_x}{u} \frac{u_{xxx}}{u} \right) dx = 0$$

$$I_3 = \int_{\mathbb{T}} u^{\alpha+\beta} \left( (\alpha + \beta - 1) \frac{u_x}{u} \frac{u_{xxx}}{u} + \frac{u_{xxxx}}{u} \right) dx = 0$$

**Aim:** Prove that  $\exists c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R}$ :  $EP[u] = EP[u] + c_1 I_1 + c_2 I_2 + c_3 I_3 \geq 0$

**New idea:** Identify  $\xi_1 = \frac{u_x}{u}$ ,  $\xi_2 = \frac{u_{xx}}{u}$  etc. and formulate using polynomials

$$EP[u] \quad \text{corresponds to} \quad S(\xi) = -\xi_1 \xi_3$$

$$I_1 \quad \text{corresponds to} \quad T_1(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 3) \xi_1^4 + 3 \xi_1^2 \xi_2$$

$$I_2 \quad \text{corresponds to} \quad T_2(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 2) \xi_1^2 \xi_2 + \xi_1 \xi_3 + \xi_2^2$$

$$I_3 \quad \text{corresponds to} \quad T_3(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 1) \xi_1 \xi_3 + \xi_4$$

## Integration-by-parts rules

$P[u]$	corresponds to	$S(\xi) = -\xi_1 \xi_3$
$l_1$	corresponds to	$T_1(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 3)\xi_1^4 + 3\xi_1^2 \xi_2$
$l_2$	corresponds to	$T_2(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 2)\xi_1^2 \xi_2 + \xi_1 \xi_3 + \xi_2^2$
$l_3$	corresponds to	$T_3(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 1)\xi_1 \xi_3 + \xi_4$

$T_i =$  integration-by-parts polynomials = shift polynomials

Nonnegativity of entropy production follows ...

$$\exists c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R} : P[u] = P[u] + c_1 l_1 + c_2 l_2 + c_3 l_3 \geq 0$$

... from solution of decision problem:

$$\exists c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R} : \forall \xi : (S + c_1 T_1 + c_2 T_2 + c_3 T_3)(\xi) \geq 0$$

- Calculate  $EP[u] = -\frac{dH}{dt}$ , gives polynomial  $S$
- Determine shift polynomials  $T_i$  (depends on differential order of eq.)
- Solve **decision problem**
- Show that  $\exists \kappa > 0 : EP[u] - \kappa Q[u] \geq 0$ ,  $Q[u]$  contains  $|\nabla^2 u^\gamma|^2$  etc.

## Solution of decision problem

$$\exists c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R} : \forall \xi : (S + c_1 T_1 + c_2 T_2 + c_3 T_3)(\xi) \geq 0$$

- Tarski 1930: Polynomial decision problems can be reduced to a quantifier-free statement in an algorithmic way
- Problem well known in real algebraic geometry
- Implementations in *Mathematica*, QEPCAD (Collins/Hong 1991) available, give complete and exact answer
- Algorithms are doubly exponential in number of  $c_i, \xi$

### Reductions:

- Not all integration-by-parts rules are needed: reduces number of  $c_i$
- Write polynomial as sum of squares: many algorithms available, quickly solvable, but only numerical results (relation to Hilbert's 17th problem), and  $\exists$  polynomial  $P \geq 0$  with  $P \neq$  sum of squares
- Several dimensions: symmetry reduction, use scalar variables  $|\nabla u|$ ,  $\Delta u$ ,  $|\nabla^2 u|$  etc.

# Entropies for thin-film equation

$$\partial_t u = -(u^\beta u_{xxx})_x, \quad S(\xi) = -\xi_1 \xi_3$$

- Shift polynomials:

$$T_1(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 3)\xi_1^4 + 3\xi_1^2 \xi_2,$$

$$T_2(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 2)\xi_1^2 \xi_2 + \xi_2^2 + \xi_1 \xi_3$$

$$T_3(\xi) = (\alpha + \beta - 1)\xi_1 \xi_3 + \xi_4$$

- Decision problem:

$$\exists c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R} : \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^3 : (S + c_1 T_1 + c_2 T_2 + c_3 T_3)(\xi) \geq 0$$

- Eliminate  $\xi_4 \Rightarrow c_3 = 0$ ; eliminate  $\xi_1 \xi_3 \Rightarrow c_2 = 1$
- Reduced decision problem:  $\exists c_1 \in \mathbb{R} : \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^2 :$

$$(\alpha + \beta - 3)c_1 \xi_1^4 + (\alpha + \beta - 2 + 3c_1)\xi_1^2 \xi_2 + \xi_2^2 \geq 0$$

- Solution:  $9(c_1 + \frac{1}{9}(\alpha + \beta))^2 + \frac{8}{9}(\alpha + \beta - \frac{3}{2})(\alpha + \beta - 3) \leq 0$
- Choose  $c_1 = -\frac{1}{9}(\alpha + \beta) \Rightarrow$  positive if and only if  $\frac{3}{2} \leq \alpha + \beta \leq 3$

## Bakry-Emery revisited

$$\partial_t u = \operatorname{div}(\nabla u + u \nabla V) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^d$$

**Aim:** Show  $\frac{d^2 H_\alpha}{dt^2} + \kappa \frac{dH_\alpha}{dt} \geq 0$  with systematic integration by parts

- Assume:  $\nabla^2 V \geq \lambda$ , one-dimensional case
- Multi-dimensional case: see Matthes/A.J./Toscani 2011
- Entropy:

$$H_\alpha[u] = \frac{\alpha}{4(\alpha-1)} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{u}{u_\infty} \right)^\alpha u_\infty dx - \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} u dx \right)^\alpha \right), \quad 1 < \alpha \leq 2$$

- Set  $w = u^{\alpha/2}$  and compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 H_\alpha}{dt^2} = \frac{2}{\alpha} \int_{\mathbb{R}} w^2 \left[ \alpha \left( \frac{w_{xx}}{w} \right)^2 + (2-\alpha) \left( \frac{w_x}{w} \right)^2 \frac{w_{xx}}{w} \right. \\ \left. - 2\alpha \frac{w_x}{w} \frac{w_{xx}}{w} V_x - (2-\alpha) \left( \frac{w_x}{w} \right)^3 V_x + \alpha \left( \frac{w_x}{w} \right)^2 V_x^2 \right] u_\infty dx \end{aligned}$$

- Integrand formulated as polynomial:

$$S_2(\xi) = \alpha \xi_2^2 + (2-\alpha) \xi_1^2 \xi_2 - 2\alpha \xi_1 \xi_2 V_x - (2-\alpha) \xi_1^3 V_x + \alpha \xi_1^2 V_x^2$$



## Shift polynomials

$$S_2(\xi) = \alpha \xi_2^2 + (2 - \alpha) \xi_1^2 \xi_2 - 2\alpha \xi_1 \xi_2 V_x - (2 - \alpha) \xi_1^3 V_x + \alpha \xi_1^2 V_x^2$$

- First time derivative:  $-\frac{dH_\alpha}{dt} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} w_x^2 u_\infty dx \Rightarrow S_1(\xi) = \xi_1^2$
- Shift polynomials: (recall that  $u_{\infty,x} = -u_\infty V_x$ )

$$0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (w_x^2 V_x u_\infty)_x dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (2w_x w_{xx} V_x + w_x^2 V_{xx} - w_x^2 V_x^2) u_\infty dx$$

$$T_1(\xi) = 2\xi_1 \xi_2 V_x + \xi_1^2 V_{xx} - \xi_1^2 V_x^2$$

$$0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (w^{-1} w_x^3 u_\infty)_x dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} w^{-1} (3w_x^2 w_{xx} - w^{-1} w_x^4 - w_x^3 V_x) u_\infty dx$$

$$T_2(\xi) = 3\xi_1^2 \xi_2 - \xi_1^4 - \xi_1^3 V_x$$

- Decision problem:  $\exists c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}, c > 0 : \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^3:$

$$S^*(\xi) = (S_2 + c_1 T_1 + c_2 T_2 - c S_1)(\xi) \geq 0$$

## Solution of decision problem

$$S^*(\xi) = \alpha \xi_2^2 + (2 - \alpha + 3c_2)\xi_1^2 \xi_2 + 2(-\alpha + c_1)\xi_1 \xi_2 V_x \\ - (2 - \alpha + c_2)\xi_1^3 V_x + (\alpha - c_1)\xi_1^2 V_x^2 - c_2 \xi_1^4 + (c_1 V_{xx} - c)\xi_1^2$$

- Eliminate  $\xi_1 \xi_2 V_x$ :  $c_1 = \alpha$ , eliminate  $\xi_1^3 V_x$ :  $c_2 = -(2 - \alpha)$
- Since  $V_{xx} \geq \lambda$ : choose  $c = \alpha \lambda$
- This gives with  $x = \xi_1^2$ ,  $y = \xi_2$ :

$$S^*(\xi) \geq \alpha \xi_2^2 - 2(2 - \alpha)\xi_1^2 \xi_2 + (2 - \alpha)\xi_1^4 = \alpha y^2 - 2(2 - \alpha)xy + (2 - \alpha)x^2$$

- $S^*(\xi) \geq 0$  if and only if  $\alpha(2 - \alpha) \geq (2 - \alpha)^2$  or  $2(2 - \alpha)(\alpha - 1) \geq 0$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 \leq \alpha \leq 2$

We have shown:  $\frac{d^2 H_\alpha}{dt^2} + \alpha \lambda \frac{dH_\alpha}{dt} \geq 0$  for  $1 < \alpha \leq 2$

### Theorem

Let  $\nabla^2 V \geq \lambda$ . Then the solution of  $\partial_t u = \operatorname{div}(\nabla u + u \nabla V)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  satisfies

$$H_\alpha[u(t)] \leq e^{-\alpha \lambda t} H_\alpha[u(0)], \quad 1 < \alpha \leq 2$$

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- 5 Exercises

# Cross-diffusion systems

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u^0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

- Meaning:  $\operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u)_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \operatorname{div}(A_{ij}(u)\nabla u_j)$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- Diagonal diffusion matrix:  $A_{ij}(u) = 0$  for  $i \neq j$
- Cross-diffusion matrix: generally  $A_{ij}(u) \neq 0$  for  $i \neq j$

## Why study cross-diffusion systems?

- They arise in many applications from physics, biology, chemistry...
- Diffusion-induced instabilities may arise
- Cross-diffusion may allow for pattern formation
- They may exhibit an unexpected gradient-flow/entropy structure

## Example 1: Cross-diffusion population dynamics

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u^0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

- $u = (u_1, u_2)$  and  $u_i$  models population density of  $i$ th species
- Diffusion matrix:

$$A(u) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{10} + a_{11}u_1 + a_{12}u_2 & a_{12}u_1 \\ a_{21}u_2 & a_{20} + a_{21}u_1 + a_{22}u_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Suggested by Shigesada- Kawasaki-Teramoto 1979: models population segregation
- Lotka-Volterra functions:  $f_i(u) = (b_{i0} - b_{i1}u_1 - b_{i2}u_2)u_i$
- Diffusion matrix is not symmetric, generally not positive definite

## Example ②: Ion transport through nano-pores

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u^0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

- $(u_1, \dots, u_N)$  ion concentrations,  $u_N = 1 - \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} u_j$
- Diffusion matrix for  $N = 4$ :

$$A(u) = \begin{pmatrix} D_1(1 - u_2 - u_3) & D_1 u_1 & D_1 u_1 \\ D_2 u_2 & D_2(1 - u_1 - u_3) & D_2 u_2 \\ D_3 u_3 & D_3 u_3 & D_3(1 - u_2 - u_3) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Derived by Burger-Schlake-Wolfram 2012 from lattice model
- Electric field neglected to simplify
- Diffusion matrix generally not positive definite – expect that  $0 \leq u_j \leq 1$

# Cross-diffusion systems

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

## Main features:

- Diffusion matrix  $A(u)$  **non-diagonal**
- Matrix  $A(u)$  may be **neither** symmetric **nor** positive definite
- Variables  $u_i$  may be **bounded** from below and/or above

## Objectives:

- Global-in-time existence of weak solutions
- Positivity and boundedness of weak solutions
- Large-time asymptotics

## Mathematical difficulties:

- No general theory for diffusion systems available
- Generally no maximum principle, no regularity theory
- Lack of positive definiteness  $\rightarrow$  local existence nontrivial

## Previous results

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0$$

Global existence if ...

- Growth conditions on nonlinearities (Ladyženskaya ... 1988)
- Control on  $L^\infty$  and Hölder norms (Amann 1989)
- Invariance principle holds (Redlinger 1989, Küfner 1996)
- Positivity, mass control, diagonal  $A(u)$  (Pierre-Schmitt 1997)

Unexpected behavior:

- Finite-time blow-up of Hölder solutions (Stará-John 1995)
- Weak solutions may exist after  $L^\infty$  blow-up (Pierre 2003)
- Cross-diffusion may lead to pattern formation (instability) or may avoid finite-time blow-up (Hittmeir/A.J. 2011)

Special structure needed for global existence theory:

**gradient-flow** or **entropy** structure



# Abstract gradient flows

**Definition:** Gradient flow if  $\partial_t u = -\text{grad } H|_u$  on differential manifold

- Example:  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with Euclidean structure,  $\partial_t u = -\nabla H(u)$ ,  $H : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} H(u) = \nabla H(u) \cdot \partial_t u = -|\nabla H(u)|^2 \Rightarrow H \text{ is Lyapunov functional}$$

- Can be generalized to  $\partial_t u \in \nabla H(u)$  on Hilbert space (Brézis 1973)
- Heat equation is gradient flow for  $H(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^2 dx$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ :

$$\text{grad } H(u)\xi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla u \cdot \nabla \xi dx = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Delta u \xi dx \Rightarrow \partial_t u = \Delta u$$

- Otto 2001: Heat eq. is gradient flow for  $H(u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u \log u dx$  in Wasserstein space (= probability measures with Wasserstein metric)
- Advantage: allows for geometric interpretation
- Reference for abstract gradient flows: Ambrosio/Gigli/Savaré 2005

**Our formal definition:** Gradient flow if  $\partial_t u = \text{div}(B \nabla \text{grad } H(u))$

# Gradient flows: Cross-diffusion systems

## Main assumption

$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u)$  possesses formal gradient-flow structure

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(B\nabla \operatorname{grad} H(u)) = f(u),$$

where  $B$  is positive semi-definite,  $H(u) = \int_{\Omega} h(u) dx$  entropy

**Equivalent formulation:**  $\operatorname{grad} H(u) \simeq h'(u) =: w$  (entropy variable)

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(B\nabla w) = f(u), \quad B = A(u)h''(u)^{-1}$$

**Consequences:**

- $H$  is Lyapunov functional if  $f = 0$ :

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \int_{\Omega} \partial_t u \cdot \underbrace{h'(u)}_{=w} dx = - \int_{\Omega} \nabla w : B\nabla w dx \leq 0$$

- $L^\infty$  bounds for  $u$ : Let  $h' : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ) be invertible  $\Rightarrow$   
 $u = (h')^{-1}(w) \in D$  (no maximum principle needed!)

## Example 1: Population-dynamics model

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u^0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

- $u = (u_1, u_2)$  and  $u_i$  models population density of  $i$ th species
- Diffusion matrix:

$$A(u) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{10} + a_{11}u_1 + a_{12}u_2 & a_{12}u_1 \\ a_{21}u_2 & a_{20} + a_{21}u_1 + a_{22}u_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Entropy:

$$H[u] = \int_{\Omega} h(u) dx = \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{u_1}{a_{12}} (\log u_1 - 1) + \frac{u_2}{a_{21}} (\log u_2 - 1) \right) dx$$

- Entropy production:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dH}{dt}[u] &= \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\log u_1}{a_{12}} \partial_t u_1 + \frac{\log u_2}{a_{21}} \partial_t u_2 \right) dx \\ &= -2 \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{2}{a_{12}} (a_{10} + a_{11}u_1) |\nabla \sqrt{u_1}|^2 + \frac{2}{a_{21}} (a_{20} + a_{22}u_2) |\nabla \sqrt{u_2}|^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + |\nabla \sqrt{u_1 u_2}|^2 \right) dx \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Example 1: Population-dynamics model

$$h(u) = \frac{u_1}{a_{12}}(\log u_1 - 1) + \frac{u_2}{a_{21}}(\log u_2 - 1)$$

**Question:** Does the model allow for a gradient-flow/entropy structure?

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(B(w)\nabla w) = 0, \quad B(w) = A(u)h''(u)^{-1}$$

**Answer:** Yes!

- Entropy variable  $w = h'(u)$ :

$$w_1 = \frac{\partial h}{\partial u_1} = \frac{\log u_1}{a_{12}}, \quad w_2 = \frac{\partial h}{\partial u_2} = \frac{\log u_2}{a_{21}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad u_2 \sim e^{a_{21}w_2} \text{ positive!}$$

- New diffusion matrix:

$$B(w) = \begin{pmatrix} (a_{10} + a_{11}a_{21}^{-1}e^{w_1} + e^{w_2})e^{w_1} & e^{w_1+w_2} \\ e^{w_1+w_2} & (a_{20} + a_{21}a_{12}^{-1}e^{w_2} + e^{w_1})e^{w_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det B(w) \geq a_{10}e^{w_1} + a_{20}e^{w_2} > 0$$

- Matrix  $B(w)$  is symmetric, positive definite (not uniform in  $w \in \mathbb{R}^2!$ )

## Example ②: Ion-transport model

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u^0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

- $u = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$  and  $u_i$  models the  $i$ th ion concentration
- Diffusion matrix:

$$A(u) = \begin{pmatrix} D_1(1 - u_2 - u_3) & D_1 u_1 & D_1 u_1 \\ D_2 u_2 & D_2(1 - u_1 - u_3) & D_2 u_2 \\ D_3 u_3 & D_3 u_3 & D_3(1 - u_2 - u_3) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Entropy:  $H[u] = \int_{\Omega} h(u) dx$ ,  $u_4 = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^3 u_i$

$$h(u) = \sum_{i=1}^3 u_i (\log u_i - 1) + u_4 (\log u_4 - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \log(D_i) u_i$$

- Entropy production:

$$\frac{dH}{dt}[u] = \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{i=1}^3 \partial_t u_i \log u_i - \sum_{i=1}^3 \partial_t u_i \log u_4 + \sum_{i=1}^3 \partial_t u_i \log D_i \right) dx$$

## Example ②: Ion-transport model

$$h(u) = \sum_{i=1}^3 u_i (\log u_i - 1) + u_4 (\log u_4 - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \log(D_i) u_i$$

- Entropy production:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dH}{dt}[u] &= \int_{\Omega} \sum_{i=1}^3 \log\left(\frac{D_i u_i}{u_4}\right) \partial_t u_i dx \\ &\leq -C \int_{\Omega} \left( u_4^2 \sum_{i=1}^3 |\nabla \sqrt{u_i}|^2 + |\nabla \sqrt{u_4}|^2 \right) dx \end{aligned}$$

- Difficulty: degeneracy at  $u_4 = 0$ !
- New diffusion matrix:

$$B(w) = u_4 \operatorname{diag}(D_1 u_1, D_2 u_2, D_3 u_3)$$

- Entropy structure:  $w_i = \partial h / \partial u_i = \log(u_i / u_4)$ , back-transformation:

$$u_i = \frac{e^{w_i}}{1 + e^{w_1} + e^{w_2} + e^{w_3}} \in (0, 1) \Rightarrow L^\infty \text{ bounds!}$$

## Relation to nonequilibrium thermodynamics

- Chemical potential:  $\mu_i = -\frac{\partial s}{\partial \rho_i}$ ,  $s$ : physical entropy density,  $\rho_i$ : mass density of  $i$ th species
- Entropy variables:  $w_i = \frac{\partial h}{\partial \rho_i}$ ,  $h = -s$ : mathematical entropy
- Mixture of ideal gases:  $\mu_i = \mu_i^0 + \log \rho_i$ ,  $\mu_i^0 = \text{const.} \Rightarrow$

$$w_i = -\frac{\partial s}{\partial \rho_i} = \mu_i^0 + \log \rho_i \quad \text{or} \quad \rho_i = e^{w_i - \mu_i^0}$$

- Non-ideal gases:  $\mu_i = \log a_i$ ,  $a_i = \gamma_i \rho_i$ : thermodynamic activity
- Example: volume-filling case,  $\gamma_i = 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} a_j$

$$\rho_i = \frac{a_i}{\gamma_i} = \frac{a_i}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} a_j} = \frac{\exp(\mu_i)}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \exp(\mu_j)}$$

→ exactly the expression for the ion-transport model!

- **Open problem:** Include nonconstant temperature

# Boundedness-by-entropy method

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

## Assumptions:

- ①  $\exists$  entropy density  $h \in C^2(D; [0, \infty))$ ,  $h'$  invertible on  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$   
 Example:  $h(u) = u \log u$  for  $u \in D = (0, \infty)$ ,  $(h')^{-1}(w) = e^w \in D$
- ②  $h''(u)A(u)$  is positive semidefinite for  $u \in D$   
 implies  $z^\top h''(u)A(u)z = (h''(u)z)^\top B(w)(h''(u)z) \geq 0$  for  $z \in \mathbb{R}^N$
- ③  $A$  continuous on  $D$ ,  $\exists C > 0 : \forall u \in D: f(u) \cdot h'(u) \leq C(1 + h(u))$   
 needed to control reaction term  $f(u)$

**Problem:**  $h''(u)A(u)$  semidefinite not sufficient, need gradient estimate!

**Solution:** Assume  $D \subset (a, b)^n$ ,  $a_i^* > 0$ ,  $m_i > 0$ , and

$$z^\top h''(u)A(u)z \geq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(u)^2 z_i^2$$

where  $a_i(u) = a_i^*(u_i - a)^{m_i-1}$  or  $a_i(u) = a_i^*(b - u_i)^{m_i-1}$

→ Can probably be generalized to arbitrary increasing functions  $a_i$



# Boundedness-by-entropy method

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

Assumptions:

①  $\exists$  convex entropy  $h \in C^2(D; [0, \infty))$ ,  $h'$  invertible on  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$

② Assume  $D \subset (a, b)^n$ ,  $a_i^* > 0$ ,  $m_i > 0$ , and

$$z^\top h''(u)A(u)z \geq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(u)^2 z_i^2, \quad a_i(u) \sim u_i^{m_i-1}$$

③  $A$  continuous on  $D$ ,  $\exists C > 0 : \forall u \in D: f(u) \cdot h'(u) \leq C(1 + h(u))$

Consequence of ②:  $\nabla u^\top h''(u)A(u)\nabla u \geq C(|\nabla u_1^{m_1}|^2 + |\nabla u_2^{m_2}|^2)$

Theorem (A.J., *Nonlinearity* 2015)

Let the above assumptions hold, let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be bounded,  $u_0 \in L^1(\Omega) \cap \overline{D}$ .  
Then  $\exists$  global weak solution such that  $u(x, t) \in \overline{D}$  and

$$u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1(\Omega)), \quad \partial_t u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1(\Omega)')$$

## Boundedness-by-entropy method

Theorem (A.J., *Nonlinearity* 2015)

Let the above assumptions hold, let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be bounded,  $u_0 \in L^1(\Omega) \cap \overline{D}$ . Then  $\exists$  global weak solution such that  $u(x, t) \in \overline{D}$  and

$$u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1(\Omega)), \quad \partial_t u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1(\Omega)')$$

Remarks:

- Result valid for rather general model class
- Yields  $L^\infty$  bounds **without using a maximum principle**
- Boundedness assumption on  $D$  is strong (can be weakened in some cases; see examples below)
- Main assumption: existence of entropy  $h$  and invertibility of  $h'$  on  $D$
- How to find entropy functions  $h$ ? Physical intuition, trial-and-error
- Theorem can be generalized for degenerate problems

What's next? Proof of existence result, concrete examples, extensions

# Proof of existence theorem

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \quad \text{or} \quad \partial_t u(w) - \operatorname{div}(B(w)\nabla w) = f(u(w))$$

Key ideas:

- Discretize in time: replace  $\partial_t u(w)$  by  $\frac{1}{\tau}(u(w^k) - u(w^{k-1}))$   
**Benefit:** Avoid issues with time regularity
- Regularize in space by adding “ $\varepsilon \Delta^m w^k$ ”  
**Benefit:** Since  $\operatorname{div}(B(w)\nabla w)$  is not uniformly elliptic; yields solutions  $w^k \in H^m(\Omega) \subset L^\infty(\Omega)$  if  $m > d/2$
- Solve problem in  $w^k$  by fixed-point argument  
**Benefit:** Problem in  $w$ -formulation is elliptic (not true for  $u$ -formulation)
- Perform limit  $(\varepsilon, \tau) \rightarrow 0$ , obtain solution  $u(t) = \lim u(w^k)$   
**Benefit:** Compactness comes from entropy estimate;  $L^\infty$  bounds coming from  $u(w^k) \in D \Rightarrow u \in \overline{D}$

**Strategy:** Problem in  $u \rightarrow$  Solve in  $w \rightarrow$  Limit gives problem in  $u$

# Proof of existence theorem

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f(u) \quad \text{or} \quad \partial_t u(w) - \operatorname{div}(B(w)\nabla w) = f(u(w))$$

More details:

- Implicit Euler: Replace  $\partial_t u(t_k)$  by  $\frac{1}{\tau}(u(w^k) - u(w^{k-1}))$ ,  $t_k = k\tau$  to obtain elliptic problems,  $w$ : entropy variable
- Regularization: Add  $\varepsilon(-1)^m \sum_{|\alpha|=m} D^{2\alpha} w + \varepsilon w$ , where  $H^m(\Omega) \subset L^\infty(\Omega) \rightsquigarrow$  uniform ellipticity
- Solve approximate problem using Leray-Schauder fixed-point theorem
- Derive estimates uniform in  $(\tau, \varepsilon)$  from entropy production estimate
- Use compactness to perform the limit  $(\tau, \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$

Approximate problem: Given  $w^{k-1} \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ , solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\tau} \int_{\Omega} (u(w^k) - u(w^{k-1})) \cdot \phi \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi : B(w^k) \nabla w^k \, dx \\ & + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{|\alpha|=m} D^\alpha w^k \cdot D^\alpha \phi + w^k \cdot \phi \right) \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f(u(w^k)) \cdot \phi \, dx \end{aligned}$$

## Step 1: Lax-Milgram argument

- Define  $S : L^\infty(\Omega) \times [0, 1] \rightarrow L^\infty(\Omega)$ ,  $S(y, \delta) = w^k$  and  $w^k$  solves **linear** problem:

$$\begin{aligned} a(w^k, \phi) &= \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi : B(y) \nabla w^k dx + \varepsilon \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{|\alpha|=m} D^\alpha w^k \cdot D^\alpha \phi + w^k \cdot \phi \right) dx \\ &= -\frac{\delta}{\tau} \int_{\Omega} (u(y) - u(w^{k-1})) \cdot \phi dx + \delta \int_{\Omega} f(u(y)) \cdot \phi dx = F(\phi) \end{aligned}$$

- Lax-Milgram lemma gives solution  $w^k \Rightarrow S$  well defined
- Properties:  $S(y, 0) = 0$ ,  $S$  compact (since  $H^m \hookrightarrow L^\infty$  compact)

### Theorem (Leray-Schauder)

Let  $B$  Banach space,  $S : B \times [0, 1] \rightarrow B$  compact,  $S(y, 0) = 0$  for  $y \in B$ ,

$$\exists C > 0 : \forall y \in B, \delta \in [0, 1] : S(y, \delta) = y \Rightarrow \|y\|_B \leq C.$$

Then  $S(\cdot, 1)$  has a fixed point.

## Step ②: Leray-Schauder argument

- Discrete entropy estimate: choose test fct.  $w^k$ ,  $\tau \ll 1$ , use  $h$  convex

$$\begin{aligned} & \delta \int_{\Omega} h(u(w^k)) dx + \tau \int_{\Omega} \nabla w^k : B \nabla w^k dx + \varepsilon \tau C \|w^k\|_{H^m}^2 \\ & \leq \underbrace{C\tau}_{<1} \delta \int_{\Omega} (1 + h(u(w^k))) dx + \underbrace{\delta}_{\leq 1} \int_{\Omega} h(u(w^{k-1})) dx \end{aligned}$$

- Yields  $\|w^k\|_{L^\infty} \leq C \|w^k\|_{H^m} \leq C(\varepsilon, \tau) \Rightarrow$  estimate uniform in  $(w^k, \delta)$
- Leray-Schauder:  $\exists$  solution  $w^k \in H^m(\Omega)$
- Sum discrete entropy estimate (*slightly simplified*):

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} h(u(w^k)) dx + C\tau \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u_i(w^k)^{m_i}|^2 dx \\ & + \varepsilon \tau C \sum_{k=1}^k \|w^j\|_{H^m}^2 \leq C \end{aligned}$$

- Idea:** Derive estimates for  $u = u(w)$ , not for  $w$

## Step ③: Uniform estimates

- Estimates uniform in  $(\tau, \varepsilon)$ : set  $u^{(\tau)}(\cdot, t) = u(w^k)$ ,  $t \in ((k-1)\tau, k\tau]$

$$\|(u_i^{(\tau)})^{m_i}\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1)} + \sqrt{\varepsilon} \|w^{(\tau)}\|_{L^2(0, T; H^m)} \leq C$$

$$\tau^{-1} \|u^{(\tau)}(t) - u^{(\tau)}(t - \tau)\|_{L^2(\tau, T; (H^m)')} \leq C$$

Theorem (Nonlinear Aubin-Lions lemma, Chen/A.J./Liu 2014)

Let  $(u^{(\tau)})$  be piecewise constant in time,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $s \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , and

$$\tau^{-1} \|u^{(\tau)}(t) - u^{(\tau)}(t - \tau)\|_{L^1(\tau, T; (H^k)')} + \|(u^{(\tau)})^s\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1)} \leq C$$

Then exists subsequence  $u^{(\tau)} \rightarrow u$  strongly in  $L^{2s}(0, T; L^{2s})$

Remarks:

- Generalization of standard Aubin-Lions lemma ( $s = 1$ )
- Result can be generalized to  $(u^{(\tau)})^s \in L^p(0, T; W^{1, q})$  and  $\phi(u^{(\tau)}) \in L^2(0, T; H^1)$  if  $(u^{(\tau)})$  bounded in  $L^\infty$ ,  $\phi$  monotone

## Step 4: Limit $(\tau, \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (u^{(\tau)}(t) - u^{(\tau)}(t - \tau)) \cdot \phi \, dx dt + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi : A(u^{(\tau)}) \nabla u^{(\tau)} \, dx dt \\ & + \varepsilon \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \left( \sum_{|\alpha|=m} D^\alpha w^{(\tau)} \cdot D^\alpha \phi + w^{(\tau)} \cdot \phi \right) \, dx dt = \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} f(u^{(\tau)}) \cdot \phi \, dx dt \end{aligned}$$

- Nonlinear Aubin-Lions lemma:

$$\begin{aligned} u^{(\tau)} &\rightarrow u && \text{strongly in } L^2(0, T; L^2) \\ \varepsilon w^{(\tau)} &\rightarrow 0 && \text{strongly in } L^2(0, T; H^m) \\ A(u^{(\tau)}) \nabla u^{(\tau)} &\rightharpoonup A(u) \nabla u && \text{weakly in } L^2(0, T; L^2) \end{aligned}$$

- Limit  $(\tau, \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$  in weak formulation  $\Rightarrow u$  solves diffusion system
- $u$  satisfies initial datum: Show that linear interpolant of  $(u^{(\tau)})$  is bounded in  $C^0([0, T]; (H^m)')$   $\Rightarrow u(\cdot, 0) = u_0$  defined in  $H^m(\Omega)'$
- Boundary conditions: Contained in weak formulation



# Summary

Theorem (A.J., *Nonlinearity* 2015)

Let the above assumptions hold, let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be bounded,  $u_0 \in L^1(\Omega) \cap \bar{D}$ . Then  $\exists$  global weak solution such that  $u(x, t) \in \bar{D}$  and

$$u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1(\Omega)), \quad \partial_t u \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(0, \infty; H^1(\Omega)')$$

Strategy of the proof:

- Implicit Euler discretization and  $\Delta^m$  regularization
- Entropy formulation gives a priori estimates and  $L^\infty$  bounds
- Compactness from nonlinear Aubin-Lions lemma

Benefits:

- General global existence theorem
- Yields bounded weak solutions without a maximum principle

Limitations:

- Boundedness of domain  $D$ , how to find entropy density  $h$ ?
- Particular positive definiteness condition on  $h''(u)A(u)$

# 1 Population model of Shigesada-Kawasaki-Teramoto

$$\partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0, \quad \text{no-flux b.c.}$$

- Entropy defined on **unbounded** domain  $D = (0, \infty)^2$
- Entropy-dissipation inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dH}{dt}[u] = & -2 \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{2}{a_{12}} (a_{10} + a_{11}u_1) |\nabla \sqrt{u_1}|^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{2}{a_{21}} (a_{20} + a_{22}u_2) |\nabla \sqrt{u_2}|^2 + |\nabla \sqrt{u_1 u_2}|^2 \right) dx \end{aligned}$$

- Yields estimate for  $(\sqrt{u_i})$  in  $H^1(\Omega)$ : Previous proof applies
- Main difference: We do not have  $(u_i)$  bounded in  $L^\infty(\Omega)$  but only  $(\sqrt{u_i})$  bounded in  $L^6(\Omega)$  (if space dimension  $\leq 3$ )
- Assumption: Transition rates  $p_i(u) = a_{i0} + a_{i1}u_1 + a_{i2}u_2$
- Previous technique of proof yield global existence of solutions

## ② Ion-transport model

Entropy production: recall that  $u_4 = 1 - u_1 - u_2 - u_3$

$$H[u^{(\tau)}(t)] + C \int_0^t \int_{\Omega} \left( u_4^{(\tau)} \sum_{i=1}^3 |\nabla(u_i^{(\tau)})^{1/2}|^2 + |\nabla(u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2}|^2 \right) dx ds \leq H[u^0]$$

- **Problem:** degeneracy at  $u_4^{(\tau)} = 0$ , no estimate for  $\nabla(u_i^{(\tau)})^{1/2}$
- **Consequence ①:**

$$\left| \nabla \left( (u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} u_i^{(\tau)} \right) \right|^2 \leq 8 u_4^{(\tau)} (u_i^{(\tau)})^{1/2} \left| \nabla(u_i^{(\tau)})^{1/2} \right|^2 + 2 (u_1^{(\tau)})^2 \left| \nabla(u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} \right|^2 \leq C$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \left( (u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} u_i^{(\tau)} \right) \rightharpoonup \nabla z \quad \text{weakly in } L^2 \text{ but } z = ?$$

- **Consequence ②:** By nonlinear Aubin-Lions lemma,

$$\tau^{-1} \left\| u_4^{(\tau)}(t) - u_4^{(\tau)}(t - \tau) \right\|_{L^2(\tau, T; (H^m)')} + \left\| (u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} \right\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1)} \leq C$$

$$\Rightarrow u_4^{(\tau)} \rightarrow u \quad \text{strongly in } L^1(0, T; L^1)$$

- **Consequence ③:**  $L^\infty$  bound:  $u_i^{(\tau)} \rightharpoonup u_i$  weakly\* in  $L^\infty$
- strong  $\times$  weak = weak:  $(u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} u_i^{(\tau)} \rightharpoonup u_4^{1/2} u_i = z$  weakly in  $L^1$

## ② Ion-transport model

$$\begin{aligned}
 w_i^{(\tau)} &:= (u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} u_i^{(\tau)} \rightharpoonup u_4^{1/2} u_i && \text{weakly in } L^2(0, T; H^1) \\
 y^{(\tau)} &:= (u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} \rightarrow u_4^{1/2} && \text{strongly in } L^2(0, T; L^2) \\
 \nabla(u_4^{(\tau)})^{1/2} &\rightharpoonup \nabla u_4^{1/2} && \text{weakly in } L^2(0, T; L^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Aim:** Perform limit in

$$(A(u^{(\tau)}) \nabla u^{(\tau)})_i = D_i \underbrace{y^{(\tau)}}_{\text{strong}} \underbrace{\nabla w_i^{(\tau)}}_{\text{weak}} - 3D_i \underbrace{w_i^{(\tau)}}_{\text{weak}} \underbrace{\nabla y^{(\tau)}}_{\text{weak}}$$

- **Problem:** weak  $\times$  weak  $\not\rightarrow$  weak. Solution: Use lemma below
- Gives global existence of bounded weak solutions  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$

Let  $(y^{(\tau)}), (u^{(\tau)})$  piecewise constant, bounded,  $y^{(\tau)} \rightarrow y$  in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$ ,

$$\|y^{(\tau)}\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1)} \leq C$$

$$\|y^{(\tau)} u^{(\tau)}\|_{L^2(0, T; H^1)} + \tau^{-1} \|u^{(\tau)}(t) - u^{(\tau)}(t - \tau)\|_{L^2(\tau, T; (H^1)')} \leq C$$

Then  $\exists$  subsequence:  $w^{(\tau)} = y^{(\tau)} u^{(\tau)} \rightarrow yu$  **strongly** in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$ .

# Overview

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- 4 Cross-diffusion systems
  - Examples from physics and biology
  - Gradient flows
  - Boundedness-by-entropy method
- 5 Exercises

## Exercises

- Let  $u$  be a smooth solution to the heat equation  $\partial_t u = \Delta u$  in  $\mathbb{T}^d$  and let  $H_\alpha[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u^\alpha dx$ ,  $\alpha > 1$ .
  - Show that  $d^n H_2/dt^n$  is nonpositive if  $n$  is odd and nonnegative if  $n$  is even.
  - Let  $d = 1$ . Show that  $dH_\alpha/dt \leq 0$  for all  $\alpha > 1$  and  $d^2 H_\alpha/dt^2 \geq 0$  if  $2 \leq \alpha \leq 3$ .
- Let  $u$  be a smooth solution to  $\partial_t u = (D(x)u_x)_x$  in  $\mathbb{T}^d$ , where  $D(x) \geq 0$ , and let  $H[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u^2 dx$ . Assume that  $D_{xx} \geq \lambda$ , where  $\lambda > 0$ .
  - Show that
 
$$\frac{d^2 H}{dt^2} + \lambda \frac{dH}{dt} \geq 0.$$
  - Assume that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} H[u(t)] = 0$ . Deduce from (a) by integration over  $(t, \infty)$  that  $H[u(t)] \leq H[u(0)]e^{-\lambda t}$  for  $t > 0$ .

3. Let  $u$  be a smooth positive solution to the quantum diffusion equation

$$\partial_t u = -(u(\log u)_{xx})_{xx} \quad \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d,$$

and let  $H_\alpha[u] = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} u^\alpha dx / (\alpha(\alpha - 1))$  for  $\alpha > 0$ . Use systematic integration by parts to show that for  $0 < \alpha \leq 3/2$ ,

$$\frac{dH_\alpha}{dt}[u(t)] \leq 0 \quad \text{for } t > 0.$$

4. Consider the diffusion matrix of the population model

$$A(u) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{10} + a_{11}u_1 + a_{12}u_2 & a_{12}u_1 \\ a_{21}u_2 & a_{20} + a_{21}u_1 + a_{22}u_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a_{ij} > 0$ . Let  $\sigma(A(u))$  be the spectrum of  $A(u)$ . Show that  $\sigma(A(u)) \subset \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) > 0\}$ . How large is the distance of  $\sigma(A(u))$  to the origin?

5. Let  $S : L^\infty(\Omega) \times [0, 1] \rightarrow L^\infty(\Omega)$  be the fixed-point operator in the proof of the existence theorem of the boundedness-by-entropy method. Show that  $S$  is continuous.
6. Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a bounded domain ( $d > 1$ ) and let  $(u_n)$  be a sequence with  $u_n \geq 0$  and  $\exists C > 0: \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$\|\sqrt{u_n}\|_{L^2(0,T;H^1(\Omega))} + \|\partial_t u_n\|_{L^1(0,T;H^m(\Omega)')} \leq C,$$

where  $H^m(\Omega)'$  is the dual of  $H^m(\Omega)$ ,  $m > 0$ . Show that  $(u_n)$  is relatively compact in  $L^s(\Omega)$  for  $s < d/(d-1)$ .

7. Show that the statement of Exercise 5 holds up to  $s = d/(d-1)$  if additionally  $\|u_n \log u_n\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^1(\Omega))} \leq C$ .