

Traces of functions of bounded \mathbb{A} -variation and variational problems with linear growth

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Linear growth functionals (1)

Find a minimizer $\mathbf{u} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ bounded and Lipschitz,
 of the variational problem

$$\mathfrak{F}[\mathbf{u}] = \int_{\Omega} f(x, D\mathbf{u}) \, dx, \quad \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = \mathbf{u}_0.$$

- $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has linear growth and is quasi-convex, i.e.

$$c_0|\mathbf{Z}| - C_0 \leq f(x, \mathbf{Z}) \leq c_1|\mathbf{Z}| + C_1,$$

$$f(x, \mathbf{A}) \leq \int_{(0,1)^n} f(y, \mathbf{A} + D\varphi) \, dy \quad \forall \varphi \in C_0^\infty((0,1)^n);$$

- \mathfrak{F} defined on $W^{1,1}(\Omega)$, minimization in $\mathbf{u}_0 + W_0^{1,1}(\Omega)$ fails.

Linear growth functionals (2)

Extended functional for $\mathbf{u} \in \text{BV}(\Omega)$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathfrak{F}}_{\mathbf{u}_0}[\mathbf{u}] &:= \int_{\Omega} f\left(x, \frac{dD\mathbf{u}}{d\mathcal{L}^n}\right) d\mathcal{L}^n + \int_{\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \frac{dD\mathbf{u}}{d|D^s\mathbf{u}|}\right) d|D^s\mathbf{u}| \\ &+ \int_{\partial\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \nu_{\partial\Omega} \otimes \text{tr}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_0)\right) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

- $f^{\infty} : \bar{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is the strong recession function, i.e.

$$f^{\infty}(x, \mathbf{A}) := \lim_{\substack{x' \rightarrow x \\ \mathbf{A}' \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \\ t \rightarrow \infty}} \frac{f(x', t\mathbf{A}')}{t};$$

- infima coincide: $\inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{u}_0 + W_0^{1,1}(\Omega)} \mathfrak{F}[\mathbf{u}] = \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \text{BV}(\Omega)} \bar{\mathfrak{F}}_{\mathbf{u}_0}[\mathbf{u}]$.

Linear growth functionals (3)

- Existence of a minimizer by the direct method in the calculus of variations.
- Ambrosio-Dal Maso (1992), Fonseca-Müller (1993): $\overline{\mathfrak{F}}_{\mathbf{u}_0}$ is lower semi-continuous on $BV(\Omega)$ w.r.t. weak*-topology! Proof uses blow-up method and Alberti's rank-one theorem (1993).
- There is a linear continuous operator $\text{tr} : BV(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathcal{H}^{n-1})$ s.t. $\text{tr } \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega}$ for $\mathbf{u} \in C^0(\overline{\Omega})$.
- Continuity w.r.t. the strict topology: $\mathbf{u}_n \rightarrow^s \mathbf{u}$ iff $\mathbf{u}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{u}$ in $L^1(\Omega)$ and $|D\mathbf{u}_n|(\Omega) \rightarrow |D\mathbf{u}|(\Omega)$.

The trace operator on $W^{1,1}$

Gagliardo (1957): There is a surjective linear continuous operator

$$\text{tr} : W^{1,1}(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathcal{H}^{n-1}), \quad \text{tr } u = u|_{\partial\Omega} \quad \forall u \in C^0(\bar{\Omega}).$$

- Extends to $BV(\Omega)$ by smooth approximation (strict topology): Anzellotti-Giaquinta (1978).
- Proof by fundamental theorem of calculus: for $u \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) &= \int_{-\infty}^0 \partial_n u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, t) dt, \\ \Rightarrow \|u(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})} &\leq \|Du\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)}. \end{aligned}$$

The space $BD(\Omega)$

If $N = n$ let $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)$ be the symmetric gradient

$$LD(\Omega) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega) : \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u}) \in L^1(\Omega)\},$$

$$BD(\Omega) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega) : \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)\}.$$

- Introduced by Suquet (1978), Matthies-Strang-Christiansen (1979), Temam-Strang (1980);
- Proper superspace of $BV(\Omega)$ (Ornstein's non-inequality in L^1);
- Study linear-growth functionals

$$\mathfrak{F}[\mathbf{u}] = \int_{\Omega} f(x, \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u})) \, dx, \quad \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = \mathbf{u}_0.$$

Linear growth functionals on $BD(\Omega)$

Extended functional for $\mathbf{u} \in BD(\Omega)$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathfrak{F}}_{\mathbf{u}_0}[\mathbf{u}] := & \int_{\Omega} f\left(x, \frac{d\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u})}{d\mathcal{L}^n}\right) d\mathcal{L}^n + \int_{\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \frac{d\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u})}{d|\mathcal{E}^s(\mathbf{u})|}\right) d|\mathcal{E}^s(\mathbf{u})| \\ & + \int_{\partial\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \nu_{\partial\Omega} \otimes_{sym} \text{tr}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_0)\right) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

- Rindler (2011): Lower semi-continuity via rigidity and Young measures (an analogone of Alberti's rank one theorem was not known).
- Strang-Temam (1980): There is a linear continuous operator $\text{tr} : BD(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathcal{H}^{n-1})$ s.t. $\text{tr } \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega}$ for $\mathbf{u} \in C^0(\bar{\Omega})$.
 $\mathbf{u} \in BD(\Omega)$ iff $\xi D(\mathbf{u} \cdot \xi) \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ for all $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Trace-free symmetric gradients

$$\mathcal{E}^D(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T) - \frac{1}{n} \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}) = \text{trace-free symmetric gradient}$$

$$W^{\mathcal{E}^D, 1}(\Omega) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega) : \mathcal{E}^D(\mathbf{u}) \in L^1(\Omega)\},$$

$$\operatorname{BV}^{\mathcal{E}^D}(\Omega) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega) : \mathcal{E}^D(\mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)\}.$$

- If $n \geq 3$ $N(\mathcal{E}^D)$ = killing vectors (quadratic polynomials);
- If $n = 2$ $N(\mathcal{E}^D)$ = holomorphic functions;
- Fuchs- Repin (2010): no trace if $n = 2$, consider $B_1 \ni z \mapsto (z - 1)^{-1} \in \mathbb{C}$;
- **What happens if $n \geq 3$? No control of $\partial_i u^i$ or $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}$!**

General differential operators

Linear maps $\mathbb{A}_\alpha : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^K$ (e.g. $K = N \times n$) s.t.

$$\mathbb{A} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \mathbb{A}_\alpha \partial_\alpha$$

- The *symbol mapping* $\mathbb{A}[\xi] : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^K$ is defined by

$$\mathbb{A}[\xi]v := v \otimes_{\mathbb{A}} \xi := \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \xi_\alpha \mathbb{A}_\alpha v.$$

- \mathbb{A} is \mathbb{R} -elliptic if $\mathbb{A}[\xi] : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^K$ is injective $\forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$;
- \mathbb{A} is \mathbb{C} -elliptic if $\mathbb{A}[\xi] : \mathbb{C}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^K$ is injective $\forall \xi \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$;
- \mathbb{A} is \mathbb{C} -elliptic iff $\dim(N(\mathbb{A})) < \infty$.

The space $BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$

\mathbb{A} linear, homogeneous, constant coefficient

$$W^{\mathbb{A},1}(\Omega) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega) : \mathbb{A}\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega)\},$$

$$BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L^1(\Omega) : \mathbb{A}\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)\}.$$

- Van Schaftingen (2013): $W^{\mathbb{A},1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow L^{\frac{n}{n-1}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ iff \mathbb{A} is cancelling, i.e. $\bigcap_{\xi \neq 0} \mathbb{A}[\xi](\mathbb{R}^n) = \{0\}$;
- \mathbb{C} -ellipticity \Rightarrow cancelling;
- Classical Gagliardo-Nirenberg-Sobolev inequality if $\mathbb{A} = D$;
- Strauss-inequality if $\mathbb{A} = \mathcal{E}$ (1971).

Poincaré's inequality

\mathbb{A} be \mathbb{C} -elliptic, B a ball,

$$\inf_{\mathbf{q} \in N(\mathbb{A})} \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{q}\|_{L^1(B)} \leq \|\mathbf{u} - \Pi_B \mathbf{u}\|_{L^1(B)} \leq c \ell(B) |\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}|(B),$$

- Π_B is the L^2 -orthogonal projection onto $N(\mathbb{A})$;
- Based on representation formula by Kalamajska (1994) and smooth approximation;
- Elements of $N(\mathbb{A})$ are polynomials;
- If $\mathbf{u} = 0$ “somewhere” then $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^1(B)} \leq c \ell(B) |\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}|(B)$.

Alberti-type theorem

De Philippis-Rindler (2016): for \mathcal{A} -free measure μ

$$\frac{d\mu}{d|\mu^s|} \in \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}} := \bigcup_{\xi \neq 0} \ker(\mathcal{A}[\xi]) = \bigcup_{\xi \neq 0} \mathbb{A}[\xi](\mathbb{R}^n) \quad |\mu^s| - \text{a.e.}$$

- $\Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}$ is called characteristic wave cone;
- \mathbb{A} is potential to \mathcal{A} (e.g. $\mathbb{A} = D$ and $\mathcal{A} = \text{curl}$);
- If $\mathbf{u} \in \text{BV}(\Omega)$ then $\frac{dD\mathbf{u}}{d|D^s\mathbf{u}|} \in \{v \otimes \xi\}$ $|D^s\mathbf{u}|$ -a.e.;
- If $\mathbf{u} \in \text{BD}(\Omega)$ then $\frac{d\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u})}{d|\mathcal{E}^s(\mathbf{u})|} \in \{v \otimes_{\text{sym}} \xi\}$ $|\mathcal{E}^s(\mathbf{u})|$ -a.e.;
- If $\mathbf{u} \in \text{BV}^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$ then $\frac{d\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}}{d|\mathbb{A}^s\mathbf{u}|} \in \{v \otimes_{\mathbb{A}} \xi\}$ $|\mathbb{A}^s\mathbf{u}|$ -a.e.

Linear growth functionals on $BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$

Extended functional for $\mathbf{u} \in BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$

$$\bar{\mathfrak{F}}[\mathbf{u}] := \int_{\Omega} f\left(x, \frac{d\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}}{d\mathcal{L}^n}\right) d\mathcal{L}^n + \int_{\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \frac{d\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}}{d|\mathbb{A}^s\mathbf{u}|}\right) d|\mathbb{A}^s\mathbf{u}|$$

- Arroyo-Rabasa, De Philippis, Rindler, (2017): Lower semi-continuity via Alberti-type theorem of functionals $\bar{\mathfrak{F}}[\mu]$.
- Baía, Chermisi, Matias, Santos (2013): Lower semi-continuity via Young measures;
- **Trace-part not included so far!**

Main result

Let \mathbb{A} be a \mathbb{C} -elliptic operator and Ω a bounded Lipschitz domain.

Breit, Dening, Gmeineder (2017): \exists linear continuous operator

$$\text{tr} : BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathcal{H}^{n-1}), \quad \text{tr } \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in C^0(\overline{\Omega}).$$

- Main difficulty: estimate, even for smooth functions;
- Extension of Fuchs-Repin counterexample for \mathcal{E}^D shows:
 \mathbb{C} -elliptic is also necessary;
- Lipschitz boundary can be weakened to domains satisfying
 - 1 Ω is an NTA (non-tangentially accessible);
 - 2 Ω is Ahlfors regular, i.e. there is $R > 0$ and $M > 0$ s.t.

$$\frac{1}{M} r^{n-1} \leq \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(B_r(x) \cap \partial\Omega) \leq M r^{n-1} \quad \forall r \in (0, R).$$

NTA domains

A domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is an NTA (non-tangentially accessible) domain if it satisfies the interior corkscrew condition, the exterior interior corkscrew condition and the interior Harnack chain condition.

- We say that Ω satisfies the *interior corkscrew condition* if there exists $R > 0$ and $M > 2$ such that for all $x \in \partial\Omega$ and all $r \in (0, R)$ there exists a $y \in \Omega$ such that

$$\frac{1}{M}r \leq |x - y| \leq r \quad \text{and} \quad B(y, r/M) \subset \Omega.$$

- We say that Ω satisfies the *exterior corkscrew condition* if $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega$ satisfies the interior corkscrew condition.

Interior Harnack chain condition

- We say that $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ satisfies the (*interior*) *Harnack chain condition* if any interior points $y_1, y_2 \in \Omega$ can be connected via a chain of proportional balls B_1, \dots, B_J in Ω satisfying
 - ① $y_1 \in B_1, y_2 \in B_J,$
 - ② $\ell(B_j) \sim d(B_j, \partial\Omega)$ for $j = 1, \dots, J,$
 - ③ $\ell(B_j) \geq c \min \{d(y_1, B_j), d(y_2, B_j)\}$ for $j = 1, \dots, J,$
 - ④ J uniformly bounded in terms of $\frac{|y_1 - y_2|}{\min \{d(y_1, \partial\Omega), d(y_2, \partial\Omega)\}}.$

Covering by balls

- For each $j \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $(B_{j,k})_k$ denote a (countable) cover of balls of \mathbb{R}^n with diameter $\sim 2^{-j}$;
- For each j let $(\eta_{j,k})_k$ we find a partition of unity with respect to the $(B_{j,k})_k$;
- Define the 2^{-j} -neighbourhood U_j of $\partial\Omega$ by

$$U_j := \{x \in \Omega : d(x, \partial\Omega) < 2^{-j}\}.$$

- Interior corkscrew condition \Rightarrow for each ball $B_{j,k}$ close to the boundary there is a *reflected ball* $B_{j,k}^\sharp$ close by.
- Harnack chain condition \Rightarrow connect two reflected balls of neighboring balls by a small chain of balls W_1, \dots, W_γ and set

$$\Omega(B_{j,k}^\sharp, B_{l,m}^\sharp) := \bigcup_{\beta=1}^{\gamma} W_\beta.$$

Ideas of the proof (1)

Use local projections $\Pi_{j,k} = \Pi_{B_{j,k}^\sharp}$ and set

$$T_j \mathbf{u} := \mathbf{u} - \rho_j \sum_k \eta_{j,k} (\mathbf{u} - \Pi_{j,k} \mathbf{u}) = (1 - \rho_j) \mathbf{u} + \rho_j \sum_k \eta_{j,k} \Pi_{j,k} \mathbf{u}.$$

- ρ_j smooth s.t. $\chi_{U_{j+1}} \leq \rho_j \leq \chi_{U_j}$;
- T_j smooth at the boundary!
- If $\mathbf{u} \in BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$, then in $BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$

$$\mathbf{u} = T_{j_0} \mathbf{u} + \sum_{l=j_0}^{\infty} (T_{l+1} \mathbf{u} - T_l \mathbf{u}) = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} T_j \mathbf{u}.$$

Ideas of the proof (2)

Let $u \in BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$. Then for some $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\|\mathrm{tr}(T_{j+1}\mathbf{u}) - \mathrm{tr}(T_j\mathbf{u})\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)} \lesssim |\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}|(U_{j-k_0} \setminus U_{j+k_0}).$$

Proof: From definition of T_j

$$\mathrm{tr}(T_{j+1}\mathbf{u}) - \mathrm{tr}(T_j\mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k,m} \mathrm{tr}(\eta_{j+1,k}\eta_{j,m}(\Pi_{j+1,k}\mathbf{u} - \Pi_{j,m}\mathbf{u})),$$

where the sums are locally finite sums. Hence,

$$\|\mathrm{tr}(T_{j+1}\mathbf{u}) - \mathrm{tr}(T_j\mathbf{u})\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)} \leq \sum_{k,m} \|\eta_{j+1,k}\eta_{j,m}(\Pi_{j+1,k}\mathbf{u} - \Pi_{j,m}\mathbf{u})\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)}.$$

Ideas of the proof (3)

We only have to consider those k, m with $B_{j+1,k} \cap B_{j,m} \neq \emptyset$. For such k, m

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \operatorname{tr} \left(\eta_{j+1,k} \eta_{j,m} (\Pi_{j+1,k} \mathbf{u} - \Pi_{j,m} \mathbf{u}) \right) \right\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)} \\ & \leq \left\| \Pi_{j+1,k} \mathbf{u} - \Pi_{j,m} \mathbf{u} \right\|_{L^\infty(B_{j,m})} \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\partial\Omega \cap B_{j+1,k} \cap B_{j,m}). \end{aligned}$$

By the Ahlfors regularity and Poincaré's inequality imply

$$\left\| \operatorname{tr} \left(\eta_{j+1,k} \eta_{j,m} (\Pi_{j+1,k} \mathbf{u} - \Pi_{j,m} \mathbf{u}) \right) \right\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)} \lesssim |\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}|(\Omega(B_{j+1,k}^\sharp, B_{j,m}^\sharp)).$$

Summing over k and m and implies

$$\left\| \operatorname{tr}(T_{j+1}\mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{tr}(T_j\mathbf{u}) \right\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)} \lesssim |\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}|(U_{j-k_0} \setminus U_{j+k_0}).$$

Ideas of the proof (4)

Finally, we have that

$$\operatorname{tr}(T_{j_0} \mathbf{u}) + \sum_{j \geq j_0} (\operatorname{tr}(T_{j+1} \mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{tr}(T_j \mathbf{u})) = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{tr}(T_j \mathbf{u}).$$

is well defined in $L^1(\partial\Omega)$. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{tr}(T_j \mathbf{u}) \right\|_{L^1(\partial\Omega)} &\leq \left\| \operatorname{tr}(T_{j_0} \mathbf{u}) \right\|_{L^1} + \sum_{j \geq j_0} \left\| \operatorname{tr}(T_{j+1} \mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{tr}(T_j \mathbf{u}) \right\|_{L^1} \\ &\lesssim \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^1(U_{j_0-k_0} \setminus U_{j_0+k_0})} + \sum_{j \geq j_0} |\mathbb{A} \mathbf{u}|(U_{j-k_0} \setminus U_{j+k_0}) \\ &\lesssim \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^1(\Omega)} + |\mathbb{A} \mathbf{u}|(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

Linear growth functionals on $BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$

Breit, Diening, Gmeineder (2017): Functionals on $\mathbf{u} \in BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathfrak{F}}_{\mathbf{u}_0}[\mathbf{u}] := & \int_{\Omega} f\left(x, \frac{d\mathbb{A}\mathbf{u}}{d\mathcal{L}^n}\right) d\mathcal{L}^n + \int_{\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \frac{dD\mathbf{u}}{d|\mathbb{A}^s\mathbf{u}|}\right) d|\mathbb{A}^s\mathbf{u}| \\ & + \int_{\partial\Omega} f^{\infty}\left(x, \nu_{\partial\Omega} \otimes_{\mathbb{A}} \text{tr}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_0)\right) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

- Existence of minimizer (representation with trace-term);
- infima coincide: $\inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{u}_0 + W_0^{\mathbb{A},1}(\Omega)} \mathfrak{F}[\mathbf{u}] = \min_{\mathbf{u} \in BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega)} \bar{\mathfrak{F}}_{\mathbf{u}_0}[\mathbf{u}]$;
- set of *generalised minimisers* of \mathfrak{F} given by

$$GM_{\mathbf{u}_0}(\mathfrak{F}) := \left\{ \mathbf{u} \in BV^{\mathbb{A}}(\Omega) : \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{u} \text{ is the } L^1\text{-limit of some} \\ \text{min. seq. } (u_k) \subset \mathbf{u}_0 + W_0^{\mathbb{A},1}(\Omega) \end{array} \right\}$$

coincides with the class of $BV^{\mathbb{A}}$ -minimizers.