

# Lagrange multipliers

## ① Nonlinear eigenvalue problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = \lambda g(u) & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

Idea: Minimize

$$E[u] = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |Du|^2 \quad (u=0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega)$$

subject to the constraint

$$F[u] = \int_{\Omega} G(u) = 0 \quad (g = G')$$

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$$\mathcal{A} := \{ u \in H_0^1(\Omega) \mid F[u] = 0 \}$$

technical assumption:  $|g(x)| \leq C(1+|x|)$ .

Prop (existence) If  $\mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset$ , then

$$\exists u \in \mathcal{A} \text{ st. } E[u] = \min_{w \in \mathcal{A}} E[w].$$

Proof Let  $u_k \in \mathcal{A}$  be a minimizing sequence:

$$E[u_k] \rightarrow m := \inf_{w \in \mathcal{A}} E[w].$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  subsequence  $u_{k'}$ :

$u_{k'} \rightarrow u$  weakly in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$

$u_{k'} \rightarrow u$  strongly in  $L^2(\Omega)$ .

l.s.c.  $\Rightarrow E[u] \leq m$  (hence " $=$ ").

$$|F[u]| = |F[u] - \underbrace{F[u_k]}_{=0}| \leq \int_{\Omega} |G(u) - G(u_k)|$$

$$\leq C \int_{\Omega} |u - u_k| (1 + |u| + |u_k|) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0 \quad \square$$

Thm (Lagrange multiplier)

Suppose  $u \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $E[u] = \min_{w \in \mathcal{A}} E[w]$ .

Then  $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  st.

$$\int_{\Omega} Du \cdot Dv = \lambda \int_{\Omega} g(u) v \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$

Proof If  $g(u) = 0$  a.e. in  $\Omega$ ,

then  $u \equiv 0$ ,  $\lambda$  arbitrary is a solution.

Suppose now, not

$$\Rightarrow \exists w \in H_0^1(\Omega) : \int_{\Omega} g(u) w \neq 0.$$

Now consider

$$\begin{aligned} f(\tau, \sigma) &:= F[u + \tau v + \sigma w] \\ &= \int_{\Omega} G(u + \tau v + \sigma w) \end{aligned}$$

Note that :

$$f(0,0) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau} = \int_{\Omega} g(u + \tau v + \sigma w) v$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} = \int_{\Omega} g(u + \tau v + \sigma w) w$$

Since  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma}(0,0) = \int_{\Omega} g(u) w \neq 0$ ,

by implicit function  $\exists \phi \in C^1$  with  $\phi(0) = 0$

st.  $f(\tau, \phi(\tau)) = 0$ . (for  $|\tau| \ll 1$ )

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial \tau}(\tau, \phi(\tau)) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma}(\tau, \phi(\tau)) \cdot \dot{\phi}(\tau) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\phi}(0) = - \frac{\int_{\Omega} g(u) v}{\int_{\Omega} g(u) w}$$

Now set  $w(\tau) := \tau v + \phi(\tau) w$

$$e(\tau) := E \left[ \underbrace{u + w(\tau)}_{\in \mathcal{A}} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \dot{e}(0) = \int_{\Omega} Du \cdot D\dot{w}(0)$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} Du \cdot (Dv + \dot{\phi}(0) Dw)$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} Du \cdot Dv = - \dot{\phi}(0) \int_{\Omega} Du \cdot Dw$$

$$= \frac{\int_{\Omega} Du \cdot Dw}{\underbrace{\int_{\Omega} g(u) w}_{=: \lambda}} \int_{\Omega} g(u) v$$

$$=: \lambda$$



## ② Harmonic maps

pointwise constraint:  $|u| = 1$

$$\text{Minimize } E[u] = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |Du|^2$$

Over the admissible class

$$\mathcal{A} := \left\{ u \in H^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m) \mid \begin{array}{l} u = g \text{ on } \partial\Omega \\ |u| = 1 \text{ a.e.} \end{array} \right\}$$

i.e. we are minimizing energy

among maps  $u: \Omega \rightarrow S^{m-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$

(with  $u = g$  on  $\partial\Omega$ )

↑  
given boundary condition.

Prop (existence) If  $\mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset$ , then

$$\exists u \in \mathcal{A} \text{ s.t. } E[u] = \min_{w \in \mathcal{A}} E[w]$$

Proof  $u_k \in \mathcal{A}$  min. sequence,

i.e.  $E[u_k] \rightarrow m = \inf_{w \in \mathcal{A}} E[w]$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} u_{k'} \rightharpoonup u \text{ weakly in } H^1 \\ u_{k'} \rightarrow u \text{ strongly in } L^2 \\ u_{k'}(x) \rightarrow u(x) \text{ for a.e. } x. \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} |u| = 1 \text{ a.e.} \\ \text{trace thm} \Rightarrow u = g \text{ on } \partial\Omega \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow u \in \mathcal{A}$$

And  $E[u] = m$  □

Thm (EL eqn for harmonic maps)

If  $u \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $E[u] = \min_{w \in \mathcal{A}} E[w]$

then  $\int_{\Omega} \langle Du, Dv \rangle = \int_{\Omega} |Du|^2 \langle u, v \rangle$

for all  $v \in H_0^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m) \cap L^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$

Remark This means that  $u = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$   
is a weak solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = |Du|^2 u & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = g & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

In particular, the Lagrange multiplier  $\lambda = |Du|^2$  is a function (since we had the pointwise constraint  $|u|=1$ )



Proof Fix  $v \in H^1_0 \cap L^\infty$ .

Note that  $|u + \tau v| \neq 0$  a.e. for  $|\tau| \ll 1$

$$\Rightarrow v(\tau) := \frac{u + \tau v}{|u + \tau v|} \in \mathcal{A}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Setting  $e(\tau) := E[v(\tau)]$   
we have  $\dot{e}(0) = 0$ .

Compute

$$0 = \dot{e}(0) = \int_{\Omega} \langle Du, D\dot{v}(0) \rangle$$

$$\dot{v}(0) = v - \langle u, v \rangle u$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \langle Du, Dv \rangle &= \int_{\Omega} \langle Du, D(\langle u, v \rangle u) \rangle \\ &= \int_{\Omega} |Du|^2 \langle u, v \rangle \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\langle Du, (D\langle u, v \rangle) u \rangle}_{=0} \end{aligned}$$

Since for unit vector its rate of change is always perpendicular to itself.

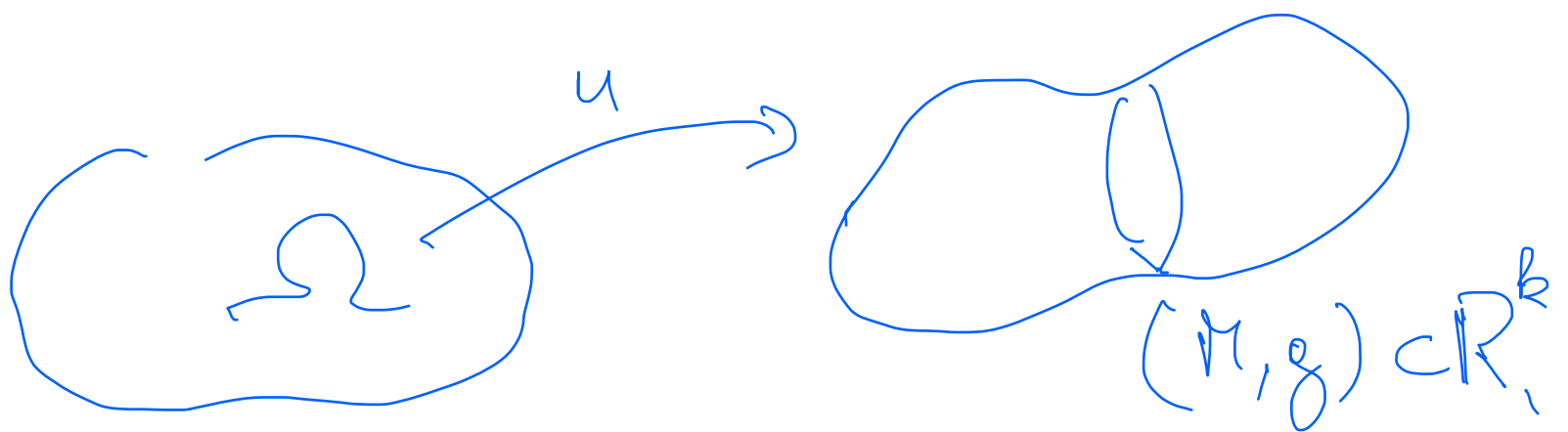
$$\Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \langle Du, Dv \rangle = \int_{\Omega} |Du|^2 \langle u, v \rangle \quad \square$$

More generally:

target  $(M, g)$  closed Riem. mfd.

Nash  $\Rightarrow (M^m, g) \xrightarrow{\text{isom}} \mathbb{R}^k$  for some large  $k$ .

$$\mathcal{A} := \left\{ u \in H^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^k) \mid \begin{array}{l} u = g \text{ on } \partial\Omega \\ u(x) \in M \text{ a.e. } x \in \Omega \end{array} \right\}$$



$$E[u] = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2, \quad |\nabla u|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{a=1}^k (\partial_i u^a)^2$$

# Euler-Lagrange eqn?

Admissible  $v \in C_c^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^k)$

with  $v(x) \in T_{u(x)}M$  for all  $x \in \Omega$ .

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{d}{d\tau} \Big|_{\tau=0} E[u + \tau v]$$

$$= - \int_{\Omega} \langle \Delta u, v \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\alpha=1}^k \partial_i \partial_i u^\alpha v^\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow -\Delta u(x) \perp T_{u(x)}M \quad \forall x \in \Omega$$

$$\Rightarrow -\Delta u(x) = \sum_{\alpha=m+1}^k \lambda_\alpha(x) v_\alpha(u(x))$$

where  $v_{m+1}, \dots, v_k$  is a local ON frame for the normal bundle  $TM^\perp$  near  $u(x)$ .

Compute Lagrange multipliers  $\lambda_\alpha(x)$ :

$$\lambda_\alpha = - \langle \Delta u, \nu_\alpha \circ u \rangle$$

$$= - \operatorname{div} \underbrace{\langle \nabla u, \nu_\alpha \circ u \rangle}_{=0 \text{ since } \partial_i u \in T_u M} + \langle \nabla u, (d\nu_\alpha \circ u) \cdot \nabla u \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{-\Delta u = A(u)(\nabla u, \nabla u)}$$

(harmonic map eqn)

where  $A(u): T_u M \times T_u M \rightarrow T_u^\perp M$

is the 2<sup>nd</sup> fundamental form,

$$A(p)(X, Y) = \sum_{\alpha=m+1}^k A_\alpha(p)(X, Y) \nu_\alpha(p)$$

$$A_\alpha(p)(X, Y) = \langle X, d\nu_\alpha Y \rangle.$$

Q: Given  $u_0: \Omega \rightarrow (M, g)$

can we deform it to a harmonic map?

Harmonic map heat flow (Eells-Sampson)

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta u + A(u)(\nabla u, \nabla u) \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \end{cases}$$