

# Parabolic equations

Motivation:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{heat eqn} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t u = \Delta u \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \leftarrow \text{say bdd \& cont.} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \quad u = u(x, t), x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \geq 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \underbrace{\frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{|x-y|^2}{4t}}}_{\text{heat kernel}} u_0(y) dy$$

→ becomes immediately smooth:

$$\|D^k u_t\|_{L^\infty} \leq \frac{C_k}{t^{k/2}} \|u_0\|_{L^\infty}$$

→ exists  $\forall t \geq 0$  and is unique

→ for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  converges to steady state  $\Delta u_\infty = 0$ . Namely  $u_\infty = \text{const.}$

→ time scales like distance squared,  
i.e. if  $u(x, t)$  solves the heat eqn,  
then so does  $u(\lambda x, \lambda^2 t)$ .

nonlinear heat eqn

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta u + u^2 \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in C(\mathbb{R}^n) \end{cases}$$

Eg if  $u_0 \geq c > 0$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} u_{\min} \geq u_{\min}^2 \Rightarrow u_{\min} \geq \frac{c}{1-ct}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_{\min} \rightarrow \infty \text{ in } t \leq 1/c.$$

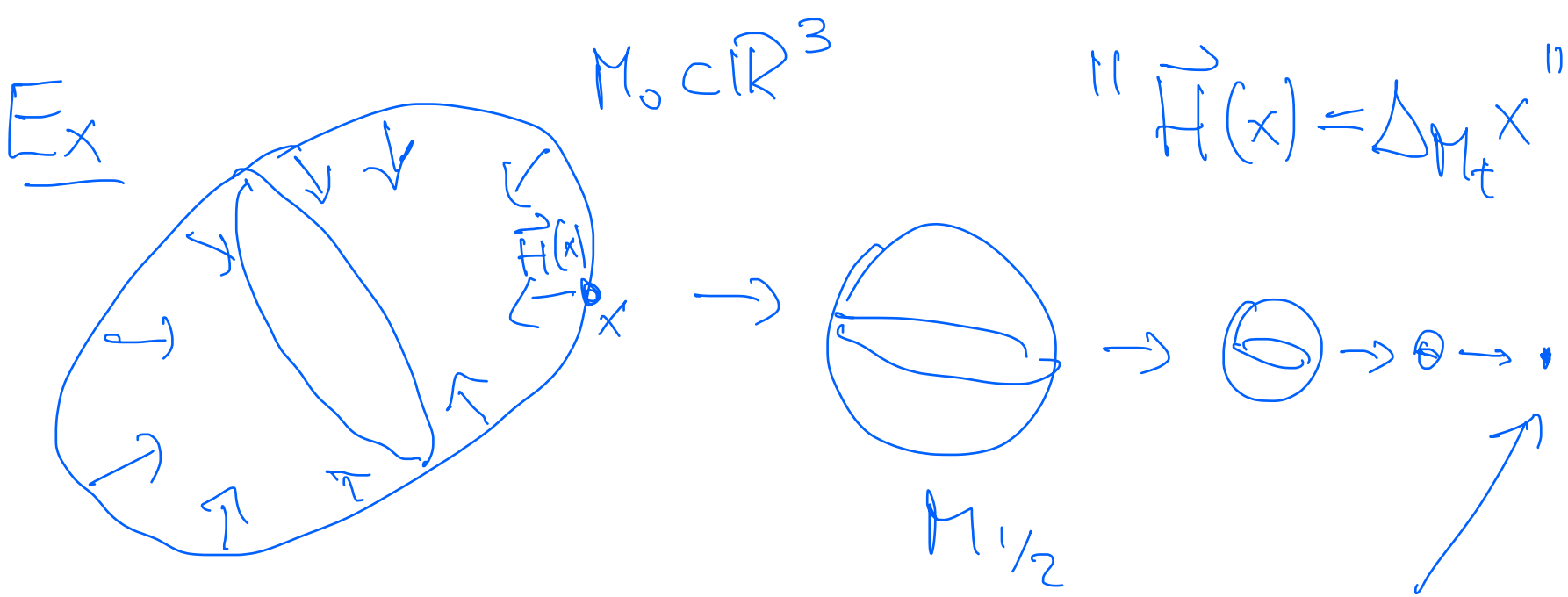
general  $u_0$ :

Sometimes diffusion wins  
sometimes reaction wins.

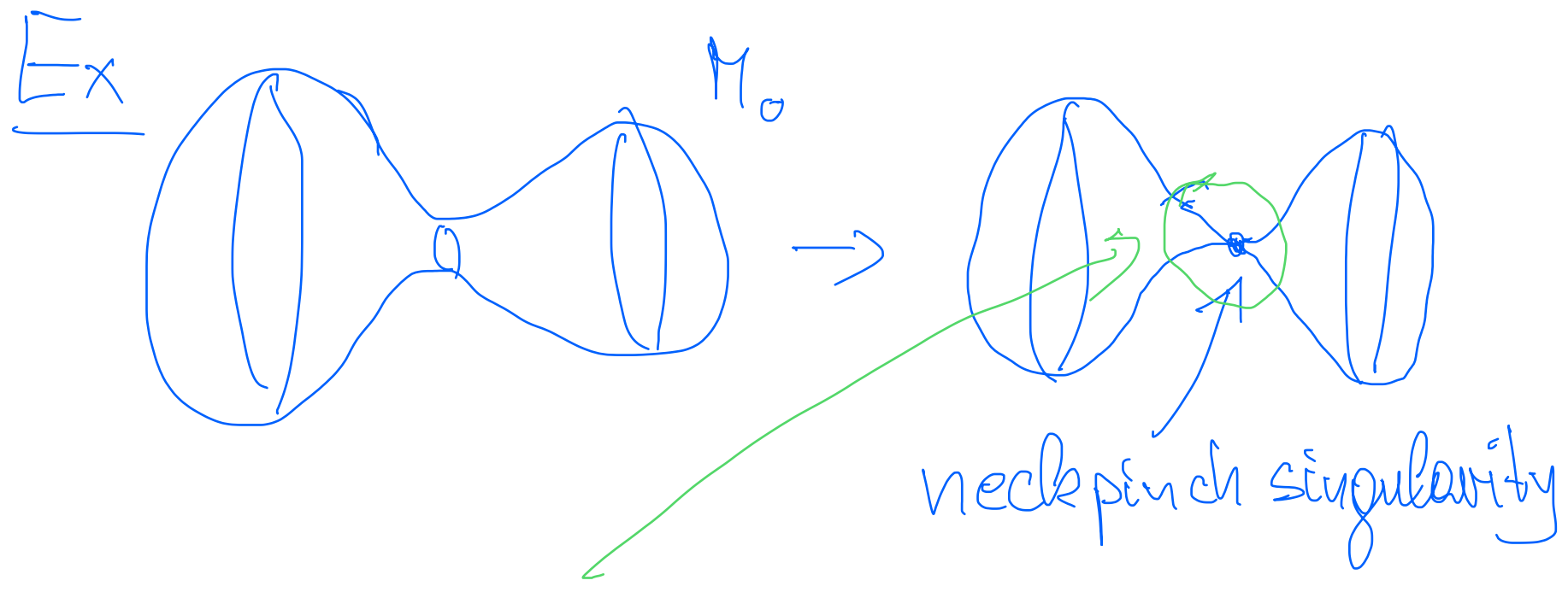
- ) smooth solution exists on maximal time interval  $[0, T)$ .
- ) weak solutions important to continue evolution beyond first singular time.
- ) study singularities, eg size of singular set, blowup limits.

## Geometric heat eqns

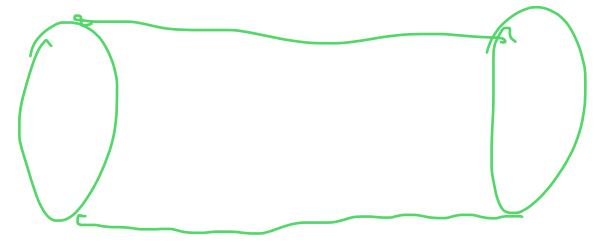
- )  $\partial_t u = \Delta_{g, h} u$  harmonic map  
heat flow for  $u: (M, g) \rightarrow (N, h)$
- )  $\partial_t g = -2\text{Rc}(g)$  Ricci flow
- )  $\partial_t x = \vec{H}(x)$  mean curvature flow  
("heat eqn for surfaces")



becomes extinct  
in a "round point"



blowup limit = round shrinking cylinder



## Preliminaries: Banach space-valued functions

want to view  $u(x, t)$ , where  $x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$

as  $u: [0, T] \rightarrow X$   
 $t \mapsto u(\cdot, t)$  eg  $X = H_0^1(\Omega)$

$\rightarrow$  have to define spaces like  $L^2([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega))$

## Measurability & Integration (Evans App E)

Def:  $f: [0, T] \rightarrow (X, \|\cdot\|)$  is called

1) weakly measurable if  $\forall L \in X^*$

the mapping  $t \mapsto \langle L, f(t) \rangle$  is

Lebesgue measurable.

2) strongly measurable if there exist  
simple functions  $s_k: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  st

$s_k(t) \rightarrow f(t)$  in  $X$  for a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Def:  $s: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  is called simple,

$$\text{if } s(t) = \sum_{i=1}^m \chi_{E_i}(t) u_i,$$

where  $E_i \subseteq [0, t]$  Lebesgue measurable  
and  $u_i \in X$ .

Thm (Pettis) If  $X$  is separable, then

weakly measurable  $\Leftrightarrow$  strongly measurable.

(general  $X$ : strongly measurable  $\Leftrightarrow$   
weakly measurable & almost separably valued)

Def: A strongly measurable function  $f: [0, T] \rightarrow X$   
is integrable if  $\exists s_k$  simple st

$$\int_0^T \|s_k(t) - f(t)\| dt \rightarrow 0.$$

In this case we define

$$\int_0^T f(t) dt := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T s_k(t) dt$$

Here, for  $s(t) = \sum_{i=1}^m \chi_{E_i}(t) u_i$

we set  $\int_0^T s(t) dt := \sum_{i=1}^m |E_i| u_i$ .

Thm (Bochner) A strongly measurable

function  $f: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  is integrable

$\Leftrightarrow t \mapsto \|f(t)\|$  is integrable.

In this case:

•)  $\left\| \int_0^T f(t) dt \right\| \leq \int_0^T \|f(t)\| dt$

•)  $\left\langle L, \int_0^T f(t) dt \right\rangle = \int_0^T \langle L, f(t) \rangle dt$   
 $\forall L \in X^*$

## Banach space valued function spaces (Evans 5.9)

Def The space  $L^p([0, T]; X)$  consists of all strongly measurable  $u: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  st

$$\|u\|_{L^p([0, T]; X)} := \left( \int_0^T \|u(t)\|^p dt \right)^{1/p} < \infty \quad (1 \leq p < \infty)$$

respectively  $\|u\|_{L^\infty} := \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(t)\| < \infty$  ( $p = \infty$ )

Def  $C([0, T]; X)$  consists of all continuous  $u: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  with

$$\|u\|_{C([0, T]; X)} := \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(t)\| < \infty.$$

Def Let  $u, v \in L^1([0, T]; X)$ . We

say  $u' = v$  weakly if

$$\int_0^T \phi'(t) u(t) dt = - \int_0^T \phi(t) v(t) dt$$

$$\forall \phi \in C_c^\infty([0, T])$$



Def  $W^{1,p}([0,T]; X) := \{u \in L^p([0,T]; X) \mid u' \in L^p\}$

$$\|u\|_{W^{1,p}} := \left( \int_0^T (\|u(t)\|^p + \|u'(t)\|^p) dt \right)^{1/p}$$

respectively  $\text{ess sup}_{0 \leq t \leq T} (\|u(t)\| + \|u'(t)\|)$  for  $p = \infty$ .

Thm Let  $u \in W^{1,p}([0,T]; X)$ . Then

(i)  $u \in C([0,T]; X)$

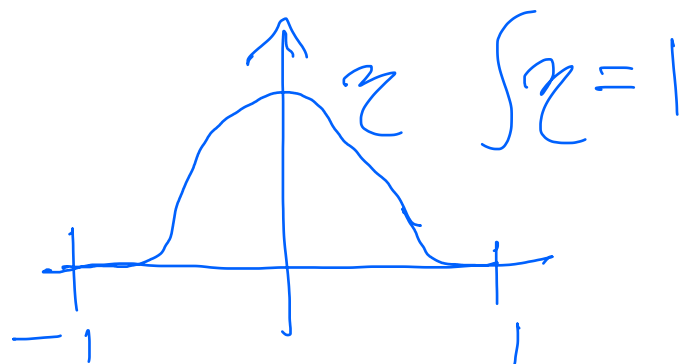
(ii)  $u(t) = u(s) + \int_s^t u'(\tau) d\tau$

(iii)  $\max_{t \in [0,T]} \|u(t)\| \leq C_T \|u\|_{W^{1,p}([0,T]; X)}$

Proof extend  $u$  by 0 on  $\mathbb{R} \setminus [0,T]$ .

Set  $u^\varepsilon = \eta_\varepsilon * u$

where  $\eta_\varepsilon(t) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \eta\left(\frac{t}{\varepsilon}\right)$ .



As  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  we have

$$\begin{cases} u^\varepsilon \rightarrow u & \text{in } L^p([0, T]; X) \\ (u^\varepsilon)' \rightarrow u' & \text{in } L^p_{loc}([0, T]; X) \end{cases}$$

Fix  $0 < s < t < T$ . Compute

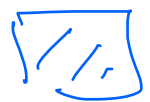
$$u^\varepsilon(t) = u^\varepsilon(s) + \int_s^t (u^\varepsilon)'(\tau) d\tau$$

$$\Rightarrow u(t) = u(s) + \int_s^t u'(\tau) d\tau$$

for a.e.  $0 < s < t < T$ .

Since  $t \mapsto \int_0^t u'(\tau) d\tau$  is continuous  
this yields (i) & (ii).

Finally, (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii)



Thm Suppose  $u \in L^2([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega))$   
and  $u' \in L^2([0, T]; H^{-1}(\Omega))$

Then: (i)  $u \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))$

(ii)  $t \mapsto \|u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$  abs. cont,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = 2 \langle u'(t), u(t) \rangle$$

for a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ .

(iii)  $\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq$

$$C_T \left( \|u\|_{L^2([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega))} + \|u'\|_{L^2([0, T]; H^{-1}(\Omega))} \right)$$

Proof  $u^\varepsilon := \eta_\varepsilon * u$  as before.

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|u^\varepsilon(t) - u^\delta(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 =$$

$$= 2 \left\langle u^{\varepsilon'}(t) - u^{\delta'}(t), u^{\varepsilon}(t) - u^{\delta}(t) \right\rangle_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|u^{\varepsilon}(t) - u^{\delta}(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = \|u^{\varepsilon}(s) - u^{\delta}(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + 2 \int_s^t \left\langle u^{\varepsilon'}(\tau) - u^{\delta'}(\tau), u^{\varepsilon}(\tau) - u^{\delta}(\tau) \right\rangle d\tau$$

Fix  $s \in (0, T)$  with  $u^{\varepsilon}(s) \rightarrow u(s)$  in  $L^2(\Omega)$ .

Then:

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon, \delta \rightarrow 0} \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|u^{\varepsilon}(t) - u^{\delta}(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$$

$$\leq \limsup_{\varepsilon, \delta \rightarrow 0} \int_0^T \left( \|u^{\varepsilon'}(\tau) - u^{\delta'}(\tau)\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)}^2 + \|u^{\varepsilon}(\tau) - u^{\delta}(\tau)\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}^2 \right) d\tau$$

$$= 0 \quad \Rightarrow (i).$$

Similarly,

$$\|u^\varepsilon(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = \|u^\varepsilon(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + 2 \int_s^t \langle u^{\varepsilon'}(\tau), u^\varepsilon(\tau) \rangle d\tau$$

$$\Rightarrow \|u(t)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = \|u(s)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + 2 \int_s^t \langle u'(\tau), u(\tau) \rangle d\tau$$

$\Rightarrow$  (ii)  $\xrightarrow{\text{integrate}}$  (iii)  $\square$

Thm Suppose  $u \in L^2([0, T]; H^{m+2}(\Omega))$   
 $u' \in L^2([0, T]; H^m(\Omega))$

Then: (i)  $u \in C([0, T]; H^{m+1}(\Omega))$

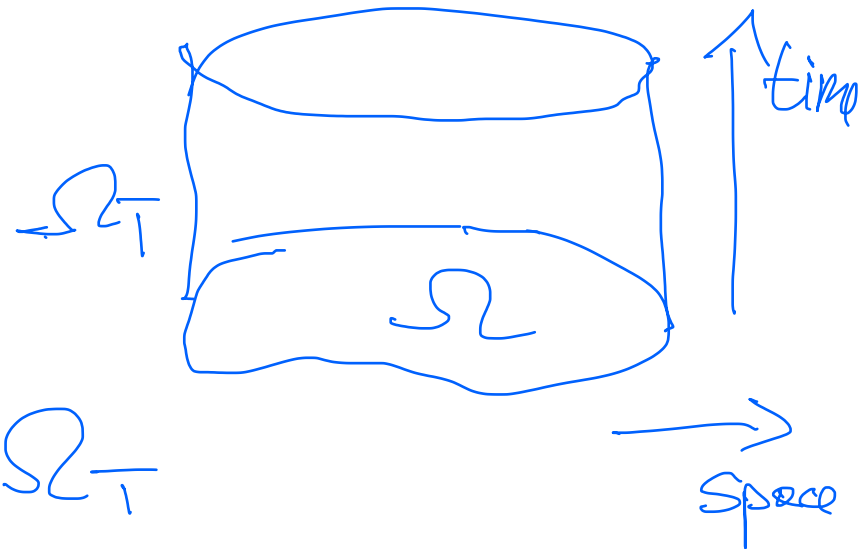
$$(ii) \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u(t)\|_{H^{m+1}(\Omega)} \leq C(T, \Omega, m) \left( \|u\|_{L^2([0, T], H^{m+2}(\Omega))} + \|u'\|_{L^2([0, T], H^m(\Omega))} \right)$$

Proof: similar  $\square$

# Linear 2<sup>nd</sup> order parabolic eqns (Evans 7.1)

Setup  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  smooth domain

$\Omega_T := \Omega \times (0, T]$  parabolic cylinder



$$(*) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_t + Lu = f \text{ in } \Omega_T \\ u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T] \\ u = g \text{ on } \Omega \times \{t=0\} \end{array} \right.$$

$f: \Omega_T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given

$u: \overline{\Omega_T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $u = u(x, t)$  the unknown.

$$Lu = - \sum_{i,j=1}^n (a^{ij}(x,t) u_{x_i})_{x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(x,t) u_{x_i} + c(x,t)u$$

Assume  $\exists \theta > 0$  st

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{ij}(x,t) \xi_i \xi_j \geq \theta |\xi|^2 \quad \forall (x,t) \in \Omega_T$$

$$\forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

i.e.  $\partial_t + L$  is (uniformly) parabolic

(physical meaning of  $L$ :  
diffusion + transport + creation)

$$\text{Assume } \begin{cases} a^{ij}, b^i, c \in L^\infty(\Omega_T) \\ f \in L^2(\Omega_T) \\ g \in L^2(\Omega) \end{cases}$$

$$\partial_t u + Lu = f \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{multiply by } v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \\ \text{and integrate} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} u'v + \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} \sum_{i,j} a^{ij} u_{x_i} v_{x_j} + \sum_i b^i u_{x_i} v + c u v}_{=: B[u,v;t]} = \int_{\Omega} f v$$

Def We say that a function  
 $u \in L^2([0, T]; H_0^1(\Omega))$  with  $u' \in L^2([0, T]; H^{-1}(\Omega))$   
 is a weak solution of (\*) if

$$(i) \quad \langle u', v \rangle + B[u, v; t] = (f, v) \\ \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ a.e. } t \in [0, T]$$

$$(ii) \quad u(0) = g$$

Remark (ii) makes sense since  $u \in C([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))$   
 by prior theorem.