

Existence of strong traces for entropy solutions of degenerate parabolic equations

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Main question

Under which conditions any *solution* $u : \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to

$$\partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) ,$$

admits the *strong trace* at $t = 0$, i.e. does there exist $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ such that

$$\operatorname{ess\,lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} u(t, \cdot) = u_0 \quad \text{in} \quad L^1_{\operatorname{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d) .$$

$\operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) \dots$ convective term

$D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) \dots$ diffusive term

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$D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) \dots$ diffusive term

Let us first consider the case $A = 0$.

First order quasilinear equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d := \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d), \end{cases}$$

where $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ (homogeneous) flux, $u : \mathbb{R}_+^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ unknown.

Classical solutions are too strong (we want allow discontinuities in \mathbf{x})

Weak solutions: $u \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}_+^d)$ s.t. $\mathbf{f}(u) \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}_+^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and $\forall \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{1+d})$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^d} u \varphi_t + \mathbf{f}(u) \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \varphi \, d\mathbf{x} dt + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_0 \varphi(0, \cdot) \, d\mathbf{x} = 0.$$

Even for smooth \mathbf{f} 's **non-uniqueness**:

$$d = 1, f(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \text{ (Burgers equation)}, u_0(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ 1, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}.$$

Both functions are a weak solution:

$$u_1(t, x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < t/2 \\ 1, & x \geq t/2 \end{cases}, \quad u_2(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ x/t, & 0 \leq x < t \\ 1, & x \geq t \end{cases} \text{ (rarefaction wave)}$$

Entropy solutions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d := \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{cases}$$

Entropy solutions: u a weak solution and s.t. $\forall \eta \in C(\mathbb{R})$ convex and $\forall \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{1+d})$, $\varphi \geq 0$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^d} \eta(u) \varphi_t + \mathbf{f}^\eta(u) \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \varphi \, d\mathbf{x} dt + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \eta(u_0) \varphi(0, \cdot) \, d\mathbf{x} \geq 0,$$

here $\mathbf{f}^\eta(\lambda) = \int_0^\lambda \mathbf{f}'(s) \eta'(s) \, ds$ is an entropy-flux.

- η is called (mathematical) **entropy** ($-\eta$ corresponds to physical entropy)
- The above inequality is due to the fact that the physical entropy has a tendency to increase in time, i.e. the mathematical entropy decreases in time

Entropy solutions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d := \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{cases}$$

Entropy solutions: (Kružkov) $u \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+^d)$ s.t. $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\forall \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{1+d})$, $\varphi \geq 0$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^d} |u - \lambda| \varphi_t + \operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) (\mathbf{f}(u) - \mathbf{f}(\lambda)) \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \varphi \, d\mathbf{x} dt + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |u_0 - \lambda| \varphi(0, \cdot) \, d\mathbf{x} \geq 0.$$

Kružkov (1970): **existence** and **uniqueness** of entropy solutions for **smooth** fluxes \mathbf{f} .

Panov (2010): **existence** of entropy solutions for **non-smooth** fluxes

Strong traces

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d := \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{cases}$$

$\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\forall \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{1+d})$, $\varphi \geq 0$:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^d} |u - \lambda| \varphi_t + \operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) (\mathbf{f}(u) - \mathbf{f}(\lambda)) \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \varphi \, d\mathbf{x} dt + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |u_0 - \lambda| \varphi(0, \cdot) \, d\mathbf{x} \geq 0.$$

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$\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\forall \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{1+d})$, $\varphi \geq 0$:

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$$\begin{aligned} (\text{a.e. } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}) \quad & \partial_t |u - \lambda| + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) (\mathbf{f}(u) - \mathbf{f}(\lambda)) \right) \leq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}_+^d), \\ & \operatorname{ess\,lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} u(t, \cdot) = u_0 \quad \text{in } L_{\operatorname{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{aligned}$$

Strong traces

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d := \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{a.e. } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}) \quad & \partial_t |u - \lambda| + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) (\mathbf{f}(u) - \mathbf{f}(\lambda)) \right) \leq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}_+^d), \\ & \text{ess } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} u(t, \cdot) = u_0 \quad \text{in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^d). \quad \text{strong trace} \end{aligned}$$

Vasseur (2001): **existence** of strong traces for entropy solutions for **smooth** fluxes \mathbf{f} and with a **non-degeneracy** condition

Panov (2005): **existence** of strong traces for entropy solutions (without non-degeneracy conditions)

Neves, Panov, Silva (2018): **existence** of strong traces for entropy solutions for **heterogeneous** fluxes \mathbf{f} and with a **non-degeneracy** condition

Degenerate parabolic equation

$$(DP) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d), \end{cases} \quad \left(\operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} (A'(u) \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} u) \right)$$

where $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, $A : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$, and $u : \mathbb{R}_+^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ unknown.

- rough flux \mathbf{f} (L^p , $p > 1$)
- $A' \geq 0$ (degenerate parabolicity)
- Motivation: flow in porous media (CO_2 sequestration)
 - heterogeneous layers \longrightarrow discontinuous flux and a lack of diffusion in some directions

Definition of solutions (kinetic formulation)

$$(DP) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{cases}$$

Definition

A measurable function u defined on \mathbb{R}_+^d is called a **quasi-solution** to (DP_1) if $f_k(u), A_{kj}(u) \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}_+^d)$, $k, j = 1, \dots, d$, and for a.e. $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t |u - \lambda| + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) (\mathbf{f}(u) - \mathbf{f}(\lambda)) \right) \\ - D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot [\operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) (A(u) - A(\lambda))] = -\gamma(t, \mathbf{x}, \lambda), \end{aligned}$$

holds in $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}_+^d)$, where $\gamma \in C(\mathbb{R}_\lambda; \mathcal{M}_+(\mathbb{R}_+^d))$.

For $A = 0$ coincides with the previous definition of entropy solutions.

Definition of solutions (kinetic formulation)

$$(DP) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(u) = D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d, \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \end{cases}$$

Theorem

If function u is a quasi-solution to (DP_1) , then the function

$$h(t, \mathbf{x}, \lambda) := \operatorname{sgn}(u(t, \mathbf{x}) - \lambda) = -\partial_\lambda |u(t, \mathbf{x}) - \lambda|$$

is a weak solution to the following linear equation (entropy solution):

$$\partial_t h + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} (\mathbf{f}' h) - D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot [A'(\lambda) h] = \partial_\lambda \gamma(t, \mathbf{x}, \lambda) .$$

Lions, Perthame, Tadmor (1994)

Existence of strong traces for (DP_1)

$$(DP_1) \quad \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} f(u) = D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d .$$

$$\operatorname{ess\,lim}_{t \rightarrow 0+} u(t, \cdot) = u_0 \quad \text{in } L_{\operatorname{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^d) \quad ???$$

Kwon (2009): **scalar** diffusion matrices $A(u) = a(u)I$ without non-degeneracy conditions

Aleksić, Mitrović (2014): **traceable** fluxes f and **ultra-parabolic** A (i.e. $A = B \oplus 0$ where $B > 0$) without non-degeneracy conditions

“Fully degenerate” matrices A not covered, e.g.

$$a(\lambda) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 1}} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^2 + 1 \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 1}} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\lambda \\ -\lambda & \lambda^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Existence of strong traces for (DP_1)

$$(DP_1) \quad \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} f(u) = D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \cdot A(u) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+^d.$$

$$\operatorname{ess\,lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} u(t, \cdot) = u_0 \quad \text{in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^d) \quad ???$$

Theorem (E., Mitrović)

Let $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and let $A \in C^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ be such that

- i) $(\exists \sigma \in C^{0,1}(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})) \ A'(\lambda) = \sigma(\lambda)^T \sigma(\lambda);$
- ii) $\sup_{(\tau, \xi) \in \mathbb{S}^d} \operatorname{meas} \left\{ \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \tau + \langle f'(\lambda) | \xi \rangle = \langle A'(\lambda) \xi | \xi \rangle = 0 \right\} = 0$
(*non-degeneracy condition*).

Then any bounded quasi-solution u to (DP_1) admits the strong trace at $t = 0$.

Strategy of the proof

- ① kinetic formulation
- ② existence of a weak trace
- ③ rescaling (blow-up)
- ④ equation in new variables
- ⑤ localisation principle and non-degeneracy condition

Strategy of the proof

① kinetic formulation

$h = \operatorname{sgn}(u - \lambda) = -\partial_\lambda |u - \lambda|$ satisfies

$$\partial_t h + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{f}' h) - D^2 \cdot [A'(\lambda)h] = \partial_\lambda \gamma$$

② existence of a weak trace

③ rescaling (blow-up)

④ equation in new variables

⑤ localisation principle and non-degeneracy condition

Strategy of the proof

- ① kinetic formulation
- ② existence of a weak trace

There exists $h_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{d+1})$, such that

$$h(t, \cdot, \cdot) \rightharpoonup h_0, \text{ weakly-}\star \text{ in } L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}), \text{ as } t \rightarrow 0, t \in E,$$

where E is a set of full measure

- ③ rescaling (blow-up)
- ④ equation in new variables
- ⑤ localisation principle and non-degeneracy condition

Strategy of the proof

- ① kinetic formulation
- ② existence of a weak trace
- ③ rescaling (blow-up)

If $(\exists \alpha > 0)(\forall \rho \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}))$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} h\left(\frac{\hat{t}}{m^\alpha}, \frac{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}{m^\alpha} + \mathbf{y}, \lambda\right) \rho(\lambda) d\lambda \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}} h_0(\mathbf{y}, \lambda) \rho(\lambda) d\lambda \quad \text{in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}_+^d \times \mathbb{R}^d),$$

then u admits the strong trace at $t = 0$ which is equal to $\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} h_0(\cdot, \lambda) d\lambda$

- ④ equation in new variables
- ⑤ localisation principle and non-degeneracy condition

Strategy of the proof

- ① kinetic formulation
- ② existence of a weak trace
- ③ rescaling (blow-up)
- ④ equation in new variables

$h^m(\hat{t}, \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{y}, \lambda) := h(\frac{\hat{t}}{m}, \frac{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}{m} + \mathbf{y}, \lambda)$ satisfies

$$\frac{1}{m} \left(\partial_{\hat{t}} h^m + \operatorname{div}_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}(\mathbf{f}' h^m) \right) - D_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}^2 \cdot [A'(\lambda) h^m] = \frac{1}{m^2} \partial_{\lambda} \gamma^m$$

We test by a suitable function and take $m \rightarrow \infty$

- ⑤ localisation principle and non-degeneracy condition

Strategy of the proof

- ① kinetic formulation
- ② existence of a weak trace
- ③ rescaling (blow-up)
- ④ equation in new variables
- ⑤ localisation principle and non-degeneracy condition

On the limit we get (μ is a suitable [variant of microlocal defect object](#)):

$$(\forall \phi) \langle \mu, F\phi \rangle = 0 \stackrel{F \text{ non-degenerate}}{\implies} \mu \equiv 0 \implies \text{strong convergence of (3)}$$

- (u_n) bounded in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^{2d+2})$ and (v_n) bounded in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^{2d+1})$
- ψ continuous

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mu, \psi \rangle \\ &= \lim_n \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d+2}} \psi\left(\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \frac{(\tau, \boldsymbol{\xi})}{\pi_n(\lambda, \tau, \boldsymbol{\xi})}, \frac{n\langle A'(\lambda)\boldsymbol{\xi} | \boldsymbol{\xi} \rangle}{\pi_n(\lambda, \tau, \boldsymbol{\xi})}\right) \hat{u}_n(\tau, \boldsymbol{\xi}, \mathbf{y}, \lambda) \overline{\hat{v}_n(\tau, \boldsymbol{\xi}, \mathbf{y})} d\tau d\boldsymbol{\xi} d\mathbf{y} d\lambda, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\pi_n(\lambda, \tau, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = 1 + |(\tau, \boldsymbol{\xi})| + n\langle A'(\lambda)\boldsymbol{\xi} | \boldsymbol{\xi} \rangle$$

And...

...thank you for your attention :)

M. E., D. Mitrović (submitted, 2020) [arXiv:2008.08307](https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.08307)