# Quelques applications des fonctions à variation bornée en dimension finie et infinie.

Thèse de Doctorat

Michael Goldman

CMAP, Polytechnique

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# Topic of the Thesis



#### Introduction

Primal-Dual methods in image processing

Sets with prescribed mean curvature in periodic media

Variational problems in Wiener spaces

Introduction to Wiener spaces

Approximation of the perimeter in Wiener spaces

Convexity of minimizers of variational problems in Wiener spaces

# Introduction

#### Introduction

Functions of bounded variation have a central position in many problems in the Calculus of Variations.

#### Definition

Let  $u \in L^1(\Omega)$  then  $u \in BV(\Omega)$  if

$$\int_{\Omega} |Du| := \sup_{\substack{\varphi \in \mathcal{C}^1_c(\Omega) \\ |\varphi|_{\infty} \leq 1}} \int_{\Omega} u \operatorname{div} \varphi < +\infty.$$

#### Definition

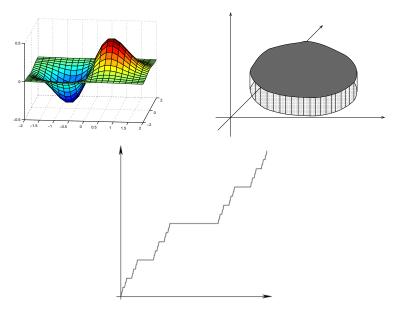
A set  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is called a set of finite perimeter if

$$P(E) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} |D\chi_E| < +\infty.$$

If E is a smooth set then  $P(E) = \mathcal{H}^{m-1}(\partial E)$ .



# Typical functions in BV



# Primal-Dual methods in image processing

# Examples of problems in image processing





Inpainting





Deblurring



Many problems in image processing can be model as solving a minimization problem :

$$J(u) := \int_{\Omega} |Du| + G(u)$$

where G is a lsc convex function on  $L^2$ .

Example : denoising with ROF corresponds to  $G(u) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_{\Omega} |u - f|^2$ 

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Problem: How to solve the minimization problem?

#### Idea of the method

Remind: The total variation is defined as

$$\int_{\Omega} |Du| = \sup_{\substack{\xi \in C_c^1(\Omega) \\ |\xi|_{\infty} \le 1}} - \int_{\Omega} u \operatorname{div} \xi$$

Hence the minimization problem rewrites

$$\min_{u \in BV} J(u) = \min_{u \in BV} \sup_{\substack{\xi \in C_{\mathbf{c}}^1(\Omega) \\ |\xi|_{\infty} \le 1}} - \int_{\Omega} u \operatorname{div} \xi + G(u)$$

⇒ It is thus equivalent to finding a saddle point

# The Arrow-Hurwicz method for finding saddle points

For a function K, this method is

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -\nabla_u K(u, \xi) \\ \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} = \nabla_{\xi} K(u, \xi) \end{cases}$$

It is a gradient descent in the primal variable u and a gradient ascent in the dual variable  $\xi$ .

When 
$$K(u,\xi)=-\int_\Omega u\operatorname{div}\xi+G(u)$$
 we find 
$$\begin{cases} \nabla_u K=-\operatorname{div}\xi+\partial G(u)\\ \nabla_\xi K=Du \end{cases}$$

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which formally amounts to solve :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \operatorname{div} \xi - \partial G(u) \\ \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} = Du & |\xi|_{\infty} \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

This method proposed by Appleton and Talbot is the continuous analogous of the method proposed by Chan and Zhu in the discrete setting.

#### **Theorem**

Giving appropriate meaning to the previous system, there exists a unique solution to the Cauchy problem.

Moreover, for  $G(u) = \frac{\lambda}{2}|u - f|_{L^2}^2$  there is convergence towards the minimizer  $\overline{u}$  of J and we have the a posteriori estimation

$$|u - \overline{u}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{|\partial_t u|}{\lambda} + \sqrt{\frac{|\partial_t u|^2}{\lambda^2} + \frac{8|\Omega|^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\lambda}} |\partial_t \xi| \right)$$

#### This extends to:

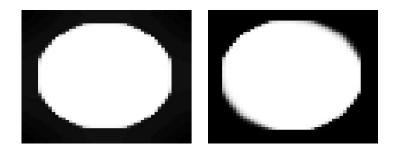
segmentation with geodesic active contours,

$$J(u) = \int_{\Omega} g(x) |Du|$$

problems with boundary conditions

# Interest of this continuous approach

- ▶ Give a better understanding of the discrete method
- Lead to new results also in the discrete setting (such as a posteriori estimates)
- Give rise to more isotropic results (absence of discretization bias)



Restauration by AT left and CZ right

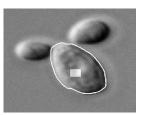


Zoom on the top right corner

### Numerical results







# Sets with prescribed mean curvature in periodic media

#### The Problem

Let  $g:\mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}$  periodic, find a compact set with

$$\kappa=\mathsf{g}$$



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Let  $g:\mathbb{R}^m o \mathbb{R}$  periodic, find a compact set with  $\kappa=g$ 



Example : If  $g \equiv C > 0$  then a solution is given by a ball.



#### Main result

In general there is no solution but

#### **Theorem**

Let g be periodic with zero mean and sufficiently small norm then for every  $\varepsilon$  there exists  $\varepsilon' \in [0, \varepsilon]$  and a compact solution to

$$\kappa = g + \varepsilon'$$
.

# Idea of proof

Consider the volume constrained problem

$$f(v) := \min_{|E|=v} P(E) - \int_{E} g$$

then

#### Proposition

For every v>0 there exists a compact minimizer  $E_v$  of this problem.

 $E_{\nu}$  satisfies the Euler-Lagrange equation

$$\kappa = g + \lambda$$

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Since  $f \approx cv^{\frac{m-1}{m}}$ , we can find  $v_n \to +\infty$  with  $f'(v_n) \to 0$ .

# Behaviour of large volume minimizers

There exists  $\phi_g$  a one-homogeneous convex function such that letting

$$W_{g} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{m} : \max_{\phi_{g}(y) \leq 1} x \cdot y \leq 1 \right\}$$

$$\downarrow^{\phi_{g} = |\cdot|_{\infty}} \qquad \downarrow^{\phi_{g} = |\cdot|_{1}}$$

#### **Theorem**

$$\widetilde{E}_{v} = \left(\frac{|W_{g}|}{v}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}} E_{v} + z_{v}$$

it holds

$$\lim_{v\to+\infty}\left|\widetilde{E}_v\Delta W_g\right|=0.$$



# Variational problems in Wiener spaces

# The Wiener space

#### Definition

A Wiener space is a Banach space X with a Gaussian measure  $\gamma$ .

- if  $x^* \in X^*$  then  $x \to \langle x^*, x \rangle \in L^2_{\gamma}(X)$ .
- $\mathcal{H} := \overline{X^*}^{L^2_{\gamma}(X)}.$

# Canonical cylindrical approximation

Let  $(x_i^*)_{i\in\mathbb{N}}\in X^*$  be an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then

$$\Pi_m(x) := (\langle x_1^*, x \rangle, \dots, \langle x_m^*, x \rangle).$$

Gives a decomposition of  $X\cong\mathbb{R}^m\oplus X_m^\perp$  and  $\gamma=\gamma_m\otimes\gamma_m^\perp$ , with  $\gamma_m,\,\gamma_m^\perp$  Gaussian measures on  $\mathbb{R}^m,\,X_m^\perp$  respectively.

For  $u \in L^1_\gamma(X)$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_m u(x) := \int_{X_m^{\perp}} u(\Pi_m(x), y) d\gamma_m^{\perp}(y).$$

### Gradient and Divergence

In this context one can define a notion of gradient and divergence such that

#### Proposition

For smooth enough  $\Phi$  and u,

$$\int_X u\operatorname{div}_{\gamma}\Phi\ d\gamma = -\int_X [\nabla u,\Phi]\ d\gamma.$$

 $\Rightarrow$  This gives definitions of Sobolev and BV functions as in the Euclidiean setting.

We say that E is of finite Gaussian perimeter if

$$P_{\gamma}(E) := \int_{X} |D_{\gamma}\chi_{E}| < +\infty.$$

# Isoperimetric inequality

#### Definition

$$\Phi(t) = \gamma(\{\langle x_m^*, x \rangle \leq t\})$$

$$\alpha(v) = \Phi^{-1}(v).$$

$$\mathcal{U}(v) = P_{\gamma}(\{\langle x_m^*, x \rangle \leq \alpha(v)\}).$$

$$\alpha(v) = P_{\gamma}(\{\langle x_m^*, x \rangle \leq \alpha(v)\}).$$

#### Theorem (Isoperimetric inequality)

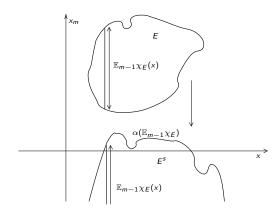
The half spaces are the only isoperimetric sets i.e. for every set E,

$$P_{\gamma}(E) \geq \mathcal{U}(\gamma(E)).$$

# The Ehrhard symetrization

#### Definition

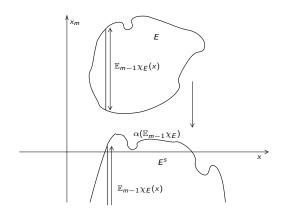
Let  $E \subset X$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . The Ehrhard symmetral of E is :



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#### **Definition**

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$$P_{\gamma}(E^s) \leq P_{\gamma}(E)$$

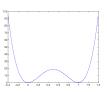
## Approximation of the perimeter in Wiener spaces

#### A Modica-Mortola result

Idea: approximate the perimeter with

$$J_{\varepsilon}(u) := \int_{X} \frac{\varepsilon}{2} |\nabla u|^{2} + \frac{W(u)}{\varepsilon} d\gamma$$

where W is a double-well potential.

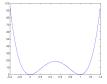


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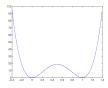
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Problem : No compactness in the strong  $L^2_{\gamma}(X)$  topology  $\Rightarrow$  we have to consider the weak topology.

But the perimeter is **NOT** lsc for this topology...

We thus have to compute the relaxation of the perimeter :

$$\overline{F}(u) := \inf \underline{\lim} \{ P_{\gamma}(E_n) \ / \ E_n \rightharpoonup u \}.$$

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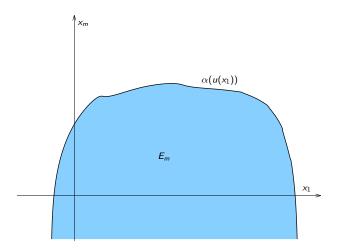
$$\overline{F}(u) := \inf \underline{\lim} \{ P_{\gamma}(E_n) \ / \ E_n \rightharpoonup u \}.$$

Since 
$$P_{\gamma}(E^s) \leq P_{\gamma}(E)$$
,

$$\overline{F}(u) = \inf \underline{\lim} \{ P_{\gamma}(E_n^s) / E_n^s \rightharpoonup u \}.$$

#### Relaxation of the perimeter

If 
$$u(x) = u(\langle x_1^*, x \rangle)$$
 and  $E_m = \{\langle x_m^*, x \rangle \leq \alpha \circ u(\langle x_1^*, x \rangle)\}$ :



$$E_m 
ightharpoonup u$$
 and  $P_\gamma(E) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \sqrt{\mathcal{U}^2(u) + |D_\gamma u|^2} d\gamma_1.$ 

#### Main results

#### **Theorem**

The relaxation of the perimeter for the weak  $L^2_{\gamma}(X)$  topology is given by

$$\overline{F}(u) = \begin{cases} \int_X \sqrt{\mathcal{U}^2(u) + |D_\gamma u|^2} \, d\gamma & \text{if } 0 \le u \le 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

#### **Theorem**

The functionals  $J_{\varepsilon}$   $\Gamma$ -converge for the weak  $L^2_{\gamma}(X)$  topology to  $c_W \overline{F}$  where  $c_W$  is the usual constant.



#### Some observations

The functional  $\overline{F}$  appears in an alternative proof of the isoperimetric inequality by functional inequalities :

$$\mathcal{U}\left(\int_X u\ d\gamma\right) \leq \overline{F}(u).$$

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If  $u := T_t \chi_E$ , letting  $t \to 0$  we get the isoperimetric inequality.

 $\Rightarrow$  the theory of Bakry-Ledoux on functional inequalites and convergence to equilibrium in diffusion process.

# Convexity of minimizers of variational problems in Wiener spaces

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Problem : Let  $g \in L^2_{\gamma}(X)$  be a convex function and  $v \in [0,1]$ , is the minimizer of

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convex?

By the co-area formula, for "large" v, this minimizer is a level-set of the minimizer of

$$\int_X |D_\gamma u| + \frac{1}{2} \int_X (u - g)^2 d\gamma.$$

Problem : Let  $F: H \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  and  $g \in L^2_{\gamma}(X)$  be two convex functions we want to study the convexity of the solution of

$$\min_{u\in L^2_{\gamma}(X)}J(u):=\int_X F(D_{\gamma}u)+\frac{1}{2}\int_X (u-g)^2\ d\gamma.$$

#### Strategy of proof

- ► Approximate the infinite dimensional problem by finite dimensional ones.
- Prove the convexity in the finite dimensional case.
- Pass to the limit.

#### The finite dimensional problem

#### **Theorem**

 $F:\mathbb{R}^m o \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  and  $g \in L^2_\gamma(\mathbb{R}^m)$  convex then the solution of

$$\min_{u \in L^2_{\gamma}(\mathbb{R}^m)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} F(D_{\gamma}u) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} (u - g)^2 d\gamma$$

is convex.

<u>Idea of proof</u>: construct convex sub- and super-solutions and use a result of Alvarez, Lasry and Lions to construct a solution.

#### Relaxation and Representation formulas

#### Definition

For  $u \in L^2_{\gamma}(X)$ ,

$$\int_X F(D_\gamma u) := \sup_{\Phi \in \mathcal{FC}_b^1(X,H)} \int_X -u \operatorname{div}_\gamma \Phi - F^*(\Phi) \ d\gamma.$$

#### Theorem

For  $u \in BV_{\gamma}(X)$ 

$$\int_X F(D_\gamma u) = \int_X F(\nabla u) d\gamma + \int_X F^\infty \left( \frac{dD_\gamma^s u}{d|D_\gamma^s u|} \right) d|D_\gamma^s u|$$

#### Proposition

Let F be a proper lsc convex function then the functional  $\int_X F(D_\gamma u)$  is the relaxation of the functional defined as  $\int_X F(\nabla u) d\gamma$  for  $u \in W^{1,1}_\gamma(X)$ .

If F has p-growth, then it is also the relaxation of the functional  $\int_X F(\nabla u) d\gamma$  defined on the smaller class  $\mathcal{FC}^1_b(X)$ .

#### The infinite dimensional problem

 $\underline{\mathsf{Idea}}\ \mathsf{of}\ \mathsf{proof}\ \colon \mathsf{Let}\ g_m := \mathbb{E}_m g$  and  $u_m$  be the minimizer of

$$\min_{u=\mathbb{E}_m u} J_m(u) := \int_X F(D_\gamma u) + \frac{1}{2} \int_X (u - g_m)^2 d\gamma$$

by the finite dimensional Theorem,  $u_m$  is convex and  $u_m \rightharpoonup \bar{u} \Rightarrow \bar{u}$  is convex.

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$$\forall u \in \mathcal{F}\mathcal{C}^1_b(X)$$
,

$$J(u) = \lim_{m \to +\infty} J_m(u) \ge \lim_{m \to +\infty} J_m(u_m) \ge J(\bar{u})$$

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 $\Rightarrow$  By the relaxation Theorem,  $\bar{u}$  is the minimizer of J.

For F one homogeneous with linear growth, we can define the anisotropic perimeter

$$P_F(E) := \int_X F(D_\gamma \chi_E)$$

then

#### Theorem

For v large enough, the minimizer of

$$\min_{\gamma(E)=\nu} P_F(E) + \int_E g \ d\gamma$$

is unique and convex.

#### Some perspectives

- Look for more accurate algorithms solving the Primal-Dual system.
- Investigate the case of existence of compact solutions to  $\kappa=g$  when the mean of g is positive.
- Look for analog problems in quasi-periodic/stochastic media.
- Better understand the link between symmetrizations and functional inequalities.
- Study representation formulas for more complex integrals.
- Define a mean curvature flow in the Wiener space.

"Il calcolo delle variazioni è  $[\dots]$  una foresta da esplorare, piuttosto che un palazzo da costruire."

Ennio De Giorgi





"La tour de Babel" P. Bruegel



"Les bulles de savon" J.B.S. Chardin

#### Merci pour votre attention!