

Summary:

2.3. Sufficient conditions for existence of minimizers: coercivity and convexity.

2.4 Another application to ϵ -value problems - Rellich generalized compactness

2.3 Coercivity and convexity

X reflexive Banach space over reals

$$F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad G: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \{x \in X : G(x) = 0\} \neq \emptyset$$

Def F is coercive on \mathcal{A} if for any $\{x_n\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ such that $\|x_n\| \rightarrow \infty$ we have

$$F(x_n) \rightarrow +\infty$$

Def F is convex iff $\forall 0 \leq t \leq 1$:

$$F((1-t)x + ty) \leq (1-t)F(x) + tF(y).$$

Theorem 1: If $F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous then the following are equivalent.

1. F is convex
2. $\forall x \in X \exists h \in X^*$ such that

$$F(y) - F(x) \geq \langle h, y - x \rangle \quad \forall y \in X$$

Remark 1 The continuity hypothesis is not needed when X is finite dimensional. In this case $F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ convex implies F continuous. In infinite dimensional Banach spaces F convex and bounded from above in a neighborhood of a point implies continuity.

Remark 2 If $\forall x \in X$ and $y \in X$, $d^2 F(x)[y, y]$ exists and $d^2 F(x)[y, y] \geq 0$ then F is convex.

Recall:

$$d^2 F(x)[y, y] = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{dF(x + \epsilon y)[y] - dF(x)[y]}{\epsilon}$$

See Handout for proofs and further discussions!

Corollary: If F is continuous and convex then F weakly lower semicontinuous.

Proof Let $y_n \rightarrow x$, i.e.
 $\langle h, y_n \rangle \rightarrow \langle h, x \rangle \quad \forall h \in X^*$

We need to show

$$F(x) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(y_n)$$

F continuous and convex $\Rightarrow \exists k \in X^*$ such that

$$F(y_n) - F(x) \geq \langle k, y_n - x \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} [F(y_n) - F(x)] \geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle k, y_n - x \rangle = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(y_n) \geq F(x) \quad \square \text{ E.D.}$$

Theorem 2 (existence of minimizers)

Assume F is continuous, convex on X and coercive on A , and G is weakly continuous.

Then $F|_A$ has a global minimizer.

Proof let $\alpha = \inf_{x \in A} F(x) < +\infty$ (since $A \neq \emptyset$)

and let $\{x_n\}$ be a minimizing sequence:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(x_n) = \alpha, \quad x_n \in A \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$\{x_n\}$ is bounded, otherwise $\exists \{x_{n_k}\}$

such that $\|x_{n_k}\| \rightarrow \infty$. But then, by convexity
 $F(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow +\infty \neq \lambda$ contradiction

$\{x_n\}$ bounded $\Rightarrow \exists \{x_{n_k}\}$ weakly convergent
 X reflexive $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in X$.

G weakly continuous $\Rightarrow G(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow G(x) \Rightarrow x \in \mathcal{A}$

F continuous and convex $\Rightarrow F$ weakly lower semicontinuous

$$\Rightarrow F(x) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(x_{n_k}) = \lambda.$$

$\Rightarrow x$ is a minimizer for $F|_{\mathcal{A}}$ Q.E.D.

Remark 3 If F is strictly convex and \mathcal{A} convex then the minimizer is unique.

Indeed if x_1, x_2 are minimizers then

$$F\left(\frac{1}{2}x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2\right) < \frac{1}{2}F(x_1) + \frac{1}{2}F(x_2) = \lambda$$

in contradiction with $\lambda = \inf_{x \in \mathcal{A}} F(x)$.

2.4 Another application to c -value problems: Rellich generalized compactness

Consider the c -value problem:

$$(1) \quad -\Delta U(x) + V(x)U(x) = \lambda U(x) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

we are looking for weak solutions $U \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Assume:

$$(H1) \quad V: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad V \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$(H2) \quad \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} V(x) = 0$$

Consider the related minimizing problem:

$$(2) \quad \mu = \inf_{\substack{U \in H^1 \\ \|U\|_2 = 1}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (|\nabla U|^2 + V|U|^2) dx$$

Remark If U is a minimizer for (2) then U is a solution for (1) with $\lambda = \mu$.

Indeed for

$$F = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u|^2(x) dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |u|^2(x) dx$$

$$G = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u|^2(x) dx - 1$$

If u is a minimizer for F subject to $G(u) = 0$ then by ε -L Theorem, $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$$dF(u)[v] = \lambda dG(u)[v] \quad \forall v \in H^1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow (*) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) u v dx \\ = \lambda \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} u v dx \quad \forall v \in H^1 \end{aligned}$$

\Leftrightarrow , $-\Delta u + Vu = \lambda u$ in the weak sense

Moreover plugging $v = u$ in (*) we get

$$\mu = F(u) = \lambda(G(u) + 1) = \lambda \Rightarrow \mu = \lambda.$$

Theorem If $(H_1), (H_2)$ are satisfied and $\exists U \in H^1, \|U\|_{L^2} = 1$ such that $F(U) < 0$ then problem (2) has a minimizer.

Note Since $d^2 F(U)[U, U] = F(U) < 0$ we deduce that F is not convex. Moreover $G: H^1 \rightarrow L^2$ $G(U) = \|U\|_{L^2}^2 - 1$ is not compact. Both will be circumvented by the following:

Lemma (generalized Rellich compactness)

If $(H_1), (H_2)$ are satisfied and $U_k \rightarrow U$ in H^1 then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |U_k(x)|^2 dx \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |U(x)|^2 dx$$

Proof of Lemma $U_k \rightarrow U \Rightarrow \exists M > 0: \|U_k\|_{H^1} \leq M \forall k$
and $\|U\|_{H^1} \leq M$. Hence $\|U_k\|_{L^2}^2, \|U\|_{L^2}^2 \leq M^2 \forall k$.

$$\text{Let } \tilde{V}_k = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |U_k(x)|^2 dx$$

$$\tilde{V} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |U(x)|^2 dx$$

We claim $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{V}_k = \tilde{V}$.

Indeed for any $\varepsilon > 0$ we can choose $R > 0$ such that, by (H2),

$$|V(x)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4M^2} \quad \forall |x| > R$$

Since $U_k \rightarrow U$ in $H^1(B(0, R))$ $\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \Rightarrow U_k \xrightarrow{L^2(B(0, R))} U \end{array} \right\}$

$$H^1(B(0, R)) \hookrightarrow L^2(B(0, R))$$

compact

$$\Rightarrow \exists K > 0 : \| |U_k|^2 - |U|^2 \|_{L^1(B(0, R))} < \frac{\varepsilon}{24M^2} \quad \forall k > K$$

Now for $k > K$ we have:

$$\| \tilde{V}_k - \tilde{V} \| \leq \int_{B(0, R)} |V(x)| | |U_k|^2 - |U|^2 | dx$$

$$+ \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B(0, R)} |V(x)| (|U_k|^2 + |U|^2) dx$$

$$\leq \|V\|_{L^\infty} \| |U_k|^2 - |U|^2 \|_{L^1(B(0, R))}$$

$$+ \frac{\varepsilon}{4M^2} (\|U_k\|_{L^2}^2 + \|U\|_{L^2}^2) < \varepsilon$$

Proof of Theorem :

$$\mu \leq F(u) < 0$$

Let $\{u_k\}$ be a minimizing sequence. Since F is coercive on $\|v\|_2 = 1 \Rightarrow \{u_k\}$ is bounded in H^1

$\{u_k\}$ bounded in $H^1 \Rightarrow \exists \{u_{n_k}\} \subset \{u_k\}$
 $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ reflexive $u_{n_k} \rightarrow u_0$ in H^1

By Rellick's generalised compactness

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |u_{n_k}|^2 dx \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |u_0|^2 dx$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} F(u_{n_k}) = \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u_{n_k}|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V |u_{n_k}|^2 dx \\ &\geq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u_0|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V |u_0|^2 dx = F(u_0) \end{aligned}$$

where we used the concavity, hence weakly lower semicontinuity, of

$$F_1: H^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$F_1[u] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u|^2 dx$$

It remains to show $\|u_0\|_{L^2} = 1$. Assume not.

By concavity of $\tilde{G}: H^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ $\tilde{G}(u) = \|u\|_{L^2}^2$ we have that

$$\|u_0\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|u_{n_k}\|_{L^2}^2 = 1$$

In addition, from

$$F(u_0) \leq \mu < 0$$

we deduce $u_0 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \|u_0\|_{L^2} > 0$.

Now, since $0 < \|u_0\|_{L^2}^2 < 1$, we have:

$$0 > \mu \geq F(u_0) > \frac{F(u_0)}{\|u_0\|_{L^2}^2} = F(\tilde{u}_0)$$

where $\tilde{v}_0 = v_0 / \|v_0\|_{L^2} \Rightarrow \|\tilde{v}_0\|_{L^2} = 1$

This contradicts $F(\tilde{v}_0) \geq \mu = \inf_{\substack{v \in H^1 \\ \|v\|_{L^2} = 1}} F(v)$

So v_0 is a minimizer for (P). Q.E.D

Corollary If V satisfies (H1) and (H2) and $\exists v \in H^1, \|v\|_{L^2} = 1$ such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla v|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} V(x) |v|^2 dx < 0$$

then $-\Delta + V : H^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow H^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ has a lowest λ -value μ which is simple with corresponding λ -vector $v_0 \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ which can be chosen such that $v_0 > 0$.

Proof The fact that μ solving (2) is the lowest λ -value follows directly from the previous remarks and theorem

The fact that v_0 can be chosen such that $v_0 \geq 0$ follows from the fact that

$$|\nabla |v_0|| \leq |\nabla v_0| \text{ a.e.}$$

hence

$$F(|U_0|) \leq F(U_0)$$

For the strict case $U_0 > 0$ and the fact that μ is simple we first need to prove the regularity of U_0 : $U_0 \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

For any H^1 solution of

$$-\Delta U = \mu U - V(x)U.$$

we have

$$(*) \quad \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[(1 + |\xi|^2) \mathcal{F}U(\xi) \right] = (1 + \mu)U - V(x)U$$

where \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{F}^{-1} denotes the Fourier Transform.

By Sobolev embedding $U \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \Rightarrow U \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$
where

$$2 \leq p \leq \frac{2n}{n-2} \quad \text{for } n \geq 3$$

$$2 \leq p < \infty \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2$$

Consequently $(1 + \mu)U - V(x)U \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and
by $(*)$:

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[(1 + |\xi|^2)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \mathcal{F}U(\xi) \right] \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

which by Mihlin multiplier Theorem (see page 16) implies:

$$(\ast\ast\ast) \quad U \in W^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

If $n=1,2$ $(\ast\ast\ast)$ holds for all $2 \leq p < \infty$.
By choosing p large enough so that

$$2p > n$$

we get via Sobolev embedding

$$U \in W^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

If $n > 2$ $(\ast\ast\ast)$ holds for $2 \leq p \leq \frac{2n}{n-2}$.

and by Sobolev embedding

$$U \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^n) \text{ where } 2 \leq q \leq \infty \text{ if } n \leq 6 \\ \text{or } 2 \leq q \leq \frac{2n}{n-6} \text{ if } n > 6.$$

By repeating the above argument with p replaced by q eventually we obtain

$$U \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad 2 \leq q \leq \infty.$$

So $v_0 \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is now proven and using Hölder inequality for $v_0 \geq 0$ solutions in $H^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ of

$$\Delta v_0 - (V(x) - \mu)v_0 = 0$$

we obtain for any $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open and bdd $\exists C_\Omega$ such that

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} v_0(x) \leq C_\Omega \inf_{x \in \Omega} v_0(x)$$

If there $\exists x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $v_0(x_0) = 0 \leq v_0(x)^{1/n}$ we would get

$$v_0(x) = 0 \text{ on any } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \text{ open and bdd}$$

and by continuity $v_0(x) = 0$ on \mathbb{R}^n . contradiction with $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (v_0) = \mu < 0$

Finally, if v_0 is another e -vector for μ then so is \bar{v}_0 and $\operatorname{Re} v_1$ and $\operatorname{Im} v_1$.

If v_0 and $\operatorname{Re} v_1$ are linearly independent

Then $\{v_0, \operatorname{Re} v_1\}$ can be orthonormalized in L^2 to $\{v_0, v_2\}$ where v_2 is still an e -vector for μ and $\|v_2\|_{L^2} = 1$

$$\text{From } \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} v_0(x) v_2(x) dx = 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow v_2 \text{ drops} \\ v_0 \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

and since v_2 is still a solution of (1) $\Rightarrow v_2 \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.
 $\Rightarrow \exists x_0$ such that $v_2(x_0) = 0$.

Then $|v_2|$ is another minimizer for (2) hence e -vector for μ hence $|v_2| > 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$
contradiction.

Consequently v_0 and $\operatorname{Re} v_1$ or similarly v_0 and $\operatorname{Im} v_1$ are linearly dependent hence $\exists c \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $v_1 = c v_0$. So the e -vector space of μ is generated by v_0 . Since $-A + V$ is s.a. on L^2 it cannot have generalized e -vectors so μ is simple!

The corollary is finished. Q.E.D.

Mikhlin Multiplier Theorem Denote

$$H^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \left\{ u \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n) \mid \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[(1+|\xi|^2)^{s/2} \mathcal{F}u(\xi) \right] \in L^p \right\}$$

Then for s integer and $1 < p < \infty$

$$H^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) = W^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

Proof For $s=2$ and $1 < p < \infty$ we have
for $u \in H^{2,p}$:

$$\left| \langle v, \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[(1+|\xi|^2) \mathcal{F}u(\xi) \right] \rangle \right| < \infty \quad \forall v \in L^{p'} \\ \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = 1$$

$$\text{But } \langle v, \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[(1+|\xi|^2) \mathcal{F}u(\xi) \right] \rangle =$$

$$\langle \mathcal{F}v, (1+|\xi|^2) \mathcal{F}u(\xi) \rangle$$

$$\text{and since } |\xi_i \xi_j| \leq \frac{\xi_i^2 + \xi_j^2}{2} \leq 1 + |\xi|^2$$

we get $\forall v \in L^{p'}$

$$| \langle \mathcal{F}v, \xi_i \xi_j \mathcal{F}U(\xi) \rangle | < \infty.$$

||

$$| \langle v, -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} U(x) \rangle | < \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} U \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

Similar arguments for $\xi_i \xi_j$ replaced by ξ_i , ξ_j lead to $v, \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n) \Rightarrow v \in W^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

Now if $v \in W^{2,p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \Rightarrow (1-\Delta)v \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\Rightarrow | \langle v, (1-\Delta)v \rangle | < \infty \quad \forall v \in L^{p'}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

||

$$| \langle \mathcal{F}v, (1+|\xi|^2) \mathcal{F}U \rangle |$$

||

$$| \langle v, \mathcal{F}^{-1}(1+|\xi|^2) \mathcal{F}U \rangle |$$

So $\langle v, \mathcal{F}^{-1}(1+|\xi|^2)\mathcal{F}u \rangle \in \mathcal{L}^2$
 for all $v \in \mathcal{L}^2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{-1}(1+|\xi|^2)\mathcal{F}u \in \mathcal{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$
 $\Rightarrow u \in H^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Similar arguments hold for $s=1,2,3,\dots$
 for $s=0$ is trivial and $s=-1,-2,\dots$ can be
 obtained by duality:

$$(H^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n))^* = H^{-s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$(W^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n))^* = W^{-s,p}(\mathbb{R}^n). \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

Remark It should be possible to replace
 (H1) by the weaker assumption:

$$(H1)' \quad v: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad v \in \mathcal{L}^p(\mathbb{R}^n) \text{ with}$$

$$p \geq 1 \text{ and } p > n/2.$$

throughout this lecture. Check!