

Concentration Compactness and nonlinear ϵ -value problems

In both previous applications of the variational method to ϵ -value problems we needed a sort of compactness to show that the minimizer is in the admissible set. On bounded domains we used:

Theorem (Rellich Compactness) If $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ is bounded then

$$H_0^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{compact}} L^p(\Omega)$$

$$\text{for } \begin{cases} 2 \leq p < \frac{2N}{N-2} & \text{if } N > 2 \\ 2 \leq p < \infty & \text{if } N = 2 \\ 2 \leq p \leq \infty & \text{if } N = 1 \end{cases}$$

On unbounded domains we used generalized Rellich compactness which can be rewritten (check!):

Theorem (Generalized Rellick Compactness)

Let $\{v_n\} \subset H^1(\mathbb{R}^N)$ be bounded and assume $v_n(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ uniformly in n . Then $\exists \{v_{n_k}\} \subset \{v_n\}$ and $U \in H^1$ such that:

$$v_{n_k} \xrightarrow{L^2} U \quad \text{for } 2 < p < \frac{2N}{N-2} \quad \text{for } N \geq 2$$

$$(2 < p \leq \infty \text{ for } N=1).$$

Proof $H^1(\mathbb{R}^N)$ reflexive $\Rightarrow \exists \{v_{n_k}\} \subset \{v_n\}$
 $\{v_n\}$ total in H^1

$$v_{n_k} \rightarrow U \text{ in } H^1$$

Since $H^1(B(0, R)) \xrightarrow{\text{compact}} L^1(B(0, R))$

$$\Rightarrow v_{n_k} \rightarrow U \text{ in } L^1(B(0, R))$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists v_{n_{k_j}} \rightarrow U \text{ a.e. on } B(0, R)$$

By letting $R \rightarrow \infty$ and choosing a diagonal sequence of v_{n_k} , we get a subsequence of $\{v_n\}$ re-denoted by $\{v_{n_k}\}$ such that

$$v_{n_k} \rightarrow U \text{ a.e. on } \mathbb{R}^N \text{ and } v_{n_k} \rightarrow U$$

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$ and $R > 0$ (R to be chosen later)

$$\|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^p(B(0, R))}$$

$$+ \|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^p(|x| > R)}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Hölder}}{\leq} \|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^p(B(0, R))} +$$

$$+ \|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^\infty(|x| > R)}^{(p-2)/p} \underbrace{\|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}}_{\text{bounded}}$$

Now choose R sufficiently large:

$$\|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^\infty(|x| > R)}^{(p-2)/p} \underbrace{\|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}}_{\text{unif. bound}} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

$\rightarrow 0$ unif. as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ for all k

Then choose k large enough such that

$$\|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^p(B(0, R))} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

Since again $H^1(B(0, R)) \xrightarrow{\text{compact}} L^p(B(0, R))$

and $U_{n_k} \xrightarrow{H^1} U$ implies $U_{n_k} \rightarrow U$ in $L^p(B(0, R))$

We get $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists K$ such that for $k > K$

$$\|U_{n_k} - U\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^N)} < \varepsilon \quad \square \text{ Q.E.D.}$$

Concentration compactness is a method that investigates what happens in the previous theorem when uniform convergence to zero at infinity is removed.

Counterexample
$$U_0(x) = \begin{cases} 1-|x| & 0 \leq |x| < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$U_n(x) = U_0(x-n)$. Then $\{U_n\} \subset H^1(\mathbb{R})$ bounded
 $U_n \rightarrow 0$ in H^1 but $U_{n_k} \not\rightarrow 0$ in $L^p(\mathbb{R})$
regardless of the choice of subsequence U_{n_k} or the
choice of p , $2 \leq p < \infty$.

Concentration compactness shows that a bounded sequence $\{U_n\}$ in $H^1(\mathbb{R}^N)$ is in one and only one of the following situations.

1° By choosing appropriate translations $y_n \in \mathbb{R}^N$
 $\{U_n(\cdot - y_n)\}$ has a convergent subsequence in L^p ,
 $2 \leq p < 2N/(N-2)$ for $N \geq 2$, $2 \leq p < \infty$ for $N=1$

2° $\{v_n\}$ has a subsequence convergent to zero in L^p , $2 < p < (2N)/(N-2)$

3° There is a "splitting": a subsequence $\{v_{n_k}\}$ of $\{v_n\}$ and sequences $\{v_k\}, \{w_k\} \subset H^1$ such that

$$\|v_{n_k} - v_k - w_k\|_{L^p} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0 \quad 2 \leq p < \frac{2N}{N-2} \\ (\text{or } 2 \leq p < \infty \text{ if } N=3)$$

$$\text{dist}(\text{supp}(v_k), \text{supp}(w_k)) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \infty$$

$\{v_k\}$ is in situation 1°.

For more precise statements see the handout!