

General Relativity Week 12

We want to prove the local well-posedness for the initial value problem ^{in time}

$$\text{problem } \textcircled{I} \begin{cases} \partial_a (G^{ab}(\psi) \partial_b \psi) = N(\psi, \partial\psi) & \text{on } \mathbb{R}^{1+n} \\ \psi|_{t=0} = \psi_0, \quad \partial_t \psi|_{t=0} = \psi_1 \end{cases}, \quad \boxed{N(0,0) = 0}$$

When $(\psi_0, \psi_1) \in H^k(\mathbb{R}^n) \times H^{k-1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for $k > 2n+2$.

We will measure the size of solutions using the higher order energy norm:

$$E^{(k)}[f](\tau) = \sum_{|a| \leq k} \int_{t=\tau} |\partial^a f|^2 dx$$

$\nwarrow \partial^a = \partial_0^{a_0} \partial_1^{a_1} \dots \partial_n^{a_n}$

Note: $E^{(k)}[f](\tau) = \sum_{i=0}^k \|\partial_t^i f\|_{H^{k-i}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^2$

If ψ solves \textcircled{I} : We can express $E^{(k)}[\psi](0)$ in terms of the initial

data: $\|\psi|_{t=0}\|_{H^k}^2 = \|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2, \quad \|\partial_t \psi|_{t=0}\|_{H^{k-1}}^2 = \|\psi_1\|_{H^{k-1}}^2$

and, using the equation:

$$\partial_t^2 \psi|_{t=0} = -\frac{1}{G^{00}(\psi)} \left(2G^{0i}(\psi) \partial_i \partial_0 \psi + G^{ij}(\psi) \partial_i \partial_j \psi + \tilde{N}(\psi, \partial\psi) \right) \Big|_{t=0}$$

\nwarrow Can be expressed in terms of ψ (space derivatives of) ψ_0 and ψ_1 .

Inductively: We can do the same for $\partial_t^{2+m} \psi|_{t=0}$.

Using Sobolev embedding (and the fact that $k > 2n+2$):

We can bound $E^{(k)}[\psi](0) \leq C(\|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2 + \|\psi_1\|_{H^{k-1}}^2)$, where $C(\cdot)$ can be expressed in terms of the precise form of the functions G^{ab} , N , etc.

When $\|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2 + \|\psi_1\|_{H^{k-1}}^2 \lesssim 1$: We have $E^{(k)}[\psi](0) \sim \|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2 + \|\psi_1\|_{H^{k-1}}^2$

Theorem: Consider the initial value problem $\textcircled{1}$, where

$$|G^{a\beta} - \eta^{a\beta}| < \frac{1}{10 \cdot n} \quad \text{and} \quad k > 2n + 2. \quad \text{set}$$

$$M = \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi](0) \quad \text{(smaller than } M)$$

Then $\exists T = T(M) > 0$ and a unique solution ψ on $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$

satisfying

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi](t) \leq C \cdot M$$

where $C > 1$ is independent of $M, (\psi_0, \psi_1), T$.

Moreover, ψ depends continuously on (ψ_0, ψ_1) and $T(M) \rightarrow \infty$ as $M \rightarrow 0$.

Remark: Since $\|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2 + \|\psi_1\|_{H^k}^2 \leq \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi](0) \leq C(\|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2 + \|\psi_1\|_{H^{k-1}}^2)$,

we could equivalently say that T is a function of $\|\psi_0\|_{H^k}^2 + \|\psi_1\|_{H^{k-1}}^2$.

Proof:

Existence: We will use a Picard iteration scheme:

Let us consider the sequence of functions $\psi^{(m)}: \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined recursively by solving the linear problems:

$$\bullet \text{ For } m=0: \begin{cases} \partial_a (G^{a\beta}(0) \partial_\beta \psi^{(0)}) = 0 \\ \psi^{(0)}|_{t=0} = \psi_0, \quad \partial_t \psi^{(0)}|_{t=0} = \psi_1. \end{cases}$$

$$\bullet \text{ For } m \geq 1: \begin{cases} \partial_a (G^{a\beta}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \partial_\beta \psi^{(m)}) = N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) \\ \psi^{(m)}|_{t=0} = \psi_0, \quad \partial_t \psi^{(m)}|_{t=0} = \psi_1. \end{cases}$$

We will show that, if $T = T(M)$ is small enough in terms of M (to be determined precisely later) then, for any $m \geq 0$:

$$\textcircled{1} \begin{cases} \sup_{\tau \in [0, T]} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq C_0 \cdot M & (C_0: \text{Uniform constant}) \\ \sup_{\tau \in [0, T]} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)} - \psi^{(m-1)}](\tau) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sup_{\tau \in [0, T]} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)} - \psi^{(m-1)}](\tau) \end{cases}$$

If $\textcircled{1}$ holds, then it is easy to see (through "soft" functional-analytic arguments) that $\psi^{(m)}$ converges to a solution of \textcircled{I} on $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$:

$\textcircled{1}$ immediately implies that the sequence $\{\psi^{(m)}\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$ is Cauchy

in the space $L_t^{\infty} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}$ (where $\mathcal{E}^{(k)}$ is the space of functions equipped with the k -th order energy norm defined before) and uniformly bounded in the higher order space $L_t^{\infty} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}$.

As a result: \exists limiting function ψ such that

$\psi^{(m)} \rightarrow \psi$ strongly in $L_t^{\infty} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}$ and weakly in $L_t^{\infty} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}$

• Recall: If X is a Banach space, then $f^{(m)} \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} f$ ($f^{(m)}, f \in X$) if $\forall g \in X^*$, we have $g(f^{(m)}) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} g(f)$.

(weaker notion than strong convergence, i.e. regular convergence).

A slightly weaker notion: weak-* convergence:

In the special case when $X = Y^*$ for some other Banach space Y :

$f^{(m)} \xrightarrow{\text{weak-}^*} f$ iff $g(f^{(m)}) \rightarrow g(f)$ for all $g \in Y$

(here we use the natural embedding $Y \hookrightarrow Y^{**}$)

If X is reflexive: weak convergence = weak- $*$ convergence.

Important properties:

• If $f^{(m)} \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} f$: $\|f\| \leq \liminf_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|f^{(m)}\|$

• Banach-Alaoglu: The unit ball $\{f: \|f\| \leq 1\}$ is compact with the weak-* topology.

So in particular any bounded sequence in X has a weak-* convergent subsequence.

(this is what we use here for $L^{\infty}_+ E^{(k)}$ Note that

$$L^{\infty}_+ E^{(k)} = (L^1_+ E^{(-k)})^*$$

In our case: The above properties imply that ψ satisfies

$$\sup_{\tau \in [0, T]} E^{(k)}[\psi](\tau) \leq \liminf_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\tau} E^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq C_0 M.$$

As a result: \exists limiting function ψ such that

$\psi^{(m)} \rightarrow \psi$ strongly in $L_t^\infty H_x^1$ and weakly in $L_t^\infty H^k$.

• Recall: Weak convergence: $f^{(m)}, f \in X$ (Banach space), then $f^{(m)} \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} f$ if $\langle g, f^{(m)} \rangle \rightarrow \langle g, f \rangle$ for all $g \in X^*$

• If $f^{(m)} \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} f$: $\|f\| \leq \liminf_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|f^{(m)}\|$

• If X is a Hilbert space: The sets $\{\| \cdot \| \leq C\}$ are weakly compact.

• In our case: We have the stronger bound

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi](t) \leq C \cdot M.$$

Moreover:

By interpolation: For any $s < k$, $\psi^{(m)}$ converges strongly

to ψ in $L_t^\infty H_x^s$

(Interpolation inequality:

$$\|f\|_{H^s} \leq \|f\|_{H^{s_1}}^{\frac{s_2-s}{s_2-s_1}} \cdot \|f\|_{H^{s_2}}^{\frac{s-s_1}{s_2-s_1}}$$

if $s_1 < s < s_2$)

• So, since $k > 2n+2 > \frac{n}{2} + 2$: By the Sobolev embedding,

$\psi^{(m)}$ converges to ψ in C^2 , so ψ solves the original equation.

In order to prove ①: We will argue inductively.

Assume it is true for all $m' \leq m-1$.

We will first establish 1st order energy estimates for $\psi^{(m)}$.

Multiplying the equation with $\partial_t \psi^{(m)}$, we have:

$$G^{00}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial_0^2 \psi^{(m)} \partial_0 \psi^{(m)} + G^{ij}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial_{ij}^2 \psi^{(m)} \partial_0 \psi^{(m)} \\ + 2 G^{0i}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \underbrace{\partial_0 \partial_i \psi^{(m)} \partial_0 \psi^{(m)}}_{\frac{1}{2} \partial_i (\partial_0 \psi^{(m)})^2} = N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial \psi^{(m)}$$

So integrating by parts over $0 \leq t \leq \tau$:

$$\int_{t=0}^{t=\tau} -\frac{1}{2} G^{00}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot (\partial_0 \psi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} G^{ij}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial_i \psi^{(m)} \partial_j \psi^{(m)} dx \\ - \int_{t=0} \dots \dots \dots dx \quad \textcircled{A} \\ = \int_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \left[\tilde{G}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial \psi^{(m-1)} \cdot \partial \psi^{(m)} \cdot \partial \psi^{(m)} + N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial \psi^{(m)} \right] dx dt$$

Since $|G^{ab} - \eta^{ab}| < \frac{1}{10 \cdot n}$, the boundary integrals are comparable

with the usual energy:

$$\frac{2}{3} \mathcal{E}^{(2)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq \int_{t=\tau} -G^{00} \cdot (\partial_0 \psi^{(m)})^2 + G^{ij} \partial_i \psi^{(m)} \cdot \partial_j \psi^{(m)} dx \\ \leq \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{E}^{(2)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau)$$

So $\textcircled{A} \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{E}^{(2)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq 3 \mathcal{E}^{(2)}[\psi^{(m)}](0) + C \int_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \underbrace{\left[|\tilde{G}(\psi^{(m-1)})| \cdot |\partial \psi^{(m-1)}| \cdot |\partial \psi^{(m)}|^2 + |N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)})| \cdot |\partial \psi^{(m)}| \right]}_{\textcircled{B}} dx dt$$

From the inductive step:

$$\| \psi^{(m-1)} \|_{L^\infty} + \| \partial \psi^{(m-1)} \|_{L^\infty} \stackrel{\text{Sobolev embedding}}{\lesssim} \sup_{\tau} \mathcal{E}[\psi^{(m-1)}]^{1/2} \leq C' \cdot M^{1/2}$$

$$\text{So: } \sup |\tilde{G}(\psi^{(m-1)})| \leq \sup_{z \in [-C'M^{1/2}, C'M^{1/2}]} |\tilde{G}(z)| := C_1(M).$$

$$\text{and } |N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial\psi^{(m-1)})| \leq C_2(M) \cdot (|\psi^{(m-1)}| + |\partial\psi^{(m-1)}|)$$

(since, $N(0,0)=0$ so by Taylor: $N(x,y) = N_1(x,y) \cdot x + N_2(x,y) \cdot y$)

$$\text{So } \textcircled{B} \leq C''(M) \int_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} |\partial\psi^{(m)}|^2 + \cancel{\dots} + (|\psi^{(m-1)}| + |\partial\psi^{(m-1)}|) \cdot |\partial\psi^{(m)}| \, dx \, dt$$

Cauchy-Schwarz

$$\leq C''(M) \cdot \left(\int_0^\tau \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \, dt + \underbrace{\int_0^\tau \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m-1)}](\tau) \, dt}_{\leq C \cdot M \cdot T(M)} \right)$$

$$\text{So: } \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq 3 \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](0) + C''(M) \cdot M \cdot T + C''(M) \int_0^\tau \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](t) \, dt$$

$$\text{By Gronwall: } \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq \cancel{\dots} e^{C''(M) \cdot T(M)} \left(3 \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](0) + C''(M) \cdot T(M) \right)$$

↑
independent of M !

So if $T(M)$ is small enough in terms of $C'''(M)$:

$$\mathcal{E}^{(1)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq C_0 \cdot M$$

↑ the original constant!

I need to obtain the same bound for $\mathcal{E}^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)}]$!

Commute with ∂^a , $|a| \leq k-1$, repeat the same steps: (higher order energy estimate)

$$\varepsilon^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)}](\tau) \leq 3 \cdot \varepsilon^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)}](0)$$

$$+ C \int_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \tilde{F}(\partial^{\leq \frac{k}{2}+1} \psi^{(m-1)}) \left(|\partial^{\leq k} \psi^{(m-1)}|^2 + |\partial^{\leq k} \psi^{(m)}|^2 \right) dx dt$$

term with
the fewest
number of
derivatives

Since $\|\partial^{\leq \frac{k}{2}+1} f\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim \|f\|_{H^k}$ if $k > 2n+2$:

By using as before the inductive assumption & Gronwall,
we get if $T(M)$ is chosen small in terms of M :

$$\varepsilon^{(k)}[\psi^{(m)}] \leq C_0 \cdot M.$$

For the difference estimate:

Let $v^{(m)} = \psi^{(m)} - \psi^{(m-1)}$. Subtracting the equation for $\psi^{(m-1)}$
from that for $\psi^{(m)}$.

$$\partial_\alpha (G^{\text{qp}}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \underbrace{\partial_\beta (\psi^{(m)} - \psi^{(m-1)})}_{v^{(m)}}) = \partial_\alpha ([G^{\text{qp}}(\psi^{(m-1)}) - G^{\text{qp}}(\psi^{(m-2)})] \partial_\beta \psi^{(m-1)})$$

$$= N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) - N(\psi^{(m-2)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)})$$

We can express this as a linear equation in $v^{(m)}$:

$$\bullet \quad G(\psi^{(m-1)}) - G(\psi^{(m-2)}) = \int_0^2 \frac{d}{d\lambda} G(\psi^{(m-2)} + \lambda \psi^{(m-1)}) d\lambda$$

$$= \left(\int_0^1 G'(\psi^{(m-2)} + \lambda \psi^{(m-1)}) d\lambda \right) \cdot (\psi^{(m-1)} - \psi^{(m-2)})$$

$$:= \tilde{G}(\psi^{(m-1)}, \psi^{(m-2)})$$

$$\bullet \quad \text{Similarly: } N(\psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) - N(\psi^{(m-2)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) = \dots$$

$$= \tilde{N}_1(\psi^{(m-2)}, \partial \psi^{(m-2)}, \psi^{(m-1)}, \partial \psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot (\psi^{(m-1)} - \psi^{(m-2)}) \\ + \tilde{N}_2(\dots) \cdot (\partial \psi^{(m-1)} - \partial \psi^{(m-2)})$$

So $V^{(m)}$ satisfies

$$G^{ab}(\psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial_a \partial_b V^{(m)} + F_1(\partial^{\leq 2} \psi^{(m-2)}, \partial^{\leq 2} \psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial V^{(m)} \\ + F_2(\partial^{\leq 1} \psi^{(m-2)}, \partial^{\leq 1} \psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot V^{(m)} = 0 \\ = H_1(\partial^{\leq 2} \psi^{(m-2)}, \partial^{\leq 2} \psi^{(m-1)}) \cdot \partial V^{(m-1)} \\ + H_2(\dots) \cdot V^{(m-1)} \\ \uparrow \text{also } \psi^{(m)}$$

With initial data

$$V^{(m)}|_{t=0} = 0, \quad \partial_t V^{(m)}|_{t=0} = 0$$

So energy estimate:

$$\mathcal{E}^{(1)}[V^{(m)}](\tau) \leq 3 \underbrace{\mathcal{E}^{(2)}[V^{(m)}](0)}_{=0} + C \cdot \|\partial^{\leq 2} \psi^{(m-2, m-1, m)}\|_{L^\infty} \int_0^\tau \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[V^{(m-1)}] + \mathcal{E}^{(2)}[V^{(m)}]$$

Since by Sobolev (and the energy estimate in the last step)

we have $\|\partial^{\leq 2} \psi^{(m-2, m-1, m)}\|_{L^\infty} \leq C \cdot M^{1/2}$, applying Gronwall

$$\text{we get } \sup_\tau \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[V^{(m)}](\tau) \leq C' \cdot e^{C(M)T(M)} \cdot M^{1/2} \cdot T(M) \cdot \sup_\tau \mathcal{E}^{(1)}[V^{(m-1)}](\tau)$$

So if $T(M)$ small enough in terms of M :

The constant $\leq \frac{1}{2}$.



Uniqueness / continuous dependence:

Apply the energy estimate for the difference of two solutions. □

Remark:

• The proof would work for quasilinear equations with symbol $G^{AB}(\psi, \partial\psi)$

• If $N(0,0) = 0$, then $\psi = 0$ is the solution with initial data $(\psi_0, \psi_1) = (0, 0)$.

Continuous dependence on initial data: As $(\psi_0, \psi_1) \xrightarrow{H^k \times H^{k-1}} (0, 0)$ then:

• $T \rightarrow +\infty$

• $\forall T_0 > 0: \exists \eta \in [0, T_0] \times \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \|\psi\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^k} + \|\partial_t \psi\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^{k-1}} \rightarrow 0$

(So: uniform convergence over compact domains)

• The problem of well-posedness for initial data in $H^k \times H^{k-1}$ for k "small": Not true if k is too small

• For more general equations:



↙ Work in coordinates where g is close to η ,
Glue the local solutions using uniqueness