

The Bernstein technique for  
integro-differential equations

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Session Nonlocal Operators and Related Topics

Joint work with Serena Dipierro & Enrico Valdinoci (arXiv)

Joint work with Severa Dipierro & Enrico Valdinoci (arXiv)

- The local Bernstein technique:

$$\underline{\varphi := \eta^2 (\partial_e u)^2 + \sigma u^2}, \quad (\eta = \text{cut-off}, e \in \mathbb{R}^n, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}_+)$$

$$\Rightarrow -\Delta \varphi \leq 2\eta^2 \partial_e u (-\Delta) \partial_e u + 2\sigma u (-\Delta) u$$

if  $\sigma = \sigma(n)$  is large enough (this holds  $\forall$  fcn  $u$ )

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Now, if  $\Delta u = 0$  in  $B_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  then  $-\Delta \varphi \leq 0$  in  $B_1$

$\Downarrow$  Maximum principle ( $\eta|_{B_{1/2}} \equiv 1$ )

$$\sup_{B_{1/2}} |\partial_e u|^2 \leq \sup_{\partial B_1} \varphi \leq \sigma \|u\|_{L^\infty(B_1)}^2$$

INTERIOR GRADIENT ESTIMATE

- The auxiliary fcn  $\varphi = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x u)^2 + \sigma u^2$  also works for fully nonlinear elliptic equations  $F(D^2u) = 0$ .
- More sophisticated auxiliary fcn's work for the prescribed mean curvature eq'n.

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■ We extend these results on the quadratic auxiliary fcn  
 for  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{the fractional Laplacian} \\ \text{integro-diff. op's with general kernels} \end{array} \right.$   
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■ RESULTS  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{eq'ns with extension pb.} \\ \text{eq'ns without extension} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{1st \& one-sided 2nd} \\ \text{derivative estimates} \\ \text{1st derivative estimates} \end{array}$

# Ⓐ PUCCI-TYPE EQ'NS WITH EXTENSIONS

$$\boxed{\mathcal{I}_A u(x) := c_{n,s} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{u(x) - u(y)}{|A(x-y)|^{n+2s}} dy}$$

$$(0 < s < 1, \\ \lambda \cdot \text{Id} \leq A \leq \Lambda \cdot \text{Id})$$

$$\text{EQ'N: } \underbrace{\sup_A (\mathcal{I}_A u(x) - g_A(x)) = 0}_{\uparrow \text{given fcn's}} \text{ in } B_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (1)$$



# ① PUCCI-TYPE EQ'NS WITH EXTENSIONS

$$\boxed{\mathcal{I}_A u(x) := C_{n,r,s} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{u(x) - u(y)}{|A(x-y)|^{n+2s}} dy} \quad (0 < s < 1, \lambda \cdot \text{Id} \leq A \leq \Lambda \cdot \text{Id})$$

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Thm A  $u \in (C^\infty \cap W^{2,00})(\mathbb{R}^n)$  solves (1)  $\Rightarrow$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty(B_{1/2})} &\leq C_{n,\Lambda,\lambda} (\|u\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} + \sup_A \|g_A\|_{W^{1,00}(B_1)}) \\ \& \sup_{B_{1/2}} \partial_e^2 u &\leq C_{n,\Lambda,\lambda} (\|u\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} + \sup_A \|g_A\|_{W^{2,00}(B_1)}). \end{aligned}}$$

(B) PUCCI-TYPE EQNS FOR GENERAL INTEGRO-DIFF. OPERS

$$\underline{\mathcal{L}_K u(x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (u(x) - u(y)) K(x-y) dy,}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} K(z) = K(-z), \quad \frac{\Lambda}{|z|^{n+2s}} \leq K(z) \leq \frac{\Lambda}{|z|^{n+2s}}, \\ |z| |\nabla K(z)| + |z|^2 |\mathcal{D}^2 K(z)| \leq \Lambda K(z). \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{EQ'N: } \underline{\sup_B (\mathcal{L}_{K_B} u(x) - g_B(x)) = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{B}_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^n.} \quad (2)$$

↑ given fctns

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↑ given fctns

Thm B  $u \in (C^\infty \cap W^{1,\infty})(\mathbb{R}^n)$  solves (2)  $\Rightarrow$

$$\underline{\|\nabla u\|_{L^\infty(B_{1/2})} \leq C_{n,s,\lambda,\Lambda} \left( \|u\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} + \sup_B \|g_B\|_{W^{1,\infty}(B)} \right).}$$

© OTHER FULLY NONLINEAR EQ'NS (+ INDEFINITE ORDER)

$$F(\mathcal{L}_1 u - g_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_J u - g_J) = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{B}_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{with } F \text{ convex \& } \lambda \leq \sum_{i=1}^J \partial_{p_i} F(p) \leq \Lambda \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{R}^J$$

③ OTHER FULLY NONLINEAR EQ'NS (+ INDEFINITE ORDER)

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with  $F$  convex &  $\lambda \leq \sum_{i=1}^J \partial_{p_i} F(p) \leq \Lambda \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{R}^J$ .

①  $\mathcal{L}_j = \mathcal{L}_{K_j} \rightsquigarrow$  1<sup>st</sup> derivative estimates.

②  $\mathcal{L}_j = \mathcal{L}_{\mu_j}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{\mu_j} u(x) := \int_0^1 (-\Delta)^s u(x) d\mu_j(s) \rightsquigarrow$   
 $\rightsquigarrow$  1<sup>st</sup> & one-sided 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative estimates.

COROLLARY (obstacle problem)  $\max\{(-\Delta)^s u, u - \phi\} = f$

• PREVIOUS WORKS : derivative estimates for fully nonlinear integro-diff. eqns in :

- [Jakobsen - Karlsen '05] : Ishii-Lions doubling variables method
- [Caffarelli - Silvestre '09] : Krylov-Safonov method ( $C^{1,\alpha}$  est.)
- [Barles - Chasseigne - Ciomaga-Imbert '12] : Ishii-Lions method



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→ Instead we use the quadratic auxiliary fcn.

↓  
Our method has been used by [Fernandez-Real & Jhaveri, Anal PDE] to extend derivative bounds for fractional obstacle pbs (1<sup>st</sup> result of [Athanasopoulos - Caffarelli '04])



• The Key inequality for the fractional Laplacian

PROP'N  $\forall u \in (C^\infty \cap W^{1,\infty})(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $s \in (0,1)$ ,

$$(-\Delta)^s (z^2 (\partial_e u)^2 + \sigma u^2) \leq 2z^2 \partial_e u (-\Delta)^s \partial_e u + 2\sigma u (-\Delta)^s u$$

if  $\sigma \geq \sigma(n,z)$  is large enough.

• Easy PROOF using the extension problem.

→ Similar inequality replacing  $\partial_e u \rightsquigarrow (\partial_e v)_+$

Take then  $v = \partial_e u$

} → One-sided  
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OPEN PB 1 : Prove the Prop'n downstairs, in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
without using the extension.

• We only know how to do it when  $(-\Delta)^s u = 0$   
(ideas later)

• the key inequality for integro-diff. ops.

LEMMA For every smooth  $u: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_2$ ,  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}$  (an "error"):

$$\mathcal{L}_K (v^2 (\partial_e u)^2 + \sigma u^2) \leq 2v^2 \partial_e u \mathcal{L}_K \partial_e u + 2\sigma u \mathcal{L}_K u + E \quad \text{at } x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} v(x)(v(x)-v(y)) \partial_e u(x) \partial_e u(y) K(x-y) dy$$

$$\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x) \partial_e u(x) - v(y) \partial_e u(y)|^2 K(x-y) dy$$

$$+ \sigma \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x) - u(y)|^2 K(x-y) dy + E.$$

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$$2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} v(x)(v(x)-v(y)) \partial_e u(x) \partial_e u(y) K(x-y) dy$$

$$\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x) \partial_e u(x) - v(y) \partial_e u(y)|^2 K(x-y) dy$$

$$+ \sigma \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x) - u(y)|^2 K(x-y) dy + E.$$

THM C  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \sigma_\varepsilon = \sigma_\varepsilon(\varepsilon, v, n, S, \lambda, \Lambda)$  such that  $\forall u: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathcal{L}_K (v^2 (\partial_e u)^2 + \sigma_\varepsilon u^2) \leq 2v^2 \partial_e u \mathcal{L}_K \partial_e u + 2\sigma_\varepsilon u \mathcal{L}_K u + \varepsilon^2 \|\partial_e u\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{B}_3)}^2$$

everywhere in  $\mathbb{B}_2$ .

Since the same inequality will hold in any ball  $B_{\frac{r}{3}}(x)$  with an error computed in  $B_{\frac{r}{3}}(x)$ , by scaling, we are able to reabsorb the error  $\|2u\|_{L^\infty(B_3)}$  and get an estimate for  $\|2u\|_{L^\infty(B_1)}$ .  $\square$

Since the same inequality will hold in any ball  $B_{\frac{\rho}{2}}(x)$  with an error computed in  $B_{3\rho}(x)$ , by scaling, we are able to reabsorb the error  $\|\partial_e u\|_{L^\infty(B_3)}$  and get an estimate for  $\|\partial_e u\|_{L^\infty(B_1)}$ .  $\square$

OPEN PB 2 Does Thm C hold without the error term  $+ \varepsilon^2 \|\partial_e u\|_{L^\infty(B_3)}^2$  ?



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OPEN PB 2 Does Thm C hold without the error term  $+ \varepsilon^2 \|\partial_e u\|_{L^\infty(B_3)}^2$  ?

OPEN PB 3 • In Thm B (1<sup>st</sup> deriv. estimate for Bellman eq'n with general kernels), do one-sided second derivative estimates hold ?

- Does Thm C hold with  $\partial_e u$  replaced by  $(\partial_e v)_+$  ?



Ideas of PROOF of Thm C :

Need to prove

$$\left[ \begin{aligned} & 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta(x) (\eta(x) - \eta(y)) \partial_e u(x) \partial_e u(y) K(y) dy \\ & \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\eta(x) \partial_e u(x) - \eta(y) \partial_e u(y)|^2 K(y) dy + \sigma \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x) - u(y)|^2 K(y) dy + E. \end{aligned} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\eta(x) - \eta(y)) \eta(x) u_e(x) \partial_e (u(y) - u(x)) K(y) dy \\ &= -2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \partial_e ((\eta(x) - \eta(y)) K(y)) \eta(x) u_e(x) (u(y) - u(x)) dy \\ &= -2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \partial_e ((\eta(x) - \eta(y)) K(y)) (\eta(x) u_e(x) - \eta(y) u_e(y)) (u(y) - u(x)) dy \\ &\quad - 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \partial_e ((\eta(x) - \eta(y)) K(y)) \underbrace{\eta(y) u_e(y)}_{\partial_e \frac{(u(y) - u(x))^2}{2}} (u(y) - u(x)) dy \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\partial_e (c(x) - v(x)) K(x)}{K(x)} \left\{ (c(x) u_e(x) - v(x) u_e(x)) \sqrt{K(x)} \right\} \left\{ (u(x) - u(x_0)) \sqrt{K(x)} \right\} dx \\
&+ \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\partial_e \left\{ v(x) \partial_e (c(x) - v(x)) K(x) \right\}}{K(x)} \cdot |u(x) - u(x_0)|^2 K(x) dx
\end{aligned}$$

all equalities up to this point  $\ddot{\smile}$

$$= -2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\partial_e((\psi(0) - \psi(y))K(y))}{K(y)} \{ (\psi(0)u_e(0) - \psi(y)u_e(y))\sqrt{K(y)} \} \{ (u(y) - u(0))\sqrt{K(y)} \} dy$$

$$+ \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\partial_e \{ \psi(y) \partial_e((\psi(0) - \psi(y))K(y)) \}}{K(y)} \cdot |u(y) - u(0)|^2 K(y) dy$$

all equalities up to this point  $\ddot{\smile}$

• This integral is fine, by G-S,

since  $\frac{1}{K(y)} \partial_e((\psi(0) - \psi(y))K(y))$  is bounded.

$$\psi(0) - \psi(y) = O(|y|)$$

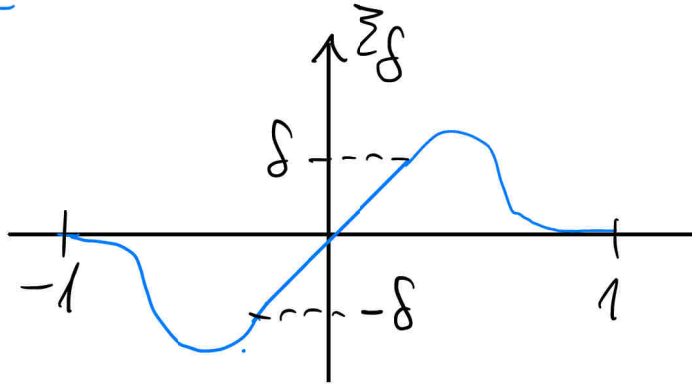
• This integral is not fine: the 1<sup>st</sup> factor is not bounded.

↓  
To prove Thm C (with the error term),  
we correct the initial LHS as follows:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} 2\nabla\psi(x) (\psi(x) - \psi(y)) u_e(x) u_e(y) K(y) dy$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ 2\nabla\psi(x) (\psi(x) - \psi(y)) u_e(x) u_e(y) + 2\nabla\psi(x) |u_e(x)|^2 \nabla\psi(x) \cdot \vec{\xi}_\delta(y) \right\} K(y) dy$$

where



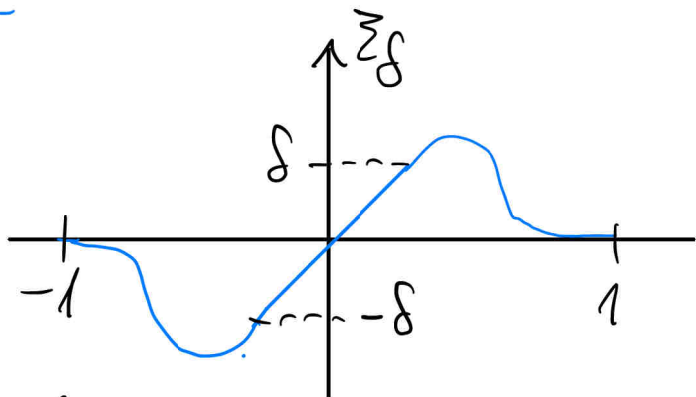
$$\vec{\xi}_\delta(y) = (\xi_\delta(y_1), \dots, \xi_\delta(y_n))$$

This corrects the previous bad term, BVT gives two other terms:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} 2\psi(x)(\psi(x) - \psi(y)) u_e(x) u_e(y) K(y) dy$$

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where



$x=0$  will be later any point in  $B_1$  !!  $\leftarrow$

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& use

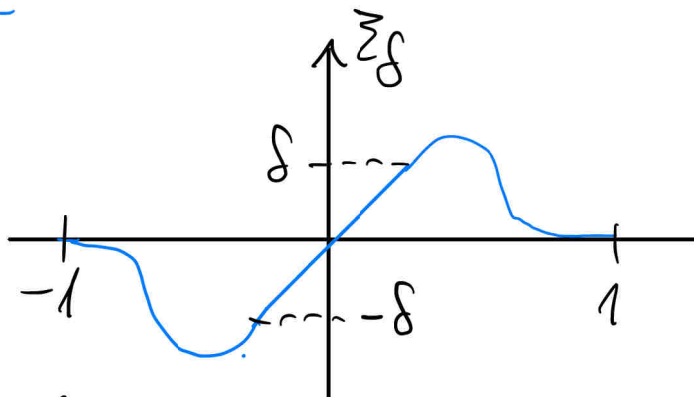
$$\int_{B_1} |y| |\vec{\xi}_\delta(y)| K(y) dy \leq \varepsilon$$

if  $\delta$  small  $\blacksquare$

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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

