

# Pointwise properties of Sobolev Functions

## Affine Behaviour in an Integral Sense

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## Introduction

Consider the differential quotient of  $f \in C^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N)$  with  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open and bdd., let  $x_0, y \in \Omega$  and  $[x_0, y] \subset \Omega$ :

$$\frac{u(y) - u(x_0)}{|y - x_0|}$$

(Note: differential quotient is everywhere pointwise-defined).

Aim:

- Weaken the differential quotient definition in an integral sense
- The differential quotient for Sobolev functions can be approximated ( $\mathbb{L}^p$ -limes) by the weak Jacobi matrix
- Using a Poincaré inequality and Lebesgue differentiation theorem (Application)

## Recall:

- $W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N) := \left\{ u \in L^p(\Omega)^N \mid \begin{array}{l} u_i \in L^p(\Omega) \\ u_i \text{ weak diff.} \\ i = 1, \dots, N \end{array} \right\}$
- Weak Jacobi: Let  $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N)$ , then there exist for a.a.  $x_0 \in \Omega$  the weak derivative of  $u_i$  in  $x_0$  in direction  $e_j \in \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $i = 1, \dots, N$  and  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ), i.e.  $D^j u_i(x_0)$ . So we have the weak Jacobi  $[\nabla u(x_0)]$  in the following way defined:  $\left( D^j u_i(x_0) \right)_{\substack{i=1, \dots, N \\ j=1, \dots, n}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$

## Lebesgue Differentiation Theorem

Let  $f \in L^p(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N)$  with  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , then for a.e.  $x_0 \in \Omega$  (Lebesgue points), we have:

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \int_{B(x_0, r)} |f(y) - f(x_0)|^p dy = 0$$

We even have:

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \int_{B(x_0, r)} \left| f(y) - \left( \int_{B(x_0, r)} f(z) dz \right) \right|^p dy = 0$$

Instead of balls, we can use cubes

(i.e.  $Q(x_0, r) = ([x_0]_1 - \frac{r}{2}, [x_0]_1 + \frac{r}{2}) \times \dots \times ([x_0]_n - \frac{r}{2}, [x_0]_n + \frac{r}{2})$ )

Proof is using maximal functions (see Huettenseminar WS13, Dr. Soneji).

## Poincaré Inequalities

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  bdd., connected and open with Lip.-boundary,  $1 \leq p < \infty$ .  
Then there exists a const.  $c = c(\Omega, p, N) > 0$  s.t.  $\forall u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N)$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} \left| u(x) - \left( \int_{\Omega} u \right) \right|^p dx \leq c \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p dx$$

Proof uses

- An indirect argument (proof by contradiction) and
- The Rellich-Kondrachov Compactness Theorem for a specially constructed sequence of functions (see Evans, PDE page 290).

(Rellich-Kondrachov:  $W^{1,p}(\Omega) \subset\subset L^q(\Omega)$ ,  $1 \leq q < p^* = \frac{pn}{n-p}$ )

# Poincaré Inequalities

Consider  $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,  $\Omega = Q(x_0, r)$  and  $Q = Q(0, 1)$  as unit cube.  
 By Poincaré  $\exists c = c(Q, p, N) > 0$  s.t.  $\forall u \in W^{1,p}(Q(x_0, r), \mathbb{R}^N)$ :

$$\int_{Q(x_0, r)} \left| u(x) - \left( \int_{Q(x_0, r)} u \right) \right|^p \leq cr^p \int_{Q(x_0, r)} |\nabla u|^p dx$$

(Proof in Ziemer, Weakly Differentiable Functions (page 126, theorem 3.4.1))

# Pointwise Properties of Sobolev Functions

## Affine behaviour in an integral sense

Let  $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N)$  with  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open.  
Then for  $\mathcal{L}^n - a.e.$   $x_0 \in \Omega$ :

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \int_{Q(x_0, r)} \left| \frac{u(y) - u(x_0)}{r} - \frac{[\nabla u(x_0)](y - x_0)}{r} \right|^p dy = 0$$

with  $r$  small enough (i.e.  $Q(x, r) \subset \Omega$ ; possible by openness).

Note: the affine map (weak Jacobi)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [\nabla u(x_0)] : Q(x_0, r) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^N \\ y \mapsto \nabla u(x_0)y \end{array} \right\}$  exists

for  $\mathcal{L}^n - a.a.$   $x_0 \in \Omega$

## Proof:

Let  $x_0 \in \Omega$  be an Lebesgue point for  $\nabla u$  and  $u$ , i.e.

$$x_0 \in \bigcap_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n \\ |\alpha| \leq 1 \\ j \in \{1, \dots, N\}}} \underbrace{\{\text{Leb. pts. of } D^\alpha u_j\}}_{\text{are } \mathcal{L}^n\text{-a.a. } x \in \Omega}$$

Claim: For the next almost everywhere defined function on  $\Omega$ , holds:

$$\Omega \ni x_0 \mapsto \int_{Q(x_0, r)} [\nabla u(x_0)] y dy \stackrel{(!)}{=} [\nabla u(x_0)] x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^N$$



Claim Proof:

$$\int_{Q(x_0, r)} [\nabla u(x_0)] y dy = \int_{Q(x_0, r)} \left( \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} D^{\alpha_j} u_i(x_0) y_j \right)_{i=1, \dots, N} dy =$$

$$\left( \sum_{j=1, \dots, n} D^{\alpha_j} u_i(x_0) \int_{Q(x_0, r)} y_j \right)_{i=1, \dots, N} dy =$$

$$[\nabla u(x_0)] \underbrace{\int_{Q(x_0, r)} y dy}_{=0} = [\nabla u(x_0)] x_0$$

$$= \int_{Q(0, r)} y + x_0 dy = 0 + x_0, \text{ see (**)}$$

$$(**) : \left( \int_{Q(0,r)} y_i dy \right)_i \underbrace{=}_{\text{Fubini}} \left( \frac{1}{\text{Vol}(Q(0,r))} \int_{-\frac{r}{2}}^{+\frac{r}{2}} dy_1 \dots \underbrace{\int_{-\frac{r}{2}}^{+\frac{r}{2}} y_i dy_i}_{=0} \dots \int_{-\frac{r}{2}}^{+\frac{r}{2}} dy_n \right)_i = 0$$

By Poincaré's inequality and claim (i.e. case  $\Omega = Q(x_0, r)$ ) used for  $\varphi : y \mapsto u(y) - [\nabla u(x_0)]y$ , we get:

$$\int_{Q(x_0,r)} \left| u(y) - \left( \int_{Q(x_0,r)} u \right) - [\nabla u(x_0)](y - x_0) \right|^p dy =$$

$$\int_{Q(x_0,r)} \left| \varphi(y) - \left( \int_{Q(x_0,r)} \varphi \right) \right|^p dy =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_{Q(x_0, r)} \left| \varphi(y) - \left( \int_{Q(x_0, r)} \varphi \right) \right|^p dy \quad \underbrace{\leq}_{\text{Poincaré claim}} \\
 cr^p \int_{Q(x_0, r)} |\nabla \varphi|^p dx &= cr^p \int_{Q(x_0, r)} |\nabla u(y) - \nabla u(x_0)|^p dx
 \end{aligned}$$

By the Lebesgue differentiation Theorem ( $\nabla \varphi(\bullet) \in L^p(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^{N \times n})$ ) we get the conv. to zero!

Finally:

- Dividing both sides with  $r^p$  and using the fact of Lebesgue points, we get for a.a.  $x_0 \in \Omega$ :

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{Q(x_0, r)} \left| \frac{u(y) - \left( \int_{Q(x_0, r)} u \right) - [\nabla u(x_0)](y - x_0)}{r} \right|^p dy = 0$$

- With W. Ziemer, Weakly Differentiable Functions (page 129, Theorem 3.4.2.) it is possible to replace  $\int_{Q(x_0,r)} u(y)dy$  with  $u(x_0)$ .
  - ▶ Ziemer proves our theorem even for weak Taylor series.
  - ▶ (Proof uses Lebesgue Differentiation Theorem, mollifiers and Lebesgue Dominated Convergence)

So we have for a.a.  $x_0 \in \Omega$ :

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \int_{Q(x_0,r)} \left| \frac{u(y) - u(x_0) - [\nabla u(x_0)](y - x_0)}{r} \right|^p dy = 0$$

Conclusion:

this Theorem tells us: The Differential Quotient  $\frac{u(y) - u(x_0)}{|y - x_0|}$  behaves like the affine map  $y \mapsto \nabla u(x_0)y$  close to  $x_0$  in an integral sense.

## Morrey's Theorem

Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^{N \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a quasiconvex\* function with  $0 \leq f(A) < C(1 + |A|^p)$  for some  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . Then

$$F(u, \Omega) = \int_{\Omega} f(\nabla u) dx$$

is sequentially weakly lower semicontinuous in  $W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^N)$ .

Proof Idea:

- Prove this, first using  $\Omega = Q$ ,  $u_j \rightharpoonup Ax$  (affine map  $A$ ).
- Use this property to obtain result in general case (by blowup method).

Such affine map approximation like in Morrey's theorem is often used in Calculus of Variations.

\*:  $\int_Q f(A + \nabla \varphi) dx \geq f(A) \quad \forall A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}, \forall \varphi \in W_0^{1,\infty}(Q, \mathbb{R}^N)$