

# Blowup & Stationary Solutions in Aggregation Equations

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# Outline

- 1 Macroscopic Models: measure solutions.
  - Origin & Main Questions
  - Gradient Flows
  - Finite versus Infinite time Blow-up
- 2 Measure Solutions
  - Not too singular potentials
  - Singular repulsive potentials in 1D
- 3 Attractive-Repulsive Potentials
  - Particle Simulations
  - Stability/Instability of Delta Rings
  - Dimensionality of the support
- 4 Conclusions

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# Aggregation for particles - Continuum Model

One particle attracted by a fixed location  $x = a$

$$\dot{X} = -\nabla U(X - a) \quad U(x) = U(-x), U(0) = 0, U \in C(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}) \cap C^1(\mathbb{R}^d / \{0\}, \mathbb{R})$$

Multiple particles attracted by one another

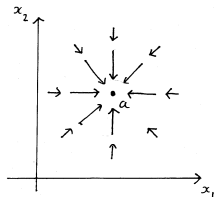
$$\dot{X}_i = - \sum_{j \neq i} m_j \nabla U(X_i - X_j)$$

$\rho(t, x)$  = density of particle at time  $t$

$$v(x) = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla U(x - y) \rho(y) dy$$

So  $v = -\nabla U * \rho$  with Morse potential  $U(x) = 1 - e^{-|x|}$ :

$$\begin{cases} \rho_t + \operatorname{div}(\rho v) = 0 \\ v = -\nabla U * \rho \end{cases}$$



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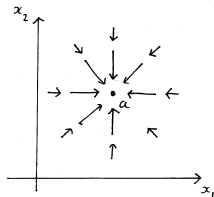
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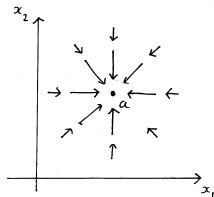
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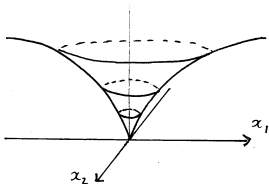
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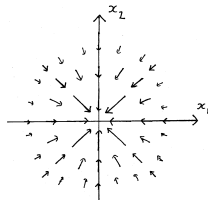
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“interaction potential”



$\rho(t, x)$  : density  
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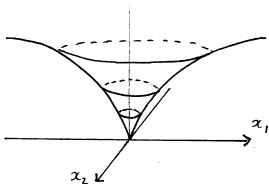
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For which interaction attractive/repulsive potentials do we get convergence towards some nontrivial steady states?

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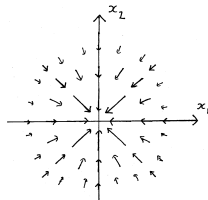
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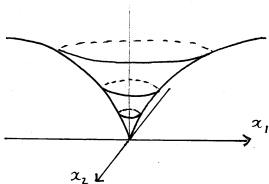
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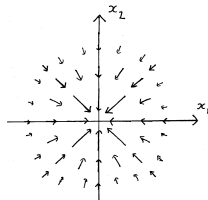
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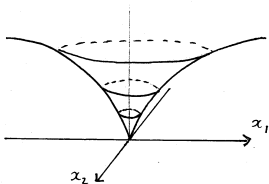
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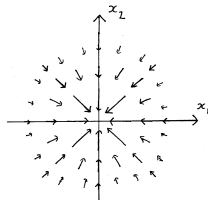
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# Formal Gradient Flow

## Basic Properties

- ① **Conservation of the center of mass.**
- ② **Liapunov Functional:** Gradient flow of

$$\mathcal{F}[\rho] = \frac{1}{2} \iint U(x-y) \rho(x) \rho(y) dx dy$$

with respect to the Wasserstein distance  $W_2$ .

The macroscopic equation can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}(t, x) = \operatorname{div} \left( \rho(t, x) \nabla \left[ \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \rho}(t, x) \right] \right).$$

with entropy dissipation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{F}[\rho(t)] = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \rho(t, x) \left| \nabla \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \rho}(t, x) \right|^2 dx.$$

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# JKO scheme (Jordan-Kinderlehrer-Otto)

A discrete time approximation of the PDE is obtained by solving a sequences of variational problem.

- Choose a time step  $\Delta t$ .
- Solve

$$\rho_{k+1} = \arg \min_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2^a(\mathbb{R}^d)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2 \Delta t} W_2^2(\rho, \rho_k) + \mathcal{F}(\rho) \right\}$$

- As  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  it converges to the solution of a weak form of

$$\begin{cases} \rho_t + \operatorname{div}(\rho v) = 0 \\ v = -\nabla U * \rho \end{cases}$$

The convergence for smooth  $C^1$  potentials  $U$  with at most quadratic growth at infinity given in "Gradient Flow in Metric Spaces" by Ambrosio, Gigli, Savaré.

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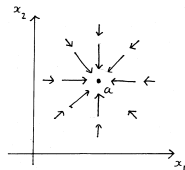
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# Osgood condition

$$\dot{X} = -\nabla U(X - a)$$

Question: how long does it take for a particle to reach the bottom of a fixed potential?



$$\begin{cases} \dot{r} = -k'(r) \\ r(0) = L \end{cases}$$

$$U(x) = k(|x|)$$

Answer:

$$T = \int_0^L \frac{dr}{k'(r)}$$

because to move by a distance  $dr$ , it takes the particle a time  $\frac{dr}{k'(r)}$

# Finite/Infinite time Blow-up

Sharp condition on the interaction potential in order to get blowup

- If  $\int_0^L \frac{dr}{k'(r)} = +\infty$ , then we have global existence in

$$C([0, \infty), L^1 \cap L^p) \cap C^1([0, \infty), W^{-1,p}) \quad \text{for } p > \frac{d}{d-1}.$$

$L^1 \cap L^\infty$  (Bertozzi, C., Laurent; Nonlinearity 2009)

$L^1 \cap L^p$  (Bertozzi, Laurent, Rosado; CPAM 2011)

- If  $\int_0^L \frac{dr}{k'(r)} < +\infty$ , then  $\rho(t) \rightarrow \delta_{x_0}$  in finite time.

(C., DiFrancesco, Figalli, Laurent, Slepcev; Duke Math. J. 2011)

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# Gradient Flow Solutions

Let  $U$  be a potential with at most quadratic behavior at infinity such that its only possible singularity is at zero. Moreover, assume that  $U$  is  $\lambda$ -convex:

$$U(x) - \frac{\lambda}{2}|x|^2 \text{ is convex.}$$

The typical example in our applications is **swarming: the attractive Morse potential**

$$U(x) = 1 - e^{-|x|} \text{ is } -1\text{-convex.}$$

Let us denote  $\partial^0 U(x) = \nabla U(x)$  for all  $x \neq 0$  and  $\partial^0 U(0) = 0$ .

## Concept of Solution

An absolutely continuous curve  $\mu : [0, +\infty) \ni t \mapsto \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is said to be a *weak measure solution* with initial datum  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  if and only if  $\partial^0 U * \mu \in L^2(\mu(t))$  a.e.  $\tau \in (0, t)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi_t(x, \tau) d\mu(t)(x) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \phi(x, 0) d\mu_0(x) = \\ \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla \varphi(t, x) \cdot \partial^0 U(x - y) d\mu(t)(x) d\mu(t)(y), \end{aligned}$$

for all test functions  $\varphi \in C_c^\infty([0, t] \times \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

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# Sub-differential Characterization

## Characterization of Sub-differential

Given a potential with the hypotheses above, the vector field

$$\kappa(x) := \int_{y \neq x} \nabla U(x-y) d\mu(y) \equiv (\partial^0 U * \mu)(x)$$

is the unique element of the minimal subdifferential of  $\mathcal{F}$ , i.e.  $\partial^0 U * \mu = \partial^0 \mathcal{F}[\mu]$ .

The solution obtained by JKO is a gradient flow-type solution:

$$v(t) = -\partial^0 \mathcal{F}[\mu(t)] = -\partial^0 U * \mu(t), \quad \|v(t)\|_{L^2(\mu(t))} = |\mu'(t)| \text{ a.e. } t > 0$$

with  $\mu(0) = \mu_0$  and  $v(t)$  is the tangent vector to the curve  $\mu(t)$  with minimal norm.

## Characterization of Sub-differential 2

Recently, in collaboration with S. Lisini and E. Mainini, we extend this to the case of  $U(x)$  convex (not only  $\lambda$ -convex) and radial, allowing more Lipschitz points in the potential.

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The solution obtained by JKO is a gradient flow-type solution:

$$v(t) = -\partial^0 \mathcal{F}[\mu(t)] = -\partial^0 U * \mu(t), \quad \|v(t)\|_{L^2(\mu(t))} = |\mu'| (t) \text{ a.e. } t > 0$$

with  $\mu(0) = \mu_0$  and  $v(t)$  is the tangent vector to the curve  $\mu(t)$  with minimal norm.

## Characterization of Sub-differential 2

Recently, in collaboration with S. Lisini and E. Mainini, we extend this to the case of  $U(x)$  **convex (not only  $\lambda$ -convex) and radial**, allowing more Lipschitz points in the potential.

# Well-posedness of Gradient Flow Solutions

Energy equality is satisfied:

$$\int_a^b \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |v(t, x)|^2 d\mu(t)(x) dt + \mathcal{F}[\mu(a)] = \mathcal{F}[\mu(b)]$$

holds for all  $0 \leq a \leq b < \infty$ .

## $W_2$ -Expansion

Given two gradient flow solutions  $\mu^1(t)$  and  $\mu^2(t)$  in the sense of the theorem above, then

$$W_2(\mu^1(t), \mu^2(t)) \leq e^{-\lambda t} W_2(\mu_0^1, \mu_0^2)$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . In particular, we have a unique gradient flow solution for any given  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_2^o(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

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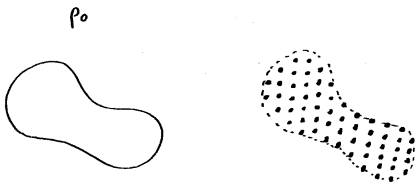
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# Proof of blowup using the particle model

We want to prove that if  $U(x) = k(|x|)$ ,  $\lambda$ -convex and

$$\int_0^L \frac{dr}{k'(r)} < +\infty, \implies \rho(t) \rightarrow \delta_{x_c} \text{ in finite time}$$



Find a bound (independent of the nb. of particles) for the time it takes for all the particles to arrive at  $X_0$ .

$$\dot{X}_i = - \sum_{j \neq i} m_j \nabla U(X_i - X_j) = - \sum_{j \neq i} m_j \frac{X_i - X_j}{|X_i - X_j|} k'(|X_i - X_j|)$$

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# Repulsive Singular Potential in 1D

The nonlocal equation

$$u_t + (H(u)u)_x = 0$$

with general nonnegative initial Borel measures  $u_0$ . Here,  $H(u)$  denotes the classical Hilbert transform

$$H(u) = \frac{1}{\pi} P.V. \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{u(z)}{x-z} dz.$$

Motivations in fluid mechanics as 1D "analogs" of the Euler equation: Constantin, Lax, Majda, Córdoba, Fontelos... and dislocation dynamics in crystals: Head, Biler, Karch, Monneau.

It has the structure of gradient flow with potential:

$$\tilde{U}(x) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{\pi} \log |x| & \text{for } x \neq 0 \\ +\infty & \text{at } x = 0 \end{cases}.$$

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# Displacement Convexity in 1D

Given the free energy:

$$E_\alpha[\rho] = \begin{cases} \alpha \mathcal{V}[\rho] + \mathcal{W}[\rho] & \text{for } \rho \in \mathcal{P}_2^{ac}(\mathbb{R}) \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

with  $\alpha = 0$  or  $= 1$  where for  $\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$

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## Convexity and Global Minimum

The functional  $E_\alpha$  is **displacement convex**. The functional  $E_1$  has a unique compactly supported global minimum given by the semicircular law:

$$\bar{\rho}(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{(2-x^2)_+} dx.$$

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Saff-Totik, Logarithmic Capacity.

# Global Measure Solutions

Let  $\rho_0 \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$  and the functional  $E_\alpha$ . The following assertions hold:

- ① **(Existence and Uniqueness)** The JKO discrete interpolated curve  $\rho_t^\tau$  converges locally uniformly to a locally Lipschitz curve  $\rho_t := S_t[\rho_0]$  in  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$  which is the unique gradient flow of  $E_\alpha$  with  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \rho_t = \rho_0$ . Moreover, the curve lies in  $\mathcal{P}_2^{ac}(\mathbb{R})$ , for all  $t > 0$ .
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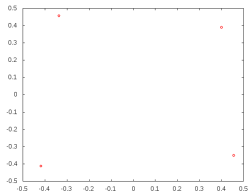
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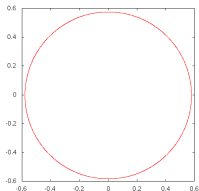
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# Some numerics: Particle Simulations $d = 2$

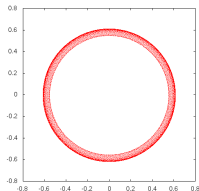
Potential  $a = 4$ ,  
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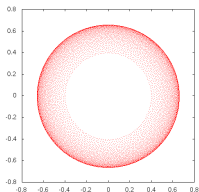
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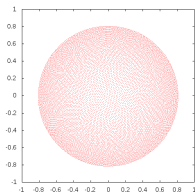
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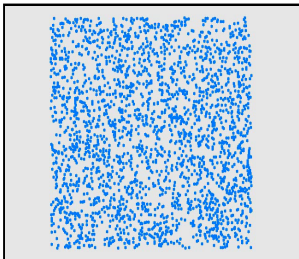
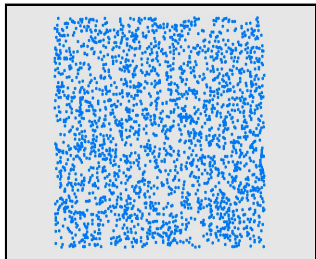


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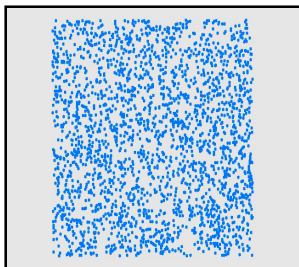
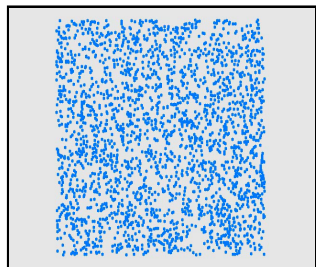
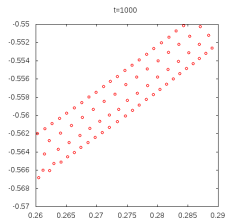
$$U(x) = \frac{|x|^a}{a} - \frac{|x|^b}{b}$$

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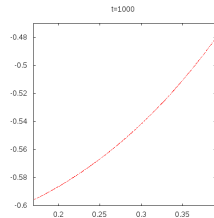
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# Existence of Spherical Shells Steady States

## Spherical Shells Stationary States

Given a radially symmetric potential  $U(x) = k(|x|)$  belonging to  $C^2(\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\})$  such that  $k'(r)r^{d-2}$  is integrable on  $(0, 1)$ . Let us assume that the potential is repulsive-attractive in the following sense: there exists  $R_a > 0$  such that

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Then there exists at least a  $R > 0$  such that the spherical shell  $\delta_R \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is a steady state to  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}(t, x) = \operatorname{div}(\rho(t, x) [\nabla U * \rho](t, x))$ .

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# Radial Setting

The velocity field generated by a spherical shell of radius  $\eta$  is given by:

$$\omega(r, \eta) = -\frac{1}{\sigma_N} \int_{\partial B(0,1)} \nabla U(re_1 - \eta y) \cdot e_1 d\sigma(y),$$

Under some conditions on the potential  $U$ , the function  $\omega \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$ .

The equation  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}(t, x) = \operatorname{div}(\rho(t, x) [\nabla U * \rho](t, x))$  written in radial coordinates is

$$\partial_t \hat{\mu} + \partial_r(\hat{\mu} \hat{v}) = 0$$

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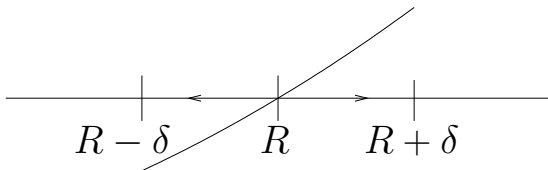
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# Radial Setting: Instability Result

## Instability of Spherical Shells

Assume that the spherical shell  $\delta_R$  is a steady state, that is,  $\omega(R, R) = 0$ , and that  $\omega \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$  and  $\partial_1 \omega(R, R) > 0$ .

Then it is not possible for an  $L^p$  radially symmetric solution to converge weakly-\* as measures to  $\delta_R$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

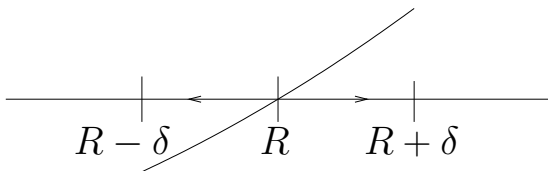


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# Radial Setting: Instability Result

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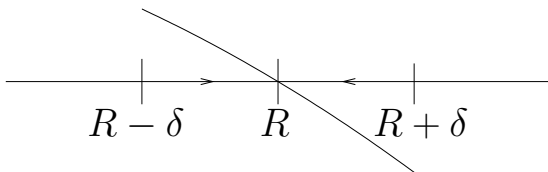
Assume  $\omega \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$  and that  $\delta_R$  is a stationary solution,  $\omega(R, R) = 0$ . Let us assume that

$$\partial_1 \omega(R, R) < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_1 \omega(R, R) + \partial_2 \omega(R, R) < 0.$$

Then there exists  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  such that if the initial data  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}'_2(\mathbb{R}^N)$  satisfies  $\text{supp}(\hat{\mu}_0) \subset [R - \varepsilon_0, R + \varepsilon_0]$ , then the solution satisfies

$$W_2(\hat{\mu}_t, \delta_R) \leq C e^{-\gamma t},$$

for any  $0 < \gamma < -\max(\partial_1 \omega(R, R), \frac{d}{dR} \omega(R, R))$  for suitable  $C$ .



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## Local Stability of Spherical Shells

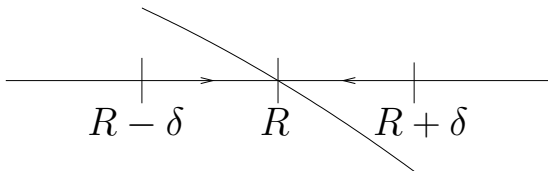
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$$\partial_1 \omega(R, R) < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_1 \omega(R, R) + \partial_2 \omega(R, R) < 0.$$

Then there exists  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  such that if the initial data  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_2'(\mathbb{R}^N)$  satisfies  $\text{supp}(\hat{\mu}_0) \subset [R - \varepsilon_0, R + \varepsilon_0]$ , then the solution satisfies

$$W_2(\hat{\mu}_t, \delta_R) \leq C e^{-\gamma t},$$

for any  $0 < \gamma < -\max(\partial_1 \omega(R, R), \frac{d}{dR} \omega(R, R))$  for suitable  $C$ .

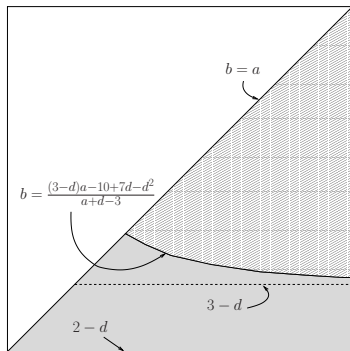


# Power-Law Case

$$U(x) = \frac{|x|^a}{a} - \frac{|x|^b}{b} \quad 2-d < b < a$$

Theorem: Ins/Stability of Delta Rings with respect to radial perturbations.

- There is a computable value of  $R$  such that the uniform distribution on the sphere of radius  $R$ ,  $\delta_R$  is a steady state.
- If the velocity field generated by  $\delta_R$  is strictly increasing at  $R$  then it is unstable.
- If the velocity field generated by  $\delta_R$  is strictly decreasing at  $R$  then it is locally asymptotically stable.

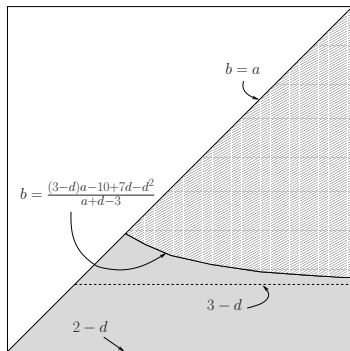


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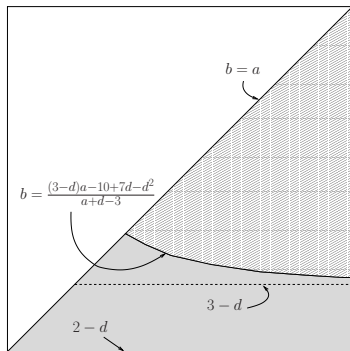


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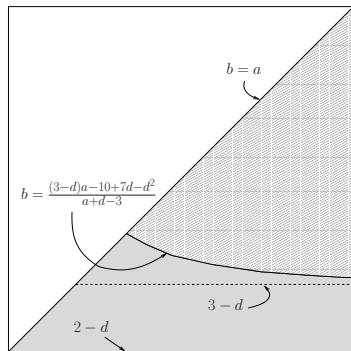


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# Outline

- 1 Macroscopic Models: measure solutions.
  - Origin & Main Questions
  - Gradient Flows
  - Finite versus Infinite time Blow-up
- 2 Measure Solutions
  - Not too singular potentials
  - Singular repulsive potentials in 1D
- 3 Attractive-Repulsive Potentials
  - Particle Simulations
  - Stability/Instability of Delta Rings
  - Dimensionality of the support
- 4 Conclusions

# Mild Repulsive potentials: $b > 2$

Support is essentially 0-dimensional.

Let  $U \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^N)$  be a radially symmetric potential which is equal to  $-|x|^b/b$  in a neighborhood of the origin with  $b > 2$ .

Then a local minimizer of the interaction energy with respect to  $W_\infty$  cannot have a  $k$ -dimensional component for any  $1 \leq k \leq d$ .

Assumptions are really that the convexity properties near the origin are equal to a power-law with  $b > 2$ .

Strategy: By Contradiction we built a better competitor locally by sending part of the mass to a Dirac Delta.



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A radially symmetric function  $g \in C(\mathbb{R}^N \setminus \{0\})$  is said to be locally integrable on  $k$ -dimensional manifolds if

$$\int_{[0,1]^k} |g(\hat{x}, 0)| d\hat{x} < +\infty$$

where  $\hat{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$ , or equivalently, if  $g(r)r^{k-1}$  is integrable on  $(0, 1)$ .

Dimension of the Support depends on  $b$ .

Assume that  $\mu$  is a local minimizer of the interaction energy with respect to  $W_\infty$  and that  $U$  is radial.

If the divergence of the velocity field created by  $\mu$ , i.e.,  $-\Delta U * \mu$  is not integrable on  $k$ -dimensional manifolds, then  $\mu$  cannot contain  $k$ -dimensional manifolds in its support.

Remark: For  $U(x) \sim -|x|^b$  near zero,  $\Delta W$  is locally integrable on  $k$ -dimensional manifold iff  $2 - b < k$ .

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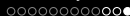
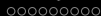
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