Lecture I

An introduction to (Lagsangian)

mean curvature flow with

high codimension

U Conn Summer School,

Yng - Ing Lee

National Taiwan Univ.



Mean curvature flow (MCF)

 \blacktriangleright Let Σ^n be a smooth submanifold in a Riemannian manifold N. If there is a family of smooth immersions $X_t: \Sigma^n \to N$ satisfying

$$\begin{cases} \left(\frac{\partial X_t(x)}{\partial t}\right)^{\perp} = H(X_t(x))\\ X_0 = Id \end{cases}$$

then Σ_t is called a MCF of Σ .

$$\blacktriangleright H = g^{ij} \left(\nabla_{\frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i}} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} \right)^{\perp}, \text{ where } g_{ij} = \left\langle \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle.$$

A nonlinear weakly parabolic quasi-linear system, when coupling with a diffeomorphism of Σ , the flow can be made into a normal deformation.

 $\frac{dA_{t}}{dt} = -\int_{\Sigma} \langle H, V \rangle dV_{d} \xi$

MCF decreases the area most rapidly

 $\cdot \left(\frac{\partial X_{t}}{\partial t}\right)^{+} = H \implies stationary pts are minimal$

· also along the flow, geometry improved ex: isoperimetric ratio

· Embedded closed plane curves Shrnke to round pte (Gage - Hamilton - Grayson)

. Embedded convex closed hyper surface in R" shrink to round pointe (Huisken)

true for some complete non compact case

- Short time existence for any smooth compact initial data. Singularities may occur at larger time. The flow forms singularities when the second fundamental form of the submanifold blows up.
- Use parabolic blow up to understand the profile of isolated singularity.
- \blacktriangleright Assume $N = \mathbb{R}^m$ now for simplicity. A parabolic dilation of scale $\lambda > 0$ at (x_0, t_0) is defined to be

$$D_{\lambda}: (x,t) \mapsto (\lambda(x-x_0), \lambda^2(t-t))$$

• Denote $s = \lambda^2 (t - t_0)$ and $\Sigma_s^{\lambda} = D_{\lambda} (\Sigma_{t_0 + \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}}})$. Then Σ_s^{λ} also satisfies MCF and $t \in [0, t_0) \Rightarrow s \in (-\lambda^2 t_0, 0]$.

 $t_0)).$

avoid Principle

3. Let $\{M_t^1\}, \{M_t^2\}, t \in [a, b]$ be two family of compact embedded hypersurfaces evolving by the mean curvature flow. Suppose $M_a^1 \cap M_a^2 = \phi$. Then

$$\frac{d}{dt}\operatorname{dist}(M_t^1, M_t^2) \ge 0$$

at points of differentiability. In particular, their distance is increasing.

(idea): choose X1. X2 realizing distance. Compute $\frac{d}{dt}$ dist(X1. X2). If < 0. lead to contradiction

Sphere of radius
$$\sqrt{y_0^2} - 2nt$$
 $H = -$



· avoid principle ie not true for higher codim MCF.

ler MCFI. sol is

- The For Ho : unit sphere

=) Grayson's result not hold for N>2

Note: MCF of any clused submfd in R^N must develop finite time Singularity: $\frac{d}{dt} |X|^2 = \Delta_t |X|^2 - 2n = \frac{d}{dt} (||X||^2 + 2nt) = \Delta_t (||X||^2 + 2nt)$ If $\|X_{i0}\|^2 \le t_0^2$, max principle $\Rightarrow \|X_{t1}\|^2 + 2nt \le v_0^2$ Huisken use normalized of. to analyize the case (hypersurface) In general manifold, the situation could be different. Difficultier for MCF in high codim D'The flow is a nonlinear system, cannot reduce to one Scalar equation as in codi 1 us avoid principle) (Codin 1. good maximum principle

(2) 2nd. foundamental form. Symmetric two tensors valued in non trivial normal bundle ~> no natural convex condition What still continue to hold? D Brakke's regularity Thm (2) Hamilton's maximum principle for tensors (3) Huisken's monotonscity formula A White regularity Thm

To study the flow, one need ter look into the evolution ezr of G. H. IAI². ---In higher codimension, it is much more complicated. For a map fo: M1 > M2, Wang studied MCF of its graph Z_{fo} C (M₁, J₁) × (M₂, J₂). Weing singular de composition of the differential (shij eigenvalues of (df df) and suitable basic. the evolution ez can be simplied. Evolution of $\# \Omega = \frac{1}{\sqrt{11}(H\lambda_{1}^{2})}$ ie particularly imporant. (a general zation of $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+1}\sqrt{5}}$) for hypersurface $M_{2} = R$

Theorem A. Let (Σ_1, g) and (Σ_2, h) be Riemannian manifolds of constant curvature k_1 and k_2 respectively and f be a smooth map from Σ_1 to Σ_2 . Suppose $k_1 \ge |k_2|$. If det $(g_{ij} + (f^*h)_{ij}) < 2$, the mean curvature flow of the graph of f remains a graph and exists for all time.

The mean curvature flow for graphs appears to favor positively curved domain manifold. The convergence theorem is the following.

Theorem B. Let (Σ_1, g) and (Σ_2, h) be Riemannian manifolds of constant curvature k_1 and k_2 respectively and f be a smooth map from Σ_1 to Σ_2 . Suppose $k_1 \ge |k_2|$ and $k_1 + k_2 > 0$. If $det(g_{ij} + (f^*h)_{ij}) < 2$, then the mean curvature flow of the graph of f converges to the graph of a constant map at infinity.

2 can prove

White's Thm)

I tende to co

 $\Pi(1+\lambda_r^2) < Z$

(Wang 2002)

(Wong - Tsui 2004)

THEOREM 1.1 Let Σ_1 and Σ_2 be compact Riemannian manifolds of constant curvature k_1 and k_2 , respectively. Suppose $k_1 \ge |k_2|$, $k_1 + k_2 > 0$, and dim $(\Sigma_1) \ge 2$. If f is a smooth, area-decreasing map from Σ_1 to Σ_2 , the mean curvature flow of the graph of f remains the graph of an area-decreasing map, exists for all time, and converges smoothly to the graph of a constant map.

COROLLARY 1.2 Any area-decreasing map from \mathbb{S}^n to \mathbb{S}^m with $n \geq 2$ is homotopically trivial.

(L - Lee, 20/1)

Theorem 1. Let (N_1, g) and (N_2, h) be two compact Riemannian manifolds, and let f be a smooth map from N_1 to N_2 . Assume that $K_{N_1} \ge k_1$ and $K_{N_2} \le k_2$ for two constants k_1 and k_2 , where K_{N_1} and K_{N_2} are the sectional curvature of N_1 and N_2 , respectively. Suppose either $k_1 \ge 0, k_2 \le 0$, or $k_1 \ge k_2 > 0$. Then the following results hold:

- (i) If $\frac{\det((g+f^*h)_{ij})}{\det(q_{ij})} < 4$, then the mean curvature flow of the graph of f remains the graph of a map and exists for all time.
- (ii) Furthermore, if $k_1 > 0$, then the mean curvature flow converges smoothly to the graph of a constant map.

 $\lambda_c \lambda_j < 1$

Theorem 2. Assume the same conditions as in Theorem 1. Then the following results hold:

- (i) If f is a smooth area-decreasing map from N_1 to N_2 , then the mean curvature flow of the graph of f remains the graph of an area-decreasing map and exists for all time.
- (ii) Furthermore, if $k_1 > 0$, then the mean curvature flow converges smoothly to the graph of a constant map.

Theorem A. Let M and N be two compact Riemannian manifolds. Assume that m =dim $M \ge 2$ and that there exists a positive constant σ such that the sectional curvatures \sec_M of M and \sec_N of N and the Ricci curvature Ric_M of M satisfy

$$\sec_M > -\sigma$$
, $\operatorname{Ric}_M \ge (m-1)\sigma \ge (m-1) \sec_N$.

If $f: M \to N$ is a strictly area decreasing smooth map, then the mean curvature flow of the graph of f remains the graph of a strictly area decreasing map and exists for all time. Moreover, under the mean curvature flow the area decreasing map converges to a constant map.

Wang 2001, 2005

Theorem 4.1 Let Σ^1 and Σ^2 be two compact closed Riemann surfaces with metrics of the same constant curvature c. Let ω_1 and ω_2 be the volume forms of Σ^1 and Σ^2 , respectively. Consider a map $f: \Sigma^1 \to \Sigma^2$ that satisfies $f^*\omega_2 = \omega_1$, *i.e.* f is an area-preserving map or a symplectomorphism. Denote by Σ_t the mean curvature flow of the graph of f in $M = \Sigma^1 \times \Sigma^2$. We have

1. Σ_t exists smoothly for all t > 0 and converges smoothly to Σ_{∞} as $t \to \infty$.

2. Each Σ_t is the graph of a symplectomorphism $f_t: \Sigma^1 \to \Sigma^2$ and f_t converges smoothly to a symplectomorphism $f_{\infty}: \Sigma^1 \to \Sigma^2$ as $t \to \infty$.

Moreover,

$$f_{\infty} is \begin{cases} an isometry & if c > \\ a linear map & if c = \\ a harmonic diffeormophism & if c < \\ \end{cases}$$

Since any diffeomorphism is isotopic to an area preserving diffeomorphism, this gives a new proof of Smale's theorem [29] that O(3) is the deformation retract of the diffeomorphism group of S^2 . For a positive genus Riemann surface, this implies the identity component of the diffeomorphism group is contractible.

min Lag 0 0

(Medos-Wang, >011)

Theorem 4 [24] There exists an explicitly computable constant $\Lambda > 1$ depending only on n, such that any symplectomorphism $f: \mathbb{CP}^n \to \mathbb{CP}^n$ with

$$\frac{1}{\Lambda}g \le f^*g \le \Lambda g$$

is symplectically isotopic to a biholomorphic isometry of \mathbb{CP}^n through the mean curvature flow.

A theorem of Gromov [15] shows that, when n = 2, the statement holds true without any pinching condition by the method of pseudoholomorphic curves. Our theorem is not strong enough to give an analytic proof of Gromov's theorem for n = 2. However, for $n \ge 3$, this seems to be the first known result.

Smoczyk - Wang . 2002

Theorem A. Let Σ be a Lagrangian submanifold in T^{2n} . Suppose Σ is the graph of $f: T^n \to T^n$ and the potential function u of f is convex. Then the mean curvature flow of Σ exists for all time and converges smoothly to a flat Lagrangian submanifold.

evolution og for local potential u
$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-1}} \ln \frac{\det(I + \sqrt{-1}D^2u)}{\sqrt{\det(I + (D^2u)^2)}}.$$
 from $\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{U}_i = g^{sk} \mathcal{U}_{ij}$



Chau-Chen-He, 2012

Consider the fully nonlinear parabolic equation for a function $u : \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T) \to \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \arctan \lambda_i = 0 & \text{here} \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x) & \mathcal{H} \end{cases}$$

Theorem 1.1 Suppose that $u_0 : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is a function with L^{∞} Hessian satisfying

$$-(1-\delta)I_n \le \operatorname{ess\,inf} D^2 u_0 \le \operatorname{ess\,sup} D^2 u_0 \le (1-\delta)I_n$$

for any $\delta \in (0, 1)$. Then (1.1) has a longtime smooth solution u(x, t) for all t > 0 with initial condition u_0 such that the following estimates hold:

- 1. $-(1-\delta)I_n \leq D^2 u \leq (1-\delta)I_n$ for all t > 0.
- 2. $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |D^l u(x,t)|^2 \leq C_{l,\delta}/t^{l-2}$ for all $l \geq 3$, and some $C_{l,\delta}$ depending only on l, δ .
- u and Du are Hölder continuous in time at t = 0 with Hölder exponents 1 and 1/23. respectively.

If in addition $|Du_0(x)| \to 0$ as $|x| \to \infty$, then $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |Du(x, t)| \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$. In particular, the graph (x, Du(x, t)) immediately becomes smooth and converges smoothly on compact sets to the coordinate plane (x, 0) in \mathbb{R}^{2n} .

Li eigenvalves fir

a generalization (1.3) of hypersurface initial case of Eker-Huisken

dinates

Theorem 1.2 Suppose that $u_0 : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is a function with L^{∞} Hessian satisfying (1.3) and suppose that

$$\lim_{\lambda \to \infty} \lambda^{-2} u_0(\lambda x) = U_0(x)$$

for some $U_0(x)$. Let u(x, t) be the solution to (1.1) with initial data $u_0(x)$. Then $\lambda^{-2}u(\lambda x, \lambda^2 t)$ converges to a smooth self-expanding solution U(x, t) to (1.1) uniformly on compact subsets of $\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty)$ as $\lambda \to \infty$, and U(x, t) converges to $U_0(x)$ uniformly on compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^n as $t \to 0$. In particular, there is a one-to-one correspondence between self-expanding solutions to (1.1) satisfying (1.3) and Lipschitz functions on \mathbb{R}^n which are homogeneous of degree 2 and satisfy (1.3).

Theorem 1.1 There exists a small positive dimensional constant $\eta = \eta(n)$ such that if $u_0 : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is a $C^{1,1}$ function satisfying

$$-(1+\eta)I_n \le D^2 u_0 \le (1+\eta)I_n$$

then (1) has a unique longtime smooth solution u(x, t) for all t > 0 with initial condition u_0 such that the following estimates hold:

- (i) $-\sqrt{3}I_n \le D^2 u \le \sqrt{3}I_n$ for all t > 0.
- (ii) $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |D^l u(x, t)|^2 \leq C_l / t^{l-2}$ for all $l \geq 3$, t > 0 and some C_l depending only on l.
- (iii) Du(x, t) is uniformly Hölder continuous in time at t = 0 with Hölder exponent 1/2.

1HI control 1A/ 8 Use Bernstein Thm (1.4)

almist complex potential

(2)

Monotonicity Formula (Huisken, 1990)

 \blacktriangleright Back heat kernel at (x_0, t_0)

$$\rho_{x_0,t_0}(x,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi(t_0-t)}^n} e^{\frac{-|x-x_0|^2}{4(t_0-t)}},$$

▶ If Σ_t satisfies MCF, then $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma_t} \rho_{x_0,t_0} d\mu_t = -\int_{\Sigma_t} \rho_{x_0,t_0} |H + \frac{d}{2(t_0 - t)} \mathcal{V}|^2 d\mu_t \le 0,$

 $\Rightarrow \lim_{t \to t_0} \int_{\Sigma_t} \rho_{x_0,t_0} d\mu_t$ exists, called the density at (x_0,t_0) . Have a similar formula for MCF in a Riemannian manifold and the density is also defined (White, 1997).

 $t < t_0$.

► $\int_{\Sigma_t} \rho_{x_0,t_0} d\mu_t$ is invariant under dilation. That is,

$$\int_{\Sigma_t} \rho_{x_0,t_0} d\mu_t = \int_{\Sigma_s^\lambda} \rho_{0,0} d\mu_s^\lambda.$$

• Choose $\lambda_i \to \infty$. If the limit of the flow of $\Sigma_s^{\lambda_i}$ exists, it must satisfy

$$H(x,s) - \frac{1}{2s}X_t^{\perp} = 0, \quad s < 0$$

- For MCF in a Riemannian manifold, the blow up limit still lies in \mathbb{R}^m .
- \triangleright Σ is called a (normalized) self-shrinker in \mathbb{R}^m if its position vector $X: \Sigma \to \mathbb{R}^m$ satisfies $H = -\frac{1}{2}X^{\perp}$. $\Rightarrow \sqrt{1-t}X$ satisfies MCF.

Soliton Solution to MCF in \mathbb{R}^m

Solutions looks the same under MCF, either of the form $\varphi(t)X(x)$ or $X(x) + \psi(t)$ Direct computation shows that

- In case (1), $H = cX^{\perp}$ and $\varphi(t) = \sqrt{1 + 2ct}$ for a constant c. c < 0, solutions shrink, self-shrinkers, models for central blowup limits. c = 0, solutions do not move, minimal submanifolds. c > 0, solutions expand, called self-expanders, possible limit at infinity.
- ▶ In case (2), $H = T^{\perp}$ for a constant vector T and $\psi(t) = tT$, called a translating solution. It is possible limit for max point blowup.
- Find such examples. Try to classify. Determine whether these examples are blowup limits of MCF. Use these examples to understand the singularities, and do surgery.

blow up 570 If L(X,t) satisfier MCF, then $\Sigma(X,S) = O(\Sigma(X,t_0 + \frac{S}{G^2}) - \frac{Y}{G})$ also satisfier MCFI. of Z defined in [0,T) E defined in [- 06² (T-to)5) $\left(\frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial S}\right) = \left(\overline{S} \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \right)^{\perp}$ $= \frac{1}{\pi} \stackrel{2}{H} (\Sigma(x,t_{1})) = \stackrel{2}{H} (\tilde{\Sigma}(x,s_{1}))$ D Type I blow up (Central pt blow up) assume I have an isolated singularity at (Jo. T) $\overline{U_{c}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \quad \widetilde{\Sigma}^{i}(\mathcal{X}, S) = \mathcal{U}_{c}(\Sigma(\mathcal{X}, T + \frac{S}{U_{c}}) - \mathcal{Z}_{o})$ ∃ a subsez. → Ji T < s < 0 → ancient sol → Ji hae Brakk flow limit Z[∞]

Different subseq may have different limite 2 Type II blow up (max pt blow up) define $\widetilde{Z}(X,S) = \mathcal{O}((\Sigma(X,t_i+\frac{S}{\sigma_i^2})-\mathcal{J}_i)), \quad \sigma_i \to \infty$ yc= ∑(×i, tc), ti→T. & y:→Jo $-t_{i}\sigma_{i}^{2} \leq S \leq (T-t_{i})\sigma_{i}^{2}$ F(T-ti) 5.2 - 300 ~ > eternal sol I a subsez I I' have a Brakke flow limit I neually take Gi ~ max IIA(x, ti) = A(xi, ti)



a singularity is called type I singularity if $\max_{\Sigma_{t}} |A|^{2} \leq \frac{C}{T-t}$ · MCFin KE. Lag undition is preserved for cpt Smooth sole Smoczyk 1996 Follow from $\frac{d}{dt}|\omega|^2 \leq \Delta |\omega|^2 + c|\omega|^2$ Wang. Chen-Li. Nevee. No type I sngnlarity for LMCF1 of graded Lag · Cpt. + almost Calibrated. - Entre graph. · also for MCF of symplectrc surface in KE

W > 0

Main reason: all smooth graded Lag shrin:
From more general form of Hursken's mono-
The Let
$$f_t$$
 be a smooth family of functions
Then assuing all quantities are finite:
 $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Sigma_L} f_t \Phi(x_0, T) dH^n = \int_{\Sigma_t} (\frac{df_t}{dt} - \Delta f_t) \Phi(x_0, T) dH^n = \int_{\Sigma_t} f_t H H \frac{(x-x_0)^2}{a(T-t_0, T)}$

$$\int \mathbf{z} \Phi(x_0, T)(x, t) = \frac{-(-(-t))}{(4\pi(T-t))^{n/2}}. \qquad \Theta_t(x_0, t) = \int_M$$

Theorem 3.1 (White's Regularity Theorem). There are $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_0(n,k), C =$ C(n,k) so that if $\partial M_t \cap B_{2R} = \emptyset$ and Mt Satisfier MCFi $\Theta_t(x,l) \leq 1 + \varepsilon_0$ for all $l \leq R^2, x \in B_{2R}$, and $t \leq R^2$, then the $C^{2,\alpha}$ -norm of M_t in B_R is bounded by C/\sqrt{t} for all $t \leq R^2$.

kere must be planes tonicity formula

z on 2t

,T)dH'

 $\frac{1}{\Phi}(x_o,T) d \mathcal{H}^{\eta}$

 $\Phi(x_0,l)(x,0)d\mathcal{H}^k.$



(apping bd Lag)

 $H = -\frac{1}{2} X^{\perp}$ (assuing 0 bded)