

03/30/21

What, who, where, when and how

(Why - ) 5Ws

What is "calculus of variations" ?

Who are main players ? - you & me - many prominent figures

Where to find the minimizer of an extremal ?

← Problem dictates weak solutions

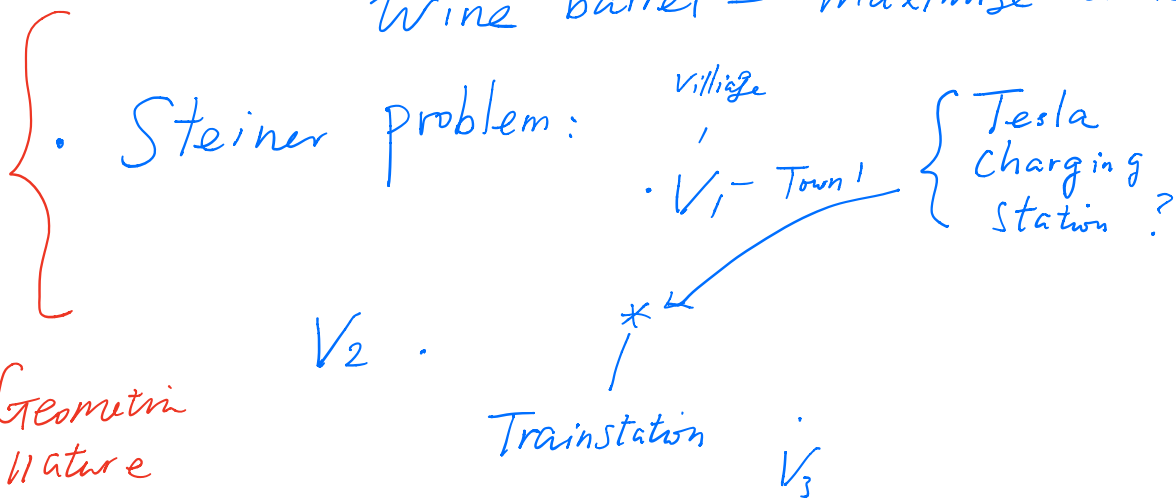
When to expect a minimizer ?

← Sufficient conditions

How to find it ?

← Find & solve ODE PDE

Problems : • Kepler planimetric problem  
Wine barrel - maximize volume



Geometric nature

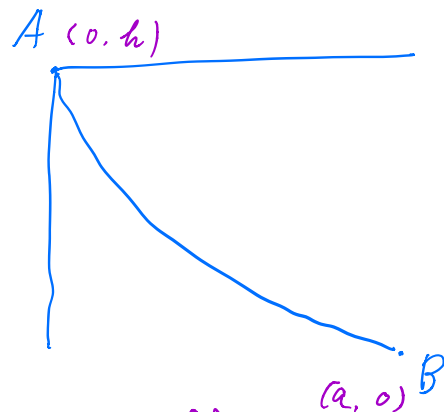
① Calculus of variation concerns functionals  
involves derivatives & integrals  
of functions

Brachistochrone :

1696 Johann Bernoulli

Find the path for the  
particle to travel in the

shortest time under the gravity.



$$\begin{cases} f(0) = h \\ f(a) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Solving this is a presentation ~ HW

Grades: Do a presentation on one of  
projects (5 total)

or do a presentation on HW

during the office hour  $\rightarrow$  A

I select the one with excellent solution

to present in class  $\rightarrow$  A<sup>+</sup>

Ex:  $D_f(\varphi) := \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \varphi|^2$ ,  $\varphi|_{\partial\Omega} = f$

a functional on  $\varphi$   $\varphi \in \underline{W^{1,2}(\Omega)}$  makes

sense  $\varphi|_{\partial\Omega} = f$  also makes sense

if  $\Omega$  is smooth

Calculus of variation concerns how to find the minimizer

Assume  $u$  is a minimizer

$\forall \eta \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u + \eta \in W^{1,2}(\Omega) \\ \underline{u + \eta|_{\partial\Omega} = u|_{\partial\Omega} = f} \end{array} \right.$

$D(\varepsilon) = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u + \varepsilon \nabla \eta|^2$   $u \mapsto u + \varepsilon \eta$

$0 = D'(0) = 2 \int_{\Omega} \langle \nabla u, \nabla \eta \rangle = -2 \int_{\Omega} \Delta u \cdot \eta$   
 $\forall \eta \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)$

$\delta D$  - called the 1st variation

Hence  $u$  satisfies

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \underline{u|_{\partial\Omega} = f} \end{array} \right.$

PDE people use this to study the PDE -

Euler-Lagrange equation

Lagrangian  $U$

$$I(z) = \int_U L(Dz, z, x) \quad L: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \times \Omega$$

$z \mapsto z + \varepsilon \eta$

$z: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  a function (or vector valued function)  $(z^1, \dots, z^n)$

e.g.  $L(p) = |p|^2$

$\delta I$  - called the 1st variation

$z + \varepsilon \eta$

$\eta \in W_0^{1,2}(U)$

$z \in W^{1,2}$

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} I(z + \varepsilon \eta) = \int_U L_{p_j} D_j \eta + L_z \eta$$

$$= \int_U \left[ -D_j(L_{p_j}) + L_z \right] \eta$$

If  $\eta$   $k$ -valued

$L = L(p, z, x) \quad \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{R}^m \times U$

$$= \int L \left( \begin{matrix} p_i \\ z \end{matrix} \right) D_j \eta^i + L_{z^k} \eta^k$$

$$= \int -D_j(L_{p_j^k}) \eta^k + L_{z^k} \eta^k$$

$z \rightarrow z + \varepsilon \eta$

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_3 + \varepsilon \eta_3 \\ v_3 + \varepsilon \eta_3 \\ \vdots \\ u_3 + \varepsilon \eta_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\int \sum_{k=1}^m \phi^k \cdot \eta^k = 0 \quad \forall \eta \Rightarrow \phi^k = 0 \quad \forall k \leq m$$



$$\Rightarrow \boxed{-D_j(L_{p_j^k}) + L_{z^k} = 0} \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq m$$

- 2nd-variation & ellipticity

Hadamard - Legendre Condition

Say  $u$  is a minimizer

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} I(u+\varepsilon\eta) = 0 \quad \& \quad \frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} I(u+\varepsilon\eta) \geq 0$$

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon} I(u+\varepsilon\eta) = \int \underbrace{L_{p_j} D_j \eta + L_z \eta}_{\text{Legendre Condition}}$$

$$L = L(p, z, x)$$

$$\Rightarrow L(u+\varepsilon\eta) = L(D_j u + \varepsilon D_j \eta, u + \varepsilon \eta, x)$$

$$\frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} I(u+\varepsilon\eta) = \int \left[ \underbrace{L_{p_j p_k}}_{\text{Legendre Condition}} D_j \eta D_k \eta + \underbrace{2L_{p_j z}}_{\text{Legendre Condition}} D_j \eta \eta + \underbrace{L_{zz}}_{\text{Legendre Condition}} \eta^2 \right] \geq 0$$

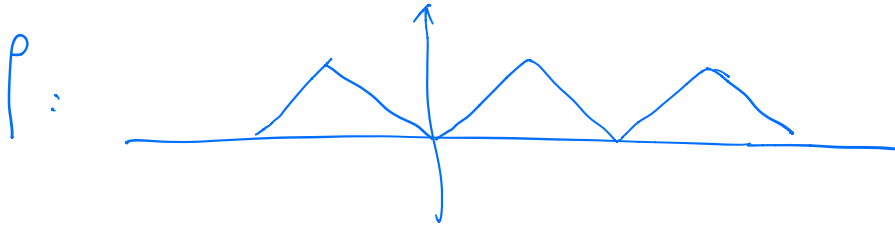
We have a lot of freedom in choose  $\eta$

Now we let

$$\eta(x) = \underbrace{\delta P\left(\frac{x \cdot \xi}{\delta}\right)}_{\xi} \underbrace{\theta(x)}_{\theta(x)}$$

$\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$\delta > 0$



$$p = \begin{cases} t & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 1-t & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} p(t+1) = p(t) \\ |p'|^2 = 1 \text{ a.e.} \end{matrix}$$

$$D_j \eta = \underbrace{p' \xi_j \theta}_{\xi_j} + \underbrace{\delta P\left(\frac{x \cdot \xi}{\delta}\right)}_{\xi} D_j \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow I''(0) = \int L_{P_j P_k} (p')^2 \xi_j \xi_k \theta^2 + O(\delta) \quad \delta \rightarrow 0$$

(e.s.)  
 $L = |p'|^2$

$$\Rightarrow L_{P_j P_k} \xi_j \xi_k \geq 0 \quad \text{in } U$$

$\geq a/|\xi|^2$  — Uniform ellipticity

necessary condition for the minimizer.

In our discussion of

$$-D_j \left( L_{P_j} (Du; u, x) \right) + L_z = 0$$

↓ Euler-Lagrange equation

We pose the restriction  $L_{p_i p_j} \xi_i \xi_j \geq \lambda |\xi|^2$

So-called the ellipticity assumption

The similar result holds for systems ( $u$  is vector valued case)

## (B) Null Lagrangians & Applications

$L(p, u, x)$  is called Null-L if  
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{E-L equation holds } \forall u \\ \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (L_{p_j}) + L_z = 0 \right) \end{array} \right.$

(E.g.) ex1:  $\Phi(u, x)$  any function of  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}$

$$\Psi \doteq \frac{d\Phi}{dx} = \left. \begin{array}{l} \Phi_{u^i} u_x^i + \Phi_x \\ \Phi_{u^i} p^i + \Phi_x \end{array} \right\} L(p, u, x) = \underbrace{\Phi_{u^i}(u) p^i + \Phi_x(u, x)}$$

Now  $-\left(\frac{\Psi}{p_i}\right)_x + \frac{\Psi}{u^i}$

$$= -\left(\frac{\Phi_{u^i}}{p_i}\right)_x + \frac{\Phi_{u^i u^j} p^j + \Phi_x u_x^i}{p_i}$$

$$= -\left(\frac{\Phi_{u^i}}{u^j}\right) u_x^j \frac{du^j}{dx} + \left(\frac{\Phi_{u^i x}}{p_j}\right) + \dots = 0$$

Ex 2.  $L(p, u, x) = \sum a^i p_i$   $m=1$

$-(L_{p_i})_x + L_u = 0$

Ex 3.  $L(p) = \det(P)$   $P = (P_i^j)$   $n \times n$   
 $u: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$   $P = \left( \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x^j} \right)$  - Jacobian matrix.

This requires some work:

$-\frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} (L_{p_j^k}) = 0$  — need to prove

$A = (a_j^i)$   $A_j^i$  - cofactor  $u: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

$\sum_{l=1}^n a_l^i A_j^l = \delta_{ij} \det(A)$  ← Cramer's rule

$\Rightarrow L_{p_j^k} = A_j^k$   $A = \left( \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x^j} \right)$   $a_j^i = \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x^j}$

$-\frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} (A_j^k)$   $\frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}$

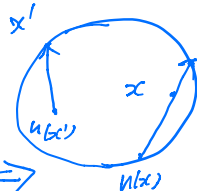
$\det(A) = a_k^l A_k^l$

taking & sum j  $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \left( \sum a_l^i A_j^l \right) = \left[ \delta_{ij} \det(A) \right]$

$u_{ij}^l A_j^l + a_l^i (A_j^l)_j = \delta_{ij} A_k^l a_{kj}^l$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{df}{dt} = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \right) \frac{dx^i}{dt}$   $\Rightarrow \frac{df}{dt} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ix}^l \frac{dx^i}{dt}$

04/01/2021

# Application - Brouwer Fix Point Theorem:

- Observational:  $x' \rightarrow w(x): w|_{\partial B} = \text{identity}$   
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } \forall x \in B \\ u(x) \neq x \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow$    $w: B \rightarrow \partial B$

- Assume w.l.o.g.  $w$  is smooth — by approximation  
w & id  $w|_{\partial B} = \text{id}|_{\partial B}$

$$0 = \int_B \det(Dw) dx = \int_B \det(D(\text{id})) dx = |B|$$

↑ follows from the Lemma below.

$w: B \rightarrow \partial B$

$|w|^2 = 1$

$\Rightarrow \int \nabla(w^T w) = 2w^T Dw = 0$

Lemma:  $\int_{\partial \Omega} u_1 = \int_{\partial \Omega} u_2$

$w^T \left( \frac{Dw^i}{\partial x^j} \right) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow I(u_1) = \int_{\Omega} L(Du_1, u_1, x) = \int_{\Omega} L(Du_2, u_2, x) = I(u_2)$$

$$u_t = t u_1 + (1-t) u_2 = u_2 + (u_1 - u_2)t$$

$u_t|_{\partial \Omega} = u_1 = u_2$   
 $\eta = u_1 - u_2$

$$\Rightarrow I'(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L(D(u_2 + t\eta), u_2 + t\eta, x)$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} \left[ L_{p_k^i} \eta^i + L_{u^k} \eta^k \right]$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} \left[ - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} (L_{p_k^i}) + L_{u^i} \right] \eta^i = 0$$

$u_t \stackrel{!}{=} 0$

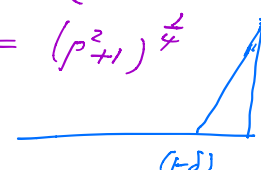
$$\Rightarrow I(0) = I(1)$$

When & Where? — Existence is not automatic

Ex!  $I(z) = \int_0^1 \underbrace{(1 + z_x^2)}^{\frac{1}{4}} dx$   $\begin{cases} z(0) = 0 \\ z(1) = 1 \end{cases}$

$z \in \text{piecewise } C^1 \text{ or } C^1 = \mathcal{A}$

$L(p) = (p^2 + 1)^{\frac{1}{4}}$



$$z_\delta(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq x \leq 1-\delta \\ \frac{1}{\delta}(x - (1-\delta)), & 1-\delta \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$I(z_\delta) = 1-\delta + \int_{1-\delta}^1 \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} dx$$

$$= 1-\delta + \delta^{\frac{1}{2}} (1 + \delta^2)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1 + \delta^2)^{\frac{1}{4}} \leq 1 + \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$\Rightarrow I(z_\delta) \rightarrow 1$  but  $I(z) \geq 1 \quad \forall z \in \mathcal{A}$

One can write down  $\tilde{z}_\delta \in C^1[0, 1]$  by modification.

Example shows not always one can find a minimizer

The sequence  $z_\delta$  with  $I(z_\delta) \rightarrow \inf I(z)$  is

called a "minimizing sequence"

Ex 2.  $D(\varphi) := \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \varphi|^2$   $\varphi|_{\partial\Omega} = \gamma$   
*Stands for Dirichlet*  $\partial\Omega$  smooth,  $\gamma$  smooth.  
 $\psi$  extends to some smooth function on  $\Omega$

$W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)$  is the  $A$  we consider, namely  
 $\varphi = \psi + \eta$   $\eta \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)$

The minimizing sequence will be  $\varphi_n$  satisfying

$$\varphi_n \in W^{1,2}(\Omega) \quad \varphi_n|_{\partial\Omega} = \gamma$$

$$\int |\nabla \varphi_n|^2 = D(\varphi_n) \rightarrow \inf_{\varphi \in A} D(\varphi)$$

*Poincaré inequality*

$$\varphi_n - \psi \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega) \Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} |\varphi_n - \psi|^2 \leq C \int_{\Omega} |\nabla(\varphi_n - \psi)|^2$$

$\Rightarrow \varphi_n$  is bounded in  $W^{1,2}(\Omega)$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  subsequence &  $\varphi_{\infty} \in W^{1,2}(\Omega)$   $\varphi_n \rightharpoonup \varphi_{\infty}$  weakly  
 $\varphi_n - \psi \rightarrow \varphi_{\infty} - \psi$

In particular, since  $\varphi_n - \psi \in W_0^{1,2}$   
 $\varphi_n - \psi \rightarrow \varphi_{\infty} - \psi$   
 (Mazur theorem)  $\varphi_{\infty}|_{\partial\Omega} = \gamma$

We need to show

(\*)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D(\varphi_n) \geq D(\varphi_\infty)$  to verify that  $\varphi_\infty$  is a minimiser found. (\*) is the so-called

Semi-lower continuity of the functional.

This is relatively easy! read Jost's PDE  
for  $D(\varphi)$  (which you may download for free from Springer's website. Jost also has a good "Riem Geom & Geom. Analysis")

(We usually assume  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \times \Omega$  smooth)

Theorem (existence)  $U = \Omega$  - bounded,  $\partial\Omega$  nice

Assumptions:  $1 < q < \infty$

(1)  $L(p, z, x) \geq \alpha |p|^q - \beta$   $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$

(2)  $L(p, z, x)$  is convex in  $p$  } —  $L$  dictates where

$$A = \left\{ u \in W^{1, q}(\Omega) \mid u|_{\partial\Omega} = f \right\}$$

Then  $\exists u \in A$

$$I(u) = \inf_{w \in A} I(w)$$

$$L(p, z, x) \geq L(p_0, z, x) + \underbrace{L_p|_{p_0}} \cdot (p - p_0)$$



Step 1: Reduction to the weak lower-semicontinuity.

Take  $u_k \in A$   $I(u_k) \rightarrow \inf_{w \in A} I(w) =: m$

w.l.g.  $L(p, z, x) \geq \alpha |p|^2$  by adding a constant

$$\alpha \int |Du_k|^2 \leq I(u_k) \leq m + A.$$

pick  $w_0 \in A \Rightarrow u_k - w_0 \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)$

$$\Rightarrow \int |u_k - w_0|^2 \leq C \int |D(u_k - w_0)|^2 \leq C \left[ \frac{m+A}{\alpha} + B \right]$$

By the Poincaré inequality

$$\Rightarrow \|u_k\|_{L^2} \leq \|u_k - w_0\|_{L^2} + \|w_0\|_{L^2} \leq C$$

So  $\{u_k\}$  forms a bounded sequence in  $W^{1,2}(\Omega)$

$\Rightarrow$  By passing subsequence  $\Rightarrow \{u_k\} \rightharpoonup u$  weakly in  $W^{1,2}(\Omega)$

$$\int_{\varphi \in L^{2'}} u_k \varphi \rightarrow \int u \varphi \quad \int Du_k \cdot \varphi \rightarrow \int Du \cdot \varphi$$

$\Rightarrow$  Lower semi-continuity asserts  $\varphi$  v.c.  $\in L^{2'}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} I(u) \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} I(u_k) \end{array} \right. \quad (*)$$

$\Rightarrow u - w_0 \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)$  By Mazur's theorem

$$\Rightarrow I(u) = m$$

Hence the key is to prove (\*).

This needs the convexity!

Real Jost for the special case  $L(p, z, x) = |p|^2$ .

"(1)  $L \geq \alpha |p|^2 \geq 0$   $\Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} I(u_k) \geq I(u)$ "

(2)  $u_k \rightarrow u$  weakly

(3)  $L$  convex in  $p$

This is slightly more than what is needed.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_k \rightarrow u \text{ weakly} \Leftrightarrow \forall \varphi \in L^{q'}(U) \\ \psi \in L^{q'}(U, \mathbb{R}^n) \\ \int (u_k - u) \varphi \rightarrow 0 \quad \& \quad \int (Du_k - Du) \cdot \psi \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} q' = \frac{q}{q-1} \\ \uparrow \\ \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-1}} + \frac{1}{q} = 1 \end{array}$$

Uniform-boundedness-principle

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \sup_k \int |u_k|^2 + |Du_k|^2 \leq A \\ \& \quad \int |u|^2 + |Du|^2 \leq A \end{array} \right\}$$

Shall show  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists G_\varepsilon \quad |U \setminus G_\varepsilon| < \gamma(\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$

$\& \quad G_\varepsilon$  increasing

$$\int_{G_\varepsilon} \underbrace{L(Du, u, x)}_{\chi_{G_\varepsilon}} \leq \underbrace{l := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} I(u_k)}_{\text{passing to a subsequence}}$$

$u_k \rightarrow u$  in  $L^q$  & a.e. } 240  
 $\forall \varepsilon \exists E_\varepsilon$  such that  $|U|_{E_\varepsilon} < \varepsilon$   
 &  $u_k \rightarrow u$  uniformly.

$$F_\varepsilon := \left\{ x \in U \mid (|u| + |Du|)^{(p)} < \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow |F_\varepsilon^c| \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^q \leq A \Rightarrow |F_\varepsilon^c| \leq A\varepsilon^q \rightarrow 0$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^q |F_\varepsilon^c| \leq \int_{F_\varepsilon^c} |Du|^\frac{q}{p} + |u|^q \leq A$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{G_\varepsilon = E_\varepsilon \cap F_\varepsilon} \quad |G_\varepsilon^c| \leq A\varepsilon^q + \varepsilon$$

But

$$I(u_k) \geq \int_{G_\varepsilon} L(Du_k, u_k, x)$$

$$\geq \int_{G_\varepsilon} L(\underline{Du}, u_k, x) + \underbrace{(D_p L)(Du, u_k, x)}_{\downarrow} \cdot \underline{(Du_k - Du)}$$

$$\underline{\text{1st}} \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{G_\varepsilon} L(Du, u_k, x) = \int_{G_\varepsilon} L(Du, u, x)$$

$u_k \rightarrow u$  uniformly on  $G_\varepsilon$

$$\underline{|L(Du, u_\varepsilon, x)|} \leq \underline{C(\varepsilon)}$$

$$\Rightarrow |u_\varepsilon| + |u| \leq \frac{3}{\varepsilon} \text{ - bounded}$$

$$|Du| \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

DCT  $\Rightarrow$  the claim

$$\underline{\text{2nd}} \quad \int_{G_\varepsilon} \underbrace{(D_p L)(Du, u_h, x)}_{\psi} \cdot \underbrace{(Du_h - Du)}_{\psi} = 0 \quad \text{as } h \rightarrow \infty$$

$$(D_p L)(Du, u, x) \in L^q$$

Since  $|Du| + |u| \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$  on  $G_\varepsilon$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_{G_\varepsilon} \underbrace{(D_p L)(Du, u, x)}_{\psi} \cdot (Du_h - Du) = 0$$

$\psi$   
on  $G_\varepsilon$  does not cause problem  
we can multiply by  $\chi_{G_\varepsilon}$  to  $\psi$ .

On the other hand  $(D_p L)(Du_h, u_h, x) \rightarrow (D_p L)(Du, u, x)$   
 $\psi_h \xrightarrow{\text{uniformly}} \psi$

& bounded.

$\forall \delta > 0 \exists K$

$$\Rightarrow h > K \quad |\psi_h - \psi| < \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{G_\varepsilon} (\psi_h - \psi) \cdot (Du_h - Du)$$

$$\leq \delta \int_{G_\varepsilon} |Du_h - Du| \leq A \delta$$

Note  $\int_{\cup} |Du_h|^2 + |Du|^2 \leq A$

Hence  $\lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} I(u_h) \geq \int_{G_{T_2}} L(du, u, x)$

By MCT,  $\Rightarrow I(u) = \int_U L(du, u, x) \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} I(u_h)$