

Colloquium du CERMICS



École des Ponts  
ParisTech

**Recent progress to the theory of stochastic/pathwise solutions**

Panagiotis Souganidis (The University of Chicago)

18 mai 2018

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recent progress to the theory of stochastic/pathwise solutions

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CERMICS, May 2018

work with Pierre-Louis Lions

- plan of the talk
  - ▶ stochastic/pathwise viscosity solutions (a very brief review)
  - ▶ domain of dependence and speed of propagation
  - ▶ homogenization
  - ▶ long time behavior a false proof
  - ▶ intermittent regularizing effects
  - ▶ behavior as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  in the convex case
  - ▶ behavior as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  work in progress and some open problems
  - ▶ some proofs

- pathwise/stochastic viscosity solutions

$$du = H(Du, u, x) \cdot d\omega + F(D^2u, Du, u, x)dt$$

$\omega$  continuous (Brownian or, more generally, rough path)

enough to be able to solve the (ode)  $dX = -D_x H(P, X) \cdot d\omega$   $dP = D_p H(P, X) \cdot d\omega$

$u \in \mathbb{R}$   $F$  degenerate elliptic

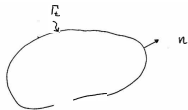
$F$  and  $H$  may depend on  $t$

if  $\omega$  depends on  $x$  it must be regular KPZ is outside the scope of the theory

many applications pathwise control, phase transitions, stochastic selection principles, ...

- motion of interfaces

an interface  $\Gamma_t$  evolves with normal velocity  $V_n = -\text{mean curvature} + a(x) \cdot dB$



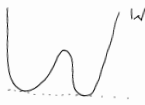
$$\Gamma_t = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : u(x, t) = 0\}$$

$u$  solves the level-set pde

$$du = \text{tr}\left[\left(I - \frac{Du \otimes Du}{|Du|^2}\right)D^2u\right] + a(x)|Du| \cdot dB$$

- phase field theory- asymptotics of reaction diffusion equations perturbed by additive noise

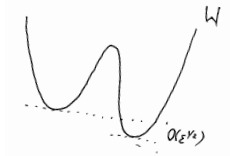
$$u_t^\varepsilon - \Delta u^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} W'(u^\varepsilon)$$



$u^\varepsilon \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \pm 1$  inside and outside a front evolving with n.v.  $V_n = -\text{mean curvature}$

$$u_t^\varepsilon - \Delta u^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (W'(u^\varepsilon) + \varepsilon^{1/2} c)$$

$V_n = -\text{mean curvature} + \alpha c$



Kawasaki and Otha conjectured that, if the depths of the wells are perturbed randomly by  $\varepsilon^{1/2} dB$ , the resulting interface will evolve by  $V_n = -\text{mean curvature} + \alpha dB$

this is not true — the perturbation is too violent to preserve the stability properties of  $\pm 1$

but

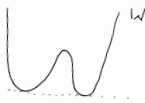
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Almgren, Yip (convex setting), Funaki ( for  $d = 2$ ), Lions and S. general problem

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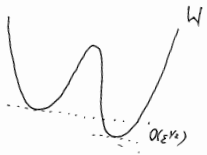
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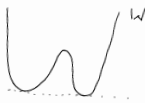
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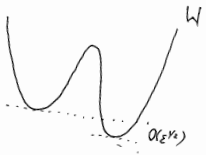
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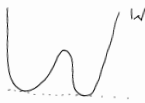
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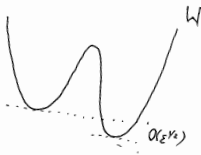
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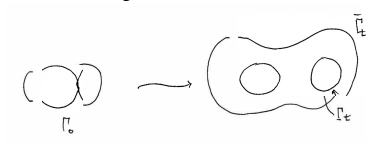
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- a stochastic selection principle

work with A. Yip

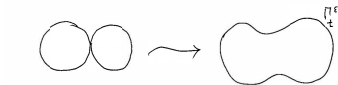
“unstable configurations”



is there a stochastic mechanism that selects at the limit a unique interface?

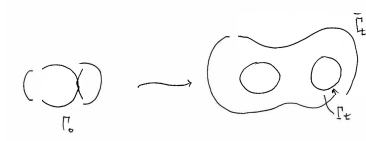
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converges a.s. to the maximal solution of the motion without the noise



- a stochastic selection principle work with A. Yip

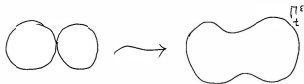
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- pathwise stochastic control theory

$B_1, B_2$  independent Bm with filtrations  $(\mathcal{F}_t^{B_1})_{t \geq 0}, (\mathcal{F}_t^{B_2})_{t \geq 0}$

$\mathcal{A}$  the set of admissible  $(\mathcal{F}_t^{B_1} -$  progressively measurable controls) controls  $(\pi_t)_{t \geq 0}$  with values in  $A$

dynamics 
$$\begin{cases} dX_t = b(X_t, \pi_t)dt + \sqrt{2}\sigma_1(X_t, \pi_t)dB_{1,t} + \sigma_2(X_t, \pi_t) \circ dB_{2,t} & (0 \leq s \leq T) \\ X_s = x \end{cases}$$

payoff  $J(x, s; \pi) = E_{x,s}[H(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_T^{B_2}]$

value function  $u(x, s) = \text{essinf}_{\pi \in \mathcal{A}} J(x, s; \pi)$

pathwise Bellman equation

$$\begin{cases} du + \inf_{\pi \in A} \left[ \text{tr}((\sigma_1 \sigma_1^*)(x, \pi) D^2 u) + b(x, \pi) \cdot Du \right] + \sigma_2(x) Du \circ dB_2 = 0 \\ u(\cdot, T) = H \end{cases}$$

classical stochastic control problem

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Bellman equation

$$\begin{cases} \bar{u}_t + \inf_{\pi \in A} \left[ \text{tr}([\sigma_1 \sigma_1^*(x, \pi) + \sigma_2 \sigma_2^*(x)] D^2 \bar{u}) \right] + \dots + b(x, \pi) \cdot D\bar{u} = 0 \\ \bar{u}(\cdot, T) = H \end{cases}$$

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- review of pathwise viscosity solutions

$$du = H(Du) \cdot d\omega \quad u(\cdot, 0) = u_0$$

- ▶ “deterministic viscosity solutions”  $\omega \in \text{BV} \Rightarrow \exists!$  solution  $u \in C_{x,t}$  and comparison

$$\|(u - v)_\pm(\cdot, t)\| \leq \|(u_0 - v_0)_\pm\| \quad \|Du(\cdot, t)\| \leq \|Du_0\|$$

in general shocks (discontinuities of  $Du$ ) appear in finite time

is it possible to extend by density to  $\omega \in C^?$  (Itô vs Stratonovich when  $\omega$  is B motion)

- ▶  $du = u_x dB$  ill posed

$$\begin{aligned} du(x - B(t), t) &\stackrel{\text{Itô's formula and equation}}{=} \left( \frac{1}{2} u_{xx}(x - B(t), t) - u_{xx}(x - B(t), t) \right) dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} u_{xx}(x - B(t), t) dt \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $H(p) = |p| \quad u_0(x) = |x|$  density in  $\omega \Rightarrow$

$$u(x, t) = \max \left[ (|x| + \omega(t))_+, \omega(t) - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s) \right]$$

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“THEOREM” If  $H$  is the difference of two convex functions, then  $\exists!$  solution with the same properties as in the classical case

▶ solutions are continuous in  $H$  and  $\omega$

▶ solutions to problems with regularized  $H$  and  $\omega$  converge to the same limit

if  $u_{\varepsilon,t} = H_{\varepsilon}(Du_{\varepsilon})\dot{\omega}_{\varepsilon}$  with  $H_{\varepsilon}, \omega_{\varepsilon}$  smooth approximations to  $H$  and  $\omega$ , then  $\|u_{\varepsilon} - u\| \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0$

▶  $\|u(\cdot, t)\|$  and  $\text{oscu}(\cdot, t)$  decrease in  $t$

the contraction property

▶  $H(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \max u(\cdot, t)$  and  $\min u(\cdot, t)$  decrease in  $t$

formally  $d[\max u(\cdot, t)] \leq 0$  and  $d[\min u(\cdot, t)] \geq 0$



- domain of dependence and finite speed of propagation    joint work with Gassiat and Gess

is there a domain of dependence for  $du = H(Du, x) \cdot d\omega$  ?

$$u_1(\cdot, 0) = u_2(\cdot, 0) \text{ in } B(0, R_0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad u_1(\cdot, t) = u_2(\cdot, t) \text{ in } B(0, R(t))?$$

- ▶ a partial result

$$H(p, x) = H_1(p) - H_2(p) \quad H_1, H_2 \text{ convex}$$

$$u(\cdot, 0) \equiv A \text{ in } B(0, R) \quad \Rightarrow \quad u(\cdot, t) \equiv A \text{ in } B(0, R(t))$$

$$R(t) := R - L(\max_{s \in [0, T]} \omega(s) - \min_{s \in [0, T]} \omega(s))$$

- ▶ a negative result

Gassiat

$$du = (|u_x| - |u_y|) \cdot d\omega \quad u(x, y, 0) = |x - y| + \Theta(x, y) \quad \Theta \geq 1 \text{ if } x, y \geq R$$

$$u(0, 0, T) \geq 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \|\omega\|_{\text{TV}_{[0, T]}} > R$$

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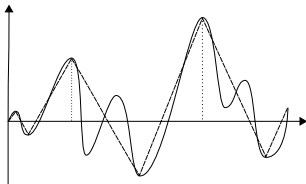
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- finite speed of propagation

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$$\rho_H(\xi, T) := \sup \left\{ R \geq 0 : u^1(\cdot, 0) = u^2(\cdot, 0) \text{ in } B_R(0) \text{ and } u^1(0, T) \neq u^2(0, T) \right\}$$

skeleton  $R_{0,T}(\omega)$



- positive results

$$\triangleright \rho_{H,T}(\omega) \leq L \|R_{0,T}(\omega)\|_{TV([0,T])}$$

$$\triangleright B \text{ Brownian motion} \Rightarrow \|R_{0,T}(B)\|_{TV([0,T])} < \infty \text{ a.s.}$$

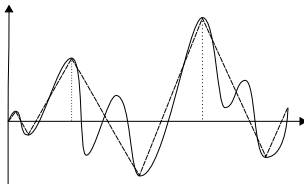
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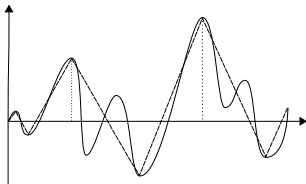
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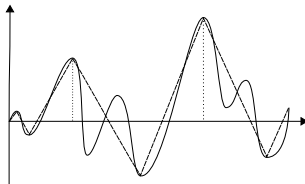
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skeleton  $R_{0,T}(\omega)$



- positive results

- ▶  $\rho_{H,T}(\omega) \leq L \|R_{0,T}(\omega)\|_{TV([0,T])}$
- ▶  $B$  Brownian motion  $\Rightarrow \|R_{0,T}(B)\|_{TV([0,T])} < \infty$  a.s.
- ▶  $H(p) = |p| \Rightarrow \rho_H(\xi, T) \geq \|R_{0,T}(\xi)\|_{TV([0,T])}$

• homogenization

Ben Seeger

- $u_t^\varepsilon = H(Du^\varepsilon, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}) \dot{B}^\varepsilon$      $H$  convex coercive periodic     $B^\varepsilon \rightarrow B$  in distribution

there exists  $\bar{H}$  convex st  $\begin{cases} u^\varepsilon \rightarrow \bar{u} \\ d\bar{u} = \bar{H}(D\bar{u}) \circ dB \end{cases}$

- $u_t + H(Du, x) = f(x) \dot{\omega}$      $\omega$  piecewise constant with slope  $\pm 1$

$u^\varepsilon = u(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{t}{\varepsilon})$      $\omega^\varepsilon(t) = \varepsilon^{1/2} \omega(\frac{t}{\varepsilon}) \rightarrow B$  Brownian motion

$u_t^\varepsilon + H(Du^\varepsilon, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}) = \varepsilon^{1/2} f(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}) \dot{\omega}^\varepsilon$

there exists  $\bar{H}$  st  $\begin{cases} u^\varepsilon \rightarrow \bar{u} \\ \bar{u}_t + \bar{H}(D\bar{u}) = 0 \end{cases}$     BUT

$\bar{H}$  does not come from the periodic homogenization

$\varepsilon^{1/2} \omega(\frac{t}{\varepsilon})$  creates a stationary ergodic environment

- $u_t^\varepsilon + |Du^\varepsilon| = \varepsilon^{1/2} f(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}) \dot{\omega}^\varepsilon$

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• homogenization

Ben Seeger

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- long time behavior

$$du = H(Du) \cdot d\omega \quad u(\cdot, 0) = u_0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} H \text{ continuous, } u_0 \text{ continuous and "periodic" in } x \\ \omega \text{ continuous and } \omega(0) = 0 \\ H(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{constants are solutions} \end{array} \right.$$

$u(\cdot, t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} u^\infty$  with  $u^\infty$  constant in  $x$  and depending only on  $u_0$  and  $\omega$  ?

►  $H(p) = v \cdot p \quad v \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$u(x, t) = u_0(x + v\omega(t)) \rightarrow \text{constant}$$

►  $H(p) = |p|^2 \quad \dot{\omega}(t) \geq 0$  and  $\omega(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \infty$

$$u(x, t) = \inf_y [u_0(y) + \frac{1}{4\omega(t)} |x - y|^2] \rightarrow \inf u_0$$

“nonlinearity” and monotonicity of  $\omega \Rightarrow$  limit

what happens if  $\omega$  oscillates ?

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- $t \rightarrow \infty$  a false proof!

$d = 1$   $\omega =$  Brownian motion  $u_0$  periodic

$$du = H(u_x) \underset{(S)}{\circ} dB = H(u_x) \underset{(I)}{\cdot} dB + \frac{1}{2} H'(u_x)^2 u_{xx} dt$$

$$d\left(\int_0^1 u dx\right) = \left(\int_0^1 H(u_x) dx\right) dB \qquad \int_0^1 \phi(u_x) u_{xx} = 0$$

$M_t = \int_0^1 u(x, t) dx$  is a bounded martingale  $\Rightarrow$

$$M_t \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} M_\infty \text{ and } \int_0^\infty \left(\int_0^1 H(u_x) dx\right)^2 dt < \infty \text{ a.s.}$$

if  $H(z) > 0$  for  $z \neq 0$ , then  $u(x, t, \omega) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} M_\infty$  a.s.

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what if  $H$  is more regular, for example, convex?

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- intermittent regularity

Theorem: for  $H$  convex and all continuous  $\omega$ ,

$$-\frac{c I_d}{\omega(t) - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s)} \leq (D^2 H)^{1/2}(Du) \cdot D^2 u \cdot (D^2 H)^{1/2}(Du) \leq \frac{c I_d}{\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s) - \omega(t)}$$

- ▶  $|(D^2 H)^{1/2}(Du) \cdot D^2 u \cdot (D^2 H)^{1/2}(Du)| \leq c \max\left(\frac{1}{\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s) - \omega(t)}, \frac{1}{\omega(t) - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s)}\right)$
- ▶ Gassiat and Gess studied the case  $H(p) = |p|^2$  using the explicit Lax-Oleinik formula
- ▶ the result as one sided bound is new even in the classical case ( $\omega$  monotone)
- ▶  $D^2 H > 0$  and  $\min_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s) < \omega(t) < \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} \omega(s) \Rightarrow u(\cdot, t) \in C^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^d)$

- the long time behavior in the convex case

$$H \text{ convex} \quad H(0) = 0 \quad DH(p) \cdot p > 0 \quad p \neq 0$$

**Theorem:** for all  $\omega$  st  $\exists t_n \rightarrow \infty$  such that

$$\text{either } \omega(t_n) - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t_n} \omega(s) \xrightarrow[n]{} \infty \text{ or } \max_{0 \leq s \leq t_n} \omega(s) - \omega(t_n) \xrightarrow[n]{} \infty$$

$$u(\cdot, t) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} u_\infty$$

- ▶ true for Brownian motion
- ▶ what is the law of  $u_\infty$ ? nontrivial — only partial results available

idea of proof:

$$(D^2H)^{1/2}(Dv) \cdot D^2v \cdot (D^2H)^{1/2}(Dv) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{div} DH(Dv) = \operatorname{tr} D^2H(Dv) D^2v \leq 0 \xrightarrow{\text{periodicity}}$$

$$0 = \int_Q \operatorname{tr}[D^2H(Dv) D^2v] dx \leq 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{div} DH(Dv) = D^2H(Dv) D^2v = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Rightarrow & \int_Q DH(Dv) \cdot Dv = 0 & \Rightarrow \\ \text{multiply by } v \text{ and integrate over } Q & & \text{assumption on } H \quad Dv = 0 \end{array}$$

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- asymptotic behavior ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ ) work in progress and open problems

▶  $H$  not convex or concave?  $x$ -dependent problems?

▶  $du = \sum_{i=1}^K H_i(Du_i) \cdot \dot{\omega}_i$   $\omega_i$  “independent”

$$\dot{\omega}_2 = -\dot{\omega}_1 = \dot{\omega} \quad du = (H_1 - H_2)(Du)\dot{\omega}$$

$$H_1 = H_2 = H \quad \dot{\omega} = \dot{\omega}_1 + \dot{\omega}_2 \quad du = H(Du)(\omega_1 + \omega_2)$$

▶ systematic approach to ergodicity (Lions course 2015) when  $\omega$  Brownian

▶ 
$$\begin{cases} du = H(Du) \circ dB \\ \max_x u(x, t, \omega) \text{ independent of } t \text{ a.s.} \\ \min_x u(x, t, \omega) \text{ independent of } t \text{ a.s.} \end{cases} \Rightarrow u \equiv c(\omega) ??$$

- the proof of the estimate
  - ▶ divide  $(0, \infty)$  into intervals where  $\dot{\omega}$  is either positive or negative
  - ▶ in each such interval  $u(x, t) = v(x, \omega(t))$  where  $v$  solves a  $v_t = \pm H(Dv)$
  - ▶ enough to propagate an (appropriate) upper and lower bound for  $v$  on each such interval
  - ▶ result follows by iteration
  - ▶ important step is to establish an actual decay on each interval

- sketch of the proof in a special case

$$u_t = |Du|^2 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^d \times (0, \infty) \quad u(\cdot, 0) = u_0 \quad u(x, t) = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left[ u_0(y) - \frac{|x - y|^2}{4t} \right]$$

$$\text{“}(D^2u)_t = 2DuD(D^2u) + 2|D^2u|^2\text{”} \quad u_{xx,t} = 2u_xu_{xxx} + 2(u_{xx})^2$$

- ▶ equation preserves concavity  $D^2u_0 \leq 0 \Rightarrow D^2u(\cdot, t) \leq 0.$
- ▶ equation preserves semiconvexity  $D^2u_0 \geq -CI_d \Rightarrow D^2u(\cdot, t) \geq -CI_d$
- ▶ equation regularizes  $D^2u(\cdot, t) \geq -\frac{2I_d}{t}$

not good enough !! for the iteration we need to improve last two

$$\text{Theorem: } D^2u_0 \geq -CI_d \Rightarrow D^2u(\cdot, t) \geq -\frac{2C}{1+Ct}I_d$$



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$$u_t = H(Du) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^d \times (0, T) \quad u(\cdot, 0) = u_0 \quad F(p) = (D^2H(p))^{1/2}$$

- ▶ claim 1  $G$  symmetric matrix

$$G(Du_0)D^2u_0G(Du_0) \geq -C_0I_d \Rightarrow G(Du(\cdot, t))D^2u(\cdot, t)G(Du(\cdot, t)) \geq -C_0I_d$$

- ▶ claim 2  $G = F$  and any  $u_0 \Rightarrow$

$$G(Du(\cdot, t))D^2u(\cdot, t)G(Du(\cdot, t)) \geq -\frac{C}{t}I_d$$

- ▶ claim 3  $G = F$  and  $C_0$  for  $u_0 \Rightarrow$

$$G(Du(\cdot, t))D^2u(\cdot, t)G(Du(\cdot, t)) \geq -\frac{C_0}{1 + C_0t}I_d$$

- $u(x, t) = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left[ u_0(y) - tH^*\left(\frac{x-y}{t}\right) \right] = u_0(\bar{y}) - tH^*\left(\frac{x-\bar{y}}{t}\right)$

$$u(x \pm h\eta, t) = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left[ u_0(y) - tH^*\left(\frac{x \pm h\eta - y}{t}\right) \right] \geq u_0(\bar{y}) - tH^*\left(\frac{x \pm h\eta - \bar{y}}{t}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle D^2 u(x, t) \eta, \eta \rangle \geq -\frac{1}{t} \langle D^2 H^*\left(\frac{x-\bar{y}}{t}\right) \eta, \eta \rangle$$

$$\eta = F(DH^*\left(\frac{x-\bar{y}}{t}\right))\xi \Rightarrow \text{claim 2}$$

- $u(x, t) = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left[ u_0(x - y) - tH^*\left(\frac{y}{t}\right) \right] = u_0(x - \bar{y}) - tH^*\left(\frac{\bar{y}}{t}\right)$

$$u(x \pm h\eta, t) = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left[ u_0(x \pm h\eta - y) - tH^*\left(\frac{y}{t}\right) \right] \geq u_0(x \pm h\eta - \bar{y}) - tH^*\left(\frac{\bar{y}}{t}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle D^2 u(x, t)\eta, \eta \rangle \geq \langle D^2 u_0\eta, \eta \rangle$$

$$\eta = G(Du)\xi \Rightarrow \text{claim 1}$$

- $u(x, t) = \sup_{y, z \in \mathbb{R}^d: y+z=x} [u_0(y) - tH^*(\frac{z}{t})] = u_0(\bar{y}) - tH^*(\frac{\bar{z}}{t})$

$$u(x \pm h\eta, t) = \sup_{y, z \in \mathbb{R}^d: y+z=x \pm h\eta} \left[ u_0(y \pm \theta h\eta) - tH^*\left(\frac{z \pm (1-\theta)h\eta}{t}\right) \right] \geq$$

$$u_0(\bar{y} \pm \theta h\eta) - tH^*\left(\frac{\bar{z} \pm (1-\theta)h\eta}{t}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle D^2u(x, t)\eta, \eta \rangle \geq - \left[ \theta^2 C_0 + (1-\theta)^2 \frac{1}{t} \right] \langle \eta, \eta \rangle$$

minimize over  $\theta$  and  $\eta = F(Du(x, t))\xi \Rightarrow$  claim 3