

slow diffusion and vanishing regularization: singular limits in aggregation diffusion equations

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collective dynamics



aggregation diffusion equations

- $\rho(x,t): \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ nonnegative density
- mass is conserved $\Rightarrow \int \rho(x) dx = M$

aggregation diffusion equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \underbrace{\nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho)}_{\text{aggregation}} + \underbrace{\Delta \rho^m}_{\text{(degenerate) diffusion}} \quad \text{for } K(x) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ and } m \geq 1$$

aggregation (degenerate) diffusion

interaction kernels:

- vortex motion/chemotaxis: $K(x) = \pm |x|^{2-d}/(2-d)$ $|x|^0/0 = \log(|x|)$
- granular media: $K(x) = |x|^3$
- swarming: $K(x) = |x|^a/a - |x|^b/b, -d < b \leq a$

$$\text{degenerate diffusion: } \Delta \rho^m = \nabla \cdot \underbrace{(m\rho^{m-1} \nabla \rho)}_D$$

agg diffusion \rightarrow constrained agg

- $\rho(x,t): \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ nonnegative density
- mass is conserved $\Rightarrow \int \rho(x) dx = M$

aggregation diffusion equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \underbrace{\nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho)}_{\text{aggregation}} + \underbrace{\Delta \rho^m}_{\text{(degenerate) diffusion}} \quad \text{for } K(x) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ and } m \geq 1$$

constrained aggregation equation

“

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla(K * \rho)\rho) & \text{if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 & \text{always} \end{cases} \quad \text{for } K(x) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

”

Formally, hard height constraint is **singular limit** of degenerate diffusion:

Idea: $\Delta \rho^m = \nabla \cdot (\underbrace{m\rho^{m-1}}_D \nabla \rho)$, so as $m \rightarrow +\infty$, $D \rightarrow \begin{cases} +\infty & \text{if } \rho \geq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \rho < 1 \end{cases}$

motivation #1: gradient flow structure

Recall: $x(t): [0, +\infty) \rightarrow X$ is the **gradient flow** of an energy $E: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if

$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = -\nabla_X E(x(t))$$

Examples:

energy	gradient flow
$E(f) = \frac{1}{2} \int \nabla f ^2$	$\frac{d}{dt}f = \Delta f$
$E(\rho) = \int \rho \log \rho$	$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \Delta \rho$
$E_m(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho + \frac{1}{m-1} \int \rho^m$	$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho) + \Delta \rho^m$
$E_\infty(\rho) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho & \text{if } \rho \leq 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$	$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla(K * \rho)\rho) & \text{if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 \text{ always} \end{cases}$

motivation #2: shape optimization

Goal: $\min \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} K(x-y) dx dy : \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d, |\Omega| = M \right\}$ [Burchard, Choksi, Topaloglu '16]
 [Frank, Lieb '17] [Lopes '17]

- For $K(x) = |x|^a/a - |x|^b/b$: $\int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|x-y|^a}{a} dx dy - \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|x-y|^b}{b} dx dy$

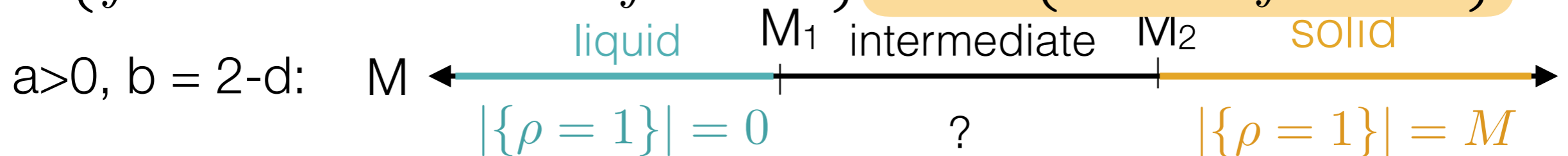


equivalent problem:

$$\min \left\{ \int (K * \rho) \rho : \rho = 1_{\Omega} \text{ for } \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d, |\Omega| = M \right\}$$

relaxed problem:

$$\min \left\{ \int (K * \rho) \rho : 0 \leq \rho \leq 1, \int \rho = M \right\} = \min \left\{ E_{\infty}(\rho) : \int \rho = M \right\}$$



plan: two singular limits

- 1) slow diffusion limit
- 2) vanishing regularization limit (blob method)
- 3) numerical method for height constrained problems

W_2 gradient flow

Def: $\rho(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is the **Wasserstein gradient flow** of $E: P_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if

$$E(\rho(t)) - E(\rho(0)) \leq -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t |\partial E|(\rho(s))^2 ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t |\rho'| (s)^2 ds$$

where

$$|\partial E|(\mu) := \limsup_{\nu \rightarrow \mu} \frac{(E(\mu) - E(\nu))^+}{W_2(\mu, \nu)} \quad \text{and} \quad |\rho'| (t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow t} \frac{W_2(\rho(s), \rho(t))}{|s - t|}$$

Analogy with **Euclidean gradient flow**:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} x(t) = -\nabla E(x(t)) &\iff \begin{cases} \left| \frac{d}{dt} x(t) \right| = |\nabla E(x(t))| \\ \frac{d}{dt} E(x(t)) = -|\nabla E(x(t))| \left| \frac{d}{dt} x(t) \right| \end{cases} \\ &\iff \frac{d}{dt} E(x(t)) \leq -\frac{1}{2} |\partial E(x(t))|^2 - \frac{1}{2} |x'|^2(t) \end{aligned}$$

Γ -convergence of gradient flows

Theorem: (Serfaty 2010): Let $\rho_m(x, t)$ be grad flows of \mathcal{E}_m such that

$$\rho_m(x, t) \rightarrow \rho_\infty(x, t) \text{ and } \mathcal{E}_m(\rho_m(x, 0)) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\infty(\rho_\infty(x, 0))$$

If we have

1. $\liminf_{m \rightarrow +\infty} E_m(\rho_m(t)) \geq E_\infty(\rho_\infty(t))$
2. $\liminf_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t |\rho'_m|^2(s) ds \geq \int_0^t |\rho'_\infty|^2(s) ds$
3. $\liminf_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t |\partial E_m|^2(\rho_m(s)) ds \geq \int_0^t |\partial E_\infty|^2(\rho_\infty(s)) ds$

then $\rho_\infty(x, t)$ is a gradient flow of \mathcal{E}_∞ .

Recall: $\rho(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is the Wasserstein gradient flow of $E: P_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if

$$E(\rho(t)) - E(\rho(0)) \leq -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t |\partial E|(\rho(s))^2 ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t |\rho'| (s)^2 ds$$

plan: two singular limits

- 1) slow diffusion limit
- 2) vanishing regularization limit (blob method)
- 3) numerical method for height constrained problems

singular limit: slow diffusion

Goal:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho) + \Delta \rho^m$$

$m \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla(K * \rho)\rho) & \text{if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 & \text{always} \end{cases}$$

Equivalent Goal:

gradient flows of

$$E_m(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho + \frac{1}{m-1} \int \rho^m$$

$m \rightarrow +\infty$

gradient flows of

$$E_\infty(\rho) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho & \text{if } \rho \leq 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Theorem: [C., Topaloglu 2018]

- Suppose $\rho_m(x, t)$ are gradient flows of E_m satisfying

$$\rho_m(x, 0) \rightarrow \rho_\infty(x, 0) \text{ and } E_m(\rho_m(x, 0)) \rightarrow E_\infty(\rho_\infty(x, 0))$$

Then $\rho_m(x, t) \rightarrow \rho_\infty(x, t)$, the gradient flow of E_∞ .

plan: two singular limits

- 1) slow diffusion limit
- 2) vanishing regularization limit (blob method)
- 3) numerical method for height constrained problems

particle methods

Goal: Approximate a solution to

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho(x, t) + \nabla \cdot (\rho v) = 0$$

Benefits of particle methods

- positivity preserving
 - inherently adaptive
 - energy decreasing
- ...but what about when $v(x, t)$ is not “nice”?

A general recipe for a particle methods:

(1) approximate $\rho_0(x)$ as a sum of Dirac masses

$$\rho_0 \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x_i} m_i$$

(2) evolve the locations of the Dirac masses by

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_i(t) = v(x_i(t), t) \quad \forall i$$

(3) for v nice, $\rho_N(x, t) = \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x_i(t)} m_i$ is a weak solution of continuity eqn,
so stability estimates imply $\rho_N(x, t) \rightarrow \rho(x, t)$.

particle methods

aggregation diffusion equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho) + \Delta \rho^m \quad v = \nabla K * \rho + m\rho^{m-2}\nabla \rho$$

Problem: $v(x,t)$ is not nice

- **Degenerate diffusion** term is worst: particles do not remain particles
- Even the **interaction** term can slow convergence if strong singularity

Solution: regularize $v(x,t)$ to make it nice

- For **interaction**, regularize via convolution $K_\epsilon = K * \varphi_\epsilon$ [C, Bertozzi 2014]
- How to regularize **diffusion term**?

blob method for diffusion

aggregation equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho)$$

energy:

$$E(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho$$

regularized energy:

$$E_\epsilon(\rho) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \int (K_\epsilon ** \rho)\rho$$

$$\rho_\epsilon = \rho * \varphi_\epsilon$$

↓ W_2 grad flow

regularized velocity:

$$v = -\nabla K_\epsilon ** \rho$$

porous medium equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \Delta \rho^m$$

energy:

$$E(\rho) = \int \frac{\rho^{m-1}}{m-1} \rho$$

regularized energy:

$$E_\epsilon(\rho) = \int \frac{(\rho_\epsilon)^{m-1}}{m-1} \rho$$

regularized velocity:

$$v = -\nabla \varphi_\epsilon * (\rho_\epsilon^{m-2} \rho) - \rho_\epsilon^{m-2} \nabla \rho_\epsilon$$

blob method for diffusion

Previous work:

- $m=2$: [Oelschläger 1998], [Lions, Mas-Gallic 2000]
- $m=1$: [Degond, Mustieles 1990], [Lacombe, Mas-Gallic 1999]
- [Jabin, in preparation]

porous medium equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \Delta\rho^m$$

energy:

$$E(\rho) = \int \frac{\rho^{m-1}}{m-1} \rho$$

regularized energy:

$$E_\epsilon(\rho) = \int \frac{(\rho_\epsilon)^{m-1}}{m-1} \rho$$

regularized velocity:

$$v = -\nabla\varphi_\epsilon * (\rho_\epsilon^{m-2}\rho) - \rho_\epsilon^{m-2}\nabla\rho_\epsilon$$

particles remain particles! \longrightarrow

singular limit: blob method

Goal:

$$\epsilon \rightarrow 0, N \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho + \nabla \cdot (v_\epsilon \rho) = 0$$

$$\rho_N(0) = \sum \delta_{x_i} m_i$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho) + \Delta \rho^m$$

$$\rho(0) = \rho_0$$

Suffices to show:

$$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$$

gradient flows of

$$E_\epsilon(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho + \int \frac{(\rho_\epsilon)^{m-1}}{m-1} \rho$$

gradient flows of

$$E(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho)\rho + \int \frac{\rho^m}{m-1}$$

Theorem [Carrillo, C., Patacchini 2017]: For fixed $m \geq 1$,

- E_ϵ Γ -converges to E .
- If K **confining** ($K \geq 0$, $K(r) \rightarrow \infty$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$), minimizers converge to minimizers.
- If K **semiconvex** ($D^2K \geq 0$) and gradient flows of E_ϵ satisfy **compactness estimates** uniformly in ϵ , gradient flows converge to gradient flows.

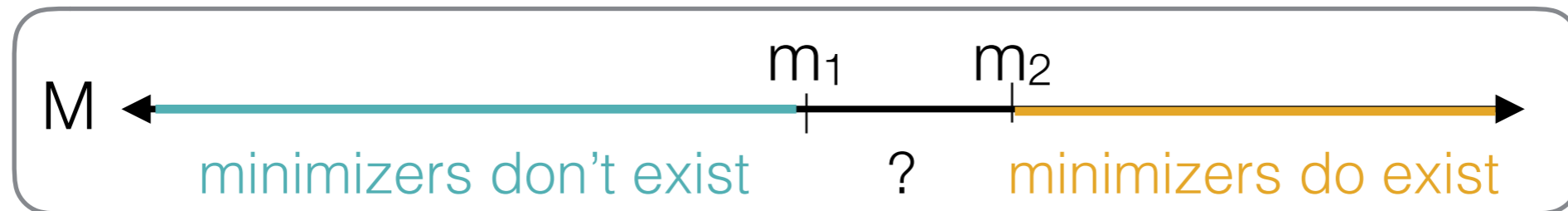
plan: two singular limits

(1) slow diffusion limit

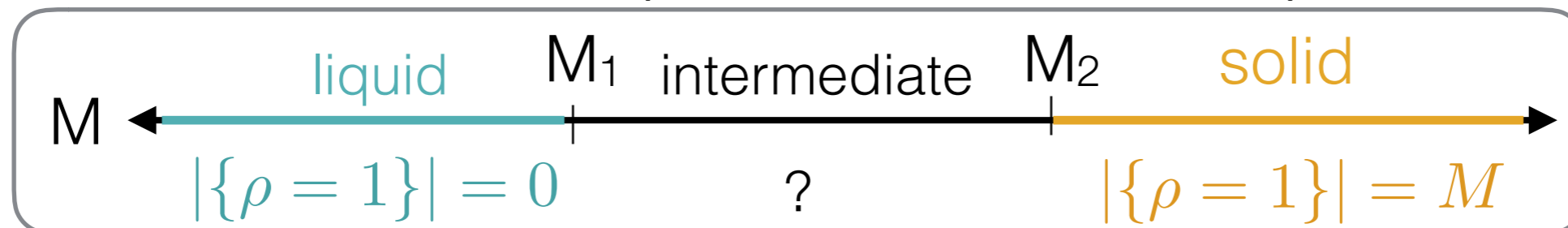
(2) vanishing regularization limit (blob method)

(3) numerical method for height constrained problems

- For singular repulsion and nonsingular interaction...
 - Are masses that allow set valued minimizers a connected interval?

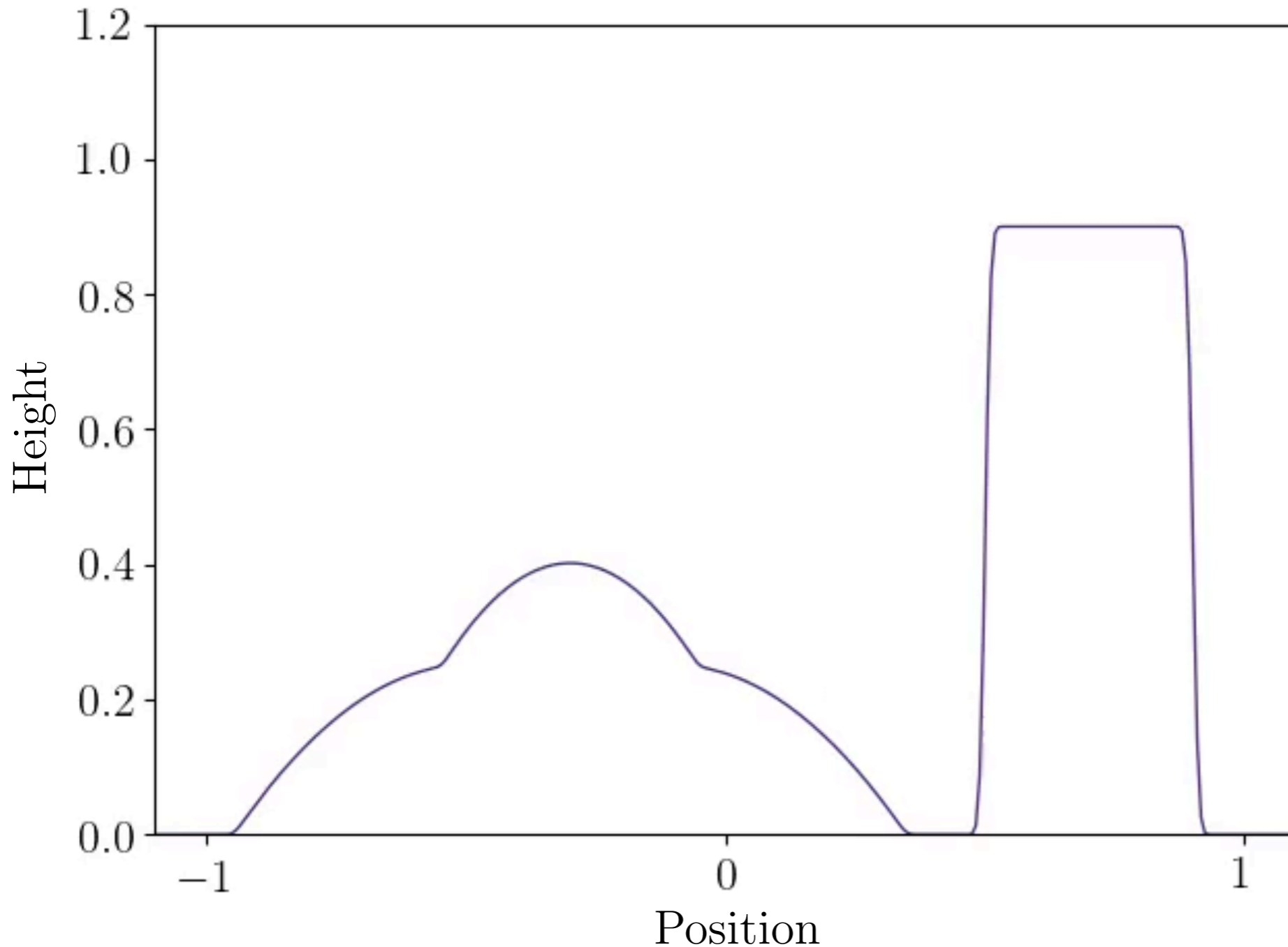


- Does an intermediate phase exist between liquid and solid?



- What about for other types of repulsion and attraction?

numerics: slow diff to hard height



$$K(x) = |x|$$

$$m = 800$$

$$N_x = 400$$

$$h = 0.006$$

$$\varepsilon = h^{0.99}$$

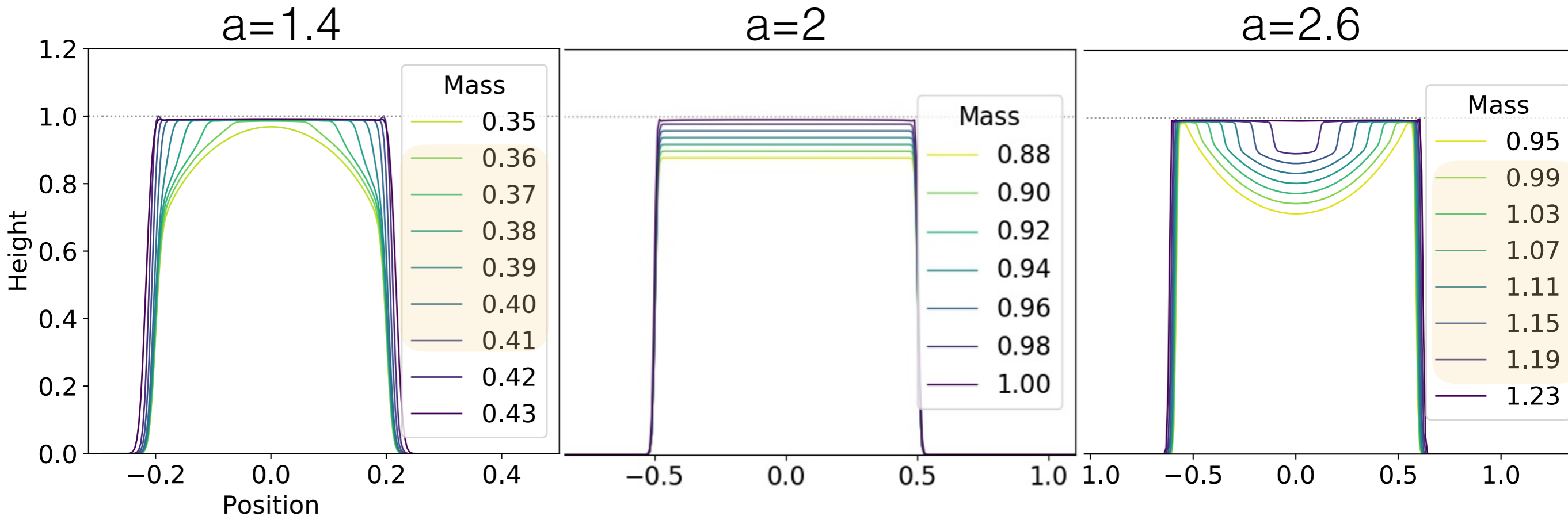
ODEs solved via BDF

remesh when
particles $> (1.5)h$ apart

plot $\varphi_\varepsilon * \rho_\varepsilon(t)$

numerics: shape optimization

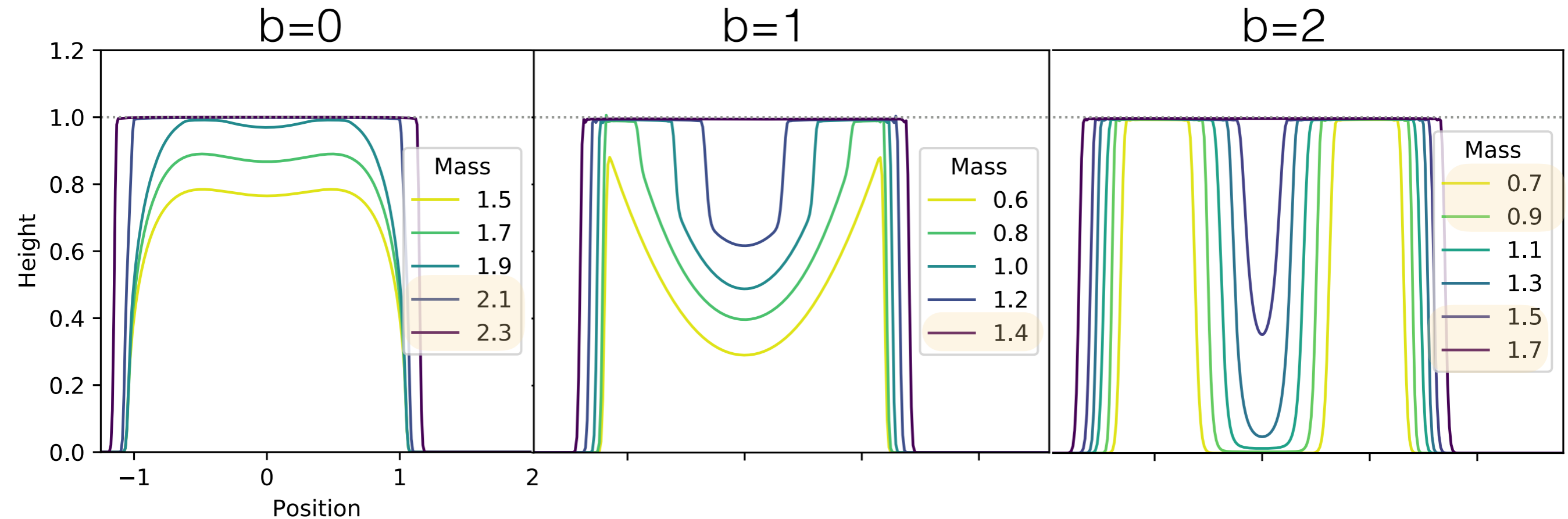
$$K(x) = \frac{|x|^a}{a} - |x|$$



- $a \neq 2$: intermediate phase ($M_1 \neq M_2$)
- $b \leq 2-d$: masses for set valued minimizers are connected interval ($m_1 = m_2$)

numerics: shape optimization

$$K(x) = \frac{|x|^4}{4} - \frac{|x|^b}{b}$$



- $b > 2-d$: masses for set valued minimizers are NOT connected interval
- singular repulsion key to phase transition results

Thank you!

Backup

motivation #2: shape optimization

$$\mathbf{Goal:} \min \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} K(x - y) dx dy : \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d, |\Omega| = M \right\}$$

Related problems:

- Poincaré's problem [Lieb 1977]

$$\min \left\{ - \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{|x - y|} dx dy : \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3, |\Omega| = M \right\}$$

- Isoperimetric problem

$$\min \{ \text{Perimeter}(\Omega) : \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3, |\Omega| = M \}$$

- Nonlocal isoperimetric problem [Knüpfer, Moratov '13]. [Lu, Otto '14], [Frank, Lieb '15], ...

$$\min \left\{ \text{Perimeter}(\Omega) + \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{|x - y|} dx dy : \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3, |\Omega| = M \right\}$$



singular limit: blob method

Theorem [Carrillo, C., Patacchini 2017]: For fixed $m \geq 1$,

- E_ε Γ -converges to E .
- If K **confining** ($K \geq 0$, $K(r) \rightarrow \infty$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$), minimizers converge to minimizers.
- If K **semiconvex** ($D^2K \geq 0$) and gradient flows of E_ε satisfy **compactness estimates** uniformly in ε , gradient flows converge to gradient flows.

compactness estimates:

- A1 blobs converge in $L^m(\mathbb{R}^d)$ to something
- A2 bounded $(m-1)^{\text{th}}$ moment
- A3 bounded “BV norm” $\|\mu_\varepsilon(t)\|_{BV_\varepsilon^m} \sim \|\nabla \zeta_\varepsilon * \mu_\varepsilon^m(t)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}$

Note: ($m=2$) A1-3 hold if initial data has bdd entropy [Lions, Mas-Gallic 2000]

singular limit: blob method

Theorem [Carrillo, C., Patacchini 2017]:

- For fixed m , E_ε Γ -converges to E .
- If K **confining** ($K \geq 0$, $K(r) \rightarrow \infty$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$), minimizers converge to minimizers.

Theorem: Fix $m \geq 2$ and K semiconvex. Suppose the GF $\rho_\varepsilon(t)$ of E_ε satisfies

$$\boxed{\text{A1}} \quad \sup_{\varepsilon > 0} \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x|^{m-1} \rho_\varepsilon(x, s) dx ds < +\infty$$

$$\boxed{\text{A2}} \quad \sup_{\varepsilon > 0} \int_0^t \|\rho_\varepsilon(s)\|_{BV_\varepsilon^m} ds < +\infty$$

$$\boxed{\text{A3}} \quad \zeta_\varepsilon * \rho_\varepsilon(t) \xrightarrow{L^m(\mathbb{R}^d)} \rho(t)$$

Then $\rho(t)$ is a gradient flow of E .

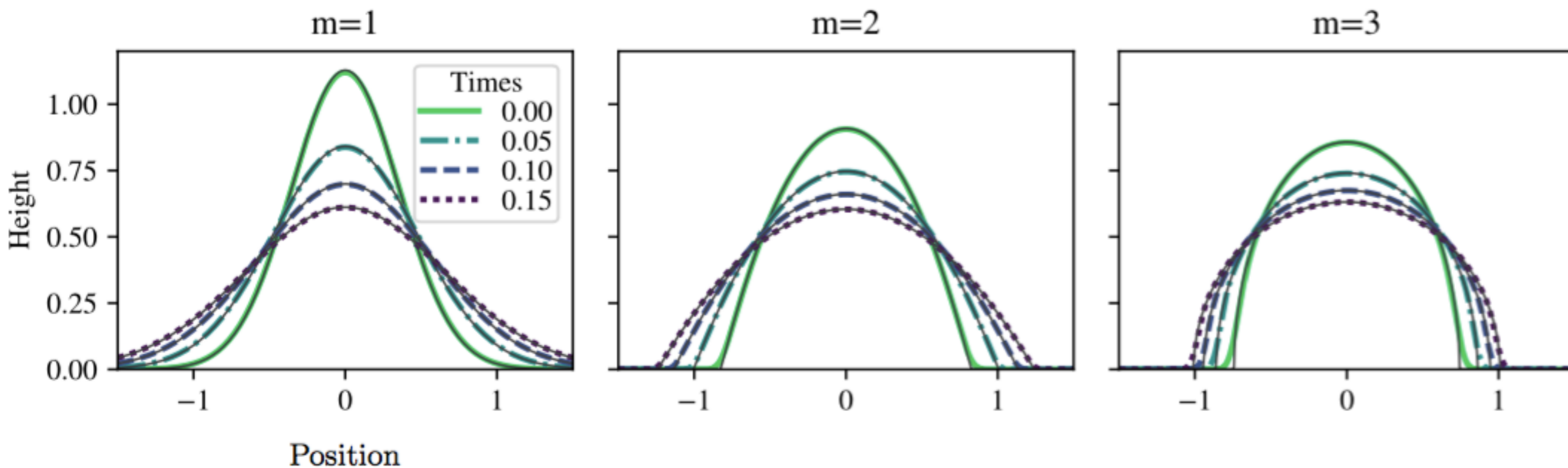
Remarks:

- 1)** $\|\mu_\varepsilon(t)\|_{BV_\varepsilon^m} \sim \|\nabla \zeta_\varepsilon * \mu_\varepsilon^m(t)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}$
- 2)** $m=2$: A1-3 hold if $\rho_\varepsilon(0)$ has uniformly bdd entropy [Lions, Mas-Gallic 2000]

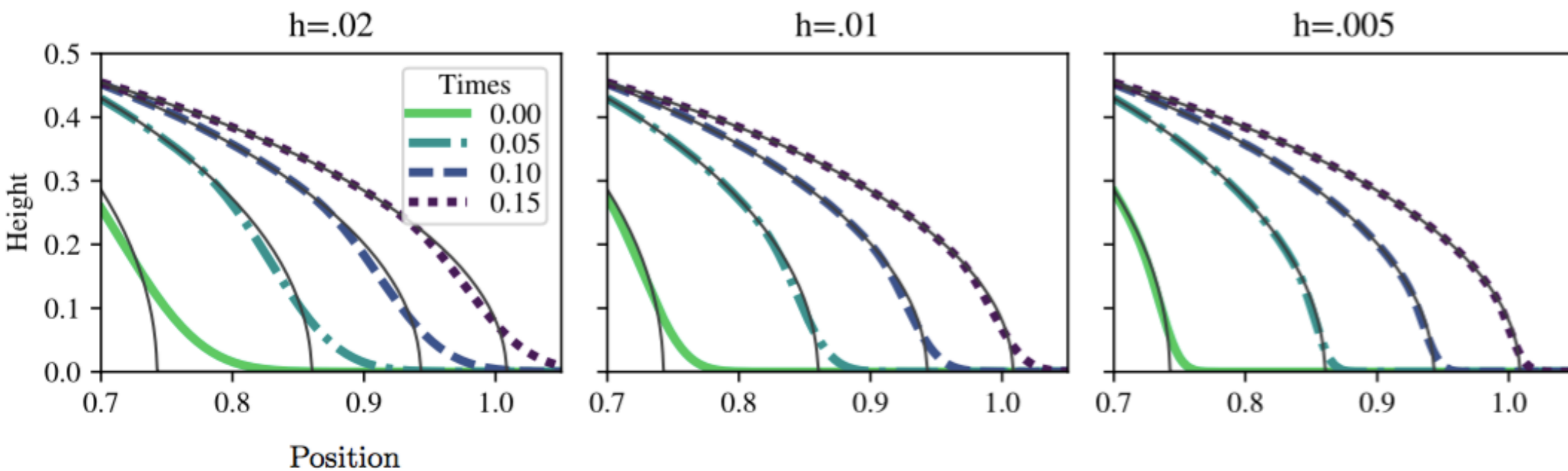
blob method: pure diffusion

$$\varepsilon = h^{.95}$$

Exact vs. Numerical Solution, $h = 0.02$, varying m

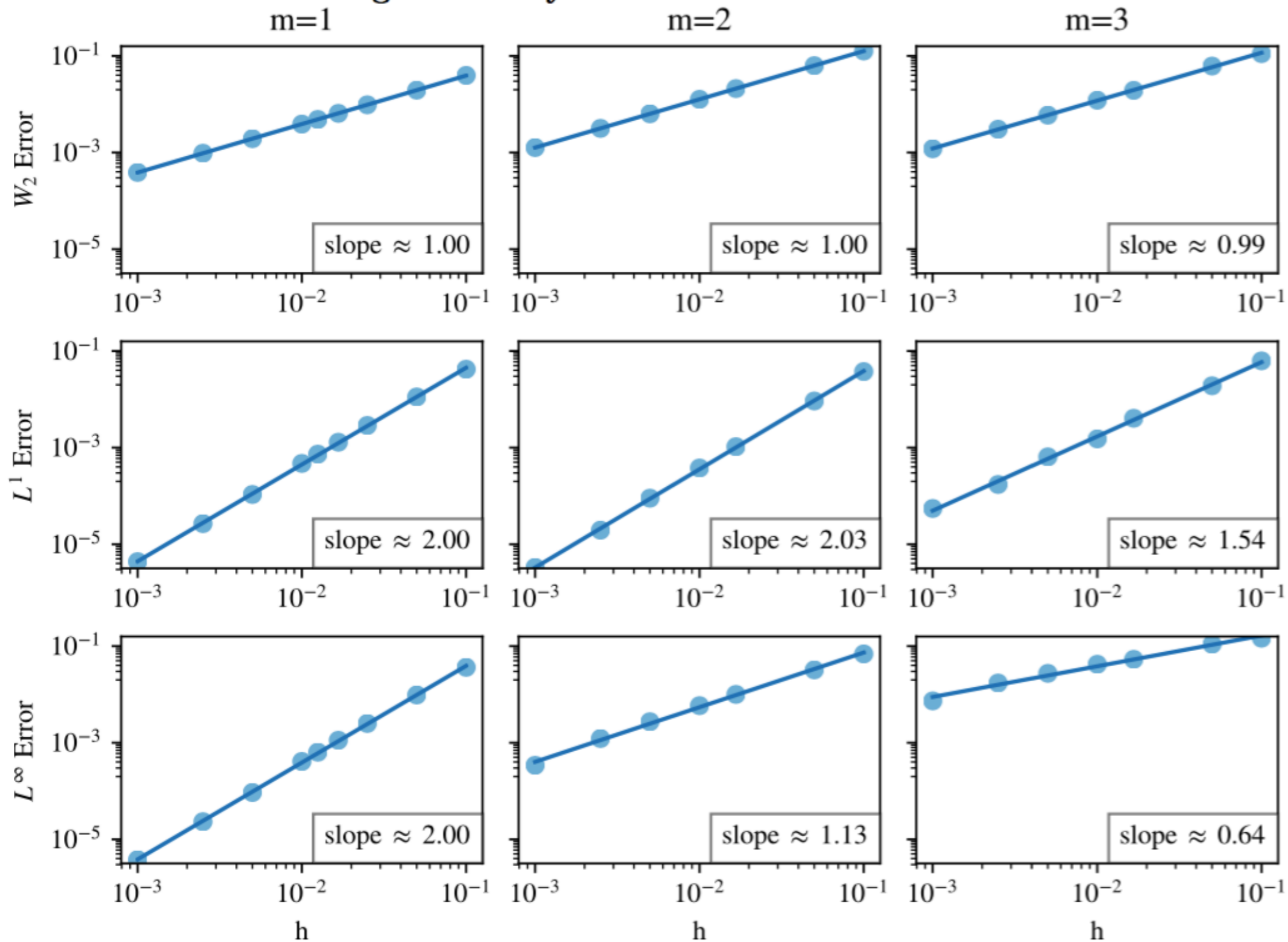


Exact vs. Numerical Solution, varying h , $m = 3$



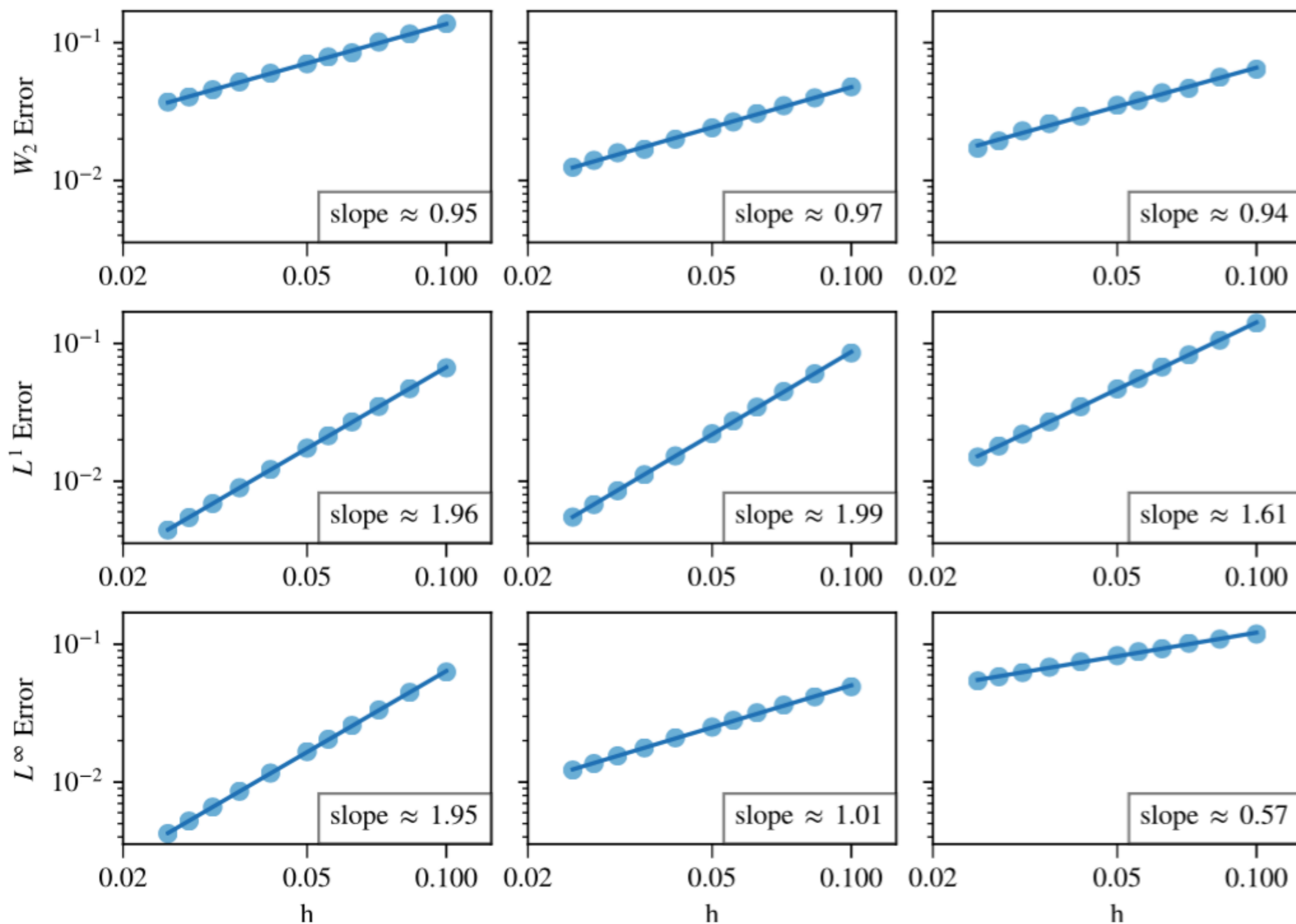
numerics: rate of convergence (d=1)

Convergence Analysis: One-Dimensional Diffusion



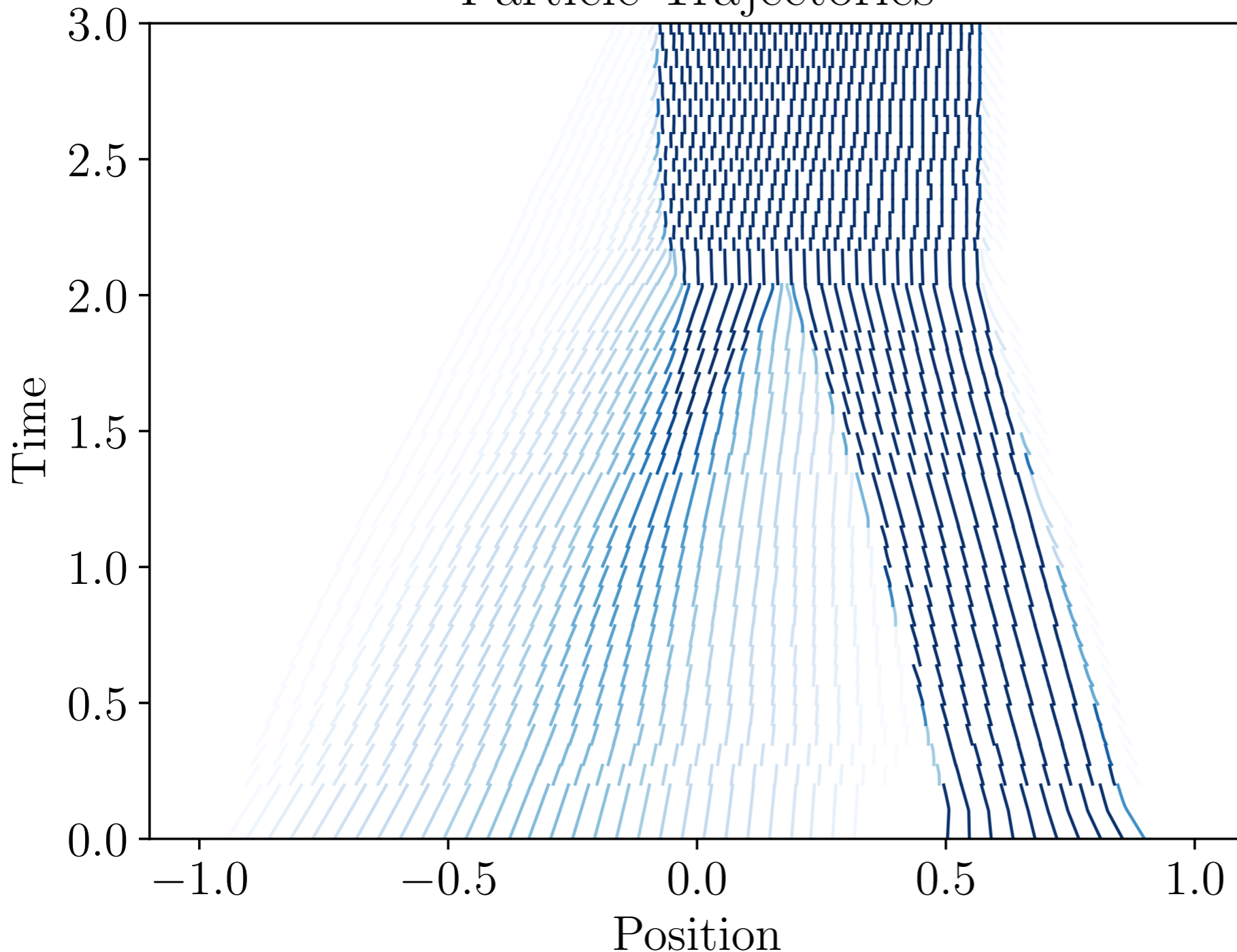
numerics: rate of convergence (d=2)

Convergence Analysis: Two-Dimensional Diffusion



numerics: slow diff to hard height

Particle Trajectories



$$K(x) = |x|$$

$$m = 800$$

$$N_x = 400$$

$$h = 0.006$$

$$\varepsilon = h^{0.99}$$

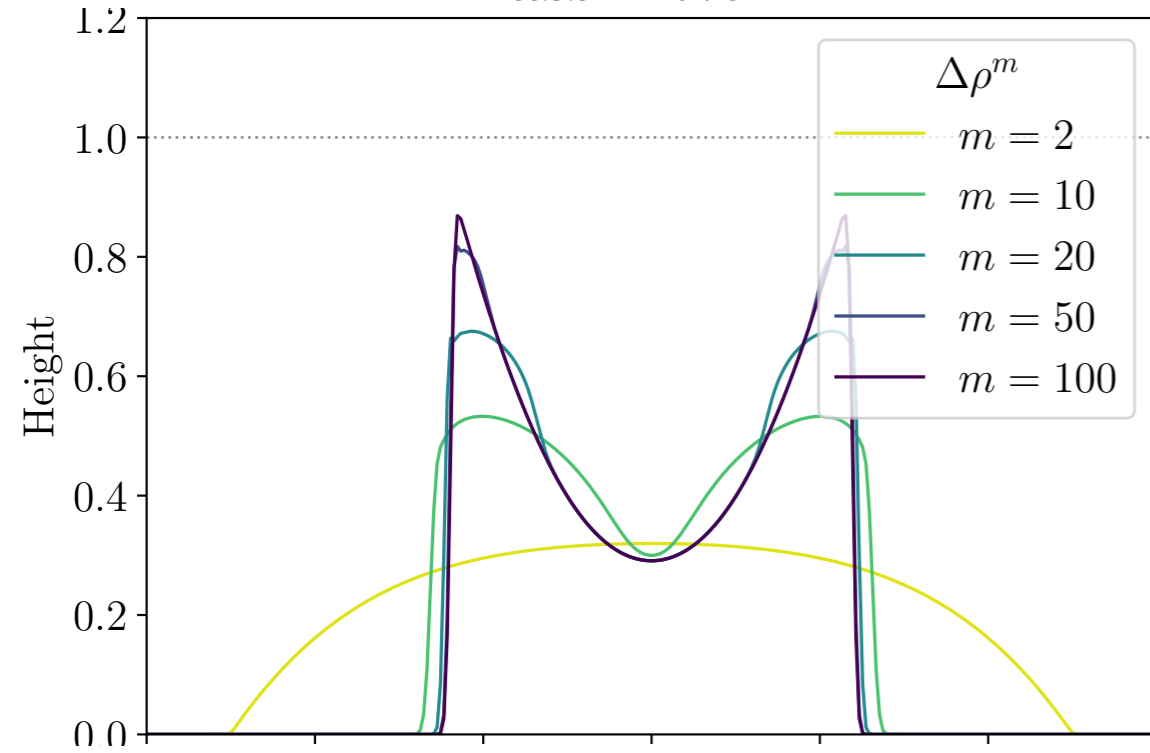
ODEs solved via BDF

remesh when
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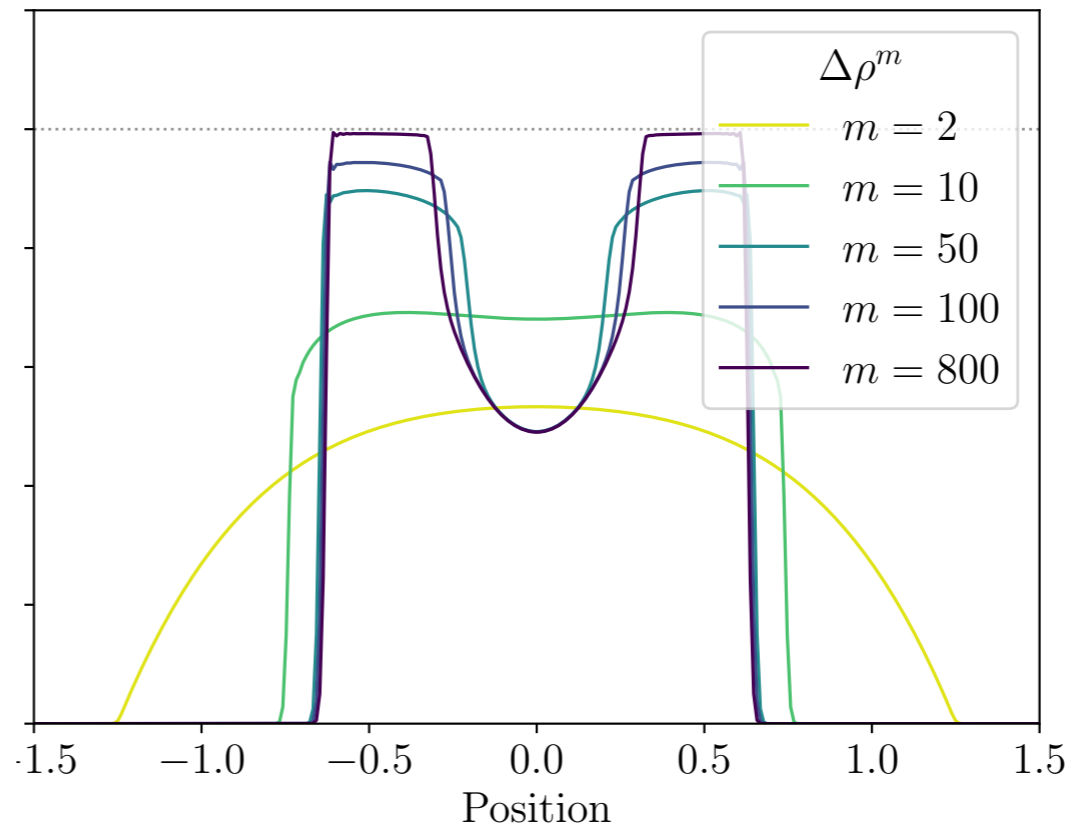
plot $\varphi_\varepsilon * \rho_\varepsilon(t)$

numerics: rate of slow diffusion limit

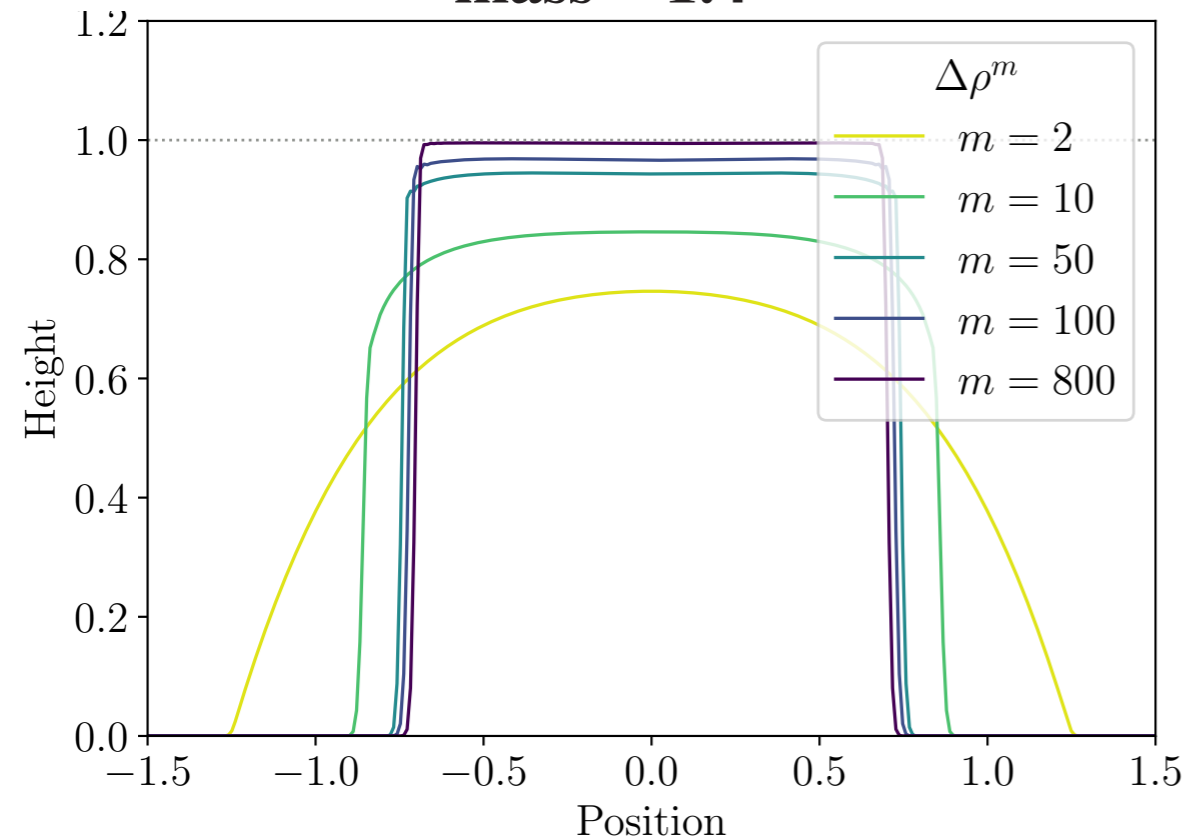
mass = 0.6



mass = 1.0



mass = 1.4



$$K(x) = |x|^4/4 - |x|$$

$$Nx = 1000 \text{ (} m=2\text{), } 500 \text{ (} m>2\text{)}$$

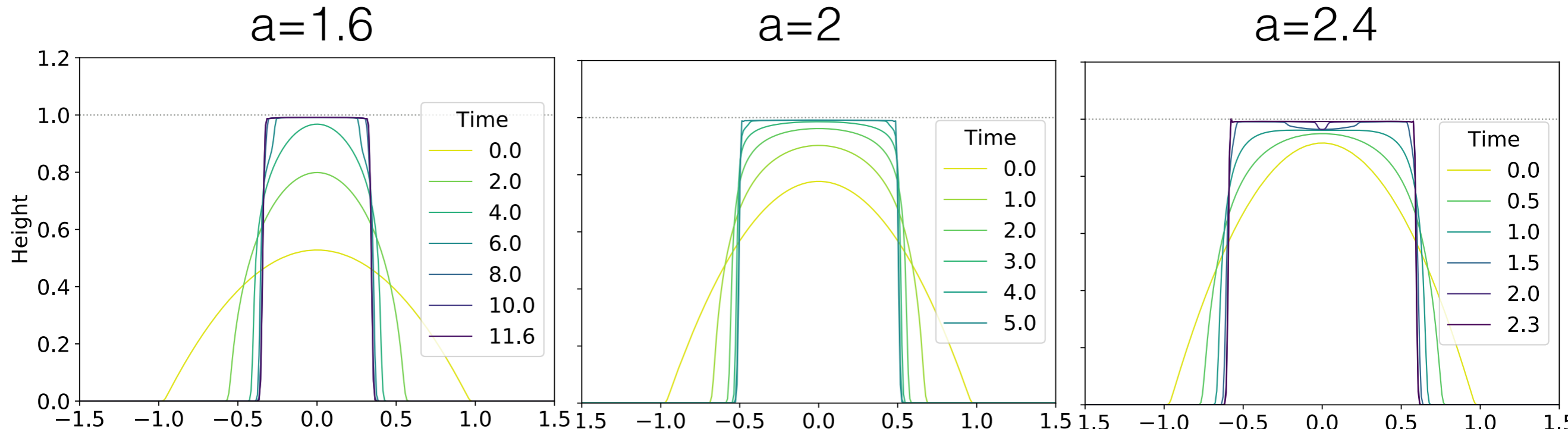
$$\varepsilon = h^{0.99}$$

height constraint emerges by $m=800$

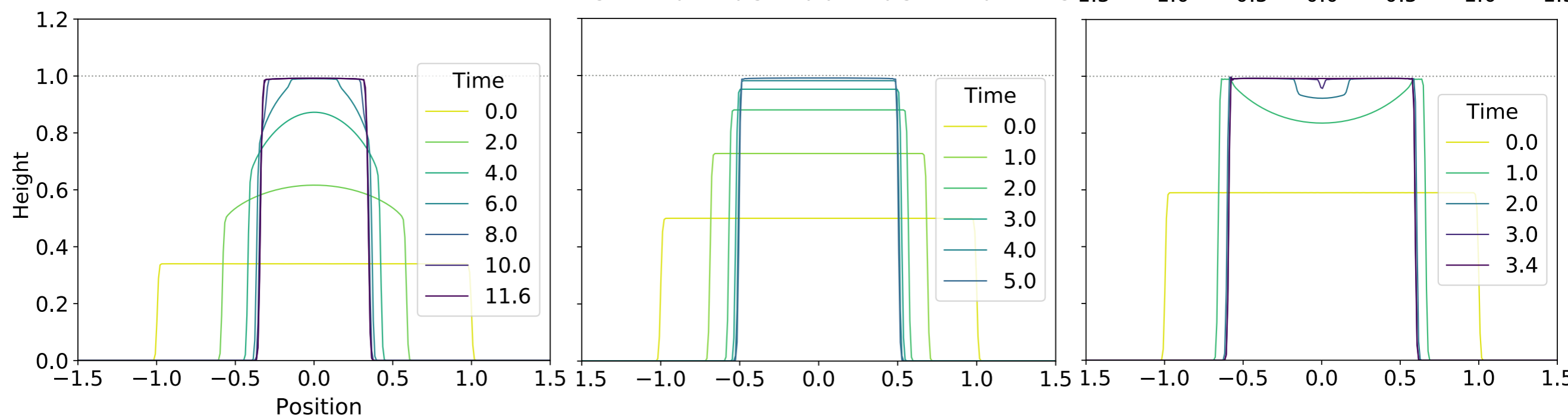
numerics: convergence to equilibrium

$$K(x) = |x|^a/a - |x|^b/b, \quad b = 1$$

barenblatt initial data



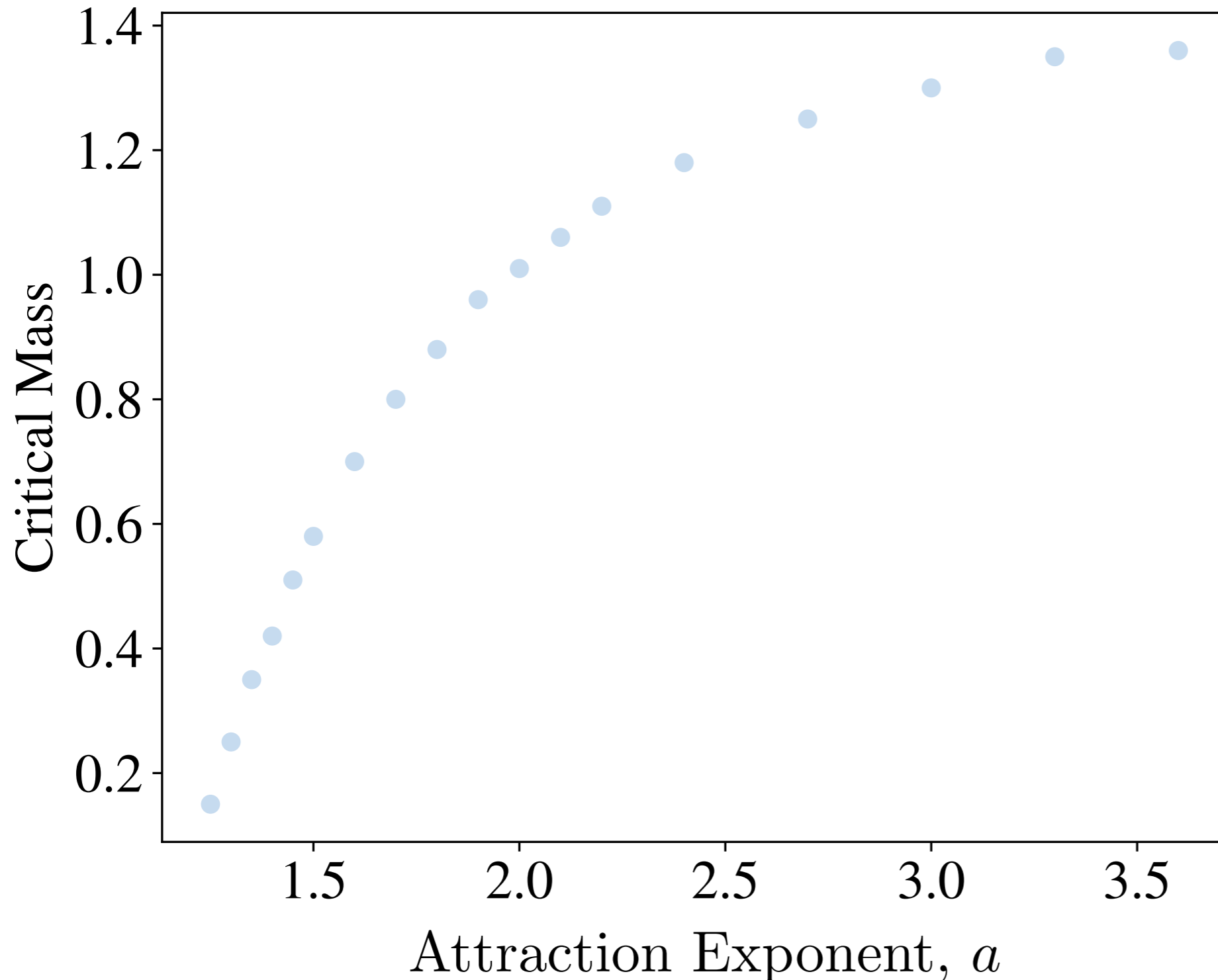
patch initial data



$N_x = 500$, $m = 800$, $M = \text{critical mass}$

numerics: critical mass for solid state

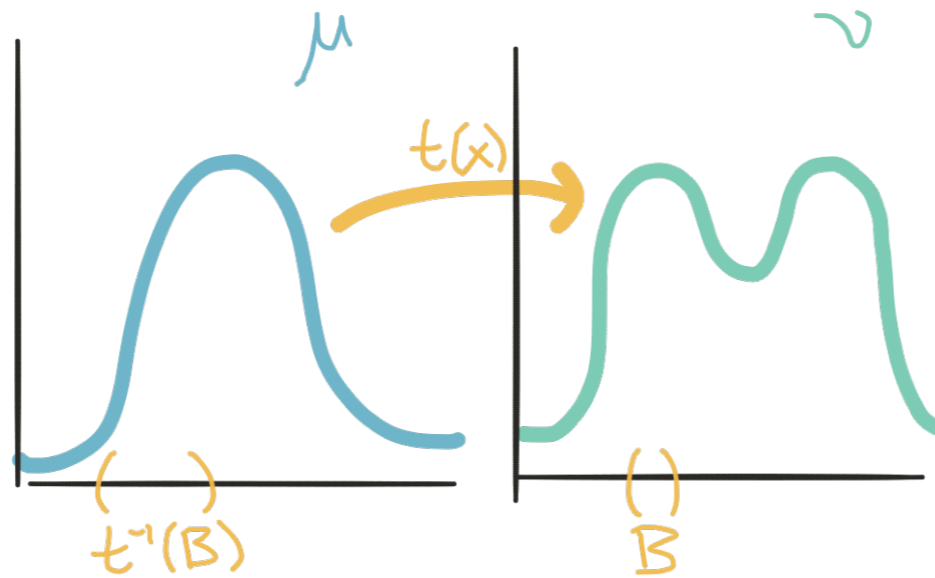
$$K(x) = \frac{|x|^a}{a} - |x|$$



numerical evidence for how critical mass scales with attraction exponent

Wasserstein metric

Given $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $\mathbf{t} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ transports μ onto ν if $\nu(B) = \mu(\mathbf{t}^{-1}(B))$.
Write $\mathbf{t}\#\mu = \nu$.



The *Wasserstein distance* between measures $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_{2,ac}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is

$$W_2(\mu, \nu) := \inf \left\{ \left(\int |t(x) - x|^2 d\mu(x) \right)^{1/2} : t\#\mu = \nu \right\}$$

effort to rearrange μ to look like ν , using $t(x)$

t sends μ to ν

geodesics

Not just a metric space... a **geodesic metric space**: there is a constant speed geodesic $\sigma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ connecting any μ and ν .

$$\sigma(0) = \mu, \quad \sigma(1) = \nu, \quad W_2(\sigma(t), \sigma(s)) = |t - s|W_2(\mu, \nu)$$

Monge



μ

Wasserstein geodesic $\sigma(t)$

ν

Kantorovich



μ

linear interpolation $(1 - t)\mu + t\nu$

ν

convexity

Since the Wasserstein metric has **geodesics**, it has a notion of **convexity**.

Recall: in **Euclidean space**, $E: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is...

convex

$$D^2E \geq 0 \iff E((1-t)x + ty) \leq (1-t)E(x) + tE(y)$$

λ -convex

$$D^2E \geq \lambda I_{d \times d} \iff E((1-t)x + ty) \leq (1-t)E(x) + tE(y) - t(1-t)\frac{\lambda}{2}|x - y|^2$$

Likewise, in the **Wasserstein metric**, $E: \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is λ -convex if

$$E(\sigma(t)) \leq (1-t)E(\mu) + tE(\nu) - t(1-t)\frac{\lambda}{2}W_2^2(\mu, \nu)$$

gradient flow

For λ -convex energies, the gradient flow theory is well-developed.

Theorem (Ambrosio, Gigli, Savaré 2005): If E is λ -convex, lower semicontinuous, and bounded below, solutions of its W_2 gradient flow

- exist
- are unique
- contract ($\lambda > 0$)/expand ($\lambda \leq 0$) exponentially:

$$W_2(\rho_1(t), \rho_2(t)) \leq e^{-\lambda t} W_2(\rho_1(0), \rho_2(0))$$

ω -convexity: well-posedness

For merely ω -convex energies, the gradient flow is well-posed.

Theorem (C. 2016): If E is ω -convex for $\omega(x) = x |\log(x)|$, lower semicontinuous, and bounded below, solutions of its W_2 gradient flow

- exist
- are unique
- contract ($\lambda > 0$)/expand ($\lambda \leq 0$) double exponentially: for $W_2(\rho_1(0), \rho_2(0)) \leq 1$,
$$W_2(\rho_1(t), \rho_2(t)) \leq W_2(\rho_1(0), \rho_2(0)) e^{2\lambda t}$$

More generally, for $\omega(x)$ satisfying Osgood's condition, i.e.

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\omega(x)} = +\infty$$

we obtain the stability estimate

$$F_{2t}(W_2^2(\rho_1(t), \rho_2(t))) \leq W_2^2(\rho_1(0), \rho_2(0))$$
$$\frac{d}{dt} F_t(x) = \lambda \omega(F_t(x)), \quad F_0(x) = x$$

gradient flow

Good news: the congested aggregation equation is the Wasserstein gradient flow of the constrained interaction energy:

$$\mathcal{E}_\infty(\rho) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \int (K * \rho) \rho & \text{if } \rho \leq 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla (K * \rho) \rho) & \text{if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 & \text{always} \end{cases}$$

Fact: If $K: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is λ -convex, then \mathcal{E}_∞ is λ -convex.

Bad news: $K(x) = |x|^a/a - |x|^b/b$, $2 - d \leq b \leq a < 2$ are not λ -convex.

$$K(x) = |x|^a/a$$

\mathcal{E}_∞ falls outside the scope of the existing theory.

ω -convexity

Solution: Even though we don't have

$$E_\infty(\sigma(t)) \leq (1-t)E_\infty(\mu) + tE_\infty(\nu) - \frac{\lambda}{2}t(1-t)W_2^2(\mu, \nu)$$

← λ -convexity

E_∞ is ω -convex for $\omega(x) = x |\log(x)|$.

$$E_\infty(\sigma(t)) \leq (1-t)E_\infty(\mu) + tE_\infty(\nu) - \frac{\lambda}{2} [(1-t)\omega(t^2W_2^2(\mu, \nu)) + t\omega((1-t)^2W_2^2(\mu, \nu))]$$

← ω -convexity

Examples:

- $\omega(x) = x$, reduces to λ -convexity
- $\omega(x) = x |\log(x)|$, [Ambrosio Serfaty, 2008] [Carrillo Lisini Mainini, 2014]
- $\omega(x) = x^p$, $p > 1$, [Carrillo McCann Villani, 2006]

more generally: $\omega(x)$ is continuous, increasing, $\omega(0)=0$, and $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\omega(x)} = +\infty$

dynamics & long time behavior

$$K(x) = -|x|^{2-d}/(2-d) = \Delta^{-1}$$

[C. Kim, Yao 2018]

Theorem (dynamics): Given $\rho(x,0) = 1_{\Omega(0)}(x)$, let \mathbf{p} be a viscosity sol'n of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \mathbf{p} = 1 & \text{on } \{\mathbf{p} > 0\} \\ V = -\partial_\nu K * 1_{\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}} - \partial_\nu \mathbf{p} & \text{on } \partial\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}. \end{cases}$$

Let $\Omega(t) = \{\mathbf{p}(x,t) > 0\}$. Then $\rho(x,t) = 1_{\Omega(t)}(x)$ solves the congested agg equation.

Theorem (long time behavior): In two dimensions, given $\rho(x,0) = 1_{\Omega(0)}(x)$,

$$\rho(x,t) \xrightarrow{L^p} 1_B(x) \text{ for all } 1 \leq p < +\infty$$

$$|E_\infty(\rho(\cdot, t)) - E_\infty(1_B)| \leq C_{\Omega(0)} t^{-1/6}$$

previous work

Congested drift equation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dt} \rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla V) \rho) \text{ if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 \text{ always} \end{array} \right.$$

[Maury, Roudneff-Chupin, Santambrogio 2010]

- introduced as a model of crowd motion in an evacuation scenario
- showed well-posedness as a W_2 gradient flow for V convex

[Alexander, Kim, Yao 2014]

- for V convex, proved slow diffusion limit
- for $\Delta V > 0$, characterized patch dynamics via free boundary problem

Challenges:

- $K * \rho$ not convex $\Rightarrow W_2$ gradient flow theory comparatively undeveloped
- $K * \rho$ nonlocal \Rightarrow no comparison principle

Γ -convergence of gradient flows

Goal: 1. $\liminf_{m \rightarrow +\infty} E_m(\rho_m(t)) \geq E_\infty(\rho_\infty(t))$

3. $\liminf_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t |\partial E_m|^2(\rho_m(s)) ds \geq \int_0^t |\partial E_\infty|^2(\rho_\infty(s)) ds$

$$\mathcal{E}_m(\rho) = \int K * \rho d\rho + \frac{1}{m-1} \int \rho^m \quad \mathcal{E}_\infty(\rho) = \begin{cases} \int K * \rho d\rho & \text{if } \|\rho\|_\infty \leq 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (1) follows by interpolation of L^p norms
- (3) is more difficult, due to the lack of convexity (or even ω -convexity) uniformly in m

instead, we must use specific structure of metric slope

$$|\partial \mathcal{E}_m|(\mu_m) = \left\| \nabla K * \mu_m + \frac{\nabla \mu_m^m}{\mu_m} \right\|_{L^2(\mu_m)}$$

convexity

Since the Wasserstein metric has **geodesics**, it has a notion of **convexity**.

Recall: in **Euclidean space**, $E: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is...

λ -convex $E((1-t)x + ty) \leq (1-t)E(x) + tE(y) - t(1-t)\frac{\lambda}{2}|x-y|^2$

Likewise, in the **Wasserstein metric**, $E: P_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is...

λ -convex $E(\sigma(t)) \leq (1-t)E(\mu) + tE(\nu) - t(1-t)\frac{\lambda}{2}W_2^2(\mu, \nu)$

ω -convex $E(\sigma(t)) \leq (1-t)E(\mu) + tE(\nu)$
 $- \frac{\lambda}{2} [(1-t)\omega(t^2W_2^2(\mu, \nu)) + t\omega((1-t)^2W_2^2(\mu, \nu))]$

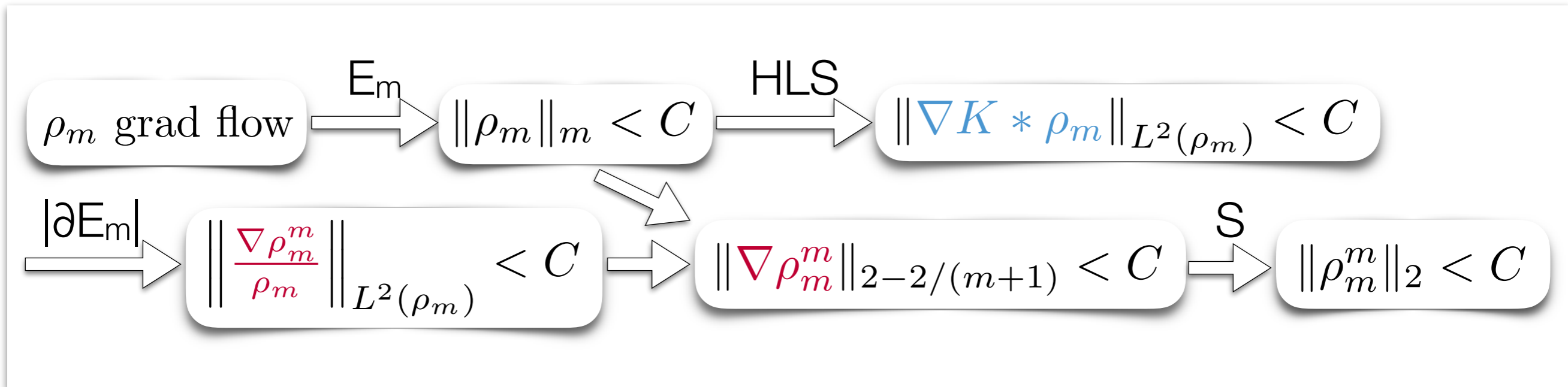
$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\omega(x)} = +\infty, \quad \text{e.g. } \omega(x) = x|\log(x)|$$

slow diffusion limit

Sketch of proof (iii): $\liminf \int |\partial E_m|^2(\rho_m(t)) dt \geq \int |\partial E_\infty|^2(\rho_\infty(t))$

$$E_m(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \int K * \rho d\rho + \frac{1}{m-1} \int \rho^m$$

$$|\partial E_m|(\rho) = \left\| \nabla K * \rho + \frac{\nabla \rho^m}{\rho} \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}$$



With this compactness, we get

$$\nabla K * \rho_m \rightarrow \nabla K * \rho, \quad \frac{\nabla \rho_m^m}{\rho_m} \rightarrow \frac{\nabla \sigma}{\rho}, \quad \liminf |\partial E_m|(\rho_m) \geq \left\| \nabla K * \rho + \frac{\nabla \sigma}{\rho} \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}$$

We conclude by showing $\text{RHS} \geq |\partial E_\infty|(\rho_\infty)$.

dynamics via free boundary problem

How does congested aggregation equation relate to free boundary problem?

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dt} \rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla (K * \rho) \rho) \text{ if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 \text{ always} \end{array} \right.$$

Consider initial data: $\rho(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in \Omega, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Since $\nabla K * \rho$ causes self-attraction, we expect $\rho(x, t) = 1_{\Omega(t)}(x)$.

Theorem (C., Kim, Yao '18):

Suppose $\rho(x, t)$ solves congested aggregation eqn with $\rho(x, 0) = 1_{\Omega(0)}(x)$.

Then $\rho(x, t) = 1_{\Omega(t)}(x)$, for $\Omega(t) = \{\mathbf{p}(x, t) > 0\}$, where \mathbf{p} a viscosity solution of

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta \mathbf{p} = 1 & \text{on } \{\mathbf{p} > 0\} \\ V = -\partial_\nu K * 1_{\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}} - \partial_\nu \mathbf{p} & \text{on } \partial\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}. \end{array} \right.$$

long time behavior

Using free boundary characterization, we can describe long time behavior:

- In **any dimension**, the Riesz Rearrangement Inequality guarantees that the unique minimizer of E_∞ is $1_B(x)$.
- Need to show mass of $\rho(x,t)$ doesn't escape to $+\infty$. To accomplish this, we use an inequality due to Talenti, which holds in **d=2**.

Theorem (C., Kim, Yao 2016):

- Suppose $\rho(x,t)$ solves **congested aggregation eqn** with $\rho(x,0) = 1_{\Omega(0)}(x)$.
- Then, in **two dimensions**,

$$\rho(x, t) \xrightarrow{L^p} 1_B(x) \text{ for all } 1 \leq p < +\infty$$

and

$$|E_\infty(\rho(\cdot, t)) - E_\infty(1_B)| \leq C_{\Omega(0)} t^{-1/6}$$

gradient flow

$\rho(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is the **gradient flow** of energy $E: P_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if

$$\frac{d}{dt} x(t) = -\nabla_X E(x(t))$$

More precisely, $\rho(t)$ is the **gradient flow** of E if...

- $\exists v(t) \in L^2_{loc}((0, +\infty), L^2(\rho(t)))$ s.t.
- $-v(t) \in \partial E(\rho(t))$ for a.e. $t > 0$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho(x, t) + \nabla \cdot (v(x, t) \rho(x, t)) = 0$$

The term brackets is analogous to $\xi(v - \rho)$

Tangent space?

- ξ belongs to the **subdifferential** of E at ρ if as $\mu \rightarrow \nu$,

$$E(\nu) - E(\rho) \geq \int \langle \xi, \mathbf{t}_\rho^\nu - \text{id} \rangle d\mu + o(W_2(\rho, \nu))$$

- If E and ρ are **nice**, $\partial E(\rho) = \left\{ \nabla \frac{\partial E}{\partial \rho} \right\}$

- Then solutions of the gradient flow can be characterized via a PDE.

aside: ω -convexity & Euler equations

In fact, when $\omega(x) = x |\log(x)|$, ω -convexity is related to **well-posedness** of **bounded** solutions of the the **Euler equations**.

- λ -convexity in W_2 is analogous to D^2E being **bounded** from below in Euclidean space, or that ∇E is one-sided Lipschitz.
- Likewise, ω -convexity in W_2 is analogous to D^2E being **BMO** in Euclidean space, or that ∇E is log-Lipschitz.
- Log-Lipschitz regularity of the velocity field was precisely what allowed **[Yudovich 1963]** to prove uniqueness of bounded solutions of the two dimensional Euler equations.

ω -convexity

Examples:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho)\rho) + \Delta \rho^m$$

• Chemotaxis: $K(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\pi} \log |x| & \text{if } d = 2 \\ C_d |x|^{2-d} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

ω -convex on L^∞

• Swarming: $K(x) = |x|^a/a - |x|^b/b, \quad 2 - d \leq b < a$

ω -convex on $L^p,$
 $p \geq d/(b+d-2)$

• Granular media: $K(x) = |x|^3$

ω -convex on measures with
fixed center of mass; $\omega(x) = x^{3/2}$

Sufficient condition:

Above the tangent line inequality

$$E(\mu_1) - E(\mu_0) - \frac{d}{d\alpha} E(\mu_\alpha)|_{\alpha=0} \geq \frac{\lambda}{2} \omega(W_2^2(\mu_0, \mu_1))$$

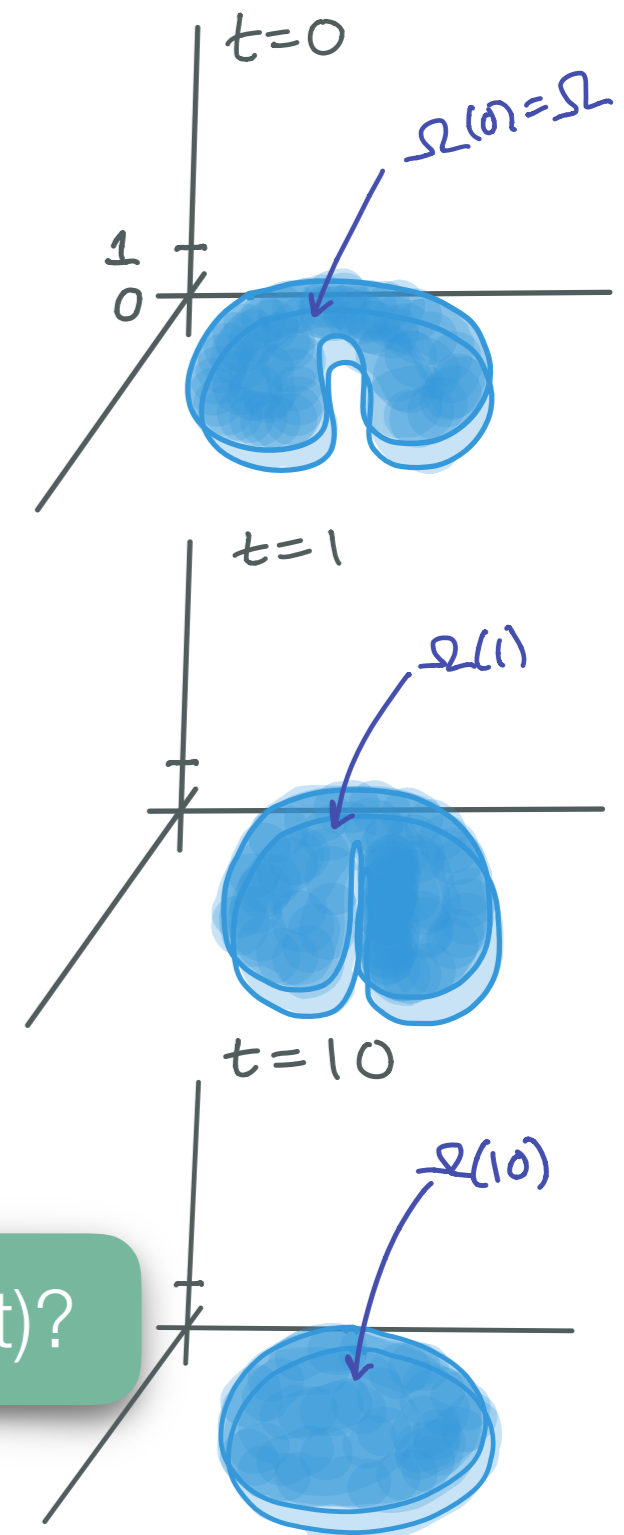
motivation for free boundary problem

How does congested aggregation equation relate to free boundary problem?

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dt} \rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla (K * \rho) \rho) \text{ if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 \text{ always} \end{array} \right.$$

- Consider **patch solutions**. For a domain Ω , suppose that $\rho(x,t)$ is a solution with initial data
$$\rho(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in \Omega, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
- Since $K = \Delta^{-1}$, $\nabla K * \rho$ causes **self-attraction**. Thus, we expect $\rho(x,t)$ to remain a characteristic function.
- Let $\Omega(t) = \{\rho = 1\}$ be **congested region**, so $\rho(x,t) = 1_{\Omega(t)}(x)$.

What free boundary problem describes evolution of $\Omega(t)$?



formal derivation

- Here is a **formal** derivation of the related free boundary problem.

- Suppose $\rho(x,t)$ solves “
$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot (\nabla(K * \rho)\rho) & \text{if } \rho < 1 \\ \rho \leq 1 & \text{always} \end{cases}$$
”

- Since mass is conserved, we expect $\rho(x,t)$ satisfies a continuity equation

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot \underbrace{((\nabla K * \rho + \nabla \mathbf{p}))\rho}_v$$

where $\nabla \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x},t)$ is the pressure arising from the **height constraint**.

Height constraint is **active** on the congested region $\{\mathbf{p}>0\} = \Omega(t)$.

Height constraint is **inactive** outside the congested region $\{\mathbf{p}=0\} = \Omega(t)^c$.

formal derivation

Given $\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot \underbrace{((\nabla K * \rho + \nabla \mathbf{p})) \rho}_v$ what happens on congested region?

- Because of hard height constraint, on the congested region $\Omega(t) = \{\rho = 1\}$, the velocity field is incompressible, $\nabla \cdot v = 0$.
- Since $K = \Delta^{-1}$, $\nabla \cdot v = \Delta K * \rho + \Delta \mathbf{p} = \rho + \Delta \mathbf{p}$, so incompressibility means

$$-\Delta \mathbf{p} = \rho \text{ on } \Omega(t) = \{\rho = 1\}$$

- Using that the height constraint is active on the congested region, $\Omega(t) = \{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$, we obtain the following equation for the pressure:

$$-\Delta \mathbf{p} = 1 \text{ on } \{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$$

formal derivation

Given $\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \nabla \cdot \underbrace{((\nabla K * \rho + \nabla \mathbf{p}))\rho}_v$ what about bdy of congested region?

outward normal velocity of $\partial\Omega(t)$

- By conservation of mass,

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega(t)} \rho = \int_{\Omega(t)} \frac{d}{dt} \rho + \int_{\partial\Omega(t)} V \rho$$

- Using that $\rho(x,t)$ solves the above continuity equation, this equals

$$= \int_{\Omega(t)} \nabla \cdot ((\nabla K * \rho + \nabla \mathbf{p}))\rho + \int_{\partial\Omega(t)} V \rho = \int_{\partial\Omega(t)} (\partial_\nu K * \rho + \partial_\nu \mathbf{p} + V)\rho$$

- Since $\rho(x,t) = 1_{\Omega(t)}(x)$, for $\Omega(t) = \{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$, we again obtain an equation for \mathbf{p} ,

$$\partial_\nu K * 1_{\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}} + \partial_\nu \mathbf{p} + V = 0 \text{ on } \partial\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$$

free boundary problem

Combining the observations that...

- on the congested region,

$$-\Delta \mathbf{p} = 1 \text{ on } \{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$$

- and on the boundary of the congested region,

$$\partial_\nu K * 1_{\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}} + \partial_\nu \mathbf{p} + V = 0 \text{ on } \partial\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}$$

outward normal
velocity of $\partial\Omega(t)$

Remind myself the hoops we had to jump through to even define viscosity solutions

Theorem (C., Kim, Yao 2016):

- Suppose $\rho(x,t)$ solves congested aggregation eqn with $\rho(x,0) = 1_{\Omega(0)}(x)$.
- Then $\rho(x,t) = 1_{\Omega(t)}(x)$, for $\Omega(t) = \{\mathbf{p}(x,t) > 0\}$, where \mathbf{p} a viscosity solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \mathbf{p} = 1 & \text{on } \{\mathbf{p} > 0\} \\ V = -\partial_\nu K * 1_{\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}} - \partial_\nu \mathbf{p} & \text{on } \partial\{\mathbf{p} > 0\}. \end{cases}$$