

so the estimates (5.5) of [ca], p. 14 hold.

Then the right hand side of (3) is \leq (set $P_\varepsilon = \frac{\hat{x} - \hat{y}}{\varepsilon}$)

$$H(\hat{y}, P_\varepsilon - \delta \hat{y}) \pm H(\hat{y}, P_\varepsilon) \pm H(\hat{x}, P_\varepsilon) - H(\hat{x}, P_\varepsilon - \delta \hat{x})$$

$$\leq g(|P_\varepsilon|, |\delta \hat{y}|) + w(|\hat{x} - \hat{y}|(1 + |P_\varepsilon|) + p(|P_\varepsilon|, |\delta \hat{x}|)$$

$$\leq 2g\left(\sqrt{\frac{C_{\varepsilon,\delta}}{\varepsilon}}, 2\sqrt{\delta} \sqrt{c_1}\right) + w\left(|\hat{x} - \hat{y}| + \frac{|\hat{x} - \hat{y}|^2}{\varepsilon}\right)$$

For $\varepsilon > 0$ we let $\delta \rightarrow 0^+$ and get

$$0 < c \leq w\left(\limsup_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \left(\sqrt{\varepsilon} \sqrt{C_{\varepsilon,\delta}} + C_{\varepsilon,\delta}\right)\right) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+,$$

a CONTRADICTION.

Then \hat{t} or $\hat{s} = 0$, say $\hat{t} = 0$.

Set $A := \sup_{t=0} (u-v)$ and assume by contradiction $\exists \gamma > 0$,

$$\hat{f}, \hat{x} : (u-v)(\hat{t}, \hat{x}) = A + \gamma.$$

Choose $\delta : 2\delta |\hat{x}| < \frac{\gamma}{2}$. Then

$$A + \frac{\gamma}{2} \leq A + \gamma - 2\delta |\hat{x}| = \underline{E}(\hat{t}, \hat{t}, \hat{x}, \hat{x}) \leq \overline{E}(0, \hat{s}, \hat{x}, \hat{y}),$$

$$\leq u(0, \hat{x}) - v(\hat{s}, \hat{y}) \pm v(0, \hat{x}) \leq A + w_v(\hat{s} + |\hat{x} - \hat{y}|)$$

where w_v is the modulus of continuity of v at time $t=0$.

Letting $\varepsilon \searrow 0$, $\hat{s} \rightarrow 0$, $|\hat{x} - \hat{y}| \rightarrow 0$ and we get a contradiction

Example of H satisfying the structure assumptions on H :

$$H(x, p) = H_f(p) + f(x)|p| + \ell(x) \quad H_f \in C((\mathbb{R}^n)), f \text{ bounded and Lip}, \ell \in UC(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Note that in the proof of the Example we had to assume the (uniform) continuity of u and v as $t \rightarrow 0$. To avoid this assumption we'll give a different proof supposing that H is uniformly continuous with respect to p . The idea is to prove first the C.P. on bounded cylinders and then use it for subsolutions penalized at infinity.

Theorem 1: Assume $H: \bar{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous and for a mod. w

$$(RH) \quad |H(y, \frac{x-y}{\varepsilon}) - H(x, \frac{x-y}{\varepsilon})| \leq w(|x-y|(1+|x-y|/\varepsilon)) \quad \forall x, y \in \bar{\Omega}, \varepsilon > 0,$$

Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ bounded, $u, v: [0, T] \times \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ bounded, u U.S.C. subsol., v U.S.C. supersol of

$$(H) \quad u_t + H(x, D_x u) = 0 \quad \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega, \\ u \leq v \quad \text{on } [0, T] \times \partial\Omega.$$

$$\text{Then } (\sup_{[0, T] \times \bar{\Omega}} (u - v)) \leq \sup_{x \in \bar{\Omega}} (u(0, x) - v(0, x)). \quad (\star)$$

Theorem 2: Ass. $F: \bar{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ cont., degenerate elliptic, and

$$(R) \quad F(y, \frac{x-y}{\varepsilon}, \bar{Y}) - F(x, \frac{x-y}{\varepsilon}, \bar{Y}) \leq w(|x-y|(1+|x-y|^2/\varepsilon)) \quad \forall x, y \in \bar{\Omega}, \varepsilon > 0$$

$$\forall \bar{X}, \bar{Y}: \quad -\frac{3}{\varepsilon} I \leq \begin{pmatrix} \bar{X} & 0 \\ 0 & -\bar{Y} \end{pmatrix} \leq \frac{3}{\varepsilon} \begin{pmatrix} I & -I \\ -I & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let Ω, u, v as above for the PDE

$$u_t + F(x, D_x u, D_{xx}^2 u) = 0 \quad \text{in } [0, T] \times \Omega,$$

Then we have the same conclusion (\star) .

The proof of Thm. 2 is in [Barbuell, CIME C.N.], Sect. 12.

Proof of Thm. 1 Take \tilde{u} as on p. 2 and T_ε such that

$\tilde{u} \leq v$ on $[T_\varepsilon, T] \times \bar{\Omega}$. Then $\forall \tilde{T} \in [T_\varepsilon, T]$, \tilde{u} is bounded in $[0, \tilde{T}] \times \bar{\Omega}$, subsolution of (HJ), $\tilde{u} \leq v$ on $\partial\Omega$ and for $t = \tilde{T}$. Our goal is to prove

$$\sup_{[0, \tilde{T}] \times \bar{\Omega}} (\tilde{u} - v) \leq \sup_{\bar{\Omega}} (\tilde{u} - v)_{|t=0}^+ \geq A \quad \forall \tilde{T} < T$$

We use an argument similar to the Dirichlet problem.

Let us drop \sim in \tilde{u} and \tilde{T} for notational simplicity.

Take

$$\Phi(t, s, x, y) = u(t, s) - v(s, y) - \frac{(x-y)^2 + |t-s|^2}{2\varepsilon}, \quad \varepsilon > 0.$$

Assume by contradiction $\exists (\tilde{t}, \tilde{x}) : (u - v)(\tilde{t}, \tilde{x}) > A$. Then

$$0 \leq A < \Phi(\tilde{t}, \tilde{t}, \tilde{x}, \tilde{x}) \leq \max \Phi(t, s, x, y) =: \Phi(\hat{t}, \hat{s}, \hat{x}, \hat{y}).$$

Assume first that either $\hat{t} \rightarrow \infty$ or $\hat{s} \rightarrow \infty$, say $\hat{t} = \infty$, for some $\varepsilon_j \rightarrow 0$.

By compactness of $\bar{\Omega}$ \exists subsequence s.t. $\hat{x}_j \rightarrow \bar{x}$.

Recall the usual estimates

$$\frac{|\hat{t} - \hat{s}|^2}{\varepsilon}, \frac{|\hat{x} - \hat{y}|^2}{\varepsilon} \leq o(1) \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

Then $\hat{s} \rightarrow \infty$ and $\hat{y} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. Then for some $\eta > 0$

$$A + \eta \leq \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (u(0, \hat{x}) - v(\hat{s}, \hat{y})) \leq (u - v)(0, \bar{x}) \leq A,$$

a contradiction. The cases $\hat{t} \rightarrow \infty$ and $\hat{x} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ are similar (with A replaced by 0 in the r.h.s.).

We are left with the case $\hat{s} > 0, \hat{t} > 0$ & ε small. From (HJ) we get

$$\frac{\hat{x}-\hat{y}}{\varepsilon} + H(\hat{x}, \frac{\hat{x}-\hat{y}}{\varepsilon}) \leq -c < 0 \leq \frac{\hat{x}-\hat{y}}{\varepsilon} + H(\hat{y}, \frac{\hat{x}-\hat{y}}{\varepsilon}).$$

Then

$$0 < c \leq H(\hat{y}, \frac{\hat{x}-\hat{y}}{\varepsilon}) - H(\hat{x}, \frac{\hat{x}-\hat{y}}{\varepsilon}) \leq \omega(|\hat{x}-\hat{y}| + \frac{|\hat{x}-\hat{y}|^2}{\varepsilon}) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$$

a contradiction. \blacksquare

Next we prove a Comparison Principle on $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$ in a unified way for 1st and 2nd order equations under the assumption of uniform continuity in u & D^2u : for a mod. ω

$$(R2) |F(x, p, \bar{x}) - F(x, q, \bar{y})| \leq \omega(|p - q| + \|x - \bar{x}\|) \quad \forall p, q, \bar{x}, \bar{y},$$

where $\|\cdot\|$ is a matrix norm.

& satisfying (R2)

Theorem 3. Assume F as in Thm. 2, u, v as on p. 1, sub- and super sol. of (2) on $(0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^n$. Then the Comparison principle (3) holds.

Proof. See the proof of Prop. 1, p. 28-9 of [AB 03]. \blacksquare

Next we turn to the existence of the Cauchy problem and treat it in a unified way for 1st and 2nd order under the additional assumption

$$(B) |F(x, 0, 0)| \leq M \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Theorem 4 Under the assumptions of Thm. 3 and (B), for any $u_0 \in BUC(\mathbb{R}^n)$ there exists a unique $u \in C([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ viscosity solution of the Cauchy problem (2) + $u(0, x) = u_0(x) \quad \forall x$.

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Proof See the second part of the proof of Prop. 1, p. 29, [AB03].

Corollary Take F and u_0 as in Thm. 4. For any $\varepsilon > 0$

there \exists a unique continuous solution u^ε of

$$\begin{cases} u_t^\varepsilon + F\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, Du^\varepsilon, D^2u^\varepsilon\right) = 0 & \text{in } (0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^n, \\ u^\varepsilon(x, 0) = u_0(x), \end{cases}$$

and the family $\{u_\varepsilon\}$ is EQUIBOUNDED; more precisely

$$|u^\varepsilon(t, x)| \leq \sup_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0| + M t \quad \forall t, x.$$

Proof. $v(t, x) = \sup_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u_0| + M t$ solves $v_t + F\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, Dv, D^2v\right) = M + F\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, 0, 0\right) \geq 0$,

$v(0, x) \geq u_0(x)$, so the C.P. gives $u^\varepsilon \leq v \quad \forall t, x$.

Similarly $-v$ is a subsolution, so $u^\varepsilon \geq -v$. □

Remark For first order equations the assumption (R) becomes (RH). The three assumptions (RH)(R2)(B) are satisfied by

$$H(x, p) = f(x)|p| + l(x) \quad \text{if } f \text{ is bounded \& Lip and } l \in BUC(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

It is also satisfied by Bellman's Hamiltonians

$$H(x, p) = \sup_{a \in A} \{-f(x, a) \cdot p - l(x, a)\}$$

if f & l are bounded, $|f(x, a) - f(y, a)| \leq L|x-y| \quad \forall x, y, a$,

$$|l(x, a) - l(y, a)| \leq w(|x-y|) \quad \forall x, y, a.$$

Under similar conditions also the second order Bellman operators of stochastic control satisfy (R)(R2)(B).

On the other hand, if $\limsup_{|p| \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{H(x, p)}{|p|} = +\infty$ (R2) cannot hold.