# Special Lagrangian equations

## Yu YUAN

#### In memory of my teacher, Ding Weiyue Laoshi

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- Special Lagrangian arctan  $D^2 u$  = arctan  $\lambda_1 + \cdots + \arctan \lambda_n = \Theta$

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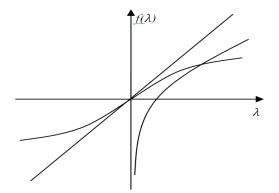
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$$\circ \sigma_k = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_k + \cdots = 1$$

### Part 1 Intro: Ellipticity & Convexity

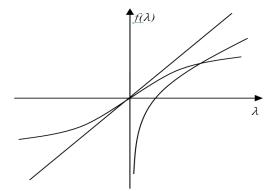


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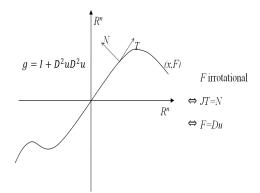
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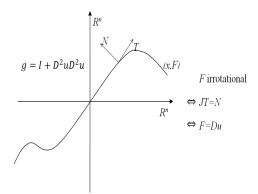
- elliptic  $\Leftrightarrow f(\lambda)$  monotonic
- saddle shape adds obstacles

### Part I Intro: Lagrangian, and special Lagrangian



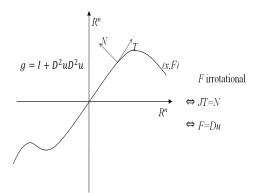
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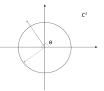
• special Lagrangian  $\Leftrightarrow$  arctan  $D^2 u = \Theta$  $\Uparrow$  Harvey-Lawson 70s

### Part I Intro: Lagrangian, and special Lagrangian



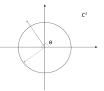
- special Lagrangian  $\Leftrightarrow$  arctan  $D^2 u = \Theta$
- minimal, volume minimizing compared to surfaces with same bdry, Lag or NOT (calibration argument).

### Part 1 Intro: algebraic form of equ



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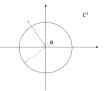
$$(1+i\lambda_1)\cdots(1+i\lambda_n)=\sqrt{(1+\lambda_1^2)\cdots(1+\lambda_n^2)}(\cos\Theta+i\sin\Theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vol} &= \sqrt{\det g} = \sqrt{\left(1 + \lambda_1^2\right) \cdots \left(1 + \lambda_n^2\right)} = \left| (1 + i\lambda_1) \cdots (1 + i\lambda_n) \right| \\ &= \cos \Theta \left(1 - \sigma_2 + \cdots\right) + \sin \Theta \left(\sigma_1 - \sigma_3 + \cdots\right) \\ \text{``} \mid \mid \text{''} \quad \sqrt{\quad} \text{ in divergence form} \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \cos\Theta\left(1 - \sigma_2 + \cdots\right) + \sin\Theta\left(\sigma_1 - \sigma_3 + \cdots\right)$$

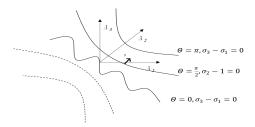
"| |" 
$$\sqrt{}$$
 in divergence form

Equ  $\Sigma = \cos \Theta \left( \sigma_1 - \sigma_3 + \cdots \right) - \sin \Theta \left( 1 - \sigma_2 + \cdots \right) = 0$ 

Case 
$$n = 2, 3 \Theta = \pi/2 \Rightarrow \sigma_2 = 1$$

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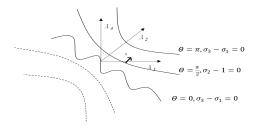
Case n=3



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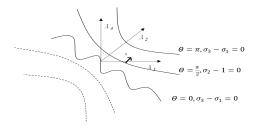
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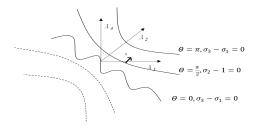
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vol maximizing Lagrangian  $\Leftrightarrow$  M-A equ

#### Part 2 What to do?

 $\circ$  Existence

 $\circ$  Properties: Liouville-Bernstein type results; regularity...

ALL depend on estimates

$$\left\|D^{2}u\right\|_{L^{\infty}(B_{1})} \leq C\left(\left\|Du\right\|_{L^{\infty}(B_{2})}\right) \leq C\left(\left\|u\right\|_{L^{\infty}(B_{3})}\right)$$

RMK.  $\|D^2 u\|_{C^{\alpha}(B_{1/2})} \leq C\left(\|D^2 u\|_{L^{\infty}(B_1)}\right)$  can be achieved by \* PDE way w/ convexity Evans-Krylov-Safonov (Non-div); Evan-Krylov-De Giorgi-Nash (div) \* GMT way SLag OK, M-A?

\* Geometric way M-A Calabi 50s C<sup>3</sup> est, SLag?

• Recall Liouville, Jörgens-Calabi-Pogorelov/Cheng-Yau: global convex sol to Laplace, M-A must be quadratic

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- Chang-Y 09 global sol to  $\sigma_2(D^2u) = 1$  with  $D^2u \ge \left[\delta \sqrt{2/n(n-1)}\right]I$  for any  $\delta > 0$  must be quadratic

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- Caffarelli-Yuan 09 Lipschitz and C<sup>1,r</sup> w/ r ∈ (0, 1 − 2/n] sol to det D<sup>2</sup>u = 1

## Theorem (Dake Wang-Y 11)

Suppose u smooth sol. to  $\sum \arctan \lambda_i = \Theta$  in  $B_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

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$$\left|D^{2}u(0)\right| \leq C(n) \exp\left[C(n) \left\|Du\right\|_{L^{\infty}(B_{1})}^{3n-2}\right] \pmod{2n-2}$$

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Q. Sharp exponent for Hessian estimates in dim  $n \ge 3$ ?

Part 3 Results: "Quick" applications of a priori est for SLag

- $C^0$  viscosity sol to  $\sum \arctan \lambda_i = \Theta \text{ w} / |\Theta| \ge (n-2) \pi/2$  is regular, analytic.
- Caffarelli-Nirenberg-Spruck 85  $|\Theta| = \left[\frac{n-1}{2}\right] \pi$  existence and interior regularity for  $C^4$  smooth boundary data

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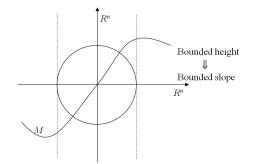
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• global sol to  $\sum \arctan \lambda_i = (n-2) \pi/2$  w/ quadratic growth is quadratic.

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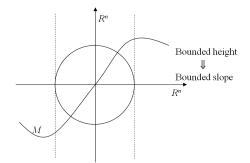
Idea of Warren-Y & Dake Wang-Y



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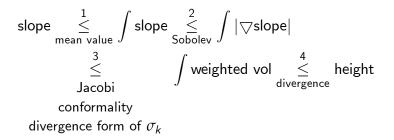
Idea of Warren-Y & Dake Wang-Y



Heuristically, the reciprocal of the 2nd derivative norm/slope is super harmonic, once it is 0 somewhere inside, then it is 0 everywhere, that is, the 2nd derivative norm/slope is infinite everywhere. But we start from a 1st derivative graph (x, Du(x)). Impossible!

The "secret" ingredient is

Technically,



$$b = \ln \sqrt{1 + \lambda_{\max}^2}$$

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$$b = \ln \sqrt{1 + \lambda_{\sf max}^2}$$

satisfies Jacobi

$$riangle_{g} b \stackrel{*}{\geq} |\nabla_{g} b|^{2} \geq 0.$$

2

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\* In viscosity/comparison sense. By Herve-Herve/Watson, in the needed integral sense for Lip *b* 

$$\int \left| \bigtriangledown_{g} b \right|^{2} dv_{g} \leq C(n) \int \left| \bigtriangledown_{g} \varphi \right|^{2} dv_{g}.$$

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\* Twist multiplication to contain terms involving derivatives of cut-off fcns

Part 3. Results: ii A priori est. SLag w/ subcritical phases -

• Nadirashvili-Vladuct 09  $C^{1,1/3}$  solution to  $\sum_{i=1}^{3} \arctan \lambda_i = 0$ 

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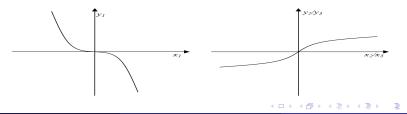
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Ideas of D. Wang-Y rotation way

\* "Bounded" coordinates w/ Lag angles near  $(0^-, \pi/4, \pi/4)$ , via Cauchy-K solve  $\sigma_2(D^2u) = 1$  or  $\arctan D^2u = \pi/2$ \* Switch x-y coordinates, still Lag now w/ Lag angles  $(-\pi/2, \pi/4, \pi/4)$ , that is  $\arctan D^2\tilde{u} = 0$ \* Rotate down  $z_2, z_3$  plane, keep  $z_1$  plane to increase the phase from

0 to  $\Theta < \pi/2$ , then  $\arctan D^2 \tilde{\tilde{u}} = \Theta$  w/  $\Theta \in (0, \pi/2)$ 



Lagrangian mean curvature flow in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$ 

$$\partial_t U = g^{ij} \partial_{ij} U \quad \text{w}/ U = D u$$

Euclidean  $(R^{2n}, dx^2 + dy^2)$ ,  $g = I + D^2 u D^2 u \Leftrightarrow \partial_t u = \arctan D^2 u$ eg. 1-d  $U(x, t) = u_x(x, t)$ , potential equ of mean curv. flow and mean curv. flow in nondiv form are respectively

$$u_t = rctan \, u_{xx} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad U_t = rac{1}{1+U_x^2} \, U_{xx}$$

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• w/ large supercrital phase  $\arctan\left[D^2 u_0\right] \geq \left(n-1\right) \pi/2$ 

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RMK2. C-eg by Neves-Y 09 shows all the above conds are sharp:  $\circ$  almost convexity  $-(1 + \eta)I \leq D^2 u_0 \leq (1 + \eta)I$  not preserved (Gauss image of  $(x, Du_0)$  not a convex set in Grassmanian LG(n, n))  $\circ$  convex consequence. If just  $D^2 u_0 \geq -\eta I$ , then graphical condition is not preserved, i.e.  $D^2 u = \infty$  at some point  $\circ$  large phase consequence. If just arctan  $[D^2 u_0] \geq (n-1) \pi/2 - \eta$ , then graphical condition is not preserved. RMK3. But by Chau-Chen-Y, in the latter convex & large phase

c-egs, the Lagrangian manifolds themselves flows smoothly & forever (didn't know in 09).

Earlier results

• Smoczyk-Wang 02: longtime existence in periodic setting w/ initial  $u_0$  satisf.  $0 \le D^2 u_0 \le C$  or equivalently  $(-1+\delta) I \le D^2 u_0 \le (1-\delta) I$  (Direct application of Krylov Theory on convex fully nonlinear parabolic equs)

 $\circ$  Chen-Pang 09: longtime existence and UNIQUENESS of  $C^0$  viscosity sol w/  $C^0$  initial potential

◦ Chau-Chen-He 09: Longtime existence in  $R^n \times (0, \infty)$  setting w/ initial potential  $-(1-\delta)I \leq D^2 u_0 \leq (1-\delta)I$  for  $\delta > 0$  (estimates blow up when  $\delta$  goes to 0, no way to push to  $-I \leq D^2 u_0 \leq I$ ) Earlier results

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RMK.

∘  $u_t = \Delta u$  uniform parabolicity/diffusion --→ Tikhonov nonuniq. & finite time blow up eg.  $h(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t}} \exp\left(\frac{x^2}{4(1-t)}\right)$ 

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Chau-Chen-He 09: Longtime existence in R<sup>n</sup> × (0,∞) setting w/ initial potential - (1 − δ) I ≤ D<sup>2</sup>u<sub>0</sub> ≤ (1 − δ) I for δ > 0 (estimates

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#### RMK.

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$$egin{aligned} & \left[u_t
ight]_{1,1/2;Q_{1/2}} + \left[D^2u
ight]_{1,1/2;Q_{1/2}} \leq C\left(\sqrt{3}
ight), \ & ext{ provided } \left|D^2u
ight| \stackrel{\leq}{\underset{ ext{vol convex cond.}}} \sqrt{3} & ext{in } Q_1 \end{aligned}$$

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RMK. Nguyen-Y relies on elliptic Bernstein result of Y. and Liouville type results of Y., Warren–Y, Tsui–Wang, even earlier one by Jost–Xin, Fischer-Colbrie, ..., Simons.

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Part 4 Parabolic side, self similar sols for curvature flows w/ potential

• Lagrangian mean curvature flow in  $R^{2n}$ 

$$\partial_t U = g^{ij} \partial_{ij} U \quad \text{w}/ U = D v$$

Euclidean  $(R^{2n}, dx^2 + dy^2)$ ,  $g = I + D^2 v D^2 v \Leftrightarrow \partial_t v = \arctan D^2 v$ Pseudo-Euclidean  $(R^{2n}, dxdy)$ ,  $g = D^2 v \Leftrightarrow \partial_t v = \ln \det D^2 v$ 

Kahler Ricci flow

$$\left.\begin{array}{l} \left. \begin{array}{l} \partial_t g_{i\bar{k}} = -R_{i\bar{k}} \\ g_{i\bar{k}} = v_{i\bar{k}} \end{array} \right\} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \partial_t v = \ln \det \partial \bar{\partial} v \\ \operatorname{\mathsf{Ric}} = -\partial \bar{\partial} \ln \det \partial \bar{\partial} v \end{array}\right\} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \partial_t v = \ln \det \partial \bar{\partial} v$$

Consider self similar shrinking sols in  $R^{2n} \times (-\infty, 0)$ :  $v(x, t) = -tu(x/\sqrt{-t})$ 

arctan 
$$D^2$$
 / ln det  $D^2$  / ln det  $\partial \bar{\partial} \ u = rac{1}{2} x \cdot Du \left( x 
ight) - u \left( x 
ight)$  .

Th'm (Chau-Chen-Y. 10)

Let u be an entire smooth sol to arctan λ<sub>1</sub> + · · · + arctan λ<sub>n</sub> = ½x · Du (x) - u in R<sup>n</sup>. Then u = u (0) + ½ (D<sup>2</sup>u (0) x, x).
Let u be an entire smooth convex sol to

In det  $D^2 u = \frac{1}{2} x \cdot Du(x) - u$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying  $D^2 u(x) \ge \frac{2(n-1)}{|x|^2}$  for large |x|. Then u is quadratic.

• Let u be an entire smooth pluri-subharmic sol to  $\ln \det \partial \bar{\partial} u = \frac{1}{2} x \cdot Du(x) - u$  in  $C^m$  satisfying  $\partial \bar{\partial} u \ge \frac{2m-1}{2|x|^2}$  for large |x|. Then u is quadratic.

**Th'm** (Drugan-Lu-Y. 13) Let u be an entire smooth pluri-subharmonic sol to  $\ln \det \partial \bar{\partial} u = \frac{1}{2} x \cdot Du(x) - u$  in  $\Omega \subseteq C^m$  s.t. the metric  $g = \partial \bar{\partial} u$  is complete. Then u(x) is quadratic.

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RMK. For arctan case: Y. 09 bounded Hessian, Chau-Chen-He 09  $|D^2u| \le 1-\delta$ , R. Huang-Z. Wang 10,  $|D^2u| \le 1$ , rigidity was derived. For ln det  $D^2$  case w/ similar lower bound, R. Huang-Z. Wang 10 derived the rigidity.

Y. 15 Every Euclid complete graphical shrinker (x, Du) in  $\Omega \times R^n$  in the sense  $|x|^2 + |Du|^2 = \infty$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , is a (Lagrangian) plane.

RMK. For ln det  $D^2$  case: Q. Ding-Xin 12, rigidity of entire sol, without any lower; Drugan-Lu-Y works for real M-A case w/ complete metric

RMK. For ln det  $\partial \bar{\partial}$  case: m = 1 W.L. Wang 15 every entire self similar sol on complex plane is quadratic; general dim m W.L. Wang 15 every entire self similar sol w/ real convex potential is quadratic.

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Ideas of Chau-Chen-Y & Drugan-LU-Y

\*

$$g^{ij}\partial_{ij}\Theta\left(x
ight)=rac{1}{2}x\cdot D\Theta\left(x
ight)$$

The amplifying force in the right forces bounded  $\Theta(x) = \arctan D^2 u(x)$  to be constant.

\* Self similarity and Euler's formula show smooth potential *u* is homog. order two, then quadratic

$$\Theta\left(0\right)=\frac{1}{2}x\cdot Du\left(x\right)-u\left(x\right)$$

#### Part 5 Questions

Q1. Pointwise argument toward slope  $(D^2 u)$  est for SLag? Recall for minimal surface equ div  $\left(Df / \sqrt{1 + |Df|^2}\right) = 0$ , Bombieri-De Giorgi-Miranda (60s), Trudinger (70s) integral way

$$\left| Df\left(0
ight) 
ight| \leq C\left(n
ight) \exp\left[ C\left(n
ight) \left\| f
ight\|_{L^{\infty}\left(B_{1}
ight)}
ight]$$

Korevaar 80s Pointwise way, slick, relying on pointwise Jacobi. Q2. Construction of nontrivial sol to  $\arctan D^2 u = (n-2)\frac{\pi}{2}$  in  $R^{n>3}$ .  $\exists$ ? homog order 2 sol to  $\arctan D^2 u = 0$  in dim  $n \ge 5$ ? Q3. Any further regularity beyond  $C^0$  for  $C^0$  viscosity sol to  $\arctan D^2 u = \Theta \ w/ |\Theta| < (n-2)\pi/2$ ? Q4. Every entire sol to  $\ln \det \partial \overline{\partial} u = \frac{1}{2}x \cdot Du(x) - u$  in  $C^m$  is quadratic?

RMK. Self-similarity makes sol to the eigenvalue equ more rigid. In contrast,  $\exists$  nontrivial (non flat) entire and complete sol to equ In det  $\partial \bar{\partial} u = 0$  in  $C^m$  by LeBrun, Hitchin ... 80s.

