

# Free Boundary Problems for Nonlinear Wave Equations: Interacting Shocks

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## Similarity Analysis of Two-Dimensional Systems

$$U_t + F(U)_x + G(U)_y = 0, \quad U \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Data:  $U(x, y, 0) = f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$

Similarity Variables:

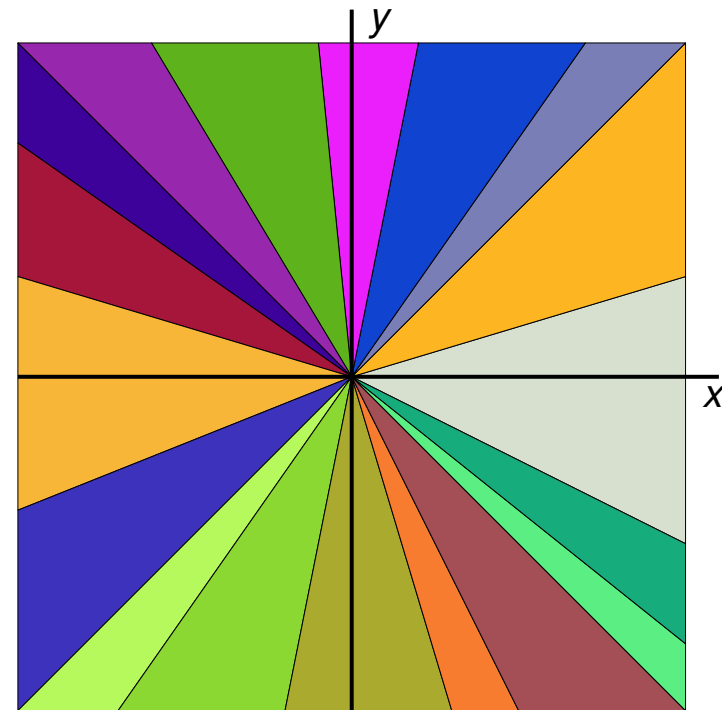
$$\xi = \frac{x}{t}, \eta = \frac{y}{t} \quad U = U(\xi, \eta)$$

Reduced System in Two Variables

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\xi(F - \xi U) + \partial_\eta(G - \eta U) \\ \equiv \tilde{F}_\xi + \tilde{G}_\eta = -2U \end{aligned}$$

Method: resolve 1-D far-field discontinuities; solve as IV/BVP in 2-D

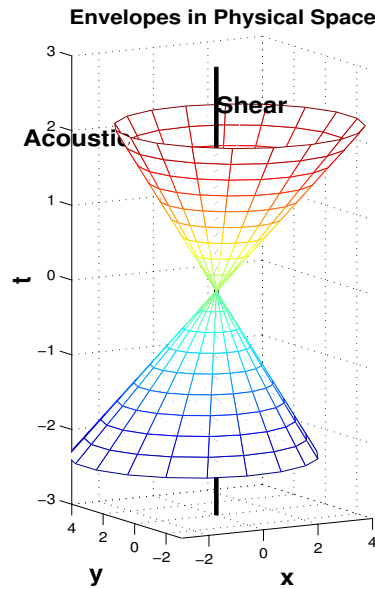
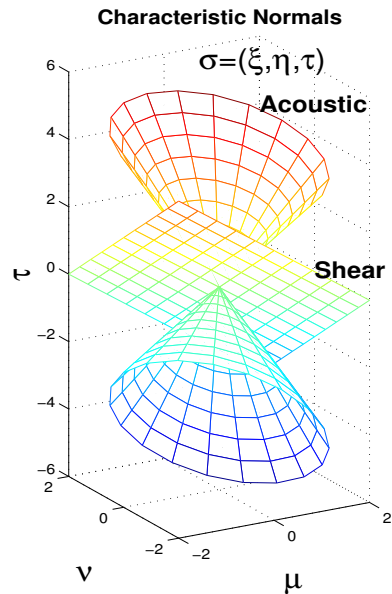
Type Changes: hyperbolic in far field; 'subsonic' region near origin



Sectorially Constant Data

## Acoustic-type Structure: Degenerate/Non-degenerate Characteristics

$$U_t + AU_x + BU_y = 0; \quad \det |I\tau + A\lambda + B\mu| = \left( \prod_{i=1}^{n-2} \ell_i \cdot \sigma \right) \sigma^T Q_N \sigma$$



$$\sigma = (\tau, \lambda, \mu)$$

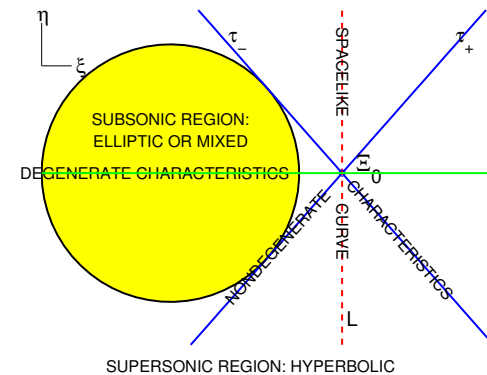
$$((A - \xi I)\partial_\xi + (B - \eta I)\partial_\eta)U = 0$$

$$\Xi = (\xi, \eta) \text{ dual vector } \vec{\alpha} = (\alpha, \beta)$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n-2} \ell_i \cdot (-\vec{\alpha} \cdot \Xi, \alpha, \beta) \underbrace{q(\sigma(\vec{\alpha}, \Xi), U)}_{\tilde{q}(\vec{\alpha}, \Xi, U)}$$

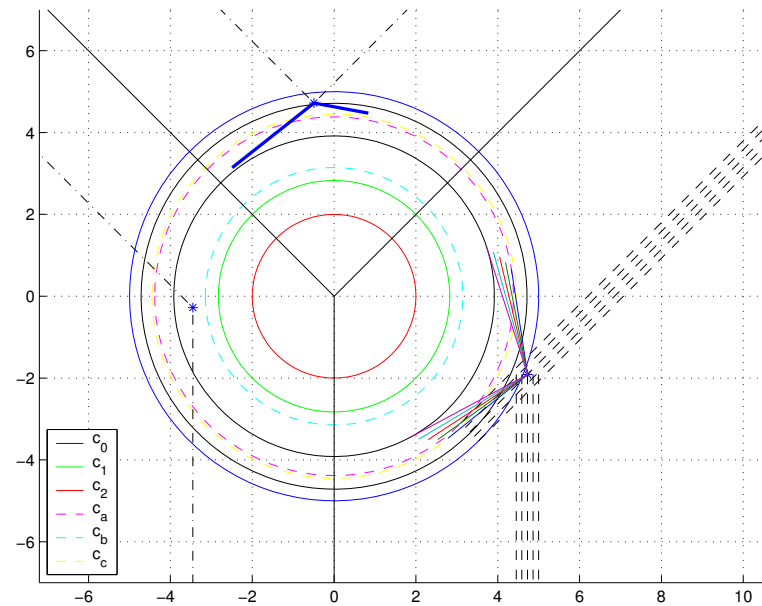
**CHANGE OF TYPE THEOREM** *Reduced equation hyperbolic iff  $x = (1, \xi, \eta)$  outside acoustic wave cone  $\mathcal{C}_W = \{x^T Q_N^{-1} x = 0\}$ .*

RP in 2 + 1 dim  $\Rightarrow$  CP w. data at  $\infty$



## Far Field Solution and Wave Interactions

- 'Quasi-One-Dimensional' Riemann Problems in Hyperbolic Region
  - Shock-shock
  - Rarefaction-rarefaction
  - Rarefaction-shock
- No Q-1-D solns for some probs
- Mach stems
- Sonic lines
- Sonic bdry not det. a priori
- Current effort: examine simplified 'Nonlinear Wave System' —  
Nonlinear and Linear parts decouple & Linear waves stationary



## Comparison: Isentropic Gas Dynamics & NLWS

Isentropic Gas Dynamics:  $p = \rho^\gamma / \gamma$

$$\rho_t + (\rho u)_x + (\rho v)_y = 0$$

$$(\rho u)_t + (\rho u^2 + p)_x + (\rho uv)_y = 0$$

$$(\rho v)_t + (\rho uv)_x + (\rho v^2 + p)_y = 0$$

Nonlinear Wave System:

$$\rho_t + m_x + n_y = 0$$

$$m_t + p_x = 0$$

$$n_t + p_y = 0$$

Second-order equation for nonlinear char. variable ( $\rho$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} & ((c^2(\rho) - U^2)\rho_\xi - UV\rho_\eta)_\xi \\ & + ((c^2(\rho) - V^2)\rho_\eta - UV\rho_\xi)_\eta \\ & + (Vu_\eta - Uv_\eta)\rho_\xi + (Uv_\xi - Vu_\xi)\rho_\eta \\ & + 2(v_\xi u_\eta - u_\xi v_\eta)\rho = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$U = u - \xi, \quad V = v - \eta \text{ ('pseudo-vel.')}$$

Transport equation for linear char. variable:

$$W = V_\xi - U_\eta = v_\xi - u_\eta$$

$$UW_\xi + VW_\eta + (U_\xi + V_\eta + 1)W = 0$$

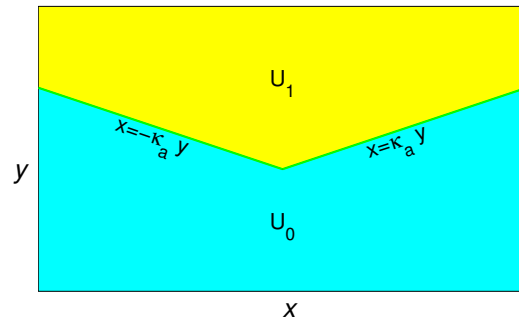
$$\begin{aligned} & ((c^2(\rho) - \xi^2)\rho_\xi - \xi\eta\rho_\eta)_\xi \\ & + ((c^2(\rho) - \eta^2)\rho_\eta - \xi\eta\rho_\xi)_\eta \\ & + \xi\rho_\xi + \eta\rho_\eta = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$w = n_\xi - m_\eta$$

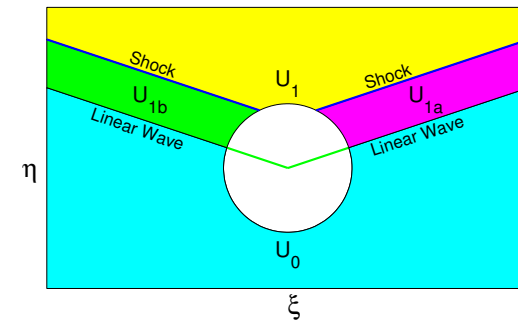
$$(\xi, \eta) \cdot \nabla w + w = 0$$

$$\text{or} \quad r m_r = p_\xi \quad r n_r = p_\eta$$

## Converging Shocks: A Bifurcation Problem for NLWS



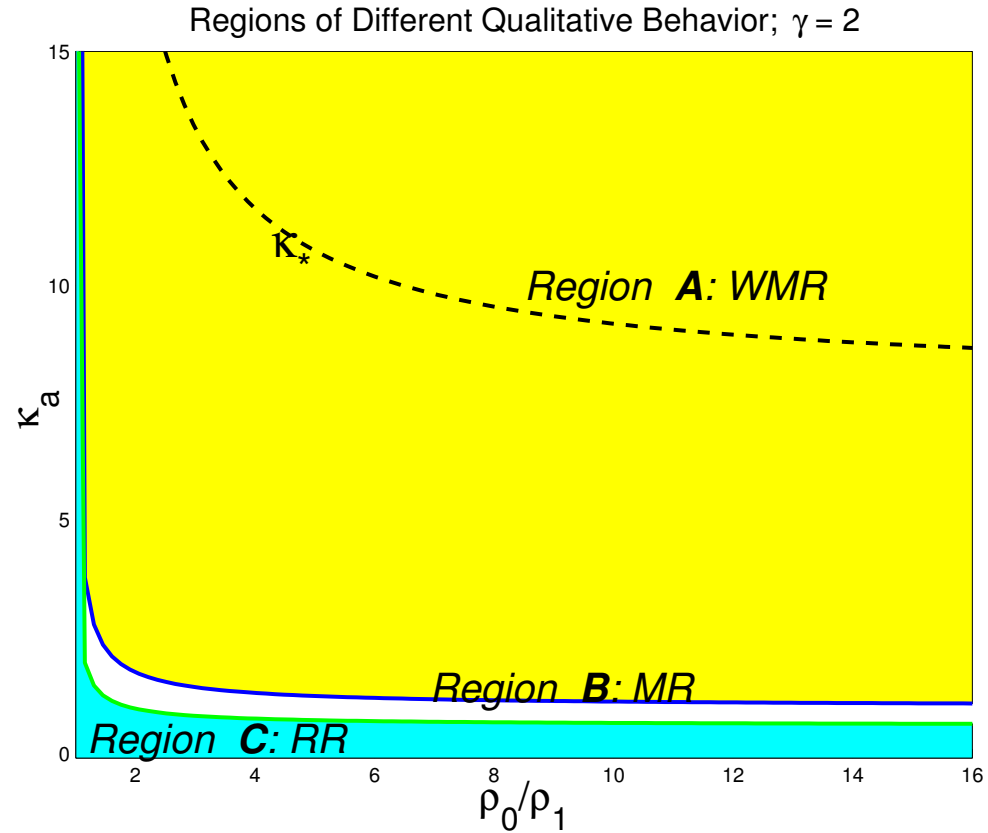
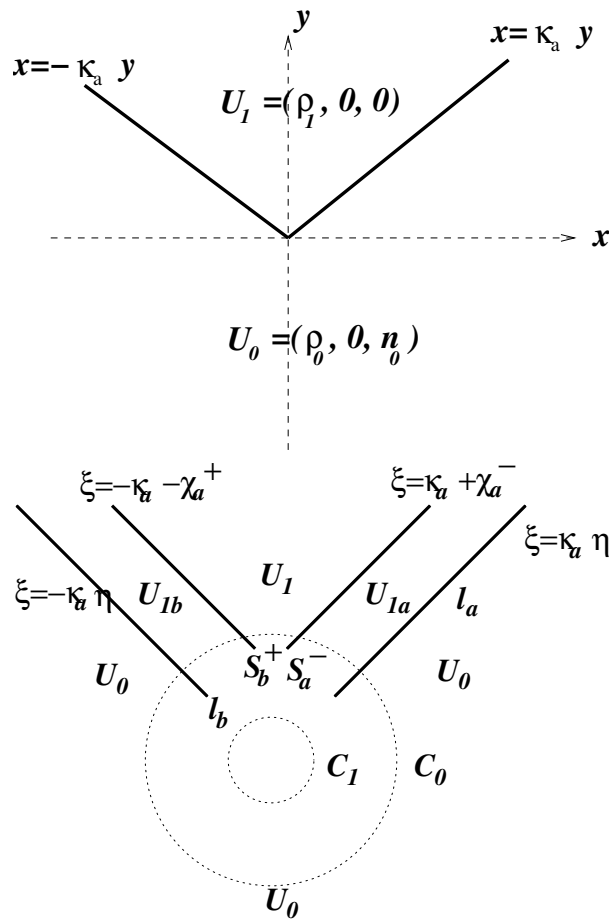
2-state data:  $U_0, U_1$   
 Data give 2 shocks  
 Far field soln: 4 waves



- Symmetric prototype for converging sector boundaries
- ‘Weak shock reflection’, von Neumann paradox

1. Parameterized by  $\rho_0/\rho_1 > 1$  and by  $\kappa_a$
2. Incident shocks:  $\xi = \kappa\eta - \chi$ ,  $\xi = -\kappa\eta + \chi$
3. Linear waves: angle of incidence = angle of reflection
4. Small  $\kappa$ : two local solutions –‘weak’ and ‘strong’ regular reflection
5. Large  $\kappa$ : curved shock, weak reflected wave (cf.  $\kappa = \infty$ )
6. Intermediate values of  $\kappa$ : no solution from shock polar analysis

## Converging Shock Data for the Nonlinear Wave System



Three regions:    **A** Weak MR possible  
                           **C** RR possible  
                           **B** neither possible

## Some Numerical Simulations of the Problem

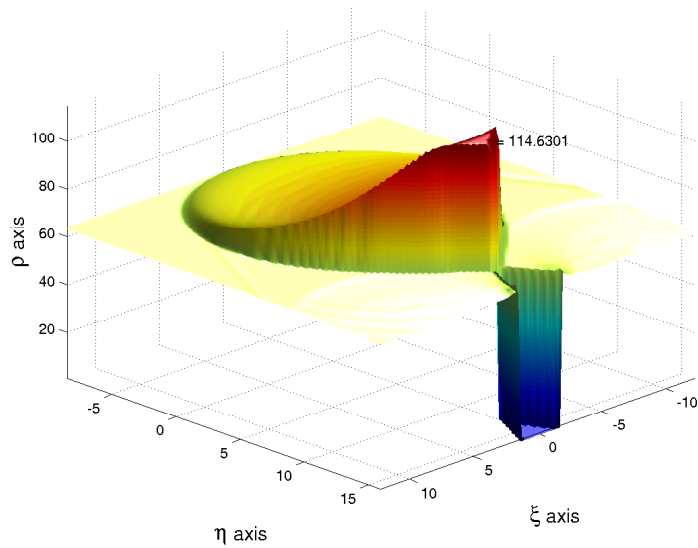
Alex Kurganov, Tulane University

- Godunov-type central scheme, 'central-upwind scheme', Alexander Kurganov, Sebastian Noelle and Guergana Petrova; modified version, Kurganov and Chi-Tien Lin. *SISC*, 23, 2001, pp 707-740. (<http://math.tulane.edu/~kurganov>).
- Central schemes (eg. Lax-Friedrichs scheme): avoid solving RP by integrating over local Riemann fans (at cell interface).
- Second-order staggered Nessyahu-Tadmor scheme (1990), later extended to higher orders and to multi-D.
- Kurganov & Tadmor, 1999: nonstaggered central schemes, with lower dissipation, simple semi-discrete form.
- New, central-upwind schemes: more accurate estimate of size of Riemann fans and more accurate projection step.

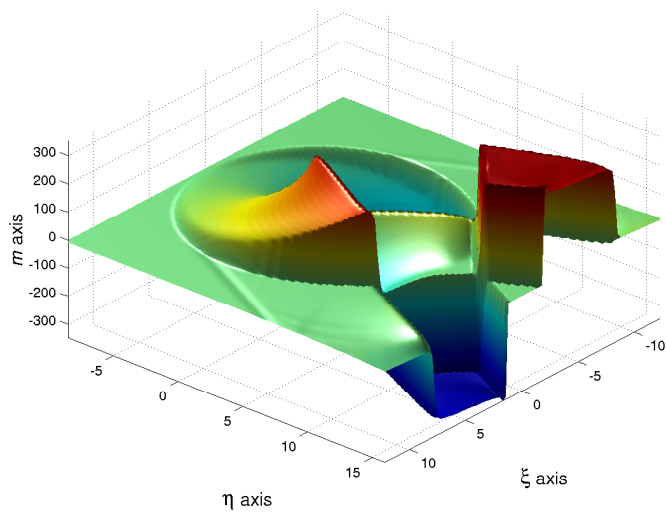


## Regular Reflection: $\kappa_a = 0.5$

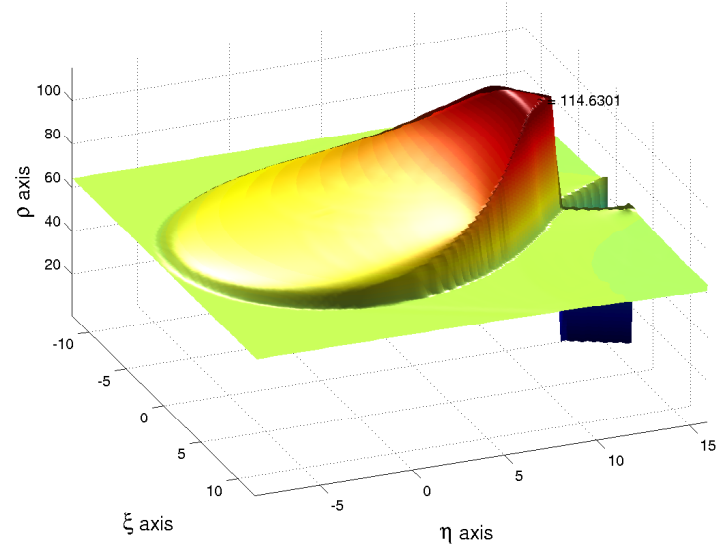
Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,803.0956)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 0.5$ ;  $\kappa_b = -0.5$



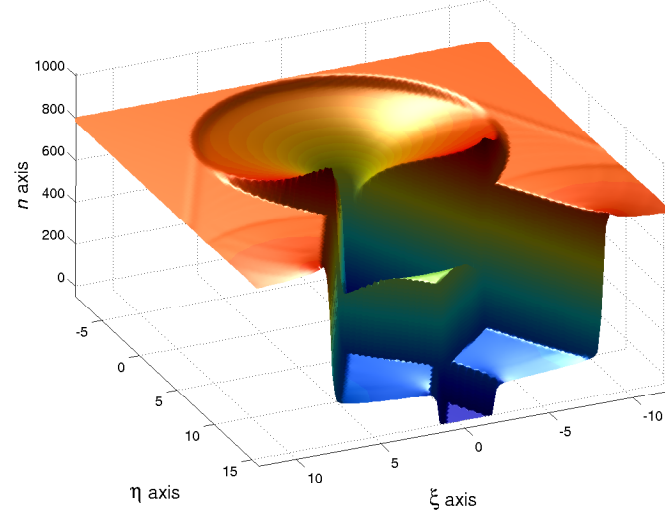
$m$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,803.0956)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$



Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,803.0956)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 0.5$ ;  $\kappa_b = -0.5$

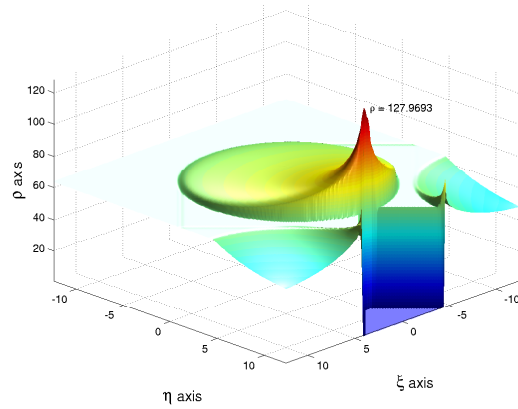


$n$ .  $U_0=(64,0,803.0956)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$

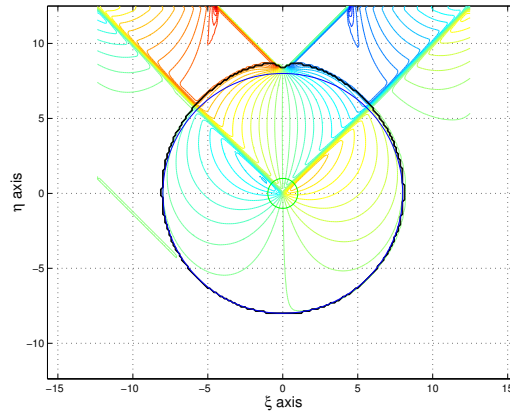


## Intermediate Angle, $\kappa_a = 1$ , Region B

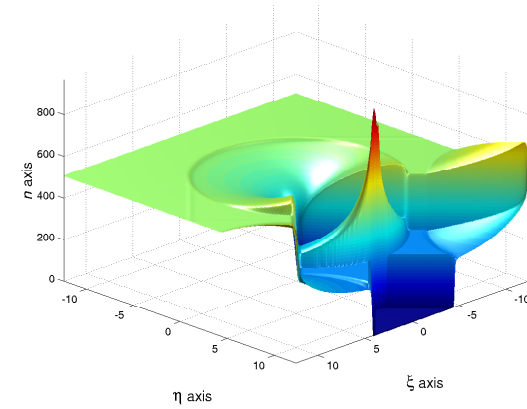
Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,507.9222)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 1$ ;  $\kappa_b = -1$



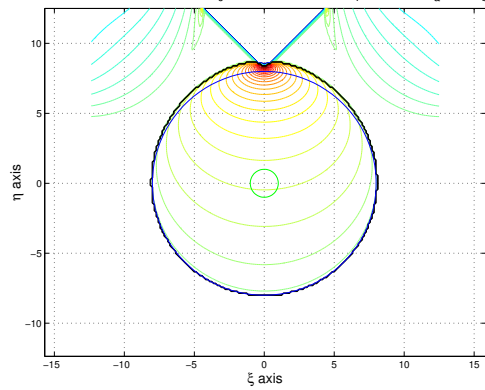
Contour Plot of  $m$ :  $U_0 = (64,0,507.9222)$ ;  $U_1 = (1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 1$ ;  $\kappa_b = -1$



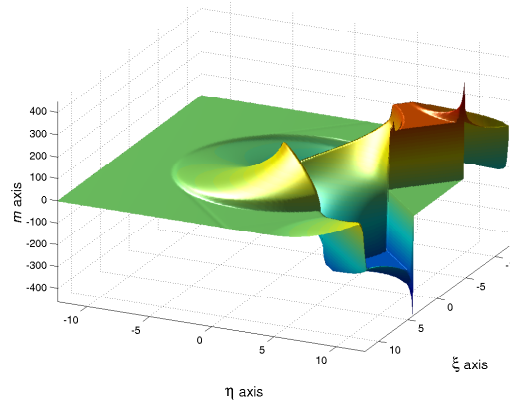
$n$ .  $U_0=(64,0,507.9222)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$



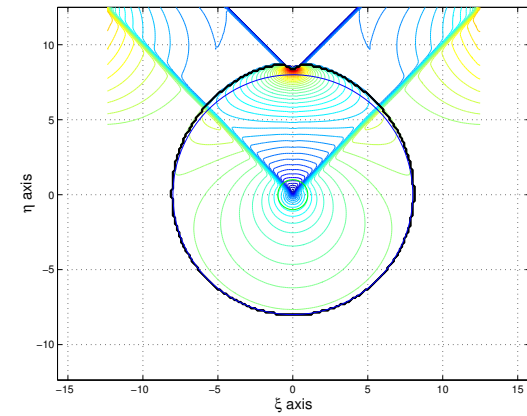
Contour Plot of Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0 = (64,0,507.9222)$ ;  $U_1 = (1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 1$ ;  $\kappa_b = -1$



$m$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,507.9222)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$

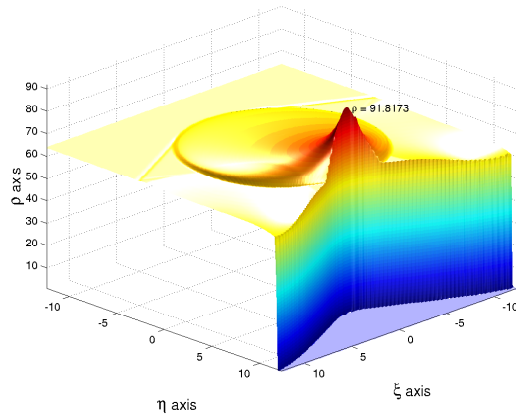


Contour Plot of  $n$ .  $U_0 = (64,0,507.9222)$ ;  $U_1 = (1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 1$ ;  $\kappa_b = -1$

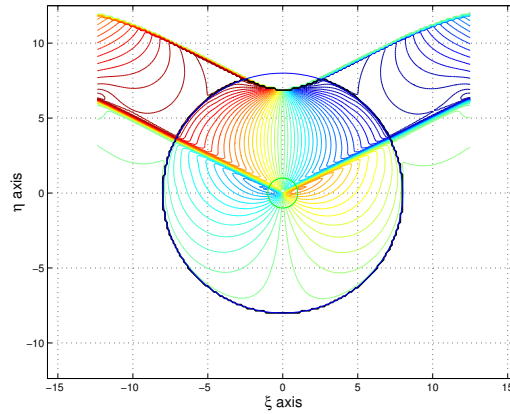


## An Intermediate Angle, $\kappa_a = 2$ : Weak or Mach Reflection?

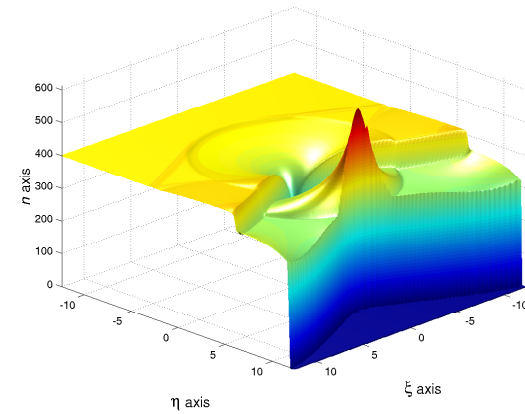
Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,401.5478)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 2$ ;  $\kappa_b = -2$



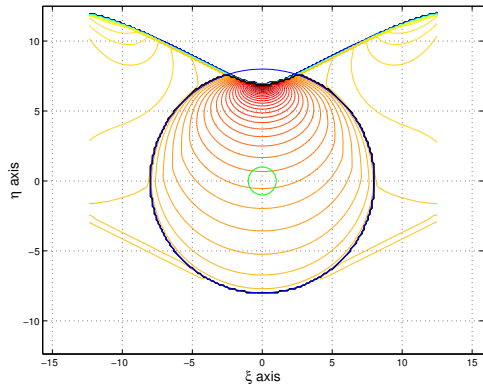
Contour Plot of  $m$ :  $U_0 = (64,0,401.5478)$ ;  $U_1 = (1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 2$ ;  $\kappa_b = -2$



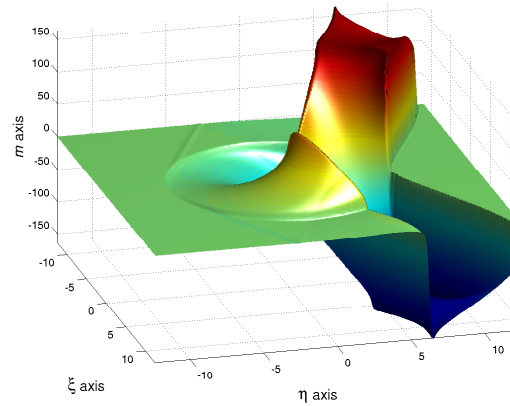
$n$ .  $U_0=(64,0,401.5478)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$



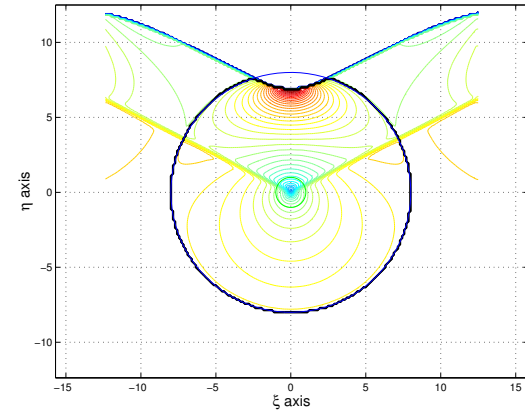
Contour Plot of Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0 = (64,0,401.5478)$ ;  $U_1 = (1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 2$ ;  $\kappa_b = -2$



$m$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,401.5478)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$

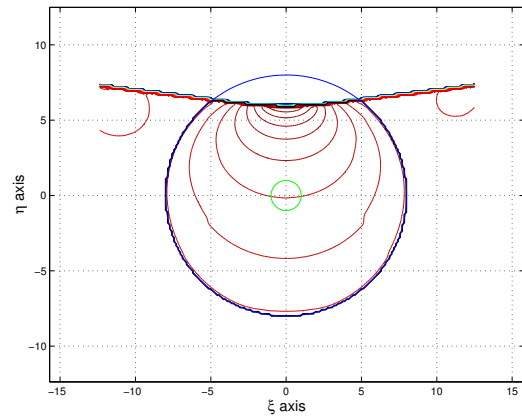


Contour Plot of  $n$ .  $U_0 = (64,0,401.5478)$ ;  $U_1 = (1,0,0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 2$ ;  $\kappa_b = -2$

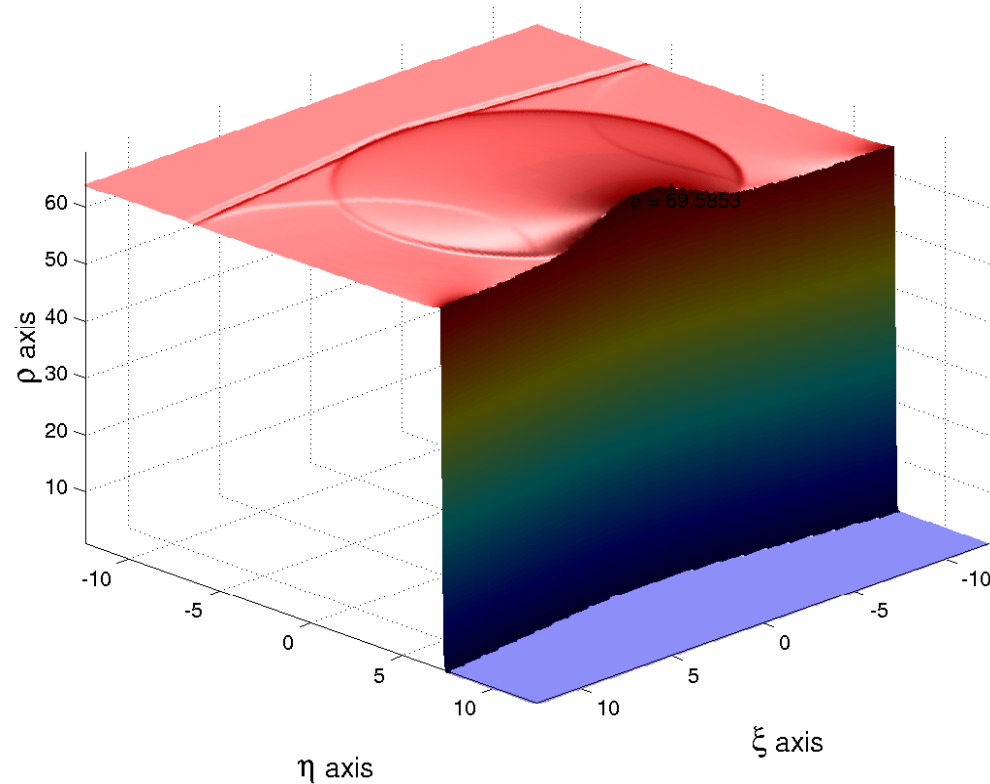


## 'Weak' Mach Reflection (Large $\kappa_a$ ): Region C

Contour Plot of Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0 = (64, 0, 361.9503)$ ;  $U_1 = (1, 0, 0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 8$ ;  $\kappa_b = -8$



Density  $\rho$ . Data  $U_0 = (64, 0, 361.9503)$ ,  $U_1 = (1, 0, 0)$ ;  $\kappa_a = 8$ ;  $\kappa_b = -8$



Sonic circle

$$C_0 = \{\xi^2 + \eta^2 = c^2(\rho_0)\}$$

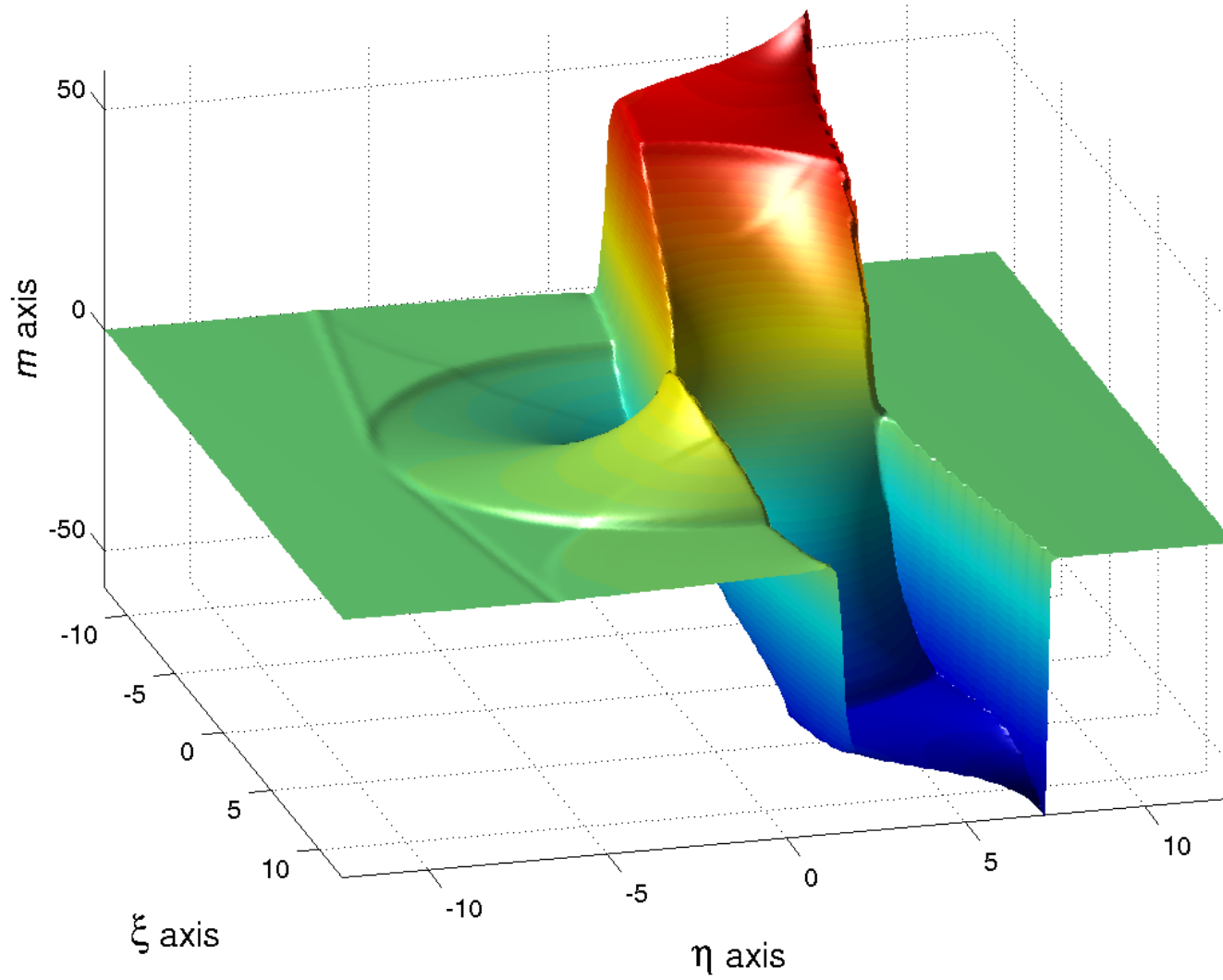
Supersonic soln known

$U$  continuous at  $C_0$

$\partial U / \partial r$  singular

## 'Weak' Mach Reflection (Large $\kappa_a$ ): Momentum Component $m$

$m$ . Data  $U_0=(64,0,361.9503)$ ,  $U_1=(1,0,0)$



## Analysis of Weak Mach Stem Problem (Large $\kappa$ )

### Degenerate Elliptic Free Boundary Problem

Existence theorem for global problem for NLWS

$$Q \equiv ((c^2(\rho) - \xi^2)\rho_\xi - \xi\eta\rho_\eta)_\xi + ((c^2(\rho) - \eta^2)\rho_\eta - \xi\eta\rho_\xi)_\eta + \xi\rho_\xi + \eta\rho_\eta$$

$$Q(\rho) = 0 \text{ (degenerate elliptic) in } \Omega$$

$$c^2(\rho) = \xi^2 + \eta^2 = c^2(\rho_0) \text{ on } \sigma$$

(degenerate boundary, continuous solution)

$$\rho_\xi = 0 \text{ (symmetry) on } \Sigma_0$$

Free boundary from RH equations:

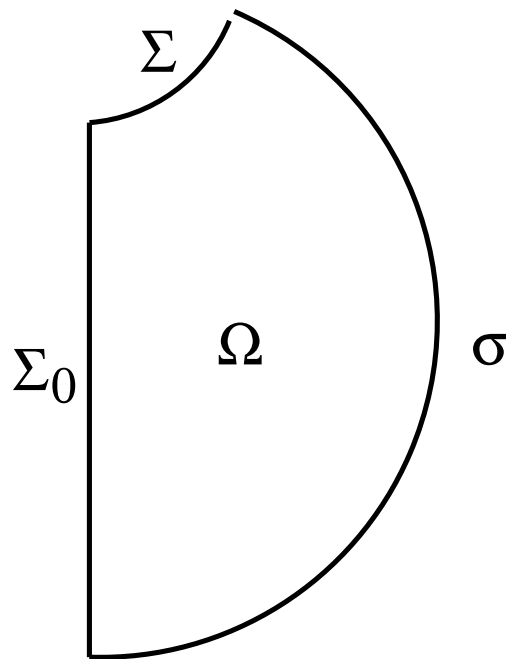
$$N(\rho) \equiv \beta \cdot \nabla \rho = 0 \text{ (oblique deriv) on } \Sigma$$

$$\frac{d\eta}{d\xi} = \frac{\eta^2 - s^2}{\xi\eta + \sqrt{s^2(\xi^2 + \eta^2 - s^2)}} \quad s^2 = \frac{[p]}{[\rho]}$$

$$\rho = \rho_{\max} \text{ at } \Sigma \cap \Sigma_0 \text{ (part of D. bdry)}$$

Approach: Fixed Point Theorem (CK & Lieberman, CKK)

- New difficulties:  $N$  not uniformly oblique; est. at degenerate corner



## Previous Results on Related Free Boundary Problems

Fixed point approach developed in joint work with Gary Lieberman  
 (F B problem in steady TSD equation: C, K & Lieberman)

Partial solution for regular reflection in UTSD model, ( $a > \sqrt{2}$ ):

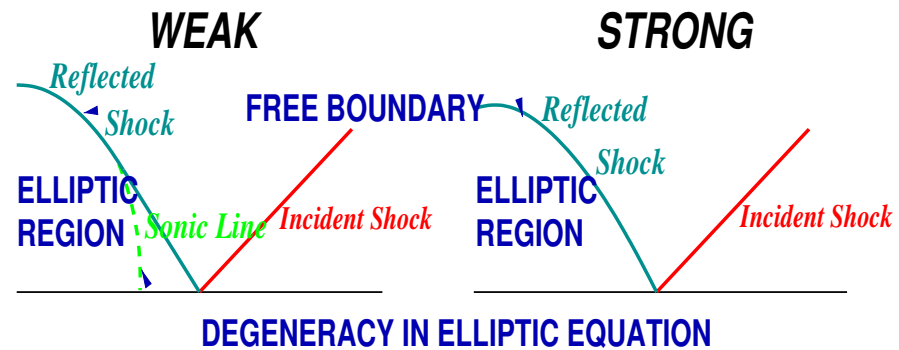
2 types of regular reflection

*weak & strong*

$$a^* = (1 + \sqrt{5}/2)^{1/2}$$

$(\sqrt{2}, a^*)$ : both subs

$a > a^*$ : 1 sub, 1 sup



Riemann data:

$$U_0 = (0, 0), \quad x > a|y|,$$

$$U_1 = (1, -a), \quad y > 0, x < ay$$

$$U_1^* = (1, a), \quad y < 0, x < -ay$$

Complete description of flow needs:

- asymptotic behavior at  $\xi = -\infty$
- solving degen elliptic prob
- solving F B prob for shock

Unbounded subsonic region: artifact of UTSD model

## Procedure: Find the Free Boundary as a Fixed Point

Formulate as 2nd order PDE for density,  $\rho$  (not potential);

Rewrite RH conditions as (1) evolution eqn for shock and  
(2) ODBC for  $\rho$

Problem is quasilinear, degenerate elliptic PDE, mixed BC

Regularize PDE (parameter  $\varepsilon$ )

**Step 1** Fix approx.  $\eta = \eta(\xi)$ , defines  $\Sigma \in \mathcal{K}^\varepsilon \subset H_{1+\alpha_1}$  (Hölder)

**Step 2** Solve (fixed) mixed BVP for  $\rho$

Lieberman's Mixed BVP theory + linearization  
+ modifications for loss of obliqueness

**Step 3** Map  $\eta \rightarrow \tilde{\eta} = J\rho$  by other RH condition (shock evolution)

Schauder F. P. Thm: Compactness  $\Rightarrow$  fixed pt for  $J$

$$J : \mathcal{K} \subset H_{1+\alpha_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \cap H_{1+\alpha}, \alpha > \alpha_1$$

**Step 4** Show  $\eta$  and  $\rho$  solve the problem.



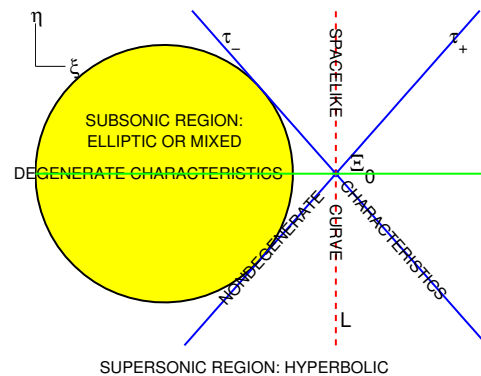
## Degenerate Elliptic Equations

Principal part:

$$((c^2(\rho) - U^2)\rho_\xi - UV\rho_\eta)_\xi + ((c^2(\rho) - V^2)\rho_\eta - UV\rho_\xi)_\eta$$

with  $U = u - \xi$ ,  $V = v - \eta$  or  $U = -\xi$ ,  $V = -\eta$

Linear prototype: Tricomi,  $u_{xx} + xu_{yy}$ , or Keldysh,  $xu_{xx} + u_{yy}$



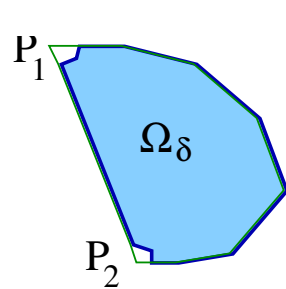
Differ on Hyperb. side ( $x < 0$ ): dir. of char.

Differ on Elliptic side ( $x > 0$ ):

Fichera fn  $b \equiv (b^k - a_{x_j}^{kj})n_k$  (NB: l. o. terms)  
(Nonlinear definition ambiguous)

- Keldysh eqns permit Dirichlet BC (need in nonlin. eqn)
- Linear Keldysh solns have singularities at  $x = 0$ :  $u = x^\gamma$
- Nonlinear Keldysh solns are regular OR singular

## Mixed BC: Weighted Hölder Norms for Corner Singularities



$$C^{k,\alpha} = H_{k+\alpha} : |u|_{k+\alpha} = \sum_{j < k} |D^j u|_0 + |D^k u|_\alpha$$

Partially interior or weighted norms (corners)

$$|u|_{a;\Omega \cup S^c}^{(b)} = \sup_\delta \delta^{a+b} |u|_{a;\Omega_\delta}, \quad H_{a;\Omega \cup S^c}^{(b)}$$

Example:  $S = V \equiv \{P_1, P_2\}$ ;  $u = r^\gamma \in H_{1+\alpha}^{(-\gamma)}$

**Lin Prob**,  $z \in H_{1+\epsilon}^{(-\gamma_1)}$ :  $Lu = D_i(a^{ij}(z)D_j u)$ ,  $Mu = \beta(z) \cdot \nabla u$

Estimates indep of  $z$ :  $|u|_{1+\alpha}^{(-\gamma)} \leq C_1 (|f|_\gamma + |u|_0)$

**Nonlinear problem**: Harnack ineq  $\Rightarrow$  est with  $\alpha$  indep of  $\alpha_1$

**Schauder Fixed Point Theorem**:  $\mathcal{B} = H_{1+\alpha_1}$ ;  $\alpha_1 \equiv \min \left\{ \frac{\alpha}{2}, \frac{\gamma}{2} \right\}$

$\mathcal{K}$  closed, bdd., cvx.  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{B}$ ;  $J : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ ,  $J\mathcal{K} \subset\subset \mathcal{K} \Rightarrow J$  has fixed pt.

$\gamma$  dep. on corners only;  $\alpha$  indep. of  $\alpha_1$ ;  $J\rho \in H_{1+\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha > \alpha_1$

## A Priori Estimates (following Lieberman, Zheng, Canic&Kim, CKL)

Regularize:  $Q^\varepsilon \rho = Q\rho + \varepsilon \Delta \rho$ .

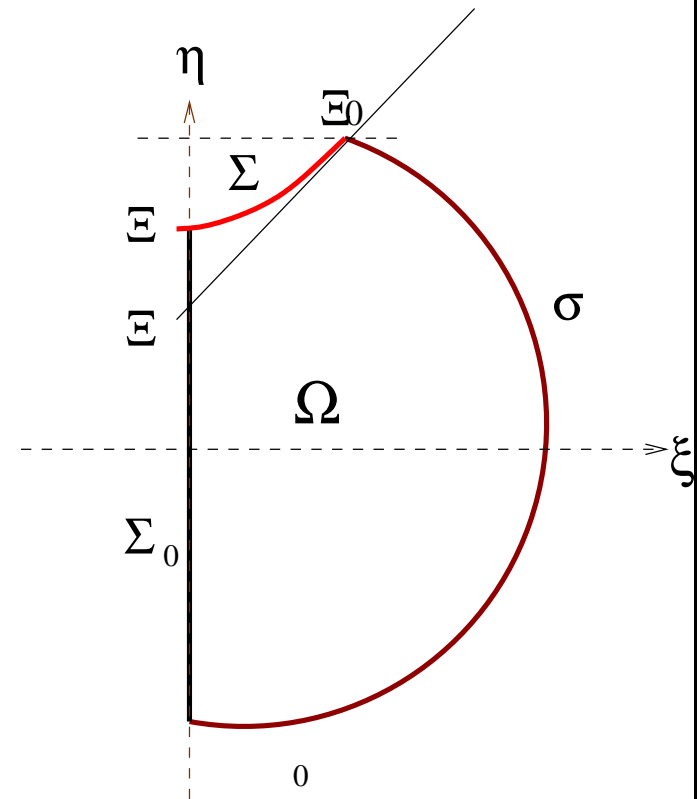
Obliqueness fails at  $\Xi_s$ .

**STEP 1:**  $\exists$  for FBP for  $Q^\varepsilon$ ; a priori bds on  $\rho^\varepsilon$ ,  $\rho^\varepsilon(\eta)$  unif. in  $\varepsilon$ .

**STEP 2:** Local lower barrier for  $\rho^\varepsilon$  independent of  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\Rightarrow$  unif. local ellipticity  $\Rightarrow$  local compactness.

**STEP 3:** Convergent subsequence; limit solves the problem in  $\bar{\Omega} \setminus \{\Xi_0\}$ : applying regularity, compactness and a diagonalization.

**STEP 4:** Convergence at  $\Xi_0$  requires more.



## The Upper Barrier at $\Xi_0$

Barrier construction (supersolution):

$$Q\psi \leq 0, N\psi \leq 0, \psi \geq \rho \text{ on bdry of } \Omega(a, h)$$

$$Q^\varepsilon \rho = (c^2 - r^2 + \varepsilon)\rho_{rr} + \frac{c^2}{r^2}\rho_{\theta\theta} \\ + p''(\rho_r^2 + \frac{1}{r^2}\rho_\theta^2) + (\frac{c^2}{r} - 2r)\rho_r$$

Upper barrier:

$$\psi(r, \theta) = \rho_0 + A(c_0 - r)^b + B(\theta_1 - \theta)^2$$

$A, B, b \in (0, 1)$  to be determined from

$$Q^\varepsilon \psi = (c_0 - r)^{b-2} p'' B (\theta_1 - \theta)^2 b(b-1) A + \dots \leq 0$$

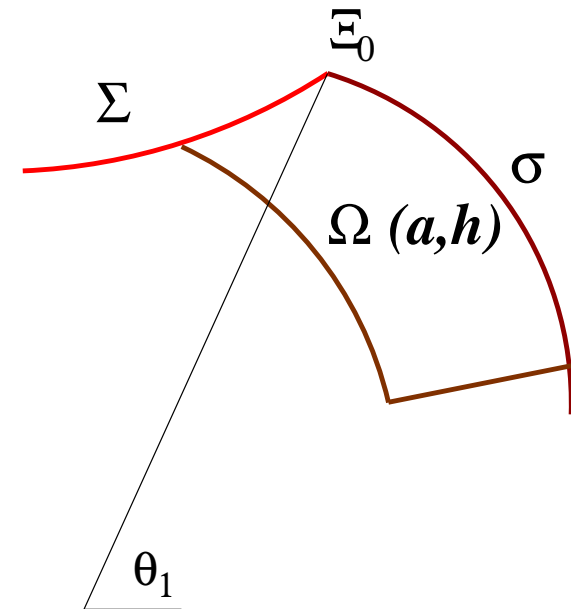
Singular barriers in degenerate eqns:

Choi-McKenna & Canic-Kim.

Conjecture: solution has  $\sqrt{\cdot}$  sing. at  $C_0$ ;  $b (< 1/2)$  optimal

$$(c_0 - r)^{2b-2} : A^2 b \left( p''(\bar{\rho})(b-1) + p''(\rho)b \right) \leq A^2 k_0 < 0 \text{ if } b < \frac{\min p''}{2 \max p''}, \\ \text{so } A \gg 1, \Rightarrow Q^\varepsilon \psi < 0.$$

Also need  $\psi - \rho^\varepsilon \geq 0$  on  $\partial\Omega(a, h)$ .

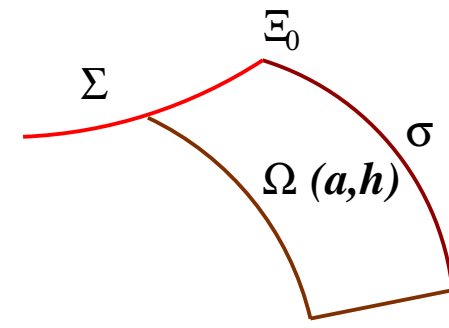


## Completing the Upper Barrier at $\Xi_0$

On  $\sigma$ :  $\rho^\varepsilon = \rho_0 < \psi$ .

On  $\{\theta = \theta_1 - a\}$ : Choose  $Ba^2 > \rho_M$ .

On  $\{r = c_0 - h\}$ : Choose  $A$  so  $Ah^b > \rho_M$ .



On  $\Sigma$ , ODBC: if  $N_1(\rho^\varepsilon)\psi \equiv \beta(\rho^\varepsilon) \cdot \nabla\psi \leq 0$ , then  $\psi - \rho^\varepsilon > 0$ .

Now  $\nabla\psi = (\psi_r, \psi_\theta) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $r \rightarrow c_0$ :  $\psi_n \rightarrow \infty$  AND  $\psi_t \rightarrow \infty$ :

usual barrier construction fails.

But  $N_1\psi = \beta^r\psi_r + \beta^\theta\psi_\theta$ ,  $\beta^r = \frac{1}{r}(\beta_1\xi + \beta_2\eta)$ ,

Now  $\beta_1\xi + \beta_2\eta \equiv \underbrace{(\eta - \eta'\xi)(\xi + \eta'\eta)}_{>0 \text{ by geometry}} \underbrace{(r^2(c^2(\rho) + 3s^2(\rho, \rho_1)) - 4c^2s^2)}_{>0 \text{ at } r=c_0, \rho=\rho_0}$ .

A priori bound: need  $\beta_1\xi + \beta_2\eta > 0$  for all  $\rho \in (\rho_0, \rho_M)$ .

But  $\rho_M = \rho_0 + \mathcal{O}(1/\kappa_a)$ .

If  $\rho_0 \gg \rho_1$ , then  $\kappa_a \sim 8$  suffices.