

A decomposition of vector fields in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}

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Given a vector field $\rho(1, \mathbf{b}) \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d+1})$ such that $\text{div}_{t,x}(\rho(1, \mathbf{b}))$ is a measure, we consider the problem of uniqueness of the representation η of $\rho(1, \mathbf{b})\mathcal{L}^{d+1}$ as a superposition of characteristics $\gamma : (t_\gamma^-, t_\gamma^+) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, $\dot{\gamma}(t) = \underline{(t, \gamma(t))}$. We give conditions in terms of a local structure of the representation η on suitable sets in order to prove that there is a partition of \mathbb{R}^{d+1} into disjoint trajectories $\wp_{\mathbf{a}}$, $\mathbf{a} \in \mathfrak{A}$, such that the PDE

$$\text{div}_{t,x}(u\rho(1, \mathbf{b})) \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}), \quad u \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d),$$

can be disintegrated into a family of ODEs along $\wp_{\mathbf{a}}$ with measure r.h.s.. The decomposition $\wp_{\mathbf{a}}$ is essentially unique. We finally show that $\mathbf{b} \in L^1_t(\text{BV}_x)_{\text{loc}}$ satisfies this local structural assumption and this yields, in particular, the renormalization property for nearly incompressible BV vector fields.