

## REMARKS ON THE MINIMIZER OF A $p$ -GINZBURG-LANDAU TYPE

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ABSTRACT. The author studies the asymptotic behavior of the radial minimizer for a variant of the  $p$ -Ginzburg-Landau type functional, in the case of  $p$  larger than the dimension, when the parameter tends to zero. The  $C^{1,\alpha}$  convergence of the radial minimizer is proved. And the estimation of the convergent rate of the minimizer is given.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $G \subset R^n (n \geq 2)$  be a bounded and simply connected domain with smooth boundary  $\partial G$ .  $g(x) : \partial G \rightarrow S^1$  is smooth map satisfying  $d = \deg(g, \partial G)$ . When  $n = 2$ , many papers studied the asymptotic behavior of minimizer  $u_\varepsilon$  of the Ginzburg-Landau functional

$$E_\varepsilon^1(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_G |\nabla u|^2 dx + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^2} \int_G (1 - |u|^2)^2 dx$$

on  $H_g^1(G, R^2)$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . In particular, some subsequence  $u_{\varepsilon_k}$  of the minimizer  $u_\varepsilon$  satisfies

$$(1.1) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} u_{\varepsilon_k} = u_* \quad \text{in } C_{loc}^{1,\alpha}(\overline{G} \setminus A),$$

where  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $u_*$  is a harmonic map (see [1]). Here  $A$  is the set of the singularities of  $u_*$ . The papers [2] and [5] presented the properties of the radial minimizer of  $E_\varepsilon^1(u)$  in the function class

$$V = \left\{ u(x) = f(r) \frac{x}{|x|} \in H^1(B, R^2); f(1) = 1, r = |x| \right\},$$

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where  $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2; |x| < 1\}$ . The asymptotic behavior of the minimizer in  $H_g^1(G, \mathbb{R}^2)$  of the Ginzburg-Landau type functional

$$E_\varepsilon^2(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_G |\nabla u|^2 dx + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^2} \int_G |u|^2(1 - |u|^2)^2 dx,$$

with the different penalization, was discussed extensively in [3]. The same result as (1.1) was also derived. Afterwards, it is researched asymptotic properties of the radial minimizer of

$$E_\varepsilon(u, B) = \frac{1}{p} \int_B |\nabla u|^p dx + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_B |u|^2(1 - |u|^2)^2 dx, \quad (p > n)$$

in  $W = \{u(x) = f(r) \frac{x}{|x|} \in W^{1,p}(B, \mathbb{R}^n); f(1) = 1, r = |x|\}$ , where  $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; |x| < 1\}$ . The following properties have been proved (see Theorems 3.6 and 4.3 in [4]):

(1.2) The radial minimizer  $u_\varepsilon$  is unique as long as  $\varepsilon$  is sufficiently small,

and the convergence which is weaker than (1.1)

(1.3)  $u_\varepsilon \rightarrow \frac{x}{|x|}$  in  $W_{loc}^{1,p}(\bar{B} \setminus \{0\})$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

In this paper, we will prove that the radial minimizer of  $E_\varepsilon(u, B)$  also satisfies the convergent property as (1.1). To do this, the  $C^{1,\alpha}$  uniform estimation of the minimizer  $u_\varepsilon$  should be obtained. Indeed, it is difficult since the Euler-Lagrange equation, which the minimizer satisfies, is degenerate when  $p > 2$ . There may not be any classical solution to the equation. Hereby, we consider the regularized functional

$$E_\varepsilon^\tau(u, B) = \frac{1}{p} \int_B (|\nabla u|^2 + \tau)^{p/2} dx + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_B |u|^2(1 - |u|^2)^2 dx, \quad (\tau \in (0, 1)).$$

It is easy to see that the minimizer  $u_\varepsilon^\tau(x) = f_\varepsilon^\tau(r) \frac{x}{|x|}$  exists in  $W$ . By the argument of the weak low semi-continuity we can deduce that

(1.4)  $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} u_\varepsilon^\tau = \tilde{u}_\varepsilon$  in  $W^{1,p}(B, \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,

where  $\tilde{u}_\varepsilon$  is a radial minimizer of  $E_\varepsilon(u, B)$  in  $W$ . Noticing (1.2), we know that as  $\varepsilon$  is sufficiently small, the limit  $\tilde{u}_\varepsilon$  must be the unique radial minimizer  $u_\varepsilon$ . Hence, we may derive the  $C^{1,\alpha}$  convergence of the radial minimizer via establishing the  $C^{1,\alpha}$  estimation of  $u_\varepsilon^\tau$  (see Theorem 2.2). In addition, we also concern with the convergent rate of  $|u_\varepsilon| \rightarrow 1$  in  $W^{1,p}(B \setminus \{0\})$  when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . In fact, if  $T > 0$ , we can obtain firstly that  $E_\varepsilon(u_\varepsilon, B \setminus B_T(0)) - \frac{1}{p} \int_{B \setminus B_T(0)} |\nabla \frac{x}{|x|}|^p dx \leq C\varepsilon^{[p]-p+1}$  (cf. Theorem 3.1).

Next, by improving the exponent  $[p] - p + 1$  of  $\varepsilon$  step by step, we can see at last the convergent rate in  $W^{1,p}([T, 1])$ :

$$\int_T^1 r^{n-1} [(f'_\varepsilon)^p + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2] dr \leq C\varepsilon^p,$$

where  $f_\varepsilon(r) = |u_\varepsilon(x)|$  (cf. Theorem 3.2).

### 2. $C^{1,\alpha}$ convergence

Since  $u_\varepsilon^\tau$  is a minimizer, it is not difficult to see that  $f_\varepsilon^\tau = |u_\varepsilon^\tau|$  solves

$$(2.1) \quad - \left( r A^{(p-2)/2} f_r \right)_r + \frac{n-1}{r} A^{(p-2)/2} f = \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} r f (4f^2 - 3f^4 - 1),$$

and  $|f_\varepsilon^\tau| \leq 1$  in  $[0, 1]$  by the maximum principle, where  $A = f_r^2 + \frac{(n-1)f^2}{r^2} + \tau$ . By the same argument of (3.8) and (4.2) in [4], we also see that for any  $T > 0$ , there exists  $C > 0$  which is independent of  $\varepsilon$  and  $\tau$ , such that

$$(2.2) \quad |f_\varepsilon^\tau| \geq 29/30 \quad \text{in} \quad [T, 1],$$

$$(2.3) \quad \int_T^1 A^{p/2} dr \leq C.$$

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** Denote  $u_\varepsilon^\tau = u = f(r) \frac{x}{|x|}$ . Then for any compact subset  $K \subset (0, 1]$ , there exists a positive constant  $C$  which does not depend on  $\varepsilon$  and  $\tau$ , such that  $\|f\|_{C^{1,\beta}(K,R)} \leq C, \quad \forall \beta \in (0, 1/2)$ .

*Proof.* Take  $T > 0$  so small that  $K_{3T} \subset\subset K \subset\subset K_{2T} \subset K_T = (T, 1 - T)$ . Let  $\zeta \in C_0^\infty(K_T, [0, 1])$  satisfy that  $\zeta = 0$  on  $[0, 1] \setminus K_T$ ,  $\zeta = 1$  on  $K_{2T}$ , and  $|\zeta_r| \leq C(T)$  on  $(0, 1)$ . Multiplying (2.1) with  $r^{-1}$  and differentiating, then multiplying by  $f_r \zeta^2$  and integrating on  $(0, 1)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & - \int_0^1 \left( A^{(p-2)/2} f_r \right)_{rr} (f_r \zeta^2) dr - \int_0^1 \left( r^{-1} A^{(p-2)/2} f_r \right)_r (f_r \zeta^2) dr \\ & \quad + (n-1) \int_0^1 \left( r^{-2} A^{(p-2)/2} f \right)_r (f_r \zeta^2) dr \\ & = \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \int_0^1 [f (4f^2 - 3f^4 - 1)]_r (f_r \zeta^2) dr. \end{aligned}$$

Integrating by parts and noting

$$- \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \int_{K_T} f^2 (f_r)^2 (12f^2 - 8)\zeta^2 dr \leq 0,$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{K_T} \left( A^{\frac{p-2}{2}} f_r \right)_r (f_r \zeta^2)_r dr + \int_{K_T} A^{\frac{p-2}{2}} (f_r \zeta^2)_r \left[ \frac{f_r}{r} - \frac{(n-1)f}{r^2} \right] dr \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \int_{K_T} (4f^2 - 3f^4 - 1) f_r^2 \zeta^2 dr. \end{aligned}$$

Denote

$$I = \int_{K_T} \zeta^2 \left( A^{(p-2)/2} f_{rr}^2 + (p-2) A^{(p-4)/2} f_r^2 f_{rr}^2 \right) dr.$$

Noting

$$A_r = 2 \left[ f_r f_{rr} + (n-1)(f f_{rr} r^{-2} - r^{-3} f^2) \right],$$

and using Young inequality, we see that for any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (2.4) \quad I & \leq \delta I + C(\delta, T) \int_{K_T} A^{p/2} \zeta_r^2 dr \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \left| \int_{K_T} f_r^2 (4f^2 - 3f^4 - 1) \zeta^2 dr \right|. \end{aligned}$$

From (2.1) and (2.2) and by Young inequality, it follows

$$\frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \left| \int_{K_T} (4f^2 - 3f^4 - 1) f_r^2 \zeta^2 dr \right| \leq \delta I + C(\delta, T) \int_{K_T} A^{(p+2)/2} \zeta^2 dr$$

with  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . Substituting this into (2.4) and choosing  $\delta$  sufficiently small, we have

$$(2.5) \quad I \leq C \int_{K_T} A^{p/2} \zeta_r^2 dr + C \int_{K_T} A^{(p+2)/2} \zeta^2 dr.$$

To estimate the second term of the right hand side, we take  $\phi = \zeta^{2/q} f_r^{(p+2)/q}$  in the embedding inequality

$$(2.6) \quad \|\phi\|_{L^q} \leq C \|\phi_r\|_{L^1}^{1-1/q} \|\phi\|_{L^1}^{1/q}, \quad q \in \left(1 + \frac{2}{p}, 2\right).$$

Applying Young inequality we see that for any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (2.7) \quad & \int_{K_T} f_r^{p+2} \zeta^2 dr \leq C \left( \int_{K_T} \zeta^{2/q} |f_r|^{(p+2)/q} dr \right) \\ & \times \left( \int_{K_T} \zeta^{2/q-1} |\zeta_r| |f_r|^{(p+2)/q} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \delta I + C(\delta) \int_{K_T} A^{\frac{p+2}{q} - \frac{p}{2}} \zeta^{4/q-2} dr \right)^{q-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Noting  $q \in (1 + \frac{2}{p}, 2)$ , we can use the Holder inequality to estimate the right hand side of (2.7). Thus, from (2.3) it leads to  $\int_{K_T} f_r^{p+2} \zeta^2 dr \leq \delta I + C(\delta)$  for any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . Substituting this into (2.5) and choosing  $\delta$  sufficiently small, we obtain  $\int_{K_T} A^{(p-2)/2} f_{rr}^2 \zeta^2 dr \leq C$ . Combining this with (2.3), we get  $\|A^{p/4} \zeta\|_{H^1(K_T)} \leq C$ . Noticing that  $\zeta = 1$  on  $K$ , we see that  $\|A^{p/4}\|_{H^1(K)} \leq C$ . Applying the embedding inequality, we know that for any  $\beta \leq 1/2$ ,  $\|A^{p/4}\|_{C^\beta(K)} \leq C$ . The inner estimation is set up.

In the following, we consider the estimation near the boundary point  $r = 1$ . Denote  $g(r) = f(r + 1) - 1$ . Set  $\tilde{g}(r) = g(r)$  as  $-1 \leq r \leq 0$ ,  $\tilde{g}(r) = -g(-r)$  as  $0 < r \leq 1$ . If denote  $f(r) = \tilde{g}(r - 1) + 1$  in  $[0, 2]$ , then  $f(r)$  solves (2.1) in  $[0, 2]$ . Take  $R < \frac{1}{4}$ . Assume that  $\zeta \in C^\infty(0, 1]$  satisfies  $\zeta = 1$  when  $r \geq 1 - R$ ;  $\zeta = 0$  when  $r \leq 2R$ . Differentiating (2.1) and multiplying by  $f_r \zeta^2$ , then integrating on  $[R, 1]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & - \int_R^1 \left( A^{(p-2)/2} f_r \right)_{rr} (f_r \zeta^2) dr - \int_R^1 \left( r^{-1} A^{(p-2)/2} f_r \right)_r (f_r \zeta^2) dr \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad + (n - 1) \int_R^1 \left( r^{-2} A^{(p-2)/2} f \right)_r (f_r \zeta^2) dr \\ & = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \int_R^1 [f(1 - f^2)(3f^2 - 1)]_r (f_r \zeta^2) dr. \end{aligned}$$

Integrating by parts leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_R^1 \left( A^{(p-2)/2} f_r \right)_r (f_r \zeta^2)_r dr \\ & + \int_R^1 A^{(p-2)/2} (f_r \zeta^2)_r [r^{-1} f_r - (n - 1)r^{-2} f] dr \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \int_R^1 (1 - f^2)(3f^2 - 1) f_r^2 \zeta^2 dr \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \int_R^1 f^2 (12f^2 - 8) (f_r)^2 \zeta^2 dr + |I(1) - I(R)|, \end{aligned}$$

where  $I(r) = (A^{(p-2)/2} f_r)_r + \frac{1}{r} A^{(p-2)/2} f_r - (n-1) \frac{1}{r^2} A^{(p-2)/2} f] f_r \zeta^2$ . From (2.1) it follows that  $I(r) = \frac{1}{r \varepsilon^p} f(f^2 - 1)(3f^2 - 1) f_r \zeta^2$ . Noting  $f(1) = 1$  and  $\zeta(R) = 0$ , we obtain  $I(1) = I(R) = 0$ . Substituting this into the inequality above, and by the same argument as the inner estimation, we also derive (2.5). Now, take  $\phi = \zeta^{2/q} f_r^{(p+2)/q}$  in the embedding

inequality

$$\|\phi\|_{L^q} \leq C(\|\phi_r\|_{L^1} + \|\phi\|_{L^1})^{1-1/q} \|\phi\|_{L^1}^{1/q}, \quad q \in (1 + \frac{2}{p}, 2)$$

instead of (2.6) (in fact, (2.6) is not valid since  $\phi \neq 0$  near  $r = 1$ ). Thus, (2.7) can be still derived. The rest proof is same as the proof of the inner estimation.

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Let  $u_\varepsilon = f_\varepsilon(r) \frac{x}{|x|}$  be a radial minimizer of  $E_\varepsilon(u, B)$ . Then for any compact subset  $K \subset \overline{B} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} u_\varepsilon = \frac{x}{|x|}$  in  $C^{1,\alpha}(K, R^n)$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2)$ .*

*Proof.* For any compact subset  $K \subset \overline{B} \setminus \{0\}$ , by using Proposition 2.1 we know that for some  $\beta \in (0, 1/2)$ ,

$$(2.8) \quad \|u_\varepsilon^\tau\|_{C^{1,\beta}(K)} \leq C = C(K)$$

with  $C > 0$  independent of  $\varepsilon, \tau$ . From this and the embedding theorem, we see that for some  $\beta_1 < \beta$ , there exist  $w_\varepsilon^* \in C^{1,\beta_1}(K, R^n)$  and a subsequence  $\tau_k$  of  $\tau$ , such that as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(2.9) \quad u_\varepsilon^{\tau_k} \rightarrow w_\varepsilon^* \quad \text{in } C^{1,\beta_1}(K, R^n).$$

Combining this with (1.4) and (1.2), we have  $w_\varepsilon^* = u_\varepsilon$ .

Applying (2.8) and the embedding theorem again, we know that for some  $\beta_2 < \beta$ , there exist  $w^* \in C^{1,\beta_2}(K, R^n)$  and a subsequence  $\tau_m$  of  $\tau_k$ , such that as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(2.10) \quad u_{\varepsilon_m}^{\tau_m} \rightarrow w^* \quad \text{in } C^{1,\beta_2}(K, R^n).$$

Set  $\alpha = \min(\beta_1, \beta_2)$ . Thus, when  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , using (2.9) and (2.10) we obtain

$$(2.11) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|u_{\varepsilon_m} - w^*\|_{C^{1,\alpha}(K, R^n)} \\ & \leq \|u_{\varepsilon_m} - u_{\varepsilon_m}^{\tau_m}\|_{C^{1,\alpha}(K, R^n)} + \|u_{\varepsilon_m}^{\tau_m} - w^*\|_{C^{1,\alpha}(K, R^n)} \\ & \leq o(1), \end{aligned}$$

which, together with (1.3), implies  $w^* = \frac{x}{|x|}$ . Noting the uniqueness of the limit  $\frac{x}{|x|}$ , we deduce that the convergence (2.11) holds not only for the subsequence, but also for the whole  $u_\varepsilon$ .

### 3. Analysis of the convergent rate

From (4.2) in [4], It was led to, for any compact subset of  $K \subset (0, 1]$ , the convergent rate

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_K (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \leq C.$$

In this section, we shall present the better rate.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $u_\varepsilon(x) = f_\varepsilon(r) \frac{x}{|x|}$  be a radial minimizer of  $E_\varepsilon(u, B)$ . Then for any  $T > 0$ , there exists a constant  $C > 0$  which is independent of  $\varepsilon$ , such that as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,*

$$(3.2) \quad \int_T^1 |f'_\varepsilon|^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \int_T^1 f_\varepsilon^2 (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \leq C\varepsilon^{[p]-p+1}.$$

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{p} \int_{B \setminus B_T(0)} |\nabla u_\varepsilon|^p + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_{B \setminus B_T(0)} |u_\varepsilon|^2 (1 - |u_\varepsilon|^2)^2 \\ & \rightarrow \frac{1}{p} \int_{B \setminus B_T(0)} \left| \nabla \frac{x}{|x|} \right|^p. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* From [4, Theorem 4.2] it follows that

$$(3.4) \quad E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T) \leq \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 (n-1)^{p/2} r^{n-p-1} dr + C\varepsilon^{[p]-p+1}.$$

Here  $E_\varepsilon(f; T) = \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 |f_r|^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_T^1 f^2 (1 - f^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr$ . On the other hand, Jensen's inequality with  $p > 2$  implies that

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T) & \geq \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 |f'_\varepsilon|^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 \left( (n-1) \frac{f_\varepsilon^2}{r^2} \right)^{p/2} r^{n-1} dr \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_T^1 f_\varepsilon^2 (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr. \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (3.4) yields

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 \left( (n-1) \frac{f_\varepsilon^2}{r^2} \right)^{p/2} r^{n-1} dr \\ & \leq E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T) \\ & \leq C\varepsilon^{[p]-p+1} + \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 (n-1)^{p/2} r^{n-p-1} dr. \end{aligned}$$

By using (3.1) and Holder inequality we deduce

$$\int_T^1 (n-1)^{p/2} r^{n-p-1} (1-f_\varepsilon^p) dr \leq C\varepsilon^{p/2}.$$

Substituting this into (3.6) leads to

$$(3.7) \quad E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T) - \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 ((n-1)r^{-2})^{p/2} r^{n-1} dr \leq C\varepsilon^{[p]-p+1}.$$

Noticing  $\int_{B \setminus B_T(0)} |\nabla \frac{x}{|x|}|^p dx = |S^{n-1}| \int_T^1 ((n-1)r^{-2})^{p/2} r^{n-1} dr$ , from (3.5) and (3.7), we can obtain (3.2) and (3.3).

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $u_\varepsilon(x) = f_\varepsilon(r) \frac{x}{|x|}$  be a radial minimizer of  $E_\varepsilon(u, B)$ . Then for any  $T > 0$ , there exists  $C > 0$  which is independent of  $\varepsilon$ , such that  $\int_T^1 r^{n-1} [(f'_\varepsilon)^p + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} (1-f_\varepsilon^2)^2] dr \leq C\varepsilon^p$ .*

*Proof.* From Jensen's inequality and (2.2) it follows

$$\begin{aligned} E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T) &\geq \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 (f'_\varepsilon)^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon^p} \int_T^1 (1-f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 \frac{(n-1)^{p/2}}{r^p} f_\varepsilon^p r^{n-1} dr. \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (3.4) and using (3.1), we have

$$(3.8) \quad \frac{1}{p} \int_T^1 (f'_\varepsilon)^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon^p} \int_T^1 (1-f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \leq C\varepsilon^{[p]-p+1}.$$

Noting (3.4) and (3.8), and applying the integral mean value theorem, we see that there exists  $T_1 \in [T, 2T]$ , such that

$$(3.9) \quad \left[ \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} (1-f_\varepsilon^2)^2 \right]_{r=T_1} \leq C_1 \varepsilon^{[p]-p+1}.$$

Clearly, we may find a minimizer  $\rho_1$  in  $W_{f_\varepsilon}^{1,p}((T_1, 1), R^+ \cup \{0\})$  of the functional

$$E(\rho, T_1) = \frac{1}{p} \int_{T_1}^1 (\rho_r^2 + 1)^{p/2} dr + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_1}^1 (1-\rho)^2 dr.$$

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** (3.9) implies that  $E(\rho_1, T_1) \leq C\varepsilon^{F[1]}$ . Here  $F[j] = \frac{[p] + 1 - p}{2^j} + \frac{(2^j - 1)p}{2^j}$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots$ .



*Proof.* The minimizer  $\rho_1$  solves the problem

$$(3.10) \quad -\varepsilon^p(v^{(p-2)/2}\rho_r)_r = 1 - \rho \quad \text{on} \quad [T_1, 1],$$

$$(3.11) \quad \rho(T_1) = f_\varepsilon(T_1), \quad \rho(1) = f_\varepsilon(1) = 1,$$

where  $v = \rho_r^2 + 1$ . Obviously,  $\rho \leq 1$ . Noting that  $\rho_1$  is a minimizer, we deduce from (3.8) in [4] and (3.4) that

$$(3.12) \quad E(\rho_1, T_1) \leq E(f_\varepsilon, T_1) \leq CE_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T_1) \leq C.$$

Take  $\zeta \in C^\infty(0, 1]$ ,  $\zeta = 1$  on  $(0, T_1]$ ,  $\zeta = 0$  near  $r = 1$ , and  $|\zeta_r| \leq C(T_1)$ . Multiplying (3.10) with  $\zeta\rho_r$  and integrating over  $[T_1, 1]$ , we have

$$(3.13) \quad \begin{aligned} v^{(p-2)/2}\rho_r^2 \Big|_{r=T_1} + \int_{T_1}^1 v^{(p-2)/2}\rho_r(\zeta_r\rho_r + \zeta\rho_{rr})dr \\ = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_1}^1 (1 - \rho)\zeta\rho_r dr. \end{aligned}$$

At first, by using (3.12) we obtain

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{T_1}^1 v^{(p-2)/2}\rho_r(\zeta_r\rho_r + \zeta\rho_{rr})dr \right| \\ & \leq \int_{T_1}^1 v^{(p-2)/2}|\zeta_r|(\rho_r)^2 dr + \frac{1}{p} \left| \int_{T_1}^1 \left[ (v^{(p-2)/2}\zeta)_r - v^{(p-2)/2}\zeta_r \right] dr \right| \\ & \leq C + \frac{1}{p}v^{p/2} \Big|_{r=T_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Next, by applying (3.12), (3.11), and (3.9), we derive

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \left| \int_{T_1}^1 (1 - \rho)\zeta\rho_r dr \right| \\ & = \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \left| \int_{T_1}^1 [((1 - \rho)^2\zeta)_r - (1 - \rho)^2\zeta_r] dr \right| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} (1 - \rho)^2 \Big|_{r=T_1} + \frac{C}{2\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_1}^1 (1 - \rho)^2 dr \\ & \leq C. \end{aligned}$$

Combining (3.13)–(3.15), we get  $v^{(p-2)/2}\rho_r^2|_{r=T_1} \leq C + \frac{1}{p}v^{p/2}|_{r=T_1}$ . Substituting this into  $v^{p/2}|_{r=T_1} = v^{(p-2)/2}(\rho_r^2 + 1)|_{r=T_1}$ , and using Young

inequality, we see that for any  $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ ,  $v^{p/2}|_{r=T_1} \leq C(\delta) + (\frac{1}{p} + \delta)v^{p/2}|_{r=T_1}$ . Choosing  $\delta$  sufficiently small yields

$$(3.16) \quad v^{p/2}\Big|_{r=T_1} \leq C.$$

Multiplying (3.10) with  $(\rho - 1)$  and integrating over  $[T_1, 1]$ , we have

$$\int_{T_1}^1 \left[ v^{(p-2)/2} \rho_r (\rho - 1) \right]_r dr = \int_{T_1}^1 v^{(p-2)/2} \rho_r^2 dr + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_1}^1 (\rho - 1)^2 dr.$$

Hence, by applying (3.16), (3.11), and (3.9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} E(\rho_1, T_1) &\leq C \left| \int_{T_1}^1 \left[ v^{(p-2)/2} \rho_r (\rho - 1) \right]_r dr \right| \\ &= C v^{(p-2)/2} |\rho_r| |\rho - 1| \Big|_{r=T_1} \\ &\leq C \varepsilon^{F(1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition is proved.

**PROPOSITION 3.4.** *Proposition 3.3 implies that*

$$E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T_1) \leq C \varepsilon^{F[1]} + \frac{1}{p} \int_{T_1}^1 \frac{(n-1)^{p/2}}{r^{p-n+1}} dr.$$

*Proof.* Set  $w_\varepsilon = f_\varepsilon$  if  $r \in [0, T_1]$ ,  $w_\varepsilon = \rho_1$  if  $r \in [T_1, 1]$ . Noticing that  $u_\varepsilon$  is a minimizer, we have  $E_\varepsilon(u_\varepsilon, B) \leq E_\varepsilon(w_\varepsilon \frac{x}{|x|}, B)$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon, T_1) &\leq \frac{1}{p} \int_{T_1}^1 \left( \rho_r^2 + \frac{n-1}{r^2} \rho^2 \right)^{p/2} r^{n-1} dr \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_1}^1 \rho^2 (1 - \rho^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \\ &\leq \frac{1}{p} \int_{T_1}^1 \left( \frac{n-1}{r^2} \rho^2 \right)^{p/2} r^{n-1} dr + CE(\rho_1, T_1). \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 3.4 is seen by using Proposition 3.3.

Complete the proof of Theorem 3.2. Using Proposition 3.4 and (3.1), we can deduce that

$$\int_{T_1}^1 (f'_\varepsilon)^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_1}^1 (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \leq C \varepsilon^{F[1]} + C \varepsilon^{p/2} \leq C_2 \varepsilon^{F[1]}$$

by the same derivation of (3.8). Comparing with (3.8), we find the rate is better than (3.8), since the exponent of  $\varepsilon$  is improved from  $F[0]$  to  $F[1]$ .

Set  $T_m \in [T_{m-1}, 2T]$ . By the same argument above (whose idea is improving the exponent of  $\varepsilon$  from  $F[k]$  to  $F[k + 1]$ ), we know that there exists a sufficiently large integer  $m$  satisfying  $\frac{p}{2} + 1 \leq F[m]$ , such that

$$(3.17) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{T_m}^1 (f'_\varepsilon)^p r dr + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_m}^1 (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \\ \leq C\varepsilon^{F[m]} + C\varepsilon^{p/2} \\ \leq C\varepsilon^{p/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Similar to the derivations of (3.9), we see that there exists  $T_{m+1} \in [T_m, 2T]$  such that

$$(3.18) \quad \left[ \frac{1}{\varepsilon^p} (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 \right]_{r=T_{m+1}} \leq C\varepsilon^{p/2}.$$

Obviously, the minimizer  $\rho_2 \in W_{f_\varepsilon}^{1,p}((T_1, 1), R^+)$  of

$$E(\rho, T_{m+1}) = \frac{1}{p} \int_{T_{m+1}}^1 (\rho_r^2 + 1)^{p/2} dr + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_{m+1}}^1 (1 - \rho)^2 dr$$

exists. By the analogous proof of Proposition 3.3, from (3.18) we can also obtain that

$$E(\rho_2, T_{m+1}) \leq v^{\frac{p-2}{2}} \rho_{4r}(1 - \rho_1) \Big|_{r=T_{m+1}} \leq C(1 - \rho_2(T_{m+1})) \leq C\varepsilon^{G[1]},$$

where  $G[j] = \frac{p/2}{2^j} + \frac{(2^j-1)p}{2^j}$ ,  $j = m + 1, m + 2, \dots$ . So, by the same proof of Proposition 3.4 we also conclude that

$$E_\varepsilon(f_\varepsilon; T_{m+1}) \leq C\varepsilon^{G[1]} + \frac{1}{p} \int_{T_{m+1}}^1 \frac{(n-1)^{p/2}}{r^{p-1}} dr.$$

Similar to the derivation of (3.8), using (3.17) we have

$$\int_{T_{m+1}}^1 (f'_\varepsilon)^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_{m+1}}^1 (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \leq C\varepsilon^{G[1]}.$$

By the same argument above (whose idea is improving the exponent of  $\varepsilon$  from  $G[k]$  to  $G[k + 1]$ ), we know that for any  $k \in N$ ,

$$\int_{T_{m+k}}^1 (f'_\varepsilon)^p r^{n-1} dr + \frac{1}{8\varepsilon^p} \int_{T_{m+k}}^1 (1 - f_\varepsilon^2)^2 r^{n-1} dr \leq C\varepsilon^{\frac{p/2}{2^k} + \frac{(2^k-1)p}{2^k}}.$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we can see the conclusion of Theorem.

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