# Yang-Mills Replacement 

Yakov Berchenko-Kogan

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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## Schwarz Alternating Method

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Let $f:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. We want to make $f$ harmonic while fixing its boundary values.


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- Colding and Minicozzi (2008) locally replace maps $u: \Sigma^{2} \rightarrow M$ with harmonic maps, with bounds.
- I showed that one can similarly locally replace connections on 4-manifolds with Yang-Mills connections, with bounds.


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- Yang-Mills replacement has parallels with Yang-Mills gradient flow.
- Ability to choose balls gives more control.


## Harmonic Maps and Yang-Mills Connections

Harmonic maps
Yang-Mills connections

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& \text { Harmonic maps } \\
& u: \Sigma \rightarrow M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{N}
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Connection $A$ on a principal $G$-bundle $P \rightarrow X$

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- Our boundary values are $L_{1 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)$, and solutions are $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.


## Local Yang-Mills Replacement

## Theorem (YBK)

- For any $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ low-energy connection $A$, there exists a low-energy $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ Yang-Mills connection $B$, unique up to gauge, such that $i^{*} A=i^{*} B$.


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- There are $\tilde{A}$ and $\tilde{B}$, gauge equivalent by an $L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ gauge transformation to $A$ and $B$, respectively, such that

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\|\tilde{A}-\tilde{B}\|_{L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2} \leq C\left(\left\|F_{A}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2}-\left\|F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2}\right)
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- The linear interpolation between $A$ and $B$ has monotone decreasing energy.
- Equality if and only if $A$ is already Yang-Mills.


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Yang-Mills connections
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Solution: Can get $d^{*} \alpha=0$ by choosing a good gauge.

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Theorem (Dirichlet Uhlenbeck gauge fixing, YBK)
Any low-energy $L_{1}^{2}\left(\mathcal{B}^{4}\right)$ connection $A$ is gauge equivalent to an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection $\tilde{A}=d+$ ã such that:

- $\tilde{A}$ is in Dirichlet Coulomb gauge, that is,
- $d^{*} \tilde{a}=0$ on $B^{4}$, and
- $d_{\partial B^{4}}^{*}{ }^{*} a \tilde{a}=0$ on $\partial B^{4}$.
- $\|\tilde{a}\|_{L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} \leq C\left\|F_{A}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}$.


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The boundary condition $d_{\partial B^{4}}^{*} i^{*} \tilde{a}=0$ is preserved under gauge transformations satisfying Dirichlet boundary conditions.

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

- The linearization is $\alpha \mapsto\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$, which is not invertible.


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- Dirichlet boundary conditions for the Hodge Laplacian require specifying $i^{*} \alpha$ and $i^{*} d^{*} \alpha$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

- The linearization is $\alpha \mapsto\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$, which is not invertible.
- Gauge fixing lets us assume $d^{*} \alpha=0$.
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- $\alpha \mapsto\left(\Delta \alpha, i^{*} \alpha, i^{*} d^{*} \alpha\right)$ is invertible, but only for $\alpha \in L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.


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- Restricting to ker $d^{*}$ gives an isomorphism

$$
\left(d^{*} d, i^{*}\right): L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{ker} d^{*} \rightarrow L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{range}\left(d^{*}\right) \times L_{3 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

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$$

- But in the regularity we want,

$$
\left(d^{*} d, i^{*}\right): L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{ker} d^{*} \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{range}\left(d^{*}\right) \times L_{1 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)
$$

is not injective.

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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- Dirichlet boundary conditions for the Hodge Laplacian require specifying $i^{*} \alpha$ and $i^{*} d^{*} \alpha$.
- $\alpha \mapsto\left(\Delta \alpha, i^{*} \alpha, i^{*} d^{*} \alpha\right)$ is invertible, but only for $\alpha \in L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
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$$

- But in the regularity we want,

$$
\left(d^{*} d, i^{*}\right): L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{ker} d^{*} \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{range}\left(d^{*}\right) \times L_{1 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)
$$

is not injective.

- Solution: Use a target space slightly larger than $L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

Choosing the Target Banach Space
We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

- The linearization is $\alpha \mapsto\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Choosing the Target Banach Space

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

- The linearization is $\alpha \mapsto\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$.


## Definition

Dual

$$
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{0}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)|\alpha|_{\partial B^{4}}=0\right\} \quad L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Choosing the Target Banach Space

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

- The linearization is $\alpha \mapsto\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$.


## Definition

Dual

$$
\begin{aligned}
& L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{0}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)|\alpha|_{\partial B^{4}}=0\right\} \\
& \int_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \mid i^{*} \alpha=0\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Choosing the Target Banach Space

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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$$
\begin{array}{rc}
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{0}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)|\alpha|_{\partial B^{4}}=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \\
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \mid i^{*} \alpha=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}
\end{array}
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Choosing the Target Banach Space

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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$$
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L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{0}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)|\alpha|_{\partial B^{4}}=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \\
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \mid i^{*} \alpha=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- $d^{*} d$ is bounded as an operator $d^{*} d: L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Choosing the Target Banach Space

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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Dual

$$
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L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{0}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)|\alpha|_{\partial B^{4}}=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \\
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \mid i^{*} \alpha=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- $d^{*} d$ is bounded as an operator $d^{*} d: L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
- $d^{*} d$ is still bounded as $d^{*} d: L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\text {rel }}$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Choosing the Target Banach Space

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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\begin{array}{lc}
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{0}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)|\alpha|_{\partial B^{4}}=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \\
L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}=\left\{\alpha \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \mid i^{*} \alpha=0\right\} & L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}
\end{array}
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- $\alpha \mapsto\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$ is invertible as an operator

$$
\left(d^{*} d, i^{*}\right): L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right) \cap \operatorname{ker} d^{*} \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}} \cap \operatorname{range}\left(d^{*}\right) \times L_{1 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$
We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

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- Problem: $d_{A}^{*} F_{A}$ does not lie in range $\left(d^{*}\right)$ in general.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$
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- Problem: $d_{A}^{*} F_{A}$ does not lie in range $\left(d^{*}\right)$ in general.
- Solution: Project to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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- Problem: $d_{A}^{*} F_{A}$ does not lie in range $\left(d^{*}\right)$ in general.
- Solution: Project to range( $\left.d^{*}\right)$.
- Let $\pi_{d^{*}}$ be the $L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$-projection to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$

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- Problem: $d_{A}^{*} F_{A}$ does not lie in range $\left(d^{*}\right)$ in general.
- Solution: Project to range( $\left.d^{*}\right)$.
- Let $\pi_{d^{*}}$ be the $L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$-projection to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$.
- $\pi_{d^{*}}$ extends to a bounded operator $L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}} \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$

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- Solution: Project to range( $\left.d^{*}\right)$.
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- $\pi_{d^{*}}$ extends to a bounded operator $L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}} \rightarrow L_{-1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)^{\mathrm{rel}}$.
- The linearization of $A \mapsto\left(\pi_{d^{*}} d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ at the trivial connection is $\left(\pi_{d^{*}} d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)=\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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- The linearization of $A \mapsto\left(\pi_{d^{*}} d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ at the trivial connection is $\left(\pi_{d^{*}} d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)=\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$.
- Given $A_{\partial}$ small in the $L_{1 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)$ norm, we can solve

$$
\begin{aligned}
\pi_{d^{*}} d_{A}^{*} F_{A} & =0 & & \text { on } B^{4} \\
i^{*} A & =A_{\partial} & & \text { on } \partial B^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Projecting to range $\left(d^{*}\right)$

We want to invert the map $A \mapsto\left(d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ near the trivial connection, where $A$ is an $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ connection.

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- The linearization of $A \mapsto\left(\pi_{d^{*}} d_{A}^{*} F_{A}, i^{*} A\right)$ at the trivial connection is $\left(\pi_{d^{*}} d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)=\left(d^{*} d \alpha, i^{*} \alpha\right)$.
- Given $A_{\partial}$ small in the $L_{1 / 2}^{2}\left(\partial B^{4}\right)$ norm, we can solve

$$
\begin{aligned}
\pi_{d^{*}} d_{A}^{*} F_{A} & =0 & & \text { on } B^{4} \\
i^{*} A & =A_{\partial} & & \text { on } \partial B^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

- We also have $d^{*} a=0$ and that $a$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
- We want to conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
- We want to conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$.
- In higher regularity $b \in L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$, given $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$, we can prove an inequality of the form

$$
\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} \leq C\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} .
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
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$$

- Conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ as long as $\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}$ is small.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
- We want to conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$.
- In higher regularity $b \in L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$, given $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$, we can prove an inequality of the form

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\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} \leq C\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} .
$$

- Conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ as long as $\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}$ is small.
- This argument fails at $b \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ regularity.


## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
- We want to conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$.
- In higher regularity $b \in L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$, given $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$, we can prove an inequality of the form

$$
\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} \leq C\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} .
$$

- Conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ as long as $\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}$ is small.
- This argument fails at $b \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ regularity.
- Instead, we directly show that $B$ locally minimizes energy and is thus Yang-Mills, using the inequality

$$
\|A-B\|_{L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2} \leq C\left(\left\|F_{A}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2}-\left\|F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2}\right)
$$

## Solving the Dirichlet Problem

## Concluding that the connection minimizes energy

- We have found a $B=d+b$ such that $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ and $b$ is small in $L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$.
- We want to conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$.
- In higher regularity $b \in L_{2}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$, given $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$, we can prove an inequality of the form

$$
\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} \leq C\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}\left\|d_{B}^{*} F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)} .
$$

- Conclude that $d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$ as long as $\|b\|_{L^{4}\left(B^{4}\right)}$ is small.
- This argument fails at $b \in L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)$ regularity.
- Instead, we directly show that $B$ locally minimizes energy and is thus Yang-Mills, using the inequality

$$
\|A-B\|_{L_{1}^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2} \leq C\left(\left\|F_{A}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2}-\left\|F_{B}\right\|_{L^{2}\left(B^{4}\right)}^{2}\right) .
$$

- The inequality holds even if $B$ only satisfies $\pi_{d^{*}} d_{B}^{*} F_{B}=0$, along with assumptions of small energy, matching on the boundary, and Dirichlet Coulomb gauge.


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We want to repeat Yang-Mills replacement on balls covering the manifold $X$ to obtain a global Yang-Mills connection in the limit.
Bubbling

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- Potential solution: Moving energy costs energy.

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- Łojasiewicz inequality.


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We want to repeat Yang-Mills replacement on balls covering the manifold $X$ to obtain a global Yang-Mills connection in the limit.

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- Global Yang-Mills replacement cannot be continuous in the initial data.
- Might be continuous if the initial data is below all non-minimal critical points.


## Thank You

Acknowledgments
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## Towards Global Yang-Mills Replacement

## Bonus Slide

We want to repeat Yang-Mills replacement on balls covering the manifold $X$ to obtain a global Yang-Mills connection in the limit.
Discontinuous normal components

- Only the tangential components of the replacement match the original connection on $\partial B^{4}$.
- The normal derivative of the normal component of the new connection is not $L^{2}(X)$ across $\partial B^{4}$.
- After local Yang-Mills replacement, the global connection is no longer $L_{1}^{2}(X)$.
- Solution: With a different choice of gauge on a slightly larger ball, the connection becomes $L_{1}^{2}(X)$.

