

PDEs II

S. Gerberding

April 3, 2026

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Chapter 1

Elements of Distribution Theory

1.1 Motivation/ Heuristic

Consider a continuous function $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open.

- One characterization of u is by its point-wise values, $u(x)$; ie, $u = v$ iff $u(x) = v(x)$ for all $x \in U$.
- Equivalently, characterize u in terms of *weighted averages*: $\langle u, \phi \rangle = \int_U u(x)\phi(x) \, dx$ where the test functions ϕ range over a vector space of functions on U that is (i) nice enough so that the pairing is well defined, ie, works with integral for each ϕ ; (ii) rich enough so that the $\langle u, \phi \rangle = \langle v, \phi \rangle$ for all ϕ implies that $u = v$.
- The map $\phi \mapsto \langle u, \phi \rangle$ is a linear functional on that vector space.
- The weighted averages $\langle u, \phi \rangle$ make sense for a much wider class of objects than continuous functions.

Definition 1.1 (Naive). A *distribution* on some open subset $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a linear functional $u : C_c^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is “continuous”. (Continuous insofar as we need to understand what we mean by $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi$.)

1.2 The space of test functions $C_c^\infty(U)$

Definition 1.2. $C_c^\infty(U) := \{\phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \phi \text{ smooth and compact support}\}$.

Definition 1.3. Let $\phi \in C(U)$, then $\text{supp}(\phi) := \overline{\{x \in U : \phi(x) \neq 0\}}$.

Example 1.4. The function:

$$\phi(x) := \begin{cases} e^{-\frac{1}{1-|x|^2}} & |x| < 1 \\ 0 & |x| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

is smooth and has compact support.

Definition 1.5. Convolution:

$$(f * g)(x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x-y)g(y) \, dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y)g(x-y) \, dy$$

whenever this is well-defined.

Observe: for $f, g \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with compact support, $\text{supp}(f * g) \subset \text{supp}(f) + \text{supp}(g)$.

Proof. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $f * g(x) \neq 0$. Then, there exist $y \in \{y : f(y) \neq 0\} \subset \text{supp}(f)$ and $x - y \in \{z : g(z) \neq 0\}$, thus $x = y + (x - y) \in \text{supp}(f) + \text{supp}(g)$. $\square$

Lemma 1.6 (Evans, Thm. C.6). Let $f \in C^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $0 \leq k < \infty$. Let ϕ be smooth with $\text{supp}(\phi) \subset \overline{B(0,1)}$ and $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \phi \, dx = 1$. Let $\phi_\epsilon(x) := \epsilon^{-n}\phi(\frac{x}{\epsilon})$ and let $f_\epsilon := f * \phi_\epsilon$. Then the functions f_ϵ are smooth and $\text{supp}(f_\epsilon) \subset \text{supp}(f) + \overline{B(0,1)}$. For $|\alpha| \leq k$, $\partial^\alpha f_\epsilon \rightarrow \partial^\alpha f$ uniformly on each compact set as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$.

Observe: if for $u, v \in C(U)$, we have the $\int_U u\phi \, dx = \int_U v\phi \, dx$ for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$, then $u = v$ pointwise everywhere, so $C_c^\infty(U)$ is rich enough.

Proof. $\int_U (u - v)\phi \, dx = 0$. Suppose $w := u - v \neq 0$ at z , say $w(z) > 0$. Then, since w is continuous, it is positive on some neighborhood. Then take ϕ with support in that neighborhood, and then $\int_U w\phi \, dx \neq 0$, which is a contradiction. $\square$

Lemma 1.7 (Fundamental lemma of calculus of variations). *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open $u \in L^1_{loc}(U)$. If $\int_U u(x)\phi(x) dx = 0$ for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$. Then $u = 0$ a.e. in U .*

Definition 1.8. A sequence $\{\phi_k\} \subset C_c^\infty(U)$ converges to $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$ if there exists $K \subset U$ compact such that $\text{supp}(\phi_k), \text{supp}(\phi) \subset K$ and for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in K} |\partial^\alpha \phi_k(x) - \partial^\alpha \phi(x)| = 0$.

Definition 1.9. A distribution on U is a linear function $u : C_c^\infty(U) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is continuous in the following sense: for any $\{\phi_k\}$ such that $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi$ as above, then $u[\phi - k] \rightarrow u[\phi]$.

Note 1.10. • Notation: $D'(U)$: space of distributions on U .

- $u[\phi] = \langle u, \phi \rangle$.

Example 1.11. • locally integrable functions: any function $u \in L^1_{loc}(U)$ defines a distribution by $\langle u, \phi \rangle := \int_U u\phi dx$, $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$. Concrete example: $u(x) := \frac{1}{|x|^r}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is in L^1_{loc} for $r < n$.

- Dirac delta function δ_x : $\langle \delta_x, \phi \rangle := \phi(x)$ for some fixed $x \in U$.
- (Signed) locally finite Borel measures: Any such measure μ on U defines a distribution by $\langle u, \phi \rangle = \int \phi(x) d\mu(x)$.

Lemma 1.12. *A linear functional $u : C_c^\infty(U) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a distribution iff it is bounded in the following sense: For any compact set $K \subset U$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and a constant $C_{K,N}$ such that for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$ with $\text{supp}(\phi) \subset K$, the following holds:*

$$|\langle u, \phi \rangle| \leq C_{N,N} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \sup_{x \in K} |\partial^\alpha \phi(x)|$$

Proof. HW □

Definition 1.13. Let $u \in D'(U)$. If there is an integer N such that u is bounded for all compact $K \subset U$ and some $C \equiv C(K)$, then we say that u has order $\leq N$.

Example 1.14.

When $u \in L^1_{loc}$, $|\langle u, \phi \rangle| \leq \|u\|_{L^1(K)} \|\phi\|_\infty$, so the order is 0.

Definition 1.15. We say that $u \in D'(U)$ vanishes in an open subset $V \subset U$ if $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$ for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$ with $\text{supp}(\phi) \subset V$.

Definition 1.16. Let $V_{max} := \bigcup \{V : V \subset U \text{ open and } u \text{ vanishes in } V\}$. Then the *support* of u , denoted by $\text{supp}(u)$, is the complement of V_{max} .

1.3 Operations with Distributions

Basic principle: Adjoint method and approximation method.

1.3.1 Adjoint Method

An operation T on smooth functions is generalized to $D'(U)$ by computing the adjoint operation T' with the property:

$$\int_U (Tu)\phi dx = \int_U u(T'\phi) dx \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty(U), \quad \forall u \in C_c^\infty(U)$$

such that $T'\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$. (In this sense, we can plug $T'\phi$ in as a test function.)

Then defining $\langle Tu, \phi \rangle := \langle u, T'\phi \rangle$.

Example 1.17.

- Multiplication by a smooth function: $u, \phi \in C_c^\infty$. For $f \in C_c^\infty(U)$:

$$\int f u \phi dx = \int u f \phi dx.$$

So we define $\langle f u, \phi \rangle := \langle u, f \phi \rangle \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$.

- Differentiation: $\int \partial_j u \phi dx = - \int u \partial_j \phi dx$ (IBP). Given $u \in D'(U)$, we define for $1 \leq j \leq n$, $\langle \partial_j u, \phi \rangle := - \langle u, \partial_j \phi \rangle$. More generally, for multi-index α , $\langle \partial^\alpha u, \phi \rangle := (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u, \partial^\alpha \phi \rangle$.

- Convolution with a smooth and compactly supported function: [Eskin] Given $u \in D'(\mathbb{R}^N)$ and $f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we define $\langle f * u, \phi \rangle := \langle u, f *' \phi \rangle$

$$\left(\int (f * u) \phi(x) \, dx = \int \left(\int f(x-y) u(y) \, dy \phi(x) \, dx \right) = \int u(y) \underbrace{\left(\int f(x-y) \phi(x) \, dx \right)}_{:= f *' \phi} \, dy \right).$$

Lemma 1.18. For $f \in C_c^\infty(U)$ and $u \in D'(U)$, $f * u$ is a smooth function, in fact $\partial^\alpha (f * u)(x) = ((\partial^\alpha f) * u)(x)$.

Note 1.19. We $\langle f * u, \phi \rangle := \langle u, f *' \phi \rangle - \int_u(x) \int f(y-x) \phi(y) \, dx \, dx = \int \underbrace{\left(\int u(x) f(y-x) \, dx \right)}_{\langle u, f(y-\cdot) \rangle} \phi(y) \, dy$. The expression

$g(x) := \langle u, f(x-\cdot) \rangle$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ defines a continuous function $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Let $x_k \rightarrow x$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Then, $g(x_k) = \langle u, f(x_k-\cdot) \rangle = \langle u, f(x-\cdot) \rangle = g(x)$ because $f(x_k-\cdot) \rightarrow f(x-\cdot)$ in C_c^∞ sense.

Proof. Identify $f * u$ with a continuous function. Let $f * u := g$. We need to show $\langle f * u, \phi \rangle = \langle g, \phi \rangle$ for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty$. Recall: $\langle f * u, \phi \rangle = \langle u, f *' \phi \rangle$, $(f *' u)(x) = \int f(y-x) \phi(y) \, dy$. Let $S_N(x) := \sum_{0 \leq l \leq N} f(\eta_l - x) \phi(\eta_l) \Delta_l$. Then $S_N(x) \rightarrow (f *' \phi)(x)$ uniformly in x as $N \rightarrow \infty$ and same for its derivatives. Thus, $S_N \rightarrow f *' \phi$ in D . Hence, $\langle f * u, \phi \rangle := \langle u, f *' \phi \rangle = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \langle u, S_N \rangle = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{0 \leq l \leq N} \underbrace{\langle u, f(\eta_l - \cdot) \rangle}_{g(\eta_l)} \phi(\eta_l) \Delta_l = \int g(y) \phi(y) \, dy = \langle g, \phi \rangle$. Remains to check that $g = f * u$ is

smooth. Lets verify $\partial_i g(x)$ exists:

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} (g(x + h e_i) - g(x)) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \langle u, \frac{1}{h} (f(x + h e_i - \cdot) - f(x - \cdot)) \rangle = \langle u, \partial_i f(x - \cdot) \rangle.$$

□

1.4 Guest Lecture: Schrodinger Equation

$$i \partial_t u + \Delta u = 0; \quad u(0, x) = u_0.$$

- $\Delta =$ self adjoint
- $i \Delta =$ skew-adjoint
- $e^{it\Delta} =$ unitary group on L^2

Definition 1.20 (Fourier). Let $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Then, $\mathcal{F}f(\xi) = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int e^{-x \cdot \xi} f(x) \, dx$.

Then, the equation becomes:

$$i \partial_x \hat{u}(t, \xi) - |\xi|^2 \hat{u}(t, \xi) = 0; \quad \hat{u}(0, \xi) = \hat{u}_0(\xi)$$

Thus, $\hat{u}(t, \xi) = e^{-it|\xi|^2} \hat{u}_0(\xi)$

Definition 1.21 (Inverse Fourier Transform). $\mathcal{F}^{-1}g(x) = \tilde{g}(x) = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int g(\xi) e^{ix \cdot \xi} \, d\xi$

So $u(t, x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(e^{-it|\xi|^2} \hat{u}_0(\xi))$.

Note:

$$(2\pi)^{-d/2} \int e^{ix \cdot \xi} \hat{f}(\xi) \, d\xi = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int e^{-it|\xi|^2} e^{-\epsilon|\xi|^2} e^{ix \cdot \xi} \hat{f}(\xi) \, d\xi = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int f(y) \int e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} e^{-\epsilon|\xi|^2} e^{-it|\xi|^2} \, d\xi \, dy.$$

$$(2\pi)^{-d} \int e^{-\epsilon|\xi|^2} e^{-it|\xi|^2} e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} \, d\xi = (2\pi)^{-d} \int e^{-\epsilon|\xi|^2} e^{-it|\xi - \frac{x-y}{it}|^2} e^{\frac{i|x-y|^2}{4t}} \, d\xi = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int e^{-\epsilon|\xi|^2} e^{-it|\xi|^2} \, d\xi$$

Not sure how we got here, but:

$$u(t, x) = (4\pi t)^{-d/2} e^{-id\pi/4} \int e^{\frac{i|x-y|^2}{4t}} u_0(y) \, dy.$$

So:

$$\|e^{it\Delta} u_0\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{|4\pi t|^{d/2}} \|u_0\|_1$$

$$\|e^{it\Delta} u_0\|_2 = \|u_0\|_2.$$

Looking at:

$$i\partial_t u + \Delta u = F :$$

$$u(t) = -i \int_0^t e^{i(t-\tau)\Delta} F(\tau) \, d\tau.$$

Lemma 1.22. Suppose $(d(1/2 - 1/q) < 1, p, \tilde{p} < \infty$ and $d(1/2 - 1/q) = \frac{1}{\tilde{p}} + \frac{1}{p}$. Then

$$\left\| \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-\tau)\Delta} F(\tau) \, d\tau \right\|_{L_t^p L_x^\epsilon(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \lesssim \|F\|_{L_t^{\tilde{p}} L_x^{q'}(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Proof. See book. □

Lemma 1.23. For $u \in \mathcal{D}'(U)$ and $f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $f * u \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $\text{supp}(f * u) \subset \text{supp}(f) + \text{supp}(u)$.

Proof. Reminder: $(f * u)(x) = \langle u, f(x - \cdot) \rangle$. Regarding the support, let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $(f * u)(x) = \langle u, f(x - \cdot) \rangle \neq 0$. Then there exists a $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $x - y \in \text{supp}(f)$ and $y \in \text{supp}(u)$. Then $x = x - y + y \in \text{supp}(f) + \text{supp}(u)$. □

Example 1.24 (More examples of distributions:). • Heaviside function: Let

$$H(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > 0 \\ 0 & x \leq 0 \end{cases}.$$

Then $H \in L_{loc}^1(\mathbb{R})$ where $H \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$.

Claim: $H' = \delta_0$.

Proof: For $\phi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$:

$$\langle H', \phi \rangle = -\langle H, \phi' \rangle = -\int_{\mathbb{R}} H(x) \phi'(x) \, dx = -\int_0^\infty \phi'(x) \, dx = \phi(0) = \langle \delta_0, \phi \rangle$$

- Principal Value Distribution: Note that $x \rightarrow 1/x$ is not locally integrable on $\mathbb{R}$. Define the following to make up for this problem:

$$\langle p.v. \, 1/x, \phi \rangle := \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left(\int_\epsilon^\infty \frac{1}{x} \phi \, dx + \int_{-\infty}^{-\epsilon} \frac{1}{x} \phi \, dx \right).$$

Claim: $p.v. \, 1/x \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$. We show that this is well-defined.

Write, for $\epsilon > 0$, $I_\epsilon = \int_\epsilon^1 \frac{1}{x} \phi(x) \, dx + \int_{-1}^{-\epsilon} \frac{1}{x} \phi(x) \, dx + \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x} \phi(x) \, dx + \int_{-\infty}^{-1} \frac{1}{x} \phi(x) \, dx$. Then, the first two integrals can be rewritten as:

$$\int_\epsilon^1 \frac{1}{x} (\phi(x) - \phi(0)) \, dx + \int_{-1}^{-\epsilon} \frac{1}{x} (\phi(x) - \phi(0)) \, dx + \underbrace{\int_0^x \phi'(y) \, dy}_{\text{from } -1} + \int_{-1}^{-\epsilon} \frac{1}{x} \phi(0) \, dx.$$

Here we let $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$: then we are integrating a nice smooth function, so it always exists, and so we can take a limit, and everything is well-defined. Continuity still needs to be shown as a distribution; useful to work with boundedness characterization instead of the limit version.

1.5 Sequences of Distributions

Definition 1.25. A sequence $\{u_k\}_k \subset \mathcal{D}'(U)$ converges to $u \in \mathcal{D}'(U)$ if for every $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$, $\langle u_k, \phi \rangle \rightarrow \langle u, \phi \rangle$. We say that $u_k \rightarrow u$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Lemma 1.26. Let $u_k \rightarrow u$ in distribution. Then $\partial_\alpha u_k \rightarrow \partial^\alpha u$ in $\mathcal{D}'(U)$.

Proof. Follows from definitions: $\langle \partial^\alpha u_k, \phi \rangle = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u_k, \partial^\alpha \phi \rangle \rightarrow (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u, \partial^\alpha \phi \rangle = \langle \partial^\alpha u, \phi \rangle$. □

More examples:

Example 1.27. • Suppose $\{u_k\}_k \subset L_{loc}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $u_k(x) \rightarrow u(x)$ a.e. as $k \rightarrow \infty$. If there exists a $v \in L_{loc}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that $|u_k(x)| \leq |v(x)|$ for a.e. $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then $u_k \rightarrow u$ in $\mathcal{D}'(U)$.

Proof: This is just Lebesgue's Dominated Convergence Theorem.

- Take

$$u_k(x) = \begin{cases} e^{-ikx} & x > 0 \\ 0 & x \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then $u_k(x)$ does not have a pointwise limit for $x \in (0, \infty)/2\pi z$, we $u_k \rightarrow 0$ in $\mathcal{D}'(U)$.

Proof: $\langle u_k, \phi \rangle = \int_0^\infty e^{ikx} \phi(x) dx = \frac{1}{ik} \phi(0) - \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{ik} e^{ikx} \phi'(x) dx \rightarrow 0$.

Lemma 1.28. Let $\eta \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Let $\eta_\epsilon(x) = \epsilon^{-n} \eta(x/\epsilon)$. Then $\eta_\epsilon \rightarrow (\int \eta) \delta_0$ in $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Proof. Let $\phi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Then $\langle \eta_\epsilon, \phi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \epsilon^{-n} \eta(x/\epsilon) \phi(x) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta(z) \phi(\epsilon z) dz \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta(z) \phi(0) dz = (\int \eta) \delta_0$. $\square$

Proposition 1.29. Let $\eta \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\int \eta dx = 1$. For every $\epsilon > 0$ set $\eta_\epsilon(x)$ be as usual. Let $u \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Then, $\eta_\epsilon * u \rightarrow u$ in $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$.

[Approximation of distributions by smooth functions]

Proof. For $\phi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\langle \eta_\epsilon * u, \phi \rangle = \langle u, \eta_\epsilon *' \phi \rangle$. Here, $\eta_\epsilon *' \phi \rightarrow \phi$ in C_c^∞ . And so $\langle u, \eta_\epsilon *' \phi \rangle \rightarrow \langle u, \phi \rangle$. $\square$

Remark 1.30. We can even approximate any $u \in \mathcal{D}'(U)$ by a sequence of C_c^∞ functions by taking $\eta_{1/k} * (\chi_k u)$, where:

$$\chi_k(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & |x| \leq k \\ 0 & |x| \geq 2k. \end{cases}$$

and smooth out in between.

1.6 Operations between distributions

- Convolution with a compact supported distribution:

Definition 1.31.

Definition 1.32. The convolution of $u, v \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\text{supp}(v)$ compact is defined by:

$$\langle v * u, \phi \rangle := \langle u, v *' \phi \rangle \text{ with } (v *' \phi)(y) := \langle v, \phi(y + \cdot) \rangle \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

To show that $v * u$ is again a distribution: linearity is clear. Let $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi$ in C_c^∞ , then:

$$\langle v * u, \phi_k \rangle = \langle u, v *' \phi_k \rangle \rightarrow \langle u, v *' \phi \rangle = \langle v * u, \phi \rangle.$$

To check that this convergence actually occurs, use boundedness of v .

Definition 1.33. Let $u \in \mathcal{D}'(U)$. Then the *singular support* of u is defined to be the complement of the union of all open sets on which u coincides with a smooth function, ie, singular support of u is $U \setminus \bigcup \{V : V \subset U \text{ open in which } u \in C^\infty(V)\}$.

Proposition 1.34. Let $u, v \in \mathcal{D}'(U)$ such that $\text{singsupp}(u) \cap \text{singsupp}(v) = \emptyset$. Then the product uv is well defined.

Proof. Cover U by open set $Y \subset U$ such that $u \in C_c^\infty(Y)$ or $v \in C_c^\infty(Y)$. Then define “ uv ”:

If $u \in C^\infty(Y)$:, $\phi \in C_c^\infty(Y)$: $\langle uv, \phi \rangle := \langle v, u\phi \rangle$. If $v \in C^\infty(Y)$: for $\phi \in C_c(Y)$, $\langle uv, \phi \rangle := \langle u, v\phi \rangle$. $\square$

Recall the following definition:

Definition 1.35. The Schwartz space $S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ consists of all complex-valued functions $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that, for all $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$.

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |x^\alpha \partial^\beta f(x)| < \infty.$$

Example 1.36. $\phi \in C_c \implies \phi \in S$; $e^{-|x|^2} \in S$.

Definition 1.37. A sequence of Schwartz functions ϕ_k converges to $\phi \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |x^\alpha \partial^\beta (\phi_k - \phi)| \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Remark 1.38. $C_c^\infty \hookrightarrow S$, that is, if $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi$ in C_c^∞ , then $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi$ in $S(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Definition 1.39 (Tempered Distributions). A continuous linear functional on the Schwartz space is called a *tempered distribution*. The set of all these functionals is denoted S' . By continuity, we mean:

$$\langle u, \phi_k \rangle \rightarrow \langle u, \phi \rangle \text{ if } \phi_k \rightarrow \phi \in S. \quad (1.1)$$

We say that $\{u_k\}$ of tempered distributions converges to $u \in S'$ if $\langle u_k, \phi \rangle \rightarrow \langle u, \phi \rangle$ for all $\phi \in S$.

Remark 1.40. Since $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi \in C_c^\infty \implies \phi_k \rightarrow \phi \in S$, any $u \in S' \implies u \in D'$. Since $u_k \rightarrow u \in S'$ implies $u_k \rightarrow u \in D'$, we have $S' \subset D'$. One can show: A linear functional on $S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is a tempered distribution if and only if there exists a $C > 0$ and integers $k, m \geq 1$ such that

$$|\langle u, f \rangle| \leq C \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k, |\beta| \leq m} |x^\alpha \partial^\beta f(x)|.$$

If $f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and is such that $|\partial^\beta f(x)| \leq C_\beta(1 + |x|)^{N_\beta}$ for all $\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ then $f\phi \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for any $\phi \in S'(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

To define tempered distributions from L^1_{loc} functions, we need some control on growth; $\int |u(x)|(1 + |x|)^{-N} dx < \infty$.

1.7 Fourier transforms of tempered distributions

Recall: The Fourier Transform of an L^1 function $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is:

$$\hat{f}(\xi) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-ix \cdot \xi} f(x) dx.$$

Key properties:

- $\mathcal{F}[\partial_j f](\xi) = i\xi_j \mathcal{F}[f](\xi)$
- $\mathcal{F}[x_j f](\xi) = i\partial_{\xi_j} \mathcal{F}[f](\xi)$
- $\mathcal{F} : S(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow S(\mathbb{R}^n)$
- Fourier inversion theorem: $f(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2}} \int e^{ix \cdot \xi} \hat{f}(\xi) d\xi =: \mathcal{F}^{-1}[\hat{f}](x)$.
- Show: If $\phi_k \rightarrow \phi \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ then $\sup_\xi |\xi^\alpha \partial^\beta (\hat{\phi}_k(\xi) - \hat{\phi}(\xi))| \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$, when $\hat{\phi}_k \rightarrow \hat{\phi} \in S$. When, $\mathcal{F} : S(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is a continuous one to one map.

Definition 1.41. The Fourier transform $\hat{u}$ of a tempered distribution $u \in S'$ is defined by:

$$\langle \hat{u}, \phi \rangle := \langle u, \hat{\phi} \rangle \quad \forall \phi \in S(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Example 1.42 (Computing Fourier transforms of tempered distributions). • $\hat{\delta}_0 = (2\pi)^{-n/2}$.

- $\hat{1} = (2\pi)^{n/2} \delta_0$.
- $e^{ix \cdot \xi} = (2\pi)^{n/2} \delta_x$.
- $\partial_j \hat{\delta}_0 = (2\pi)^{-n/2} i x_j$

Lemma 1.43. For $u \in S'$, $\check{u} = u$, ie, $\mathcal{F}$ maps S' onto S' .

Proof. $\langle \check{u}, \phi \rangle = \langle u, \check{\check{\phi}} \rangle = \langle u, \phi \rangle$. □

Lemma 1.44. For any tempered distribution $u \in S'$ and any multi-index α ,

$$\partial^{\hat{\alpha}} u = (i\xi)^\alpha \hat{u}.$$

Proof. Generalization of the previous computations. □

Proposition 1.45. Let $u \in S'$ and $f \in S$, then $f * u$ is a C^∞ function. Moreover, for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$

$$|\partial^\alpha (f * u)(x)| \leq C_\alpha (1 + |x|)^{k_\alpha}$$

for some $C_\alpha > 0$ and $k_\alpha \in \mathbb{N}$.

Example 1.46 (Extending identities of FT from S to S'). For $f \in S$, $u \in S'$,

$$f \hat{*} u = (2\pi)^{n/2} \hat{f} \cdot \hat{u}$$

Proof. Let $\phi \in S$. Then:

$$\langle f \hat{*} u, \phi \rangle = \langle f * u, \hat{\phi} \rangle = \langle u, f *' \hat{\phi} \rangle.$$

By direct computation, $f *' \hat{\phi} = (2\pi)^{n/2} \mathcal{F}[\hat{f} \cdot \phi]$. So:

$$\langle u, f *' \hat{\phi} \rangle = \langle u, (2\pi)^{n/2} \mathcal{F}[\hat{f} \cdot \phi] \rangle = \langle \hat{u}, (2\pi)^{n/2} \hat{f} \cdot \phi \rangle = \langle (2\pi)^{n/2} \hat{f} \hat{u}, \phi \rangle.$$

□

1.8 Fundamental Solutions

Definition 1.47. Let $P = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} a_\alpha \partial^\alpha$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$ be a constant coefficient differential operator on $\mathbb{R}^n$. A *distribution* $E_0 \in \mathcal{D}'$ is called a fundamental solution for P if $PE_0 = \delta_0$ in $\mathcal{D}'$.

Remark 1.48. A fundamental solution E_0 is not necessarily unique since for any $u \in \mathcal{D}'$ such that $Pu = 0$, we also have that $P(E_0 + u) = \delta_0$.

Proposition 1.49. Let E_0 be a fundamental solution for a constant coefficient PDO P . Let $f \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Then, $E_0 * f \in C^\infty$ is a smooth solution to $P(E_0 * f) = f$.

Proof. Thanks to earlier results, we have that $P(E_0 * f) = (PE_0) * f = \delta_0 * f = f$. □

Example 1.50. • A fundamental solution for ∂_x on $\mathbb{R}$: $\partial_x E_0 = \delta_0$: $E_0 = H$, Heaviside.

- Fundamental solution for $-\Delta$ on $\mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 3$. $E_0 = \Phi_n = \frac{1}{(n-2)!S^{n-1}}|x|^{-(n-2)}$; $-\Delta\Phi_n = \delta_0$.

Remark 1.51 (Alternative derivation of formula for $\Phi_n(x)$ $n \geq 3$ using Fourier Transform on S'). We look for Φ_n such that $-\Delta\Phi_n = \delta_0$. Take Fourier Transform for tempered distributions. $-\Delta\hat{\Phi}_n = \hat{\delta}_0 = 2\pi^{-n/2}1$ and $-\Delta\hat{\Phi}_n(\xi) = |\xi|^2\hat{\Phi}_n$. Thus $\hat{\Phi}_n(\xi) = (2\pi)^{-n/2}|\xi|^{-2}$. Thus, $\Phi_n = (2\pi)^{-n/2}\mathcal{F}^{-1}[|\xi|^{-2}]$ on $\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$. It can be shown that $\mathcal{F}[|\xi|^{-2}](x) = 2^{n/2-2}|x|^{-(n-2)}$.

Definition 1.52. $\Gamma(s) := \int_0^\infty t^{s-1}e^{-t} dt$.

Proposition 1.53. Let $h_a(x) = |x|^{-a}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$ for $0 < a < n$. Then, $\hat{h}_a(\xi) = 2^{n/2-a}\Gamma(\frac{n-a}{2})/\Gamma(a/2)|\xi|^{-(n-a)}$ in the sense of $L^1 + L^2$ Fourier transforms if $n/2 < a < n$ and in the sense of S' for $0 < a < n$.

Proof. □

1.9 Sobolev Spaces

Motivation: Useful function space settings to use functional analysis tools for studying PDEs.

Definition 1.54. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open. Let $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $1 \leq p \leq \infty$. We define:

$$W^{k,p}(U) := \{u \in D'(U) : \partial^\alpha u \in L^p(U) \text{ for every } \alpha \in N_0^n \text{ with } |\alpha| \leq k\}.$$

We equip with the norm:

$$\|u\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} := \begin{cases} \left(\sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \|\partial^\alpha u\|_{L^p(U)}^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} & 1 < p < \infty \\ \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \|\partial^\alpha u\|_{L^\infty(U)} & p = \infty \end{cases}$$

- Clearly, any $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$ belongs to every $W^{k,p}(U)$.
- As usual, we say that $u_m \rightarrow u$ in $W^{k,p}(U)$ if $\|u_m - u\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} \rightarrow 0$.

Definition 1.55. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open. We denote by $W^{k,p}(U)$ the closure of $C_c^\infty(U)$ in $W^{k,p}(U)$, ie:

$$W_0^{k,p}(U) := \{u \in W^{k,p}(U) : \exists \{\phi_m\}_m \subset C_c^\infty(U) \text{ s.t. } \|u - \phi_m\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} \rightarrow 0\}.$$

Remark 1.56. We $p = 2$, $\|\cdot\|_{W^{k,2}}$ is derived from an inner product $\|u\|_{W^{k,2}}^2 = \langle u, u \rangle_{W^{k,2}}$, where $\langle u, v \rangle := \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \int_U (\partial^\alpha u)(\partial^\alpha v) dx$. We denote $H^k(U) := W^{k,2}(U)$, $H_0^k(U) := W_0^{k,2}(U)$.

Remark 1.57 (On the definition of a *weak derivative* as in Evans). Recall that for a distribution $u \in D'(U)$, $\langle \partial^\alpha, \phi \rangle := (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u, \partial^\alpha \phi \rangle$.

Definition 1.58. Suppose $u \in L_{loc}^1(U)$, $\alpha \in N_0^n$. We say that $v \in L_{loc}^1(U)$ is the α -th weak derivative of u , denoted $v = \partial^\alpha u$, provided:

$$\int_U v \phi dx = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \int_U u \partial^\alpha \phi dx \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty(U).$$

Example 1.59. Let $U = (-1, 1)$ and $u(x) := |x|$.

1. For $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$, we compute:

$$\int_{-1}^1 u(x)\phi'(x) dx = \int_0^1 1^x \phi'(x) dx + \int_{-1}^0 (-x)\phi'(x) dx = \cdots = - \int_{-1}^1 \text{sign}(x)\phi(x) dx$$

Thus $\frac{d}{dx}(|x|) = \text{sign}(x)$ in $D'(U)$ and as a weak derivative.

2.

$$\int_{-1}^1 u(x)\phi''(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 \text{sign}(x)\phi'(x) dx = \cdots = 2\phi(0) = 2\langle \delta_0, \phi \rangle.$$

Thus! $u(x) = |x|$ is not twice weakly differentiable, even though it has all distributional derivatives *by definition*.

Remark 1.60. For existence of weak derivatives: “corners are fine, jumps are not.”

Remark 1.61. • weak derivatives, if they exist, are unique

- for a $C^k(U)$ function, its ordinary derivative coincide with their corresponding weak derivatives.
- Follows from fundamental lemma of calculus of variations

Proposition 1.62 (Elementary properties of weak derivatives). Assume $u, v \in W^{k,p}$, $|\alpha| \leq k$. Then:

- $\partial^\alpha u \in W^{k-|\alpha|,p}(U)$ and $\partial^\beta(\partial^\alpha u) = \partial^\alpha(\partial^\beta u) = \partial^{\alpha+\beta}$
- For each $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda u + \mu v \in W^{k,p}(U)$ and $\partial^\alpha(\lambda u + \mu v) = \lambda \partial^\alpha u + \mu \partial^\alpha v$
- If V is open subset of U , then $u \in W^{k,p}(V)$
- If $\chi \in C_c^\infty(U)$, then $\chi u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ and $\partial^\alpha(\chi u) = \sum_{\beta \leq \alpha} \binom{\alpha}{\beta} \partial^\beta \chi \partial^{\alpha-\beta} u$.

Theorem 1.63 (Properties of Sobolev spaces). Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open, $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $1 \leq p \leq \infty$. Then:

1. $W^{k,p}(U)$ is complete
2. A function u belongs to $H^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if and only if $(1 + |\xi|^2)^{1/2} \hat{u}(\xi) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ Moreover, there is a $C \geq 1$ such that $\frac{1}{C} \|u\|_{H^k(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \|(1 + |\xi|^2)^{k/2} \hat{u}(\xi)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C \|u\|_{H^k(\mathbb{R}^n)}$.

Sketch of proof. (2): based on the fact that $\partial_j \rightarrow i\xi_j$ under the Fourier transform.

(1): Let $\{u_m\} \subset W^{k,p}(U)$ be a Cauchy sequence. Then, $\{u_m\} \subset L^p(U)$ is Cauchy and so is $\{\partial^\alpha u_m\} \subset L^p(U)$ are also Cauchy. Since L^p is complete, $u_m \rightarrow u$ in $L^p(U)$ and $\partial^\alpha u_m \rightarrow v_\alpha \in L^p(U)$. We need to show that $\partial^\alpha u$ exists in $L^p(U)$ and $\partial^\alpha u = v_\alpha$. Let $\phi \in C_c^\infty(U)$. Then:

$$(-1)^\alpha \int u \partial^\alpha \phi dx = \leftarrow_{L^p} (-1)^{|\alpha|} \int u_m \partial^\alpha \phi dx = \int \partial^\alpha u_m \phi dx \rightarrow_{L^p} \int v_\alpha \phi dx.$$

□

1.10 Approximation by smooth functions

Goal: Approximate $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ by a sequence of smooth function. Want to discuss three type of approximations:

- “Local approximation” by smooth functions in $W_{loc}^{k,p}(U)$
- “Global approximation” by smooth functions in $C^\infty(U) \cap W^{k,p}(U)$
- “Global approximation” up to the boundary by smooth functions $C^\infty(\overline{U}) \cap W^{k,p}(U)$.

Recall: our standard mollifier $\{\eta_\epsilon\}_{\epsilon>0}$ with $\eta_\epsilon(x) := \epsilon^{-n} \eta(x/\epsilon)$ for $\eta \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\text{supp}(\eta) \subset B(0,1)$ and $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \eta dx = 1$. Recall: $U_\epsilon := \{x \in U : \text{dist}(x, \partial U) > \epsilon\}$.

Theorem 1.64 (Local Approximation; Evans thm. 5.3.1). Assume $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ for some $1 \leq p < \infty$ and set $u^\epsilon := \eta_\epsilon * u$ in U . Then:

- $u^\epsilon \in C^\infty(U_\epsilon)$ for all $\epsilon > 0$
- $u^\epsilon \rightarrow u$ in $W_{loc}^{k,p}(U)$ as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ that is for any $V \subset\subset U$ open we have $\|u^\epsilon - u\|_{W^{k,p}(V)} \rightarrow 0$.

Proof. • Follows from standard properties of mollifiers.

- Observe $\partial^\alpha u^\epsilon \epsilon = \eta_\epsilon * \partial^\alpha u$. Thus by L_{loc}^p approximation properties of mollifiers, $\partial^\alpha u^\epsilon \rightarrow \partial^\alpha u$ in $L_{loc}^p(U)$.

□

Definition 1.65. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. A collection $\{V_j\}_j$ of open subsets $V_j \subset U$ is called an open covering of U if $\cup_j V_j = U$. A collection $\{\chi_j\}_j$ is called a smooth partition of unity subordinate to $\{V_j\}_j$ if the following hold:

1. Each χ_j is smooth
2. $\text{supp}(\chi_j) \subset V_j$
3. For each $x \in U$, $0 \leq \chi_j \leq 1$
4. For each $x \in U$, $\sum_j \chi_j(x) = 1$, where at most finitely summands are nonzero.

Lemma 1.66 (Rudin, “Functional Analysis”, thm. 6.20). *Let U be a nonempty subset of $\mathbb{R}^n$ and $\{V_j\}_j$ an open covering of U . Then there exists a smooth partition of unity of U subordinate to $\{V_j\}_j$.*

Theorem 1.67 (Global approximation). *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded and let $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ for some $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then, there exists a sequence of smooth functions $\{u_m\}_m \subset C^\infty(U)$ such that $\|u_m - u\|_{W^{k,p}} \rightarrow 0$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$.*

Remark 1.68. • No assumptions on the boundary are needed, ie, no smoothness of the boundary

- We also do not assert that $u_m \in C^\infty(\overline{U})$.
- Not possible for $p = \infty$: consider $U = (-1, 1)$ and $f(x) := |x|$.

Proof. Let $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ and let $\delta > 0$. We want to find a smooth function $u_\delta \in C^\infty(U)$ such that $\|u_\delta - u\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} \leq \delta$.

- Consider an open cover $\{V_j\}_j$ of U defined by $V_j := U_{j+3} \setminus \overline{U_{j+1}}$ where $U_j := \{x \in U : \text{dist}(x, \partial U) > 1/j\}$.
- Choose also any open set $V_0 \subset\subset U$ such that $U = \cup_{j=0}^\infty V_j$.
- Let $\{\chi_j\}_j$ be a smooth partition of unity subordinate to $\{V_j\}_j$.
- Write $u = 1 \times u = \sum_1^\infty \chi_j u$.
- Note we can view each $\chi_j u \in W^{k,p}(U)$.
- Let $\eta \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be a standard mollifier. For each j , we choose $\epsilon_j > 0$ small enough so that $\|\eta_{\epsilon_j} * (\chi_j u) - \chi_j u\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} \leq \frac{\delta}{2^{j+1}}$, where we use our previous local approximation result and $\text{supp}(\eta_{\epsilon_j} * (\chi_j u)) \subset W_j := U_{j+4} \setminus \overline{U_j}$.
- Then, $u_\delta := \sum_{j=0}^\infty \eta_{\epsilon_j} * (\chi_j u)$ belongs to $C^\infty(U)$ since each $B(x, r) \subset \overline{B(x, r)} \subset U$ for $x \in U$, there are at most finitely many nonzero terms.
- Thus $\|u_\delta - u\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} = \|\sum_0^\infty \eta_{\epsilon_j} * (\chi_j u) - \sum_0^\infty \chi_j u\|_{W^{k,p}} \leq \sum_1^\infty \|\eta_{\epsilon_j} * (\chi_j u) - \chi_j u\|_{W^{k,p}} \leq \delta$.

□

Theorem 1.69 (Global Approximation by functions smooth up to the boundary). *Assume $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open, bounded, and with C^1 boundary. Suppose $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ for some $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then there exists a sequence of smooth functions $\{u_m\}_m \subset C^\infty(\overline{U})$ such that $\|u - u_m\|_{W^{k,p}} \rightarrow 0$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$.*

Proof.

□

1.10.1 Extensions

Goal: For $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open and bounded, we want to develop a way to extend any function $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ to a function in $W^{k,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Theorem 1.70 (Evans, sec. 5.4). *Assume $U \subset (\mathbb{R}^n)$ open, bounded, with C^1 -boundary. Suppose $1 \leq p < \infty$. Select a bounded open set $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $U \subset \subset V$ ($\bar{U} \subset V$). Then there exists a bounded linear operator $E : W^{1,p}(U) \rightarrow W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that for each $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$*

- $Eu = u$ a.e. in U
- Eu has support in V
- $\exists C = C(p, U, V)$ such that $\|Eu\|_{W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$.

Strategy: First construct Eu for $u \in C^1(\bar{U})$. First introduce a scheme for the half ball at a flat boundary. Then extend to bounded U with C^1 boundary via smooth partition of unity and locally flattening the boundary.

Proof. Proof of theorem Step 1: Fix $x_0 \in \partial U$. Suppose first that ∂U is flat near x^0 lying in the hyperplane where $\{x_n = 0\}$ (n -th coordinate). We may assume there exists some open ball B with center X^0 and radius $r > 0$ such that $B^+ := B \cap \{x_n \geq 0\} \subset \bar{U}$ and $B^- := B \cap \{x_n < 0\}$.

Step 2: For the moment, take $u \in C^1(\bar{U})$. Define

$$\bar{u} := \begin{cases} u(x) & x \in B^+ \\ -3u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -x_n) + 4u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -\frac{x_n}{2}) & x \in B^- \end{cases}.$$

Step 3: we claim $\bar{u}$. Write $u^- := \bar{u}|_{B^-}$ and $u^+ := \bar{u}|_{B^+}$. Show first that $\partial_{x_n} u^- = \partial_{x_n} u^+$ on $\{x_n = 0\}$. From the definition:

$$\partial_{x_n} u^-(x) = (-3)(-1)\partial_{x_n} u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -x_n) + 4(-\frac{1}{2})(\partial_{x_n} u)(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -\frac{1}{2}x_n).$$

Since $(-3)(-1) + 4(-1/2) = 1$, $\partial_{x_n} u^-|_{\{x_n=0\}} = \partial_{x_n} u^+|_{\{x_n=0\}}$. Since $u^+ = u^-$ on $\{x_n = 0\}$, we get

$$(\partial_{x_j} u^-|_{x_n=0} = \partial_{x_j} u^+|_{x_n=0}).$$

Step 4: We also get: $\|\bar{u}\|_{W^{1,p}(B)} \leq C\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(B^+)}$.

Step 5: Now consider the situation where ∂U is not necessarily flat. Then, we can “flatten” ∂U locally. Let $x^0 \in \partial U$ and a small ball $\bar{B}$ so that there exists an invertible C^1 mapping Φ with inverse Ψ such that Φ “straightens out” ∂U near x^0 . Write $y = \Phi(x)$ and $x = \Psi(y)$ and for $u \in B^+$, $u'(y) = u(\Psi(y))$. Now we use steps 1-3 to extend u' from B^+ a new function $\bar{u}'$ on all of B such that $\bar{u}'$ is C^1 and $\|\bar{u}'\|_{W^{1,p}(B)} \leq C\|u'\|_{W^{1,p}(B^+)}$. Denote $W := \Psi(B)$. Converting back to the x -variables, we get an extension $\bar{u}$ of u to W and we can check that $\|\bar{u}\|_{W^{1,p}(W)} \leq \tilde{C}\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$. Here, note that $\det(D\Phi) = 1$ and $\det(D\Psi) = 1$.

Step 6: Since ∂U is compact, there exists finitely many points $x^{0,i}$, $1 \leq i \leq N$ and open sets W^i and extensions $\bar{u}_i$ of u to W_i such that $\partial U \subset \cup_1^N W_i$. Take $W_0 \subset \subset U$ so that $U \subset \cup_0^N W_i$ and let $\{\chi_i\}_0^N$ be a smooth partition of unity subordinate to the open cover $\{W_i\}$. We set $\bar{u} := \sum_1^N \chi_i \bar{u}_i$ where $\bar{u}_0 := u$. Then by step 5, $\|\bar{u}\|_{W^{1,p}} \leq C\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$. Furthermore, we can arrange for the support of $\bar{u}$ to lie within V .

Step 7: For $u \in C^1(\bar{U})$ we write $Eu := \bar{u}$. Note that E is linear. Now, for arbitrary $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$, we can pick a sequence $\{u_m\} \subset C^\infty(\bar{U}) \subset C^1(\bar{U})$ such that $\|u_m - u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)} \rightarrow 0$. Then by linearity, $\|Eu_m - Eu_l\|_{W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C\|u_m - u_l\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$. Thus we have a Cauchy sequence, so $\{Eu_m\}_1^\infty$, and so we define $Eu := \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} Eu_m$. $\square$

Definition 1.71. We call Eu an *extension* of u to $\mathbb{R}^n$.

1.10.2 Traces

[Evans, Sec 5.5] Goal: Heuristically, we want to give meaning to “restricting” some Sobolev function to ∂U .

Theorem 1.72 (Evans, Thm. 5.5.1). *Let $1 \leq p < \infty$. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open with C^1 -boundary. Then, there exists a bounded linear operator $T : W^{1,p}(U) \rightarrow L^p(\partial U)$ such that:*

1. $Tu = u|_{\partial U}$ if $u \in W^{1,p} \cap C(\bar{U})$.
2. $\|Tu\|_{L^p(\partial U)} \leq C_{p,U}\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$ for all $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$.

Proof. Step 1: Assume first that $u \in C^1(\bar{U})$ and suppose $x^0 \in \partial U$ and suppose that ∂U is flat near that point, ie, $\{x_n = 0\}$. Place two balls at x^0 , B with radius r and $\hat{B}$ with radius $r/2$. As usually, let $B^+ = B \cap \{x_n \geq 0\}$. Denote by Γ that portion of ∂U within $\hat{B}$. Select $\zeta \in C_c^\infty(B)$ with $\zeta \geq 0$ in B , $\zeta \equiv 1$ on $\hat{B}$. Let $x' := (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \equiv \{x_n = 0\}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Gamma} |u(x', 0)|^p dx' &\leq \int_{\{x_n=0\}} \zeta(x', 0) |u(x', 0)|^p dx' = - \int_{B^+} \partial_{x_n}(\zeta(x', x) n) |u(x', x_n)|^p dx' dx_n \\ &= - \int (\partial_{x_n} \zeta) |u|^{p-1} u (\text{sign}(u)) (\partial_{x_n} u) \zeta dx' dy \leq C \int_{B^+} (|\partial_{x_n} \zeta| |u|^p + |u|^{p-1} |\partial_{x_n} u| |\zeta|) dx' dx_n \leq \tilde{C} \int_{B^+} (|u|^p + |\nabla u|^p) dx' dx_n. \end{aligned}$$

Here we used:

$$|u|^{p-1} |\nabla u| \leq C(|u|^p + |\nabla u|^p)$$

via Young's Inequality:

$$ab \leq \frac{a^q}{q} + \frac{b^r}{r}; \quad \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{r} = 1.$$

so

$$a^{p-1} b \leq \frac{a^p}{q} + \frac{b^p}{p}; \quad q = \frac{p}{p-1}.$$

Step 2: For general ∂U , straighten out as before ∂U near $x^0 \in \partial U$ and proceed as in Step 1. Then by change of variables:

$$\int_{\Gamma} |u|^p ds \leq C \int_U |u|^p + |\nabla u|^p dx$$

for $x^0 \in \Gamma$ some open subset of ∂U .

Step 3: Since ∂U is compact, there exists finitely many $x^{0,i} \in \partial U$ and open subsets $\Gamma_i \subset \partial U$ such that $\partial U = \cup_1^n \Gamma_i$ and $\|u\|_{L^p(\Gamma_i)} \leq C_{\Gamma} \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$. Thus if we set for $u \in C^1(U)$, $Tu = u|_{\partial U}$ then

$$\|Tu\|_{L^p(U)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}.$$

Step 4: For arbitrary $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$, take $\{u_m\} \subset C^\infty(\bar{U})$ such that $\|u_m - u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)} \rightarrow 0$. Then define $Tu := \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} Tu_m$ in $L^p(\partial U)$. $\square$

Q: What's the kernel of T ?

Theorem 1.73. Let $1 \leq p < \infty$ and let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded with C^1 -boundary. Suppose $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$. Then $Tu = 0$ iff $u \in W_0^{1,p}(U)$. (Recall $W_0^{1,p}(U) := \overline{C_c^\infty(U)}^{\|\cdot\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}}$).

Proof. Let $u \in W_0^{1,p}(U)$. Then, there is some $\{u_m\} \subset C_c^\infty(U)$ such that $u_m \rightarrow u$. Then, $Tu := \lim_n Tu_m = 0$.

Now suppose $Tu = 0$ on ∂U . Construct an approximating sequence of $\{u_m\}_m \subset C_c^\infty(U)$ such that $\|u - u_m\|_W \rightarrow 0$. Using partition of unity and local flattening of ∂U , we may assume: $u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ where u has support in $\mathbb{R}^+$ and $Tu = 0$ on $\partial \mathbb{R}_+^n \equiv \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$.

Since $Tu = 0$ on $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$, there exists $\{u_m\}_m \subset C^1(\bar{\mathbb{R}}_+^n)$ such that $\|u_m - u\|_W \rightarrow 0$ and $Tu_m = u_m|_{\mathbb{R}^{n-1}} \rightarrow 0$ in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})$. A technical estimate: For a.e. $x_n > 0$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n-1}} |u(x', x_n)|^p dx' \leq C x_n^{p-1} \int_0^{x_n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n-1}} |\nabla(x', y)|^p dx' dy.$$

Next, let $\zeta \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$ such that $\zeta \equiv 1$ on $[0, 1]$ and $\zeta \equiv 0$ on $\mathbb{R}_+ \setminus [0, 1]$, $0 \leq \zeta \leq 1$ and write $\zeta_m(x) := \zeta(x x_n)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$. Write $w_m(x) := u(x)(1 - \zeta_m(x))$.

Now we show $\|w_m - u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)} \rightarrow 0$. $\square$

1.10.3 Sobolev Inequalities

We only consider for $W^{1,p}(U)$.

Question: In what sense is a function in $W^{1,p}(U)$ "better" than just function in $L^p(U)$.

Ex: Let $U = B(0, 1) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 2$. Consider $f(x) := |x|^{-\gamma}$, $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, on HW 2, $\partial_j f(x) = -\gamma \frac{x_j}{|x|} |x|^{-\gamma-1}$. Then, $f \in W^{1,p}(U)$ provided $\gamma < \frac{n}{p} - 1$:

$$\int_0^1 (r^{-\gamma-1})^p r^{n-1} dr = r^{-(\gamma+1)p+n-1}.$$

So we need $-(\gamma+1)p+n-1 > -1$. Since $f \in L^q(U)$ provides $\gamma < n/q$. The critical case comes when $n/p - 1 = n/q$ or when $q = \frac{np}{n-p} > p$, provided $p < n$. So in this sense, we get our function into higher L^q spaces.

We'll distinguish three regimes:

1. $1 \leq p < n$
2. $n < p \leq \infty$
3. $p = n$

For the first case, we expect that $W^{1,p}$ gives better L^q integrability. In the second case, we have the case $|x|^\alpha$, $\alpha > 0$. We get some improved regularity: morally better than just being continuous.

Case 1: $1 \leq p < n$.

Theorem 1.74 (Gagliardo-Nirenberg-Sobolev). *Assume $1 \leq p < n$. There exists a $C(n, p) \equiv C$ such that for all $u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$*

$$\|u\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

where $p^* = \frac{np}{n-p}$.

Remark 1.75 (Scaling Analysis). Main observation: Both the left hand side and right hand side behave in a simple way under the following scaling transformation:

$$u(x) \mapsto u_\lambda(x) := u\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right).$$

Compute:

$$\|u_\lambda\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)} = \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(\frac{x}{\lambda})|^{p^*} dx \right)^{1/p^*} = \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(y)|^{p^*} \lambda^n dy \right)^{1/p^*} = \lambda^{n/p^*} \|u\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

A similar argument with change rule gives:

$$\|\nabla u_\lambda\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)} = \lambda^{-1} \lambda^{n/p} \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

So if theorem is true, then the bound must hold uniformly for all U_λ , $\lambda > 0$, ie:

$$\lambda^{n/p^*} \lambda^1 \lambda^{-n/p} \leq \frac{C \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}}{\|u\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)}}.$$

So to avoid contradiction, we need that $n/p^* + 1 - n/p = 0$, or that $1/p^* = 1/n(n/p - 1) = \frac{n-p}{np}$.

Lemma 1.76 (Loomis-Whitney). *For each $j = 1, \dots, n$, let f_j be a nonnegative function measurable of all $x_1, \dots, x_n$ except for x_j . Then:*

$$\int \dots \int f_1 \dots f_n dx_1 \dots dx_n \leq \|f_1\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})} \dots \|f_n\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})}.$$

Proof. Start by integrating $f_1 \dots f_n$ in x_1 :

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} f_1 \dots f_n dx_1.$$

Since f_1 does not depend on x_1 , we get:

$$f_1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_2 \dots f_n dx_1 \leq f_1 \|f_2\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R})} \dots \|f_n\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R})}.$$

(This is Holder's Inequality + induction.) Next we integrate in x_2 , using the fact that $\|f_2\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R})}$ is independent of x_2 . (Note that $\frac{1}{n-1} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1}$.) Then:

$$\int \int f_1 \dots f_n dx_1 dx_2 \leq \text{Holder in } x_2 \|f_2\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R})} \|f_1\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R}^2)} \|f_3\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R})} \dots \|f_n\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R}^2)}.$$

Keep going. We achieve the result. □

Theorem 1.77. *Let $n \geq 2$ and $u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^N)$. Then:*

$$\|u\|_{L^{n/(n-1)}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

Proof. For $j = 1, \dots, n$:

$$|u(x)| = |u(x_1, \dots, x_j, \dots, x_n)| = \int_{-\infty}^{x_j} \partial_j u(x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, y, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n) \, dy \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\nabla u(x_1, \dots, x_j, y, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n)| \, dy.$$

Set: $g_j(x) := (\int_{\mathbb{R}} |\nabla u(x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, y, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n)| \, dy)^{1/(n-1)}$

Thus:

$$|u(x)|^{n/(n-1)} \leq \Pi_{j=1}^n g_j(x).$$

Thus by Loomis-Whitney,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)|^{n/(n-1)} \, dx \leq \Pi_{j=1}^n \|g_j\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})} = \|\nabla u\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)}^{n/(n-1)}$$

Observe that:

$$\|g_j\|_{L^{n-1}(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})} = \|\nabla u\|_{L^1}^{1/(n-1)}$$

□

Proof. Proof of theorem Building blocks:

- Loomis-Whitney inequality
- $W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ GNS inequality.

For $u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $1 < p < n$:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)|^{p^*} \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)|^\gamma |u(x)|^{n/(n-1)} \, dx.$$

where $\gamma = p^* \frac{n-1}{n}$. We apply $W^{1,1}$ -GNS. We get:

$$\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (|\nabla(|u(x)|^\gamma)| \, dx)^{n/(n-1)} \leq \gamma^{n/(n-1)} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)|^{\gamma-1} |\nabla u(x)| \, dx \right)^{n/(n-1)} \leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^p} \|u^{\gamma-1}\|_{L^{p/(p-1)}}$$

But now here we have, by Holder:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)|^{\gamma-1} |\nabla u(x)| \, dx \leq \| |u|^{\gamma-1} \|_{L^{p/(p-1)}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

Therefore, we have that:

$$\|u(x)\|_{L^{p^*}}^{p^*} \leq \gamma^{n/(n-1)} \| |u|^{\gamma-1} \|_{L^{p/(p-1)}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^p}^{n/(n-1)}$$

Now, we also have that:

$$\| |u|^{\gamma-1} \|_{L^{p/(p-1)}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^{n/(n-1)} = \|u\|_{L^{p/(p-1)(\gamma-1)}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^{(\gamma-1)n/(n-1)}$$

We find:

$$(\gamma-1) \frac{n}{n-1} = p^* - \frac{n}{n-1} \implies \frac{p}{p-1}(\gamma-1) = p^*.$$

Thus:

$$\|u\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^{p^*} \leq \gamma^{n/(n-1)} \|u\|_{L^{p^*}}^{p^* - n/(n-1)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^p}^{n/(n-1)}$$

Thus:

$$\|u\|_{L^{p^*}}^{n/(n-1)} \leq \gamma^{n/(n-1)} \|\nabla u\|_{L^p}^{n/(n-1)}.$$

Now we take exponents, and this completes the proof.

□

Theorem 1.78 (Sobolev Inequalities for $W^{1,p}(U)$ for $1 \leq p < n$). *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded with C^1 -boundary. Then $u \in L^{p^*}(U)$ with*

$$\|u\|_{L^{p^*}(U)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$$

Proof. Since ∂U is C^1 , by extension theorem there exists $\bar{u} = Eu$ in $W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that $\bar{u} = u$ in U a.e., $\bar{u}$ has compact support, and $\|\bar{u}\|_{W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$. By mollification, there exists $\{u_m\}_m \subset C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that $\|u_m - \bar{u}\|_{W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \rightarrow 0$. GNS, $W^{1,p}$ version, for all $l, m \geq 1$:

$$\|u_m - u_l\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C\|\nabla u_m - \nabla u_l\|_{L^p} \rightarrow 0.$$

Thus, $u_m \rightarrow \bar{u}$ in L^{p^*} as well. Since by $W^{1,p}$ GNS, we have for all m ,

$$\|u_m\|_{L^{p^*}} \leq C\|\nabla u_m\|_{L^p}.$$

we get

$$\|\bar{u}\|_{L^{p^*}} \leq C\|\nabla \bar{u}\|_{L^p}.$$

Thus:

$$\|u\|_{L^{p^*}(U)} \leq \|\bar{u}\|_{L^{p^*}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C\|\nabla \bar{u}\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \tilde{C}\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}.$$

□

Now we look at case 2: $p > n$.

Definition 1.79. Assume $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open.

- If u is bounded and continuous, we denote:

$$\|u\|_{C(\bar{U})} := \sup_{x \in \bar{U}} |u(x)|.$$

- The Holder semi-norm of regularity index, $0 < \gamma \leq 1$ for $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is:

$$[u]_{C^{0,\gamma}(\bar{U})} := \sup_{x,y \in U; x \neq y} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|}{|x - y|^\gamma}.$$

- And the $C^{0,\gamma}(\bar{U})$ norm is:

$$\|u\|_{C^{0,\gamma}(\bar{U})} := \|u\|_{C(\bar{U})} + [u]_{C^{0,\gamma}(\bar{U})}.$$

Theorem 1.80 (Morrey's Inequality). Assume $n < p \leq \infty$. Let $\gamma = 1 - \frac{n}{p}$. Then there exists $C \equiv C(n, p) < \infty$ such that for all $u \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$,

$$\|u\|_{C^{0,\gamma}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C\|u\|_{W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

Lemma 1.81. Let $u \in C^1(\overline{B(x, r)})$ for some $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then

$$\frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} |u(y) - u(x)| \, dy \leq \frac{1}{|S^{n-1}|} \int_{B(x, r)} \frac{|\nabla u(y)|}{|x - y|^{n-1}} \, dy.$$

Proof. Write:

$$\int_B |u(x) - u(y)| \, dy = \int_0^r \int_{\partial B(x, r')} |u(y) - u(x)| \, dS(y) \, dr'.$$

Using FTC:

$$\int_{\partial B(x, r')} |u(y) - u(x)| \, dS(y) = \int_{\partial B(0, 1)} \underbrace{|u(x + r'z) - u(x)|}_{\int_0^{r'} \frac{d}{ds} (u(x + sz))} \, dS(z) \leq (r')^{n-1} \int_{\partial B(0, 1)} \int_0^{r'} s^{-(n-1)} |\nabla u(x + sz)| s^{n-1} \, ds \, dS(z) = (r')^{n-1} \int_{\partial B(0, 1)} \int_0^{r'} |\nabla u(x + sz)| \, ds \, dS(z).$$

Here we used $y = x + sz$, with $|z| = 1$, so $|y - x| = s$. Thus:

$$\int_{B(x, r)} |u(y) - u(x)| \, dy \leq \int_0^r (r')^{n-1} \int_{\partial B(x, r')} \frac{|\nabla u(y)|}{|x - y|^{n-1}} \, dy \, dr' \leq \frac{r^n}{n} \int_{B(x, r)} \frac{|\nabla u(y)|}{|x - y|^{n-1}} \, dy$$

Then use $\frac{1}{|B|} \frac{r^n}{n} = \frac{1}{|S^{n-1}|}$.

□

Proof of Morrey's inequality. First we bound

$$\|u\|_{C^0(\mathbb{R}^n)} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)|.$$

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $r > 0$ to be chosen:

$$|u(x)| \leq |u(x) - u(y)| + |u(y)|.$$

Now average over $B(x, r)$:

$$|u(x)| \leq \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} |u(y) - u(x)| \, dy + \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \underbrace{\int_{B(x, r)} |u(y)| \, dy}_{\leq \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} |B(x, r)|^{(p-1)/p} \|u\|_{L^p(B(x, r))} \leq C r^{-n/p} \|u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}}.$$

Now we look at the first term:

$$(1) \leq C \int_{B(x, r)} \frac{|\nabla u(y)|}{|x - y|^{n-1}} \, dy \leq C \left(\int_{B(x, r)} \left(\frac{1}{|x - y|} \right)^{p/(p-1)} \, dy \right)^{(p-1)/p} \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(B(x, r))} \leq C \left(\int_0^r s^{-(n-1)p/(p-1)} s^{n-1} \, ds \right)^{(p-1)/p} \leq C$$

So we get:

$$\leq C r^\gamma \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

Now pick $r = 1$, and we get that:

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} |u(x)| \leq C(\|u\|_{L^p} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^p}).$$

Next we estimate the Holder semi-norm: For any $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x \neq y$ with $|x - y| = r$,

$$\frac{1}{|B(x, r) \cap B(y, r)|} |u(x) - u(y)| \leq \int_{B(x, r) \cap B(y, r)} |u(x) - u(z)| + |u(z) - u(y)| \, dz \leq C \left(\int_{B(x, r)} |u(x) - u(y)| \, dz + \frac{1}{|B(y, r)|} \int_{B(y, r)} |u(y) - u(z)| \, dz \right)$$

Using the fact that $|B(x, r) \cap B(y, r)| \sim r^n \sim |B(x, r)|$.

$$\leq C \int_{B(x, r)} \frac{|\nabla u(z)|}{|x - z|^{n-1}} + C \int_{B(y, r)} \frac{|\nabla u(z)|}{|y - z|^{n-1}} \, dz \leq C r^\gamma \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

□

Definition 1.82. We say u^* is a version of a given function u provided $u = u^*$ a.e.

By approximation and extension

Theorem 1.83 (Sobolev inequality). *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded with C^1 -boundary and assume $\infty \geq p > n$ and $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$. Then u has a version $u^* \in C^{0,\gamma}(\overline{U})$ for $\gamma = 1 - n/p$ with the bound:*

$$\|u^*\|_{C^{0,\gamma}(\overline{U})} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}.$$

In the case when $p = n$, $W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ does not embed into $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ when $n \geq 2$.

Definition 1.84. Let $u \in L^1_{loc}$, the bounded mean oscillation semi-norm is defined as:

$$[u]_{BMO} := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n, r > 0} \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} |u(y) - (u)_{x,r}| \, dy$$

with

$$(u)_{x,r} := \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} u(z) \, dz.$$

Proposition 1.85. Let $u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for $n \geq 2$. Then:

$$[u]_{BMO(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{1,n}(\mathbb{R}^n)}.$$

Proof. Let $B(x, r)$ be any ball in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Then Poincare's inequality for a ball (with $p = 1$) gives:

$$\frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} |u - (u)_{x, r}| \, dy \leq Cr \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} |\nabla u(y)| \, dy.$$

Then:

$$\leq C \underbrace{\frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} |B(x, r)|^{(n-1)/n}}_1 \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(B(x, r))}.$$

□

1.10.4 Compactness results

Recall: For $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open and C^1 -boundary, we have that $W^{1,p} \hookrightarrow L^{p^*}(U)$ for $1 \leq p < n$, is:

$$\|u\|_{L^{p^*}} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}; \quad p^* := \frac{np}{n-p}$$

This also holds for all $1 \leq q < p^*$ by Holders. (This is known as a non-sharp Sobolev inequality.)

Goal: Show that $W^{1,p}(U) \hookrightarrow L^q(U)$ is a compact embedding for $1 \leq q < p^*$.

Definition 1.86. Let X, Y be Banach spaces, $X \subset Y$. Then, we say that X is compactly embedded into Y , written $X \subset\subset Y$ provided $\|x\|_Y \leq C\|x\|_X$ for some $C > 0$ and each bounded sequence in X is pre-compact in Y , it has a convergence sequence in Y .

Theorem 1.87 (Rellich-Kondrachov Compactness theorem). *Assume $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is open, bounded, with C^1 -boundary. Suppose $1 \leq p < n$. Then, $W^{1,p}(U) \subset\subset L^q(U)$ for each $1 \leq q < p^*$.*

For a counter example: $q = p^*$: Let $U = B(0, 1) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Take $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$ with $\text{supp}(U) \subset U$ with $u|_{L^{p^*}} = 1$. Set $v_\epsilon(x) := \epsilon^{-n/p^*} u(x/\epsilon)$ for $0 < \epsilon < 1$. Can check:

- $\|v_\epsilon\|_{W^{1,p}(U)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$ uniformly for all $0 < \epsilon < 1$.
- However $\|v_\epsilon\|_{L^{p^*}} = \|u\|_{L^{p^*}(U)} = 1$.
- On the other hand $v_\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ pw. a.e. as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$.
- So suppose there exists some $v_{\epsilon_n} \rightarrow v$ in L^{p^*} . And so $v_{\epsilon_n} \rightarrow 0$. But then we contract the norm being 1.
- “Enemies” to pre-compactness in $L^q(U)$
 - Scaling: ruled out by non-sharp embedding
 - Translation: ruled out by boundness of domain
 - Oscillation; example: $v_n(x) := e^{inx}$; $x \in (0, 1)$. Then $v_n \rightarrow 0$ weakly in L^q : This is ruled out by boundedness in $W^{1,p}(U)$.

Recall:

Theorem 1.88 (Arzela-Ascoli). *Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be compact, let $\{f_k\}_k$ be a sequence of continuous functions on K such that*

- $\sup_k \|f_k\|_\infty < \infty$
- *For all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that for all k , $|u_k(x) - u_k(y)| \leq \epsilon$ when $|x - y| \leq \delta$.*

Then there exists a subsequence $\{f_{k_n}\}$ that converges uniformly on K .

Proof of theorem. Strategy: take $\{u_m\}_m \subset W^{1,p}(U)$. Smooth out to $u_m^\epsilon \in C^\infty(\bar{U})$. Apply Arzela-Ascoli to u_m^ϵ and control $\|u_m - u_m^\epsilon\|_{L^q}$ uniformly in m , then do a standard diagonal argument.

Fix $1 \leq q < p^*$. Let $\{u_m\}$ be a bounded sequence in $W^{1,p}(U)$.

Step 1: By Holder's and U being bounded, for $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$,

$$\|u\|_{L^q(U)} \leq C \|u\|_{L^{p^*}} \leq \tilde{C} \|u\|_{W^{1,p}(U)}$$

whence $W^{1,p}(U) \subset L^q(U)$.

Step 2: By extension theorem, wlog, we may assume $U = \mathbb{R}^n$ and all functions $\{u_m\}_m \subset W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ have compact support in some fixed bounded open set $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\sup_m \|u_m\|_{W^{1,p}(V)} =: \tilde{C} < \infty$.

Step 3: Define $u_m^\epsilon := \eta_\epsilon u_m$, $\epsilon > 0$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and we may assume that all u_m^ϵ have support in V as well.

Step 4: Claim: $u_m^\epsilon \rightarrow u_m$ in $L^q(V)$ uniformly in m as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$. If u_m is smooth, then $u_m^\epsilon - u_m(x) = \int_{B(0,1)} \eta(y)(u_m(x - \epsilon y) - u_m(x)) dy = \int_{B(0,1)} \int_0^1 (\nabla u_m)(x - \epsilon ty) \cdots y dt dy$. Thus:

$$\int_V |u_m^\epsilon(x) - u_m(x)| dx \leq \epsilon \int_{B(0,1)} \eta(y) \int_0^1 \int_V |\nabla u_m(x - \epsilon ty)| dx dt dy \leq \epsilon \int_V |\nabla u_m(x)| dz \leq \epsilon C \|\nabla u_m\|_{L^p(V)} \leq \epsilon C \tilde{C}.$$

Thus, $\|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^1(V)} \rightarrow 0$ uniformly in m . Then, since $1 \leq q < p^*$, using the interpolation inequality

$$\|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^q(V)} \leq \|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^1(V)}^\theta \|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^{p^*}(V)}^{1-\theta}$$

with $\frac{1}{q} = \frac{\theta}{1} + \frac{1-\theta}{p^*}$. Can check with Holder. We thus infer, using the uniform boundedness in L^{p^*} .

$$\|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^q(V)} \leq C \|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^1}^\theta.$$

And so we achieve uniform convergence.

Step 5: Now we bring in Arzela-Ascoli. Claim: For each fixed $\epsilon > 0$, the sequence $\{u_m^\epsilon\}_m$ is uniformly bounded and equicontinuous. This follows by: if $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$|u_m^\epsilon(x)| \leq \int_{B(x,\epsilon)} \eta_\epsilon(x-y) |u_m(y)| dy \leq \|\eta_\epsilon\|_\infty \|u_m\|_{L^1(V)} \leq \epsilon^{-n} C \tilde{C}.$$

This bound is uniform. And:

$$|\nabla u_m^\epsilon(x)| \leq \|\nabla \eta_\epsilon\|_\infty \|u_m\|_{L^1} \leq \frac{C \tilde{C}}{\epsilon^{n+1}}.$$

Using FTC, this implies that we have equicontinuity.

Step 6: Now fix $\delta > 0$. We want to show that there exists a subsequence $\{u_{m_j}\}_j$ such that $\lim_{j,k \rightarrow \infty} \sup \|u_{m_j} - u_{m_k}\|_{L^q(V)} \leq \delta$. We look at: $u_{m_j} - u_{m_k} = (u_{m_j} - u_{m_j}^\epsilon) + (u_{m_j}^\epsilon - u_{m_k}^\epsilon) + (u_{m_k}^\epsilon - u_{m_k})$.

Use uniform smooth approximation to selection $\epsilon > 0$ so small so that for all m :

$$\|u_m^\epsilon - u_m\|_{L^q(V)} \leq \delta/2.$$

Then, Use Arzela-Ascoli and step 5 to obtain a subsequence $\{u_{m_j}^\epsilon\}_j \subset \{u_m^\epsilon\}_m$ which converges uniformly in L^∞ on V and thus:

$$\lim_{j,k \rightarrow \infty} \sup \|u_{m_j}^\epsilon - u_{m_k}^\epsilon\|_{L^q(V)} = 0.$$

Thus,

$$\lim_{j,k \rightarrow \infty} \sup \|u_{m_j} - u_{m_k}\|_{L^q(V)} \leq \delta.$$

Step 7: Apply Diagonal argument for $\delta = 1, 1/2, \dots$. This gives the subsequence. □

1.11 Second-order linear elliptic-equations [Evans, Chapter 6; Brezis: FA, Sobolev spaces and PDEs, Chapters 8,9]

Goal: Existence, uniqueness, and regularity of weak solutions to the BVP:

$$\begin{aligned} Lu &= f; \quad u \in U \\ u &= 0; \quad x \in \partial U \end{aligned}$$

where $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open and bounded and

$$Lu := - \sum_{i,j=1}^n \partial_j(a^{ij}(x)) \partial_i u + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(x) \partial_i u + c(x)u.$$

In what follows, we assume:

- Symmetry conditions $a^{ij} = a^{ji}$ for all i, j .
- $a^{ij}, b^i, c \in L^\infty(U)$
- L is uniformly elliptic, meaning:

Definition 1.89. We say that the linear partial differential operator L is uniformly elliptic if there exists some $\theta > 0$ such that

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{ij}(x) \xi_j \xi_i \geq \theta |\xi|^2$$

for all $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and a.e. $x \in U$.

Remark 1.90. We say that the PDE $Lu = f$ is in divergence form if L is given by the above, and in non-divergence form provided L is given by:

$$Lu := - \sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{ij} \partial_i \partial_j u + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(x) \partial_i u + c(x)u.$$

1.11.1 Weak Solutions

Heuristics: Suppose u is a smooth solution to $Lu = f$. Multiply by a test function ϕ . We integrate over the domain. We

$$\begin{aligned} \int_U \phi \left(- \sum_{i,j=1}^n \partial_j (a^{ij}(x) \partial_i u) + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i \partial_i u + cu \right) dx &= \int_U \phi f \, dx. \\ \sum_{i,j=1}^n (-1) \int \phi \partial_j (a^{ij} \partial_i u) \, dx &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n \int_U \partial_j \phi (a^{ij}) \partial_i u \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that we can make things weaker on the right hand side by letting $u \in H_0^1(U)$ and $\phi \in H_0^1(U)$.

Definition 1.91. • The bilinear form $B : H_0^1(U) \times H_0^1(U) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ associated with the divergence form elliptic operator L is:

$$B[u, v] := \int_U (a^{ij}(\partial_i u)(\partial_j v) + b^i(\partial_i u)v + cuv) \, dx.$$

- We say that $u \in H_0^1(U)$ is a weak solution to the BVP $Lu = f$ and $u = 0$ on ∂U with $f \in L^2(U)$ if $B[u, v] = (f, v)_{L^2}$ for all $v \in H_0^1(U)$.

Remark 1.92. • The weak form is also called the variational form of the BVP.

- Check: u is a strong classical solution, then it is also a weak solution. Suitable assumptions may be necessary here. Furthermore, u is a classical solution to BVP iff $u \in C^2(U) \cap C(\overline{U})$ is a weak solution to BVP.

1.11.2 Existence of Weak Solutions

Theorem 1.93 (Lax-Milgram). Assume H is a real Hilbert space with norm $\|\cdot\|$ and inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. We let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denote the pairing of H with its dual space. Assume that $B : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a bilinear mapping for which there exists constants $\alpha, \beta > 0$ such that:

1. (Boundedness) $|B[u, v]| \leq \alpha \|u\| \|v\|$ for all $u, v \in H$
2. (Coercivity) $\beta \|u\|^2 \leq B[u, u]$ for all $u \in H$.

Let $f : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded linear functional on H . Then there exists a unique weak $u \in H$ such that $B[u, v] = \langle f, v \rangle$ for all $v \in H$.

Energy estimates

Proposition 1.94. Under the preceding assumptions there exists constants $\alpha, \beta > 0$ and $\gamma \geq 0$ such that

- $|B[u, v]| \leq \alpha \|u\|_{H_0^1} \|v\|_{H_0^1}$.
- $\beta \|u\|_{H_0^1}^2 \leq B[u, u] + \gamma \|u\|_{L^2}^2$.

Proof. • By Holder's inequality $|B[u, v]| \leq \sum_{ij} \|a^{ij}\|_\infty \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla v\|_{L^2} + \sum_i \|b^i\|_\infty \|\nabla u\|_2 \|v\|_2 + \|c\|_\infty \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2 \leq \alpha \|u\|_{H_0^1} \|v\|_{H_0^1}$.

- By uniform ellipticity:

$$B[u, u] + \int_U \sum_i |b^i(x)| |\partial_i u| |u| \, dx + \int_U |c(x)| |u|^2 \, dx \geq B[u, u] - \int_U \sum_i b^i(x) (\partial_i u) u \, dx - \int_U c(x) u^2 \, dx = \int_D \sum_{ij} a^{ij}(x) (\partial_i u) (\partial_j u) \, dx \geq \theta \|\nabla u\|_2^2$$

Now use Young's, with $\epsilon > 0$ small enough so small that $\sum_i \|b^i\|_\infty \epsilon \leq \theta/2$:

$$\|\nabla u\|_2 \|u\|_2 \leq \epsilon \|\nabla u\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{4\epsilon} \|u\|_2^2.$$

We get:

$$\frac{\theta}{2} \int_U |\nabla u|^2 \, dx \leq B[u, u] + C \|u\|_2^2.$$

Finally, recall the Poincare-type estimate: there exists $C > 0$ such that $\|u\|_2 \leq C \|\nabla u\|_2$ for all $u \in H_0^1(U)$. After a Young's-type inequality, this gives the bound. $\square$

Referring to the previous proposition, observe that if $b^i \equiv 0$ and $c(x) \geq 0$. Then,

$$B[u, u] = \int_U (a^{ij}(x) (\partial_i u) (\partial_j u) + c(x) u^2) \, dx \geq \theta \int_U |\nabla u|^2 \, dx.$$

and use that for $u \in H_0^1$, $\|u\|_2 \leq C \|\nabla u\|_2$

2. Then we do the usual trick, and we get there. This would give us coercivity, and Lax-Milgram would readily apply.

To quickly recall Lax-Milgram: Assume H is a real Hilbert space with $\|\cdot\|$ and inner product $(\cdot, \cdot)$. We let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denote a duality pairing.

Theorem 1.95 (Lax-Milgram). Assume $B : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is bounded and coercive, that is, there exists $\alpha, \beta > 0$ such that

1. $|B[u, v]| \leq \alpha \|u\|_H \|v\|_H$
2. $\beta \|u\|_H^2 \leq B[u, u]$.

Let $f : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded linear functional on H . Then there exists a unique $u \in H$ such that $B[u, v] = \langle f, v \rangle$ for all $v \in H$.

Proof. Fix $u \in H$. Then $B[u, v]$ is a bounded linear functional on H . Now the Riesz representation theorem says that there exists a unique $w_u \in H$ such that $B[u, v] = (w_u, v)_H$ for all $v \in H$. Now define $A : H \rightarrow H$ by $u \mapsto w_u$. Then A is linear and is bounded because the bilinear form is bounded: $\|Au\|^2 = \|w_u\|^2 = B[u, w_u] \leq \alpha \|u\| \|w_u\| = \alpha \|u\| \|Au\|$. Hence $\|Au\| \leq \alpha \|u\|$. View $B[u, v] = (Au, v)_H$.

Claim: A is bijective. Injectivity: For $u \in H$, $\beta \|u\|^2 \leq B[u, u] = (Au, u) \leq \|Au\| \|u\|$. Thus, $\beta \|u\| \leq \|Au\|$. So A is injective. Surjective: We argue that the range of A is closed. Let $Au_n \rightarrow z \in H$, so Au_n is Cauchy. But then by the earlier estimate, $\{u_n\}$ is Cauchy in H . Thus, $u_n \rightarrow u \in H$, and thus $Au_n \rightarrow Au$. Thus $Au = z$, and so $z \in \text{range}(A)$. Now suppose $\text{range}(A) \neq H$. Since the range is closed, there exists $v \neq 0 \in [\text{range}(A)]^\perp$. Thus, $B[u, v] = (Av, v) = 0$. By coercivity, this implies that $v = 0$, which contradicts the assumption. Thus A is bijective.

Now to prove the theorem, by Riesz Representation theorem, there exists a unique $w \in H$ such that $(w, v) = \langle f, v \rangle$. By the claim, since A bijective there exists some $u \in H$ such that $Au = w$. Thus, $B[u, v] = (Au, v) = (w, v) = \langle f, v \rangle$. $\square$

Theorem 1.96 (First existence result for weak-solutions). Under the preceding assumptions, there exists $\gamma \geq 0$ such that for each $\mu \geq \gamma$ and each function $f \in L^2$, there exists a unique weak solution $u \in H_0^1$ to the boundary value problem $Lu + \mu u = f$, and $u = 0$ on ∂U .

Proof. Define $B_\mu[u, v] := B[u, v] + \mu(u, v)_2$. Then, B_μ satisfies the assumptions of Lax-Milgram, as $B_\mu[u, u] \geq \beta \|u\|_H^2 - \gamma \|u\|_2^2 + \mu \|u\|_2^2$. So for fixed $f \in L^2$, setting $\langle f, v \rangle := (f, v)_2$, we get a unique $u \in H_0^1$ such that $B_\mu[u, v] = \langle f, v \rangle$ for all $v \in H_0^1$. $\square$

Characterization of the dual space of H_0^1 :

Definition 1.97. We denote by $H^{-1}(U)$ the dual space to H_0^1 , that is, it is the space of all bounded linear functionals on H_0^1 .

Note, we do *not* identify the Hilbert space H_0^1 with H_0^1 itself. Rather, we think as follows:

$$\bullet H_0^1(U) \subset L^2(U) \simeq (L^2(U))^* \subset H^{-1}(U)$$

Theorem 1.98. $\bullet$ Assume $f \in H^{-1}(U)$. There exist functions $f^0, f^1, \dots, f^n \in L^2$ such that $\langle f, v \rangle = \int_U (f^0 v + \sum_{j=1}^n f^j \partial_j v) dx$ for any $v \in H_0^1$.

$\bullet$ Furthermore, $\|f\|_{H^{-1}} = \inf\{(\int_U \sum_{j=0}^n |f^j|^2 dx)^{1/2} : f \text{ satisfies the above for } f^0, f^1, \dots, f^n \in L^2(U)\}$.

Proof. Given $u, v \in H_0^1(U)$, we define inner product $(u, v)_H = \int_U uv \sum_{j=1}^n (\partial_j u)(\partial_j v) + uv dx$. Let $f \in H^{-1}$. Apply Riesz representation theorem to get existence of unique function $u \in H_0^1$ such that $(u, v)_H = \langle f, v \rangle$ for all $v \in H_0^1$. Then take $f^0 = u$ and $f^j = \partial_j u$. This proves the first item with the choice.

For the second, see Evans, last section in chapter 5. □

Theorem 1.99 (Fredholm Alternative for compact operators). Let H be a real Hilbert space and let $K : H \rightarrow H$ be a compact operator, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$. Then either $(K - \lambda)u = f$ has a unique solution in H for all $f \in H$ or $n := \dim(\ker(K - \lambda)) \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n = \dim(\ker(K^* - \lambda))$ in which case $(K - \lambda)u = f$ has a unique solution iff $f \in [\ker(K^* - \lambda)]^\perp$.

Linear Algebra analogy: $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then $Ax = b$ has a solution iff $\langle y, b \rangle = 0$ for all $y \in \ker(A^T)$.

Definition 1.100. $\bullet$ The operator L^* which is formally the adjoint of L is $L^*v := -\sum_{i,j=1}^n \partial_j(a^{ij} \partial_j v) - \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i(b^i v) + cv$ provided $b^i \in C^1(\bar{U})$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

$\bullet$ The adjoint bilinear form $B^* : H_0^1 \times H_0^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by:

$$B^*[v, u] := B[u, v].$$

$\bullet$ We say that $v \in H_0^1$ is a weak solution of the adjoint problem $L^*v = f$, $v = 0$ on ∂D provided $B^*[v, u] = (f, u)_{L^2}$ for all $u \in H_0^1$.

Theorem 1.101 (Second existence theorem for weak solutions; Evans theorem 6.2.4). $\bullet$ Either for each $f \in L^2(U)$ there exists a unique weak solution u to the BVP $Lu = f$ and $u = 0$ on ∂D . Call this (# 1). Or else there exists a weak $u \neq 0$ to $Lu = 0$ in D and $u = 0$ on ∂D . Call this (# 2).

$\bullet$ In case (# 2), the dimension of the subspace $N \subset H_0^1$ of weak solutions to (# 2) is finite and equals the dimension of the subspace $N^* \subset H_0^1$ of weak solutions to $L^*u = 0$ in U and $v = 0$ on ∂D . Finally, in case (# 2) the nonhomogeneous BVP has a non-unique weak solution if and only if $(f, v)_{L^2} = 0$ for all $v \in N^*$.

Proof. Step 1: Choose $\mu = \gamma$ from our energy estimates. Define a new bilinear form $B_\gamma[u, v] := B[u, v] + \gamma(u, v)_{L^2}$ (which formally corresponds to operator $L_\gamma u := Lu + \gamma u$). Note B_γ is coercive in the sense that $B_\gamma[u, u] \geq \alpha \|u\|_{H_0^1}^2$. Thus by the first existence theorem (or Lax-Milgram) for each function $g \in L^2$, there exists a unique function $u \in H_0^1$ such that (# 3) $B_\gamma[u, v] = (g, v)_{L^2}$ for all $v \in H_0^1$. Whenever (#3) holds, we write $u = L_\gamma^{-1}g$. View $L_\gamma^{-1} : L^2(U) \rightarrow H_0^1(U)$.

Step 2: Observe $u \in H_0^1$ is a weak solution to (# 1), i.e., $Lu = f$ $u = 0$ on ∂D iff $B[u, v] = (f, v)_{L^2}$ for all $v \in H_0^1$ iff $B[u, v] + \gamma(u, v)_{L^2} = (f, v)_{L^2} + \gamma(u, v)_{L^2}$ iff $B_\gamma[u, v] = (f + \gamma u, v)_{L^2}$. That is, iff, $u = L_\gamma^{-1}(f + \gamma u)$. We rewrite this equality as $u - Ku = h$ with $Ku := \gamma L_\gamma^{-1}u$ and $h := L_\gamma^{-1}f$.

Step 3: We claim that $K : L^2 \rightarrow L^2$ is a linear, bounded, compact operator. By coercivity of $B_\gamma[u, u]$ there exists some $\beta > 0$ such that $\beta \|u\|_H \leq B_\gamma[u, u] = (g, u)_{L^2}$ where u is the unique weak solution to $L_\gamma u = g$. Then $(g, u)_{L^2} \leq \|g\|_{L^2} \|u\|_H$. Thus, $\|u\|_H \leq \frac{1}{\beta} \|g\|_{L^2}$. But $u = L_\gamma^{-1}g$. $Kg = \gamma L_\gamma^{-1}g = \gamma u$. Thus, $\|Kg\|_H = \|\gamma u\|_H \leq \frac{\gamma}{\beta} \|g\|_{L^2}$. Thus for any $g \in L^2$, $\|Kg\|_L \leq C \|g\|_L$. Thus, K is a bounded operator. Since by Rellich-Koundrachov, $H_0^1 \subset \subset L^2$ (compactly embedded), K is in fact a compact operator.

Step 4: Now apply Fredholm alternative to $I - K : L^2 \rightarrow L^2$. Then either: (α) for each $h \in L^2$ the equation $u - Ku = h$ has a unique solution $u \in L^2$ OR (β) the equation $u - Ku = 0$ has nonzero solutions in L^2 . Now observe: in case α by unraveling the definition, there exists unique weak solution to $Lu = f$ $u = 0$ on ∂D . Similarly, in case (beta) we obtain the assertions of our statement by unraveling definitions and looking more carefully at what Fredholm alternative gives you. □

Definition 1.102. We call Σ the real spectrum of the operator L .

Theorem 1.103 (Third existence theorem for weak solutions). $\bullet$ There exists at most countable set $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}$ such that the BVP $Lu = \lambda u + f$ in D and $u = 0$ on ∂D has a unique solution for each $f \in L^2$ iff $\lambda \notin \Sigma$.

- If Σ is infinite, then $\Sigma = \{\lambda_k\}_1^\infty$ with $\{\lambda_k\}$ nondecreasing.

Proof. Let $\gamma \geq 0$ be the constant from the energy estimates proposition. Wlog, $\gamma > 0$ and $\gamma > -\gamma$. By Fredholm alternative (2nd existence result) the BVP $Lu = \lambda u + f$ and $u = 0$, view as $(L - \lambda)u = f$ $u = 0$ has a unique weak solution for each $f \in L^2$ iff $u \equiv 0$ is the unique weak solution to the homogenous problem $(L - \lambda)u = 0$ and $u = 0$. This in turn is true iff $u \equiv 0$ is the only weak solution to $Lu + \gamma u = (\gamma + \lambda)u$ iff $u = (L_\gamma^{-1} + \lambda)u = \frac{\lambda + \gamma}{\gamma} Ku$ iff $Ku = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma + \lambda} u$. Thus, $u \equiv 0$ is the only weak solution of this problem iff $\gamma/(\gamma + \lambda)$ is not an eigenvalue of K . Now, from Riesz-Schauder theorem on spectrum of compact operators on Hilbert spaces the assertion of the theorem follows. $\square$

1.11.3 Regularity of Weak Solutions

Q: Is a weak solution to the linear elliptic PDE $Lu = f$ actually smoother?

Theorem 1.104 (H^2 regularity result). *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded. Assume $a^{ij} \in C^1(U)$, $b^i, c \in L^\infty(U)$ and $f \in L^2$. Suppose $u \in H^1$ is a weak solution of $Lu = f$ in U where $Lu = -\partial_j(a^{ij}\partial_i u) + b^i\partial_i u + cu$. Then $u \in H_{loc}^2(U)$ and for each open compactly supported set $V \subset\subset U$, we have that $\|u\|_{H^2} \leq C\|f\|_{L^2} + \|u\|_{L^2}$ with C depending only on V , U and the coefficients.*

Proof. Denote $\delta_k^h u(x) + \frac{u(x+he_k) - u(x)}{h}$. Derive uniform bounds for small $h > 0$ using the structural algebraic assumption of ellipticity.

Control difference quotients $\|\delta_k^h \partial_i u\|_{L^2(V)}$ for small h , then invoke the next theorem.

1. Fix open $V \subset\subset U$ and choose open W such that $V \subset\subset W \subset\subset U$. Pick a smooth cut-off ζ s.t. $\zeta \equiv 1$ on V , $\zeta \equiv 0$ on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus W$ and $0 \leq \zeta \leq 1$.
2. Since u is a weak solution to $Lu = f$, $B[u, v] = (f, v)_{L^2}$ for all $v \in H_0^1(U)$. Then:

$$\sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \int a^{ij}(\partial_i u)(\partial_j v) \, dx = \int_U \hat{f} v \, dx$$

where $\hat{f} := f - \sum_{i=1}^n b^i \partial_i u - cu$. Call the left hand side A and right hand side B .

3. For $1 \leq k \leq n$, fixed, choose $v := -\delta_k^{-h}(\zeta^h \delta_k^h u) \in H_0^1(U)$, which is well-defined for h sufficiently small. Now, idea is to plug in v .

$$A = - \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \int_U a^{ij}(\partial_i u) \partial_j (\delta_k^{-h} \zeta^2 \delta_k^h u) \, dx.$$

$\square$

Interlude/ technical preparation.

Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded. Let $V \subset\subset U$. Let $u \in L_{loc}^1(U)$.

Definition 1.105. • The k -th difference quotient of size $h \neq 0$ is

$$(\delta_h^k u)(x) := \frac{u(x + he_k) - u(x)}{h}$$

for $x \in V$ and $h \in \mathbb{R}$, $0 < |h| < \text{dist}(V, \partial U)$.

- $\delta^h u := (\delta_1^h u, \dots, \delta_n^h u)$.

Theorem 1.106. 1. Suppose $1 \leq p < \infty$ and $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$. Then for each $V \subset\subset U$,

$$\|\delta^h u\|_{L^p(V)} \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(U)}$$

for some constant $C \equiv C(V, U)$ and all $0 < |h| < \frac{1}{2} \text{dist}(V, \partial U)$

2. Assume $1 < p < \infty$, $u \in L^p(V)$ and there exists a $C > 0$ such that

$$\|\delta^h u\|_{L^2} \leq C$$

for all $0 < |h| < \frac{1}{2} \text{dist}(V, \partial U)$. Then $u \in W^{1,p}(V)$ with $\|\nabla u\|_{L^p} \leq C$.

Proof. 1. Assume $1 \leq p < \infty$ and that u is in fact smooth. For $x \in V$, $1 \leq K \leq n$ and $0 < |h| < \frac{1}{2} \text{dist}(V, \partial U)$,

$$u(x + he_k) - u(x) = \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt} (u(x + the_k)) \, dt = \int_0^1 (\partial_k u)(x + the_k) h \, dt.$$

Thus:

$$|\delta_k^h u(x)| \leq \int_0^1 |\nabla u(x + the_k)| \, dt.$$

Then:

$$\|\delta_k^h u\|_{L^p} \leq \left\| \int_0^1 |\nabla u(x + the_k)| \, dt \right\|_{L^p} \leq \int_0^1 \|\nabla u(\cdot + the_k)\|_{L^p} \, dt \leq \|\nabla u\|_{L^p(U)}.$$

This was for smooth functions, and now pass to smooth approximation for $u \in W^{1,p}$.

2. Suppose we have for all sufficiently small $0 < |h| < \frac{1}{2} \text{dist}(V, \partial U)$ and

$$\|\delta^h u\|_{L^p(V)} \leq C.$$

Fix $1 \leq k \leq n$, $\phi \in C_c^\infty(V)$, then for small h :

$$\int_V u(x) \frac{\phi(x + he_k) - \phi(x)}{h} \, dx = - \int_D \frac{u(x) - u(x - he_k)}{h} \phi(x) \, dx.$$

Thus

$$\int_V u(\delta_k^h \phi) \, dx = - \int_V (\delta_k^h u) \phi \, dx.$$

“Integration by parts” for difference quotients. Since $1 < p < \infty$, L^p is reflexive. From the assumption, we have that a sequence $\partial_k^{-h_l} u$ with $h_l \rightarrow 0$ is uniformly bounded in L^p . Thus, it has a weakly convergence subsequence, ie, there exists subsequence $h_{l_m} \rightarrow 0$ and $v_k \in L^p$ such that $\delta_k^{-h_{l_m}} u \rightarrow v_k$ weakly. That is, for all $w \in L^{p'}$, we have $\int_D w(\delta_k^{-h_{l_m}} u) \, dx \rightarrow \int_V w v_k \, dx$. We used that fact that a bounded sequence has a weakly convergence subsequence. Thus, for any $\phi \in C_c^\infty(V)$

$$\int_V u \partial_k \phi \, dx = \lim_{h_{l_m} \rightarrow 0} \int_V u \delta_k^{h_{l_m}} \phi \, dx = \lim_{h_{l_m} \rightarrow 0} \int_V \delta_k^{-h_{l_m}} u \phi \, dx = - \int_V v_k \phi \, dx.$$

Thus, v_k is the ∂_k weak partial derivative of u . □

Remark 1.107. • We do not require $u \in H_0^1(U)$.

- Since $u \in H_{loc}^2(U)$ we can infer that $Lu = f$ a.e. in U . Indeed, $B[u, \phi] = (f, \phi)_{L^2}$ with real IBP, $B[u, \phi] = (Lu, \phi)_{L^2} = (f, \phi)_{L^2}$. Apply Fundamental Lemma of Variational Calculus.

Of interior regularity. Goal is to control difference quotients $\|\delta_k^h \partial_j u\|_{L^2(V)}$ uniformly for all sufficiently small $h \neq 0$. We then apply the previous theorem to put another set of derivatives on $\partial_j u$.

1) Fix open $V \subset\subset U$ and choose an open set $V \subset\subset W \subset\subset U$. Pick a smooth cutoff ζ such that $\zeta = 1$ on V and $\zeta = 0$ outside W .

2) $u \in H^1(U)$ is a weak solution to $Lu = f$: $B[u, v] = (f, v)_{L^2}$, where $B[u, v] = \sum_{ij} \int_D a^{ij} (\partial_j u) (\partial_i v) \, dx = \int_U \tilde{f} v \, dx$ where $\tilde{f} = f - \sum_i b^i \partial_i u - cu$.

3) For $k \in \{1 : n\}$ choose $v = -\delta_k^{-h} (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u) \in H_0^1$ which is well-defined for sufficiently small $|h| > 0$. Now, the idea is the following while picking up some junk:

$$\int a^{ij} \partial_i u \partial_j (\delta_k^{-h} (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u)) \, dx \rightarrow \int \delta_k^h (a^{ij} \partial_i u) \zeta^2 \delta_k^h \partial_j u \, dx \rightarrow \int a^{ij} a^{ij} (\delta_k^h \partial_i u) (\delta_k^h \partial_j u) \zeta^2 \, dx (\geq \theta |\delta_k^h \nabla|^2) \rightarrow \geq \theta \int |\delta_k^h \nabla u|^2 \zeta^2 \, dx.$$

4) Estimating A : plug v as chosen into variational equation for u .

$$\partial_j (\delta_k^h (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u)) = \delta_k^{-h} (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u); \quad \delta_k^h (a^{ij} \partial_i u) = a^{ij, h} (\delta_k^h \partial_i u) + (\delta_k^h a^{ij}) \partial_i u.$$

$$\delta_k^h (vw) = v^h (\delta_k^h w) + (\delta_k^h v) w.$$

$$A = - \sum_{ij} \int_U a^{ij}(\partial_i u) \partial_j (\delta_k^{-h} (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u)) \, dx \sum_{ij} \int_U \delta_k^h (a^{ij} \partial_i u) \partial_j (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u) \, dx$$

Thus

$$A = \sum_{i,j} \int_U a^{ij,h} (\delta_k^h \partial_i u) (\delta_k^h \partial_j u) \, dx + \sum_{i,j} \int_U a^{ij,h} (\delta_k^h \partial_i u) (\delta_k^h u) 2\zeta \partial_j \zeta + (\delta_k^h \text{Tha}^{ij}(\partial_i u) (\delta_k^h \partial_j u) \zeta^2 + (\delta_k^h a^{ij})(\partial_i u) (\delta_k^h u) 2\zeta (\partial_j \zeta) \, dx$$

Call the first term A_1 and all the remainder A_2 . By uniform ellipticity, $A_1 \geq \theta \int_U \zeta^2 |\delta_k^h \nabla u|^2 \, dx$. So we have:

$$\int \theta |\delta_k^h \nabla u|^2 \, dx \leq A_1 \leq |A_2| + \left| \int \tilde{f} v \, dx \right|.$$

Moreover,

$$|A_2| \leq C \int_U \zeta |\delta_k^h \nabla u| |\delta_k^h u| + \zeta \nabla u |\delta_k^h \nabla u| + \zeta \nabla u |\delta_k^h u| \, dx$$

Here, observe that $\|a^{ij,h}\|_\infty$ is fine. Here we are using the fact that a^{ij} are C^1 , and so $\delta_k^h a^{ij}$ are uniformly bounded independent of h . Thus, the above constant C is independent of h . Then for any $\epsilon > 0$:

$$|A_2| \leq \epsilon \int \zeta^2 |\delta_k^h \nabla u|^2 \, dx + \frac{1}{\epsilon} C \int |\delta_k^h u|^2 + |\nabla u|^2 \, dx$$

Hence, for $\epsilon = \theta/2$, we obtain:

$$\frac{\theta}{2} \int |\delta_k^h \nabla u|^2 \, dx \leq C \int |\nabla u|^2 \, dx + \left| \int \tilde{f} v \, dx \right|.$$

Now we address the last term:

5)

$$|B| \left| \int_U \tilde{f} v \, dx \right| = \left| \int_U (f - \sum_i b^i \partial_j u - cu) (\delta_k^{-h} (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u))^2 \, dx \right| \leq C \int |(f| + |\nabla u| + |u|) |v| \, dx.$$

Moreover, $\int_U |v|^2 \, dx = \int |\delta_k^{-h} (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u)|^2 \, dx \leq C \int_U |\nabla (\zeta^2 \delta_k^h u)|^2 \, dx \leq C \int \zeta^2 |\nabla \partial_k^h u|^2 + |\partial_j \zeta| \zeta |\delta_k^h u|^2 \, dx$. Thus, for any $\epsilon > 0$, we get

$$|B| \leq \epsilon \int_U \zeta^2 |\delta_k^h \nabla u|^2 \, dx + \frac{1}{\epsilon} C \int_U f^2 + u^2 + |\nabla u|^2 \, dx.$$

Combining these estimate with $\epsilon = \theta/4$, we get uniformly for all small h :

$$\frac{\theta}{4} \int \zeta^2 |\delta_k^2 \nabla u|^2 \, dx \leq C \int_U f^2 + u^2 + |\nabla u|^2 \, dx.$$

Thus by difference quotient theorem, it follows that $\nabla u \in H_{loc}^1$ and thus $u \in H_{loc}^2$ with $\|u\|_{H^2} \leq C(\|f\|_{L^2} + \|u\|_{H^1})$.

Final step 7: deduce that $\|u\|_{H^1(W)} \leq (\|f\|_{L^2} + \|u\|_{L^2})$ using weak formulation and uniform ellipticity. $\square$

Theorem 1.108 (Higher-interior regularity). *Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open, bounded. Assume $a^{ij}, b^i, c \in C^{m+1}(U)$ and $f \in H^m(U)$. Suppose $u \in H^1(U)$ is a weak solution of $Lu = f$ in U . then $u \in H^{m+2}(U)$ and for each $V \subset\subset U$, $\|u\|_{H^{m+1}(V)} \leq C(\|f\|_{L^2} + \|u\|_{L^2(U)})$. If even $a^{ij}, b^i, c \in C^\infty(U)$ and $f \in C^\infty(\bar{U})$, then $u \in C^\infty(U)$.*

1.12 Eigenvalues and Eigenfunctions

Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded. We consider the BVP:

$$Lw = \lambda w, \quad w = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial U$$

We say that λ is an eigenvalue of L if there exists a $w \neq 0$ that satisfies this BVP. Here we assume $Lu = - \sum_{i,j} \partial_j (a^{ij}(x) \partial_i u)$ where $a^{ij} \in C^\infty(\bar{U})$ and the coefficients are symmetric. Then the associated bilinear form is:

$$B[u, v] = \sum_{i,j} \int_U a^{ij}(x) \partial_i u (\partial_j v) \, dx.$$

This satisfies $B[u, v] = B[v, u]$ for all $u, v \in H_0^1$ and L is formally symmetric.

Theorem 1.109 (Eigenvalues of symmetric elliptic operators). • *Each eigenvalue of L is real.*

- *Repeating each eigenvalue according to its (finite) multiplicity, We have $\Sigma = \{\lambda_k\}_1^\infty$ which is non decreasing.*
- *There exists an orthonormal basis $\{w_k\}_1^\infty$ of $L^2(U)$ where $w_k \in H_0^1(U)$ is an eigenfunction corresponding to λ_k .*

Proof. Sketch By ellipticity condition, for all $u \in H_0^1$, $B[u, u] = \sum_{i,j} \int a^{ij} \partial_i u \partial_j u \, dx \geq \theta \int |\nabla u|^s \, dx$. A Poincaré inequality gives coercivity. As usual, $B[u, u]$ is also bounded. Lax-Milgram furnishes a unique solution: for all $f \in L^2$, there is a unique u such that $B[u, v] = (f, v)_{L^2}$ for all $v \in H_0^1$. Then set $u := S(f)$. We have that $S : L^2 \rightarrow H_0^1 \subset L^2$ which is linear, bounded, and compact from previous lectures.

Claim: S is self-adjoint, ie, $(Sf, g) = (f, Sg)$ for all $f, g \in L^2$. Indeed, let $(f, g) \in L^2$ and let $Lu = f$ and $Lv = g$ in the weak sense, so that $u = Sf$ and $v = Sg$. Now

$$(Sf, g)_{L^2} = (u, g)_{L^2} = B[v, u]$$

$$(f, Sg)_{L^2} = (f, v)_{L^2} = B[u, v]$$

Since B is symmetric, we have that S is self-adjoint. Now the assertion follows from the Spectral theorem for compact self-adjoint operators applied to S . Observe that $B[Sw, v] = (w, v)_{L^2}$, whence $B[w, v] = (\frac{1}{\lambda} w, v)_{L^2}$. $\square$

Remark 1.110. Thanks to regularity theory from last lectures, we actually get $w_k \in C^\infty(U)$ (and $w_k \in C^\infty(\bar{U})$ assuming ∂U is smooth).

Main additional tool: Spectral Theorem for self-adjoint compact operators.

Theorem 1.111. *Let H be a separable Hilbert space and let $S : H \rightarrow H$ be linear, compact, self-adjoint. Then there exists countable orthonormal basis of H consisting of eigenvectors of S . Moreover, for a compact operator all non-zero eigenvalues have finite multiplicity and 0 is the only possible accumulation point.*

1.13 Linear parabolic PDEs

Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded and set $U_T := [0, T] \times U$ for $T > 0$. Goal: prove existence and uniqueness of weak-solutions and discuss regularity to the IVP/BVP.

$$\partial_t u + Lu = 0 \in U; \quad u = 0 \in \partial U; \quad u = g, \quad t = 0.$$

where $(Lu)(t, x) := -\sum_{i,j=1}^n \partial_j(a^{ij}(t, x), \partial_i u) + \sum_1^n b^i(t, x) \partial_i u + c(t, x)u$. Generalization of $\partial_t u - \Delta u = f$.

1.13.1 Bochner Integral

Definition 1.112. Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be some interval of finite length w.r.t Lebesgue measure on the line.

1. Let X be a Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|$. We say that $f : I \rightarrow X$ if there exists some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, Lebesgue measurable sets E_j and $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ such that:

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=1}^n \chi_{E_n}(t) x_n$$

2. The Bochner integral of a simple function is:

$$\int f(t) \, dt := \sum_1^N |E_n| x_n.$$

Lemma 1.113. • *The above definition is independent of the choice of E_n , ie, well-defined*

- *For all simple functions, $f : I \rightarrow X$, the function $t \mapsto \|f(t)\|$ is Lebesgue measurable.*
- $\|\int_I f(t) \, dt\| \leq \int \|f(t)\| \, dt$.

Definition 1.114. $f : I \rightarrow X$ is (strongly) measurable or Bochner measurable if there exists $\{f_n\}_1^\infty$, simple functions, such that for a.e. $t \in I$, $\|f(t) - f_n(t)\| \rightarrow 0$. In short, $f_j \rightarrow f$ a.e.

Lemma 1.115. *Let $f : I \rightarrow X$ be strongly measurable with some approximating sequence $f_j \rightarrow f$ a.e. The, for all $j \in \mathbb{N}$, $t \mapsto \|f_j(t) - f(t)\|$ is Lebesgue measurable.*

Proof. Note $\|f_j(t) - f(t)\| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|f_j(t) - f_k(t)\|$ for a.e. t . $\square$

Definition 1.116. $f : I \rightarrow X$ is Bochner integrable if f is strongly measurable and there exists $\{f_j\}_1^\infty$, simple functions approximating sequence of f (ie, $f_j \rightarrow f$) and $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_I \|f_j(t) - f(t)\| dt = 0$. In this case, we define:

$$\int_I f(t) dt = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_I f_j(t) dt.$$

Lemma 1.117. *The Bochner integral is well-defined, that is, the limit exists and is independent of choice of approximating sequence.*

Proof. Existence of limit. We show that $\int_I f_j(t) dt$ is Cauchy in X . Indeed:

$$\left\| \int_I f_j(t) dt - \int_I f_k(t) dt \right\| \leq \int_I \|f_j(t) - f_k(t)\| dt \leq \int_I \|f_j(t) - f(t)\| dt + \int_I \|f_k(t) - f(t)\| dt \rightarrow 0.$$

Suppose $\{g_j\}_j$ is another approximating sequence. Then:

$$\left\| \int_I f_j(t) dt - \int_I g_j(t) dt \right\| \leq \int_I \|f_j(t) - f(t)\| dt + \int_I \|g_j(t) - f(t)\| dt \rightarrow 0.$$

□

Theorem 1.118 (Properties of Bochner integral). • $\mathcal{L}(I, X) := \{f : I \rightarrow X : f \text{ is Bochner integrable}\}$ is a vector space

- $f \in \mathcal{L}(I, X)$ iff $f : I \rightarrow X$ is measurable and $t \mapsto \|f(t)\|$ is Lebesgue-integrable.
- For all $f \in \mathcal{L}(I, X)$:

$$\left\| \int_I f(t) dt \right\| \leq \int_I \|f(t)\| dt$$

- Let X, Y be Banach spaces, $T : X \rightarrow Y$ be a bounded linear operator and $f \in \mathcal{L}(I, X)$. Then Tf is a Bochner integrable function from I to Y and

$$\int_I (Tf)(t) dt = T \left(\int_I f(t) dt \right).$$

Proof. 1. Yep.

2.

3. (=) If f is Bochner integrable, it is measurable by definition. The second condition that $t \mapsto \|f(t)\|$ is Lebesgue integrable follows from the fact that it is Lebesgue measurable and

$$0 \leq \|f(t)\| \leq \|f - f_j\| + \|f_j\|.$$

The definition of Bochner integrable therefore gives the result.

($\Rightarrow$) Let $\{f_j\}_j$ be an approximating sequence of the measurable function f , ie, for a.e. $t \in I$ $\|f_j(t) - f(t)\| \rightarrow 0$. Fix $\epsilon > 0$ set

$$g_j(t) := \begin{cases} f_j(t) & \|f_j(t)\| \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|f(t)\| \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Since $t \mapsto \|f_j(t)\|$ and $t \mapsto \|f(t)\|$ are Lebesgue measurable

$$\{t \in I : \|f_j(t)\| \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|f(t)\|\} := A_j$$

$t \mapsto g_j(t) := f_j(t)\chi_{A_j}(t)$ is a simple function with

- $\|g_j - f\| \rightarrow 0$
- $\|g_j - f\| \leq \|g_j\| + \|f\| \leq (2 + \epsilon)\|f\|$ and so are Lebesgue integrable b.c. $t \mapsto \|f(t)\|$ is.
- $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_I \|g_j(t) - f(t)\| dt = 0$ by DCT. So f is Bochner integrable.

4. Using the g_j from before:

$$\left\| \int_I f(t) dt \right\| = \left\| \lim_j \int_I g_j(t) dt \right\| = \lim_j \left\| \int_I g_j(t) dt \right\| \leq \limsup \int_I \|g_j(t)\| dt \leq (1 + \epsilon) \int_I \|f(t)\| dt.$$

$\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary.

□

More practical characterization of strong measurability.

Definition 1.119. Let $f : I \rightarrow X$

- f has essentially separable image if there exists a Lebesgue-null set $N \subset I$ such that $\{f(t) : t \in I/N\}$ is separable.
- f is weakly measurable if for all $\xi \in X^*$, $I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $t \mapsto \xi(f(t))$ is Lebesgue-measurable.

Theorem 1.120 (Pettis's). *Let $f : I \rightarrow X$. Then f is measurable iff f is weakly measurable and has an essentially separable image.*

Proof. ($\Rightarrow$) HW

($\Leftarrow$) See section 4 of Chapter 5 in Yosida "Functional Analysis". □

Lemma 1.121. *For any norm space Y , Y is complete iff $\sum \|y_n\| < \infty$ implies $\lim \sum^N y_n := y$ exists.*

Definition 1.122. For $p \in [1, \infty)$ let

$$L^p(I, X) := \{f : I \rightarrow X : \text{measurable and } \int_I \|f(t)\|^p dt < \infty\}.$$

$$L^\infty(I, X) := \{f : I \rightarrow X : \text{measurable } \text{ess sup}_{t \in I} \|f(t)\| < \infty\}$$

Theorem 1.123. $L^p(I, x)$ is a Banach space w.r.t the norm.

Proof. Let $\{f_j\}_j \in L^p(I, X)$ with $\sum \|f_j\|_{L^p(I, X)} < \infty = \|\sum f_j(t)\|_{L^p}$. Call $\phi_j(t) := \|f_j(t)\|$. So we have $\sum_1^\infty \|\phi_j\|_p < \infty$. But the lemma, there exists some $\phi \in L^p(I)$ such that $\phi = \sum_1^\infty \phi_j$ in L^p . Then there must exist a Lebesgue null set $N \subset I$ such that $\sum_j \phi_j(t) = \phi(t) < \infty$ for $t \in I/N$. Since X is complete, by Lemma, we have that $\sum_1^\infty \|f_j(t)\| = \phi(t) < \infty$ implies that for all $t \in I/N$ there exists some $f(t) \in X$ such that $\sum_j f_j(t) = f(t)$. Now we must show that $f \in L^p(I, X)$ and $\|\sum f_j - f\| \rightarrow 0$ in $L^p(I, X)$. Then the assertion will follow from the lemma.

Claim: f is measurable, we use Pettis' theorem.

- f as ess. sep. image since Pettis applied to each f_j gives that for all j there exists a Lebesgue null set N_j such that $f(I/N_j) := X_j$ is separable. And so $\{f(t) : t \in I/\cup N_j\} \subset \overline{\text{span}(\cup_j X_j)}$ separable.
- For weakly measurable: for $\xi \in X^*$, for all $t \in I/N$

$$\xi(f(t)) = \xi\left(\sum_1^\infty f_j(t)\right) = \lim \sum_1^N \xi(f_j(t))$$

this is Lebesgue measurable since it is the limit of Lebesgue measurable functions.

Now $f \in L^p(I, X)$ follows from $\|f\|_{L^p(I, X)} \leq \|f - \sum_{j=1}^n f_j\|_{L^p(I, X)} + \|\sum_{j=1}^n f_j\|_{L^p(I, X)} < \infty$ since $\|f - \sum_{j=1}^n f_j\|_{L^p(I, X)} \leq \sum_{j=n+1}^\infty \|\phi_j\|_{L^p(I)} < \infty$. □

Theorem 1.124. For $p \in [1, \infty)$, $C(I, X)$ is dense in $L^p(I, X)$.

Proof. Step 1: Step functions are dense in $L^p(I, X)$. Let $f \in L^p(I, X)$. As in the earlier proof of the theorem, there exists $\{g_j\}_1^\infty$ of simple functions such that $\|g_j\| \leq 2\|f\|$ for all j and

$$\int_I \|g_j - f\| dt.$$

So $\|g_j - f\|^p \rightarrow 0$ a.e. and $\|g_j - f\|^p \leq 3^p \|f\|^p$. Thus by DCT $\int \|g_j - f\|^p dt \rightarrow 0$. Thus simple functions are dense.

Step 2: Approximate simple function by those from $C(I, X)$. Consider

$$f = \sum_n \chi_{B_n} \phi_n$$

be simple with $\phi_n \neq 0$. Then For all $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\gamma_n \in C(I)$ such that $\|\gamma_n - \chi_{B_n}\|_p \leq \frac{\epsilon}{N\|\phi_n\|}$. Then $\gamma_n \phi_n \in C(I, X)$ and $g = \sum_1^N \phi_n \gamma_n \in C(I, X)$ and

$$\|g - f\|_{L^p(I, X)} \leq \sum_{n=1}^N \|(\gamma_n - \chi_{B_n}) \phi_n\|_{L^p(I, X)} < \epsilon.$$

Definition 1.125. Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an interval and

$$C^1(I, X) := \{f \in C(I, X) : \forall t \in I, \frac{f(t+h) - f(t)}{h} \text{ converges in } X \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } t \mapsto f'(t) \in C(I, X)\}.$$

Theorem 1.126. 1. If $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^p(I, X)$, then there exists a subsequence f_{n_k} such that $f_{n_k}(t) \rightarrow f(t)$ for a.e. $t \in I$
2. Fundamental theorem: for all $f \in C^1(I, X)$ and for all $s, t \in I$:

$$f(t) = f(s) + \int_s^t f'(\tau) \, d\tau.$$

3. Let $\{f_n\}_n \subset \mathcal{L}(I, X)$ with $f_n(t) \rightarrow f(t)$ in X for a.e. $t \in I$ and suppose there exists a $g \in L^1(I)$ such that $\|f_n\| \leq g$ a.e. for all n then $f \in \mathcal{L}(I, X)$ and

$$\int_I f_n(t) \, dt \rightarrow \int_I f(t) \, dt.$$

4. Let $\eta \in C_c^\infty(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$, $f \in L^1(I, X)$. Then $\eta * f \in C^\infty(I_\epsilon, X)$ with $I_\epsilon := \{t \in I : \text{dist}(t, \partial I) \geq \epsilon\}$ and

$$\frac{d^k}{(dt)^k}(\eta * f) = \frac{d^k \eta}{(dt)^k} * f.$$

5. X is separable implies $L^p(I, X)$ is separable for $1 \leq p < \infty$.

□

1.14 Weak Theory of linear parabolic equations

Consider the IVP/BVP for an unknown function $u : U_T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + Lu = f & \in U_T \\ u = 0 & \in [0, T] \times \partial U \\ u = g & @t = 0 \end{cases}$$

with

$$Lu := - \sum_{i,j} \partial_j(a^{ij}(t, x) \partial_i u) + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(t, x) \partial_i u + c(t, x)u.$$

Definition 1.127. 1. $\partial_t + L$ is uniformly parabolic on U_T iff there exists some $\theta > 0$ such that for all $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $(t, x) \in U_T$, $\sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{ij}(t, x) \xi_i \xi_j \geq \theta |\xi|^2$

2. The time dependent bilinear form associated with L is defined by

$$B[u, v; t] := \int_U \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j}(t, x) \partial_i u \partial_j v + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(t, x) \partial_i uv + c(t, x)uv \right) dx.$$

for $u, v \in H_0^1(U)$ and a.e. $t \in [0, T]$.

Definition 1.128. Let $f \in L^2([0, T], L^2(U))$ and $g \in L^2(U)$. A function $u \in L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$ with weak derivative $u' \in L^2([0, T], H^{-1}(U))$ is a weak solution to the problem if the following two things hold:

1. $\langle u'(t), v \rangle + B[u(t), v(t), t] = (f(t), v)_{L^2}$ for all $v \in H_0^1(U)$ and a.e. $t \in [0, T]$.

2. $u(0) = g$.

Note 1.129. Here we are working with a Gelfand triple $(V, \mathcal{H}, V^*)$, weak solution $u \in \mathcal{H}^1$ and last time we saw that $\mathcal{H}^1 \subset C([0, T], H_0^1)$.

Heuristics: suppose u, f are smooth. Multiply by $\partial_t u + Lu = f$ by v and integrate.

Our goal is to construct a weak solution to the IVP/BVP. The strategy is to use Galerkin's method:

Step 1: Finite dimensional approximation; get ODEs with solutions $\{u_m\}_m$

Step 2: Energy estimates: $\{u_m\}_m \subset \mathcal{H}^1$ uniformly bounded

Step 3: Extract a weakly convergent subsequence and show that the weak limit is a weak solution.

Step 4: Uniqueness of weak solutions

First, Step 1: In the following, $\{w_k\}_1^\infty$ be a sequence of smooth functions such that it is an orthonormal basis of L^2 and an orthogonal basis of H_0^1 . To this end, invoke our theorem about eigenvalues of symmetric elliptic operators applied to $L = -\Delta$. Fix $m \in \mathbb{N}$. The idea is to construct a solution u_m to the "projection" of the problem to the first m elements of the basis. We look for a function $u_m : [0, T] \rightarrow H_0^1$ of the form $u_m(t) = \sum_{k=1}^m d_m^k(t) w_k$ where the coefficients $d_m^k : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies $d_m^k(0) = (g, w_k)_{L^2}$ and $(u_m', w_k)_{L^2} + B[u_m(t), w_k, t] = (f(t), w_k)_{L^2}$ for a.e. t and $k = 1, \dots, m$.

Theorem 1.130. *For all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists a unique $u_m(t)$ of the form $\sum_{k=1}^m d_m^k(t) w_k$ satisfies these properties.*

Proof. If $u_m(t)$ is of the form $u_m(t) := \sum_{l=1}^m d_m^l(t) w_l$, then

$$(u_m'(t), w_k) = \sum_{l=1}^m d_m^l(t) (w_l, w_k) = (d_m^k)'(t)$$

and

$$B[u_m(t), w_k, t] = \sum_{l=1}^m \underbrace{B[w_l, w_k; t]}_{e^{lk}(t)} d_m^l(t).$$

We also right:

$$f^k(t) := (f(t), w_k)$$

Then the weak form becomes the linear system of ODEs:

$$\begin{aligned} (d_m^k)'(t) + \sum_{l=1}^m e^{kl}(t) d_m^l(t) &= f^k(t) \\ d_m^k(0) &= (g, w_k)_L. \end{aligned}$$

By Caratheodory existence theory for such ODEs, there exists a unique absolutely continuous solution $d_m(t) = (d_m^1(t), \dots, d_m^m(t))$ satisfying the above requirements for a.e. t . Then, $u_m(t) := \sum_{k=1}^m d_m^k(t) w_k$ has the desired properties. For more details, see Coddington-Levinson: "Theory of ODEs" 1955, [Chapter 2, Theorem 1.1]. $\square$

Step 2: Energy estimate.

Theorem 1.131. *There exists $C \equiv C(U, T, L)$ such that for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$:*

$$\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|u_m(t)\|_{L^2(U)} + \|u_m\|_{L^2([0, T], H_0^1)} + \|u_m'\|$$

Recall:

Step 1: Galerkin Method

Finite dimensional approximation:

$$u_m : [0, T] \rightarrow H_0^1$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} u_m(t) &:= \sum_{k=1}^m d_m^k(t) w_k \\ d_m^k(0) &= (g, w_k) \end{aligned}$$

$$(u_m'(t), w_k)_{L^2} + B[u_m(t), w_k, t] = (f(t), w_k).$$

Theorem 1.132. *For all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a unique $u_m(t)$ of the above form satisfying these properties.*

New:

Theorem 1.133. *There exists $C \equiv C(U, T, L)$ such that for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$*

$$\max_t \|u_m(t)\|_{L^2(U)} + \|u_m\|_{L^2([0, T], H_0^1(U))} + \|u_m'\|_{L^2([0, T], H_0^1)} \leq C (\|f\|_{L^2([0, T], L^2(U))} + \|g\|_{L^2})$$

Proof. Multiply variational form by $d_m^k(t)$ and sum $k = 1, \dots, m$. Recall that $u_m = \sum_{k=1}^m d_M^k(t)w_k$ to get:

$$(u_m'(t), u_m(t))_{L^2} + B[u_m(t), u_m(t); t] = (f, u_m(t))_{L^2}.$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\|u_m(t)\|_{L^2}^2) + B[u_m(t), u_m(t); t] \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f\|_{L^2(U)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u_m(t)\|_{L^2}^2.$$

Using that L is uniformly elliptic, there exists $\beta > 0, \gamma > 0$ so that $B[u_m(t), u_m(t); t] \geq \beta \|u_m(t)\|_{H_0^1}^2 - \gamma \|u_m(t)\|_{L^2}^2$. Thus, we get:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\|u_m(t)\|_{L^2}^2) + 2\beta \|u_m\|_{H_0^1}^2 \leq C(\|u_m\|_{L^2}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2}^2).$$

We can use Gronwall: $\eta(t) := \|u_m(t)\|_{L^2}^2$, $\xi(t) := \|f(t)\|_{L^2}^2$. Then $\eta'(t) \leq C(\eta(t) + \xi(t))$. Gronwall implies that $\eta(t) \leq e^{\int_0^t C \, ds} \left(\eta(0) + \int_0^t \xi(s) \, ds \right) \leq e^{Ct} \left(\eta(0) + \int_0^t \xi(s) \, ds \right)$

Use $\|u_m(0)\|_{L^2}^2 = \|\sum_{k=1}^m (w_k, u(0))w_k\|_{L^2}^2 = \sum_{k=1}^m |(w_k g)|^2 \leq \|g\|_{L^2}^2$ to get:
 $\leq C(\|g\|_{L^2} + \|f\|_{L^2([0,T],L^2)})$. Thus we have that $\max_t \|u_m(t)\|_{L^2(U)} \leq C(\|f\|_{L^2([0,T],L^2)} + \|g\|_{L^2})$.
 To get the second term, we integrate the ODE in time:

$$\|u_m(T)\|_{L^2}^2 - \|u_m(0)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2\beta \int_0^T \|u_m(t)\|_{H_0^1}^2 \, dt \leq C \int_0^T (\|u_m(t)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|f(t)\|_{L^2}^2) \, dt$$

We bound the right hand side using the maximum inequality we just derived and the fact that $\|u_m(0)\|^2 \leq \|g\|^2$, we conclude:

$$\|u_m\|_{L^2([0,T],H_0^1)}^2 \leq C \left(\|g\|_{L^2}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2([0,T],L^2)}^2 \right).$$

Finally, to bound $\|u_m'(t)\|_{L^2([0,T],H^{-1})}$: Fix any $v \in H_0^1$ with $\|v\|_{H_0^1} \leq 1$. We write: $v = v^1 + v^2$ where $v_1 \in \text{span}\{w_1, \dots, w_m\}$ where $(v^2, w_k) = 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, m$ and $v^1 \leq \|v\|_{H_0^1} \leq 1$. From the variational equation, at each m :

$$(u_m'(t), w_k) + B[u_m(t), w_k, t] = (f(t), w_k)$$

$$(u_m', v^1) + B[u_m, v^1, t] = (f(t), v^1)$$

$$(u_m'(t), v^1) = \langle u_m'(t), v^1 \rangle = -B[u_m, v^1, t] + (f(t), v^1).$$

Thus:

$$|\langle u_m'(t), v^1 \rangle| \leq |B[u_m, v^1, t]| + |(f(t), v^1)| \leq C \max_t \|u_m(t)\|_{H_0^1} \|v^1\|_{H_0^1} + C\|f(t)\|_{L^2} + C\|v^1\|_{H_0^1}.$$

Then using $\|v^1\| \leq 1$:

$$|\langle u_m'(t), v^1 \rangle| \leq |B[u_m, v^1, t]| + |(f(t), v^1)| \leq C \max_t \|u_m(t)\|_{H_0^1} + C\|f(t)\|_{L^2} + C$$

For any $v \in H_0^1$:

$$\langle u_m'(t), v \rangle = (u_m'(t), v)_{L^2} \implies \|u_m'(t)\|_{H^{-1}} = \sup_{\|v\|_{H_0^1} \leq 1} |\langle u_m'(t), v \rangle| \leq C(\|u_m(t)\|_{H_0^1} + \|f(t)\|_{L^2}).$$

Now square and integrate from 0 to T :

$$\int_0^T \|u_m(t)\|_{H^{-1}}^2 \, dt \leq C \left(\int_0^T \|u_m(t)\|_{H_0^1}^2 \, dt + \int_0^T \|f(t)\|_{L^2}^2 \, dt \right)$$

Using the L^2 bound once again, we get:

$$\int_0^T \|u_m(t)\|_{H^{-1}}^2 \, dt \leq C(\|g\|_{L^2}^2 + \|f\|_{L^2([0,T],L^2)}^2).$$

This completes the proof. □

For step 3: Existence via extracting weakly convergent subsequence.

Theorem 1.134. *There exists a weak solution to the IVP/BVP.*

Proof. □

Lemma 1.135. *Let V be a reflexive Banach space. Then $L^p([0, T]; V)$ is reflexive for $1 < p < \infty$ with*

$$(L^p([0, T]; V) \sim L^q([0, T], V^*))$$

Step 3: Existence.

By step 2, $\{u_m\}_m \subset L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$ is uniformly bounded and $\{u'_m\}_m \subset L^2([0, T], H^{-1})$ is uniformly bounded. By weak compactness, there exists a weak subsequence $\{u_{m_l}\} \subset \{u_m\}$ and a function $u \in L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$ with $u' \in L^2([0, T], H^{-1})$ such that $u_{m_l} \rightarrow u$ weakly in $L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$ and $u'_{m_l} \rightarrow u'$ in $L^2([0, T], H^{-1})$. The fact that the weak derivatives coincide follows from the definition of a weak derivative. By slight abuse of notation, in what follows we write $m = m_l$. For every $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $(u'_m(t), w_k) + B[u_m(t), w_k, t] = (f(t), w_k)$ for a.e. t and all $k = 1, \dots, m$.

For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define by $V_n := \text{span}\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$. Thus, for any test function $\phi \in C^1([0, T])$ with $\phi(T) = 0$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ for all $v \in V_n$ and $m \geq n$:

$$\int_0^T \langle u'_m(t), v \rangle \phi(t) \, dt + \int_0^T B[u_m(t), v, t] \phi(t) \, dt = \int_0^T (f(t), v) \phi(t) \, dt.$$

As $m \rightarrow \infty$ we have:

$$\int_0^T \langle u'(t), v \rangle \phi(t) \, dt.$$

Claim: For any fixed $w \in L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$, $\int_0^T B[\cdot, w(t), t] \, dt$ is weakly continuous in $L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$. By the claim, the identity holds for all $v \in \cup_1^\infty V_n$. By continuity and dominated convergence convergence, this holds for all $v \in \overline{\cup_1^\infty V_h} = H_0^1$. This gives existence by fundamental lemma of variational calculus. for a.e. t and all $v \in H_0^1$, $\langle u'(t), v \rangle + B[u(t), v, t] = (f(t), v)$. It remains to show $u(0) = g$. From our construction, $u_m(0) = P_m(g)$, where P_m is the projection to the finite dimensional space.

On the one hand, we can integrate by parts in time the full case (not finite dimensional). Note that

$$\int_0^T \langle u'(t), \phi(t)v \rangle \, dt = \int_0^T (u(t), \phi'(t)v) \, dt + \underbrace{(u(t), \phi(t)v)|_0^T}_{=-(u(0), \phi(0)v)}.$$

Thus, from the identity:

$$\int_0^T (-u(t), v) \phi'(t) \, dt + B[u(t), v, t] \phi(t) \, dt = \int_0^T (f(t), v) \phi(t) \, dt + (u(0), v) \phi(0).$$

On the other hand, we can integrate by parts in time in the finite dimensional case, we get. Note for all $v \in V_h$, $m \geq n$:

$$\int_0^T (-u_m(t), v) \phi'(t) + B[u_m(t), v, t] \phi(t) \, dt = \int_0^T (f(t), v) \phi(t) \, dt + (u_m(0), v) \phi(0).$$

The last term in the limit is $(g, v) \phi(0)$. So we take the limit to infinity and subtracting the two cases, we get that $(u(0), v) \phi(0) = (g, v) \phi(0)$. This means that $u(0) = g$.

Now to prove the claim:

Let $\{u_m \rightarrow 0\}$ weakly in $L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$, ie, for all $l \in L^2([0, T], H^{-1})$,

$$\int_0^T [l(t)](u_m(t)) \, dt \rightarrow 0.$$

Need to show:

$$\int_0^T B[u_m, w(t), t] \, dt \rightarrow 0$$

Only discuss the top-order term in the bilinear form:

$$\int_0^T \int_U a^{ij}(t, x) \partial_i u_m(t, x) \partial_j w(t, x) \, dx \, dt.$$

Define the middle part as l_w . We want to show $l_w \in L^2([0, T], H^{-1}(U))$. But this follows by crudely taking absolute values, applying Holder, and getting $\|l_w(t)\|_{H^{-1}} \leq C \|\nabla w(t)\|_{L^2}$. To see that l_w is actually in L^2 , we just take the integral, use the bound, and observe that $w \in L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$. This proves the claim.

Step 4: Uniqueness:

Theorem 1.136. *There exists at most one weak solution to the IVP/BVP.*

Proof. By linearity, it suffices to check that the only weak solution to our problem with 0 data is the 0 solution. A weak solution u to the IVP/BVP with 0 data satisfies:

$$\langle u'(t), v \rangle + B[u(t), v, t] = 0.$$

Now insert $u(t) = v$. Then, since L is uniformly parabolic, there exists constants $\beta, \gamma > 0$ such that $B[u(t), u(t), t] \geq \beta \|u(t)\|_{H_0^1}^2 - \gamma \|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2$

$$\langle u'(t), u(t) \rangle + B[u(t), u(t), t] = 0 \implies \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{2} \|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C \|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2.$$

By Gronwall, this implies that $\|u(t)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq e^{Ct} \|u(0)\|_{L^2}^2 = 0$. Hence for $0 \leq t \leq T$ and $u(t) \equiv 0$. $\square$

Regularity:

Heuristic computation: Assume $u(t, x)$ is a smooth and sufficiently decaying solution to $\partial_t u - \Delta u = f$ in $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$ with $u(0) = g$. Then we have for $0 \leq t \leq T$:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f^2 \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t u - \Delta u)^2 \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t u)^2 - \underbrace{2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \partial_t u \Delta u \, dx}_{-\frac{1}{2} \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u|^2 \, dx} + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\Delta u)^2 \, dx$$

Thus

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t u)^2 \, dx + \partial_t \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u|^2 \, dx \right) + \|\nabla^2 u\|_{L^2}^2.$$

Now integrate over time:

$$\sup_t \int |\nabla u(t)|^2 \, dx + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t u)^2 + |\nabla^2 u|^2 \, dx \, dt \leq C \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla u(0)|^2 \, dx + \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(t, x)^2 \, dx \, dt \right).$$

This sort of idea says that if $g \in H^1$, then we get that $u \in L^2([0, T], H_0^2)$ to get regularity.

Theorem 1.137. • Assume $g \in H_0^1$ and $f \in L^2([0, T], L^2(U))$.

- Suppose $u \in L^2([0, T], H_0^1)$, $u' \in L^2([0, T], H^{-1})$ is the weak solution to

$$\partial_t u - Lu = f \quad u = 0 \quad u(0) = g$$

Then in fact $u \in L^2([0, T], H^2) \cap L^\infty([0, T], H_0^1)$ and there exist $C \equiv C(U, T, L)$ such that

$$\operatorname{ess\,sup}_t \|u(t)\|_{H_0^1} + \|u\|_{L^2([0, T], H^2)} + \|u'\|_{L^2([0, T], L^2)} \leq C(\|g\|_{H^1} + \|f\|_{L^2([0, T], L^2)}).$$

1.15 Semi-group theorem

View a linear PDE

$$\partial_t w - Aw = 0, \quad u(0) = g$$

as a first order ODE for a suitable (real) X -valued solution $w : [0, \infty) \rightarrow X$ where $A : \operatorname{dom}(A) \rightarrow X$ is a linear operator (usually a partial differential operator, which is unbounded).

Suppose we have a unique solution $w : [0, \infty) \rightarrow X$ for any initial condition $g \in X$. Then write $w(t) = s(t)g$. This point of view suggest properties of the family of operators $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$:

- $w(0) = g \implies S(0) = Id$
- By uniqueness, we have the following relations for any $s, t \geq 0$:

$$S(t+s)g = S(t)S(s)g = S(s)S(t)g.$$

- Reasonable assumption: for all $g \in X$, the mapping $[0, \infty) \rightarrow X$ defined by $t \mapsto S(t)g$ is continuous.

The idea is to do this idea backward: what do we need to know about A to get a good family with such nice properties, for then we can talk about $w(t) := S(t)g$ as a solution.

Let X be a real Banach Space.

Definition 1.138. • $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0} \subset BL(X)$ (bounded linear operators) is called a linear operator *semi-group* on X iff $S(0) = Id$ and $S(t+s) = S(t)S(s) = S(s)S(t)$

- $t \mapsto S(t)u$ is continuous for all $u \in X$, and a *contraction semi-group* if in addition $\|S(t)\|_{X \rightarrow X} \leq 1$ for all $t \in [0, \infty)$.
- Let $\{S(t)\}$ be a contraction semi-group on X . Define $D(A) := \{u \in X : \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(t)u - u}{t} \text{ exists in } X\}$. For $u \in D(A)$, we set $Au := \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(t)u - u}{t}$. We call $A : D(A) \rightarrow X$ the (infinitesimal) generator of $\{S(t)\}$ and $D(A)$ is the domain of A . (To motivate this notion, think of a power series expansion of $S(t)$ and we pick up something that we want to call A , ie, the best linear term that approximates $S(t)$).

Throughout, $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ will always denote a contraction semi-group.

Theorem 1.139 (Differential properties of semigroups). • *Let $u \in D(A)$. Then, $S(t)u \in D(A)$ for all $t \geq 0$.*

- $AS(t)u = S(t)Au$ for all $t \geq 0$
- $t \mapsto S(t)u$ is differentiable for all t .
-

$$\frac{d}{dt}(S(t)u) = AS(t)u \quad \forall t > 0$$

Corollary 1.140. $S(t)u \in C^1([0, \infty), X)$ for all $u \in D(A)$.

Proof. • (1) and (2). Let $u \in D(A)$. Then, $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(s)S(t)u - S(t)u}{s} (= AS(t)u)$. So:

$$AS(t)u := \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(s)S(t)u - S(t)u}{s} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(t)S(s)u - S(t)u}{s} \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} S(t) \left(\frac{S(s)u - u}{s} \right) = S(t) \underbrace{\left(\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(s)u - u}{s} \right)}_{:= Au} = S(t)Au$$

This gives us (2) and one follows from the fact that the limit exists and we just apply $S(t)$.

- (3) and (4)

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{S(t+s)u - S(t)u}{s} - S(t)Au \right) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{S(t)S(s)u - S(t)u}{s} - S(t)Au \right) = S(t) \left(\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(s)u - u}{s} - Au \right) = 0.$$

Moreover, for $t > 0$, for small enough s

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{S(t-s)u - S(t)u}{-s} - S(t)Au \right) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left(S(t-s) \frac{S(s)u - u}{s} - S(t)Au \right)$$

Use $\|S(t-s)\| \leq 1$ for all $s > 0$ small.

□

Corollary 1.141. For a contraction semi group $\{S(t)\}_t$ with infinitesimal generator A , the function $w(t) := S(t)u$ is a differential solution to the IVP $\partial_t w - Aw = 0$ $w(0) = u$.

Theorem 1.142 (Properties of generators). • *The domain $D(A)$ is actually dense in X*

- *The generator A is a closed operator.*

Proof. • Fix $u \in X$. Define $u^t := \int_0^t S(s)u \, ds$ for $t > 0$ (Bochner integral). Claim: $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t}u^t = u$ in X and $u^t \in D(A)$ for all $t > 0$. This would give the first point. For the first part of the claim: since $s \mapsto S(s)u$ is continuous and $S(0)u = u$, given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\|S(s)u - u\|_X < \epsilon$ when $t \in (0, \delta)$. Thus,

$$\left\| \frac{1}{t}u^t - u \right\| = \left\| \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t (S(s)u - u) \, ds \right\| \leq \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \|S(s)u - u\| \, ds \leq \epsilon.$$

For the second claim: For any $r > 0$

$$\frac{S(r)u^t - u^t}{r} = \frac{1}{r} (S(r) \int_0^t S(s)u \, ds - \int_0^t S(s)u \, ds) = \frac{1}{r} \left(\int_0^t \underbrace{S(r)S(s)}_{=S(r+s)} u \, ds - \int_0^t S(s)u \, ds \right) = \frac{1}{r} \left(\int_r^{t+r} S(\tilde{s})u \, d\tilde{s} - \int_0^t S(s)u \, ds \right)$$

Now take limit:

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(r)u^t - u^t}{r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_t^{t+r} S(s)u \, ds - \frac{1}{r} \int_0^r S(s)u \, ds \right) = S(t)u - S(0)u = S(t)u - u.$$

Thus, $u^t \in D(A)$ since the limit exists with $Au^t = S(t)u - u$.

- Let $\{u_k\}_k \subset D(A)$ with $u_k \rightarrow u$, $Au_k \rightarrow v$. By the above theorem, we have:

$$S(t)uu_k - u_k = \int_0^t \frac{d}{ds}(S(s)u_k) ds = \int_0^t AS(s)u_k ds = \int_0^t S(s)Au_k ds.$$

Now let $k \rightarrow \infty$ and we use the assumptions to get (also using uniform bound on $S(t)$):

$$S(t)u - u = \int_0^t S(s)v ds.$$

Thus, $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(t)u - u}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t S(s)v ds = S(0)v = v$. Thus, $u \in D(A)$ with $Au = v$.

Important to note here: we cannot apply the closed graph theorem since A is not an operator on the whole space, only $D(A)$. $\square$

1.15.1 Resolvents

Definition 1.143. Let $A : D(A) \rightarrow X$ be a closed linear operator with domain $D(A) \subset X$.

1. A real number $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ belongs to the *resolvent* set, $\rho(A)$, of A if the operator $\lambda Id - A : D(A) \rightarrow X$ is invertible (one to one and onto)
2. If $\lambda \in \rho(A)$, $\mathbb{R}_\lambda : X \rightarrow D(A)$ is defined by $R_\lambda u = (\lambda Id - A)^{-1}u$.

Exercise: by closed graph theorem, $\mathbb{R}_\lambda$ is a bounded linear operator. Moreover, we have that $AR_\lambda u = R_\lambda Au$ if $u \in D(A)$.

Theorem 1.144. • If $\lambda, \mu \in \rho(A)$,

$$R_\lambda - R_\mu = (\mu - \lambda)R_\lambda R_\mu.$$

which we call the *resolvent identity* and $R_\lambda R_\mu = R_\mu R_\lambda$.

- If $\lambda > 0$, then $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ and $R_\lambda u = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} S(t)u dt$. Then, $\|R_\lambda\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda}$.

Proof. • Exercise (look up functional textbook)

- Assuming the identity holds, we get

$$\|R_\lambda u\| \leq \int_0^\infty \|e^{-\lambda t} S(t)u\| dt \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \|u\|.$$

Now to prove the identity. We make the following claims, which we do not prove but are notes online:

$$(1) : I(u) := \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} S(t)u dt$$

is a well defined integral.

And secondly:

$$AI(u) = I(Au).$$

For any $\lambda > 0$, define the linear operator $\tilde{R}_\lambda : X \rightarrow X$ by

$$\tilde{R}_\lambda u := \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} S(t)u dt.$$

Fix $\lambda > 0$. For positive $h > 0$ and $u \in X$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S(h)\tilde{R}_\lambda u - \tilde{R}_\lambda u}{h} &= \frac{1}{h} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} (S(t+h)u - S(t)u) dt = \frac{1}{h} \int_h^\infty e^{-\lambda(\tilde{t}-h)} S(\tilde{t})u d\tilde{t} - \frac{1}{h} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} S(t)u dt. \\ &= -e^{\lambda h} \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h e^{-\lambda \tilde{t}} S(\tilde{t})u d\tilde{t} + \underbrace{\frac{e^{\lambda h}-1}{h} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda \tilde{t}} S(\tilde{t})u d\tilde{t}}_{\tilde{R}_\lambda u}. \end{aligned}$$

Now:

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{S(h)\tilde{R}_\lambda u - \tilde{R}_\lambda u}{h} = -u + \lambda \tilde{R}_\lambda u.$$

Thus $\tilde{R}_\lambda u \in D(A)$ and $A\tilde{R}_\lambda u = -u + \lambda \tilde{R}_\lambda u$.

Hence

$$(\lambda Id - A)\tilde{R}_\lambda u = u.$$

On the other hand, for an element $u \in D(A)$, $A\tilde{R}_\lambda u = A \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} S(t)u dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} S(t)Au dt = \tilde{R}_\lambda Au$. Thus, for all $u \in D(A)$, $\tilde{R}_\lambda(\lambda Id - A)u = (\lambda Id - A)\tilde{R}_\lambda u = u$. Hence, from these properties, we have that $\lambda I - A$ is invertible with inverse $\tilde{R}_\lambda$. $\square$

Theorem 1.145 (Hille-Yosida). *Let A be a closed, densely defined linear operator on a Banach space X . Then A is the contractor of a contraction semi-group iff $(0, \infty) \subset \rho(A)$ and $\|R_\lambda\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda}$ for all $\lambda > 0$.*

Proof. One direction is just the last theorem.

Now we show that A is a generator. For $\lambda > 0$, define $A_\lambda := 0\lambda Id + \lambda^2 R_\lambda = -\lambda(\lambda I - A)R_\lambda + \lambda^2 R_\lambda = +\lambda AR_\lambda$. Thus, A_λ is bounded. Moreover, for all $u \in D(A)$:

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} A_\lambda u = Au$$

because $\lambda R_\lambda u - u = AR_\lambda u = R_\lambda Au$. So

$$\|\lambda R_\lambda u - u\| \leq \|R_\lambda\| \|Au\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \|Au\| \rightarrow 0.$$

Thus, $\lambda R_\lambda u \rightarrow u$ for all $u \in D(A)$. Since the domain of A is dense in X and since $\|\lambda R_\lambda\| \leq 1$ we get $\lambda R_\lambda u \rightarrow u$ for all $u \in X$. Thus, for $u \in D(A)$, $A_\lambda u = \lambda AR_\lambda u = \lambda R_\lambda(Au) \rightarrow Au$. $\square$

Now define $S_\lambda(t)$, the approximating contraction semigroups. For any $\lambda > 0$, $S_\lambda(t) := e^{tA_\lambda} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (tA_\lambda)^k / (k!)$ (which converges in operator norm because A_λ is bounded, and so converges in operator norm). Note $S_\lambda(t) = e^{tA_\lambda} = e^{t(-\lambda Id + \lambda^2 dR_\lambda)} = e^{-\lambda t Id} e^{t\lambda^2 dR_\lambda} = e^{-\lambda t} Id \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t\lambda^2 R_\lambda)^k}{k!}$. Thus:

$$\|S_\lambda(t)\|_{op} \leq e^{-\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left\| \frac{(t\lambda^2 R_\lambda)^k}{(k!)} \right\|.$$

Since $\|t\lambda^2 R_\lambda\| \leq (t\lambda)^t$, we obtain:

$$\|S_\lambda(t)\| \leq e^{-\lambda t} e^{\lambda t}.$$

Moreover, from the definition $S_\lambda(t) := e^{tA_\lambda}$ we get for all $\lambda > 0$, $S_\lambda(t+s) = S_\lambda(t)S_\lambda(s)$, $S_\lambda(0) = Id$, and $t \mapsto S_\lambda(t)u$ is continuous for all $u \in X$. Thus, $\{S_\lambda(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ for all $\lambda > 0$ is a contraction semigroup.

Now define $S(t)$ as limit of $S_\lambda(t)$ as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ (we show how to do this). Let $\lambda, \mu > 0$. Then $R_\lambda R_\mu = R_\mu R_\lambda$. Thus, $A_\lambda A_\mu = A_\mu A_\lambda$. This implies that $A_\mu S_\lambda(t) = S_\lambda(t)A_\mu$. We show that for any $u \in X$, and any $t \in [0, \infty)$, $\{S_\lambda(t)u\}_{\lambda > 0}$ is a Cauchy sequence as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

For $u \in D(A)$, we consider $S_\lambda(t)u - S_\mu(t)u = \int_0^t \frac{d}{ds} (S_\mu(t-s)S_\lambda(s)u) ds$. Compute the integrand a bit further: $(-1)A_\mu S_\mu(t-s)S_\lambda(s)u + S_\mu(t-s)S_\lambda(s)u$. So we get:

$$= \int_0^t (S_\mu(t-s)S_\lambda(s)(A_\lambda - A_\mu)u) ds.$$

Hence

$$\|S_\lambda(t)u - S_\mu(t)u\| \leq \int_0^t \|S_\mu(t-s)S_\lambda(s)(A_\lambda - A_\mu)u\| ds \leq \int_0^t \|(A_\lambda - A_\mu)u\| ds = t\|(A_\lambda - A_\mu)u\|$$

Since $A_\lambda u \rightarrow 0$ as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ for any $u \in X$, the rhs is a Cauchy sequence in λ . Note that this convergence is uniform in t on compact time intervals. Thus, for $u \in D(A)$ and $t > 0$, we can define $S(t)u := \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} S_\lambda(t)u$. This was for $u \in D(A)$, so density gives us a definition for $u \in X$.

The family of operators $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ is also a contraction semigroup: These properties transfer from those for our approximating $\{S_\lambda(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ using in particular that the pointwise limit is uniform in t on compact time intervals.

The final step is to show that A is the generator of our derived $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$. Let B be the generator of the contraction semigroup. We show $B = A$. For all $t \geq 0$, $\lambda > 0$, $u \in D(A)$:

$$S_\lambda(t)u - u = \int_0^t \frac{d}{ds} (S_\lambda(s)u) ds = \int_0^t S_\lambda(s)A_\lambda u ds.$$

Moreover, we have that $\|S_\lambda(s)A_\lambda u - S(s)Au\| \leq \|S_\lambda(s)\| \|A_\lambda u - Au\| + \|(S_\lambda(s) - S(s))Au\| \rightarrow 0$ as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ uniformly in s on compact time intervals. Thus, taking $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ in the lhs, we achieve: $S(t)u - u = \int_0^t S(s)Au ds$. Hence, for $t > 0$, $u \in D(A)$:

$$\frac{1}{t}(S(t)u - u) = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t S(s)Au ds.$$

As $t \rightarrow 0$, we get:

$$Bu = S(0)Au = Au.$$

Hence, $D(A) \subset D(B)$ and $B|_{D(A)} = A$. To see that $D(A) = D(B)$, $(B - \lambda Id)D(A) = (A - \lambda Id)D(A) = X$. Thus $B - \lambda Id : D(A) \rightarrow X$ is bijective since $\lambda \in \rho(A) \cap \rho(B)$ and $B - \lambda Id : D(B) \rightarrow X$ is bijective. This completes the proof. $\square$

Remark 1.146. Let $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$. A semigroup $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ is called γ -contractive if $\|S(t)\| \leq e^{\gamma t}$. A generalization of Hille-Yosida: if $(\gamma, \infty) \subset \rho(A)$ and $\|R_\lambda\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda - \gamma}$ for all $\lambda > \gamma$.

Theorem 1.147. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be open and bounded with smooth boundary. We set $X := L^2(U)$, $D(A) := H_0^1 \cap H^2$ and $A := -L$ where L is the usual elliptic operator with smooth time-independent coefficients with uniform ellipticity. Then A generates a γ -contraction semigroup $\{S(t)\}_t$ for some $\gamma \geq 0$ and given some $g \in D(A)$, $w(t) := S(t)g$ solves $\partial_t w + Lw = 0$ in $(0, \infty) \times U$ with zero boundary conditions and $w(0) = g$.

Proof. $D(A)$ is dense in $L^2(U)$. We need to show A is closed and $(\gamma, \infty) \subset \rho(A)$ and $\|R_\lambda\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda - \gamma}$. For closedness, suppose $\{u_k\}_k \subset D(A)$ with $u_k \rightarrow u$ and $Au_k \rightarrow f$ in L^2 . By elliptic regularity:

$$\|u_k - u_l\|_{H^2} \leq C(\|Au_k - Au_l\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u_k - u_l\|_{L^2}^2).$$

Thus $\{u_k\}_k$ is Cauchy in H^2 and $u_k \rightarrow u$ in H^2 and $Au_k \rightarrow Au$ in L^2 , and so $Au = f$. Now we show $(\gamma, \infty) \subset \rho(A)$ and $\|R_\lambda\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda - \gamma}$ for $\lambda > \gamma$. Recall that there exists $\beta > 0, \gamma \geq 0$ such that

$$\beta \|u\|_{H_0^1}^2 \leq B[u, u] + \gamma \|u\|_{L^2}^2.$$

Then for this $\gamma > 0$, we have that for the boundary problem $Lu + \lambda u = f$ with zero boundary conditions has a unique weak solution (from Lax-Milgram) for each $f \in L^2$. By elliptic regularity, this solution u is in H^2 , and so $u \in D(A)$. Rewrite the BVP as $\lambda u - Au = f$ so $\lambda Id - A : D(A) \rightarrow X$ is bijective. So $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ and so $[\gamma, \infty) \subset \rho(A)$.

Finally for the resolvent operators, from weak formulation

$$B[u, v] + \lambda(u, v) = (f, v)$$

with $v = u$, we have with the elliptic bound:

$$B[u, u] + \lambda \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \leq (f, u) \leq \|f\| \|u\| \implies (\lambda - \gamma) \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \frac{1}{\lambda - \gamma} \|f\|_{L^2}^2$$

where $u = R_\lambda f$. This gives the operator bound for the resolvent. We simply apply Hille-Yosida to complete the proof. $\square$