

**PDG I**  
**(Zentralübung)**

**Problem Sheet 12**

Throughout this problem sheet, let  $\Omega$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Question 1**

Recall the *Fundamental Lemma of the Calculus of Variations*: if  $u \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  and

$$\int_{\Omega} u(x)\varphi(x) \, dx = 0 \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\Omega)$$

then  $u = 0$ .

(a) Suppose  $v_1, v_2 \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  are both weak derivatives of  $u \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ . Show that  $v_1 = v_2$  (so weak derivatives are unique).

(b) Suppose

$$\int_{\Omega} u(x)\varphi(x) \, dx = 0 \quad \forall \varphi \in C_c^\infty(\Omega) \text{ such that } \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x) \, dx = 0.$$

Show that  $u$  is constant almost everywhere in  $\Omega$ .

**Question 2**

Suppose  $f, g \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R})$  are weakly differentiable. Now consider  $u \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  defined by

$$u(x, y) := f(x) + g(y).$$

Show that  $u$  is weakly differentiable with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ , with

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x, y) = f'(x), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, y) = g'(y),$$

where  $f'$  and  $g'$  are the weak derivatives of  $f$  and  $g$ .

**Question 3**

Let  $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ . Let  $E$  be an open subset of  $\Omega$ . Show that  $u \in W^{1,p}(E)$ , and that the weak derivatives of  $u$  on  $E$  are the same as the weak derivatives of  $u$  on  $\Omega$  restricted to  $E$ .

#### Question 4

Let  $B$  be the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and fix  $0 < s < 1$ . Consider the map

$$u(x) = |x|^{-s}.$$

- (i) Show that  $u \in L^p(B)$  for  $1 \leq p < \frac{2}{s}$ .
- (ii) Compute the (strong) partial derivatives  $\partial u / \partial x_1, \partial u / \partial x_2$  of  $u$  on  $B \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ .
- (iii) Now suppose  $1 \leq p < \frac{2}{s+1}$ . Show that each partial derivative  $\partial u / \partial x_i$  above satisfies

$$\int_B \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right|^p dx < \infty.$$

- (iv) Show that the derivatives computed in part (ii) are in fact weak derivatives of  $u$  on all of  $B$ . (Deal with the singularity at  $x = 0$  by considering a ball  $B_\epsilon$ , of small radius  $\epsilon > 0$ , splitting  $B$  into  $B_\epsilon$  and  $B \setminus B_\epsilon$ , applying Gauss-Green, and letting  $\epsilon \searrow 0$ .)
- (iv) Conclude that  $u \in W^{1,p}(B)$  for  $1 \leq p < \frac{2}{s+1}$ .

*Hint:* It is helpful to use polar coordinates throughout. For part (iii), find an upper bound for the integrand that depends only on  $|x|$ .

**Deadline for handing in: 0800 Wednesday 21 January**

*Please put solutions in Box 17, 1st floor (near the library)*

Homepage: <http://www.mathematik.uni-muenchen.de/~soneji/pde1.php>