

LOWER SEMICONTINUITY OF PARAMETRIC INTEGRALS

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ABSTRACT. It has been known for a long time that the usual two-dimensional parametric integrals in three-space are lower semicontinuous with respect to uniform convergence. In an earlier paper we saw that an easy argument extends this result to all parametric integrals generated by simply-convex integrands, with no restrictions on the dimension of the surfaces or the containing space. By using these techniques again, and generalizing to surfaces a result concerning convergent sequences of closed curves we show that a parametric integral generated by a parametric integrand which is convex in the Jacobians is lower semicontinuous with respect to uniform convergence provided all of the functions lie in a bounded subset of the Sobolev space H^1_s where $s + 1$ exceeds the dimension of the parametric integral.

We apply the technique used to study parametric integrals generated by simply-convex integrands to show that parametric integrals generated by integrands which are convex in the Jacobians are lower semicontinuous on bounded subsets of suitable Sobolev spaces.

We are interested in the lower semicontinuity result of [Mc-1], [C-1], [M-2]. The problems which they consider are either of codimension one, in which case the integrands are automatically simply-convex or there is an explicit additional restriction which is, except for name, simplicity. In [S-3] we obtained this result and were able to drop additional technical hypotheses which had been imposed. Using that result, the representation theorem from [S-1] and the characterization of simplicity from [S-2] we get, I think, the easiest existence theorem to the classical two-dimensional parametric variational problem. (This method also sometimes gives smoothness properties of the solution.) In this paper we drop the condition on simplicity, but must now adjoin the additional hypothesis that all of the functions involved lie in a bounded subset of a suitable Sobolev space in order to retrieve the lower semicontinuity theorem. We intend to apply this result to get an existence theorem for the two-dimensional problem without the hypothesis of simplicity.

We start off by extending to more than two-dimensions a result concerning

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the limit of the integral of the topological indices corresponding to a sequence of closed curves in the plane which converge uniformly and are uniformly bounded in length.

Let e_1, \dots, e_ν be an orthonormal basis for R^ν and let R^ν be oriented by $e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_\nu$. Let S be the unit sphere in R^ν . If $\omega_1 \in S$ there exist $\omega_2, \dots, \omega_\nu \in S$ such that $\{\omega_i \mid i = 1, \dots, \nu\}$ is a basis for R^ν and $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_\nu = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_\nu$. Let $R_{\omega_1}^\nu$ be the vector space spanned by $\omega_2, \dots, \omega_\nu$ which is oriented by $\omega_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_\nu$. If $\omega \in S$ let π_ω be the orthogonal projection of R^ν onto R_ω^ν . If $p \in R^\nu$ let $p_\omega = \{p + \lambda\omega \mid \lambda \geq 0\}$.

If α is a ν -form over R^ν then $\alpha = \lambda e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_\nu$ for some real number λ . Let $\text{sgn } \alpha = \text{sgn } \lambda$.

Let \mathcal{P} be the collection of all bounded oriented polyhedral regions J in R^ν such that ∂J is the union of a finite number of $(\nu - 1)$ -dimensional oriented boxes each of which is orthogonal to a coordinate axis. If $J \in \mathcal{P}$, $X \in C(J, R^\nu)$ and $p \in R^\nu$, let $O(p, X, J)$ be the topological index of p with respect to X and J . If $x = X \mid \partial J$ let $M(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x, \partial J)$ be the essential multiplicity of $\pi_\omega p$ with respect to $\pi_\omega x$ and ∂J [F].

Theorem 1. Let $X \in C(J, R^\nu)$, $x = X \mid \partial J$ and $\omega \in S$. Then there exists a subset $\mathcal{E}(x, \omega)$ of R_ω^ν having measure zero such that

$$2|O(p, X, J)| \leq M(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x, \partial J)$$

if $\pi_\omega p \notin \mathcal{E}(x, \omega)$.

Proof. Let $\{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{\nu-1}\}$ be the vertices of an oriented $(\nu - 1)$ -simplex δ in R^ν and y be linear (affine) on δ into R^ν . Suppose, in addition, that y is light (in this case y is a homeomorphism of δ onto $y(\delta)$). Let

$$y^*(\delta) = (y(a_1) - y(a_0)) \wedge \dots \wedge (y(a_{\nu-1}) - y(a_0)).$$

It is easy to verify that $y^*(\delta)$ does not depend upon the particular representation of δ which we chose. If $p \in R^\nu$ let us write $\{p_\omega, y(\delta)\}$ if p_ω does not intersect the boundary of $y(\delta)$ relative to its containing $(\nu - 1)$ -plane. If $\{p_\omega, y(\delta)\}$ then [A-H, p. 412]

$$\phi(p_\omega, y(\delta)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p_\omega \text{ and } y(\delta) \text{ are disjoint,} \\ \text{sgn}(p_\omega \wedge y^*(\delta)) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If $p \notin y(\delta)$ then either $\phi(p_\omega, y(\delta)) = 0$ or $\phi(p_{-\omega}, y(\delta)) = 0$ so that

$$|O(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega y, \delta)| = |\phi(p_\omega, y(\delta))| + |\phi(p_{-\omega}, y(\delta))|.$$

Now suppose that $x = X \mid \partial J$ is light and quasilinear. Let Δ be the collection of oriented $(\nu - 1)$ -simplexes of linearity of x . Then [A-H, p. 458-459]

$$O(p, X, J) = \sum_{\delta \in \Delta} \phi(p_\omega, x(\delta))$$

provided $p \notin X(\partial J)$ and $\{p_\omega, x(\delta)\}$ for all $\delta \in \Delta$. Hence

$$2|O(p, X, J)| \leq \sum_{\delta \in \Delta} |O(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x, \delta)| \leq M(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x, \partial J)$$

provided $\{p_\omega, x(\delta)\}$ and $\{p_{-\omega}, x(\delta)\}$ for all $\delta \in \Delta$.

Let us return to the general case. By [F] there exist light quasilinear $y_n \rightarrow \pi_\omega x$ in $C(\partial J, R_\omega^\nu)$ such that

$$(*) \quad \int_{R_\omega^\nu} M(q, y_n, \partial J) dq \rightarrow \int_{R_\omega^\nu} M(q, \pi_\omega x, \partial J) dq.$$

Let Δ_n be the collection of simplexes of linearity of y_n . We define x_n on ∂J as follows: $x_n|_\delta$ is linear for each $\delta \in \Delta_n$ and $x_n(u) = y_n(u) + (x(u) \cdot \omega)\omega$ if u is a vertex of δ . Then x_n is light and quasilinear. Also $x_n \rightarrow x$ in $C(\partial J, R^\nu)$ and there exist $X_n \in C(J, R^\nu)$ such that $X_n|_{\partial J} = x_n$ and $X_n \rightarrow X$ in $C(J, R^\nu)$. If $\pi_\omega p$ does not belong to the union of countably many subsets of R_ω^ν , each having measure zero, then

$$\begin{aligned} 2|O(p, X, J)| &\leq 2 \liminf |O(p, x_n, J)| \\ &\leq \liminf M(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x_n, \partial J) = \liminf M(\pi_\omega p, y_n, \partial J). \end{aligned}$$

By (*), $\liminf M(q, y_n, \partial J) = M(q, \pi_\omega x, \partial J)$ for almost all $q \in R_\omega^\nu$. Hence if $\pi_\omega p$ does not belong to a set $\tilde{E}(x, \omega)$ in R_ω^ν which has measure zero, then

$$2|O(p, X, J)| \leq M(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x, \partial J).$$

If $X|_{\partial J} = Y|_{\partial J} = x$ then $O(p, X, J) = O(p, Y, J)$ and we can denote the common value by $o(p, x, \partial J)$. In this notation the conclusion of the last theorem is $2|o(p, x, \partial J)| \leq M(\pi_\omega p, \pi_\omega x, \partial J)$.

Let P denote Peano area.

Theorem 2. Let $J \in \mathcal{P}$, $x \in C(\partial J, R^\nu)$ and $\omega \in S$. Then

$$\int_{R_\omega^\nu} M(q, \pi_\omega x, \partial J) dq \leq P(x).$$

Proof. By the definition of Peano area and [F],

$$P(x) \geq P(\pi_\omega x) = \int_{R_\omega^\nu} M(q, \pi_\omega x, \partial J) dq.$$

If $\alpha = 1, \dots, \nu$ let $R_\alpha^\nu = R_\omega^\nu$ where $\omega = e_\alpha$.

The next theorem is related to the result of [L-W].

Theorem 3. If $f_\alpha \in L^{\nu-1}(R_\alpha^\nu)$ then

$$\left\| \prod_{\alpha=1}^{\nu} f_{\alpha} \circ \pi_{\alpha} \right\| \leq \prod_{\alpha=1}^{\nu} \|f_{\alpha}\|_{\nu-1}.$$

Proof. The inequality obviously holds if $\nu = 2$. Let us assume that it holds if $\nu = n$. Let $g_{\alpha} = |f_{\alpha} \circ \pi_{\alpha}|$, $b_{\alpha} = g_{\alpha}^n$, $du_1 = du^2 \dots du^n$, $du_n = du^1 \dots du^{n-1}$ and $du_{\alpha} = du^1 \dots du^{\alpha-1} du^{\alpha+1} \dots du^n$ for $1 < \alpha < n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int \prod_{\alpha=1}^{n+1} g_{\alpha} &= \int g_{n+1} \left[\int \prod_{\alpha=1}^n g_{\alpha} du^{n+1} \right] du^1 \dots du^n \\ &\leq \|f_{n+1}\|_n \left\{ \int \left[\prod_{\alpha=1}^n g_{\alpha} du^{n+1} \right]^{n/(n-1)} du^1 \dots du^n \right\}^{(n-1)/n} \\ &\leq \|f_{n+1}\|_n \left\{ \int \prod_{\alpha=1}^n \left\{ \int b_{\alpha} du^{n+1} \right\}^{1/(n-1)} du^1 \dots du^n \right\}^{(n-1)/n} \\ &\leq \|f_{n+1}\|_n \left\{ \prod_{\alpha=1}^n \left[\int \{b_{\alpha} du^{n+1}\} du_{\alpha} \right]^{1/(n-1)} \right\}^{(n-1)/n} = \prod_{\alpha=1}^{n+1} \|f_{\alpha}\|_n. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 4. Let $J \in \mathcal{P}$. Suppose that x and x_n are in $C(\partial J, R^{\nu})$ with $x_n \rightarrow x$ and $\{P(x_n)\}$ uniformly bounded. If $|\text{range } x| = 0$ then

$$\lim \int_{R^{\nu}} o(p, x_n, \partial J) dp = \int_{R^{\nu}} o(p, x, \partial J) dp$$

and

$$\lim \int_{R^{\nu}} |o(p, x_n, \partial J)| dp = \lim \int_{R^{\nu}} |o(p, x, \partial J)| dp.$$

Proof. We repeat, with slight modifications, the argument in [C-3, pp. 95-96] for $\nu = 2$.

There exists a cube Q in R^{ν} which contains $\text{range } x$ and $\text{range } x_n$ for all n . If $v \in R_{\alpha}^{\nu}$ let $S_n^{\alpha}(v) = M(v, \pi_{\alpha} x_n, \partial J)/2$. By Theorem 1,

$$|o(p, x_n, \partial J)| \leq M(\pi_{\alpha} p, \pi_{\alpha} x_n, \partial J)/2$$

provided $\pi_{\alpha} p$ does not belong to a set $Z_{\alpha} \subset R_{\alpha}^{\nu}$ with measure $Z_{\alpha} = 0$. For each positive integer m let $I_{nm}^{\alpha} = \{v \in R_{\alpha}^{\nu} | S_n^{\alpha}(v) \geq m\}$. Thus

$$m |I_{nm}^{\alpha}| \leq \int_{I_{nm}^{\alpha}} S_n^{\alpha}(v) dv \leq \int_{R_{\alpha}^{\nu}} M(v, \pi_{\alpha} x_n, \partial J) dv$$

so that $|I_{nm}^{\alpha}| \leq Mm^{-1}$ for some $M > 0$.

Let

$$I_{nm} = \{p \in R^{\nu} | |o(p, x_n, \partial J)| \geq m\}$$

and

$$J_{nm} = \{p \in R^\nu \mid |o(p, x_n, \partial f)| = m\}.$$

If $p \in I_{nm}$ then $m \leq S_n^\alpha(p_\alpha)$. Thus $\pi_\alpha p \in I_{nm}^\alpha$. If i_{nm}^α and i_{nm} are the characteristic functions of I_{nm}^α and I_{nm} , respectively, then

$$i_{nm} \leq \prod_{\alpha=1}^{\nu} i_{nm}^\alpha \circ \pi_\alpha.$$

By Theorem 3, $|I_{nm}| \leq \prod_{\alpha=1}^{\nu} \|i_{nm}^\alpha\|_{\nu-1}$ so that $|I_{nm}| \leq (Mm^{-1})^{\nu/(\nu-1)}$. In addition, $I_{nm} = \bigcup_{r \geq m} J_{nr}$ so that $|I_{nm}| = \sum_{r \geq m} |J_{nr}|$. Thus, if $T_{nm} = \int_{I_{nm}} |o(p, x_n, \partial f)| dp$, then

$$\begin{aligned} T_{nm} &= \sum_{r \geq m} |J_{nr}| = m \sum_{r \geq m} |J_{nr}| + \sum_{r > m} (r - m) |J_{nr}| \\ &= m |I_{nm}| + \sum_{r > m} |J_{nr}| \sum_{s=m+1}^r 1 = m |I_{nm}| + \sum_{s > m} \sum_{r \geq s} |J_{nr}| = m |I_{nm}| + \sum_{s > m} |I_{ns}| \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$T_{nm} < m(Mm^{-1})^{\nu/(\nu-1)} + \sum_{r > m} (Mr^{-1})^{\nu/(\nu-1)}.$$

Now let $\epsilon > 0$. There exists m such that $T_{nm} < \epsilon/2$. Let $\eta = \epsilon/(2m)$ and b be a measurable subset of Q with $|b| < \eta$. Then $b = b' \cup b''$ where $b' = (Q \sim I_{nm}) \cap b$ and $b'' = I_{nm} \cap b$. Thus $\int_b |o(p, x_n, \partial f)| dp < \epsilon$ for all n , and the theorem follows.

Let $N \geq \nu$ and $E = R^N$.

We need the following well-known result.

Theorem 5. *Let Q be the unit cube in $R^{\nu-1}$ and let $s > \nu - 1$. There exists $K > 0$ depending only upon s and ν such that if $x \in C(\rho Q, E) \cap H_s^1(\text{Int } \rho Q, E)$ then*

$$\text{diam } x(\rho Q) \leq K \rho^{1-(\nu-1)/s} \|x'\|_s.$$

The proof consists of approximating x by smooth functions y and estimating the average distance from $y(p)$ to $y(q)$ for some fixed point $p \in \rho Q$, where q is an arbitrary point in ρQ .

If $A \subset E$ and $t > 0$ let $H^t(A)$ be the Hausdorff t -dimensional measure of A .

Corollary. *If $x \in C(Q, E) \cap H_s^1(\text{Int } Q, E)$, then $H^t(x(Q)) = 0$ for all $t > \nu - 1$.*

Proof. We can suppose that $t = s$. Let $\epsilon > 0$. Take n so large that $Kn^{(\nu-1-s)/s} \|x'\|_s < \epsilon/2$. Let Q be subdivided into congruent cubes Q_i ,

$i = 1, \dots, n^{\nu-1}$. Let $p_i \in Q_i$ and let B be the open unit ball in E . Then $x(p_i) + Kn^{(\nu-1-s)/s} \|x'\|_{s, Q_i} B$ is a ball which contains $x(Q_i)$ and has diameter less than ϵ . Furthermore,

$$\sum_i [Kn^{(\nu-1-s)/s} \|x'\|_{s, Q_i}]^s = K^s n^{\nu-1-s} \|x'\|_s^s$$

and this last term can be made arbitrarily small by taking n big enough.

If G is a bounded open set in R^ν and if $r \in R$ let

$$G^\alpha(r) = \{u \in G \mid u^\alpha = r\}, \quad \alpha = 1, \dots, \nu.$$

If x is a function defined on G let $x(\alpha, r) = x \mid G^\alpha(r)$.

The proof of the following lemma appears in [M-2, p. 118].

Lemma 1. *Let G be a bounded open set in R^ν and let (a^α, b^α) be the projection of G on the α th-axis. Suppose $x_m \in H_s^1(G, E)$ for $m = 1, 2, \dots$, and that $\{\|x_m\|_s^1\}$ is uniformly bounded. Then there exist*

(i) $D > d > 0$,

(ii) infinite subsets N_n of the natural numbers with $N_n \subset N_{n+1}$,

(iii) $\{t_{n,i}^\alpha \mid i = 1, \dots, 2^n + 1\} \subset [a^\alpha, b^\alpha]$, $t_{n,i-1}^\alpha < t_{n,i}^\alpha$ for $i \neq 1$, $t_{n,1}^\alpha = a^\alpha$,

and $t_{n,2^{n+1}}^\alpha = b^\alpha$,

(iv) $d \leq (t_{n,i}^\alpha - t_{n,i-1}^\alpha)/(b^\alpha - a^\alpha) \leq D$ for $i \neq 1$, such that $\{\|x_m(\alpha, t_{n,i}^\alpha)\|_s^1 \mid m \in N_n\}$ is uniformly bounded if $1 \neq i \neq 2^n + 1$.

From [G-Z] and the fact that Peano area is not bigger than Lebesgue area, it follows that

$$\{P(x_m(\alpha, t_{n,i}^\alpha)) \mid m \in N_n\}$$

is uniformly bounded if $1 \neq i \neq 2^n + 1$.

Now let ψ be continuous and nonnegative on $E \times T$ where $T = \bigwedge^\nu E$. If $a \in E$ let ψ_a be defined on T by $\psi_a(\sigma) = \psi(a, \sigma)$ for all $\sigma \in T$ and suppose that ψ_a is convex and that $\psi_a(\lambda\sigma) = \lambda\psi_a(\sigma)$ for all $\lambda > 0$ and $\sigma \in T$. Let

$$A = \{a \in E \mid \psi(a, \sigma) > 0 \text{ for all } \sigma \neq 0\}$$

and let

$$\theta(\zeta, a) = \max\{[\sigma, \zeta] \mid \psi(a, \sigma) \leq 1\}$$

for all $a \in A$ and $\zeta \in T' \approx \bigwedge^\nu E'$. Finally, let

$$\tau(\zeta, a) = \begin{cases} 1/\theta(\zeta, a) & \text{if } \zeta \neq 0 \text{ and } a \in A, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then τ_ζ is lower semicontinuous, where $\tau_\zeta(a) = \tau(\zeta, a)$. In fact, $\tau_\zeta \mid A$ is continuous, [S-3]. Furthermore, $\psi(a, \sigma) = \sup_\zeta \tau(\zeta, a)[\sigma, \zeta]$.

If $\eta \in E'^\nu$ let $\eta^* \in L(E, R^\nu)$ be defined by

$$\eta^* b = \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} [b, \eta^i] e_i$$

where, as usual, $e_i \in R^\nu$, $e_i^j = \delta_i^j$. Let G be an open subset of R^ν and let $C = C(G, E)$, with the topology of uniform convergence on compact subsets of G . If $x \in C$ and $\eta \in E'^\nu$ then $\eta^* x$ is a flat map from G to R^ν . We saw, [S-3], that if J is a polyhedron contained in G and if $\xi \in E'^\nu$ with $\xi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \xi_\nu = \eta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \eta_\nu$, then

$$\int_{R^\nu} K^\pm(q, \xi^* x, J) dq = \int_{R^\nu} K^\pm(r, \eta^* x, J) dr$$

where the integrands are the positive or negative essential multiplicity functions. Thus if ζ is a simple element of T' we can define

$$\mathcal{K}^\pm(\zeta, x, J) = \int_{R^\nu} K^\pm(q, \xi^* x, J) dq$$

where $\zeta = \xi^1 \wedge \dots \wedge \xi^\nu$. Similarly, we can define

$$A(\zeta, x, J) = \int_{R^\nu} O(p, \xi^* x, J) dp.$$

If $|\xi^* x(\partial J)| = 0$ then

$$A(\zeta, x, J) = \mathcal{K}^+(\zeta, x, J) - \mathcal{K}^-(\zeta, x, J).$$

If $P(x)$ is finite then the Lebesgue derivatives of $A(\zeta, x, \cdot)$, $\mathcal{K}^+(\zeta, x, \cdot)$ and $\mathcal{K}^-(\zeta, x, \cdot)$ are $J_e(\xi^* x)$, the essential generalized Jacobian of $\xi^* x$, $J_e^+(\xi^* x)$ and $J_e^-(\xi^* x)$, and

$$|J_e(\xi^* x)| = J_e^+(\xi^* x) + J_e^-(\xi^* x)$$

almost everywhere [R-R, pp. 258–261].

Now suppose ζ is an arbitrary element of T' . Let \mathcal{J} be the collection of all increasing ν -termed subsequence of the integers $1, 2, \dots, N$. Then $\zeta = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{J}} \zeta_\lambda e^\lambda$ for suitable $\zeta_\lambda \in R$ where $e^\lambda = e^{\lambda_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{\lambda_\nu}$ if $\lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_\nu\}$. We define

$$A(\zeta, x, J) = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{J}} \zeta_\lambda A(e^\lambda, x, J).$$

Let $\mathcal{U} = \{J \in \mathcal{P} \mid J \subset G\}$. If $x \in C$, $\zeta \in T'$ and $J \in \mathcal{U}$ let

$$H(x, J, \zeta) = \min \{r(\zeta, x(p)) \mid p \in J\},$$

so that [S-3], H is lower semicontinuous on C for fixed J and ζ .

If $x \in C(G, E)$ and if $P(x) < \infty$ let

$$P_\psi(x) = \sup_\sigma \sum_{J \in \sigma} \sup_\zeta H(x, J, \zeta) A(\zeta, x, J)$$

where σ is a finite subset of \mathcal{U} whose distinct elements are nonoverlapping.

We recall that $P(x) = P_{\psi_0}(x)$ where $\psi_0(a, \sigma) = \|\sigma\|$ for all $a \in E$ and $\sigma \in T$.

Lemma 2. Let $\{t_{n,i}^a\}$ satisfy (i)–(iv) of Lemma 1 and let \mathcal{U} be the set of all those $J \in \mathcal{P}$ whose faces lie on $G^\alpha(t_{n,i}^a)$, $1 \neq i \neq 2^n + 1$. Suppose that $H^\nu(x|\partial J) = 0$ for some $x \in C(G, E)$ and all $J \in \mathcal{U}$. Let τ be a finite set of nonoverlapping polyhedra of \mathcal{U} . If $P(x) < \infty$, then

$$P_\psi(x) = \sup_\tau \sum_{J \in \tau} \sup_\zeta H(x, J, \zeta) A(\zeta, x, J).$$

Proof. Let $J \in \mathcal{U}$. There exist $J_n \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $J_n \subset J_{n+1} \subset J$ and if K is a compact subset of $\text{Int } J$, then $K \subset J_n$ for sufficiently large n . Hence if $\xi \in E'^\nu$ then

$$|O(p, \xi^*x, J_n)| \leq M(p, \xi^*x, J) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_n O(p, \xi^*x, J_n) = O(p, \xi^*x, J) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Thus $A(\zeta, x, J_n) \rightarrow A(\zeta, x, J)$ for all $\zeta \in T'$ and the lemma follows.

Theorem 6. Let $s > \nu - 1$ and let $x_n \in C(G, E) \cap H_s^1(G, E)$ with $P(x_n) < \infty$ and $\{\|x_n\|_s^1\}$ uniformly bounded. If $x_n \rightarrow x$ in $C(G, E)$ and if $P(x) < \infty$ then $P_\psi(x) \leq \liminf P_\psi(x_n)$.

Proof. Let us use the notation of Lemmas 1 and 2. A subsequence x_{n_k} converges weakly to y in $H_s^1(G, E)$. Thus x_{n_k} converges weakly to y in $L_s(G, E)$. Since x_{n_k} converges weakly to x in $L_s(G', E)$ for any G' with $G' \subset G$, thus $x = y$ so that $x \in H_s^1(G, E)$ and $\|x\|_s^1 \leq \liminf \|x_{n_k}\|_s^1$. Similarly,

$$x(\alpha, t_{n,i}^a) \in H_s^1(G^\alpha(t_{n,i}^a))$$

and $\|x(\alpha, t_{n,i}^a)\|_s^1$ is finite for each (α, n, i) provided $1 \neq i \neq 2^n + 1$. Let $\epsilon > 0$. There exists a finite subset τ of \mathcal{U} with $|\tau|$ elements, whose distinct elements are nonoverlapping, and $\zeta_J \in T'$ for each $J \in \tau$ such that

$$P_\psi(x) - \epsilon < \sum_{J \in \tau} H(x, J, \zeta_J) A(\zeta_J, x, J).$$

There is no loss in generality in supposing that $\lim P_\psi(x_n)$ exists. There exists a subsequence $\{x_{n_k}\}$ such that $\{\|x_{n_k}\|_s^1 | \partial J\|_s^1\}$ is uniformly bounded for each $J \in \tau$. Since $s > \nu - 1$, the Lebesgue area of $x_{n_k} | \partial J$ is given by the usual formula [G-Z]. Hence $\{P(x_{n_k}) | \partial J\}$ is uniformly bounded for each

$J \in \tau$. If $\xi \in E'^\nu$ then $\xi^* x_{n_k}$ and $\xi^* x$ are all continuous on ∂J , $\xi^* x_{n_k}$ converges uniformly to $\xi^* x$ on ∂J , $\{P(\xi^* x_{n_k})|\partial J\}$ is uniformly bounded and, by the corollary to Theorem 5, $|\xi^* x(\partial J)| \leq |x(\partial J)| = 0$. Thus by Theorem 4 and the definition of A ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A(\zeta, x_{n_k}, J) = A(\zeta, x, J)$$

where $\zeta = \xi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \xi_\nu$. Hence there exists M such that

$$\sum_{J \in \tau} H(\zeta_J, J, x) A(\zeta_J, x, J) < \sum_{J \in \tau} H(\zeta_J, J, x_{n_k}) A(\zeta_J, x_{n_k}, J) + \epsilon$$

for all $k > M$. Thus $P_\psi(x) - \epsilon < P_\psi(x_{n_k}) + \epsilon$ for all $k > M$.

If x is differentiable, let $\wedge x' = x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_\nu$. Thus

$$\psi(x, \wedge x') = \sup_{\zeta \in T'} \tau(x, \zeta) [\wedge x', \zeta].$$

If $\lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu\} \in \mathfrak{J}$ let $x^\lambda = (x^{\lambda_1}, \dots, x^{\lambda_\nu})$. If $\zeta = \sum \zeta_\lambda e^\lambda$ then $[\wedge x', \zeta] = \sum \zeta_\lambda J(x^\lambda)$. If x is eBV we define

$$\psi(x, \wedge x') = \sup_{\zeta \in T'} \tau(x, \zeta) \sum_{\lambda \in \mathfrak{J}} \zeta_\lambda J_e(x^\lambda)$$

and let $I_\psi(x) = \int_G \psi(x, \wedge x')$.

Theorem 7. If x is eBV then $P_\psi(x) \geq I_\psi(x)$ and the equality holds if x is eAC.

We use the proof of [S-3]. If $\phi(J) = P_\psi(x|J)$ then ϕ is superadditive so that $DP_\psi(x)$ exists almost everywhere. Let $\zeta \in T'$. Then

$$DP_\psi(x) \geq \tau(x, \zeta) \sum_{\lambda \in \mathfrak{J}} \zeta_\lambda J_e(x^\lambda)$$

almost everywhere. Hence $P_\psi(x) \geq I_\psi(x)$. Now suppose that x is eAC. If $\zeta \in T'$ then

$$\psi(x, \wedge x') \geq \tau(x, \zeta) \sum_{\lambda \in \mathfrak{J}} \zeta_\lambda J_e(x^\lambda)$$

so that

$$I_\psi(x|J) \geq H(x, \zeta, J) \sum_{\lambda \in \mathfrak{J}} \zeta_\lambda A(e^\lambda, x, J) = H(x, \zeta, J) A(\zeta, x, J)$$

so that $I_\psi(x) \geq P_\psi(x)$.

Theorem 8. If $x \in H_\nu^1(G, E) \cap C(G, E)$ then x is eAC.

Proof. If $\xi \in E'^\nu$ let $J(\xi^* x)$ be the ordinary Jacobian of $\xi^* x$. By [G-Z], $L(\xi^* x) = I_{\psi_0}(\xi^* x) < \infty$, where L denotes Lebesgue area. Since $P \leq L$, it follows that x is eBV. By [R-R, p. 351], $J(\xi^* x) = J_e(\xi^* x)$ a.e. if $\xi^* x$ has a weak

total differential almost everywhere. By [G-Z], ξ^*x has a weak total differential almost everywhere. According to [R-R, p. 261], $I_{\psi_0}(\xi^*x) \leq P(\xi^*x)$ with equality holding if and only if ξ^*x is eAC. The theorem follows since $I_{\psi_0}(\xi^*x) \leq P(\xi^*x) \leq L(\xi^*x) = I_{\psi_0}(\xi^*x)$.

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