

Lecture¹ 7

Restriction and Support

Definition 1. Let $u \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$ and consider $\omega \subset \Omega$ open. The **restriction** $u|_{\omega} \in \mathcal{D}'(\omega)$ of u to ω is defined by:

$$\langle u|_{\omega}, \phi \rangle = \langle u, \phi \rangle, \quad \forall \phi \in \mathcal{D}(\omega).$$

Theorem 1. Let $u \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$. The following hold:

a) $u|_{\Omega} = u$.

b) If $\sigma \subseteq \omega \subseteq \Omega$ is open, then $(u|_{\omega})|_{\sigma} = u|_{\sigma}$.

c) Let $\{\omega_{\alpha}\}$ be an open cover of Ω , then $u|_{\omega_{\alpha}} = 0 \implies u = 0$.

d) Let $\{\omega_{\alpha}\}$ be an open cover. Suppose $u_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{D}'(\omega_{\alpha})$ satisfying

$$u_{\alpha}|_{\omega_{\alpha} \cap \omega_{\beta}} = u_{\beta}|_{\omega_{\alpha} \cap \omega_{\beta}}, \forall \alpha, \beta \implies \exists u \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega) \text{ s.t } u|_{\omega_{\alpha}} = u_{\alpha}, \forall \alpha.$$

Proof. d) Let $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$, $K = \text{supp}\phi$ compact and consider a partition of unity $\{\chi_{\alpha}\}$ of K subordinate to $\{\omega_{\alpha}\}$.

$$\langle u, \phi \rangle := \sum_{\alpha} \langle u_{\alpha}, \chi_{\alpha} \phi \rangle.$$

Suppose $\{\xi_{\beta}\}$ another partition of unity, we have

$$\sum_{\beta} \langle u_{\beta}, \xi_{\beta} \phi \rangle = \sum_{\beta} \langle u_{\beta}, \sum_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha} \xi_{\beta} \phi \rangle \tag{1}$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta} \langle u_{\beta}, \chi_{\alpha} \xi_{\beta} \phi \rangle \tag{2}$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta} \langle u_{\alpha}, \chi_{\alpha} \xi_{\beta} \phi \rangle \tag{3}$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha} \langle u_{\alpha}, \sum_{\beta} \xi_{\beta} \chi_{\alpha} \phi \rangle \tag{4}$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha} \langle u_{\alpha}, \chi_{\alpha} \phi \rangle \tag{5}$$

To establish continuity, consider $K \subset \Omega$ compact, $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(K)$,

$$|\langle u, \phi \rangle| \leq \sum_{\alpha} |\langle u_{\alpha}, \chi_{\alpha} \phi \rangle| \tag{6}$$

$$\leq \sum_{\alpha} C_{\alpha} \|\chi_{\alpha} \phi\|_{C^{m_{\alpha}}(K)} \tag{7}$$

$$\leq \sum_{\alpha} C'_{\alpha} \|\phi\|_{C^{m_{\alpha}}(K)} \tag{8}$$

$$\leq C \|\phi\|_{C^m(K)}. \tag{9}$$

□

¹Notes by Ibrahim Al Balushi

Definition 2. Let $u \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$. The *support* of u ,

$$\text{supp } u = \Omega \setminus \bigcup \{ \omega \subset \Omega \text{ open} : u|_{\omega} = 0 \}$$