

(iv) Let $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $1 \leq p < \infty$.

We know that:

$$f_\varepsilon = \psi_\varepsilon * f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

We want to show now that:

$$\psi_\varepsilon * f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n) \text{ and } \|\psi_\varepsilon * f\|_p \leq \|f\|_p.$$

Since $\psi_\varepsilon \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $\|\psi_\varepsilon\|_1 = 1$, the desired result follows from the following:

Claim: If $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $1 \leq p < \infty$
and $g \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then $f * g \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$

and

$$\|f * g\|_p \leq \|f\|_p \|g\|_1.$$

Proof of the claim:

Since $|f * g| \leq |f| * |g|$ we need to prove the claim only for $f, g \geq 0$.

For $p=1$:

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

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

Here, we applied Tonelli's Theorem to interchange

the order of integration. Recall 10.152 that Tonelli's theorem hypothesis is only that the integrand is a non-negative function, and in this proof, $f, g \geq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (f * g)(x) dx &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x-y) dx \\ &= \|f\|_1 \|g\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

For $1 < p < \infty$:

$$\begin{aligned} (f * g)(x) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) (g(x-y))^{1/p} (g(x-y))^{1-1/p} dy \\ &\leq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f^p(y) g(x-y) dy \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x-y)^{p'-p/p} dy \right)^{1/p'} \end{aligned}$$

(Here we used Holder's inequality)

$$= \left[(f^p * g)(x) \right]^{1/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x-y) dy \right)^{1-1/p}$$

$$\text{Since } \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{p'}{p} + 1 = p'$$

$$= \left[(f^p * g)(x) \right]^{1/p} \|g\|_1^{1-1/p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (f * g)^p(x) dx &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (f^p * g)(x) dx \|g\|_1^{p-1} \\ &= \|f^p\|_1 \|g\|_1 \|g\|_1^{p-1} = \|f\|_p^p \|g\|_1^p \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

We proceed to show:

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$$\|f - f_\varepsilon\|_p \rightarrow 0.$$

Recall that:

$C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is dense in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$

(Use Corollary 144.1 to show that step functions are dense in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and then approximate step functions by continuous functions).

$$\therefore \forall \eta > 0 \exists g \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n) \text{ s.t.} \\ \underline{\|f - g\|_p < \eta}.$$

We estimate:

$$\|f - f_\varepsilon\|_p \leq \|f - g\|_p + \|g - g_\varepsilon\|_p + \|g_\varepsilon - f_\varepsilon\|_p \quad (A)$$

g continuous $\Rightarrow g_\varepsilon \rightarrow g$ uniformly on a compact set K with:

$$\text{Spt}(g_\varepsilon), \text{Spt}(g) \subset K.$$

$$\therefore \exists \varepsilon_0 \text{ s.t. } |g_\varepsilon(x) - g(x)|^p < \frac{\eta^p}{\lambda(K)} \quad \forall x \in K, \forall \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \|g - g_\varepsilon\|_p &= \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |g - g_\varepsilon|^p dx \right)^{1/p} = \left(\int_K |g(x) - g_\varepsilon(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \left(\int_K \frac{\eta^p}{\lambda(K)} dx \right)^{1/p} = \left(\frac{\eta^p \lambda(K)}{\lambda(K)} \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \eta, \quad \forall \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \|g - g_\varepsilon\|_p \leq \eta, \quad \forall \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$$

We have also proved above that.

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_\varepsilon - f_\varepsilon\|_p &= \|(g - f)_\varepsilon\|_p \\ &\leq \|g - f\|_p \\ &\leq \eta. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \underline{\|g_\varepsilon - f_\varepsilon\|_p \leq \eta.}$$

From (A):

$$\|f - f_\varepsilon\|_p \leq \eta + \eta + \eta = 3\eta, \quad \forall \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$$

This shows that:

$$\|f - f_\varepsilon\|_p \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

Definition: Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open set. A linear functional T on $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$ is a distribution if and only if for every compact set $K \subset \Omega$, there exist constants C and N such that

$$|T(\varphi)| \leq C \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \sup_{x \in K} |D^\alpha \varphi(x)|, \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \text{ spt}(\varphi) \subset K.$$

If N can be chosen independent of the compact set K , and N is the smallest possible choice, the distribution is said to be of order N .

Define:

$$\|\varphi\|_{K;N} := \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \sup_{x \in K} |D^\alpha \varphi(x)|$$

Note:

$\|\varphi\|_{K;0}$ is the sup norm of φ on K .

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Ex: Let μ be a signed Radon measure on Ω .

Define

$$T: \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$T(\varphi) = \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x) d\mu(x)$$

Fix $K \subset \Omega$ compact set, let $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$, $\text{spt}(\varphi) \subset K$; then:

$$|T(\varphi)| \leq \int_{\Omega} |\varphi| d|\mu| = \int_K |\varphi| d|\mu|$$

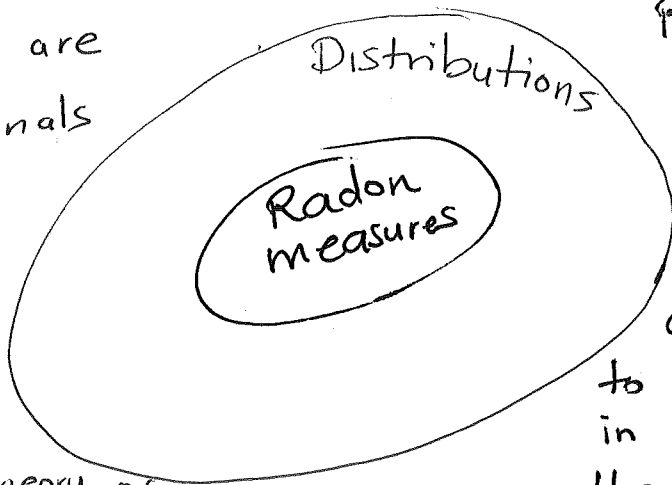
$$\leq \|\varphi\|_{\infty} |\mu|(K)$$

$$= C \|\varphi\|_{K;0}, \quad C = |\mu|(K)$$

\therefore "A Radon measure can be identified with a distribution of order 0".

Distributions are linear functionals defined on $C_c^\infty(\Omega)$ and

continuous with respect to the topology in $C_c^\infty(\Omega)$ induced by the theory of locally convex topological vector spaces (l.c.t.v.s.).



Radon measures are linear functionals defined on $C_c(\Omega)$ and continuous with respect to the topology in $C_c(\Omega)$ induced by the theory of l.c.t.v.s.

Ex. Let $f \in L^1_{loc}(\Omega)$.

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Define

$$T: \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$T(\varphi) = \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x) f(x) d\lambda(x).$$

Fix $K \subset \Omega$ compact set, and let $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$,
 $\text{spt}(\varphi) \subset K$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} |T(\varphi)| &= \left| \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x) f(x) d\lambda(x) \right| \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} |\varphi| |f| d\lambda(x) = \int_K |\varphi| |f| d\lambda \\ &\leq \|\varphi\|_{\infty} \int_K |f| d\lambda \\ &= C \|\varphi\|_{K;0}, \quad C = \int_K |f| d\lambda \end{aligned}$$

A locally integrable function can be identified with a Radon measure:

$$f \longrightarrow \mu := f\lambda,$$

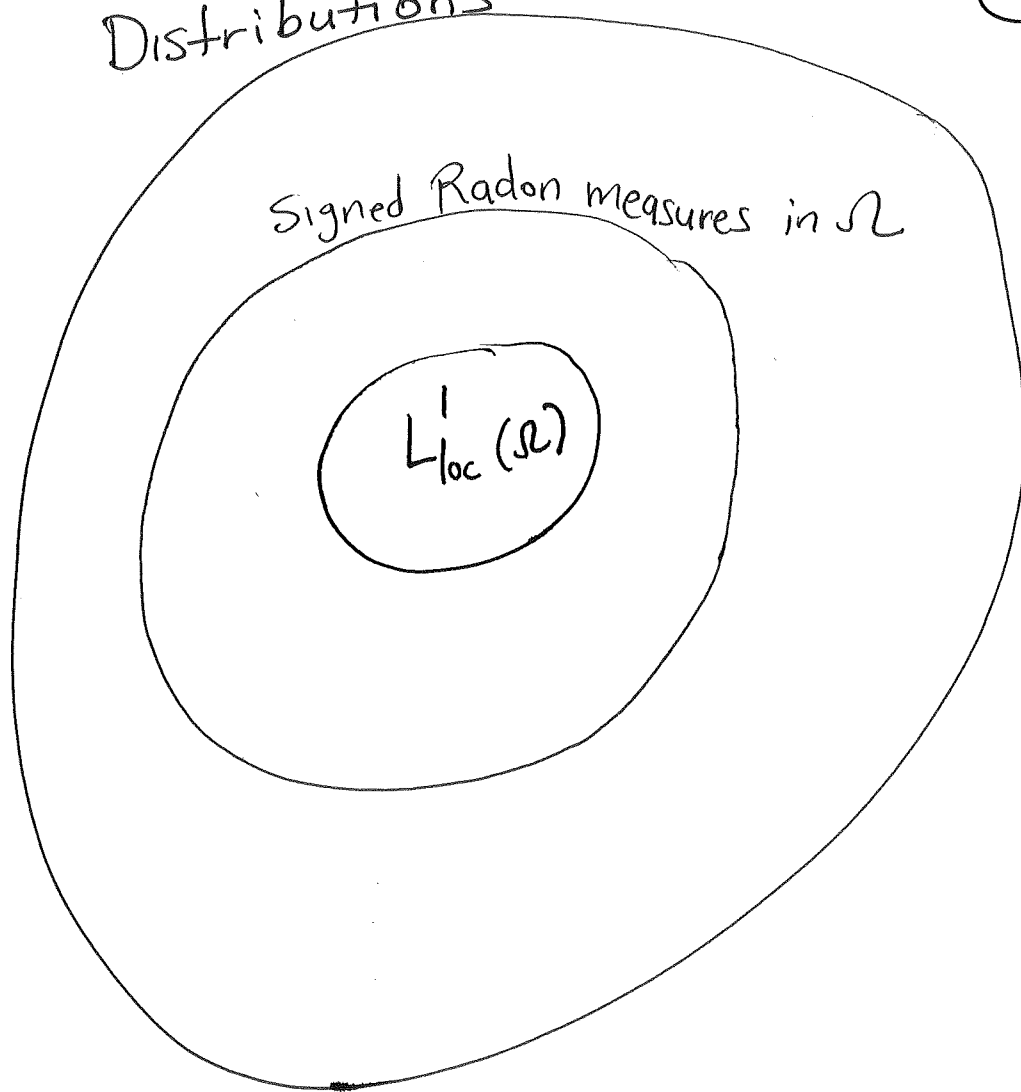
and therefore identified with a distribution of order 0. In fact, given $f \in L^1_{loc}(\Omega)$ we associate the measure $f\lambda$ defined as:

$$f\lambda(E) = \int_E f(x) d\lambda(x), \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{M}.$$

Then:

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Distributions



Ex: Consider the Dirac measure δ whose total mass is concentrated at the origin:

$$\delta(E) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \in E \\ 0 & 0 \notin E. \end{cases}$$

The distribution identified with this measure is defined by:

$$T(\varphi) = \varphi(0), \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$$