

# A Variational Problem Governed by a Differential Inclusion in a Banach Space

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a real separable reflexive Banach space. A correspondence (= multi-valued mapping)  $\Gamma : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and a function  $u : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  are assumed to be given. A double arrow  $\rightarrow$  indicates the domain and the range of a correspondence. The compact interval  $[0, T]$  is endowed with the Lebesgue measure  $dt$ .  $\mathcal{L}$  denotes the  $\sigma$ -field of the Lebesgue-measurable sets of  $[0, T]$ .

Let  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  be the Sobolev space consisting of functions of  $[0, T]$  into  $\mathcal{X}$  (cf. Appendix) And let  $\Delta(a)$  be the set of all the solutions in the Sobolev space  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  of a differential inclusion :

$$(*) \quad \dot{x}(t) \in \Gamma(t, x(t)), x(0) = a,$$

where  $\dot{x}$  denotes the derivative of  $x$  and  $a$  is a fixed vector in  $\mathcal{X}$ . And consider a variational problem :

$$(\#) \quad \text{Minimize}_{x \in \Delta(a)} \int_0^T u(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt.$$

The object of this paper is to discuss a couple of existence problems as follows :

- (i) the existence of a solution for the differential inclusion (\*), and
- (ii) the existence of an optimal solution for the variational problem (#).

In Maruyama [14] [15], I presented a solution of these problems in the special case  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^\ell$  by making use of the convenient properties of the weak convergence in the Sobolev space  $\mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^\ell)$ ; i.e. if a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^\ell)$ , weakly converges to some  $x^* \in \mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^\ell)$ , then there exists a subsequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} z_n &\rightarrow x^* \quad \text{uniformly on } [0, T], \text{ and} \\ \dot{z}_n &\rightarrow \dot{x}^* \quad \text{weakly in } \mathcal{L}^2([0, T], \mathbb{R}^\ell). \end{aligned} \tag{W}$$

However it deserves a special notice that this property does not hold in the space  $\mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  if  $\dim \mathcal{X} = \infty$ . Taking account of this fact, I provided a new convergence result to overcome this difficulty in the case  $\mathcal{X}$  is a real separable Hilbert space in Maruyama [17]. And I also gave an existence theory for the problems (i) and (ii) being based upon this new tool in the framework of a separable Hilbert space in Maruyama [17],[18].

The purpose of the present paper is to generalize my previous results to the case  $\mathcal{X}$  is a real separable reflexive Banach space. Papageorgiou [19] also gave an elegant extension of my results in Maruyama [14],[15] to the infinite dimensional case. The present paper might be regarded as an alternative approach to Papageorgiou's theory.

Let me mention about another improvement added on this occasion. In Maruyama [17], I imposed a very restrictive requirement on the continuity of the correspondence  $\Gamma$ ; i.e.

the correspondence  $x \mapsto \Gamma(t, x)$  is upper hemi-continuous for each fixed  $t \in [0, T]$  with respect to the weak topology for the domain and the strong topology for the range.

I have to admit frankly that this is a very unpleasant assumption. In the present paper, I propose the upper hemi-continuity of  $x \mapsto \Gamma(t, x)$  with respect to the "weak-weak" combination of topologies instead of the "weak-strong" combination.

## 2 A Convergence Theorem in $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$

As I have already said, any weakly convergent sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in the Sobolev space  $\mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^\ell)$  has a subsequence which satisfies the property (W) in section 1.

On the other hand, let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a real Banach space with the Radon-Nikodým property (RNP). Then any absolutely continuous function  $f : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is Fréchet-differentiable a.e. (If the Banach space  $\mathcal{X}$  does not have RNP, this property does not hold. For a counter-example, see Komura [13].) Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  which weakly converges to some  $x^* \in \mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$ .

We should keep in mind that it is not necessarily true that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  has a subsequence  $\{z_n\}$  which satisfies the property (W) if  $\dim \mathcal{X} = \infty$  even in the case  $p = 2$ .

**Counter-Example** (Cecconi[9], pp:28-29) Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a real separable Hilbert space and  $\{\varphi_n; n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  a complete orthonormal system of  $\mathcal{H}$ . (cf. Yosida [28] P.89.) Define a sequence  $\{x_n : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{H}\}$  by

$$x_n(t) = t\varphi_n \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

We also define the function  $x^* : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  by  $x^*(t) \equiv 0$ . Then  $x_n$ 's as well as  $x^*$  are elements of  $\mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, T], \mathcal{H})$ . It follows from the Riemann-Lebesgue lemma that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  weakly converges to  $x^*$  in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,2}([0, 1], \mathcal{H})$ . However there is no subsequence of  $\{x_n\}$  which converges strongly (hence uniformly) to  $x^*$  in  $\mathcal{L}^2([0, 1], \mathcal{H})$ .

The following theorem cultivated to overcome this difficulty is a generalization of Theorem 1 of Maruyama [18].

Henceforth we denote by  $\mathcal{X}$ , (resp.  $\mathcal{X}_w$ ) a Banach space  $\mathcal{X}$  endowed with the strong (resp. weak) topology.

**THEOREM 1.** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a real separable reflexive Banach space. And consider a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in the Sobolev space  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  ( $p \geq 1$ ). Assume that

- (i) the set  $\{x_n(t)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is bounded (and hence relatively compact) in  $\mathcal{X}_w$  for each  $t \in [0, T]$ , and
- (ii) there exists some function  $\psi \in \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], (0, +\infty))$  such that

$$\| \dot{x}_n(t) \| \leq \psi(t) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Then there exists a subsequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and some  $x^* \in \mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  such that

- (a)  $z_n \rightarrow x^*$  uniformly in  $\mathcal{X}_w$  on  $[0, T]$ , and
- (b)  $\dot{z}_n \rightarrow \dot{x}^*$  weakly in  $\mathcal{L}^p(0, T], \mathcal{X})$ .

**Remark** Since  $\mathcal{X}$  is separable and reflexive, the following results holds true. Assume that  $p \geq 1$ .

- [I]  $\mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  is separable.

- [II]  $\mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X})'$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{L}^q([0, T], \mathcal{X}')$ , where  $1/p + 1/q = 1$  and “ , ” denotes the dual space.
- [III] Any absolutely continuous function  $f : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is Fréchet-differentiable a.e. and the “fundamental theorem of calculus” , i.e.

$$f(t) = f(0) + \int_0^t \dot{f}(\tau) d\tau; t \in [0, T]$$

is valid.

**Proof of Theorem 1.** (a) To start with, we shall show the equicontinuity of  $\{x_n\}$ . Since  $\psi$  is integrable, there exists some  $\delta > 0$  for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$\|x_n(t) - x_n(s)\| \leq \int_s^t \|\dot{x}_n(\tau)\| d\tau \leq \int_s^t \psi(\tau) d\tau \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } n$$

provided that  $|t - s| \leq \delta$ . This proves the equicontinuity of  $\{x_n\}$  in the strong topology for  $\mathcal{X}$ . Hence  $\{x_n\}$  is also equicontinuous in the weak topology for  $\mathcal{X}$ .

Taking account of this fact as well as the assumption (i), we can claim, thanks to the Ascoli-Arzelà theorem (cf. Schwartz[21] p.78), that  $\{x_n\}$  is relatively compact in  $\mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathcal{X}_w)$  (the set of continuous functions of  $[0, T]$  into  $\mathcal{X}_w$ ) with respect to the topology of uniform convergence.

By the assumption (i),  $\{x_n(0)\}$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{X}$ , say

$$\sup_n \|x_n(0)\| \leq C < +\infty.$$

And the assumption (ii) implies that

$$\left\| \int_0^t \dot{x}_n(\tau) d\tau \right\| \leq \|\psi\|_1 \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T].$$

Hence

$$\sup_n \|x_n(t)\| = \sup_n \left\| x_n(0) + \int_0^t \dot{x}_n(\tau) d\tau \right\| \leq C + \|\psi\|_1$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Thus each  $x_n$  can be regarded as a mapping of  $[0, T]$  into the set

$$M = \{w \in \mathcal{X} \mid \|w\| \leq C + \|\psi\|_1\}.$$

The weak topology on  $M$  is metrizable because  $M$  is bounded and  $\mathcal{X}$  is a

separable reflexive Banach space. Hence if we denote by  $M_w$  the space  $M$  endowed with the weak topology, then the uniform convergence topology on  $\mathcal{C}([0, T], M_w)$  is metrizable.

Since we can regard  $\{x_n\}$  as a relatively compact subset of  $\mathcal{C}([0, T], M_w)$ , there exists a subsequence  $\{y_n\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  which uniformly converges to some  $x^* \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathcal{X}_w)$ .

(b) Since

$$\|\dot{y}_n(t)\| \leq \psi(t) \quad \text{a.e.,}$$

the sequence  $\{w_n : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}\}$  defined by

$$w_n(t) = \frac{\dot{y}_n(t)}{\psi(t)}; \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

is contained in the unit ball of  $\mathcal{L}^\infty([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  which is weak\*-compact (as the dual space of  $\mathcal{L}^1([0, T], \mathcal{X}')$ ) by Alaoglu's theorem. Note that the weak\* topology on the unit ball of  $\mathcal{L}^\infty([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  is metrizable since  $\mathcal{L}^1([0, T], \mathcal{X}')$  is separable. Hence  $\{w_n\}$  has a subsequence  $\{w_{n'}\}$  which converges to some  $w^* \in \mathcal{L}^\infty([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  in the weak\* topology. We shall write  $\dot{z}_n = \dot{y}_{n'} = \psi \cdot w_{n'}$ .

If we define an operator  $A : \mathcal{L}^\infty([0, T], \mathcal{X}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^p[0, T], \mathcal{X}$  by

$$A : g \mapsto \psi \cdot g,$$

then  $A$  is continuous in the weak\* topology for  $\mathcal{L}^\infty$  and the weak topology for  $\mathcal{L}^p$ . In order to see this, let  $\{g_\lambda\}$  be a net in  $\mathcal{L}^\infty([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  such that  $w^* - \lim_\lambda g_\lambda = g^* \in \mathcal{L}^\infty([0, T], \mathcal{X})$ ; i.e.

$$\int_0^T \langle \alpha(t), g_\lambda(t) \rangle dt \rightarrow \int_0^T \langle \alpha(t), g^*(t) \rangle dt \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in \mathcal{L}^1([0, T], \mathcal{X}').$$

Then it is quite easy to verify that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \langle \beta(t), \psi(t)g_\lambda(t) \rangle dt &= \int_0^T \langle \psi(t)\beta(t), g_\lambda(t) \rangle dt \\ &\rightarrow \int_0^T \langle \psi(t)\beta(t), g^*(t) \rangle dt \\ \text{for all } \beta &\in \mathcal{L}^q([0, T], \mathcal{X}'), \quad 1/p + 1/q = 1 \end{aligned}$$

since  $\psi \cdot \beta \in \mathcal{L}^1([0, T], \mathcal{X}')$ . This proves the continuity of  $A$ .

Hence

$$\dot{z}_n = \psi \cdot w_{n'} \rightarrow \psi \cdot w^* \quad \text{weakly in } \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X}), \quad (1)$$

which implies

$$\langle \theta, \int_s^t \dot{z}_n(\tau) d\tau \rangle = \int_s^t \langle \theta, \dot{z}_n(\tau) \rangle d\tau \rightarrow \int_s^t \langle \theta, \psi(\tau) \cdot w^*(\tau) \rangle d\tau \quad \text{for all } \theta \in \mathcal{X}'. \quad (2)$$

On the other hand, since

$$z_n(t) - z_n(s) = \int_s^t \dot{z}_n(\tau) d\tau \quad \text{for all } n,$$

and  $z_n(t) - z_n(s) \rightarrow x^*(t) - x^*(s)$  in  $\mathcal{X}_w$ , we get

$$\langle \theta, \int_s^t \dot{z}_n(\tau) d\tau \rangle = \langle \theta, z_n(t) - z_n(s) \rangle \rightarrow \langle \theta, x^*(t) - x^*(s) \rangle \quad \text{for all } \theta \in \mathcal{X}'. \quad (3)$$

(2) and (3) imply that

$$\langle \theta, x^*(t) - x^*(s) \rangle = \langle \theta, \int_s^t \psi(\tau) \cdot w^*(\tau) d\tau \rangle \quad \text{for all } \theta \in \mathcal{X}',$$

from which we can deduce the equality

$$x^*(t) - x^*(s) = \int_s^t \psi(\tau) \cdot w^*(\tau) d\tau. \quad (4)$$

By (1) and (4), we get the desired result :

$$\dot{z}_n \rightarrow \dot{x}^* = \psi \cdot w^* \quad \text{weakly in } \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X}).$$

□

In the proof of our Theorem 1, we are making use of some ideas of Aubin and Cellina [1] (pp.13-14). However their reasoning does not seem to be perfectly sound.

### 3 Differential Inclusions (1)

In this section, we prepare several lemmas which are to play crucial roles in the existence theory for differential inclusions.

Throughout this section,  $\mathcal{X}$  is assumed to be a real separable reflexive Banach space.

Let us begin by specifying some assumptions imposed on the correspondence  $\Gamma : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}_w \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$ . Special attentions should be paid to the fact that both of the domain and the range of  $\Gamma$  are endowed with the weak topologies.

**Assumption 1.**  $\Gamma$  is compact-convex-valued ; i.e.  $\Gamma(t, x)$  is a non-empty, compact and convex subset of  $\mathcal{X}_w$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$  and all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ .

**Assumption 2.** The correspondence  $x \mapsto \Gamma(t, x)$  is upper hemi-continuous (abbreviated as u.h.c.) for each fixed  $t \in [0, T]$  ; i.e. for any fixed  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}_w$  and for any neighborhood  $V$  of  $\Gamma(t, x) \subset \mathcal{X}_w$ , there exists some neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that  $\Gamma(t, z) \subset V$  for all  $z \in U$ .

**Assumption 3.** The graph of the correspondence  $t \mapsto \Gamma(t, x)$  is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable for each fixed  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  where  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w)$  denotes the Borel  $\sigma$ -field on  $\mathcal{X}_w$ . (For the concept of "measurability" of a correspondence, the best reference is Castaing-Valadier [8] Chap.III.)

**Assumption 4.**  $\Gamma$  is  $\mathcal{L}^p$ -integrably bounded ; i.e. there exists  $\psi \in \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], (0, +\infty))$  ( $p > 1$ ) such that  $\Gamma(t, x) \subset S_{\psi(t)}$  for every  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}$ , where  $S_{\psi(t)}$  is the closed ball in  $\mathcal{X}$  with the center 0 and the radius  $\psi(t)$ .

The following lemma is essentially due to Castaing [5].

**LEMMA 1** (Castaing [5]) Suppose that a correspondence  $\Gamma : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  satisfies the Assumptions 1-3, and that a function  $x : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is Bochner-integrable. Then there exists a closed-valued correspondence  $\Sigma : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$  such that

$$\Sigma(t) \subset \Gamma(t, x(t)) \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T],$$

and the graph  $G(\Sigma)$  of  $\Sigma$  is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable.

**Proof.** Let  $\{x_n : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}\}$  be a sequence of simple functions which satisfies that

$$\|x_n(t) - x(t)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for each } t \in [0, T] \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

(For the existence of such a sequence, see Yosida [28] p.133.)

Define a correspondence  $\Gamma_n : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$  by

$$\Gamma_n : t \mapsto \Gamma(t, x_n(t)); \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then it can be shown that the graph  $G(\Gamma_n)$  of each  $\Gamma_n$  is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable. In order to confirm it, we denote by  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k\}$  the image of  $[0, T]$  by the simple function  $x_n$ ; i.e.

$$x_n([0, T]) = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k\}.$$

Furthermore if we define a correspondence  $\Phi_j : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) by

$$\Phi_j : t \mapsto \Gamma(t, y_j),$$

then the graph  $G(\Phi_j)$  of  $\Phi_j$  is obviously  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable. The graph  $G(\Gamma_n)$  of  $\Gamma_n$  can be expressed as

$$G(\Gamma_n) = \cup_{j=1}^k G[\Phi_j|_{x_n^{-1}(\{y_j\})}],$$

where  $\Phi_j|_{x_n^{-1}(\{y_j\})}$  is the restriction of the correspondence  $\Phi_j$  to the set  $x_n^{-1}(\{y_j\}) = \{t \in [0, T] \mid x_n(t) = y_j\}$ . Since  $G[\Phi_j|_{x_n^{-1}(\{y_j\})}]$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable, so is  $G(\Gamma_n)$ .

Since  $\|x_n(t) - x(t)\| \rightarrow 0$  for each  $t \in [0, T]$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the set  $\{x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)\}$  is weakly compact for each  $t \in [0, T]$ . Furthermore, by the Assumptions 1-2, the correspondence  $\Gamma$  is compact-valued and u.h.c. in the second variable. Consequently the set

$$\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} \Gamma(t, x_n(t))$$

is relatively compact in  $\mathcal{X}_w$  (for each  $t \in [0, T]$ ). Taking account of the fact that the weak topology of a weakly compact subset of a separable Banach space is metrizable, we can conclude, by Baire's category theorem, that the set

$$\Sigma(t) \equiv \cap_{n=1}^{\infty} \overline{\cup_{m=n}^{\infty} \Gamma(t, x_m(t))}^w$$

is non-empty (for each  $t \in [0, T]$ ), where  $\overline{\quad}^w$  denotes the closure operation with respect to the weak topology.

The correspondence  $\Sigma : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$  is closed-valued and its graph is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable. Finally the inclusion

$$\Sigma(t) \subset \Gamma(t, x(t)) \quad \text{for each } t \in [0, T]$$

is clear because  $\Gamma$  is compact-valued and u.h.c. □

We can show the Next lemma in a similar way as in Maruyama[17], taking account of [III] of the Remark on page 4.

**LEMMA 2** Let  $A$  be a non-empty compact and convex set in  $\mathcal{X}_w$ , and  $X$  a subset of  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  ( $p > 1$ ) defined by



$$X = \{x \in \mathcal{W}^{1,p} \mid \|\dot{x}(t)\| \leq \psi(t) \text{ a.e., } x(0) \in A\},$$

where  $\psi \in \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], (0, +\infty))$ . Then  $X$  is non-empty convex and compact in  $\mathcal{X}_w$ .

**Proof.** Since it is obvious that  $X$  is non-empty and convex, we have only to show the weak compactness of  $X$ .

It is not hard to show the boundedness of  $X$ . Let  $x$  be any element of  $X$ . Then  $x$  can be represented in the form

$$x(t) = a + \int_0^t \dot{x}(\tau) d\tau; t \in [0, T]$$

( $a$  is a point of  $A$ ) by [III] of the Remark on page 3. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x(t)\| &= \left\| a + \int_0^t \dot{x}(\tau) d\tau \right\| \leq \|a\| + \int_0^t \|\dot{x}(\tau)\| d\tau \\ &\leq \|a\| + \int_0^t \psi(\tau) d\tau \leq B + \int_0^T \psi(\tau) d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

where  $B = \sup_{a \in A} \|a\| < +\infty$ . Consequently we have the evaluation :

$$\sup_{x \in X} \|x\|_p^p \leq [B + \int_0^T \psi(\tau) d\tau]^p \cdot T < +\infty,$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_p$  denotes the  $\mathcal{L}^p$ -norm. Since the right-hand side is independent of  $x$ ,  $X$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{L}^p$ . On the other hand, the set  $\{\dot{x} \mid x \in X\}$  is also bounded by  $\|\psi\|_p$ . Therefore we can claim that  $X$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ .

$\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$  is reflexive because  $\mathcal{X}$  is reflexive and  $p > 1$ . Hence the bounded set  $X$  is weakly relatively compact in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ .

To show the weak compactness of  $X$ , we need only to show the weak closedness of  $X$ . However  $X$  is weakly closed if and only if  $X$  is strongly closed since  $X$  is convex. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $X$  which strongly converges to  $x^*$  in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ . Then  $\{\dot{x}_n\}$  has a subsequence, say  $\{\dot{x}_{n'}\}$ , which converges to  $\dot{x}^*$  a.e. Since  $\|\dot{x}_{n'}(t)\| \leq \psi(t)$  a.e., it follows that

$$\|\dot{x}^*(t)\| \leq \psi(t) \text{ a.e.}$$

Finally it is clear that  $x^*(0) \in A$ . Then we obtain  $x^* \in X$ . This proves that  $X$  is strongly closed in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ .  $\square$

We denote by  $B(0; \mathcal{X}_w)$  a neighborhood base of the zero element of  $\mathcal{X}_w$  which consists of convex sets. The following lemma plays a crucial role in the

subsequent arguments although its proof is easy.

**LEMMA 3** Suppose that the Assumptions 1-2 are satisfied. Let  $(t^*, x^*)$  be any point of  $[0, T] \times \mathcal{X}$ . Define, for any  $V \in \mathcal{B}(0; \mathcal{X}_w)$ , a subset  $K(t^*; x^*, V)$ , of  $[0, T] \times \mathcal{X}$  by

$$K(t^*; x^*, V) = \{(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathcal{X} \mid x \in x^* + V, t = t^*\}.$$

Then we have

$$\Gamma(t^*, x^*) = \bigcap_{V \in \mathcal{B}(0; \mathcal{X}_w)} \overline{\text{co}} \Gamma(K(t^*; x^*, V)).$$

(Here we do not have to distinguish the convex closure with respect to the strong topology and that with respect to weak topology. So I simply denote it by  $\overline{\text{co}}$ .)

**LEMMA 4** Suppose that the Assumptions 1,2 and 4 (with  $p > 1$ ) are satisfied. Let  $A$  be a non-empty convex compact subset of  $\mathcal{X}_w$ . Then the set

$$H \equiv \{(a, x, y) \in A \times X \times X \mid \dot{y}(t) \in \Gamma(t, x(t)) \text{ a.e. and } x(0) = y(0) = a\}$$

is weakly compact in  $A \times X \times X$ . (The set  $X$  is defined in Lemma 2.)

**Proof.** Since we have already known that  $A \times X \times X$  is weakly compact in  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{W}^{1,p} \times \mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ , it is enough to show that  $H$  is a weakly closed subset of  $A \times X \times X$ .

Since  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$  is a reflexive Banach space, the dual of which is separable, the weak topology on the bounded set  $X$  is metrizable. So we are permitted to use a sequence argument.

Let  $\{q_n \equiv (a_n, x_n, y_n)\}$  be a sequence in  $H$  which weakly converges to some  $q^* = (a^*, x^*, y^*)$  in  $A \times X \times X$ . We have to show that  $q^* \in H$ . And it is enough to check that

$$\dot{y}^*(t) \in \Gamma(t, x^*(t)) \text{ a.e.}$$

The set  $\{x_n(t)\}$  is relatively compact in  $\mathcal{X}_w$  (for each  $t \in [0, T]$ ) since we have the evaluation:

$$\|x_n(t)\| \leq \|a\| + \int_0^t \|\dot{x}_n(\tau)\| d\tau \leq \|a\| + \int_0^T \psi(\tau) d\tau$$

by the Assumption 4. Hence, thanks to Theorem 1,  $\{q_n\}$  has a subsequence (no change in notation) such that

$$x_n(t) \rightarrow x^*(t) \text{ uniformly in } \mathcal{X}_w, \text{ and} \tag{1}$$

$$\dot{y}_n(t) \rightarrow \dot{y}^*(t) \text{ weakly in } \mathcal{L}^p. \tag{2}$$

Then applying Mazur's theorem, we can choose, for each  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , some finite elements

$$\dot{y}_{n_j+1}, \dot{y}_{n_j+2}, \dots, \dot{y}_{n_j+m(j)}$$

of  $\{\dot{y}_n\}$  and numbers

$$\alpha_{ij} \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq m(j), \sum_{i=1}^{m(j)} \alpha_{ij} = 1$$

such that

$$\left\| \dot{y}^* - \sum_{i=1}^{m(j)} \alpha_{ij} \dot{y}_{n_j+i} \right\|_p \leq \frac{1}{j}, n_{j+1} > n_j + m(j).$$

Denoting

$$\eta_j(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{m(j)} \alpha_{ij} \dot{y}_{n_j+i}(t),$$

we obtain

$$\eta_j(t) \in \text{co}(\cup_{i=1}^{m(j)} \Gamma(t, x_{n_j+i}(t))).$$

Since  $\{\eta_j\}$  has a subsequence which converges to  $y^*$  a.e., we may assume, without loss of generality, that

$$\|\eta_j(t) - y^*(t)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{a.e.} \quad (3)$$

On the other hand, for each  $V \in \mathcal{B}(0; \mathcal{X}_w)$ , there exists some  $n_0(V) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$x_n(t) \in x^*(t) + V \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_0(V) \quad \text{and for all } t \in [0, T].$$

That is ,

$$(t, x_n(t)) \in K(t; x^*(t), V) \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_0(V) \quad \text{and for all } t \in [0, T].$$

Hence we have

$$\eta_j(t) \in \text{co}\Gamma(K(t; x^*(t), V)) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

for sufficiently large  $j$ . Passing to the limit, we obtain

$$\dot{y}^*(t) \in \overline{\text{co}}\Gamma(K(t; x^*(t), V)) \quad \text{a.e.} \quad (4)$$

by (3). Since (4) holds true for all  $V \in \mathcal{B}(0; \mathcal{X}_w)$ , it follows that

$$y^*(t) \in \bigcap_{V \in \mathcal{B}(0; \mathcal{X}_w)} \overline{\text{co}} \Gamma(K(t; x^*(t), V) = \Gamma(t, x^*(t)) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

The last equality in (5) comes from Lemma 3. Thus we have proved that  $(a^*, x^*, y^*) \in H$ .  $\square$

## 4 Differential Inclusions (2)

$\mathcal{X}$  is still assumed to be a real separable reflexive Banach space in this section.

We are now going to find out a solution of (\*) in the Sobolev space  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$ ,  $p > 1$ . Define a set  $\Delta(a)$  in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$  by

$$\Delta(a) = \{x \in \mathcal{W}^{1,p} \mid x \text{ satisfies } (*) \text{ a.e.}\}$$

for a fixed  $a \in \mathcal{X}$ . The following theorem tells us that  $\Delta(a) \neq \emptyset$  and that  $\Delta$  depends continuously, in some sense, upon the initial value  $a$ .

**THEOREM 2.** Suppose that the correspondence  $\Gamma$  satisfies the Assumptions 1-4. Let  $A$  be a non-empty, convex and compact subset of  $\mathcal{X}_w$ . Then

- (i)  $\Delta(a^*) \neq \emptyset$  for any  $a^* \in A$ , and
- (ii) the correspondence  $\Delta : A \rightarrow \mathcal{W}^{1,p}$  is compact-valued and u.h.c. on  $A_w$ , in the weak topology for  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ .

The proof is essentially the same as in Maruyama [17].

**Proof.** (i) Fix any  $a^* \in A$ . If we define a set  $X(a^*) \subset X$  by  $X(a^*) = \{x \in X \mid x(0) = a^*\}$ , then  $X(a^*)$  is convex and weakly compact in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ . Furthermore we define a correspondence  $\Phi : X(a^*)_w \rightarrow X(a^*)_w$  by

$$\Phi(x) = \{y \in X(a^*) \mid \dot{y}(t) \in \Gamma(t, x(t)) \text{ a.e.}\}.$$

Then the problem is simply reduced to finding out a fixed point of  $\Phi$ .

1°  $\Phi(x) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $x \in X(a^*)$  — This fact can be proved through the Measurable Selection Theorem.

Let  $x$  be any element of  $X(a^*)$ . Then by Lemma 1, there exists a closed-valued correspondence  $\Sigma : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$  such that  $\Sigma(t) \subset \Gamma(t, x(t))$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ , and its graph is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable. We also note that  $\mathcal{X}_w$  is a Souslin space. Thanks to Saint-Beuve's measurable selection theorem (Saint-Beuve [20]),  $\Sigma$  admits a  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_w))$ -measurable selection  $\sigma : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ . Since

$\mathcal{X}$  is separable,  $\sigma$  is  $(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{X}_s))$ -mesurable. (cf. Yosida [28] p.131.) By the Assumption 4,  $\sigma$  is clearly integrable. If we define a function  $y : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  by

$$y(t) = a^* + \int_0^t \sigma(\tau) d\tau,$$

then  $y \in \Phi(x)$ .

2°  $\Phi$  is convex-compact-valued. — This is not hard.

3°  $\Phi$  is u.h.c. — If we define the  $a^*$ -selection  $H_{a^*}$  of  $H$  by  $H_{a^*} = \{(a, x, y) \in H \mid a = a^*\}$ , then  $H_{a^*}$  is obviously weakly compact in  $A \times X \times X$ . And the graph  $G(\Phi)$  of  $\Phi$  is expressed as  $G(\Phi) = \text{proj}_{X \times X} H_{a^*}$ , the projection of  $H_{a^*}$  into  $X \times X$ , which is also closed.

Summing up —  $\Phi$  is convex-compact-valued and u.h.c. Applying now the Fan-Glicksberg Fixed-Point Theorem to the correspondence  $\Phi$ , we obtain an  $x^* \in X(a^*)$  such that  $x^* \in \Phi(x^*)$ ; i.e.

$$\dot{x}^*(t) \in \Gamma(t, x^*(t)) \quad \text{a.e.} \quad \text{and} \quad x^*(0) = a^*.$$

This proves (i).

(ii) Since the compactness of  $\Delta(a)$  ( $a \in A$ ) can be verified by applying Mazur's theorem and making use of the Assumptions 1-2, we may omit the details. Hence we have only to show the u.h.c. of  $\Delta$ . However it is also obvious because the graph  $G(\Delta)$  of  $\Delta$  can be expressed as

$$G(\Delta) = \text{proj}_{A \times X} \{(a, x, y) \in H \mid x = y\},$$

which is closed in  $A \times X$ .

□

I am much indebted to Castaing-Valadier [7] for various important ideas embodied in the proof of Theorem 2.

**Remark.** Among other things, the assumption that the set  $\Gamma(t, x)$  is always convex is seriously restrictive, especially from the viewpoint of applications. However there seems to be no easy way to wipe out the convexity assumption. (See De Blasi [10] and Tateishi [23].)

Here it may be suggestive for us to glimpse the special case in which  $\Gamma$  is a (single-valued) mapping. A related result was obtained by Szep [23]. (I am indebted to Professor Tosio Kato for this reference.)

**COROLLARY 1.** Let  $f : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}_w \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_w$  be a (single-valued) mapping which satisfies the following three conditions.

- (i) The function  $x \mapsto f(t, x)$  is continuous for each fixed  $t \in [0, T]$ .
- (ii) The function  $t \mapsto f(t, x)$  is measurable for each fixed  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- (iii) There exists  $\psi \in \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], (0, +\infty))$ ,  $p > 1$  such that  $f(t, x) \in S_{\psi(t)}$  for every  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}$  ; i.e.  $\sup_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \|f(t, x)\| \leq \psi(t)$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Then the differential equation

$$(*) (*) \quad \dot{x} = f(t, x), \quad x(0) = a \text{ (fixed vector in } \mathcal{X} \text{)}$$

has at least a solution in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$ . (A solution of  $(*) (*)$  is a function  $x \in \mathcal{W}^{1,p}$  which satisfies  $(*) (*)$  a.e.)

## 5 Variational problem governed by an Differential Inclusion

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a real separable reflexive Banach space throughout this section, too. Assume that  $u : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}_w \times \mathcal{X}_s \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$  is a given proper function. Consider a variational problem :

$$(\#) \quad \text{Minimize}_{x \in \Delta(a)} J(x) = \int_0^T u(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt,$$

where  $\Delta(a)$  is the set of all the solutions of the differential inclusion  $(*)$  discussed in the preceding sections.

In order to examine the existence of a solution of the problem  $(\#)$ , we have to check a couple of points as usual ; i.e.

- (I) the compactness of  $\Delta(a)$  for some suitable topology, and
- (II) the lower semi-continuity of the functional  $J$  for the same topology.

Since we have already proved that  $\Delta(a)$  is weakly compact in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  under certain conditions, we are concentrating on the second point (II) in this section. In this context, the theorem due to Castaing-Clauzure [6] provides the most crucial key. Related results are also obtained by Balder [2], Maruyama [16] and Valadier [25].

**DEFINITION** Let  $(\Omega, \xi, \mu)$  be a measure space,  $S$  a topological space, and  $\mathcal{V}$  a real Banach space. A function  $f : \Omega \times S \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  is assumed to be given. We denote by  $\mathcal{M}(\Omega, S)$  the set of all the  $(\xi \otimes \mathcal{B}(S))$ -measurable functions. ( $\mathcal{B}(S)$  denotes the Borel  $\sigma$ -field on  $S$ .)  $f$  is said to have the lower compactness property if  $\{f^-(\omega, \varphi_n(\omega), \theta_n(\omega))\}$  is weakly relatively compact in  $\mathcal{L}^1(\Omega, \bar{\mathbb{R}})$  for any sequence  $\{(\varphi_n, \theta_n)\}$  in  $\mathcal{M}(\Omega, S) \times \mathcal{L}^p(\Omega, \mathcal{V})$  ( $p \geq 1$ ) which satisfies the following three conditions:

- (a)  $\{\varphi_n\}$  converges in measure to some  $\varphi^* \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega, S)$ ,
- (b)  $\{\theta_n\}$  converges weakly to some  $\theta^* \in \mathcal{L}^p(\Omega, \mathcal{V})$ , and
- (c) there exists some  $C < +\infty$  such that

$$\sup_n \int_{\Omega} f(\omega, \varphi_n(\omega), \theta_n(\omega)) d\mu \leq C.$$

The following theorem is a variation of a result due to Castaing-Clauzure [6] in the spirit of Ioffe [12]. See also Valadier [27].

**THEOREM 3** Let  $(\Omega, \xi, \mu)$  be a finite complete measure space,  $S$  a metrizable Souslin space, and  $\mathcal{V}$  a separable reflexive Banach space. Suppose that a proper function  $f : \Omega \times S \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $f$  is a normal integrand ; i.e.
  - (a)  $f$  is  $(\xi \otimes \mathcal{B}(S) \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{V}), \mathcal{B}(\overline{\mathbb{R}}))$ -measurable, and
  - (b) the function  $(\xi, v) \mapsto f(\omega, \xi, v)$  is lower semi-continuous for any fixed  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,
- (ii) the function  $v \mapsto f(\omega, \xi, v)$  is convex for any fixed  $(\omega, \xi) \in \Omega \times S$ , and
- (iii)  $f$  has the lower compactness property.

Let  $\{\varphi_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{M}(\Omega, S)$  which converges in measure to some  $\varphi^* \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega, S)$ . Let  $\{\theta_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{L}^p(\Omega, \mathcal{V})$  ( $1 \leq p < +\infty$ ) which converges weakly to some  $\theta^* \in \mathcal{L}^p(\Omega, \mathcal{V})$ . Then we have

$$\int_{\Omega} f(\omega, \varphi^*(\omega), \theta^*(\omega)) d\mu \leq \liminf_n \int_{\Omega} f(\omega, \varphi_n(\omega), \theta_n(\omega)) d\mu.$$

**Remark 1°** A normal integrand  $f : \Omega \times S \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  which also satisfies the condition (ii) is called a *convex normal integrand*.

2° Ioffe [8] established a fundamental theorem on the lower semi-continuity of a nonlinear integral functional as above in the case both of  $S$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  are finite dimensional Euclidean spaces. Theorem 3 is an extension of Ioffe's result to the case of nonlinear integral functional defined on the space of Bochner integrable functions.

**LEMMA 5** Suppose that the Assumptions 1-4 are satisfied. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\Delta(a) \subset \mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  ( $p > 1$ ). Let  $u : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}_w \times \mathcal{X}_s \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  be a proper convex normal integrand with the lower compactness property. Then there exists a subsequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and  $x^* \in \Delta(a)$  such that

$$J(x^*) \leq \liminf_n J(z_n), \quad (1)$$

where

$$J(x) = \int_0^T u(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt.$$

**Proof.** By the Assumption 4, all the images of  $x_n$ 's are contained in some closed ball  $\bar{B}$  with the center 0 ; i.e.

$$x_n(t) \in \bar{B} \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T] \quad \text{and } n.$$

Hence we may restrict the domain of  $u$  to  $[0, T] \times \bar{B}_w \times \mathcal{X}$ , provided that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is concerned. Denoting  $\bar{u} = u|_{[0, T] \times \bar{B} \times \mathcal{X}}$ , (restriction of  $u$  to  $[0, T] \times \bar{B} \times \mathcal{X}$ ) we have to show that there exists a subsequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and some  $x^* \in \Delta(a)$  such that

$$\int_0^T \bar{u}(t, x^*(t), \dot{x}^*(t)) dt \leq \liminf_n \int_0^T \bar{u}(t, z_n(t), \dot{z}_n(t)) dt,$$

which is equivalent to (1).

The set  $\bar{B}$  endowed with the weak topology is metrizable and compact. Hence it is a Polish space. According to Theorem 1, there exists a subsequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and  $x^* \in \mathcal{W}^{1,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  such that

- (a)  $z_n \rightarrow x^*$  uniformly in  $\bar{B}_w$ , and
- (b)  $\dot{z}_n \rightarrow \dot{x}^*$  weakly in  $\mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X})$ .

(a) implies, of course, that  $z_n \rightarrow x^*$  in measure. Thus applying Theorem 3, we obtain the relation

$$\int_0^T \bar{u}(t, x^*(t), \dot{x}^*(t)) dt \leq \liminf_n \int_0^T \bar{u}(t, z_n(t), \dot{z}_n(t)) dt.$$

Finally we have to prove that  $x^* \in \Delta(a)$ . By (a), it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle z_n(t), \eta(t) \rangle = \langle x^*(t), \eta(t) \rangle$$

for any  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $\eta \in \mathcal{L}^q([0, T], \mathcal{X}')$ , where  $1/p + 1/q = 1$ . Since  $z_n(t) \in \bar{B}$ , there exists some positive constant  $C < \infty$  such that

$$| \langle z_n(t), \eta(t) \rangle | \leq C \| \eta(t) \| .$$



Hence we have, by the Bounded Convergence Theorem, that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T \langle z_n(t), \eta(t) \rangle dt = \int_0^T \langle x^*(t), \eta(t) \rangle dt$$

for any  $\eta \in \mathcal{L}^q([0, T], \mathcal{X}')$ .

This proves that  $z_n \rightarrow x^*$  weakly in  $\mathcal{L}^p$ .

Combining this result with (b), we can conclude that  $\{z_n\}$  weakly converges to  $x^*$  in  $\mathcal{W}^{1,p}$ . Since  $\Delta(a)$  is weakly closed,  $x^* \in \Delta(a)$ .  $\square$

Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a minimizing sequence of the problem (#). Then, by Lemma 5,  $\{x_n\}$  has a subsequence (without change of notation) such that

$$J(x^*) \leq \liminf_n J(x_n)$$

for some  $x^* \in \Delta(a)$ . It is also obvious that

$$\inf_{x \in \Delta(a)} J(x) = \liminf_n j(x_n) \leq J(x^*).$$

Thus we have proved that  $x^*$  is a solution of the problem (#). Summing up

**THEOREM 4** Suppose that Assumptions 1-4 with  $p > 1$  are satisfied for a correspondence  $\Gamma : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ . Furthermore let  $u : [0, T] \times \mathcal{X}_w \times \mathcal{X}_s \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  be a normal convex integrand with the lower compactness property. Then the problem (#) has a solution.

## Appendix

### Banach Space-valued Sobolev Spaces

This appendix aims at a brief summary of the concepts and basic facts in the theory of Banach space-valued Sobolev spaces. (cf. Schwartz [22], Barbu [3].)

1. Let  $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_\ell)$  be an  $\ell$ -tuple of non-negative integers. The number  $|p| = p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_\ell$  is called the order of  $p$ . We denote by  $D^p$  the differential operator

$$D^p = \frac{\partial^{p_1+p_2+\dots+p_\ell}}{\partial x_1^{p_1} \partial x_2^{p_2} \dots \partial x_\ell^{p_\ell}}$$

Let  $\Omega$  be an open set of  $\mathbb{R}^\ell$  and  $K$  a compact subset of  $\Omega$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{D}_K(\Omega)$  the set of all the infinitely differentiable real-valued functions  $\varphi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  whose supports are contained in  $K$ ; i.e.

$$\mathcal{D}_K(\Omega) = \{\varphi \in C^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}) \mid \text{supp } \varphi \subset K\}.$$

Under the topology generated by the family of seminorms :

$$p_{K,m}(\varphi) = \sup_{\substack{x \in K \\ |p| \leq m}} |D^p \varphi(x)|, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots,$$

$\mathcal{D}_K(\Omega)$  becomes a locally convex Hausdorff topological vector space (LCHTVS).

The space  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega) = \cup\{\mathcal{D}_K(\Omega) \mid K \text{ is a compact subset of } \Omega\}$  is also a vector space. And the space  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  endowed with the strict inductive limit topology defined by  $\{\mathcal{D}_K(\Omega) \mid K \text{ is a compact subset of } \Omega\}$  is a LCHTVS, called the **Schwartz space**. It is well-known that a net  $\{\varphi_\alpha\}$  in  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  converges to some  $\varphi^* \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  if and only if there exists some compact subset  $K$  of  $\Omega$  with

$$\text{supp } \varphi_\alpha \subset K \quad \text{for all } \alpha,$$

and

$$D^p \varphi_\alpha \rightarrow D^p \varphi^* \quad \text{uniformly on } \Omega$$

for every index  $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_\ell)$

2. Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a real Banach space. Any continuous linear operator  $S : \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is called a  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distribution and the set of all the  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distributions is denoted by  $\mathcal{D}'(\Omega \mid \mathcal{X})$ .

If  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is a locally Bochner-integrable function, the operator  $S_f : \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  defined by

$$S_f : \varphi \mapsto \int_{\Omega} f(\omega) \varphi(\omega) d\omega, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$$

is an  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distribution. ( $d\omega$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $\Omega$ .) Identifying  $f$  and  $S_f$ , we can safely say that any locally Bochner-integrable function is an  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distribution.

The value of  $S \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega \mid \mathcal{X})$  at  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  is sometimes denoted by  $\langle S, \varphi \rangle$  instead of  $S(\varphi)$ .

Let  $S$  be an  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distribution and  $D^p$  an differential operator. Then the operator  $D^p S : \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  defined by

$$\varphi \mapsto (-1)^{|p|} \langle S, D^p \varphi \rangle, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$$

is also an  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distribution, called the **distributional derivative** (or the **derivative in sense of distribution**) of  $S$ ; i.e.

$$\langle D^p S, \varphi \rangle = (-1)^{|p|} \langle S, D^p \varphi \rangle, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

An  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued distribution is infinitely differentiable in the sense of distribution.

3. The  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued Sobolev space  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathcal{X})$  ( $p \geq 1$ ) is the set of all the functions  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  such that its distributional derivative  $D^s f$  exists and belongs to  $\mathcal{L}^p(\Omega, \mathcal{X})$  for all  $s = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_\ell)$  with  $|s| \leq k$ .

$\mathcal{W}^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathcal{X})$  is clearly a vector space. In fact, it becomes a Banach space under the norm :

$$\|f\|_{k,p} = \left( \sum_{|s| \leq k} \int_{\Omega} \|D^s f(\omega)\|^p d\omega \right)^{1/p}$$

If  $\mathcal{X}$  is a Hilbert space and  $p = 2$ ,  $\mathcal{W}^{k,2}(\Omega, \mathcal{X})$  is also a Hilbert space under the inner product :

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{k,p} = \sum_{|s| \leq k} \int_{\Omega} \langle D^s f(\omega), D^s g(\omega) \rangle d\omega.$$

Finally, we state three results which are to play some roles in this paper.

**FACT 1** If  $\mathcal{X}$  is a separable Banach space, then  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathcal{X})$  ( $p \geq 1$ ) is also separable.

**FACT 2** If  $\mathcal{X}$  is a separable reflexive Banach space and  $p > 1$ , then  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}(\Omega, \mathcal{X})$  is reflexive.

Let  $\Omega = (0, T)$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  the set of all the functions  $f : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  such that

- a The derivatives  $D^j f$  (defined a.e.) are absolutely continuous for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ , and
- b  $D^j f \in \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

**FACT 3** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a Banach space with the Radon-Nikodým property. Then the following two statements are equivalent for a function  $f \in \mathcal{L}^p([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  ( $p \geq 1$ ).

- (i)  $f \in \mathcal{W}^{k,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$ .
- (ii) There exists some  $f_1 \in \mathcal{W}^{k,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  such that  $f(t) = f_1(t)$  a.e.  $\omega \in (0, T)$ .

Thus we may assume, without loss of generality, that each element of  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}((0, T), \mathcal{X})$  is defined on the closed interval  $[0, T]$  rather than  $(0, T)$ . When we wish to emphasize this aspect, we use the notation  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}([0, T], \mathcal{X})$  rather than  $\mathcal{W}^{k,p}((0, T), \mathcal{X})$ .

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