



Please read sections 4.3–4.4 in [Tr].

- 1 Exercise 4.4 (ii) in [Tr]: Show that Nemytskii operator $y(\cdot) \mapsto \sin(y(\cdot))$ is Frechet differentiable from $L^{p_1}(0, T)$ into $L^{p_2}(0, T)$ whenever $1 \leq p_2 < p_1 \leq \infty$.

Solution: Let us put $\Psi(y) = \sin(y(\cdot))$. The directional derivative

$$\Psi'(y; h) = \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} \frac{\Psi(y + \varepsilon h) - \Psi(y)}{\varepsilon} = \cos(y(\cdot))h(\cdot),$$

is linear with respect h .

Thus we need to check that $\|\Psi(y + h) - \Psi(y) - \Psi'(y; h)\|_{L^{p_2}(0, T)} / \|h\|_{L^{p_1}(0, T)} \rightarrow 0$ when $\|h\|_{L^{p_1}(0, T)} \rightarrow 0$.

Let $\{h_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \in L^{p_1}(0, T)$ be a sequence converging to zero, and let us put $r_n = \Psi(y + h_n) - \Psi(y) - \Psi'(y; h_n)$. Additionally, let us chose an arbitrary small $\varepsilon > 0$. We will divide $\Omega = (0, T)$ into two parts: $\omega_n = \{x \in \Omega \mid |h_n(x)| < \varepsilon\}$ and $\Omega_n = \Omega \setminus \omega_n$. We will denote the characteristic functions of ω_n (respectively, Ω_n) with χ_{ω_n} (resp. χ_{Ω_n}).

On ω_n we can use the second order Taylor series expansion of $\sin(\cdot)$ combined with the fact that the second derivative of $\sin(\cdot)$ is bounded by 1 to get the estimate $|r_n(x)| \leq |h_n(x)|^2/2 \leq \varepsilon|h_n(x)|/2$.

On the other hand, Ω_n will be very small in measure for large n (since convergence to zero in $L^{p_1}(0, T)$ implies convergence in measure). Furthermore, on Ω_n we can write $|r_n(x)| \leq |\sin(y(x) + h_n(x)) - \sin(y(x))| + |\cos(y(x))h_n(x)| \leq 2|h_n(x)|$, because $\sin(\cdot)$ is a Lipschitz function with constant 1 (derivative is bounded by 1).

Thus on ω_n we use the Taylor's series and Hölder's inequality to get the estimate:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\chi_{\omega_n} r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0, T)} &\leq \varepsilon/2 \|\chi_{\omega_n} h_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0, T)} = \varepsilon/2 \left(\int_0^T \chi_{\omega_n}(x) |h_n(x)|^{p_2} dx \right)^{1/p_2} \\ &\leq \varepsilon/2 \left(\|\chi_{\omega_n}\|_{L^{p_1/(p_1-p_2)}(0, T)} \| |h_n|^{p_2} \|_{L^{p_1/p_2}(0, T)} \right)^{1/p_2} \\ &= \varepsilon/2 |\omega_n|^{(p_1-p_2)/(p_1 p_2)} \|h_n\|_{L^{p_1}(0, T)}, \end{aligned}$$

where $|\omega_n|$ denotes the Lebesgue measure of ω_n , which is bounded by $|\Omega| = T$ in our case.

Similarly, on Ω_n we get

$$\|\chi_{\Omega_n} r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0, T)} \leq 2 \|\chi_{\Omega_n} h_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0, T)} \leq 2 |\Omega_n|^{(p_1-p_2)/(p_1 p_2)} \|h_n\|_{L^{p_1}(0, T)}.$$

In summary,

$$\begin{aligned} \|r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0,T)} &= \|\chi_{\omega_n} r_n + \chi_{\Omega_n} r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0,T)} \leq \|\chi_{\omega_n} r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0,T)} + \|\chi_{\Omega_n} r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0,T)} \\ &\leq (\varepsilon |\Omega|^{(p_1-p_2)/(p_1 p_2)} / 2 + 2 |\Omega_n|^{(p_1-p_2)/(p_1 p_2)}) \|h_n\|_{L^{p_1}(0,T)}, \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$0 \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|r_n\|_{L^{p_2}(0,T)}}{\|h_n\|_{L^{p_1}(0,T)}} \leq \varepsilon |\Omega|^{(p_1-p_2)/(p_1 p_2)} / 2,$$

since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\Omega_n|^{(p_1-p_2)/(p_1 p_2)} = 0$ for an arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$. It remains to let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ in the last inequality.

- 2** Compact embedding of $H^1(\Omega)$ into $L^2(\Omega)$ (Rellich–Kondrachov Theorem, Theorem 7.4 in [Tr]) plays an important role in the proof of Theorem 4.15 (existence of optimal controls for semi-linear elliptic PDEs). There are many other examples of compact embeddings.

Let $-\infty < a < b < +\infty$, and consider the spaces of continuous functions $C^0[a, b]$ and Hölder continuous functions $C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$, $0 < \gamma \leq 1$. These spaces are equipped with the norms

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{C^0[a,b]} &= \sup_{x \in [a,b]} |f(x)|, \\ \|f\|_{C^{0,\gamma}[a,b]} &= \|f\|_{C^0[a,b]} + \sup_{x \neq y \in [a,b]} \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{|x - y|^\gamma}. \end{aligned}$$

We will use Arzela–Ascoli characterization of relative compactness in $C^0[a, b]$ (it is not difficult to prove): The set $S \subset C^0[a, b]$ is relatively compact if and only if it is *bounded* and *equicontinuous*. That is, there is $M > 0$ such that $\forall f \in S : \|f\|_{C^0[a,b]} \leq M$, and for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $\delta > 0$: $\forall f \in S, x, y \in [a, b] : |x - y| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$.

- a)** Show that every bounded subset in $C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$ is bounded and equicontinuous in $C^0[a, b]$. Conclude that from any bounded sequence in $C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$ one can extract a convergent sequence in $C^0[a, b]$.

Solution: Assume that $S \subset C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$ is such that $\exists M > 0 : \forall f \in S, \|f\|_{C^{0,\gamma}[a,b]} \leq M$. By definition $\|f\|_{C^0[a,b]} \leq \|f\|_{C^{0,\gamma}[a,b]} \leq M$ and thus S is also a bounded set in $C^0[a, b]$. Furthermore from the definition of the norm we have that $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq |x - y|^\gamma \|f\|_{C^{0,\gamma}[a,b]}$. Thus as long as $|x - y| < \delta$ it follows that $\forall f \in S : |f(x) - f(y)| < \delta^\gamma M$. Thus it is sufficient to choose $\delta = (\varepsilon/M)^{1/\gamma}$ in the definition of equicontinuity.

- b)** Show that any sequence $f_n \in C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$, which converges weakly to some limit $\bar{f} \in C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$, must satisfy $\|f_n - \bar{f}\|_{C^0[a,b]} \rightarrow 0$.

Hint: show the inclusion $(C^0[a, b])' \subset (C^{0,\gamma}[a, b])'$ for the dual spaces; use the fact that weakly convergent sequences are bounded (this is known as the uniform boundedness principle in functional analysis); then use the proof by contradiction and **a**).

Solution: Suppose that $f_n \rightharpoonup \bar{f} \in C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$. Weakly convergent sequences are bounded (uniform boundedness principle), and thus the set $\{f_n\}$ is relatively compact in $C^0[a, b]$ according to **a)** and Arzela-Ascoli theorem.

Let us now take $F \in (C^0[a, b])'$. Since $C^{0,\gamma}[a, b] \subset C^0[a, b]$ the function F is defined and linear on $C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$; furthermore $|F(f)| \leq \|F\|_{(C^0[a, b])'} \|f\|_{C^0[a, b]} \leq \|F\|_{(C^0[a, b])'} \|f\|_{C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]}, \forall f \in C^{0,\gamma}[a, b]$. As a result, $F \in (C^{0,\gamma}[a, b])'$ and $(C^0[a, b])' \subset (C^{0,\gamma}[a, b])'$. Since we know that $\forall F \in (C^{0,\gamma}[a, b])' : F(f_n) \rightarrow F(\bar{f})$, therefore this happens for all $F \in (C^0[a, b])'$ and $f_n \rightharpoonup \bar{f}$ in $C^0[a, b]$ as well.

Finally, assume that $\|f_n - \bar{f}\|_{C^0[a, b]} \not\rightarrow 0$, that is, for some $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a subsequence n' of n such that $\|f_{n'} - \bar{f}\|_{C^0[a, b]} \geq \varepsilon$. Since $\{f_{n'}\}$ is a subset of $\{f_n\}$, a relatively compact set in $C^0[a, b]$, we can extract a further subsequence n'' from it, such that $\|f_{n''} - \tilde{f}\|_{C^0[a, b]} \rightarrow 0$, for some $\tilde{f} \in C^0[a, b]$. Owing to the assumptions on n' , we have $\tilde{f} \neq \bar{f}$. Thus the subsequence $f_{n''}$ has two weak limits: \tilde{f} (strong convergence implies weak) and \bar{f} (as a subsequence of a weakly convergent sequence f_n). This contradicts the uniqueness of the weak limit (consequence of Hahn–Banach theorem).

3 Outline the necessary changes in the proof of Theorem 4.15 in order to establish the existence of optimal controls to the boundary control problem (4.49)–(4.51) in [Tr].

Solution: The basic strategy is to follow the proof of Theorem 4.15:

1. Construct a minimizing sequence of controls $u_n \in L^\infty(\Gamma)$
2. Note that there is a corresponding sequence of unique bounded states $y_n \in H^1(\Omega) \cap C(\bar{\Omega})$ (see Theorems 4.6–4.8 in [Tr]). This sequence is bounded (Theorem 4.8)! Note that the linear part of the operator (that is, $-\Delta y + y$ with Neumann boundary conditions) is coercive, so there is no need to split the non-linearity as done in the book for the distributed control, where only $-\nabla y$ with Neumann boundary conditions is considered.
3. $H^1(\Omega)$ is a Hilbert space and therefore the sequence y_n contains a subsequence (can call it y_n again), converging weakly to $\bar{y} \in H^1(\Omega)$.
4. As in Theorem 4.15, we can use Rellich-Kondrachov compact embedding theorem (Theorem 7.4 in [Tr]) to go from the weak convergence in $H^1(\Omega)$ to a strong convergence in $L^2(\Omega)$.

5. Unlike in Theorem 4.15, this is not sufficient to conclude that $\bar{y} = y(\bar{u})$ because the non-linearity “lives” on the boundary now! This is really the largest deviation from the proof of Theorem 4.15 in [Tr].

Let $T : H^1(\Omega) = W^{1,2}(\Omega) \rightarrow W^{-1/2,2}(\Gamma) = H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$ be the trace operator (see for example Theorem 7.3 in [Tr]). Since T is a bounded linear operator, it follows that Ty_n converges weakly to $T\bar{y}$ in $H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$. Furthermore, $H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$ is compactly embedded into $L^2(\Gamma)$, see for example Theorem 7.1 in “The Hitchhiker’s guide to the fractional Sobolev spaces”. Thus the non-linearity $b(\cdot, Ty_n(\cdot))$ will converge to the limit $b(\cdot, T\bar{y}(\cdot))$ owing to the continuity of Nemytskii operator, see Lemma 4.11 [Tr].

6. The rest of the proof follows more-or-less exactly the reasoning on p. 210 [Tr]. That is, $\bar{y} = y(\bar{u})$ and J is sequentially lower semi-continuous with respect to the type of convergence that we need.