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Sobolev inequality

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Related topic LpSpace

Defines Sobolev conjugate
Defines Sobolev exponent

For $1 \le p < n$, define the Sobolev conjugate of p as

$$p^* := \frac{np}{n-p}.$$

Note that $-n/p^* = 1 - n/p$.

In the following statement ∇ represent the weak derivative and $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ is the Sobolev space of functions $u \in L^p(\Omega)$ whose weak derivative ∇u is itself in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Theorem 1 Assume that $p \in [1, n)$ and let Ω be a bounded, open subset of \mathbb{R}^n with Lipschitz boundary. Then there is a constant C > 0 such that, for all $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ one has

$$||u||_{L^{p^*}(\Omega)} \le C||\nabla u||_{L^p(\Omega)}.$$

We can restate the previous Theorem by saying that the Sobolev space $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ is a subspace of the Lebesgue space $L^{p^*}(\Omega)$ and that the inclusion map $i: W^{1,p}(\Omega) \to L^{q^*}(\Omega)$ is continuous.