

**Sobolev Spaces and Partial Differential Equations**  
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**Lecture 10**  
**Exercises – Part 1**

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EXERCISES

① Let  $T \in D'(\mathbb{R})$  s.t.  $T' \in E(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that  $T \in E(\mathbb{R})$ .

Sol. Let  $T' = T'_f$ ,  $f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) = E(\mathbb{R})$

Define  $h(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt \Rightarrow h \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) = E(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $h' = f$

$(T_h)' = T'_f$

$(T - T_h)' = 0 \Rightarrow T - T_h = \text{const} = T_c$

$T = T_h + T_c = T_c + h$   $g = T_c + h$   $g(x) = T_c + \int_0^x f(t) dt \in E(\mathbb{R})$

$T = T_g$ ,  $g \in E(\mathbb{R})$

i.e.  $T \in E(\mathbb{R})$ .



We will now do some exercises, so that we understand what we have learned so far.

**Exercises:**

(1) Let  $T \in D'(\mathbb{R})$  s.t.  $T' \in E(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that  $T \in E(\mathbb{R})$ .

*solution.* Let  $T' = T'_f$ ,  $f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) = E(\mathbb{R})$ .

Define  $h(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt \Rightarrow h \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) = E(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $h' = f$ .

$$T_h' = T'_f$$

Therefore, you have

$$(T - T_h)' = 0 \Rightarrow T - T_h = \text{const.} = T_c$$

So,  $T = T_h + T_c = T_{h+c}$ .

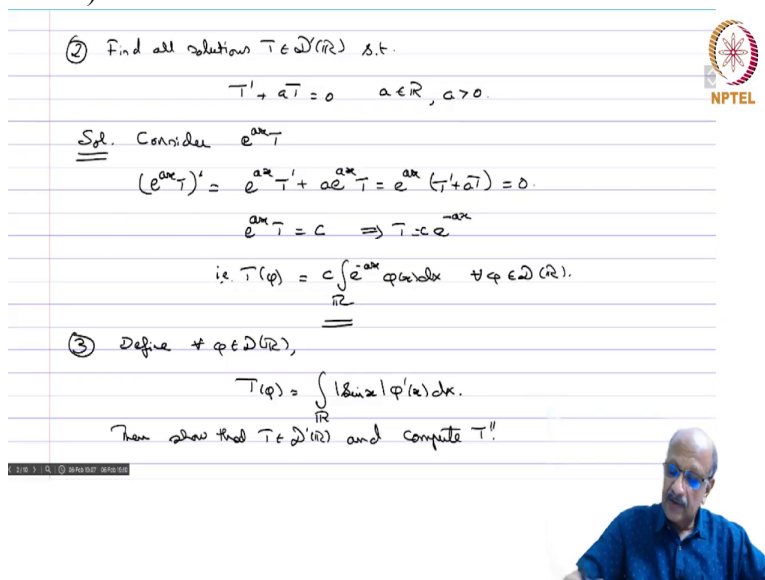
And therefore, if you write  $g$  equal to  $c$  plus  $h$ , what is  $g$  of  $x$ ?  $G$  of  $x$  is equal to  $c$  plus integral 0 to  $x$  of  $f(t) dt$ . And this itself is again a  $C^\infty$  function. Therefore,

$$T = T_g, g \in E(\mathbb{R}).$$

$$\text{i.e., } T \in E(\mathbb{R}).$$

So, it will also be the classical derivative in this case.

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② Find all solutions  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  s.t.

$$T' + aT = 0 \quad a \in \mathbb{R}, a > 0.$$

Sol. Consider  $e^{ax}T$

$$(e^{ax}T)' = e^{ax}T' + ae^{ax}T = e^{ax}(T' + aT) = 0.$$

$$e^{ax}T = C \Rightarrow T = Ce^{-ax}$$

i.e.  $T(\varphi) = C \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax} \varphi(x) dx \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}).$

③ Define  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}),$

$$T(\varphi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} | \ln |x| | \varphi'(x) dx.$$

Then show that  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  and compute  $T''$ .


③ Define  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  

$$T(\varphi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\sin x| \varphi'(x) dx.$$
 Then show that  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  and compute  $T''$ .

Sol.  $\varphi$   $K.C.R$  compact,  $|T(\varphi)| \leq \|\varphi\|$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$

$$T''(\varphi) = T(\varphi'') = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\sin x| \varphi''(x) dx$$


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(2) Find all solutions  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  such that,

$$T' + \alpha T = 0, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha > 0.$$

Let us say  $\alpha$  is positive, it does not matter  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$  can be anything. So, we are looking at a differential equation now. And differential equations, we are looking for solutions in the class of distributions. So, these are called distribution solutions of the differential equation. So, we want to know what are all the distribution solutions, which will, which can be found (05:07).

*solution.* So, we do exactly as we do in the classical case, what, this is a linear differential equation. What do you do? You multiply by the integrating factor. So, let us consider  $T$ ,  $e^{\alpha x}$  into  $T$ . So, this you know what it means, because you are multiplying  $T$  by a  $C^\infty$  function in the front. So, let us take the derivative of  $e^{\alpha x} T$ . Then we saw that this satisfies the usual product rule.

So, you will get  $e^{\alpha x} T' + \alpha e^{\alpha x} T$ . So, that is equal to  $e^{\alpha x} T'$  plus  $\alpha e^{\alpha x} T$ , but  $T$  is a distribution solution of this equation and therefore, that is equal to 0. So, you have the derivative, distribution derivative of something equal to 0. So, then we know that  $e^{\alpha x} T$  equals a constant. Again, recall that we mean that this is generated by the constant function.

So, then this implies the  $T$  equals  $e$  power minus  $x$  times  $c$  or the  $e$  equals  $C e$  power minus  $ax$  to be  $(06:30)$ . So, now what does this mean? That means, that  $T$  of  $\phi$  equals  $c$  times integral  $e$  power minus  $x$  times  $\phi$  of  $x$   $dx$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  are all  $\phi$  in  $D$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ , this what we mean. So, these are all this, there is only one solution. That is in fact, the generated, the distribution generated by the classical solution of this differential equation.

(3) Define  $\forall \phi \in D(\mathbb{R})$ ,

$$T(\phi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\sin(x)| \phi'(x) dx.$$

Then, show that  $T \in D'(\mathbb{R})$  and compute  $T''$ .

*solution.* for every  $K \subset \mathbb{R}$  compact, we have  $|T(\phi)| \leq \|\phi\|_1$ .


$$\Rightarrow T \in D'(\mathbb{R}).$$

So, this implies that  $T$  is a distribution, from the other characterization which we saw. So, it is a distribution whose order is 1. So, now we want to compute  $T$  double prime. So,

$$T''(\phi) = T(\phi') = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\sin(x)| \phi''(x) dx.$$

I have just used the definition.

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 NPTEL


$$= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} |\sin x| \phi'(x) dx.$$

k odd:  $\int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} |\sin x| \phi'(x) dx = \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin x \phi'(x) dx = - \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} \cos x \phi(x) dx$

$$= - \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin x \phi(x) dx + \phi(k\pi) - \phi((k-1)\pi)$$

k even:  $\int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} |\sin x| \phi'(x) dx = - \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin x \phi'(x) dx = + \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} \cos x \phi(x) dx$

$$= \int_{(k-1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin x \phi(x) dx + \phi(k\pi) - \phi((k-1)\pi).$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} T'' = -|\sin x| + 2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{k\pi} \\ T''(\phi) = - \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\sin x| \phi(x) dx + 2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \phi(k\pi) \end{array} \right.$$


$$T''(\phi) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} |\sin(x)| \phi''(x) dx.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{k odd: } \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} |\sin(x)| \phi''(x) dx &= \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin(x) \phi''(x) dx = - \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} \cos(x) \phi'(x) dx \\ &= - \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin(x) \phi(x) dx + \phi(k\pi) - \phi((k+1)\pi). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{k even: } \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} |\sin(x)| \phi''(x) dx &= - \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin(x) \phi''(x) dx = \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} \cos(x) \phi'(x) dx \\ &= \int_{(k+1)\pi}^{k\pi} \sin(x) \phi(x) dx + \phi(k\pi) - \phi((k+1)\pi). \end{aligned}$$

So, you have

$$T'' = -|\sin(x)| + 2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{k\pi}.$$

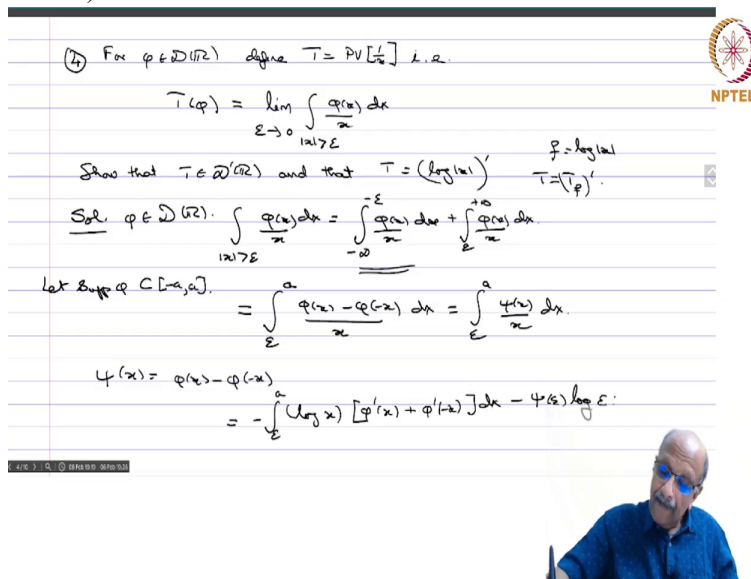
$$T''(\phi) = - \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\sin(x)| \phi(x) dx + 2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \phi(k\pi).$$

And each time you will, everything will be repeated twice. If you write, because it is summation over  $k$  over all integers. So, every integer, every one of these terms will come once in the pre, odd interval, once in the even interval neighborhood, neighboring interval.

And therefore, you will get two times sigma sorry,  $k$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  of. So, yeah the evaluating  $\phi$  at  $k\pi$  and there is nothing but the distribution  $\delta_{k\pi}$ . So,  $T$  double dash is this. What does this mean? This means, that  $T$  double dash. So, an alternative way of writing this is minus integral mod sine  $x$   $\phi(x)$   $dx$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  and then plus twice sigma  $k$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$   $\phi(k\pi)$ . This is how explicitly the definition is, this is the same. These two statements are one and the same.

So, we can express a distribution, whenever we express it we either give a formula like this or we just give the in terms of  $\phi$ , but there should be no derivatives coming in here. So, only it should be an action on  $\phi$  which is what we expect in the answer.

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(4) For  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R})$  define  $T = PV \left[ \frac{1}{x} \right]$  i.e.,  

$$T(\phi) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{|x| > \epsilon} \frac{\phi(x)}{x} dx$$
  
 Show that  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  and that  $T = (\log|x|)'$   $f = \log|x|$   
 $T = (T_f)'$   
Sol.  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R})$ .  $\int_{|x| > \epsilon} \frac{\phi(x)}{x} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{-\epsilon} \frac{\phi(x)}{x} dx + \int_{\epsilon}^{+\infty} \frac{\phi(x)}{x} dx$   
 Let  $\text{supp } \phi \subset [-a, a]$ .  

$$= \int_{\epsilon}^a \frac{\phi(x) - \phi(-x)}{x} dx = \int_{\epsilon}^a \frac{\psi(x)}{x} dx$$
  

$$\psi(x) = \phi(x) - \phi(-x)$$
  

$$= - \int_{\epsilon}^a (\log x) [\psi'(x) + \psi'(-x)] dx - \psi(a) \log \epsilon$$

Sol.  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R})$ .  $\int_{|x|>\varepsilon} \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{-\varepsilon} \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} dx + \int_{\varepsilon}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} dx$

Let  $\text{supp } \varphi \subset [-a, a]$ .

$$= \int_{\varepsilon}^a \frac{\varphi(x) - \varphi(-x)}{x} dx = \int_{\varepsilon}^a \frac{\psi(x)}{x} dx$$

$$\psi(x) = \varphi(x) - \varphi(-x)$$

$$= - \int_{\varepsilon}^a (\log x) [\psi'(x) + \psi'(-x)] dx - \psi(x) \log \varepsilon$$

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \psi(\varepsilon) \log \varepsilon = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\psi(\varepsilon)}{\frac{1}{\log \varepsilon}} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\psi'(\varepsilon) \varepsilon (\log \varepsilon)^2}{\frac{1}{\log \varepsilon}} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon (\log \varepsilon)^2 = 0$$

$$= 0$$



So, this is an important exercise. So, we have seen that locally integrable functions can be made into distributions. Now, even functions which are not locally integrable by suitable limit processes sometimes we can convert them into a distribution. So, one such example is  $1/x$ .  $1/x$  is not integrable in any neighborhood of the origin. And therefore, it is not really a locally integrable function on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

So, what we are trying to do is for,  $\varphi$  in  $\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R})$ , define  $T_\varphi$  equals PV of  $1/x$ . So, this is called the principal value of  $1/x$ , this is a technical notation. So, that where that is  $T_\varphi$  equals  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{|x|>\varepsilon} \varphi(x) \frac{1}{x} dx$ . So, what we are doing is the only singularity of  $1/x$  is at the origin. So, we are excluding, puncturing out, cutting out a neighborhood of the origin then integrating this function.

As though it is  $1/x$ , and then try to take the limit as  $\varepsilon$  goes to 0. So, and we have to show that this limit exists. So, the  $T_\varphi$  is well defined and gives you a distribution in  $\mathcal{D}'$ , and then we will. So, the rest of the problem is show that  $T$  belongs to the prime of  $\mathcal{D}'$  and that  $T$  is equal to  $\log |x|$  prime. That means,  $\log |x|$  is a local integrable function. So, if you take  $f$  equals  $\log |x|$ , then we say that  $T$  is equal to  $Tf$ .

That is the meaning of the statement here,  $T$  is equal to. So,  $\log |x|$  is an locally integrable function which you can check yourself. So, solution so, let  $\varphi$  belong to  $\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R})$ . And you look at

integral mod  $x$  greater than  $\epsilon$   $\phi(x)$  by  $x$   $dx$  is equal to integral minus infinity to minus  $\epsilon$   $\phi(x)$  by  $x$   $dx$  plus integral  $\epsilon$  plus infinity  $\phi(x)$  by  $x$   $dx$ . Now,  $\phi$  has compact support. So, let us say support of  $\phi$  is contained in  $[-a, a]$ .

So, this if you make a change of variable  $x$  going to  $-x$  in this, in this integral. So, if so, this will become equal to the integral  $\epsilon$  to  $a$  of  $\phi(x)$  minus  $\phi(-x)$  by  $x$   $dx$ . So, you can verify that there was this elementary change of variable. So, let us call  $\psi$  of  $x$ , it was  $\phi(x)$  minus  $\phi(-x)$ . So, this is equal to the integral  $\epsilon$  to  $a$   $\psi(x)$  by  $x$   $dx$ . So, now, this we can write.

So, we are going to integrate this in part. So, this will be minus integral  $\epsilon$  to  $a$  of  $\log x$ . So, the derivative of  $\log x$  is  $1/x$  away from the origin. So, we have no problems whatsoever. So, this is  $\log x$  and it is a nice smooth function, differentiable  $n$  number of times. And therefore, the distribution derivative is the same as classic. Anyway, we are just doing integration by parts. So, and then we have here, a  $\psi'$  of  $x$ .

So, that means that is the  $\phi'(x)$  plus the  $\phi'(-x)$  because there is a minus here, there will be one more when you pick up by the function of function rule,  $dx$ . And then you have to take the limit, but at the limit  $a$   $\phi$  and  $(-a)$   $\phi$  and minus  $a$   $\phi$  vanishes and therefore, you will have minus  $\psi'(\epsilon)$ ,  $\log \epsilon$ . So, let us see what happens to  $\psi'(\epsilon)$ ,  $\log \epsilon$  when you are taking limit  $\epsilon$  going to 0 of  $\psi'(\epsilon) \log \epsilon$ .

So, we can use the function rule. I mean, l'hospital's rule. So, you get, you can write this as limit  $\epsilon$  going to 0 of  $\psi'(\epsilon)$  by  $1/\log \epsilon$ . So, infinity where 0 by 0 form and so, this will give you a limit  $\epsilon$  going to 0 of  $\psi''(\epsilon)$  minus  $\psi'(\epsilon)$  into  $\epsilon \log \epsilon$  squared. Now, this is a bounded function and this goes to 0. So, again limit, you have to check this again you can use l'hospital's rules once, once more.

So, an  $\epsilon \log \epsilon$  square is equal to 0. Because  $\log \epsilon$  is something which goes much slower than  $\epsilon$ . So, even though it goes to infinity, minus infinity as  $\epsilon$  goes to 0 it is much slower than any polynomial. And therefore, you have this. So, you can again check this using. So, this limit is 0. So, you can check that again using l'hospital's rule.



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$$\begin{aligned}
 T(\varphi) &= - \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\varepsilon}^a (\log |x|) [\varphi'(x) + \varphi'(-x)] dx. \\
 &= - \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\varepsilon < |x| \leq a} \log |x| \varphi'(x) dx. \\
 &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}} \log |x| \varphi'(x) dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

$T$  is well-def.,  $T = (\log |x|)'$ .

⊙



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= - \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\varepsilon < |x| \leq a} \log |x| \varphi'(x) dx. \\
 &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}} \log |x| \varphi'(x) dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

$T$  is well-def.,  $T = (\log |x|)'$ .

⊙ Let  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(0, \infty) (= \mathcal{D}(x_1, x_2), x_2 = (0, \infty))$ .

Define  $T(\varphi) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi^{(k)}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)$ .

Show that  $T$  is a dist. and is of infinite order.

Sol.  $\varphi$  has compact supp.  $\subset (0, \infty) \Rightarrow \varphi^{(k)}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) = 0$  for  $k$  suff. large.

$T(\varphi)$  is a finite sum and so it is well-defined.



So, we have  $T$  of  $\varphi$  equals minus limit  $\varepsilon$  tending to 0 of  $\varepsilon$  to a log  $x$  into  $\varphi$  dash  $x$  plus  $\varphi$  dash minus  $x$   $dx$ . So, this is what we have. So, again you make a change of variable for this integral  $y$  equals minus  $x$  and therefore, you will get this is equal to minus limit  $\varepsilon$  tending to 0 of integral  $\varepsilon$  less than mod  $x$  less than or equal to  $a$ . So, this will be two integrals, the second integral will go from minus  $a$  to minus  $\varepsilon$ .

And this first integral will be  $\varepsilon$  to  $a$ . So, I am combining the two and writing it like this. And then, if you look at, when you change the integral, this  $(\log |x|)'$  (24:53) log of minus  $x$  in the negative

side. So, you will get  $\log |x| \phi'(x) dx$ . And now,  $\log$  is a locally integrable function,  $\phi$  is the  $C^\infty$  function with compact support. So, by the absolute continuity of the Lebesgue integral. This is precisely equal to the integral over  $\mathbb{R}$  of  $\log |x| \phi'(x) dx$ .

I, that is, I have a term that I have sent to infinity because  $\phi$  whether it is over  $a$  or over  $\mathbb{R}$  it does not matter. So, with a minus sign of course, this is the minus  $\log |x|$ . And then, now this is a locally integrable function and therefore, this is well defined. So, therefore,  $T$  is well defined. And in fact,  $T$  is equal to  $\log |x|'$ . Because what is the derivative of the distribution given by  $\log |x|$  is minus  $\log |x|$  acting on  $\phi'$ .

So, that is what we have.

(5) Let  $\phi \in D((0, \infty))$ . Define

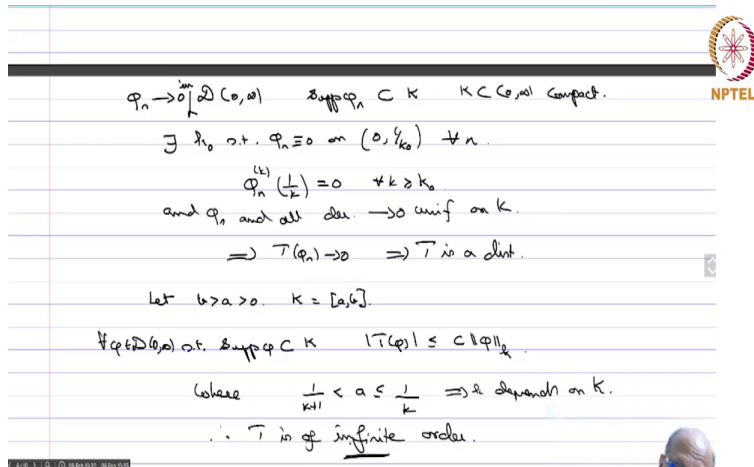
$$T(\phi) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \phi^{(k)}\left(\frac{1}{k}\right).$$

Show that  $T$  is a distribution and it is of infinite order.

So, here is the distribution of infinite orders. So, this is an example of a distribution with infinite order. So,  $T$  of  $\phi$  is. So,  $\phi$  has compact support contained in  $(0, \infty)$ . So, this implies what?

$\phi^{(k)}(1/k)$  will be 0 for all  $k$  sufficiently large. If  $k$  is sufficiently large,  $1/k$  will be outside the support of  $\phi$ . And so, all the functions and all its derivatives will vanish. So, this will be  $(0)$ . So,  $T\phi$  is a finite sum. And so, it is well defined.

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$\phi_n \rightarrow 0$  in  $D((0, \infty))$   $\text{supp } \phi_n \subset K$   $K \subset (0, \infty)$  compact.  
 $\exists k_0$  s.t.  $\phi_n = 0$  on  $(0, \frac{1}{k_0})$   $\forall n$ .  
 $\phi_n^{(k)}(\frac{1}{k}) = 0$   $\forall k \geq k_0$   
 and  $\phi_n$  and all der.  $\rightarrow 0$  unif on  $K$ .  
 $\Rightarrow T(\phi_n) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow T$  is a dist.  
 let  $b > a > 0$ .  $K = [a, b]$ .  
 $\forall \phi \in D((0, \infty))$  s.t.  $\text{supp } \phi \subset K$   $|T(\phi)| \leq C \|\phi\|_2$ .  
 where  $\frac{1}{k+1} < a \leq \frac{1}{k} \Rightarrow a$  depends on  $k$ .  
 $\therefore T$  is of infinite order.



Once a  $\phi_n \rightarrow 0$  in  $D((0, \infty))$ ,  $\text{supp}(\phi_n) \subset K$ ,  $K \subset (0, \infty)$  is compact.

$$\exists k_0 \text{ s.t. } \phi_n = 0 \text{ on } (0, \frac{1}{k_0}), \forall n.$$

$$\phi_n^{(k)}(\frac{1}{k}) = 0, \forall k \geq k_0.$$

and  $\phi_n$  and all derivatives go to 0 uniformly on  $K$ .

$$\Rightarrow T(\phi_n) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow T \text{ is a distribution.}$$

So, now let  $b > a > 0$ .  $K = [a, b]$ .

$$\forall \phi \in D((0, \infty)) \text{ s.t. } \text{supp}(\phi) \subset K. \quad |T(\phi)| \leq C \|\phi\|_k.$$

$$\frac{1}{k+1} \leq a \leq \frac{1}{k}$$

So, it depends on  $a$ . So, how many  $k$ s are outside this interval will entirely depend on how close  $a$  is to 0 and therefore, it depends on  $k$ . So, this implies  $k$  depends on capital  $K$ .

Therefore, you have  $T$  is of infinite order. So, we will stop here and we will do some more exercises later on, after we have covered some more theory.