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## APPLICATIONS OF THE RAYLEIGH RITZ METHOD TO VARIATIONAL PROBLEMS

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Introduction. Let R be a bounded either simply or multiply connected plane region with boundary  $\Gamma$ , consisting of a finite number of non-intersecting simply closed regular arcs of class  $c^k$ . A plane curve is a regular arc if the defining functions x(t), y(t),  $a \leq t \leq b$  have continuous derivatives with  $x'(t)^2 + y'(t)^2 = 0$  on  $a \leq t \leq b$ . A regular arc is of class  $c^k$  if the defining functions x(s), y(s), s being arc length, have continuous derivatives of order k. We shall say a function h(x, y) defined on  $\overline{R} = R + \Gamma$  is of class  $c^k$  if the partial derivatives of h of order r,  $0 \leq r \leq k$  exist in R and have limits on  $\Gamma$  so as to define functions continuous on  $\overline{R}$ . Let g(x, y) be a given function of class  $c^k$  on  $\overline{R}$ . The main problem considered is that of finding the function  $\psi_0$  which yields minimum value to the functional

$$I[\psi] = \iint_{\mathcal{R}} (a\psi_x^2 + b\psi_y^2 + c\psi^2 + 2f\psi) dx dy$$

defined over the admissible class of functions  $\psi$  which are of class  $c^*$  on  $\overline{R}$  and assume the values of g on  $\Gamma$ .

We shall assume a(x, y) > 0, b(x, y) > 0,  $c(x, y) \ge 0$  on  $\overline{R}$ ; a, b, cbounded and integrable in  $\overline{R}$ ; f(x, y) integrable in  $\overline{R}$ . In the sequel, unless otherwise specified, integrations will be taken over R and the symbol R omitted.

Let G(x, y) be of class  $c^k$  on  $\overline{R}$ , vanishing on  $\Gamma$ , positive in R, with normal derivative  $\partial G/\partial \nu$  on  $\Gamma$  different from 0. We show that, if  $k \geq 3$ , every admissible function  $\psi$  has a uniformly convergent expansion on  $\overline{R}$ 

$$\psi = g + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i f_i(x, y)$$

where  $f_i$  are obtained by a Gram-Schmidt process from the functions  $\{G x^i y^j\}$   $i, j=0, 1, 2, \cdots$  and  $b_i$  are generalized Fourier coefficients connected with the quadratic functional

$$D[\psi] = \iint (a\psi_x^2 + b\psi_y^2 + c\psi^2) dx \, dy \; .$$

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In fact,  $b_i = D[\psi - g, f_i]$  where

$$D[\xi, \eta] = \iint (a \xi_x \eta_x + b \xi_y \eta_y + c \xi \eta) dx dy.$$

An estimate of the error obtained by using for  $\psi$  only the first n terms of the expansion is given in terms of n and k. Sufficient conditions are obtained for the convergence of

$$\nabla \left[g + \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i f_i\right]$$

to  $\nabla \psi$  and an estimate is given for the rate of convergence.

In particular, if  $\psi_0$  is an admissible function minimizing  $I[\psi]$ , then the expansion

$$\psi_0 = g + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i f_i$$

yields an explicit solution for  $\psi_0$ , since the coefficients  $a_i$  are given, in this case, by

$$a_i = -\iint ff_i \, dx \, dy - D[g, f_i]$$

which are independent of  $\psi_0$ .

The problem of minimizing the functional  $I[\psi]$ , with g=0, has been studied by Kryloff and Bogoliubov [4] and by Kantorovitch [2], both obtaining estimates for convergence to  $\psi_0$  of functions obtainable by the Rayleigh Ritz method. The first paper deals with convex regions R, the second with regions R bounded by x=0, x=1, y=g(x), y=h(x); h>g on  $0\leq x\leq 1$ . Neither obtains an explicit solution for  $\psi_0$ nor studies the convergence of the derivatives.

In the final section of this paper, we assume the existence of a function  $\psi_0$  yielding minimum value, for  $p \ge 1$ , to

$$D^{p}[\psi] = \iint_{\mathbb{R}} (a\psi_{x}^{2} + b\psi_{y}^{2} + c\psi^{2})^{p} dx dy, \quad \psi = g \quad \text{on} \quad \Gamma$$

and obtain an estimate for the rate of convergence to  $\psi_0$  of functions obtained by the Rayleigh Ritz method.

§ 1. Preliminary Considerations. A variation v shall mean a function of class  $c^{k}$  on  $\overline{R}$  vanishing on  $\Gamma$ . Form the Hilbert space H by completing the linear manifold V of variations v using the positive definite quadratic form D[v] as the square of the norm of a variation. If  $h \in H$ , we represent the norm of h by  $h^{n}$ . If  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  are variations, the inner product will be

$$(\xi, \eta) = D[\xi, \eta].$$

Let  $f_i$  be any complete orthonormal set of variations in H. If  $\psi$  is admissible, then  $\psi - g$  is a variation and thus expressible in H as

$$\psi - g = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i f_i$$

with  $b_i = D[\psi - g, f_i]$ .

If  $\psi_0$  is an admissible function yielding a minimum value to  $I[\psi]$ , if  $\lambda$  is real, and v is a variation, then  $\psi_0 + \lambda v$  is admissible, and

$$I[\psi_{\upsilon}] \leq I[\psi_{\upsilon} + \lambda v] = I[\psi_{\upsilon}] + \lambda (2D[\psi_{\upsilon}, v] + \iint 2fv \, dx \, dy) + \lambda^2 D[v]$$

This implies that the coefficient of  $\lambda$  must vanish so that

$$D[\psi_0, v] = -\iint f v \, dx \, dy$$

and

$$I[\psi_0 + \lambda v] = I[\psi_0] + \lambda^2 D[v]$$

for every variation v.

The first relation shows that the Fourier coefficients of  $\psi_0 - g$ ,

$$a_i = D[\phi_0 - g, f_i] = D[\phi_0, f_i] - D[g, f_i] = -\iint ff_i \, dx \, dy - D[g, f_i]$$

are independent of  $\psi_{u}$ .

The second relation implies that if  $\psi$  is admissible,

$$I[\psi] = I[\psi_0 + \psi - \psi_0] = I[\psi_0] + D[\psi - \psi_0].$$

Thus if

$$\phi_n = g + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i f_i$$
 ,

then

$$0 = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left\| \psi_0 - \left( g + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i f_i \right) \right\|^2 = \lim_{n \to \infty} D[\psi_0 - \phi_n] = \lim_{n \to \infty} I[\phi_n] - I[\psi_0]$$

so that  $\phi_n$  is a minimizing sequence.

Moreover,

$$D\left[\psi_0 - g - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i f_i\right]$$

is a minimum when  $c_i = a_i$  implying that  $\phi_n$  are chosen to yield minimum value to  $I[\psi_n] - I[\psi_0]$  and hence to  $I[\psi_n]$  in the class of functions

$$\psi_n = g + \sum_{i=1}^n c_i f_i$$
.

Thus  $\phi_n$  may be obtained by the Rayleigh Ritz process applied to the functional  $I[\psi]$ .

We will prove, in Theorem 1, that the class of functions  $\{GP\}$ where P is a polynomial in x and y, is dense in H. This class is the linear manifold determined by the set  $\{Gx^iy^j\}$ , a set linearly independent in H. For, if

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{ij} G x^i y^j,$$

then D[v]=0 implies  $\alpha_{ij}=0$ .

It follows that we can obtain an orthonormal set  $f_i$  complete in H by orthonormalizing the set  $\{G x^i y^j\}$ . Let

$$v_{1} = G x^{0} y^{0}$$

$$v_{2} = G x^{1} y^{0}, \quad v_{3} = G x^{0} y^{1}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$v_{k(k+1)} = G x^{k} y^{0}, \cdots, \quad v_{k(k+1)} = G x^{0} y^{k}.$$

Then

$$f_{n} = \frac{v_{n} - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} f_{j}(v_{n}, f_{j})}{\left\| v_{n} - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} f_{j}(v_{n}, f_{j}) \right\|}$$
$$= \begin{vmatrix} (v_{1}, v_{1}) \cdots (v_{1}, v_{n-1}) & v_{1} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (v_{n}, v_{1}) \cdots (v_{n}, v_{n-1}) & v_{n} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} (v_{1}, v_{1}) \\ \vdots \\ (v_{n-1}, v_{n-1}) \end{vmatrix} \stackrel{-1/2}{\cdot} \begin{vmatrix} (v_{1}, v_{1}) \\ \vdots \\ (v_{n}, v_{n}) \end{vmatrix} \stackrel{-1/2}{\cdot}$$

The function  $f_n$  is of the form  $GP_n$ , where the degree of the polynomial  $P_n$  is that of  $v_n/G$ . If  $v_n=Gx^ry^s$  with r+s=k, then

$$rac{k(k+1)}{2} + 1 \leq n \leq rac{k(k+1)}{2} + k + 1$$

so that  $k^2 < k(k+1) < 2n-2$  and the degree k of  $P_n$  is less than  $\sqrt{2n-2}$ . Similarly k is greater than  $\sqrt{2n-2}$ .

§ 2. The Minimizing sequence. We shall use certain approximation theorems which can be derived by methods used by Mickelson [5]<sup>1</sup>. To simplify the notation, let

$$x = (x_1, \cdots x_s),$$
  
 $x^{(1)} = (x_1^{(1)}, \cdots x_s^{(1)}),$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For detailed proofs of Lemmas 1, 2 see J. Indritz "Applications of the Rayleigh Ritz method to the solutions of partial differential equations" Ph. D. Thesis, U. of Minnesota, 1953.

$$f(x) = f(x_1, \dots, x_s) ,$$

$$f_r(x) = \frac{\partial^{r_1 + \dots + r_s}}{\partial x_1^{r_1 + \dots + \partial x_s^{r_s}}} [f(x_1, \dots, x_s)] ,$$

$$\| x^{(1)} - x^{(2)} \| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^s (x_i^{(1)} - x_i^{(2)})^2} .$$

The modulus of continuity for a function f defined over a closed set A:  $-1 \le x_i \le 1$   $(i=1,\dots,s)$  is

$$\Omega(\delta, f) = \sup |f(x^{(1)}) - f(x^{(2)})|$$

for all points  $x^{(1)}$ ,  $x^{(2)}$  in A with  $||x^{(1)} - x^{(2)}|| \le \delta$ . The uniform modulus of continuity of a finite number of functions  $f_1, \dots, f_N$  is the largest of the moduli of each  $f_i$  for each  $\delta$ .

LEMMA 1. Let  $F(\theta)$  be a continuous periodic function of period  $2\pi$  in each  $\theta_i$  and of class  $c^k$ . Let  $\omega(\delta)$  be the uniform modulus of continuity of the partial derivatives of F of order 1 to k for  $\delta \leq \pi \sqrt{s}$ . Let  $j \leq k$ . Then, corresponding to every set  $m_1, \dots, m_s$  of positive integers, there is a trigonometric sum  $T^m$  of order at most  $m_i$  in  $\theta_i$  such that

$$|F_{r}(\theta) - T_{r}^{m}(\theta)| \leq K_{1} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{s} \frac{1}{m_{i}} \right)^{k-j} \sum_{i=1}^{s} \omega \left( \frac{1}{m_{i}} \right) for \quad 0 \leq r_{1} + \dots + r_{s} \leq j$$

where  $K_1$  is a constant independent of F, s,  $m_i$ .

If the partial derivatives of order 1 to k satisfy

$$|F_r(\theta^{(1)}) - F_r(\theta^{(2)})| \le L \Big( \sum_{i=1}^{s} |\theta_i^{(1)} - \theta_i^{(2)}| \Big)$$

then

$$|F_r(\theta) - T_r^m| \le L K_2 \Big(\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{m_i}\Big)^{k-j+1} \quad 0 \le r_1 + \dots + r_s \le j$$

where  $K_2$  is also a constant independent of F, s,  $m_i$ .

If F is even in each  $\theta_i$  separately, T contains only cosine terms.

LEMMA 2. Let f(x) be of class  $c^k$  in the set  $A: -1 \le x_i \le 1$  (i=1,...,s). Let M be the maximum of the absolute values of the derivatives of order 1 to k, and  $\Omega(\delta)$  the uniform modulus of continuity of the derivatives of order k. Let B denote a closed set interior to A. Let  $j \le k$ . Then, for every set of positive integers  $m_1, ..., m_s$  with  $m_i \ge k$  there is a polynomial  $P^m$  of order at most  $m_i$  in  $x_i$  such that

$$|f_r(x) - P_r^m(x)| \le K_3 \left(\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{m_i}\right)^{k-j} \sum_{i=1}^s \Omega\left(\frac{1}{m_i}\right)$$

for x in B and  $0 \le r_1 + \cdots + r_s \le j$ . Here  $K_3$  is a constant independent of f and  $m_i$ .

If also, the k-th partial derivatives of f(x) satisfy a Lipschitz condition with parameter  $\lambda$ , then, for x in B,

$$|f_r(x) - P_r^m(x)| \leq K_i \left(\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{m_i}\right)^{k-j+1} \quad for \quad 0 \leq r_1 + \dots + r_s \leq j,$$

and where  $K_4$  is a constant independent of f and  $m_i$ .

To apply the lemmas to a function defined over the region R, we shall extend the domain of definition of the function. The question arises whether the differentiability properties of the function are maintained under the extension. The answer depends upon the properties of the boundary  $\Gamma$  of R. For example, Hirschfeld [1] has shown that even a cusp in the complementary region may prevent  $c^1$ extension of a function of class  $c^{\infty}$  on a closed set through a continuous boundary arc. Whitney [6] has given a different definition for a function to be of class  $c^k$  in a closed set A. If f is of Whitney class  $c^k$  in A, then there exists an extension F to the whole plane  $E_2$  which is of class  $c^k$  in the ordinary sense on  $E_2$  and is analytic in  $E_2 - A$ . The derivatives of F of order  $\leq k$  coincide with those of f at any interior point of A. Moreover Whitney [7] has shown the following: Let (a) f be of class  $c^k$  on  $R+\Gamma$ , where R is a region,  $\Gamma$  its boundary, in the sense we have defined in the introduction, and (b) R have the property "P", that any two points  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  in R, whose linear distance apart may be represented by  $|P_1-P_2|$ , can be joined by a rectifiable curve in R of length L, with  $L/||P_1-P_2||$  bounded uniformly with respect to  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ ; then f is also of Whitney class  $c^k$  and thus can be extended to  $E_2$  to be of class  $c^k$  on  $E_2$ .

For our purposes we assume R to be a bounded region with boundary  $\Gamma$  consisting of a finite number of non-intersecting simply closed regular arcs  $\Gamma_i$  and we will show R has property "P".

Choose, for each  $\Gamma_i$ , a  $\delta > 0$  such that no two tangents to  $\Gamma_i$  on any portion of arc length  $\langle \delta \rangle$  make with each other an angle greater than 5°. We may choose  $\delta$  independent of i and smaller than onefourth the distance between any two  $\Gamma_i$ . Now fix i, and let  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ be points on  $\Gamma_i$  on a subarc of length  $\langle \delta \rangle$ . There is a point Q on that subarc between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  such that the tangent line at Q is parallel to the chord  $P_1P_2$ . Set up an (x, y) coordinate system at Q, using the tangent line as x-axis, the normal as y-axis, and note that the subarc considered has an equation y=y(x) of class  $c^1$  in view of the implicit function theorems. Let  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ ,  $P_2 = (x_2, y_2)$ ,  $||P_1 - P_2|| =$  distance between  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ ,  $||\widehat{P_1 P_2}|| =$  length of the subarc joining  $P_1$  to  $P_2$ . Then  $||P_1 - P_2| = |x_1 - x_2|$  and  $|y'(x)| \le 1$  so that

(1)  
$$\|P_{1}-P_{2}\| \leq \|\widehat{P_{1}P_{2}}\| = \left|\int_{x_{1}}^{x_{2}} \sqrt{1+y^{\prime 2}} \, dx\right|$$
$$\leq \sqrt{2} |x_{1}-x_{2}| = \sqrt{2} \|P_{1}-P_{2}\|.$$

Moreover, since  $\tan 5^{\circ} < 1/10$ , the mean value theorem shows that  $\sup |y(x)| \le ||P_1 - P_2||/10$ .

We shall also use the well known property that if  $\Gamma_i$  is a regular arc, there is an  $\omega_1 > 0$  such that for any subarc joining points  $P_3$ ,  $P_4$  on  $\Gamma_i$ , we have  $\|\widehat{P_3 P_4}\|/\|P_3 - P_4\| \le \omega_1$ .  $\omega_1$  can be chosen independent of i.

Now suppose  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  are any two points interior to the region R. If the segment  $S_1 S_2$  is interior to R, we of course have  $||S_1 S_2|$  $||S_1-S_2||=1$  by using the segment as the arc. Otherwise, let  $Q_1$  be the first intersection of the directed line  $S_1 S_2$  with the boundary, say with  $\Gamma_1$ . Let  $Q_1^1$  be a point on  $S_1Q_1$  in R. Let  $Q_2$  be the first point of intersection of the directed line  $S_2 S_1$  with  $\Gamma_1$  and  $Q_2^1$  a point in R on  $S_2Q_2$  such that the open interval  $Q_2Q_2^1$  is also in R. Note that  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  may coincide. If  $Q_2^1S_2$  is not in R, let  $Q_3$  be the first point of intersection of the directed line  $Q_2^1S_2$  with the boundary, say with  $\Gamma_2$ and  $Q_3^1$  in R and on  $Q_2^1Q_3$ . Let  $Q_4$  be the first point of intersection of the directed line  $S_2Q_2^1$  with  $\Gamma_2$  and  $Q_4^1$  a point in R, on  $Q_4S_2$ , with the open interval  $Q_4Q_4^1$  in R. Continuing in this way, after at most n steps, we form a finite sequence of points  $Q_0^1 = S_1, Q_1^1, Q_2^1, \dots, Q_{2m}^1, Q_{2m+1}^1$  $=S_2$  such that  $Q_{2k-1}$  and  $Q_{2k}$  are on the same regular arc, and the lines joining  $Q_{2k}^1$  to  $Q_{2k+1}^1$ ,  $k=0,\dots,m$  are in R. If we can show there is an  $\omega > 0$ , independent of the points, and arcs  $\lambda_1$  in R joining consecutive points  $Q_j^1$  to  $Q_{j+1}^1$  such that  $\|\hat{Q}_j^1 Q_{j+1}^1\| \leq \omega \|Q_j^1 - Q_{j+1}^1\|$ , then we can attain the desired results by addition. It suffices to show that  $Q_1^1$  and  $Q_2^1$  and an arc  $\lambda$  joining  $Q_1^1$  to  $Q_2^1$  and in R may be chosen so that  $\|Q_1^1 Q_2^1\|$  $\leq \omega \|Q_1^1 - Q_2^1\|$ . Suppose first that  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  coincide. A sufficiently small circle with  $Q_1$  as center will have one of the arcs cut off by  $S_1S_2$ entirely in R and we may choose  $Q_1^1$  and  $Q_2^1$  as the intersections of  $S_1S_2$  with this circle. In this case

$$\|\widehat{Q_{1}^{1}Q_{2}^{1}}\| = \frac{\pi}{2} \|Q_{1}^{1} - Q_{2}^{1}\|.$$

Otherwise, let L be the length of an arc on  $\Gamma_1$  joining  $Q_1$  to  $Q_2$ .

Divide this arc into N equal segments of length  $\beta = L/N$  where N is sufficiently large so that  $\beta < \delta$ . Draw circles of radius  $r = \beta/\sqrt{2}$  about each of the division points and the end points. We first show that consecutive circles intersect. If  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are two consecutive centers, (1) implies

$$\left\| R_1 {-} R_2 
ight\| {\leq} eta {\leq} \sqrt{2} \left\| R_1 {-} R_2 
ight\|$$

so that

$$rac{\|R_1 - R_2\|}{2} \leq rac{\|R_1 - R_2\|}{\sqrt{2}} \leq rac{eta}{\sqrt{2}} \leq \|R_1 - R_2\|$$
 ,

and the circles must intersect.

Moreover, since  $r{\geq} \|R_1{-}R_2\|/\sqrt{2}$ , the semi-length au of the common chord is

$$au = \sqrt{r^2 - \frac{\|R_1 - R_2\|^2}{4}} \ge \frac{\|R_1 - R_2\|}{2},$$

whereas the arc joining  $R_1$  to  $R_2$  has distance  $\langle ||R_1-R_2||/10$  from the chord. Hence the arc lies entirely within the circles.

Now let  $Q_1^1$  be an intersection of  $S_1S_2$  with the circle whose center is  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2^1$  an intersection of  $S_1S_2$  with the circle whose center is  $Q_2$ , the points being chosen to lie in R and have the desired properties. Starting from  $Q_1^1$  we may proceed to  $Q_2^1$  via the circumferences of the circles. The total length of the curve thus formed will be less than

$$(N+1)2\pi \frac{\beta}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{N+1}{N} \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{2}} L \le \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{2}} L$$

and

$$\frac{\|\widehat{Q}_1^1\widehat{Q}_2^1\|}{\|Q_1^1-Q_2^1\|} \!\leq\! \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{L}{\|Q_1^1-Q_2^1\|} \!\leq\! \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{L}{\|Q_1-Q_2\|} \!\leq\! \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \, \omega_1 \, .$$

This concludes the proof that R has property "P".

We will be particularly interested in extending a function of the form v(x, y)/G(x, y) where G(x, y) > 0 in R,  $\partial G/\partial \nu > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ , G=v=0 on  $\Gamma$  and we seek differentiability conditions on v and G which insure that v/G is of class  $c^*$  on  $R+\Gamma$ . Here again the nature of the boundary is of importance. The next two lemmas deal with this problem. The letter P will refer to a point in R and Q to a point on  $\Gamma$ , the boundary of R. By a neighborhood N(Q) in  $R+\Gamma$  we will mean a set of points S in  $R+\Gamma$  such that for some sufficiently small circle with center at Q, every point of the circle which lies in  $R+\Gamma$  also lies in S. LEMMA 3. a) Let R be a region bounded by  $\Gamma$ , a finite number of closed Jordan curves, no two having a point in common. Let  $\gamma$  be a regular subarc of  $\Gamma$ , and  $Q_0$  an interior point of  $\gamma$ . Let N be the normal to  $\gamma$  at  $Q_0$ . Then there is a neighborhood  $N(Q_0)$  in  $R + \Gamma$  such that through each point P in  $RN(Q_0)$ , the line parallel to N cuts  $\gamma_0 = \gamma N(Q_0)$ in one and only one point Q, PQ lies in  $N(Q_0)$ , and Q ranges over  $\gamma_0$ .

b) Let  $\psi(x, y)$  be of class  $c^{\perp}$  in  $RN(Q_0)$  and suppose  $\psi, \psi_x, \psi_y$  have continuous limits on  $\gamma_0$ . Define  $(\partial \psi/\partial s)(P)$  to be the derivative at  $P \in$  $RN(Q_0)$  in the direction of the tangent at the corresponding point Q on  $\gamma_0$ . The derivative  $(\partial \psi/\partial s)(P)$  has continuous limits on  $\gamma_0$  which we will denote by  $(\partial \psi/\partial s)(Q)$ .

If  $\psi = 0$  on  $\gamma_0$ , then  $(\partial \psi / \partial s)(Q) = 0$  for Q on  $\gamma_0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma$  be given by x(t), y(t) and  $Q_0$  defined by the parameter value  $t_0$ . Let  $(\xi, \eta)$  be rectangular axes along the tangent and normal at  $Q_0$ . In a suitable neighborhood of  $t_0$ ,  $t_1 < t < t_2$ , defining an arc  $\lambda_0$ containing  $Q_0$ ,  $\gamma$  admits a representation  $\eta = \eta(\xi)$ . We may assume  $\lambda_0$ so small that no two tangents to it make with each other an angle greater than 5°. There is a positive distance d between  $\Gamma - \lambda_0$  and the arc  $\lambda_1$  defined by the parameter range  $(t_1 + t_0)/2 < t < (t_0 + t_2)/2$ . Take

$$\partial < \min[d, |\xi(t_0) - \xi((t_0 + t_2)/2)|, |\xi(t_0) - \xi((t_0 + t_1)/2)|]$$

and draw a square T of side  $\delta$  with sides parallel to the  $(\xi, \eta)$  axes and center at  $Q_0$ . Let  $\gamma_0 = \gamma T$ , the projection of RT on  $\gamma$  by lines parallel to N, and let  $\gamma_h$  be the arcs formed by displacing  $\gamma_0$  a distance h parallel to itself into R along N. For  $h < h_1$  sufficiently small,  $\gamma_h \subset T$ . The regular arc  $\gamma_0$  may be given a representation x = x(s), y = y(s), $0 \le s \le L$ , in terms of arc length s, where L is the length of  $\gamma_0$ . Then  $\gamma_h$  is given by

$$x=x(s)+h\cos\alpha, \qquad y=y(s)+h\cos\beta,$$

where  $\cos \alpha$ ,  $\cos \beta$  are the direction cosines of the line N directed inward into R. The neighborhood  $N(Q_0)$  may be chosen as given by these equations with  $0 \le s \le L$ .  $0 \le h \le h_1$ .

It is clear that

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{ds} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{ds}$$

has continuous limits on  $\gamma_0$ . Write

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial s}(P) = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial s}(x(s) + h \cos \alpha, \ y(s) + h \cos \beta) = F(s, \ h).$$

If  $\lambda$  is any closed subarc of  $\gamma_0$ , we have

$$\lim_{h\to 0} F(s, h) = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial s}(Q)$$

uniformly in s.

Along  $\gamma_h$  we have

$$\psi(P_2) - \psi(P_1) = \int_{s_1}^{s_2} F(s, h) \, ds$$

where  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are points on  $\gamma_h$  corresponding to points  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  on  $\lambda$  with parameter values  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ . As h approaches 0, the limits on the integral remain fixed. Since  $\psi = 0$  on  $\lambda$ , we find, by letting  $h \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$0 = \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial s}(Q) \, ds$$

for arbitrary  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ . Thus  $(\partial \psi/\partial s)(Q) = 0$  on  $\lambda$  and hence on  $\gamma_0$ .

LEMMA 4. Let R,  $\gamma$ ,  $Q_0$ ,  $N(Q_0)$ , N,  $\gamma_0$  be defined as in Lemma 3. Let v(x, y) and G(x, y) be of class  $c^0$  on  $N(Q_0)$  and of class  $c^1$  on  $N(Q_0)[R+Q_0]$ . Let v=G=0 on  $\gamma_0$ , G>0 in  $RN(Q_0)$ ,  $(\partial G/\partial \nu)(Q_0) \rightleftharpoons 0$ . Then there exists  $\lim_{P \to Q_0} v(P)/G(P)$  for  $P \in R$ .

If  $\gamma$  is of class  $c^{k+1}$  on  $N(Q_0)$  and v, G are of class  $c^k$  in  $N(Q_0)$  and of class  $c^{k+1}$  on  $N(Q_0)[R+Q_0]$ , then v/G is of class  $c^k$  on  $N(Q_0)[R+Q_0]$ .

*Proof.* Denote differentiation along a line parallel to N by  $\partial/\partial h$ . By the mean value theorem one finds that  $(\partial G/\partial \nu)(Q_0)$  is the limiting value of  $(\partial G/\partial h)(P)$  as  $P \in RN(Q_0)$  approaches  $Q_0$  along the normal at  $Q_0$ , and hence  $(\partial G/\partial \nu)(Q_0)$  is the limiting value of  $(\partial G/\partial h)(P)$  as P approaches  $Q_0$ by any approach in  $RN(Q_0)$ . A similar statement is true for  $(\partial v/\partial \nu)(Q_0)$ .

Let  $P_n$  be any sequence of points in  $RN(Q_0)$  converging to  $Q_0$  and let  $Q_n$  be the points on  $\gamma_0$  associated, by projection along N, with  $P_n$ . By the generalized mean value theorem,

$$\frac{v(P_n)}{G(P_n)} = \frac{v(P_n) - v(Q_n)}{G(P_n) - G(Q_n)} = \frac{(\partial v/\partial h)(P'_n)}{(\partial G/\partial h)(P'_n)}$$

where  $P'_n$  is interior to the line segment  $P_nQ_n$ .

Thus

$$\lim_{P_n \to Q_0} \frac{v(P_n)}{G(P_n)} = \frac{(\partial v/\partial \nu)(Q_0)}{(\partial G/\partial \nu)(Q_0)}$$

It is clear from the construction of  $N(Q_{c})$  that the equations

$$x = X(s, h) = x(s) + h \cos \alpha$$
,  $y = Y(s, h) = y(s) + h \cos \beta$ 

yield a one to one transformation of  $N(Q_0)$  into  $N^*(Q_0): 0 \le h < h_1$ ,  $0 \le s < L$  and  $\gamma_0$  into  $\gamma_0^*: h=0$ ,  $0 \le s < L$  and  $Q_0$  into  $Q_0^*: h=0$ ,  $s=s_0$ . In fact, in view of the restriction on the slope of the tangent to  $\gamma_0$ , the Jacobian of the transformation is

$$J = x'(s) \cos \beta - y'(s) \cos \alpha \approx 0$$
.

If x(s), y(s) are of class  $c^{k+1}$  on 0 < s < L then so are X(s, h), Y(s, h) in  $N^*(Q_0) - \gamma_0^*$ . Any partial derivative of X(s, h), Y(s, h) of order  $r \le k+1$  converges, as  $h \to 0$ , uniformly on any closed subinterval of  $\gamma_0^*$  and thus this derivative has a continuous limit on  $\gamma_0^*$ . By the implicit function theorems, the inverse functions s=S(x, y), h=H(x, y) are of class  $c^{k+1}$  in  $RN(Q_0)$ . Moreover, the partial derivatives of S, H of order  $r \le k+1$  have continuous limits on  $\gamma_0$ , for the relationships

$$1 = \frac{\partial X}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial X}{\partial h} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = x'(s) \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} + \cos \alpha \frac{\partial h}{\partial x}$$
$$0 = \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Y}{\partial h} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = y'(s) \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} + \cos \beta \frac{\partial h}{\partial x}$$

can be solved for  $\partial s/\partial x$ ,  $\partial h/\partial x$ ,  $\partial s/\partial y$ ,  $\partial h/\partial y$  and the resulting equations indicate that these derivatives and their derivatives of order  $\leq k$  have continuous limits on  $\gamma_0$ .

Under this transformation v(x, y) becomes  $v^*(s, h)$  and G(x, y) becomes  $G^*(s, h)$ . It is sufficient to show  $v^*/G^*$  is of class  $c^k$  at  $Q_0^*$  since any partial derivative of order  $r \leq k$  of v(x, y)/G(x, y) is a polynomial in the derivatives of  $v^*/G^*$  and in the derivatives of s and h with respect to x and y of order  $\leq r$ .

By the hypothesis and comments above,  $v^*(s, h)$  and  $G^*(s, h)$  are of class  $c^k$  on  $N^*(Q)$  and of class  $c^{k+1}$  on  $(N^*(Q_0) - \gamma_0^*) + Q_0^*$ . In view of the continuity of  $\partial G/\partial h$  at  $Q_0$ , there is a neighborhood of  $Q_0$  where  $(\partial G/\partial h)(P) > \delta > 0$ , It is no loss of generality to assume  $(\partial G/\partial h) > \delta > 0$ in  $N(Q_0)$  and we shall do so. By Lemma 3,  $\partial v/\partial s$  and  $\partial G/\partial s$  vanish on  $\gamma_0$ . By repeated application of Lemma 3,  $\partial^r v/\partial s^r$  and  $\partial^r G/\partial s^r$   $(0 \le r \le k)$ vanish on  $\gamma_0$ .

The proof is greatly facilitated by an auxiliary transformation. Let t=s,  $z=G^*(s, h)$  carrying  $Q_0^*$  into  $Q_0^{**}$ ,  $\gamma_0^*$  into  $\gamma_0^{**}$ ,  $N^*(Q_0)$  into  $N^{**}(Q_0)$ . For each s, z is a monotone increasing function of h and the inverse function  $h=H^*(t, z)$  is a monotone increasing function of z for each t. As above, we see that  $v^*(s, h)=v^{**}(t, z)$  is of class  $c^k$  on  $N^{**}(Q_0)$  and of class  $c^{k+1}$  on  $(N^{**}(Q_0) - \gamma_0^{**}) + (Q_0^{**})$ . Moreover, it suffices to prove that  $v^{**}(t, z)/z$  is of class  $c^k$  at  $Q_0^{**}$ . For notational simplicity, let  $w(t, z) = v^{**}(t, z)$ . Note that  $N^{**}(Q_0)$  is the set  $0 \le z < G(t, h_1), 0 < t < L$ .

By induction, we verify

$$\frac{\partial^r}{\partial z^r} \left( \frac{w}{z} \right) = \frac{r! (-1)^r}{z^{r+1}} \left( w - z \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} + \frac{z^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} + \dots + (-1)^r \frac{z^r}{r!} \frac{\partial^r w}{\partial z^r} \right)$$

for  $0 \le r \le k$  when z > 0.

For t fixed, w(t, z) has a Taylor expansion of the form

$$w(t, \zeta) = w(t, z) + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} (t, z)(\zeta - z) + \dots + \frac{\partial^r w}{\partial z^r} (t, z) \frac{(\zeta - z)^r}{r!} + \frac{\partial^{r+1} w}{\partial z^{r+1}} (t, \zeta) \frac{(\zeta - z)^{r+1}}{(r+1)!}$$

for  $0 \le r \le k$ , where  $0 \le \zeta < \xi(t, z, \zeta, r) < z$  so that, when  $\zeta = 0$ ,

$$0 = w(t, 0) = w(t, z) - z \frac{\partial w}{\partial z}(t, z) + \dots + \frac{(-1)^r}{r!} z^r \frac{\partial^r w}{\partial z^r}(t, z)$$
$$+ \frac{(-1)^{r+1} z^{r+1}}{(r+1)!} \frac{\partial^{r+1} w}{\partial z^{r+1}}(t, \xi) .$$

Hence

$$\frac{\partial^r}{\partial z^r}\left(\frac{w}{z}\right) = \frac{1}{r+1} \frac{\partial^{r+1}}{\partial z^{r+1}} w(t, \xi) ,$$

which has a limit as the point (t, z) approaches  $Q_0^{**}$ .

We have thus shown that the partial derivatives of w/z, with respect to z alone, of order  $\leq k$  have limits at  $Q_0^{**}$ .

We next show that the partial derivatives of w/z with respect to t alone have limits at  $Q_0^{**}$ . First note that the derivatives of w with respect to t alone vanish at z=0. For,  $w(t, z)=v^*(s, h)$  so that

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial v^*}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \frac{\partial G}{\partial s}$$

and, as we have seen,  $\partial v/\partial s$  and  $\partial G/\partial s$  vanish at z=0. Thus  $\partial w/\partial t=0$  at z=0. Similarly, successive differentiation shows  $\partial^r w/\partial t^r=0$  on  $\gamma_0^{**}$ ,  $0 \le r \le k$ .

We apply Taylor's theorem to obtain

$$\frac{\partial^r}{\partial t^r} \left( \frac{w}{z} \right) = \frac{1}{z} \frac{\partial^r w(t, z)}{\partial t^r} = \frac{1}{z} \left\{ z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ \frac{\partial^r w(t, \xi)}{\partial t^r} \right] \right\} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial^r w(t, \xi)}{\partial t^r} ,$$
$$0 < \xi(z, r) < z$$

and conclude that  $(\partial^r/\partial t^r)(w/z)$  has a limit at  $Q_0^{**}$  for  $0 \le r \le k$ ,

Finally, any mixed derivative may be written as

$$\frac{\partial^{n+m}}{\partial z^n \partial t^m} \left(\frac{w}{z}\right), \qquad n+m=r \leq k$$

and this may be written as  $\frac{\partial^n}{\partial z^n} \left\{ \frac{1 \partial^m w}{z \partial t^m} \right\}$ 

where  $\partial^m w/\partial t^m$  vanishes on  $\gamma_0^{**}$  and is of class  $c^{k-m}$  on  $N^{**}(Q_0)$  and of class  $c^{k-m+1}$  on  $(N^{**}(Q_0) - \gamma_0^{**}) + Q_0^{**}$ . By the first results for derivatives with respect to z, the mixed derivatives have the desired property.

THEOREM 1. Let R be a bounded region whose boundary  $\Gamma$  consists of a finite number of non-intersecting simply closed regular arcs of class  $c^{k}$ ,  $(k\geq 2)$ . Let G(x, y) be a function of class  $c^{k}$  on  $R+\Gamma$ , vanishing on  $\Gamma$ , positive in R, with  $\partial G/\partial \nu \geq \delta > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ .

Let H be the Hilbert space formed by completing the linear vector space V of variations—functions of class  $c^{k}$  on  $\overline{R}$  and vanishing on  $\Gamma$ —, using the functional

$$D[\xi] = \iint (a\xi_x^2 + b\xi_y^2 + c\xi^2) dx \, dy$$

for  $\xi \in V$  as the square of the norm, where a, b, c are bounded and integrable, a > 0, b > 0,  $c \ge 0$  in  $R + \Gamma$ .

Then the set of functions  $G\tau$ , where  $\tau$  is a polynomial in x and y, is dense in H. The set  $\{f_i\}$  obtained by orthonormalizing the set  $\{Gx^iy^j\}$  is complete in H.

If g(x, y) is a function of class  $c^k$  on  $\overline{R}$  and  $\Psi$  is the set of functions  $\psi$  of class  $c^k$  on  $\overline{R}$ , assuming the values of g(x, y) on  $\Gamma$ , and if for any  $\psi \in \Psi$  we define  $b_i = D[\psi - g, f_i]$ , then

$$\left\|\psi-g-\sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i\right\|^2 = D\left[\psi-g-\sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i\right] \leq \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}}$$

where  $\lim \theta(n) = 0$ ,  $\theta$  depending on  $\psi - g$ .

In particular, if f is integrable,

$$I[\psi] = \iint (a\psi_x^2 + b\psi_y^2 + c\psi^2 + 2f\psi) dx \, dy ,$$

and there exists an admissible function  $\psi_0$  which minimizes  $I[\psi]$  for  $\psi \in \Psi$ , and we define

$$a_i = - \iint ff_i \, dx \, dy - D[g, f_i], \ \phi_n = g + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i f_i,$$

then

$$\| \psi_0 - \phi_n \|^2 = D[\psi_0 - \phi_n] \le \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}}$$

where  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \theta(n) = 0$ .

**Proof.** If v is a variation, we show there is a sequence  $Q_j$  of polynomials such that

$$\lim_{j \to \infty} \|v - G Q_j\|^2 = \lim_{j \to \infty} \iint [a(v - G Q_j)_x^2 + b(v - G Q_j)_y^2 + c(v - G Q_j)^2] dx dy = 0.$$

In view of Lemma 4, v/G is of class  $c^{k-1}$  on  $\overline{R}$  and it is thus possible to extend the definition of v/G over the entire plane so that it is of class  $c^{k-1}$  over the entire plane. Let  $\Omega(\delta)$  be the uniform modulus of continuity of the (k-1)st partial derivatives of v/G over a rectangle with sides parallel to the axes containing R in its interior.

By Lemma 2, with s=2, j=1,  $m_1=m_2=j$  there is a sequence  $Q_j$  of polynomials of degree 2j in x and y such that, for (x, y) in  $\overline{R}$ ,

$$\left|rac{v}{G}-Q_{j}
ight|, \quad \left|\left(rac{v}{G}
ight)_{\mathbf{x}}-Q_{j_{\mathbf{x}}}
ight|, ext{ and } \left|\left(rac{v}{G}
ight)_{y}-Q_{j_{y}}
ight| ext{ are all } O\!\!\left(rac{1}{j^{k-2}} \ \Omega\!\!\left(rac{1}{j}
ight)\!
ight).$$

Hence

$$\begin{split} (v - G Q_j)_x^2 &= \left[ \left( \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right) G \right]_x^2 = \left[ \left( \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right)_x G + \left( \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right) G_x \right]^2 \\ &\leq \left( \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right)_x^2 G^2 + G_x^2 \left( \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right)^2 + 2G |G_x| \left( \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right)_x \right| \left| \frac{v}{G} - Q_j \right| \\ &= O \left( \frac{1}{j^{2(k-2)}} \left[ \Omega \left( \frac{1}{j} \right) \right]^2 \right). \end{split}$$

A similar result is true for  $(v-GQ_j)_v^2$  and  $(v-GQ_j)^2$ . Thus  $\lim_{j\to\infty} D[v-GQ_j]=0$  for  $k\geq 2$ .

It has thus been proved that the linear manifold formed by  $\{Gx^iy^j\}$  is dense in V and thus in H. By the previous discussion the set  $\{f_i\}$  is complete in H.

Now let v in the above be the particular variation  $\psi - g$  and let [N] represent the largest integer  $\leq N$ . For fixed n, let  $j = [(\sqrt{n}/2) - 1]$ and  $\tau_n(x, y) = Q_j(x, y)$ . Thus there is a sequence  $\tau_n$  of degree at most

$$2j \leq \left[2\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}-1\right)\right] = \left[\sqrt{2n}-2\right]$$

such that

$$D[\psi - g - G \tau_n] = O\left(\frac{1}{n^{k-2}}\Omega^2\left(\frac{8}{\sqrt{n}}\right)\right).$$

Now  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i f_i = G\mu_n$  where  $\mu_n$  is a polynomial of degree greater than  $\sqrt{2n}-2$ , and it is known that

$$\psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i f_i$$

is a minimum when  $c_i = (\psi - g, f_i) = b_i$ . Thus

$$D\left[\psi-g-\sum_{i=1}^{n}b_{i}f_{i}\right]=O\left(\frac{1}{n^{k-2}}\theta\right),\quad \lim_{n\to\infty}\theta=0.$$

In particular, if  $\psi_0$  minimizes  $I[\psi]$ , then we have seen that

$$D[\psi_0 - g, f_i] = -\iint ff_i \, dx \, dy - D[g, f_i] \, .$$

Thus, in this case, the Fourier coefficients depend only on known quantities.

COROLLARY 
$$b_n = O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}}}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Proof. \ b_n^2 = D[b_n f_n] = D\bigg[ \bigg( \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} b_i f_i \bigg) - \bigg( \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i \bigg) \bigg] \\ \leq D\bigg[ \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} b_i f_i \bigg] + 2 \bigg( D\bigg[ \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} b_i f_i \bigg] \\ \cdot D\bigg[ \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i \bigg] \bigg)^{1/2} + D\bigg[ \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i \bigg] = O\bigg( \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}} \bigg). \end{aligned}$$

§ 3. Expansion Theorems. We use the notations in Theorem 1 and seek conditions which insure that convergence in H yields uniform convergence in  $\overline{R}$ .

THEOREM 2. Let R be a bounded region with boundary  $\Gamma$ . Let  $\psi$ ,  $\psi_n$  be continuous on  $\overline{R}$ , absolutely continuous on each line in  $\overline{R}$  and all taking on the same values on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $D[\psi] < \infty$ ,  $D[\psi_n] < \infty$ . If  $\lim_{n \to \infty} D[\psi - \psi_n] = 0$ , then a necessary and sufficient condition that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \psi_n = \psi$  uniformly on  $\overline{R}$  is that  $\psi_n$  be equicontinuous on  $\overline{R}$ . If  $\lim_{n \to \infty} D[\psi_n - \psi_m] = 0$  then a necessary and sufficient that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \psi_n$  exists uniformly on  $\overline{R}$  is that  $\psi_n$  be equicontinuous on  $\overline{R}$ .

*Proof.* The necessity is clear since a sequence of continuous functions

which converge uniformly are equicontinuous.

Let u(x, y) be a function with the continuity properties of  $\psi(x, y)$ and vanishing on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $P_0$  be a point interior to R. Place polar coordinates at  $P_0$ . If a ray from  $P_0$  meets the circle  $S_{\rho}$  of radius  $\rho \leq d$ , d being the diameter of R, with  $P_0$  as center, before it meets  $\Gamma$ , label  $P_1$  the first intersection point with  $S_{\rho}$  and Q the first intersection with  $\Gamma$ . Otherwise both  $P_1$  and Q will refer to the first intersection point of the ray and  $\Gamma$ .

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{2\pi} & \left\{ \int_{0}^{2\pi} |u\left(P_{1}\right)| \, d\theta \right\}^{2} \leq \int_{0}^{2\pi} u^{2}(P_{1}) d\theta = \int_{0}^{2\pi} \left[ \int_{P_{1}}^{Q} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} dr \right]^{2} d\theta \\ &= \int_{0}^{2\pi} \left[ \int_{P_{1}}^{Q} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \sqrt{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} dr \right]^{2} d\theta \leq \int_{0}^{2\pi} \log \frac{d}{\rho} \int_{P_{1}}^{Q} r \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right)^{2} dr \, d\theta \\ &\leq \log \frac{d}{\rho} \iint (u_{x}^{2} + u_{y}^{2}) dx \, dy \leq \alpha \, \log \frac{d}{\rho} D[u] \end{split}$$

where  $\alpha = 1/\min_{R+r} (a, b)$ , since

$$\iint (au_x^2 + bu_y^2 + cu^2) dx \, dy \ge \min(a, b) \iint (u_x^2 + u_y^2) dx \, dy \, .$$

Apply this result to the functions  $u_n = \psi - \psi_n$  (or to  $u_{nm} = \psi_n - \psi_m$ ) which are equicontinuous on R + I and thus have a uniform modulus of continuity  $\omega(\delta)$ , which approaches 0 with  $\delta$ .

Since  $P_1$  is on or interior to the circle of radius  $\rho$ , we have  $|u_n(P_1) - u_n(P_0)| \leq \omega(\rho)$ , whence  $|u_n(P_1)| \geq |u_n(P_0)| - \omega(\rho)$  and

$$2\pi[|u_n(P_0)| - \omega(\rho)] \leq \sqrt{2\pi\alpha \log d/\rho} D[u_n] .$$

Thus

$$|u_n(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{lpha}{2\pi} D[u_n] \log \frac{d}{
ho}} + \omega(
ho),$$

which is true even if  $P_0$  is on  $\Gamma$ .

Now, for  $\epsilon > 0$ , choose  $\rho = \rho_1$  so small that  $\omega(\rho_1) < \epsilon/2$  and then choose N so large that

$$rac{lpha}{2\pi} D[u_n] \log rac{d}{
ho_1} {<} rac{arepsilon^2}{4}$$

for n > N. Hence

$$\varepsilon > 0 \cdot \supset \cdot \mathcal{F} N(\varepsilon) \ni n > N \cdot \supset \cdot |\psi(P_0) - \psi_n(P_0)| < \varepsilon$$
.

LEMMA 5. Let R be a bounded region with boundary I' and diameter d.

Let u(x, y) be continuous on  $R + \Gamma$ , absolutely continuous on each line in  $R + \Gamma$ , and vanish on  $\Gamma$ , and let  $0 < D[u] < \infty$ . Let  $\alpha = 1/\min_{R+\Gamma} (a, b)$ . Let  $P_0 \in R + \Gamma$ . If there exists  $\delta > 0$ ,  $K \ge 0$  and

$$|u(P) - u(P_0)| \le K \| P - P_0 \|^{\delta}$$

for all points P such that the ray  $P_0P$  is in  $R+\Gamma$ , then

$$|u(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{rac{lpha D[u]}{2\pi\delta} \log^+ rac{d^8 K}{\Delta D[u]}} + \Delta D[u]$$

where  $\varDelta$  is any number >0, and

$$\log^+ x = egin{cases} \log x & if \quad x > 1 \ 0 & if \quad x \leq 1 \ . \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* If  $P_0$  is interior to R, and  $\rho \leq d$ , then as in Theorem 2

$$rac{1}{2\pi} igg\{ \int_0^{2\pi} \lvert u(P_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}) 
vert \, d heta igg\}^2 \leq lpha \, \log \, d / 
ho \, D[u] \, ,$$

where  $P_1$  is a point which is the first intersection of a ray from  $P_0$  with either  $\Gamma$  or the circle of radius  $\rho \leq d$  about  $P_0$  as center.

Since  $P_1$  is on or interior to the circle of radius  $\rho$ , we have

$$egin{aligned} |u(P_1)-u(P_0)| \leq & K
ho^{\delta}, \quad |u(P_1)| \geq |u(P_0)| - K
ho^{\delta}, \ & 2\pi [u(P_0)-K
ho^{\delta}] \leq & \sqrt{2\pilpha} \log d/
ho D[u], \ & |u(P_0)| \leq & \sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi}} D[u] \log rac{d}{
ho} + K
ho^{\delta}, \end{aligned}$$

which holds even if  $P_0$  is on  $\Gamma$ .

Let  $\Delta > 0$ . If

$$\left(rac{arDelta D[u]}{K}
ight)^{\!\!1/\!\!\delta}\!<\!d$$
 ,

choose

$$\rho = \left(\frac{\Delta D[u]}{K}\right)^{1/\delta}$$

to obtain

$$|u(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi\delta} D[u] \log rac{d^8K}{4 D[u]}} + 4 D[u] \,.$$

Otherwise,

$$\left(rac{\Delta D[u]}{K}
ight)^{1/\delta} \geq d$$
 ,  $K \leq rac{\Delta D[u]}{d^{\delta}}$ 

and we may replace K to obtain

$$|u(P_{\scriptscriptstyle 0})|{\leq}\sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi}}D[u]\,\log\,rac{d}{
ho}\,+{}^{{\Delta}}rac{D[u]}{d^{\scriptscriptstyle ar\delta}}\,
ho^{\scriptscriptstyle \delta}\,.$$

Choose  $\rho = d$  to obtain  $|u(P_0)| \leq 4 D[u]$ .

COROLLARY 1. A sufficient condition that a sequence  $u_n$ , absolutely continuous on each line in  $\overline{R}$ , vanishing on  $\Gamma$ , continuous on  $\overline{R}$ , and having  $\lim_{n\to\infty} D[u_n]=0$ , converge to 0 at  $P_0$  is that  $\exists \delta > 0$  and a sequence  $K_n$ , with  $\lim_{n\to\infty} D[u_n] \log K_n = 0$  such that

$$|u_n(p) - u_n(P_0)| \leq K_n \| P - P_0 \|^{s}$$

for all P with ray  $P_0P$  in  $\overline{R}$ . If  $\delta$ ,  $K_n$  are independent of  $P_0$ , the convergence is uniform. In any case,

$$|u_n(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{2\pi\delta} D[u_n] \log^+ \frac{d^8 K_n}{\Delta_n D[u_n]}} + \Delta_n D[u_n]$$

for any  $\Delta_n > 0$ .

LEMMA 6. Let R be a bounded domain with boundary  $\Gamma$ . Let  $P_0 \in \overline{R}$  and suppose there is a circle of radius  $\varepsilon$  lying in  $\overline{R}$  and containing  $P_0$ . Place polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  at  $P_0$ . Let u(x, y) be of class  $c^1$  in  $\overline{R}$  and suppose that there exist  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\sigma \ge 0$  such that

$$|u_r(P) - u_r(P_0)| \leq \sigma \|P - P_0\|^{\lambda}$$

for all points P such that the ray  $P_0P$  is in  $\overline{R}$ . Then

$$|\nabla u(P_0)|^2 \leq (\sigma^2 D[u]^{\lambda})^{1/(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda \pi}\right)^{\lambda/(\lambda+1)} 2^{(5\lambda+3)/(\lambda+1)} (\lambda+1) + \frac{8\alpha D[u]}{\pi \varepsilon^2} \left(\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}\right)$$

Proof. 
$$|u_r(P_0)| \leq |u_r(P)| + \sigma r^{\lambda}$$

Integrating over a circle  $S_{\rho}$  of radius  $\rho \leq \varepsilon$  which contains  $P_0, S_{\rho} \subset S_{\varepsilon}$ , we obtain

$$\iint_{s_{\rho}} |u_r(P_0)|^2 r \, dr \, d\theta \leq 2 \iint_{s_{\rho}} u_r(P)^2 r \, dr \, d\theta + 2 \iint_{s_{\rho}} \sigma^2 r^{2\lambda} r \, dr \, d\theta \; .$$

We may assume that the polar axis lies in the direction of  $\Gamma u(P_0)$ . Hence  $u_r(P_0) = |\Gamma u(P_0)| \cos \theta$  and

$$\displaystyle \iint_{s_{
ho}} |arphi u(P_{\scriptscriptstyle 0})|^2 (\cos^2 heta) r \ dr \ d heta \leq 2lpha \ D[u] + 2 \sigma^2 (2
ho)^{2\lambda} \cdot \pi 
ho^2 \ .$$

We will show that the minimum value of  $\iint_{s_{\alpha}} (\cos^2 \theta) r \, dr \, d\theta$  is  $\pi \rho^2/4$ . Suppose first that the pole O is interior to  $S_{\rho}$ . Let  $r(\theta)$  be the equation of the circle relative to the pole O. Let Q be the point  $(r(\theta), \theta)$ and Q' the point  $(r(\theta + \pi), \theta + \pi)$ . Q and Q' are thus the intersections of a ray through O with the circle. Let O' be the center of the circle and suppose the co- $Q(r, \theta)$ ordinates of O' relative to O are  $(c, \phi)$ . Then the angle between OQ and OO' is  $\phi - \theta$ . Drop a perpendicular from O' to Q. QOQ' hitting the latter at T, the length A Polar axis of OT being  $|c\cos(\phi-\theta)|$ . Thus one of

the lengths ||OQ||, ||OQ'|| is  $m+|c\cos(\phi-\theta)|$  and the other is  $m-|c\cos(\phi-\theta)|$  where 2m is the length of QQ', and the product  $||OQ'|| \cdot ||OQ|| = m^2 - c^2\cos^2(\phi-\theta)$ . Also, if OO' meets the circle in points A, A' it is easily seen that ||OA'|| ||OA|| = ||OQ|| ||OQ'|| so that  $(\rho+c)(\rho-c) = m^2 - c^2\cos^2(\phi-\theta)$  and  $m^2 = \rho^2 - c^2 + c^2\cos^2(\phi-\theta)$ . Hence

$$\|OQ\|^{2} + \|OQ'\|^{2} = [m + |c\cos(\phi - \theta)|]^{2} + [m - |c\cos(\phi - \theta)|]^{2}$$
$$= 2m^{2} + 2c^{2}\cos^{2}(\phi - \theta) = 2\rho^{2} - 2c^{2} + 4c^{2}\cos^{2}(\phi - \theta)$$

We note that

$$\begin{split} \iint_{s_{\rho}} (\cos^2 \theta) r \, dr \, d\theta &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{2\pi} r^2(\theta) \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\pi} \left( \| \, OQ \, \|^2 + \| \, OQ' \, \|^2 \right) \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\pi} \left[ 2\rho^2 - 2c^2 + 4c^2 \cos^2(\phi - \theta) \right] \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta \; . \end{split}$$

Moreover this formula holds even if O is a point on the circumference for in this case

$$\iint_{S_{\rho}} (\cos^2 \theta) \ r \ dr \ d\theta = 1/2 \int_{\gamma}^{\gamma + \pi} r^2(\theta) \cos^2 \theta \ d\theta$$

where  $\gamma$  is the angle between the polar axis and the tangent to the circle at O in that direction which has the area to the left of the tangent line. Here  $r^2 = [2\rho \cos(\phi - \theta)]^2$  and since the square of the cosine has period  $\pi$ , the integral reduces to

$$rac{1}{2}\int_0^\pi 4
ho^2\cos^2(\phi- heta)\cos^2 heta\;d heta\;.$$

Thus, in any case,

$$\begin{split} \iint_{s_{\rho}} (\cos^2 \theta) r \, dr \, d\theta &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} \left[ 2\rho^2 - 2c^2 + 4c^2 \cos^2(\phi - \theta) \right] \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \pi \rho^2 - \frac{1}{2} \pi \, c^2 + \frac{\pi c^2}{4} \left[ 1 + 2 \cos^2 \phi \right]. \end{split}$$

For fixed c, the minimum is obtained when  $\phi = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , and is  $\frac{\pi\rho^2}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \pi c^2$ . The absolute minimum is obtained when  $c = \rho$  and is  $\pi \rho^2/4$ .

It follows from this result, that

$$egin{aligned} &\pi \dot{
ho}^2 \ ec{4} &| arphi u(P_0)|^2 {\leq} 2lpha D[u] + 2\sigma^2 (2
ho)^{2\lambda} \ \pi 
ho^2 \ , \ &| arphi u(P_0)|^2 {\leq} rac{8lpha \ D[u]}{\pi 
ho^2} + 2^{2\lambda+3} \sigma^2 \ 
ho^{2\lambda} \ . \end{aligned}$$

Consider the function  $y=A/\rho^2+B\rho^{2\lambda}$  where  $A=8\alpha D[u]/\pi$ ,  $B=2^{2\lambda+3}\sigma^2$ . The minimum value is

$$y_{\min} = A^{\lambda/(\lambda+1)} B^{1/(\lambda+1)} (\lambda+1) \lambda^{-\lambda/(\lambda+1)}$$
$$= (\sigma^2 D[u]^{\lambda})^{1/(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda\pi}\right)^{\lambda/(\lambda+1)} (\lambda+1) 2^{(5\lambda+3)/(\lambda+1)}$$

obtained when

$$\rho = \left(\frac{A}{B\lambda}\right)^{1/(2\lambda+2)} = \left(\frac{\alpha D[u]}{\lambda \pi \sigma^2 2^{2\lambda}}\right)^{1/(2\lambda+2)}$$

 $\mathbf{If}$ 

$$\left(-\frac{lpha D[u]}{\lambda\pi\sigma^2 2^{2\lambda}}
ight)^{1/(2\lambda+2)} \leq \varepsilon \ .$$

choose

$$\rho = \left(\frac{\alpha D[u]}{\lambda \pi \sigma^2 2^{2\lambda}}\right)^{1/(2\lambda+2)}$$

and have

$$|\nabla u(P_0)|^2 \leq (\sigma^2 D[u]^{\lambda})^{1/(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi\lambda}\right)^{\lambda/(\lambda+1)} 2^{(5\lambda+3)/(\lambda+1)} (\lambda+1).$$

However, if

$$\left(rac{lpha D[u]}{\lambda\pi\sigma^2 2^{2\lambda}}
ight)^{1/(2\lambda+2)}\!\!>\!\!arepsilon$$
 ,

we have

 $\sigma^2 \leq \frac{\alpha D[u]}{2^{2\lambda} \lambda \pi \varepsilon^{2\lambda+2}}$ 

and integrating over  $S_{\epsilon}$ , as in the beginning of this proof, we find that

$$\begin{split} \iint_{s_{\varepsilon}} |u_{r}(P_{0})|^{2}r \, dr \, d\theta \leq & 2 \iint_{s_{\varepsilon}} u_{r}(P)^{2}r \, dr \, d\theta + 2 \frac{\alpha \, D[u]}{2^{2\lambda} \lambda \pi \varepsilon^{2\lambda+2}} (2\varepsilon)^{2\lambda} \pi \varepsilon^{2}, \\ & \frac{\pi \varepsilon^{2}}{4} |\nabla u(P_{0})|^{2} \leq & 2\alpha D[u] + \frac{2\alpha \, D[u]}{\pi \lambda \varepsilon^{2}} \cdot \pi \varepsilon^{2}, \\ & |\nabla u(P_{0})|^{2} \leq & \frac{8\alpha \, D[u]}{\pi \varepsilon^{2}} + \frac{8\alpha \, D[u]}{\lambda \pi \varepsilon^{2}} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \frac{8\alpha \, D[u]}{\pi \varepsilon^{2}} \, . \end{split}$$

Thus, in any case,

$$|\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{U}}(P_0)|^2 \leq (\sigma^2 D[u]^{\lambda})^{1/(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda \pi}\right)^{\lambda/(\lambda+1)} 2^{(5\lambda+3)/(\lambda+1)} (\lambda+1) + \frac{8\alpha}{\pi \varepsilon^2} \frac{D[u]}{(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \left(\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}\right)^{1/(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda \pi}\right)^{1/(\lambda+1)} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \left(\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}\right)^{1/(\lambda+1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda \pi}\right)^{1/(\lambda+1)} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \left(\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}\right)^{1/(\lambda+1)} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda}\right)^{1/(\lambda+1)} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda}\right)^{1/$$

**LEMMA** 7. Let R be a bounded region with boundary  $\Gamma$  and diameter d and let R have the property that there exists an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that every point of  $R + \Gamma$  is within some circle of radius  $\epsilon$  lying in  $R + \Gamma$ .

Let  $u(x, y) = G\tau + H$  where  $\tau$  is a polynomial of degree m, G and H are of class  $c^1$  on  $R + \Gamma$  and vanish on  $\Gamma$ , G > 0 in R,  $|_{\Gamma}G| \ge \delta > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $|G| \leq G_1$ ,  $|H| \leq H_1$ ,  $|\nabla G| \leq G_2$ ,  $|\nabla H| \leq H_2$  for constants  $G_1$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$ . Suppose also that

$$|G_x(P) - G_x(P_0)| \leq G_0 \|P - P_0\|, \quad |G_y(P) - G_y(P_0)| \leq G_0 \|P - P_0\|,$$

 $|H_x(P) - H_x(P_0)| \leq H_0 || P - P_0 ||, ||H_y(P) - H_y(P_0)| \leq H_0 || P - P_0 || for constants$  $G_0$ ,  $H_0$ , whenever P,  $P_0$  are points in  $\overline{R}$  such that the line  $P_0P$  is in  $\overline{R}$ . Let A be an upper bound for D[u] and  $D[u] \log m$ .

Then there exists a constant B, depending only on  $\alpha$ , A,  $G_0$ ,  $G_1$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $H_0$ ,  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\varepsilon$ , d, G but not on m or  $\tau$ , such that for  $P_0 \in \overline{R}$ .

$$|u(P_{\upsilon})| \leq \sqrt{\frac{2lpha}{\pi}} D[u] \log^+ \frac{m}{\varDelta D[u]} + B(\varDelta D[u])^4 (D[u])^{1/4}$$

for any  $\Delta > 0$ . (m to be replaced by 1 if it is 0).

*Proof.* We may assume D[u] > 0 for otherwise u=0 in R.

Let  $L=\max |\tau|$ . By a theorem of Kellogg [3],  $|\nabla \tau(P)| \leq Lm^2/\epsilon$  for  $\overline{R}$  $P \in \overline{R}$ .

If P and  $P_0$  are on a straight line in R, then

$$|\tau(P) - \tau(P_0)| = \left| \int_{P_0}^{P} \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial r} dr \right| \leq \frac{Lm^2}{\varepsilon} \|P - P_0\|$$

$$|H(P) - H(P_0)| \le H_2 || P - P_0 ||, \quad |G(P) - G(P_0)| \le G_2 || P - P_0 ||, \\ |u(P) - u(P_0)| \le |G(P)\tau(P) - G(P)\tau(P_0)| + |G(P)\tau(P_0) - G(P_0)\tau(P_0) + |H(P) - H(P_0)|$$

$$\leq \left(G_1 \frac{Lm^2}{\varepsilon} + LG_2 + H_2\right) \|P - P_0\| = K \|P - P_0\|.$$

By Lemma 5, with  $\Delta = D[u]^{-1/2}$ ,

(2) 
$$|u(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} D[u] \log^+ \frac{dK}{\sqrt{D[u]}}} + \sqrt{D[u]}.$$

Also,  $\tau_x$ ,  $\tau_y$  are polynomials of degree m and absolute value less than or equal to  $Lm^2/\epsilon$ , so that  $|_{\Gamma}\tau_x| \leq (Lm^2/\epsilon)(m^2/\epsilon)$ , and

$$|\tau_x(P) - \tau_x(P_0)| \leq \int_{P_0}^P |\nabla \tau_x| dr \leq \frac{Lm^4}{\varepsilon^2} \|P - P_0\|.$$

Thus

$$|\nabla \tau(P) - \nabla \tau(P_0)| \leq \frac{2Lm^4}{\varepsilon^2} \|P - P_0\|.$$

Then

$$\begin{split} | \varphi u(P) - \varphi u(P_0) | \\ \leq & |G(P) \varphi \tau(P) - G(P_0) \varphi \tau(P_0)| + |\tau(P) \varphi G(P) - \tau(P_0) \varphi G(P_0)| + |\varphi H(P) - \varphi H(P_0)| \\ \leq & |G(P) \varphi \tau(P) - G(P) \varphi \tau(P_0)| + |G(P) \varphi \tau(P_0) - G(P_0) \varphi \tau(P_0)| \\ & + |\tau(P) \varphi G(P) - \tau(P) \varphi G(P_0)| + |\tau(P) \varphi G(P_0) - \tau(P_0) \varphi G(P_0)| \\ & + |H_x(P) - H_x(P_0)| + |H_y(P) - H_y(P_0)| \\ \leq & \left( G_1 \frac{2 Lm^4}{\varepsilon^2} + \frac{Lm^2}{\varepsilon} G_2 + L 2G_0 + G_2 \frac{Lm^2}{\varepsilon} + 2H_0 \right) \| P - P_0 \| = \sigma \| P - P_0 \| \,. \end{split}$$

Whence Lemma 6 yields

$$(3) \qquad |\nabla u(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{(\sigma^2 D[u])^{1/2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} 32} + \frac{16\alpha D[u]}{\pi \varepsilon^2}$$

By use of inequalities (2) and (3) we now find a bound for L.

Either  $L \leq 1$  or else there exist constants  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  such that  $K < c_1 Lm^2$ ,  $\sigma < c_2 Lm^4$  where the factor m is to be omitted if it is zero, and  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  depend only on  $\varepsilon$ ,  $G_1$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $H_0$ ,  $G_0$ .

Assume L>1. Since  $|_{\Gamma}G| \approx 0$  on  $\Gamma$ , there exists a continuous curve (or curves)  $\gamma$  dividing  $\overline{R}$  into two closed sets  $\overline{R}_1$  and  $\overline{R}_2$ , such that  $\overline{R}_1\overline{R}_2=\gamma$ ,  $\overline{R}_1$  being a boundary set where  $|_{\Gamma}G| \geq \delta/2>0$ , and  $\overline{R}_2$  the set separated from  $\Gamma$  by  $\gamma$ . There is a constant  $c_3$  such that  $G(P) \geq c_3>0$  for  $P \in \overline{R}_2$ .

Suppose first that  $|\tau|$  assumes its maximum L at a point  $P_0 \in \overline{R}_2$ . Then, by (2),

$$|G(P_0)\tau(P_0) + H(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}D[u]\log^+\frac{d c_1 Lm^2}{\sqrt{D[u]}}} + \sqrt{D[u]}$$

or,

(4) 
$$L \leq \frac{1}{c_3} \left[ H_1 + \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} D[u] \log^+ \frac{d c_1 L m^2}{\sqrt{D[u]}}} + \sqrt{D[u]} \right].$$

Since  $D[u] \log m$  and D[u] are bounded by A, equation (4) implies the existence of a constant  $c_4$  depending on  $c_3$ ,  $c_1$ , d, A,  $\alpha$ ,  $H_1$  such that  $L \leq c_4$ .

On the other hand, if  $|\tau|$  assumes its maximum L at a point  $P_0 \in \overline{R_1}$ , write

$$\begin{split} \varphi u = G \varphi \tau + \tau \varphi G + \varphi H \quad \tau^2 \varphi G = \tau \varphi u - u \varphi \tau + H \varphi \tau - \tau \varphi H, \\ \tau^2 | \varphi G | \leq |\tau| | \varphi u | + |u| | \varphi \tau | + |H| | \varphi \tau | + |\tau| | \varphi H| \\ \leq L \sqrt{(c_2^2 L^2 m^8 D[u])^{1/2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} 32 + \frac{16\alpha D[u]}{\pi \varepsilon^2}} \\ + \frac{Lm^2}{\varepsilon} \left( \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}} D[u] \log^+ \frac{d c_1 Lm^2}{\sqrt{D[u]}} + \sqrt{D[u]} \right) + H_1 \frac{Lm^2}{\varepsilon} + LH_2 \,. \end{split}$$

Therefore,

$$egin{aligned} (5) & L \leq rac{2}{\delta} \left\{ \sqrt{32 \, (c_2^2 \, L^2 m^8 \, D[u])^{1/2} igg( rac{lpha}{\pi} igg)^{1/2} + rac{16 lpha \, D[u]}{\pi arepsilon^2}} \ & + rac{m^2}{arepsilon} igg( \sqrt{rac{lpha \, D[u]}{2 \pi} \log^+ rac{d \, c_1 \, Lm^2}{\sqrt{D[u]}} + \sqrt{D[u]}} + rac{H_1 m^2}{arepsilon} + H_2 igg\} \,. \end{aligned}$$

This inequality, which is of the form

$$L {\leq} K_1 {+} K_2 m^2 {+} K_3 m^2 \sqrt{\log L} {+} K_4 m^2 \sqrt{L}$$
 ,

shows that

$$\sqrt{L} \leq \frac{K_1}{\sqrt{L}} + \frac{K_2 m^2}{\sqrt{L}} + K_3 m^2 \sqrt{\frac{\log L}{L}} + K_4 m^2 \leq K_1 + K_2 m^2 + K_3 m^2 + K_4 m^2,$$

since  $L{>}1$ , whence  $L{\le}c_5m^4$  for some constant  $c_5$ .

Thus, in any case, there is a constant  $c_6$  such that  $L < c_6 m^4$ , where the factor m is to be omitted if it is zero. From this one can conclude that  $K < c_1 c_6 m^6$ . However, we may obtain a better estimate by noticing that K merely serves as a number such that  $|u(P) - u(P_0)| \le K ||P - P_0||$  whenever P and  $P_0$  are on a straight line in  $\overline{R}$ . Hence K may be replaced by  $\sup |\nabla u|$ .

The inequality 
$$\sigma < c_2 Lm^4 < c_2 c_6 m^8$$
 and formula (3) yield  
 $|\nabla u(P_0)| \le \sqrt{c_2 c_6 m^8 D[u]^{1/2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} \cdot 32 + \frac{16\alpha D[u]^{1/2} D[u]^{1/2}}{\pi \epsilon^2}} = c_7 D[u]^{1/4} m^4$ ,

since  $D[u] \leq A$ . Thus we may replace K by  $c_7 D[u]^{1/4} m^4$  and substitute in Lemma 5 to obtain

$$|u(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi} D[u] \log^+ rac{dc_7 D[u]^{1/4} m^4}{4 D[u]}} + 4 D[u] \; .$$

Let  $\Delta = dc_7 \Delta_1^4 D[u]^{13/3}$  and  $B = dc_7$  to obtain the conclusion.

LEMMA 8. Let R, G, have the properties in Lemma 7 and let  $u = G\tau$  where  $\tau$  is a polynomial of degree m.

Then  $D[u] \ge c_{12} |u(P_0)|^2 / \log m$  where  $c_{12} > 0$  is a constant depending only on  $G_0$ ,  $G_1$ ,  $G_2$ , d,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\partial$ , G. The factor  $\log m$  is to be omitted if m=0 or 1.

*Proof.* Whether  $L \leq 1$  or not, the formulas for K,  $\sigma$  show that  $K \leq c_1 Lm^2$ ,  $\sigma \leq c_2 Lm^4$ . Moreover, either formula (4) or (5) holds, with  $H_1=0$ ,  $H_2=0$ . If (4) holds, we have

$$rac{L}{\sqrt{D[u]}} \!\!\leq\! rac{1}{c_3} \! \left[ \sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi} \log^+ rac{dc_1 Lm^2}{\sqrt{D[u]}}} \!+\! 1 
ight].$$

Let  $w=L/\sqrt{D[u]}$ . The above inequality is then of the form  $w \leq K_1\sqrt{\log wm^2}+K_2$  whence  $L/\sqrt{D[u]}\leq c_8 \log m$  for some constant  $c_8$ , depending on  $\alpha$ ,  $c_3$ , d,  $c_1$ . Here the factor  $\log m$  is to be omitted if m=0 or 1. On the other hand, if (5) holds, we have

$$egin{aligned} &rac{L}{\sqrt{D[u]}} \leq&rac{2}{\delta} \Big\{ \sqrt{c_2 m^4} rac{L}{\sqrt{D[u]}} \Big(rac{lpha}{\pi}\Big)^{1/2} \cdot 32 + \sqrt{rac{16lpha}{\piarepsilon^2}} \ &+ rac{m^2}{arepsilon} \Big( \sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi} \log^+ dc_1 m^2} rac{L}{\sqrt{D[u]}} + 1 \Big) \Big\} \;, \end{aligned}$$

from which we conclude  $L/\sqrt{D[u]} \leq c_9 m^4 \log m$  (*m* and  $\log m$  to be omitted if m=0 or 1).

Thus, in any case, there is a constant  $c_{10}$  such that  $L/\sqrt{D[u]} \leq c_{10}m^5$  . Therefore

$$\sqrt{\frac{K}{\sqrt{D[u]}}} \leq \frac{c_1 L m^2}{\sqrt{D[u]}} \leq c_1 c_{10} m^7 \, .$$

Substituting in equation (2), we have

$$|u(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{rac{lpha}{2\pi} D[u] \log^+ dc_1 c_{10} m^7} + \sqrt{D[u]} \leq c_{11} \sqrt{\log m} \sqrt{D[u]},$$

m to be omitted if it is 0 or 1.

THEOREM 3. Let R be a bounded region whose boundary  $\Gamma$  consists of a finite number of simply closed regular arcs of class  $c^k$ ,  $k \ge 3$ . Let G(x, y) be a function of class  $c^k$  on  $R + \Gamma$ , vanishing on  $\Gamma$ , positive in R, with  $\partial G/\partial \nu \ge \delta > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $f_i$  be the set obtained by orthonormalizing the set  $\{Gx^iy^j\}$  using the functional

$$D[\xi] = \iint_R (a\xi_x^2 + b\xi_y^2 + c\xi^2) dx \ dy$$

as the square of the norm, where a, b, c are bounded and integrable,  $a>0, b>0, c\geq 0$  on  $R+\Gamma$ . Let g(x, y) be any function of class  $c^k$  on  $R+\Gamma$ . Let  $\psi(x, y)$  be any function of class  $c^k$  on  $R+\Gamma$  assuming the values of g(x, y) on  $\Gamma$ . Define  $b_i=D[\psi-g, f_i]$ .

Then

$$\left|\psi-g-\sum_{i=1}^{n}b_{i}f_{i}
ight|=O\left(\sqrt{rac{\sqrt{ heta\left(n
ight)}}{n^{k-2}}\lograc{n}{\left(\log n
ight)^{N}}}
ight),$$

where

$$D\left[\psi-g-\sum_{i=1}^{n}b_{i}f_{i}
ight]\leqrac{ heta\left(n
ight)}{n^{k-2}},$$

with  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \theta(n)=0$ ,  $\theta$  depending on  $\psi-g$ , and where N is any fixed constant >0. Moreover, if  $k\geq 10$ , then

$$\left| \nabla \psi - \nabla \left( g + \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i f_i \right) \right| = O\left( \left[ \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-10}} \right]^{1/4} \right).$$

Finally, if S is any closed domain in R,  $k \ge 7$ , then for points P in S,

$$\left| \nabla \psi - \nabla \left( g + \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i f_i \right) \right| = O\left( \left[ \frac{\theta(n) \log n}{n^{k-6}} \right]^{1/4} \right).$$

**Proof.** Let  $u_n = \psi - g - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i$ . Then  $u_n$  is of the form  $G_{\tau_n} + H$ where the degree  $m_n$  of  $\tau_n$  is less than  $\sqrt{2n-2}$  and greater than  $\sqrt{2n}$ -2. By Theorem 1,  $D[u_n] \leq \theta(n)/n^{k-2}$ ,  $k \geq 3$ , where  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \theta(n) = 0$  so that  $D[u_n] \log m_n \leq A$  for some constant A independent of n. By Lemma 7,

$$|u_n(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\pi}} D[u_n] \log^+ \frac{m_n}{\mathcal{A}_n D[u_n]} + B(\mathcal{A}_n D[u_n])^* D[u_n]^{1/4}$$

for any  $\Delta_n > 0$ .

$$|u_n| \leq \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\pi}} D[u_n] \log^+ \frac{\sqrt{2n}}{\mathcal{A}_n D[u_n]} + B(\mathcal{A}_n D[u_n])^4 D[u_n]^{1/4}.$$

There is a constant E, depending on N, such that  $1/n < E/(\log n)^{N}e$ ,  $n \ge 3$ . Then

$$D[u_n] \leq \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}} \leq \frac{\theta(n)E^{k-2}}{e^{k-2}(\log n)^{N(k-2)}} = \frac{\sqrt{2n}}{e^{k-2}\Delta_n} \leq \frac{\sqrt{2n}}{e\Delta_n}$$

 $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{f}$ 

$$\Delta_n = \frac{\sqrt{2n}(\log n)^{N(k-2)}}{\theta(n)E^{k-2}}$$

The function  $x \log(\sqrt{2n}/\Delta x)$  is monotone increasing for  $0 \le x \le \sqrt{2n}/e\Delta$  so that we may replace  $D[u_n]$  by  $\theta(n)/n^{k-2}$  to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |u_n| &\leq \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\pi}} \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}} \log^+ \frac{\theta(n) E^{k-2}}{(\log n)^{N(k-2)} \theta(n)/n^{k-2}} \\ &+ B\left(\frac{\sqrt{2n} (\log n)^{N(k-2)}}{\theta(n) E^{k-2}} \frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{\theta(n)}{n^{k-2}}\right)^{1/4} \\ &= O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{\theta(n)}}{n^{k-2}}} \log \frac{n}{(\log n)^N}\right). \end{aligned}$$

In the proof of Lemma 7, we saw that  $L < c_6 m^4$  and  $\sigma < c_2 L M^4 < c_2 c_6 m^8$ . Hence by equation (3) of Lemma 7,

$$|arpsi u_n| \leq \sqrt{c_2 c_6 m_n^8 \left(rac{ heta(n)}{n^{k-2}}
ight)^{1/2} \left(rac{lpha}{\pi}
ight)^{1/2} \cdot 32 + rac{16 lpha}{\pi arepsilon^2} rac{ heta(n)}{n^{k-2}}}$$

Since  $m_n < \sqrt{2n}$ , we obtain the statement of the theorem regarding uniform convergence in  $\overline{R}$  of  $|\nabla u_n|$  for  $k \ge 10$ .

Next, let S be any closed domain in R. We may suppose the boundary I'' of S is sufficiently smooth so that a circle of radius  $\varepsilon$  may be rolled around  $\Gamma'$  while lying in S. Let  $L_n' = \sup_{S} |\tau_n|$  and  $P_0^{(n)}$  be the point in S where  $L_n' = |\tau_n(P_0^{(n)})|$ . As in the proof of Lemma 7,

$$|\nabla u_n(P_0)| \leq \sqrt{(\bar{\sigma}_n^2 D[u_n])^{1/2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} \cdot 32 + \frac{16\alpha D[u_n]}{\pi \varepsilon^2}} \quad \text{for } P_0 \in S$$

where

$$ar{\sigma}_n\!=\!G_1\,rac{2L'_nm_n^4}{arepsilon^2}\!+\!rac{L'_nm_n^2}{arepsilon}\,G_2\!+\!L'_n2G_0+rac{G_2L'_nm_n^2}{arepsilon}\!+\!2H_0\;.$$

Using  $G_{\tau_n}$  as the function u of Lemma 8 defined over  $\overline{R}$  and remembering that  $G_{\tau_n} = -\sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i$ , we obtain

$$|G(P_0^{(n)})L_n'| \leq \sqrt{D\left[\sum\limits_{i=1}^n b_i f_i
ight] \log m_n / c_{12}}$$

In S,  $|G(P)| \ge c_{13} > 0$ . Also

$$D\left[\sum_{i=1}^n b_i f_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^\infty b_i^2 = D[\psi - g] .$$

Therefore  $L'_n < c_{14} / \log n$  ,  $\overline{\sigma}_n < c_{15} n^2 / \log n$  , and

$$egin{aligned} |arpsilon u_n(P_0)| \leq & \sqrt{c_{15}n^2} \sqrt{\log n \Big(rac{ heta(n)}{n^{k-2}}\Big)^{1/2} \Big(rac{lpha}{\pi}\Big)^{1/2}} \cdot 32 + rac{16lpha heta(n)}{\pi arepsilon^2 n^{k-2}} \ &= O\left(\left[rac{ heta(n)\log n}{n^{k-6}}
ight]^{1/4}
ight). \end{aligned}$$

THEOREM 4. Let R,  $\Gamma$ , G,  $f_i$  be defined as in Theorem 3. Then there is a constant  $c_{17}$  such that whenever  $P_0 \in \overline{R}$ , then

$$\sum_{K=1}^{n} f_{K}^{2}(P_{0}) \leq c_{17} \log n$$
 .

The theorem is true if  $P_0$  is a point where  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  all vanish, in particular on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $P_0$  be a point in R where not all  $f_K$ ,  $K=1, \dots, n$ n vanish. Consider the problem of minimizing D[u], where u is of the form  $u = \sum_{K=1}^{n} c_K f_K$ , under the condition  $u(P_0) = T \rightleftharpoons 0$ . Now

$$D[u] = D\left[\sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K} f_{K}\right] = \sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K}^{2} ,$$

so that we must minimize  $\sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K}^{2}$  under the condition  $\sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K} f_{K}(P_{0}) = T$ . By Lagrange multipliers we find a necessary condition for a minimum to be

$$c_{\kappa} = \overline{c}_{\kappa} = rac{Tf_{\kappa}(P_0)}{\sum\limits_{j=1}^{n} f_{j}^{2}(P_0)} ,$$

and the function  $\bar{u} = \sum_{K=1}^{n} \bar{c}_{K} f_{K}$  satisfies

$$D[\bar{u}] = T^2 \Big/ \sum_{K=1}^n f_K^2(P_0)$$

This is actually a minimum value, for, if  $u = \sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K} f_{K}$ , then

$$T^{2} = \left[\sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K} f_{K}(P_{0})\right]^{2} \leq \sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K}^{2} \sum_{K=1}^{n} f_{K}^{2}(P_{0})$$

 $\mathbf{so}$ 

$$\sum_{K=1}^{n} f_{K}^{2}(P_{0}) \leq \sum_{K=1}^{n} c_{K}^{2} = D[u] \; .$$

Now  $\bar{u}$  is of the form  $G \tau_n$  where  $\tau_n$  has the degree of  $f_n$  and this degree is less than  $\sqrt{2n-2}$ .

By Lemma 8, we have  $D[ar{u}]{\ge}c_{\scriptscriptstyle 12}T^2/{\log\sqrt{2n-2}}$  . Hence

$$T^2 = D[ar{u}] \ge rac{c_{12}T^2}{\log \sqrt{2n-2}} , \ \sum_{K=1}^n f_K^2(P_0) \le rac{1}{c_{12}}\log \sqrt{2n-2} .$$

4. An Associated Problem. As in the previous sections, let R be a bounded region whose boundary  $\Gamma$  consists of a finite number of simply closed regular arcs of class  $c^k$ ,  $k \ge 3$ ; G(x, y) be a function of class  $c^k$  on  $R + \Gamma$ , vanishing on  $\Gamma$ , positive in R, with  $\partial G/\partial \nu \ge \delta > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ ; g(x, y) be any function of class  $c^k$  on  $R + \Gamma$ ; a variation be a function of class  $c^k$  on  $R + \Gamma$ .

Let

$$D^{p}[\xi] = \iint_{R} (a\xi_{x}^{2} + b\xi_{y}^{2} + c\xi^{2})^{p} dx dy ,$$

where a > 0, b > 0,  $c \ge 0$  on  $R + \Gamma$ ; a, b, and c are bounded and integrable on  $\overline{R}$ ; p is a real number greater than or equal to 1.

Assuming the existence of a function  $\psi_0$ , yielding minimum value to  $D^p[\psi]$  in the set of admissible functions of class  $c^k$  on  $R + \Gamma$ , which take the value of g on  $\Gamma$ , can we obtain  $\psi_0$  by the Rayleigh Ritz method? This question is answered in the affirmative and an estimate is obtained for the rate of convergence.

Let  $\|\xi\| = (D^p[\xi])^{1/2p}$ , for  $\xi$  in the set of functions of class  $c^k$  on  $R + \Gamma$ . This functional has the properties  $\|\xi\| \ge 0$ ,  $\|a\xi\| = |a| \|\xi\|$  for real a,  $\|\xi+\eta\| \le \|\xi\| + \|\eta\|$ .

The functional  $||\xi||$  is a true norm in the linear space V of variations. Let H be the Banach space formed by completing V with respect to this norm. As in the proof of Theorem 1, we see that the set of functions  $G_{\tau}$ , where  $\tau$  is a polynomial in x and y, is dense in H. Moreover, if  $\psi$  is admissible, there exists a sequence of polynomials  $Q_j$  of degree at most j such that

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$$\|\psi - g - (GQ_j)\| = D^p [\psi - g - (GQ_j)]^{1/2p} = O\left(\frac{\theta(j)}{j^{k-2}}\right),$$

where  $\theta$  depends on  $\psi - g$  and  $\lim_{j \to \infty} \theta(j) = 0$ .

There exists  $\inf D^{\nu}[\psi] \ge 0$  for admissible  $\psi$ . Let  $\tau_j$  be a polynominal of degree at most j which makes  $D^{\nu}[g+G\tau_j] \le D^{\nu}[g+GQ_j]$  for all polynomials  $Q_j$  of degree at most j.

That such a polynomial  $\tau_j$  exists can be seen as follows. The class of all functions  $GQ_j$  where  $Q_j$  is a polynominal of degree at most j is also the linear manifold determined by  $f_i = GT_i$ , the orthonormal sequence of Theorem 1, whose polynomial factor  $T_i$  is of degree at most j. As stated in the introduction,  $1 \le i \le j \left(\frac{j+1}{2}\right) + j + 1 = \sigma$  so that we may write  $GQ_j = \sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} c_i f_i$ . Now let  $Q'_j$  be any fixed  $Q_j$ . We may restrict ourselves to those  $Q_j$  such that  $D^p[g+GQ_j] \le D^p[G+GQ'_j]$ . For such  $Q_j$  we have

$$\|g\| + \|g + GQ'_j\| \ge \|g\| + \|g + GQ_j\| \ge \|GQ_j\|$$
.

Since  $D[\xi] \leq D^p[\xi]^{1/p} |R|^{1/q}$  where (1/p) + (1/q) = 1, |R| =area of R, we find that

$$|R|^{1/q} [\|g\| + \|g + GQ'_{j}\|]^{2} \ge D[GQ_{j}] = D \left[\sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} c_{i}f_{i}\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} c_{i}^{2}$$

Thus the permissible  $c_i$  lie in a bounded closed set S in  $\sigma$ -dimensional space. Since

$$D^{p}[g+GQ_{j}] = D^{p}\left[g + \sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} c_{i}f_{i}\right]$$

is a continuous function of  $c_i$  in S, it attains its minimum in S.

Since  $D^{p}[g+G\tau_{j}]$  is a decreasing function of j, we have

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} \|g+G\tau_j\| \leq \liminf_{t\to\infty} \|g+GQ_j\| .$$

Let  $\psi$  be admissible and choose  $Q_j$  so that  $\lim_{j\to\infty} D^p[\psi - g - GQ_j] = 0$ . Then  $\|g + GQ_j\| \le \|\psi\| + \|\psi - g - GQ_j\|$  implies that  $\liminf_{j\to\infty} \|g + GQ_j\| \le \|\psi\|$ . It follows that  $\lim_{j\to\infty} \|g + G\tau_j\| \le \|\psi\|$  for every admissible  $\psi$  and thus  $g + G\tau_j$ is a minimizing sequence.

If c>0 in a set of positive measure in R, the functional  $||\xi||$  is a true norm in the linear space  $(c^k)$  of functions of class  $c^k$  on  $R+\Gamma$ . If c=0, a.e. in R, this is still true provided we identify functions differing by a constant. In either case we will complete the space  $(c^k)$  to form a Banach space B.

A set S in a normed linear space is uniformly convex if there exists a continuous monotone increasing function  $g(\varepsilon)$ ,  $0 \le \varepsilon < 1$ , with  $\lim_{\varepsilon \to \infty} g(\varepsilon) = 0$ , such that whenever  $\xi$ ,  $\eta$  are in S and  $\|\xi\| = \|\eta\| = 1$ ,  $\|(\xi + \eta)/2\| \ge 1 - \varepsilon$ , then  $\|\xi - \eta\| \le g(\varepsilon)$ .

We shall show  $(c^k)$  is uniformly convex. It is easily verified that if  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  are  $\geq 0$ , and  $p \geq 1$  then

$$3\alpha^{p} + \beta^{p} \leq 2|\alpha + \beta|^{p} + |\alpha - \beta|^{p}.$$

Apply the inequality to the integrand below, where we assume  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are in (c<sup>k</sup>),  $\|\phi\| = \|\psi\| = 1$ ,  $\|(\phi + \psi)/2\| \ge 1 - \varepsilon$ .

$$\begin{split} &\iint 3 \left[ a \left( \frac{\phi + \psi}{2} \right)_{x}^{2} + b \left( \frac{\phi + \psi}{2} \right)_{y}^{2} + c \left( \frac{\phi + \psi}{2} \right)^{2} \right]^{p} \\ &+ \left[ a \left( \frac{\phi - \psi}{2} \right)_{x}^{2} + b \left( \frac{\phi - \psi}{2} \right)_{y}^{2} + c \left( \frac{\phi - \psi}{2} \right)^{2} \right]^{p} dx dy \\ &\leq \frac{2}{2^{p}} \iint [(a\phi_{x}^{2} + b\phi_{y}^{2} + c\phi^{2}) + (a\psi_{x}^{2} + b\psi_{y}^{2} + c\psi^{2})]^{p} dx dy \\ &+ \iint [a\phi_{x}\psi_{x} + b_{y}\phi_{y}\psi_{y} + c\phi\psi]^{p} dx dy \\ &\leq \frac{2}{2^{p}} \left\{ \left( \iint (a\phi_{x}^{2} + b\phi_{y}^{2} + c\phi^{2})^{p} dx dy \right)^{1/p} + \left( \iint_{R} (a\psi_{x}^{2} + b\psi_{y}^{2} + \psi^{2})^{p} dx dy \right)^{1/p} \right\}^{p} \\ &+ \iint [(\sqrt{a\phi_{x}^{2}} + b\phi_{y}^{2} + c\phi^{2})^{p} dx dy]^{1/p} + (\iint_{R} (a\psi_{x}^{2} + b\psi_{y}^{2} + c\psi^{2})^{p} dx dy ]^{1/p} \right\}^{p} \\ &\leq 2 + \sqrt{\iint (a\phi_{x}^{2} + b\phi_{y}^{2} + c\phi^{2})^{p} dx dy} \sqrt{\iint (a\psi_{x}^{2} + b\psi_{y}^{2} + c\psi^{2})^{p} dx dy} = 3 \end{split}$$

Hence

$$\iint \left(a\left(\frac{\phi-\psi}{2}\right)_x^2+b\left(\frac{\phi-\psi}{2}\right)_y^2+c\left(\frac{\phi-\psi}{2}\right)_y^2+c\left(\frac{\phi-\psi}{2}\right)^2\right)^p dx dy \leq 3-3(1-\varepsilon)^{2p},$$

and

$$\|\phi - \psi\| = \left[ \iint \left( a(\phi - \psi)_x^2 + b(\phi - \psi)_y + c(\phi - \psi)^2 
ight)^p dx dy 
ight]^{1/2p} \le 2(3[1 - (1 - arepsilon)^{1/2p} \le 2(3^{1/2p})(2parepsilon)^{1/2p} = g(arepsilon)$$

for  $\epsilon < 1$ , since the function  $y = [1 - (1 - x)^{2p}] - 2px$  vanishes at 0 and is a decreasing function of x for  $0 \le x < 1$ .

**LEMMA 9.** Let B be a Banach space, Y a set in B with the property that if  $y_1$ ,  $y_2$  are in Y, then so is  $(y_1+y_2)/2$ . Let the linear manifold spanned by Y be a uniformly convex set in B. Let

$$\rho = \inf_{y \in Y} \|y\| > 0,$$

let  $y_n$  be a sequence in Y with

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \|y_n\| = \rho, \ \rho_n = \|y_n\|.$$

Then there exists a unique x in B such that  $||x|| = \rho$  and we have

$$\|x-y_n\| \leq 
ho g \left( rac{
ho_n-
ho}{2
ho} 
ight) + 
ho_n - 
ho$$
 ,

where  $g(\varepsilon)$  is the function in the definition of uniform convexity. If  $\rho = \inf_{y \in Y} ||y|| = 0$ , and  $\lim_{n \to \infty} ||y_n|| = \rho$ , then there is a unique x in B such that  $||x|| = \rho$ , and we have  $||x-y_n|| = \rho_n - \rho$ .

*Proof.* Let  $z_n = y_n / \rho_n$  so that  $||z_n|| = 1$ . Write

$$\begin{split} \frac{z_n + z_m}{2} &- \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{y_n + y_m}{2} \right) = \frac{y_n}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\rho_n} - \frac{1}{\rho} \right) + \frac{y_m}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\rho_m} - \frac{1}{\rho} \right) \\ \left\| \frac{z_n + z_m}{2} \right\| &\geq \frac{1}{\rho} \left\| \frac{y_n + y_m}{2} \right\| - \frac{\|y_n\|}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\rho} - \frac{1}{\rho_n} \right) - \frac{\|y_m\|}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\rho} - \frac{1}{\rho_m} \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot \rho - \frac{\rho_n}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\rho} - \frac{1}{\rho_n} \right) - \frac{\rho_m}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\rho} - \frac{1}{\rho_m} \right) = 1 - \frac{(\rho_n - \rho) + (\rho_m - \rho)}{2\rho} \end{split}$$

Hence

$$\|z_n\!-\!z_m\|\!\leq\!\!g\!\Big(\!rac{(
ho_n\!-\!
ho)+(
ho_m\!-\!
ho)}{2
ho}\Big) \hspace{1.5cm} ext{for}\hspace{1.5cm} rac{
ho_n\!-\!
ho\!+\!
ho_m\!-\!
ho}{2
ho}\!<\!\!1\,.$$

Thus there exists  $z = \lim_{n \to \infty} z_n$  in *B*. Let  $x = \rho z = \lim_{n \to \infty} \rho z_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} \rho_n z_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} y_n$ . Then  $||x|| = \lim_{n \to \infty} ||y_n|| = \rho$ . Also  $||z_n - z|| \le g((\rho_n - \rho)/2\rho)$  implies

$$\|x - y_n\| = \|\rho z - \rho_n z_n\| \le \|\rho z - \rho z_n\| + \|\rho z_n - \rho_n z_n\| \le \rho g\left(\frac{\rho_n - \rho}{2\rho}\right) + \rho_n - \rho$$

To show x is unique, suppose also  $y'_n \in Y$ ,  $\lim_{n \to \infty} ||y'_n|| = \rho$ ,  $x' \in B$ ,  $||x'|| = \rho$ ,  $x' = \lim_{n \to \infty} y'_n$ . Then form the sequence  $\{y''_n\} = y_1$ ,  $y'_1$ ,  $y_2$ ,  $y'_2$ , etc. of elements of Y with  $\lim_{n \to \infty} y''_n = \rho$ . As above,  $\exists x'' \in B$  with  $x'' = \lim_{n \to \infty} y''_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} y'_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} y_n$ . The last part of the lemma is obvious, since only ||0|| = 0.

To apply the lemma, let B be the completion of  $(c^k)$ , Y the set of admissible functions,

$$y_n = g + G \tau_n, \quad \rho = \inf D^p [\psi]^{1/2p}$$

for admissible  $\psi$ . By the lemma, there is a unique x such that ||x|| =

 $\rho$ . Assuming that  $x = \psi_0$  is in Y, we can choose polynomials  $Q_j$  of degree at most j such that

$$|\psi_0-g-GQ_j||=O\left(rac{ heta(j)}{j^{k-2}}
ight).$$

Then

$$\begin{split} \rho_{j} - \rho = & \|g + G\tau_{j}\| - \|\psi_{0}\| \leq \|g + GQ_{j}\| - \|\psi_{0}\| \\ = & \|g + GQ_{j} - \psi_{0} + \psi_{0}\| - \|\psi_{0}\| \leq \|\psi_{0} - g - GQ_{j}\| = O\left(\frac{\theta(j)}{j^{k-2}}\right) \,. \end{split}$$

By the lemma,

$$\|\psi_0 - g - G au_j\| \leq 2
ho(6p)^{1/2p} \left(rac{
ho_j - 
ho}{2
ho}
ight)^{1/2p} + 
ho_j - 
ho = O\left(rac{ heta(j)}{j^{k-2}}
ight)^{1/2p},$$

a better result,  $O(\theta(j)/j^{k-2})$ , is obtained in the case  $\rho = 0$ .

Since

$$D[u] < (D^{p}[u])^{1/p} |R|^{1/q}$$

where |R| is the area of R and (1/p)+(1/q)=1, we find

$$D[u_j] \leq \left(\frac{\theta(j)}{j^{k-2}}\right)^{1/p},$$

where  $\lim_{j\to\infty} \theta(j)=0$ , when we take  $u_j=\psi_0-g-G\tau_j$ . A proof similar to that of Theorem 3 can now be constructed for the following result.

THEOREM 5. Let R be a bounded region whose boundary  $\Gamma$  consists of a finite number of simply closed regular arcs of class  $c^*$ ,  $k\geq 3$ . Let G(x, y) be a function of class  $c^*$  on  $R + \Gamma$ , vanishing on  $\Gamma$ , positive in R, with  $\partial G/\partial \nu \geq \delta > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ . Let a, b, c be bounded and integrable on  $\overline{R}$ , and  $a>0, b>0, c\geq 0$  on  $\overline{R}$ . Let g(x, y) be any function of class  $c^*$  on  $R+\Gamma$ . Choose polynomials  $\tau_j$  minimizing  $D^p[g+GQ_j]$  in the set of all polynomials  $Q_j$  of degree at most j. Then, if  $\psi_0$  yields minimum value to  $D^p[\psi]$  for  $\psi$  in the set of functions of class  $c^*$  on  $R+\Gamma$  assuming the values of g on  $\Gamma$ , we have

$$|\psi_0 - g - G au_j| = O\left(\sqrt{\left(rac{\sqrt{ heta(j)}}{j^{k-2}}
ight)^{1/p}\lograc{j}{(\log j)^N}}
ight),$$

where N is any fixed positive constant,  $\theta(j)$  depends on  $\psi_0 - g$  and  $\lim_{j \to \infty} \theta(j) = 0$ .

If  $k \ge 16p+2$ , then

$$|\mathcal{V}\psi_{\mathfrak{u}} - \mathcal{V}(g + G\tau_{j})| = O\left(\left[\frac{\theta(j)}{j^{k-2-16p}}\right]^{1/4p}\right).$$

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