

On the regularity of stationary harmonic functions whose Laplacian is a Radon measure

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Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a domain. We say that the function $h \in H^1(\Omega)$ is stationary harmonic if

$$\operatorname{div} T_h = 0 \tag{*}$$

in the sense of distributions, where T_h is the stress-energy tensor associated to the Dirichlet energy, defined by

$$T_h = \nabla h \otimes \nabla h - \frac{1}{2} |\nabla h|^2 Id.$$

The equation (*) is understood as n equations of the form $\operatorname{div}(T_h)_i = 0$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$), one for each row of the matrix T_h . We will show that if the function h satisfies (*) and its distributional Laplacian Δh is a Radon measure, then h cannot be of class C^1 unless h is a harmonic function. It follows that $\mu = \Delta h$ cannot be of the form $\mathcal{H}^{\alpha \llcorner \Sigma}$, where $\alpha > n - 1$ and Σ is a Borel set of nonzero, finite \mathcal{H}^α measure.

The structure of possible measures $\mu = \Delta h$ such that h satisfies the equation (*) was previously considered in two dimensions in the paper [1]. This work (in progress) is a continuation that tries to extend those results to more dimensions.

REFERENCES

- [1] Remy Rodiac, *Regularity Properties of Stationary Harmonic Functions Whose Laplacian is a Radon Measure*, SIAM J. Math. Anal., Vol. 48, Iss. 1 (2016).