

## Dirichlet problem for a semi-linearly perturbed structure of a harmonic space

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### Introduction

In [3], the author considered a semi-linear perturbation of a harmonic space and discussed Dirichlet problems of Perron-Brelot type with respect to the perturbed structure. In the present note, we further investigate such Dirichlet problems. In § 2, we are concerned with the problem whether a bounded boundary function, which is resolutive with respect to the original structure, remains resolutive with respect to the perturbed structure. Then, in § 3, we give sufficient conditions for a boundary point to be regular with respect to the Dirichlet problem for the perturbed structure. The results in § 3 are extensions of those in [2] where linear perturbations are treated.

As a simple but typical example to which our theory can be applied, consider a semi-linear equation

$$(*) \quad \Delta u = q(x)\psi(u)$$

on a domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ;  $\Omega$ : hyperbolic if  $n=2$ ), where  $q$  is a non-negative function belonging to  $L_{loc}^1(\Omega)$  with  $r > n/2$  and  $\psi$  is a non-decreasing locally Lipschitz-continuous function on  $\mathbf{R}$  such that  $\psi(t_0) = 0$  for some  $t_0 \in \mathbf{R}$ . For a compactification  $\Omega^*$  of  $\Omega$  and a bounded function  $\varphi$  on  $\Omega^* \setminus \Omega$  which is resolutive with respect to  $\Delta u = 0$ , our theorems in § 2 imply the following results:

(i) Without any further assumptions on  $\psi$ , if  $\varphi \geq t_0$  or  $\varphi \leq t_0$ , then  $\varphi$  is resolutive with respect to (\*);

(ii) If either  $\psi^+$  or  $\psi^-$  is convex, then  $\varphi$  is always resolutive with respect to (\*).

As to regularity, our results in § 3 show that  $\xi \in \Omega^* \setminus \Omega$  is regular with respect to the Dirichlet problem for (\*) if it is regular for  $\Delta u = 0$  and if there exist an open neighborhood  $V$  of  $\xi$  in  $\Omega^*$  and a potential  $p$  on  $V \cap \Omega$  such that  $p(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \xi$  and  $\Delta p = -q$  on  $V \cap \Omega$ . Note that these conditions do not refer to the function  $\psi$ .

### § 1. Notation and basic assumptions

Let  $(X, \mathscr{H})$  be a harmonic space in the sense of Constantinescu-Cornea [1]

and assume that  $X$  has a countable base. The sheaf of harmonic functions will be denoted by  $\mathcal{H}$ , and that of continuous superharmonic functions by  $\mathcal{U}_C$ .

An open set  $U$  is called a P-set if there is a potential on  $U$  which is positive everywhere.  $U$  is called a PC-set if it is relatively compact and  $\bar{U} \subset U'$  for some P-set  $U'$ . For a P-set  $U$ , let  $\mathcal{P}_C(U)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{P}_{BC}(U)$ ) be the set of all continuous (resp. bounded continuous) potentials on  $U$ .

By  $\mathcal{R}$  we denote the sheaf of functions which are locally expressible as the difference of two continuous superharmonic functions. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  denote the sheaf of signed Radon measures on  $X$ . A measure representation  $\sigma$  on  $X$  is a sheaf homomorphism of  $\mathcal{R}$  into  $\mathcal{M}$ , with linear structures both in  $\mathcal{R}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{M}(U)$  for each open set  $U$ , such that  $\sigma(f) \geq 0$  on  $U$  if and only if  $f$  is superharmonic on  $U$ . We assume the existence of a measure representation  $\sigma$  and fix it once for all.

Let  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma$  be the subsheaf of  $\mathcal{M}$  consisting of measures which are locally images of  $\sigma$ . For a P-set  $U$ , let

$$\mathcal{M}_P(U) = \{\sigma(p) \mid p \in \mathcal{P}_C(U)\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{M}_{BP}(U) = \{\sigma(p) \mid p \in \mathcal{P}_{BC}(U)\}.$$

Note that  $\mathcal{M}_{BP}(U) \subset \mathcal{M}_P(U) \subset \mathcal{M}_\sigma^+(U) = \{\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\sigma(U) \mid \mu \geq 0\}$ .

As in [3], we consider a sheaf morphism  $F: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\sigma$  which satisfies the following two conditions:

(F.1)  $F$  is monotone, i.e., if  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{R}(U)$  and  $f_1 \leq f_2$  on  $U$ , then  $F(f_1) \leq F(f_2)$  on  $U$ ;

(F.2)  $F$  satisfies condition (L) on every PC-set in  $X$ , i.e., for each PC-set  $U$  in  $X$  and for each  $M > 0$ , there is  $\pi_{U,M} \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(U)$  such that

$$F(f_1) - F(f_2) \leq (f_1 - f_2)\pi_{U,M} \quad \text{on } U$$

whenever  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{R}(U)$ ,  $f_1 \geq f_2$  on  $U$  and  $|f_i| \leq M$  on  $U$ ,  $i=1, 2$ .

We define sheaves  $\mathcal{H}^F$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_C^F$  and  $\mathcal{V}_C^F$  by

$$\mathcal{H}^F(U) = \{u \in \mathcal{R}(U) \mid \sigma(u) + F(u) = 0 \quad \text{on } U\},$$

$$\mathcal{U}_C^F(U) = \{u \in \mathcal{R}(U) \mid \sigma(u) + F(u) \geq 0 \quad \text{on } U\},$$

$$\mathcal{V}_C^F(U) = \{u \in \mathcal{R}(U) \mid \sigma(u) + F(u) \leq 0 \quad \text{on } U\}.$$

## § 2. Resolutivity

In what follows, we assume that  $1 \in \mathcal{R}(X)$ ,  $X$  is a P-set and  $|\sigma(1)| \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$ . Let  $X^*$  be a compactification of  $X$  and let  $\partial^*X = X^* \setminus X$ . We know ([3; Proposition 4.1]) the following comparison principle:

**PROPOSITION A.** *If  $u \in \mathcal{U}_C^F(X)$ ,  $v \in \mathcal{V}_C^F(X)$ ,  $p \in \mathcal{P}_C(X)$  and*

$$\liminf_{x \rightarrow \xi} \{u(x) - v(x) + p(x)\} \geq 0$$

for all  $\xi \in \partial^*X$ , then  $u \geq v$  on  $X$ .

For a bounded (real) function  $\varphi$  on  $\partial^*X$ , we define

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*} &= \{u \in \mathcal{U}_C^F(X) \mid \liminf_{x \rightarrow \xi} u(x) \geq \varphi(\xi) \text{ for all } \xi \in \partial^*X\}, \\ \underline{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*} &= \{v \in \mathcal{V}_C^F(X) \mid \limsup_{x \rightarrow \xi} v(x) \leq \varphi(\xi) \text{ for all } \xi \in \partial^*X\}.\end{aligned}$$

If  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*} \neq \phi$  (resp.  $\underline{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*} \neq \phi$ ), then we write  $\bar{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*} = \inf \bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  (resp.  $\underline{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*} = \sup \underline{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$ ). By Proposition A,  $\underline{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*} \leq \bar{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  if both exist. We say that  $\varphi$  is *F-resolutive* if  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  and  $\underline{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  are both non-empty,  $\bar{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*} = \underline{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  and it belongs to  $\mathcal{H}^F(X)$ . In this case, we denote the common function by  $H_\varphi^{F, X^*}$ .

In case  $F=0$ , the index  $F$  will be omitted in terminologies and notation. Note that constant functions on  $\partial^*X$  are resolutive for any compactification  $X^*$ ; in fact, if we choose  $p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}_{BC}(X)$  such that  $\sigma(1) = \sigma(p_1) - \sigma(p_2)$ , then  $1 + p_2 \in \bar{\mathcal{F}}_1^{X^*}$  and  $1 - p_1 \in \underline{\mathcal{F}}_1^{X^*}$ , which implies that 1 is resolutive and  $H_1^{X^*} = 1 - p_1 + p_2$ .

In the rest of this section, we fix a compactification  $X^*$  and omit the index  $X^*$ , i.e.,  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F = \bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$ ,  $\bar{H}_\varphi^F = \bar{H}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$ , etc.

The next lemma is an improvement of [3; Lemma 4.2]:

**LEMMA 1.** *If there exists a bounded function  $f \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  such that  $F(f)^- \in \mathcal{M}_p(X)$  (resp.  $F(f)^+ \in \mathcal{M}_p(X)$ ), then  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F \neq \phi$  (resp.  $\underline{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F \neq \phi$ ) for any bounded function  $\varphi$  on  $\partial^*X$ . If, moreover,  $F(f)^- \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$  (resp.  $F(f)^+ \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$ ), then  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F$  (resp.  $\underline{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F$ ) contains bounded functions.*

**PROOF.** Choose  $p \in \mathcal{P}_C(X)$  such that  $\sigma(p) = F(f)^-$ . Given  $\varphi$ , put  $M_\varphi = \max(0, \sup_X f, \sup_{\partial^*X} \varphi)$ . Choose a bounded function  $s_0 \in \mathcal{U}_C(X)$  such that  $s_0 \geq 1$  (see [3]) and consider the function  $u = M_\varphi s_0 + p$ . Then  $u \geq M_\varphi$  on  $X$  and

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(u) + F(u) &= M_\varphi \sigma(s_0) + \sigma(p) + F(M_\varphi s_0 + p) \\ &\geq F(f)^- + F(M_\varphi s_0 + p) \\ &\geq -F(f) + F(M_\varphi s_0 + p) \geq 0.\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $u \in \bar{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F$ . Furthermore, if  $F(f)^- \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$ , then  $p$  is bounded, and hence  $u$  is bounded.

Now we prove

**THEOREM 1.** *Suppose there exist bounded functions  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  such that  $F(f_1)^- \in \mathcal{M}_p(X)$  and  $F(f_2)^+ \in \mathcal{M}_p(X)$ . If  $\varphi$  is a bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  such that either  $H_\varphi \geq f_1$  or  $H_\varphi \leq f_2$  and if  $\bar{H}_\varphi^F, \underline{H}_\varphi^F \in \mathcal{H}^F(X)$ , then  $\varphi$  is *F-resolutive*. Furthermore, in case  $H_\varphi \geq f_1$  (resp.  $H_\varphi \leq f_2$ ),*

$$H_\varphi^F \leq H_\varphi + p_1 \quad (\text{resp. } H_\varphi^F \geq H_\varphi - p_2)$$

with  $p_1 \in \mathcal{P}_C(X)$  such that  $\sigma(p_1) = F(f_1)^-$  (resp.  $p_2 \in \mathcal{P}_C(X)$  such that  $\sigma(p_2) = F(f_2)^+$ ).

PROOF. Let  $u \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi$ . Since  $u \geq H_\varphi \geq f_1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(u + p_1) + F(u + p_1) &= \sigma(u) + \sigma(p_1) + F(u + p_1) \\ &\geq F(f_1)^- + F(u + p_1) \geq -F(f_1) + F(u + p_1) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $u + p_1 \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi^F$ , so that  $u + p_1 \geq \bar{H}_\varphi^F$ . Taking the infimum in  $u$ , we obtain  $H_\varphi + p_1 \geq \bar{H}_\varphi^F$ .

We can take  $s \in \mathcal{Q}_C^+(X)$  such that  $H_\varphi - \varepsilon s \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  (cf. [1; Exercise 2.4.8]; note that we can choose  $w_n \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi$  such that  $w_n \uparrow H_\varphi$  locally uniformly on  $X$ ). Let

$$v_\varepsilon = \bar{H}_\varphi^F - p_1 - \varepsilon s \quad (\varepsilon > 0).$$

Then  $v_\varepsilon \leq H_\varphi - \varepsilon s$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(v_\varepsilon) + F(v_\varepsilon) &= \sigma(\bar{H}_\varphi^F) - \sigma(p_1) - \varepsilon\sigma(s) + F(\bar{H}_\varphi^F - p_1 - \varepsilon s) \\ &\leq -F(\bar{H}_\varphi^F) + F(\bar{H}_\varphi^F - p_1 - \varepsilon s) \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $v_\varepsilon \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi^F$ , so that  $v_\varepsilon \leq \underline{H}_\varphi^F$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Therefore

$$\bar{H}_\varphi^F - p_1 \leq \underline{H}_\varphi^F.$$

By assumption  $\underline{H}_\varphi^F, \bar{H}_\varphi^F \in \mathcal{H}^F(X)$ . Hence, by Proposition A,  $\bar{H}_\varphi^F \leq \underline{H}_\varphi^F$ , so that  $\bar{H}_\varphi^F = \underline{H}_\varphi^F$ .

We shall say that  $F$  satisfies condition (P) (resp. (PB)) if there exist bounded functions  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  such that  $F(f_1)^- \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$ ) and  $F(f_2)^+ \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$ ).

By the above theorem and [3; Proposition 4.2], we obtain the following improvement of [3; Theorem 4.1]:

COROLLARY. *Suppose there is a covering of  $X$  by regular PC-sets and suppose  $F$  satisfies condition (P). If  $\varphi$  is a bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  such that either  $F(H_\varphi)^- \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$  or  $F(H_\varphi)^+ \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$ , then  $\varphi$  is  $F$ -resolutive. If, in particular,  $|F(H_\varphi)| \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$ , then  $|H_\varphi^F - H_\varphi| \leq p$  with  $p \in \mathcal{P}_C(X)$  such that  $\sigma(p) = |F(H_\varphi)|$ .*

It is an open question whether every bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  is  $F$ -resolutive if  $F$  satisfies condition (P). In this connection, we have the following

THEOREM 2. *Suppose there is a covering of  $X$  by regular PC-sets and  $F$  satisfies condition (PB) and the following condition (C)<sub>+</sub> or (C)<sub>-</sub>:*

(C)<sub>+</sub> (resp. (C)<sub>-</sub>) *For each  $M > 0$ , there exists  $v_M \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} F(f_2)^+ - F(f_1)^+ &\leq F(f_2 + g) - F(f_1 + g) + v_M \\ (\text{resp. } F(f_1)^- - F(f_2)^- &\leq F(f_2 - g) - F(f_1 - g) + v_M) \end{aligned}$$

for any  $f_1, f_2, g \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  satisfying  $-M \leq f_1 \leq f_2 \leq M$  and  $0 \leq g \leq M$ .

Then any bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  is  $F$ -resolutive.

**PROOF.** We assume  $(C)_+$ . Let  $F^+$  be the sheaf morphism  $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\sigma$  defined by  $F^+(f) = F(f)^+$ . It is easy to see that  $F^+$  satisfies conditions (F.1), (F.2) and (PB). Let  $\varphi$  be a given bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$ . Since  $F^+(H_\varphi)^- = 0$ , the above corollary implies that  $\varphi$  is  $F^+$ -resolutive. Put  $f_0 = H_\varphi^{F^+}$ . By Lemma 1,  $f_0$  is bounded. Obviously the sheaf morphism  $\tilde{F}: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\sigma$  defined by

$$\tilde{F}(f) = F(f_0 + f) - F^+(f_0)$$

satisfies (F.1) and (F.2). Since  $\tilde{F}(0) = F(f_0) - F^+(f_0) \leq 0$ ,  $\tilde{F}(0)^+ = 0 \in \mathcal{M}_{PB}(X)$ . Let  $F(\lambda_1)^- \in \mathcal{M}_{PB}(X)$  and put  $\lambda_2 = \max(0, \lambda_1 - \inf_X f_0)$ . Then  $\tilde{F}(\lambda_2) = F(f_0 + \lambda_2) - F^+(f_0) \geq F(f_0 + \lambda_2) - F^+(f_0 + \lambda_2) = -F(f_0 + \lambda_2)^- \geq -F(\lambda_1)^-$ , so that  $\tilde{F}(\lambda_2)^- \leq F(\lambda_1)^-$ . Hence  $\tilde{F}$  satisfies condition (PB). Since  $\tilde{F}(0) \leq 0$ , 0 is  $\tilde{F}$ -resolutive by the above corollary and  $H_0^{\tilde{F}} \geq 0$ . By Lemma 1, we can choose  $v_0 \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F^+}$ ,  $w_0 \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F^+}$  and  $g_0 \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_0^F$  which are all bounded. Let  $M = \max(\sup_X |v_0|, \sup_X |w_0|, \sup_X g_0)$ , and choose  $p \in \mathcal{D}_C(X)$  such that  $\sigma(p) = v_M$ .

If  $v \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F^+}$ ,  $v \leq v_0$  and  $g \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_0^F$ ,  $g \leq g_0$ , then  $-M \leq f_0 \leq v \leq M$  and  $0 \leq H_0^{\tilde{F}} \leq g \leq M$ . Hence using condition  $(C)_+$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(v + g + p) + F(v + g + p) &\geq -F^+(v) - \tilde{F}(g) + v_M + F(v + g) \\ &= -F^+(v) + F^+(f_0) - F(f_0 + g) + F(v + g) + v_M \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $v + g + p \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^F$ , so that  $v + g + p \geq \bar{H}_\varphi^F$ . Taking the infimums in  $v$  and  $g$  (note that  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F^+}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_0^F$  are lower directed; cf. [3]), we obtain

$$(1) \quad H_\varphi^{F^+} + H_0^F + p \geq \bar{H}_\varphi^F.$$

Next, let  $w \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_\varphi^{F^+}$ ,  $w \geq w_0$  and  $\tilde{g} \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_0^F$ ,  $\tilde{g} \geq 0$ . Then  $-M \leq w \leq f_0 \leq M$  and  $0 \leq \tilde{g} \leq H_0^F \leq M$ . Hence, again by  $(C)_+$ , we have  $\sigma(w + \tilde{g} - p) + F(w + \tilde{g} - p) \leq 0$ , which implies

$$(2) \quad H_\varphi^{F^+} + H_0^F - p \leq \underline{H}_\varphi^F.$$

By (1) and (2),

$$0 \leq \bar{H}_\varphi^F - \underline{H}_\varphi^F \leq 2p.$$

Since  $\bar{H}_\varphi^F, \underline{H}_\varphi^F \in \mathcal{H}^F(X)$  by [3; Proposition 4.2], Proposition A implies that  $\bar{H}_\varphi^F = \underline{H}_\varphi^F$ .

REMARK. In the above proof,  $H_\phi^{F^+} + H_0^F \in \mathcal{H}^F(X)$ , and hence

$$H_\phi^F = H_\phi^{F^+} + H_0^F.$$

Now we give a sufficient condition for  $(C)_\pm$ .

PROPOSITION 1. Let  $\Psi: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\sigma$  be a sheaf morphism satisfying (F.1) and (F.2) and suppose  $t \mapsto \Psi(t)$  is a convex mapping from  $\mathbf{R}$  into  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma(X)$ . If for each  $M > 0$  there exists  $v'_M \in \mathcal{M}_p(X)$  such that

$$|F^+(f) - \Psi(f)| \leq v'_M \quad (\text{resp. } |F^-(f) - \Psi(-f)| \leq v'_M)$$

for any  $f \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  with  $|f| \leq M$ , then  $F$  satisfies condition  $(C)_+$  (resp.  $(C)_-$ ).

PROOF. First, we show that

$$(3) \quad \Psi(f_2) - \Psi(f_1) \leq \Psi(f_2 + g) - \Psi(f_1 + g)$$

for any  $f_1, f_2, g \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  such that  $f_2 \geq f_1$  and  $g \geq 0$ . Let  $U$  be any PC-set in  $X$  and we show that (3) holds on  $U$ . This inequality is readily verified in case  $f_1, f_2, g$  are constant functions; in fact,  $t \mapsto \int_U \phi d\Psi(t)$  is a non-decreasing convex real function on  $\mathbf{R}$  for any non-negative bounded Borel function  $\phi$  on  $U$ . Let  $M_1 = \sup_U |f_1| + \sup_U |f_2 + g| + 1$ . By condition (F.2) for  $\Psi$ , there is  $\tau \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(U)$  such that

$$\Psi(u) - \Psi(v) \leq (u - v)\tau$$

for every  $u, v \in \mathcal{R}(U)$  such that  $u \geq v$  and  $|u| \leq M_1, |v| \leq M_1$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  ( $\varepsilon < 1/2$ ) be arbitrarily given. For each  $x_0 \in U$ , we can find an open neighborhood  $U_{x_0}$  of  $x_0$  such that  $|f_i(x) - f_i(x_0)| < \varepsilon$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $|g(x) - g(x_0)| < \varepsilon$  for  $x \in U_{x_0}$ . Then, on  $U_{x_0}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \Psi(f_2 + g) - \Psi(f_1 + g) - \Psi(f_2) + \Psi(f_1) \\ & \geq \Psi(f_2(x_0) + g(x_0) - 2\varepsilon) - \Psi(f_1(x_0) + g(x_0) + 2\varepsilon) - \Psi(f_2(x_0) + \varepsilon) + \Psi(f_1(x_0) - \varepsilon) \\ & \geq \Psi(f_2(x_0) + g(x_0)) - \Psi(f_1(x_0) + g(x_0)) - \Psi(f_2(x_0)) + \Psi(f_1(x_0)) - 6\varepsilon\tau \\ & \geq -6\varepsilon\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x_0$  is arbitrary, it follows that

$$\Psi(f_2 + g) - \Psi(f_1 + g) - \Psi(f_2) + \Psi(f_1) \geq -6\varepsilon\tau$$

holds on  $U$ . Now,  $\varepsilon > 0$  is also arbitrary, so that we obtain (3) on  $U$ .

Now, if  $f_1, f_2, g \in \mathcal{R}(X)$ ,  $-M \leq f_1 \leq f_2 \leq M$  and  $0 \leq g \leq M$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
F(f_2)^+ - F(f_1)^+ &\leq \Psi(f_2) - \Psi(f_1) + 2v'_M \\
&\leq \Psi(f_2 + g) - \Psi(f_1 + g) + 2v'_M \\
&\leq F(f_2 + g)^+ - F(f_1 + g)^+ + 2(v'_M + v'_{2M}) \\
&\leq F(f_2 + g) - F(f_1 + g) + 2(v'_M + v'_{2M}).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence condition  $(C)_+$  is satisfied with  $v_M = 2(v'_M + v'_{2M})$ .

**EXAMPLE.** Let  $\psi$  be a non-decreasing, locally Lipschitz-continuous function on  $\mathbf{R}$  such that  $[\psi - \psi(t_0)]^+$  is convex for some  $t_0 \in \mathbf{R}$ . Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\sigma^+(X)$  and  $v \in \mathcal{M}_\sigma(X)$  satisfy  $\psi(t_0)\mu \leq v \leq \psi(t_1)\mu$  for some  $t_1 \geq t_0$ . Let  $G: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\sigma$  be a sheaf morphism satisfying (F.1) and (F.2) and suppose  $|G(\lambda)| \in \mathcal{M}_P(X)$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $|G(\lambda_0)| \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$  for some  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbf{R}$ . Then

$$F(f) = \psi(f)\mu - v + G(f)$$

satisfies conditions (F.1), (F.2), (PB) and  $(C)_+$ .

**PROOF.** Obviously,  $F$  satisfies (F.1) and (F.2). Let  $\lambda_1 = \max(t_1, \lambda_0)$  and  $\lambda_2 = \min(t_0, \lambda_0)$ . Then we see that  $F(\lambda_1) \geq G(\lambda_0) \geq F(\lambda_2)$ . Since  $|G(\lambda_0)| \in \mathcal{M}_{BP}(X)$ , it follows that (PB) is satisfied. Next, let  $\Psi(f) = (\psi(f)\mu - v)^+$ . Then  $\Psi$  satisfies (F.1) and (F.2). Since  $v - \psi(t_0)\mu \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi(t) &= \sup \{v - \psi(t_0)\mu, [\psi(t) - \psi(t_0)]\mu\} - v + \psi(t_0)\mu \\
&= \sup \{v - \psi(t_0)\mu, [\psi(t) - \psi(t_0)]^+\mu\} - v + \psi(t_0)\mu \\
&= \{[\psi(t) - \psi(t_0)]^+\mu - v + \psi(t_0)\mu\}^+.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $[\psi(t) - \psi(t_0)]^+$  is convex, it follows that  $t \mapsto \Psi(t)$  is a convex mapping. Furthermore, if  $f \in \mathcal{R}(X)$  and  $|f| \leq M$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
|F^+(f) - \Psi(f)| &= |(\psi(f)\mu - v + G(f))^+ - (\psi(f)\mu - v)^+| \\
&\leq |G(f)| \leq \sup \{|G(-M)|, |G(M)|\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Proposition 1, condition  $(C)_+$  is satisfied.

The above example includes as a special case the following  $F: F(f) = \psi(f)\mu$  with  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\sigma^+(X)$  and a non-decreasing locally Lipschitz-continuous function  $\psi$  on  $\mathbf{R}$  such that  $\psi(t_0) = 0$  for some  $t_0 \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $\psi^+$  is convex on  $\mathbf{R}$ . Typical such  $\psi$ 's are

$$\psi(t) = |t|^\alpha \operatorname{sgn} t \quad (\alpha \geq 1), \quad \psi(t) = e^t - 1.$$

### §3. $F$ -regularity of boundary points

Let  $\xi \in \partial^*X$  be a regular point for the Dirichlet problem with respect to the original structure  $\mathcal{H}$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} H_\varphi^{X^*}(x) = \varphi(\xi)$$

whenever  $\varphi$  is a bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  which is continuous at  $\xi$ . If  $\varphi$  is also  $F$ -resolutive, then can we assert that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} H_\varphi^{F, X^*} = \varphi(\xi)?$$

In case  $F$  is linear, this problem was studied in [2]. In this section, we give an extension of results in [2].

First, we prepare two lemmas. For an open set  $U$  in  $X$ , let  $U^*$  denote the closure of  $U$  in  $X^*$ .

LEMMA 2. *Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$ . If  $\varphi$  is a bounded  $F$ -resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  and if  $H_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  is bounded on  $X$ , then*

$$\psi = \begin{cases} \varphi & \text{on } U^* \cap \partial^*X \\ H_\varphi^{F, X^*} & \text{on } \partial U \end{cases}$$

*is a bounded  $F$ -resolutive function on  $\partial^*U$  with respect to the compactification  $U^*$  of  $U$ , and  $H_\psi^{F, U^*} = H_\varphi^{F, X^*} | U$ .*

PROOF. If  $u \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$ , then  $u|U \in \mathcal{F}_\psi^{F, U^*}$ ; and if  $v \in \mathcal{F}_\psi^{F, U^*}$ , then  $v|U \in \mathcal{F}_\varphi^{F, X^*}$ . Hence

$$v|U \leq \underline{H}_\psi^{F, U^*} \leq \overline{H}_\psi^{F, U^*} \leq u|U.$$

Taking the infimum in  $u$  and the supremum in  $v$ , we obtain

$$H_\varphi^{F, X^*} | U \leq \underline{H}_\psi^{F, U^*} \leq \overline{H}_\psi^{F, U^*} \leq H_\varphi^{F, X^*} | U,$$

which means  $\underline{H}_\psi^{F, U^*} = \overline{H}_\psi^{F, U^*} = H_\varphi^{F, X^*} | U \in \mathcal{H}^F(U)$ .

LEMMA 3. *Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$ . If  $\varphi$  is a bounded continuous function on  $\partial U$ , then*

$$\varphi^* = \begin{cases} \varphi & \text{on } \partial U \\ 0 & \text{on } U^* \cap \partial^*X \end{cases}$$

*is resolutive with respect to the compactification  $U^*$  of  $U$ .*

This lemma is essentially a consequence of [1; Theorem 2.4.2 and Corollary



2.4.1], and we omit the proof.

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $\xi \in \partial^*X$  and  $\varphi$  be a bounded resolutive function on  $\partial^*X$  which is continuous at  $\xi$ . Suppose furthermore that  $\varphi$  is  $F$ -resolutive and there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of  $\xi$  in  $X^*$  with the following properties:*

- (a)  $H_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  is bounded on  $U = V \cap X$ ;
- (b)  $\xi$  is regular with respect to  $\mathcal{A} | U$  and the compactification  $U^*$  of  $U$ ;
- (c) there exist  $p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}_C(U)$  such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} p_i(x) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

$\sigma(p_1) = F(H_\varphi^{X^*} + M)^+ | U$  and  $\sigma(p_2) = F(H_\varphi^{X^*} - M)^- | U$ , where

$$M = (\sup_U H_1^{U^*})(\sup_U | H_\varphi^{F, X^*} - H_\varphi^{X^*} |).$$

Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} H_\varphi^{F, X^*}(x) = \varphi(\xi).$$

**PROOF.** Consider the function

$$\psi = \begin{cases} H_\varphi^{F, X^*} & \text{on } \partial U \\ \varphi & \text{on } U^* \cap \partial^*X. \end{cases}$$

By Lemma 2,  $\psi$  is  $F$ -resolutive with respect to  $U^*$  and  $H_\psi^{F, U^*} = H_\varphi^{F, X^*} | U$ . Note that  $\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2$ , where

$$\psi_1 = \begin{cases} H_\varphi^{X^*} & \text{on } \partial U \\ \varphi & \text{on } U^* \cap \partial^*X \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \psi_2 = \begin{cases} H_\varphi^{F, X^*} - H_\varphi^{X^*} & \text{on } \partial U \\ 0 & \text{on } U^* \cap \partial^*X. \end{cases}$$

By Lemma 2 (with  $F=0$ ),  $\psi_1$  is resolutive with respect to  $U^*$  and by Lemma 3,  $\psi_2$  is resolutive with respect to  $U^*$ , so that  $\psi$  is resolutive with respect to  $U^*$ . Since  $H_{\psi_1}^{U^*} = H_\varphi^{X^*} | U$  by Lemma 2 and since  $|H_{\psi_2}^{U^*}| \leq M$ , we have

$$H_\varphi^{X^*} | U - M \leq H_\psi^{U^*} \leq H_\varphi^{X^*} | U + M.$$

Hence

$$-\sigma(p_2) \leq F(H_\psi^{U^*}) \leq \sigma(p_1),$$

so that

$$F(H_\psi^{U^*})^- \leq \sigma(p_2) \in \mathcal{M}_p(U) \quad \text{and} \quad F(H_\psi^{U^*})^+ \leq \sigma(p_1) \in \mathcal{M}_p(U).$$

Therefore, by Theorem 1,

$$|H_\psi^{U^*} - H_\varphi^{F, U^*}| \leq p_1 + p_2.$$

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} p_i(x) = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} H_\psi^{U^*}(x) = \varphi(\xi)$  by condition (b), it follows that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} H_\psi^{F, U^*}(x) = \varphi(\xi),$$

which implies the desired result.

**COROLLARY 1.** *Suppose  $\xi \in \partial^* X$  is locally regular, i.e., regular with respect to  $\mathcal{H} \mid V \cap X$  for any neighborhood  $V$  of  $\xi$  in  $X^*$ . Suppose furthermore that for each  $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$  there exists a neighborhood  $V_\alpha$  of  $\xi$  in  $X^*$  such that  $|F(\alpha)| \mid V_\alpha \cap X \in \mathcal{M}_P(V_\alpha \cap X)$  and*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} p_\alpha(x) = 0$$

for  $p_\alpha \in \mathcal{P}_C(V_\alpha \cap X)$  satisfying  $\sigma(p_\alpha) = |F(\alpha)| \mid V_\alpha \cap X$ .

Then, for any bounded resolutive function  $\varphi$  on  $\partial^* X$  which is continuous at  $\xi$ ,  $F$ -resolutive and for which  $H_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  is bounded in a neighborhood of  $\xi$  in  $X^*$ ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} H_\varphi^{F, X^*}(x) = \varphi(\xi).$$

**PROOF.** Let  $W$  be a neighborhood of  $\xi$  in  $X^*$  such that  $H_\varphi^{F, X^*}$  is bounded on  $W \cap X$ . Choose  $q \in \mathcal{P}_{BC}(X)$  such that  $\sigma(q) = \sigma(1)^-$  and put  $\beta = \sup_X (1 + q)$ . Then  $\beta \geq H_1^{U^*}$  for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ . Let

$$M = \beta \sup_{W \cap X} |H_\varphi^{F, X^*} - H_\varphi^{X^*}|,$$

$$\alpha_1 = \sup_{W \cap X} H_\varphi^{X^*} + M \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_2 = \inf_{W \cap X} H_\varphi^{X^*} - M.$$

Consider  $V = W \cap V_{\alpha_1} \cap V_{\alpha_2}$ . Then

$$F(H_\varphi^{X^*} + M)^+ \leq F(\alpha_1)^+ \quad \text{and} \quad F(H_\varphi^{X^*} - M)^- \leq F(\alpha_2)^-$$

on  $V \cap X$ . Hence, there exist  $q_1, q_2 \in \mathcal{P}_C(V \cap X)$  such that  $\sigma(q_1) = F(H_\varphi^{X^*} + M)^+$  and  $\sigma(q_2) = F(H_\varphi^{X^*} - M)^-$ , and  $q_i \leq p_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Hence, condition (c) of Theorem 3 is satisfied with this  $V$ . Conditions (a) and (b) of Theorem 3 are clearly satisfied by our assumptions. Hence, we obtain the assertion of the corollary.

**COROLLARY 2** (cf. Example 4.1 in [3]). *Suppose  $F(f) = \psi(f)\mu$  with a locally Lipschitz-continuous non-decreasing function  $\psi$  on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_\sigma^+(X)$ . If  $\xi \in \partial^* X$  is locally regular and if there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of  $\xi$  in  $X^*$  such that  $\mu \mid V \cap X \in \mathcal{M}_P(V \cap X)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \xi} p(x) = 0$  for  $p \in \mathcal{P}_C(V \cap X)$  satisfying  $\sigma(p) = \mu \mid V \cap X$ , then the same assertion as in Corollary 1 holds.*

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