

[Hint: Let  $K(x) = (1 + |x|)^{-n-\gamma}$ . Show that condition (2.5.7) is valid for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ .]

**2.5.3.** Show that conditions on  $K$  in Theorem 2.5.1 can be relaxed as follows:

(a)  $|K(x)| \leq L(|x|)$  for some decreasing function  $L : (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ .

(b)  $L(|x|)$  lies in  $L^1(\mathbf{R}^n)$ .

[Hint: Use that  $(1 - 2^{-n})v_n \sum_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} 2^{(k+1)n} L(2^k) \leq 2^n \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} L(|x|) dx$ .]

**2.5.4.** Under the hypotheses of Theorem 2.5.7, if additionally  $f$  lies in  $L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$  and is continuous on a closed ball  $\overline{B}(x_0, \delta_0)$  on  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , prove that

$$(K_t * f)(x) \rightarrow cf(x_0) \quad \text{as } (x, t) \rightarrow (x_0, 0^+).$$

**2.5.5. (Borel–Cantelli lemma)** Suppose that  $\{f_t\}_{t>0}$  is a family of measurable functions on a compact subset  $K$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  (or on any measure space with finite measure). Suppose that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  the sets  $A_t(\varepsilon) = \{x \in K : |f_t(x)| \geq \varepsilon\}$  satisfy

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |A_{t_k}(\varepsilon)| < \infty$$

for any sequence  $t_k > 0$  that tends to zero. Prove that  $f_t \rightarrow 0$  a.e. as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ .

[Hint: Show first that for any sequence  $t_k \rightarrow 0^+$  we have  $|\bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=m}^{\infty} A_{t_k}(\varepsilon)| = 0$ .]

## 2.6 Tempered Distributions

An integrable function  $g$  is almost everywhere uniquely determined<sup>4</sup> by the integrals  $\int_{\mathbf{R}^n} g \varphi dx$ , where  $\varphi$  ranges over  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . For this reason we can identify  $g$  by the functional  $L_g(\varphi) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} g \varphi dx$ , acting on  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . Functionals acting on nice classes of functions are called *generalized functions* or *distributions*. Viewing functions as functionals allows us to perform operations to them that would normally not be possible. For instance, one can define the partial derivative of a function  $g \in L^1(\mathbf{R}^n)$  to be the functional  $\partial_1 L_g$  given by  $\partial_1 L_g(\varphi) = -L_g(\partial_1 \varphi)$  for all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . For such reasons, the theory of distributions provides not only a mathematically sound but also a flexible framework to work with. The theory of distributions is vast and extensive, but here we focus only on some basic facts concerning tempered distributions.

A *linear functional*  $\Leftrightarrow u$  on the space of Schwartz functions  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  is a linear mapping from  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  to the complex numbers. The action  $u(\varphi)$  of  $u$  on a Schwartz function  $\varphi$  is denoted by  $\langle u, \varphi \rangle$ . Recall that for  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  and multi-indices  $\alpha, \beta$  the expressions

$$\rho_{\alpha, \beta}(\varphi) = \sup_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} |x^\alpha \partial^\beta \varphi(x)| \quad (2.6.1)$$

are called *Schwartz seminorms* of  $\varphi$ .

<sup>4</sup> Exercise 1.9.7