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## DESCRIPTION OF POMPEIU SETS IN TERMS OF APPROXIMATIONS OF THEIR INDICATOR FUNCTIONS

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Let  $H$  be an open upper half-space in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , and assume that  $A$  is a non-empty, open, bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\bar{A} \subset H$  and the exterior of  $A$  is connected. Let  $p \in [2, +\infty)$ . It is proved that there is a nonzero function with zero integrals over all sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  congruent to  $A$  if and only if the indicator function of  $A$  is the limit in  $L^p(H)$  of a sequence of linear combinations of indicator functions of balls in  $H$  with radii proportional to positive zeros of the Bessel function  $J_{n/2}$ . The proportionality coefficient here is the same for all balls and depends only on  $A$ .

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Пусть  $H$  — открытое верхнее полупространство в  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$  и пусть  $A$  — непустое, открытое, ограниченное подмножество  $\mathbb{R}^n$  такое, что  $\bar{A} \subset H$  и внешность  $A$  связна. Пусть  $p \in [2, +\infty)$ . Показано, что для существования ненулевой функции с нулевыми интегралами по всем множествам из  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , конгруэнтным  $A$ , необходимо и достаточно, чтобы индикатор  $A$  был пределом в  $L^p(H)$  последовательности линейных комбинаций индикаторов шаров, лежащих в  $H$ , с радиусами, пропорциональными положительным нулям функции Бесселя  $J_{n/2}$ . При этом коэффициент пропорциональности один и тот же для всех шаров и зависит только от  $A$ .

**1. Introduction and the central result.** Let  $\mathbb{R}^n$  be a real Euclidean space of dimension  $n \geq 2$  and let  $M(n)$  be the group of its rigid motions.

A non-empty open bounded subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a *Pompeiu set* if for function  $f \in L_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  the equality

$$\int_{gA} f(x) dx = 0 \tag{1}$$

holding for all  $g \in M(n)$  yields  $f = 0$ . In this case, one says also that  $A$  has the *Pompeiu property*.

Next, one says that  $A$  fails to have the *weak Pompeiu property* if there is a nonzero solution  $f$  of equality (1) such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)|(1 + |x|)^{-\alpha} dx < +\infty \tag{2}$$

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for some  $\alpha > 0$  depending on  $f$ .

In the sequel we write  $\chi_A$  for the indicator function of  $A$ . Also let  $\text{Ext}(A)$  be the exterior of  $A$  (i.e.,  $\text{Ext}(A) = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \overline{A}$  where  $\overline{A}$  is the closure of  $A$ ). For  $\lambda > 0$ , let  $N_\lambda = \{r > 0: J_{n/2}(r\lambda) = 0\}$  where  $J_k$  is the  $k$ th-order Bessel function of the first kind.

The classical Pompeiu problem about functions satisfying (1) has been studied by many authors (see survey papers [1], [2], that contain an extensive bibliography; see also [3], [4])

The following description of sets with the weak Pompeiu property has been obtained by V. V. Volchkov, see [5].

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $A$  be a non-empty open bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (i)  *$A$  fails to have the weak Pompeiu property.*
- (ii) *There exists  $\lambda = \lambda(A) > 0$  such that the function  $\chi_A$  is the limit of a sequence of linear combinations of the indicator functions of balls of radii  $r \in N_\lambda$  convergent in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .*

We note that a similar result for the Pompeiu property holds under the assumption that the set  $\text{Ext}(A)$  is connected (see [6]).

It is known that Theorem 1 is no longer valid for the space  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $p \geq 2n/(n+1)$  instead of  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  (see [3, Part 2, Theorem 1.13]). The case  $1 < p < 2n/(n+1)$  is still open.

In this paper, we obtain an analog of Theorem 1 in terms of approximation of  $\chi_A$  in the space  $L^p(H)$  where  $2 \leq p < +\infty$  and  $H = \{x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n: x_n > 0\}$ . Our main result is as follows.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $A$  be a non-empty open bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\overline{A} \subset H$  and the set  $\text{Ext}(A)$  is connected. Let  $p \in [2, +\infty)$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (i)  *$A$  does not have the Pompeiu property.*
- (ii) *There exists  $\lambda = \lambda(A) > 0$  such that the function  $\chi_A$  is the limit of a sequence of linear combinations of the indicator functions of balls in  $H$  of radii  $r \in N_\lambda$  convergent in  $L^p(H)$ .*

Together with [5], the proof of Theorem 2 shows (see Section 3 below) that the same result for the weak Pompeiu property remains valid. Moreover, in this situation the assumption that  $\text{Ext}(A)$  is connected can be removed.

**2. Notation and auxiliary statements.** Let  $r > 0$  and let  $B_r = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: |x| < r\}$  where  $|\cdot|$  is the Euclidean norm. Denote by  $E_{n/2} = \{\nu_1, \nu_2, \dots\}$  the increasing sequence of all zeros of the function  $J_{n/2}$  lying on  $(0, +\infty)$ .

As usual,  $\widehat{f}$  is the Fourier transform of the function  $f$  and  $f_1 * f_2$  is the convolution of the functions  $f_1, f_2$  (when they are well defined),  $\text{supp} f$  is the support of  $f$ , and  $\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is the set of functions in the class  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with compact support. Let  $\Delta$  be the Laplace operator.

For  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we set  $x' = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ ,  $|x'| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_{n-1}^2}$ . Also let  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  be the inner product in  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  and assume that  $dx' = dx_1 \cdots dx_{n-1}$  is the Lebesgue measure in  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ .

For  $\mu > 0$  we set

$$\varphi(t) = \varphi(t, r, \mu) = \begin{cases} (r^2 - t^2)^{\frac{n-1}{4}} J_{\frac{n-1}{2}}(\mu\sqrt{r^2 - t^2}), & |t| < r; \\ 0, & |t| \geq r. \end{cases}$$

Also let  $\varphi_{k,\mu}(t) = \varphi(t, \nu_k, \mu)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Lemma 1.** *The following assertions are true.*

(i) For  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$\widehat{\varphi}(z) = \sqrt{2\pi} r^{n/2} \mu^{\frac{n-1}{2}} J_{\frac{n}{2}}(r\sqrt{\mu^2 + z^2})(\mu^2 + z^2)^{-\frac{n}{4}}. \quad (3)$$

(ii) All the zeros of  $\widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}$  in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  are simple.

(iii) If  $\zeta \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mu > 0$  are fixed and  $\widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}(\zeta) = 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $\zeta^2 + \mu^2 = 1$ .

*Proof.* Assertions (i) and (ii) were obtained by the author in [7]. Let us prove (iii). First we recall the fact that all the zeros of  $J_{n/2}$  are real (see [8, Chapter 23]). Using now (3) we see that for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $m = m_k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\zeta^2 = \nu_m^2/\nu_k^2 - \mu^2$ . This means that the value  $\nu_m/\nu_k$  is independent of  $k$ . Taking [5, Lemma 3] into account we conclude that  $\nu_m/\nu_k = 1$ , which yields the required result.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mu > 0$  be fixed and assume that  $J_{\frac{n}{2}}(\mu\nu_k) \neq 0$ . Also let  $g$  be a function in the class  $C^n[-\nu_k, \nu_k]$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- 1)  $g^{(s)}(\nu_k) = 0$  for all  $s \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ ;
- 2)  $\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g^{(s)}(\alpha)\varphi_{k,\mu}(\alpha) d\alpha = 0$  for all  $s \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ ;
- 3)  $\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g(\xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{i\tau(\xi-t)} dt d\xi = 0$  for all  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}(\tau) = 0$ .

Then  $g = 0$ .

*Proof.* We can rewrite condition 3) as follows

$$\int_0^{2\nu_k} e^{i\tau\alpha} \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k-\alpha} g(\alpha + \beta)\varphi_{k,\mu}(\beta) d\beta d\alpha = 0. \quad (4)$$

Consider the entire function

$$w(z) = e^{-\nu_k z} \int_0^{2\nu_k} e^{iz\alpha} \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k-\alpha} g(\alpha + \beta)\varphi_{k,\mu}(\beta) d\beta d\alpha, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}. \quad (5)$$

Integrating (5) by parts and using conditions 1) and 2) we obtain  $|w(z)| \leq C_1(1+|z|)^{-n} e^{\nu_k|z|}$ , with positive constant  $C_1$  independent of  $z$ . It now follows from (4), (5) and Lemma 1(ii) that the function

$$w_1(z) = w(z)/\widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}(z) \quad (6)$$

is entire. Using the asymptotic formula for  $J_{\frac{n}{2}}(z)$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$  (see [8, Chapter 29]) we deduce from (6) and (3) the inequality  $|w_1(t \pm it)| \leq C_2(1 + |t|)^{\frac{1-n}{2}}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}^1$ , with positive  $C_2$  independent of  $t$ . Hence it follows from the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle and Liouville's theorem that  $w_1 = 0$ . According to (5) this means that  $\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k-\alpha} g(\alpha + \beta)\varphi_{k,\mu}(\beta) d\beta d\alpha = 0$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 2\nu_k)$ . Then we have the result of our lemma from Titchmarsh's theorem on convolution (see [9, Appendix VII, Chapter 12]).  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $R > r > 0$ ,  $T \in L(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , assume that  $\text{supp } T \subset [-r, r]$  and let*

$$f(t) = \sum_{m=0}^M \sum_{l=1}^L a_{m,l} t^m \exp(ib_l t), \quad t \in (-R, R),$$

where  $M \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,  $L \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_{m,l} \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $b_l \in \mathbb{C}$  are pairwise different complex numbers. Assume also that  $f * T = 0$  and  $\widehat{T}^{(\eta)}(b_k) \neq 0$  for some  $\eta \in \{0, \dots, M\}$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, L\}$ . Then  $a_{m,k} = 0$  for all  $m \geq \eta$ .

*Proof.* Simple calculations show that the condition  $f * T = 0$  is equivalent to

$$\sum_{m=\nu}^M a_{m,l} (-i)^m \binom{m}{\nu} \widehat{T}^{(m-\nu)}(b_l) = 0, \quad \nu \in \{0, \dots, M\}, \quad l \in \{1, \dots, L\},$$

where  $\binom{m}{\nu}$  are the binomial coefficients. The required result is now obvious.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.** Let  $M_r = \{x = (x', x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x_n| \leq r\}$ , assume that  $u \in L^p(M_r)$  for some  $p \in [1, 2]$ , and let

$$v(t) = \int_{B_r} u(x' + t, x_n) dx, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}. \quad (7)$$

Then  $v \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})$  and

$$\widehat{v}(\lambda) = \left( \frac{2\pi}{|\lambda|} \right)^{(n-1)/2} \int_{-r}^r \widehat{u}(\lambda, x_n) \varphi(x_n, r, |\lambda|) dx_n \quad (8)$$

for almost all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ , where  $\widehat{u}$  is the Fourier transform of  $u(x', x_n)$  with respect to  $x'$ .

*Proof.* Since  $u \in L^p(M_r)$  we see from (7) and Hölder's inequality that  $v \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})$ . Let us prove (8). We claim that

$$\widehat{v}(\lambda) = \int_{B_r} e^{i(\lambda, x')} \widehat{u}(\lambda, x_n) dx. \quad (9)$$

It is enough to consider the cases  $p = 1$  and  $p = 2$  (see [10, Chapter 1, Section 2]). In the case  $p = 1$  relation (9) follows from the definition of the Fourier transform and Fubini's theorem. Suppose now that  $p = 2$ . For  $R > 0$  we set

$$v_R(t) = \int_{B_r} u_R(x' + t, x_n) dx, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1},$$

where  $u_R(x', x_n) = u(x', x_n)$  for  $|x'| \leq R$ , and  $u_R(x', x_n) = 0$  otherwise. Letting  $R \rightarrow +\infty$  one sees that  $u_R \rightarrow u$  in  $L^2(M_r)$  and hence  $v_R \rightarrow v$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})$ . In addition,

$$\widehat{v}_R(\lambda) = \int_{B_r} e^{i(\lambda, x')} \widehat{u}_R(\lambda, x_n) dx$$

for almost all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . Passing here to the limit as  $R \rightarrow \infty$  in the space  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^{n-1})$  of the distributions on  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  we arrive at (9). Next, passing to repeated integration in (9) one infers that

$$\widehat{v}(\lambda) = \left( \frac{2\pi}{|\lambda|} \right)^{(n-1)/2} \int_{-r}^r \widehat{u}(\lambda, x_n) \int e^{i(\lambda, x')} dx' dx_n,$$

where the inner integral is taken over the ball  $\{x' \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} : x_1^2 + \dots + x_{n-1}^2 \leq r^2 - x_n^2\}$ . Using the formula for the Fourier transform of the indicator of a ball (see [10, Chapter 4, Theorem 4.15]) we obtain the required result.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.** Let  $f \in L^p(H)$  for some  $p \in [1, 2]$  and suppose that  $\int_{B_r} f(x + y) dx = 0$  for all  $r \in E_{n/2}$  and all  $y \in \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_n > r\}$ . Then there exists  $u \in C^\infty(H)$  such that  $\Delta u + u = 0$  and  $f = u$  in  $H$  almost everywhere.

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi$  be an arbitrary function in the class  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with support inside the ball  $B_1$ . We set

$$F(x) = \int_H f(y)\varphi(x+y) dy, \quad x \in H_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^1, x_n > 1\}. \quad (10)$$

Let  $r \in E_{\frac{n}{2}}$ . In view of (10), one has

$$\int_{B_r(0)} F(x_1 + t_1, \dots, x_{n-1} + t_{n-1}, x_n + y) dx = 0 \quad (11)$$

for all  $t \in (t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  and  $y > r + 1$ . Assume that  $\mu \geq 0$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  are related by  $\mu = |\lambda|$ . For brevity we shall write  $g_\lambda(x_n)$  for the Fourier transform of  $F(x', x_n)$  with respect to  $x'$ . Using Lemma 4 we see from (11) that

$$\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_\lambda(x_n + y)\varphi_{k,\mu}(x_n) dx_n = 0, \quad (12)$$

for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $y > \nu_k + 1$  and almost all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . Now define  $g_{\lambda,k}(u) = g_\lambda(u + \nu_k + 2)$ ,  $u > \nu_k - 1$ . Thus  $g_{\lambda,k} \in C^\infty(-\nu_k - 1, +\infty)$  and

$$\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_{\lambda,k}(\xi + \eta)\varphi_{k,\mu}(\xi) d\xi = 0, \quad \eta > -1, \quad (13)$$

for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  (see (10)).

Assume that  $\eta > -1$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , and let

$$W_{k,\mu}(\eta, z) = \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{iz(\xi-t)} dt d\xi. \quad (14)$$

Then one has

$$\frac{\partial W_{k,\mu}}{\partial \eta} = \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g'_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{iz(\xi-t)} dt d\xi.$$

Integrating by parts we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial W_{k,\mu}}{\partial \eta} &= \widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}(z)e^{i\nu_k z} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \nu_k) - \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \xi)\varphi_{k,\mu}(\xi) d\xi - \\ &\quad - iz \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{iz(\xi-t)} dt d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

This together with (13) yields

$$\frac{\partial W_{k,\mu}}{\partial \eta} = -izW_{k,\mu} + \widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}(z)e^{i\nu_k z} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \nu_k). \quad (15)$$

Let  $N_{k,\mu} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \widehat{\varphi}_{k,\mu}(z) = 0\}$  and assume that  $\tau \in N_{k,\mu}$ . Equality (15) shows that the value  $W_{k,\mu}(\eta, \tau)e^{iz\eta}$  is independent of  $\eta$ . Because of (14) this means that

$$\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta + \xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{i\tau(\xi-t)} dt d\xi = C_{k,\mu}(\tau)e^{-i\tau\eta}, \quad \eta > -1, \quad (16)$$

where the constant  $C_{k,\mu}(\tau)$  is independent of  $\eta$ . Next, let  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $h > \nu_s$ . It follows from (16) and (13) that

$$C_{k,\mu}(\tau) \int_{-\nu_s+h}^{\nu_s+h} e^{-i\tau\eta} \varphi_{s,\mu}(\eta-h) d\eta = 0,$$

whence  $C_{k,\mu}(\tau)e^{-i\tau h}\widehat{\varphi}_{s,\mu}(\tau) = 0$ . This together with (16) implies that if for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\tau \in N_{k,\mu}$  there exists  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\widehat{\varphi}_{s,\mu}(\tau)$  is nonzero, then

$$\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} g_{\lambda,k}(\eta+\xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{i\tau(\xi-t)} dt d\xi = 0, \quad \eta > -1. \quad (17)$$

Assertion (iii) of Lemma 1 shows that (17) holds for each  $\tau \in N_{k,\mu}$  such that  $\tau^2 + \mu^2 \neq 1$ . If the last condition is valid then one has

$$\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} \Phi_{\lambda,k}(\eta+\xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{i\tau(\xi-t)} dt d\xi = 0, \quad \eta > -1, \quad (18)$$

where

$$\Phi_{\lambda,k}(t) = g''_{\lambda,k}(t) + (1-\mu^2)g_{\lambda,k}(t), \quad t > -\nu_k - 1. \quad (19)$$

For the case where  $\tau^2 + \mu^2 = 1$  relation (18) remains valid because of (16). By differentiating (18) with respect to  $\eta$  and by setting  $\eta = 0$  we infer that

$$\int_{-\nu_k}^{\nu_k} \Phi_{\lambda,k}^{(m)}(\xi) \int_{-\nu_k}^{\xi} \varphi_{k,\mu}(t)e^{i\tau(\xi-t)} dt d\xi = 0, \quad (20)$$

for all  $\tau \in N_{k,\mu}$  and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . We now put  $g(u) = \sum_{j=1}^{2n+3} \alpha_{j,k} \Phi_{\lambda,k}^{(j)}(u)$ , where the constants  $\alpha_{j,k} \in \mathbb{C}$  are selected so that  $\sum_{j=1}^{2n+3} |\alpha_{j,k}| \neq 0$  and the function  $g$  satisfies assumptions 1) and 2) of Lemma 2. This is possible since  $2n+3$  is greater than the total number of equations in assumptions 1) and 2) of Lemma 2. Choosing  $\lambda$  so that  $J_{\frac{n}{2}}(|\lambda|\nu_k) \neq 0$  for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we conclude from (20) and Lemma 2 that  $g = 0$  on  $[-\nu_k, \nu_k]$ . Using now (21) and (19), one sees from (17) and Titchmarsh's theorem on convolution (see [9, Appendix VII, Chapter 12]) that  $g = 0$  on  $(-\nu_k, +\infty)$ . By the definition of  $g_\lambda$  and (19) it follows that  $g_\lambda$  is a solution of some linear differential equation with nonzero constant coefficients depending on  $\lambda$ . This means that  $g_\lambda$  has the form

$$g_\lambda(t) = \sum_{m=0}^M \sum_{l=1}^L a_{\lambda,m,l} t^m \exp(ib_l t), \quad t > 1,$$

where the constants  $a_{\lambda,m,l} \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\nu_l \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $M \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,  $L \in \mathbb{N}$  depend, in general, on  $\lambda$ . In the sequel, without loss of generality, we assume that the numbers  $b_l$  are pairwise distinct. Bearing (12) in mind one concludes from Lemma 3 that

$$g_\lambda(x_n) = C_1(\lambda)e^{-i\sqrt{1-|\lambda|^2}x_n} + C_2(\lambda)e^{i\sqrt{1-|\lambda|^2}x_n}, \quad (21)$$

where  $C_1(\lambda)$  and  $C_2(\lambda)$  are complex constants depending on  $\lambda$ . Next, let  $y > r > 0$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . Applying (21), by Lemmas 4 and 1(i) we obtain

$$\int_{B_r} F(x' + t, x_n + y) dx = (2\pi r)^{(n/2)} J_{n/2}(r) F(t, y).$$

By the theorem on ball means for solutions of Helmholtz's equation (see[5]) this means that  $\Delta F + F = 0$  in  $H_1$ . Since the function  $\varphi$  above was arbitrary, one deduces from (10) that  $\Delta f + f = 0$  in  $H$  in the distribution sense. This equality and the ellipticity of the operator  $\Delta$  ensure us that  $f$  almost everywhere equal to a function  $u \in C^\infty(H)$  such that  $\Delta u + u = 0$ . Hence the lemma is proved.  $\square$

**3. Proof of the main result.** We now proceed to the proof of Theorem 2.

(i)  $\rightarrow$  (ii). It follows from the assumptions and ([3, Part 4, Theorem 1.2]) that there exists  $\lambda = \lambda(A) > 0$  such that the equation

$$\Delta u + \lambda^2 u = \chi_A \quad (22)$$

has a solution  $u \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with compact support (here equality (22) is understood in the sense of distributions). We select a non-trivial function  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that  $\text{supp } v \subset H$  where  $v = \chi_A * \phi$ . Setting  $w = u * \phi$  one sees from (22) that

$$\Delta w + \lambda^2 w = v. \quad (23)$$

We claim that each continuous linear functional  $\Psi$  on  $L^p(H)$  annihilating the indicator functions of all balls in  $H$  of radii  $r \in N_\lambda$  also annihilates  $v$ . By Riesz's theorem and Lemma 5 such a functional has the following form

$$\Psi(g) = \int_H g(x) f(x) dx, \quad g \in L^p(H), \quad (24)$$

where  $f \in L^q(H)$ ,  $q = p/(p-1)$ , and

$$\Delta f + \lambda^2 f = 0 \text{ in } H. \quad (25)$$

The last equality and the ellipticity of the operator  $\Delta$  mean that  $f$  is almost everywhere equal to a real analytic function on  $H$ . Using (23), (24), and (25), we have  $\Psi(v) = \int_H w(x) (\Delta f + \lambda^2 f)(x) dx = 0$  proving the claiming. Thus the convolution  $\chi_A * \phi$  is the limit of a sequence of linear combinations of the indicator functions of balls in  $H$  of radii  $r \in N_\lambda$  convergent in  $L^p(H)$ . Now, from the arbitrariness of  $\phi$  and ([10, Chapter 1, Theorem 1.18]) we obtain the required result.

(ii)  $\rightarrow$  (i). For  $\lambda = \lambda(A)$  we consider a non-trivial non-negative function  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^1)$  with support on  $[a, b] \subset (\lambda/2, +\infty)$ . Now define

$$f(x) = \int_a^b \frac{J_{(n-3)/2}(\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2}|x'|)}{(\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2}|x'|)^{(n-3)/2}} e^{-tx_n} \varphi(t) dt, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (26)$$

Repeating the argument in the proof of Theorem 2 in [7] we see that  $f \in (C^\infty \cap L^q)(H)$  for each  $q \geq 1$ . In addition  $f(x) > 0$  for  $x = (0, \dots, 0, x_n)$  and relation (25) is satisfied. Using the mean theorem for Helmholtz's equation we conclude that  $\int_B f(x) dx = 0$  for each ball  $B \subset H$  with radius  $r \in N_\lambda$ . Hence by the assumption in (ii) and the Hölder inequality one obtains  $\int_{A+h} f(x) dx = 0$  for each  $h \in H$ . Take  $h = h_1 + h_2$  where  $h_1, h_2 \in H$ . It follows from (26) and the arbitrariness of  $h_2$  and  $\varphi$  that

$$\int_{A+h_1} \frac{J_{(n-3)/2}(\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2}|x'|)}{(\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2}|x'|)^{(n-3)/2}} e^{-tx_n} dx = 0 \quad (27)$$

for each  $t > \lambda/2$ . For the case where  $n = 2$  this yields  $\int_{A+h_1} \cos(\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2}x_1)e^{-tx_2}dx_1dx_2 = 0$  (see [8, formula (7.3)]). Since  $h_1 \in H$  could be arbitrary the last relation shows that

$$\int_A \exp(-tx_2 + i\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2}x_1)dx_1dx_2 = 0. \quad (28)$$

Assume now that  $n > 2$ . It follows from (27) and [3, Part 1, formula (5.29)] that

$$\int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-2}} \int_{A+h_1} \exp\left(-tx_n + i\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} x_j \sigma_j\right) dx d\omega(\sigma) = 0,$$

where  $d\omega$  is area measure on  $\mathbb{S}^{n-2}$ . As before, this yields

$$\int_A \exp\left(-tx_n + i\sqrt{t^2 + \lambda^2} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} x_j \sigma_j\right) dx = 0 \quad (29)$$

for all  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{S}^{n-2}$ . Since the left-hand parts in (28) and (29) are holomorphic functions of variable  $t$  in the disk  $\{t \in \mathbb{C}: |t| < \lambda\}$  one sees from (28) and (29) that  $\int_A \exp(i \sum_{j=1}^n \zeta_j x_j) dx = 0$  for all  $(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $|\zeta| = \lambda$ . Thus  $A$  fails to have the weak Pompeiu property (see, for instance, [5]). Hence  $A$  is not a Pompeiu set and the proof of Theorem 2 is complete.

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