
TAI-PENG TSAI, University of British Columbia

Existence, uniqueness, and regularity results for elliptic equations with drift terms in critical weak spaces

We consider Dirichlet problems for linear elliptic equations of second order in divergence form on a bounded or exterior smooth domain Ω in \mathbb{R}^n , $n \geq 3$, with drifts \mathbf{b} in the critical weak L^n -space $L^{n,\infty}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$, and $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{b} \geq 0$ in $L^{n/2,\infty}(\Omega)$. We first establish existence and uniqueness of weak solutions in $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ or $D^{1,p}(\Omega)$ for any p with $n' = n/(n-1) < p < n$. By duality, a similar result also holds for the dual problem. Next, we prove $W^{1,n+\epsilon}$ or $W^{2,n/2+\delta}$ -regularity of weak solutions of the dual problem for some $\epsilon, \delta > 0$ when the domain Ω is bounded. By duality, these results enable us to obtain a quite general uniqueness result as well as an existence result for weak solutions belonging to $\bigcap_{p < n'} W^{1,p}(\Omega)$. Finally, we prove a uniqueness result for exterior problems, which implies in particular that (very weak) solutions are unique in both $L^{n/(n-2),\infty}(\Omega)$ and $L^{n,\infty}(\Omega)$. This is a joint work with Hyunseok Kim.