

# CORRIGENDUM TO “CHARACTERIZATION OF SOBOLEV AND $BV$ SPACES”

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ABSTRACT. We correct a mistake in [3].

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the paper [3] we study the asymptotics of the functional

$$J_{\epsilon, \lambda}^{p, q}(f) := \int_{\Omega_\lambda} \left( \int_{\Omega_\lambda} \left( \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|^p}{|x - y|^p} \right)^q \rho_\epsilon(x - y) dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx, \quad f \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega), \quad (1.1)$$

as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  and  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ , where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is an arbitrary open set and  $1 \leq p, q < \infty$ . The main result of the paper is a characterization of Sobolev and  $BV$  spaces for arbitrary open sets, which in turn provides answers to conjectures of Brézis and Ponce in the case  $q = 1$ .

While all of the results in [3] are true for  $q = 1$ , in the case  $q > 1$  there is a fundamental mistake in Lemma 3.3 (which pertains to Sobolev functions), repeated in Lemma 3.5 (which pertains to  $BV$  functions). Precisely, on page 2941 the change of variables  $y = x + th$  is unjustified, since when  $q > 1$  we are not free to use Fubini’s or Tonelli’s theorem to interchange the integrals and make such a substitution. This error is then propagated through the paper in Theorems 4.4, 4.6 and in the sufficiency part of Theorems 1.5 and 1.9. Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 hold for all  $q \geq 1$  and so does the necessary part of Theorems 1.5 and 1.9.

The following counterexample establishes that Theorem 4.6 is false when  $q > 1$ .

**Counterexample 1.1.** Let  $\Omega = (-1, 1)$ ,  $q > 1$ , and  $\rho_\epsilon(x) = c\epsilon \frac{1}{|x|^{1-\epsilon}}$ . Define

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 < x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } -1 \leq x \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then we claim

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{-1+\lambda}^{1-\lambda} \left( \int_{-1+\lambda}^{1-\lambda} \left( \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{|x - y|} \right)^q \rho_\epsilon(x - y) dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx = +\infty \quad (1.2)$$

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for every  $\lambda$  sufficiently small. But we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{-1+\lambda}^{1-\lambda} \left( \int_{-1+\lambda}^{1-\lambda} \left( \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{|x - y|} \right)^q \rho_\epsilon(x - y) dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \\
&= \tilde{c}\epsilon^{\frac{1}{q}} \int_{-1+\lambda}^0 \left( \int_0^{1-\lambda} \left( \frac{1}{|x - y|} \right)^{q+1-\epsilon} dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \\
&= \tilde{c}\epsilon^{\frac{1}{q}} \int_{-1+\lambda}^0 \left( \left[ \frac{|x - y|^{-q+\epsilon}}{-q + \epsilon} \right]_0^{1-\lambda} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \\
&\geq \bar{c}\epsilon^{\frac{1}{q}} \int_{-1+\lambda}^0 |x|^{-1+\frac{\epsilon}{q}} dx = \bar{c}\epsilon^{\frac{1}{q}} \left| -1 + \lambda \right|^{\frac{\epsilon}{q}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, taking the limit as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  we obtain (1.2) as claimed.

The validity of Theorem 4.4 for  $p > 1$  and  $1 \leq q < \infty$  will be addressed in future work.

In the remaining of this erratum we show that when  $q > 1$ , Theorems 1.5 and 1.9 continue to hold for radial mollifiers when pointwise convergence of the functional  $J_{\epsilon,\lambda}^{p,q}$  is replaced by  $\Gamma$ -convergence. From the standpoint of approximation of a local functional this is actually a more natural convergence, since it implies that any limit point of a sequence of minimizers of the nonlocal problems is a minimizer of the local problem.

For simplicity, we replace the sets

$$\Omega_\lambda := \left\{ x \in \Omega : \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) > \lambda, |x| < \frac{1}{\lambda} \right\} \quad (1.3)$$

in the definition of  $J_{\epsilon,\lambda}^{p,q}$  with Lipschitz domains. Precisely, for every  $\lambda > 0$  let  $U_\lambda$  be an open set with Lipschitz boundary such that

$$\Omega_{2\lambda} \subseteq U_\lambda \subseteq \Omega_\lambda \quad (1.4)$$

and define

$$F_{\epsilon,\lambda}^{p,q}(f) := \int_{U_\lambda} \left( \int_{U_\lambda} \left( \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|^p}{|x - y|^p} \right)^q \rho_\epsilon(x - y) dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx, \quad f \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega).$$

Note that the specific form of the invading sequence  $\{\Omega_\lambda\}$  played no special role in [3].

We now proceed to state and prove the  $\Gamma$ -convergence result asserted previously, valid for all  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $1 \leq q < \infty$  (notice here we can use all values of  $q$  as opposed to the restrictions on  $q$  that were required in Theorems 1.5 and 1.9). For  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $1 \leq q < \infty$  define the functional

$$F^{p,q}(f) := \begin{cases} K_{p,q,N} \int_\Omega |\nabla f|^p dx & \text{if } f \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,p}(\Omega) \text{ and } \nabla f \in L^p(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N), \\ \infty & \text{otherwise in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega), \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

when  $p > 1$  and

$$F^{1,q}(f) := \begin{cases} K_{1,q,N} |Df|(\Omega) & \text{if } f \in BV_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \text{ and } Df \in M_b(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N), \\ \infty & \text{otherwise in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega). \end{cases} \quad (1.6)$$

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be open, let  $\rho_\epsilon$  satisfy (1.3), (1.4), and (1.5) in [3], let  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $1 \leq q < \infty$ . Then*

$$\Gamma\text{-}\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \left( \Gamma\text{-}\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} F_{\epsilon,\lambda}^{p,q} \right) = F^{p,q},$$

where the  $\Gamma$  limit is taken with respect to the  $L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega)$ -strong topology.

*Proof.* We begin by showing that for  $\lambda > 0$  fixed

$$\Gamma\text{-}\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} F_{\epsilon, \lambda}^{p, q} = F_{\lambda}^{p, q},$$

where

$$F_{\lambda}^{p, q}(f) := \begin{cases} K_{p, q, N} \int_{U_{\lambda}} |\nabla f|^p dx & \text{if } f \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1, p}(\Omega) \text{ and } \nabla f \in L^p(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N), \\ \infty & \text{otherwise in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega), \end{cases}$$

when  $p > 1$  and

$$F_{\lambda}^{1, q}(f) := \begin{cases} K_{1, q, N} |Df|(U_{\lambda}) & \text{if } f \in BV_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \text{ and } Df \in M_b(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N), \\ \infty & \text{otherwise in } L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega) \end{cases}$$

for  $p = 1$ .

**Step 1:** Let  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0^+$ . We claim that for every  $f \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega)$  there exists a sequence  $\{f_n\} \subset L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega)$  converging to  $f$  in  $L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(f_n) \leq F_{\lambda}^{p, q}(f).$$

If  $F_{\lambda}^{p, q}(f) = \infty$ , we can take  $f_n \equiv f$  and there is nothing to prove. Thus, we can assume that  $F_{\lambda}^{p, q}(f) < \infty$ . Moreover, in the case  $p = 1$ , we also assume that

$$|Df|(\partial U_{\lambda}) = 0. \quad (1.7)$$

Extend  $f$  to be zero outside  $\Omega$  and consider the sequence of functions  $f_n := f * \psi^{\delta_n}$ , where  $\psi^{\delta_n}$  are smooth mollifiers and  $\delta_n > 0$  will be chosen later. By standard properties of mollifiers, we have that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in  $L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega)$ .

For  $0 < \delta_n < \frac{1}{2}\lambda$ , we are in a position to apply Lemma 3.1 in [3] to  $f_n$ , to obtain that

$$|f_n(x) - f_n(y) - \nabla f_n(x) \cdot (x - y)| \leq C^{f_n} |x - y|^2$$

for all  $x \in U_{\lambda}$  and  $y \in U_{\lambda/2}$ , where

$$C^{f_n} := C(N) \|\nabla^2 f_n\|_{L^{\infty}(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} + \frac{8}{\lambda^2} \|f_n\|_{L^{\infty}(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} + \frac{2}{\lambda} \|\nabla f_n\|_{L^{\infty}(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})}. \quad (1.8)$$

In turn, reasoning exactly as in the proof of Step 1 of Lemma 3.2 in [3], we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{U_{\lambda}} \left| \left( \frac{|f_n(x) - f_n(y)|^p}{|x - y|^p} \right)^q - \left| \nabla f_n(x) \cdot \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^{pq} \right| \rho_{\epsilon_n}(x - y) dy \\ & \leq C_{p, q}^{f_n} \int_{U_{\lambda}} |x - y| \rho_{\epsilon_n}(x - y) dy, \end{aligned} \quad (1.9)$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{U_{\lambda}} \left( \frac{|f_n(x) - f_n(y)|^p}{|x - y|^p} \right)^q \rho_{\epsilon_n}(x - y) dy \leq \int_{U_{\lambda}} \left| \nabla f_n(x) \cdot \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^{pq} \rho_{\epsilon_n}(x - y) dy \\ & + C_{p, q}^{f_n} \int_{U_{\lambda}} |x - y| \rho_{\epsilon_n}(x - y) dy =: I + II, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_{p, q}^{f_n} := pq M_{f_n}^{pq-1} C^{f_n}$  and  $M_{f_n} := \|\nabla f_n\|_{L^{\infty}(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})}$ . Since  $\rho_{\epsilon}(z) = \hat{\rho}_{\epsilon}(|z|)$ , we may use polar coordinates centered at  $x$  to write

$$\begin{aligned} I & \leq \int_{S^{N-1}} |\nabla f_n(x) \cdot \sigma|^{pq} d\mathcal{H}^{N-1}(\sigma) \int_0^{\infty} \hat{\rho}_{\epsilon_n}(t) t^{N-1} dt \\ & = |\nabla f_n(x)|^{pq} \frac{1}{|S^{N-1}|} \int_{S^{N-1}} |e_1 \cdot \sigma|^{pq} d\mathcal{H}^{N-1}(\sigma), \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $|S^{N-1}| \int_0^{\infty} \hat{\rho}_{\epsilon_n}(t) t^{N-1} dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \rho_{\epsilon}(x) dx = 1$ . Similarly, using the fact that  $|x| < \frac{1}{\lambda}$  and  $|y| < \frac{1}{\lambda}$  (see (1.3) and (1.4)), we have

$$II \leq C_{p, q}^{f_n} |S^{N-1}| \int_0^{\frac{2}{\lambda}} \hat{\rho}_{\epsilon_n}(t) t^N dt.$$

Using the inequality  $(a + b)^{1/q} \leq a^{1/q} + b^{1/q}$ ,  $a, b \geq 0$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p,q}(f_n) &\leq K_{p,q,N} \int_{U_\lambda} |\nabla f_n(x)|^p dx \\ &\quad + (C_{p,q}^{f_n})^{\frac{1}{q}} |U_\lambda| \left( \int_{B(0,2/\lambda)} |h| \rho_{\epsilon_n}(h) dh \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}, \end{aligned}$$

where<sup>1</sup>

$$K_{p,q,N} := \left( \frac{1}{|S^{N-1}|} \int_{S^{N-1}} |e_1 \cdot \sigma|^{pq} d\mathcal{H}^{N-1}(\sigma) \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

By (2.4) in [3],

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{B(0,2/\lambda)} |h| \rho_{\epsilon_n}(h) dh = 0. \quad (1.10)$$

On the other hand, by the properties of mollifiers,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_n\|_{L^\infty(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} &\leq \frac{C(N,p)}{\delta_n^{N/p}} \|f\|_{L^p(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})}, \quad \|\nabla f_n\|_{L^\infty(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} \leq \frac{C(N,p)}{\delta_n^{N/p}} \|\nabla f\|_{L^p(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})}, \\ \|\nabla^2 f_n\|_{L^\infty(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} &\leq \frac{C(N,p)}{\delta_n^{1+N/p}} \|\nabla f\|_{L^p(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})}, \end{aligned}$$

for  $p > 1$ , while

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_n\|_{L^\infty(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} &\leq \frac{C(N)}{\delta_n^N} \|f\|_{L^1(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})}, \quad \|\nabla f_n\|_{L^\infty(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} \leq \frac{C(N)}{\delta_n^N} |Df|(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}}), \\ \|\nabla^2 f_n\|_{L^\infty(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}})} &\leq \frac{C(N)}{\delta_n^{1+N}} |Df|(\overline{U_{\lambda/2}}) \end{aligned}$$

for  $p = 1$ . In turn,

$$(C_{p,q}^{f_n})^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq \frac{C_f}{\delta_n^\ell}$$

for some constant  $C_f$  depending on  $f$  and for some  $\ell > 0$ . In view of (1.10), by choosing  $\delta_n$  which tends to zero slowly enough we can ensure that

$$(C_{p,q}^{f_n})^{\frac{1}{q}} |U_\lambda| \left( \int_{B(0,2/\lambda)} |h| \rho_{\epsilon_n}(h) dh \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p,q}(f_n) &\leq K_{p,q,N} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{U_\lambda} |\nabla f_n(x)|^p dx \\ &= F_\lambda^{p,q}(f), \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $\nabla f_n \rightarrow \nabla f$  in  $L^p(U_\lambda; \mathbb{R}^N)$  for  $p > 1$ , while  $\int_{U_\lambda} |\nabla f_n| dx \rightarrow |Df|(U_\lambda)$  for  $p = 1$  in view of (1.7).

To remove the additional condition (1.7), consider an arbitrary  $f \in BV_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  with  $Df \in M_b(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N)$  and denote by  $f|_{U_\lambda}$  the restriction of  $f$  to  $U_\lambda$ . Since  $U_\lambda$  is Lipschitz, we can extend  $f|_{U_\lambda}$  to a function  $g \in BV(\Omega)$  with  $|Dg|(\partial U_\lambda) = 0$  (see Proposition 3.21 in [1]). Construct a sequence of cut-off functions  $\varphi_k \in C_c^\infty(\Omega; [0, 1])$  such that  $\varphi_k = 1$  in  $U_\lambda$  and  $\varphi_k = 0$  outside  $(U_\lambda)^{\frac{1}{k}}$  and define

$$g_k := \varphi_k g + (1 - \varphi_k) f.$$

<sup>1</sup>There is a misprint in the definition of  $K_{p,q,N}$  in Theorem 1.5 in [3]. The factor  $\frac{1}{|S^{N-1}|}$  is missing.

Then on any compact set  $K \subset \Omega$ ,

$$\int_K |g_k - f| \, dx \leq \int_{(U_\lambda)^{\frac{1}{k}} \setminus U_\lambda} |g - f| \, dx \rightarrow 0$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , where we used the fact that  $g_k = f$  in  $U_\lambda$ . Thus,  $g_k \rightarrow f$  in  $L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ . Moreover,  $|Dg_k|(\partial U_\lambda) = |Dg|(\partial U_\lambda) = 0$ . By the lower semicontinuity of the  $\Gamma$ -upper limit (see, e.g., Proposition 6.8 in [2]), the first part of the proof applied to  $g_k$ , and the fact that  $g_k = f$  in  $U_\lambda$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |Df|(U_\lambda) &= \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} |Dg_k|(U_\lambda) = \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left( \Gamma\text{-lim sup}_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(g_k) \right) \\ &\geq \Gamma\text{-lim sup}_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(f). \end{aligned}$$

Given the arbitrariness of  $\epsilon_n$ , we have shown that

$$\Gamma\text{-lim sup}_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} F_{\epsilon, \lambda}^{p, q} \leq F_\lambda^{p, q}.$$

**Step 2:** We prove that

$$\Gamma\text{-lim inf}_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} F_{\epsilon, \lambda}^{p, q} \geq F_\lambda^{p, q}. \quad (1.11)$$

Let  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0^+$ . We claim that for every  $f \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  and for every sequence  $\{f_n\} \subset L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  converging to  $f$  in  $L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  we have

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(f_n) \geq F_\lambda^{p, q}(f).$$

If the left-hand side is infinite, then there is nothing to prove, thus we assume that

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(f_n) < \infty. \quad (1.12)$$

For  $0 < \delta < \lambda$ , let  $f_n^\delta := f_n * \psi^\delta$ , where  $\psi^\delta$  is a smooth mollifier. Since  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in  $L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ , by standard properties of mollifiers, we have that  $f_n^\delta \rightarrow f^\delta$  in  $C^2_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ . By applying Lemma 3.6 to  $f_n$  (and using  $((U_\lambda)_\eta)^\eta \subset U_\lambda$  along with non-negativity of the integrand), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \left( \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \frac{|f_n^\delta(x) - f_n^\delta(y)|^{pq}}{|x - y|^{pq}} \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) \, dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \\ &\leq \int_{U_\lambda} \left( \int_{U_\lambda} \frac{|f_n(x) - f_n(y)|^{pq}}{|x - y|^{pq}} \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) \, dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \end{aligned}$$

for  $0 < \delta < \eta < \lambda$ . Further, Lemma 3.2 may be modified to demonstrate the convergence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \frac{|f_n^\delta(x) - f_n^\delta(y)|^{pq}}{|x - y|^{pq}} \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) \, dy = |\nabla f_n(x)|^{pq} \frac{1}{|S^{N-1}|} \int_{S^{N-1}} |e_1 \cdot \sigma|^{pq} \, d\mathcal{H}^{N-1}(\sigma), \quad (1.13)$$

Indeed, reasoning as in Step 1 of the proof of Lemma 3.2 (see also (1.9) above), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \left| \frac{|f_n^\delta(x) - f_n^\delta(y)|^{pq}}{|x - y|^{pq}} - \left| \nabla f_n^\delta(x) \cdot \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^{pq} \right| \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) \, dy \\ &\leq C_{p, q}^{f_n^\delta} \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} |x - y| \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) \, dy, \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

where  $C_{p, q}^{f_n^\delta} := pq M_{f_n^\delta}^{pq-1} C^{f_n^\delta}$ , with  $M_{f_n^\delta} := \|\nabla f_n^\delta\|_{L^\infty(\overline{(U_\lambda)_\eta})}$  and

$$C^{f_n^\delta} := C(N) \|\nabla^2 f_n^\delta\|_{L^\infty(\overline{(U_\lambda)_\eta})} + \frac{2}{\eta^2} \|f_n^\delta\|_{L^\infty(\overline{(U_\lambda)_\eta})} + \frac{1}{\eta} \|\nabla f_n^\delta\|_{L^\infty(\overline{(U_\lambda)_\eta})}.$$

Since  $f_n^\delta \rightarrow f^\delta$  in  $C^2_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ , we have that  $C_{p, q}^{f_n^\delta} \rightarrow C_{p, q}^{f^\delta} < \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $f^\delta := f * \psi^\delta$ . Hence, by (2.4) in [3], the right-hand side of (1.14) converges to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . We can now

proceed as in the second step of Lemma 3.2 to conclude (1.13). In turn, Fatou's lemma, and the previous inequality implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(f_n) &\geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \left( \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \frac{|f_n^\delta(x) - f_n^\delta(y)|^{pq}}{|x - y|^{pq}} \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \\ &\geq \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} \frac{|f_n^\delta(x) - f_n^\delta(y)|^{pq}}{|x - y|^{pq}} \rho_{\epsilon_n}^\eta(x - y) dy \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} dx \\ &= K_{p, q, N} \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} |\nabla f^\delta(x)|^p dx. \end{aligned}$$

In view of (1.12), this implies that  $f \in W^{1, p}((U_\lambda)_\eta)$  for  $p > 1$  and  $f \in BV((U_\lambda)_\eta)$  for  $p = 1$ . Thus we may send  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  along a subsequence and use lower semicontinuity with respect to the convergence  $\nabla f^\delta \rightharpoonup \nabla f$  weakly in  $L^p((U_\lambda)_\eta; \mathbb{R}^{N \times N})$  if  $p > 1$  and  $\nabla f^\delta \overset{*}{\rightharpoonup} Df$  weakly-star in  $(C_0((U_\lambda)_\eta; \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}))'$  if  $p = 1$  to conclude that

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{p, q}(f_n) \geq K_{p, q, N} \int_{(U_\lambda)_\eta} |\nabla f(x)|^p dx,$$

if  $p > 1$  while

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\epsilon_n, \lambda}^{1, q}(f_n) \geq K_{1, q, N} |Df|((U_\lambda)_\eta),$$

if  $p = 1$ . But then sending  $\eta \rightarrow 0$  and applying Lebesgue's monotone convergence theorem we conclude that the inequality (1.11) holds.

**Step 3:** The fact that

$$\Gamma\text{-}\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} F_\lambda^{p, q} = F^{p, q}$$

is straightforward. We omit the details.  $\square$

Finally, let us mention two small misprints. At the end of page 2927 the mollifiers  $\rho_\epsilon$  should be

$$\rho_\epsilon(x) = \frac{\chi_{B(0, R)}(|x|)}{|S^{N-1}|} \frac{\epsilon p c_\epsilon}{|x|^{N-\epsilon p}},$$

which is the correct normalization to ensure that they satisfy

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \rho_\epsilon(x) dx = 1.$$

Also in Remark 2.2 we should have  $\mu_\epsilon = \frac{\mathcal{H}^{N-1}}{|S^{N-1}|}$ .

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