

Occurrence of gap for one-dimensional scalar autonomous functionals with one end-point condition

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Abstract. Let $L : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, +\infty[\cup \{+\infty\}$ be a Borel function. We consider the problem

$$\min F(y) = \int_0^1 L(y(t), y'(t)) dt : y(0) = 0, y \in W^{1,1}([0, 1]). \quad (\text{P})$$

We give an example of a real-valued Lagrangian L for which the Lavrentiev phenomenon occurs. We state a condition, involving only the behavior of L on the graph of two functions, that ensures the non-occurrence of the phenomenon. Our criterium substantially weakens the well-known condition that L is bounded on bounded sets.

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