
Real Analysis - Math 630

Homework Set #8 - Chapter 5

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Problem 7

- a) Let f be of bounded variation (BV) on $[a, b]$. Show that for each $c \in (a, b)$ the limit of $f(x)$ exists as $x \rightarrow c^-$ and also as $x \rightarrow c^+$. Prove that a monotone function (and hence a function of BV) can have only a countable number of discontinuities.

■ Proof

- **Lemma:** For a monotone BV function g on $[a, b]$, the number of discontinuities such that $\forall \epsilon > 0, |g(x + \epsilon) - g(x - \epsilon)| \geq \frac{1}{n}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, is finite.

BWOC Suppose this number is infinite. Since it is a BV, we know that g is strictly real valued. However we can start at $x = a$, and proceed towards b such that each discontinuity we choose ϵ sufficiently small that \exists infinitely many discontinuities between the current location and b . Thus we experience arbitrarily many increases of at least $\frac{1}{n}$, which since g is monotonic implies that $g(b) = \infty$, which is a contradiction. Hence the number is finite.

- **The number of discontinuities of g as above is at most countable.**

Let $A_n = \{x \mid |g(x + \epsilon) - g(x - \epsilon)| \geq \frac{1}{n}, \forall \epsilon > 0\}$. It is clear that any discontinuity of a monotone function must be in some A_n for n sufficiently large. So the set of all discontinuities is $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$, which must be countable since it is a countable union of finite sets. Thus the number of discontinuities is countable.

■ **The limit of $f(x)$ exists as $x \rightarrow c^-$ and $x \rightarrow c^+$**

Consider a fixed c . Suppose $\exists \epsilon > 0$ such that f over $(c - \epsilon, c)$, contains no discontinuities, then f is continuous in that region and limit of $f(x)$ as $x \rightarrow c^-$ exists.

Thus we may assume that $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists$ a discontinuity in f over the region in question. We need to show that given $\gamma > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0$, such that $\forall x$ with $0 < c - x < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(c)| < \gamma$. However we know that f is BV and thus the sum of two monotone functions g, h . Thus by the first lemma there exist only finitely many points with $|g(x) - g(c)| \geq \frac{\gamma}{n}$. So we may take δ sufficiently small such that all points of difference $> \frac{\gamma}{2}$ are more than δ away. Similarly for h . Since they contribute with opposite sign, $|f(x) - f(c)| < \gamma$, were δ is the minimum of the two δ 's needed.

Hence limit $x \rightarrow c^-$ exists. The proof however clearly proceeds likewise for $x \rightarrow c^+$. QED

■ **b) Construct a monotone function on $[a, b]$ which is discontinuous at each rational point.**

■ **Construction**

Let the sequence $\langle r_i \rangle_{i=1}^{\infty}$, be an enumeration of the rationals in the interval $[0, 1]$. Define

$$f_r(x) = \begin{cases} r, & x \geq r \\ 0, & x < r \end{cases}$$

Let $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_{r_i}(x) * \frac{1}{2^i}$. Claim that f is such a function as required.

Clearly $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_{r_i}(x) * \frac{1}{2^i} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^i} = 1$. Thus since the lefthand side is a monotonically increasing bounded series it must converge to some number less than infinity. Furthermore it should be clear that $\forall x, y \in [0, 1]$ with $x < y$, we have that \exists some $q \in (x, y) \cap \mathbb{Q}$, since rationals are dense. So $f(y) - f(x) \geq f_q(y) * \frac{1}{2^N}$, for some N since all terms for which $f_{r_i}(x) \neq 0$ yields $f_{r_i}(x) = f_{r_i}(y)$, and $f_q(x) = 0 \neq f_q(y)$. Thus $f(x)$ is monotonically increasing.

Furthermore $\forall p \in \mathbb{Q}$, and $\forall h > 0$. $f(p+h) - f(p-h) \geq f_p(p+h) * \frac{1}{2^N}$, using the above property. However since $p \in \mathbb{Q}$ implies that $f_p(p+h) = f_p(p) = p$. Thus $\forall h > 0$, $f(p+h) - f(p-h) \geq \frac{p}{2^N} > 0$. Which implies that $f(p+h) - f(p-h) \geq \frac{p}{2^N}$, so limit $h \rightarrow 0$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow p^+} f(x) - \lim_{x \rightarrow p^-} f(x) \geq \frac{p}{2^N}$. Hence $f(x)$ is discontinuous at p since the limits can not be equal.

Thus f satisfies all the conditions desired. QED.

Problem 8

■ a) Show that if $a \leq c \leq b$, then $T_a^b = T_a^c + T_c^b$ and that hence $T_a^c \leq T_a^b$.

■ Proof

■ $T_a^b \leq T_a^c + T_c^b$

By definition $T_a^b = \sup t$, where \sup is taken over all possible partitions of $[a, b]$. However $t = \sum_{i=1}^k |f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})|$. Then either $c = x_i$, for some i , or $c \in (x_i, x_{i+1})$, for some i .

If $c = x_i$, then clearly we may split the partition over $[a, b]$ into two partitions, one over $[a, c]$ and the other over $[c, b]$, such that t_a^b is equal to $t_a^c + t_c^b$, for those partitions.

If $c \in (x_i, x_{i+1})$ then consider the partition $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_i < c < x_{i+1} < \dots < x_k = b$. In this partition t_2 is \geq to the original $t \equiv t_1$, since $|f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i)| = |f(x_{i+1}) - f(c) + f(c) - f(x_i)| \leq |f(x_{i+1}) - f(c)| + |f(c) - f(x_i)|$, by triangle inequality. If we break the new partition as above we have two partitions about $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$, respectively with t taken over these partitions summed = $t_2 \geq t_1$. Hence $T_a^c + T_c^b \geq T_a^b$.

■ $T_a^b \geq T_a^c + T_c^b$

Every partition p_1, p_2 over $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$ respectively can be used to form a partition over $[a, b]$ by joining the two at c . However $T_a^b = \sup t$ over all possible partitions, so this includes the partition formed by the union of p_1 and p_2 and hence $T_a^b \geq T_a^c + T_c^b$.

Thus $T_a^b = T_a^c + T_c^b$. Showing that $T_a^c \leq T_a^b$.

■ b) Show that $T_a^b(f + g) \leq T_a^b(f) + T_a^b(g)$, and $T_a^b(c * f) = |c| * T_a^b(f)$.

■ Proof

■ $T_a^b(f + g) \leq T_a^b(f) + T_a^b(g)$

$T_a^b(f + g) = \sup t(f + g)$, where $t(f + g) = \sum_{i=1}^k |(f + g)(x_i) - (f + g)(x_{i-1})| = \sum_{i=1}^k |f(x_i) + g(x_i) - f(x_{i-1}) - g(x_{i-1})| \leq \sum_{i=1}^k (|f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})| + |g(x_i) - g(x_{i-1})|)$ by the triangle inequality, however this last term is just $t(f) + t(g)$.

Thus $\sup t(f + g) \leq \sup (t(f) + t(g))$, hence $T_a^b(f + g) \leq T_a^b(f) + T_a^b(g)$. QED

$$\blacksquare T_a^b(c * f) = |c| * T_a^b(f)$$

$$T_a^b(c * f) = \sup t(c * f), \text{ where } t(c * f) = \sum_{i=1}^k |c * f(x_i) - c * f(x_{i-1})| = \sum_{i=1}^k |c| * |f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})| \\ = |c| * \sum_{i=1}^k |f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})| = |c| * t(f).$$

Thus $\sup t(c * f) = \sup |c| * t(f) = |c| * \sup t(f)$, hence $T_a^b(c * f) = |c| * T_a^b(f)$. QED

Problem 10

■ a) Let f be defined by $f(0) = 0$ and $f(x) = x^2 \sin(\frac{1}{x^2})$, for $x \neq 0$. Is f of BV on $[-1, 1]$?

■ Answer

No. Over any interval (a, b) , the difference from $x^2 \sin(\frac{1}{x^2})$, will be $= a^2 \sin(\frac{1}{a^2}) - b^2 \sin(\frac{1}{b^2})$.

Suppose a is a minimum, thus $\frac{1}{a^2} = n * \pi - \frac{\pi}{2}$, for some integer n . Thus \exists an adjacent maximum at b such that $\frac{1}{b^2} = n * \pi + \frac{\pi}{2}$. So $a^2 \sin(\frac{1}{a^2}) - b^2 \sin(\frac{1}{b^2}) = \frac{1}{n * \pi - \frac{\pi}{2}} (-1) - \frac{1}{n * \pi + \frac{\pi}{2}} * 1 = \frac{-2}{(2 * n - 1) * \pi} + \frac{-2}{(2 * n + 1) * \pi} = \frac{-8 * n}{(4 * n^2 - 1) * \pi}$. However as the number of partitions gets arbitrarily large we may add arbitrarily many terms of this form with n increasing. So $T_{-1}^0(f) \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{-8 * n}{(4 * n^2 - 1) * \pi} \right| \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2 * \frac{1}{n * \pi} = \infty$, since the last series is a constant times the harmonic series. Therefore f is not a BV.

■ **b) Let g be defined by $g(0) = 0$ and $g(x) = x^2 \sin(\frac{1}{x})$, for $x \neq 0$. Is g of BV on $[-1, 1]$?**

■ **Answer**

Yes. Since $|g(x)|$ is symmetric in x we know that it is sufficient to show that $g(x)$ is BV on $[-1, 0]$.

Consider a single transition for a minimum to an adjacent maximum. It is clear that it will proceed monotonically in this region. On inspection it is clear that t over a monotonic region will be independent of the choice of partition and have the value equal to the difference of the end points. (Either p or n is 0).

From problem 8a) and an obvious induction it is clear that T_a^b may be broken into finitely many pieces. We know that minima and maxima occur at $\sin(\frac{1}{x}) = \pm 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{n\pi \pm \frac{\pi}{2}}$. It is obvious that $T_{-1}^{-\frac{2}{\pi}} < \infty$, purely by inspection and our knowledge of basic calculus. Proceed by breaking T_a^b into m pieces such that the first piece is $T_{-1}^{-\frac{2}{\pi}}$, and the proceeding $m-2$ pieces follow for decreasing values of n , and the last piece represents the tail going to 0.

Now we need to evaluate T over one these pieces that have been set up to run from a local max to a local min or vice versa. So the points in question have the form $[\frac{1}{n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}}, \frac{1}{(n-1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}}]$. So $|(\frac{1}{n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}})^2 * \sin(n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}) - (\frac{1}{(n-1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}})^2 * \sin((n-1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{2})| = |(\frac{1}{n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}})^2 + (\frac{1}{(n-1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}})^2| = |\frac{2*(n\pi)^2 + 2*(\frac{\pi}{2})^2}{(n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2})^2 ((n-1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{2})^2}| < |\frac{2*(n^2 + \frac{1}{4})}{(n-1)^2 * (n-2)^2}| < |\frac{2*(n^2 + \frac{1}{4})}{(n-2)^4}|$, note that the inequalities depend on the fact that $n < 0$.

Now we want to consider the total $T_{-1}^0 \leq T_{-1}^{-\frac{2}{\pi}} + \sum_{n=-1}^{-(m-2)} |\frac{2*(n^2 + \frac{1}{4})}{(n-2)^4}| + T_{\text{tail}}^0$, where T_{tail}^0 is the part not covered in m steps. Taking limit $m \rightarrow \infty$, the tail contribution must go to 0. So we only need that the $\sum_{n=-1}^{-\infty} |\frac{2*(n^2 + \frac{1}{4})}{(n-2)^4}| < \infty$. However this may be rewritten as $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\frac{2*(n^2 + \frac{1}{4})}{(2-n)^4}|$. However this is bounded above by $\frac{3}{n^2}$ for n large, which is a convergent sequence. Thus our sum must converge. Hence $T_{-1}^0 < \infty$. So $T_{-1}^1 < \infty \Rightarrow x^2 \sin(\frac{1}{x})$ is BV. QED.

Problem 14

■ a) Show that the sum and difference of two AC functions are also AC.

■ Proof

Let f and g be AC. Let $\epsilon > 0$. Then $\exists \delta_1, \delta_2$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n |g(x'_i) - g(x_i)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} \forall$ finite collection of intervals $\{(x_i, x'_i)\}$, such that $\sum_{i=1}^n |x'_i - x_i| < \delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$.

However $\sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) + g(x'_i) - f(x_i) - g(x_i)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| + |g(x'_i) - g(x_i)|$, by triangle inequality. Further $\sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| + |g(x'_i) - g(x_i)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$.

Hence we may choose $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ in order to satisfy the condition and show that $f + g$ is AC.

Since $|f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| = |-(f(x'_i) - f(x_i))| = |(-f(x'_i)) - (-f(x_i))|$, we know that f is AC implies that $-f$ is AC. So $f - g$ must also be AC.

■ b) Show that the product of two AC functions is AC

■ Proof

■ Lemma: f is AC implies that $(f)^2$ is AC.

Let f be AC with respect to $[a, b]$. Then we know that f is BV, and hence that since $[a, b]$ is a closed interval, that $|f|$ is bounded. Let $M > 0$ be a bound on $|f|$. Let $\epsilon > 0$. Since f is AC, $\exists \delta > 0$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$, \forall finite collection of intervals $\{(x_i, x'_i)\}$, such that $\sum_{i=1}^n |x'_i - x_i| < \delta$.

Consider $\sum_{i=1}^n |(f(x'_i))^2 - (f(x_i))^2| = \sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| * |f(x'_i) + f(x_i)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| * (|f(x'_i)| + |f(x_i)|) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |f(x'_i) - f(x_i)| * 2M < \frac{\epsilon}{2M} * 2M = \epsilon$.

Thus $(f)^2$ is AC. Concluding the Lemma.

■ If f, g are AC over $[a, b]$ then $f * g$ is AC.

$f * g = \frac{(f+g)^2 - (f)^2 - (g)^2}{2}$, but that both sums, differances and squares of AC functions are AC, so we only need that constant multiples of AC functions are AC. But for $c * f$, where f is AC it follows immediatly that for any $\epsilon > 0$ we may choose f constrained by $\frac{\epsilon}{c}$, and the c will carry through to make $c * f$, AC. (Note $c = 0$ is obviously true.)

Hence $f * g$ can be gotten as a sequence of operations that perserve AC, so it is also AC. QED.

■ c) If f is AC on $[a, b]$ and if f is never zero there, then the function $g = \frac{1}{f}$ is also AC on $[a, b]$.

■ Proof

Since f is never 0 over a closed interval, we know that $\exists m > 0$ such that $|f| > m$ everywhere. Let $\epsilon > 0$. Since f is AC, $\exists \delta > 0$, such that $\sum_{i=1}^n |f(x_i') - f(x_i)| < \epsilon * m^2$.

Consider $\sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{1}{f(x_i')} - \frac{1}{f(x_i)} \right| = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{f(x_i) - f(x_i')}{f(x_i') * f(x_i)} \right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{f(x_i) - f(x_i')}{m^2} \right| < \frac{\epsilon * m^2}{m^2} = \epsilon$.

Thus $g = \frac{1}{f}$ is AC. QED.