WALSH SERIES AND ADJUSTMENT OF FUNCTIONS ON SMALL SETS

BY

J. J. PRICE

1. Introduction

D. E. Menshov proved that a measurable function finite almost everywhere on $[0, 2\pi]$ can be changed on a set of measure less than ε to a function whose Fourier series converges uniformly ([4]; see also [1, Chapter VI]). Recently, B. D. Kotlyar [3] proved an analogous theorem for Walsh series. Menshov proved also that for continuous functions the set where the adjustment is made can be chosen to depend only on ε and the modulus of continuity.

In this paper, we present a different proof of Kotlyar's theorem that contains also an analogue of Menshov's theorem on continuous functions. Actually, our result contains somewhat more. Let $\{p_r\}$ and $\{q_r\}$ be increasing sequences of positive integers such that

(1)
$$p_1 < q_1 < p_2 < q_2 < \cdots$$
, $\{q_{\nu}/p_{\nu}\}$ is unbounded.

Define

(2)
$$W = \bigcup_{\nu=1}^{\infty} [\psi_k : p_\nu \leq k < q_\nu]$$

where ψ_k is the k-th Walsh function. We shall prove that a measurable function can be changed on a small set to a function whose Walsh-Fourier series converges uniformly and contains only Walsh functions in W.

THEOREM. Let f be measurable and finite almost everywhere on [0, 1] and let a positive ε be given. Then there exists a function g such that

(a) g(x) = f(x) except on a set E of measure less than ε ,

(b) the Walsh-Fourier series of g contains only Walsh functions in the set W defined by (1) and (2) and converges uniformly.

Furthermore, suppose $\rho(\delta)$ is a nondecreasing function defined for $\delta > 0$ with

$$\lim_{\delta\to 0}\rho(\delta)=0.$$

Then there is a set E depending only on ε and ρ such that (a) and (b) hold for every continuous function f whose modulus of continuity $\omega(\delta)$ satisfies

$$\omega(\delta) \leq \rho(\delta).$$

This theorem contains a previous result of the author [5].

COROLLARY. The system of Walsh functions W defined by (1) and (2) is total in measure on [0, 1].

Received May 5, 1967.