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A BURENKOV'S TYPE RESULT FOR FUNCTIONS OF BOUNDED κ -VARIATION

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we give a sufficient condition for a linear composition operator to map the space of functions of bounded *Korembaum* variation, $\kappa BV[a, b]$, into itself. We present several results concerning quasi monotonic properties of the functionals of κ -variation and prove a Burenkov's type result for functions belonging to $\kappa BV[a, b]$.

1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

The class of all real valued functions (defined on an closed real interval) of bounded variation was introduced by C. Jordan in 1881 ([9]), who established the relation between these and the class of all monotone functions; namely,

A function f is of bounded variation if and only if it is the difference of two monotone functions.

This fact has many important implications. For instance, every function of bounded variation, may only have jump discontinuities; on the other hand, a function of bounded variation is differentiable almost everywhere (a celebrated Theorem of H. Lebesgue).

Historically one of the most important implications of Jordan's characterization is that it permits to extend Dirichlet's criterium (for the convergence of the Fourier series of piecewise monotone functions) to the class of functions of bounded variation.

In order to recall the basic definitions, we first introduce some notations.

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Given two sets A and B , the notation A^B stands for the set of all functions from B to A . Given a closed interval $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$ and a function $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[a, b]}$, if $I = [c, d] \subset [a, b]$, we will use the following notations:

$$\begin{aligned} |I| &:= d - c \\ f[I] &:= f(d) - f(c). \\ |f[I]| &:= |f(d) - f(c)|. \end{aligned}$$

The notation $\pi[a, b]$ will be used for the set of all partitions $\xi = \{t_i\}_{i=0}^n$ of $[a, b]$: i.e., n is some positive integer and $a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = b$. When it is clear from the context that we refer to a given partition ξ we will also write $\xi = \{I_j\}_1^n$, where $I_j = I_j(\xi) := [t_{j-1}, t_j]$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots, n$).

A function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be of bounded variation, on $[a, b]$, if there is a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n |f[I_j]| \leq M \tag{1.1}$$

for all $\xi = \{I_j\}_1^n \in \pi[a, b]$.

The *total variation* of f on $[a, b]$, is denoted as $V(f; [a, b])$, or simply by $V(f)$, and it is the supremum of the sums (1.1) over $\pi[a, b]$.

We will call a sum such as (1.1) a *Jordan's sum* and denote it as $\Sigma(f; \xi)$.

The unvarying interest generated by the classical notion of function of bounded variation has led to some generalizations of the concept, mainly, intended to the search of bigger classes of functions whose elements have pointwise convergent Fourier series, see e.g., [5, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18]. As in the classical case, these generalizations have also found many applications in the study of certain (partial) differential and integral equations (see e.g., [3]) and also in the theory of linear and nonlinear composition operators; namely, to find necessary and sufficient conditions guaranteeing that such an operator maps a given space of functions of generalized bounded variation (or a subset of it) into itself. Other conditions, called *acting conditions* involve: boundedness, continuity, compactness (in the linear case), to satisfy a local or global Lipschitz condition, etc., see e.g., [1, 6, 8, 10].

In 1975, B. Korenblum [12], introduced the notion of κ -variation of a function, while studying the problem of representation of harmonic functions defined on the unit disk of the complex plane by means of generalized Poisson integrals involving, so-called, premeasures defined on sub-intervals of $[0, 2\pi]$. This notion differs from the classical notion, and other known *variations*, in that Korenblum's concept maximizes ratios between Jordan's sums and the so-called κ -entropies generated by a distortion function¹ κ , which measures lengths in the domain of the functions. A weak point of this notion, as we will show later, is that the associated κ -variation functionals need not be monotone with respect to enlargements of partitions or additive on union of intervals. An advantage, on the other hand, is that a function of bounded κ -variation can be decomposed into the difference of two, so called, κ -decreasing functions (see [7]).

¹Actually the letter κ stands for Carleson, according to Korenblum, [12].

Definition 1.1. A function $\kappa : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$, is called a *distortion function* if it is continuous, nondecreasing, concave on $[0, 1]$ and such that $\kappa(0) = 0$, $\kappa(1) = 1$, and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\kappa(x)}{x} = +\infty.$$

That is, κ have infinite slope at the origin.

Note that any distortion function κ satisfies

$$\frac{\kappa(x+y) - \kappa(y)}{(x+y) - y} \leq \frac{\kappa(x) - \kappa(0)}{x - 0} \quad (x, y, x+y \in [0, 1])$$

and therefore it is subadditive; that is, if $x, y \in [0, 1]$ are such that $x+y \in [0, 1]$ then

$$\kappa(x+y) \leq \kappa(x) + \kappa(y);$$

in particular, if $x \in [0, 1]$ and $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mu \in [0, +\infty)$ are such that $nx \in [0, 1]$, $\mu x \in [0, 1]$ then

$$\frac{1}{m}\kappa(x) \leq \kappa\left(\frac{x}{m}\right), \quad \kappa(nx) \leq n\kappa(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa(\mu x) \leq [[\mu + 1]]\kappa(x), \quad (1.2)$$

where $[[a]]$ denotes the *integer part* of a positive real number a ; that is,

$$[[a]] := \max\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \leq a\}.$$

The set of all distortion functions will be denoted as \mathcal{K} .

Throughout the paper, unless explicitly stated otherwise, we will assume that κ is a distortion function and $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a closed interval.

Definition 1.2. ([13]) Let $\kappa \in \mathcal{K}$ and let $\xi = \{I_j\}_1^n \in \pi[a, b]$. The quantity

$$\kappa(\xi) := \kappa(\xi; [a, b]) = \sum_{j=1}^n \kappa\left(\frac{|I_j|}{b-a}\right)$$

is called the κ -entropy of ξ , relative to $[a, b]$.

Examples ([13]):

- $\kappa(s) := s(1 - \log s)$. The corresponding entropy is called the *Shannon entropy*.
- $\kappa(s) := s^\alpha$ ($0 < \alpha < 1$). The corresponding entropy is called the *Lipschitz entropy*.
- $\kappa(s) := (1 - \frac{1}{2} \log s)^{-1}$. The corresponding entropy is called the *Dini entropy*.

Notice that for any $\xi = \{t_i\}_{i=0}^n \in \pi[a, b]$ we have

$$1 = \kappa(1) = \kappa\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{t_i - t_{i-1}}{b-a}\right) \leq \kappa(\xi). \quad (1.3)$$

Let $\kappa \in \mathcal{K}$. A function $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[a, b]}$ is said to be of *bounded κ -variation* if there is a positive constant C such that, for every partition ξ of $[a, b]$,

$$\Sigma(f; \xi) \leq C \kappa(\xi; [a, b]). \quad (1.4)$$

The total κ -variation of f in $[a, b]$ is defined as

$$\kappa V(f) = \kappa V(f, [a, b]) := \inf\{C : \Sigma(f; \xi) \leq C \kappa(\xi; [a, b]) : \xi \in \pi[a, b]\}.$$

The set of all functions of bounded κ -variation on $[a, b]$ will be denoted by $\kappa BV[a, b]$. It is readily seen that this is a linear space. Equipped with the norm

$$\|f\|_{\kappa BV[a, b]} := |f(a)| + \kappa V(f; [a, b])$$

the space $\kappa BV[a, b]$ is a Banach space (see [2, 11]); in fact, it readily follows from the definitions that if $f, g \in \kappa BV[a, b]$ then

$$\|fg\|_{\kappa BV[a, b]} \leq \|f\|_{\infty} \|g\|_{\kappa BV[a, b]} + \|g\|_{\infty} \|f\|_{\kappa BV[a, b]}. \quad (1.5)$$

Considering the partition $\xi := \{a, s, b\}$, for fixed s , it is readily seen that every $f \in \kappa BV[a, b]$ is bounded with

$$\|f\|_{\infty} \leq 2\|f\|_{\kappa BV}. \quad (1.6)$$

On the other hand, from (1.3) it is quite easy to show that every function of bounded (Jordan) variation on $[a, b]$ is in $\kappa BV[a, b]$, and

$$\kappa V(f) \leq V(f).$$

Also, from (1.3) and the fact that the trivial partition $\{a, b\}$ is optimum for (1.4), it follows that if f is a monotone function on $[a, b]$ then

$$\kappa V(f) = V(f) = |f(b) - f(a)|. \quad (1.7)$$

In his seminal 1975 paper, [12, Theorem 4.2], B. Korenblum proves a canonical decomposition theorem for the functions in the space $\kappa BV[a, b]$, when κ is the Shannon distortion. Later, Cyphert and Kelingos ([7]) generalized that result by showing, for any $\kappa \in \mathcal{K}$, that every function in $\kappa BV[a, b]$ can be expressed as the difference of two κ -decreasing functions.

A function $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[a, b]}$ is said to be κ -decreasing if there is a constant $A \geq 0$ such that for every interval $I = [x, y] \subset [a, b]$,

$$f(y) - f(x) \leq Ak \left(\frac{y - x}{b - a} \right) \quad (1.8)$$

From this decomposition theorem it follows that every function $f \in \kappa BV[a, b]$ is regulated; that is, it has one sided limits $f(t+)$ y $f(t-)$ at every point $t \in (a, b)$ and the limits $f(a+)$ and $f(b-)$ exist. Thus, we have the following chain of inclusions

$$BV[a, b] \subseteq \kappa BV[a, b] \subseteq \mathfrak{R}[a, b] \quad (1.9)$$

where $\mathfrak{R}[a, b]$ denote the set of all regulated functions on $[a, b]$.

That the inclusions in (1.9) are strict can be seen, for instance, in [1, 7].

2. QUASI-MONOTONIC PROPERTIES OF THE FUNCTIONALS $\kappa V(f; \cdot)$

As mentioned above, a weak point of the notion of (bounded) κ -variation, is that the κ -variation functional associated to it, need not be monotone with respect to enlargements of partitions or additive on union of intervals.

In [7], the following example was given to show that the functional $\kappa V(f; x) := \kappa V(f; [0, x])$, $x \in (0, 1]$, need not be increasing with x .

For the sake of notational simplicity, we will also denote by $\kappa V(f; \cdot)$, the *partitions functional*

$$\kappa V(f; \xi) = \kappa V(f; \xi, [a, b]) := \frac{\Sigma(f; \xi)}{\kappa(\xi; [a, b])},$$

where $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[a, b]}$ and $\xi = \{I_j\}_1^n \in \pi[a, b]$.

Fix $0 < a < 1$ and $0 \leq b \leq 1$. Let f be the continuous function which is linear on the intervals $[0, a]$ and $[a, 1]$ and such that $f(0) = 0$, $f(a) = 1$ and $f(1) = b$. Then, from the piecewise linearity of f and the subadditivity of κ it follows that

$$\kappa V(f) = \max \left\{ b, \frac{2 - b}{\kappa(a) + \kappa(1 - a)} \right\}.$$

Choose $\frac{2}{\kappa(a) + \kappa(1 - a)} < b < 1$. Let $\xi := \{0, 1\}$ and let $\eta := \{0, a, 1\}$. Then

$$\kappa V(f; \xi) = b > \frac{2 - b}{\kappa(a) + \kappa(1 - a)} = \kappa V(f; \eta);$$

therefore, $\kappa V(f; \cdot)$ need not be increasing with respect to partition enlargements.

On the other hand, from (1.7) it follows that $\kappa V(f; [0, a]) = 1$ and $V(f; [a, 1]) = 1 - b$. Hence

$$\kappa V(f; [0, a]) + V(f; [a, 1]) = 2 - b > b = V(f; [0, 1]).$$

This shows (for b as above) that $\kappa V(f; \cdot)$ need not be additive on union of intervals.

In the rest of this section we examine what we may call *quasi-monotonic* properties of the functionals $\kappa V(f; \cdot)$. The designation “quasi-monotonic” refers to the fact that given two real valued functionals A, B defined on a subspace $X \subset \mathbb{R}^{[a, b]}$, there is a positive number M such that $A(f) \leq M B(f)$, for all $f \in X$.

Theorem 2.1. *Suppose $f \in \kappa BV[0, 1]$. Then, for all $[a, b] \subseteq [0, 1]$, $f|_{[a, b]} \in \kappa BV([a, b])$ and*

$$\kappa V(f|_{[a, b]}; [a, b]) \leq \left(\frac{\kappa(a) + \kappa(1 - b)}{\kappa(b - a)} + 1 \right) \kappa V(f; [0, 1]).$$

Proof. Let $\xi = \{t_i\}_0^n = \{I_i\}_1^n \in \pi[a, b]$ and set $\xi' = \xi \cup \{0\} \cup \{1\}$.

First of all, notice that $\kappa(\frac{x-y}{b-a}) \geq \kappa(x - y)$ (since $b - a < 1$, for all $x, y \in [a, b]$ with $x > y$). Thus

$$\kappa V(f|_{[a, b]}; \xi) = \frac{\Sigma(f; \xi)}{\kappa(\xi)} \leq \frac{\Sigma(f; \xi)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|)}. \quad (2.1)$$

Notice also that $\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|) \geq \kappa(\sum_{i=1}^n |I_i|) = \kappa(b-a)$. Let $\lambda := \frac{\kappa(a) + \kappa(1-b)}{\kappa(b-a)}$. Then (2.1) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa V(f|_{[a,b]}; \xi) &\leq \frac{(\lambda+1) \Sigma(f; \xi)}{(\lambda+1) \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|)} \\ &= \frac{(\lambda+1) \Sigma(f; \xi)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|)} \\ &\leq \frac{(\lambda+1) \Sigma(f; \xi)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|) + \kappa(a) + \kappa(1-b)} \\ &\leq \frac{(\lambda+1)(\Sigma(f; \xi) + |f(a) - f(0)| + |f(1) - f(b)|)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa(|I_i|) + \kappa(a) + \kappa(1-b)} \\ &= (\lambda+1) \kappa V(f; \xi'). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\kappa V(f|_{[a,b]}; [a,b]) \leq \left(\frac{\kappa(a) + \kappa(1-b)}{\kappa(b-a)} + 1 \right) \kappa V(f, [0,1]).$$

□

Corollary 2.2. *Let $f \in \kappa BV[0,1]$ and let $\xi = \{x_i\}_0^n \in \pi[a,b]$, where $[a,b] \subset [0,1]$. For all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, put $L_i := [x_{i-1}, x_i]$. Then*

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa V(f|_{L_i}, L_i) \leq M_\kappa(\xi) \kappa V(f, [0,1]),$$

where $M_\kappa(\xi) = n + \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\kappa(x_{i-1}) + \kappa(1-x_i)}{\kappa(|L_i|)} \right)$.

Theorem 2.3. *Let $f \in \kappa BV[0,1]$ and let $\xi = \{x_i\}_0^n \in \pi[0,1]$. For all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, put $L_i := [x_{i-1}, x_i]$. Then*

$$\kappa V(f, [0,1]) \leq N_\kappa(\xi) \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa V(f|_{L_i}, L_i),$$

where $N_\kappa(\xi) = 3 \max_i \{ [((x_i - x_{i-1})^{-1} + 1)] \}$.

Proof. Let $\eta = \{y_j\}_0^m \in \pi[0,1]$.

For each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, put $\eta_i := \eta \cap L_i = \{y_j^i\}_0^{n_i}$.

It is clear that η_i need not be a partition of L_i , since, except 0 and 1, some of the points x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} might not belong to η . To get partitions in each L_i , set

$$\eta'_i := \eta_i \cup \{x_{i-1}, x_i\} = \{z_j^i\}_0^{n'_i}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Notice that if $\eta_i = \emptyset$, then

$$\kappa V(f; \eta'_i, L_i) := |f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})|. \quad (2.2)$$

Clearly $\eta' := \bigcup_{i=1}^n \eta'_i \in \pi[a, b]$, and (since Jordan's sums are increasing with respect to refinements of partitions)

$$\kappa V(f; \eta, [0, 1]) = \frac{\Sigma(f; \eta)}{\kappa(\eta)} \leq \frac{\Sigma(f; \eta')}{\kappa(\eta)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\Sigma(f|_{L_i}; \eta'_i)}{\kappa(\eta)} \quad (2.3)$$

Now suppose that for some $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ $\eta_i \neq \emptyset$ and that, in the worst case scenario, neither x_{i-1} nor x_i are in η_i . Then, if $\lambda_i := \kappa(x_i - y_{n_i}^i) + \kappa(y_0^i - x_{i-1})$, the fact that $\kappa(\eta)$ satisfies

$$\kappa(\eta) \geq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa(\eta) \geq \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \kappa(y_j^i - y_{j-1}^i)$$

implies

$$3\kappa(\eta) \geq (\lambda_i + 1)\kappa(\eta) = \lambda_i\kappa(\eta) + \kappa(\eta) \geq \lambda_i + \kappa(\eta) \geq \sum_{j=1}^{n'_i} \kappa(z_j^i - z_{j-1}^i). \quad (2.4)$$

And, from (1.2), we obtain

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n'_i} \kappa(z_j^i - z_{j-1}^i) \geq \sum_{j=1}^{n'_i} [(((x_i - x_{i-1})^{-1} + 1))]^{-1} \kappa\left(\frac{z_j^i - z_{j-1}^i}{x_i - x_{i-1}}\right) \geq m \kappa(\eta'_i, L_i), \quad (2.5)$$

where $m := \min\{[(((x_i - x_{i-1})^{-1} + 1))]^{-1} : i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Taking into account the fact that that $\frac{3}{m} \geq 1$, (2.2), (2.3), (2.4) and (2.5), we get

$$\kappa V(f; \eta, [0, 1]) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{3}{m} \frac{\Sigma(f|_{L_i}; \eta'_i)}{\kappa(\eta'_i, L_i)} \leq \frac{3}{m} \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa V(f|_{L_i}; L_i), \quad (2.6)$$

which completes the proof. \square

The same proof of Theorem 2.3 may be used to prove the following result.

Corollary 2.4. *Let $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[0,1]}$ and suppose that f is of bounded κ -variation on every (closed) interval determined by a fixed partition $\xi = \{L_i\}$. Then $f \in \kappa VB[0, 1]$ and $\kappa V(f, [0, 1]) \leq N \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa V(f|_{L_i}; L_i)$, where N is a constant depending only on ξ .*

Proof. Indeed, in this case the result follows from (2.6) and the facts that the partition η is arbitrary and f is of bounded κ -variation on each L_i . \square

Clearly, we can easily adapt the proofs of Theorems 2.1 and 2.3 to obtain versions of them for arbitrary closed intervals.

Corollary 2.5. *Let $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[a,b]}$ and suppose that $[a, b]$ can be decomposed into finitely many closed intervals on which f is monotone. Then $f \in \kappa VB[a, b]$.*

Proof. It is immediate from Corollary 2.4 and (1.9). \square

3. COMPOSING FUNCTIONS OF BOUNDED κ -VARIATION

Let \mathbb{X} be a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{[a,b]}$. Given a function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the *autonomous* (non-linear) *superposition operator* $S_g : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{[a,b]}$, generated by g , is defined as

$$S_g(f)(t) := (g \circ f)(t) = g(f(t)) \quad (t \in [a, b]).$$

In [1] J. Appel and N. Merentes, show that, in general, the composition of two functions of bounded κ -variation need not be of bounded κ -variation. Moreover, they show that a superposition operator, S_h , maps the space $\kappa VB[a, b]$ into itself if and only if the function h satisfies a local Lipschitz condition.

A *linear composition operator*, on the other hand, is defined as follows:

Suppose that D and E are given sets, X is a linear subspace of \mathbb{R}^E and f is a map from D to E , the composition operator $C_f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$ is defined by

$$C_f(g) := g \circ f.$$

Despite the obvious differences in acting conditions of these operators, they share some attributes and it often happens (see e.g, [4, 8]) that certain properties of one them can be deduced from the properties of the other.

In our next result we give a sufficient condition for an operator C_f to map $\kappa BV[a, b]$ into $\kappa BV[c, d]$. Recall that a function $f : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be Lipschitz continuous iff

$$L(f) := \sup \left\{ \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} : x, y \in [c, d], x \neq y \right\} < \infty.$$

Theorem 3.1. *Suppose that $f : [c, d] \rightarrow [a, b]$ is an injective Lipschitz continuous function. Then C_f maps $\kappa BV[a, b]$ into $\kappa BV[c, d]$ and is bounded (continuous).*

Proof. It follows from the hypothesis that f is continuous and injective, hence it is strictly monotonic on $[c, d]$. Assume, that f is increasing and that $g \in \kappa BV[a, b]$.

Let $\xi = \{t_i\}_0^n = \{I_i\}_1^n \in \pi[c, d]$. Since f is Lipschitz, there is a real number $L \geq 0$ such that $f(y) - f(x) \leq L(y - x)$ for all $x, y \in [c, d]$, such that $x < y$. Hence, for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|f[I_i]|}{b - a} &\leq \frac{L(d - c)}{(b - a)(d - c)} |I_i| \\ &\leq ([L(d - c)(b - a)^{-1}] + 1) \frac{|I_i|}{(d - c)} \\ &= N \left(\frac{|I_i|}{d - c} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $N := [L(d - c)(b - a)^{-1}] + 1$.

It follows from the monotonicity and subadditivity of κ that

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa \left(\frac{|I_i|}{(d - c)} \right) &\geq \kappa \left(\frac{1}{N} \frac{f[I_i]}{b - a} \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{N} \kappa \left(\frac{f[I_i]}{b - a} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\kappa V(g \circ f, \xi) \leq N \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |(g(f(t_i)) - g(f(t_{i-1})))|}{\sum_{i=1}^n \kappa \left(\frac{f(t_i) - f(t_{i-1})}{b-a} \right)}.$$

By using a “ $\lambda + 1$ -argument” as in the proofs of Theorems 2.1 and 2.3, with

$$\lambda := \kappa \left(\frac{f(c) - a}{b-a} \right) + \kappa \left(\frac{b - f(d)}{b-a} \right),$$

we obtain

$$\kappa V(g \circ f, \xi) \leq (\lambda + 1)N \kappa V(g, \eta) \leq (\lambda + 1)N \kappa V(g; [a, b])$$

where $\eta = \{f(t_i)\}_{i=0}^n \cup \{a, b\}$.

Therefore,

$$\kappa V(g \circ f; [c, d]) \leq (\lambda + 1)N \kappa V(g; [a, b]). \quad (3.1)$$

From (3.1) it follows that C_f maps $\kappa BV[a, b]$ into $\kappa BV[c, d]$ and that there is a real number $M \geq 0$ such that

$$\|C_f(g)\| \leq M\|g\|$$

for all $g \in \kappa BV[a, b]$; that is, C_f is bounded.

The case in which f decreasing is treated similarly. \square

Notice that if f is as in the statement of Theorem 3.1 then it is a κ -decreasing function (cf. (1.8)).

As mentioned earlier, the property of functions in $\mathbb{R}^{[a,b]}$ of being of bounded κ -variation is not closed under compositions. However, the fact that $\kappa BV[a, b]$ is an algebra, suggest us to look for variations of the following procedure:

Suppose that D and E are given sets, X is a linear subspace of \mathbb{R}^E and f is a map from D to E . By enhancing the intrinsic properties (smoothness) of the inner function f , we expect that the acting properties of the linear composition operator C_f will actually improve, and this improvement should be transferred to a product of the form $C_f(g) \cdot h$, where $g, h \in X$. A common instance, when the spaces under consideration are algebras, is to ask that the function f has a derivative, $f^{(k)}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$, which is also in the algebra, and consider the product $(g \circ f)f^{(k)}$.

The following result, due to V. I. Burenkov for the case of the algebra $BV[a, b]$, illustrated this fact. For the proof the reader is referred to [4, Theorem 5] (see also [8]).

Theorem 3.2 (Burenkov). *Suppose that f has a derivative $f^{(k)}$ of order k everywhere on $[a, b]$. If $f^{(k)} \in BV[a, b]$ and if $g \in BV[c, d]$, $c := \min_{[a,b]} f$, $d := \max_{[a,b]} f$, then the function $(g \circ f)f^{(k)}$ is also of bounded variation on $[a, b]$; moreover, there is number $M = M(k) \geq 0$ such that*

$$\|(g \circ f)f^{(k)}\|_{BV[a,b]} \leq M\|g\|_{BV[c,d]} \|f^{(k)}\|_{BV[a,b]}.$$

In order to get a version of Burenkov's result for functions of κ -bounded variation, we will need to impose additional conditions to the inner function of a composition $g \circ f$.

Recall that the support of a real valued function is the set of points where the function is not zero. We will say that a function $f \in \mathbb{R}^{[a,b]}$ has *cofinite* support if the set $\{x \in [a, b] : f(x) = 0\}$ is finite.

By $\kappa BV_{CS}[a, b]$ we will designate the set of all functions in $\kappa BV[a, b]$ with *cofinite support*. Notice that this is a large subset (actually a cone) of $\kappa BV[a, b]$ since it contains all polynomials.

Theorem 3.3. *Suppose that f has a derivative $f^{(k)}$ of order k everywhere on $[a, b]$. If $f^{(k)} \in \kappa BV_{CS}[a, b]$ and if $g \in \kappa BV[c, d]$, $c := \min_{[a,b]} f$, $d := \max_{[a,b]} f$, then the function $(g \circ f) f^{(k)}$ is of bounded κ -variation on $[a, b]$; moreover, there is a number $M = M(k) \geq 0$ such that*

$$\|(g \circ f) f^{(k)}\|_{\kappa BV[a,b]} \leq M \|g\|_{\kappa BV[c,d]} \|f^{(k)}\|_{\kappa BV[a,b]}. \quad (3.2)$$

Proof. The hypothesis on $f^{(k)}$ imply that we can express the set $S = \text{supp}(f^{(k)})$ as a finite union of intervals, say $S = \cup_{i=1}^n (a_i, b_i)$, where $a_i < b_i$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Now, since $f^{(k)} \neq 0$ on S , given $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ there is a nonnegative integer $m_i \leq k$ such that $[a_i, b_i]$ can be decomposed into m_i intervals, $[a_i^1, b_i^1]$, $[a_i^2, b_i^2]$, \dots , $[a_i^{m_i}, b_i^{m_i}]$, on which f is strictly monotone (this follows from finitely many successive applications of Rolle's Theorem). Since f' is bounded, it is monotone and Lipschitz continuous on each $[a_i^j, b_i^j]$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, m_i$. It follows from Theorem 3.1 that for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, m_i$

$$g \circ f|_{[a_i^j, b_i^j]} \in \kappa BV[a, b]$$

and that there are constants N_i such that

$$\|g \circ f\|_{\kappa BV([a_i^j, b_i^j])} \leq N_i \|g\|_{\kappa BV(f([a_i^j, b_i^j]))}.$$

From this fact, we conclude, after successive applications of Corollary 2.4 and Corollary 2.2 that $g \circ f \in \kappa BV[a, b]$ and

$$\|g \circ f\|_{\kappa BV([a,b])} \leq M \|g\|_{\kappa BV[c,d]}$$

for some constant M .

The estimate (3.2) then follows from (1.6) and (1.5). \square

By using an argument similar to the one given in the proof of Theorem 3.3 we obtain the following result. We omit the details of the proof.

Theorem 3.4. *Suppose that $P : [c, d] \rightarrow [a, b]$ is a polynomial. Then C_p maps $\kappa BV[a, b]$ into $\kappa BV[c, d]$ and is bounded.*

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