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THOMSON'S VARIATIONAL MEASURE AND SOME CLASSICAL THEOREMS

Abstract

Using the conditions increasing* and decreasing*, and Thomson's variational measure, we give an easy proof of the Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem [12, p. 230]. In Theorem 5.1 we extend (the function is not assumed to be continuous) Thomson's Theorems 44.1 and 44.2 of [13], that are closely related to the Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem. From this extension we obtain another classical result: the Denjoy-Young-Saks Theorem [5]. As consequences of the Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem we obtain two well-known results due to de la Vallée Poussin [12, p. 125, 127]. Then we extend these results (the set E used there is not only Borel, but also Lebesgue measurable) and give in Theorem 8.1 a de la Vallée Poussin type theorem for VB^*G functions, that is in fact an extension of a result of Thomson [13, Theorem 46.3]. Finally, we give characterizations for Lebesgue measurable functions that are $VB^*G \cap (N)$, and for measurable functions that are $VB^*G \cap N^{+\infty}$ on a Lebesgue measurable set.

1 Introduction

Using the conditions increasing* and decreasing*, and Thomson's variational measure, we give (see Corollary 5.1, (i), (iii)) an easy proof of the following theorem of Saks:

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Theorem A. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $E \subset [a, b]$. If F is VB^*G on E , then F is derivable a.e. on this set; and further if $N = \{x \in E : F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\}$, then $m(F(N)) = \Lambda(B(F; N)) = 0$.*

Since for continuous functions, this result has been proved independently by Denjoy and Lusin [12, p. 230], we call it the Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem. In Theorem 5.1 (see also Corollary 5.1 and Remark 5.2) we extend (the function is not assumed to be continuous) Thomson's Theorems 44.1 and 44.2 of [13], that are closely related to Theorem A. From Theorem 5.1 we obtain another classical result: the Denjoy-Young-Saks Theorem [5].

Using Theorem A we obtain the following results of de la Vallée Poussin.

Theorem B. ([12, p. 125]) *For a function $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of bounded variation we have $|F^*(N)| = V_F^*(N) = m^*(N) = 0$ and $\Lambda(B(F; N)) = 0$, where V_F is the total variation of F and $N = \{x \in [a, b] : F \text{ is continuous at } x, F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\}$.*

Note that in the book of Saks [12], the proof of the Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem is based on Theorem B.

Theorem C. ([12, p. 127]) *If $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F \in VB$. Let $E_{+\infty} = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = +\infty\}$, $E_{-\infty} = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = -\infty\}$, and let V_F be the total variation of F .*

- (i) *If X is a Borel measurable subset of $[a, b]$ and if F is continuous at each point of X , then*

$$F^*(X) = F^*(X \cap E_{+\infty}) + F^*(X \cap E_{-\infty}) + \int_X F'(x) dt,$$

and

$$V_F^*(X) = F^*(X \cap E_{+\infty}) + |F^*(X \cap E_{-\infty})| + \int_X |F'(x)| dx.$$

- (ii) *Let $E = \{x \in [a, b] : F \text{ is continuous at } x, F' \text{ and } V_F' \text{ exist (finite or infinite), } V_F'(x) = |F'(x)|\}$. Then $V_F^*([a, b] \setminus E) = m^*([a, b] \setminus E) = 0$.*

In fact Theorem 7.2, (vii), (viii), (ix) is an extension of Theorem C (because in (vii) and (viii) the set E is not only Borel but also Lebesgue measurable). Note also that in order to prove Theorem C, Saks uses the Lebesgue Decomposition Theorem [12, p. 119], whereas our proof does not use this decomposition; it is instead essentially based on Theorem 8.2 of [4] (see Lemma 3.2).

In Theorem 8.1 we give a de la Vallée Poussin type theorem for VB^*G function, that is in fact an extension of a result of Thomson [13, Theorem 46.3].

Finally, as consequences of the previous results, we give characterizations: for Lebesgue measurable functions that are $VB^*G \cap (N)$, and for measurable functions that are $VB^*G \cap N^{+\infty}$ on a Lebesgue measurable set.

2 Preliminaries

Let $m^*(X)$ denote the outer measure of the set X and $m(E)$ the Lebesgue measure of E , whenever $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is Lebesgue measurable. For the definitions of VB , VB^* , VB^*G and Lusin's condition (N) , see [12]. We denote by $\mathcal{O}(F; [a, b])$ the oscillation of the function F on the closed interval $[a, b]$. Let $\text{int}(E)$ denote the interior of the set E .

Definition 2.1. Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subseteq [a, b]$. We denote by $V^*(F; E) = \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n \mathcal{O}(F; [a_k, b_k]) : \{[a_k, b_k]\}_{k=1}^n \text{ is a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals with } a_k, b_k \in E \right\}$.

Definition 2.2. [12, p 64.] Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be an increasing function. For each set $E \subset \mathbb{R}$, let

$$F^*(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (F(b_i) - F(a_i)) : E \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} (a_i, b_i) \right\}.$$

Lemma 2.1. [12] *Let F^* be defined as in Definition 2.2, and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$.*

- (i) *F^* is a metric outer measure (or with the notations of [12, p. 64], F^* is an outer measure in the sense of Caratheodory).*
- (ii) *All Borel measurable sets of \mathbb{R} are F^* -measurable; i.e.,*

$$F^*(X) = F^*(X \cap B) + F^*(X \setminus B)$$

whenever B is a Borel set and $X \subset \mathbb{R}$.

- (iii) *For every $\epsilon > 0$, there is an open set G that contains E such that $F^*(G) \leq F^*(E) + \epsilon$.*
- (iv) *$F^*(E) = \inf \{ F^*(G) : G \text{ is an open set that contains } E \}$.*
- (v) *If F is continuous at each point of E , then $F^*(E) = m^*(F(E))$.*
- (vi) *$F^*(A) = F(b-) - F(a+)$ for $A = (a, b)$, and $F^*(A) = F(b+) - F(a-)$ for $A = [a, b]$.*

Proof. (i) See [12, p. 64].

(ii) See Theorem 7.4 of [12, p. 52].

(iii) See Theorem 6.5, (i) of [12, p. 68].

(iv) See (iii).

(v) See [12, p. 100].

(vi) This is evident. \square

Definition 2.3. Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. For $x, y \in [a, b]$, $x < y$, let

$$\Delta F^+([x, y]) = \max\{F(y) - F(x), 0\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\Delta F^-([x, y]) = \max\{F(x) - F(y), 0\}.$$

Clearly

$$|F(y) - F(x)| = \Delta F^+([x, y]) + \Delta F^-([x, y]).$$

Definition 2.4. [8, p. 51–52].

Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. For each $x \in (a, b]$ let

$$V(F; [a, x]) = \sup\{\sum_{i=1}^n |F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})| : a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = x\};$$

$$\bar{V}(F; [a, x]) = \sup\{\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta F^+([x_{i-1}, x_i]) : a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = x\};$$

$$\underline{V}(F; [a, x]) = \sup\{\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta F^-([x_{i-1}, x_i]) : a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = x\}.$$

Consider $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $F(x) = F(a)$ for $x < a$ and $F(x) = F(b)$ for $x > b$.

Let's put

$$V_F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad V_F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in (-\infty, a] \\ V(F; [a, x]) & \text{if } x \in (a, b] \\ V(F; [a, b]) & \text{if } x \in (b, +\infty) \end{cases}$$

$$\bar{V}_F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \bar{V}_F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in (-\infty, a] \\ \bar{V}(F; [a, x]) & \text{if } x \in (a, b] \\ \bar{V}(F; [a, b]) & \text{if } x \in (b, +\infty) \end{cases}$$

$$\underline{V}_F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \underline{V}_F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in (-\infty, a] \\ \underline{V}(F; [a, x]) & \text{if } x \in (a, b] \\ \underline{V}(F; [a, b]) & \text{if } x \in (b, +\infty) \end{cases}$$

Clearly $\underline{V}_F = \bar{V}_{-F}$.

Remark 2.1. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{V}(F; [a, x]) &= \overline{W}(F; [a, x]) = W_1([a, x]), \\ \underline{V}(F; [a, x]) &= -\underline{W}(F; [a, x]) = -W_2([a, x]) \text{ and} \\ V(F; [a, x]) &= W(F; [a, x]) = W([a, x]) \end{aligned}$$

where the “W” variants are those defined in [12, p 61].

Theorem 2.1. [8, p. 52] *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F \in VB$. Then for $x \in [a, b]$ we have*

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) - F(a) &= \overline{V}(F; [a, x]) - \underline{V}(F; [a, x]) \text{ and} \\ V(F; [a, x]) &= \overline{V}(F; [a, x]) + \underline{V}(F; [a, x]). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if one of the three numbers $V(F; [a, x])$, $\overline{V}(F; [a, x])$, $\underline{V}(F; [a, x])$ is finite, then the other two are also finite.

Definition 2.5. [12, p. 64]. Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F \in VB$ on $[a, b]$, F is constant on $(-\infty, a]$ and on $[b, +\infty)$. For each $E \subset \mathbb{R}$, let

$$F^*(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E) - \underline{V}_F^*(E).$$

Lemma 2.2. *Let $F_1, F_2 : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be increasing functions, and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$. Then*

$$(F_1 + F_2)^*(E) = F_1^*(E) + F_2^*(E).$$

In particular, we have $V_F^(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E) + \underline{V}_F^*(E)$.*

PROOF. If $A = (a, b)$, then by Lemma 2.1, (vi) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (F_1 + F_2)^*(A) &= (F_1 + F_2)(b-) + (F_1 + F_2)(a+) = \\ &F_1(b-) - F_1(a+) + F_2(b-) - F_2(a+) = F_1^*(A) + F_2^*(A). \end{aligned}$$

Now by Lemma 2.1, (ii), if B is an open set we have

$$(F_1 + F_2)^*(B) = F_1^*(B) + F_2^*(B).$$

Let G_1 and G_2 be open sets containing E , and let $G = G_1 \cap G_2$. Then

$$(F_1 + F_2)^*(E) \leq (F_1 + F_2)^*(G) = F_1^*(G) + F_2^*(G) \leq F_1^*(G_1) + F_2^*(G_2),$$

and by Lemma 2.1, (iv), it follows that $(F_1 + F_2)^*(E) \leq F_1^*(E) + F_2^*(E)$. Let D be an open set that contains E . Then

$$F_1^*(E) + F_2^*(E) \leq F_1^*(D) + F_2^*(D) = (F_1 + F_2)^*(D).$$

Again by Lemma 2.1, (iv), we obtain that $F_1^*(E) + F_2^*(E) \leq (F_1 + F_2)^*(E)$. \square

3 Thomson's Variational Measure

Definition 3.1. Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset \mathbb{R}$, $\delta : E \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ and

$$\beta_\delta^*(E) = \left\{ (\langle x, y \rangle, x) : x \in E, y \subset (x - \delta(x), x + \delta(x)) \right\}.$$

A set $\pi = \{(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n$, with $\text{int } \langle x_i, y_i \rangle \cap \text{int } \langle x_j, y_j \rangle = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, is said to be a partition. Let

$$V_\delta^*(F; E) = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n |F(y_i) - F(x_i)| : \pi = \{(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n \right. \\ \left. \text{is a partition, } \pi \subset \beta_\delta^*(E) \right\},$$

and let $\mu_F^*(E) = \inf_\delta V_\delta^*(F; E)$. Note that μ_F^* is in fact Thomson's variational measure $\mathcal{S}_o\text{-}\mu_F$ defined in [13].

Lemma 3.1. Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$. With the notations of Definition 3.1 we have:

- (i) μ_F^* is a metric outer measure.
- (ii) All Borel measurable sets of \mathbb{R} are μ_F^* -measurable; i.e.

$$\mu_F^*(X) = \mu_F^*(X \cap B) + \mu_F^*(X \setminus B)$$

whenever B is a Borel set and $X \subset \mathbb{R}$.

- (iii) If F is increasing on \mathbb{R} and F is continuous at each point of E , then $\mu_F^*(E) = m^*(F(E))$.
- (iv) For each $x \in E$ we have

$$\mu_F^*(\{x\}) = \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0^+} |F(x+t) - F(x)| + \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0^-} |F(x+t) - F(x)|.$$

So, if F is increasing in a neighborhood of x , then

$$\mu_F^*(\{x\}) = F(x+) - F(x-).$$

- (v) If F is VB on $[a, b]$ and constant on each of the intervals $(-\infty, a]$ and $[b, +\infty)$, then $\mu_F^*(E) = \mu_{V_F}^*(E)$.
- (vi) $m^*(F(E)) \leq \mu_F^*(E)$.

PROOF. (i) See [13, p. 40].

(ii) See Theorem 7.4 of [12, p. 52].

(iii) This follows easily.

(iv) See [13, p. 87].

(v) See [13, p. 92].

(vi) See [13, p. 101]. □

We denote by C_F the set of continuity points of the function F .

Lemma 3.2. [4, Theorem 8.2]. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and let E be a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b]$. If $F \in VB^*G \cap (N)$ on E , then*

$$\mu_F(E \cap C_F) = (\mathcal{L}) \int_E |F'(t)| dt.$$

Lemma 3.3. [4, Corollary 6.1]. *Let $F, G : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subseteq [a, b]$. If $F, G \in VB^*$ on E and $F = G$ on E , then*

$$\mu_F^*(E \cap C_F \cap C_G) = \mu_G^*(E \cap C_F \cap C_G).$$

Lemma 3.4. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $E \subseteq [a, b]$. If F is increasing on $[a, b]$, then $\mu_F^*(E \cap C_F) = m^*(F(E \cap C_F))$.*

PROOF. This follows immediately by Lemma 3.1, (iii). □

4 The Conditions increasing*, decreasing* and VB*

Definition 4.1. ([7], [2, p. 47]) Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$, $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$. F is said to be increasing* (respectively decreasing*) on E if $F(x) \leq F(y)$ (respectively $F(x) \geq F(y)$) whenever $c \leq x < y \leq d$ and $\{x, y\} \cap E \neq \emptyset$. F is said to be increasing*G (respectively decreasing*G) on E if there is a sequence of sets $\{E_n\}$ such that $E = \cup_n E_n$ and F is increasing* (respectively decreasing*) on each E_n . Note that the condition increasing* was introduced by Krzyzewski. See also the related condition “increasing around a set” of Thomson [13, p. 122].

Remark 4.1. Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$, $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$. Note that if F is increasing* on E , then $V^*(F; E) \leq F(d) - F(c)$, so $F \in VB^*$ on E .

Lemma 4.1. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let E be a bounded set, $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$. The following assertions are equivalent.*

- (i) $F \in VB^*$ on E ;

- (ii) $\sup\{\sum_{i=1}^n |F(d_i) - F(c_i)| : \{[c_i, d_i]\}_{i=1}^n \text{ is a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals contained in } [c, d], \{c_i, d_i\} \cap E \neq \emptyset\} < +\infty;$
- (iii) $\sup\{\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta F^+([c_i, d_i]) : \{[c_i, d_i]\}_{i=1}^n \text{ is a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals contained in } [c, d], \{c_i, d_i\} \cap E \neq \emptyset\} < +\infty;$
- (iv) $\sup\{\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta F^-([c_i, d_i]) : \{[c_i, d_i]\}_{i=1}^n \text{ is a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals contained in } [c, d], \{c_i, d_i\} \cap E \neq \emptyset\} < +\infty;$
- (v) *There exist $F_1, F_2 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ increasing* on E such that $F = F_1 - F_2$.*

PROOF. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Let $\{[c_i, d_i]\}_{i=1}^n$ be a finite set of nonoverlapping closed subintervals of $[c, d]$, with $\{c_i, d_i\} \cap E \neq \emptyset$. Let $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{i : c_i \in E\}$ and $\mathcal{A}_2 = \{i : c_i \notin E\}$. Suppose that $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p\}$, $p \leq n$ and $c_{i_1} < c_{i_2} < \dots < c_{i_p}$. Then

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{A}_1} |F(d_i) - F(c_i)| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \mathcal{O}(F; [c_{i_k}, c_{i_{k+1}}]) + \mathcal{O}(F; [c_{i_p}, d]) \leq V^*(F; \bar{E}).$$

Similarly $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{A}_2} |F(d_i) - F(c_i)| < V^*(F; \bar{E})$. Thus

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |F(d_i) - F(c_i)| \leq 2V^*(F; \bar{E}) \neq +\infty$$

(see [12, p. 229]), so we have (ii).

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) and (ii) \Rightarrow (iv) are evident, because

$$|F(d_i) - F(c_i)| = \Delta F^+([c_i, d_i]) + \Delta F^-([c_i, d_i]).$$

(iii) \Rightarrow (v) Let $F_1 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F_1(c) = 0$, and for each $x \in (c, d]$, let

$$F_1(x) = \sup\left\{\sum_{k=1}^n \Delta F^+([a_k, b_k]) : \{[a_k, b_k]\}_{k=1}^n \text{ is a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals with } \{a_k, b_k\} \cap E \neq \emptyset \text{ and } [a_k, b_k] \subset [c, x]\right\}.$$

Let $F_2 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F_2(x) = F_1(x) - F(x)$. Consider $x, y \in [c, d]$, $x < y$ with $\{x, y\} \cap E \neq \emptyset$. Then

$$F_1(y) - F_1(x) \geq \Delta F^+([x, y]) \geq F(y) - F(x),$$

so $F_1(y) - F_1(x) \geq 0$ and $F_2(y) - F_2(x) \geq 0$. Therefore F_1 and F_2 are increasing* on E and $F = F_1 - F_2$ on $[c, d]$.

(iv) \Rightarrow (v) The proof is similar to that of (iii) \Rightarrow (v).

(v) \Rightarrow (i) By Remark 4.1, F_1 and F_2 are VB^* on E , so F is VB^* on E . \square

Lemma 4.2. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$, $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$. Then F is increasing* on E if and only if there exist $H_1, H_2 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ increasing on $[c, d]$ such that $H_1(x) \leq F(x) \leq H_2(x)$ for each $x \in [c, d]$, and $H_1(x) = H_2(x) = F(x)$ for each $x \in E$.*

Moreover, let $[p, q] \subset [c, d]$:

- If $p \in E$, then $H_1(q) - H_1(p) \leq F(q) - F(p)$ and $H_2(q) - H_2(p) = \sup_{y \in [p, q]} F(y) - F(p)$.
- If $q \in E$, then $H_1(q) - H_1(p) = F(q) - \inf_{y \in [p, q]} F(y)$ and $H_2(q) - H_2(p) \leq F(q) - F(p)$.
- If F is continuous and $x_o \in E$, then both, H_1 and H_2 are continuous at x_o .

PROOF. “ \Rightarrow ” Let $H_1, H_2 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$H_1(x) = \inf_{y \in [x, d]} F(y) \quad \text{and} \quad H_2(x) = \sup_{y \in [c, x]} F(y).$$

Clearly H_1, H_2 are increasing on $[c, d]$ and $H_1(x) \leq F(x) \leq H_2(x)$ for each $x \in [c, d]$ and $H_1(x) = H_2(x) = F(x)$ for each $x \in E$.

“ \Leftarrow ” Let $x, y \in [c, d]$, $x < y$. If $x \in E$, then $F(x) = H_1(x) \leq H_1(y) \leq F(y)$. If $y \in E$, then $F(y) = H_2(y) \geq H_2(x) \geq F(x)$. Thus F is increasing* on E . \square

Corollary 4.1. [5, Proposition 2]. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$, F increasing* on E . Then F is derivable a.e. on E . Moreover, if F is VB^* on E , then F is derivable a.e. on E .*

Corollary 4.2. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$. If F is increasing* on E and F is continuous at each point of E , then*

$$\mu_F^*(E) = m^*(F(E)).$$

PROOF. Let for example $H_1 : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the function defined in Lemma 4.2. Then by Lemma 3.3 and Lemma 3.4 we obtain

$$\mu_F^*(E) = \mu_{H_1}^*(E) = m^*(H_1(E)) = m^*(F(E)).$$

\square

Lemma 4.3. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $E \subset [a, b]$ such that $\underline{D}F(x) > 0$ for each $x \in E$. Then F is increasing* G on E .*

PROOF. Let

$$E_n = \left\{ x \in E : \frac{F(t) - F(x)}{t - x} > 0, \quad 0 < |t - x| \leq \frac{1}{n} \right\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Let $E_{ni} = [\frac{i}{n}, \frac{i+1}{n}] \cap E_n$, $i = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$. Then $E = \cup E_{ni}$ and F is increasing* on each E_{ni} . \square

5 The Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem and an Extension of Two Theorems of Thomson

Definition 5.1. [5, p. 415] Let $\omega, F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, ω strictly increasing on $[a, b]$. We define the lower and upper derivatives of F with respect to ω at a point $x \in [a, b]$ as by

$$\underline{D}_\omega F(x) = \liminf_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{F(y) - F(x)}{\omega(y) - \omega(x)} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{D}_\omega F(x) = \limsup_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{F(y) - F(x)}{\omega(y) - \omega(x)}.$$

F is said to be derivable with respect to ω at x if $\underline{D}_\omega F(x) = \overline{D}_\omega F(x) \in \mathbb{R}$. The derivative with respect to ω of F at x will be their common value and will be denoted by $F'_\omega(x)$.

Definition 5.2. [5, p. 416] Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. A set $E \subset [a, b]$ is said to be F -null if $E = C \cup N$, with C an at most countable set and $\mu_F^*(N) = 0$. If F is the identity function, then the set E is said to be m -null.

Lemma 5.1. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$, $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$. If F is VB^* on E , then there exists a strictly increasing function $H : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\mu_F^*(A) \leq \mu_H^*(A)$, whenever $A \subset (c, d) \cap E$. Particularly, if $A \subseteq E$ is H -null, then A is F -null.*

PROOF. By Lemma 4.1 there exist $F_1, F_2 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $F = F_1 - F_2$ and F_1, F_2 are increasing* on E . Let $G : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $G = F_1 + F_2$. Then G is increasing* on E and for $x, y \in [c, d]$ with $x < y$ and $\{x, y\} \cap E \neq \emptyset$ we have

$$|F(y) - F(x)| \leq F_1(y) - F_1(x) + F_2(y) - F_2(x) = G(y) - G(x).$$

By Lemma 4.2 there exist two increasing functions $H_1, H_2 : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $H_1(t) \leq G(t) \leq H_2(t)$ for $t \in [c, d]$ and $H_1(t) = H_2(t) = G(t)$ for $t \in E$. Let $H : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $H(t) = H_1(t) + H_2(t) + t$. If $x \in E$, then

$$|F(y) - F(x)| \leq G(y) - G(x) \leq H_2(y) - H_2(x) < H(y) - H(x).$$

If $y \in E$, then

$$|F(y) - F(x)| \leq G(y) - G(x) \leq H_1(y) - H_1(x) < H(y) - H(x).$$

Thus

$$|F(y) - F(x)| < H(y) - H(x). \tag{1}$$

Let $A \subset (c, d) \cap E$. By (1) it follows immediately that $\mu_F^*(A) \leq \mu_H^*(A)$.

We show the second part. Let $D = \{x \in (c, d) \cap E : H \text{ is discontinuous at } x\}$. By (1), F is continuous on $E \setminus D$. Thus, if $A \subseteq E$ is H -null, then A is also F -null. \square

Lemma 5.2. *Let $\omega, F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$, ω strictly increasing on $[a, b]$ and $F \in VB^*$ on E . Then there exists a set $A \subset \overline{E}$ such that F is derivable with respect to ω on $\overline{E} \setminus A$, and A is an ω -null set.*

PROOF. Let $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$. Since $F \in VB^*$ on E , it follows that $F \in VB^*$ on \overline{E} (see [12, p. 229]). We may suppose without loss of generality that F is increasing* on \overline{E} (see Lemma 4.1). Then this is [5, Proposition 4]. \square

Lemma 5.3 (Faure). [5] *Let $\omega, F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, ω strictly increasing. If $F'_\omega(x) = 0$ on $A \subset [a, b]$, then $\mu_F^*(A) = 0$.*

Lemma 5.4. *Let $\omega, F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, ω strictly increasing, $E \subset [a, b]$. If $F \in VB^*$ on E , then the set $A = \{x \in E : \underline{D}_\omega F(x) \neq \overline{D}_\omega F(x)\}$ is F -null. Thus $F'_\omega(x)$ exists (finite or infinite) on $E \setminus A$.*

PROOF. By Lemma 5.1, for F there is a strictly increasing function $H : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$, such that if $B \subseteq E$ is H -null, then B is also F -null. Then the proof continues as in [5, Proposition 6]. \square

Theorem 5.1. (An extension of Thomson's Theorems 44.1 and 44.2 of [13]). *Let $\omega, F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, ω strictly increasing, and let $E \subset [a, b]$. If $F \in VB^*G$ on E , then $F'_\omega(x)$ exists and is finite on E except an ω -null set A , and $F'_\omega(x)$ exists (finite or infinite) on E except a F -null subset B of A .*

PROOF. The first part follows by Lemma 5.2. The second part follows by Lemma 5.4 and the fact that the union of countable many ω -null sets is also an ω -null set. \square

Lemma 5.5. *Let Z be a subset of $[a, b]$ such that $m^*(Z) = \mu_F^*(Z) = 0$. Then $\Lambda(B(F; Z)) = 0$.*

PROOF. Note that $m^*(Z) = \mu_\omega^*(Z)$, where ω is the identity function. Let $\epsilon > 0$. Since $m^*(Z) = \mu_F^*(Z) = 0$, there exists $\delta : Z \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ such that $V_\delta^*(\omega, Z) < \frac{\epsilon}{4}$ and $V_\delta^*(F, Z) < \frac{\epsilon}{4}$. By the covering lemma of [9, p. 143], there exists a sequence $\{(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle, x_i)\}_i \subset \beta_\delta^*(Z)$ such that $\{(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ is a partition for all n and $Z \subset \cup_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle$. For each i let $c_i = \inf F(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle)$ and $d_i = \sup F(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle)$. Then we have

$$B(F, Z) \subset \cup_i (\langle x_i, y_i \rangle \times [c_i, d_i]).$$

For each i let $z_i \in \langle x_i, y_i \rangle$ such that $d_i - c_i < 3|F(z_i) - F(x_i)|$. Clearly

$$\text{diam}(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle \times [c_i, d_i]) < |y_i - x_i| + 3|F(z_i) - F(x_i)|$$

and

$$\sum_i \text{diam}(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle \times [c_i, d_i]) \leq V_\delta^*(\omega, Z) + 3V_\delta^*(F, Z) < \epsilon.$$

It follows that $\Lambda(B(F, Z)) \leq \epsilon$, and $\Lambda(B(F, Z)) = 0$ since ϵ is arbitrary. \square

Remark 5.1. Lemma 5.5 is asserted by Faure in [5, p. 417] without proof.

Lemma 5.6. Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let Z be a subset of $[a, b]$ with $m^*(Z) = 0$, such that $F \in VB^*G$ on Z . Then the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i) Z is F -null.
- (ii) $\Lambda(B(F; Z)) = 0$.
- (iii) $m^*(F(Z)) = 0$.

PROOF. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) See Lemma 5.5 and note that $\Lambda(B(F; A)) = 0$ whenever A is a countable set.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) This is evident (see for example [12, p. 269] or [6, p. 31]).

(iii) \Rightarrow (i) Let $D = \{x \in Z : F \text{ is discontinuous at } x\}$. By [3, Theorem 8], it follows that $\mu_F^*(Z \setminus D) = 0$. Thus Z is F -null. \square

Corollary 5.1. Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let E be a subset of $[a, b]$ such that F is VB^*G on E . Let $Z = \{x \in E : F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\}$. Then:

- (i) F is derivable a.e. on E ;
- (ii) Z is F -null;

(iii) $\Lambda(B(F; Z)) = 0;$

(iv) $m^*(F(Z)) = 0.$

Moreover, (ii), (iii) and (iv) are equivalent.

PROOF. (i), (ii) follow from Theorem 5.1. The other parts follow by Lemma 5.6. □

Remark 5.2.

Corollary 5.1, (i) is identic with Thomson's Theorem 44.1 of [13, p. 103].

Corollary 5.1, (ii) extends Thomson's Theorem 44.2 of [13, p. 104]. (Note that F is not assumed to be continuous.)

Corollary 5.1, (i), (iii) is in fact Theorem A. Since for continuous functions, this result has been proved independently by Denjoy and Lusin [12], we call it the Denjoy-Lusin-Saks Theorem.

6 The Denjoy-Young-Saks Theorem

Theorem 6.1 (Denjoy-Young-Saks). ([5, Theorem 7] *Let $\omega, F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \omega$ strictly increasing. Let*

- $E_1 = \{x : F \text{ is derivable with respect to } \omega\};$
- $E_2 = \{x : \underline{D}_\omega F(x) = -\infty \text{ and } \overline{D}_\omega F(x) = +\infty\};$
- $E_3 = \{x : \underline{D}_\omega F(x) = \overline{D}_\omega F(x) = \pm\infty\};$
- $E_4 = [a, b] \setminus (E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3).$

Then

- (i) $[a, b] \setminus (E_1 \cup E_2)$ is ω -null and contains E_3 , so E_3 is ω -null.
- (ii) E_4 is both ω -null and F -null.

PROOF. The proof follows from Theorem 5.1 as in [5, p. 417]. □

Corollary 6.1. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Let*

- $E_1 = \{x : F \text{ is derivable at } x\};$
- $E_2 = \{x : \underline{D}F(x) = -\infty \text{ and } \overline{D}F(x) = +\infty\};$
- $E_3 = \{x : \underline{D}F(x) = \overline{D}F(x) = \pm\infty\};$

- $E_4 = [a, b] \setminus (E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3)$.

Then

- (i) $[a, b] \setminus (E_1 \cup E_2)$ is m -null and contains E_3 , so E_3 is m -null;
- (ii) E_4 is both m -null and F -null.

Moreover, (ii) may be replaced by " $\Lambda(B(F; E_4)) = 0$ ", or by " $m^*(F(E_4)) = 0$ ".

PROOF. (i) and (ii) follow by Theorem 6.1 with ω the identity function.

We show the second part. Since $E_4 \subset [a, b] \setminus E_2$, it follows that F is VB^*G on E_4 (see [12, p. 234]). Since E_4 is m -null, the assertion follows by Lemma 5.6. \square

7 Extensions of Theorem B and Theorem C of de la Vallée Poussin

Theorem 7.1. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$. If F is increasing on $[a, b]$ and F is constant on $(-\infty, a]$ and on $[b, +\infty)$, then $\mu_F^*(E) = F^*(E)$.*

PROOF. Let $D = \{x \in E : F \text{ is discontinuous at } x\}$. Then D is countable. Suppose that $D = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_i, \dots\}$. By Lemma 2.1, (vi) and Lemma 3.1, (iv) we have

$$F^*(D) = \sum_i F^*({d_i}) = \sum_i \mu_F^*({d_i}) = \mu_F^*(D).$$

The set D being Borel measurable, by Lemma 2.1, (ii), (vii) and Lemma 3.1, (ii), (iii), it follows that

$$F^*(E) = F^*(D) + F^*(E \setminus D) = \mu_F^*(D) + \mu_F^*(E \setminus D) = \mu_F^*(E).$$

\square

Corollary 7.1. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$. Suppose that F is VB on $[a, b]$ and F is constant on $(-\infty, a]$ and on $[b, +\infty)$.*

- (i) $\mu_F^*(E) = \mu_{V_F^*}^*(E) = V_F^*(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E) + \underline{V}_F^*(E)$;
- (ii) If $\mu_F^*(E) = 0$, then $V_F^*(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E) = \underline{V}_F^*(E) = F^*(E) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F^*}^*(E) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F^*}^*(E) = 0$.

PROOF. (i) follows from Lemma 3.1, (v), Theorem 7.1 and Lemma 2.2, and (ii) is evident. \square

Corollary 7.2 (Theorem B). *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F \in VB$ on $[a, b]$, F constant on $(-\infty, a]$ and on $[b, +\infty)$. Let $Z = \{x \in [a, b] : F \text{ is continuous at } x \text{ and } F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\}$. Then we have*

$$F^*(Z) = V_F^*(Z) = \mu_F^*(Z) = m^*(Z) = 0 = \Lambda(B(F; Z)) = 0.$$

PROOF. For $m^*(Z) = \mu_F^*(Z) = \Lambda(B(F; Z)) = 0$ see Corollary 5.1, (i), (ii), (iii). That $V_F^*(Z) = F^*(Z) = 0$ follows now by Corollary 7.1. \square

Lemma 7.1. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $a \leq c < d \leq b$. Suppose that F is constant on $(-\infty, a]$ and on $[b, +\infty)$. Then:*

- (i) $\bar{V}_F(d) - \bar{V}_F(c) \leq \bar{V}(F; [c, d]) \leq V(F; [c, d]) = V_F(d) - V_F(c);$
- (ii) *Let $E \subset [a, b]$ such that $[c, d] \subset [\inf E, \sup E]$. If $\{(c_i, d_i)\}_{i=1}^\infty$ are the intervals contiguous to $(\bar{E} \cap [c, d]) \cup \{c, d\}$ and F is decreasing* on E , then $\bar{V}(F; [c, d]) \leq \sum_i V(F; [c_i, d_i])$, so $\bar{V}_F(d) - \bar{V}_F(c) \leq \sum_i V(F; [c_i, d_i])$.*

PROOF. (i) Let $\{[\alpha_j, \beta_j]\}_{j=1}^n$ be a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals contained in $[a, d]$. Suppose that $\alpha_1 < \beta_1 \leq \alpha_2 < \beta_2 \leq \dots \leq \alpha_n < \beta_n$ and $c \in (\alpha_{j_0}, \beta_{j_0})$ (the case $c \notin (\alpha_j, \beta_j)$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ is easier). Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n (F(\beta_j) - F(\alpha_j)) &= \sum_{j=1}^{j_0-1} (F(\beta_j) - F(\alpha_j)) + F(c) - F(\alpha_{j_0}) + \\ &+ F(\beta_{j_0}) - F(c) + \sum_{j=j_0+1}^n (F(\beta_j) - F(\alpha_j)) \leq \bar{V}_F(c) + \bar{V}(F; [c, d]). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that $\bar{V}_F(d) - \bar{V}_F(c) \leq \bar{V}(F; [c, d])$. The other parts are evident.

(ii) Let $\{[a_k, b_k]\}_{k=1}^m$ be a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals contained in $[c, d]$. Clearly if $[\alpha, \beta] \cap E \neq \emptyset$ and $[\alpha, \beta] \subset [c, d]$, then $F(\beta) - F(\alpha) \leq 0$. Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \{k \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\} : F(b_k) - F(a_k) > 0\}.$$

Then for each $k \in \mathcal{A}$, $[a_k, b_k] \cap E = \emptyset$, so $[a_k, b_k] \subset [c_{i_k}, d_{i_k}]$ for some i_k . We also have that

$$\sum_{k=1}^m (F(b_k) - F(a_k)) \leq \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}} (F(b_k) - F(a_k)) \leq \sum_i V(f; [c_i, d_i]).$$

\square

Lemma 7.2. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F \in VB$ on $[a, b]$, and let $E \subset [a, b]$ such that F is continuous at each point of E . If F is decreasing* G on E , then $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E) = 0$. Consequently, if F is decreasing* G on E , then $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E) = 0$, and if F is increasing* G on E , then $\mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E) = 0$.*

PROOF. Let $c = \inf E$, $d = \sup E$, and let $\{(c_i, d_i)\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be the intervals contiguous to \overline{E} (for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ the proof is easier). It is well known that V_F is continuous at each $x \in E$. Thus by Lemma 7.1, (i), \overline{V}_F is continuous at such a x . It follows that

$$\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^* \left(E \cap \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty \{c_i, d_i\} \cup \{c, d\} \right) \right) = 0,$$

so we may suppose without loss of generality that E contains neither c_i or d_i , nor c or d . Since $\sum_{i=1}^\infty V(F; [c_i, d_i]) < V(F; [a, b])$, for $\epsilon > 0$ there is an i_o such that

$$\sum_{i=i_o}^\infty V(F; [c_i, d_i]) < \epsilon.$$

Let $G = (c, d) \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{i_o-1} [c_i, d_i]$. Clearly $E \subset G$. Let $\delta : E \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ be such that $(x - \delta(x), x + \delta(x)) \subset G$. Let $\pi = \{(\langle x_j, y_j \rangle, x_j)\}_{j=1}^p \subset \beta_\delta^*(E)$ be a partition. We may suppose without loss of generality that $x_j < y_j$ for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$. By Lemma 7.1, we have that

$$\sum_{j=1}^p (\overline{V}_F(y_j) - \overline{V}_F(x_j)) \leq \sum_{i=i_o}^\infty V(F; [c_i, d_i]) < \epsilon.$$

In general, it follows that $V_\delta^*(\overline{V}_F; E) \leq 2\epsilon$; so $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E) \leq 2\epsilon$. Since ϵ is arbitrary, we obtain that $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E) = 0$.

The second part follows from the fact that, if F is increasing* G on E , then $-F$ is decreasing* G on E and $\underline{V}_F(x) = \overline{V}_{-F}(x)$. \square

Corollary 7.3. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, be a VB function, and let $E \subset [a, b]$ such that F is continuous at each point of E . If F is increasing* G on E , then*

$$F^*(E) = V_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E).$$

Moreover, if F is decreasing* G on E , then

$$-F^*(E) = V_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E) = \underline{V}_F^*(E).$$

PROOF. See Lemma 7.2 and Corollary 7.1, (i). \square

Theorem 7.2. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a VB function. Let*

$$Z = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\};$$

$$E_{+\infty} = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = +\infty\};$$

$$E_0 = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = 0\};$$

$$E_{-\infty} = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = -\infty\};$$

$$P = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \in (0, +\infty)\};$$

$$N = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \in (-\infty, 0)\}.$$

Then we have:

- (i) $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(Z) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E_0) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E_{-\infty}) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(N) = 0;$
- (ii) $\mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(Z) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E_0) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E_{+\infty}) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(P) = 0;$
- (iii) $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) = V_F^*(E \cap P) = \mu_F^*(E \cap P) = (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt,$
whenever E is a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b];$
- (iv) $\mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E \cap N) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E \cap N) = V_F^*(E \cap N) = \mu_F^*(E \cap N) = -(\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap N} F'(t) dt,$
whenever E is a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b];$
- (v) $\overline{V}_F^*(E) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt,$ *whenever E is a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b]$ and F is continuous at each point of $E;$*
- (vi) $\underline{V}_F^*(E) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap N} F'(t) dt,$ *whenever E is a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b]$ and F is continuous at each point of $E;$*
- (vii) $F^*(E) = F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_E F'(t) dt,$ *whenever E is a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b]$ and F is continuous at each point of $E;$*
- (viii) $V_F^*(E) = F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + |F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty})| + (\mathcal{L}) \int_E |F'(t)| dt,$ *whenever E is a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b]$ and F is continuous at each point of $E;$*
- (ix) $V_F^*([a, b] \setminus A) = m^*([a, b] \setminus A) = 0,$ *where $A = \{x \in [a, b] : V_F'(x) = |F'(x)|, F \text{ is continuous at } x\}.$*

PROOF. Note that F satisfies Lusin's condition (N) on $E_0 \cup P \cup N$ (see [12]).

(i) By Corollary 7.2, $\mu_F^*(Z) = 0$, and by Lemma 5.3, $\mu_F^*(E_0) = 0$. It follows that $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(Z) = \mu_F^*(E_0) = 0$ (see Corollary 7.1, (ii)). By Lemma 4.3, F is decreasing* G on $E_{-\infty} \cup N$ so by Lemma 7.2 we have that $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E_{-\infty}) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(N) = 0$.

(ii) The proof follows by (i), because $\mu_{\underline{V}_F}^* = \mu_{\overline{V}_{-F}}^*$.

(iii) By Lemma 3.2 we have $\mu_F^*(E \cap P) = (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt$, and by Corollary 7.1, (i) it follows that

$$\mu_F^*(E \cap P) = \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) + \mu_{\underline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P)$$

(see also (ii)).

(iv) The proof is similar to that of (iii).

(v) That $\overline{V}_F^*(E) = \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E)$ follows by Theorem 7.1. Since $Z \cup E_{+\infty} \cup E_0 \cup E_{-\infty} \cup P \cup N = [a, b]$ and because $Z, E_{+\infty}, E_0, E_{-\infty}, P$ and N are all Borel sets (so $\mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*$ -measurable), Lemma 3.1, (ii) and by (i) and (iii) above, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E) &= \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap Z) + \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_0) \\ &\quad + \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) + \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap N) \\ &= \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap P) \\ &= \mu_{\overline{V}_F}^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt. \end{aligned}$$

(vi) The proof is similar to that of (v).

(vii) We have

$$\begin{aligned} F^*(E) &= \overline{V}_F^*(E) - \underline{V}_F^*(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) \\ &\quad + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt - \underline{V}_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap N} F'(t) dt \\ &= F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap (P \cup N \cup E_0)} F'(t) dt \\ &= F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_E F'(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

(see (ii), (i) and the facts that $(\mathcal{L}) \int_{E_0} F'(t) dt = 0$ and $m(E \setminus (P \cup N \cup E_0)) = 0$).

(viii) By Corollary 7.1, (i) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} V_F^*(E) &= \overline{V}_F^*(E) + \underline{V}_F^*(E) = \overline{V}_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) \\ &\quad + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt + \underline{V}_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap N} |F'(t)| dt \\ &= F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + |F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty})| + (\mathcal{L}) \int_E |F'(t)| dt \end{aligned}$$

(see (ii) and (i)).

(ix) By [11, Theorem, p. 15] it follows that $V_F'(x) = |F'(x)| \in [0, +\infty)$ a.e. on $[a, b]$, so $m^*([a, b] \setminus A) = 0$. By (viii), we have

$$V_F^*([a, b] \setminus A) = F^*\left(\left([a, b] \setminus A\right) \cap E_{+\infty}\right) + F^*\left(\left([a, b] \setminus A\right) \cap E_{-\infty}\right).$$

If $x \in E_{+\infty}$, then $F'(x) = +\infty$, so $V_F'(x) = +\infty$. Hence $x \in A$, and so $\left([a, b] \setminus A\right) \cap E_{+\infty} = \emptyset$. Similarly $\left([a, b] \setminus A\right) \cap E_{-\infty} = \emptyset$. It follows that $V_F^*([a, b] \setminus A) = 0$. \square

Remark 7.1. Theorem 7.2, (vii), (viii), (ix) strictly contains Theorem C, because in (vii) and (viii) the set E is not only Borel but also Lebesgue measurable. Note also in order to prove Theorem C, Saks uses the Lebesgue Decomposition Theorem [12, p. 119], whereas our proof does not use this decomposition; it is instead essentially based on Theorem 8.2 of [4] (see Lemma 3.2).

8 A de la Vallée Poussin Type Theorem for VB*G Functions (An Extension of a Theorem of Thomson)

Lemma 8.1 (Thomson). [13, Lemma 42.1]. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset [a, b]$. Then $\mu_F^*(E_o) = 0$, where $E_o = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = 0\}$.*

Definition 8.1. With the notations of Definition 3.1, let:

- $\overline{V}_\delta^*(F; E) = \sup\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta F^+(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle) : \pi = \{(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n \text{ is a partition, } \pi \subset \beta_\delta^*(E)\right\}$;
- $\underline{V}_\delta^*(F; E) = \sup\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta F^-(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle) : \pi = \{(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n \text{ is a partition, } \pi \subset \beta_\delta^*(E)\right\}$;
- $\overline{\mu}_F^*(E) = \inf_\delta \overline{V}_\delta^*(F; E)$;
- $\underline{\mu}_F^*(E) = \inf_\delta \underline{V}_\delta^*(F; E)$;

Lemma 8.2. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset \mathbb{R}$. Then we have:*

- (i) $\bar{\mu}_F^*(E) \leq \mu_F^*(E)$;
- (ii) $\underline{\mu}_F^*(E) \leq \mu_F^*(E)$;
- (iii) $\mu_F^*(E) \leq \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) + \underline{\mu}_F^*(E)$.

PROOF. All assertions follow from the equality

$$|F(y) - F(x)| = \Delta F^+([x, y]) + \Delta F^-([x, y]).$$

□

Lemma 8.3. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then $\mu_F^*(E) = \bar{\mu}_F^*(E)$ whenever $E \subset \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \in [0, +\infty]\}$.*

PROOF. We always have $\mu_F^*(E) \geq \bar{\mu}_F^*(E)$. We show the converse inequality. Let $P = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \in (0, +\infty)\}$, $A \subset P$ and let $\eta : A \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ such that

$$\frac{F(y) - F(x)}{y - x} > 0 \text{ whenever } y \in (x - \eta(x), x + \eta(x)) \setminus \{x\}.$$

Let $\delta : A \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$, and let $\delta_1(x) = \min\{\delta(x), \eta(x)\}$ for each $x \in A$. If $([x, y], x)$ or $([x, y], y) \in \beta_{\delta_1}^*(A)$, then $0 < F(y) - F(x) = \Delta F^+([x, y])$. It follows that $(\langle x, y \rangle, x) \in \beta_{\delta_1}^*(A)$ and $\Delta F^+(\langle x, y \rangle) = |F(y) - F(x)|$. Hence

$$\mu_F^*(A) \leq V_{\delta_1}^*(F; A) = \bar{V}_{\delta_1}^*(F; A) \leq \bar{V}_{\delta}^*(F; A).$$

Therefore $\mu_F^*(A) \leq \bar{\mu}_F^*(A)$. Now we obtain

$$\mu_F^*(E) \leq \mu_F^*(E \cap P) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_0) = \mu_F^*(E \cap P) \leq \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap P) \leq \bar{\mu}_F^*(E),$$

where $E_0 = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = 0\}$. □

Lemma 8.4. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then $\bar{\mu}_F^*(E) = 0$ whenever $E \subset \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \in [-\infty, 0]\}$.*

PROOF. Let $N = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) \in [-\infty, 0)\}$, $A \subset N$, and let $\delta : A \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ such that

$$\frac{F(y) - F(x)}{y - x} < 0 \text{ whenever } y \in (x - \delta(x), x + \delta(x)) \setminus \{x\}.$$

If $([x, y], x)$ or $([x, y], y) \in \beta_{\delta}^*(A)$, then $F(y) - F(x) < 0$; so $\Delta F^+([x, y]) = 0$. It follows that $\bar{\mu}_F^*(A) \leq \bar{V}_{\delta}^*(F; A) = 0$, so $\bar{\mu}_F^*(A) = 0$. Now we obtain that

$$\bar{\mu}_F^*(E) \leq \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap N) + \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap E_0) \leq 0 + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_0) = 0 + 0 = 0,$$

where $E_0 = \{x \in [a, b] : F'(x) = 0\}$. □

Theorem 8.1. (An extension of Theorem 46.3 of [13, p. 107]).

Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ such that F is continuous at each point of E and $F \in VB^*G$ on E . Let $E_{+\infty} = \{x : F'(x) = +\infty\}$, $E_{-\infty} = \{x : F'(x) = -\infty\}$, $D = \{x : F'(x) \in (-\infty, +\infty)\}$, $P = \{x : F'(x) = (0, +\infty)\}$, $N = \{x : F'(x) = (-\infty, 0)\}$. Then we have:

$$(i) \quad \mu_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap P) + \mu_F^*(E \cap N) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap D);$$

$$(ii) \quad \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap P);$$

$$(iii) \quad \underline{\mu}_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap N).$$

Therefore $\mu_F^*(E) = \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) + \underline{\mu}_F^*(E)$.

Moreover, if E is Lebesgue measurable, then

$$(iv) \quad \mu_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap D} |F'(t)| dt;$$

$$(v) \quad \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap P} F'(t) dt;$$

$$(vi) \quad \underline{\mu}_F^*(E) = \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) - (\mathcal{L}) \int_{E \cap N} F'(t) dt,$$

PROOF. Let $E_0 = \{x \in E : F'(x) = 0\}$ and $Z = \{x \in E : F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\}$. The sets $Z, E_0, E_{+\infty}, E_{-\infty}, D, P, N$ are all Borel (see Hajek's Theorem of [1, p. 57]).

(i) Since $Z \cup E_{+\infty} \cup E_{-\infty} \cup D = \mathbb{R}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_F^*(E) &= \mu_F^*(E \cap Z) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap D) \\ &= \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap E_{-\infty}) + \mu_F^*(E \cap D) \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 3.1, (ii), and Corollary 5.1, (ii). Since $D = E_0 \cup P \cup N$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_F^*(E \cap D) &= \mu_F^*(E \cap E_0) + \mu_F^*(E \cap P) + \mu_F^*(E \cap N) \\ &= \mu_F^*(E \cap P) + \mu_F^*(E \cap N) \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 3.1, (ii), and Lemma 8.1.

(ii)¹ Since $Z \cup E_{+\infty} \cup P \cup (E_0 \cup N \cup E_{-\infty}) = \mathbb{R}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) &= \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap Z) + \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap P) + \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap (E_0 \cup N \cup E_{-\infty})) \\ &= \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap Z) + \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap E_{+\infty}) + \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap P) \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 3.1, (ii), Lemma 8.3 and Lemma 8.4. And we have

$$0 \leq \bar{\mu}_F^*(E \cap Z) \leq \mu_F^*(E \cap Z) = 0$$

¹The proof of Theorem 8.1, (ii) uses that $\bar{\mu}_F^*$ is a metric outer measure.

by Lemma 8.2, (i), and Corollary 5.1, (ii).

(iii) The proof is similar to that of (ii).

(iv), (v) and (vi) follow by Lemma 3.2. \square

9 Characterizations of $VB^*G \cap (N)$ for Lebesgue Measurable Functions

Corollary 9.1. *Let $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and let E be a Lebesgue measurable subset of $[a, b]$. The following assertions are equivalent.*

(i) $F \in VB^*G \cap (N)$ on E .

(ii) $F \in VB^*G \cap (N)$ on Z , whenever Z is a null subset of E .

(iii) There exists a countable subset E_1 of E such that $\mu_F^*(Z) = 0$, whenever Z is a null subset of $E \setminus E_1$.

(iv) Z is F -null whenever Z is a null subset of E .

PROOF. For (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) \Leftrightarrow (iii) see [3, Theorem 9] and (iii) \Rightarrow (iv) is evident.

(iv) \Rightarrow (ii) Let Z be a null subset of E . Then Z is F -null, so by Lemma 5.6, $m(F(Z)) = 0$. It follows that $F \in (N)$ on Z . For Z there is a countable set D such that $\mu_F^*(Z \setminus D) = 0$. By [13, Theorem 40.1], F is VB^*G on $Z \setminus D$, so on Z . \square

10 A Characterization of $VB^*G \cap N^{+\infty}$ on a Lebesgue Measurable Set

Definition 10.1 (Saks). [2, p. 79] Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. F is said to be $N^{+\infty}$ on a real set E if the set $(\{x \in E : (F|_E)'(x) = +\infty\})$ is of Lebesgue measure zero.

Lemma 10.1. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ such that F is VB^*G on E . Let $E_{+\infty} = \{x : F'(x) = +\infty\}$. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

(i) F is $N^{+\infty}$ on E .

(ii) $m^*(F(E \cap E_{+\infty})) = 0$.

PROOF. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Let $E_1 = \{x \in E : x \text{ is an accumulation point for } E\}$. Then $E \setminus E_1$ is at most countable and $E_1 \cap E_{+\infty} \subset \{x \in E : (F|_E)'(x) = +\infty\}$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Let $Z = \{x \in E : F'(x) \text{ does not exist (finite or infinite)}\}$. Then we have $\{x \in E : (F|_E)'(x) = +\infty\} \subset Z \cup E_{+\infty}$, and (i) follows because $m^*(F(E \cap Z)) = 0$ by Corollary 5.1, (iv). \square

Lemma 10.2. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $E \subset \mathbb{R}$. If $\bar{\mu}_F^*(E) < +\infty$, then $F \in VB^*G$ on E .*

PROOF. Suppose that $\bar{\mu}_F^*(E) = M < +\infty$. For $\epsilon = 1$ there is a $\delta : E \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ such that $\bar{V}_\delta^*(F; E) < M + 1$. Let

$$E_n = \left\{ x : \delta(x) > \frac{1}{n} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad E_{ni} = E_n \cap \left[\frac{i}{n}, \frac{i+1}{n} \right], \quad i = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

If E_{ni} is countable, then F is VB^*G on this set. Fix some uncountable set E_{ni} and let $c_{ni} = \inf E_{ni}$, $d_{ni} = \sup E_{ni}$. We show that $F \in \overline{VB}(E_{ni}; [c_{ni}, d_{ni}])$ (for the definition see [2, Definition 2.7.1]). Let $\{[c_k, d_k]\}_{k=1}^p$ be a finite set of nonoverlapping closed intervals such that $\{c_k, d_k\} \cap E_{ni} \neq \emptyset$. Clearly, if $c_k \in E_{ni}$, then $([c_k, d_k], c_k) \in \beta_\delta^*(E)$, and if $d_k \in E_{ni}$, then $([c_k, d_k], d_k) \in \beta_\delta^*(E)$. It follows that

$$\sum_{k=1}^p (F(d_k) - F(c_k)) \leq \sum_{k=1}^p \Delta F^+([c_k, d_k]) < \bar{V}_\delta^*(F; E) < M + 1.$$

Thus $F \in \overline{VB}(E_{ni}; [c_{ni}, d_{ni}])$. By [2, Theorem 2.8.1, (xii), (i)], we obtain that $F \in VB^*$ on E_{ni} ; so $F \in VB^*G$ on E . □

Theorem 10.1. *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and let E be a Lebesgue measurable subset of \mathbb{R} . Let $E_{+\infty} = \{x : F'(x) = +\infty\}$. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

- (i) $F \in VB^*G \cap N^{+\infty}$ on E .
- (ii) there exists a countable subset E_1 of E such that $\bar{\mu}_F^*(Z) = 0$ whenever $Z \subset E \setminus E_1$ and $m^*(Z) = 0$.

PROOF. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Since F is VB^*G on E , there exists a countable set E_1 such that F is continuous at each point of $E \setminus E_1$ (see [12]). Let $Z \subset E \setminus E_1$ with $m^*(Z) = 0$. Then we have

$$\bar{\mu}_F^*(Z) = \mu_F^*(Z \cap E_{+\infty}) = m^*(F(Z \cap E_{+\infty})) = 0$$

by Theorem 8.1, (v), Lemma 5.6, (i), (iii) and Lemma 10.1.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) By Corollary 5.1, (i), $m^*(E_{+\infty}) = 0$, and by Lemma 8.3, we obtain that

$$\mu_F^*((E \cap E_{+\infty}) \setminus E_1) = \bar{\mu}_F^*((E \cap E_{+\infty}) \setminus E_1) = 0.$$

It follows that $m^*(F(E \cap E_{+\infty})) = 0$ (see Lemma 3.1, (vi)); so F is $N^{+\infty}$ on E (see Lemma 10.1). Let $Z \subset E \setminus E_1$ with $m^*(Z) = 0$. Since $\bar{\mu}_F^*(Z) = 0$, by Lemma 10.2, it follows that $F \in VB^*G$ on Z . Hence $F \in VB^*G$ on $E \setminus E_1$, so on E (see [3, Theorem 1]). □

Lemma 10.3. *Let $F, G : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $E \subset \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$. Then*

$$\bar{\mu}_{\alpha F + \beta G}^*(E) \leq \alpha \cdot \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) + \beta \cdot \bar{\mu}_G^*(E).$$

PROOF. From $\Delta(\alpha F + \beta G)^+([x, y]) \leq \alpha \cdot \Delta F^+([x, y]) + \beta \cdot \Delta G^+([x, y])$ it follows immediately that $\bar{\mu}_{\alpha F + \beta G}^*(E) \leq \alpha \cdot \bar{\mu}_F^*(E) + \beta \cdot \bar{\mu}_G^*(E)$. \square

Corollary 10.1. *Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ be a Lebesgue measurable set. Let*

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : F \in VB^*G \cap N^{+\infty} \text{ on } E \right\}.$$

Then \mathcal{A} is a semi-linear subspace, i.e., $\alpha_1 F_1 + \alpha_2 F_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, whenever $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \geq 0$ and $F_1, F_2 \in \mathcal{A}$.

PROOF. Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \geq 0$ and $F_1, F_2 \in \mathcal{A}$. Clearly $\alpha_1 F_1 + \alpha_2 F_2 \in VB^*G$. By Theorem 10.1, there exist two countable subsets E_1, E_2 of E such that $\bar{\mu}_F^*(Z_1) = 0$ whenever $Z_1 = E \setminus E_1$ and $m^*(Z_1) = 0$, and $\bar{\mu}_{F_2}^*(Z_2) = 0$ whenever $Z_2 \subset E \setminus E_2$ and $m^*(Z_2) = 0$. Let $Z \subset E \setminus (E_1 \cup E_2)$ with $m^*(Z) = 0$. Then $\bar{\mu}_{F_1}^*(Z) = \bar{\mu}_{F_2}^*(Z) = 0$. By Lemma 10.3, $\bar{\mu}_{\alpha_1 F_1 + \alpha_2 F_2}^*(Z) = 0$; so by Theorem 10.1 we obtain that $\alpha_1 F_1 + \alpha_2 F_2 \in \mathcal{A}$. \square

Corollary 10.2. *Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ be a Lebesgue measurable set and let*

$$\mathcal{A}_1 = \left\{ F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : F \in VB^*G \text{ on } E \text{ and } m(F(E \cap \{x : F'(x) = \pm\infty\})) = 0 \right\}.$$

Then \mathcal{A}_1 is a linear space.

PROOF. Let \mathcal{A} be defined as in Corollary 10.1. If $F \in \mathcal{A}_1$, then F and $-F$ belong to \mathcal{A} . Applying Corollary 10.1 and Lemma 10.1, it follows that \mathcal{A}_1 is a linear space. \square

Remark 10.1. Note that $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : F \in VB^*G \cap (N) \text{ on } E\}$. This follows by Lemma 5.6 and the well known fact that $F \in (N)$ on the set $\{x \in E : F'(x) \text{ exists and is finite}\}$. Therefore Corollary 10.2 is a special case of [3, Corollary 3].

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