

On non-differentiable measure-preserving functions

1. Introduction

Let M be a collection of all continuous probability measures on the interval $[0,1]$ with support equal to the interval $[0,1]$. For $\mu \in M$ let $C(\mu)$ consist of all continuous μ -preserving functions from $[0,1]$ onto $[0,1]$, i.e. $C(\mu) = \{f: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1], f \text{ is continuous, } \forall A \subseteq [0,1]: \mu(A) = \mu(f^{-1}(A))\}$. In what follows, $C(\mu)$ will be endowed by the uniform metric ρ .

The purpose of this note is to prove the existence of non-differentiable functions in the complete metric space $C(\mu)$. Our main result is Theorem 4, which states a general result analogous to one of V. Jarník [1]. A construction of Besicovitch function preserving the Lebesgue measure λ is also presented.

2. Residual sets in $C(\mu)$

In this section we study residual sets in $C(\mu)$. We start with some auxiliary results.

Proposition A. $C(\mu)$, endowed by the uniform metric ρ , is a complete metric space.

Proposition B.

$$f \in C(\mu) \text{ iff } \forall \left(\frac{r}{2^m}, \frac{s}{2^n} \right) : \mu \left(\left(\frac{r}{2^m}, \frac{s}{2^n} \right) \right) = \mu \left(f^{-1} \left(\left(\frac{r}{2^m}, \frac{s}{2^n} \right) \right) \right)$$

The following lemmas will be useful when proving the main results.

Lemma 1. The set of piecewise linear functions is dense in $C(\lambda)$.

Proof. Fix $f \in C(\lambda)$, $\varepsilon > 0$. We shall construct a piecewise linear function $d^* \in C(\lambda)$ with local extremes at rational points only, and such that $\rho(d^*, f) < \varepsilon$.

First of all, we shall construct a piecewise linear function d (maybe $d \in C(\lambda)$) with local extremes at rational points only, with properties:

$$(1) \quad \rho(f, d) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

(2) for the homeomorphism $h(x) = \lambda(d^{-1}((0, x)))$ defined on $[0, 1]$ it holds $\rho(h, id) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$.

Let n be a positive integer such that $\frac{1}{2^n} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$. For $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$ it holds $f^{-1}(\frac{k}{2^n}, \frac{k+1}{2^n}) = \bigcup_m (a_m^k, b_m^k)$ and $\sum_m (b_m^k - a_m^k) = \frac{1}{2^n}$. There exists a positive integer N_k such that

$$(3) \quad \sum_{m=1}^{N_k} (b_m^k - a_m^k) > \frac{1}{2^n} - \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{n+1}}.$$

Define a function \hat{d} for $x \in \bigcup_{m=1}^{N_k} [a_m^k, b_m^k]$ as follows:

if $f(a_m^k) - f(b_m^k) = 0$, then

$$\hat{d}(x) = f(a_m^k) + \frac{f(x_m^k) - f(a_m^k)}{x_m^k - a_m^k} (x - a_m^k), \quad x \in [a_m^k, x_m^k]$$

$$\hat{d}(x) = f(b_m^k) + \frac{f(x_m^k) - f(b_m^k)}{x_m^k - b_m^k} (x - b_m^k), \quad x \in [x_m^k, b_m^k]$$

where x_m^k is the point in which f attains its extreme on the interval (a_m^k, b_m^k) (since $f \in C(\lambda)$ and $f(a_m^k) - f(b_m^k) = 0$, there has to exist at least one such x_m^k);

if $f(a_m^k) - f(b_m^k) = \frac{1}{2^n}$, then

$$\hat{d}(x) = f(a_m^k) + \frac{f(b_m^k) - f(a_m^k)}{b_m^k - a_m^k} (x - a_m^k), \quad x \in [a_m^k, b_m^k]$$

For the set $M = \bigcup_{k=0}^{2^n-1} \bigcup_{m=1}^{N_k} [a_m^k, b_m^k]$ it holds $\rho(f, \hat{d}) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$. There exists

a function d defined on $[0, 1]$ such that $d|_M = \hat{d}$, whereby d is continuous piecewise linear function with properties (1), (2)

(to obtain (2) use (3)). We may suppose that d has local extremes at rational points only (use a small perturbation). Obviously, using (2) we have $\rho(h \circ d, f) < \rho(h \circ d, d) + \rho(d, f) < \varepsilon$. The function $h \circ d$ is piecewise linear with local extremes at rational points, and since $\lambda(d^{-1}(h^{-1}(A))) = \lambda(h(h^{-1}(A))) = \lambda(A)$ we have $h \circ d \in C(\lambda)$. Thus, we put $d^* = h \circ d$ and our construction of the function d^* is finished.

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Lemma 2. The set of piecewise monotone functions is dense in $C(\mu)$.

Proof. Let $\{d_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of piecewise linear functions dense in $C(\lambda)$ (see Lemma 1). It is well-known that $g \in C(\mu)$ iff $g = h^{-1} \circ f \circ h$ for some $f \in C(\lambda)$ and homeomorphism h defined by relation $h(x) = \mu([0, x])$ (g, f are topologically conjugated). Hence the sequence $\{h^{-1} \circ d_j \circ h\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is dense in $C(\mu)$.

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For $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, a positive integer n and $\beta \in (0, \frac{\alpha(1-\alpha)}{2^n})$ define the function $k_{n, \alpha, \beta}: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ as follows:

$$k_{n, \alpha, \beta}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & ; x=1, x = \frac{2k+1}{2^n}(1-\alpha), k \in (0, 1, \dots, 2^{n-1}) \\ 0 & ; x = \frac{2k}{2^n}(1-\alpha), k \in (0, 1, \dots, 2^{n-1}) \\ 1-\alpha & ; x = 1-\alpha + 2^n\beta, x = \frac{2k+1}{2^n}(1-\alpha) + \beta, k \in (0, 1, \dots, 2^{n-1}) \\ \text{continuously, linearly; otherwise (with a constant} & \\ \text{slope on the connected component)} & \end{cases}$$

Obviously $k_{n, \alpha, \beta} \in C(\lambda)$. For a positive γ define on the interval $[0, \gamma]$ the function $k_{n, \alpha, \beta, \gamma}$ by $k_{n, \alpha, \beta, \gamma}(x) = \gamma k_{n, \alpha, \beta}(\frac{x}{\gamma})$.

Remark. In the following lemma, the function h_μ is defined on $[a, b]$ by $h_\mu(x) = \mu([a, x])$.

Lemma 3. Let $\mu, \nu \in M$, $[a, b] \times [c, d] \subseteq [0, 1]^2$, $f: [a, b] \rightarrow [c, d]$ is a strictly monotone continuous function such that $f([a, b]) = [c, d]$. For $\gamma = h_\mu(b) - h_\mu(a)$ denote $g_n = g_{n, \alpha, \beta} = f \circ h_\mu^{-1} \circ k_{n, \alpha, \beta, \gamma} \circ h_\mu$.
 $M_{n, k} = \{ x \in [a, b]; \exists \delta \in (0, \frac{1}{k}): \frac{g_n(x+\delta) - g_n(x)}{\delta} > k \}$. Further, suppose

that A and $f^{-1}(A)$ are μ -measurable. Then

$$(4) \quad \text{for every } n, \alpha, \beta : \mu(f^{-1}(A)) = \mu(g_n^{-1}(A))$$

(5) for every positive ϵ and positive integer k there are n, α, β such that

$$\nu(M_{n,k}) > \nu([a,b]) - \epsilon .$$

Proof. Suppose that f is on $[a,b]$ an increasing function (for a decreasing function the proof is similar). Clearly, the property (4) follows from the fact that the function $k_{n,\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$ preserves the Lebesgue measure on $[0,\gamma]$. We shall prove the property (5).

There exists $\omega \in (c,d]$ such that

$$(6) \quad \nu([f^{-1}(\omega), b]) < \epsilon .$$

Put $\alpha = 1 - \frac{h(f^{-1}(\omega))}{\gamma}$ and consider $g_{n,\alpha,\beta}$ for suitable n, β . If $K_n = \max\{x \in [a,b] : g_n(x) = d\}$ then obviously $K_n < b$. It is easy to verify that

$$(7) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} K_n = f^{-1}(\omega), \quad (\beta \in (0, \frac{\alpha(1-\alpha)}{2^n}) .)$$

For the preimage $g_n^{-1}([c,\omega])$ we have

$$(8) \quad (g_n^{-1}([c,\omega]) \cap [a, K_n]) \supseteq ([a, K_n] \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{2^n-1} J_j)$$

where J_j are intervals and $\bigcup_{j=1}^{2^n-1} J_j = g_n^{-1}((\omega, d]) \cap [a, f^{-1}(\omega)]$. For a fixed n , the properties of ν imply

$$(9) \quad \lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0} \nu(\bigcup_{j=1}^{2^n-1} J_j) = 0 .$$

From (6), (7), (9) we conclude that for sufficiently large n and sufficiently small β ,

$$(10) \quad \nu([a, K_n] \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{2^n-1} J_j) > \nu([a,b]) - \epsilon .$$

Thus, (8) and (10) imply that to prove (5) it is sufficient to show that

$$M_{n,k} \supset (g_n^{-1}([c,\omega]) \cap [a, K_n])$$

for any k and suitable $n(k)$. Indeed, for every k_1 there exists $n_1(k_1)$ such that for $x \in (g_{n_1, \alpha, \beta}^{-1}([c, \omega]) \cap [a, K_{n_1}])$ we can find $y \in (x, x + \frac{1}{k_1})$ for which $g_{n_1}(y) = d$. Then

$$(11) \quad \frac{g_{n_1}(y) - g_{n_1}(x)}{y - x} > k_1(d - \omega).$$

Now, if k_1 satisfies the conditions

$$(12) \quad k_1 > k, \quad k_1(d - \omega) > k,$$

then from (11) and (12) we obtain

$$M_{n_1, k} \supset (g_{n_1, \alpha, \beta}^{-1}([c, \omega]) \cap [a, K_{n_1}])$$

The proof of (5) is complete. []

We recall that by a knot point of function f we mean a point x where $D^+f(x) = D^-f(x) = +\infty$ and $D_+f(x) = D_-f(x) = -\infty$. In addition, $C(\mu)$ with the uniform metric ρ is by Proposition A a complete metric space.

Theorem 4. $C(\mu)$ -typical function has a knot point at ν -almost every point.

Proof. Denote $M^+(g) = \{x \in [0, 1]; D^+g(x) = +\infty\}$, $G^+ = \{g \in C(\mu); \nu(M^+(g)) = 1\}$ (M_+ , G_+ , M^- , G^- , M_- , G_- analogously). If we put for positive integers p, q

$$E_{p, q} = \left\{ f \in C(\mu); \nu \left\{ x \in [0, 1]; \forall \delta \in \left(0, \frac{1}{p}\right): \frac{f(x+\delta) - f(x)}{\delta} \leq p \right\} \geq \frac{1}{q} \right\},$$

then $G^+ = \bigcap_p \bigcap_q (C(\mu) \setminus E_{p, q})$. We shall show that G^+ is residual in $C(\mu)$.

I. Denote $M_f = \left\{ x \in [0, 1]; \forall \delta \in \left(0, \frac{1}{p}\right): \frac{f(x+\delta) - f(x)}{\delta} \leq p \right\}$. Let $\{f_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of functions from $E_{p, q}$, $f_k \rightarrow f$ uniformly. It is easy to verify

$$\bigcap_{l \geq 0} \overline{\bigcup_{k \geq l} M_{f_k}} \subseteq M_f, \quad \frac{1}{q} \leq \nu \left(\bigcap_{l \geq 0} \overline{\bigcup_{k \geq l} M_{f_k}} \right) \leq \nu(M_f)$$

, i.e. $f \in E_{p, q}$ and $E_{p, q}$ is closed.

II. Fix $f \in C(\mu)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. By Lemma 2 there exists in $C(\mu)$ a

piecewise monotone function g for which

$$(13) \quad \rho(f, g) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} .$$

For a positive integer r , consider the partition $0 = x_0 < \dots < x_r = 1$ of $[0, 1]$ such that for every $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, r\}$ the following conditions are satisfied :

$$(14) \quad g \text{ is on } I_j = [x_{j-1}, x_j] \text{ monotone}$$

$$(15) \quad |g(x_{j-1}) - g(x_j)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} .$$

Since $g|_{I_j}$ satisfies the conditions of Lemma 3 we can replace on I_j the function g by $g_{n(j)} = g_{n(j), \alpha, \beta}$ (according to Lemma 3) such that

$$(16) \quad \nu(\{x \in I_j; \exists \delta \in (0, \frac{1}{p}): \frac{g_{n(j)}(x+\delta) - g_{n(j)}(x)}{\delta} > p\}) > \nu(I_j) - \frac{1}{rq}$$

Define on $[0, 1]$ a function \hat{g} by $\hat{g}|_{I_j} = g_{n(j), \alpha(j), \beta(j)}$. Then from the properties (13), (14) and (15) we conclude $\rho(f, \hat{g}) < \varepsilon$, and by (4) we obtain $\hat{g} \in CC(\mu)$. Finally, the property (16) implies

$$\nu(\{x \in [0, 1]; \exists \delta \in (0, \frac{1}{p}): \frac{g(x+\delta) - g(x)}{\delta} > p\}) > 1 - \frac{1}{q} ,$$

i. e. $\hat{g} \in (CC(\mu) \setminus E_{p,q})$ and $E_{p,q}$ is nowhere dense.

Similarly we can show that the sets G_+, G^-, G_- are residual and therefore the set

$$G = G^+ \cap G_+ \cap G^- \cap G_- = \{g \in CC(\mu); \nu(M^+ \cap M_+ \cap M^- \cap M_-) = 1\}$$

is residual as well.

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Corollary. $CC(\mu)$ -typical function maps at least one ν -null set onto $[0, 1]$.

Proof. It is easy to see that any level set of any continuous function contains a point which is not a knot point of the function f .

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Remark. By means of Theorem 4 it is possible to show that there exists an absolutely continuous measure μ such that

$C(\mu)$ contains a function with a level set of positive Lebesgue measure.

Theorem 5. All level sets of $C(\mu)$ -typical function, are ν -null sets.

Proof. Denote $F_n = \{f \in C(\mu); \exists y: \nu(f^{-1}(y)) \geq \frac{1}{n}\}$. It is known that F_n is a closed set (see [2], p.325, 1.1.2.). From Lemma 2 it follows that F_n is nowhere dense for every positive integer n hence the set $F = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n = \{f \in C(\mu); \exists y: \nu(f^{-1}(y)) > 0\}$ is a set of the first category in $C(\mu)$. []

3. Besicovitch functions in $C(\lambda)$

We recall that by a Besicovitch function we mean a function which has nowhere unilateral derivative (finite or infinite). In 1932 S. Saks [3] proved that the collection of all Besicovitch functions is of the first category in the space \mathcal{C} of all continuous functions on $[0,1]$. A similar result holds in $C(\mu)$ (using Theorem 4). We shall show that there exist Besicovitch functions in $C(\lambda)$. The following construction of Besicovitch function from $C(\lambda)$ is a slight modification of that in [4].

Construction

Let $k \geq 4$. Let us construct in $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ a discontinuum

$$D = [0, \frac{1}{2}] \setminus L, \quad \text{where } L = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{p=1}^{2^m-1} r_{m,p},$$

and the open intervals $r_{m,p} = (a_{m,p}, b_{m,p})$ are constructed as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha) \quad d_{1,1} &= [0, \frac{1}{2}], \quad r_{1,1} \subseteq d_{1,1}, \quad \lambda(r_{1,1}) = \frac{1}{2k}, \\ & b_{1,1} \text{ is the center of } d_{1,1} \end{aligned}$$

(β) if $d_{n,1}, \dots, d_{n,2^{n-1}}$ are (from left to right) the intervals of the set $[0, \frac{1}{2}] \setminus \bigcup_{q=1}^n \bigcup_{p=1}^{2^q-1} r_{q,p}$, then $r_{n,p} \subseteq d_{n,p}$, $b_{n,p}$ is the center of $d_{n,p}$ and $\lambda(r_{n,p}) = \frac{1}{2k^n}$

It is easy to verify that

$$\lambda(L) = \frac{1}{2(k-2)}, \quad \lambda(D) = \frac{k-3}{2(k-2)}$$

Remark. For $k < 4$ it is impossible to use this method for a construction of discontinuum D.

Define a function $\phi: [0, \frac{1}{2}] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$\phi(x) = 2 \left(\frac{k-2}{k-3} \right) \lambda(D \cap (0, x))$$

Obviously $\phi(0) = 0$, $\phi(\frac{1}{2}) = 1$, ϕ is continuous, nondecreasing function, constant on every interval $r_{m,p}$, $\phi(r_{m,p}) = \left\{ \frac{2^p-1}{2^m} \right\}$.

Define a function $p: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$p(x) = \phi(x), \quad x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$$

$$p(x) = \phi(1-x), \quad x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$$

The function p and the interval $[0, 1]$ form the well-known step triangle [4].

The above described procedure will be called a construction of a step triangle with base $[0, 1]$, height 1 and parameter k .

The set $\{(x, p(x)); x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]\}$ is the left side of triangle, analogously the set $\{(x, p(x)); x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]\}$ is the right side of triangle. Further, put $u_y = \{(x, y); x \in [0, 1]\}$ and let $g(f)$ be a graph of a function f . Now, we can construct a function f as follows :

(c₀) construct a step triangle with the base $[0, 1]$, height 1 and parameter k ; the sides of the step triangle define a function f_0

(c_n) construct step triangles whose bases are intervals of the set $\bigcup_{p=1}^{2^{n-1}} \frac{u_{2^p-1}}{2^n} \cap g(f_{n-1})$, height $\frac{1}{2^n}$ and parameter k

(constructed triangles are placed inwards the bigger triangle on whose side have their bases); the union of sides of all so far constructed triangles define a function f_n .

Finally, put $f = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n$ (obviously $\rho(f_n, f_{n-1}) = \frac{1}{2^n}$).

The function f is Besicovitch function. We shall not prove this fact; it is possible to use a modification of proof presented in [4]. We shall prove

Theorem 6. $f \in C(\lambda)$.

Proof. By Proposition B it is sufficient to show that for any positive integer n and $k \in \langle 0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1 \rangle$ we have

$$(17) \quad \lambda(f^{-1}(\langle \frac{k}{2^n}, \frac{k+1}{2^n} \rangle)) = \frac{1}{2^n}$$

From the construction of the function f it is clear that for n, k mentioned above and positive integer s we have

$$f_{n+s}^{-1}(\langle \frac{k}{2^n}, \frac{k+1}{2^n} \rangle) = f_n^{-1}(\langle \frac{k}{2^n}, \frac{k+1}{2^n} \rangle),$$

i.e. it suffices to verify (17) only for a function f_n . We shall prove it by induction. It is easy to see that $\lambda(f_0^{-1}(\langle 0, 1 \rangle)) = 1$. Suppose that for every $k \in \langle 0, 1, \dots, 2^{n-1} \rangle$ the equality $\lambda(f_{n-1}^{-1}(\langle \frac{k}{2^{n-1}}, \frac{k+1}{2^{n-1}} \rangle)) = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$ holds and fix $k_0 \in \langle 0, \dots, 2^{n-1} \rangle$

Observe that $\frac{u_{2k_0+1}}{2^n} \cap g(f_{n-1}) = \bigcup_{k=1}^m [u_k, v_k] \times \{ \frac{2k_0+1}{2^n} \}$, where m is a suitable positive integer. Let $k \in \langle 1, \dots, m \rangle$ be fixed. There exist $x \in f_{n-1}^{-1}(\frac{2k_0}{2^n})$ and $y \in f_{n-1}^{-1}(\frac{2k_0+2}{2^n})$ such that

$$x_k = \min(x, y) < u_k < v_k < \max(x, y) = y_k$$

$$\emptyset = (x_k, u_k) \cap (f_{n-1}^{-1}(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}) \cup f_{n-1}^{-1}(\frac{2k_0+2}{2^n}))$$

$$\emptyset = (v_k, y_k) \cap (f_{n-1}^{-1}(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}) \cup f_{n-1}^{-1}(\frac{2k_0+2}{2^n}))$$

For x_k, u_k, v_k, y_k we shall distinguish four cases :

(i) $(x_k + y_k) \frac{1}{2} = u_k$, $f_{n-1}^{-1}(x_k) < f_{n-1}^{-1}(y_k)$

$$(ii) \quad (x_k + y_k) \frac{1}{2} = u_k, \quad f_{n-1}(x_k) > f_{n-1}(y_k)$$

$$(iii) \quad (x_k + y_k) \frac{1}{2} = v_k, \quad f_{n-1}(x_k) < f_{n-1}(y_k)$$

$$(iv) \quad (x_k + y_k) \frac{1}{2} = v_k, \quad f_{n-1}(x_k) > f_{n-1}(y_k) .$$

Consider for example (iii) (the others are similar). Obviously a triangle constructed on the base $\{(w, f_{n-1}(w)), w \in [u_k, v_k]\}$ with height $\frac{1}{2^n}$ tends down. Then

$$f_n^{-1}\left(\left(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}, \frac{2k_0+1}{2^n}\right)\right) \cap [x_k, y_k] = [x_k, v_k] \quad , \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$\lambda(f_n^{-1}\left(\left(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}, \frac{2k_0+1}{2^n}\right)\right) \cap [x_k, y_k]) = v_k - x_k = \frac{1}{2}(y_k - x_k)$$

and since $(x_{k_1}, y_{k_1}) \cap (x_{k_2}, y_{k_2}) = \emptyset$

$$f_n^{-1}\left(\left(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}, \frac{2k_0+1}{2^n}\right)\right) = \bigcup_{k=1}^m (f_n^{-1}\left(\left(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}, \frac{2k_0+1}{2^n}\right)\right) \cap [x_k, y_k]) \quad ,$$

we have

$$\lambda(f_n^{-1}\left(\left(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}, \frac{2k_0+1}{2^n}\right)\right)) = \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{2}(y_k - x_k) \quad .$$

We can easily verify that

$$f_{n-1}^{-1}\left(\left(\frac{2k_0}{2^n}, \frac{2k_0+2}{2^n}\right)\right) = \bigcup_{k=1}^m (x_k, y_k) \quad ,$$

and, by induction hypothesis,

$$\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{2}(y_k - x_k) = \frac{1}{2^n} \quad .$$

The proof of Theorem 6 is complete.

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References

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