9. Boundedness of the Spectrum of a Distribution Function.

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It is generally recognized that the smoothness of a distribution function $\sigma(x)$ depends on the order of vanishing at infinity of its characteristic function (Fourier-Stieltjes transform of $\sigma(x)$)

(1)
$$\Lambda(t;\sigma) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} d\sigma(x) .$$

For example, if

(2)
$$\Lambda(t;\sigma) = O(e^{-c|t|}), \quad c \text{ constant},$$

then $\sigma(x)$ is analytic. Especially it results that $\sigma(x)$ can not be constant in any interval or in other words the spectrum¹⁾ of $\sigma(x)$ becomes the whole real axis. Connecting with the spectrum the following more general fact will be obtained.

Let p(t) be defined in $(0, \infty)$ and positive and let $tp'(t) \uparrow \infty$. If

(3)
$$\Lambda(t;\sigma) = O\left(e^{-p(|t|)}\right)$$

and

$$\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{p(t)}{t^{2}} dt = \infty ,$$

then the spectrum of $\sigma(x)$ is the whole line.

This is known in the case where $\sigma(x)$ is absolutely continuous.²⁾ In fact, $\sigma'(x)$ becomes indefinitely differentiable and quasi-analytic in the sense of Carlemann-Denjoy. The proof of the above theorem will be done also quite similarly.

Now our purpose is to prove the following fact concerning the converse problem.

Let p(t) be positive and increasing. If

$$\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{p(t)}{t^{2}} dt < \infty ,$$

then there exists a distribution function $\sigma(x)$ with bounded spectrum and such that

¹⁾ The point x is said after A. Wintner the spectrum of a distribution function o(x) if there exist two points x' and x'' in any vicinity of x such that $o(x') \neq o(x'')$.

²⁾ In the case where $\sigma(x)$ is absolutely continuous and $\sigma'(x)$ is periodic and the Fourier coefficients satisfy (3), this was proved by Mandelbrojt. Mandelbrojt, Série de Fourier et classes quasi-analytiques, Borel collections, 1936. And in the case of usual Fourier transforms, see:

Ingham, Notes on Fourier transforms, Journal of London Math. Soc., 9 (1934). Izumi-Kawata, Tohoku Math. Journal, 42 (1937).

S. Takenaka, ibid. 44 (1938).

(6)
$$\Lambda(t;\sigma) = O\left(e^{-p(|t|)}\right).$$

Consider the function

$$q(t) = \int_{1}^{t} \frac{p(u)}{u} du, \quad \text{for } t > 1,$$

$$= 0, \quad \text{for } 0 \le t \le 1,$$

which evidently is strictly increasing for t > 1. Since

$$\int_{t}^{\infty} \frac{p(u)}{u^{2}} du \geq p(t) \int_{t}^{\infty} \frac{du}{u^{2}} = \frac{p(t)}{t},$$

p(t)=o(t) as $t\to\infty$. We may suppose that $p(t)\uparrow\infty$ and that $\int_1^t \frac{p(t)}{t} dt \to \infty$, otherwise we may consider the function $p(t)+\sqrt{t}$ in place of p(t).

Now we have

$$\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{q(t)}{t^2} dt < \infty ,$$

which is almost trivial, for

$$\int_{1}^{t} \frac{q(u)}{u^{2}} du = q(1) - \frac{q(t)}{t} + \int_{1}^{t} \frac{p(u)}{u^{2}} du$$

and further

$$\frac{q(t)}{t} = \frac{1}{t} \int_{1}^{t} \frac{p(u)}{u} du = \frac{1}{t} \int_{1}^{t} o(1) du = o(1).$$

Further we have

(8)
$$q(3t)-q(t) \ge p(t) + \log\left(\cos\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-1}, \quad \text{for } t \ge t_0.$$

For,

$$q(3t)-q(t) = \int_{t}^{3t} \frac{p(u)}{u} du$$

$$\geq p(t) \log 3 \geq p(t) + \log \left(\cos \frac{1}{3}\right)^{-1}, \quad \text{for } t \geq t_0.$$

Let r(t) be the inverse function of q(t) and let

$$\varphi(t) = \{r(t)\}^{-1}$$
.

Then $\varphi(t) \to 0$, for $q(t) \to \infty$. Since

$$t\varphi(t) = \frac{t}{r(t)} = \frac{q(r(t))}{r(t)} = o(1),$$

we have

$$\begin{split} \int_{1}^{t} \varphi(u) \, du &= t \varphi(t) - \varphi(1) - \int_{1}^{t} u \varphi'(u) \, du \\ &= o(1) - \varphi(1) - \int_{1}^{t} u \varphi^{2}(u) \, \frac{\varphi'(u)}{\varphi^{2}(u)} \, du \\ &= o(1) - \varphi(1) + \int_{1/\varphi(t)}^{1/\varphi(t)} \frac{q(v)}{v^{2}} \, dv \,, \end{split}$$

(putting $\frac{1}{\varphi(u)} = v$) and thus $\int_{1}^{\infty} \varphi(u) du < \infty$ from which, by the monotoneness of $\varphi(u)$, it follows that

(9)
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi\left(n\log\left(\cos\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-1}\right) = A < \infty.$$

Now we put

$$a_n = \varphi \left(n \log \left(\cos \frac{1}{3} \right)^{-1} \right)$$

and define $\sigma(x)$ by the relation

(10)
$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos (a_n t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} d\sigma(x) = \Lambda(t; \sigma).$$

That such $\sigma(x)$ exists and is a distribution function with the spectrum (-A, A) is well known.¹⁾ Thus for our purpose it is sufficient to show (6).

The number of n such that

 $a_n t \geq c$

is that of

$$r\left(n\log\left(\cos\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-1}\right) \leq \frac{t}{c}$$

or that of

$$n \leq \left\{\log\left(\cos\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-1}\right\}^{-1}q\left(\frac{t}{c}\right)$$

or is

$$\left[\left\{\log\left(\cos\frac{1}{3}\right)^{\!-1}\!\right\}^{\!-1}q\!\left(\frac{t}{c}\right)\right].^{\!2)}$$

Hence the number of n such that

$$1>a_nt\geq \frac{1}{3}$$

is

$$\begin{split} & \left[\left\{ \log \left(\cos \frac{1}{3} \right)^{-1} \right\}^{-1} q(3t) \right] - \left[\left\{ \log \left(\cos \frac{1}{3} \right)^{-1} \right\}^{-1} q(t) \right] \\ & \geq \left\{ \log \left(\cos \frac{1}{3} \right)^{-1} \right\}^{-1} \left\{ q(3t) - q(t) \right\} - 1 \geq \left\{ \log \left(\cos \frac{1}{3} \right)^{-1} \right\}^{-1} p(t) , \\ & \text{for } t \geq t_0 . \end{split}$$

by (8).

Hence

$$|\Lambda(t;\sigma)| = |\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos(a_n t)| \le \prod_{1>a_n t \ge \frac{1}{3}} \cos(a_n t)$$

 $\le \left(\cos\frac{1}{3}\right)^{\{\log(\cos\frac{1}{3})^{-1}\}^{-1}p(t)} = e^{-p(t)}.$

This completes the proof.

¹⁾ B. Jessen and A. Wintner, Distribution functions and the Riemann zeta function. Transaction Amer. Math. Soc. 38 (1935).

²⁾ [x] represents the integral part of x.