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An Extension of the Ordinary Variation

In [2] Foran has introduced condition  $B(N)$  which for  $N = 1$  is identical to the condition of bounded variation. Using condition  $B(N)$  we introduce the variation  $V_N(F;E)$  of a function  $F$  on a set  $E$  which for  $N = 1$  is identical to the ordinary variation of  $F$  on  $E$ . Then we show that there exist functions  $F$  on  $[0,1]$  for which  $V_2(F;[0,x] \cap C) = \phi(x)$  ( $C =$  Cantor's ternary set,  $\phi =$  Cantor's ternary function,  $x \in C$ ). Using this new variation we show that there exist continuous functions, satisfying Lusin's condition  $(N)$  on  $[0,1]$ , which are  $B(N)$  on  $C$  for no natural number  $N$ .

Definition. Given a natural number  $N$  and a set  $E$ , a function  $F$  will be said to be  $B(N)$  on  $E$  if there is a number  $M < \infty$  such that for any sequence  $I_1, \dots, I_k, \dots$  of nonoverlapping intervals with  $E \cap I_k \neq \emptyset$  there exist intervals  $J_{kn}$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, N$ , such that

$$B(F; E \cap \bigcup_k I_k) \subset \bigcup_k \bigcup_{n=1}^N (I_k \times J_{kn}) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_k \sum_{n=1}^N |J_{kn}| < M.$$

(Here  $B(F;X)$  is the graph of  $F$  on the set  $X$ .)

We denote by  $V_N(F;E)$  the infimum of the set of all numbers  $M$  appearing in the preceding definition.

Lemma 1. Let  $[a_i, b_i]$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ , be a sequence of nonoverlapping intervals,  $b_i \leq a_{i+1}$ . Let  $b = \sup b_i$  and let  $F$  be a function which is  $B(N)$  on a set  $E$  with  $E \cap [a_i, b_i] \neq \emptyset$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} V_N(F; E \cap [a_i, b_i]) \leq V_N(F; E \cap [a_1, b]).$$

Proof. Let  $V_i < V_N(F; E \cap [a_i, b_i])$ . Then there is a sequence of nonoverlapping intervals

$$(I_k^i), \quad I_k^i \cap E \neq \emptyset, \quad I_k^i \subset [a_i, b_i],$$

such that for any intervals

$$J_{kn}^i, \quad n = 1, \dots, N,$$

with

$$B(F; E \cap \bigcup_k I_k^i) \subset \bigcup_k \bigcup_{n=1}^N (I_k^i \times J_{kn}^i)$$

we have

$$(1) \quad \sum_k \sum_{n=1}^N |J_{kn}^i| \geq V_i.$$

Let  $M > V_N(F; E \cap [a_1, b])$ . There exist intervals

$$J_{kn}^i \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, \quad n = 1, \dots, N)$$

such that

$$B(F; E \cap \bigcup_k \bigcup_i I_k^i) \subset \bigcup_k \bigcup_i \bigcup_{n=1}^N (I_k^i \times J_{kn}^i)$$

and

$$\sum_k \sum_i \sum_{n=1}^N |J_{kn}^i| < M.$$

By (1) we have  $\sum V_i < M$  which easily implies our assertion.

Let  $C$  denote the Cantor ternary set, i.e.,  $C = \{x : x = \sum c_i/3^i \text{ with } c_i \text{ taking the values } 0 \text{ and } 2 \text{ only}\}$ . Each point  $x \in C$  is uniquely represented by  $\sum c_i(x)/3^i$ . Let  $\phi$ ,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be functions defined as follows: for each

$x \in C$ ,  $\phi(x) = \sum c_i(x)/2^{i+1}$ ,  $F_1(x) = \sum c_{2i-1}(x)/4^i$  and  $F_2(x) = (1/2) \sum c_{2i}(x)/4^i$ . Extending  $\phi$ ,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  linearly on each interval contiguous to  $C$ , one has  $\phi$ ,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  defined and continuous on  $[0,1]$  (cf. [1]);  $\phi$  is the Cantor ternary function.

Remark 1. By [1] we have

$$F_1(x) = \begin{cases} (1/2)F_2(3x), & \text{if } x \in [0, 1/3] \\ x - (1/6), & \text{if } x \in (1/3, 2/3) \\ (1/2) + (1/2)F_2(3x-2), & \text{if } x \in [2/3, 1] \end{cases}$$

Lemma 2.  $V_2(F_2;C) = 1$  and  $V_2(F_1;C) = 1$ .

Proof. In [1] V. Ene has shown that for any interval  $[a,b]$ ,  $a,b \in C$ , there exist two intervals  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  such that

$$(2) \quad B(F_2;C \cap [a,b]) \subset [a,b] \times (J_1 \cup J_2) \quad \text{and}$$

$$|J_1| + |J_2| \leq \phi(b) - \phi(a).$$

By (2) it follows that

$$(3) \quad V_2(F_2;C) \leq \phi(1) - \phi(0) = 1.$$

Let  $[a_i, b_i]$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 16$ , be the closed intervals remaining after the 4th step in Cantor's ternary process. Let  $V = V_2(F_2;C)$ . Since  $F_2(x) = (1/16)F_2(3^4(x-a_i)) + F_2(a_i)$  for each  $x \in [a_i, b_i]$ , it follows that

$$(4) \quad V_2(F_2;[a_i, b_i] \cap C) = (1/16)V.$$

Now consider the closed interval  $[b_7, a_{10}]$  for which we have  $F_2([b_7, a_{10}] \cap C) \subset J_1 \cup J_2$  with  $J_1 = [F_2(b_7), F_2(b_8)]$  and  $J_2 = [F_2(a_9), F_2(a_{10})]$ . We have

$$(5) \quad |J_2| + |J_2| = 2(1/16)$$

and this sum is minimum. Applying Lemma 1 for the intervals  $[b_7, a_{10}]$ ,  $[a_i, b_i]$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 7\} \cup \{10, 11, \dots, 16\}$ , by (4) and (5),  $(14/16)v + (2/16) \leq v$ . Hence  $v \geq 1$  so that, by (3),  $v = 1$ . Since (2) is also true for  $F_1$ , by Remark 1 and Lemma 1 it follows now that  $V_2(F_1; C) = 1$ .

Remark 2. Let

$$I_{k_1, \dots, k_n}, \quad k_i = 1, 2, 3, 4, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

be the closed intervals remaining after the  $2n$ -th step in Cantor's ternary process (numbered from left to right), and let

$$I_{k_1, \dots, k_n} = [a_{k_1, \dots, k_n}, b_{k_1, \dots, k_n}].$$

Then for each  $x \in C$ ,

$$x = I_{k_1(x)} \cap I_{k_1(x), k_2(x)} \cap \dots \quad \text{and}$$

$$F_2(x) = (1/4^n)F_2(9^n(x - a_{k_1, \dots, k_n})) + F_2(a_{k_1, \dots, k_n}).$$

Theorem 1.  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are  $B(2)$  on  $C$  and for each  $x \in C$  we have :  
 $V_2(F_2; [0, x] \cap C) = \phi(x)$  and  $V_2(F_1; [0, x] \cap C) = \phi(x)$ .

Proof. By [1] it follows that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are  $B(2)$  on  $C$ . By (2),  $V_2(F_2; [0, x] \cap C) \leq \phi(x)$ . By Remark 2 and Lemma 2,

$$V_2(F_2; I_{k_1, \dots, k_n} \cap C) = (1/4^n).$$

Now by Lemma 1,  $V_2(F_2; [0, x] \cap C) \geq k_1(x)/4 + k_2(x)/4^2 + \dots = \phi(x)$ . By (2),

Remark 1 and Lemma 1 it follows that  $V_2(F_1; [0, x] \cap C) = \phi(x)$ .

Remark 3. Let  $n_0$  be a natural number,  $n_0 \geq 2$ . Then for each  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n_0 - 1$  we define

$$G_i(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_{kn_0+i}(x) / 2^{kn_0+i+1}, \quad x \in C.$$

By an argument analogous to the proof of Theorem 1 one can show that  $G_i$  is  $B(2)$  on  $C$  and  $V_2(G_i; [0, x] \cap C) = \phi(x)$  for each  $x \in C$ .

Theorem 2. There exist continuous functions satisfying Lusin's condition (N) on  $[0, 1]$  which are  $B(N)$  on  $C$  for no natural number  $N$ .

Proof. Let  $q \in (2, 4)$  and let  $F_q$  be defined as follows: for each  $x \in C$ ,  $F_q(x) = \sum c_{2k}(x) / q^k$ , and extending  $F_q$  linearly on each interval contiguous to  $C$  one has  $F_q$  defined and continuous on  $[0, 1]$ .  $F_q(C)$  can be covered by  $2^n$  closed intervals, each of length at most  $2/q^n$ . Hence  $|F_q(C)| \leq 2^n(2/q^n)$  so that  $|F_q(C)| = 0$ . Let  $[a_i, b_i]$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , be the closed intervals remaining after the second step of Cantor's ternary process. Suppose that  $F_q$  is  $B(N)$  on  $C$  for some  $N$  and let  $v = V_N(F_q; C)$ . We have  $F_q(x) = (1/q)F_q(9(x-a_i)) + F_q(a_i)$  for each  $x \in [a_i, b_i]$ . Then  $v_i = V_N(F_q; C \cap [a_i, b_i]) = v/q$ . By Lemma 1,  $\sum v_i \leq v$ . Hence  $4(v/q) \leq v$  and  $q \geq 4$ , which is a contradiction.

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References

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