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On Superpositionally Measurable Multifunctions

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We prove a theorem on measurability of the superposition $F(t, G(t))$, where F is a Carathéodory multifunction and G is a measurable one.

1. Introduction

The problem of measurability of the superposition $F(t, G(t))$ arise in many situations, lately in the study of differential inclusions and random differential inclusions (see e.g. [3, 6]).

The classical result on superpositional measurability is due to Carathéodory [4] and states the following: Let T be an arbitrary measurable space, X a separable metric space and Y a metric space. If $f: T \times X \rightarrow Y$ is a Carathéodory function, i.e. measurable in the first variable and continuous in the second one, then for every measurable function $x: T \rightarrow X$, the superposition $f(t, x(t))$ is a measurable function. There are some results of this type for multifunctions, see [9, 3, 13, 2, 6, 8]. For other references see the survey paper [1] by Appell.

Now, we recall some definitions from the multifunctions theory. Throughout this note let (T, Σ) be a measurable space and X, Y be two metric spaces. Denote by 2^X and 2^Y the families of all nonempty subsets of X and Y , respectively. A multifunction $G: T \rightarrow 2^X$ is said to be measurable if for every open $A \subset X$ the set $G^{-1}(A) = \{t \in T: G(t) \cap A \neq \emptyset\} \in \Sigma$. Note that measurability of G is equivalent to the measurability of \bar{G} , where $\bar{G}(t) = \overline{G(t)}$ for $t \in T$.

A multifunction $H: X \rightarrow 2^Y$ is said to be continuous if it is both lower and upper semicontinuous. Lower (upper) semicontinuity of H means that for every open $B \subset Y$ the set $\{x \in X: H(x) \cap B \neq \emptyset\}$ ($\{x \in X: H(x) \subset B\}$) is open in X .

We say that a multifunction $F: T \times X \rightarrow 2^Y$ is a Carathéodory multifunction if for every $x \in X$ the multifunction $F(\cdot, x)$ is measurable, and for every $t \in T$ the multifunction $F(t, \cdot)$ is continuous.

In the next section we will prove the following theorem which generalize Caljuk's result [3].

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Theorem. Let X be complete and separable and $F: T \times X \rightarrow 2^X$ be a Carathéodory multifunction with relatively compact values. Then for every measurable multifunction $G: T \rightarrow 2^X$ the superposition $F(t, G(t))$ is a measurable multifunction, where $F(t, G(t))$ is the sum of sets $F(t, x)$ over $x \in G(t)$.

2. Proof of the theorem

Our first step is a reduction of the problem to the measurability of the superposition $F(t, x(t))$, where x is an arbitrary measurable function from T to X . Indeed, let (g_n) be a Castaing representation of the multifunction G (see [12, Theorem 4.2] of [7, Corollary 2.2]), and observe that the lower semicontinuity of $F(t, \cdot)$ implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \{t \in T: F(t, G(t)) \cap A \neq \emptyset\} &= \{t \in T: F(t, \overline{G(t)}) \cap A \neq \emptyset\} = \\ &= \bigcup_n \{t \in T: F(t, g_n(t)) \cap A \neq \emptyset\} \end{aligned}$$

for every open $A \subset Y$.

Let $x: T \rightarrow X$ be an arbitrary measurable function. Since X is separable there exists a sequence (x_n) of measurable simple functions which converges pointwise to x ([5, p. 61]). The superpositions $F(t, x_n(t))$ are measurable multifunctions because

$$\{t \in T: F(t, x_n(t)) \cap A \neq \emptyset\} = \bigcup_a \{t \in T: x_n(t) = a \text{ and } F(t, a) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

for every open $A \subset Y$, and the sum over a is finite.

In view of [11, Theorem 4.7] it is sufficient to prove that the sequence $(F(t, x_n(t)))$ converges (with respect to the Hausdorff metric) to the compact set $F(t, x(t))$. However, the convergence follows from the continuity of the multifunction $F(t, \cdot)$.

3. Concluding remarks

Another version of the theorem can be formulated. Namely, if X is separable (not necessarily complete) and the values of G are complete subsets of X then the superposition $F(t, G(t))$ is a measurable multifunction too.

Bocsan [2] (see also [10]) consider the following condition (c): There exists a Castaing representation (g_n) of $G: T \rightarrow 2^X$ such that the superpositions $f(t, g_n(t))$ are measurable functions, where $f: T \times X \rightarrow Y$. He remarked that this condition holds provided X is separable, f is a Carathéodory function and G is a measurable and complete valued multifunction (see [10, Proposition 2]). In other words: the superposition $f(t, G(t))$ is measurable provided X is separable, f a Carathéodory function and G a measurable and complete valued multifunction.

The following two examples show that the assumptions on lower and upper semicontinuity in the theorem of section 1 cannot be omitted.

Example 1. Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ be non-Lebesgue measurable. Define $F: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}}$ as follows: $F(t, x) = \{0, 1\}$ if $x \neq t$, $F(t, x) = \{0\}$ if $x = t$ and $t \in E$, and $F(t, x) = \{1\}$ if $x = t$ and $t \notin E$. The multifunctions $F(t, \cdot)$ are lower semicontinuous but not upper semicontinuous. The multifunctions $F(\cdot, x)$ are measurable. However, the multifunction $F(t, t)$ is not measurable.

Example 2. Let E be as above and F be defined as follows: $F(t, x) = \{0\}$ if $x \neq t$, $F(t, x) = \{0, 1\}$ if $x = t$ and $t \in E$, and $F(t, x) = [0, 1]$ if $x = t$ and $t \notin E$. The multifunctions $F(t, \cdot)$ are upper semicontinuous but not lower semicontinuous. The multifunctions $F(\cdot, x)$ are measurable but the multifunction $F(t, t)$ is not measurable.

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