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MULTIPLIERS OF VARIOUS CLASSES OF DERIVATIVES

(Lecture presented at Real Analysis Symposium in Waterloo.)

Let f be a function (= mapping to $(-\infty, \infty)$) on the interval $J = [0, 1]$ and let Φ be a system of functions on J . We say that f is a multiplier of Φ if and only if $f\varphi \in \Phi$ for each $\varphi \in \Phi$. The system of all multipliers of Φ will be denoted by $M(\Phi)$. If, e.g., Φ is closed under multiplication and if the function $\varphi(x) = 1(x \in J)$ belongs to Φ , then, obviously, $M(\Phi) = \Phi$. It is well known, however, that derivatives behave badly with respect to multiplication. It is therefore of some interest to investigate the system $M(\Phi)$, if Φ is a "reasonable" class of derivatives.

Let $D[C, \Delta, C_{ap}]$ be the system of all finite derivatives [continuous functions, differentiable f ., approximately continuous f .] on J . For each system Φ of functions on J let $\Phi^+ [b\Phi]$ be the system of all nonnegative [bounded] elements of Φ .

R.J. Fleissner characterized in [1] and [2] the system $M(D)$. For this purpose he introduced the notion of a function of distant bounded variation. This notion can be defined in various ways. It seems that the simplest way is the following: Let f be a function on J . We say that f is of distant bounded variation if and only if

$$\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \text{var}(x+h, x+2h, f) < \infty \quad \text{for each } x \in [0, 1)$$

and

$$\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \text{var}(x-2h, x-h, f) < \infty \quad \text{for each } x \in (0, 1].$$

The first of these two conditions is, of course, equivalent to

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{var}(x + \frac{1}{n}, x + \frac{2}{n}, f) < \infty \quad \text{for each } x \in [0, 1)$$

where n is an integer; similarly for the second.

If we denote by Y the system of all functions of distant bounded variation, we may express Fleissner's result by

$$M(D) = D \cap Y.$$

Fleissner posed in [1] the problem of characterizing the system $M(SD)$, where SD is the class of all summable (Lebesgue integrable) derivatives. This problem has been solved in [3]. Here I will formulate the corresponding result in a slightly different way.

If f is a function on an interval $[a, b]$ and if n is a natural number, let $v(n, a, b, f)$ be the least upper bound of all sums $\sum_{k=1}^n |f(y_k) - f(x_k)|$, where $a \leq x_1 < y_1 \leq x_2 < y_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n < y_n \leq b$. Let V be the system of all functions f on J such that

$$(1) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} v(n, x + \frac{1}{n}, x + \frac{2}{n}, f) < \infty \quad \text{for each } x \in [0, 1)$$

and

$$(2) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} v(n, x - \frac{2}{n}, x - \frac{1}{n}, f) < \infty \quad \text{for each } x \in (0, 1].$$

It is obvious that $Y \subset V$. A solution of the mentioned problem is now given by the relation

$$M(SD) = D \cap V.$$

Another "natural" class of derivatives is D^+ . The vector space E generated by it is, obviously, the system of all functions $f \in D$ such that $|f| \leq g$ for some $g \in D$ (so that, e.g., $bD \subset E$). To describe $M(E)$ we need the following notation. If f is a bounded nonnegative function on an interval $[a, b]$ and if r is a natural number, we set

$$A(r, a, b, f) = r^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^r \sup f([x_{k-1}, x_k]),$$

where $x_k = a + k(b-a)/r$. Then $M(E)$ is the system of all bounded functions f on J such that

$$\lim_{r, n \rightarrow \infty} A(r, x, x + \frac{1}{n}, |f - f(x)|) = 0 \text{ for each } x \in [0, 1]$$

and

$$\lim_{r, n \rightarrow \infty} A(r, x - \frac{1}{n}, x, |f - f(x)|) = 0 \text{ for each } x \in (0, 1].$$

It is not difficult to prove that $M(D^+) = (M(E))^+$ and that

$$(3) \quad M(D) \subset M(SD) \subset M(E) \subset \text{bc}_{\text{ap}}$$

with proper inclusions. Further we have $M(D) \setminus C \neq \emptyset$, $\Delta \setminus M(D) \neq \emptyset$, $C \setminus M(SD) \neq \emptyset$. Some elements of $C \cap M(SD)$ are nowhere differentiable. These facts show that the role of

continuity or differentiability in the investigation of multipliers is smaller than we might expect. We have, however, $\Delta \subset M(SD)$ and $C \subset M(E)$.

Let $f \in bc_{ap}$ and let T be the set of all points of discontinuity of f . If $f \in M(D)$, then T is finite. If $f \in M(SD)$, then T is countable and each nonempty subset of T has an isolated point; in particular, T is nowhere dense. If $f \in M(E)$, then T has measure zero (so that f is Riemann integrable). We see that the set of points of discontinuity of a function belonging to some of the first three systems in (3) is, in some sense, small. There is, however, a function $f \in M(D^+)$ such that $T \cap I$ is uncountable for each interval $I \subset J$.

Let Z be the system of all continuous functions of bounded variation on J . Since $Z \subset M(D)$ and $C \setminus M(SD) \neq \emptyset$, we see that neither of the first two systems in (3) is closed under uniform convergence. It can be shown, however, that the third is. Moreover, if $f \in M(E)$ and if φ is a function continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$, then the composite function $\varphi \circ f$ belongs again to $M(E)$.

I would like to illustrate the situation by a few examples.

It is easy to construct a function $f \in bc_{ap}$ such that $f(0) = 0$, f is continuous on $(0, 1]$ and that $f(2^{-n}) = 1$, $\text{var}(2^{-n}, 2^{-n+1}, f) = 2$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Then $f \in M(D) \setminus C$.

It is also easy to construct a function $f \in C$ for which (1) does not hold; then, of course, $f \notin C \setminus M(SD)$.

Let S be the Cantor set. Let f be a function on J with the following properties: $f = 0$ on S ; if $I = (a, b)$

is a component of $J \setminus S$, $b - a = 3^{-n}$, let $f = 0$ on $(a, \alpha] \cup$
 $[\beta, b)$, $f(c) = 1$ and let f be linear on $[\alpha, c]$ and on $[c, \beta]$,
 where $c = (a+b)/2 = (\alpha+\beta)/2$, $\beta - \alpha = 9^{-n}$. Then $f \in M(D^+)$ and
 f is discontinuous at each point of S .

Let $1 > a_1 > a_2 > \dots$, $a_n \rightarrow 0$, $a_n/a_{n+1} \rightarrow 1$. There is a
 function $f \in C_{ap}$ such that $f(0) = 0$, f is continuous on
 $(0, 1]$, $f(a_n) = 2$ for each n and $0 \leq f \leq 2$ on J . It is
 easy to construct a function $g \in D^+$ such that $g(0) = 1$ and
 that $fg \geq g$ on $(0, 1]$. (Such a g may be continuous on
 $(0, 1]$.) Since $(fg)(0) = 0$, we cannot have $fg \in D$. We see
 that the function f belongs to bC_{ap} and is Riemann integrable,
 but does not belong to $M(E)$.

Proofs of the above results will appear in Real Analysis
 Exchange.

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