



Rudin-Carleson theorems

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RUDIN-CARLESON THEOREMS

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60 ECTS thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of a
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To my parents

Abstract

The main theme of this thesis is the Rudin-Carleson extension theorem. It states a sufficient condition on a subset of the unit circle in the complex plane such that every continuous function thereon can be extended to a continuous function on the closed unit disk whose restriction to the open unit disk is holomorphic. The theorem is proved in two ways. Firstly in the same manner as Rudin, and secondly, it shown to be a corollary of a theorem of Bishop and the F. and M. Riesz theorem, both of which are proved in the thesis. We also look at the role of Bishop's theorem in the classification of closed subsets of the boundary of the unit ball in several complex variables. Finally we consider a way to relax the condition on the set in Bishop's theorem.

Útdráttur

Aðalefni ritgerðarinnar er Rudin-Carleson-setningin. Hún gefur okkur nægjanlegt skilyrði á hlutmengi í einingarringnum þannig að framlengja megi sérhvert samfelld fall á menginu í samfelld fall á lokuðu einingarringskífunni sem er fágað á opnu einingarringskífunni. Hún er sönnuð á tvo vegu. Fyrst er farið sömu leið og Rudin gerði upprunalega, og síðan er sýnt að hún sé fylgisetning setningar Bishops og setningar F. og M. Riesz, sem báðar eru sannaðar í ritgerðinni. Einnig er athugað hvernig setning Bishops getur hjálpað okkur að flokka lokuð hlutmengi jaðars einingarkúlunnar í mörgum breytistærðum. Loks skoðum við hvernig slaka má á skilyrðum setningar Bishops.

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1 Introduction

Lennart Carleson and Walter Rudin gave, independently in 1957 and 1956 respectively, a sufficient condition on a subset of the unit circle in \mathbb{C} such that each continuous function thereon could be extended continuously onto the closed unit disk such that its restriction to the open unit disk is holomorphic [Carleson, 1957, Rudin, 1956]. This can be seen as a strengthened result of Fatou's interpolation theorem [Fatou, 1906] (this interplay is discussed briefly and more generally in Section 4.1). Errett Bishop then generalized the Rudin-Carleson theorem in 1962 by giving sufficient condition for a set such that a continuous function thereon can always be extended in a similar sense [Bishop, 1962]. Here the condition on the set is given in terms of the annihilating measures (see Definition 2.1.2) of the family of functions we want to extend into. The result of Bishop doesn't just generalize the Rudin-Carleson theorem (allowing, for example, similar studies in higher dimensions) but also shows the connection between the Rudin-Carleson theorem and the F. and M. Riesz theorem [Riesz and Riesz, 1916].

We start by proving the F. and M. Riesz theorem in Section 3.1, which states a sufficient condition on a measure on the unit circle such that it is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue-measure on the unit circle. To achieve this some study of the Poisson kernel is needed. The Poisson kernel is classically used to find harmonic functions on the unit disk with given continuous boundary values. It is used to this end in the proof of the Rudin-Carleson theorem presented in Section 3.2, but its place in the proof of the F. and M. Riesz theorem is less standard.

The Rudin-Carleson theorem is proved in Section 3.2. It is done in the same way Rudin did in his original paper. Some effort is put into showing the existence of a continuous integrable function on \mathbb{T} that takes value $+\infty$ on a prescribed closed set of Lebesgue-measure zero.

In Section 3.3 Bishop's generalization of the Rudin-Carleson theorem is stated and proved. This is also done in the same way Bishop did in his paper. The original Rudin-Carleson theorem is then shown to be a corollary of Bishop's theorem and the F. and M. Riesz theorem.

The final two sections, Section 4.1 and Section 4.2, look at how Bishop's theorem fits into complex analysis in several variables and states an alternative version of

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Bishop's theorem. This alternative version of Bishop's theorem relaxes the condition on the set where the function we want to extend is defined by not requiring that every continuous function thereon can be extended.

2 Preliminaries

2.1 Measure theory

During introductory courses in measure theory the focus is often solely on positive measures [Tao, 2014], which are then simply referred to as ‘measures’. This restriction is immediately felt when studying functional analysis (see for example Theorem 2.3.6). We, therefore, need the following definitions:

Definition 2.1.1. Let \mathcal{F} be a σ -algebra on X and $\mu: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow Y$, where Y is a subset of either \mathbb{C} or $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$. Recall that $\overline{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, +\infty\}$. We say that μ is *countably additive* if

$$\mu \left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} E_n \right) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(E_n)$$

for all disjoint collections $(E_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in \mathcal{F} . Let’s assume μ is countably additive and $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$. We say that

- (i) μ is a *positive measure* if $Y = [0, +\infty]$.
- (ii) μ is a *real measure* if $Y = [-\infty, +\infty[$ or $Y =]-\infty, +\infty]$.
- (iii) μ is a *complex measure* if $Y = \mathbb{C}$.

Allowing $Y = \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ in (ii) could lead to trouble, for example if $\mu(\{x\}) = +\infty$ and $\mu(\{y\}) = -\infty$ what is $\mu(\{x, y\})$? We shall always assume that measures are complex Borel measures, that is, \mathcal{F} is the Borel σ -algebra and the measures take complex values, unless stated otherwise. We let m denote the Lebesgue-measure on \mathbb{R} . Then the arc length measure on the unit circle \mathbb{T} is the push-forward of m by the exponential function $t \mapsto e^{it}$. We also denote the arc length measure by m and let $\sigma = m/2\pi$ be the arc length measure scaled to a probability measure on \mathbb{T} .

For those not familiar with complex measures, some care must be taken. A prime example is the notion of null sets. They still play a significant role, but their definition is not the same as when working with positive measures. We can motivate

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this difference by letting $X = \{x, y\}$, \mathcal{F} be the power set of X , and define μ by $\mu(\{x\}) = -1$ and $\mu(\{y\}) = 1$. For μ to be a measure we need $\mu(X) = 0$ to hold. The usual definition of null sets would label X as a μ -null set. This would of course technically be a valid definition, but leads to problems further down the road. For example,

$$\int_X f \, d\mu = 0$$

would not hold generally (once we define integration by complex measure, of course). To avoid this specific pitfall we define a measurable set E to be μ -null if $\mu(F) = 0$ holds for all measurable F such that $F \subset E$. The above example also shows us another pitfall, $E \subset F \implies \mu(E) \leq \mu(F)$ doesn't generally hold.

If we have a complex measure $\mu: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ we may want a positive measure λ that dominates it, in the sense that $|\mu(E)| \leq \lambda(E)$ for E in \mathcal{F} . We would also want λ to be 'small' in some sense. We will refer to a collection $(E_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in \mathcal{F} as a *partition of E* if they are pairwise disjoint and their union is E . The measure λ mentioned earlier will then satisfy

$$\lambda(E) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \lambda(E_n) \geq |\mu(E)|.$$

It so happens that defining λ by

$$\lambda(E) = \sup \left\{ \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} |\mu(E_n)| ; \text{ where } (E_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ is any partition of } E \right\}$$

yields a measure. This measure is referred to as *the total variation of μ* and denoted by $|\mu|$ (for example, $|\mu|(E)$). A proof that $|\mu|$ is a measure and more detail on complex measures can be found in Chapter 6 of [Rudin, 1987]. A useful property of the total variation of μ is that $\mu \ll |\mu|$, that is a $|\mu|$ -null set is also μ -null.

Recall that if X is a locally compact topological space and \mathcal{F} contains the Borel σ -algebra, then a positive measure μ is said to be *regular* if

$$\mu(E) = \inf \{ \mu(F) ; E \subset F \text{ and } F \text{ is open} \}$$

holds for all measurable E and

$$\mu(E) = \sup \{ \mu(K) ; K \subset E \text{ and } K \text{ is compact} \}$$

holds for all open E and measurable E of finite measure. We similarly refer to a complex measure μ as *regular* if $|\mu|$ is regular.

Let μ and λ be measures on a common σ -algebra. We define

$$(\mu + \lambda)(E) = \mu(E) + \lambda(E) \text{ and } (c\mu)(E) = c\mu(E)$$

for any c in \mathbb{C} and measurable E . Both of these are obviously measures so the measures on a common σ -algebra form a vector space. This vector space is also normed with the norm $\|\mu\| = |\mu|(X)$, where X is the measure space μ is defined on, since $|\mu(X)| < \infty$ always holds [Rudin, 1987, Theorem 6.4], and it is Banach if X is locally compact (see Definition 2.3.1) [Rudin, 1987, Exercise 3, Chapter 6].

We won't get far with complex measures without defining integration. A corollary of the Radon-Nikodym theorem is the existence of a function h such that

$$d\mu = h d|\mu|.$$

and $|h| = 1$ [Rudin, 1987, Theorem 6.12]. This can be seen as a decomposition of μ into polar form. With this in mind we define integration with respect to a complex measure by

$$\int_E f d\mu = \int_E fh d|\mu|.$$

We will later use the following definition to characterize sets if a family of functions is given.

Definition 2.1.2. Let μ be a measure and B be a family of measurable functions defined on a measurable space X . We say that μ is an *annihilating measure* of B if

$$\int_X f d\mu = 0$$

for all f in B . We denote the family of all annihilating measures of B by B^\perp . Sets that are μ -null for all μ in B^\perp are said to be *B^\perp -null*.

2.2 Complex analysis

We will use \mathbb{D} to refer to the open unit disk $\{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| < 1\}$, the closed unit disk will get no special notation, but will be denoted by $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$, and \mathbb{T} will be the open unit circle $\{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| = 1\}$.

2.2.1 The disk algebra

Definition 2.2.1. The set of all continuous functions on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ which are holomorphic on \mathbb{D} is called the *disk algebra* and we denote it by \mathcal{A} . The set of all continuous functions on $\overline{\mathbb{B}_n}$ which are holomorphic on \mathbb{B}_n is called the *ball algebra* and we denote it by \mathcal{A}_n .

The set \mathcal{A} is a closed subalgebra of the Banach algebra of continuous function on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ with the supremum norm. It can be shown using Morera's theorem that a sequence of holomorphic functions that converges uniformly has a holomorphic limit [Axelsson, 2014]. The same holds for continuous functions. So, naturally, we conclude that a sequence of functions in \mathcal{A} that converges uniformly has a limit in \mathcal{A} .

2.2.2 The Riemann Mapping Theorem

The Riemann mapping theorem is a powerful tool that often allows us to move results on the open unit disk to more general simply connected domains. We can use a famous theorem of Carathéodory to achieve similar results for the closed unit disk.

To 'move results on the open unit disk to more general simply connected domains' we first have to nail down what properties we are interested in. In complex analysis that is usually holomorphicity. The bijections that preserve holomorphicity are therefore of interest, but since the composition of holomorphic functions is holomorphic we only need the following:

Definition 2.2.2. A bijective holomorphic map $f: U \rightarrow V$ where U and V are open in \mathbb{C} is said to be *conformal*.

It can be shown that a holomorphic bijection has a holomorphic inverse [Greene and Krantz, 2006].

It is important to state Carathéodory's theorem before looking at the Riemann mapping theorem.

Definition 2.2.3. A closed continuous curve $\gamma: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is said to be a *Jordan curve* or a *simple curve* if it is injective on the half-open interval $[a, b[$.

The name stems from a famous result by Camille Jordan stating that $\mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma([0, 1])$ has two connected components, one of which is simply connected. The simply connected component is called *the domain bounded by γ* . The proof of this result is rather technical and outside the scope of this thesis [Greene and Krantz, 2006, Munkres, 1980]. The result is however necessary to make statement such as 'let U be the domain bounded by γ '. An example of this is the following theorem:

Theorem 2.2.4 (Carathéodory). *Let U and V be domains in \mathbb{C} each bounded by a*

Jordan curve and $f: U \rightarrow V$ be a conformal mapping. Then there exists a continuous injection $\hat{f}: \bar{U} \rightarrow \bar{V}$ that extends f .

Recall that g extends f if f is defined on A , g defined on B , $A \subset B$, and $f = g|_A$. A proof of Carathéodory's theorem can be found in Section 13.2 of [Greene and Krantz, 2006].

Theorem 2.2.5 (Riemann mapping theorem [Greene and Krantz, 2006]). *If U is a subset of \mathbb{C} , homeomorphic to \mathbb{D} , and $U \neq \mathbb{C}$ then there exists a conformal mapping from \mathbb{D} to U .*

Corollary 2.2.6. *If U and V are subsets of \mathbb{C} such that $U \neq \mathbb{C}$, $V \neq \mathbb{C}$, and both are homeomorphic to \mathbb{D} then there exists a conformal mapping from U to V .*

Proof. The Riemann mapping theorem gives us f , a conformal mapping from \mathbb{D} to U , and g , a conformal mapping from \mathbb{D} to V . Since f is conformal f^{-1} is also bijective, holomorphic with an holomorphic inverse, meaning f^{-1} is also conformal. The desired conformal mapping from U to V is therefore $g \circ f^{-1}$. \square

In this thesis the disk algebra \mathcal{A} is of special interest so a version of the Riemann mapping theorem that considers continuity at the boundary is desirable. We can combine the Riemann mapping theorem and Carathéodory's theorem to prove the desired result. Note that a Jordan curve under a homeomorphism is still a Jordan curve (since the composition of injections is an injection) and boundaries map to boundaries under homeomorphisms.

Corollary 2.2.7. *If K is homeomorphic to $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$ then there exists a continuous, injective $\Phi: \bar{\mathbb{D}} \rightarrow K$ such that its restriction to \mathbb{D} is a conformal mapping.*

Proof. Let f be a homeomorphism from $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$ to K . The Riemann mapping theorem also gives us a conformal map $\Phi: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow f(\mathbb{D})$. We know that $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$ is compact, so $K = f(\bar{\mathbb{D}})$ is also compact, since the image of a compact set under a continuous mapping is compact. Moreover, K is bounded. So $f(\partial\mathbb{D}) = \partial f(\mathbb{D}) = \partial K$ and ∂K is a Jordan curve, since $\partial\mathbb{D}$ is a Jordan curve. So Φ is a conformal map between two domains, each bounded by a Jordan curve. This allows us to use Carathéodory's theorem to extend Φ continuously and injectively to $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$, concluding the proof. \square

2.2.3 Complex analysis in several variables

We will briefly touch on multivariate complex analysis so we will need a definition of a holomorphic function in \mathbb{C}^n . If $U \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is open and $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that f is holomorphic in each variable separately we say that f is *holomorphic on U* . That is, for all w in U and $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ we require the map

$$z \mapsto f(w + ze_k)$$

to be holomorphic in some neighbourhood of 0 in \mathbb{C} , where e_k is the standard basis. We can define an inner product on \mathbb{C}^n by

$$\langle (z_1, \dots, z_n), (w_1, \dots, w_n) \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n z_j \overline{w_j}$$

and norm by

$$|z| = \langle z, z \rangle^{1/2}.$$

We will then define the unit ball in \mathbb{C}^n by

$$\mathbb{B}_n = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n; |z| < 1\}$$

and the unit sphere by

$$\mathbb{S}_n = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n; |z| = 1\}.$$

2.3 Functional analysis

Definition 2.3.1. Let X be a topological space. We will denote by $C(X)$ the continuous functions on X . We say that X is *locally compact* if for each $x \in X$ there exists an open set U_x such that $x \in U_x$ and $\overline{U_x}$ is compact. If X is a locally compact space, then we say a function f in $C(X)$ *vanishes at infinity* if for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a compact set K such that $|f(x)| < \varepsilon$ for all $x \in X \setminus K$. The family of all such functions is referred to as $C_0(X)$.

Let X be compact. Then if $f \in C(X)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ we set $K = X$ and see that $|f(x)| < \varepsilon$ vacuously holds for all $x \in X \setminus K = \emptyset$. So $C(X)$ and $C_0(X)$ are identical in this case.

Definition 2.3.2. Let α be a linear map from a normed vector space X into a normed vector space Y . We define its *norm* by

$$\|\alpha\| = \sup\{\|\alpha(x)\|; \|x\| < 1\}$$

and say α is *bounded* if its norm is finite.

Theorem 2.3.3. *If α is a linear map from a normed vector space X into a normed vector space Y then the following properties are equivalent:*

- (i) α is bounded.
- (ii) α is continuous.
- (iii) α is uniformly continuous.
- (iv) α is continuous at 0.

This theorem allows us to use the terms ‘bounded’ and ‘continuous’ interchangeably when talking about linear maps between normed vector spaces. A proof of this theorem can be found on page 96 in [Rudin, 1987].

Let’s recall what the L^p spaces are. Let (X, \mathcal{F}) be a measurable space and μ be a positive measure on \mathcal{F} . We say a measurable function f is in $\mathcal{L}^1(X, \mu)$ if

$$\int |f| d\mu < +\infty$$

and we say it is $\mathcal{L}^p(X, \mu)$ if $|f|^p$ is in $\mathcal{L}^1(X, \mu)$, for $0 < p < +\infty$. We then define an equivalence relation \sim such that $f \sim g$ if and only if $\mu(\{x \in X ; f(x) \neq g(x)\}) = 0$. We define $L^p(X, \mu)$ to be the quotient space $\mathcal{L}^p(X, \mu) / \sim$. The space $L^p(X, \mu)$ has one major benefit over $\mathcal{L}^p(X, \mu)$, namely that

$$\|f\|_p = \left(\int |f|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p}$$

is a norm on $L^p(X, \mu)$. We sometimes write $L^p(\mu)$ if the space in question is obvious from context and $L^p(X)$ if the measure is obvious from context. It can be shown that $L^p(X, \mu)$ is a Banach space [Rudin, 1987, Theorem 3.11] for $p \geq 1$ and if $p = 2$ it is a Hilbert space.

2.3.1 The Hahn-Banach theorem

There are many related theorems going by the name ‘Hahn-Banach Theorem’. These are sometimes split in two groups, ‘separation theorems’ and ‘extension theorems’. When proving Theorem 3.3.1 we need the following Hahn-Banach separation theorem:

Theorem 2.3.4 ([Pryce, 1973]). *Let X be a compact space, B be a closed convex subset of $C(X)$, and f be a function in $C(X)$ but not in B . Then there exists a continuous linear functional α on $C(X)$ such that $|\alpha| < 1$ on B and $\alpha(f) > 1$.*

2.3.2 The Riesz representation theorem

Let X be a σ -finite measurable space with measure μ , p and q be such that $1 < p, q < +\infty$ and $1/p + 1/q = 1$, and $g \in L^q(\mu)$. We can then define a linear functional on $L^p(X, \mu)$ by

$$\alpha(f) = \int fg \, d\mu.$$

The Hölder inequality tells us that it is bounded. Recall that the Hölder inequality states that if f and g are measurable functions with p and q as above then

$$\|fg\|_1 \leq \|f\|_p \|g\|_q.$$

So each function in $L^q(X, \mu)$ gives us a bounded linear functional on $L^p(X, \mu)$. The following theorem states the inverse, that is, each bounded linear functional on $L^p(X, \mu)$ can be represented by a function in $L^q(X, \mu)$.

Theorem 2.3.5 (The Riesz representation theorem for bounded linear functionals on $L^p(X, \mu)$ [Pryce, 1973]). *Let $1 < p < +\infty$, q be such that $1/p + 1/q = 1$, μ be a positive measure on a measurable space X , and α be a bounded linear functional on $L^p(\mu)$. There then exists a unique $g \in L^q(\mu)$ such that*

$$(i) \quad \alpha(f) = \int fg \, d\mu \text{ for all } f \in L^p(\mu) \text{ and}$$

$$(ii) \quad \|\alpha\| = \|g\|_q.$$

The above theorem also holds for $p = 1$ and $q = +\infty$ if X is σ -finite. We refer to p and q as each other's exponent conjugates when they are defined as in the above theorem.

A similar result can be obtained for bounded linear functionals on $C_0(X)$ for locally compact X . There the functionals can be represented by regular measures.

Theorem 2.3.6 (The Riesz representation theorem for bounded linear functionals on $C_0(X)$ with locally compact X [Rudin, 1987]). *Let X be a locally compact Hausdorff space and α be a bounded linear functional on $C_0(X)$. There then exists a regular measure μ such that*

$$(i) \quad \alpha(f) = \int f \, d\mu \text{ for all } f \in C_0(X) \text{ and}$$

$$(ii) \quad \|\alpha\| = \|\mu\|.$$

2.3.3 The weak topology on the dual space X'

The following discussion is dedicated to the existence of a convergent subsequence of a bounded sequence of bounded linear functionals. We will therefore, for some infinite $S \subset \mathbb{N}$, define the sequence $(a_n)_{n \in S}$ to be $(a_{s_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, where s_k is the k -th smallest element of S .

Let X be a Banach space and X' be the space of continuous linear functionals on X . Note that each x in X gives a linear functional f_x on X' by $f_x(\alpha) = \alpha(x)$. We can define a unique coarsest topology such that f_x is continuous for all x in X [Rudin, 1991, Section 3.8]. We will call this topology *the weak topology on X'* . To start off we have:

Theorem 2.3.7 (Banach-Alaoglu-Bourbaki). *Let X be a Banach space. Then the closed unit ball*

$$B = \{\alpha \in X' : \|\alpha\| \leq 1\}$$

is compact in the weak topology.

The above theorem does of course not generally provide us with sequential compactness. Recall that a space is *sequentially compact* if all sequences in it contain a convergent subsequence. We do however have equality between sequential compactness and compactness on metric spaces [Munkres, 1980, Theorem 28.2].

Lemma 2.3.8. Let X be a separable Banach space. Then B is metrizable in the weak topology.

Recall that a space is separable if it contains a countable dense subset. So far we have that all bounded sequences in X' have a convergent subsequence (in the weak topology) if X is a separable Banach space. This becomes more workable with:

Lemma 2.3.9. Let X be a Banach space and $(\alpha_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence in X' that converges in the weak topology. Then $(\alpha_n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is convergent for all x in X .

We can now put all this together.

Lemma 2.3.10. Let X be a separable Banach space, $(\Gamma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence in X' , and $\sup_n \|\Gamma_n\| = M < +\infty$. Then there exists an infinite $S \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that the function defined by

$$\Gamma(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \Gamma_{s_k}(x)$$

is well defined every x in X . Furthermore, Γ is linear and $\|\Gamma\| \leq M$.

2 Preliminaries

Proof. We may assume that $M = 1$. The sequence $(\Gamma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is then contained in B . We have by the Banach-Alaoglu-Bourbaki theorem along with Lemma 2.3.8 that there exists an infinite $S \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that $(\Gamma_n)_{n \in S}$ converges in the weak topology. Lemma 2.3.9 finally tells us that the limit

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \Gamma_{s_k}(x)$$

exists for all x in X . Let's now define a function on X by

$$\Gamma(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \Gamma_{s_k}(x).$$

One form of the Banach-Steinhaus theorem states that Γ is linear and $\|\Gamma\| \leq M$ [Pryce, 1973, Corollary 10.6]. \square

Proofs of the Banach-Alaoglu-Bourbaki theorem and Lemma 2.3.8 can be found in [Rudin, 1991] and a proof of Lemma 2.3.9 can be found in [Brezis, 2011].

3 The Rudin-Carleson theorem

3.1 The F. and M. Riesz theorem

The main result of this section is that the annihilating measures of

$$\mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}} = \{f|_{\mathbb{T}} : f \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

are absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure. We will show this to be a corollary of the F. and M. Riesz theorem, which we will prove in the manner of [Rudin, 1987]. First, we need a few results from the study of Poisson integrals to prove the F. and M. Riesz theorem. It will be useful to take, for some $0 < r < 1$, a function defined on $r\mathbb{T}$ and stretch it to be defined on \mathbb{T} . Concretely, if $f : r\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ then $f_r : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is defined by $f_r(z) = f(rz)$. We will reserve the subscripted ‘ r ’ for this usage.

Definition 3.1.1. The function

$$P_r(t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} r^{|n|} e^{int}$$

for $0 \leq r < 1$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$, is referred to as *the Poisson kernel on \mathbb{D}* , or simply *the Poisson kernel*. It can be useful to think of $P_r(t)$ as a function of two variables r and t , since it allows us to rewrite $P_r(t - \theta)$, by setting $z = re^{it}$, as

$$P(z, e^{i\theta}) = \frac{1 - |z|^2}{|e^{i\theta} - z|^2}.$$

This stems from the fact that

$$P_r(t - \theta) = \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{e^{i\theta} + z}{e^{i\theta} - z} \right) = \frac{1 - r^2}{1 - 2r \cos(t - \theta) + r^2}.$$

A benefit of this rewrite is that $P(\cdot, e^{i\theta})$ is defined on \mathbb{D} .

For $f \in L^1(\mathbb{T})$ we define *the Poisson integral of f* as a function on \mathbb{D} given by

$$P[f](z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P(z, e^{it}) f(e^{it}) dt.$$

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For a measure μ on \mathbb{T} we define the *Poisson integral* of μ as a function on \mathbb{D} given by

$$P[d\mu](z) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(z, e^{it}) d\mu(e^{it}).$$

We write the above integral as if it is over \mathbb{T} out of convention. This technically incorrect as the variable t belongs to some interval in \mathbb{R} of length 2π , but not \mathbb{T} . This notation is also more readable than $\int_{[-\pi, \pi]}$ and writing $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi}$ does not take into consideration the possibility of singletons having a non-zero measure with respect to μ .

Let's take a look at some of the properties of the Poisson kernel and Poisson integral.

We see that, since

$$P_r(t) = \frac{1 - r^2}{1 - 2r \cos(t) + r^2},$$

both $P_r(t) > 0$ and $P_r(t) = P_r(-t)$. It will also come of use to know that for $n \neq 0$

$$in \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{int} dt = (e^{in\pi} - e^{-in\pi}) = 0,$$

so

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P_r(t) dt = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} r^{|n|} e^{int} dt = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} r^{|n|} e^{int} dt = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} r^{|0|} e^0 dt = 2\pi.$$

This naturally leads us to the following lemma:

Lemma 3.1.2. Let μ be a measure, $r \in]0, 1[$, and $u = P[d\mu]$. Then

$$\|u_r\|_1 \leq \|\mu\|.$$

Proof. This can be obtained by the Tonelli-Fubini theorem

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_r\|_1 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |u(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(re^{i\theta}, e^{it}) d\mu(e^{it}) \right| d\theta \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(re^{i\theta}, e^{it}) d|\mu|(e^{it}) d\theta \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P(re^{i\theta}, e^{it}) d\theta d|\mu|(e^{it}) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} d|\mu|(e^{it}) \\ &= |\mu|(\mathbb{T}) \\ &= \|\mu\|. \end{aligned}$$

□

The main reason we are developing these tools, as stated before, is to prove the F. and M. Riesz theorem. The theorem gives us a sufficient condition for a measure μ (on \mathbb{T}) to be absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue-measure (on \mathbb{T}). The proof is conceptually simple, we let f be the Poisson integral of μ and h be a function such that its Poisson integral is f . We then show that $d\mu = h \, dm$. The following lemmas show that all this is in fact possible.

Lemma 3.1.3. Let u be harmonic on \mathbb{D} and

$$\sup_{0 < r < 1} \|u_r\|_1 = M < +\infty.$$

Then there exists a unique measure μ on \mathbb{T} such that $u = P[d\mu]$.

Lemma 3.1.4. Let u be harmonic on \mathbb{D} and

$$\sup_{0 < r < 1} \|u_r\|_2 = M < +\infty.$$

Then there exists a unique function f in $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ such that $u = P[f]$.

Proof of Lemma 3.1.3. Let Γ_r , for $r \in [0, 1[$, be linear functionals on $C(\mathbb{T})$ defined by

$$\Gamma_r(g) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} g u_r \, d\sigma.$$

If $\|g\| \leq 1$ is assumed we get that

$$\Gamma_r(g) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} g u_r \, d\sigma \leq \int_{\mathbb{T}} |u_r| \, d\sigma = \|u_r\|_1 \leq M$$

so Γ_r is bounded with

$$\|\Gamma_r\| \leq M.$$

By Lemma 2.3.10 and the Riesz representation theorem we get a measure μ on \mathbb{T} with $\|\mu\| \leq M$, and a sequence $(r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ on $[0, 1[$ with limit 1, such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{T}} g u_{r_n} \, d\sigma = \int_{\mathbb{T}} g \, d\mu \quad (3.1)$$

for all $g \in C(\mathbb{T})$. Let's now define functions h_k on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ by $h_k(z) = u(r_k z)$. Since u is harmonic on $r\mathbb{D}$ for $r \in]0, 1[$, the functions h_k are harmonic on \mathbb{D} and continuous on

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$\overline{\mathbb{D}}$. So each of them can be represented by the Poisson integral of their restriction to \mathbb{T} [Rudin, 1987, Theorem 11.9]. Note that $h_k(e^{it}) = u_{r_k}(e^{it})$, so

$$\begin{aligned} u(z) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} u(r_n z) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} h_n(z) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(z, e^{it}) h_n(e^{it}) d\sigma(e^{it}) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(z, e^{it}) u_{r_n}(e^{it}) d\sigma(e^{it}) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(z, e^{it}) d\mu(e^{it}) \\ &= P[d\mu](z), \end{aligned}$$

where the fifth equality is achieved by putting $g = P(z, e^{it})$ into Equation (3.1). This concludes the proof of existence.

Let's assume that $P[d\mu] = 0$, and let $f \in C(\mathbb{T})$, $u = P[f]$ and $v = P[d\mu]$. We firstly have the symmetry

$$P(re^{i\theta}, e^{it}) = P(re^{it}, e^{i\theta}).$$

This symmetry is due to

$$|e^{it} - re^{i\theta}| = |1 - re^{i(\theta-t)}| = |1 - re^{i(t-\theta)}| = |e^{i\theta} - re^{it}|.$$

We now obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{T}} u_r d\mu &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P(re^{i\theta}, e^{it}) f(e^{i\theta}) d\theta d\mu(e^{it}) \\ &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(e^{i\theta}) \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(re^{it}, e^{i\theta}) d\mu(e^{it}) d\theta \\ &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(e^{i\theta}) v_r d\theta \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} f v_r d\sigma. \end{aligned}$$

If we let $r \rightarrow 1$ we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} f d\mu = 0.$$

This holds for all $f \in C(\mathbb{T})$, so the measure μ represents zero in the dual of $C(\mathbb{T})$. The Riesz representation theorem then tells us that $|\mu|(\mathbb{T}) = 0$, so $\mu = 0$. We have now shown that the only measure that maps to 0 by the linear map $\mu \mapsto P[d\mu]$ is the zero measure, so the map is injective. \square

Proof of Lemma 3.1.4. The proof of existence is almost identical to the proof of existence in Lemma 3.1.3 and the uniqueness is shown in the same manner. The differences between the existence proofs are in the beginning when we are choosing which function spaces we use and which theorems to refer to. Now we define Γ_r in the same way, except we define it on $L^2(\mathbb{T})$. We again use Lemma 2.3.10 and the (other) Riesz representation theorem to show that there exists a function f in $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ with $\|f\|_2 \leq M$ and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{T}} g u_{r_n} d\sigma = \int_{\mathbb{T}} g f d\sigma$$

for all g in $L^2(\mathbb{T})$. The remaining calculations are unchanged. \square

We see by this proof that Lemma 3.1.4 could be generalized trivially to find a function f in $L^p(\mathbb{T})$ such that $P[f] = u$ for harmonic u with

$$\sup_{0 < r < 1} \|u_r\|_p = M < +\infty$$

and $p > 1$. We can't use this method for $p = 1$ since we will need to use the Riesz representation theorem for the exponent conjugate of p , and the theorem only holds if it is in $[1, +\infty[$.

We have not yet stated any condition for a function f that implies there exists a $h \in L^1(\mathbb{T})$ such that $P[h] = f$. For that we need the following definitions:

Definition 3.1.5. For a function f holomorphic on \mathbb{D} and $0 < p < +\infty$ we define

$$\|f\|_{H^p} = \sup_{0 < r < 1} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^p d\theta \right)^{1/p}$$

and we say that f is in H^p if $\|f\|_{H^p} < +\infty$. These spaces are referred to as the *Hardy spaces*.

A useful result from the theory of Hardy spaces is that if $f \in H^1$ then there exist $g, h \in H^2$ such that $f = g \cdot h$ and $|f| < |g|^2$ [Rudin, 1987, Theorem 17.10].

Definition 3.1.6. Let $0 < \alpha < 1$. We refer to the open convex hull of

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| < \alpha\} \cup \{1\},$$

that also includes 1, as *the non tangential approach region of 1*, denoted by Ω_α . We will also use the rotated version, $e^{i\theta}\Omega_\alpha$. Let $u: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. Its *nontangential maximal function* is defined on \mathbb{T} by

$$(N_\alpha u)(e^{it}) = \sup\{|u(z)|; z \in e^{it}\Omega_\alpha\}.$$

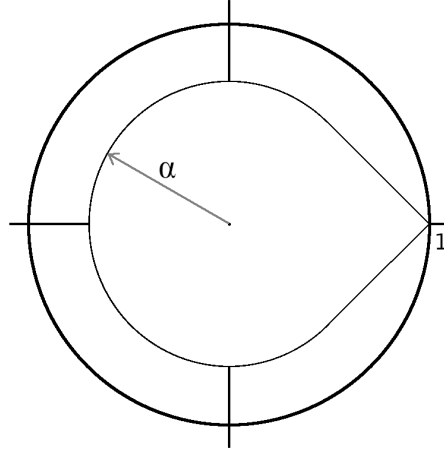


Figure 3.1: A visualization of the boundary of Ω_α , for a moderately large α . Note that the only boundary point included in Ω_α is 1.

We say that u has *nontangential limit* λ at e^{it} if, for all $0 < \alpha < 1$,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} u(z_k) = \lambda$$

for all sequences $(z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ in $e^{it}\Omega_\alpha$ that converge to e^{it} .

Lemma 3.1.7. Every function f in H^1 has non-tangential limit $F(e^{it})$ at almost every point e^{it} in \mathbb{T} , they define a function F in $L^1(\mathbb{T})$, and $f = P[F]$.

Proof. Let g and h be functions in H^2 such that $f = g \cdot h$, as described above. We have by Lemma 3.1.4 functions G and H in $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ such that $g = P[G]$ and $h = P[H]$. Theorem 11.23 in [Rudin, 1987] (along with discussion on the prior page) states that if h is in $L^1(\mathbb{T})$ then $P[h]$ has nontangential limit $h(e^{it})$ at almost every e^{it} . We also have by the Hölder inequality that on a finite measure space (such as \mathbb{T} with the Lebesgue measure) $\|h\|_1 \leq \|h\|_2$. So g and h have nontangential limits almost everywhere on \mathbb{T} . This tells us that f also has nontangential limits almost everywhere on \mathbb{T} , since $f = g \cdot h$. By $|f| \leq |h|^2$ we have that $N_\alpha f \leq (N_\alpha h)^2$, and therefore $N_\alpha f \in L^1(\mathbb{T})$. Let F be the tangential limit of f . We have that $|F| \leq N_\alpha f$ where F is defined, so F is also in $L^1(\mathbb{T})$. Note that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \|F - f_r\|_1 = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \int |F - f_r| d\sigma = 0$$

since $f_r \rightarrow F$ holds almost everywhere and $|f_r| < N_\alpha f$ allows us to use dominated

convergence. We can also represent f_r by its Poisson integral, for $r < 1$, that is

$$f_r(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P(z, e^{it}) f_r(e^{it}) dt.$$

Letting r go to 1 gives us

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P(z, e^{it}) F(e^{it}) dt,$$

namely, f is the Poisson integral of F . □

Theorem 3.1.8 (F. and M. Riesz). *If μ is a measure on \mathbb{T} and*

$$\int e^{-int} d\mu = 0$$

for $n = -1, -2, \dots$, then $\mu \ll \sigma$.

If we take a second look at the outline of proof given earlier we see that most of the work has been done. All that's left is to show that the condition given in the theorem implies that $P[d\mu]$ is in H^1 .

Proof. Let $f = P[d\mu]$. If we set $z = re^{i\theta}$ we get that

$$P(z, e^{it}) = P_r(\theta - t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} r^{|n|} e^{in(\theta-t)} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} r^{|n|} e^{in\theta} e^{-int}.$$

We can use the assumption of the theorem to write f as a power series by

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} P(z, e^{it}) d\mu(e^{it}) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{T}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} r^{|n|} e^{in\theta} e^{-int} d\mu(e^{it}) \\ &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} r^{|n|} e^{in\theta} \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{-int} d\mu(e^{it}) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} r^n e^{in\theta} \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{-int} d\mu(e^{it}) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \hat{\mu}_n z^n, \end{aligned}$$

where $\hat{\mu}_n$ is the n -th Fourier coefficient of μ . This along with Lemma 3.1.2 gives us that $f \in H^1$. We can now define a $F \in L^1(\mathbb{T})$, by Lemma 3.1.7 such that $f = P[F]$. We have that

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} P(z, e^{it}) d\mu(e^{it}) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} P(z, e^{it}) F(e^{it}) d\sigma(e^{it})$$

so it follows from Lemma 3.1.3 that $d\mu = F d\sigma$, namely $\mu \ll \sigma$. □

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Corollary 3.1.9. *Every annihilating measure of $\mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$ is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue-measure on \mathbb{T} .*

Proof. Let μ be an annihilating measure of $\mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$. By definition we have that

$$\int f \, d\mu = 0$$

for all $f \in \mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$. The functions $f_n(z) = z^{-n}$, for $n = -1, -2, \dots$ are entire. Their restrictions to \mathbb{T} are in $\mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$, so

$$\int f_n \, d\mu = 0$$

for all $n = -1, -2, \dots$ and $\mu \ll m$. □

3.2 The Rudin-Carleson theorem

We will refer to the *closed unit square* in \mathbb{C} by

$$S = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; 0 \leq \operatorname{Re} z \leq 1 \text{ and } 0 \leq \operatorname{Im} z \leq 1\}.$$

The square with side-lengths a and bottom-left corner at w is then denoted by $w + aS$.

To adequately discuss the main result of this theorem we need a few fundamentals about closed set in \mathbb{R} of Lebesgue-measure zero. Let K be such a set. We can show by contradiction that K is totally disconnected. Recall that a set is totally disconnected if each connected component is a singleton. If K was not totally disconnected it would have an open subset meaning its measure could not be zero. Another important thing to note is that K could include an uncountable number of elements. Results like Lemma 3.2.3 would be trivial if this were not the case. A famous example of an uncountable, closed set of Lebesgue-measure zero is the Cantor set. We will also make use of the following lemma:

Lemma 3.2.1. Let $\varepsilon > 0$, K be a closed subset of $]0, 1]$ of Lebesgue-measure zero, and $f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a continuous function. Then there exist pairwise disjoint closed E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n and w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n such that

$$E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots \cup E_n = K$$

and

$$f(E_k) \subset w_k + \varepsilon S \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Proof. It suffices to show that the image of each partition is contained in a circle with radius ε since each square includes a circle. Recall that a point x in a set A is a *limit point of A* if it is in the closure of $A \setminus \{x\}$. Since K is compact, f is uniformly continuous. This means we can find $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$ if $|x - y| < \delta$. Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{p+1} be a strictly increasing sequence in $]0, 1]$ such that $a_{k+1} - a_k < \delta/2$, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$ and let $E_k = E \cap]a_k, a_{k+1}]$, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$. The only problem with this decomposition is that the sets may not be closed. More concretely, if a_k is a limit point of E then E_k may not be closed, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$. If we could replace a_k by a point in $I =]a_k, a_{k+1}[$ that was not a limit point of E then this problem will be solved. Let's assume that no such point exists and show that it leads to a contradiction. This implies that $E \cap I$ is dense in I , but this would imply that E contains I , since E is closed and $E \cap I$ closed in I . But E can't contain an open set since E is of Lebesgue-measure zero. \square

We can show that Lemma 3.2.1 still holds if we replace $]0, 1]$ by \mathbb{T} in the same way. This is the context we will later use it in.

Theorem 3.2.2 (Rudin-Carleson). *Let E be a closed subset of \mathbb{T} of Lebesgue-measure 0, let f be a continuous function on E , and let T be a subset of \mathbb{C} homeomorphic to $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ such that $f(\overline{\mathbb{D}}) \subset T$. Then there exists an $F \in \mathcal{A}$, such that $F = f$ on E and $F(\overline{\mathbb{D}}) \subset T$.*

This will be proved as Rudin did in his original paper [Rudin, 1956]. We will split up the proof into several lemmas. The first few lemmas are dedicated to showing the result holds for continuous simple functions, and the last lemma bridges the gap.

Lemma 3.2.3. Let $H \subset \mathbb{T}$ be a closed set of Lebesgue-measure zero. Then there exists a function $h: \mathbb{T} \rightarrow]1, +\infty]$ such that

1. h is in $L^1(\mathbb{T}, m)$,
2. $h|_{\mathbb{T} \setminus H}$ is in C^∞ ,
3. $h(z) = +\infty$ if and only if z is in H , and
4. $\lim_{w \rightarrow z} h(w) = +\infty$ for all z in H .

Recall from set theory that if (X, d) is a metric space, A is a subset of X and x is a point of X then the distance between x and A is defined by

$$d(x, A) = \inf_{a \in A} d(x, a).$$

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Furthermore, if A is closed then the infimum is obtained at some point in A , namely, there exists a point $y \in A$ such $d(x, y) = d(x, A)$. Let $X = [0, 1]$ and H be some closed set of Lebesgue-measure zero. We will, for reasons that will become clear later, assume that $\{0, 1\} \subset H$. We can now define function $L_H: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ and $R_H: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $L_H(x)$ is in $[0, x]$, $R_H(x)$ is in $[x, 1]$, and

$$d(x, H \cap [0, x]) = d(x, L_H(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad d(x, H \cap [x, 1]) = d(x, R_H(x)).$$

Intuitively, $R_H(x)$ is the point in H that's to the right of x and is closest to x and $L_H(x)$ is the point in H that's to the left of x and is closest to x . So all points x in $[0, 1] \setminus H$ are on the open interval $]L_H(x), R_H(x)[$. We will define function $f_H: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ by

$$f_H(x) = \begin{cases} 2 \log_2 \left(\frac{R_H(x) - L_H(x)}{2} \right) - \log_2((x - L_H(x))(R_H(x) - x)) & \text{if } x \text{ is not in } H \\ \infty & \text{if } x \text{ is in } H \end{cases}$$

and show that this function has the properties of Lemma 3.2.3, but with \mathbb{T} replaced by $[0, 1]$ and $]1, +\infty]$ replaced by $[0, +\infty]$.

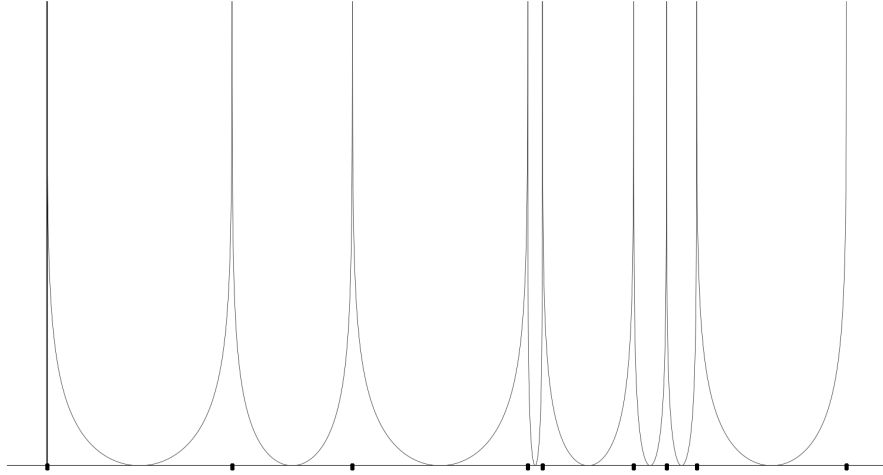


Figure 3.2: An example of f_H where H includes nine points. The points of H are marked on the x -axis.

Let's first define a family of functions indexed with $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, such that $a < b$, by

$$f_{a,b}: [a, b] \rightarrow [0, +\infty], x \mapsto 2 \log_2 \left(\frac{b-a}{2} \right) - \log_2((x-a)(b-x))$$

and show they satisfy the following properties:

1. $f_{a,b}(a + (b - a)2^{-n}) \leq n$, for $n > 0$ and
2. $f_{a,b}(x) = f_{a,b}(b + a - x)$.

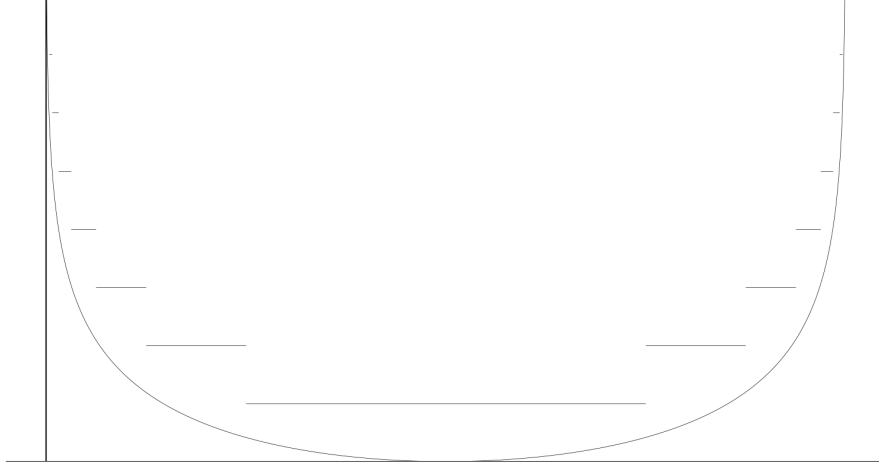


Figure 3.3: The graphs of $f_{0,1}$ and $g_{0,1}$.

The first point gives us a handy estimate and the second tells us $f_{a,b}$ is symmetric around $(a + b)/2$. We have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{a,b}(a + (b - a)2^{-n}) &= 2 \log_2(b - a) - 2 \log_2 2 - \log_2(((b - a)2^{-n})(b - a - (b - a)2^{-n})) \\
 &= 2 \log_2(b - a) - 2 - \log_2((b - a)^2(1 - 2^{-n})2^{-n}) \\
 &= 2 \log_2(b - a) - 2 - 2 \log_2(b - a) - \log_2(1 - 2^{-n}) - \log_2 2^{-n} \\
 &= n - (2 + \log_2(1 - 2^{-n})) \\
 &\leq n.
 \end{aligned}$$

In order to prove the second property we consider the case where $a = -b$, that is we translate so that the midpoint between them is 0. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{-b,b}(-x) &= 2 - \log_2((-x + b)(b + x)) \\
 &= 2 - \log_2((b - x)(x - (-b))) \\
 &= f_{-b,b}(x).
 \end{aligned}$$

These two points together tell us that we can bound $f_{a,b}$ above by

$$g_{a,b}(x) = \begin{cases} m, & \text{if } 2^{-m} \leq \frac{x-a}{b} < 2^{-m+1} \\ g_{a,b}(a + b - x), & \text{if } \frac{x-a}{b} > \frac{1}{2}, \end{cases}$$

namely a function taking integer values. It is more convenient to look at $g_{a,b}$ instead of $f_{a,b}$ because the former can trivially be shown to be the limit of a monotone

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sequence of simple functions. Let's look at the case where $a = 0$ and $b = 1$. Let $g = g_{0,1}$ and

$$g_n(x) = \begin{cases} g(x), & \text{if } g(x) \leq n \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

We can now integrate g by

$$\begin{aligned} \int g \, dm &= \int \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g_n \, dm \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int g_n \, dm \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n k 2^{-k} \\ &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} k 2^{-k} \\ &< +\infty \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality is by monotone convergence and the last inequality is by the ratio test. This rationale also holds for general a and b , since a does not effect the value of the integral and b scales it. We can, as a side note, compute the limit of the series by setting, for $x > 1$,

$$T(x) = \frac{2}{1-x} = -2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} x^{-k}$$

and note that

$$T'(x) = 2 \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} k x^{-k-1},$$

so the limit of the series is $T'(2)$. We also have that

$$T'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{2}{1-x} = \frac{2}{(1-x)^2}$$

so $T'(2)$, and therefore the limit of the series, is 2.

Let's now go back to f_H . Note that we can locally look at f_H as a function in $\{f_{a,b}\}_{a,b \in [0,1]}$, that is, $f_H(x) = f_{L_H(x), R_H(x)}(x)$. We can define a function

$$g_H(x) = g_{L_H(x), R_H(x)}(x)$$

and a sequence of functions

$$g_n(x) = \begin{cases} g_H(x), & \text{if } g_H(x) \leq n \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

We have that $(g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is monotone with limit g , similar to before, and $f \leq g$. Note that, independent of H , we have

$$m(\{x; g(x) = k\}) = 2^{-k}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \int f_H \, dm &\leq \int g_H \, dm \\ &= \int \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g_n \, dm \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int g_n \, dm \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n k 2^{-k} \\ &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} k 2^{-k} \\ &< +\infty \end{aligned}$$

by the same reasoning as before.

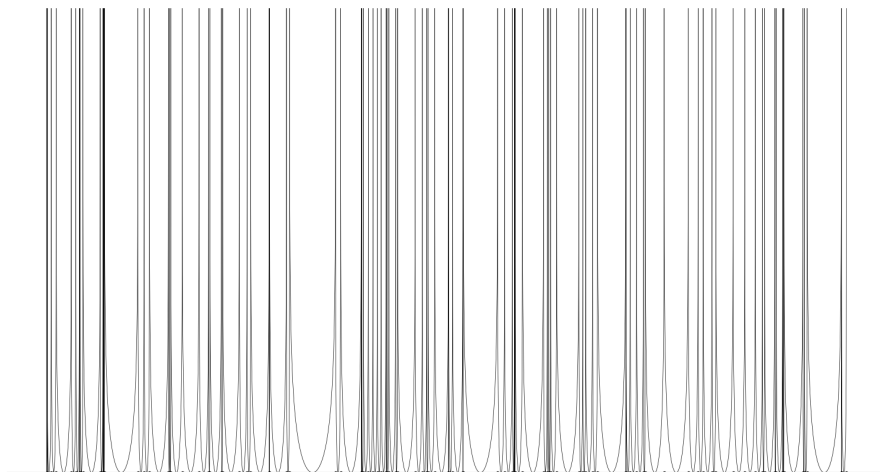


Figure 3.4: An example of f_H where H includes several points. The points of H are marked on the x -axis.

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Note that we left some fundamentals unmentioned. Specifically the fact that f_H and g_H are measurable. To show that g is measurable it suffices to show that $(g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ are measurable. We, therefore, can show that the preimage under g_n of each point is measurable, since g_n is simple for each n . But the preimage is a (possibly uncountable) union of half-open intervals so it is the union of a closed set and an open set. So g is measurable. To show that f is measurable it suffices to show that $P_\lambda = \{x \in [0, 1]; f(x) < \lambda\}$ is measurable for all λ in $[0, +\infty]$ [Tao, 2014, lemma 1.3.9]. This trivially holds, since P_λ is open.

Proof of Lemma 3.2.3. We may assume that H is not empty, since the statement holds vacuously if that were the case. We can also assume without loss of generality that 1 is in H . We can now use the injection $e^{it} \mapsto t/(2\pi)$, for $t \in [0, 2\pi[$, to map H to H' a subset of $[0, 1]$ of Lebesgue-measure zero. We will add 1 into H' to make sure it is closed. The desired function is then $f_{H'}$, as described above, composed with the inverse of the prior injection with some constant added to make it strictly larger than 1. \square

Lemma 3.2.4. If f is a simple continuous function on E such that $\operatorname{Re} f \geq 0$, then there exists an $F \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $F = f$ on E and $\operatorname{Re} F \geq 0$ on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$.

Proof. It suffices to show that this holds if f takes only two values on E , since simple functions are finite linear combinations of characteristic functions. Let's assume these values are 0 and $\alpha \neq 0$, with $\operatorname{Re} \alpha \geq 0$, $E_0 = f^{-1}(0)$, and $E_1 = f^{-1}(\alpha)$. Our assumption that f only takes two values then implies that $E_0 \cup E_1 = E$.

Let $u_H(z)$ be the Poisson integral of the function from Lemma 3.2.3. This function is continuous on $\mathbb{T} \setminus H$, $u_H|_H = +\infty$, and $\lim_{z \rightarrow w} u_H(z) = +\infty$ for $w \in H$ [Rudin, 1987, page 234]. Let's set v_H as the conjugate harmonic of u_H and define

$$G_H(z) = \begin{cases} u_H(z) + iv_H(z), & z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus H \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By our construction of u_H we see the $\operatorname{Re} G_H > 1$, so it has a well defined square root. Let's call it h_H and define

$$q = \frac{h_{E_1}}{h_{E_0} + h_{E_1}}.$$

Note that $|\arg h_H(z)| \leq \pi/4$ since if a $w \in \mathbb{C}$ had an argument outside of this range then its square would have an argument outside of the range $[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$ meaning $\operatorname{Re} w^2 < 0$. Also, $q(z) = 0$ if and only if $h_{E_0} = \infty$, so q is 0 only on E_0 , and $q(z) = 1$ if and only if $h_{E_1} = \infty$, so q is 1 only on E_1 . We now want to show that $0 \leq \operatorname{Re} q \leq 1$. We will let $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$, with $|\arg z|, |\arg w| < \pi/4$ and $\operatorname{Re} z, \operatorname{Re} w > 1$, and show that $0 < \operatorname{Re} (z/(w+z)) < 1$.

Note first that

$$\frac{z}{w+z} = \frac{1}{w/z+1}$$

so

$$\arg \frac{z}{w+z} = -\arg \left(\frac{w}{z} + 1 \right)$$

and

$$|\arg w/z| = |\arg w - \arg z| \leq |\arg w| + |\arg z| < \pi/4 + \pi/4 = \pi/2.$$

So w/z is in the right halfplane and, therefore $w/z+1$ is as well. We have now shown that $0 < \operatorname{Re} (z/(w+z))$. Note that $0 < \operatorname{Re} (z/(w+z)) \implies 0 > \operatorname{Re} (-w/(w+z))$ due to z and w being constrained in the same manner, and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &> \operatorname{Re} \frac{-w}{w+z} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \frac{z - (z+w)}{w+z} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{z}{w+z} - 1 \right) \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \frac{z}{w+z} - 1 \\ \implies 1 &> \operatorname{Re} \frac{z}{z+w}. \end{aligned}$$

So we have shown that

$$0 < \operatorname{Re} \frac{z}{z+w} < 1.$$

We have now constructed a function q that maps $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ to the strip $\{z; 0 \leq \operatorname{Re} z \leq 1\}$. We then let Φ be the conformal mapping from the ribbon $\{z; 0 \leq \operatorname{Re} z \leq 1\}$ to $\{z; 0 \leq \operatorname{Re} z \leq \operatorname{Re} \alpha\}$. We will also choose Φ such that $\Phi(0) = 0$ and $\Phi(1) = \alpha$. Such a Φ can be constructed by going through the unit disk and choosing an appropriate rotation. We can then let $F = \Phi \circ q$ and conclude the proof. □

Lemma 3.2.5. If f is a simple continuous function on E that maps E into $T \subset \mathbb{C}$ homeomorphic to $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$, then there exists a function $F \in \mathcal{A}$, such that $F = f$ on E and F maps $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ into T .

Proof. Let $z_0 \in T \setminus f(E)$ and Φ be a conformal mapping from the right halfplane to the interior of T such that $\Phi(\infty) = z_0$. There exists a $g \in \mathcal{A}$ that extends $\Phi^{-1} \circ f$, according to Lemma 3.2.4. The desired function is then obtained with $F = \Phi \circ g$. □

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Lemma 3.2.6. If f is a continuous function on E which maps E into the square S then there exists a sequence $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of simple continuous function on E such that

$$f(x) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} f_n(z) \quad \text{and} \quad f_n(E) \subset 2^{-n}S.$$

Proof. We will set $f_0 = 0$ and construct f_n iteratively. Assuming f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{n-1} have been constructed such that

$$\lambda_{n-1}(E) \subset 2^{1-n}S$$

with $\lambda_{n-1} = f - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} f_k$. According to Lemma 3.2.1 we can write E as the union of disjoint closed sets E_1, E_2, \dots, E_p such that the oscillation of λ_{n-1} is less than 2^{-n} on each E_k . So we can define $Q_k \subset 2^{1-n}S$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$ such that $Q_k = 2^{-n}S + a_k$ for some $a_k \in S$ and $\lambda_{n-1}(E_k) \subset Q_k$. We can choose $c_k \in Q_k \cap 2^{-n}S$ since Q_k has side length 2^{-n} and is a subset of $2^{-n+1}S$ and both are closed. We can now define

$$f_n(z) = c_k, \quad z \in E_k, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, p.$$

If we then look at $\lambda_n = f - \sum_{k=0}^n f_k = \lambda_{n-1} - f_n$ we see that $\lambda_n(E) \subset 2^{-n}S$ due to the way we decomposed E into E_1, E_2, \dots, E_p using the oscillations of λ_{n-1} . This means we can continue the process. \square

Proof of Theorem 3.2.2. Let's first prove the result for $T = S$.

Let f_n be the functions from Lemma 3.2.6. According to Lemma 3.2.5 we have functions $g_n \in \mathcal{A}$ which extend f_n and map $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ into $2^{-n}S$. We then define

$$F = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} g_n$$

on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$. To show that F is in \mathcal{A} it suffices to show that series converges uniformly. Let $M_n = 2^{-n+1}$ and note that $|g_n(z)| \leq \sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-n} < 2^{-n+1} = M_n$ and

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} M_n = \sqrt{2} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} 2^{-n} = \sqrt{2} < +\infty$$

so the Weierstrass M-test tells us that F converges uniformly. We also have that

$$0 \leq \operatorname{Re} F = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \operatorname{Re} g_n \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} 2^{-n} = 1.$$

It can be shown in the same manner that $0 \leq \operatorname{Im} F \leq 1$, so F maps into S . Lastly, for $z \in E$ we have that

$$F(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} g_n(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} f_n(z) = f(z)$$

so F is an extension of f .

To prove the result for a general T we first let $\Phi: T \rightarrow S$ be the map provided to us by Corollary 2.2.7. We will also let $g = \Phi \circ f$. Note that it maps E into S , so we can use what we showed above to find $G \in \mathcal{A}$ that extends g and maps into S . We finally set $F = \Phi^{-1} \circ G$. On E we have that

$$F = \Phi^{-1} \circ G = \Phi^{-1} \circ g = \Phi^{-1} \circ \Phi \circ f = f,$$

so F extends f . It is also a composition of functions that are continuous on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ and holomorphic on \mathbb{D} so it is as well. \square

3.3 A generalization of the Rudin-Carleson theorem

An obvious next step would be a Rudin-Carleson theorem in several complex variables. It is tempting to keep the constraints on E unchanged, namely that it is a closed subset of \mathbb{S}_n of Lebesgue-measure zero, but this won't work. Take as an example $f: E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ with $E = \mathbb{T} \times \{1\}$ and $f(z, w) = \bar{z}$. Clearly E is of Lebesgue-measure zero but f cannot be extended. If we assume it could be extended to some g in \mathcal{A}_2 then, by definition, $g_1 = g(\cdot, 0)$ would be holomorphic on \mathbb{D} and continuous $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$. Its holomorphicity tells us that its integral around $r\mathbb{T}$ for $0 < r < 1$ is zero. But on \mathbb{T} we have that $g_1(z) = \bar{z}$ so its integral over \mathbb{T} is not zero. That is, we have that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \int_{r\mathbb{T}} g_1(z) dz \neq \int_{\mathbb{T}} g_1(z) dz$$

so g_1 is not continuous.

There is however a theorem of Bishop that gives a sufficient condition on E [Bishop, 1962].

Theorem 3.3.1 (Bishop's generalization of the Rudin-Carleson theorem). *Let X be a compact Hausdorff space, $V = (C(X), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, B be a closed subspace of V , S be a closed subset of X that is B^\perp -null, f be a continuous function on S , $\Xi: X \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ be continuous, and $|f| < \Xi$ on S . Then there exists a function $F \in B$ such that $F = f$ on S and $|F| < \Xi$ on X .*

The following lemma makes the proof simple. The proof of the lemma is sort of split in two. The first part is to show that f is in the closure of the image of the restriction mapping and the second part shows that it leads the existence of F .

3 The Rudin-Carleson theorem

Lemma 3.3.2. Assume $|f| < r < 1$ on S . Then there exists a function $F \in B$ such that $F = f$ on S and $\|F\| < 1$.

Proof. Let U_r be the subset of B defined by $U_r = \{g; \|g\| < r\}$ and ϕ be the mapping from B to $C(S)$ that sends a member of B to its restriction on S . It suffices to show that $f \in \phi(U_r)$. Let's first show that f is in $V_r = \overline{\phi(U_r)}$, by assuming otherwise, and showing it leads to a contradiction. Note that if $f, g \in U_r$ and $t \in [0, 1]$ then

$$\|tf + (1-t)g\| \leq t\|f\| + (1-t)\|g\| < tr + (1-t)r = r$$

so $tf + (1-t)g$ is also in U_r , showing it is convex. Its closure, V_r , is then convex as well.

We can, by Hahn-Banach, define a bounded linear functional α , such that $\alpha(f) > 1$ and $|\alpha| < 1$, on V_r . We can then define a measure μ_1 by the Riesz representation theorem that satisfies

$$\alpha(g) = \int g \, d\mu_1$$

for all $g \in C(S)$. We will refer to the associated functional on B by $\beta(g) = \alpha(\phi(g))$. Since $\phi(g) \in V_r$ for all $g \in U_r$ we have that

$$|\beta(g)| = |\alpha(\phi(g))| < 1,$$

for all $g \in U_r$, due to the construction of α . From this we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\beta\| &= \sup\{|\beta(g)|; \|g\| < 1\} \\ &= \sup\{(1/r)|\beta(g)|; \|g\| < r\} \\ &\leq 1/r. \end{aligned}$$

Let's denote the Riesz representation of β by μ_2 , set $\mu = \mu_1 - \mu_2$, and note that $\mu \in B^\perp$. But

$$0 = \left| \int_S f \, d\mu \right| \geq \int_S f \, d\mu_1 - r\|\mu_2\| \geq \int_S f \, d\mu_1 - r\frac{1}{r} > 1 - r\frac{1}{r} = 0.$$

This contradiction gives that $f \in V_r$. We can now take a function F_1 in U_r , and therefore also in B , such that $|f - F_1| < \lambda/2$ on S , with $\lambda = 1 - r$. Remember that $F_1 \in U_r$ implies that $\|F_1\| < r$. Now let $f_1 = f - F_1$ and use the same method as above to obtain an F_2 such that $\|F_2\| < \lambda/2$ and $|f - F_2| < \lambda/4$ on S . Iterating this process yields a sequence $(F_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ from B such that $\|F_n\| < 2^{1-n}\lambda$ for $n > 1$ and

$$\left| f - \sum_{k=1}^n F_k \right| < 2^{-n}\lambda$$

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on S for $n > 1$. We finally let

$$F = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} F_k.$$

Now $F \in B$,

$$\|F\| \leq \|F_1\| + \|F - F_1\| \leq r + \sum_{k=2}^{+\infty} 2^{1-n} \lambda = r + \lambda = 1,$$

and $F = f$ on S . □

Proof of Theorem 3.3.1. Let B_0 be the closed subspace of $C(X)$ consisting of function g such that $\Xi \cdot g \in B$. We have that $B_0^\perp = B^\perp$, since $\Xi > 0$. So we can use Lemma 3.3.2 for B_0 instead of B and f/Ξ instead of f . This gives us a function $F_0 \in B_0$ such that $\Xi \cdot F_0 = f$ on S and $\|F_0\| < 1$. We set $F = \Xi \cdot F_0$ which is in B by the construction of B_0 . Also note that $|F| < \Xi$ on X and

$$F = \Xi \cdot F_0 = \Xi \cdot f/\Xi = f$$

on S . □

Bishop's theorem lets us draw the connection between the Rudin-Carleson theorem and the F. and M. Riesz theorem.

Alternative proof of Theorem 3.2.2. Let $X = \mathbb{T}$, $B = \mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$, and S be a closed set of Lebesgue-measure zero. Then, according to Corollary 3.1.9, S is also a B^\perp -null. So all requirements of Theorem 3.3.1 are met. □

Bishop's theorem also gives us a Rudin-Carleson theorem for complex analysis in several variables. We don't, however, have a multivariate version of the F. and M. Riesz theorem, so the condition isn't as neat.

4 Consequences of Bishop's generalization of the Rudin-Carleson theorem

4.1 Classification of compact subsets of \mathbb{S}_n

Bishop's theorem can be seen statement on when sets are small enough (with respect to a function space) to allow all continuous function thereon to be extended. With this in mind, and looking at the case where $X = \mathbb{S}_n$ and $B = \mathcal{A}_n|_{\mathbb{S}_n}$, we have the following definition.

Definition 4.1.1. Let K be a closed subset of \mathbb{S}_n . We then say K is a

1. *zero set* if there exists a function $f \in \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $K = f^{-1}(0)$.
2. *peak set* if there exists a function $f \in \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $K = f^{-1}(1)$ and $|f(z)| < 1$ for $z \in \overline{\mathbb{B}_n} \setminus K$.
3. *interpolation set* if every continuous function on K extends via \mathcal{A}_n .
4. *peak-interpolation set* if every non-zero continuous function f on K extends to $F \in \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $|F(z)| < \|f\|$ for $z \in \overline{\mathbb{B}_n} \setminus K$.
5. *null set* if K is a null set with respect to all annihilating measures of \mathcal{A}_n .
6. *totally null* if K is a null set with respect to all measure μ such that

$$f(0) = \int_{\mathbb{B}_n} f \, d\mu$$

for all $f \in \mathcal{A}_n$.

Theorem 4.1.2. *The six classes of sets described in Definition 4.1.1 are equivalent.*

The first few sections of Chapter 10 in [Rudin, 1980] are dedicated to proving this large theorem. One implication, namely that all null sets are peak-interpolation sets, follows from Theorem 3.3.1.

4.2 A variation of Bishop's theorem

Theorem 4.1.2 implies that the condition on S in Bishop's theorem can't, generally, be relaxed. If we fix a continuous $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ we might, however, be able to choose a different classification on S . It seems at first, when looking at the proof of Bishop's theorem, that S being B^\perp -null is only used to show that

$$\int_S f \, d\mu = 0.$$

If this were the case, we could restate the theorem for a continuous function $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and set S such that the above equation holds. This, however, leads to problems.

Let X be \mathbb{T} , B be $\mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$, $S = E \cup F$ where F is a closed subarc of \mathbb{T} of non-zero Lebesgue-measure and E is a singleton in $\mathbb{T} \setminus F$, and $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a continuous function such that $f = 0$ on F and $f \neq 0$ on E . Then we have by Corollary 3.1.9 that E is B^\perp -null, so

$$\int_S f \, d\mu = \int_F f \, d\mu = 0.$$

So let's assume f can be extended to F in \mathcal{A} . We also know that F is in H^1 because it's a continuous function on a compact set and we know that $F = 0$ must hold on \mathbb{D} [Greene and Krantz, 2006, Theorem 13.4.11]. So F vanishes Lebesgue-almost everywhere on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ and is continuous. We can therefore state that it is 0 everywhere on $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$. This is a contradiction, because $F = f$ on \mathbb{T} and f is not zero on E .

Looking further at the proof shows that the iteration in the second half doesn't work with this f , since

$$\int_S f_1 \, d\mu = \int_S (f - F) \, d\mu = - \int_S F \, d\mu = 0$$

doesn't have to hold for every F in $\mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{T}}$.

So S would have to both satisfy

$$\int_S f \, d\mu = 0$$

for all μ in B^\perp and

$$\int_S F \, d\mu = 0$$

for all F in B and μ in B^\perp . This justifies the following alteration of Bishop's theorem.

Theorem 4.2.1 (An alteration of the Bishop's general Rudin-Carleson theorem). *Let X be a compact Hausdorff space, $V = (C(X), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, B be a closed subspace of V , S be a closed subset of X , and f be a continuous function on S . If*

$$\int_S f \, d\mu = 0$$

for all μ in B^\perp and

$$\int_S G \, d\mu = 0$$

holds for all G in B and μ in B^\perp then there exists a function $F \in B$ such that $F = f$ on S .

If we consider this theorem in the context of complex analysis we get:

Theorem 4.2.2. *Let S be a closed subset of \mathbb{S}_n and $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a continuous function. If*

$$\int_S f \, d\mu = 0$$

for all μ in $\mathcal{A}_n|_{\mathbb{S}_n}^\perp$ and

$$\int_S G \, d\mu = 0$$

holds for all G in \mathcal{A}_n and μ in $\mathcal{A}_n|_{\mathbb{S}_n}^\perp$ then there exists a function $F \in \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $F = f$ on S .

It would be interesting to continue the study of those f and S that satisfy these new condition. Note as well that the second condition, namely that

$$\int_S F \, d\mu = 0$$

holds for all F in \mathcal{A}_n and μ in $\mathcal{A}_n|_{\mathbb{S}_n}^\perp$, is independent of f , so S could also be studied in isolation.

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