

# Lecture 8: Differentiation

Tianpei Xie

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# 1 Differentiation theorems

- **Remark** In these notes we explore the question of the extent to which these theorems continue to hold when the differentiability or integrability conditions on the various functions  $F, F', f$  are relaxed. Among the results proven in these notes are
  1. **The Lebesgue differentiation theorem**, which roughly speaking asserts that **the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus** continues to hold for almost every  $x$  if  $f$  is merely **absolutely integrable**, rather than *continuous*;
  2. A number of *differentiation theorems*, which assert for instance that *monotone*, *Lipschitz*, or *bounded variation functions* in one dimension are **almost everywhere differentiable**; and
  3. **The Second Fundamental Theorem of Calculus** for *absolutely continuous functions*.

## 1.1 The Lebesgue Differentiation Theorem in One Dimension

- **Theorem 1.1 (Lebesgue differentiation theorem, one-dimensional case).**  
 Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be an **absolutely integrable** function, and let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be the definite integral  $F(x) := \int_{-\infty, x} f(t)dt$ . Then  $F$  is **continuous** and **almost everywhere differentiable**, and  $F'(x) = f(x)$  for **almost every**  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- **Theorem 1.2 (Lebesgue differentiation theorem, second formulation).**  
 Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be an **absolutely integrable** function. Then

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0+} \frac{1}{h} \int_{[x, x+h]} f(t)dt = f(x) \quad (1)$$

for almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0+} \frac{1}{h} \int_{[x-h, x]} f(t)dt = f(x) \quad (2)$$

for almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- **Remark (Density Argument)** [Tao, 2011]  
 The conclusion (1) we want to prove is a **convergence theorem** - an assertion that for all functions  $f$  in a given class (in this case, *the class of absolutely integrable functions*  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ), a certain sequence of *linear expressions*  $T_h f$  (in this case, *the right averages*  $T_h f(x) = \frac{1}{h} \int_{[x, x+h]} f(t)dt$ ) *converge in some sense* (in this case, pointwise almost everywhere) to a specified limit (in this case,  $f$ ).

There is a general and very useful argument to prove such convergence theorems, known as **the density argument**. This argument requires **two ingredients**, which we state informally as follows:

1. A **verification** of the convergence result for some “**dense subclass**” of “**nice**” functions  $f$ , such as *continuous functions*, *smooth functions*, *simple functions*, etc.. By “**dense**”, we mean that a *general function*  $f$  in the *original class* can be **approximated to arbitrary accuracy** in a suitable sense by a function *in the nice subclass*.

2. A **quantitative estimate** that **upper bounds the maximal fluctuation** of the linear expressions  $T_h f$  in terms of the “**size**” of the function  $f$  (where the precise definition of “size” depends on the nature of the approximation in the first ingredient).

Once one has these two ingredients, it is usually not too hard to put them together to obtain the desired convergence theorem for general functions  $f$  (not just those in the dense subclass).

- **Proposition 1.3** (*Translation is continuous in  $L^1$* ). [Tao, 2011]  
Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be an absolutely integrable function, and for each  $h \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , let  $f_h : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be the shifted function  $f_h(x) := f(x - h)$ . Then  $f_h$  converges in  $L^1$  norm to  $f$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ , thus

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f_h(x) - f(x)| dx = 0.$$

- **Exercise 1.4** Let  $f, g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be Lebesgue measurable functions such that  $f$  is **absolutely integrable** and  $g$  is **essentially bounded** (i.e. **bounded** outside of a null set). Show that the convolution  $f * g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by the formula

$$f * g(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(y)g(x - y)dy$$

is well-defined (in the sense that the integrand on the right-hand side is absolutely integrable) and that  $f * g$  is a **bounded, continuous** function.

- **Remark** One drawback with **the density argument** is it gives convergence results which are **qualitative** rather than **quantitative** - there is no explicit bound on the rate of convergence.

## 1.2 The Lebesgue Differentiation Theorem in $\mathbb{R}^d$

### 1.2.1 Absolute Integrable Version

- **Theorem 1.5** (*Lebesgue Differentiation Theorem (Absolute Integrable version)*) [Tao, 2011]  
Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is **absolutely integrable**. Then for almost every  $x$ , we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{m(B(x, r))} \int_{B(x, r)} |f(z) - f(x)| dz = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{m(B(x, r))} \int_{B(x, r)} f(z) dz = f(x),$$

where  $B(x, r) := \{y \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x - y\| < r\}$  is the open ball of radius  $r$  centred at  $x$ .

- **Definition** A point  $x$  for which (3) holds is called a **Lebesgue point** of  $f$ ; thus, for an **absolutely integrable function**  $f$ , almost every point in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  will be a Lebesgue point for  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
- The **quantitative estimate** we will need is the **Hardy-Littlewood maximal inequality**. First, we need to introduce the **Hardy-Littlewood maximal function**:

**Definition** [Folland, 2013]

If  $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , the **Hardy-Littlewood maximal function**  $Hf(x)$  is defined as

$$Hf(x) \equiv \sup_{r > 0} \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} |f(z)| dz$$

where  $B(r, x) = \{y : \|y - x\| < r\}$ , and the **average value** of  $f$  on  $B(r, x)$  is

$$A_r f(x) = \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} f(z) dz.$$

- **Remark** A useful variant of  $Hf(x)$  (see [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]) as

$$H^* f(x) \equiv \sup \left\{ \frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B |f(z)| dz, \text{ } B \text{ is a ball, } x \in B \right\}.$$

- **Remark** The *Hardy-Littlewood maximal function* is an important function in the field of (real-variable) harmonic analysis.

- **Remark** The Hardy-Littlewood maximal function has the following properties:

1.  $(Hf)^{-1}(a, \infty) = \bigcup_{r>0} (A_r f)^{-1}(a, \infty)$  is open for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , so the Hardy-Littlewood maximal function is *measurable*.
2. Moreover,  $Hf(x) < \infty, a.e.x$  is **essentially bounded**.
3. Note that  $Hf \leq H^* f \leq 2^d Hf$

- We need to prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.6 (The Hardy-Littlewood Maximal Theorem)** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009, Folland, 2013]

Suppose  $f$  is integrable, then

- 1.

$$H^* f(x) \equiv \sup \left\{ \frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B |f(z)| dz, \text{ } B \text{ is a ball, } x \in B \right\}.$$

is measurable.

2.  $H^* f(x) < \infty$  for a.e.  $x$ .
3.  $H^* f$  satisfies the Hardy-Littlewood maximal inequality:

$$m(\{x : H^* f(x) > \alpha\}) \leq \frac{A}{\alpha} \|f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}$$

for  $\alpha > 0$ , where  $A = 3^d$ , and  $\|f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f(x)| dx$ .

Note that  $H^* f \geq |f|, a.e.x$ , but the above expression indicates that  $H^* f$  is **not much larger than**  $|f|$ . However, we may not be able to assume  $H^* f$  integrable for any  $f$ .

- **Remark** In order to prove this theorem, we need to introduce concept of **Vitali covering**:

- **Definition (Vitali Covering)** [Royden and Fitzpatrick, 1988, Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]

A collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of balls  $\{B\}$  is said to be a **Vitali covering** of a set  $E$ , (**covers  $E$  in Vitali sense**), if for every  $x \in E$ , any  $\eta > 0$ , there is a ball  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , such that  $x \in B$  and  $m(B) < \eta$ . Thus every point is covered by **balls of arbitrary small measure**.

– **Lemma 1.7 (Lebesgue number lemma)**

For any **open covering**  $\mathcal{A}$  of the **metric space**  $(X, d)$ . If  $X$  is **compact**, there exists a number  $\delta > 0$  such that for **any subset** of  $X$  having **diameter**  $< \delta$ , there exists an element of  $\mathcal{A}$  containing it.

– **Lemma 1.8 (Vitali Covering Lemma in elementary form)** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]

Suppose  $\mathcal{B} \equiv \{B_1, \dots, B_N\}$  is a finite collection of open balls in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then there exists a disjoint sub-collection  $B_{i_1}, B_{i_2}, \dots, B_{i_k}$  of  $\mathcal{B}$  that satisfies

$$m\left(\bigcup_{s=1}^N B_s\right) \leq 3^d \sum_{j=1}^k m(B_{i_j})$$

*Loosely speaking, we may always find a disjoint sub-collection of balls that covers a fraction of the region covered by the original collection of balls.*

**Proof:** Observe that  $B$  and  $B'$  is a pair of balls that intersects, with the radius of  $B'$  being not greater than that of  $B$ . Then  $B'$  is contained in a ball  $\tilde{B}$  that is concentric with  $B$  but with 3 times its radius.

First, we pick a ball  $B_{i_1}$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  with *maximal* (largest) radius, and then delete it from  $\mathcal{B}$  as well as any ball that intersect with  $B_{i_1}$ . Thus all deleted balls are contained in the ball  $\tilde{B}_{i_1}$  concentric with  $B_{i_1}$  with 3-times its radius.

Then the remaining balls yield a new collection  $\mathcal{B}'$ , from which we could repeat the above procedure. After at most  $N$  steps, we obtain a collection of disjoint balls  $\tilde{B}_{i_1}, \tilde{B}_{i_2}, \dots, \tilde{B}_{i_k}$ .

Finally, we need to prove that the disjoint balls satisfies the above inequality. We use the observation made at the beginning of the proof. Let  $\tilde{B}_{i_j}$  be the ball that is concentric to  $B_{i_j}$ , but with 3-times its radius. Since any ball  $B$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  must a ball  $B_{i_j}$  and have equal or smaller radius than  $B_{i_j}$ , we must have  $B \subset \tilde{B}_{i_j}$ , thus

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(\bigcup_{s=1}^N B_s\right) &\leq m\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^k \tilde{B}_{i_j}\right) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^k m(\tilde{B}_{i_j}) \\ &= 3^d \sum_{j=1}^k m(B_{i_j}) \end{aligned}$$

In last equality, we use the fact that in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  a dilation of a set by  $\delta > 0$  results in the multiplication of  $\delta^d$  of the Lebesgue measure. ■

– We will use the following *Vitali Covering Lemma* to prove the *Hardy-Littlewood maximal theorem*:

**Lemma 1.9 (Vitali Covering Lemma in general)** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009, Folland, 2013]

Suppose  $E$  is a set of finite measure and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a Vitali covering of  $E$ . For any  $\delta > 0$ , we

can find finitely many balls  $B_1, \dots, B_N$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  that are disjoint and so that

$$\sum_{i=1}^N m(B_i) \geq m(E) - \delta$$

**Proof:** We can apply the elementary lemma above iteratively, with the aim of exhausting the set  $E$ . It suffices to take  $\delta$  sufficiently small, say  $\delta < m(E)$ , and using the just cited covering lemma, we can find an initial collection of disjoint balls  $B_1, \dots, B_{N_1}$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{N_1} m(B_i) \geq \gamma\delta$ , where  $\gamma = 3^{-d}$ .

Indeed, first we have  $m(E') \geq \delta$  for an appropriate compact subset  $E'$  of  $E$ . Because of the compactness, we can cover  $E'$  with finitely many balls from  $\mathcal{B}$ , and then the previous lemma allows us to select a disjoint sub-collection of these balls  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{N_1}$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{N_1} m(B_i) \geq \gamma m(E') \geq \gamma\delta$ .

With  $B_1, \dots, B_{N_1}$  as our initial sequence of balls, we consider two possibilities: either  $\sum_{i=1}^{N_1} m(B_i) \geq m(E) - \delta$  and we are done with  $N = N_1$ ; or, contrariwise,  $\sum_{i=1}^{N_1} m(B_i) < m(E) - \delta$ . In the second case, with  $E_2 = E - \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_1} \overline{B_i}$  so that  $m(E_2) > \delta$ . We then repeat the above procedure, by choosing a compact subset  $E'_2$  of  $E_2$  with  $m(E'_2) > \delta$ , and by noting that the balls in  $\mathcal{B}$  that are disjoint from  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{N_1} \overline{B_i}$  still cover  $E_2$  and in fact gives a Vitali covering of  $E_2$ , and hence for  $E'_2$ . Then we can choose  $B_i, N_1 < i \leq N_2$  so that  $\sum_{i=N_1+1}^{N_2} m(B_i) \geq \gamma\delta$ . Therefore, now  $\sum_{i=1}^{N_2} m(B_i) \geq 2\gamma\delta$  and balls  $B_i, 1 \leq i \leq N_2$  are disjoint.

Again we consider whether or not  $\sum_{i=1}^{N_2} m(B_i) \geq m(E) - \delta$ : if it is  $N = N_2$ ; otherwise repeat for  $E_3 = E - \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_2} \overline{B_i}$ . If  $k \geq (m(E) - \delta)/(\gamma\delta)$ , then after at most  $k$ -steps, we should have selected a subcollection of disjoint balls  $B_i, 1 \leq i \leq N_k$  with its sum of measures  $\geq k\gamma\delta$ . Thus

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_k} m(B_i) \geq m(E) - \delta,$$

which completes our proof.  $\blacksquare$

– **Corollary 1.10** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009, Royden and Fitzpatrick, 1988]  
Following the setting above, we can arrange the choice of balls so that

$$m\left(E - \bigcup_{i=1}^N B_i\right) < 2\delta$$

**Proof:** Let  $O \supset E$  be an open set that contains  $E$  with  $m(O - E) < \delta$ . We then choose balls that are contained in  $O$ . Then  $(E - \bigcup_{i=1}^N B_i) \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^N B_i \subset O$ .

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(E - \bigcup_{i=1}^N B_i\right) &\leq m(O) - m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^N B_i\right) \\ &\leq m(E) + \delta - (m(E) - \delta) = 2\delta. \end{aligned} \quad \blacksquare$$

• Now we turn to the proof of Theorem 1.6

**Proof:** 1. Note that the set  $E_\alpha = \{x : H^*f(x) > \alpha\}$  is open, because if  $\bar{x} \in E_\alpha$ , then there exists a ball  $B$  such that  $\bar{x} \in B$  and

$$\frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B |f(z)| dz > \alpha.$$

Now any  $x$  close enough to  $\bar{x}$  will also belong to  $B$ ; hence  $x \in E_\alpha$  as well.

2. Follows from the fact that  $\{x : H^*f(x) = \infty\} = \bigcap_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \{x : H^*f(x) > \alpha\}$ . So the measure approaches to 0 as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ .
3. Use **the Vitali covering lemma**. Let  $E_\alpha = \{x : H^*f(x) > \alpha\}$ . For each  $x \in E_\alpha$ , there exists a ball  $B_x$  that contains  $x$ , and

$$\frac{1}{m(B_x)} \int_{B_x} |f(z)| dz > \alpha.$$

So for each ball

$$m(B_x) < \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_{B_x} |f(z)| dz.$$

Fix a compact subset  $K$  of  $E_\alpha$ . Since  $K$  is covered by  $\bigcup_{x \in E_\alpha} B_x$ , we have a finite subcover  $K \subset \bigcup_{m=1}^N B_m$ . The covering lemma guarantees the existence of a subcollection  $B_{i_1}, \dots, B_{i_k}$  of disjoint balls with

$$m\left(\bigcup_{m=1}^N B_m\right) \leq 3^d \sum_{j=1}^k m(B_{i_j}).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} m(K) &\leq m\left(\bigcup_{m=1}^N B_m\right) \leq 3^d \sum_{j=1}^k m(B_{i_j}) \\ &\leq \frac{3^d}{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^k \int_{B_{i_j}} |f(z)| dz \\ &= \frac{3^d}{\alpha} \int_{\bigcup_{j=1}^k B_{i_j}} |f(z)| dz \quad (B_{i_j} \text{ are disjoint}) \\ &\leq \frac{3^d}{\alpha} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f(z)| dz \end{aligned}$$

Since the above inequality holds for all  $K \subset E_\alpha$  compact, we use the inner regularity of Lebesgue measure,

$$m(E_\alpha) = \sup_{K \subset E_\alpha, \text{ compact}} m(K) \leq \frac{3^d}{\alpha} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f(z)| dz. \quad \blacksquare$$

## 1.2.2 Local Integrable Version

- **Definition** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]

A measurable function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is **locally integrable**, i.e.  $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , if for every ball  $B$  the function  $f(x)\mathbb{1}_B$  is integrable.

- This theorem follows from *the Hardy-Littlewood maximal inequality*

**Theorem 1.11** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]

If  $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is **locally integrable**, then for the **average** of  $f$ , i.e.

$$A_r f(x) = \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} f(z) dz,$$

we have

$$A_r f(x) \xrightarrow{a.e.} f(x), \quad r \rightarrow 0.$$

**Proof:** It suffices to show that for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $A_r f(x) \rightarrow f(x)$  for a.e.  $x$  with  $|x| \leq N$ . But for  $|x| \leq N$  and  $r \leq 1$  the values  $A_r f(x)$  depend only on values  $f(z)$  for  $|z| \leq N + 1$ , so by replacing  $f$  with  $f \mathbf{1}_{\{B(N+1, 0)\}}$  we may assume that  $f \in L^1$ .

Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , we know that there exists a continuous integrable function  $g$  such that  $\int |g(z) - f(z)| dz < \epsilon$ . Continuity of  $g$  implies that for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\delta > 0$ , there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $|g(y) - g(z)| < \delta$  whenever  $|y - x| < r$ , and hence,

$$|A_r g(x) - g(x)| = \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \left| \int_{B(r, x)} [g(z) - g(x)] dz \right| < \delta.$$

Therefore  $A_r g(x) \rightarrow g(x)$  as  $r \rightarrow 0$  for every  $x$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} |A_r f(x) - f(x)| &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} |A_r(f - g)(x) + A_r g(x) - g(x) + g(x) - f(x)| \\ &\leq H(f - g)(x) + 0 + |f - g|(x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if

$$\begin{aligned} F_\alpha &= \left\{ x : \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} |A_r f(x) - f(x)| > \alpha \right\}, \\ G_\alpha &= \{ x : |f - g|(x) > \alpha \}, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$F_\alpha \subset G_{\alpha/2} \cup \{x : H(f - g) > \alpha/2\}.$$

But  $\frac{\alpha}{2} m(G_{\alpha/2}) \leq \int_{G_{\alpha/2}} |f(x) - g(x)| dx < \epsilon$ , so by the maximal theorem,

$$m(F_\alpha) \leq \frac{2\epsilon}{\alpha} + \frac{2A\epsilon}{\alpha}.$$

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  is arbitrary,  $m(F_\alpha) = 0$  for all  $\alpha > 0$ . But  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} A_r f(x) = f(x)$  for all  $x \in \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty E_{1/n}$ , so we have done. ■

- **Definition** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]

If  $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , the **Lebesgue set** of  $f$  consists of all points  $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for which  $f(\bar{x})$  is **finite** and

$$\lim_{\substack{m(B) \rightarrow 0 \\ \bar{x} \in B}} \frac{1}{m(B)} \int_B |f(z) - f(\bar{x})| dz = 0.$$



or equivalently, [Folland, 2013],

$$Lf \equiv \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} |f(z) - f(x)| dz = 0 \right\}.$$

- **Corollary 1.12** Suppose  $E$  is a measurable set in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then

1. Almost every  $x \in E$  is a **point of Lebesgue density** of  $E$ ;
2. Almost every  $x \notin E$  is **not a point of Lebesgue density** of  $E$ .

- **Corollary 1.13** If  $f$  is **locally integrable** on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , then **almost every point belongs to the Lebesgue set** of  $f$ .

**Proof:** Apply the theorem above to  $|f(z) - q|$  shows that for each rational  $q$ , there exists a set  $E_q$  of measure 0 such that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} |f(z) - q| dz = |f(x) - q|$$

for all  $x \notin E_q$ .

If  $E = \bigcup_{q \in \mathbb{Q}} E_q$ , then  $m(E) = 0$ . Now suppose that  $x \notin E$ . Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a rational  $q$  such that  $|f(x) - q| < \epsilon$ . Since

$$\frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} |f(z) - f(x)| dz \leq \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} |f(z) - q| dz + |f(x) - q|,$$

we must have

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{m(B(r, x))} \int_{B(r, x)} |f(z) - f(x)| dz \leq 2\epsilon,$$

and thus  $x$  is in the Lebesgue set of  $f$ . ■

- **Definition** A collection of sets  $\{U_\alpha\}$  is said to **shrink regularly** to  $\bar{x}$  or has **bounded eccentricity** at  $\bar{x}$  if there is a constant  $c > 0$  such that for each  $U_\alpha$  there is a ball  $B$  with

$$\bar{x} \in B, \quad U_\alpha \subset B, \quad m(U_\alpha) \geq c m(B).$$

- **Theorem 1.14 (Lebesgue Differentiation Theorem (Local Integrable version))** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009, Folland, 2013]

Suppose  $f$  is **locally integrable** on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . For every  $x$  in the Lebesgue set of  $f$ , i.e. for almost every  $x$ , we have

$$\lim_{\substack{m(U_\alpha) \rightarrow 0 \\ x \in U_\alpha}} \frac{1}{m(U_\alpha)} \int_{U_\alpha} |f(z) - f(x)| dz = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{\substack{m(U_\alpha) \rightarrow 0 \\ x \in U_\alpha}} \frac{1}{m(U_\alpha)} \int_{U_\alpha} f(z) dz = f(x),$$

for every family  $\{U_\alpha\}$  that **shrinks regularly** to  $x$ .

**Proof:** See that if  $x \in B$  with  $U_\alpha \subset B$  and  $m(U_\alpha) \geq c m(B)$ , then

$$\frac{1}{m(U_\alpha)} \int_{U_\alpha} |f(z) - f(x)| dz \leq \frac{1}{c m(B)} \int_B |f(z) - f(x)| dz < \epsilon$$

which follows from the fact that  $x$  is in the Lebesgue set of  $f$ . ■

### 1.3 Lebesgue Density and Radon-Nikodym Derivative

- Now we turn to consequences of the *Lebesgue differentiation theorem*.

**Definition** [Stein and Shakarchi, 2009]

If  $E$  is a measurable set in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is a **point of Lebesgue density** of  $E$  if

$$\lim_{\substack{m(B) \rightarrow 0 \\ x \in B}} \frac{m(B \cap E)}{m(B)} = 1.$$

*Loosely speaking*, it says that a small ball contains  $x$  are *almost entirely covered by  $E$* . Then for any  $\alpha < 1$  close to 1, and *every ball of sufficiently small radius* containing  $x$ , we have

$$m(E \cap B) \geq \alpha m(B).$$

- **Definition** A Borel measure  $\nu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  will be called **regular** if

1.  $\nu(K) < \infty$  for every **compact**  $K$ ;
2.  $\nu(E) = \inf\{\nu(U) : U \text{ open}, E \subseteq U\}$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{B}[\mathbb{R}^d]$ .

(Condition (2) is actually implied by condition (1). A **signed** or **complex** Borel measure  $\nu$  will be called **regular** if  $|\nu|$  is regular.

- **Theorem 1.15 (Lebesgue Density from Radon-Nikodym derivative)** [Folland, 2013]  
Let  $\nu$  be a **regular signed measure** on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and let  $d\nu = d\lambda + f dm$  be its Lebesgue-Radon-Nikodym decomposition, where  $\lambda \perp m$ . Then for  $m$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\nu(E_r)}{m(E_r)} = f(x),$$

where  $E_r$  **shrinks regularly** to  $x$ .

**Proof:** It is easy to verify that  $d|\nu| = d|\lambda| + f dm$ , so the regularity of  $\nu$  implies the regularity of  $\lambda$  and  $f dm$ . In particular,  $f \in L^1_{loc}$ . From differentiation theorem, for  $m$ -almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\int \mathbf{1}_{\{E_r\}} f dm}{m(E_r)} = f(x).$$

Then it suffice to show that for  $\lambda \perp m$ ,  $\lambda$  regular,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\lambda(E_r)}{m(E_r)} = 0.$$

Note that  $E_r \subset B(r, x)$  with  $m(E_r) \geq c m(B(r, x))$ , so

$$\frac{\lambda(E_r)}{m(E_r)} \leq \frac{|\lambda|(E_r)}{m(E_r)} \leq \frac{|\lambda|(B(r, x))}{m(E_r)} \leq \frac{|\lambda|(B(r, x))}{c m(B(r, x))}.$$

Therefore, it suffice to assume that  $\lambda$  is positive measure, with  $E_r$  replaced by  $B(r, x)$ . Let  $A$  be the Borel set that  $\lambda(A) = m(A^c) = 0$ , and

$$F_k \equiv \left\{ x \in A : \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\lambda(B(r, x))}{m(B(r, x))} \geq \frac{1}{k} \right\}.$$

It suffice to show that  $m(F_k) = 0$  for all  $k$ .

By regularity of  $\lambda$ , there is an open  $U_\epsilon \supset A$  such that  $\lambda(U_\epsilon) < \epsilon$ . Each  $x \in F_k$  is the center of a ball  $B_x \subset U_\epsilon$  such that  $\lambda(B_x) > \frac{1}{k}m(B_x)$ . Let  $V_\epsilon = \bigcup_{x \in F_k} B_x$  and  $c < m(V_\epsilon)$ , there exists  $x_1, \dots, x_J$  such that  $B_{x_1}, \dots, B_{x_J}$  are disjoint and

$$c < m(V_\epsilon) \leq 3^d \sum_{k=1}^J m(B_{x_k}) \leq 3^d k \sum_{k=1}^J \lambda(B_{x_k}) \leq 3^d k \lambda(V_\epsilon) \leq 3^d k \lambda(U_\epsilon) \leq 3^d k \epsilon.$$

So  $m(V_\epsilon) \leq 3^d k \epsilon$ , and since  $F_k \subset V_\epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon$  is arbitrary, then  $m(F_k) = 0$ . ■

## 2 The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus for Lebesgue Integral

### 2.1 Functions of Bounded Variations

- **Theorem 2.1 (Monotone Differentiation Theorem).** [Tao, 2011]

Any function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which is **monotone** (either monotone non-decreasing or monotone non-increasing) is **differentiable almost everywhere**.

- **Definition (Jump function).** [Tao, 2011]

A **basic jump function**  $J$  is a function of the form

$$J(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } x < x_0 \\ \theta & \text{when } x = x_0 \\ 1 & \text{when } x > x_0 \end{cases}$$

for some real numbers  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $0 \leq \theta \leq 1$ ; we call  $x_0$  **the point of discontinuity** for  $J$  and  $\theta$  **the fraction**. Observe that such functions are **monotone non-decreasing**, but have a **discontinuity** at one point.

A **jump function** is any **absolutely convergent combination** of basic jump functions, i.e. a function of the form  $F = \sum_n c_n J_n$ , where  $n$  ranges over an *at most countable set*, each  $J_n$  is a *basic jump function*, and the  $c_n$  are **positive reals** with  $\sum_n c_n < \infty$ . If there are *only finitely many*  $n$  involved, we say that  $F$  is a **piecewise constant jump function**.

**Example** If  $q_1, q_2, q_3, \dots$  is any enumeration of the *rational*s, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{-n} \mathbf{1}_{[q_n, +\infty)}$  is a *jump function*.

- **Remark** *All jump functions are monotone non-decreasing.*

From the absolute convergence of the  $c_n$  we see that **every jump function is the uniform limit of piecewise constant jump functions**, for instance  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n J_n$  is the uniform limit of  $\sum_{n=1}^N c_n J_n$ . One consequence of this is that the *points of discontinuity* of a jump function  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n J_n$  are *precisely those of the individual summands*  $c_n J_n$ , i.e. of the points  $x_n$  where each  $J_n$  jumps.

- The key fact is that *these Jump functions*, together with *the continuous monotone functions*, **essentially generate all monotone functions**, at least in the bounded case:

**Lemma 2.2 (Continuous-singular decomposition for monotone functions).**

Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a **monotone non-decreasing function**.

1. The only **discontinuities** of  $F$  are **jump discontinuities**. More precisely, if  $x$  is a point where  $F$  is discontinuous, then the limits  $\lim_{y \rightarrow x^-} F(y)$  and  $\lim_{y \rightarrow x^+} F(y)$  both exist, but are **unequal**, with  $\lim_{y \rightarrow x^-} F(y) < \lim_{y \rightarrow x^+} F(y)$ .

2. There are at most **countably** many **discontinuities** of  $F$ .

3. If  $F$  is **bounded**, then  $F$  can be expressed as the **sum** of a **continuous monotone non-decreasing function**  $F_c$  and a **jump function**  $F_{pp}$ .

• **Exercise 2.3** Show that the decomposition of a bounded monotone non-decreasing function  $F$  into continuous  $F_c$  and jump components  $F_{pp}$  given by the above lemma is unique.

• **Remark** Just as the *integration theory* of unsigned functions can be used to develop the *integration theory* of the absolutely convergent functions, the **differentiation theory** of **monotone functions** can be used to develop a parallel *differentiation theory* for the class of **functions of bounded variation**:

• **Definition (Bounded variation).**

Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function. **The total variation**  $\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$  (or  $\|F\|_{TV}$  for short) of  $F$  is defined to be the **supremum**

$$\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} := \sup_{x_0 < \dots < x_n} \sum_{i=1}^n |F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})|$$

where the supremum ranges over all **finite increasing sequences**  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  of real numbers with  $n \geq 0$ ; this is a quantity in  $[0, +\infty]$ . We say that  **$F$  has bounded variation (on  $\mathbb{R}$ )** if  $\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$  is **finite**. (In this case,  $\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$  is often written as  $\|F\|_{BV(\mathbb{R})}$  or just  $\|F\|_{BV}$ .)

• **Remark** Given any **interval**  $[a, b]$ , we define **the total variation**  $\|F\|_{TV([a, b])}$  of  $F$  on  $[a, b]$  as

$$\|F\|_{TV([a, b])} := \sup_{a \leq x_0 < \dots < x_n \leq b} \sum_{i=1}^n |F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})|$$

We say that a function  $F$  has **bounded variation on  $[a, b]$**  if  $\|F\|_{TV([a, b])}$  is **finite**. Note that  $\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \|F\|_{TV([-N, N])}$ .

• **Proposition 2.4** If  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a **monotone function**,  $\|F\|_{TV([a, b])} = |F(b) - F(a)|$  for any interval  $[a, b]$ . Thus  $F$  has **bounded variation on  $\mathbb{R}$**  if and only if it is **bounded**.

• **Proposition 2.5** For any functions  $F, G : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the total variation  $\|\cdot\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$  satisfies the following property:

1. (**Non-Negativity**):  $\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} \geq 0$ ;
2. (**Positive Definiteness**):  $\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} = 0$  if and only if  $F$  is constant.
3. (**Homogeneity**):  $\|cF\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} = |c| \|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$  for any  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .
4. (**Triangle Inequality**):  $\|F + G\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} \leq \|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} + \|G\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$

Thus  $\|\cdot\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})}$  is a **norm**.

• **Exercise 2.6** (Bounded Variation is **Stronger** than Bounded)

1. Show that every function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of **bounded variation** is **bounded**, and that the limits  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$ , are well-defined.

2. Give a counterexample of a **bounded, continuous, compactly supported** function  $f$  that is **not of bounded variation**.

- **Proposition 2.7** A function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of **bounded variation** if and only if it is the **difference of two bounded monotone functions**.
- **Remark** Much as an **absolutely integrable function** can be expressed as the difference of its **positive** and **negative parts**, a **bounded variation function** can be expressed as **the difference of two bounded monotone functions**. Let

$$F^+(x) = \sup_{x_0 < \dots < x_n \leq x} \sum_{i=1}^n \max\{F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1}), 0\}$$

$$F^-(x) = \sup_{x_0 < \dots < x_n \leq x} \sum_{i=1}^n \max\{-F(x_i) + F(x_{i-1}), 0\}$$

We have

$$F(x) = F(-\infty) + F^+(x) - F^-(x)$$

$$\|F\|_{TV([a,b])} = F^+(b) - F^+(a) + F^-(b) - F^-(a)$$

$$\|F\|_{TV(\mathbb{R})} = F^+(+\infty) + F^-(+\infty)$$

for every interval  $[a, b]$ , where  $F(-\infty) := \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x)$ ,  $F^+(+\infty) := \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} F^+(x)$ , and  $F^-(+\infty) := \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} F^-(x)$ . (Hint: The main difficulty comes from the fact that a partition  $x_0 < \dots < x_n \leq x$  that is good for  $F^+$  need not be good for  $F^-$ , and vice versa. However, this can be fixed by taking a good partition for  $F^+$  and a good partition for  $F^-$  and *combining* them together into a *common refinement*.)

- **Corollary 2.8 (Bounded Variation Differentiation Theorem).**  
Every **bounded variation function** is **differentiable almost everywhere**.
- **Definition (Locally Bounded Variation)**  
A function is **locally of bounded variation** if it is of **bounded variation** on every **compact interval**  $[a, b]$ .

**Corollary 2.9 (Locally Bounded Variation Differentiation Theorem).**  
Every **locally bounded variation function** is **differentiable almost everywhere**.

- **Definition (Lipschitz Continuous Function)**  
A function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **Lipschitz continuous** if there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq C |x - y|$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ; the *smallest*  $C$  with this property is known as **the Lipschitz constant** of  $f$ .

**Corollary 2.10 (Lipschitz Differentiation Theorem, one-dimensional case).**  
Every **Lipschitz continuous function**  $F$  is **locally of bounded variation**, and hence **differentiable almost everywhere**. Furthermore, the **derivative**  $F'$ , when it exists, is **bounded in magnitude** by the **Lipschitz constant** of  $F$ .

**Remark** The same result is true in *higher dimensions*, and is known as **the Rademacher differentiation theorem**.

- **Definition (Convex Function)**

A function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **convex** if one has  $f((1-t)x + ty) \leq (1-t)f(x) + tf(y)$  for all  $x < y$  and  $0 < t < 1$ .

**Corollary 2.11 (Convex Differentiation Theorem, one-dimensional case)**

If  $f$  is convex, then it is **continuous** and **almost everywhere differentiable**, and its derivative  $f'$  is equal almost everywhere to a **monotone non-decreasing function**, and so is itself **almost everywhere differentiable**.

(Hint: Drawing the graph of  $f$ , together with a number of chords and tangent lines, is likely to be very helpful in providing visual intuition.)

**Remark** Thus we see that in some sense, **convex functions** are “**almost everywhere twice differentiable**”. Similar claims also hold for **concave functions**, of course.

- **Remark** From above, we see that *the class of functions of locally bounded variations* contains the following sub-classes:

1. **Bounded Monotone Functions**
2. **Lipschitz Continuous Functions**
3. **Convex (Concave) Function**
4. **Absolute Continuous Function** thus includes *Uniformly Continuous Function* too

## 2.2 The Second Fundamental Theorem of Calculus for Lebesgue Integral

- **Proposition 2.12 (Upper bound for second fundamental theorem).**

Let  $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be **monotone non-decreasing** (so that, as discussed above,  $F'$  is defined almost everywhere, is unsigned, and is measurable). Then

$$\int_{[a,b]} F'(x) dx \leq F(b) - F(a).$$

In particular,  $F'$  is **absolutely integrable**.

- For function of bounded variation, the derivative is also absolutely integrable

**Proposition 2.13** Any function of bounded variation has an (almost everywhere defined) derivative that is **absolutely integrable**.

- For Lipschitz continuous function, we can directly prove the second fundamental theorem of calculus:

**Theorem 2.14 (Second fundamental theorem for Lipschitz functions).**

Let  $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be **Lipschitz continuous**.

$$\int_{[a,b]} F'(x) dx = F(b) - F(a).$$

(Hint: Argue as in the proof of Proposition above, but use **the dominated convergence theorem** in place of *Fatous lemma*)

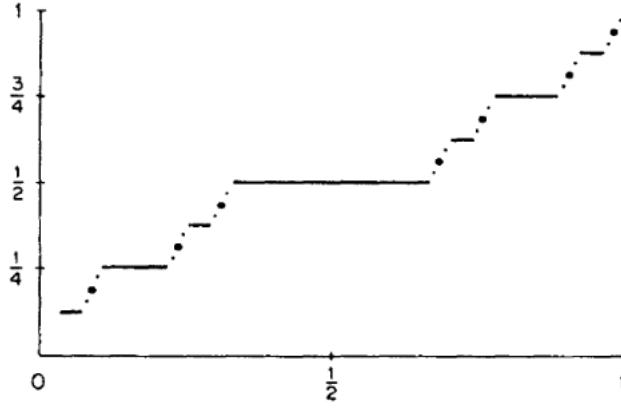


Figure 1: The Cantor Function [Reed and Simon, 1980]

- **Remark** One of the main *challenge* to show the second fundamental theorem of calculus for *all monotone function* (i.e. to show the equality condition holds above) is that *all the variation* of  $F$  may be **concentrated in a set of measure zero**, and thus *undetectable* by the Lebesgue integral of  $F'$ . The following is one of example

**Example** *The Heaviside function* is defined as  $F := \mathbb{1}_{\{[0, +\infty)\}}$ . It is clear that  $F'$  vanishes almost everywhere, but  $F(b)F(a)$  is *not equal* to  $\int_{[a,b]} F'(x)dx$  if  $b$  and  $a$  lie on *opposite* sides of the discontinuity at 0.

- Moreover, we have

**Proposition 2.15** *If  $F$  is a jump function, then  $F'$  vanishes almost everywhere.*

Thus the second fundamental theorem of calculus does not hold for any jump functions.

- **Remark** Even only consider *the continuous monotone function*, it is still possible for *all the fluctuation* to now be **concentrated**, not in a countable collection of jump discontinuities, but instead **in an uncountable set of zero measure**, such as the middle thirds **Cantor set**. This can be illustrated by the key counterexample of *the Cantor function*, also known as *the Devil's staircase function*.

This example shows that the classical derivative  $F'(x) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{F(x+h) - F(x)}{h}$  of a function has some defects; it *cannot "see"* some of the variation of a continuous monotone function such as the Cantor function.

- **Remark** In view of this counterexample, we see that we need to add *an additional hypothesis* to *the continuous monotone non-increasing function*  $F$  before we can recover the second fundamental theorem. One such hypothesis is **absolute continuity**.
- **Definition** A function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **continuous** if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|F(b) - F(a)| \leq \epsilon$  whenever  $(a, b)$  is an interval of length at most  $\delta$  that contains  $x_0$ .

**Definition** A function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **uniformly continuous** if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|F(b) - F(a)| \leq \epsilon$  whenever  $(a, b)$  is an interval of length at most  $\delta$ .

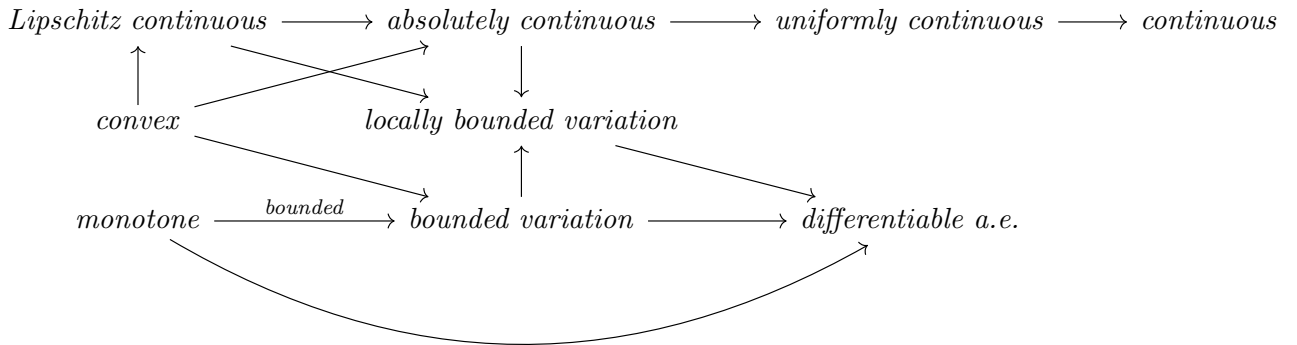
- **Definition (Absolute Continuity)**

A function  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **absolutely continuous** if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\sum_{j=1}^n |F(b_j) - F(a_j)| \leq \epsilon$  whenever  $(a_1, b_1), \dots, (a_n, b_n)$  is a **finite collection of disjoint intervals of total length  $\sum_{j=1}^n |b_j - a_j|$  at most  $\delta$** .

- **Proposition 2.16** *The followings statements are true:*

1. Every **absolutely continuous** function is **uniformly continuous** and therefore **continuous**.
2. Every **absolutely continuous** function is of **bounded variation** on every **compact interval**  $[a, b]$ . (Hint: first show this is true for any sufficiently small interval.) Thus, by the Local Bounded Variation Differentiation Theorem, absolutely continuous functions are **differentiable almost everywhere**.
3. Every **Lipschitz continuous** function is **absolutely continuous**.
4. The function  $x \mapsto \sqrt{x}$  is absolutely continuous, but not Lipschitz continuous, on the interval  $[0, 1]$ .
5. The **Cantor function** is continuous, **monotone**, and **uniformly continuous**, but **not absolutely continuous**, on  $[0, 1]$ .
6. If  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **absolutely integrable**, then the indefinite integral  $F(x) := \int_{-\infty, x} f(y) dy$  is **absolutely continuous**, and  $F$  is differentiable almost everywhere with  $F'(x) = f(x)$  for almost every  $x$ .
7. The **sum** or **product** of two absolutely continuous functions on an interval  $[a, b]$  remains absolutely continuous.

- **Remark** We can draw the relative strength of different concepts on a compact interval  $[a, b]$ .



– **uniformly continuous  $\not\Rightarrow$  absolutely continuous**: See Cantor function example [Tao, 2011].

– **absolutely continuous  $\not\Rightarrow$  Lipschitz continuous**:  $x \mapsto \sqrt{x}$

- **Proposition 2.17** *Absolutely continuous functions map **null sets to null sets**, i.e. if  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **absolutely continuous** and  $E$  is a null set then  $F(E) := \{F(x) : x \in E\}$  is also a null set.*

**Exercise 2.18** *Show that the Cantor function does not have this property above.*



- For absolutely continuous functions, we can recover the second fundamental theorem of calculus:

**Theorem 2.19** (*Second Fundamental Theorem for Absolutely Continuous Functions*).

Let  $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be absolutely continuous. Then

$$\int_{[a,b]} F'(x) dx = F(b) - F(a).$$

Note that  $F'$  is **absolutely integrable**.

- **Proposition 2.20** (*Classification of Absolute Continuous Function*)  
A function  $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **absolutely continuous** if and only if it takes the form

$$F(x) = \int_{[a,x]} f(y) dy + C$$

for some **absolutely integrable**  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and a constant  $C$ .

- **Remark** We see that the **absolute continuity** was used primarily in *two ways*:
  1. firstly, to ensure **the almost everywhere existence** of  $F'$
  2. to control an **exceptional null set**  $E$ .

It turns out that one can achieve the latter control by making a *different hypothesis*, namely that *the function  $F$  is everywhere differentiable* rather than merely *almost everywhere differentiable*. More precisely, we have

- **Theorem 2.21** (*Second Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, again*).  
Let  $[a, b]$  be a compact interval of positive length, let  $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a **differentiable** function, such that  $F'$  is **absolutely integrable**. Then the Lebesgue integral

$$\int_{[a,b]} F'(x) dx = F(b) - F(a).$$

- **Exercise 2.22** Let  $F : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by setting

$$F(x) := x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x^3}\right)$$

when  $x$  is non-zero, and  $F(0) := 0$ . Show that  $F$  is everywhere differentiable, but the derivative  $F'$  is not absolutely integrable, and so the second fundamental theorem of calculus does not apply in this case (at least if we interpret  $\int_{[a,b]} F'(x) dx$  using the absolutely convergent Lebesgue integral).

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