

Def. (Chapter 7) : Let  $f: [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

The total variation of  $f$  from  $a$  to  $x$ ,  $x \leq b$ , is defined by

$$V_f(a; x) = \sup \sum_{i=1}^k |f(t_i) - f(t_{i-1})|,$$

where the supremum is taken over all finite sequences:

$$a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_k = x$$

$f$  is said to be of bounded variation on  $[a,b]$  if  $V_f(a; b) < \infty$ . In abbreviated form:

$$f \in BV([a,b]) \text{ if } V_f(a; b) < \infty.$$

Def (Chapter 7) : Let  $f: [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .  $f$  is said to be absolutely continuous

on  $I$  (AC on  $I$ ) if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that:

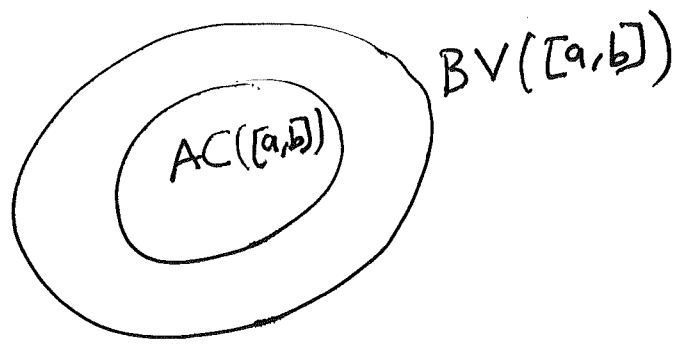
$$\sum_{i=1}^k |f(b_i) - f(a_i)| < \epsilon$$

for any finite collection of nonoverlapping intervals  $[a_1, b_1], \dots, [a_k, b_k]$  in  $I$  with:

$$\sum_{i=1}^k |b_i - a_i| < \delta.$$

Ex. Any Lipschitz function  
is absolutely continuous

In particular,  $f(x) = |x|$   
is AC on any interval  $[a, b]$ .



Recall:

• Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a nondecreasing function. Then  $f'(x)$  exists  $\lambda$ -a.e.  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

•  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies condition N if  $E \subset [a, b], \lambda(E) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda[f(E)] = 0$

• If  $f \in AC([a, b]) \Rightarrow f$  satisfies Condition N

• Let  $f \in BV([a, b])$ . Then:  
 $f = f_1 - f_2$ ,  $f_1, f_2$  nondecreasing  
 $\therefore f$  is differentiable almost everywhere

Recall the:

Lebesgue - Stieltjes Measure (Chapter 4).

Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  non-decreasing

Define:

$$\alpha_f((a, b]) := f(b) - f(a)$$

The Lebesgue - Stieltjes outer measure of an arbitrary set  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$\lambda_f^*(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{h_k \in \mathcal{F}} \alpha_f(h_k) \right\},$$

where the infimum is taken over all countable collections  $\mathcal{F}$  of half-open intervals  $h_k$  of the form  $(a_k, b_k]$  such that

$$E \subset \bigcup_{h_k \in \mathcal{F}} h_k$$

Thm:  $\lambda_f^*$  is a Caratheodory outer measure on  $\mathbb{R}$

Thm: If  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is non-decreasing and right continuous, then:

$$\lambda_f((a, b]) = f(b) - f(a)$$

Thm: Let  $\mu$  be a finite Borel outer measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $f(x) := \mu(-\infty, x]$ . Then,  $f$  is nondecreasing, right continuous and  $\lambda_f \equiv \mu$  on all Borel sets.

Thm: Let  $f \in L^1_{loc}(a,b)$ . Then

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$g = f$   $\lambda$ -almost everywhere,  $\Leftrightarrow f' = \mu$   
for some  $g \in BV[a,b]$   $|\mu|(a,b) < \infty$   
( $f'$  is the distributional derivative of  $f$ )

Proof:  $\Rightarrow$  Assume  $f = g$   $\lambda$ -almost everywhere and  $g \in BV([a,b])$ . Then

$g = g_1 - g_2$ ,  $g_1, g_2$  non-decreasing  
(WLOG assume  $g_1, g_2$  right continuous)

Let  $T_1$  be the distribution corresponding to  $g_1$ . Thus:

$$T_1(\varphi) = \int_a^b g_1(x) \varphi(x) d\lambda(x)$$

and:

$$T_1'(\varphi) = -T_1(\varphi')$$

$$= - \int_a^b g_1(x) \varphi'(x) d\lambda(x); \text{ Lebesgue integral}$$

$$= - \int_a^b g_1(x) \varphi'(x) dx; \text{ Riemann integral.}$$

$$= - \int_a^b g_1(x) d\varphi; \text{ Riemann-Stieltjes integral; exercises 6.17, 6.18, 6.19 (Ziemer-Torres book).}$$

$$T_1'(\varphi) = - \int_a^b g_1(x) d\varphi ;$$

$$d\varphi = \varphi' dx$$

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Riemann-Stieltjes  
Integral.

$$= \int_a^b \varphi dg_1 ;$$

Exercises 6.20  
Integration by parts  
for Riemann-Stieltjes  
Integrals.

$$= \int_a^b \varphi(x) g_1'(x) dx ;$$

$dg_1 = g_1' dx$ .  
See for example  
Rudin's book,  
Chapter 6,  
Theorem 6.17

$$= \int_a^b \varphi(x) g_1'(x) d\lambda(x)$$

$$= \int_a^b \varphi(x) d\lambda_{g_1} ;$$

exercise 6.21:  
Riemann-Stieltjes  
and Lebesgue-  
Stieltjes  
Integrals are  
in agreement.

(A)  $\therefore$   $T_1'(\varphi) = \int_a^b \varphi d\lambda_{g_1}$   
In the same way:

$$T_2'(\varphi) = \int_a^b \varphi d\lambda_{g_2}, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(a,b)$$

Hence:

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If  $T_g$  is the distribution corresponding to  $g$ ; since  $T_g = T_1 - T_2$  then:

$$T_g' = T_1' - T_2' = \lambda g_1 - \lambda g_2; \text{ by (A)}$$

Note: If  $g_1, g_2$  are not right continuous, then by Problem 7.10 (see also Theorem 61.2 and Problem 3.62),

we can redefine  $g_1, g_2$  to  $\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2$ , such that  $g_1 = \tilde{g}_1$  and  $g_2 = \tilde{g}_2$  almost everywhere and:

$\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2$  are non-decreasing, and right continuous.

Then:

$\tilde{g} := \tilde{g}_1 - \tilde{g}_2$  is of bounded variation (since any non-decreasing function is of bounded variation,  $\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2$  are BV and hence  $\tilde{g}$  is BV).

$\therefore f = g = \tilde{g}$  almost everywhere, with  $g, \tilde{g} \in BV$ .

$$T_f = T_g = T_{\tilde{g}} = \lambda g_1 - \lambda g_2 = \lambda \tilde{g}_1 - \lambda \tilde{g}_2$$

← Suppose now that:

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$$f' = \mu ; \text{ i.e.}$$

$$-\int_a^b f \psi' d\lambda = \int_a^b \psi d\mu, \quad \forall \psi \in \mathcal{D}(a,b),$$

where:

$\mu$  is a signed measure  $|\mu|(a,b) < \infty$

Then:

$$\mu = \mu_1 - \mu_2, \quad \mu_1, \mu_2 \text{ non-negative measures}$$

Define:

$$f_i(x) = \mu_i((-\infty, x]), \quad i=1,2$$

(extend  $\mu_i$  by  $\mu_i(\mathbb{R} \setminus (a,b)) = 0$ ).

( $f_i$  are non-decreasing and right continuous)

∴ Theorem 96.1  $\Rightarrow$

$$\mu_i = \lambda_{f_i}, \quad \lambda_{f_i} \text{ is the Lebesgue-Stieltjes measure (on all Borel sets)}$$

$$\therefore T'_{f_i}(\psi) = -T_{f_i}(\psi') = -\int_a^b f_i \psi' d\lambda = \int_a^b \psi d\lambda_{f_i} = \int_a^b \psi d\mu_i$$

Define

$$g := f_1 - f_2$$

$$g \text{ is BV and } T'_g = T'_{f_1} - T'_{f_2} = \mu_1 - \mu_2 = \mu$$

Hence:

$$T_f' = \mu$$

$$T_g' = \mu$$

$$\therefore (T_f - T_g)' = 0$$

$$\therefore T_f = T_g + K$$

$$\therefore \int_a^b f \varphi d\lambda = \int_a^b g \varphi d\lambda + \int_a^b K \varphi d\lambda$$

$$\therefore \int_a^b (f - g - K) \varphi d\lambda = 0, \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(a, b)$$

$$\therefore f = g + K \text{ } \lambda\text{-almost everywhere}$$

Since  $g + K$  is BV we conclude  
the  $f$  is equivalent to a BV function.