

3. Connection to the Riemann integral

DEFINITION 3.1. Let f be bounded. The oscillation of f at x is defined by

$$\omega(x) = \limsup_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \{ |f(z) - f(y)| : |z - x| < \delta, |y - x| < \delta \}$$

REMARK 3.2. $\omega(x)$ well-defined. In particular, $\omega(x) \leq 2 \sup |f| < \infty$.

REMARK 3.3. f continuous at $x \Leftrightarrow \omega(x) = 0$

modcont REMARK 3.4. $m(\{x : \omega(x) \neq 0\}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m(\{x : \omega(x) > 1/n\})$

DEFINITION 3.5. (Darboux Integral)

For a partition $\pi = \langle a = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n = b \rangle$ we define the upper and the lower sum by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{S}(\pi, f) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \sup_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f \\ \underline{S}(\pi, f) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f \end{aligned}$$

A bounded function f is called Darboux-integrable if $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists$ partition π such that

$$\bar{S}(\pi, f) - \underline{S}(\pi, f) < \epsilon$$

REMARK 3.6. A function is Darboux-integrable if and only if it is Riemann-integrable (see Royden for a precise definition).

PROPOSITION 3.7. A bounded function is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ if and only if the set of discontinuity points has measure 0.

PROOF. " \implies ": Let f be Darboux-integrable. Let $\gamma > 0$ and $\delta > 0$. We define $\epsilon = \gamma\delta$. By definition there exists a partition $\pi = \langle 0 = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n = 1 \rangle$ such that

$$\bar{S}(\pi, f) - \underline{S}(\pi, f) < \epsilon.$$

Consider $x \in (x_i, x_{i+1})$ such that $\omega(x) \geq \gamma$. Then

$$\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \geq \gamma.$$

Observe that points with 'large' (and hence certain discontinuity) points satisfy

$$\{x : \omega(x) \geq \gamma\} = \bigcup_{i, \sup f - \inf f \geq \gamma} (x_i, x_{i+1}) \cup \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
m(\{x : \omega(x) \geq \gamma\}) &\leq \sum_{\substack{\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \geq \gamma}} |x_{i+1} - x_i| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\gamma} \sum |x_{i+1} - x_i| \left(\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \right) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\gamma} (\overline{S}(\pi, f) - \underline{S}(\pi, f)) \\
&\leq \frac{\epsilon}{\gamma} = \delta
\end{aligned}$$

Since δ is arbitrary, we get $m(\{x : \omega(x) \geq \gamma\}) = 0$. However, $\gamma > 0$ is arbitrary and thus Remark (3.4) ^{modcont} implies $m(\{x : \omega(x) > 0\}) = 0$. This means the set of discontinuity points has measure 0.

” \Leftarrow ” Define $\omega_\delta(x) = \sup\{|f(z) - f(y)| : |z - x| < \delta, |y - x| < \delta\}$.

By assumption we have $m(\{x : \omega(x) > 0\}) = 0$. This implies

$$m(\{x : \omega(x) \geq \gamma\}) = 0$$

for all $\gamma > 0$. Therefore, we deduce from the monotonicity of $\omega_\delta(x)$ that

$$\boxed{\text{dd}} \quad (3.1) \quad m(\{x : \omega(x) \geq \gamma\}) = m(\{x : \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \omega_\delta(x) \geq \gamma\}) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} m(\{x : \omega_\delta(x) \geq \gamma\}) = 0$$

Let $\gamma > 0$ and $\epsilon = \frac{\gamma}{2 \sup |f|}$. By (3.1) ^{dd} we deduce the existence of some k such that

$$m(\{x : \omega_{1/k}(x) \geq \gamma\}) < \epsilon.$$

Choose $m > k$ and $\pi = \langle x_0, x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle = \langle 0, \frac{1}{m}, \frac{2}{m}, \dots, \frac{m}{m} \rangle$.

Define

$$S = \{j \in \{1, \dots, m\} : \exists x \in [x_{j-1}, x_j] \quad \omega_{1/k}(x) \geq \gamma\}.$$

Then we get

$$\sum_{j \in S} \left(\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \right) (x_{j-1} - x_j) \leq \gamma \sum_{j \in S} |x_{j+1} - x_j| \leq \gamma(b - a).$$

If $j \notin S$, then

$$[x_{j-1} - x_j] \subset \{x : \omega_{1/k}(x) > \gamma\}.$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{j \notin S} \left(\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \right) (x_{j-1} - x_j) &\leq 2 \sup_{[0,1]} |f| m\left(\bigcup_{j \notin S} [x_{j-1}, x_j]\right) \\
&\leq 2 \sup_{[a,b]} |f| m(\{x : \omega_{1/k}(x) > \gamma\}) \leq 2 \sup_{[a,b]} |f| \epsilon \leq \gamma.
\end{aligned}$$

Putting the pieces together, we find

$$\sum_j \left(\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \right) (x_{j-1} - x_j) \leq \gamma(b-a) + \gamma = \gamma(1+b-a).$$

Since $\gamma > 0$ is arbitrary we deduce that f is Darboux integrable. ■