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*Mathematica Bohemica*, Vol. 121 (1996), No. 3, 263–268

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/125989>

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NOTE ON FUNCTIONS SATISFYING THE INTEGRAL  
HÖLDER CONDITION

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(Received March 21, 1995)

*Summary.* Given a modulus of continuity  $\omega$  and  $q \in [1, \infty]$  then  $H_q^\omega$  denotes the space of all functions  $f$  with the period 1 on  $\mathbb{R}$  that are locally integrable in power  $q$  and whose integral modulus of continuity of power  $q$  (see(1)) is majorized by a multiple of  $\omega$ . The moduli of continuity  $\omega$  are characterized for which  $H_q^\omega$  contains "many" functions with infinite "essential" variation on an interval of length 1.

*Keywords:* integral modulus of continuity, variation of a function

*AMS classification:* 26A15, 26A45, 26A16

By a modulus of continuity we understand a continuous nondecreasing function  $\omega: [0, \infty[ \rightarrow [0, \infty[$  which is subadditive, i.e.

$$\omega(t_1 + t_2) \leq \omega(t_1) + \omega(t_2), \quad t_1, t_2 \geq 0$$

and satisfies the requirements

$$\omega(0) = 0, \quad \omega(t) > 0 \quad \text{for } t > 0.$$

In what follows  $\omega$  will always stand for a fixed modulus of continuity. If  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^- \equiv \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}$  is a Lebesgue measurable function with period 1 and  $q \geq 1$  we denote

$$\|f\|_q = \left[ \int_0^1 |f(x)|^q dx \right]^{1/q}$$

and in case  $\|f\|_q < \infty$  we define its modulus of continuity of power  $q$  by

$$(1) \quad \omega(f, t)_q := \sup_{|h| \leq t} \left[ \int_0^1 |f(x+h) - f(x)|^q dx \right]^{1/q}.$$

Any two such functions are considered equivalent if their difference is equal to a constant function almost everywhere on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $H_q^\omega$  denotes the set of all such classes of mutually equivalent functions  $f$  for which there exists a  $c \in [0, \infty[$  such that

$$\omega(f, t)_q \leq c\omega(t), \quad t > 0;$$

the least  $c$  with this property will be denoted by

$$\|f\|_q^\omega := \sup_{t>0} \omega(f, t)_q / \omega(t).$$

As usual, the elements of  $H_q^\omega$  will be identified with functions (representing the whole class of mutually equivalent functions). Then  $H_q^\omega$  is a linear space over  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_q^\omega$  is the norm in this factor space. The space  $H_q^\omega$  normed by  $\|\cdot\|_q^\omega$  is a Banach space.

Let us denote by  $C_0^{(1)}$  the set of all continuously differentiable functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  vanishing outside the interval  $[0, 1]$  and let us define for any  $f \in H_q^\omega$  its essential variation on  $]0, 1[$  by

$$\text{var}(f) = \sup \left\{ \int_0^1 f(x)\varphi'(x) dx; \varphi \in C_0^{(1)}, |\varphi| \leq 1 \right\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $\text{var}(f)$  does not actually depend on the choice of the representing function in the class of functions equivalent to  $f$ . It is possible to prove that  $\text{var}(f) < \infty$  iff there exists a  $g$  equivalent to  $f$  with a finite total variation on  $[0, 1]$  defined in the usual way as the least upper bound of all sums of the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |g(t_i) - g(t_{i-1})|,$$

where  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = 1$  ranges over all subdivisions of the interval  $[0, 1]$ .

Conditions on the modulus of continuity  $\omega$  sufficient for the existence of an  $f \in H_q^\omega$  with  $\text{var}(f) = \infty$  have been investigated by O. Kováčik. He showed in [1] by a direct construction that

$$(2) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-\alpha} \omega\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = \infty$$

with an  $\alpha \in ]0, 1[$  represents such a sufficient condition. We shall show in this note using method of the Baire category (see [2], [3]) that this result can be sharpened.

Denoting  $\omega'_+(0) := \liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \omega(t)/t$ , we shall prove that  $H_q^\omega$  contains an  $f$  with  $\text{var}(f) = \infty$  iff

$$(3) \quad \omega'_+(0) = \infty.$$

More precisely, we have the following results.

**Theorem 1.** *If (3) holds then the set*

$$(4) \quad \{f \in H_q^\omega; \text{var}(f) < \infty\}$$

*is of the first category in  $H_q^\omega$  (and, consequently, its complement in  $H_q^\omega$  is non-void); in the opposite case  $\omega'_+(0) < \infty$  the set (4) coincides with the whole space  $H_q^\omega$ .*

Before going into the proof of this theorem we shall establish several simple auxiliary results.

**Lemma 1.** *If 1 stands for the constant function equal to 1 on  $\mathbb{R}$  and, for  $f \in H_q^\omega$ ,*

$$(5) \quad m(f) = \int_0^1 f(x) dx,$$

then

$$(6) \quad \|f - m(f)\mathbf{1}\|_q \leq \|f\|_q \left[ \int_0^1 \omega(h)^q dh \right]^{1/q}.$$

**Proof 1.** Let  $f$  be a function with period 1 which is locally integrable in power  $q$ ; using the notation (5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - m(f)\mathbf{1}\|_q &= \left[ \int_0^1 \left| f(x) - \int_0^1 f(t) dt \right|^q dx \right]^{1/q} \\ &= \left[ \int_0^1 \left| \int_0^1 [f(x) - f(t)] dt \right|^q dx \right]^{1/q} \\ &\leq \left[ \int_0^1 \int_0^1 |f(x) - f(t)|^q dt dx \right]^{1/q} \\ &= \left[ \int_0^1 \int_0^1 |f(t+h) - f(t)|^q dh dt \right]^{1/q} \\ &\leq \left[ \int_0^1 [\omega(f, h)_q]^q dh \right]^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $f \in H_q^\omega$  then the inequality  $\omega(f, h)_q \leq \|f\|_q \omega(h)$  implies (6). □

**Lemma 2.** The function  $\text{var} : f \rightarrow \text{var}(f)$  is lower semicontinuous on the space  $H_q^\omega$ .

**Proof 2.** Let  $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be an arbitrary sequence of functions in  $H_q^\omega$  converging to  $f_0 \in H_q^\omega$  with respect to the norm  $\|\dots\|_q^\omega$ .

We wish to verify that

$$(7) \quad \text{var}(f_0) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{var}(f_n).$$

To this purpose we choose an arbitrary  $c < \text{var}(f_0)$ . Then there exists a  $\varphi \in C_0^{(1)}$  such that  $|\varphi| \leq 1$  and

$$\int_0^1 f_0(x) \varphi'(x) dx > c.$$

Let  $c_n = m(f_n) - m(f_0)$ . According to Lemma 1 the functions  $f_n - c_n \mathbf{1}$  converge to  $f_0$  with respect to the norm  $\|\dots\|_q$  and, consequently, also with respect to  $\|\dots\|_1$ .

Hence

$$\int_0^1 f_n(x) \varphi'(x) dx = \int_0^1 [f_n(x) - c_n] \varphi'(x) dx \rightarrow \int_0^1 f_0(x) \varphi'(x) dx$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , so that

$$\text{var}(f_n) \geq \int_0^1 f_n(x) \varphi'(x) dx > c$$

for all sufficiently large  $n$ . Thus (7) is verified.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let us define the function  $\omega_n$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  so that  $\omega_n$  has period  $\frac{1}{n}$  and

$$\omega_n(t) = \begin{cases} \omega(t) & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2n} \\ \omega(\frac{1}{n} - t) & \text{for } \frac{1}{2n} \leq t \leq \frac{1}{n}. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\omega_n \in H_q^\omega$ ,  $\text{var}(\omega_n) = 2n\omega(\frac{1}{2n})$  and  $\|\omega_n\|_q^\omega \leq 1$ .

**Proof 3.** Since  $\omega_n$  is continuous and monotonous on each of the intervals  $[\frac{k}{2n}, \frac{(k+1)}{2n}]$ ,  $0 \leq k < 2n$ , which are mapped onto an interval of length  $\omega(\frac{1}{2n})$ , we have  $\text{var}(\omega_n) = 2n\omega(\frac{1}{2n})$ . We can see from the definition of  $\omega_n$  that

$$|\omega_n(x+h) - \omega_n(x)| \leq \omega(|h|)$$

for  $x, h \in \mathbb{R}$ , whence

$$\left[ \int_0^1 |\omega_n(x+h) - \omega_n(x)|^q dx \right]^{1/q} \leq \omega(|h|),$$

so that  $\|\omega_n\|_q^\omega \leq 1$ .

Now we are in a position to present the following.  $\square$

**Proof 4** of the Theorem 1. Assume (3) and put for  $k \in N$

$$B_k = \{f \in H_q^\omega; \text{var}(f) \leq k\}.$$

It follows from Lemma 2 that  $B_k$  is closed in  $H_q^\omega$ . In order to show that  $B_k$  is nowhere dense we shall verify that for each  $f_0 \in H_q^\omega$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an  $f \in H_q^\omega \setminus B_k$  such that  $\|f - f_0\|_q^\omega \leq \varepsilon$ . If  $f_0 \in H_q^\omega \setminus B_k$  we may, of course, choose  $f = f_0$ , so let  $\text{var}(f_0) \leq k$ . Choose  $n \in N$  so large that

$$2n\omega(\frac{1}{2n}) > 2\frac{k}{\varepsilon}$$

and put

$$f = f_0 + \varepsilon\omega_n.$$

According to Lemma 3 we have  $\|f - f_0\|_q^\omega \leq \varepsilon$  and  $\text{var}(f) \geq \varepsilon \text{var}(\omega_n) - \text{var}(f_0) > \varepsilon 2n\omega(\frac{1}{2n}) - k > k$ , so that  $f \in H_q^\omega \setminus B_k$  as required. Hence  $\bigcup_{k \in N} B_k$  coinciding with (4) is of the first category in  $H_q^\omega$ .

Conversely, let now

$$(8) \quad \omega'_+(0) < \infty.$$

Since  $\omega$  is a modulus of continuity we have then

$$\sup_{t>0} \omega(t)/t \leq 2\omega'_+(0),$$

which follows e.g. from the inequality (6) in Section 3.2.4. in [4]. If  $\varphi \in C_0^{(1)}$  then

$$[\varphi(x+h) - \varphi(x)]/h \rightarrow \varphi'(x)$$

uniformly with respect to  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ . Choosing an arbitrary  $f \in H_q^\omega$  we have then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 f(x)\varphi'(x) dx &= \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \int_0^1 f(x)[\varphi(x+h) - \varphi(x)]/h dx \\ &= \lim_{h \downarrow 0} h^{-1} \int_0^1 [f(x-h) - f(x)]\varphi(x) dx \\ &\leq \sup_{h \neq 0} |h|^{-1} \omega(f, |h|)_q \left[ \int_0^1 |\varphi(x)|^p dx \right]^{1/p}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $p$  is the Hölder conjugate exponent of  $q$  ( $1/p + 1/q = 1$ ). Hence we obtain

$$\text{var}(f) \leq 2\omega'_+(0) \|f\|_q^\omega < \infty.$$

We observe that in this case (4) coincides with the whole space  $H_q^\omega$ . □

**Remark 1.** It follows from the above proof that, under the condition (8), the natural embedding of  $H_q^\omega$  into the factor space (modulo constant functions) of periodic functions with  $\text{var}(f) < \infty$  (normed by  $\text{var}(\dots)$ ) is continuous; in the case  $\omega(t) = t$  and  $q = 1$  these spaces can be identified (cf. [5]). In case  $q > 1$  and  $\omega'_+(0) < \infty$  the reasoning from the end of the previous proof implies continuity of the natural embedding of  $H_q^\omega$  into the factor space (modulo constant functions) formed by periodic functions that are absolutely continuous and satisfy

$$\infty > \left[ \int_0^1 |f'(x)|^q dx \right]^{1/q} \equiv \sup \left\{ \int_0^1 f(x)\varphi'(x) dx; \varphi \in C_0^{(1)}, \int_0^1 |\varphi(x)|^p dx \leq 1 \right\};$$

the norm in this space is given by  $\|f'\|_q$  (cf. [4], 3.12.13).

**Remark 2.** The theorem established above holds also for  $q = \infty$  provided the expressions of the form  $\left[ \int_0^1 |f(x)|^q dx \right]^{1/q}$  occurring in the construction of  $H_q^\omega$  are replaced by the essential norm formed by  $\inf\{\alpha \geq 0; \text{meas}\{x; |f(x)| \geq \alpha\} = 0\}$ , where  $\text{meas}(\dots)$  is the Lebesgue measure on the real line.

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