

4. Functionals

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4.1. Definition: weak variation ($\delta y, \delta y'$ small)
strong " ($\delta y, \delta y'$ small)

Definition: The functional is said to be continuous at the point $y_0 \in \mathcal{R}$ if $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$
 $\ni \|I(y) - I(y_0)\| < \varepsilon$ provided that $\|y - y_0\| < \delta$.

* A functional can be continuous in some space and discontinuous in another.

Ex: Arc length $S = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + [y'(x)]^2} dx \equiv I[y]$



① $I[y]$ is continuous in $C^1[a, b]$, because clearly
 $\|y_1 - y_2\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|y_1'(x) - y_2'(x)\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|I[y_1] - I[y_2]\| < \varepsilon$

② $I[y]$ is NOT continuous in the $\| \cdot \|_0$ norm, even in C^1 .

Take $y(x) = a \sin(r\pi x)$ in $x \in [0, 1]$; then

$$S = \int_0^1 \sqrt{1 + r^2 \pi^2 a^2 \cos^2(r\pi x)} dx > r\pi a \int_0^1 |\cos r\pi x| dx \\ = r\pi a \left(2r \int_0^{1/2r} \cos r\pi x dx \right) = r\pi a \cdot 2r \cdot \frac{1}{r} = 2ar$$

Take $a = \frac{1}{n}$, $r = n^2$. Then

~~~~~~~~~  $I > 2n \Rightarrow I \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$   
but  $\|y\| \leq \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$ , ( $y' = ar\pi \cos r\pi x = n\pi \cos n^2 \pi x$   
 $\|y'\|, = n\pi + \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow \infty$ )

$\therefore I[\lim_n \phi_n] \leq \lim_n I[\phi_n]$ , lower semicontinuous

Theorem: Every lower (upper) semicontinuous functional defined on a compact\* function space possesses a min (max) in that space [proved using equicontinuity and Arzela-Ascoli: look in Courant-Friedrichs].

\* Definition: A set of functions  $\{f_n(x)\}$  in a space  $M$  is said to be compact if every sequence of functions in the set contains a subsequence which converges to some function in  $M$ .

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n); \quad df = f'(x) dx$$

$f(x)$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{necessary conditions for min at } x=x_0 \text{ are} \\ \text{sufficient} \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} f'(x_0) = 0, \quad f''(x_0) \geq 0 \\ f''(x_0) > 0 \end{array}$

Ordinary functions: we say that  $f(x)$  is differentiable at  $x$ , if  $f(x+h) - f(x) = \underbrace{A \cdot h}_{\text{differential}} + o(|h|)$  where  $A \cdot h = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i h_i$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{f(x+eh) - f(x)}{e} \right] = A \cdot e, \quad \text{derivative: } A = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

$$A = \nabla f = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

$$f(x+h) - f(x) = \underbrace{A \cdot h}_{\text{linear form}} + (\text{quadratic form})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex: } f(x+h, y+k) - f(x, y) &= f_x(x, y)h + f_y(x, y)k + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2!} [f_{xx}h^2 + 2f_{xy}hk + f_{yy}k^2] \\ &+ \frac{1}{3!} [f_{xxx}h^3 + 3f_{xxy}h^2k + 3f_{xyy}hk^2 + f_{yyy}k^3] + \dots \end{aligned}$$

## 4.2 Linear functionals

Defn:  $I(\alpha y_1 + \beta y_2) = \alpha I(y_1) + \beta I(y_2)$  : Linear functional

Ex.  $I(y) = \int_a^b f(x)y(x) dx$

$$I(y_0) = y(x_0)$$

$$I(y) = \int_a^b [\alpha_0(x)y(x) + \alpha_1(x)y'(x) + \dots + \alpha_n(x)y^{(n)}(x)] dx$$

Defn: functional  $B(x, y)$  is bilinear if it is linear in

$y(x)$  for fixed  $x(y)$ .

i.e.  $B(\alpha x + \beta y, z) = \alpha B(x, z) + \beta B(y, z)$

$$B(x, \alpha y + \beta z) = \alpha B(x, y) + \beta B(x, z)$$

If we set  $y=x$  we get a quadratic functional  $A(x) = B(x, x)$ .

If  $A(x) > 0$  for  $x \neq 0$ , then positive definite

Ex. (i)  $B(x, y) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n b_{ij} x_i y_j$

$$A(x) = B(x, x) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n b_{ij} x_i x_j$$

(ii)  $B(x, y) = \int_a^b \alpha(t) x(t) y(t) dt$

$$A(x) = \int_a^b \alpha(t) x^2(t) dt$$

(iii)  $B(x, y) = \int_a^b \int_a^b k(s, t) x(s) y(t) ds dt$

4.3

3. Defn:  $J(y)$  differentiable functional

Suppose  $\underbrace{J(y+h) - J(y)}_{\Delta J} = \underbrace{\phi(h)}_{\text{more precisely, } \phi(y, h)} + \epsilon \|h\|$

where  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  as  $\|h\| \rightarrow 0$  and where  $\phi(h)$  is a linear functional. Then the functional  $J(y)$  is said to be differentiable at  $y$  and the functional  $\phi(h)$  is

Called the first variation (or differential) of  $J$  and denoted by  $\delta J[h]$

Riesz representation theorem. A linear functional  $\phi(h)$  can be represented uniquely as the inner product

$\phi(h) = (h, u)$ .  
Define  $u$  as the derivative

$$\text{Defn: } \Delta J = \underset{\text{linear in } h}{J(y+h)} - J(y) = \underset{\text{quad in } h}{\phi_1(h)} + \underset{\text{i.e. } o(\|h\|^2)}{\phi_2(h)} + \varepsilon \|h\|^2$$

$$\text{Ex: } J(y) = \int_a^b F(x, y(x), y'(x)) dx$$

$$\Delta J = J(y+h) - J(y) = \int_a^b F(x, y+h, y'+h') dx - \int_a^b F(x, y, y') dx$$

$$= \int_a^b [F_y(x, y, y') h + F_{y'}(x, y, y') h'] dx +$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b [F_{yy} h^2 + 2F_{yy'} h h' + F_{y'y'} h'^2] dx + \dots$$

$$\delta J := \int_a^b (F_y h + F_{y'} h') dx$$

$$\delta^2 J := \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b [F_{yy} h^2 + 2F_{yy'} h h' + F_{y'y'} h'^2] dx$$

$$\text{Ex: } J(y) = \int_a^b F(x, y, y') dx, \quad y(a)=A, \quad y(b)=B; \quad h(a)=h(b)=0$$

$$\delta J = \int_a^b [F_y h + F_{y'} h'] dx = \int_a^b [F_y h - \frac{d}{dx} F_{y'} h] dx \Rightarrow$$

$$\left( \int_a^b F_{y'} h' dx = F_{y'} h \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b h \frac{dF_{y'}}{dx} dx \right)$$

= 0 from BC on  $h$

$$\text{So } \Delta J = J(y+h) - J(y) = \underbrace{\delta J}_F(h) + o(\|h\|)$$

$$\delta J = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{J(y+\varepsilon n) - J(y)}{\varepsilon} \right] = \left. \frac{dJ}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon=0} \cdot n$$

$$\text{Ex: } J(y) = \int_a^b u^2 dx, \quad \frac{\delta J}{\delta y} = 2y$$

#### 4.4. EXTREMA OF FUNCTIONALS (max or min)

Functional  $J(y)$  has a relative extremum for  $y=y_0$  if  $J(y) - J(y_0)$  does not change sign in some neighborhood ( $\| \cdot \|$ ) of  $y_0$  almost always (in  $C[a, b]$  or  $C^1[a, b]$ )

1. Defn:  $J(y)$  has extremum for  $y=y$  if  $\exists \varepsilon > 0 \ni$

$J(y) - J(y)$  has the same sign for all  $y$  in domain of definition of the functional which satisfy

$$\|y - \bar{y}\| < \varepsilon \quad (\text{weak variation}) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} y - \bar{y} \\ y - \bar{y} \end{array} \right\} \text{small}$$

$$\text{or } \|y - \bar{y}\|_0 < \varepsilon \quad (\text{strong variation: } y - \bar{y} \text{ small})$$

1. Theorem: A necessary condition for the differentiable functional  $J$  to have an extremum at  $y=y$  is that  $\delta J = 0$  at  $y$ .

▲ Suppose  $\delta J \neq 0$ ;  $\Delta J = J(y+h) - J(y) = \delta J(h) + \varepsilon \|h\|$

$$\Rightarrow \delta J = \int_a^b \left( F_y - \frac{d}{dx} F_{y'} \right) h \, dx = \left( F_y - \frac{d}{dx} F_{y'}, h \right)$$

Strong Functional derivative:

$$\frac{\delta J}{\delta y} := F_y - \frac{d}{dx} F_{y'}$$

$$\bullet \text{ Ex (1) } J(y) = y(x_0)$$

$$J(y+h) - J(y) = y(x_0) + h(x_0) - y(x_0) = h(x_0) = \delta J$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta J = \int \delta(x-x_0) h(x) \, dx$$

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{\delta J}{\delta y} = \delta(x-x_0)$$

$$\bullet \text{ Ex (2) } J(y) = \int_a^b \int_a^b K(x,y) y(x) y(z) \, dx \, dz ; K(x,z) = K(z,x)$$

$$\Delta J = J(y+h) - J(y) = \iint K [y(x)h(z) + h(x)y(z)] \, dx \, dz + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

$$= 2 \iint K(x,y) y(z) h(x) \, dz \, dx \quad (\text{because } K \text{ symmetric})$$

$$= \int_a^b \left\{ 2 \int_a^b K(x,z) y(z) \, dz \right\} h(x) \, dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\delta J}{\delta y} = 2 \int_a^b K(x,z) y(z) \, dz$$

Take some admissible  $h_0 \ni \delta J(h_0) \neq 0$ . For arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $J(\hat{y} + \varepsilon h_0) - J(\hat{y}) = \delta J(\varepsilon h_0) + \varepsilon \|h_0\| = \varepsilon \delta J(h_0) + \varepsilon \|h_0\|$ .

$$J(\hat{y} - \varepsilon h_0) - J(\hat{y}) = \delta J(-\varepsilon h_0) = -\varepsilon \delta J(h_0) + \varepsilon \|h_0\|$$

by linearity of  $\mu^1$  variation



i.e.  $J(\hat{y})$  cannot be an extremum

DEF 2)  $J$  is stationary at  $\hat{y}$  if  $\delta J = 0$  at  $\hat{y}$ .

THM (2) Necessary condition for  $J(y)$  to have min (max) at  $\hat{y}$  is  $\delta^2 J \geq 0$  at  $\hat{y}$ .

$$\Delta J = J(y+h) - J(y) = \underbrace{\delta J(h)}_{=0} + \underbrace{\delta^2 J(h)}_{\text{quadratic (i.e. of constant sign)}} + \varepsilon \|h\|^2$$

as  $\|h\| \rightarrow 0$



NOTE: these are NOT sufficient conditions.

Ex (3)  $I(y) = \int_0^1 (y^2 + y^3) dx$ ;  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y(1) = 0$

$$y \in C^1[a, b]$$

$$\Delta I = I(y+h) - I(y) = \int_0^1 \underbrace{(2y'h + 3y^2 h)}_{\delta I} dx + \int_0^1 \underbrace{(h^2 + 3y'h^2)}_{\delta^2 I} dx + \int_0^1 h^3 dx$$



Clearly for  $y=0$  we have  $\delta I=0$  and  $\delta^2 I > 0$

but consider  $y_\epsilon(x) = (1/\tan\phi)^{3/2} (x \tan\phi - \tan\phi x)$

for which  $\|y_\epsilon\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $\phi \rightarrow \pi/2$  but  $I(y_\epsilon) \rightarrow -\infty$ .

$\therefore y=0$  is not a strong relative min ( $I(0)=0$ )

But  $y=0$  does provide a weak relative minimum because

$$\|y\| < \epsilon \Rightarrow \|y'\| < \epsilon \Rightarrow I \leq \int_0^1 (\epsilon^2 + \epsilon^2) dx < 2\epsilon^2$$

$\neq$  Let  $\int_0^1 u^2 dx = \epsilon^2 c > 0, (0 < c < 1)$

then  $\int_0^1 |u| dx \leq \epsilon^3 c$  and

$$\delta I = \int_0^1 (u^2 + u^3) dx \geq \int_0^1 u^2 dx - \int_0^1 |u|^3 dx \geq \epsilon^2 c - \epsilon^3 c = \epsilon^2 c(1-\epsilon) > 0$$

i.e.  $0 < \epsilon^2 c(1-\epsilon) \leq I(y_\epsilon) \leq 2\epsilon^2$ , i.e.  $I(y_\epsilon) \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} 0^+$ .

or  $I(y) - I(0) > 0$  for all  $y_\epsilon$   $\Rightarrow \|y_\epsilon - 0\| < \epsilon$ .