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**$(VC)^{(n)}$ -ALMOST PERIODIC FUNCTIONS**

**Abstract.** In this note we give the definition and some properties of  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -almost periodic functions, i.e. uniformly almost periodic and almost periodic in variation functions with first  $n$  derivatives.

Let us denote for an arbitrary  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  by  $V(t; f)$  the Jordan variation of a function  $f$  on the interval  $(t-1, t+1)$ . Let us put

$$X_0^{(n)} = \{f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f \in C^{(n)}(\mathbb{R}) \text{ and } V(t; f^{(k)}) < \infty \text{ for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n \text{ and for every } t \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

and for  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$

$$(VD)^{(n)}(f) = \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{k=0}^n (|f^{(k)}(t)| + V(t; f^{(k)})).$$

We say that  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -bounded function if  $(VD)^{(n)}(f) < \infty$ . Let us write  $f_h(x) \equiv f(x+h)$ , where  $h \in \mathbb{R}$ . If for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_h) \leq \varepsilon$  for every  $h \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|h| < \delta$ , we say that  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -continuous function. A sequence  $(f_m)$ , where  $f_m \in X_0^{(n)}$  for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ , will be called  $(VD)^{(n)}$ -convergent to  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$  if for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a positive number  $M$  such that  $(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_m) \leq \varepsilon$  for every  $m > M$ .

It is easily seen that if a sequence  $(f_m)$  of  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -continuous functions is  $(VD)^{(n)}$ -convergent to a function  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$ , then  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -continuous.

The number  $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$  is called a  $((VD)^{(n)}, \varepsilon)$ -almost period  $((VD)^{(n)}, \varepsilon)$ -a.p.) of a function  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$  if  $(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_\tau) \leq \varepsilon$  for  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon; f\}$  denote the set of  $((VD)^{(n)}, \varepsilon)$ -almost periods of  $f$ .

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification: 42A75.

Key words and phrases: almost periodic function, derivative of order  $n$ , variation.

A function  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$  is called  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -almost periodic ( $\underline{(VC)}^{(n)}$ -a.p.) if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon; f\}$  is relatively dense. By  $(VC)^{(n)}$  we denote the set of  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. functions.

The class of  $V$ -a.p. functions (see [3]) is identical with the class of  $(VC)^{(0)}$ -a.p. functions. Moreover, every  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function is  $C^{(n)}$ -a.p. function (see [1]).

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $f$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function, then  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -bounded.*

**Proof.** Let  $f \in \widetilde{(VC)}^{(n)}$ . For an arbitrary  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $((VD)^{(n)}, \varepsilon)$ -a.p.  $\tau \in (-t, -t + l)$ , where  $l = l(\varepsilon) > 0$  is a number which characterizes the relative density of the set  $VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon; f\}$ , such that we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^n (|f^{(k)}(t)| + V(t; f^{(k)})) \\ & \leq \sum_{k=0}^n (|f^{(k)}(t) - f_\tau^{(k)}(t)| + V(t; f^{(k)} - f_\tau^{(k)})) + \sum_{k=0}^n (|f_\tau^{(k)}(t)| + V(t; f_\tau^{(k)})). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, because  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$ , we obtain the following estimation

$$(VD)^{(n)}(f) \leq (VD)^{(n)}(f - f_\tau) + \sup_{t \in \langle 0, l \rangle} \sum_{k=0}^n (|f^{(k)}(t)| + V(t; f^{(k)})) \leq \varepsilon + M,$$

where  $M > 0$  is a constant. ■

**THEOREM 2.** *Assume that  $f$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function which satisfies the  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -condition: for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that*

$$\sup_{0 < t < l} \sum_{k=0}^n V(t; f^{(k)} - f_h^{(k)}) \leq \varepsilon$$

*for every  $h \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|h| < \delta$ , where  $l = l(\varepsilon) > 0$  is a number which characterizes the relative density of the set  $VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon; f\}$ . Then  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -continuous.*

**Proof.** For an arbitrary  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and for  $\tau \in VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon; f\}$ , where  $\tau \in (-t, -t + l)$ , we obtain that for  $h \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^n V(t; f^{(k)} - f_h^{(k)}) \\ & \leq \sum_{k=0}^n V(t; f^{(k)} - f_\tau^{(k)}) + \sup_{0 < t' < l} \sum_{k=0}^n V(t'; f^{(k)} - f_h^{(k)}) + \sum_{k=0}^n V(t; f_{\tau h}^{(k)} - f_h^{(k)}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_{\tau h}^{(k)}(x) \equiv f^{(k)}(x + \tau + h)$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} (VD)^{(n)}(f - f_h) &\leq 2(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_\tau) + \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{k=0}^n |f^{(k)}(t) - f_h^{(k)}(t)| \\ &\quad + \sup_{0 < t < l} \sum_{k=0}^n V(t; f^{(k)} - f_h^{(k)}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p., so  $f$  is  $C^{(n)}$ -a.p. Therefore for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta' > 0$  such that for  $|h| < \delta'$  we have

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{k=0}^n |f^{(k)}(t) - f_h^{(k)}(t)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

For  $|h| < \min(\delta, \delta')$  we obtain  $(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_h) \leq 4\varepsilon$ , i.e.  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -continuous. ■

Analogously as in [2] and [3] we prove the following:

**THEOREM 3.** *A linear combination of two  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. functions  $f, g$ , which satisfy the  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -condition, is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function.*

**THEOREM 4.** *If a sequence  $(f_m)$  of  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. functions is  $(VD)^{(n)}$ -convergent to a function  $f \in X_0^{(n)}$ , then  $f$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function.*

**P r o o f.** For an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $m_0$  such that  $(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_{m_0}) \leq \varepsilon/3$ . Therefore for  $\tau \in VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon/3; f_{m_0}\}$  we obtain the following estimation

$$(VD)^{(n)}(f - f_\tau)$$

$\leq (VD)^{(n)}(f - f_{m_0}) + (VD)^{(n)}(f_{m_0} - f_{m_0\tau}) + (VD)^{(n)}(f_{m_0\tau} - f_\tau) \leq \varepsilon$ ,  
where  $f_{m_0\tau}(x) \equiv \underline{f_{m_0}}(x + \tau)$ , i.e.  $VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon/3; f_{m_0}\} \subset VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon; f\}$ . This proves that  $f \in (VC)^{(n)}$ . ■

In the following we shall investigate the derivative and the indefinite integral of a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function.

**THEOREM 5.** *If  $f$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function and  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n+1)}$ -continuous, then the derivative  $f'$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function.*

**P r o o f.** Let us write

$$\frac{f_h(t) - f(t)}{h} - f'(t) = \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(v + t) - f'(t) \right) dv$$

for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $h \neq 0$  and

$$(VD)^{(n)} \left( \frac{f_h - f}{h} - f' \right) \leq \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{k=0}^n \left| \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \left( \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(v + t) - f'(t) \right) dv \right) \right|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{k=0}^n V(t; \frac{d^k}{du^k} \left( \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial u} f(v+u) - f'(u) \right) dv \right)) \\
& = \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} W_1(h, t) + \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} W_2(h, t).
\end{aligned}$$

Because  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n+1)}$ -continuous, so for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (|(f_h - f)^{(k)}(t)| + V(t; (f_h - f)^{(k)})) \leq \varepsilon$$

for every  $h \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $|h| < \delta$ . Hence it follows that

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} W_1(h, t) \leq \varepsilon$$

and

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} W_2(h, t) \leq \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} V \left( t; \frac{\partial^k}{\partial u^k} f(v+u) - f^{(k)}(u) \right) dv \leq \varepsilon$$

for  $0 < |h| < \delta$ . Therefore we obtain that for every sequence  $(h_m)$ , where  $h_m \neq 0$ ,  $h_m \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$(\widetilde{VC})^{(n)} \ni \frac{f_{h_m} - f}{h_m} \longrightarrow f' \in X_0^{(n)}$$

in the sense of  $(VD)^{(n)}$ -convergence, and so, by Theorem 4,  $f'$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. ■

**REMARK 1.** Let  $f$  be a  $B$ -a.p. function. Then for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon'(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that  $\varepsilon' < \varepsilon/3$  and every  $\varepsilon'$ -a.p. of  $f$  is an  $\varepsilon/3$ -a.p. of the bounded indefinite integral  $F$  of the function  $f$  (see [2], p.29). It is known (see [3]) that  $E\{\varepsilon'; f\} \subset E_V\{\varepsilon, F\}$ .

**THEOREM 6.** *If  $f$  is a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function and the indefinite integral  $F$  of  $f$  is bounded, then  $F$  is a  $(VC)^{(n+1)}$ -a.p. function.*

**PROOF.** Since  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. and  $F^{(k)}(x) = f^{(k-1)}(x)$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n+1$ , so  $F \in X_0^{(n+1)}$ . By Remark 1, for  $\tau \in VE^{(n)}\{\varepsilon'; f\}$  we have

$$(VD)^{(n+1)}(F - F_\tau) \leq (VD)^{(0)}(F - F_\tau) + (VD)^{(n)}(f - f_\tau) < \frac{4}{3}\varepsilon,$$

and so  $F$  is  $(VC)^{(n+1)}$ -a.p. ■

By Theorem 6 it follows the following:

**COROLLARY.** *If  $f$  is a  $V$ -a.p. function and the indefinite integral  $F$  of  $f$  is bounded, then  $F$  is a  $(VC)^{(1)}$ -a.p. function.*

**THEOREM 7.** *Let us assume that  $f$  is a bounded function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . If the derivative  $f'$  is  $V$ -a.p., then  $f$  is  $(VC)^{(1)}$ -a.p.*

**Proof.** For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$g(x) = \int_0^x f'(u)du, \quad \text{where } g = f + c, c = -f(0).$$

By Remark 1 it follows that for an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\varepsilon' > 0$  such that  $\varepsilon' < \varepsilon/3$  and  $E\{\varepsilon'; f'\} \subset E_V\{\varepsilon; g\}$ . Hence for  $\tau \in E_V\{\varepsilon'; f'\}$  we obtain

$$(VD)^{(1)}(g - g_\tau) \leq V(g - g_\tau) + V(f' - f'_\tau) < \frac{4}{3}\varepsilon,$$

and so  $E_V\{\varepsilon'; f'\} \subset VE^{(1)}\{(4/3)\varepsilon; g\}$ . Moreover  $g \in X_0^{(1)}$ . Therefore  $g$  and hence  $f$  are  $(VC)^{(1)}$ -a.p. ■

Now, we shall give an example of a  $(VC)^{(1)}$ -a.p. function.

**EXAMPLE 1.** Let us put

$$f(x) = \sin x + \sin(\sqrt{2}x) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

By Property 4 (see [3]) it follows that the derivative  $f'$  is  $V$ -a.p. Because  $f$  is the bounded indefinite integral of  $f'$ , so  $f$ , by Theorem 6, is  $(VC)^{(1)}$ -a.p.

**REMARK 2.** If a function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is locally integrable and is periodic with the period  $T > 0$ , then the integral

$$F(x) = \int_0^x [f(t) - M(f)]dt \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ where } M(f) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(u)du,$$

is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and is periodic with the period  $T$ .

We shall give an example of a  $(VC)^{(n-1)}$ -a.p. function which is not a  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p. function, where  $n \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ .

**EXAMPLE 2.** Let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} (x - k) \cos \frac{\pi}{2(x - k)} & \text{for } x \in (k, k + 1), \\ 0 & \text{for } x = k, \end{cases}$$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} (\sqrt{2}x - k) \cos \frac{\pi}{2(\sqrt{2}x - k)} & \text{for } x \in \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}k}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}(k+1)}{2}\right), \\ 0 & \text{for } x = \frac{\sqrt{2}k}{2}, \end{cases}$$

where  $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

Functions  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and periodic with periods  $T_f = 1$ ,  $T_g = \sqrt{2}/2$ , respectively. Let us denote by  $V(f; a, b)$  the Jordan variation of

a function  $f$  on the interval  $\langle a, b \rangle$ . Then for every  $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$  we have

$$V(f; k, k+1) = V\left(g; \frac{\sqrt{2}k}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}(k+1)}{2}\right) = \infty.$$

Moreover  $f, g \notin C^{(1)}(\mathbb{R})$ . We denote  $F_0 = f$ ,  $G_0 = g$  and

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(x) &= \int_0^x [f(t) - M(f)]dt, & G_1(x) &= \int_0^x [g(t) - M(g)]dt, \\ F_2(x) &= \int_0^x [F_1(t) - M(F_1)]dt, & G_2(x) &= \int_0^x [G_1(t) - M(G_1)]dt, \\ &\vdots & &\vdots \\ F_n(x) &= \int_0^x [F_{n-1}(t) - M(F_{n-1})]dt, & G_n(x) &= \int_0^x [G_{n-1}(t) - M(G_{n-1})]dt, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$M(F_i) = \frac{1}{T_f} \int_0^{T_f} F_i(t)dt, \quad M(G_i) = \frac{1}{T_g} \int_0^{T_g} G_i(t)dt$$

for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . Functions  $F_i$  and  $G_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ , are continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ . In the following we obtain for  $n \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$

$$\begin{aligned} F'_n(x) &= F_{n-1}(x) - M(F_{n-1}), & G'_n(x) &= G_{n-1}(x) - M(G_{n-1}), \\ F''_n(x) &= F_{n-2}(x) - M(F_{n-2}), & G''_n(x) &= G_{n-2}(x) - M(G_{n-2}), \\ &\vdots & &\vdots \\ F_n^{(n-1)}(x) &= F_1(x) - M(F_1), & G_n^{(n-1)}(x) &= G_1(x) - M(G_1), \\ F_n^{(n)}(x) &= f(x) - M(f) \in C(\mathbb{R}), & G_n^{(n)}(x) &= g(x) - M(g) \in C(\mathbb{R}), \\ F_n^{(n+1)}(x) &= f'(x) \notin C(\mathbb{R}), & G_n^{(n+1)}(x) &= g'(x) \notin C(\mathbb{R}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $F_n, G_n \in C^{(n)}(\mathbb{R})$ , but  $F_n, G_n \notin C^{(n+1)}(\mathbb{R})$ . By Remark 2 it follows that  $F_n, G_n$  are periodic, and so  $F_n, G_n$  are  $C^{(n)}$ -a.p. functions. For every  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  we have

$$V(t; F_n^{(i)}) \leq \int_{t-1}^{t+1} |F_{n-i-1}(u) - M(F_{n-i-1})|du < \infty, \quad V(t; G_n^{(i)}) < \infty$$

and

$$V(t; F_n^{(n)}) = V(t; f) = \infty, \quad V(t; G_n^{(n)}) = \infty.$$

Hence  $F_n, G_n \in X_0^{(n-1)}$  and  $F_n, G_n \notin X_0^{(n)}$  for  $n \geq 2$ , i.e.  $F_n, G_n$  are  $(VC)^{(n-1)}$ -a.p. functions. Since derivatives  $F_n^{(i)}$  and  $G_n^{(i)}$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ , are absolutely continuous, so  $F_n^{(i)}, G_n^{(i)}$  are  $V$ -continuous and hence  $F_n, G_n$  are  $(VC)^{(n-1)}$ -continuous. Periods  $T_f$  and  $T_g$  are incommensurate.

Thus  $H = F_n + G_n$  is not a periodic function. By Theorem 3 it follows that  $H$  is the  $(VC)^{(n-1)}$ -a.p. function and  $H$  is not  $(VC)^{(n)}$ -a.p.

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*Received August 24, 1998; revised version November 30, 1998.*

