



# Uniformly continuous composition operators in the space of bounded $\varphi$ -variation functions<sup>a</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

We prove that, under some general assumptions, a generator of any uniformly continuous Nemytskii operator, mapping a subset of space of bounded variation functions in the sense of Wiener into another space of this type, must be an affine function. As a special case, we obtain an earlier result from Matkowski (in press) [4].

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $X, Y$  be real normed spaces and  $C$  be a closed convex subset of  $X$ . For a fixed real interval  $I$  denote by  $X^I$  (or  $Y^I$ ) the set of all functions  $f: I \rightarrow X$  (or  $f: I \rightarrow Y$ ). If  $h: I \times C \rightarrow Y$  is a given function, then the operator  $H: X^I \rightarrow Y^I$  defined by the formula

$$(Hf)(t) = h(t, f(t)), \quad t \in I \quad (1)$$

is called the Nemytskii composition operator generated by the function  $h$ .

Let  $(BV_\varphi(I, X), \|\cdot\|_\varphi)$  be the Banach space of functions  $f: I \rightarrow X$  which are of bounded  $\varphi$ -variation in the sense of Wiener, where the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\varphi$  is defined with the aid of Luxemburg–Nakano–Orlicz seminorm [1–3].

Assume that  $H$  maps the set of functions  $f \in BV_\varphi(I, X)$  such that  $f(I) \subset C$  into  $BV_\varphi(I, Y)$ . In the present paper, we prove that, if  $H$  is uniformly continuous, then the left and right regularization of its generator  $h$  with respect for the first variable are affine functions in the second variable. This extends the main result of paper [4].

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## 2. Preliminaries

In this section we present some definitions and preliminary results related with bounded  $\varphi$ -variation functions in the sense of Wiener.

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the set of all convex functions  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that:  $\varphi(0^+) = 0$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(t) = \infty$ . Then we have that

**Remark 2.1.** If  $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $\varphi$  is continuous and strictly increasing. Indeed, the continuity of  $\varphi$  at each point  $t > 0$  follows from its convexity and continuity at 0 from the assumption  $\varphi(0) = \varphi(0^+) = 0$ . Suppose that  $\varphi(t_1) \geq \varphi(t_2)$  for some  $0 < t_1 < t_2$ . Then

$$\frac{\varphi(t_1) - \varphi(0)}{t_1 - 0} = \frac{\varphi(t_1)}{t_1} > \frac{\varphi(t_2)}{t_2} = \frac{\varphi(t_2) - \varphi(0)}{t_2 - 0},$$

contradicting the convexity of  $\varphi$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $(X, |\cdot|)$  be a real normed space. A function  $f \in X^I$  is of bounded  $\varphi$ -variation in the sense of Wiener in  $I$ , if

$$v_\varphi(f) = v_\varphi(f, I) := \sup_{\xi} \sum_{i=1}^m \varphi(|f(t_i) - f(t_{i-1})|) < \infty, \quad (2)$$

where the supremum is taken over all increasing finite sequences  $\xi = (t_i)_{i=0}^m, t_i \in I, m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

For  $\varphi(t) = t^p$  ( $t \geq 0, p \geq 1$ ), condition (2) coincides with the classical concept of variation in the sense of Jordan [5, Chapter 8] whenever  $p = 1$ , and in the sense of Wiener [6] if  $p > 1$ . The general Definition 2.2 was introduced by Young [7].

It is known that for all  $a, b, c \in I, a \leq c \leq b$  we have  $v_\varphi(f, [a, c]) \leq v_\varphi(f, [a, b])$  (that is,  $v_\varphi$  is increasing with respect to the interval) and  $v_\varphi(f, [a, c]) + v_\varphi(f, [c, b]) \leq v_\varphi(f, [a, b])$ .

We will denote by  $V_\varphi(I, X)$  the set of all functions  $f \in X^I$  with bounded  $\varphi$ -variation in Wiener sense. This is a symmetric and convex set; but it is not necessarily a linear space. In fact, Musielak and Orlicz proved the following statement: this class of functions is a vector space if, and only if,  $\varphi$  satisfies the  $\delta_2$  condition [8]. We denote by  $BV_\varphi(I, X)$  the linear space of all functions  $f \in X^I$  such that  $v_\varphi(\lambda f) < \infty$  for some constant  $\lambda > 0$ .

In the linear space  $BV_\varphi(I, X)$ , the function  $\|\cdot\|_\varphi$  defined by

$$\|f\|_\varphi := |f(a)| + p_\varphi(f), \quad f \in BV_\varphi(I, X),$$

where

$$p_\varphi(f) := p_\varphi(f, I) = \inf \left\{ \epsilon > 0 : v_\varphi(f/\epsilon) \leq 1 \right\}, \quad f \in BV_\varphi(I, X), \quad (3)$$

is a norm (see for instance [8]).

For  $X = \mathbb{R}$ , the linear normed space  $(BV_\varphi(I, \mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\|_\varphi)$  was studied by Musielak and Orlicz [8], Ciernoczołowski and Orlicz [9], and Maligranda and Orlicz [10]. In particular, it is shown in [10] that the space  $(BV_\varphi(I, \mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\|_\varphi)$  is a Banach algebra. The functional  $p_\varphi(\cdot)$  defined by (3) is called the *Luxemburg-Nakano-Orlicz seminorm* [1–3].

In what follows, the symbol  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$  stands for the set of all functions  $f \in BV_\varphi(I, X)$  such that  $f : I \rightarrow C$  and  $C$  is a subset of  $X$ .

**Lemma 2.3** (Chistyakov [11, Lemma 1]). For  $f \in BV_\varphi(I, X)$ , we have:

- (a) if  $t, t' \in I$ , then  $\|f(t) - f(t')\| \leq \varphi^{-1}(1)p_\varphi(f)$ ;
- (b) if  $p_\varphi(f) > 0$  then  $v_\varphi(f/p_\varphi(f)) \leq 1$ ;
- (c) for  $\lambda > 0$ ,
  - (c1)  $p_\varphi(f) \leq \lambda$  if and only if  $v_\varphi(f/\lambda) \leq 1$ ;
  - (c2) if  $v_\varphi(f/\lambda) = 1$  then  $p_\varphi(f) = \lambda$ . ■

Property (a) in Lemma 2.3 implies that any function  $f \in BV_\varphi(I, X)$  is bounded. Indeed, we have  $\|f\| \leq \|f(a)\| + \|f(t) - f(a)\|$ , whence

$$\|f\|_\infty \leq \|f(a)\| + \varphi^{-1}(1)p_\varphi(f) < \infty.$$

If  $(X, |\cdot|)$  is a Banach space and  $f \in BV_\varphi(I, X)$ , then

$$f^-(t) := \lim_{s \uparrow t} f(s), \quad t \in I^-,$$

exists and is called the *left regularization* of  $f$  [12].

Let  $BV_\varphi^-(I, X)$  denote the subset in  $BV_\varphi(I, X)$  that consists of those functions that are left continuous on  $I^- := I \setminus \{\inf I\}$ .

**Lemma 2.4** (Chistyakov [11, Lemma 6]). If  $X$  is a Banach space and  $f \in BV_\varphi(I, X)$ , then  $f^- \in BV_\varphi^-(I, X)$ . ■

Thus, if a function has a bounded  $\varphi$ -variation, then its left regularization is a left continuous function.

### 3. The composition operator

Our main result reads as follows:

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $(X, |\cdot|_X)$ ,  $(Y, |\cdot|_Y)$  be real normed spaces and let  $C$  be a closed convex subset of  $X$ . Suppose that  $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $h: I \times C \rightarrow Y$ . If a composition operator  $H: C^1 \rightarrow Y^1$  generated by  $h$ , maps  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$  into  $BV_\varphi(I, Y)$  and is uniformly continuous, then the left regularization of  $h$ , i.e. the function  $h^-: I^- \times X \rightarrow Y$ , defined by

$$h^-(t, y) := \lim_{s \uparrow t} h(s, y), \quad t \in I^-; y \in C,$$

exists and

$$h^-(t, y) = A(t)y + B(t), \quad t \in I^-, y \in C,$$

for some  $A: I^- \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X, Y)^1$  and  $B \in BV_\varphi(I^-, Y)$ . Moreover the functions  $A$  and  $B$  are left continuous in  $I^-$ .

**Proof.** For every  $y \in C$ , the constant function  $f(t) = y$  ( $t \in I$ ) belongs to  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$ . Since  $H$  maps  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$  into  $BV_\varphi(I, Y)$ , it follows that the function  $t \mapsto h(t, y)$  ( $t \in I$ ) belongs to  $BV_\varphi(I, Y)$ . Now, by Lemma 2.4, the completeness of  $(Y, |\cdot|_Y)$  implies the existence of the left regularization  $h^-$  of  $h$ .

By assumption,  $H$  is uniformly continuous on  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$ . Let  $\omega: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be the modulus continuity of  $H$  that is

$$\omega(\rho) := \sup \left\{ \|H(f_1) - H(f_2)\|_\varphi : \|f_1 - f_2\|_\varphi \leq \rho; f_1, f_2 \in BV_\varphi(I, C) \right\}, \quad \text{for } \rho > 0.$$

Hence we get

$$\|H(f_1) - H(f_2)\|_\varphi \leq \omega(\|f_1 - f_2\|_\varphi), \quad \text{for } f_1, f_2 \in BV_\varphi(I, C). \quad (4)$$

From the definition of the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\varphi$ , we obtain

$$\rho_\varphi(H(f_1) - H(f_2)) \leq \|H(f_1) - H(f_2)\|_\varphi, \quad \text{for } f_1, f_2 \in BV_\varphi(I, C). \quad (5)$$

From (4), (5) and Lemma 2.3 (c1), if  $\omega(\|f_1 - f_2\|_\varphi) > 0$ , then

$$\nu_\varphi \left( \frac{H(f_1) - H(f_2)}{\omega(\|f_1 - f_2\|_\varphi)} \right) \leq 1. \quad (6)$$

Therefore, for any  $\alpha_1 < \beta_1 < \alpha_2 < \beta_2 < \dots < \alpha_m < \beta_m$ ,  $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in I, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , the definitions of the operator  $H$  and the functional  $\nu_\varphi(\cdot)$  imply

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \varphi \left( \frac{|h(\beta_i, f_1(\beta_i)) - h(\beta_i, f_2(\beta_i)) - h(\alpha_i, f_1(\alpha_i)) + h(\alpha_i, f_2(\alpha_i))|}{\omega(\|f_1 - f_2\|_\varphi)} \right) \leq 1. \quad (7)$$

For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\alpha < \beta$ , we define functions  $\eta_{\alpha, \beta}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by putting

$$\eta_{\alpha, \beta}(t) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \leq \alpha \\ \frac{t - \alpha}{\beta - \alpha} & \text{if } \alpha \leq t \leq \beta \\ 1 & \text{if } \beta \leq t. \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

Let us fix  $t \in I^-$ . For arbitrary finite sequence  $\inf I < \alpha_1 < \beta_1 < \alpha_2 < \beta_2 < \dots < \alpha_m < \beta_m < t$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in C$ ,  $y_1 \neq y_2$ , the functions  $f_1, f_2: I \rightarrow X$  defined by

$$f_\ell(\tau) := \frac{1}{2} (\eta_{\alpha_i, \beta_i}(\tau)(y_1 - y_2) + y_i + y_2), \quad \tau \in I, \ell = 1, 2, \quad (9)$$

belong to the space  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$ . From (9), we have

$$f_1(\cdot) - f_2(\cdot) = \frac{y_1 - y_2}{2},$$

therefore

$$\|f_1 - f_2\|_\varphi = \left| \frac{y_1 - y_2}{2} \right|;$$

<sup>1</sup>  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  denote the space of all linear mappings  $A: X \rightarrow Y$ .

moreover

$$f_1(\beta_1) = y_1; \quad f_2(\beta_1) = \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}; \quad f_1(\alpha_1) = \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}; \quad f_2(\alpha_1) = y_2.$$

Using (7), we hence get

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \varphi \left( \frac{|h(\beta_1, y_1) - h(\beta_1, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) - h(\alpha_1, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) + h(\alpha_1, y_2)|}{\omega(|\frac{y_1+y_2}{2} - y_1|)} \right) \leq 1. \quad (10)$$

Since the constant functions belong to the space  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$  and  $H$  maps  $BV_\varphi(I, C)$  into  $BV_\varphi(I, Y)$ , it follows that the function  $t \mapsto h(t, y)$  ( $t \in I$ ) belongs to  $BV_\varphi(I, Y)$  for all  $y \in C$ . From the continuity of  $\varphi$  and the definition of  $h^-$ , passing to the limit in (10) when  $\alpha_1 \uparrow t$ , we obtain that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \varphi \left( \frac{|h^-(t, y_1) - h^-(t, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) - h^-(t, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) + h^-(t, y_2)|}{\omega(|\frac{y_1+y_2}{2} - y_1|)} \right) \leq 1.$$

that is

$$\varphi \left( \frac{|h^-(t, y_1) - 2h^-(t, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) + h^-(t, y_2)|}{\omega(|\frac{y_1+y_2}{2} - y_1|)} \right) \leq \frac{1}{m}.$$

Hence, since  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  is arbitrary,

$$\varphi \left( \frac{|h^-(t, y_1) - 2h^-(t, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) + h^-(t, y_2)|}{\omega(|\frac{y_1+y_2}{2} - y_1|)} \right) = 0,$$

and, as  $\varphi(z) = 0$  only if  $z = 0$ , we obtain

$$\left| h^-(t, y_1) - 2h^-(t, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) + h^-(t, y_2) \right| = 0.$$

Therefore

$$h^-(t, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2}) = \frac{h^-(t, y_1) + h^-(t, y_2)}{2}$$

for all  $t \in I^-$  and all  $y_1, y_2 \in C$ .

Thus, for each  $t \in I^-$ , the function  $h^-(t, \cdot)$  satisfies the Jensen functional equation in  $C$ . Modifying a little the standard argument (cf. Kuczma [13]), we conclude that, for each  $t \in I^-$ , there exist  $A(t) : C \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  and  $B(t) \in Y$  such that  $h^-(t, y) = A(t)y + B(t)$ .

The uniform continuity of the operator  $H : BV_\varphi(I, C) \rightarrow BV_\varphi(I, Y)$  implies the continuity of the additive function  $A(t)$ . Consequently  $A(t) \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ , for each  $t \in I^-$ . ■

**Remark 3.2.** Obviously, the counterpart of Theorem 3.1 for the right regularization  $h^+$  of  $h$  defined by

$$h^+(t, y) := \lim_{s \downarrow t} h(s, y); \quad t \in I^+ := I \setminus \{\sup I\}.$$

is also true.

**Remark 3.3.** Taking  $X = Z = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\varphi := \text{id}_{[0, +\infty)}$  in Theorem 3.1 and  $C := J$  where  $J \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval we obtain the main result from [4].

**Remark 3.4.** Theorem 3.1 extends also the result of Matkowski and Miś [12] concerning the Lipschitzian Nemytskii operator (of also Appell and Zabrejko [14], p. 175).

**Remark 3.5.** In the proof of Theorem 3.1 we apply the uniform continuity of the operator  $H$  only on the set of functions  $U \subset BV_\varphi(I, C)$  such that  $f \in U$  if, and only if, there are  $\alpha, \beta \in I$ ,  $\alpha < \beta$ , such that

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2} [\eta_{\alpha, \beta}(t)(y_1 - y_2) + y_1 + y_2], \quad t \in I.$$

where  $\eta_{\alpha, \beta}$  is defined by (8),  $y_1, y_2 \in C$  and  $y = y_1$  or  $y = y_2$ .

Thus the assumption of the uniform continuity of  $H$  on  $BV_p(I, C)$  in Theorem 3.1 can be replaced by a weaker condition of the uniform continuity of  $H$  on  $U$ .

**Remark 3.6.** Theorem 3.1 remains true on replacing the space  $BV_p(I, Y)$  by a space  $BV_p(I, Y)$  with an arbitrary  $\psi \in \mathcal{F}$ .

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