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## Why moduli of $p$ -smoothness?

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### Abstract

For the increasing importance of discovering new types of moduli of smoothness, more suitable measurements are provided by the moduli of  $p$ -smoothness. Measuring fractional smoothness of functions by  $p$ -variation is used for many purposes in approximation theory. In this paper, we express  $\omega_{k-1/p}(f; \delta)$  in terms of  $\omega_{k-1/q}(f; \delta)$  for any  $1 < p, q < \infty$  to get fractional modulus of smoothness of functions with bounded  $k$ th  $p$ -variation. Also, embedding of the space  $V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}$  is proved with necessity and sufficient conditions.

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**Keywords:** Fractional smoothness, Bounded  $(p, \alpha)$ th - variation, Periodic functions.

## 1. Introduction

For several decades, function approximation is well studied by using modulus of smoothness, moduli of  $p$ -smoothness, with different versions and purposes, see for examples [1], [4], [6], [8] and [12]. In addition to the  $p$ -continuity, moduli of  $p$ -smoothness measures fractional

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smoothness of functions through p-variation. Let  $g$  be a real 1- periodic function,  $\Pi = [x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a partition satisfying  $x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n$  where  $x_n = x_0 + 1$ , and  $p > 1$ ,  $p' := p / (p - 1)$ , and  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 / p'$ . Set  $\|\Pi\| = \max(x_{j+1} - x_j)$ . For any  $\Pi$ , in [9] the authours defined the  $v_{p,\alpha}$ -variation of a function  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , as follow

$$v_{p,\alpha}(g; \Pi) = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{|g(x_{k+1}) - g(x_k)|^p}{(x_{k+1} - x_k)^{\alpha p}} \right)^{1/p} \tag{1.1}$$

The function  $g$  is said to be bounded  $p$ -variation iff

$$v_{p,\alpha}(g) = \sup_{\Pi} v_{p,\alpha}(g; \Pi) < \infty, \tag{1.2}$$

Define  $V_{p,\alpha}$  to be the set of functions of type  $g$  in (1.2). When  $\alpha = 0$ , then  $V_{p,0} = V_p$ . In order to define the bounded second variation, Poussin modified the partition  $\Pi$ , in [5], to be as follow

$$x_0 < y_1 \leq z_1 < x_1 < y_2 \leq z_2 < x_2 < \dots < y_n \leq z_n < x_n = x_0 + 1. \tag{1.3}$$

With extra modifications by the Riesz in [14], Merentes in [10], the second variation functions  $f$  that satisfies the finiteness of the following

$$v_{p,1/p'}^{(2)}(g)^p = \sup_{\Pi} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \frac{g(x_{i+1}) - g(z_{i+1})}{x_{i+1} - z_{i+1}} - \frac{g(y_{i+1}) - g(x_i)}{y_{i+1} - x_i} \right|^p \frac{1}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)^{p/p'}} \tag{1.4}$$

More extensions are made by [9]. First, they used the following partition from [3] and [11] for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 = t_{1,1} < t_{1,2} < \dots < t_{1,i} \leq t_{1,i+1} < \dots < t_{1,2i} \leq \dots \leq t_{2,i+1} < \dots \leq \dots < t_{3,1} < \dots < t_{j,1} \\ < \dots < t_{j,i} \leq t_{j,i+1} < \dots < t_{j,2i} \leq \dots \leq t_{m,1} < \dots < t_{m,i} \leq t_{m,i+1} < \dots < t_{m,2i} \\ = x_0 + 1, \end{aligned} \tag{1.6}$$

The number  $v_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g)$  is the  $(p, \alpha)$   $k$ th  $p$ -variation of  $g$ , and is given by

$$v_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g; \Pi) := \left( \sum_{j=1}^m \left| g[t_{j,k+1}, \dots, t_{j,2k}] - g[t_{j,1}, \dots, t_{j,k}] \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \cdot \frac{1}{(t_{j,2k} - t_{j,1})^{\alpha p}}, \tag{1.6}$$

where

$$g[t_0, t_1, \dots, t_k] := \sum_{j=0}^k \frac{g(t_j)}{(t_j - t_0) \dots (t_j - t_{j-1})(t_j - t_{j+1}) \dots (t_j - t_k)}, \tag{1.7}$$

is the  $k$ th divided difference. Set the space  $V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}$  ( $K \in \mathbb{N}$ ) to be the space of 1- periodic functions  $g$  s.t.

$$V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g) = \sup_{\Pi} V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g, \Pi) < \infty, \tag{1.8}$$

Note that  $V_p^{(k)}(g)$  is mentioned to the family of  $k$ th  $p$ - variation of  $g$  where  $\alpha = 0$ . Later, Terehin studied the properties of the modulus of continuity of fractional order  $1-1/p$  [15]. With an important property

$$\omega_{1-1/p}(g; nh) \leq n^{1/p'} \omega_{1-1/p}(g; h). \tag{1.9}$$

A generalization of Terehin definition is essential, to get what is called modulus of fractional  $p$ -smoothness of order  $k - 1 / p$ .

$$\omega_{k-1/p}(g; \delta) := \sup_{0 \leq \delta \leq 1} \omega_{1-1/p}(\Delta_h^{k-1} g; h) \tag{1.10}$$

where

$$\Delta_h g(x) = g(x+h) - g(x). \quad \Delta_h^k g(x) = \Delta_h \Delta_h^{k-1} g(x).$$

In [7], Kolyada defined the family of continuous functions  $\Omega_\alpha$  so to prove that  $\Omega_{1/p'}$  is the family of majorants of moduli of  $p$ -continuity.

Here, we define the family of  $k$ -smooth functions  $\Gamma_\alpha^k$  by requiring the following conditions for every  $\sigma \in \Gamma_\alpha^k$ , we have

- i.  $\sigma(0) = 0$ ,
- ii.  $\sigma(t)$  is nondecreasing, and
- iii.  $\sigma(t)t^{-\alpha/k}$  is nonincreasing

Unlike Kolyada, condition iii, comes to fit the case of study,  $(p, \alpha)$   $k$ th  $p$ -variation. It is clear that  $\Gamma_1^1 = \Omega_1$  is almost like the family of moduli of continuity.  $\Gamma_\alpha^1 = \Omega_\alpha$  is the family of Kolyada, whose family is simply  $\Omega_{1/p'}$ . For  $1 < q < \infty$ , and for any  $\sigma \in \Gamma_{1/p'}$ , construct the sequence similar to [7]

$$\sigma_n = \sigma(2^{-n}), \quad \bar{\sigma}_n = 2^{-1/kq'} \sigma_n, \tag{1.11}$$

By conditions (ii and iii) above, we get that

$$\begin{cases} \sigma_{n+1} \leq \sigma_n \leq 2^{-1/kq'} \sigma_{n+1}, \text{ and} \\ \bar{\sigma}_{n+1} \leq \bar{\sigma}_n \leq 2^{-1/kq'} \bar{\sigma}_{n+1} \end{cases} \tag{1.12}$$

But if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} 2^{-1/kq'} \sigma(t) = \infty, \tag{1.13}$$

then by the constructed sequence of integers  $\eta_k = \eta_k(\sigma)$  from [17], [2] and [13] we assume  $\eta_1 = 0$ , and

$$\eta_{k+1} = \min \left\{ n \in \mathfrak{N} : \max \left( \frac{\sigma_n}{\sigma_{n_k}}, \frac{\bar{\sigma}_n}{\bar{\sigma}_{n_k}} \right) \leq \frac{1}{4} \right\}, \tag{1.14}$$

so that

$$4\sigma_{n_{k+1}} \leq \sigma_{n_k}, \quad 4\bar{\sigma}_{n_{k+1}} \leq \bar{\sigma}_{n_k}, \tag{1.15}$$

Then

$$4\sigma_{n_{k+1}}^{-1} > \sigma_{n_k}, \quad \text{or} \quad 4\sigma_{n_k} > \bar{\sigma}_{n_{k+1}}^{-1}$$

By (1.11), we get one of the inequalities

$$\sigma_{n_k} < 8\sigma_{n_{k+1}}, \quad \text{or} \quad \bar{\sigma}_{n_{k+1}} < 8\bar{\sigma}_{n_k}, \tag{1.16}$$

Now, for any  $\sigma \in \Gamma_{1/p}^k$ , define the set

$$V_{q,\alpha}^\sigma = \{g \in V_{q,\alpha} : \omega_{k-1/q'}(g; \delta) = O(\sigma(\delta))\}$$

In section three, we prove the sufficient and efficient conditions for the embedding  $V_{q,\alpha}^\gamma \subset V_{q,\alpha}$ .

**Preliminary Results**

If  $1 < p < \infty$ , then the equality

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \omega_{1-1/p}(g; \delta) = 0, \tag{2.1}$$

holds for non-constant functions  $g$  that satisfies (2.1). It is said to be  $p$ -continuous, and  $C_p$  is the family of all  $p$ -continuous functions.

In the following propositions, we introduce some basic properties of the fractional modulus of smoothness of order  $k-1/p$ .

**Proposition 2.1 :** Let  $f$  be a real 1- periodic function, let  $p' = p / (p-1)$ . We have  $\omega_{k-1/p}(f; n\delta) \leq cn^{k-1/p'} \omega_{k-1/p}(f; \delta)$ ,

where  $0 \leq \delta \leq \frac{1}{n}$ .

*Proof :*

$$\omega_{k-1/p}(f; n\delta) = \sup_{0 < h \leq n\delta} \omega_{1-1/p}(\Delta_h^{k-1} f, h) = \sup_{0 < h \leq \delta} \omega_{1-1/p}(\Delta_{nh}^{k-1} f, h),$$

By using property (1.9), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{k-1/p}(f; n\delta) &\leq c \sup_{0 < h \leq \delta} n^{1/p'} \omega_{1-1/p}(\Delta_{nh}^{k-1} f, h) \leq c \sup_{0 < h \leq \delta} n^{1+1/p'} \omega_{1-1/p}(\Delta_h^{k-1} f, h) \\ &\leq c \sup_{0 < h \leq \delta} n^{k+1/p'} \omega_{1-1/p}(\Delta_h^{k-1} f, h) \leq cn^{k+1/p'} \omega_{k-1/p}(f; n\delta). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 2.2 :** Let  $f$  be a real 1- periodic function, and  $p' = p / (p - 1)$ , we have

$$\mu^{\frac{k-1}{p'}} \omega_{k-1/p}(f, \mu) \leq 2^{k-1/p'} \delta^{k-1/p'} \omega_{k-1/p}(f, \delta),$$

where  $0 < \delta < \mu \leq 1$ , and  $p' = p / (p - 1)$ .

*Proof :* By using proposition 2.1 we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^{k-1/p'} \omega_{k-1/p}(f; \mu) &\leq \mu^{k-1/p'} \delta^{k-1/p'} \omega_{k-1/p}\left(f; \frac{1}{\delta^{k-1/p'}} \mu\right) \\ &\leq \delta^{k-1/p'} \mu^{\frac{k-1}{p'}+1} \omega_{k-1/p}\left(f; \frac{1}{\delta^{k-1/p'}}\right) \leq 2^{k-1/p'} \delta^{k-1/p'} \omega_{k-1/p}\left(f; \frac{1}{\delta^{k-1/p'}}\right) \\ &\leq 2^{k-1/p'} \delta^{\frac{k-1}{p'}} \omega_{k-1/p}(f; \delta). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Note 2.3 :** For any  $f \in C_p^{(k)}$ , and let

$$\sigma^*(t) = t^{\frac{k-1}{p'}} \inf_{0 < u < t} \frac{\omega_{k-1/p'}(f, u)}{u^{k-1/p'}}$$

Clearly,  $\sigma^* \in \Gamma_{1/p'}^k$ . Also, by letting  $\mu = t$ , and  $u = \delta$ , in Proposition 2.2., we get

$$\sigma^*(t) \leq \omega_{k-1/p}(f; t) \leq 2^{k-1/p'} \delta^{\frac{k-1}{p'}} \sigma^*(t)$$

For the converse, let  $\sigma \in \Gamma_{1/p'}^k$ , the construction of  $f$  of Terehin [16], so by (1.10), it is clear that

$$\sigma(t) \leq \omega_{k-1/p}(f; t) \leq C\sigma(t).$$

We conclude from Note 2.3. that  $\Gamma_{1/p'}^k$  is a family of majorants of moduli of  $p$ -smoothness.

**Proposition 2.4 :** For  $\sigma \in \Gamma_{1/q'}$  diverges as (1.12), then  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 2^{j\vartheta q/k} \sigma_j^q$ , converges iff  $\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 2^{\eta_m \vartheta q/k} \sigma_{\eta_m}^q$  converges.

*Proof :* By means of cases of (1.16), we have

$$\sum_{j=\eta_m}^{\eta_{m+1}-1} 2^{j\vartheta q/k} \sigma_j^q \leq 8^q \sigma_{\eta_{m+1}}^q \sum_{j=\eta_m}^{\eta_{m+1}-1} 2^{j\vartheta q/k} \leq C 2^{\eta_{m+1} \vartheta q/k} \sigma_{\eta_{m+1}}^q$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=\eta_m}^{\eta_{m+1}-1} 2^{-j\vartheta q/k} \sigma_j^q &= \sum_{j=\eta_m}^{\eta_{m+1}-1} 2^{-jq/(p'-q)k} 8^q \bar{\sigma}_j^q \leq 8^q \bar{\sigma}_{\eta_m}^q \sum_{j=\eta_m}^{\infty} 2^{-jq/p'k} \\ &= C 2^{-\eta_m q/p'k} \bar{\sigma}_{\eta_m}^q = C 2^{\eta_m \theta q} \sigma_{\eta_m}^q \end{aligned}$$

which ends the proof. □

### 3. The Main Results

**Theorem 3.1 :** Let  $1 < p < q < \infty$  and  $\theta = 1/p - 1/q$ . Let  $g \in V_{q,\alpha}^{(k)}$ . Assume that

$$\int_0^1 (t^{-\vartheta} \omega_{k-1/q}(g, t))^q \frac{dt}{t} < \infty, \tag{3.1}$$

then  $g \in V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}$  and

$$\omega_{k-1/p}(g, \delta) \leq 4 \left( \int_0^{\delta} (t^{-\vartheta} \omega_{k-1/q}(g, t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}, \tag{3.2}$$

for all  $\delta \in [0, 1]$ .

*Proof :* Let  $\Pi$  be a partition of the form (1.5), then

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g; \Pi) &= \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^m |g[t_{j,k+1}, \dots, t_{j,2k}] - g[t_{j,1}, \dots, t_{j,k}]|^p}{(t_{j,2k} - t_{j,1})^{\alpha\theta p}} \right)^{1/p}, \\ &\leq c(q) \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^m |g[t_{j,k+1}, \dots, t_{j,2k}] - g[t_{j,1}, \dots, t_{j,k}]|^q}{(t_{j,2k} - t_{j,1})^{\alpha\theta q}} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

Now, for a partition  $\Pi$ , define

$$\mathbf{T}_l(\Pi) = \{j : 2^{-l-1} < t_{j,2k} - t_{j,1} \leq 2^{-l}\}, \quad (l = 0, 1, \dots).$$

Set also  $S_l^{(k)}(\Pi) = (\sum_{j \in \mathbf{T}_l(\Pi)} |g[t_{l,k+1}, \dots, t_{l,2k}] - g[t_{l,1}, \dots, t_{l,k}]|^q)^{\frac{1}{q}}$ , if  $\mathbf{T}_l(\Pi) = \emptyset$  and  $S_l^{(k)} = 0$  otherwise. By (3.3) we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g; \Pi) &\leq \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j \in \mathbf{T}_l(\Pi)} \frac{|g[t_{l,k+1}, \dots, t_{l,2k}] - g[t_{l,1}, \dots, t_{l,k}]|^q}{(t_{j,2k} - t_{j,1})^{\alpha\theta q}} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &\leq \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2^{(l+1)\alpha\theta q} S_l^{(k)}(\Pi)^q \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

It's clear that

$$S_l^{(k)}(\Pi) \leq \omega_{k-1/q}(g, 2^{-l}) \tag{3.5}$$

For partition  $\Pi$ , by using (3.4), (3.5) and proposition (2.1), we get

$$\nu_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g) \leq \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2^{(l+1)\alpha\theta q} \omega_{k-1/q}(g, 2^{-l})^q \right)^{1/q} \leq 4 \left( \int_0^1 (t^{-\theta} \omega_{k-1/q}(g, t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/q}.$$

Therefore  $g \in V_{p,1/p}^{(k)}$ . In addition to, let  $2^{-s} \leq \delta \leq 2^{-s+1}$ ,  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $\Pi$  be any partition with  $\|\Pi\| \leq \delta$ , then  $\mathbf{T}_l^{(k)}(\Pi) = \emptyset$  and  $S_l^{(k)}(\Pi) = 0$  for  $l < s$ .

From (3.4) and (3.5) we get

$$\nu_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(g; \Pi) \leq \left( \sum_{l=s}^{\infty} 2^{(l+1)\alpha\theta q} \omega_{k-1/q}(g, 2^{-l})^q \right)^{1/q} \leq 4 \left( \int_0^{\delta} (t^{-\theta} \omega_{k-1/q}(g, t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/q}.$$

□



**Theorem 3.2:** For any  $1 < p < q < \infty, \theta = \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{q}$ , and  $\sigma \in \Gamma_{1/q'}^k$ , then  $V_q^\sigma \subseteq V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}$  iff  $\int_0^1 (t^{-\theta} \omega(t))^q \frac{dt}{t}$  is finite

*Proof :* The embedding is easily hold by Theorem 3.1. To the contrary, suppose that the necessity doesn't hold, then  $\sigma$  satisfies (1.13). so by (1.14), the sequence  $\eta_m = \eta_m(\sigma)$  satisfies  $\sum_{m=1}^\infty 2^{S_m \theta q/k} \sigma_j^q = \infty$ ,

So there exists  $u_j, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , s.t.  $u_1 = 1$ , and  $(\sum_{m=u_j}^{u_{j+1}-1} 2^{\eta_m \theta q} \sigma_{\eta_m}^q)^{1/q} > 2^j$ .

Name  $\sigma^* = \sum_{j=1}^\infty (\sum_{m=u_j}^{u_{j+1}-1} 2^{\eta_m \theta q} \sigma_{\eta_m}^q)^{1/q}$

To contract the assumption, we prove that  $\sigma^* \in V_{q,\alpha}^\sigma$ , but not  $V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{k-\frac{1}{q'}}(\sigma^*, \delta) &= \sup_{\Pi} v_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}(\sigma^*, \Pi) = \sup_{\Pi} \left( \sum_{l=0}^\infty 2^{(l+1)\alpha\theta q} \omega_{k-\frac{1}{q'}}(\sigma^*, 2^{-l})^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \sup_{\Pi} \left( \sum_{l=0}^\infty 2^{(l+1)\alpha\theta q} \sum_{j=1}^\infty \sum_{m=u_j}^{u_{j+1}-1} 2^{\eta_m \theta q} \omega_{k-\frac{1}{q'}}(\sigma_{\eta_m}^q, 2^{-l})^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \sup_{\Pi} \left( \sum_{l=0}^\infty 2^{((l+1)\alpha + \eta_m)\theta q} \sum_{j=1}^\infty \sum_{m=u_j}^{u_{j+1}-1} \omega_{k-\frac{1}{q'}}(\sigma_{\eta_m}^q, 2^{-l})^q \right)^{1/q} = C\sigma(2^{-l}). \end{aligned}$$

□

### Conclusion

The importance of moduli of p-smoothness comes from the need to measure fractional smoothness of functions by using  $(p, \alpha)$  kth variation. We benefit from replacing the two modulus of p-smoothness and q-smoothness , to prove some relations between the families of functions  $V_q^\sigma$  and  $V_{p,\alpha}^{(k)}$ .

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