

Goal “Most” continuous functions  $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are nowhere differentiable.

A “thin set” is closed & has empty interior.

Def A Baire space is a space  $X$  s.t. any countable collection of closed sets with no interior (“not chunky”) in  $X$  has a union that has no interior.

Thm A complete metric space is Baire

Proof Let  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  be countably many closed sets having no interior.

Given any open  $U \subset X$ , want to show  $U - \bigcup F_i \neq \emptyset$  ( $U$  not part of interior of  $\bigcup F_i$ ).

Use induction:  $U - F_1$  open (since  $F_1$  closed) & non-empty (since  $U \not\subset F_1$ ) so pick  $x_1 \in U - F_1$  &  $0 < r_1 < 1$  s.t.  $\overline{B_{r_1}(x_1)} \subset U - F_1$

Now  $B_{r_1}(x_1) - F_2$  is open & non-empty so pick  $x_2 \in B_{r_1}(x_1) - F_2$  &  $0 < r_2 < \frac{1}{2}$  s.t.  $\overline{B_{r_2}(x_2)} \subset B_{r_1}(x_1) - F_2$

: by induction, find sequence  $x_n, r_n$  s.t.

1.  $0 < r_n < \frac{1}{n}$
2.  $\overline{B_{r_n}(x_n)} \subset B_{r_{n-1}}(x_{n-1}) - F_n \subset B_{r_{n-2}}(x_{n-2}) - F_{n-1} - F_n \subset \dots \subset U - \bigcup F_i$

Claim  $x_n$  is Cauchy: if  $n, m > N, x_n, x_m \in B_{\frac{1}{N}}(x_N)$

Let  $x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$  (use compactness). Then  $x \in \overline{B_{r_n}(x_n)} \subset B_{r_{n-1}}(x_{n-1}) - F_n$ , so  $x \notin F_n$  for any  $n$ , so  $x \notin \bigcup F_n$ , yet  $x \in B_{r_1}(x_1) \subset U$  so  $U - \bigcup F_i \neq \emptyset$  as required ■

Thm (variant) A compact  $T_2$  space is also Baire. Pf sketch: nest closures s.t. their intersection is non-empty using the FIP.

Restate A space is Baire iff every countable collection of open dense (complement of thin) sets has a dense intersection. In a Baire space, a countable intersection of open dense sets is “big”.

Claim  $X = C([0,1], d_\infty(f, g) = \sup |f(x) - g(x)|)$  is complete & hence Baire. In it, the set of cont. nowhere differentiable fns is “big”.

$X$  is complete: if  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence of fns then for any  $x \in I$ , the sequence  $f_n(x)$  is itself Cauchy so it has a limit,  $f(x)$ . Exercise: show  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly, hence  $f$  is cont., hence  $f \in X$ , hence  $X$  is complete.

Left to show set of nowhere differentiable fns is a union of open dense sets. Let

$$U_n = \left\{ f: \begin{array}{l} \exists \text{ partition } 0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_p = 1 \text{ s.t.} \\ 1. |x_{i+1} - x_i| < \frac{1}{n} \\ 2. \left| \frac{f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i)}{|x_{i+1} - x_i|} \right| > n \end{array} \right\}$$

Then (1)  $U_n$  is open & dense and (2) If  $f \in \bigcap U_n$  then  $f$  is cont. & nowhere differentiable.

Proof of 1

$U_n$  dense: define  $g$  that wiggles between  $f$  and  $f - \varepsilon$ , letting  $x'_i$ s be tips of wiggles, making slopes as big as we want.

$U_n$  open:

$$U_n = \bigcup_{\substack{\text{all partitions} \\ 0=x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_p=1 \\ \text{s.t. } |x_{i+1}-x_i| < \frac{1}{n}}} \left\{ f: \Phi(f) = \left| \frac{f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i)}{|x_{i+1} - x_i|} \right| > n \right\}$$

$\Phi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is cont.

So  $U_n$  is open as the union of open sets under cont. fn:

$$U_n = \bigcup_{\text{all partitions}} \Phi^{-1}((n, \infty)) \blacksquare$$

Proof of 2

Suppose not. Use “triangle inequality for slopes” to bound slope in nbd of pt of differentiability. But  $f \in \cap U_n$  means  $f \in U_{1001}$  so can find partition that breaks bound, has slope  $> 1001 > \text{bound}$  ✗