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ABOUT THE MAXIMUM AND THE MINIMUM OF DARBOUX FUNCTIONS

JANA FARKOVÁ, Bratislava

In paper [3] the following statement is proved: If f is a real valued function of a real variable, continuous and non-constant, then there is a Darboux function g with the property that the function F = f + g is not a Darboux one.

A natural question arises if a similar statement holds for the functions $\varphi = \max(f, g)$ and $\psi = \min(f, g)$ as well.

The answer is negative and as follows:

Theorem 1. Let f and g be Darboux real valued functions of a real variable. Let every $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$ be a point of the upper (lower) semi-continuity of at least one of them. Then the function $\varphi = \max(f, g)$ ($\psi = \min(f, g)$) is a Darboux function.

Proof. Let x, y(x < y) be real numbers, let $\varphi(x) < c < \varphi(y)$ (a proof for $\varphi(x) > \varphi(y)$ is analogical).

Let $A = \{u: \text{ if } x \leq u' \leq u, \text{ then } \varphi(u') < c\}$. Let $x_0 = \sup A$. Because f and g are Darboux functions, $f(x_0) \leq c$, $g(x_0) \leq c$ (of course $x_0 \neq y$). If $\max(f(x_0), g(x_0)) = c$, then $\varphi(x_0) = c$ and the Theorem is proved.

Let max $(f(x_0), g(x_0)) < c$, let f be upper semi-continuous in x_0 . Now choose K such that $f(x_0) < K < c$. Let O be such a neighbourhood of x_0 that for $x \in C \circ f(x) < K$ holds. With regard to the construction of the point x_0 in O such a point ξ ($\xi > x_0$) exists that $\varphi(\xi) \ge c > K$. Therefore $\varphi(\xi) = g(\xi)$. Then either $\varphi(\xi) = g(\xi) = c$, or (because of g Darboux) there exists $z \in (x_0, \xi)$ such that g(z) = c. But again $\varphi(z) = g(z) = c$. (The proof for $\psi = \min(f, g)$ is analogical.)

If f is not a Darboux function, then there evidently can easily be constructed a Darboux function g (even a suitable constant) such that $\max(f, g) (\min(f, g))$ is not a Darboux function.

As the following theorem shows, Darboux upper semi-continuous functions are the only functions with the property that the maximum of the function and an arbitrary Darboux function is again Darboux.

Lower semi-continuous functions play an analogical role in the case of a minimum.

Theorem 2. Let f be a Darboux real valued function of a real variable. Let f be not upper semi-continuous (lower semi-continuous). Then there exists such a Darboux function g that $\varphi = \max(f, g)$ ($\psi = \min(f, g)$) is not Darboux.

Proof. Let f not be upper semi-continuous in a point x_0 . Therefore lim sup

 $f(x) > f(x_0)$. It means that at least one of these inequalities must hold: $\limsup_{x \to x_0^+} f(x) > f(x_0)$, $\limsup_{x \to x_0^-} f(x_0)$. Let $\limsup_{x \to x_0^+} f(x) > (x_0)$ hold (in the second case the proof is analogical).

Now choose K such that $f(x_0) < K < \limsup_{x \to x_0^+} f(x), \limsup_{x \to x_0^+} f(x) + f(x_0) \ge 2K$.

Define a function g: g(x) = f(x), for $x \leq x_0$, g(x) = 2K - f(x), for $x_0 < x$.

We shall show that g is Darboux, therefore for x, y real and c such that g(x) < c < g(y) there exists $z \in (\min(x, y), \max(x, y))$ so that g(z) = c (it is equivalent to the statement that $g(\langle x, y \rangle)$ is connected).

If max $(x, y) \leq x_0$, or if min $(x, y) > x_0$, it follows immediately from the definitions of f and of g. Let min $(x, y) = x_0$ and let x < y. Since g(y) > c, f(y) < 2K - c; considering that $c > g(x) = f(x_0)$, $2K - c < 2K - f(x_0)$ and since $\limsup_{x \to x_0^+} f(x) + f(x_0) \ge 2K$, then $2K - f(x_0) < \limsup_{x \to x_0^+} f(x) + f(x_0) \ge 2K$.

is a point $\xi \in (x_0, y)$ such that $f(\xi) > 2K - c$. Therefore $f(y) < 2K - c < f(\xi)$ and thus there is a point $z \in (\xi, y)$ such that f(z) = 2K - c and then g(z) = c.

Let min $(x, y) = x_0$ and x > y. In this case $f(x) = 2K - g(x) > 2K - c > 2K - g(y) = 2K - f(x_0) > f(x_0) = f(y)$. It follows that there exists a point $z \in (y, x)$ such that f(z) = 2K - c and then g(z) = c.

Let now x, y be such real numbers that $x_0 \in (x, y)$. Then $g(\langle x, y \rangle) = g(\langle x, x_0 \rangle) \cup g(\langle x_0, y \rangle)$. Because of connectivity $g(\langle x, x_0 \rangle)$ and $g(\langle x_0, y \rangle)$ and because $g(\langle x, x_0 \rangle) \cap g(\langle x_0, y \rangle) \neq \emptyset$, $g(\langle x, y \rangle)$ is a connected set.

Because of $\varphi(x_0) = f(x_0) < K$ and $\varphi(x) \ge K$ for $x \in (x_0, \infty)$, $\varphi = \max(f, g)$ is not Darboux.

A similar proof can be given also for the minimum.

In [3] similar questions are studied also for a class D_0 of real valued functions of a real variable having "the Darboux property in the sense of Radakovič". A function belongs to D_0 iff the closure of the image of an arbitrary interval is an interval or a one-point set. The following statement is proved there: Continuous functions are the only functions such that their sum with every function from D_0 is again from D_0 .

These results were generalized in [2] for real valued functions defined on a topological space. Symbol $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ denotes here a set of all real valued functions defined on a topological space X with a topological base \mathscr{B} , with the property: If $B \in \mathscr{B}$, $x, y \in \overline{B}$ and c is such that f(x) < c < f(y), then for an arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a point $\xi \in B$ such that $f(\xi) \in (c - \varepsilon, c + \varepsilon)$. Here are further definitions of some topological properties of the base, which will be needed:

A base \mathscr{B} is said to satisfy the condition (1*) provided that for an arbitrary open set $U, x \in X, B \in \mathscr{B}, x \in U$ and $x \in \overline{B}$ there exists $C \in \mathscr{B}$ such that $C \subset \subset U \cap B$ and $x \in \overline{C} - C$.

A base \mathscr{B} is said to satisfy the condition (2*) provided that for every $O \in \mathscr{B}$ and every decomposition of O, $O = A \cup B$, $A \cap B = \emptyset$, $A \neq \emptyset \neq B$ with the property

 $\overline{U} \cap O \subset A$, $\overline{U} \cap O \subset B$ resp., if $U \subset A$, $U \subset B$, resp., and $U \in \mathscr{B}$, and either $A' \cap B$ or $A \cap B'$ is non-empty.

In [2] the following theorem is proved: Let X be a topological space with a base \mathscr{B} , satisfying the conditions (1^{*}) and (2^{*}). Let f and g be from $D_0(\mathscr{B})$. Let every $x \in X$ be a point of continuity of f or of g. Then the functions $\varphi = \max(f, g), \psi = \min(f, g)$ are also from $D_0(\mathscr{B})$.

Remark 1. In [2] it is proved that a base satisfies the condition (2^*) iff it consists of connected sets only. Thus only in a local connected space there exists a base with the property (2^*) .

We now give an example to show that in this more general case the continuity cannot be replaced by the upper semi-continuity if it is to be $\varphi \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$.

Similarly an example can be constructed showing that the continuity cannot be replaced by the lower semi-continuity if it is to be $\psi \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$.

Remark 2. It is necessary to explain the meaning of the upper and the lower semi-continuity of a real valued function f defined on a topological space.

In [1] a real valued function f defined on a topological space is called upper (lower) semi-continuous iff set $\{x: f(x) \ge a\}$ ($\{x: f(x) \le a\}$) is closed for all real a. A real valued function f defined on a topological space is called upper (lower) semi-continuous in a point x_0 , if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a neighbourhood U of the point x_0 such that for every $u \in U: f(u) < f(x_0) + \varepsilon$ (f(u) > $> f(x_0) - \varepsilon$).

By the limit superior of f at x_0 (lim sup f(x)) we mean a real number a with the properties:

1) if b < a, then in every neighbourhood U of point x_0 there is a point y such that f(y) > b,

2) if a < c, then there is such a neighbourhood U of point x_0 that for $y \in U$, f(y) < c.

The limit inferior of f at x_0 (lim inf f(x)) is defined analogously.

Without difficulties it is possible to prove:

A function f is upper (lower) semi-continuous in a point x_0 iff $\limsup_{x \to x_0} f(x) \leq f(x_0)$ (lim $\inf f(x) \geq f(x_0)$) holds.

Evidently a function f is upper (lower) semi-continuous iff f is upper (lower) semi-continuous in every point $x \in X$.

Example. Let X be the topological space consisting of all real numbers with the base $\mathscr{B} = \{(a, b), a, b - \text{real}, a \neq 0\}$.

Evidently \mathscr{B} satisfies the conditions (1*) and (2*).

Define $f_1(x) = -1$, for x > 0, $f_1(x) = 1$, for x = 0, $f_1(x) = \sin(1/x)$, for x < 0; $f_2(x) = -1$, for x > 0, $f_2(x) = 1$, for x = 0, $f_2(x) = \sin(-1/x)$, for x < 0.

Any point $x \in X$ is a point of the upper semi-continuity f_1 and f_2 . With regard to the definition of \mathscr{B} it follows that $f_1, f_2 \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$. If $\varphi = \max(f, g)$ and $(a, b) \in \mathscr{B}$ such that $0 \in (a, b)$, then $\varphi((a, b)) = \langle 0, 1 \rangle \cup \{-1\}$, therefore $\varphi \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$.

The continuity may be replaced by the upper (lower) semi-continuity in a more special case, if the base \mathscr{B} satisfies a condition (2), stronger than the condition (2*):

A base \mathscr{B} is said to satisfy condition (2) provided for every $O \in \mathscr{B}$ and every decomposition of $O, O = A \cup B, A \cap B = \emptyset, A \neq \emptyset \neq B$ with the property $\overline{U} \cap O \subset A, \ \overline{U} \cap O \subset B$ resp., if $U \subset A, \ U \subset B$, resp., and $U \in \mathscr{B}$, it is

 $A' \cap B \neq \emptyset \neq A \cap B'$. In the proof of the following theorem another notion will be required: Let X be a topological space with a base \mathscr{B} . A set $A \subset X$ satisfies the property $M'_*(\mathscr{B})$, if $\overline{B} \subset A$ for any $B \in \mathscr{B}$, for which $B \subset A$.

 $\mathscr{M}'_*(\mathscr{B})$ is a system of all real valued functions, defined on X such that the sets $\{x: f(x) \ge a\}$ and $\{x: f(x) \le a\}$ have the property $M'_*(\mathscr{B})$ for every real a. Evidently $D_0(\mathscr{B}) \subset \mathscr{M}'_*(\mathscr{B})$.

In [2] it is proved that if X is a topological space with a base \mathscr{B} satisfying the condition (1*), $f, g \in \mathscr{M}'_*(\mathscr{B})$ and any point $x \in X$ is a point of continuity f or g, then max $(f, g) \in \mathscr{M}'_*(\mathscr{B})$ and min $(f, g) \in \mathscr{M}'_*(\mathscr{B})$.

It is easy to show that in the proof of this statement for $\max(f, g)$ the continuity may be replaced by the upper semi-continuity and for $\min(f, g)$ by the lower semi-continuity.

Theorem 3. Let X be a topological space with a base \mathscr{B} satisfying the conditions (1*) and (2). Let $f, g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ be such functions that every $x \in X$ is a point of the upper (lower) semi-continuity of f or of g. Then $\varphi = \max(f, g) \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ $(\psi = \min(f, g) \in D_0(\mathscr{B})).$

Proof. Let $O \in \mathscr{B}$, $x, y \in \overline{O}$, $\varphi(x) < c - \varepsilon < c < c + \varepsilon < \varphi(y)$, $\varphi(z) \notin (c - \varepsilon, c + \varepsilon)$ for $z \in O$. Let $A = \{u: u \in O, \varphi(u) \leq c\}$, $B = \{u: u \in O, \varphi(u) \geq c\}$,

 $O = A \cup B$. Because $\varphi \in \mathscr{M}'_*(\mathscr{B})$, the decomposition satisfies the property of the condition (2) $(A \neq \emptyset \neq B)$ and therefore $A' \cap B \neq \emptyset \neq A \cap B'$. Let $x_0 \in A \cap B'$, let x_0 be a point of the upper semi-continuity of f (for g the proof is analogical). Whence it follows that there exists $U \in \mathscr{B}$, $U \subseteq O$, $x_0 \in U$ such that $f(u) < f(x_0) + \varepsilon/2$ for $u \in U$. Since $x_0 \in B'$, there exists $x_1 \in U \cap B$, accordingly $\varphi(x_1) \ge c + \varepsilon$.

If $f(x_1) = \varphi(x_1)$, then $f(x_1) \ge c + \varepsilon$, thus $f(x_0) > f(x_1) - \varepsilon/2 \ge c + \varepsilon/2$, contrary to $\varphi(x_0) \le c - \varepsilon$. Therefore $g(x_1) = \varphi(x_1)$ must hold; then $g(x_1) \ge$ $\ge c + \varepsilon$ and because $g(x_0) \le c - \varepsilon$ and $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, there exists a $\xi \in U$ such that $g(\xi) \in (c + \varepsilon/2, c + \varepsilon)$. Since $f(\xi) < f(x_0) + \varepsilon/2 \le c - \varepsilon/2$, $\varphi(\xi) =$ $= g(\xi) \in (c + \varepsilon/2, c + \varepsilon)$ holds contrary to our assumption. Thus $\varphi \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$.

The proof for $\psi = \min(f, g)$ with the assumption of the lower semi-continuity is analogical, but it is necessary to use the existing $x_0 \in A' \cap B$.

As the following theorem shows, the assumption of the upper (lower) semicontinuity cannot be dropped.

Theorem 4. Let X be a topological space with a base \mathscr{B} . Let $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, let f not be upper (lower) semi-continuous. Then there exists a function $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ such that $\varphi = \max(f, g) \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$ ($\psi = \min(f, g) \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$).

Proof. (The construction of the function g is similar to that in Theorem 2 in the real case.) The proof is accomplished again only for the function φ ; it is evident how the function g can be constructed in the second case.

Let in a point $x_0 \in X$ f not be upper semi-continuous. Thus $\limsup_{x \to x_0} f(x) > f(x_0)$. Choose a real number K such that $\limsup_{x \to x_0} f(x) > K > f(x_0)$, $\limsup_{x \to x_0} f(x) + f(x_0) \ge 2K$ holds.

Define $g: g(x_0) = f(x_0), g(x) = 2K - f(x)$, for $x \in X - \{x_0\}$. Then $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B}), \varphi = \max(f, g) \notin D_0(\mathscr{B}).$

We shall prove that $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$: Let $B \in \mathscr{B}$, $x, y \in \overline{B}$, c and $\varepsilon > 0$ be such that $g(x) < c - \varepsilon < c < c + \varepsilon < g(y)$. It is necessary to show that there exists $z \in B$ such that $g(z) \in (c - \varepsilon, c + \varepsilon)$. Let $x \neq x_0$, then g(x) = 2K - f(x), g(y) = 2K - f(y) if $y \neq x_0$, g(y) = f(y) if $y = x_0$. Then for both cases the following holds: $f(x) = 2K - g(x) > 2K - c + \varepsilon > 2K - c > 2K - c - \varepsilon > f(y)$.

Since $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, there exists $z \in B$, $z \neq x_0$ such that $f(z) \in (2K - c - \varepsilon, 2K - c + \varepsilon)$ and therefore $g(z) \in (c - \varepsilon, c + \varepsilon)$. Let $x = x_0$, then g(x) = f(x), g(y) = 2K - f(y); considering that $c - \varepsilon > f(x_0)$, there must be $2K - c + \varepsilon < \limsup_{x \neq x_0} f(x)$ (because $\limsup_{x \neq x_0} f(x) + f(x_0) \ge 2K$). Accordingly $f(y) = 2K - g(y) < 2K - c - \varepsilon < 2K - c < 2K - c + \varepsilon < \limsup_{x \neq x_0} f(x)$ holds.

Since $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, there exists $z \in B$, $z \neq x_0$ such that $f(z) \in (2K - c - \varepsilon, 2K - c + \varepsilon)$ and thus $g(z) \in (c - \varepsilon, c + \varepsilon)$.

If $B \in \mathscr{B}$, $x_0 \in \overline{B}$, then $\varphi(\overline{B})$ is not connected; evidently $\varphi \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$. From Theorems 3 and 4 there follows

Corollary. Let X be a topological space with a base \mathscr{B} satisfying the conditions (1*) and (2). Then the upper (lower) semi-continuous functions $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ are the only functions with the property that the function $\max(f, g) \pmod{(f, g)}$, where g is an arbitrary function of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ is again one of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$.

In most papers dealing with the structure (algebraical or topological) of a system of functions, having in some sense the Darboux property, the question arises as to the effect of a further property of the functions of the system, if, namely, the functions belong to the first class of Baire's classification (further only: f is of the 1st class) on the structure.

It is an important question, because a Darboux function of the 1st class is the most natural and the most frequently occurring generalization of a continuous function.

A problem of this kind is solved by

Theorem 5. Let X be a topological T_1 space satisfying the 1st axiom of countability (any point $x \in X$ has a countable base of neighbourhoods) with a base \mathscr{B} satisfying the conditions (1^{*}) and (2). Then the upper (lower) semi-continuous functions $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ are the only functions with the property that $\max(f, g)$ (min (f, g)), where g is an arbitrary function of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and of the 1st class, is again of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and of the 1st class.

Proof. It is necessary to prove the following assertions:

1) if f is upper (lower) semi-continuous, $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and g is an arbitrary function of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and of the 1st class, then max (f, g) (min (f, g)) is of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and of the 1st class too,

2) if f is not an upper (lower) semi-continuous functions of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$, then there exists a function $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ of the 1st class such that max $(f,g) \pmod{(f,g)}$ is not a function of $D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and of the 1st class.

1) In [4] on page 56 it is proved that if f and g are real valued functions, defined on a set X and **S**-measurable, where **S** is a σ -structure (if $S_n \in \mathbf{S}$ for $n = 1, 2, \ldots$, then $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n \in \mathbf{S}$, if $S_1, S_2 \in \mathbf{S}$, then $S_1 \cap S_2 \in \mathbf{S}$) of subsets of X (in our case this σ -structure consists of all subsets of the topological space X, of the type F_{σ}), then the functions max (f, g) and min (f, g) are **S**-measurable,

too. With the help of Theorem 3 the proof of 1) is now complete. 2) If $f \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$, then a function $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, g is of the 1st class such that $\max(f, g) \notin D_0(\mathscr{B}) \pmod{(f, g)} \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$ can be easily constructed.

Let f not belong to the 1st class. Thus there exists an open set $G \subset (-\infty, \infty)$ such that $f^{-1}(G)$ is not of the type $F_{\sigma}(f^{-1}(G) \notin F_{\sigma}(X))$. $G = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} O_i$, where O_i are disjoint open intervals. It is obvious that there exists an i_0 such that $f^{-1}(O_{i_0}) \notin F_{\sigma}(X)$. Let $O_{i_0} = (a', b)$. It is possible that $a' = -\infty$. But in this case there must exist a real number a'' such that $f^{-1}((a'', b)) \notin F_{\sigma}(X)$. In the reverse case

$$f^{-1}(O_{i_0}) = f^{-1}((-\infty, b)) = f^{-1} \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (b - i, b) \right) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} f^{-1}((b - i, b)) \in F_{\sigma}(X) \,.$$

Therefore there exists a real number a such that $f^{-1}((a, b)) \notin F_{\sigma}(X)$. Define g(x) = a, for $x \in X$. Evidently $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, g is of the 1st class. $\varphi = \max(f, g)$ is not of the 1st class, because $\varphi^{-1}(a, b) = f^{-1}(a, b) \notin F_{\sigma}(X)$. (The proof for $\psi = \min(f, g)$ is analogical.)

Now suppose that $f \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$, f is of the 1st class, but f is not upper semicontinuous. Let us define the function g as in the proof of Theorem 4: $g(x_0) = = f(x_0)$ (point x_0 is again an arbitrary point such that f in x_0 is not upper semi-continuous), g(x) = 2K - f(x), for $x \in X - \{x_0\}$.

We know that $g \in D_0(\mathscr{B})$ and max $(f, g) \notin D_0(\mathscr{B})$. It is necessary to show that g is of the 1st class, and thus for every open set $G \subset (-\infty, \infty)$ $g^{-1}(G) \in F_{\sigma}(X)$ holds. Let us denote by h a function defined: h(x) = 2K - f(x)for $x \in X$. It is obvious ([4], p. 55) that h is of the 1st class.

If either $\{h(x_0)\} \cup \{g(x_0)\} \in G$, or $\{h(x_0)\} \cup \{g(x_0)\} \in X - G$, then $h^{-1}(G) = g^{-1}(G)$ and therefore $g^{-1}(G) \in F_{\sigma}(X)$. If $h(x_0) \in G$ and $g(x_0) \notin G$, then $g^{-1}(G) = h^{-1}(G) - \{x_0\} = h^{-1}(G) \cap (X - \{x_0\})$, if $h(x_0) \notin G$ and $g(x_0) \in G$, then $g^{-1}(G) = h^{-1}(G) \cup \{x_0\}$. Because X is a topological T_1 space satisfying the 1st axiom of countability, any one-point set is closed and of the type G_{δ} . (Therefore $X - \{x_0\} \in F_{\sigma}(X)$.) Since $F_{\sigma}(X)$ is a σ -structure, it is obvious that in both these cases $g^{-1}(G) \in F_{\sigma}(X)$. The function g is thus of the 1st class.

Similarly a function g can be constructed in the case when f is not lower semi-continuous.

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Matematický ústav Slovenskej akadémie vied Bratislava