



## SOME REMARKS ON RECONSTRUCTION FROM LOCAL WEIGHTED AVERAGES

P. DEVARAJ

**Abstract.** We solve the convolution equation of the type  $f \star \mu = g$ , where  $f \star \mu$  is the convolution of  $f$  and  $\mu$  defined by  $(f \star \mu)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x-y)d\mu(y)$ ,  $g$  is a given function and  $\mu$  is a finite linear combination of translates of an indicator function on an interval.

### 1. Introduction

We consider the convolution equation of the following type:

$$f \star \mu = g, \tag{1}$$

where  $g$  is a known continuous function,  $\mu$  is a compactly supported measure and  $f$  is an unknown continuous function. Delsarte [3] was interested in solving the particular case of equation (1) which is of the type  $\frac{1}{\tau} \int_{x-\frac{\tau}{2}}^{x+\frac{\tau}{2}} f(t)dt = g(x)$ . In the case when  $f$  is an integrable function with compact support van der Pol [15, 16] has obtained reconstruction formula using two sided Laplace Transform. But such transform methods can not be used for the case of continuous functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ . The special case of equation (1), namely  $g = 0$ , was analyzed by many authors citebag,ber1,deva,Ehr1,Ehr2,kah,schwartz,thangavelu,wei,sze on various groups. The solutions (1) for the particular case when  $g = 0$  are called mean periodic functions. Laurent Schwartz [18] gave an intrinsic characterization of such solutions. The corresponding non-homogeneous type equation is analysed in [14] for the special case of when  $\mu$  is the indicator function on the interval  $[-a, a]$ . An explicit construction of a solution is given in [17] for the same equation on the three dimensional Euclidean space when  $\mu$  is the indicator function of a ball in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  using plane wave decomposition. When  $\mu$  is finitely supported, the equation (1) gets reduced to a non-homogeneous constant coefficient difference equation. Edgar and Rosenblatt [6] have studied the homogeneous equation (ie, when  $g=0$ ). They have shown that a complex valued function  $f$  has linearly independent translates precisely when  $f$  does not

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satisfy a nontrivial homogeneous difference equation. An explicit construction of a solution is given in [4] on  $\mathbb{R}$  when  $\mu$  is an arbitrary finitely supported measure and  $g$  is a continuous function.

Malgrange [13], Ehrenpreis [9], John [10], and Hörmander [11] have studied the convolution equation of the type analogous to equation (1)

$$P(D)u = f, \tag{2}$$

where  $P(D)$  is a constant coefficient partial differential operator and  $f$  is a given function. A criterion was given by Hörmander for the existence of solution  $u \in D'_F(\Omega)$  for an arbitrary  $f \in D'_F(\Omega)$  on an open set  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

In general, no necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of solutions of equation (1) are known. One can easily see the following:

- (i) Equation (1) has no solution in  $C(\mathbb{R})$  when  $g$  is a non smooth function and  $\mu$  is a compactly supported continuous function.
- (ii) If  $f_0$  is a particular solution of equation (1), then every other solution  $f$  can be written as  $f = f_0 + h$ , where  $h \star \mu = 0$ .
- (iii) If the Fourier-Laplace transform  $\hat{\mu}(\lambda) = 0$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and if there exists a solution to equation (1), then there are infinitely many solutions to equation (1).

The methods of [14] can not be extended to the case when  $\mu$  is a sum of more than one indicator function. In this paper we analyze the case when  $\mu$  is a finite linear combination of the translates of an indicator function on an interval. A solution  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  is constructed for every  $g \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$ .

## 2. Reconstruction Results

**Definition 1** ([4]). We say a compactly supported Borel measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  is a discrete Borel measure, if there exists a finite set of distinct real numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and nonzero complex constants  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  such that  $\mu(E) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \delta_{x_i}(E)$  for every Borel set  $E$ . The set of all compactly supported discrete Borel measures on  $\mathbb{R}$  is denoted by  $M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ .

For  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , the indicator function on the interval  $[a, b]$  is denoted by  $\chi_{[a,b]}$  and  $LST(\chi_{[a,b]})$  denotes the linear span of the translates of  $\chi_{[a,b]}$ . The set of all compactly supported regular Borel measures on  $\mathbb{R}$  is denoted by  $M_c(\mathbb{R})$ . We note that  $LST(\chi_{[a,b]}) \subset M_c(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Definition 2.** For  $f \in C(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\mu \in M_c(\mathbb{R})$ , the convolution of  $f$  with  $\mu$  is defined as

$$(f \star \mu)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x-y) d\mu(y).$$

When  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \chi_{[a_i, b_i]}$ , the convolution becomes

$$(f \star \mu)(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \int_{a_i}^{b_i} f(x-y) dy.$$

**Definition 3.** [4] For every real or complex valued function  $f$  and discrete measure  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \delta_{x_i} \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ , the convolution of  $f$  and  $\mu$  is defined by

$$(f \star \mu)(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i f(x - x_i).$$

In [4] the special case  $r = 0$  of the following lemma is proved. We extend the same for  $r > 0$  along the lines of [4].

**Lemma 1.** For  $\mu, \nu \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $g \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$ , the following hold:

- (i) If  $\text{supp}(\mu) \subset (-\infty, -\alpha)$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\text{supp}(g) \subset (-\infty, \beta)$  for some  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star (\delta_0 + \mu) = g$ .
- (ii) If  $\text{supp}(\nu) \subset (\alpha, \infty)$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\text{supp}(g) \subset (\beta, \infty)$  for some  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star (\delta_0 + \nu) = g$ .

**Proof.** (i) We denote by  $\mu^m$  the convolution of  $\mu$  with itself  $m$ -times. As  $\text{supp}(\mu) \subset (-\infty, -\alpha)$ , we have  $\text{supp}(\mu^n) \subset (-\infty, -n\alpha)$ . Let  $\mu^n = \sum_{i=1}^l c_i \delta_{y_i}$ . Then

$$(g^{(j)} \star \mu^n)(x) = \sum_{i=1}^l c_i g^{(j)}(x - y_i).$$

Since  $\text{supp}(\mu^n) \subset (-\infty, -n\alpha)$ ,  $y_i < -n\alpha$  and hence  $x - y_i > x + n\alpha > \beta$  for sufficiently large  $n$ . Therefore for every  $x$ ,  $(g^{(j)} \star \mu^n)(x) = 0$  for  $n$  sufficiently large and for  $0 \leq j \leq r$ .

We define

$$f(x) := g(x) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (g \star \mu^n)(x).$$

Let us consider the following partial sums:

$$s_n(x) = g(x) + \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^k (g \star \mu^k)(x).$$

Then

$$s_n^{(j)}(x) = g^{(j)}(x) + \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^k (g^{(j)} \star \mu^k)(x).$$

We show that the above sequence converges uniformly on every compact set for  $0 \leq j \leq r$ . For, let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $K \subset [a, b]$  for some real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ . Choose  $N$  such that  $a + n\alpha > \beta$  and  $b + n\alpha > \beta$ , for  $n \geq N$ . For  $x \geq a$ ,  $x - y_i \geq a + n\alpha > \beta$ . Now

$$s_n^{(j)}(x) - s_m^{(j)}(x) = \sum_{k=m+1}^n (-1)^k (g^{(j)} \star \mu^k)(x) = 0,$$

for  $n \geq m \geq N$ .

This implies that the sequence of functions  $\{s_k^{(j)}(x)\}$  is uniformly cauchy on every compact set and hence converges uniformly on every compact set for  $0 \leq j \leq r$ .

Therefore we get  $s_k^{(j)}(x)$  converges uniformly to  $f^{(j)}(x)$  on every compact set and

$$f^{(j)}(x) := g^{(j)}(x) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (g^{(j)} \star \mu^n)(x)$$

for  $0 \leq j \leq r$ . Hence  $f^{(r)}$  is continuous and hence  $f^{(r)} \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$ . It is very easy to check that  $f \star (\delta_0 + \mu) = g$ .

(ii) Since  $\text{supp}(v) \subset (\alpha, \infty)$ , we have  $\text{supp}(v^n) \subset (n\alpha, \infty)$ . Suppose the representation of  $v^n$  is of the form:  $v^n = \sum_{i=1}^l d_i \delta_{z_i}$ . Then  $(g^{(j)} \star v^n)(x) = \sum_{i=1}^l d_i g^{(j)}(x - z_i)$ . Since  $\text{supp}(v^n) \subset (n\alpha, \infty)$ ,  $z_i > n\alpha$  and hence  $x - z_i < x - n\alpha < \beta$  for sufficiently large  $n$ . Therefore for every  $x$ ,  $(g^{(j)} \star v^n)(x) = 0$  for  $n$  sufficiently large. Hence  $g^{(j)}(x) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m (g^{(j)} \star v^m)(x)$  is a finite sum for every  $x$ .

We define

$$f(x) := g(x) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m (g \star v^m)(x). \quad (3)$$

To show

$$f^{(r)}(x) := g^{(r)}(x) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m (g^{(r)} \star v^m)(x),$$

it is sufficient if we show that the partial sums of the series (3) and their derivatives converge uniformly on compact sets. For, let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $K \subset [a, b]$  for some real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ . Choose  $N$  such that  $b - n\alpha < \beta$ , for  $n \geq N$ . Let us take the partial sums of the series as

$$t_k(x) = g(x) + \sum_{m=1}^k (-1)^m (g \star v^m)(x).$$

For  $x \leq b$ ,  $x - z_i < x - n\alpha \leq b - n\alpha$ . Choose  $N$  such that  $b - n\alpha < \beta$  for  $n \geq N$ . Then

$$t_n^{(j)}(x) - t_m^{(j)}(x) = \sum_{k=m+1}^n (-1)^k (g^{(j)} \star v^k)(x) = 0,$$

for  $n \geq m \geq N$  and  $0 \leq j \leq r$ . This implies that the sequence  $\{t_n^{(j)}(x)\}$  is uniformly cauchy and hence converges uniformly on every compact set. Hence we get  $t_n^{(j)}(x) \rightarrow f^{(j)}(x)$ . Therefore  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$ . One easily verifies  $f \star (\delta_0 + v) = g$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** For  $\mu = \chi_{[a,b]}$  and  $g \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$ , the following hold: If  $\text{supp}(g) \subset (-\infty, \beta)$  or  $\text{supp}(g) \subset (\beta, \infty)$  for some  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star \mu = g$ .

**Proof.** Case(i): Suppose that  $\text{supp}(g) \subset (-\infty, \beta)$ .

We can write

$$f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = f \star \chi_{[\frac{a-b}{2}, \frac{b-a}{2}]} \star \delta_{\frac{a+b}{2}}.$$

Define

$$f_1(x) = - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( g' \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2n+1} \right) (x).$$

We show that the above series converges uniformly on compact sets. For, let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $K \subset [c, d]$  for some  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let us take

$$s_n(x) = - \sum_{k=0}^n \left( g' \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2k+1} \right) (x).$$

Then

$$s_n^{(j)}(x) = - \sum_{k=0}^n \left( g^{(j+1)} \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2k+1} \right) (x).$$

Now

$$g' \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2k+1}(x) = g' \left( x + (2k+1) \left( \frac{b-a}{2} \right) \right).$$

Choose  $N$  such that  $c + (2k+1) \left( \frac{b-a}{2} \right) > \beta$  for  $k \geq N$ . Then  $g^{(j+1)} \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2k+1}(x) = 0$  for  $k \geq N$  for all  $x \in K$ . Therefore  $s_n^{(j)}(x) - s_m^{(j)}(x) = 0$  for all  $n, m \geq N$ , for all  $x \in K$  and for  $0 \leq j \leq r$ . Hence  $s_n^{(j)}(x) \rightarrow f_1^{(j)}(x)$  uniformly on  $K$ .

Therefore  $f_1^{(j)}(x) = - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g^{(j+1)} \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2n+1}(x)$  and  $f_1 \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 \star \chi_{[\frac{a-b}{2}, \frac{b-a}{2}]} &= - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \left( g' \star \chi_{[\frac{a-b}{2}, \frac{b-a}{2}]} \right) \star \delta_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{2n+1} \right) (x) \\ &= - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{\frac{b-a}{2}} g \left( x + (2n+1) \left( \frac{b-a}{2} \right) - y \right) dy \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[ g \left( x + (2n+1) \left( \frac{b-a}{2} \right) - \frac{b-a}{2} \right) - g \left( x + (2n+1) \left( \frac{b-a}{2} \right) + \frac{b-a}{2} \right) \right] \\ &= g(x). \end{aligned}$$

Define  $f(x) = f_1 \star \delta_{-\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)}$ . One easily verifies  $f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = g$ .

Case(ii): Suppose that  $\text{supp}(g) \subset (\beta, \infty)$ . Now  $f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = f \star \chi_{[\frac{a-b}{2}, \frac{b-a}{2}]} \star \delta_{\frac{a+b}{2}}$ . Define  $f_1(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g' \star \delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2n+1}(x)$ . We show that the above series converges uniformly on compact sets. For, let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $K \subset [c, d]$  for some  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $s_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n g' \star \delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2k+1}(x)$ . Then  $s_n^{(j)}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n g^{(j+1)} \star \delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2k+1}(x)$ .

We can write

$$g \star \delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2k+1}(x) = g(x - (2k+1)(\frac{b-a}{2})).$$

Choose  $N$  such that  $c - (2k+1)(\frac{b-a}{2}) < \beta$  for  $k \geq N$ . Then  $g^{(j+1)}\delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2k+1}(x) = 0$  for  $k \geq N$  for all  $x \in K$ . Therefore  $s_n^{(j)}(x) - s_m^{(j)}(x) = 0$  for all  $n, m \geq N$ , for all  $x \in K$  and for  $0 \leq j \leq r$ . Hence  $s_n^{(j)}(x) \rightarrow f_1^{(j)}(x)$  uniformly on  $K$ .

Therefore  $f_1^j(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g^{(j+1)} \star \delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2n+1}(x)$ , and  $f_1 \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$ .

Now

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 \star \chi_{[\frac{a-b}{2}, \frac{b-a}{2}]} &= - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g' \star \chi_{[\frac{a-b}{2}, \frac{b-a}{2}]} \star \delta_{\frac{b-a}{2}}^{2n+1}(x) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\frac{a-b}{2}}^{\frac{b-a}{2}} g(x - (2n+1)(\frac{b-a}{2}) - y) dy \\ &= - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[ g\left(x - (2n+1)(\frac{b-a}{2}) - \frac{b-a}{2}\right) - g\left(x - (2n+1)(\frac{b-a}{2}) + \frac{b-a}{2}\right) \right] \\ &= g(x). \end{aligned}$$

Define  $f(x) = f_1 \star \delta_{-(\frac{a+b}{2})}$ . It is easy to check that  $f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = g$ . □

**Lemma 3.** Let  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \chi_{[a_i, b_i]}$  be a finite linear combination of indicator functions on intervals. If there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\frac{b_i - a_i}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then the following hold:

- (i) There exists  $g \in LST(\chi_{[a,b]})$  such that  $\mu = g$  almost everywhere for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (ii) There exists  $\nu \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ , such that  $\mu = \chi_{[a,b]} \star \nu$  a.e and  $f \star \mu = f \star \chi_{[a,b]} \star \nu$  for all  $f \in C(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Proof.** (i) Let  $\frac{b_i - a_i}{r} = m_i$ . Then  $\chi_{[a_i, b_i]} = \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \chi_{[a_i + (j-1)r, a_i + jr]}$  a.e. As the indicator functions  $\chi_{[a_i + (j-1)r, a_i + jr]}$  are translates of the indicator function on  $[0, r]$ , we have  $\chi_{[a_i + (j-1)r, a_i + jr]} \in LST(\chi_{[0,r]})$ . Hence  $g_i = \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \chi_{[a_i + (j-1)r, a_i + jr]} \in LST(\chi_{[0,r]})$ . Therefore  $g = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i g_i \in LST(\chi_{[0,r]})$  and hence  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \chi_{[a_i, b_i]} = g$  a.e.

(ii) In the above proof,

$$\begin{aligned} g_i &= \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \chi_{[a_i + (j-1)r, a_i + jr]} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \chi_{[0,r]} \star \delta_{a_i + (j-1)r} \\ &= \chi_{[0,r]} \star \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \delta_{a_i + (j-1)r} \right) \\ &= \chi_{[0,r]} \star \nu_i, \end{aligned}$$

where  $v_i = \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \delta_{a_i+(j-1)r} \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ . But  $g = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i g_i$  a.e. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} g &= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i g_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \chi_{[0,r]} \star c_i v_i \\ &= \chi_{[0,r]} \star \left( \sum_{i=1}^n c_i v_i \right) \\ &= \chi_{[0,r]} \star v, \end{aligned}$$

where  $v = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i v_i \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ . Since  $\mu = g$  a.e, we have  $\mu = \chi_{[0,r]} \star v$  a.e.

Also we have

$$f \star \chi_{[a_i,b_i]}(x) = \int_{a_i}^{b_i} f(x-y) dy = \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} \int_{a_i+(j-1)r}^{a_i+jr} f(x-y) dy = (f \star g_i)(x).$$

Therefore  $f \star \mu = f \star g = f \star \chi_{[0,r]} \star v$ . □

The first part of the following theorem is an extension of [4] and the second part is a simple extension of [14].

**Theorem 2.1.** (i) For every  $g \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  and every  $v \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$  with  $v \neq 0$  there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star v = g$ .

(ii) For every  $g \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$ , there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = g$ .

**Proof.** For  $\epsilon > 0$ , choose  $\phi_\epsilon \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $supp(\phi_\epsilon) \subset (-\epsilon, \epsilon)$  and  $\int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} \phi_\epsilon(x) dx = 1$ .

Define  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in C(\mathbb{R})$  by

$$\eta_1(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \leq -k \\ \frac{x+k}{2k} & \text{if } -k \leq x \leq k \\ 1 & \text{if } x \geq k \end{cases}$$

$$\eta_2(x) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \leq -k \\ \frac{k-x}{2k} & \text{if } -k \leq x \leq k \\ 0 & \text{if } x \geq k \end{cases}.$$

It is simple to check that  $\eta_1(x) + \eta_2(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Convolving both sides with  $\phi_\epsilon$ , we get  $(\eta_1 \star \phi_\epsilon)(x) + (\eta_2 \star \phi_\epsilon)(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Define

$$g_1(x) = g(x)(\eta_1 \star \phi_\epsilon)(x) \text{ and } g_2(x) = g(x)(\eta_2 \star \phi_\epsilon)(x).$$

Then  $g_1, g_2 \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $supp(g_1) \subset [-k - 2\epsilon, \infty)$  and  $supp(g_2) \subset (-\infty, k + 2\epsilon]$ . Also we have  $g_1 + g_2 = g$ .

(i) We show that  $f_1 \star \mu = g_1$  and  $f_2 \star \mu = g_2$  have solutions  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  respectively in  $C^r(\mathbb{R})$ . These  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are then used to construct a solution of the equation  $f \star \mu = g$ .

$$\text{Let } \mu = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \delta_{x_i}, \quad x_{i_0} = \text{Min}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \text{ and } x_{j_0} = \text{Max}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}.$$

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \delta_{x_i} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \delta_{x_i} \star \delta_{-x_{i_0}} \star \delta_{x_{i_0}} \\ &= \delta_{x_{i_0}} \star \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \delta_{x_i - x_{i_0}} \\ &= c_{i_0} \delta_{x_{i_0}} \star \left( \delta_0 + \sum_{i=1, i \neq i_0}^n \frac{c_i}{c_{i_0}} \delta_{x_i - x_{i_0}} \right) \\ &= c_{i_0} \delta_{x_{i_0}} \star (\delta_0 + \nu), \quad \text{where } \nu = \sum_{i=1, i \neq i_0}^n \frac{c_i}{c_{i_0}} \delta_{x_i - x_{i_0}}. \end{aligned}$$

Also we can write  $\mu$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \delta_{x_j} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \delta_{x_j} \star \delta_{-x_{j_0}} \star \delta_{x_{j_0}} \\ &= \delta_{x_{j_0}} \star \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \delta_{x_j - x_{j_0}} \\ &= c_{j_0} \delta_{x_{j_0}} \star \left( \delta_0 + \sum_{j=1, j \neq j_0}^n \frac{c_j}{c_{j_0}} \delta_{x_j - x_{j_0}} \right) \\ &= c_{j_0} \delta_{x_{j_0}} \star (\delta_0 + \psi), \quad \text{where } \psi = \sum_{j=1, j \neq j_0}^n \frac{c_j}{c_{j_0}} \delta_{x_j - x_{j_0}}. \end{aligned}$$

Define  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \min\{x_i - x_{i_0} / 1 \leq i \leq n, i \neq i_0\}$  and  $\beta = \frac{1}{2} \min\{x_{j_0} - x_j / 1 \leq j \leq n, j \neq j_0\}$ .

Then  $x_i - x_{i_0} > \alpha$ ,  $x_j - x_{j_0} < -\beta$ . Hence  $\text{supp}(\nu) \subset (\alpha, \infty)$  and  $\text{supp}(\psi) \subset (-\infty, -\beta)$ .

Using lemma 1, we get  $h_1, h_2 \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that

$$h_1 \star (\delta_0 + \nu) = g_1 \tag{4}$$

and

$$h_2 \star (\delta_0 + \psi) = g_2. \tag{5}$$

Convolving both sides of the equation (4) with  $c_{i_0} \delta_{x_{i_0}}$  and the equation (5) with  $c_{j_0} \delta_{x_{j_0}}$ , we get  $h_1 \star (\delta_0 + \nu) \star c_{i_0} \delta_{x_{i_0}} = c_{i_0} g_1 \star \delta_{x_{i_0}}$  and  $h_2 \star (\delta_0 + \psi) \star c_{j_0} \delta_{x_{j_0}} = c_{j_0} g_2 \star \delta_{x_{j_0}}$ . That is

$$h_1 \star \mu = c_{i_0} g_1 \star \delta_{x_{i_0}} \tag{6}$$



and

$$h_2 * \mu = c_{j_0} g_2 \star \delta_{x_{j_0}}. \tag{7}$$

Equations (6) and (7) imply  $(\frac{1}{c_{i_0}} h_1 \star \delta_{-x_{i_0}}) \star \mu = g_1$  and  $(\frac{1}{c_{j_0}} h_2 \star \delta_{-x_{j_0}}) \star \mu = g_2$ .

Define  $f = \frac{1}{c_{i_0}} h_1 \star \delta_{-x_{i_0}} + \frac{1}{c_{j_0}} h_2 \star \delta_{-x_{j_0}}$ . Then  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} f \star \mu &= (\frac{1}{c_{i_0}} h_1 \star \delta_{-x_{i_0}}) \star \mu + (\frac{1}{c_{j_0}} h_2 \star \delta_{-x_{j_0}}) \star \mu \\ &= g_1 + g_2 \\ &= g. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Using Lemma 2, we get  $f_1, f_2 \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f_1 \star \chi_{[a,b]} = g_1$  and  $f_2 \star \chi_{[a,b]} = g_2$ . Then  $f = f_1 + f_2 \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  will satisfy  $f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = g$ . □

**Theorem 2.2.** For  $g \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$ , the following hold:

- (i) For every  $\mu \in LST(\chi_{[a,b]})$  with  $\mu \neq 0$  a.e., there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star \mu = g$ .
- (ii) If there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\frac{b_i - a_i}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \chi_{[a_i, b_i]} \neq 0$  a.e., then there exists  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star \mu = g$ .

**Proof.** (i) By lemma 3, there exists  $\nu \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $\mu = \chi_{[a,b]} \star \nu$ . Applying Theorem 2.1, we get a  $h \in C^{r+1}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $h \star \nu = g$  and  $f \star \chi_{[a,b]} = h$ . It is simple to verify that  $f \star \mu = g$ .

(ii) Using Lemma 3, we can write  $\mu = \chi_{[a,b]} \star \nu$  a.e for some  $\nu \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ . As in previous part we obtain  $f \in C^r(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $f \star \mu = g$ . □

**Remark 1.** The operator  $T_\mu$  defined by  $T_\mu(f) = f \star \mu$  is 1-1 if we restrict the domain of  $T_\mu$  to the space of integrable functions  $L_1(\mathbb{R})$ . This can be seen as follows: Suppose  $f \star \mu = 0$  and  $f \in L_1(\mathbb{R})$ . Since  $f$  is integrable and  $\mu$  is compactly supported, the Fourier transforms of both  $f$  and  $\mu$  namely  $\hat{f}$  and  $\hat{\mu}$  are holomorphic on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Hence the corresponding zero sets  $z(\hat{f})$  and  $z(\hat{\mu})$  are of measure zero. Therefore we get  $f = 0$  a.e.

**Remark 2.** When  $\mu \in LST(\chi_{[a,b]})$  or  $\mu = g$  a.e for some  $g \in LST(\chi_{[a,b]})$ , the kernel of the operator  $T_\mu$  is a nontrivial subspace of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ . For, since  $\mu$  can be written as  $\mu = \chi_{[0,r]} \star \nu$  for some  $\nu \in M_{cd}(\mathbb{R})$ . This implies that  $\lambda = \frac{2n\pi}{r} \in z(\hat{\mu})$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore  $e^{i\lambda x} \in Ker(T_\mu)$ . Hence there are infinitely many solutions to the convolution equation  $f \star \mu = g$ .

**Remark 3.** Theorem 2.2 is possible even if  $g \in L_1(\mathbb{R})$  with  $\hat{g}(\lambda) \neq 0$  and the Fourier-Laplace transform  $\hat{\mu}(\lambda) = 0$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

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Department of Mathematics, College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University Chennai, India, PIN 600 025.

E-mail: [devaraj@annauniv.edu](mailto:devaraj@annauniv.edu)