

On the range of the derivative of a real-valued function with bounded support

by

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Abstract. We study the set $f'(X) = \{f'(x) : x \in X\}$ when $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a differentiable bump. We first prove that for any C^2 -smooth bump $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ the range of the derivative of f must be the closure of its interior. Next we show that if X is an infinite-dimensional separable Banach space with a C^p -smooth bump $b : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\|b^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite, then any connected open subset of X^* containing 0 is the range of the derivative of a C^p -smooth bump. We also study the finite-dimensional case which is quite different. Finally, we show that in infinite-dimensional separable smooth Banach spaces, every analytic subset of X^* which satisfies a natural linkage condition is the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump. We then find an analogue of this condition in the finite-dimensional case.

1. Introduction. A bump is a function from a Banach space X to \mathbb{R} with a bounded nonempty support. In this paper we study the set $f'(X) = \{f'(x) : x \in X\}$, which is the range of the derivative of f , when f is a Fréchet differentiable bump. More precisely we will try to find necessary or sufficient conditions for a subset A of X^* to be the range of the derivative of a bump.

D. Azagra and M. Jiménez-Sevilla proved in [2] that Rolle's theorem fails in infinite dimensions. As a consequence, they deduce that there is a C^1 -smooth Lipschitz bump on l_2 such that the range of its derivative has an empty interior. However it can be shown by using Ekeland's Variational Principle ([4]) that $0 \in \text{int}(\overline{f'(X)})$ even if f is only Gateaux differentiable. Thus, if f is a C^1 -smooth bump on \mathbb{R}^n , then $f'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is a compact neighbourhood of 0.

Let us introduce some notations. The symbol \mathbb{N} means the set $\{1, 2, \dots\}$. We write $B(x, r)$ for the closed ball of centre x and radius r , and $S(x, r)$ for the sphere of centre x and radius r . Sometimes B_X is used for $B(0, 1)$. For a function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the *support* of f is $\text{supp}(f) = \{x \in X : f(x) \neq 0\}$. As said before, f is called a *bump* if its support is nonempty and bounded. Recall that a function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be *Fréchet differentiable* at

$x_0 \in X$ if there exists $f'(x_0)$ in X^* such that

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + y) - f(x_0) - f'(x_0)(y)}{\|y\|} = 0.$$

$f'(x_0)$ is then called the *derivative* of f at x_0 . The set $f'(X) = \{f'(x) : x \in X\}$ is the range of the derivative of f . We will be concerned only with Fréchet differentiability.

Let us recall some notations for multiindices. The symbol $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ stands for the set of finite sequences of natural numbers. If $\sigma = (q_1, \dots, q_k) \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, then k is called the *length* of σ and we write $k = |\sigma|$. If $k \geq 2$ we define $\sigma_- = (q_1, \dots, q_{k-1})$. For $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, $\sigma(j) = q_j$ and $\sigma|_j = (\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(j))$. For $\tau = (r_1, \dots, r_m) \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, $\sigma \hat{\ } \tau = (q_1, \dots, q_k, r_1, \dots, r_m)$. The symbol $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ denotes the set of infinite sequences of natural numbers. For $\sigma = (q_j)_{j \geq 1} \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $j \in \mathbb{N}$, $\sigma(j) = q_j$ and $\sigma|_j = (\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(j))$.

Now we describe our main results and the organization of the paper.

The goal in Section 2 is to try to answer the following question of [3]: If $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a C^1 -smooth bump, is $f'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ equal to the closure of its interior? We give a partial answer when $n = 2$ and f is C^2 -smooth in Theorem 2.1. Notice that in infinite dimensions, $f'(X)$ has no reason to be closed and $\text{int}(f'(X))$ can be empty (see [5]).

Section 3 is devoted to finding sufficient conditions for a connected open set to be the range of the derivative of a bump. We recall that $f'(X)$ is connected if f is a Fréchet differentiable bump. This extension of Darboux's theorem is proved by J. Malý in [7]. However $f'(X)$ is not always simply connected (see [3]). In finite dimensions we prove that any connected open subset of \mathbb{R}^n containing 0 is the range of the derivative of a Fréchet differentiable bump (Theorem 3.1). We then extend this result to the case when X is an infinite-dimensional separable Banach space with a C^p -smooth bump $b : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\|b^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite (Theorem 3.6).

In Section 4, we find a sufficient condition for an analytic subset of X^* to be the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump when X^* is separable (Proposition 4.2). We then exhibit analytic sets, neither closed nor open, which are the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump (Theorem 4.4). We obtain an analogue of Proposition 4.2 in finite dimensions in Theorem 4.6. Finally, we study the relationship between Theorem 4.6 and a result of [3].

2. The range of the derivative of a C^n -bump. In this section we focus on the case $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ with $n \geq 2$. Our main result is

THEOREM 2.1. *Let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^2 -smooth bump. Then $f'(\mathbb{R}^2)$ is equal to the closure of its interior.*

Before proceeding with the proof of this result we recall that the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump on \mathbb{R}^n is a connected compact neighbourhood of the origin. We now show other properties which, applied to the case $n = 2$, will allow us to prove Theorem 2.1.

PROPOSITION 2.2. *Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^n -smooth function. If $f' = 0$ on a compact connected set K , then f is constant on K .*

Proof. If \mathcal{C} is the set of critical points of f , Sard's Theorem shows that $f(\mathcal{C})$ is of Lebesgue measure 0. Since K is a compact connected subset of \mathcal{C} , $f(K)$ is a compact interval of \mathbb{R} of measure 0, and hence a single point. ■

We need a result on connectedness.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let C be a connected compact subset of \mathbb{R}^n and G the unbounded connected component of $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$. Then ∂G , the boundary of G , is connected.*

This follows from [6, §52.III.6 and §52.I.9].

PROPOSITION 2.4. *Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^n -smooth bump and $z \in \partial(f'(\mathbb{R}^n))$. Then $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(z)$ is connected.*

Proof. Assume that $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(z)$ is not connected. Since $z \neq 0$, $f'^{-1}(z)$ is bounded and thus $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(z)$ has a bounded nonempty connected component, which we call B . If we denote by G the unbounded connected component of $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{B}$, Lemma 2.3 asserts that ∂G is connected. We put $g(x) = f(x) - \langle z, x \rangle$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Since $\partial G \subset \partial B$ (see [6, §44.III.3]), $g'(x) = 0$ for all x in ∂G . Proposition 2.2 implies that g is constant, equal to some C on ∂G . We define $h(x) = 0$ if $x \in G$ and $h(x) = g(x) - C$ if $x \notin G$. Then $\text{supp } h$ is bounded and nonempty, since $h'(x) = f'(x) - z \neq 0$ if $x \in B$. Clearly h is C^1 , so h is a C^1 -smooth bump, and hence $0 \in \text{int}(h'(\mathbb{R}^n))$. But $h'(\mathbb{R}^n) \subset f'(\mathbb{R}^n) - z$, so $z \in \text{int}(f'(\mathbb{R}^n))$. This contradicts the fact that $z \in \partial(f'(\mathbb{R}^n))$. ■

PROPOSITION 2.5. *Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^n -smooth bump. Then $f'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ cannot be the union of compact sets A and B such that $0 \notin B \not\subset A$ and $A \cap B$ is a totally disconnected subset of $\partial(f'(\mathbb{R}^n))$.*

Proof. We suppose that $f'(\mathbb{R}^n) = A \cup B$ with A and B as in the statement. Let $K = f'^{-1}(B)$. Then K is compact, since B is closed and $0 \notin B$. Let $x_0 \in K$ be so that $f'(x_0) \notin A \cap B$. We denote by C the connected component of x_0 in K and by G the unbounded connected component of $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$. Then $\partial G \subset \partial C \subset \partial K$ ([6, §44.III.3]) and ∂G is connected (Lemma 2.3). Thus $f'(\partial G)$ is a connected subset of $A \cap B$ and hence $f'(\partial G)$ is a single point, called y . Proposition 2.4 asserts that $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(y)$ is connected. Recall that $0 \notin B$, hence $y \neq 0$ and $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(y)$ is unbounded. Since $f'(x_0) \notin A \cap B$, $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(y)$. So it is possible to join x_0 to infinity with a continuous

path staying in $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus f'^{-1}(y)$. This is absurd, because such a path must cross ∂G which is included in $f'^{-1}(y)$. ■

COROLLARY 2.6. *Let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^2 -smooth bump. Let $y \in f'(\mathbb{R}^2)$. Then there is $\alpha > 0$ such that for all $0 < \varepsilon < \alpha$, the set $f'(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap S(y, \varepsilon)$ contains a nontrivial arc of a circle.*

Proof. Let $y \in f'(\mathbb{R}^2)$. If $y = 0$ the conclusion is obvious. If $y \neq 0$, let $\varepsilon \in]0, \|y\|/2[$. If $S(y, \varepsilon) \cap \text{int}(f'(\mathbb{R}^2)) \neq \emptyset$ the result follows. Otherwise, $S(y, \varepsilon) \cap f'(\mathbb{R}^2) \subset \partial(f'(\mathbb{R}^2))$. We define $A = f'(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap \{z : \|z - y\| \geq \varepsilon\}$ and $B = f'(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap \{z : \|z - y\| \leq \varepsilon\}$. The sets A and B are both compact, $0 \notin B$ and $y \in B \setminus A$. By Proposition 2.5, $f'(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap S(y, \varepsilon) = A \cap B$ cannot be a totally disconnected subset of $\partial(f'(\mathbb{R}^2))$. So $f'(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap S(y, \varepsilon)$ has a nontrivial connected component. It is easy to see that a closed connected subset of $S(y, \varepsilon)$ is an arc. ■

Proof of Theorem 2.1. We set $K = f'(\mathbb{R}^2)$. As K is closed, $\overline{\text{int } K} \subset K$. To show the other inclusion, let $y \in K$. For our f and y we find $\alpha > 0$ by Corollary 2.6. We fix $0 < \beta < \alpha$. For $q \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k \in \{1, \dots, 2q\}$ we define

$$U_k(q) = \{y + t(\cos \theta, \sin \theta) : t \in [0, \beta], \theta \in [(k-1)\pi/q, k\pi/q]\},$$

$$F_{q,k} = \{\varepsilon \in [0, \beta] : U_k(q) \cap S(y, \varepsilon) \subset K\}.$$

Thanks to Corollary 2.6,

$$[0, \beta] = \bigcup_{q \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{k=1}^{2q} F_{q,k}.$$

Furthermore each $F_{q,k}$ is closed. Indeed, let $(\varepsilon_j)_j$ be a sequence in $F_{q,k}$ which has a limit ε . Then $\varepsilon \in [0, \beta]$. Let $z \in U_k(q) \cap S(y, \varepsilon)$ and $\theta \in [(k-1)\pi/q, k\pi/q]$ so that $z = y + \varepsilon(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$. Then $z_j = y + \varepsilon_j(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$ is a sequence in K which converges to z . Thus $z \in K$ and $U_k(q) \cap S(y, \varepsilon) \subset K$. So $\varepsilon \in F_{q,k}$ and $F_{q,k}$ is closed.

By Baire's theorem, there are $q_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k_0 \in \{1, \dots, 2q_0\}$ such that F_{q_0, k_0} has a nonempty interior. Thus

$$U_{k_0}(q_0) \cap \{y + t(\cos \theta, \sin \theta) : t \in \text{int } F_{q_0, k_0}, \theta \in [0, 2\pi]\}$$

is an open subset of $K \cap B(y, \beta)$. Since β can be taken arbitrarily small, $y \in \overline{\text{int } K}$. ■

3. Connected open subsets of X^* and ranges of derivative. First we study the finite-dimensional case. Our main result is

THEOREM 3.1. *Let U be a connected open subset of \mathbb{R}^n containing 0. Then there is a differentiable bump $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f'(\mathbb{R}^n) = U$.*

We first recall some tools introduced in [3].

DEFINITION 3.2. Let $(y, a) \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^2$ and $0 < \varepsilon < \|y\|$. We define

$$D_\varepsilon(y) = \{(1-t)u + \sqrt{t}y : t \in [0, 1], \|u\| \leq \varepsilon\}.$$

The set $T(a, y, \varepsilon) = a + D_\varepsilon(y - a)$ is called the *drop* with centre a , vertex y , and thickness ε .

We also introduce the notion of stationary images.

DEFINITION 3.3. Let $g : X \rightarrow Y$ be a mapping and $y \in Y$. We call y a *stationary image* of g if there is a nonempty open subset Ω of X such that $g(\Omega) = \{y\}$.

The following lemma is proved in [3].

LEMMA 3.4. For every $y \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ and every $0 < \varepsilon < \|y\|$ there exists a C^1 -smooth bump $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $g'(\mathbb{R}^n) = D_\varepsilon(y)$ and y is a stationary image of g' .

LEMMA 3.5. Let $q \in \mathbb{N}$ and T_1, \dots, T_q be drops with $T_i = T(a_i, y_i, \varepsilon_i)$, $a_{i+1} = y_i$ for all i in $\{1, \dots, q-1\}$ and $a_1 = 0$. Then there exists a C^1 -smooth bump $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$g'(\mathbb{R}^n) = T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_q.$$

Proof. The proof is a simple induction. We want to show that the following holds for every $q \in \mathbb{N}$: “For every T_1, \dots, T_q as in the lemma there is a C^1 -smooth bump g such that $g'(\mathbb{R}^n) = T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_q$ and y_q is a stationary image of g' ”.

If $q = 1$ this is Lemma 3.4. Suppose that the property is true for some $q \geq 1$. Consider a finite set T_1, \dots, T_{q+1} of drops with $T_i = T(a_i, y_i, \varepsilon_i)$, $a_1 = 0$, $a_{i+1} = y_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq q$. There are a C^1 -smooth bump $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $x_0 \in X$ and $r > 0$ such that $g'(\mathbb{R}^n) = \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq q} T_i$ and $g'(x) = y_q$ for all x in $B(x_0, r)$. We apply Lemma 3.4 with the drop $T_{q+1} - a_{q+1} = T(0, y_{q+1} - y_q, \varepsilon_{q+1})$. It gives a C^1 -smooth bump h so that $h'(\mathbb{R}^n) = T_{q+1} - y_q$ and $y_{q+1} - y_q$ is a stationary image of h' . Let M be large enough to ensure that $\text{supp}(h) \subset B(0, M)$. Define $b(x) = g(x) + (2M)^{-1}rh(2Mr^{-1}(x - x_0))$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The function b is a C^1 -smooth bump, y_{q+1} is a stationary image of b' , and

$$b'(\mathbb{R}^n) = g'(\mathbb{R}^n) \cup (y_q + h'(\mathbb{R}^n)) = \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq q+1} T_i. \blacksquare$$

Now we can prove Theorem 3.1. The idea is the following: Lemma 3.5 allows us to write any finite union of drops as the range of the derivative of a smooth bump. We cover U by a countable sequence of such sets. We show that the bumps can be taken in such a way that the series is convergent, differentiable, and that the range of its derivative is U .

Proof of Theorem 3.1.

STEP 1: U is covered by a countable sequence of good finite unions of drops.

Consider the following set:

$W = \{y \in U : \text{there are } q \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } q \text{ drops}$

$$T_1 = T(a_1, y_1, \varepsilon_1), \dots, T_q = T(a_q, y_q, \varepsilon_q) \text{ in } U \text{ such that} \\ a_1 = 0, y_q = y \text{ and } a_{i+1} = y_i \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq q-1\}.$$

We are going to show that $W = U$. Since U is connected, it is sufficient to prove that W is a closed open nonempty subset of U . Of course $0 \in W$, so $W \neq \emptyset$. Let $y \in W$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ with $B(y, \varepsilon) \subset U$. If $z \in B(y, \varepsilon/2)$, then $T(y, z, \|z - y\|/10) \subset U$, so $z \in W$ and W is open. We take a sequence $(z_k)_k$ in W which has a limit z in U . There is $\varepsilon > 0$ with $B(z, 2\varepsilon) \subset U$. Find $k > 0$ so that $z_k \in B(z, \varepsilon)$. Then $T(z_k, z, \|z - z_k\|/10) \subset U$, thus $z \in W$. Therefore W is a closed subset of U . Hence $W = U$.

If $y \in U = W$, there exist q drops $T_1 = T(a_1, y_1, \varepsilon_1), \dots, T_q = T(a_q, y_q, \varepsilon_q)$ in U such that $a_1 = 0, y_q = y$ and $a_{i+1} = y_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq q-1$. We take $\varepsilon_y > 0$ such that $B(y, 2\varepsilon_y) \subset U$ and w_y in $B(y, \varepsilon_y)$. We define $P_y = T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_q \cup T(y, w_y, \|w_y - y\|/10)$. Then

$$U = \bigcup_{y \in U} \text{int } P_y.$$

By Lindelöf's theorem ([8]), there exists a countable sequence $(y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ in U such that

$$U = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \text{int } P_{y_k}.$$

STEP 2: *There is a differentiable bump f such that each P_{y_k} is in $f'(\mathbb{R}^n)$.*

According to Lemma 3.5, for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, there is a C^1 -smooth bump f_k with $f'_k(\mathbb{R}^n) = P_{y_k}$. After a possible homothety we can suppose that $\|f_k\|_\infty \leq 1$. Let $M_k \geq 1$ be such that $\text{supp}(f_k) \subset B(0, M_k)$. We define

$$x_k = (2^{-1} + \dots + 2^{-k}, 0, \dots, 0), \quad b_k(x) = 8^{-k} M_k^{-1} f_k(8^k M_k(x - x_k)).$$

Then $b'_k(\mathbb{R}^n) = P_{y_k}$ and $\text{supp}(b_k) \subset B(x_k, 8^{-k}) = S_k$. If $k \neq j$, then $S_k \cap S_j = \emptyset$ and $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} S_k \subset B(0, 2)$. We denote by x_∞ the point $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$. The function

$$f = \sum_{k \geq 1} b_k$$

is obviously C^1 on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{x_\infty\}$. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $k \geq 1$. If $x \notin S_k$, then $b_k(x) = 0$. If $x \in S_k$, then $|b_k(x)| \leq 8^{-k} M_k^{-1} \|f_k\|_\infty \leq 8^{-k}$ and $\|x - x_\infty\| \geq$

$1 - ((2^{-1} + \dots + 2^{-k}) + 8^{-k}) \geq 2^{-k-1}$. Thus $|b_k(x)| \leq 4\|x - x_\infty\|^2$ and

$$\frac{|f(x) - f(x_\infty)|}{\|x - x_\infty\|} \leq \frac{\sup_k |b_k(x)|}{\|x - x_\infty\|} \leq 4\|x - x_\infty\|,$$

so f is differentiable at x_∞ and $f'(x_\infty) = 0$. Therefore f is a differentiable bump on \mathbb{R}^n and

$$f'(\mathbb{R}^n) = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} P_{y_k} = U. \blacksquare$$

We remark that f is not C^1 -smooth because if it were, U would be closed. f is nevertheless C^1 -smooth on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{x_\infty\}$.

We now obtain similar results in infinite dimensions. Our main result is

THEOREM 3.6. *Let X be an infinite-dimensional Banach space with a separable dual. Let $p \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that there exists a C^p -smooth bump $b : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $\|b^{(p)}\|_\infty$ finite. Let U be a connected open subset of X^* containing 0. Then there is a C^p -smooth bump $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f'(X) = U$.*

Until the end of this section, X is as in Theorem 3.6. Notice that the separability of X^* implies that there exists indeed $p \geq 1$ and a C^p -smooth bump $b : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\|b^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite ([4, p. 58]). We remark that the mean value theorem implies that $\|b^{(j)}\|_\infty$ is finite for all j in $\{0, \dots, p\}$. In [1], it was proved that there is a C^1 -smooth bump such that the range of its derivative is equal to X^* . Theorem 3.6 is an improvement of this result. We now establish results which will be used to prove Theorem 3.6.

LEMMA 3.7. *There is a C^p -smooth bump $F : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $B_{X^*} \subset F'(X)$ and $\|F^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite.*

Proof.

STEP 1: *There is a C^p -smooth bump f so that $f(x) = 1$ for all $x \in 2B_X$ and $\|f^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite.*

After maybe a translation and multiplication by -1 , we can suppose $b(0) > 0$. We take a C^∞ -smooth bump $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 \leq \varphi \leq 1$, $\varphi(t) = 1$ if $t \in [2^{-1}b(0), 2^{-1}3b(0)]$, and $\varphi(0) < 1$. By the continuity of b there is $\delta > 0$ such that $b(x) \in [2^{-1}b(0), 2^{-1}3b(0)]$ if $x \in \delta B_X$. We put $f(x) = (1 - \varphi(0))^{-1}(\varphi(b(\delta x/2)) - \varphi(0))$ and the result follows.

STEP 2: *There is a C^p -smooth bump f_0 such that the stationary images of f'_0 are dense in B_{X^*} and $\|f_0^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite.*

Since X^* is separable, there is a dense sequence $(y_k^*)_{k \geq 1}$ in B_{X^*} . Let $M > 1$ be so large that $\text{supp}(f) \subset MB_X$ and $\|f^{(j)}\|_\infty < M$ for all j in $\{0, \dots, p\}$. Fix now a sequence $(x_k)_{k \geq 1}$ in X so that $\|x_k - x_q\| \geq 2M + 1 > 3$

if $k \neq q$ and $\|x_k\| < 4M + 3$. We define

$$f_0(x) = \sum_{k \geq 1} \langle y_k^*, x \rangle f(x - x_k),$$

which is a sum of C^p -smooth functions with separated supports. Thus f_0 is C^p -smooth, $\text{supp}(f_0) \subset (5M + 3)B_X$ and $f_0'(x) = y_k^*$ if $x \in B(x_k, 1)$. If $x \in \text{supp}(f_0)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_0^{(p)}(x)\| &\leq \sup_{k \geq 1} \{ \|y_k^*\| \cdot \|x\| \cdot \|f^{(p)}(x - x_k)\| + p \|y_k^*\| \cdot \|f^{(p-1)}(x - x_k)\| \} \\ &\leq (5M + 3)M + pM = (5M + 3 + p)M. \end{aligned}$$

STEP 3: We construct a sequence $(f_j)_{j \geq 1}$ of C^p -smooth bump functions.

We set $L = 5M + 3$. Then $L \geq 8$, $\text{supp}(f_0) \subset LB_X$ and $\|x_k\| < L - 1$ for all $k \geq 1$. For $j \geq 0$ we define

$$f_{j+1}(x) = \sum_{k \geq 1} L^{-p-1} f_j(L(x - x_k)).$$

For $\sigma = (k_1, \dots, k_j) \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ we put

$$S(\sigma) = B(x_{k_1} + L^{-1}x_{k_2} + \dots + L^{-j+1}x_{k_j}, L^{-j+1})$$

and we prove that

$$\begin{cases} S(\sigma \hat{k}) \subset S(\sigma) \text{ for all } \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \text{ and } k \in \mathbb{N}. \\ \text{For all } \sigma, \tau \text{ in } \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}, |\sigma| = |\tau| \text{ and } \sigma \neq \tau \Rightarrow S(\sigma) \cap S(\tau) = \emptyset. \end{cases}$$

For $j \geq 1$ we denote by $\mathcal{P}(j)$ the following statement:

$$\begin{cases} \text{supp}(f_j) \subset \bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^j} S(\sigma) \text{ and } f_j \text{ is } C^p\text{-smooth}. \\ \text{For all } \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^j \text{ and } k \in \mathbb{N}, x \in S(\sigma \hat{k}) \Rightarrow f_j'(x) = L^{-jp} y_k^*. \end{cases}$$

We have $\text{supp}(f_1) \subset \bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathbb{N}} S(\sigma)$. Let $x \in \text{supp}(f_1)$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}$ so that $x \in S(\sigma)$. If z is in a small neighbourhood of x , then $f_1(z) = L^{-p-1} f_0(L(z - x_\sigma))$. Therefore f_1 is C^p -smooth. Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $x \in S(\sigma \hat{k})$. We have $S(\sigma \hat{k}) \subset S(\sigma)$ so $f_1(z) = L^{-p-1} f_0(L(z - x_\sigma))$ in a neighbourhood of x . Thus $f_1'(x) = L^{-p} f_0'(L(x - x_\sigma)) = L^{-p} y_k^*$, since $L(x - x_\sigma) \in B(x_k, 1)$. Consequently, $\mathcal{P}(1)$ holds.

Let $j \geq 1$ and suppose that $\mathcal{P}(j)$ holds. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{supp}(f_{j+1}) &\subset \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \text{supp}(x \mapsto f_j(L(x - x_k))) \subset \bigcup_{k \geq 1} (x_k + L^{-1} \text{supp}(f_j)) \\ &\subset \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^j} S(k \hat{\sigma}) \subset \bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{j+1}} S(\sigma). \end{aligned}$$

Let $x \in \text{supp}(f_{j+1})$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{j+1}$ be such that $x \in S(\sigma)$. Clearly $f_{j+1}(z) = L^{-p-1} f_j(L(z - x_{\sigma(1)}))$ in a neighbourhood of x , so f_{j+1} is C^p -smooth. Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{j+1}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $x \in S(\sigma \hat{k})$. In a neighbourhood of x , $f_{j+1}(z) =$

$L^{-p-1}f_j(L(z - x_{\sigma(1)}))$. Thus $f'_{j+1}(x) = L^{-p}f'_j(L(x - x_{\sigma(1)})) = L^{-(j+1)p}y_k^*$, since $L(x - x_{\sigma(1)}) \in S(\sigma(2), \dots, \sigma(j+1), k)$. Finally, $\mathcal{P}(j+1)$ holds.

STEP 4: $F = \sum_{j \geq 0} f_j$ is a C^p -smooth function and $\|F^{(p)}\|_\infty$ is finite.

For all $j \geq 0$, $\|f_{j+1}\|_\infty \leq L^{-p-1}\|f_j\|_\infty$. Thus the series of the $\|f_j\|_\infty$ is convergent. This proves the existence of F and its continuity. For $j \geq 1$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^j$, $S(\sigma) \subset S(\sigma(1)) \subset LB_X$. Thus $\text{supp}(f_j) \subset LB_x$ for all $j \geq 0$ and hence F has a bounded support. If $m \in \{0, \dots, p\}$, then $\|f_{j+1}^{(m)}\|_\infty \leq L^{m-p-1}\|f_j^{(m)}\|_\infty \leq L^{-1}\|f_j^{(m)}\|_\infty$, so $\sum_{j \geq 0} \|f_j^{(m)}\|_\infty < \infty$. Therefore F is a C^p -smooth function and $\|F^{(m)}\|_\infty$ is finite for all $0 \leq m \leq p$.

STEP 5: Any point in B_{X^*} is in the range of the derivative of F .

Fix z^* in B_{X^*} . There exists $k_1 \geq 1$ such that $\|z^* - y_{k_1}^*\| \leq L^{-p}$. Then $L^p(z^* - y_{k_1}^*)$ is in B_{X^*} , so there is $k_2 \geq 1$ such that $\|L^p(z^* - y_{k_1}^*) - y_{k_2}^*\| \leq L^{-p}$. Thus $\|z^* - (y_{k_1}^* + L^{-p}y_{k_2}^*)\| \leq L^{-2p}$. We construct inductively a sequence $\sigma = (k_j)_{j \geq 1} \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $\|z^* - (y_{\sigma(1)}^* + L^{-p}y_{\sigma(2)}^* + \dots + L^{-(j-1)p}y_{\sigma(j)}^*)\| \leq L^{-jp}$ for all $j \geq 1$. Then

$$z^* = \sum_{j \geq 0} L^{-jp}y_{\sigma(j+1)}^*.$$

For $q \geq 1$ we define $z_q^* = \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} L^{-jp}y_{\sigma(j+1)}^*$ and $F_q = \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} f_j$. Let $w = \sum_{j \geq 0} L^{-j}x_{\sigma(j+1)}$ and $w_q = \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} L^{-j}x_{\sigma(j+1)}$. For all $j \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$, $w_q \in S(\sigma|_{j+1})$ so $f'_j(w_q) = L^{-jp}y_{\sigma(j+1)}^*$. Thus $F'_q(w_q) = z_q^*$. The sequence $(F'_q)_q$ is uniformly convergent, $(w_q)_q$ converges to w and $(z_q^*)_q$ converges to z^* , so $F'(w) = z^*$. ■

The next result provides the existence of plateau functions.

LEMMA 3.8. *There is a C^p -smooth bump $b : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that*

$$b(X) \subset [0, 1], \quad b(x) = 1 \quad \text{if } \|x\| \leq 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \|b'\|_\infty \leq 1.$$

Proof. Let $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^∞ -smooth function so that $\varphi(t) = 0$ if $t \leq 0$, $0 \leq \varphi \leq 1$, $\varphi(t) = 1$ if $t \geq 2$, and $|\varphi'(t)| \leq 1$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $b_0 : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^p -smooth bump with $b_0(0) > 2$ and $\|b_0^{(p)}\|_\infty < \infty$. We define $b(x) = b_0(rx)$ with $r > 0$ small enough to have $b(x) \geq 2$ if $\|x\| \leq 2$, and $\|b'\|_\infty \leq 1$. Then the function given by $F(x) = \varphi(b(x))$ satisfies the conditions of the lemma. ■

LEMMA 3.9. *There is a constant K such that for all y^* in X^* , there are a C^p -smooth bump $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and a real number $a > 0$ such that*

$$y^* + aB_{X^*} \subset f'(X) \subset K\|y^*\|B_{X^*} \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) = y^* \quad \text{if } \|x\| \leq 1.$$

Proof. Let b be the C^p -smooth bump given by Lemma 3.8 and G the C^p -smooth bump given by Lemma 3.7. There is an $A > 1$ such that $B_{X^*} \subset G'(X) \subset AB_{X^*}$, $\text{supp}(G) \subset AB_X$ and $\text{supp}(b) \subset AB_X$. We put $F(x) = A^{-2}\|y^*\|G(Ax)$. Then $A^{-1}\|y^*\|B_{X^*} \subset F'(X) \subset \|y^*\|B_{X^*}$ and $\text{supp}(F) \subset B_X$. We now fix a point $x_0 \in X$ with $\|x_0\| = 3/2$ and we define

$$f(x) = 2y^*(x/2 - x_0)b(x/2 - x_0) + 2F(x/2 - x_0).$$

Then $\text{supp}(f) \subset (2A + 3)B_X$. We set $K = 2A + 8$ and $a = A^{-1}\|y^*\|$. We remark that K is independent of y^* . It is clear that K and f satisfy the conditions of the lemma. ■

In what follows, K is the constant given by Lemma 3.9.

LEMMA 3.10. *Let U be a connected open subset of X^* . Let $y^* \in U$ be such that there are $q \geq 1$ and a sequence y_0^*, \dots, y_q^* of points of U with $y_0^* = 0$, $y_q^* = y^*$ and $B(y_i^*, K\|y_{i+1}^* - y_i^*\|) \subset U$ for all $i \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$. Then there exist a C^p -smooth bump $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\delta > 0$ such that*

$$y^* \in \text{int}(f'(X)), \quad f'(X) \subset U \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) = y^* \quad \text{if} \quad \|x\| \leq \delta.$$

Proof (by induction). The case $q = 1$ is immediate from Lemma 3.9. We fix $q \geq 2$ and suppose that the property is true for $q-1$. Let y_0^*, \dots, y_q^* satisfy the hypotheses. By the induction hypothesis we have a C^p -smooth bump g and $\alpha > 0$ such that $y_{q-1}^* \in \text{int}(g'(X))$, $g'(X) \subset U$ and $g'(x) = y_{q-1}^*$ for all $x \in \alpha B_X$. Furthermore Lemma 3.9 gives a C^p -smooth bump h such that $y_q^* - y_{q-1}^* \in \text{int}(h'(X))$, $h'(X) \subset K\|y_q^* - y_{q-1}^*\|B_{X^*}$ and $h'(x) = y_q^* - y_{q-1}^*$ for all $x \in B_X$. We take $L \geq 1$ large enough to have $\text{supp}(h) \subset LB_X$ and we define

$$f(x) = g(x) + L^{-1}\alpha h(\alpha^{-1}Lx).$$

Then $y_q^* \in \text{int}(f'(X))$, $f'(X) \subset g'(X) \cup (y_{q-1}^* + h'(X)) \subset U$ and $f'(x) = y_q^*$ if $\|x\| \leq L^{-1}\alpha$. ■

We are now able to prove Theorem 3.6.

Proof of Theorem 3.6.

STEP 1: *Each point y^* in U satisfies the condition of Lemma 3.10.*

Define

$\mathcal{A} = \{y^* \in U : \exists q \in \mathbb{N}, \exists (y_0^* = 0, y_1^*, \dots, y_q^* = y^*) \in U^{q+1} \text{ so that}$

$$B(y_i^*, K\|y_{i+1}^* - y_i^*\|) \subset U \text{ for all } i \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}\}.$$

We are going to prove that $\mathcal{A} = U$. Since $0 \in \mathcal{A}$, \mathcal{A} is not empty. Clearly \mathcal{A} is an open subset of U . Let $(y_k^*)_k$ be a sequence in \mathcal{A} which has a limit y^* in U . There is $\alpha > 0$ such that $B(y^*, 2\alpha) \subset U$. If k_0 is large enough, then $y_{k_0}^* \in B(y^*, K^{-1}\alpha)$. Thus $B(y_{k_0}^*, K\|y^* - y_{k_0}^*\|) \subset U$ and hence $y^* \in \mathcal{A}$. Therefore \mathcal{A} is a closed subset of U . Since U is connected, $\mathcal{A} = U$.

STEP 2: *There is a sequence $(f_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of C^p -smooth bumps with $U = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} f'_k(X)$.*

If $y^* \in U$, then $y^* \in \mathcal{A}$ so Lemma 3.10 can be applied. We let f_{y^*} be the function given by Lemma 3.10. We have

$$U = \bigcup_{y^* \in U} \text{int}(f'_{y^*}(X)).$$

As X^* is separable, we can apply Lindelöf's theorem ([8]): There is a countable sequence $(y_k^*)_k$ in U such that

$$U = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \text{int}(f'_{y_k^*}(X)) \quad \text{and therefore} \quad U = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} f'_{y_k^*}(X).$$

We put $f_k = f_{y_k^*}$.

STEP 3: *There is a C^p -smooth bump f such that $U = f'(X)$.*

After possible homotheties we can suppose that $\text{supp}(f_k) \subset B_X$ for all $k \geq 1$. Since X is infinite-dimensional, there exists a sequence $(x_k)_{k \geq 1}$ in X such that $\|x_k\| < 7$ for every $k \geq 1$ and $\|x_k - x_q\| > 3$ if $q \neq k$. We define

$$f(x) = \sum_{k \geq 1} f_k(x - x_k).$$

If $\|x - x_k\| > 3/2$ for all k , then f is zero and so is C^p -smooth in a neighbourhood of x . If there is k so that $\|x - x_k\| \leq 3/2$, then $\|x - x_q\| > 3/2$ for all $q \neq k$, so $f(z) = f_k(z)$ and $f'(z) = f'_k(z)$ when z is in a neighbourhood of x . Thus f is a C^p -smooth function and $f'(X) = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} f'_k(X) = U$. ■

We give a stronger version of Theorem 3.6 which will be needed in what follows.

PROPOSITION 3.11. *Let X be as in Theorem 3.6. Let U be a connected open subset of X^* containing 0. Let $(z_k^*)_{k \geq 1}$ be a sequence of points of U . There is a C^p -smooth bump $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f'(X) = U$ and each z_k^* is a stationary image of f' .*

Proof. In the proof of Theorem 3.6, when we use Lindelöf's theorem to extract the sequence $(y_k^*)_k$, we can add to this family some elements in such a way that $\{z_q^* : q \in \mathbb{N}\} \subset \{y_k^* : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$. The function f which is then constructed satisfies the following statement: For all k , there is $\delta_k > 0$ so that $f'(x) = y_k^*$ if $\|x - x_k\| < \delta_k$. So every z_k^* is a stationary image of f' . ■

4. Well-linked sets and ranges of derivative. In finite dimensions the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump is compact. If X is an infinite-dimensional separable Banach space we see, by the definition, that the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump is an analytic set. Moreover, if f is a C^1 -smooth bump and f' is Lipschitzian, there exists $M > 0$ such that

each point of $f'(X)$ can be joined to 0 by an M -Lipschitzian path contained in $f'(X)$. It is sufficient to consider the path $\gamma(t) = f'((1-t)x_0 + tx)$ with x_0 so that $f'(x_0) = 0$. Furthermore we have seen in Section 2 that it makes sense to assume $f'(X) = \overline{\text{int}(f'(X))}$. Consequently, Proposition 4.2 and Theorem 4.6 are partial converses of these necessary conditions. In the first result of this section (Proposition 4.2), we give a sufficient condition for an analytic subset of X^* to be the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump when X^* is separable. Let us introduce this condition.

DEFINITION 4.1. Let F be a subset of X^* . We say that F satisfies *condition* (\mathcal{A}_∞) if there are a mapping $\varphi : \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow X^*$ and a summable sequence $(\delta_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of positive numbers such that

$$\begin{cases} \varphi(\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) = F. \\ \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \text{ and } |\sigma| = 1 \Rightarrow [0, \varphi(\sigma)] \subset \text{int } F \text{ and } \|\varphi(\sigma)\| < \delta_1. \\ \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \text{ and } |\sigma| \geq 2 \Rightarrow [\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] \subset \text{int } F \text{ and } \|\varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)\| < \delta_{|\sigma|}. \\ \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \Rightarrow \varphi(\sigma) = \lim_k \varphi(\sigma|k). \end{cases}$$

PROPOSITION 4.2. *Let X be an infinite-dimensional Banach space with a separable dual. Let F be a subset of X^* . If F satisfies (\mathcal{A}_∞) , then there is a C^1 -smooth bump $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f'(X) = F$.*

Proof. Since X^* is separable, Theorem 3.6 and Proposition 3.11 can be applied with $p = 1$. Since X is infinite-dimensional, for a given $x \in X$, there is a sequence $(w_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ in $B(x, \beta/2)$ such that $\|w_k - w_q\| > \beta/5$ if $k \neq q$. We write $w_k = w_k(x, \beta)$. We will proceed by induction on $k := |\sigma|$. In the following, if $|\sigma| = 1$, we put $\varphi(\sigma_-) = 0$, $\alpha_{\sigma_-} = 1$, $x_{\sigma_-} = 0$.

For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, denote by $\mathcal{P}(k)$ the following statement: “For all $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ with $|\sigma| = k$, there are $x_\sigma \in B_X$, $\alpha_\sigma \in]0, 2^{-k}[$, $\varepsilon_\sigma \in]0, \min(2^{-k}, \delta_k)[$ and a C^1 -smooth bump $h_\sigma : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

- (i) $\varphi(\sigma_-) + h'_\sigma(X) = [\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] + \varepsilon_\sigma \text{int } B_{X^*} \subset \text{int } F$.
- (ii) $h'_\sigma(x) = \varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)$ for all $x \in B(x_\sigma, \alpha_\sigma)$.
- (iii) $\text{supp}(h_\sigma) \subset B(x_{\sigma_-}, \alpha_{\sigma_-}) \subset B_X$.
- (iv) If $|\tau| = |\sigma|$ and $\tau \neq \sigma$, then $\text{supp}(h_\sigma) \cap \text{supp}(h_\tau) = \emptyset$.”

STEP 1: $\mathcal{P}(1)$ holds.

Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ with $|\sigma| = 1$. Since $[0, \varphi(\sigma)] \subset \text{int } F$, there is $0 < \varepsilon_\sigma < \delta_1$ with $[0, \varphi(\sigma)] + \varepsilon_\sigma B_{X^*} \subset \text{int } F$. We apply Proposition 3.11 to obtain a C^1 -smooth bump g_σ such that $g'_\sigma(X) = [0, \varphi(\sigma)] + \varepsilon_\sigma \text{int } B_{X^*}$ and $\varphi(\sigma)$ is a stationary image of g'_σ . We can suppose that $\text{supp}(g_\sigma) \subset B_X$. Define

$$h_\sigma(x) = 12^{-1} g_\sigma(12(x - w_{\sigma(1)}(0, 1))).$$

Then $\text{supp}(h_\sigma) \subset B(w_{\sigma(1)}(0, 1), 12^{-1}) \subset B_X$. Moreover there are x_σ in B_X and $0 < \alpha_\sigma < 1$ such that $h'_\sigma(x) = \varphi(\sigma)$ for all x in $B(x_\sigma, \alpha_\sigma)$.

Finally, if $|\sigma| = |\tau| = 1$ and $\sigma \neq \tau$, then $\text{supp}(h_\sigma) \cap \text{supp}(h_\tau) = \emptyset$, because $\|w_{\sigma(1)}(0, 1) - w_{\tau(1)}(0, 1)\| > 5^{-1}$.

STEP 2: $\mathcal{P}(k)$ holds for all $k \geq 1$.

Take $k \geq 1$ and suppose that $\mathcal{P}(k)$ holds. Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ with $|\sigma| = k + 1$. There is $0 < \varepsilon_\sigma < \delta_{k+1}$ such that $[\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] + \varepsilon_\sigma B_{X^*} \subset \text{int } F$. Proposition 3.11 gives a C^1 -smooth bump g_σ such that $g'_\sigma(X) = [0, \varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)] + \varepsilon_\sigma \text{int } B_{X^*}$, $\varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)$ is a stationary image of g'_σ and $\text{supp}(g_\sigma) \subset B_X$. We put

$$h_\sigma(x) = 12^{-1} \alpha_{\sigma_-} g_\sigma(12 \alpha_{\sigma_-}^{-1}(x - w_{\sigma(k+1)}(x_{\sigma_-}, \alpha_{\sigma_-}))).$$

We have $\text{supp}(h_\sigma) \subset B(w_{\sigma(k+1)}(x_{\sigma_-}, \alpha_{\sigma_-}), 12^{-1} \alpha_{\sigma_-}) \subset B(x_{\sigma_-}, \alpha_{\sigma_-}) \subset B_X$. If $|\sigma| = |\tau| = k + 1$ and $\sigma \neq \tau$, we can easily check that

$$B(w_{\sigma(k+1)}(x_{\sigma_-}, \alpha_{\sigma_-}), 12^{-1} \alpha_{\sigma_-}) \cap B(w_{\tau(k+1)}(x_{\tau_-}, \alpha_{\tau_-}), 12^{-1} \alpha_{\tau_-}) = \emptyset,$$

so $\text{supp}(h_\sigma) \cap \text{supp}(h_\tau) = \emptyset$. Moreover $\varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)$ is clearly a stationary image of h'_σ . So there are $x_\sigma \in B_X$ and $\alpha_\sigma \in]0, 2^{-k}[$ such that $h'_\sigma(x) = \varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)$ for all $x \in B(x_\sigma, \alpha_\sigma)$. Finally, $\mathcal{P}(k + 1)$ holds.

STEP 3: The function $f = \sum_{k \geq 1} \sum_{|\sigma|=k} h_\sigma$ is a C^1 -smooth bump.

For $k \geq 1$ we define $G_k(x) = \sum_{|\sigma|=k} h_\sigma(x)$. Since this is a sum of C^1 -smooth functions with disjoint supports, it is C^1 -smooth. We recall that for all $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, $h'_\sigma(X) = g'_\sigma(X) = [0, \varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)] + \varepsilon_\sigma \text{int } B_{X^*}$. For all $x \in X$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|G'_k(x)\| &\leq \sup\{\|h'_\sigma(x)\| : |\sigma| = k\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\|\varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)\| + \varepsilon_\sigma : |\sigma| = k\} \leq 2\delta_k. \end{aligned}$$

By the mean value theorem we get $|G_k(x)| \leq 2\delta_k$ since $\text{supp}(G_k) \subset B_X$. Therefore f is a C^1 -smooth bump.

STEP 4: $f'(X)$ is equal to F .

Let $f'_k(x) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq k} G'_j(x)$. For all $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, $B(x_\sigma, \alpha_\sigma) \subset B(x_{\sigma_-}, \alpha_{\sigma_-})$. Thus, if $k \geq 1$ and $|\sigma| = k$, then $G'_j(x_\sigma) = \varphi(\sigma|j) - \varphi(\sigma|j - 1)$ for all $1 \leq j \leq k$ and hence $f'_k(x_\sigma) = \varphi(\sigma)$.

Let $x \in X$. Three cases can arise:

Case 1: For all $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, $x \notin B(x_\sigma, \alpha_\sigma)$. Then $f'(x) = 0$.

Case 2: There is $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ so that $x \in B(x_{\sigma|k}, \alpha_{\sigma|k})$ for all $k \geq 1$. Thus $(x_{\sigma|k})_k$ converges to x and since $(f'_k)_k$ is uniformly convergent, we have $f'(x) = \lim_k f'_k(x_{\sigma|k}) = \lim_k \varphi(\sigma|k) = \varphi(\sigma)$.

Case 3: There is $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ such that $x \in B(x_\sigma, \alpha_\sigma)$ and $x \notin \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} B(x_{\sigma \wedge j}, \alpha_{\sigma \wedge j})$. Then $f'(x) = f'_k(x) = \varphi(\sigma)$.

It is therefore clear that $f'(X) = \varphi(\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) = F$. ■

For closed sets we can rewrite condition (\mathcal{A}_∞) using sequences. Indeed, it is not hard to prove that a closed subset F of X^* satisfies (\mathcal{A}_∞) if and only if there are a summable sequence $(\delta_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of positive numbers and a sequence $(y_k^*)_{k \geq 1}$ of points in $\text{int } F$ with $y_1^* = 0$ such that for all y^* in F , there is a nondecreasing function $\psi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ so that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} y_{\psi(k)}^* = y^*$, $\psi(1) = 1$ and for all $k \geq 1$,

$$[y_{\psi(k)}^*, y_{\psi(k+1)}^*] \subset \text{int } F \quad \text{and} \quad \|y_{\psi(k+1)}^* - y_{\psi(k)}^*\| < \delta_k.$$

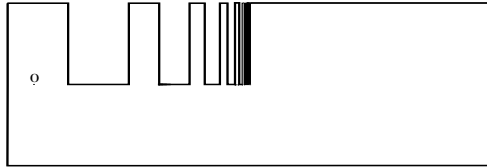
Proposition 4.2 is false in finite dimensions. Indeed, we can construct a compact subset P of \mathbb{R}^2 which satisfies condition (\mathcal{A}_∞) but which is not the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump. Because of its form, we call this set a *comb*. We define

$$P_1 = ([-1, 2] \times [-1, 0]) \cup ([1, 2] \times [-1, 1]),$$

$$P_2 = \left(\bigcup_{q \geq 1} [2^{-1} + \dots + 2^{-q} - 8^{-q}, 2^{-1} + \dots + 2^{-q} + 8^{-q}] \right) \times [0, 1]$$

(comb's teeth) and

$$P = (-3/2, 0) + (P_1 \cup P_2).$$



The comb in \mathbb{R}^2

If $n \geq 2$, then $P \times B_{\mathbb{R}^{n-2}}$ is not the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump, because of the following lemma:

LEMMA 4.3. *For x and y in F define $r(x, y) = \inf\{\text{diam}(\gamma([0, 1])) : \gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow F \text{ is continuous, } \gamma(0) = x \text{ and } \gamma(1) = y\}$. If $F = b'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $b : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a C^1 -smooth bump, then for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a finite ε -net in F for the metric r .*

The proof of this lemma is clear: Since b' is uniformly continuous on $\text{supp}(b)$, we find $\delta > 0$ such that $\|b'(x) - b'(y)\| < \varepsilon$ if $\|x - y\| < \delta$. Take a finite δ -net in $\text{supp}(b)$ for the norm; then its range under b' is a finite ε -net in F for the metric r . Notice that if H is an infinite-dimensional separable Hilbert space, then $P \times B_H$ is a subset of $\mathbb{R}^2 \times H$ which satisfies condition (\mathcal{A}_∞) , hence is the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump on $\mathbb{R}^2 \times H$.

We now give examples of subsets of X^* , neither closed nor open, which satisfy (\mathcal{A}_∞) .

THEOREM 4.4. *Let X be an infinite-dimensional Banach space with a separable dual. Let U be a bounded open convex subset of X^* containing 0 and let $U \subset A \subset \bar{U}$ be any analytic set. Then there exists a C^1 -smooth bump $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f'(X) = A$.*

Proof. Let U and A be as in the theorem. We put $\alpha_k = 2^{-k}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

STEP 1: *We construct a mapping $\psi : \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow X^*$ such that*

$$\begin{cases} \psi(\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) = A = \psi(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}). \\ \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \text{ and } |\sigma| \geq 2 \Rightarrow \|\psi(\sigma) - \psi(\sigma_-)\| < \alpha_{|\sigma|}. \\ \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \Rightarrow \psi(\sigma) = \lim_k \psi(\sigma|k). \end{cases}$$

Let g be a bijection from \mathbb{N} onto $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$. Since A is analytic, there is a continuous mapping χ_0 on $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $\chi_0(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) = A$. We define the map χ on $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ by $\chi(\sigma) = \chi_0(\sigma)$ if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, and $\chi(\sigma) \in \{\chi_0(\tau) : \tau \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \text{ and } \sigma < \tau\}$ if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$. Then $\chi(\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) = A$ and for all $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, $(\chi(\sigma|k))_k$ converges and $\chi(\sigma) = \lim_k \chi(\sigma|k)$.

We will define $h : \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ by induction over $k := |\sigma|$. If $|\sigma| = 1$, then $h(\sigma) = g(\sigma(1))$. If $|\sigma| = k \geq 2$, we put

$$h(\sigma) = \begin{cases} h(\sigma_-) \hat{=} g(\sigma(k)) & \text{if } \|\chi(h(\sigma_-) \hat{=} g(\sigma(k))) - \chi(h(\sigma_-))\| < \alpha_k, \\ h(\sigma_-) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

So, if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, there is a unique $u(\sigma) \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \{\emptyset\}$ such that $h(\sigma) = h(\sigma_-) \hat{=} u(\sigma)$. Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. There is a unique sequence $(u(\sigma|k))_{k \geq 1}$ in $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \{\emptyset\}$ such that $h(\sigma|k) = u(\sigma|1) \hat{=} \dots \hat{=} u(\sigma|k)$ for all k . We then define

$$h(\sigma) = u(\sigma|1) \hat{=} \dots \hat{=} u(\sigma|k) \hat{=} \dots$$

The mapping h is a surjection from $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ onto itself. Indeed, for each $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, there is $p \in \mathbb{N}$ with $g(p) = \sigma$, thus $h(p) = g(p) = \sigma$. Now let $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. There exists a strictly increasing sequence $(q_j)_{j \geq 1}$ of positive integers such that

$$\forall j \geq 1, \forall k, p \geq q_j, \quad \|\chi(\sigma|k) - \chi(\sigma|p)\| < \alpha_{j+1}.$$

We take $q_0 = 0$. For all $k \geq 1$, there is a unique $m_k \in \mathbb{N}$ so that $g(m_k) = (\sigma(q_{k-1} + 1), \dots, \sigma(q_k))$. We set $\tau = (m_k)_{k \geq 1}$. For all $k \geq 2$ and all $j \in \{2, \dots, k\}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\chi(g(m_1) \hat{=} \dots \hat{=} g(m_j)) - \chi(g(m_1) \hat{=} \dots \hat{=} g(m_{j-1}))\| \\ = \|\chi(\sigma|q_j) - \chi(\sigma|q_{j-1})\| < \alpha_j \end{aligned}$$

so $h(\tau|k) = g(m_1) \hat{=} \dots \hat{=} g(m_k) = \sigma|q_k$ and hence $h(\tau) = \sigma$.

We define ψ on $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ by $\psi(\sigma) = \chi(h(\sigma))$. The range of ψ is clearly included in A . Let $a \in A$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ with $a = \chi(\sigma)$. We have proved that there exists $\tau \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $h(\tau) = \sigma$. Then $\psi(\tau) = \chi(h(\tau)) = \chi(\sigma) = a$,

so $A \subset \psi(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})$. It is clear that if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ and $|\sigma| \geq 2$, then

$$\|\psi(\sigma) - \psi(\sigma_-)\| \leq \|\chi(h(\sigma)) - \chi(h(\sigma_-))\| < \alpha_{|\sigma|}.$$

Finally, if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, then $(\psi(\sigma|k))_k$ converges and

$$\lim_k \psi(\sigma|k) = \lim_k \chi(h(\sigma|k)) = \lim_k \chi((h(\sigma))|n_k) = \chi(h(\sigma)) = \psi(\sigma).$$

STEP 2: A satisfies (\mathcal{A}_∞) .

We define $\varphi : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow X^*$ by $\varphi(\sigma) = (1 - \alpha_{|\sigma|})\psi(\sigma)$ if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$, and $\varphi(\sigma) = \psi(\sigma)$ if $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. We can easily verify that (\mathcal{A}_∞) holds with $\delta_k = 2\alpha_k$. Then Proposition 4.2 completes the proof. ■

We now introduce a sufficient condition in finite dimensions which is not far from condition (\mathcal{C}_∞) .

DEFINITION 4.5. Let F be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n . We say that F satisfies *condition (C)* if F is closed, there are a summable sequence $(\delta_k)_{k \geq 2}$, a sequence $(q_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of positive integers with $q_1 = 1$ and a mapping $\varphi : D \cup \bigcup_{k \geq 1} D_k \rightarrow F$ (where $D = \prod_{j \geq 1} \{1, \dots, q_j\}$ and $D_k = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq k} \{1, \dots, q_j\}$) such that

$$\begin{cases} \varphi(D \cup \bigcup_{k \geq 1} D_k) = F, \varphi(1) = 0 \text{ and, for all } k \geq 2, \\ \sigma \in D_k \Rightarrow [\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] \subset \text{int } F \text{ and } \|\varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)\| < \delta_k. \\ \sigma \in D \Rightarrow \varphi(\sigma) = \lim_k \varphi(\sigma|k). \end{cases}$$

Again, we can rewrite this condition in terms of sequences: F satisfies condition (C) if and only if F is closed, there are a sequence $(y_k^*)_{k \geq 1}$ of points in $\text{int } F$ with $y_1^* = 0$, a nondecreasing sequence $(I_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of finite subsets of \mathbb{N} with $I_1 = \{1\}$ and a summable sequence $(\delta_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of positive numbers such that for all y^* in F , there is a function $\psi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ so that $\lim_k y_{\psi(k)}^* = y^*$ and for all $k \geq 1$, $\psi(k) \in I_k$, $[y_{\psi(k)}^*, y_{\psi(k+1)}^*] \subset \text{int } F$ and $\|y_{\psi(k+1)}^* - y_{\psi(k)}^*\| < \delta_k$.

Using the same ideas as in the proof of Proposition 4.2, we get

THEOREM 4.6. Let $n \geq 1$ and F be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n . If F satisfies condition (C) , then there is a C^1 -smooth bump $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f'(\mathbb{R}^n) = F$.

Let us now recall the condition introduced in [3]:

A subset F of X^* is said to satisfy *condition (*)* if there are a summable sequence $(\delta_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of positive numbers and a sequence $(C_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of bounded closed subsets of X^* such that $F = \overline{\bigcup_{k \geq 1} C_k}$, C_1 is convex and contains 0, for all $k \geq 1$, $C_k \subset \text{int } C_{k+1}$ and for all y in $C_{k+1} \setminus \text{int } C_k$, there is z in C_k such that $[z, y] \subset C_{k+1}$ and $\|y - z\| < \delta_k$.

The authors of [3] prove that any subset of \mathbb{R}^n satisfying $(*)$ is the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump. We are going to show that condition $(*)$ is equivalent to condition (C) . Consequently, Theorem 4.6 is nothing but Theorem 12 of [3]. Later we will explain the advantages of condition (C) .

PROPOSITION 4.7. If $X = \mathbb{R}^n$, then condition $(*)$ is equivalent to (C) .

Proof. Let F be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

STEP 1: *Condition (*)* \Rightarrow *Condition (C)*.

We suppose that F satisfies (*). We put $S_1 = \{0\}$. For $k \geq 1$ we define $\varepsilon_k = 2^{-1} \min(\delta_k, \text{dist}(C_{k+1}, \partial F))$,

$$S_{k+1} = S_k \cup \{\text{a finite } \varepsilon_k\text{-net of } C_k\},$$

$q_k = \text{Card } S_k$, $D = \prod_{j \geq 1} \{1, \dots, q_j\}$ and $D_k = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq k} \{1, \dots, q_j\}$. We define $\varphi : \bigcup_{k \geq 1} D_k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ by induction. First we set $\delta_0 = \text{diam}(C_1)$ and $\varphi(1) = 0$. We fix $k \geq 1$ and assume that φ is defined on D_k , $\varphi(D_k) = S_k$ and for all $\sigma \in D_k$, $[\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] \subset \text{int } F$ and $\|\varphi(\sigma) - \varphi(\sigma_-)\| < 2\delta_{k-1}$. We remark that if $y \in C_k$, then there is $z \in S_k$ such that $\|y - z\| < 2\delta_{k-1}$ and $[z, y] \subset \text{int } F$. If $\sigma \in D_k$ we set $T_\sigma = \{y \in S_{k+1} : \|y - \varphi(\sigma)\| < 2\delta_{k-1} \text{ and } [\varphi(\sigma), y] \subset \text{int } F\}$. We can write $T_\sigma = \{z_1, \dots, z_r\}$ with $r \leq q_{k+1}$. We define $\varphi(\sigma \hat{\ } j) = z_j$ if $1 \leq j \leq r$ and $\varphi(\sigma \hat{\ } j) = \varphi(\sigma)$ if $r < j \leq q_{k+1}$. Then φ is defined on D_{k+1} and has all the required properties. The fact that $\varphi(D_{k+1}) = S_{k+1}$ follows from the remark. In this way we define φ on $\bigcup_{k \geq 1} D_k$. If $\sigma \in D$, then the sequence $(\varphi(\sigma|k))_k$ is convergent and we define $\varphi(\sigma) = \lim_k \varphi(\sigma|k)$.

Let $y \in F$. There is a sequence $(z_k)_{k \geq 1}$ such that $\lim_k z_k = y$ and $z_k \in C_k$ for all $k \geq 1$. For all $k \geq 1$, there is $\sigma_k \in D_{k+1}$ with $\|z_k - \varphi(\sigma_k)\| < \delta_k$ and $[\varphi(\sigma_k), z_k] \subset \text{int } F$. The sequence $(\sigma_k(1))_k$ takes a finite number of values in $\{1, \dots, q_1\}$. Thus there is r_1 in $\{1, \dots, q_1\}$ so that $\{k : \sigma_k(1) = r_1\}$ is infinite. By induction we build a sequence $(r_j)_{j \geq 1}$ in D such that for all j , $\{k : \sigma_k(i) = r_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq j\}$ is infinite. Then $\tau = (r_1, \dots, r_j, \dots)$ is in D and $\varphi(\tau) = y$. Therefore (*) implies (C).

STEP 2: *Condition (C)* \Rightarrow *Condition (*)*.

We assume that F satisfies (C). There is $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ such that $B(0, \varepsilon_1) \subset \text{int } F$. We define $C_1 = B(0, \varepsilon_1)$. For $k \geq 1$, if $\sigma \in D_k$, then there is $0 < \varepsilon_\sigma < \delta_k$ with $[\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] + B(0, \varepsilon_\sigma) \subset \text{int } F$. The set

$$B_k = C_k \cup \left(\bigcup_{\sigma \in D_k} [\varphi(\sigma_-), \varphi(\sigma)] + B(0, \varepsilon_\sigma) \right)$$

is compact and is in $\text{int } F$. So $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{2} \min(\delta_k, \text{dist}(B_k, \partial F)) > 0$. Finally, we define $C_{k+1} = B_k + B(0, \alpha_k)$. The sequence $(C_k)_{k \geq 1}$ satisfies all the required conditions, thus F satisfies condition (*). ■

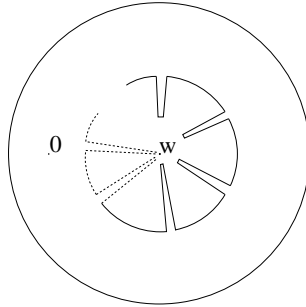
We have proved that condition (C) can be extended to infinite dimensions. Indeed, Proposition 4.2 shows that (\mathcal{A}_∞) is a sufficient condition in smooth infinite-dimensional Banach spaces and (\mathcal{A}_∞) can be considered as an extension of (C). The situation is different with condition (*). In fact, if X is an infinite-dimensional Banach space, we can construct a subset R of X^*

which satisfies condition (*) but which is not the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump. Let us describe R . Since X is infinite-dimensional, there is $\varepsilon > 0$ and a 3ε -separated sequence $(e_k)_{k \geq 1}$ in S_{X^*} . We fix a point w in X^* with $\|w\| = 3/2$. We define

$$D_k = \{tx : x \in S_{X^*} \cap B(e_k, \varepsilon), 1/k \leq t \leq 1\}, \quad D = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} D_k,$$

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \overline{\{x \in X^* : 1 \leq \|x\| \leq 2\} \cup D} \\ &= (w + (\{x \in X^* : 1 \leq \|x\| \leq 2\} \cup D)) \cup \{w\}. \end{aligned}$$

We remark that the construction of R is only possible in an infinite-dimensional Banach space. Here is a 2-dimensional representation of R :



The wheel with broken spokes

Because of its form, R is called the “wheel with broken spokes”. In fact, in infinite dimensions, we can imagine that each spoke is in a new direction and comes closer to w , the centre of the wheel. Then R satisfies condition (*) but R is not the range of the derivative of a C^1 -smooth bump, because w cannot be joined to 0 by a continuous path in R . Thus condition (*) is not sufficient in infinite dimensions.

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