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EXISTENCE OF SPECIAL K -SETS IN CERTAIN LOCALLY COMPACT ABELIAN GROUPS

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In all that follows, G is an infinite, nondiscrete, locally compact T_0 abelian group with character group X and Δ is a nonempty subset of X . In a standard proof of the existence of infinite (in fact, perfect) Helson sets (see for example Hewitt and Ross) it is shown that each nonvoid open subset of an arbitrary G contains a K -set (terminology of Hewitt and Ross) homeomorphic to Cantor's ternary set (or, in the terminology of Rudin, a Kronecker set or a set of type K_a homeomorphic to the Cantor set). In this paper, it is shown that $K_{0,\Delta}$ -sets or $K_{a,\Delta}$ -sets homeomorphic to the Cantor set exist in profusion in a large class of infinite nondiscrete locally compact T_0 abelian groups G , provided that $\bar{\Delta}$ is not compact. (A nonvoid subset E of G is called a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set if for every continuous function from E to \mathbb{T} , the circle group, and every $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a $\gamma \in \Delta$ such that $|\gamma(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$ for all $x \in E$. Let a be an integer greater than one. A nonvoid subset E of G is called a $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set if it is totally disconnected and every continuous function on E with values in the set of a th roots of unity is the restriction to E of some $\gamma \in \Delta$.)

The following theorems will be proved.

THEOREM I. *Let G be compact. Let Δ be infinite. Suppose that, except for the character which is identically 1, $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$ consists solely of elements of infinite order. (This condition is satisfied automatically if G is connected, for then X is torsion-free.) Then every nonvoid open set in G contains a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

THEOREM II. *Let G be locally connected. Suppose that $\bar{\Delta}$ is not compact. Then every nonvoid open set in G contains a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

THEOREM III. *Let G be a compact torsion group. Let Δ be infinite. Then there is an integer $a \geq 2$ such that every nonvoid open set in G contains a translate of a $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

1. Preliminaries.

NOTATION 1.1. We denote Haar measure on G by m , with $m(G) = 1$ when G is compact. When H is a subgroup of G , we write

$\mathcal{A}|_H$ for $\{\gamma|_H: \gamma \in \mathcal{A}\}$. $M(P)$ denotes the set of all (finite) regular Borel measures on the compact subset P of G .

$C(A, B)$ denotes the set of all continuous functions from A to B , where A and B are topological spaces. If $B = \mathbb{C}$, the set of complex numbers, we write $C(A)$ instead of $C(A, \mathbb{C})$.

\mathbb{Z} is the group of integers. \mathbb{R} is the group of real numbers. \mathbb{Q} is the (discrete) group of rational numbers. \mathbb{N} is the set of positive integers. When a is an integer greater than one, \mathbb{Z}_a is the additive group of integers modulo a and $\mathbb{T}_{(a)}$ is the multiplicative group of a th roots of unity.

1 is the identity element of X .

$\prod_{i \in I}^* G_i$ is the weak direct product of the groups G_i .

REMARKS 1.2.

(a) In §5, we give examples which show some of the limitations of Theorems I, II, and III.

(b) The hypothesis on $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ in Theorem I is related to connectedness, as will be shown in Theorem 2.1.

(c) When G is compact, a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set (or $K_{a,\mathcal{A}}$ -set) E is a \mathcal{A} -Helson set—i.e., a set with the property that every $f \in C(E)$ has the form $f = \check{g}|_E$ for some $g \in L_1(X)$ which vanishes off \mathcal{A} . When G is not compact, a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set need not be a \mathcal{A} -Helson set as the example $G = X = \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{Q}$ shows.

(d) Our proof of Theorem II for the case where G is metrizable uses a technique due to Kaufman, [6, p. 184–185 and 7]. The general case follows from the case where G is metrizable and from Theorem I. Our proofs of Theorems I and III depend on the notion of an equidistributed sequence in a compact group. This notion for the case $G = \mathbb{T}$ is due to Weyl [9]. The notion has been generalized by Eckmann [2] and Hlawka [5]. Eckmann's work offers more than enough generality for our purposes; relevant parts are given below in 1.3 and 1.4.

DEFINITION 1.3. Let H be a compact abelian group with Haar measure μ and $\mu(H) = 1$. Let $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be a sequence in H . For $F \subset H$, let $n(F)$ be the number of α_j with index $j \leq n$ which are in F . The sequence $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ is said to be equidistributed in H if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(F)/n = \mu(F)$ for all closed F with the property that $\mu(\text{boundary } F) = 0$.

THEOREM 1.4. Let H be a compact abelian group with Haar measure μ and $\mu(H) = 1$. Let $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be a sequence in H . The following are equivalent:

- (i) $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in H ;

(ii) for every continuous character γ of H such that $\gamma \not\equiv 1$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma(\alpha_j) = 0$.

REMARKS 1.5.

(a) In the proofs of Theorems I and III we will use the equivalence of (i) and (ii) in Theorem 1.4 for the cases $H = \mathbf{T}$ and $H = \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ respectively. If $H = \mathbf{T}$ we have Weyl's original result: The sequence $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty \subset \mathbf{T}$ is equidistributed in \mathbf{T} if and only if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j^r = 0$ for all nonzero integers r (or, equivalently, for all $r \in \mathbf{N}$) [9]. If $H = \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, we have: The sequence $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty \subset \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ is equidistributed in $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ if and only if for every integer $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, a-1\}$ we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j^r = 0$.

(b) Eckmann's definition differs from Definition 1.3 in that he omits the restriction $\mu(\text{boundary } F) = 0$. This restriction is necessary, as has been pointed out [3].

2. Proof of Theorem I.

2.1. We first investigate the hypothesis on $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$ in the statement of Theorem I and find that it is related to connectedness.

THEOREM. *Let G be compact. Let Δ be a countably infinite subset of X . The following are equivalent:*

- (i) $\Delta\Delta^{-1} \setminus \{1\}$ consists solely of elements of infinite order;
- (ii) G contains a compact connected metrizable subgroup H with the property that $\delta \rightarrow \delta|_H$ is a one-to-one map from Δ to the character group of H .

Proof. (ii) implies (i): Let δ_1 and δ_2 be distinct elements of Δ . Then $\delta_1|_H \neq \delta_2|_H$, so $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}|_H \neq 1$. Since H is connected, its character group is torsion-free. Hence, $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}|_H$ has infinite order and therefore so does $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}$.

(i) implies (ii): Let Γ be a maximal torsion-free independent subset of Δ . (Clearly, Δ contains at most one element of finite order, so Γ is nonvoid.) We have $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p\}$ for some positive integer p or $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$. If Γ is finite, let $P = \mathbf{Q}^p$. If not, let P be the weak direct product of countably many copies of \mathbf{Q} . (In either case, P is countable.) For $n \in \mathbf{N}$ (and $n \leq p$ if Γ is finite) let e_n be that element of P with n th coordinate equal to 1 and all other coordinates equal to zero. Let Y be the subgroup of X generated by Γ . Since Γ is independent, the map $\gamma_n \rightarrow e_n$ extends to a (one-to-one) homomorphism from Y to P . Since P is divisible, this homomorphism extends to a homomorphism $\phi: X \rightarrow P$. Hence $W = X/\ker \phi$ is isomorphic to a subgroup of P . Let H be the annihilator of $\ker \phi$ in G . Then H

is a closed subgroup of G and has character group W , which is torsion-free and countable. Hence, H is connected and metrizable. Now $\delta_1|_H = \delta_2|_H$ if and only if $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1} \in \ker \phi$. Let δ_1 and δ_2 be distinct elements of \mathcal{A} . It is sufficient to show that $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1} \notin \ker \phi$. Since Γ is a maximal torsion-free independent subset of \mathcal{A} , there exist nonzero integers r_1 and r_2 such that $\delta_1^{r_1}$ and $\delta_2^{r_2}$ are in Y . Therefore there is a nonzero integer r such that $(\delta_1\delta_2^{-1})^r \in Y$. By the hypothesis on $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}^{-1}$, we have $(\delta_1\delta_2^{-1})^r \neq 1$. Since ϕ is one-to-one on Y , $r\phi(\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}) = \phi((\delta_1\delta_2^{-1})^r)$ is not the identity of P . Hence $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1} \notin \ker \phi$ and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let G be compact. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$ be a countably infinite set of distinct elements of X arranged in any fixed order. Suppose that $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}^{-1} \setminus \{1\}$ consists solely of elements of infinite order. Then for m -almost all $x \in G$, the sequence $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in \mathbf{T} .*

Proof. Our proof follows Weyl [9]. For $x \in G$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, and $r \in \mathbf{N}$, define $f_{nr}(x) = n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x)$. From our hypothesis on $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ we find that $\overline{\gamma_j^r \gamma_k^r} = 1$ implies that $\gamma_j = \gamma_k$. Since G is compact, $\int_G \gamma(x) dm(x) = 0$ when $\gamma \neq 1$. Thus, we have

$$\int_G |f_{nr}|^2 dm = n^{-2} \int_G \sum_{j,k=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x) \overline{\gamma_k^r(x)} dm(x) = n^{-1}.$$

Therefore we have $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \|f_{n^2,r}\|_2^2 < \infty$ and hence $f_{n^2,r}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for m -almost all $x \in G$. Suppose that $f_{n^2,r}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for all $x \notin A_r$ where $m(A_r) = 0$.

For $n \in \mathbf{N}$, let $\lambda(n)$ be the positive integer such that $\lambda^2 \leq n < (\lambda + 1)^2$. Then we have $|nf_{nr}(x) - \lambda^2 f_{\lambda^2,r}(x)| \leq 2\lambda$ and hence

$$\left| f_{nr}(x) - \frac{\lambda^2}{n} f_{\lambda^2,r}(x) \right| \leq 2/\sqrt{n}.$$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Fix $x \notin A_r$. Then there is a positive integer M such that $|f_{\lambda^2,r}(x)| < \varepsilon/2$ whenever $\lambda \geq M$. Let $n \geq M^2$ and $n > 16/\varepsilon^2$. Let λ be such that $\lambda^2 \leq n < (\lambda + 1)^2$. Then $\lambda^2/n \leq 1$, $2/\sqrt{n} < \varepsilon/2$, and $\lambda^2 \geq M^2$, so we have

$$|f_{nr}(x)| \leq \left| f_{nr}(x) - \frac{\lambda^2}{n} f_{\lambda^2,r}(x) \right| + \frac{\lambda^2}{n} |f_{\lambda^2,r}(x)| < 2/\sqrt{n} + \varepsilon/2 < \varepsilon.$$

Hence, $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for all $x \notin A_r$.

Let $A = \cup A_r$. Then $m(A) = 0$ and for $x \notin A$ we have for all $r \in \mathbf{N}$ that $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, by 1.5(a), $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in \mathbf{T} for all $x \notin A$.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let G and \mathcal{A} be as in Theorem 1. Let V_1, \dots, V_k be nonvoid open subsets of G . Then there exist $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq k)$ with the property that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and for all $z_1, \dots, z_k \in \mathbf{T}$ there is a $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $|\gamma(x_j) - z_j| < \varepsilon (1 \leq j \leq k)$, i.e., there exist $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq k)$ such that $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ is a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set.*

Proof. We may suppose that \mathcal{A} is countable. Let $q \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$. Let “ $P(q)$ holds for x_1, \dots, x_q ” mean “ $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq q)$ and $\{x_1, \dots, x_q\}$ is a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ set.” By Lemma 2.2, there is an $x_1 \in V_1$ such that $P(1)$ holds for x_1 . Suppose that $1 \leq r \leq k-1$ and that $P(r)$ holds for x_1, \dots, x_r . It is sufficient to show there is an $x_{r+1} \in V_{r+1}$ such that $P(r+1)$ holds for x_1, \dots, x_{r+1} . Let $A = \{w \in V_{r+1} \mid P(r+1) \text{ does not hold for } x_1, \dots, x_r, w\}$. It is sufficient to show that $m(A) = 0$. Let S be a countable dense subset of \mathbf{T} . Then $w \in A$ if and only if $w \in V_{r+1}$ and there exist $p \in \mathbf{N}$ and $s_1, \dots, s_{r+1} \in S$ such that for all $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$ either $|\gamma(x_j) - s_j| \geq p^{-1}$ for some $j (1 \leq j \leq r)$ or $|\gamma(w) - s_{r+1}| \geq p^{-1}$, i.e., we have

$$A = \bigcup_{p \in \mathbf{N}} \bigcup_{s_1 \in S} \dots \bigcup_{s_{r+1} \in S} A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1})$$

where $A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1}) = \bigcap_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}} \{y \in V_{r+1} : |\gamma(y) - s_{r+1}| \geq p^{-1} \text{ or at least one } |\gamma(x_j) - s_j| \geq p^{-1}\}$.

Let

$$\tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r) = \{\gamma \in \mathcal{A} : |\gamma(x_j) - s_j| < p^{-1}, 1 \leq j \leq r\}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1}) \\ &= \{y \in V_{r+1} : |\gamma(y) - s_{r+1}| \geq p^{-1} \text{ for all } \gamma \in \tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, it is sufficient to show that each $\tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r)$ is infinite (for then, by Lemma 2.2, each $A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1})$ is m -null and therefore so is A).

We assume that for some $p \in \mathbf{N}$ and $s_1, \dots, s_r \in S$ the set $\tilde{A} = \tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r)$ is finite and use this to obtain a contradiction. A basic neighborhood of the point $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_r) \in \mathbf{T}^r$ has the form $B(\mathbf{z}, \varepsilon) = \{\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_r) : |z_j - w_j| < \varepsilon, 1 \leq j \leq r\}$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Let $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_r)$ and $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_r)$. For $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$, let $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = (\gamma(x_1), \dots, \gamma(x_r))$. If \tilde{A} is finite, then $\{\gamma \in \mathcal{A} \mid \gamma(\mathbf{x}) \in B(\mathbf{s}, p^{-1})\}$ is finite. Then there exist $\mathbf{z} \in B(\mathbf{s}, p^{-1})$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ be such that $B(\mathbf{z}, \varepsilon) \subset B(\mathbf{s}, p^{-1})$ and $B(\mathbf{z}, \varepsilon)$ is disjoint from $\{\gamma(\mathbf{x}) \mid \gamma \in \mathcal{A}\}$. This contradicts the induction hypothesis that $P(r)$ holds for x_1, \dots, x_r .

THEOREM 2.4. *Theorem 1 holds when G is metrizable.*

Proof. Repeat the proof of [4, (41.5), part I] choosing all charac-

ters in Δ and using Lemma 2.3 whenever [4] uses [4, (41.3)].

THEOREM 2.5. *Let G and Δ be as in Theorem I. Let U be a neighborhood of the identity in G . Then U contains a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

Proof. By Theorem 2.1, G contains a compact connected metrizable subgroup H with the property that $\Gamma = \Delta|_H$ is infinite. Let $V = U \cap H$. Since H is connected, its character group is torsion-free. Hence, by Theorem 2.4, V contains a $K_{0,r}$ -set P homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Clearly, P is a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set contained in U .

THEOREM¹ 2.6. *Let P be a compact metrizable $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set in G , where G is compact and $\Delta\Delta^{-1}\setminus\{1\}$ consists solely of elements of infinite order. Then for almost all $x \in G$, xP is a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set.*

Proof. Let $\{f_1, f_2, \dots\}$ be a (uniformly) dense subset of $C(P, \mathbf{T})$. For each j , there is a sequence $\{\gamma_{ij}\}_{i=1}^\infty$ of elements of Δ such that $\gamma_{ij} \rightarrow f_j$ uniformly on P . By Lemma 2.2, there is an m -null set A_j such that $\{\gamma_{ij}(x)\}_{i=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in \mathbf{T} whenever $x \in G \setminus A_j$. Let $A = \bigcup A_j$. Then A is m -null. Let $x \in G \setminus A$. For each j , let $g_j(xy) = f_j(y)$. To show that xP is a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set, it is sufficient to show that each g_j is uniformly approximable by $\{\gamma_{ij}: i, j = 1, 2, \dots\}$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Fix j . Then for some i_0 , we have $|\gamma_{ij}(y) - f_j(y)| < \varepsilon/2$ for all $y \in P$ whenever $i > i_0$ and, since $\{\gamma_{ij}(x)\}_{i=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in \mathbf{T} , there is an $i > i_0$ such that $|\gamma_{ij}(x) - 1| < \varepsilon/2$. For this i we have $|\gamma_{ij}(xy) - g_j(xy)| < \varepsilon$ for all $y \in P$.

Proof of Theorem I. 2.7. Immediate from Theorems 2.5 and Theorem 2.6.

3. Proof of Theorem II.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let G be locally connected. Let Δ be such that $\bar{\Delta}$ is not compact. Let U be a neighborhood of the identity in G . Then there is a γ in Δ such that $\gamma(U) = \mathbf{T}$.*

Proof. The topology on X is the restriction of the compact-open topology on $C(G)$ to the (closed) subspace X of $C(G)$. Hence, $\bar{\Delta}$ is

¹ In the original version of this paper, the conclusion of Theorem I was as follows: Every open set in G containing an element of finite order contains a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set and, if G is metrizable, every nonvoid open set in G contains a $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Theorem 2.6 and the stronger version of Theorem I which it yields are due to Robert Kaufman [private communication, December, 1971].

compact as a subspace of X if and only if it is compact as a subspace of $C(G)$ with the compact-open topology. Since by hypothesis \bar{A} is not compact, it follows from Ascoli's Theorem that A is not equicontinuous [1, p. 267] and, hence, that A is not equicontinuous at the identity of G . Therefore, there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for every neighborhood W of the identity in G , there is an $x \in W$ and a $\gamma \in A$ such that $|\gamma(x) - 1| \geq \varepsilon$. Let $S = \{e^{it} \mid 0 \leq t \leq \varepsilon/2\}$. Let M be a positive integer with the property that $S^M = T$. Let V be a connected neighborhood of the identity in G such that $V^M \subset U$. Then there exist $x \in V$ and $\gamma \in A$ such that $|\gamma(x) - 1| \geq \varepsilon$. Hence, $\gamma(V)$ contains an arc of length at least ε . Therefore we have $T = \gamma(V)^M \subset \gamma(U) \subset T$.

THEOREM 3.2. *Let G be locally connected and metrizable. Let A be such that \bar{A} is not compact. Let E be a compact totally disconnected subset of \mathbf{R} or \mathbf{T} . Then there is a first category set $H \subset C(E, G)$ such that each $f \in C(E, G) \setminus H$ maps E homeomorphically onto a $K_{0,A}$ -set in G .*

Proof. Our proof follows the ideas of Kaufman [7] as given by Katznelson [6, p. 184–185].

For $h \in C(E, T)$, $f \in C(E, G)$, and $\varepsilon > 0$, let “(*) holds for h, f and ε ” mean “there is a $\gamma \in A$ such that $|\gamma(f(y)) - h(y)| < \varepsilon$ for all $y \in E$.” Let $f \in C(E, G)$. Clearly, f is a homeomorphism of E onto $f(E)$ if and only if f is one-to-one. Also, if f is not one-to-one, it is clear that there exist $h \in C(E, T)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ such that (*) fails for h, f , and ε . Hence, f is a homeomorphism of E onto $f(E)$ and $f(E)$ is a $K_{0,A}$ -set if and only if for every $h \in C(E, T)$ and every $\varepsilon > 0$, (*) holds for h, f , and ε .

Let d be an invariant metric on G compatible with the topology of G . For f and g in $C(E, G)$, let $D(f, g) = \sup \{d(f(y), g(y)) \mid y \in E\}$. Observe that $D(f, g) < \infty$ since E is compact.

Let $h \in C(E, T)$, $g \in C(E, G)$, $\varepsilon > 0$, and $\eta > 0$. We now show that there exist an $f \in C(E, G)$ such that (*) holds for h, f , and ε and $D(f, g) < \eta$. Let U be the open η -ball about the identity e of G . By Theorem 3.1, there is a $\gamma \in A$ such that $\gamma(U) = T$. Write $E = \bigcup_{j=1}^n E_j$, where the E_j are disjoint nonvoid open-closed subsets of E and $\gamma \circ g$ and h both vary by less than $\varepsilon/3$ on each E_j . (The E_j exist since E is totally disconnected.) Let $y_j \in E_j$ and suppose that $\gamma(g(y_j)) = \alpha_j$ and $h(y_j) = \beta_j$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. Let $x_j \in U$ be such that $\gamma(x_j) = \bar{\alpha}_j \beta_j$. Define $f \in C(E, G)$ by $f(y) = x_j g(y)$ when $y \in E_j$. We see that $D(f, g) = \max \{d(x_j, e)\} < \eta$ and for $y \in E_j$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\gamma(f(y)) - h(y)| &\leq |\gamma(g(y))\gamma(x_j) - \gamma(g(y_j))\gamma(x_j)| \\ &\quad + |\gamma(g(y_j))\gamma(x_j) - h(y_j)| + |h(y_j) - h(y)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + 0 + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (*) holds for h, f , and ε .

For $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, let $H(h, \varepsilon) = \{f \in C(E, G) \mid (*) \text{ fails for } h, f, \text{ and } \varepsilon\}$. It is easy to show that $H(h, \varepsilon)$ is closed. By the preceding paragraph, $H(h, \varepsilon)$ is nowhere dense in $C(E, G)$. Let $\{h_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ be dense in $C(E, \mathbf{T})$. Let $H = \bigcup_{n,k=1}^\infty H(h_n, 1/k)$. Then H is a first category set in the complete metric space $C(E, G)$. Also, we have $f \in C(E, G) \setminus H$ if and only if every $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$ can be uniformly approximated by $\gamma \circ f$'s ($\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$), which by the second paragraph of the proof is true if and only if f is a homeomorphism and $f(E)$ is a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set.

THEOREM 3.3. *Theorem II holds when G is metrizable.*

Proof. Let U be a nonvoid open subset of G . Let E be the Cantor set. Let H be as in Theorem 3.2. The result follows from Theorem 3.2 since $C(E, U)$ is open in $C(E, G)$ and $C(E, G) \setminus H$ is dense in $C(E, G)$.

THEOREM 3.4. *Let G be locally connected. Then G is topologically isomorphic with $D \times \mathbf{R}^n \times K$, where D is discrete, n is a nonnegative integer, and K is a compact, connected, locally connected abelian group.*

Proof. Let C be the component of the identity in G . Then G is topologically isomorphic with $(G/C) \times C$. Since G/C is totally disconnected and locally connected, it is discrete. Since C is connected and locally connected, it is topologically isomorphic with $\mathbf{R}^n \times K$, where n is a nonnegative integer and K is compact, connected, and locally connected.

Proof of Theorem II. 3.5. By Theorem 3.4, we may suppose that $G = H \times K$, where H is locally connected and metrizable and K is compact, connected, and locally connected. We then have $X = Y \times F$, where Y and F are the character groups of H and K , respectively. Let U be a nonvoid open subset of G . We may suppose that $U = V \times W$, where V and W are nonvoid open subsets of H and K , respectively. We denote elements of X by (α, β) , where $\alpha \in Y$ and $\beta \in F$. Let $\Gamma = \{\beta \in F \mid (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{A}\}$.

Case 1. Γ is finite: There is a $\beta_0 \in \Gamma$ such that $\{(\alpha, \beta_0) \in \mathcal{A}\}^-$ is not compact in X . Let $\mathcal{A}_0 = \{\alpha \in Y \mid (\alpha, \beta_0) \in \mathcal{A}\}$. Then \mathcal{A}_0^- is not compact in Y . Hence, by Theorem 3.3, V contains a K_{0,\mathcal{A}_0} -set P homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Let $z \in W$. Then $P \times \{z\}$ is a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set in U homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

Case 2. Γ is infinite: Let $x \in V$. Let $\{(\alpha_m, \beta_m)\}_{m=1}^\infty$ be a sequence in Δ such that the β_m are distinct and such that $\alpha_m(x) \rightarrow s \in \mathbf{T}$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$. Let $\Delta_0 = \{\beta_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$. Since Δ_0 is infinite and K is compact and connected, W contains a K_{0, Δ_0} -set P homeomorphic to the Cantor set by Theorem I. Then $\{x\} \times P$ is a $K_{0, \Delta}$ -set in U homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

4. Proof of Theorem III.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let k be an integer greater than one. Let G be the product of infinitely many copies of $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$. Let Δ be an infinite subset of X and suppose there is an integer a greater than one such that all elements of Δ have order a and that whenever γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of Δ , then $\gamma_1 \gamma_2^{-1}$ has order a . Then for every sequence $\Delta_0 = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$ of distinct elements of Δ , the sequence $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ for m -almost all $x \in G$.*

Proof. For $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, a-1\}$ and $n \in \mathbf{N}$, let $f_{nr}(x) = 1/n \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x)$. By our hypothesis on Δ , $\gamma_j \neq \gamma_i$ implies that $(\gamma_j \gamma_i^{-1})^r \neq 1$. Also, since G is compact, $\int_G \gamma(x) dm(x) = 0$ when $\gamma \neq 1$. Hence we have

$$\int_G |f_{nr}|^2 dm = n^{-2} \int_G \sum_{j, l=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x) \overline{\gamma_l^r(x)} dm(x) = n^{-1}.$$

We thus have $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \|f_{n^2, r}\|_2^2 < \infty$ and hence $f_{n^2, r}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for m -almost all $x \in G$. Suppose that $f_{n^2, r}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for all $x \notin A_r$, where $m(A_r) = 0$. The device used in the proof of Lemma 2.2 yields $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for $x \notin A_r$. Let $A = \bigcup_{r=1}^{a-1} A_r$. Then $m(A) = 0$ and for $x \notin A$ we have for all $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, a-1\}$ that $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, by 1.5(a), $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$ is equidistributed in $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ for all $x \notin A$.

LEMMA 4.2. *Let k, G, Δ , and a be as in Lemma 4.1. Let V_1, \dots, V_n be nonempty open subsets of G . Then there are $x_j \in V_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq n$) such that $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ is a $K_{a, \Delta}$ -set.*

Proof. For a positive integer q , $y_1, \dots, y_q \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, and $w_j \in V_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq q$), let $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_q, w_1, \dots, w_q) = \{\gamma \in \Delta \mid \gamma(w_j) = y_j, 1 \leq j \leq q\}$. By Lemma 4.1, there is an $x_1 \in V_1$ such that for all $y_1 \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, $\Delta(y_1, x_1)$ is infinite.

Let $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ and suppose that $x_j \in V_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq r$) have been found with the property that for all $y_1, \dots, y_r \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_r, x_1, \dots, x_r)$ is infinite. Fixing $(y_1, \dots, y_r) \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}^r$ and applying Lemma 4.1 with $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_r, x_1, \dots, x_r)$ in place of Δ , we find that m -almost

all $x \in V_{r+1}$ have the property that for all $y_{r+1} \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_{r+1}, x_1, \dots, x_r, x)$ is infinite. Hence, m -almost all $x \in V_{r+1}$ have the property that for all $y_1, \dots, y_{r+1} \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_{r+1}, x_1, \dots, x_r, x)$ is infinite. In particular, an $x_{r+1} \in V_{r+1}$ with this property exists.

Hence, by induction, there are $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq n)$ such that for all $y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$, $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_n, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is infinite and, in particular, nonvoid. Hence, $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ is a $K_{a,d}$ -set.

THEOREM 4.3. *Let k, G, Δ , and a be as in Lemma 4.1. Let G be metrizable. Let U be a nonvoid open subset of G . Then U contains a $K_{a,d}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

Proof. Repeat the proof of [4, (41.5), part III], choosing all characters in Δ and using Lemma 4.2 whenever [4] uses [4, (41.4)].

REMARK 4.4. We now proceed to reduce Theorem III to the case described in Theorem 4.3.

LEMMA 4.5. *Let k be an integer greater than one. Let X be the weak direct product of infinitely many copies of $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$. Let Δ be an infinite subset of X . Then there exist an integer $a \geq 2$ and an infinite subset Γ of Δ with the property that whenever γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of Γ , then $\gamma_1 \gamma_2^{-1}$ has order exactly a .*

Proof. We remark that this result is trivial if k is prime. (Take $a = k$ and $\Gamma = \Delta$.)

Let $b_0 = k$ and $\Delta_0 = \Delta$. Let $\gamma_1 \in \Delta_0$. Let $\Gamma_1 = \{\gamma_1 \alpha^{-1} \mid \alpha \in \Delta_0\}$. Since Γ_1 is infinite, there is an integer $b_1, 2 \leq b_1 \leq b_0$, such that Γ_1 contains infinitely many elements of order b_1 . Let $\Delta_1 = \{\alpha \in \Delta_0 \mid \gamma_1 \alpha^{-1} \text{ has order } b_1\}$. Suppose that $n \in \mathbf{N}$ and that $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, \Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n, b_1, \dots, b_n$ and $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n$ have been found such that for $1 \leq j \leq n$ we have (i) $\gamma_j \in \Delta_{j-1}$, $\Gamma_j = \{\gamma_j \alpha^{-1} \mid \alpha \in \Delta_{j-1}\}$, Γ_j has infinitely many elements of order b_j , $2 \leq b_j \leq b_{j-1}$, and $\Delta_j = \{\alpha \in \Delta_{j-1} \mid \gamma_j \alpha^{-1} \text{ has order } b_j\}$. Observe that from (i) it follows that (ii) for $1 \leq j \leq n$, we have $\gamma_j \notin \Delta_j$ so Δ_j is a proper infinite subset of Δ_{j-1} and the γ_j are distinct.

Let $\gamma_{n+1} \in \Delta_n$. Let $\Gamma_{n+1} = \{\gamma_{n+1} \alpha^{-1} \mid \alpha \in \Delta_n\}$. Since Γ_{n+1} is infinite, there is an integer b_{n+1} with $2 \leq b_{n+1} \leq b_n$ such that Γ_{n+1} contains infinitely many elements of order b_{n+1} . Let $\Delta_{n+1} = \{\alpha \in \Delta_n \mid \gamma_{n+1} \alpha^{-1} \text{ has order } b_{n+1}\}$. Thus, we can define $\gamma_n, \Gamma_n, \Delta_n$, and b_n for all $n \in \mathbf{N}$ in such a way that properties (i) hold for all n . Since $\{b_n\}$ is a monotone nonincreasing sequence of integers greater than one, there exist positive integers r and a such that $b_n = a$ for all $n > r$. Let $\Gamma = \{\gamma_{r+n} \mid n \in \mathbf{N}\}$. We show that Γ and a are as demanded. Let n_1 and $n_2 \in \mathbf{N}$ with $n_1 > n_2$. Then, by construction of the Δ_n , we have $\gamma_{r+n_1} \in$

$\Delta_{r+n_1-1} \subset \Delta_{r+n_2}$ so $\gamma_{r+n_2}\gamma_{r+n_1}^{-1}$ has order $b_{r+n_2} = a$.

LEMMA 4.6. *Let k be an integer greater than one. Let I be an infinite index set and let $X = \prod_{i \in I}^* G_i$, where each G_i is a copy of $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$. Let Δ be an infinite subset of X . Then there exist an integer $a \geq 2$ and an infinite subset Δ_0 of Δ and a finite (possibly empty) subset I_0 of I such that projection of Δ_0 onto $Y = \prod_{i \in I \setminus I_0}^* G_i$ gives an infinite subset $\tilde{\Delta}_0$ of Y consisting solely of elements of order a and such that whenever γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of $\tilde{\Delta}_0$, $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$ has order a .*

Proof. By Lemma 4.5, there exist an integer $a_1 \geq 2$ and an infinite subset I_1 of I such that whenever γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of I_1 , $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$ has order a_1 . Let \tilde{I}_1 be an infinite subset of I_1 consisting of elements all of the same order b_1 . It is clear that $b_1 \geq a_1$. (If γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of \tilde{I}_1 , then $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$ has order at most b_1 . But $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$ has order a_1 .) If $b_1 = a_1$, we are done. (Take $I_0 = \emptyset$, $\Delta_0 = \tilde{I}_1$, and $a = a_1$.) Suppose $b_1 > a_1$. Let $\tilde{\gamma}_1 \in \tilde{I}_1$. There is a finite subset I_1 of I such that the i th coordinate of $\tilde{\gamma}_1$ is the identity of G_i for $i \notin I_1$. Let $X_1 = \prod_{i \in I \setminus I_1}^* G_i$. Since I_1 is finite and \tilde{I}_1 is infinite, projection of \tilde{I}_1 onto X_1 (denoted by π_1) gives an infinite subset Δ_1 of X_1 consisting of elements of order at most a_1 . (For $\alpha \in \tilde{I}_1$, order of $\pi_1(\alpha)$ in X_1 = order of $\pi_1(\alpha\tilde{\gamma}_1^{-1})$ in $X_1 \leq a_1$.) Applying Lemma 4.5 to X_1 and Δ_1 we get an integer a_2 with $2 \leq a_2 \leq a_1$ and an infinite subset I_2 of Δ_1 such that whenever γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of I_2 , then $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$ has order a_2 . Let \tilde{I}_2 be an infinite subset of I_2 consisting of elements all of the same order b_2 . Then we have $a_2 \leq b_2 \leq a_1 < b_1$. If $a_2 = b_2$, we are done. (Take $I_0 = I_1$, $a = a_2$, $Y = X_1$, and $\Delta_0 = \{\alpha \in \Delta \mid \pi_1(\alpha) \in \tilde{I}_2\}$.) Suppose $a_2 < b_2 \leq a_1 < b_1$. Pick $\tilde{\gamma}_2 \in \tilde{I}_2$; let $I_2 = \{i \in I \setminus I_1 \mid i \text{th coordinate of } \tilde{\gamma}_2 \text{ is not the identity of } G_i\}$; project \tilde{I}_2 onto $X_2 = \prod_{i \in I \setminus (I_1 \cup I_2)}^* G_i$; ... etc. We must eventually have $b_n = a_n$ for some n (otherwise, $\{b_n\}$ would be an infinite strictly decreasing sequence of positive integers). For that n , we have a finite subset $I_0 = I_1 \cup \dots \cup I_{n-1}$ of I and an infinite subset \tilde{I}_n of $Y = \prod_{i \in I \setminus I_0}^* G_i$ such that all elements of \tilde{I}_n have order $a_n = b_n$ and such that whenever γ_1 and γ_2 are distinct elements of \tilde{I}_n , $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$ has order a_n . Let $\Delta_0 = \{\alpha \in \Delta \mid \pi(\alpha) \in \tilde{I}_n\}$, where π is the projection of X onto Y .

THEOREM 4.7. *Let k be an integer greater than one. Let $G = \prod_{i \in I} G_i$, where each G_i is a copy of $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$ and I is infinite. Let Δ be an infinite subset of X . Then there is an integer a greater than one such that every neighborhood of the identity of G contains a $K_{a,J}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

Proof. We may suppose that \mathcal{A} is countable. We identify X with $\prod_{\iota \in I}^* G_\iota$. Let α, I_0, Y , and $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_0$ be as in Lemma 4.6. Let $I_1 = \{\iota \in I \setminus I_0 \mid \text{some } \gamma \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_0 \text{ has } \iota \text{th coordinate different from the identity of } G_\iota\}$. Plainly I_1 is countably infinite. Let $I_2 = I \setminus (I_0 \cup I_1)$. Let $G_j = \prod_{\iota \in I_j} G_\iota$, and let G_j have character group X_j , $j = 0, 1, 2$. Since I_1 is countable, G_1 is metrizable. Since I_0 is finite, G_0 is finite. Let Γ_0 be the image of the projection of $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_0$ onto X_1 . We may suppose that our neighborhood of the identity of G has the form $U = \{e_0\} \times V_1 \times V_2$, where e_0 is the identity of G_0 and V_j is open in G_j , $j = 1, 2$. Applying Theorem 4.3 to k, G_1, Γ_0 , and α , we find a subset P_1 of V_1 homeomorphic to the Cantor set which is a K_{α, r_0} -set. Let $P = \{e_0\} \times P_1 \times \{e_2\}$, where e_2 is the identity of G_2 . Then P is a $K_{\alpha, \mathcal{A}}$ -set in U homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

Proof of Theorem III. 4.8. If G is a compact torsion group, then there are integers r_1, \dots, r_q greater than one and disjoint infinite index sets I_1, \dots, I_q and there is a finite abelian group F such that G is topologically isomorphic to $F \times G_1 \times \dots \times G_q$, where $G_j = \prod_{\iota \in I_j} K_\iota$ and each K_ι is a copy of $T_{(r_j)}$ when $\iota \in I_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq q$). Let G_j have character group X_j ($1 \leq j \leq q$). Then for some j_0 , the image Γ of the projection of \mathcal{A} onto X_{j_0} is infinite. Let α be as in Theorem 4.7 applied to G_{j_0}, X_{j_0} , and Γ . Let U be a neighborhood of the identity of G . We will prove that U contains a $K_{\alpha, \mathcal{A}}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Clearly, this will establish Theorem III. We may suppose that U has the form $\{e_F\} \times U_1 \times \dots \times U_q$, where e_F is the identity of F and U_j is a neighborhood of the identity e_j of G_j ($1 \leq j \leq q$). By Theorem 4.7, U_{j_0} contains a $K_{\alpha, r}$ -set P_{j_0} homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Let

$$P = \{e_F\} \times \{e_1\} \times \dots \times \{e_{j_0-1}\} \times P_{j_0} \times \{e_{j_0+1}\} \times \dots \times \{e_q\}.$$

Then P is a $K_{\alpha, \mathcal{A}}$ -set in U homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

5. Examples.

5.1. The hypothesis that $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ is not compact is necessary in Theorem II. If $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ is compact, then there is a nonempty open $U \subset G$ which contains no $K_{0, \mathcal{A}}$ -set and no $K_{\alpha, \mathcal{A}}$ -set for any integer $\alpha \geq 2$. Indeed, let $U = \{x \in G : |\gamma(x) - 1| < 1 \text{ for all } \gamma \in \bar{\mathcal{A}}\}$. Then U is an open neighborhood of the identity in G and $\operatorname{Re} \gamma(x) > 0$ for all $x \in U$ and all $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$. Hence, the function -1 cannot be matched within 1 on any nonvoid subset of U by any $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$, nor can the function ω_a (where ω_a is an a th root of unity with $\operatorname{Re} \omega_a < 0$) be matched on any nonvoid subset of U by any $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$ for any integer $\alpha \geq 2$. Hence, no subset of U is a $K_{0, \mathcal{A}}$ -set or a $K_{\alpha, \mathcal{A}}$ -set.

5.2. The phrase "a translate of" is a necessary part of the conclusion of Theorem III, as is shown by the following example. Let $G = \mathbf{T}_{(3)} \times H$, where H is the product of infinitely many copies of $\mathbf{T}_{(3)}$. Write $X = \mathbf{Z}_2 \times Y$, where Y is the character group of H . Let $\mathcal{A} = \{1\} \times Y$. Let $U = \{-1\} \times H$. Then U is open in G and $\gamma(x) \in -\mathbf{T}_{(3)}$ for all $x \in U$ and all $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$, so the constant function 1 cannot be matched on any subset of U by any $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$. Hence, no subset of U is a $K_{a,\mathcal{A}}$ -set for any integer $a \geq 2$.

5.3. The hypothesis that G is a compact torsion group in Theorem III cannot be weakened to the hypothesis that G is compactly generated and contains a compact open torsion subgroup. For example, let H be an infinite compact torsion group and let $G = \mathbf{Z} \times H$. Take $\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{T} \times \{e\}$ (where e is the identity of the character group of H) and $U = \{0\} \times H$. Then $\gamma(x) = 1$ for all $x \in U$ and all $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$. Hence, whenever $P \subset G$ is such that a translate of P is contained in U , we have γ constant on P . Therefore, no such totally disconnected P containing more than one point can be a $K_{a,\mathcal{A}}$ -set for any integer $a \geq 2$.

5.4. The hypothesis of local connectedness or something closely related to connectedness (cf. Theorem 2.1) in Theorems II and I respectively cannot be weakened to the hypothesis that G is not a torsion group. Indeed, there exist a compact metrizable group G which is not a torsion group and an infinite subset \mathcal{A} of X such that G contains no $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set. For example, let $G = \prod_{j=2}^{\infty} \mathbf{T}_{(2j)}$. Then, writing $X = \prod_{j=2}^{\infty} \mathbf{Z}_{2j}$ and letting $\mathcal{A} = \{\gamma_2, \gamma_3, \dots\}$ where γ_j has j th coordinate equal to j and the rest zero, we have $\gamma_j(x) = \pm 1$ for all $x \in G$ and all j , so every nonempty subset of G fails to be a $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set.

Also, there exist a compact metrizable group G which is not a torsion group and an infinite subset \mathcal{A} of X such that no subset of G containing more than one point is a $K_{a,\mathcal{A}}$ -set for any integer $a \geq 2$. Let $G = \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{T}_{(p_j)}$ where p_j is the j th prime. Write $X = \prod_{j=2}^{\infty} \mathbf{Z}_{p_j}$ and let $\mathcal{A} = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$ where γ_j has j th coordinate equal to 1 and the rest zero. Let P be a subset of G containing at least two points. Let $a \geq 2$ be an integer. We will show that P is not a $K_{a,\mathcal{A}}$ -set. Let p_k be a divisor of a . The open-closed sets in G form a basis for the topology of G , so there are two distinct $\mathbf{T}_{(p_k)}$ -valued (and, hence, $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ -valued) continuous functions, f_1 and f_2 , on P both different from 1. If either f_i is matched on P by some γ_j , it must be matched by γ_k since no other γ_j attains values in $\mathbf{T}_{(p_k)}$ different from 1. Thus either f_1 or f_2 is a $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ -valued continuous function not matched on P by any γ_j . Hence, P is not a $K_{a,\mathcal{A}}$ -set.

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