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A GENERALIZATION OF THE THEOREM OF MAULDIN

Let X be a metric space and let \mathcal{J} be a proper σ -ideal of subsets of X . It will be assumed that all singletons $\{x\}$, $x \in X$, belong to \mathcal{J} .

Denote by $\Phi_0(\mathcal{J})$ the family of all real-valued functions defined on X whose set of points of discontinuity belongs to \mathcal{J} . For each ordinal α , $0 < \alpha \leq \omega_1$, $\Phi_\alpha(\mathcal{J})$ be the family of all pointwise limits of sequences which terms are taken from $\bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} \Phi_\beta(\mathcal{J})$. The first number α such that $\Phi_\alpha(\mathcal{J}) = \Phi_{\omega_1}(\mathcal{J})$ will be called the Baire order of the σ -ideal \mathcal{J} .

The generalized Baire classes $\Phi_\alpha(\mathcal{J})$ were considered by Mauldin (see [6], [7], [8]).

In [2] Kuratowski proved that if X complete and separable, and \mathcal{J} denotes the σ -ideal of all sets of the first category, then the order of \mathcal{J} is 1. In [7] Mauldin proved that if \mathcal{J} denotes the σ -ideal of all subsets of $[0,1]$ of the Lebesgue measure zero, then the order of \mathcal{J} is ω_1 .

We have obtained the following generalization of this result:

Theorem 1. Let X be a perfect metric space, complete and separable. Let \mathcal{J}_0 be a σ -ideal of subsets of X such that

- (1) there is a compact set $X_0 \subseteq X$ such that $X_0 \notin \mathcal{J}_0$,
- (2) for each countable set $A \subseteq X$ there is a G_δ set B such that $A \subseteq B \in \mathcal{J}_0$.

Then for each σ -ideal \mathcal{J} such that $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{J}_0$ the order of \mathcal{J} is ω_1 .

Remarks and problems. (a) In the case when $X = [0,1]$ and $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{J}_0$ is the ideal of sets of the measure zero, we obtain

Mauldin's result.

(b) The condition (1) is fulfilled when X is locally compact. Indeed, then we put as X_0 a compact set which is a closure of an open nonempty set. Can the condition (1) be omitted in the general case?

(c) In [9] Mycielski constructed a σ -ideal of subsets of the Cantor set C which satisfies the condition (2). Since $X = C$ is compact, the condition (1) also holds. So Theorem 1 can be applied.

(d) Let X be such as in Theorem 1 and moreover let X be locally compact. Suppose that \mathcal{J} is a σ -ideal of X with the order ω_1 . Does there σ -ideal \mathcal{J}_0 exist such that $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{J}_0$ and \mathcal{J}_0 fulfils the condition (2)?

The proof of Theorem 1 is based on the method presented by Mauldin. A new element of the proof is the application of the topology $\tilde{\tau}(\mathcal{J})$ associated with the ideal \mathcal{J} . This topology was investigated by many authors (comp. [1], [4], [5], [9]). New properties of $\tilde{\tau}(\mathcal{J})$ which were used in the proof of Theorem 1 will be presented here.

Definition 1. For $A \in X$ let $A^{(\mathcal{J})}$ be the set of all $x \in X$ such that $V \cap A \notin \mathcal{J}$ for every neighbourhood V of x .

It turns out that $A \rightarrow A^{(\mathcal{J})}$ satisfies all conditions of the operator of the derived set and it yields a topology $\tilde{\tau}(\mathcal{J})$.

Definition 2. A closed set $A, \emptyset \neq A \subseteq X$ will be called \mathcal{J} -perfect if and only if for each set V such that $V \cap A \neq \emptyset$, we have $V \cap A \notin \mathcal{J}$.

Proposition 1. A set $A, \emptyset \neq A \subseteq X$ is \mathcal{J} -perfect if and only if $A = A^{(\mathcal{J})}$.

(It means that \mathcal{J} -perfect sets coincide with perfect sets in the topology $\tilde{\tau}(\mathcal{J})$).

Proposition 2. For each closed set $A \subseteq X$ there is a unique decomposition $A = B \cup C$ into disjoint sets B, C such that $B \in \mathcal{J}$, and $C = \emptyset$ or C is \mathcal{J} -perfect.

That is a generalization of the Cantor-Bendixson Theorem.

If σ denotes the σ -ideal of all countable sets, then we have the classic formulation. A similar result was obtained by Louveau in [3].

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