

# On the continuous $(A, B)$ -Darboux functions

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## 1. Introduction

Studying the behavior of real functions Z. Grande [1] showed that if a function  $f$  maps a set  $A$  which is not an interval into a set  $\mathbb{R}$  of all reals then the set of all continuous functions from  $A$  into  $\mathbb{R}$  which have not the intermediate value property has nonempty interior in the space of all continuous real functions defined on  $A$  (with the uniform metric). The main purpose of this paper is to give a classification in the sense of the category the sets of all continuous,  $(A, B)$ -Darboux functions in the space of all continuous functions.

**Definitions.** Let us establish some terminology to be used later. For each points  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a \neq b$  by  $I_{(a,b)}$  we mean the interval  $(\min\{a, b\}, \max\{a, b\})$ . Similarly we define the intervals  $I_{[a,b]}$ ,  $I_{(a,b]}$ . We denote by  $\text{cl } X$  the closure of  $X$  and  $\text{int } X$  the interior of  $X$ . A set  $U \subset \mathbb{R}$  is called to be an interval in the set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}$  if there exists an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $U = I \cap X$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  then we said that  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a  $(A, B)$ -Darboux function whenever for any  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  such that  $x_1 < x_2$  and  $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$  and for every point  $c \in B \cap I_{(f(x_1), f(x_2))}$  there exists  $x \in A \cap (x_1, x_2)$  such that  $f(x) = c$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{D}(A, B)$  ( $A \neq \emptyset \neq B$ ).

the family of all  $(A, B)$ -Darboux functions and by  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$  the family of all continuous functions  $f : A \rightarrow B$ . By the right (left) hand sided cluster set of  $f$  at  $x$  we mean

$$K^+(f, x) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}; \text{ there is a sequence } x_n \in A, x_n \searrow x \text{ and } f(x_n) \rightarrow y\}$$

$$(K^-(f, x) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}; \text{ there is a sequence } x_n \in A, x_n \nearrow x \text{ and } f(x_n) \rightarrow y\})$$

Let  $\rho$  be defined by the following formula

$$\rho(f, g) = \min\{1, \sup_{x \in A} |f(x) - g(x)|\}.$$

In this chapter of our article we shall explore the subspace of all  $(A, B)$ -Darboux functions in the space  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$  with the metric  $\rho$ .

**Remark 0.1** *If a nonempty set  $A$  is not an interval and the set  $B$  has at least tree elements then the set  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \setminus \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  has the nonempty interior.*

**Proof.** There is a point  $a \in \mathbb{R} \setminus A$  such that  $(-\infty, a) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and  $(a, \infty) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $b = (\sup A \cap (-\infty, a))$  and  $c = \inf(A \cap (a, \infty))$ . Let  $y_1 < y_2 < y_3$  be points of the set  $B$ . Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be continuous function such that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) = y_1 & \text{for } x \in A \cap (-\infty, b], \\ f(x) = y_3 & \text{for } x \in A \cap [c, \infty), \end{cases}$$

Then for every function  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  with  $\rho(f, g) < \delta$ , where  $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \min\{y_3 - y_2, y_2 - y_1, 1\}$   $g$  cannot be in  $\mathcal{D}(A, B)$ . This completes the proof.

**Theorem 0.1** *Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty,  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  is not closed in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $B$  is dense in itself, then the set  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  is nowhere dense in  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$ .*

**Proof.** Fix  $f$  belonging to  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$  and positive  $r$ . Since  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  is not closed, there exists  $a \in A$  which is an accumulation point of  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$ . We can find  $b_0, b_1 \in B$  such that:

$$b_1 \in I_{(b_0, f(a))},$$

$$|b_0 - f(a)| < \frac{r}{2},$$

$$|b_0 - b_1| < \frac{1}{2}|b_0 - f(a)|.$$

Obviously it is possible, since  $B$  is dense in itself. By the continuity of  $f$  there is an open interval  $I$  such that  $a \in I$  and  $|f(u) - f(a)| < r/4$  for each  $u \in I \cap A$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that  $a$  is a left hand sided accumulation point of  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$ . Choose  $x, y \in I \cap (-\infty, a) \setminus A$  such that  $x < y$  and  $(x, y) \cap A$  is nonvoid. We define a function  $g$  as follows:

$$g(u) = \begin{cases} f(u) & \text{if } u \in A \cap [(-\infty, x) \cup (a, \infty)] \\ b_0 & \text{if } u \in A \cap (x, y) \\ f(a) & \text{if } u \in A \cap (y, a] \end{cases}$$

Evidently  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$ . Remark that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(u) - g(u)| &\leq |f(u) - f(a)| + |f(a) - g(u)| \\ &< \frac{r}{4} + |f(a) - b_0| < \frac{r}{4} + \frac{r}{2} = \frac{3r}{4} \quad \text{for every } u \in A \cap (x, y), \\ |f(u) - g(u)| &< |f(u) - f(a)| < \frac{r}{4} \quad \text{for every } u \in A \cap (y, a), \\ f(u) &= g(u) \quad \text{otherwise.} \end{aligned}$$

So  $\rho(f, g) \leq 3r/4$ . Let  $h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  be such that  $\rho(g, h) < \frac{1}{2}|b_0 - b_1|$ . This inequality implies that  $\rho(f, h) \leq \rho(f, g) + \rho(g, h) \leq 3r/4 + |b_0 - f(a)|/4 < 3r/4 + r/8 < r$ .

Now remark that  $h$  cannot be  $(A, B)$ -Darboux function. Notice, that  $b_1 \in I_{(h(a), h(v))}$  for every  $v \in (x, y) \cap A$ . For the proof of above we can assume that  $f(a) < b_1 < b_0$ . If oposite inequalities hold, then the proof is simillar. Fix  $v \in (x, y) \cap A$ . By definition of  $h$  follows that  $|h(v) - g(v)| < (b_0 - b_1)/2$ . Thus we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} (b_1 - b_0)/2 &< h(v) - g(v) = h(v) - b_0 \\ b_1/2 + b_1/2 &< b_1/2 + b_0/2 < h(v) \end{aligned}$$

and consequently  $b_1 < h(v)$ . Moreover, from definitions of  $b_0, b_1$  and  $h$  follows:

$$\begin{aligned} |g(a) - h(a)| &< (b_0 - b_1)/2 \\ g(a) - h(a) &> (b_1 - b_0)/2 \\ -h(a) &> b_1/2 - b_0/2 - f(a) \\ h(a) &< b_0/2 + f(a) - b_1/2 < b_1/2 - f(a) - b_1/2 = f(a) < b_1. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently  $b_1 \in I_{(h(a), h(v))}$  for every  $v \in (x, y) \cap A$ .

Notice that  $h(t) = b_1$  for no  $t \in A \cap (y, a)$ . Suppose that  $h(t) = b_1$  for some  $t \in (y, a) \cap A$ . Then  $|h(t) - g(t)| = |b_1 - f(a)| > 2|b_0 - b_1|$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $\rho(h, g) < |b_0 - b_1|/2$ . The proof is finished.

**Theorem 0.2** *If there exist  $a, b \in A$  such that  $a < b$  and  $[a, b] \cap A$  is of the cardinality smaller than continuum and  $B$  is nonempty dense in itself then the set  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  is nowhere dense in  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $f$  be a fixed function from the class  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$  and  $r > 0$ . Because there exist  $a, b \in A$ , such that  $a < b$  and  $[a, b] \cap A$  has the cardinality smaller than continuum thus  $\mathbb{R} \setminus f([a, b] \cap A)$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We shall consider two cases.

(A)  $(a, b) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ ,

(B)  $(a, b) \cap A = \emptyset$ .

(A) Let  $x_0 \in (a, b) \cap A$  be a fixed point. Now select  $y_1, y_2 \in B$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 \text{ and } y_2 \text{ are different than } f(a) \text{ and } f(b), \\ \max\{|f(x_0 - y_1)|, |f(x_0) - y_2|\} < r/4, \\ y_2 \in I_{(f(b), y_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $U_b$  be an interval in  $A$  such that

- $b$  is the right end point of  $U_b$ ,
- the left end point of  $U_b$  belongs to the set  $(x_0, b) \setminus A$ ,
- $|f(x) - f(b)| < |y_2 - f(b)|/2$  for every  $x \in U_b \cap A$ .

Let  $U_a$  be an interval in  $A$  such that  $a$  is the left end point of  $U_a$  and the right end point of  $U_a$  is a element of the set  $(a, x_0) \setminus A$ . Because  $[a, b] \cap A$  has the cardinality smaller than continuum we can choose the points  $r_1, r_2 \notin f([a, b] \cap A)$  with the following conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_0), y_1, y_2 \in (r_1, r_2), \\ |r_2 - r_1| < r/2. \end{aligned}$$

Define  $U$  as

$$U = f^{-1}([r_1, r_2]) \cap (a, b) \setminus [U_a \cup U_b],$$

and let us put

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} y_1 & \text{for } x \in U \\ f(x) & \text{for } x \in A \setminus U \end{cases}$$

Remark that  $g$  is from the class  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$ , but  $g$  cannot be in  $\mathcal{D}(A, B)$ . Indeed,  $y_2 \in B$  is between  $g(x_0) = y_1, g(b) = f(b)$  and moreover  $g(u) \neq y_2$  for every  $u \in (x_0, b)$ . Let

$$\delta = \frac{1}{2} \min\{|y_1 - y_2|, y_2 - r_1, r_2 - y_2, \frac{1}{2}|y_2 - f(b)|\}. \quad (1)$$

We shall show that  $\rho(f, h) < r$  for every function  $h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  with  $\rho(h, g) < \delta$  and

$$\{h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B); \rho(h, g) < \delta\} \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B) = \emptyset. \quad (2)$$

Let  $h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  be such that  $\rho(h, g) < \delta$  and  $x \in A$  be a fixed point. If  $x \notin U$  then  $f(x) = g(x)$  and consequently  $|f(x) - h(x)| < \delta < r$ . Assume that  $x \in U$ . Then we obtain the following chain of inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - h(x)| &\leq |f(x) - g(x)| + |g(x) - h(x)| \\ &< r_2 - r_1 + \delta < \frac{r}{2} + \frac{1}{2}|y_1 - y_2| \\ &< \frac{r}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(|y_1 - f(x_0)| + |f(x_0) - y_2|) < \frac{r}{2} + \frac{r}{2} = r. \end{aligned}$$

Next observe that

$$h([x_0, b]) \cap (y_2 - \delta, y_2 + \delta) = \emptyset \quad (3)$$

Indeed, if  $x \in U$  then  $|g(x) - y_2| \leq |g(x) - h(x)| + |h(x) - y_2|$  and we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} |h(x) - y_2| &\geq |g(x) - y_2| - |g(x) - h(x)| = \\ &= |y_1 - y_2| - |g(x) - h(x)| > 2\delta - \delta = \delta. \end{aligned}$$

If  $x \in [x_0, b] \setminus U$ , then either  $x \in U_b$  or  $f(x) \notin [r_1, r_2]$ .

Assume that  $x \in U_b$ . By definitions of  $U_b$   $|f(x) - y_2| > |f(b) - y_2|/2 \geq 2\delta$  and notice that

$$\begin{aligned} |h(x) - y_2| &\geq |g(x) - y_2| - |g(x) - h(x)| = \\ &= |f(x) - y_2| - |g(x) - h(x)| > 2\delta - \delta = \delta. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $x \in (x_0, b)$  be such that  $f(x) \notin [r_1, r_2]$ . Since  $f(x) = g(x)$  and  $y_2 \in (r_1, r_2)$ , thus  $|g(x) - y_2| > \min\{y_2 - r_1, r_2 - y_2\} \geq 2\delta$  and finally

$$|h(x) - y_2| \geq |g(x) - y_2| - |g(x) - h(x)| > 2\delta - \delta = \delta$$

It is easily seen that  $y_2 \in I_{[h(x_0), h(b)]}$  and from (3) we conclude that (2) holds. So the proof is complete in the case (A).

(B) Assume that  $(a, b) \cap A = \emptyset$ . Let  $V \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a connected component of  $A$  such that  $b \in V$ . Then  $V$  is a nondegenerate interval or  $V = \{b\}$ .

(i) Assume that  $V$  is nondegenerate.

By the continuity of  $f$  there exists the maximal interval  $W$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $W \subset V$ ,  $b$  is the left end point of  $W$  and  $f(W) \subset [f(b) - r/4, f(b) + r/4]$ . Of course  $f(W) \subset B$  is an interval. Choose points  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ ,  $x_0 \in \text{cl}W$ ,  $b_1 \in I_{(b_2, f(a))}$  such that either:

(a)  $b_1, b_2 \in f(W)$  and  $f(x_0) = b_2$ , if  $f(W)$  is nondegenerate

or

(b)  $b_1, b_2 \in (f(b) - r/4, f(b) + r/4)$  and  $x_0 = \sup W$ , otherwise.

Let us put

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} b_2 & \text{for } x \in [b, x_0] \cap A \\ f(x) & \text{for } x \in [(-\infty, a] \cup (x_0, \infty)] \cap A \end{cases}$$

Then  $\rho(g, f) \leq r/2$  and  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$ . Notice that  $h \in \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  for no function which  $\rho(h, g) < \min\{|b_1 - f(a)|, |b_2 - b_1|\} < r/2$ . It follows immediately from the fact that  $b_1 \in I_{(h(a), h(b))}$  and are not points of between  $a$  and  $b$ . Thus the proof is finished in this case.

(ii) Now we shall consider the case when  $\{b\}$  is connected component of  $A$ . First assume that  $b$  is an isolated point of  $A$ . Let  $b_1, b_2 \in B \cap (f(b) - r/4, f(b) + r/4)$ ,  $b_1 \in I_{(f(a), b_2)}$ . Define

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{for } x \in A \setminus \{b\} \\ b_2 & \text{for } x = b \end{cases}$$

Then  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$ . Notice that every function  $h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  with  $\rho(h, g) < \min\{|f(a) - b_1|, |b_1 - b_2|\}$  is equal to  $b_1$  for no points of  $[a, b] \cap A$  and  $b_1 \in I_{(h(a), h(b))}$ . Thus  $h \notin \mathcal{D}(A, B)$ . Obviously  $\rho(h, f) < r$ .

Now assume that  $b$  is an accumulation point of  $A$  and  $\{b\}$  is the connected component of  $A$ . Then there is an interval  $W$  in  $A$  such that  $|f(x) - f(b)| < r/4$  for each  $x \in W$  and  $b$  is a left endpoint of  $W$ . Choose  $a_1, a_2 \in W \setminus A$ .  $(a_1, a_2) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and  $b_1, b_2, b_3 \in B \cap (f(b) - r/4, f(b) + r/4)$  such that  $b_1 \in I_{(b_2, b_3)}$ . Put

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{for } x \in A \setminus (a_1, a_2) \\ b_2 & \text{for } x \in (a_1, a_2) \cap A \\ b_3 & \text{for } x \in (a_1, a_2) \cap A \end{cases}$$

It is easy to see that  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$ . Then every function  $h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  with  $\rho(h, g) < \min\{|b_2 - b_1|, |b_1 - b_3|\}$  is equal to  $b_1$  for no points of  $[b, u] \cap A$  and  $b_1 \in I_{(h(b), h(u))}$ , where  $u \in (a_1, a_2) \cap A$ . Moreover  $\rho(h, f) < r$ . Thus  $h \notin \mathcal{D}(A, B)$ . This completes the proof.

**Theorem 0.3** *If  $A \neq \emptyset$  is not an interval,  $B$  is a nonvoid dense in itself set which contains no interval then  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  is nowhere dense in  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$ .*

**Proof.** By theorems 0.1 and 0.2 we can assume that  $\text{cl} A \setminus A$  is closed and for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a < b$  the set  $[a, b] \cap A$  has the cardinality continuum. Fix a function  $f \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  and  $r > 0$ . Since the continuous image of connected set is connected we conclude that  $f$  must be constant on every connected component of  $A$ . Let  $U \neq V$  be components of  $A$  such that  $\sup U \leq \inf V$ .

Denote  $f(U) = \{u\}$  and  $f(V) = \{v\}$ . Let  $b_1, b_2, b_3 \in B$  be such that  $b_2 \in I_{(b_1, b_3)}$ ,  $\max\{|b_1 - u|, |b_2 - u|\} < r/4$  and  $|b_3 - v| < r/4$ . Choose  $y_1, y_2 \notin B$  such that  $u, b_1, b_2 \in I_{(y_1, y_2)}$  and  $|y_2 - y_1| < r/2$ . Let  $a_1 \in [\sup U, \inf V] \setminus A$  be such that:

$$\text{osc}_{[a_1, \sup V] \cap A} f \leq r/4$$

and choose  $a_2 > \sup U$ ,  $a_2 \neq a_1$ , which fulfill conditions:

$$a_2 \notin A$$

$$\text{osc}_{[\inf V, a_2]} f < r/4$$

( $a_2$  may be equal to  $\infty$  if  $V$  is nobounded). Let  $g$  be define as:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} b_1 & \text{for } x \in A \cap (-\infty, a_1) \cap f^{-1}(I_{(y_1, y_2)}) \\ b_3 & \text{for } x \in A \cap (a_1, a_2) \\ f(x) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since  $f \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$ , each set  $A \cap (-\infty, a_1) \cap f^{-1}(I_{(y_1, y_2)})$  and  $x \in A \cap (a_1, a_2)$  is both open end closed in  $A$  we have that  $g$  is continuous. Moreover, it is easy to see that  $\rho(g, f) < r/2$ . Notice that for every  $h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  with

$$\rho(h, g) < \min\{|b_1 - b_2|, |b_3 - b_2|, |y_1 - b_2|, |y_2 - b_2|\} = \delta$$

$h(x)$  is not equal to  $b_2$  for no points of interval  $[x_u, x_v]$  and  $b_2 \in I_{(f(x_u), f(x_v))}$ , where  $x_u \in U$  and  $x_v \in V$ . Since  $b_2 \in I_{(h(x_u), h(x_v))}$ , the result is

$$\{h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B); \rho(h, g) < \delta\} \subset \{h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B); \rho(h, f) < r\}$$

and

$$\{h \in \mathcal{C}(A, B); \rho(h, g) < \delta\} \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B) = \emptyset.$$

The proof is finished.

**Remark 0.2** *If  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  are nonempty and  $B$  contains an isolated point then the set  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  has nonempty interior.*

**Proof.** Let  $b \in B$  be isolated in  $B$ ,  $r = \min\{1, \text{dist}(B) \setminus \{b\}, b\}$  and  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be constant and equal to  $b$ . Then for every function  $g : A \rightarrow B$  with  $\rho(g, f) < r$  we have  $g = f$ .

**Theorem 0.4** *If a nonempty set  $A$  is such that the set  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  is closed and for each points  $a, b \in A$ ,  $a < b$ , the set  $[a, b] \cap A$  has the cardinality continuum and moreover, the set  $B$  contains nondegenerate interval then the set  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \cap \mathcal{D}(A, B)$  has nonempty interior in  $\mathcal{C}(A, B)$ .*

**Proof.** If  $A$  is closed then  $A$  is an interval and  $\mathcal{C}(A, B) \subset \mathcal{D}(A, B)$ . So we may assume that  $\text{cl } A \setminus A \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots)$ , where  $a_i \neq a_j$  for  $i \neq j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  be a sequence (finite or not) of all unilaterally isolated points of the set  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$ . Let  $I = [r_1, r_2] \subset B$  be a nondegenerate compact interval. We shall show that  $A$  has the following properties:



- (1) if  $a \in A$  is a point of accumulation of  $A$  from the right (left), then there is an open interval  $U$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $U \subset A \cap (a, \infty)$ , ( $U \subset A \cap (-\infty, a)$ ) and  $a$  is the left (right) endpoint of  $U$ .
- (2) if  $a \in A$  is isolated from the right (left) then  $\inf\{x \in A; x > a\} \in \text{cl } A \setminus A$  ( $\sup\{x \in A; x < a\} \in \text{cl } A \setminus A$ ) (of course  $\inf\{x \in A; x > a\}$  ( $\sup\{x \in A; x < a\}$ ) is equal to  $a$ , for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ).
- (3) if  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  is an accumulation point of  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  from the right (left), then there is the subsequence  $(a_{n_k})_{k=1}^{\infty}$  of  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ , such that  $a_{n_k} \searrow a$  ( $a_{n_k} \nearrow a$ ) (obviously  $a \in \text{cl } A \setminus A$ ).
- (4) if  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  is an accumulation point of  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  from the right (left), then  $\text{int } A \cap (a, a + \delta) \neq \emptyset$  ( $\text{int } A \cap (a - \delta, a) \neq \emptyset$ ) for every  $\delta > 0$ .

We will prove (1). Assume that  $a \in A$  is a point of accumulation of  $A$  from the right and suppose that there is a sequence  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ ,  $x_n \notin A$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $x_n \searrow a$ . Let  $U_n$  be a components of  $\mathbb{R} \setminus A$  containing  $x_n$ . Denote  $\text{cl } U_n = [t_n, v_n]$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $t_n \notin A$  or  $v_n \notin A$ . Indeed, if  $U_n = \{x_n\}$  ( $t_n = x_n = v_n$ ) then  $t_n \notin A$  and  $v_n \notin A$ . Moreover if  $U_n$  is nondegenerate, then since  $[t_n, v_n] \cap A$  has the cardinality of continuum for  $t_n, v_n \in A$ , either  $t_n \notin A$  or  $v_n \notin A$ . Let

$$u_n = \begin{cases} t_n & \text{if } t_n \notin A \\ v_n & \text{if } v_n \notin A \text{ and } t_n \in A \end{cases}$$

for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

It is evident that  $u_n \in \text{cl } A \setminus A$  and  $u_n \longrightarrow a$ . Because  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  is closed thus  $a \notin A$ . This contradicts our assumption.

For the proof of (2) we need notice that, if  $s = \inf\{x \in A; x > a\} \notin \text{cl } A \setminus A$ , then  $s \in A$  and  $(x, s) \cap A = \emptyset$  ( $(s, x) \cap A = \emptyset$ ), which is impossible.

We next prove that (3) holds. Let  $\delta > 0$  and  $a$  be an accumulation point of  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$  from the right. It is evident that  $(\text{cl } A \setminus A) \cap [a, a + \delta]$  is nowhere dense and by assumption closed. Let  $U$  be the open, connected component of  $(a, a + \delta) \setminus (\text{cl } A \setminus A)$ . Thus the endpoint (left or right)  $u$  of  $U$  belongs to

$(\text{cl } A \setminus A) \cap (a, a + \delta)$  and  $u$  is unilaterally isolated of  $(\text{cl } A \setminus A)$ . Hence  $u = a_i$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and (3) is proved.

To prove (4), by (1) it is sufficient to show that for every  $\delta > 0$  there exists an accumulation point  $x \in A \cap (a, a + \delta)$  of  $A$ . But, it is clear from the cardinality of  $A \cap (a, a + \delta)$ .

We define  $d$  to be  $(r_2 + r_1)/2$ . Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be the function with following properties:

(i)  $f|U$  is continuous,

(ii) if  $a_i$  is the left (right) endpoint of  $U$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $K^+(f, a_i) = I$   
( $K^-(f, a_i) = I$ ),

(iii)  $f(U) = I$

for each nondegenerate, connected component  $U$  of  $A$ .

Moreover,

(iv)  $f(x) = d$  at each unilaterally isolated point  $x$  of  $A$ .

By (1) and definition of  $f$  we obtain that  $f$  is continuous. Observe that, if  $a_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) is not isolated from the left (right) in  $A$ , then the cluster set  $K^-(f, a_i)$  ( $K^+(f, a_i)$ ) is equal to  $I$ .

Let  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  be fixed. From (ii) the above condition is true for  $i$ , whenever  $a_i$  is the endpoint of some connected component of  $A$ . So we may assume that  $a_i$  is the left hand sided point of accumulation of  $\text{cl } A \setminus A$ . From (3) and (4) follows that for every  $\delta > 0$  there exists a nondegenerate connected component  $U$  of  $A$  such that  $U \subset (a_i - \delta, a_i)$ . By the above and (iii) our properties is proved.

Let  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$  and  $\rho(f, g) < (r_2 - r_1)/4$ . We shall show that  $g \in \mathcal{D}(A, B)$ . Fix  $a, b \in A$  such that  $a < b$  and  $g(a) \neq g(b)$ .

Let  $c \in I_{[g(a), g(b)]}$ . If  $a_i \in [a, b]$  for no  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $[a, b] \subset A$  and  $g|_{[a, b]}$  has the Darboux property. Consequently, there exists  $t \in [a, b] \cap A$  such that

$$g(t) = c.$$

Now we shall consider the oposite case. From now on we make the assumption  $a_i \in (a, b)$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\rho(f, g) < (r_2 - r_1)/4$ , it follows that

$$[d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d - (r_2 - r_1)/4] \subset K^-(f, a_i)$$

or

$$[d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4] \subset K^+(f, a_i).$$

Without restriction of generality we can assume that  $[d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4] \subset K^-(f, a_i)$ . Moreover, assume that  $c \in [d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4]$ . From the above and (4), there are points  $u, v \in [a, b]$  such that  $g(u) < d - (r_2 - r_1)/4$ ,  $g(v) > d + (r_2 - r_1)/4$  and  $[u, v] \subset A$ . Since  $c \in (g(u), g(v))$ , there exists  $t \in (u, v)$  such that  $f(t) = c$ .

If  $c \notin [d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4]$  then either  $g(a)$  or  $g(b)$  is not in  $[d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4]$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $d + (r_2 - r_1)/4 < c \leq g(a)$ . Observe that  $a \in \text{int } A$ . Suppose for a moment that  $a \notin \text{int } A$ . From (1)  $a$  is unilaterally isolated of  $A$  and from (iv)  $g(a) \in (d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4)$ , which contradicts our assumptions.

Let  $U$  be the component of  $A$  such that  $a \in U$ . We will denote by  $[u_1, u_2] = \text{cl } U$ . Of course  $u_2 \in (a, b)$  and either  $u_2 \in A$  or  $u_2 \notin A$ . Assume that  $u_2 \notin A$ . Obviously,  $u_2 = a_j$  for some  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .

From (ii)  $(d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4) \subset K^-(g, u_2)$  and consequently there is  $x \in (a, u_2)$  such that  $f(x) < d$ . Since  $[a, x] \subset A$ ,  $c \in (f(x), f(a))$  and  $g \in \mathcal{C}(A, B)$ , thus  $g|_{[a, x]}$  has the Darboux property. By the above, there is  $t \in (a, x) \subset (a, b)$  with  $g(t) = c$ .

We will consider the last case. Assume that  $u_2 \in A$ . Then by (1)  $u_2$  is an isolated point of  $A$  from the right and (iv) implies that  $f(u_2) = d$ , and finally  $g(u_2) \in (d - (r_2 - r_1)/4, d + (r_2 - r_1)/4)$ . Therefore  $c \in (g(u_1), g(a))$  and  $g|_{[a, u_2]}$  has the Darboux property, which completes the proof.

## References

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