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# ON SMALL SYSTEMS AND COMPACT FAMILIES OF BOREL FUNCTIONS

### ELIZA WAJCH

The main purpose of the paper is to generalize Kisyński's result of [6] and to prove that a family  $\mathbf{F}$  of Borel functions defined on a compact perfectly normal space is compact in the sense of the convergence with respect to an upper semicontinuous small system ( $\mathscr{G}_n$ ) of Borel sets if and only if, for each positive integer *n*, there exists a uniformly compact family  $\mathbf{F}^*$  of continuous functions having the property that, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , there is an  $f^* \in \mathbf{F}^*$  such that  $\{x: f(x) \neq f^*(x)\} \in \mathscr{G}_n$ .

To begin with, let us recall the most important definitions and establish some useful facts.

In what follows, X denotes a compact perfectly normal space. The symbol  $\mathscr{B}(X)$  stands for the  $\sigma$ -field of Borel subsets of X (i.e. the smallest  $\sigma$ -field containing all open sets). By a small system on  $\mathscr{B}(X)$  we mean a sequence  $(\mathscr{S}_n)$  of non-empty subfamilies of  $\mathscr{B}(X)$ , satisfying the following conditions:

(I) for any  $n \in N$ , there exists a sequence  $(k_i)$  of positive integers such that if

$$A_i \in \mathscr{G}_{k_i}$$
 for  $i \in N$ , then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathscr{G}_n$ ;

(II) for any  $n \in N$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{S}_n$  and  $B \in \mathcal{B}(X)$  such that  $B \subset A$ , we have  $B \in \mathcal{S}_n$ ;

(III) for any 
$$n \in N$$
,  $A \in \mathscr{G}_n$  and  $B \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathscr{G}_i$ , we have  $A \cup B \in \mathscr{G}_n$ ;

(IV)  $\mathscr{G}_n \supset \mathscr{G}_{n+1}$  for each  $n \in N$ 

(cf. [2, 5, 7, 8, 9]). If, in addition,  $(\mathcal{G}_n)$  has the following property:

(V) if  $(A_n)$  is a non-increasing sequence of Borel sets for which there exists  $i \in N$ 

such that 
$$A_n \notin \mathscr{G}_i$$
 for any  $n \in N$ , then  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \notin \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \mathscr{G}_m$ ,

then it is called an upper semicontinuous small system (cf. [7; Definition 18.29]). Now, let us give some serviceable characterization of upper semicontinuous small systems on  $\mathscr{B}(X)$ .

**Proposition.** A small system  $(\mathcal{G}_n)$  on  $\mathcal{B}(X)$  is upper semicontinuous if and only if each Borel subset A of X has the following property:

(R) for any  $n \in N$ , there exist a closed subset D of X and an open subset U of X, such that  $D \subset A \subset U$  and  $U \setminus D \in \mathscr{S}_n$ .

Proof. Necessity. Without any difficulties one can check that if  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  is upper semicontinuous, then, since each open set in X is of type  $F_{\sigma}$ , the family of these subsets of X which have the property (R) forms a  $\sigma$  — field containing all open sets (cf. [9; proof of Theorem 2]).

Sufficiency. Suppose that  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  is not upper semicontinuous but every Borel set has the property (R). By virtue of (III) and (V), there exist a positive integer *i* and a non-increasing sequence  $(A_n)$  of Borel sets, such that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \emptyset$ but  $A_n \notin \mathscr{G}_i$  for any  $n \in N$ . Take a sequence  $(k_n)$  of positive integers such that  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \notin \mathscr{G}_i$  whenever  $E_n \notin \mathscr{G}_{k_n}$  for  $n \in N$ . There exists a closed set  $D_1 \subset A_1$  such that  $A_1 \setminus D_1 \notin \mathscr{G}_k$ . We can inductively define a sequence  $(D_n)$  of closed sets such that  $D_{n+1} \subset D_n \cap A_{n+1}$  and  $(D_n \cap A_{n+1}) \setminus D_{n+1} \notin \mathscr{G}_{k_{n+1}}$  for  $n \in N$ . Then  $A_{n+1} \subset (D_n \cap A_{n+1}) \cup \bigcup_{m=1}^{n} [(D_m \cap A_{m+1}) \setminus D_{m+1}] \cup (A_1 \setminus D_1)$ , so  $D_n \cap A_{n+1} \notin \mathscr{G}_{k_{n+2}}$  for any  $n \in N$  (otherwise,  $A_{n+1}$  would belong to  $\mathscr{G}_i$ ). In this way, we have obtained a non-increasing sequence  $(D_n)$  of non-empty closed subsets of X such that  $D_n \subset A_n$  for any  $n \in N$ . The compactness of X yields  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} D_n \neq \emptyset$ , which contradicts the fact that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \emptyset$ .

The above proposition points out that the notions of upper semicontinuity and regularity (cf. [7; Definition 18.35]) are equivalent for small systems of Borel sets in perfectly normal compact spaces.

From now on,  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  will denote a fixed upper semicontinuous small system on  $\mathscr{B}(X)$ .

Let  $\mathscr{J} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathscr{G}_n$ . Obviously,  $\mathscr{J}$  forms a  $\sigma$ -ideal on  $\mathscr{B}(X)$ . One says that a property holds  $\mathscr{J}$ -almost everywhere (abbr.  $\mathscr{J}$ -a.e.) on X if the set of points not

property holds  $\mathcal{J}$ -almost everywhere (abbr.  $\mathcal{J}$ -a.e.) on X if the set of points not having this property belongs to  $\mathcal{J}$ . Denote by  $\mathbf{M}(\mathcal{J})$  the family of all  $\mathcal{J}$ -a.e. finite  $\mathscr{B}(X)$ -measurable real functions defined on X.

**Definition 1** (cf. [8]). A sequence  $(f_n)$  of functions from  $\mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  converges with respect to the small system  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  to a function  $f \in \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  if, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and any  $m \in N$ , there exists  $n_0 \in N$  such that  $\{x \in X : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \varepsilon\} \in \mathscr{G}_m$  whenever  $n \ge n_0$ .

**Definition 2** (cf. [5]). A family  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  is compact in the sense of the convergence with respect to the small system  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  (abbr.  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -compact) if each

sequence of functions from  $\mathbf{F}$  contains a subsequence converging with respect to  $(\mathcal{G}_n)$  to some function from  $\mathbf{M}(\mathcal{J})$ .

By a partition of X is meant a finite family  $\mathscr{P}$  of Borel sets such that  $\bigcup \{P: P \in \mathscr{P}\} = X.$ 

### **Definition 3** (cf. [5]). A family $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$ is called:

(a)  $(\mathcal{G}_n)$ -equibounded if, for any  $n \in N$ , there exists a positive integer t such that  $\{x \in X : | f(x) > t\} \in \mathcal{G}_n$  whenever  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ .

(b)  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equimeasurable if, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n \in N$ , there exist a partition  $\mathscr{P}$ of X and a collection  $\{A_f : f \in \mathbf{F}\} \subset \mathscr{G}_n$ , such that, for each  $P \in \mathscr{P}$  and  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , we have  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \varepsilon$  whenever  $x, y \in P \setminus A_f$ .

In [5] we obtained the following abstract version of Fréchet's theorem characterizing compactness in the sense of the convergence with respect to a finite measure (cf. [1, 3, 4]):

**Theorem 0.** A family  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -compact if and only if it is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equibounded and  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equimeasurable (cf. [5; Proposition 1 and Theorem 1]).

J. Kisyński gave in [6; Theorem 1] an elegant characterization of compact families of measurable real functions defined on a compact interval of the real line by approximating them to uniformly compact families of continuous functions. Here we shall extend the above mentioned result of Kisyński to  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -compact subfamilies of  $\mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$ . To do this, we need some lemma.

Denote by  $\mathbf{C}(X)$  the space of all continuous real functions defined on X with the topology of uniform convergence.

**Lemma.** If a family  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equimeasurable, then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n \in N$ , there exist a closed subset D of X, a family  $\{A_f : f \in \mathbf{F}\}$  of Borel sets, a continuous function  $h: X \to [0, 1]$  and a real number  $\delta > 0$ , such that the following conditions are satisfied:

(a)  $(X \setminus D) \cup A_f \in \mathscr{S}_n$  for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ ;

(b) for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $x, y \in D \setminus A_f$ , we have

 $|f(x) - f(y)| \le \varepsilon$  whenever  $|h(x) - h(y)| \le \delta$ .

Proof. Let us fix  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n_0 \in N$ . Take a sequence  $(k_i)$  of positive integers such that if  $A_i \in \mathscr{G}_{k_i}$  for  $i \in N$ , then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathscr{G}_{n_0}$ . Since **F** is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equimeasurable, there exist a family  $\{P_1, P_2, ..., P_m\}$  of pairwise disjoint Borel subsets of X and a family  $\{A_f : f \in \mathbf{F}\} \subset \mathscr{G}_{k_1}$  such that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{m} P_i = X$  and, moreover, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and i = 1, 2, ..., m, we have  $|f(x) - f(y)| \le \varepsilon$  whenever  $x, y \in P_i \setminus A_f$ . By virtue of our Proposition we can find closed subsets  $D_1, D_2, ..., D_m$  of X such that  $D_i \subset P_i$  and  $P_i \setminus D_i \in \mathscr{G}_{k_{i+1}}$  for i = 1, 2, ..., m. It follows from the normality of X

that there exists a continuous function  $h: X \to [0, 1]$  such that  $h(D_i) = \left\{\frac{1}{i}\right\}$  for

i = 1, 2, ..., m. Let us put  $D = \bigcup_{i=1}^{m} D_i$  and  $\delta = \frac{1}{2m(m-1)}$ . Then, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ ,

the set  $(X \setminus D) \cup A_f \subset A_f \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^m (P_i \setminus D_i)$  is a member of  $\mathscr{S}_{n_0}$ . To complete the proof, it suffices to observe that if  $x, y \in D$  and  $|h(x) - h(y)| \leq \delta$ , then  $x, y \in D_i$  for some  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., m\}$ .

Now we are in a position to prove the main theorem of the paper.

**Theorem 1.** A family  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -compact if and only if, for any  $n \in N$ , there exists a compact subset  $\mathbf{F}^*$  of  $\mathbf{C}(X)$  having the property that, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , there is an  $f^* \in \mathbf{F}^*$  such that  $\{x \in X : f(x) \neq f^*(x)\} \in \mathscr{G}_n$ .

Proof. Necessity. Let us fix  $n_0 \in N$ . There exists  $m \in N$  such that  $A \cup B \in \mathscr{G}_{n_0}$  whenever  $A, B \in \mathscr{G}_m$ . Take a sequence  $(k_i)$  of positive integers such that if  $A_i \in \mathscr{G}_k$  for  $i \in N$ , then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathscr{G}_m$ . By Theorem 0, the family  $\mathbf{F}$  is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equibounded, so there exists  $t \in N$  such that  $\{x \in X : |f(x)| > t\} \in \mathscr{G}_m$  whenever  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ . The Lemma, along with Theorem 0, implies that, for  $i \in N$ , there exist closed sets  $D_i \subset X$ , collections  $\{A_j^i : f \in \mathbf{F}\} \subset \mathscr{B}(X)$ , continuous functions  $h_i : X \to [0, 1]$  and real numbers  $\delta_i > 0$ , such that, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) 
$$(X \setminus D_i) \cup A_f^i \in \mathscr{G}_{k_i}$$
;  
(b)  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \frac{1}{i}$  whenever  $x, y \in D_i \setminus A_f^i$  and  $|h_i(x) - h_i(y)| \leq \delta_i$ .

We may assume that  $\delta_{i+1} < \delta_i$  for  $i \in N$ . Denote  $D = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} D_i$  and  $A_f = \{x \in X: |f(x)| > t\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_f^i$  for  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ . Clearly,  $(X \setminus D) \cup A_f \in \mathscr{S}_{n_0}$  for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ . Let us consider the pseudometric  $h(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{|h_i(x) - h_i(y)|}{2^i}$ . For any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $i \in N$ , we have  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \frac{1}{i}$  whenever  $x, y \in D \setminus A_f$  and  $h(x, y) \leq \frac{\delta_i}{2^i}$ . It is not difficult to construct a non-decreasing bounded uniformly continuous function  $g: [0, +\infty) \to R$  having the properties that  $g(0) = 0, g(\varepsilon) \geq \frac{1}{i}$  for  $\varepsilon \in \left(\frac{\delta_{i+1}}{2^{i+1}}, \frac{\delta_i}{2^i}\right]$  and  $g(\varepsilon) \geq 2t$  for  $\varepsilon > \frac{\delta_1}{2}$ . Then, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , we have

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$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq g(h(x, y))$$
 whenever  $x, y \in D \setminus A_f$ .

Following [6; proof of Lemma 1], we define

$$f^*(x) = \sup \{f(y) - g(h(x, y)): y \in D \setminus A_f\}$$
 for  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $x \in X$ .

If  $x, y \in D \setminus A_f$ , then  $f^*(x) \ge f(x) \ge f(y) - g(h(x, y))$ , so  $\{x \in X: f(x) \ne f^*(x)\} \subset (X \setminus D) \cup A_f$ ; hence  $\{x \in X: f(x) \ne f^*(x)\} \in \mathcal{G}_{n_0}$  for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ . Obviously, the family  $\{f^*: f \in \mathbf{F}\}$  is equibounded. In view of Ascoli's theorem, it suffices to show that  $\{f^*: f \in \mathbf{F}\}$  is evenly continuous. Bearing this in mind, let us define

 $G(\varepsilon) = \sup \{ |g(\varepsilon_1) - g(\varepsilon_2)| : \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 \ge 0 \text{ and } |\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2| \le \varepsilon \}.$ 

Consider any  $\delta > 0$  and  $x \in X$ . There exists  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  such that  $G(\varepsilon) < \delta$  for  $0 \le \varepsilon < \varepsilon_0$ . We can find a neighbourhood U of x such that  $h(x, y) < \varepsilon_0$  for any  $y \in U$ . Arguing similarly as in the proof of Lemma 1 in [6], one checks that

$$|f^*(x) - f^*(y)| \leq G(h(x, y))$$
 for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $y \in X$ .

All this implies that  $|f^*(x) - f^*(y)| < \delta$  for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $y \in U$ ; therefore the family  $\{f^*: f \in \mathbf{F}\}$  is evenly continuous.

Sufficiency. Let  $n_0 \in N$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  be fixed. Take a compact set  $\mathbf{F}^* \subset \mathbf{C}(X)$  having the property that to each  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  one can assign some  $f^* \in \mathbf{F}^*$  such that the set  $B_f = \{x \in X : f(x) \neq f^*(x)\}$  is a member of  $\mathscr{P}_{n_0}$ . The equiboundedness of  $\mathbf{F}^*$  implies the  $(\mathscr{P}_n)$ -equiboundedness of  $\mathbf{F}$ . Since  $\mathbf{F}^*$  is evenly continuous, there exists, for any  $x \in X$ , an open neighbourhood  $U_x$  of x such that  $|f^*(x) - f^*(y)| \le \varepsilon$  whenever  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $y \in U_x$ . If  $\mathscr{P}$  is a finite subcover of the cover  $\{U_x : x \in X\}$  of X, then, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $P \in \mathscr{P}$ , we have  $|f(x) - f(y)| \le \varepsilon$  whenever  $x, y \in P \setminus B_f$ ; hence  $\mathbf{F}$  is  $(\mathscr{S}_n)$ -equimeasurable. Theorem 0 completes the proof.

An immediate consequence of Theorem 1 is the following

**Corollary.** A family  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathscr{J})$  is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -compact if and only if, for any  $n \in N$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a finite set  $\mathbf{F}^* \subset \mathbf{C}(X)$  with the property that, for any  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , there is an  $f^* \in \mathbf{F}^*$  such that  $\{x \in X : |f(x) - f^*(x)| > \varepsilon\} \in \mathscr{G}_n$ .

Finally, let us formulate Theorem 1 in terms of the  $\sigma$ -ideal  $\mathscr{J}$ .

A family  $F \subset M(\mathscr{J})$  is called *compact in the sense of the convergence with* respect to the  $\sigma$ -ideal  $\mathscr{J}$  (abbr.  $\mathscr{J}$ -compact) provided each sequence of functions from F contains a subsequence converging  $\mathscr{J}$ -a.e. on X to some function  $f \in M(\mathscr{J})$  (cf. [5; Definition 2(b)]). Since  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  is upper semicontinuous,  $\mathscr{J}$ -compactness is equivalent to  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -compactness, as observed before in [5].

**Theorem 2.** A family  $\mathbf{F} \subset \mathbf{M}(\mathcal{J})$  is  $\mathcal{J}$ -compact if and only if there exists a sequence  $(\mathbf{F}_n^*)$  of compact subsets of  $\mathbf{C}(X)$  with the property that, for any sequence

 $(f_n)$  of functions from  $\mathbf{F}$ , there exists a sequence  $(f_n^*)$  of continuous functions such that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \{x \in X : f_n(x) \neq f_n^*(x)\} \in \mathscr{J} \text{ and } f_n^* \in \mathbf{F}_n^* \text{ for any } n \in N.$ 

Proof. Necessity. Lemma 1 of [8] implies the existence of a sequence  $(k_n)$  of positive integers such that if  $A_n \in \mathscr{S}_{k_n}$  for  $n \in N$ , then  $\bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n \in \mathscr{S}_m$  for any  $m \in N$ . In view of Theorem 1, there exists a sequence  $(\mathbf{F}_n^*)$  of compact subsets of  $\mathbf{C}(X)$  having the property that, for any  $n \in N$  and  $f \in \mathbf{F}$ , there is an  $f^* \in \mathbf{F}_n^*$  such that  $\{x \in X: f(x) \neq f^*(x)\} \in \mathscr{S}_{k_n}$ . It is evident that  $(\mathbf{F}_n^*)$  is the required sequence.

Sufficiency. Using similar arguments as in the proof of Theorem 1, we find a sequence  $(t_n)$  of positive integers such that  $\bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} \{x \in X : |f_n(x)| > t_n\} \in \mathscr{J}$  for any sequence  $(f_n)$  of functions from **F**. Therefore, by Proposition 2(b) of [5], **F** is  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$ -equibounded.

Let us fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . According to the proof of Theorem 1, one can show without any difficulties that there exists a sequence  $(\mathscr{P}_n)$  of partitions of X having the property that, for any sequence  $(f_n)$  of functions from **F**, there exists a sequence  $(A_n)$  of Borel sets such that  $\bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{n=m}^{\infty} A_n \in \mathscr{J}$  and, furthermore, for any  $n \in N$  and  $P \in \mathscr{P}_n$ , we have  $|f_n(x) - f_n(y)| \le \varepsilon$  whenever  $x, y \in P \setminus A_n$ . Following the proof of Proposition 4(b) in [5], we show that **F** is  $(\mathscr{S}_n)$ -equimeasurable. By virtue of Theorem 0, **F** is  $\mathscr{J}$ -compact.

Let us note that Theorems 1 and 2, together with the Corollary, remain true if we assume that X is a compact Hausdorff space (not necessarily perfectly normal) and  $(\mathscr{G}_n)$  is a regular small system on  $\mathscr{B}(X)$  (i.e. every Borel set has the property (R)).

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### МАЛЫЕ СИСТЕМЫ И КОМПАКТНЫЕ МНОЖЕСТВА БОРЕЛЕВСКИХ ФУНКЦИЙ

Eliza Wajch

### Резюме

Главная цель работы доказать, что семейство F борелевских функций, опрелеленных на компактном совершенно нормальном пространстве, является компактным по сходимости по непрерывной сверху малой системе ( $\mathscr{S}_n$ ) борелевских множеств в том и только в том случае, когда для произвольного натурального числа *n* существует такое компактное в топологии равномерной сходимости семейство F\* непрерывных функций, что для каждого  $f \in F$  найдется такое  $f^* \in F^*$ , что  $\{x: f(x) \neq f^*(x)\} \in \mathscr{S}_n$ .