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### GENERALIZATION OF A THEOREM OF S. PICCARD

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In 1942 S. Piccard has proved (see [5] ) a theorem, which is a topological analogue of the classical theorem of Steinhaus (see [6] ): If  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a second category Baire set, then the set  $A + A$  contains an interval.

In 1973 Z. Kominek in [3] attained more general result. He has shown, that if  $f(x, y)$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ , which is a homeomorphism with respect to each variable separately and if  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  are second category Baire sets, then the set  $f(A \times B)$  contains an interval.

Kominek has inspired by the paper M. E. Kuczma and M. Kuczma [4] , which generalizes the theorem of Steinhaus.

In the present note we give the following generalization of the Kominek's result:

**Theorem.** Let  $f(x, y) : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function, which is continuous with respect to each variable separately and which is constant in no subinterval  $I$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  are second category Baire sets, then the set  $f(A \times B)$  contains an interval.

**Remark 1.** The function  $f$  may be discontinuous, but in the Kominek's result the continuity of  $f$  is assumed.

In the sequel we shall use the following notation. By symbol  $f_x$  (for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ) we denote the function  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such, that for every  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  is  $f_x(y) = f(x, y)$ . Similarly  $f^y(x) = f(x, y)$

for every  $x \in R$ . Interval will be always a non-degenerate interval.

Remark 2. The theorem does not hold if both the functions  $f_x, f^y$  are continuous but only the functions  $f^y$  are assumed to be non-constant everywhere, as is shown by the following example:

$$f(x, y) = x$$

and

$A = B = J$ , where  $J$  is the set of irrational numbers.

Remark 3. Similarly, the theorem does not hold if the functions  $f_x, f^y$  are assumed to be non-constant everywhere but only  $f^y$  are continuous, as is shown by the following example:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} x & \text{for rational } y \\ 1 + x & \text{for irrational } y \end{cases}$$

and

$A = B = J$ , where  $J$  is the set of irrational numbers

For the proof of the theorem we shall need the following auxiliary results.

Lemma 1. Let  $f(x, y) : R \times R \rightarrow R$  be a function such, that for every  $x, y$  the functions  $f_x, f^y$  are continuous. Then there exist first category sets  $A, B$  of the type  $F_\sigma$  such, that the function  $f$  is continuous on the set  $(R \times R) \setminus (A \times B)$ .

Proof. See [1] or [2], page 337.

Lemma 2. Let  $g : R \rightarrow R$  be a continuous function, let  $I$  be an interval and let  $v \in \text{int } g(I)$ . Then there exists some  $u \in \text{int } I$  such, that  $g(u) = v$  and  $u$  is not a point of local extreme of function  $g$ .

Proof. Let assumptions of the Lemma be fulfilled. Since  $\text{int } g(I)$  is an open interval, there exist numbers  $v_1, v_2 \in \text{int } g(I)$

such, that  $v_1 < v < v_2$ . Hence there exist numbers  $u_1, u_2 \in I$  such, that  $g(u_1) = v_1, g(u_2) = v_2$ . Without loss of generality can be assumed, that  $u_1 < u_2$  (in the case  $u_1 > u_2$  the proof is analogous).

Let

$$M = \{ a \in \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle : \text{for every } x \in \langle u_1, a \rangle \text{ is } g(x) \leq v \}.$$

Clearly the set  $M$  is non-empty and upper bounded. Let  $u$  be the least upper bound of  $M$ . It is easy to verify that  $g(u) = v$  and that  $g$  has no local extreme at  $u$ , q. e. d.

L e m m a 3. Let  $f$  satisfy the assumptions of the theorem. Let  $I, J \subset \mathbb{R}$  be closed intervals and let  $\alpha = (u, v)$  be an interior point of the interval  $I \times J$  such, that  $f(\alpha) = t$ . Let at least one of functions  $f_u, f^v$  has not local extreme in point  $\alpha$ .<sup>1/</sup>

Let  $A, B$  be nowhere dense sets. Then there exist closed intervals  $I_1 \subset I \setminus A, J_1 \subset J \setminus B$  and a point  $\alpha_1 = (u_1, v_1) \in \text{int}(I_1 \times J_1)$  such, that the function  $f$  is in the point  $\alpha_1$  continuous,  $f(\alpha_1) = t$  and at least one of functions  $f_{u_1}, f^{v_1}$  has not local extreme in  $\alpha_1$ .

P r o o f . Without loss of generality can be assumed, that the function  $f_u$  has not local extreme in the point  $\alpha$ . Since  $v \in \text{int } J$ , there exist points  $c, d \in J$  such, that  $f_u(c) < t, f_u(d) > t$ . Without loss of generality can be assumed, that  $c < d$ . The functions  $f^c, f^d$  are continuous and  $f^c(u) < t, f^d(u) > t$ , hence there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$ , such, that  $(u - \varepsilon, u + \varepsilon) \subset I$ , and  $f^c(x) < t$  and  $f^d(x) > t$  for all  $x \in (u - \varepsilon, u + \varepsilon)$ .

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<sup>1/</sup> The fact, that the function  $f_u$  has not local extreme in point  $\alpha = (u, v)$ , means, that  $f_u$  has not local extreme in point  $v$ . Similarly for  $f^v$ .

Since  $A$  is a nowhere dense set, there exists closed interval  $I_1 \subset (u - \varepsilon, u + \varepsilon) \setminus A \subset I \setminus A$ . For every  $x \in I_1$  put

$$M_x = \{y \in \langle c, d \rangle : f_x(y) > t\}$$

Clearly  $d \in M_x$  and  $c \notin M_x$ . Thus for every  $x \in I_1$  there is the greatest lower bound of  $M_x$ ,  $\inf M_x \in (c, d)$ . Moreover, one can easily verify that for each  $x \in I_1$  we have

$$f_x(\inf M_x) = t$$

Since the functions  $f^y$  are constant on no interval there exist numbers  $a, b \in I_1$  such, that  $\inf M_a \neq \inf M_b$ . Let e.g.  $\inf M_a < \inf M_b$ . From the definition of  $M_x$  it follows, that there exists a point from interval  $(\inf M_a, \inf M_b)$ , where the function  $f_a$  has a value greater than  $t$ . But then there is an interval  $J_+ \subset (\inf M_a, \inf M_b)$  such, that  $f_a(y) > t$  for each  $y \in J_+$ . On the other hand, for all  $y \in \langle c, \inf M_b \rangle$  we have  $f_b(y) \leq t$ . Since  $f_b$  is not constant in  $J_+ \subset (c, \inf M_b)$ , there is a subinterval  $J_+^-$  of  $J_+$  such that  $f_b(y) < t$  for each  $y \in J_+^-$ . Since the set  $B$  is nowhere dense, there exists a closed interval  $J_1 \subset J_+^- \setminus B$ . Obviously  $J_1 \subset J \setminus B$ . According to the lemma 1 the set of points of discontinuity of function  $f(x, y)$  is a subset of Cartesian produkt  $D_x \times D_y$ , where  $D_x, D_y$  are first category sets of the type  $F_\sigma$ . First category set, however, contains no interval, thus there exists  $v_1 \in \text{int } J_1 \setminus D_y$ . As we know,  $f^{v_1}(a) > t$ ,  $f^{v_1}(b) < t$  and  $f^{v_1}$  is continuous function. According to the lemma 2 thus there exists  $u_1 \in \text{int } I_1$  (note, that  $a, b \in I_1$ ) such, that  $f^{v_1}(u_1) = t$  and  $u_1$  is not a point of local extreme of function  $f^{v_1}$ . Thus the lemma has been proved, because the point  $\alpha_1 = (u_1, v_1) \in \text{int } (I_1 \times J_1)$  is a point of continuity of the function  $f(x, y)$  (since  $v_1 \notin D_y$ ).

Proof of the theorem.  $A, B \subset R$  are by assumption a second category Baire sets. Then

$$A = (G_1 \setminus P_1) \cup Q_1$$

$$B = (G_2 \setminus P_2) \cup Q_2$$

for some non empty open sets  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , where  $P_1, Q_1, P_2, Q_2$  are of the first category. Let us denote by  $I_0$  and  $J_0$  closed intervals contained in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , respectively. It suffices to prove, that  $f [(I_0 \setminus P_1) \times (J_0 \setminus P_2)]$  contains an interval. Let us take arbitrarily but fixed point  $u_0 \in \text{int } I_0$ . The function  $f(x, y)$  maps interval  $I_H = \{u_0\} \times J_0$  onto some interval  $I_V$ , because function  $f_{u_0}$  is continuous and not constant on any interval. Let  $I^* = \text{int } I_V$ .

We shall show that

$$I^* \subset f [(I_0 \setminus P_1) \times (J_0 \setminus P_2)]$$

Since  $P_1, P_2$  are first category sets, we have

$$P_1 = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} P_{1n}$$

$$P_2 = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} P_{2n},$$

where  $P_{1n}$  and  $P_{2n}$  are nowhere dense sets.

Let  $t \in I^*$  be an arbitrary but fixed point from  $I^*$ . According to the Lemma 2 there exists  $v_0 \in \text{int } J_0$  such, that  $f_{u_0}(v_0) = t$ , and such, that  $v_0$  is not a point of local extreme of function  $f_{u_0}$ . The point  $\alpha_0 = (u_0, v_0)$  is interior point of the closed rectangle  $F_0 = I_0 \times J_0$  such, that  $f(\alpha_0) = t$ . The function  $f_{u_0}$  has not local extreme in point  $\alpha_0$ . The sets  $P_{11}, P_{21}$  are nowhere dense. According to the lemma 3 thus there exist closed intervals  $I'_1 \subset I_0 \setminus P_{11}, J'_1 \subset J_0 \setminus P_{21}$  and point  $\alpha_1 = (u_1, v_1) \in$

$\in \text{int } (I_1' \times J_1')$ , which is a point of continuity of the function  $f$  such, that  $f(\alpha_1) = t$  and at least one of functions  $f_{u_1}$ ,  $f^{v_1}$  has not local extreme in  $\alpha_1$ . Since the function  $f$  is continuous in the point  $\alpha_1$ , there exists closed rectangle

$$F_1 = (I_1 \times J_1) \subset (I_1' \times J_1') \subset (I_0 \setminus P_{11}) \times J_0 \setminus P_{21}$$

such that

$$\alpha_1 = (u_1, v_1) \in \text{int } F_1$$

and

$$\text{for all } (x, y) \in F_1 \text{ is } |f(x, y) - t| < \frac{1}{2}$$

Moreover,  $f(\alpha_1) = t$  and at least one of functions  $f_{u_1}$ ,  $f^{v_1}$  has not local extreme in  $\alpha_1$ .

In a similar way we can find a closed rectangle  $F_2 \subset F_1 = I_1 \times J_1$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} F_2 = (I_2 \times J_2) &\subset (I_1 \setminus P_{12}) \times (J_1 \setminus P_{22}) \subset \\ &\subset (I_0 \setminus (P_{11} \cup P_{12})) \times (J_0 \setminus (P_{21} \cup P_{22})) \end{aligned}$$

and such that there is a point

$$\alpha_2 = (u_2, v_2) \in \text{int } F_2$$

with the following properties:  $f(\alpha_2) = t$ , at least one of the functions  $f_{u_2}$ ,  $f^{v_2}$  has not local extreme at  $\alpha_2$ , and

$$|f(x, y) - t| < \frac{1}{2^2} \text{ for all } (x, y) \in F_2$$

Into rectangle  $F_2$  similarly we inscribe rectangle  $F_3$ , etc.

By the induction so we may construct a sequence of closed non empty rectangles  $\{F_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  such that

$$F_1 \supset F_2 \supset F_3 \supset \dots \supset F_k \supset \dots \quad (1)$$

$$F_k \subset (I_0 \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^k P_{1i}) \times (J_0 \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^k P_{2i}); \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \quad (2)$$

and

$$\text{for every } (x, y) \in F_k \text{ is } |f(x, y) - t| < \frac{1}{k};$$

$$k = 1, 2, \dots \quad (3)$$

The rectangles  $F_n$  form a decreasing sequence of non empty compact sets. Hence there is a point  $\alpha = (u, v) \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n$ .

By (2) we have

$$\alpha = (u, v) \in (I_0 \setminus P_1) \times (J_0 \setminus P_2) \quad (4)$$

By (3)

$$|f(u, v) - t| < \frac{1}{k} \quad \text{for every } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

hence

$$f(u, v) = t \quad (5)$$

With respect to (4) and (5) we have  $t \in f[(I_0 \setminus P_1) \times (J_0 \setminus P_2)]$ .

The point  $t \in I^*$  has been chosen arbitrarily, hence

$$I^* \subset f[(I_0 \setminus P_1) \times (J_0 \setminus P_2)], \quad \text{q.e.d.}$$

**R e m a r k 4.** The above quoted theorem is a special case of the following more general result: Under the assumptions of the theorem the set  $f[(G_1 \setminus P_1) \times (G_2 \setminus P_2)]$  is an union of a countable family of intervals. Moreover,

$$f[(G_1 \setminus P_1) \times (G_2 \setminus P_2)] = f(G_1 \times G_2) \setminus S,$$

where  $S$  is a countable nowhere dense set.

The proof is more complicated, but involves the same ideas as the proof of the theorem.



R E F E R E N C E S

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S Ú H R N

ZOVŠEOBECNENIE JEDNEJ VETY S. PICCARDOVEJ

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Nech  $f(x, y)$  je funkcia  $R \times R \rightarrow R$ . Nech pre každé  $x \in R$  sú funkcie  $f(x, -)$  a  $f(-, x)$  spojité a nekonštantné na žiadnom intervale. Nech  $A, B \subset R$  sú množiny druhej Baireovej kategórie s Baireovou vlastnosťou. Potom množina  $f(A, B)$  obsahuje nejaký interval.

Р Е З Ю М Е

ОБЩЕНИЕ ОДНОЙ ТЕОРЕМЫ С. ПИКАРДОВОЙ

ЯРОСЛАВ СМИТАЛ, ЛДВОМИР СНОХА, БРАТИСЛАВА

Пусть  $f(x, y)$  - функция  $R \times R \rightarrow R$ . Пусть для всякого  $x \in R$  функции  $f(x, -)$  и  $f(-, x)$  непрерывны или постоянны на каком отрезке. Пусть  $A, B \subset R$  множества Вера второй категории Вера. Тогда множество  $f(A, B)$  содержит какой-нибудь отрезок.

