

# \*operation and microscopic sets

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Let  $(X, +)$  be an abelian group. For  $A, B \subseteq X$  we write

$$A + B = \{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

### Definition of \*operation

For a family  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X)$  let:

$$\mathcal{F}^* = \{A \subseteq X : \forall F \in \mathcal{F} A + F \neq X\}.$$

## Theorem

- $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{F}^* \Rightarrow \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}^*$
- $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{F}^{**}$
- $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{F} \implies \mathcal{F}^* \subseteq \mathcal{G}^*$
- $\mathcal{F}^*$  is closed under taking subsets and translation invariant

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### Theorem(Horbaczewska, Lindner)

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- $\forall A \notin \mathcal{F} (\mathcal{F} \cup \{A\})^* \neq \mathcal{F}^*$
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If  $I = J^*$  for some family  $J$  then  $I = I^{**}$

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If  $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(2^\omega)$  is a translation and reflection invariant proper  $\sigma$ -ideal with  $\text{cof}(\mathcal{J}) \leq \mathfrak{c}$ ,  $\text{add}(\mathcal{J}) = \mathfrak{c}$  and  $A \notin \mathcal{J}$ , then

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## Proof

Take family  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{J}$  of subsets of  $X$  with  $\text{card}\mathcal{F} = \mathfrak{c}$  such that for every set  $I \in \mathcal{J}$  there exists a set  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  covering  $I$  ( $I \subseteq F$ ).

Let  $\{z_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \mathfrak{c}}$  be an enumeration of  $2^\omega$  and let  $\{F_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \mathfrak{c}}$  be an enumeration of all sets from  $\mathcal{F}$ . We build sequences of  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \mathfrak{c}}$  and  $\{r_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \mathfrak{c}}$ . Take two different  $x_0$  and  $r_0$ . Let  $\lambda < \mathfrak{c}$ . Suppose that we already constructed  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \lambda}$  and  $\{r_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \lambda}$  and define  $x_\lambda$  and  $r_\lambda$ . Since

$\bigcup_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2 < \lambda} (F_{\alpha_1} + x_{\alpha_2}) \neq 2^\omega$ , we can choose  $r_\lambda \notin \bigcup_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2 < \lambda} (F_{\alpha_1} + x_{\alpha_2})$ .



## Proof.

Let  $B_\lambda = 2^\omega \setminus \bigcup_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \leq \lambda} (r_{\alpha_1} - F_{\alpha_2})$ . Then  $2^\omega \setminus B_\lambda \in \mathcal{J}$ . Obviously  $2^\omega \setminus (z_\lambda - B_\lambda) = z_\lambda - (2^\omega \setminus B_\lambda) \in \mathcal{J}$ . Since  $A \notin \mathcal{J}$ , then  $A \not\subseteq 2^\omega \setminus (z_\lambda - B_\lambda)$ , so  $A \cap (z_\lambda - B_\lambda) \neq \emptyset$ . Hence, there are  $a_\lambda \in A$  and  $b_\lambda \in B_\lambda$  such that  $z_\lambda - b_\lambda = a_\lambda$ . Let  $x_\lambda = b_\lambda$ . Using this procedure, for every  $\lambda < \mathfrak{c}$ , we define  $X = \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \mathfrak{c}}$ . Since  $A + X = 2^\omega$ , the set  $X$  does not belong to  $(\mathcal{J} \cup \{A\})^*$ . On the other hand, for  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$  choosing  $\lambda > \alpha$  we have  $r_\lambda \notin X + F_\alpha$ , so  $X \in \mathcal{J}^*$ .



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## Question

Can we reverse this implication?

## Strong measure zero sets

A set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  has a strong zero measure when for every sequence  $(\varepsilon_n)$  of positive reals there exists a sequence  $(I_n)$  of intervals such that  $|I_n| \leq \varepsilon_n$  and  $A$  is contained in the union of  $I_n$ .

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## Strong measure zero sets but on Cantor

A set  $A \subseteq 2^\omega$  has a strong zero measure when for every sequence  $(k_n)$  of natural numbers there exists a sequence  $(\sigma_n)$  of intervals such that  $|\sigma_n| = k_n$  and  $A \subseteq \bigcup [\sigma_n]$ .

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$$\mathcal{SM} = \mathcal{N}^*$$

### Theorem (Galvin-Mycielski-Solovay)

A set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is strongly measure zero if and only if for every meager set  $H$  it holds that  $X + H \neq \mathbb{R}$ .

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So using  $*$ operation we can write

$$SMZ = M^*$$

Borel Conjecture

$$\mathcal{SMZ} = \text{Count}$$

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## Corollary

- Borel Conjecture  $\implies \mathcal{M} \neq \mathcal{M}^{**}$
- dual Borel Conjecture  $\implies \mathcal{N} \neq \mathcal{N}^{**}$

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### Definition

We say that a set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is microscopic ( $X \in \text{Micro}$ ) if for all  $\varepsilon$  there exists a sequence  $(I_n)$  such that  $|I_n| = \varepsilon^n$  and  $X \subseteq \bigcup I_n$ .

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Of course, we have  $\text{SMZ} \subseteq \text{Micro} \subseteq \mathcal{N}$

## Definition

We say that  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is porous ( $X \in \mathcal{P}$ ) if there exists  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  there exists  $y$  such that  $B(y, \alpha r) \subseteq B(x, r)$  and  $B(y, \alpha r) \cap X = \emptyset$



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Of course we have  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$

## Theorem

$X \in \text{Micro} \implies \forall E \in \mathcal{P} X + E \neq 2^\omega$

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*If  $E \in \mathcal{P}$ , then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha \in 2^m$  and every  $\tau \in 2^{m+k}$ , there exists  $\beta \in 2^{m+k}$  such that  $\alpha \subseteq \beta$  and  $([\tau] + [\beta]) \cap E = \emptyset$*

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Let  $E \in \mathcal{P}$ . Take  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  from the Theorem above. Take  $X \in \text{Mic}$  and the sequence of  $(\sigma_n)$  such that  $|\sigma_n| = (n+1)k$  and  $X \subseteq \bigcup [\sigma_n]$ . From Theorem there exist  $[\tau_n] \in 2^{(n+1)k}$  for every  $[\sigma_n]$  such that  $[\sigma_n] + [\tau_n] \cap E = \emptyset$ . Let  $y = \bigcup_n \tau_n$ , then  $(X + y) \cap E = \emptyset$  □