

Functions Equivalent to Borel Measurable Ones

by

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Summary. Let X and Y be two Polish spaces. Functions $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ are called equivalent if there exists a bijection φ from X onto itself such that $g \circ \varphi = f$. Using a theorem of J. Saint Raymond we characterize functions equivalent to Borel measurable ones. This characterization answers a question asked by M. Morayne and C. Ryll-Nardzewski

1. Introduction. Let X and Y be two sets. Following Szpilrajn ([12]), we say that functions $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ are *equivalent* if there exists a bijection φ from X onto itself such that $g \circ \varphi = f$. It is straightforward that f and g are equivalent if and only if $|f^{-1}(\{y\})| = |g^{-1}(\{y\})|$ for every $y \in Y$.

Let X be a Polish (i.e. separable, completely metrizable) topological space and let $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ be the family of Borel subsets of X . For a σ -ideal $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ we say that a function $g : X \rightarrow Y$ is $\sigma(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{I})$ -measurable if $g^{-1}(U)$ is an element of the smallest σ -algebra containing \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{I} for any open set $U \subset Y$. In [9] Morayne and Ryll-Nardzewski proved that if a σ -ideal $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ contains a set of size continuum and admits a Borel base, which is true in particular for the ideal of meager sets and the ideal of Lebesgue measure null-subsets of the interval $[0, 1]$, then a given function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is equivalent to some $\sigma(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{I})$ -measurable function $g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if and only if $\{y \in \mathbb{R} : f^{-1}(\{y\}) \neq \emptyset\}$ contains a topological copy of the Cantor space or there exists $y \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $|f^{-1}(\{y\})| = 2^{\aleph_0}$. They also asked if there is a similar characterization of functions equivalent to Borel measurable ones.

We answer this question using a recent result of J. Saint Raymond ([11]). The result of Morayne and Ryll-Nardzewski was proved by Kysiak for some σ -ideals not admitting a Borel base, in particular for the ideal of Marczewski null sets and the ideal of completely Ramsey null sets ([7]). Kwiatkowska ([6])

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: Primary 54H05; Secondary 03E15, 54C10.

Key words and phrases: coanalytic sets, equivalent functions, bimeasurable functions.

proved that a function $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is equivalent to a continuous function if and only if it fulfills certain requirements related to the Darboux property alongside with the descriptive set-theoretical requirement that the set $\{x \in [0, 1] : |f^{-1}(x)| = 2^{\aleph_0}\}$ is analytic.

2. Notation. All spaces considered are separable and metrizable. The *Baire space*, \mathcal{N} , is defined as the infinite countable product of \mathbb{N} , equipped with the Tikhonov topology. Let X be a Polish space. A set $A \subset X$ is *analytic* if it is a continuous image of \mathcal{N} . A set $C \subset X$ is *coanalytic* if its complement $X \setminus C$ is analytic.

Given a subset $A \subset X \times Y$ we define $A_x = \{y \in Y : (x, y) \in A\}$ and $A^y = \{x \in X : (x, y) \in A\}$.

Let $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ be the set of all finite sequences of the natural numbers. A nonempty subset $T \subset \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ is a *tree* if $\forall n \forall k \leq n [(t_0, \dots, t_{n-1}) \in T \Rightarrow (t_0, \dots, t_{k-1}) \in T]$. The space $\text{Tr} \subset 2^{\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}}$ is the set of all trees endowed with the topology inherited from $2^{\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}}$, it is homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Let T be a tree. We say that (x_0, x_1, \dots) is a *branch* of T if for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) \in T$. Denote by $\text{WF} \subset \text{Tr}$ the set of all *well-founded* trees (i.e. having no branches), and by $\text{UB} \subset \text{Tr}$ the set of all trees with exactly one branch.

We will need the following lemma which is a known generalization of the Lusin Unicity Theorem ([1, 18.11]). We include a proof since we have been unable to find a direct reference. Our method of proof is similar to a method used by Z. Koslova in [3].

LEMMA 1. *For any Borel subset $B \subset X \times Y$ of the product of Polish spaces X, Y , the sets $B(n) = \{x \in X : |B_x| = n\}$ are coanalytic for $n = 0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0$.*

Proof. Being a complement of the projection of B onto X , the set $B(0)$ is coanalytic. The Lusin Unicity Theorem guarantees that $B(1)$ is coanalytic. Let $2 \leq n < \aleph_0$ and let U_1, U_2, \dots be a basis of Y . Put $V_i = X \times U_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Since

$$x \in B(n) \Leftrightarrow \exists k_1, \dots, k_n \left[(\forall i \neq j V_{k_i} \cap V_{k_j} = \emptyset) \wedge (\forall i \leq n |(B \cap V_{k_i})_x| = 1) \wedge \left((B \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_{k_i})_x = \emptyset \right) \right],$$

the set $B(n)$ is coanalytic.

Consider now the case $n = \aleph_0$. Let $f : F \rightarrow B$ be a continuous bijection defined on a closed set $F \subset \mathcal{N}$ (cf. [1, 13.7]). Put $G = \{(x, y, z) : f(z) = (x, y)\} \subset X \times (Y \times \mathcal{N})$. For a given $x \in X$ the formula $y \mapsto (y, f^{-1}(x, y))$ defines a bijection between B_x and G_x . Hence it is sufficient to show that

$G(\aleph_0) = \{x \in X : |G_x| = \aleph_0\}$ is coanalytic. Note that G is closed and in particular all vertical sections of G are closed. Hence we may assume that B_x is closed for every $x \in X$ (we may replace B with G). The section B_x has infinitely many isolated points iff

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N} \exists k_1, \dots, k_m [(\forall i \neq j V_{k_i} \cap V_{k_j} = \emptyset) \wedge (\forall i = 1, \dots, m |(B \cap V_{k_i})_x| = 1)].$$

Hence the lemma follows from the observation that

$x \in B(\aleph_0) \Leftrightarrow B_x$ is countable and has infinitely many isolated points (the set $\{x \in X : |B_x| \leq \aleph_0\}$ is coanalytic, cf. [1, Theorem 29.19]). ■

3. Complete pairs of disjoint coanalytic sets. In this section we deal with pairs of disjoint coanalytic sets. For short we call them just *pairs*. Following Louveau and Saint Raymond (see [8]) we introduce the notion of a reduction of pairs and the notion of a complete pair (called in [8] *une pair reductrice pour Γ*).

Let X and Y be Polish spaces and let (A, B) and (C, D) be pairs in X and Y respectively. We say that a function $r : X \rightarrow Y$ *reduces* (A, B) to (C, D) if for any $x \in X$,

$$x \in A \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in C \quad \text{and} \quad x \in B \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in D.$$

We say that r is a *reduction* of (A, B) to (C, D) .

A pair (C, D) in a Polish space Y is *complete* (see [8, a definition before Theorem 9] and Definition 1 in [11]) if for any pair (A, B) in the Baire space there exists a continuous reduction of (A, B) to (C, D) . We will need the following result of Saint Raymond:

THEOREM 2 ([11, Theorem 23]). *The pair (WF, UB) is complete.*

Note that since any Polish space X can be embedded into the Baire space by means of a Borel measurable and bijective function, if (C, D) is a complete pair and (A, B) is a pair in X , then there exists a Borel measurable function reducing (A, B) to (C, D) (it is the superposition of the Borel measurable embedding and the reduction). Hence we obtain

COROLLARY 3. *Let A, B be coanalytic and disjoint subsets of a Polish space Y . Then there exists a Borel function $f : Y \rightarrow \text{Tr}$ such that $x \in A$ if and only if $f(x) \in WF$ and $x \in B$ if and only if $f(x) \in UB$.*

Using a method of [2] one can prove that if every pair (A, B) in every Polish space can be reduced to (C, D) by a Borel measurable function, then the pair (C, D) is complete.

4. Construction. For a given countable family of disjoint, coanalytic subsets of a Polish space Y indexed by the numbers $\{0, \dots, \aleph_0\}$, we will construct (Corollary 8) a Borel function on a Polish space X such that the

coanalytic set with index $n \in \{0, \dots, \aleph_0\}$ is equal to the set of points with all preimages of cardinality n . Furthermore, we will prove that the function may be chosen to be of the first Baire class.

LEMMA 4. *Let Y be a Polish space and let $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0)$ be subsets of Y . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *For every uncountable Polish space X there exists a Borel measurable function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ such that $B(n) = \{y \in Y : |f^{-1}(y)| = n\}$ for every $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0\}$.*
- (ii) *For every uncountable Polish space X there exists an uncountable Borel set $B \subset X \times Y$ such that $B(n) = \{y \in Y : |B^y| = n\}$ for every $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0\}$.*
- (iii) *There exists an uncountable closed set $F \subset \mathcal{N} \times Y$ such that $B(n) = \{y \in Y : |F^y| = n\}$ for every $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0\}$.*
- (iv) *There is a Polish space X and an uncountable Borel set $B \subset X \times Y$ such that $B(n) = \{y \in Y : |B^y| = n\}$ for every $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0\}$.*

Proof. Since the graph of a Borel measurable function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a Borel subset of $X \times Y$, obviously (i) implies (ii). Now, let X be an uncountable Polish space and let $B \subset X \times Y$ be an uncountable Borel set. To show that (ii) implies (iii), fix a closed subset A of \mathcal{N} and a continuous bijection $g : A \rightarrow B$ (cf. [1, 13.7]) and define $F = \{(z, y) \in \mathcal{N} \times Y : z \in A, y = \pi_Y \circ g(z)\}$, where $\pi_Y : X \times Y \rightarrow Y$ is the projection. Then F satisfies (iii), because for a given $y \in Y$ the formula $x \mapsto g^{-1}(x, y)$ defines a bijection between B^y and F^y . Clearly (iii) implies (iv). Finally, to prove (iv) \Rightarrow (i) assume that X and $B \subset X \times Y$ satisfy (iv) and X' is an arbitrary uncountable Polish space. Fix a Borel isomorphism $g : X' \rightarrow B$ (any two uncountable Borel subsets of Polish spaces are Borel isomorphic, cf. [1, 15.6]). Now we can define $f = \pi_Y \circ g$. The proof is complete. ■

THEOREM 5. *Let $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0)$ be subsets of a Polish space Y . If $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0)$ are coanalytic, pairwise disjoint and $\bigcup_{n=0, \dots, \aleph_0} B(n) \neq Y$ or $Y \setminus B(0)$ is uncountable then $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0)$ satisfy conditions (i)–(iv) of Lemma 4.*

If $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0) \subset Y$ satisfy one of the conditions of Lemma 4 then they are coanalytic, pairwise disjoint and $Y \setminus B(0)$ is uncountable or $\bigcup_{n=0, \dots, \aleph_0} B(n) \neq Y$.

Proof. Let $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0)$ be pairwise disjoint coanalytic subsets of a Polish space Y . We will prove that condition (iv) of Lemma 4 is fulfilled. To this end we define $B(2^{\aleph_0}) = Y \setminus \bigcup_{n=0, \dots, \aleph_0} B(n)$. The set $B(2^{\aleph_0})$ is analytic and if it is nonempty, then there exists a continuous surjection $s : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow B(2^{\aleph_0})$.

CLAIM 6. If $B(0)$ and $B(1)$ are two disjoint coanalytic subsets of a Polish space Y then there exists a Borel set $B \subset \mathcal{N} \times Y$ such that $B(0) \subset \{y \in Y : B^y = \emptyset\}$, $B(1) \subset \{y \in Y : B^y \text{ contains exactly one element}\}$.

Proof of the Claim. Due to Corollary 3 there exists a Borel map $r : Y \rightarrow \text{Tr}$ reducing the pair $(B(0), B(1))$ to (WF, UB) . Put $B = \{(x, y) : x \text{ is an infinite branch of } r(y)\}$. ■

By the Claim there exist Borel sets $B_n \subset \mathcal{N} \times Y$ such that $\bigcup_{i \leq n} B(i) \subset \{y \in Y : (B_n)^y = \emptyset\}$ and $\bigcup_{n < i \leq \aleph_0} B(i) \subset \{y \in Y : (B_n)^y \text{ contains exactly one element}\}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$.

If $B(2^{\aleph_0}) \neq \emptyset$ then we define $X = (\mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}) \oplus (\mathbb{N} \times \mathcal{N})$ and $B = \{(x, z, y) : s(x) = y\} \oplus \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{n\} \times B_n$. If $B(2^{\aleph_0}) = \emptyset$ then we define $X = \mathbb{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ and $B = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{n\} \times B_n$. The set B is uncountable and has all the required properties.

Now, let Y and $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0) \subset Y$ satisfy condition (iv) of Lemma 4 for a Polish space X and $B \subset X \times Y$. The sets $B(0), B(1), \dots, B(\aleph_0)$ are pairwise disjoint and by Lemma 1 they are coanalytic. Since B is uncountable, $Y \setminus B(0)$ is uncountable or $\bigcup_{n=0, \dots, \aleph_0} B(n) \neq Y$. ■

In the next corollary we will need the following

PROPOSITION 7. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a Borel function between Polish spaces X and Y . Then there exist maps of the first Baire class $g : X \rightarrow Y$ and $h : X \rightarrow X$ such that $g = f \circ h$.

Proof. Let ϕ be a bijection of the first Baire class between X and the graph of f (see [5, Corollaire, p. 212]). Put $h = \pi_X \circ \phi$, $g = \pi_Y \circ \phi$, where π_X and π_Y are the projections from $X \times Y$ onto X and Y , respectively. ■

COROLLARY 8. Let X and Y be Polish spaces. For a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ the following conditions are equivalent

- (i) f is equivalent to a function of the first Baire class,
- (ii) f is equivalent to a Borel measurable map,
- (iii) $|f^{-1}(y)| \in \{0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0, 2^{\aleph_0}\}$ for every $y \in Y$ and $\{y \in Y : |f^{-1}(y)| = n\}$ is coanalytic for $n = 0, \dots, \aleph_0$.

REMARK. Equivalence of (i) and (ii) was proved by Szpilrajn ([12, Section 3.1]).

Proof. The equivalence of (ii) and (iii) follows immediately from Theorem 5 and Lemma 4. The implication (i) \Rightarrow (ii) is obvious and (ii) \Rightarrow (i) follows from Proposition 7. ■

Note that Corollary 8 gives a full answer to the Morayne and Ryll-Nardzewski's question.

5. Functions equivalent to bimeasurable or continuous ones. Let X, Y be Polish spaces. Following [10] we will call a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ *bimeasurable* if it is Borel and $f[B]$ is Borel for every $B \in \mathcal{B}(X)$. In the previous section, for a given function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ we described conditions which guarantee that f is equivalent to a Borel measurable function. We may consider a more general problem of characterizing those functions which are equivalent to a function from a given class. In this section we consider the problem for two classes of functions:

- Theorem 10 indicates conditions which ensure that $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is equivalent to a bimeasurable function; in Proposition 11 we consider the notion of *Borel equivalence* of functions and prove that it is connected with the notion of bimeasurability.
- In Theorem 13 we assume that $X = \mathcal{N}$ and formulate necessary and sufficient conditions for f to be equivalent to a continuous function.

First, we recall

THEOREM 9 (Purves [10]). *A Borel function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is bimeasurable if and only if for all but countably many $y \in Y$ the fiber $f^{-1}(y)$ is countable.*

THEOREM 10. *A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is equivalent to a bimeasurable one if and only if for all but countably many $y \in Y$ the fiber $f^{-1}(y)$ is countable, the cardinalities of all fibers of f belong to the set $\{0, 1, \dots, \aleph_0, 2^{\aleph_0}\}$ and the sets $\{y \in Y : |f^{-1}(y)| = n\}$ are Borel for $n = 0, \dots, \aleph_0$.*

Proof. Necessity follows directly from Theorem 9 and the fact that every uncountable Borel set has cardinality 2^{\aleph_0} . The above condition is also sufficient. By Corollary 8 the function f is equivalent to some Borel measurable function g . By Theorem 9 the function g is bimeasurable. ■

We say that $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ are *Borel equivalent* if there is a Borel automorphism $h : X \rightarrow X$ such that $f = g \circ h$. Directly from the definition, for every pair of Borel equivalent functions, if one of them is Borel, then so is the other. The converse is in general false—Proposition 11 gives a wide class of examples of pairs of Borel functions which are equivalent, but not Borel equivalent.

For fixed spaces Y, X and a subset $F \subset Y \times X$, we call a Borel function $u : \pi_Y[F] \rightarrow X$ a *Borel uniformization* of F if $(y, u(y)) \in F$ for every $y \in \pi_Y[F]$.

OBSERVATION. (a) If $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ are Borel equivalent, $Y_0 \subset Y$ and the set $F = \{(y, x) \in Y_0 \times X : f(x) = y\}$ has a Borel uniformization, then $G = \{(y, x) \in Y_0 \times X : g(x) = y\}$ has one as well (take the superposition of any uniformization of F and an equivalence of f and g).

(b) For every uncountable Borel set B :

- There exists a Borel function $\psi : B \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ with all fibers uncountable such that $\{(y, x) \in \mathcal{N} \times B : \psi(x) = y\}$ has a Borel uniformization u . Indeed, if $f : B \rightarrow \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ is a Borel isomorphism and $s : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ is given by $s(x) = (x, y_0)$ for some $y_0 \in \mathcal{N}$, then we define

$$\psi = \pi_1 \circ f, \quad u = f^{-1} \circ s,$$

where $\pi_i : \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ is the projection on the i th coordinate ($i = 1, 2$).

- There exists a Borel function $\phi : B \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ with all fibers uncountable such that $\{(y, x) \in \mathcal{N} \times B : \phi(x) = y\}$ does not have a Borel uniformization. Indeed, let $A \subset \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ be a Borel set without a Borel uniformization and with all vertical sections uncountable (cf. [1, Exercise 18.17, one solution on p. 360 and another one on p. 365 in notes to 35.1]) and let $f : B \rightarrow A$ be a Borel isomorphism. We define

$$\phi = \pi_1 \circ f.$$

Then for every Borel uniformization $u : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow B$ of the set $\{(y, x) \in \mathcal{N} \times B : \phi(x) = y\}$, the superposition $\pi_2 \circ f \circ u : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ would be a Borel uniformization of A , a contradiction.

PROPOSITION 11. *Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a Borel function. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) every Borel map from X to Y equivalent to f is also Borel equivalent to f ,
- (ii) f is bimeasurable.

Proof. (ii) \Rightarrow (i). Let $g : X \rightarrow Y$ be a Borel map equivalent to f and let F, G be the graphs of f, g , respectively. Then the sets

$$F(n) = \{y : |f^{-1}(y)| = n\}, \quad G(n) = \{y : |g^{-1}(y)| = n\}$$

are Borel, $F(n) = G(n)$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots, \aleph_0, 2^{\aleph_0}$) and $F(2^{\aleph_0}) = G(2^{\aleph_0}) = \{y_j : j \in J\}$ for a countable set J .

Let $n \leq \aleph_0$. For every $y \in F(n)$ the horizontal section F^y is of cardinality n . By the Lusin–Novikov Theorem ([1, 18.10]) there are Borel functions $f_n^i : F(n) \rightarrow X$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{Graph}(f_n^i) = F \cap (X \times F(n))$. Maps g_n^i are defined in the same way. Let $A_n^i = f_n^i[F(n)]$, $B_n^i = g_n^i[G(n)]$, $1 \leq n \leq \aleph_0$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, and let $A_j = f^{-1}(y_j)$, $B_j = g^{-1}(y_j)$, $j \in J$. Now, let $h_n^i : A_n^i \rightarrow B_n^i$, $h_j : A_j \rightarrow B_j$ be Borel isomorphisms. Finally, we define the

required Borel automorphism $h : X \rightarrow X$ to be h_n^i on A_n^i , $1 \leq i \leq n \leq \aleph_0$, and h_j on A_j , $j \in J$.

(i) \Rightarrow (ii). Assume, aiming for a contradiction, that f is not bimeasurable. By Theorem 9 the set $\{y \in Y : |f^{-1}(y)| = 2^{\aleph_0}\}$ is uncountable. Since it is analytic (cf. [1, Theorem 29.19]), it contains a copy N of the Baire space. Let $B = f^{-1}[N]$. If the set $F = \{(y, x) \in N \times B : f(x) = y\}$ does not have a Borel uniformization, then we define $g : X \rightarrow Y$ to be ψ on B and f on $X \setminus B$. If the set F has a Borel uniformization, then we define g to be ϕ on B and f on $X \setminus B$ (ϕ, ψ are defined in Observation (b) preceding the proposition).

The fibers of f and g have the same cardinality, hence the functions are equivalent. However, according to Observation (a) applied to the set $N \subset Y$, they are not Borel equivalent. ■

Let X, Y be Polish spaces and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a Borel function that is not bimeasurable. The construction in the proof of the implication (i) \Rightarrow (ii), after a minor modification, gives a family of 2^{\aleph_0} Borel functions which are pairwise Borel inequivalent, but equivalent to f .

The rest of the section is devoted to the characterization of the functions which are equivalent to a continuous function from \mathcal{N} to a Polish space Y . We call a nonempty subset B of a Polish space X *locally uncountable* if every nonempty relatively open subset of B is uncountable. We will need the following standard lemma which is a variation of [1, Exercise 7.15]:

LEMMA 12. *If $B \subset X$ is a locally uncountable Borel set, then there exists a continuous bijection $\psi : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow B$.*

REMARK. (a) Let B be a Borel and locally uncountable set. We fix a continuous bijection $\psi : \mathcal{N}^2 \rightarrow B$ given by Lemma 12 (\mathcal{N}^2 and \mathcal{N} are homeomorphic). Let D_0, D_1, \dots be Borel, pairwise disjoint, dense subsets of \mathcal{N} such that $\mathcal{N} = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} D_i$. Then the sets $B_i = \psi[D_i \times \mathcal{N}]$, $i = 0, 1, \dots$, are Borel, pairwise disjoint, locally uncountable and dense in B .

(b) Let A be a locally uncountable set. For a given set B , if $A \subset B \subset \bar{A}$, then B is also locally uncountable.

THEOREM 13. *Let $f : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow Y$ be a Borel function. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *there is a continuous $g : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow Y$ equivalent to f ,*
- (ii) *there is a continuous $g : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow Y$ Borel equivalent to f ,*
- (iii) *for every open set U in Y , the preimage $f^{-1}[U]$ is empty or uncountable.*

Proof. The implications (i) \Rightarrow (iii) and (ii) \Rightarrow (i) are easy, so we give a proof of (iii) \Rightarrow (ii) only. Let K be a compactification of \mathcal{N} and let $G = \{(x, f(x)) : x \in \mathcal{N}\} \subset K \times Y$ be the graph of f . Let A be the set of points of G with a countable neighborhood in G . Then both A and $Z = \pi_Y[A] \setminus \{y \in Y : |f^{-1}(y)| = 2^{\aleph_0}\}$ are countable. Let $B = G \setminus (A \cup \pi_Y^{-1}[Z])$. Note that $|B^y| = |G^y| = |f^{-1}(y)|$ for $y \in Y \setminus Z$ and $|B^y| = 0$ for $y \in Z$. According to (iii) and because of compactness of K , for every Z there is a point $k_y \in K$ such that $p_y = (k_y, y) \in \bar{B}^{K \times Y} \subset K \times Y$.

The set B is locally uncountable and Borel, hence Remark (a) guarantees that there exist Borel subsets B_0, B_1, \dots of B which are pairwise disjoint, locally uncountable, dense in B and such that $B = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n$.

Since the sets $C_i = \{p_y : i < |f^{-1}(y)|, y \in Z\}$ are countable, the sets $\tilde{B}_i = (B_i \cup C_i) \times \{i\}$ are Borel in $K \times Y \times \mathbb{N}$. Moreover, by Remark (b), they are locally uncountable. Let $\psi_i : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \tilde{B}_i$ be continuous bijections given by Lemma 12. Let $\tilde{B} = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \tilde{B}_i$ and let $\psi : \mathcal{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \tilde{B}$ be defined by $\psi(x, i) = \psi_i(x)$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$. For every $y \in Z$ take a bijection $\phi_y : \{p_y\} \times \{i : i < |f^{-1}(y)|\} \rightarrow G \cap \pi_Y^{-1}(y)$. Then $\phi : \tilde{B} \rightarrow G$ defined to be $\pi_{K \times Y}$ on $\pi_{K \times Y}^{-1}[B]$ and ϕ_y on the domain of ϕ_y is a Borel isomorphism. Fix a homeomorphism $k : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N}$ and let $\tilde{f} : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow G$ be defined by $\tilde{f}(x) = (x, f(x))$. Now it is sufficient to define $g : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow Y$ and $h : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ by

$$g = \pi_Y \circ \phi \circ \phi \circ k, \quad h = k^{-1} \circ \psi^{-1} \circ \phi^{-1} \circ \tilde{f}. \blacksquare$$

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Received March 22, 2009

(7705)