

# EXISTENCE OF SPECIAL $K$ -SETS IN CERTAIN LOCALLY COMPACT ABELIAN GROUPS

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In all that follows,  $G$  is an infinite, nondiscrete, locally compact  $T_0$  abelian group with character group  $X$  and  $\Delta$  is a nonempty subset of  $X$ . In a standard proof of the existence of infinite (in fact, perfect) Helson sets (see for example Hewitt and Ross) it is shown that each nonvoid open subset of an arbitrary  $G$  contains a  $K$ -set (terminology of Hewitt and Ross) homeomorphic to Cantor's ternary set (or, in the terminology of Rudin, a Kronecker set or a set of type  $K_a$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set). In this paper, it is shown that  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -sets or  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -sets homeomorphic to the Cantor set exist in profusion in a large class of infinite nondiscrete locally compact  $T_0$  abelian groups  $G$ , provided that  $\bar{\Delta}$  is not compact. (A nonvoid subset  $E$  of  $G$  is called a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set if for every continuous function from  $E$  to  $\mathbb{T}$ , the circle group, and every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is a  $\gamma \in \Delta$  such that  $|\gamma(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$  for all  $x \in E$ . Let  $a$  be an integer greater than one. A nonvoid subset  $E$  of  $G$  is called a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set if it is totally disconnected and every continuous function on  $E$  with values in the set of  $a$ th roots of unity is the restriction to  $E$  of some  $\gamma \in \Delta$ .)

The following theorems will be proved.

**THEOREM I.** *Let  $G$  be compact. Let  $\Delta$  be infinite. Suppose that, except for the character which is identically 1,  $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$  consists solely of elements of infinite order. (This condition is satisfied automatically if  $G$  is connected, for then  $X$  is torsion-free.) Then every nonvoid open set in  $G$  contains a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

**THEOREM II.** *Let  $G$  be locally connected. Suppose that  $\bar{\Delta}$  is not compact. Then every nonvoid open set in  $G$  contains a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

**THEOREM III.** *Let  $G$  be a compact torsion group. Let  $\Delta$  be infinite. Then there is an integer  $a \geq 2$  such that every nonvoid open set in  $G$  contains a translate of a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

## 1. Preliminaries.

**NOTATION 1.1.** We denote Haar measure on  $G$  by  $m$ , with  $m(G) = 1$  when  $G$  is compact. When  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , we write

$\Delta|_H$  for  $\{\gamma|_H: \gamma \in \Delta\}$ .  $M(P)$  denotes the set of all (finite) regular Borel measures on the compact subset  $P$  of  $G$ .

$C(A, B)$  denotes the set of all continuous functions from  $A$  to  $B$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are topological spaces. If  $B = \mathbb{C}$ , the set of complex numbers, we write  $C(A)$  instead of  $C(A, \mathbb{C})$ .

$\mathbb{Z}$  is the group of integers.  $\mathbb{R}$  is the group of real numbers.  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the (discrete) group of rational numbers.  $\mathbb{N}$  is the set of positive integers. When  $a$  is an integer greater than one,  $\mathbb{Z}_a$  is the additive group of integers modulo  $a$  and  $\mathbb{T}_{(a)}$  is the multiplicative group of  $a$ th roots of unity.

$1$  is the identity element of  $X$ .

$\prod_{i \in I}^* G_i$  is the weak direct product of the groups  $G_i$ .

#### REMARKS 1.2.

(a) In §5, we give examples which show some of the limitations of Theorems I, II, and III.

(b) The hypothesis on  $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$  in Theorem I is related to connectedness, as will be shown in Theorem 2.1.

(c) When  $G$  is compact, a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set (or  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set)  $E$  is a  $\Delta$ -Helson set—i.e., a set with the property that every  $f \in C(E)$  has the form  $f = \check{g}|_E$  for some  $g \in L_1(X)$  which vanishes off  $\Delta$ . When  $G$  is not compact, a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set need not be a  $\Delta$ -Helson set as the example  $G = X = \mathbb{R}$  and  $\Delta = \mathbb{Q}$  shows.

(d) Our proof of Theorem II for the case where  $G$  is metrizable uses a technique due to Kaufman, [6, p. 184–185 and 7]. The general case follows from the case where  $G$  is metrizable and from Theorem I. Our proofs of Theorems I and III depend on the notion of an equidistributed sequence in a compact group. This notion for the case  $G = \mathbb{T}$  is due to Weyl [9]. The notion has been generalized by Eckmann [2] and Hlawka [5]. Eckmann's work offers more than enough generality for our purposes; relevant parts are given below in 1.3 and 1.4.

**DEFINITION 1.3.** Let  $H$  be a compact abelian group with Haar measure  $\mu$  and  $\mu(H) = 1$ . Let  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  be a sequence in  $H$ . For  $F \subset H$ , let  $n(F)$  be the number of  $\alpha_j$  with index  $j \leq n$  which are in  $F$ . The sequence  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is said to be equidistributed in  $H$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(F)/n = \mu(F)$  for all closed  $F$  with the property that  $\mu(\text{boundary } F) = 0$ .

**THEOREM 1.4.** Let  $H$  be a compact abelian group with Haar measure  $\mu$  and  $\mu(H) = 1$ . Let  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  be a sequence in  $H$ . The following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $H$ ;

(ii) for every continuous character  $\gamma$  of  $H$  such that  $\gamma \not\equiv 1$ , we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma(\alpha_j) = 0$ .

REMARKS 1.5.

(a) In the proofs of Theorems I and III we will use the equivalence of (i) and (ii) in Theorem 1.4 for the cases  $H = \mathbf{T}$  and  $H = \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$  respectively. If  $H = \mathbf{T}$  we have Weyl's original result: The sequence  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty \subset \mathbf{T}$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}$  if and only if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j^r = 0$  for all nonzero integers  $r$  (or, equivalently, for all  $r \in \mathbf{N}$ ) [9]. If  $H = \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ , we have: The sequence  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^\infty \subset \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$  if and only if for every integer  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, a-1\}$  we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j^r = 0$ .

(b) Eckmann's definition differs from Definition 1.3 in that he omits the restriction  $\mu(\text{boundary } F) = 0$ . This restriction is necessary, as has been pointed out [3].

## 2. Proof of Theorem I.

2.1. We first investigate the hypothesis on  $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$  in the statement of Theorem I and find that it is related to connectedness.

**THEOREM.** *Let  $G$  be compact. Let  $\Delta$  be a countably infinite subset of  $X$ . The following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\Delta\Delta^{-1} \setminus \{1\}$  consists solely of elements of infinite order;
- (ii)  $G$  contains a compact connected metrizable subgroup  $H$  with the property that  $\delta \rightarrow \delta|_H$  is a one-to-one map from  $\Delta$  to the character group of  $H$ .

*Proof.* (ii) implies (i): Let  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$  be distinct elements of  $\Delta$ . Then  $\delta_1|_H \neq \delta_2|_H$ , so  $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}|_H \neq 1$ . Since  $H$  is connected, its character group is torsion-free. Hence,  $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}|_H$  has infinite order and therefore so does  $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}$ .

(i) implies (ii): Let  $\Gamma$  be a maximal torsion-free independent subset of  $\Delta$ . (Clearly,  $\Delta$  contains at most one element of finite order, so  $\Gamma$  is nonvoid.) We have  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p\}$  for some positive integer  $p$  or  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$ . If  $\Gamma$  is finite, let  $P = \mathbf{Q}^p$ . If not, let  $P$  be the weak direct product of countably many copies of  $\mathbf{Q}$ . (In either case,  $P$  is countable.) For  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  (and  $n \leq p$  if  $\Gamma$  is finite) let  $e_n$  be that element of  $P$  with  $n$ th coordinate equal to 1 and all other coordinates equal to zero. Let  $Y$  be the subgroup of  $X$  generated by  $\Gamma$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is independent, the map  $\gamma_n \rightarrow e_n$  extends to a (one-to-one) homomorphism from  $Y$  to  $P$ . Since  $P$  is divisible, this homomorphism extends to a homomorphism  $\phi: X \rightarrow P$ . Hence  $W = X/\ker \phi$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $P$ . Let  $H$  be the annihilator of  $\ker \phi$  in  $G$ . Then  $H$

is a closed subgroup of  $G$  and has character group  $W$ , which is torsion-free and countable. Hence,  $H$  is connected and metrizable. Now  $\delta_1|_H = \delta_2|_H$  if and only if  $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1} \in \ker \phi$ . Let  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$  be distinct elements of  $\Delta$ . It is sufficient to show that  $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1} \notin \ker \phi$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is a maximal torsion-free independent subset of  $\Delta$ , there exist nonzero integers  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  such that  $\delta_1^{r_1}$  and  $\delta_2^{r_2}$  are in  $Y$ . Therefore there is a nonzero integer  $r$  such that  $(\delta_1\delta_2^{-1})^r \in Y$ . By the hypothesis on  $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$ , we have  $(\delta_1\delta_2^{-1})^r \neq 1$ . Since  $\phi$  is one-to-one on  $Y$ ,  $r\phi(\delta_1\delta_2^{-1}) = \phi((\delta_1\delta_2^{-1})^r)$  is not the identity of  $P$ . Hence  $\delta_1\delta_2^{-1} \notin \ker \phi$  and the proof is complete.

**LEMMA 2.2.** *Let  $G$  be compact. Let  $\Delta = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$  be a countably infinite set of distinct elements of  $X$  arranged in any fixed order. Suppose that  $\Delta\Delta^{-1} \setminus \{1\}$  consists solely of elements of infinite order. Then for  $m$ -almost all  $x \in G$ , the sequence  $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}$ .*

*Proof.* Our proof follows Weyl [9]. For  $x \in G$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , and  $r \in \mathbf{N}$ , define  $f_{nr}(x) = n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x)$ . From our hypothesis on  $\Delta\Delta^{-1}$  we find that  $\gamma_j^r \overline{\gamma_k^r} = 1$  implies that  $\gamma_j = \gamma_k$ . Since  $G$  is compact,  $\int_G \gamma(x) dm(x) = 0$  when  $\gamma \neq 1$ . Thus, we have

$$\int_G |f_{nr}|^2 dm = n^{-2} \int_G \sum_{j,k=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x) \overline{\gamma_k^r(x)} dm(x) = n^{-1}.$$

Therefore we have  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \|f_{n^2,r}\|_2^2 < \infty$  and hence  $f_{n^2,r}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for  $m$ -almost all  $x \in G$ . Suppose that  $f_{n^2,r}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \notin A_r$  where  $m(A_r) = 0$ .

For  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , let  $\lambda(n)$  be the positive integer such that  $\lambda^2 \leq n < (\lambda + 1)^2$ . Then we have  $|nf_{nr}(x) - \lambda^2 f_{\lambda^2,r}(x)| \leq 2\lambda$  and hence

$$\left| f_{nr}(x) - \frac{\lambda^2}{n} f_{\lambda^2,r}(x) \right| \leq 2/\sqrt{n}.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Fix  $x \notin A_r$ . Then there is a positive integer  $M$  such that  $|f_{\lambda^2,r}(x)| < \varepsilon/2$  whenever  $\lambda \geq M$ . Let  $n \geq M^2$  and  $n > 16/\varepsilon^2$ . Let  $\lambda$  be such that  $\lambda^2 \leq n < (\lambda + 1)^2$ . Then  $\lambda^2/n \leq 1$ ,  $2/\sqrt{n} < \varepsilon/2$ , and  $\lambda^2 \geq M^2$ , so we have

$$|f_{nr}(x)| \leq \left| f_{nr}(x) - \frac{\lambda^2}{n} f_{\lambda^2,r}(x) \right| + \frac{\lambda^2}{n} |f_{\lambda^2,r}(x)| < 2/\sqrt{n} + \varepsilon/2 < \varepsilon.$$

Hence,  $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \notin A_r$ .

Let  $A = \cup A_r$ . Then  $m(A) = 0$  and for  $x \notin A$  we have for all  $r \in \mathbf{N}$  that  $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, by 1.5(a),  $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}$  for all  $x \notin A$ .

**LEMMA 2.3.** *Let  $G$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  be as in Theorem 1. Let  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  be nonvoid open subsets of  $G$ . Then there exist  $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq k)$  with the property that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and for all  $z_1, \dots, z_k \in \mathbf{T}$  there is a  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $|\gamma(x_j) - z_j| < \varepsilon (1 \leq j \leq k)$ , i.e., there exist  $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq k)$  such that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$  is a  $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set.*

*Proof.* We may suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is countable. Let  $q \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . Let “ $P(q)$  holds for  $x_1, \dots, x_q$ ” mean “ $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq q)$  and  $\{x_1, \dots, x_q\}$  is a  $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$  set.” By Lemma 2.2, there is an  $x_1 \in V_1$  such that  $P(1)$  holds for  $x_1$ . Suppose that  $1 \leq r \leq k-1$  and that  $P(r)$  holds for  $x_1, \dots, x_r$ . It is sufficient to show there is an  $x_{r+1} \in V_{r+1}$  such that  $P(r+1)$  holds for  $x_1, \dots, x_{r+1}$ . Let  $A = \{w \in V_{r+1} \mid P(r+1) \text{ does not hold for } x_1, \dots, x_r, w\}$ . It is sufficient to show that  $m(A) = 0$ . Let  $S$  be a countable dense subset of  $\mathbf{T}$ . Then  $w \in A$  if and only if  $w \in V_{r+1}$  and there exist  $p \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $s_1, \dots, s_{r+1} \in S$  such that for all  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$  either  $|\gamma(x_j) - s_j| \geq p^{-1}$  for some  $j (1 \leq j \leq r)$  or  $|\gamma(w) - s_{r+1}| \geq p^{-1}$ , i.e., we have

$$A = \bigcup_{p \in \mathbf{N}} \bigcup_{s_1 \in S} \cdots \bigcup_{s_{r+1} \in S} A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1})$$

where  $A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1}) = \bigcap_{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}} \{y \in V_{r+1} \mid |\gamma(y) - s_{r+1}| \geq p^{-1} \text{ or at least one } |\gamma(x_j) - s_j| \geq p^{-1}\}$ .

Let

$$\tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r) = \{\gamma \in \mathcal{A} \mid |\gamma(x_j) - s_j| < p^{-1}, 1 \leq j \leq r\}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1}) \\ &= \{y \in V_{r+1} \mid |\gamma(y) - s_{r+1}| \geq p^{-1} \text{ for all } \gamma \in \tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, it is sufficient to show that each  $\tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r)$  is infinite (for then, by Lemma 2.2, each  $A(p, s_1, \dots, s_{r+1})$  is  $m$ -null and therefore so is  $A$ ).

We assume that for some  $p \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $s_1, \dots, s_r \in S$  the set  $\tilde{A} = \tilde{A}(p, s_1, \dots, s_r)$  is finite and use this to obtain a contradiction. A basic neighborhood of the point  $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_r) \in \mathbf{T}^r$  has the form  $B(\mathbf{z}, \varepsilon) = \{\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_r) \mid |z_j - w_j| < \varepsilon, 1 \leq j \leq r\}$  for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_r)$  and  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_r)$ . For  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$ , let  $\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = (\gamma(x_1), \dots, \gamma(x_r))$ . If  $\tilde{A}$  is finite, then  $\{\gamma \in \mathcal{A} \mid \gamma(\mathbf{x}) \in B(\mathbf{s}, p^{-1})\}$  is finite. Then there exist  $\mathbf{z} \in B(\mathbf{s}, p^{-1})$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  be such that  $B(\mathbf{z}, \varepsilon) \subset B(\mathbf{s}, p^{-1})$  and  $B(\mathbf{z}, \varepsilon)$  is disjoint from  $\{\gamma(\mathbf{x}) \mid \gamma \in \mathcal{A}\}$ . This contradicts the induction hypothesis that  $P(r)$  holds for  $x_1, \dots, x_r$ .

**THEOREM 2.4.** *Theorem I holds when  $G$  is metrizable.*

*Proof.* Repeat the proof of [4, (41.5), part I] choosing all charac-

ters in  $\Delta$  and using Lemma 2.3 whenever [4] uses [4, (41.3)].

**THEOREM 2.5.** *Let  $G$  and  $\Delta$  be as in Theorem I. Let  $U$  be a neighborhood of the identity in  $G$ . Then  $U$  contains a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.1,  $G$  contains a compact connected metrizable subgroup  $H$  with the property that  $\Gamma = \Delta|_H$  is infinite. Let  $V = U \cap H$ . Since  $H$  is connected, its character group is torsion-free. Hence, by Theorem 2.4,  $V$  contains a  $K_{0,\Gamma}$ -set  $P$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Clearly,  $P$  is a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set contained in  $U$ .

**THEOREM<sup>1</sup> 2.6.** *Let  $P$  be a compact metrizable  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set in  $G$ , where  $G$  is compact and  $\Delta\Delta^{-1} \setminus \{1\}$  consists solely of elements of infinite order. Then for almost all  $x \in G$ ,  $xP$  is a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{f_1, f_2, \dots\}$  be a (uniformly) dense subset of  $C(P, \mathbf{T})$ . For each  $j$ , there is a sequence  $\{\gamma_{ij}\}_{i=1}^\infty$  of elements of  $\Delta$  such that  $\gamma_{ij} \rightarrow f_j$  uniformly on  $P$ . By Lemma 2.2, there is an  $m$ -null set  $A_j$  such that  $\{\gamma_{ij}(x)\}_{i=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}$  whenever  $x \in G \setminus A_j$ . Let  $A = \bigcup A_j$ . Then  $A$  is  $m$ -null. Let  $x \in G \setminus A$ . For each  $j$ , let  $g_j(xy) = f_j(y)$ . To show that  $xP$  is a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set, it is sufficient to show that each  $g_j$  is uniformly approximable by  $\{\gamma_{ij}: i, j = 1, 2, \dots\}$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Fix  $j$ . Then for some  $i_0$ , we have  $|\gamma_{ij}(y) - f_j(y)| < \varepsilon/2$  for all  $y \in P$  whenever  $i > i_0$  and, since  $\{\gamma_{ij}(x)\}_{i=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}$ , there is an  $i > i_0$  such that  $|\gamma_{ij}(x) - 1| < \varepsilon/2$ . For this  $i$  we have  $|\gamma_{ij}(xy) - g_j(xy)| < \varepsilon$  for all  $y \in P$ .

*Proof of Theorem I.* 2.7. Immediate from Theorems 2.5 and Theorem 2.6.

### 3. Proof of Theorem II.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be locally connected. Let  $\Delta$  be such that  $\bar{\Delta}$  is not compact. Let  $U$  be a neighborhood of the identity in  $G$ . Then there is a  $\gamma$  in  $\Delta$  such that  $\gamma(U) = \mathbf{T}$ .*

*Proof.* The topology on  $X$  is the restriction of the compact-open topology on  $C(G)$  to the (closed) subspace  $X$  of  $C(G)$ . Hence,  $\bar{\Delta}$  is

<sup>1</sup> In the original version of this paper, the conclusion of Theorem I was as follows: Every open set in  $G$  containing an element of finite order contains a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set and, if  $G$  is metrizable, every nonvoid open set in  $G$  contains a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Theorem 2.6 and the stronger version of Theorem I which it yields are due to Robert Kaufman [private communication, December, 1971].

compact as a subspace of  $X$  if and only if it is compact as a subspace of  $C(G)$  with the compact-open topology. Since by hypothesis  $\bar{\Delta}$  is not compact, it follows from Ascoli's Theorem that  $\Delta$  is not equicontinuous [1, p. 267] and, hence, that  $\Delta$  is not equicontinuous at the identity of  $G$ . Therefore, there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that for every neighborhood  $W$  of the identity in  $G$ , there is an  $x \in W$  and a  $\gamma \in \Delta$  such that  $|\gamma(x) - 1| \geq \varepsilon$ . Let  $S = \{e^{it} \mid 0 \leq t \leq \varepsilon/2\}$ . Let  $M$  be a positive integer with the property that  $S^M = \mathbf{T}$ . Let  $V$  be a connected neighborhood of the identity in  $G$  such that  $V^M \subset U$ . Then there exist  $x \in V$  and  $\gamma \in \Delta$  such that  $|\gamma(x) - 1| \geq \varepsilon$ . Hence,  $\gamma(V)$  contains an arc of length at least  $\varepsilon$ . Therefore we have  $\mathbf{T} = \gamma(V)^M \subset \gamma(U) \subset \mathbf{T}$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be locally connected and metrizable. Let  $\Delta$  be such that  $\bar{\Delta}$  is not compact. Let  $E$  be a compact totally disconnected subset of  $\mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{T}$ . Then there is a first category set  $H \subset C(E, G)$  such that each  $f \in C(E, G) \setminus H$  maps  $E$  homeomorphically onto a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set in  $G$ .*

*Proof.* Our proof follows the ideas of Kaufman [7] as given by Katznelson [6, p. 184-185].

For  $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$ ,  $f \in C(E, G)$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let “(\*) holds for  $h, f$  and  $\varepsilon$ ” mean “there is a  $\gamma \in \Delta$  such that  $|\gamma(f(y)) - h(y)| < \varepsilon$  for all  $y \in E$ .” Let  $f \in C(E, G)$ . Clearly,  $f$  is a homeomorphism of  $E$  onto  $f(E)$  if and only if  $f$  is one-to-one. Also, if  $f$  is not one-to-one, it is clear that there exist  $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that (\*) fails for  $h, f$ , and  $\varepsilon$ . Hence,  $f$  is a homeomorphism of  $E$  onto  $f(E)$  and  $f(E)$  is a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set if and only if for every  $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$  and every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , (\*) holds for  $h, f$ , and  $\varepsilon$ .

Let  $d$  be an invariant metric on  $G$  compatible with the topology of  $G$ . For  $f$  and  $g$  in  $C(E, G)$ , let  $D(f, g) = \sup \{d(f(y), g(y)) \mid y \in E\}$ . Observe that  $D(f, g) < \infty$  since  $E$  is compact.

Let  $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$ ,  $g \in C(E, G)$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and  $\eta > 0$ . We now show that there exist an  $f \in C(E, G)$  such that (\*) holds for  $h, f$ , and  $\varepsilon$  and  $D(f, g) < \eta$ . Let  $U$  be the open  $\eta$ -ball about the identity  $e$  of  $G$ . By Theorem 3.1, there is a  $\gamma \in \Delta$  such that  $\gamma(U) = \mathbf{T}$ . Write  $E = \bigcup_{j=1}^n E_j$ , where the  $E_j$  are disjoint nonvoid open-closed subsets of  $E$  and  $\gamma \circ g$  and  $h$  both vary by less than  $\varepsilon/3$  on each  $E_j$ . (The  $E_j$  exist since  $E$  is totally disconnected.) Let  $y_j \in E_j$  and suppose that  $\gamma(g(y_j)) = \alpha_j$  and  $h(y_j) = \beta_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . Let  $x_j \in U$  be such that  $\gamma(x_j) = \overline{\alpha_j} \beta_j$ . Define  $f \in C(E, G)$  by  $f(y) = x_j g(y)$  when  $y \in E_j$ . We see that  $D(f, g) = \max \{d(x_j, e)\} < \eta$  and for  $y \in E_j$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\gamma(f(y)) - h(y)| &\leq |\gamma(g(y))\gamma(x_j) - \gamma(g(y_j))\gamma(x_j)| \\ &\quad + |\gamma(g(y_j))\gamma(x_j) - h(y_j)| + |h(y_j) - h(y)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + 0 + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (\*) holds for  $h, f$ , and  $\varepsilon$ .

For  $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $H(h, \varepsilon) = \{f \in C(E, G) \mid (*) \text{ fails for } h, f, \text{ and } \varepsilon\}$ . It is easy to show that  $H(h, \varepsilon)$  is closed. By the preceding paragraph,  $H(h, \varepsilon)$  is nowhere dense in  $C(E, G)$ . Let  $\{h_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be dense in  $C(E, \mathbf{T})$ . Let  $H = \bigcup_{n,k=1}^\infty H(h_n, 1/k)$ . Then  $H$  is a first category set in the complete metric space  $C(E, G)$ . Also, we have  $f \in C(E, G) \setminus H$  if and only if every  $h \in C(E, \mathbf{T})$  can be uniformly approximated by  $\gamma \circ f$ 's ( $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$ ), which by the second paragraph of the proof is true if and only if  $f$  is a homeomorphism and  $f(E)$  is a  $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Theorem II holds when  $G$  is metrizable.*

*Proof.* Let  $U$  be a nonvoid open subset of  $G$ . Let  $E$  be the Cantor set. Let  $H$  be as in Theorem 3.2. The result follows from Theorem 3.2 since  $C(E, U)$  is open in  $C(E, G)$  and  $C(E, G) \setminus H$  is dense in  $C(E, G)$ .

**THEOREM 3.4.** *Let  $G$  be locally connected. Then  $G$  is topologically isomorphic with  $D \times \mathbf{R}^n \times K$ , where  $D$  is discrete,  $n$  is a non-negative integer, and  $K$  is a compact, connected, locally connected abelian group.*

*Proof.* Let  $C$  be the component of the identity in  $G$ . Then  $G$  is topologically isomorphic with  $(G/C) \times C$ . Since  $G/C$  is totally disconnected and locally connected, it is discrete. Since  $C$  is connected and locally connected, it is topologically isomorphic with  $\mathbf{R}^n \times K$ , where  $n$  is a nonnegative integer and  $K$  is compact, connected, and locally connected.

*Proof of Theorem II.* 3.5. By Theorem 3.4, we may suppose that  $G = H \times K$ , where  $H$  is locally connected and metrizable and  $K$  is compact, connected, and locally connected. We then have  $X = Y \times F$ , where  $Y$  and  $F$  are the character groups of  $H$  and  $K$ , respectively. Let  $U$  be a nonvoid open subset of  $G$ . We may suppose that  $U = V \times W$ , where  $V$  and  $W$  are nonvoid open subsets of  $H$  and  $K$ , respectively. We denote elements of  $X$  by  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , where  $\alpha \in Y$  and  $\beta \in F$ . Let  $\Gamma = \{(\alpha, \beta) \mid (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{A}\}$ .

*Case 1.*  $\Gamma$  is finite: There is a  $\beta_0 \in \Gamma$  such that  $\{(\alpha, \beta_0) \in \mathcal{A}\}^-$  is not compact in  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}_0 = \{(\alpha, \beta_0) \in \mathcal{A}\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}_0^-$  is not compact in  $Y$ . Hence, by Theorem 3.3,  $V$  contains a  $K_{0,\mathcal{A}_0}$ -set  $P$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Let  $z \in W$ . Then  $P \times \{z\}$  is a  $K_{0,\mathcal{A}}$ -set in  $U$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set.



*Case 2.*  $\Gamma$  is infinite: Let  $x \in V$ . Let  $\{(\alpha_m, \beta_m)\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence in  $\Delta$  such that the  $\beta_m$  are distinct and such that  $\alpha_m(x) \rightarrow s \in \mathbf{T}$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $\Delta_0 = \{\beta_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$ . Since  $\Delta_0$  is infinite and  $K$  is compact and connected,  $W$  contains a  $K_{0,\Delta_0}$ -set  $P$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set by Theorem I. Then  $\{x\} \times P$  is a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set in  $U$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

#### 4. Proof of Theorem III.

**LEMMA 4.1.** *Let  $k$  be an integer greater than one. Let  $G$  be the product of infinitely many copies of  $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$ . Let  $\Delta$  be an infinite subset of  $X$  and suppose there is an integer  $a$  greater than one such that all elements of  $\Delta$  have order  $a$  and that whenever  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\Delta$ , then  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order  $a$ . Then for every sequence  $\Delta_0 = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$  of distinct elements of  $\Delta$ , the sequence  $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$  for  $m$ -almost all  $x \in G$ .*

*Proof.* For  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, a-1\}$  and  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , let  $f_{nr}(x) = 1/n \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x)$ . By our hypothesis on  $\Delta$ ,  $\gamma_j \neq \gamma_l$  implies that  $(\gamma_j\gamma_l^{-1})^r \neq 1$ . Also, since  $G$  is compact,  $\int_G \gamma(x) dm(x) = 0$  when  $\gamma \neq 1$ . Hence we have

$$\int_G |f_{nr}|^2 dm = n^{-2} \int_G \sum_{j,l=1}^n \gamma_j^r(x) \overline{\gamma_l^r(x)} dm(x) = n^{-1}.$$

We thus have  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \|f_{n^2,r}\|_2^2 < \infty$  and hence  $f_{n^2,r}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for  $m$ -almost all  $x \in G$ . Suppose that  $f_{n^2,r}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \notin A_r$ , where  $m(A_r) = 0$ . The device used in the proof of Lemma 2.2 yields  $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for  $x \notin A_r$ . Let  $A = \bigcup_{r=1}^{a-1} A_r$ . Then  $m(A) = 0$  and for  $x \notin A$  we have for all  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, a-1\}$  that  $f_{nr}(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, by 1.5(a),  $\{\gamma_j(x)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is equidistributed in  $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$  for all  $x \notin A$ .

**LEMMA 4.2.** *Let  $k, G, \Delta$ , and  $a$  be as in Lemma 4.1. Let  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  be nonempty open subsets of  $G$ . Then there are  $x_j \in V_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ) such that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set.*

*Proof.* For a positive integer  $q$ ,  $y_1, \dots, y_q \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ , and  $w_j \in V_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq q$ ), let  $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_q, w_1, \dots, w_q) = \{\gamma \in \Delta \mid \gamma(w_j) = y_j, 1 \leq j \leq q\}$ . By Lemma 4.1, there is an  $x_1 \in V_1$  such that for all  $y_1 \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ ,  $\Delta(y_1, x_1)$  is infinite.

Let  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$  and suppose that  $x_j \in V_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ) have been found with the property that for all  $y_1, \dots, y_r \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ ,  $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_r, x_1, \dots, x_r)$  is infinite. Fixing  $(y_1, \dots, y_r) \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}^r$  and applying Lemma 4.1 with  $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_r, x_1, \dots, x_r)$  in place of  $\Delta$ , we find that  $m$ -almost

all  $x \in V_{r+1}$  have the property that for all  $y_{r+1} \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ ,  $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_{r+1}, x_1, \dots, x_r, x)$  is infinite. Hence,  $m$ -almost all  $x \in V_{r+1}$  have the property that for all  $y_1, \dots, y_{r+1} \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ ,  $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_{r+1}, x_1, \dots, x_r, x)$  is infinite. In particular, an  $x_{r+1} \in V_{r+1}$  with this property exists.

Hence, by induction, there are  $x_j \in V_j (1 \leq j \leq n)$  such that for all  $y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ ,  $\Delta(y_1, \dots, y_n, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is infinite and, in particular, nonvoid. Hence,  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set.

**THEOREM 4.3.** *Let  $k, G, \Delta$ , and  $a$  be as in Lemma 4.1. Let  $G$  be metrizable. Let  $U$  be a nonvoid open subset of  $G$ . Then  $U$  contains a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

*Proof.* Repeat the proof of [4, (41.5), part III], choosing all characters in  $\Delta$  and using Lemma 4.2 whenever [4] uses [4, (41.4)].

**REMARK 4.4.** We now proceed to reduce Theorem III to the case described in Theorem 4.3.

**LEMMA 4.5.** *Let  $k$  be an integer greater than one. Let  $X$  be the weak direct product of infinitely many copies of  $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$ . Let  $\Delta$  be an infinite subset of  $X$ . Then there exist an integer  $a \geq 2$  and an infinite subset  $\Gamma$  of  $\Delta$  with the property that whenever  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\Gamma$ , then  $\gamma_1 \gamma_2^{-1}$  has order exactly  $a$ .*

*Proof.* We remark that this result is trivial if  $k$  is prime. (Take  $a = k$  and  $\Gamma = \Delta$ .)

Let  $b_0 = k$  and  $\Delta_0 = \Delta$ . Let  $\gamma_1 \in \Delta_0$ . Let  $\Gamma_1 = \{\gamma_1 \alpha^{-1} \mid \alpha \in \Delta_0\}$ . Since  $\Gamma_1$  is infinite, there is an integer  $b_1, 2 \leq b_1 \leq b_0$ , such that  $\Gamma_1$  contains infinitely many elements of order  $b_1$ . Let  $\Delta_1 = \{\alpha \in \Delta_0 \mid \gamma_1 \alpha^{-1} \text{ has order } b_1\}$ . Suppose that  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  and that  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n, \Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n, b_1, \dots, b_n$  and  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n$  have been found such that for  $1 \leq j \leq n$  we have (i)  $\gamma_j \in \Delta_{j-1}, \Gamma_j = \{\gamma_j \alpha^{-1} \mid \alpha \in \Delta_{j-1}\}, \Gamma_j$  has infinitely many elements of order  $b_j, 2 \leq b_j \leq b_{j-1}$ , and  $\Delta_j = \{\alpha \in \Delta_{j-1} \mid \gamma_j \alpha^{-1} \text{ has order } b_j\}$ . Observe that from (i) it follows that (ii) for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , we have  $\gamma_j \notin \Delta_j$  so  $\Delta_j$  is a proper infinite subset of  $\Delta_{j-1}$  and the  $\gamma_j$  are distinct.

Let  $\gamma_{n+1} \in \Delta_n$ . Let  $\Gamma_{n+1} = \{\gamma_{n+1} \alpha^{-1} \mid \alpha \in \Delta_n\}$ . Since  $\Gamma_{n+1}$  is infinite, there is an integer  $b_{n+1}$  with  $2 \leq b_{n+1} \leq b_n$  such that  $\Gamma_{n+1}$  contains infinitely many elements of order  $b_{n+1}$ . Let  $\Delta_{n+1} = \{\alpha \in \Delta_n \mid \gamma_{n+1} \alpha^{-1} \text{ has order } b_{n+1}\}$ . Thus, we can define  $\gamma_n, \Gamma_n, \Delta_n$ , and  $b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  in such a way that properties (i) hold for all  $n$ . Since  $\{b_n\}$  is a monotone nonincreasing sequence of integers greater than one, there exist positive integers  $r$  and  $a$  such that  $b_n = a$  for all  $n > r$ . Let  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_{r+n} \mid n \in \mathbf{N}\}$ . We show that  $\Gamma$  and  $a$  are as demanded. Let  $n_1$  and  $n_2 \in \mathbf{N}$  with  $n_1 > n_2$ . Then, by construction of the  $\Delta_n$ , we have  $\gamma_{r+n_1} \in$

$\Delta_{r+n_1-1} \subset \Delta_{r+n_2}$  so  $\gamma_{r+n_2}\gamma_{r+n_1}^{-1}$  has order  $b_{r+n_2} = a$ .

**LEMMA 4.6.** *Let  $k$  be an integer greater than one. Let  $I$  be an infinite index set and let  $X = \prod_{i \in I}^* G_i$ , where each  $G_i$  is a copy of  $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$ . Let  $\Delta$  be an infinite subset of  $X$ . Then there exist an integer  $a \geq 2$  and an infinite subset  $\Delta_0$  of  $\Delta$  and a finite (possibly empty) subset  $I_0$  of  $I$  such that projection of  $\Delta_0$  onto  $Y = \prod_{i \in I \setminus I_0}^* G_i$  gives an infinite subset  $\tilde{\Delta}_0$  of  $Y$  consisting solely of elements of order  $a$  and such that whenever  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\tilde{\Delta}_0$ ,  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order  $a$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 4.5, there exist an integer  $a_1 \geq 2$  and an infinite subset  $\Gamma_1$  of  $\Delta$  such that whenever  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\Gamma_1$ ,  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order  $a_1$ . Let  $\tilde{\Gamma}_1$  be an infinite subset of  $\Gamma_1$  consisting of elements all of the same order  $b_1$ . It is clear that  $b_1 \geq a_1$ . (If  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\tilde{\Gamma}_1$ , then  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order at most  $b_1$ . But  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order  $a_1$ .) If  $b_1 = a_1$ , we are done. (Take  $I_0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\Delta_0 = \tilde{\Gamma}_1$ , and  $a = a_1$ .) Suppose  $b_1 > a_1$ . Let  $\tilde{\gamma}_1 \in \tilde{\Gamma}_1$ . There is a finite subset  $I_1$  of  $I$  such that the  $i$ th coordinate of  $\tilde{\gamma}_1$  is the identity of  $G_i$  for  $i \notin I_1$ . Let  $X_1 = \prod_{i \in I \setminus I_1}^* G_i$ . Since  $I_1$  is finite and  $\tilde{\Gamma}_1$  is infinite, projection of  $\tilde{\Gamma}_1$  onto  $X_1$  (denoted by  $\pi_1$ ) gives an infinite subset  $\Delta_1$  of  $X_1$  consisting of elements of order at most  $a_1$ . (For  $\alpha \in \tilde{\Gamma}_1$ , order of  $\pi_1(\alpha)$  in  $X_1$  = order of  $\pi_1(\alpha\tilde{\gamma}_1^{-1})$  in  $X_1 \leq a_1$ .) Applying Lemma 4.5 to  $X_1$  and  $\Delta_1$  we get an integer  $a_2$  with  $2 \leq a_2 \leq a_1$  and an infinite subset  $\Gamma_2$  of  $\Delta_1$  such that whenever  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\Gamma_2$ , then  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order  $a_2$ . Let  $\tilde{\Gamma}_2$  be an infinite subset of  $\Gamma_2$  consisting of elements all of the same order  $b_2$ . Then we have  $a_2 \leq b_2 \leq a_1 < b_1$ . If  $a_2 = b_2$ , we are done. (Take  $I_0 = I_1$ ,  $a = a_2$ ,  $Y = X_1$ , and  $\Delta_0 = \{\alpha \in \Delta \mid \pi_1(\alpha) \in \tilde{\Gamma}_2\}$ .) Suppose  $a_2 < b_2 \leq a_1 < b_1$ . Pick  $\tilde{\gamma}_2 \in \tilde{\Gamma}_2$ ; let  $I_2 = \{i \in I \setminus I_1 \mid i \text{th coordinate of } \tilde{\gamma}_2 \text{ is not the identity of } G_i\}$ ; project  $\tilde{\Gamma}_2$  onto  $X_2 = \prod_{i \in I \setminus (I_1 \cup I_2)}^* G_i$ ; ... etc. We must eventually have  $b_n = a_n$  for some  $n$  (otherwise,  $\{b_n\}$  would be an infinite strictly decreasing sequence of positive integers). For that  $n$ , we have a finite subset  $I_0 = I_1 \cup \dots \cup I_{n-1}$  of  $I$  and an infinite subset  $\tilde{\Gamma}_n$  of  $Y = \prod_{i \in I \setminus I_0}^* G_i$  such that all elements of  $\tilde{\Gamma}_n$  have order  $a_n = b_n$  and such that whenever  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  are distinct elements of  $\tilde{\Gamma}_n$ ,  $\gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}$  has order  $a_n$ . Let  $\Delta_0 = \{\alpha \in \Delta \mid \pi(\alpha) \in \tilde{\Gamma}_n\}$ , where  $\pi$  is the projection of  $X$  onto  $Y$ .

**THEOREM 4.7.** *Let  $k$  be an integer greater than one. Let  $G = \prod_{i \in I} G_i$ , where each  $G_i$  is a copy of  $\mathbf{T}_{(k)}$  and  $I$  is infinite. Let  $\Delta$  be an infinite subset of  $X$ . Then there is an integer  $a$  greater than one such that every neighborhood of the identity of  $G$  contains a  $K_{a,1}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set.*

*Proof.* We may suppose that  $\Delta$  is countable. We identify  $X$  with  $\prod_{\iota \in I}^* G_\iota$ . Let  $a, I_0, Y$ , and  $\tilde{\Delta}_0$  be as in Lemma 4.6. Let  $I_1 = \{\iota \in I \setminus I_0 \mid \text{some } \gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}_0 \text{ has } \iota \text{th coordinate different from the identity of } G_\iota\}$ . Plainly  $I_1$  is countably infinite. Let  $I_2 = I \setminus (I_0 \cup I_1)$ . Let  $G_j = \prod_{\iota \in I_j} G_\iota$ , and let  $G_j$  have character group  $X_j$ ,  $j = 0, 1, 2$ . Since  $I_1$  is countable,  $G_1$  is metrizable. Since  $I_0$  is finite,  $G_0$  is finite. Let  $\Gamma_0$  be the image of the projection of  $\tilde{\Delta}_0$  onto  $X_1$ . We may suppose that our neighborhood of the identity of  $G$  has the form  $U = \{e_0\} \times V_1 \times V_2$ , where  $e_0$  is the identity of  $G_0$  and  $V_j$  is open in  $G_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ . Applying Theorem 4.3 to  $k, G_1, \Gamma_0$ , and  $a$ , we find a subset  $P_1$  of  $V_1$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set which is a  $K_{a, \Gamma_0}$ -set. Let  $P = \{e_0\} \times P_1 \times \{e_2\}$ , where  $e_2$  is the identity of  $G_2$ . Then  $P$  is a  $K_{a, \Delta}$ -set in  $U$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

*Proof of Theorem III.* 4.8. If  $G$  is a compact torsion group, then there are integers  $r_1, \dots, r_q$  greater than one and disjoint infinite index sets  $I_1, \dots, I_q$  and there is a finite abelian group  $F$  such that  $G$  is topologically isomorphic to  $F \times G_1 \times \dots \times G_q$ , where  $G_j = \prod_{\iota \in I_j} K_\iota$  and each  $K_\iota$  is a copy of  $T_{(r_j)}$  when  $\iota \in I_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq q$ ). Let  $G_j$  have character group  $X_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq q$ ). Then for some  $j_0$ , the image  $\Gamma$  of the projection of  $\Delta$  onto  $X_{j_0}$  is infinite. Let  $a$  be as in Theorem 4.7 applied to  $G_{j_0}, X_{j_0}$ , and  $\Gamma$ . Let  $U$  be a neighborhood of the identity of  $G$ . We will prove that  $U$  contains a  $K_{a, \Delta}$ -set homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Clearly, this will establish Theorem III. We may suppose that  $U$  has the form  $\{e_F\} \times U_1 \times \dots \times U_q$ , where  $e_F$  is the identity of  $F$  and  $U_j$  is a neighborhood of the identity  $e_j$  of  $G_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq q$ ). By Theorem 4.7,  $U_{j_0}$  contains a  $K_{a, \Gamma}$ -set  $P_{j_0}$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set. Let

$$P = \{e_F\} \times \{e_1\} \times \dots \times \{e_{j_0-1}\} \times P_{j_0} \times \{e_{j_0+1}\} \times \dots \times \{e_q\}.$$

Then  $P$  is a  $K_{a, \Delta}$ -set in  $U$  homeomorphic to the Cantor set.

## 5. Examples.

5.1. The hypothesis that  $\bar{\Delta}$  is not compact is necessary in Theorem II. If  $\bar{\Delta}$  is compact, then there is a nonempty open  $U \subset G$  which contains no  $K_{0, \Delta}$ -set and no  $K_{a, \Delta}$ -set for any integer  $a \geq 2$ . Indeed, let  $U = \{x \in G \mid |\gamma(x) - 1| < 1 \text{ for all } \gamma \in \bar{\Delta}\}$ . Then  $U$  is an open neighborhood of the identity in  $G$  and  $\operatorname{Re} \gamma(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in U$  and all  $\gamma \in \Delta$ . Hence, the function  $-1$  cannot be matched within 1 on any nonvoid subset of  $U$  by any  $\gamma \in \Delta$ , nor can the function  $\omega_a$  (where  $\omega_a$  is an  $a$ th root of unity with  $\operatorname{Re} \omega_a < 0$ ) be matched on any nonvoid subset of  $U$  by any  $\gamma \in \Delta$  for any integer  $a \geq 2$ . Hence, no subset of  $U$  is a  $K_{0, \Delta}$ -set or a  $K_{a, \Delta}$ -set.

5.2. The phrase "a translate of" is a necessary part of the conclusion of Theorem III, as is shown by the following example. Let  $G = \mathbf{T}_{(2)} \times H$ , where  $H$  is the product of infinitely many copies of  $\mathbf{T}_{(3)}$ . Write  $X = \mathbf{Z}_2 \times Y$ , where  $Y$  is the character group of  $H$ . Let  $\Delta = \{1\} \times Y$ . Let  $U = \{-1\} \times H$ . Then  $U$  is open in  $G$  and  $\gamma(x) \in -\mathbf{T}_{(3)}$  for all  $x \in U$  and all  $\gamma \in \Delta$ , so the constant function 1 cannot be matched on any subset of  $U$  by any  $\gamma \in \Delta$ . Hence, no subset of  $U$  is a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set for any integer  $a \geq 2$ .

5.3. The hypothesis that  $G$  is a compact torsion group in Theorem III cannot be weakened to the hypothesis that  $G$  is compactly generated and contains a compact open torsion subgroup. For example, let  $H$  be an infinite compact torsion group and let  $G = \mathbf{Z} \times H$ . Take  $\Delta = \mathbf{T} \times \{e\}$  (where  $e$  is the identity of the character group of  $H$ ) and  $U = \{0\} \times H$ . Then  $\gamma(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in U$  and all  $\gamma \in \Delta$ . Hence, whenever  $P \subset G$  is such that a translate of  $P$  is contained in  $U$ , we have  $\gamma$  constant on  $P$ . Therefore, no such totally disconnected  $P$  containing more than one point can be a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set for any integer  $a \geq 2$ .

5.4. The hypothesis of local connectedness or something closely related to connectedness (cf. Theorem 2.1) in Theorems II and I respectively cannot be weakened to the hypothesis that  $G$  is not a torsion group. Indeed, there exist a compact metrizable group  $G$  which is not a torsion group and an infinite subset  $\Delta$  of  $X$  such that  $G$  contains no  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set. For example, let  $G = \prod_{j=2}^{\infty} \mathbf{T}_{(2j)}$ . Then, writing  $X = \prod_{j=2}^{\infty} \mathbf{Z}_{2j}$  and letting  $\Delta = \{\gamma_2, \gamma_3, \dots\}$  where  $\gamma_j$  has  $j$ th coordinate equal to  $j$  and the rest zero, we have  $\gamma_j(x) = \pm 1$  for all  $x \in G$  and all  $j$ , so every nonempty subset of  $G$  fails to be a  $K_{0,\Delta}$ -set.

Also, there exist a compact metrizable group  $G$  which is not a torsion group and an infinite subset  $\Delta$  of  $X$  such that no subset of  $G$  containing more than one point is a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set for any integer  $a \geq 2$ . Let  $G = \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{T}_{(p_j)}$  where  $p_j$  is the  $j$ th prime. Write  $X = \prod_{j=2}^{\infty} \mathbf{Z}_{p_j}$  and let  $\Delta = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\}$  where  $\gamma_j$  has  $j$ th coordinate equal to 1 and the rest zero. Let  $P$  be a subset of  $G$  containing at least two points. Let  $a \geq 2$  be an integer. We will show that  $P$  is not a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set. Let  $p_k$  be a divisor of  $a$ . The open-closed sets in  $G$  form a basis for the topology of  $G$ , so there are two distinct  $\mathbf{T}_{(p_k)}$ -valued (and, hence,  $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ -valued) continuous functions,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , on  $P$  both different from 1. If either  $f_i$  is matched on  $P$  by some  $\gamma_j$ , it must be matched by  $\gamma_k$  since no other  $\gamma_j$  attains values in  $\mathbf{T}_{(p_k)}$  different from 1. Thus either  $f_1$  or  $f_2$  is a  $\mathbf{T}_{(a)}$ -valued continuous function not matched on  $P$  by any  $\gamma_j$ . Hence,  $P$  is not a  $K_{a,\Delta}$ -set.

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