

# On Haar meager sets

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Let  $X$  be an abelian Polish group. A set  $A \subset X$  is *Haar null* if there is a universally measurable set  $B \subset X$  with  $A \subset B$  and a probability measure  $\nu$  on  $X$  (not unique) such that  $\nu(B + x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ .

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1992 B.R. Hunt, T. Sauer and J.A. Yorke [4]-[5] (unaware of Christensen's result) found this notation again, but in a topological abelian group with a complete metric (not necessary separable).

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Let  $X$  be an abelian Polish group. A set  $A \subset X$  is *Haar meager* if there is a Borel set  $B \subset X$  with  $A \subset B$ , a compact metric space  $K$  and a continuous function  $f : K \rightarrow X$  such that  $f^{-1}(B + x)$  is meager in  $K$  for all  $x \in X$ .

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$$\mathcal{HM} := \{A \subset X : A \text{ is Haar meager}\}$$

$$\mathcal{M} := \{A \subset X : A \text{ is meager}\}.$$



## Theorem (Darji [2])

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## Theorem (Darji [2], Solecki [10], Matoušková, Zelený [7])

- *Let  $X$  be a locally compact abelian Polish group. Then  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{HM}$  and consequently  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{HM}$ .*
- *Let  $X$  be a non-locally compact abelian Polish group. Then  $\mathcal{M} \not\subset \mathcal{HM}$ ; more precisely, there is a closed nowhere dense set  $A \notin \mathcal{HM}$ .*

## Theorem (Christensen [1])

*Let  $X$  be an abelian Polish group. Then  $0 \in \text{int}(A - A)$  for each non-Haar null universally measurable set  $A \subset X$ .*

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### Theorem (J [6])

*Let  $X$  be an abelian Polish group. If  $A \subset X$  is a Borel non-Haar meager set, then  $0 \in \text{int}(A - A)$ .*

## Sketch of the proof

- Suppose that  $0 \notin \text{int}(A - A)$ ;
- $F(A) := \{x \in X : (x + A) \cap A \notin \mathcal{HM}\}$ ;
- $0 \in F(A) \subset A - A$ ;
- choose  $(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \subset X \setminus F(A)$  such that

$$\rho(0, x_i) \leq \frac{1}{2^i} \text{ for each } i \in \mathbb{N};$$

- $A_0 := A \setminus [\bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} (x_i + A) \cap A]$ ;
- $A_0 \notin \mathcal{HM}$ , i.e. for every compact metric space  $K$  and continuous function  $g : K \rightarrow X$  there is a  $y_K \in X$  such that  $g^{-1}(A_0 + y_K)$  is non-meager in  $K$ ;

## Sketch of the proof

- $K := \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}_0}$  is a compact metric group with  $\oplus : K \times K \rightarrow K$  given by

$$(k_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \oplus (l_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} := (k_i +_2 l_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ for every } (k_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (l_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in K$$

( $+_2$  is the operation mod 2) and with the product metric

$$d((k_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (l_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}) := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 2^{-i} \bar{d}(k_i, l_i)$$

for every  $(k_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (l_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in K$  ( $\bar{d}$  is the discrete metric in  $\{0, 1\}$ );

- $g : K \rightarrow X$  is well defined and uniformly continuous on  $K$

$$g((k_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}) := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} k_i x_i \text{ for } (k_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in K;$$

## Sketch of the proof

- the set  $g^{-1}(A_0 + y_K)$  is non-meager with the Baire property in  $K$  for some  $y_K \in X$ ;
- by Piccard's theorem, there is an open ball  $K(0, 2^{-k})$  with some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$K(0, 2^{-k}) \subset g^{-1}(A_0 + y_K) - g^{-1}(A_0 + y_K);$$

- $e_{k+1} := (0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{1}_{k+1}, 0, 0, \dots) \in K(0, 2^{-k})$ ;
- $e_{k+1} = a - b$  for some  $a, b \in g^{-1}(A_0 + y_K)$ ;
- $\pm x_{k+1} = g(a) - g(b) \in A_0 - A_0$ ;
- $(x_{k+1} + A_0) \cap A_0 \neq \emptyset$ , what contradicts the definition of  $A_0$ .

## Corollary

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## Fact

*Let  $X$  be an abelian Polish group and*

$$\mathcal{F}(X) := \{A \subset X : \forall_{K \subset X \text{-compact}} \exists_{x_K \in X} K + x_K \subset A\}.$$

*Each Borel set  $A \in \mathcal{F}(X)$  is neither Haar null, nor Haar meager.*

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## Problem

What about Haar meager non-Haar null sets, or Haar null non-Haar meager sets?

S. Solecki [10] and also E. Matoušková, M. Zelený [7] showed how to find a Borel set from the family  $\mathcal{F}(X)$  in any abelian non-locally compact Polish group  $X$ . We will use this fact to construct a Haar meager non-Haar null set, as well as a meager Haar null set which is not Haar meager in spaces of sequences:  $l_p$  with  $p \geq 1$ ,  $c_0$  or  $c$ . Such spaces have a very nice property:  $X = \mathbb{R} \times X$ .

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### Theorem (J [6])

*Let  $X, Y$  be abelian Polish groups.*

- *If  $A \subset X$  is Haar meager and  $B \subset B_0$  for some Borel set  $B_0 \subset Y$ , then the set  $A \times B \subset X \times Y$  is Haar meager.*
- *For every Borel set  $A \in \mathcal{F}(X)$  and non-Haar meager Borel set  $B \subset Y$  the set  $A \times B \subset X \times Y$  is not Haar meager.*

The above theorem suggest the following

### Problem

Let  $X, Y$  be abelian Polish groups. Is it true or false that for every non-Haar meager Borel sets  $A \subset X$  and  $B \subset Y$  the set  $A \times B \subset X \times Y$  is not Haar meager?

The above theorem suggest the following

### Problem

Let  $X, Y$  be abelian Polish groups. Is it true or false that for every non-Haar meager Borel sets  $A \subset X$  and  $B \subset Y$  the set  $A \times B \subset X \times Y$  is not Haar meager?

A negative answer implies the same question under additional assumption that one of abelian Polish groups  $X, Y$  is locally compact. In fact the above problem is tightly connected with the following question:

### Problem

Can the Kuratowski-Ulam theorem be generalized on the case of Haar meager sets?

### Example (Christensen [1])

If  $X = H$  is a separable infinite dimensional Hilbert space and  $Y = T$  is the unit circle in the complex plane, there is a Borel Haar null set  $A \subset X \times Y$  such that sections  $A[y]$  are not Haar null sets in  $X$  for every  $y \in Y$ .



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## Theorem (Christensen [1])

*If  $X$  is an abelian Polish group,  $Y$  is a locally compact abelian Polish group,  $A \subset X \times Y$  is a universally measurable set and sections  $A[x]$  are sets of Haar measure zero in  $Y$  for almost every  $x \in X$ , then  $A$  is Haar null in  $X \times Y$ .*

Now, consider the space  $X$  as one of the following spaces of sequences:  $c_0$ ,  $c$  or  $l_p$  with  $p \geq 1$ . Next, fix a Borel meager set  $A \in \mathcal{F}(X)$ .

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### Meager, Haar null, non-Haar meager set

Let  $S := B \times A \subset \mathbb{R} \times X$ , where  $B \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a non-meager set of the Lebesgue measure zero. By Christensen's theorem  $S$  is Haar null in  $X$ . Moreover, the set  $S$  is not Haar meager in  $\mathbb{R} \times X = X$ . Finally,  $S$  is meager according to the Kuratowski-Ulam theorem, because the set  $A$  is meager.

## Haar meager, non-Haar null set

Let  $T := C \times A \subset \mathbb{R} \times X$ , where  $C \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a meager set of the positive Lebesgue measure such that  $\mathbb{R} \setminus C$  is a set of the Lebesgue measure zero. By Christensen's theorem  $(\mathbb{R} \setminus C) \times A$  is Haar null. Moreover,  $\mathbb{R} \times A$  is not Haar null.

To show it contrary suppose that  $\mathbb{R} \times A$  is Haar null, i.e. there is a probability Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R} \times X$  such that  $\mu((\mathbb{R} \times A) + (r, x)) = 0$  for each  $(r, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times X$ . Define  $\nu(M) = \mu(\mathbb{R} \times M)$  for each Borel set  $M \subset X$ . Then  $\nu$  is a probability Borel measure on  $X$  and, for each  $x \in X$  we have

$$\nu(A + x) = \mu(\mathbb{R} \times (A + x)) = \mu((\mathbb{R} \times A) + (0, x)) = 0.$$

It means that  $A$  is Haar null, what is a contradiction.

Since  $\mathbb{R} \times A$  is not Haar null,  $T = C \times A = (\mathbb{R} \times A) \setminus ((\mathbb{R} \setminus C) \times A)$  is not Haar null, too. Moreover, the set  $T$  is Haar meager.

### Example (E. Matoušková, L. Zajíček [8])

Let  $A := \{(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in c_0 : \forall_{n \in \mathbb{N}} x_n \geq 0\}$ . Such set is closed, nowhere dense and belongs to the filter  $\mathcal{F}(c_0)$ . Now, define sets

$$S := B \times A \subset c_0 \quad \text{and} \quad T := C \times A \subset c_0,$$

where  $B \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a non-meager set of the Lebesgue measure zero and  $C \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a meager set of the positive Lebesgue measure such that  $\mathbb{R} \setminus C$  has Lebesgue measure zero. Then the set  $T$  is Haar meager, but not Haar null in  $c_0$  and the set  $S$  is Haar null, meager, but not Haar meager in  $c_0$ .

## Problem

Let  $X$  be any abelian Polish group, which is not locally compact. How to find a Haar meager non-Haar null set and, conversely, how to construct a Haar null, meager but not Haar meager set in  $X$ ?

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## Problem

Let  $X$  be any abelian Polish group, which is not locally compact. Can  $X$  be decomposed on two disjoint sets  $A$  and  $B$ , where  $A$  is Haar meager in  $X$  and  $B$  is Haar null in  $X$ ?






If  $X$  is the space of sequences, the answer is "yes". Indeed,  $\mathbb{R} = S \cup T$ , where  $S$  is meager in  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $T$  has Lebesgue measure zero in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ . Then

$$X = \mathbb{R} \times X = (S \cup T) \times X = (S \times X) \cup (T \times X),$$

where  $S \times X$  is Haar meager and  $T \times X$  is Haar null.

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