

## PROPERTY $k_{\alpha, n}$ ON SPACES WITH STRICTLY POSITIVE MEASURE

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In this paper we study intersection properties of measurable sets with positive measure in a probability measure space, or equivalently, intersection properties of open subsets on a compact space with a strictly positive measure.

The first result in this direction is due to Erdős and it is a negative solution to the problem of calibers on such spaces. In particular, under C.H., Erdős proved that Stone's space of Lebesgue measurable sets of  $[0, 1]$  modulo null sets, does not have  $\aleph_1$ -caliber.

A statement in measure theoretic language equivalent to Erdős' example is the following. Under C.H. there is an uncountable family  $\{K_\xi, \xi < \omega^+\}$  of closed subsets of  $[0, 1]$  with positive measure, such that for every uncountable set  $I \subset \omega^+$  there are  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{m(I)} \in I$  with

$$\lambda(K_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap K_{\xi_{m(I)}}) = 0$$

Some extensions of this result under G.C.H. for cardinals of the form  $\beta^+$  with  $\text{cf}(\beta) = \omega$  are contained in [2]. In the same paper, also, there are some positive results about calibers for certain cardinals. (A topological space  $X$  has  $\alpha$ -caliber if every family  $\{U_\xi : \xi < \alpha\}$  of open non-empty subsets of  $X$  contains a subfamily with cardinality  $\alpha$  and with non-empty intersection.)

In the present paper we prove that families of measurable sets satisfy a property weaker than the  $\alpha$ -caliber property, namely property  $k_{\alpha, n}$  for all  $n < \omega$  and  $\text{cf} \alpha > \omega$ .

In particular, in the first section we prove that if  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a probability measure space and  $\alpha$  a cardinal with uncountable cofinality, then for every family  $\{A_\xi : \xi < \alpha\}$  of elements of  $\Sigma$  with positive measure and for every  $n < \omega$  there is  $I_n \subset \alpha$  with  $|I_n| = \alpha$  and for every  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in I_n$  we have that

$$\mu(A_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{\xi_n}) > 0.$$

In the last part of this section we present relations between decomposition properties of  $\mathcal{F}^*(X)$  (open non-empty subsets of  $X$ ) and intersection properties.

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The second section mainly contains an application of the above result for compact topological spaces. So, starting from purely functional analytic assumptions on  $C(X)$  we can get intersection properties for the space  $X$ .

**0. Preliminaries.**

0.1. *Definition.* Let  $X$  be a topological space,  $\alpha$  an infinite cardinal and  $n$  a positive integer. We say that  $X$  satisfies the property  $k_{\alpha,n}$  if for every family  $\{U_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  of open subsets of  $X$ , there is a subfamily  $\{U_\xi, \xi \in A\}$  with  $|A| = \alpha$  that satisfies the  $n$ -intersection property (i.e., for every  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n$  points of  $A$ , it follows that  $U_{\xi_1} \cap U_{\xi_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n} \neq \emptyset$ ).

0.2. *Definition.* Let  $X$  be a topological space. We say that  $X$  satisfies the property  $(*)$  if the family of non-empty open subsets of  $X$  can be written in the following way:

$$\mathcal{T}^*(X) = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{T}_n$$

such that the subfamily  $\mathcal{T}_n$  contains at most  $n$  pairwise disjoint open subsets for every  $n < \omega$ .

0.3. *Definition.* Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{T}^*(X)$ . For  $F \subset \mathcal{S}$ ,  $F$  finite we set

$$\text{cal}(F) = \max \{k : \exists I \subset F, |I| = k \text{ such that } \bigcap I \neq \emptyset\}.$$

Now we correspond to the family  $\mathcal{S}$  the number

$$k(\mathcal{S}) = \inf \left\{ \frac{\text{cal}(F)}{|F|}, F \subset \mathcal{S}, F : \text{finite} \right\},$$

and we say that the space  $X$  satisfies the property  $(**)$  if the non-empty open subsets of  $X$  can be written in the following way:

$$\mathcal{T}^*(X) = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{T}_n$$

such that  $k(\mathcal{T}_n) > 0$  for every  $n < \omega$ .

0.4. **THEOREM ([10]).** *Let  $X$  be a compact totally disconnected topological space and  $\mathcal{S}$  a family of open-and-closed subsets of  $X$  with  $k(\mathcal{S}) \geq \delta > 0$ . Then there is a regular Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on  $X$  with  $\mu(U) \geq \delta$  for every  $U \in \mathcal{S}$ .*

0.5. *Definition.* Let  $X$  be a compact topological space. We say that  $X$  has a strictly positive measure if there is a regular Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $X$  with  $\mu(U) > 0$  for every  $U \in \mathcal{T}^*(X)$ .

0.6. *Remark.* It is easy to prove that the existence of a strictly positive measure for a space  $X$ , implies the property  $(**)$ . Kelley's Theorem 0.4 now gives the equivalence of these properties about compact spaces.

For non-compact spaces this is not true. For example if we consider the space

$$X = \{p \in \{0, 1\}^{\omega^+} : |\{i : p(i) = 1\}| < \omega\}$$

then  $X$  satisfies the property (\*\*) but there is no Borel measure that is positive on all non-empty open subsets of  $X$ .

0.7. THEOREM (Erdős-Rado, regular case). *Let  $\alpha$  be an infinite regular cardinal and  $\{F_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  a family of finite subsets of  $\alpha$ . Then there are a subset  $A \subset \alpha, |A| = \alpha$  and a finite set  $F$  such that  $F_{\xi_1} \cap F_{\xi_2} = F$  for every  $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in A$  with  $\xi_1 \neq \xi_2$ .*

0.8. THEOREM ([1], singular case). *Let  $\alpha$  be an infinite singular cardinal and  $\{F_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  a family of finite subsets of  $\alpha$ . Then there are  $A_\sigma, \sigma < \text{cf } \alpha$  disjoint subsets of  $\alpha$  with  $|A_\sigma| = \alpha_\sigma$ ,*

$$\sigma < \text{cf } \alpha \text{ and } \sum_{\sigma < \text{cf } \alpha} \alpha_\sigma = \alpha \text{ and } E_\sigma, \sigma < \alpha,$$

*E finite subsets of  $\alpha$  such that*

(i) *For  $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in A_\sigma, \xi_1 \neq \xi_2$  then*

$$F_{\xi_1} \cap F_{\xi_2} = E_\sigma, \text{ for } \sigma < \text{cf } \alpha \text{ and}$$

(ii) *For  $\xi_1 \in A_{\sigma_1}, \xi_2 \in A_{\sigma_2}, \sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2$  then*

$$F_{\xi_1} \cap F_{\xi_2} = E \text{ for } \sigma_1, \sigma_2 < \text{cf } \alpha.$$

For a detailed study of known results about intersection and decomposition properties on topological spaces we refer the reader to [4].

**1. The main theorem.**

1.1. LEMMA. *Let  $1 \leq p < \omega, 1 \leq n < \omega, 1 \leq N < \omega$  with  $p \leq 2^N$  and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_p$  be positive real numbers. Then*

(a) 
$$\frac{\theta_1^n + \dots + \theta_p^n}{2^p} \geq \left(\frac{\theta_1 + \dots + \theta_p}{2^p}\right)^n \text{ and}$$

(b) 
$$\sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^N} \theta_i^n \geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^N} \theta_i\right)^n.$$

*Proof.* Part (a) follows from Holder's inequality and (b) follows from (a).

1.2. LEMMA. *Let  $I$  be a non-empty set,  $\alpha$  an uncountable cardinal with  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega, \delta > 0, \{U_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  a family of non-empty open and closed subsets of  $\{0, 1\}^I$  such that  $\mu(U_\xi) \geq \delta$  for  $\xi < \alpha$ . Then there is  $A \subset \alpha, |A| = \alpha$*

such that

$$\mu(U_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n}) \geq \left(\frac{\delta}{4}\right)^n \text{ for } 1 \leq n < \omega, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A$$

(where  $\mu$  is the usual product measure on  $\{0, 1\}^I$ ).

*Proof.* Let  $F_\xi$  be a finite subset of  $I$  such that  $U_\xi$  depends on  $F_\xi$  for  $\xi < \alpha$ . We distinguish two cases.

Case 1.  $\alpha$  is a regular cardinal.

By the Erdős-Rado theorem [5] there are  $B \subset \alpha$  with  $|B| = \alpha$  and a finite set  $F \subset I$  such that

$$F_\xi \cap F_{\xi'} = F \text{ for } \xi, \xi' \in B, \xi \neq \xi'.$$

We set

$$H_\xi^x = \{y \in \{0, 1\}^{F \setminus F} : (x, y) \in \pi_{F \setminus F}(U_\xi)\}$$

for  $x \in \{0, 1\}^F, \xi \in B$  and

$$T_\xi = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^F : H_\xi^x \neq \emptyset\}$$

for  $\xi \in B$ , where  $\pi_{F \setminus F}$  is the usual projection. Then

$$\pi_{F \setminus F}(U_\xi) = \bigcup_{x \in \{0, 1\}^F} (\{x\} \times H_\xi^x) = \bigcup_{x \in T_\xi} (\{x\} \times H_\xi^x) \text{ for } \xi \in B.$$

Since  $\alpha$  is regular and uncountable, there are  $T = \{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \subset \{0, 1\}^F$  and  $C \subset B$ , with  $|C| = \alpha$  such that

$$T_\xi = T \text{ for } \xi \in C.$$

We note that  $|T| = p \leq 2^{|F|}$ . Furthermore, there are  $A \subset C$ , with  $|A| = \alpha$  and positive rational numbers  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_p$  such that

$$\mu(H_\xi^{x_i}) = \theta_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq p, \xi \in A.$$

Let now  $1 \leq n < \omega$  and  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n \in A$ . Then

$$U_{\xi_1} \cap U_{\xi_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n} = \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^p \{x_i\} \times H_{\xi_1}^{x_i} \times \dots \times H_{\xi_n}^{x_i} \right) \times \{0, 1\}^{I - (F_{\xi_1} \cup \dots \cup F_{\xi_n})}$$

and hence using Lemma 1.1

$$\begin{aligned} (*) \quad \mu(U_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n}) &= \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \mu(H_{\xi_1}^{x_i}) \dots \mu(H_{\xi_n}^{x_i}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \theta_i^n \geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \theta_i \right)^n \geq \left( \frac{\delta}{2^{n-1}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows that

$$\mu(U_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n}) \geq \left(\frac{\delta}{4}\right)^n.$$

Case 2.  $\alpha$  is a singular cardinal.

Let  $\{\alpha_\sigma, \sigma < \text{cf } \alpha\}$  be a family of uncountable regular cardinals with

$$\alpha = \sum_{\sigma < \text{cf } \alpha} \alpha_\sigma.$$

By Theorem 0.8 there is a set  $B \subset \alpha$ ,

$$B = \bigcup_{\sigma < \text{cf } \alpha} B_\sigma,$$

$$|B_\sigma| = \alpha_\sigma \text{ for } \sigma < \text{cf } \alpha,$$

$$B_\sigma \cap B_{\sigma'} = \emptyset \text{ for } \sigma < \sigma' < \text{cf } \alpha$$

and there are finite sets  $F, \{E^\sigma, \sigma < \text{cf } \alpha\}$  such that

- (i)  $F_\xi \cap F_{\xi'} = E^\sigma$  for  $\xi, \xi' \in B_\sigma, \xi \neq \xi', \sigma < \text{cf } \alpha$ ,
- (ii)  $F_\xi \cap F_{\xi'} = F$  for  $\xi \in B_\sigma, \xi' \in B_{\sigma'}, \sigma < \sigma' < \text{cf } \alpha$ .

We set

$$H_\xi^x = \{y \in \{0, 1\}^{F \setminus \xi} : (x, y) \in \pi_{F \setminus \xi}(U_\xi)\} \text{ for } x \in \{0, 1\}^F, \xi \in B$$

and

$$T_\xi = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^F : H_\xi^x \neq \emptyset\} \text{ for } \xi \in B.$$

Then

$$\pi_{F \setminus \xi}(U_\xi) = \bigcup_{x \in T_\xi} (\{x\} \times H_\xi^x) \text{ for } \xi \in B.$$

Since  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega$ , there are  $T = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \subset \{0, 1\}^F, I \subset \text{cf } \alpha$  with  $|I| = \text{cf } \alpha$  and  $C_\sigma \subset B_\sigma$ , with  $|C_\sigma| = \alpha_\sigma$  for  $\sigma \in I$ , such that

$$T_\xi = T \text{ for } \xi \in C_\sigma, \sigma \in I.$$

We note that  $|T| = p \leq 2^{|F|}$ . Furthermore, there are  $J \subset I$  with  $|J| = \text{cf } \alpha, D_\sigma \subset C_\sigma$  with  $|D_\sigma| = \alpha_\sigma$  for  $\sigma \in J$  and positive rational numbers  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_p$  such that

$$\mu(H_\xi^{x_i}) = \theta_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq p, \xi \in D_\sigma, \sigma \in J.$$

It follows that

$$\pi_{F \setminus \xi}(U_\xi) = \bigcup_{i=1}^p (\{x_i\} \times H_\xi^{x_i}) \text{ and}$$

$$\mu(U_\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \theta_i \geq \delta \text{ for } \xi \in D_\sigma, \sigma \in J.$$

Finally there is, by case 1,  $E_\sigma \subset D_\sigma$  for  $\sigma \in J$ , with  $|E_\sigma| = \alpha_\sigma$  such that

$$\mu\left(H_{\xi_1}^{x_1} \times \{0, 1\}^{I - F_{\xi_1}} \cap \dots \cap H_{\xi_k}^{x_k} \times \{0, 1\}^{I - F_{\xi_k}}\right) \geq \frac{\theta_i^k}{2^{k-1}}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq p, 1 \leq k < \omega, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_k \in E_\sigma$  for  $\sigma \in J$ . We set

$$A = \bigcup_{\sigma \in J} E_\sigma;$$

it is clear that  $|A| = \alpha$ . Let  $1 \leq n < \omega$  and  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A$ . Then there are  $\sigma_1 < \dots < \sigma_m < \text{cf } \alpha, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m \in J$  such that, setting

$$\Phi_j = \{\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n\} \cap E_{\sigma_j} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq m,$$

we have

$$\{\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n\} = \Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2 \cup \dots \cup \Phi_m.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} U_{\xi_1} \cap U_{\xi_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n} &= \bigcap_{j=1}^m \left( \bigcap_{\xi \in \Phi_j} U_\xi \right) \\ &= \bigcup_{i=1}^p \left( \{x_i\} \times \prod_{j=1}^m \left( \bigcap_{\xi \in \Phi_j} (H_\xi^{x_i} \times \{0, 1\}^{I-F\xi}) \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(U_{\xi_1} \cap U_{\xi_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n}) &= \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \prod_{j=1}^m \mu \left( \bigcap_{\xi \in \Phi_j} (H_\xi^{x_i} \{0, 1\}^{I-F\xi}) \right) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \prod_{j=1}^m \frac{\theta_i^{|\Phi_j|}}{2^{|\Phi_j|-1}} = \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \frac{1}{2^{n-m}} \theta_i^n \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \frac{1}{2^{n-m}} \sum_{i=1}^p \theta_i^n \geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \frac{1}{2^{|F|}} \sum_{i=1}^p \theta_i^n \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \cdot \delta^n \geq \left( \frac{\delta}{4} \right)^n \quad (\text{from } (*)). \end{aligned}$$

The proof of the lemma is complete.

1.3. THEOREM. Let  $(X, \mathcal{S}, \mu)$  be a probability measure space,  $\alpha$  a cardinal number with  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega$  and  $\{E_\xi, \xi < \alpha\} \subset \mathcal{S}$  with  $\mu(E_\xi) > 0$  for  $\xi < \alpha$ . Then for every  $1 \leq n < \omega$ , there are  $A_n \subset \alpha, |A_n| = \alpha$ , and  $\delta_n > 0$  such that

$$\mu(E_{\xi_1} \cap E_{\xi_2} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n}) \geq \delta_n \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n \in A_n.$$

*Proof.* Let  $(\mathcal{B}, \lambda)$  be the measure algebra of  $(X, \mathcal{S}, \mu)$  and  $\Omega = S(\mathcal{B})$ . It is enough to prove that if  $\{V_\xi, \xi < \alpha\} \subset \mathcal{B}$  with  $\lambda(V_\xi) > 0$  for  $\xi < \alpha$ , then for every  $1 \leq n < \omega$ , there are  $A_n \subset \alpha, |A_n| = \alpha, \delta_n > 0$  such that

$$\lambda(V_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap V_{\xi_n}) \geq \delta_n \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A_n.$$

Let  $\{p_i, i < \gamma\}$  be the isolated elements (if any) of  $\Omega$ , and let  $\{\Omega_m, m < \delta\}$  be the partition of  $\Omega$  given by Maharam's classification theorem [12]. Then since  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega$  and  $\gamma + \delta \leq \omega$ , either there is  $i < \gamma$  with  $|A| = \alpha$ , such that  $p_i \in V_\xi$ , for  $\xi \in A$ , in which case we are reduced to a trivial

situation, or there is  $m < \delta$  and  $A \subset \alpha$  with  $|A| = \alpha$  such that

$$V_\xi \cap \Omega_m \neq \emptyset \quad \text{for } \xi \in A.$$

Then it is enough to prove that if  $\{B_\xi, \xi \in A\}$  is a family of Borel sets of  $\{0, 1\}^{\alpha_m}$  with  $\mu_m(B_\xi) > 0$  for  $\xi \in A$ , then for every  $1 \leq n < \omega$ , there are  $A_n \subset A$ ,  $|A_n| = \alpha$ ,  $\delta_n > 0$  such that

$$\mu(B_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{\xi_n}) \geq \delta_n \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A_n.$$

Now there is  $\delta > 0$  and  $B \subset A$  with  $|B| = \alpha$ , such that

$$\mu(B_\xi) \geq \delta \quad \text{for } \xi \in B.$$

Let  $1 \leq n < \omega$ . Since  $\mu$  is a regular measure there is an open and closed subset  $U_\xi$  of  $\{0, 1\}^{\alpha_m}$  such that

$$\mu(B_\xi \Delta U_\xi) < \frac{1}{2^n} \left( \frac{\delta}{8} \right)^n \quad \text{for } \xi \in B.$$

Then

$$\mu(U_\xi) \geq \mu(B_\xi \cap U_\xi) \geq \delta - \frac{1}{2^n} \left( \frac{\delta}{8} \right)^n \geq \frac{\delta}{2} \quad \text{for } \xi \in B.$$

By the previous lemma there is  $A_n \subset B$  with  $|A_n| = \alpha$ , such that

$$\mu(U_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n}) \geq \left( \frac{\delta}{8} \right)^n \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A_n.$$

We note that

$$U_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n} \subset B_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{\xi_n} \cup B_{\xi_1} \Delta U_{\xi_1} \cup \dots \cup B_{\xi_n} \Delta U_{\xi_n}$$

hence

$$\left( \frac{\delta}{8} \right)^n \leq \mu(U_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\xi_n}) \leq \mu(B_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{\xi_n}) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{2^n} \left( \frac{\delta}{8} \right)^n$$

hence

$$\mu(B_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{\xi_n}) \geq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\delta}{8} \right)^n = \delta_n \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A_n.$$

The proof of the theorem is complete.

1.4. *Remark.* The proof of the above theorem does not need Maharam's classification theorem in case  $\alpha$  is a regular (uncountable) cardinal. Indeed, it follows from the following proposition.

1.5. PROPOSITION. *Let  $\alpha$  be a regular uncountable cardinal  $(X, \mathcal{S}, \mu)$  a probability measure space,  $\{E_\xi, \xi < \alpha\} \subset \mathcal{S}$ ,  $\delta > 0$  such that*

$$\mu(E_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_{n-1}}) \geq \delta \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \dots, \xi_{n-1} < \alpha.$$

Then there is  $A \subset \alpha$ ,  $|A| = \alpha$  such that

$$(1) \quad \mu(E_{\xi_1} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n}) \geq \delta/4k \quad \text{for } \xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in A$$

(where  $k$  is a positive number,  $k > 2/\delta$ ).

*Proof.* Suppose that this is not the case. We set  $\Gamma_1 = \alpha$  and let

$$\mathcal{C}_1 = \{C : C \subset \Gamma_1, \{E_\xi, \xi \in C\} \text{ satisfies (1)}\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{C}_1 \neq \emptyset$  and it is inductive under set inclusion. Let  $C_1 \in \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $C_1$  maximal. Then  $|C_1| < \alpha$ .

For every  $\xi \in \Gamma_1 - C_1$  there are  $\xi_2, \dots, \xi_n \in C_1$  such that

$$\mu(E_\xi \cap E_{\xi_2} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n}) < \delta/4k.$$

Since  $\alpha$  is regular, there are  $\xi_2^{(1)}, \xi_3^{(1)}, \dots, \xi_n^{(1)} \in C_1$  and  $\Gamma_2 \subset \Gamma_1$  with  $|\Gamma_2| = \alpha$  such that

$$\mu(E_\xi \cap E_{\xi_2^{(1)}} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n^{(1)}}) < \delta/4k \quad \text{for } \xi \in \Gamma_2.$$

We now repeat the same argument with  $\Gamma_2$  in place of  $\Gamma_1$ , and we find  $C_2 \subset \Gamma_2$ ,  $\xi_2^{(2)}, \xi_3^{(2)}, \dots, \xi_n^{(2)} \in C_2$ , and  $\Gamma_3 \subset \Gamma_2$ , with  $|\Gamma_3| = \alpha$  such that

$$\mu(E_\xi \cap E_{\xi_2^{(2)}} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n^{(2)}}) < \delta/4k \quad \text{for } \xi \in \Gamma_3.$$

We repeat the same argument  $k$  times, and thus find elements

$$\begin{aligned} &\xi_2^{(1)}, \xi_3^{(1)}, \dots, \xi_n^{(1)} \\ &\dots \\ &\xi_2^{(k)}, \xi_3^{(k)}, \dots, \xi_n^{(k)} \end{aligned}$$

such that, if  $1 \leq l < m \leq k$ , then

$$\mu(E_{\xi_2^{(l)}} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n^{(l)}} \cap E_{\xi_2^{(m)}}) < \delta/4k.$$

We now set

$$A_m = E_{\xi_2^{(m)}} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n^{(m)}} - \bigcup_{l=1}^{m-1} E_{\xi_2^{(l)}} \cap \dots \cap E_{\xi_n^{(l)}} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq m \leq k$$

and we note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A_m) &\geq \delta - (m - 1) \frac{\delta}{4k} \geq \frac{\delta}{2} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq m \leq k, \\ A_m \cap A_l &= \emptyset \quad \text{for } 1 \leq l < m \leq k \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction since  $k \cdot \delta/2 > 1$ , and  $\mu(X) = 1$ .

1.6. PROPOSITION. *Let  $X$  be a topological space with property (\*\*). Then  $X$  has property  $k_{\alpha,n}$  for all cardinals  $\alpha$  with  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega$  and  $1 \leq n < \omega$ .*

*Proof.* From [8], for the space  $X$  there is an extremally disconnected compact space  $GX$  and two maps:

$$p_1 : \mathcal{T}^*(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}^*(GX), \quad p_2 : \mathcal{T}^*(GX) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}^*(X)$$

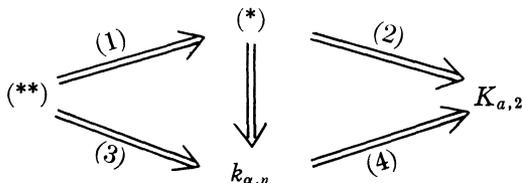
such that for  $U_1, \dots, U_n \in \mathcal{T}^*(X)$ ,

$$U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_n = \emptyset \text{ implies } p_1(U_1) \cap \dots \cap p_1(U_n) = \emptyset$$

and an analogous statement for  $p_2$ .

Since  $X$  satisfies property (\*\*) from the existence of the map  $p_2$  it follows that  $GX$  satisfies (\*\*) and then from Kelley's theorem  $GX$  has a strictly positive measure. Now from Theorem 1.3 the space  $GX$  satisfies property  $k_{\alpha,n}$  and finally from the existence of the map  $p_1$  the space  $X$  satisfies property  $k_{\alpha,n}$ .

1.7. *Remark.* For an arbitrary topological space  $X$  and a cardinal  $\alpha$  with  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega$  the following diagram holds.



- (1) is due to Gaifman [6].
- (2) is a consequence of the arrow-relation  $\alpha \rightarrow (\alpha, \omega)^2$  of Erdős.
- (3) is Proposition 1.6 (4) and is trivial.

Each of converses of the implications above is false.

- (1)  $(*) \Rightarrow (**)$ . This is due to Gaifman [8].
- (2)  $k \rightarrow (*)$ . This is due to Galvin-Hajnal [7].
- (3)  $k_n, n < \omega \rightarrow (**)$ . This follows from Gaifman's example [8].
- (4)  $k \rightarrow k_n, n < \omega$ . This follows from Argyros example [3].
- (5)  $(*) \rightarrow k_{\alpha,n}$  for  $n > 2$ . This follows from [3].

1.8. *Remark.* The case of  $k_{\alpha,2}$  in Theorem 1.3 which follows from the arrow-relation  $\alpha \rightarrow (\alpha, \omega)^2$  was well known. In particular the case  $k_{\omega^+,2}$  has been established by Marczewski. Also W. Comfort informed us that K. Kunen also has given a proof of Proposition 1.5.

## 2.

2.1. *Definitions and notations.* For a compact space  $X$  we denote by  $C(X)$  the space of all continuous real-valued functions defined on  $X$ .

By  $M(X)$  we denote the space of all regular, Borel measures on  $X$ . We coincide this space with the conjugate of  $C(X)$ , via the Riesz representation theorem. Let  $\alpha$  be a cardinal. We symbolize by  $l_\alpha^1$  the Banach

space of all real functions  $f$  on  $\alpha$  that are absolutely summable with

$$\|f\| = \sum_{\xi < \alpha} |f(\xi)|.$$

By  $l_\alpha^\infty$  we denote the Banach space of all bounded real-valued functions defined on  $\alpha$  with

$$\|f\| = \sup \{|f(\xi)| : \xi < \alpha\}.$$

Let  $E$  be a Banach space. We say that  $E$  contains isomorphically a copy of  $l_\alpha^1$  if there is an isomorphism  $T : l_\alpha^1 \rightarrow E$ . Equivalently  $l_\alpha^1$  is isomorphic with a subspace of  $E$  if there are  $c > 0$  and a uniformly bounded sequence  $\{x_\xi, \xi < \alpha\} \subset E$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^\mu \lambda_i x_{\xi_i} \right\| \geq c \sum_{i=1}^\mu |\lambda_i| \quad \text{for every } \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_\mu \in \mathbf{R}.$$

2.2. *Definition.* Let  $X$  be a compact, totally disconnected topological space, and  $\mathcal{B}$  a base of clopen sets for its topology. For an infinite cardinal  $\alpha$  we say that  $X$  satisfies the property  $P_\alpha$  if for every family  $\{U_\xi, \xi < \alpha\} \subset \mathcal{B}$  of pairwise different sets,  $l_\alpha^1$  embeds isomorphically into the closed linear span of the set

$$\{\chi_{U_\xi}, \xi < \alpha\}.$$

2.3. **THEOREM.** *Let  $X$  be a compact, totally disconnected space and  $\mathcal{B}$  a base of clopen sets for its topology. We suppose that  $X$  satisfies property  $P_\alpha$  for some infinite cardinal  $\alpha$  with  $\text{cf } \alpha > \omega$ . Then, the space  $X$  satisfies property  $k_{\alpha,n}$  for every  $n < \omega$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{U_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  be a family of elements of  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $Z$  the closed linear span of the set  $\{\chi_{U_\xi}, \xi < \alpha\}$ . Because of  $P_\alpha$  there is a uniformly bounded family  $\{f_\xi, \xi < \alpha\} \subset Z$  and a constant  $c > 0$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i f_{\xi_i} \right\| \geq c \sum_{i=1}^k |\lambda_i| \quad \text{for every } \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k \in \mathbf{R}.$$

We approximate the elements  $\{f_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  by finite linear combinations with rational coefficients  $\{g_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  of the set  $\{\chi_{U_\xi}, \xi < \alpha\}$  such that

$$\|f_\xi - g_\xi\| < c/2, \xi < \alpha.$$

It is easily verified that the family  $\{g_\xi, \xi < \alpha\}$  is also equivalent with the usual basis of  $l_\alpha^1$ .

Now passing to a subfamily, we find  $A \subset \alpha, |A| = \alpha$  and rational numbers  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_q$  such that

$$g_\xi = r_1 \chi_{U_{\xi^1}} + \dots + r_q \chi_{U_{\xi^q}}, \xi \in A.$$

We assume that  $\alpha$  is singular. The regular case follows from similar (and easier) arguments. We consider the sets

$$F_\xi = \{U_{\xi^1}, U_{\xi^2}, \dots, U_{\xi^q}\}, \quad \xi \in A$$

and apply Theorem 0.8. So there are sets  $A_j, j < \text{cf } \alpha, E_j, j < \text{cf } \alpha$  and  $E$  such that

$$\left| \bigcup_{j < \text{cf } \alpha} A_j \right| = A$$

and if  $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in A_j, \xi_1 \neq \xi_2$  then

$$F_{\xi_1} \cap F_{\xi_2} = E_j$$

and if  $\xi_1 \in A_{j_1}, \xi_2 \in A_{j_2}, j_1 \neq j_2$  then

$$F_{\xi_1} \cap F_{\xi_2} = E.$$

Now for  $j < \text{cf } \alpha$ , let  $\{\xi_1^p, \xi_2^p\}, p \in A_j'$  where  $\xi_1^p, \xi_2^p \in A_j$ , and for  $p \neq p'$ ,

$$\{\xi_1^p, \xi_2^p\} \cap \{\xi_1^{p'}, \xi_2^{p'}\} = \emptyset \quad \text{and} \quad |A_j'| = |A_j|.$$

We set

$$\bar{g}_p = g_{\xi_1^p} - g_{\xi_2^p}, \quad p \in A_j', \quad j < \text{cf } \alpha.$$

It is easy to see that the family  $\{\bar{g}_p, p \in A_j', j < \text{cf } \alpha\}$  is equivalent with the usual basis of  $l_\alpha^1$ . So there is an isomorphism

$$T : l_\alpha^1 \rightarrow \langle \{\bar{g}_p, p \in A_j', j < \text{cf } \alpha\} \rangle \subset C(X).$$

Hence the conjugate operator

$$T^* : M(X) \rightarrow l_\alpha^\infty$$

is onto. Consequently there is a regular Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $X$  such that

$$T^*(\mu) = (1, 1, \dots).$$

So  $\mu(\bar{g}_p) = 1, p \in A_j', j < \text{cf } \alpha$  and hence for  $p$  there exists a set  $U_p^{i(p)}$  such that  $\mu(U_p^{i(p)}) > 0$ . Now from the construction of  $\bar{g}_p$  it follows that the family

$$\{U_p^{i(p)}, p \in A_j', j < \text{cf } \alpha\}$$

has cardinality  $\alpha$ .

The desired result is now a simple consequence of 1.3.

2.4. *Remark.* Let  $X$  be an arbitrary compact space. If for every closed subspace  $Z$  of  $C(X)$  with  $\dim Z = \alpha, \text{cf } \alpha > \omega, l_\alpha^1$  is isomorphic to a subspace of  $Z$ , then with the same method it can be proved that the space  $X$  satisfies property  $k_{\alpha,n}$  for  $n < \omega$ .

2.5. *Remark.* From results of [1] and [9] there follows the existence of compact spaces  $X$  with property  $P_\alpha$ . (For example for an arbitrary  $I$  the space  $\{0, 1\}^I$  satisfies property  $P_\alpha$  when  $\text{cf } (\alpha) > \omega$ .) The cardinals  $\alpha$  for which  $P_\alpha$  holds in spaces of [1] and [9] satisfy a property stronger than  $k_{\alpha,n}$ ; namely, these spaces have  $\alpha$ -caliber. Recently, however, the authors

have constructed an example of a space with  $P_{\omega^+}$  property and without caliber  $\omega^+$ . This example shows that property  $k_{\alpha,n}$  is the best intersection property that can be obtained from  $P_\alpha$ .

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