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# ONE-TO-ONE SELECTIONS-MARRIAGE THEOREMS

By R. DANIEL MAULDIN\*

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**Abstract.** Let  $A$  be a Lebesgue measurable subset of  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  such that each vertical and each horizontal section of  $A$  has positive measure. Then there are Borel subsets  $E$  and  $F$  of  $[0, 1]$  with measure one and a one-to-one Borel measurable map  $f$  of  $E$  onto  $F$  whose graph is a subset of  $A$ . Variations of this theorem are also considered.

A marriage theorem for finite sets is as follows [5]:

A necessary and sufficient condition that a relation  $R \subseteq A \times B$  between finite sets  $A$  and  $B$  have a matching is that, for every positive integer  $k$ , every  $k$ -subset of  $A$  be related to a subset of  $B$  having at least  $k$  elements.

One can try a simple generalization to infinite sets. For example, let  $X$  be an infinite set and  $R \subset X \times X$  such that for each subset  $A$  of  $X$ ,  $|A| \leq |R(A)|$  where  $R(A) = \{y : \exists x [x \in A \wedge (x, y) \in R]\}$ . It is easy to give examples of such relations  $R$  for which there is no marriage function or matching. However, there are some abstract marriage theorems.

Let  $\kappa$  be an infinite cardinal  $\kappa$ . The following abstract marriage theorem has been proven by Kaniewski and Rogers [2].

**THEOREM A.** Let  $A$  be a subset of  $X \times X$  so that for each  $x$ ,  $\kappa = |A_x| = |A^x|$ , where  $A_x = \{y : (x, y) \in A\}$  and  $A^x = \{y : (y, x) \in A\}$ . Then there is a one-to-one map of  $X$  onto  $X$  whose graph is a subset of  $A$ .

This theorem is proved by transfinite induction. Perhaps the main benefit of this theorem is the possibilities it suggests. Kaniewski and Rogers prove for example that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are Polish spaces and  $E$  is a subset of  $X \times Y$  which is a countable union of Borel rectangles and each  $X$ -section of  $E$  and each  $Y$ -section of  $E$  is uncountable, then there is a Borel isomorphism of  $X$  onto  $Y$  whose graph is a subset of  $E$ . In this paper we shall pursue a different line of thought.

Our first theorem concerns the descriptive character of the set of points of density of a Borel set. Let  $I = [0, 1]$ .

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**THEOREM 1.** *If  $A$  is a Borel subset of  $I \times I$ , then  $D = \{(x, y): y \text{ is a density point of } A_x\}$  is a Borel set.*

*Proof.* Note that

$$D = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} T(n, m),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} T(n, m) &= \{(x, y): \forall h[(0 < h \leq 1/m) \rightarrow \lambda(A_x \cap [y - h, y + h]) \\ &\geq 2h(1 - 1/n)]\}. \end{aligned}$$

It can be checked that

$$T(n, m) = \bigcap \{T(n, m, q): q \text{ is rational and } 0 < q \leq 1/m\},$$

where

$$T(n, m, q) = \{(x, y): \lambda(A_x \cap [y - q, y + q]) \geq 2q(1 - 1/n)\}.$$

In order to see that each set  $T(n, m, q)$  is a Borel set, define a map  $f$  on  $I \times I$  by setting

$$f(x, y) = \lambda(A_x \cap [y - q, y + q]).$$

For each  $x$ ,  $f(x, \cdot)$  is continuous and it is also well known that for each  $y$ ,  $f(\cdot, y)$  is a Borel measurable map. Thus,  $f$  itself is a Borel measurable function [3, p. 378] and since

$$T(n, m, q) = f^{-1}([2q(1 - 1/n), +\infty)),$$

$T(n, m, q)$  is a Borel set.

Q.E.D.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be closed subsets of  $I$  with  $\lambda(P) > 0$ . If  $A$  is a Borel subset of  $P \times Q$  such that for each  $x$  in  $P$ ,  $\lambda(A_x) > 0$ , then for each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is a sequence  $\{(H_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  such that*

1. *the sets  $H_i$  are closed, pairwise disjoint subsets of  $P$*
2.  *$\text{diam}(H_i) < \epsilon$  and  $\lambda(H_i) > 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$*

3.  $y_i \neq y_j$  if  $i \neq j$
4. if  $x \in H_i$ , then  $y_i$  is a density point of  $A_x$
5.  $\lambda(\cup H_i) = \lambda(P)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $D$  be the density set of  $A$ . Since  $D$  is a measurable subset of  $I \times I$  and for each  $x$ ,  $\lambda(D_x) = \lambda(A_x)$ ,

$$\lambda(\{y: \lambda(D^y) > 0\}) > 0.$$

Thus, there is some point  $y$  and closed subset  $H$  of  $P$  such that  $\text{diam}(H) < \epsilon$ ,  $\lambda(H) > 0$  and if  $x \in H$ , then  $y$  is a density point of  $A_x$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{W}$  be the collection to which  $\mathfrak{C}$  belongs if and only if  $\mathfrak{C}$  is a collection of pairs  $(H_i, y_i)$  satisfying 1), 2), 3) and 4). Let  $\mathfrak{W}$  be partially ordered by inclusion. Let  $\mathfrak{C}$  be a chain in  $\mathfrak{W}$ . Choose  $\mathfrak{C}_n \in \mathfrak{C}$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda(\mathfrak{C}_n) = \sup\{\lambda(\mathfrak{C}): \mathfrak{C} \in \mathfrak{C}\}.$$

where

$$\lambda(\mathfrak{C}) \equiv \lambda(\cup \{H: H \in \mathfrak{C}\}).$$

Let  $\mathfrak{C}_0 = \cup \mathfrak{C}_n$ . Clearly,  $\mathfrak{C}_0 \in \mathfrak{W}$  and  $\mathfrak{C}_0$  is an upper bound of  $\mathfrak{C}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{M} = \{(H_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  be a maximal element of  $\mathfrak{W}$ .

Suppose  $\lambda(\cup \mathfrak{M}) < \lambda(P)$ . Let  $P^*$  be a closed set such that  $P^* \subset P - \cup \{H: H \in \mathfrak{M}\}$  and  $\lambda(P^*) > 0$ . Let  $A^* = A \cap (P^* \times Q)$ . Since

$$\lambda(\{y: \lambda(D^{*y}) > 0\}) > 0,$$

there is a point  $z$  and closed set  $H \subset P^*$  such that  $z \notin \{y_i: i = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $\text{diam } H < \epsilon$ ,  $\lambda(H) > 0$  and if  $x \in H$ ,  $z$  is a density point of  $A_x^* = A_x$ . Thus,  $\mathfrak{M} \cup \{(H, z)\} \in \mathfrak{W}$  and this contradicts the maximality of  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Q.E.D.

**THEOREM 3.** Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be closed subsets of  $I$  such that  $\lambda(P) > 0$ . Let  $A$  be a closed subset of  $P \times Q$  such that for each  $x$  in  $P$ ,  $\lambda(A_x) > 0$ . Then for each  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  there are closed subsets  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  of  $P$  and closed subsets  $Q_1, \dots, Q_n$  of  $Q$  such that

- (1)  $P_i \cap P_j = \phi = Q_i \cap Q_j$ , if  $i \neq j$
- (2)  $\text{diam}(P_i), \text{diam}(Q_i) < \epsilon$
- (3)  $x \in P_i \rightarrow \lambda(A_x \cap Q_i) > 0$
- (4)  $\lambda(\cup P_i) > \lambda(P) - \delta$ .
- (5)  $\lambda(\cup Q_i) < \delta$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$ . Let  $\{(H_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^\infty$  be a sequence satisfying the conclusion of Theorem 3 with respect to  $A$ . Choose  $n$  so that  $\lambda(\cup\{H_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}) > \lambda(P) - \delta$ . Choose pairwise disjoint closed intervals  $(a_i, b_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  so that  $\Sigma(b_i - a_i) < \delta$ , and  $a_i < y_i < b_i$  and  $b_i - a_i < \epsilon$ . Let  $P_i = H_i$  and  $Q_i = (a_i, b_i) \cap Q$ . The sets  $P_i$  and  $Q_i$  satisfy the conclusion of the theorem. Q.E.D.

By Seq we mean the space of all finite sequences of positive integers which is a tree rooted at  $\langle 0 \rangle$ , the empty sequence, when provided with the lexicographical order.

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $R$  be a Lebesgue measurable subset of  $I \times I$  such that  $\lambda(\{x: \lambda(R_x) > 0\}) = 1$ . Then for each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist a closed subset  $D$  of  $I$  and a one-to-one continuous function  $f$  from  $D$  into  $I$  whose graph is a subset of  $R$  such that  $\lambda(D) \geq 1 - \epsilon$  and  $\lambda(f(D)) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Let  $\{F_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be an increasing sequence of closed sets such that  $\cup F_n \subset R$  and  $\lambda(R - \cup F_n) = 0$ . For each  $n$ , let  $K_n = \{x: \lambda(F_{nx}) > 0\}$ . Since  $\lambda(\cup K_n) = 1$ , there is some  $n$  so that  $\lambda(K_n) > 1 - \epsilon$ . Let  $P$  be a closed subset of  $K_n$  so that  $\lambda(P) > 1 - \epsilon$ .

By iterating Theorem 3, we find that there is a subset  $T$  of Seq and maps  $P, Q$  from  $T$  into the space of closed subsets of  $I$  such that

- (1)  $P(\langle 0 \rangle) = P$  and  $Q(\langle 0 \rangle) = I$ ,
- (2)  $T$  is a tree rooted at  $\langle 0 \rangle$  and each vertex of  $T$  has only finitely many edges emerging from it,
- (3) if  $\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle$  is a vertex of  $T$ , then there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  form the set of all vertices of  $T$  with one edge at  $\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle$  and

- (a)  $P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle)$ ,  $Q(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle)$  are closed subsets of  $I$  with diameters  $< 1/2^k$
- (b) the sets  $P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle)$ ;  $i = 1, \dots, n$  are pairwise disjoint subsets of  $P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle)$ ,
- (c) the sets  $Q(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle)$ ;  $i = 1, \dots, n$  are pairwise disjoint subsets of  $Q(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle)$ ,
- (d) if  $x \in P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle)$ , then  $\lambda(R_x \cap Q(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle)) > 0$ .
- (e)  $\cup P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k, i \rangle) \subset P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle)$ ,

- (4) for each  $k$ ,  $\lambda(\cup\{P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle): \langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle \in T\}) > 1 - \epsilon$ .
- (5) for each  $k$ ,  $\lambda(\cup\{Q(\langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle): \langle i_1, \dots, i_k \rangle \in T\}) < 2^{-k}$ .

Now, for each  $n$ , let

$$H(n) = \cup \{P(\langle i_1, \dots, i_n \rangle) \times Q(\langle i_1, \dots, i_n \rangle) : \langle i_1, \dots, i_n \rangle \in T\}.$$

Let  $G = \cap H(n)$  and let  $D = \pi_1(G)$ .

It is easy to check that  $G$  is the graph of a one-to-one continuous function  $f$  of  $D$  into  $I$  such that  $\lambda(D) \geq 1 - \epsilon$  and  $\lambda(f(D)) = 0$ . Q.E.D.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $A$  be a Lebesgue measurable subset of  $I \times I$  such that  $\lambda(\{x : \lambda(A_x) > 0\}) = 1$ . Then there is a Borel set  $D$  and a one-to-one Borel measurable map  $f$  of  $D$  into  $I$  such that  $\lambda(D) = 1$ ,  $\lambda(f(D)) = 0$  and the graph of  $f$  is a subset of  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathfrak{W}$  be the family of all  $\mathfrak{C}$  such that  $\mathfrak{C}$  is a collection of pairs  $(E, g)$  such that  $E$  is a closed subset of  $I$ ,  $g$  is a one-to-one function from  $E$  into  $I$ ,  $\lambda(E) > 0$ , the graph of  $g$  is a subset of  $A$ ,  $\lambda(g(E)) = 0$ , and if  $(F, h) \in \mathfrak{C}$  and  $(F, h) \neq (E, g)$ , then  $F \cap E = \phi$  and  $h(F) \cap g(E) = \phi$ . Consider  $\mathfrak{W}$  to be partially ordered by inclusion. Clearly, if  $\mathfrak{C}$  is a chain in  $\mathfrak{W}$ , then  $\cup \mathfrak{C} \in \mathfrak{W}$ . It follows that if  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a maximal element in  $\mathfrak{W}$ , then  $\lambda(D) = 1$ , where  $D = \cup \{E : \exists g[(E, g) \in \mathfrak{M}]\}$  and the function  $f$  defined by  $f|E = g$ , where  $(E, g) \in \mathfrak{M}$  satisfy the conclusion of the theorem. Q.E.D.

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $A$  be a Lebesgue measurable subset of  $I \times I$  such that  $\lambda(F_1) = \lambda(F_2) = 1$ , where  $F_1 = \{x : \lambda(A_x) > 0\}$  and  $F_2 = \{y : \lambda(A^y) > 0\}$ . Then there are Borel subsets  $E$  and  $F$  of  $I$  with measure one and a Borel isomorphism of  $E$  onto  $F$  whose graph is a subset of  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $D_1$  be a Borel subset of  $F_1$  and  $g$  a one-to-one Borel measurable map of  $D_1$  onto a Borel subset  $E_1$  of  $I$  such that  $\lambda(D_1) = 1$ ,  $\lambda(E_1) = 0$ . Let  $D_2$  be a Borel subset of  $F_2$  and  $h$  a one-to-one Borel measurable map of  $D_2$  onto  $E_2$  so that  $(Gr(h))^{-1} \subset A$ ,  $\lambda(D_2) = 1$ , and  $\lambda(E_2) = 0$ . Let  $K_1 = h(D_2 - E_1)$  and define  $f$  on  $K_1 \cup D_1$  by  $f|K_1 = h^{-1}$  and  $f|D_1 - K_1 = g|D_1 - K_1$ . Clearly,  $f$  is a Borel isomorphism of  $K_1 \cup D_1$  into  $I$  whose graph is a subset of  $A$  and the domain and range of  $f$  have measure one. Q.E.D.

These results suggest other possibilities.

**Question 1.** Let  $B$  be a Borel subset of  $I \times I$  such that for each  $x$ ,  $\lambda(B_x) > 0$  and  $\lambda(B^x) > 0$ . Is there a Borel (or universally measurable) isomorphism of  $I$  onto  $I$  whose graph is a subset of  $B$ ?

We note that such a set  $B$  does contain the graph of a Borel map from

$I$  into  $I$  and much more [1, 4]. Of course, category analogues of the measure theorem are also suggested. For example:

*Question 2.* Let  $A$  be a Borel subset of  $I \times I$  such that for each  $x$ ,  $B_x$  and  $B^x$  are not meager. Is there a Borel (or universally measurable) isomorphism of  $I$  onto  $I$  whose graph is a subset of  $B$ ?

Again, there are some results along these lines [4, 6].

Finally, one could consider purely descriptive set theoretic properties.

*Question 3.* Let  $A$  be a Borel subset of  $I \times I$  such that for each  $x$ ,  $A_x$  and  $A^x$  are uncountable. Does the conclusion of Theorem 6 hold?

Concerning this last question we give the following example.

*Example.* There is a Borel subset  $B$  of  $I \times I$  such that for each  $x$  in  $I$ ,  $B^x$  and  $B_x$  are uncountable and  $B$  does not contain the graph of a Borel measurable map of  $I$  into  $I$ .

*Construction.* Let  $C$  be the standard Cantor middle third set. Let  $D$  be a  $G_\delta$  subset of  $(I - C) \times I$  such that for each  $x$  in  $I - C$ ,  $D_x$  is uncountable and such that  $D$  does not contain the graph of a Borel measurable map from  $I - C$  into  $I$  [4]. Let  $B = (C \times I) \cup D$ .

*Added in proof.* The author has determined that Question 3 has a positive answer.

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