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Bernstein sets don't give Vitali sets

Defn. $B \subset {}^\omega\omega$ is called Bernstein iff

$B \cap P \neq \emptyset \neq P \setminus B$ for all perfect $P \subset {}^\omega\omega$.

Letting $E_0 \subset ({}^\omega\omega)^2$ be the Vitali equivalence relation defined by $x E_0 y$ iff $\exists n_0 \forall n \geq n_0 x(n) = y(n)$,

$V \subset {}^\omega\omega$ is called Vitali iff V picks exactly one element from each E_0 -equivalence class, i.e.,

~~forall~~ $\forall x \exists y \forall z ((z E_0 x \wedge z \in V) \leftrightarrow z = y)$.

Building upon [WWY], [N, p.48] proves that $ZF +$ "there is a Bernstein set" does not yield a "Vitali set" V^{rec} in the redefined sense that V^{rec} picks exactly one element from each Turing degree. We here show that a slight variation of the arguments of [WWY] and [N] show that $ZF +$ "there is a Bernstein set" does not yield a Vitali set in the original sense as defined above.

Thm. ZF + "there is a Bernstein set"
 does not prove "there is a Vitali set"

Proof: Let G be $\mathbb{C}(w_1)$ -generic over L , where
 $w_1 = w_1^L$ and $\mathbb{C}(w_1)$ is the finite support product
 of w_1 Cohen forcings, cf. [Sch, p.105].

For $\alpha < w_1$ let $\beta(\alpha)$ be the least $\beta > w$, $\beta > \alpha$,
 such that $L_\beta \models " \overset{\sim}{\alpha} \leq \aleph_0 "$, and let
 $e_\alpha: w \leftrightarrow L_\alpha$ be the $L_{\beta(\alpha)}$ -least bijection. Let
 $E_\alpha \subset w \times w$ be such that $(w; E_\alpha) \overset{e_\alpha}{\cong} (L_\alpha; \in)$, and
 let g_α be the set of all $n < w$ such that
 there are $\xi < \alpha$, $k, m < w$ with $e_\alpha(n) = (\xi, k, m)$
 and $p(\xi)(k) = m$ for some $p \in G$. i.e., E_α is
 a canonical code for L_α , and g_α codes
 $G \upharpoonright \alpha$ relative to E_α .

We may define $z_\alpha: w \rightarrow w$ by

$$z_\alpha(2l) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } (l)_0 \in E_\alpha (l)_1 \\ 0 & \text{iff } (l)_0 \notin E_\alpha (l)_1 \end{cases} \quad \text{and}$$

$$z_\alpha(2l+1) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } l \in g_\alpha \\ 0 & \text{iff } l \notin g_\alpha \end{cases} .$$

Here, $(l)_0$ and $(l)_1$ is the first and second component, resp., of l when construed as a pair of natural numbers, i.e., fixing a canonical $e: \omega \leftrightarrow \omega \times \omega$, $e(l) = ((l)_0, (l)_1)$.

Claim 1. For every $x \in {}^\omega \omega \cap L[G]$ there is some $\alpha < \omega_1$ such that $x \in L[z_\alpha]$.

Prf.: Given x , there is some α with $x \in L_\alpha[G \upharpoonright \alpha]$.
But $L_\alpha[G \upharpoonright \alpha] \in L[z_\alpha]$. \dashv

Claim 2. Let $s \in \mathbb{C}(\omega_1)$ be any condition. Let G^s be the collection of all $p \in \mathbb{C}(\omega_1)$ for which there is a $q \in G$ with $\text{dom}(p(\xi)) = \text{dom}(q(\xi))$ for all $\xi < \omega_1$

and

$$p(\xi)(k) = \begin{cases} s(\xi)(k) & \text{if } k \in \text{dom}(s(\xi)) \\ q(\xi)(k) & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

then G^s is $\mathbb{C}(\omega_1)$ -generic over L , and $L[G^s] = L[G]$.
Also, $s \in G^s$.

Prf.: Cf. [Sch, p.123, Problem 6.7], \dashv

Claim 3. Let $s \in \mathcal{C}(w_1)$ be any condition.

Let $\alpha < w_1$, let $g_\alpha^s = \{n : \exists \xi < \alpha \exists k, m < w [e_\alpha(n) = (\xi, k, m) \wedge p(\xi)(k) = m \text{ for some } p \in G^s]\}$,

and let $z_\alpha^s : w \rightarrow w$ be defined by

$$z_\alpha^s(z\ell) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } (\ell)_0 \in E_\alpha(\ell)_1 \\ 0 & \text{iff } (\ell)_0 \notin E_\alpha(\ell)_1 \end{cases}$$

$$z_\alpha^s(z\ell+1) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } \ell \in g_\alpha^s \\ 0 & \text{iff } \ell \notin g_\alpha^s \end{cases}.$$

(i.e., z_α^s is defined as z_α above except for using g_α^s instead of g_α .)

Then $z_\alpha^s \in_0 z_\alpha$.

Prf.: Immediate, as there are only finitely many pairs (ξ, k) s.t. there are $p \in G^s$ and $q \in G$ with $p(\xi)(k) \neq q(\xi)(k)$. \dashv

Definition. Let us write $d_\alpha = \{z : z \in_0 z_\alpha\}$

for the E_0 -equivalence class of z_α .

By Claim 3, $\{z_\alpha^s : s \in \mathbb{C}(w_1)\} \subset d_\alpha$, and

by Claim 1 :

Claim 1'. For every $x \in {}^{w_1}L[G]$ there is some $\alpha < w_1$ s.t. $x \in L[z]$ for all $z \in d_\alpha$.

Let us now consider the model

$$N = \text{HOD}_{({}^{w_1}L[G]) \cup \{(d_\alpha : \alpha < w_1)\}} L[G]$$

i.e. the class of all $x \in L[G]$ which inside $L[G]$ are hereditarily ordinal definable from parameters in $({}^{w_1}L[G]) \cup \{(d_\alpha : \alpha < w_1)\}$, cf. [Sch, p. 86].

$N \models ZF$.

Claim 4. $N \models \neg AC$, i.e., the axiom of choice

fails in N , in fact: there is no well-ordering of the reals in N .

Prf.: Suppose $L[G]$ has a well-ordering of its reals which is definable from $\vec{\alpha} \in OR$,

$\vec{y} \in {}^{w_1}L[G]$, and $(d_\alpha : \alpha < w_1)$. Let $\alpha < w_1$ be such that $\vec{y} \in L_\alpha[G \upharpoonright \alpha]$. Let $\tilde{\alpha} > \alpha$,

$\tilde{\alpha} < \omega_1$. Then $z_{\tilde{\alpha}}$ must be definable in $L[G]$ from $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$, and $(d_{\alpha} : \alpha < \omega_1)$ for some ordinal β .

Let us assume w.l.o.g. that $\vec{\gamma} \in {}^{\omega} \omega \cap L$; the argument in the general case is just a simple variant of the argument that is to come.

There is a formula φ such that for all $k, m < \omega$, $z_{\tilde{\alpha}}(k) = m$ iff

$L[G] \models \varphi(k, m, \vec{\alpha}, \beta, \vec{\gamma}, (d_{\alpha} : \alpha < \omega_1))$. Let the formula φ define $(d_{\alpha} : \alpha < \omega_1)$ from G over $L[G]$, i.e., $L[G] \models \forall \vec{d} (\vec{d} = (d_{\alpha} : \alpha < \omega_1) \leftrightarrow \varphi(\vec{d}, G))$.

Hence $z_{\tilde{\alpha}}(k)(m)$ iff

$L[G] \models \varphi(k, m, \vec{\alpha}, \beta, \vec{\gamma}, \vec{d})$, where $\varphi(\vec{d}, G)$, " iff

$\exists p \in G \ p \Vdash_L^{\mathbb{Q}(\omega_1)} \varphi(\check{k}, \check{m}, \check{\alpha}, \check{\beta}, \check{\gamma}, \vec{d})$, where $\varphi(\vec{d}, \dot{G})$."

Suppose $s \in \mathbb{Q}(\omega_1)$ is any condition such that

$s \Vdash_L^{\mathbb{Q}(\omega_1)} \neg \varphi(\check{k}, \check{m}, \check{\alpha}, \check{\beta}, \check{\gamma}, \vec{d})$, where $\varphi(\vec{d}, \dot{G})$."

Using Claim 2, G^s is $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_1)$ -generic over L, seg^s ,

and $L[G^S] = L[G]$. This gives that

$$L[G^S] = L[G] \models \neg \varphi(k, m, \vec{\alpha}, \delta, \vec{y}, \vec{d}), \text{ where } \varphi(\vec{d}, G^S).$$

However, Claim 3 buys us that if $\varphi(\vec{d}, G^S)$

holds true in $L[G]$, then in fact $\vec{d} =$

$$(d_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1), \text{ and therefore } L[G] \models \neg \varphi(k, m, \vec{\alpha}, \delta, \vec{y}, (d_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1)).$$

Contradiction!

We have shown that $z_\alpha(k) = m$ iff

$$\exists p \in G \quad p \Vdash_{L, \mathbb{P}(\omega_1)} \varphi(k, m, \vec{\alpha}, \delta, \vec{y}, \vec{d}), \text{ where } \varphi(\vec{d}, \dot{G})$$

$$\text{iff } \mathbb{1}_{\mathbb{P}(\omega_1)} \Vdash_{L, \mathbb{P}(\omega_1)} \varphi(k, m, \vec{\alpha}, \delta, \vec{y}, \vec{d}), \text{ where } \varphi(\vec{d}, \dot{G}).$$

But then $z_\alpha \in L$, cf. [Sch, p. 118]. However,

$L[z_\alpha]$ contains a Cohen real over L .

Contradiction!

We have verified Claim 4. \dashv

Claim 5. $N \models$ "There is no Vitali set."

Prof.: Suppose there is some $V \in N$ such

that $V \cap d_\alpha$ is a singleton for each $\alpha < \omega_1$.

There is then a sequence $(z_\alpha^* : \alpha < \omega_1)$ in N s.t. $z_\alpha^* \in d_\alpha$ for every $\alpha < \omega_1$. Let $<_\alpha$ be the canonical well-ordering of $L[z_\alpha^*]$ as being defined inside $L[z_\alpha^*]$. For $x \in {}^\omega \omega \cap N = {}^\omega \omega \cap L[G]$ let $\alpha(x)$ be the least $\alpha < \omega_1$ such that $x \in L[z_\alpha^*]$. By Claim 1', $\alpha(x)$ is always well-defined. We may then define a well-order $<$ of ${}^\omega \omega \cap N$ inside N as follows. $x < y$ iff $\alpha(x) < \alpha(y)$ or $\alpha(x) = \alpha(y)$ and $x <_\alpha y$.

Contradiction with Claim 4. \neg

Claim 6. $N \models$ "there is a Bernstein set."

Prf.: Let

$B = \{ b \in {}^\omega \omega : \exists \text{ even } \alpha [b \in L[z] \text{ for all/some } z \in d_{\alpha+1} \wedge b \notin L[z] \text{ for all/some } z \in d_\alpha] \}$,

and $B' = \{ b \in {}^\omega \omega : \exists \text{ odd } \alpha [b \in L[z] \text{ for all/some } z \in d_{\alpha+1} \wedge b \notin L[z] \text{ for all/some } z \in d_\alpha] \}$,

as being defined in N .

Obviously, $B \cap B' = \emptyset$.

Let $P \subset {}^\omega \omega$ be a perfect set in N , say $P = [T]$ for some perfect tree T , $T \in L[z]$, $z \in d_\alpha$, α even. We work in N .

Pick $z^* \in d_{\alpha+1}$. We may easily find some $b \in {}^\omega \omega$ such that $L[T, b] = L[z^*]$. In particular, $b \in L[z^*]$. If $b \in L[z]$, then $L[z^*] = L[T, b] \subset L[z]$, which contradicts $z^* \in d_{\alpha+1}$ and $z \in d_\alpha$. Hence $b \notin L[z']$ for any $z' \in d_\alpha$.

We have shown that $B \cap P \neq \emptyset$.

Virtually the same argument shows that $B' \cap P \neq \emptyset$.
But then B is Bernstein. \dashv (Thm.)

[N] A. Nies, [dl./dropboxusercontent.com/u/370127/Blog/Blog2012.pdf](https://www.dropboxusercontent.com/u/370127/Blog/Blog2012.pdf), p. 48.

[Sch] R. Schindler, Set theory. Exploring independence and truth, Springer-Verlag 2014.

[WWY] W. Wang, L. Wu, L. Yu, Cofinal maximal chains in the Turing degrees.