

# Four Equivalent Statements Concerning Baire-1 Functions\*

Shi Xiaojie<sup>†</sup>

**编者按:**本文假定读者熟悉点集拓扑中的基本概念并知道 Tietze 扩张定理、单位分解定理及度量空间都是仿紧的。

In this article, I will give four equivalent statements concerning Baire-1 functions. Let's start with some definitions. ( $X$  will be a metric space if not specified otherwise.)

**Definition 1** *Let  $f$  be a function defined on  $X$ , we say  $f$  is a Baire-1 function if there exist continuous functions  $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x), \forall x \in X$ .<sup>1</sup> The set of all Baire-1 functions defined on  $X$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{B}_1(X)$ .*

**Definition 2** *A set  $V$  is called  $F_\sigma$  if  $V = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty V_n$  for some sequence of closed sets  $V_n$ .*

**Definition 3** <sup>2</sup>*In set theory, two ordered sets  $X, Y$  are said to have the same order type when there exists a bijection  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  such that both  $f$  and its inverse are monotone (order preserving).*

*An ordinal number, or just ordinal, is the order type of a well-ordered set. The finite ordinals are the natural numbers:  $0, 1, 2, \dots$ . The least infinite ordinal is  $\omega$  which is identified with the cardinal number  $\aleph_0$ . The set of all countable ordinals constitutes the first uncountable ordinal  $\omega_1$  which is identified with the cardinal  $\aleph_1$ .*

---

\*本文系 NUS Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program 中的一个项目。指导老师 Denny H. Leung, National University of Singapore. 入选本刊时有删改。

<sup>†</sup>Department of Mathematics, National University of Singapore

<sup>1</sup>在通常的定义中 Baire-1 函数不包含连续函数，不过在本文中可以包含。

<sup>2</sup>编者加。参考 Wikipedia 中 Order type, Ordinal number, Successor ordinal, Limit ordinal 等词条。

The successor of an ordinal number  $\alpha$  is the smallest ordinal number greater than  $\alpha$ . An ordinal number that is a successor is called a successor ordinal. A limit ordinal is an ordinal number which is neither zero nor a successor ordinal.

**Definition 4** Let  $P$  be a closed subset of  $X$ ,  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ .  $P(f, \epsilon) := \{x \in P : \text{for all open neighborhood } U \text{ of } x \text{ in } X, \exists x_1, x_2 \in P \cap U, \text{ such that } |f(x_1) - f(x_2)| \geq \epsilon\}$ . Define  $P^0(f, \epsilon) = P(f, \epsilon)$ ;  $P^\alpha(f, \epsilon) = (P^{\alpha-1}(f, \epsilon))(f, \epsilon)$  if  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal;  $P^\alpha(f, \epsilon) = \bigcap_{\gamma < \alpha} P^\gamma(f, \epsilon)$  if  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal.

Define

$$\beta(f, \epsilon) = \begin{cases} \text{the smallest } \alpha < \omega_1 \text{ such that } P^\alpha(f, \epsilon) = \emptyset & \text{if such } \alpha \text{ exists} \\ \omega_1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Define  $\beta(f) = \sup_{\epsilon > 0} \beta(f, \epsilon)$ .

Note that  $P(f, \epsilon)$  is a closed subset of  $P$ . If  $0 < \epsilon_1 < \epsilon_2$ , then  $P(f, \epsilon_1) \supset P(f, \epsilon_2)$  and  $\beta(f, \epsilon_1) \geq \beta(f, \epsilon_2)$ .  $\sup_{\epsilon > 0} \beta(f, \epsilon) = \sup_{\epsilon_n} \beta(f, \epsilon_n)$  for any sequence  $\epsilon_n$  goes to 0. If  $\beta(f, \epsilon) < \omega_1, \forall \epsilon > 0$ , then  $\beta(f) < \omega_1$ .

**Definition 5** A space  $X$  is said to be a Baire space if the following condition holds: Given any countable collection  $\{A_n\}$  of closed subsets of  $X$ , if each of them has empty interior in  $X$ , then their union  $\bigcup A_n$  also has empty interior in  $X$ .

**Theorem 6 (Baire Category Theorem)** If  $X$  is a complete metric space, then  $X$  is a Baire space.

Proof: Let  $\{A_n\}$  be as defined in Definition 5, we prove this theorem by showing that any nonempty open set  $U_0$  in  $X$  contains a point  $x$  that does not lie in any set  $A_n$ , thus the interior of  $\bigcup A_n$  must be empty, which is what we want.

Since  $\text{Int} A_1 = \emptyset$ , there exists  $y_1 \in U_0$  such that  $y_1 \notin A_1$ . Then there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $B(y_1, r) \cap A_1 = \emptyset$  since  $A_1$  is closed. Since  $U_0$  is open, there exists  $s > 0$  such that  $B(y_1, s) \subset U_0$ . Let  $U_1 = B(y_1, \min\{s, r\}/4)$ , then  $\overline{U}_1 \subset U_0$  and  $\overline{U}_1 \cap A_1 = \emptyset$ .

Now  $U_1$  is a nonempty open set in  $X$ , we can find  $y_2 \in U_1$  such that  $y_2 \notin A_2$  since  $\text{Int} A_2 = \emptyset$ . Do the same thing as above, there is an open ball  $U_2$  such that  $\overline{U}_2 \subset U_1$  and  $\overline{U}_2 \cap A_2 = \emptyset$ , we may shrink  $U_2$  (if necessary) so that its radius is

not more than  $s/8$ . Inductively, there is a sequence of open sets  $\{U_n\}$  such that  $\overline{U}_n \subset U_{n-1}$ ,  $\overline{U}_n \cap A_n = \emptyset$  and the radius of  $U_n$  is not more than  $s/2^{n+1}$ .

Consider  $\bigcap \overline{U}_n$ , claim that  $(\bigcap \overline{U}_n) \cap (\bigcup A_n) = \emptyset$ ;  $\bigcap \overline{U}_n \subset U_0$ ;  $\bigcap \overline{U}_n \neq \emptyset$ . The first two statements are obvious since  $\overline{U}_n \cap A_n = \emptyset$  and  $\overline{U}_n \subset U_{n-1}$ , respectively. For the third one, notice that if  $z_1, z_2 \in U_n$ , then  $d(z_1, z_2) \leq s/2^n$ . Therefore the sequence  $\{y_n\}$  we construct is a Cauchy sequence. Since  $X$  is complete, there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = x$ . For each  $n$ , since  $\overline{U}_n$  is closed and  $y_m \in U_n, \forall m \geq n+1$ , we have  $x \in \overline{U}_n$ . Hence  $x \in \bigcap \overline{U}_n$ .

The point  $x \in U_0$  does not lie in any  $A_n$  and thus is what we want.  $\square$

**Theorem 7** *Let  $X$  be a complete separable metric space,  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The following four statements are equivalent (The first 3 are called Baire Characterization Theorem):*

1.  $f \in \mathcal{B}_1(X)$ ;
2. For all open set  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $f^{-1}(U)$  is  $F_\sigma$ ;
3. For all closed subset  $F$  of  $X$ ,  $f|_F : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has a point of continuity;
4.  $\beta(f) < \omega_1$ .

Proof: (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2)

For any open set  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ , we can write  $U = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} V_i$ , where  $V_i = (a_i, b_i)$  are pairwise disjoint intervals. So we only need to show for any  $a < b$ ,  $f^{-1}(a, b)$  is  $F_\sigma$ .

Take arbitrary  $c, d \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $a < c < d < b$ , consider the set  $\bigcap_{n=N}^{\infty} f_n^{-1}[c, d]$ , where  $\{f_n\}$  are as defined in Definition 1. Since  $f_n$  is continuous for each  $n$ ,  $f_n^{-1}[c, d]$  is closed, thus  $\bigcap_{n=N}^{\infty} f_n^{-1}[c, d]$  is closed. Take

$$A = \bigcup_{\substack{a < c < d < b \\ c, d \in \mathbb{Q}}} \bigcup_{N=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{n=N}^{\infty} f_n^{-1}[c, d].$$

$A$  is  $F_\sigma$  since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable. Now it suffices to prove  $A = f^{-1}(a, b)$ .

On one hand, for any  $x \in f^{-1}(a, b)$ ,  $a < f(x) < b$ . Take  $c, d \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $a < c < f(x) < d < b$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$ , there exists  $N$  such that for  $n \geq N$ ,  $f_n(x) \in [c, d]$ , hence  $x \in \bigcap_{n=N}^{\infty} f_n^{-1}[c, d] \subset A$ .

On the other hand, for any  $x \in A$ , there exist  $c, d \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $a < c < d < b$  such that  $x \in \bigcap_{n=N}^{\infty} f_n^{-1}[c, d]$ . Thus for  $n \geq N$ ,  $f_n(x) \in [c, d] \subset (a, b)$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$ , we have  $f(x) \in (a, b)$ , hence  $x \in f^{-1}(a, b)$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3)

Let  $F$  be a closed subset of  $X$ , define  $F_0 = F$ , then  $F_0$  is a Baire space since  $F_0$  is closed (hence complete) and metric. With  $F_{n-1}$  defined, we construct  $E_n, F_n$  and  $x_n$  as follows: (Note that we will use the information about  $F_n$ :  $F_n$  is closed in  $F_0$  and  $\text{Int}_{F_0}(F_n)$  is not empty. For  $F_0$  those two are clearly true, for other  $F_n$  we will prove them after construction.)

Use countable intervals  $(a_i, b_i)$  with length  $1/2^n$  to cover  $\mathbb{R}$ . For each  $(a_i, b_i)$ ,  $f|_{F_0}^{-1}(a_i, b_i) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} V_{i,j}$ , where each  $V_{i,j}$  is closed in  $F_0$ . Let  $T_{i,j} = V_{i,j} \cap F_{n-1}$ , then  $T_{i,j}$  is closed in  $F_0$  since  $F_{n-1}$  does so. It is easy to show  $F_{n-1} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} T_{i,j}$ , hence  $\text{Int}_{F_0}(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} T_{i,j}) = \text{Int}_{F_0}(F_{n-1}) \neq \emptyset$ . By the Baire Category Theorem, there exists some  $T_{i,j}$  such that  $\text{Int}_{F_0}(T_{i,j}) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $E_n = T_{i,j}$ , then there exists  $x_n \in \text{Int}_{F_0}(E_n)$ . Since  $\text{Int}_{F_0}(E_n)$  is open in  $F_0$ , there exists  $B(x_n, \delta_n) \subset \text{Int}_{F_0}(E_n)$  where  $\delta_n > 0$ .

Let

$$F_n = \overline{B(x_n, \min\{\delta_n/2, 1/2^n\})} \cap F_0,$$

then we verify the two conditions we assume about  $F_n$ . For the first one,  $F_n$  is certainly closed in  $F_0$ . For the second one, since  $x_n \in B(x_n, \min\{\delta_n/2, 1/2^n\})$ , we have  $x_n \in \text{Int}_{F_0}(F_n)$ , therefore  $\text{Int}_{F_0}(F_n)$  is not empty.

For each  $n$ , it is easy to check that  $F_n \subset \text{Int}_{F_0}(E_n) \subset E_n \subset F_{n-1}$  and for  $x, y \in E_n$ ,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < 1/2^n$ .

Consider the sequence  $\{x_n\}$ . For  $n, m > N$ ,  $x_n, x_m \in F_N$ , hence  $d(x_n, x_m) \leq 1/2^{N-1}$ , therefore  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Since  $F_0$  is complete, there exists  $x \in F_0$  such that  $x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$ . For each  $n$ , since  $F_n$  is closed, we have  $x \in F_n$ , thus  $x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n \subset \text{Int}_{F_0}(E_n)$  for any  $n$ .

Claim that for this  $x \in F$ ,  $(x, f(x))$  is a point of continuity. For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , let  $1/2^n < \epsilon$ , then for any  $y \in \text{Int}_{F_0}(E_n)$ ,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < 1/2^n < \epsilon$ . Therefore,  $(x, f(x))$  is indeed a point of continuity.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4)

First we state a theorem.

**Theorem 8 (Cantor-Baire Stationary Principle)** *Let  $X$  be a separable metric space. If there exist  $\{F_\alpha\}, \alpha < \omega_1$ , such that  $F_\alpha$  is a closed subset of  $X$  for each  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2$  implies  $F_{\alpha_2} \subset F_{\alpha_1}$ , then there exists  $\beta < \omega_1$  such that  $F_\alpha = F_\beta, \forall \alpha \geq \beta$ .*

Proof: Suppose there does not exist such  $\beta$ , then for any  $\alpha_1 < \omega_1$ , we can find  $\alpha_2$  such that  $\alpha_2 > \alpha_1$  and  $F_{\alpha_2} \subsetneq F_{\alpha_1}$ . So without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2$  actually implies  $F_{\alpha_2} \subsetneq F_{\alpha_1}$ . If not, we can construct a subset of  $\{F_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$  namely  $F'_\alpha$  ( $\alpha < \omega_1$ ) with  $\alpha_2 > \alpha_1$  implies  $F'_{\alpha_2} \subsetneq F'_{\alpha_1}$ .

Since  $X$  is separable, let  $X = \overline{\{x_i\}}$ . Consider

$$\{B(x_n, q) : x_n \in \{x_i\}, q \in \mathbb{Q}^+\}$$

The set is countable, we denote it by  $\{O_n\}$ .

For each  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , we show that there exists  $O_j \in \{O_n\}$  such that  $O_j \cap F_\alpha \neq \emptyset$  and  $O_j \cap F_{\alpha+1} = \emptyset$ . Since  $F_{\alpha+1} \subsetneq F_\alpha$ , there exists  $x \in F_\alpha \setminus F_{\alpha+1}$ . Since  $F_{\alpha+1}$  is closed, there exists  $B(x, \delta)$  such that  $B(x, \delta) \cap F_{\alpha+1} = \emptyset$  and  $\delta \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . Since  $\{x_n\}$  is dense, there exists  $x_i \in \{x_n\}$  such that  $x_i \in B(x, \delta/4)$ . Then consider  $B(x_i, \delta/4)$ , we have  $x \in B(x_i, \delta/4) \cap F_\alpha$  and  $B(x_i, \delta/4) \cap F_{\alpha+1} = \emptyset$ . So  $B(x_i, \delta/4)$  is just the  $O_j$  we want to find.

For each  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , we can find a corresponding  $O_\alpha$  and  $O_\alpha \neq O_\beta$  for  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . This contradicts with  $\{O_n\}$  is countable. So we conclude that there exists  $\beta < \omega_1$  such that  $F_\alpha = F_\beta$ ,  $\forall \alpha \geq \beta$ .  $\square$

Then we use Cantor-Baire Stationary Principle to complete the proof of (3) $\Rightarrow$ (4).

Fix an  $\epsilon > 0$ , first show that  $\beta(f, \epsilon) < \omega_1$ . Suppose not, look at  $P^\alpha(f, \epsilon)$  ( $\alpha < \omega_1$ ). It satisfies the assumption of Cantor-Baire Stationary Principle, so there exists  $\beta < \omega_1$  such that  $P^\alpha(f, \epsilon) = P^\beta(f, \epsilon)$ ,  $\forall \alpha \geq \beta$ .

Consider  $P^\beta(f, \epsilon)$ , it is a closed subset of  $X$  and is nonempty. So it has a point of continuity, namely  $x$ . By definition,  $x \notin P^{\beta+1}(f, \epsilon)$ . We get a contradiction.

So for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\beta(f, \epsilon) < \omega_1$ . Thus,  $\beta(f) = \sup_{\epsilon > 0} \beta(f, \epsilon) < \omega_1$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1)

First we state two lemmas.

**Lemma 9** *Let  $X$  be a metric space. For a bounded function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , define the norm  $\|f\| = \sup_{x \in X} |f(x)|$ . Then for a sequence of bounded functions  $\{f_n\}$ , if  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f_n(x)\| < \infty$  and each  $f_n$  is Baire-1, then  $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  exists and  $f$  is also Baire-1.*

Proof: For any  $x$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |f_n(x)| < \infty$  since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f_n\| < \infty$ . Then for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N$  such that for  $m > N$ ,  $\sum_{n=m}^{\infty} |f_n(x)| < \epsilon$ . Therefore,  $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  exists for each  $x \in X$ .

For each  $f_i$ , let  $M_i = \sum_{x \in X} \{f_i(x)\}$  and  $N_i = \inf_{x \in X} \{f_i(x)\}$ . Since  $f_i$  is Baire-1, there exists a sequence of continuous functions  $\{f_{ij} : j \in \mathbb{N}\}$  which converges to  $f_i$ . For each  $f_{ij}$ , define  $f'_{ij}$  by

$$f'_{ij}(x) = \max\{N_i, \min\{M_i, f_{ij}(x)\}\},$$

then  $f'_{ij}$  is continuous,  $\|f'_{ij}\| \leq \|f_i\|$  and the sequence  $\{f'_{ij} : j \in \mathbb{N}\}$  also converges to  $f_i$ .

Let  $g_i(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f'_{ni}(x)$ , it is well-defined since

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f'_{ni}\| \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f_n\| < \infty.$$

We have  $g_i(x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^m f'_{ni}(x)$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^m f'_{ni}(x)$  uniformly converges to  $g_i(x)$ . Since  $\sum_{n=1}^m f'_{ni}(x)$  is continuous for each  $m$ ,  $g_i(x)$  is continuous for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $F_m(x) = \sum_{n=1}^m f_n(x)$ ,  $F_{mi}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^m f'_{ni}(x)$ . For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \|f_n\| < \epsilon/3$ . Therefore  $\|F_n - f\| < \epsilon/3$ , for  $n \geq N$ . Hence  $|F_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon/3$  for any  $n \geq N$  and  $x \in X$ . Also we have for  $n \geq N$ ,  $x \in X$ ,

$$|F_{ni}(x) - g_i(x)| \leq \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |f'_{ni}(x)| \leq \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \|f_n\| < \epsilon/3.$$

Then for a fixed  $x \in X$ , since  $F_N(x) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} F_{Ni}(x)$ , there exists an integer  $M$  such that for  $i \leq M$ ,  $|F_{Ni}(x) - F_N(x)| < \epsilon/3$ . Therefore  $|g_i(x) - f(x)| \leq |g_i(x) - F_{Ni}(x)| + |F_{Ni}(x) - F_N(x)| + |F_N(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon/3 + \epsilon/3 + \epsilon/3 = \epsilon$ , this implies that  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} g_i(x) = f(x)$ , for any  $x \in X$ . Thus  $\{g_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a sequence of continuous functions which converges to  $f$ , hence  $f$  is Baire-1.  $\square$

**Lemma 10** *If a sequence of Baire-1 functions  $\{f_n\}$  uniformly converges to  $f$ , then  $f$  is also Baire-1.*

Proof: Since  $\{f_n\}$  uniformly converges to  $f$ , then for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N_\epsilon$  such that for  $n, m \geq N_\epsilon$ ,  $\|f_n - f_m\| < \epsilon$ . Let  $M_k = N_{1/2^k}$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . It is clear we can choose  $M_k$  such that  $M_1 < M_2 < \dots$ . Take

$$g_n = \begin{cases} f_{M_1} & \text{if } n = 1 \\ f_{M_n} - f_{M_{n-1}} & \text{if } n \geq 2, \end{cases}$$

then  $g_n$  is bounded for  $n \geq 2$ . We have  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \|g_n\| < \infty$ , thus by Lemma 9,  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} g_n$  is Baire-1. Therefore  $f = f_{M_1} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} g_n$  is Baire-1 since  $f_{M_1}$  is Baire-1.  $\square$

We now come back to prove (4) $\Rightarrow$ (1).

If  $\beta(f) < \omega_1$ , then  $\beta(f, \epsilon) < \omega_1$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ . Fix arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ . Let  $X^0$  be  $X$ ;  $X^\alpha$  be  $X^{\alpha-1}(f, \epsilon)$  if  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal;  $X^\alpha$  be  $\bigcap_{\gamma < \alpha} X^\gamma(f, \epsilon)$  if  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal. ( $P(f, \epsilon)$  is only defined when  $P$  is a closed subset of  $X$ . So to show each  $X^\alpha$  is well-defined, we need to show  $X^\alpha$  is closed in  $X$  for any  $\alpha$ , we do this by induction.  $X^0 = X$  is closed. Assume for any  $\gamma < \alpha$ ,  $X^\gamma$  is closed in  $X$ . If  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal,  $X^\alpha = X^{\alpha-1}(f, \epsilon)$  so a closed subset of  $X^{\alpha-1}$ , therefore  $X^\alpha$  is closed in  $X$  since  $X^{\alpha-1}$  is closed in  $X$ . If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal,  $X^\alpha = \bigcap_{\gamma < \alpha} X^\gamma(f, \epsilon)$ , this is a intersection of closed sets in  $X$ , thus  $X^\alpha$  is closed in  $X$ . So we can conclude for any  $\alpha$ ,  $X^\alpha$  is closed in  $X$ .)

Since  $\beta(f, \epsilon) < \omega_1$ , we have

$$X = \bigcup_{\alpha < \beta(f, \epsilon)} X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}.$$

Consider on  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$  ( $\alpha < \beta(f, \epsilon)$ ), for each  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ , there exists  $\delta_x > 0$  such that for any  $y, z \in B_{X^\alpha}(x, \delta_x)$ ,  $|f(y) - f(z)| < \epsilon$ . The balls form an open covering  $\Lambda$  of  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ . Since  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$  is a metric space hence paracompact, there exists a partition of unity  $\Gamma$  subordinated to the open covering  $\Lambda$ . For any  $K_\beta \in \Gamma$ , we can find a  $U_\beta \in \Lambda$  such that  $\text{supp} K_\beta \subset U_\beta$ . Those  $U_\beta$  also form an open covering  $\Lambda_0$  of  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ . For each  $K_\beta \in \Gamma$ , fix a  $x_\beta \in \text{supp} K_\beta$ . Then for any  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ , there exists  $r_x > 0$  such that  $B_{X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}}(x, r_x)$  only intersects finitely many  $\text{supp} K_\beta$ . Therefore  $x$  only belongs to finitely many  $\text{supp} K_\beta$ .

Let

$$g^\alpha(x) = \sum_{\beta} f(x_\beta) K_\beta(x),$$

$K_\beta(x) \neq 0$  for only finitely many  $\beta$ . Claim that for any  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ ,  $|f(x) - g^\alpha(x)| < \epsilon$  and also  $g^\alpha$  is continuous on  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ . In fact, by the definition of partition of unity,  $\sum_{\beta} K_\beta(x) = 1$ , therefore  $f(x) = f(x) \sum_{\beta} K_\beta(x) = \sum_{\beta} f(x) K_\beta(x)$ ,  $|f(x) - g^\alpha(x)| = |\sum_{\beta} (f(x) - f(x_\beta)) K_\beta(x)| \leq \sum_{\beta} |f(x) - f(x_\beta)| K_\beta(x)$ . Since  $x_\beta \in B_{X^\alpha}(x, \delta_x)$  for any  $\beta$ ,  $|f(x) - f(x_\beta)| < \epsilon$ , thus  $|f(x) - g^\alpha(x)| < \epsilon \sum_{\beta} K_\beta(x) = \epsilon$ . For any  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ , on  $B_{X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}}(x, r_x)$ , only finitely many  $\text{supp} K_\beta$  intersect the ball. Thus,  $\forall y \in B_{X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}}(x, r_x)$ ,  $g^\alpha(y) = \sum_{\beta} f(x_\beta) K_\beta(y)$  with only those finitely

many  $K_\beta$ . Since each  $K_\beta$  is continuous on  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ , we have  $g^\alpha$  is continuous at  $x$ . So we conclude  $g^\alpha(x)$  is continuous on  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ .

Define  $F_\epsilon(x) = g^\alpha(x)$  for  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ , ( $0 \leq \alpha < \beta(f, \epsilon)$ ). For any  $x \in X$ ,  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$  for some  $0 \leq \alpha < \beta(f, \epsilon)$ , thus  $|F_\epsilon - f(x)| = |g^\alpha(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon$ . On each  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ ,  $F_\epsilon(x) = g^\alpha(x)$ , therefore  $F_\epsilon(x)$  is continuous on any  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ . Define  $f_n(x) = F_{1/2^n}(x)$ , then  $f_n$  converges to  $f$  uniformly.

Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ , let  $X^\alpha$  ( $\alpha < \beta(f, \epsilon)$ ) be as defined before. Let  $T_{r,\alpha} = X^\alpha \setminus N_X(X^{\alpha+1}, r)$  where  $N_X(X^{\alpha+1}, r) = \bigcup_{x \in X^{\alpha+1}} B_X(x, r)$ . Notice that  $T_{r,\alpha}$  is closed in  $X$  since we have shown that  $X^\alpha$  is closed in  $X$  for any  $\alpha$ . We also define  $V_r = \bigcup_{\alpha < \beta(f, \epsilon)} T_{r,\alpha}$ . Claim that for any  $\alpha$ ,

$$N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r) \cap (V_r \setminus T_{r,\alpha}) = \emptyset,$$

where  $N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r) = \bigcup_{x \in T_{r,\alpha}} B_X(x, r)$ . In fact, it suffices to show  $N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r) \cap T_{r,\beta} = \emptyset$  for any  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $\alpha > \beta$ . For any  $x \in N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r)$ ,  $x \in B_X(y, r)$  for some  $y \in T_{r,\alpha} \subset X^\alpha$ , thus  $x \in N_X(X^\alpha, r)$ . Since  $\alpha > \beta$ ,  $\alpha \geq \beta + 1$ , we have  $X^\alpha \subset X^{\beta+1}$ . Therefore  $x \in N_X(X^\alpha, r) \subset N_X(X^{\beta+1}, r)$ ,  $x \notin T_{r,\beta}$ . Hence  $N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r) \cap T_{r,\beta} = \emptyset$  for any  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

Claim that  $V_r$  is closed in  $X$  for any  $r$ . In fact, for a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $V_r$ , if it is convergent in  $X$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n, m \geq N$ ,  $d(x_n, x_m) < r/2$ . Since  $x_N \in V_r$ , we have  $x_N \in T_{r,\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha$ . For any  $n > N$ ,  $x_n \in B_X(x_N, r) \subset N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r)$ . Since  $N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r) \cap (V_r \setminus T_{r,\alpha}) = \emptyset$ , we have  $x_n \notin V_r \setminus T_{r,\alpha}$ . Hence  $x_n \in T_{r,\alpha}$  for  $x_n \in V_r$ . So we have for  $n \geq N$ ,  $x_n \in T_{r,\alpha}$  for a fixed  $\alpha$ . Since  $T_{r,\alpha}$  is closed in  $X$ ,  $\{x_n\}$  is convergent in  $X$ , we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n \in T_{r,\alpha} \subset V_r$ . So  $V_r$  is closed in  $X$  for any  $r$ .

We have shown that  $F_\epsilon$  is continuous on each  $X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ , so continuous on each  $T_{r,\alpha}$ . Then we show that  $F_\epsilon$  is continuous on  $V_r$ . For any  $x \in V_r$ ,  $x \in T_{r,\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha$ . Since  $F_\epsilon$  is continuous on  $T_{r,\alpha}$ , we have for any  $\Delta > 0$ , there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for  $y \in B_{T_{r,\alpha}}(x, \delta_1)$ ,  $|F_\epsilon(y) - F_\epsilon(x)| < \Delta$ . Take  $\delta_2 = \min\{r, \delta_1\}$ . Since  $N_X(T_{r,\alpha}, r) \cap (V_r \setminus T_{r,\alpha}) = \emptyset$ ,  $B_{T_{r,\alpha}}(x, \delta_2)$  is actually  $B_{V_r}(x, \delta_2)$ . So we have for  $y \in B_{V_r}(x, \delta_2)$ ,  $|F_\epsilon(y) - F_\epsilon(x)| < \Delta$ . Thus  $F_\epsilon$  is continuous at  $x$ ,  $F_\epsilon$  is continuous on  $V_r$ .

Let  $F_\epsilon|_{V_r}$  to be  $F_{\epsilon,r}$ . By Tietze Extension Theorem,  $F_{\epsilon,r}$  can be extended from  $V_r$  to a continuous map of all of  $X$ , namely  $\psi_{\epsilon,r}$ . Let  $\phi_{\epsilon,n}$  to be  $\psi_{\epsilon,1/2^n}$ . Claim that  $\phi_{\epsilon,n}$  converges to  $F_\epsilon$ . In fact, for any  $x \in X$ ,  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$  for



some  $\alpha$ . Since  $X^{\alpha+1}$  is closed in  $X$ ,  $x \notin X^{\alpha+1}$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $B_X(x, \delta) \cap X^{\alpha+1} = \emptyset$ . Take  $1/2^N < \delta$ , we have  $x \notin N_X(X^{\alpha+1}, 1/2^N)$ . Therefore  $x \in X^\alpha \setminus N_X(X^{\alpha+1}, 1/2^N) \subset V_{1/2^N}$ . For  $n > N$ ,  $\phi_{\epsilon, n}(x) = \psi_{\epsilon, 1/2^n}(x)$ . Since  $x \in V_{1/2^N} \subset V_{1/2^n}$ , we have  $\psi_{\epsilon, 1/2^n}(x) = F_{\epsilon, 1/2^n}(x) = F_\epsilon(x)$ . Thus  $\phi_{\epsilon, n}(x)$  converges to  $F_\epsilon(x)$  for any  $x$ . Since each  $\phi_{\epsilon, n}$  is continuous,  $F_\epsilon$  is Baire-1. Therefore each  $f_n$  we defined before is Baire-1. Since  $f_n$  converges to  $f$  uniformly, by Lemma 10,  $f$  is Baire-1, which completes the proof.  $\square$

## 参考文献

- [1] James Dugundji, *Topology*
- [2] James R. Munkres, *Topology*
- [3] Thomas Jech, *Set Theory*

\*\*\*\*\*

## 数学家逸事

有一天，波兰数学家 Sierpinski 要搬家，他的夫人把行李拿出来以后对他说：“我去叫辆出租车，你在这儿看好行李，总共有 10 个箱子。”过一会儿，他的夫人回来了，他对夫人说道：“刚才你说有 10 个箱子，可是我数了只有 9 个箱子。”

“不对，肯定是 10 个。”

“说什么呢，我再数一遍，0, 1, 2, 3……”