## IRREGULARITIES OF DISTRIBUTION. VIII(1)

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ABSTRACT. If  $x_1, x_2, \ldots$  is a sequence in the unit interval  $0 \le x < 1$  and if S is a subinterval, write C(n, S) for the number of elements among  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  which lie in S, minus n times the length of S. For a well distributed sequence, C(n, S) as a function of n will be small. It is shown that the lengths of the intervals S for which C(n, S)  $(n = 1, 2, \ldots)$  is bounded form at most a countable set.

1. Introduction. The present paper is independent of the preceding papers of this series. However, the reader would be advised to first read the sixth paper [3] of the series, which deals with a similar but rather simpler problem.

We shall be concerned with the distribution of an arbitrary given sequence  $x_1, x_2, \ldots$  of points in the unit cube of k-dimensional Euclidean space. This unit cube  $U^k$  consists of the points  $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_k)$  with  $0 \le x_i < 1$   $(i = 1, \ldots, k)$ .

Let S be a measurable subset of  $U^k$  of measure  $\mu(S)$ , and write Z(n, S) for the number of points among  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  which lie in S. The quantity

$$D(n,S) = |Z(n,S) - n\mu(S)|$$

tells us how far Z(n, S) deviates from the "expected" number  $n\mu(S)$ . Put

(2) 
$$E(S) = \sup_{n} D(n, S),$$

and call E(S) the *error* of S. We shall show in the present paper that very few boxes **B** with sides parallel to the coordinate axes have a finite error E(B).

By a subinterval of  $U^1$  we shall mean a single point or an open, half-open or closed interval of positive length which is contained in  $U^1$ . By a box contained in  $U^k$  we shall understand a set  $B = I_1 \times \cdots \times I_k$ , where  $I_1, \cdots, I_k$  are subintervals of  $U^1$ . Thus B consists of points  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$  with  $x_j \in I_j (j = 1, \dots, k)$ .(2) Write  $\mathfrak{B}_t$ , for the class of sets which are unions of at most t boxes in  $U^k$ .

For  $\kappa > 0$ , let  $M_t(\kappa)$  be the set of numbers  $\mu$  of the type  $\mu = \mu(A)$  where  $A \in \mathfrak{B}_t$  and  $E(A) < \kappa$ . Let  $M_t(\infty)$  be the set of numbers  $\mu$  of the type  $\mu = \mu(A)$  with  $A \in \mathfrak{B}_t$  and  $E(A) < \infty$ ; thus  $M_t(\infty)$  is the union of the sets  $M_t(\kappa)$  with  $0 < \kappa < \infty$ . Recall that a number  $\gamma$  is a *limit point* of a set M of reals if there is a sequence of distinct elements of M which converge to  $\gamma$ . The *derivative*  $M^{(1)}$  of

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<sup>(2)</sup> In the theory of uniform distribution, one usually studies the "discrepancy" function  $D(n) = \sup D(n, \mathbf{B})$ , with the supremum taken over all boxes **B** in  $\mathbf{U}^k$ , rather than the error  $E(\mathbf{B})$ , as in the present paper.

M consists of all the limit points of M. The higher derivatives are defined inductively by  $M^{(d)} = (M^{(d-1)})^{(1)}$  (d = 2, 3, ...).

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $d > 8\kappa > 0$ . Then  $(M_t(\kappa))^{(d)}$  is empty.

Since a set M having  $M^{(d)}$  empty for some d is nowhere dense and is at most countable, we obtain the

**Corollary.** Each set  $M_i(\kappa)$  is nowhere dense and is at most countable. The set  $M_i(\infty)$  is at most countable.

In [3] we proved a result like Theorem 1 in the one-dimensional case for intervals I whose left endpoint was 0. The generalization to arbitrary intervals causes considerable additional difficulties in the proof; the generalization to arbitrary dimension and the generalization to unions of t boxes are easy.

As far as I know, the only interesting sequences for which the boxes **B** with finite  $E(\mathbf{B})$  have been determined are the sequences

(3) 
$$x_n = \{\alpha n + \beta\} \quad (n = 1, 2, ...)$$

in the one-dimensional case, where the notation  $\{\xi\}$  denotes the fractional part of  $\xi$ . Let us define an *interval modulo* 1 as either a subinterval  $\mathbf{I}$  of  $\mathbf{U}^1$  or the union of two subintervals  $\mathbf{I}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{I}_2$  of  $\mathbf{U}^1$  such that  $0 \in \mathbf{I}_1$  and  $\mathbf{I}_2$  contains every number less than 1 which is sufficiently close to 1. (In particular, every interval modulo 1 lies in  $\mathfrak{B}_2$ . A suitably defined box modulo 1 would lie in  $\mathfrak{B}_{2^k}$ ; in fact we defined the class  $\mathfrak{B}_t$  in order to allow boxes modulo 1.) Now for a sequence (3),  $E(\mathbf{J})$  is finite where  $\mathbf{J}$  is an interval modulo 1 if (Ostrowski [2]) and only if (Kesten [1]; this is the hard part)  $\mu(\mathbf{J}) = \{\alpha l\}$  for some integer l. In particular, the set  $M_1(\infty)$  is infinite if  $\alpha$  is irrational.

No particular importance attaches to the number  $8\kappa$  in Theorem 1. But in [3] it was shown that the van der Corput sequence has  $(M_1(d))^{(d)}$  nonempty for  $d = 1, 2, \ldots$ .

Theorem 1 probably remains true if the class  $\mathfrak{B}_t$  is replaced by the class  $\mathfrak{B}_t$  of polyhedrons with at most t faces or by the class  $\mathfrak{E}$  of ellipsoids contained in  $U^k$ . But Theorem 1 is not true for the class of convex subsets of  $U^k$  when k > 1:

**Theorem 2.** Suppose k > 1. There is a sequence  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \ldots$  in  $\mathbf{U}^k$  such that for every  $\mu$  in  $0 \le \mu \le 1$ , there is a convex set  $\mathbf{S}$  in  $\mathbf{U}^k$  with  $\mu(\mathbf{S}) = \mu$  and with  $E(\mathbf{S}) \le \frac{1}{2}$ .

The fairly easy proof of Theorem 2 is given in the last section and is independent of the rest of the paper. The proof of Theorem 1 is unfortunately rather long. It would be desirable to have a simpler proof.

2. Preliminaries. Every interval is of one of the following four types: (i)  $\alpha \le x \le \beta$ , (ii)  $\alpha \le x < \beta$ , (iii)  $\alpha < x \le \beta$ , (iv)  $\alpha < x < \beta$ . Now for a box  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{I}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{I}_k$ , each interval  $\mathbf{I}_j$  is of one of four possible types, and hence we have  $4^k$  types of boxes. There are  $4^{kt}$  types of t-tuples of boxes  $\mathbf{B}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{B}_p$  and

hence there is a finite number of types of elements of  $\mathfrak{B}_t$ . It clearly will suffice to prove Theorem 1 for each subclass of  $\mathfrak{B}_t$  whose elements are of a given type. For the sake of simplicity we shall only deal with the type where each interval I used in the definition of boxes is of the type  $\alpha \leq x < \beta$ . Denote such an interval by  $\mathbb{I}[\alpha, \beta)$ .

For  $1 \le i \le k$ , let  $\mathbf{B}_i(\alpha)$  be the set of points  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbf{U}^k$  with  $\alpha \le x_i < 1$ , and for  $k+1 \le i \le 2k$ , let  $\mathbf{B}_i(\alpha)$  be the box of points  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbf{U}^k$  with  $0 \le x_{i-k} < \alpha$ . For  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2k}$  with  $0 \le \alpha_i \le 1$   $(j = 1, \ldots, 2k)$ , put

$$\mathbf{B}(\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_{2k})=\mathbf{B}(\alpha_1)\cap\cdots\cap\mathbf{B}(\alpha_{2k}).$$

Then  $\mathbf{B}(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2k})$  is a box, and every box of the type described above may be written as  $\mathbf{I}[\alpha_1, \alpha_{k+1}) \times \cdots \times \mathbf{I}[\alpha_k, \alpha_{2k}) = \mathbf{B}(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2k})$ . For  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2kt}$  with  $0 \le \alpha_i \le 1 (j = 1, \ldots, 2kt)$ , put

$$\mathbf{A}(\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_{2kt}) = \mathbf{B}(\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_{2k}) \cup \mathbf{B}(\alpha_{2k+1},\ldots,\alpha_{4k}) \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{B}(\alpha_{2k(t-1)+1},\ldots,\alpha_{2kt}).$$

Then  $A(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2kt})$  is in  $\mathfrak{B}_t$ , and every element of  $\mathfrak{B}_t$  of the type described above is a set  $A(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2kt})$ .

It will be convenient to write 2kt = m,  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2kt})$  and  $A(\alpha) = A(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2kt})$ . Also put  $\mu(\alpha) = \mu(A(\alpha))$ . The vectors  $\alpha$  will be restricted to the closed cube  $\mathbb{C}$  in  $R^m$  defined by  $0 \le \alpha_i \le 1$   $(i = 1, \dots, m)$ .

We shall call a finite or infinite sequence of real numbers  $\alpha^{(1)}$ ,  $\alpha^{(2)}$ , ... monotonic of the type < if  $\alpha^{(1)} < \alpha^{(2)} < \ldots$ , monotonic of the type = if  $\alpha^{(1)} = \alpha^{(2)} = \ldots$ , and monotonic of the type > if  $\alpha^{(1)} > \alpha^{(2)} > \cdots$ . Every infinite sequence of real numbers contains an infinite monotonic subsequence. A finite or infinite sequence of vectors  $\alpha^{(1)} = (\alpha_1^{(1)}, \ldots, \alpha_m^{(1)}), \alpha^{(2)} = (\alpha_1^{(2)}, \ldots, \alpha_m^{(2)}), \ldots$  will be called monotonic of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  where each  $u_h$  is either < or = or >, if for  $1 \le h \le m$ , the sequence  $\alpha_h^{(1)}, \alpha_h^{(2)}, \ldots$  is monotonic of the type  $u_h$ .

Given subsets A, A' of  $U^k$ , the symmetric difference

## $A^A'$

is the set of elements x which lie in A but not in A', or in A' but not in A.

**Lemma 1.** Suppose  $\alpha^{(1)}$ ,  $\alpha^{(2)}$ , ... is a monotonic sequence of vectors in C. Then no point x of  $U^k$  lies in more than m = 2kt of the sets  $A(\alpha^{(1)})^A(\alpha^{(2)})$ ,  $A(\alpha^{(2)})^A(\alpha^{(3)})$ , ...

**Proof.**  $A(\alpha) = A(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{2kt})$  is formed as a union and intersection of the 2kt sets  $B_i(\alpha_{i+2kj})$   $(1 \le i \le 2k, 0 \le j \le t-1)$ . Therefore if for every i, j with  $1 \le i \le 2k, 0 \le j \le t-1$ , the point x behaves the same way with respect to  $B_i(\alpha_{i+2kj})$  and  $B_i(\alpha'_{i+2kj})$ , i.e. lies in both or in neither of them, then x lies in either both  $A(\alpha)$  and  $A(\alpha')$  or in neither of them. Hence if  $x \in A(\alpha) \cap A(\alpha')$ , then there are i, j with  $1 \le i \le 2k, 0 \le j \le t-1$ , such that  $x \in B_i(\alpha_{i+2kj}) \cap B_i(\alpha'_{i+2kj})$ .

Thus to prove Lemma 1, it will suffice to show that for fixed i, j, a point x lies in at most one of the sets

(4) 
$$\mathbf{B}_{i}(\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(1)}) \hat{\mathbf{B}}_{i}(\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(2)}), \quad \mathbf{B}_{i}(\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(2)}) \hat{\mathbf{B}}_{i}(\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(3)}), \quad \dots$$

But  $B_i(\alpha)$  decreases with  $\alpha$  if  $1 \le i \le k$ , and it increases with  $\alpha$  if  $k+1 \le i \le 2k$ . The sequence  $\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(1)}$ ,  $\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(2)}$ , ... is monotonic. Hence the sequence of sets  $B_i(\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(1)})$ ,  $B_i(\alpha_{i+2kj}^{(2)})$ , ... is either increasing or decreasing (in the weak sense). Therefore x can lie in at most one of the sets (4).

The property enunciated in Lemma 1, together with the continuity of  $\mu(\alpha)$ , are the only properties of the sets  $A(\alpha)$  which we shall need. It would be easy to construct other parameter families of sets with these properties, and hence other families of sets for which Theorem 1 holds.

3. Directed systems. Let  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  and  $(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$  be d-tuples of positive integers. We shall write

$$(i_1,\ldots,i_d) < (i'_1,\ldots,i'_d)$$

if  $i_1 = i'_1, \ldots, i_{j-1} = i'_{j-1}$  and  $i_j < i'_j$ .

We are going to define directed systems of real numbers. A directed system of order 0 consists of a single real number  $\alpha$  in  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ . A directed system of order 1 is a finite monotonic sequence of reals  $\alpha(1), \alpha(2), \ldots, \alpha(l)$  with l > 1 terms in  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ . Thus a directed system of order 1 is of some type (u) where u may be <, = or >. For arbitrary  $d \ge 1$ , a directed system of order d is of some type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_d)$ , where each  $u_i$  may be <, = or >, and consists of integers  $l_1, \ldots, l_d$  greater than 1 and of real numbers  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$   $(1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d, i_d \le l_d)$  in the interval  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ , such that if  $1 \le i_1, i_1' \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d$ ,  $i_d' \le l_d$  and  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) < (i_1', \ldots, i_d')$ , then

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d)u_j\alpha(i'_1,\ldots,i'_d).$$

For example, in a directed system of the type (<, ..., <), the numbers  $\alpha(i_1, ..., i_d)$  are ordered lexicographically.

**Lemma 2.** Suppose there exists a directed system of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_{j-1}, \ldots, u_{j+1}, \ldots, u_d)$  where j < d. Then the symbols  $u_{j+1}, \ldots, u_d$  are all the = sign, i.e. the type is  $(u_1, \ldots, u_{i-1}, =, \ldots, =)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d)$  belong to a directed system of the type  $(u_1,\ldots,u_{j-1},=,u_{j+1},\ldots,u_d)$ . Then  $\alpha(1,\ldots,1,1,i_{j+1},\ldots,i_d)=\alpha(1,\ldots,1,2,i'_{j+1},\ldots,i'_d)$  for any numbers  $1\leq i_{j+1},i'_{j+1}\leq l_{j+1},\ldots,1\leq i_d,i'_d\leq l_d$ . Hence the  $l_{j+1}\ldots l_d$  numbers  $\alpha(1,\ldots,1,i_{j+1},\ldots,i_d)$  with  $1\leq i_{j+1}\leq l_{j+1},\ldots,1\leq i_d\leq l_d$  are all equal, and the symbols  $u_{j+1},\ldots,u_d$  must be the  $l_{j+1},\ldots,l_d$  sign.

Next, we define directed systems of vectors  $\alpha$ . A directed system of order zero consists of a single vector  $\alpha$  in the cube C. A directed system of order d where  $d \ge 1$  is of some type  $(u_{ih})(1 \le i \le d, 1 \le h \le m)$ , where each  $u_{ih}$  is either <

or = or >, and consists of integers  $l_1, \ldots, l_d$  greater than 1 and of vectors  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$   $(1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d)$  such that for each h in  $1 \le h \le m$ , the coordinates  $\alpha_h(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$   $(1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d)$  form a directed system of reals of the type  $(u_{1h}, \ldots, u_{dh})$ . That is, we have

$$\alpha_h(i_1,\ldots,i_d)u_{ih}\alpha_h(i'_1,\ldots,i'_d)$$

if 
$$1 \le i_1, i'_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d, i'_d \le l_d$$
 and  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) <_j (i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$ .

4. A proposition which implies Theorem 1. By a range we shall understand a finite set of consecutive positive integers. Thus a range N will consist of integers a+1, a+2, ..., b where  $0 \le a < b$ . The number |N| = b-a will be called the *length* of the range, so that a range of length l contains exactly l integers. Now let f(n) be a function defined on the positive integers, and let N be a range. We put

(5) 
$$f^+(N) = \max_{n \in N} f(n), \quad f^-(N) = \min_{n \in N} f(n),$$

and

(6) 
$$f^*(N) = f^+(N) - f^-(N).$$

For  $\alpha$  in C, write

(7) 
$$f(n,\alpha) = n\mu(\alpha) - Z(n,A(\alpha)).$$

The meaning of the notations  $f^+(N, \alpha)$ ,  $f^-(N, \alpha)$  and  $f^*(N, \alpha)$  is then obvious.

Given a subset S of the cube C, write M(S) for the set of numbers  $\mu = \mu(\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in S$ . For any set M of real numbers, put  $M^{(0)} = M$ .

**Proposition.**(3) Suppose  $d \ge 0$  and S is a subset of C such that  $(M(S))^{(d)}$  contains a number  $\mu$  in  $0 < \mu < 1$ . Suppose  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there is

- (i) a positive integer r,
- (ii) a directed system of vectors  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d) (1 \le i_j \le l_j)$  of order d with  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in \mathbf{S}$  and  $0 < \mu(\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)) < 1$ , and
- (iii) there are neighborhoods(4)  $N(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  of the numbers  $\mu(\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d))$ , with the following property:

If N is a range with  $|N| \ge r$ , and if

$$\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_d) \qquad (1 \leq i_1 \leq l_1,\ldots,1 \leq i_d \leq l_d)$$

is a directed system with  $\mu(\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_d)) \in N(i_1,\ldots,i_d)$ , but not necessarily of the same type as the directed system  $\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d)$ , then

(8) 
$$(l_1 \ldots l_d)^{-1} \sum_{i_1=1}^{l_1} \ldots \sum_{i_d=1}^{l_d} f^*(N, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d)) \geq \frac{1}{4}(d+1) + \frac{1}{12} - \varepsilon.$$

<sup>(3)</sup> This proposition corresponds to the proposition in [3]. Also, Lemmas 3, 7 of the present paper correspond, respectively, to Lemmas 5, 4 of [3].

<sup>(4)</sup> By a neighborhood of a real number  $\mu$  we understand an open interval containing  $\mu$ .

It might be in order to clarify the meaning of the proposition when d = 0. In this case the directed system consists of a single vector  $\alpha \in S$ . The hypothesis implies only that there is an  $\alpha \in S$  with  $0 < \mu(\alpha) < 1$ . Hence this case may be restated as follows.

Case d=0 of the proposition. Suppose  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $0 < \mu(\alpha) < 1$ , and suppose  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there exists an integer r and a neighborhood  $\mathbb{N}$  of  $\mu(\alpha)$  such that for every range N with  $|N| \ge r$  and every  $\beta$  with  $\mu(\beta) \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$f^*(N,\beta) \geq \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{12} - \varepsilon.$$

The proof of the proposition will be postponed until later. At present we are going to show that the proposition implies Theorem 1. We have to show that  $(M_t(\kappa))^{(d)}$  is empty if  $d > 8\kappa > 0$ . It will suffice to show that  $(M_t(\kappa))^{(d)}$  contains no element  $\mu$  with  $0 < \mu < 1$  if  $d > 8\kappa - 1$ . Put differently, it will be enough to show that if  $(M_t(\kappa))^{(d)}$  contains an element  $\mu$  with  $0 < \mu < 1$ , then

(9) 
$$\kappa \geq \frac{1}{8}(d+1).$$

By what we said in §2, we may restrict ourselves to sets of  $\mathfrak{B}_t$  of the type  $A(\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ . Thus if  $\overline{M}_t(\kappa)$  is the set of numbers  $\mu = \mu(\alpha)$  with  $E(A(\alpha)) < \kappa$ , we have to show that (9) holds if there is a  $\mu \in (\overline{M}_t(\kappa))^{(d)}$  with  $0 < \mu < 1$ . Let  $S(\kappa)$  consist of the vectors  $\alpha$  with  $E(A(\alpha)) < \kappa$ . Then  $\overline{M}_t(\kappa) = M(S(\kappa))$ . If  $(\overline{M}_t(\kappa))^{(d)} = (M(S(\kappa)))^{(d)}$  contains an element  $\mu$  with  $0 < \mu < 1$ , we apply the proposition with  $\varepsilon = 1/12$ , with a range N having  $|N| \ge r$ , and with  $\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d) = \alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  (or with  $\beta = \alpha$  if d = 0), and we see that there is a  $\beta \in S(\kappa)$  with

$$f^*(N,\beta) \geq \frac{1}{4}(d+1).$$

Hence either  $|f^+(N,\beta)| \ge \frac{1}{8}(d+1)$  or  $|f^-(N,\beta)| \ge \frac{1}{8}(d+1)$ , and there is an integer  $n \in N$  with  $|f(n,\beta)| \ge \frac{1}{8}(d+1)$ . Thus

$$D(n, \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\beta})) = |Z(n, \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\beta})) - n\mu(\boldsymbol{\beta})| = |f(n, \boldsymbol{\beta})| \ge \frac{1}{8}(d+1),$$

and  $E(A(\beta)) \ge \frac{1}{8}(d+1)$ . Since  $\beta \in S(\kappa)$  and  $E(A(\beta)) < \kappa$ , we obtain (9).

5. An auxiliary lemma. If f(n) is a function defined on the positive integers, and if N, N' are ranges, put

(10) 
$$f^{\nabla}(N,N') = \max(0,f^{-}(N)-f^{+}(N'),f^{-}(N')-f^{+}(N)).$$

**Lemma 3.** Let f(n), g(n) be defined on the positive integers, and let L, L' be subranges of a range N. Then

$$f^*(N) + g^*(N) \ge (f - g)^{\nabla}(L, L') + \frac{1}{2}(f^*(L) + g^*(L) + f^*(L') + g^*(L')).$$

**Proof.** Since both L, L' are contained in N, we have  $f^*(N) \ge \max(f^*(L), P)$ 

 $f^*(L')$  and  $g^*(N) \ge \max(g^*(L), g^*(L'))$ , so that the lemma is certainly true if  $(f-g)^{\nabla}(L, L') = 0$ . We therefore may assume without loss of generality that

$$(f-g)^{\nabla}(L,L')=(f-g)^{-}(L)-(f-g)^{+}(L')>0.$$

Then we have for every  $l \in L$  and every  $l' \in L'$ ,

(11) 
$$f(l) - g(l) - (f(l') - g(l')) \ge (f - g)^{\nabla}(L, L').$$

Let  $a_f$ ,  $b_f$ ,  $a_g$ ,  $b_g$  be integers in L with

$$f(a_f) = f^+(L),$$
  $f(b_f) = f^-(L),$   
 $g(a_e) = g^+(L),$   $g(b_e) = g^-(L),$ 

so that

(12) 
$$f(a_f) - f(b_f) = f^*(L),$$

(13) 
$$g(a_g) - g(b_g) = g^*(L).$$

Similarly, choose  $a'_f$ ,  $b'_f$ ,  $a'_g$ ,  $b'_g$  in L' with

(14) 
$$f(a_f') - f(b_f') = f^*(L'),$$

(15) 
$$g(a'_{g}) - g(b'_{g}) = g^{*}(L').$$

Applying (11) with  $l = a_g$ ,  $l' = a'_f$ , we get

$$f(a_{\bullet}) - g(a_{\bullet}) - f(a'_{t}) + g(a'_{t}) \ge (f - g)^{\nabla}(L, L').$$

Applying (11) with  $l = b_f$ ,  $l' = b'_g$ , we obtain

$$f(b_f) - g(b_f) - f(b_g') + g(b_g') \ge (f - g)^{\nabla}(L, L').$$

Adding these two inequalities and the four equations (12), (13), (14), (15), we obtain

$$\varphi_1 + \varphi_2 + \varphi_3 + \varphi_4 \ge 2(f - g)^{\nabla}(L, L') + f^*(L) + g^*(L) + f^*(L') + g^*(L'),$$

where

$$\varphi_1 = f(a_f) - f(b_f'), \qquad \varphi_2 = g(a_g') - g(b_g), 
\varphi_3 = f(a_g) - f(b_g'), \qquad \varphi_4 = g(a_f') - g(b_f).$$

Since  $f^*(N) \ge \max(\varphi_1, \varphi_3)$  and  $g^*(N) \ge \max(\varphi_2, \varphi_4)$ , the lemma follows. The lemma will not be used until §11.

6. The case d=0 of the proposition. Write  $\|\xi\|$  for the distance from a real number  $\xi$  to the nearest integer. Suppose  $\mu=\mu(\alpha)$  lies in the open interval  $0 < \mu < 1$ . Then there is a positive integer q such that  $\|\mu q\| \ge \frac{1}{3}$ . This follows

from Kronecker's theorem if  $\mu$  is irrational, and is easily proved if  $\mu$  is rational, the worst case being when  $\mu = \frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Choose a neighborhood N of  $\mu$  such that  $|\mu' - \mu| < \varepsilon/q$  for every  $\mu' \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then for every  $\beta$  with  $\mu(\beta) \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\|\mu(\beta)q\| > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$$
.

Now put r=q+1, and let  $N=\{a+1,a+2,\ldots,b\}$  be a range of length  $|N|\geq r$ . Then there are two integers n, n' in N, e.g. n=a+1 and n'=a+1+q, such that

$$||n\mu(\beta) - n'\mu(\beta)|| > \frac{1}{3} - \varepsilon.$$

Hence

$$|f(n',\beta)-f(n,\beta)| \geq ||n\mu(\beta)-n'\mu(\beta)|| > \frac{1}{4}-\varepsilon$$

and in the notation of (6) we have

$$f^*(N,\beta) > \frac{1}{3} - \varepsilon = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{12} - \varepsilon.$$

This finishes the proof of the case d = 0 of the proposition. The proposition in general will later be proved by induction on d.

## 7. Kronecker type lemmas.

**Lemma 4.** There are positive valued functions  $f_1(y_0)$ ,  $f_2(y_0, y_1)$ ,  $f_3(y_0, y_1, y_2)$ , ..., defined for nonzero  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \ldots$ , with the following property:

Suppose l is a positive integer and

(16) 
$$0 < \varepsilon < 1, \quad 0 < |\delta_1| < f_1(\varepsilon), \quad 0 < |\delta_2| < f_2(\varepsilon, \delta_1), \quad \dots, \\ 0 < |\delta_\ell| < f_\ell(\varepsilon, \delta_1, \dots, \delta_{\ell-1}).$$

Then there is a positive integer  $p = p(l, \varepsilon, \delta_1, ..., \delta_l)$  such that, for every range N with  $|N| \ge p$  and arbitrary  $\alpha_1, ..., \alpha_l$ , there is an  $n \in N$  with

**Proof.** Put  $f_1(y_0) = |y_0|$ . Suppose  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$  and  $0 < |\delta_1| < f_1(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon$ . Suppose at first that  $\delta_1 > 0$ , and put  $p = [1/\delta_1] + 1$ , where  $[\xi]$  denotes the integer part of a real number  $\xi$ . The numbers  $z_0 = 0$ ,  $z_1 = \delta_1, \ldots, z_{p-1} = [1/\delta_1]\delta_1$  lie in  $0 \le z \le 1$ , and given any  $\alpha$  there is a  $z_i$  with  $\{z_i - \alpha\} < \delta_1 < \varepsilon$ . Thus there is an n with  $0 \le n \le p - 1$  and  $\{\delta_1 n - \alpha\} < \varepsilon$ . Since this holds for every  $\alpha$ , it is easily seen that in every range N with  $|N| \ge p$ , there is an n with  $\{\delta_1 n - \alpha\} < \varepsilon$ . The situation is similar if  $\delta_1 < 0$ .

Now suppose  $l \ge 2$  and  $f_1, \ldots, f_{l-1}$  have been constructed and have the desired properties. Suppose

(18) 
$$0 < \varepsilon < 1, 0 < |\delta_1| < f_1(\varepsilon), \ldots, 0 < |\delta_{l-1}| < f_{l-1}(\varepsilon, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_{l-2}).$$

Put  $p' = p(l-1, \varepsilon, \delta_1, \dots, \delta_{l-1})$  and

(19) 
$$f_l(\varepsilon, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_{l-1}) = \varepsilon/2p'.$$

(Clearly, it does not matter how we define  $f_l$  if (18) is violated.) Suppose

$$(20) 0 < |\delta_l| < f_l(\varepsilon, \delta_1, \dots, \delta_{l-1}).$$

Then  $0 < |\delta_l| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon = f_1(\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon)$ , and by the case  $l = -\infty$  if the lemma there is a  $p'' = p(1, \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon, \delta_l)$  such that for every range N'' with  $|N'| \ge p''$  and every  $\alpha_l$ , there is an  $n'' \in N''$  with  $|\delta_l n'' - \alpha_l| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ . Put

$$p = p(l, \varepsilon, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_l) = p' + p''.$$

Now let  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_l$  be arbitrary, and let N be a range with  $|N| \geq p$ . Assume at first that  $\delta_l > 0$ , and let N'' be the subrange of N with |N''| = p'' and with its smallest element the same as that of N. There is an  $n'' \in N''$  with  $\{\delta_l n'' - \alpha_l\}$   $\leq \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ . Let N' be the range n'', n'' + 1, ..., n'' + p' - 1, so that  $N' \subseteq N$ . There is an  $n \in N'$  with

$$\{\delta_i n - \alpha_i\} < \varepsilon \qquad (i = 1, \ldots, l-1).$$

Furthermore,  $\{\delta_l n - \alpha_l\} = \{\delta_l (n - n'') + \delta_l n'' - \alpha_l\} = \delta_l (n - n'') + \{\delta_l n'' - \alpha_l\}$  $< \delta_l p' + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon < \varepsilon$  by (19) and (20). Hence (17) holds for i = 1, ..., l.

The situation is analogous if  $\delta_l < 0$ . In this case we let the largest element of N'' coincide with that of N.

**Lemma 5.** Suppose l is a positive integer and suppose  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\delta_1, \ldots, \delta_l$  satisfy (16). Let  $p = p(l, \varepsilon, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_l)$  be the number p of Lemma 4. There are neighborhoods  $\mathbf{D}_1$  of  $\delta_1, \ldots, \mathbf{D}_l$  of  $\delta_1$  (which may depend on  $l, \varepsilon, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_l$ ) with the following property:

Suppose N, N' are ranges with lengths  $|N| \ge p$ ,  $|N'| \ge p$ . Suppose  $\eta_1 \in \mathbf{D}_1, \ldots, \eta_l \in \mathbf{D}_l$ . Then there are integers  $n \in N$ ,  $n' \in N'$  such that

**Proof.** Choose the neighborhood  $D_i$  of  $\delta_i$  so small that

$$(22) p|\eta_i - \delta_i| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$$

for every  $\eta_i \in \mathbf{D}_i (i = 1, ..., l)$ . Now if N, N' are ranges with  $|N| \ge p$ ,  $|N'| \ge p$ , pick n' arbitrary in N' and let  $n_0$  be the smallest element in N.

Suppose  $\eta_1 \in \mathbf{D}_1, \ldots, \eta_l \in \mathbf{D}_l$  are given. Put

$$\alpha_i = (n' - n_0)\eta_i + n_0\delta_i + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$$
  $(i = 1, ..., l).$ 

By Lemma 4 there is an  $n \in N$  with  $n_0 \le n \le n_0 + p - 1$  and with  $\{n\delta_i - \alpha_i\}$   $\le \epsilon(i = 1, ..., l)$ . This is the same as

$$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \leq \{n\delta_i - (n' - n_0)\eta_i - n_0\delta_i\} < \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon.$$

Now

$$n\eta_i - n'\eta_i = n\delta_i - (n' - n_0)\eta_i - n_0\delta_i + (n - n_0)(\eta_i - \delta_i),$$

and since  $|n - n_0| < p$  and since  $\eta_i$  in  $\mathbf{D}_i$  satisfies (22) and hence  $|n - n_0| |\eta_i - \delta_i| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ , we obtain  $\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon < \{n\eta_i - n'\eta_i\} < \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$ , which is equivalent to (21).

We shall say that a function g(n) is of the type  $\eta$ , where  $\eta$  is a real number, if

$${g(n+1)-g(n)-\eta}=0 \qquad (n=1,2,...).$$

If N, N' are ranges of positive integers, we put

(23) 
$$g^{\square}(N,N') = \min_{n \in N} \min_{n' \in N'} |g(n) - g(n')|.$$

This is not to be confused with the notation  $f^{\nabla}(N, N')$  of (10).

**Lemma 6.** Suppose l,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\delta_1$ , ...,  $\delta_l$  and p and  $\mathbf{D}_1$ , ...,  $\mathbf{D}_l$  are as in Lemma 5. Let r be a positive integer, and assume that  $\delta_1$ , ...,  $\delta_l$  satisfy the inequalities

$$(24) 0 < |\delta_i| < \varepsilon/(2r) (i = 1, \ldots, l),$$

and in fact that every  $\eta_i \in \mathbf{D}_i$  satisfies

$$|\eta_i| < \varepsilon/(2r).$$

Then there is an integer  $p^* = p^*(l, \varepsilon, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_l; r)$ , such that if  $\eta_1 \in \mathbf{D}_1, \ldots, \eta_l \in \mathbf{D}_l$ , and if  $g_1(n), \ldots, g_l(n)$  are functions of the types  $\eta_1, \ldots, \eta_l$ , respectively, and if N, N' are ranges with  $|N| \ge p^*$ ,  $|N'| \ge p^*$ , then there are subranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$  with

$$|L|=|L'|=r$$

and with

(27) 
$$g_i^{\Box}(L,L') > \frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon \quad (i = 1,...,l).$$

**Proof.** Put  $p^* = \max(p, r)$ . Suppose  $\eta_1 \in \mathbf{D}_1, \ldots, \eta_l \in \mathbf{D}_l$  and  $|N| \ge p^*$ ,  $|N'| \ge p^*$ . By Lemma 5, there are integers  $n \in N$  and  $n' \in N'$  with (21). There is a range  $L \subseteq N$  with  $n \in L$  and |L| = r, and a range  $L' \subseteq N'$  with  $n' \in L'$  and |L'| = r. For  $m \in L$  and  $m' \in L'$  we have  $|(m-n)\eta_i| \le r|\eta_i| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$  and  $|(m'-n')\eta_i| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ , so that, by (21),

$$|g_i(m) - g_i(m')| \ge ||g_i(m) - g_i(m')|| = ||m\eta_i - m'\eta_i||$$

$$= ||n\eta_i - n'\eta_i + (m-n)\eta_i - (m'-n')\eta_i|| > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon - 2\varepsilon/2 > \frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon.$$

Thus (27) holds.

8. Functions  $f(n, \alpha, \beta)$ . For  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  in C, put

(28) 
$$f(n,\alpha,\beta) = f(n,\alpha) - f(n,\beta) \\ = n(\mu(\alpha) - \mu(\beta)) - (Z(n,A(\alpha)) - Z(n,A(\beta))).$$

The function  $f(n, \alpha, \beta)$  is of the type  $\eta = \mu(\alpha) - \mu(\beta)$ .

**Lemma 7.** Suppose  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  are elements of C such that the numbers  $\mu(\alpha_1), \mu(\alpha_2), \ldots$  are all distinct and converge to a number  $\mu$  with  $0 < \mu < 1$ . Suppose  $0 < \varepsilon < 1, l \ge 1, r \ge 1$ .

There is a finite subsequence  $\alpha(1), \ldots, \alpha(2l)$  of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  with  $0 < \mu(\alpha(j)) < 1 (j = 1, \ldots, 2l)$ , and there are neighborhoods  $N_j$  of  $\mu(\alpha(j))$ , and there is an integer q, with the following properties:

For any  $\beta(1), \ldots, \beta(2l)$  with  $\mu(\beta(j)) \in N_i(j = 1, \ldots, 2l)$ , we have

(29) 
$$|\mu(\beta(2i-1)) - \mu(\beta(2i))| < \varepsilon/(4r) \quad (i=1,\ldots,l).$$

Furthermore, if N, N' are ranges with  $|N| \ge q$ ,  $|N'| \ge q$ , there are subranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$  with

$$|L|=|L'|=r$$

and with

(31) 
$$f^{\square}(L, L', \beta(2i-1), \beta(2i)) > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$$
  $(i = 1, ..., l)$ .

**Proof.** There is an integer  $j_1$  with

$$0<|\mu(\alpha_{j_1})-\mu(\alpha_{j_1+1})|<\min(f_1(\tfrac{1}{2}\varepsilon),\varepsilon/(4r)),$$

where  $f_1$  is the function of Lemma 4. Put  $\delta_1 = \mu(\alpha_{j_1}) - \mu(\alpha_{j_1+1})$ . There is a  $j_2 > j_1 + 1$  such that

$$0<|\mu(\alpha_{i_2})-\mu(\alpha_{i_2+1})|<\min(f_2(\tfrac{1}{2}\varepsilon,\delta_1),\varepsilon/(4r)).$$

Put  $\delta_2 = \mu(\alpha_{j_2}) - \mu(\alpha_{j_2+1})$ . We continue in this manner, and choose integers  $j_1 < j_1 + 1 < j_2 < j_2 + 1 < \ldots < j_l < j_l + 1$ , such that the numbers

$$\delta_i = \mu(\alpha_{i,}) - \mu(\alpha_{i,+1}) \qquad (i = 1, \ldots, l)$$

satisfy (16) and (24), with  $\varepsilon$  replaced by  $\varepsilon/2$ . Let  $\mathbf{D}_i = \mathbf{D}_i(l, \varepsilon/2, \delta_1, \dots, \delta_l)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, l$ ) and  $p^* = p^*(l, \varepsilon/2, \delta_1, \dots, \delta_l; r)$  be as in Lemma 6. Put

$$\alpha(1) = \alpha_{j_1}, \quad \alpha(2) = \alpha_{j_1+1}, \quad \cdots, \quad \alpha(2l-1) = \alpha_{j_2}, \quad \alpha(2l) = \alpha_{j_2+1},$$

so that  $\mu(\alpha(2i-1)) - \mu(\alpha(2i)) = \delta_i(i=1,\ldots,l)$ . Choose neighborhoods  $N_j$  of  $\mu(\alpha(j))(j=1,\ldots,2l)$  so small that  $\mu_{2i-1} - \mu_{2i} \in D_i$  if  $\mu_{2i-1} \in N_{2i-1}$  and  $\mu_{2i}$ 

 $\in N_{2l}$ . Then if  $\beta(1), \ldots, \beta(2l)$  are vectors with  $\mu(\beta(j)) \in N_j (j = 1, \ldots, 2l)$ , (29) follows from the condition (25) (but with  $\varepsilon/2$  in place of  $\varepsilon$ ) on the neighborhoods  $D_1, \ldots, D_l$ .

Now suppose that  $|N| \ge q$ ,  $|N'| \ge q$  where  $q = p^*(l, \varepsilon/2, \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_l; r)$ . The function  $g_i(n) = f(n, \beta(2i-1), \beta(2i))$  is of the type  $\mu(\beta(2i-1)) - \mu(\beta(2i)) = \eta_i$ , say, where  $\eta_i \in \mathbf{D}_i(i=1,\ldots,l)$ . By Lemma 6, there are ranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$  with (26) and (27) (but with  $\varepsilon$  replaced by  $\varepsilon/2$ ), i.e. with (30) and (31). This finishes the proof of Lemma 7.

Suppose again that g(n) is a function of the type  $\eta$ . We shall say that g has a jump at n if either n = 1 and  $g(1) \neq \eta$ , or if n > 1 and  $g(n) - g(n - 1) - \eta \neq 0$ . Recall that the function  $f(n, \alpha, \beta)$  is defined in terms of a given sequence  $x_1, x_2, \ldots$ .

**Lemma 8.** The function  $f(n, \alpha, \beta)$  of the type  $\mu(\alpha) - \mu(\beta)$  has a jump at n if and only if

$$x_n \in A(\alpha)^A(\beta)$$
.

**Proof.**  $f(n, \alpha, \beta)$  has a jump at n precisely if

$$Z(n, \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\beta})) - Z(n, \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\alpha})) - (Z(n-1, \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\beta})) - Z(n-1, \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}))) \neq 0.$$

(Here we set Z(0, A) = 0.) This holds if and only if  $x_n \in A(\alpha)^A(\beta)$ .

9. The construction of directed systems. Suppose the numbers  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  with  $1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d$  belong to a directed system of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_d)$ . Let u be < or = or >. Put

$$(u_1^*, \dots, u_d^*, u_{d+1}^*) = (u_1, \dots, u_d, u)$$
 if  $u_d$  is not =,  
 $= (u_1, \dots, u_k, u, \dots, u)$  if for some  $k < d$ , the symbols
$$u_{k+1}, \dots, u_d \text{ are } =, \text{ and either } k = 0 \text{ or } u_k \text{ is not } =.$$

We shall describe a process of constructing a directed system of order d+1 of the type  $(u_1^*,\ldots,u_d^*,u_{d+1}^*)$ . Let K be the set of d-tuples  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d)$  with  $1\leq i_1\leq l_1,\ldots,1\leq i_d\leq l_d$ . A subset H of K will be called a segment if  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H$  whenever  $(i'_1,\ldots,i'_d)\in H$  and  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d)<_j(i'_1,\ldots,i'_d)$  for some j. Let  $l_{d+1}$  be an integer greater than 1. A partial directed system of order d+1 on H will mean a system of numbers  $\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$  defined for  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H$  and  $1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1}$ , such that

- (a)  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) u_j^* \alpha(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d, i'_{d+1})$  if  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H$ ,  $(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d) \in H$  and  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) <_j (i'_1, \ldots, i'_d, i'_{d+1})$  for some j in  $1 \le j \le d+1$ .
- (b)  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) u_j^* \alpha(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$  if  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H$ ,  $(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d) \notin H$  and  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) <_i (i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$  for some j in  $1 \le j \le d$ .

In particular, if H is empty, the empty set is a partial system defined on H. If H = K, a partial directed system on H is a directed system of order d + 1.

**Lemma 9.** Suppose H is a segment, and  $H^*$  the segment which consists of H and a single further d-tuple  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ . Suppose

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$$
  $((i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H, 1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1})$ 

is a partial directed system defined on  $H.(^5)$  Suppose there is a sequence  $\alpha_s(t_1,\ldots,t_d)(s=1,2,\ldots)$  which is monotonic of the type u and tends to  $\alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_d)$ . Then if  $s_0$  is sufficiently large, and if we put

(32) 
$$\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i) = \alpha_{s_0+i}(t_1, \ldots, t_d) \quad (1 \le i \le l_{d+1}),$$

then the numbers

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1}) \quad ((i_1,\ldots,i_d) \in H^*, 1 \leq i_{d+1} \leq l_{d+1})$$

are a partial directed system defined on H\*.

**Proof.** The condition (a) is satisfied if  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$ ,  $(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d) \in H$ . In order that it also be satisfied for  $H^*$ , we have to satisfy the following two conditions.

$$(a_1^*)$$
  $\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})u_j^*\alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_d,i_{d+1}')$  if  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d) < (t_1,\ldots,t_d)$ 

for some j in  $1 \le j \le d$ .

$$(a_2^*) \qquad \alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_d,i_{d+1}) u_{d+1}^* \alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_d,i_{d+1}') \quad \text{if } i_{d+1} < i_{d+1}'.$$

Since  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$  is the only new element in  $H^*$ , (b) will be satisfied for  $H^*$  if

(b\*) 
$$\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i_{d+1}) u_j^* \alpha(i_1', \ldots, i_d')$$
 whenever  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d) \leq (i_1', \ldots, i_d')$ .

Now since  $\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$   $(s = 1, 2, \ldots)$  is monotonic of the type  $u = u_{d+1}^*$ , the condition  $(a_2^*)$  will be satisfied if  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i)$  is given by (32), no matter how we choose  $s_0$ .

Now suppose that  $1 \le j \le d$  and  $u_j^*$  is not =. Suppose  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) <_j (t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ . Since  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  is in H and  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$  is not in H, we have  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) u_j^* \alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$  by the hypothesis (b). Since  $\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d) (s = 1, 2, \ldots)$  tends to  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ ,  $(a_1^*)$  will be satisfied if  $s_0$  in (32) is sufficiently large. Next, suppose that  $1 \le j \le d$  and  $u_j^*$  is =. Then also  $u_j$  and u are =. Suppose  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) <_j (t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ . Then  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) = \alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$  by (b). Since  $\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d) = \alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d) (s = 1, 2, \ldots)$ ,  $(a_1^*)$  will certainly be true. Thus  $(a_1^*)$  can always be satisfied.

Now suppose that  $1 \le j \le d$  and  $u_j$  is not =. Then  $u_j^*$  equals  $u_j$  and is not =. Since  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  is a directed system of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_d)$ , we have  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d) u_j^* \alpha(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$  if  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d) <_j (i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$ . Since  $\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d)(s = 1, 2, \ldots)$  tends to  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ , (b\*) will be true if  $s_0$  in (32) is sufficiently large. Finally, suppose that  $1 \le j \le d$  and  $u_j$  is =. Then  $u_j^*$  is u. Since  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  is

<sup>(5)</sup> This part of the hypothesis does not apply if H is empty. Obvious changes have to be made in the proof in this case.

a directed system of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_d)$ , we have  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d) = \alpha(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$  if  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d) <_j (i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$ . Since  $\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$  is monotonic of the type u and tends to  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ , we have  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_a, i_{d+1}) u \alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d) = \alpha(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$ , i.e.  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i_{d+1}) u_i^* \alpha(i'_1, \ldots, i'_d)$ . Thus  $(b^*)$  will be satisfied.

This finishes the proof of Lemma 9. It is clear that by using an inductive argument and using Lemma 9 at each step, we can gradually build up a directed system of order d + 1 of the type  $(u_1^*, \ldots, u_{d+1}^*)$ .

Now suppose that  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  with  $1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d$  is a directed system of vectors of the type  $(u_{ih})(1 \le i \le d, 1 \le h \le m)$ . Let  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  be symbols <, = or >. For each h in  $1 \le h \le m$ , put

$$(u_{1h}^*, \dots, u_{dh}^*, u_{d+1,h}^*) = (u_{1h}, \dots, u_{dh}, u_h)$$
 if  $u_{dh}$  is not =,  
 $= (u_{1h}, \dots, u_{k_h,h}, u_h, \dots, u_h)$  if  $u_{k_h+1,h}, \dots, u_{dh}$  are =,  
and if either  $k_h = 0$  or  $u_{k_h,h}$  is not =.

We shall indicate a process to construct a directed system of vectors of order d+1 of the type  $(u_{ih}^*)(1 \le i \le d+1, 1 \le m \le h)$ . A partial directed system of vectors of order d+1 on a segment H is defined in the obvious way.

**Lemma 10.** Suppose H is a segment and  $H^*$  is the segment consisting of H and of a single further d-tuple  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ . Suppose

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$$
  $((i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H,1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1})$ 

is a partial directed system defined on H.(6) Suppose there is a sequence of vectors  $\alpha_s(t_1,\ldots,t_d)$  ( $s=1,2,\ldots$ ) which converges to  $\alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_d)$ , and which is monotonic of the type  $(u_1,\ldots,u_m)$ . Then if  $s_0$  is sufficiently large, and if we put

(33) 
$$\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i) = \alpha_{s_0+i}(t_1, \ldots, t_d) \quad (1 \le i \le l_{d+1}),$$

then the vectors

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$$
  $((i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H^*, 1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1})$ 

are a partial directed system defined on H\*.

**Proof.** We may use induction on the number m of components of our vectors, and use Lemma 9 at each step of the induction.

10. Inductive proof of the proposition. Let S be a subset of the cube C. A vector  $\alpha$  will be called a *limit point* of S if there is a sequence  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  of elements of S which converge to  $\alpha$  and which have distinct values  $\mu(\alpha_1), \mu(\alpha_2), \ldots$  (This condition is more restrictive than the usual condition that  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  be distinct.) Let  $S^{(1)}$  be the set of limit points of S. Since  $\mu(\alpha)$  is a continuous function of  $\alpha$ , it is clear that  $M(S^{(1)}) \subseteq M^{(1)}(S)$ . Conversely, if  $\mu \in M^{(1)}(S)$ , there are distinct elements  $\mu_1 = \mu(\alpha_1), \mu_2 = \mu(\alpha_2), \ldots$  of M(S) with  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  in S and with

<sup>(6)</sup> See the footnote to Lemma 9.

 $\mu_i \to \mu$ . There is a convergent subsequence of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$ ; let us denote the limit of this subsequence by  $\alpha$ . Then  $\alpha \in S^{(1)}$  and  $\mu = \mu(\alpha)$ , so that  $\mu \in M(S^{(1)})$ . Hence

(34) 
$$M^{(1)}(S) = M(S^{(1)}).$$

Every sequence  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  has a subsequence which is monotonic of some type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$ . If the numbers  $\mu(\alpha_1), \mu(\alpha_2), \ldots$  are all distinct, this type cannot be  $(=, \ldots, =)$ . Hence if  $S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  consists of the elements  $\alpha \in S^{(1)}$  for which there is a monotonic sequence  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$  in S of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  which tends to  $\alpha$  and has distinct  $\mu(\alpha_1), \mu(\alpha_2), \ldots$ , then  $S^{(1)}$  is the union of the  $3^m - 1$  sets  $S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  with  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  not  $(=, \ldots, =)$ .

Now assume that  $d \ge 0$  and that  $M^{(d+1)}(S)$  contains an element  $\mu$  with  $0 < \mu < 1$ . By (34) we have  $M^{(d+1)}(S) = M^{(d)}(S^{(1)})$ , so that  $\mu$  lies in one of the  $3^m - 1$  sets  $M^{(d)}(S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m))$  with  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  not  $(=, \ldots, =)$ . Suppose  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  is a particular m-tuple with

$$\mu \in M^{(d)}(S^{(1)}(u_1,\ldots,u_m)).$$

We now assume the truth of the proposition for our particular value of d and apply it to  $S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$ . There is an integer  $r = r^{(d)}$ , a directed system  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  with elements in  $S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$ , and there are neighborhoods  $N(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  with the properties enunciated in the proposition. Suppose this directed system

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d) \qquad (1 \leq i_1 \leq l_1,\ldots,1 \leq i_d \leq l_d)$$

is of the type  $(u_{ih})(1 \le i \le d, 1 \le h \le m)$ . Construct  $(u_{ih}^*)(1 \le i \le d + 1, 1 \le h \le m)$  as in §9. The goal of the present section is a proof of the following

**Lemma 11.** Suppose  $l_{d+1} = 2l > 0$ , r > 0,  $\varepsilon > 0$ . There is a directed system

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$$
  $(1 \leq i_1 \leq l_1,\ldots,1 \leq i_{d+1} \leq l_{d+1})$ 

of the type  $(u_{ih}^*)(1 \le i \le d+1, 1 \le h \le m)$ , all of whose vectors  $\alpha$  lie in S and have  $0 < \mu(\alpha) < 1$ , and there are neighborhoods  $N(i_1, \dots, i_{d+1})$  of  $\mu(\alpha(i_1, \dots, i_{d+1}))$ , such that

(35) 
$$N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) \subseteq N(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$$
  $(1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}).$   
Also, if  $\beta \in N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j - 1)$ ,  $\beta' \in N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)$  with  $1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d$  and with  $1 \le j \le l$ , then

$$|\mu(\beta) - \mu(\beta')| < \varepsilon/4r.$$

Finally, there is an integer p such that if N, N' are ranges with  $|N| \ge p$ ,  $|N'| \ge p$ , and if vectors  $\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  have  $\mu(\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_{d+1})) \in N(i_1, \ldots, i_{d+1})$  for  $1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}$ , then there are subranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$  with

$$|L| = |L'| = r$$

and with

(38) 
$$f^{\square}(L, L', \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, 2j)) > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$$
   
  $(1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \dots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d, 1 \le j \le l).$ 

We shall prove this lemma by constructing partial directed systems of order d+1 defined on segments, and by gradually increasing these segments.

**Lemma 12.** Suppose  $l_{d+1} = 2l > 0$ , v > 0,  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let H be a nonempty segment. There is a partial directed system

$$\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$$
  $((i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H,1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1})$ 

of the type  $(u_{ih}^*)$  with all the vectors  $\alpha$  in S and satisfying  $0 < \mu(\alpha) < 1$ , and there are neighborhoods  $N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  of  $\mu(\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}))$ , defined for  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H$ ,  $1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}$ , such that

(39) 
$$N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) \subseteq N(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$$
  $((i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H, 1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}),$  and such that

$$|\mu(\boldsymbol{\beta}) - \mu(\boldsymbol{\beta}')| < \varepsilon/4\nu$$

if  $\beta \in N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1)$ ,  $\beta' \in N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)$  for some  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H, 1 \le j \le l$ . There is an integer p = p(H) such that if N, N' are ranges with  $|N| \ge p(H)$ ,  $|N'| \ge p(H)$ , and if  $\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) \in N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  ( $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H, 1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}$ ), then there are subranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$  with

$$|L| = |L'| = v$$

and with

$$f^{\square}(L, L', \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, 2j)) > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$$

$$((i_1, \dots, i_d) \in H, 1 \le j \le l).$$

The case when H = K, the set of all d-tuples  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$ , is Lemma 11.

**Proof of Lemma 12.** We shall proceed by "induction on H". We shall assume that H is a segment properly contained in K, and that either H is empty, or H is nonempty and Lemma 12 is true for H. There is a unique segment  $H^*$  which consists of H and a single further d-tuple  $(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ . We shall now prove Lemma 12 for  $H^*$ . We shall tacitly assume that H is nonempty; the necessary modifications in the argument when H is empty are trivial.

Suppose  $\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$  defined for  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H$ ,  $1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1}$ , and respective neighborhoods  $N(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$  and the number p=p(H) have the

desired properties as enunciated in Lemma 12 with respect to H.

Since  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$  lies in  $S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$ , there is a monotonic sequence  $\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d)(s = 1, 2, \ldots)$  of the type  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$  which tends to  $\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d)$ , and is such that the numbers  $\mu(\alpha_s(t_1, \ldots, t_d))(s = 1, 2, \ldots)$  are all distinct. We now put r = p(H) + v and apply Lemma 7 to  $l, r, \varepsilon$  and to the sequence  $\alpha_1(t_1, \ldots, t_d), \alpha_2(t_1, \ldots, t_d), \ldots$ . There is a finite subsequence

(43) 
$$\alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_a,1),\ldots,\alpha(t_1,\ldots,t_d,2l),$$

and there are neighborhoods  $N(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i)$  of  $\mu(\alpha(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i))(1 \le i \le 2l)$ , and there is an integer q, with the following properties. For any  $\beta(t_1, \ldots, t_d, 1)$ ,  $\ldots, \beta(t_1, \ldots, t_d, 2l)$  with  $\mu(\beta(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i)) \in N(t_1, \ldots, t_d, i)(1 \le i \le 2l)$ , we have

$$(44) \qquad |\mu(\beta(t_1,\ldots,t_d,2j-1)) - \mu(\beta(t_1,\ldots,t_d,2j))| < \varepsilon/4r < \varepsilon/4v$$

$$(1 \le j \le l).$$

Furthermore, if N, N' are ranges with  $|N| \ge q$ ,  $|N'| \ge q$ , there are subranges  $N_H \subseteq N$ ,  $N'_H \subseteq N'$  with

$$|N_H| = |N'_H| = r > p(H)$$

and with

(46) 
$$f^{\square}(N_H, N'_H, \beta(t_1, \ldots, t_d, 2j-1), \beta(t_1, \ldots, t_d, 2j)) > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$$
  $(1 \le j \le l)$ .

Now the sequence  $\alpha_s(t_1,\ldots,t_d)$   $(s=1,2,\ldots)$  may be replaced by a subsequence with  $\mu(\alpha_s(\cdots))$  contained in  $N(t_1,\cdots,t_d)$ , and hence the sequence (43) can be chosen so that all its measures  $\mu$  lie in  $N(t_1,\cdots,t_d)$ . The neighborhoods  $N(t_1,\cdots,t_d,i)$  can be chosen so small that  $N(t_1,\cdots,t_d,i)\subseteq N(t_1,\cdots,t_d)$   $(1 \le i \le 2l)$ . This, together with the "inductive" assumption (39) yields

(47) 
$$N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1}) \subseteq N(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$$
  $((i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H^*, 1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}).$ 

The "inductive" assumption (40) for H together with (44) gives a condition like (40) for  $H^*$ . Lemma 10 shows that, moreover, the sequence (43) can be chosen so that  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  with  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H^*$ ,  $1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}$ , is a partial directed system on  $H^*$ .

Now suppose  $\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})\subseteq N(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})$   $((i_1,\ldots,i_d)\in H^*,1\leq i_{d+1}\leq l_{d+1}),\ |N|\geq q,\ |N'|\geq q,$  and suppose  $N_H,\ N'_H$  are chosen as above with (45) and (46). By the "inductive" assumption on H, there are subranges  $L\subseteq N_H,\ L'\subseteq N'_H$  with (41), (42). Since  $L\subseteq N_H,\ L'\subseteq N'_H$ , the relations (42) together with (46) yield

$$f^{\square}(L, L', \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)) > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$$

$$((i_1, \ldots, i_d) \in H^*, 1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1}).$$

Hence Lemma 12 is true for  $H^*$  with  $p(H^*) = q$ .

11. Proof of the proposition completed. We saw in §10 that if  $M^{(d+1)}(S)$  contains an element  $\mu$  in  $0 < \mu < 1$ , then  $\mu \in M^{(d)}(S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m))$  for some m-tuple  $(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$ . We applied the inductive hypothesis to  $S^{(1)}(u_1, \ldots, u_m)$ . There is a directed system  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  of order d, and there are neighborhoods  $N(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  and an integer  $r = r^{(d)}$  with the properties stated in the proposition. Lemma 11 asserted the existence of a directed system  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  of order d+1, and neighborhoods  $N(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  and a number p which have certain properties in relation to the given directed system of order d.

**Lemma 13.** Suppose we have the same hypotheses as in Lemma 11, and let  $\alpha(i_1, \ldots, i_{d+1})$ ,  $N(i_1, \ldots, i_{d+1})$ , p be as in Lemma 11. Suppose

(48) 
$$\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_{d+1})$$
  $(1 \le i_1 \le l_1,\ldots,1 \le i_{d+1} \le l_{d+1})$ 

is a directed system with

(49) 
$$\mu(\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_{d+1})) \subseteq N(i_1,\ldots,i_{d+1})$$
  $(1 \leq i_1 \leq l_1,\ldots,1 \leq i_{d+1} \leq l_{d+1}),$ 

but not necessarily of the same type as  $\alpha(i_1,\ldots,i_{d+1})$ . We know from Lemma 11 that if  $|N| \geq p$ ,  $|N'| \geq p$ , then there are subranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$  with (37) and (38). We now claim that for every  $(i_1,\ldots,i_d)$  with  $1 \leq i_1 \leq l_1,\ldots,1 \leq i_d \leq l_d$ , we have

(50) 
$$\sum_{j=1}^{l} f^{\nabla}(L, L', \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)) > l(\frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon) - 2mr.$$

**Proof.** Throughout, we keep  $i_1, \ldots, i_d$  fixed. Since (48) is a directed system, the sequence  $\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i)$  with  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, 2l$  is monotonic. Hence, by Lemma 1, a point  $\mathbf{x}_n$  can lie in at most m of the l sets

$$A(\beta(i_1,...,i_d,2j-1)^A(\beta(i_1,...,i_d,2j)))$$
  $(j = 1,2,...,l).$ 

It follows from Lemma 8 that at most m of the l functions

(51) 
$$f(n,\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_d,2j-1),\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_d,2j))$$
  $(j=1,2,\ldots,l)$ 

can have a jump at n. Hence in view of (37), at most 2mr of these functions can have a jump at any  $n \in L$  or any  $n' \in L'$ . It will suffice to show that if a function (51) has no jump in L or in L', then this function satisfies

(52) 
$$f^{\nabla}(L, L', \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)) > \frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon.$$

Suppose  $n_0 \in L$ ,  $n'_0 \in L'$ . By (38), the values of our function (51) at  $n = n_0$  and at  $n = n'_0$  differ by at least  $\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that

$$f(n_0, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j))$$

$$-f(n'_0, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1), \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)) > \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon.$$

Now  $f(n, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j - 1), \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j))$  is of the type  $\mu(\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j - 1)) - \mu(\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j))$  and has no jump in L. Hence for every  $n \in L$ ,

$$|f(n,\beta(\ldots,2j-1),\beta(\ldots,2j)) - f(n_0,\beta(\ldots,2j-1),\beta(\ldots,2j))|$$

$$= |n-n_0| |\mu(\beta(\ldots,2j-1)) - \mu(\beta(\ldots,2j))|$$

$$< r(\varepsilon/4r) = \varepsilon/4,$$

by virtue of (36) and (49). A similar inequality holds for every  $n' \in L'$ , and hence we have for every  $n \in L$  and every  $n' \in L'$ ,

$$f(n,\beta(\ldots,2j-1),\beta(\ldots,2j)) - f(n',\beta(\ldots,2j-1),\beta(\ldots,2j))$$

$$> \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon - 2(\varepsilon/4) > \frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon.$$

Therefore (52) holds, and Lemma 13 is true.

The proof of the proposition is now completed as follows. In Lemma 11 and in Lemma 13, the number l is still at our disposal. We now choose it so large that  $l\epsilon > 2mr$ . Then the right-hand side of (50) may be replaced by  $l(\frac{1}{2} - 3\epsilon)$ . Since  $f(n, \alpha, \beta) = f(n, \alpha) - f(n, \beta)$ , we may rewrite (50) as

(53) 
$$\sum_{j=1}^{l} \left( f(\ldots, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j-1)) - f(\ldots, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j)) \right)^{\nabla} (L, L')$$
$$> l(\frac{1}{2} - 3\varepsilon).$$

For every directed system  $\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_{d+1})$  with (49) and every pair N, N' with  $|N| \ge p$ , there are subranges  $L \subseteq N$ ,  $L' \subseteq N'$ , with |L| = |L'| = r and with (53) for arbitrary  $i_1, \ldots, i_d$ . In particular, in every single N with  $|N| \ge p$ , there are two subranges  $L \subseteq N, L' \subseteq N'$  with |L| = |L'| = r and with (53). By Lemma 3 applied to  $f(n) = f(n, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j - 1))$  and  $g(n) = f(n, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, 2j))$  we have

$$f^{*}(N, \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j - 1)) + f^{*}(N, \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j))$$

$$\geq (f(\ldots, \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j - 1)) - f(\ldots, \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j)))^{\nabla}(L, L')$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2}(f^{*}(L, \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j - 1)) + f^{*}(L, \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j))$$

$$+ f^{*}(L', \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j - 1)) + f^{*}(L', \beta(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{d}, 2j))).$$

We now take the sum over j = 1, 2, ..., l and use (53) to obtain

$$\int_{i_{d+1}-1}^{l_{d+1}} f^*(N, \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, i_{d+1})) > l\left(\frac{1}{2} - 3\varepsilon\right) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{i_{d+1}-1}^{l_{d+1}} (f^*(L, \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, i_{d+1})) + f^*(L', \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d, i_{d+1}))).$$

This holds for arbitrary  $i_1, \ldots, i_d$  with  $1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d$ . We now take the sum over all d-tuples  $(i_1, \ldots, i_d)$  and divide by  $l_1 \ldots l_d l_{d+1} = 2l_1 \ldots l_d l$ . We obtain

$$(l_{1} \dots l_{d+1})^{-1} \sum_{i_{1}=1}^{l_{1}} \dots \sum_{i_{d+1}=1}^{l_{d+1}} f^{*}(N, \beta(i_{1}, \dots, i_{d+1})) > \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{2}\varepsilon$$

$$+ l_{d+1}^{-1} \sum_{i_{d+1}=1}^{l_{d+1}} \left( \frac{1}{2} (l_{1} \dots l_{d})^{-1} \sum_{i_{1}=1}^{l_{1}} \dots \sum_{i_{d}=1}^{l_{d}} \left( f^{*}(L, \beta(i_{1}, \dots, i_{d+1})) + f^{*}(L', \beta(i_{1}, \dots, i_{d+1})) \right) \right)$$

$$=\frac{1}{4}-\frac{3}{2}\varepsilon+l_{d+1}^{-1}\sum_{i_{d+1}=1}^{l_{d+1}}z(i_{d+1}),$$

say. Now for fixed  $i_{d+1}$ ,  $\beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})$  with  $1 \le i_1 \le l_1, \ldots, 1 \le i_d \le l_d$ , is a directed system of order d. We have

$$\mu(\beta(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1})) \in N(i_1,\ldots,i_d,i_{d+1}) \subseteq N(i_1,\ldots,i_d)$$

by (35), (49), and both L, L' have length  $r = r^{(d)}$ . Hence by our inductive assumption, i.e. by the case d of the proposition, we have

$$z(i_{d+1}) \ge \frac{1}{4}(d+1) + \frac{1}{12} - \varepsilon,$$

whence

(54) 
$$(l_1 \ldots l_{d+1})^{-1} \sum_{i_1=1}^{l_1} \cdots \sum_{i_{d+1}=1}^{l_{d+1}} f^*(N, \beta(i_1, \ldots, i_d, i_{d+1})) > \frac{1}{4}(d+2) + \frac{1}{12} - \frac{5}{2}\varepsilon.$$

This holds for every range N with  $|N| \ge p = r^{(d+1)}(5\varepsilon/2)$ , say. The whole construction could be carried out with  $2\varepsilon/5$  in place of  $\varepsilon$ , and then our inequality (54) would become (8) with d+1 in place of d.

This finishes our inductive proof of the proposition.

12. Proof of Theorem 2. It is easily seen that the general case of Theorem 2 follows from the 2-dimensional case, so that we may restrict ourselves to this case.

Pick numbers  $t_1 > t_2 > \dots$  with

(55) 
$$0 < t_i < 1/(8j) \quad (j = 1, 2, ...),$$

and let  $x_j = (x_j, y_j)$  be the point  $(1 - \cos t_j, \sin t_j)$ . Then the points  $x_1, x_2, \ldots$  lie on the circle  $(x - 1)^2 + y^2 = 1$ , and they satisfy

(56) 
$$\sqrt{(x_i^2 + y_i^2)} < 1/(4j) \quad (j = 1, 2, ...).$$

For every  $\mu$  in  $0 \le \mu \le 1$ , we are going to construct sets  $F(n, \mu)$  (n = 1, 2, ...) as follows. If  $\mu < \frac{1}{2}$ , let  $F(1, \mu)$  be empty, and if  $\mu \ge \frac{1}{2}$ , let  $F(1, \mu)$  consist of  $x_1$ .

Then always

(57) 
$$||\mathbf{F}(1,\mu)| - \mu| \le \frac{1}{2},$$

where |F| denotes the number of elements of a finite set F. Now suppose  $F(n, \mu)$  has already been chosen and is a subset of  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$  with

$$(58) ||\mathbf{F}(n,\mu)| - n\mu| \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Then  $-(3/2) \le |F(n, \mu)| - (n+1)\mu \le \frac{1}{2}$ , so that either  $|F(n, \mu)| - (n+1)\mu| \le \frac{1}{2}$  or  $|F(n, \mu)| + 1 - (n+1)\mu| \le \frac{1}{2}$ . If the first inequality holds, put  $F(n+1, \mu) = F(n, \mu)$ ; otherwise let  $F(n+1, \mu)$  consist of  $F(n, \mu)$  and of  $x_{n+1}$ . In either case we have  $|F(n+1, \mu)| - (n+1)\mu| \le \frac{1}{2}$ . Continuing in this way we obtain sets  $F(1, \mu)$ ,  $F(2, \mu)$ , ... which satisfy (58) for  $n = 1, 2, \ldots$ 

Let  $G_1(\mu)$  be the convex hull of the sets  $F(1,\mu)$ ,  $F(2,\mu)$ , .... Then  $G_1(\mu)$  is the convex hull of certain points among  $x_1, x_2, \ldots$ . If  $\mu = 0$ , the sets  $F(n,\mu)$  are empty, and hence so is  $G_1(\mu)$ . If  $0 < \mu \le \frac{1}{3}$ , put  $n_0 = [1/(3\mu)]$  and apply (58) with  $n = n_0$ . Since  $n_0 \mu \le \frac{1}{3}$ , we obtain  $|F(n_0, \mu)| = 0$ , and hence  $x_1, \ldots, x_{n_0}$  do not lie in  $G_1(\mu)$ . Thus  $G_1(\mu)$  is the convex hull of certain points among  $x_{n_0+1}, x_{n_0+2}, \ldots$ , and in view of (56) we obtain

$$\mu(G_1(\mu)) \leq \frac{\pi}{4} (1/(4(n_0+1)))^2 \leq \left(\frac{\pi}{64}\right) (3\mu)^2 < \mu.$$

If  $\frac{1}{3} < \mu \le 1$ , we have  $\mu(G_1(\mu)) \le \pi/4 - 1/2 < 1/3 < \mu$ . Hence always  $\mu(G_1(\mu)) \le \mu$ .

If  $0 \le \mu \le \frac{1}{2}$ , let  $G_2(\mu)$  be the convex hull of  $F(1,\mu)$ ,  $F(2,\mu)$ , ... and of the triangle  $0 \le x < 1$ ,  $0 \le y < 1$ , y < x. If  $\mu = 1$ , let  $G_2(\mu)$  be  $U^2$ . In these cases we have  $\mu(G_2(\mu)) \ge \mu$ . If  $\frac{1}{2} < \mu < 1$ , we have  $\mathbf{x}_1 \in F(1,\mu)$  by (57), and there is a smallest integer  $n_1$  such that  $\mathbf{x}_{n_1+1} \notin F(n_1+1,\mu)$ . In this case let  $G_2(\mu)$  be the convex hull of  $F(1,\mu)$ ,  $F(2,\mu)$ , ... and the open quadrilateral with vertices (1,0), (1,1),  $\mathbf{x}_{n_1}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^*$ , where  $\mathbf{x}^* = (x^*,1)$  is the intersection of the line y=1 and the tangent to the circle  $(x-1)^2 + y^2 = 1$  at  $\mathbf{x}_{n_1}$ . The quadrilateral contains the open rectangle with vertices  $(x^*,y_{n_1})$ ,  $(1,y_{n_1})$ ,  $(x^*,1)$ , (1,1) of area  $(1-x^*)$   $\cdot (1-y_{n_1}) = ((1-y_{n_1})/(1-x_{n_1}))(1-y_{n_1}) > 1-2y_{n_1} > 1-2t_{n_1}$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_{n_1}$  are in  $F(n_1+1,\mu)$ , but  $\mathbf{x}_{n_1+1}$  is not, (58) yields  $|n_1-(n_1+1)\mu| \le \frac{1}{2}$ , whence  $n_1 \ge (\mu-\frac{1}{2})/(1-\mu)$ , whence, by (55),

$$\mu(G_2(\mu)) > 1 - 2t_{n_1} > 1 - (1/4n_1) \ge$$

$$3/4 \ge \mu \quad \text{if} \quad 1/2 < \mu < 3/4,$$

$$1 - (1 - \mu) = \mu \quad \text{if} \quad 3/4 \le \mu < 1.$$

Since  $G_1(\mu)$ ,  $G_2(\mu)$  are convex sets with  $\mu(G_1(\mu)) \le \mu \le \mu(G_2(\mu))$ , there is a convex set  $S(\mu)$  with  $G_1(\mu) \subseteq S(\mu) \subseteq G_2(\mu)$  and with  $\mu(S(\mu)) = \mu$ . The set  $S(\mu)$  lies in  $U^2$ , since  $G_2(\mu)$  does. The intersection of  $G_1(\mu)$  with  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$  is  $F(n, \mu)$ , and the intersection of  $G_2(\mu)$  with  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$  is  $F(n, \mu)$ , so that also the intersection of  $S(\mu)$  with  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$  is  $F(n, \mu)$ . Therefore, by (58),

$$D(n, S(\mu)) = |Z(n, S(\mu)) - n\mu(S(\mu))| = ||F(n, \mu)| - n\mu| \le \frac{1}{2}$$

for n = 1, 2, ..., so that  $E(S(\mu)) \le \frac{1}{2}$ . Since  $\mu$  was arbitrary in  $0 \le \mu \le 1$ , Theorem 2 is proved.

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