ERRATUM TO A "CONSTRUCTIVE ERGODIC THEOREM"

BY

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Reinhard Lang has kindly pointed out to me that the inequality at the top of p. 129 of [1] is incorrect. The argument, beginning at the bottom of p. 128, should therefore be amended to read:

Let $\epsilon > 0$. By the preceding, there is an increasing sequence of integers $\{n(i): i = 1, 2, 3, ...\}$ such that, for each positive integer i, the set

$$A_{n(i),m} = \{x : \max[|f^k(x) - f^j(x)| : n(i) \le k, j \le m] > \epsilon \cdot 2^{-i}\}$$

has measure less than $\epsilon \cdot 2^{-i}$ for all integers $m \ge n(i)$. As a consequence, the series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_{n(i),n(i+1)})$ converges so that the set

$$A(\epsilon) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_{n(i),n(i+1)}$$

is integrable and has measure less than ϵ .

Now if $x \in -A(\epsilon)$, then $|f^k(x) - f^j(x)| \le \epsilon \cdot 2^{-i}$ for $n(i) \le j, k \le n(i+1)$ and for each positive integer i. So far any positive intgers k, j, p, q satisfying $n(p+1) \ge k \ge n(p) \ge n(q+1) \ge j \ge n(q)$ and for each x in $-A(\epsilon)$, we have the estimate

$$|f^{k}(x) - f^{j}(x)| \le |f^{k}(x) - f^{(p)}(x)|$$

$$+ \sum_{i=q+1}^{p-1} |f^{n(i+1)}(x) - f^{n}(x)| + |f^{n(q+1)}(x) f^{j}(x)|$$

where the right-hand side is dominated by

$$\sum_{i=q}^{p} \epsilon \cdot 2^{-i} < \epsilon \cdot 2^{-q+1}.$$

This estimate implies that the sequence $\{f''\}$ is uniformly Cauchy on $-A(\epsilon)$. Since $\epsilon > 0$ was arbitrary, we can conclude, in particular, that the sequence $\{f^n\}$ is Cauchy almost everywhere.

REFERENCE

1. J. A. Nuber, A constructive ergodic theorem, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 64 (1972), 115-137. MR 45 #504.

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