## A CLASSIFICATION OF BAIRE-1 FUNCTIONS

## P. KIRIAKOULI

ABSTRACT. In this paper we give some topological characterizations of bounded Baire-1 functions using some ranks. Kechris and Louveau classified the Baire-1 functions to the subclasses  $\mathbb{B}_1^\xi(K)$  for every  $\xi < \omega_1$  (where K is a compact metric space). The first basic result of this paper is that for  $\xi < \omega$ ,  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi+1}(K)$  iff there exists a sequence  $(f_n)$  of differences of bounded semicontinuous functions on K with  $f_n \to f$  pointwise and  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^\xi$  (where " $\gamma$ " denotes the convergence rank). This extends the work of Kechris and Louveau who obtained this result for  $\xi = 1$ . We also show that the result fails for  $\xi \geq \omega$ . The second basic result of the paper involves the introduction of a new ordinal-rank on sequences  $(f_n)$ , called the  $\delta$ -rank, which is smaller than the convergence rank  $\gamma$ . This result yields the following characterization of  $\mathbb{B}_1^\xi(K)$ :  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^\xi(K)$  iff there exists a sequence  $(f_n)$  of continuous functions with  $f_n \to f$  pointwise and  $\delta((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi-1}$  if  $1 \leq \xi < \omega$ , resp.  $\delta((f_n)) \leq \omega^\xi$  if  $\xi \geq \omega$ .

#### Introduction

Let K be a compact metric space and C(K) the set of continuous real-valued functions on K. A function  $f:K\to\mathbb{R}$  is Baire-1 if there exists a sequence  $(f_n)$  in C(K) that converges pointwise to f. Let  $\mathbb{B}_1(K)$  be the set of bounded Baire-1 functions on K. Haydon, Odell and Rosenthal in [H-O-R] and Kechris and Louveau in [K-L] defined the oscillation rank  $\beta(f)$  of a general function  $f:K\to\mathbb{R}$  and proved that f is Baire-1 iff  $\beta(f)<\omega_1$ . Also, for every ordinal  $\xi<\omega_1$  the subclass  $\mathbb{B}_1^\xi(K)$  was defined by Kechris and Louveau in [K-L] to be the set of all f in  $\mathbb{B}_1(K)$  such that  $\beta(f)\leq\omega^\xi$ , and it was proved that f in  $\mathbb{B}_1^1(K)$  iff f is the uniform limit of differences of bounded semicontinuous functions on K (Theorem 3). Theorem 3 was originally proved in [H-O-R] (where  $\mathbb{B}_1^1(K)$  is called  $\mathbb{B}_{1/2}(K)$ ). This is in fact stated in [K-L], just before the statement of their Theorem 1, Section 3.

In this paper we give a general result for  $\mathbb{B}_1^{\xi}(K)$  which is analogous to the above result for  $\mathbb{B}_1^1(K)$ .

In Theorem 7, we obtain the result that for  $\xi < \omega$ ,  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi+1}(K)$  iff there exists a sequence  $(f_n)$  in DBSC(K) with  $f_n \to f$  pointwise and  $\gamma((f_n)) \le \omega^{\xi}$  (where " $\gamma$ " denotes the convergence rank, whose definition is recalled below). This extends the work of [K-L], who obtained this result for  $\xi = 1$ . We also show in Corollary 9 that the result fails for  $\xi \ge \omega$ ; indeed we obtain there that if  $f_n \to f$  pointwise and  $\gamma((f_n)) \le \omega^{\xi}$  with  $(f_n) \subset \text{DBSC}(K)$ , then also  $\beta(f) \le \omega^{\xi}$ . Also Proposition 12 shows that Theorem 7 fails if we suppose in addition that  $\sup_n |f_n|_D < \infty$ . In Theorem 8 we obtain that if  $f_n \to f$  pointwise, with  $f_n$ 's Baire-1 functions,  $\lambda$  a

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limit ordinal, and  $m < \omega$ , with  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\lambda+m}$  and  $\sup_n \beta(f_n) < \omega^{\lambda}$ , then f is Baire-1 with  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\lambda+m}$ . In Proposition 10 we show by example that this result fails, if we allow  $\sup_n \beta(f_n) = \omega^{\lambda}$  instead (for  $\lambda = \omega$ ).

The final result of the paper, Theorem 17, involves the introduction of a new ordinal-rank on sequences  $(f_n)$ , called the  $\delta$ -rank, which is smaller than the convergence rank  $\gamma$ . This is motivated by a characterization of  $\mathbb{B}_{1/4}(K)$  given in [H-O-R]. Theorem 17 yields the following characterization of  $\mathbb{B}_1^{\xi}(K)$ , analogous to the  $\mathbb{B}_{1/4}(K)$  characterization given in [H-O-R]:  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi}(K)$  iff there exists a sequence  $(f_n)$  of continuous functions with  $f_n \to f$  pointwise and  $\delta((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi-1}$  if  $1 \leq \xi < \omega$ , resp.  $\delta((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  if  $\xi \geq \omega$ . In fact, such a sequence  $(f_n)$  may be chosen as convex blocks of any sequence  $(g_n)$  of continuous functions converging pointwise to f; the analogous result for the  $\gamma$ -rank is due to Kechris and Louveau, and used in a fundamental way in the proof.

**1. Definition.** Let K be a compact metric space,  $f: K \to \mathbb{R}, P \subset K$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $P_{\varepsilon,f}^0 = P$  and for any ordinal number a let  $P_{\varepsilon,f}^{a+1}$  be the set of those  $x \in P_{\varepsilon,f}^a$  such that for every open set U around x there are two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $P_{\varepsilon,f}^a \cap U$  such that  $|f(x_1) - f(x_2)| \ge \varepsilon$ .

At a limit ordinal a we set

$$P^a_{\varepsilon,f} = \bigcap_{\beta < a} P^\beta_{\varepsilon,f}.$$

Let

$$\beta(f,\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} \text{the least $a$ with $K^a_{\varepsilon,f} = \varnothing$ if such an $a$ exists,} \\ \omega_1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Define the **oscillation rank**  $\beta(f)$  of f by

$$\beta(f) = \sup \{ \beta(f, \varepsilon) : \varepsilon > 0 \}.$$

The above rank is defined by Haydon, Odell and Rosenthal in [H-O-R] and Kechris and Louveau in [K-L].

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of real functions on  $K, P \subset K$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $P_{\varepsilon,(f_n)}^0 = P$  and for any ordinal number a let  $P_{\varepsilon,(f_n)}^{a+1}$  be the set of those  $x \in P_{\varepsilon,f}^a$  such that for every open set U around x and any p in  $\mathbb{N}$ , there are n and m in  $\mathbb{N}$  with n > m > p and there is x' in  $P \cap U$  with  $|f_n(x') - f_m(x')| \ge \varepsilon$ .

At a limit ordinal a we set

$$P_{\varepsilon,(f_n)}^a = \bigcap_{\beta < \alpha} P_{\varepsilon,(f_n)}^{\beta}.$$

Let

$$\gamma((f_n), \varepsilon) = \begin{cases} \text{the least } a \text{ with } K^a_{\varepsilon, (f_n)} = \emptyset \text{ if such an } a \text{ exists,} \\ \omega_1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Define the **convergence rank**  $\gamma((f_n))$  of  $(f_n)$  by

$$\gamma((f_n)) = \sup \{ \gamma((f_n), \varepsilon) : \varepsilon > 0 \}.$$

The derivative sets  $P^1_{\varepsilon,(f_n)}$  are defined by Zalcwasser in [Z], Gillespie and Hurwicz in [G-H]. The convergence rank is defined by Kechris and Louveau in [K-L].

Remark 1. (i) By compactness of K it is easy to see that  $\beta(f,\varepsilon)$  and  $\gamma((f_n),\varepsilon)$  are isolated ordinals for all positive real number  $\varepsilon$ .

- (ii) As in the proof of Corollary 4, section 2 of [K-L], it is easy to prove that  $\beta(X_A) = \beta(X_A, 1/2)$  and hence  $\beta(X_A)$  is an isolated ordinal.
- **2. Definition** ([H-O-R], [K-L]). Let K be a compact metric space.
- (a) DBSC(K) is the class of differences of two bounded semicontinuous real-valued functions on K. Without difficulty it can be shown that DBSC(K) coincides with the class of those  $F: K \to \mathbb{R}$  for which there exist  $(f_n) \subset C(K)$  and  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f_0 = 0, f_n \to F$  pointwise, and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |f_{n+1}(y) f_n(y)| \leq C$  for all  $y \in K$ .
- (b) We define  $|\cdot|_D : \mathrm{DBSC}(K) \to \mathbb{R}$  using (a) as follows:  $|F|_D$  is the infimum of all positive numbers C satisfying the condition in (a). Then  $|\cdot|_D$  is a norm and  $\mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  with  $|\cdot|_D$  is a Banach space.
- **3. Theorem** ([K-L], Theorem 1, Section 3).  $\mathbb{B}_1^1(K)$  is the sup-norm-closure of DBSC(K).
- **4. Proposition** ([K-L], Lemma 5, Section 2). Let K be a compact metric space,  $(f_n), (g_n)$  be the two sequences of functions on K, pointwise converging to f and g respectively. If  $\xi < \omega_1$  is such that  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  and  $\gamma((g_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ , then  $\gamma((f_n + g_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .
- **5. Theorem** ([K-L], Theorem 3, Section 2). Let  $(f_n)$  be a bounded sequence of continuous functions on K, pointwise converging to some (bounded) Baire-1 function f.

Then there exists a sequence  $(g_n)$  of convex blocks of  $(f_n)$  with  $\gamma((g_n)) = \beta(f)$ .

The following proposition is due to Kechris and Louveau, [K-L], Prop. 9, Section 2.

**6. Proposition.** Let  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$ ,  $f \geq 0$  and  $\xi < \omega_1$  with  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , n > 2. Then there are n - 2 sets  $A_1, \ldots, A_{n-2}$  with  $\beta(X_{A_k}) < \omega^{\xi}$ , such that the function

$$g = \frac{\|f\|_{\infty}}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} X_{A_k}$$

satisfies  $0 \le g \le f \le g + 2||f||_{\infty}/n$ .

**7. Theorem** ([K-N]). Let K be a compact metric space,  $\xi < \omega$  an ordinal and  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$ . Then  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi+1}(K)$  if and only if there is a sequence  $(f_n) \subset \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  converging pointwise to f such that  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

*Proof. Necessity.* Let  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi+1}(K)$ . Then  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi+1}$ .

Case 1. We assume that  $f = X_A$ . Then by Remark 1(ii)  $\beta(X_A)$  is isolated and hence  $\beta(X_A) < \omega^{\xi+1}$ . Then there is  $k < \omega$  such that  $\beta(X_A) < k\omega^{\xi}$ . Then there is a decreasing sequence  $(F_{\eta})_{\eta < k\omega^{\xi}}$  of closed subsets of K such that

$$A = \bigcup_{\substack{\eta < k\omega^{\xi} \\ \eta \text{ even}}} (F_{\eta} \setminus F_{\eta+1}).$$

We set

$$A_i = \bigcup \{ (F_\eta \setminus F_{\eta+1}) : i\omega^{\xi} \le \eta < (i+1)\omega^{\xi}, \eta \text{ even} \} \quad \forall i = 0, 1, \dots, k.$$

Then  $X_A = X_{A_1} + \cdots + X_{A_k}$ . By Proposition 4 we shall show the conclusion for  $X_{A_i}, i = 0, 1, \dots, k.$ 

Without loss of generality we can assume that k = 1, that is,

$$A = \bigcup_{\substack{\eta < \omega^{\xi} \\ \eta \text{ even}}} (F_{\eta} \setminus F_{\eta+1}).$$

Let  $\{\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n, \dots\}$  be an enumeration of the set  $\{\eta : \eta \text{ even with } 0 \leq \eta < \omega^{\xi}\}$ . For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we set:

$$A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n (F_{\eta_i} \setminus F_{\eta_i+1}).$$

Then  $X_{A_n} \in \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $X_{A_n} \to X_A$  pointwise.

We shall show that:  $\gamma((X_{A_n})) < \omega^{\xi}$ .

Let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . We prove first that  $K^1_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < \omega} F_{\eta}$ .

Let  $x \in K^1_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}$  such that  $x \notin \bigcap_{\eta < \omega} F_{\eta}$ .

Then there exists an open neighborhood V of x such that  $\overline{V} \cap \bigcap_{\eta < \omega} F_{\eta} = \emptyset$ .

Since K is compact we have that V intersects at most finitely many  $(F_{\eta})_{\eta<\omega}$ . Then since  $(F_n)_{n<\omega^{\xi}}$  is decreasing we have that V intersects at most finite many  $F_{\eta_n} \setminus F_{\eta_n+1}, n = 1, 2, \ldots$  Hence there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $X_{A_n|V} = X_{A_{n_0}|V}$ for every  $n \geq n_0$  which is a contradiction, because  $x \in K^1_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}$ . By induction  $K_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}^{\eta} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < n\omega} F_{\eta}$  for every  $n < \omega$ . Then  $K_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}^{\omega} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < \omega^2} F_{\eta}$ .

Again by induction, we have:  $K_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}^{\omega^n} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < \omega^{n+1}} F_{\eta}$  for every  $n < \omega$ .

Hence  $K_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}^{\omega^{\xi-1}} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < \omega^{\xi}} F_{\eta}$  and since  $X_{A_n}(y) = 0$  for every  $y \in \bigcap_{\eta < \omega^{\xi}} F_{\eta}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $K_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})}^{\omega^{\xi-1}+1} = \emptyset$ , that is,  $\gamma((X_{A_n})) = \omega^{\xi-1} + 1 < \omega^{\xi}$ .

Case 2. Suppose that  $f \geq 0$ . Then using Theorem 5 we find a sequence  $(g_n)$  where  $0 \le g_n = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} a_i^n X_{A_i^n}$  with  $\beta(X_{A_i^n}) < \omega^{\xi+1}$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k_n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such

$$0 \le g_1 + \dots + g_n \le f \le g_1 + \dots + g_n + \frac{\|f\|_{\infty}}{2^{n+2}} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then for every n > 1 we have

$$0 \le g_n = g_1 + \dots + g_n + \frac{\|f\|_{\infty}}{2^{n+1}} - g_1 - \dots - g_{n-1} - \frac{\|f\|_{\infty}}{2^{n+1}}$$
$$\le f + \frac{\|f\|_{\infty}}{2^{n+1}} - f \le \frac{\|f\|_{\infty}}{2^n}.$$

Hence  $||g_n||_{\infty} \leq ||f||_{\infty} 2^{-n}$  for any n > 1. Without loss of generality we can assume that  $||f||_{\infty} \leq 1$ . Then  $||g_n||_{\infty} \leq 2^{-n}$  for every n > 1. Also  $f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$  uniformly. Since  $\beta(X_{A_i^n}) < \omega^{\xi+1}$  for every  $i = 1, 2, ..., k_n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and by Case 1 and

Proposition 4 we have that, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is  $(g_n^p) \subset \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  pointwise converging to  $g_n$  such that  $g_n^p \geq 0$  for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\gamma((g_n^p)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ . For  $\xi = 0$  this is proved by Kechris and Louveau (cf. [K-L]).

Since  $\|g_n^p\|_{\infty} \leq \|g_n\|_{\infty} \leq 2^{-n}$  for every n > 1 and  $\|g_1^p\|_{\infty} \leq \|g_1\|_{\infty}$  for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have that for any  $p \in \mathbb{N} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n^p < \infty$  uniformly. For any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  we set  $g^p = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n^p$ . Since  $g_n^p \in \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and

the convergence of the series is uniform we have  $g^p \in \mathbb{B}^1_1(K)$  for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then, by Theorem 3 we have that for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $f_p \in DBSC(K)$ such that  $||g^p - f_p||_{\infty} < \frac{1}{p}$ . Then since  $(g^p)$  is pointwise converging to f we have that and the sequence  $(f_p)$  is also pointwise converging to f.

The proof of Case 2 can be finished by proving that  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \gamma((g^p)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

We see this, as follows:

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , P be a closed subset of K. We shall show that  $P^1_{\varepsilon,(f_p)} \subset P^1_{\varepsilon/2,(g^p)}$ .

Let  $x \in P^1_{\varepsilon,(f_p)} \setminus P^1_{\varepsilon/2,(g^p)}$ . Then there exists an open subset U of P with  $x \in U$  and  $p_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|g^p(x') - g^{p'}(x')| \le \varepsilon/2 \quad \forall x' \in U, p, p' \ge p_0.$$

Let  $p_1 \geq p_0$  with  $\frac{2}{p_1} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Then for each  $p, p' \geq p_1$  and  $x' \in U$  we have

$$|f_p(x') - f_{p'}(x')| \le |f_p(x') - g^p(x')| + |g^p(x') - g^{p'}(x')| + |g^{p'}(x') - f_{p'}(x')|$$

$$< \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{1}{p'} < \varepsilon,$$

a contradiction since  $x \in P^1_{\varepsilon,(f_p)}$ . Hence  $\gamma((f_p)) \leq \gamma((g^p))$ . Note that for  $q, q' \geq p > 1$ , we have

(\*) 
$$||g^{q} - g^{q'}||_{\infty} \le \left\| \sum_{n \le p} g_{n}^{q} - \sum_{n \le p} g_{n}^{q'} \right\|_{\infty} + 4.2^{-p}.$$

Also,  $\gamma((g_n^q)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and by Proposition 4 we have that  $\gamma((\sum_{n \leq p} g_n^q)) \leq$  $\omega^{\xi}$  and hence by (\*) this implies that  $\gamma((q^q)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

Case 3. (General case). If  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi+1}(K)$  then  $f = f^+ - f^-$  where  $f^+ = \max\{f, 0\}$ and  $f^- = -\min\{f, 0\}$ . Then  $0 \le f^+, f^- \in \mathbb{B}_1^{\xi+1}(K)$  and from Case 2 there are sequences  $(f_n^1), (f_n^2)$  in DBSC(K) with  $(f_n^1)$  converging pointwise to  $f^+, (f_n^2)$  converging pointwise to  $f^-, \gamma((f_n^1)) \le \omega^{\xi}$  and  $\gamma((f_n^2)) \le \omega^{\xi}$ . Then  $f_n^1 - f_n^2 \in \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}, (f_n^1 - f_n^2)$  converges pointwise to f and by Proposition 4 we have that  $\gamma((f_n^1 - f_n^2)) \le \omega^{\xi}$ .

Sufficiency. Let  $(f_n) \subset DBSC(K)$  be a sequence converging pointwise to f with  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ . We prove that  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

**Claim.**  $P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega} \subset P_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^1$  for all closed subsets P of K and  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

[Proof of claim: Let P be a closed subset of K and  $x \in P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega} \setminus P_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^1$ . Then choose an open subset V of P with  $x \in V$  and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|f_m(y) - f_n(y)| \le \varepsilon/3 \quad \forall y \in \overline{V}, n \ge n_0.$$

Then  $|f_{n_0}(y) - f_n(y)| \leq \varepsilon/3$  for all  $y \in \overline{V}$ , all  $n \geq n_0$  and since  $(f_n)$  converges pointwise to f we have that  $|f_{n_0}(y) - f(y)| \le \varepsilon/3$  for all  $y \in \overline{V}$ .

Then,  $\overline{V}_{\varepsilon,f}^{\eta} \subset \overline{V}_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}^{\eta}$  for all  $\eta < \omega$ . Since  $\beta(f_{n_0}) \leq \omega$  we have  $\overline{V}_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}^{\omega} = \emptyset$ . Then  $V \cap P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega} \subset \overline{V}_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega} \subset \overline{V}_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}^{\omega} = \emptyset$ , a contradiction, since  $x \in V \cap P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega}$ . Hence

the proof of the claim is finished.]

By induction and applying the claim we get

$$K_{\varepsilon,f}^{m\omega} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^m \quad \forall m < \omega \Rightarrow K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^2} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^\omega.$$

Also, by induction we have  $K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{n+1}} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\omega^n}$  for all  $n < \omega$ .

Hence 
$$K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\xi+1}} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\omega^{\xi}} = \emptyset$$
 and hence  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi+1}$ .

Remark 2. In Theorem 7, the sequence  $(f_n)$  can in fact also be chosen uniformly bounded (as the proof shows).

For  $\xi = 1$ , Theorem 7 was proved by Kechris and Louveau in [K-L].

**8. Theorem** ([K-N]). Let K be a compact metric space,  $f, f_n \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $(f_n)$  converging pointwise to f,  $\lambda < \omega_1$  a limit ordinal and  $m < \omega$  such that

$$\sup\{\beta(f_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\} < \omega^{\lambda} \quad and \quad \gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\lambda+m}$$

Then 
$$\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\lambda+m}$$
.

*Proof.* Since  $\lambda$  is a limit ordinal and  $\sup\{\beta(f_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\} < \omega^{\lambda}$  we choose a strictly increasing sequence  $(\lambda_n)$  such that  $\sup_n \lambda_n = \lambda$  and  $\sup\{\beta(f_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\} < \omega^{\lambda_1}$ .

**Claim.**  $P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda_1}} \subset P_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^1$  for all closed subsets P of K and  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

[Proof of claim: Let  $P \subset K$  be closed,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $x \in P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda_1}} \setminus P_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^1$ . Then there exists an open subset V of P with  $x \in V$  and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|f_m(y) - f_n(y)| \le \varepsilon/3 \quad \forall y \in \overline{V}, n, m \ge n_0.$$

Then  $|f_{n_0}(y) - f(y)| \le \varepsilon/3 \forall y \in \overline{V}, n \ge n_0$  and hence  $\overline{V}_{\varepsilon,f}^{\eta} \subset \overline{V}_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}^{\eta} \forall \eta < \omega^{\lambda_1}$ .

Since 
$$\beta(f_{n_0}) \leq \omega^{\lambda_1}$$
 implies that  $\overline{V}_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}^{\omega^{\lambda_1}} = \emptyset$ . Also  $V \cap P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda_1}} \subset \overline{V}_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}^{\omega^{\lambda_1}}$ .

Then  $V \cap P_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda_1}} = \emptyset$ , a contradiction. Hence the proof of the claim is finished.]

By induction and applying the claim we get  $K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\theta\omega^{\lambda_1}} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\theta} \forall \theta < \omega^{\lambda}$  and hence  $K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda}} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda_n+\lambda_1}} \subset \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\omega^{\lambda_n}} = K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\omega^{\lambda_n}}$ .

By induction we have that  $K_{\varepsilon,f}^{n\omega^{\lambda}} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{n\omega^{\lambda}} \forall n < \omega$  and hence  $K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda+1}} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\omega^{\lambda+1}}$ .

Also, by induction we get  $K_{\varepsilon,f}^{\omega^{\lambda+m}} \subset K_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}^{\omega^{\lambda+m}} = \emptyset$  and hence  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\lambda+m}$ .  $\square$ 

*Note.* Theorems 7 and 8 are due jointly to Professor Negrepontis (cf. [K-N]). I am grateful to Professor Negrepontis for his kind permission to present some of our joint work here.

In the following corollary it is proved that the conclusion of Theorem 7 is not true for  $\xi \geq \omega$ .

**9. Corollary.** Le K be a compact metric space,  $\omega \leq \xi < \omega_1, f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$  and  $(f_n) \subset \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  such that  $(f_n)$  is pointwise converging to f and  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ . Then  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

*Proof.* If  $\xi \geq \omega$  there is a limit ordinal  $\lambda \geq \omega$  and  $m < \omega$  such that  $\xi = \lambda + m$ . Also  $\sup\{\beta(f_n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\} = \omega < \omega^\omega \leq \omega^\lambda$ . Hence by Theorem 8 we have  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^\lambda$ .  $\square$ 

**10. Proposition.** Let K be a scattered compact metric space with  $K^{(\omega^{\omega+1})} \neq \emptyset$ . Then there is a sequence  $(f_n) \subset \mathbb{B}_1(K)$ ,  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$  such that  $(f_n)$  is pointwise converging to f,  $\sup\{\beta(f_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\} = \omega^{\omega}$ ,  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\omega+1}$  and  $\beta(f) > \omega^{\omega+1}$ .

*Proof.* We set

$$A = \bigcup \{ (K^{(\eta)} \setminus K^{(\eta+1)}) : \eta \text{ even and } \eta < \omega^{\omega+1} \}.$$

Then  $\beta(X_A) = \omega^{\omega+1} + 1$ . For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we set

$$A_n^k = \bigcup \{ (K^{(\eta)} \setminus K^{(\eta+1)}) : \eta \text{ even and } (k-1)\omega^\omega \le \eta < \omega^\omega + \omega^\eta \},$$
 
$$k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then we have  $\omega^n < \beta(X_{A_n^k}) \le \omega^{n+1} \ \forall k = 1, 2, \dots, n, \ n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We set  $A_n = \bigcup_{k=1}^n A_n^{k} \, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $X_{A_n} = X_{A_n^1} + \cdots + X_{A_n^n}$  and hence  $\omega^n < \beta(X_{A_n}) \le \omega^{n+1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $\sup\{\beta(X_{A_n}): n \in \mathbb{N}\} = \omega^{\omega}$ . Also  $(X_{A_n})$  is pointwise converging to  $X_A$ .

The proof will be finished by proving that  $\gamma((X_{A_n})) \leq \omega + 1$ . To see this, if  $\varepsilon > 0$  then  $K^m_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < m\omega} K^{(\eta)}_{\omega}$  for all  $m < \omega$  and hence  $K^{\omega}_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})} \subset \bigcap_{\eta < \omega} K^{(\eta)}_{\omega+1}. \text{ Since the functions } X_{A_n} \text{ are zero on } \bigcap_{\eta < \omega} K^{(\eta)}_{\omega+1} \text{ we have that } K^{\omega+1}_{\varepsilon,(X_{A_n})} = \varnothing.$ 

Remark 3. Proposition 10 is an example, showing that one of the conditions in Theorem 7 is best possible. Also, there is surely no need to assume K scattered in the statement of the result. I thank the referee for this remark.

- 11. Proposition ([H-O-R]). Let K be a compact metric space,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\delta > 0$  and a function  $f: K \to \mathbb{R}$  is such that  $K^m_{\varepsilon, f} \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $|f|_D \ge m\delta/4$ .
- **12. Proposition.** Let K be a compact metric space,  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K), \xi < \omega, (f_n) \subset$ DBSC(K) pointwise converging to f,  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  and  $\sup_n |f_n|_D < \infty$ . Then  $\beta(f) < \omega^{\xi}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

Claim 1.  $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} : \beta(f_n, \varepsilon/3) = \beta(f_{n_0}, \varepsilon/3) \ \forall n \geq n_0.$ 

[Proof of Claim 1. Let then  $\beta(f_n, \varepsilon/3) = m_n + 1$ , where  $m_n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $K_{\varepsilon,f_n}^{m_n} \neq \emptyset$  and hence by Proposition 10 we have that  $|f_n|_D \geq m_n \varepsilon/12$ . If the sequence  $(m_n)$  is infinite then  $\sup_n |f_n|_D = \infty$ , a contradiction.

Thus there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $m_n = m_{n_0}$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

Claim 2. If  $m = \beta(f_{n_0}, \varepsilon/3)$  then  $P_{\varepsilon,f}^m \subset P_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}'$  for each closed subset P of K.

[Proof of Claim 2. Let  $x \in P^m_{\varepsilon,f} \setminus P'_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}$ . Then there are an open neighborhood V of x in P and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|f_m(y) - f_n(y)| \le \varepsilon/3 \quad \forall n, m \ge n_0, y \in \overline{V}.$$

Then,  $|f_{n_0}(y) - f(y)| \le \varepsilon/3$  for all  $y \in \overline{V}$  and hence  $\overline{V}'_{\varepsilon,f} \subset \overline{V}'_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}}$ . Finally, by induction we get  $\overline{V}^m_{\varepsilon,f} \subset \overline{V}^m_{\varepsilon/3,f_{n_0}} = \varnothing$ . Since  $V \cap P^m_{\varepsilon,f} \subset \overline{V}^m_{\varepsilon,f}$  we have  $V \cap P^m_{\varepsilon,f} = \varnothing$ , a contradiction since  $x \in V \cap P^m_{\varepsilon,f}$ .

Since  $\gamma((f_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  we have that  $\gamma((f_n), \varepsilon/3) < \omega^{\xi}$  and hence there is  $k < \omega$  such that  $\gamma((f_n), \varepsilon/3) < k\omega^{\xi-1}$ . Applying Claim 1 we have

$$K^m_{\varepsilon,f}\subset K'_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}, K^{2m}_{\varepsilon,f}\subset K''_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)},\ldots, K^{mk\omega^{\xi-1}}_{\varepsilon,f}\subset K^{k\omega^{\xi-1}}_{\varepsilon/3,(f_n)}=\varnothing.$$

Then  $\beta(f,\varepsilon) < km\omega^{\xi-1} < \omega^{\xi}$ . Hence it is proved that  $\beta(f) < \omega^{\xi}$ . 

13. **Definition** ([H-O-R]). Define  $\mathbb{B}_{1/4}(K)$  to be the set of those f in  $\mathbb{B}_1(K)$  for which there is a sequence  $(f_n)$  in DBSC(K) that converges uniformly to f and is such that  $\sup_n |f_n|_D < \infty$ .

**14. Theorem** ([H-O-R], Th. 6.1). Let K be a compact metric space and let  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$ . Then  $f \in \mathbb{B}_{1/4}(K)$  iff there exists a  $C < \infty$  such that for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a sequence  $(s_n)_{n=0}^{\infty} \subset C(K)$ ,  $s_0 = 0$ , with  $(s_n)$  converging pointwise to f and such that for all subsequences  $(n_i)$  of  $\{0\} \cup \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in K$ ,

$$\sum_{j \in B((n_i), x)} |s_{n_{j+1}}(x) - s_{n_j}(x)| \le C,$$

where 
$$B((n_i), x) = \{j : |s_{n_{j+1}}(x) - s_{n_j}(x)| \ge \varepsilon\}.$$

The above result gave the idea for the definition of the rank  $\delta$  (cf. [K-N]). I am grateful to Professor Negrepontis who gave me this idea.

**15. Definition.** Let K be a compact metric space,  $f, s_n : K \to \mathbb{R}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , real-valued functions with  $s_0 = 0$  such that  $(s_n)$  is pointwise converging to f. For each closed subset P of K and  $\varepsilon > 0$  we set:

$$P^{0}((s_{n}),\varepsilon) = P,$$

$$P'((s_{n}),\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} x \in P : \forall 0 < C < \infty, \ \forall m \in \mathbb{N}, \ \forall U \subset K \text{ open neighborhood of } x \end{cases}$$

$$\exists j_{p} > \dots > j_{1} \geq m \text{ and } x' \in U \cap P \text{ such that}$$

$$|s_{j_{i+1}}(x') - s_{j_{i}}(x')| > \varepsilon \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p$$

$$\text{and } \sum_{i=1}^{p} |s_{j_{i+1}}(x') - s_{j_{i}}(x')| > C \end{cases}.$$

For each ordinal  $a < \omega_1$  we set

$$P^{a+1}((s_n), \varepsilon) = (P^a((s_n), \varepsilon))'((s_n), \varepsilon).$$

If  $\beta$  is a limit ordinal, we set

$$P^{\beta}((s_n), \varepsilon) = \bigcap_{a < \beta} P^a((s_n), \varepsilon).$$

We set

$$\delta((s_n),\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} \text{the least ordinal } a < \omega_1 \text{ such that } K^a((s_n),\varepsilon) = \varnothing \\ & \text{if such an } a \text{ exists,} \\ \omega_1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\delta((s_n)) = \sup \{ \delta((s_n), \varepsilon) : \varepsilon > 0 \}.$$

Remark 4.  $\delta((s_n)) \leq \gamma((s_n))$ .

We see this as follows: Let P be a closed subset of K,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $x \in P \setminus P^1_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}$ . Then there are an open neighborhood of x in P and  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every  $y \in U$  and  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m, n \geq p$  we have  $|f_m(y) - f_n(y)| \leq \varepsilon$ . By definition of  $P'((s_n), \varepsilon)$  we have that  $x \notin P'((s_n), \varepsilon)$ . Hence  $P'((s_n), \varepsilon) \subset P^1_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}$ .

**16. Proposition** ([H-O-R]). Let X be a Banach space and C,D be convex subsets of X. Then

$$\inf\{\|c-d\|:c\in C,d\in D\}=\inf\{\|c-d\|:c\in \widetilde{C},d\in \widetilde{D}\},$$

where  $\widetilde{C}$  and  $\widetilde{D}$  are the  $w^*$ -closure of C and D in  $X^{**}$ .

**17. Theorem.** Let K be a compact metric space,  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$ , a sequence  $(f_n) \subset C(K)$  pointwise converging to f and  $\xi < \omega_1$ .

Then the following equivalences are satisfied:

- (i) If  $1 \leq \xi < \omega$ , then  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  if and only if there exists a sequence  $(s_n)$  of convex blocks of  $(f_n)$  with  $\delta((s_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi-1}$ .
- (ii) If  $\xi \geq \omega$ , then  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  if and only if there exists a sequence  $(s_n)$  of convex blocks of  $(f_n)$  with  $\delta((s_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

*Proof.* (i). Necessity. Let  $1 \leq \xi < \omega$  and  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ . Then by Theorem 7 we have there is a sequence  $(F_n) \subset \mathrm{DBSC}(K)$  pointwise converging to f and  $\gamma((F_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then  $\gamma((F_n), \frac{\varepsilon}{4}) = \theta + 1 < \omega^{\xi}$ .

For every  $\eta \leq \theta$  we set  $K_{\eta} = K_{\varepsilon/4,(F_n)}^{\eta}$ . Then for every  $\eta \leq \theta$  and  $x \in K_{\eta} \setminus K_{\eta+1}$  there are an open neighborhood  $U_{x,\eta}$  of x in  $K_{\eta}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|F_n(y) - f(y)| \leq \varepsilon/4$  for every  $y \in \overline{U}_{x,\eta}$ . Since K is a compact metric space we have that for every  $\eta \leq \theta$  there exists a countable subset  $\{U_{\eta,k} : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of  $\{U_{x,\eta} : x \in K_{\eta} \setminus K_{\eta+1}\}$  such that

$$\bigcup \{U_{\eta,k} : k \in \mathbb{N}\} = \bigcup \{U_{x,\eta} : x \in K_{\eta} \setminus K_{\eta+1}\}.$$

Let  $\{U_{\eta_i,k_i}: i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be an enumeration of  $\{U_{\eta,k}: \eta \leq \theta, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then for every  $i \in \mathbb{N} \exists n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$||f - F_{n_i}||_{\overline{U}_{\eta_i, k_i}} < \varepsilon/4.$$

(If M is a subspace of K we set  $\| \|_M$  the supremum norm on C(M).)

For every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $(f_m^i)_{m=0}^{\infty} \subset C(K)$  with  $f_0^i = 0$ ,  $(f_m^i)_{m=0}^{\infty}$  is pointwise converging to  $F_{n_i}$  and

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |f_m^i(y) - f_m^i(y)| \le |F_{n_i}|_D \quad \forall y \in \overline{U}_{\eta_i, k_i}.$$

By (\*) and Proposition 16 we have that there exist a sequence  $(g_m^1)$  of convex blocks of  $(f_m)$  and a sequence  $(h_m^1)$  of convex blocks of  $(f_m^1)$  such that

$$\|g_m^1 - h_m^1\|_{\overline{U}_{\eta_1,k_1}} < \varepsilon/4 \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then for every  $m_1, \ldots, m_p \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m_1 < \cdots < m_\rho$  and  $y \in \overline{U}_{\eta_1, k_1}$  with  $|g^1_{m_{i+1}}(y) - g^1_{m_i}(y)| \ge \varepsilon$  for all  $i = 1, \ldots, \rho$  we have

$$(***) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} |g_{m_{i+1}}^{1}(y) - g_{m_{i}}^{1}(y)| \le \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |f_{j+1}^{1}(y) - f_{j}^{1}(y)| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \frac{2}{\varepsilon} |F_{n_{1}}|_{D} \le 2|F_{n_{1}}|_{D}.$$

[We see this as follows: Let  $p,q\in\mathbb{N}$  and  $y\in\overline{U}_{\eta_1,k_1}$  with  $|g_p^1(y)-g_q^1(y)|\geq \varepsilon$ . Then by (\*\*) we have

$$(1) \qquad \varepsilon \leq |g_p^1(y) - g_q^1(y)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + |h_p^1(y) - h_q^1(y)| \Rightarrow |h_p^1(y) - h_q^1(y)| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Also,  $\sum_{i=1}^{\rho} |g_{m_{i+1}}^1(y) - g_{m_i}^1(y)| \le \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |f_{j+1}^1(y) - f_j^1(y)| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\rho \le |F_{n_1}|_D + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\rho$ . By (1) we have

$$\rho \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \le \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} |h_{m_{i+1}}^1(y) - h_{m_i}^1(y)| \le |F_{n_1}|_D \Rightarrow \rho \le \frac{2}{\varepsilon} |F_{n_1}|_D.$$

Hence the proof of (\*\*\*) is finished.

By induction, for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  we get a sequence  $(g_m^{i+1})$  of convex blocks of  $(g_m^i)$  such that  $\forall \rho \in \mathbb{N}, m_1, \dots, m_\rho \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m_1 < \dots < m_\rho$  and  $y \in \overline{U}_{\eta_i, k_i}$  with  $|g_{m_{j+1}}^{i+1}(y) - g_{m_j}^{i+1}(y)| \ge \varepsilon$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, \rho$  we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\rho} |g_{m_{j+1}}^{i+1}(y) - g_{m_{j}}^{i+1}(y)| \le 2|F_{n_{i+1}}|_{D}.$$

We set  $s_0 = 0$  and  $s_n = g_n^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $(s_n)$  is pointwise converging to f and  $K^{\eta}((s_n), \varepsilon) \subset K_{\eta}$  for all  $\eta \leq \theta + 1$ . Hence  $K^{\theta+1}((s_n), \varepsilon) = \emptyset$  and hence  $\delta((s_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi-1}$ .

Sufficiency. Let  $\delta((s_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi-1}$ . We shall show that  $\gamma((s_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  and since  $\beta(f) \leq \gamma((s_n))$  we have that  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ . Hence we shall show that  $P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{\omega} \subset P'((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$  for all closed subsets P of K.

Let P be a closed subset of K and let  $x \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{\omega} \setminus P'((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$ . Then there are a positive real number C, an open neighborhood U of x in P and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall p \in \mathbb{N}, n_1, \ldots, n_p \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n_p > \cdots > n_1 \geq m$  and  $y \in U$  with  $|s_{n_{i+1}}(y) - s_{n_i}(y)| \geq \varepsilon/2$  for all  $i = 1, \ldots, p$  we have  $\sum_{i=1}^p |s_{n_{i+1}}(y) - s_{n_i}(y)| \leq C$ .

Then  $p < \frac{C}{\varepsilon}$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n > \frac{C}{\varepsilon}$ . Then  $x \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^n$ . We shall show that there are  $y \in U$  and  $m_1, \ldots, m_{n+1} \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m_{n+1} > \cdots > m_1 \geq m$  such that  $|s_{m_{j+1}}(y) - s_{m_j}(y)| > \varepsilon/2$  for all  $j = 1, \ldots, n$ , and we shall terminate in a contradiction.

We see this as follows:

$$x \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^n \cap U \Rightarrow \exists x_1 \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-1} \cap U \text{ and } m_1, m_2 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ with } m_2 > m_1 \ge m \text{ and } |s_{m_2}(x_1) - s_{m_1}(x_1)| > \varepsilon > \varepsilon/2.$$

We set  $V_1 = \{y \in U : |s_{m_2}(y) - s_{m_1}(y)| > \varepsilon/2\}$ .  $V_1$  is open and  $x_1 \in V_1 \cap P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-1}$ ; hence  $\exists x_2 \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-2} \cap V_1$  and  $m_3 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $m_3 > m_2$  and  $|s_{m_3}(x_2) - s_{m_2}(x_2)| > \varepsilon/2$  (since if  $|s_m(y) - s_{m_2}(y)| \le \varepsilon/2$  for every  $m \ge m_2$  and  $y \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-2} \cap V_1$ , then  $|s_m(y) - s_k(y)| \le \varepsilon$  for all  $m, k \ge m_2$  and  $y \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-2} \cap V_1$ , that is,  $x_1 \notin P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-1}$  which is a contradiction).

We set  $V_2 = \{y \in V_1 : |s_{m_3}(y) - s_{m_2}(y)| > \varepsilon/2\}$ .  $V_2$  is open in P and  $x_2 \in V_2 \subset V_1$ .

By induction we get  $m_1, \ldots, m_n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m_n > \cdots > m_1 \geq m$ ,  $V_1, \ldots, V_{n-1}$  open subsets of P with  $V_{n-1} \subset \cdots \subset V_1 \subset U$  and  $x_1 \in P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{n-1} \cap V_{i-1}$  for all  $i = 1, \ldots, n$  (where  $V_0 = U$ ) such that  $|s_{m_{i+1}}(y) - s_{m_i}(y)| > \varepsilon/2$  for all  $y \in V_i$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, n-1$ . We set  $V_n = \{y \in V_{n-1} : |s_{m_n}(y) - s_{m_{n-1}}(y)| > \varepsilon/2\}$ .  $V_n$  is open in P and  $x_{n-1} \in P'_{\varepsilon,(s_n)} \cap V_n$ ; hence there is  $y \in V_n$  and  $m_{n+1} > m_n$  such that  $|s_{m_{n+1}}(y) - s_{m_n}(y)| > \varepsilon/2$ .

Then  $|s_{m_{j+1}}(y) - s_{m_j}(y)| > \varepsilon/2$  for all j = 1, ..., n. Hence the proof of (i) is finished.

(ii) Necessity. By Theorem 5 we have that if  $f \in \mathbb{B}_1(K)$  with  $\beta(f) \leq \omega^{\xi}$  then there is a sequence  $(s_n)$  of convex blocks of  $(f_n)$  with  $\gamma((s_n)) \leq \omega^{\xi}$ .

Then by Remark 4 we get a conclusion.

Sufficiency. As in (i) we prove that  $P^{\omega}_{\varepsilon,(s_n)} \subset P'((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$  for all closed subsets P of K and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then by induction we get  $K^{\omega^{n+1}}_{\varepsilon,(s_n)} \subset K^{\omega^n}((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$  for all

 $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and hence  $K_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{\omega^{\omega}} \subset K^{\omega^{\omega}}((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$ . Finally, by induction we get  $K_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{\omega^{\xi}} \subset K^{\omega^{\xi}}((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

Remark 5. If  $(s_n)$  is a sequence of continuous real-valued functions on K with  $\delta((s_n)) < \omega_1$ , then  $(s_n)$  converges pointwise.

[We see this is follows: As is proved in the demonstration of the sufficiency of Theorem 17 (i) we have that  $P_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{\omega} \subset P'((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$  for all closed subsets P of K and hence

$$K_{\varepsilon,(s_n)}^{\omega^{\xi+1}} \subset K^{\omega^{\xi}}((s_n), \varepsilon/2)$$
 for all  $\xi < \omega_1$ .

Assume that  $\delta((s_n)) < \omega_1$ . Then there is a  $\xi < \omega_1$  such that  $\delta((s_n)) < \omega^{\xi}$ ; hence  $K^{\omega^{\xi}}((s_n), \varepsilon) = \emptyset$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  and thus  $K^{\omega^{\xi+1}}_{\varepsilon,(s_n)} = \emptyset$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then  $\gamma((s_n), \varepsilon) < \omega^{\xi+1}$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ; hence  $\gamma((s_n)) \le \omega^{\xi+1} < \omega_1$  and thus the sequence  $(s_n)$  converges pointwise (cf. [K-L]).]

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Department of Mathematics, University of Athens, Panepistimiopolis 15784, Athens, Greece