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## QUASINORMAL CONVERGENCE

ZUZANA BUKOVSKÁ

ABSTRACT. Quasinormal convergence of sequences of real-valued functions is investigated.

Showing that every countable set  $E$  of reals is a certain type of thin set in the trigonometrical series theory, N. N. Bari ([2] p. 737) constructs a sequence of positive reals  $\varepsilon_k \rightarrow 0$  and an increasing sequence  $\{n_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  of natural numbers such that for every  $x \in E$  there exists an index  $k_x$  such that  $\|n_k x\| < \varepsilon_k$  for every  $k > k_x$ . That is a new type of convergence which was not investigated in analysis before.

A. Denjoy ([6] p. 183) introduces the following notion: the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  of real-valued functions converges pseudonormally on a set  $E$  iff there is a convergent series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon_n$  of positive reals such that for every  $x \in E$  there exists  $k_x$  such that  $|f_k(x)| < \varepsilon_k$  for every  $k > k_x$ . J. Arbault ([1] p. 303—304) studies pseudonormal convergence of some trigonometrical series.

That is all we could find in literature about this new type of convergence.

Inspired by A. Denjoy I have called the convergence quasinormal, investigated its properties and tried to use them for the study of thin sets in trigonometrical series [3]. All my results were presented in my thesis in January 1988. When my thesis was almost completed, L. Zajíček kindly informed me that Á. Császár and M. Laczkovich [4], [5] considered the same type of convergence under the name “equal convergence”. Many of my results coincided with those of [4], [5]. Anyway, I still hope that not all the results presented in this paper are explicitly contained in [4], [5], or at least, I present them from a different point of view.

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## §1. Quasinormal convergence

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $f_n, f, n = 0, 1, \dots$  be real-valued functions defined on a set  $X$ . We shall say that the sequence  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges quasinormally to  $f$  on  $X$ , written  $f_n \xrightarrow{QN} f$  on  $X$ , if there is a sequence  $\{\varepsilon_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  of non-negative reals converging to zero such that for every  $x \in X$  there is an index  $k$  such that  $|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon_n$  for every  $n \geq k$ .

Let us stress that the index  $k$  may generally depend on  $x$ . If  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges uniformly to  $f$  on  $X$ , then it converges also quasinormally. On the other hand the quasinormal convergence implies the pointwise one. If all  $\varepsilon_n$  are equal zero, then the corresponding convergence is said to be discrete (compare [4]).

Before giving some simple examples distinguishing all those types of convergences we start with a theorem which is contained also in Á. Császár, M. Laczkovich [5].

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $f_n, f, n = 0, 1, \dots$ , be real-valued functions defined on a set  $X$ . The following conditions are equivalent

- (i)  $f_n \xrightarrow{QN} f$  on  $X$ ,
- (ii) there are sets  $E_k \subseteq X$  such that  $X = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k$  and  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E_k$  for every  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ ,
- (iii) there are sets  $E_k \subseteq X$  such that  $X = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k, E_0 \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots$  and  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E$  for every  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ .

Moreover, if  $X$  is a topological space and  $f_n, n = 0, 1, \dots$  are continuous, then (i), (ii), (iii) are equivalent to

- (iv) there are closed sets  $E_k \subseteq X, k = 0, 1, \dots, X = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k, E_0 \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots$  and  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$ .

**Proof.** Assume (i). Let  $\varepsilon_n \geq 0, \varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  and

$$(\forall x \in X) (\exists k) (\forall n \geq k) |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon_n.$$

We put

$$E_k = \{x \in X; (\forall n \geq k) |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon_n\},$$

then  $\bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k = X, E_0 \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots$  and  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$ . So we have (iii).

Evidently (iii) implies (ii).

Assume (ii). Since  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$ , there exists a non increasing sequence of non-negative reals  $\delta_n^k \rightarrow 0$  such that

$$(\exists m) (\forall n \geq m) (\forall x \in E_k) |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \delta_n^k.$$

We start with the construction of an increasing sequence of natural num-

bers  $j_m, m = 0, 1, \dots$ . Let  $j_m$  be the first  $l > j_{m-1}$  such that  $\delta_n^0, \dots, \delta_n^m$  are not greater than  $\frac{1}{2^m}$  for all  $n \geq l$ .

Now, set

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_i &= 1 \quad \text{for } i < j_0, \\ \varepsilon_i &= \frac{1}{2^m} \quad \text{for } j_m \leq i < j_{m+1}. \end{aligned}$$

One can easily show that for every  $x \in X$  we have  $|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon_n$  starting from some  $n_0$ .

In the continuous case evidently (iv) implies (iii). Assume (i). It suffices to set

$$E_k = \{x \in X; (\forall n, m \geq k) |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq \varepsilon_n + \varepsilon_m\}.$$

Evidently  $E_k$  is closed and  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$  □

**Corollary 1.3.** Let  $X = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} X_i$ . If  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges quasinormally to  $f$  on every  $X_i, i = 0, 1, \dots$ , then it does so on  $X$ .

**Example 1.4.** Let  $\mathbf{Q} = \{r_k; k \in \mathbf{N}\}$  be a one-to-one enumeration of rational numbers. Let

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{Q}, \\ f(r_k) &= 2^{-k} \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots \end{aligned}$$

Evidently,  $f$  is not continuous in any interval. For every  $n$  choose a positive real  $\delta_n \leq 2^{-n}$  such that

$$\delta_n \leq \frac{1}{2} |r_i - r_j|, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n, \quad i \neq j.$$

For  $x \in \mathbf{R} - \bigcup_{i=0}^n (r_i - \delta_i, r_i + \delta_i)$  we set  $f_n(x) = 0, f_n(r_i) = 2^{-i}$  and  $f_n$  is piecewise linear ( $f_n(x) \leq 2^{-i}$  for  $x \in (r_i - \delta_i, r_i + \delta_i), i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ).

One can easily show that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  pointwise on  $\mathbf{R}$ . We show that  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  does not converge quasinormally to  $f$  on  $\mathbf{R}$ . Assume it does. Then by (iv) of Theorem 1.2,  $\mathbf{R} = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k, E_k$  closed and  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on every  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$ . By the Baire category theorem there is  $k$  such that  $\text{Int } E_k \neq \emptyset$ , i.e. there are  $a < b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \subseteq E_k$ . Since  $f_n$  are continuous,  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $\langle a, b \rangle, f$  is also continuous on  $\langle a, b \rangle$ , which is a contradiction.

**Example 1.5.** Now let  $f_n(x) = x^n$  for  $x \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle$  and  $f(x) = 0$  for  $x \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle, f(1) = 1$ . Then  $f_n \xrightarrow{QN} f$  on  $\langle 0, 1 \rangle$  and not uniformly.

Example 1.6. Let us remember that Denjoy says that the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  pseudonormally converges on  $X$  iff there is a convergent series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon_n$  of non-negative reals  $\varepsilon_n$  such that

$$(\forall x \in X) (\exists k) (\forall n \geq k) |f_n(x)| \leq \varepsilon_n.$$

If the series converges pseudonormally, then it (the sequence of partial sums) converges quasinormally. However, it suffices to set

$$f_n(x) = (-1)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{for any } x \in \mathbf{R}$$

and we obtain:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n$  converges quasinormally but not pseudonormally.

A natural question arises: if the sequence of continuous functions on  $\mathbf{R}$  (or some other reasonable topological space) converges pointwise to a continuous function, does it converge already quasinormally? I have found a counterexample to this question. However, L. Bukovský has found a more convenient example with solves simultaneously several other problems. With his kind permission I will describe it.

Example 1.7. Let  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By an  $\varepsilon$ -wave at  $a$  we mean a sequence of continuous functions  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  such that:

- a)  $0 \leq f_n(x) \leq \varepsilon$  for every  $x \in \mathbf{R}$ ,
- b) there is a sequence  $x_n \rightarrow a$  such that  $f_n(x_n) = \varepsilon$ ,
- c)  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  discretely on  $\mathbf{R}$ , i.e.

$$(\forall x \in \mathbf{R}) (\exists k) (\forall n \geq k) f_n(x) = 0.$$

For any  $a \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  one can easily construct an  $\varepsilon$ -wave at  $a$ .

Now let  $\{r_k; k \in \mathbf{N}\}$  be an enumeration of all rational numbers. For any  $r_k$ , let  $\{f_n^k\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be a  $2^{-k}$ -wave at  $r_k$ .

Let  $\{g_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  be some one-to-one enumeration of all functions  $f_n^k$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . More precisely let  $\pi: \mathbf{N} \times \mathbf{N} \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{1-1} \mathbf{N}$ . We set  $g_m = f_n^k$ , where  $m = \pi(n, k)$ .

One can easily show that  $g_m \rightarrow 0$  pointwise on  $\mathbf{R}$ . We prove that  $\{g_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  does not quasinormally converge to zero on  $\mathbf{R}$ . Assume it does. Then  $\mathbf{R} = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k$ ,  $E_k$  closed and  $g_m \rightrightarrows 0$  on  $E_k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . By the Baire category theorem,  $\text{Int } E_k \neq \emptyset$  for some  $k$ . So there are  $a < b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \subseteq E_k$ . There exists  $n_0$  such that  $r_{n_0} \in \langle a, b \rangle$ . Since  $g_m \rightrightarrows 0$  on  $E_k$  then also  $f_m^{n_0} \rightrightarrows 0$  on  $\langle a, b \rangle$  — a contradiction with b).

We show that from every subsequence of  $\{g_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  one can choose a subse-

quence quasinormally converging to zero. Since the whole sequence  $\{g_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  does not quasinormally converges to zero we obtain the following: the quasinormal convergence on the family of all continuous bounded real-valued functions  $C^*(\mathbf{R})$  does not satisfy the Urysohn axiom of convergence (see [9], p. 84, condition 3<sup>0</sup>). Moreover, one can easily see that both here and in Example 1.7 the space  $\mathbf{R}$  may be replaced by any completely regular separable first-countable topological space which is not of the first category, e.g. by any Polish space with no isolated point.

Let  $k_0 < k_1 < \dots$  be a sequence of natural numbers. Denote

$$K = \{k_i; i \in \mathbf{N}\}.$$

Consider two cases:

i) there is  $k$  such that  $\pi(n, k) \in K$  for infinitely many  $n$ , i.e. there is an increasing sequence  $n_0 < n_1 < \dots$  such that  $\pi(n_i, k) \in K$ . Then

$$g_{\pi(n_i, k)} = f_{n_i}^k$$

is a  $2^{-k}$ -wave at  $r_k$ , hence it converges discretely to zero,

ii) there is no such  $k$ . Then for infinitely many  $n$  there is  $l$  such that  $\pi(n, l) \in K$ , i.e. there are two sequences  $n_0, n_1, \dots, l_0 < l_1 < \dots$  such that  $\pi(n_i, l_i) \in K$ . Since

$$|g_{\pi(n_i, l_i)}(x)| \leq 2^{-l_i}, \quad l_0 < l_1 < \dots$$

we have  $g_{\pi(n_i, l_i)} \rightrightarrows 0$  on  $\mathbf{R}$ .

Corollary 1.3 can be strengthened as follows. Let us recall (see [11]) that  $\mathfrak{b}$  denotes the smallest cardinal such that for every  $\mathcal{H}$  a family of functions from  $\mathbf{N}$  into  $\mathbf{N}$ ,  $|\mathcal{H}| < \mathfrak{b}$  there is a function  $g: \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$  such that

$$(\forall h \in \mathcal{H}) (\exists k) (\forall n \geq k) h(n) \leq g(n).$$

It is know that  $\aleph_0 < \mathfrak{b} \leq \mathfrak{c}$  but not necessarily  $\mathfrak{b} = \aleph_1$ .

**Theorem 1.8.** *Let  $X = \bigcup_{s \in S} E_s$ ,  $|S| < \mathfrak{b}$ . If the sequence  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges quasinormally to  $f$  on every  $E_s$ ,  $s \in S$ , then it does so on the set  $X$ .*

*Proof.* For every  $s \in S$  let  $\{\varepsilon_n^s\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be a decreasing sequence of positive reals witnessing the quasinormal convergence on  $E_s$ . We define

$$h_s(k) = \min \left\{ n; \varepsilon_n^s \leq \frac{1}{k+1}, n > h_s(k-1) \right\}.$$

Since the family  $\{h_s, s \in S\}$  is of power less than  $\mathfrak{b}$ , there exists a function  $g: \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$  with the above described property. Moreover, we can assume that  $g$  is strictly increasing. Now we denote

$$\varepsilon_n = 1 \quad \text{for } n < g(1),$$

$$\varepsilon_n = \frac{1}{k+1} \quad \text{for } g(k) \leq n < g(k+1).$$

If  $x \in X$ , then  $x \in E_s$  for some  $s \in S$ . Therefore there is a  $k_x$  such that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon_n^s \quad \text{for } n \geq k_x.$$

Also there is a natural number  $k$  such that  $h_s(n) \leq g(n)$  for  $n \geq k$ .

Let  $n \geq k_x$ ,  $n \geq g(k)$ . Then  $g(l) \leq n < g(l+1)$  for some  $l \geq k$ . Since  $g(l) \geq h_s(l)$  we have

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon_n^s \leq \frac{1}{l+1} \leq \varepsilon_n. \quad \square$$

## §2. Borel measurability and quasinormal limits

From now on we shall suppose that  $(X, \mathcal{C})$  is a perfectly normal topological space (see [7]). We recall some notions. The family of sets of the additive (multiplicative) class  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X)$  or simply  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(\mathbf{M}_\alpha(X))$  or simply  $\mathbf{M}_\alpha$  is defined as follows:  $\mathbf{A}_0(X) = \mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X)$  is the family of all countable unions of sets from  $\bigcup_{\xi < \alpha} \mathbf{M}_\xi(X)$ ,  $E$  belongs to  $\mathbf{M}_\alpha(X)$  iff  $X - E \in \mathbf{A}_\alpha(X)$ . The family of Borel sets

$\mathbf{B}(X)$  is the union  $\bigcup_{\xi < \omega_1} \mathbf{A}_\xi(X) = \bigcup_{\xi < \omega_1} \mathbf{M}_\xi(X)$ . The sets from  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X) \cap \mathbf{M}_\alpha(X)$  are

said to be ambiguous. If  $Y \subseteq X$  is a subspace,  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(Y) = \{Y \cap A; A \in \mathbf{A}_\alpha(X)\}$  and similarly for  $\mathbf{M}_\alpha(Y)$ .

If  $\mathcal{S}$  is a family of subsets of  $X$ , then a function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is called  $\mathcal{S}$ -measurable iff  $f^{-1}(U) \in \mathcal{S}$  for any open set  $U \subseteq \mathbf{R}$ . A family  $\mathcal{S}$  is called a  $\sigma$ -topology on  $X$  (see [10], p. 90) iff  $\emptyset, X \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{S}$  is closed under finite intersections and countable unions. It is easy to see that assuming  $\mathcal{S}$  to be a  $\sigma$ -topology a function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is  $\mathcal{S}$ -measurable iff  $f^{-1}((a, +\infty)), f^{-1}((-\infty, a)) \in \mathcal{S}$  for any  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ .

The class of all  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X)$ -measurable real functions is denoted by  $\mathcal{M}_\alpha(X)$ . Similarly,  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_\alpha(X)$  is the class of all  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X) \cap \mathbf{M}_\alpha(X)$ -measurable functions. Since  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X) \cap \mathbf{M}_\alpha(X)$  need not be a  $\sigma$ -topology we introduce the class  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_\alpha^0(X)$  of weakly  $\alpha$ -ambiguous functions:  $f \in \mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_\alpha^0(X)$  iff  $f^{-1}((a, \infty)), f^{-1}((-\infty, a)) \in \mathbf{A}_\alpha(X) \cap \mathbf{M}_\alpha(X)$  for any  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ .

Next we shall need a simple auxiliary result.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E$ ,  $U$  being an open subset of  $\mathbf{R}$ . Then there are open sets  $U_n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots$  such that*

$$\text{a) } U = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} U_n$$

$$\text{b) } f^{-1}(U) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n^{-1}(U_n).$$

**Proof.** Let  $\varepsilon_n = \sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f(x)|$ . Then  $\lim \varepsilon_n = 0$ . Let us set

$$U_n = \{x \in \mathbf{R}; (\exists \delta > \varepsilon_n)(x - \delta, x + \delta) \subseteq U\}.$$

One can easily show that a) and b) hold true.  $\square$

If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a class of real-valued functions on a set  $X$ , we denote by  $\text{p.c.}(\mathcal{E})$  the pointwise convergence closure of  $\mathcal{E}$ , i.e. the set of all functions which are pointwise limits of sequences from  $\mathcal{E}$ . Similarly  $\text{u.c.}(\mathcal{E})$ ,  $\text{d.c.}(\mathcal{E})$ ,  $\text{q.n.c.}(\mathcal{E})$  for uniform, discrete and quasinormal convergence, respectively.

**Lemma 2.2.** *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a set of real-valued functions defined on a set  $X$ , then*

$$\text{a) } \text{q.n.c.}(\mathcal{E}) = \text{q.n.c.}(\text{u.c.}(\mathcal{E})),$$

$$\text{b) } \text{p.c.}(\mathcal{E}) = \text{p.c.}(\text{u.c.}(\mathcal{E})).$$

**Proof.** Let  $f_n \in \text{u.c.}(\mathcal{E})$ ,  $f_n \xrightarrow{QN} f$  on  $X$ . Then for every  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , there exists  $g_n \in \mathcal{E}$  such that

$$|f_n(x) - g_n(x)| < \frac{1}{n+1}$$

for every  $x \in X$ . Then  $f$  is the quasinormal limit of the sequence  $g_n$ . Indeed, for a given  $x$  there exists a  $k$  such that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon_n$$

for any  $n \geq k$ . Then

$$|g_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon_n + \frac{1}{1+n}$$

for every  $n \geq k$ .

The assertion b) can be proved in a similar way (see also [5], Lemma 2.8).  $\square$

The classes  $\mathcal{M}_\alpha(X)$  are closed for the uniform convergence and the following holds true (see e.g. [5], p. 61):

$$1) \mathcal{M}_0(X) = C(X),$$

$$2) \mathcal{M}_{\alpha+1}(X) \text{ is the class of all pointwise limits of elements of } \mathcal{M}_\alpha(X).$$

Theorem 1.2 can be generalized as follows (compare [5]):

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $f_n \xrightarrow{QN} f$  on  $X$ . If  $f_n$  are  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha(X)$ -measurable, then there is an increasing sequence  $E_0 \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots$  of sets such that*

$$a) \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k = X,$$

b)  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on every  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$ ,

c)  $E_k \in \mathbf{M}_a(X), k = 0, 1, \dots$ .

**Proof.** Similarly as in proof of Theorem 1.2 we set

$$E_k = \{x \in X; (\forall m, n \geq k) |f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq \varepsilon_m + \varepsilon_n\},$$

i.e.

$$E_k = \bigcap_{n \geq k} \bigcap_{m \geq k} (f_n - f_m)^{-1}(\langle -\varepsilon_n - \varepsilon_m, \varepsilon_n + \varepsilon_m \rangle).$$

Since the difference  $f_n - f_m$  is also  $\mathbf{A}_a(X)$ -measurable the theorem follows.  $\square$

Now we show the main result of this paragraph.

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $f_n \xrightarrow{Q_N} f$  on  $X, f_n$  being  $\mathbf{A}_a(X)$ -measurable. Then  $f \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{A}_{a+1}}(X)$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.3  $X = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k$ , where  $E_k \in \mathbf{M}_a(X), k = 0, 1, \dots$ . Since  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $E_k, k = 0, 1, \dots$ , by Lemma 2.1 for any open  $U \subseteq \mathbf{R}$ ,

$$f^{-1}(U) \cap E_k \in \mathbf{A}_a(E_k),$$

i.e.

$$f^{-1}(U) \cap E_k = E_k \cap F_k,$$

where  $F_k \in \mathbf{A}_a(X), k = 0, 1, \dots$ . Therefore

$$f^{-1}(U) = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} f^{-1}(U) \cap E_k = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k \cap F_k \in \mathbf{A}_{a+1}(X).$$

For  $V \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  closed, by lemma 2.1 we have

$$f^{-1}(V) \cap E_k \in \mathbf{M}_a(E_k), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots,$$

i.e.

$$f^{-1}(V) \cap E_k = E_k \cap G_k, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots,$$

where  $G_k \in \mathbf{M}_a(X), k = 0, 1, \dots$ . Thus

$$f^{-1}(V) = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} f^{-1}(V) \cap E_k = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k \cap G_k \in \mathbf{A}_{a+1}(X). \quad \square$$

Theorem 2.4 can be also deduced from Corollary 1.2 of [5].

**Example 2.5.** We show that  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{A}_1}(\mathbf{R})$  is different from  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{A}_1^0}(\mathbf{R})$ .

Let  $\{r_n; n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  be a one-to-one enumeration of the set  $\mathbf{Q}$ . We set

$$f(x) = \sum_{\{k: r_k \leq x\}} 2^{-k} \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{Q},$$

$$f(r_k) = \lim_{x \rightarrow r_k} f(x) + 2^{-k-1}.$$

So we have

$$2f(r_k) = \lim_{x \rightarrow r_k} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow r_k^+} f(x).$$

For every real  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ , the sets  $f^{-1}((a, \infty))$ ,  $f^{-1}((-\infty, a))$  are intervals, hence both  $\mathbf{G}_\delta$  and  $\mathbf{F}_\delta$ -sets. However, if we put

$$U = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} (f(r_k) - 2^{-k-1}, f(r_k) + 2^{-k-1}),$$

then  $f^{-1}(U) = \mathbf{Q}$ , which is not a  $\mathbf{G}_\delta$ -set.

We close with some open problems. In connection with the example it is natural to ask:

1) for which  $\alpha$  and  $X$  is  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_\alpha(X) \neq \mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_\alpha^0(X)$ ? J. E. Jayne and C. A. Rogers [8] have shown that for a Polish space  $X$  the class  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_1(X)$  consists exactly of quasinormal limits of continuous functions (Theorem 5, p. 178),

2) can  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{A}_\alpha(X)$  be characterized by  $\mathcal{M}_{\alpha-1}(X)$  and a quasinormal convergence?

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