

# ON BADLY APPROXIMABLE NUMBERS AND CERTAIN GAMES

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1. **Introduction.** A number  $\alpha$  is called *badly approximable* if  $|\alpha - p/q| > c/q^2$  for some  $c > 0$  and all rationals  $p/q$ . It is known that an irrational number  $\alpha$  is badly approximable if and only if the partial denominators in its continued fraction are bounded [4, Theorem 23]. In a recent paper [7] I proved results of the following type: *If  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  are differentiable functions whose derivatives are continuous and vanish nowhere, then there are continuum-many numbers  $\alpha$  such that all the numbers  $f_1(\alpha), f_2(\alpha), \dots$  are badly approximable.*

Let  $0 < \alpha < 1/2$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ , and consider the following game of two players black and white. First black picks a closed interval  $B_1$ . Then white picks a closed interval  $W_1 \subset B_1$  whose length is  $\alpha$  times the length of  $B_1$ . Then black chooses an interval  $B_2 \subset W_1$  which is closed and has length  $\beta$  times the length of  $W_1$ . Then again white picks a closed interval  $W_2 \subset B_2$  of length  $\alpha$  times the length of  $B_2$ , and so on. Call white the *winner* of a play if the intersection of the intervals  $W_j$  is badly approximable; otherwise black is called the winner.

Who will win? Since the badly approximable numbers have Lebesgue measure zero, [4, Theorem 29], one might think that black can always win. It turns out, however, that white can always win (Theorem 3).

We shall show that sets  $S$  with this property (namely that white can always play such that the intersection  $\bigcap W_j$  is in  $S$ ) necessarily contain continuum-many elements (Lemma 23), that countable intersections of sets with this property again have this property (Theorem 2), and that if  $S$  has this property, and  $f(x)$  has a continuous derivative with  $f'(x) \neq 0$  everywhere, then the set of  $\alpha$  with  $f(\alpha) \in S$  again has this property (Theorem 1). These facts imply the result stated at the beginning.

We shall discuss games of much greater generality than those mentioned in this introduction.

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2. ( $\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}$ )-games. Let  $M, \Omega$  be sets,  $\Omega'$  a subset of  $\Omega$ , and  $\alpha$  a mapping from  $\Omega$  into subsets of  $M$ . Call  $\mathfrak{H}$ -function any function  $\mathfrak{H}$  which assigns to every  $B \in \Omega$  a nonempty set  $\mathfrak{H}(B) \subset \Omega$  such that for  $C \in \mathfrak{H}(B)$ ,

$$\alpha(C) \subset \alpha(B).$$

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Now let  $\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}$  be  $\mathfrak{H}$ -functions, and let  $S$  be an arbitrary subset of  $M$ . Consider the following game of two players black and white. First black picks an element  $B_1 \in \Omega'$ . Then white picks  $W_1 \in \mathfrak{F}(B_1)$ . Then black picks  $B_2 \in \mathfrak{G}(W_1)$ . Then again white chooses an element  $W_2 \in \mathfrak{F}(B_2)$ , and so forth. Put  $B_i^* = \alpha(B_i)$ ,  $W_i^* = \alpha(W_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ). One has  $B_1^* \supset W_1^* \supset B_2^* \supset W_2^* \supset \dots$ . We call white the *winner* of a play if  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} W_i^* = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i^*$  is contained in  $S$ ; otherwise black is the winner. This game we call  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -game. We call  $S$  an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G})$ -winning set if white can always win the  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -game.

Another way of defining an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G})$ -winning set is the following. Let  $F_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) be the set of functions  $f(B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n)$  defined for elements  $B_i \in \Omega$  such that  $f(B_1, \dots, B_n) \in \mathfrak{F}(B_n)$ . A sequence  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  where  $f_n \in F_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) will be called a *strategy*. A strategy is called  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -winning strategy if the following holds: Let  $B_1, B_2, \dots, W_1, W_2, \dots$  be sets such that  $B_1 \in \Omega'$  and

- (1)  $B_n \in \mathfrak{G}(W_{n-1}) \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots),$
- (2)  $W_n = f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$

Then  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n^*$  is necessarily contained in  $S$ . Now  $S$  is an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G})$ -winning set if and only if there is an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -winning strategy. White will win by choosing  $W_n = f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$  when  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  are given ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ).

This means that white bases his decision on how to pick  $W_n$  not only on  $B_n$ , but also on the previous elements  $B_1, \dots, B_{n-1}$ . Is this necessary? In other words, if  $S$  is a winning set, does there exist a winning strategy of the type  $f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) = f(B_n)$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ), where  $f \in F_1$ ? Such a strategy we shall call *positional strategy*. Using the well-ordering principle we shall show in the last section that a winning set does indeed have a positional winning strategy. This result has the following interpretation. In our game both players know the outcomes of all the previous moves. One obtains a different game if one specifies that white at the  $n$ th move shall know  $B_n$  but shall not remember the number  $n$  or the previous elements  $B_1, \dots, B_{n-1}$ . Now the result on positional strategies means that if  $S$  is a winning set of the original game, it is also a winning set of the new game. A special case of this was proved in [2, §4].

Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  be a winning strategy. We call  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  with  $B_1 \in \Omega', B_i \in \Omega$  an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain if there are elements  $W_1, W_2, \dots$  such that (1) and (2) hold. The intersection of the sets  $B_n^* = \alpha(B_n)$  of a chain is in  $S$ . We call  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  a *finite  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain* if there are  $B_{k+1}, B_{k+2}, \dots$  such that  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k, B_{k+1}, \dots$  is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain.

**LEMMA 1.** Let  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  be elements of  $\Omega$  such that  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  is a finite  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain for every  $k$ . Then  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain.

**Proof.** Put  $W_n = f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Since  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  is a chain,

- (3)  $B_j \in \mathfrak{G}(W_{j-1}) \quad (1 \leq j \leq k).$

Since  $k$  is arbitrary, (3) holds in fact for every  $j$ . Hence (1) and (2) hold, and  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain.

We shall repeatedly use this lemma without mention.

It is reasonable to call  $S$  a *losing set* if black can always win. It was shown by Gale and Stewart [3] that an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -game need not be *determinate*, and hence in general there are sets which are neither  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G})$ -winning nor  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G})$ -losing.

3.  $(\alpha, \beta)$ - and  $(a^*b)$ -games. Already we have to specialize.

For completeness we mention Oxtoby's game [6]. Here  $M$  is a topological space, and  $\Omega = \Omega'$  consists of a class of subsets with nonempty interiors such that given a nonempty open set  $O$  there is a set  $C \subset O, C \in \Omega. \alpha$  is the identity map.  $\mathfrak{F}(B) = \mathfrak{G}(B)$  consists of all subsets of  $B$  which are in  $\Omega$ . A special case is the Banach-Mazur-game [5], [8]. Here  $M$  is the real line and  $\Omega$  consists of  $M$  and all closed intervals.

Let  $M$  be a complete metrical space with distance function  $d(x, y)$ . Let  $\Omega = \Omega'$  consist of all pairs  $(\rho, c)$ , where  $\rho$  is a positive real number and  $c \in M$ . The elements  $B = (\rho, c)$  of  $\Omega$  will be called *balls* or more precisely balls of  $M$ , and we call  $\rho = \rho(B)$  the *radius*,  $c = c(B)$  the *center* of  $B$ . With  $B \in \Omega$  we associate the set  $B^* = \alpha(B)$  consisting of all points  $x \in M$  satisfying  $d(x, c) \leq \rho$ . In general,  $\alpha(B)$  does not determine  $B$ , but it does if  $M$  is a Banach space of positive dimension.

We say a ball  $B_1 = (\rho_1, c_1)$  is *contained* in a ball  $B_2 = (\rho_2, c_2)$  and write  $B_1 \subset B_2$  if

$$\rho_1 + d(c_1, c_2) \leq \rho_2.$$

This implies (but is not implied by)  $\alpha(B_1) \subset \alpha(B_2)$ . One easily checks that  $B_1 \subset B_2$  and  $B_2 \subset B_3$  implies  $B_1 \subset B_3$ .

Let  $0 < \gamma < 1$ . Given  $B \in \Omega$ , let  $B^\gamma$  be the set of all balls  $B' \subset B$  having  $\rho(B') = \gamma\rho(B)$ . Let  $\mathfrak{F}^\gamma$  be the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -function defined by  $\mathfrak{F}^\gamma(B) = B^\gamma$ .

Now let  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1, S \subset M$ . The  $(\mathfrak{F}^\alpha, \mathfrak{F}^\beta; S)$ -game is well defined. For brevity we will call this the  $(\alpha, \beta; S)$ -game. Thus in an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -game, black first picks a ball  $B_1$ , then white picks a ball  $W_1 \in B_1^\alpha$ , then black a ball  $B_2 \in W_1^\beta$ , and so forth.

Next let  $M$  be the real line and  $\Omega = \Omega'$  the set of all closed intervals of positive length. For  $\alpha$  take the identity mapping. If  $I$  is a closed interval and  $c > 1$  an integer, write  ${}^cI$  for the unique set of  $c$  closed intervals whose lengths are  $c^{-1}$  times that of  $I$ , and which cover  $I$ . Let  ${}^c\mathfrak{F}$  be the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -function with  ${}^c\mathfrak{F}(I) = {}^cI$ .

Now let  $a > 1, b > 1$  be integers,  $S \subset M$ . The  $({}^a\mathfrak{F}, {}^b\mathfrak{F}; S)$ -game is well defined. For convenience we call it  $(a^*b; S)$ -game.

A variant of the  $(a^*a)$ -game is the *a-digit-game*. Here  $\Omega'$  consists of a single element only, namely the unit-interval  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ . This game amounts to the following. First white chooses a digit  $c_1$  to base  $a$ , namely  $c_1 = 0, 1, \dots, a - 2$  or  $a - 1$ . Then black chooses a digit  $c_2$ , and so on. White is the winner if  $x = 0, c_1c_2 \dots$  (written in the scale of  $a$ ) is in  $S$ . Every  $(a^*a)$ -winning set is an *a-digit-winning set*.

LEMMA 2. Let  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1, a > 1, b > 1$ , where  $a, b$  are integers and where

$$ab\alpha\beta = 1, \quad a\alpha \geq 2.$$

Then every  $(a, \beta)$ -winning set on the real line is  $(a^*b)$ -winning.

**Proof.** Here  $\Omega = \Omega'$  consists of closed intervals of positive length, and  $\alpha$  is the identity map. Thus we need not distinguish between  $B \in \Omega$  and the set  $B^* = \alpha(B) \subset M$ . Let  $h_1, h_2, \dots$  be an  $(\alpha, \beta; S)$ -winning strategy. Given  $B_1, \dots, B_n$ , put  $\tilde{W}_n = h_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$ . The length  $l(\tilde{W}_n)$  of  $\tilde{W}_n$  satisfies  $l(\tilde{W}_n) = \alpha l(B_n) \geq 2a^{-1} l(B_n)$ . Hence there is a  $W_n \in {}^a B_n, W_n \subset \tilde{W}_n$ . Put  $f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) = W_n$ . We claim  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  to be an  $(a^*b; S)$ -winning strategy. Suppose (1), (2) hold with  $\mathfrak{G} = {}^b \mathfrak{F}$ . Then

$$(4) \quad B_n \in \tilde{W}_{n-1}^\beta \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots),$$

$$(5) \quad \tilde{W}_n = h_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots)$$

hold. (4) is true because  $B_n \subset W_{n-1} \subset \tilde{W}_{n-1}, B_n \in {}^b W_{n-1}, W_{n-1} \in \tilde{W}_{n-1}^{(a\alpha)^{-1}}$ , and  $(\alpha ab)^{-1} = \beta$ . By (4), (5),  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  is a  $h_1, h_2, \dots$ -chain of the  $(\alpha, \beta; S)$ -game, and  $\bigcap B_n$  is in  $S$ .

LEMMA 3. Let  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1, a > 1, b > 1$ ,

$$ab\alpha\beta = 1, \quad b\beta \geq 2$$

where  $a, b$  are integers. Then every  $(a^*b)$ -winning set is also  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning.

**Proof.** Let  $h_1, h_2, \dots$  be an  $(a^*b; S)$ -winning strategy. Define  $f_n$  by induction on  $n$  as follows. Given a closed interval  $B_1$  pick some  $\tilde{B}_1 \in B_1^{(b\beta)^{-1}}$ , then  $W_1 = h_1(\tilde{B}_1)$ . Define  $f_1(B_1) = W_1$ . Given  $B_1, \dots, B_n, n > 1$ , put  $W_{n-1} = f_{n-1}(B_1, \dots, B_{n-1})$ , and pick  $\tilde{B}_n$  such that  $\tilde{B}_n \subset B_n, \tilde{B}_n \in {}^b W_{n-1}$ . This is possible since  $l(B_n) = \beta l(W_{n-1}) \geq 2b^{-1} l(W_{n-1})$ . (Here we used  $B_n \subset W_{n-1}^\beta$ . If this is not the case, the sequence  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  will not occur in a play, and  $f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$  can be defined arbitrarily.) Now put  $f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) = h_n(\tilde{B}_1, \dots, \tilde{B}_n)$ . We claim  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  is an  $(\alpha, \beta; S)$ -winning strategy. Suppose (1), (2) hold with  $\mathfrak{G} = \mathfrak{F}^\beta$ . Then

$$\tilde{B}_n \in {}^b W_{n-1} \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots),$$

$$W_n = h_n(\tilde{B}_1, \dots, \tilde{B}_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Hence  $\tilde{B}_1, \tilde{B}_2, \dots$  is a  $h_1, h_2, \dots$ -chain for the  $(a^*b)$ -game.  $\bigcap \tilde{B}_n$  is in  $S$  and  $\bigcap W_n$  is in  $S$ .

4. **More about  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning sets.** Again let  $\Omega$  be the set of "balls"  $B = (\rho, c)$ , where  $\rho > 0$  and  $c \in M$ . Given a ball  $B$  of center  $c$  and radius  $\rho$  and a point  $x \in M$  write

$$e(x, B) = d(x, c)\rho^{-1}.$$

One has  $e(x, B) = 0$  if and only if  $x = c, e(x, B) \leq 1$  if and only if  $x \in \alpha(B)$ .

LEMMA 4. Let  $e = e(x, B) \leq 1$  and  $0 < \gamma < 1$ . Every ball  $B' \in B^\gamma$  has  $e' = e(x, B')$  in the interval

$$(6) \quad \max(0, (e + \gamma - 1)\gamma^{-1}) \leq e' \leq (e + 1 - \gamma)\gamma^{-1}.$$

If  $\gamma \leq 1 - e$ , there is always a ball  $B' \in B^\gamma$  having  $e' = e(x, B') = 0$ . Moreover, if  $M$  is a Banachspace of positive dimension with distance  $d(y, z) = |y - z|$ , then for every  $e'$  in the interval (6) there is a  $B' \in B^\gamma$  with  $e(x, B') = e'$ .

**Proof.** Let  $B$  have center  $c$  and radius  $\rho$ ,  $B' \in B^\gamma$  center  $c'$  and radius  $\rho' = \rho\gamma$ .

$$\begin{aligned} e' &= d(x, c')\rho'^{-1} \leq (d(x, c) + d(c, c'))\rho'^{-1} \leq (d(x, c) + \rho - \rho')\rho'^{-1} \\ &= (d(x, c)\rho^{-1} + 1)\rho\rho'^{-1} - 1 = (e + 1)\gamma^{-1} - 1 = (e + 1 - \gamma)\gamma^{-1}, \\ e' &\geq (d(x, c) - d(c, c'))\rho'^{-1} \geq (d(x, c) - \rho + \rho')\rho'^{-1} = (e + \gamma - 1)\gamma^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (6) always holds.

Now let  $\gamma \leq 1 - e$ . The ball  $B'$  with center  $x$  and radius  $\gamma\rho$  is in  $B$ , since  $\gamma\rho + d(x, c) = \gamma\rho + e\rho \leq \rho$ . Here  $e' = e(x, B') = 0$ . Next, let  $M$  be a Banachspace and  $\gamma > 1 - e$ . Let  $B'$  be the ball with center  $c' = c - e^{-1}(\gamma - 1)(x - c)$  and radius  $\rho' = \gamma\rho$ . Now  $\gamma\rho + d(c', c) = \gamma\rho + d(x, c)(1 - \gamma)e^{-1} = \gamma\rho + e\rho(1 - \gamma)e^{-1} = \rho$ , hence  $B' \subset B$ . Furthermore,  $e' = e(x, B') = d(x, c')\rho'^{-1} = d(x, c)(1 + (\gamma - 1)e^{-1})(\gamma\rho)^{-1} = e\rho(1 + (\gamma - 1)e^{-1})(\gamma\rho)^{-1} = (e + \gamma - 1)\gamma^{-1}$ . Thus if  $M$  is a Banachspace, there is always a  $B' \subset B^\gamma$  whose  $e' = e(x, B')$  is the left endpoint of the interval (6).

Let  $e > 0$ , put  $c' = c + e^{-1}(\gamma - 1)(x - c)$  and let  $B'$  be the ball with center  $c'$  and radius  $\rho' = \rho\gamma$ .  $d(x, c') = d(x, c)(1 - \gamma)e^{-1} = (1 - \gamma)\rho = \rho - \rho'$ , and therefore  $B' \in B^\gamma$ . Also  $e' = e(x, B') = d(x, c')\rho'^{-1} = d(x, c)(1 - (\gamma - 1)e^{-1})(\gamma\rho)^{-1} = e\rho(1 - (\gamma - 1)e^{-1})\gamma^{-1}\rho^{-1} = (e + 1 - \gamma)\gamma^{-1}$ .

If  $e = 0$ , let  $c'$  be any point having  $d(c, c') = \rho - \rho' = (1 - \gamma)\rho$ , and let  $B'$  be the ball with center  $c'$  and radius  $\rho' = \gamma\rho$ . Then  $B' \subset B^\gamma$  and  $e' = e(x, B') = d(x, c')\rho'^{-1} = d(c, c')\rho'^{-1} = (1 - \gamma)\rho\gamma^{-1}\rho^{-1} = (1 - \gamma)\gamma^{-1}$ .

Hence if  $M$  is a Banachspace there is always a ball  $B' \in B^\gamma$  whose  $e' = e(x, B')$  equals the right endpoint of the interval (6). Since for  $B' \subset B^\gamma$ ,  $e' = e(x, B')$  depends continuously on the center  $c'$  of  $B'$ , there is a ball  $B' \subset B^\gamma$  whose  $e(x, B')$  equals  $e'$ , where  $e'$  is an arbitrary number in the interval (6).

LEMMA 5. Suppose  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,  $2\alpha \geq 1 + \alpha\beta$ . Then the only  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set is  $M$  itself.

**Proof.** Let  $x \in M$ . Black may choose  $B_1$  with center  $x$ . Hence  $e_1 = e_1(x, B_1) = 0$ . Then  $W_1 \in B_1^\alpha$  satisfies  $e'_1 = e(x, W_1) \leq (1 - \alpha)\alpha^{-1}$  by Lemma 4. Now  $\beta \leq \beta + (2\alpha - 1 - \alpha\beta)\alpha^{-1} = 2 - \alpha^{-1} = 1 - (1 - \alpha)\alpha^{-1} \leq 1 - e'_1$ , hence by Lemma 4 black can choose  $B_2 \in W_1^\beta$  with  $e_2 = e(x, B_2) = 0$ . Thus  $B_2$  also has center  $x$ . In this fashion black can enforce that  $x$  is the center of every ball  $B_n$ .

Then  $x$  is in the intersection of the "ballsets"  $\alpha(B_n) = B_n^*$  and every winning set  $S$  must contain  $x$ . Since  $x$  was arbitrary,  $S = M$ .

**LEMMA 6.** *Let  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,  $2\beta \geq 1 + \alpha\beta$ . Then every dense set  $S$  is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning.*

**Proof.** Let  $S$  be dense, and suppose black picks a ball with center  $c$  and radius  $\rho$ . There is an  $x \in S$  having  $d(x, c) \leq (1 - \alpha)\rho$ . White may pick  $W_1 \subset B_1^\alpha$  with center  $x$ . Now, using the same method black used in Lemma 5, white can enforce that all the balls  $W_n$  have center  $x$ .

**LEMMA 7.** *Let  $M$  be a Banachspace of positive dimension,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,  $2\alpha < 1 + \alpha\beta$ . Then any set  $R$  obtained by removing a finite number of points from a winning set  $S$  is again a winning set.*

**Proof.** Let  $R$  be obtained from the winning set  $S$  by removing  $x$ . If black picks  $B_1$  such that  $x \notin B_1^*$ , then of course white can win. If in fact at some stage of a play there occurs a  $B_n$  with  $x \notin B_n^*$ , then white can win. Hence it suffices to show that white can play in such a way that  $x \notin B_n^*$  for some  $n$ .

Assume  $x \in B_1^*$  and set  $e_1 = e(x, B_1) \leq 1$ . White can pick a ball  $W_1$  having  $e'_1 = e(x, W_1)(e_1 + 1 - \alpha)\alpha^{-1}$  by Lemma 4. If  $e'_1 > 1$ ,  $x \notin W_1^*$ , and we are through. Otherwise  $e'_1 + \beta - 1 = (e_1 + 1 - \alpha)\alpha^{-1} + \beta - 1 = e_1\alpha^{-1} + (1 + \alpha\beta - 2\alpha)\alpha^{-1} > 0$  and  $B_2 \in W_1^\beta$  satisfies  $e_2 = e(x, B_2) \geq e_1\alpha^{-1}\beta^{-1} + (1 + \alpha\beta - 2\alpha)(\alpha\beta)^{-1} > e_1(\alpha\beta)^{-1}$  by Lemma 4.

Generally, if  $x \in B_n^*$ , white can play such that either  $x \notin W_n^*$  or

$$e(x, B_{n+1}) > (\alpha\beta)^{-1} e(x, B_n).$$

Since  $(\alpha\beta)^{-1} > 1$ , there will sooner or later occur a ball  $B_m$  with  $x \notin B_m^*$ .

**LEMMA 8.** *Let  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,  $0 < \alpha' < 1$ ,  $0 < \beta' < 1$ ,  $\alpha\beta = \alpha'\beta'$ ,  $\alpha' \leq \alpha$ . Then every  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set is also  $(\alpha', \beta')$ -winning.*

**Proof.** Assume  $\alpha' < \alpha$ . Let  $h_1, h_2, \dots$  be an  $(\alpha, \beta; S)$ -winning strategy. Given  $B_1, \dots, B_n$ , write  $\tilde{W}_n = h_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$ , pick some  $W_n \in \tilde{W}_n^{\alpha'/\alpha}$  and put  $f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) = W_n$ . Suppose (1), (2) hold with  $\mathfrak{G} = \mathfrak{F}^{\beta'}$ . Then

$$B_n \in \tilde{W}_{n-1}^{\beta'\alpha'/\alpha} = \tilde{W}_{n-1}^\beta \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots),$$

$$\tilde{W}_n = h_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Hence  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  is a  $h_1, h_2, \dots$ -chain of the  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -game and  $\bigcap B_n^*$  is in  $S$ . Therefore  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  is an  $(\alpha', \beta'; S)$ -winning strategy.

**LEMMA 9.** *Every  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set is  $(\alpha(\beta\alpha)^k, \beta)$ -winning for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose in the  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -game, white not only makes his choices of the balls  $W_n$ , but also of the balls  $B_n$ , except those where  $(k + 1) \mid (n - 1)$  (that is,  $k + 1$

divides  $n - 1$ ). Thus black can pick only every  $(k + 1)$ st ball  $B_n$ , namely  $B_1, B_{1+(k+1)}, B_{1+2(k+1)}, \dots$ . The balls

$$B_1, W_{k+1}, B_{1+(k+1)}, W_{2(k+1)}, B_{1+2(k+1)}, \dots$$

are balls of an  $(\alpha(\beta\alpha)^k, \beta)$ -play. If white can win the  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -game it certainly can win the  $(\alpha(\beta\alpha)^k, \beta)$ -game.

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $\alpha'\beta' = (\alpha\beta)^k$  for some integer  $k > 0$  and  $\beta' \geq \beta$ . Then every  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set is  $(\alpha', \beta')$ -winning.*

**Proof.** Combine Lemmas 8 and 9.

*Problem.* Is it true that an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set is necessarily  $(\alpha', \beta')$ -winning if  $\alpha' \leq \alpha, \beta' \geq \beta$ ? In particular is this true if  $M$  is the real line?

**5. Behavior of winning sets under local isometries.** Let  $M, M'$  be metrical spaces with distance-functions  $d(x, y)$  and  $d'(x', y')$ , respectively. Assume that for every ball  $B$  of  $M, \alpha(B) = B^*$  is compact, and make the same assumption on  $M'$ .  $M, M'$  are then locally compact and complete. Let  $\sigma$  be a homeomorphism from  $M$  onto  $M'$ . The function

$$(7) \quad \bar{\mu}(x, y) = d'(\sigma(x), \sigma(y))/d(x, y)$$

is defined and continuous for  $x \neq y$ . We call  $\sigma$  a *local isometry* if  $\bar{\mu}$  can be continued to a function  $\mu$  which is defined, continuous and  $\neq 0$  for all  $x, y$  in  $M$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $\sigma$  be a local isometry from  $M$  onto  $M'$ . Let  $S \subset M$  be an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set. Then  $S' = \sigma(S) \subset M'$  is an  $(\alpha', \beta')$ -winning set if  $\alpha'\beta' = \alpha\beta, \alpha' < \alpha$ .*

We first need a lemma. Write  $\tau$  for the inverse map of  $\sigma$  and define  $v(x', y')$  for  $x', y' \in M'$  by either of the following two equivalent formulae:

$$(8) \quad v(x', y') = 1/\mu(\tau(x'), \tau(y')), \quad \mu(x, y) = 1/v(\sigma(x), \sigma(y)).$$

When  $x' \neq y', v(x', y') = d(\tau(x'), \tau(y'))/d'(x', y')$ . Given  $\lambda > 0$  and a ball  $B$  of  $M$  with center  $c$  and radius  $\rho$  write  $\sigma(\lambda, B)$  for the ball  $B'$  of  $M'$  with center  $\sigma(c)$  and radius  $\lambda\rho$ . Given  $\lambda > 0$  and a ball  $B'$  of  $M'$  with center  $c'$  and radius  $\rho'$  write  $\tau(\lambda, B')$  for the ball  $B$  of  $M$  with center  $\tau(c')$  and radius  $\lambda\rho'$ . Denote the set of balls  $C' \subset B'$  with  $\rho'(C') \leq \delta\rho'(B')$  by  $B'^{\delta-}$ .

**LEMMA 10.** *Let  $B'$  be a ball of  $M'$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Put  $v_0 = \max v(x', y')$ , taken over all  $(x', y') \in B'^* \times B'^*$ .*

*There exists a  $\delta = \delta(B', \varepsilon) > 0$  such that every  $C' \in B'^{\delta-}$  has the following property.*

*Put  $v = v(c', c')$  and  $\mu = v^{-1} = \mu(\tau(c'), \tau(c'))$ , where  $c'$  is the center of  $C'$ . Now for any ball  $D' \subset C'$  of  $M'$  and any ball  $D$  of  $M$ ,*

$$(9) \quad D \subset \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), D') \text{ implies } \sigma(\mu(1 - \varepsilon), D) \subset D'.$$

On the other hand, if  $E$  is a ball of  $M$  with  $E \subset \tau(v_0, C')$  and  $E'$  a ball of  $M'$ ,

$$(10) \quad E' \subset \sigma(\mu(1 - \varepsilon), E) \text{ implies } \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), E') \subset E.$$

**Proof.** Let  $B = \tau(2v_0, B')$ .  $\mu(x, y)$  is uniformly continuous and bounded from below in  $B^* \times B^*$ . Hence there is an  $\eta = \eta(B', \varepsilon) > 0$  such that

$$(11) \quad \left| \frac{\mu(x_1, y_1)}{\mu(x_2, y_2)} - 1 \right| < \varepsilon$$

if  $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2$  are in  $B^*$  and  $d(x_1, x_2) \leq \eta, d(y_1, y_2) \leq \eta$ .

Set  $\delta_1 = \eta(3v_0\rho(B'))^{-1}$ , let  $C' \in B'^{\delta_1-}$  and suppose  $D, D'$  satisfy the hypothesis of (9). Now if  $D = (d, \rho_d), D' = (d', \rho'_d), B' = (b', \rho'_b), C' = (c', \rho'_c)$

$$(12) \quad \rho_d + d(d, \tau(d')) \leq v(1 - \varepsilon)\rho'_d.$$

Now since  $D' \subset C' \subset B', d'(d', b') \leq \rho'_b$ , whence  $d(\tau(d'), \tau(b')) \leq v_0\rho'_b$ . Similarly,  $d(\tau(c'), \tau(b')) \leq v_0\rho'_b$ . Finally, by (12),  $d(d, \tau(b')) \leq d(d, \tau(d')) + d(\tau(d'), \tau(b')) \leq v\rho'_d + v_0\rho'_b \leq 2v_0\rho'_b$ . Since  $B$  has radius  $2v_0\rho'_b$ , the points  $\tau(d'), \tau(c'), d$  are all in  $B^*$ .

Furthermore,  $d(\tau(d'), \tau(c')) \leq v_0d'(d', c') \leq v_0\rho'_c \leq v_0\delta_1\rho'_b < \eta/2, d(d, \tau(c')) \leq d(d, \tau(d')) + d(\tau(d'), \tau(c')) \leq v\rho'_d + \eta/2 \leq v_0\delta_1\rho'_b + \eta/2 \leq \eta$ . Hence by (11),

$$\mu(\tau(d'), d) < \mu(\tau(c'), \tau(c'))(1 + \varepsilon) = \mu(1 + \varepsilon).$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(1 - \varepsilon)\rho_d + d'(\sigma(d), d') &< \mu\rho_d + \mu(d, \tau(d'))d(d, \tau(d')) \\ &< \mu(1 + \varepsilon)(\rho_d + d(d, \tau(d'))) \\ &\leq \mu v(1 - \varepsilon)(1 + \varepsilon)\rho'_d < \rho'_d. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the conclusion of (9) holds.

Hence to obtain (9), one may take  $\delta = \delta_1$ . Now, by symmetry, one may treat  $B$  as we did  $B'$ . There is a  $\delta_2 > 0$ , such that (10) holds if  $C \in B^{\delta_2-}, E \subset C$ , and if  $E'$  is a ball of  $M'$ . We set  $\delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$  and show (10) holds for  $E \subset \tau(v_0, C')$ . By what we just said it suffices to verify  $\tau(v_0, C') \in B^{\delta_2-}$ .

We have  $C' \subset B'^{\delta-}$ , hence  $\rho'_c \leq \delta\rho'_b$  and  $\rho'_c + d'(c', b') \leq \rho'_b$ . Since  $b', c'$  are in  $B^*$ ,  $v_0\rho'_c + d(\tau(c'), \tau(b')) \leq v_0\rho'_c + v_0d'(c', b') \leq v_0\rho'_b$ , whence  $\tau(v_0, C') \subset B$ . Finally, the radius of  $\tau(v_0, C')$  is  $v_0\rho'_c \leq \delta v_0\rho'_b < \delta_2\rho_b$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1.** Let the hypotheses of the theorem be satisfied. There is an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\alpha' = \alpha(1 - \varepsilon)^2, \beta' = \beta(1 - \varepsilon)^{-2}$ . Suppose black starts with a ball  $B'_1$ . Choose  $\delta = \delta(B'_1, \varepsilon)$ . Since  $\alpha'\beta' < 1$ , some ball  $B'$  of the play will be in  $B'_1$ . Let  $v = v(b'_j, b'_j)$ , where  $b'_j$  is the center of  $B'_j$ , and  $\mu = v^{-1}$ . Then (9) will hold for balls  $D' \subset B'_j$  of  $M'$  and balls  $D$  of  $M$ , while (10) will hold for balls  $E \subset \tau(v_0, B'_j)$



of  $M$  and  $E'$  of  $M'$ , where  $v_0 = \max(x', y')$ , taken over all  $(x', y') \in B_1^* \times B_1^*$ . We may assume this already to be true for  $j = 1$ .

Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  be an  $(\alpha, \beta; S)$ -winning strategy. We claim the functions  $f'_1, f'_2, \dots$  defined by

$$f'_n(B'_1, \dots, B'_n) = \sigma(\mu(1 - \varepsilon), f_n(\tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_1), \dots, \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_n))) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots)$$

are an  $(\alpha', \beta'; S')$ -winning strategy for plays beginning with our particular  $B'_1$ .

First we have to verify  $f'_n(B'_1, \dots, B'_n) \in B_n^{\alpha'}$ . For this purpose set  $B_i = \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_i)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) and  $W_n = f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$ . Now  $W_n \subset B_n = \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_n)$ , whence  $f'_n(B'_1, \dots, B'_n) = \sigma(\mu(1 - \varepsilon), W_n) \subset B_n^{\alpha'}$  by (9). (After all,  $B'_n \subset B'_1$ ). A comparison of radii actually shows  $f'_n(B'_1, \dots, B'_n) \in B_n^{\alpha'}$ .

Now let balls  $B'_1, B'_2, \dots; W'_1, W'_2, \dots$  of  $M'$  satisfy

$$B'_n \in W_{n-1}^{\beta'} \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots),$$

$$W'_n = f'_n(B'_1, \dots, B'_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Put  $B_n = \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_n)$ ,  $W_n = f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). One has  $B'_{n-1} \subset B'_1$ , hence  $\rho'_{b'_{n-1}} + d'(b'_1, b'_{n-1}) \leq \rho'_{b'_1}$ , whence  $v_0 \rho'_{b'_{n-1}} + d(\tau(b'_1), \tau(b'_{n-1})) \leq v_0 \rho'_{b'_1}$ , which gives  $\tau(v_0, B'_{n-1}) \subset \tau(v_0, B'_1)$ .  $W_{n-1} \subset B_{n-1} = \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_{n-1}) \subset \tau(v_0, B'_{n-1}) \subset \tau(v_0, B'_1)$ . Hence we may apply (10) with  $E = W_{n-1}$  and see that  $B'_n \subset W'_{n-1} = f'_{n-1}(B'_1, \dots, B'_{n-1}) = \sigma(\mu(1 - \varepsilon), W_{n-1})$  implies

$$B_n = \tau(v(1 - \varepsilon), B'_n) \subset W_{n-1} \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots).$$

Using this and  $W_n = f_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ), we conclude  $x = \bigcap B_n^* \in S$ .

Let  $x' = \bigcap B_n^*$ . This implies  $d'(x', b'_n) \leq \rho'_{b'_n}$ , whence  $d(\tau(x'), b_n) = d(\tau(x'), \tau(b'_n)) \leq v_0 \rho'_{b'_n}$ . Since  $b_n$  tends toward  $x$  and  $\rho_{b_n} \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\tau(x') = x$ , whence  $x' = \sigma(x) \in \sigma(S) = S'$ .

**6.  $\alpha$ -winning sets.** Let  $0 < \alpha < 1$ . Call a subset  $S$  of a complete metrical space  $\alpha$ -winning, if it is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning for every  $\beta$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ .

**LEMMA 11.** *Let  $0 < \alpha' < \alpha < 1$ . Then every  $\alpha$ -winning set is  $\alpha'$ -winning.*

**Proof.** Given any  $\beta'$ ,  $0 < \beta' < 1$ , there exists a  $\beta$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ , such that  $\alpha\beta = \alpha'\beta'$ .  $S$  is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning, hence  $(\alpha', \beta')$ -winning by Lemma 8.

**LEMMA 12.** *The only  $\alpha$ -winning set  $S \subset M$  with  $\alpha > 1/2$  is  $S = M$  itself.*

**Proof.** There is a  $\beta$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ , having  $2\alpha \geq 1 + \alpha\beta$ . The result is now an immediate consequence of Lemma 5.

Let  $S \subset M$ . Define the *winning dimension* of  $S$ ,

$$(13) \quad \text{windim } S,$$

as follows. Windim  $S = 0$  if  $S$  is  $\alpha$ -winning for no  $\alpha > 0$ . Otherwise windim is the least upper bound of all  $\alpha$  in  $0 < \alpha < 1$  such that  $S$  is  $\alpha$ -winning. It follows from Lemma 12 that windim  $S = 1$  if and only if  $S = M$ ; otherwise  $0 \leq \text{windim } S \leq 1/2$ .

LEMMA 13. Let  $M, M'$  be metrical spaces such that for balls  $B$  of  $M$  and  $B'$  of  $M'$ ,  $\alpha(B)$  and  $\alpha(B')$  are compact. Let  $\sigma$  be a local isometry from  $M$  onto  $M'$  and let  $S \subset M$ . Then

$$\text{windim } \sigma(S) = \text{windim } S.$$

**Proof.** Apply Theorem 1.

THEOREM 2. The intersection of countably many  $\alpha$ -winning sets is  $\alpha$ -winning.

COROLLARY.  $\text{Windim } (\bigcap_{j=1}^{\infty} S_j) = \text{g.l.b. } (\text{windim } S_j).$

**Proof of Theorem 2.** We have to show that  $S = \bigcap S_j$  is  $\alpha$ -winning if each of the sets  $S_j$  is. We show that  $S$  is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning, say. White will win by playing according to the following rule.

At the first, third, fifth, ... move, white moves according to an  $(\alpha, \alpha\beta\alpha; S_1)$ -winning strategy. Since  $B_{2l+1} \in B_{2l-1}^{\alpha\beta\alpha}$ , white can enforce in this way that  $\bigcap B_n^*$  is in  $S_1$ , no matter what strategy he uses in his second, fourth, sixth, ... move.

At the second, sixth, tenth, ... move, white uses an  $(\alpha, \alpha(\beta\alpha)^3; S_2)$ -winning strategy. Generally, at the  $k$ th move, where  $k \equiv 2^{l-1} \pmod{2^l}$ , white moves as if he were playing the  $(\alpha, \alpha(\beta\alpha)^{2^{l-1}}; S)$ -game, and thus can enforce that  $\bigcap B_n^*$  is in  $S$ .

Our rule amounts to this: Let  $f_1^l, f_2^l, \dots (l = 1, 2, \dots)$  be an  $(\alpha, \alpha(\beta\alpha)^{2^{l-1}}; S_l)$ -winning strategy. We now define a strategy  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  as follows. For  $k \equiv 2^{l-1} \pmod{2^l}$  and  $k = 2^{l-1} + (t-1)2^l$ , set

$$f_k(B_1, \dots, B_k^l) = f_t(B_{2^{l-1}}, B_{2^{l-1}+2^l}, \dots, B_{2^{l-1}+(t-1)2^l}).$$

Then

$$B_{2^{l-1}+(t-1)2^l} \in W_{2^{l-1}+(t-2)2^l}^{\alpha(\beta\alpha)^{2^{l-1}}} \quad (t = 2, 3, \dots),$$

$$W_{2^{l-1}+(t-1)2^l} = f_t^l(B_{2^{l-1}}, \dots, B_{2^{l-1}+(t-1)2^l}) \quad (t = 1, 2, \dots),$$

and the intersection

$$\bigcap_{t=1}^{\infty} B_{2^{l-1}+(t-1)2^l}^*$$

is in  $S_l (l = 1, 2, \dots).$

LEMMA 14. Let  $M$  be a Banachspace. Let  $T$  be obtained from an  $\alpha$ -winning set  $S, S \subset M, 0 < \alpha \leq 1/2$ , by deleting at most countably many points. Then  $T$  is also  $\alpha$ -winning.

**Proof.** Let  $T$  be obtained by removing the points  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  from  $S$ , and let  $T_j$  be obtained by removing  $x_1, \dots, x_j$  from  $S$ . Each of the sets  $T_j$  is  $\alpha$ -winning by Lemma 7, hence  $T$  is  $\alpha$ -winning by Theorem 2.

**7. Badly approximable numbers.** In this section  $M$  is the space of real numbers with the usual metric, and the badly approximable numbers are considered as subset of  $M$ .

From here until the end of §12,  $\alpha$  will be 1-1. Hence we need not and will not distinguish between elements  $B \in \Omega$  and sets  $B^* = \alpha(B) \subset M$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *The set  $S$  of badly approximable numbers is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning for every  $\alpha, \beta$  having  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1, 2\alpha < 1 + \alpha\beta$ .*

**COROLLARY.**  $\text{Windim } S = 1/2$ .

**REMARK.** Badly approximable numbers can be generalized to  $n$ -tuples, and then the analogous theorem holds. See [1] or [7].

**PROPOSITION.** *Let  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1, \gamma = 1 + \alpha\beta - 2\alpha > 0$ . Suppose black begins his play with a ball of radius  $\rho$  (= interval of length  $2\rho$ ). Put  $\delta = (\gamma/2) \min(\rho, \alpha^2\beta^2\gamma/8)$ . Then white can enforce that  $x = \bigcap B_n$  satisfies  $|x - p/q| > \delta q^{-2}$  for all integers  $p$  and  $q \neq 0$ .*

Obviously this proposition implies the theorem. Note that reals  $x$  with  $|x - p/q| > \delta q^{-2}$  have partial denominators  $\leq \delta^{-1}$ .

**LEMMA 15.** *Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  be like in the proposition. Let the integer  $t$  satisfy  $(\alpha\beta)^t < \gamma/2$ . Assume a ball  $B_k$  with center  $b_k$  and radius  $\rho_k$  occurs in some  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -play. Then white can play in such a way that  $B_{k+t}$  is contained in the "halfline"  $x > b_k + \rho_k\gamma/2$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $g^+ \in F_1^\alpha$  be the function which assigns to an interval  $B$  of center  $c$  and length  $2\rho$  the interval with center  $c + \rho(1 - \alpha)$  and length  $2\alpha\rho$ . Now for given  $B_{k+i}, 0 \leq i < t$ , white chooses  $W_{k+i} = g^+(B_{k+i})$ . Denote the center of  $B_n$  by  $b_n$ , the center of  $W_n$  by  $w_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Then  $w_k = b_k + \rho_k(1 - \alpha)$ ,  $b_{k+1} \geq w_k - \alpha\rho_k(1 - \beta) \geq b_k + \rho_k\gamma > b_k$ , and  $b_{k+t} \geq b_k + \rho_k\gamma$ . Since  $B_{k+t}$  has radius  $(\alpha\beta)^t \rho_k < \rho_k\gamma/2$ ,  $B_{k+t}$  is in the halfline  $x > b_k + \rho_k\gamma/2$ .

**Proof of the Proposition.** We may assume black starts with a ball  $B_1$  of radius  $\rho \leq \alpha\beta\gamma/8$ . Otherwise, if  $\rho > \alpha\beta\gamma/8$ , there will be a first  $B_j$  in the course of the play having radius  $\rho_j \leq \alpha\beta\gamma/8$ , and then  $\alpha^2\beta^2\gamma/8 < \rho_j \leq \alpha\beta\gamma/8$ . Since both  $\rho > \alpha^2\beta^2\gamma/8$  and  $\rho_j > \alpha^2\beta^2\gamma/8$ , it does not matter whether  $\delta$  is defined using  $\rho$  or  $\rho_j$ , and white can play as if  $B_j$  were the first black ball. Hence assume

$$\rho \leq \alpha\beta\gamma/8.$$

Choose the integer  $t$  such that  $\alpha\beta\gamma/2 \leq (\alpha\beta)^t < \gamma/2$  and define  $R > 0$  by

$$R^2(\alpha\beta)^t = 1.$$

To prove the proposition it will suffice to show that white can play in such a way that

$$(14) \quad |x - p/q| > \delta q^{-2}$$

whenever  $(p, q) = 1$  (that is,  $p$  and  $q$  are relatively prime),

$$(15) \quad x \in B_{n+1} \text{ and } 0 < q < R^n$$

for some integer  $n \geq 0$ .

Clearly (14) holds if (15) holds for  $n = 0$ , since  $0 < q < R^0 = 1$  has no integral solution  $q$ . Suppose  $B_1, B_{t+1}, B_{2t+1}, \dots, B_{(k-1)t+1}$  are already such that (14) holds if (15) holds for  $0 \leq n \leq k - 1$ . Now in the next moves white has to worry only over fractions  $p/q$  where  $R^{k-1} \leq q < R^k$ . In fact white has to worry over at most one such fraction: If  $|x - p/q| < \delta/q^2, |x' - p'/q'| < \delta/q'^2$ , where  $R^{k-1} \leq q < R^k, R^{k-1} \leq q' < R^k, p/q \neq p'/q', x, x'$  both in  $B_{(k-1)t+1}$ , then  $|p/q - p'/q'| \leq \delta/q^2 + \delta/q'^2 + 2\rho(B_{(k-1)t+1}) \leq 2\delta R^{2-2k} + 2\rho(\alpha\beta)^{(k-1)t} = 2(\rho + \delta)R^{2-2k} < 4\rho R^{2-2k} \leq \frac{1}{2}\alpha\beta\gamma R^{2-2k} = \frac{1}{2}\alpha\beta\gamma(\alpha\beta)^{-t}R^{-2k} \leq R^{-2k}$ , while on the other hand  $|p/q - p'/q'| \geq 1/(qq') > R^{-2k}$ , which gives a contradiction.

Hence white has to worry over at most one subinterval  $C$  of  $B_{(k-1)t+1}$  of length  $2\rho(C) \leq 2\delta/q^2 \leq 2\delta R^{2-2k}$ . Now if  $C$  has its center to the left or on the center  $b$  of  $B_{(k-1)t+1}$ ,  $C$  is contained in the halfline  $x \leq b + \delta R^{2-2k} = b + \delta(\alpha\beta)^{(k-1)t} = b + \delta\rho_{(k-1)t+1}/\rho \leq b + \rho_{(k-1)t+1}\gamma/2$ , where  $\rho_{(k-1)t+1}$  is the radius of  $B_{(k-1)t+1}$ . By Lemma 15 white can enforce that  $B_{kt+1}$  is contained in  $x > b + \rho_{(k-1)t+1}\gamma/2$ , and  $B_{kt+1}$  has empty intersection with  $C$ . The reasoning is similar if the center of  $C$  is to the right of the center of  $B_{(k-1)t+1}$ .

There is an analogy of  $\alpha$ -winning sets with residual sets (= complements of sets of first category) in so far, as countable intersections of residual sets are again residual sets. By definition, residual sets are sets  $T$  with the property that every intersection  $T \cap O$  with a nonempty open set  $O$  contains a nonempty open set  $O'$ , as well as countable intersections of sets with this property.

The numbers with unbounded partial denominators in their continued fraction are a residual set. This set is the intersection of the sets  $T_k$  of numbers with at least one partial denominator  $\geq k$ , and it is easy to see that every intersection of  $T_k$  with an open interval contains an open interval.

Thus the set of numbers with unbounded partial denominators is a residual set but not a winning set, and the set of numbers with bounded partial denominators is  $\alpha$ -winning for  $0 < \alpha \leq 1/2$ , but is a set of first category. This is in contrast to the situation for the Banach-Mazur game [6, Theorem 1].

### 8. Anormal numbers.

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1, \gamma = 1 + \alpha\beta - 2\alpha > 0$ . Let  $g$  be an integer so large that*

$$(16) \quad g > 4(\alpha\beta\gamma)^{-1}$$

*and let  $d$  be a digit in the scale of  $g$ , i.e.,  $d = 0, 1, \dots, g - 2$  or  $g - 1$ . The set  $S$*

of reals  $x$  in whose “decimal” expansion to scale  $g$  the digit  $d$  occurs at most finite number of times is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning.

**COROLLARY.** *The sets  $S_s^*$  of numbers  $x$  which are not normal to base  $s$  is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning, and therefore  $\text{windim } S_s^* = 1/2$ .*

**Proof of the Corollary.** Some integral power  $g$  of  $s$  satisfies (16). The set of numbers with only finitely many zeros in their expansion to scale  $g$  is contained in the set of numbers not normal to scale  $g$ , which is the same as the set of numbers not normal to scale  $s$ . Hence this latter set is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning by the theorem.

**Proof of Theorem 4.** Let black begin with the ball  $B_1$  of radius  $\rho$ . Choose integers  $k \geq 1, n_0 \geq 1$  such that

$$(17) \quad g^{-k}/4 > (\alpha\beta)^{n_0-1}\rho \geq (\alpha\beta)g^{-k}/4.$$

Define integers  $n_1, n_2, \dots$  by

$$(18) \quad g^{-k-j}/4 > (\alpha\beta)^{n_j-1}\rho \geq (\alpha\beta)g^{-k-j}/4 \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Then, since  $\alpha\beta > 4/(g\gamma)$ ,

$$(19) \quad g^{-k-j}/4 > (\alpha\beta)^{n_j-1}\rho > g^{-k-j-1}/\gamma > g^{-k-j-1}/4 \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Thus  $n_0 < n_1 < n_2 < \dots$ .

We are going to show that white can play such that every  $x \in B_{n_j}, j \geq 1$ , has its  $(k+j)$ th digit different from  $d$ . Let  $B_{n_{j-1}}$  be given. The numbers  $x$  whose  $(k+j)$ th digit equals  $d$  are in intervals of length  $g^{-k-j}$  whose distance is  $\geq g^{1-k-j}(1 - 1/g) \geq g^{1-k-j}/2 > 2(\alpha\beta)^{n_{j-1}-1}\rho = 2\rho(B_{n_{j-1}})$ . Hence white has to worry over at most one interval  $C \subset B_{n_{j-1}}$  of length  $\leq g^{-k-j}$ . Let us assume without loss of generality that the center of  $C$  is less or equal to the center  $b$  of  $B_{n_{j-1}}$ . Then  $C$  is contained in the halfline

$$x < b + g^{-k-j}/2 < b + (\alpha\beta)^{n_{j-1}-1}\rho\gamma/2 = b + \rho(B_{n_{j-1}})\gamma/2.$$

Put  $t = n_j - n_{j-1}$ .

$$(\alpha\beta)^t = ((\alpha\beta)^{n_j-1}\rho)/((\alpha\beta)^{n_{j-1}-1}\rho) < (g^{-k-j}/4)/(g^{-k-j}/\gamma) = \gamma/4$$

and Lemma 15 applies. White can enforce  $B_{n_j} = B_{n_{j-1}+t}$  to be in the set of  $x$  having  $x > b + \rho(B_{n_{j-1}})\gamma/2$ , and hence can enforce that  $C \cap B_{n_j}$  is empty.

**9. Numbers with infinitely many zeros in their decimal.**

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $g > 2$  be integral and let  $S_g$  be the set of reals which have infinitely zeros in their “decimal” to base  $g$ . Then  $S_g$  is  $\alpha_g = ((g - 1)^2 + 1)^{-1}$ -winning but not  $\alpha$ -winning for  $\alpha > \alpha_g$ . Hence*

$$\text{windim } S_g = \alpha_g = ((g - 1)^2 + 1)^{-1}.$$

Let  $k \geq 1, n$  be integers. Write  $I_k(n)$  for the interval  $[ng^{-k}, ng^{-k} + (g-1)^{-1}g^{-k}]$ ,  $K_k$  for the union of all intervals  $I_k(n), n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ .

LEMMA 16. Let  $I$  be a closed interval of length  $l(I) \leq (\alpha_g(g^2 - g))^{-1}$ . There is a  $k \geq 1$  and an interval  $J \in I^{\alpha_g}, J \subset K_k$ .

**Proof.** Choose  $k \geq 1$  satisfying

$$(20) \quad (\alpha_g(g-1)g^{k+1})^{-1} < l(I) \leq (\alpha_g(g-1)g^k)^{-1}.$$

We are going to construct an interval  $J^* \subset I \cap K_k$  of length  $l(J^*) \geq \alpha_g l(I)$ .

$K_k$  consists of intervals of length  $(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k}$ , the complement of  $K_k$  of intervals of length  $(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k}$ . The worst situation is when the midpoint  $c$  of  $I$  coincides with the midpoint of one of the intervals of the complement of  $K_k$ . In this case  $I$  contains all numbers  $x$  in

$$c \leq x \leq c + \frac{1}{2}l(I),$$

and  $K_k$  contains all  $x$  in

$$\begin{aligned} c + \frac{1}{2}(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k} &\leq x \leq c + \frac{1}{2}(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k} + (g-1)^{-1}g^{-k} \\ &= c + \frac{1}{2}(g-1)^{-1}g^{1-k}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $J^*$  consist of all  $x$  in

$$c + \frac{1}{2}(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k} \leq x \leq c + \min\left(\frac{1}{2}l(I), \frac{1}{2}(g-1)^{-1}g^{1-k}\right).$$

Obviously  $J^* \subset I \cap K_k$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} &l(J^*) - \alpha_g l(I) \\ &= \min\left(\frac{1}{2}l(I), \frac{1}{2}(g-1)^{-1}g^{1-k}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k} - \alpha_g l(I) \\ &= \min\left(\left(\frac{1}{2} - \alpha_g\right)l(I) - \frac{1}{2}(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k}, (g-1)^{-1}g^{-k} - \alpha_g l(I)\right) \\ &\geq \min\left(\frac{1}{2}g(g-2)\alpha_g l(I) - \frac{1}{2}(g-2)(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k}, 0\right) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

by (20).

**Proof of Theorem 5.** Let  $ng^{-k} = c_0 + c_1g^{-1} + \dots + c_kg^{-k}$  where  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_k$  are integers,  $0 \leq c_j \leq g-1$  ( $j = 1, \dots, k$ ). The interval  $I_k(n)$  now consists of all  $x$  satisfying

$$c_0 + c_0g^{-1} + \dots + c_kg^{-k} \leq x \leq c_0 + c_1g^{-1} + \dots + c_kg^{-k} + g^{-k-1} + g^{-k-2} + \dots.$$

Hence if  $x$  is in the interior of  $I_k(n)$ , at least one of the digits  $c_{k+1}, c_{k+2}, \dots$  of  $x$  is zero. In fact if  $x$  is in a closed subset  $C$  of the interior of  $I_k(n)$ , then at least one of the digits  $c_{k+1}, \dots, c_{k+m}$  of  $x$  is zero, where  $m = m(C)$ .

We now are going to show that  $S_g$  is  $\alpha_g$ -winning. Let  $0 < \beta < 1$ . In the  $(\alpha_g, \beta)$ -game white plays arbitrarily until a ball  $B_{j_1}$ , with  $2\rho(B_{j_1}) \leq (\alpha_g(g^2 - g))^{-1}$  occurs. Now by the lemma, white can pick  $W_{j_1} \subset K_{k_1}$ , say  $W_{j_1} \subset I_{k_1}(n_1)$ . At his next move white can enforce that  $W_{j_{1+1}}$  is in the interior of  $I_{k_1}(n_1)$ . There is an  $m_1$  such that every  $x \in W_{j_{1+1}}$  has at least one of the digits  $c_{k_1+1}, \dots, c_{k_1+m_1}$  equal to zero. White can play arbitrarily again until  $2\rho(B_{j_2}) \leq \alpha_g^{-1}(g-1)^{-1}g^{-k_1-m_1}$ . By the lemma, white can pick  $W_{j_2} \subset K_{k_2}$  for some  $k_2$ , and obviously  $k_2 \geq k_1 + m_1$ . At his next move white chooses  $W_{j_{2+1}}$  in the interior of some  $I_{k_2}(n_2)$ , and so on.

This proves the first part of the theorem.

Let  $\alpha > \alpha_g$ . Choose  $m$  integral and so large that

$$(21) \quad \alpha > (1 + 2(g - 1)g^{3-m})\alpha_g,$$

and let  $\beta = \alpha^{-1}g^{-m}$ . We are going to show that  $S_g$  is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -losing.

Black can adopt the following strategy. First he picks the ball  $B_1$  to consist of all  $x$  in

$$g^{-1} + g^{-2} \leq x \leq 2g^{-1} + g^{-3} + g^{-4} + \dots = 2g^{-1} + g^{-2}(g - 1)^{-1}.$$

$B_1$  has length  $g^{-1} - g^{-2} + g^{-2}(g - 1)^{-1} = \alpha_g^{-1}g^{-2}(g - 1)^{-1}$ .

For  $u = 0, 1, \dots, (g - 1)^2 + 1$  put  $y_u = g^{-1} + g^{-2} + u(g - 1)^{-1}g^{-2}$ . The numbers  $y_u$  are at distances  $(g - 1)^{-1}g^{-2}$ , they are contained in  $B_1$ , and  $y_0, y_{(g-1)2+1}$  are the endpoints of  $B_1$ .

$W_1$  will have length

$$\begin{aligned} l(W_1) &= \alpha l(B_1) = \alpha \alpha_g^{-1} g^{-2} (g - 1)^{-1} > g^{-2} (g - 1)^{-1} (1 + 2(g - 1)g^{3-m}) \\ &= g^{-2} (g - 1)^{-1} + 2g^{1-m} \end{aligned}$$

by (21). Let  $\tilde{W}_1$  be the closed interval of length  $g^{-2}(g - 1)^{-1}$  and with the same midpoint as  $W_1$ .  $\tilde{W}_1$  will contain one of the points  $y_u, 1 \leq u \leq (g - 1)^2$ ; say  $y_{u_0} \in \tilde{W}_1$ . Hence  $W_1$  will contain the interval

$$(22) \quad y_{u_0} - g^{1-m} \leq x \leq y_{u_0} + g^{1-m}.$$

First consider the case (a) where  $g - 1$  divides  $u_0$ , say  $u_0 = l(g - 1)$ . Now  $y_{u_0} = g^{-1} + g^{-2} + lg^{-2}$ , where  $1 \leq l \leq g - 1$ . If  $l < g - 1$ ,  $y_{u_0} = 0, 1(l + 1)000 \dots$  when written as a decimal in scale  $g$ , and  $y_{u_0} - g^{-m} = 0, 1l(g - 1) \dots (g - 1)000 \dots$ , that is,  $y_{u_0} - g^{-m}$  will have the digits  $1, l$ , then  $m - 2$  times  $g - 1$ , then zeros. If  $l = g - 1$ ,  $y_{u_0} = 0.2000 \dots$  and  $y_{u_0} - g^{-m} = 0, 1(g - 1) \dots (g - 1)000 \dots$ , that is, it will have digits  $1, m - 1$  times  $g - 1$ , then zeros. Hence any  $x$  in the interval

$y_{u_0} - g^{-m} \leq x < y_{u_0}$  has its first  $m$  digits different from zero. Now black picks  $B_2$  to be the interval

$$y_{u_0} - g^{-m} + g^{-m}(g^{-1} + g^{-2}) \leq x \leq y_{u_0} - g^{-m} + g^{-m}(2g^{-1} + g^{-3} + g^{-4} + \dots).$$

$B_2$  is contained in (22), hence in  $W_1$ , it has length

$$l(B_2) = g^{-m}l(B_1) = \alpha^{-1}g^{-m}l(W_1) = \beta l(W_1),$$

and every  $x \in B_2$  has its first  $m$  digits different from zero.

Next take the case (b) where  $u_0$  is not a multiple of  $g - 1$ , say  $u_0 = l(g - 1) + r$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq g - 2$ ,  $l \leq g - 2$ . Now

$$y_{u_0} = g^{-1} + g^{-2} + lg^{-2} + rg^{-2}(g-1)^{-1} = g^{-1} + (l+1)g^{-2} + r(g^{-3} + g^{-4} + \dots),$$

hence  $y_{u_0} = 0, 1(l+1)rrr\dots$ . Put  $\bar{y} = y_{u_0} + g^{-m} - g^{-m-1} - g^{-m-2} - \dots = y_{u_0} + g^{-m} - g^{-m}(g-1)^{-1}$ .  $\bar{y} = 0, 1(l+1)rr\dots r(r+1)000\dots$ , that is,  $\bar{y}$  has digits  $1, l+1, m-3$  times  $r, r+1$ , then zeros. Any  $x$  in the interval  $\bar{y} \leq x < \bar{y} + g^{-m}$  has its first  $m$  digits different from zero. Now black picks  $B_2$  to consist of all  $x$  satisfying

$$\bar{y} + g^{-m}(g^{-1} + g^{-2}) \leq x \leq \bar{y} + g^{-m}(2g^{-1} + g^{-3} + g^{-4} + \dots).$$

$B_2$  is in (22) hence in  $W_1$ , its length is  $\beta l(W_1)$ , and every  $x \in B_2$  has its first  $m$  digits different from zero.

Black does not have to worry over the first  $m$  digits any more. Since  $B_2$  is congruent to  $g^{-m}B_1$  modulo  $g^{-m}$ , black can apply the same strategy to ensure that the next  $m$  digits of any  $x \in B_3$  again are all different from zero. Continuing in this way black can enforce that  $x = \bigcap B_n$  has no zeros among its digits.

10. *a\*-winning sets.* Let  $a > 1$  be integral. A set of reals is called *a\*-winning* if it is *(a\*b)-winning* for every integer  $b > 1$ .

LEMMA 17. *Let  $a'b' = ab$ , and  $a$  divides  $a'$ . Then every  $(a*b)$ -winning set is  $(a'*b')$ -winning.*

**Proof.** Just as for Lemma 8.

LEMMA 18. *Every  $(a*b)$ -winning set is  $(a(ba)^{k*b})$ -winning for every integer  $k \geq 0$ .*

**Proof.** Just as for Lemma 9.

LEMMA 19. *Let  $a$  be a divisor of  $a'$ . Then every  $a*$ -winning set is  $a'*$ -winning.*

**Proof.** This follows from Lemma 17.

Combining Lemma 2 and Theorem 3 one finds that the set of badly approximable numbers is *a\*-winning* for  $a \geq 4$ . A direct examination of the proof of



Theorem 3 shows this set to be  $a^*$ -winning for every  $a \geq 2$ . A similar remark applies to anormal numbers.

11. **The Hausdorff dimension of winning sets.** The Hausdorff dimension of a set  $S$  in a metrical space  $M$  is defined as follows.  $S$  has Hausdorff dimension  $\infty$  if for some  $\eta > 0$   $S$  cannot be covered by countably many balls of radius  $< \eta$ . Otherwise put  $\{S, \eta\}^\alpha$  for the greatest lower bound (possibly  $\infty$ ) of all the sums

$$(23) \quad \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \rho(B_l)^\alpha,$$

where  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  is a covering of  $S$  by balls  $B_l$  of radius  $< \eta$ .  $\{S, \eta\}^\alpha$  is a decreasing function of  $\eta$ .

$$\{S\}^\alpha = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \{S, \eta\}^\alpha$$

(possibly  $\infty$ ) is called  $\alpha$ -dimensional measure of  $S$ . Either  $\{S\}^\alpha = \infty$  for every  $\alpha$ , in which case  $S$  again has Hausdorff dimension  $\infty$ . Or there is a unique  $\delta \geq 0$  such that  $\{S\}^\alpha = \infty$  for  $\alpha < \delta$  and  $\{S\}^\alpha = 0$  for  $\alpha > \delta$ , and in this case one defines the Hausdorff dimension of  $S$  to be  $\delta$ .

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $M$  be a Hilbertspace, and let  $0 < \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta < 1$ . Assume there are integers  $t, m$  with the following property. Given  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t$  with  $h_i \in F_i^\alpha (i = 1, \dots, t)$  and given a ball  $C_1$ , there are  $m$  functions  $g^{(0)}, g^{(1)}, \dots, g^{(m-1)}$  of  $F_1^\beta$  such that, if  $C_2^{(j)}, \dots, C_{t+1}^{(j)}, D_1^{(j)}, \dots, D_t^{(j)} (0 \leq j \leq m-1)$  are balls defined by*

$$(24) \quad C_i^{(j)} = g^{(j)}(D_{i-1}^{(j)}) \quad (1 < i \leq t+1),$$

$$(25) \quad D_i^{(j)} = h_i(C_1, C_2^{(j)}, \dots, C_i^{(j)}) \quad (1 \leq i \leq t),$$

then  $C_{i+1}^{(0)}, \dots, C_{i+1}^{(m-1)}$  have pairwise disjoint interiors.

Under these assumptions, every  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set  $S \subset M$  has Hausdorff dimension at least

$$\log m / |t \log \alpha \beta|.$$

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $N(\beta)$  be such that every ball  $B$  contains a set of  $N(\beta)$  balls of  $B^\beta$  with pairwise disjoint interiors. Then every  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set has Hausdorff dimension at least*

$$\log N(\beta) / |\log \alpha \beta|.$$

For example on the real line one may put  $N(\beta) = [\beta^{-1}]$ . (That is, the integral part of  $\beta^{-1}$ .)

**Proof.** One may use the theorem with  $t = 1, m = N(\beta)$ .

**COROLLARY 2.** *An  $\alpha$ -winning set in  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $E_n$  has Hausdorff dimension  $n$ .*

**Proof.** One has  $N(\beta) \geq c\beta^{-n}$  for some  $c > 0$ . This gives the lower bound  $(\log c + n|\log \beta|)(|\log \alpha| + |\log \beta|)^{-1}$ , which tends to  $n$  when  $\beta$  tends to zero.

**COROLLARY 3.** *Let  $1 + \alpha\beta > 2\beta$ . Then every  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set in  $E_n$  has positive Hausdorff dimension, and an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning set in infinite-dimensional Hilbert-space has infinite Hausdorff dimension.*

**Proof.** We first take the  $n$ -dimensional case. Write  $\gamma = 1 + \alpha\beta - 2\beta > 0$ , and let the integer  $t > 1$  be so large that  $(\alpha\beta)^t < \gamma/3$ .

Let  $g^{i+}, g^{i-}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) be the functions of  $F_1^\beta$  which assign to a ball  $B$  of radius  $\rho$  and center  $(c_1, \dots, c_n)$  the ball of radius  $\beta\rho$  and center

$$(c_1, \dots, c_{i-1}, c_i + \rho(1 - \beta), c_{i+1}, \dots, c_n), (c_1, \dots, c_{i-1}, c_i - \rho(1 - \beta), c_{i+1}, \dots, c_n),$$

respectively.

Let  $h_1 \in F_1^\alpha, \dots, h_t \in F_t^\alpha$ , and let  $C_1$  have center  $c = (c_1, \dots, c_n)$  and radius  $\rho$ . Let  $1 \leq j \leq n$  and let  $k$  denote  $+$  or  $-$ . Define  $C_2^{jk}, \dots, C_{t+1}^{jk}; D_1^{jk}, \dots, D_t^{jk}$  by

$$C_i^{jk} = g^{jk}(D_{i-1}^{jk}) \quad (2 \leq i \leq t + 1),$$

$$D_i^{jk} = h_i(C_1, C_2^{jk}, \dots, C_i^{jk}) \quad (1 \leq i \leq t).$$

Denote the center of  $C_i^{jk}$  by  $(c_{i1}^{jk}, \dots, c_{in}^{jk})$ . Then

$$c_{2j}^{j+} \geq c_j + \rho(1 - \beta - \beta(1 - \alpha)) = c_j + \rho\gamma > c_j,$$

$$c_{t+1j}^{j+} \geq c_j + \rho\gamma.$$

Hence  $C_{t+1}^{j+}$ , which has radius  $\rho(\alpha\beta)^t < \rho\gamma/3$ , is contained in the halfplane  $x_j \geq c_j + 2\rho\gamma/3$ . Similarly,  $C_{t+1}^{j-}$  is contained in  $x_j \leq c_j - 2\rho\gamma/3$ .

Let  $l = l(\alpha, \beta)$  be an integer with  $(l + 1)\gamma^2/9 > 1$ . We claim that any ball  $C_{t+1}^{jk}$  has nonempty intersection with at most  $l$  of the balls  $C_{t+1}^{jk}$  ( $j = 1, \dots, n; k = +, -$ ). To show this it suffices to see that  $C_{t+1}^{1+}$  can intersect at most  $l$  of these balls (including itself). By what has already been shown it cannot at the same time intersect  $C_{t+1}^{j+}$  and  $C_{t+1}^{j-}$ . Thus it remains to show that  $C_{t+1}^{1+}$  cannot intersect all the balls  $C_{t+1}^{2+}, \dots, C_{t+1}^{l+1+}$ , say. If these intersections were nonempty,  $c_{t+1j}^{1+} \geq c_j + \rho\gamma/3$  ( $j = 2, \dots, l + 1$ ), and the center of  $C_{t+1}^{1+}$  would have distance from the center  $c$  of  $C_1$  at least  $\rho\sqrt{(\gamma^2 + l\gamma^2/9)} > \rho\sqrt{((l + 1)\gamma^2/9)} > \rho$ .

Thus there exist

$$(26) \quad m = \max(2, 2n/l)$$

of the balls  $C_{t+1}^{jk}$  ( $j = 1, \dots, n; k = +, -$ ) which are pairwise disjoint. We can pick  $m$  of the functions  $g^{jk}$ , say  $g^{(0)}, \dots, g^{(m-1)}$ , which satisfy the conditions of the theorem. Therefore  $S$  has Hausdorff dimension at least  $\log m / |t \log \alpha\beta| > 0$ .

In the case of a Hilbertspace of infinite dimension the argument leading to (26) in the previous case shows that now one may take  $m$  arbitrarily large.

REMARK. The results of this section are in contrast to Folgerung 1 of Satz 3 of [8] where a different game is studied.

12. Proof of Theorem 6.

LEMMA 20. Put  $\omega = 2/\sqrt{3} - 1$ . Let  $D, D_1, \dots, D_e$  be balls in a Hilbertspace such that  $\rho(D) < \omega\rho(D_1) = \dots = \omega\rho(D_e)$ . Let  $D_i, D_j$  have disjoint interiors for  $i \neq j$ , and let  $D, D_i$  have nonempty intersections for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, e$ .

Then  $e \leq 2$ .

Proof. We may assume  $\rho(D_1) = \dots = \rho(D_e) = 1$ . We have to show that the assumptions of the Lemma with  $e = 3$  lead to a contradiction.

Let  $D$  have center 0,  $D_i$  center  $x_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$ . Then  $|x_i| < 1 + \omega$ ,  $|x_i - x_j| \geq 2$  for  $i \neq j$ . One obtains  $|x_i|^2 < (1 + \omega)^2 = 4/3$ ,  $4 \leq |x_i - x_j|^2 = |x_i|^2 + |x_j|^2 - 2x_i x_j$  (= inner product)  $< 8/3 - 2x_i x_j$ , hence  $x_i x_j < -2/3 (i \neq j)$ . This gives  $x_1(x_2 + x_3) < -4/3$ . On the other hand,  $|x_1(x_2 + x_3)|^2 \leq |x_1|^2 |x_2 + x_3|^2 < (4/3)(8/3 + 2x_2 x_3) < 16/9$ , which gives a contradiction.

Let  $S$  be  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning, and let a winning strategy  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  be given. Call a sequence of balls  $E_1, E_2, \dots$  a  $t - f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain, if there is an  $f_1, f_2$ -chain  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  such that  $E_1 = B_1, E_2 = B_{1+t}, E_3 = B_{1+2t}, \dots$ . Finite  $t$ -chains are defined similarly. In other words a  $t$ -chain consists of every  $t$ th element of a chain.

LEMMA 21. Let all the hypotheses of the theorem be satisfied. Let  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k$  be a  $t - f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain. Then there are  $m$  balls  $E_{k+1}^{(0)}, \dots, E_{k+1}^{(m-1)}$  with pairwise disjoint interiors such that each of the sequences  $E_1, \dots, E_k, E_{k+1}^{(j)} (j = 0, 1, \dots, m - 1)$  is a finite  $t - f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain.

Proof. Let  $B_1, \dots, B_{1+(k-1)t}$  be a  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain with  $E_1 = B_1, \dots, E_k = B_{1+(k-1)t}$ . Define  $h_i(C_1, \dots, C_i) (i = 1, \dots, t)$  by  $h_i(C_1, \dots, C_i) = f_{i+(k-1)t}(B_1, \dots, B_{(k-1)t}, C_1, C_2, \dots, C_i)$ . Put  $C_1 = B_{1+(k-1)t} = E_k$ . Now let  $g^{(0)}, \dots, g^{(m-1)}$  be the functions of the theorem, and define  $C_2^{(j)}, \dots, C_{t+1}^{(j)}, D_1^{(j)}, \dots, D_t^{(j)} (0 \leq j \leq m - 1)$  by (24) and (25). Put  $E_{k+1}^{(j)} = C_{t+1}^{(j)}$ . Then obviously  $E_1, \dots, E_k, E_{k+1}^{(j)}$  is a  $t - f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain for  $0 \leq j \leq m - 1$ , and the  $m$  balls  $E_{k+1}^{(j)}$  have pairwise disjoint interiors.

LEMMA 22. Let all the hypotheses of the theorem be satisfied. There are balls  $C_1(i_1), C_2(i_1, i_2), \dots$ , defined for digits  $i_j = 0, 1, \dots, m - 1$ , such that

$$C_1(i_1), C_2(i_1, i_2), C_3(i_1, i_2, i_3), \dots$$

is a  $t - f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain for every sequence of digits  $i_1, i_2, \dots$ , and where for given  $k$  the  $m^k$  balls  $C_k(i_1, \dots, i_k)$  have pairwise disjoint interiors and radius  $(\alpha\beta)^{kt}$ .

Proof. Let  $C_1(i_1)$  be any  $m$  disjoint balls of radius  $(\alpha\beta)^t$ . The construction of  $C_2(i_1, i_2), C_3(i_1, i_2, i_3), \dots$  is by induction, using the previous lemma.

**Proof of Theorem 6.** Given a sequence of digits  $i_1, i_2, \dots$  there is a unique point  $x = x(i_1, i_2, \dots)$  contained in all the balls  $C_k(i_1, \dots, i_k)$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  of Lemma 22. Obviously  $x \in S$ . The set of all points  $x$  so obtained will be denoted by  $S^*$ .

Define a possibly many-valued function  $f$  from  $S^*$  onto the unit-interval  $U: 0 \leq y \leq 1$ , as follows. Given  $x \in S^*$ , let  $f(x)$  consist of all numbers  $y = 0, i_1 i_2 \dots$  (written in scale  $m$ ) such that  $x = x(i_1, i_2, \dots)$ . For a set  $T \subset S^*$  let  $f(T)$  be the union of all sets  $f(x)$  where  $x \in T$ . For a general set  $R$  define  $f(R) = f(R \cap S^*)$ . Now if balls  $B_l$  ( $l = 1, 2, \dots$ ) cover  $S$ , the sets  $B_l \cap S^*$  cover  $S^*$ , and the sets  $f(B_l) = f(B_l \cap S^*)$  cover  $U$ . Hence the exterior Lebesgue measures  $\bar{\mu}$  of  $f(B_l)$  satisfy

$$(27) \quad \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \bar{\mu}(f(B_l)) \geq 1.$$

Let  $B$  have radius  $\rho$ , and put

$$(28) \quad j = [\log(2\rho\omega^{-1}) / (t \log \alpha\beta)].$$

For small  $\rho$ ,  $j$  is positive, and

$$\rho < \omega(\alpha\beta)^{tj}.$$

Hence by Lemma 20,  $B$  has nonempty intersection with at most two of the balls  $C_j(i_1, \dots, i_j)$ , say with  $C_j(i_1(1), \dots, i_j(1))$  and  $C_j(i_1(2), \dots, i_j(2))$ .  $f(B)$  contains only numbers whose first  $j$  digits are either  $i_1(1), \dots, i_j(1)$  or  $i_1(2), \dots, i_j(2)$ . Thus  $f(B)$  is contained in two intervals of length  $m^{-j}$ , and  $\bar{\mu}(f(B)) \leq 2m^{-j}$ .

Now suppose the balls  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  of radius  $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots$  cover  $S$ . By (27),

$$1 \leq 2 \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} m^{-j_l},$$

where  $j_l$  is defined by a formula like (28). This implies

$$1 \leq 2m \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} (2\omega^{-1} \rho_l)^{\log m / |t \log \alpha\beta|}.$$

We obtain  $\{S\}^\alpha > 0$  with  $\alpha = \log m / |t \log \alpha\beta|$ , and the theorem is proved.

**LEMMA 23.** Let  $2\beta < 1 + \alpha\beta$  and let  $S$  be  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -winning in a Hilbertspace  $M$  of positive dimension. The intersection of  $S$  with any ball contains continuum-many points.

**Proof.** The proof of Corollary 3 of Theorem 6 shows that this theorem is applicable with some  $m > 1$  and with  $C_{t+1}^{(0)}, \dots, C_{t+1}^{(m-1)}$  disjoint. Under this assumption the  $m^j$  balls  $C_j(i_1, \dots, i_j)$  of Lemma 22 will be pairwise disjoint. One may also require that all the balls  $C_j(i_1, \dots, i_j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ , be contained in an arbitrary fixed ball  $B$  if one drops the inessential requirement on the radii

of these balls. The points  $x(i_1, i_2, \dots)$  will now be continuum—many distinct points of  $S \cap B$ .

13. Positional winning strategies.

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $S \subset M$  be an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G})$ -winning set. Then there exists a positional  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -winning strategy.*

**Proof.** Introduce a well-ordering  $<$  into the set  $\Omega$ . Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  be an  $(\mathfrak{F}, \mathfrak{G}; S)$ -winning strategy. We are going to define  $f \in F_1$  as follows.

Let  $B \in \Omega$ . If  $B$  does not occur in any  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain, define  $f(B)$  arbitrarily. Now assume  $B$  does occur in  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chains

$$B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k = B.$$

Of all the  $B_1$  which occur in such chains, there is one which is smallest with regard to  $<$ . Denote it by  $B_1(B)$ . There are chains

$$B_1(B), B_2, \dots, B_h = B.$$

Of all the  $B_2$  which occur in such chains, there is a smallest one,  $B_2(B)$ , and so on. Now either

(a) there is a  $k$  with  $B_k(B) = B$ . Then

$$B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B) = B$$

is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain.

(aa) There is no  $f_1, f_2$ -chain  $C_1, C_2, \dots$  where each  $C_i$  is one of the elements  $B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B)$ . If for every  $m$  there were a finite  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain  $C_1, \dots, C_m$  with this property, then because of Lemma 1 there would also be an infinite such chain  $C_1, C_2, \dots$ . Let  $B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B), C_1, \dots, C_{i_0}$  be an  $f_1, f_2$ -chain with each  $C_i$  among the  $B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B)$ , such that there is no longer such chain. Set

$$f(B) = f_{k+i_0}(B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B), C_1, \dots, C_{i_0}).$$

If  $B' \in \mathfrak{G}(f(B))$ ,  $B'$  differs from  $B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B)$ .

(ab) There is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain  $C_1, C_2, \dots$  with each  $C_i$  among  $B_1(B), \dots, B_k(B)$ . In this case  $\bigcap_{i=1}^k \alpha(B_i(B)) \subset \bigcap_n \alpha(C_n) \subset S$ . Hence  $\alpha(B) = \alpha(B_k(B)) \subset S$ , and  $f(B)$  can be any element of  $\mathfrak{F}(B)$ .

(b) There is no  $k$  having  $B_k(B) = B$ . Then  $B_1(B), B_2(B), \dots$  is an  $f_1, f_2$ -chain, and  $\alpha(B) \subset \bigcap \alpha(B_n) \subset S$ . Again  $f(B)$  can be arbitrary in  $\mathfrak{F}(B)$ .

We are going to show that the functions  $f'_n(B_1, \dots, B_n)$  defined by  $f'_n(B_1, \dots, B_n) = f(B_n)$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) are a winning strategy. Let  $B_1 \in \Omega'$ ,

$$B_n \in \mathfrak{G}(W_{n-1}) \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots),$$

$$W_n = f(B_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

If for some  $B_n$ , case (ab) or (b) happens,  $\alpha(B_n) \subset S$ , and we are through. Thus for every  $B_n$ , assume (aa) holds.

$$B_1(B_n), \dots, B_k(B_n), C_1, \dots, C_{i_0}, B_{n+1}$$

is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain, and  $B_{n+1}$  differs from  $B_1(B_n), \dots, B_k(B_n)$ .

$$(29) \quad B_1(B_{n+1}) \prec B_1(B_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

There is an  $i_1$  where  $B_1(B_{i_1})$  is smallest with regard to  $\prec$ . By (29),  $B_1(B_i) = B_1(B_{i_1}) = \overline{B_1}$ , say, if  $i \geq i_1$ . Now for  $i > i_1$ ,  $B_i$  differs from  $B_1(B_{i-1}) = \overline{B_1} = B_1(B_i)$ . Thus  $B_2(B_i)$  is defined. There is an  $i_2 > i_1$  such that  $B_2(B_{i_2}) = B_2(B_i)$  for  $i \geq i_2$ . In this fashion one finds  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots$  such that  $B_t(B_i)$  is defined for  $i > i_{t-1}$  and  $B_t(B_i) = B_t(B_{i_t}) = \overline{B_t}$  for  $i \geq i_t$ .  $\overline{B_1}, \overline{B_2}, \dots$  is an  $f_1, f_2, \dots$ -chain by Lemma 1.

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha(B_i) \subset \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha(\overline{B_i}) \subset S$$

gives the desired conclusion.

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