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**James Cannon, Mark Meilstrup\*** (markmeilstrup@gmail.com) and **Andreas Zastrow**. *The period set of a map from the Cantor set to itself.*

Let  $f$  denote a map from the Cantor set  $C$  to itself. If  $x \in C$  and if there is a positive integer  $m$  such that  $f^m(x) = x$ , then we call  $x$  a periodic point of  $f$ . If  $m$  is the least such integer, then we call  $m$  the period of  $x$  and write  $p(x) = m$ . We define the period set of  $f$  to be the collection  $P(f) = \{p(x) : x \text{ is periodic}\}$ .

Because the Cantor set  $C$  is the most flexible of all compact metric spaces with an interesting topology, we would expect the period sets of its self-maps to be completely unrestricted. We prove this to be the case provided that, in addition, one allows points that are not periodic.

However, if every point  $x$  is periodic, we show that a surprising finiteness condition is imposed on  $P(f)$ : namely, there is a finite subset  $B$  of  $P(f)$  such that every element of  $P(f)$  is divisible by at least one element of  $B$ . (Received September 22, 2010)