

## ON TWO PROBLEMS CONCERNING BAIRE SETS IN NORMAL SPACES

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**ABSTRACT.** Two problems will be dealt with. The first problem, due to Katetov, asks whether there is a normal, nonperfect  $T_2$  space  $X$  such that the Baire and Borel algebras in  $X$  coincide. The second problem, due to Ross and Stromberg, asks whether each closed Baire set has to be zero set in a normal, locally compact  $T_2$  space. Several consistent examples of spaces satisfying the requirements of the first problem will be constructed. A counterexample to the second problem is given in ZFC.

**Introduction.** If  $X$  is a topological space, and  $A$  is a subset of  $X$ , then  $A$  is said to be a *Borel* (resp. *Baire*) subset of  $X$ , if  $A$  belongs to the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the closed sets (resp. the zero sets) of  $X$ . Note that in perfectly normal spaces the Borel and Baire  $\sigma$ -algebras coincide. Let us call a Hausdorff space  $X$  *Baire-ly perfect* if the Borel and the Baire  $\sigma$ -algebras of  $X$  coincide. Note that this is equivalent to the condition that each closed subset of  $X$  is a Baire set. Let us say that a Hausdorff space  $X$  is *Baire-ly perfectly normal* if  $X$  is Baire-ly perfect and normal. The following problem is due to M. Katetov [Ka, p. 74].

**PROBLEM 1.** Is there a Baire-ly perfectly normal, nonperfect space?

A related problem is the following question of Ross and Stromberg [RS, p. 152].

**PROBLEM 2.** If  $X$  is a normal, locally compact Hausdorff space and  $A$  is a closed Baire set in  $X$ , is  $A$  a zero set?

There have been several partial results concerning these problems as summarized in the following:

**THEOREM.** *Let  $X$  be a normal  $T_1$  space, and let  $A$  be a closed Baire subset of  $X$ . Then  $A$  is a zero set in  $X$  if one of the following conditions hold.*

- (1)  $X$  is compact [H, 51.D],
- (2)  $X$  is a paracompact, locally compact space [C],
- (3)  $X$  is a submetacompact, locally compact space [Bu],
- (4)  $X$  is Lindelöf and Čech-complete [C],
- (5)  $X$  is a subparacompact  $P(\omega)$ -space [Ha].

Thus, in the above five classes of spaces, the answer to Problem 1 is no. In the first three classes of spaces, the answer to Problem 2 is yes.

The aim of this paper is to give answers to these problems in general.

In §1, a Baire-ly perfectly normal, locally compact, locally countable, hereditarily separable, nonperfect space is constructed assuming the continuum hypothesis.

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Thus the answer to Problem 1 is consistently yes. Since our example is hereditarily separable and non-Lindelöf, some set-theoretic hypothesis is needed for its construction [Sz, T]. It is unknown to the author whether the answer to Problem 1 is yes in ZFC. Two more consistent examples of Baire-ly perfectly normal, nonperfect spaces are also given in §1. These spaces are easier to construct, but they are not locally compact.

In §2, a counterexample to Problem 2 is constructed in ZFC.

Our terminology and notation follows the standards of set theory and set-theoretic topology as is used in [K] and [KV], respectively. *Throughout the paper all spaces are assumed to be Hausdorff topological spaces.* Given a space  $X$  with topology  $\tau$ ,  $\text{cl}_X(A)$  or  $\text{cl}_\tau(A)$  will denote the closure of a subset  $A$  of  $X$  in  $(X, \tau)$ .

### 1. Baire-ly perfectly normal, nonperfect spaces.

**PROPOSITION 1.1.** *Let  $X$  be a Baire-ly perfect space,  $A$  be a Baire set in  $X$ ,  $Y$  be a Baire subset of the subspace  $A$ . Then  $Y$  is a Baire subset of the space  $X$ , too.*

**PROOF.** It is enough to prove this for all closed Baire subsets  $Y$  of the subspace  $A$ . However, if  $Y$  is closed in  $A$ , then  $Y = \text{cl}_X(Y) \cap A$  is the intersection of two Baire subsets of  $X$ . Thus  $Y$  is a Baire subset of  $X$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.2.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a Baire-ly perfect space,  $A$  be a Baire set in  $(X, \tau)$ . Further, suppose that  $\rho$  is a topology on  $X$  satisfying the following properties:*

- (a)  $\rho$  is finer than  $\tau$  and  $A$  is  $\rho$ -closed;
- (b) each Borel subset of  $(A, \rho | A)$  is a Baire set in  $\tau | A$ ;
- (c) each Borel subset of  $(X - A, \rho | (X - A))$  is a Baire set in  $\tau | (X - A)$ .

*Then  $(X, \rho)$  is Baire-ly perfect.*

**PROOF.** Let  $F$  be a  $\rho$ -closed subset of  $X$ . Then  $F \cap A$  is a Borel subset of  $(A, \rho | A)$ . By (b),  $F \cap A$  is a Baire subset of  $(A, \tau | A)$ . By Proposition 1.1,  $F \cap A$  is a Baire subset of  $(X, \tau)$ , too.

A similar argument shows that  $F \cap (X - A)$  is a Baire subset of  $(X, \tau)$ . Thus  $F = (F \cap A) \cup (F \cap (X - A))$  is a Baire set in  $\tau$ , and, a fortiori, it is a Baire set in  $\rho$ .

The following result is a modification of the "Kunen line" [JKR] for spaces  $X$  with a distinguished set  $A$ .

**THEOREM 1.3 (CH).** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a hereditarily separable, first countable  $T_2$  space of cardinality  $2^\omega$ , and let  $A$  be a nonvoid subset of  $X$ . Then there is a topology  $\rho$  on  $X$  with the following properties:*

- (1)  $\rho$  is finer than  $\tau$  and  $A$  is  $\rho$ -closed;
- (2)  $(X, \rho)$  is locally compact and locally countable;
- (3) for every subset  $E$  of  $X - A$ ,  $\text{cl}_\tau(E) - \text{cl}_\rho(E)$  is countable;
- (4) for every subset  $D$  of  $A$ ,  $(\text{cl}_\tau(D) - \text{cl}_\rho(D)) \cap A$  is countable.

**PROOF.** By CH, let  $X = \{x_\alpha : \alpha \in \omega_1\}$ ,  $[A]^\omega = \{D_\alpha : \alpha \in \omega_1\}$ ,  $[X - A]^\omega = \{E_\alpha : \alpha \in \omega_1\}$ . For each  $\alpha \in \omega_1$ , let  $X_\alpha = \{x_\beta : \beta \in \alpha\}$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that  $D_\alpha \cup E_\alpha \subset X_\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \omega_1$ .

Let  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha = \{D_\beta : \beta \in \alpha \text{ and } x_\alpha \in \text{cl}_\tau(D_\beta)\}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_\alpha = \{E_\beta : \beta \in \alpha \text{ and } x_\alpha \in \text{cl}_\tau(E_\beta)\}$  ( $\alpha \in \omega_1$ ).

Inductively, for each  $\alpha \in \omega_1$ , we shall construct a topology  $\rho_\alpha$  on  $X_\alpha$  such that the following conditions are satisfied.

- (1 $\alpha$ )  $\rho_\alpha$  is finer than  $\tau \upharpoonright X_\alpha$  and  $A \cap X_\alpha$  is  $\rho_\alpha$ -closed.
- (2 $\alpha$ )  $\rho_\alpha$  is locally compact.
- (3 $\alpha$ ) For every  $\beta \in \alpha$ ,  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$  is an open subspace of  $(X_\alpha, \rho_\alpha)$ .
- (4 $\alpha$ ) If  $\alpha = \beta + 1$  and  $x_\beta \in X - A$ , then  $x_\beta \in \text{cl}_{\rho_\alpha}(E)$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{E}_\beta$ .
- (5 $\alpha$ ) If  $\alpha = \beta + 1$  and  $x_\beta \in A$ , then  $x_\beta \in \text{cl}_{\rho_\alpha}(E)$  and  $x_\beta \in \text{cl}_{\rho_\alpha}(D)$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{E}_\beta$  and  $D \in \mathcal{D}_\beta$ .

Indeed, let  $\rho_0 = \phi$ . Next, suppose that  $\alpha \in \omega_1 - \{\phi\}$ , and for every  $\gamma < \alpha$  we have already defined  $\rho_\gamma$  in such a way that (1 $\gamma$ )–(5 $\gamma$ ) are satisfied. If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal, then let  $\rho_\alpha$  be the inductive limit topology of the spaces  $\{(X_\gamma, \rho_\gamma) : \gamma \in \alpha\}$ .

If  $\alpha = \beta + 1$ , then let  $\mathcal{D}_\beta = \{D_n : n \in \omega\}$  and  $\mathcal{E}_\beta = \{E_n : n \in \omega\}$  be enumerations of  $\mathcal{D}_\beta$  and  $\mathcal{E}_\beta$ , respectively, in such a way that each member is listed infinitely many times. If  $\mathcal{D}_\beta$  and  $\mathcal{E}_\beta$  are both empty, then make  $x_\beta$  isolated in  $\rho_\alpha$ . If not, then, since  $(X, \tau)$  is first countable, there is a sequence  $\{y_n : n \in \omega\} \subset X_\beta$  such that

- (a)  $\{y_n : n \in \omega\}$  converges to  $x_\beta$  in  $\tau \upharpoonright X_\alpha$ ;
- (b) if  $x_\beta \in X - A$ , then  $y_n \in E_n$  for every  $n \in \omega$ ;
- (c) if  $x_\beta \in A$ , then  $y_{2n} \in E_n$  and  $y_{2n+1} \in D_n$  for each  $n \in \omega$ .

Since  $\rho_\beta$  refines  $\tau \upharpoonright X_\beta$ ,  $\{y_n : n \in \omega\}$  is closed discrete in  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$ . Since  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$  is locally compact, countable and metrizable, there is a discrete family  $\{C_n : n \in \omega\}$  of clopen compact subsets of  $X_\beta$  such that each  $\tau$ -neighborhood of  $x_\beta$  contains all but finitely many of the  $C_n$ 's,  $y_n \in C_n$  for every  $n \in \omega$ , and, if  $x_\beta \in X - A$ , then  $C_n \subset X - A$  for every  $n \in \omega$ . Let  $\{G_n : n \in \omega\}$ , where  $G_n = \{x_\beta\} \cup \bigcup \{C_i : i \geq n\}$  ( $n \in \omega$ ) be a neighborhood base for  $x_\beta$  in  $\rho_\alpha$ . Neighborhood bases in  $\rho_\alpha$  for points of  $X_\beta$  are the same as their neighborhood bases in  $\rho_\beta$ . It is easy to show that  $\rho_\alpha$  satisfies conditions (1 $\alpha$ )–(5 $\alpha$ ).

Finally, let  $\rho$  be the inductive limit of the topologies  $\{\rho_\alpha : \alpha \in \omega_1\}$ . We leave the routine verification that  $(X, \rho)$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1.3 to the reader.

REMARK. If in Theorem 1.3, we start with a second countable regular space  $(X, \tau)$ , and we let  $A$  be a Baire subset of  $X$ , then by Proposition 1.2,  $(X, \rho)$  will be a Baire-ly perfect space. If  $A$  is “complicated enough”, then it will not be a  $G_\delta$  set in  $(X, \rho)$ , so  $(X, \rho)$  will not be perfect. The problem is, how to make  $(X, \rho)$  normal. To make sure the normality of  $(X, \rho)$ , we shall make another use of CH to prepare the right input space  $(X, \tau)$ .

PROPOSITION 1.4 (CH). *If  $A$  is not an  $F_{\sigma\delta}$  subset of the real line  $\mathbf{R}$ , then there is a subset  $P$  of  $\mathbf{R} - A$  of cardinality  $2^\omega$  such that  $P \cap \mathcal{I}$  is countable for all subsets  $Y$  of  $\mathbf{R} - A$  which are  $G_\delta$  sets in  $\mathbf{R}$ .*

PROOF. By CH, let  $\{Y_\alpha : \alpha \in \omega_1\}$  enumerate all subsets of  $\mathbf{R} - A$  which are  $G_\delta$  sets in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Using transfinite induction, for each  $\alpha \in \omega_1$  pick a point  $x_\alpha \in (\mathbf{R} - A) - (\bigcup \{Y_\beta : \beta \in \alpha\} \cup \{x_\beta : \beta \in \alpha\})$ . This is possible, since  $\mathbf{R} - A$  is not a  $G_{\delta\sigma}$  set in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Then  $P = \{x_\alpha : \alpha \in \omega_1\}$  is as required.

THEOREM 1.5 (CH). *There is a Baire-ly perfectly normal, locally compact, locally countable space which is not perfectly normal.*

PROOF. Let  $A$  be a Baire, but not  $F_{\sigma\delta}$  subset of  $\mathbf{R}$ , and let  $P$  be as in Proposition 1.4. Let  $X = A \cup P$  and  $\tau$  be the subspace topology on  $X$  inherited from  $\mathbf{R}$ . Finally,

let  $\rho$  be the topology on  $X$  satisfying (1)–(4) of Theorem 1.3. We shall prove that  $(X, \rho)$  is a space the existence of which was claimed in our theorem.

First of all, by (1) and (2),  $(X, \rho)$  is a locally compact, locally countable  $T_2$  space.

CLAIM. Every  $\rho$ -closed subset  $F$  of  $P$  is countable.

Indeed, let  $\Delta = \text{cl}_\tau(F) - F$  and  $Y = \text{cl}_\mathbf{R}(F) - \Delta$ . By (3),  $\Delta$  is countable, so  $Y$  is a  $G_\delta$  set in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Thus  $F = X \cap Y = P \cap Y$  is countable.

By the Claim,  $(X, \rho)$  is not perfect(ly normal).

By (3), each closed subset in  $(P, \rho \mid P)$  is  $G_\delta$  in  $(P, \tau \mid P)$ . Thus each Borel subset of  $(P, \rho \mid P)$  is a Baire subset of  $(P, \tau \mid P)$  so condition (c) of Proposition 1.2 is satisfied. By (4), condition (b) of Proposition 1.2 is satisfied. By Proposition 1.2,  $(X, \rho)$  is Baire-ly perfect.

In order to show that  $(X, \rho)$  is normal, it is enough to show that given two distinct  $\rho$ -closed subsets  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  of  $X$ , there is a countable family  $\mathcal{G}$  of  $\rho$ -open sets such that

- (i)  $\bigcup \mathcal{G} \supset F_1$ ;
- (ii) for every  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\text{cl}_\rho(G) \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ .

To see this, let  $A_1 = F_1 \cap A$ ,  $P_1 = F_1 \cap P$ ,  $\Delta_1 = \text{cl}_\tau(F_2) \cap A_1$ . Since  $(A_1 - \Delta_1) \cap \text{cl}_\mathbf{R}(F_2) = \emptyset$  and the natural topology of  $\mathbf{R}$  is second countable, there is a countable family  $\mathcal{U}$  of open subsets of  $\mathbf{R}$  such that

- (i')  $\bigcup \mathcal{U} \supset A_1 - \Delta_1$ ;
- (ii') For every  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\text{cl}_\mathbf{R}(U) \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ .

Now, let  $P'_1 = P_1 - \bigcup \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\Delta'_1 = \text{cl}_\tau(P'_1) - F_1$ ,  $Y = \text{cl}_\mathbf{R}(P'_1) - (\bigcup \mathcal{U} \cup \Delta_1 \cup \Delta'_1)$ . Since  $\Delta'_1 \subset \text{cl}_\tau(P'_1) - \text{cl}_\rho(P'_1)$ ,  $\Delta'_1$  is countable. Thus  $Y$  is  $G_\delta$  set in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Therefore  $P'_1 = Y \cap P$  is countable. Let  $\Delta = \Delta_1 \cup P'_1$ . For each  $x \in \Delta$ , let  $G(x) \ni x$  be a  $\rho$ -open set such that  $\text{cl}_\rho(G(x)) \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ . Then  $\mathcal{G} = \{G(x) : x \in \Delta\} \cup \{U \cap X : U \in \mathcal{U}\}$  satisfies (i) and (ii).

If we drop “locally compact”, then consistent counterexamples to Katetov’s question are easier to construct. Two such examples are given below.

**THEOREM 1.6 (CH).** *There is a Lindelöf, Baire-ly perfectly normal, hereditarily separable, nonperfect space.*

**PROOF.** Let  $Q$  denote the set of all rationals in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Since CH holds, there is an uncountable subset  $P$  of  $\mathbf{R} - Q$  in such a way that  $P \cap Y$  is countable for all subsets  $Y$  of  $\mathbf{R} - Q$  which are closed sets in  $\mathbf{R}$ . (Cf. the proof of Proposition 1.4.) Let  $\tau$  denote the subspace topology on  $P$  inherited from the natural topology of  $\mathbf{R}$ . Apply the machine of Theorem 1.3 with  $X = P$  and  $A = \emptyset$  to get a refinement  $\rho$  of  $\tau$  on  $P$ . Let  $\sigma$  denote the topology on  $X = Q \cup P$  determined by the following two conditions:

- (1) if  $x \in Q$ , then  $\{G_n : n \in \omega\}$ , where  $G_n = (x - 1/(n + 1), x + 1/(n + 1)) \cap X$  ( $n \in \omega$ ), is an open  $\sigma$ -neighborhood base for  $X$ ,
- (2)  $(P, \rho)$  is an open subspace of  $(X, \sigma)$ .

Since  $\rho$  is locally compact and zero-dimensional, it follows that  $(X, \sigma)$  is a regular  $T_1$  space. By the construction of  $P$ ,  $(X, \sigma)$  also is Lindelöf and thus it is normal. By Proposition 1.2, it is Baire-ly perfect. However,  $Q$  is not a  $G_\delta$  set in  $(X, \sigma)$ , so  $(X, \sigma)$  is not perfect.

The last example makes use of the following result of A. Miller.

**THEOREM 1.7 [Mi].** *There is a model of set theory in which there is a subspace  $M$  of the real line with the following properties.*

- (a) *Every subset of  $M$  is a Baire set in the subspace topology of  $M$ .*
- (b) *There is a subset  $A \subset M$  such that  $A$  is not a  $G_\delta$  set in  $M$ .*

**EXAMPLE 1.8.** In Miller's model, consider his space  $M$  with a subset  $A$  as above. Define a new topology  $\rho$  on  $M$  by the following two conditions.

- (1) For every  $x \in A$ ,  $\{G_n : n \in \omega\}$ , where  $G_n = (x - 1/(n+1), x + 1/(n+1)) \cap M$  is a neighborhood base for  $x$ .
- (2) All points of  $M - A$  are isolated in  $\rho$ .

The space  $(M, \rho)$  obtained in this way could be called the Miller-Michael Line [M]. As the original space of Michael [M], it is hereditarily paracompact, and thus normal. Since  $\rho$  refines the natural topology of  $M$ , every subset in  $(M, \rho)$  is Baire and Borel. Thus  $(M, \rho)$  is Baire-ly perfectly normal. Since we left intact the natural neighborhoods of points in  $A$ ,  $A$  is not a  $G_\delta$  subset in  $(M, \rho)$ . Thus  $(M, \rho)$  is not perfect.

**2. On closed Baire sets in locally compact, normal spaces.** The following construction makes use of the technique of [vDW] and [W].

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a nonvoid Baire subset of the real line  $\mathbf{R}$ . Then there is a topology  $\rho$  on  $\mathbf{R}$  with the following properties.*

- (1)  $\rho$  is finer than the natural topology  $\tau$  on  $\mathbf{R}$ ;
- (2) each point of  $\mathbf{R} - A$  is isolated in  $\rho$ ;
- (3)  $\rho$  is locally compact and locally countable;
- (4) if  $D \subset A$  and  $E \subset \mathbf{R}$  are disjoint  $\rho$ -closed sets then  $\text{cl}_\tau(E) \cap D$  is countable;
- (5)  $\rho$  is normal.

**PROOF.** Let  $\{\langle D_\alpha, E_\alpha \rangle : \alpha \in 2^\omega\}$  enumerate all pairs of countable subsets of  $\mathbf{R}$  such that

- (a)  $D_\alpha \subset A$ ,
- (b)  $\Delta_\alpha = \text{cl}_\tau(E_\alpha) \cap \text{cl}_\tau(D_\alpha) \cap A$  is uncountable.

Without loss of generality we may assume that each pair was repeated  $2^\omega$  times. Inductively, for each  $\alpha < 2^\omega$ , we shall construct a space  $(X_\alpha, \rho_\alpha)$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1 $\alpha$ )  $\rho_\alpha$  is finer than  $\tau \upharpoonright X_\alpha$ ;
- (2 $\alpha$ )  $A \cap X_\alpha$  is closed in  $\rho_\alpha$ ;
- (3 $\alpha$ )  $\rho_\alpha$  is locally compact and locally countable;
- (4 $\alpha$ ) for every  $\beta \in \alpha$ ,  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$  is an open subspace of  $(X_\alpha, \rho_\alpha)$ ;
- (5 $\alpha$ ) if  $\alpha = \beta + 1$ , and there is a  $\gamma \in \beta$  with  $(D_\beta, E_\beta) = (D_\gamma, E_\gamma)$ , then  $X_{\beta+1} - X_\beta$  contains a point  $x_\beta \in \Delta_\beta$  such that  $x_\beta \in \text{cl}_{\rho_\alpha}(E_\beta) \cap \text{cl}_{\rho_\alpha}(D_\beta) \cap A$ .

Indeed, let  $X_0$  be the set of rationals  $Q$  and  $\rho_0$  be the discrete topology on  $X_0$ . Next, suppose that  $0 \neq \alpha < 2^\omega$ , and for every  $\gamma \in \alpha$  we have already defined  $(X_\gamma, \rho_\gamma)$  in such a way that (1 $\gamma$ )-(5 $\gamma$ ) are satisfied. If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal, then let  $\rho_\alpha$  be the inductive limit of the spaces  $\{(X_\gamma, \rho_\gamma) : \gamma \in \alpha\}$ .

If  $\alpha = \beta + 1$ , then let us choose  $x_\beta$  to be an arbitrary point from  $\Delta_\beta - X_\beta$ . Note that  $\Delta_\beta - X_\beta$  is nonvoid. Indeed, since  $\Delta_\beta$  is an uncountable Borel subset in  $\tau$ , it has cardinality  $2^\omega$ , whereas  $X_\beta$  has cardinality  $< 2^\omega$ . There are two cases to consider.

Case 1. Assume that  $D_\beta \cup E_\beta \subset X_\beta$ . Then choose a sequence  $\{y_n : n \in \omega\} \subset X_\beta$  such that

- (a)  $\{y_n : n \in \omega\}$  converges to  $x_\beta$  in  $\tau$ ,
- (b)  $y_n \in D_\beta$  for each even  $n \in \omega$ ,
- (c)  $y_n \in E_\beta$  for each odd  $n \in \omega$ .

Since  $\rho_\beta$  refines  $\tau \upharpoonright X_\beta$ ,  $\{y_n : n \in \omega\}$  is closed discrete in  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$ . Since  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$  is locally compact and locally countable (and thus, zero-dimensional), there is a discrete family  $\{C_n : n \in \omega\}$  of countable clopen compact subsets of  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$  converging to  $x_\beta$  in  $\tau$  such that  $y_n \in C_n$  for every  $n \in \omega$ .

Let  $X_\alpha = X_{\beta+1} = X_\beta \cup \{x_\beta\}$ . Let  $\{G_n : n \in \omega\}$ , where

$$G_n = \{x_\beta\} \cup \bigcup \{C_i : i \geq n\} \quad (n \in \omega),$$

be a neighborhood base for  $x_\beta$  in  $\rho_\alpha$ . Neighborhood bases in  $\rho_\alpha$  for points of  $X_\beta$  are the same as their neighborhood bases in  $\rho_\beta$ .

Case 2. Assume that  $D_\beta \cup E_\beta \not\subset X_\beta$ . Then let  $X_{\beta+1} = X_\beta \cup D_\beta \cup E_\beta$ , and let  $\rho_{\beta+1}$  be the topology on  $X_{\beta+1}$  determined by the following two conditions.

- (i)  $(X_\beta, \rho_\beta)$  is a clopen subspace of  $(X_{\beta+1}, \rho_{\beta+1})$ ;
- (ii) each point of  $X_{\beta+1} - X_\beta$  is isolated in  $\rho_{\beta+1}$ .

It is easy to see that the space  $(X_\alpha, \rho_\alpha)$  defined above satisfies (1 $\alpha$ )–(5 $\alpha$ ) in each case.

Finally, let  $\rho$  be the topology on  $\mathbf{R}$  defined by the following two conditions.

(A) If  $x \in X_\alpha$  for some ordinal  $\alpha < 2^\omega$ , then let a neighborhood base for  $x$  in  $\rho$  be the same as that in  $\rho_\alpha$ ,

(B) If  $x \notin \bigcup \{X_\alpha : \alpha < 2^\omega\}$ , then let  $x$  be isolated in  $\rho$ .

$\rho$  clearly satisfies (1), (2) and (3). To see that it also satisfies (4), let  $D \subset A$ ,  $E \subset \mathbf{R}$  be disjoint  $\rho$ -closed sets. Assume indirectly that  $\Delta = \text{cl}_\tau(E) \cap D$  is uncountable. Then there is a pair  $\langle D', E' \rangle$  of countable sets such that  $D'$  is  $\tau$ -dense in  $D$ , and  $E'$  is  $\tau$ -dense in  $E$ . Since  $\text{cl}_\tau(E') \cap (\text{cl}_\tau(D') \cap A) \supset \Delta$ ,  $\langle D', E' \rangle = \langle D_\alpha, E_\alpha \rangle$  for  $2^\omega$  many  $\alpha < 2^\omega$ . By (5 $\alpha$ ) this implies that  $|\text{cl}_\rho(E_\alpha) \cap (\text{cl}_\rho(D_\alpha) \cap A)| = 2^\omega$ , in contradiction with  $\text{cl}_\rho(E_\alpha) \cap (\text{cl}_\rho(D_\alpha) \cap A) \subset E \cap D = \emptyset$ .

To see that  $(\mathbf{R}, \rho)$  is normal, it is enough to prove that for any pair  $F_1, F_2$  of disjoint  $\rho$ -closed sets, there is a countable  $\rho$ -open cover  $\mathcal{G}$  of  $F_1$  such that for each  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\text{cl}_\rho(G) \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ . To see this, let  $A_1 = F_1 \cap A$  and  $\Delta_1 = \text{cl}_\tau(F_2) \cap A_1$ . Since  $\tau$  has a countable base there is a countable family of  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\tau$ -open subsets of  $\mathbf{R}$  such that

(\*)  $\bigcup \mathcal{U} \supset A_1 - \Delta_1$ ;

(\*\*) for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\text{cl}_\tau(U) \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ .

By (4),  $\Delta_1$  is countable. For each  $x \in \Delta_1$ , let  $G(x) \ni x$  be a  $\rho$ -open set such that  $\text{cl}_\rho(G(x)) \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ . Then  $\mathcal{G} = \{G(x) : x \in \Delta\} \cup \mathcal{U} \cup \{F_1 - A\}$  is as required.

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *There is normal, locally compact, locally countable space with a closed Baire subset which is not a zero-set.*

**PROOF.** Let  $A$  be a Baire but not  $G_{\delta\sigma}$  subset  $A$  of  $\mathbf{R}$ . Apply Theorem 2.1 to obtain a new topology on  $\mathbf{R}$  such as described there. Then the space  $(\mathbf{R}, \rho)$  is normal, locally compact and locally countable. Since  $\rho$  refines  $\tau$ ,  $A$  is Baire set in  $(\mathbf{R}, \rho)$ , too. However,  $A$  is not a  $G_\delta$  set in  $(\mathbf{R}, \rho)$ . Indeed, making use of (4) of Theorem 2.1 with  $D = A$ , it follows that if  $A$  was a  $G_\delta$  subset in  $(\mathbf{R}, \rho)$ , then  $A$  would be a  $G_{\delta\sigma}$  subset in the natural topology  $\tau$  of  $\mathbf{R}$ .

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