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Department of Mathematics & Statistics  
Auburn University, Alabama 36849, USA  
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## A NOTE ON AWAY-ALMOST CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONS

PIOTR SZUCA

ABSTRACT. We prove that an  $AAC_0$  function is AAC iff its graph is bilaterally  $\mathfrak{c}$ -dense in itself.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\mathbb{I} = [0, 1]$ . Let  $B_x = \{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in B\}$  for every set  $B \subset \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$ . A closed set  $B \subset \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  is blocking if  $B_x \neq \mathbb{R}$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{I}$  and  $g \cap B \neq \emptyset$  for every continuous function  $g: \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Given a family  $\mathcal{F}$  of real functions, we denote by  $\overline{\mathcal{F}}$  the uniform closure of  $\mathcal{F}$ , i.e., the family of all uniform limits of sequences of functions from  $\mathcal{F}$ .

We will consider the following properties of functions from  $\mathbb{I}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

- A function  $f$  is bilaterally  $\mathfrak{c}$ -dense in itself ( $f \in \mathfrak{D}_{\mathfrak{c}}$ ) if for every  $x \in \mathbb{I}$  and every open neighborhood  $U$  of  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle$  the set  $([0, x) \times \mathbb{R}) \cap U \cap f$  has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$  for every  $x > 0$  and the set  $((x, 1] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap U \cap f$  has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$  for every  $x < 1$ , respectively.
- A function  $f$  is Darboux ( $f \in \mathfrak{D}$ ) if it maps connected sets onto connected sets.
- $f \in \mathcal{U}_0$  if for each interval  $J \subset \mathbb{I}$  the set  $f(J)$  is dense in the interval  $(\inf_{x \in J} f(x), \sup_{x \in J} f(x))$ .

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- $f \in \mathcal{U}$  if for each interval  $J \subset \mathbb{I}$  and each  $A \subset \mathbb{I}$  of cardinality less than  $\mathfrak{c}$ , the set  $f(J \setminus A)$  is dense in the interval  $(\inf_{x \in J} f(x), \sup_{x \in J} f(x))$ .
- A function  $f$  is almost continuous ( $f \in \text{AC}$ ) if each open neighborhood of  $f$  contains the graph of a continuous function  $g: \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . (Recall that  $f \in \text{AC}$  iff  $f \cap B \neq \emptyset$  for every blocking set  $B$  [4].)
- A function  $f$  is weakly away-almost continuous ( $f \in \text{AAC}_0$ ) if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and blocking set  $B$  there exists  $x \in \mathbb{I}$  such that  $(f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon) \cap B_x \neq \emptyset$ .
- A function  $f: \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is away-almost continuous ( $f \in \text{AAC}$ ) if for every blocking set  $B$  either  $f \cap B \neq \emptyset$  or for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{I} \mid (f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon) \cap B_x \neq \emptyset\}$  has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ .

Recall that  $\overline{\mathcal{D}} = \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_0 \cap \mathcal{D}_{\mathfrak{c}}$  [1]. The similar problem of characterization of the class  $\overline{\text{AC}}$  remains still open and it seems to be one of the most interesting problems concerning Darboux-like functions. (See [2, Question 9.14].) In 1974, K. Kellum proved that  $\text{AC} \neq \overline{\text{AC}}$  [3]. A few years ago, in 1999, during the Miniconference in Real Analysis at Auburn University, he conjectured that  $\overline{\text{AC}} = \text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{U}$ . It is easy to see that  $\overline{\text{AC}} \subset \text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{U}$  and  $\text{AAC}_0 \subset \mathcal{U}_0$ , so  $\text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{U} = \text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{D}_{\mathfrak{c}}$ . In [5], we define the property  $\text{AAC}$  and show that  $\overline{\text{AC}} \subset \text{AAC} \subset \text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{U}$  and ask whether  $\text{AAC} = \text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{U}$  (Problem 1). In this note we answer this question in the positive. This implies the equality  $\text{AAC} = \text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathcal{D}_{\mathfrak{c}}$ , similarly to  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_0 \cap \mathcal{D}_{\mathfrak{c}}$ .

## 2. THE RESULT

We start with the following easy remark.

**Remark 2.1.** A function  $f \in \text{AAC}_0$  iff for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and every open set  $G \subset \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\bigcup_{x \in \mathbb{I}} (\{x\} \times (f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon)) \subset G$  there exists a continuous function  $g: \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $g \subset G$ .

We will use also operators  $\mathcal{E}(\cdot)$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(\cdot)$ ,  $\text{A}_{\text{EE}}(\cdot)$ ,  $\text{A}_{\text{NN}}(\cdot)$ , and  $\text{A}_{\text{NE}}(\cdot)$  introduced in [5].

**Definition 2.2.** For a blocking set  $B \subset \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  let

- $\mathcal{E}(B) = \{\langle a, b \rangle \in \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R} \mid (\exists h: [0, a] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) (h(a) = b \ \& \ h \cap B = \emptyset \ \& \ h \text{ is continuous})\}$ ;

- $\mathcal{N}(B) = (\mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}) \setminus (B \cup \mathcal{E}(B))$ .

It is easy to see that  $\mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  is the union of pairwise disjoint sets  $B$ ,  $\mathcal{E}(B)$ , and  $\mathcal{N}(B)$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Define also:

- $A_{EE}(B) = \{\langle a, b \rangle \in \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R} \mid \text{there exists an open set } G \text{ such that } \langle a, b \rangle \in G \text{ \& } G \subset \mathcal{E}(B)\};$
- $A_{NN}(B) = \{\langle a, b \rangle \in \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R} \mid \text{there exists an open set } G \text{ such that } \langle a, b \rangle \in G \text{ \& } G \subset \mathcal{N}(B)\};$
- $A_{NE}(B) = \{\langle a, b \rangle \in \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R} \mid \text{there exists an open set } G \text{ such that } \langle a, b \rangle \in G \text{ \& } ([0, a] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap G \subset \mathcal{N}(B) \text{ \& } ((a, 1] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap G \subset \mathcal{E}(B)\}.$

**Remark 2.4** [5]. Let  $B \subset \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  be a blocking set. Then

- (1)  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \subset B \cup \mathcal{E}(B)$ .
- (2)  $\{1\} \times \mathbb{R} \subset B \cup \mathcal{N}(B)$ .
- (3)  $\mathcal{E}(B)$  is open.
- (4)  $\mathcal{N}(B)$  is left-open (i. e., for every  $\langle x, y \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B)$  there exists an open neighborhood  $U$  of  $\langle x, y \rangle$  such that  $([0, x] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap U \subset \mathcal{N}(B)$ ).
- (5) If  $\langle x, y_1 \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B)$  and  $\langle x, y_2 \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B)$ , then there exists  $y \in (y_1, y_2)$  such that  $\langle x, y \rangle \in B$ .
- (6)  $\mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  is the union of pairwise disjoint sets  $B$ ,  $A_{EE}(B)$ ,  $A_{NN}(B)$ , and  $A_{NE}(B)$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** Assume that  $f \in AAC_0$  and  $f$  is bilaterally dense in itself. Then for every blocking set  $B$  at least one of the following two conditions holds:

- (1)  $f \cap B \neq \emptyset$ ,
- (2) for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $a \in \mathbb{I}$  and open set  $U \ni \langle a, f(a) \rangle$  such that  $|f(b) - B_b| < \varepsilon$  for every  $\langle b, f(b) \rangle \in U$ .

*Proof:* Suppose  $f$  is bilaterally dense in itself,  $f$  is weakly away-almost continuous and neither (1) nor (2) hold. Then there exist a blocking set  $B \subset \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , such that:

- (1)  $B \cap f = \emptyset$  and

- (2) for every  $a \in \mathbb{I}$  and open set  $U \ni \langle a, f(a) \rangle$  there exists  $\langle b, f(b) \rangle \in U$  such that  $|f(b) - B_b| \geq \varepsilon$ .

Since  $B \cap f = \emptyset$ ,  $f \subset A_{EE}(B) \cup A_{NN}(B) \cup A_{NE}(B)$  (see Remark 2.4 (6)). For every  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle$  we will construct a rectangular open neighborhood  $S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} = (x - \tau_x, x + \tau_x) \times (f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon)$  such that:

- $S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap f \subset \mathcal{E}(B)$  if  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B)$ ;
- $S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap f \subset \mathcal{N}(B)$  if  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{NN}(B)$ ;
- $S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap f \cap ([0, x] \times \mathbb{R}) \subset \mathcal{N}(B)$  and  $S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap f \cap ((x, 1] \times \mathbb{R}) \subset \mathcal{E}(B)$  if  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{NE}(B)$ .

To show that such a neighborhood exists take  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{NE}(B)$ . (The cases  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B)$  and  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{NN}(B)$  are analogous.)

There exists an open rectangle  $(x - \tau_x, x + \tau_x) \times (f(x) - \tau_x, f(x) + \tau_x)$  such that  $(x - \tau_x, x] \times (f(x) - \tau_x, f(x) + \tau_x) \subset \mathcal{N}(B)$  and  $(x, x + \tau_x) \times (f(x) - \tau_x, f(x) + \tau_x) \subset \mathcal{E}(B)$ . Set  $S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} = (x - \tau_x, x + \tau_x) \times (f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon)$ . Suppose there exists  $x_1 \in (x - \tau_x, x]$  such that  $\langle x_1, f(x_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  or there exists  $x_2 \in (x, x + \tau_x)$  such that  $\langle x_2, f(x_2) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$ .

In the first case, since  $f$  is left side dense at  $\langle x_1, f(x_1) \rangle$  and  $\mathcal{E}(B)$  is open, the set

$$P_1 = \{p \in (x - \tau_x, x) \mid \langle p, f(p) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}\}$$

is non-empty. Now, if we take any  $\langle a, f(a) \rangle \in P_1 \times \mathbb{R}$  and its open neighborhood  $U \subset \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$ , for every  $\langle b, f(b) \rangle \in U$  we have  $\langle b, f(b) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B)$ , and  $\langle b, f(x) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B)$ , and  $|f(x) - f(b)| < \varepsilon$ . According to Remark 2.4 (5), there exists  $y_b$  such that  $\langle b, y_b \rangle \in B$  and  $|f(b) - y_b| < \varepsilon$ , contrary to Lemma 2.5 (2).

The second case is analogous if we take into consideration left side neighborhood of  $\langle x_2, f(x_2) \rangle$  and the set

$$P_2 = \{p \in (x, x + \tau_x) \mid \langle p, f(p) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}\}.$$

For every  $x \in \mathbb{I}$ , let  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} = (x_l, x_r) \times (f(x) - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, f(x) + \frac{\varepsilon}{3}) \subset S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  be an open rectangular neighborhood of  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle$  such that:

- $(x_l, x_r) \subset (x - \frac{\tau_x}{3}, x + \frac{\tau_x}{3})$ ,
- $f(x_l) \in (f(x) - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, f(x) + \frac{\varepsilon}{3})$  for every  $x > 0$ ,
- $f(x_r) \in (f(x) - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, f(x) + \frac{\varepsilon}{3})$  for every  $x < 1$ .

Note that for  $x > 0$ , the rectangle  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  does not contain points with abscissa 0. Respectively, the  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  does not contain points with abscissa 1 for  $x < 1$ . Moreover, for every  $x < 1$ , the distance between  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  and  $\{1\} \times \mathbb{R}$  is positive.

Note also that if  $R_{\langle a, b \rangle} \cap R_{\langle c, d \rangle} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $R_{\langle a, b \rangle} \subset S_{\langle c, d \rangle}$  if  $\tau_a \leq \tau_c$  or  $R_{\langle c, d \rangle} \subset S_{\langle a, b \rangle}$  if  $\tau_c \leq \tau_a$ , respectively.

For every  $x \in \mathbb{I}$ , the set  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  fulfills the following conditions:

- ( $\circ_1$ ) if  $\langle r, f(r) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  for a  $r \leq x$ , then  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B)$ , and for every  $t > x_l$  there exists  $z < t$  such that  $\langle z, f(z) \rangle \in R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap \mathcal{E}(B)$ ;
- ( $\circ_2$ ) if  $\langle r, f(r) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  for an  $r > x$ , then  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B) \cup A_{NE}(B)$ , and for every  $t > x$  there exists  $z \in (x, t)$  such that  $\langle z, f(z) \rangle \in R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap \mathcal{E}(B)$ ;
- ( $\bullet_1$ ) if  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap ((r, x) \times \mathbb{R}) \cap f \subset \mathcal{E}(B)$  for a  $r \in (x_l, x)$ , then  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B)$ , and there exists  $z < r$  such that  $\langle z, f(z) \rangle \in R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap \mathcal{E}(B)$ ;
- ( $\bullet_2$ ) if  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap ((r, x_r) \times \mathbb{R}) \cap f \subset \mathcal{E}(B)$  for a  $r \in (x, x_r)$ , then  $\langle x, f(x) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B) \cup A_{NE}(B)$ , and there exists  $z < r$  such that  $\langle z, f(z) \rangle \in R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \cap \mathcal{E}(B)$ .

Let  $H = \bigcup_{x \in \mathbb{I}} R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$ .  $H$  is an open set and  $f \subset H$ , so by Remark 2.1, there exists a continuous function  $g: \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $g \subset H$ . Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a finite subfamily of  $\{R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle} \mid x \in \mathbb{I}\}$  such that  $g \subset \bigcup \mathcal{R}$ .

Since only the  $R_{\langle 0, f(0) \rangle}$  contains points with abscissa 0 and only the  $R_{\langle 1, f(1) \rangle}$  contains points with abscissa 1,  $R_{\langle 0, f(0) \rangle} \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $R_{\langle 1, f(1) \rangle} \in \mathcal{R}$ . Moreover, since  $\mathcal{R}$  is finite and the distance between  $R_{\langle x, f(x) \rangle}$  and  $\{1\} \times \mathbb{R}$  is positive for every  $x < 1$ ,

$$\sup \left\{ x \in \mathbb{I} \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in \bigcup (\mathcal{R} \setminus \{R_{\langle 1, f(1) \rangle}\}) \right\} < 1. \quad (\star)$$

Let  $C = \{x \in \mathbb{I} \mid (\exists R \in \mathcal{R}) (\langle x, g(x) \rangle \in R \ \& \ (\exists x_1 \leq x) \langle x_1, f(x_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R)\}$  and let  $s = \sup C$ . Since  $\langle 0, f(0) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B)$  and  $\langle 0, g(0) \rangle \in R_{\langle 0, f(0) \rangle}$ , there exist  $x > 0$  and  $x_1 \in (0, x)$  such that  $\langle x, g(x) \rangle \in R_{\langle 0, f(0) \rangle}$ ,  $\langle x_1, f(x_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R_{\langle 0, f(0) \rangle}$ , so  $s \geq x > 0$ . Analogously, the condition  $(\star)$  implies  $s < 1$ .

Since  $\mathcal{R}$  is finite and  $g$  is continuous, there exist  $R_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle} \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $p_1 \leq s$  such that  $\langle s, g(s) \rangle \in \overline{R_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle}}$  and  $\langle p_1, f(p_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle}$ .

Let  $R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle} \in \mathcal{R}$  be an open rectangle such that  $\langle s, g(s) \rangle \in R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ . Since  $\langle s, g(s) \rangle \in \overline{R_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle}} \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ ,  $R_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle} \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle} \neq \emptyset$ .

We have two cases:

- (1)  $R_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle} \subset S_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ , if  $\tau_p \leq \tau_q$ ;
- (2)  $R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle} \subset S_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle}$ , otherwise.

**Case 1.** Then  $\langle p_1, f(p_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ . There exists  $q_1 \leq s$  such that  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle} \cap \mathcal{E}(B)$ . Indeed, if  $p_1 \leq q$  then  $\langle p_1, f(p_1) \rangle \in ([0, q] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ , so  $\langle q, f(q) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B)$  and there exists  $q_1 \leq s$  such that  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$  (see the condition  $(\circ_1)$ ). If  $p_1 > q$ , then  $\langle p_1, f(p_1) \rangle \in ((q, 1] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$  and  $s > q$ , so  $\langle q, f(q) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B) \cup A_{NE}(B)$  and there exists  $q_1 \leq s$  such that  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$  (see the condition  $(\circ_2)$ ).

Now, since  $g$  is continuous and  $s < 1$ , there exists  $s_1 > s$  such that  $\langle s_1, g(s_1) \rangle \in R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ , so  $s_1 \in C$ , a contradiction.

**Case 2.** There exists  $q_1 > s$  such that  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ . Indeed, suppose by contradiction that no  $q_1 > s$  fulfills the claim. Since  $g$  is continuous and  $s < 1$ , there exists  $s_1 > s$  such that  $\langle s_1, g(s_1) \rangle \in R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$  and  $s_1 \neq q$ . By supposition,  $((s_1, 1] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle} \cap \mathcal{N}(B) \cap f = \emptyset$ , so  $((s_1, 1] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle} \cap f \subset \mathcal{E}(B)$ . If  $s_1 < q$  then there exists  $z \leq s_1$  such that  $\langle z, f(z) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$  (see the condition  $(\bullet_1)$ ). If  $s_1 > q$  then there exists  $z \leq s_1$  such that  $\langle z, f(z) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$  (see the condition  $(\bullet_2)$ ). In any case,  $s_1 \in C$ . Since this is a contradiction, there exists  $q_1 > s$  such that  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ .

Since  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B) \cap R_{\langle q, f(q) \rangle}$ ,  $\langle q_1, f(q_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{N}(B) \cap S_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle}$ . But  $\langle p_1, f(p_1) \rangle \in \mathcal{E}(B) \cap S_{\langle p, f(p) \rangle}$  and  $p_1 < q_1$  which is impossible because  $\langle p, f(p) \rangle \in A_{EE}(B) \cup A_{NN}(B) \cup A_{NE}(B)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** *The following equalities hold.*

$$AAC = AAC_0 \cap \mathcal{U} = AAC_0 \cap \mathfrak{D}_c$$

*Proof:* The inclusion “ $AAC \subset AAC_0 \cap \mathcal{U}$ ” is proved in [5]. Since  $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathfrak{D}_c$  [1], we have  $AAC_0 \cap \mathcal{U} \subset AAC_0 \cap \mathfrak{D}_c$ . To prove the

inclusion “ $\text{AAC}_0 \cap \mathfrak{D}_c \subset \text{AAC}$ ,” take a bilaterally  $c$ -dense in itself weakly-away almost continuous function  $f$  and fix a blocking set  $B$ . By Lemma 2, either  $f \cap B \neq \emptyset$ , or for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $a \in \mathbb{I}$  and an open set  $U \ni \langle a, f(a) \rangle$  such that  $U \cap f \subset \{ \langle x, f(x) \rangle \mid (f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon) \cap B_x \neq \emptyset \}$ . In the second case, since  $f \in \mathfrak{D}_c$ , the set  $U \cap f$  has cardinality continuum, and therefore, the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{I} \mid (f(x) - \varepsilon, f(x) + \varepsilon) \cap B_x \neq \emptyset\}$  also has cardinality continuum. Thus, in both cases,  $f \in \text{AAC}$ .  $\square$

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY, WITA STWOSZA 57,  
80-952 GDAŃSK, POLAND

*E-mail address:* pszuca@radix.com.pl