

# A SHORT GEOMETRIC PROOF THAT HAUSDORFF LIMITS ARE DEFINABLE IN ANY O-MINIMAL STRUCTURE

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ABSTRACT. The aim of this note is to give yet another proof of the following theorem: given an arbitrary o-minimal structure on the ordered field of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  and any definable family  $\mathcal{A}$  of definable nonempty compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then the closure of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the sense of the Hausdorff metric (or, equivalently, in the Vietoris topology) is a definable family. In particular, any limit in the sense of the Hausdorff metric of a convergent sequence of subsets of a definable family is definable in the same o-minimal structure. The original proofs by Bröcker [B], Marker and Steinhorn [MS], Pillay [P] (see also van den Dries [vdD2]) were based on model theory. Lion and Speissegger [LS] gave a geometric proof of the theorem. Our proof below is based on the idea of Lipschitz cell decompositions.

## Introduction.

Let  $\mathcal{K}_n$  denote the space of all non-empty compact subsets of the  $n$ -dimensional euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the *Hausdorff metric*

$$d_H(A, B) := \max\{\sup_{x \in A} d(x, B), \sup_{y \in B} d(y, A)\},$$

where  $d(x, B) := \inf_{y \in B} |x - y|$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{K}_n$ .<sup>1</sup>

Fix an o-minimal structure on the ordered field of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  (see [vdD1] or [C], for fundamental definitions and results concerning o-minimal structures). The aim of this note is to give a short geometric proof of the following theorem (compare with Theorem 2 in [LS]).

**Main Theorem.** *Let  $T$  be a definable bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and let  $A$  be a definable bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n \times T$  such that all the fibers  $A_t := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : (x, t) \in A\}$  ( $t \in T$ ) are non-empty compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .*

*Then there exists a definable bounded subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and a definable Lipschitz bijection  $\varphi : S \rightarrow T$  such that the mapping  $S \ni s \mapsto A_{\varphi(s)} \in \mathcal{K}_n$  is Lipschitz. Consequently, it extends in a unique way by continuity to  $\overline{S}$ .*

Before stating corollaries to Main Theorem we adopt the following definition.

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<sup>1</sup>The Hausdorff metric defines the Vietoris topology in  $\mathcal{K}_n$ .

**Definition 1.** A subset  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{K}_n$  will be called **definable** if there exists a definable subset  $T$  of some space  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and a definable subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n \times T$  such that  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_t : t \in T\}$ .

**Corollary 1.** The closure  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}$  of any definable subset  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{K}_n$  is definable. More precisely, if  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_t : t \in T\}$ , where  $T$  is a definable bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and  $A$  is a definable subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n \times T$ , then there exists a definable bounded subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and a definable Lipschitz bijection  $\varphi : S \rightarrow T$  such that, setting  $B := \{(x, s) : s \in S, x \in A_{\varphi(s)}\}$ , we have the following

- (i)  $B_s = A_{\varphi(s)}$ , for each  $s \in S$ .
- (ii)  $\overline{\mathcal{A}} = \{B_s : s \in \tilde{S}\}$ , where  $\tilde{S} = \{s \in \overline{S} : B_s \in \mathcal{K}_n\}$  is open in  $\overline{S}$  and equal to  $\pi(\overline{\{(A_{\varphi(s)}, s) \in \mathcal{K}_n \times S : s \in \overline{S}\}})$ , where  $\pi : \mathcal{K}_n \times \overline{S} \ni (K, s) \mapsto s \in \overline{S}$ .
- (iii) The mapping  $\tilde{S} \ni s \mapsto B_s \in \mathcal{K}_n$  is continuous.

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{A}$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{K}_n$ , then  $A$  is bounded and the corollary follows immediately from Main Theorem with  $\tilde{S} = \overline{S}$  and the Lipschitz mapping in (iii). The case where  $\mathcal{A}$  is not bounded in  $\mathcal{K}_n$  reduces to the previous one via the semialgebraic homeomorphism

$$\mathbb{R}^n \ni x \mapsto \frac{x}{\sqrt{1 + |x|^2}} \in \mathbb{B}_n := \{u \in \mathbb{R}^n : |u| < 1\}.$$

**Corollary 2.** If  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_t : t \in T\}$  is any definable subset of  $\mathcal{K}_n$  and  $C = \lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} A_{t_\nu}$  is the limit of any convergent in  $\mathcal{K}_n$  sequence  $A_{t_\nu} \in \mathcal{A}$  ( $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ ), where  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} t_\nu = t_*$  ( $\in \overline{T}$ ), then  $C$  is definable and there exists a definable arc  $\gamma : (0, 1] \rightarrow T$  such that  $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \gamma(\tau) = t_*$  and  $C = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} A_{\gamma(\tau)}$ .

*Proof.* By Corollary 1,  $\varphi(s_\nu) = t_\nu$ , where  $s_\nu \in S$  ( $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ ). By passing to a subsequence, we can assume that  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} s_\nu = s_*$  ( $\in \overline{S}$ ) and, by (ii) and (iii),  $s_* \in \tilde{S}$  and  $B_{s_*} = C$ . Take any definable arc  $\lambda : (0, 1] \rightarrow S$  such that  $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \lambda(\tau) = s_*$ . Then  $\gamma = \varphi \circ \lambda$  is a desired arc.

The original proofs of the above results were based on model theory (cf. Bröcker [B], Marker and Steinhorn [MS], Pillay [P], van den Dries [vdD2]). Lion and Speissegger [LS] use blowing up in jet spaces to give purely geometric proof. Our proof beneath is based on Lipschitz cell decompositions.

## 1. Reduction of the problem by a decomposition into Lipschitz cells.

The first ingredient of our proof is a version with a parameter of the Kurdyka-Parusiński Theorem on a decomposition of a definable subset into Lipschitz cells (cf. [K] and [Par]). Before stating it we first recall a definition of a Lipschitz cell in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , which is by induction on  $n$ . Let  $M$  be a positive real number.

**Definition 2.** In  $\mathbb{R}$  Lipschitz cells are exactly singletons and open intervals.

Assume that  $n > 1$ . A subset  $C$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a **Lipschitz cell** with constant  $M$  if either

- (1)  $C = \{(y, x_n) : y \in D, x_n = f(y)\}$ , where  $y = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ ,  $D$  is a Lipschitz cell with constant  $M$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  and  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a definable Lipschitz function with constant  $M$ ,

or

(2)  $C = \{(y, x_n) : y \in D, f_1(y) < x_n < f_2(y)\}$ , where  $y$  and  $D$  are as in the case (1),  $f_i : D \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ , for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ,  $f_1(y) < f_2(y)$ , for each  $y \in D$ , and finally each of  $f_i$  is either a definable Lipschitz function with values in  $\mathbb{R}$  and constant  $M$ , or identically  $-\infty$ , or identically  $+\infty$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $A$  be a definable subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^k$ .*

*Then there exists a finite decomposition  $A = B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_p$  into definable subsets, there exist linear orthogonal automorphisms  $\varphi_j : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  ( $j = 1, \dots, p$ ) and a positive constant  $M_n$  depending only on  $n$  such that, for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}^k$  and each  $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ , if  $B_{jt} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\varphi_j(B_{jt})$  is a Lipschitz cell in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with constant  $M_n$ . Consequently,  $A_t = B_{1t} \cup \dots \cup B_{pt}$ , for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}^k$ .*

*Proof.* See Proposition 1.4 in [KP] or [K-C].

We will be often using the following.

*Observation 1*

If  $T = \cup_{j=1}^s T_j$  is any finite partition into definable subsets and if we prove Main Theorem for every  $T_j$  separately obtaining an appropriate Lipschitz bijection  $\varphi_j : S_j \rightarrow T_j$ , then we can obviously assume that the distances of different  $S_j$ 's are positive; hence, gluing  $\varphi_j$ 's together gives the desired  $\varphi$  for  $T$ .

It follows from Theorem 1 and Observation 1, that it suffices to prove Main Theorem for a family of closures of bounded definable Lipschitz cells in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We will see in a moment that in fact it suffices to prove the following proposition.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $F : K \times T \ni (x, t) \mapsto F_t(x) \in \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded definable function, where  $T$  is a definable bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and  $K$  is a compact  $m$ -dimensional interval in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ; i.e.,  $K = [a_1, b_1] \times \dots \times [a_m, b_m]$ , where  $a_1 < b_1, \dots, a_m < b_m$ . Assume that all the functions  $F_t$  are Lipschitz with a common Lipschitz constant  $M$ .*

*Then there exists a definable bounded subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and a definable Lipschitz bijection  $\varphi : S \rightarrow T$  such that  $F \circ (id_K \times \varphi) : K \times S \ni (x, s) \mapsto F(x, \varphi(s))$  is Lipschitz.*

To derive the Main Theorem from Proposition 1, assume that  $\{C_t\}$ , ( $t \in T$ ) is a definable family of definable Lipschitz cells in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a common Lipschitz constant  $M$  and such that all  $C_t$  are contained in one common bounded subset. We can distinguish the following two cases.

*Case I*

$$C_t = \{(y, x_n) : y \in D_t, x_n = f_t(y)\} \quad (t \in T)$$

where  $y = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ ,  $\{D_t\}$  ( $t \in T$ ) is a definable family of definable subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ , all contained in a common compact  $m$ -dimensional interval  $K$ , and where  $f_t : D_t \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are commonly bounded Lipschitz functions with a common Lipschitz constant  $M$ . By the formula

$$F_t(z) = \sup\{f_t(y) - M|z - y| : y \in D_t\}$$

we extend our family to a family of Lipschitz functions  $F_t : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with constant  $M$  (compare [M] or [W; footnote on p. 63])<sup>2</sup>. Since

$$\overline{C}_t = \{(z, x_n) : z \in \overline{D}_t, x_n = F_t(z)\},$$

Proposition 1 together with the inductive argument on the dimension  $n$  finishes the proof in this case.

*Case II*

$$C_t = \{(y, x_n) : y \in D_t, f_t(y) < x_n < g_t(y)\} \quad (t \in T)$$

where  $y$ ,  $D_t$  and  $f_t$  are as in Case 1 and  $g_t : D_t \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are commonly bounded Lipschitz with a common Lipschitz constant  $M$  and such that  $f_t(y) < g_t(y)$ , for each  $y \in D_t$ .

Applying the argument of Case 1 to the both families  $\{f_t\}$  and  $\{g_t\}$ , we finish the proof in this case.

## 2. Main lemma to prove Proposition 1.

Main lemma to prove Proposition 1 is the following.

**Lemma 1.**<sup>3</sup>

*Let  $U$  be an open definable subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and let*

$$f : K \times U \ni (x, u) \longmapsto f(x, u) \in \mathbb{R}$$

*be a definable function, where  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$  and  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_k)$ . Let  $E$  be a closed, nowhere dense definable subset of  $K \times U$  such that  $f$  is of class  $C^1$  outside  $E$ . Assume that*

$$\left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right| \leq M \quad (i = 1, \dots, m) \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}^m \times U \setminus E.$$

*Then there exists a closed nowhere dense definable subset  $\Sigma$  of  $U$  such that*

*(\*) for each  $u \in U \setminus \Sigma$ , the subset  $E_u$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  is nowhere dense, and*

*(\*\*) for each  $u \in U \setminus \Sigma$ , the function*

$$K \setminus E_u \ni x \longmapsto \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}(x, u) \in \mathbb{R}$$

*is bounded.*

To prove Lemma 1 we will use the following particular case of the  $C^1$ -extension theorem [Paw; Proposition 2].

<sup>2</sup>The last formula can be used to get a Lipschitz extension to the whole space  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ .

<sup>3</sup>Compare [V; Proposition 5.5]

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\Delta$  be a definable open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and let*

$$S = \{(u, v) \in \Delta \times \mathbb{R} : \varphi(u) < v < \psi(u)\},$$

where  $\varphi : \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\psi : \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are definable  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -functions such that  $\varphi(u) < \psi(u)$ , for each  $u \in \Delta$ .

Let  $g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a definable  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -function such that the derivative  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial v}$  is bounded.

Then there is a closed nowhere dense definable subset  $Z$  of (the graph of)<sup>4</sup>  $\varphi$  such that  $g$  extends to a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -function

$$g : S \cup (\varphi \setminus Z) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

to  $S \cup (\varphi \setminus Z)$  as a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^{k+1}$  with boundary  $\varphi \setminus Z$ .

*Proof of Lemma 1.* Of course there exists a closed nowhere dense  $\Sigma$  for which the condition (1) is satisfied, so without any loss of generality we can assume it to be satisfied for each  $u \in U$ .

Suppose that Lemma 1 is not true. Then there exists a nonempty open subset  $W$  of  $U$  such that for each  $u \in W$  there exists  $a \in E_u$  such that

$$\limsup_{\substack{x \rightarrow a \\ x \notin E_u}} \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}(x, u) \right| = +\infty.$$

By definable choice we find a definable mapping  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_m) : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  such that for each  $u \in W$ ,  $h(u) \in E_u$  and

$$\limsup_{\substack{x \rightarrow h(u) \\ x \notin E_u}} \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}(x, u) \right| = +\infty.$$

Shrinking  $W$  we can assume that  $h$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^1$ . By a version with a parameter of Curve Selecting Lemma, there exists a definable mapping  $\alpha : (0, 1) \times W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  such that every  $\alpha_u : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \setminus E_u$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -arc lying outside  $E_u$ ,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \alpha_u(t) = h(u)$  and

$$(1) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}(\alpha_u(t), u) = \pm\infty$$

Shrinking perhaps  $W$  and replacing the parameter  $t$  by  $t' = \rho t$ , with  $\rho$  small positive, we can assume that  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)$  is  $\mathcal{C}^1$  on  $(0, 1) \times W$ , there exists  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  such that

$$(2) \quad \left| \frac{\partial \alpha_j}{\partial t}(t, u) \right| \geq \left| \frac{\partial \alpha_i}{\partial t}(t, u) \right|, \quad \text{for each } (t, u) \in (0, 1) \times W, i \in \{1, \dots, m\},$$

and that the sign of  $\frac{\partial \alpha_j}{\partial t}$  is constant, say positive, on  $(0, 1) \times W$ . Of course we can assume that  $j = 1$ .

<sup>4</sup>We identify here a function with its graph.

Let us introduce the new variable  $v = \alpha_1(t, u)$  in the place of  $t$ . Then  $t = \beta_1(v, u)$ , where  $v \in (h_1(u), \omega(u))$ , with a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -function  $\omega > h_1$ . Let us set  $\beta_i(v, u) = \alpha_i(\beta_1(v, u), u)$ , for each  $i \in \{2, \dots, m\}$  and  $v \in (h_1(u), \omega(u))$ .

By (2) we have  $\left| \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial v}(v, u) \right| \leq 1$ , for each  $v \in (h_1(u), \omega(u))$  and  $i \in \{2, \dots, m\}$ . By Theorem 2, shrinking perhaps  $W$ , we can assume that all  $\beta_i$   $i \in \{2, \dots, m\}$  extend to  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -functions on  $\{(v, u) : u \in W, v \in [h_1(u), \omega(u)]\}$ . In particular we can assume that the derivatives  $\frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial u_1}(v, u)$  are bounded, when  $v$  is sufficiently near  $h_1(u)$ .

In the new variable  $v$  (1) reads as follows

$$(3) \quad \lim_{v \rightarrow h_1(u)} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}(v, \beta_2(v, u), \dots, \beta_m(v, u), u) = \pm\infty.$$

Consider now the following function

$$g(v, u) = f(v, \beta_2(v, u), \dots, \beta_m(v, u), u), \quad \text{for } u \in W \text{ and } v \in (h_1(u), \omega(u)).$$

It is easy to see that  $\left| \frac{\partial g}{\partial v}(v, u) \right| \leq Mm$ . On the other hand we have  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u_1}(v, u) =$

$$\sum_{i=2}^m \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(v, \beta_2(v, u), \dots, \beta_m(v, u), u) \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial u_1} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u_1}(v, \beta_2(v, u), \dots, \beta_m(v, u), u)$$

which - in virtue of (3) - tends to  $\pm\infty$ , for each  $u \in W$ , when  $v$  tends to  $h_1(u)$ . This is a contradiction with Theorem 2. The proof of Lemma 1 is complete.

### 3. Proof of Proposition 1.

We will argue by induction on  $k = \dim T$ . We will be often making use of the following

*Observation 2*

By the induction hypothesis that Proposition 1 is true if the subset of parameters is of dimension  $< k$  and by Observation 1, we can remove from  $T$  any definable subset of dimension  $< k$ .

By Observations 1 and 2 together with Theorem 1 (where  $T = \{t_o\}$ ), we can assume that  $T = U$  is an open bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . We will first proof the following special case of Proposition 1:

**Proposition 2.** *Proposition 1 is true under the extra assumptions that  $T = U$  is an open bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  and  $\left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, u) \right| \leq M$ , for each  $u \in U$  and  $x \in K \setminus E_u$ .*

To prove Proposition 2, we will use the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $c < d$  and let*

$$h : K \times (c, d) \ni (x, v) \longmapsto h(x, v) = h_v(x) \in \mathbb{R}$$

*be a definable function such that all functions  $h_v$  are Lipschitz with a common constant. Then there exists a finite partition  $c_0 = c < c_1 < \dots < c_s = b$  such that  $h$  is continuous on each of the sets  $K \times (c_{i-1}, c_i)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, s$ ).*

*Proof of Lemma 2.* Let  $Z$  denote the set of points of  $K \times (c, d)$ , at which  $h$  is not continuous. Suppose that  $(x_o, v_o) \in Z$ . Put

$$\sigma = \lim_{v \rightarrow v_o^+} h(x_o, v) (\in \overline{\mathbb{R}}) \quad \text{and} \quad \rho = \lim_{v \rightarrow v_o^-} h(x_o, v) (\in \overline{\mathbb{R}}).$$

Since  $h_v$  are equicontinuous, by the double limit theorem,

$$\sigma = \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow x_o \\ v \rightarrow v_o^+}} h(x, v) \quad \text{and} \quad \rho = \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow x_o \\ v \rightarrow v_o^-}} h(x, v).$$

Since  $x \mapsto h(x, v_o)$  is continuous and  $(x_o, v_o) \in Z$ , there must be  $\sigma \neq h(x_o, v_o)$  or  $\rho \neq h(x_o, v_o)$ . Suppose, for example, that  $\sigma < h(x_o, v_o)$ . Take any  $\sigma'$  such that  $\sigma < \sigma' < h(x_o, v_o)$ . There exists a neighborhood  $U_o$  of  $x_o$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $h(x, v) < \sigma'$ , whenever  $x \in U_o$  and  $v \in (v_o, v_o + \epsilon)$ . Since  $x \mapsto h(x, v_o)$  is continuous, after perhaps shrinking  $U_o$ , we can assume that  $\sigma' < h(x, v_o)$ , for each  $x \in U_o$ . Consequently, for each  $x \in U_o$ ,

$$\lim_{v \rightarrow v_o^+} h(x, v) \leq \sigma' < h(x, v_o), \quad \text{thus} \quad U_o \subset Z_{v_o}.$$

*Proof of Proposition 2.* Let  $\pi : U \ni u = (u_1, \dots, u_k) \longmapsto \tilde{u} = (u_2, \dots, u_k) \in \pi(U)$  be the natural projection. By Observations 1-2, without any loss of generality, we can assume that all the fibers of  $\pi$  are connected; i.e.

$$\pi^{-1}(\{\tilde{u}\}) = (c(\tilde{u}), d(\tilde{u})) \times \{\tilde{u}\}, \quad \text{for each} \quad \tilde{u} \in \pi(U).$$

By Lemma 2, we can also assume that  $F_{\tilde{u}}$  is continuous on  $K \times (c(\tilde{u}), d(\tilde{u}))$ , for each  $\tilde{u} \in \pi(U)$ . Since  $F_{\tilde{u}}$  is  $\mathcal{C}^1$  outside a definable nowhere dense subset, by the Mean Value Theorem,  $F_{\tilde{u}}$  is Lipschitz on  $K \times (c(\tilde{u}), d(\tilde{u}))$ , with a constant independent of  $\tilde{u}$ . As in Section 1, we now extend all  $F_{\tilde{u}}$  to Lipschitz functions on  $K \times [a_{m+1}, b_{m+1}]$ , and finish the proof by the induction hypothesis on  $\dim T$ .

Now we come back to the proof of Proposition 1 in full generality. By Observation 2 and Lemma 1, we can assume that, for each  $u \in U$ , we have  $\dim E_u < m$ ; in particular,  $E_u$  is nowhere dense in  $K$ , and the function  $K \setminus E_u \ni x \mapsto \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, u)$  is bounded.

Let us choose a definable function  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  such that for each  $u \in U$ ,  $\lambda(u) \in K \setminus E_u$  and

$$(4) \quad \left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(\lambda(u), u) \right| \geq \frac{1}{2} \sup_{x \in K \setminus E_u} \left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, u) \right|.$$

By Observation 2 we can assume that  $\lambda$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^1$  on  $U$ . Again due to Observation 2, it suffices to consider the following two cases

*Case I:*

$$(5) \quad \left| \frac{\partial \lambda_i}{\partial u_1} \right| \leq 1, \quad \text{for each } i \in \{1, \dots, m\};$$

$$\text{Case II: } \left| \frac{\partial \lambda_1}{\partial u_1} \right| \geq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{\partial \lambda_i}{\partial u_1} \right| \leq \left| \frac{\partial \lambda_1}{\partial u_1} \right|, \quad \text{for each } i \in \{1, \dots, m\}.$$

In Case I we distinguish the following two subcases (again due to Observations 1-2).

$$\text{Subcase I.1: } \left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(\lambda(u), u) \right| \leq 2mM.$$

Then  $\left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, u) \right| \leq 4mM$ , for each  $x \in K \setminus E_u$  and  $u \in U$ . Proposition 2 completes the proof in this subcase.

*Subcase I.2:*

$$(6) \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(\lambda(u), u) \geq 2mM \quad (\text{or, symmetrically, } \leq -2mM) \quad \text{for each } u \in U.$$

Let us take the new variable  $w_1 = F(\lambda(u), u)$  in the place of  $u_1$ . Hence  $u_1 = \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u})$ , where  $\varphi$  is a definable  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -function and  $\tilde{u} = (u_2, \dots, u_k)$ . Then

$$\frac{\partial w_1}{\partial u_1} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \lambda_i}{\partial u_1} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(\lambda(u), u);$$

whence, by (5), (6) and  $\left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} \right| \leq M$ ,

$$\frac{\partial w_1}{\partial u_1} \geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(\lambda(u), u).$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} F(x, \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial w_1}(w_1, \tilde{u}) = \frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u})}{\frac{\partial w_1}{\partial u_1}},$$

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} F(x, \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right| \leq \frac{\left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right|}{\left| \frac{\partial w_1}{\partial u_1} \right|} \leq$$

$$2 \frac{\left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right|}{\left| \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(\lambda(\varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}), \varphi(w_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right|} \leq 4,$$

by (4), for each  $x \in K \setminus E_{(w_1, \tilde{u})}$ .<sup>5</sup> In order to finish the proof in this subcase, by reducing to Proposition 2, it suffices to use Observations 1-2, Theorem 1 (case  $T = \{t_o\}$ ) and the following lemma.

<sup>5</sup>We denote the subset  $E$  in the new variables by the same letter  $E$ .

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $C$  be an open definable Lipschitz cell in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with a Lipschitz constant  $L$  and let  $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_l) : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^l$  be a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -mapping such that  $\left| \frac{\partial \varphi_i}{\partial x_j} \right| \leq M$ , for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, l\}$  and  $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ .*

*Then  $\varphi$  is Lipschitz with a Lipschitz constant depending only on  $L, M, k$  and  $l$ .*

*Proof of Lemma 3.* By [K; Proposition 8] (or [Paw; Proposition 1]),  $C$  is quasi-convex with a constant  $\tilde{L}$ , depending only on  $L$  and  $k$ ; i.e. for each pair of points  $u, w \in C$  there exists a continuous arc  $\mu : [0, 1] \rightarrow C$  such that  $\mu(0) = u$ ,  $\mu(1) = w$  and of length  $\leq \tilde{L}|u - w|$ . Then we finish by [T; p. 76, Remarque 2.5].

In Case II let us introduce the following new variable  $v_1 = \lambda_1(u)$  in the place of  $u_1$ . Then  $u_1 = \psi(v_1, \tilde{u})$ , where  $\psi$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -function. Denote our function  $F$  in the new variables by  $G$ ; i. e.  $G(x, v_1, \tilde{u}) := F(x, \psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u})$ . Then

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial v_1}(x, v_1, \tilde{u}) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_1}(x, \psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial v_1}(v_1, \tilde{u});$$

hence

$$\left| \frac{\partial G}{\partial v_1}(\lambda(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}), v_1, \tilde{u}) \right| \geq \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\partial G}{\partial v_1}(x, v_1, \tilde{u}) \right|,$$

for each  $x \in K \setminus E_{(v_1, \tilde{u})}$ . Since

$$\lambda(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) = (v_1, \lambda_2(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}), \dots, \lambda_m(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u})),$$

and

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial v_1} \lambda_i(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right| = \frac{\left| \frac{\partial \lambda_i}{\partial u_1}(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right|}{\left| \frac{\partial \lambda_1}{\partial u_1}(\psi(v_1, \tilde{u}), \tilde{u}) \right|} \leq 1,$$

for  $i \in \{2, \dots, m\}$ , Case I can be applied which completes the proof in Case II and all the proof of Main Theorem.

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