New examples of k-intersective sets

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Abstract

A set S of positive integers is k-intersective if every integer subset with positive density contains an arithmetic progression of length k+1and common difference in S. Sets that are k-intersective for k > 1 are hard to come by and until very recently there were no known examples of 2-intersective but not 3-intersective sets. We will give explicit examples of such sets (*joint work with E. Lesigne and M. Wierdl*). We will also discuss the question of whether the set of the shifted primes P-1 is k-intersective for every k (*joint work with B. Host and B. Kra*). Both arguments use ergodic theory.