

# CONSTRUCTION VERSUS BAIRE CATEGORY IN UNIVERSALITY

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ABSTRACT. The following question is explicitly or implicitly posed in several papers on universality: In existence proofs of universal functions, is it preferable to construct a specific example or should one use the Baire category theorem? We shall argue that the two approaches are largely equivalent. Our discussion leads us, among other things, to the solution of two problems of Kariofillis, Nestoridis, Aldred and Armitage, to a re-evaluation of a theorem of Herzog on restricted universality, and to improvements of some recent results on universal functions.