

ANOTHER LOCALLY CONNECTED HAUSDORFF
CONTINUUM NOT CONNECTED
BY ORDERED CONTINUA

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ABSTRACT. An example is given of a locally connected Hausdorff continuum which is not connected by ordered continua.

In 1960, S. Mardešić [2] gave an example of a locally connected Hausdorff continuum which is not connected by ordered continua (see also [3]). His example is somewhat complex, and it is the purpose of this paper to give a conceptually simpler example.

An ordered continuum is a totally ordered set $\{K, <\}$ such that K with the topology induced by the total order is compact and connected. Every closed subset of an ordered continuum has a first point and a last point in the order; they share many of the properties of metric arcs, and may be characterized as being Hausdorff continua with only two noncut points. A space X is said to be *connected by ordered continua* if for each two points x and y of X , there is an ordered continuum K with first and last points a and b and a continuous map $f: K \rightarrow X$ such that $f(a) = x$ and $f(b) = y$.

We use the notation (x, y) , $(x, y]$ and $[x, y]$ for nondegenerate open, half open and closed intervals of ordered continua, or of the real numbers when x and y are numbers, and the notation $\langle x, y \rangle$, $\langle x, y, z \rangle$ for ordered pairs and triples. Following Kelley [1], we let Ω_0 denote the set of countable ordinals, Ω denote the first uncountable ordinal and Ω' denote $\Omega_0 \cup \{\Omega\}$. We let L denote $\Omega_0 \times [0, 1) \cup \{\langle \Omega, 0 \rangle\}$ with the order topology induced by the lexicographic order— $\langle p, q \rangle < \langle r, s \rangle$ if and only if $p < r$ or $p = r$ and $q < s$. Then L is an ordered continuum, sometimes called “the long interval”, with first point $\langle 0, 0 \rangle$ and last point $\langle \Omega, 0 \rangle$.

1. **The spaces S_0 and S .** In the product space $C = L \times [0, 1] \times [-1, 1]$, let S_0 denote the *closure* of

$$\{\langle \langle \alpha, t \rangle, y, z \rangle \in C \mid z = \sin \pi / (1 - t)\}.$$

We suggest Figure 1 as a representation of S_0 . S_0 is a continuum and is locally connected except at the points $\langle \langle \alpha, 0 \rangle, y, z \rangle$ where $\alpha > 0$.

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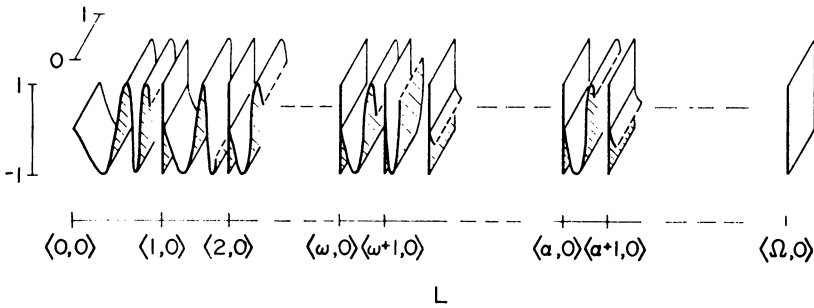


FIGURE 1

Let $\{\{y_{\alpha,n}, z_{\alpha,n}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}\}_{\alpha \in \Omega_0}$ be a collection of countable dense subsets of $[0, 1] \times [-1, 1]$ with the property that $y_{\alpha,n} = y_{\bar{\alpha},\bar{n}}$ implies that $\alpha = \bar{\alpha}$ and $n = \bar{n}$. For α in Ω_0 and n a positive integer, we let $L_{\alpha,n}$ be the interval in C "parallel to L ".

$$[\langle \alpha, 1 - 1/n \rangle, \langle \alpha + 1, 0 \rangle] \times \{y_{\alpha,n}\} \times \{z_{\alpha,n}\}.$$

(See Figure 2.) We let

$$S = S_0 \cup \bigcup \{L_{\alpha,n} \mid \alpha \in \Omega_0, n = 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

Now S is also a continuum; the effect of adding the intervals $\{L_{\alpha,n}\}$ to S_0 is that S is locally connected at each point except the points $\langle \langle \alpha, 0 \rangle, y, z \rangle$ where α is a *limit* ordinal. S is locally connected at the nonlimit ordinals, S_0 is not. However, for each number y_1 in $[0, 1]$, the "slice" $S_{y_1} = \{\langle \langle \alpha, t \rangle, y, z \rangle \in S \mid y = y_1\}$ of S contains at most one of the intervals $L_{\alpha,n}$, and is not locally connected at the points $\langle \langle \alpha, 0 \rangle, y, z \rangle, \alpha > 0$, except at an endpoint of perhaps that one interval.

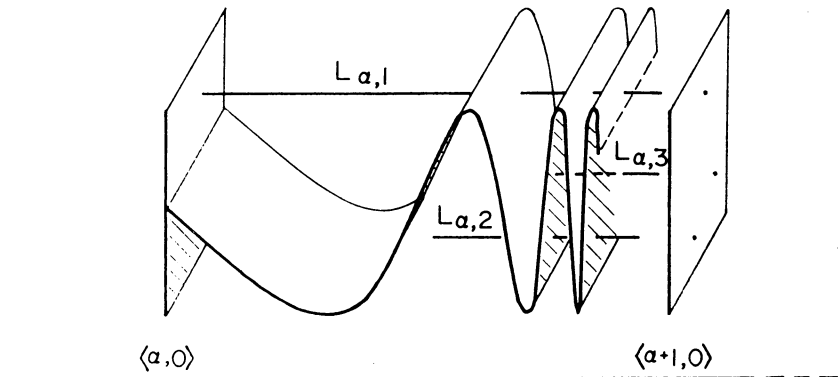


FIGURE 2

2. **The example M .** For each limit ordinal α in Ω' and each number y in $[0, 1]$, let $V_{\alpha,y}$ denote the "vertical" interval

$$V_{\alpha,y} = \{ \langle \langle \alpha, 0 \rangle, y, z \rangle \in S \mid -1 \leq z \leq 1 \}.$$

Let M denote the upper semicontinuous decomposition of S whose only nondegenerate elements are the intervals $V_{\alpha,y}$ where α is a *limit* ordinal and $y \in [0, 1]$. (M is obtained from S by identifying to a point each of the intervals $V_{\alpha,y}$.) Let $q: S \rightarrow M$ be the quotient map of the decomposition. For each member P of M and open set O containing P , there is in C a product open set $R = U \times V \times W$, U open in L , V open in $[0, 1]$ and W open in $[-1, 1]$, such that $q(R \cap S)$ is a connected open set in M which contains P and is a subset of O . We omit discussion of the several special cases needed to establish this fact, but observe that with this and the fact that decompositions of continua yield continua, we have that M is a locally connected Hausdorff continuum.

3. **M is not connected by ordered continua.** Let E_Ω be $\{V_{\Omega,y} \in M \mid y \in [0, 1]\}$. We show that M is not connected by ordered continua between any point of $M - E_\Omega$ and any point of E_Ω . The crux of the argument is:

LEMMA. *If a subcontinuum H of $T = L \times [0, 1]$ contains only one point $\langle \langle \Omega, 0 \rangle, y_1 \rangle$ of $E = \{\langle \Omega, 0 \rangle\} \times [0, 1]$ and a point $\langle \langle \alpha_0, t_0 \rangle, y_0 \rangle$ of $T - E$, then there is a nondegenerate interval $L' = (\langle \alpha', t' \rangle, \langle \Omega, 0 \rangle]$ of L such that the intersection of H with $L' \times [0, 1]$ is $L' \times \{y_1\}$.*

PROOF. E is homeomorphic to $[0, 1]$, and there is a countable collection of open sets in T , $O_i = (\langle \alpha_i, t_i \rangle, \langle \Omega, 0 \rangle] \times G_i$, G_i open in $[0, 1] - \{y_1\}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$, such that $E - H \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} O_i \subset T - H$. Let $\langle \alpha', t' \rangle$ be the supremum in L of $\{\langle \alpha_0, t_0 \rangle\} \cup \{\langle \alpha_i, t_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ and $L' = (\langle \alpha', t' \rangle, \langle \Omega, 0 \rangle]$. Because no countable sequence is cofinal in Ω_0 , $\langle \alpha', t' \rangle$ is not $\langle \Omega, 0 \rangle$ and L' is nondegenerate. The $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} O_i$ contains all of $L' \times [0, 1]$ except $L' \times \{y_1\}$ and does not intersect H so that the intersection of H with $L' \times [0, 1]$ is a subset of $L' \times \{y_1\}$. Since H is connected, H must contain $L' \times \{y_1\}$ and the conclusion of the lemma follows.

Now suppose that $K = [a, b]$ is an ordered continuum and $f: K \rightarrow M$ is a continuous map such that $f(a) \in M - E_\Omega$ and $f(b) \in E_\Omega$. E_Ω is a closed subset of M and there is a first point, e , in K of $f^{-1}(E_\Omega)$. The map $p: M \rightarrow T$ ($T = L \times [0, 1]$), defined by

$$p(V_{\alpha,y}) = \langle \langle \alpha, 0 \rangle, y \rangle \quad \text{for nondegenerate elements of } M,$$

$$p(\langle \langle \alpha, t \rangle, y, z \rangle) = \langle \langle \alpha, t \rangle, y \rangle \quad \text{for degenerate elements of } M,$$

is continuous, and $p(f([a, e]))$ is a continuum in T which contains only the point $p(f(e)) = \langle \langle \Omega, 0 \rangle, y_1 \rangle$ of E ($E = \{\langle \Omega, 0 \rangle\} \times [0, 1]$) and a point $p(f(a))$

of $T-E$. We consider $\langle \alpha', t' \rangle$ and L' from the lemma above. For the number y_1 , there is at most one interval L_{α, y_1} and we consider an ordinal $\bar{\alpha}$ less than Ω and greater than both α' and any α for which there is an L_{α, y_1} . There is a first point d of $[a, e]$ for which $p(f(d)) = \langle \langle \bar{\alpha} + 1, 0 \rangle, y_1 \rangle$ and a last point c of $[a, d]$ for which $p(f(c)) = \langle \langle \bar{\alpha}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle, y_1 \rangle$. Now $[c, d]$ is locally connected; hence $f([c, d])$ must be locally connected. But $f([c, d])$ must also be "the $y=y_1$ slice of M from $\langle \bar{\alpha}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle$ to $\langle \bar{\alpha} + 1, 0 \rangle$ " (i.e. $\{ \langle \langle \alpha, t \rangle, y, z \rangle \in M \mid y=y_1 \text{ and } \langle \bar{\alpha}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle \leq \langle \alpha, t \rangle \leq \langle \bar{\alpha} + 1, 0 \rangle \}$) which is homeomorphic to the closure in the plane of the graph of $y = \sin(\pi/(1-x))$, $\frac{1}{2} \leq x < 1$, and is not locally connected. This involves a contradiction and the proof is complete.

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