

## ON HEREDITARILY INDECOMPOSABLE CONTINUA, HENDERSON COMPACTA AND A QUESTION OF YOHE

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(Communicated by Alan Dow)

ABSTRACT. We answer a question of Yohe by showing that there exists a family of continuum many topologically different hereditarily indecomposable Cantor manifolds without any non-trivial weakly infinite-dimensional subcontinua. This family may consist either of compacta containing one-dimensional subsets or of compacta containing no weakly infinite-dimensional subsets of positive dimension.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The first continuum without any non-trivial finite-dimensional subcontinua was constructed by Henderson (see [9] and [10]), solving a well-known problem which had been open for 40 years. Since then, many other constructions of such continua appeared (see [5], [27], [25], [21], [22], [23], [14], [15]; cf. also [7], page 269); in particular, there exist hereditarily strongly infinite-dimensional continua (i.e. non-trivial continua without any weakly infinite-dimensional subsets of positive dimension). Several years earlier, Bing [3] had shown, solving another outstanding problem in continuum theory, that every continuum can be separated by a closed set all of whose components are hereditarily indecomposable. In effect, there exist Henderson continua which are hereditarily indecomposable. Moreover, by a theorem of Tumarkin [26], there exist such continua which are Cantor manifolds, i.e., which cannot be separated by any finite-dimensional set.

This prompted Yohe [28] to ask if there exist uncountably many topologically different hereditarily indecomposable Henderson continua that are Cantor manifolds. The aim of this paper is to construct two such collections: the first one will consist of Henderson continua which contain 1-dimensional subsets, and the second one will consist of hereditarily strongly infinite-dimensional continua. The first version of this paper contained only a construction of the first collection. The referee suggested that the second collection would be also of interest, and provided a clever idea of such a construction (outlined, with his/her kind permission, in Remark 5.2). We decided to describe in the paper in detail another construction to that effect, based on our earlier results.

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Received by the editors August 23, 2000 and, in revised form, April 4, 2001.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 54F15, 54F45.

*Key words and phrases*. Hereditarily indecomposable continua, Henderson compacta, hereditarily strongly infinite-dimensional, Cantor manifolds.

The author's research was partially supported by KBN grant 5 P03A 024 20.

Let us notice that in [19] we have constructed a family of continuum many Cantor manifolds without non-trivial finite-dimensional subcontinua that are not embeddable into each other, and Chatyrko and the author constructed in [6] such a family of hereditarily strongly infinite-dimensional Cantor manifolds. However, these continua are not hereditarily indecomposable.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Our terminology follows [7] and [12]. All spaces are metrizable and separable. A continuum  $X$  is indecomposable, if it is not the union of two proper subcontinua. A continuum  $X$  is hereditarily indecomposable, abbreviated HI, if every subcontinuum of  $X$  is indecomposable. By  $P$  we will denote the pseudoarc, i.e., the hereditarily indecomposable 1-dimensional chainable continuum (unique, up to a homeomorphism); cf. [12], §48, X.

A space  $X$  is weakly infinite-dimensional (abbreviated WID) if for each infinite sequence  $(A_1, B_1), (A_2, B_2), \dots$  of pairs of disjoint closed subsets of  $X$  there are partitions  $L_i$  between  $A_i$  and  $B_i$  in  $X$  such that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} L_i = \emptyset$ . A space is strongly infinite-dimensional, abbreviated SID, if it is not WID.

By a Henderson compactum we mean an infinite-dimensional compactum, every non-trivial subcontinuum of which is infinite-dimensional. An SID space  $X$  is hereditarily SID, if every subset of  $X$  of positive dimension is SID. The first hereditarily SID compactum was constructed by Rubin [25] (cf. [7], Problem 6.1.G).

An infinite-dimensional continuum  $X$  is a Cantor manifold if all closed sets which disconnect  $X$  are infinite-dimensional. As shown by Tumarkin [26], every Henderson compactum contains an infinite-dimensional Cantor manifold. Yohe [28] proved, using the result of Bing cited in the introduction, that every Henderson compactum contains uncountably many mutually exclusive HI Cantor manifolds.

In particular, there exist HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifolds.

A subcontinuum  $Y$  of a continuum  $X$  is terminal, if every subcontinuum of  $X$  which intersects both  $Y$  and its complement must contain  $Y$ . A mapping  $p$  of a continuum  $X$  onto a continuum  $Y$  is atomic if every fiber of  $p$  is a terminal continuum in  $X$ .

Our constructions depend essentially on a method of condensation of singularities, which goes back to Anderson and Choquet [1]. More precisely, we will need the following special case of Theorem 3.2 of [20], which in turn summarizes some results of Maćkowiak [17], [18].

**2.1. Theorem.** *Let  $X$  and  $K$  be non-trivial continua, and let  $A$  be a 0-dimensional  $F_\sigma$ -subset of  $X$ . Then there exist a continuum  $S(X, K, A)$  and an atomic mapping  $p : S(X, K, A) \rightarrow X$  such that*

- (i)  $p^{-1}(a)$  is a copy of  $K$  if  $a \in A$ ,
- (ii)  $p \upharpoonright p^{-1}(X \setminus A)$  is a homeomorphism onto  $X \setminus A$ , and  $p^{-1}(X \setminus A)$  is dense in  $S(X, K, A)$ ,
- (iii) if  $A$  is dense in  $X$ , then every open subset of  $S(X, K, A)$  contains a copy of  $K$ ,
- (iv) if both  $X$  and  $K$  are HI, then  $S(X, K, A)$  is HI,
- (v) if  $X \setminus A$  and  $K$  do not contain any non-trivial WID subcontinuum, then  $S(X, K, A)$  contains no non-trivial WID subcontinuum,
- (vi) if  $X$  is an infinite-dimensional Cantor manifold, then so is  $S(X, K, A)$ ,

(vii) if  $X$  and  $K$  are hereditarily SID and  $A$  is countable, then  $S(X, K, A)$  is hereditarily SID.

*Proof.* Let us decompose  $A$  into a sequence of disjoint compact subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  (if  $A$  is countable then we assume that every  $A_i$  is a one-point set) and let  $S(X, K, A)$  be the space  $L(X, K \times A_i, A_i)$  described in Theorem 3.2 of [20]. Note that in the case when  $A$  is countable, the space  $L(X, K \times A_i, A_i)$  is the same as the space  $S(X, K, A)$  described in [6], sec.2. The properties (i) - (iii) of  $S(X, K, A)$  follow from conditions (ii) and (iv) of the cited Theorem 3.2. The property (iv) follows from a theorem of Maćkowiak (see [17], Proposition 11,(i)) stating that a continuum which is the preimage of an HI continuum under an atomic mapping with HI fibers is itself HI.

To show property (v), suppose that  $Y$  is a non-trivial continuum in  $S(X, K, A)$ . Then either  $Y$  embeds in  $X \setminus A$ , or  $Y \subset p^{-1}(a)$  for some  $a \in A$ , or else there exists  $a' \in A$  such that  $Y \cap p^{-1}(a') \neq \emptyset \neq Y \setminus p^{-1}(a')$ . In the first two cases  $Y$  is SID, since  $X \setminus A$  and  $p^{-1}(a)$  do not contain any non-trivial WID subcontinuum. In the third case,  $Y$  contains the SID continuum  $p^{-1}(a')$ , since the fiber is a terminal continuum.

The property (vi) is a generalization of Lemma 2.5 in [6]. Indeed, by (ii) and the monotonicity of  $p$ , for every partition  $F$  in  $X$  the set  $p(F)$  is a partition in  $Z$ ; hence  $p(F)$ , and thus  $p^{-1}(p(F) \setminus A) = F \setminus p^{-1}(A)$ , is infinite-dimensional.

Finally, the property (vii) follows from Lemma 2.7 in [6].  $\square$

### 3. AN HI HENDERSON CONTINUUM CONTAINING A 1-DIMENSIONAL SUBSET

An example given in sec.4 of [6] shows that there exists a continuum  $Z$  all of whose non-trivial subcontinua are strongly infinite-dimensional, but which contains a 1-dimensional subset. We will construct now two continua having the above mentioned properties which are also hereditarily indecomposable. The second example will be vital in answering the question of Yohe.

**3.1. Example.** There exists a hereditarily indecomposable continuum  $\tilde{P}$  all of whose non-trivial subcontinua are strongly infinite-dimensional, but which contains a 1-dimensional subset.

There exists a 1-dimensional  $G_\delta$ -subset  $G$  of the pseudoarc  $P$  without non-trivial subcontinua such that the set  $P \setminus G$  is 0-dimensional. The detailed construction of such a set, based on a theorem of Lelek [13] stating that there exists an embedding  $i$  of the product  $C \times P$  of the Cantor set  $C$  and the pseudoarc  $P$  into  $P$ , is given in [20]. For the sake of completeness, let us sketch a variant of such a construction. First consider in the hyperspace of  $C \times P$  the set  $\mathcal{F}$  of all partitions between  $C \times \{a\}$  and  $C \times \{b\}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are different points of  $P$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}$  is analytic, then there exists a map  $f$  of a  $G_\delta$  dense subset  $D$  of  $C$  onto  $\mathcal{F}$ . Let  $\pi : D \times P \rightarrow D$  be the projection; then  $\pi^{-1}(x) \cap f(x)$  is non-empty for every  $x \in D$ . Since the set  $Y = \bigcup \{\pi^{-1}(x) \cap f(x) : x \in D\}$  is closed in  $D \times P$ , there exists a  $G_\delta$ -subset  $H$  of  $Y$  intersecting every  $\pi^{-1}(x) \cap Y$  in exactly one point (see [8], Theorem 4; cf. [2], Ch.IX, §6, Exercise 9). Let  $Z$  be a 0-dimensional  $G_\delta$  dense subset of  $P$  such that  $P \setminus Z$  is 0-dimensional. Then the set  $G = i(H \cup (C \times Z)) \cup (Z \setminus i(C \times P))$  has all the required properties.

Let  $K$  be an HI hereditarily SID continuum (see sec.2) and let  $\tilde{P} = S(X, K, A)$  and  $p : \tilde{P} \rightarrow P$  be respectively the continuum and the atomic mapping described

in Theorem 2.1, where  $X = P$  and  $A = P \setminus G$ . From conditions (iv) and (v) of Theorem 2.1 it follows that  $\tilde{P}$  is an HI continuum without any non-trivial WID subcontinua. Since, by (ii), the set  $p^{-1}(G)$  is homeomorphic to  $G$ , then  $\tilde{P}$  contains a one-dimensional subset.

**3.2. Example.** There exists a hereditarily indecomposable Cantor manifold  $X$  without non-trivial weakly infinite dimensional subcontinua, every open subset of which contains a 1-dimensional subset.

Let  $Z$  be an HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifold and let  $A$  be a countable dense subset of  $Z$ . Let  $X = S(Z, \tilde{P}, A)$ , where  $\tilde{P}$  is the continuum constructed in Example 3.1. Then  $X$  is an HI Cantor manifold without non-trivial WID subcontinua by conditions (iv), (v) and (vi) of Theorem 2.1. Moreover, by (iii) of Theorem 2.1, every open subset of  $X$  contains a copy of  $\tilde{P}$ , hence also a 1-dimensional subset.

#### 4. NO HENDERSON COMPACTUM CONTAINS TOPOLOGICALLY ALL HI HEREDITARILY SID CANTOR MANIFOLDS

The following lemma is closely related to Lemma 6.3 in [19].

**4.1. Lemma.** *Let  $L$  be a non-trivial continuum. Then there exist compacta  $K_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , such that*

- (a)  *$K_\alpha$  is the union of countably many disjoint topological copies of  $L$ , and*
- (b) *if a compactum  $K$  contains topologically uncountably many  $K_\alpha$ , then  $K$  contains a 1-dimensional subcontinuum.*

*Proof.* Given a compactum  $X$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{K}(X)$  the hyperspace of  $X$ , i.e. the space of all non-empty closed subsets of  $X$  with the topology induced by the Hausdorff metric (see [12], §42,I,II). Let  $\mathcal{K}(I^\infty)$  be the hyperspace of the Hilbert cube  $I^\infty$ ,  $\mathcal{C}(I^\infty) = \{X \in \mathcal{K}(I^\infty) : X \text{ is a non-trivial continuum}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{D} = \{X \in \mathcal{C}(I^\infty) : X \text{ is 1-dimensional}\}$ , and  $\mathcal{F} = \{X \in \mathcal{C}(I^\infty) : X \text{ is homeomorphic to } L\}$ .

Then both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  are dense in  $\mathcal{C}(I^\infty)$ . Indeed, each open set in  $\mathcal{C}(I^\infty)$  contains a broken line and each neighbourhood of a broken line contains a copy of  $L$ .

Let  $C$  be the Cantor set, let  $Q$  be a countable dense set in  $C$ , and let  $\varphi(x) = \mathcal{D}$  for  $x \in C \setminus Q$  and  $\varphi(x) = \mathcal{F}$  for  $x \in Q$ . Since  $\mathcal{C}(I^\infty)$  is topologically complete and  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $G_\delta$ -set in  $\mathcal{C}(I^\infty)$  (see [12], §45,IV,Th.4), a theorem of Michael (see [16], Corollary 1.6) yields a continuous map  $s : C \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(I^\infty)$  with  $s(x) \in \varphi(x)$  for  $x \in C$ .

Let  $\mathcal{K}(C)$  be the hyperspace of  $C$  and let, for  $A \in \mathcal{K}(C)$ ,

$$M(A) = \bigcup_{x \in A} \{(x, y) : y \in s(x)\} \subset C \times I^\infty.$$

Then  $M(A)$  is compact,  $s$  being continuous.

For each  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , let us pick a compactum  $A_\alpha \subset Q$  with the Cantor-Bendixson index  $\geq \alpha$  (see [7], 6.1.I(a)). A theorem of Hurewicz (see [11], sec.5) implies that any analytic set in  $\mathcal{K}(C)$  that contains uncountably many  $A_\alpha$  must contain also some  $A$  with  $A \setminus Q \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $K_\alpha = M(A_\alpha)$  for  $\alpha < \omega_1$ . Then  $K_\alpha$  is a countable disjoint union of topological copies of  $L$ . To prove (b), take a compactum  $K$  that contains topologically uncountably many  $K_\alpha$ . Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{A \in \mathcal{K}(C) : M(A) \text{ embeds in } K\}$ . Standard arguments show that  $\mathcal{A}$  is analytic (see [19], proof of Lemma 6.3). Since  $A_\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$  for uncountably many  $\alpha$ , one concludes that there exists  $A_0 \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $t \in A_0 \setminus Q$ . Thus  $M(A_0)$  contains a 1-dimensional compactum homeomorphic to  $s(t)$ . Since  $M(A_0)$  embeds in  $K$ , there is a 1-dimensional continuum in  $K$ .  $\square$

**4.2. Theorem.** *There exists a family  $M_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , of HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifolds such that no Henderson compactum contains topologically uncountably many of  $M_\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $L$  be any HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifold and let  $K_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , be a family of compacta which are countable disjoint unions of topological copies of  $L$ , constructed in Lemma 4.1. For every  $\alpha$ , let  $D_\alpha \subset L$  be a countable subset of  $L$  homeomorphic with the space  $A_\alpha$  of components of  $K_\alpha$ . By a theorem of Maćkowiak (see [17], Th.15, and [18],(1.14)), there exist a continuum  $M_\alpha$  (a pseudosuspension of  $K_\alpha$  over  $L$  at  $D_\alpha$ ) containing  $K_\alpha$  as a boundary subset and an atomic map  $r_\alpha : M_\alpha \rightarrow L$  such that  $r_\alpha \upharpoonright M_\alpha \setminus K_\alpha$  is a homeomorphism onto  $L \setminus D_\alpha$  and  $r_\alpha^{-1}(a)$  is a component of  $K_\alpha$  for every  $a \in D_\alpha$ . Since  $r_\alpha$  is an atomic map onto an HI continuum with HI fibers,  $M_\alpha$  is HI. Each  $M_\alpha$  is hereditarily SID, being the union of  $r_\alpha^{-1}(L \setminus D_\alpha)$  and countably many components of  $K_\alpha$ . Also, since  $L$  is a Cantor manifold, the proof of property (vi) in Theorem 2.1 shows that each  $M_\alpha$  is a Cantor manifold. Finally, recalling that  $M_\alpha$  contains topologically  $K_\alpha$ , we infer from (b) in Lemma 4.1 that every Henderson compactum contains only countably many  $M_\alpha$ .  $\square$

Given  $M_\alpha$  as in Theorem 4.2, one readily defines a strictly increasing function  $\varphi : \omega_1 \rightarrow \omega_1$  such that  $M_{\varphi(\alpha)}$  does not embed in  $M_{\varphi(\beta)}$  if  $\alpha > \beta$ .

**4.3. Corollary.** *For every Henderson compactum  $K$  there exists an HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifold  $X$  no open subset of which embeds in  $K$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 4.2 there exists an HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifold  $M$  (equal to some  $M_\alpha$ ) which does not embed in  $K$ . Let  $A$  be a countable dense subset of  $M$ . Then  $X = S(M, M, A)$  satisfies the required conditions (see Theorem 2.1).  $\square$

**4.4. Remark.** Let us note that the proof of Lemma 4.1 shows in fact that the set of all Henderson (resp., hereditarily SID) compacta in  $\mathcal{K}(I^\infty)$  is not analytic in  $\mathcal{K}(I^\infty)$ . Indeed, in the notation of Lemma 4.1, since the map  $A \rightarrow M(A)$  from  $\mathcal{K}(C)$  to  $\mathcal{K}(C \times I^\infty)$  is continuous, any analytic set  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $\mathcal{K}(C \times I^\infty)$  containing all  $K_\alpha$  contains also a compactum with a 1-dimensional subcontinuum.

## 5. CONTINUUM MANY TYPES OF HI CANTOR MANIFOLDS WITHOUT ANY NON-TRIVIAL WID SUBCONTINUA

A composant of a point  $x$  in a continuum  $X$  is the union of all proper subcontinua of  $X$  containing  $x$ . Every composant of a continuum  $X$  is a dense connected  $F_\sigma$ -subset of  $X$ , and every indecomposable continuum has continuum many composants which are pairwise disjoint and co-dense in  $X$  (see [12], §48,VI).

**5.1. Example.** There exists a family  $\{X_s : s \in \mathcal{S}\}$ , where  $\mathcal{S}$  is a set of cardinality  $2^{\aleph_0}$  of topologically different hereditarily indecomposable Cantor manifolds without non-trivial weakly infinite-dimensional subcontinua. Moreover, we can assume that either

- (a) every  $X_s$  contains a 1-dimensional subset, or
- (b) every  $X_s$  is hereditarily strongly infinite-dimensional.

We will use an idea of Bing [4], Theorem 5. Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the collection of all monotone increasing sequences of natural numbers greater than 1. Then  $|\mathcal{S}| = 2^{\aleph_0}$ .

For each sequence  $s = (n_1, n_2, \dots) \in \mathcal{S}$  we construct the continuum  $X_s$  in the following way.

Let us fix a hereditarily indecomposable hereditarily SID Cantor manifold  $Z$  and choose a sequence  $p_{11}, p_{12}, \dots, p_{1n_1}, p_{21}, \dots, p_{2n_2}, p_{31}, \dots$  of points of  $Z$  converging to a point  $p_{00}$  of  $Z$  such that  $p_{ij}$  belongs to the composant containing  $p_{rs}$  if and only if  $i = r$ .

Let  $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_i} \{p_{ij}\} \cup \{p_{00}\}$ . In the case (a) let  $X$  be the continuum constructed in Example 3.2 and in the case (b) let  $X$  be a continuum obtained in Corollary 4.3 for  $K = Z$ . Put  $X_s = S(Z, X, A)$  and let  $p_s : X_s \rightarrow Z$  be the atomic mapping described in Theorem 2.1. Then  $X_s$  is an HI Cantor manifold all of whose non-trivial subcontinua are SID, by conditions (iv)-(vi) of Theorem 2.1. Moreover, in the case (a) every  $X_s$  contains a 1-dimensional subset and in the case (b) every  $X_s$  is hereditarily SID by condition (vii).

It is easily seen that the composants of  $X_s$  are identical with the preimages of the composants of  $Z$  under  $p_s$  (cf. [20], Lemma 2.8).

We will say that a subcontinuum  $L$  of some  $X_s$  has property  $(\star)$  if no open subset of  $L$  embeds in  $Z$ .

Then  $p_s^{-1}(Z \setminus A)$  is exactly the set of points of  $X_s$  which do not belong to any subcontinuum  $L$  of  $X_s$  having the property  $(\star)$ . Indeed, by the choice of  $X$  every  $p_s^{-1}(a)$  for  $a \in A$  has the property  $(\star)$ , and if  $x \notin p_s^{-1}(A)$ , then  $x$  has a neighbourhood  $U$  such that  $\overline{U} \subset p_s^{-1}(Z \setminus A)$ , so  $x$  does not belong to any continuum having property  $(\star)$ . Note that  $p_s^{-1}(a)$ , for  $a \in A$ , are pairwise disjoint subcontinua of  $X_s$  maximal with respect to the property  $(\star)$ .

Now, suppose that  $s = (n_1, n_2, \dots), s' = (n'_1, n'_2, \dots) \in \mathcal{S}$  and there exists  $i$  such that  $n_i \neq n'_i$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $X_s$  has a composant  $C$  which contains exactly  $n_i$  disjoint subcontinua maximal with respect to the property  $(\star)$  (namely,  $C$  is the preimage under  $p_s$  of the composant of  $Z$  containing  $p_{i1}, p_{i2}, \dots, p_{in_i}$ ), while  $X_{s'}$  has no such composants. Hence  $X_s$  is not homeomorphic to  $X_{s'}$ .

5.2. *Remark.* We shall outline the idea of the referee, mentioned in the introduction. It is based on Rogers' approach [24]. Fix a Waraszkievicz spiral  $W$  and let  $S$  be the circle in  $W$ . By Theorem 1 of [24] there is an HI hereditarily SID continuum  $A$  admitting a map  $f$  onto  $W$ . One can also assume that in the complement of the preimage of  $S$  there is an increasing sequence of subcontinua whose union is dense in  $A$ . Take any HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifold  $C$ , and let  $B$  be a subset of  $C$  whose complement is a singleton. It is possible to construct a continuum  $X$  that is a disjoint union of  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $A$  is terminal in  $X$  and the map  $f$  extends over  $X$ . Then  $X$  is an HI hereditarily SID Cantor manifold, and Theorem 2 of [24] guarantees that by using different Waraszkievicz spirals one gets the desired collection of continua.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author wishes to express her gratitude to the referee, whose comments led to the significant improvement of this paper.

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