

LOCAL CONNECTIVITY AND MAPS ONTO NON-METRIZABLE ARCS

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ABSTRACT. Three classes of locally connected continua which admit sufficiently many maps onto non-metric arcs are investigated. It is proved that all continua in those classes are continuous images of arcs and, therefore, have other quite nice properties.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES: arc, locally connected continuum, monotonically normal, rim-countable, rim-finite, rim-metrizable, rim-scattered

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INTRODUCTION

Let \mathcal{C} denote the class of all Hausdorff continuous images of ordered continua. In the last three decades the class \mathcal{C} has been studied extensively by a number of authors (see e.g. [2], [4], [6-8], [11-13], [16-22], [26] and [27]). Two results from this study have suggested that the investigation could naturally be extended to the larger class \mathcal{R}_M of all rim-metrizable, locally connected continua. Namely, (1) in [8] in 1967 Mardešić proved that each element of \mathcal{C} has a basis of open F_σ -sets with metrizable boundaries, and (2) in [4] in 1991 Grispolakis, Nikiel, Simone and Tymchatyn showed that if a set P is irreducible with respect to the property of being a compact set which separates the element X of \mathcal{C} , then P is metrizable.

In his 1989 thesis [23] and two subsequent papers [24] and [25] Tuncali began an investigation of the class \mathcal{R}_M and continuous images of elements of that class. He showed that Treybig's product theorem of [18] which holds in \mathcal{C} is no longer valid in \mathcal{R}_M . However, he proved that Mardesić's theorem for \mathcal{C} on preservation of weight by light mappings is true in \mathcal{R}_M , [25]. He also considered the class \mathcal{R}_S of all rim-scattered, locally connected continua, and the class \mathcal{R}_C of all rim-countable, locally connected continua. Later, Nikiel, Tuncali and Tymchatyn gave an example to show that \mathcal{R}_C is not a subclass of \mathcal{C} , [15]. Then, recently the authors of this paper showed the the continuous image of an element of \mathcal{R}_M need not be in \mathcal{R}_M , [14]. Furthermore, Drozdovsky and Filippov proved in [3] that \mathcal{R}_S is a larger class of spaces than \mathcal{R}_C .

Also, in 1973 Heath, Lutzer and Zenor, [5], showed that every linearly ordered ordered topological space and each of its Hausdorff continuous and closed images are monotonically normal. In [10] in 1986 Nikiel asked if every monotonically normal compactum is the continuous image of a compact ordered space. That problem still remains open. In what follows we let \mathcal{R}_{MN} denote the class of monotonically normal, locally connected continua. Our first result is the following:

THEOREM 1. If $X \in \mathcal{R}_M \cup \mathcal{R}_S \cup \mathcal{R}_{MN}$ and for each pair of points $a, b \in X$ there exists a continuous onto map $f : X \rightarrow [c, d]$ such that $f(a) = c$, $f(b) = d$ and $[c, d]$ is a non-metrizable arc, then $X \in \mathcal{C}$.

We note that a large class of examples satisfying the properties of X above can be constructed as follows: In [1] in 1945 Arens studied the class \mathcal{L} of linear homogeneous continua, that is the class of arcs which are order isomorphic to each of their subarcs. Arens showed, that up to a homeomorphism, there exist at least \aleph_1 members of \mathcal{L} , including the real numbers interval $[0, 1]$. Thus, some spaces X as in Theorem 1 could be obtained by pasting together copies of any $Z \in \mathcal{L}$.

If a subset B of a space P contains no dense-in-itself, non-empty subset, we say that B is *scattered*.

In this paper the definition of monotone normality we use is an equivalent one given in Lemma 2.2 (a) of [5]. It says that a space P is *monotonically normal* provided there is an operator G which assigns to each ordered pair (S, T) of mutually separated subsets of P an open set $G(S, T)$ such that

- (i) $S \subset G(S, T) \subset \text{cl}(G(S, T)) \subset P - T$, and
- (ii) if (S', T') is also a pair of mutually separated sets such that $S \subset S'$ and $T' \subset T$, then $G(S, T) \subset G(S', T')$.

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. Suppose that X is not hereditarily locally connected. Then, there exists a subcontinuum C of X such that C fails to be connected im kleinen at the point p . Utilizing the ideas in Theorem 11, p. 90, of Moore [9], there exists a connected open set U containing p , a sequence R_1, R_2, R_3, \dots of connected open in X sets containing p , and a sequence

G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots of continua such that

- (1) $U \supset \overline{R_1} \supset R_1 \supset \overline{R_2} \supset R_2 \supset \dots;$
- (2) $G_n \cap R_n \neq \emptyset$ and $G_n \cap R_{n+1} = \emptyset$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots;$
- (3) each G_n is a component of $\overline{U} \cap C$ and $G_n \cap \text{bd}(U) \neq \emptyset$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots;$ and
- (4) $G_n \cap G_m = \emptyset$ if $n \neq m$, and there exist mutually exclusive open sets V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots such that $G_n \subset V_n$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

For each positive integer n let H_n be a component of $G_n - R_1$ which intersects $\text{bd}(R_1)$ and $\text{bd}(U)$, and let $s_n \in H_n \cap \text{bd}(R_1)$ and $t_n \in H_n \cap \text{bd}(U)$. Let H_0 denote the limiting set of the sequence $H_1, H_2, H_3, \dots;$ which by definition is the set of all x such that every open set containing x intersects infinitely many sets H_n .

Let L_1 (resp. L_2) denote the limiting set of $\{s_1\}, \{s_2\}, \{s_3\}, \dots$ (resp. $\{t_1\}, \{t_2\}, \{t_3\}, \dots$). There exists $(s, t) \in L_1 \times L_2$ so that if V is a neighborhood of s and W is a neighborhood of t , then (s_n, t_n) belongs to $V \times W$ for infinitely many n .

We shall show that some component of H_0 contains $\{s, t\}$. If not, then H_0 is the union of two mutually separated sets S and T such that $s \in S$ and $t \in T$. There exist disjoint open sets V and W so that $S \subset V$ and $T \subset W$. Then (s_n, t_n) belongs to $V \times W$ for infinitely many n . Since each H_n is a continuum, $H_n \cap (X - (V \cup W)) \neq \emptyset$ for infinitely many n . It follows that some point of H_0 lies in $X - (V \cup W)$, a contradiction.

Let $f : X \rightarrow [c, d]$ be a continuous map onto a non-metrizable arc $[c, d]$, where $f(s) = c$ and $f(t) = d$. There is an increasing sequence n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots of positive integers such that

- (1) $f(s_{n_i}) \geq f(s_{n_{i+1}})$ and $f(t_{n_i}) \leq f(t_{n_{i+1}})$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots;$
- (2) $f(s_{n_i}) \rightarrow c$ and $f(t_{n_i}) \rightarrow d;$ and
- (3) $[f(s_{n_i}), f(t_{n_i})]$ is not metrizable for $i = 1, 2, \dots$

Let $c' = f(s_{n_1})$ and $d' = f(t_{n_1})$.

Our proof now divides into three cases.

CASE 1. $X \in \mathcal{R}_M$. For each $n \geq 2$ let M_n denote a metrizable closed set lying in $X - \bigcup_{k=1}^n H_k$ such that if $1 \leq i < j \leq n$, then H_i and H_j are separated in X by M_n . Let D_n denote a countable set dense in M_n for $n = 2, 3, \dots$ We intend to show that $f(\bigcup_{k=2}^\infty D_k)$ is dense in $[c, d]$, which would mean that $[c, d]$ is separable, and therefore metric, a contradiction.

Let $x \in]c, d[$ and let $c < u < x < v < d$ in the natural ordering of $[c, d]$. The components of $f^{-1}(]u, v[)$ which have limit points in both $f^{-1}(u)$ and $f^{-1}(v)$ can be labeled P_1, P_2, \dots, P_{n_0} . Let N_0 be an integer such that if $i \geq N_0$ then $s_{n_i} \in f^{-1}(]c, u[)$ and $t_{n_i} \in f^{-1}(]v, d[)$. There exist two of $N_0, N_0 + 1, \dots, N_0 + n_0$, say i and j , such that H_{n_i} and H_{n_j} both intersect the same P_ℓ , which must then intersect some D_m . Therefore, $\bigcup_{k=2}^\infty f(D_k)$ intersects $]u, v[$.

CASE 2. $X \in \mathcal{R}_{MN}$. For each $i = 1, 2, \dots$ let Q_i denote a component of $H_{n_i} \cap f^{-1}([c', d'])$ which intersects $f^{-1}(c')$ and $f^{-1}(d')$, and let Q_0 denote the limiting set of Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, \dots We note that some component of Q_0 intersects both $f^{-1}(c')$ and $f^{-1}(d')$ since every map onto an arc is weakly confluent.

By Remark 2.3 (c) of [5], $Z = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} Q_n$ is monotonically normal; so let \mathcal{G} be a monotone normality operator on Z as in the earlier definition. For each closed set F in $[c', d']$ let $Q_F = \{x : f(x) \in F \text{ and } x \in Z - Q_0\}$, and let $R_F = \{x : f(x) \in [c', d'] - F \text{ and } x \in Q_0\}$. Now, Q_F and R_F are mutually separated subsets of Z ; so for each positive integer n , let $T(F, n) = \{y \in [c', d'] : y = f(x) \text{ for some } x \in Q_n \cap \mathcal{G}(Q_F, R_F)\}$. It can be shown that T is a stratification for $[c', d']$. Since each stratifiable compact space is metrizable, $[c', d']$ is metrizable, a contradiction.

CASE 3. $X \in \mathcal{R}_S$. For each $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ let K_i denote a component of $H_n \cap f^{-1}([c', d'])$ which intersects $f^{-1}(c')$ and $f^{-1}(d')$.

We have to consider some subcases.

CASE 3A. $[c', d']$ contains uncountably many mutually exclusive open sets.

CASE 3A₁. $[c', d']$ does not satisfy the first axiom of countability. Thus, without loss of generality, assume that there is a subset $\{d_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ of $[c', d']$ such that $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2$ implies that $d_{\alpha_1} < d_{\alpha_2}$ in $[c', d']$, and $d_\alpha \rightarrow d'$.

Let K_0 denote the limiting set of K_1, K_2, K_3, \dots . Let Q denote a component of K_0 which intersects both $f^{-1}(c')$ and $f^{-1}(d')$. For each $\alpha < \omega_1$ let W_α denote a connected open set such that W_α contains a point x_α of $Q \cap f^{-1}(]d_\alpha, d_{\alpha+1}[)$, and $\overline{W_\alpha} \subset f^{-1}(]d_\alpha, d_{\alpha+1}[)$.

There exists a positive integer n_0 and a cofinal subsequence $\{d_{\alpha_\beta}\}$ of d_α such that $W_{\alpha_\beta} \cap K_{n_0} \neq \emptyset$ for all α_β . For each $\gamma < \omega_1$ let L_γ denote the closure of the set $\bigcup_{\beta \geq \gamma} W_{\alpha_\beta}$. Let $L = \bigcap_{\gamma < \omega_1} L_\gamma$. Observe that if $y \in L$, then each open neighborhood of y intersects uncountably many sets W_{α_β} . Let W be a component of L . Note that $W \cap K_{n_0} \neq \emptyset \neq Q \cap W$ and $W \subset f^{-1}(d')$. Thus, W is a non-degenerate continuum.

Let M_0 and M_1 be connected open sets such that $\overline{M_0} \cap \overline{M_1} = \emptyset$ and $M_i \cap W \neq \emptyset$ for $i = 0, 1$. Let $\mathcal{G}_1 = \{M_0, M_1\}$.

Now suppose that \mathcal{G}_n has been chosen and consists of 2^n mutually exclusive connected open sets such that if $G, G' \in \mathcal{G}_n$ and $G \neq G'$, then $\overline{G} \cap \overline{G'} = \emptyset$ and $G \cap W \neq \emptyset \neq G' \cap W$. For each $G' \in \mathcal{G}_n$ let G'_0 and G'_1 be mutually exclusive connected open sets such that $\overline{G'_0} \cap \overline{G'_1} = \emptyset$, $\overline{G'_0} \cup \overline{G'_1} \subset G'$ and $G'_0 \cap W \neq \emptyset \neq G'_1 \cap W$. Let $\mathcal{G}_{n+1} = \{F : F = G'_0 \text{ or } F = G'_1 \text{ for some } G' \in \mathcal{G}_n\}$. For each n let $H'_n = \bigcup \mathcal{G}_n$ and let $H = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} H'_n$.

There exists $\delta_0 < \omega_1$ such that $G' \cap f^{-1}(d_{\delta_0}) \neq \emptyset$ for each $G' \in \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{G}_j$. There exists a closed scattered set S in X which separates $f^{-1}([c, d_{\delta_0}])$ from $f^{-1}(d')$. However, $S \cap H$ contains a perfect set because $S \cap H$ can be mapped onto a Cantor set, and it is well known that a scattered set cannot be mapped continuously onto a perfect set. This is a contradiction.

CASE 3A₂. $[c', d']$ satisfies the first axiom of countability at each point. Let $\{]c_\alpha, d_\alpha[: \alpha < \omega_1\}$ denote an uncountable collection of mutually exclusive open intervals in $]c', d'[,$ Using the local connectivity of X we find that for each α there exists only a finite number, say n_α , of components of $f^{-1}(]c_\alpha, d_\alpha[)$ which have limit points in both $f^{-1}(c_\alpha)$ and $f^{-1}(d_\alpha)$. Some integer $N_0 = n_\alpha$ repeats for uncountably many α 's; so we may suppose without loss of generality that

$n_\alpha = N_0$ for each $\alpha < \omega_1$.

There exists a closed scattered set S such that S separates K_i from K_j for each pair i, j such that $1 \leq i < j \leq N_0 + 1$. Thus, since for each α , each set K_i , where $1 \leq i \leq N_0 + 1$ has the property that some component of $K_i \cap f^{-1}(]c_\alpha, d_\alpha[)$ has limit points in both $f^{-1}(c_\alpha)$ and $f^{-1}(d_\alpha)$, it follows that S must intersect each $f^{-1}(]c_\alpha, d_\alpha[)$.

Since $[c', d']$ is first countable, there exist collections $\mathcal{G}_1, \mathcal{G}_2, \mathcal{G}_3, \dots$ such that (1) each \mathcal{G}_n consists of 2^n mutually exclusive closed intervals in $[c', d']$, and (2) each element of each \mathcal{G}_n contains exactly two elements of \mathcal{G}_{n+1} and contains uncountably many elements of $\{]c_\alpha, d_\alpha[: \alpha < \omega_1\}$.

For each positive integer n let $L'_n = \bigcup \mathcal{G}_n$, and let $L' = \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty L'_n$. We find that $S \cap f^{-1}(L')$ contains a perfect set, a contradiction.

CASE 3B. $[c', d']$ is not metrizable and does not contain uncountably many mutually exclusive open sets (i.e., it is a Souslin line). Thus, $[c', d']$ satisfies the first axiom of countability. If there exists a collection of metrizable open intervals whose union is dense in $[c', d']$, we find that $[c', d']$ is metrizable since it is separable. Hence, without loss of generality we may assume that $[c', d']$ contains no metrizable subinterval.

Similarly as above, for each $]x, y[\subset [c', d']$ we let n_{xy} denote the number of components of $f^{-1}(]x, y[)$ with limit points in both $f^{-1}(x)$ and $f^{-1}(y)$.

CASE 3B₁. Suppose there exists a positive integer N_0 and a subinterval $]x, y[$ of $[c', d']$ such that if $x \leq z < w \leq y$, then $n_{zw} \leq N_0$. Let S be a closed scattered set such that if $1 \leq i < j \leq N_0 + 1$, then S separates K_i from K_j . Using the ideas from Case 3A₂ we find that if $x \leq z < w \leq y$, then $S \cap f^{-1}(]z, w[) \neq \emptyset$. Therefore, $f(S) \supset]x, y[$, which contradicts the well-known fact that a scattered compactum can not be mapped onto a perfect set.

CASE 3B₂. Assume that for every $]x, y[\subset [c', d']$ there exists an interval $]z, w[\subset]x, y[$ such that $n_{zw} > n_{xy}$.

For each positive integer n let \mathcal{G}_n be maximal relative to the property of being a collection of mutually exclusive open intervals lying in $[c', d']$ such that if $]x, y[\in \mathcal{G}_n$ then $n_{xy} = n$. Note that each \mathcal{G}_n is at most countable. Let S_n denote the set of all end-points of intervals which belong to \mathcal{G}_n . We are going to show that $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty S_n$ is dense in $[c', d']$, and thus obtain a contradiction.

Let $]x, y[\subset [c', d']$. There exists $]z, w[\subset]x, y[$ such that $n_{zw} > n_{xy}$. Thus, $x \neq z$ or $y \neq w$. By maximality of $\mathcal{G}_{n_{zw}}$, there exists $]s, t[\in \mathcal{G}_{n_{zw}}$ such that $]s, t[\cap]z, w[\neq \emptyset$. But $]s, t[\not\subset]x, y[$, and so $s \in]x, y[$ or $t \in]x, y[$. Therefore, the set $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty S_n$ is dense in $[c', d']$, a contradiction.

The consideration of subcases 1, 2 and 3 is concluded and we return now to the main proof. Since X is hereditarily locally connected, it is the continuous image of an arc by [12].

THEOREM 2. If X is as in Theorem 1, then

- (a) X is rim-finite,
- (b) every subcontinuum G of X has the property that some point or a pair of points separates G , and

(c) each closed set irreducible with respect to the property of being a compact set which separates X is metrizable.

PROOF. The claims (a), (b) and (c) follow from [19], [18] and [4], respectively, because X contains no non-degenerate metric continuum.

Given a locally connected continuum X , for each pair of distinct points a, b of X let $[X, a, b]$ denote the class of all continuous maps $f : X \rightarrow P$ such that $P = f(X)$ is a non-metric arc with end-points c and d and $f(a) = c$ and $f(b) = d$. Also, introduce a relation \sim on X in the following way: $a \sim b$ if and only if $a = b$ or $[X, a, b] = \emptyset$.

THEOREM 3. Suppose that X is a locally connected continuum. Then \sim is an equivalence relation on X , and if X also satisfies the first axiom of countability, then equivalence classes of \sim are closed and the set \mathcal{E} of equivalence classes of \sim is upper semi-continuous.

PROOF. \sim is easily seen to be reflexive and symmetric, so suppose that $a \sim b$ and $b \sim c$ hold, but that there exists $f \in [X, a, c]$ such that $f(X)$ is a non-metric arc $[d, e]$ with $f(a) = d$ and $f(c) = e$.

CASE 1. $f(b) = d$. Then $f \in [X, b, c]$, a contradiction.

CASE 2. $f(b) = e$ - analogous to Case 1.

CASE 3. $d < f(b) < e$. Then one of the arcs $[d, f(b)]$ and $[f(b), e]$ is non-metric, so suppose $[d, f(b)]$ is non-metric. Define $r : [d, e] \rightarrow [d, f(b)]$ so that $r(x) = x$ if $x \in [d, f(b)]$ and $r(x) = f(b)$ if $x \in [f(b), e]$. Clearly, $r \circ f \in [X, a, b]$, a contradiction.

Let us now show that each equivalence class $G \in \mathcal{E}$ is closed if X is first countable. Let $G \in \mathcal{E}$ and suppose that $x \in \overline{G} - G$. There exists a countable basis U_1, U_2, \dots of open neighborhoods of x in X and a sequence x_1, x_2, \dots of points of G such that $x_i \in U_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Let $f : X \rightarrow [c, d]$ be a continuous map onto a non-metric arc $[c, d]$, where $f(x_1) = c$ and $f(x) = d$. Since each $[f(x_1), f(x_i)]$ is a metric subarc of $[c, d]$, it follows that $[c, d]$ is the closure of a countable union of metric arcs. Consequently, $[c, d]$ is separable, and therefore metrizable, a contradiction. Thus G is closed in X .

It remains to show that \mathcal{E} is upper semi-continuous if X is first countable. Let the element G of \mathcal{E} be a subset of an open set U . Suppose that for each open set V such that $G \subset V \subset U$, there is an element G_V of \mathcal{E} so that $V \cap G_V \neq \emptyset$ and $G_V \not\subset U$. Thus, for some point x of G there is a countable basis U_1, U_2, \dots of open neighborhoods of x such that for each U_i , there is an element G_i of \mathcal{E} with the property that $G_i \cap U_i \neq \emptyset \neq G_i \cap (X - U)$.

There is a point y of $X - U$ so that every neighborhood of y intersects G_i for infinitely many i . We may assume without loss of generality that there exists $y_i \in G_i \cap (X - U)$ for each i , and that the points y_i converge to y . Let $z_i \in U_i \cap G_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots$

There exists $f \in [X, x, y]$ such that $f : X \rightarrow [c, d]$, where $[c, d]$ is a non-metric arc, $f(x) = c$ and $f(y) = d$. Since the points $f(z_i)$ converge to c , and the points $f(y_i)$ converge to d , and each arc $[f(z_i), f(y_i)]$ is metric, we find that $[c, d]$ is metric - a contradiction.

THEOREM 4. Suppose that $X \in \mathcal{R}_M \cup \mathcal{R}_S \cup \mathcal{R}_{MN}$ and X is first countable. Let \mathcal{H} be the family of all components of sets in \mathcal{E} . Then X/\mathcal{H} is the continuous image of an arc.

PROOF. Since \mathcal{E} is upper semi-continuous, \mathcal{H} is upper semi-continuous as well (see e.g. [28]). Thus, \mathcal{H} is an upper semi-continuous decomposition of X into closed sets and the quotient space X/\mathcal{H} is a locally connected continuum.

If X/\mathcal{H} is hereditarily locally connected, we apply the main result of [12] to obtain the desired conclusion.

Otherwise, in X/\mathcal{H} there is a subcontinuum C such that C fails to be connected im kleinen at a point P . There is thus an open set W in X/\mathcal{H} such that $P \in W$ but the component of $W \cap C$ containing P contains no relatively open subset of C containing P . Let Q denote the element of \mathcal{E} containing P . There is a closed subset S of X such that $S \subset \bigcup W - Q$ and S separates P from $\text{bd}(\bigcup W)$ in X . Let $\phi: X \rightarrow X/\mathcal{H}$ denote the natural map and let $B = \phi(S)$. Let U denote the component of $X/\mathcal{H} - B$ which contains P . Using the facts that \sim is upper semi-continuous and that $Q \cap S = \emptyset$, we let $R_1, R_2, \dots; G_1, G_2, \dots; V_1, V_2, \dots$ be subsets of X/\mathcal{H} similarly as in the proof of Theorem 1, except for the additional condition that no element of \mathcal{E} intersects $\text{cl}(\bigcup R_1)$ and $\text{bd}(\bigcup U)$.

Now, let s_1, s_2, \dots and t_1, t_2, \dots be such that $s_i \in (\bigcup G_i) \cap (\bigcup \text{bd}(R_1))$ and $t_i \in (\bigcup G_i) \cap (\bigcup \text{bd}(U))$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Since X is first countable, we may assume without loss of generality that the points s_i converge to some point s , and the points t_i converge to some point t , and the limiting set L of $\bigcup G_1, \bigcup G_2, \bigcup G_3, \dots$ is a continuum containing s and t .

There is an $f \in [X, s, t]$ such that $f(X)$ is a non-metric arc $[c, d]$ with $f(s) = c$ and $f(t) = d$. We may now obtain a contradiction as in the proof of Theorem 1.

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