

How to tame the Knaster continuum using the ultrafilter orders?

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Main information about this topic

- Talk based on my Master's thesis: *Linear orders on chainable continua*, defended in September 2024
- Scientific advisor: prof. Witold Marciszewski
- Idea of the ultrafilter orders: Jakub Różycki

Dziedzicznie niepodzielne continua

Jakub Różycki

Uniwersytet Warszawski

Koło Pasjonatów Matematyki

16 maja 2021

Chainable continua – basic information

Definition

Continuum is a nonempty compact and connected space.

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Definition

Suppose that a topological space X is a continuum. A **chain** in X is a nonempty, finite sequence of nonempty open sets $\mathcal{U} = \{U_1, \dots, U_n\}$, satisfying

$$U_i \cap U_j \neq \emptyset \iff |i - j| \leq 1$$

Elements of chain are called **links**.

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $\mathcal{A} = \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$ be a family of subsets of X . We define $mesh(\mathcal{A})$ as:

$$mesh(\mathcal{A}) = \max\{diam(A_i) : A_i \in \mathcal{A}\}.$$

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Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric continuum. Suppose that $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ is a chain in continuum X . We say that E is an ε -**chain** in X , if $mesh(E) < \varepsilon$.

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Definition

We say that a metric continuum (X, d) is a **chainable continuum**, if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists ε -chain covering X .

Example

An **arc** is any space homeomorphic to the closed interval $[0, 1]$



There will be more complicated examples during today's talk.

Chainable continua – basic information

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Not an example (but almost...)

Circle $S^1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$.

Chainable continua – basic information

Example

An **arc** is any space homeomorphic to the closed interval $[0, 1]$



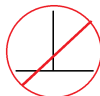
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Circle $S^1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$.

DEFINITELY NON-EXAMPLE

Triod (in the sense of [4]) is any space homeomorphic to letter T .



Observation

Let (X, d) be a metric continuum. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- 1 X is a chainable continuum.
- 2 There exists an infinite sequence of chains D_1, D_2, D_3, \dots s.t. for every $n \geq 1$ chain D_n covers X and $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

Definition

An inverse sequence is a double sequence $(X_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, consisting of topological spaces X_i and continuous functions $f_i : X_{i+1} \rightarrow X_i$. An inverse sequence is often presented in the following way:

$$X_1 \xleftarrow{f_1} X_2 \xleftarrow{f_2} \dots \xleftarrow{f_{i-1}} X_i \xleftarrow{f_i} X_{i+1} \xleftarrow{f_{i+1}} \dots$$

Definition

An inverse limit of an inverse sequence $(X_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, denoted by $\varprojlim (X_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, is the subspace of the product space $\prod_{i=1}^{\infty} X_i$, defined by:

$$\varprojlim (X_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} = \{(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} X_i : \forall_i f_i(x_{i+1}) = x_i\}.$$

For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists a projection $p_n : \varprojlim (X_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \rightarrow X_n$ from the inverse limit space to the n -th coordinate of the inverse sequence of topological spaces, given as $p_n((x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}) = x_n$.

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space. We say that $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is an ε -**map**, if f is a continuous surjection and for every $t \in [0, 1]$ $\text{diam}(f^{-1}(t)) < \varepsilon$.

Chainable continua – basic information

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space. We say that $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is an ε -**map**, if f is a continuous surjection and for every $t \in [0, 1]$ $\text{diam}(f^{-1}(t)) < \varepsilon$.

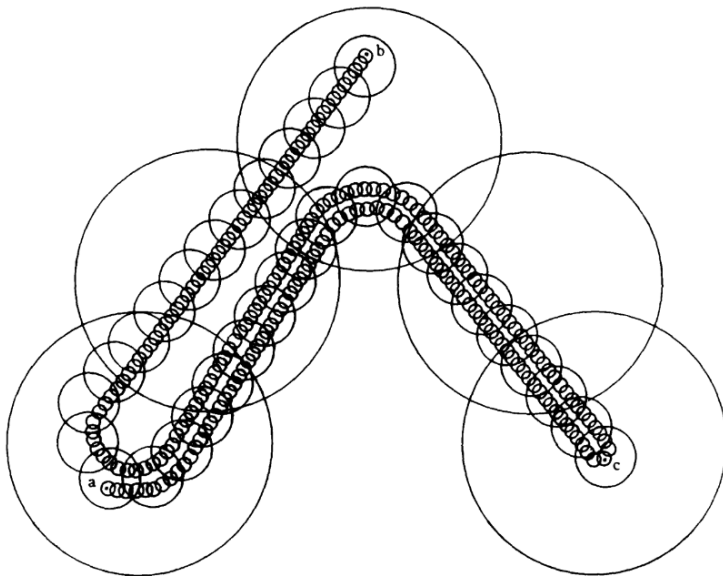
Theorem (proof in e.g. [5],[6])

Suppose that X is a metric continuum. Then the following are equivalent:

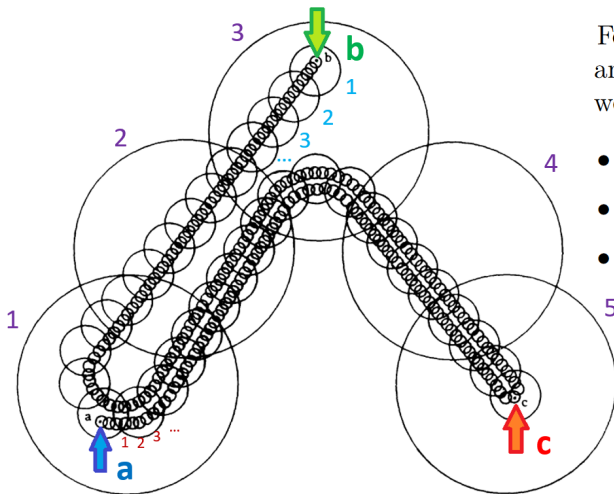
- X is chainable,
- for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a continuous surjection $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$, which is an ε -map,
- X is homeomorphic to the inverse limit of arcs which is the space $\varprojlim (X_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ for $X_i = [0, 1]$.

Ultrafilter order on chainable continua

Intuition (image from [6])



Intuition (image from [6])



For the points a, b, c and the chains U_1, U_2, U_3 we have:

- $a <_{U_1} b <_{U_1} c$
- $b <_{U_2} a <_{U_2} c$
- $a <_{U_3} c <_{U_3} b$

Notation (see e.g. [1]): If $\{D_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is a sequence of chains in a space X , then by the symbol

$$d_{i,j}$$

we will denote **the i – th link in the j – th chain** of the sequence $\{D_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$, which is the i – th link of the chain $D_j = \{d_{1,j}, \dots, d_{i-1,j}, d_{i,j}, d_{i+1,j}, \dots, d_{k_j,j}\}$.

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Definition (the ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$)

Let X be a chainable continuum and let $\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of chains covering X , such that $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$. Let \mathcal{U} be a nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} . Then we can compare any two points $x, y \in X$ in the sense of **the ultrafilter order** $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$ on X , which is defined as follows:

$$x \leq_{D_n} y \iff \exists i \leq j \leq k_n \ x \in d_{i,n}, \ y \in d_{j,n},$$

$$x \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}} y \iff \{n \in \mathbb{N} : x \leq_{D_n} y\} \in \mathcal{U}.$$

Ultrafilter order on chainable continua

Definition

Let X be a chainable continuum and let $\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of chains covering X , such that $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$. Let \mathcal{U} be a nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} . Then we can compare any two points $x, y \in X$ in the sense of **the ultrafilter order** $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$ on X , which is defined as follows:

$$x \leq_{D_n} y \iff \exists i \leq j \leq k_n \ x \in d_{i,n}, \ y \in d_{j,n},$$

$$x \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}} y \iff \{n \in \mathbb{N} : x \leq_{D_n} y\} \in \mathcal{U}.$$

Remark

The above definition depends on the fixed sequence of chains $\{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and on fixed nonprincipal ultrafilter \mathcal{U} on \mathbb{N} . So different choices of $\{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ or \mathcal{U} might generate distinct orders on X .

Ultrafilter order on chainable continua

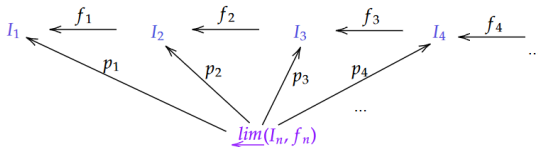
Definition (the ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lim(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}}$)

Let $\varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be an inverse limit of a sequence of arcs. Let \mathcal{U} be a nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} . Then we can compare any two points $x = (x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, $y = (y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in the sense of **the ultrafilter order** $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}}$ on an inverse limit $\varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, which is defined as follows:

$$x \leq_{I_i} y \iff x_i \leq y_i;$$

$$x \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}} y \iff \{i \in \mathbb{N} : x \leq_{I_i} y\} \in \mathcal{U},$$

where order \leq is the standard order on the unit closed interval I_i .



Ultrafilter order on chainable continua

Linearity of $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$

For any nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} and for any $\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, covering chainable continuum X , such that $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$, order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$ is a linear order on X .

Linearity of $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}}$

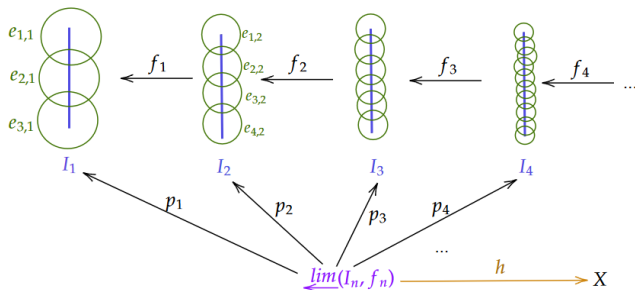
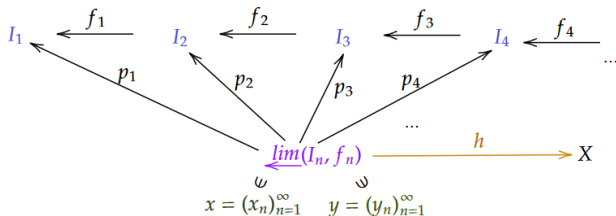
Similarly, any ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}}$ on an inverse limit $\varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is also a linear order on $\varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$.

Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Š.)

Let $\varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} = Y$ be an inverse limit of a sequence of arcs and let X be a chainable continuum, homeomorphic to Y . Let \mathcal{U} be a nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} . Then any ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}}$ on Y generates an ultrafilter order on X , i.e. there exists an ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$ on X such that:

$$x \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}} y \iff h(x) \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}} h(y).$$

Ultrafilter order on chainable continua



Question

Let X be a chainable continuum and let $Y = \varprojlim (I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be an inverse limit of a sequence of arcs homeomorphic to X .

Is it true that for any sequence of chains

$\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, covering X , such that $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$, for any nonprincipal ultrafilter \mathcal{U} on \mathbb{N} and every homeomorphism

$h' : X \rightarrow Y$ there exists an ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}}$ on Y such that the condition

$$x \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}} y \iff h'(x) \leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{(I_i, f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}} h'(y)$$

is fulfilled for all $x, y \in X$?

How many distinct orders can be obtained?

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Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Ś.)

On any arc there exist exactly 2 distinct ultrafilter orders.

One of them coincides with the natural order on an arc $<$ and another one is opposite to the natural order $<$.

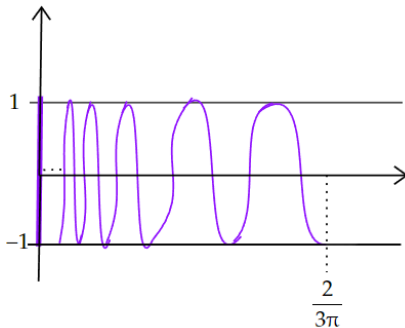
How many distinct orders can be obtained?

Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Š.)

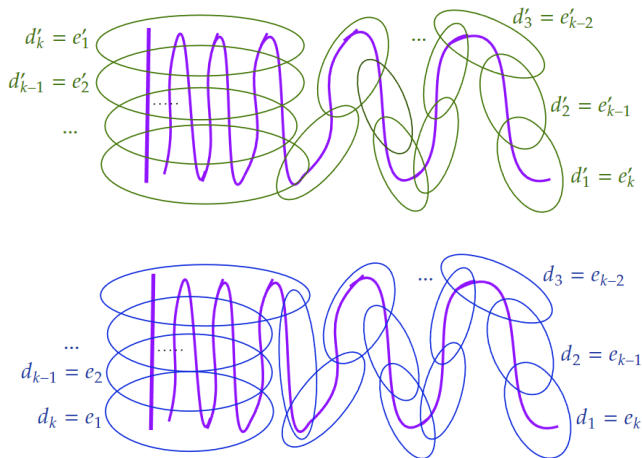
Let S_1 be the Warsaw sine curve, i.e. the chainable continuum defined in the following way: $S_1 = \overline{X}$, where

$$X = \{(x, \sin(\frac{1}{x})) : x \in (0, \frac{2}{3\pi}]\}.$$

There exist exactly 4 distinct ultrafilter orders on S_1 .



How many distinct orders can be obtained?

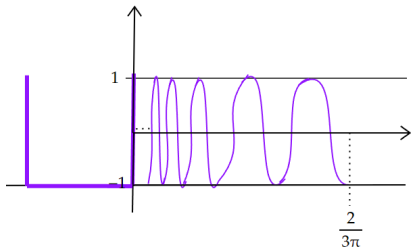


How many distinct orders can be obtained?

Lemma (really useful!)

Let X be a chainable continuum and let $x, y, z \in X$. Let $\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be any sequence of chains covering X , such that $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$. Suppose that there exists a continuum $M \subseteq X$ such that $x, y \in M$ and $z \notin M$. Then

$$\exists_k \forall_{n > k} \neg [(x \leq_{D_n} z \leq_{D_n} y) \vee (y \leq_{D_n} z \leq_{D_n} x)].$$



How many distinct orders can be obtained?

Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Ś.)

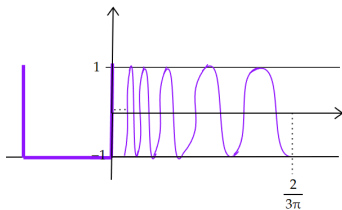
Let S_2 be the modified Warsaw sine curve, i.e. the chainable continuum defined in the following way:

$$S_2 = \overline{X} \cup (\{-1\} \times [-1, 1]) \cup ([-1, 0] \times \{-1\}),$$

where

$$X = \{(x, \sin(\frac{1}{x})) : x \in (0, \frac{2}{3\pi}]\}.$$

There exist exactly 2 distinct ultrafilter orders on S_2 .



How many distinct orders can be obtained?

Definition

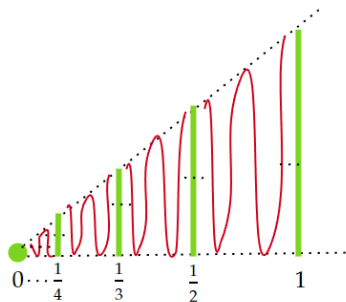
Consider another chainable continuum, called S_3 , which we define as follows:

$$S_3 = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}} I_n \cup \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}} A_n \cup \{(0, 0)\},$$

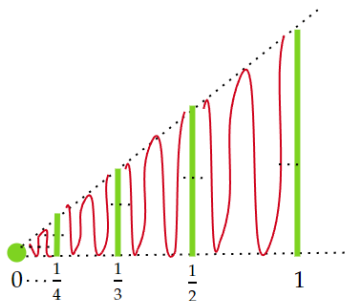
where:

- I_n is a closed interval of the form: $\{\frac{1}{n}\} \times [0, \frac{1}{n}]$,
- $A_n = \{ |x \cdot \sin(\frac{1}{(x - \frac{1}{n+1})(\frac{1}{n} - x)})| : x \in (\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}) \}$.

How many distinct orders can be obtained?



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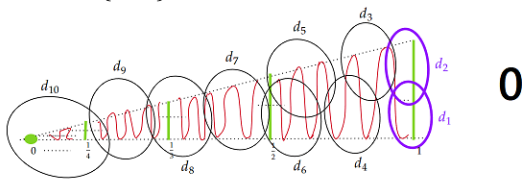


Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Š.)

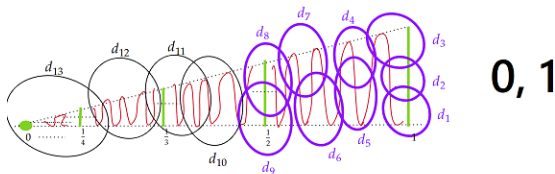
There exist exactly \mathfrak{c} distinct ultrafilter orders on S_3 .

How many distinct orders can be obtained?

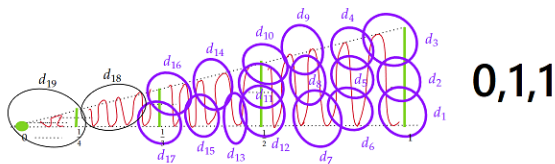
Example: Let $x \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, $x = 0, 1, 1, \dots$



0



0, 1



0, 1, 1

The Knaster continuum

The Knaster continuum

Definition [3]

Let $\mathcal{C} \subseteq [0, 1] \times \{0\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be the standard Cantor set.

The Knaster continuum is defined as a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 , consisting of:

- all semi-circles with ordinates ≥ 0 , with center $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and passing through every point of the Cantor set \mathcal{C} ,
- all semi-circles with ordinates ≤ 0 , which have for $n \geq 1$ the center at $(\frac{5}{2 \cdot 3^n}, 0)$ and pass through each point of the Cantor set \mathcal{C} , lying in the interval $[\frac{2}{3^n}, \frac{1}{3^{n-1}}]$.

The Knaster continuum

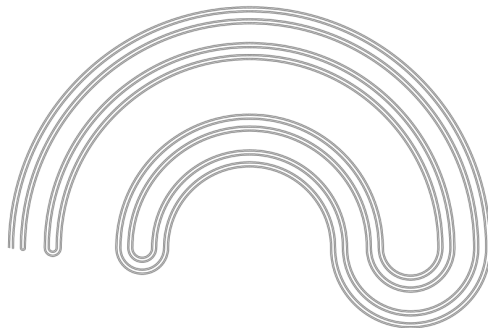


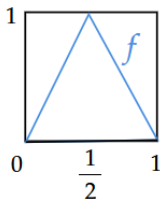
image from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Knaster_bucket-handle_continuum.svg

The Knaster continuum

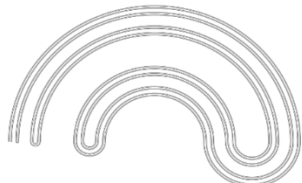
Definition [6]

In the book [6] the Knaster continuum was defined in an alternative way – it is a space homeomorphic to the inverse limit of the sequence of arcs $\varprojlim ([0, 1], f_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, where for each i , $f_i = f$ and the map $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is given as:

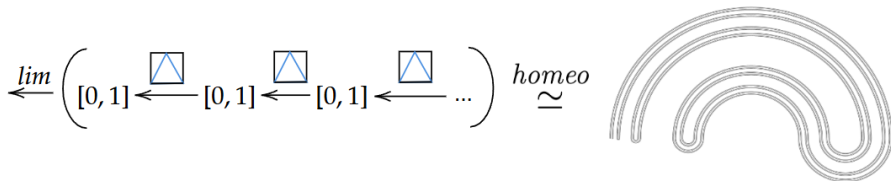
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 2t & \text{for } t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}], \\ -2t + 2 & \text{for } t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$



The Knaster continuum

$$\overleftarrow{\lim} \left([0, 1] \xleftarrow{\square} [0, 1] \xleftarrow{\square} [0, 1] \xleftarrow{\square} \dots \right) \underset{\sim}{\text{homeo}} \text{ (Knaster continuum) }$$


The Knaster continuum



Definition/ interesting property

We say that a continuum X is **indecomposable** if it is not the union of its two proper subcontinua.

Knaster continuum is an example of an indecomposable continuum.

Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Š.)

There exist exactly 2^c distinct ultrafilter orders on the Knaster continuum.

Definition

Let X be a continuum and let $x \in X$. We say that a **composant** of a point x in X is the union of all proper subcontinua containing x .

- Every composant of a continuum X is dense in X .

The Knaster continuum

Definition

Let X be a continuum and let $x \in X$. We say that a **composant** of a point x in X is the union of all proper subcontinua containing x .

- Every composant of a continuum X is dense in X .

Some facts about composants in the Knaster continuum [3]

- There are \mathfrak{c} composants in the Knaster continuum K and they coincide with arc components of K .

Some facts about composants in the Knaster continuum [3]

- The composant of a point $(0,0)$ in the Knaster continuum is a continuous and one-to-one image of the half-line.
- The other composants of the Knaster continuum are continuous and one-to-one images of the open interval.

The Knaster continuum

Let \mathcal{U} be a nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} . Let $\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ (where $D_n = \{d_{i,n}\}_{i=1}^{k_n}$) be such a sequence of chains covering the Knaster continuum, that for every n , $(0,0) \in d_{1,n}$ and $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

Let $\tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$ be the order topology generated by the ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$.

Some facts about composants in K (continued)

Notice that

- The composant of the Knaster continuum containing point $(0,0)$ in the space $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ has the order type of the interval $[0,1)$ (and the point $(0,0)$ is the smallest in the sense of order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$).

Some facts about composants in K (continued)

Notice that

- The composant of the Knaster continuum containing point $(0,0)$ in the space $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ has the order type of the interval $[0,1)$ (and the point $(0,0)$ is the smallest in the sense of order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$).
- All the other composants in $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ have the order type of an open interval.

Some facts about composants in K (continued)

Notice that

- The component of the Knaster continuum containing point $(0,0)$ in the space $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ has the order type of the interval $[0,1)$ (and the point $(0,0)$ is the smallest in the sense of order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$).
- All the other composants in $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ have the order type of an open interval.
- All composants of the Knaster continuum are open in $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$.

Some facts about composants in K (continued)

Notice that

- The composant of a Knaster continuum containing point $(0, 0)$ in the space $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ has the order type of the interval $[0, 1)$ (and the point $(0, 0)$ is the smallest in the sense of order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$).
- All the other composants in $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$ have the order type of an open interval.
- All composants of the Knaster continuum are open in $(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}})$.

The following theorem follows from the above observations.

The Knaster continuum

Theorem (W. Marciszewski, J.Š.)

Let \mathcal{U} be a nonprincipal ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} . Let $\mathcal{D} = \{D_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ (where $D_n = \{d_{i,n}\}_{i=1}^{k_n}$) be such a sequence of chains covering the Knaster continuum, that for every n , $(0,0) \in d_{1,n}$ and $\text{mesh}(D_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

Then the Knaster continuum with the order topology $\tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$, generated from an ultrafilter order $\leq_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}$, is homeomorphic to the disjoint sum of the topological spaces X_i :

$$(K, \tau_{\mathcal{U}}^{\mathcal{D}}) \stackrel{\text{homeo}}{\simeq} \bigoplus_{i \in I} X_i,$$







where X_0 is a space homeomomorphic to the interval $[0,1)$, corresponding to the arc component of the Knaster continuum containing the point $(0,0)$, and all other X_i are homeomorphic to the open interval $(0,1)$ and correspond to the remaining arc components of the Knaster continuum.

The Knaster continuum

Corollary

The Knaster continuum endowed with the order topology $\tau_U^{\mathcal{D}}$, is a metrizable, non-connected, non-compact and non-separable space.

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Thank you!

