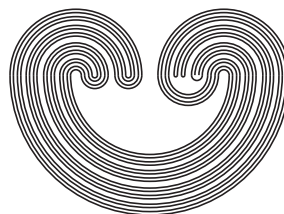

TOPOLOGY PROCEEDINGS



Volume 63, 2024

Pages 149–166

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by

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AND JOSÉ LUIS SUÁREZ-LÓPEZ

Electronically published on September 17, 2023

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ISSN: (Online) 2331-1290, (Print) 0146-4124

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ABSTRACT. For a metric continuum X and for $p \in X$, we define the hyperspace $\text{Arcs}(p, X)$ as the set of all arcs in X that contain the point p , endowed with the Hausdorff metric. We show geometric models of $\text{Arcs}(p, X)$, in the case when X is the arc, the simple closed curve, the simple triod, the noose and the $\sin(\frac{1}{x})$ -continuum. Moreover, we present a characterization of dendrites in terms of this hyperspace.

1. INTRODUCTION

A *continuum* is a compact, connected metric space with more than one point. A hyperspace is a collection of closed subsets having some common property. The study of the geometric models of hyperspaces is an interesting topic in continuum theory ([7] and [8, Chapter II]). Given a continuum X , the hyperspace of closed, nonempty subsets of X is denoted by 2^X and the hyperspace of subcontinua of X is denoted by $C(X)$. In 1978, Sam B. Nadler, Jr. [11, p. 601] suggested to study the hyperspace of arcs of a continuum X , defined and denoted by $\mathcal{A}(X) = \{A \subset X : A \text{ is an arc in } X\}$. In 1999, Adrián Soto [14] studied in his bachelor thesis the hyperspace of arcs and singletons of a continuum X , that is, the collection $\mathcal{M}(X) = \mathcal{A}(X) \cup \{\{x\} : x \in X\}$, and he obtained properties of $\mathcal{M}(X)$ when X is a dendroid. In 2002, Alejandro Illanes [6] gave a characterization of dendrites using the hyperspace of arcs and singletons.

2020 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 54B20, 54F15; Secondary 54F65, 54C10.

Key words and phrases. Continuum, dendrite, fan, hyperspace of arcs and singletons, hyperspaces of arcs containing a point, smooth fan.

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