TOPOLOGY PROCEEDINGS
Volume 7, 1982
Pages 293–299
http://topology.auburn.edu/tp/

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Topology Proceedings

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ISSN: 0146-4124

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1. Background

All spaces are assumed to be completely regular and Hausdorff.

In 1951, Dowker [3] gave an internal characterization of spaces whose product with the closed unit interval is normal. He showed that $X \times [0,1]$ is normal if and only if X is normal and satisfies a countable form of the property of paracompactness which had been introduced a few years before (countable paracompactness). In 1959, Horne [5] considered when a space has the property that every locally bounded function may be bounded by a continuous function (a cb-space). He showed that cb-spaces are countably paracompact and that the converse holds for normal spaces.

In 1969, Mack [6] gave a characterization of countably paracompact spaces in the fashion of Dowker's characterization of countably paracompact normal spaces. He showed that X is countably paracompact if and only if $X \times [0,1]$ has the following "weak normality property": δ-normal (every closed set which is the intersection of the closures of countably many open sets containing it (regular G_δ-set) can be separated (with disjoint open sets) from any closed set which does not intersect it).

In 1967, Zenor [7] has considered another weak normality property: δ-normally separated (every zero set can be separated (with a Urysohn function) from any closed set which does not intersect it). Mack unified the work of Zenor and Horne by showing that X is a cb-space if and only if X × [0,1] is δ-normally separated. Thus in summary:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{X normal and ctbly. para.} & \longrightarrow & \text{X cb-space} & \longrightarrow & \text{X ctbly. para.} \\ \updownarrow & & \updownarrow & & \updownarrow \\ X \times [0,1] \text{ normal} & & X \times [0,1]\ \delta\text{-normally separated} & & X \times [0,1]\ \delta\text{-normal} \end{array}$$

The natural conjecture with respect to the weak normality properties is the following:

$$\text{X normal} \longrightarrow \text{X } \delta\text{-normally separated} \longrightarrow \text{X } \delta\text{-normal}$$

The first implication is true but in 1969 Mack asked: Is every δ-normally separated space, δ-normal? This question was asked again by Alo and Shapiro in their monograph [1]. As a partial result, Hardy and Juhasz [4] described a weakly δ-normally separated (for definition see p. 254 of [1]) space which is not δ-normal. We construct a δ-normally separated space which is not δ-normal.

2. The Counterexample

We construct a completely regular Hausdorff space X such that:

(X1) Any zero set either (a) is contained in a clopen set which is a normal subspace of X or (b) contains a clopen set whose complement is a normal subspace of X.

(X2) There is a nonempty closed set A, a family of open sets $\{U_i : i \in N\}$ such that $A = \cap\{U_i : i \in N\}$ and for each $i \in N$, $\overline{U}_i \subset U_{i+1}$ and a nonempty closed set B such that $A \cap B = \phi$ for which there do not exist disjoint open sets

U,V such that $U \supset A$ and $V \supset B$.

The idea behind X is as follows: There are regular spaces X with $a,b \in X$ such that any continuous function $f: X \to R$ is such that $f(a) = f(b)$. These spaces are not completely regular. A copy of ω_1 behaves like a point with respect to continuous real-valued functions. That is, if X is a space and $A \subset X$ is a copy of ω_1, then, for any continuous function $f: X \to R$, there is a real number r such that all but countably many $a \in A$ are such that $f(a) = r$. We say $f(A) = r$. There are completely regular spaces X with disjoint copies of ω_1, $A,B \subset X$ such that any continuous function $f: X \to R$ is such that $f(A) = f(B)$. Let us say A and B are tied. We describe the structure of X: There is ω_1 and a sequence of copies of ω_1. Each consecutive pair of copies is tied and ω_1 and each copy are tied but we allow ω_1 to dissociate itself from any finitely many copies at one time.

Lemma 1. X *is a topological space. Let* $X = \omega_1 \cup (\omega_1^2 \times \omega)$. *Topologize* X *as follows:*

(0) *The* β,γ,nth *nhood of* $\alpha \in \omega_1$ (where $\gamma < \alpha < \beta < \omega_1$) *is* $\{\delta: \gamma < \delta \leq \alpha\} \cup \{(\delta,\xi,m): \gamma < \xi \leq \alpha$ *and* $\beta < \delta < \omega_1$ *and* $m \geq n\}$

(1) *The* β,γth *nhood of* (α,α,n) (where $\gamma < \alpha < \beta < \omega_1$) *is* $\{(\delta,\xi,n): \gamma < \delta \leq \alpha$ *and* $\gamma < \xi \leq \alpha\} \cup \{(\delta,\xi,n-1): \beta < \xi < \omega_1$ *and* $\gamma < \delta \leq \alpha\}$ *where the second summand is ignored if* $n = 0$.

(2) (α,β,n) *for* $\alpha \neq \beta$ *is an isolated point.*

Proof. Any nhood of type (0) is disjoint from

$\{(\alpha,\alpha,n)\colon \alpha < \omega_1$ and $n \in N\}$, any nhood of type (1) is disjoint from ω_1 and any basic open nhood of any (α,α,n) is disjoint from $\{(\beta,\beta,m)\colon \beta < \omega_1$ and $m \neq n\}$. If the intersection of the β,γ,nth nhood of α and the β',γ',n'th nhood of α' contains α'', then it also contains the $\max\{\beta,\beta'\}$, $\max\{\gamma,\gamma'\}$,$\max\{n,n'\}$th nhood of α''. If the intersection of the β,γth nhood of (α,α,n) and the β',γ'th nhood of (α',α',m) contains (α'',α'',p), then $n = p = m$ and it contains the $\max\{\beta,\beta'\}$,$\max\{\gamma,\gamma'\}$th nhood of (α'',α'',p).

Lemma 2. X *is a completely regular space.*

Proof. We show that X is Hausdorff and 0-dimensional. Each point is the intersection of its basic open nhoods so it suffices to show that each element of the base is clopen. The subspace topologies on ω_1 and $\{(\alpha,\alpha,n)\colon \alpha < \omega_1\}$ for each $n \in N$ are the usual ones. Two nhoods of type (0) intersect if and only if they intersect on ω_1. Any basic open nhood of a point in ω_1 with first parameter β is disjoint both from any basic open nhood of any (α,α,n) where $\alpha \leq \beta$ and from the $0,\beta$th nhood of any (α,α,n) where $\alpha > \beta$. Therefore basic open sets of type (0) are clopen. If a basic open nhood of (α,α,n) and a basic open nhood of (α',α',n') intersect then n and n' differ by at most one. If $n = n'$ they intersect on $\{(\beta,\beta,n)\colon \beta \in \omega_1\}$. Any basic open set of type (0) with first parameter α is disjoint from any nhood of (α,α,n), any basic open nhood of (α,α,n) with first parameter β is disjoint from any nhood of $(\beta,\beta,n-1)$ and any basic open nhood of $(\alpha,\alpha,n-1)$ (with second parameter β if $\beta < \alpha$) is disjoint from any nhood of

(β,β,n). Therefore basic open sets of type (1) are clopen.

Lemma 3. X *satisfies* (X1).

Proof. For each $n \in \omega$, $\{(\alpha,\alpha,n): \alpha \in \omega\}$ is homeomorphic to ω_1 and so there exists $\alpha_n \in \omega_1$ and a real number r_n such that, whenever $\alpha > \alpha_n$, $f((\alpha,\alpha,n)) = r_n$. For each $n,k \in \omega$, there exists $\alpha_n^k \in \omega_1$ such that, whenever δ and γ are greater than α_n^k, $|f((\delta,\gamma,n)) - r_n| < \frac{1}{k}$ (otherwise, define inductively $\{\delta_i: i \in \omega\}$ and $\{\gamma_i: i \in \omega\}$ so that, for each $i \in \omega$, $|f((\delta_i,\gamma_i,n)) - r_n| \geq \frac{1}{k}$, $\inf\{\delta_{i+1},\gamma_{i+1}\} > \sup\{\delta_i,\gamma_i\}$ and $\inf\{\delta_0,\gamma_0\} > \alpha_n$; let $\eta = \sup\{\delta_i: i \in \omega\} = \sup\{\gamma_i: i \in \omega\}$ and get a contradiction since $\{(\delta_i,\gamma_i,n): i \in \omega\}$ converges to (η,η,n) and, since $\eta > \alpha_n$, $f(\eta,\eta,n) = r_n$). Let $\alpha^* = \sup\{\alpha_n^k: k,n \in \omega\}$. Whenever δ and γ are greater than α^*, $f((\delta,\gamma,n)) = r_n$. For each $n > 0$ and $\alpha > \alpha^*$, (α,α,n) is in the closure of $\{(\delta,\gamma,n-1): \alpha^* < \delta < \gamma < \omega_1$. Whenever $\alpha^* < \delta < \gamma < \omega_1$, $f((\delta,\gamma,n-1)) = r_{n-1}$ and whenever $\alpha > \alpha^*$, $f((\alpha,\alpha,n)) = r_n$. This implies that, for each $n > 0$, $r_n = r_{n-1}$ and so that there is a real number c such that, for each $n \in \omega$, $r_n = c$. For each $\alpha > \alpha^*$, α is in the closure of $\{(\alpha,\beta,n): \alpha^* < \beta < \alpha < \omega_1$ and so $f(\alpha) = c$. Let $R = \{\alpha: \alpha > \alpha^*\}$ $\{(\alpha,\beta,n): \alpha$ and β are greater than α^* and $n \in \omega\}$.

For each $x \in R$, $f(x) = c$. Claim R is a clopen subset of X. R is open since any basic open nhood of $\alpha \in R$ with second parameter α^* is contained in R and any basic open nhood of $(\alpha,\alpha,n) \in R$ with second parameter α^* is contained in R. R is closed since any basic open neighborhood of a point not in R is disjoint from R. X - R has countably many nonisolated points. Any such space is paracompact and, thus, normal.

Lemma 4. X *satisfies* (X2).

Proof. Let $A = \omega_1$ and, for each $n \in \omega$, let $U_n = \omega_1$ $\{(\alpha,\beta,m): m > n \text{ or } \alpha < \beta;\ \alpha,\beta \in \omega_1,\ m \in \omega\}$. Let $B = \{(\alpha,\alpha,m): \alpha \in \omega_1,\ m \in \omega\}$. Suppose that there exist disjoint open sets U,V such that $U \supset A$ and $V \supset B$. For each $n \in \omega$, $\alpha \in \omega_1$, let $f_n(\alpha) < \alpha$ be such that, for some $\beta \in \omega_1$, the $\beta, f_n(\alpha)$th neighborhood of (α,α,n) is contained in V. Each f_n is a regressive function on ω_1 and so there is an uncountable set A_n contained in ω_1 and $\lambda_n \in \omega_1$ such that, for each $\alpha \in A_n$, $f_n(\alpha) = \lambda_n$. Let $\lambda > \sup\{\lambda_n: n \in \omega\}$. Some β,γ,nth neighborhood of λ is contained in U. Let $\delta \in A_n$ be such that $\delta > \beta$ and $\delta > \lambda$. $(\delta,\lambda,n) \in U \cap V$ and that is a contradiction.

Lemma 5. X *is a* δ-*normally separated space which is not* δ-*normal*.

Proof. Any completely regular space X satisfying (X1) is δ-normally separated. If Z is a zero set in X, there is a decomposition of $X = X_1 \oplus X_2$ such that X_1 is normal and either X_2 is contained in Z or X_2 is disjoint from Z. If A is a closed set disjoint from Z, then at most one of A,Z intersect X_2. To construct a Urysohn function separating Z and A, it suffices to do so in each of X_1 and X_2. In X_2 we may take either the constant 0 function if X_2 is disjoint from A or the constant 1 function if X_2

is disjoint from Z. In X_1, we use the normality of X_1. Any completely regular space satisfying (X2) is not δ-normal.

We thank Nobuyuki Kemoto for finding an error in an earlier version of this paper. We thank the referee for urging that the paper be concise and for noting that the methods used in this construction were used widely twenty years ago (see [2]).

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