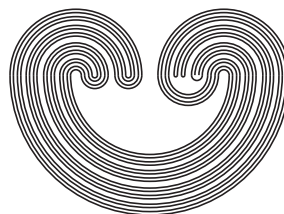

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by

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ABSTRACT. Let X be a continuum and n be a positive integer. The symbol $C_n(X)$ denotes the hyperspace of all nonempty, closed subsets of X having at most n components, $C_n(X)$ is endowed with the Vietoris topology. Given a finite family $\{C_1, \dots, C_r\}$ of connected subsets of X , $r \leq n$, it is well known that the set $\langle C_1, \dots, C_r \rangle_n$ of all elements A in $C_n(X)$ such that $A \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^r C_i$ and $A \cap C_i \neq \emptyset$ for each i , is a connected subset of $C_n(X)$, consequently, if $B_1, \dots, B_r \subset X$ are such that $X - B_i$ is a connected subset for each $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$, then $C_n(X) - \langle X - B_1, \dots, X - B_r \rangle_n$ has a connected complement in $C_n(X)$. In this paper we will study the analogous property by changing non-cut sets for some of the following types of sets: non-weak cut sets, sets that do not block the singletons of X , sets that do not block some point of X , and shore sets.

1. INTRODUCTION

A *continuum* is a nondegenerate, compact, connected metric space. Given a continuum X , a *subcontinuum* of X is a subspace that is nonempty, closed, and connected. A continuum X is said to be a *dendrite* provided that it is locally connected without simple closed curves; X is

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