

From (8) we obtain $Y = Z_\beta \cup \bigcup_{i < \beta} Q(Z_i)$, where the sets in the sums on the right are disjoint according to (8) and to the hypothesis concerning the sets $Q(Z_i)$ for $i < \beta$. Thus

$$\bar{Y} = \bar{Z}_\beta + \sum_{i < \beta} \overline{Q(Z_i)} \leq s_\alpha + s_\alpha \cdot \bar{\beta}$$

by virtue of (7) and (9). But $\beta < \omega_{\alpha+1}$ implies $\bar{\beta} \leq s_\alpha$. Hence $\bar{Y} \leq s_\alpha + s_\alpha \cdot s_\alpha = s_\alpha$, contrary to (5).

From (6) we have $Q(Z_\beta) \subset Z_\beta$. That means according to (8) that the sets $Q(Z_\beta)$ and $Q(Z_i)$ are disjoint for every $i < \beta$.

Therefore the sets Z_β (where $\beta < \omega_{\alpha+1}$) are defined so that $Q(Z_\beta)$ are disjoint and $s_{\alpha+1} \leq \bar{Z}_\beta$ for $\beta < \omega_{\alpha+1}$. Put $z_\beta = q(Z_\beta)$ for $\beta < \omega_{\alpha+1}$.

Now let $\beta < \beta'$. Since $z_\beta \in Q(Z_\beta)$ and $z_{\beta'} \in Q(Z_{\beta'})$ by virtue of (6), we have $z_\beta \neq z_{\beta'}$ and $z_{\beta'} \notin Q(Z_\beta)$, that is $q(Z_\beta) \text{ non } R z_{\beta'}$, i. e. $z_\beta \text{ non } R z_{\beta'}$. Hence the set of points z_β (where $\beta < \omega_{\alpha+1}$) has a power $s_{\alpha+1}$, is contained in Y , thus also in X , and $z_\beta \text{ non } R z_{\beta'}$ for every two of its distinct elements z_β and $z_{\beta'}$. This contradicts $(s_{\alpha+1})$.

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CARTESIAN PRODUCTS AND CONTINUOUS IMAGES

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Studying the question whether the Cartesian product $A \times B$ of continua A and B is a continuous image of A provided that B is a continuous image of A , Sieklucki and Engelking have proved that the answer can be negative already for $A = B$, i. e. for topological squares ⁽¹⁾. Their examples are the following:

- (i) $A = B = \mathcal{S}$, where \mathcal{S} is the *condensed sinusoid*, i. e. the sum of the curve $\{(x, y) : y = \sin 1/x, 0 < x \leq 1\}$ and the straight segment with end points $(0, -1)$ and $(0, 1)$,
- (ii) $A = B = \mathcal{B}$, where \mathcal{B} is the *countable brush*, i. e. the sum of the infinite sequence of straight segments with end points $(0, 1)$ and $(1/i, 0)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots$ and the straight segment with end points $(0, 1)$ and $(0, 0)$.

The purpose of this paper is to prove a more general theorem ⁽²⁾, which comprises the cases (i) and (ii) (see especially the corollary).

Let X , Y and Z be arbitrary compact spaces and let p be the projection of Cartesian product $X \times Y$ onto X . We denote by $L(X)$ the set of points of X at which the space X is locally connected and we put $N(X) = X - L(X)$.

(1) If $f(X) = Y$ is a continuous mapping, $y \in Y$ and $f^{-1}(y) \subset \text{Int}(V)$, then $y \in \text{Int}(f(V))$.

Proof. Suppose that $\lim y_n = y$ and $y_n \in Y - f(V)$. Then we have $f^{-1}(y_n) \subset X - f^{-1}f(V) \subset X - V$. Applying the compactness of X , let $x_n \in f^{-1}(y_n)$ and $\lim x_n = x'$. Then $f(x_n) = y_n$ and $x_n \in X - V$, that is $x' \in \overline{X - V} = X - \text{Int}(V)$. Thus $x' \in X - f^{-1}(y)$ and hence $f(x') \neq y$, which contradicts the continuity of f .

⁽¹⁾ See P 290, Colloquium Mathematicum 7 (1960), p. 110, and P 290, R 1, ibidem, p. 309.

⁽²⁾ It is a result of a correspondence and discussion at the meeting on 16 December 1959 of the Wrocław Topological Seminar conducted by Professor B. Knaster.

(2) If $f(X) = Y$ is a continuous mapping, $y \in Y$ and $f^{-1}(y) \subset L(X)$, then $y \in L(f(X))$.

Proof. Let U be an open neighbourhood of the point y in Y . Then $f^{-1}(y) \subset f^{-1}(U)$ and $f^{-1}(U)$ is open in X . Since $f^{-1}(y) \subset L(X)$, there exists for each $x \in f^{-1}(y)$ an open neighbourhood U_x of x which is connected and contained in $f^{-1}(U)$. Thus the sum $V = \bigcup_x U_x$, where $x \in f^{-1}(y)$, is an open set and $f^{-1}(y) \subset V$. From (1) we have $y \in \text{Int}(f(V)) = \text{Int}(\bigcup_x f(U_x))$. However, $y \in f(U_x)$ for every $x \in f^{-1}(y)$. Hence the neighbourhood $\bigcup_x f(U_x)$ of the point y is connected and contained in U , because $f(U_x) \subset ff^{-1}(U) = U$ for each $x \in f^{-1}(y)$.

(3) If f is a continuous mapping, then $N(f(X)) \subset f(N(X))$.

Proof. Since $f(X) - N(f(X)) = L(f(X))$, the theorem is equivalent to the inclusion $f(X) - f(N(X)) \subset L(f(X))$. Putting $y \in f(X) - f(N(X))$ we have $f^{-1}(y) \subset f^{-1}f(X) - f^{-1}f(N(X)) \subset X - N(X) = L(X)$, which, applying (2), implies $y \in L(f(X))$.

(4) $L(X \times Y) = L(X) \times L(Y)$.

Proof. The inclusion $L(X) \times L(Y) \subset L(X \times Y)$ is evident. Let $(x, y) \in L(X \times Y)$. If V is a neighbourhood of x in X , $p^{-1}(V)$ is one of (x, y) in $X \times Y$. Then there exists a neighbourhood U of (x, y) which is connected and contained in $p^{-1}(V)$. It follows that the set $p(U)$ containing the point x is connected, contained in V and open, the projection p being an open mapping. Then $x \in L(X)$. The proof that $y \in L(Y)$ is similar.

(5) $N(X \times Y) = N(X) \times Y \cup X \times N(Y)$.

Proof. We have the identities $X \times Y = L(X) \times L(Y) \cup L(X) \times N(Y) \cup N(X) \times L(Y) \cup N(X) \times N(Y)$ and $N(X) \times Y \cup X \times N(Y) = N(X) \times L(Y) \cup N(X) \times N(Y) \cup L(X) \times N(Y)$ and the sums on the right are those of disjoint sets. Hence $X \times Y = L(X) \times L(Y) \cup N(X) \times Y \cup X \times N(Y)$ and (4) implies $N(X) \times Y \cup X \times N(Y) = X \times Y - L(X) \times L(Y) = X \times Y - L(X \times Y) = N(X \times Y)$.

THEOREM. If $N(Y) \neq 0 \neq N(X) \subset Z \subset X$ and $N(Z) = 0$, then $X \times Y \neq f(X)$ for every continuous mapping f .

Proof. Suppose that $X \times Y = f(X)$. It follows from (3) and (5) that $N(X) \times Y \cup X \times N(Y) = N(X \times Y) = N(f(X)) \subset f(N(X)) \subset f(Z)$. Thus $X \times N(Y) \subset f(Z)$. However, the condition $N(Y) \neq 0$ implies $X = p(X \times N(Y)) \subset pf(Z)$. Hence $X = pf(Z)$. We conclude from (3) and from the continuity of the mapping pf that $N(X) = N(pf(Z)) \subset pf(N(Z)) = 0$. This implies that $N(X) = 0$, contrary to our hypothesis.

Applying the theorem for $X = Y$ we obtain

COROLLARY. If a continuum X is not locally connected and the set $N(X)$ of points at which X is not locally connected is contained in a locally connected continuum lying in X , then the Cartesian product $X \times X$ is not a continuous image of X .

Let us note that the hypothesis concerning $N(X)$ in this corollary is essential. For example, a countable Cartesian product \mathcal{Q}^{\aleph_0} of the brush \mathcal{Q} is not locally connected at the point $((0, 0), (0, 0), \dots)$ and $\mathcal{Q}^{\aleph_0} \times \mathcal{Q}^{\aleph_0}$ is homeomorphic to \mathcal{Q}^{\aleph_0} .

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