76

B. M. Scott

- (a) $r(X_n) = r(Y_n) = \alpha$:
- (b) X_{α} is scattered, and Y_{α} is not;
- (c) $|Y_{\alpha}| = |\alpha| + \omega$; and
- (d) $|X_{\alpha}| = |\alpha| + \omega$ unless $\alpha = 0$, in which case $|X_{\alpha}| = 1$.

Proof. Let Z be the integers (with the usual order). Given X_{α} , let $X_{\alpha+1} = Z \times X_{\alpha}$, ordered lexicographically, and let $Y_{\alpha} = Q \times X_{\alpha}$, also ordered lexicographically. If α is a limit ordinal, let $X_{\alpha} = \{f \colon \alpha+1 \to Z \colon f \text{ is continuous (with respect to order topologies on } \alpha+1 \text{ and } Z) \text{ and } f(\alpha) = 0\}; \text{ if } f,g \in X_{\alpha} \text{ with } f \neq g, \text{ let } \beta = \max\{\xi < \alpha \colon f(\xi) \neq g(\xi)\}, \text{ and write } f < g \text{ if } f(\beta) < g(\beta). \text{ It is easily checked that } X_{\alpha} \text{ has the desired properties.}$

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On contractible fans

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Abstract. The purpose of this paper is to give a characterization of weakly confluent-contractible fans. After giving several definitions, it is shown that such a fan must be pairwise smooth, must contain no ziz-zag, and lastly must contain no P-point. It is then shown that a fan which satisfies these three properties must be monotone-contractible. This implies the fan is weakly confluent-contractible in as much as monotone functions are always weakly confluent. Hence these properties also yield a characterization of monotone contractible fans.

Introduction. Several mathematicians (see [1], [4], [5], [7]) in recent years have studied the contractibility of dendroids. We will use the term *dendroid* to designate a compact metric continuum which is arc-wise connected and is also hereditarily unicoherent. A *ramification point* of a dendroid is a point which is the intersection of three or more arcs. K. Borsuk [2] has described simple types of dendroids, containing only one ramification point, which are called *fans*. The ramification point is called the *top* of the fan.

A topological space X is *contractible* if there exists a continuous map $F \colon [0,1] \times X \to X$ such that F(0,p) is p, for each point p of X; and there is a point q in X such that F(1,p) is q for each point p of X. The map F is called a *contraction* of X.

Figure 1 in the Appendix is a contractible dendroid A with the surprising property that for each choice of a contraction F, there must be a time t in [0, 1] for which $F(t \times A)$ is a noncontractible sub-dendroid of A. In order to restrict the spaces it was decided to place a stronger requirement on the maps involved. The property chosen was first defined by A. Lelek [9], that of weak-confluence of the maps. It was found that for dendroids, even with weakly-confluent maps, examples of the type found in Figure 1 are still admissible. The investigation was further restricted to the case of fans. It will be shown that a fan is weakly-confluent contractible if and only if it is confluent contractible, if and only if it is monotone contractible.

A continuous map is said to be *monotone* if the pre-image of each continuum lying in its image is itself a continuum. A contraction F on a space X is a *monotone* contraction provided that for each time t in [0, 1], the map F restricted to $\{t\} \times X$ is monotone.

A continuous map is *confluent* if, for each continuum K lying in its image, it is true that every component of the pre-image of K is mapped *onto* K. A contraction F on a space X is a *confluent contraction* if F restricted to $\{t\} \times X$ is confluent for each t in [0,1].

A continuous map is said to be weakly-confluent if, for each continuum K lying in its image, it is true that at least one component of the pre-image of K is mapped onto K. Given a space X and a contraction F of X, we will say that F is a weakly-confluent contraction provided that for each time t in [0, 1], the map F restricted to $\{t\} \times X$ is weakly-confluent.

The main result of this paper is a characterization of those fans which admit a weakly-confluent contraction. The following definitions will be used throughout the paper.

DEFINITION. Let X be a dendroid and let r be a point in X. Suppose there are two sequences $\{r(1,n)\}$, $\{r(2,n)\}$ (n=1,2,3...) of points of X, each converging to r. We say that the former sequence dominates the latter sequence provided that whenever there exists a point s in X and a sequence $\{s(1,n)\}$ converging to s, with the property that the arcs [r(1,n),s(1,n)] converge to the arc [r,s], then it follows that there also exists a sequence $\{s(2,n)\}$ converging to s such that the arcs [r(2,n),s(2,n)] converge to [r,s] set-wise.

DEFINITION. We say that a dendroid is pairwise-smooth provided that whenever a pair of sequences converge to a common point, then one of the pair dominates the other. Figures 2 and 3 in the Appendix illustrate fans which are not pairwise-smooth.

DEFINITION We say that a dendroid X contains a zig-zag if there are distinct points a, b belonging to X and a sequence of arcs $[a_n, b_n, c_n, d_n]$, n = 1, 2, ... (with endpoints a_n , d_n and interior points b_n , c_n in the order indicated) converging to the arc [a, b] in such a way that $\{a_n\}_{n=1,2,...}$ and $\{c_n\}_{n=1,2,...}$ each converge to a, while $\{b_n\}_{n=1,2,...}$ and $\{d_n\}_{n=1,2,...}$ each converge to b. Figures 4 and 5 in the Appendix show some examples of a zig-zag.

The P-point defined next, is a slight modification of R. Bennett's O-point.

DEFINITION. Let X be a dendroid and let b be a point of X. We call b a P-point if there is a sequence of points in $X \{b_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$ converging to b such that Ls $[b,b_n]$ is not equal to b, and such that if $[b_n,x_n]$ denotes the arc irreducible between b_n and Ls $[b,b_n]$, then it follows that $\{x_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$ converges to b. A simple example of a P-point is given in Figure 6 of the Appendix.

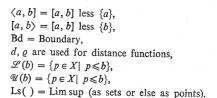
We will show that a fan is weakly-confluent contractible if and only if it is pairwise smooth, contains no zig-zag, and contains no P-point.

The following notation will be used:

Cl = Closure,

 $B(,) = Open ball of radius ___, centered at ___,$

[a, b] = Arc with endpoints a, b the order does not matter unless otherwise indicated,



Given a fan X with point c, the weak cut point order (with respect to c) is defined on X by: $p \le q$ if p belongs to [c, q] and p < q if $p \le q$ but p is distinct from q. Given a fan X with a partial order \le defined on X a metric ϱ on X is radially convex provided that $p \le q < z$ implies $\varrho(p, q) < \varrho(p, z)$.

A partial order \leq on X is closed if the set $\{(a,b)| a \leq b\}$ is closed in $X \times X$.

Chapter 1. This section contains some basic results which will be needed to obtain the main theorem.

LEMMA 1.1. Let X be a dendroid. Let $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be sequences of points of X converging to x_0 , r_0 respectively. Let b be a point of $Ls[x_n, r_n]$ and let \leqslant denote the weak-cut-point order, with respect to b defined on $Ls[x_n, r_n]$. There exists a subsequence $\{[x_n(j), r_n(j)]\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ and sequence $\{b_n(j)\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ converging to b, with $b_n(j)$ contained in $[x_n(j), r_n(j)]$ such that $Ls[x_n(j), b_n(j)] \leqslant b$ (if $x_0 \leqslant b$) respectively, $Ls[x_n(j), b_n(j)] \geqslant b$ (if $x_0 \geqslant b$).

Proof. We may as well assume that x_0 is distinct from b, that for each $n=1,2,...,x_n$ is not contained in $\mathrm{Cl}(B(1,b))$, and that b belongs to $\lim_n [x_n,r_n]$. For each j=1,2,..., there exists a subarc $[x_n,b_{(n,j)}]$ of $[x_n,r_n]$ which is irreducible between x_n and $\mathrm{Cl}(B(1/j,b))$, for each n greater than say N_j . Also, since b does not belong to $\mathrm{Ls}[x_n,b_{(n,j)}]$, it follows that $\mathrm{Ls}[x_n,b_{(n,j)}]\leqslant b$ (respectively, $\geqslant b$). Hence for each n larger than say M_j it must be true that $[x_n,b_{(n,j)}]$ is in the 1/j neighborhood of $\mathscr{L}(b)$ (respectively, of $\mathscr{U}(b)$). Choose n(1)< n(2)<...< n(k)<..., with n(j) greater than M_j , such that $[x_n(j),b_{(n,j)}(j)]$ is in the 1/j neighborhood of $(\mathscr{L}(b))$ (respectively, of $(\mathscr{U}(b))$). Note that $b_{(n,j)}(j)$ is contained in $\mathrm{Cl}(B(1/j,b))$ for each j. Thus $\{b_{(n,j)}(j)\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ converges to b and it is evident that $\mathrm{Ls}[x_n(j),b_{(n,j)}(j)]\leqslant b$ (respectively, $\geqslant b$).

LEMMA 1.2. Let X be a dendroid and $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be sequences of points of X, converging to x_0 , r_0 respectively such that the arcs $[x_n, r_n]$ are pairwise disjoint or else $x_n = x_0$ for all n while $\langle x_n, r_n |$ are pairwise disjoint, and such that $\text{Ls}[x_n, r_n] = [x_0, r_0]$. Define $y \leqslant z$ if y is contained in $[x_n, z]$ for some $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ If X contains no zig-zags, then $\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} [x_n, r_n]$ admits a radially convex metric, with respect to \leqslant .

Proof. It is known (see [3] and [10]) that the result follows if it can be shown that

whenever a sequence of points $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ contained in $\bigcup [x_n, r_n]$ converges to a point y_0 , then it follows that Ls $L(y_0)$ is included in $L(y_0)$. Suppose the lemma is false. There then exist points y_n in $[x_n, r_n]$, say, $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to y_0 in $[x_0, r_0]$ and there exist points p_n in $[x_n, y_n]$ with $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to a point p in $\langle y_0, r_0 \rangle$. We may as well suppose that p is max Ls $[x_n, y_n]$. Let q be min Ls $[p_n, r_n]$ and note that $q \le y_0 < p$. By taking a subsequence and relabeling indices we can assume that there exist points q_n in $[p_n, r_n]$, $\{q_n\}$ converging to q. If \hat{p} denotes $\max Ls[x_n, q_n]$ we find similarly, points \hat{p}_n in $[p_n, q_n]$ with $\{\hat{p}_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to p. Note that $q \le y_0 .$ Now \hat{p} is contained in $[q, r_0]$ which is included in Ls $[q_n, r_n]$ and, applying Lemma 1.1 we find (without loss of generality) points \tilde{p}_n in $[q_n, r_n]$ with $\{\tilde{p}_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to \tilde{p} such that Ls $[\tilde{p}_n, q_n] \leq \hat{p}$. But Ls $[\tilde{p}_n, q_n] \geqslant q$ must follow from the minimality of q, hence $Ls[\tilde{p}_n, q_n] = [\hat{p}, q]$. Also, since $q \in [x_0, \hat{p}] \leqslant Ls[x_n, \hat{p}_n]$ it follows from Lemma 1.1 and the maximality of \hat{p} that there exist points \tilde{q}_n in $[x_n, \hat{p}_n], \{\tilde{q}_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to q, such that Ls $[\tilde{q}_n, \hat{p}_n] = [\hat{p}, q]$. The set Ls $[q_n, \hat{p}_n]$ is equal to $[\hat{p}, q]$ because \hat{p} is maximal and for almost all n, \hat{p}_n is greater than or equal to p_n , while qis minLs $[p_n, r_n]$. By relabeling indices on the appropriate subsequences, we obtain the fact that $\{[\tilde{p}_n, q_n, \hat{p}_n, \tilde{q}_n]\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges to $[\hat{p}, q]$ in the manner required to form a zig-zag. This contradicts the hypothesis and the lemma must be true.

LEMMA 1.3. If X is a contractible dendroid and $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, $\{b_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ are sequences of points of X which converge to a_0 , b_0 respectively, then Ls $[a_n, b_n]$ is hereditarily locally connected. (This is an unpublished result of Charatonik.)

Proof. Suppose F is a contraction of X with $F(\{1\} \times X) = z$ say. For each n let $[z, x_n]$ be irreducible between z and $[a_n, b_n]$. Now

$$\text{Ls}[a_n, b_n] \subseteq \text{Ls}([x_n, a_n] \cup [x_n, b_n]) \subseteq \text{Ls}[x_n, a_n] \cup \text{Ls}[x_n, b_n]$$

$$\subseteq \text{Ls}([z, x_n] \cup [x_n, a_n]) \cup \text{Ls}([z, x_n] \cup [b, x_n])$$

$$= \text{Ls}[z, a_n] \cup \text{Ls}[z, b_n] \subseteq \text{Ls}F([0, 1] \times a_n) \cup \text{Ls}F([0, 1] \times b_n)$$

$$\subseteq \text{Ls}F(([0, 1] \times a_n) \cup ([0, 1] \times b_n))$$

$$= F(\text{Ls}\{([0, 1] \times a_n) \cup ([0, 1] \times b_n)\})$$

$$= F(\text{Ls}([0, 1] \times a_n)) \cup F(\text{Ls}([0, 1] \times b_n))$$

$$= F([0, 1] \times \{a\}) \cup F([0, 1] \times \{b\}).$$

Now $F([0,1]\times\{a\})\cup F(0,1]\times\{b\})$ is locally connected and hereditarily unicoherent and is thus hereditarily locally connected. The set Ls $[a_n,b_n]$ therefore inherits the latter property.

Chapter 2. We are now prepared to show the necessity of each of the three conditions — pairwise smooth, no zig-zag, no P-point — in order that a fan be weakly-confluent contractible

THEOREM 2.1. A contractible dendroid does not contain a zig-zag.

Proof. The zig-zag is a special case of a *continuum of type N* defined by Lex G. Oversteegen. See Theorem 2.1 of his paper *Non-contractibility of Continua* in Bull. Acad. Polon. Sci. (to appear 1978).

LEMMA 2.2. If a contractible fan contains a P-point, then that point must be the top of the fan.

Proof. Let X be a contractible fan with endpoints $\{e_a\}_{x \in A}$, top c, and let x be a P-point of X distinct from c. We wish to obtain a contradiction. There is a sequence of points $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to x for which the points x_n lie on distinct arcs $[c, e_a(n)]$, such that if $[x_n, y_n]$ is irreducible between x_n and $\operatorname{Ls}[x, x_n]$, then the sequence of points $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges to x. It follows that both x and c belong to $\operatorname{Ls}[x, x_n]$ and we know, as a result of Lemma 1.3, that $\operatorname{Ls}[x, x_n]$ is hereditarily locally n connected. Therefore, it is also true that $\operatorname{Cl}\{\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} [c, y_n]\}$ is locally connected. Since x belongs to $\operatorname{Cl}\{\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} [c, y_n]\}$, there is a relatively open neighborhood $\mathscr U$ of x lying in x or x definition of x lying an analysis of x such that x is connected and does not contain x. However, x must contain x for almost all x, and hence must contain the arcs x for almost all x. This implies that x lies on x for almost all x and x then the proper subcontinuum of x for almost all x and x the proper subcontinuum of x for almost all x and x the proper subcontinuum of x for almost all x and x the contradiction establishes the lemma.

Theorem 2.3. If a fan is weakly-confluent contractible, then it does not contain a P-point.

Proof. Let X be a fan with top c, endpoints $\{e_s\}_{\alpha\in A}$, and let F be a weakly-confluent contraction of X. If X contains a P-point, then c must be a P-point (Lemma 2.2). There is then a sequence of points $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converging to c, such that c_n is contained in $[c, e_{\alpha}(n)]$ (n = 1, 2, ...) for distinct endpoints $\{e_{\alpha}(n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, and possessing the property that Ls $[c, c_n]$ contains at least one point, say y, different from c.

With the appropriate choice of subsequence $\{c_n(j)\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ one can find a sequence of points $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ converging to y such that y_j belongs to $[c, c_n(j)]$ (j = 1, 2, ...). For each j let t_j be the greatest value of t in [0, 1] for which $F(t, c_n(j))$ belongs to $[y_j, e_\alpha(n,j)]$. We may assume that the sequence $\{t_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ converges, if not one uses a subsequence which does converge. Let t_0 be the limit of the sequence $\{t_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$. Now

$$F(t_0, c) = F(L_s(t_j, c_n(j))) = L_s F(t_j, c_n(j)) = L_s \{y_j\} = y.$$

6 - Fundamenta Mathematicae z. 111/1

Let $\mathscr U$ be an open neighborhood of y which is small enough that it does not contain c and let

$$K = \left(\operatorname{Cl}\left\{\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \left[c, F(t_0, c_n(j))\right]\right\}\right) - \mathscr{U}.$$

Let M be the component of K which contains c and note that M is a continuum which is not locally connected. (If M were locally connected, then it would be impossible for c to be a P-point.) Since c does not belong to $F_{l_0}^{-1}(M)$, each component of $F_{l_0}^{-1}(M)$ is an arc or a point. However, these are locally connected and thus cannot be mapped onto M. This is contradictory to the assumption that F is weakly-confluent. Therefore X, must contain no P-point.

THEOREM 2.4. A weakly-confluent contractible fan is pairwise smooth.

Proof. Let X be a weakly-confluent contractible fan with top c, endpoints $\{e_a\}_{a\in A}$, and let F be a contraction of X. Suppose that X is not pairwise smooth. There is then a point r belonging to X and sequences $\{r(1,n)\}$, $\{r(2,n)\}$ for $n=1,2,\ldots$, each converging to r, a point s and sequence $\{s(1,n)\}$ converging to s such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} [r(1,n),s(1,n)] = [r,s]$ and a point q, sequence $\{q(2,n)\}$ converging to q such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} [r(2,n),q(2,n)] = [r,p]$.

Because e is not a P-point (Theorem 2.3), we may choose the points s, r, q to lie (in that order) on an arc $[e, e_{\beta}] - \{e\}$ for some $\beta \in A$. Let $e_{\alpha}(1, n)$, $e_{\alpha}(2, n)$ be the endpoints of the arcs on which lie (respectively) the points r(1, n), r(2, n). We may assume that the points s(1, n), q(2, n) also belong to the arcs $[e, e_{\alpha}(1, n)]$, $[e, e_{\alpha}(2, n)]$ respectively.

It is important to note that the points s(1, n), q(2, n) may be chosen to lie on the arcs [c, r(1, n)], [c, r(2, n)] (respectively). For example, if the points s(1, n) belong to $[r(1, n), e_{\alpha}(1, n)]$, and if $\operatorname{Ls}[c, r(1, n)] = [c, z]$ say, there are then points z(1, n) in [c, r(1, n)] converging to z such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} [r(1, n), z(1, n)] = [r, z]$.

Actually there is a subsequence, but we relabel the indices. We have $\lim_{n} [r(1, n), z(1, n)] \le z$ by choice of z and $\ge r$ by using Lemma 1.1. It is evident that z < q, or else $\{r(2, n)\}$ would dominate $\{r(1, n)\}$ since we could put a radially convex metric ϱ on the set

$$\{[r,z] \cup (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} [r(1,n),z(1,n)])\}$$

(by Lemma 1.2) and $q \le z$ would enable us to choose a sequence [q(1, n)] converging to q such that $\lim_{n} [r(1, n), q(1, n)] = [r, q]$, the points q(1, n) lying on [r(1, n), z(1, n)] at the obvious correct distance $\varrho(r, q)$ from r(1, n).

But with z < q, we can put a radially convex metric ϱ on the set

$$\{\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} [c, z(1, n)]\} \cup [c, z]$$



(by Lemma 1.2) and take points s(3, n) (at distance $\varrho(s, z)$ from z(1, n)) lying on the arc [c, z(1, n)] and take points r(3, n) (at distance $\varrho(r, z)$ from z(1, n)) lying on [c, z(1, n)] and find that $\lim_{n} [r(3, n), s(3, n)] = [r, s]$. Hence the note stated above

is seen to be correct in this case. The other case, concerning the points q(2, n) may be done using a symmetric argument (also reversing the direction of each inequality).

At least once during the contraction of X, the point r must be moved to the position s as well as to the position q, since

$$F([0, 1] \times \{r\}) = F(\underset{n}{\text{Ls}}[0, 1] \times \{r(1, n)\})$$

$$= \underset{n}{\text{Ls}}F([0, 1] \times \{r(1, n)\}) \supseteq \underset{n}{\text{Ls}}[F(0, r(1, n)), F(1, r(1, n))]$$

$$= \underset{n}{\text{Ls}}[r(1, n), c] \supseteq \underset{n}{\text{Ls}}\{s(1, n)\}$$

$$= \{s\}, \text{ and similarly for } q.$$

Without loss of generality we suppose that r is mapped to s first before it is ever mapped to s. Let t_0 be the first time t in [0,1], such that F(t,r)=s. Let $F([0,t_0]\times\{r\})=(say)\ [s,w]$, where s must, of course, be less than s. Let s be the last time s in s0, s0, such that s0, is s0.

Now, without loss of generality, the arcs $[F(t_1, r(2, n)), F(t_0, r(2, n))]$ are contained in the arcs $[q(2, n), e_a(2, n)] - \{q(2, n)\}$. (Since r has not yet moved to q, this *must* be true for almost all n.)

By the choice of t_0 , t_1 , and w, it is evident that

$$\lim_{n} [F(t_1, r(2, n)), F(t_0, r(2, n))] = [w, s].$$

By Lemma 1.2 we can put a radially convex metric ϱ on the union of these arcs. It is then true that the arcs $[r(2, n), F(t_0, r(2, n))]$ converge to [r, s] and hence, $\{r(1, n)\}$ dominates $\{r(2, n)\}$ contrary to our initial supposition.

The theorem is thus proved.

Chapter 3. We shall now show that the three necessary conditions given in the previous section are in fact *sufficient* in order that a fan be not only weakly-confluent contractible, but also that it be monotone contractible.

Throughout this chapter we shall understand that X denotes a fan with top c and endpoints $\{e_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha\in A}$ which is pairwise smooth, contains no zig-zag, and contains no P-point.

Whenever we refer to the $\limsup_{\epsilon \to 0} (Ls)$ of a sequence of arcs, it is to be considered that this set belongs to one of the arcs $[c, e_n]$, or else c would be a P-point.

DEFINITION. Let n be an integer greater than zero. We say that an arc [a, b] which, for some $\alpha \in A$, lies on $\langle c, e_{\alpha}|$ is a partial n-hook provided there exists a sequence $\{[c, e_{\alpha}(m)]\}_{m=1,2,...}$ of arcs, each of which contains points

$$c = p(m, 0) < p(m, 1) < ... < p(m, n)$$

such that for each j=0,1,2,...,n, the sequence $\{p(m,j)\}_{m=1,2,...}$ converges to the point p_j say; and such that for j=1,2,...,n, the sequence

$${[p(m,j-1),p(m,j)]}_{m=1,2,\cdots}$$

of arcs converges to the arc $[p_{j-1}, p_j]$, with the additional features:

- (a) $[p_j, p_{j+1}]$ is properly contained in $[p_{j-1}, p_j]$ for j = 1, 2, ..., n-1;
- (b) $p_{n-1} = b$, $p_n = a$; and finally,
- (c) Ls[p(m, n), $e_{\alpha}(m)$] is properly contained in [p_{n-1} , p_n].

We call the point p_{n-1} the top of the partial n-hook and the point p_n the bottom of the partial n-hook.

Note. It follows from the definition of a partial n-hook that for a given n: either, for each partial n-hook [a, b], a < b (if n even) or, for each partial n-hook [a, b], b < a (if n odd). This is because in order to satisfy the portion of the definition concerning proper containment we must have $p_0 < p_1$, $p_1 > p_2$, $p_2 < p_3$, etc.; that is, $p_{j-1} < p_j$ if j is odd, while $p_{j-1} > p_j$ if j is even.

(Recall that our partial order \leq is defined as $p \leq q$ provided p weakly cuts q from c.)

LEMMA 3.1. If a pair of partial n-hooks intersect, then their tops must coincide. Proof. The proof is handled by induction on n. For details see [6].

Lemma 3.2. Let ε be a positive real number and suppose that X contains no partial k-hook for k=2,3,... of diameter less than ε . If for a fixed k one chooses a sequence $\{[p_{k-1}(i),p_k(i)]\}_{i=1,2...}$ of partial k-hooks such that $\{p_{k-1}(i)\} \rightarrow p_k(0)$, then

$$\lim_{i} [p_{k-1}(i), p_k(i)] = [p_{k-1}(0), p_k(0)]$$

and the latter set is also a partial k-hook.

Proof. One need only show the lemma is true when k=2, since by definition, each sequence of partial n-hooks (for n>2) is embedded in a sequence of partial 2 hooks and with the lemma true for k=2, we can put a radially convex metric ϱ on the closure of the sequence of partial 2-hooks, which is then inherited by the sequence of partial n-hooks. Using the radially convex metric ϱ , it is easy to show that the lemma then holds for k=n. We proceed by showing that if the lemma fails for k=2 then one can find a zig-zag lying inside the fan, contrary to our general hypothesis. See [6] for further details.

LEMMA 3.3. Let ε be a positive real number and suppose that X contains no partial k-hook for k=2,3,... of diameter less than ε . Then there exists a positive real number δ , called the nesting diameter of X such that for each partial k-hook, the diameter of $[p_{k-2}, p_{k-1}]$ is at least δ greater than the diameter of $[p_{k-1}, p_k]$, for k=2,3,... (using the same notation as in the definition).

Proof. If no such δ exists, then it is possible to consider two cases:

Case I. For some integer k greater than 1 there exists a sequence

$${[p_{k-1}(i), p_k(i)]}_{i=1,2...}$$

of partial k-hooks such that the difference in diameter between $[p_{k-2}(i), p_{k-1}(i)]$ and $[p_{k-1}(i), p_k(i)]$ is less than (1/i). Now by taking subsequences and relabeling, we may assume (in view of Lemma 3.2) that

$$\{[p_{k-1}(i), p_k(i)]\} \rightarrow [p_{k-1}(0), p_k(0)],$$

where

$$p_{k-1}(0) = \lim_{i} p_{k-1}, \quad p_k(0) = \lim_{i} p_k(i)$$

are distinct points (using the ε hypothesis). Now if k=2, it follows that the point c is a P-point. For k>2, we may "diagonalize" the three double-sequences

$$\{\{\{[p(i, m, j), p(i, m, j+1)]\}_{m=1}^{\infty}\}_{i=1}^{\infty}\}_{j=k-3, k-2, k-1}^{\infty}$$

(where $\{[p(i, m, j), p(i, m, j+1)]\} \xrightarrow{m} [p_j(i), p_{j+1}(i)]$ for j = k-3, k-2, k-1, i = 1, 2, ...). We may now suppose after some relabeling that

$$\begin{split} \{[p(i,m_i,k-3),p(i,m_i,k-2)]\} &\to [p_{k-3}(0),p_{k-2}(0)]\;,\\ \{[p(i,m_i,k-2),p(i,m_i,k-1)]\} &\to [p_{k-2}(0),p_{k-1}(0)]\;, \end{split}$$

and

$$\{[p(i, m_i, k-1), p(i, m_i, k)]\} \rightarrow [p_{k-1}(0), p_k(0)],$$

where $p_{k-3}(0) = \lim_{i} p_{k-3}(i)$ and $p_{k-2}(0) = \lim_{i} p_{k-2}(i)$. However, because of our assumption on the diameters of $[p_{k-2}(i), p_{k-1}(i)]$, $[p_{k-1}(i), p_k(i)]$, having difference less than (1/i), it is evident that $p_{k-2}(0)$ is identical to $p_k(0)$. Also, by using Lemma 1.2 to put a radially convex metric on $\operatorname{Cl}\{\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} [p(i, m_i, k-3), p(i, m_i, k-2)]\}$, we may find points z_i belonging to $[p(i, m_i, k-3), p(i, m_i, k-2)]$ with $z_i \to p_{k-1}(0)$. The arcs

$$\{[z_i, p(i, m_i, k-2), p(i, m_i, k-1), p(i, m_i, k)]\}_{i=1,2...}$$

then form a zig-zag, so this case cannot occur.

Case II. There exists a sequence $\{[p_{i-1}(i), p_i(i)]\}_{i=1,2...}$ of partial *i*-hooks such that the difference in diameter between $[p_{i-2}(i), p_{i-1}(i)]$ and $[p_{i-1}(i), p_i(i)]$ is less than [1/i). Using processes similar to those of Case I, we obtain sequences:

$$\big\{ \big\{ [p(i,m_i,j-1),p(i,m_i,j)] \big\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \big\}_{i=j}^{\infty}$$

such that for each j, the sequence

$$\{[p(i, m_i, j-1), p(i, m_i, j)]\}_{i=j}^{\infty}$$

converges to $[p_j(0), p_{j+1}(0)]$ where $p_j(0) = \lim_{i} p_{j-1}(i)$ (possible by Lemma 3.2).

(Note that for $i \ge j$, each partial *i*-hook is contained in a partial *j*-hook from which we obtain the points $p_{j-1}(i)$.)

We have:

$$p_0(0) < p_2(0) < p_4(0) < \dots < p_{2n}(0) < \dots < p_{2n-1}(0) < \dots < p_3(0) < p_1(0)$$
.

It follows from the ε hypothesis that $\{p_{2n}(0)\}_{\nearrow}r$ while $\{p_{2n-1}(0)\}_{\searrow}s$ such that s, r are distinct points (at least ε apart). But, without loss of generality, it follows that the "diagonal" sequences

$$\{p(i, m_i, i-3)\}, \{p(i, m_i, i-2)\}, \{p(i, m_i, i-1)\}, \{p(i, m_i, i)\}, i = 3, 4, ...,$$

each converge to s, r, s, r respectively, and the arcs formed by these four sequences yield a zig-zag.

Hence, the lemma is true.

COROLLARY 3.4. Let ε be a positive real number. If the fan X contains no partial k-hock for k = 1, 2, ... of diameter less than ε , then there exists a positive integer n such that for each k > n, X contains no partial k-hook.

Proof. Let the nesting diameter of X be δ . Since X is compact, we may suppose that diameter X=1. Choose [m-1] to be greater than say, $1/\delta$. If $[p_{m-1},p_m]$ is a partial m-hook lying in X, then $[p_{m-1},p_m]$ is properly contained in a partial (m-1)-hook which is properly contained in a partial (m-2)-hook ... which is properly contained in a partial 1-hook. By virtue of the property of the nesting diameter, it follows that the diameter of $[p_{m-1},p_m]$ must be less than zero. This being impossible, we have an upper bound n as desired.

DEFINITION. Let X be a fan which satisfies the conditions of Corollary 3.4 (as well as satisfying the hypothesis of this chapter; namely, pairwise smooth, no zig-zag, and no P-point). We say that X is an (e, n)-fan.

LEMMA 3.5. Let X be an (ε, n) -fan. Let k be a positive integer less than or equal to n and let p_{k-1} be the top of a partial k-hook. We claim that the union of those partial k-hooks which contain the point p_{k-1} forms a closed set and is also a partial k-hook.

Proof. Each summand of the union has the point p_{k-1} as its top, by virtue of Lemma 3.1. If k is even (respectively, k, odd), then the bottom of each summand belongs to $\langle c, p_{k-1} \rangle$ (respectively, $\langle p_{k-1}, e_{\alpha} \rangle$ for some $\alpha \in A$) and there is then a point q which is the infimum (respectively, supremum) of these bottom points. If we approach this limit point with a countable sequence $\{p(i,k)\}_{i=1}^{n}$ of the bottom points, then we have:

- (a) $\{p(i, k)\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \to q$,
- (b) $\{p(i, k-1)\}_{i=1}^{\infty} = \{p_{k-1}\} \rightarrow p_{k-1}$ implies
- (c) $\{[p(i,k), p(i,k-1)]\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \to [p_{k-1}, q]$.

It follows from Lemma 3.2 that the set $[p_{k-1}, q]$ is also a partial k-hook. This set is thus contained in the union under consideration, but also contains the union

by choice of q. The union is therefore equal to the partial k-hook $[p_{k-1}, q]$ and is closed.

DEFINITION. A set of the form $[p_{k-1}, q]$ is called a k-hook. We drop the adjective "partial" since such a k-hook is complete in the sense that it does not properly lie in another partial k-hook. It should be noted, however, that each k-hook also satisfies the definition of a partial k-hook (Lemma 3.5), and every lemma or corollary we prove concerning a partial k-hook is also true for a k-hook. Now, for any pair of k-hooks, either the two are identical or else they do not intersect, in view of Lemma 3.1. We now refine this statement.

LEMMA 3.6. Let X be an (ε, n) -fan. There exists a positive real number δ such that for each $k \le n$, and for each $\alpha \in A$, for each pair of k-hooks lying on the arc $[c, e_{\alpha}]$, it is true that their δ -neighborhoods are mutually disjoint.

Proof. If the lemma fails, then we may choose a k-hook $[p_{k-1}, p_k]$ on an arc $[c, e_a]$ with a sequence $\{[p(i, k-1), p(i, k)]\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of k-hooks on $[c, e_a]$, each one of which is mutually disjoint from $[p_{k-1}, p_k]$ with the property that

(*)
$$d(p_{k-1}, p(i, k)) < (1/i)$$
 (respectively, $d(p_k, p(i, k-1)) < (1/i)$)

depending upon whether the k-hooks converge to $[p_{k-1}, p_k]$ from "above" or from "below." We may assume that $\{p(i,k)\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ converges to p(0,k) say, and that $\{p(i,k-1)\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ converges to p(0,k-1). From Lemma 3.2 we know that $\{[p(i,k-1),p(i,k)]\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ converges to [p(0,k-1),k(0,k)] and that the latter set is at least a partial k-hook (of diameter at least ϵ). Now the point p(0,k-1) (respectively, p(0,k)) must lie outside the arc $[p_{k-1},p_k]$, but it follows from (*) that

$$p(0, k) = p_{k-1}$$
 (respectively,
$$p(0, k-1) = p_k$$
),

which is contrary to Lemma 3.1. It therefore must be possible to find the desired number δ .

LEMMA 3.7. Let X be an (ε, n) -fan. There exists a positive real number τ such that for each partial n-hook lying in X, it is true that for each k < n, and for each partial k-hook, neither the top nor the bottom of that k-hook may lie inside the τ -neighborhood of the n-hook.

Proof. Let $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$ be a fixed partial n-hook, with top p_{n-1} and bottom p_n . If no τ works for this particular case, then there exists a sequence $\{[q(i, k-1), q(i, k)]\}_{i=1,2,\dots}$ of partial k-hooks (for some k < n), which converges to say, [q(0, k-1), q(0, k)], a partial k-hook itself (Lemma 3.2) and, with either q(0, k-1) or q(0, k) belonging to $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$. But $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$ is contained in a partial k-hook whose top lies outside of $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$, by definition. Since [q(0, k-1), q(0, k)] intersects this partial k-hook, Lemma 3.1 implies that the top q(0, k-1) also must lie outside of $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$. We are led then to the case where the bottom q(0, k) belongs

On contractible fans

to $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$. The partial n-hook $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$ is contained in a partial (k+1)-hook $[p_k, p_{k+1}]$ by definition, with, say, the sequence $\{[p(m, k), p(m, k+1)]\}_{m=1,2,\dots}$ converging to $[p_k, p_{k+1}]$ in the usual way. As in the proof of Lemma 3.1, we may assume that there is a sequence $\{q_k(m)\}_{m=1,2,\dots}$ of points belonging to

$$[p(m,k), p(m,k+1)]$$

for each m, which converges to q(0,k). There is also a sequence $\{q(0,m,k\}_{m=1,2,\dots}$ of points, given by the definition of partial k-hooks, which converges to q(0,k). It can be shown that neither of the pair $\{q_k(m)\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$, $\{q(0,m,k)\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$ dominates the other (using methods similar to those in the proof of Lemma 3.1), which is contrary to the pairwise smoothness of the fan X. We can therefore find a positive real number τ such that for each k < n, the top or bottom of no partial k-hook lies within τ of $[p_{n-1}, p_n]$. Moreover, the minimum value of τ we will need to choose as we let the partial n-hook vary, will be greater than zero. If it is equal to zero, we find a sequence $\{H_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of partial n-hooks requiring values of τ say, τ_n where $\{\tau_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges to zero. But then $\lim_{n \to \infty} \{H_n\}_n$, which is itself a partial n-hook (Lemma 3.2), will require a choice of $\tau = 0$ (using a diagonalization process as done

(Lemma 3.2), will require a choice of $\tau = 0$ (using a diagonalization process as done previously), which is contrary to the proof, just completed, that each given partial n-hook admits a positive value of τ . The lemma is therefore proved as stated.

LEMMA 3.8. Let X be an (ε, n) -fan with n > 1. There exists a map F from $[0, 1] \times X$ into X such that for each point p of X we have F(0, p) = p and such that $F(\{1\} \times X)$ is an $(\varepsilon, n-1)$ -fan and, moreover, for each time t in [0, 1], the map F restricted to $\{t\} \times X$ is monotone.

Proof. Can be found in [6].

Lemma 3.9. Let X be a fan which is pairwise smooth, contains no zig-zag, and no P-point. There exists a map F from $[0,1] \times X$ into X such that for each x in X, F(0,x)=x and $F(\{1\} \times X)$ contains no partial k-hooks except k=1. Moreover, F may be chosen so that F restricted to $\{t\} \times X$ is monotone for each t belonging to [0,1].

Proof. In view of Corollary 3.4, we may assume that for k=1,2,..., the fan X contains no partial k-hook of diameter less than 1/k. For some n>1 we assume that we have a map F so that the image F(1/n,X) contains no partial k-hook for each $k \ge n$. That is to say F(1/n,X) is a (1/n,n)-fan. We may then apply Lemma 3.8 to obtain a (1/(n-1),n-1)-hook during the time between t=1/n and t=1/(n-1). By composing these maps in the appropriate fashion and setting F(0,X) to be the identity mapping, we obtain the desired result.

Theorem 3.10. Let X be a fan which is pairwise smooth, contains no zig-zag and no P-point. Then X is monotone contractible.

Proof. In view of Lemma 3.9, we may assume that for n>1 it is true that X contains no n-hook. Let \leq denote the weak cut point order with respect to the top c of X. We claim that X admits a metric ϱ which is radially convex with respect to \leq . It follows from [3] and [10] that this will be the case provided we show:

If a sequence $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of points of X converges to a point p_0 in X, then it follows that LS $\{L(p_n)\}$ is contained in $L(p_0)$. Let us say that p_n belongs to $[c, e_{\alpha}(n)]$ for $n=0,1,2,\ldots$ Let $z_0=\max_n LS\{c,e_{\alpha}(n)]$. We may as well assume that there are points z_n belonging to $[c,e_{\alpha}(n)]$ such that $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges to z_0 . If LS $[z_n,e_{\alpha}(n)]$ contains a point different from z_0 , then we let y_0 be the least such point. It follows that $[y_0,z_0]$ is a 2-hook, contrary to our above assumption. If, on the other hand, LS $[z_n,e_{\alpha}(n)]=z_0$, then for almost all n, p_n belongs to the arc $[c,z_n]$. Since $[c,z_n]_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges to $[c,z_0]$, Lemma 1.2 shows us that LS $[c,p_n]$ is contained in $[c,p_0]$, which was to be shown. It is now easy to see that X is monotone contractible.

Appendix. This section is devoted to a discussion of various examples. The first one we wish to consider is a dendroid which has the property that, although it is contractible — no matter which choice of a contraction is made, there must be a time at which the image is a noncontractible sub-dendroid.

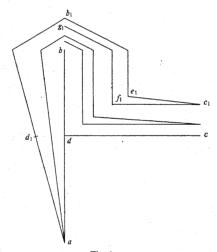


Fig. 1

The dendroid A consists of the triod abc with center d, together with a sequence of arcs $\{[a, d_n, b_n, e_n, c_n, f_n, g_n]\}$ where n = 1, 2, ..., converging to the triod in the manner indicated.

It is possible to contract A to the point $\{a\}$ by the following informal recipe.



Step 1. While keeping the points a, b, c fixed in place you must push the point d along the arc [db] all the way up to b, contracting the points in front of d ($\langle d, b \rangle$) into b, and stretching out those behind d ($[a, d\rangle, [c, d\rangle)$). At the same time and in the same manner you must move the points $\{d_n\}$ for $n = 1, 2, ..., \{e_n\}_{n=1,2,...}$, and $\{f_n\}_{n=1,2,...}$ up to the points $\{b_n\}$, $\{b_n\}$, and $\{g_n\}$ respectively.

Step 2. Keep the arc $[d_n, e_n]$ together as a single point (for each n) and move this point down from b_n to e_n . At the same time you keep the arc $[g_n, f_n]$ together as a single point (for each n) and move it from g_n down to f_n . This forces the arc [d, b] to remain together as a single point and to move from b down to d. The arc $[a, d_n]$ is now stretched out to cover $[a, d_n, b_n, e_n]$ while the arcs [c, d], $[c_n, e_n]$, $[c_n, f_n]$ slip back to their original positions. The arc [a, d] covers [a, b, d] by going up to b and folding back over itself to d.

At the end of this step the arcs $\langle f_n, g_n \rangle$ have vanished.

Step 3. Push d along the arc [d, c], all the way out to c. At the same time you must move the points e_n (now the image of $[d_n, e_n]$) out to c_n , and move the points f_n (now the image of $[g_n, f_n]$) out to c_n . This action collapses the arcs $[d_n, b_n, e_n, c_n, f_n, g_n]$ down to the single point c_n (for each n) and leaves the arcs $[a, d_n]$ stretched all the way along $[a, d_n, b_n, e_n, c_n]$. The arc [ad] now is stretched up to b, folds back to d, and then out to c. The arcs $\langle c_n, f_n, g_n|$ have now vanished.

Step 4. Let the arcs $[a, d_n]$ snap back from $[a, d_n, b_n, e_n, c_n]$ to cover just $[a, d_n, b_n, e_n]$. This makes the arcs $\langle dc \rangle$, $\langle e_n, c_n, f_n, g_n \rangle$ vanish.

Step 5. Let the arcs $[a, d_n]$ continue to reverse their stretching process so that they are back to covering just $[a, d_n]$. The arcs $\langle d, b \rangle$, $\langle d_n, b_n, e_n, c_n, f_n, g_n \rangle$ have now vanished.

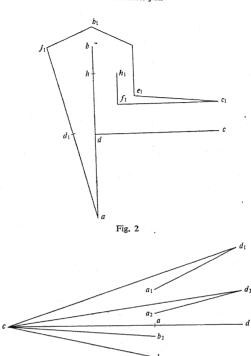
Step 6. Finally, contract $[a, d_n]$ down to a (for each b), thus collapsing [da] to the single point $\{a\}$. The dendroid A is therefore a contractible space. There follows a *sketch* of the proof that for each possible contraction F of A, there exists a time t in [0, 1] such that $F(t \times A)$ is *not* contractible.

Proof of the above remark. Let the set S consist of those times t in [0,1] such that the arc [b,d] intersects Ls $\{F(t\times A)\cap [c_n,g_n]\}$. Let the set T include the times t in [0,1] for which b belongs to Ls $\{F(t\times A)\cap [c_n,g_n]\}$. Now T is evidently a proper subset of S. For t belonging to S-T, the set $F(t\times A)$ would look like:

The dendroid (see Fig. 2) is *not* contractible since any contraction of it would involve moving d along [dc] to c. Since the sequence $\{d_n\}$ converges to d, almost all of the points d_n must slide up through j_n , b_n before d is moved to c or else down through $\{a\}$ before d is moved to c. But this it not possible because the point d would then move to d or d without the points $\{f_n\}$ being able to follow (since the arcs $[h_n, g_n]$ are no longer in the space). Therefore, the remark above is correct.

The fan below was inspired by the example of F. Burton Jones in [7].

The fan (see Fig. 3) consists of a countable sequence of arcs $\{[c, b_n]\}$ converging to [c, a], together with a countable sequence of 2-hooked arcs $[c, d_n, a_n]$.





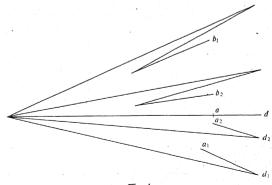


Fig. 4

Out of the pair $\{a_n\}$, $\{b_n\}$ each of which converge to $\{a\}$, it is *not* possible to find one which dominates the other.

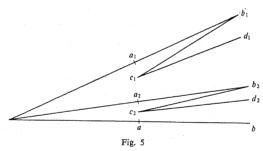
In fact, the arcs $[a_n, d_n]$ converge to [a, d] with no similar capability with respect to the sequence $\{b_n\}$ and the arcs $[c, b_n]$ converge to [c, b] with no similar capability on the part of the sequence $\{a_n\}$. Hence this fan is *not* pairwise smooth.

This fan (see Fig. 4) consists of a countable sequence of 2-hooked arcs $[c, a_n]$ and a countable sequence of 3-hooked arcs $[c, b_n]$. Out of the pair $\{a_n\}$, $\{b_n\}$, it is not possible to find one which dominates the other. The arcs $[a_n, d_n]$ converge to [a, d] with nothing similar for $\{b_n\}$ and the arcs $[b_n, e_n]$ converge to [a, e] with nothing similar for $\{a_n\}$.

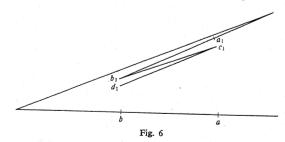
Our next example is a fan which contains a zig-zag. The sequence

$$\{[a_n, b_n, c_n, d_n]\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

of arcs converges to the arc [a, b] in the manner required by the definition of a zig-zag.



Another possible way in which a fan may contain a zig-zag is illustrated below.



Once again the sequence $\{[a_n,b_n,c_n,d_n]\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of arcs converges to the arc [a,b] in the appropriate manner.

In the fan below, the point b is an example of a P-point. The set Ls $[b, b_n]$ is

just the arc [b, d]. For n = 1, 2, ..., the arc which is irreducible between the point b_n and the set Ls $[b, b_n]$ is simply the arc $[b_n, b]$.

This concludes our collection of examples.

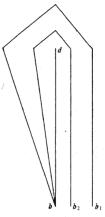


Fig. 7

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