

Some results and problems on Countable Dense Homogeneous spaces

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and its Relations to Modern Analysis and Algebra

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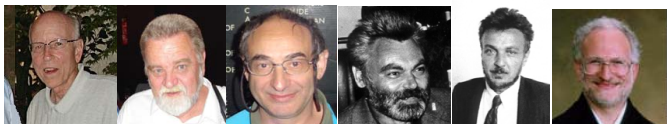


Jan van Mill, Jan van Wouwe and Geertje van Mill
1976



Hotel in 1976

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Say hello to all
my friends in
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- There are many CDH-spaces: Cantor set, manifolds, Hilbert cube, etc. etc.
- 'Nice' spaces tend to be CDH.
- Bennett proved in 1972 that connected (*first-countable*) CDH-spaces are homogeneous.

- Actually, connected CDH-spaces X are *n -homogeneous* for every n . That is, for all finite subsets $A, B \subseteq X$ such that $|A| = |B|$ there is a homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ such that $f(A) = B$ (vM, 2013).



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- Hence for connected spaces, CDH-ness can be thought of as a very strong form of homogeneity.
- After 1972, the interest in CDH-spaces was kept alive mainly by Fitzpatrick.



Question (Fitzpatrick and Zhou, 1990)

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Theorem (vM, 2015)

Let X be a non-meager connected CDH-space and assume that for some point x in X we have that for every open neighborhood W of x , the quasi-component of x in W is nontrivial. Then X is locally connected.

- The **quasi-component** of x in X is the intersection of all open-and-closed subsets of X that contain x .

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- Complete Erdős space is the set of all vectors $x = (x_n)_n$ in Hilbert space ℓ^2 such that x_n is irrational for every n .
- It is totally disconnected (any two points can be separated by clopen sets) but 1-dimensional (Erdős, 1940).

- All of its nonempty clopen subsets have unbounded norm, and hence it can be made connected by the adjunction of a single point.



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- But the resulting space is not homogeneous.
- The Erdős space is a very famous example in topology.



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Borel CDH-spaces are Polish.

Theorem (Farah, Hrušák and Martínez Ranero, 2005)

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- A crowded λ -set is meager (we will prove this in a moment).

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- A space X is called a λ -set if all of its countable subsets are G_δ .
- A crowded λ -set is meager (we will prove this in a moment).
- The space in the last theorem is a λ -set, hence is meager and so is not Polish.

Theorem

- 1 *There is a λ -set of size ω_1 (Lusin, 1921).*
- 2 *Every crowded λ -set is meager.*
- 3 *Every meager CDH-space is a λ -set (Fitzpatrick and Zhou, 1992).*

Theorem

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Proof.

For (1), consider the quasi-order \leq^* on ω^ω defined by

$$f \leq^* g \Leftrightarrow (\exists N < \omega)(\forall n \geq N)(f(n) \leq g(n)).$$

It is easy to construct a sequence $\{f_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ of elements of ω^ω such that $f_\alpha <^* f_\beta$ for all $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$. Then X is a λ -set in the subspace topology it inherits from ω^ω (with the standard Tychonoff product topology). □

Proof.

For (2), let X be a λ -set, and consider any countable dense subset D of X . Then D is G_δ , hence $X \setminus D$ is F_σ . All closed sets involved are nowhere dense.

For (3), let $\{B_n : n < \omega\}$ be a countable base for X consisting of nonempty sets. In addition, write X as $\bigcup_{n < \omega} F_n$, where each F_n is closed and nowhere dense. Pick a point $x_n \in B_n \setminus \bigcup_{i \leq n} F_i$ for every n . Put $D = \{x_n : n < \omega\}$. Then $D \cap F_n$ is finite, hence $F_n \setminus D$ is F_σ , for every n . This shows that $X \setminus D$ is F_σ , hence D is G_δ . The rest follows from CDH-ness. \square

Theorem (Hernández-Gutiérrez, Hrušák and vM, 2014)

For every uncountable cardinal $\kappa \leq \mathfrak{c}$, the following statements are equivalent:

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- Here $\mathfrak{b} = \min\{|B| : |B| \text{ is an unbounded subset of } \omega^\omega\}$. (With respect to the standard quasi-order that we defined above.)

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It is consistent with ZFC that the continuum is arbitrarily large and every CDH-space has size either ω_1 or \mathfrak{c} , and moreover

- ① *all CDH-spaces of size ω_1 are λ -sets, and*
- ② *all CDH-spaces of size \mathfrak{c} are non-meager.*

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Theorem (Hernández-Gutiérrez, Hrušák and vM, 2014)

There is a CDH-subspace of \mathbb{R} which is Baire but not Polish.

Question

Is it consistent with ZFC to have a (separable metric) Baire CDH-space without isolated points of size less than \aleph_c ?

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Theorem (Hrušák and vM, 2016)

The following are equivalent:

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- 2 *there is a connected λ -set.*

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- $B(Q)$ is the so-called *pseudo-boundary* of Q , i.e.,

$$B(Q) = \{x \in Q : (\exists n \in \mathbb{N})(|x_n| = 1)\}.$$

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$$B(Q) = \{x \in Q : (\exists n \in \mathbb{N})(|x_n| = 1)\}.$$

- The proof of the theorem uses the following results:

Lemma

Let A be a G_δ -subset of $[-1, 1]$ such that $[-1, 1] \setminus A \neq \emptyset$. Then there is a homeomorphism $f: Q \rightarrow Q$ such that $f(B(Q)) = B(Q) \setminus A^\infty$.

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- A subset B of Q for which there exists a homeomorphism $f: Q \rightarrow Q$ such that $f(B) = B(Q)$ is called a *capset*.

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- A subset B of Q for which there exists a homeomorphism $f: Q \rightarrow Q$ such that $f(B) = B(Q)$ is called a **capset**.

Lemma

Let M and N be capsets in Q . In addition, let D^0 be a countable dense subset of $Q \setminus M$ containing the dense subset E^0 such that $F^0 = D^0 \setminus E^0$ is dense as well. Moreover, let D^1 be a countable dense subset of $Q \setminus N$ containing the dense subset E^1 such that $F^1 = D^1 \setminus E^1$ is dense as well. Then there is a homeomorphism h of Q such that $h(M) = N$, $h(E^0) = E^1$ and $h(F^0) = F^1$.

- So assume CH, and write $[-1, 1]$ as $\bigcup_{\alpha < \omega_1} A_\alpha$, so that $A_0 = \emptyset$, each A_α is a G_δ -subset of $[-1, 1]$, $A_\alpha \subseteq A_\beta$ if $\alpha < \beta$, and $[-1, 1] \setminus A_\alpha \neq \emptyset$.

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- Enumerate all closed subsets of Q that separate Q by $\{K_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$, and enumerate all pairs of countable dense subsets of Q by $\{(E_\alpha, F_\alpha) : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ such that each pair is listed ω_1 -many times.

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- Enumerate all closed subsets of Q that separate Q by $\{K_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$, and enumerate all pairs of countable dense subsets of Q by $\{(E_\alpha, F_\alpha) : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ such that each pair is listed ω_1 -many times.
- We shall recursively construct a decreasing sequence $\{B_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ of capsets and an increasing sequence $\{D_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ of countable subsets of Q , together with an increasing sequence $\{H_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ of countable subgroups of $\mathcal{H}(Q)$ so that (denoting $Q \setminus B_\alpha$ by s_α) for every $\alpha < \omega_1$:

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- ④ if $E_\alpha \cup F_\alpha \subseteq D_\alpha$, and $D_\alpha \setminus (E_\alpha \cup F_\alpha)$ is dense, then there exists an element h of H_α such that $h(E_\alpha) = F_\alpha$,

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- ⑤ if $\gamma < \alpha$, $D_\alpha \setminus D_\gamma$ is a dense subset of Q contained in $s_\alpha \setminus s_\gamma$.
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 - ⑤ if $\gamma < \alpha$, $D_\alpha \setminus D_\gamma$ is a dense subset of Q contained in $s_\alpha \setminus s_\gamma$.
 - ⑥ if $\gamma < \alpha$, then H_γ is a subgroup of H_α .
- Then $D = \bigcup_{\alpha < \omega_1} D_\alpha$ is the example we are looking for.

Question

Is there, assuming CH, a connected meager CDH-space in the plane?

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Is it consistent with ZFC that there is a connected λ -set yet there is no connected meager CDH-space?

- A space X is called *Strongly Locally Homogeneous* (abbreviated: SLH) if it has an open base \mathcal{B} such that for all $B \in \mathcal{B}$ and $x, y \in B$ there is a homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ such that $f(x) = y$ and $f(z) = z$ for every $z \notin B$.

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Theorem (Kennedy, 1984)

A 2-homogeneous continuum X must be SLH, provided that X admits a nontrivial homeomorphism that is the identity on some nonempty open set.

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- (Bessaga and Pełczyński, 1970) Every Polish SLH-space is CDH.

Theorem (Kennedy, 1984)

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- Compact + 2-homogeneous + \exists a special homeomorphism $\Rightarrow \text{SLH}$ (Kennedy).

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- Compactness is essential in this problem.

Theorem (vM, 2005)

There is a connected, Polish, CDH-space X that is not SLH. In fact, a homeomorphism on X that is the identity on some nonempty open subset of X must be the identity on all of X .

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Corollary (Steprans and Zhou, 1988)

Under $\text{MA} + \neg \text{CH}$, 2^{ω_1} is CDH.

Theorem

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Theorem (Hernández-Gutiérrez, 2013)

The Alexandroff-Urysohn double has \mathfrak{c} types of countable dense sets.

Theorem (Hernández-Gutiérrez, Hrušák and vM, 2014)

The double arrow space over a saturated λ' -set Y is a compact CDH-space of weight $|A|$.

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Question

Is there a compact CDH-space of weight \mathfrak{c} in ZFC?

Question

Is there a non-metrizable CDH-continuum?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!