

REMARKS ON BAIRE THEOREM FOR H -CLOSED SPACES

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The following fact is very familiar: a compact Hausdorff space is of the cardinality of at least continuum whenever it is dense in itself (Alexandroff and Urysohn [1]). Recently some theorems have been proved (Körber [6], Veličko [8] and also Bourbaki [2], exercise 24a in chapter I, § 9) which, roughly speaking, assert that an H -closed space is uncountable whenever it is dense in itself, or, in a more strong form, that a countable H -closed space does not contain any subset dense in itself.

These theorems on H -closed spaces follow from the following more general

THEOREM. *An H -closed space X which is a countable union of compact subspaces A_1, A_2, \dots does not contain any subset Y such that $Y \cap A_1, Y \cap A_2, \dots$ are all compact and nowhere dense in Y .*

Before the proof let us notice corollaries and a question.

If A_1, A_2, \dots are all one-point subspaces, we get the results formulated above. Another corollary (for $Y = X$) is a kind of Baire category theorem: an H -closed space is not a countable union of compact nowhere dense subspaces. This implies immediately that a Hausdorff space which is a countable union of compact nowhere dense subspaces admits no contraction of its topology to an H -closed topology and, in consequence, to a minimal Hausdorff topology (in fact, after a contraction, compact and nowhere dense subspaces remain compact and nowhere dense). This result was obtained by Holsztyński [5] (see Herrlich [3] for a special case of the set of all rational numbers) under an additional hypothesis which occurs therefore superfluous.

Herrlich [4] shows that the Baire theorem in the form "a space X is not a countable union of closed nowhere dense subspaces" is for minimal Hausdorff spaces X not true. A counter-example may be described as follows.

Let X be a compact Hausdorff space with a countable, dense and nowhere dense subspace D . Let us expand the topology on X by adding D

as a new open subset. The topology remains H -closed (see Mioduszewski and Rudolf [7], chapter I, § 3, for more general expansions preserving H -closedness of topologies). Now let us stick together two copies of the space just constructed, $X \times \{0\}$ and $X \times \{1\}$, along the closed subset $X - D$; more precisely, form a pushout diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X - D & \longrightarrow & X \times \{0\} \\ \downarrow i & & \downarrow q|_{X \times \{0\}} \\ X \times \{1\} & \xrightarrow{q|_{X \times \{1\}}} & Z \end{array}$$

where i and j are embeddings given by $i(x) = (x, 0)$ and $j(x) = (x, 1)$ for $x \in X - D$ and Z is a quotient space of $X \times \{0\} \cup X \times \{1\}$ given by a quotient map q identifying points $(x, 0)$ and $(x, 1)$ for $x \in X - D$. Since sticking together of two copies of a Hausdorff space along a closed subset leads to a Hausdorff space, the space Z is Hausdorff. As an image of H -closed space $X \times \{0\} \cup X \times \{1\}$, the space Z is H -closed. The space Z is semiregular. In fact, a regular open base is the family consisting 1° of all regularly open (in D) subsets of both copies, $D \times \{0\}$ and $D \times \{1\}$, of D , and 2° of all "symmetric" regularly open neighbourhoods of points going from $X - D$, i.e. of all sets of the form $q(U \times \{0\} \cup U \times \{1\})$, where U is regularly open in X . Thus Z is minimal Hausdorff. The sets $N_x = \{(x, 0), (x, 1)\} \cup \text{Im}(X - D)$ are closed and nowhere dense in Z and $Z = \bigcup \{N_x : x \in D\}$ (the symbol Im denotes the image under $q \circ i (= q \circ j)$). This means that Z is a countable union of closed nowhere dense subspaces.

We shall also give a counter-example to Baire theorem for H -closed spaces which admit contractions to compact Hausdorff spaces. To do this, let us take a "half" of the preceding example, namely the space X with the expanded, by adding D , topology. The sets $M_x = \{x\} \cup (X - D)$ are closed and nowhere dense in X and $X = \bigcup \{M_x : x \in D\}$.

In both examples the closed nowhere dense subspaces are not H -closed. In fact, M_x differs from $X - D$ in the isolated in M_x point x only, and N_x differs from $\text{Im}(X - D)$ in the isolated in N_x two points $(x, 0)$ and $(x, 1)$. But $X - D$ and $\text{Im}(X - D)$ are both homeomorphic with $X - D$ in its original topology induced from the compact space X , and $X - D$ is not H -closed because D is dense and nowhere dense in the original topology of X .

On the other hand, according to the theorem, these closed nowhere dense subspaces cannot be compact. Thus the following question seems to be open:

QUESTION. *Is Baire theorem true for H -closed spaces with respect to H -closed subspaces?* (P 715)

Proof of the theorem. Let $x_1 \in Y - A_1$. For each $x \in A_1$ let U_x be an open neighbourhood of x in X such that $x_1 \notin \text{Cl } U_x$. Since A_1 is compact, there exists a finite subcovering P_1 of the covering $\{U_x : x \in A_1\}$ of A_1 . We have $x_1 \notin \text{Cl } \cup P_1$. Let us denote $\text{Cl } \cup P_1$ by B_1 .

Let us proceed by induction. Suppose that there are defined points x_1, \dots, x_k of Y and finite and open in X coverings P_1 of A_1, \dots, P_k of A_k such that $x_i \notin B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$, where $B_j = \text{Cl } \cup P_j$. Define x_{k+1} to be a point of Y such that $x_{k+1} \notin B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_k \cup A_{k+1}$. Such a point exists, since $Y - (B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_k)$ is an open and non-empty subset of Y and $Y \cap A_{k+1}$ is nowhere dense in Y . For each $x \in A_{k+1}$ let U_x be an open neighbourhood of x in X such that $x_{k+1} \notin \text{Cl } U_x$. Since A_{k+1} is compact, there exists a finite subcovering P_{k+1} of the covering $\{U_x : x \in A_{k+1}\}$ of A_{k+1} . Let $B_{k+1} = \text{Cl } \cup P_{k+1}$. We have $x_{k+1} \notin B_{k+1}$, hence $x_{k+1} \notin B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_k \cup B_{k+1}$.

Thus there is defined open covering $P_1 \cup P_2 \cup \dots$ of X such that for no finite subfamily Q of it there is $X = \text{Cl } \cup Q$. A contradiction.

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