Hereditarily indecomposable continua as Fraïssé limits

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- In a metric space, $x \approx_{\varepsilon} y$ means $d(x, y) < \varepsilon$. For maps $f, g: X \to Y$, $f \approx_{\varepsilon} g$ means $\sup_{x \in X} d(f(x), g(x)) < \varepsilon$.

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- Let *I* denote the category of all continuous surjections on I, let *σI* denote the category of all arc-like continua and continuous surjections.

Definition

A continuous map $f: \mathbb{I} \to \mathbb{I}$ is ε -crooked if for every $x \leq y \in \mathbb{I}$ there are $x \leq y' \leq x' \leq y$ such that $f(x) \approx_{\varepsilon} f(x')$ and $f(y) \approx_{\varepsilon} f(y')$.

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For every ε > 0 there is an ε-crooked surjection I → I.



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- There is a general notion of ε-crooked map between metric compacta, based on ideas of Krasinkiewicz–Minc (1976) and Maćkowiak (1985), that simplifies to the definition above for I.
- A space X is crooked iff id_X is crooked, where crooked means ε-crooked for every ε > 0.

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Let $\langle X_*, f_* \rangle$ be a sequence of metric compact spaces with limit $\langle X_{\infty}, f_{*,\infty} \rangle$. The following conditions are equivalent:

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So to obtain a hereditarily indecomposable continuum, it is enough to build a crooked sequence.

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- It follows that P maps onto every arc-like continuum as well as that every continuous surjection P → P is arbitrarily close to a homeomorphism.
- The characterization condition above looks like an approximate version of projective homogeneity.

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Let $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ be MU-categories (categories where the hom-sets are metric spaces, subject to some coherence axioms; generalizes metric-enriched category; imagine $\langle \mathcal{I}, \sigma \mathcal{I} \rangle$ as $\langle \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{L} \rangle$).

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- homogeneous in $\langle \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{L} \rangle$ if for every \mathcal{L} -maps $f, g: U \to X$ to a \mathcal{K} -object and $\varepsilon > 0$ there is an automorphism $h: U \to U$ such that $f \approx_{\varepsilon} g \circ h$,

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- projective in $\langle \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{L} \rangle$ if for every \mathcal{K} -map $g \colon Y \to X$, \mathcal{L} -map $f \colon U \to Y$, and $\varepsilon > 0$ there is an \mathcal{L} -map $h \colon U \to X$ such that $f \approx_{\varepsilon} g \circ h$.

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The pair $\langle \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{L} \rangle$ is a free completion if it satisfies certain conditions (L1), (L2), (F1), (F2), (C) assuring that \mathcal{L} arised essentially by freely and continuously adding all limits of sequences to \mathcal{K} .

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Moreover, a Fraïssé sequence in \mathcal{K} exists, and so the Fraïssé limit exists, if and only if \mathcal{K} is directed, dominated by a countable subcategory, and has the amalgamation property (for every $f, g \in \mathcal{K}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there are $f', g' \in \mathcal{K}$ with $f' \circ f \approx_{\varepsilon} g' \circ g$).

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- For every full *P* ⊆ CPol_s, *σP* is the full subcategory consisting of all *P*-like continua, ⟨*P*, *σP*⟩ is a free completion, and *P* is a Fraïssé category, and so the Fraïssé limit exists, if and only if *P* has the amalgamation property.

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- For every full $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathbf{CPol}_s$, $\sigma \mathcal{P}$ is the full subcategory consisting of all \mathcal{P} -like continua, $\langle \mathcal{P}, \sigma \mathcal{P} \rangle$ is a free completion, and \mathcal{P} is a Fraïssé category, and so the Fraïssé limit exists, if and only if \mathcal{P} has the amalgamation property.
- By a result of Russo (1979) there is no cofinal object in σP unless P ⊆ {*, I, S}.

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- By a result of Russo (1979) there is no cofinal object in $\sigma \mathcal{P}$ unless $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \{*, \mathbb{I}, \mathbb{S}\}$.
- It turns out $\sigma \mathcal{P}$ has a Fraïssé limit if and only if $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \{*, \mathbb{I}\}$ (and the limit is \mathbb{P} or *), and it has a cofinal object if and only if $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \{*, \mathbb{I}, \mathbb{S}\}$ (and the cofinal object is the universal pseudo-solenoid \mathbb{P}_{Π} if $\mathbb{S} \in \mathcal{P}$).

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Theorem (somewhat folklore)

For every \mathcal{I} -map g and every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $\delta > 0$ such that for every δ -crooked $f \in \mathcal{I}$ there is $h \in \mathcal{I}$ with $f \approx_{\varepsilon} g \circ h$.

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 So on the other hand, every crooked *I*-sequence is Fraïssé, every hereditarily indecomposable arc-like continuum is a Fraïssé limit, and Bing's theorem follows by uniqueness of Fraïssé limits.

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- 2 P is a homogeneous object in σ*I*, i.e. for every continuous surjections *f*, *g* : P → Y onto an arc-like continuum and ε > 0 there is a homeomorphism *h*: P → P such that *f* ≈_ε *g* ∘ *h*.

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• Let S denote the MU-category of all continuous surjections on the unit circle S. Then σS is the MU-category of all circle-like continua, and $\langle S, \sigma S \rangle$ is a free completion.

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- But what is \mathbb{P}_P and what is σS_P (it is not full in σS)?

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- A circle-like continuum X is an σS_P-object iff T(X) ≤ P[∞]. A continuous surjection f: X → Y between σS_P-objects is a σS_P-map iff T(f) is a multiplication by t ≤ P[∞].

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