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## ON CLOSED MAPPINGS

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**1. Introduction.** Back in early stages of the general topology M. Fréchet [3] introduced dimensional types of topological spaces. If a space  $X$  is homeomorphic with some subspace of a space  $Y$ , then  $X$  has a smaller or equal dimensional type than  $Y$ , in symbols  $dX \leq dY$ . Dimensional types of metric separable spaces were investigated by S. Banach [1], K. Kuratowski [4], [6], W. Sierpiński [6], [9] and others. One can find some information about this in Sierpiński's *General Topology* [10] p. 130 or in Kuratowski's *Topology I* [5] p. 112 and 433.

We generalize dimensional types in the following manner. If a space  $X$  is the image of some subspace of a space  $Y$  under a closed mapping, then  $X$  has a smaller or equal closed-map type than  $Y$ , in symbols  $ctX \leq ctY$ . If  $ctX \leq ctY$  and doesn't hold  $ctY \leq ctX$ , then  $X$  has a smaller closed-map type than  $Y$ , in symbols  $ctX < ctY$ . If there doesn't hold  $ctX \leq ctY$  or  $ctY \leq ctX$ , then spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  are incomparable.

Obviously  $dX \leq dY$  implies  $ctX \leq ctY$ . The inverse implication is not true. It is a well-known fact that the Cantor set  $C$  can be mapped continuously onto a non-void closed interval  $J$ . So  $ctC \leq ctJ$ ,  $ctJ \leq ctC$  and  $dC \leq dJ$ , but  $dJ \leq dC$  doesn't hold.

In this paper we investigate closed-map types of first countable spaces, exactly hereditarily normal and hereditarily separable ones. Nice non-metrizable examples are the Sorgenfrey line and its uncountable subspaces. Theorem 1 is a main tool for proving other results. Other theorems are applications of Theorem 1 and in few cases their proofs are similar to those of S. Banach [1], K. Kuratowski [4], [6] and W. Sierpiński [6], [9] on dimensional types.

All undefined notations are as in Engelking's *General Topology* [2]. The cardinality of a set  $X$  is denoted by  $|X|$ . The cardinal number assigned to the set of real numbers is denoted by  $c$  and is called *continuum*. By  $c^+$  we denote the least cardinal number greater than  $c$ . If  $|X| = \lambda$ , then  $2^\lambda$  denotes the cardinality of the family of all subsets of  $X$ . By  $f \upharpoonright M$  we denote the restriction of a function  $f$  to the set  $M$ . A mapping means a continuous function. A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a closed mapping if it is closed as a function from  $X$  onto  $f(X)$ . If  $X$  is a topological space and  $A \subset X$ , then  $\bar{A}$  denotes the closure of  $A$ .

**2. The main theorem.** The proof of the below lemma is straightforward, so we omit it.

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are first countable spaces with  $X$  a  $T_1$ -space. A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is closed iff each sequence  $\{x_n: n = 1, 2, \dots\} \subset X$ , such that  $\lim f(x_n) = y$  and  $y \neq f(x_n)$  for all  $n$ , has a limit point in  $f^{-1}(y)$ .  $\square$*

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be first countable Hausdorff spaces. If  $f: A \rightarrow f(A) \subset Y$  and  $g: B \rightarrow g(B) \subset Y$  are closed mappings,  $D \subset A \subset \bar{D} \subset X$ ,  $D \subset B \subset \bar{D} \subset X$ ,  $f \upharpoonright D = g \upharpoonright D$ ,  $t \in f(A) \cap g(B)$  and  $f^{-1}(t)$  is a nowhere dense, relative  $\bar{D}$ , subset, then  $f^{-1}(t) = g^{-1}(t)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $t \in f(A) \cap g(B)$  and  $f^{-1}(t)$  is a nowhere dense, relative  $\bar{D}$ , subset. Assume to the contrary that  $b \in g^{-1}(t) \setminus f^{-1}(t)$ . There exists a sequence  $E = \{a_1, a_2, \dots\} \subset D \setminus f^{-1}(t)$  such that  $\lim a_n = b$ , since spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  are Hausdorff  $b \notin A$  and the set  $E$  is closed relative  $A$ . Whence the set  $f(E)$  is closed relative  $f(A)$  and  $t \notin f(E)$ . On the other hand  $t \in \overline{g(E)}$ , since  $f(E) = g(E)$ ,  $\lim g(a_n) = g(b) = t$  and  $t \in f(A)$ . So we have  $t \in f(A) \cap \overline{f(E)} = f(E)$ , a contradiction. Thus we have  $g^{-1}(t) \subset f^{-1}(t)$ . The inclusion  $f^{-1}(t) \subset g^{-1}(t)$  one can prove in a similar way.  $\square$

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be topological spaces and  $f: A \rightarrow Y$  be a function. A function  $h: B \rightarrow Y$  is a  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$  if  $h \upharpoonright A = f$ ,  $A \subset B \subset \bar{A} \subset X$  and  $t \in f(A)$  implies  $f^{-1}(t) = h^{-1}(t)$ . Any  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$  is a closed  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$  if it is a closed mapping.

**Lemma 3.** *Suppose  $X$  is a first countable hereditarily normal space, and  $Y$  is a first countable regular space. If  $A$  is a dense subset of  $X$  and  $f: A \rightarrow Y$  is a closed mapping, then there exists the maximal  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$ .*

*Proof.* Take  $F(x) = f(x)$  for  $x \in A$  and  $F(x) = h(x)$  whenever  $x \in h^{-1}(t)$ ,  $t \notin f(A)$  and  $h$  is a closed  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$ . The function  $F$  is well defined because of Lemma 2.

Suppose to the contrary that  $F$  is not continuous. Thus there has to exist a sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  such that  $\lim x_n = b$  and the sequence  $F(x_1), F(x_2), \dots$  isn't convergent to  $F(b)$ . Since the space  $Y$  is regular we can assume that there is an open neighbourhood  $W$  of the point  $F(b)$  such that  $F(x_n) \notin \bar{W}$  for all  $n$ , if need be we can take a suitable subsequence. Let  $h_n$  be a closed  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$  such that  $h_n(x_n)$  exists and let  $x_n^m \in h_n^{-1}(Y \setminus \bar{W}) \cap A$  be such that  $\lim x_n^m = x_n$ . Take  $E = \{x_n^m: n, m = 1, 2, \dots\}$ . Since  $b \in \bar{E}$  there exists a sequence  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots\} \subset E$  such that  $\lim y_n = b$ . Let  $h$  be a closed  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$  such that  $h(b)$  exists. We have  $h(y_n) = f(y_n) = F(y_n) \notin \bar{W}$  and  $\lim h(y_n) = h(b) = F(b) \in W$  because of  $h$  is continuous, a contradiction. Thus the function  $F$  is continuous.

Suppose  $F^{-1}(b) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\lim a_n = b$  and  $F(y_n) = a_n \neq b$  for all  $n$ . Assume to the contrary that the sequence  $y_1, y_2, \dots$  has no limit points in  $F^{-1}(Y)$ , if a limit point of this sequence exists, then it has to belong to  $F^{-1}(b)$  because of  $F$  is continuous, but this doesn't contrary the fact that  $F$  is a closed mapping. Sets  $F^{-1}(b)$  and  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots\}$  are disjoint and closed relative  $F^{-1}(Y)$ . Since  $X$  is hereditarily normal there exists an open set  $V$  such that  $F^{-1}(b) \subset V$  and  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots\} \cap \bar{V} = \emptyset$ . Let  $h$  be a closed  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $f$  such that  $h^{-1}(b)$  is non-empty and let  $y_n^m \in A \setminus \bar{V}$

be such that  $\lim y_n^m = y_n$ . The set  $D = \{y_n^m: n, m = 1, 2, \dots\}$  has no limit points in the set  $F^{-1}(b)$ . On the other hand  $b \in \overline{h(D)}$  and therefore there exists a sequence  $\{q_1, q_2, \dots\} \subset h(D) = F(D)$  such that  $\lim q_n = b$ . Let  $p_n \in F^{-1}(q_n) \cap D$  for all  $n$ . Since Lemma 1 the set  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots\} \subset D$  has a limit point in  $h^{-1}(b) = F^{-1}(b)$  because of  $h$  is a closed mapping, a contradiction. Thus  $F$  is a closed mapping.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose  $X$  is a first countable hereditarily normal and hereditarily separable space,  $Y$  is a regular space and  $|Y| \leq c$ . There exists a family  $S$  satisfying the following:*

- (i)  $S$  consists of closed mappings from  $X$  into  $Y$ ,
- (ii)  $|S| \leq c$ ,
- (iii) for each  $B \subset X$  and for each closed mapping  $h: B \rightarrow h(B) \subset Y$  there exists  $f \in S$  and a countable set  $E \subset h(B)$  such that  $f \upharpoonright B \setminus h^{-1}(E) = h \upharpoonright B \setminus h^{-1}(E)$  and  $f^{-1}(t) = h^{-1}(t)$  for each  $t \in h(B) \setminus E$ .

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be a countable subset of  $X$  and let  $f: P \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous function. If there exists a closed mapping  $h: A \rightarrow Y$  such that  $P \subset A \subset \bar{P} \subset X$  and  $h \upharpoonright P = f$ , then let  $F$  be the maximal closed  $X, Y$ -expansion of  $h \upharpoonright h^{-1}(h(P))$ , it exists because of Lemma 3. Let us fix a particular  $F$  for a function  $f$ . Let  $S$  be the family of all such mappings  $F$ . Obviously the family  $S$  has the cardinality of at most continuum, i.e.  $|S| \leq c$ .

Suppose  $B \subset X$  and  $f: B \rightarrow f(B) \subset Y$  is a closed mapping. Let  $P \subset B$  be a dense in  $B$  and countable subset. Take  $F \in S$ , which is assigned to  $f \upharpoonright P$ , and let  $E = f(P)$ . Thus we have  $f \upharpoonright B \setminus f^{-1}(E) = F \upharpoonright B \setminus f^{-1}(E)$  and if  $t \in f(B) \setminus E$ , then  $F^{-1}(t) = f^{-1}(t)$  because of Lemma 2.  $\square$

### 3. A generalization of Kuratowski's theorem [4].

**Lemma 4.** ([5] p. 425). *If  $X$  is an infinite set of the cardinality  $\lambda$  and  $S$  is a family of the cardinality of at most  $\lambda$  of functions from subsets of  $X$  onto subsets of the cardinality  $\lambda$  of  $X$ , then there exists a family  $F$  of the cardinality  $2^\lambda$  of subsets of  $X$  such that conditions  $Y, Z \in F$  and  $Y \neq Z$  imply  $|f(Z) \setminus Y| = \lambda$ , for each function  $f \in S$ .  $\square$*

**Theorem 2.** *In any hereditarily separable, hereditarily normal and first countable space of the cardinality continuum there is a family of  $2^c$  subspaces whose closed-map types are incomparable.*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be the family of closed mappings obtained by virtue of Theorem 1 in the case  $X = Y$ , where  $X$  is as in hypotheses. If  $f \in S$ , then let  $f_*$  be some fixed one-to-one function such that  $f(f_*(x)) = x$ , for each  $x \in f(X)$ . Take the family  $S_* = \{f_*: f \in S \text{ and } |f(X)| = c\}$  and make use of Lemma 4. The family  $F$  of subspaces of  $X$ , which we obtain, is that we required. Indeed, let  $A, B \in F$ ,  $A \neq B$  and  $D \subset A$ . Suppose to the contrary that  $h: D \rightarrow B$  is a closed mapping onto  $B$ . Let  $P \subset D$  be a countable set such that  $D \subset \bar{P}$  and let  $f \in S$  be the closed mapping assigned

to  $h \upharpoonright P$ . We have  $|f_*(B) \setminus A| = \mathfrak{c}$  and  $f_*(B) \setminus A \subset f_*(B) \setminus D$ , a contradiction, because the set  $f_*(B) \setminus D$  is countable.  $\square$

Theorem 2 is a generalization of the similar result on dimensional types, see K. Kuratowski [4] and [5] p. 433.

**4. A generalization of Banach's result [1].** The below lemma is a modification of Banach's Lemme from [1]. One can prove it by making some changes in the proof of Banach's Lemme.

**Lemma 5.** *Suppose  $\lambda$  is an infinite cardinal number and  $\tau < \lambda$ . Let  $E$  be a set of the cardinality  $\lambda$  and let  $S$  be a family of functions from subsets of  $E$  onto subsets of  $E$ . If  $|S| \leq \lambda$  and  $|f^{-1}(t)| \leq \tau$  for each  $f \in S$  and  $t \in E$ , then there exists a family  $\{H_\alpha: \alpha < \lambda\}$  of subsets of  $E$  such that the following holds:*

- (i)  $\{H_\alpha: \alpha < \lambda\}$  is a partition of  $E$ ,
- (ii) if  $\gamma < \lambda$ , then  $|\bigcup\{H_\alpha: \alpha < \gamma\}| < \lambda$ ,
- (iii) if  $f \in S$ , then there is  $\gamma < \lambda$  such that  $f(H_\alpha) \subset H_\alpha$  for each  $\alpha > \gamma$ .  $\square$

A space  $X$  is *unperfect* if its compact subspaces are countable, e.g. a metric space is unperfect if it lacks any copy of the Cantor set. We will need the following Michael's result [8]. If  $X$  is a paracompact space,  $Y$  is a first countable space and  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a closed mapping, then the boundary of  $f^{-1}(t)$  is compact for each  $t \in Y$ .

**Theorem 3.** *If  $X$  is an unperfect, hereditarily separable, hereditarily paracompact and first countable space with  $|X| = \mathfrak{c}$  and  $Y$  is a regular and first countable space with  $|Y| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ , then there exists a family  $\{A_\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  such that the following holds:*

- (i) for each  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$ , there is  $A_\alpha \subset X$  such that  $|A_\alpha| = \mathfrak{c}$ ,
- (ii) for each  $B \subset Y$ , if there are distinct  $\alpha, \beta < \mathfrak{c}$  with  $ctB \leq ctA$  and  $ctB \leq ctA$ , then  $|B| < \mathfrak{c}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be a family of closed mappings as in Theorem 1. If  $f \in S$ , then let  $Z = \bigcup\{f^{-1}(t): t \in Y \text{ and } f^{-1}(t) \text{ is nowhere dense relative } f^{-1}(Y)\}$ . Take  $f_* = f \upharpoonright Z$  and  $S_* = \{f_*: f \in S\}$ . Now we make use of Lemma 5. Let us observe that  $f^{-1}(t)$  is always countable because of Michael's result [8]. We obtain a family  $\{H_\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  as in Lemma 5. Let  $\{P_\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  be a family of pairwise disjoint subsets of  $\{\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  such that  $|P_\alpha| = \mathfrak{c}$  for each  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$ . Sets  $A_\alpha = \bigcap\{H_\beta: \beta \in P_\alpha\}$  are that we required.  $\square$

Theorem 3 is a generalization of the result on dimensional types obtained in S. Banach [1].

**5. Metric cases.** It is well-known facts that any metric separable space is embeddable in the Hilbert cube  $Q$  and that any metric compact space is the image of the Cantor set  $C$  under a closed mapping, among others  $Q$  is the image of  $C$  under some closed mapping. Therefore any metric separable space is the image of some subspace of  $C$  under a closed mapping. Thus if we consider the closed-map type of a space  $X$ , then an interesting case is, when  $X$  lacks any copy of the Cantor set, i.e.  $X$  is unperfect.

**Lemma 6.** *Suppose  $X$  is a metric separable space. If there is a closed mapping  $f$  from  $X$  onto the Cantor set  $C$ , then  $X$  contains some copy of  $C$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A \subset C$  be a copy of the Cantor set such that if  $t \in A$ , then  $f^{-1}(t)$  is a nowhere dense subset of  $X$ , whence  $f^{-1}(t)$  is compact by virtue of Vainštein's Lemma [2] p. 356. The set  $f^{-1}(A)$  being an uncountable compact metric space, because of Lubben's result [2] p. 236, contains some copy of the Cantor set.  $\square$

From the above lemma we obtain immediately the following.

**Theorem 4.** *If a metric separable space  $X$  is unperfect, then its closed-map type is smaller than the closed-map type of the Cantor set  $C$ , i.e.  $ctX < ctC$ .*  $\square$

If we use Theorem 1 and make appropriate changes in proofs in [6], then we obtain the following:

**Theorem 5.** *If  $X$  is a metric separable space and the closed-map type of  $X$  is smaller than the closed-map type of the Cantor set  $C$ , then there exists a metric space  $Y$  such that  $ctX < ctY < ctC$ .*  $\square$

**Theorem 6.** *There exists a family  $\{A_\alpha: \alpha < c^+\}$  of metric separable spaces such that  $\alpha < \beta < c^+$  implies  $ctA_\alpha < ctA_\beta$ .*  $\square$

We don't know for which metric separable space  $X$  one can assume that the family as in Theorem 6 is contained in  $X$ . Can it be any metric separable space  $X$  with  $|X| = c$ ?

**Theorem 7.** *Suppose  $X$  is a metric separable space with  $|X| = c$ . There exists a family  $\{A_\alpha: \alpha < c\}$  of subspaces of  $X$  such that  $|A_\alpha| = c$  for each  $\alpha < c$  and if  $ctB \leq ctA_\alpha$ ,  $ctB \leq ctA_\beta$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , then  $|B| < c$ .*

*Proof.* We will need the following Lanšev's result [7]. If  $X$  is a metric space and  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a closed mapping, then  $Y = Y_0 \cup Y_1 \cup Y_2 \cup \dots$ , where  $f^{-1}(y)$  is compact for each  $y \in Y_0$  and  $Y_n$  are discrete for all  $n$ . If  $X$  is, additionally, separable, then  $Y_0$  is a metrizable and separable subspace, cf. the Hanai-Morita-Stone theorem [2] p. 356, and  $\bigcup\{Y_n: n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a countable subspace.

We can assume that  $X$  is an unperfect space, if need be we can take a suitable subspace. By virtue of Theorem 3 there exists a family  $\{A_\alpha: \alpha < c\}$  of subspace of  $X$  such that  $|A_\alpha| = c$  and if  $B$  is a subspace of the Hilbert cube,  $ctB \leq ctA_\alpha$ ,  $ctB \leq ctA_\beta$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , then  $|B| < c$ . This family is that we required. Suppose to the contrary that there are  $\alpha \neq \beta$  and a space  $B$  such that  $|B| = c$ ,  $ctB \leq ctA_\alpha$  and  $ctB \leq ctA_\beta$ . Thus there are  $H \subset A_\alpha$ ,  $G \subset A_\beta$  and closed mappings  $h: H \rightarrow B = h(H)$ ,  $g: G \rightarrow B = g(G)$ . Let  $B_* = \{y \in B: h^{-1}(y) \text{ and } g^{-1}(y) \text{ are compact}\}$ . The space  $B_*$  is metrizable, separable and  $|B_*| = c$  because of Lanšev result, a contradiction, since  $B_*$  is embeddable in the Hilbert cube,  $ctB_* \leq ctA_\alpha$  and  $ctB_* \leq ctA_\beta$ .  $\square$

In next two theorems we assume that the cardinal number  $c$  is regular. We don't know if this assumption can be omitted.

**Theorem 8.** *If  $X$  is a metric separable space with  $|X| = \mathfrak{c}$ , then there is a family  $\{B_\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  of subspaces of  $X$  such that  $\alpha < \beta$  implies  $ctB_\alpha < ctB_\beta$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{A_\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  be a family as in Theorem 7. Take  $B_\alpha = \bigcup\{A_\beta: \beta \leq \alpha\}$ . If  $\alpha < \beta < \mathfrak{c}$ , then  $ctB_\alpha \leq ctB_\beta$  since  $B_\alpha \subset B_\beta$ . We will show that  $ctB_\beta \leq ctB_\alpha$  doesn't hold. Suppose to the contrary that there are  $H \subset B_\alpha$  and a closed mapping  $h: H \rightarrow A_\beta = h(H) \subset B_\beta$ . We have  $|A_\beta \cap h(A_\gamma)| < \mathfrak{c}$  for each  $\gamma \leq \alpha$ . Whence  $|A_\beta| = |\bigcup\{A_\beta \cap h(A_\gamma): \gamma \leq \alpha\}| < \mathfrak{c}$ , a contradiction, because of  $\mathfrak{c}$  is regular.  $\square$

**Theorem 9.** *If  $X$  is a metric separable space with  $|X| = \mathfrak{c}$ , then there exists a family  $\{B_\alpha: \alpha < \lambda\}$  of subspaces of  $X$  such that if  $\alpha < \beta$ , then  $ctB_\beta < ctB_\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{A_\alpha: \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  be a family as in Theorem 7. Take  $B_\alpha = \bigcap\{A_\beta: \alpha \leq \beta < \lambda\}$ . If  $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$ , then  $ctB_\beta \leq ctB_\alpha$  because of  $B_\beta \subset B_\alpha$ . We will show that  $ctB_\alpha \leq ctB_\beta$  doesn't hold. Suppose to the contrary that there are  $H \subset B_\beta$  and a closed mapping  $h: H \rightarrow A_\alpha = h(H) \subset B_\alpha$ . We have  $|A_\alpha \cap h(A_\gamma)| < \mathfrak{c}$  for each  $\gamma$  such that  $\beta \leq \gamma < \lambda$ . Whence  $|A_\alpha| = |\bigcup\{A_\alpha \cap h(A_\gamma): \beta \leq \gamma < \lambda\}| < \mathfrak{c}$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

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