

TWO COUNTABLE, BICONNECTED, NOT WIDELY CONNECTED HAUSDORFF SPACES

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ABSTRACT. We construct two countable, biconnected spaces, not widely connected, not having a dispersion point, and not being strongly connected. The first is Hausdorff and the second is Urysohn and almost regular.

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1. Introduction. The first example of a biconnected space with a dispersion point was constructed by B. Knaster and K. Kuratowski in [23], and the first example of a biconnected space without a dispersion point by E. W. Miller in [26]. Two stronger examples of biconnected spaces without a dispersion point were constructed by M. E. Rudin in [30, 31]. The example in [30] has the property that the complement of every connected subset containing more than one point is at most countable and the example in [31] has the property of being widely connected. All spaces in [26, 30, 31], are subsets of the plane. The first two are constructed under the Continuum Hypothesis and the third one under Martin's Axiom. In [7], G. Gruenhage constructed a countable connected Hausdorff space under Martin's Axiom and a perfectly normal connected space under the Continuum Hypothesis in which the complement of every connected subspace containing more than one point is finite. In [36], we constructed a countable widely connected Hausdorff space and a countable widely connected and biconnected Hausdorff space.

Now, we construct two countable spaces which are biconnected without being widely connected and without a dispersion point. The first is Hausdorff, and the second is Urysohn almost regular. In addition, as it is the case with widely connected spaces and spaces with a dispersion point, both have the property of not being strongly connected [13]. The construction is based on a modification of [16] or [20]. It can be also based on [37]. From the construction, it follows that there exist 2^c non-homeomorphic such spaces.

A space X is called

- (1) *Urysohn* if every pair of distinct points of X have disjoint closed neighborhoods.
- (2) *Almost regular* if X contains a dense subset at every point of which the space is regular.

A connected space X is called

- (1) *Biconnected* (K. Kuratowski [24]) if it admits no decomposition into two connected disjoint proper subsets containing more than one point.

(2) *Widely connected* (P. M. Swingle [34]) if every connected subset, containing more than one point, is dense.

A point x of a connected space X is called

(1) A *cut point* if $X \setminus \{x\}$ is disconnected.

(2) A *dispersion point* if $X \setminus \{x\}$ is totally disconnected.

A connected space (X, τ) is called

(1) *Maximal connected* if, for every strictly finer topology σ , the space (X, σ) is not connected.

(2) *Strongly connected* if it has a finer maximal connected topology.

Biconnected spaces (countable or not, with or without a dispersion point) are considered in [26, 37, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 33, 38, 39] and maximal connected spaces in [13, 1, 5, 8, 12, 14, 15, 32, 35].

2. Results

THE SPACE T . For the construction of the countably, biconnected and not widely connected Hausdorff space T , we first construct an appropriate countable Hausdorff totally disconnected space X containing a specific point p and a closed discrete subspace \mathbb{N} which cannot be separated by disjoint open sets. Then keeping fixed the subspace \mathbb{N} and condensing the point p (instead of condensing pairs of points as in [16, 20], or [37]), we construct the space T .

On the set

$$X = \{a_{ki} : k, i = 1, 2, \dots\} \cup \mathbb{N} \cup \{p\}, \quad (2.1)$$

where \mathbb{N} is the space of natural numbers, we define the following topology: every point a_{ki} is isolated. For the points of \mathbb{N} a basis of open neighborhoods in X is defined as follows: let \mathcal{P} be a free ultrafilter on \mathbb{N} and let \mathcal{P}_k be the copy of \mathcal{P} in $\{a_{ki} : i = 1, 2, \dots\}$. If $U \in \mathcal{P}$, we denote the copy of U in $\{a_{ki} : i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ by U_k . Then, for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$, a basis of open neighborhoods is the collection of sets

$$U(k) = \{k\} \cup \{a_{ki} : a_{ki} \in U_k\}, \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (2.2)$$

For the point p , a basis of open neighborhoods is the collection of sets

$$U(p) = \{p\} \cup \{a_{ki} : k \in U\}, \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (2.3)$$

Obviously, the space X is Hausdorff and totally disconnected but not regular since the point p and the closed subset \mathbb{N} cannot be separated by disjoint open sets.

We observe that every basic open neighborhood of p is defined by some $U \in \mathcal{P}$, and every $U \in \mathcal{P}$ defines a basic open neighborhood $U(p)$. Obviously, $\overline{U(p)} \setminus U(p) = U$.

Let $X^1(n)$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$ be disjoint copies of X and let $\mathbb{N}^1(n)$ and $p^1(n)$ be the copies of \mathbb{N} and p , respectively, in $X^1(n)$. The copies of $U(k)$ and $U(p)$ in $X^1(n)$ are denoted by $U(k^1(n))$ and $U(p^1(n))$, respectively. Since the set $P^1 = \{p^1(n) : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ and the dense subset $D = X \setminus \mathbb{N} \cup \{p\}$ of isolated points of X are countable, there exists one-to-one function f_1 of P^1 onto D . We attach the spaces $X^1(n)$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$ to the space X identifying simultaneously each point $p^1(n)$ with the point $f_1(p^1(n))$ of D and each set $\mathbb{N}^1(n)$ with \mathbb{N} (by putting $k^1(n)$ on k).

On the set

$$T^1 = X \cup \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(X^1(n) \setminus (\mathbb{N}^1(n) \cup \{p^1(n)\}) \right), \quad (2.4)$$

we define the following topology: every point of $T^1 \setminus X$ is isolated. For every $k \in \mathbb{N}$, a basis of open neighborhoods is the collection of sets

$$\begin{aligned} O_U^1(k) &= U(k) \cup \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(U(k^1(n)) \setminus \{k^1(n)\} \right) \\ &\cup \bigcup_{f_1(p^1(j)) \in U(k)} \left(U(p^1(j)) \setminus \{p^1(j)\} \right), \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

For every isolated point x of X , a basis of open neighborhoods is the collection of sets

$$O_U^1(x) = \{x\} \cup \left(U(p^1(j)) \setminus \{p^1(j)\} \right), \quad U \in \mathcal{P}, \quad (2.6)$$

where $f_1(p^1(j)) = x$.

For the point p , a basis of open neighborhoods is the collection of sets

$$O_U^1(p) = U(p) \cup \bigcup_{f_1(p^1(j)) \in U(p)} \left(U(p^1(j)) \setminus \{p^1(j)\} \right), \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (2.7)$$

It can be easily proved that the space T^1 is Hausdorff, totally disconnected, and contains the space X as a closed nowhere dense subset. We observe that every basic open neighborhood in T^1 , of every $x \in X$ is defined by some $U \in \mathcal{P}$, and every $U \in \mathcal{P}$ defines in T^1 , a basic open neighborhood $O_U^1(x)$, for every $x \in X$. Obviously, $\overline{O_U^1(x)} \setminus O_U^1(x) = U$. Furthermore, for every pair of points x, y of D and every basic open neighborhoods $O_U^1(x), O_V^1(y), U, V \in \mathcal{P}$, of x, y respectively, in T^1 , it holds that $\overline{O_U^1(x)} \cap \overline{O_V^1(y)} \neq \emptyset$, which implies that every continuous real-valued function of T^1 is constant on D and, hence, on X since D is dense in X .

We construct by induction the spaces T^2, T^3, \dots, T^m , where

$$T^m = T^{m-1} \cup \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(X^{m-1}(n) \setminus (\mathbb{N}^{m-1}(n) \cup \{p^{m-1}(n)\}) \right), \quad (2.8)$$

and where $X^{m-1}(n), n = 1, 2, \dots$ are disjoint copies of the initial space X , and $\mathbb{N}^{m-1}(p), p^{m-1}(n)$ are the copies of \mathbb{N}, p in $X^{m-1}(n)$, respectively. Each point $p^{m-1}(n)$ is identified with the point $f_{m-1}(p^{m-1}(n))$, where f_{m-1} is one-to-one function of the set $p^{m-1} = \{p^{m-1}(n) : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ onto the dense subset of isolated points of T^{m-1} . Each set $N^{m-1}(n)$ is identified with the set \mathbb{N} (by putting $k^{m-1}(n)$ on k).

It can be easily proved that the space T^m is Hausdorff, totally disconnected, and contains the space T^{m-1} as a closed nowhere dense subset. We observe that every basic open neighborhood in T^m , of every $x \in T^{m-1}$ is defined by some $U \in \mathcal{P}$, and every $U \in \mathcal{P}$, defines in T^m , a basic open neighborhood $O_U^m(x)$, for every $x \in T^{m-1}$. Obviously, $\overline{O_U^m(x)} \setminus O_U^m(x) = U$. Furthermore, for every pair x, y of isolated points of T^{m-1} and every basic open neighborhood $O_U^m(x), O_V^m(y), U, V \in \mathcal{P}$ of x, y respectively, in T^m ,

it holds that $\overline{O_U^m(x)} \cap \overline{O_V^m(y)} \neq \emptyset$, which implies that every continuous real-valued function of T^m is constant on the set of isolated points of T^{m-1} and, hence, it is constant on T^{m-1} since this set is dense in T^{m-1} .

Finally, we consider the set $T = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} T^m$ on which we define the following topology: If $t \in \mathbb{N}$, we first consider the basic open neighborhood $O_U^1(t)$ of t in T^1 and then its corresponding basic open neighborhood in T^m ,

$$O_U^m(t) = O_U^{m-1}(t) \cup \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(U(k^m(n)) \setminus \{k^m(n)\} \right) \cup \bigcup_{f_m(p^m(j)) \in O_U^{m-1}(t)} \left(U(p^m(j)) \setminus \{p^m(j)\} \right). \quad (2.9)$$

A basis of open neighborhoods of t in T is the collection of sets

$$O_U(t) = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} O_U^m(t), \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (2.10)$$

If $t \in T \setminus \mathbb{N}$, then either $t \in X \setminus \mathbb{N}$ or t is an isolated point of T^l , $l = 1, 2, \dots$, where l is the minimal integer for which $t \in T^l$.

In the first case, we first consider the basic open neighborhood $O_U^1(t)$ of t in T^1 and then its corresponding basic open neighborhood in T^m ,

$$O_U^m(t) = O_U^{m-1}(t) \cup \bigcup_{f_m(p^m(j)) \in O_U^{m-1}(t)} \left(U(p^m(j)) \setminus \{p^m(j)\} \right). \quad (2.11)$$

A basis of open neighborhoods of t in T is the collection of sets

$$O_U(t) = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} O_U^m(t), \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (2.12)$$

In the second case, we first consider the basic open neighborhood $O_U^1(t)$ of t in T^l and then its corresponding basic open neighborhood in T^{l+m} ,

$$O_U^{l+m}(t) = O_U^{l+m-1}(t) \cup \bigcup_{f_{l+m}(p^{l+m}(j)) \in O_U^{l+m-1}(t)} \left(U(p^{l+m}(j)) \setminus \{p^{l+m}(j)\} \right). \quad (2.13)$$

A basis of open neighborhoods of t in T is the collection of sets

$$O_U(t) = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} O_U^m(t), \quad U \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (2.14)$$

From the definition of topology on T , it follows that, for every $t \in T$ and for every $U \in \mathcal{P}$, the set $O_U(t)$ is open-and-closed in $T \setminus \mathbb{N}$ and that $\overline{O_U(t)} \setminus O_U(t) = U$.

PROPOSITION 1. *The space T is countable biconnected Hausdorff not widely connected and without a dispersion point.*

PROOF. That T is countable Hausdorff is obvious. To prove that T is connected, we consider two arbitrary points x, y of T and let m be the minimal integer for which both $x, y \in T^m$. But then every continuous real-valued function of T^{m+1} is constant on T^m and, hence, for every continuous real-valued function g of T , $g(x) = g(y)$, which implies that T is connected.

Suppose now that T is not biconnected and let A, B be two connected, proper disjoint

subsets containing more than one point and $A \cup B = T$. By the construction of the space T , it follows that $T \setminus \mathbb{N}$ is totally disconnected. Hence, there exists $b \in B \setminus \mathbb{N}$. Let $O_U(b)$ be the basic open neighborhood of b defined by some $U \in \mathcal{P}$. Suppose that $\overline{O_U(b)} \cap B \cap \mathbb{N} = W \neq \emptyset$. If $W \notin \mathcal{P}$, then $\mathbb{N} \setminus W \in \mathcal{P}$ and, hence, for the set $O_{\mathbb{N} \setminus W}(b)$, it holds that $\overline{O_{\mathbb{N} \setminus W}(b)} \cap \mathbb{N} = \mathbb{N} \setminus W$. Therefore, $\overline{O_U(b)} \cap O_{\mathbb{N} \setminus W}(b) \cap B \cap \mathbb{N} = \emptyset$, which implies that the set $O_U(b) \cap O_{\mathbb{N} \setminus W}(b) \cap B$ is open-and-closed in B . Consequently, $B \subseteq O_U(b)$ for every $U \in \mathcal{P}$ and, hence, B is a singleton, which is a contradiction. Hence, $W \in \mathcal{P}$. But then if we consider a point $a \in A \setminus \mathbb{N}$ and the basic open neighborhood $O_U(a)$ of a , it follows, in a similar manner, that the relation $\overline{O_U(a)} \cap A \cap \mathbb{N} = V \neq \emptyset$ implies that $V \in \mathcal{P}$, which is impossible because $B \cap A = \emptyset$. Therefore, either $\overline{O_U(a)} \cap A \cap \mathbb{N} = \emptyset$ or $\overline{O_U(b)} \cap B \cap \mathbb{N} = \emptyset$. Since $\overline{O_U(a)} \setminus O_U(a) \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ and $\overline{O_U(b)} \setminus O_U(b) \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, it follows that either $\overline{O_U(a)} \cap \mathbb{N}$ is open-and-closed in A or $\overline{O_U(b)} \cap \mathbb{N}$ is open-and-closed in B . Hence, either the subset A is a singleton or not connected, or the subset B is a singleton or not connected.

That T is not widely connected is obvious observing that, for every $U \in \mathcal{P}$ and every $t \in T$, the subset $\overline{O_U(t)}$ is connected. That T has no dispersion point is obvious by its construction. \square

COROLLARY 1. *The space T is not strongly connected.*

PROOF. let τ denote the topology on T and let τ_{\max} denote a maximal connected topology finer than τ . By [13, Cor. 14A], it follows that the space (T, τ_{\max}) has infinitely many cut points. Hence, if t is such a point, then there exist two disjoint subsets K and L such that K and L are open-and-closed in $T \setminus \{t\}$, contain more than one point, and $K \cup L = T \setminus \{t\}$. Since the sets $K \cup \{t\}, L \cup \{t\}$, are connected in (T, τ_{\max}) , they are also connected in (T, τ) . But by the proof of Proposition 1, it follows that, for every pair of connected subsets of (T, τ) , which contain more than one point, their intersections include a member of \mathcal{P} . Therefore, the set $(K \cup \{t\}) \cap (L \cup \{t\}) = \{t\}$ must be a member of \mathcal{P} , which is impossible. \square

COROLLARY 2. *There exists 2^c mutually non-homeomorphic countable biconnected Hausdorff spaces not widely connected and without a dispersion point.*

PROOF. Because [19, Thm. 10], there exists 2^c different types of free ultrafilters on the discrete subspace \mathbb{N} of the initial space X . \square

THE SPACE S . For the construction of the countable biconnected Urysohn almost regular space S , we first construct an appropriate countable Urysohn almost regular non-regular space and then, using the method of F. B. Jones [17], we construct a space Y having the additional property of containing a point ∞ at which the space Y is regular. The condensation process of this regular point is the same as in the construction of the space T .

We consider the initial space X and, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we consider a sequence $\langle b_{ni} \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ converging to n and consisting of isolated points not belonging to X . We set $B = \{b_{ni} : n, i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ and we consider the space $C = X \cup B$. Let C_1, C_2 be disjoint copies of C and let p_1, p_2 and $\mathbb{N}_1, \mathbb{N}_2$ be the copies of p and \mathbb{N} in C_1, C_2 , respectively. We attach the space C_1 to C_2 identifying the point p_1 with p_2 . We set $q = p_1 = p_2$ and we consider the space $Z = (C_1 \setminus \{p_1\}) \cup \{q\} \cup (C_2 \setminus \{p_2\})$ which is obviously Hausdorff but not regular

since the point q and the closed subset $\mathbb{N}_1 \cup \mathbb{N}_2 = K$ cannot be separated by disjoint open sets.

Let Z_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$ be disjoint copies of Z and let $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} Z_n$ be their disjoint union (topological sum). We add one more point r and, on the set $L = \{r\} \cup \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} Z_n$, we define a basis of open neighborhoods of r as follows: we consider the copies B_1, B_2 of B in C_1, C_2 , respectively. We set $B_1 \cup B_2 = R$ and let R_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$ be the copy of R in Z_n . Let \mathcal{R} be a free ultrafilter on the closed discrete subspace $Q = \{q_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$, where q_n is the copy of q in Z_n . Then, for every $U \in \mathcal{R}$, a basis of open neighborhoods of r is the collection of sets $U(r) = \{r\} \cup \{\cup R_i : q_i \in U\}$.

It can be easily verified that the space L is Urysohn but not normal since the closed subsets Q and $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} K_n$ (K_n is the copy of K in Z_n) cannot be separated by disjoint open sets. Also, the subsets $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} K_n$, and the point r cannot be separated by disjoint open sets, while Q and r can be separated by disjoint open sets but not by disjoint open-and-closed sets. However, L is not regular at r . Since the closed subsets Q and $\{r\}$ of L cannot be separated by a continuous real-valued function, it follows that if we consider L_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$ disjoint copies of L , we can apply the construction in [17] and obtain a space Y with the following properties

- (1) It is countable Urysohn containing a dense subset of isolated points.
- (2) It contains a point ∞ at which Y is regular.
- (3) The point ∞ and each copy Q_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$ of the subset Q , in L_n cannot be separated by disjoint open-and-closed subsets, that is they cannot be separated by a continuous real-valued function of Y .

PROPOSITION 2. *There exists 2^c mutually non-homeomorphic countable biconnected Urysohn almost regular spaces, not widely connected, not having a dispersion point, and not being strongly connected.*

PROOF. We imitate the condensation process that we used in the construction of the space T using the space Y in place of the space X and the point ∞ and the set Q_1 in place of p and \mathbb{N} , respectively. Let S^m , $m = 1, 2, \dots$ and $S = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} S^m$ be the corresponding spaces to T^m and T , respectively. It can be easily proved that S is Urysohn. Since the different copies of the regular point ∞ are attached in each step to the isolated points of S^m , $m = 1, 2, \dots$, it follows that these points remain regular in the final space S . Obviously, the set of all these points is dense in S and, hence, S is almost regular. \square

All the other properties of S are proved as in Proposition 1 and Corollaries 1 and 2.

REMARK. In [37], E. K. van Dowen constructed a regular space with a dispersion point on which every continuous real-valued function is constant. We can modify his method and construct a countable biconnected Hausdorff space not widely connected, not having a dispersion point, and not being strongly connected. For this, we consider again the initial space X and let X_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots$ be disjoint copies of X . We denote by x_i the copy of $x \in X$ in X_i , and by \mathbb{N}_i the copy of \mathbb{N} . We attach the spaces X_i , $i = 2, 3, \dots$ to X_1 identifying each copy \mathbb{N}_i with \mathbb{N}_1 , that is by putting each n_i to n_1 . We denote this point by n . In the space $Z = \mathbb{N} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (X_i \setminus \mathbb{N}_i)$, the subset $P = \{p_i : i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ and the subset D consisting of all isolated points of the copies X_i are countable and,

therefore, there exists a one-to-one function g of P onto D . On the quotient space $T_X = \mathbb{N} \cup \{(p_i, g(p_i)) : i = 1, 2, \dots\}$, we define a second topology τ in a similar manner as in the construction of the space T . Obviously, the topology τ is weaker than the quotient topology of T_X . It can be proved, as in Proposition 1 and Corollaries 1 and 2, that (T_X, τ) is the required space.

In a similar manner, we can construct a Urysohn almost regular space having all the above properties. For this, it suffices to consider space Y as the initial space.

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