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On iterated inverse limits

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Abstract

Let a compact Hausdorff space X be the limit of a cofinite inverse system of compact Hausdorff spaces X_λ , $X = \lim_\lambda X_\lambda$. Then it is possible to express every X_λ as the limit of an inverse system of compact polyhedra Y_λ^μ , $X_\lambda = \lim_\mu Y_\lambda^\mu$, in such a way that the spaces $Y_\nu = Y_\lambda^\mu$ can be organized in an inverse system with $\lim_\nu Y_\nu = \lim_\lambda \lim_\mu Y_\lambda^\mu$. Using ANR-resolutions, the result is generalized to non-compact spaces. © 2002 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

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1. Introduction

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ be an inverse system of topological spaces, indexed by a directed set Λ , and let $\mathbf{p} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ be a mapping of a topological space X to \mathbf{X} , i.e., a collection of mappings $p_\lambda : X \rightarrow X_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, such that

$$p_{\lambda\lambda'} p_{\lambda'} = p_\lambda, \quad \lambda \leq \lambda'. \quad (1)$$

Moreover, for every $\lambda \in \Lambda$, let $\mathbf{Y}_\lambda = (Y_\lambda^\mu, q_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}, M_\lambda)$ be an inverse system and let $q_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}_\lambda$ be a mapping consisting of mappings $q_\lambda^\mu : X_\lambda \rightarrow Y_\lambda^\mu$. There is no loss of generality in assuming that the index sets M_λ and $M_{\lambda'}$ are disjoint, for $\lambda \neq \lambda'$, and thus, every element ν of the set

$$N = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} M_\lambda \quad (2)$$

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admits a unique $\lambda \in \Lambda$ such that $v \in M_\lambda$. Consequently, elements $v \in N$ can be identified with pairs (λ, μ) , where $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and $\mu \in M_\lambda$. For a directed ordering \leq of N , we will say that it is *compatible* with the orderings \leq of Λ and M_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$, provided the following conditions hold:

- (i) If $v = (\lambda, \mu)$ and $v' = (\lambda', \mu')$, then $v \leq v'$ implies $\lambda \leq \lambda'$.
- (ii) For every $\lambda \in \Lambda$, the ordering \leq of N restricted to M_λ coincides with the original ordering \leq of M_λ .

Let $\mathbf{q} = (q_v) : X \rightarrow Y$ be a mapping, where $Y = (Y_v, q_{vv'}, N)$ is an inverse system and N is given by (2). We will say that \mathbf{q} is *compatible* with \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q}_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$, provided the ordering of N is compatible with the orderings of Λ and M_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$, and the following conditions hold:

- (iii) $Y_v = Y_\lambda^\mu$, $v = (\lambda, \mu)$.
- (iv) $q_\lambda^\mu p_{\lambda\lambda'} = q_{vv'} q_{\lambda'}^{\mu'}$, for $v = (\lambda, \mu) \leq (\lambda', \mu') = v'$.
- (v) $q_{vv'} = q_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}$, for $v = (\lambda, \mu) \leq (\lambda, \mu') = v'$.
- (vi) $q_v = q_\lambda^\mu p_\lambda$, for $v = (\lambda, \mu)$.

In this paper we will prove the following result.

Theorem 1. *Let $X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ be a cofinite inverse system of compact Hausdorff spaces and let $\mathbf{p} : X \rightarrow X$ be its limit. Then there exist cofinite inverse systems of compact polyhedra Y_λ with limits $\mathbf{q}_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow Y_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, which admit a cofinite inverse system \mathbf{Y} , whose limit $\mathbf{q} : X \rightarrow Y$ is compatible with \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q}_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$.*

The question whether such an assertion holds was raised during a talk, given by Yu.T. Lisitsa, at the 1998 Dubrovnik Conference on Geometric Topology.

We call a directed set Λ *cofinite* if it is ordered (anti-symmetry holds) and every element has a finite number of predecessors. Cofinite systems play an important role in shape theory (see [6,5]).

To realize that Theorem 1 states a non-trivial assertion, we will first prove the following result.

Theorem 2. *There exists a cofinite inverse system of compact metric spaces $X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ with limit $\mathbf{p} : X \rightarrow X$ and there exist inverse sequences of compact polyhedra $Y_\lambda = (Y_\lambda^\mu, q_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}, M_\lambda)$ with limits $\mathbf{q}_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow Y_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, such that there is no inverse system \mathbf{Y} , which is formed by polyhedra Y_λ^μ and X is its limit. Consequently, there is no inverse system \mathbf{Y} with limit $\mathbf{q} : X \rightarrow Y$, which is compatible with \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q}_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$.*

Our main result is Theorem 3, which is a version of Theorem 1, valid for arbitrary spaces. The role of limits is taken up by resolutions (see I.6 of [6]) and the role of compact polyhedra is taken up by ANR's (for metric spaces).

Theorem 3. *Let $X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ be a cofinite inverse system of topological spaces and let $\mathbf{p} : X \rightarrow X$ be a resolution. Then there exist cofinite ANR-resolutions $\mathbf{q}_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow Y_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, which admit a cofinite resolution $\mathbf{q} : X \rightarrow Y$ compatible with \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q}_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$.*

2. An example which proves Theorem 2

Let X be a compact Hausdorff space, whose covering dimension $\dim X = 1$ and whose inductive dimension $\text{ind } X = 2$. Such spaces were constructed in 1949 by Lunc [3] and Lokucievskii [2]. By a result from [4], $\dim X = 1$ implies the existence of a cofinite system $\mathbf{X} = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ of metric compacta such that $\dim X_\lambda = 1$ and $X = \lim \mathbf{X}$. On the other hand, by a classical result of Freudenthal [1] (also see [4]), $\dim X_\lambda = 1$ implies that X_λ is the limit of an inverse sequence \mathbf{Y}_λ of compact polyhedra Y_λ^μ of dimension $\dim Y_\lambda^\mu = 1$. However, the polyhedra Y_λ^μ cannot be organized in an inverse system \mathbf{Y} with limit $\lim \mathbf{Y} = X$, because no compact Hausdorff space X with $\dim X = 1$ and $\text{ind } X = 2$ is obtainable as the limit of an inverse system formed by compact 1-dimensional polyhedra (see [7,4]).

3. Resolutions of spaces

Resolutions of a space X are mappings $\mathbf{p} = (p_\lambda): X \rightarrow \mathbf{X} = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$, which satisfy two additional conditions:

- (B1) For every normal (numerable) covering \mathcal{U} of X , there is a $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and there is a normal covering \mathcal{U}_λ of X_λ such that the covering $p_\lambda^{-1}(\mathcal{U}_\lambda)$ refines \mathcal{U} ; this is denoted by

$$p_\lambda^{-1}(\mathcal{U}_\lambda) \leq \mathcal{U}. \quad (3)$$

- (B2) For every $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and every normal covering \mathcal{U}_λ of X_λ , there is a $\lambda' \geq \lambda$ such that

$$p_{\lambda\lambda'}(X_{\lambda'}) \subseteq \text{St}(p_\lambda(X), \mathcal{U}_\lambda). \quad (4)$$

If all X_λ are normal spaces, condition (B2) can be replaced by the equivalent condition:

- (B2)' For every $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and every open neighborhood U of the closure $\overline{p_\lambda(X)}$ in X_λ , there is a $\lambda' \geq \lambda$ such that

$$p_{\lambda\lambda'}(X_{\lambda'}) \subseteq U. \quad (5)$$

It is well known that, for X_λ Tychonoff and X topologically complete (e.g., for X paracompact), every resolution $\mathbf{p}: X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ is an inverse limit. Furthermore, if X and X_λ are compact Hausdorff spaces, also the converse holds, i.e., if $\mathbf{p}: X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ is an inverse limit, then \mathbf{p} is a resolution. It is also known that every topological space X admits an ANR-resolution $\mathbf{p}: X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$, i.e., a resolution where all X_λ are ANRs (for metric spaces). Similarly, every compact Hausdorff space X admits a resolution $\mathbf{p}: X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$, where all X_λ are compact polyhedra, i.e., X is the limit of an inverse system of compact polyhedra. For the proofs of these results see, for instance, the books [6,5].

There is a construction which associates with every inverse system $\mathbf{X} = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$, indexed by a directed ordered set Λ , a cofinite system $\mathbf{X}^* = (X_\alpha^*, p_{\alpha\alpha'}^*, \Lambda^*)$ and it associates with every mapping $\mathbf{p} = (p_\lambda): X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ a mapping $\mathbf{p}^* = (p_\alpha^*): X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}^*$. By definition, Λ^* consists of all finite subsets α of Λ , with the ordering inherited from Λ , and such that they have a terminal element, denoted by $\bar{\alpha}$. Because of anti-symmetry, $\bar{\alpha}$ is

uniquely determined by α . The ordering \leq of Λ^* is just the inclusion \subseteq . Note that $\alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2$ implies $\bar{\alpha}_1 \leq \bar{\alpha}_2$. By definition, $X_\alpha^* = X_{\bar{\alpha}}$ and, for $\alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2$, $p_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^* = p_{\bar{\alpha}_1 \bar{\alpha}_2}$. Moreover, $p_\alpha^* = p_{\bar{\alpha}}$. Note that every term from \mathbf{X}^* is a term from \mathbf{X} .

Lemma 1. *If $p : X \rightarrow X$ is a resolution, then also $p^* : X \rightarrow X^*$ is a resolution. Moreover, if X consists of ANR's (of compact polyhedra), then so does X^* .*

The proof is easy (see Lemma 6.31 of [5]) and we omit it.

4. Some technical lemmas on resolutions

To state the first of these lemmas, we describe a construction which applies to any mapping $p = (p_\lambda) : X \rightarrow X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$. Let Γ be the set which consists of all pairs $\gamma = (\lambda, G)$, where $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and G is an open neighborhood of the closure $\overline{p_\lambda(X)}$ in X_λ . We order Γ by putting $\gamma \leq \gamma' = (\lambda', G')$ provided $\lambda \leq \lambda'$ and

$$p_{\lambda\lambda'}(G') \subseteq G. \quad (6)$$

Note that Γ is directed and ordered provided Λ has these properties. For $\gamma = (\lambda, G)$, let $Y_\gamma = G$ and, for $\gamma \leq \gamma'$, let $q_{\gamma\gamma'} : Y_{\gamma'} \rightarrow Y_\gamma$ be the restriction $p_{\lambda\lambda'}|_{G'} : G' \rightarrow G$, which is well defined, because of (6). Clearly, $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_\gamma, q_{\gamma\gamma'}, \Gamma)$ is an inverse system. We also define a mapping $q = (q_\gamma) : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$. If $\gamma = (\lambda, G)$, $q_\gamma : X \rightarrow Y_\gamma = G$ is the restriction $X \rightarrow G \subseteq X_\lambda$ of $p_\lambda : X \rightarrow X_\lambda$.

Lemma 2. *If $p : X \rightarrow X$ has property (B1) and all X_λ are ANRs, then $q : Y \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$ is an ANR-resolution.*

Proof. First note that the spaces $Y_\gamma = G$ are ANRs, because they are open subsets of ANRs X_λ . If \mathcal{U} is a normal covering of X , then (B1) for p yields a $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and a normal covering \mathcal{V} of X_λ such that $p_\lambda^{-1}(\mathcal{V})$ refines \mathcal{U} . However, the pair $\gamma = (\lambda, X_\lambda)$ belongs to Γ , $Y_\gamma = X_\lambda$ and $q_\gamma = p_\lambda$. Therefore, \mathcal{V} is an open covering of Y_γ and $q_\gamma^{-1}(\mathcal{V})$ refines \mathcal{U} , which proves (B1) for q . Now assume that $\gamma = (\lambda, G) \in \Gamma$ and U is an open neighborhood of the closure of $q_\gamma(X)$ in $Y_\gamma = G$. Clearly, this closure coincides with the closure of $p_\lambda(X)$ in X_λ . Therefore, $\gamma' = (\lambda, U)$ belongs to Γ and $\gamma \leq \gamma'$, because $p_{\lambda\lambda}(U) = U \subseteq G$. However, $Y_{\gamma'} = U$ and $q_{\gamma\gamma'}(Y_{\gamma'}) = U$, which shows that q also has property (B2)'. \square

If X is a compact Hausdorff space and $X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ is an inverse system of compact polyhedra, we modify the above construction by taking for Γ all pairs (λ, P) , where P is a compact polyhedron which is also a neighborhood of $p_\lambda(X)$ in X_λ . Denoting the resulting objects by \mathbf{Y}' and q' , we have the following lemma.

Lemma 3. *If X and X_λ are compact Hausdorff spaces and $p : X \rightarrow X$ has property (B1), then \mathbf{Y}' is an inverse system of compact polyhedra and $q' : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}'$ is its limit.*

In the next section we will also need the following lemma (only property (B1) will be used).

Lemma 4. *Let $(X_\lambda, \lambda \in \Lambda)$ be a family of topological spaces. Then the spaces X_λ admit ANR-resolutions $\mathbf{q}_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}_\lambda = (Y_\lambda^\mu, q_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}, M)$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, all indexed by the same ordered set M . If all X_λ are compact Hausdorff spaces, one can achieve that all Y_λ^μ are compact polyhedra and thus, $\mathbf{q}_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, are inverse limits.*

Proof. For $\lambda \in \Lambda$, there exist a cofinite inverse system $\mathbf{X}_\lambda = (X_\lambda^\mu, p_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}, M_\lambda)$, consisting of ANRs, and a resolution $\mathbf{p}_\lambda = (p_\lambda^\mu) : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_\lambda$. Let the set

$$M = \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} M_\lambda \tag{7}$$

be endowed with the product ordering. Recall that $m, m' \in M$ are functions $m, m' : \Lambda \rightarrow \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} M_\lambda$ such that $m(\lambda), m'(\lambda) \in M_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, and one has $m \leq m'$ if and only if $m(\lambda) \leq m'(\lambda)$ in M_λ , for all $\lambda \in \Lambda$. Since the sets M_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$, are directed and ordered, so is M . Consider an arbitrary $\lambda \in \Lambda$. We define an inverse system $\mathbf{Y}_\lambda = (Y_\lambda^m, q_\lambda^{mm'}, M)$ by putting

$$Y_\lambda^m = X_\lambda^{m(\lambda)}, \tag{8}$$

$$q_\lambda^{mm'} = p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)m'(\lambda)}. \tag{9}$$

Moreover, we define a mapping $\mathbf{q}_\lambda = (q_\lambda^m) : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}_\lambda$ by putting

$$q_\lambda^m = p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)} : X_\lambda \rightarrow Y_\lambda^m. \tag{10}$$

Let us verify that \mathbf{q}_λ has properties (B1) and (B2)' and thus, it is an ANR-resolution.

If \mathcal{U} is a normal covering of X_λ , then, by (B1) for \mathbf{p}_λ , there is an index $\mu \in M_\lambda$ and there is an open covering \mathcal{V} of X_λ^μ such that $(p_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{V})$ refines \mathcal{U} . Let $m \in M$ be a function with $m(\lambda) = \mu$, having arbitrary values $m(\lambda') \in M_{\lambda'}$, for $\lambda' \neq \lambda$. Then $Y_\lambda^m = X_\lambda^{m(\lambda)} = X_\lambda^\mu$ and \mathcal{V} is an open covering of Y_λ^m . Moreover, $q_\lambda^m = p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)} = p_\lambda^\mu$ and thus, $(q_\lambda^m)^{-1}(\mathcal{V}) = (p_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{V})$ refines \mathcal{U} . This establishes property (B1). To verify (B2)', assume that $m \in M$ and U is an open neighborhood of the closure

$$\overline{q_\lambda^m(X_\lambda)} = \overline{p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)}(X_\lambda)}$$

in $Y_\lambda^m = X_\lambda^{m(\lambda)}$. By property (B2)', for \mathbf{p}_λ , there is an index $\mu' \geq m(\lambda)$ from M_λ such that $p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)\mu'}(X_\lambda^{\mu'}) \subseteq U$. Choose a function $m' \in M$ such that $m'(\lambda) = \mu'$ and $m'(\lambda') \geq m(\lambda')$, for $\lambda' \neq \lambda$. Then $m' \geq m$ and

$$q_\lambda^{mm'}(Y_\lambda^{m'}) = p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)m'(\lambda)}(X_\lambda^{m'(\lambda)}) = p_\lambda^{m(\lambda)\mu'}(X_\lambda^{\mu'}) \subseteq U. \tag{11}$$

In the compact case one chooses for \mathbf{Y}_λ inverse systems of compact polyhedra and one proceeds as in the general case. \square

5. Proof of Theorem 3 (Step 1)

The proof of Theorem 3 proceeds in several steps. Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$ be a cofinite inverse system of topological spaces and let $\mathbf{p} = (p_\lambda) : X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ be a mapping. By Lemma 4, there exists a directed ordered set M such that every $X_\lambda, \lambda \in \Lambda$, admits an ANR-resolution $\mathbf{p}_\lambda = (p_\lambda^\mu) : X_\lambda \rightarrow X_\lambda = (X_\lambda^\mu, p_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}, M)$, indexed by the set M . For every $\lambda \in \Lambda$, we define a new inverse system $\mathbf{Z}_\lambda = (Z_\lambda^\mu, r_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}, M)$ as follows. Put

$$Z_\lambda^\mu = \prod_{\zeta \leq \lambda} X_\zeta^\mu, \quad \lambda \in \Lambda, \mu \in M. \quad (12)$$

Since Λ is cofinite, Z_λ^μ is the product of a finite collection of ANRs, hence, it is an ANR. For $\mu \leq \mu'$, define $r_\lambda^{\mu\mu'} : Z_\lambda^\mu \rightarrow Z_\lambda^{\mu'}$ as the mapping

$$r_\lambda^{\mu\mu'} = \prod_{\zeta \leq \lambda} p_\zeta^{\mu\mu'} : \prod_{\zeta \leq \lambda} X_\zeta^\mu \rightarrow \prod_{\zeta \leq \lambda} X_\zeta^{\mu'}. \quad (13)$$

We also define a mapping $\mathbf{r}_\lambda = (r_\lambda^\mu) : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_\lambda$, where $r_\lambda^\mu : X_\lambda \rightarrow Z_\lambda^\mu, \lambda \in \Lambda$, is determined by the coordinate mappings $p_\zeta^\mu p_{\zeta\lambda} : X_\lambda \rightarrow X_\zeta^\mu, \zeta \leq \lambda$.

Lemma 5. *For every $\lambda \in \Lambda$, the mapping $\mathbf{r}_\lambda : X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_\lambda$ has property (B1).*

Proof. Let \mathcal{U} be a normal covering of X_λ . By property (B1) for \mathbf{p}_λ , there exist an index $\mu \in M$ and an open covering \mathcal{V} of X_λ^μ such that $(p_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{V})$ refines \mathcal{U} . Consider the open covering \mathcal{W} of Z_λ^μ , consisting of the sets

$$W = \left(\prod_{\zeta < \lambda} X_\zeta^\mu \right) \times V, \quad (14)$$

where $V \in \mathcal{V}$. Clearly,

$$(r_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{W}) = (p_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{V}), \quad (15)$$

and thus, $(r_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{W})$ refines \mathcal{U} . \square

The advantage of the mappings \mathbf{r}_λ over the mappings \mathbf{p}_λ lies in the fact that \mathbf{p} and $\mathbf{r}_\lambda, \lambda \in \Lambda$, admit a system \mathbf{Z} and a compatible mapping $\mathbf{r} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$. Indeed, let $\mathbf{Z} = (Z_\nu, r_{\nu\nu'}, N)$, where $N = \Lambda \times M$ is ordered coordinatewise, i.e., if $\nu = (\lambda, \mu)$ and $\nu' = (\lambda', \mu')$, then $\nu \leq \nu'$ if and only if $\lambda \leq \lambda'$ and $\mu \leq \mu'$. Note that $N = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} N_\lambda$, where $N_\lambda = \{\lambda\} \times M$ is a copy of M . Clearly, the ordering \leq of N is compatible with the orderings \leq on Λ and N_λ . For $\nu = (\lambda, \mu)$ we put

$$Z_\nu = Z_\lambda^\mu, \quad (16)$$

and for $\nu \leq \nu' = (\lambda', \mu')$, we define $r_{\nu\nu'} : Z_{\nu'} \rightarrow Z_\nu$ as the composition of the natural projection

$$Z_{\nu'} = Z_{\lambda'}^{\mu'} = \prod_{\zeta \leq \lambda'} X_\zeta^{\mu'} \rightarrow \prod_{\zeta \leq \lambda} X_\zeta^{\mu'} = Z_\lambda^{\mu'} \quad (17)$$

with the mapping $r_{\lambda}^{\mu\mu'} : Z_{\lambda}^{\mu'} \rightarrow Z_{\lambda}^{\mu}$. It is readily verified that \mathbf{Z} is indeed an inverse system. Note that, for $\mu = \mu'$, $r_{v v'}$ is a surjection. We define $\mathbf{r} = (r_v) : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ by putting

$$r_v = r_{\lambda}^{\mu} p_{\lambda}, \quad v = (\lambda, \mu). \tag{18}$$

Again it is easy to verify that \mathbf{r} is a mapping.

Lemma 6. *The mapping $\mathbf{r} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ is compatible with the mappings $\mathbf{p} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ and $r_{\lambda} : X_{\lambda} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_{\lambda}$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$. Moreover, if \mathbf{p} has property (B1), then so does \mathbf{r} .*

Proof. Condition (iii) coincides with (16). Condition (iv) assumes the form

$$r_{\lambda}^{\mu} p_{\lambda\lambda'} = r_{v v'} r_{\lambda'}^{\mu'}. \tag{19}$$

It holds because, for $\zeta \leq \lambda$, the coordinate mappings of the left side of (19) equal $p_{\zeta}^{\mu} p_{\zeta\lambda} p_{\lambda\lambda'}$ = $p_{\zeta}^{\mu} p_{\zeta\lambda'}$, while the corresponding coordinate mappings of the right side equal $p_{\zeta}^{\mu\mu'} p_{\zeta}^{\mu'} p_{\zeta\lambda'}$ = $p_{\zeta}^{\mu} p_{\zeta\lambda'}$. If $\lambda = \lambda'$, then $r_{v v'} = r_{\lambda}^{\mu\mu'}$, which is condition (v). Finally, (vi) assumes the form (18).

Now assume that \mathbf{p} has property (B1), and let \mathcal{U} be a normal covering of X . There exist a $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and a normal covering \mathcal{V} of X_{λ} such that $p_{\lambda}^{-1}(\mathcal{V})$ refines \mathcal{U} . By Lemma 5, there is a $\mu \in M$ and there is an open covering \mathcal{W} of Z_{λ}^{μ} such that $(r_{\lambda}^{\mu})^{-1}(\mathcal{W})$ refines \mathcal{V} and thus,

$$(r_{\lambda}^{\mu} p_{\lambda})^{-1}(\mathcal{W}) \leq \mathcal{U}. \tag{20}$$

However, for $v = (\lambda, \mu)$, $Z_v = Z_{\lambda}^{\mu}$ and $r_v = r_{\lambda}^{\mu} p_{\lambda}$ and thus, $r_v^{-1}(\mathcal{W}) \leq \mathcal{U}$. \square

6. Proof of Theorem 3 (Step 2)

We will now improve the construction described in Section 5 and obtain ANR-resolutions $s_{\lambda} : X_{\lambda} \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_{\lambda}$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, and an ANR-resolution $\mathbf{s} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$, compatible with \mathbf{p} and s_{λ} , $\lambda \in \Lambda$. For $\lambda \in \Lambda$, let Γ_{λ} consist of all pairs $\gamma = (\mu, G)$, where $\mu \in M$ and G is an open neighborhood of the closure of $r_{\lambda}^{\mu}(X_{\lambda})$ in Z_{λ}^{μ} . Put $\gamma \leq \gamma' = (\mu', G')$ provided $\mu \leq \mu'$ and

$$r_{\lambda}^{\mu\mu'}(G') \subseteq G. \tag{21}$$

Moreover, put $S_{\lambda}^{\gamma} = G$ and let $s_{\lambda}^{\gamma\gamma'} : S_{\lambda}^{\gamma'} \rightarrow S_{\lambda}^{\gamma}$ be the restriction $r_{\lambda}^{\mu\mu'}|_{G'} : G' \rightarrow G$. It is well defined because of (21). Then $\mathbf{S}_{\lambda} = (S_{\lambda}^{\gamma}, s_{\lambda}^{\gamma\gamma'}, \Gamma_{\lambda})$ is an inverse system of ANR's. We also define a mapping $s_{\lambda} = (s_{\lambda}^{\gamma}) : X_{\lambda} \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_{\lambda}$, where the mappings $s_{\lambda}^{\gamma} : X_{\lambda} \rightarrow S_{\lambda}^{\gamma}$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, are obtained by restricting the codomain of $r_{\lambda}^{\mu} : X_{\lambda} \rightarrow Z_{\lambda}^{\mu}$ to G . An immediate consequence of Lemma 2 is the following lemma.

Lemma 7. *For every $\lambda \in \Lambda$, $s_{\lambda} : X_{\lambda} \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_{\lambda}$ is an ANR-resolution, whose index set is directed and ordered.*

We will now embed the systems \mathbf{S}_λ in a system $\mathbf{S} = (S_\delta, s_{\delta\delta'}, \Delta)$ as follows. Let

$$\Delta = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \Gamma_\lambda. \quad (22)$$

Then every element δ of Δ can be identified with a pair (ν, G) , where $\nu = (\lambda, \mu) \in \Lambda \times M$ and $(\mu, G) = \gamma \in \Gamma_\lambda$. Put $\delta \leq \delta'$ provided $\nu \leq \nu'$ and

$$r_{\nu\nu'}(G') \subseteq G. \quad (23)$$

Clearly, the ordering of Δ is compatible with the orderings of Λ and Γ_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$. For $\delta = (\nu, G)$, put $S_\delta = G$ and, for $\delta \leq \delta'$, let $s_{\delta\delta'}: S_{\delta'} \rightarrow S_\delta$ be the mapping obtained from $r_{\nu\nu'}$ by restricting its domain to G' and its codomain to G . We also consider a mapping $s = (s_\delta): X \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$, where $s_\delta: X \rightarrow S_\delta$ is obtained from $r_\nu: X \rightarrow Z_\nu$ by restricting its codomain to G . Notice that, by (18),

$$r_\nu(X) = r_\lambda^\mu p_\lambda(X) \subseteq r_\lambda^\mu(X_\lambda) \subseteq G.$$

Lemma 8. *The mapping $s: X \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$ is compatible with $p: X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ and the ANR-resolutions $s_\lambda: X_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_\lambda$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$. Moreover, if $p: X \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$ is a resolution, then $s: X \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$ is an ANR-resolution.*

Proof. Compatibility of s is easily verified. In particular, condition (iv) assumes the form $s_\lambda^\gamma p_{\lambda\lambda'} = s_{\delta\delta'} s_\lambda^{\gamma'}$ and it holds because of (19). For $\lambda = \lambda'$, (v) assumes the form $s_{\delta\delta'} = s_\lambda^{\gamma\gamma'}$ and it holds because $r_{\nu\nu'} = r_\lambda^{\mu\mu'}$. Finally, (vi) holds, i.e., $s_\delta = s_\lambda^\gamma p_\lambda$, because of (18).

Now assume that p is a resolution. Let \mathcal{U} be a normal covering of X . By Lemma 6, r has property (B1). Therefore, there exist a $\nu \in N$ and an open covering \mathcal{V} of $Z_\nu = Z_\lambda^\mu$ such that $r_\nu^{-1}(\mathcal{V}) \leq \mathcal{U}$. For $G = Z_\lambda^\mu$, we see that $\delta = (\nu, G) \in \Delta$, $S_\delta = Z_\lambda^\mu$ and $s_\delta = r_\nu$. Therefore, \mathcal{V} is an open covering of S_δ such that $s_\delta^{-1}(\mathcal{V}) \leq \mathcal{U}$.

To verify condition (B2), consider an index $\delta = (\nu, G) \in \Delta$, an open covering \mathcal{V} of $S_\delta = G \subseteq Z_\nu = Z_\lambda^\mu$ and $\text{St}(s_\delta(X), \mathcal{V})$. Let \mathcal{V}' be an open covering of G , which is a star-refinement of \mathcal{V} . Since $\overline{r_\lambda^\mu(X_\lambda)} \subseteq G$, we conclude that

$$\mathcal{U} = (r_\lambda^\mu)^{-1}(\mathcal{V}') \quad (24)$$

is a normal covering of X_λ . By property (B2) for p , there is a $\lambda' \geq \lambda$ such that

$$p_{\lambda\lambda'}(X_{\lambda'}) \subseteq \text{St}(p_\lambda(X), \mathcal{U}). \quad (25)$$

Now consider the pair $\nu' = (\lambda', \mu)$, the mapping $r_{\nu\nu'}: Z_{\nu'} \rightarrow Z_\nu$ and the open set

$$G' = r_{\nu\nu'}^{-1}(G) \subseteq Z_{\nu'}. \quad (26)$$

By (19), one has

$$r_{\nu\nu'}(\overline{r_{\lambda'}^\mu(X_{\lambda'})}) \subseteq \overline{r_{\nu\nu'} r_{\lambda'}^\mu(X_{\lambda'})} = \overline{r_\lambda^\mu p_{\lambda\lambda'}(X_{\lambda'})} \subseteq \overline{r_\lambda^\mu(X_\lambda)} \subseteq G \quad (27)$$

and thus,

$$\overline{r_{\lambda'}^\mu(X_{\lambda'})} \subseteq r_{\nu\nu'}^{-1}(G) = G'. \quad (28)$$

Therefore, $\delta' = (v', G') \in \Delta$ and $\delta \leq \delta'$. Now consider the open covering \mathcal{W} of G' , given by

$$\mathcal{W} = r_{vv'}^{-1}(\mathcal{V}'). \tag{29}$$

Recall that $s_{\lambda'}^\gamma$ is a restriction of $r_{\lambda'}^\mu$ and $S_{\lambda'}^\gamma = G'$, for $\gamma = (\mu, G') \in \Gamma_{\lambda'}$. Since $s_{\lambda'} : X_{\lambda'} \rightarrow S_{\lambda'}$ is a resolution, there exist an index $\mu' \geq \mu$ and an open set $G' \subseteq Z_{\lambda'}^{\mu'}$ such that $\delta' = (v', G') \in \Delta$, where $v' = (\lambda', \mu')$. Moreover,

$$r_{\lambda'}^{\mu\mu'}(G'') \subseteq \text{St}(r_{\lambda'}^\mu(X_{\lambda'}), \mathcal{W}). \tag{30}$$

Consequently, by (29),

$$r_{vv'}r_{\lambda'}^{\mu\mu'}(G'') \subseteq \text{St}(r_{vv'}r_{\lambda'}^\mu(X_{\lambda'}), \mathcal{V}'). \tag{31}$$

However, by (19) (for $\mu' = \mu$), by (25) and by (24), one has

$$r_{vv'}r_{\lambda'}^\mu(X_{\lambda'}) = r_{\lambda'}^\mu p_{\lambda\lambda'}(X_{\lambda'}) \subseteq r_{\lambda'}^\mu(\text{St}(p_\lambda(X), \mathcal{U})) \subseteq \text{St}(r_{\lambda'}^\mu p_\lambda(X), \mathcal{V}'). \tag{32}$$

Since $s_{\delta\delta'} = r_{vv'}r_{\lambda'}^{\mu\mu'}$, $S_{\delta'} = G''$ and $s_\delta = r_{\lambda'}^\mu p_\lambda$, (30) and (32) yield

$$s_{\delta\delta'}(S_{\delta'}) \subseteq \text{St}(\text{St}(s_\delta(X), \mathcal{V}'), \mathcal{V}') \subseteq \text{St}(s_\delta(X), \mathcal{V}), \tag{33}$$

which finally verifies (B2) for s . \square

Note that Lemma 8 comes very close to proving Theorem 3. Indeed, only cofiniteness of the resolutions s_λ and s is missing.

7. Proof of Theorem 3 (Step 3)

In this section we will establish additional properties of the resolutions s_λ and s , needed in the final step of the proof. First observe that, in the above construction, we have associated with every index $\gamma = (\mu, G) \in \Gamma_\lambda$ an index $\gamma' = (\mu, G') \in \Gamma_{\lambda'}$, where $G' = r_{vv'}^{-1}(G)$, $v = (\lambda, \mu)$ and $v' = (\lambda', \mu)$. This defines a function $\rho_{\lambda\lambda'} : \Gamma_\lambda \rightarrow \Gamma_{\lambda'}$, $\rho_{\lambda\lambda'}(\gamma) = \gamma'$.

Lemma 9. *The function $\rho_{\lambda\lambda'} : \Gamma_\lambda \rightarrow \Gamma_{\lambda'}$ is strictly increasing. For every $\gamma \in \Gamma_\lambda$, $\rho_{\lambda\lambda'}(\gamma) \geq \gamma$ in Δ . Moreover, $\rho_{\lambda\lambda} = id$ and, for $\lambda \leq \lambda' \leq \lambda''$,*

$$\rho_{\lambda'\lambda''}\rho_{\lambda\lambda'} = \rho_{\lambda\lambda''}. \tag{34}$$

Proof. Let $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma_\lambda$ and let $\gamma_1 = (\mu_1, G_1) \leq (\mu_2, G_2) = \gamma_2$. Then $\mu_1 \leq \mu_2$ and $r_{\lambda}^{\mu_1\mu_2}(G_2) \subseteq G_1$. Therefore, $\rho_{\lambda\lambda'}(\gamma_i) = \gamma'_i$, $i = 1, 2$, where $\gamma'_i = (\mu_i, G'_i)$, $G'_i = r_{v_i v'_i}^{-1}(G_i)$, $v_i = (\lambda, \mu_i)$, $v'_i = (\lambda', \mu_i)$, $i = 1, 2$. Note that $v_1 \leq v_2 \leq v'_2$ and $v_1 \leq v'_1 \leq v'_2$. Therefore, $r_{v_1 v_2} r_{v_2 v'_2} = r_{v_1 v'_2} = r_{v_1 v'_1} r_{v'_1 v'_2}$. Since $r_{v_1 v_2} = r_{\lambda}^{\mu_1\mu_2}$ and $r_{v'_1 v'_2} = r_{\lambda'}^{\mu_1\mu_2}$, we conclude that

$$r_{\lambda}^{\mu_1\mu_2} r_{v_2 v'_2} = r_{v_1 v'_1} r_{\lambda'}^{\mu_1\mu_2}. \tag{35}$$

Since $r_{v_2 v'_2}(G'_2) \subseteq G_2$ and $r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2}(G_2) \subseteq G_1$, we conclude that

$$r_{v_1 v'_1} r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2}(G'_2) = r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2} r_{v_2 v'_2}(G'_2) \subseteq r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2}(G_2) \subseteq G_1, \tag{36}$$

and thus,

$$r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2}(G'_2) \subseteq r_{v_1 v'_1}^{-1}(G_1) = G'_1, \tag{37}$$

which shows that $\gamma'_1 \leq \gamma'_2$, i.e., the function $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}$ is increasing. Now assume that $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma_\lambda$ and $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma_1) = \rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma_2) = \gamma' = (\mu, G')$. Then $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu$ and $r_{v_1 v_2}^{-1}(G_1) = r_{v_1 v_2}^{-1}(G_2) = G'$. However, in this case $r_{v_1 v_2}$ is a surjection and thus, $G_1 = G_2$, i.e., $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2$, which shows that $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}$ is injective. If $\gamma = (\mu, G) \in \Gamma_\lambda$ and $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma) = \gamma' = (\mu, G') \in \Gamma_{\lambda'}$, then $G' = r_{v v'}^{-1}(G)$ and thus, (23) holds. Consequently, $\gamma \leq \rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma)$ in Δ . Next note that $\rho_{\lambda \lambda} = \text{id}$ is obviously fulfilled. To prove (34), let $\gamma = (\mu, G) \in \Gamma_\lambda$, let $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma) = \gamma'$ and let $\rho_{\lambda' \lambda''}(\gamma') = \gamma''$. Then $\gamma' = (\mu, G') \in \Gamma_{\lambda'}$, $\gamma'' = (\mu, G'') \in \Gamma_{\lambda''}$, where $G' = r_{v v'}^{-1}(G)$, $G'' = r_{v' v''}^{-1}(G')$ and $v = (\lambda, \mu)$, $v' = (\lambda', \mu)$, $v'' = (\lambda'', \mu)$. Note that $r_{v v'} r_{v' v''} = r_{v v''}$ because $v \leq v' \leq v''$. Therefore, $G'' = r_{v v''}^{-1}(G)$, which shows that $\rho_{\lambda \lambda''}(\gamma) = \gamma'' = \rho_{\lambda' \lambda''} \rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma)$. \square

Remark 1. For $\lambda \leq \lambda'$ we can define a mapping $p_{\lambda \lambda'}: S_{\lambda'} \rightarrow S_\lambda$ as follows. For the index function we take $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}: \Gamma_\lambda \rightarrow \Gamma_{\lambda'}$. For $p_{\lambda \lambda'}^\gamma: S_{\lambda'}^{\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\gamma)} \rightarrow S_\lambda^\gamma$, $\gamma = (\mu, G)$, we take $r_{v v'}: G' \rightarrow G$, where $v = (\lambda, \mu)$ and $v' = (\lambda', \mu)$. By (35), $r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2} p_{\lambda \lambda'}^{\gamma_2} = p_{\lambda \lambda'}^{\gamma_1} r_\lambda^{\mu_1 \mu_2}$, for $\gamma_1 \leq \gamma_2$, which implies that $p_{\lambda \lambda'} = (\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}, p_{\lambda \lambda'}^\gamma)$ is indeed a mapping of systems. Note that, for $\lambda \leq \lambda'$,

$$s_\lambda p_{\lambda \lambda'} = p_{\lambda \lambda'} s_{\lambda'}. \tag{38}$$

Moreover, for $\lambda \leq \lambda' \leq \lambda''$,

$$p_{\lambda \lambda'} p_{\lambda' \lambda''} = p_{\lambda \lambda''}. \tag{39}$$

Formula (38) shows that $p_{\lambda \lambda'}$ is an ANR-resolution of $p_{\lambda \lambda'}$.

8. Proof of Theorem 3 (Step 4)

Let $p = (p_\lambda): X \rightarrow X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda \lambda'}, \Lambda)$ be a cofinite resolution of topological spaces. Consider the ANR-resolutions $s_\lambda = (s_\lambda^\gamma): X_\lambda \rightarrow S_\lambda = (S_\lambda^\gamma, s_\lambda^{\gamma \gamma'}, \Gamma_\lambda)$, $\lambda \in \Lambda$, and the ANR-resolution $s = (s_\delta): X \rightarrow S = (S_\delta, s_{\delta \delta'}, \Delta)$ from Lemmas 7 and 8. Moreover, consider the functions $\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}: \Gamma_\lambda \rightarrow \Gamma_{\lambda'}$ from Lemma 9. Application of the $*$ -construction from Lemma 1 to s_λ yields cofinite ANR-resolutions $q_\lambda = (q_\lambda^\alpha): X_\lambda \rightarrow Y_\lambda = (Y_\lambda^\alpha, q_\lambda^{\alpha \alpha'}, A_\lambda)$. Here A_λ are disjoint copies of Γ_λ^* and thus, consist of finite subsets $\alpha \subseteq \Gamma_\lambda$ having a terminal element $\bar{\alpha} \in \Gamma_\lambda$, while $Y_\lambda^\alpha = S_\lambda^{\bar{\alpha}}$, $q_\lambda^{\alpha \alpha'} = s_\lambda^{\bar{\alpha} \bar{\alpha}'}$ and $q_\lambda^\alpha = s_\lambda^{\bar{\alpha}}$. Put $B = \bigcup A_\lambda$ and note that every element $\beta \in B$ can be viewed as a pair $\beta = (\lambda, \alpha)$, where $\lambda \in \Lambda$, $\alpha \in \Gamma_\lambda^*$. Order B by putting $\beta \leq \beta' = (\lambda', \alpha')$, whenever $\lambda \leq \lambda'$ and

$$\rho_{\lambda \lambda'}(\alpha) \subseteq \alpha'. \tag{40}$$

That \leq is indeed an ordering is an immediate consequence of Lemma 9. Antisymmetry and directedness of \leq are also easily verified. To prove cofiniteness, consider an element $\beta' = (\lambda', \alpha') \in B$ and assume that $\beta = (\lambda, \alpha) \leq \beta'$. Then $\lambda \leq \lambda'$ and cofiniteness of Λ implies that there are only finitely many possible indices λ . Now fix such a λ . Since α' is a finite set, and by Lemma 9, $\rho_{\lambda\lambda'}$ is an injection, there are only finitely many subsets α satisfying (40).

For $\beta = (\lambda, \alpha) \in B$ put $Y_\beta = S_{\bar{\alpha}}$ and $q_\beta = s_{\bar{\alpha}}$. Moreover, for $\beta \leq \beta' = (\lambda', \alpha')$, put $q_{\beta\beta'} = s_{\bar{\alpha}\alpha'}$. Note that (40) implies

$$\rho_{\lambda\lambda'}(\bar{\alpha}) = \overline{\rho_{\lambda\lambda'}(\alpha)} \leq \bar{\alpha}'. \quad (41)$$

Moreover, by Lemma 9, $\bar{\alpha} \leq \rho_{\lambda\lambda'}(\bar{\alpha})$ and thus, $\bar{\alpha} \leq \bar{\alpha}'$. Therefore, $q_{\beta\beta'}$ is well defined. It is now easy to see that $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_\beta, q_{\beta\beta'}, B)$ is an inverse system and $\mathbf{q} = (q_\beta) : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$ is a mapping. Moreover, $\mathbf{q} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$ is an ANR-resolution, which is compatible with \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q}_λ , $\lambda \in \Lambda$.

9. Proof of Theorem 1

This proof is a variation of the proof of Theorem 3. In the first step of the proof one uses the compact version of Lemma 4. Note that a product of finitely many compact polyhedra is a compact polyhedron. Therefore, the spaces Z_λ^μ are compact polyhedra. In the second step, instead of Lemma 2, one uses Lemma 3. All other steps remain unchanged.

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