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ON THE INVARIANCE OF CYCLIC ELEMENTS
UNDER POINTWISE ALMOST PERIODIC
TRANSFORMATION GROUPS

by

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STANDING HYPOTHESIS

In this paper, all topological spaces are assumed to be Hausdorff.

Chapter I

PRELIMINARIES

A. INTRODUCTION

The study of invariance of cyclic elements of a Peano continuum may be said to have begun with the appearance of the Scherrer fixed point theorem in 1926, [9], which states that a dendrite has the fixed point property for homeomorphisms. A few years later in 1932, Borsuk, [2], used Whyburn's cyclic element theory and his own theory of retracts to show that a dendrite has the fixed point property. In 1939, Ayres, [1], proved that if $f:X \rightarrow X$ is a pointwise almost periodic homeomorphism and X is a semi-locally connected continuum, then the union of all cyclic elements of X which are invariant under f is what in our notation is a "cyclic envelope". In 1939, Kelley proved that an auto-homeomorphism of a continuum of X leaves invariant a subcontinuum of X which has no cutpoint of itself [8]. In 1949, Wallace proved that if (X,T) is a transformation group, where X is a continuum, and T is an abelian group, then T leaves invariant a subcontinuum of X which has no cutpoint of itself, and raised the question as to whether or not a similar

result holds if "T is abelian" is replaced by "T is compact", [11]. This problem was solved by Gray in 1968, [6].

In this dissertation, the above studies are continued. The results presented here may be summarized as follows:

Let (X,T) be a transformation group, where X is a semi-locally connected continuum. X is T -irreducible if no proper non-empty subcontinuum of X is invariant. It is shown that if X is T -irreducible and contains a cutpoint, then X contains at least two endpoints, and (X,T) is almost periodic at each endpoint of X ; furthermore, if (X,T) is pointwise almost periodic, then X is a minimal orbit closure. If A is a closed subset of X , $E(A)$, the enveloping subcontinuum of A , is defined to be the intersection of all nodal sets containing A . $E(A)$ is characterized in terms of the convex hull of A . A is a cyclic envelope if $E(A) = A$. It is shown that if either T is abelian and (X,T) is pointwise almost periodic, or if (X,T) is pointwise regularly almost periodic, then the union, $I(T)$, of all cyclic elements of X is a cyclic envelope, and if C is a non-invariant cyclic element of X , then the enveloping subcontinuum of \overline{TC} contains exactly one invariant cyclic element of X . These last results

extend to the setting of transformation groups some theorems of Ayres and Whyburn on pointwise almost periodic homeomorphisms.

B. CONTINUA

Definition 1.1. A continuum is a compact connected Hausdorff space.

Definition 1.2. A point x of X is a cutpoint of X if $X \setminus x$ is not connected, and otherwise is a non-cutpoint.

The following theorem can be found in [7].

Theorem 1.3. A non-trivial Hausdorff continuum has at least two non-cutpoints.

Definition 1.4. Let X be a continuum. A closed subset A of X is a nodal set if $\text{Fr}(A)$ contains at most one point.

Definition 1.5. A subcontinuum C of X is a universal subcontinuum (U.S.C.) of X if $C \cap A$ is a continuum for each subcontinuum A of X .

The proof of the following theorem is trivial.

Theorem 1.6. A nodal set is a U.S.C.

Theorem 1.7. The intersection of arbitrary many U.S.C. is a U.S.C.

Proof: Let $\{A_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\}$, be a collection of U.S.C., let $K = \bigcap \{A_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\}$, and let C be a subcontinuum of X . Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{A}$. Since $A_{\alpha_i} \cap C$ is a

continuum, $A_{\alpha_2} \cap A_{\alpha_1} \cap C$ is a continuum. Repeating this argument we find that $A_{\alpha_n} \cap A_{\alpha_{n-1}} \cap \dots \cap A_{\alpha_1} \cap C$ is a continuum. Thus the intersection over any finite subcollection of $\{A_\alpha \cap C : \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\}$ is a continuum. Therefore $K \cap C$ is a continuum, see [7].

Definition 1.8. A space is said to be semi-locally connected (s.l.c.) if each point of X has arbitrarily small neighborhoods whose complements have a finite number of components.

Theorem 1.9. A locally connected continuum is s.l.c.

Proof: Let U be a neighborhood of $x \in X$, and choose a neighborhood V of x such that $\overline{V} \subset U$. The components of $X \setminus \overline{V}$ are open sets and so finitely many of them C_1, \dots, C_n cover the compact set $X \setminus U$. Let $W = X \setminus (\overline{C_1} \cup \dots \cup \overline{C_n})$. Then $V \subset W \subset U$ and thus W is a neighborhood of x whose complement has a finite number of components.

Notation: If $x \in X$, $X \setminus x = U \mid V$ means that $X \setminus x$ is the union of two disjoint non-empty open sets U and V .

Definition 1.10. Let $x, y, z \in X$. Then x is said to separate y and z if there is a separation $X \setminus x = U \mid V$ with $y \in U$ and $z \in V$. $E(a, b)$ denotes the set of all points which separate a and b together with $a \cup b$.

Definition 1.11. Define an order on $E(a,b)$ as follows: Let a be the least and b the largest element of $E(a,b)$. If $x, y \in E(a,b)$, then $x \leq y$ if and only if $x \in E(a,y)$. \leq is called the separation order on $E(a,b)$.

The order topology on $E(a,b)$ coincides with the subspace topology, see [7].

Definition 1.12. A point $e \in X$ is an endpoint of X if e has arbitrarily small neighborhoods whose closures are nodal sets.

Theorem 1.13. If A and B are U.S.C. which meet, then $A \cup B$ is a U.S.C.

Proof: Let C be a subcontinuum of X . Assume that $(A \cup B) \cap C$ is not connected. Then $A \cap C \neq \emptyset \neq B \cap C$. Also $A \cap B \cap C = \emptyset$ for otherwise $(A \cup B) \cap C = (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C)$ would be connected. Now $B \cup C$ is a continuum and $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ is a union of nonempty disjoint closed sets. This contradicts the fact that A is a U.S.C. Thus $(A \cup B) \cap C$ is a continuum.

Theorem 1.14. Let α be a collection of U.S.C. Then α has the finite intersection property if and only if for every pair $A_1, A_2 \in \alpha$ we have $A_1 \cap A_2 \neq \emptyset$. Furthermore if α has the finite intersection property and C is a continuum, then $\alpha \cup \{C\}$ has the finite intersection property if and only if C meets each member of α .

Proof: Suppose that for some positive interger n , any n elements of α have a point in common. Choose

$A_1, \dots, A_{n+1} \in \alpha$. Then

$$[(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{n-1}) \cup A_{n+1}] \cap A_n = (A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n) \cup (A_{n+1} \cap A_n)$$

is a continuum which is the union of two closed non-

empty sets $A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n$ and $A_{n+1} \cap A_n$. Thus

$A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_{n+1} \neq \emptyset$ and α has the finite intersection property. The converse is trivial.

The second statement is proved similarly. Assuming that any n elements of $\alpha \cup \{C\}$ have a nonempty intersection it suffices to show that

$C \cap A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n \neq \emptyset$ where $A_i \in \alpha$. This is done by letting $C = A_{n+1}$ in the proof of the first statement.

Theorem 1.15. Let X be a s.l.c. continuum and $a, b, x \in X$. Then if $x \notin E(a, b)$, a and b lie in a continuum $C \subset X \setminus x$.

Proof: Let α be the collection of all neighborhoods of x whose complements have a finite number of components. If $U \in \alpha$ and $a \notin U$, let $R(a, U)$ be the component of $X \setminus U$ containing a and let $R(a, U) = \emptyset$ if $a \in U$. If $a \neq x$, there are $U \in \alpha$ for which $R(a, U) \neq \emptyset$. Define $R(a) = \bigcup \{R(a, U) : U \in \alpha\}$. If $U, V \in \alpha$ with $\bar{V} \subset U$, then since $X \setminus V$ has only finitely many components, the intersection with $X \setminus \bar{V}$ of each of these is open in $X \setminus \bar{V}$, hence in X . Thus $R(a, U)$ is contained in an open set which is contained

in $R(a,V)$. Thus $R(a,U)$ lies in the interior of $R(a)$. This means that $R(a)$ is open.

Now suppose $z \in X \setminus x$. If $R(z) \neq R(a)$ then for each U in α , $R(a,U)$ does not meet $R(z,U)$. Let $U, V, W \in \alpha$ with $W \subset U \cap V$. Then $R(a,U) \cap R(z,V) \subset R(a,W) \cap R(z,W) = \emptyset$. This means that $R(z)$ does not meet $R(a)$.

Consequently, $R(a)$ is a component of $X \setminus x$ and the components of $X \setminus x$ are open. If $x \notin E(a,b)$, we must have $b \in R(a)$. Then $b \in R(a,U)$ for some $U \in \alpha$, and $R(a,U)$ is a continuum.

In the proof above we have also proved the following.

Theorem 1.16. If X is a s.l.c. continuum and $x \in X$, each component of $X \setminus x$ is open.

Theorem 1.17. Let X be a s.l.c. continuum. If x is a non-cutpoint of X , x has arbitrarily small neighborhoods whose complements are connected.

Proof: We use the notation of the proof of 1.15. Let $V \in \alpha$ and define $S(a,V) = \emptyset$ if $a \in \bar{V}$ and otherwise, $S(a,V) = R(a,V) \cap X \setminus \bar{V}$. If $W \in \alpha$, and $\bar{V} \subset W$, then $R(a,W) \subset S(a,V) = \emptyset$. Thus, since $X \setminus x$ is connected, $X \setminus x = R(a) = \bigcup \{S(a,V) : V \in \alpha\}$ for each $a \neq x$. Then $x = \bigcap \{X \setminus S(a,V) : V \in \alpha\}$. Let U be a neighborhood of x . Since $X \setminus S(a,V)$ is compact for all $V \in \alpha$, there exists a V such that $X \setminus S(a,V) \subset U$,

see [7]. Then $X \setminus R(a,V)$ is the required neighborhood of x .

Theorem 1.18. Every U.S.C. of a s.l.c. continuum is s.l.c.

Proof: Let $A \subset X$ be a U.S.C. and X be s.l.c. Let $x \notin A$ and N be a neighborhood of x in A . Let U be a neighborhood of x in X such that $N = U \cap A$. Let $C_i, i = 1, \dots, n$, be the components of $X \setminus U$. The statement follows from the fact that if C is a component of $A \setminus N$ then $C = C_i \cap A$ for some i .

Theorem 1.19. If C is a U.S.C. of a s.l.c. continuum X and $x, y, z \in C$ are such that z separates x from y in C , then z separates x from y in X .

Proof: Let $C \setminus z = U \cup V$ with $x \in U, y \in V$. If z does not separate x from y , then by theorem 1.15. there is a continuum $D \subset X \setminus z$ with $x \cup y \subset D$. Then $D \cap C$ is a continuum meeting U and V , and so must contain z , which is absurd.

Theorem 1.20. If $a, b \in X$, and X is s.l.c. continuum then $E(a,b)$ is closed.

Proof: Let $x \notin E(a,b)$. Then by theorem 1.15. there is a continuum C containing $a \cup b$ such that $C \subset X \setminus x$. But since $a \cup b \subset C$ we must have $E(a,b) \subset C$. Hence $\overline{E(a,b)} \subset C \subset X \setminus x$. Thus $x \notin \overline{E(a,b)}$. So $E(a,b)$ is closed.

C. TRANSFORMATION GROUPS

Definition 1.21. A topological transformation group consists of a topological space X , a topological group T and a continuous map $\pi: T \times X \rightarrow X$ satisfying

- 1) $\pi(e, x) = x$ for every $x \in X$
- 2) $\pi(s, \pi(t, x)) = \pi(st, x)$ for every $s, t \in T$ and $x \in X$.

In this case we use the notation (X, T) to indicate a transformation group. Also if $x \in X$ and $t \in T$, $\pi(t, x)$ is denoted by tx and if $A \subset X$ and $S \subset T$, $\pi(S \times A) = \{ tx : x \in A \text{ and } t \in S \}$ is denoted by SA .

Definition 1.22. Let (X, T) be a transformation group and $A \subset X$. Then A is said to be T -invariant provided that $TA \subset A$.

Definition 1.23. Let (X, T) be a transformation group. Then $A \subset X$ is said to be a minimal orbit closure, provided that A is an orbit closure, i.e. $A = \overline{Tx}$ for some $x \in X$, and A does not properly contain an orbit closure.

Definition 1.24. A subset A of a topological group T is said to be syndetic in T provided that $T = KA$ for some compact subset K of T .

Definition 1.25. Let $x \in X$. The transformation group (X, T) is said to be almost periodic at x provided that if U is a neighborhood of x , then there exists a syndetic subset A of T such that

$Ax \subset U$. (X, T) is said to be pointwise almost periodic provided that it is almost periodic at every point of X .

Definition 1.26. (X, T) is said to be regularly almost periodic at x provided that if U is a neighborhood of x , then there exists a syndetic invariant subgroup A of T such that $Ax \subset U$.

Theorem 1.27. If X is regular and T is pointwise almost periodic, then every orbit closure is minimal.

Proof: Let $x \in X$. Assume that \overline{Tx} is not minimal. Then there exists $y \in \overline{Tx}$ such that $x \notin \overline{Ty}$. Let U be a neighborhood of x for which $\overline{U} \cap Ty = \emptyset$. Since T is almost periodic at x there exists a syndetic subset A of T such that $Ax \subset U$. Let K be a compact subset of T for which $T = KA$. Then $Tx \subset KU$. Since $K^{-1}y \cap \overline{U} = \emptyset$, $X \setminus \overline{U}$ is a neighborhood of $K^{-1}y$. Since $\{y\}$ and K^{-1} are compact, there exists a neighborhood V of y such that $K^{-1}V \subset X \setminus \overline{U}$. Then $K^{-1}V \cap \overline{U} = \emptyset$ and $V \cap K\overline{U} = \emptyset$. However, $y \in Tx$, so that $Tx \cap V \neq \emptyset$. Since also $Tx \subset KU$, we have $V \cap KU \neq \emptyset$. This is a contradiction.

The proof of the following theorem may be found in [4].

Theorem 1.28. Let X be compact. Then there exists a point of X which is discretely almost

periodic under T .

Definition 1.29. Let (X,T) be a transformation group where X is a continuum. X is said to be T -irreducible if no proper nonempty subcontinuum of X is T -invariant.

The following theorem is due to A. D. Wallace [11].

Theorem 1.30. Let (X,T) be a topological transformation group where X is a Hausdorff continuum. If X is T -irreducible and T is abelian, then X has no cutpoints.

W. J. Gray [6] proved the following extension to Wallace's theorem.

Theorem 1.31. Let (X,T) be a topological transformation group where X is a Hausdorff continuum and one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- (i) T is compact
- (ii) X is s.l.c. and T is pointwise regularly almost periodic.

Then T leaves invariant a nonempty subcontinuum of X which contains no cutpoints of itself.

Chapter II
ENVELOPING SUBCONTINUA

In this chapter we will introduce the concept of the enveloping subcontinuum and give a structure theorem for it. Throughout this chapter X will be assumed to be a semi-locally connected continuum.

Definition 2.1. A true cyclic element of a continuum X is a non-trivial subcontinuum of X which is maximal with respect to having no cutpoints of itself.

Thus any connected subset of X which contains no cutpoint of itself is contained in a true cyclic element of X .

Definition 2.2. Let X be a continuum. If a and b are in X then a is said to be conjugate to b , $a \sim b$, if $E(a,b) = a \cup b$, i.e. if a and b are separated by no point of X .

Definition 2.3. The conjugacy class $C(a)$ of $a \in X$ is defined by $C(a) = \{x \in X: a \sim x\}$.

Theorem 2.4. $C(a)$ is the intersection of all nodal sets containing a in their interior. Hence $C(a)$ is a U.S.C. of X .

Proof: Let α be the collection of all nodal sets A such that $a \in \text{Int } A$. Then $C(a) \subset \bigcap \{A : A \in \alpha\}$. On the other hand if $x \notin C(a)$, there exists $y \in X$ such that $X \setminus y = U \cup V$ with $a \in U$ and $x \in V$. Then $x \notin U \cup y \in \alpha$. Thus $x \notin \bigcap \{A : A \in \alpha\}$.

The second statement follows from theorems 1.6 and 1.7.

Theorem 2.5. If x is a non-cutpoint of a s.l.c. continuum X and $C(x) = x$, then x is an endpoint of X .

Proof: Let U be a neighborhood of x . Then, by theorem 1.17, U contains a neighborhood V of x with $X \setminus V$ connected. Since $C(x) = x$, x is the intersection of all nodal sets of X containing x in their interior. Since nodal sets are compact there exist finitely many such nodal sets $A_i, i = 1, \dots, n$, such that the intersection of those A_i is contained in V and thus does not meet the continuum $X \setminus V$. Therefore, if α is the collection of all nodal sets containing x in their interior, the collection $\alpha \cup \{X \setminus V\}$ does not have the finite intersection property. Then by theorem 1.14, $X \setminus V$ fails to meet a nodal set A of α . Then $A \subset U$, and hence x is an endpoint.

Theorem 2.6. If $x \in X$ and $C(x)$ is non-degenerate, then $C(x)$ has no cutpoint of itself except possibly x .

Proof: Suppose $C(x)$ has a cutpoint $y \neq x$. Write $C(x) \setminus y = U \cup V$ with $x \in U$. $C(x)$ is a U.S.C. and so Theorem 1.19. implies that y separates x from any point of V in X . But this is impossible since $V \subset C(x)$.

Theorem 2.7. Let X be a s.l.c. continuum. If $x \in X$ and $C(x)$ is non-degenerate, then $C(x)$ is the union of all true cyclic elements of X containing x . If R is a component of $C(x) \setminus x$, then \overline{R} is a true cyclic element.

Proof: The first statement follows from the second since $C(x)$ is the union of the closures of the components of $C(x) \setminus x$. To prove the second statement let R be a component of $C(x) \setminus x$. Now x is not a cutpoint of \overline{R} , and if $y \neq x$ were a cutpoint of R then since \overline{R} is a U.S.C. of $C(x)$, by theorem 1.19, y would be a cutpoint of $C(x)$, which is impossible. Then \overline{R} has no cutpoint of itself and hence is contained in a true cyclic element $C \subset C(x)$. If $y \in C \setminus \overline{R}$, then x must separate y from each point of \overline{R} in $C(x)$, hence in X (1.19.) contradicting the fact that C is a true cyclic element. Therefore $C = \overline{R}$.

Corollary 2.8. Each true cyclic element of a s.l.c. continuum X is a U.S.C.

Proof: Let C be a true cyclic element of X and let $x \in C$. Then by the theorem $C \subset C(x)$. Since $C(x)$ is the union of the closures of the components of $C(x) \setminus x$, and since C meets exactly one such component R , we must have $C \subset \overline{R}$. But \overline{R} is itself a true cyclic element. Therefore $C = \overline{R}$. So C is a U.S.C. of $C(x)$ and hence of X .

The proof of the following corollary is trivial.

Corollary 2.9. If x is a non-cutpoint of the s.l.c. continuum X and $C(x)$ is non-degenerate then $C(x)$ is a true cyclic element.

It is known that if X is a metric space, each true cyclic element contains a non-cutpoint. The following example shows that this is not so in general.

Example 2.10. Let S^1 denote the unit circle. For each $z \in S^1$, let $I_z = [0,1]$. Let $Y = \prod \{I_z : z \in S^1\}$, and let $S^1 \times Y$ have the product topology. Consider the subspace $X = \{(z,f) \in S^1 \times Y : f(w) = 0 \text{ if } w \in S^1 \setminus z\}$. If $(z,f) \notin X$, then $f(w) \neq 0$ for some $w \in S^1 \setminus z$. Let $p_w : Y \rightarrow I_w$ be the w -th projection, and let N be a neighborhood of z not containing w . Then $N \times p_w^{-1}((0,1])$ is a neighborhood of (z,f) which does not meet X . Thus X is closed in $S^1 \times Y$.

Now if $a, b \in [0, 1]$, and $z \in S^1$, let $[a, b]_z = \{(z, f) \in X : a \leq f(z) \leq b\}$. If $\mathcal{O} = \prod \{0 \in I_z : z \in S^1\}$, the set $(S^1 \times \mathcal{O}) \cup [0, 1]_z$ is connected for each $z \in S^1$. Hence X , being the union of all such sets, is connected.

We next show that each point $(z, f) \in X$ for which $f(z) < 1$ is a cutpoint. First note that each point $(z, \mathcal{O}) \in X$ separates the sets

$$(0, 1]_z = [S^1 \times p_z^{-1}((0, 1))] \cap X$$

$$\text{and } X \setminus [0, 1]_z = [(S^1 \setminus z) \times Y] \cap X$$

i.e. every (z, \mathcal{O}) is a cutpoint of X . Also each point $(z, f) \in (0, 1)_z$ separates the sets

$$(f(z), 1]_z = [S^1 \times p_z^{-1}((f(z), 1))] \cap X$$

and

$$X \setminus [f(z), 1]_z = [S^1 \times p_z^{-1}([0, f(z)])] \cup (S^1 \setminus z) \times Y \cap X,$$

and thus every $(z, f) \in (0, 1)_z$ is a cutpoint of X .

Finally we prove that X is locally connected.

If $(z, f) \in (0, 1]_z$, choose t for which $0 < t < f(z)$.

Then $(t, 1]_z$ is connected and open in X , so X is locally connected at (z, f) . If $z \in S^1$, let

$$R = (U \times [p_{z_1}^{-1}(U_1) \cap \dots \cap p_{z_n}^{-1}(U_n)]) \cap X$$

be a basic neighborhood of (z, \mathcal{O}) , where U is open in S^1 and U_i is open in I_{z_i} . Since $0 \in U_i$ for each i , there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $[0, \epsilon) \subset U_i$ for each i .

Let V be a connected open neighborhood of z with

$V \subset U$. Let

$$W = V \times [p_{z_1}^{-1}([0, \epsilon)) \cap \dots \cap p_{z_n}^{-1}([0, \epsilon))] \cap X.$$

Then $W \subset R$, and W is the union of all sets of the form

$$\{(V \times \emptyset) \cup [0, 1]_w : w \in V \setminus \{z_1, \dots, z_n\}\}$$

and

$$\{(V \times \emptyset) \cup [0, \epsilon)_w : w \in \{z_1, \dots, z_n\} \cap V\}$$

Since each of these is connected, W is connected.

Therefore X is locally connected.

The only true cyclic element of X is $S'X\emptyset$.

X consists only of endpoints and cutpoints, however no pair of points of $S'X\emptyset$ can be separated in $S'X\emptyset$ and thus X is not a tree.

Definition 2.11. A cyclic element of a s.l.c. continuum X is an endpoint, a cutpoint, or a true cyclic element.

Theorem 2.12. If x and y are distinct points of a s.l.c. continuum X and $C(x)$ and $C(y)$ are non-degenerate then $C(x) \cap C(y)$ is either empty, a cutpoint of X , or a true cyclic element.

Proof: Suppose $C(x) \cap C(y) \setminus z = U \mid V$ with $r \in U$, $t \in V$. Then by theorem 1.19 since $C(x) \cap C(y)$ is a U.S.C. z separates r and t in X , hence separates r and t in $C(x)$ and $C(y)$. Then by theorem 2.6, $x = z$ and $y = z$. Therefore since $x \neq y$, $C(x) \cap C(y)$ contains no cutpoint of itself.

If $C(x) \cap C(y)$ is non-degenerate, it is contained in a true cyclic element C . Let

$$a, b \in C(x) \cap C(y)$$

and $z \in C$. Then $x \sim b$, $b \sim a$, $a \sim z$. Since b does not separate x and a , and a does not separate b and z we must have $x \sim z$. Hence $C \subset C(x)$. Similarly $C \subset C(y)$. Therefore $C = C(x) \cap C(y)$.

If $C(x) \cap C(y)$ is degenerate but not empty, let $z = C(x) \cap C(y)$. Then $x \cup z$ and $y \cup z$ are contained in true cyclic elements $E \subset C(x)$ and $F \subset C(y)$. Then $E \cap F = z$, and z is a cutpoint of the U.S.C. $E \cup F$. Hence, by theorem 1.19, z is a cutpoint of X .

Corollary 2-13. Let C be a true cyclic element and $x \notin C$. Then x can be conjugate to at most one point of C .

Proof: Let $y, z \in C$. Then y is conjugate to z so that $C(y) \cap C(z)$ is non-degenerate and hence is a true cyclic element which contains y and z . Then $C = C(y) \cap C(z)$, so that if $x \notin C$, x cannot be conjugate to both y and z .

Theorem 2.14. If C is a true cyclic element of a s.l.c. continuum X and $x \notin C$, some point of C separates a point of C from x .

Proof: Suppose the theorem is false. Choose $y \in C$ for which $y \notin C(x)$. Then $E(y, x)$ contains a point w for which $y < w < x$, where \leq is the separation order on $E(y, x)$. Choose $z \in C \setminus y$. Then, by

assumption, y cannot separate z from x , and hence by theorem 1.15, $z \cup x$ is contained in a subcontinuum $D \subset X \setminus y$. Then $E(y, x) \setminus y \subset D$, hence $y \notin \overline{E(y, x) \setminus y}$. Since $E(y, x)$ is a compact ordered space, there is a first element $w \in E(y, x)$ following y .

Let R be the component of $X \setminus C$ containing x . Since $\overline{R} \cup C$ is a continuum containing $x \cup y$, we have $E(y, x) \subset \overline{R} \cup C$. Since $w \notin C$, $w \in R$.

Now if $y \sim w$, we cannot have $z \sim w$ because $w \notin C$. But since $z \sim y$ and $w \sim y$, we must have $y \in E(z, w)$, i.e. $X \setminus y = U \cup V$, where U is the component of $X \setminus y$ containing z , and $w \in V$. Then $R \subset V$ and $y \in E(z, x)$ which is impossible. If $y \not\sim w$, then $E(y, w) \setminus (y \cup w) \neq \emptyset$, and this contradicts the choice of w . This completes the proof.

Theorem 2.15. Let C be a true cyclic element of the s.l.c. continuum X . The components of $X \setminus C$ are open sets with one-point boundaries.

Proof: Let R be a component of $X \setminus C$ and choose $x \in R$. By the theorem above we can find $y \in C$ and a separation $X \setminus y = U \cup V$ where U is a component of $X \setminus y$ with $C \cap U \neq \emptyset$ and $x \in V$. Then $C \subset U \cup y$ and $R \subset V$. Thus R is a component of V , hence of $X \setminus y$. Thus y is the boundary of R and by theorem 1.16 R is open.

Definition 2.16. Let X be a s.l.c. continuum and $A \subset X$. The convex hull of A , $H(A)$, is the union of A and all points which separate a pair of points of A .

$H(A)$ contains A and contains $E(x,y)$ whenever $x,y \in H(A)$, and is the smallest subset of X with these properties.

Theorem 2.17. Let F be a closed subset of a s.l.c. continuum X . If a point x of X is not in the convex hull of F , then F lies in a subcontinuum of X not containing x .

Proof: Choose a neighborhood U of x with $U \cap F = \emptyset$. Since X is s.l.c., there exists a neighborhood V of x with $V \subset U$ for which $X \setminus V$ has finitely many components. Let C_1, \dots, C_n be those components of $X \setminus V$ which meet F . Since x separates no pair of points of F , then, by theorem 1.15, there are subcontinua

$$K_1, \dots, K_n \subset X \setminus x$$

for which K_i meets C_i and C_{i+1} for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Then

$$C_1 \cup K_1 \cup C_2 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup C_{n-1} \cup K_{n-1} \cup C_n$$

is the desired continuum.

Corollary 2.18. The convex hull of a closed subset of X is closed.

Proof: Let F be a closed subset of X and suppose that x is not in the convex hull of F . Then let C be

a continuum such that $F \subset C \subset X \setminus x$. Now $H(F) \subset C$ so that $\overline{H(F)} \subset C$ and so $x \notin \overline{H(F)}$. Therefore $H(F)$ is closed.

Theorem 2.19. Let F be a closed non-degenerate subset of a s.l.c. continuum X . Suppose $x \notin H(F)$ and x is conjugate to at most one point of $H(F)$. Then there is a nodal set A with $F \subset A$ and $x \notin A$.

Proof: Suppose x lies in a true cyclic element C of X . Since all points of C are conjugate to each other, and $F \subset H(F)$, C contains at most one point of F . Then F meets a component R of $X \setminus C$. By theorem 2.15 R has a one-point boundary $y = \overline{R} \cap C$. Let S be the union of all components of $X \setminus y$ which lie in $X \setminus C$ and meet F . If F meets a component R_1 of $X \setminus C$ with $\overline{R_1} \cap C = z \neq y$, then $y \cup z \subset H(F)$. But since $x, y, z \in C$, x is conjugate to y and z , which is impossible. Therefore $F \subset S \cup C$.

Suppose $y \neq x$. Then C cannot contain a member of F other than y , for otherwise y would be in $H(F)$. Thus $S \cup y$ is a nodal set containing F but not containing x .

Now if $y = x$, then S is a component of $X \setminus x$, for otherwise x would separate two points of F which is impossible since $x \notin H(F)$. We also have $F \subset S$. If x lies in a true cyclic element C_1 of \overline{S} , we repeat the above argument with S replacing X and find a point

y_1 and the union S_1 of the components $\bar{S} \setminus y_1$, which meet F and lie in $\bar{S} \setminus C_1$. This time $x \neq y_1$, since S is connected, and $S_1 \cup y_1$ is the required nodal set. If x lies in no true cyclic element of \bar{S} , replace X by \bar{S} in the following argument.

If x lies in no true cyclic element of X , then $C(x) = x$. By theorem 2.17 F lies in a continuum C of X not containing x . By theorem 2.4, x is the intersection of all nodal sets containing x in their interior. Therefore, by theorem 1.14, C does not meet some nodal set A with $x \in \text{Int } A$. Then $X \setminus \text{Int } A$ is a nodal set containing F and not containing x . This completes the proof.

Definition 2.20. Let X be a s.l.c. continuum and $A \subset X$. The enveloping subcontinuum of A , $E(A)$, is the intersection of all nodal sets containing A .

Theorem 2.21. If A is a closed subset of a s.l.c. continuum X , the enveloping subcontinuum of A is the union of $H(A)$ and all true cyclic elements of X which meet $H(A)$ in at least two points.

Proof: If B is a nodal set containing A then B contains $H(A)$. Let C be a true cyclic element of X meeting $H(A)$ in two distinct points a and b , and let $x \in C \setminus a \cup b$. Suppose $x \notin B$. Then since B contains a and b , the boundary point of B separates x from either a or b , which is impossible. Therefore B also

contains any true cyclic element of X meeting $H(A)$ in at least two points.

Now suppose $x \in H(A)$ and x is not in any true cyclic element meeting $H(A)$ in two points. Then x can be conjugate to at most one point of $H(A)$: if $x \sim y$ and $x \sim z$ with $y, z \in H(A)$ and $y \neq z$, then $x \cup y$ and $x \cup z$ lie in true cyclic elements E and F of X . If $E = F$, x is in a true cyclic element meeting $H(A)$ in two points, which is excluded. If $E \neq F$ then their intersection consists of a single point, so $x = E \cap F$ and x separates two points of $H(A)$ in the U.S.C. $E \cup F$, and hence $x \in H(A)$, which is impossible. Then, by theorem 2.19, there is a nodal set B with $A \subset B$ and $x \notin B$. Therefore $x \notin E(A)$ and the proof is complete.

Theorem 2.22 If A is a closed nonempty subset of a s.l.c. continuum X , then $E(A)$ is a union of cyclic elements of X .

Proof: We show that if $x \in E(A)$ then there is a cyclic element C of X with $x \in C \subset E(A)$. If x is an endpoint or a cutpoint, the result is obvious. Suppose now that x is a non-cutpoint of X other than an endpoint. Let B be a nodal set of X containing A . Then $x \in \text{Int } B$, so that, by theorem 2.4, $C(x) \subset B$. Therefore $C(x) \subset E(A)$. Now since x is neither a cutpoint nor an endpoint $C(x)$ is non-degenerate and hence, by theorems 2.6 and 2.7, $C(x)$ is a true cyclic element.

CHAPTER III
THE INVARIANCE OF CYCLIC ELEMENTS

A. INTRODUCTION

In this chapter we will apply the results we have obtained thus far and obtain some information about a transformation group (X, T) where X is a s.l.c. continuum which is T -irreducible and contains a cutpoint. It will be shown that in this case, X has at least two endpoints, and (X, T) is almost periodic at each endpoint of X ; X contains exactly one minimal orbit closure, and consequently if (X, T) is pointwise almost periodic, then X is a minimal orbit closure.

Next we turn our attention to transformation groups (X, T) , where X is a s.l.c. continuum and (X, T) is pointwise almost periodic. It is shown here that the union, $I(T)$ of all invariant cyclic elements of X is a cyclic envelope. If C is a non-invariant cyclic element, the enveloping subcontinuum of \overline{TC} contains exactly one invariant cyclic element. Other results of this type are obtained. These results are all extensions of theorems proved by Ayres [1].

B. THE INVARIANCE OF CYCLIC ELEMENTS

We first make the following observation:

Let (X, T) be a transformation group. If X is T -irreducible, then no proper U.S.C. of X can contain a non-empty invariant set I . For otherwise, the intersection, D , of all U.S.C. which contain I is a proper subcontinuum of X containing I . Now D is invariant and thus X is not T -irreducible.

Theorem 3.1. Let (X, T) be a transformation group, where X is a s.l.c. continuum which is T -irreducible and contains a cutpoint. Then X contains at least two endpoints.

Proof: Let z be any non-cutpoint. We need only show that X contains an endpoint e different from z .

We first note that if $X \setminus x = U \mid V$, then by the observation above, neither $U \cup x$ nor $V \cup x$ can contain the orbit Tx .

Let E be the set of cutpoints of X . For each $x \in E$ write

$$X \setminus x = R(x) \mid S(x)$$

where $R(x)$ is the component of $X \setminus x$ containing z .

Now suppose $y \in S(x) \cap E$. Then since $\overline{R(x)}$ is connected, does not contain y , and meets the component $R(y)$, we must have $\overline{R(x)} \subset R(y)$. Then $\overline{S(y)}$ is connected, does not contain x , and meets $S(x)$, so

that $\overline{S(y)} \subset S(x)$. Therefore $y \in S(x) \cap E$ implies $\overline{S(y)} \subset S(x)$.

Order the collection $\{\overline{S(x)} : x \in E\}$ by inclusion and extract a subcollection $\{\overline{S(y)} : y \in Y\}$ which is maximal with respect to being totally ordered by inclusion.

Let

$$S = \bigcap \{S(y) : y \in Y\}.$$

We prove that S contains no cutpoint of X . Suppose $x \in S$ is a cutpoint of X . For each $y \in Y \setminus x$, we have $x \in S(y)$ and hence $\overline{S(x)} \subset S(y)$. Now $S(x)$ contains a cutpoint p of X and $\overline{S(p)} \subset S(x)$, so that $\overline{S(p)}$ is properly contained in $\overline{S(y)}$ for each $y \in Y$. Then $\{\overline{S(y)} : y \in Y\}$ is not maximal, which is a contradiction.

Now S is an intersection of nodal sets, and so is a U.S.C. which contains no cutpoints of X . Then, by theorem 1.19, S has no cutpoints of itself, and by construction, S is maximal with respect to this property. Thus S is either an endpoint or a true cyclic element. Since S contains no cutpoint of X , we have, by theorem 2.14, that S cannot be a true cyclic element. Therefore S is an endpoint. Clearly $S \neq z$ and the proof is complete.

Theorem 3.2. Let (X, T) be a transformation group, where X is a s.l.c. continuum which is T -irreducible and contains a cutpoint. If e is an endpoint of X , then $e \in \overline{Tx}$ for each $x \in X$.

Proof: Suppose e is an endpoint of X , and $e \notin \overline{Tx}$ for some $x \in X$. Then $X \setminus \overline{Tx}$ is a neighborhood of e , and there exists a neighborhood U of e whose closure is a nodal set contained in $X \setminus \overline{Tx}$. Then $\overline{Tx} \subset X \setminus U$ which contradicts the fact that X is T -irreducible.

Theorem 3.3. Let (X, T) be a transformation group, where X is s.l.c. continuum which is T -irreducible and contains a cutpoint. Then (X, T) is almost periodic at each endpoint of X , and X contains exactly one minimal orbit closure.

Proof: By theorem 1.28, T is almost periodic at some point $x \in X$. Then by [4,4.09], (X, T) is almost periodic at each point of \overline{Tx} . Therefore, by theorem 3.2, (X, T) is almost periodic at each endpoint of X .

Now, by theorem 1.27, X contains at least one minimal orbit closure. By [4,2.12], distinct minimal orbit closures are disjoint. Then theorems 3.1 and 3.2 imply that there is only one such minimal orbit closure.

Theorem 3.4. Let (X, T) be a transformation group, where X is a s.l.c. continuum which is T -irreducible and contains a cutpoint. If (X, T) is pointwise almost periodic, then X is a minimal orbit closure. In addition, no cyclic element of X has an interior point.

Proof: The first statement follows from theorems 1.27 and 3.3. Now if C is a true cyclic element of X then $\text{Int } C$ contains no endpoints. Since $\overline{Te} = X$ for any endpoints e of X , $\text{Int } C = \emptyset$.

We now extend some results of Ayres, [1], on pointwise almost periodic homeomorphisms to transformation groups.

Theorem 3.5. Let (X, T) be a pointwise almost periodic transformation group where X is a s.l.c. continuum for which $X = A \cup B$ where A and B are nodal sets with $A \cap B = x$. If tA meets A and tA meets B for each $t \in T$, then x is fixed under T .

Proof: For each $t \in T$, tA and tB are U.S.C., so that, by theorem 1.14, the collections $\{tA : t \in T\}$ and $\{tB : t \in T\}$ have the finite intersection property.

Let

$$C = \bigcap \{tA : t \in T\}$$

and

$$D = \bigcap \{tB : t \in T\}$$

Then C and D are nonempty T -invariant subcontinua of X .

Assume x is not fixed. Choose $t \in T$ for which $tx \neq x$. Suppose $tx \in B$. Since tA is connected and meets both A and B , we must have $x \in t(A \setminus x)$, so that $x \notin tB$. Since tB is connected, meets B and does not contain x we must have $tB \subset B$. Thus $x \notin D$. Since $tx \neq x$ and $tx \in B$ we must have $tx \notin A$, so that $x \notin t^{-1}A = A$.

Thus $x \notin C$. Then x separates each point of C from each point of D since $C \subset A$, $D \subset B$ and neither C nor D contain the cutpoint x of X . Let

$$H = \bigcap \{ E(y, z) : y \in C, z \in D \}.$$

Since C and D are T -invariant and homeomorphic images of cutpoints are cutpoints, H is T -invariant. Since $x \in H$, $Tx \subset H$. By theorem 1.20, each $E(y, z)$ is closed, so that H is closed. Hence $\overline{Tx} \subset H$. Since the separation order is a total order, any $E(y, z)$ induces a total order on H , and T acts as a group of order isomorphisms on H . Then since \overline{Tx} is a compact ordered space, it contains a largest element w . Now, if $s \in T$, then for any $y \in \overline{Tx}$, $sy \leq w$. Therefore $sw \leq w$ and $s^{-1}w \leq w$ for every $s \in T$. Then $sw = w$ for every $s \in T$, and so $Tw = w$ and $\overline{Tw} = w$. Now, by theorem 1.27, \overline{Tx} is a minimal orbit closure. Then, by [4, 2.12], $w = \overline{Tw} = \overline{Tx}$. Then since $x \in \overline{Tx}$ we must have $w = x$, and x is fixed, a contradiction. This completes the proof.

Theorem 3.6. Let (X, T) be a pointwise almost periodic transformation group, where X is a non-trivial s.l.c.continuum. If T leaves an endpoint e of X fixed, then T leaves infinitely many cutpoints of X fixed.

Proof: Choose a point $x \neq e$ and let U be a neighborhood of x with $e \notin \overline{U}$. Let A be a syndetic

subset of T for which $Ax \subset U$, and let K be a compact subset of T for which $KA = T$. Then $\overline{Ax} \subset \overline{U}$, so that $e \notin \overline{Ax}$. Since e is fixed under T , we have $e \notin K\overline{Ax} = \overline{Tx}$. Choose a nodal set B with $e \in \text{Int } B$ and $B \subset X \setminus \overline{Tx}$. Let y be the boundary of B . Since $e \in B$ and $\overline{Tx} \subset X \setminus B$, tB meets B and $t(X \setminus B)$ meets $X \setminus B$ for each $t \in T$, by theorem 3.5, y must be fixed. Since e is an endpoint, $E(e,y)$ is an infinite set and again theorem 3.5 implies that each point of $E(e,y)$ is fixed under T .

Definition 3.7. Let X be a s.l.c. continuum and $A \subset X$. A is a cyclic envelope if $E(A) = A$.

Theorem 3.8. Let (X,T) be a pointwise almost periodic transformation group where X is a s.l.c. continuum. Let $I(T)$ be the union of all invariant cyclic elements of X . If either T is abelian or (X,T) is pointwise regularly almost periodic, then $I(T)$ is a nonempty cyclic envelope.

Proof: Theorem 1.31 implies that T leaves invariant a nonempty subcontinuum which contains no cutpoints of itself. Then it follows that $I(T) \neq \emptyset$. If $I(T)$ is a point, it is either an endpoint or a cutpoint, and we are through. Thus assume $I(T)$ is non-degenerate. We first show that if $x \in X$ separates a pair of points of $I(T)$, then x is fixed under T . Suppose $X \setminus x = U \cup V$ where both U and V meet $\overline{I(T)}$. Then U and V are open, hence both meet $I(T)$, so

that $U \cup x$ and $V \cup x$ both contain an invariant cyclic element. Therefore by theorem 3.5, x is fixed under T .

Next we will show that if $x \in \overline{I(T)}$, then x lies in an invariant cyclic element. This will prove that $\overline{I(T)} = I(T)$, i.e. $I(T)$ is closed.

Suppose $x \sim y$ with $y \in I(T)$. Let C be a true cyclic element containing $x \cup y$. Assume that x lies in no invariant cyclic element of X . If $I(T) \subset C$, then since $I(T)$ is non-trivial, C is a true cyclic element for which $tC \cap C$ contains at least two points for all $t \in T$. Hence $tC = C$ for all $t \in T$, so that C is invariant. But this is contrary to our assumption. Thus $I(T)$ meets a component R of $X \setminus C$. Let $z = \overline{R} \cap C$. Then z separates a pair of points of $I(T)$, and thus as we have seen above, z must be fixed under T . Let S be the union of all components of $X \setminus C$ whose closures meet C in the point z and write $X \setminus z = S \cup U$. Then $x \in U$, so $I(T)$ meets U . Hence \overline{U} contains an invariant cyclic element A . Now suppose $A \subset C$. Then since $z \in C$ is fixed, $tC \cap C$ contains at least two points for all $t \in T$, and since C is a true cyclic element, we must have $tC = C$ for all $t \in T$, which again is contrary to our assumption. Thus A cannot be contained in C . Then A meets a component Q of $X \setminus C$, and \overline{Q} contains an invariant cyclic element. Let $w = \overline{Q} \cap C$, then, as in the case above, w is

fixed under T . Then C contains two fixed points, hence is invariant. This contradiction shows that x must lie in some invariant cyclic element of X .

Now suppose $x \not\sim y$ for all $y \in I(T)$. Choose any $y \in I(T)$. Then $E(x, y)$ contains a point $w \notin x \cup y$. Any such w is fixed since it separates two points of $\overline{I(T)}$. If $E(x, y)$ contains a first element w following x in its separation order, then we must have $x \sim w$, which is impossible since w is fixed and hence is contained in $I(T)$. Since the order topology on $E(x, y)$ coincides with the subspace topology, x is a limit point of fixed points, hence is fixed. If x is an endpoint or cutpoint we are through. If x is neither an endpoint nor a cutpoint, then by corollary 2.9, $C(x)$ is a true cyclic element, hence is invariant. Therefore in all cases x lies in an invariant cyclic element, and $I(T)$ is closed.

We now prove that $E(I(T)) = I(T)$ using theorem 2.21. If x separates a pair of points of $I(T)$ then x must be fixed. Thus any cyclic element which is contained in $H(I(T))$ is invariant.

Now let A be a true cyclic element of X meeting $H(I(T))$ in at least two points, say x and y . Then $x \in B$ and $y \in C$ where B and C are invariant cyclic elements of X . If $B = C$, then A and B are cyclic elements which meet in at least two points, so

that $A = B = C$, and A is an invariant cyclic element. If $B \neq C$, assume $B \cap C \neq \emptyset$. Then A, B, C are U.S.C. such that $A \cap B, B \cap C, A \cap C$ are all nonempty. Then, by theorem 1.14, $A \cap B \cap C \neq \emptyset$, so $A \cap B = A \cap C = A \cap B \cap C$ is a point, which is impossible since $x \neq y$. Therefore if $B \neq C$, $B \cap C = \emptyset$. If B is non-degenerate, $A \cap B$ separates each point of B from each point of $A \setminus B$, and since both B and $A \setminus B$ meet $I(T)$, both must contain an invariant cyclic element, and thus $A \cap B$ must be fixed. On the other hand, if B is degenerate, $A \cap B$ is fixed since B is invariant. Similarly $A \cap C$ is fixed. Then A is a true cyclic element containing two fixed points, and hence must be invariant.

We have shown that $E(I(T)) \subset I(T)$. The other inclusion is trivial, and thus $E(I(T)) = I(T)$.

Theorem 3.9. Let (X, T) be a pointwise almost periodic transformation group, where X is s.l.c. and either T is abelian or (X, T) is pointwise regularly almost periodic. If C is a non-invariant cyclic element, the enveloping subcontinuum of \overline{TC} contains exactly one invariant cyclic element of X .

Proof: $E(\overline{TC})$ is an invariant non-trivial subcontinuum. Then, by theorem 1.31, some cyclic element D of $E(\overline{TC})$ is invariant. If D is an endpoint of $E(\overline{TC})$, theorem 3.6 implies that some cutpoint x of

$E(\overline{TC})$ is invariant, and since $E(\overline{TC})$ is a U.S.C., x is a cutpoint of X . If D is a cutpoint of $E(\overline{TC})$, then D is also a cutpoint of X . If D is a true cyclic element of $E(\overline{TC})$, then by theorem 2.22, D is also a true cyclic element of X . Thus $E(\overline{TC})$ contains an invariant cyclic element of X .

If $E(\overline{TC})$ contains two invariant cyclic elements of X , then there exists a cutpoint x which separates two points of \overline{TC} , and, by theorem 3.5, x must be fixed. Let $\{R_\alpha\}$ be the collection of all components of $X \setminus x$ which meet TC . Since each R_α is open, each R_α meets TC , and since C is a cyclic element, each $\overline{R_\alpha}$ contains tC for some $t \in T$. If $R_\alpha \neq R_\beta$, let $tC \subset \overline{R_\alpha}$ and $sC \subset \overline{R_\beta}$. Then $st^{-1}R_\alpha = R_\beta$. Since $E(\overline{TC}) \subset \bigcup \{R_\alpha\} \cup x$, $E(\overline{TC})$ contains no invariant cyclic element other than x . This completes the proof.

As a final note, observe that there exist dendrites which are minimal orbit closures under their total homeomorphism group. One such example was constructed by Doyle and Hocking [3]. Thus pointwise almost periodicity of a transformation group with a s.l.c. phase space is not sufficient to insure the existence of an invariant cyclic element.

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