

On certain non-continuous functions and shape

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In the shape category of topological spaces a shape morphism is constructed by a system of maps (= continuous functions) ; it is, in general, not generated by a single map.

Hence we have the following questions :

Question 1. Is it possible that a kind of non-continuous function induces a shape morphism ?

Question 2. Can a shape equivalence be generated by a certain non-continuous function ?

Definition 1. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be topological spaces. A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a connectivity function if for any connected  $C \subset X$ , the graph  $G(f|C)$  of  $f|C$  is connected.

Definition 2. A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is almost continuous if for any open set  $N \subset X \times Y$  containing  $G(f)$  there is a continuous function  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $G(g) \subset N$ .

These notions have been considered to generalize Brouwer's fixed point theorem (cf. Stallings[10]).

Each of the following is intermediate to answer the questions.

Proposition 1. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be an almost continuous function between compact metric spaces. Then there are ANR-sequences  $\underline{X} = \{X_i, p_{ij}\}$  and  $\underline{Y} = \{Y_i, q_{ij}\}$  with limits  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, and a system  $\underline{f} : \underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{Y}$  of almost continuous functions  $f_i : X_i \rightarrow Y_i$  such that  $f_i p_{ij} = q_{ij} f_j$  for  $i \leq j$ .

Proof. There are ANR-sequences  $\underline{X}$  and  $\underline{Y}$  with limits  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, and each projection  $p_i, q_i$  surjective, since both  $X$  and  $Y$  are compact metric. Define a function  $f_i : X_i \rightarrow Y_i$  for each  $i$ , by the formula  $f_i p_i = q_i f$ . The almost continuity of  $f$  implies that of  $f_i$ .

Proposition 2. A bijective connectivity function with connectivity inverse function does not induce a shape equivalence.

Proof. By the example of Stallings [10,p.262].

Let  $X$  be the circle represented as the real numbers mod 1.

Define a function  $f : X \rightarrow X \times X$  by the formula

$$f(x \bmod 1) = 1/x \bmod 1, \text{ where } 0 < x \leq 1.$$

Let  $Y$  be the graph of  $f$  and  $f^* : X \rightarrow Y$  such that

$$f^*(x) = (x, f(x)).$$

Then  $f^*$  is a bijection, and both  $f^*$  and  $f^{*-1}$  are connectivity functions, but  $\text{Sh}(X) \neq \text{Sh}(Y)$ , because their 1-dimensional Čech cohomology groups are different.

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