

## EMBEDDING UNCOUNTABLY MANY MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE CONTINUA INTO EUCLIDEAN SPACE

BY

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**ABSTRACT.** Uncountable collections of continua of dimension  $m$  embeddable in  $E^n$  are investigated, where the difference between  $m$  and  $n$  is not restricted to one. Collections of isometric copies of continua equivalent to Menger universal continua and collections of continua analogous to G. S. Young's  $T_n$ -sets are the main considerations.

1. **Introduction.** R. L. Moore proved that the plane does not contain uncountably many disjoint triods in [5]. A *triad* is the union of three non-degenerate continua such that the intersection of two of them is exactly one point which is also the intersection of all three of them. G. S. Young, [7], extended this theorem to  $E^n$  by proving that there does not exist in  $E^n$  an uncountable collection of disjoint  $T_{n-1}$ -sets. A  $T_n$ -set is the union of an  $n$ -cell and an arc whose intersection is a relative interior point of the  $n$ -cell and an end point of the arc. This paper extends the above investigations to uncountable collections of continua of dimension  $m$  embeddable in  $E^n$ , where the difference between  $m$  and  $n$  is not restricted to one. We consider two cases since our results differ in these cases.

The Case Where  $n > 2m$ . We first consider the  $m$ -dimensional Menger continua  $M_m^n$  in  $E^n$ , which are constructed inductively. Let  $V_0$  denote the collection whose only element is the unit cube  $I^n = [0, 1]^n$ . Then for each positive integer  $i$ , let  $H_i$  denote the collection of all  $n$ -cubes obtained by subdividing  $I^n$  into  $3^{ni}$  congruent  $n$ -cubes, and let  $V_i$  denote the collection to which  $\underline{v}$  belongs if and only if  $\underline{v}$  is a subset of some element of  $\underline{w}$  of  $V_{i-1}$  and intersects the  $m$ -skeleton of  $\underline{w}$ . If  $G$  is a collection of sets, the union of the elements of  $G$  will be denoted by  $G^*$ . With this notation,  $M_m^n = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} V_i^*$ .

That  $M_m^n$  is a universal space for the class of all compact subspaces of  $E^n$  which have dimension  $k \leq m$  was proved by Stan'ko, [6]. The Menger continua  $M_m^{2m+1}$  are universal spaces for the class of all separable metric spaces with dimension  $k \leq m$ , [3].

**THEOREM 1.** *There exists an uncountable collection  $H$  of disjoint isometric universal compacta of dimension  $n$  embedded in  $E^{2n+1}$ .*

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PROOF. Let  $V_0 = \{I^{2n+1}\}$ . For each positive integer  $i$ , subdivide  $I^{2n+1}$  into  $6^{i(2n+1)}$  congruent  $(2n + 1)$ -cubes. Denote by  $H_i$  the collection of all these  $(2n + 1)$ -cubes and by  $V_i$  the collection of all elements  $\underline{h}$  of  $H_i$  such that  $\underline{h}$  is a subset of some element  $\underline{v}$  of  $V_{i-1}$  and intersects the  $n$ -skeleton of  $\underline{v}$ . Define  $W_n^{2n+1} = \bigcup_{i=1}^\infty V_i^*$ . That  $W_n^{2n+1}$  is a universal compactum for the class of all separable metric spaces with covering dimension  $k \leq n$  is a corollary of the following theorem by Bestvina [1]: If  $X$  is a  $k$ -dimensional  $(k - 1)$ -connected, locally  $(k - 1)$ -connected compact metric space that satisfies  $DD^kP$ , then  $X \approx M_k^{2k+1}$ . Increasing the number of  $(2n + 1)$ -cubes in a subdivision from  $3^{i(2n+1)}$  in the construction of  $M_n^{2n+1}$  to  $6^{i(2n+1)}$  in the construction of  $W_n^{2n+1}$  does not affect the properties listed in Bestvina's theorem.

Now we define a subset  $M$  of the unit interval  $I$ . Let  $G_0 = \{I\}$ . Then for each positive integer  $i$ , let  $F_i$  denote the collection of intervals obtained by subdividing  $I$  into  $6^i$  congruent intervals, and let  $G_i$  denote the collection of all elements of  $F_i$  whose left end point is either the left end point or the midpoint of an element of  $G_{i-1}$ . Define  $M = \bigcap_{i=1}^\infty G_i^*$ . Now for each element  $\alpha$  of  $M$ , let  $V_i(\alpha)$  and  $W_n^{2n+1}(\alpha)$  denote the sets obtained by translating  $V_i$  and  $W_n^{2n+1}$  a distance of  $\alpha\sqrt{2n + 1}$  along the principal diagonal of  $I^{2n+1}$  between the origin and unit point. Obviously  $W_n^{2n+1}(\alpha) = \bigcap_{i=1}^\infty V_i^*(\alpha)$ . Denote by  $H$  the collection of all sets  $W_n^{2n+1}(\alpha)$  for all elements  $\alpha$  of  $M$ . Clearly  $H$  is an uncountable collection of isometric compacta for separable metric spaces with covering dimension  $k \leq n$ . It only remains to be shown that the elements of  $H$  are disjoint.

For each positive integer  $i$ , with  $F_0 = \{I\}$  and  $F_i$  as previously defined, denote by  $K_i$  the collection of all intervals of  $F_i$  which contain an end point of an element of  $F_{i-1}$ . Letting  $N = \{j | j \text{ is a positive integer and } j \leq 2n + 1\}$ , we denote by  $A$  the collection of all subsets of  $N$  which have exactly  $n$  elements. Then for each element  $\alpha$  of  $M$ , element  $\underline{a}$  of  $A$ , positive integer  $j \leq 2n + 1$ , and positive integer  $i$ , let  $s_{aj}(\alpha)$  denote (1) a translation of  $I$  a distance of  $\alpha$  to the right if  $j \in \underline{a}$  or (2) a translation of  $K_i^*$  a distance of  $\alpha$  to the right if  $j \in N \setminus \underline{a}$ . Define  $b_{ai}(\alpha) = \times_{j=1}^{2n+1} s_{aj}(\alpha)$  and  $B_i(\alpha) = \{b | b = b_{ai}(\alpha)\}$  for some  $\underline{a}$  in  $A$ . It follows that  $V_1^*(\alpha) = B_1^*(\alpha)$  while  $V_i^*(\alpha)$  is a proper subset of  $B_i^*(\alpha)$  for  $i > 1$ .

Now suppose  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are two elements of  $M$  such that  $W_n^{2n+1}(\alpha)$  and  $W_n^{2n+1}(\beta)$  have a point  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n+1})$  in common, and suppose  $\alpha < \beta$ . Denote by  $m$  the smallest positive integer  $i$  such that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  do not belong to the same interval of  $G_i$ , and by  $C$  the interval of  $G_{m-1}$  which contains both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . Since  $B_m^*(\alpha)$  and  $B_m^*(\beta)$  both contain  $P$ , there are elements  $\underline{v}$  and  $\underline{w}$  of  $A$  such that  $b_{vm}(\alpha)$  and  $b_{wm}(\beta)$  intersect. There is an element  $k$  of  $N$  which does not belong to  $\underline{v}$  or  $\underline{w}$  since  $\underline{v} \cup \underline{w}$  contains at most  $2n$  elements while  $N$  contains  $2n + 1$  elements. Consequently,  $x_k$  is in both  $s_{vmk}(\alpha)$  and  $s_{wmk}(\beta)$ , where  $s_{vmk}(\alpha)$  is a translation of  $K_m^*$  a distance  $\alpha$  to the right while  $s_{wmk}(\beta)$  is a translation of  $K_m^*$  a distance of  $\beta$  to the right.

For some positive integer  $q$ , the interval  $C$  is  $[6q/6^m, (6q + 6)/6^m]$ . Since  $\alpha < \beta$ ,  $\alpha$  is in the first two-thirds of the first element of  $F_m$  which lies in  $C$  while  $\beta$  is in the first two-thirds of the fourth element of  $F_m$  which lies in  $C$ . Then  $\alpha \in [6q/6^m, 6q/6^m +$

$2/3(6^m)] = [18q/3(6^m), (18q+2)/3(6^m)]$ , and  $\beta \in [(6q+3)/6^m, (6q+3)/6^m+2/3(6^m)] = [(18q+9)/3(6^m), (18q+11)/3(6^m)]$ . Each component of  $K_m^*$  is  $[(6k-1)/6^m, (6k+1)/6^m]$  for some positive integer  $k$ . A translation of a component of  $K_m^*$  a distance of  $\alpha$  to the right is a subset of

$$[(6k - 1)/6^m + 18q/3(6^m), (6k + 1)/6^m + (18q + 2/3(6^m))] = [(18(k + q - 1) + 15)/3(6^m), (18(k + q) + 5)/3(6^m)].$$

A translation of a component  $[(6p - 1)/6^m, (6p + 1)/6^m]$  of  $K_m^*$  a distance of  $\beta$  to the right is a subset of

$$[(6p - 1)/6^m + (18q + 9)/3(6^m), (6p + 1)/6^m + (18q + 11)/3(6^m)] = [(18(p + q) + 6)/3(6^m), (18(p + q) + 14)/3(6^m)].$$

Clearly these intervals are disjoint. Hence  $B_m^*(\alpha)$  and  $B_m^*(\beta)$  do not intersect, and the elements of  $H$  are disjoint.

**COROLLARY 1.** *If  $G$  is an uncountable collection of continua of dimension  $k \leq n$ , then there exists an uncountable collection  $H$  of disjoint continua embedded in  $E^{2n+1}$  such that each element of  $H$  is homeomorphic to exactly one element of  $G$ .*

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are two closed subsets of  $E^n$ , then if there is a homeomorphism  $f$  of  $E^n$  onto itself such that  $f(X)$  is  $Y$ , then  $Y$  is an *equivalent embedding* of  $X$ . If  $f(X)$  is a subset of  $Y$ , then  $X$  is said to be *position-wise embedded* in  $Y$ . In [2], Bothe describes a one-dimensional compactum in  $E^3$  which cannot be position-wise embedded in  $M_1^3$ .

**COROLLARY 2.** *In  $E^{2n+1}$ , if  $M$  is a continuum of dimension  $k \leq n$  which can be position-wise embedded in  $W_n^{2n+1}$ , then there exists an uncountable collection  $H$  of disjoint continua in  $E^{2n+1}$  each of which is an equivalent embedding of  $M$ .*

**QUESTION.** If  $M$  is a continuum of dimension  $n$  in  $E^{2n+1}$  which cannot be position-wise embedded in  $W_n^{2n+1}$ , does there exist in  $E^{2n+1}$  an uncountable collection of disjoint continua each of which is an equivalent embedding of  $M$ ?

The Case Where  $n \leq 2m$ . Now let  $n$  be a positive integer greater than three and  $m$  an integer such that  $n/2 \leq m \leq n - 2$ . Let  $r = n - m$ . For each  $i \leq r$ , denote by  $p_i$  the point  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  where  $x_i = r$  and  $x_j = 1/2$  for  $j \neq i$ . Denote by  $p_0$  the point  $(1/2, 1/2, \dots, 1/2)$ . The convex hull of the points  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{r-1}$  and  $p_r$  will be denoted by  $\langle p_0, p_1, \dots, p_r \rangle$ . Define  $\underline{t}$  to be  $\langle p_0, p_1, \dots, p_r \rangle$ . Then  $\underline{t}$  is a closed  $r$ -simplex. Each of the straight line intervals  $p_0p_i$  intersects exactly one  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional face of  $I^n$ . Let  $F_i$  denote the face of  $I^n$  which is a subset of the hyperplane defined by  $x_i = 1$ . Designate by  $G$  the collection of all  $F_i$  for  $i \leq r$ . The intersection of the elements of  $G$  is an  $m$ -dimensional face of  $I^n$ . Let  $\underline{h}$  denote that face. Then  $\underline{h} \cap \underline{t}$  is a unique point which is relatively interior to each of  $\underline{h}$  and  $\underline{t}$ . Define  $S_{m,r} = \underline{h} \cup \underline{t}$ . We observe that (1) the point  $p_0$  lies in the interior of  $I^n$ , which is an open set, (2)

for  $i \leq r$ ,  $p_i$  lies in the exterior of  $I^n$ , (3) if  $Q_0 = \langle p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r \rangle$ , then  $Q_0 \cap I^n = \emptyset$ , (4) if  $Q_i = \langle p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, p_{i+1}, \dots, p_r \rangle$ , then  $Q_i \cap F_i = \emptyset$  and (5) if  $B$  denotes the boundary of  $I^n$ , then  $\underline{t}$  does not intersect  $B \setminus (\bigcup_{i=1}^r F_i)$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $n$  be an integer greater than three,  $m$  be an integer such that  $n/2 \leq m \leq n - 2$ ,  $r = n - m$ , and  $G$  be an uncountable collection of continua in  $E^n$  such that  $g$  is an element of  $G$  implies  $g$  is an equivalent embedding of  $S_{m,r}$ . Then there is an uncountable subcollection  $G'$  of  $G$  such that every two elements of  $G'$  intersect.*

**PROOF.** For each element  $g$  of  $G$ , let  $f_g$  denote a homeomorphism of  $E^n$  onto itself such that  $f_g(S_{m,r}) = g$ . If  $X$  is a subset of  $E^n$ , let  $X(g)$  denote the set  $f_g(X)$ . By this notation,  $g = \underline{h}(g) \cup \underline{t}(g)$ . If  $R$  denotes the interior of  $I^n$ , then  $R(g)$  is a connected open set containing  $p_0(g)$  whose boundary contains  $F_i(g)$  for  $i \leq r$ .

Let  $W$  denote a countable basis of connected open sets for  $E^n$ . For each element  $g$  of  $G$ , let  $d_{0,g}$  denote an element of  $W$  which contains  $p_0(g)$  and lies in  $R(g)$ , and let  $H_g = \{d_{0,g}\}$ . For each  $i \leq r$ , denote by  $V_{i,g}$  a finite subcollection of  $W$  such that (1)  $V_{i,g}$  properly covers  $F_i(g)$  and (2) no element of  $V_{i,g}$  intersects  $Q_i(g) \cup Q_0(g)$ . Denote by  $V_{0,g}$  a finite subcollection of  $W$  such that (1)  $V_{0,g}$  properly covers  $Q_0(g)$  and (2) every element of  $V_{0,g}$  lies in  $E^n \setminus \bar{R}(g)$ . Let  $H'_g$  denote a finite subcollection of  $W$  such that (1)  $H'_g$  properly covers  $\underline{t}(g)$  and (2) no element of  $H'_g$  contains a point of  $B(g) \setminus (\bigcup_{i=1}^r F_i(g))$ . For each  $i \leq r$ , let  $U_{i,g}$  denote a finite subcollection of  $W$  such that (1)  $U_{i,g}$  properly covers the arc  $p_0(g)p_i(g)$ , and (2) no element of  $U_{i,g}$  intersects  $F_j(g)$  for  $j \neq i$ .

Since  $G$  is uncountable, there exists an uncountable subcollection  $G'$  of  $G$  and finite subcollections  $H, H', V_0, V_1, V_2, \dots, V_r, U_1, U_2, \dots, U_r$  of  $W$  such that if  $g$  is an element of  $G'$ , then  $H = H_g, H' = H'_g, V_0 = V_{0,g}$ , and for each  $i \leq r, V_i = V_{i,g}$  and  $U_i = U_{i,g}$ .

Now let  $g$  and  $q$  denote two elements of  $G'$ . The element  $d_0$  of  $H$  contains  $p_0(g)$  and  $p_0(q)$  and lies in  $R(g)$ . The collection  $V_0$  covers both  $Q_0(g)$  and  $Q_0(q)$ , and  $V_0^*$  lies in  $E^n \setminus \bar{R}(g)$ . Thus  $B(g)$  separates  $p_0(q)$  from  $Q_0(q)$  in  $E^n$ , and consequently  $B(g) \cap \underline{t}(q)$  separates  $p_0(q)$  from  $Q_0(q)$  in  $\underline{t}(q)$ . Since both  $\underline{t}(g)$  and  $\underline{t}(q)$  are covered by  $H'$ , it follows that  $B(g) \cap \underline{t}(q)$  is a subset of  $\bigcup_{i=1}^r F_i(g)$ . For each  $i \leq r$ , the arc  $p_0(q)p_i(q)$  intersects  $B(g)$ , and being covered by  $U_i$ , it therefore intersects  $F_i(g)$ . Define  $A_i = F_i(g) \cap \underline{t}(q)$ . Since  $F_i(g)$  is covered by  $V_i$ , it follows that  $A_i \cap [Q_i(q) \cup Q_0(q)] = \emptyset$ . Hence  $B(g) \cap \underline{t}(q)$  is  $\bigcup_{i=1}^r A_i$ .

In the topological simplex  $\underline{t}(q)$ , for each  $i \leq r$ , let  $D_{i,1}, D_{i,2}, D_{i,3}, D_{i,4}, \dots$  denote a sequence of open sets closing down on the compact set  $A_i$  such that  $D_{i,1}$  does not intersect  $Q_i(q) \cup Q_0(q)$ . By a theorem from Kuratowski [4, p. 312], since, for each positive integer  $j, \{D_{1,j}, D_{2,j}, \dots, D_{r,j}\}$  is a collection of open sets whose union separates  $p_0(q)$  from  $Q_0(q)$  in  $\underline{t}(q)$  and  $D_{i,j} \cap Q_i(q) = \emptyset$  for each  $i \leq r$  it follows that there is a point  $b_j$  common to all of the sets  $D_{i,j}$  for  $i \leq r$ . Then the sequence of points  $b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots$  has a limit point of  $b$ . Hence  $b$  is a point of each  $A_i$ , and since

$A_i \subseteq F_i(g)$ ,  $b$  is an element of  $F_i(g)$  for each  $i \leq r$ . However,  $\bigcap_{i=1}^r F_i(g) = h(g)$ ; therefore  $b$  is an element of both  $g$  and  $q$ . Thus  $G'$  is an uncountable subcollection of  $G$  such that every two elements of  $G'$  intersect.

Obviously, if, in the statement of Theorem 2, the condition that  $g$  be an equivalent embedding of  $S_{m,r}$  is omitted, the resulting statement is not true since there are continua in  $E^{n-1}$  which are homeomorphic to  $S_{m,r}$  for  $m < n-1$  and  $r = n-m$ . The following is an example of an uncountable collection  $G$  of disjoint continua in  $E^4$  such that if  $g$  is an element of  $G$ , then  $g$  contains a continuum homeomorphic to  $S_{2,2}$  but  $g$  is not embeddable in  $E^3$ .

In  $E^4$ , for each  $\underline{a}$  in the open interval  $(1,2)$ , let  $C_1(\underline{a})$  denote the set of all points  $(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  satisfying the following:  $1/\underline{a} \leq x_1 \leq 2\underline{a}$ ,  $1/\underline{a} \leq x_2 \leq 2\underline{a}$ ,  $x_3 = \underline{a}$ , and  $\underline{a} \leq x_4 \leq 2\underline{a}$ . Let  $C_2(\underline{a})$  denote the set of all points  $(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  satisfying the following:  $1/\underline{a} \leq x_1 \leq 2\underline{a}$ ,  $1/\underline{a} \leq x_2 \leq 2\underline{a}$ ,  $1/\underline{a} \leq x_3 \leq \underline{a}$ , and  $x_4 = \underline{a}$ . Let  $B_1(\underline{a})$  and  $B_2(\underline{a})$  denote the two-skeletons of  $C_1(\underline{a})$  and  $C_2(\underline{a})$  respectively. Then  $B_1(\underline{a}) \cap B_2(\underline{a})$  equals  $C_1(\underline{a}) \cap C_2(\underline{a})$  and is the convex hull of the four points  $(1/\underline{a}, 1/\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a})$ ,  $(2/\underline{a}, 1/\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a})$ ,  $(1/\underline{a}, 2\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a})$ , and  $(2\underline{a}, 2\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a})$ . Define  $h(\underline{a})$  to be  $B_1(\underline{a}) \cup B_2(\underline{a})$ .

Let  $P_0(\underline{a}) = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a})$ ,  $p_1(\underline{a}) = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{a}, 2\underline{a})$ ,  $p_2(\underline{a}) = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, 1/\underline{a}, \underline{a})$ ,  $p_3(\underline{a}) = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, (\underline{a}+1)/2, (\underline{a}+2)/2)$ , and  $p_4(\underline{a}) = (\underline{a}, 2, \underline{a}, \underline{a})$ . Denote  $\langle p_0(\underline{a}), p_1(\underline{a}), p_3(\underline{a}) \rangle$  by  $t_1(\underline{a})$ ,  $\langle p_0(\underline{a}), p_2(\underline{a}), p_3(\underline{a}) \rangle$  by  $t_2(\underline{a})$ ,  $\langle p_0(\underline{a}), p_1(\underline{a}), p_4(\underline{a}) \rangle$  by  $t_3(\underline{a})$ , and  $\langle p_0(\underline{a}), p_2(\underline{a}), p_4(\underline{a}) \rangle$  by  $t_4(\underline{a})$ . Then let  $t(\underline{a}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^4 t_i(\underline{a})$  and  $g(\underline{a}) = t(\underline{a}) \cup h(\underline{a})$ . It can be shown that  $g(\underline{a})$  cannot be embedded in  $E^3$  and that  $g(\underline{a})$  contains a continuum homeomorphic to  $S_{2,2}$ . Define  $g$  to be the collection of all continua  $G(\underline{a})$  for all numbers  $\underline{a}$  in  $(1,2)$ .

If  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$  are numbers such that  $1 < \underline{a} < \underline{b} < 2$ , then  $B_1(\underline{a})$  and  $B_2(\underline{a})$  are subsets of the hyperplanes defined by  $x_3 = \underline{a}$  and  $x_4 = \underline{a}$  respectively, while  $B_1(\underline{b})$  and  $B_2(\underline{b})$  are subsets of the hyperplanes defined by  $x_3 = \underline{b}$  and  $x_4 = \underline{b}$  respectively. Consequently  $B_1(\underline{a}) \cap B_1(\underline{b}) = \emptyset$ , and  $B_2(\underline{a}) \cap B_2(\underline{b}) = \emptyset$ . Furthermore, since  $B_2(\underline{a})$  lies on or between the two hyperplanes defined by  $x_3 = 1/\underline{a}$  and  $x_3 = \underline{a}$ , then  $B_2(\underline{a}) \cap B_1(\underline{b}) = \emptyset$ . If  $B_1(\underline{a})$  and  $B_2(\underline{b})$  intersect, then any points of intersection must lie in the 2-plane  $\pi$  defined by  $x_3 = \underline{a}$  and  $x_4 = \underline{b}$ . The intersections of  $B_1(\underline{a})$  and  $B_2(\underline{b})$  with the plane  $\pi$  are two disjoint rectangles, as illustrated in Figure 1. Hence  $h(\underline{a})$  and  $h(\underline{b})$  do not intersect. In addition,  $t(\underline{a}) \cap t(\underline{b}) = \emptyset$  since  $t(\underline{a})$  and  $t(\underline{b})$  are subsets of the hyperplanes defined by  $x_1 = \underline{a}$  and  $x_1 = \underline{b}$  respectively.

The triangular simplexes  $t_1(\underline{a})$  and  $t_2(\underline{a})$  are subsets of the 2-plane  $\pi'$  defined by  $x_1 = \underline{a}$  and  $x_2 = \underline{a}$ . Let  $\underline{c} \in (1,2)$  such that  $\underline{c} \neq \underline{a}$ . Then  $\pi' \cap B_1(\underline{c})$  contains only  $D_1 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{c}, \underline{c})$  and  $D_2 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, \underline{c}, 2\underline{c})$ . We note that  $D_1$  is a point on the straight line interval  $q_1q_2$ , where  $q_1 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, 1, 1)$  and  $q_2 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, 2, 2)$ , and  $D_2$  is a point on the straight line interval  $q_3q_4$ , where  $q_3 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, 1, 2)$  and  $q_4 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, 2, 4)$ . Likewise  $\pi' \cap B_2(\underline{c})$  contains only  $D_1$  and  $D_3 = (\underline{a}, \underline{a}, 1/\underline{c}, \underline{c})$ . Here we need only note that  $D_3$  is a point on the curve  $M$  defined by  $x_4 = 1/x_3$ . Due to the fact that  $[t_1(\underline{a}) \cup t_2(\underline{a})] \cap [q_1q_2 \cup q_3q_4 \cup M] = \{p_0(\underline{a}), p_1(\underline{a}), p_2(\underline{a})\}$  and the fact that these points are distinct from  $D_1, D_2$  and  $D_3$ , it follows that  $[t_1(\underline{a}) \cup t_2(\underline{a})] \cap h(\underline{c}) = \emptyset$ . This is illustrated in Figure 2.

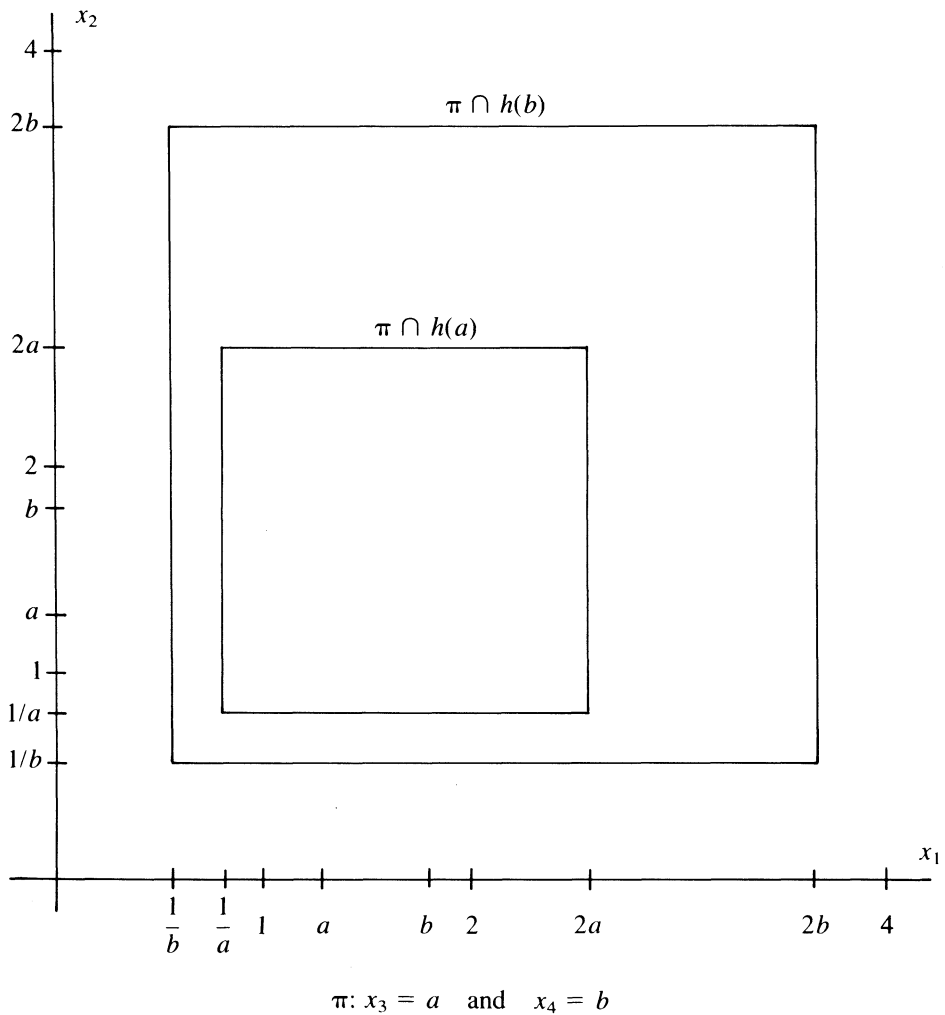


FIGURE 1.

Lastly, the triangular simplex  $t_3(\underline{a})$  is a subset of the 2-plane  $\pi''$  defined by  $x_1 = \underline{a}$  and  $x_3 = \underline{a}$ , and the triangular disk  $t_4(\underline{a})$  is a subset of the 2-plane  $\pi'''$  defined by  $x_1 = \underline{a}$  and  $x_4 = \underline{a}$ . Thus  $t_3(\underline{a}) \cap B_1(\underline{c})$  and  $t_4(\underline{a}) \cap B_2(\underline{c})$  are both empty. If  $\underline{a} < \underline{c}$ , then  $\pi'' \cap B_2(\underline{c})$  contains only the points  $(\underline{a}, 1/\underline{c}, \underline{a}, \underline{c})$  and  $(\underline{a}, 2\underline{c}, \underline{a}, \underline{c})$  and is empty if  $\underline{a} > \underline{c}$ . Moreover, if  $\underline{a} > \underline{c}$ ,  $\pi''' \cap B_1(\underline{c})$  contains only the points  $(\underline{a}, 1/\underline{c}, \underline{c}, \underline{a})$  and  $(\underline{a}, 2\underline{c}, \underline{c}, \underline{a})$  and is empty if  $\underline{a} < \underline{c}$ . However, because  $\underline{a} \leq x_2 \leq 2$  for both  $t_3(\underline{a})$  and  $t_4(\underline{a})$  and  $1/\underline{c} < 1 < \underline{a} < 2 < \underline{c}$ , it follows that  $[t_3(\underline{a}) \cup t_4(\underline{a})] \cap [B_1(\underline{c}) \cup B_2(\underline{c})] = \emptyset$ . We conclude that  $t(\underline{a}) \cap h(\underline{c}) = \emptyset$ , and the elements of  $G$  are disjoint.

We observe that in the construction of  $M_m^n$ ,  $n/2 \leq m \leq n - 2$ , if  $I^n$  is subdivided

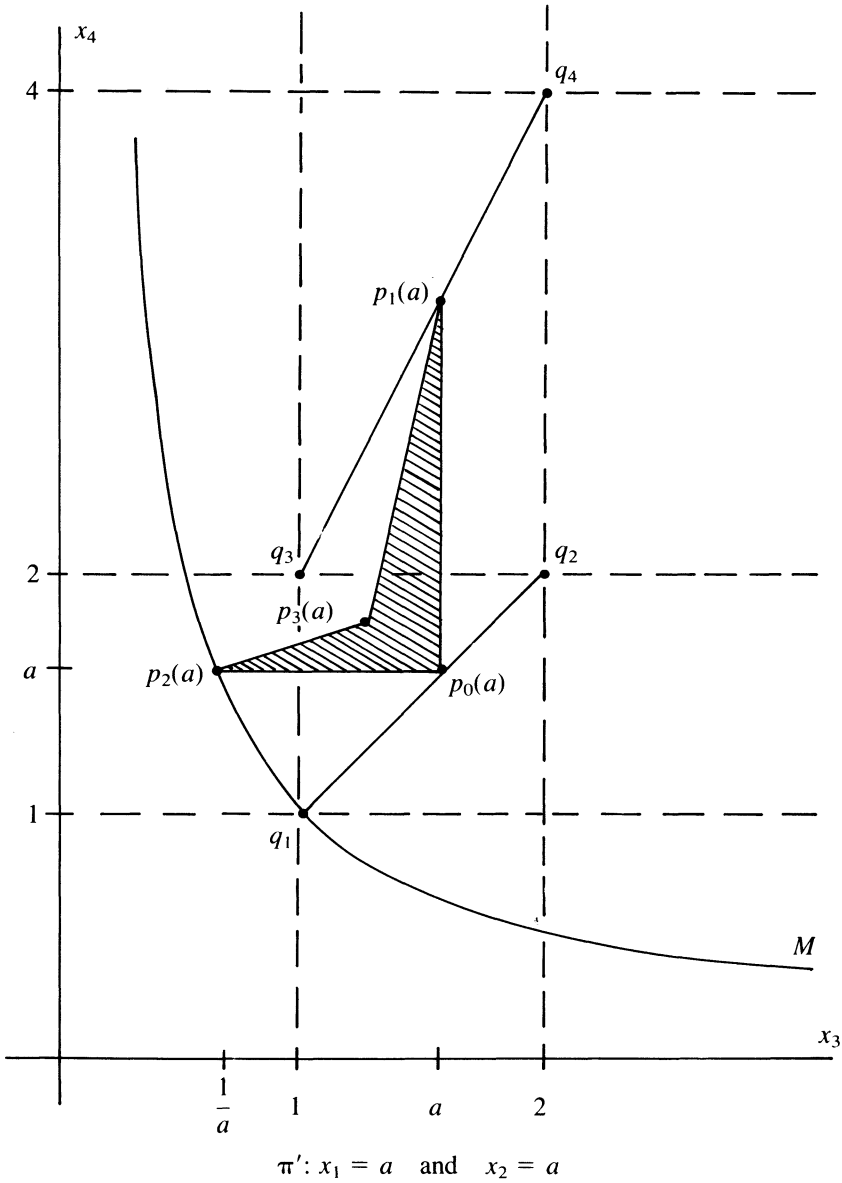


FIGURE 2.

into  $k^{ni}$  congruent  $n$ -cubes at the  $i$ th step instead of  $3^{ni}$  congruent  $n$ -cubes, the resulting set remains homeomorphic to  $M_m^n$  and contains an equivalent embedding of  $S_{m,n-m}$ .

QUESTIONS. Is there a set  $X$  in  $E^n$  which is homeomorphic to  $M_m^n$ , for  $n/2 \leq m \leq n - 2$ , and which does not contain an equivalent embedding of  $S_{m,n-m}$ , and if there is, does  $E^n$  contain uncountable many disjoint such sets?

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QUESTIONS. Is there a set  $X$  in  $E^n$  which is homeomorphic to  $M_m^n$ , for  $n/2 \leq m \leq n-2$ , and which does not contain an equivalent embedding of  $S_{m,n-m}$ , and if there is, does  $E^n$  contain uncountable many disjoint such sets?

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