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CLOSED n-CELL

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 R^n , and (n-1)-spheres oriented with orientations induced by their interiors.

Symbols c^{n-1} , g^{n-1} , ... denote oriented (n-1)-cycles in R^n ; D^{n-1} , V^{n-1} , ... denote (n-1)-spheres in R^n . E^n denotes a closed solid n-sphere in R^n , and the boundary of E^n is denoted by S^{n-1} . η^n denotes a closed n-cell in R^n and the boundary of η^n is denoted by σ^{n-1} .

In this paper η^n is assumed to be the image of E^n under homeomorphism θ , and η^n and σ^{n-1} obtain their orientations from E^n and S^{n-1} respectively.

3. The Turning Index

Let c^{n-1} be an (n-1)-cycle in R^n and g a continuous map of c^{n-1} into R^n having no fixed point. Let D^{n-1} be an (n-1)-sphere with center 0, called a direction sphere [2]. Let c^{n-1} be mapped on D^{n-1} as follows. To a point $c \in c^{n-1}$ there corresponds a point $d \in D^{n-1}$ such that the line segment from 0 to d has the same sense and direction as that from c to g(c). The resulting (n-1)-cycle g^{n-1} on D^{n-1} is called, in the sequel, the (n-1)-cycle g^{n-1} resulting from g applied to c^{n-1} , and the degree of the resulting map, that is, the multiple of D^{n-1} which is homologous to g^{n-1} (which is clearly independent of the radius of D^{n-1} and the location of 0) is called the turning index of c^{n-1} under g.

If p is a point not on c^{n-1} , the *index of p relative to* c^{n-1} is defined as the turning index of the map which maps every point of c^{n-1} into p. (For odd n, this is the negative of the corresponding definition given in [3], as shown by Theorem 1.5, page 105).

4. Preliminary Lemmas

Lemma 1. Let g and h be two continuous maps into R^n of an (n-1)-cycle c^{n-1} , such that neither leaves any point of c^{n-1} fixed, and, for no point $c \in c^{n-1}$ are the directions from c to g (g) and from g to g (g) exactly opposite. Then the turning indices of g under g and g are equal.

 $\frac{Proof.}{c,g(c)}$ and $\frac{c}{c,h(c)}$ are not opposite and hence, if not identical,

determine a 2-plane P in which they make an angle of less than π radians. As a parameter p varies from 0 to 1, let the direction of $\overline{c,h}$ (c) change in P so that the angle between the two vectors $\overline{c,h}$ (c) and $\overline{c,g}$ (c) decreases uniformly to zero while their lengths remain fixed. If the angle is zero at the start, no change in direction takes place. For each value of p, $0 \le p \le 1$, the corresponding mapping as determined above in the definition of turning index, maps c^{n-1} on the direction sphere D^{n-1} , and the result, as p varies from 0 to 1, is to deform the (n-1)-cycle p^{n-1} on p^{n-1} resulting from p^{n-1} applied to p^{n-1} into the p^{n-1} is homologous to p^{n-1} , and therefore to the same multiple of p^{n-1} , so that the turning indices under consideration are equal. Thus Lemma 1 is proved.

Lemma 2. Let g be a continuous map into R^n of an (n-1)-cycle c^{n-1} , such that c^{n-1} and $g(c^{n-1})$ are contained in different half-spaces into which R^n is separated by some (n-1)-plane. Then the turning index of c^{n-1} under g is zero.

Proof. Since the (n-1)-cycle g^{n-1} resulting from g applied to c^{n-1} is clearly entirely on one hemisphere of D^{n-1} , we conclude that c^{n-1} cannot be homologous to any multiple of D^{n-1} other than zero. Thus Lemma 2 is proved.

Lemma 3. Let σ^{n-1} be the boundary of a closed n-cell $\eta^n \subset R^n$. Let e be a point in the inside of σ^{n-1} . Then the index of e relative to σ^{n-1} is 1 or -1.

While this result is given in [3], page 109, Theorem 4.1, the following proof is given as shorter and obtained independently.

Proof. Let η^n and σ^{n-1} be respectively the homeomorphic images (under homeomorphism θ) of the closed solid *n*-sphere E^n with boundary S^{n-1} , i.e., $\eta^n = \theta$ (E^n) and $\sigma^{n-1} = \theta$ (S^{n-1}). By use of the invariance of regionality, it is easy to show that $\eta^n = \theta$ (E^n) contains no point outside σ^{n-1} and contains every point inside σ^{n-1} .

Let V^{n-1} be an (n-1)-sphere with center at e, so small that V^{n-1} and its interior are inside σ^{n-1} , hence composed of points of η^n . Let $\beta^{n-1} = \theta^{-1} (V^{n-1})$ and $d = \theta^{-1} (e)$.

For each point $b \in \beta^{n-1}$ let the half-line beginning at d and passing through b intersect S^{n-1} at b'.

Now, for every t, with $0 \le t \le 1$, let $\beta^{n-1}(t)$ be the (n-1)cycle determined as follows. For each point $b \in \beta^{n-1}$ there corresponds a point b(t) of $\beta^{n-1}(t)$ on the closed segment from b to b'such that the distance from b to b(t) is t times the distance from b to b'.

Let
$$V^{n-1}(t) = \theta[\beta^{n-1}(t)], \quad 0 \le t \le 1.$$

As t varies from 0 to 1, the cycle V^{n-1} (t) undergoes a deformation from initial position $V^{n-1}(0) = V^{n-1}$ to final position V^{n-1} (1). Since V^{n-1} (1) is on σ^{n-1} , there is an integer x such that

(1)
$$V^{n-1}(1) \sim x \sigma^{n-1}$$
 on σ^{n-1} ,

where \sim stands for "is homologous to".

For each t, let k(t) be the mapping which maps every point of V^{n-1} (t) into e, and let V^{n-1} serve as the direction sphere. As t varies from 0 to 1, the (n-1)-cycle k^{n-1} (0) resulting from k (0) applied to V^{n-1} is deformed on the direction sphere V^{n-1} into the (n-1)-cycle k^{n-1} (1) resulting from k (1) applied to V^{n-1} (1). Thus these two (n-1) cycles are homologous on V^{n-1} . Therefore the index of e relative to V^{n-1} equals the index of e relative to V^{n-1} (1). However, since k (0) maps every point of V^{n-1} into e, we derive that ([4], page 92)

the index of e relative to $V^{n-1}(1) = (-1)^n$. (2)

Let y be the index of e relative to σ^{n-1} . From (1) we infer that xy is the index of e relative to $V^{n-1}(1)$. Hence, by (2), $xy = (-1)^n$. Consequently, y = 1 or y = -1. Thus Lemma 3 is proved.

Lemma 4. If a continuous map f of a closed n-cell $\eta^n \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ into R^n has no fixed point, then the turning index of the boundary σ^{n-1} of $\dot{\eta}^n$ under f is zero.

Proof. Let, as in the proof of Lemma 3, $\eta^n = \theta$ (Eⁿ) and $\sigma^{n-1} = \theta (S^{n-1})$ be respectively the images under the homeomorphism θ of the closed solid n-sphere E^n and its boundary S^{n-1}

Let u be the center of S^{n-1} . Since f has no fixed point, it is clear that we can choose d > 0 so small that a closed solid n-sphere H_d^n of radius d with center at θ (u) is entirely in η^n , and H_d^n and its image f (H_d^n) are contained in different half-spaces into which R^n is separated by some (n-1)-plane.

Now, let S^{n-1} undergo a deformation by uniform radial shrinking toward u till it reaches a position S_2^{n-1} whose image σ_2^{n-1} under θ is contained in the interior of H_d^n . By means of θ , there results a deformation of σ^{n-1} into σ_2^{n-1} which by means of the mapping f induces a deformation, on the direction sphere, of the (n-1)-cycle f^{n-1} resulting from f applied to σ_2^{n-1} .

Thus the turning index of σ^{n-1} under f equals the turning index of σ_2^{n-1} under f, which by Lemma 2 equals zero. Thus Lemma 4 is proved.

5. The Theorems

THEOREM 1. Let $\eta^n \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a closed n-cell and f a continuous mapping of η^n into \mathbb{R}^n such that f maps the boundary σ^{n-1} of η^n into η^n . Then f has at least one fixed point.

Proof. Assume no fixed points. Let, as in the case of Lemma 3, η^n and σ^{n-1} be respectively the images (under the homeomorphism θ) of the closed solid *n*-sphere E^n with boundary S^{n-1} , i.e., $\eta^n = \theta$ (E^n) and $\sigma^{n-1} = \theta$ (S^{n-1}).

Let u be the center of S^{n-1} . Consider the mapping f' of σ^{n-1} which maps every point $\sigma \in \sigma^{n-1}$ into the point $\theta(u)$. Since f' is the mapping which appears in the definition of the index of $\theta(u)$ relative to σ^{n-1} , we see by Lemma 3 that the turning index of σ^{n-1} under f' is non-zero.

By hypothesis, $f(\sigma) \in \eta^n$ for every $\sigma \in \sigma^{n-1}$. Hence we may deform $f(\sigma^{n-1})$ as follows. As a parameter p varies from 0 to 1,

the point σ' moves in η^n along the path $\theta[\overline{\theta^{-1}f(\sigma)}, u]$ starting from σ and ending at $\theta(u)$.

For p=1, the above deformation yields the mapping f'. Therefore, the (n-1)-cycle resulting from f applied to σ^{n-1} is homologous on the direction sphere (as a consequence of a deformation) to the (n-1)-cycle resulting from f' applied to