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## **DECOMPOSITIONS OF THE STONE-ČECH COMPACTIFICATION WHICH ARE SHAPE EQUIVALENCES**

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## DECOMPOSITIONS OF THE STONE-ČECH COMPACTIFICATION WHICH ARE SHAPE EQUIVALENCES

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Let  $X$  be a realcompact space and  $\beta X$  the Stone-Čech compactification of  $X$ . Let  $K \subset \beta X - X$  be any nondegenerate continuum. In this paper it is shown that if  $f(K) = Y$  is any map which is a shape equivalence, then  $f$  is a homeomorphism. Let  $X$  be realcompact and connected. Suppose that  $f(\beta X) = Y$  is a continuous map which is a shape equivalence. Then it is shown that there is a compact set  $K \subset Y$  such that  $f^{-1}(K) \subset X$  with  $f|_{\beta X - f^{-1}(K)}$  a homeomorphism onto  $Y - K$ . In particular, if  $cX$  is any compactification of  $X$  and  $h: \beta X \rightarrow cX$  is the natural map induced by the identity map on  $X$ , then if  $h$  is a shape equivalence, then  $h$  is a homeomorphism. Examples and applications are given.

**Introduction.** An important question in shape theory is: What kinds of continuous mappings give shape equivalences? That is, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are compact spaces and  $f(X) = Y$  what conditions on  $f$  would guarantee that  $f$  is a shape equivalence? If  $f$  is a homeomorphism or a homotopy equivalence, then  $f$  is a shape equivalence. If  $f$  has the property that its point inverses have trivial shape then  $f$  is said to be a *CE-map*. If  $f(X) = Y$  is a *CE-map* and  $Y$  is finite-dimensional, then  $f$  is known to be a shape equivalence. This is one of the most important types of shape equivalences. In this paper the question of when a map is a shape equivalence is studied in reverse order. We suppose that we have a map  $f(X) = Y$  which is a shape equivalence and ask what this implies about the map  $f$ . The results we obtain are as follows. Let  $X$  be a realcompact space and  $K$  a continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ . Suppose that  $f(K) = Y$  is a shape equivalence. Then we show that  $f$  must be a homeomorphism. Thus maps which are shape equivalences on continua contained in  $\beta X - X$  are of the simplest possible type. They are homeomorphisms. This should be contrasted with what is known about manifolds and polyhedra of dimension  $\geq 1$  which always admit nontrivial *CE-maps* which are shape equivalences.

Let  $X$  be a realcompact connected space and suppose that  $f(\beta X) = Y$  is a shape equivalence. Then it is shown that there is a compact set  $K \subset Y$  such that  $f^{-1}(K) \subset X$  with  $f|_{\beta X - f^{-1}(K)}$  a homeomorphism onto  $Y - K$ . This severely restricts the kinds of maps of  $\beta X$  which can be

shape equivalences. In particular, if  $cX$  is another compactification and  $f: \beta X \rightarrow cX$  the natural map induced by the identity map on  $X$ , then if  $f$  is a shape equivalence, then  $f$  is a homeomorphism.

As applications of these results we show that if  $X$  is realcompact and  $K$  is a continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ , then  $K$  cannot be shape equivalent to a compact connected abelian topological group. Also  $K$  cannot be torus-like. If  $X$  is realcompact and connected and not compact, then  $\beta X$  cannot have the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group. Also  $\beta X$  cannot be torus-like. In addition a number of results in [7] are generalized.

The proofs of the above theorems make significant use of the theory of shape for compact connected abelian topological groups developed in [3], [4], [5], and [6]. Specific results will be quoted in the first section of the paper.

**Preliminaries.** We assume that the reader is familiar with the Stone-Čech compactification. Gillman and Jerison [1] and Walker [9] are good references. We assume a knowledge of general topology and the reader should be familiar with the terms: Lindelöf, paracompact, pseudocompact, realcompact, and proper mapping. Most of the terms can be found by consulting Gillman and Jerison [1] or Isbell [2] or any advanced text in general topology. We let  $H^n(X)$  denote the Čech cohomology of  $X$  based on the numerable covers of  $X$  with integer coefficients.

Let  $C$  denote the category of compact spaces and continuous maps and let  $S: C \rightarrow SC$  denote the shape functor. If  $X$  and  $Y$  are compacta, then a map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a *shape equivalence* if  $S(f)$  is an equivalence in the shape category. A good reference for shape theory is Mardešić [8]. We will only be concerned with shape theory for compact spaces in this paper.

**1. Continua contained in  $\beta X - X$ .** The main result of this section is that if  $X$  is realcompact and  $K$  is a continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$  and  $f(K) = Y$  is a map which is a shape equivalence, then  $f$  is a homeomorphism. We are also able to prove that  $K$  cannot be movable or of trivial shape unless it is a point. This last result generalizes the main result of Keesling and Sher [7] where this was shown for continua contained in  $\beta X - X$  for  $X$  Lindelöf. The proofs in this paper are quite different from those in [7] and are not just a refinement of the techniques of that paper. It seems that both techniques of proof will have further applications.

We will need a number of results from [3], [4], [5], and [6] which we now state for convenient reference.

**THEOREM 1.1.** (Theorem 1.1 of [4]) *Let  $X$  be a continuum and  $x \in X$  and let  $A$  be a compact connected abelian topological group. Then if  $F: X \rightarrow A$  is a shape morphism, then there is a continuous map  $f: X \rightarrow A$  with  $f(x) = 0$  and with  $S(f) = F$ .*

**THEOREM 1.2.** (Theorem 1.2 of [4]) *Let  $X$  be a continuum and  $x \in X$  and let  $A$  be a compact connected abelian topological group. Then if  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous maps from  $X$  to  $A$  with  $f(x) = g(x) = 0$  and  $S(f) = S(g)$ , then  $f$  and  $g$  are homotopic.*

The next theorem follows from the proof of Theorem 2.1 of [4].

**THEOREM 1.3.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a continuum and that  $A$  is a compact connected abelian topological group. Suppose that  $X$  and  $A$  are shape equivalent and let  $F: X \rightarrow A$  be an equivalence in the shape category. Then any map  $f: X \rightarrow A$  with  $S(f) = F$  must be onto.*

**THEOREM 1.4.** (Theorem 1.1 of [5]) *Let  $X$  be a continuum and  $A$  a compact connected abelian topological group. Suppose that  $h: H(A) \rightarrow H(X)$  is a homomorphism. Then there is a unique shape morphism  $F: X \rightarrow A$  such that  $F^* = h: H(A) \rightarrow H(X)$ .*

The last theorem we need is the following.

**THEOREM 1.5.** (Theorem 1.2 of [6]) *Let  $X$  be a torus-like continuum. Then  $X$  has the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group.*

We now proceed to the results in the section. We will need two preliminary lemmas.

**LEMMA 1.6.** *Let  $x \in \beta R - R$  where  $R$  is the real numbers. Let  $\Sigma_a$  be any solenoid and let  $z \in \Sigma_a$ . Then there is a continuous map  $f: \beta R \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  such that  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f(x) = z$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A = [0, \frac{1}{2}] + Z \subset R$  and  $B = [\frac{1}{2}, 1] + Z \subset R$  where  $Z$  is the integers. Now  $A$  and  $B$  are closed and  $A \cup B = R$ . Thus  $x \in \text{cl}_{\beta R} A$  or  $x \in \text{cl}_{\beta R} B$ . Suppose without loss that  $x \in \text{cl}_{\beta R} A$ . Let  $\varphi: R \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  be a dense one-parameter subgroup. Let  $r_i \in R$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  be such that  $\varphi(r_i) \rightarrow z$ . Now define a map  $g: R \rightarrow R$  such that  $g(0) = 0$  and  $g([0, \frac{1}{2}] + i) = r_{|i|}$  for  $i \in Z - \{0\}$ . Such a map  $g$  is clearly possible. Now let  $f: \beta R \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  be the Čech extension of the map  $\varphi \circ g: R \rightarrow \Sigma_a$ . Then  $f(0) = \varphi \circ g(0) = 0 \in \Sigma_a$  and since  $x \in \text{cl}_{\beta R} A$ ,  $f(x) = \lim \varphi(r_i) = z$ .

**LEMMA 1.7.** *Suppose that  $X$  is realcompact and not compact and let  $K$  be a continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ . Let  $x \neq y \in K$ . Let  $u, v \in \Sigma_a$  where  $\Sigma_a$  is any solenoid. Then there is a continuous function  $g: K \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  such that  $g(x) = u$  and  $g(y) = v$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $X$  is realcompact, there is a continuous real-valued function  $f: X \rightarrow R$  such that  $\beta f: \beta X \rightarrow \beta R$  has  $\beta f(x) \notin R$ . Now let  $q: \beta X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a continuous map such that  $q$  is 0 on a neighborhood of  $y$  and 1 on a neighborhood of  $x$ . Then let  $h: X \rightarrow R$  be defined by  $h(z) = f(z) \cdot q(z)$  for all  $z \in X$ . Then consider  $\beta h: \beta X \rightarrow \beta R$ . Then  $\beta h(x) \in \beta R - R$  since  $h$  agrees with  $f$  on a dense subset of a neighborhood of  $x$  in  $\beta X$ . Also,  $\beta h(y) = 0$  since  $h \equiv 0$  on a dense subset of a neighborhood of  $x$  in  $\beta X$ . Now using Lemma 1.6, there is a map  $p: \beta R \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  such that  $p(0) = 0$  and  $p(\beta h(x)) = u - v$ . Now define  $s: \Sigma_a \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  by  $s(z) = z + v$  for all  $z \in \Sigma_a$ . Then let  $g: \beta X \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  be defined by  $g = s \circ p \circ \beta h$ . Then  $g(x) = s \circ p \circ \beta h(x) = (u - v) + v = u$  and  $g(y) = s \circ p \circ \beta h(y) = s(p(0)) = 0 + v = v$ . Thus  $g|K$  is the desired map.

We now prove a theorem which allows us to generalize several of the results of [7].

**THEOREM 1.8.** *Suppose that  $X$  is realcompact and that  $K$  is a nondegenerate continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ . Then  $H^1(K)$  has the property that it contains a copy of the rational numbers as a subgroup.*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in K$  be distinct points. Let  $\Sigma_\omega$  be the rational solenoid and let  $v \in \Sigma_\omega$  be a point which is not in the same arccomponent as  $0 \in \Sigma_\omega$ . Then let  $f: K \rightarrow \Sigma_\omega$  be a continuous function with  $f(x) = 0$  and  $f(y) = v$  as in Lemma 1.7.

*Claim 1.* The map  $f$  must be onto.

*Proof of Claim 1.* The set  $f(K)$  is a subcontinuum of  $\Sigma_\omega$  containing  $0$  and  $v$ . However, the only proper subcontinua of a solenoid are arcs or points. Since there is no arc containing both  $0$  and  $v$ ,  $f(K)$  must be all of  $\Sigma_\omega$ . This proves Claim 1.

Now the rational solenoid has  $H^1(\Sigma_\omega) = Q$ , the group of rational numbers. Consider the homomorphism  $f^*: H^1(\Sigma_\omega) \rightarrow H^1(K)$ . Now  $H^1(K)$  is torsion free and thus if  $f^*(r) = 0$  for some  $r \neq 0$  in  $H^1(\Sigma_\omega)$ , then  $f^* \equiv 0$ . We will now show that  $f^*$  is not identically zero. It will then follow that  $f^*(r) \neq 0$  for all nonzero  $r \in H^1(\Sigma_\omega)$  and thus that  $f^*(H^1(\Sigma_\omega))$  is an isomorphic copy of  $Q$  in  $H^1(K)$ . Thus Theorem 1.8 will follow once we have proved Claim 2.

*Claim 2.* The homomorphism  $f^*: H^1(\Sigma_\omega) \rightarrow H^1(K)$  cannot be identically zero.

*Proof of Claim 2.* Suppose that  $f^* \equiv 0$ . Let  $g: K \rightarrow \Sigma_\omega$  be the constant map,  $g(z) = 0$  for all  $z \in K$ . Now  $g^*: H^1(\Sigma_\omega) \rightarrow H^1(K)$  has the property that  $g^* \equiv 0$  since  $g(K)$  is a point in  $\Sigma_\omega$ .

Thus we have that  $f^* \equiv g^* \equiv 0$  and also  $f(x) = g(x) = 0$ . Now by Theorem 1.4,  $S(f) = S(g)$ . That is, we have  $S(f) = S(g)$  and  $f(x) = g(x) = 0$ . Thus by Theorem 1.2,  $f$  and  $g$  must be homotopic. However, this implies that there is an arc connecting  $f(y)$  and  $g(y)$  in  $\Sigma_\omega$ . This is a contradiction, since  $g(y) = 0$  and  $f(y) = v$  and no arc connects 0 and  $v$ . This contradiction proves the claim and the proof of Theorem 1.8 is complete.

**COROLLARY 1.9.** *Let  $X$  be realcompact and let  $K$  be a nondegenerate continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ . Then  $K$  cannot be movable. In particular  $K$  cannot have the shape of a point.*

*Proof.* Theorem 1.8 implies that  $H^1(K)$  contains a copy of the rational numbers. Theorem 4.4 of [5] then implies that  $K$  cannot be movable. Now  $K$  cannot have trivial shape since a point is movable.

**COROLLARY 1.10.** *Let  $X$  be realcompact and let  $K \subset \beta X - X$  be a nondegenerate continuum. Then if  $K$  has the same shape as  $Y$ , then  $Y$  cannot be locally connected or arcwise connected.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $K$  and  $Y$  are shape equivalent. Then  $H^1(Y)$  contains a copy of the additive group of rational numbers  $Q$ , since  $H^1(Y)$  is isomorphic to  $H^1(K)$ . Thus  $Y$  cannot be locally connected by Theorem 2.2 of [5]. Now we show that  $Y$  cannot be arcwise connected. Let  $\Sigma_\omega$  be the rational solenoid and let  $h: H^1(\Sigma_\omega) \rightarrow H^1(Y)$  be an isomorphism onto the copy of  $Q$  which exists by the above remarks. Let  $F: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_\omega$  be the shape morphism given by Theorem 1.4 with  $F^* = h: H^1(\Sigma_\omega) \rightarrow H^1(Y)$ . Then let  $f: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_\omega$  with  $S(f) = F$  by Theorem 1.1. Now we claim that  $f(Y) = \Sigma_\omega$ . If not, then  $f(Y)$  is a proper subcontinuum of  $\Sigma_\omega$ . But then  $f(Y)$  is an arc or a point. But that would imply that  $f^*: H^1(\Sigma_\omega) \rightarrow H^1(Y)$  is the zero homomorphism. This is a contradiction since  $f^* = h \neq 0$ . However, this now implies that  $Y$  must have at least  $2^{\aleph_0}$  arccomponents since  $f(Y) = \Sigma_\omega$  and  $\Sigma_\omega$  has  $2^{\aleph_0}$  arccomponents.

**REMARK 1.11.** In [7] it was shown that for a continuum  $K \subset \beta X - X$  with  $X$  Lindelöf,  $H^1(K)$  contains a copy of the real numbers as a

subgroup. The technique of proof in [7] is quite different from the proof of Theorem 1.8 given here. Thus we expect that both techniques of proof will have further applications even though the basic results are very similar.

We now prove the main theorem of this section and give some applications.

**THEOREM 1.12.** *Suppose that  $X$  is realcompact and that  $K$  is a continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ . Then if  $f(K) = Y$  is any continuous map which is a shape equivalence, then  $f$  is a homeomorphism.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $f(K) = Y$  is a shape equivalence and that  $f(x) = f(y)$  for  $x \neq y$  in  $K$ . Let  $\Sigma_a$  be a solenoid. Let  $g: K \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  be a map such that  $g(x) = 0 \in \Sigma_a$  and  $g(y)$  is not connected to 0 by an arc in  $\Sigma_a$ . Such a map  $g$  exists by Lemma 1.7. Now we claim that if  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  is any map, then  $g$  is not homotopic to  $h \circ f$ . We will then show that this contradicts the assumption that  $f$  is a shape equivalence.

*Claim 1.* If  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  is any continuous map, then  $h \circ f$  cannot be homotopic to  $g$ .

*Proof of Claim 1.* Suppose that  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  and that  $h \circ f$  is homotopic to  $g$ . Then  $h \circ f(x) = h \circ f(y)$  since  $f(x) = f(y)$ . Now  $h \circ f(x)$  must be connected by an arc to  $g(x) = 0$  and  $h \circ f(y)$  must be connected by an arc to  $g(y) = v$ . However, this implies that there is an arc from 0 to  $v$  in  $\Sigma_a$ , a contradiction. Thus  $h \circ f$  cannot be homotopic to  $g$  and Claim 1 is proved.

*Claim 2.* Since  $f$  is a shape equivalence, there must be a map  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  such that  $h \circ f$  is homotopic to  $g$ .

*Proof of Claim 2.* Since  $f$  is a shape equivalence,  $S(f)$  is an equivalence in the shape category between  $K$  and  $Y$ . This implies that the shape morphisms from  $Y$  to  $\Sigma_a$  are in one-to-one correspondence with the set of all shape morphisms from  $K$  to  $\Sigma_a$ . This correspondence is induced by composition with  $S(f)$ . In particular, there must be a shape morphism  $F: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  such that  $F \circ S(f) = S(g)$ . Now according to Theorem 1.1, there must be a map  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  with  $h(f(x)) = 0$  and with  $S(h) = F$ . However, then we have  $S(g) = S(h) \circ S(f) = S(h \circ f)$  and  $h \circ f(x) = g(x) = 0$ . Thus by Theorem 1.2,  $h \circ f$  and  $g$  must be homotopic. This proves Claim 2.

Obviously Claim 1 and Claim 2 are contradictory. This contradiction arises because we assumed  $f$  to be a shape equivalence and not a homeomorphism. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.12.

**COROLLARY 1.13.** *Suppose that  $X$  is realcompact and that  $K \subset \beta X - X$  is a nondegenerate continuum. Then  $K$  cannot have the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $K$  has the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group  $A$ . Let  $F: K \rightarrow A$  be an equivalence in the shape category. Then by Theorem 1.1 there exists a map  $f: K \rightarrow A$  with  $S(f) = F$ , and by Theorem 1.3  $f$  must have the property that  $f(K) = A$ . That is,  $f(K) = A$  and  $f$  is a shape equivalence. Thus by Theorem 1.12  $f$  must be a homeomorphism. However, every compact connected abelian topological group which is not a point must contain a nontrivial one-parameter subgroup. Thus  $A$  must contain an arc. However, an arc has trivial shape. That is, there must be a nondegenerate subcontinuum  $C$  of  $K$  having trivial shape. This is a contradiction of Corollary 1.9 since  $C \subset \beta X - X$  also.

**COROLLARY 1.14.** *Let  $X$  be realcompact and let  $K$  be a nondegenerate continuum contained in  $\beta X - X$ . Then  $K$  cannot be torus-like.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $K$  were torus-like. Then by Theorem 1.5,  $K$  has the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group. This contradicts Corollary 1.13.

**EXAMPLE 1.15.** Example 1.6 of [7] shows that for  $X$  not realcompact, the theorems and corollaries of this section may fail. The example goes as follows. Let  $L$  be the long line and  $Y$  any compact space. Then  $\beta(L \times Y) = (L \cup \{\omega_1\}) \times Y$  and thus if we let  $X = L \times Y$ , then  $\beta X - X = Y$ . By appropriate choice of  $Y$  we can get a space  $X$  such that  $\beta X - X$  is a nondegenerate continuum which has trivial shape, is a compact connected abelian topological group, or a continuum  $Y$  with a nontrivial map  $f(Y) = Z$  which is a shape equivalence.

**2. Maps which are shape equivalences of  $\beta X$ .** In this section we show that if  $X$  is realcompact and connected and  $f(\beta X) = Y$  is a shape equivalence, then  $f$  is a homeomorphism on a neighborhood of  $\beta X - X$ . This severely restricts the kinds of maps which can be shape equivalences of  $\beta X$  and allows us to draw several conclusions about such maps.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *Suppose that  $X$  is realcompact and connected and that  $f(\beta X) = Y$  is a shape equivalence. Then if  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = y$  with  $x_1 \neq x_2$ , then  $\{x_1, x_2\} \subset X$ .*



*Proof.* Suppose not and let  $f(\beta X) = Y$  be a shape equivalence with  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = y$  with  $x_1 \neq x_2$  and with  $x_1 \in \beta X - X$ . Then there is a map  $h: X \rightarrow R$  such that  $\beta h(x_1) \in \beta R - R$  and  $\beta h(x_2) = 0 \in R$ . If  $x_2 \in X$ , then it is straightforward to construct such an  $h$ . If  $x_2 \notin X$ , then such a map was shown to exist in the proof of Lemma 1.7. Now let  $\Sigma_a$  be any solenoid. Let  $p: R \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  be a map such that  $p(0) = 0 \in \Sigma_a$  and  $\beta p(\beta h(x_1)) = v$  cannot be connected by an arc to 0 in  $\Sigma_a$ . Such a map  $p$  exists by Lemma 1.6. Then let  $g: \beta X \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  be the Čech extension of the map  $p \circ h: X \rightarrow \Sigma_a$ . Then  $g(x_1) = v$  and  $g(x_2) = 0$ .

*Claim 1.* If  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  is any continuous map, then  $h \circ f$  cannot be homotopic to  $g$ .

*Proof of Claim 1.* This is the same as the proof of Claim 1 in the proof of Theorem 1.12.

*Claim 2.* Since  $f$  is a shape equivalence, there must be a map  $h: Y \rightarrow \Sigma_a$  such that  $h \circ f$  is homotopic to  $g$ .

*Proof of Claim 2.* This is the same as the proof of Claim 2 in the proof of Theorem 1.12.

Clearly Claim 1 and Claim 2 are contradictory. Thus we cannot have the situation assumed and Proposition 2.1 must be true.

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be realcompact and connected and suppose that  $f(\beta X) = Y$  is a shape equivalence. Then for any  $y \in Y$  with  $f^{-1}(y)$  nondegenerate  $f^{-1}(y) \subset X$ . Thus  $f|X$  must be a proper map onto  $f(X)$  and  $f|\beta X - X$  must be a homeomorphism with  $f(X) \cap f(\beta X - X) = \emptyset$ .*

The next theorem, which is the main result of this section, shows that not only is it true that  $f|\beta X - X$  is a homeomorphism, but  $f$  restricted to a neighborhood of  $\beta X - X$  must be a homeomorphism.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $X$  be realcompact and connected and suppose that  $f(\beta X) = Y$  is a shape equivalence. Let  $A = \{y \in Y | f^{-1}(y) \text{ is not a single point}\}$ . Then  $f^{-1}(A) \subset X$  and  $\text{cl}_X f^{-1}(A)$  is compact.*

*Proof.* The above corollary shows that  $f^{-1}(A) \subset X$ . We now set about to show that  $\text{cl}_X f^{-1}(A)$  is compact. The proof will be by contradiction. Suppose that  $B = f^{-1}(A)$  does not have compact closure in  $X$ . Then  $(\text{cl}_{\beta X} B) \cap (\beta X - X) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in \text{cl}_{\beta X} B$  with  $x \notin X$ . Since  $X$  is realcompact, there must be a map  $g: X \rightarrow R$  with  $\beta g(x) \in \beta R - R$ . Let  $b_i \in B$  be a sequence with  $|g(b_i)| \rightarrow \infty$ . Such a sequence exists since  $x \in \text{cl}_{\beta X} B$ . Now for each  $y \in Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(y)$  is compact. Thus  $f^{-1}(y) \cap$

$\{b_i\}$  is finite for each  $y \in Y$ . Thus, without any loss, we may assume that  $f(b_i) \neq f(b_j)$  for  $i \neq j$ . Since  $b_i \in B = f^{-1}(A)$  for each  $i$ , there must be a  $c_i \in B$  with  $c_i \neq b_i$  with  $f(c_i) = f(b_i)$ . Let  $\{c_i\}$  be a sequence of such points.

*Claim 1.* It must be that  $cl_{\beta X}\{b_i\} \cap cl_{\beta X}\{c_i\} = \emptyset$ .

*Proof of Claim 1.* By Corollary 2.2,  $f|X$  is a proper map onto  $f(X)$ . Since  $\{b_i\}$  is a closed discrete subset of  $X$ ,  $f(\{b_i\})$  must be closed and discrete in  $f(X)$ . But  $\{c_i\}$  is obtained by choosing one point out of  $f^{-1}(f(b_i))$  for each  $i$ . Thus,  $\{c_i\}$  must also be a closed discrete subset of  $X$ . Now since  $|g(b_i)| \rightarrow \infty$ , the set  $\{b_i\}$  must be  $C$ -embedded in  $X$ . Thus there is a continuous map  $k: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $k(b_i) = i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ . Let  $U_i$  be an open set in  $X$  containing  $b_i$  such that  $U_i \subset k^{-1}(i - \frac{1}{2}, i + \frac{1}{2})$  for each  $i$  and  $U_i \cap \{c_i\} = \emptyset$  for each  $i$ . Then  $\{U_i\}$  is a disjoint discrete collection in  $X$ . Let  $h: \bar{U}_i \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be defined so that  $h_i(b_i) = 1$  and  $h_i(\bar{U}_i - U_i) = 0$ . Define  $h: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $h|_{\bar{U}_i} = h_i$  and  $h(x) = 0$  for  $x \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} U_i$ . Then  $h|_{\{b_i\}} = 1$  and  $h|_{\{c_i\}} = 0$ . Thus  $cl_{\beta X}\{b_i\} \subset \beta h^{-1}(1)$  and  $cl_{\beta X}\{c_i\} \subset \beta h^{-1}(0)$ . Thus  $cl_{\beta X}\{b_i\} \cap cl_{\beta X}\{c_i\} = \emptyset$  and Claim 1 is established.

*Claim 2.* There is a point  $p \in cl_{\beta X}\{b_i\} - X$  and a point  $q \in cl_{\beta X}\{c_i\}$  such that  $f(p) = f(q)$ .

*Proof of Claim 2.* Let  $p \in cl_{\beta X}\{b_i\} - X$ . Let  $\{b_{i_n}\}$  be a subnet of the sequence  $\{b_i\}$  such that  $b_{i_n} \rightarrow p$ . Let  $\{c_{i_n}\}$  be a subnet of the net  $\{c_i\}$  such that  $\{c_{i_n}\}$  converges to some point  $q \in cl_{\beta X}\{c_i\}$ . Then  $b_{i_n} \rightarrow p$  and  $c_{i_n} \rightarrow q$ . Thus  $f(b_{i_n}) \rightarrow f(p)$  and  $f(c_{i_n}) \rightarrow f(q)$ . However,  $f(b_i) = f(c_i)$  for all  $i$  so that these two nets,  $\{f(b_{i_n})\}$  and  $\{f(c_{i_n})\}$  are identical. Thus  $f(p) = f(q)$ . This proves Claim 2.

The points  $p$  and  $q$  given by Claim 2 must have the property that  $p \neq q$  by Claim 1. However, this then contradicts Proposition 2.1. This completes the proof of Theorem 2.3.

We conclude this section by giving several applications of Theorem 2.3 and some examples.

**COROLLARY 2.4.** *Suppose that  $X$  is connected and realcompact and suppose that  $cX$  is a compactification of  $X$ . Let  $f: \beta X \rightarrow cX$  be the natural map induced by the identity map on  $X$ . Then if  $f$  is a shape equivalence, then  $f$  is a homeomorphism.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $f$  is a shape equivalence. Now  $X$  is dense in  $cX$  and consequently  $f(\beta X) = cX$ . According to Theorem 2.3 if  $A =$

$\{y \in cX \mid f^{-1}(y) \text{ is not a single point}\}$ , then  $f^{-1}(A) \subset X$ . However, by assumption  $f|X$  is the identity map. Thus  $A = \emptyset$  and  $f$  is a homeomorphism.

EXAMPLE 2.5. In this example we will show that we may have compactifications  $dX$  and  $cX$  and a natural map  $f: dX \rightarrow cX$  which is a shape equivalence and not a homeomorphism. Let  $n \geq 2$  and let  $I$  be a tame arc in  $S^n$ . Then  $R^n$  is homeomorphic to  $S^n - I$ . Also  $S^n$  is homeomorphic to the one-point compactification of  $R^n$ . Let the first compactification be denoted  $dX$  and the second  $cX$  with  $X = R^n$ . Let  $f: dX \rightarrow cX$  be defined by  $f(I) = \infty$  and  $f|R^n$  is a homeomorphism. Then  $f$  is a CE-map, and hence a shape equivalence. But  $f$  is not a homeomorphism.

EXAMPLE 2.6. Let  $L$  be the long line and  $I$  be the unit interval. Then let  $X = L \times I$ . Then  $\beta X = L \cup \{\omega_1\} \times I$  and this space has trivial shape. Let  $f(\beta X) = \{pt\}$ . Then  $f$  is a shape equivalence. Now  $X$  is not realcompact. This example shows that 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 are not true if the assumption that  $X$  is realcompact is dropped.

The last result of this section is that  $\beta X$  cannot have the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group.

THEOREM 2.7. *Let  $X$  be a connected realcompact space which is not compact. Then  $\beta X$  cannot have the shape of a compact connected abelian topological group.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\beta X$  has the same shape as the compact connected abelian topological group  $A$  and let  $f(\beta X) = A$  be a map which is a shape equivalence (see the proof of Corollary 1.13). Let  $B \subset A$  be a compact set containing all the elements  $y \in A$  with  $f^{-1}(y)$  not a single point and with  $f^{-1}(B) \subset X$ . Such a set  $B$  exists by Theorem 2.3. Let  $x \in f(\beta X - X)$ . Then there is an arc  $I$  containing  $x$  with  $I \subset A - B$ . Now we claim that such an arc cannot exist. Note that  $I \cap f(\beta X - X)$  is totally disconnected, otherwise  $\beta X - X$  would contain a nondegenerate arc which it does not. Thus  $X \cap f^{-1}(I)$  is dense in  $f^{-1}(I)$ . Let  $h: X \rightarrow R$  be a continuous function such that  $\beta h: \beta X \rightarrow \beta R$  takes  $y = f^{-1}(x)$  to a point in  $\beta R - R$ . But then  $\beta h(f^{-1})$  restricted to some subarc of  $I$  determines a path in  $\beta R$  joining some point of  $R$  to  $\beta h(y) \in \beta R - R$ . No such path exists in  $\beta R$  and consequently no such arc can exist in  $A - B$ . That is,  $B = A$  and the map  $f$  cannot be a shape

equivalence because we have a contradiction to Theorem 2.3. This proves Theorem 2.7.

**3. Realcompact spaces.** We conclude the paper with a remark about realcompact spaces. It is known that a metric space is realcompact if it is of nonmeasurable cardinality [1, 15.24, p. 232]. Also every Lindelöf space is realcompact [1, 8.2, p. 115]. We now give a simple proof that every paracompact space of nonmeasurable cardinality is also realcompact.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Every paracompact space of nonmeasurable cardinality is realcompact.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $X$  is a paracompact space of nonmeasurable cardinality. Let  $x \in \beta X - X$ . We must construct a continuous function  $f: X \rightarrow R$  such that the extension  $\beta f$  takes  $x$  to a point of  $\beta R - R$ . For each  $y \in X$  there is an open set  $U_y$  with  $y \in U_y$  and  $\text{cl}_{\beta X} U_y$  not containing the point  $x$ . For each  $y \in X$ , let  $U_y$  be chosen and let  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_y : y \in X\}$ .

Now every paracompact space is a uniform space with each open cover a member of the uniformity. Thus by [2, Theorem 14, p. 7] there is a continuous map  $g(X) = M$  with  $M$  a metric space such that every subset  $S$  of  $M$  with diameter less than 1 has the property that  $g^{-1}(S) \subset U_y$  for some  $y \in X$ .

*Claim.* If  $\beta g: \beta X \rightarrow \beta M$  is the Čech extension of  $g$ , then  $\beta g(x) \notin M$ .

*Proof of Claim.* Suppose that  $\beta g(x) \in M$ . Let  $S$  be the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -ball about  $\beta g(x)$ . Then there is a  $y \in X$  with  $g^{-1}(S) \subset U_y$ . Let  $h: M \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be such that  $h(\beta g(x)) = 1$  and  $h \equiv 0$  on the complement of  $S$ . Then  $h \circ g: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  has the property that  $h \circ g$  vanishes outside  $U_y$ . Thus  $\beta(h \circ g)$  vanishes outside  $\text{cl}_{\beta X} U_y$ . Thus  $\beta(h \circ g)(x) = 0$ . However, this contradicts the fact that  $\beta(h \circ g)(x) = \beta h \circ \beta g(x) = h(\beta g(x)) = 1$ . This proves the claim.

Now  $M$  must be of nonmeasurable cardinality since  $X$  is. Thus  $M$  is realcompact. Thus there must be a map  $h: M \rightarrow R$  such that  $\beta h(\beta g(x)) \in \beta R - R$ . But then  $h \circ g: X \rightarrow R$  is a map which has the property that  $\beta(h \circ g)(x) \in \beta R - R$ . Thus  $X$  must be realcompact. This proves Theorem 3.1.

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