

Light Open Mappings On Compact
 n -Manifolds Do Not Raise Dimension
And A
Proof Of The Hilbert-Smith Conjecture
by
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Suppose that M is a compact n -manifold and ϕ is a light open mapping of M onto a metric space Y . It is shown that $\dim Y = n$.

The symbol ρ is used for the metric on both M and Y . Recall that ϕ is light iff for each $x \in M$, $\phi^{-1}\phi(x)$ is totally disconnected.

The following lemma is crucial to defining certain coverings of M with distinguished families of open sets.

Lemma 1. *Suppose that ϕ is a light open mapping of a compact connected n -manifold M onto a metric space Y . For each $z \in Y$ and $\epsilon > 0$, there is a connected open set U such that*

- (1) $\text{diam } U < \epsilon$,
- (2) $z \in U$, and
- (3) $\phi^{-1}(U) = \bigcup_{i=1}^s U_i$ where s is a natural number such that
 - (a) U_i is a component of $\phi^{-1}(U)$ for each i , $1 \leq i \leq s$,
 - (b) $\bar{U}_i \cap \bar{U}_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and
 - (c) $\phi(U_i) = U$ for each i .

Proof. It follows from Whyburn's theory of light open mappings [5; p. 148] that for $\epsilon > 0$, there is a connected open set U such that (1) $\text{diam } U < \epsilon$, (2) $z \in U$, and (3) $\phi^{-1}(U)$

consists of a finite number of components U_1, U_2, \dots, U_s such that $\bar{U}_i \cap \bar{U}_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and $\phi(U_i) = U$ for each i .

Standing Hypothesis: In the following, M is a compact metric n -manifold. Suppose also that Y has a countable basis $Q = \{B_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ such that (1) for each i , B_i is connected and uniformly locally connected and (b) if H is any subcollection of Q and $\bigcap_{h \in H} h \neq \emptyset$, then $\bigcap_{h \in H} h$ is connected and uniformly locally connected (a consequence of a theorem due to Bing and Floyd [1]). All of the open sets used in Y below to construct coverings of Y are in Q . The metric ρ is chosen such that for each $\epsilon > 0$ and $x \in M$, $N_{\epsilon}(x)$, the ϵ -neighborhood of x , is connected. Similarly, for $y \in Y$, $N_{\epsilon}(y)$ is connected.

One can use the alternative below and assume that $n > 1$.

Alternative Standing Hypothesis: In the following, M is a compact metric n -manifold, $n > 1$. Suppose also that Y has a countable basis $Q = \{B_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ such that for each i , B_i is connected and has a connected boundary (a consequence of a Theorem of Jones [3]). All of the open sets used in Y below to construct coverings of Y are in Q . The metric ρ is chosen such that for each $\epsilon > 0$ and $x \in M$, $N_{\epsilon}(x)$, the ϵ -neighborhood of x , is connected. Similarly, for $y \in Y$, $N_{\epsilon}(y)$ is connected [5].

If one uses *The Alternative Standing Hypothesis*, then make note of the following:

It is known that light open mappings on compact metric 1-manifolds are finite-to-one and do not raise dimension [5]. Furthermore, light open mappings on compact metric n -manifolds do not lower dimension [4]. Consequently, if f is a light open mapping on a compact metric n -manifold M onto a metric space Y with $n > 1$, then Y does not have any local separating points and, hence, by the theorem of Jones [3] has a basis of connected open sets with connected boundaries.

Lemma 2. *Suppose that ϕ is a light open mapping of M onto Y and G is an open covering of Y . Then there exists a finite open covering R of Y which refines G such that*

- (1) if $y \in Y$, then there is $r \in R$ such that $y \in r$, $r \in Q$ where Q is the basis in The Standing Hypothesis, $\phi^{-1}(r) = r_1 \cup r_2 \cup \dots \cup r_q$, for some natural number q , such that for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, q$, r_i is a component of $\phi^{-1}(r)$, r_i maps onto r under ϕ , and $\overline{r_i} \cap \overline{r_j} = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and
- (2) R is irreducible.

Proof. Since Y is compact, use Lemma 1 to obtain a finite irreducible covering R of Y of sets r satisfying the conditions of the lemma.

Let $V^1 = \{c \mid c \text{ is a component of } \phi^{-1}(r) \text{ such that } r \in R = R^1\}$.

Definition. For each $r_i^1 \in R^1$, $\phi^{-1}(r_i^1) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{t_i^1} f_{ij}^1$ and $\{f_{ij}^1\}_{j=1}^{t_i^1} = F_i^1$ is called a *distinguished family of open sets* in V^1 where f_{ij}^1 is a component of $\phi^{-1}(r_i^1)$.

Construction Of U^1 Of Order $n + 1$ Which Star Refines V^1

List the distinguished families of V^1 as $F_1^1, F_2^1, \dots, F_{n_1}^1$ where the degenerate families, if any, are listed last in the ordering.

Recall from the Standing Hypothesis that Y has a countable basis Q with certain properties. Use Q to obtain a finite open star refinement $\hat{R} \subset Q$ of R^1 which covers Y such that each $r \in \hat{R}$ is connected and uniformly locally connected (ulc) and inherits certain other properties from Q .

Let $\hat{U}^1 = \{c \mid c \text{ is a component of } \phi^{-1}(r) \text{ where } r \in \hat{R}\}$. Clearly, \hat{U}^1 star refines V^1 . Recall also that if c is a component of $\phi^{-1}(r)$, then $\phi(c) = r$.

Construction Of U^1 Which Refines \hat{U}^1 In A Special Way

For any collection S of sets, let $\cup S$ be the union of sets in S and $\cap S$ be their intersection.

For each $y \in Y$, let $Q(y) = \{r \mid r \in \hat{R} \text{ and } y \in r\}$. There are at most a finite number of such sets distinct from each other. Order these sets as Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_{m_1} such that for $i < j$, $Q_i \neq Q_j$ and $\text{card } Q_i \geq \text{card } Q_j$. Let $O_i = \cap Q_i - \bigcup_{j < i} (\overline{\cap Q_j})$. For each i , $1 \leq i \leq m_1$, let

$B_{ir} = (\partial O_i) \cap \partial r$ where $r \in Q_i$ and $(\partial O_i) \cap \partial r \neq \emptyset$. There are at most a finite number of such non empty closed sets distinct from each other. Let B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{m_2} denote all those sets distinct from each other. For each i , $1 \leq i \leq m_2$, there is $r \in \hat{R}$ such that $\partial r \supset B_i$. Let $B = \bigcup_{i=1}^{m_2} B_i$. Clearly, $B = \bigcup_{r \in \hat{R}} \partial r$. For each $y \in B$, let $D(y) = \{B_t \mid y \in B_t\}$. There are at most a finite number of such non empty sets distinct from each other. Order these as D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{m_3} such that if $i < j$, then $D_i \neq D_j$ and $\text{card } D_i \geq \text{card } D_j$.

It follows from the definition that $\phi^{-1}(B)$ is closed and contains no open set. Hence, $\text{dimension } \phi^{-1}(B) \leq n - 1$.

Let $e = (\frac{1}{4})\{\min\{\rho(\cap D_i, \cap D_j) \mid (\cap D_i) \cap (\cap D_j) = \emptyset\}$ and ϵ , the Lebesgue number of the covering \hat{R} of $Y\}$.

Observe that if $B_s \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^k D_i$, then $B_s \cap (\cap D_i) = \emptyset$ for $1 \leq i \leq k$; otherwise, $\text{card}(B_s \cup D_i) > \text{card } D_i$ and $B_s \in D_j$ for some j , $1 \leq j < i$.

Note: A finite open covering C of a closed subset N of M such that $\dim N = n - 1$ where the elements of C are open relative to N and order $C = n$ can be extended to a collection C' of open sets in M such that $\text{card } C = \text{card } C'$, C' covers M and order $C' = n$. See [6]. The open coverings below of subsets N of M such that $\dim N \leq n - 1$ consist of open subsets of M .

Let $\{D_{1_i}\}_{i=1}^{q_1}$ be the collection of all D_t such that $\text{card } D_t = c_1 = \text{card } D_1$ (maximum cardinality). Observe that $(\cap D_{1_i}) \cap (\cap D_{1_j}) = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$.

Cover $\phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_1} (\cap D_{1_i})\right)$ with a finite irreducible open covering H_1 such that

- (1) if $h \in H_1$, then $\text{diam } \phi(h) < e$,
- (2) H_1 star refines \hat{U}^1 and $\phi(H_1) = \{\phi(h) \mid h \in H_1\}$ star refines \hat{R} ,
- (3) if H_{1_i} is the subcollection of H_1 which covers $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{1_i})$ irreducibly, then $\overline{\cup H_{1_i}} \cap \overline{\cup H_{1_j}} = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and
- (4) if for each i , $1 \leq i \leq q_1$, $h \in H_{1_i}$, $w \in H_{1_i}$, and $u \in \hat{U}^1$ such that
 - (a) $\phi(h) \cap \phi(u) \neq \emptyset$,

(b) $\phi(h) \cap \phi(w) \neq \emptyset$, and

(c) $B_s \notin D_{1_i}$ for all B_s such that $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_s$ (alternatively, $\phi(u) \cap (\cap D_{1_i}) \neq \emptyset$),
then $\phi(u) \supset \phi(h) \cup \phi(w)$.

Now, (1) and (2) should be clear.

To see (3), observe that if $i \neq j$, then $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{1_i})$ and $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{1_j})$ are disjoint compact sets.

To see (4), assume the hypothesis of (4). For each $h \in H_{1_i}$ there exists $y \in \phi(h) \cap (\cap D_{1_i})$. It follows from (1) that $N_e(y) \supset \phi(h)$. Since $B_s \notin D_{1_i}$, $\rho(\cap D_{1_i}, B_s) > 4e$. Thus, $\phi(u) \supset N_{4e}(y)$ since $N_{4e}(y)$ is connected. Also, $\text{diam } \phi(w) < e$ and $\phi(w) \cap \phi(h) \neq \emptyset$. Hence, $\phi(u) \supset \phi(h) \cup \phi(w)$ since $\phi(u) \supset N_{4e}(y) \supset \phi(h) \cup \phi(w)$.

Let c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{m_4} denote the cardinal numbers (distinct from each other) of the cardinality of the collections D_t , $1 \leq t \leq m_3$, such that $c_i > c_{i+1}$ for $1 \leq i < m_4$.

Let $\{D_{i_j}\}_{j=1}^{q_i}$ denote the collection of all D_t such that $\text{card } D_t = c_i$. If H_{j-1} has been defined, let $\epsilon_j > 0$ be such that $\epsilon_j < (\frac{1}{4}) \min\{e, \epsilon_{j-1}, \delta_t, 1 \leq t < j, \text{ where } \delta_t = (\frac{1}{4}) \left\{ \min \left\{ \rho \left(\cap D_{t_i}, Y - \bigcup_{s=1}^{t-1} \phi(\cup H_s) \right) \middle| 1 \leq i \leq q_t \right\} \text{ and } \min \left\{ \rho \left(\cap D_{i_a} - \bigcup_{s=1}^{t-1} \phi(\cup H_s), \cap D_{j_b} - \bigcup_{s=1}^{t-1} \phi(\cup H_s) \right) \middle| \left(\cap D_{i_a} - \bigcup_{s=1}^{t-1} \phi(\cup H_s) \right) \cap \left(\cap D_{j_b} - \bigcup_{s=1}^{t-1} \phi(\cup H_s) \right) = \emptyset \right\} \right\}$. Let H_j be a finite irreducible open covering of $\phi^{-1} \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_j} (\cap D_{j_i}) \right) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} (\cup H_t)$ such that

(1) if $h \in H_j$, then $\text{diam } \phi(h) < \epsilon_j$ and $\phi(h) \cap \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_{j-1}} (\cap D_{(j-1)_i}) \right) = \emptyset$,

(2) H_j star refines \hat{U}^1 and $\phi(H_j) = \{\phi(h) \mid h \in H_j\}$ star refines $\phi(\hat{U}^1) = \hat{R}$,

(3) if H_{j_i} is the subcollection of H_j which covers $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{j_i}) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} (\cup H_t)$ irreducibly,

then $\overline{\cup H_{j_i}} \cap \overline{\cup H_{j_s}} = \emptyset$ for $i \neq s$, and

(4) if for each i , $1 \leq i \leq q_i$, $h \in H_{j_i}$, $w_1 \in H_{j_i}$, $w_2 \in H_{j_i}$, and $u \in \hat{U}^1$ such that

(a) $\phi(h) \cap \phi(u) \neq \emptyset$,

(b) $\phi(h) \cap \phi(w_1) \neq \emptyset$,

(c) $\phi(w_1) \cap \phi(w_2) \neq \emptyset$, and

(d) $B_s \notin D_{j_i}$ for all B_s such that $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_s$ (alternatively, $\phi(u) \cap \left(\cap D_{j_i} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} \phi(\cup H_t) \right) \neq \emptyset$); then $\phi(u) \supset \phi(h) \cup \phi(w_1) \cup \phi(w_2)$.

To see (3), observe that if $i \neq s$, then $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{j_i}) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} (\cup H_t)$ and $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{j_s}) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} (\cup H_t)$ are disjoint compact sets.

To see (4), assume the hypothesis of (4). Since $h \in H_{j_i}$, it follows that there is $z \in \phi(h) \cap \left(\cap D_{j_i} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} \phi(\cup H_t) \right)$. Now, $\rho \left(\cap D_{j_i} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} \phi(\cup H_t), \partial\phi(u) \right) > 4\epsilon_j$. Either (a) $\phi(u) \supset N_{4\epsilon_j}(z)$ or (b) $Y - \overline{\phi(u)} \supset N_{4\epsilon_j}(z)$ since $N_{4\epsilon_j}(z)$ is connected. Since $\phi(u) \cap \phi(h) \neq \emptyset$ and $\text{diam } \phi(h) < \epsilon_j$, it follows that $\phi(u) \supset N_{4\epsilon_j}(z)$ and $\phi(u) \supset \phi(h)$. By hypothesis, $\text{diam } \phi(w_i) < \epsilon_j$, $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Hence, $\phi(u) \supset \phi(h) \cup \phi(w_1) \cup \phi(w_2)$.

It follows by mathematical induction that $H = \bigcup_{i=1}^{m_4} H_i$ exists which covers $\phi^{-1}(B)$ irreducibly such that

(1) if $h \in H_j$, then $\text{diam } \phi(h) < \epsilon_j$, $\phi(h) \cap \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_j-1} (D_{(j-1)_i}) \right) = \emptyset$,

(2) for each i , $1 < i \leq m_4$, H_i is an irreducible open covering of $\phi^{-1} \left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{q_i} (\cap D_{i_j}) \right) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{i-1} (\cup H_t)$ and H_1 is an irreducible open covering of $\phi^{-1} \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_1} (\cap D_{1_i}) \right)$,

(3) H_j star refines \hat{U}^1 and $\phi(H_j)$ star refines $\phi(\hat{U}^1) = \hat{R}$,

(4) if H_{j_i} is the subcollection of H_j which covers $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{j_i}) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} (\cup H_t)$, then $\overline{\cup H_{j_i}} \cap \overline{\cup H_{j_s}} = \emptyset$ for $i \neq s$, and

(5) if for each i , $1 \leq i \leq q_j$, $h \in H_{j_i}$, $w_1 \in H_t$, $j \leq t \leq m_4$, $w_2 \in H_s$, $j \leq s \leq m_4$, and $u \in \hat{U}^1$ such that

(a) $\phi(h) \cap \phi(u) \neq \emptyset$,

(b) $\phi(h) \cap \phi(w_1) \neq \emptyset$,

(c) $\phi(w_1) \cap \phi(w_2) \neq \emptyset$, and

- (d) $B_s \notin D_{j_i}$ for all B_s such that $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_s$ (alternatively, $\phi(u) \cap \left(\cap D_{j_i} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{j-1} \phi(\cup H_t) \right) \neq \emptyset$; then $\phi(u) \supset \phi(h) \cup \phi(w_1) \cup \phi(w_2)$.

It should be clear from the arguments above how to obtain properties (1)-(5).

The next step is to shrink H to H' which has order n and retains Properties (1)-(5).

Order the elements of H as $\{h_{11}, h_{12}, \dots, h_{1x_1}; h_{21}, h_{22}, \dots, h_{2x_2}; \dots, h_{m_41}, h_{m_42}, \dots, h_{m_4x_{m_4}}\}$

where the elements of H_i are ordered before the elements of H_{i+1} , $1 \leq i < m_4$. A corollary to a Theorem [10; p. 90] states that: A metric space (X, d) has covering dimension $\leq n$ if and only if X has a sequence $\{G_i\}$ such that (1) for each i , G_i is an open covering of X , (2) for each i , G_{i+1} refines G_i , and (3) $\{\text{mesh } G_i\} \rightarrow 0$. It follows that if (X, d) is a compact metric space with $\dim X \leq n$ and Q is any finite irreducible covering of X , then there is a natural number i such that G_i refines Q where $\{G_i\}$ is the sequence in the statement above from [10].

Now, $\dim \phi^{-1}(B) \leq n - 1$. Using [10], it follows that there exists a finite irreducible open covering $G = \{g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m\}$ of $\phi^{-1}(B)$ (the elements of G are open in M) with sufficiently small mesh such that

- (1) the subcollection G_1 of G which covers $\phi^{-1}(B) \cap \left(\cup H_1 - \bigcup_{j=1}^{m_4} (\cup H_j) \right)$ refines H_1 ,
- (2) if $i > 1$, then the subcollection G_2 of G which covers $\left(\phi^{-1} \left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{q_i} (\cap D_{i_j}) \right) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{i-1} (\cup G_t) \right) - \bigcup_{j=i+1}^{m_4} (\cup H_j)$ [where $\bigcup_{j=i+1}^{m_4} (\cup H_j) = \emptyset$ when $i = m_4$] refines H_i ,
- (3) for each i and k , there is some j such that $h_{ki} \supset g_j$ and $h_{st} \not\supset g_j$ for any ordered pair $(s, t) \neq (k, i)$ (this follows using the irreducibility of H), and
- (4) order $G \leq n$.

Let h'_{11} be the union of all g_i such that $h_{11} \supset g_i$ and let h'_{1i} be the union of all g_j such that $h_{1i} \supset g_j$ and $h_{1t} \not\supset g_j$ for $1 \leq t < i$, that is, $h'_{1t} \not\supset g_j$. It follows that $H'_1 =$

$\{h'_{11}, h'_{12}, \dots, h'_{1q_1}\}$ is an irreducible open cover of $\phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_1} \cap D_{1_i}\right)$. Continue. Let h'_{21} be the union of all g_i such that $h_{21} \supset g_i$ and $h_{1t} \not\supset g_i$, $1 \leq t \leq q_1$. For each i , $1 < i \leq q_2$, let h'_{2i} be the union of all g_j such that $h_{2i} \supset g_j$, $h_{1t} \not\supset g_j$, $1 \leq t \leq q_1$, and $h_{2t} \not\supset g_j$ for $1 \leq t < i$. It follows that $H'_2 = \{h'_{21}, h'_{22}, \dots, h'_{2q_2}\}$ is an irreducible open cover of $\phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_2} \cap D_{2_i}\right) - \cup H'_1$. To see that H'_2 covers $\phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{q_2} \cap D_{2_i}\right) - \cup H'_1$ suppose that there is some x in this set such that $x \notin h'_{2t}$ for any t , $1 \leq t \leq q_2$. By Property (2) above, G_2 refines H_2 and covers $\left(\phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{q_2} (\cap D_{2j})\right) - \cup G_1\right) - \bigcup_{j=2}^{m_4} (\cup H_j)$. Now, if $x \in g \in G_1$, then $x \in h_{1s}$ for some s since G_1 refines H_1 and covers $\phi^{-1}(B) \cap \left(\cup H_1 - \bigcup_{j=1}^{m_4} (\cup H_j)\right)$. Hence, $x \notin g$ for any $g \in G_1$. Recall that $\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{m_4} \cup H_j\right) \cap \phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{q_2} (\cap D_{2j})\right) = \emptyset$. Thus, by definition of G_2 , $x \in g$ for some $g \in G_2$ and, consequently, $x \in h_{2t}$ for some t since G_2 refines H_2 . That is, there is a smallest t such that $h_{2t} \supset g$. It can be shown in a similar way that for each i , $1 \leq i \leq m_4$, H'_i covers $\phi^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{q_i} D_{i_j}\right) - \bigcup_{t=1}^{i-1} (\cup H'_t)$. Let $H' = \bigcup_{i=1}^{m_4} H'_i$. Clearly, order $H' \leq n$ since order $G \leq n$ and no member of G is in two different elements of H'_t , $1 \leq t \leq m_4$. This is similar to a theorem of Nagata in [4].

It is not difficult to see that Properties (1)-(5) are true where H'_i replaces H_i , $1 \leq i \leq m_4$. For convenience of notation, suppose that Properties (1)-(5) are true for H_i as stated above.

Shrinking the elements of H_i as above does not violate any of the other properties.

Recall the definition of Q_i and $O_i = \cap Q_i - \bigcup_{j < i} (\overline{\cap Q_j})$. Let $Q_i = \{r_{it}\}_{t=1}^{x_i}$. For all possible selections of components c_{ijt} of $\phi^{-1}(r_{it})$ such that $\bigcap_{t=1}^{x_i} c_{ijt} \neq \emptyset$, consider $\phi^{-1}(O_i) \cap \left(\bigcap_{t=1}^{x_i} c_{ijt}\right)$ to be an element of O . The collection O of all such open sets distinct

from each other is a pairwise disjoint collection which covers $M - \phi^{-1}(B) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{m_1} \phi^{-1}(O_i)$.

Let $U^1 = O \cup H$. Observe that U^1 is a finite irreducible open covering of M which star refines V^1 and order $U^1 = n + 1$. Also, H has Properties (1)-(6) as listed above.

Construction of V^2 Which Star Refines U^1

Next, construct V^2 . For each $y \in Y$, define $\hat{U}(y) = \{u \mid u \in \hat{U}^1 \text{ and } y \in \phi(u)\}$. There is some s , $1 \leq s \leq z_1$, such that $r_s^1 \supset \bigcup_{u \in \hat{U}(y)} \overline{\phi(u)}$ where $R^1 = \{r_1^1, r_2^1, \dots, r_{z_1}^1\}$.

For each $y \in B$, choose $r_y^2 \in Q$ (the basis for Y described above) such that

- (1) $y \in r_y^2$,
- (2) if $U^1(y) = \{u \mid u \in U^1 \text{ and } u \cap \phi^{-1}(y) \neq \emptyset\}$ (that is, $U^1(y)$ covers $\phi^{-1}(y)$), then

$$\left(\bigcap_{u \in U^1(y)} \phi(u) \right) \cap \left(\bigcap_{u \in \hat{U}(y)} \phi(u) \right) \supset \bar{r}_y^2,$$
- (3) $\text{diam } r_y^2 < (\frac{1}{8}) \min\{\rho(y, \partial\phi(v)) \mid v \in \hat{U}^1 \text{ and } y \notin \partial\phi(v)\}$,
- (4) $\phi^{-1}(r_y^2) = r_{y_1}^2 \cup r_{y_2}^2 \cup \dots \cup r_{y_q}^2$, $r_{y_i}^2$ maps onto r_y^2 under ϕ , and $\bar{r}_{y_i}^2 \cap \bar{r}_{y_j}^2 = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and
- (5) if $u \in U^1(y)$, then there exists a component c of $\phi^{-1}(r_y^2)$ such that $u \supset \bar{c}$ and $\text{diam } \bar{c} < (\frac{1}{4})\rho(\bar{c}, \partial u)$ and for each component k of $\phi^{-1}(r_y^2)$, there is some $v \in U^1(y)$ such that $v \supset \bar{k}$ and $\text{diam } \bar{k} < (\frac{1}{4})\rho(\bar{k}, \partial v)$.

Observe that Property (4) follows from either Lemma 1 or [5; p. 148].

Note that Property (5) may be obtained by using [9; p. 78, Theorem (1.3)]. First, fix $x(u) \in u$ for each $u \in U^1(y)$. Choose $\delta > 0$ such that (a) $\delta < (\frac{1}{4}) \min\{\rho(x(u), \partial u) \mid u \in U^1(y)\}$ and (b) if $x \in \phi^{-1}(y)$, then there is some $v \in U^1(y)$ such that $x \in v$ and $\rho(x, \partial v) < 4\delta$. By [9; p. 78, Theorem (1.3)], it follows that r_y^2 can be chosen with sufficiently small diameter such that for each component c of $\phi^{-1}(r_y^2)$, $\text{diam } \bar{c} < \delta$. Hence, if $c_{x(u)}$ is the component of $\phi^{-1}(r_y^2)$ which contains $x(u)$, then (a) $u \supset \bar{c}_{x(u)}$, (b) $\text{diam } \bar{c}_{x(u)} < (\frac{1}{4})\rho(c_{x(u)}, \partial u)$, and (c) if k is a component of $\phi^{-1}(r_y^2)$, then there is $v \in U^1(y)$ such that $v \supset \bar{k}$ and $\text{diam } \bar{k} < (\frac{1}{4})\rho(\bar{k}, \partial v)$.

Let R_1^2 denote a finite irreducible collection of such sets r_y^2 which covers B . If $y \in Y$ and $y \notin \cup R_1^2$, then choose r_y^2 satisfying (1)-(5) above such that $\bar{r}_y \cap B = \emptyset$ and let R_2^2 denote a finite irreducible cover of $Y - (\cup R_1^2)$, consisting of such r_y^2 . Let $R^2 = R_1^2 \cup R_2^2$ which is an irreducible cover of Y .

Define $V^2 = \{c \mid c \text{ is a component of } \phi^{-1}(r_{y_i}^2) \text{ for some } i, \text{ where } r_{y_i}^2 \in R_1^2 \cup R_2^2\}$, which is an irreducible cover of M . Observe that Property (5) implies that V^2 star refines U^1 . Now U^1 is constructed so that U^1 refines \hat{U}^1 which star refines V^1 . Hence, U^1 star refines V^1 . The collection of components, $\{f_{ij}^2\}_{j=1}^{t_i^2}$, of $\phi^{-1}(r_{y_i}^2)$, $r_{y_i}^2 \in R_1^2 \cup R_2^2$, is a distinguished family in V^2 .

Definitions Of α_1 , β_1 , And $\pi_1 = \beta_1 \alpha_1$

Case (1): $y_i \in B$.

Take any $r_i^2 = r_{y_i}^2 \in R_1^2$ chosen for $y_i \in B$. Let $F_i^2 = \{f_{ij}^2\}_{j=1}^{t_i^2}$ be the distinguished family in V^2 generated by $r_{y_i}^2$.

Definition of e_{y_i} for $y_i \in B$

Let $e_{y_i} = \min\{t \mid y_i \in \phi(\cup H_{t_q}) \text{ for some unique } q\}$.

Now, $H_{(e_{y_i})_q} \subset H_{e_{y_i}}$ and $H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ covers $\phi^{-1}(\cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q}) - \bigcup_{s=1}^{e_{y_i}-1} H_s$ irreducibly. Either (a) $\phi^{-1}(y_i)$ is covered by $H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ or (b) $\phi^{-1}(y_i)$ is not covered by $H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$.

Case (a): By the choice of $r_{y_i}^2$ which generates F_i^2 , it follows that for each j , $1 \leq j \leq t_i^2$, there is $U_{ij} \in H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ such that $U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$. This follows from Property (5) above. In this case, there is no $u \in O$ such that $u \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$.

Case (b): For some j , $1 \leq j \leq t_i^2$, choose $U_{ij} \in H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ if possible such that $U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$; if not, then choose $U_{ij} \in H_t$ for the smallest t (where, of course, $t > e_{y_i}$) such that $U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$. By definition of e_{y_i} , there is some $u \in H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ such that $u \cap \phi^{-1}(y_i) \neq \emptyset$. By Property (5), there is some t , $1 \leq t \leq t_i^2$, such that $u = U_{it} \supset \bar{f}_{it}^2$. If there is no $U_{ij} \in H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ such that $U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$, then clearly there is $u = U_{ij} \in U^1(y_i) \subset H$ such that

$U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$ by Property (5) above. Now, $U_{ij} \in H_t \subset H$ for the smallest subscript t . By the definition of e_{y_i} , it follows that $t > e_{y_i}$.

Definition of d_{y_i} for $y_i \in B$

Let $d_{y_i} = \min\{j \mid D_{jt} \supset D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ for the smallest $t\}$.

If $y_i \notin B$, then neither e_{y_i} nor d_{y_i} is defined.

Definition of $\hat{V}(y_i)$

If $y_i \notin B$, then $\hat{V}(y_i) = \hat{U}(y_i)$. For $y_i \in B$, let $\hat{V}(y_i) = \{u \mid u \in \hat{U}^1 \text{ and } \phi(u) \supset \cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}\}$.

Property P

If $y_i \in B$, then $\hat{V}(y_i) \neq \emptyset$ and if $u \in \hat{V}(y_i)$, then

$$(1) \quad u \in \hat{U}(y_i), \text{ that is, } \hat{U}(y_i) \supset \hat{V}(y_i),$$

$$(2) \quad \phi(u) \supset \bigcup_{s=1}^{t_i^2} \phi(U_{is}),$$

$$(3) \quad \phi(u) \supset \cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t},$$

$$(4) \quad \overline{\phi(u)} \supset \cup D_{(d_{y_i})_t},$$

$$(5) \quad \overline{\phi(u)} \supset \cup D_{(e_{y_i})_q}, \text{ and}$$

$$(6) \quad \phi(u) \supset \cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{e_{y_i}-1} \phi(\cup H_t).$$

Proof. Recall that $e_{y_i} = \min\{t \mid y_i \in \phi(\cup H_{t_q}) \text{ for some } q\}$, $d_{y_i} = \min\{j \mid D_{jt} \supset D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ for the smallest t , and $\hat{V}(y_i) = \{u \mid u \in \hat{U}^1 \text{ and } \phi(u) \supset \cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}\}$.

Take $u \in \hat{U}^1$ such that $\phi(u) \cap (\cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}) \neq \emptyset$. It follows that $B_a \notin D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$ for each B_a such that $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_a$. To see this, suppose that $\partial\phi(u) \cap (\cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}) \neq \emptyset$. Then there exists B_x such that $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_x$ and $B_x \cap (\cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}) \neq \emptyset$. There exists $c < d_{y_i}$ such that $D_{c_s} \supset D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$ for some unique s where $B_x \in D_{c_s}$. This contradicts the choice of d_{y_i} since $D_{c_s} \supset D_{(d_{y_i})_t} \supset D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$. Hence, $B_a \notin D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$ as claimed.

For any $B_x \in D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$, $B_x = B_{jr} = (\partial O_j) \cap \partial r$ where $r \in Q_j$ for some j , $\phi(u) \supset O_j$, and $\phi(u) \in Q_j$. Thus, $\overline{\phi(u)} \supset \cup D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$ and $\phi(u) \supset \cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$ since $\partial\phi(u) \cap (\cap D_{(d_{y_i})_t}) = \emptyset$.

This establishes (3), (4), and (5) since $D_{(d_{y_i})_t} \supset D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$.

Take any such u as above. It follows that $\overline{\phi(u)} \supset \cup D_{(e_{y_i})_t}$. Observe that if $B_s \cap (\cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q}) \neq \emptyset$, $B_s \notin D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$, and $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_s$, then $B_s \in D_{a_m}$ for some $a < e_{y_i}$ and the smallest m . Thus, $\bigcup_{t=1}^{e_{y_i}-1} \phi(\cup H_t) \supset \cap D_{a_m}$. Note also that $B_s \in D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$.

Now, $B_a \notin D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ for each B_a such that $\partial\phi(u) \supset B_a$. Consequently, $\phi(u) \supset \cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{e_{y_i}-1} \phi(\cup H_t)$. Hence, (6) is established.

There is x , $1 \leq x \leq t_i^2$, such that $U_{ix} \in H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$. Hence, $\phi(u) \cap \phi(U_{ix}) \neq \emptyset$ since $\phi(U_{ix}) \cap \left(\cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q} - \bigcup_{t=1}^{e_{y_i}-1} \phi(\cup H_t) \right) \neq \emptyset$. Take any U_{iz} , $1 \leq z \leq t_i^2$. Let $h = U_{ix}$, $w_1 = w_2 = U_{iz} \in H_s$, $e_{y_i} \leq s \leq m_4$. Also, $y_i \in \phi(U_{ix}) \cap \phi(U_{iz})$. By Property (5) of H , $\phi(u) \supset \phi(U_{ix}) \cup \phi(U_{iz})$ and $\phi(u) \supset \bigcup_{t=1}^{t_i^2} \phi(U_{it})$. It follows that $y_i \in \phi(u)$ and $u \in \hat{U}(y_i)$. Thus, $\hat{V}(y_i)$ exists and $\hat{U}(y_i) \supset \hat{V}(y_i)$. Hence, (1) and (2) are true and Property P is established.

Definition of s_i for $y_i \in B$

Let $s_i = \min\{s \mid r_s^1 \supset \overline{\phi(u)} \text{ for all } u \in \hat{V}(y_i)\}$. Take $F_{s_i}^1 = \{f_{s_i j}^1\}_{j=1}^{t_{s_i}^1}$ for the given F_i^2 . Each $f_{ij}^2 \in F_i^2$ is in one and only one member of $F_{s_i}^1$, say $f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1$. To see that there is a unique z_{ij} , $1 \leq z_{ij} \leq t_{s_i}^1$, such that $f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1 \supset U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$, recall that U^1 star refines \hat{U}^1 , that \hat{U}^1 star refines V^1 , the definition of $U(y_i)$, and Property (2) in the construction of V^2 . Since $\bigcup_{u \in \hat{V}(y_i)} \overline{\phi(u)} \subset r_{s_i}^1$, $r_{s_i}^1 \in R^1$, $\bigcap_{u \in U(y_i)} \phi(u) \supset \bar{r}_{y_i}^2$, $\bigcap_{u \in \hat{U}(y_i)} \phi(u) \supset \bar{r}_{y_i}^2$, $r_{y_i}^2 \in R^2$, and $U_{ij} \supset \bar{f}_{ij}^2$, we have $r_{s_i}^1 \supset \phi(U_{ij})$ and $f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1 \supset U_{ij}$ for some unique z_{ij} .

Observe that the chosen collection $\{U_{ij}\}_{j=1}^{t_i^2}$ has the property that $U_{ij} \in H_t$ where $t \geq e_{y_i}$.

Let $\alpha_1(f_{ij}^2) = U_{ij}$, $\beta_1(U_{ij}) = f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1$, and $\pi_1(f_{ij}^2) = \beta_1 \alpha_1(f_{ij}^2) = f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1$.

Case (2): $y_i \notin B$.

Take $r_{y_i}^2 \in R_2^2$; here $y_i \notin B$ and $r_{y_i}^2$ generates $F_i^2 = \{f_{ij}^2\}_{j=1}^{t_i^2}$ in V^2 . Let $s_i = \min\{s \mid$

$r_s^1 \supset \bigcup_{u \in \hat{U}(y_i)} \overline{\phi(u)}$. Take $F_{s_i}^1 = \{f_{s_i j}^1\}_{j=1}^{t_{s_i}^1}$ for the given F_i^2 , then $\phi(f_{s_i j}^1) \supset \bigcup_{u \in \hat{U}(y_i)} \overline{\phi(u)}$.

For each j , $1 \leq j \leq t_i^2$, choose $U_{ij} \in O \subset U^1$ such that $U_{ij} \supset f_{ij}^2$ (there is such a U_{ij} by Property (2) of $r_{y_i}^2$ in the construction of V^2 above). Then $U_{ij} \in U(y_i)$ and there is a unique z_{ij} , $1 \leq z_{ij} \leq t_{s_i}^1$, such that $f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1 \supset U_{ij} \supset f_{ij}^2$. Let $\alpha_1(f_{ij}^2) = U_{ij}$, $\beta_1(U_{ij}) = f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1$, and $\pi_1(f_{ij}^2) = \beta_1 \alpha_1(f_{ij}^2) = f_{s_i z_{ij}}^1$.

It will be shown now that the mappings α_1 and β_1 are well defined.

We fix the choice of open sets in U^1 , which are images of elements of V^2 under the mapping α_1 , and the question is: whether the definition of β_1 is correct (well defined)?

Suppose that β_1 is not well defined and there exist F_i^2 and F_k^2 , two different distinguished families in V^2 such that (a) $s_i \neq s_k$ (if $s_i = s_k$, then β_1 is well defined), $F_{s_i}^1$ is chosen for F_i^2 , $F_{s_k}^1$ is chosen for F_k^2 , and (b) $U_{ij} = U_{kt} \supset f_{ij}^2 \cup f_{kt}^2$ where $F_i^2 = \{f_{ij}^2\}_{j=1}^{t_i^2}$, $F_k^2 = \{f_{kj}^2\}_{j=1}^{t_k^2}$, where for some j , $1 \leq j \leq t_i^2$, $U_{ij} \in U^1$ is chosen such that $U_{ij} \supset \overline{f_{ij}^2}$, and for some t , $1 \leq t \leq t_k^2$, $U_{kt} = U_{ij} \in U^1$ is chosen such that $U_{kt} \supset \overline{f_{kt}^2}$ as described above.

Case A: $U_{ij} = U_{kt} \in O \subset U^1$. Then $y_i \notin B$ and $y_k \notin B$. Indeed, $y_i \in O_m$ and $y_k \in O_m$ for some m , $1 \leq m \leq n_1$. In this case, it follows from the definition of O that for each $u \in \hat{U}(y_i)$, $\phi(u) \supset O_m$ and for each $v \in \hat{U}(y_k)$, $\phi(v) \supset O_m$. Thus, $\hat{U}(y_i) = \hat{U}(y_k) = \hat{V}(y_i) = \hat{V}(y_k)$, and $s_i = s_k$ contrary to the assumption above.

Case B: $U_{ij} = U_{kt} \in H \subset U^1$, $y_i \in B$, and $y_k \in B$.

There is x , $1 \leq x \leq t_i^2$, such that $U_{ix} \in H_{(e_{y_i})_q}$ and there is z , $1 \leq z \leq t_k^2$, such that $U_{kz} \in H_{(e_{y_k})_s}$. Since $U_{ij} = U_{kt}$, $y_i \in \phi(U_{ij}) \cap \phi(U_{ix})$ and $y_k \in \phi(U_{kt}) \cap \phi(U_{kz})$. Now, $\rho(\cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q}, \cap D_{(e_{y_k})_s}) < e$ since $\text{diam } \phi(U_{ix}) < \frac{1}{4e}$, $\text{diam } \phi(U_{ij}) < \frac{1}{4e}$, and $\text{diam } \phi(U_{kz}) < \frac{1}{4e}$. Consequently, $(\cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q}) \cap (\cap D_{(e_{y_k})_s}) \neq \emptyset$ by the definition of e . Observe that $D_{(d_{y_i})_t}$ is the collection of maximal cardinality d_{y_i} that contains $D_{e(y_i)_q}$ with the smallest subscript t as all those collections of cardinality d_{y_i} are ordered) and $D_{(d_{y_k})_r}$ is the collection of maximal cardinality d_{y_k} that contains $D_{(e_{y_k})_s}$ with smallest subscript r .

Since $(\cap D_{(e_{y_i})_q}) \cap (D_{(e_{y_k})_s}) \neq \emptyset$, $D_{(d_{y_i})_t} \supset D_{(e_{y_k})_s}$, and $D_{(d_{y_k})_r} \supset D_{(e_{y_i})_q}$, it follows that $d_{y_i} = d_{y_k}$ and $t = r$.

Clearly, $\hat{V}(y_i) = \hat{V}(y_k)$ by the definitions of $\hat{V}(y_i)$ and $\hat{V}(y_k)$. Consequently, $s_i = s_k$ contrary to the assumption above.

Case C: $y_i \notin B$ and $y_k \in B$.

Note that if $y_i \notin B$, then $U_{ij} \notin H$ and if $y_k \in B$, then $U_{kt} \in H$. Thus, $U_{ij} \neq U_{kt}$.

It should be clear that α_1 and β_1 are well defined.

Clearly, β_1 is defined on U^1 since U^1 is irreducible and V^2 refines U^1 . Observe that π_1 maps distinguished families onto distinguished families.

The Dimension of Y is n

For each i , let Z_{s_i} denote the union of all F_i^2 , distinguished families in V^2 , such that $F_{s_i}^1$ is chosen for F_i^2 as described above. That is, $\pi_1(F_i^2) = F_{s_i}^1$. Observe that $\phi^{-1}\phi(Z_{s_i}) = Z_{s_i}$.

Claim: The order $\{Z_{s_i}\}_{i=1}^{\text{card } R^2} \leq n+1$. Let $x \in \bigcap_{j=1}^m Z_{s_{i_j}}$ where $s_{i_j} \neq s_{i_k}$, $k \neq j$. Now, for each i_j , $x \in f_{i_j t_j}^2 \subset U_{i_j t_j} = \alpha_1(f_{i_j t_j}^2)$. By the well definedness of β_1 , $U_{i_j t_j} \neq U_{i_k t_k}$ for $j \neq k$. Since $U_{i_j t_j} \in U^1$ and order $U^1 \leq n+1$, it follows that $m \leq n+1$ and order $\{Z_{s_i}\}_{i=1}^{\text{card } R^2} \leq n+1$. Thus, $Z = \{\phi(Z_{s_i})\}_{i=1}^{\text{card } R^2}$ is a finite open covering of Y of order $\leq n+1$. Clearly, if G is any finite open covering of Y , then there is $R = R^1$ as defined above which covers Y and refines G . Hence, Z refines G and order $Z \leq n+1$. Thus, $\dim Y \leq n$.

It is not difficult to show that if a p -adic group A_p acts effectively on an n -manifold M , then the orbit mapping $\phi : M \rightarrow M/A_p$ is light open and closed. Use the fact that there is a sequence $A_p = H_0 \supset H_1 \supset H_2 \supset \dots$ of open (and closed) subgroups of A_p which closes down on the identity e of A_p such that when $j > i$, H_i/H_j is a cyclic group of order p^{j-i} and A_p/H_i is a cyclic group of order p^i . The cyclic group A_p/H_i acts effectively on M/H_i with orbit space M/A_p .

The following theorem is a consequence of the argument above.

Theorem. *If a p -adic group A_p acts effectively on a compact connected n -manifold, then the orbit mapping $\phi : M \rightarrow M/A_p = Y$ is a light open mapping and $\dim Y = n$.*

The Hilbert-Smith Conjecture

The Hilbert-Smith Conjecture states that if G is a locally compact group which acts effectively on a connected manifold as a topological transformation group, then G is a Lie group.

It is well known that if a locally compact group G acts effectively on a connected n -manifold M and G is not a Lie group [6], then there is a subgroup H of G isomorphic to a p -adic group A_p which acts effectively on M . Thus, the Hilbert-Smith Conjecture can be established by proving that there is no effective action by a p -adic group A_p on a connected n -manifold M .

C.T. Yang [7] has shown that if a p -adic group A_p acts effectively on a compact n -manifold M , then the dimension of the orbit space $M/A_p = Y$ is $n + 2$ or infinity. This contradicts the work in this paper. Hence, there is no such action and the Hilbert-Smith Conjecture is true.

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