CUT POINTS IN TOTALLY NON-SEMI-LOCALLY-CONNECTED CONTINUA

EDWARD E. GRACE

1. Introduction. F. Burton Jones has shown [4, Theorem 15] that the set of weak cut points of a compact metric continuum that is not semi-locally-connected at any point of an open set U of M is dense in U (the proofs apply to locally peripherally compact complete metric continua). It is the purpose of this paper to extend Jones' results by establishing stronger cutting properties.

The theory is given here for locally compact metric spaces but applies, with appropriate modifications, to locally peripherally bicompact, regular spaces of the general class mentioned in [2].

2. Definitions and preliminary theorems. A point p of a continuum M is a weak cut point of M (or cuts M weakly) if there are two points x and y of $M - \{p\}$ such that each subcontinuum of Mthat contains both x and y contains p also. In this case p cuts xfrom y weakly in M.

A continuum M is semi-locally-connected at a point p of M if each open subset U of M containing p contains an open subset V of M containing p, the complement of which relative to M consists of a finite number of components. A continuum M is totally nonsemilocally-connected (on a point set A) if M is not semi-locally-connected at any point (of A). A continuum M is locally peripherally aposyndetic at a point p of M if each open subset U of M containing pcontains an open subset V of M containing p such that, for some collection (H_1, \dots, H_n) of subcontinua of M, $(\bigcap_{i=1}^n H_i) \cap (\bar{V} - V) = \phi$ and p is in the (nonvoid) interior W of $(\bigcap_{i=1}^n H_i) \cap V$, relative to M. In this case W is a peripheral aposyndesis subset of U and V is a set associated with W and U.

EXAMPLE. The Cartesian product of a cantor set and a simple closed curve, with one of the cantor sets shrunk to a point, is locally peripherally aposyndetic at each point but aposyndetic at only one point.

THEOREM 1. A locally compact metric continuum M is locally peripherally aposyndetic on a dense G_{δ} subset of an open subset D

Received July 9, 1962, and in revised form October 23, 1963. This work was completed while the author was on leave of absence from Emory University as an NSF Science Faculty Fellow at the University of Wisconsin.