

**An Example of a Simply Connected Surface Bounding a Region which is not Simply Connected**



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which completes the induction for this case. In the remaining case where the point  $Q$  is on the curve  $k_0$ , the only difference is that an arc,  $l_1$ , of a curve of intersection in  $\alpha_1$ , and not necessarily an entire curve, approaches the curve  $k_0$  as  $\alpha_1$  approaches  $\alpha_0$ . The necessary deformation of  $\sigma_1$  is one such that the arc (or curve)  $l_1$  shrinks to the point  $Q$  as  $\alpha_1$  approaches  $\alpha_0$ . We perform a similarly modified deformation on  $\sigma_2$  and complete the argument just as before, thereby proving the theorem.

A similar reduction may be applied for the case  $p = 1$ , but at some stage of the process the curve  $k_0$  will be non-bounding. The side of  $\sigma$  containing the plane surface  $C$  bounded by  $k_0$  will thus have to be tubular, that is to say, homeomorphic with the interior of an anchor ring. This is the theorem predicted by Tietze. For a general value of  $p$ , it is easy to show that the linear connectivity of either region bounded by  $\sigma$  is  $(P_1 - 1) = P$ , but the group of the region may be very complicated.

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### AN EXAMPLE OF A SIMPLY CONNECTED SURFACE BOUNDING A REGION WHICH IS NOT SIMPLY CONNECTED

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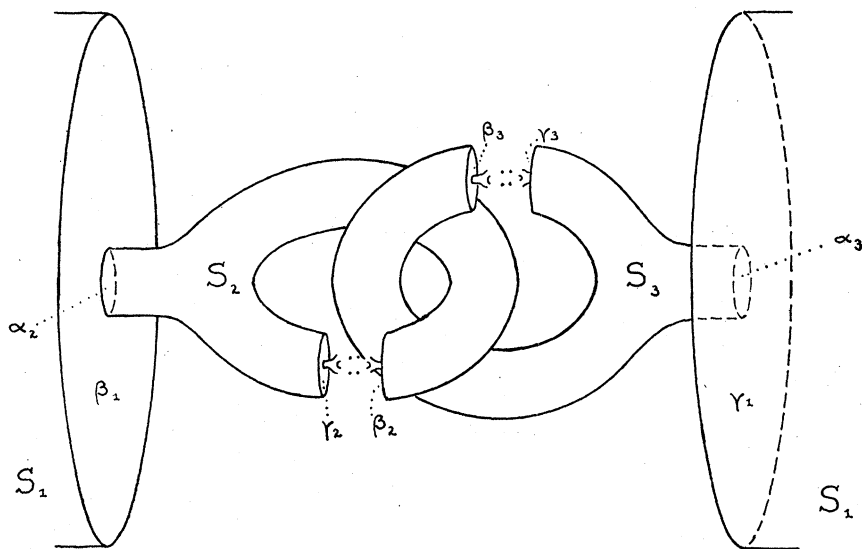
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The following construction leads to a simplified example of a surface  $\Sigma$  of genus zero situated in spherical 3-space and such that its exterior is not a simply connected region. The surface  $\Sigma$  is obtained directly without the help of Antoine's inner limiting set.

The surface  $\Sigma$  will be the combination, modulo 2, of a denumerable infinity of simply connected surfaces  $S_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ), all precisely similar in shape, though their dimensions diminish to zero as  $i$  increases without bound. The shape of the surface  $S_i$  may perhaps be described most readily by referring to the accompanying figure in which the surfaces  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  are represented. By comparison with  $S_2$  to which, by hypothesis, all the other surfaces  $S_i$  are similar, we see that the general surface  $S_i$  is roughly like a tube twisted into the shape of the letter  $C$  and terminating in a pair of circular 2-cells,  $\beta_i$  and  $\gamma_i$ . There is, however, a slight protuberance in the side of the tube terminating in a 2-cell  $\alpha_i$ .

The position of the surfaces  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ , and  $S_3$  with respect to one another is indicated in the figure, though only the two ends of  $S_1$  terminating in  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  are shown. It will be noticed that the faces  $\alpha_2$  of  $S_2$  and  $\alpha_3$  of  $S_3$  are subfaces of the faces  $\beta_1$  and  $\gamma_1$  of  $S_1$ , respectively, and that the surfaces

$S_2$  and  $S_3$  are hooked around one another, so to speak. When  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  are added modulo 2 to  $S_1$  (which means that the points of  $\alpha_2$  and  $\alpha_3$  must be deleted from the combined surfaces), a simple closed surface,  $\Sigma_1$ , is obtained. The surface  $\Sigma_1$  will be regarded as the first approximation of the desired surface  $\Sigma$ . The next approximating surface,  $\Sigma_2$ , is obtained by adjoining to  $\Sigma_1$ , modulo 2, the next four surfaces,  $S_4, S_5, S_6, S_7$ . The first two of these will be related to  $S_2$  and the last two to  $S_3$  in exactly the same way that the surfaces  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  are related to  $S_1$ ; that is to say, a similarity transformation of the 3-space carrying  $S_1$  into  $S_2$  would carry  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  into  $S_4$  and  $S_5$ , respectively, while one carrying  $S_1$  into  $S_3$  would carry  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  into  $S_6$  and  $S_7$ , respectively. The third approximation  $\Sigma_3$  is obtained by adjoining the next eight surfaces  $S_8, \dots, S_{15}$  in a similar manner, so that the pair  $S_8$  and  $S_9$  are attached to  $S_4$  just as the pair  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  are



attached to  $S_1$ , and so on. The surface  $\Sigma$  is the limiting surface approached by the sequence  $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3, \dots$ . It will be seen without difficulty that the interior of the limiting surface  $\Sigma$  is simply connected, and that the surface itself is of genus zero and without singularities, though a hasty glance at the surface might lead one to doubt this last statement. The exterior  $R$  of  $\Sigma$  is not simply connected, however, for a simple closed curve in  $R$  differing but little from the boundary of one of the cells  $\gamma_i$  cannot be deformed to a point within  $R$ . It is easily shown, in fact, that the group of  $R$  requires an infinite number of generators.

The points  $K$  of  $\Sigma$  which are not points of the approximating surfaces  $\Sigma_i$  form an inner limiting set of a much simpler type than the inner limiting set of Antoine, as was pointed out to me by Professor Veblen. For we

may close down upon the points  $K$  by a system of spheres rather than by a complicated system of linking anchor rings.

This example shows that a proof of the generalized Schönflies theorem announced by me two years ago, but never published, is erroneous.

## REMARKS ON A POINT SET CONSTRUCTED BY ANTOINE

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From the consideration of a remarkable point set discovered by Antoine, the following two theorems may be derived:

*Theorem 1.* There exists a simple closed surface of genus 0 in 3-space such that the interior of the surface is not simply connected but has, on the contrary, an infinite group.

*Theorem 2.* There exists a simple closed curve in 3-space which is not knotted, inasmuch as it bounds a 2-cell without singularities, and yet such that its group<sup>1</sup> (as defined by Dehn) is not the same as the group of a circle in 3-space.

It follows without difficulty from the second theorem that if an isotopic deformation be defined in the customary manner (cf. for example, Veblen's Cambridge Colloquium Lectures), the group of a curve in 3-space is not an isotopic invariant. This suggests that a modified definition of isotopy might be advisable.

Antoine's point set is obtainable as follows. Within an anchor ring  $\pi$  in 3-space, we first construct a chain  $C$  or anchor rings  $\pi_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ ) such that each ring  $\pi_i$  is linked with its immediate predecessor and immediate successor, after the manner of links in an ordinary chain, and such, also, that the last ring  $\pi_s$  is linked with the first  $\pi_1$ , thereby making the chain closed. We further suppose that the chain  $C$  is constructed in such a way that it winds once around the axis of the ring  $\pi$ . Secondly, we make a similar construction within each of the anchor rings  $\pi_i$ , thereby obtaining chains  $C_i$  made up of rings  $\pi_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, s$ ), and repeat the process indefinitely, obtaining chains  $C_{ij}$  within  $\pi_{ij}$ ,  $C_{ijk}$  within  $\pi_{ijk}$ , and so on. If we think of the system of rings within one of the rings  $\pi_i$  as the image of the system of rings within the ring  $\pi$  under a similarity transformation carrying the interior and boundary of  $\pi$  into the interior and boundary of  $\pi_i$ , it is clear that the diameters of the rings  $\pi_{ijk} \dots$  decrease towards zero as the number of subscripts to their symbols increases. The inner limiting set  $\Sigma$  determined by the infinite sequences of rings  $\pi^i, \pi_{ii}, \pi_{ijk}, \dots$  is the