

COUNTEREXAMPLES IN EFFECTIVE TOPOLOGY

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ABSTRACT. We prove that there exists a left-c.e. Polish space not homeomorphic to any right-c.e. space. Combined with some other recent works (to be cited), this finishes the task of comparing all classical notions of effective presentability of Polish spaces that frequently occur in the literature *up to homeomorphism*.

We employ our techniques to provide a new, relatively straightforward construction of a computable Polish space K not homeomorphic to any computably compact space. We also show that the Banach space $C(K; \mathbb{R})$ has a computable Banach copy; this gives a negative answer to a question raised by McNicholl.

We also give an example of a space that has both a left-c.e. and a right-c.e. presentation, yet it is not homeomorphic to any computable Polish space. In addition, we provide an example of a Δ_2^0 Polish space that lacks both a left-c.e. and a right-c.e. copy, up to homeomorphism.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The present article contributes to the program in effective topology initiated in the recent independent works [GKP17], [HTMN20], and [HKS20a]. This program aims to establish the foundations of effective topology, following a similar pattern seen in computable structure theory [EG00, GK02] and computable real analysis [Abe80, Wei00]. In computable structure theory, most of the results comparing different notions of presentability date back several decades

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and are generally regarded as classical or foundational. For example, Feiner [Fei70] showed that there is a c.e. presented Boolean algebra without a computable presentation. As an application, Feiner demonstrated that the lattices of X -c.e. and X' -c.e. sets are not isomorphic, for any X . Khisamiev [Khi88] showed that every c.e. presented torsion-free abelian group has a computable presentation, which easily implies a solution to a question about the integral cohomology of finitely presented groups posed in [BDM83]. We see that comparing different notions of algorithmic presentability lead to significant insights in computable algebra, and beyond. In computable analysis, over 70 years ago Specker [Spe49] showed that the notions of Markov (Type 1) and Kleene (Type 2) computability are non-equivalent. Many other definitions that appear throughout the vast literature had been shown to be equivalent to one of these two notions; e.g., [Lac55a, Lac55b, Grz57, KLS57]. Similarly to the situation in computable algebra, Markov and Kleene computability, along with the techniques accumulated in the process of their detailed investigation, form a solid foundation of computable analysis; see the books [Abe80, Wei00, PER89].

In computable topology, there are at least six definitions of an effectively presented Polish space; they will be given in Fig. 1 below. These classical notions have been around for a long time; see, e.g., Ceitin [Cei59a], Moschovakis [Mos64], Spreen [Spr90], Nogina [Nog66], and Kalantari [KW85]. The problem of comparing these notions strikes us as *fundamental*. Nonetheless, not all notions that frequently appear in the literature have yet been compared.

The primary aim of this article is to address this gap. Combined with the cited above papers and some further recent results, our results finish the task of comparing all these notions up to homeomorphism. Before we give the definitions and describe our results, we note that our techniques have already found applications beyond separating the notions in Fig. 1. Using our techniques we answer a question of McNicholl by showing that Banach-Stone duality *fails* effectively. We now turn to the more detailed description of the actual results.

1.1. The main definitions. To state the results formally we need a few well-known definitions. All our spaces are Polish, and we view our spaces up to homeomorphism.

Definition 1 (Essentially Ceitin [Cei59b] and Moschovakis [Mos64]). A *Polish presentation* of a (Polish) space M is given by a countable metric space $X = ((x_i)_{i \in \omega}, d)$ so that the completion of X is homeomorphic to M . A presentation X is:

- *right-c.e.* if $\{r \in \mathbb{Q} : d(x_i, x_j) < r\}$ are c.e. uniformly in i, j ;
- *left-c.e.* if $\{r \in \mathbb{Q} : d(x_i, x_j) > r\}$ are c.e. uniformly in i, j ;
- *computable* if it is both left-c.e. and right-c.e.

The points x_i are usually called special, rational, or ideal.

Both left- and right-c.e. Polish spaces form natural subclasses of Δ_2^0 Polish spaces. It has been shown in [BMN] that every Δ_2^0 Polish spaces admits a *computably topological* presentation, which is another classical notion of presentability in effective topology. We will not need the notion of a computable topological space, we only note that the implication established in [BMN] cannot be reversed in general [MN23]. We will however need the exceptionally robust notion of computable compactness. It admits over a dozen equivalent formulations [DM23, IK21]; one of the many equivalent definitions is as follows.

Definition 2 (Mori, Tsuji, and Yasugi [MTY97]). A (compact) computable Polish space is said to be *computably compact* if for every n we can produce a finite tuple of special points so that the open 2^{-n} -balls centred in these points cover the entire space.

The definition admits a natural generalisation to locally compact spaces which we omit; see [Pau16, XG09, WZ99, KMN23, MNar].

The notions and the implications (up to homeomorphism) between them are summarised in Fig. 1 below.

1.2. Completing the diagram. As is carefully explained in [MN23], all the notions on the diagram *with only one exception* have been separated in [GKP17, HTMN20, HKS20a, LMN23, BHTM23]. It was left open in [MN23, Section 4.1] whether “left-c.e. Polish” implies “right-c.e. Polish” up to homeomorphism. Indeed, it was not known whether

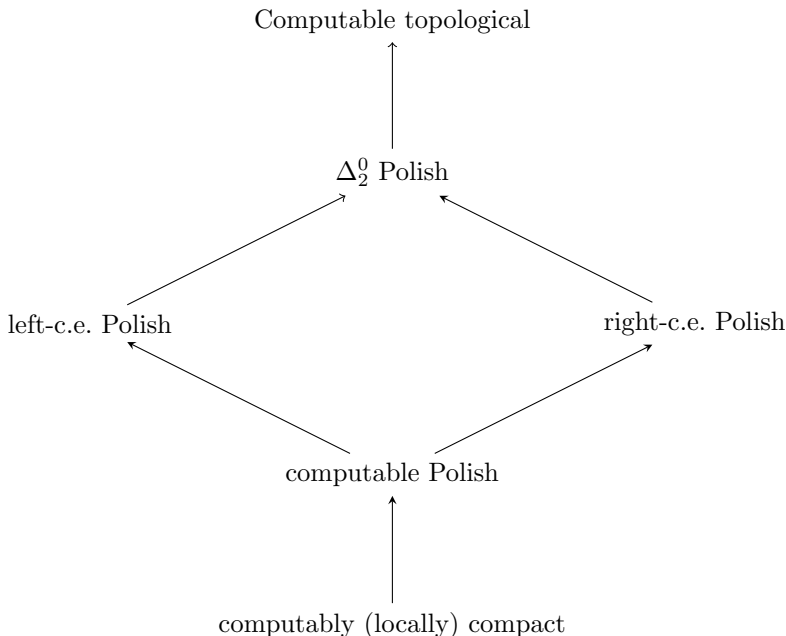


FIGURE 1. The diagram illustrates the most common notions of computable presentability of (compact) Polish spaces in computable topology. Arrows illustrate the implications between these notions *up to homeomorphism*. The implication between Δ_2^0 Polish and computable topological is a recent result established in [BMN] while the rest of the implications are trivial.

“ Δ_2^0 Polish” implies “right-c.e. Polish”, but evidently a left-c.e. counterexample would separate these notions as well. One of the principal aims of the present article is to give such an example. We prove:

Theorem 1.1. *There is a locally compact left-c.e. Polish space which is not homeomorphic to any right-c.e. Polish space.*

Together with the cited above results, it follows from the theorem that *the only implications between these notions are those shown in Fig. 1*. The result also implies an earlier result [HTMN20, HKS20a] that says that there exists a Δ_2^0 Polish space not homeomorphic to any computable Polish space. Our proof of the stronger Theorem 1.1 is significantly less combinatorially involved than the arguments in [HTMN20, HKS20a]. Our proof uses the technique of limitwise monotonic sets to separate the recursion-theoretic combinatorics from definability. The notion of a limitwise monotonic set was first suggested by Khisamiev [His81] to characterise computable presentability of (discrete, countable) abelian p -groups. It was later rediscovered by Khoussainov, Nies, and Shore in [KNS97] in the context of computable model theory, and then much more recently (and independently) it was rediscovered again by Bosserhoff and Hertling [BH15]. For many applications of limitwise monotonicity in effective algebra and computable model theory, see [KKM13, DKT11].

1.3. A bad closed subset of the unit square. Separating the notion of computable compactness from the notion of a computable Polish space appears to be a non-trivial task. Obviously, one naturally seeks a compact counterexample. There are two proofs in the literature; see [LMN23] and [DM23] (the latter based on an idea from [HKS20a]). Both proofs use a new way of calculating Čech cohomology of a compact space, and the former also used a computable version of Pontryagin Duality. It was raised in [DM23] whether there is a more elementary ‘direct’ way to construct such an example that, for instance, would not rely on the heavy machinery of algebraic topology or topological group theory. We further extend our definability techniques established in the proof of Theorem 1.1 to prove:

Theorem 1.2. *There exists a computably enumerable closed subset K of the unit square $[0, 1]^2$ that is not homeomorphic to any computably compact space.*

A closed set is computably enumerable (c.e.) if it contains a c.e. sequence of computable points that is dense in the set. Clearly, $K \subseteq [0, 1]^2$ from the theorem above can be viewed as a computable Polish space; just use the dense set as the set of special points in K . Our proof of Theorem 1.2 utilises variety of techniques, including a subtle definability lemma extending a result from [HTMN20], a new characterisation of computable compactness extending another technical result from [DM23], and a lemma about limitwise monotonic sets established in [KNS97]. However, our proof is certainly much more straightforward than all previously known proofs, our space is topologically very tame, and the proof is also quite easy to ‘massage’. For instance, it is not hard to use K from Theorem 1.2 to illustrate that Banach-Stone Duality is not effective in general; we discuss this next.

1.4. Banach-Stone Duality is not effective. Recall that one way to state Banach-Stone Duality is as follows. For compact K_0, K_1 , the Banach spaces $C(K_0; \mathbb{R})$ and $C(K_1; \mathbb{R})$ are linearly isometric if, and only if, K_0 and K_1 are homeomorphic. It is clear that when K is computably compact, $C(K; \mathbb{R})$ admits a computable Banach presentation. The latter is a computable Polish presentation of the associated metric space $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$ in which the point 0 and the operation $+$ are computable. In fact, computability of 0 follows easily from computability of $+$. (An equivalent formulation can be found in the book [PER89].) A few years ago McNicholl asked whether the converse is also true, i.e., whether computable presentability of the Banach space $C(K; \mathbb{R})$ implies that K is homeomorphic to a computably compact space. In [BHTM23] it has been shown that, remarkably, if K is a Stone space, then the answer to McNicholl’s question is positive. In other words, Banach-Stone Duality holds computably for Stone spaces. The general case was left open. We prove:

Theorem 1.3. *There exists a computable Banach space linearly isometric to $C(K; \mathbb{R})$ where the compact domain K is not homeomorphic to any computably compact Polish space.*

This result is perhaps unexpected since it contrasts greatly with the case of Stone spaces discussed above, and with the recently announced effective Gelfand duality between compact K and the respective computable C^* -algebras $C(K; \mathbb{C})$ [BEF⁺ar]. However, modulo Theorem 1.2, the proof of Theorem 1.3 is actually not difficult at all. It essentially suffices to take the space K from the proof of Theorem 1.2 and observe that we can easily construct a computable Banach presentation of $C(K; \mathbb{R})$.

1.5. Two counterexamples. To finish the paper, we give two more applications of our techniques. The results that we present next are mainly motivated by the search for a general enough recursion-theoretic sufficient condition for a space to be computably presented. In computable structure theory, it is sometimes possible to show that if a structure in some natural broad class has a presentation ‘close to being computable’, then the structure has a computable presentation; e.g., [KS00, MM17, Khi88]. In contrast, Wehner [Weh98] and Slaman [Sla98] built examples of structures having X -computable presentations for any non-computable X , but having no computable presentation. Also, Chisholm and Moses [CM98] constructed a linear order that is n -decidable for all $n \in \omega$, but has no decidable isomorphic copy. Further results of this sort can be found in the survey [FHM14]. A similar program in topology has been proposed by Selivanov in [Sel20]. There are still very few results of this sort that can be found in the literature. For example, every left-c.e. Stone space admits a computably compact copy [MN23, HTMN20]. There exists a compact Polish space that has a X -computable Polish presentation for any **non-low₂** set X , but has no **low₂** Polish copy [Mel21]. A few more results can be found in [HKS20a, DM23]. We establish the following, in our opinion rather surprising, result that fits well into this framework.

Theorem 1.4. *There exists a locally compact Polish space M such that M is both right-c.e. presentable and left-c.e. presentable, however M is not homeomorphic to any computable Polish space.*

The theorem *simultaneously* implies several earlier theorems established in [MN23], [BHTM23], and [HTMN20]. Finally, utilizing the definability framework established in the paper, we prove another result that, in a way, complements the theorem above:

Theorem 1.5. *There exists a Δ_2^0 compact Polish space M that is neither homeomorphic to any left-c.e. Polish space nor to any right-c.e. Polish space.*

This theorem too implies the main result in [HTMN20] and, compared to the argument in [HTMN20], its proof is much less combinatorially involved. Limitwise monotonic functions once again play a crucial role in sorting out the combinatorics. We leave open whether examples of this sort exist inside the unit interval (cf. Question 1).

The remainder of the paper is dedicated to proving our results. To avoid the need for a technical preliminaries section, we have chosen to provide the necessary auxiliary technical definitions and results as needed throughout the paper. We however expect that the reader has some background in recursion theory [Rog87, Soa87] and is familiar with the terminology of (elementary, point-set) topology and metric space theory. The titles of the sections and subsections should be self-descriptive enough to facilitate easy navigation through the paper.

2. A LEFT-C.E. SPACE WITH NO RIGHT-C.E. COPY

In this section we prove Theorem 1.1.

2.1. Star-spaces and ϵ -paths. The definability technique based on ‘ n -stars’ was invented in [HTMN20].

Definition 3. *A k -star is a topological space homeomorphic to k copies of the interval $[0, 1]$ all joined at one end in a single point (the Wedge sum of k copies of $[0, 1]$ via 0). A 0 -star is an isolated point.*

Note that 1-star and 2-star are homeomorphic, but otherwise a k -star is not homeomorphic to a k' -star when $k \neq k'$. In what follows next, we always assume that $k \neq 1$ since we identify 1-stars and 2-stars. We say that a space (a closed set) is a star if it is a k -star.

Definition 4. *A nice space is a Polish space in which every path-component is clopen and is homeomorphic to a star.*

We will essentially need only two kinds of nice spaces: a disjoint union of stars and the one-point compactifications of such spaces. We now verify that, in a nice space, we can express the existence of a path between points by saying that for every $\epsilon > 0$, there is an “ ϵ -path” between these points (to be clarified). Thus, we can arithmetically express that a nice space contains a k -star. The lemma below clarifies this intuition. (But of course, the main challenge is to make the complexity of this statement optimal.)

Let (M, d) be a Polish space. Given special points x, y , an ϵ -path from x to y is a sequence of points $x = u_0, u_1, \dots, u_n = y$ such that $d(u_i, u_{i+1}) < \epsilon$. An ϵ -chain between points x and y in a Polish space is a sequence of open balls B_0, B_1, \dots, B_k having radii $< \epsilon$ such that:

- (1) $B_i \cap B_{i+1} \neq \emptyset$, for all $i \leq k$;
- (2) $x \in B_0$ and $y \in B_k$.

Lemma 2.1. *Let (M, d) be a Polish space such that each path-component of M is compact and open. The following are equivalent for points $r, s \in M$:*

- (1) *there is a path between r and s ;*
- (2) *there is an ϵ -path between r, s , for any $\epsilon > 0$;*
- (3) *there is an ϵ -chain between r, s , for any $\epsilon > 0$.*

(The implications (1) \rightarrow (2) \leftrightarrow (3) hold without any extra assumptions about the Polish space M .)

Proof. It is easy to see that an ϵ -path can be viewed as an 2ϵ -chain, and conversely the centres of the balls forming an ϵ -chain give rise to a 2ϵ -path. This gives the equivalence of (2) and (3).

Assume (1), so there is a path between r and s . Let $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ be a continuous path from r to s . Then f is uniformly continuous. For a sufficiently large rational q , we have that for each i , $d(f(\frac{i}{q}), f(\frac{i+1}{q})) < \frac{\epsilon}{4}$. Choose $x_0 = r, x_q = s$, and for each $i = 1, \dots, q-1$, choose a special point x_i with $d(x_i, f(i/q)) < \epsilon/4$. Then $r = x_0, \dots, x_q = s$ is an ϵ -path from r to s .

We now assume (1) fails, and we show there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that there is no ϵ -path between r and s . Let C be the path-component of r . Since C is open, its complement is closed, and since C is compact, the distance between C and C^c is $\epsilon > 0$. Then there is no $\epsilon/2$ -path from r to s , as given any path $r = u_0, u_1, \dots, u_n = s$ there must be a first i such that $u_i \in C$ and $u_{i+1} \notin C$, and so $d(u_i, u_{i+1}) \geq \epsilon$. \square

The elementary lemma above will sometimes be used without explicit reference. Note also that every nice space satisfies the premises of the lemma.

2.2. The definability lemma for right-c.e. spaces. Our next definability lemma is a generalisation of the main definability result from [HTMN20]. The lemma will be central to the proof of Theorem 1.1.

Lemma 2.2. *Let $((\alpha_i)_{i \in \omega}, d)$ be a right-c.e. Polish presentation of a nice space \mathcal{M} . Then*

“a special point $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}$ is part of a $(\geq n)$ -star”

can be expressed as a Σ_3^0 predicate (in α and n).

Proof. The idea is as follows. If we have points p_0, p_1, p_2 at separate ‘arms’ of the star, then there is a $\delta > 0$ for every sufficiently small ϵ there must be an ϵ -path between p_0 and p_1 which is at distance at least δ from p_2 , and the same is true for any permutation of these three points. The generalisation of this idea to $n > 2$ can be used to describe the property claimed in the lemma; this is verified in [HTMN20]. However, the issue is that in a right-c.e. space stating this property directly, as in [HTMN20], would give a mere Σ_4^0 upper bound for the complexity. To circumvent this difficulty, we use compactness. In the notation above, there has to be a fixed δ -path x_1, \dots, x_m between p_0 and p_1 which is 2δ -far from p_2 and so that, for any sufficiently small ϵ , there is an ϵ -path (essentially) inside this fixed δ -path. This way we rearrange the quantifiers so that, in a right-c.e. space, we get the complexity for the predicate down to Σ_3^0 .

We prove that a special point $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}$ is part of a $(\geq n)$ -star iff the following statement holds:

$\exists p_1, \dots, p_n$ special points and a rational $\delta > 0$ such that

$\forall i, j, k \leq n \exists x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$ special with the properties

(a) $d(p_k, x_s) > 2\delta$ for every $s \leq m$;

(b) $\forall \epsilon < \delta, \exists \epsilon$ -path $p_i = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_l = p_j$ such that $\forall r \leq l \exists s \leq m d(u_r, x_s) < \delta$.

Let S be a $(\geq n)$ -star. Let P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n be distinct arms of S . For each $1 \leq i \leq n$ pick $p_i \in P_i$ at some distance from the ‘centre’ of the star. We can assume therefore that $p_i \in P_i^\circ$ which is the interior of P_i homeomorphic to $(0, 1)$. Also pick $\delta = \frac{1}{4} \min \{d(p_i, S \setminus P_i^\circ) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{\Delta\}$, where Δ is the isolating distance of S (i.e., the distance from S to $\mathcal{M} \setminus S$). Fix $i, j, k \leq n$. Since $P_i \cup P_j$ is compact, there is a finite δ -cover of $P_i \cup P_j$ by balls centred in some special x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m . Observe also that by choice of δ , $d(x_s, p_k) > 2\delta$ for any $1 \leq s \leq m$ as $x_s \in S \setminus P_k^\circ$. Recall Lemma 2.1. Since p_i, p_j are connected in $P_i \cup P_j$, for any $\epsilon < \delta$ there is an ϵ -path $p_i = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_l = p_j$ where each $u_r \in P_i \cup P_j$. It follows that $\forall r \exists s d(u_r, x_s) < \delta$.

Now assume the property holds. It follows from Lemma 2.1 that the points $p_1 \dots p_k$ lie in the same path component. Thus, the path-connected component S has to be a star. Suppose then that S is not a $(\geq n)$ -star, that is S has $< n$ arms. Then by the pigeonhole principle, for any choice of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n , there are at least two of the chosen points which lie on the same arm, say $p_1, p_3 \in P_1$. Let $\delta > 0$ be given, and we pick from p_1, \dots, p_n the points p_1, p_2 and p_3 . If $p_2 \in P_1$, then we can induce an ordering on p_1, p_2, p_3 by considering their preimage in $[0, 1]$, as P_1 is the homeomorphic image of $[0, 1]$. Then one of the special points must be between the other two with respect to this ordering. Let this point be p_k . (In the case when $p_2 \notin P_1$, then let either p_1 or p_3 be p_k depending on which has the preimage closer to 0 in $[0, 1]$.) Without loss of generality, we assume that p_3 is chosen to be p_k .

Now let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m be given such that $d(p_2, x_s) > 2\delta$ for each s . If $p_1 \in B_\delta(p_3)$ or $p_2 \in B_\delta(p_3)$, then fix any ϵ -path $p_1 = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_l = p_2$, where $\epsilon < \delta$. It cannot be that $\forall r \exists s d(u_r, x_s) < \delta$. In the case when $p_1 \in B_\delta(p_3)$, we have $d(p_3, x_s) < 2\delta$, and in the case when $p_2 \in B_\delta(p_3)$, we have that $d(u_l, x_s) < 2\delta$ for some s . Thus we can assume that $S = B_\delta(p_3) \sqcup F_1 \sqcup F_2$ where F_1, F_2 are disjoint compact sets of $S \setminus B_\delta(p_3)$ containing p_1 and p_2 , respectively. Then pick $\epsilon = \frac{1}{4} \min \{\delta, d(F_1, F_2), \Delta\}$, and fix an ϵ -path $p_1 = u_1, \dots, u_l = p_2$. Since $F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset$, there must be some first

index r for which $u_r \notin F_1$. By the choice of ε , it follows that $u_r \in B_\delta(p_3)$, which is to say that $\exists s, d(u_r, x_s) < \delta$, a contradiction. \square

2.3. Proof of Theorem 1.1. Fix Σ_3^0 sets $R, S \subseteq \omega$ and the standard computable pairing function $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. We will define a locally compact space

$$\mathcal{M} = M_\infty \sqcup \bigsqcup_{i \in \omega} M_i$$

where M_n, M_∞ are clopen components in M with the following properties:

- i M_∞ is a countable discrete subspace with all points at distance ≥ 10 from each other.
- ii $M_i \subseteq [0, 1]^2$ under the standard Euclidean metric on $[0, 1]^2$.
- iii For α, β from different clopen components M_i ($i \in \omega$), $d(\alpha, \beta) = 2$. The distance from any point in M_i to any point in M_∞ is ≥ 10 .

We now describe the clopen components M_i in a bit more detail. For that, fix the standard computable pairing function $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$.

- iv If $n \notin R$, then $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ is finite for every j .
- v If $n \in R$ and $n \notin S$, then there is a unique j such that $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ is a $(n+3)$ -star, and when $j \neq j'$ the component $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ is finite.
- vi If $n \in R$ and $n \in S$, then there is a unique j such that $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ is a disjoint union of $(n+3)$ line segments, and when $j \neq j'$ the component $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ is finite.

In iv - vi, the exact cardinality of finite components will depend on the effective approximation of the Σ_3^0 sets. In fact, these cardinalities are not important to us since they will not effect the properties of the space that we need to prove the theorem. The exact definition of the distance in *i* and *iii* is also not important and will depend on S and R as well.

Lemma 2.3. *There is a uniform procedure that, given (indices of) Σ_3^0 sets R, S outputs a locally compact left-c.e. Polish space $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{R,S}$ satisfying the properties i -vi.*

Proof. We represent $R(n)$ as $\exists j \exists^\infty m U(j, m, n)$ and $S(n)$ as $\exists j \exists^\infty m V(j, m, n)$, where U, V are computable predicates. We can further assume that the predicate U satisfies the unique witness property, i.e., if $\exists j \exists^\infty m U(j, m, n)$ then there is a unique j . For V , we assume that if $\exists^\infty m V(j, m, n)$, then for all $j' > j$, we also have $\exists^\infty m U(j', m, n)$.

For every j , we build the component $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ as follows. We monitor $U(j, m, n)$ and act in the $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ -component only when a fresh witness m is discovered for n . In particular, if there are only finitely many such m for the fixed n and j , then $M_{\langle n, j \rangle}$ will remain finite.

Assuming $U(j, m, n)$ keeps providing us with m -witnesses, we proceed to build $M_{\langle n, j \rangle} \subseteq [0, 1]^2$ as follows. We put more points into $n+3$ arms of (some fixed ahead of time) presentation of a $(n+2)$ -star inside $[0, 1]^2$. The procedure with which points are put into the arms of the star is additionally controlled by the predicate V . We subdivide each arm into sub-intervals $(2^{-j'-1}, 2^{-j'}]$ and monitor V . Every time we discover a new V -witness m for j' , we move all points that we put so far into $(2^{-j'-1}, 2^{-j'}]$ to the component M_∞ making the distances between these points (and the distances from these points to the rest of the points present so far in the space) larger than any number seen so far in the construction.

It is evident that the resulting space is locally compact, left-c.e., and satisfies i -vi. \square

A set of natural numbers X is *limitwise monotonic* if

$$X = \text{range } \sup_x g(x, y),$$

where g is a computable function.

Lemma 2.4. *Suppose $\mathcal{M}_{R,S}$ constructed in the previous lemma has a right-c.e. presentation. Then the set*

$$X = \{n : \mathcal{M}_{R,S} \text{ has a } (n+3)\text{-star component}\}$$

is limitwise monotonic relative to $0''$.

Proof. First, note that the space is nice (Def. 4). Fix a right-c.e. presentation of $\mathcal{M}_{R,S}$. Apply Lemma 2.2 to build a $0''$ -computable g with $X = \text{rangesup}_x g(x, y)$ as follows. For a fixed special point p_y , initially keep $g(y, s)$ undefined. Apply Lemma 2.2 to $0''$ -effectively guess whether y is in an l -star component for some $l \geq n \geq 3$. If we see such an n at stage t , we define $g(y, t) = n - 3$ and proceed to the next stage. \square

To finish the proof of the theorem, we need the following:

Lemma 2.5 (Khisamiev). *There is a d-c.e. set (i.e., a difference of two c.e. sets) that is not limitwise monotonic.*

A relatively modern proof of this fact can be found in [KNS97] where a d-c.e. set X with this property is constructed. Relativise this result to $0''$ and fix Σ_3^0 sets R, S such that $X = R \setminus S$. Let $\mathcal{M}_{R,S}$ be the left-c.e. space built in Lemma 2.3. By Lemma 2.4 the space has no right-c.e. presentation.

3. A BAD C.E. SUBSET OF $[0, 1]^2$

In this section we give a detailed proof of Theorem 1.2. We assume that the reader is familiar with the classical concept of Alexandroff's 1-point compactification of a space.

Definition 5. *A star-space is the 1-point compactification of the disjoint union of stars.*

In a star-space, the connected components are exactly the path-components, they are clopen, and also they are exactly the n -stars that occur in M . In particular, every star-space is 'nice' (Def. 4).

Definition 6. *Let M be a compact space. A system of open 2^{-k} -covers of the space is a sequence $(C_k)_{k \in \omega}$ of finite sets C_k of open balls in M such that*

- (1) C_k is a cover of M , and
- (2) every ball in C_k has radius at most 2^{-k} .

Our next lemma is a modification of a lemma established in [HTMN20].

Lemma 3.1. *Suppose that M is a star-space, and let $(C_k)_{k \in \omega}$ be a system of finite open 2^{-k} -covers of the space. A special point r is contained within an s -star with $s \geq \ell > 1$ if and only if*

- (\star) *there exist $B(p_1, \gamma_1), \dots, B(p_\ell, \gamma_\ell) \in \bigcup_k C_k$ and $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and with the properties:*
 - p_0, \dots, p_ℓ lie in the same connected component as r and
 - $\forall n > m$ and any $i, j, k < \ell$, there is a 2^{-n} -chain $\subseteq C_n$ from p_i to p_j avoiding $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$.

Proof. If r is the point of infinity used in the definition of the 1-point compactification, then we cannot possibly find p_1, p_2, \dots, p_ℓ in the path-component as r (recall $\ell > 1$). Thus, we may assume r comes from one of the star-components.

We show that (\star) holds when r lies in an n -star S , $n \geq \ell$. Fix small enough balls $B(p_1, \gamma_1), \dots, B(p_\ell, \gamma_\ell)$ in the system of covers which are centred in p_1, \dots, p_ℓ that belong to different arms of the star S , which is the connected clopen component of r . Given p_i, p_j , and p_k , we can assume their radii γ_k are so small that $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$ does not intersect the arms containing p_i and p_j , and also does not intersect the clopen (thus, compact) complement of the star. Then there is a path P between p_i and p_j in $M - B(p_k, \gamma_k)$.

The path P is compact, thus the distance between P and the closure of $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$ is non-zero; say it is θ_k . Let $2^{-n} < \theta_k/2$. The finite set of 2^{-n} -balls C_n is a cover of M , and thus of S and of P as well. If we remove all balls in C_n that do not intersect P , then each remaining ball cannot possibly intersect $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$. The resulting cover U can be further refined to a 2^{-n} -chain from p_i to p_j that does not intersect $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$.

Take any ball in U that contains p_i ; denote it B_1 . Consider the compact set $P \setminus B_1$, and note that $U \setminus \{B_1\}$ has to cover this set. At least one ball in $U \setminus \{B_1\}$ has to intersect B_1 since P is connected; let this ball be B_2 . Continue in this way to define B_3, B_4, \dots until $P \setminus \bigcup_{i < t} B_i = \emptyset$. Since U is finite and is a cover of P , this process must terminate. Let $U_0 \subseteq U$ be the collection of balls constructed by this iterated process. There exists a ball $B_k \in U_0$ so that $p_j \in B_k$. Consider the graph in which the balls in U_0 are the vertices and the edge relation holds between B_i and B_j iff $P \cap B_i \cap B_j \neq \emptyset$. The graph is connected, and there must be a path between $B_1 \ni p_i$ and $B_k \ni p_j$. The balls along this path in the graph form an ϵ -chain.

It remains to fix any $m > \max_{k \leq \ell} (-\log_2 \theta_k/2)$.

Now let S be an s -star in M with $s < \ell$. Suppose $B(p_1, \gamma_1), \dots, B(p_\ell, \gamma_\ell) \in \bigcup_n C_n$ having their centers in S . For some i, j, k , after removing p_k , the star splits into two connected components, one containing p_i , and the other containing p_j . We may assume that γ_k is sufficiently small that $p_i, p_j \notin B(p_k, \gamma_k)$; otherwise there is nothing to prove. It is sufficient to show that for every δ , there is an $\epsilon < \delta$ such that for every ϵ -path $p_i = u_0, u_1, \dots, u_n = p_j$ from p_i to p_j , there is some $u_i \in B(p_k, \gamma_k)$. By Lemma 2.1, it will imply that ϵ' -chains for sufficiently small ϵ' will also have to intersect $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$ (indeed, we could just take $\epsilon' = 2\epsilon$). In fact, any such ϵ' -chains will have this property, not just those made up from balls in $\bigcup_n C_n$.

The star S splits into the disjoint union $C_i \sqcup C_j \sqcup B(p_k, \gamma_k)$ where C_i and C_j are closed sets containing p_i and p_j respectively. Then C_i and C_j are compact, and so we can choose ϵ smaller than the distance between C_i and C_j , and also smaller than the distance between S and the complement of S . Then any ϵ -path $p_i = u_0, \dots, u_n = p_j$ in M must have $u_0, \dots, u_n \in S$ (since the distance between S and the complement of S is greater than ϵ). Also, since $u_0 \in C_i$, $u_n \in C_j$, and the distance between C_i and C_j is greater than ϵ , for some $s, u_s \in B_\delta(p_k)$. \square

3.1. Computably compact star-spaces. We return to the analysis of star-components, but this time in a compact space. Recall that a computable Polish space is computably compact if there is an effective enumeration of (finite tuples coding) all finite covers of the space by basic open balls. Recall that a star-space is the 1-point compactification of the disjoint union of n -stars, for various $n \neq 1$ (perhaps with repetition).

Proposition 3.2. *Let M be a computably compact presentation of a star-space. Then the set*

$$\{n > 1 : M \text{ has an } n\text{-star component}\}$$

is $0'$ -limitwise monotonic.

Proof. Recall that a *basic computable ball* is a ball centred in a special points and having a computable radius (as opposed to rational radius represented as a fraction in a basic ball). It has been shown in [DM23] that every computably compact Polish space admits a uniformly computable system of finite 2^{-n} -covers (C_n) , $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, consisting of computable basic balls with the following properties:

- (1) each ball in C_n has radius at most 2^{-n} ;
- (2) each C_n is (uniformly) represented by a finite tuple of indices coding these centres and the radii of the balls making up C_n ;
- (3) for any finite collection of balls $X_0, \dots, X_k \in \bigcup_n C_n$ (represented by their indices) we can uniformly decide whether

$$X_0 \cap \dots \cap X_k \neq \emptyset.$$

We follow the terminology in [DM23] and say that such a system of cover (C_n) is *strongly \cap -decidable*.

Lemma 3.3. *Let M be a computably compact Polish space with special points (x_i) . There is a strongly \cap -decidable system of covers (C_n) for which the relation ' $x_i \in X$ ' is uniformly decidable for any $X \in \bigcup_n C_n$ and $i \in \omega$.*

Proof. We first discuss the informal idea. The key observation is that all conditions that are sufficient to satisfy to prove the lemma are effectively open sets. Note, for example, that every intersection of the form $X_0 \cap \dots \cap X_k \neq \emptyset$ has to be witnessed by a special point. Thus, (slightly) decreasing the radii will still preserve $X_0 \cap \dots \cap X_k \neq \emptyset$. On the other hand, if we had $X_0 \cap \dots \cap X_k = \emptyset$, then decreasing the radii will obviously preserve this property as well. Also, 'being formally included in' is an open property of the real parameters describing the balls, thus slightly changing the radii will preserve the formal inclusion between members of C_{n+1} into C_n . We will therefore search for small enough ϵ so that all these properties of C_n are preserved after decreasing the radii of all balls in C_n by ϵ , and so that the new radii are not equal to one more real in the list $(d(x_i, x_j))_{i,j}$, to make sure ' $x_i \in X$ ' is uniformly decidable. We proceed in this way diagonalising against each $d(x_i, x_j)$ for each member in C_n , for every n , one at a time.

We now give formal details.

For a basic open B , we write B^c for the basic closed ball with the same centre as B , and we write \overline{B} to denote the closure of B that does not have to be equal to B^c in general.

Claim 3.4. *Suppose M is computably compact. Then, for basic closed balls B_i^c and B_j^c , the property $B_i^c \cap B_j^c = \emptyset$ is c.e. uniformly in i, j . The same is true for any finite collection of basic closed balls.*

Proof. The open set $M \setminus B_i^c$ is c.e.. Indeed, we just list all the basic open balls that are formally disjoint from B_i^c via the following standard argument. Every point in $M \setminus B_i^c$ has the property $d(\text{cntr}(B_i), y) > r(B_i) = r$, and if we take $B(y, q)$ where

$$0 < q < \frac{d(\text{cntr}(B_i), y) - r(B_i)}{2}$$

then $d(\text{cntr}(B_i), y) > r + q$. Thus, the union of the complements, which is the complement of the intersection $B_i^c \cap B_j^c$, is also c.e. open. It covers the space if, and only if, the intersection is empty. By computable compactness of M , this is c.e. The case of finitely many balls is similar. \square

In the lemma below, K' plays the role of C_n and δ should be thought of as small enough so that when we ‘shrink’ each ball in K' by δ , it remains a cover; and parameter γ will allow us to iterate the claim. We fix a computably compact M .

Claim 3.5. *For every $\epsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$ and any finite cover K' consisting of basic open balls, and a finite collection of computable reals $\Xi = \{\xi_0, \dots, \xi_s\}$ we can effectively find a finite basic open ϵ -cover K , a rational $\gamma > 0$, and a finite cover K'' such that:*

- (i) *Every ball in K'' has the same centre as some ball in K' but its radius is at most δ -smaller;*
- (ii) *for each basic open $B_1, \dots, B_k \in K'' \cup K$, either $\bigcap_{i \leq k} B_i^c = \emptyset$ or $\bigcap_{i \leq k} B_i \neq \emptyset$ holds.*
- (iii) *The radii of all balls in $K'' \cup K$ do not lie in Ξ .*
- (iv) *The rational $\gamma > 0$ is so that the properties (i) – (iii) are invariant under at most γ -change of the radii of all balls in $K'' \cup K$.*

Proof of Lemma 3.5. Fix a finite $\epsilon/2$ -cover of the space by basic open balls, and replace each ball in the cover with a ϵ -ball with the same centre. Let S be this new ϵ -cover. Recall that B^c denotes the basic closed ball with the same centre as B .

For each tuple of basic open $B_1, \dots, B_k \in S \cup K'$ (exactly) one of the possibilities is realized:

- (a) $\bigcap_{i \leq k} B_i^c = \emptyset$, or
- (b) $\bigcap_{i \leq k} B_i \neq \emptyset$, or
- (c) $\bigcap_{i \leq k} B_i^c \neq \emptyset$ but $\bigcap_{i \leq k} B_i = \emptyset$.

Note that there are only finitely many conditions in total, and that both (a) and (b) are c.e. conditions (Claim 3.4).

If we shrink the radii of all $B \in S$ by a $\delta' < \min\{\delta, \epsilon/2\}$ (but keep the same centres), then the conditions of the form (a) will still hold, and the smaller balls will still cover the space because the $\epsilon/2$ -balls do. If δ' is small enough, then the conditions of the form (b) will also still be satisfied, since there are only finitely many conditions like that involved. Note that the third alternative must be witnessed only by points y such that, for some $B_i = B(c_i, r)$, $d(y, c_i) = r$. This means that, after we shrink the radii by $\epsilon/2 > \delta' > 0$, (b) will still hold for each tuple of balls, but we completely exclude the third alternative. Clearly, a rational γ claimed in (iv) also exists, since we could further slightly shrink or expand the balls and still have the same properties satisfied for the resulting balls after this variation. We can search for a γ so that any parameter within a γ -interval of the found ones still do the job; this is done simply by looking at the extremes of the respective γ -intervals defining the radii. Since there are only finitely many computable reals in Ξ , its complement is dense open in \mathbb{R} , thus we can effectively avoid Ξ . Define K'' to be the balls in K' after the shrinking, and K is the shrunken balls from S . \square

The rest of the proof proceeds by induction; we iteratively apply Claim 3.5 to produce a system of covers that satisfies the required properties. For that, we fix an effective enumeration $\Xi = \bigcup_s \Xi_s$ of all reals of the form $d(x_i, x_j)$, where x_i, x_j range over all special points. We begin with any cover at the first iteration of the procedure. In each

consequent iteration of the claim, we also additionally choose the parameters γ and δ are so small that all conditions achieved at the previous stages are maintained at the next stage. \square

To this end, we fix a strongly \cap -decidable system of covers of M with the additional property provided by Lemma 3.3. Note that the non-singleton clopen components in M are exactly the k -stars ($k > 1$) that occur in M .

Lemma 3.6. *Using O' , we can effectively enumerate all special points in M that are contained in non-singleton clopen components of M .*

Proof. Using a computable list of covers, it not difficult to effectively enumerate all clopen components; e.g., [DM23, Lemma 4.21]. Each such component is represented in this list as a finite union of basic open (or closed) balls. For a tuple of balls representing a component, we can use O' ask whether it splits further. We can also check using O' whether it contains more than one special point; since it is open, this is equivalent to checking whether it is a singleton. \square

Working effectively in O' , we produce a list of all special points coming from n -stars, $n > 1$. In this list, each special r also comes with the finite open name of its component. When r is one such point from this list, by Lemma 3.1, it is contained in a k -star for some $k \geq \ell > 1$ if and only if:

(\star) there exist $B(p_1, \gamma_1), \dots, B(p_\ell, \gamma_\ell) \in \bigcup_k C_k$ and $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and with the properties:

p_0, \dots, p_ℓ lie in the same connected component as r and

$\forall n > m$ and any $i, j, k < \ell$, there is a 2^{-n} -chain $\subseteq C_n$ from p_i to p_j avoiding $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$.

Recall that parameter r comes with a finite union of basic open balls making up the connected clopen component of r . Thus, we can list all special points in this component given r and the finite parameters describing its component. Since (C_n) is strongly \cap -decidable and also satisfies Lemma 3.3, we claim that we can effectively verify whether

there is a 2^{-n} -chain chosen from the balls in C_n from p_i to p_j avoiding $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$.

Indeed, this property fails if, and only if, after removing all balls from C_n that intersect $B(p_k, \gamma_k)$, we end up with two disjoint finite sets of balls, one containing p_i and the other p_j . This can be checked effectively, and thus

r is contained in a k -star for some $k \geq \ell > 1$

is a Σ_2^0 -relation uniformly in ℓ ; denote this relation by $\Theta_{\geq \ell}$. For future reference, we state it in the form of a claim.

Claim 3.7. *In a computably compact star-space, the relation*

r is contained in a k -star for some $k \geq \ell > 1$

is Σ_2^0 (in r and ℓ), where r is special and $\ell \in \omega$

Finally, given r , define

$$g(r) = \sup_{\ell > 1} \{\Theta_{\geq \ell}(r) \text{ holds}\}.$$

Using O' , we can effectively approximate g from below; cf. Lemma 2.4. When r ranges over all special points, $g(r)$ ranges over

$$\{n > 1 : M \text{ has an } n\text{-star component}\},$$

witnessing that the latter set is O' -limitwise monotonic. \square

3.2. Proof of Theorem 1.2, completed. We build a c.e. closed subset $K \subseteq [0, 1]^2$ that is not homeomorphic to any computably compact Polish space. Modulo the definability techniques developed in the previous subsection, the proof of this proposition is elementary. (We will need some properties of the simple construction of K to simplify our proof of Theorem 1.3.)

Proof. Relativise Lemma 2.5 to $0'$ and fix a Σ_3^0 set X that is not $0'$ -limitwise monotonic. Without loss of generality, assume that $0 \in X$ and $1 \notin X$. Fix a computable predicate P such that

$$n \in X \iff \exists z \exists^\infty y P(z, y, n).$$

For each $k = \langle n, z \rangle$, reserve a square region S_k of diameter 2^{-k} in $[0, 1]^2$; arrange it so that, as k goes to infinity, these regions converge to the point $(0, 0)$. In each of these regions. In each such fixed S_k , where $k = \langle n, z \rangle$, initiate an approximation of (a dense sequence whose closure is homeomorphic to) an n -star. Initially, place a special point representing the ‘center’ of the star, and place n points at the opposite ‘end’ of its ‘arm’.

Every time $P(z, y, n)$ ‘fires’ (i.e., one more witness y is discovered for the fixed n, z), place one more point inside each arm in such a way that, if P fires infinitely often then we end up with S_k homeomorphic to the n -star. Otherwise, we end up with finitely many points inside S_k . Let X_k be the subset of S_k enumerated by this procedure.

The resulting compact set $K = cl(\cup_{k \in \omega} X_k) \subseteq [0, 1]^2$ is evidently c.e. closed, and it is homeomorphic to a star-space with the point $(0, 0)$ playing the role of the point of infinity.

Further, we evidently have

$$X = \{n > 1 : M \text{ has an } n\text{-star component}\},$$

which is not limitwise monotonic. By Proposition 3.2, M is not homeomorphic to any computably compact Polish space. \square

In view of the discussed above results of Bosserhoff and Hertling [BH15], we would like to know the answer to:

Question 1. *Is there a c.e. closed subset of $[0, 1]$ not homeomorphic to any computably compact space?*

We leave the question open, and we suspect that new ideas and techniques will be necessary to attack this question.

4. APPLICATIONS

4.1. A ‘bad’ Δ_2^0 space. In this subsection we apply our techniques and results to prove Theorem 1.5. Recall that the theorem claims that there exists a Δ_2^0 compact Polish space that is neither homeomorphic to any left-c.e. Polish space nor to any right-c.e. Polish space.

The key lemma is as follows.

Lemma 4.1. *Suppose M is a left-c.e. presentation of a compact Polish space. Then M is $0'$ -computably compact.*

Proof. As explained in [DM23] in much detail, it is sufficient to $0'$ -effectively produce at least one 2^{-n} -cover for each $n \in \omega$. Given a finite collection of basic open balls B_0, \dots, B_k of radius 2^{-n-1} represented by their special centres (and $-n-1$), check whether there is a special point outside of all these open balls. Since the space is left-c.e., it is a Σ_1^0 condition that can be decided using $0'$. If there is such a special point, then B_0, \dots, B_k is not a cover. On the other hand, if no such special point exists then the 2^{-n} -balls with the same centres as B_0, \dots, B_k is a cover of the entire space. It is clear that going through all possible finite tuples of basic open 2^{-n-1} -balls we will eventually find at least one such tuple that covers all special points. \square

If M is a left-c.e.-presentable star-space then, by Lemma 4.1 and Claim 3.7 (relativised to $0'$), we have that the relation

$$r \text{ is contained in a } k\text{-star for some } k \geq \ell > 1$$

is Σ_3^0 (in r and ℓ), where r is special and $\ell \in \omega$. Similarly, in a right-c.e. presented star-space this relation is also Σ_3^0 , by Lemma 2.2. In both cases we can conclude that the set of all $n > 3$ so that the space contains an n -star has to be limitwise monotonic relative to $0''$.

The rest of the proof is very similar to the proof of Lemma 2.3, with only two elementary modifications. Recall that in Lemma 2.3 we constructed a left-c.e. presentation of a space of the form $\mathcal{M} = M_\infty \sqcup \bigsqcup_{i \in \omega} M_i$. This was done using approximations to Σ_3^0 sets $R, S \subseteq \omega$ so that $R \setminus S$ is not $0''$ -limitwise monotonic. We repeat the same proof but this time:

- (1) We do not have M_∞ .
- (2) We arrange M_i on $[0, 1]^2$ (shrinking their diameters) so that they converge to, say, the point $(0, 1)$.
- (3) In the proof, instead of moving finitely many points to M_∞ we simply erase them from the space. (We may have reintroduce these points later again.)

This way we construct a Σ_2^0 -closed subspace of $[0, 1]^2$ that evidently also gives a Δ_2^0 -Polish presentation of the space. However, since the sizes of the stars in the space code a set that is not $0''$ limitwise monotonic, the space cannot possibly have a left c.e. presentation nor a right-c.e. representation.

4.2. The effective Banach-Stone duality fails. Let K be the c.e. subset of $[0, 1]^2$ constructed in Subsection 3.2; it has no computably compact copy. It has the form $\{(0, 0)\} \cup \bigcup_k X_k$, where each X_k is either a dense subset of an n -star for (where $k = \langle n, z \rangle$ for some z), or is an ‘incomplete’ n -star, i.e., a finite subset on an n -star that contains the centre, the end-points of its arms, but only finitely many points in-between these points on the arms.

Let $X_{k,s} \subseteq X_k$ be the part of X_k produced at the end of stage s of the construction in Subsection 3.2. Since each $X_{k,s}$ can be thought of as a subset of a copy of the n -star (which may or may not become a part of K in the limit), it makes sense to talk about generalised piecewise linear functions $f : X_{k,s} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, which are defined as follows. A function is generalised piecewise linear on an n -star if it is linear when restricted to each arm of the star. Then we say that a function is generalised piecewise linear on $X_{k,s}$ if it is the restriction of a generalised piecewise linear function with support the respective n -star $\subseteq [0, 1]^2$ reserved for X_k . (We also assume its support does not exceed X_k .)

We add special points in $C(K; \mathbb{R})$ to represent the following functions:

- (1) All piecewise linear functions on $X_{k,s}$ with rational parameters that have their extrema at points in $X_{k,s}$.
- (2) All functions of the form $f(x) = \sup\{0, q - d((0, 0), x)\}$, where $q \in \mathbb{Q}$, $(0, 0) \in K$ can be assumed special in K , and furthermore q is chosen so that the support of the function either include an entire region $S_k \supseteq X_k$ or is disjoint from it, for every k . (This is simply a ‘tooth-function’ with its ‘pointy end’ over the exceptional point $(0, 0)$ of K , and so that its support is clopen in K .)
- (3) All rational finite linear combinations of functions from (1) and (2).

Of course, there are infinitely many functions satisfying (1) – (3); we initiate their enumeration. Note each such function can be naturally (linearly) extended to a function $K \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ even though lots of points in K are still perhaps missing at stage s .

The following observation is crucial:

Lemma 4.2. *The functions described in (3) above achieve their maxima and minima at special points $(0, 1) \cup \bigcup_n X_{n,s}$ of K_s even when naturally interpreted as functions $K \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ on the set K .*

Proof. This is simply a generalisation of the well-known fact that every piecewise linear function on $[0, 1]$ achieves its maximum at one of its breaking points. Also, piecewise linear functions (on $[0, 1]$) are closed under taking finite linear combinations. In this case, their breaking points form a subset of the union of the breaking points of the summands.

If the maximum of a linear combination of functions f_1, \dots, f_t defined in (1) – (2) is not already achieved at $(0, 0)$, it has to be among $X_{n_1, s_1}, \dots, X_{n_t, s_t}$ that are used in the definition of some f_1, \dots, f_t at stages s_1, \dots, s_t ; these sets will contain their breaking points even after the construction of K is ‘finished’. \square

These points of extrema of a fixed linear combination (from the lemma above) will not change as new functions are introduced in the construction of $C(K; \mathbb{R})$. This gives an effective way of producing a dense linear sequence in $C(K; \mathbb{R})$ making the norm uniformly computable. In other words, it is a computable Banach presentation of $C(K; \mathbb{R})$. However, K has no computably compact presentation, up to homeomorphism. This finishes the proof of Theorem 1.3.

5. AN ALMOST COMPUTABLE SPACE. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.4

Recall that we need to prove that there is a locally compact Polish space M that is homeomorphic to a left-c.e. space and to a right-c.e. space, however, M is not homeomorphic to any computable Polish space. We split the proof into several lemmas which we then put together at the end of the section to define our space. We begin with a technical definition

Definition 7. Let $\mathcal{X} = (X, d)$ be a compact metric space. Then define the space $\mathcal{X}^* = (X \cup I, d^*)$ as follows.

- I is a countable set of isolated points.
- $d^* \upharpoonright_X = d$, and $\forall a \in I, \forall b \in X \cup I, d^*(a, b) = \sup\{d(x, y) \mid x, y \in X\}$.

Evidently, \mathcal{X}^* is locally compact.

Lemma 5.1. Let \mathcal{B} be a countable Boolean algebra. If \mathcal{B} is c.e. presentable, then $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$ is left-c.e. Polish presentable.

Proof. Since \mathcal{B} is c.e. presentable, then by a result of [BHTM23], we can fix some co-c.e. presentable pruned tree T such that \mathcal{B} is isomorphic to the algebra of clopen subsets of $[T]$. Let $(T_s)_{s \in \omega}$ be a computable sequence of computable pruned trees satisfying the following properties.

- $T_0 = 2^{<\omega}$.
- $\forall s \in \omega, T_s \supseteq T_{s+1}$ and $\bigcap_{s \in \omega} T_s = T$.
- $\forall s \in \omega, \exists \sigma \in T_s \setminus T_{s+1}$ such that $\tau \in T_s \setminus T_{s+1} \implies \sigma \preceq \tau$.

We can assume that $\forall s \in \omega, T_s \supseteq T_{s+1}$ otherwise T is computable and thus giving that $[T]$ can be computably presented. For each $\sigma \in T_s$, define f_σ^s as the left-most path of T extending σ , then it follows that $f_\sigma := \lim_s f_\sigma^s$ is the left-most path in T extending $\sigma \in T$. We aim to construct a left-c.e. Polish presentation $((\alpha_\sigma)_{\sigma \in 2^{<\omega}}, d)$ of $[T]$ as a subspace of $(2^\omega)^*$. In fact, $[T]$ will be isometric to a subspace of $((\alpha_\sigma)_{\sigma \in 2^{<\omega}}, d)$.

Proof idea: The strategy to build such a space is as follows. For each string $\sigma \in 2^{<\omega}$, let α_σ be a special point associated with σ . The idea is to let α_σ represent $f_\sigma \in [T]$, whenever $\sigma \in T$ and some isolated point separated from the rest if $\sigma \notin T$. We would then obtain that $((\alpha_\sigma)_{\sigma \in T}, d) \cap ((\alpha_\sigma)_{\sigma \notin T}, d) = \emptyset$, and thus $((\alpha_\sigma)_{\sigma \in 2^{<\omega}}, d) \cong [T]^* \cong \hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$. However, since T is co-c.e., for some $\sigma \prec \tau$ it could be the case that in T_s , $f_\sigma^s \neq f_\tau^s$, and so we should define $d_s(\alpha_\sigma, \alpha_\tau) > 0$. Then at some later stage s' , it could become the case that $f_\sigma^{s'} = f_\tau^{s'}$, which means that $d_{s'}(\alpha_\sigma, \alpha_\tau) = 0$. Then d cannot be left-c.e., and so we instead simulate each f_σ by a sequence of special points $(\alpha_\sigma^i)_{i \in \omega}$.

Consider now the situation as presented before; we have currently defined $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\tau^s) > 0$ for some $\sigma \prec \tau$, but at some stage $s' > s$, we discover that $f_\sigma^{s'} = f_\tau^{s'}$. Then define $d_{s'}(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\tau^{s'}) = 0$, and move α_τ^s away by defining $d_{s'}(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\tau^s) = 1$. In other words, we shift the 'old' version of α_τ away into the set of isolated points and introduce a 'new' version of α_τ and let that be equal to α_σ . Observe that the longer string is the one shifted away, which allows us to define the isometry h later.

During the construction, at each stage s , we will introduce α_σ^s for each $\sigma \in 2^{<\omega}$ where $|\sigma| \leq s$. That is, we will need to define $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j)$ for each $\sigma, \tau \in 2^{<\omega}$ of length at most s and for each $i, j \leq s$. To simplify the actions taken, we write $\alpha_\sigma^s \sim \alpha_\sigma^{s-1}$ to mean that $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\sigma^{s-1}) = 0$ and also, for any other τ , and any $i < s$, $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\tau^i) = d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^{s-1}, \alpha_\tau^i)$. Here we note that multiple special points will all have distance 0, in particular, for (possibly) cofinitely many α_σ^i will have distance 0 from some α_σ^s . However, since testing of equality is co-c.e. in a left-c.e. space, the repetitions of special points can be eliminated in the usual way, and are only introduced for convenience in the construction. We also say to *move* α_σ^s to I to mean $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j) = 1$ for any $i, j \leq s$ and for any $\alpha_\tau^j \neq \alpha_\sigma^i$ introduced thus far in the construction. Furthermore, once some α_σ^s is moved to I , then its subsequent distance with any other special point will be defined as 1.

Once a node σ is discovered to leave T , say at stage s , then all subsequent 'versions' of the special point; α_σ^t for any $t > s$ will also be moved to I the moment they are introduced. By choice of $(T_s)_{s \in \omega}$, we know that once a node leaves T at stage s , it will never be a member of $T_{s'}$ for any $s' > s$. In particular, during an arbitrary stage s in the construction, we need only define d_s between nodes currently still in T_s . The formal construction is as follows.

Stage 0: Introduce α_ϵ^0 and do nothing else.

Stage $s > 0$: At each stage s , we will only work with strings of length at most s , that is, when we write T_n (during stage s) we really mean the set $\{\sigma \in T_n \mid |\sigma| \leq s\}$. For each $\delta, \xi \in T_s$, define

$$d_s(\alpha_\delta^s, \alpha_\xi^s) = \max\{2^{-i} \mid f_\delta^s \upharpoonright_s(i) \neq f_\xi^s \upharpoonright_s(i)\} \cup \{0\}.$$

For all other $\delta \notin T_s$, move α_δ^s to I . Let $\sigma \in T_{s-1} \setminus T_s$ be the common prefix of all strings removed from T_{s-1} and fix $\lambda \in T_s$ to be such that either $\lambda * 0 = \sigma$ or $\lambda * 1 = \sigma$.

If $\lambda * 0 = \sigma$, we do the following.

- (1) For each $\delta \neq \lambda$ and $\delta \in T_s$, let $\alpha_\delta^s \sim \alpha_\delta^{s-1}$.
- (2) For each $\delta \succeq \lambda * 1$, move α_δ^{s-1} to I . Note here that $f_\lambda^{s-1} \upharpoonright_s \neq f_{\lambda * 1}^{s-1} \upharpoonright_s$ but $f_\lambda^s \upharpoonright_s = f_{\lambda * 1}^s \upharpoonright_s$. Thus we move the old versions of α_δ to I and define $d_s(\alpha_\lambda^s, \alpha_{\lambda * 1}^s) = 0$.
- (3) For each $\delta \succeq \lambda * 0$, move α_δ^s to I .

If $\lambda * 1 = \sigma$, then do the following.

- (1) For each $\delta \neq \lambda * 1$ and $\delta \in T_s$, let $\alpha_\delta^s \sim \alpha_\delta^{s-1}$.
- (2) For each $\delta \succeq \lambda * 1$, move α_δ^s to I .

Let $d = \lim_s d_s$ and we now show that $((\alpha_\sigma^i)_{\sigma \in 2^{<\omega}, i \in \omega}, d)$ is a left-c.e. Polish presentation of $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$.

Lemma 5.2. *If $\sigma \in T$, then $\exists s$ such that $\forall t \geq s$, $d_t(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\sigma^t) = 0$.*

Proof of Lemma 5.2. Let $\sigma \in T$ be given, then $\forall s, \sigma \in T_s$. During the construction, as long as $\sigma \in T_s$, then α_σ^s is not moved to I at stage s . However, it is entirely possible that at some later stage $s' > s$, $\alpha_\sigma^{s'}$ could be moved to I . But this only happens if $\sigma \succeq \lambda * 1$ where λ is such that $\lambda * 0$ is the minimal (under \preceq) string removed from $T_{s'}$. Since σ is finite, then there can only be finitely many $\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ for which $\sigma \succeq \lambda_i * 1$. Then fix a stage s^* large enough such that $\forall i, \lambda_i * 0 \notin T_{s^*}$. Observe then that for all stages $t > s^*$, the construction always defines $\alpha_\sigma^t \sim \alpha_\sigma^{t-1}$. That is, $\forall t \geq s^*$, $d_t(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\sigma^t) = 0$. \square

Lemma 5.3. *$d = \lim_s d_s$ is a left-c.e. metric.*

Proof of Lemma 5.3. Let α_σ^i and α_τ^j be given. Let $t = \max\{i, j\}$ be the first stage at which $d_t(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j)$ is defined. We run through the possible actions in the construction and show that $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j) \geq d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j)$ for any $s > t$. Let some stage $s > t$ be given.

If at stage s , at least one of α_σ^i or α_τ^j is moved to I , then $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j) = 1$. Since this is the maximum possible distance between any two points in the construction, then it follows that $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j) \geq d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j)$.

Then we can suppose that neither α_σ^i nor α_τ^j is moved to I at stage s . It then remains to verify that when the action $\alpha_\sigma^s \sim \alpha_\sigma^{s-1}$ and $\alpha_\tau^s \sim \alpha_\tau^{s-1}$ is executed, $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\tau^s) \geq d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^{s-1}, \alpha_\tau^{s-1})$. By our assumption that neither α_σ^i and α_τ^j has been moved to I , the latter is equal to $d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j)$. Therefore it suffices to check that

$$\max\{2^{-n} \mid f_\sigma^{s-1} \upharpoonright_{s-1}(n) \neq f_\tau^{s-1} \upharpoonright_{s-1}(n)\} \cup \{0\} \leq \max\{2^{-n} \mid f_\sigma^s \upharpoonright_s(n) \neq f_\tau^s \upharpoonright_s(n)\} \cup \{0\}.$$

If $d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^{s-1}, \alpha_\tau^{s-1}) = 0$ then the statement is trivial. So we may assume that $d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^{s-1}, \alpha_\tau^{s-1}) = 2^{-n} > 0$ for some $n < s - 1$. Note also that $n < \max\{|\sigma|, |\tau|\}$, otherwise $f_\sigma^{s-1} \upharpoonright_{s-1} = f_\tau^{s-1} \upharpoonright_{s-1}$. Then if $d_s(\alpha_\sigma^s, \alpha_\tau^s) < d_{s-1}(\alpha_\sigma^{s-1}, \alpha_\tau^{s-1})$, it must be that $\forall m \leq n$, $f_\sigma^s \upharpoonright_s(m) = f_\tau^s \upharpoonright_s(m)$. This can only happen if for some $\lambda \preceq \tau$ or $\lambda \preceq \sigma$ of length n , the string $\lambda * 0$ or $\lambda * 1$ is removed from T at stage s . If $\lambda * 0$ is removed, then either α_σ^i or α_τ^j must have been moved to I because respectively, $\lambda \preceq \tau$ or $\lambda \preceq \sigma$. In the case that $\lambda * 1$ is removed at stage s , as neither α_σ^i nor α_τ^j is moved to I , then it must be that $f_\sigma^{s-1} \upharpoonright_{n+1} = \lambda * 0 = f_\tau^{s-1} \upharpoonright_{n+1}$ which is a contradiction.

Thus $d = \lim d_s$ is left-c.e.. To see that d is a metric, for α_σ^i and α_τ^j not in I ,

$$d(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j) = \max\{2^{-n} \mid f_\sigma(n) \neq f_\tau(n)\}.$$

In the case that one of the points is in I , $d(\alpha_\sigma^i, \alpha_\tau^j) = 1$. It is easy to verify that triangle inequality is satisfied. Furthermore, by eliminating repetition of special points, d then becomes a metric. \square

For each $\sigma \in T$, by Lemma 5.2, we can fix an $s_\sigma \in \omega$ such that $\forall t \geq s_\sigma, d_t(\alpha_\sigma^{s_\sigma}, \alpha_\sigma^t) = 0$. Then define the map

$$h(\alpha_\sigma^i) = \begin{cases} \text{left-most path in } T \text{ through } \sigma & \text{if } i \geq s_\sigma, \\ \text{some currently unoccupied point in } I & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

It is clear then that the set $B = \{h(\alpha_\sigma^i) \mid \sigma \in T, i \geq s_\sigma\} \subseteq [T]$ is dense in $([T], d)$. Furthermore, since $d(\overline{B}, I) = 1$, then $\overline{B} \cap \overline{I} = \emptyset$. This implies that $(\overline{B \cup I}, d) \cong \hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$. \square

The result below is essentially due to [BHTM23].

Lemma 5.4. *Let \mathcal{B} be a countable Boolean algebra. If \mathcal{B} is c.e. presentable, then $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$ is right-c.e. Polish presentable.*

Proof. In [BHTM23], it is proven that for a c.e. presentable Boolean algebra \mathcal{B} , its Stone space $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$ is right-c.e. presented. The metric on $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$ is induced by the standard ultra-metric on 2^ω , and by compactness, the diameter of the space has to be of the form 2^{-n} for some n (since the supremum is achieved at some $x, y \in \hat{\mathcal{B}}$). This induces a right-c.e. presentation of $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^* = \hat{\mathcal{B}} \cup I$; see Definition 7. \square

Lemma 5.5. *Let \mathcal{B} be a countable Boolean algebra such that $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$ be computable Polish presentable. Then \mathcal{B} is computably presentable.*

Proof. Let $((\alpha_i)_{i \in \omega}, d)$ be a computable Polish presentation of $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^* = (\hat{\mathcal{B}} \cup I, d)$. We have that $d(\hat{\mathcal{B}}, I) = \delta > 0$. In particular, $\bigcup_{\alpha_i \in \hat{\mathcal{B}}} B_\delta(\alpha_i)$ is a cover of $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$ and disjoint from I . Since $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$ is compact, then there is some finite subcover $\bigcup_{i < n} B_\delta(\alpha_i^*)$ of $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$. Without loss of generality, fix (non-uniformly) the isolating distance δ and such α_i^* as $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$. We now prove that $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$, as a subspace of $\hat{\mathcal{B}} \cup I$ is computable Polish presentable. Then by the following result of [HTMN20], we can conclude that \mathcal{B} is computably presentable: A Boolean algebra is computable presentable if, and only if, its Stone space is homeomorphic to a computable Polish space. (The sketch in [HTMN20] contains a misleading but easily fixable error. For a detailed and complete exposition, see the technical survey [DM23].)

Since $d(\hat{\mathcal{B}}, I) > 0$, $\hat{\mathcal{B}} \cong ((\alpha_i)_{i \in W}, d)$ where $W = \{i \mid \alpha_i \in \hat{\mathcal{B}}\}$, and thus it suffices to show that W is c.e., as d is already computable. For each $i \in \omega$, let $i \in W$ iff $\exists j \leq n, d(\alpha_i, \beta_j) < \delta$. Since d is computable, then the predicate $d(\alpha_i, \beta_j) < \delta$ is Σ_1^0 and hence W is c.e.. Furthermore, it is easy to see that $\alpha_i \in \hat{\mathcal{B}}$ iff $i \in W$. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.4. Let \mathcal{B} be a countable c.e. presentable Boolean algebra that does not have a computable presentation. Then by Lemmas 5.1 and 5.4, the space $M = \hat{\mathcal{B}}^*$ is both left-c.e. and right-c.e. Polish presentable. But we also have that by Lemma 5.5, M is not computably presentable. \square

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