Fixed Point Sets in Digital Topology, 2

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Abstract

We continue the work of [10], studying properties of digital images determined by fixed point invariants. We introduce pointed versions of invariants that were introduced in [10]. We introduce freezing sets and cold sets to show how the existence of a fixed point set for a continuous self-map restricts the map on the complement of the fixed point set.

1 Introduction

As stated in [10]:

Digital images are often used as mathematical models of real-world objects. A digital model of the notion of a continuous function, borrowed from the study of topology, is often useful for the study of digital images. However, a digital image is typically a finite, discrete point set. Thus, it is often necessary to study digital images using methods not directly derived from topology. In this paper, we examine some properties of digital images concerned with the fixed points of digitally continuous functions; among these properties are discrete measures that are not natural analogs of properties of subsets of \( \mathbb{R}^n \).

In [10], we studied rigidity, pull indices, fixed point spectra for digital images and for digitally continuous functions, and related notions. In the current work, we study pointed versions of notions introduced in [10]. We also study such questions as when a set of fixed points \( \text{Fix}(f) \) determines that \( f \) is an identity function, or is “approximately” an identity function.

Some of the results in this paper were presented in [6].

2 Preliminaries

Much of this section is quoted or paraphrased from [10].

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Let \( N \) denote the set of natural numbers; \( \mathbb{N}^+ = \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N} \), the set of nonnegative integers; and \( \mathbb{Z} \), the set of integers. \( \#X \) will be used for the number of members of a set \( X \).

### 2.1 Adjacencies

A digital image is a pair \((X, \kappa)\) where \( X \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \) for some \( n \) and \( \kappa \) is an adjacency on \( X \). Thus, \((X, \kappa)\) is a graph for which \( X \) is the vertex set and \( \kappa \) determines the edge set. Usually, \( X \) is finite, although there are papers that consider infinite \( X \). Usually, adjacency reflects some type of “closeness” in \( \mathbb{Z}^n \) of the adjacent points. When these “usual” conditions are satisfied, one may consider the digital image as a model of a black-and-white “real world” image in which the black points (foreground) are represented by the members of \( X \) and the white points (background) by members of \( \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{X\} \).

We write \( x \leftrightarrow_{\kappa} y \), or \( x \leftrightarrow y \) when \( \kappa \) is understood or when it is unnecessary to mention \( \kappa \), to indicate that \( x \) and \( y \) are \( \kappa \)-adjacent. Notations \( x \leftrightarrow_{\kappa} y \), or \( x \leftrightarrow y \) when \( \kappa \) is understood, indicate that \( x \) and \( y \) are \( \kappa \)-adjacent or are equal.

The most commonly used adjacencies are the \( c_u \)-adjacencies, defined as follows. Let \( X \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \) and let \( u \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq u \leq n \). Then for points \( x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \neq (y_1, \ldots, y_n) = y \)

we have \( x \leftrightarrow_{c_u} y \) if and only if

- for at most \( u \) indices \( i \) we have \( |x_i - y_i| = 1 \), and
- for all indices \( j \), \(|x_j - y_j| \neq 1 \) implies \( x_j = y_j \).

The \( c_u \)-adjacencies are often denoted by the number of adjacent points a point can have in the adjacency. E.g.,

- in \( \mathbb{Z} \), \( c_1 \)-adjacency is 2-adjacency;
- in \( \mathbb{Z}^2 \), \( c_1 \)-adjacency is 4-adjacency and \( c_2 \)-adjacency is 8-adjacency;
- in \( \mathbb{Z}^3 \), \( c_1 \)-adjacency is 8-adjacency, \( c_2 \)-adjacency is 18-adjacency, and \( c_3 \)-adjacency is 26-adjacency.

The literature also contains several adjacencies to exploit properties of Cartesian products of digital images. These include the following.

### Definition 2.1

Let \((X, \kappa)\) and \((Y, \lambda)\) be digital images. The normal product adjacency or strong adjacency on \( X \times Y \), \( NP(\kappa, \lambda) \), is defined as follows. Given \( x_0, x_1 \in X \), \( y_0, y_1 \in Y \) such that

\[ p_0 = (x_0, y_0) \neq (x_1, y_1) = p_1, \]

we have \( p_0 \leftrightarrow_{NP(\kappa, \lambda)} p_1 \) if and only if one of the following is valid:

- \( x_0 \leftrightarrow_{\kappa} x_1 \) and \( y_0 = y_1 \), or
Building on the normal product adjacency, we have the following.

**Definition 2.2.** [4] Given \( u, v \in \mathbb{N}, \ 1 \leq u \leq v \), and digital images \((X_i, \kappa_i)\), \(1 \leq i \leq v\), let \( X = \Pi_{i=1}^{v} X_i \). The adjacency \( NP_u(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_v) \) for \( X \) is defined as follows. Given \( x_i, x_i' \in X_i \), let

\[
p = (x_1, \ldots, x_v) \neq (x_1', \ldots, x_v') = q.
\]

Then \( p \leftrightarrow_{NP_u(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_v)} q \) if for at least 1 and at most \( u \) indices \( i \) we have \( x_i \leftrightarrow_{\kappa_i} x_i' \) and for all other indices \( j \) we have \( x_j = x_j' \).

Notice \( NP(\kappa, \lambda) = NP_2(\kappa, \lambda) \). [4]

Let \( x \in (X, \kappa) \). We use the notations

\[
N(x) = N_\kappa(x) = \{ y \in X \mid y \leftrightarrow_{\kappa} x \}
\]

and

\[
N^*(x) = N^*_\kappa(x) = N_\kappa(x) \cup \{ x \}.
\]

### 2.2 Digitally continuous functions

We denote by \( \text{id} \) or \( \text{id}_X \) the identity map \( \text{id}(x) = x \) for all \( x \in X \).

**Definition 2.3.** [16, 3] Let \((X, \kappa)\) and \((Y, \lambda)\) be digital images. A function \( f : X \to Y \) is \((\kappa, \lambda)\)-continuous, or digitally continuous when \( \kappa \) and \( \lambda \) are understood, if for every \( \kappa \)-connected subset \( X' \) of \( X \), \( f(X') \) is a \( \lambda \)-connected subset of \( Y \). If \((X, \kappa) = (Y, \lambda)\), we say a function is \( \kappa \)-continuous to abbreviate “\((\kappa, \kappa)\)-continuous.”

**Theorem 2.4.** [3] A function \( f : X \to Y \) between digital images \((X, \kappa)\) and \((Y, \lambda)\) is \((\kappa, \lambda)\)-continuous if and only if for every \( x, y \in X \), if \( x \leftrightarrow_{\kappa} y \) then \( f(x) \leftrightarrow_{\lambda} f(y) \).

**Theorem 2.5.** [3] Let \( f : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda) \) and \( g : (Y, \lambda) \to (Z, \mu) \) be continuous functions between digital images. Then \( g \circ f : (X, \kappa) \to (Z, \mu) \) is continuous.

**Definition 2.6.** [3; see also [14]] Let \( X \) and \( Y \) be digital images. Let \( f, g : X \to Y \) be \((\kappa, \kappa')\)-continuous functions. Suppose there is a positive integer \( m \) and a function \( h : X \times [0, m] \to Y \) such that

- for all \( x \in X \), \( h(x, 0) = f(x) \) and \( h(x, m) = g(x) \);
- for all \( x \in X \), the induced function \( h_x : [0, m] \to Y \) defined by
  \[
h_x(t) = h(x, t) \quad \text{for all} \quad t \in [0, m]
\]
  is \((2, \kappa')\)-continuous. That is, \( h_x(t) \) is a path in \( Y \).
• for all \( t \in [0, m] \mathbb{Z} \), the induced function \( h_t : X \to Y \) defined by
  \[
h_t(x) = h(x, t) \text{ for all } x \in X
  \]
is \((\kappa, \kappa')\)-continuous.

Then \( h \) is a digital \((\kappa, \kappa')\)-homotopy between \( f \) and \( g \), and \( f \) and \( g \) are digitally \((\kappa, \kappa')\)-homotopic in \( Y \), denoted \( f \sim_{\kappa, \kappa'} g \) or \( f \sim g \) when \( \kappa \) and \( \kappa' \) are understood. If \((X, \kappa) = (Y, \kappa')\), we say \( f \) and \( g \) are \( \kappa \)-homotopic to abbreviate “\((\kappa, \kappa)\)-homotopic” and write \( f \sim_{\kappa} g \) to abbreviate “\( f \sim_{\kappa, \kappa} g \)”. If further \( h(x, t) = x \) for all \( t \in [0, m] \mathbb{Z} \), we say \( h \) holds \( x \) fixed.

If there exists \( x_0 \in X \) such that \( f(x_0) = g(x_0) = y_0 \in Y \) and \( h(x_0, t) = y_0 \) for all \( t \in [0, m] \mathbb{Z} \), then \( h \) is a pointed homotopy and \( f \) and \( g \) are pointed homotopic [4].

If there exist continuous \( f : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda) \) and \( g : (Y, \lambda) \to (X, \kappa) \) such that \( g \circ f \sim_{\kappa, \lambda} \text{id}_X \) and \( f \circ g \sim_{\lambda, \kappa} \text{id}_Y \), then \((X, \kappa)\) and \((Y, \lambda)\) are homotopy equivalent.

If there is a \( \kappa \)-homotopy between \( \text{id}_X \) and a constant map, we say \( X \) is \( \kappa \)-contractible, or just contractible when \( \kappa \) is understood.

**Theorem 2.7.** [4] Let \((X_i, \kappa_i)\) and \((Y_i, \lambda_i)\) be digital images, \( 1 \leq i \leq \nu \). Let \( f_i : X_i \to Y_i \). Then the product map \( f : \prod_{i=1}^\nu X_i \to \prod_{i=1}^\nu Y_i \) defined by
  \[
f(x_1, \ldots, x_\nu) = (f_1(x_1), \ldots, f_\nu(x_\nu))
  \]
for \( x_i \in X_i \), is \((NP_\nu(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_\nu), NP_\nu(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_\nu))\)-continuous if and only if each \( f_i \) is \((\kappa_i, \lambda_i)\)-continuous.

**Definition 2.8.** Let \( A \subset X \). A \( \kappa \)-continuous function \( r : X \to A \) is a retraction, and \( A \) is a retract of \( X \), if \( r(a) = a \) for all \( a \in A \). If such a map \( r \) satisfies \( i \circ r \sim_{\kappa} \text{id}_X \) where \( i : A \to X \) is the inclusion map, then \( A \) is a \( \kappa \)-deformation retract of \( X \).

A function \( f : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda) \) is an isomorphism (called a homeomorphism in [2]) if \( f \) is a continuous bijection such that \( f^{-1} \) is continuous.

We use the following notation. For a digital image \((X, \kappa)\),
  \[
  C(X, \kappa) = \{ f : X \to X \mid f \text{ is continuous} \}.
  \]

Given \( f \in C(X, \kappa) \), a point \( x \in X \) is a fixed point of \( f \) if \( f(x) = x \). We denote by \( \text{Fix}(f) \) the set \( \{ x \in X \mid x \text{ is a fixed point of } f \} \). If \( x \in X \setminus \text{Fix}(f) \), we say \( f \) moves \( x \).

## 3 Rigidity and reducibility

A function \( f : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda) \) is rigid [10] when no continuous map is homotopic to \( f \) except \( f \) itself. When the identity map \( \text{id} : X \to X \) is rigid, we say \( X \) is rigid [12]. If \( f : X \to Y \) with \( f(x_0) = y_0 \), then \( f \) is pointed rigid [12] if
no continuous map is pointed homotopic to $f$ other than $f$ itself. When the identity map $id : (X, x_0) \to (X, x_0)$ is pointed rigid, we say $(X, x_0)$ is pointed rigid.

Rigid maps and digital images are discussed in [12, 10]. Clearly, a pointed rigid map is rigid, and a pointed rigid digital image is rigid. We show in the following that the converses of these assertions are not generally true.

**Example 3.1.** [9] Let $X = ([0, 2] \times [0, 1]) \setminus \{(1, 1, 1)\}$. Let $x_0 = (0, 0, 1) \in X$. See Figure 1. It was shown in [9] that $X$ is $c_1$-contractible (i.e., $c_1$-contractible) but $(X, x_0)$ is not pointed $c_1$-contractible. The proof of the latter uses an argument that is easily modified to show that any homotopy of $id_X$ that moves some point must move $x_0$. It follows that $id_X$ is not rigid but is $x_0$-pointed rigid, i.e., that $X$ is not $c_1$-rigid but $(X, x_0)$ is $c_1$-pointed rigid.

**Definition 3.2.** [12] A finite image $X$ is reducible if it is homotopy equivalent to an image of fewer points. Otherwise, we say $X$ is irreducible.

**Lemma 3.3.** [12] A finite image $X$ is reducible if and only if $id_X$ is homotopic to a non-surjective map.

Let $(X, \kappa)$ be reducible. By Lemma 3.3 there exist $x \in X$ and $f \in C(X, \kappa)$ such that $id_X \simeq \kappa f$ and $x \notin f(X)$. We will call such a point a reduction point.

In Lemma 3.4 below, we have changed the notation of [12], since the latter paper uses the notation “$N(x)$” for what we call “$N^*(x)$” or “$N^*_c(x)$”.

**Lemma 3.4.** [12] If there exist distinct $x, y \in X$ so that $N^*(x) \subset N^*(y)$, then $X$ is reducible. In particular, $x$ is a reduction point of $X$, and $X \setminus \{x\}$ is a deformation retract of $X$.

**Remark 3.5.** [12] A finite rigid image is irreducible.
Theorem 3.6. Let \((X, c_2)\) be a digital image in \(\mathbb{Z}^2\). Suppose there exists \(x_0 \in X\) such that \(N_{c_2}(x_0)\) is \(c_2\)-connected and \(#N_{c_2}(x_0) \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}\). Then \((X, c_2)\) is reducible.

Proof. This follows from Lemma 3.4, since one of the points \(y \in N_{c_2}(x_0)\) satisfies \(N_{c_2}^*(x_0) \subset N_{c_2}^*(y)\).

4 Pointed homotopy fixed point spectrum

In this section, we define pointed versions of the homotopy fixed point spectrum of \(f \in C(X, \kappa)\) and the fixed point spectrum of a digital image \((X, \kappa)\).

Definition 4.1. Let \((X, \kappa)\) be a digital image.

- Given \(f \in C(X, \kappa)\), the homotopy fixed point spectrum of \(f\) is
  \[S(f) = \{ \#\text{Fix}(g) | g \sim_{\kappa} f \} \].

- Given \(f \in C(X, \kappa)\) and \(x_0 \in \text{Fix}(f)\), the pointed homotopy fixed point spectrum of \(f\) is
  \[S(f, x_0) = \{ \#\text{Fix}(g) | g \sim_{\kappa} f \text{ holding } x_0 \text{ fixed} \} \].

Definition 4.2. Let \((X, \kappa)\) be a digital image.

- The fixed point spectrum of \((X, \kappa)\) is
  \[F(X) = F(X, \kappa) = \{ \#\text{Fix}(f) | f \in C(X, \kappa) \} \].

- Given \(x_0 \in X\), the pointed fixed point spectrum of \((X, \kappa, x_0)\) is
  \[F(X) = F(X, \kappa, x_0) = \{ \#\text{Fix}(f) | f \in C(X, \kappa), x_0 \in \text{Fix}(f) \} \].

Theorem 4.3. Let \(A\) be a retract of \((X, \kappa)\). Then \(F(A) \subseteq F(X)\).

The argument used to prove Theorem 4.3 is easily modified to yield the following.

Theorem 4.4. Let \((A, \kappa, x_0)\) be a retract of \((X, \kappa, x_0)\). Then \(F(A, \kappa, x_0) \subseteq F(X, \kappa, x_0)\).

Theorem 4.5. Let \(X = [1, a]_\mathbb{Z} \times [1, b]_\mathbb{Z}\). Let \(\kappa \in \{c_1, c_2\}\). Then
\[S(\text{id}_X, \kappa) = F(X, \kappa) = \{i_{1=n}^{ab} \}\.

Example 4.6. Consider the pointed digital image \((X, c_1, x_0)\) of Example 3.1.

Since \(f \in C(X, c_1)\) and \(x_0 \in \text{Fix}(f)\) imply \(f = \text{id}_X\),
\[F(X, c_1, x_0) = S(\text{id}_X, c_1, x_0) = \{ \#X \} = \{17\}.\]
However, $(X, c_1)$ is not rigid. It is easily seen that there is a $c_1$-deformation retraction of $X$ to $\{ (x, y, 0) \in X \}$, which is isomorphic to $[1, 3]_2$. It follows from Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.5 that $\{ \} \in S(\text{id}_X)$. Since every $f \in C(X, c_1)$ such that $f \neq \text{id}_X$ moves every point $q$ of $X$ such that $p_3(q) = 1$, it follows easily that

$$S(\text{id}_X, c_1) = F(X, c_1) = \{ 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17 \}.$$ 

5 Freezing sets

In this section, we consider subsets of $\text{Fix}(f)$ that determine that $f \in C(X, \kappa)$ must be the identity function $\text{id}_X$. Interesting questions include what properties such sets have, and how small they can be.

In classical topology, given a connected set $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a continuous self-map $f$ on $X$, knowledge of a finite subset $A$ of the fixed points of $f$ rarely tells us much about the behavior of $f$ on $X \setminus A$. By contrast, we see in this section that knowledge of a subset of the fixed points of a continuous self-map $f$ on a digital image can completely characterize $f$ as an identity map.

5.1 Definition and basic properties

Definition 5.1. Let $(X, \kappa)$ be a digital image. We say $A \subset X$ is a freezing set for $X$ if for every isomorphism $F : X \to (Y, \lambda)$, if $g : X \to Y$ is $(\kappa, \lambda)$-continuous and $F|_A = g|_A$, then $g = F$.

Note if $A$ is a freezing set for $X$, then for $F = \text{id}_X$ and $g \in C(X)$ such that $g|_A = F|_A$, we have $A \subset \text{Fix}(g)$. This leads to the following.

Theorem 5.2. Let $(X, \kappa)$ be a digital image. Let $A \subset X$. Then $A$ is a freezing set for $X$ if and only if given $g \in C(X, \kappa)$, $A \subset \text{Fix}(g)$ implies $g = \text{id}_X$.

Proof. Suppose $A$ is a freezing set for $X$. For $g \in C(X, \kappa)$, $A \subset \text{Fix}(g)$ implies $g|_A = \text{id}_X|_A$, so since $\text{id}_X$ is an isomorphism, $g = \text{id}_X$.

Suppose given $f \in C(X, \kappa)$, $A \subset \text{Fix}(f)$ implies $f = \text{id}_X$. Let $F : X \to Y$ be a $(\kappa, \lambda)$-isomorphism. Let $g : X \to Y$ be $(\kappa, \lambda)$-continuous, such that $g|_A = F|_A$. Then

$$F^{-1} \circ g|_A = F^{-1} \circ F|_A = \text{id}_X|_A = \text{id}_A.$$ 

Since the composition of digitally continuous functions is continuous, it follows by hypothesis that $F^{-1} \circ g = \text{id}_X$, and therefore that

$$g = F \circ (F^{-1} \circ g) = F \circ \text{id}_X = F.$$ 

Freezing sets are topological invariants in the sense of the following.

Theorem 5.3. Let $A$ be a freezing set for the digital image $(X, \kappa)$ and let $F : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda)$ be an isomorphism. Then $F(A)$ is a freezing set for $(Y, \lambda)$. 

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Proof. Let $g \in C(Y, \lambda)$ such that $g|_{F(A)} = \text{id}_Y|_{F(A)}$. Then
\[
g \circ F|_A = g|_{F(A)} \circ F = \text{id}_Y|_{F(A)} \circ F = F|_A.
\]
By Definition 5.1 $g \circ F = F$. Thus
\[
g = (g \circ F) \circ F^{-1} = F \circ F^{-1} = \text{id}_Y.
\]
By Theorem 5.2 $F(A)$ is a freezing set for $(Y, \lambda)$. \qed

We will use the following.

**Proposition 5.4.** Let $(X, \kappa)$ be a digital image and $f \in C(X, \kappa)$. Suppose $x, x' \in \text{Fix}(f)$ are such that there is a unique shortest $\kappa$-path $P$ in $X$ from $x$ to $x'$. Then $P \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

Let $p_i : \mathbb{Z}^n \to \mathbb{Z}$ be the projection to the $i^{th}$ coordinate: $p_i(z_1, \ldots, z_n) = z_i$.

The following assertion can be interpreted to say that in a $c_u$-adjacency, a continuous function that moves a point $p$ also moves a point that is “behind” $p$. E.g., in $\mathbb{Z}^2$, if $q$ and $q'$ are $c_1$- or $c_2$-adjacent with $q$ left, right, above, or below $q'$, and a continuous function $f$ moves $q$ to the left, right, higher, or lower, respectively, then $f$ also moves $q'$ to the left, right, higher, or lower, respectively.

**Lemma 5.5.** Let $(X, c_u) \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$ be a digital image, $1 \leq u \leq n$. Let $q, q' \in X$ be such that $q \leftrightarrow_{c_u} q'$. Let $f \in C(X, c_u)$.

1. If $p_i(f(q)) > p_i(q) > p_i(q')$ then $p_i(f(q')) > p_i(q')$.
2. If $p_i(f(q)) < p_i(q) < p_i(q')$ then $p_i(f(q')) < p_i(q')$.

**Proof.**
1. Suppose $p_i(f(q)) > p_i(q) > p_i(q')$. Since $q \leftrightarrow_{c_u} q'$, if $p_i(q) = m$ then $p_i(q') = m - 1$. Then $p_i(f(q)) > m$. By continuity of $f$, we must have $f(q') \leftrightarrow_{c_u} f(q)$, so $p_i(f(q')) \geq m > p_i(q')$.
2. This case is proven similarly. \qed

**Theorem 5.6.** Let $(X, \kappa)$ be a digital image. Let $X'$ be a proper subset of $X$ that is a retract of $X$. Then $X'$ does not contain a freezing set for $(X, \kappa)$.

**Proof.** Let $r : X \to X'$ be a retraction. Then $f = i \circ r \in C(X, \kappa)$, where $i : X' \to X$ is the inclusion map. Then $f|_{X'} = \text{id}_{X'}$, but $f|_{X \setminus X'} \neq \text{id}_{X \setminus X'}$. The assertion follows. \qed

**Corollary 5.7.** Let $(X, \kappa)$ be a reducible digital image. Let $x$ be a reduction point for $X$. Let $A$ be a freezing set for $X$. Then $x \in A$.

**Proof.** Otherwise, there exists a reduction point $x$ for $(X, \kappa)$ such that $x \notin A$. By Lemma 5.4 there is a retraction $r : X \to X \setminus \{x\}$. By Theorem 5.6 $X \setminus \{x\}$ is not a freezing set for $(X, \kappa)$. Since $X$ is a freezing set for $(X, \kappa)$, the assertion follows. \qed
Proposition 5.8. Let \((X, c_2)\) be a connected digital image in \(\mathbb{Z}^2\). Suppose \(x_0 \in X\) is such that \(N_{c_2}(x_0)\) is connected and \(#N_{c_2}(x_0) \in \{1, 2, 3\}\). If \(A\) is a freezing set for \((X, c_2)\), then \(x_0 \in A\).

Proof. This follows from Lemma 3.4. \(\square\)

Proposition 5.8 cannot in general be extended to permit \(#N_{c_2}(x_0) = 4\), as shown in the following.

Example 5.9. Let \(X = \{x_i\}_{i=0}^4 \subset \mathbb{Z}^2\), where

\[
x_0 = (0, 0), \ x_1 = (0, -1), \ x_2 = (1, 0), \ x_3 = (0, 1), \ x_4 = (-1, 1).
\]

See Figure 2. Then \(N_{c_2}(x_0)\) is \(c_2\)-connected and \(#N_{c_2}(x_0) = 4\). It is easily seen that \(X \setminus \{x_0\}\) is a freezing set for \((X, c_2)\).

5.2 Boundaries and freezing sets

For any digital image \((X, \kappa)\), clearly \(X\) is a freezing set. An interesting question is how small \(A \subset X\) can be for \(A\) to be a freezing set for \(X\). We say a freezing set \(A\) is minimal if no proper subset of \(A\) is a freezing set for \(X\).

Definition 5.10. Let \(X \subset \mathbb{Z}^n\).

- The boundary of \(X\) is

\[
Bd(X) = \{ x \in X \mid \text{there exists } y \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus X \text{ such that } y \leftrightarrow_{c_1} x \}.
\]

- The interior of \(X\) is \(\text{int}(X) = X \setminus Bd(X)\).

Proposition 5.11. Let \([a, b]_\mathbb{Z} \subset [c, d]_\mathbb{Z}\) and let \(f : [a, b]_\mathbb{Z} \to [c, d]_\mathbb{Z}\) be \(c_1\)-continuous.

- If \(\{a, b\} \subset \text{Fix}(f)\), then \([a, b]_\mathbb{Z} \subset \text{Fix}(f)\).
Proposition 5.12. Let $X \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$ be finite. Let $1 \leq u \leq n$. Let $A \subset X$. Let $f \in C(X, c_u)$. If $Bd(A) \subset \text{Fix}(f)$, then $A \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

Proof. By hypothesis, it suffices to show $\text{Int}(A) \subset \text{Fix}(f)$. Let $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in \text{int}(A)$. Suppose, in order to obtain a contradiction, $x \notin \text{Fix}(f)$.

Then for some index $j$, $p_j(f(x)) \neq x_j$. \hfill (1)

Since $X$ is finite, there exists a path $P = \{y_i = (x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}, a_i, x_{j+1}, \ldots, x_n)\}_{i=1}^m$ in $X$ such that $a_1 < x_j < a_m$ and $a_{i+1} = a_i + 1$; $y_i, y_m \notin Bd(A)$; and $\{y_i\}_{i=2}^{m-1} \subset \text{int}(A)$. Note $x \in P$. Now, (1) implies either $p_j(f(x)) < x_j$ or $p_j(f(x)) > x_j$. If the former, then by Lemma 5.10, $y_m \notin \text{Fix}(f)$; and if the latter, then by Lemma 5.10, $y_1 \notin \text{Fix}(f)$; so in either case, we have a contradiction. We conclude that $x \in \text{Fix}(f)$. The assertion follows. \hfill $\Box$

Theorem 5.13. Let $X \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$ be finite. Then for $1 \leq u \leq n$, $Bd(X)$ is a freezing set for $(X, c_u)$.

Proof. The assertion follows from Proposition 5.12. \hfill $\Box$

Without the finiteness condition used in Proposition 5.12 and in Theorem 5.13, the assertions would be false, as shown in the following.

Example 5.14. Let $X = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid y \geq 0\}$. Consider the function $f : X \to X$ defined by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} (x, 0) & \text{if } y = 0; \\ (x + 1, y) & \text{if } y > 0. \end{cases}$$

Then $f \in C(X, c_2)$, $Bd(X) = \mathbb{Z} \times \{0\}$, and $f|_{Bd(X)} = \text{id}_{Bd(X)}$, but $X \not\subset \text{Fix}(f)$, so $Bd(X)$ is not a $c_2$-freezing set for $X$. 

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5.3 Digital cubes and $c_1$

In this section, we consider freezing sets for digital cubes using the $c_1$ adjacency.

**Theorem 5.15.** Let $X = \Pi_{i=1}^n [0, m_i]z$ where $m_i > 1$ for all $i$. Let $A = \Pi_{i=1}^n \{0, m_i\}$.

- Let $Y = \Pi_{i=1}^n [c_i, d_i]z$ be such that $[0, m_i] \subset [c_i, d_i]z$ for all $i$. Let $f : X \to Y$ be $c_1$-continuous. If $A \subset \text{Fix}(f)$, then $X \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

- $A$ is a freezing set for $(X, c_1)$; minimal for $n \in \{1, 2\}$.

**Proof.** The first assertion has been established for $n = 1$ at Proposition 5.11. We can regard this as a base case for an argument based on induction on $n$, and we now assume the assertion is established for $n \leq k$ where $k \geq 1$.

Now suppose $n = k + 1$ and $f : X \to Y$ is $c_1$-continuous with $A \subset \text{Fix}(f)$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have $\left(\{0\} \times \Pi_{i=2}^n [0, m_i]z\right) \cup \left(\{m_1\} \times \Pi_{i=2}^n [0, m_i]z\right) \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

Then given $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in X$, we have that $x$ is a member of the unique shortest $c_1$-path $\{(t, x_2, \ldots, x_n)\}_{t=0}^{m_1}$ from $(0, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \in A$ to $(m_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \in A$. By Proposition 5.4 $x \in \text{Fix}(f)$. Since $x$ was taken arbitrarily, this completes the induction proof that $X \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

By taking $Y = X$ and applying the above to all $f \in C(X, c_1)$ such that $A \subset \text{Fix}(f)$, we conclude that $A$ is a freezing set for $(X, c_1)$.

Minimality of $A$ for $n = 1$ was established at Proposition 5.11. To show minimality of $A$ for $n = 2$, consider a proper subset $A' \subset A$. Without loss of generality, $(0, 0) \in A \setminus A'$. Let $g : X \to X$ be the function

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \neq (0, 0); \\ (1, 1) & \text{if } x = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

Suppose $y \in X$ is such that $y \leftrightarrow_{c_1} (0, 0)$. Then either $y = (1, 0)$ or $y = (0, 1)$, hence

$$g(y) = y \leftrightarrow_{c_1} (1, 1) = g(0, 0).$$

Thus $g \in C(X, c_1)$, $A' \subset \text{Fix}(g)$, and $g \neq \text{id}_X$. Therefore, $A'$ is not a freezing set for $(X, c_1)$, so $A$ is minimal.

The minimality assertion of Theorem 5.15 does not extend to $n = 3$, as shown in the following.

**Example 5.16.** Let $X = [0, 1]^3$. Let

$$A = \{(0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 1), (1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0)\}.$$

Then $A$ is a minimal freezing set for $(X, c_1)$. 

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Proof. Note if $x \in X \setminus A$ then for each index $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, $x$ is $c_1$-adjacent to $y_i \in A$ such that $x$ and $y_i$ differ in the $i^{th}$ coordinate. Therefore, if $f \in C(X, c_1)$ such that $f(x) \neq x$, then $c_1$-continuity requires that for some $i$ we have $f(y_i) \neq y_i$. It follows that $A$ is a freezing set for $(X, c_1)$.

Minimality is shown as follows. Let $A'$ be a proper subset of $A$. Without loss of generality, $(0, 0, 0) \in A \setminus A'$. Let $g : X \to X$ be the function (see Figure 3)

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} (1, 1, 0) & \text{if } x = (0, 0, 0); \\ (1, 1, 1) & \text{if } x = (0, 0, 1); \\ x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then $g \in C(X, c_1)$, $g|_{A'} = \text{id}_{A'}$, and $g \neq \text{id}_X$. Therefore, $A'$ is not a freezing set for $(X, c_1)$. \qed

5.4 Digital cubes and $c_n$

In this section, we consider freezing sets for digital cubes in $\mathbb{Z}^n$, using the $c_n$ adjacency.

**Theorem 5.17.** Let $X = \prod_{i=1}^n [0, m_i] \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$, where $m_i > 1$ for all $i$. Then $\text{Bd}(X)$ is a minimal freezing set for $(X, c_n)$.

**Proof.** That $\text{Bd}(X)$ is a freezing set for $(X, c_n)$ follows from Theorem 5.13.

To show $\text{Bd}(X)$ is a minimal freezing set, it suffices to show that if $A$ is a proper subset of $X$ then $A$ is not a freezing set for $(X, c_n)$. We must show that there exists

$$f \in C(X, c_n) \text{ such that } f|_A = \text{id}_A \text{ but } f \neq \text{id}_X.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

By hypothesis, there exists $y = (y_1, \ldots, y_n) \in \text{Bd}(X) \setminus A$.

Since $y \in \text{Bd}(X)$, for some index $j$, $y_j \in \{0, m_j\}$.
• If $y_j = 0$ the function $f : X \to X$ defined by
  \[ f(y) = (y_1, \ldots, y_{j-1}, 1, y_{j+1}, \ldots, y_n), \quad f(x) = x \text{ for } x \neq y, \]
  satisfies (2).

• If $y_j = m_j$ the function $f : X \to X$ defined by
  \[ f(y) = (y_1, \ldots, y_{j-1}, m_j - 1, y_{j+1}, \ldots, y_n), \quad f(x) = x \text{ for } x \neq y, \]
  satisfies (2).

The assertion follows. \hfill \square

5.5 Freezing sets and the normal product adjacency

In the following, $p_j : \prod_{i=1}^n X_i \to X_j$ is the map
  \[ p_j(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = x_j \text{ where } x_i \in X_i. \]

**Theorem 5.18.** Let $(X_i, \kappa_i)$ be a digital image, $i \in [1, v]_Z$. Let $X = \prod_{i=1}^n X_i$. Let $A \subset X$. Suppose $A$ is a freezing set for $(X, NP_v(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_v))$. Then for each $i \in [1, v]_Z$, $p_i(A)$ is a freezing set for $(X_i, \kappa_i)$.

**Proof.** Let $f_i \in C(X_i, \kappa_i)$. Let $F : X \to X$ be defined by
  \[ F(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = (f_1(x_1), \ldots, f_v(x_v)). \]
Then by Theorem 2.1, $F \in C(X, NP_v(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_v))$.

Suppose for all $a = (a_1, \ldots, a_v) \in A$, $F(a) = a$, hence $f_i(a_i) = a_i$ for all $a_i \in p_i(A)$. Since $A$ is a freezing set of $X$, we have that $F = \text{id}_X$, and therefore, $f_i = \text{id}_{X_i}$. The assertion follows. \hfill \square

5.6 Cycles

A *cycle* or *digital simple closed curve* of $n$ distinct points is a digital image $(C_n, \kappa)$ with $C_n = \{x_i\}_{i=0}^{n-1}$ such that $x_i \leftrightarrow \kappa x_j$ if and only if $j = i + 1 \mod n$ or $j = i - 1 \mod n$.

Given indices $i < j$, there are two distinct paths determined by $x_i$ and $x_j$ in $C_n$, consisting of the sets $P_{i,j} = \{x_k\}_{k=i}^{j}$ and $P'_{i,j} = C_n \setminus \{x_k\}_{k=i+1}^{j-1}$. If one of these has length less than $n/2$, it is the *shorter path* from $p_i$ to $p_j$ and the other is the *longer path*; otherwise, both have length $n/2$, and each is a *shorter path* and a *longer path* from $p_i$ to $p_j$.

In this section, we consider minimal fixed point sets for $f \in C(C_n)$ that force $f$ to be an identity map.

**Theorem 5.19.** Let $n > 4$. Let $x_i, x_j, x_k$ be distinct members of $C_n$ be such that $C_n$ is a union of unique shorter paths determined by these points. Let $f \in C(C_n, \kappa)$. Then $f = \text{id}_{C_n}$ if and only if $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\} \in \text{Fix}(f)$; i.e., $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\}$ is a freezing set for $C_n$. Further, this freezing set is minimal.
Proof. Clearly $f = \text{id}_{C_n}$ implies $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\} \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

Suppose $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\} \subset \text{Fix}(f)$. By hypothesis, there are unique shorter paths $P_0$ from $x_i$ to $x_j$, $P_1$ from $x_j$ to $x_k$, and $P_2$ from $x_k$ to $x_i$, in $C_n$. By Proposition 5.21, each of $P_0$, $P_1$, and $P_2$ is contained in $\text{Fix}(f)$. By hypothesis $C_n = P_0 \cup P_1 \cup P_2$, so $f = \text{id}_{C_n}$. Hence $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\}$ is a freezing set.

For any distinct pair $x_i, x_j \in C_n$, there is a non-identity continuous self-map on $C_n$ that takes a longer path determined by $x_i$ and $x_j$ to a shorter path determined by $x_i$ and $x_j$. Thus, $\{x_i, x_j\}$ is not a freezing set for $C_n$, so the set $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\}$ discussed above is minimal. \hfill $\square$

**Remark 5.20.** In Theorem 5.19 we need the assumption that $n > 4$, as there is a continuous self-map $f$ on $C_4$ with 3 fixed points such that $f \neq \text{id}_{C_4}$ [10].

### 5.7 Wedges

Let $(X, \kappa) \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$ be such that $X = X_0 \cup X_1$, where $X_0 \cap X_1 = \{x_0\}$; and if $x \in X_0$, $y \in X_1$, and $x \leftrightarrow_n y$, then $x_0 \in \{x, y\}$. We say $X$ is the wedge of $X_0$ and $X_1$, denoted $X = X_0 \vee X_1$. We say $x_0$ is the wedge point.

**Theorem 5.21.** Let $A$ be a freezing set for $(X, \kappa)$, where $X = X_0 \vee X_1 \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$, $\#X_0 > 1$, and $\#X_1 > 1$. Let $X_0 \cap X_1 = \{x_0\}$. Then $A$ must include points of $X_0 \setminus \{x_0\}$ and $X_1 \setminus \{x_0\}$.

**Proof.** Otherwise, either $A \subset X_0$ or $A \subset X_1$.

Suppose $A \subset X_0$. Then the function $f : X \to X$ given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \in X_0; \\ x_0 & \text{if } x \in X_1, \end{cases}$$

belongs to $C(X, \kappa)$ and satisfies $f|_A = \text{id}_A$, but $f \neq \text{id}_X$. Thus $A$ is not a freezing set for $(X, \kappa)$.

The case $A \subset X_1$ is argued similarly. \hfill $\square$

**Example 5.22.** The wedge of two digital intervals is (isomorphic to) a digital interval. It follows from Theorem 5.3 and Proposition 5.11 that a freezing set for a wedge need not include the wedge point.

**Theorem 5.23.** Let $C_m$ and $C_n$ be cycles, with $m > 4$, $n > 4$. Let $x_0$ be the wedge point of $X = C_m \vee C_n$. Let $x_i, x_j \in C_m$ and $x_i', x_j' \in C_n$ be such that $C_m$ is the union of unique shorter paths determined by $x_i, x_j, x_0$ and $C_n$ is the union of unique shorter paths determined by $x_i', x_j', x_0$. Then $A = \{x_i, x_j, x_k'; x_p'\}$ is a freezing set for $X$.

**Proof.** Let $f \in C(X, \kappa)$ be such that $A \subset \text{Fix}(f)$. Let $P_0$ be the unique shorter path in $C_m$ from $x_i$ to $x_j$; let $P_1$ be the unique shorter path in $C_m$ from $x_j$ to $x_0$; let $P_2$ be the unique shorter path in $C_m$ from $x_0$ to $x_i$; let $P_0'$ be the unique shorter path in $C_n$ from $x_i'$ to $x_j'$; let $P_1'$ be the unique shorter path in $C_n$ from $x_j'$ to $x_0$; let $P_2'$ be the unique shorter path in $C_n$ from $x_0$ to $x_i'$.\hfill $14$
By Proposition 5.4, each of the following paths is contained in Fix(f): \( P_0 \), \( P_1 \cup P'_1 \) (from \( x_j \) to \( x_0 \) to \( x'_j \) ), \( P_2 \cup P'_2 \) (from \( x_i \) to \( x_0 \) to \( x'_k \) ), and \( P'_0 \). Since

\[
X = P_0 \cup (P_1 \cup P'_1) \cup (P_2 \cup P'_2) \cup P'_0 \subset \text{Fix}(f),
\]

the assertion follows.

\[ \square \]

5.8 Trees

We have the following.

**Lemma 5.24.** [10] Let \((X, \kappa)\) be a digital image that is a tree in which the root vertex has at least 2 child vertices. Then \( f \in C(X, \kappa) \) implies \( \text{Fix}(f) \) is \( \kappa \)-connected.

**Theorem 5.25.** Let \((X, \kappa)\) be a digital image, \( x_0 \in X \), such that \( \#X > 1 \) and the graph \( G = (X, \kappa) \) is a tree rooted at \( x_0 \). Let \( L \) be the set of leaves of \( G \). Suppose \( x_0 \) has at least 2 child vertices in \( G \). Then \( L \) is a minimal freezing set for \( G \).

**Proof.** Since \( x_0 \) has at least 2 child vertices in \( G \), removal of any member of \( X \setminus L \) would disconnect \( X \). It follows from Lemma 5.24 that \( L \) is a freezing set.

Since \( \#X > 1 \), for any \( y \in L \) there exists \( y' \in X \setminus L \) such that \( y' \) is the parent in \( G \) of \( y \). Then the function \( f : X \to X \) defined by

\[
f(x) = \begin{cases} 
y' & \text{if } x = y; \\
x & \text{if } x \neq y,
\end{cases}
\]

satisfies \( f \in C(X, \kappa) \), \( f|_{X \setminus \{y\}} = \text{id}_{X \setminus \{y\}} \), and \( f \neq \text{id}_X \). Thus \( L \setminus \{y\} \) is not a freezing set. Since \( y \) was arbitrarily chosen, \( L \) is minimal. \[ \square \]

**Remark 5.26.** We need the assumption in Theorem 5.25 that \( x_0 \) has at least 2 child vertices, for if \( G \) is a graph rooted at \( x_0 \) in which \( x_0 \) has only one child vertex \( x' \), then the function \( f : X \to X \) given by

\[
f(x) = \begin{cases} 
x' & \text{if } x = x_0; \\
x & \text{if } x \neq x_0,
\end{cases}
\]

satisfies \( f \in C(X, \kappa) \), \( f|_L = \text{id}_L \), and \( f \neq \text{id}_X \).

6 \( s \)-Cold sets

In this section, we generalize our focus from fixed points to approximate fixed points and, more generally, to points constrained in the amount they can be moved by continuous self-maps in the presence of fixed point sets. We obtain some analogs of our previous results for freezing sets.
6.1 Definition and basic properties

In the following, we use the path-length metric $d$ for connected digital images $(X, \kappa)$, defined \[13\] as

$$d(x, y) = \min\{\ell \mid \ell \text{ is the length of a } \kappa\text{-path in } X \text{ from } x \text{ to } y\}.$$ We introduce the following generalization of a freezing set.

**Definition 6.1.** Given $s \in \mathbb{N}^+$, we say $A \subset X$ is an $s$-cold set for the connected digital image $(X, \kappa)$ if for every isomorphism $F : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda)$, if $g : X \to Y$ is $(\kappa, \lambda)$-continuous and $F|_A = g|_A$, then for all $x \in X$, $d(F(x), g(x)) \leq s$. (Note a 0-cold set is a freezing set.) A cold set is a 1-cold set.

**Theorem 6.2.** Let $(X, \kappa)$ be a connected digital image. Let $A \subset X$. Then $A \subset \text{Fix}(g)$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$ if and only given $g \in C(X, \kappa)$, if $g|_A = \text{id}_X|_A$ then for all $x \in X$, $d(x, g(x)) \leq s$.

**Proof.** Suppose $A$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$. Then for the isomorphism $id_X$, if $g \in C(X, \kappa)$ and if $g|_A = \text{id}_X|_A$ then by Definition \[13\] for all $x \in X$, $d(x, g(x)) \leq s$.

Suppose $A \subset X$ is such that if $f \in C(X, \kappa)$ with $f|_A = \text{id}_X|_A$ then for all $x \in X$, $d(x, f(x)) \leq s$. Let $F : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda)$ be an isomorphism. Let $g : X \to Y$ be $(\kappa, \lambda)$-continuous with $g|_A = F|_A$. Then

$$\text{id}_X|_A = F^{-1} \circ F|_A = F^{-1} \circ g|_A.$$ Let $x \in X$. Then $d(x, F^{-1} \circ g(x)) \leq s$, i.e., there is a $\kappa$-path $P$ in $X$ of length at most $s$ from $x$ to $F^{-1} \circ g(x)$. Therefore, $F(P)$ is a $\lambda$-path in $Y$ of length at most $s$ from $F(x)$ to $F \circ F^{-1} \circ g(x) = g(x)$, i.e., $d(F(x), g(x)) \leq s$. Thus, $A$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$. \[ \square \]

Given a digital image $(X, \kappa)$ and $f \in C(X, \kappa)$, a point $x \in X$ is an almost fixed point of $f$ \[16\] or an approximate fixed point of $f$ \[7\] if $f(x) \approx_\kappa x$.

**Remark 6.3.** The following are easily observed.

- If $A \subset A' \subset X$ and $A$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$, then $A'$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$.
- $A$ is a cold set (i.e., a 1-cold set) for $(X, \kappa)$ if and only if given $f \in C(X, \kappa)$ such that $f|_A = \text{id}_X|_A$, every $x \in X$ is an approximate fixed point of $f$.
- In a finite digital image $(X, \kappa)$, every subset of $X$, including $\emptyset$, is a diam$(X)$-cold set.
- If $s_0 < s_1$ and $A$ is an $s_0$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$, then $A$ is an $s_1$-cold set for $(X, \kappa)$.

Note a freezing set is a cold set, but the converse is not generally true, as shown in the following.
Example 6.4. It follows from Theorem 6.2 that \( \{0\} \) is a cold set, but not a freezing set, for \( X = [0, 1]_\mathbb{Z} \), since the constant function \( g \) with value 0 satisfies \( g|_{\{0\}} = \text{id}_X|_{\{0\}} \), and \( g(1) = 0 \leftrightarrow c_1 = 1 \).

\( s \)-cold sets are invariant in the sense of the following.

Theorem 6.5. Let \((X, \kappa)\) be a connected digital image, let \( A \) be an \( s \)-cold set for \((X, \kappa)\), and let \( F : (X, \kappa) \to (Y, \lambda) \) be an isomorphism. Then \( F(A) \) is an \( s \)-cold set for \((Y, \lambda)\).

Proof. Let \( f \in C(Y, \lambda) \) such that \( f|_{F(A)} = \text{id}_Y|_{F(A)} \). Then

\[
 f \circ F|_A = f|_{F(A)} \circ F|_A = \text{id}_Y|_{F(A)} \circ F|_A = F|_A.
\]

By Theorem 6.2 for all \( x \in X \), \( d(f \circ F(x), F(x)) \leq s \). Substituting \( y = F(x) \), we have that \( y \in Y \) implies \( d(f(y), y) \leq s \). By Theorem 6.2 \( F(A) \) is a cold set for \((Y, \lambda)\).

\( A \) is a \( \kappa \)-dominating set (or a dominating set when \( \kappa \) is understood) for \((X, \kappa)\) if for every \( x \in X \) there exists \( a \in A \) such that \( x \equiv_x \kappa a \).

Theorem 6.6. Let \((X, \kappa)\) be a digital image and let \( A \) be \( \kappa \)-dominating in \( X \). Then \( A \) is 2-cold in \((X, \kappa)\).

Proof. Let \( f \in C(X, \kappa) \) such that \( f|_A = \text{id}_A \). Since \( A \) is \( \kappa \)-dominating, for every \( x \in X \) there is an \( a \in A \) such that \( x \equiv_x a \). Then \( f(x) \equiv f(a) = a \). Thus, we have the path \( \{x, a, f(x)\} \subset X \) from \( x \) to \( f(x) \) of length at most 2. The assertion follows.

Theorem 6.7. Let \((X, \kappa)\) be rigid. If \( A \) is a cold set for \( X \), then \( A \) is a freezing set for \( X \).

Proof. Let \( f \in C(X, \kappa) \) be such that \( f|_A = \text{id}_A \). Since \( A \) is cold, \( f(x) \equiv x \) for all \( x \in X \). Therefore, the map \( H : X \times [0, 1]_\mathbb{Z} \to X \) defined by \( H(x, 0) = x \), \( H(x, 1) = f(x) \), is a homotopy. Since \( X \) is rigid, \( f = \text{id}_X \). The assertion follows.

6.2 Cold sets for cubes

In this section, we consider cold sets for digital cubes in \( \mathbb{Z}^n \). Note the hypotheses of Proposition 6.8 imply \( A \) is \( c_1 \)- and \( c_2 \)-dominating in \( Bd(X) \).

Proposition 6.8. Let \( m, n \in \mathbb{N} \). Let \( X = [0, m]_\mathbb{Z} \times [0, n]_\mathbb{Z} \). Let \( A \subset Bd(X) \) be such that no pair of \( c_1 \)-adjacent members of \( Bd(X) \) belong to \( Bd(X) \setminus A \). Then \( A \) is a cold set for \((X, c_2)\). Further, for all \( f \in C(X, c_2) \), if \( f|_A = \text{id}_A \) then \( f|_{\text{Int}(X)} = \text{id}|_{\text{Int}(X)} \).

Proof. Let \( x = (x_0, y_0) \in X \). Let \( f \in C(X, c_2) \) such that \( f|_A = \text{id}_A \). Consider the following.

- If \( x \in A \) then \( f(x) = x \).
Figure 4: Illustration of the proof of Proposition 6.8 for the case \((x_0, y_0) \in \text{Int}(X)\). \(X = [0, 6] \times [0, 4]\). Members of the set \(A \subset \text{Bd}(X)\) are marked “a”. Corner points such as \((0, 4)\) need not belong to \(A\); also, although we cannot have \(c_1\)-adjacent members of \(\text{Bd}(X)\) in \(\text{Bd}(X) \setminus A\), we can have \(c_2\)-adjacent members of \(\text{Bd}(X)\) in \(\text{Bd}(X) \setminus A\), e.g., \((5, 4)\) and \((6, 3)\). The heavy polygonal line illustrates a \(c_2\)-path \(P\) of length \(n = 4\):

\[
P(0) = q_L = (2, 0), \quad P(1) = (1, 1), \quad P(2) = (x_0, y_0) = (1, 2), \quad P(3) = (1, 3), \quad P(4) = q_U = (1, 4).
\]

- If \(x \in \text{Bd}(X) \setminus A\) then both of the \(c_1\)-neighbors of \(x\) in \(\text{Bd}(X)\) belong to \(A\). We will show \(f(x) \leftrightarrow_{c_2} x\).

  Let \(K = \{(0, 0), (0, n), (m, 0), (m, n)\} \subset \text{Bd}(X)\).

  - For \(x \in K\), consider the case \(x = (0, 0)\). Then \(\{(0, 1), (1, 0)\} \subset A\), so we must have \(f(x) \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1)\}\). For other \(x \in K\), we similarly find \(f(x) \leftrightarrow_{c_2} x\).

  - For \(x \in \text{Bd}(X) \setminus K\), consider the case \(x = (t, 0)\). For this case, \(\{(t - 1, 0), (t + 1, 0)\} \subset A\), so

    \[
    (t - 1, 0) = f(t - 1, 0) \leftrightarrow_{c_2} f(x) \leftrightarrow_{c_2} f(t + 1, 0) = (t + 1, 0).
    \]

    Therefore, \(f(x) \in \{x, (t, 1)\}\), so \(f(x) \leftrightarrow_{c_2} x\).

    For other \(x \in \text{Bd}(X) \setminus K\), we similarly find \(f(x) \leftrightarrow_{c_2} x\).

- If \(x \in \text{Int}(X)\), let \(L = \{(z, 0)\}_{z=x_0-1}^{x_0+1}\) and \(U = \{(z, n)\}_{z=x_0-1}^{x_0+1}\). We have

\[
L \cap A \neq \emptyset \neq U \cap A.
\]

Since no pair of \(c_1\)-adjacent members of \(\text{Bd}(X)\) belong to \(\text{Bd}(X) \setminus A\), there exist \(q_L \in L, q_U \in U\) such that

\[
|p_1(q_L) - x_0| \leq 1 \text{ and } |p_1(q_U) - x_0| \leq 1.
\]
Thus, there is an injective $c_2$-path $P : [0, n] \rightarrow X$ such that $P([0, y_0])$ runs from $q_L$ to $x$ and $P([y_0, n])$ runs from $x$ to $q_U$ (note since we use $c_2$-adjacency, there can be steps of the path that change both coordinates - see Figure 4). Therefore, $f \circ P$ is a path from $f(q_L) = q_L$ to $f(q_U) = q_U$, and $p_2 \circ f \circ P$ is a path from $p_2(q_L) = 0$ to $p_2(f(x))$ to $p_2(q_U) = n$.

If $y' = p_2(f(x)) > y_0$, then $p_2 \circ f \circ P |_{[0, y_0]}$ is a $c_2$-path of length $y_0$ from 0 to $y'$, which is impossible. Similarly, if $y' < y_0$, then $p_2 \circ f \circ P |_{[y_0, n]}$ is a $c_2$-path of length $n - y_0$ from $y'$ to $n$, which is impossible. Therefore, we must have

$$p_2 \circ f(x) = y_0. \tag{3}$$

Similarly, we must have

$$p_1 \circ f(x) = x_0. \tag{4}$$

It follows from (3) and (4) that $f(x) = x$.

Thus, in all cases, $f(x) \cong_{c_2} x$, and $f|_{\text{Int}(X)} = \text{id}_{\text{Int}(X)}$. \hfill \Box

**Proposition 6.9.** Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $X = [0, m] \times [0, n]$. Let $A \subset \text{Bd}(X)$ be $c_1$-dominating in $\text{Bd}(X)$. Then $A$ is a 2-cold set for $(X, c_2)$. Further, for all $f \in C(X, c_2)$, if $f|_{A} = \text{id}_A$ then $f|_{\text{Int}(X)} = \text{id}|_{\text{Int}(X)}$.

**Proof.** Our argument is similar to that of Proposition 6.8. Let $x = (x_0, y_0) \in X$. Let $f \in C(X, c_2)$ such that $f|_{A} = \text{id}_A$. Consider the following.

- If $x \in A$ then $f(x) = x$.
- If $x \in \text{Bd}(X) \setminus A$ then for some $a \in A$, $x \cong_{c_1} a$. Therefore, $f(x) \cong_{c_1} f(a) = a$. Thus, $\{x, a, f(x)\}$ is a path in $X$ from $x$ to $f(x)$ of length at most 2.
- If $x \in \text{Int}(X)$, then as in the proof of Proposition 6.8 we have that $f(x) = x$.

Thus, in all cases, $d(f(x), x) \leq 2$, and $f|_{\text{Int}(X)} = \text{id}|_{\text{Int}(X)}$. \hfill \Box

An example of a 2-cold set $A$ that is not a 1-cold set, such that $A$ is as in Proposition 6.9 is given in the following.

**Example 6.10.** Let $X = [0, 2]^2$. Let

$$A = \{(0, 2), (1, 0), (2, 2)\} \subset X.$$ 

Then $A$ is $c_1$-dominating in $\text{Bd}(X)$, so by Proposition 6.9, is a 2-cold set for $(X, c_2)$. Let $f : X \rightarrow X$ be the function $f(0, 0) = (2, 0)$, $f(0, 1) = (1, 1)$, and $f(x) = x$ for all $x \in X \setminus \{(0, 0), (0, 1)\}$. Then $f \in C(X, c_2)$ but $d((0, 0), f(0, 0)) = 2$, so $A$ is not a 1-cold set.
Proposition 6.11. Let $X = \prod_{i=1}^{n}[0,m_i]_\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$, where $m_i > 3$ for all $i$. Let $A \subset \text{Bd}(X)$ be such that $A$ is not $c_n$-dominating in $\text{Bd}(X)$. Then $A$ is not a cold set for $(X,c_n)$.

Proof. By hypothesis, there exists $y = (y_1, \ldots, y_n) \in \text{Bd}(X) \setminus A$ such that $N(y, c_n) \cap A = \emptyset$. Since $y \in \text{Bd}(X)$, for some index $j$ we have $y_j \in \{0, m_j\}$. Let $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in X$, for $x_i \in [0, m_i]_\mathbb{Z}$.

- If $y_j = 0$, let $f : X \to X$ be defined as follows.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} (x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}, 2, x_{j+1}, \ldots, x_n) & \text{if } x = y; \\ (x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}, 1, x_{j+1}, \ldots, x_n) & \text{if } x \in N_c(y); \\ x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If $u, v \in X$, $u \equiv_{c_n} v$, then $u$ and $v$ differ by at most 1 in every coordinate. Consider the following cases.

- If $u = y$, then $v \in N_{c_n}(y)$, and clearly $f(u)$ and $f(v)$ differ by at most 1 in every coordinate, hence are $c_n$-adjacent.
- If $u, v \in N_{c_n}(y)$, then clearly $f(u)$ and $f(v)$ differ by at most 1 in every coordinate, hence are $c_n$-adjacent.
- If $u \in N_{c_n}(y)$ and $v \not\in N_{c_n}(y)$, then $p_j(u) \in \{0, 1\}$, so $p_j(f(v)) = p_j(v) \in \{0, 1, 2\}$, and $p_j(f(u)) = 1$. It follows easily that $f(u)$ and $f(v)$ differ by at most 1 in every coordinate, hence are $c_n$-adjacent.
- If $\{u, v\} \cap N_{c_n}(y) = \emptyset$, then

$$p_j(f(u)) = p_j(u) \equiv_{c_1} p_j(v) = p_j(f(v)).$$

It follows easily that $f(u)$ and $f(v)$ differ by at most 1 in every coordinate, hence are $c_n$-adjacent.

Therefore, $f \in C(X, c_n)$.

- If $y_j = m_j$, let $f : X \to X$ be defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} (x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}, m_j - 2, x_{j+1}, \ldots, x_n) & \text{if } x = y; \\ (x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}, m_j - 1, x_{j+1}, \ldots, x_n) & \text{if } x \in N_{c_n}(y); \\ x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By an argument similar to that of the case $y_j = 0$, we conclude that $f \in C(X, c_n)$.

Further, in both cases, $f|_A = \text{id}_A$, and $f(y) \not\equiv_{c_n} y$. The assertion follows. □
6.3 $s$-cold sets for rectangles in $\mathbb{Z}^2$

The following generalizes the case $n = 2$ of Theorem [5.15](#).

**Proposition 6.12.** Let $X = [-m, m] \times [-n, n] \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$, $s \in \mathbb{N}^+$, where $m - s \geq 0$, $n - s \geq 0$. Let

$$A = \{(-m + s, -n + s), (-m + s, n - s), (m - s, -n + s), (m - s, n - s)\}.$$ 

Then $A$ is a $4s$-cold set for $(X, c_1)$.

**Proof.** Let $f \in C(X, c_1)$ such that $f|_A = \text{id}_A$. Let

$$A' = [-m + s, m - s] \times [-n + s, n - s].$$

By Proposition [5.4](#) $\text{Bd}(A') \subset \text{Fix}(f)$. It follows from Proposition [5.12](#) that $A' \subset \text{Fix}(f)$.

Thus it remains to show that $x \in X \setminus A'$ implies $d(x, f(x)) \leq 4s$. This is seen as follows. For $x \in X \setminus A'$, there exists a $c_1$-path $P$ of length at most $2s$ from $x$ to some $y \in \text{Bd}(A')$. Then $f(P)$ is a $c_1$-path from $f(x)$ to $f(y) = y$ of length at most $2s$. Therefore, $P \cup f(P)$ contains a path from $x$ to $y$ to $f(x)$ of length at most $4s$. The assertion follows. \qed

The following generalizes Proposition [6.8](#).

**Proposition 6.13.** Let $X = [-m, m] \times [-n, n] \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$, $s \in \mathbb{N}^+$, where $m - s \geq 0$, $n - s \geq 0$. Let

$$A = [-m + s, m - s] \times [-n + s, n - s] \subset X.$$ 

Let $A' \subset \text{Bd}(A)$ such that no pair of $c_1$-adjacent members of $\text{Bd}(A)$ belongs to $\text{Bd}(A) \setminus A'$.

- If $\{(-m + s, -n + s), (-m + s, n - s), (m - s, -n + s), (m - s, n - s)\} \subset A'$, then $A'$ is a $2s$-cold set for $(X, c_2)$.

- Otherwise, $A'$ is a $(2s + 2)$-cold set for $(X, c_2)$.

**Further,** if $f \in C(X, c_2)$ and $f|_{A'} = \text{id}_{A'}$, then $f|_A = \text{id}_A$.

**Proof.** Let $f \in C(X, c_2)$ be such that $f|_{A'} = \text{id}_{A'}$. As in the proof of Proposition [6.8](#) $f|_A = \text{id}_A$.

Now consider $x \in X \setminus A$. Since no pair of $c_1$-adjacent members of $\text{Bd}(A)$ belongs to $\text{Bd}(A) \setminus A'$, we have the following.

- If $\{(-m + s, -n + s), (-m + s, n - s), (m - s, -n + s), (m - s, n - s)\} \subset A'$, then there is a $c_2$-path $P$ in $X$ from $x$ to some $y \in A'$ of length at most $s$. Then $f(P)$ is a $c_2$-path in $X$ from $f(x)$ to $f(y) = y$ of length at most $s$. Therefore, $P \cup f(P)$ contains a $c_2$-path in $X$ from $x$ to $y$ to $f(x)$ of length at most $2s$. 

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• Otherwise, there is a $c_2$-path $P$ in $X$ from $x$ to some $y \in A'$ of length at most $s + 1$. Then $f(P)$ is a $c_2$-path in $X$ from $f(x)$ to $f(y) = y$ of length at most $s + 1$. Therefore, $P \cup f(P)$ contains a $c_2$-path in $X$ from $x$ to $y$ to $f(x)$ of length at most $2s + 2$.

The assertion follows.

6.4 $s$-cold sets for Cartesian products

We modify the proof of Theorem 5.18 to obtain the following.

Theorem 6.14. Let $(X_i, \kappa_i)$ be a digital image, $i \in [1, v]_\mathbb{Z}$. Let $X = \prod_{i=1}^{v} X_i$. Let $s \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Let $A \subset X$. Suppose $A$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X, NP_v(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_v))$. Then for each $i \in [1, v]_\mathbb{Z}$, $p_i(A)$ is an $s$-cold set for $(X_i, \kappa_i)$.

Proof. Let $f_i \in C(X_i, \kappa_i)$. Let $F : X \to X$ be defined by

$$F(x_1, \ldots, x_v) = (f_1(x_1), \ldots, f_v(x_v)).$$

Then by Theorem 2.7, $F \in C(X, NP_v(\kappa_1, \ldots, \kappa_v))$.

Suppose for all $i$, $a_i \in p_i(A)$, we have $f_i(a_i) = a_i$. Note this implies, for $a = (a_1, \ldots, a_v)$, that $F(a) = a$. Since $a$ is an arbitrary member of the $s$-set $A$ of $X$, we have that $d(F(x), x) \leq s$, for all $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_v) \in X$, $x_i \in X_i$, and therefore, $d(f_i(x_i), x_i) \leq s$. The assertion follows.

6.5 $s$-cold sets for infinite digital images

In this section, we obtain properties of $s$-cold sets for some infinite digital images.

Theorem 6.15. Let $(\mathbb{Z}^n, c_u)$ be a digital image, $1 \leq u \leq n$. Let $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$. Let $s \in \mathbb{N}^+$. If $A$ is an $s$-cold set for $(\mathbb{Z}^n, c_u)$, then for every index $i$, $p_i(A)$ is an infinite set, with sequences of members tending both to 0 and to $-\infty$.

Proof. Suppose otherwise. Then for some $i$, there exist $m$ or $M$ in $\mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$m = \min\{p_i(a) \mid a \in A\} \quad \text{or} \quad M = \max\{p_i(a) \mid a \in A\}.$$

If the former, then for $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, define $f : \mathbb{Z}^n \to \mathbb{Z}^n$ by

$$f(z) = \begin{cases} (z_1, \ldots, z_i-1, m, z_{i+1}, \ldots, z_n) & \text{if } z_i \leq m; \\ z & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then $F \in C(\mathbb{Z}^n, c_u)$ and $f|_A = \text{id}_A$, but $f \neq \text{id}_{\mathbb{Z}^n}$. Thus, $A$ is not an $s$-cold set.

Similarly, if $M < \infty$ as above exists, we conclude $A$ is not an $s$-cold set.

Corollary 6.16. $A \subset \mathbb{Z}$ is a freezing set for $(\mathbb{Z}, c_1)$ if and only if $A$ contains sequences $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ and $\{a'_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ such that $\lim_{i \to \infty} a_i = \infty$ and $\lim_{i \to \infty} a_i' = -\infty$.

Proof. This follows from Lemma 6.10 and Theorem 6.14.
The converse of Theorem 6.15 is not generally correct, as shown by the following.

**Example 6.17.** Let $A = \{(z, z) | z \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$. Then although $p_1(A) = p_2(A) = \mathbb{Z}$ contains sequences tending to $\infty$ and to $-\infty$, $A$ is not an $s$-cold set for $(\mathbb{Z}^2, c_2)$, for any $s$.

**Proof.** Consider $f : \mathbb{Z}^2 \to \mathbb{Z}^2$ defined by $f(x, y) = (x, x)$. We have $f \in (\mathbb{Z}^2, c_2)$ and $f|_A = \text{id}_A$, but one sees easily that for all $s$ there exist $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ such that $d((x, y), f(x, y)) > s$. \qed

**7 Further remarks**

We have continued the work of [10] in studying fixed point invariants and related ideas in digital topology.

We have introduced pointed versions of rigidity and fixed point spectra.

We have introduced the notions of freezing sets and $s$-cold sets. These show us that although knowledge of the fixed point set $\text{Fix}(f)$ of a continuous self-map $f$ on a connected topological space $X$ generally gives us little information about the nature of $f|_{X \setminus \text{Fix}(f)}$, knowledge of a subset $A$ of the fixed point set $\text{Fix}(f)$ of a continuous self-map $f$ on a connected digital image $(X, \kappa)$ can be severely limiting for $f|_{X \setminus A}$.

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