

THEOREM 2. If $f, g: K^{n+1} \rightarrow K^{n+1}$ are two continuous mappings such that $f: S^n \rightarrow S^n$ and $f|S^n$ is essential, then there exists such an $x \in K^{n+1}$ that $f(x) = g(x)$.

Proof. Suppose that $f(x) \neq g(x)$ for every $x \in K^{n+1}$. Then we can define a continuous mapping $h: K^{n+1} \rightarrow S^n$ putting

$$h(x) = \frac{f(x) - g(x)}{\|f(x) - g(x)\|}.$$

But this is not consistent with Theorem 1 since we shall prove that $h|S^n$ is essential. In fact, $f|S^n$ being essential, it is enough to show a homotopy between $f|S^n$ and $h|S^n$. Since $f(x) \neq tg(x)$ for $x \in S^n$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$ (because $f(x) \neq g(x)$ and $\|f(x)\| = 1$ for $x \in S^n$), we obtain such a homotopy putting

$$h_t(x) = \frac{f(x) - tg(x)}{\|f(x) - tg(x)\|} \quad \text{for } x \in S^n, 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$

q. e. d.

Remark. If one uses the known fact that the identity is an essential mapping of S^n onto S^n , then Theorem 2 gives the Fixed Point Theorem for the closed n -cell (if one takes f = the identity).

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