

Accepted Manuscript

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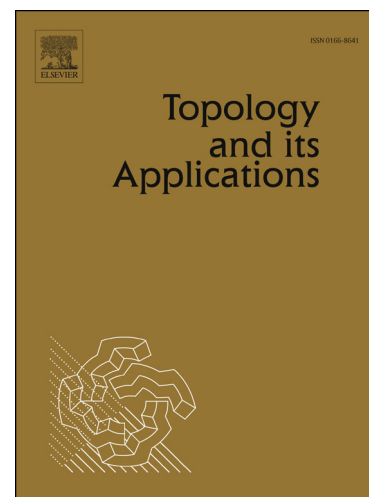
PII: S0166-8641(18)30356-0
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.topol.2018.08.006>
Reference: TOPOL 6519

To appear in: *Topology and its Applications*

Received date: 27 April 2018
Accepted date: 12 August 2018

Please cite this article in press as: N. Chinen, On isometries of symmetric products of metric spaces, *Topol. Appl.* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.topol.2018.08.006>

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ON ISOMETRIES OF SYMMETRIC PRODUCTS OF METRIC SPACES

NAOTSUGU CHINEN

ABSTRACT. By $F_n(X)$, $n \geq 1$, we denote the n -th symmetric product of a metric space (X, d) as the space of the nonempty finite subsets of X with at most n elements endowed with the Hausdorff metric d_H . By $\text{Iso}(X)$ we denote the group of all isometries from X onto itself with the topology of pointwise convergence. In this paper, we show that, under the certain hypothesis, $\text{Iso}(F_n(X))$ is topologically isomorphic to the semidirect product group $\text{Iso}(F_n(X), F_1(X)) \rtimes \text{Iso}(X)$. We apply those results to ℓ_p^q , $(p, q) \in [1, \infty] \times \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2}^*$, as particular spaces and prove the following statements:

- (1) If $p \in \{1, \infty\}$, then $\text{Iso}(F_2(\ell_p^2))$ is topologically isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{Iso}(\ell_p^2)$.
- (2) If $3 \leq q < \infty$, then $\text{Iso}(F_2(\ell_\infty^q))$ is topologically isomorphic to $\prod_{i=1}^{q-1} (\mathbb{Z}_2)_i \rtimes \text{Iso}(\ell_\infty^q)$.
- (3) In other cases except $(n, p, q) \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2} \times \{1, \infty\} \times \{\infty\}$, the canonical homomorphism $\chi_n : \text{Iso}(\ell_p^q) \rightarrow \text{Iso}(F_n(\ell_p^q))$ is a topological isomorphism.

1. INTRODUCTION

As an interesting construction in topology, Borsuk and Ulam [4] introduced the n -th *symmetric product* of a metric space (X, d) , denoted by $F_n(X)$. Recall that $F_n(X)$ is the space of nonempty finite subsets of X with at most n elements endowed with the Hausdorff metric d_H (see [12, p.6] or Definition 2.2 below). A considerable number of studies have been made on the topological structures of $F_n(X)$ (see [8] and [15]).

For a metric space (X, d) , we denote by $\text{Iso}(X)$ the group of all isometries from (X, d) onto itself with the topology of pointwise convergence (see [1, p.173]). Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Every isometry $\phi : (X, d) \rightarrow (X, d)$ induces an isometry $\chi_n(\phi) : (F_n(X), d_H) \rightarrow (F_n(X), d_H)$ defined by $\chi_n(\phi)(A) = \phi(A)$ for each $A \in F_n(X)$. Thus, we can define the natural monomorphism $\chi_n : \text{Iso}(X) \rightarrow \text{Iso}(F_n(X))$. We can easily see that this monomorphism is a topological embedding. Therefore, it follows that

- (\star) $_n$ $\chi_n : \text{Iso}(X) \rightarrow \text{Iso}(F_n(X))$ is a topological isomorphism
(i.e., a group isomorphism and a homeomorphism)

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 54B20, 54B10, 22F50; Secondary 30C65, 30L10, 22A05.

Key words and phrases. isometry; symmetric product; topological groups; semidirect product; normed space; ℓ_p^q .

This work was partially supported by JSPS KAKENHI (C) Grant Number 15K04885.

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