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## ON HEREDITARILY INDECOMPOSABLE COMPACTA

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We say that a compactum  $X$  is hereditarily indecomposable if for every two intersecting continua in  $X$  one is contained in the other. We prove the following theorem. Let  $f$  be a perfect map with hereditarily indecomposable fibers from a separable metrizable space  $X$  onto a zero-dimensional separable metrizable space  $Y$ . Then there are a hereditarily indecomposable metrizable compactification  $X'$  of  $X$  with  $\dim X' = \dim X$  and a zero-dimensional metrizable compactification  $Y'$  of  $Y$  such that  $f$  can be extended to a map  $f'$  from  $X'$  onto  $Y'$ . As a corollary we obtain a theorem of T.Mackowiak on the existence of universal  $n$ -dimensional hereditarily indecomposable continua.

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