

Series A

I. MATHEMATICA

559

SOME REMARKS ON PSEUDOCOMPACT SPACES

BY

JOUKO VÄÄNÄNEN

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HELSINKI 1973  
SUOMALAINEN TIEDEAKATEMIA

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Academia Scientiarum Fennica  
ISSN 0066-1953  
ISBN 951-41-0138-3

Communicated 8 October 1973 by KALEVI SUOMINEN

KESKUSKIRJAPAINO  
HELSINKI 1973

## Some remarks on pseudocompact spaces

A topological space  $E$  is *pseudocompact* if it satisfies one of the following equivalent conditions:

- (P1) Every continuous real function of  $E$  is bounded,
- (P2) If  $f: E \rightarrow [0,1]$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is closed ([10]),
- (P3) Every countable cozero-set cover of  $E$  has a finite subcover ([6]),
- (P4) Every locally finite collection of cozero-sets of  $E$  is finite ([6]),
- (P5) Every continuous<sup>1)</sup> pseudometric of  $E$  is precompact ([5]).

Moreover, a uniformisable topological space  $E$  is pseudocompact if and only if

- (P6)' Every compatible uniformity of  $E$  is precompact ([3]).

We generalize (P6)' to arbitrary topological spaces and present two conditions similar to (P5).

**Proposition 1** *For a topological space  $E$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (P)  $E$  is pseudocompact,
- (P6) Every continuous uniformity of  $E$  is precompact,
- (P7) Every continuous pseudometric of  $E$  is compact,
- (P8) Every continuous pseudometric of  $E$  is complete.

*Proof:* To prove (P)  $\rightarrow$  (P6) we assume (P). Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a continuous uniformity of  $E$ . Since pseudocompactness is preserved under continuous maps,  $\mathcal{U}$  is pseudocompact and, consequently, precompact by (P6)'. Obviously, (P6)  $\rightarrow$  (P5). Hence (P6)  $\rightarrow$  (P). To prove (P)  $\rightarrow$  (P7), we again note that pseudocompactness is preserved under continuous maps and then use the fact that a pseudocompact pseudometric space is compact ([7]). The implication (P7)  $\rightarrow$  (P8) is immediate. Thus it remains to prove, e.g., that (P8)  $\rightarrow$  (P2). Suppose  $f: E \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is continuous. The equation  $d(x,y) = |f(x) - f(y)|$  defines a continuous pseudometric  $d$ , which,

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<sup>1)</sup> A pseudometric (or uniformity) of a topological space  $(E, \tau)$  is *continuous* if it induces a topology that is weaker than  $\tau$ .

by (P8), is complete. From this it easily follows that  $f(E)$  is complete and hence closed.

A subspace  $A$  of a topological space  $E$  is *C-embedded* (*C\*-embedded*) if each continuous (and bounded) real function of  $A$  can be extended to a continuous real function of  $E$ . Analogously,  $A$  is *P-embedded* (*T-embedded*) if each continuous (and precompact) pseudometric of  $A$  can be extended to a continuous pseudometric of  $E$ . Suppose  $A$  is a pseudocompact C\*-embedded subspace of a topological space  $E$ . By (P1)  $A$  is C-embedded and hence T-embedded, by Corollary 3.5 of [1]. Finally  $A$  is P-embedded by (P5). Thus we have obtained a short proof of Theorem 3.7 in [9]. On the other hand, a P-embedded subspace is known to be C\*-embedded ([9]). Thus, for a pseudocompact subspace, the notions of P-embedding, T-embedding, C-embedding and C\*-embedding are all equivalent. This remark can be used to avoid the cardinality assumption in Theorem 3.6 of [9]. The reformulation of this theorem reads: a uniformisable space  $E$  is pseudocompact if and only if it is P-embedded in  $\beta E$ . This is proved as follows. A uniformisable pseudocompact space  $E$  is C\*-embedded and hence P-embedded in  $\beta E$ , by the above remark. On the other hand, a P-embedded subspace is always C-embedded by Theorem 3.2 of [9] and hence pseudocompact (pseudocompactness is clearly inherited by C-embedded subspaces).

The following proposition contains some modifications of

(P9) *If  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is compact ([4]),<sup>!</sup>*

which is a combination of (P1) and (P2) and equivalent to them.

**Proposition 2** *For a topological space  $E$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (P)  *$E$  is pseudocompact,*
- (P10) *If  $E'$  is a Lindelöf (or paracompact)  $T_3$ -space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is relatively compact,*
- (P11) *If  $E'$  is a hereditarily Lindelöf  $T_3$ -space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is compact,*
- (P12) *If  $E'$  is a second countable  $T_3$ -space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is compact,*
- (P13) *If  $E'$  is a uniform space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is precompact,*
- (P14) *If  $E'$  is a complete uniform space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous, then  $f(E)$  is relatively compact.*

*Proof:* To prove (P)  $\rightarrow$  (P10), we assume (P). Suppose  $E'$  is a Lindelöf (or paracompact)  $T_3$ -space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous. Since a

Lindelöf  $T_3$ -space is paracompact, we may assume that  $E'$  is paracompact. As a continuous image of a pseudocompact space,  $f(E)$  is pseudocompact. It is easily seen that the closure of a pseudocompact subspace of a topological space is pseudocompact. Thus  $\overline{f(E)}$  is pseudocompact. As a closed subset of a paracompact  $T_3$ -space,  $\overline{f(E)}$  is a paracompact  $T_{3\frac{1}{2}}$ -space. Consequently,  $\overline{f(E)}$  is compact (Corollary 2 of [7]). Finally, we note that the relative compactness of  $f(E)$  is (in the  $T_3$ -space  $E'$ ) equivalent to the compactness of  $\overline{f(E)}$ . We next prove (P10)  $\rightarrow$  (P11). Suppose  $E'$  is a hereditarily Lindelöf  $T_3$ -space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous. Then  $f(E)$  is a Lindelöf  $T_3$ -space and hence (by (P10)) relatively compact in  $f(E)$ , i.e. compact. Obviously (P11)  $\rightarrow$  (P12)  $\rightarrow$  (P9). To prove (P)  $\rightarrow$  (P13), assume (P). Suppose  $E'$  is a uniform space and  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  is continuous. Again,  $f(E)$  is pseudocompact and hence precompact, by (P6)'. Thus we have (P13). (P13) implies (P14), since a precompact subspace of a complete uniform space is relatively compact. The final implication (P14)  $\rightarrow$  (P) is trivial.

A family  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{U}$  is *star-countable* if each member of  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{U}$  intersects at most countably many members of  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{U}$ . The notion of star-countability can be used to generalize the condition (P3).

**Proposition 3** *A topological space is pseudocompact if and only if every star-countable cozero-set cover of the space has a finite subcover.*

*Proof:* Suppose  $E$  is a pseudocompact topological space and  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{V}$  is a star-countable cozero-set cover of  $E$ . For each  $V \in {}^{\circ}\mathcal{V}$  we define inductively

$$\begin{aligned}
 S^0(V) &= V, \\
 S^{n+1}(V) &= \bigcup \{U \in {}^{\circ}\mathcal{V} \mid U \cap S^n(V) \neq \emptyset\}, \\
 S^\omega(V) &= \bigcup_{n < \omega} S^n(V).
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{S^\omega(V) \mid V \in {}^{\circ}\mathcal{V}\}$ .

It is easily verified that  $\mathcal{S}$  is a discrete open cover of  $E$ .  $\mathcal{S}$  is finite by (P4) (note that each member of  $\mathcal{S}$  is closed and open, hence a cozero-set). On the other hand, the star-countability of  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{V}$  implies that each member of  $\mathcal{S}$  is a countable union of members of  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{V}$ . Hence  ${}^{\circ}\mathcal{V}$  itself is countable and, therefore, has a finite subcover. The converse is obvious (by (P3)), since a countable cover is always star-countable.

A topological space  $E$  is *lightly compact* if every locally finite collection of open subsets of  $E$  is finite or, equivalently, if every countable open

cover of  $E$  has a finite subfamily the union of which is dense. The proof of Proposition 3 applies also, *mutatis mutandis*, to the case of a lightly compact space. Thus, a topological space  $E$  is lightly compact if and only if every star-countable open cover of  $E$  has a finite subfamily the union of which is dense.

A lightly compact space is necessarily pseudocompact (by (P4)). The converse is known to hold for completely regular spaces but not for completely Hausdorff spaces ([10]). We give an example of a regular non-lightly compact space which is pseudocompact. In fact, every continuous real function of this space is constant.

Suppose  $X$  is any regular space every continuous real function of which is constant (e.g. that of [8]). Let  $E = X \times \mathbf{N}$  ( $\mathbf{N}$  is the set of non-negative integers). As a product of two regular spaces,  $E$  is regular. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are two different fixed points of  $X$  (note that  $X$  is necessarily infinite). For each  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  we identify the points  $(a, 2n)$ ,  $(a, 2n+1)$  as well as the points  $(b, 2n+1)$ ,  $(b, 2n+2)$  of  $E$ . Let  $E'$  be the resulting space with the identification topology. Suppose  $k$  is the canonical mapping from  $E$  onto  $E'$ . Now  $k$  is a closed mapping, since  $k^{-1}(k(A))$  is closed for each closed  $A$ . Hence  $E$  is  $T_1$ . To prove that  $E'$  is  $T_3$ , we take a point  $k((x, n)) \in E'$  and an open neighborhood  $V'$  of  $k((x, n))$ . We may assume that  $n$  is even. The case  $x \notin \{a, b\}$  is straightforward. Suppose then  $x = a$ . Since  $E$  is regular, the point  $(a, n)$  has a closed neighborhood  $A_1$  and the point  $(a, n+1)$  a closed neighborhood  $A_2$  so that  $A_1 \cup A_2 \subset k^{-1}(V') - \{(b, n), (b, n+1)\}$ . Obviously,  $k(\text{Int}(A_1) \cup \text{Int}(A_2))$  is open. Hence  $k(A_1 \cup A_2)$  is a closed neighborhood of  $k((x, n))$  such that  $k(A_1 \cup A_2) \subset V'$ . Consequently,  $E'$  is regular. To prove that  $E'$  is not lightly compact, we choose an open non-void subset  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $a \notin U$  and  $b \notin U$ . Then the infinite open family

$$\{k(U \times \{n\}) \mid n \in \mathbf{N}\}$$

of  $E'$  is locally finite and, consequently,  $E'$  is not lightly compact. We finally note that a continuous real function of  $E'$  is constant on each  $k(X \times \{n\})$  and hence, by construction, constant on the whole of  $E'$ .

In the following proposition we present some simple properties of lightly compact spaces.

**Proposition 4** *Let  $E$  be a topological space.*

- (1) *If  $A \subset E$  is lightly compact, so is  $\bar{A}$ ,*
- (2) *If  $E$  is  $T_2$  and  $A \subset E$  is lightly compact and Lindelöf, then  $A$  is closed,*
- (3) *If  $E$  is lightly compact and  $T_3$ , then it is Baire.*

*Proof:* (1): Suppose  $\{V_i \mid i < \omega\}$  is a countable open cover of  $\bar{A}$ . Since  $A$  is lightly compact, the open cover  $\{V_i \cap A \mid i < \omega\}$  of  $A$  has a finite subfamily  $\{V_i \cap A \mid i \leq n\}$  the union of which is dense in  $A$ . The union of the family  $\{V_i \mid i \leq n\}$  is easily seen to be dense in  $\bar{A}$ . (2): Suppose there exists an  $a \in \bar{A} - A$ . For each  $x \in A$ , let  $U_x$  and  $V_x$  be open subsets of  $E$  such that  $x \in U_x$ ,  $a \in V_x$ , and  $U_x \cap V_x = \emptyset$ . Since  $A$  is Lindelöf, there exists a countable  $A' \subset A$  such that  $A \subset \bigcup \{U_x \mid x \in A'\}$ . By the light compactness of  $A$ , there is a finite  $A'' \subset A'$  such that  $A \subset \bigcup \{\bar{U}_x \mid x \in A''\}$ . The set  $V = \bigcap \{V_x \mid x \in A''\}$  is an open neighborhood of  $a$ , which does not meet  $A$ , since  $V \cap U_x = \emptyset$  for each  $x \in A''$ . This contradiction shows that  $A$  is closed. (3): Suppose  $U_0, U_1, \dots$  is a sequence of dense open subsets of  $E$ . To prove that  $\bigcap_{i < \omega} U_i$  is dense we consider an arbitrary non-void open subset  $U$  of  $E$ . Since  $U \cap U_0 \neq \emptyset$  and  $E$  is  $T_3$ , there exists an open non-void  $A_0$  such that  $\bar{A}_0 \subset U \cap U_0$ . We assume, for an inductive construction, that  $A_0, \dots, A_n$  are open non-void subsets of  $E$  such that  $\bar{A}_{i+1} \subset A_i \cap U \cap U_0 \cap \dots \cap U_i$  for each  $i < n$ . Since  $A_n \cap U \cap U_0 \cap \dots \cap U_n \neq \emptyset$ , there exists an open non-void  $A_{n+1}$  such that  $\bar{A}_{n+1} \subset A_n \cap U \cap U_0 \cap \dots \cap U_n$ . The light compactness of  $E$  implies now  $\emptyset \neq \bigcap_{i < \omega} \bar{A}_i \subset U \cap \bigcap_{i < \omega} U_i$ . Consequently,  $\bigcap_{i < \omega} U_i$  is dense. Thus we have proved the Baire property for  $E$ .

Arens and Dugundji ([2]) have proved that for a  $T_1$ -space each of the following conditions is equivalent to countable compactness:

- (A) Every infinite open cover of the space has a proper subcover.
- (F) Every infinite subset of the space has an accumulation point.

The  $T_1$ -assumption is essential as is seen from the following examples. At first, let  $E = \mathbf{N}$  with the topology  $\{\{0, 1, \dots, n\} \mid n \in \mathbf{N}\}$ . Obviously,  $E$  is  $T_0$ .  $E$  is also  $T_4$ , since no two non-void closed subsets are disjoint. It is easily verified that  $E$  satisfies (A) but is not countably compact. It may also be noted that  $E$  is lightly compact, since every non-void open subset of  $E$  is dense. Thus a lightly compact  $T_4$ -space need not be countably compact. The topological sum of an infinite collection of copies of  $E$  is a  $T_0$ -space satisfying (F) but not (A). On the other, it is known that countable compactness implies (A) and (A) implies (F).

The following lemma will be needed later.

**Lemma 5** *A  $T_3$ -space satisfying (A) is countably compact.*

*Proof:* Suppose  $E$  is a  $T_3$ -space satisfying (A). Let  $E_0$  be the  $T_0$ -space associated with  $E$ . It is easily seen that  $E_0$  is still a  $T_3$ -space satisfying

(A). But being  $T_0$ ,  $E_0$  is  $T_1$  and, therefore, countably compact. It follows that also  $E$  is countably compact.

The condition (F) can be strengthened to a form equivalent to (A). To see this we introduce a new concept. A point  $p$  of a topological space  $E$  is an  $n$ -accumulation point of  $A \subset E$  if  $\text{card}(U \cap A) \geq n$  for each neighborhood  $U$  of  $p$ .

**Proposition 6** *Let  $E$  be a topological space. Each of the following conditions is equivalent to (A):*

- (A1) <sub>$n$</sub>  *Every infinite subset of  $E$  has an  $n$ -accumulation point ( $n \geq 2$  is a fixed integer),*
- (A2) *Every infinite subset of  $E$  has an  $n$ -accumulation point for each integer  $n \geq 2$ ,*
- (A3) *Every discrete family of subsets of  $E$  is finite,*
- (A4) *Every discrete family of closed subsets of  $E$  is finite.*

*Proof:* We at first prove (A)  $\rightarrow$  (A4) and, therefore, assume (A). Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_i \mid i < \eta\}$  is an infinite discrete collection of closed non-void subsets of  $E$  (indexed without repetitions). We define for each  $i < \eta$

$$V_i = E - \bigcup_{j \neq i} A_j.$$

Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is locally finite, the set  $\bigcup_{j \neq i} A_j$  is closed and hence  $V_i$  is open. It is easily verified that  $\{V_i \mid i < \eta\}$  is an open cover of  $E$  having no proper subcover, a contradiction. The implication (A4)  $\rightarrow$  (A3) follows from the fact that the closures of the members of a discrete family form a discrete family. To prove (A3)  $\rightarrow$  (A1) <sub>$n$</sub>  we assume (A3) and use induction to prove (A1) <sub>$n$</sub> . If  $A$  were an infinite subset of  $E$  having no 2-accumulation points, then the family  $\{\{a\} \mid a \in A\}$  would be discrete, contradicting (A3). Hence we have (A1)<sub>2</sub>. As an induction hypothesis we assume (A1) <sub>$k-1$</sub>  ( $k > 2$ ). For the reductio ad absurdum, we take an infinite set  $A \subset E$  which has no  $k$ -accumulation points. Using the induction hypothesis we can select a  $(k-1)$ -accumulation point  $b_0$  of  $A$  and an open neighborhood  $V_0$  of  $b_0$  such that  $\text{card}(V_0 \cap A) = k-1$ . Now, the induction hypothesis can be applied to  $A - V_0$ . Suppose  $b_1$  is a  $(k-1)$ -accumulation point of  $A - V_0$  and  $V_1$  is an open neighborhood of  $b_1$  such that  $\text{card}(V_1 \cap (A - V_0)) = k-1$ . Inductively, we can construct an infinite sequence  $b_0, b_1, \dots$  of  $(k-1)$ -accumulation points of  $A$  such that for each  $i < \omega$ ,  $b_i \in V_i$  and

$$\text{card}(V_i \cap (A - \bigcup_{j < i} V_j)) = k-1.$$

Suppose  $b$  is a 2-accumulation point of the infinite set  $\{b_i \mid i < \omega\}$ . The



point  $b$  is not a  $k$ -accumulation point of  $A$  and, therefore, has an open neighborhood  $V$  such that

$$\text{card}(V \cap A) \leq k-1.$$

Using the definition of  $b$  we can select  $b_i \in V$  and  $b_j \in V$  such that e.g.  $j < i$ . But the definition of  $b_i$  and  $b_j$  implies  $\text{card}(V_i \cap V \cap (A - V_j)) \geq k-1$  and  $\text{card}(V_j \cap V \cap A) \geq k-1$ , whence  $\text{card}(V \cap A) \geq \text{card}(V_i \cap V \cap (A - V_j)) + \text{card}(V_j \cap V \cap A) \geq k-1 + k-1 > k$ , a contradiction. We next prove  $(A1)_2 \rightarrow (A)$ . Suppose  $\{V_i \mid i < \eta\}$  is an infinite open cover without a proper subcover. The sets

$$A_i = E - \bigcup_{j \neq i} V_j$$

are non-void and pairwise disjoint. Consequently, if we pick out one point  $a_i$  from each  $A_i$ , the resulting set  $A = \{a_i \mid i < \eta\}$  is infinite and, therefore, has a 2-accumulation point  $a$ . Since  $\{V_i \mid i < \eta\}$  is a cover, there is an  $i$  such that  $a \in V_i$ . But  $\text{card}(V_i \cap A) = 1$ , a contradiction. The final equivalence  $(A) \leftrightarrow (A2)$  is now obvious.

Arens and Dugundji ([2]) have also shown that each point-finite open cover of a space satisfying (A) has a finite subcover. Hence (A) implies the following condition:

(L) Every locally finite open cover of the space has a finite subcover.

The condition (L) is, by definition, weaker than light compactness and is equivalent to it in  $T_1$ - (or  $T_3$ -) spaces. An example of a non-lightly compact  $T_0$ -space satisfying (L) will be given on page 10. Since (L) implies (P4), we conclude that (A) implies pseudocompactness. We are going to prove the converse for  $T_4$ -spaces. For this purpose we need the following simple lemma, which also demonstrates the superfluousness of a notion of a countably collectionwise  $T_4$ -space.

**Lemma 7** *A topological space  $E$  is  $T_4$  if and only if it satisfies the condition:*

*For every countable discrete family  $\{A_i \mid i < \omega\}$  of closed subsets of  $E$  there is a family  $\{U_i \mid i < \omega\}$  of pairwise disjoint open subsets such that  $A_i \subset U_i$  for each  $i < \omega$ .*

*Proof:* It suffices to prove the necessity. Suppose  $\{A_i \mid i < \omega\}$  is a countable discrete family of closed subsets of  $E$ . The sets  $\bigcup_{j \leq i} A_j$  and  $\bigcup_{j > i} A_j$  are closed and disjoint. Hence they can be separated by disjoint open sets  $V_i \supset \bigcup_{j \leq i} A_j$  and  $W_i \supset \bigcup_{j > i} A_j$ . Let  $U_0 = V_0$  and  $U_{n+1} = V_{n+1} \cap \bigcap_{j \leq n} W_j$ . Then  $\{U_i \mid i < \omega\}$  is the required family.

**Proposition 8** *A pseudocompact  $T_4$ -space satisfies (A).*

*Proof:* We show that the condition (A4) is fulfilled. Let  $\{A_i \mid i < \omega\}$  be a countably infinite discrete family of non-void closed subsets of a pseudocompact  $T_4$ -space  $E$ . Lemma 7 can be used to establish a collection  $\{U_i \mid i < \omega\}$  of pairwise disjoint open subsets of  $E$  such that  $A_i \subset U_i$  for each  $i < \omega$ . The family

$$\mathcal{U} = \{U_i \mid i < \omega\} \cup \{E - \bigcup_{i < \omega} A_i\}$$

is clearly a point-finite open cover of  $E$ . It is well known that a point-finite open cover of a  $T_4$ -space is shrinkable, i.e., we are able to select an open cover  $\{V_i \mid i \leq \omega\}$  of  $E$  with the property that  $\overline{V_i} \subset U_i$  for each  $i < \omega$ , and  $\overline{V_\omega} \subset E - \bigcup_{i < \omega} A_i$ . Again by the  $T_4$ -property, the sets  $V_i (i \leq \omega)$  can be extended to cozero-sets  $N_i (i \leq \omega)$  in such a way that the family  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_i \mid i \leq \omega\}$  is still a refinement of  $\mathcal{U}$ . But, being a countable cozero-set cover of the pseudocompact space  $E$ ,  $\mathcal{N}$  has a finite subcover, which is, obviously, impossible.

From the above proposition it can be concluded that for  $T_4$ -spaces the conditions (A) and (L) are both equivalent to pseudocompactness. Yet a pseudocompact  $T_4$ -space need not be lightly compact (and hence not countably compact), which is seen as follows. Let  $E = \mathbf{N} \times \{0, 1\}$ . The points  $(n, 1)$  are defined to be isolated, and a neighborhood of a point  $(n, 0)$  is defined to be any subset of  $E$  containing  $(\bigcup_{i \leq n} \{i\}) \times \{0, 1\}$ . We at first note that  $E$  is  $T_4$ , since no two non-void closed subsets are disjoint. Clearly  $E$  is  $T_0$ .  $E$  is not lightly compact, since the infinite open family  $\{(n, 1) \mid n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  is, obviously, locally finite. To see that  $E$  satisfies (A), we take an arbitrary infinite open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $E$ . Let  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ . If  $\{V\}$  is a cover, there is nothing to prove. Suppose then  $V \neq E$ . Since  $V$  is open, there is an  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $(n, 0) \notin V$ . For each  $m \geq n$  we choose a  $V_m \in \mathcal{V}$  such that  $(m, 0) \in V_m$ . The family  $\{V_m \mid m \geq n\}$  is a proper subcover of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

We now have the following relations: A countably compact space satisfies (A) and the converse holds for  $T_3$ - (Lemma 5) but not for  $T_4$ -spaces. (A) implies pseudocompactness and the converse holds for  $T_4$ - but not (by Lemma 5) for  $T_3$ -spaces. Especially, a pseudocompact  $T_4$ - and  $T_3$ -space is countably compact, but neither  $T_4$ - nor  $T_3$ -assumption can be omitted. Furthermore, we have shown that the class of pseudocompact  $T_4$ -spaces properly includes the class of lightly compact  $T_4$ -spaces, which in turn properly includes the class of countably compact  $T_4$ -spaces.

University of Helsinki  
Helsinki, Finland

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