## Certain covering-maps and k-networks

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The characterization for nice images of metric spaces is one of the most important problems in General Topology. Various kinds of characterizations have been obtained by means of certain k-networks. For a survey in this field, see [T5], for example.

In this paper, we shall introduce a general type of covering-maps,  $\sigma$ -(P)-maps associated with certain covering properties (P), in terms of  $\sigma$ -maps defined by [L1]. Then, we unify lots of characterizations and obtain new ones by means of these maps.

All spaces are regular and  $T_1$ , and all maps are continuous and onto.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a cover of a space X. Let (P) be a certain covering-property of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let us say that  $\mathcal{P}$  has property  $\sigma$ -(P) if  $\mathcal{P}$  can be expressed as  $\cup \{\mathcal{P}_i : i \in N\}$ , where each  $\mathcal{P}_i$  is a cover of X having the property (P) such that  $\mathcal{P}_i \subset \mathcal{P}_{i+1}$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_i$  is closed under finite intersections. (Sometimes, we may assume that  $X \in \mathcal{P}_i$ ). When  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_i = \mathcal{P}_{i+1}$  for all  $i \in N$ , we shall say that  $\mathcal{P}$  has property (P) (instead of  $\sigma$ -(P)).

In this paper, we shall restrict (P) to the covering-property which is (\*): Locally finite; Countable; Locally countable; Star-countable; or Point-countable.

Let us say that a map  $f: X \to Y$  is a  $\sigma$ -(P)-map (resp. (P)-map) if, for some base  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_{\alpha} : \alpha\}$  in X, the family  $f(\mathcal{B}) = \{f(B_{\alpha}) : \alpha\}$  has property  $\sigma$ -(P) (resp. (P)).

**Remark 1.** In the above definition, we assume that the family  $f(\mathcal{B}) = \{f(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha}) : \alpha\}$ is to be interpreted in the strict " indexed " sense, hence, the sets  $f(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha})$  are not required to be different. Thus, by the restriction (\*), the base  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_{\alpha} : \alpha\}$  must be at least point-countable, and f be an s-map (i.e., every  $f^{-1}(y)$  is separable). When  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is  $\sigma$ locally finite, then X is a metrizable space with the  $\sigma$ -locally finite base  $\mathcal{B}$ ; Y is a  $\sigma$ -space with the  $\sigma$ -locally finite network  $f(\mathcal{B})$ ); and  $f^{-1}(L)$  is Lindelöf for every Lindelöf subset L of Y. When  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is locally countable or star-countable, then X is a locally separable, metrizable space with the locally countable base  $\mathcal{B}$ .

For map  $f: X \to Y$ , the following hold in view of the above.

(a) If f is a  $\sigma$ -(locally finite)-map, then X is metrizable.

(b) If f a (locally countable)-map or a (star-countable)-map, then X is locally separable, metrizable.

(c) (i) f is a (countable)-map iff X is separable metric.

(ii) f is a (locally-finite)-map iff X and Y are discrete.

We do not consider a trivial case of (locally finite)-maps.

S. Lin [L1] introduced the concept of  $\sigma$ -maps; that is, a map is a  $\sigma$ -map if it is a  $\sigma$ -(locally finite)-map. Related to  $\sigma$ -maps, let us review certain maps which are useful in the theory of networks. K. Nagami [N] introduced a  $\sigma$ -map  $f: X \to Y$  in the following sense: For every  $\sigma$ -locally finite open cover  $\mathcal{G}$  of X,  $f(\mathcal{G})$  has a refinement  $\mathcal{F}$  such that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite closed cover of Y. Let us call such a map f a weak  $\sigma$ -map here, but we need not the closedness of the cover  $\mathcal{F}$ . Related to  $\sigma$ -maps of [N], E. Michael [E1] (or [E2]) defined a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map  $f: X \to Y$  as follows: Every  $\sigma$ -locally finite (not

necessarily open) cover of X has a refinement  $\mathcal{P}$  such that  $f(\mathcal{P})$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite cover of Y.

The following implication holds:  $\sigma$ -maps  $\rightarrow \sigma$ -locally finite maps  $\rightarrow$  weak  $\sigma$ -maps, but each converse need not hold; see Remark 2 below.

For a cover  $\mathcal{P}$  of a space X, we recall the following definitions. These are generalizations of bases. For a survey around k-networks, see [T5], for example.

 $\mathcal{P}$  is a k-network if, for any compact set K and for any open set U such that  $K \subset U$ ,  $K \subset \cup \mathcal{F} \subset U$  for some finite  $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{P}$ . (When K is a single point, such a cover  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a network (or net)). As is well-known, a space X is called an  $\aleph$ -space (resp.  $\aleph_0$ -space) if X has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite k-network (resp. countable k-network).

 $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cs*-network (resp. *cs*\*-network) if, for each  $x \in X$ , each nbd V of x, and each convergent sequence L with the limit point x, there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $x \in P \subset V$ , and P contains L eventually (resp. frequently).

 $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{P}_x : x \in X\}$  with each  $\mathcal{P}_x$  closed under finite intersections is a weak base if (a) each  $P \in \mathcal{P}_x$  contains x; (b) for each  $x \in X$ , and each nbd G of x, there exists  $P(x) \in \mathcal{P}_x$  such that  $P(x) \subset G$ ; and (c)  $G \subset X$  is open in X if, for each  $x \in G$ , there exists  $P(x) \in \mathcal{P}_x$  such that  $P(x) \subset G$ . A space X is called g-metrizable [S2] if X has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite weak base.

 $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{P}_x : x \in X\}$  satisfying the above (a) and (b) is an *sn*-network [L2] if, for each  $x \in X$ , any  $P \in \mathcal{P}_x$  is a sequential neighborhood of x (i.e., any sequence converging to x is eventually contained in P).

**Remark 2.** (i) A map  $f: X \to Y$  is a weak  $\sigma$ -map if the following (a) or (b) holds. (a) f is a closed map such that X is a  $\sigma$ -space.

(b) f is an open map such that Y is subparacompact.

(In fact, for case (a), every open cover  $\mathcal{G}$  of X has a refinement  $\mathcal{P}$  which is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite closed network for X. But,  $f(\mathcal{P})$  is a  $\sigma$ -closure preserving closed network for Y. Thus,  $f(\mathcal{P})$  has a refinement which is a  $\sigma$ -discrete closed network  $\mathcal{F}$  in view of the proof of [SNa; Theorem]. Then,  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite refinement of  $f(\mathcal{G})$ ).

(ii) Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a map. If (a) or (b) below holds, then f is  $\sigma$ -locally finite ([M1] or [M2]). Conversely, if  $f: X \to Y$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite, then for any closed, and  $\omega_1$ -compact subset L of Y (i.e., every uncountable subset of L has an accumulation point),  $f^{-1}(L)$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact.

(a) f is a closed map with every  $f^{-1}(y)$  Lindelöf, and X or Y is subparacompact.

(b)  $f(\mathcal{P})$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite for some network  $\mathcal{P}$  in X. (Thus, X and Y must be  $\sigma$ -spaces).

(iii) Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a map such that X is a  $\sigma$ -space. Then (a)  $\leftrightarrow$  (b)  $\rightarrow$  (c) holds. When f is closed, (a), (b), and (c) are equivalent, and (a) and (c) are equivalent under X being subparacompact. (In fact, these hold by means of (ii) and [E2; Proposition 2.2]).

(a) f is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map.

(b)  $f(\mathcal{P})$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite for some network  $\mathcal{P}$  in X.

(c) Every  $f^{-1}(y)$  is Lindelöf.

The above shows that every  $\sigma$ -locally finite image of a  $\sigma$ -space is a  $\sigma$ -space. But, every weak  $\sigma$ -image (actually, open *s*-image) of a metric space need not be a  $\sigma$ -space (by the Michael-Line).

For closed maps, we have the following. In (a) or (b), f can not been weaken to be a

weak  $\sigma$ -map in view of (i).

(iv) For a closed map  $f: X \to Y$  with X metric, the following are equivalent.

(a) f is a  $\sigma$ -map.

(b) f is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map.

(c) f is an s-map.

(d) X has a point-countable k-network consisting of closed subsets.

(e) X is an  $\aleph$ -space.

(Indeed, (a)  $\rightarrow$  (b)  $\rightarrow$  (c) is already shown. For (c)  $\leftrightarrow$  (d), see [T2], For (c)  $\rightarrow$  (a), since f is a closed s-map with Y paracompact, every  $\sigma$ -locally finite base for X has a refinement  $\mathcal{B}$  such that  $\mathcal{B}$  is a base for X and  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite in Y. (c)  $\rightarrow$  (e) holds by [Ga; Theorem 1]).

Concerning characterizations for  $\sigma$ -spaces by means of maps, the following holds. (a)  $\leftrightarrow$  (b); (a)  $\leftrightarrow$  (d)  $\leftrightarrow$  (e); and (a)  $\leftrightarrow$  (c) is respectively due to [L1]; [N]; and [E1] or [E2].

(v) For a space X, the following are equivalent. In (b), (c), and (e), the map can be chosen to be one-to-one. In (d) and (e), the condition of the weak  $\sigma$ -map is essential; see (iii).

(a) X is a  $\sigma$ -space.

(b) X is the image of a metric space under a  $\sigma$ -map.

(c) X is the image of a metric space under a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map.

(d) X is the image of a metric space under a one-to-one, weak  $\sigma$ -map.

(e) X is the image of a metric space under a weak  $\sigma$ -map f such that  $f^{-1}(x)$  is compact for every  $x \in X$ .

**Proposition**: For a map  $f: X \to Y$ , (1), (2), and (3) below hold.

(1) The following are equivalent.

(a) f is a (point-countable)-map.

(b) X has a point-countable base, and f is an s-map.

(c) X has a point-countable base, and  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is point-countable for any point-countable base  $\mathcal{B}$  in X.

(2) Let X be locally separable, metric. Then the following are equivalent.

(a) f is a (locally countable)-map (resp. (star-countable)-map).

(b) Each point  $y \in Y$  has a nbd  $V_y$  with  $f^{-1}(V_y)$  (resp. each point  $x \in X$  has a nbd  $W_x$  with  $f^{-1}(f(W_x))$ ) separable in X.

(c)  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is locally countable (resp. star-countable) for any locally countable (resp. star-countable) base  $\mathcal{B}$  in X.

(d)  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is locally countable (resp. star-countable) for any star-countable base  $\mathcal{B}$  in X.

(3) Let X be locally separable, metric. Then the implications (a)  $\rightarrow$  (b)  $\rightarrow$  (c); and (d)  $\rightarrow$  (e)  $\rightarrow$  (b) and (c) hold. When f is quotient, (a)  $\sim$  (f) are equivalent.

(a) f is a (locally countable)-map.

(b)  $f^{-1}(L)$  is Lindelöf for every Lindelöf subset L of Y.

(c) f is a (star-countable)-map.

(d) f is a  $\sigma$ -map.

(e) f is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map.

(f)  $f^{-1}(L)$  is separable for every separable subset L of Y.

(Indeed, (1) holds in view of Remark 1(i). (2) would be routinely shown (cf. [TX;

nite map.

Proposition 1.1], but note that any star-countable base for X is locally countable. We show (3) holds, but the implication (a)  $\rightarrow$  (b)  $\rightarrow$  (c) is routine, and (d)  $\rightarrow$  (e) is already shown. (e)  $\rightarrow$  (b) holds by Remark 2(ii). For (e)  $\rightarrow$  (c), let f be a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map, and let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally finite base for X consisting of hereditarily Lindelöf subsets. Then,  $\mathcal{B}$  has a refinement  $\mathcal{F}$  such that  $f(\mathcal{F})$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite. For each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , f(B) meets only countably many  $f(F_n) \in f(\mathcal{F})$  with  $F_n \in \mathcal{F}$ , for f(B) is Lindelöf. While, each Lindelöf subset  $F_n$  meets only countably many elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Hence, each  $f(\mathcal{B})$  meets only countably many elements of  $f(\mathcal{B})$ . Then,  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is a star-countable cover of Y. Thus, f is a (star-countable)-map. For the latter part, let (c) hold. Since f is quotient, Y is determined by a star-countable cover  $\mathcal{C} = f(\mathcal{B})$  for some base  $\mathcal{B}$  in X. Thus, as in the proof of [T3; Theorem 1], Y is the topological sum of subspaces, where each subspace is a countable union of elements of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Thus, the cover  $\mathcal{C}$  is locally countable and  $\sigma$ -locally finite in Y. Thus (c) implies (a), (d), and (f). (f)  $\rightarrow$  (c) would be routine).

**Remark 3.** In view of (a)  $\leftrightarrow$  (d) in (2), (locally countable)-maps (resp. (starcountable)-maps) coincide with locally countable maps (resp. star-countable maps) discussed in [TX].

We note that it is impossible to replace "any star-countable base" by "any locally countable base" in (d) for the parenthetic part.

**Corollary 1.** For a quotient map  $f: X \to Y$  such that X is a locally separable, metric space, the following are equivalent.

- (a) f is a (locally countable)-map.
- (b) f is a (star-countable)-map.
- (c) f is a  $\sigma$ -map.
- (d) f is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite map.
- (e)  $f^{-1}(L)$  is Lindelöf for every Lindelöf subset L of Y.
- (f)  $f^{-1}(S)$  is separable for every separable subset S of Y.

For a map  $f: X \to Y$ , let us recall the following definitions around compact-covering maps.

f is sequence-covering [S1], if each convergent sequence in Y is the image of some convergent sequence in X.

f is sequence-covering of [GMT], if each convergent sequence L in Y is the image of some compact subset of X. In this paper, let us call such a sequence-covering map of [GMT] pseudo-sequence-covering as in [ILuT]. (When "convergent sequence L" is replaced by "compact set L", as is well-known, such a map f is called compact-covering).

f is subsequence-covering [LLuD], if for each  $y \in Y$ , and each sequence L in Y converging to y, there exists a convergent sequence K in X such that f(K) is a subsequence of L.

f is 1-sequence-covering [L3], if for each  $y \in Y$ , there exists  $x \in f^{-1}(y)$  such that for each sequence K converging to y, there exists a sequence L converging to x such that f(L) = K. For 1-sequence-covering maps, see [LY], for example.

Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a map such that X is sequential. If f is pseudo-sequence-covering, then f is subsequence-covering. Also, f is quotient iff f is subsequence-covering such that Y is sequential ([T4]).

(i) If f is quotient, then Y has a k-network having property  $\sigma$ -(P).

(ii) If f is subsequence-covering (resp. sequence-covering; 1-sequence covering), then Y has a cs\*-network (resp. cs-network; sn-network) having property  $\sigma$ -(P).

(Indeed, for (i), let  $f(\mathcal{B})$  have property  $\sigma$ -(P) for some base  $\mathcal{B}$  in X. Let  $K \subset U$ with K compact and U open in Y. Since  $f|f^{-1}(U)$  is quotient, U is determined by a point-countable cover  $\mathcal{U} = \{f(B) : B \in \mathcal{B}, f(B) \subset U\}$ . Thus,  $K \subset \cup \mathcal{F} \subset U$  for some finite  $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{U}$  by [GMT: Proposition 2.1]. This shows that  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is a k-network. (ii) is routine).

Every  $\sigma$ -image of a metric space is a  $\sigma$ -space, but need not be an  $\aleph$ -space in view of Remark 2(v). But, we have the following by the previous lemma and Corollary 1.

**Corollary 2.** (1) Every quotient  $\sigma$ -image of a metric space is an  $\aleph$ -space.

(2) Every quotient  $\sigma$ -locally finite image of a locally separable, metric space is an  $\aleph$ -space.

**Remark 4.** (i) Every (1-sequence-covering) quotient  $\sigma$ -locally finite image of a metric space need not be an  $\aleph$ -space (by the open finite-to-one image of a metric space in Example 3.2 in [T1]). This shows that the local separability of the domain is essential in Corollary 2(2).

(ii) Every quotient, finite-to-one, weak  $\sigma$ -image of a locally compact, metric space need not be an  $\aleph$ -space, and need not satisfy each of (e) ~ (f) in Corollary 1, even if the range is a paracompact  $\sigma$ -space (by the example in [LT; Remark 14(2)]). Hence, we can not replace " $\sigma$ -locally finite" by "weak  $\sigma$ " in Corollary 1 and Corollary 2(2).

The nice characterization for quotient s-images of metric spaces was obtained by [GMT], in 1984. Since then, lots of characterizations for certain images of metric spaces have been obtained by many topologists by using the analogous methods to the proof of [GMT; Theorem 6.1]. To unify these characterizations, we have General Theorem below. This theorem (resp. its latter part) could be shown by modifying the proof of [Li; Lemma 2.1] (resp. [L2; Theorem]). But, we shall omit the proof here.

General Theorem: For a space X, the following are equivalent. Also, it is possible to replace "subsequence-covering" by "pseudo-sequence-covering" in (b).

(a) X has a cs\*-network (resp. cs-network; sn-network) having property  $\sigma$ -(P).

(b) X is the subsequence-covering (resp. sequence-covering; 1-sequence-covering)  $\sigma$ -(P)-image of a metric space.

The following is due to [Li]. Also, an analogous result for a  $\sigma$ -(locally countable)-property could be valid.

**Corollary 3.** A space X is an  $\aleph$ -space iff X is the sequence-covering  $\sigma$ -image of a metric space. Also, it is possible to replace "sequence-covering" by "subsequence-covering" or "pseudo-sequence-covering" (cf. [L1]).

In the following, (a)  $\leftrightarrow$  (b) is due to [L2] (resp. [LLu]; [L3]).

Corollary 4. For a space X, the following are equivalent. Also, it is possible to

replace "subsequence-covering" by "pseudo-sequence-covering" in (b) and (c).

(a) X has a point-countable cs\*-network (resp. cs-network; sn-network).

(b) X is the subsequence-covering (resp. sequence-covering; 1-sequence-covering), s-image of a metric space.

(c) X is the subsequence-covering (resp. sequence-covering; 1-sequence-covering), (point-countable)-image of a metric space.

In the following, (1) is (well) known, and some parts of (2) are shown in [TX].

**Corollary 5.** For a space X, the following hold. Also, it is possible to replace "subsequence-covering" by "pseudo-sequence-covering" in (1) and (2), and to replace "locally countable" by "star-countable" in (2).

(1) X has a countable cs\*-network (resp. cs-network; sn-network) iff X is the subsequence-covering (resp. sequence-covering; 1-sequence-covering) image of a separable metric space.

(2) X has a locally countable cs\*-network (resp. cs-network; sn-network) iff X is the subsequence-covering (resp. sequence-covering; 1-sequence-covering), (locally-countable)-image of a locally separable metric space.

**Remark 5.** Related to (1), let us recall a result that, for a space X, X has a countable cs\*-network  $\leftrightarrow X$  has a countable cs-network  $\leftrightarrow X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space. Concerning (2), when X is sequential, then X has a locally countable cs\*-network  $\leftrightarrow X$  has a locally countable cs\*-network  $\phi$  countable cs\*-network  $\phi$  contable cs\*-network  $\phi$  countable cs\*-network

**Corollary 6.** (1) A space X is a sequential space with a point-countable cs\*-network iff X is the quotient s-image of a metric space ([T4] or [L2]).

(2) A space X is a sequential space with a point-countable cs-network iff X is the sequence-covering, quotient s-image of a metric space ([LLu]).

(3) A space X has a point-countable weak base iff X is the 1-sequence-covering, quotient s-image of a metric space ([L2]).

**Corollary 7.** For a space X, the following are equivalent. It is possible to replace "locally countable" by "star-countable" in (a) or (b). Moreover, if we replace "cs\*-network" by "cs-network (resp. sn-network)" in (a), then the same equivalence holds by adding the prefix "sequence-covering (resp. 1-sequence-covering)" before "quotient" in (b) ~ (e).

(a) X is a sequential space with a locally countable cs\*-network.

(b) X is the quotient (locally-countable)-image of a locally separable metric space.

(c) X is the quotient  $\sigma$ -image of a locally separable metric space.

(d) X is the quotient  $\sigma$ -locally finite image of a locally separable metric space.

(e) X is the image of a locally separable metric space under a quotient map f such that  $f^{-1}(S)$  is separable for every separable (or Lindelöf) subset S of Y.

**Corollary 8.** (1) A space X is a k-and- $\aleph$ -space iff X is the (sequence-covering) quotient  $\sigma$ -image of a metric space.

(2) A space X is g-metrizable iff X is the quotient, 1-sequence-covering,  $\sigma$ -image of a metric space.

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