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## Countable compactness and $p$ -limits

S. GARCIA-FERREIRA, A.H. TOMITA

*Abstract.* For  $\emptyset \neq M \subseteq \omega^*$ , we say that  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact, if for every  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  there is  $p \in M$  such that  $\overline{f}(p) \in X$ , where  $\overline{f}$  is the Stone-Ćech extension of  $f$ . In this context, a space  $X$  is countably compact iff  $X$  is quasi  $\omega^*$ -compact. If  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact and  $M$  is either finite or countable discrete in  $\omega^*$ , then all powers of  $X$  are countably compact. Assuming  $CH$ , we give an example of a countable subset  $M \subseteq \omega^*$  and a quasi  $M$ -compact space  $X$  whose square is not countably compact, and show that in a model of A. Blass and S. Shelah every quasi  $M$ -compact space is  $p$ -compact (= quasi  $\{p\}$ -compact) for some  $p \in \omega^*$ , whenever  $M \in [\omega^*]^{<2^c}$ . We prove that if  $\emptyset \notin \{T_\xi : \xi < 2^c\} \subseteq [\omega^*]^{<2^c}$ , then there is a countably compact space  $X$  that is not quasi  $T_\xi$ -compact for every  $\xi < 2^c$ ; hence, if  $2^c$  is regular, then there is a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $X$  is not quasi  $M$ -compact for any  $M \in [\omega^*]^{<2^c}$ . We list some open problems.

*Keywords:*  $p$ -limit,  $p$ -compact, almost  $p$ -compact, quasi  $M$ -compact, countably compact

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### 0. Introduction

All our spaces are Tychonoff. If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a continuous function, then  $\overline{f} : \beta(X) \rightarrow \beta(Y)$  denotes the Stone-Ćech extension of  $f$ .  $\beta(\omega)$  is identified with the set of all ultrafilters on  $\omega$ , and  $\beta(\omega) \setminus \omega = \omega^*$  is the set of all free ultrafilters on  $\omega$ . For  $A \subseteq \omega$ ,  $\hat{A} = \{p \in \beta(\omega) : A \in p\} = \text{cl}_{\beta(\omega)} A$ .

In the context of nonstandard analysis, the point  $\overline{f}(p) \in X$ , where  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  is a function and  $p \in \omega^*$ , has the following interpretation:

**Definition 0.1** ([Be]). *Let  $p \in \omega^*$  and let  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  be a sequence in a space  $X$ . We say that  $x$  is the  $p$ -limit point of  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$ , we write  $x = p - \lim_{n \rightarrow \omega} x_n$ , if for every neighborhood  $V$  of  $x$ ,  $\{n < \omega : x_n \in V\} \in p$ .*

If  $x = p - \lim_{n \rightarrow \omega} x_n$ , then  $x = \overline{f}(p)$ , where  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  is defined by  $f(n) = x_n$  for every  $n < \omega$ . It is known that, in the category of Tychonoff spaces, a space  $X$  is countably compact iff every sequence of points in  $X$  has a  $p$ -limit point for some  $p \in \omega^*$ : By using functions,  $X$  is countably compact iff for every  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  there is  $p \in \omega^*$  such that  $\overline{f}(p) \in X$ . This last observation leads us to consider the following class of spaces.

**Definition 0.2** ([Be]). *Let  $p \in \omega^*$ . A space  $X$  is said to be  $p$ -compact if for every sequence  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  of points of  $X$  there is  $x \in X$  such that  $x = p - \lim_{n \rightarrow \omega} x_n$ .*

Thus, a space  $X$  is  $p$ -compact, for  $p \in \omega^*$ , if  $\bar{f}(p) \in X$  for every  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$ . It is shown in [GS] that all powers of a space  $X$  are countably compact iff there is  $p \in \omega^*$  such that  $X$  is  $p$ -compact. A.R. Bernstein [Be] proved that  $p$ -compactness is preserved under arbitrary products, for every  $p \in \omega^*$ . Since countable compactness is not preserved under products, there are countably compact spaces which are not  $p$ -compact for any  $p \in \omega^*$  (see [GJ]).

The following definition plays the main role in this paper:

**Definition 0.3** ([G]). *Let  $\emptyset \neq M \subseteq \omega^*$ . A space  $X$  is said to be quasi  $M$ -compact if for every  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  there is  $p \in M$  such that  $\bar{f}(p) \in X$ .*

Thus, a space  $X$  is countably compact iff  $X$  is quasi  $\omega^*$ -compact, and  $p$ -compactness agrees with quasi  $\{p\}$ -compactness. Given a countably compact space  $X$ , we may ask about that smallest cardinality of a nonempty subset  $M \subseteq \omega^*$  such that for every  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  there is  $p \in M$  such that  $\bar{f}(p) \in X$ . For instance, we mentioned above that if all the powers of a space  $X$  are countably compact, then set  $M$  may consist of just one single point. We show that if  $X$  is a countably compact space and one of its powers is not countably compact, then  $M$  cannot be neither finite and nor discrete. Under the assumption of  $CH$ , we give an Example of a countable subset  $M$  of  $\omega^*$ , with one non-isolated point, and a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact and fails to be  $p$ -compact for any  $p \in \omega^*$ . In the models described in [BS1] and [BS2], we will prove that every quasi  $M$ -compact space is  $p$ -compact for some  $p \in \omega^*$ , provided that  $M \subseteq \omega^*$  and  $|M| < \mathfrak{c}$ .

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### 1. Quasi $M$ -compact spaces

Our first result is a particular case of Theorem 1.25 from [G].

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\emptyset \neq M \subseteq \omega^*$ . If there is  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  and  $p \in \omega^*$  such that  $M \subseteq \bar{f}^{-1}(p)$ , then every quasi  $M$ -compact space is  $p$ -compact.*

PROOF: Let  $X$  be a quasi  $M$ -compact space and let  $g : \omega \rightarrow X$  be a function. Consider the composition  $g \circ f$ . Since  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact, there is  $r \in M$  such that  $\bar{g}(\bar{f}(r)) \in X$  and then  $\bar{g}(p) \in X$ , because of  $\bar{f}(r) = p$ . Thus,  $X$  is  $p$ -compact. □

**Theorem 1.2.** *If  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact for some countable discrete subset  $M \subseteq \omega^*$ , then  $X$  is  $p$ -compact for some  $p \in M$ .*

PROOF: Let  $M \subseteq \omega^*$  be discrete and let  $X$  be a quasi  $M$ -space. Assume that  $X$  is not  $p$ -compact for any  $p \in M$ . Enumerate  $M$  as  $\{p_n : n < \omega\}$  and let

$\{A_n : n < \omega\}$  be a partition of  $\omega$  such that  $A_n \in p_n$  for every  $n < \omega$ . By assumption, for every  $n < \omega$ , there is  $f_n : \omega \rightarrow X$  such that  $\overline{f_n}(p_n) \notin X$ . Let us define  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  by  $f|_{A_n} = f_n|_{A_n}$  for every  $n < \omega$ . Then, there is  $m < \omega$  such that  $\overline{f}(p_m) \in X$ . But, by the definition of  $f$ ,  $\overline{f}(p_m) = \overline{f_m}(p_m)$  which is a contradiction since  $\overline{f_m}(p_m) \notin X$ .  $\square$

In our first Example, we will need the following pre-orderings on  $\omega^*$ : For  $p, q \in \omega^*$ , we say that  $p \leq_{RK} q$  if there is a function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that  $\overline{f}(q) = p$ , and  $p \leq_{RF} q$  if there is an embedding  $e : \omega \rightarrow \beta(\omega)$  such that  $\overline{e}(p) = q$ . If  $p, q \in \omega^*$ , then we say that  $p \approx q$  if  $p \leq_{RK} q$  and  $q \leq_{RK} p$ , and  $p <_{RK} q$  (resp.,  $p <_{RF} q$ ) means that  $p \leq_{RK} q$  (resp.,  $p \leq_{RF} q$ ) but  $p$  and  $q$  are not equivalent. The *type* of  $p \in \omega^*$  is the set  $T(p) = \{q \in \omega^* : p \approx q\}$ . A *RK*-minimal ultrafilter on  $\omega$  is usually called *selective*. We list the basic properties of these two pre-orderings that we shall use (proofs of these facts may be found in [Co], [CN], [Ku] and [vM]):

**Lemma 1.3.** *The following properties hold:*

1.  $\leq_{RF} \subset \leq_{RK}$ ;
2. for  $p, q \in \omega^*$ ,  $p \approx q$  iff there is a bijection  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that  $\overline{f}(p) = q$ ;
3. let  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  and  $p \in \omega^*$ . Then,  $p \approx \overline{f}(p)$  if and only if there is  $A \in p$  such that  $f|_A$  is one-to-one;
4. every weak *P*-point of  $\omega^*$  is *RF*-minimal, and there are  $2^c$ -many weak *P*-points of  $\omega^*$  which are not selective;
5. if  $p \in \omega^*$  is selective and  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  is a function such that  $\overline{f}(p) \notin f[\omega]$ , then  $p <_{RF} \overline{f}(p)$ ;
6. if  $p \leq_{RF} r$  and  $q \leq_{RF} r$ , then  $p$  and  $q$  are *RF*-comparable;
7. if  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  is an embedding, then  $p <_{RF} \overline{f}(p)$  for every  $p \in \omega^*$ ;
8. if  $X, Y \subseteq \omega^*$  are countable, then  $\overline{X} \cap \overline{Y} = \emptyset$  iff  $\overline{X} \cap Y = \emptyset$  and  $X \cap \overline{Y} = \emptyset$ .  
In particular, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are disjoint countable sets of weak *P*-points of  $\omega^*$ , then  $\overline{X} \cap \overline{Y} = \emptyset$ .

To state our preliminary results, we introduce the following notion: Let  $F \in [\omega^*]^\omega$ , let  $e : \omega \rightarrow F$  be a function and let  $p \in \omega^*$ . Then, a function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  is called a  $(F, e, p)$ -function if  $q <_{RF} \overline{f}(q)$  for every  $q \in F$ , and  $p <_{RF} \overline{f}(e(p))$ . Notice that if  $F = \{p_n : n < \omega\}$  are *RK*-incomparable selective ultrafilters on  $\omega$ ,  $p \in \omega^*$  and  $e : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  is defined by  $e(n) = p_n$  for all  $n < \omega$ , then every  $(F, e, p)$ -function satisfies that  $\overline{f}(p_n) \neq \overline{f}(p_m)$  whenever  $n < m < \omega$ .

**Lemma 1.4.** *Let  $\{p\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\}$  be pairwise *RK*-incomparable selective ultrafilters on  $\omega$ , and let  $e : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  be defined by  $e(n) = p_n$  for every  $n < \omega$ . If  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  satisfies that  $p_n <_{RF} \overline{f}(p_n)$  for every  $n < \omega$ , then  $f$  is a  $(\{p_n : n < \omega\}, e, p)$ -function.*

**PROOF:** We have to show that  $p <_{RF} \overline{f}(e(p))$ . In fact, if  $\overline{f}(e(p)) \neq \overline{f}(p_n)$  for

every  $n < \omega$ , then  $\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p)) \notin \{\overline{f}(e(n)) : n < \omega\}$ , and hence, by Lemma 1.3,  $p <_{RF} \overline{f}(\overline{e}(p))$ . Suppose that  $\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p)) = \overline{f}(p_k)$  for some  $k < \omega$ . Our assumption implies that  $\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p)) \neq \overline{f}(p_n)$  for every  $n \in \omega - \{k\}$ . Since  $\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p))$  is an accumulation point of  $\{\overline{f}(p_n) : n \in \omega \setminus \{k\}\}$ . Then, we may find a pairwise disjoint family  $\{B_m : m < \omega\}$  of subsets of  $\omega$  such that  $B_m \notin \overline{f}(p_k)$  for all  $m < \omega$  and  $\{\overline{f}(p_n) : n \in \omega \setminus \{k\}\} \subseteq \bigcup_{m < \omega} \widehat{B_m}$ . Let  $h : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  be the function defined by  $h^{-1}(m) = B_m$  for each  $m < \omega$ . Then,  $(\overline{h} \circ \overline{f} \circ e)[\omega \setminus \{k\}] \subseteq \omega$  and  $\overline{h}(\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p))) \in \omega^*$ . Hence,  $\overline{h}(\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p))) \leq_{RK} p$ . Since  $p$  is selective,  $\overline{h}(\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p))) \approx p$ . By applying Lemma 1.3, we may find  $A \in p$  such that  $\overline{h} \circ \overline{f} \circ e|_A$  is one-to-one. So, by the definition of  $h$ , the function  $\overline{f} \circ e|_A$  is an embedding and hence  $p <_{RF} \overline{f}(\overline{e}(p))$ . But, by Lemma 1.3, this implies that  $p$  and  $p_k$  are  $RF$ -equivalent, which is a contradiction. Then,  $\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p)) \neq \overline{f}(p_n)$  for all  $n < \omega$ . Therefore,  $f$  is a  $(\{p_n : n < \omega\}, e, p)$ -function.  $\square$

**Lemma 1.5.** *Let  $\{p\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\}$  be a set of pairwise  $RK$ -incomparable selective ultrafilters on  $\omega$ , and let  $e : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  be defined by  $e(n) = p_n$  for every  $n < \omega$ . For a subspace  $X$  of  $\omega^*$ , the following are equivalent:*

1.  $X$  is quasi  $(\{\overline{e}(p)\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\})$ -compact;
2. for every  $(\{p_n : n < \omega\}, e, p)$ -function  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  there is  $q \in \{\overline{e}(p)\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\}$  such that  $\overline{f}(q) \in X$ .

PROOF: The implication (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is evident.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Observe that  $e$  is an embedding and hence  $\overline{e}(p) \neq p_n$  for all  $n < \omega$ . Put  $M = \{\overline{e}(p)\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\}$ . Let us assume that  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  is a function such that  $\overline{f}(q) \notin X$  for every  $q \in M$ . Then, in particular,  $\overline{f}(p_n) \notin f[\omega]$  for every  $n < \omega$ . Thus, by Lemma 1.3,  $p_n <_{RF} \overline{f}(p_n)$  for each  $n < \omega$ . So, by Lemma 1.4,  $f$  is a  $(\{p_n : n < \omega\}, e, p)$ -function. By assumption, there is  $q \in M$  such that  $\overline{f}(q) \in X$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Example 1.6.** *Let  $\{p\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\}$  be a set of pairwise  $RK$ -incomparable selective ultrafilters on  $\omega$ , and let  $e : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  be defined by  $e(n) = p_n$  for every  $n < \omega$ . Then, there is a quasi  $(\{\overline{e}(p)\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\})$ -compact space that is not  $q$ -compact for any  $q \in \omega^*$ .*

PROOF: Let  $\{q_n : n < \omega\}$  be a set of selective ultrafilters on  $\omega$  such that  $\{p\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\} \cup \{q_n : n < \omega\}$  are pairwise  $RK$ -incomparable. Notice that  $\overline{e}(p)$  is an accumulation point of  $\{p_n : n < \omega\}$ . Put  $F = M_0 = \{p_n : n < \omega\}$  and  $N_0 = \{q_n : n < \omega\}$ . It follows from Lemma 1.3 that  $\overline{M_0} \cap \overline{N_0} = \emptyset$ . By transfinite induction, for each  $0 < \nu < \omega_1$  we may define  $M_\nu, N_\nu \subseteq \omega^*$  as follows:

1.  $M_\nu = \{\overline{f}(\overline{e}(p)) : f : \omega \rightarrow \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} (M_\mu \cup N_\mu)$  is an  $(F, e, p)$ -function and  $\{n < \omega : f(n) \in \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} M_\mu\} \in \overline{e}(p)\}$ .
2.  $N_\nu = \{\overline{f}(p_k) : f : \omega \rightarrow \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} (M_\mu \cup N_\mu)$  is an  $(F, e, p)$ -function and  $\{n < \omega : f(n) \notin \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} M_\mu\} \in \overline{e}(p) \cap p_k, k < \omega\}$ .

We have that  $M_\nu \subseteq \overline{M_0}$  and  $N_\nu \subseteq \overline{N_0}$  for every  $\nu < \omega_1$ . Our space is  $X = \bigcup_{\nu < \omega_1} (M_\nu \cup N_\nu)$ . By definition and Lemma 1.5,  $X$  is quasi  $(\{\overline{e(p)}\} \cup \{p_n : n < \omega\})$ -compact. To prove that  $X$  is not  $q$ -compact for any  $q \in \omega^*$  is enough to show that  $X \times X$  is not countably compact (see [GS]). Assume that  $X \times X$  is countably compact and let us consider the function  $h : \omega \rightarrow X$  given by  $h(n) = q_n$ , for every  $n < \omega$ . Let  $\sigma : \omega \rightarrow X \times X$  be defined by  $\sigma(n) = (e(n), h(n)) = (p_n, q_n)$ , for each  $n < \omega$ . It is clear that  $\sigma$  is an embedding. By assumption, there is  $r \in \omega^*$  such that  $\overline{\sigma(r)} \in X \times X$ . Then,  $\overline{e(r)}, \overline{h(r)} \in X$ ,  $r <_{RF} \overline{e(r)}$  and  $r <_{RF} \overline{h(r)}$ . We also have that  $\overline{e(r)}, \overline{h(r)} \notin M_0 \cup N_0$ ,  $\overline{e(r)} \in \overline{M_0}$  and  $\overline{h(r)} \in \overline{N_0}$ . Let  $\theta = \min\{\mu < \omega_1 : \overline{e(r)} \in M_\mu \cup N_\mu\}$  and  $\lambda = \min\{\mu < \omega_1 : \overline{h(r)} \in M_\mu \cup N_\mu\}$ . Hence, we must have that  $\overline{e(r)} = \overline{f(\overline{e(p)})}$  and  $\overline{h(r)} = \overline{g(\overline{h(p)})}$ , for some  $i < \omega$ , where  $f : \omega \rightarrow \bigcup_{\mu < \theta} (M_\mu \cup N_\mu)$  is an  $(F, e, p)$ -function,  $\{n < \omega : f(n) \in \bigcup_{\mu < \theta} M_\mu\} \in \overline{e(p)}$ ,  $g : \omega \rightarrow \bigcup_{\mu < \lambda} (M_\mu \cup N_\mu)$  is an  $(F, e, p)$ -function and  $\{n < \omega : g(n) \notin \bigcup_{\mu < \theta} M_\mu\} \in \overline{e(p)} \cap p_i$ . Then, we have that  $r$  and  $p$  are  $RF$ -comparable and  $r$  and  $p_i$  are  $RF$ -comparable as well. Since  $p$  and  $p_i$  are  $RF$ -minimal,  $p \leq_{RF} r$  and  $p_i \leq_{RF} r$ , but this implies, by Lemma 1.3, that  $p$  and  $p_i$  are  $RK$ -comparable, which contradicts our hypothesis. Therefore,  $X \times X$  is not countably compact.  $\square$

We remark that in Example 1.6 the set  $\{p_n : n < \omega\}$  is discrete and has  $\overline{e(p)}$  as an accumulation point. A. Blass [Bl] proved, in ZFC, that if  $\emptyset \neq M \subseteq \omega^*$  has cardinality  $< \mathfrak{d}$  and every element of  $M$  is generated by  $< \mathfrak{d}$  sets, then there is a finite-to-one function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that  $\overline{f[M]}$  is a free ultrafilter on  $\omega$ , and hence, by Theorem 1.1, every quasi  $M$ -compact space is  $p$ -compact for some  $p \in \omega^*$ . This shows that Example 1.6 cannot take place in some models of ZFC.

**Theorem 1.7.** *There is a model of ZFC in which every quasi  $M$ -compact space is  $p$ -compact for some  $p \in \omega^*$ , whenever  $M \in [\omega^*]^{< \mathfrak{c}}$ .*

PROOF: The authors of [Bl] showed that in the models described in [BS1] and [BS2] the following combinatorial principle holds:

(\*) If  $\mathcal{F}$  is any free filter on  $\omega$ , then there is a finite-to-one function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that  $f[\mathcal{F}]$  is either the filter of cofinite sets or an ultrafilter.

Fix  $M \in [\omega^*]^{< \mathfrak{c}}$  and put  $\mathcal{F} = \bigcap \{q : q \in M\}$ . By (\*), there is a finite-to-one function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that either  $f[\mathcal{F}]$  is the filter of cofinite sets or  $f[\mathcal{F}]$  is an ultrafilter. If  $f[\mathcal{F}]$  is the filter of cofinite sets, then  $\overline{f[M]}$  would be dense in  $\omega^*$ , which is impossible. So,  $f[\mathcal{F}]$  must be an ultrafilter, say  $p$ , and then  $M \subseteq \overline{f^{-1}(p)}$ . According to Theorem 1.1, every quasi  $M$ -compact space is  $p$ -compact.  $\square$

It is a consequence of Theorem 1.7 that, under (\*), if a quasi  $M$ -compact space  $X$  is not  $p$ -compact for any  $p \in \omega^*$ , then  $|M| \geq \mathfrak{c}$ .

We turn out to the second example of this section.

**Example 1.8.** If  $\emptyset \notin \{T_\xi : \xi < 2^c\} \subseteq [\omega^*]^{<2^c}$ , then there is a countably compact space  $X$  such that it is not quasi  $T_\xi$ -compact for any  $\xi < 2^c$ .

PROOF: We will use the following fact:

If  $X$  is a countable infinite subset of  $\beta(\omega)$ , then  $|\overline{X}| = 2^c$ .

It is well-known that there are  $2^c$ -many weak  $P$ -points in  $\omega^*$  (see [vM]). We partition the set of weak  $P$ -points of  $\omega^*$  in countable infinite subsets and enumerate them as  $\{S_\xi : \xi < 2^c\}$ . Now, for each  $\xi < 2^c$ , we fix a bijection  $h_\xi : \omega \rightarrow S_\xi$ . We shall use the standard method of constructing countably compact subspaces of  $\omega^*$ . We put  $Y_0 = \overline{S_0} - \overline{h_0}[T_0]$ . Suppose that for each  $\xi < \lambda < 2^c$  we have defined  $Y_\xi \subseteq \omega^*$  such that

1.  $Y_\xi \subseteq \bigcup\{\overline{X} : X \in [\bigcup_{\zeta \leq \xi} S_\zeta]^\omega\}$  for each  $1 \leq \xi < \lambda$ ;
2.  $Y_\xi \subseteq Y_\zeta$  whenever  $\xi < \zeta < \lambda$ ;
3. every countable discrete infinite subset of  $Y_\xi$  has an accumulation point in  $Y_{\xi+1}$  for each  $\xi < \xi + 1 < \lambda$ ; and
4.  $S_\xi \subseteq Y_\xi \subseteq \omega^* \setminus [(\bigcup_{\zeta \leq \xi} \overline{h_\zeta}[T_\zeta]) \cup (\bigcup_{\xi < \zeta < 2^c} \overline{S_\zeta})]$  for each  $\xi < \lambda$ .

Define  $Y = S_\lambda \cup (\bigcup_{\xi < \lambda} Y_\xi)$ . First notice that  $Y \cap \overline{h_\xi}[T_\xi] = \emptyset$  for every  $\xi < 2^c$ . We enumerate all countable discrete infinite subsets of  $Y$  as  $\{D_\theta : \theta < |Y|^\omega = \kappa\}$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that either  $D_\theta \subseteq \bigcup_{\xi < \lambda} Y_\xi$  or  $D_\theta \subseteq S_\lambda$ . By Lemma 1.3,  $\overline{D_\theta} \cap (\bigcup_{\lambda < \zeta < 2^c} \overline{S_\zeta}) = \emptyset$ , for each  $\theta < \kappa$ , and  $\overline{S_\zeta} \cap Y_\xi = \emptyset$  whenever  $\xi < \zeta \leq \lambda$ . For each  $\theta < \kappa$ , we choose  $p_\theta \in \overline{D_\theta}$  as follows:

Suppose that  $D_\theta \subseteq \bigcup_{\xi < \lambda} Y_\xi$ . By 1, there is a countable subset  $I$  of  $\lambda$  such that  $D_\theta \subseteq \overline{\bigcup_{\xi \in I} S_\xi}$ . Since  $|\bigcup_{\xi \in I} \overline{h_\xi}[T_\xi]| < 2^c$ , we may choose  $p_\theta \in \overline{D_\theta} \setminus \bigcup_{\xi \in I} \overline{h_\xi}[T_\xi]$  (by the fact).

If  $D_\theta \subseteq S_\lambda$ , then we pick any  $p_\theta \in \overline{D_\theta} \setminus h[T_\lambda]$ , this is possible by the fact.

Then, we define  $Y_\lambda = Y \cup \{p_\theta : \theta < \kappa\}$ . It is clear that  $Y_\lambda$  satisfies all the conditions. Finally, we put  $X = \bigcup_{\lambda < 2^c} Y_\lambda$ . By clauses 2 and 3 and the fact that  $cf(2^c) > \omega$ ,  $X$  is countably compact and, by clause 4,  $X$  is not quasi  $T_\xi$ -compact for every  $\xi < 2^c$ . □

In particular, if  $2^c = (2^c)^{<2^c}$ , then there is a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $X$  is not quasi  $M$ -compact for any  $M \in [\omega^*]^{<2^c}$ : The equality  $2^c = (2^c)^{<2^c}$  holds when  $2^c$  is a regular cardinal. It should be remark that if  $X$  is a countably compact space of size  $\mathfrak{c}$ , then there is  $M \in [\omega^*]^{\leq \mathfrak{c}}$  such that  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact.

**Question 1.9.** For each cardinal  $\kappa < 2^c$ , is there a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $X^\kappa$  is countably compact, and  $X$  is not quasi  $M$ -compact for any  $M \in [\omega^*]^{<2^c}$ ?

By making some minor changes, for each  $1 < n < \omega$ , we may construct a space  $X$  like in Example 1.8 with the additional property that  $X^n$  is countably compact.

**Question 1.10.** Is there a countably compact space  $X$  and  $M \in [\omega^*]^{\omega_1}$  such that  $X$  is quasi  $M$ -compact, and  $X$  is not  $N$ -compact for any  $N \in [\omega^*]^{\leq \omega}$ ?

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