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$k$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers

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## $k$ -SYSTEMS, $k$ -NETWORKS AND $k$ -COVERS

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*Abstract.* The concepts of  $k$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers were defined by A. Arhangel'skii in 1964, P. O'Meara in 1971 and R. McCoy, I. Ntantu in 1985, respectively. In this paper the relationships among  $k$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers are further discussed and are established by  $mk$ -systems. As applications, some new characterizations of quotients or closed images of locally compact metric spaces are given by means of  $mk$ -systems.

*Keywords:*  $k$ -systems,  $k$ -networks,  $k$ -covers,  $k$ -spaces, point-countable families, hereditarily closure-preserving families

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $\mathcal{P}$  a cover of  $X$ .  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}$  if  $F \subset X$  is closed in  $X$  if and only if  $F \cap P$  is closed in  $P$  for every  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  [7].  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a  $k$ -system (resp.  $mk$ -system) of  $X$  [1] (resp. [10]) if  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}$  and each element of  $\mathcal{P}$  is compact (resp. metric and compact) in  $X$ .  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a  $k$ -network for  $X$  if, whenever  $K \subset U$  with  $K$  compact and  $U$  open in  $X$ , then  $K \subset \bigcup \mathcal{P}' \subset U$  for some finite  $\mathcal{P}' \subset \mathcal{P}$  [14].  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a compact (resp. closed)  $k$ -network if  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$  and each element of  $\mathcal{P}$  is compact (resp. closed) in  $X$ .  $k$ -systems and  $k$ -networks play an important role in quotient images of metric spaces and generalized metric spaces [18]. For example, Zhaowen Li and Jinjin Li [10] partly answered the Michael-Nagami's problem by  $mk$ -systems; Shou Lin [11] obtained new characterizations of generalized metric spaces by compact  $k$ -networks; Y. Tanaka [16] proved the following interesting result.

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**Tanaka's Theorem.** *A Hausdorff space is a closed  $s$ -image of a locally compact metric space if and only if it is a Fréchet space which is determined by a point-countable cover of metric compact subspaces.*

A generalization of the concept of  $k$ -networks is the following one of  $k$ -covers introduced by McCoy and Ntantu in [12]: A family  $\mathcal{P}$  of subsets of a space  $X$  is called a  $k$ -cover for  $X$  if whenever  $K$  is compact in  $X$ , then  $K$  is covered by some finite subset of  $\mathcal{P}$ .  $k$ -covers are a basic tool in the theory of convergence properties and metrization theorems on function spaces. All this shows that  $k$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers are very interesting in study of mapping theory. In this paper the relationships among  $mk$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers are further discussed and are established by  $mk$ -systems. As applications, some new characterizations of quotient or closed images of locally compact metric spaces are given by means of  $mk$ -systems.

We recall some basic definitions. Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a map.

- (1)  $f$  is an  $s$ -map if  $f^{-1}(y)$  is separable in  $X$  for any  $y \in Y$ ;
- (2)  $f$  is a compact-covering map [13] if each compact subset of  $Y$  is an image of some compact subset of  $X$  under  $f$ .

A space  $X$  is called a  $k$ -space if it is determined by the cover consisting of all compact subsets of  $X$ . A space  $X$  is called a Fréchet space if, whenever  $x \in \bar{A} \subset X$ , there is a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $A$  with  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . Obviously, every Fréchet space is a  $k$ -space, and a space has a  $k$ -system if and only if it is a  $k$ -space. Every  $k$ -space is preserved by quotient maps, and every Fréchet space is preserved by closed maps.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a family of subsets of a space  $X$  and denote  $\mathcal{P}$  by  $\{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$ .  $\mathcal{P}$  is said to be point-countable if every point of  $X$  belongs to at most countably many elements of  $\mathcal{P}$ .  $\mathcal{P}$  is said to be closure-preserving if  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda'} \bar{P}_\alpha = \overline{\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda'} P_\alpha}$  for each  $\Lambda' \subset \Lambda$ .  $\mathcal{P}$  is said to be hereditarily closure-preserving (briefly, HCP) if  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \bar{Q}_\alpha = \overline{\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} Q_\alpha}$  whenever  $Q_\alpha \subset P_\alpha$  for each  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . A  $\sigma$ -hereditarily closure-preserving (briefly,  $\sigma$ -HCP) family is a collection that is the union of countably many hereditarily closure-preserving families.

Obviously, if  $\mathcal{P}$  is an HCP-cover of closed subsets of a space  $X$ , then  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}$ . In this paper, all spaces are Hausdorff spaces, and all maps are continuous and onto.  $\mathbb{N}$  denotes the natural number set. Refer to [6] for terms which are not defined here.

## 2. RESULTS

First of all, we discuss some relationships among  $mk$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers about point-countable covers. Y. Tanaka [17] proved that every point-countable  $k$ -system is a  $k$ -cover.

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a  $k$ -cover  $\mathcal{P}$  consisting of compact subsets of  $X$ , then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -system of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show that  $X$  is determined by the cover  $\mathcal{P}$ . Suppose that there exists a non-closed subset  $F$  of  $X$  such that  $F \cap P$  is closed in  $X$  for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ . Since  $X$  is a  $k$ -space,  $F \cap C$  is not closed in  $X$  for some compact subset  $C$  of  $X$ , and so  $C \subset \bigcup \mathcal{P}'$  for some finite  $\mathcal{P}' \subset \mathcal{P}$ . However,  $F \cap C = \{(F \cap P) \cap C : P \in \mathcal{P}'\}$  is closed in  $X$ , a contradiction. Hence  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -system of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *If  $X$  has a point-countable  $k$ -cover consisting of metric closed subspaces, then it has a point-countable closed  $k$ -network consisting of metric subspaces.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{P} = \{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  be a point-countable  $k$ -cover for  $X$ , where each  $P_\alpha$  is a metric closed subspace of  $X$ . Then each  $P_\alpha$  has a point-countable closed  $k$ -network  $\mathcal{P}_\alpha$  by Nagata-Smirnov metrization theorem [6]. Put  $\mathcal{P}' = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \mathcal{P}_\alpha$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a point-countable cover consisting of metric closed subsets of  $X$ . We shall show that  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$ . For any  $K \subset U$  with  $K$  compact and  $U$  open in  $X$ , since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -cover for  $X$ ,  $K \subset \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda'} P_\alpha$  for some finite  $\Lambda' \subset \Lambda$ . For any  $\alpha \in \Lambda'$ , since  $\mathcal{P}_\alpha$  is a  $k$ -network for  $P_\alpha$ ,  $K \cap P_\alpha \subset \bigcup \mathcal{P}'_\alpha \subset U \cap P_\alpha$  for some finite  $\mathcal{P}'_\alpha \subset \mathcal{P}_\alpha$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}'' = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda'} \mathcal{P}'_\alpha$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}''$  is a finite subset of  $\mathcal{P}'$ , and  $K \subset \bigcup \mathcal{P}'' \subset U$ . Thus  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$ .  $\square$

The following example shows that the closedness of subsets is essential in Lemma 2.

**Example 3.** The Gillman-Jerison space  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  [2]: A locally compact space has a finite  $k$ -cover consisting of metric subspaces, which is not meta-Lindelöf.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a maximal almost disjoint family of  $\mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\psi(\mathbb{N}) = \mathcal{A} \cup \mathbb{N}$  and describe a topology on  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  as follows: The points of  $\mathbb{N}$  are isolated; basic neighborhoods of a point  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  are sets of the form  $\{A\} \cup (A \setminus F)$  where  $F$  is a finite subset of  $\mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  is a locally compact space which is not meta-Lindelöf [2].

Let  $\mathcal{P} = \{\mathcal{A}\} \cup \{\mathbb{N}\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -cover for  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  because it is finite. Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is a closed discrete subset of  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -cover consisting of metric subspaces. Since a locally compact space with a point-countable  $k$ -network has a point-countable base by Corollary 3.6 in [7],  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  has no point-countable  $k$ -network.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $X$  has a point-countable  $mk$ -system;
- (2)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a point-countable  $k$ -cover consisting of metric compact subspaces of  $X$ ;
- (3)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a point-countable compact  $k$ -network;
- (4)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a point-countable closed  $k$ -network, and every first countable closed subspace of  $X$  is locally compact;
- (5)  $X$  is a (compact-covering and) quotient  $s$ -image of a locally compact metric space.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2) by Proposition 2.1 in [9], (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) by Lemma 2, (3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) by Lemma 2.1 in [11] and Theorem 4.1 in [7], and (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (5) by Theorem 1 in [10].

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a point-countable compact  $k$ -network for  $X$ . Each element of  $\mathcal{P}$  is metrizable by Corollary 3.7 in [7]. Since every  $k$ -network is a  $k$ -cover, and  $X$  is a  $k$ -space,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $mk$ -system by Lemma 1.  $\square$

The following examples show that the condition “ $k$ -spaces” and “metrizable properties” are essential in Theorem 4.

- (1) Let  $\beta\mathbb{N}$  be the Stone-Ćech compactification of  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $p \in \beta\mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N}$ , and  $X = \mathbb{N} \cup \{p\}$  with a subspace topology of  $\beta\mathbb{N}$ . Then every compact set of  $X$  is finite, thus  $X$  is a non- $k$ -space with a point-countable compact  $k$ -network.
- (2) M. Sakai [15] or Huaipeng Chen [4] constructed a space  $Y$  such that  $Y$  has a point-countable closed  $k$ -network and every first countable closed subspace of  $Y$  is compact, but  $Y$  has no point-countable compact  $k$ -network.
- (3)  $\beta\mathbb{N}$  is a  $k$ -space with a  $k$ -cover  $\{\beta\mathbb{N}\}$ , which is not metrizable.

By Tanaka’s theorem the following corollary holds.

**Corollary 5.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $X$  is a closed  $s$ -image of a locally compact metric space;
- (2)  $X$  is a Fréchet space with a point-countable  $mk$ -system;
- (3)  $X$  is a Fréchet space with a point-countable compact  $k$ -network.

**Question 6.** Let  $X$  be a regular and Fréchet space with a point-countable  $k$ -network. Is  $X$  a space with a point-countable  $k$ -network consisting of separable subsets of  $X$  if every first countable closed subspace of  $X$  is locally separable?

Next, we discuss some relationships among  $mk$ -systems,  $k$ -networks and  $k$ -covers about HCP-families. The following example states that point-countable families cannot be replaced by  $\sigma$ -closure-preserving families in Lemma 2 or Theorem 4.

**Example 7.** There is a space  $X$  with a closure-preserving  $mk$ -system, but  $X$  having no  $\sigma$ -closure-preserving network.

**Proof.** The fact can be showed by Example 3.1 in [3]. Let  $\mathbb{I}$  be the closed unit interval, and  $X = \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{I}$ . The set  $X$  is endowed with the following topology: each point in  $\mathbb{I} \times (0, 1]$  is isolated in  $X$ ; the local base of point  $(s, 0) \in X$  consists of the sets of the form  $V \times \mathbb{I} \setminus (\{s\} \times (0, 1])$  for each  $s \in \mathbb{I}$ , where  $V$  is a neighborhood of  $s$  in  $\mathbb{I}$ . Then  $X$  is a regular and first countable space with a closed map  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{I}$  with no Lindelöf fibre [3]. Thus  $X$  has no  $\sigma$ -closure-preserving network by Theorem 1.1 in [3].

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{(x_n, y_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\}: \{x_n\}$  is a convergent sequence in  $\mathbb{I}$  with all  $x_n$ 's distinct and  $y_n \in (0, 1]$ ,  $Y = \mathbb{I} \times \{0\}$ , and  $\mathcal{P} = \{Y\} \cup \{Y \cup S: S \in \mathcal{S}\}$ .

For each  $S \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $\bar{S}$  is metric and compact in  $X$ , thus  $Y \cup S$  is a compact and metric subspace of  $X$ , hence  $\mathcal{P}$  is a compact and metric cover of  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{P}$ , then  $Y \subset \bigcup \mathcal{P}'$ , so  $\bigcup \mathcal{P}'$  is closed in  $X$ , hence  $\mathcal{P}$  is closure-preserving in  $X$ . Suppose a subset  $A$  of  $X$  is such that  $P \cap A$  is closed in  $P$  for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , we shall show that  $A$  is closed in  $X$ . Let  $z \in X \setminus A$ . If  $z \notin Y$ , then  $\{z\}$  is open and  $\{z\} \cap A = \emptyset$ . If  $z = (s, 0) \in Y$ , put  $Z = A \cap Y$ , then  $Z$  is closed, and  $z \notin Z$ , thus there exists an open neighborhood  $V$  of  $s$  in  $\mathbb{I}$  with  $\overline{V \times \{0\}} \cap Z = \emptyset$ . Let  $D = \{x \in \mathbb{I}: \text{there is } y \in \mathbb{I} \text{ such that } (x, y) \in A \cap (V \times \mathbb{I})\}$ , then  $D$  is finite. If not, there is a sequence  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}$  in  $A$  such that each  $x_n \in V$ , all  $x_n$ 's are distinct and  $y_n \in (0, 1]$  because  $(V \times \{0\}) \cap Z = \emptyset$ . We can assume that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is convergent to  $x_0 \in \mathbb{I}$ , then  $x_0 \in \bar{V}$ , thus the sequence  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}$  converges to  $(x_0, 0)$  in  $X$ . Take  $S = \{(x_n, y_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , then  $S \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $(Y \cup S) \cap A = Z \cup S$ . Since  $(x_0, 0) \notin Z$ ,  $(Y \cup S) \cap A$  is not closed, a contradiction. This shows that  $D$  is finite, so there exists an open neighborhood  $V'$  of  $s$  in  $\mathbb{I}$  with  $V' \subset V$  and  $(V' \times \mathbb{I} \setminus (\{s\} \times (0, 1])) \cap A = \emptyset$ , hence  $A$  is closed in  $X$ . Therefore,  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $X$  has a closure-preserving  $mk$ -system.  $\square$

**Lemma 8.** *If  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -cover consisting of metric closed subspaces, then it has a  $\sigma$ -HCP closed  $k$ -network consisting of metric subspaces.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{P}_n$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -cover consisting of metric closed subspaces of  $X$ , where each  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is HCP. We can assume that each  $\mathcal{P}_n \subset \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$ , and put  $X_n = \bigcup \mathcal{P}_n$ ,  $Z_n = \bigoplus \mathcal{P}_n$ , and let  $f_n: Z_n \rightarrow X_n$  be the natural map. Then  $Z_n$  is a metric space, and  $f_n$  is a closed map because  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is HCP. By the Nagata-Smirnov metrization theorem,  $Z_n$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite closed  $k$ -network  $\mathcal{Q}_n$ . Put  $\mathcal{R} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} f_n(\mathcal{Q}_n)$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP cover consisting of closed subsets of  $X$  by the closeness of the map  $f_n$ . If  $K$  is compact in  $X$ , then  $K \subset X_m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . In fact, suppose not, then  $K \setminus X_n \neq \emptyset$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and so there exists a sequence  $\{x_i\}$  in  $K$  such that each  $x_i \in X_{n_{i+1}} \setminus X_{n_i}$  and  $n_i < n_{i+1}$ . If  $D$  is a subset of  $\{x_i: i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , then  $P \in \mathcal{P}_{n_k}$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , thus  $D \cap P \subset \{x_i: i < k\}$  is finite.

By Lemma 1,  $K$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}|_K = \{P \cap K : P \in \mathcal{P}\}$ ,  $D$  is closed in  $K$ , thus  $\{x_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is an infinite discrete subset of  $K$ , a contradiction to the compactness of  $K$ . We shall show that  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$ . For each  $K \subset V$  with  $K$  compact and  $V$  open in  $X$ , then  $K \subset X_m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $f_m$  is a closed map,  $f_m$  is compact-covering [13], i.e., there exists a compact subset  $L$  in  $Z_m$  such that  $f_m(L) = K$ . Because  $\mathcal{Q}_m$  is a  $k$ -network for  $Z_m$ , so  $L \subset \bigcup \mathcal{Q}'_m \subset f_m^{-1}(X_m \cap V)$  for some finite subset  $\mathcal{Q}'_m$  of  $\mathcal{Q}_m$ . Thus  $K \subset \bigcup f_m(\mathcal{Q}'_m) \subset V$ . Hence  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP closed  $k$ -network consisting of metric subspaces.  $\square$

The Gillman-Jerison space  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  in Example 3 shows that the closedness of subsets is essential in Lemma 8 because  $\psi(\mathbb{N})$  has not any  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network by Corollary 6 in [5].

**Theorem 9.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $mk$ -system;
- (2)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -cover consisting of metric compact subspaces of  $X$ ;
- (3)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -HCP compact  $k$ -network;
- (4)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -HCP closed  $k$ -network, and every first countable closed subspace of  $X$  is locally compact.

*Proof.* (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP compact  $k$ -network for a  $k$ -space  $X$ . By Lemma 1,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -system for  $X$ . Since  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network,  $X$  is a  $\sigma$ -space (i.e., a regular space with a  $\sigma$ -locally finite network), and so each compact subset of  $X$  is metrizable [6]. Thus  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $mk$ -system for  $X$ .

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Suppose  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $mk$ -system for  $X$ , then  $X$  is a  $k$ -space.  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -cover consisting of metric compact subspaces of  $X$  by Proposition 2.1 in [8].

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) by Lemma 8, and (3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) by Theorem 3.1 in [11].  $\square$

**Corollary 10.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $X$  is a closed image of a locally compact metric space;
- (2)  $X$  is a Fréchet space with a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $mk$ -system;
- (3)  $X$  has a HCP  $mk$ -system;
- (4)  $X$  is a Fréchet space with a  $\sigma$ -HCP compact  $k$ -network.

*Proof.* (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) by Theorem 9, (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) by Corollary 3.2 in [11], and (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) by the proof of Theorem 2.5 in [8].  $\square$

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