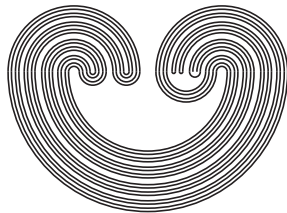


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## ON A THEOREM OF CHABER

by

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## ON A THEOREM OF CHABER<sup>1,2</sup>

**Robert L. Blair**

### 1. Introduction

For  $\mathcal{S}$  a collection of subsets of a topological space  $X$  and  $x \in X$ , set  $\mathcal{S}(x) = \{S \in \mathcal{S} : x \in S\}$ ,  $I(x, \mathcal{S}) = \bigcap \mathcal{S}(x)$ ,  $st(x, \mathcal{S}) = \bigcup \mathcal{S}(x)$ , and  $ord(x, \mathcal{S}) = |\mathcal{S}(x)|$ . ( $|E|$  denotes the cardinal of the set  $E$ . Cardinals are initial ordinals.) The following theorem is due to Chaber:

1.1. *Theorem (Chaber [6, 3.B]). Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an open cover of a countably compact space  $X$ . If there exists an open cover  $\bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$  of  $X$  such that, for every  $x \in X$ ,  $\bigcap \{I(x, \mathcal{G}_n) : n < \omega \text{ and } 0 < ord(x, \mathcal{G}_n) \leq \omega\} \subset \mathcal{U}$  for some  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ , then  $\mathcal{U}$  contains a finite subcover.*

In this note we first prove a theorem (2.4) that quickly yields 1.1, and then obtain several results closely related to 1.1. Some of the latter generalize the main results of [3]. All of our results have cardinal generalizations, but for simplicity only the countable versions of these more general theorems will be considered here.

### 2. Closed-Completeness of $\delta\theta$ -Penetrable Spaces

To state our results succinctly, we shall say that an open cover  $\bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$  of a topological space  $X$  is a  $\theta$ -penetration (resp.  $\delta\theta$ -penetration) of a cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $X$  if, for every

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<sup>1</sup>This research was supported in part by Ohio University Research Committee Grant No. 535.

<sup>2</sup>Dedicated to Casper Goffman on his 66th birthday.

$x \in X$ ,  $\cap\{I(x, \mathcal{G}_n) : n < \omega \text{ and } 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega\} \subset U$  for some  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  (resp.  $\cap\{I(x, \mathcal{G}_n) : n < \omega \text{ and } 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) \leq \omega\} \subset U$  for some  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ ), and that  $X$  is  $\theta$ -penetrable (resp.  $\delta\theta$ -penetrable) if every open cover of  $X$  has a  $\theta$ -penetration (resp.  $\delta\theta$ -penetration).

2.1. *Remarks.* (a) A cover  $\mathcal{G}$  of  $X$  is *separating* if for each  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \neq y$  there exists  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  with  $x \in G$  and  $y \notin G$ ; and a cover  $\cup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$  of  $X$  is  $\theta$ -separating [12, 3.1] if for every  $x \in X$ ,  $\cap\{I(x, \mathcal{G}_n) : n < \omega \text{ and } 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega\} = \{x\}$ . Obviously each point-countable separating open cover of  $X$  is a  $\delta\theta$ -penetration of every cover of  $X$ , and each  $\theta$ -separating open cover of  $X$  is a  $\theta$ -penetration of every cover of  $X$ .

(b) A *weak  $\theta$ -refinement* (resp. *weak  $\delta\theta$ -refinement*) of a cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $X$  is an open refinement  $\cup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$  of  $\mathcal{U}$  such that  $X = \cup_{n < \omega} \{x \in X : 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega\}$  (resp.  $X = \cup_{n < \omega} \{x \in X : 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) \leq \omega\}$ ) (see [2] and [18]). It is easily seen that (\*) every weak  $\theta$ -refinement (resp. weak  $\delta\theta$ -refinement) of  $\mathcal{U}$  is a  $\theta$ -penetration (resp.  $\delta\theta$ -penetration) of  $\mathcal{U}$ . The converse of (\*), however, is false: Let  $X$  be an hereditarily separable non-Lindelöf space obtained by refining the usual topology of  $\mathbf{R}$  (see [11] and [14]); it suffices to observe that  $\mathbf{R}$  (and hence  $X$ ) has a  $\theta$ -separating open cover but that, by [3, 3.16],  $X$  is not weakly  $\delta\theta$ -refinable (i.e. some open cover of  $X$  has no weak  $\delta\theta$ -refinement). But (\*) has a partial converse; this is the substance of 2.2 below.

By a *closed ultrafilter* on  $X$  we mean a maximal filter in the lattice of closed subsets of  $X$ . A closed ultrafilter  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  is *countably complete* if  $\bigcap A \in \mathcal{F}$  for every  $A \subset \mathcal{F}$  with  $|A| \leq \omega$ , and  $\mathcal{F}$  is *fixed* (resp. *free*) if  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  (resp.  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} = \emptyset$ ). A space  $X$  is *closed-complete* (= a-real-compact [7]) if every countably complete closed ultrafilter on  $X$  is fixed. (If "closed" is replaced by "Borel" in the preceding definitions, one obtains the definition of a *Borel-complete* space; see [10] and [3, p. 20]. We note that Borel-completeness implies closed-completeness [10, 1.1].)

2.2. *Lemma.* *If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a countably complete free closed ultrafilter on  $X$  and if  $\mathcal{G} = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$  is a  $\theta$ -penetration (resp.  $\delta\theta$ -penetration) of  $\mathcal{U} = \{X - F : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$ , then  $\mathcal{G}$  has a subcover that is a weak  $\theta$ -refinement (resp. weak  $\delta\theta$ -refinement) of  $\mathcal{U}$ .*

*Proof.* We write the proof for the case in which  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\theta$ -penetration of  $\mathcal{U}$ . For each  $n < \omega$ , let

$$A_n = \{x \in X : \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega \text{ and}$$

$$X - G \in \mathcal{F} \text{ for some } G \in \mathcal{G}_n(x)\}.$$

If there exists  $y \in X - \bigcup_{n < \omega} A_n$ , set

$$K = \{n \in \omega : 0 < \text{ord}(y, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega\},$$

$$M = \{(n, G) : n \in K \text{ and } G \in \mathcal{G}_n(y)\}.$$

Then for each  $(n, G) \in M$  we have  $\text{ord}(y, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega$ ,  $G \in \mathcal{G}_n(y)$ , and  $y \notin A_n$ , and thus  $X - G \notin \mathcal{F}$ ; hence  $F(n, G) \subset G$  for some  $F(n, G) \in \mathcal{F}$ . Then  $\bigcap_{n \in K} (\bigcap_{G \in \mathcal{G}_n(y)} F(n, G)) \in \mathcal{F}$ . But

$$\bigcap_{n \in K} (\bigcap_{G \in \mathcal{G}_n(y)} F(n, G)) \subset \bigcap_{n \in K} I(y, \mathcal{G}_n) \subset \mathcal{U}$$

for some  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ , a contradiction, and we conclude that  $X = \bigcup_{n < \omega} A_n$ . Now for each  $n < \omega$  and each  $x \in A_n$ , there is  $G(x, n) \in \mathcal{G}_n(x)$  with  $G(x, n) \in \mathcal{U}$ . For each  $n < \omega$ , let  $\mathcal{G}_n^* = \{G(x, n) : x \in A_n\}$ , and let  $\mathcal{G}^* = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n^*$ . Note that if  $x \in X$ , then  $x \in A_n$  for some  $n$ . Then  $x \in G(x, n) \in \mathcal{G}_n^*$  and  $|\mathcal{G}_n^*(x)| \leq |\mathcal{G}_n(x)| < \omega$ , so  $\mathcal{G}^*$  is a weak  $\theta$ -refinement of  $\mathcal{U}$ .

2.3. *Lemma* (cf. [17, Chap. 1, Theorem 18]). *Let  $A \subset X$  and let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a collection of open subsets of  $X$  such that  $\text{cl } A \subset \bigcup \mathcal{G}$ . Then there exists  $D \subset A$  such that:*

- (1) *If  $x, y \in D$  with  $x \neq y$ , then  $x \notin \text{st}(y, \mathcal{G})$ .*
- (2)  *$A \subset \bigcup_{x \in D} \text{st}(x, \mathcal{G})$ .*
- (3)  *$\{\text{cl}\{x\} : x \in D\}$  is discrete in  $X$ .*

*Proof.* By Zorn's lemma, there exists  $D \subset A$  maximal with respect to (1), and then  $D$  must satisfy (2). If  $\mathcal{D} = \{\text{cl}\{x\} : x \in D\}$  is not discrete in  $X$ , there is  $p \in \text{cl } A$  such that every neighborhood of  $p$  meets at least two distinct members of  $\mathcal{D}$ . Then  $p \in G$  for some  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ , so there exist  $x, y \in D$  with  $x \neq y$  such that  $G \cap \text{cl}\{x\} \neq \emptyset$  and  $G \cap \text{cl}\{y\} \neq \emptyset$ . But then  $x \in \text{st}(y, \mathcal{G})$ , contrary to (1).

The *discreteness character*  $\Delta(X)$  of a space  $X$  is  $\omega \cdot \kappa$ , where  $\kappa = \sup\{|\mathcal{D}| : \mathcal{D} \text{ is a discrete collection of nonempty closed subsets of } X\}$  [13, §3]. (For a  $T_1$ -space  $X$ ,  $\Delta(X)$  is the extent of  $X$  [8, 1.7.12] and  $X$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact (i.e. every closed discrete subset of  $X$  is countable) if and only if  $\Delta(X) = \omega$  [13, 3.2].)

2.4. *Theorem.* *If  $\Delta(X) = \omega$  and if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a free closed ultrafilter on  $X$  such that  $\{X - F : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a*

$\delta\theta$ -penetration, then  $\mathcal{F}$  is not countably complete.

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{F}$  is countably complete, then, by 2.2,  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a weak  $\delta\theta$ -refinement  $\bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$ , and there exists  $n < \omega$  such that  $A = \{x \in X: 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) \leq \omega\}$  meets every member of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Since  $A \subset \bigcup \mathcal{G}_n$ , we have  $F^* \subset \bigcup \mathcal{G}_n$  for some  $F^* \in \mathcal{F}$ . By 2.3 there exists  $D \subset A \cap F^*$  with  $A \cap F^* \subset \bigcup_{x \in D} \text{st}(x, \mathcal{G}_n)$  and  $|D| \leq \Delta(X) = \omega$ . Then  $\mathcal{W} = \bigcup_{x \in D} \mathcal{G}_n(x)$  is countable, and for each  $W \in \mathcal{W}$  there is  $F(W) \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $W \subset X - F(W)$ . But then  $A \cap F^* \cap (\bigcap_{W \in \mathcal{W}} F(W)) = \emptyset$ , a contradiction.

We obtain Chaber's theorem as follows:

*Proof of 1.1.* If the conclusion fails, then  $\{X - U: U \in \mathcal{U}\} \subset \mathcal{F}$  for some (free) closed ultrafilter  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ , and by the hypothesis of 1.1,  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a  $\delta\theta$ -penetration. But since  $X$  is countably compact,  $\Delta(X) = \omega$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is countably complete. This contradicts 2.4.

The following generalizes [3, 3.2]:

2.5. *Corollary.* If  $\Delta(X) = \omega$ , then the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $X$  is closed-complete.
- (2) If  $\mathcal{F}$  is any free closed ultrafilter on  $X$ , then  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a  $\delta\theta$ -penetration.

*Proof.* If  $X$  is closed-complete and  $\mathcal{F}$  is a free closed ultrafilter on  $X$ , then  $\bigcap_{n < \omega} F_n = \emptyset$  for some sequence  $(F_n)_{n < \omega}$  of members of  $\mathcal{F}$ , and clearly  $\bigcup_{n < \omega} \{X - F_n\}$  is a  $\theta$ -penetration of  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$ . The converse is immediate from 2.4.

A space  $X$  is *isocompact* [1] if every countably compact closed subset of  $X$  is compact. We shall say that  $X$  is *iso-closed-complete* (resp. *iso-Lindelöf*) if every closed subset of  $X$  with countable discreteness character is closed-complete (resp. Lindelöf). Clearly every iso-Lindelöf space is iso-closed-complete, and since countably compact closed-complete spaces are compact [3, 3.6], every iso-closed-complete space is isocompact. Since  $\delta\theta$ -penetrability is closed-hereditary, Chaber's theorem evidently implies that  $\delta\theta$ -penetrable spaces are isocompact. More generally:

2.6. *Corollary.* Every  $\delta\theta$ -penetrable space is iso-closed-complete.

2.7. *Remarks.* The example of 2.1(b) shows that hereditarily  $\theta$ -penetrable regular  $T_1$ -spaces need not be iso-Lindelöf. For an example of an isocompact space that is not iso-closed-complete, let  $X$  be the subspace of  $\omega_2$  obtained by deleting all nonisolated points having a countable base (see [9, 9L]). Then every countably compact closed subset of  $X$  is finite (so  $X$  is isocompact), and  $X$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact. But  $X$  is normal, countably paracompact, and nonrealcompact, and thus not closed-complete [7, 1.10]. (This example was pointed out to the author by Eric van Douwen.)

It follows from 2.5 that an  $\omega_1$ -compact space with a point-countable separating open cover is closed-complete. But in this case a stronger result is available:

2.8. *Theorem.* If  $X$  is an  $\omega_1$ -compact space with a point-countable separating open cover, then  $X$  is Borel-complete.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a point-countable separating open cover of  $X$  and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a countably complete Borel ultrafilter on  $X$ . Suppose that for each  $x \in X$  there exists  $U_x \in \mathcal{U}(x)$  with  $X - U_x \in \mathcal{F}$ . Let  $\mathcal{G} = \{U_x : x \in X\}$ . By 2.3 there exists  $D \subset X$  with  $X = \bigcup_{x \in D} \text{st}(x, \mathcal{G})$  and  $|D| \leq \Delta(X) = \omega$ . But then  $\bigcup_{x \in D} \mathcal{G}(x)$  is a countable cover of  $X$ , which contradicts the countable completeness of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Thus there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $X - U \notin \mathcal{F}$  for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(x)$ , and hence for every  $U \in \mathcal{U}(x)$  there is  $F(U) \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $F(U) \subset U$ . Then  $\bigcap \{F(U) : U \in \mathcal{U}(x)\} \subset \bigcap \mathcal{U}(x) = \{x\}$ , and since  $\mathcal{U}(x)$  is countable, we have  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{F}$ . Thus  $x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}$ .

### 3. Closed-Completeness of $\theta$ -Penetrable Spaces

The lattice of closed subsets of a space  $X$  is *atomic* if each nonempty closed subset of  $X$  contains a minimal nonempty closed set. (This holds, for example, if  $X$  is essentially  $T_1$ , i.e. for each  $x, y \in X$ , either  $\text{cl}\{x\} \cap \text{cl}\{y\} = \emptyset$  or  $\text{cl}\{x\} = \text{cl}\{y\}$ .) The following generalizes [3, 4.1]:

3.1. *Theorem.* If the lattice of closed subsets of  $X$  is atomic, then the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $X$  is closed-complete.
- (2) The cardinal of each discrete collection of closed subsets of  $X$  is Ulam-nonmeasurable, and if  $\mathcal{F}$  is



any free closed ultrafilter on  $X$ , then  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a  $\theta$ -penetration.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a discrete collection of nonempty closed subsets of  $X$ ; we may assume that each  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  is minimal. For each  $D \in \mathcal{D}$ , choose  $x_D \in D$ , let  $E = \{x_D: D \in \mathcal{D}\}$ , and let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a countably complete ultrafilter on the (discrete) space  $E$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}^* = \{F: F \text{ is closed in } X \text{ and } F \cap E \in \mathcal{E}\}$ . The minimality of the members of  $\mathcal{D}$  allows one to conclude that  $\mathcal{E}^*$  is a countably complete closed ultrafilter on  $X$ , and hence, by (1), there exists  $y \in \cap \mathcal{E}^*$ . Since  $\cup \mathcal{D} \in \mathcal{E}^*$ ,  $y \in D$  for some  $D \in \mathcal{D}$ , and it follows that  $x_D \in \cap \mathcal{E}$ . Thus  $E$  is closed-complete, and hence  $|\mathcal{D}| = |E|$  is Ulam-nonmeasurable [9, 12.2]. Moreover, if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a free closed ultrafilter on  $X$ , then  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a  $\theta$ -penetration as in the proof of 2.5.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Suppose there is a countably complete free closed ultrafilter  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ . By (2) and 2.2,  $\{X - F: F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  has a weak  $\theta$ -refinement  $\cup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{G}_n$ , and there exists  $n < \omega$  such that  $A = \{x \in X: 0 < \text{ord}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) < \omega\}$  meets every member of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then  $F^* \subset \cup \mathcal{G}_n$  for some  $F^* \in \mathcal{F}$ , and by 2.3 there exists  $D \subset A \cap F^*$  such that:

- (a) if  $x, y \in D$  with  $x \neq y$ , then  $x \notin \text{st}(y, \mathcal{G}_n)$ ;
- (b)  $A \cap F^* \subset \cup_{x \in D} \text{st}(x, \mathcal{G}_n)$ ;
- (c)  $\{\text{cl}\{x\}: x \in D\}$  is discrete in  $X$ .

By (c) and (2),  $|D|$  is Ulam-nonmeasurable, and a contradiction follows precisely as in the proof of (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) of [3, 4.1].

3.2. *Remarks.* (a) When  $X$  is  $T_1$ , the cardinality condition of 3.1(1) can be replaced by the requirement that each closed discrete subset of  $X$  has Ulam-nonmeasurable cardinality.

(b) The atomicity hypothesis cannot be omitted in the implication (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) of 3.1: Let  $Y$  be the space  $(\omega, \mathcal{J})$ , where  $\mathcal{J} = \{\omega\} \cup \{[0, n) : n < \omega\}$ , and for  $\kappa$  an arbitrary (perhaps Ulam-measurable) cardinal, let  $X$  be the topological sum  $\Sigma_{\xi < \kappa} (Y \times \{\xi\})$ . For each  $n < \omega$ , let  $F_n = \Sigma_{\xi < \kappa} ([n, +) \times \{\xi\})$ , and note that if  $\mathcal{F}$  is any closed ultrafilter on  $X$ , then  $F_n \in \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $\bigcap_{n < \omega} F_n = \emptyset$ ,  $X$  is (vacuously) closed-complete.

3.3. *Corollary.* If  $X$  is  $T_1$  and  $\theta$ -penetrable (in particular, if  $X$  has a  $\theta$ -separating open cover), and if the cardinal of each closed discrete subset of  $X$  is Ulam-nonmeasurable, then  $X$  is closed-complete.

A space  $X$  is cb [16] if for each decreasing sequence  $(F_n)_{n < \omega}$  of closed subsets of  $X$  with  $\bigcap_{n < \omega} F_n = \emptyset$  there is a sequence  $(Z_n)_{n < \omega}$  of zero-sets of  $X$  with  $Z_n \supset F_n$  for each  $n$  and  $\bigcap_{n < \omega} Z_n = \emptyset$ . Every Tychonoff closed-complete cb-space is realcompact [7, 1.10], and every normal countably paracompact space is cb [16], so we have 3.4 and 3.5:

3.4. *Corollary.* If  $X$  is a Tychonoff  $\theta$ -penetrable cb-space such that each closed discrete subset of  $X$  has Ulam-nonmeasurable cardinality, then  $X$  is realcompact.

3.5. *Corollary.* If  $X$  is a normal countably paracompact  $\theta$ -penetrable  $T_1$ -space such that each closed discrete subset of  $X$  has Ulam-nonmeasurable cardinality, then  $X$  is realcompact.

3.6. *Remarks.* Corollaries 3.4 and 3.5 generalize Katětov's classical result on realcompactness of paracompact spaces ([15]; cf. [9, 15.20]). (For references to earlier generalizations, see [3].) We note that in 3.4 (resp. 3.5) "cb" (resp. "countably paracompact") cannot be omitted (see the examples in [3, 4.9(d),(e)]).

#### 4. Weakly Separating Covers

We shall say that a cover  $\mathcal{P}$  of a space  $X$  is *weakly separating* if for each  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \neq y$  there is a finite subcollection  $A$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  with  $x \in \text{int}(\cup A)$  and  $y \notin \cup A$ .

4.1. *Theorem.* Assume  $X$  has countable tightness [8, 1.7.13]. If  $X$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact and has a point-countable weakly separating cover, then  $X$  is Borel-complete.

4.2. *Remarks.* Point-countable weakly separating covers are studied in detail in [5] (without being named). Obviously every separating open cover of  $X$  is weakly separating, so 4.1 implies 2.8 for spaces of countable tightness. We do not know, however, whether there is an  $\omega_1$ -compact space of countable tightness with a point-countable weakly separating cover but with no point-countable separating open cover. (If the requirement of countable tightness is omitted, there is such a space

[4, 4.4], and if that of  $\omega_1$ -compactness is omitted, there is again such a space (in fact, a locally compact Moore space; see [5, Footnote 4]). On the other hand, if  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite separating closed cover  $\mathcal{C}$  (cf. [5, 5.3]), and if  $X$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact, then  $\mathcal{C}$  is countable and  $\{X - E : E \in \mathcal{C}\}$  is a countable separating open cover of  $X$ . We also do not know whether the hypothesis of countable tightness can be omitted in 4.1.

Before proving 4.1, we systematize and elaborate certain techniques drawn from [5]. Lemma 4.3 generalizes a classical result on open covers [17, Chap. 1, Theorem 18], and 4.5 improves [5, 7.1]. (A more general version of 4.3 (analogous to 2.3) can be proved, but will not be needed here.)

Denote the power set of  $X$  by  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ , and if  $E$  is a set, let  $[E]^{<\omega} = \{F \in \mathcal{P}(E) : |F| < \omega\}$ . For  $A \in [\mathcal{P}(X)]^{<\omega}$ , set

$$M(A) = \{x \in \text{int}(\cup A) : x \notin \text{int}(\cup B) \text{ if } B \subset A, B \neq A\};$$

and if  $\Phi \subset [\mathcal{P}(X)]^{<\omega}$  and  $x \in X$ , set

$$\Phi\langle x \rangle = \{\text{int}(\cup B) : B \subset A \text{ for some } A \in \Phi \text{ and } x \in M(B)\}$$

and

$$\text{neb}(x, \Phi) = \cup \Phi\langle x \rangle.$$

(We call  $\text{neb}(x, \Phi)$  the *nebula of  $x$  with respect to  $\Phi$* . Note that if  $\mathcal{U}$  is an open collection in  $X$ , then  $\text{neb}(x, [\mathcal{U}]^{<\omega}) = \text{st}(x, \mathcal{U})$ .) The following is easily verified:

4.2. Lemma. (1) If  $A \in [\mathcal{P}(X)]^{<\omega}$ , then  $\text{int}(UA) = \cup\{M(\beta) : \beta \subset A\}$ .

(2) If  $\Phi \subset [\mathcal{P}(X)]^{<\omega}$  and  $X = \cup\{\text{int}(UA) : A \in \Phi\}$ , then  $x \in \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$  for every  $x \in X$ .

4.3. Lemma. Let  $\Phi \subset [\mathcal{P}(X)]^{<\omega}$  with  $X = \cup\{\text{int}(UA) : A \in \Phi\}$ , and let  $<$  be a well-ordering of  $X$ . Then there is a subset  $D$  of  $X$  such that:

(1) If  $x, y \in D$  with  $x < y$ , then  $y \notin \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$ .

(2)  $X = \cup_{x \in D} \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$ .

Moreover, if  $X$  is  $T_1$ , then  $D$  is closed discrete in  $X$ .

*Proof.* By Zorn's lemma, there is a subset  $D$  of  $X$  maximal with respect to (1) and (2'): if  $z \in X$  and  $z < y$  for some  $y \in D$ , then  $z \in \cup_{x \in D} \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$ . If  $D$  fails to satisfy (2) and  $u$  is the first element of  $X - \cup_{x \in D} \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$ , then  $u \notin D$  (by 4.2(2)) while  $D \cup \{u\}$  satisfies (1) and (2'), a contradiction. Thus  $D$  satisfies (1) and (2). If  $X$  is  $T_1$  and if  $D$  has a limit point in  $X$ , then  $|D \cap \text{int}(UA)| \geq \omega$  for some  $A \in \Phi$ . By 4.2(1),  $|D \cap M(\beta)| \geq \omega$  for some  $\beta \subset A$ . Choose  $x, y \in D \cap M(\beta)$  with  $x < y$ . Then  $\text{int}(U\beta) \in \Phi(x)$ , so  $y \in M(\beta) \subset \text{int}(U\beta) \subset \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$ , a contradiction. Thus  $D$  is closed discrete.

4.4. Lemma. Assume  $X$  has countable tightness. If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a point-countable collection of subsets of  $X$ , if  $\Phi \subset [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}$ , and if  $x \in X$ , then  $\Phi(x)$  is countable.

*Proof.* This is an immediate consequence of [5, 2.2].

4.5. Lemma. Let  $X$  be an  $\omega_1$ -compact  $T_1$ -space with countable tightness. If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a point-countable collection

of subsets of  $X$  and if  $\mathcal{U}$  is a cover of  $X$  with  $\mathcal{U} \subset \{\text{int}(UA) : A \in [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}\}$ , then  $\mathcal{U}$  has a countable subcover.

*Proof.* Let  $\Phi = \{A \in [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega} : \text{int}(UA) \subset U \text{ for some } U \in \mathcal{U}\}$  and note that  $X = \cup\{\text{int}(UA) : A \in \Phi\}$ . By 4.3, there is a closed discrete, hence countable, subset  $D$  of  $X$  such that  $X = \cup_{x \in D} \text{neb}(x, \Phi)$ . Thus, by 4.4,  $\cup_{x \in D} \Phi(x)$  is a countable refinement of  $\mathcal{U}$ , and the result follows.

*Proof of 4.1.* Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a point-countable weakly separating cover of  $X$  and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a countably complete Borel ultrafilter on  $X$ . Clearly  $X$  is  $T_1$ . If for each  $x \in X$  there exists  $U_x \in [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}(x)$  such that  $X - U_x \in \mathcal{F}$ , then, by 4.5, the cover  $\{U_x : x \in X\}$  of  $X$  has a countable subcover; since  $\mathcal{F}$  is countably complete, this is a contradiction. Thus there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $X - U \notin \mathcal{F}$  for all  $U \in [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}(x)$ , and hence for all  $U \in [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}(x)$  there is  $F(U) \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $F(U) \subset U$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}$  is weakly separating, and in view of 4.2(1), we have  $\cap\{F(U) : U \in [\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}(x)\} = \cap[\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}(x) = \{x\}$ . But  $[\mathcal{P}]^{<\omega}(x)$  is countable by 4.4, and hence  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{F}$ . Thus  $x \in \cap\mathcal{F}$ .

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