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**E-mail:** [topolog@auburn.edu](mailto:topolog@auburn.edu)  
**ISSN:** 0146-4124

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# Spaces Having $\sigma$ -Compact-Finite $k$ -Networks, and Related Matters

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## Introduction

Let  $X$  be a space, and let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a collection of subsets of  $X$ . We recall that  $\mathcal{P}$  is *point-countable* (resp. *star-countable*) if every  $x \in X$  (resp.  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ ) meets at most countably many  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ . Also,  $\mathcal{P}$  is *compact-finite* (resp. *compact-countable*) if every compact subset of  $X$  meets at most finitely (resp. countably) many  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ . A collection  $\cup\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in N\}$  is  *$\sigma$ -compact-finite* if each  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is compact-finite. Clearly, every  $\sigma$ -compact-finite collection is compact-countable, and thus, point-countable.

Let  $X$  be a space, and let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a cover of  $X$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *k-network* if whenever  $K \subset U$  with  $K$  compact and  $U$  open in  $X$ , then  $K \subset \cup \mathcal{P}' \subset U$  for some finite  $\mathcal{P}' \subset \mathcal{P}$ . As is well-known, spaces with a countable ( resp.  $\sigma$ -locally finite)  $k$ -network are called  $\aleph_0$ -spaces (resp.  $\aleph$ -spaces).

Every CW-complex, more generally, every space dominated by locally separable metric subspaces has a star-countable  $k$ -network. Also, every Lašnev space has a  $\sigma$ -hereditarily closure

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\*Partially supported by NNSF of China. This work has been done during the first author's stay at Tokyo Gakugei University

preserving (briefly,  $\sigma$ -HCP)  $k$ -network, and every space dominated by Lašnev subspaces has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network.

We recall that spaces with a star-countable  $k$ -network, and spaces with a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network have  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -networks.

Spaces with a star-countable  $k$ -network are investigated in [9], [18], [20], and [26]. Spaces with a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network are investigated in [16], and so are spaces with a compact-countable  $k$ -network in [19], and [20].

In this paper, we shall investigate spaces with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network as well as related spaces, and their examples and applications.

We assume that all spaces are regular,  $T_1$ , and that all maps are continuous and onto.

## Results

Let  $X$  be a space, and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cover of  $X$ . Then  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{C}$  [7] ( $= X$  has the weak topology with respect to  $\mathcal{C}$  in the usual sense), if  $F \subset X$  is closed in  $X$  if and only if  $F \cap C$  is closed in  $C$  for every  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ . Every space is determined by its open cover. We recall that a space  $X$  is a  $k$ -space (resp. sequential space) if it is determined by a cover of compact subsets (resp. compact metric subsets) of  $X$ . A space has countable tightness if  $X$  is determined by a cover of countable subsets; cf. [22]. For a cover  $\mathcal{C}$  of a space  $X$ ,  $X$  is dominated by  $\mathcal{C}$  if the union of any subcollection  $\mathcal{C}'$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed in  $X$ , and the union is determined by  $\mathcal{C}'$ . Every space is dominated by its  $\sigma$ -HCP closed cover. As is well-known, every CW-complex is dominated by a cover of compact metric subsets.

**Lemma 1** *Let  $X$  have a point countable  $k$ -network. Then (1) and (2) below hold, here (1); (2) is due to [2]; [7] respectively.*

- (1) If  $X$  is compact, then  $X$  is metric.
- (2) If  $X$  is a  $k$ -space, then  $X$  is sequential, thus, of countable tightness.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a collection of subsets of  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is *cs-finite* [15] if any convergent sequence meets only finitely many  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a cover of  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cs-network* [8], if whenever  $L = \{x_n; n \in N\}$  is a sequence converging to a point  $x \in X$  such that  $x \in U$  with  $U$  open in  $X$ , then there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $x \in P$ ,  $P \subset U$ , and  $P$  contains  $L$  eventually (i.e.,  $P$  contains  $\{x_n : n \geq m\}$  for some  $m \in N$ ). If we replace “eventually” by “frequently ( i.e.,  $P$  contains a subsequence of  $L$ )”, then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cs\*-network* [6]. Also, if we need not require “ $x \in P$ ” in the definition of a *cs\*-network*, then such a cover is a *wcs\*-network* [14]. Every *cs-network* and every  $k$ -network of closed subsets are *cs\*-networks*, and every *cs\*-network* is a *wcs\*-network*. Every quotient  $s$ -image of a metric space is characterized as a sequential space with a point-countable *cs\*-network* [32].

In view of the following, we see that, among sequential spaces, the theory of spaces with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network can be done by means of “convergent sequences” instead of “compact subsets”. Here, a space has  $G_\delta$  points if every point is a  $G_\delta$ -set. We note that not every compact space with a *cs-finite* and *star-countable cs-network* has a point-countable  $k$ -network (hence, not a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network); indeed, the Stone-Ćech compactification  $\beta(X)$  of a non-compact space  $X$  is such a space by Lemma 1(1).

**Proposition 2** (1) For a cover  $\mathcal{P}$  of a space  $X$ , the following are equivalent.

- (a)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network.
- (b)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -*cs-finite*  $k$ -network.

(c)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -cs-finite wcs\*-network, and each compact subset of  $X$  is sequentially compact.

(2) Let  $X$  be a sequential space, or a space with  $G_\delta$  points. Then, a cover of  $X$  is a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network if and only if it is a  $\sigma$ -cs-finite wcs\*-network.

**Proof:** For (1), obviously, (a) implies (b). (b) implies (c), because each compact subset of  $X$  is metric by Lemma 1(1), and thus, sequentially compact. So, we show that (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) holds. Let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in N\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -cs-finite wcs\*-network for  $X$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a point-countable wcs\*-network and any compact subset of  $X$  is sequentially compact,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -network by [32; Proposition 1.2(1)]. To show that  $\mathcal{P}$  is  $\sigma$ -compact-finite, suppose that some compact set  $K$  of  $X$  meets infinitely many  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  for some  $n \in N$ . Then, there exist  $\{x_n : n \in N\} \subset K$  and  $\{P_n : n \in N\} \subset \mathcal{P}_n$  such that  $x_n \in P_n$ , and the  $x_n$  are distinct, and so are the  $P_n$ . Since  $K$  is sequentially compact, there exists a convergent subsequence  $C$  of  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$ . But the convergent sequence  $C$  meets infinitely many  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. For (2), note that if  $X$  is a sequential space, or a space with  $G_\delta$  points, then each compact subset of  $X$  is sequentially compact. Thus, (2) follows from (1).

Now, let us consider the operations: (i) Subsets; (ii) Domination; (iii) Countable products; (iv) Closed maps with  $k$ -space domain; and (v) Perfect maps.

The property of having a star-countable  $k$ -network is preserved by the all operations; see [9], [19], etc. However, the property of having a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network need not be preserved by (ii); nor (iii); see [34]; [11] respectively. But, the property of having a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network is preserved by the all operations in view of Theorem 3 below (for (iii), cf. [7; Theorem 7.1]). We note that every closed image of a space with a compact-finite  $k$ -network of singletons need not have even

a point-countable  $k$ -network; see [25]. Thus, the additional assumptions on  $X$  in case (d) of Theorem 3 are essential.

**Theorem 3** *Each of the following (a)  $\sim$  (d) implies that  $Y$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network.*

- (a)  $Y$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network.
- (b)  $Y$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network.
- (c)  $Y$  is dominated by spaces with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network.
- (d)  $Y$  is the closed image of a space  $X$  with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, and one of the following properties holds.
  - (i)  $X$  is a  $k$ -space.
  - (ii)  $X$  is a space with  $G_\delta$  points.
  - (iii)  $X$  is a normal space, and each countably compact closed subset is compact.
  - (iv)  $X$  is realcompact
  - (v) Each  $\partial f^{-1}(y)$  is Lindelöf.

**Proof:** For case (a); (b); or (c), the result is due to [18]; [15]; or [19] respectively. So, we show the result for (d) holds. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a closed map, and let  $X$  be a space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in N\}$ . For each  $y \in Y$ , choose  $x_y \in f^{-1}(y)$ , and let  $A = \cup\{x_y : y \in Y\}$ . For each  $n \in N$ , let  $\mathcal{C}_n = \{f(A \cap P) : P \in \mathcal{P}_n\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{C} = \cup\{\mathcal{C}_n : n \in N\}$  is  $\sigma$ -point-finite. Let us consider the following conditions  $(C_1)$  and  $(C_2)$  with respect to the closed map  $f$ .

$(C_1)$ : For any infinite compact subset  $K$  of  $Y$ , and any sequence  $S$  in  $f^{-1}(K)$  with  $f(S)$  infinite, there exists a convergent subsequence of  $S$ .

( $C_2$ ):  $f$  is compact-covering (i.e., every compact subset of  $Y$  is the image of a compact subset of  $X$ ), and for any sequence  $\{y_n : n \in N\}$  in  $Y$  converging to  $y \in Y$ , and any points  $x_n \in f^{-1}(y_n)$ , a closed map  $f|_F$  is also compact-covering, where  $F = \partial f^{-1}(y) \cup \{x_n : n \in N\}$  which is closed in  $X$ .

Then, ( $C_1$ ) holds for (i) & (ii) by Lemma 1(2) and [14: Lemma 2]. Also, ( $C_2$ ) holds for (iii) & (v); and (iv) by [14; Lemma 4]; and [4; Theorem 3.4] respectively. But, ( $C_1$ ) or ( $C_2$ ) implies that each compact subset of  $Y$  is sequentially compact by Lemma 1(1), besides,  $\mathcal{C}$  is a wcs\*-network. To show that  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\sigma$ -cs-finite, for some  $n \in N$ , suppose that an infinite convergent sequence  $K$  in  $Y$  meets infinitely many distinct members  $f(A \cap P_k) \in \mathcal{C}_n$ . Since  $\mathcal{C}_n$  is point-finite, we can assume that each point of  $K$  is contained in some of these  $f(A \cap P_k)$ . Then, there exists a sequence  $S = \{x_m : m \in N\}$  in  $A \cap f^{-1}(K)$  such that  $x_m \in P_{k(m)} \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , and the  $x_m$  are distinct, and also so are the  $P_{k(m)}$ . But, ( $C_1$ ) or ( $C_2$ ) implies that there exists a convergent subsequence  $C$  of  $S$ . Then  $C$  meets infinitely many elements of  $\mathcal{P}_n$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\sigma$ -cs-finite wcs\*-network for  $Y$ . Thus, by Proposition 2(1),  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network for  $X$ .

For a space  $X$ , the *character*  $\chi(X)$  of  $X$  is the smallest cardinal number of the form  $|\mathcal{B}_x|$ , here  $\mathcal{B}_x$  is a local base at  $x \in X$ . A space  $X$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact if every subset of cardinality  $\omega_1$  has an accumulation point in  $X$ .

**Lemma 4** *Let  $X$  be a  $k$ -space, and let  $\mathcal{C} = \cup\{\mathcal{C}_n : n \in N\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite collection in  $X$ . Then (1) and (2) below hold.*

(1) *If  $\chi(X) \leq \omega_1$ , then  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\sigma$ -locally countable.*

(2) *If  $X$  is locally  $\omega_1$ -compact, then  $\mathcal{C}$  is locally countable.*

**Proof:** For (1), let  $x \in X$ , and let  $\{V_\beta : \beta < \omega_1\}$  be a local base at  $x$  in  $X$ . Then, for each  $n \in N$ , there exists some  $V_\beta$  such

that  $V_\beta$  meets only countably many  $C \in \mathcal{C}_n$ . Indeed, for some  $n \in N$ , suppose not. Then, by induction, there exist a subset  $S = \{x_\beta : \beta < \omega_1\}$  of  $X$  and a subcollection  $\{C_\beta : \beta < \omega_1\}$  of  $\mathcal{C}_n$  such that  $x_\beta \in V_\beta \cap C_\beta$ , where  $x_\beta \neq x$ , and the  $C_\beta$  are distinct. But,  $S$  has an accumulation point in  $X$ , so it can be assumed to be not closed in  $X$ . Then, since  $X$  is a  $k$ -space, there exists a compact subset  $K$  of  $X$  which contains infinitely many points in  $S$ . This shows that the compact set  $K$  meets infinitely many elements of  $\mathcal{C}_n$ . This is a contradiction. Thus, for each  $n \in N$ , any point of  $X$  has a nbd  $V$  such that  $V$  meets only countably many  $C \in \mathcal{C}_n$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\sigma$ -locally countable. For (2), let  $x \in X$ , and let  $V$  be a nbd of  $x$  which is  $\omega_1$ -compact. Then  $V$  meets only countably many elements of  $\mathcal{C}$  in view of the proof of (1). Thus,  $\mathcal{C}$  is locally countable.

**Remark 5** We note that not every  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network in view of [11] & [15], and not every space with a compact-finite and locally countable  $k$ -network consisting of singletons is a  $\sigma$ -space [25]. In [15], the first author shows that the following hold.

(1) Among Fréchet spaces, every  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network is  $\sigma$ -HCP. Thus, a space is Lašnev if and only if it is a Fréchet space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network.

(2) Among  $k$ -spaces, every  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network of *closed subsets* is  $\sigma$ -locally finite. Thus, a  $k$ -space is an  $\aleph$ -space if and only if it has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network of closed subsets.

**Theorem 6** (CH) *Let  $X$  be a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. Then  $X$  is locally separable if and only if  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces.*

**Proof:** For  $x \in X$ , let  $V$  be a nbd of  $x$  which is separable. Then  $V$  is sequential by Lemma 1(2), and it has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. Also,  $V$  is separable, so  $\chi(V) \leq 2^\omega = \omega_1$  un-

der (CH). Thus,  $V$  is a sequential space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network by Lemma 4(1). While, by [12; Proposition 1], every sequential space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network is meta-Lindelöf (i.e., every open cover has a point-countable refinement). Then the separable space  $V$  is meta-Lindelöf. But, every separable, meta-Lindelöf space is Lindelöf. Then  $V$  is Lindelöf, thus,  $\omega_1$ -compact. This shows that  $X$  is locally  $\omega_1$ -compact. Hence,  $X$  has a locally countable  $k$ -network by Lemma 4(2). Since  $X$  is a  $k$ -space,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces by [12; Theorem 1] (or [9]).

We note that not every separable,  $\aleph$ -space with a compact-finite, locally countable  $k$ -network need be an  $\aleph_0$ -space [9; Example 4.1]. And, not every separable,  $k$ -space with a point-countable closed  $cs$ -network need be an  $\aleph_0$ -space [7; Example 9.3]. Also, we note that not every cosmic,  $k$ -space with a point-countable closed  $k$ -network need be an  $\aleph_0$ -space [35; Example 1.6], where a space is *cosmic* if it has a countable network.

As for conditions for separable spaces to be  $\aleph_0$ -spaces, the following holds. In (1), case (c) gives an affirmative answer to [20: Question 3.1] under (CH).

**Theorem 7** (1) *Let  $X$  be a separable space. Then each of the following implies that  $X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space.*

- (a)  *$X$  is a Fréchet space with a point-countable  $k$ -network.*
- (b)  *$X$  is a  $k$ -space with a star-countable  $k$ -network.*
- (c) *(CH).  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. (When  $X$  is meta-Lindelöf, or  $\chi(X) \leq \omega_1$ , (CH) can be omitted).*

(2) *Let  $X$  be a cosmic space. If  $X$  has a point-countable  $cs$ -network, then  $X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space.*

**Proof:** In (1), for case (a); (b), the result is respectively due to [7]; [26]. For case (c), the result holds in view of the proof

of Theorem 6. To see (2) holds, let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a point-countable cs-network for  $X$ . Since  $X$  is cosmic, it is easy to show that  $X$  has a countable subset  $D$  such that, for any  $x \in X$ , there exists a sequence in  $D$  converging to  $x$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}' = \{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \cap D \neq \emptyset\}$ . Then,  $\mathcal{P}'$  is countable. To see that  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a cs-network for  $X$ , let  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$  be a sequence converging to  $x \in X$ ,  $U$  be a nbd of  $x$ . But, there exists a sequence  $\{y_n; n \in N\}$  in  $D$  converging to the point  $x$ . Clearly,  $L = \{x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, \dots, x_n, y_n, \dots\}$  converges to the point  $x$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a cs-network, there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $P$  contains  $x$ , and  $L$  eventually, thus,  $P \in \mathcal{P}'$ . Then,  $\mathcal{P}'$  is countable cs-network. Thus,  $X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space by [8; Theorem 1].

**Lemma 8** *Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a point-countable  $cs^*$ -network for a space  $X$ . Let  $K = \{x_n : n \in N\} \cup \{x\}$  be a sequence with a limit point  $x$ , and let  $U$  be an open set with  $U \supset K$ . Then there exists a finite  $\mathcal{P}' \subset \mathcal{P}$  such that, for some  $i \in N, \{x_n : n \geq i\} \cup \{x\} \subset \cup \mathcal{P}' \subset U$ , and, for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}'$ ,  $P \cap K$  is closed in  $K$  (thus, if  $P \cap K$  is infinite then  $P$  contains the point  $x$ ).*

**Proof:** Let  $\{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \subset U, \text{ and } P \cap K \text{ is non-empty, closed in } K\} = \{P_n : n \in N\}$ . Then, for some  $i, j \in N, \{x_n : n \geq i\} \cup \{x\} \subset \cup \{P_n : n \leq j\}$ . Indeed, suppose not. Then there exists a subsequence  $L = \{x_{n(i)} : i \in N\}$  of  $K$  such that  $x_{n(i)} \in X - \cup \{P_n : n \leq i\}$ . Since  $L \cup \{x\} \subset U$ , there exists  $P_0 \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $P_0 \subset U$ , and  $P_0$  contains the point  $x$  and  $L$  frequently. Thus,  $P_0 \cap K$  is non-empty, closed in  $K$ , so  $P_0 = P_m$  for some  $m \in N$ , hence  $P_m$  contains  $L$  frequently. This is a contradiction

**Theorem 9** (1) *Let  $X$  be a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network . Then  $X$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network if and only if every metric closed subset of  $X$  is locally  $\omega_1$ -compact.*

(2) *Let  $X$  be a sequential space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite (resp. compact-countable)  $cs^*$ -network. Then  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces (resp.  $k_\omega$ -and- $\aleph_0$ -spaces) if and only*

*if every metric closed subset of  $X$  is locally  $\omega_1$ -compact (resp. locally compact). Here, a space is a  $k_\omega$ -space [21] if it is determined by a countable cover of compact subsets.*

**Proof:** The “only if” part of (1) holds, because every first countable space with a star-countable  $k$ -network is locally separable metric [9; Theorem 1.4]. For the “if” part of (1), let  $X$  have a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network  $\mathcal{P}$  which is closed under finite intersections, and let every first countable closed subset of  $X$  be locally  $\omega_1$ -compact. Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $X$ , and let  $\mathcal{P}_K = \{P \in \mathcal{P}; P \cap K \neq \emptyset\}$ , and let  $\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in N\}$  be the collection of all covers of  $K$  consisting of finite subcollection of  $\mathcal{P}_K$ . For each  $n \in N$ , let  $\mathcal{C}_n = \{\cap\{P_i : P_i \in \mathcal{P}_i, i \leq n\}\}$ , and  $A_n = \cup \mathcal{C}_n$ . Then  $\{A_n : n \in N\}$  is a decreasing sequence such that  $A_n$  are finite unions of elements of  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $A_n \supset K$ , and any open subset containing  $K$  contains some  $\text{cl}A_m$ . Suppose that any  $\text{cl}A_n$  is not  $\omega_1$ -compact in  $X$ . Then any  $\text{cl}A_n$  contains a closed discrete subset  $D_n$  of  $X$  with cardinality  $\omega_1$ . Let  $F = K \cup (\cup\{D_n : n \in N\})$ . Then  $F$  is a closed subset of  $X$  which is a  $\sigma$ -space, and an  $M$ -space, for  $X$  is the perfect pre-image of a metric space  $F/K$ . Then, as is well-known,  $F$  is metric. (We can also see that  $F$  is metric by Lemma 13 below, because  $F$  is a first countable space, and it has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network by Proposition 2(2)). But,  $F$  is not locally  $\omega_1$ -compact. This is a contradiction. Then, for some  $n \in N$ ,  $\text{cl}A_n$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact. While, any open subset containing  $K$  contains some  $\text{cl}A_m$ . This implies that,  $\mathcal{P}^* = \{P \in \mathcal{P} : \text{cl}P \text{ is } \omega_1\text{-compact in } X\}$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$ . Also, since each closure of elements of  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is  $\omega_1$ -compact,  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is star-countable in view of the proof of Lemma 4. Then,  $X$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network  $\mathcal{P}^*$ . For the “if” part of (2), let  $K = \{x_n : n \in N\} \cup \{x\}$  be a sequence with a limit point  $x$ , and let  $\mathcal{P}_K = \{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \cap K \text{ is non-empty, closed in } K\}$ , and let  $\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in N\}$  be the collection of all finite subcollections of  $\mathcal{P}_K$  such that any  $\cup \mathcal{P}_n$  contains  $x$ , and  $K$  eventually. Then,

replacing “ $k$ -network” by “ $cs^*$ -network” in the above proof,  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $cs^*$ -network by Lemma 8, and  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is star-countable. Then,  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is a star-countable  $k$ -network for  $X$  by Proposition 2(2). But, since  $X$  is sequential,  $X$  is determined by  $\mathcal{P}^*$ . Thus,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces by [9; Corollary 1.2]. For the parenthetic part, the “only if” holds, because, as is well-known, every first countable  $k_\omega$ -space is locally compact (note that each point has a nbd which is contained in a finite union of compact subsets). For the “if” part, similarly,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces  $X_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \in A$ ). Since every metric closed subset of  $X$  is locally compact, similarly, each  $X_\alpha$  has a countable  $k$ -network of compact subsets. Then  $X_\alpha$  is a  $k_\omega$ -space, for it is a  $k$ -space. Then,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $k_\omega$ -and- $\aleph_0$ -spaces.

**Lemma 10** ([35]). *Suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover  $\mathcal{C}$ , or  $X$  is dominated by cover  $\mathcal{C}$ . Let  $\{A_n : n \in N\}$  be a collection of subsets of  $X$  such that if  $x_n \in A_n$ , then  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$  has an accumulation point in  $X$ . Then, for some  $m \in N$ ,  $A_m$  is contained in a finite union of elements of  $\mathcal{C}$ .*

**Corollary 11** *Suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover of locally  $\omega_1$ -compact subsets, or dominated by a cover of locally  $\omega_1$ -compact subsets. Then (1) and (2) below hold.*

(1) *If  $X$  is  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $cs^*$ -network, then  $X$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network.*

(2) *If  $X$  is a sequential space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $cs^*$ -network, then  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces (hence,  $X$  is an  $\aleph$ -space).*

*Under (CH), it is possible to replace “locally  $\omega_1$ -compact” by “locally separable”.*

**Proof:** Let  $F$  be a metric closed subset of  $X$ . Suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover  $\{X_\alpha : \alpha \in A\}$  of

locally  $\omega_1$ -compact subsets. Since  $F$  is closed,  $F$  is determined by a point-countable cover  $\{F \cap X_\alpha : \alpha \in A\}$ . Since each  $F \cap X_\alpha$  is locally separable metric,  $F \cap X_\alpha$  is determined by a point-countable cover  $\{X_{\alpha\beta} : \beta \in B_\alpha\}$  of separable metric subsets. Hence,  $F$  is determined by a point-countable cover  $\{X_{\alpha\beta} : \alpha \in A, \beta \in B_\alpha\}$  of separable metric subsets. Next, suppose that  $X$  is dominated by a cover  $\{X_\alpha : \alpha \in A\}$  of locally  $\omega_1$ -compact subsets. Then,  $F$  is dominated by a cover  $\{F \cap X_\alpha : \alpha \in A\}$  of locally separable metric subsets. Then, for any case,  $F$  is locally  $\omega_1$ -compact by Lemma 10. Then, every metric closed subset is locally  $\omega_1$ -compact. Then, (1) and (2) holds by Theorem 9. For the latter part holds by means of Theorem 6 and Corollary 7.

It is well-known that every quotient  $s$ -image of a locally compact metric space is precisely a space determined by a point-countable cover of compact metric subsets, and that every CW-complex is dominated by a cover of compact metric subsets. Also, recall that every space determined by a point-countable cover of metric subsets has a point-countable  $cs^*$ -network ([32]), and that every space  $X$  dominated by metric subsets  $X_\alpha$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network (Theorem 3), and, in particular,  $X$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network if the  $X_\alpha$  are locally separable ([9]). However, every CW-complex need not have a point-countable  $cs^*$ -network, also every CW-complex determined by a point-finite cover of compact metric subsets need not have a point-countable  $cs$ -network ([18]). But, for spaces determined by locally separable metric subsets, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 12** (1) *Suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover of locally separable metric subsets. If  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, then  $X$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network.*

(2) *Suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover*

of locally separable (resp. locally compact) metric subsets, or  $X$  is dominated by a cover of locally separable (resp. locally compact) metric subsets. If  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite (resp. compact-sountable)  $cs^*$ -network, then  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces (resp.  $k_\omega$ -and- $\aleph_0$ -spaces).

(3) (i) Suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable closed cover of locally separable metric subsets (in particular,  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover of locally compact metric subsets). If  $X$  has a point-countable  $cs$ -network, then  $X$  is a locally  $\aleph_0$ -spaces. When  $X$  is meta-Lindelöf,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces.

(ii) Suppose that  $X$  is dominated by a cover of locally separable metric subsets. If  $X$  has a point-countable  $cs$ -network, then  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces [18].

**Proof:** Since  $X$  is sequential, (1) and (2) holds by Corollary 11. For the parenthetic part of (2), suppose that  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover of locally compact metric subsets. Since any locally compact metric space is determined by a point-finite cover of compact metric,  $X$  is determined by a point-countable cover of compact metric subsets. Thus,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $k_\omega$ -and- $\aleph_0$  spaces by means Lemma 10 and the parenthetic part of Theorem 9(2). For (3), let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a point-countable  $cs$ -network for  $X$  which is closed under finite intersections. Let  $K = \{x_n : n \in N\} \cup \{x\}$  be a sequence with a limit point  $x$ , and let  $\mathcal{P}_K = \{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \ni x, \text{ and } P \text{ contains } K \text{ eventually}\} = \{P_n : n \in N\}$ . Let  $A_n = \bigcap \{P_i : i \leq n\}$  for each  $n \in N$ . Then  $\{A_n : n \in N\}$  is a decreasing sequence such that  $A_n \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $A_n \ni x$ ,  $A_n$  contains  $K$  eventually, and any nbd of  $x$  contains some  $A_n$ . For (i), since any sequence  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$  with  $x_n \in A_n$  has an accumulation point in  $X$ , by Lemma 10, for some  $i \in N$ ,  $A_i$  is contained in a locally separable metric space. Since  $A_i$  contains  $x$  and  $K$  eventually, for some  $j \in N$  with  $j \geq i$ ,  $A_j$  is separable metric. Then  $X$  is a sequential space with a point-countable  $cs$ -network of separa-

ble metric subsets. Thus, in view of the proof of Theorem 2.4 in [13],  $X$  has a locally  $\aleph_0$ -space. When  $X$  is meta-Lindelöf,  $X$  has a point-countable open cover of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces, thus,  $X$  is determined by this star-countable cover. Then,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces by means of [9; Lemma 1.2]. For (ii), similarly,  $X$  is a locally  $\aleph_0$ -space. But, as is well-known, every space dominated by metric subsets is paracompact, so  $X$  is paracompact. Thus,  $X$  is the topological sum of  $\aleph_0$ -spaces.

Let us consider a canonical space dominated by metric subsets (not every piece is locally separable).

**Example 13** Let  $M$  be a *metric* space. For each  $x \in M$ , let  $L_x$  be a sequence converging to the point  $x$  such that  $L_x \cap M = \emptyset$ , and the  $L_x$  are pairwise disjoint. Let  $S_x = M \cup L_x$ , and let  $X_x = L_x \cup \{x\}$ . Let  $S$  be the space determined by a point-finite cover  $\{M, X_x : x \in M\}$  of metric subsets. Equivalently,  $S$  is dominated by a cover  $\{S_x : x \in M\}$  of metric subsets. When  $M$  is an infinite convergent sequence with a limit point  $x$ , a subspace  $(S - L_x)$  of  $S$  is called the *Arens' space*  $S_2$ .

M. Sakai [27] ask the following questions on the space  $S$ .

*Questions* (1) What are topological properties of  $S$  in terms of  $k$ -network?

(2) When does  $S$  have a point-countable  $cs$ -network? Also, if  $S$  has a point-countable  $cs$ -network, then is  $S$  an  $\aleph$ -space?

We shall give answers to (1) and (2), and give characterizations for  $S$  to have certain  $k$ -networks in terms of the metric space  $M$ . First, let us recall definitions. For a space  $X$ , let  $T_x$  be a collection of subsets of  $X$  such that any element of  $T_x$  contains  $x$ . The collection  $T_X = \cup\{T_x : x \in X\}$  is a *weak base* [1] for  $X$  if it satisfies: The  $T_1, T_2 \in T_x$ , there exists  $T_3 \in T_x$  with  $T_3 \subset T_1 \cap T_2$ ; and,  $U \subset X$  is open in  $X$  if and only if for each  $x \in U$ , there exists  $T \in T_x$  with  $T \subset U$ . The  $T_x$  is a *local weak base* at  $x$  in  $X$ . Every weak base is a  $cs$ -network [14]. A space

$X$  is  $g$ -first countable [28] (or  $X$  satisfies the *weak first axiom of countability* [1]) if  $X$  has a weak base  $T_X = \cup\{T_x : x \in X\}$  such that each  $T_x$  is countable.

*Properties of the space  $S$ :* (A)  $S$  is a  $g$ -first countable, paracompact, and  $\sigma$ -space. Besides,  $S$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, and a point-countable closed  $cs^*$ -network.

(B)  $S$  is metric  $\Leftrightarrow S$  is locally compact  $\Leftrightarrow S$  is Fréchet  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is discrete.

(C)  $S$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is locally separable.

(D)  $S$  has a locally countable  $k$ -network  $\Leftrightarrow S$  has a star-countable closed  $k$ -network  $\Leftrightarrow S$  is locally separable  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is the topological sum of countable subsets. In particular,  $S$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space  $\Leftrightarrow S$  is separable  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is countable.

(E)  $S$  has a star-countable (or locally countable)  $k$ -network of compact subsets  $\Leftrightarrow S$  is a locally  $k_\omega$ -space  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is the topological sum of countable, compact subsets. In particular,  $S$  has a countable  $k$ -network of compact subsets  $\Leftrightarrow S$  is a  $k_\omega$ -space  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is countable, locally compact.

(F)  $S$  has a point-countable  $k$ -network of separable (resp. compact) subsets  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is locally separable (resp. locally compact).

(G) The following (a)  $\sim$  (g) are equivalent, and (g) implies (h).

(a)  $S$  is an  $\aleph$ -space.

(b)  $S$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network.

(c)  $S$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network.

(d)  $S$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $cs^*$ -network.

(e)  $S$  has a point-countable  $cs$ -network.

(f)  $M$  is the countable union of closed discrete subsets.

(g)  $M$  has a point-countable open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  satisfying (\*): Each  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  contains a point  $x(V)$  such that  $\{x(V) : V \in \mathcal{V}\} = M$ .

(h) For any subspace  $A$  of  $M$ ,  $|A| = \omega(A)$ , here  $\omega(A)$  is the weight of  $A$ .

**Proof:** (A): Since  $S$  is dominated by metric subsets, as is well-known,  $S$  is a paracompact  $\sigma$ -space (indeed,  $M_1$ -space; see [31], for example). Let  $X_0 = M$ , and let  $M' = \{0\} \cup M$ . For  $p \in X_x$  ( $x \in M'$ ), let  $\{V_{xn}(p) : n \in N\}$  be a decreasing local base at  $p$  in  $X_x$ . For each  $p \in S$ , and  $n \in N$ , let  $Q_n(p) = \cup\{V_{xn}(p) : p \in X_x, x \in M'\}$ . Since  $S$  is determined by a point-finite cover  $\mathcal{C} = \{X_x : x \in M'\}, \{Q_n(p) : n \in N\}$  is a weak nbd of  $p$  in  $S$ . Thus,  $S$  is  $g$ -first countable. Since any compact subset of  $S$  contained in a finite union of elements of the closed cover  $\mathcal{C}$ , it is routine to show that  $S$  has a point-countable closed  $cs^*$ -network. Also,  $S$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network by Theorem 3.

(B): It suffices to show that if  $S$  is Fréchet, then  $M$  is discrete. Assume that  $M$  is not discrete. Then  $M$  has an infinite convergent sequence. Hence,  $S$  contains a copy of  $S_2$ . But,  $S_2$  is not Fréchet. Then,  $S$  is not Fréchet.

(C): If  $S$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network, then so does  $M$ . Since  $M$  is first countable,  $M$  is locally separable by [7; Proposition 3.3]. Conversely, if  $M$  is locally separable, then,  $S$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network by (a) and Theorem 12(1).

(D): Suppose that  $S$  is locally separable. Since every separable subset of  $S$  meets only countably many of  $L_x$ 's.  $S$  is a locally  $\aleph_0$ -space. But,  $S$  is paracompact by (A). Thus, each of the first three equivalence holds by [9; Theorem 1.4 and Proposition 1.5]. For the last equivalence, if  $M$  is locally separable, then  $M$  is the topological sum of separable subsets  $M_\alpha$ . But,  $\cup\{L_x : x \in M_\alpha\} \cup M_\alpha$  locally separable, then each  $M_\alpha$  is countable. Thus,  $M$  is the topological sum of countable subsets.

(E): This is shown by a similar way as in (D), so we omit the proof.

(F): Let  $S$  have a point-countable  $k$ -network of separable subsets. Then so does  $M$ . Thus, since  $M$  is first countable,  $M$  is locally separable by [7; Proposition 3.2]. Conversely, let  $M$  be locally separable. Then  $M$  is determined by a point-countable cover of separable metric closed subsets. But, since  $S$  is determined by a point-finite closed cover  $\{M, X_x : x \in M\}$ , it is routinely shown that  $S$  has a point-countable  $k$ -network of separable metric closed  $k$ -network.

(G): First, we show that (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) holds. Let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup \mathcal{P}_n$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally countable closed  $k$ -network for  $S$ . For  $n \in N$ , and  $x \in S$ , let  $V_{x_n}$  be a nbd of  $X$  meeting only countably many elements of  $\mathcal{P}_n$ . Since  $\{V_{x_n} : x \in S\}$  is an open cover of a paracompact space  $S$ , there exists a locally finite open refinement  $\mathcal{U}_n$  of  $\{V_{x_n} : x \in S\}$ . For each  $U \in \mathcal{U}_n$ ,  $\{U \cap P : P \in \mathcal{P}_n\} = \{P_{n_i}(U) : i \in N\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{U}_{n_i} = \{P_{n_i}(U) : U \in \mathcal{U}_n\}$ , and  $\mathcal{W}_n = \cup \mathcal{U}_{n_i}$  and let  $\mathcal{W} = \cup \mathcal{W}_n$ . Then  $\mathcal{W}$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite in  $S$ . We show that  $\mathcal{W}$  is a  $k$ -network. Let  $V$  be open in  $S$ , and let  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$  be a sequence converging to  $x \in V$ . Then, there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}_n$  for some  $n \in N$  such that  $P$  contains a subsequence of  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$ . But,  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is an open cover of  $S$ , there exists  $U \in \mathcal{U}_n$  containing  $x$ . Then,  $P \cap U \in \mathcal{W}_n$ ,  $P \cap U \subset V$ , and  $P \cap U$  contains a subsequence of  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$ . While, every compact subset of  $S$  is sequentially compact. Thus,  $\mathcal{W}$  is a  $k$ -network by [32: Proposition 1.2]. Then,  $S$  is an  $\aleph$ -space, thus, (a) holds. Next, we show that (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (f), and (f)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) hold. Let (d) hold, and let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup \mathcal{P}_n$  be a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $cs^*$ -network for  $S$  which is closed under finite intersections. Since  $S$  is dominated by metric subsets, in view of the proof of Theorem 9(2), using Lemma 10, we can assume that, for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $clP$  is metric. For each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , let  $D(P) = \{x \in M : x \in P, \text{ and } L_x \text{ is contained in } P \text{ frequently}\}$ . For each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $clP$  is metric, so it contains no copy of  $S_2$ . Thus, each  $D(P)$  is closed discrete in  $M$ . For each  $n \in N$ , let  $D_n = \cup \{D(P) : P \in \mathcal{P}_n\}$ . Then since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a

$cs^*$ -network for  $S$ ,  $M$  is the union of these  $D_n$ 's. To show each  $D_n$  is closed discrete in  $M$ , suppose not. Then, there exists an infinite sequence  $K$  in  $D_n$  converging to a point  $x \in M$ . But, for each  $D(P)$ , the compact set  $C = K \cup \{x\}$  contains at most finitely many points in  $D(P)$ . Then, the compact set  $C$  meets infinitely many elements of  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , a contradiction. Thus,  $M$  is the countable union of closed discrete subsets  $D_n$ . Thus, (f) holds. Conversely, let (f) hold, and let  $M$  be the countable union of closed discrete subsets  $E_n (n \in \mathbb{N})$ . For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $C_n = \cup\{L_x : x \in E_n\} \cup M$ . Then each  $C_n$  is a metric closed subset of  $S$ . But, each convergent sequence in  $S$  is contained in some  $C_n$ , then  $S$  is determined by a cover  $\{C_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , for  $S$  is sequential. Thus,  $S$  is determined by a countable cover  $\{C_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of metric closed subsets. Thus,  $S$  is an  $\aleph$ -space by [31; Proposition 11]. Hence, (a) holds. For (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a), since  $S$  is  $g$ -first countable, if  $S$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network,  $S$  is an  $\aleph$ -space by means of [33; Theorem 6]. To show that (e)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (g) holds, first, let (e) hold. But,  $S$  is a  $g$ -first countable by (A). Then,  $S$  has a point-countable weak base  $T_s = \cup\{T_p : p \in S\}$  by [14; Lemma 7]. While,  $S$  is dominated by a cover  $\{S_x : x \in M\}$  of metric subsets. Then, by Lemma 10, we can assume that, for each  $p \in S$  and each  $T \in T_p$ ,  $T$  is contained in a finite union of  $S_x$ 's. Thus we can assume, for any  $T \in T_s$ ,  $clT$  is metric. Since  $M$  is closed in  $S$ ,  $\{T \cap M : T \in T_s\}$  is a weak base for  $M$ . We recall that, for a space  $X$  and for a weak base  $T_X = \cup\{T_x : x \in X\}$  for  $X$ , any sequence converging to a point  $x \in X$  is contained eventually in any element of  $T_x$ . Then, since  $M$  is first countable, for any  $x \in M$  and  $T \in T_x$ ,  $x \in \text{int}_M(T \cap M)$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{V} = \{\text{int}_M(T \cap M) : T \in T_s\}$  is a point-countable open cover of  $M$ . For each  $V = \text{int}_M(T \cap M) \in \mathcal{V}$ , let  $D_V = \{x \in V : L_x \text{ is contained eventually in } T\}$ . Then,  $\cup\{X_x : x \in D_V\} \subset clT$ . But, since  $clT$  is metric,  $clT$  contains no copy of  $S_2$ . Thus,  $D_V$  is a discrete closed subset of  $M$  with  $D_V \subset V$ . Also,  $\{D_V : V \in \mathcal{V}\}$  is a cover of  $M$ , because, for any  $x \in M$

and  $T \in T_x$ ,  $x \in \text{int}_M(T \cap M)$  and  $T$  contains  $L_x$  eventually. Since each  $D_V = \{x_t : t \in D_V\}$  is closed discrete in  $M$ , there exists a discrete open collection  $\{G_t : t \in D_V\}$  in  $M$  such that  $x_t \in G_t \subset V$ . Then,  $\{G_t : t \in D_V, V \in \mathcal{V}\}$  is a point-countable open cover of  $M$  with  $x_t \in G_t$ , and  $\{x_t : t \in D_V, V \in \mathcal{V}\} = M$ . Then (g) holds. Conversely, let (g) hold. Then, since  $M$  has a point-countable base, it is easy to show that  $S$  has a point-countable cs-network, thus, (e) holds. We show that (f)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (g) holds. Since  $M$  is metric, (f)  $\Rightarrow$  (g) holds. Let (g) hold, and let  $M$  have a point-countable open cover  $\mathcal{W}$  satisfying (\*). Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally finite base for  $M$ . For each  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ , choose  $B_W \in \mathcal{B}$ , with  $x(W) \in B_W \subset W$ . since  $\mathcal{W}$  is point-countable, for each  $B_W \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $\{B_{W'} : B_W = B_{W'}\}$  is countable. This shows that  $\{B_W : W \in \mathcal{W}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite open cover of  $X$  satisfying (\*). Then,  $M$  is the countable union of closed discrete subsets. Thus, (f) holds. For (g)  $\Rightarrow$  (h), let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a base for  $A$ . Then,  $A$  has a dense subset  $D$  with  $|D| \leq |\mathcal{B}|$ . But,  $A$  has a point-countable open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  satisfying (\*). Thus,  $|\mathcal{V}| \leq |D|$ . Hence,  $|A| \leq |\mathcal{B}|$ , thus,  $|A| \leq \omega(A)$ . But, since  $A$  is metric,  $|A| \geq \omega(A)$ . Hence  $|A| = \omega(A)$ .

A space  $X$  is *strongly* Fréchet [28] (= countably bi-sequential in the sense of [22]), if whenever  $\{A_n : n \in N\}$  is a decreasing sequence of subsets of  $X$  such that  $\text{cl}A_n \ni x$  for each  $n \in N$ , there exists a sequence  $\{x_n : n \in N\}$  covering to the point  $x$  with  $x_n \in A_n$ . A space  $X$  is an *inner-closed A-space* [23] (or [24]). if whenever  $\{A_n : n \in N\}$  is a decreasing sequence of subsets of  $X$  such that  $\text{cl}(A_n - \{x\}) \ni x$  for each  $n \in N$ , there exist  $B_n \subset A_n$  which are closed in  $X$ , but  $\cup\{B_n : n \in N\}$  is not closed in  $X$ . Every first countable space is strongly Fréchet, and every strongly Fréchet space is Fréchet. Every strongly Fréchet space, more generally, every countable bi-quasi-k-space in the sense of [22] is inner-closed  $A$ .

We recall canonical quotient spaces  $S_\omega, S_{\omega_1}$ , and  $S_2$ .  $S_\omega$  is called the *sequential fan*, and  $S_2$  is the *Arens' space*.  $S_\omega, S_{\omega_1}$

is respectively the space obtained from the topological sum of  $\omega : \omega_1$  many convergent sequences by identifying all limit points to a single point  $\infty$ . For the space  $S_2$ , see Example 13. We note that neither  $S_\omega$  nor  $S_2$  is an inner-closed  $A$ -space.

In [10], it is proved that a space  $X$  with a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network is an  $\aleph$ -space if and only if  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_{\omega_1}$ . For a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, the following holds.

**Theorem 14** *Let  $X$  be a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. Then the following are equivalent.*

- (a)  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_{\omega_1}$ .
- (b)  $X$  has a point-countable  $cs^*$ -network.
- (c)  $X$  is the quotient  $s$ -image of a metric space.

**Proof:** Since  $X$  is sequential, the equivalence between (b) and (c) holds by [32; Theorem 2.3]. The implication (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) holds, because  $S_{\omega_1}$  has no point-countable  $cs^*$ -networks by [32; Lemma 2.4]. For the implication (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b), let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network for  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}^* = \{S(P) : P \in \mathcal{P}\}$ , where  $S(P)$  is the set of all limit points of sequences in  $P$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is point-countable. Otherwise, since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite cover, for some point  $x \in X$ , and some  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_n$  contains uncountable many elements  $P_\alpha$  such that each  $P_\alpha$  contains an infinite sequence  $L_\alpha$  converging to the point  $x$ , here the sequences  $L_\alpha$  are disjoint. Then, the space  $S = \cup\{L_\alpha : \alpha\} \cup \{x\}$  is a closed copy of  $S_{\omega_1}$ , because  $X$  is a  $k$ -space, and  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is compact-finite. Thus,  $X$  contains a closed copy  $S$  of  $S_{\omega_1}$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is point-countable. Next, to show  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is a  $cs^*$ -network, let  $L$  be a sequence converging to a point  $y$ , and let  $U$  be a nbd of  $y$ . Let  $V$  be a nbd of  $y$  with  $\text{cl}V \subset U$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -network, there exists  $P_0 \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $P_0 \subset V$ , and  $P_0$  contains  $L$  frequently. Hence,  $S(P_0) \subset U$ , and  $S(P_0)$  contains the point  $y$ ,

and contains  $L$  frequently. This show that  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is a  $cs^*$ -network for  $X$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{P}^*$  is a point-countable  $cs^*$ -network for  $X$ .

**Lemma 15** ([15]). *Every strongly Fréchet space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network is metric.*

**Lemma 16** ([30]). *Let  $X$  be a sequential space with  $G_\delta$  points. If  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$  and no  $S_2$  (resp. no  $S_2$ ), then  $X$  is strongly Fréchet (resp. Fréchet).*

Not every paracompact space with a  $\sigma$ -disjoint base is metric; see [3]. Thus, not every first countable space with a  $\sigma$ -point-finite  $k$ -network is metric. But, for spaces with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, the following metrization theorem holds. In particular, under (CH), every  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network is metric if it contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ , and no  $S_2$ . This gives an affirmative answer to the paranthetic part of Question 3.2 in [20] under (CH).

**Theorem 17** *Let  $X$  be a  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. Then the following are equivalent. When  $X$  is a space with  $G_\delta$  points, a meta-Lindelöf space, or (CH) holds, it is possible to omit " $\chi(X) \leq \omega_1$ " in (b).*

- (a)  $X$  is metric.
- (b)  $\chi(X) \leq \omega_1$ , and  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ , and no  $S_2$ .
- (c)  $X$  is an inner closed  $A$ -space.

**Proof:** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) & (c) is obvious. For (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) suppose (b) holds. Then,  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network by Theorem 6. Thus, each point of  $X$  is a  $G_\delta$ -set in  $X$ . But,  $X$  is a sequential space which contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ , and no  $S_2$ . Thus,  $X$  is strongly Fréchet by Lemma 16. Then  $X$  is metric by Lemma 15. For (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a), note that  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a point-countable  $k$ -network. Then  $X$  is first countable by [20; Theorem 1.16]. Thus,  $X$  is metric. For the latter part of

the theorem, let  $C$  be a countable subset of  $X$ , and let  $D = \text{cl}C$ . We note that every separable meta-Lindelöf space is Lindelöf, thus  $\omega_1$ -compact. Then, if  $X$  is meta-Lindelöf, or (CH) holds,  $D$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space in view of Lemma 4 and Theorem 6. Thus,  $D$  is a space with  $G_\delta$  points. But,  $D$  is a  $k$ -space, thus sequential, and  $D$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ , and no  $S_2$ . Thus,  $D$  is strongly Fréchet by Lemma 16. Then,  $C$  is strongly Fréchet. Thus, any countable subset of  $X$  is strongly Fréchet. But,  $X$  has countable tightness by Lemma 1(2). Thus,  $X$  is strongly Fréchet by [22; Propositions 8.5 & 8.7]. Thus,  $X$  is metric by Lemma 15.

**Corollary 18** (CH) *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  have  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -networks. For  $Z \subset X \times Y$ ,  $Z$  is metric if and only if  $Z$  is a  $k$ -space which contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ , and no  $S_2$ . In particular, if  $X$  is a Lašnev space or a CW-compaex, and so is  $Y$ , then it is possible to omit (CH).*

**Remark 19** For  $Z = X \times Y$ , where  $X$  and  $Y$  have  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, let us consider the  $k$ -ness of  $X$ . In [20], the authors show that a necessary and sufficient condition for the product of two  $k$ -spaces with a compact-countable  $k$ -network to be a  $k$ -space is independent of the usual axiom of set theory. As an application of this, the following holds by [20; Theorem 2.4], Lemma 15, and the fact that the product of two  $k_\omega$ -spaces is a  $k_\omega$ -space [21].

(CH). Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be  $k$ -spaces with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network. For  $Z = X \times Y$ ,  $Z$  is a  $k$ -space if and only if  $X$  or  $Y$  is a locally compact metric space; otherwise,  $Z$  is a metric space, or a locally  $k_\omega$  (equivalently, topological sum of  $k_\omega$ - and  $\aleph_0$ -spaces in view of the proof of Theorem 6). If  $X = Y$ , it is possible to omit (CH).

In [17], it is proved that a  $k$ -space  $X$  with a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network is  $g$ -first countable if and only if  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ . The authors don't know whether the result remains

true if we replace “ $\sigma$ -HCP” by “ $\sigma$ -compact-finite”. But, the following holds. For the definition of  $g$ -first countable spaces, see Example 13.

**Theorem 20** *Let  $X$  be a  $k$ -space. If (a), (b), (c), or (d) holds, then,  $X$  is  $g$ -first countable (resp. Lašnev) if and only if  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$  (resp.  $S_2$ ).*

- (a)  $X$  has a star-countable  $k$ -network.
- (b)  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -HCP  $k$ -network; more generally,
- (c)  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network, and each point is a  $G_\delta$ -set in  $X$ .
- (d) (CH)  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite  $k$ -network.

**Proof:** The “only if” part is obvious, so we prove the “if” part holds. For (a), let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a star-countable  $k$ -network for  $X$ . For  $x \in X$ , let  $\mathcal{P}_x = \{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \text{ contains a sequence converging to } x\}$ .  $X$  is sequential, and  $\mathcal{P}$  is a star-countable  $k$ -network, then  $X$  is a disjoint union of  $X_\alpha$ 's, where each  $X_\alpha$  is a countable union of elements of  $\mathcal{P}$ , and, for each finite subset  $F_\alpha$  of  $X_\alpha$ ,  $\cup\{F_\alpha : \alpha\}$  is closed discrete in  $X$  ([20, 26]). But,  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ , then  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is countable. Let  $P_x = \text{cl}(\cup\mathcal{P}_x)$ . Then,  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is separable, so  $P_x$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space by Theorem 7(1). Thus  $P_x$  is  $g$ -first countable by [17]. Take a local weak base  $T_x$  at  $x$  in  $P_x$  such that  $T_x$  is countable. Then, for any sequence  $L$  converging to  $x \in X$ , and any  $T \in T_x$ ,  $L$  is contained in  $T$  eventually. Let  $U \subset X$ , and for each  $x \in U$ , let  $x \in T \subset U$  for some  $T \in T_x$ . Then  $U$  is open in  $X$ , for  $X$  is sequential. Then  $\cup\{T_x : x \in X\}$  is a weak base for  $X$ . Thus,  $X$  is  $g$ -first countable. For (c), since  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_\omega$ ,  $X$  has a point-countable  $cs^*$ -network by Theorem 14. Thus,  $X$  is  $g$ -first countable in view of the proof of Theorem 1 in [17]. For (d), under (CH), every closed separable subset  $F$

of  $X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space by Theorem 7(1), hence each point of  $F$  is a  $G_\delta$ -set in  $F$ . Thus,  $X$  is also g-first countable in view of the proof of Theorem 1 in [17]. For the parenthetic part, the result for (c) holds by Lemma 16 and Remark 5(1). For (d), since  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_2$ ,  $X$  is Fréchet by the same way as in the proof of Theorem 17, thus,  $X$  is Lašnev. For (a), the proof is similar to (d), but use Theorems 3 and 7(1).

In conclusion of this paper, we shall pose a question on spaces with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite k-network.

**Question 21** Let  $X$  be a separable k-space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite k-network  $\mathcal{P}$ . Then, is  $X$  an  $\aleph_0$ -space, a  $\sigma$ -space, or a space with  $G_\delta$  points?

**Remark 22** We shall give the following comments related to Question 21.

(1) The space  $X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space when (CH) holds (Theorem 6);  $\mathcal{P}$  is star-countable ([25]); or  $\mathcal{P}$  consists of closed subsets (because, by Remark 5(2),  $X$  is an  $\aleph$ -space, so  $X$  is meta-Lindelöf [5], then  $X$  is Lindelöf, hence  $X$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -space).

(2) If Question 21 is affirmative, then Corollary 18 remains valid without (CH), for example.

(3) Every k-space  $Y$  is meta-Lindelöf if  $Y$  has a star-countable k-network ([20]), or a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite k-network of closed subsets (see(1)). (For case where  $Y$  has a star-countable k-network,  $Y$  is actually a paracompact  $\sigma$ -space ([26])). But, the k-ness of  $Y$  is essential. Indeed, in view of [25], every space with a star-countable, compact-finite, and locally countable closed k-network is not a  $\sigma$ -space, thus meta-Lindelöf by [9; Proposition 1.5]. Also, every space with a star-countable and compact-finite closed k-network is not a space with  $G_\delta$  points [25]. In terms of these, we have the following (more general) questions related to Question 21.

**Questions:** (i) Is every  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite (or  $\sigma$ -HCP)  $k$ -network a meta-Lindelöf space?

(ii) Is every  $k$ -space with a  $\sigma$ -compact-finite (or star-countable)  $k$ -network a  $\sigma$ -space, or a space with  $G_\delta$  points?

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