

## 185. $\delta_p$ and Countably Paracompact Spaces

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In [3], Mack defines the term  $\delta$ -normal, and proves that if  $I$  is the closed unit interval, then a space  $X$  is countably paracompact if and only if  $X \times I$  is  $\delta$ -normal. In this paper we define the term  $\delta_p$  which is stronger than  $\delta$ -normal, but is strictly weaker than countable paracompactness, and is strictly weaker than normality; and we prove the following:

**Theorem 1.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$*

- (i) *The space  $X$  is countably paracompact.*
- (ii) *The space  $X$  is  $\delta_p$  and countably metacompact.*
- (iii) *The space  $X$  is  $\delta_p$  and every countable open cover of  $X$  has a countable semi-refinement of closed sets.*
- (iv) *If  $C$  is a countable open cover of  $X$ , then there exists a countable collection  $L = \{L_i | i = 1, 2, \dots\}$  of open refinements of  $C$  such that for each  $x \in X$  there is some  $L_i$  that is locally finite with respect to  $x$ .*
- (v) *If  $I$  is the closed unit interval, then  $X \times I$  is  $\delta_p$ .*

We observe that (ii) of the above theorem is a slight generalization of a condition proven by Dowker [2]; further; we point out that Theorem 1 in [3] is used in proving (v) of the above theorem.

**Definition.** If  $X$  is a space and  $C$  is an open cover of  $X$ , then  $L$  is a semi-refinement of  $C$  if each member of  $L$  is contained in the union of a finite subset of  $C$ .

**Definition.** If  $X$  is a space and  $L$  is a collection of subsets of  $X$ , then  $L$  is locally finite with respect to a subset  $A$  of  $X$ , if for each  $x \in A$ , there exists an open set  $V$ ,  $x \in V$ , such that  $V$  intersects only finitely many members of  $L$ .

**Definition.** Let  $X$  be a space and let  $N$  be a cardinal number. Then  $X$  is called an  $N_p$  space, if for each open cover  $C$ , cardinality of  $C$  less than or equal  $N$ , there exists for each closed set  $F$  contained in any member of  $C$ , an open refinement of  $C$  that is locally finite with respect to  $F$ . In the special case when  $N = \aleph_0$ , we will denote  $N_p$  by  $\delta_p$ .

For an infinite cardinal  $N$ , a topological space is  $N$ -normal if each pair of disjoint closed sets, one of which is a regular  $G_N$ -set, have disjoint neighborhoods [3]. A set  $B$  is called a regular  $G_N$ -set if it is the intersection of at most  $N$  closed sets whose interiors contain  $B$  [3].