

SPACES WITH  $\sigma$ -LOCALLY COUNTABLE WEAK-BASES

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, spaces with  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-bases are characterized as the weakly open msss-images of metric spaces (or  $g$ -first countable spaces with  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $cs$ -networks).

To find the internal characterizations of certain images of metric spaces is an interesting research topic on general topology. Recently, S. Xia<sup>[12]</sup> introduced the concept of weakly open mappings, by using it, certain  $g$ -first countable spaces are characterized as images of metric spaces under various weakly open mappings. The present paper establish the relationships spaces with  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-bases and metric spaces by means of weakly pen mappings and msss-mappings, and give a characterization of spaces with  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-bases.

In this paper, all spaces are regular and  $T_1$ , all mappings are continuous and surjective.  $N$  denotes the set of all natural numbers.  $\omega$  denotes  $N \cup \{0\}$ . For a family  $\mathcal{P}$  of subsets of a space  $X$  and a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , denote  $f(\mathcal{P}) = \{f(P) : P \in \mathcal{P}\}$ . For the usual product space  $\prod_{i \in N} X_i$ ,  $p_i$  denotes the projection from  $\prod_{i \in N} X_i$  onto  $X_i$ .

**Definition 1.** Let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_x : x \in X\}$  be a family of subsets of a space  $X$  satisfying that for each  $x \in X$ ,

- (1)  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is a network of  $x$  in  $X$ ,
- (2) If  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}_x$ , then  $W \subset U \cap V$  for some  $W \in \mathcal{P}_x$ .

$\mathcal{P}$  is called a weak-base for  $X$ <sup>[1]</sup> if  $G \subset X$  is open in  $X$  if and only if for each  $x \in G$ , there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}_x$  such that  $P \subset G$ .

A space  $X$  is called  $g$ -first countable<sup>[1]</sup> if  $X$  has a weak-base  $\mathcal{P}$  such that each  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is countable.

A space  $X$  is called a  $g$ -metrizable space<sup>[4]</sup> if  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite weak-base.

**Definition 2.** Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a cover of a space  $X$ .

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(1)  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a  $k$ -network for  $X$  if for each compact subset  $K$  of  $X$  and its open neighbourhood  $V$ , there exists a finite subfamily  $\mathcal{P}'$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  such that  $K \subset \cup \mathcal{P}' \subset V$ .

(2)  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a  $cs$ -network for  $X$  if for each  $x \in X$ , its open neighbourhood  $V$  and a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converging to  $x$ , there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $\{x_n : n \geq m\} \cup \{x\} \subset P \subset V$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

A space  $X$  is called an  $\aleph$ -space if  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite  $k$ -network.

**Definition 3.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping.

(1)  $f$  is called a weakly open mapping<sup>[12]</sup> if there exists a weak-base  $\mathcal{B} = \cup \{\mathcal{B}_y : y \in Y\}$  for  $Y$  and for  $y \in Y$ , there exists  $x(y) \in f^{-1}(y)$  satisfying condition (\*): for each open neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x(y)$ ,  $B_y \subset f(U)$  for some  $B_y \in \mathcal{B}_y$ .

(2)  $f$  is called a msss-mapping<sup>[7]</sup> (i.e., metrizable stratified strong  $s$ -mapping) if there exists a subspace  $X$  of the usual product space  $\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} X_i$  of the family  $\{X_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of metric spaces satisfying the following condition: for each  $y \in Y$ , there exists an open neighbourhood sequence  $\{V_i\}$  of  $y$  in  $Y$  such that each  $p_i f^{-1}(V_i)$  is separable in  $X_i$ .

**Theorem 4.** A space  $Y$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base if and only if  $Y$  is the weakly open msss-image of a metric space.

**Proof. Sufficiency.** Suppose  $Y$  is the image of a metric space  $X$  under a weakly open msss-mapping  $f$ . Since  $f$  is a msss-mapping, then exists a family  $\{X_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of metric spaces satisfying the condition of Definition 3 (2).

For each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathcal{P}_i$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally finite base for  $X_i$ , put

$$\mathcal{B}_i = \left\{ X \cap \left( \bigcap_{j \leq i} p_j^{-1}(P_j) \right) : P_j \in \mathcal{P}_j \text{ and } j \leq i \right\},$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \cup \{\mathcal{B}_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a base for  $X$ . For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , put

$$V = \bigcap_{j \leq n} V_j,$$

then  $\{Q \in f(\mathcal{B}_i) : V \cap Q \neq \Phi\}$  is countable. Thus  $f(\mathcal{B}_i)$  is locally countable in  $Y$ . Hence  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is  $\sigma$ -locally countable in  $Y$ .

Since  $f$  is a weakly open mapping, then exists a weak-base  $\mathcal{P} = \cup \{\mathcal{P}_y : y \in Y\}$  for  $Y$  such that for each  $y \in Y$ , there exists  $x(y) \in f^{-1}(y)$  satisfying the condition (\*) of Definition 3 (1). For each  $y \in Y$ , put

$$\mathcal{F}_{i,y} = \{f(B) : x(y) \in B \in \mathcal{B}_i\},$$

$$\mathcal{F}_y = \cup \{\mathcal{F}_{i,y} : i \in \mathbb{N}\},$$

$$\mathcal{F}_i = \cup \{\mathcal{F}_{i,y} : y \in Y\},$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \cup \{\mathcal{F}_y : y \in Y\}.$$

Obviously,  $\mathcal{F}_i \in f(\mathcal{B}_i)$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is locally countable in  $Y$ . Thus  $\mathcal{F} = \cup \{\mathcal{F}_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is  $\sigma$ -locally countable in  $Y$ . We will prove that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a weak-base for  $Y$ .

It is obvious that  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies the condition (1) of Definition 1. For each  $y \in Y$ , suppose  $U, V \in \mathcal{F}_y$ , then  $U \in \mathcal{F}_{m,y}, V \in \mathcal{F}_{n,y}$  for some  $m, n \in N$ . Thus there exist  $B_1 \in \mathcal{B}_m$  and  $B_2 \in \mathcal{B}_n$  such that  $x(y) \in B_1 \cap B_2, f(B_1) = U$  and  $f(B_2) = V$ . Since  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a base for  $X$ , then there exist  $l \in N$  and  $B \in \mathcal{B}_l$  such that  $x(y) \in B \subset B_1 \cap B_2$ . Thus  $f(B) \in \mathcal{F}_{l,y} \subset \mathcal{F}_y$  and  $f(B) \subset f(B_1 \cap B_2) \subset U \cap V$ . Hence  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies the condition (2) of Definition 1.

Suppose  $G \subset Y$  and for  $y \in G$ , there exists  $F \in \mathcal{F}_y$  such that  $F \subset G$ , then there exists  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x(y) \in B$  and  $F = f(B)$ . Since  $B$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x(y)$  and  $f$  is a weakly open mapping, then exists  $P_y \in \mathcal{P}_y$  such that  $P_y \subset f(B)$ . Thus for each  $y \in G$ , there exists  $P_y \in \mathcal{P}_y$  such that  $P_y \subset G$ . Hence  $G$  is open in  $Y$  because  $\mathcal{P}$  is a weak-base for  $Y$ . On the other hand. Suppose  $G \subset Y$  is open in  $Y$ , then for each  $y \in G, x(y) \in f^{-1}(G)$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is a base for  $X$ , then  $x(y) \in B \subset f^{-1}(G)$  for some  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Thus  $f(B) \in \mathcal{F}_y$  and  $f(B) \subset G$ .

Therefore  $\mathcal{F}$  is a weak-base for  $Y$ .

**Necessity.** Suppose  $Y$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base. Let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_i : i \in N\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base for  $Y$ , where each  $\mathcal{P}_i = \{P_\alpha : \alpha \in A_i\}$  is a locally countable of subsets of  $Y$  which is closed under finite intersections and  $Y \in \mathcal{P}_i \subset \mathcal{P}_{i+1}$ . For each  $i \in N$ , endow  $A_i$  with discrete topology, then  $A_i$  is a metric space. Put

$$X = \left\{ \alpha = (\alpha_i) \in \prod_{i \in N} A_i : \{P_{\alpha_i} : i \in N\} \subset \mathcal{P} \right.$$

$\left. \text{forms a network at some point } x(\alpha) \in X \right\},$

and endow  $X$  with the subspace topology induced from the usual product topology of the family  $\{A_i : i \in N\}$  of metric spaces, then  $X$  is a metric space. Since  $Y$  is Hausdorff,  $x(\alpha)$  is unique in  $Y$  for each  $\alpha \in X$ . We define  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  by  $f(\alpha) = x(\alpha)$  for each  $\alpha \in X$ . Because  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base for  $Y$ , then  $f$  is surjective. For each  $\alpha = (\alpha_i) \in M, f(\alpha) = x(\alpha)$ . Suppose  $V$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x(\alpha)$  in  $Y$ , there exists  $n \in N$  such that  $x(\alpha) \in P_{\alpha_n} \subset V$ , set  $W = \{c \in X : \text{the } n\text{-th coordinate of } c \text{ is } \alpha_n\}$ , then  $W$  is an open neighbourhood of  $\alpha$  in  $X$ , and  $f(W) \subset P_{\alpha_n} \subset V$ . Hence  $f$  is continuous. We will show that  $f$  is a weakly open msss-mapping.

(i)  $f$  is a msss-mapping. For each  $x \in X$  and each  $i \in N$ , there exists an open neighbourhood  $V_i$  of  $x$  in  $X$  such that  $\{\alpha \in A_i : P_\alpha \cap V_i \neq \Phi\}$  is countable. Put

$$B_i = \{\alpha \in A_i : P_\alpha \cap V_i \neq \Phi\},$$

then  $p_i f^{-1}(V_i) \subset B_i$ . Thus  $p_i f^{-1}(V_i)$  is separable in  $A_i$ , Hence  $f$  is a msss-mapping.

(ii)  $f$  is a weakly open mapping

For each  $n \in N$  and  $\alpha_n \in A_n$ , put

$$V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \{\beta \in X : \text{for each } i \leq n, \text{ the } i\text{-th coordinate of } \beta \text{ is } \alpha_i\}.$$

It is easy to check that  $\{V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) : n \in N\}$  is a locally neighbourhood base of  $\alpha$  in  $X$ .

□

**Claim.**  $f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)) = \bigcap_{i \leq n} P_{\alpha_i}$  for each  $n \in N$ .

For each  $i \leq n$ ,  $f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)) \subset P_{\alpha_i}$ , then  $f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)) \subset \bigcap_{i \leq n} P_{\alpha_i}$ .

On the other hand. For each  $x \in \bigcap_{i \leq n} P_{\alpha_i}$ , there is  $\beta = (\beta_j) \in X$  such that  $f(\beta) = x$ . For each  $j \in N$ ,  $P_{\beta_j} \in \mathcal{P}_j \subset \mathcal{P}_{j+n}$ , then there is  $\alpha_{j+n} \in A_{j+n}$  such that  $P_{\alpha_{j+n}} = P_{\beta_j}$ . Set  $\alpha = (\alpha_j)$ , then  $\alpha \in V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and  $f(\alpha) = x$ . Thus  $\bigcap_{i \leq n} P_{\alpha_i} \subset f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n))$ . Hence  $f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)) = \bigcap_{i \leq n} P_{\alpha_i}$ .

Denote  $\mathcal{P}_y = \{P \in \mathcal{P} : y \in P\}$ , then  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{P_y : y \in Y\}$ .

For each  $y \in Y$ , by the idea  $\mathcal{P}$ , there exists  $(\alpha_i) \in \prod_{i \in N} A_i$  such that  $\{P_{\alpha_i} : i \in N\} \subset \mathcal{P}$  is a network of  $y$  in  $Y$ , then  $\alpha = (\alpha_i) \in f^{-1}(y)$ .

Suppose  $G$  is an open neighbourhood of  $\alpha$  in  $X$ , then there exists  $j \in N$  such that  $V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_j) \subset G$ . Thus  $f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_j)) \subset f(G)$ . By the Claim,  $f(V(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_j)) = \bigcap_{i \leq j} P_{\alpha_i}$ . Since  $P_y \subset \bigcap_{i \leq j} P_{\alpha_i}$  for some  $P_y \in \mathcal{P}_y$ . Hence  $P_y \subset f(G)$ .

Therefore there exists a weak-base  $\mathcal{P}$  for  $Y$  and  $\alpha \in f^{-1}(y)$  satisfying the condition (\*) of Definition 3 (1), and so  $f$  is a weakly open mapping.

**Theorem 5.** For a space  $X$ , (1)  $\iff$  (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) below hold.

- (1)  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base.
- (2)  $X$  is a  $g$ -first countable space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $cs$ -network.
- (3)  $X$  is a  $g$ -first countable space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network.

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is obvious.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Suppose  $X$  is a  $g$ -first countable space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $cs$ -network. Let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in N\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $cs$ -network for  $X$ , where each  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is locally countable in  $X$ . We will show that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$ . Suppose  $K \subset V$  with  $K$  non-empty compact and  $V$  open in  $X$ . For each  $n \in N$ , put

$$\mathcal{A}_n = \{P \in \mathcal{P}_n : P \cap K \neq \Phi \text{ and } P \subset V\},$$

then  $\mathcal{A}_n$  is countable, and so  $\mathcal{A} = \cup\{\mathcal{A}_n : n \in N\}$  is countable. Denote  $\mathcal{A} = \{P_i : i \in N\}$ , then  $K \subset \bigcup_{i \leq n} P_i$  for some  $n \in N$ . Otherwise,  $K \not\subset \bigcup_{i \leq n} P_i$  for each  $n \in N$ , so choose  $x_n \in K \setminus \bigcup_{i \leq n} P_i$ . Because  $\{P \cap K : P \in \mathcal{P}\}$  is a countable  $cs$ -network for

a subspace  $K$  and a compact space with a countable network is metrizable, then  $K$  is a compact metrizable space. Thus  $\{x_n\}$  has a convergent subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$ , where  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x$ . Obviously  $x \in K$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $cs$ -network for  $X$ , then there exist  $m \in N$  and  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $\{x_{n_k} : k \geq m\} \cup \{x\} \subset P \subset V$ . Now,  $P = P_j$  for some  $j \in N$ . Take  $l \geq m$  such that  $n_l \geq j$ , then  $x_{n_l} \in P_j$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore, (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) holds.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose  $X$  is a  $g$ -first countable space with  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $cs$ -network. Let  $\mathcal{P} = \cup\{\mathcal{P}_m : m \in N\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $cs$ -network for  $X$ , where each  $\mathcal{P}_m$  is locally countable in  $X$  which is closed under finite intersections

and  $X \in \mathcal{P}_m \subset \mathcal{P}_{m+1}$ , and for each  $x \in X$ , let  $\{B(n, x) : n \in N\}$  be a decreasing weak neighbourhood sequence of  $x$  in  $X$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_{m,x} &= \{P \in \mathcal{P}_m : B(n, x) \subset P \text{ for some } n \in N\}, \\ \mathcal{F}_x &= \cup\{\mathcal{F}_{m,x} : m \in N\} \\ \mathcal{F}_m &= \cup\{\mathcal{F}_{m,x} : x \in X\} \\ \mathcal{F} &= \cup\{\mathcal{F}_x : x \in X\}\end{aligned}$$

we will show that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base for  $X$ .

It is easy to check that  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies the condition (1), (2) of Definition 1.

Suppose  $G$  be an open subset of  $X$ , then for each  $x \in G$ , there exists  $P \in \mathcal{F}_x$  with  $P \subset G$ . Otherwise, denote  $\{P \in \mathcal{P} : x \in P \subset G\} = \{P(m, x) : m \in N\}$ . Then  $B(n, x) \not\subset P(m, x)$  for each  $n, m \in N$ , so choose  $x_{n,m} \in B(n, x) \setminus P(m, x)$ . For  $n \geq m$ , let  $x_{n,m} = y_k$ , where  $k = m + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ . The the sequence  $\{y_k : k \in N\}$  converges to the point  $x$ . Thus, there exist  $m, i \in N$  such that  $\{y_k : k \geq i\} \cup \{x\} \subset P(m, x) \subset G$  because  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cs*-network for  $X$ . Take  $j \geq i$  with  $y_j = x_{n,m}$  for some  $n \geq m$ . Then  $x_{n,m} \in P(m, x)$ . This is a contradiction. On the other hand. If  $G \subset X$  satisfies that for each  $x \in G$  there exists  $P \in \mathcal{F}_x$  with  $P \subset G$ , then  $B(n, x) \subset G$  for some  $n \in N$ . Thus  $G$  is open in  $X$ .

Hence  $\mathcal{F}$  is a weak-base for  $X$ .

For each  $m \in N$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_m \subset \mathcal{P}_m$ , then  $\mathcal{F}_m$  is locally countable in  $X$ . Thus  $\mathcal{F} = \cup\{\mathcal{F}_m : m \in N\}$  is  $\sigma$ -locally countable in  $X$ . Therefore, (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) holds.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.** *A paracompact space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base is  $g$ -metrizable.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $X$  is a paracompact space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable weak-base. By Theorem 5,  $X$  is a  $g$ -first countable space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network. Since a paracompact space with a  $\sigma$ -locally countable  $k$ -network is an  $\aleph$ -space ([9, Lemma 1]), then  $X$  is an  $\aleph$ -space. Thus  $X$  is  $g$ -metrizable by Theorem 2.4 in [6].  $\square$

In conclusion of this paper, we pose the following question in view of Theorem 5.

**Question 7.** Does (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) in Theorem 6 hold?

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