



## ON NON-NORMALITY POINTS IN ČECH-STONE REMAINDERS OF METRIZABLE CROWDED SPACES

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $X$  be a realcompact locally compact metrizable crowded space and  $p \in X^*$ . If  $p$  is not a  $P$ -point in  $X^*$ , then  $X^* \setminus \{p\}$  is not normal.

What open subsets of compact spaces are normal?

In the theory of Čech-Stone compactification  $\beta X$ , this common question has usually the following form:

Is  $\beta X \setminus \{p\}$  (or  $X^* \setminus \{p\}$ ) not normal for any point  $p$  of Čech-Stone remainder  $X^* = \beta X - X$ ?

If so, then  $p$  is called a *non-normality point* of  $\beta X$  ( $X^*$ ).

As is well known,  $\omega_1 = \beta\omega_1 \setminus \{\omega_1\}$  is normal.

What about realcompact spaces? Despite strained efforts, for  $X = \omega$  these questions have been solved only by assuming either additional axioms, like CH [9], [10], or some special properties of  $p$ . If either  $p$  is an accumulation point of some countable discrete subset of  $\omega^*$  [1], or there is a discrete set  $D$  in  $\omega^*$  such that  $|D| = \omega_1$  and  $|D \setminus O| \leq \omega$  for any neighborhood  $O$  of  $p$  (Eric K. van Douwen, unpublished), then  $\omega^* \setminus \{p\}$  is not normal in ZFC. Non-normality points of another type are *strong  $\mathbb{R}$ -points* [3], having a rather technical definition and the following property: There is

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open  $\sigma$ -compact  $U \subset \omega^* \setminus \{p\}$  such that  $p \in [U]$ , but  $p \notin [V]$  for any  $V \subset U$  with  $|V| < C$ .

Is  $\beta X \setminus \{p\}$  non-normal whenever  $X$  is realcompact and crowded and  $p \in X^*$ ? Probably, but we unaware of any counterexample. First, an affirmative answer was obtained by the author for the real line  $\mathbb{R}$  [4]. Locally compact Lindelöf separable crowded spaces with  $\pi w(X) \leq \omega_1$ , assuming that  $p$  is remote, and some other spaces as well, were considered in [5], [6], [7], and [14]. In particular, the following result was obtained independently in [8] and [15].

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $X$  be a metrizable crowded space. Then any point  $p \in X^*$  is a butterfly-point in  $\beta X$ . Hence,  $\beta X - \{p\}$  is not normal.*

Jun Terasawa [14], [15] asked whether  $X^* \setminus \{p\}$  is non-normal for metrizable crowded locally compact spaces. We give a partial answer to this question, which remains open for  $P$ -points.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $X$  be a metrizable crowded space and  $p \in X^*$ . Let the following hold for some zero-set  $Z$  in  $\beta X$  and a set  $K \subset X^* \setminus Z$ :  $p \in [K]_{\beta X} \setminus K \subset Z \subset X^*$ . Then  $X^* \setminus \{p\}$  is not normal.*

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $X$  be a realcompact locally compact metrizable crowded space and  $p \in X^*$ . If  $p$  is not a  $P$ -point in  $X^*$ , then  $X^* \setminus \{p\}$  is not normal.*

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the real line and  $p \in \mathbb{R}^*$ . If  $p$  is not a  $P$ -point in  $\mathbb{R}^*$ , then  $\mathbb{R}^* \setminus \{p\}$  is not normal.*

Recall that a point  $p$  is called a  $P$ -point in  $X$  if any intersection of countably many neighborhoods of  $p$  in  $X$  contains a neighborhood of  $p$ . As is well known,  $P$ -points do exist in  $\omega^*$  under some additional axioms, like CH [11], but not in ZFC [13]. Moreover, there are  $P$ -points in  $\omega^*$  if and only if there are  $P$ -points in  $X^*$  for a variety of spaces, e.g.,  $X$  is any locally compact nonpseudocompact space [2]. A point  $p$  is called a  $b$ -point or a butterfly-point in  $X$  if  $\{p\} = [A] \cap [B]$  for some  $A, B \subset X \setminus \{p\}$  [12]. We say that  $p \in X^*$  is a  $b$ -point in  $\beta X$  if  $\{p\} = [A]_{\beta X} \cap [B]_{\beta X}$  for some  $A, B \subset X^* \setminus \{p\}$  with  $[A \cup B]_{\beta X} \subset X^*$ .

## 0.1. PROOFS.

We follow [8] in notations, terminology, and some facts, including the proofs for completeness (lemmas 8 and 9). From now on a space  $X$  is non-compact, metrizable, and crowded; i.e.,  $X$  has no isolated points. By  $Ox \subset X$ , we denote any open neighborhood of  $x$  in  $X$  by  $[]$  and  $[]_{\beta X}$  - the closure operators in  $X$  and  $\beta X$ , respectively,  $3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . If  $U \subset X$  is open, then  $U^c = \beta X \setminus [X \setminus U]_{\beta X}$  is the maximal open set in  $\beta X$ , whose trace on  $X$  is  $U$ . A space  $X$  is realcompact if, for any point  $p \in X^*$ ,  $p \in Z \subset X^*$  for some zero-set  $Z$  in  $\beta X$ .

Let  $\pi$  and  $\sigma$  be arbitrary families. A set  $U \in \pi$  is called a *maximal member* of  $\pi$  if  $U$  is not a proper subset of any other member of  $\pi$ . If members of  $\pi$  are mutually disjoint (with closure), then  $\pi$  is called (*strongly*) *cellular*. We write  $\pi \succeq \sigma$  ( $\pi \succ \sigma$ ) if  $U \in \pi$  is a (proper) subset of  $V \in \sigma$  whenever  $U \cap V \neq \emptyset$ . By  $\exp \pi$ , we denote all subfamilies  $\{F : F \subset \pi\}$  of  $\pi$ , and  $f_\sigma^\pi$  - the map from  $\exp \pi$  to  $\exp \sigma$  - is defined as  $f_\sigma^\pi F = \{V \in \sigma : \bigcup F \cap V \neq \emptyset\}$  for every  $F \in \exp \pi$ .

A maximal cellular locally finite family of open sets is called *nice*. As introduced in [7], the *cellular refinement*

$$Cel(\pi) = \left\{ \bigcap \phi - \left[ \bigcup (\pi - \phi) \right]_{\beta X} : \phi \subset \pi \right\}$$

of  $\pi$  is nice, if  $\pi$  is an open locally finite cover of  $X$  (Lemma 6).

Let  $\pi$  and  $\sigma$  be nice families, and  $\mathcal{F} \subset \exp \pi$ . For a point  $p \in X^*$ , we say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $p$ -filter on  $\pi$  if  $p \in [\bigcup (F_0 \cap \dots \cap F_n)]_{\beta X}$  for any finite subcollection  $\{F_0, \dots, F_n\} \subset \mathcal{F}$ . If so, then we denote  $\bigcap \mathcal{F}^* = \bigcap \{[\bigcup F]_{\beta X} : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$ . We write  $\pi \prec_{\mathcal{F}} \sigma$  if  $F \prec \sigma$  for some  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ . The image  $f_\sigma^\pi \mathcal{F} = \{f_\sigma^\pi F : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $p$ -filter on  $\sigma$ . If  $\mathcal{F}$  is the union of any increasing sequence of  $p$ -filters, then  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $p$ -filter as well. So, by the Kuratowski-Zorn lemma, every  $p$ -filter  $\mathcal{F}$  is contained in some  $p$ -ultrafilter  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}$  on  $\pi$ , that is,  $\hat{\mathcal{F}} = \mathcal{G}$  whenever  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $p$ -filter and  $\hat{\mathcal{F}} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ . If  $p$  is not a remote point, distinct  $p$ -ultrafilters may exist. But each of them contains  $\pi(Op) = \{U \in \pi : U \cap Op \neq \emptyset\}$  for any neighborhood  $Op \subset \beta X$ .

We construct a sequence  $\{\mathcal{P}_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  of open locally finite covers  $\mathcal{P}_k$  of  $X$  so that  $\text{diam } U \leq \frac{1}{k}$  for any  $U \in \mathcal{P}_k$  and any two different members of the family  $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{P}_k$  are different sets. Then it is well known and easy to see that the family of maximal members of

any cover  $\pi \subset \mathcal{P}$  of  $X$  is a locally finite subcover of  $X$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a regular base as defined by A. V. Arhangel'skii, i.e., for any point  $x \in X$  and, for any of its neighborhood  $O \subset X$ , there is another neighborhood  $\hat{O} \subset X$  of  $x$  with the following properties:  $\hat{O} \subset O$  and at most finitely many members of  $\mathcal{P}$  meet both  $\hat{O}$  and  $X \setminus O$  simultaneously.

By induction, we define the families of non-empty open sets  $\mathcal{D}_k$  and  $\mathcal{W}_k \subset \mathcal{P}$  for all  $k \in N$  as

$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \text{Cel}(\mathcal{P}_1).$$

If a nice family  $\mathcal{D}_k = \{U\}$  has been constructed, then

$$\mathcal{W}_k = \{U(\nu) : U \in \mathcal{D}_k \text{ and } \nu \in 3\}$$

is strongly cellular with  $[U(\nu)] \subset U$  for any of its members and

$$\mathcal{D}_{k+1} = \text{Cel}(\mathcal{D}_k \cup \mathcal{W}_k \cup \mathcal{P}_{k+1}).$$

Then  $\mathcal{D}_k \prec \mathcal{D}_{k+1}$  for all  $k \in N$ . For any  $U \in \mathcal{P}$ , there is a unique  $k_0 \in N$  with  $U \in \mathcal{P}_{k_0}$ . We put

$$\hat{U} = \{V \in \mathcal{D}_{k_0} : V \subset U\} = \{V \in \mathcal{D}_{k_0} : V \cap U \neq \emptyset\}.$$

Then  $\hat{U}$  is locally finite cellular and everywhere dense in  $U$ .

For any locally finite cover  $\pi \subset \mathcal{P}$  of  $X$ , we denote by  $\sigma(\pi)$  all maximal members of the family  $\bigcup\{\hat{U} : U \in \pi\}$ . Then  $\sigma(\pi)$  is nice. Define

$$\Sigma = \{\sigma(\pi) : \pi \subset \mathcal{P} \text{ is a locally finite cover of } X\}$$

and put  $\sigma(\nu) = \{U(\nu) : U \in \sigma\}$  for any  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and  $\nu \in 3$ . Notice that  $\{[\bigcup\sigma(\nu)]_{\beta X} : \nu \in 3\}$  is cellular.

With the notations of Theorem 2, for each  $n \in \omega$ , we choose open  $O_n \subset \beta X$  so that  $[O_{n+1}]_{\beta X} \subset O_n$  and  $Z = \bigcap_{n \in \omega} O_n$ . Denote  $\hat{O}_n = [O_n]_{\beta X} \setminus O_{n+1}$ . We say that a family  $\mathcal{R} = \{U\}$  is  $Z$ -attracted if  $\{U \in \mathcal{R} : U \not\subset O_n\}$  is finite for all  $n \in \omega$ . Obviously, any finite union of  $Z$ -attracted families is  $Z$ -attracted.

Define  $\pi_0$  to be all maximal members of the cover

$$\{U \in \mathcal{P} : [U]_{\beta X} \cap [K]_{\beta X} = \emptyset \text{ and } \forall n \in \omega (U \cap \hat{O}_{n+1} \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow U \subset O_n \setminus [O_{n+3}]_{\beta X})\}.$$

Let  $T = X^* \setminus Z \setminus \bigcup\{U^\varepsilon : U \in \pi_0\}$  and  $Y = X \cup T$ .

**Proposition 5.** *Let  $X$  be a normal space and let  $Z$  be a non-empty closed  $G_\delta$ -subset of  $\beta X$  contained in  $X^*$ . If  $T$  is a closed subset of  $\beta X \setminus Z$  contained in  $X^*$ , then the subspace  $X \cup T$  is normal and  $[T]_{\beta X} = \beta T$ . In particular, if  $p \in [T]_{\beta X} \setminus T$  and  $p$  is a  $b$ -point of  $[T]_{\beta X}$ , then  $p$  is a non-normality point of  $X^*$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $A$  and  $B$  be any closed disjoint subsets of  $X \cup T$ . Since  $X$  is normal,  $A \cap X$  and  $B \cap X$  have disjoint open neighborhoods in  $\beta X$ . Since  $T$  is  $\sigma$ -compact,  $\hat{A} = A \cap T$  and  $B \cap T$  have disjoint open neighborhoods in  $\beta X$ .

Now it is enough to separate  $\hat{A}$  and  $B \cap X$ . For every point  $x \in \hat{A}$ , we choose a neighborhood  $Ox \subset \beta X$  so that  $x \in \hat{A} \cap \hat{O}_{n+1}$  implies  $[Ox]_{\beta X} \subset O_n \setminus [B]_{\beta X}$  for each  $n \in \omega$ . Since every  $\hat{A} \cap \hat{O}_{n+1}$  is compact, there is a  $Z$ -attracted family  $\mathcal{R} \subset \{Ox : x \in \hat{A}\}$  with  $\hat{A} \subset \bigcup \mathcal{R}$ . But then  $\hat{\mathcal{R}} = \{O \cap X : O \in \mathcal{R}\}$  is locally finite in  $X$ . So  $\hat{A} \subset (\bigcup \hat{\mathcal{R}})^\epsilon$  and  $B \cap X \cap [\bigcup \hat{\mathcal{R}}]_{\beta X} = \emptyset$ .

Let  $f : T \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be any continuous map. Since  $T$  is closed in normal  $Y = X \cup T$ ,  $f \subset g$  for some continuous map  $g : Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$ . Since  $X \subset Y \subset \beta X$ ,  $g \subset h$  for some continuous map  $h : \beta X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ . Then its restriction  $\hat{f} = h|_{[T]_{\beta X}}$  is a continuous extension of  $f$  over  $[T]_{\beta X}$ . So  $[T]_{\beta X}$  is a Čech-Stone compactification of  $T$  as well as  $\hat{T} = [T]_{\beta X} \setminus \{p\}$ . If  $\{p\} = [A]_{\beta X} \cap [B]_{\beta X}$  for some closed disjoint  $A, B \subset \hat{T}$ , then  $\hat{T}$  is non-normal. Since  $\hat{T}$  is closed in  $X^* \setminus \{p\}$ , our proof is complete.  $\square$

Our task from now on is to construct  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Lemma 6.** *If  $\pi$  is an open locally finite cover of  $X$ , then  $\text{Cel}(\pi)$  is nice.*

*Proof:* If  $\varphi \subset \pi$  has non-empty intersection, then  $\varphi$  is finite. So  $\cap \varphi \setminus [\bigcup (\pi \setminus \varphi)]$  is open.

If  $U \in \varphi \setminus \hat{\varphi}$ , then  $\bigcap \varphi \subset U$  and  $\bigcap \hat{\varphi} \cap U = \emptyset$ .

If  $\psi = \{U \in \pi : U \cap Ox \neq \emptyset\}$  is finite for some  $Ox \subset X$ , then  $\{\varphi \subset \pi : \bigcap \varphi \cap Ox \neq \emptyset\} \subset \exp \psi$  is finite as well.

Let  $x \notin [U] \setminus U$  for any  $U \in \pi$  and  $\varphi = \{U \in \pi : x \in U\}$ . Then  $x \in \bigcap \varphi \setminus [\bigcup (\pi \setminus \varphi)]$  and  $\text{Cel}(\pi)$  is maximal.  $\square$

**Lemma 7.** *There is a sequence  $\{\sigma_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda\} \subset \Sigma$  and  $p$ -ultrafilters  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha$  on  $\sigma_\alpha$  with the following properties for all  $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$  and  $f_\beta^\alpha = f_{\sigma_\beta}^{\sigma_\alpha}$ :*

- (1)  $\bigcap \mathcal{F}_0 \subset Z$ ;
- (2)  $\sigma_\alpha \prec_{\mathcal{F}_\alpha} \sigma_\beta$ ;
- (3)  $f_\beta^\alpha \mathcal{F}_\alpha \subset \mathcal{F}_\beta$ ;
- (4) for any  $\sigma \in \Sigma \setminus \{\sigma_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda\}$ , there is  $\alpha < \lambda$  with  $\neg(\sigma_\alpha \prec_{\mathcal{F}_\alpha} \sigma)$ .

*Proof:* Let  $\mathcal{F}_0$  be any  $p$ -ultrafilter on  $\sigma_0 = \sigma(\pi_0)$ . Then, for each  $n \in \omega$ ,  $\sigma_0(O_n) \in \mathcal{F}_0$  and  $\bigcap \mathcal{F}_0^* \subset [\bigcup \sigma_0(O_{n+1})]_{\beta X} \subset [O_n]_{\beta X}$ .

Assume that a sequence  $\{\sigma_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda\} \subset \Sigma$  and  $p$ -ultrafilters  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha$  on  $\sigma_\alpha$  have been constructed for some ordinal  $\lambda$  so that conditions (1)–(3) hold. If some  $\sigma \in \Sigma \setminus \{\sigma_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda\}$  satisfies the condition  $\sigma_\alpha \prec_{\mathcal{F}_\alpha} \sigma$  for all  $\alpha < \lambda$ , then we put  $\sigma_\lambda = \sigma$  and embed the  $p$ -filter  $\bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} f_\lambda^\alpha \mathcal{F}_\alpha$  into some  $p$ -ultrafilter  $\mathcal{F}_\lambda$  on  $\sigma_\lambda$ . Otherwise, our construction is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 8.** *If  $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$ , then  $\bigcap \mathcal{F}_\beta^* \subset \bigcap \mathcal{F}_\alpha^*$ .*

*Proof:* There is  $F \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha$  with  $F \prec \sigma_\beta$  by (2). For any  $G \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha$ , we have  $G \cap F \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha$  and  $G \cap F \prec \sigma_\beta$ . But then

$$\bigcap \mathcal{F}_\beta^* \subset [\bigcup f_\beta^\alpha (G \cap F)]_{\beta X} \subset [\bigcup (G \cap F)]_{\beta X} \subset [G]_{\beta X}. \quad \square$$

**Lemma 9.** *For any neighborhood  $O$  of  $p$  in  $\beta X$ , there is  $\alpha < \lambda$  with  $\bigcap \mathcal{F}_\alpha^* \subset O$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $[\hat{O}]_{\beta X} \subset O$  for a neighborhood  $\hat{O}$  of  $p$  and let  $\pi$  be all maximal members of the cover  $\{U \in \mathcal{P} : U \cap \hat{O} \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow U \subset O\}$ . For  $\sigma = \sigma(\pi)$ , there is  $\alpha < \lambda$  with  $\neg(\sigma_\alpha \prec_{\mathcal{F}_\alpha} \sigma)$  by (2) or (4). Since  $\sigma_\alpha(\hat{O}) \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha$ ,  $F = \{V \in \sigma_\alpha(\hat{O}) : V \subseteq U \text{ for some } U \in \sigma\}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha$  as well. So

$$\bigcap \mathcal{F}_\alpha^* \subset [\bigcup F]_{\beta X} \subset [\bigcup \sigma(\hat{O})]_{\beta X} \subset [O]_{\beta X}. \quad \square$$

**Lemma 10.** *If  $\mathcal{R} \subset \pi_0$  is  $Z$ -attracted, then  $p \notin [\bigcup \mathcal{R}]_{\beta X}$ .*

*Proof:* By our construction,  $K$  and  $[\bigcup \mathcal{R}]_Y$  are closed in normal  $Y = X \cup T$  disjoint sets and  $p \in [K]_{\beta X}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 11.** *For any  $\alpha < \lambda$  and  $\nu \in 3$ ,*

$$\bigcap_{\beta \in \lambda - \alpha} [\bigcup \sigma_\beta(\nu)]_{\beta X} \cap (\bigcap \mathcal{F}_\alpha^*) \setminus (\bigcup \{(\bigcup \mathcal{R})^\varepsilon : \mathcal{R} \subset \pi_0 \text{ is } Z\text{-attracted}\})$$

*is non-empty.*

*Proof:* For any finite sequence  $\alpha < \beta_0 < \dots < \beta_n < \lambda$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha$  and  $Z$ -attracted  $\mathcal{R} \subset \pi_0$ , we shall show by induction that

$$L = \bigcap_{i \leq n} (\bigcup \sigma_{\beta_i}(\nu)) \cap (\bigcup F) \setminus (\bigcup \mathcal{R})$$

is non-empty.

Since  $\sigma(\pi_0) \preceq_{\mathcal{F}_0} \sigma_\alpha \prec_{\mathcal{F}_\alpha} \sigma_{\beta_0}$ , we may assume  $\mathcal{R} \preceq F \prec \sigma_{\beta_0}$ . Since  $\sigma_{\beta_i} \prec_{\mathcal{F}_{\beta_i}} \sigma_{\beta_{i+1}}$  for each  $i < n$ ,  $G_i \prec \sigma_{\beta_{i+1}}$  for some  $G_i \in \mathcal{F}_{\beta_i}$ . Define  $F_0 = f_{\beta_0}^\alpha F \cap G_0$  and  $F_{i+1} = f_{\beta_{i+1}}^{\beta_i} F_i \cap G_{i+1}$ . Then  $F_i \in \mathcal{F}_{\beta_i}$ ,  $F_i \prec F_{i+1}$ , and  $\bigcup F_i \supseteq \bigcup F_{i+1}$ . For  $F_n \in \mathcal{F}_{\beta_n}$ , we denote

$$\hat{F} = \{U \in F : V \subset U \text{ for some } V \in F_n\}.$$

Then  $\bigcup \hat{F} \supseteq \bigcup F_n$  implies  $\hat{F} \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha$  and  $p \in [\bigcup \hat{F}]_{\beta_X}$ . Since  $\mathcal{R} \preceq \hat{F}$  and  $p \notin [\bigcup \mathcal{R}]_{\beta_X}$  by Lemma 10,  $\bigcup \mathcal{R} \cap U = \emptyset$  for some  $U \in \hat{F}$ . There are pairwise different  $U_{\beta_i} \in F_i$  with

$$U_{\beta_n} \subset \dots \subset U_{\beta_1} \subset U_{\beta_0} \subset U \subset X \setminus \bigcup \mathcal{R}.$$

Consider the initial segment  $\{U_{\beta_1}, \dots, U_{\beta_n}\}$ . For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , we can replace  $U_{\beta_i} \in \sigma_{\beta_i}$  with the same or another member  $U_{\beta_i}^0 \in \sigma_{\beta_i}$  of the same  $\sigma_{\beta_i}$  so that

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^n U_{\beta_i}^0 \cap U_{\beta_0}(\nu) \neq \emptyset$$

because  $\sigma_{\beta_i}$  is nice. By our construction, since  $U_{\beta_i}$  is a proper subset of  $U_{\beta_0}$ ,  $U_{\beta_i}^0 \subset U_{\beta_0}(\nu)$ . Possibly,  $\{U_{\beta_1}^0, \dots, U_{\beta_n}^0\}$  enjoys a new embedded order, directed by subscript  $\beta^0$  and having some coinciding sets:

$$U_{\beta_n^0}^0 \subset \dots \subset U_{\beta_{k+1}^0}^0 \subset U_{\beta_k^0}^0 = \dots =$$

$$U_{\beta_1^0}^0 \subset U_{\beta_0}(\nu) \subset U_{\beta_0} \subset U \subset X \setminus \bigcup \mathcal{R}.$$

Let  $U_{\beta_1^0}^0$  be a maximal member of  $\{U_{\beta_1^0}^0, \dots, U_{\beta_n^0}^0\}$  and let  $U_{\beta_{k+1}^0}^0$  be a maximal proper subset of  $U_{\beta_1^0}^0$ . Consider  $\{U_{\beta_{k+1}^0}^0, \dots, U_{\beta_n^0}^0\}$ . For  $i = k+1, \dots, n$ , we replace  $U_{\beta_i^0}^0 \in \sigma_{\beta_i^0}$  with the same or another

member  $U_{\beta_i^0}^1 \in \sigma_{\beta_i^0}$  of the same  $\sigma_{\beta_i^0}$  so that

$$\bigcap_{i=k+1}^n U_{\beta_i^0}^1 \cap U_{\beta_1^0}^0(\nu) \neq \emptyset.$$

Possibly,  $\{U_{\beta_{k+1}^0}^1, \dots, U_{\beta_n^0}^1\}$  enjoys a new embedded order, directed by subscript  $\beta^1$ :

$$U_{\beta_n^1}^1 \subset \dots \subset U_{\beta_{k_0+1}^1}^1 \subset U_{\beta_{k_0}^1}^1 = \dots = U_{\beta_{k+1}^1}^1 \subset U_{\beta_k^0}^0(\nu) \subset U_{\beta_k^0}^0 = \dots = U_{\beta_1^0}^0 \dots$$

Consider  $\{U_{\beta_{k_0+1}^1}^1, \dots, U_{\beta_n^1}^1\}$ . For  $i = k_0 + 1, \dots, n$ , we replace  $U_{\beta_i^1}^1 \in \sigma_{\beta_i^1}$  with the same or another  $U_{\beta_i^1}^2 \in \sigma_{\beta_i^1}$  so that

$$\bigcap_{i=k_0+1}^n U_{\beta_i^1}^2 \cap U_{\beta_{k+1}^1}^1(\nu) \neq \emptyset$$

and obtain

$$U_{\beta_n^2}^2 \subset \dots \subset U_{\beta_{k_1+1}^2}^2 \subset U_{\beta_{k_1}^2}^2 = \dots = U_{\beta_{k_0+1}^2}^2 \subset U_{\beta_{k_0}^1}^1(\nu) \subset U_{\beta_{k_0}^1}^1 = \dots = U_{\beta_{k+1}^1}^1 \dots$$

and so on until, for some  $m \leq n$ , the initial segment is empty, i.e.,  $k_m = n$ . Then  $U_{\sigma_{\beta_{k_m}^{m+1}}}^{m+1}(\nu) \subset L$  is not empty and our proof is complete.  $\square$

Define from now on  $p_\alpha(\nu)$  to be any point of the set in Lemma 11. Then  $p_\alpha(\nu) \in Z$  by lemmas 8 and 9.

**Lemma 12.** *If  $q \in Z$  and  $q \notin (\bigcup \mathcal{R})^\varepsilon$  for any  $Z$ -attracted  $\mathcal{R} \subset \pi_0$ , then  $q \in [T]_{\beta X}$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $[Oq]_{\beta X} \cap T = \emptyset$  for some neighborhood  $Oq \subset \beta X$ . Then, by our construction,

$$[Oq]_{\beta X} \setminus Z \subset \bigcup \{U^\varepsilon : U \in \pi_0\}.$$

Since every  $K_n = [Oq]_{\beta X} \cap \hat{O}_n$  is compact,  $K_n \subset (\bigcup \pi_{0n})^\varepsilon$  for some finite  $\pi_{0n} \subset \{U \in \pi_0 : U^\varepsilon \cap K_n \neq \emptyset\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{R} = \bigcup_{n \in \omega} \pi_{0n}$  is  $Z$ -attracted and  $q \in (\bigcup \mathcal{R})^\varepsilon$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 13.** *The point  $p$  is a butterfly-point in  $[T]_{\beta X}$ .*



*Proof:* Consider  $F_\nu = \{p_\alpha(\nu) : \alpha < \lambda\}$  for each  $\nu \in 3$ . By the previous lemma,  $F_\nu \subset [T]_{\beta X}$ .

If  $\gamma < \lambda$ , then  $\{p_\alpha(\nu) : \alpha < \gamma\} \subset [\bigcup \sigma_\gamma(\nu)]_{\beta X}$ . As the last sets are disjoint for  $\nu \in 3$ , then  $\{F_\nu : \nu \in 3\}$  is cellular. So  $p$  belongs to  $F_\nu$  for no more than one unique  $F_\nu$ .

For any neighborhood  $Op \subset \beta X$ , there is  $\gamma < \lambda$  with  $\bigcap \mathcal{F}_\gamma^* \subset Op$  by Lemma 9. For all  $\alpha \in \lambda \setminus \gamma$ , we have  $p_\alpha(\nu) \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}_\alpha^* \subset \bigcap \mathcal{F}_\gamma^* \subset Op$  by Lemma 8. So  $\{p_\alpha(\nu) : \alpha \in \lambda - \gamma\} \subset Op$ . As  $\{p_\alpha(\nu) : \alpha < \gamma\} \subset [\bigcup \sigma_\gamma(\nu)]_{\beta X}$ , the sets  $[F_\nu \setminus Op]_{\beta X}$  are disjoint for  $\nu \in 3$ . But then  $[F_\nu]_{\beta X} \setminus \{p\}$  are mutually disjoint and at least two of them ensure that  $p$  is a  $b$ -point in  $\beta X$ .

By Proposition 5, our proof is complete.  $\square$

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