

A SINGULAR SPACE RELATED TO THE POINT-OPEN GAME

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ABSTRACT. The authors construct a completely regular space X_0 such that Player I has a winning strategy in the point-open game $G(X_0)$, but X_0 has no σ -closure-preserving cover by \mathbf{C} -scattered closed sets.

The purpose of this paper is to present the following.

EXAMPLE. A completely regular space X_0 such that Player I has a winning strategy in the point-open game $G(X_0)$, but X_0 has no σ -closure-preserving cover by \mathbf{C} -scattered closed sets.

Given a space X , the point-open game $G(X)$ is defined as follows: at move n , Player I chooses a point x_n in X , and then Player II chooses an open neighborhood U_n of x_n . Player I wins the play $(x_0, U_0, x_1, U_1, \dots)$ of $G(X)$ if $\bigcup\{U_n : n < \omega\} = X$ (see **[G, T₂]**). If instead of points x_n Player I chooses compact sets C_n , and if Player I has a winning strategy in the resulting game, then X is called compact-like (see **[T₂, T₃]**). If a point x in a space X has an open neighborhood U such that \bar{U} is compact, then x is called a point of local compactness of X . A space X such that each nonempty closed subspace has a point of local compactness is called \mathbf{C} -scattered **[T₁]**. A family \mathcal{F} of subsets of X with the property that for any subfamily of \mathcal{F} , the closure and the sum commute, is called closure-preserving **[M]**. A countable union of closure-preserving families is called σ -closure-preserving.

The space X_0 in the above example is a modification of the space constructed by Nogura **[N]**; however, it improves his result in several aspects. Nogura showed, under the continuum hypotheses, that a compact-like space need not have a countable cover by \mathbf{C} -scattered closed subsets, answering a question of Telgársky **[T₂, T₃]**. Here, (1) the continuum hypothesis is eliminated, (2) the game condition involving Player I is substantially strengthened, and (3) the countable union is generalized to a σ -closure-preserving union.

Since each compact space is \mathbf{C} -scattered, it follows that X_0 has no σ -closure-preserving cover by compact sets. In contrast, a hereditarily metacompact compact-like space does have a closure-preserving cover by compact sets (see **[JST]**). Moreover, each compact-like space is the union of countably many \mathbf{C} -scattered subsets (see **[T₃]**), where the \mathbf{C} -scattered subsets cannot be closed in general (it follows from **[N]** and also from the above example).

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CONSTRUCTION. Let $T = \{t_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$ be a subset of the closed unit interval $[0, 1]$, where $t_\alpha \neq t_\beta$ for $\alpha \neq \beta$. Let $T_0 = T \times \{\omega_1\}$ and

$$X = \{(t_\alpha, \beta) : \alpha < \beta < \omega_1\} \cup T_0.$$

The space X is a subspace of $[0, 1] \times [0, \omega_1]$, where $[0, \omega_1]$ has the standard interval topology (that is, the topology generated by left-open right-closed intervals). The space X_0 is obtained from X by contracting the set T_0 into the singleton $\{x_0\}$.

CLAIM 1. Player I has a winning strategy in $G(X_0)$.

PROOF. Observe that the complement of any neighborhood of x_0 in X_0 is countable. Therefore, if the first move of Player I is x_0 , he can easily take care of the remaining countable set.

For a subset H of X_0 and a $t \in T$ define

$$H_t = \{\alpha < \omega_1 : (t, \alpha) \in H\}.$$

CLAIM 2. If H is closed in X_0 , then H_t is closed in $[0, \omega_1)$.

This is immediate, since the map which takes (t, α) to α is a homeomorphism between a subspace of X_0 and a closed subspace of $[0, \omega_1)$.

For a subset H of X_0 define

$$T_H = \{t \in T : H_t \text{ is uncountable}\}.$$

CLAIM 3. If H is closed in X_0 , then T_H is closed in T .

PROOF. Let $t = \lim t(n)$, where $t \in T$ and $t(n) \in T_H$ for each $n < \omega$. Then each $H_{t(n)}$ is uncountable and closed in $[0, \omega_1)$, and thus $E = \bigcap \{H_{t(n)} : n < \omega\}$ is also uncountable and closed in $[0, \omega_1)$. Take an $\alpha < \omega_1$ such that $t_\alpha = t$. Then $E \cap (\alpha, \omega_1) \subset H_t$, and hence $t \in T_H$.

CLAIM 4. If \mathcal{H} is a σ -closure-preserving family of closed subsets of X_0 , then $\bigcup \{T_H : H \in \mathcal{H}\} = T_{\bigcup \mathcal{H}}$.

PROOF. Let $t \in T_{\bigcup \mathcal{H}}$. Then $(\bigcup \mathcal{H})_t$ is uncountable and is covered by the σ -closure-preserving closed family $\{H_t : H \in \mathcal{H}\}$. By Corollary 1 of Potoczny and Junnila [PJ], if each H_t were compact, then $(\bigcup \mathcal{H})_t$ would be the countable union of metacompact closed subsets of $[0, \omega_1)$. Since each metacompact closed subset of $[0, \omega_1)$ is countable, there is an $H \in \mathcal{H}$ such that H_t is not compact. Hence $t \in T_H$.

From Claims 3 and 4 we get

CLAIM 5. If \mathcal{H} is a σ -closure-preserving closed cover of X_0 , then $\{T_H : H \in \mathcal{H}\}$ is a σ -closure-preserving closed cover of T .

Let \mathcal{H} be a σ -closure-preserving closed cover of X_0 . We shall show in Claim 7 that some element of \mathcal{H} is not **C**-scattered.

CLAIM 6. T_H is uncountable for some $H \in \mathcal{H}$.

PROOF. Since T is hereditarily separable, the σ -closure-preserving cover $\{T_H : H \in \mathcal{H}\}$ of T has a countable subcover. Hence the claim follows.

Let H be an element of \mathcal{H} such that T_H is uncountable.

CLAIM 7. H is not **C**-scattered.

PROOF. Let $\{t(n) : n < \omega\}$ be a countable self-dense subset of T_H . Each $H_{t(n)}$ is a closed unbounded set in $[0, \omega_1)$, hence there exists an α in $\bigcap \{H_{t(n)} : n < \omega\}$. Let K be the closure of $\{(t(n), \alpha) : n < \omega\}$ in X_0 . Then K is a countable self-dense closed subset of H . Hence H is not **C**-scattered.

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