

COLLECTIONWISE NORMALITY WITHOUT LARGE CARDINALS

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ABSTRACT. It was previously known to be consistent relative to a strongly compact cardinal that locally compact perfectly normal spaces must be collectionwise normal. We obtain the same result merely by adjoining \aleph_2 random reals to a model of $V = L$.

It is easy to prove that locally compact perfectly normal spaces are collectionwise normal if one assumes Fisher's Axiom, since they are first countable and so Nyikos' method [N] applies. That axiom requires large cardinals but we shall prove the consistency of this result without assuming anything beyond the consistency of ZFC. The independence is well known: the locally compact modification of the bubble space on a set of reals of power \aleph_1 or a (special) Aronszajn tree suffice under Martin's Axiom plus $2^{\aleph_0} > \aleph_1$. Our model is the result of adjoining \aleph_2 random reals to a model of $V = L$; the proof follows easily from several powerful theorems in the literature.

LEMMA 1. *Assume \diamond for stationary systems for all regular cardinals $\kappa \geq \aleph_2$. Assume $2^{\aleph_0} \leq \aleph_2$ and, for all $\lambda \geq \aleph_2$, $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$. Then*

(1) *if X is normal and \aleph_1 -collectionwise Hausdorff, any closed discrete set of points of character $\leq \aleph_1$ is separated;*

(2) *if X is normal, $\kappa \geq \aleph_2$ is regular, and X is λ -collectionwise Hausdorff for each $\lambda < \kappa$, then any closed discrete set of cardinality κ whose points have character $\leq \kappa$ is separated;*

(3) *if X is normal, κ is singular, and X is λ -collectionwise Hausdorff for each $\lambda < \kappa$, then any closed discrete set of cardinality κ such that the sup of the character of its points is less than κ is separated.*

PROOF. This follows easily from an analysis of Fleissner's proof in [F₁].

LEMMA 2. (a) *Under the same hypotheses as Lemma 1, if X is a locally compact normal space which is collectionwise normal with respect to collections of $\leq \aleph_1$ compact sets, then X is collectionwise normal with respect to arbitrary collections of compact sets.*

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(b) *If every normal space of character $\leq \aleph_1$ is \aleph_1 -collectionwise Hausdorff, then every locally compact normal space is collectionwise normal with respect to collections of $\leq \aleph_1$ compact sets.*

PROOF. Again, this follows easily from an analysis of Watson's proof in [W], in view of Lemma 1.

LEMMA 3 (GRUENHAGE [G]). *If X is locally compact, perfectly normal, and collectionwise normal with respect to compact sets, then X is the disjoint sum of subspaces, each of which is the union of $\leq \aleph_1$ compact sets.*

LEMMA 4 (CARLSON [C], [F₂]). *Adjoin \aleph_2 random reals to a model of CH. Then the product measure on $\{0, 1\}^{\aleph_1}$ can be extended by any \aleph_1 sets.*

We can now prove

THEOREM. *Adjoin \aleph_2 random reals to a model of $V = L$. Then every locally compact perfectly normal space is collectionwise normal.*

PROOF. By Lemma 4 and Nyikos' method [N], normal spaces of character $\leq \aleph_1$ are \aleph_1 -collectionwise Hausdorff. Since \diamond for stationary systems holds for regular $\kappa \geq \aleph_2$ in $L[A]$, $A \subseteq \aleph_2$, by Lemmas 1 and 2 we therefore have locally compact perfectly normal spaces are collectionwise normal with respect to compact sets since their character is $\leq \aleph_1$. Thus Lemma 3 applies, so to get collectionwise normality in general, it suffices to consider a locally compact perfectly normal space $X = \bigcup_{\alpha < \omega_1} F_\alpha$, F_α compact, and hence discrete collections of closed sets $K = \bigcup_{\alpha < \omega_1} (K \cap F_\alpha)$. Note that such collections have cardinality at most \aleph_1 , else some F_α would admit a large discrete collection, contradicting compactness. Further note that each $K \cap F_\alpha$ as a set has countable character in X , since it is a compact subset of a locally compact perfectly normal space. Again apply Nyikos and Carlson, treating the $K \cap F_\alpha$'s as points, to complete the proof. More precisely, since the $K \cap F_\alpha$'s have character $\leq \aleph_1$ and there are only \aleph_1 of them, there are only \aleph_1 sets by which the measure on $\{0, 1\}^{\aleph_1}$ has to be extended. (Note that under merely $V = L$ there is no reason to believe the K 's can be separated from each other, since we have no control over their character as points.)

REMARK. We do not know if our results follow from $V = L$ or are consistent with CH. Their denial is consistent with GCH by Devlin-Shelah [DS]. The question of whether "perfectly" can be eliminated, even with large cardinals, seems to be difficult and important. There are some straightforward generalizations of our theorem, for example 2^{\aleph_0} can be anything reasonable, but at present these do not seem worth stating.

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