# A NEW CHARACTERIZATION OF SPACES WITH LOCALLY COUNTABLE *sn*-NETWORKS

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**Abstract.** In this paper we prove that a space X is with a locally countable *sn*-network (resp., weak base) if and only if it is a compact-covering (resp., compact-covering quotient) compact and *ss*-image of a metric space, if and only if it is a sequentially-quotient (resp., quotient)  $\pi$ - and *ss*-image of a metric space, which gives a new characterization of spaces with locally countable *sn*-networks (or weak bases).

### 1. Introduction

In 2002, Y. Ikeda, C. Liu and Y. Tanaka introduced the notion of  $\sigma$ -strong networks as a generalization of "development" in developable spaces, and considered certain quotient images of metric spaces in terms of  $\sigma$ -strong networks. By means of  $\sigma$ -strong networks, some characterizations for the quotient and compact images of metric spaces are obtained (see in [4, 18, 19], for example).

In this paper, by means of  $\sigma$ -strong networks, we give a new characterization of spaces with locally countable *sn*-networks (or weak bases). Throughout this paper, all spaces are assumed to be  $T_1$  and regular, all maps are continuous and onto,  $\mathbb{N}$  denotes the set of all natural numbers. Let  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  be two families of subsets of X, and  $f: X \longrightarrow Y$  be a map, we denote  $\mathcal{P} \land \mathcal{Q} = \{P \cap Q : P \in \mathcal{P}, Q \in \mathcal{Q}\},$  $\bigcap \mathcal{P} = \bigcap \{P : P \in \mathcal{P}\}, \bigcup \mathcal{P} = \bigcup \{P : P \in \mathcal{P}\}, \operatorname{st}(x, \mathcal{P}) = \bigcup \{P \in \mathcal{P} : x \in P\}, \text{ and } f(\mathcal{P}) = \{f(P) : P \in \mathcal{P}\}.$  For a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converging to x and  $P \subset X$ , we say that  $\{x_n\}$  is eventually in P if  $\{x\} \bigcup \{x_n : n \geq m\} \subset P$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\{x_n\}$  is frequently in P if some subsequence of  $\{x_n\}$  is eventually in P.

DEFINITION 1.1. Let X be a space and P be a subset of X.

- (1) P is a sequential neighborhood of x in X, if each sequence S converging to x is eventually in P.
- (2) P is a sequentially open subset of X, if P is a sequential neighborhood of x in X for all  $x \in P$ .

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DEFINITION 1.2. Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a collection of subsets of a space X and let K be a subset of X. Then,

- (1) For each  $x \in X$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *network at* x [18], if  $x \in P$  for every  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , and if  $x \in U$  with U is open in X, there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $x \in P \subset U$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *network* for X [18], if  $\{P \in \mathcal{P} : x \in P\}$  is a network at x in X for all  $x \in X$ .
- (3)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $cs^*$ -network for X [19], if for each sequence S converging to a point  $x \in U$  with U is open in X, S is frequently in  $P \subset U$  for some  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ .
- (4)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cs-network* for X [19], if each sequence S converging to a point  $x \in U$  with U is open in X, S is eventually in  $P \subset U$  for some  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ .
- (5)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cfp-cover* of K in X [13], if  $\mathcal{P}$  is a cover of K in X such that it can be precisely refined by some finite cover of K consisting of compact subsets of K.
- (6)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a *cfp-cover* for X [13], if whenever K is a compact subset of X, there exists a finite subfamily  $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{P}$  such that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a *cfp*-cover of K.
- (7)  $\mathcal{P}$  is *locally countable*, if for each  $x \in X$ , there exists a neighborhood V of x such that V meets only countably many members of  $\mathcal{P}$ .
- (8)  $\mathcal{P}$  is *point-countable* (resp., *point-finite*), if each point  $x \in X$  belongs to only countably (resp., finitely) many members of  $\mathcal{P}$ .
- (9)  $\mathcal{P}$  is star-countable [15], if each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  meets only countably many members of  $\mathcal{P}$ .

DEFINITION 1.3. Let  $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{P}_x : x \in X\}$  be a family of subsets of a space X satisfying that, for every  $x \in X$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is a network at x in X, and if  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}_x$ , then  $W \subset U \cap V$  for some  $W \in \mathcal{P}_x$ .

- (1)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a weak base for X [1], if whenever  $G \subset X$  satisfying for every  $x \in G$ , there exists  $P \in \mathcal{P}_x$  with  $P \subset G$ , then G is open in X. Here,  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is a weak neighborhood base at x in X.
- (2)  $\mathcal{P}$  is an *sn-network* for X [10], if each member of  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is a sequential neighborhood of x for all  $x \in X$ . Here,  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is an *sn-network* at x in X.

DEFINITION 1.4. Let  $f: X \longrightarrow Y$  be a map.

- (1) f is a sequence-covering map [16], if for every convergent sequence S in Y, there exists a convergent sequence L in X such that f(L) = S. Note that a sequence-covering map is a strong sequence-covering map in the sense of [9].
- (2) f is a compact-covering map [14], if for each compact subset K of Y, there exists a compact subset L of X such that f(L) = K.
- (3) f is a pseudo-sequence-covering map [8], if for each convergent sequence S in Y, there exists a compact subset K of X such that f(K) = S. Note that a pseudo-sequence-covering map is a sequence-covering map in the sense of [7].
- (4) f is a subsequence-covering map [12], if for each convergent sequence S in Y, there exists a compact subset K of X such that f(K) is a subsequence of S.

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- (5) f is a sequentially-quotient map [2], if for each convergent sequence S in Y, there exists a convergent sequence L in X such that f(L) is a subsequence of S.
- (6) f is a quotient map [3], if whenever  $U \subset Y$ , U is open in Y if and only if  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open in X.
- (7) f is an *ss-map* [18], if for each  $y \in Y$ , there exists a neighborhood U of y such that  $f^{-1}(U)$  is separable in X.
- (8) f is a compact map [19], if  $f^{-1}(y)$  is compact in X for all  $y \in Y$ .
- (9) f is a  $\pi$ -map [1], if for every  $y \in Y$  and for every neighborhood U of y in Y,  $d(f^{-1}(y), X - f^{-1}(U)) > 0$ , where X is a metric space with a metric d.

DEFINITION 1.5. Let X be a space. Then,

- (1) X is a g-first countable space [1] (resp., an sn-first countable space [3], if there is a countable weak neighborhood base (resp., sn-network) at x in X for all  $x \in X$ .
- (2) X is an  $\aleph_0$ -space [14], if it has a countable cs-network.
- (3) X is a sequential space [19], if every sequential open subset of X is open in X.
- (4) X is a *Fréchet* space, if for each  $x \in \overline{A}$ , there exists a sequence in A converging to x in X.

DEFINITION 1.6. [8] Let  $\{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a sequence of covers of a space X such that  $\mathcal{P}_{n+1}$  refines  $\mathcal{P}_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\bigcup \{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -strong network for X, if  $\{\operatorname{st}(x, \mathcal{P}_n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a network at x for all  $x \in X$ .

NOTATION 1.7. Let  $\bigcup \{\mathcal{P}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -strong network for a space X. For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , put  $\mathcal{P}_n = \{P_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda_n\}$  and endow  $\Lambda_n$  with the discrete topology. Then,

$$M = \left\{ \alpha = (\alpha_n) \in \prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Lambda_n : \{P_{\alpha_n}\} \text{ forms a network at some point } x_\alpha \in X \right\}$$

is a metric space and the point  $x_{\alpha}$  is unique in X for every  $\alpha \in M$ . Define  $f: M \longrightarrow X$  by  $f(\alpha) = x_{\alpha}$ . Let us call  $(f, M, X, \mathcal{P}_n)$  a *Ponomarev's system*, following [13].

For some undefined or related concepts, we refer the reader to [8, 11, 19].

# 2. Main results

THEOREM 2.1. The following are equivalent for a space X.

- (1) X is an sn-first countable space with a locally countable  $cs^*$ -network;
- (2) X has a locally countable sn-network;
- (3) X has a  $\sigma$ -strong network  $\mathcal{U} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  satisfying the following: (a) Each  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is a point-finite cfp-cover;

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(b)  $\mathcal{U}$  is locally countable.

- (4) X is a compact-covering compact and ss-image of a metric space;
- (5) X is a pseudo-sequence-covering compact and ss-image of a metric space;
- (6) X is a subsequence-covering compact and ss-image of a metric space;
- (7) X is a sequentially-quotient  $\pi$  and ss-image of a metric space.

*Proof.*  $(1) \Longrightarrow (2)$ . Similar to the proof of  $(2) \Longrightarrow (1)$  in Theorem 2.12 [3].

(2)  $\implies$  (3). Let  $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{P}_x : x \in X\} = \{P_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda\}$  be a locally countable *sn*-network for X, where each  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is an *sn*-network at x. Since X is a regular space, we can assume that each element of  $\mathcal{P}$  is closed. Then, for each  $x \in X$ , there exists an open neighborhood  $V_x$  of x such that  $V_x$  meets only countably many members of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{ P \in \mathcal{P} : P \subset V_x \text{ for some } x \in X \}$$

Then,  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a locally countable and star-countable network for X. By Lemma 2.1 in [15],  $\mathcal{Q} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}$ , where each  $\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}$  is a countable subfamily of  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $(\bigcup \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}) \cap (\bigcup \mathcal{Q}_{\beta}) = \emptyset$  for all  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . For each  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ , let  $\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha} = \{P_{\alpha,n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , and for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , denote  $\mathcal{H}_i = \{P_{\alpha,i} : \alpha \in \Lambda\}$ . Then,  $\mathcal{Q} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{Q}_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Now, for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let

$$A_i = \{ x \in X : \mathcal{H}_i \cap \mathcal{P}_x = \emptyset \}, \quad \mathcal{G}_i = \mathcal{H}_i \cup \{A_i\}$$

Then, we have

- (a)  $\bigcup \{ \mathcal{G}_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  is locally countable.
- (b) Each  $\mathcal{G}_i$  is point-finite.

(c) Each  $\mathcal{G}_i$  is a cfp-cover for X. Let K be a non-empty compact subset of X. We shall show that there exists a finite subset of  $\mathcal{G}_i$  which forms a cfp-cover of K. In fact, since X has a locally countable sn-network, K is metrizable. Note that each  $\bigcup \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}$  is sequentially open in X and  $(\bigcup \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}) \cap (\mathcal{Q}_{\beta}) = \emptyset$  for all  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , so the family  $\{\alpha \in \Lambda : K \cap (\bigcup \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}) \neq \emptyset\}$  is finite. Thus, K meets only finitely many members of  $\mathcal{G}_i$ . Let  $\Gamma_i = \{\alpha : P_\alpha \in \mathcal{H}_i, P_\alpha \cap K \neq \emptyset\}$ . For each  $\alpha \in \Gamma_i$ , put  $K_\alpha = P_\alpha \cap K$ , then  $K_i = \overline{K} - \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma_i} K_\alpha$ . It is obvious that all  $K_\alpha$  and  $K_i$  are closed subset of K, and  $K = K_i \cup (\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma_i} K_\alpha)$ . Now, we only need to show  $K_i \subset A_i$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $x \in K_i$ , then there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of  $K - \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma_i} K_\alpha$  converging to x. If  $P \in \mathcal{P}_x \cap \mathcal{H}_i$ , then P is a sequential neighborhood of x and  $P = P_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma_i$ . Thus,  $x_n \in P$  whenever  $n \ge m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence,  $x_n \in K_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma_i$ , a contradiction. So,  $\mathcal{P}_x \cap \mathcal{H}_i = \emptyset$ , and  $x \in A_i$ . This implies that  $K_i \subset A_i$  and  $\{A_i\} \bigcup \{P_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma_i\}$  is a cfp-cover of K.

(d) Each  $\{\operatorname{st}(x,\mathcal{G}_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\}\$  is a network at x. Let  $x \in U$  with U is open in X. Then,  $x \in P \subset U \cap V_x$  for some  $P \in \mathcal{P}_x$ , so  $P \in \mathcal{Q}$ . Thus, there exists a unique  $\alpha \in \Lambda$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{Q}_\alpha$ . Hence,  $P = P_{\alpha,i} \in \mathcal{H}_i$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $P \in \mathcal{H}_i \cap \mathcal{P}_x$ ,  $x \notin A_i$ . Note that  $P \cap P_{\alpha,j} = \emptyset$  for all  $j \neq i$ . Then,  $\operatorname{st}(x,\mathcal{G}_i) = P \subset U$ . Therefore,  $\{\operatorname{st}(x,\mathcal{G}_n): n \in \mathbb{N}\}\$  is a network at x for all  $x \in X$ .

Next, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , put  $\mathcal{U}_n = \bigwedge \{ \mathcal{G}_i : i \leq n \}$ . Then,  $\bigcup \{ \mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  is a  $\sigma$ -strong network and each  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is a point-finite cfp-cover for X. Now, we shall show

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that  $\bigcup \{\mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is locally countable. In fact, since  $\mathcal{P}$  is locally countable,  $\mathcal{V} = (\{A_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}) \bigcup \mathcal{P}$  is locally countable. Thus,  $\{\bigcap \mathcal{F} : \mathcal{F} \text{ is a finite subfamily of } \mathcal{V}\}$  is locally countable. Furthermore, since  $\bigcup \{\mathcal{G}_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\} \subset \mathcal{V}$ , we have

$$\bigcup \{\mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subset \Big\{ \bigcap \mathcal{F} : \mathcal{F} \text{ is a finite subfamily of } \mathcal{V} \Big\}.$$

This implies that  $\bigcup \{ \mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  is locally countable. Therefore, (3) holds.

(3)  $\Longrightarrow$  (4). Let  $\mathcal{U} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a  $\sigma$ -strong network satisfying (3). Consider the Ponomarev's system  $(f, M, X, \mathcal{U}_n)$ . Because each  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is a point-finite and locally countable cfp-cover, it follows from Lemma 2.2 [19] that f is a compactcovering and compact map. We only need to show f is an ss-map. Let  $x \in X$ , since  $\mathcal{U}$  is locally countable, there exists a neighborhood V of x such that V meets only countably many members of  $\mathcal{U}$ . For each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\Delta_i = \{\alpha \in \Lambda_i : P_\alpha \cap V \neq \emptyset\}$ . Then, each  $\Delta_i$  is countable. On the other hand, since  $f^{-1}(V) \subset \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \Delta_i, f^{-1}(V)$ is separable in M. Therefore, (4) holds.

 $(4) \Longrightarrow (5) \Longrightarrow (6)$ . It is obvious.

(6)  $\Longrightarrow$  (1). Let  $f: M \longrightarrow X$  be a sequentially-quotient  $\pi$  and ss-map. It follows from Corollary 2.6 [4] that X has a  $\sigma$ -strong network  $\mathcal{G} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{G}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , where each  $\mathcal{G}_n$  is a  $cs^*$ -cover. For each  $x \in X$ , let  $\mathcal{G}_x = \{\operatorname{st}(x, \mathcal{G}_n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Since each  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is a  $cs^*$ -cover, it implies that  $\bigcup \{\mathcal{G}_x : x \in X\}$  is an sn-network for X. Hence, X is an sn-first countable space. Now, let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a point-countable base for M, since f is a sequentially-quotient and ss-map,  $f(\mathcal{B})$  is a locally countable  $cs^*$ -network for X. Therefore, (1) holds.

COROLLARY 2.2. The following are equivalent for a space X.

- (1) X has a locally countable weak base;
- (2) X is a sequential space with a  $\sigma$ -strong network  $\mathcal{U} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  satisfying the following:
  - (a) Each  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is a point-finite cfp-cover;
  - (b)  $\mathcal{U}$  is locally countable.
- (3) X is a compact-covering quotient compact and ss-image of a metric space;
- (4) X is a pseudo-sequence-covering quotient compact and ss-image of a metric space;
- (5) X is a subsequence-covering quotient compact and ss-image of a metric space;
- (6) X is a quotient  $\pi$  and ss-image of a metric space.

EXAMPLE 2.3. Let  $C_n$  be a convergent sequence containing its limit point  $p_n$ for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $C_m \cap C_n = \emptyset$  if  $m \neq n$ . Let  $\mathbb{Q} = \{q_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be the set of all rational numbers of the real line  $\mathbb{R}$ . Put  $M = (\bigoplus \{C_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}) \oplus \mathbb{R}$  and let Xbe the quotient space obtained from M by identifying each  $p_n$  in  $C_n$  with  $q_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then, by the proof of Example 3.1 [6], X has a countable weak base and X is not a sequence-covering quotient and  $\pi$ -image of a metric space. Hence,

(1) A space with a locally countable *sn*-network  $\Rightarrow$  a sequence-covering and  $\pi$ -image of a metric space.

(2) A space with a locally countable weak base  $\Rightarrow$  a sequence-covering quotient and  $\pi$ -image of a metric space.

EXAMPLE 2.4. Using Example 3.1 [5], it is easy to see that X is Hausdorff, non-regular and X has a countable base, but it is not a sequentially-quotient and  $\pi$ -image of a metric space. This shows that regular properties of X can not be omitted in Theorem 2.1 and Corollary 2.2.

EXAMPLE 2.5.  $S_{\omega}$  is a Fréchet and  $\aleph_0$ -space, but it is not first countable. Thus,  $S_{\omega}$  has a locally countable *cs*-network. Since  $S_{\omega}$  is not first countable, it has not locally countable *sn*-network. Hence, a space with a locally countable *cs*-network  $\Rightarrow$  a sequentially-quotient and  $\pi$ -image of a metric space.

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