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***v*-LINDELÖF SPACES**

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The concept of *v*-Lindelöf space is introduced. It is shown that a space  $X$  is *v*-Lindelöf if and only if every Wallman realcompactification of  $X$  is Lindelöf and that if  $X \times Y$  is a  $z$ -embedded *v*-Lindelöf subspace of  $vX \times vY$ , then  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$ .

## 0. INTRODUCTION

All topological spaces discussed in this paper are assumed to be Tychonoff. For any space  $X$ ,  $(\beta X, \beta_X)$  ( $(vX, v_X)$ , resp.) denotes the Stone-Čech compactification (Hewitt realcompactification, resp.) of  $X$ .

An important open question in the theory of Hewitt realcompactifications of Tychonoff spaces concerns when the equality  $vX \times vY = v(X \times Y)$  is valid ([9]). Glicksberg ([8]) showed that for any infinite spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $\beta X \times \beta Y = \beta(X \times Y)$  if and only if  $X \times Y$  is pseudocompact. Comfort ([6]) showed that if  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$ , then  $vX \times vY = v(X \times Y)$  and that if  $\text{card}(X)$  or  $\text{card}(Y)$  is non-measurable and  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $X \times \beta Y$ , then  $vX \times vY = v(X \times Y)$ . In [10], it is shown that  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $X \times \beta Y$  if and only if the projection  $\pi_X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$  is  $z$ -closed.

In this paper we introduce the concept of *v*-Lindelöf spaces. We first show that a space  $X$  is *v*-Lindelöf if and only if every Wallman realcompactification of  $X$  is Lindelöf and show that for any *v*-Lindelöf space  $X$ ,  $|vX \setminus X| \leq 1$  if and only if for any space  $T$  with  $X \subset T$ ,  $vX \subset vT$ . Moreover, we will show that if  $X \times Y$  is a  $z$ -embedded *v*-Lindelöf subspace of  $vX \times vY$ , then  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$  and that if  $X \times Y$  is an *v*-Lindelöf space such that  $\text{card}(X)$  or  $\text{card}(Y)$  is non-measurable and  $X$  is a  $P$ -space, then  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$  if and only if the projection  $\pi_X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$  is  $z$ -closed. For the terminology, we refer to [7] and [11].

## 1. REALCOMPACTIFICATIONS

Recall that a space  $(Y, j)$  or simply  $Y$  is called a *compactification* (*realcompactification*, resp.) of a space  $X$  if  $j: X \hookrightarrow Y$  is a dense embedding and  $Y$  is a compact (realcompact, resp.) space.

The ring of real-valued continuous functions on a space  $X$  is denoted by  $C(X)$  and  $C^*(X)$  denotes the subring of bounded functions. A subspace  $S$  of a space  $X$  is said to be *C-embedded* in  $X$  if every function in  $C(S)$  extends to a function in  $C(X)$ .  $C^*$ -embedding is defined analogously. For a space  $X$ ,  $\beta X$  is a unique

realcompactification of  $X$  in which  $X$  is densely  $C^*$ -embedded and  $vX$  is a unique realcompactification of  $X$  in which  $X$  is densely  $C$ -embedded.

**Definition 1.1** ([12]). Let  $X$  be a space and  $\mathcal{F}$  a family of closed sets in  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is called a *separating nest generated intersection ring* on  $X$  if

- (i) for each closed set  $H$  in  $X$  and  $x \notin H$ , there are disjoint sets in  $\mathcal{F}$ , one containing  $H$  and the other containing  $x$ ,
- (ii) it is closed under finite unions and countable intersections, and
- (iii) for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ , there are sequences  $(F_n)$  and  $(H_n)$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  such that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $X \setminus H_{n+1} \subset F_{n+1} \subset X \setminus H_n \subset F_n$  and  $F = \bigcap F_n$ .

For a space  $X$ ,  $Z(X)$  denotes the set of zero-sets in  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  the set of separating nest generated intersection rings on  $X$  and for any subspaces  $S$  of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F} \subset 2^X$ , let  $\mathcal{F}_S = \{F \cap S : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$ . For a subspace  $S$  of a space  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ ,  $Z(X) \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_S \in \mathcal{L}(S)$  ([12]).

Let  $X$  be a space and  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is a normal base on  $X$  ([1]). Let  $(w(X, \mathcal{F}), w_X)$  be the Wallman compactification of  $X$  associated with  $\mathcal{F}$  ([1]). Then  $\mathcal{F} = Z(w(X, \mathcal{F}))_X$  and if  $(Y, j)$  is a compactification of  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{F} = Z(Y)_X$ , then there is a continuous map  $f: w(X, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow Y$  with  $f \circ w_X = j$  ([12]).

Let  $v(X, \mathcal{F}) = \{\alpha : \alpha \text{ is an } \mathcal{F}\text{-ultrafilter on } X \text{ with the countable intersection property}\}$ . Then the topology on  $v(X, \mathcal{F})$ , taking sets of the form  $F^* = \{\alpha \in v(X, \mathcal{F}) : F \in \alpha\}$  as a base for the closed sets, coincides with the subspace topology on  $v(X, \mathcal{F})$  of  $w(X, \mathcal{F})$ ,  $v(X, \mathcal{F})$  is a realcompactification of  $X$  (called *Wallman realcompactification*) ([12]),  $v(X, \mathcal{F}) = v(X, \mathcal{F}^t)$  and  $w(X, \mathcal{F}^t) = \beta(v(X, \mathcal{F}^t))$ , where  $\mathcal{F}^t = Z(v(X, \mathcal{F}))_X$  ([3]).

In a space  $(X, \tau)$ , the family of  $G_\delta$ -sets on  $X$  forms a base for a topology  $\tau_\delta$  on  $X$  and for  $A \subset X$ ,  $\aleph_1\text{-cl}_X(A)$  denotes the closure of  $A$  in  $(X, \tau_\delta)$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** *A realcompactification  $(Y, j)$  of a space  $X$  is Wallman if and only if for non-empty zero-set  $Z$  in  $Y$ ,  $Z \cap X \neq \emptyset$ . In this case,  $Y = v(X, \mathcal{F})$  and  $\mathcal{F} = Z(Y)_X$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $\mathcal{F} = Z(Y)_X$ , then  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Note that  $Z(\beta Y)_X = Z(Y)_X = \mathcal{F}$ . Hence, there is a continuous map  $g: w(X, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow \beta Y$  with  $g \circ w_X = \beta_Y \circ j$ . Let  $A$  and  $B$  be zero-sets in  $w(X, \mathcal{F})$  with  $A \cap B \cap X = \emptyset$ , then  $A \cap X, B \cap X \in \mathcal{F}$ . Hence there are  $C, D$  in  $Z(Y)$  with  $A \cap X = C \cap X$  and  $B \cap X = D \cap X$ . Since  $C \cap D \cap X = \emptyset$  and  $C \cap D \in Z(Y)$ ,  $C \cap D = \emptyset$  and hence  $\text{cl}_{\beta Y}(C) \cap \text{cl}_{\beta Y}(D) = \emptyset$ . So  $\text{cl}_{\beta Y}(A \cap X) \cap \text{cl}_{\beta Y}(B \cap X) = \emptyset$ . By Urysohn's extension theorem, there is a continuous map  $h: \beta Y \rightarrow w(X, \mathcal{F})$  such that  $w_X = h \circ \beta_Y \circ j$  and so  $h$  is a homeomorphism.

Note that  $\aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(X) \subset \aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(Y)$ . Let  $x \notin \aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(X)$ . Then there is a zero-set  $Z$  in  $\beta Y$  such that  $x \in Z$  and  $Z \cap X = \emptyset$ . Since  $(S \cap Y) \cap X = \emptyset$ ,  $Z \cap Y = \emptyset$ . So  $x \notin \aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(Y)$ . Hence  $\aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(X) = \aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(Y)$ . It is well-known that  $v(X, \mathcal{F}) = \aleph_1\text{-cl}_{w(X, \mathcal{F})}(X)$  ([1]). Since  $w(X, \mathcal{F})$  and  $\beta Y$  are homeomorphic,  $\aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(Y) = v(X, \mathcal{F})$  and since  $Y$  is a realcompact space,  $\aleph_1\text{-cl}_{\beta Y}(Y) = Y$ . So  $Y = v(X, \mathcal{F})$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Since  $Y$  is a Wallman realcompactification of  $X$ ,  $Y = v(X, \mathcal{G})$  for some  $\mathcal{G} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Then  $v(X, \mathcal{G}) = v(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$  and  $\beta(v(X, \mathcal{G}^t)) = w(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$ , where  $\mathcal{G}^t = Z(v(X, \mathcal{G}))_X$  ([3]). Hence there is a continuous map  $f: w(X, \mathcal{G}^t) \rightarrow w(X, \mathcal{G})$  with  $f \circ l = k \circ h$ , where  $h: v(X, \mathcal{G}^t) \rightarrow v(X, \mathcal{G})$  is a homeomorphism and  $l: v(X, \mathcal{G}^t) \hookrightarrow w(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$  and  $k: v(X, \mathcal{G}) \hookrightarrow w(X, \mathcal{G})$  are dense embeddings. Take any non-empty zero-set  $Z$  in  $Y$ . Since  $h^{-1}(Z)$  is a zero-set in  $v(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$ , there is a zero-set  $A$  in

$\beta(v(X, \mathcal{G}^t)) = w(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$  with  $h^{-1}(Z) = A \cap v(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$ . Since  $h^{-1}(Z) \neq \emptyset$ , pick  $\alpha \in A \cap v(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$ . Then there is a countable family  $\{Z_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of zero-set neighborhoods of  $\alpha$  in  $w(X, \mathcal{G}^t)$  such that  $A = \bigcap Z_n$ . For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $Z_n \cap X \in \mathcal{G}^t$  and hence  $Z_n \cap X \in \alpha$ . Since  $\alpha$  has the countable intersection property,  $A \cap X = (\bigcap Z_n) \cap X \neq \emptyset$ . Thus  $h^{-1}(Z) \cap X = Z \cap X \neq \emptyset$ .

## 2. $v$ -LINDELÖF SPACES

Recall that a separating nest generated intersection ring  $\mathcal{F}$  on a space  $X$  is called *complete* if  $Z(v(X, \mathcal{F}))_X = \mathcal{F}$ . For a space  $X$ ,  $Z(X)$  is complete and  $v(X, Z(X)) = vX$ . For a paracompact (or separable) space  $X$ ,  $vX$  is Lindelöf if and only if every separating nest generated intersection ring on  $X$  is complete ([4], [5]).

**Definition 2.1.** A space  $X$  is called  *$v$ -Lindelöf* if  $vX$  is Lindelöf.

A  $z$ -ultrafilter on a space  $X$  is called *real* if it has the countable intersection property.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be a space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (a)  $X$  is an  $v$ -Lindelöf space,
- (b) every  $z$ -filter on  $X$  with the countable intersection property is contained in a real  $z$ -ultrafilter on  $X$ , and
- (c) every Wallman realcompactification of  $X$  is Lindelöf.

*Proof.* (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b) Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a  $z$ -filter on  $X$  with the countable intersection property, then  $\mathcal{G} = \{Z \in Z(vX) : Z \cap X \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is a  $z$ -filter on  $vX$  with the countable intersection property. Since  $X$  is a  $v$ -Lindelöf space,  $\bigcap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$ . Pick  $\alpha \in \bigcap \mathcal{G}$ . Then  $\alpha$  is a real  $z$ -ultrafilter on  $X$  with  $\mathcal{F} \subset \alpha$ .

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (c) Let  $(Y, j)$  be a Wallman realcompactification of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  a  $z$ -filter on  $Y$  with the countable intersection property. Let  $f: vX \rightarrow Y$  be the continuous map with  $f \circ v_X = j$ . Since  $Y$  is a Wallman realcompactification of  $X$ , by Theorem 1.2, for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $F \cap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$ . Hence  $\mathcal{F}_X$  is a  $z$ -filter base on  $X$  with the countable intersection property. By (b), there is a real  $z$ -ultrafilter  $\alpha$  on  $X$  with  $\mathcal{F}_X \subset \alpha$ . So for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\alpha \in \text{cl}_{vX}(F \cap X)$ . Hence for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $f(\alpha) \in f(\text{cl}_{vX}(F \cap X)) \subset \text{cl}_Y(f(F \cap X)) = \text{cl}_Y(F \cap X) \subset F$ . So  $Y$  is Lindelöf.

(c) $\Rightarrow$ (a) is trivial.

Every Lindelöf space is  $v$ -Lindelöf. If  $X$  is a pseudocompact space, then  $vX = \beta X$  and hence  $X$  is a  $v$ -Lindelöf space.  $v$ -Lindelöf spaces are not productive and  $v$ -Lindelöf spaces are  $C$ -embedded hereditary.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $\omega_1$  be the first uncountable ordinal and  $D(\omega_1)$  the discrete space of cardinality  $\omega_1$ . Let  $S = D(\omega_1) \cup \{p\}$ , topologized as follows. Each point of  $D(\omega_1)$  is isolated and a subset  $G$  of  $S$  that contains  $p$  is open in  $S$  if and only if  $|S \setminus G| \leq \aleph_0$ . Then  $S$  is a zerodimensional Hausdorff space and hence Tychonoff. Let  $\mathbb{N}^* = \mathbb{N} \cup \{\omega\}$  denote the one-point compactification of  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $X = S \times \mathbb{N}^* \setminus \{(p, \omega)\}$ . Then  $X$  is called *Dieudonné plank* and  $vX = S \times \mathbb{N}^*$  ([11]). Since  $S$  is Lindelöf,  $X$  is  $v$ -Lindelöf. But  $X$  is neither  $v$ -Lindelöf nor pseudocompact.

It is well-known that for any  $f \in C(X)$ ,  $\text{cl}_{vX}(Z(f)) = Z(f^v)$ , where  $f^v$  is the extension of  $f$  to  $vX$  ([7]).

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $X$  be a  $v$ -Lindelöf space and  $A$  a zero-set in  $X$ . Then  $A$  is closed in  $vX$  if and only if  $A$  is Lindelöf.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $A$  is Lindelöf. Let  $p \in vX \setminus A$ . If  $p \in X$ , then  $p \notin \text{cl}_{vX}(A)$ . Suppose that  $p \notin X$ . For any  $a \in A$ , there is a cozero-sets neighborhood  $C_a$  of  $a$  in  $vX$  such that  $p \notin C_a$ . Since  $A$  is Lindelöf, there is a countable subfamily  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\{C_a : a \in A\}$  with  $A \subset \bigcup \mathcal{U}$ . Let  $C = \bigcup \mathcal{U}$  and  $Z = vX \setminus C$ . Then  $p \in Z$ ,  $Z$  is a zero-set in  $vX$  and  $A \cap Z = \emptyset$ . Since  $X$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $vX$ ,  $\text{cl}_{vX}(A) \cap \text{cl}_{vX}(Z \cap X) = \emptyset$  and since  $\text{cl}_{vX}(Z \cap X) = Z$ ,  $p \notin \text{cl}_{vX}(A)$  and hence  $A = \text{cl}_{vX}(A)$ . The converse is trivial.

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $X$  be a dense subspace of a space  $T$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  a  $z$ -filter on  $X$  and  $p \in T$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}$  converges to the limit  $p$  if every neighborhoods of  $p$  in  $T$  contains a member of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Lemma 2.6** ([7]). *Let  $X$  be a dense subspace of  $T$ . Then  $X$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $T$  if and only if every point of  $T$  is the limit of a unique real  $z$ -ultrafilter on  $X$ .*

For any space  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F} \subset 2^X$  let  $\bigcap \text{cl}_X(\mathcal{F}) = \bigcap \{\text{cl}_X(F) : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $X$  be a  $v$ -Lindelöf space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (a) *for any two disjoint zero-points in  $X$ , at least one of them is Lindelöf,*
- (b)  *$|vX \setminus X| \leq 1$ , and*
- (c) *for any space  $T$  with  $X \subset T$ , there is an embedding  $f: vX \rightarrow vT$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b) Suppose that  $2 \leq |vX \setminus X|$ . Pick  $p, q \in vX \setminus X$  with  $p \neq q$ . Since  $p$  and  $q$  are  $z$ -ultrafilters on  $X$ , there are disjoint zero-sets  $A, B$  in  $X$  such that  $A \in p$  and  $B \in q$ . We may assume that  $A$  is Lindelöf. By Proposition 2.4,  $A$  is closed in  $vX$ . Note that  $p \in \text{cl}_{vX}(A) \setminus A$ . This is a contradiction.

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (a) Suppose that  $vX \setminus X = \{p\}$ . Take any disjoint zero-sets  $A, B$  in  $X$ . Then  $\text{cl}_{vX}(A) \cap \text{cl}_{vX}(B) = \emptyset$  and hence  $p \notin \text{cl}_{vX}(A)$  or  $p \notin \text{cl}_{vX}(B)$ . So  $\text{cl}_{vX}(A) = A$  or  $\text{cl}_{vX}(B) = B$ . Hence  $A$  is Lindelöf or  $B$  is Lindelöf.

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (c) Suppose that  $vX \setminus X = \{p\}$ . Take any space  $T$  with  $X \subset T$ . Then there is a continuous map  $f: vX \rightarrow vT$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for all  $x \in X$  ([7]). Let  $q = f(p)$  and  $Y = X \cup \{q\}$ . Then  $X$  is a dense subspace of  $Y$ . Let  $g$  be the corestriction of  $f$  to  $Y$ , then  $g: vX \rightarrow Y$  is one-to-one, onto, and continuous.

We will show that  $g$  is a homeomorphism. Since  $vX$  is Lindelöf,  $Y$  is a Lindelöf space and hence  $Y$  is a realcompactification of  $X$ . Since  $X$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $vX$ , there is a unique real  $z$ -ultrafilter  $\mathcal{A}^p$  on  $X$  such that  $p$  is a limit point of  $\mathcal{A}^p$ . Take any neighborhood  $V$  of  $q$  in  $Y$ . Then  $g^{-1}(V)$  is a neighborhood of  $p$  in  $vX$ . Since  $p$  is a limit point of  $\mathcal{A}^p$ , there is  $A \in \mathcal{A}^p$  with  $A \subset g^{-1}(V)$  and so  $g(A) = A \subset V$ . Hence  $q$  is a limit point of  $\mathcal{A}^p$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a real  $z$ -ultrafilter on  $X$  such that  $q$  is a limit point of  $\mathcal{F}$ . If  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} = \{x\}$  for some  $x \in X$ . Since  $x \neq q$ , there are disjoint zero-set neighborhoods  $C$  and  $D$  of  $x$  and  $q$  in  $Y$ , respectively. Then  $C \cap X \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $C \cap D \cap X = \emptyset$ . Hence  $q$  is not a limit point of  $\mathcal{F}$  and so  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} = \emptyset$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}$  is real,  $\text{cl}_{vX}(\mathcal{F}) = \{\text{cl}_{vX}(F) : F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is a  $z$ -filter on  $vX$  with countable intersection property and since  $vX$  is Lindelöf,  $\bigcap \text{cl}_{vX}(\mathcal{F}) \neq \emptyset$ . Hence  $\bigcap \text{cl}_{vX}(\mathcal{F}) = \{p\}$  and so  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{A}^p$ . Thus every point of  $Y$  is the limit of a unique real  $z$ -ultrafilter on  $X$ . By Lemma 2.6,  $X$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $Y$  and therefore,  $g$  is a homeomorphism.

(c) $\Rightarrow$ (b) Suppose that there are  $p, q \in vX \setminus X$  with  $p \neq q$ . Let  $Y = X \cup \{p, q\}$  and  $R = \{(x, x) : x \in Y\} \cup \{(p, q), (q, p)\}$ . Then  $R$  is an equivalence relation on  $Y$ . Let  $K$  be the quotient space  $Y/R$  and  $\pi: Y \rightarrow K$  the quotient map. Clearly,  $K$  is a Tychonoff space and  $X$  is a dense subspace of  $K$ . By the assumption, there is an embedding  $f: vX \rightarrow vK$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for all  $x \in X$ . Since  $X$  is dense in  $Y$

and  $(v_K \circ \pi)|_X = f|_X$ ,  $v_K \circ \pi = f|_Y$ . Since  $f$  is one-to-one and  $p \neq q$ ,  $f(p) \neq f(q)$  but  $v_K(\pi(p)) = \pi(p) = [p] = [q] = \pi(q) = v_K(\pi(q))$ . This is a contradiction.

A subspace  $Y$  of a space  $X$  is  $z$ -embedded in  $X$  if for any zero-set  $A$  in  $Y$ , there is a zero-set  $Z$  in  $X$  with  $A = Z \cap Y$ . It is known that a space  $X$  is  $z$ -embedded in each of its compactifications if and only if for any two disjoint zero-sets in  $X$ , one of them is Lindelöf ([2]). Using this, we have the following:

**Corollary 2.8.** *Let  $X$  be a  $v$ -Lindelöf space. Then  $|vX \setminus X| \leq 1$  if and only if  $X$  is  $z$ -embedded in each of its compactifications.*

### 3. HEWITT REALCOMPACTIFICATION OF PRODUCT SPACES

The equality  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$  is to be interpreted to mean that  $X \times Y$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$ .

**Lemma 3.1** ([6]). *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces. Then  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$  if and only if  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$ .*

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces such that  $X \times Y$  is a  $v$ -Lindelöf spaces. Then  $X \times Y$  is  $z$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$  if and only if  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $X \times Y$  is  $z$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$ . Since  $vX \times vY$  is a realcompact space, there is a continuous map  $f: v(X \times Y) \rightarrow vX \times vY$  such that  $f((x, y)) = (x, y)$  for all  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$ . Take any  $(p, q) \in (vX \times vY) \setminus (X \times Y)$ . Then  $\{(p, q)\} = (\bigcap \text{cl}_{vX}(p)) \times (\bigcap \text{cl}_{vX}(q))$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the  $z$ -filter on  $X \times Y$  generated by  $\{A \times B : A \in p, B \in q\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}$  has the countable intersection property and  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} = \emptyset$ . Since  $X \times Y$  is  $v$ -Lindelöf,  $\bigcap \text{cl}_{v(X \times Y)}(\mathcal{F}) \neq \emptyset$ . Pick  $x \in \bigcap \text{cl}_{v(X \times Y)}(\mathcal{F})$ . Then for any  $A \in p$  and  $B \in q$ ,  $f(x) \in f(\text{cl}_{v(X \times Y)}(A \times B)) \subset \text{cl}_{(vX \times vY)}(f(A \times B)) = \text{cl}_{(vX \times vY)}(A \times B) = \text{cl}_{vX}(A) \times \text{cl}_{vY}(B)$ . Hence  $f(x) \in (\bigcap \text{cl}_{vX}(p)) \times (\bigcap \text{cl}_{vX}(q))$ . So  $f(x) = (p, q)$ . Thus  $f$  is onto.

Take any zero-sets  $E, F$  in  $X \times Y$  with  $E \cap F = \emptyset$ . Since  $X \times Y$  is  $z$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$ , there are zero-sets  $C, D$  in  $vX \times vY$  with  $E = C \cap (X \times Y)$  and  $F = D \cap (X \times Y)$ . Since  $f^{-1}(C \cap D) \cap (X \times Y) = \emptyset$  and  $f^{-1}(C \cap D)$  is a zero-set in  $v(X \times Y)$ ,  $f^{-1}(C \cap D) = \emptyset$  and since  $f$  is onto,  $C \cap D = \emptyset$ . So  $\text{cl}_{(vX \times vY)}(E) \cap \text{cl}_{(vX \times vY)}(F) = \emptyset$ . By Urysohn's extension theorem,  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $vX \times vY$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$ . The converse is trivial.

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces. Then  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is called  $z$ -closed if for any zero-set  $Z$  in  $X$ ,  $f(Z)$  is closed in  $Y$ .

Recall that a space  $X$  is called a  $P$ -space if every  $G_\delta$ -set in  $X$  is open in  $X$ .

*Remark 3.4.* (1) If the projection  $\pi_X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$  is  $z$ -closed, then  $X$  is a  $P$ -space or  $Y$  is a pseudocompact space ([11]). (2) The projection  $\pi_X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$  is  $z$ -closed if and only if  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $X \times \beta Y$  ([6]). (3) If  $\text{card}(X)$  or  $\text{card}(Y)$  is non-measurable and  $X \times Y$  is  $C^*$ -embedded in  $X \times \beta Y$ , then  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$  ([6]).

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $X$  be a  $P$ -space and  $X \times Y$  a  $v$ -Lindelöf space. If  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$ , then the projection  $\pi_X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$  is  $z$ -closed.*

*Proof.* Take any zero-set  $A$  in  $X \times Y$  and  $x \notin \pi_X(A)$ . Then  $(\{x\} \times Y) \cap A = \emptyset$ . We will show that  $\{x\} \times Y$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $X \times Y$ . Take any continuous map  $f: \{x\} \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Note that the map  $h: Y \rightarrow \{x\} \times Y$ , defined by  $h(y) = (x, y)$ , is a homeomorphism. Let  $k = f \circ h$  and define a map  $\underline{0}: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $\underline{0}(x) = 0$

for all  $x \in X$ . Then the map  $l: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined  $l((z, y)) = \underline{0}(z) + k(y)$ , is continuous and  $l|_{\{x\} \times Y} = f$ . Hence  $\{x\} \times Y$  is  $C$ -embedded in  $X \times Y$ . Thus  $\{x\} \times Y$  and  $A$  are completely separated in  $X \times Y$  ([7]). Since  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$ ,  $(\{x\} \times vY) \cap \text{cl}_{vX \times vY}(A) = \emptyset$ . For any  $y \in vY$ , there are open neighborhoods  $C_y, D_y$  of  $x, y$  in  $X, Y$ , respectively such that  $(C_y \times D_y) \cap A = \emptyset$ . Since  $vY$  is Lindelöf, there is a sequence  $(y_n)$  in  $vY$  with  $\{x\} \times vY \subset \bigcup \{C_{y_n} \times D_{y_n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Let  $Z = \bigcap \{C_{y_n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Since  $X$  is a  $P$ -space,  $Z$  is open in  $X$  and  $\{x\} \times vY \subset Z \times (\bigcup \{D_{y_n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\})$ . Moreover,  $(Z \times vY) \cap A = \emptyset$ . Thus  $Z \cap \pi_X(A) = \emptyset$  and so  $x \notin \text{cl}_X(\pi_X(A))$ . Therefore  $\pi_X(A)$  is closed in  $X$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** *Suppose that  $X \times Y$  is a  $v$ -Lindelöf space such that  $\text{card}(X)$  or  $\text{card}(Y)$  is non-measurable and  $X$  is a  $P$ -space. Then  $\pi_X$  is  $z$ -closed if and only if  $v(X \times Y) = vX \times vY$ .*

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