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## A note on the Arens' space and sequential fan<sup>☆</sup>

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### Abstract

In this paper we discuss the spaces containing a subspace having the Arens' space or sequential fan as its sequential coreflection. A sequential coreflection of a space which is weakly first-countable is characterized, and some generalized metric spaces which contain no Arens' space or sequential fan as its sequential coreflection are studied. © 1997 Elsevier Science B.V.

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### 1. Introduction

$g$ -metrizable spaces and  $\aleph$ -spaces play an important role in metrization theory. We know that every metric space is a  $g$ -metrizable space, and every  $g$ -metrizable space is an  $\aleph$ -space. Further relationships among these spaces can be characterized by the canonical quotient spaces which are Arens' space  $S_2$  and sequential fan  $S(\omega)$ . For example,

**Theorem 1.1** [20]. *A space is a metrizable space if and only if it is a  $g$ -metrizable space containing no (closed) copy of  $S_2$ .*

**Theorem 1.2** [11]. *A space is a  $g$ -metrizable space if and only if it is a  $k$  and  $\aleph$ -space containing no (closed) copy of  $S(\omega)$ .*

Using these concrete spaces  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$  we can analyze the gaps among some generalized metric spaces. Spaces containing a copy of  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$  and their applications

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have been studied in [11,14–17,20]. Since  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$  are all sequential spaces, this encourages us to discuss the spaces containing a subspace having  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$  as its sequential coreflection and those which do not. We obtain that

**Theorem 1.3.** *A regular space has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite sequentially open network if and only if it has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite universal cs-network contains no (closed) subspace having  $S_2$  as its sequential coreflection (Corollary 2.9).*

**Theorem 1.4.** *A regular space has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite universal cs-network if and only if it has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite cs-network and contains no (closed) subspace having  $S(\omega)$  as its sequential coreflection (Theorem 3.15).*

**Theorem 1.5.** *Suppose  $X$  is a quotient  $s$ -image of a metric space.  $X$  has a point-countable base if and only if  $X$  contains no (closed) copy of  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$  (Corollary 3.10).*

In this paper all spaces are  $T_2$ ,  $\mathcal{N}$  denotes the set of all natural numbers. The Arens' space  $S_2$  [1] and sequential fan  $S(\omega)$  [5] are defined as follows. Let  $T_0 = \{a_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\}$  be a sequence converging to  $x \notin T_0$  and let each  $T_n$  ( $n \in \mathcal{N}$ ) be a sequence converging to  $a_n \notin T_n$ . Let  $T$  be the topological sum of  $\{T_n \cup \{a_n\}: n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ . Thus  $S_2 = \{x\} \cup (\bigcup\{T_n: n \geq 0\})$  is a quotient space obtained from the topological sum of  $T_0$  and  $T$  by identifying each  $a_n \in T_0$  with  $a_n \in T$ . Also,  $S(\omega) = \{x\} \cup (\bigcup\{T_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\})$  is a quotient space obtained from  $T$  by identifying all the points  $a_n \in T$  to the point  $x$ .

## 2. On the Arens' space $S_2$

For a space  $X$  and  $x \in P \subset X$ ,  $P$  is a *sequential barrier* at  $x$  if, whenever  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence converging to  $x$  in  $X$ , then  $x_n \in P$  for all but finitely many  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ ; equivalently,  $x_n \in P$  for infinitely many  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ .  $P$  is *sequentially open* in  $X$  if  $P$  is a sequential barrier at each of its points, and is *sequentially closed* in  $X$  if its complement is sequential open.

A space  $X$  is called a *sequential space* [7] if each sequentially open subset of  $X$  is open in  $X$ . Thus the topology is naturally definable using convergent sequences, and two sequential topologies on the same set  $X$  are the same if and only if they have the same convergent sequences. Each space  $(X, \tau)$  has a *sequential coreflection*, which we denote  $(X, \sigma_\tau)$  or  $\sigma X$  if there is no danger of confusion. As is well known,  $\sigma X$  is a sequential space, and  $B \in \sigma_\tau$  if and only if  $B$  is sequentially open in  $X$ ; also,  $X$  and  $\sigma X$  have the same convergent sequences.

**Definition 2.1.** Call a subspace of a space a *comb* (at a point  $x$ ) if it consists of a point  $x$ , a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converging to  $x$ , and disjoint sequences converging individually to each  $x_n$ . Call a subset of a comb a *diagonal* if it is a convergent sequence meeting

infinitely many of the sequences converging to the individual  $x_n$  and converges to some point in the comb.

$S_2$  is comb without a diagonal.

**Lemma 2.2.** *For a space  $X$ ,  $\sigma X$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$  if and only if  $X$  is a comb without a diagonal.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $\sigma X$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ . Since  $\sigma X$  and  $X$  have the same convergent sequences and  $S_2$  is a comb without a diagonal,  $X$  is a comb without a diagonal. Conversely, suppose  $X$  is a comb without a diagonal. Since  $\sigma X$  is sequential,  $\sigma X$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ .  $\square$

A space  $X$  is called a *Fréchet space* [7] (or a *Fréchet–Urysohn space*) if, whenever  $x \in \text{cl}_X(A)$ , there is a sequence in  $A$  converging to  $x$  in  $X$ . Every Fréchet space is sequential, and the sequential space  $S_2$  is not Fréchet. To characterize the Fréchet property of the sequential coreflection of a space, we introduce the following notations. For a space  $X$  and  $A \subset X$ , define that

$$\text{cl}_\sigma(A) = \text{cl}_{\sigma X}(A),$$

$$\text{cl}_s(A) = \{x \in X : \text{there is a sequence in } A \text{ converging to } x\}.$$

The following is well known and easy to show.

**Lemma 2.3.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $\sigma X$  is a Fréchet space.
- (2)  $\text{cl}_\sigma(A) = \text{cl}_s(A)$  for each  $A \subset X$ .
- (3)  $\text{cl}_s(A)$  is sequentially closed in  $X$  for each  $A \subset X$ .

It is easy to see from this that  $\sigma X$  is a Fréchet space if and only if every sequential barrier at any point  $x$  in  $X$  contains a sequentially open subspace containing  $x$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $\sigma X$  is a Fréchet space.
- (2) Every comb at  $x$  of  $X$  has a diagonal converging to  $x$  for each  $x \in X$ .
- (3) Every comb of  $X$  has a diagonal.
- (4)  $X$  contains no subspace having  $S_2$  as its sequential coreflection.

**Proof.** We only need to prove that (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose  $\sigma X$  is not Fréchet. By Lemma 2.3, there is a subset  $A$  of  $X$  such that  $\text{cl}_s(A)$  is not closed in  $\sigma X$ . Since  $\sigma X$  is sequential, there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $\text{cl}_s(A)$  converging to  $x \in X \setminus \text{cl}_s(A)$ . We can assume that the  $x_n$ 's are all distinct and  $x_n \notin A$ . Since  $X$  is  $T_2$ , let  $\{V_n\}$  be a sequence of pairwise disjoint open subsets of  $X$  with each  $x_n \in V_n$ . For each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ , there is a sequence  $\{x_{nm}\}$  in  $A \cap V_n$  converging to  $x_n$  in  $X$ . Put

$$C = \{x\} \cup \{x_n : n \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{x_{nm} : n, m \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

Then  $C$  is a comb at  $x$  of  $X$ . By (4),  $\sigma C$  is not homeomorphic to  $S_2$ . By Lemma 2.2,  $C$  has a diagonal. Let  $\{y_k\}$  be a diagonal of  $C$  which converges to  $y$  in  $C$ . If  $y \neq x$ , then  $y \in V_i$  for some  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ , and  $y_k \in V_i$  for some  $j \in \mathcal{N}$  and all  $k \geq j$ , a contradiction. Thus  $C$  has a diagonal converging to  $x$ , hence  $x \in \text{cl}_s(A)$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\sigma X$  is Fréchet.  $\square$

A point  $x$  in a space  $X$  is called *regular  $G_\delta$*  if there is a sequence of neighborhoods of  $x$  in  $X$  such that the intersections of their closures is  $\{x\}$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $X$  be a space in which each point is regular  $G_\delta$ . If  $X$  contains no closed subspace having  $S_2$  as its sequential coreflection, then  $\sigma X$  is a Fréchet space.*

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.4, we only need to show that if  $X$  contains a subspace  $S$  such that  $\sigma S$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ , then  $S$  contains a closed subspace  $T$  of  $X$  such that  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ . Let  $S = \{x\} \cup \{x_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{x_{nm}: n, m \in \mathcal{N}\}$ . Take a sequence  $\{G_k\}$  of open neighborhoods of  $x$  in  $X$  such that each  $G_{k+1} \subset G_k$  and  $\{x\} = \bigcap \{\text{cl}(G_k): k \in \mathcal{N}\}$ . Since the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converges to  $x$ , there is a subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  with each  $x_{n_k} \in G_k$ . Since the sequence  $\{x_{n_k m}\}$  converges to  $x_{n_k}$  for each  $m \in \mathcal{N}$ , there is  $m_k \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $x_{n_k m_k} \in G_k$  if  $m \geq m_k$ . Put

$$T = \{x\} \cup \{x_{n_k}: k \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{x_{n_k m}: k \in \mathcal{N}, m \geq m_k\}.$$

If  $p \in X \setminus T$ , then  $p \in X \setminus \text{cl}(G_k)$  for some  $k \in \mathcal{N}$ . Let

$$F = \{x_{n_i}: i < k\} \cap \{x_{n_i m}: i < k, m \geq m_i\}.$$

Then  $F$  is compact in  $X$ , there is a neighborhood  $W$  of  $p$  in  $X$  such that  $W \cap F = \emptyset$ , so  $W \cap (X \setminus \text{cl}(G_k)) \cap T = \emptyset$ , hence  $T$  is closed in  $X$ , and  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ .  $\square$

Since a closed subspace of a sequential space is sequential, the foregoing proof gives:

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $X$  be a space in which each point is regular  $G_\delta$ . If  $X$  contains a copy of  $S_2$ , then  $X$  contains a closed copy of  $S_2$ .*

For a space  $X$ , let  $\wp$  be a family of subsets of  $X$ .  $\wp$  is a *network* of  $x$  in  $X$  if  $x \in \bigcap \wp$  and whenever  $G$  is open in  $X$  with  $x \in G$ , then  $P \subset G$  for some  $P \in \wp$ .

**Definition 2.7.** Let  $\wp = \bigcup \{\wp_x: x \in X\}$  be a family of subsets of  $X$  which satisfies that for each  $x \in X$ ,

- (1)  $\wp_x$  is a network of  $x$  in  $X$ ,
- (2) if  $U, V \in \wp_x$ , then  $W \subset U \cap V$  for some  $W \in \wp_x$ .

$\wp$  is a *sequentially open network* (respectively, a *universal cs-network*) for  $X$  if each element of  $\wp_x$  is a sequentially open subset (respectively, a sequential barrier of  $x$ ) in  $X$ . A space  $X$  is a *sof-countable space* (respectively, a *universally csf-countable space*) if  $X$  has a sequentially open network (respectively, universal cs-network)  $\wp$  such that each  $\wp_x$  is countable.

Obviously, a space is a first-countable space if and only if it is a sof-countable and sequential space.  $S_2$  is not sof-countable. The following two corollaries follow easily from Lemma 2.3, Theorems 2.4 and 2.5.

**Corollary 2.8.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $\sigma X$  is a first-countable space.
- (2)  $X$  is a sof-countable space.
- (3)  $X$  is a universally csf-countable space and contains no subspace having  $S_2$  as its sequential coreflection.

**Corollary 2.9.** *A (regular) space  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite sequentially open network if and only if  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite universal cs-network and contains no (closed) subspace having  $S_2$  as its sequential coreflection.*

**Remark 2.10.** If a space  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite sequentially open network, then  $\sigma X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite space. But its inverse proposition is not hold. For example,  $\sigma(\beta\mathcal{N})$  is a discrete space, and  $\beta\mathcal{N}$  is not a  $\sigma$ -space.

**Definition 2.11.** Let  $X$  be a space, and let  $\wp$  be a cover of  $X$ .  $\wp$  is a  $k$ -network for  $X$  if, whenever  $K \subset U$  with  $K$  compact and  $U$  open in  $X$ , then  $K \subset \bigcup \wp' \subset U$  for some finite  $\wp' \subset \wp$ .

**Theorem 2.12.** *Suppose  $X$  has a point-countable  $k$ -network. If  $\sigma X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_2$ , then  $\sigma X$  is a Fréchet space.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $\wp$  is a point-countable  $k$ -network for  $X$ . If  $\sigma X$  is not a Fréchet space, by Theorem 2.4,  $X$  contains a subspace  $C$  having  $S_2$  as its sequential coreflection. Put

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \{x\} \cup \{x_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{x_{nm}: n, m \in \mathcal{N}\}, \\ K &= \{x\} \cup \{x_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\}, \\ \mathfrak{R} &= \{P \in \wp: P \cap \{x_{nm}: n, m \in \mathcal{N}\} \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \overline{P} \cap K = \emptyset\}. \end{aligned}$$

The  $\mathfrak{R}$  is countable. Let  $\mathfrak{R} = \{P_k: k \in \mathcal{N}\}$ . For each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ , there is  $m_n \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $\{x_{nm}: m \geq m_n\} \subset X \setminus \bigcup_{k \leq n} \overline{P}_k$ . Take

$$S = K \cup \{x_{nm}: m \geq m_n\}.$$

Then  $\sigma S$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ . If  $\sigma S$  is not closed in  $\sigma X$ , there is a sequence  $\{x_{n_i m_i}\}$  in  $S$  with  $x_{n_i m_i} \rightarrow x' \notin S$ . We may assume that  $n_{i+1} > n_i$ . Put

$$K_1 = \{x'\} \cup \{x_{n_i m_i}: i \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

Then  $K_1 \cap K = \emptyset$ , there is an open set  $U$  in  $X$  with  $K_1 \subset U \subset \overline{U} \subset X \setminus K$ , thus  $K_1 \subset \bigcup \wp' \subset U$  for some finite  $\wp' \subset \wp$ , so  $P \cap K_1$  is infinite for some  $P \in \wp'$ , hence  $P = P_j$  for some  $j \in \mathcal{N}$ , and  $x_{n_i m_i} \notin P$  for each  $n_i > j$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\sigma S$  is closed in  $\sigma X$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.13.** *Suppose  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a point-countable  $k$ -network, then  $X$  is a Fréchet space if and only if  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_2$ .*

**Proof.** Every  $k$ -space with a point-countable  $k$ -network is a sequential space [8, Corollary 3.4].  $\square$

**Example 2.14.** There exist a compact, sequential space  $X$  and its subspace  $M$  such that

- (1)  $X$  contains no copy of  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$ .
- (2)  $\sigma M$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ .
- (3)  $M$  has a countable universal cs-network.

**Proof.** By Example 7.1 in [7], let  $\psi(\mathcal{N}) = \mathcal{N} \cup \mathcal{A}$  be the Isbell's space, and let  $X = \psi(\mathcal{N}) \cup \{a\}$  be the one-point compactification of  $\psi(\mathcal{N})$ , then  $X$  is a compact, sequential space.  $X$  contains no copy of  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$  by Corollary 3.10 in [16]. Take an infinite subset  $\{A_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\} \subset \mathcal{A}$ , then the  $\{A_n\}$  converges to  $a$  in  $X$  because  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed discrete in  $\psi(\mathcal{N})$ . For each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ , put

$$A_n = \{a_{nm}: m \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

Then the  $\{a_{nm}\}$  converges to  $A_n$  in  $\psi(\mathcal{N})$ . Let

$$M = \{a\} \cup \{A_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{a_{nm}: n, m \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

Since any subsequence of  $\{a_{nm}\}$  does not converge to  $a$  in  $X$ , by Theorem 2.4,  $\sigma M$  is homeomorphic to  $S_2$ . For each  $x \in M$ , let

$$\wp_x = \begin{cases} \{\{a\} \cup \{A_n: n \geq i\}: i \in \mathcal{N}\}, & x = a \\ \{\{A_n\} \cup \{a_{nm}: m \geq i\}: i \in \mathcal{N}\}, & x = A_n, n \in \mathcal{N} \\ \{\{a_{nm}\}\}, & x = a_{nm}, n, m \in \mathcal{N}. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\bigcup \{\wp_x: x \in X\}$  is a countable universal cs-network for  $M$ .

$M$  is not sof-countable by Corollary 2.8.  $\text{cl}_s(\mathcal{N})$  is not a sequentially closed subset of  $X$  because  $\text{cl}_s(\mathcal{N}) = \psi(\mathcal{N})$ .  $\square$

### 3. On the sequential fan $S(\omega)$

**Definition 3.1.** Call a subspace of a space a *fan* (at a point  $x$ ) if it consists of a point  $x$ , and a countably infinite family of disjoint sequences converging to  $x$ . Call a subset of a fan a *diagonal* if it is a convergent meeting infinitely many of the sequences converging to  $x$  and converges to some point in the fan.

A fan at a point  $x$  in a space  $X$  is called a *countable sheaf* at  $x$  in [3,4]. If  $X$  is a fan, then each point of  $X$  is regular  $G_\delta$ .  $S(\omega)$  is a fan without a diagonal.

**Lemma 3.2.** *For a space  $X$ ,  $\sigma X$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$  if and only if  $X$  is a fan without a diagonal.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $\sigma X$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ . Since  $S(\omega)$  is a fan without a diagonal,  $X$  is a fan without a diagonal. Conversely, suppose  $X$  is a fan without a diagonal. Since  $\sigma X$  is sequential, it is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Suppose  $X$  contains a fan  $S$  at a point  $x$  without a diagonal converging to  $x$ . If  $x$  is regular  $G_\delta$  in  $X$ , then  $S$  contains a closed subspace  $T$  of  $X$  such that  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $S = \{x\} \cup \{x_{nm} : n, m \in \mathcal{N}\}$ , where the sequence  $\{x_{nm}\}$  converges to  $x$  for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ . There is a sequence  $\{W_n\}$  of open neighborhoods of  $x$  in  $X$  with  $\{x\} = \bigcap \{\text{cl}(W_n) : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ . For each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ , there is  $m(1, n) \in \mathcal{N}$  with  $x_{nm(1, n)} \in W_{n+1}$ . Denote  $D_1 = \{x_{nm(1, n)} : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ , and  $V_1 = X \setminus D_1$ , then any subsequence of  $D_1$  does not converge to  $x$ , thus  $V_1$  is a sequential barrier of  $x$  in  $X$ . By inductive method, we can construct  $D_i = \{x_{nm(i, n)} : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ , and  $V_i = X \setminus (D_1 \cup D_2 \cup \dots \cup D_i)$  such that  $x_{nm(i+1, n)} \in W_{n+i+1} \cap V_i$  and  $m(i, n) < m(i+1, n)$  for each  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ . Then the sequence  $\{x_{nm(i, n)} : i \in \mathcal{N}\}$  converges to  $x$  for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ , and  $x_{nm(i, n)} \in W_k$  if  $n+i \geq k$ . Let

$$T = \{x\} \cup \{x_{nm(i, n)} : i, n \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

Then  $T \setminus W_k$  is finite for each  $k \in \mathcal{N}$ , thus  $p \in \text{cl}(W_k)$  when  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $T$  in  $X$ , so  $p = x$ , i.e.,  $x$  is a unique accumulation point of  $T$  in  $X$ . Therefore,  $T$  is closed in  $X$ , and  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $X$  be a space in which each point is regular  $G_\delta$ . If  $X$  contains a copy of  $S(\omega)$ , then  $X$  contains a closed copy of  $S(\omega)$ .*

**Definition 3.5.**

- (1) A space  $X$  is an  $\alpha_1$ -space [3,4] if  $T = \{x\} \cup (\bigcup \{T_n : n \in \mathcal{N}\})$  is a fan at  $x$  of  $X$ , where each sequence  $T_n$  converges to  $x$ , then there exists a sequence  $S$  converging to  $x$  such that  $T_n \setminus S$  is finite for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ .
- (2) A space  $X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space [3,4] if every fan at  $x$  of  $X$  has a diagonal converging to  $x$ .
- (3) A space  $X$  is a *countably bisquential space* (or a *strong Fréchet space*) [13] if, whenever  $\{A_n\}$  is a decreasing sequence of subsets of  $X$  and  $x \in \bigcap \{\text{cl}(A_n) : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ , there is a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converging to  $x$  with  $x_n \in A_n$  for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ .

Clearly, each  $\alpha_1$ -space is an  $\alpha_4$ -space, and a space is countably bisquential if and only if it is a Fréchet and  $\alpha_4$ -space.  $X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space if and only if  $\sigma X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space. By Lemma 3.3, we have that

**Theorem 3.6.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$  (in which each point is regular  $G_\delta$ ):*

- (1)  $X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space.
- (2) Every fan of  $X$  has a diagonal.
- (3)  $X$  contains no (closed) subspace having  $S(\omega)$  as its sequential coreflection.

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $X$  be a space (in which each point is regular  $G_\delta$ ).  $\sigma X$  is countably bisquential if and only if  $X$  contains no (closed) subspace having  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$  as its sequential coreflection.*

**Theorem 3.8.** *Suppose  $X$  has a point-countable  $k$ -network. If  $\sigma X$  contains no closed copy of  $S(\omega)$ , then  $X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $\wp$  is a point-countable  $k$ -network for  $X$ . If  $X$  is not an  $\alpha_4$ -space, by Definition 3.5, there is a fan at  $x$  of  $X$  without a diagonal converging to  $x$ . Put

$$S = \{x\} \cup \{x_{nm} : n, m \in \mathcal{N}\},$$

$$\mathfrak{R} = \{P \in \wp : P \cap \{x_{nm} : n, m \in \mathcal{N}\} \neq \emptyset \text{ and } x \notin \overline{P}\} = \{P_k : k \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

For each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ , there is  $m_n \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $\{x_{nm} : m \geq m_n\} \subset X \setminus \bigcup_{k \leq n} \overline{P}_k$ . Take

$$T = \{x\} \cup \{x_{nm} : m \geq m_n\}.$$

Then  $T$  is a fan at  $x$  of  $X$  without a diagonal converging to  $x$ . If there is a sequence  $\{x_{n_i m_i}\}$  in  $T$  with  $x_{n_i m_i} \rightarrow x' \neq x$ . We may assume that  $n_{i+1} > n_i$ . So there exists  $P \in \mathfrak{R}$  such that  $P \cap \{x_{n_i m_i} : i \in \mathcal{N}\}$  is infinite, a contradiction. Hence  $\sigma T$  is a closed subspace of  $\sigma X$ , and is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.9.** *Suppose  $X$  is a  $k$ -space with a point-countable  $k$ -network.*

- (1)  *$X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space if and only if  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S(\omega)$ .*
- (2)  *$X$  is a first-countable space if and only if  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$ .*
- (3)  *$X$  is a first-countable space if and only if  $X^\omega$  is a  $k$ -space.*

**Proof.** Since every  $k$ -space with a point-countable  $k$ -network is sequential [8, Corollary 3.4], (1) holds by Theorem 3.8.

If  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$ , by (1) and Corollary 2.13,  $X$  is countably bisquential. For each  $p \in X$ , declaring every point  $x \in X$ ,  $x \neq p$  isolated and  $p$  having old neighborhoods we get a regular countably bisquential topology  $\tau$  on  $X$  and  $X$  has a point-countable  $k$ -network in this topology. By Corollary 3.6 in [8],  $X$  is first-countable at  $p$  in the topology  $\tau$  and thus in its original topology, (2) holds.

If  $X^\omega$  is a  $k$ -space,  $X$  contains no closed copy of  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$  by Proposition 4.2 in [19], hence  $X$  is first-countable and (3) holds.  $\square$

Corollary 3.9(2) answers a question in [12]. By Corollary 3.9(2), Theorem 6.1 in [8] and Theorem 9.8 in [13], we have the following corollary, which improves some theorems in [20].

**Corollary 3.10.** *Suppose  $X$  is a quotient  $s$ -image of a metric space.  $X$  has a point-countable base if and only if  $X$  contains no (closed) copy of  $S_2$  and  $S(\omega)$ .*



**Definition 3.11.** Let  $\wp = \bigcup\{\wp_x: x \in X\}$  be a family of subsets of  $X$  which satisfies the conditions (1) and (2) in Definition 2.7.  $\wp$  is a *weak base* [2] for  $X$  if a necessary and sufficient condition for  $G \subset X$  to be open in  $X$  is that, for each  $x \in G$ ,  $P \subset G$  for some  $P \in \wp_x$ .  $\wp$  is a *cs-network* for  $X$  if, given an open neighborhood  $G$  of  $x$  and a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converging to  $x$ , there are  $P \in \wp_x$  and  $n \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $x_n \in P \subset G$  for all  $n \geq i$ . A space is a *gf-countable space* [2] (respectively, a *csf-countable space*) if  $X$  has a weak base (respectively, a cs-network)  $\wp$  such that each  $\wp_x$  is countable. A space is a *g-metrizable space* [8] (respectively, an  $\aleph$ -space [4]) if it is a regular space having a  $\sigma$ -locally finite weak base (respectively, cs-network).

Every g-metrizable space is gf-countable. Every  $\aleph$ -space is csf-countable. The following lemma can be checked directly.

**Lemma 3.12.** *Let  $\wp$  be a cover of a space  $X$ . If  $\wp$  is a weak base for  $X$ , then  $\wp$  is a universal cs-network for  $X$ . If  $X$  is a sequential space and  $\wp$  is a universal cs-network for  $X$ , then  $\wp$  is a weak base.*

**Theorem 3.13.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $\sigma X$  is a gf-countable space.
- (2)  $X$  is a universally csf-countable space.
- (3)  $X$  is a csf-countable and  $\alpha_1$ -space.
- (4)  $X$  is a csf-countable and  $\alpha_4$ -space.

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) and (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) are obvious.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Suppose  $X$  is a universally csf-countable space. Let  $F = \{x\} \cup (\bigcup\{T_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\})$  be a fan at  $x$  of  $X$ , where each sequence  $T_n$  converges to  $x$ . Let  $\{P_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\}$  be a decreasing universal cs-network at  $x$  in  $X$ , and  $S_n = T_n \cap P_n$  for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ ,  $S = \bigcup_{n \in \mathcal{N}} S_n = \{s_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ , then  $\{s_n\}$  is a sequence converging to  $x$ , and  $T_n \setminus S$  is finite for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ . Hence  $X$  is an  $\alpha_1$ -space.

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Suppose  $X$  is a csf-countable and  $\alpha_4$ -space. For each  $x \in X$ , let  $\wp_x$  be a countable cs-network at  $x$  in  $X$ . Put

$$\mathfrak{R}_x = \left\{ \bigcup \wp'_x: \wp'_x \text{ is a finite subset of } \wp_x \text{ and } \bigcup \wp'_x \text{ is a sequential barrier of } x \text{ in } X \right\}.$$

If  $\mathfrak{R}_x$  is not a network of  $x$  in  $X$ , then there exists an open subset  $G$  in  $X$  such that  $x \in G$  and  $F \not\subset G$  for each  $F \in \mathfrak{R}_x$ . Denote

$$\{P \in \wp_x: P \subset G\} = \{P_i: i \in \mathcal{N}\}, \quad F_n = \bigcup\{P_i: i \leq n\}, \quad n \in \mathcal{N}.$$

Then  $F_n$  is not a sequential barrier of  $x$  in  $X$ . Since  $\wp_x$  is a cs-network at  $x$  in  $X$ , there are a sequence  $T_i$  converging to  $x$  and  $n_i \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $T_i \subset P_{n_{i+1}} \setminus F_{n_i}$ , and  $n_{i+1} > n_i$  for each  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ . Put

$$T = \{x\} \cup \left( \bigcup\{T_i: i \in \mathcal{N}\} \right).$$

Then  $T$  is a fan at  $x$  in  $X$ . Since  $X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space,  $T$  has a diagonal  $\{x_k\}$  converging to  $x$ , there are  $i$  and  $m \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $x_k \in P_i$  for all  $k \geq m$ . Take some  $k \geq m$  and some  $j \geq i$  with  $x_k \in T_j$ , then  $x_k \in P_i \cap (X \setminus F_{n_j}) = \emptyset$ , a contradiction. So  $\mathfrak{R}_x$  is a countable universal cs-network at  $x$  in  $X$ , and  $\mathfrak{R}_x$  is a countable universal cs-network at  $x$  in  $\sigma X$ . Since  $\sigma X$  is sequential,  $\sigma X$  is gf-countable.  $\square$

By Corollary 3.9, Theorem 3.13 and Lemma 7(3) in [10], we have the following corollary which answers a question in [21].

**Corollary 3.14.** *Suppose  $X$  is a sequential space with a point-countable cs-network.  $X$  has a point-countable weak base if and only if  $X$  contains no (closed) copy of  $S(\omega)$ .*

**Theorem 3.15.** *The following are equivalent for a regular space  $X$ .*

- (1)  $X$  has a  $\sigma$ -locally finite universal cs-network.
- (2)  $X$  is an  $\aleph$  and  $\alpha_1$ -space.
- (3)  $X$  is an  $\aleph$  and  $\alpha_4$ -space.
- (4)  $X$  is an  $\aleph$ -space and contains no (closed) subspace having  $S(\omega)$  as its sequential coreflection.

**Proof.** (1) implies (2) because of Theorem 3.13. (2) implies (3) by Definition 3.5. (3) is equivalent to (4) by Theorem 3.6. We show that (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose  $X$  is an  $\aleph$  and  $\alpha_4$ -space. Let  $\wp$  be a  $\sigma$ -locally finite cs-network for  $X$  which is closed under finite intersections. By Theorem 3.13,  $X$  is universally csf-countable. For each  $x \in X$ , let  $\{Q_n(x): n \in \mathcal{N}\}$  be a universal cs-network at  $x$  in  $X$ . Let

$$\wp_x = \{P \in \wp: Q_n(x) \subset P \text{ for some } n \in \mathcal{N}\}.$$

Then  $\wp_x$  is a universal cs-network at  $x$  in  $X$  by the proof of Lemma 7(3) in [10], thus  $\bigcup\{\wp_x: x \in X\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -locally finite universal cs-network for  $X$ .  $\square$

Since  $k$ -spaces are equivalent to sequential spaces in which each point is  $G_\delta$  [13], we have that

**Corollary 3.16** [11]. *The following are equivalent for a  $k$ -space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $X$  is a  $g$ -metrizable space.
- (2)  $X$  is an  $\aleph$  and  $\alpha_1$ -space.
- (3)  $X$  is an  $\aleph$  and  $\alpha_4$ -space.
- (4)  $X$  is an  $\aleph$ -space and contains no (closed) copy of  $S(\omega)$ .

**Corollary 3.17.** *A space is a metrizable space if and only if it is a countably bisquential  $\aleph$ -space.*

**Theorem 3.18.** *The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :*

- (1)  $X$  has a countable universal cs-network.
- (2)  $X$  is an  $\alpha_1$ -space with a countable cs-network.

- (3)  $X$  is an  $\alpha_4$ -space with a countable cs-network.  
 (4)  $X$  has a countable cs-network and contains no subspace having  $S(\omega)$  as its sequential coreflection.

**Proof.** By Theorem 3.13, Definition 3.5 and Theorem 3.6, we only need to show that (4) implies (1). Let  $\wp$  be a countable cs-network for  $X$  which is closed under finite unions. For each  $x \in X$ , put

$$\wp_x = \{P \in \wp: P \text{ is a sequential barrier at } x \text{ in } X\}.$$

If  $\wp_x$  is not a network of  $x$  in  $X$ , by the proof in Theorem 3.13, we have a fan  $T$  at  $x$  in  $X$ . Using the same notation in the proof in Theorem 3.13, if  $D$  is a diagonal of  $T$  converging to  $d$ , then  $\{x, d\} \cup D \subset P \subset G$  for some  $P \in \wp$ , thus  $P = P_i$  for some  $i \in \mathcal{N}$ . Take some  $j \geq i$  and  $d' \in D \cap T_j$ , then  $d' \in P_i \cap T_j \subset P_i \cap (X \setminus F_{n_j}) = \emptyset$ , a contradiction. This shows that  $T$  has not a diagonal. By Lemma 3.2,  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ , a contradiction. Hence  $\wp_x$  is a network of  $x$  in  $X$ , and  $X$  has a countable universal cs-network.  $\square$

**Example 3.19.** There are a compact, sequential space  $Y$  and its subspace  $T$  such that

- (1)  $Y$  contains no copy of  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$ .  
 (2)  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ .  
 (3)  $T$  has a countable cs-network.

**Proof.** By the same notation in Example 2.14, let  $A = \{A_n: n \in \mathcal{N}\}$ . Take  $Y = X/A$  and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be the natural quotient map, then  $Y$  is a compact, sequential space, and  $Y$  contains no copy of  $S_2$  or  $S(\omega)$  by Corollary 3.10 in [16]. Let  $T = f(M)$ , then  $T$  has a countable cs-network and  $\sigma T$  is homeomorphic to  $S(\omega)$ .  $\square$

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