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# Semi-sequentially normal bitopological spaces

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### Abstract

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In this paper we introduce a weak form of full normality for bitopological spaces, and consider its relationship to pairwise paracompactness in the sense of S. Romaguera and J. Marin, and to the notion of  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement for dual covers.

*Keywords*: Dual cover, sequentially normal, *p*-*q*-metrizable, semi-sequentially normal, semi-open dual cover, bicushioned refinement,  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement.

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### 1. Introduction

The notion of sequential normality for bitopological spaces is considered in [2-4]. It is shown to be a generalization of topological full normality which, unlike full binormality, is satisfied by all *p-q-metric* bitopological spaces. In [4] it is shown that a bitopological space is *p-q-metrizable* if and only if it is bidevelopable and sequentially normal, thereby providing a generalization of Bing's metrization theorem. In Section 2 we consider an apparently weaker form of sequential normality, namely semi-sequential normality, and show that the above *p-q-metrization* theorem remains valid in this case. We also relate this form of normality to the notion of pairwise paracompactness introduced recently by Romaguera and Marin [9]. In Section 3 we consider the notion of  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement of a dual cover, and relate this to semi-sequential normality.

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# 2. Semi-sequential normality

We recall [1-5] that a *dual family* d on a set X is a binary relation on the power set of X, and that  $jc(d) = \bigcup \{U \cap V | UdV\}$ . A dual family with jc(X) = X is called a *dual cover* of X. There will be no loss of generality in assuming that  $UdV \Rightarrow U \cap V \neq \emptyset$ . We call d open for a bitopological space (X, u, v) if  $d \subseteq u \times v$ . Refinement is defined in the obvious way, while in this paper star refinement is based on the stars

$$St(d, A) = \bigcup \{ U \mid \exists V, U dV \text{ and } V \cap A \neq \emptyset \}$$

and

 $St(A, d) = \bigcup \{ V | \exists U, U dV \text{ and } U \cap A \neq \emptyset \}$ 

of  $A \subseteq X$ . This is the form of star refinement involved in the covering characterization of quasi-uniformities given by Gantner and Steinlage [6], and used by the author in defining various generalizations of quasi-uniformity, see for example [1, 2]. We write e < (\*)d if e is a star refinement of d, and say the dual cover d is normal for (X, u, v) if there is a sequence  $\langle d_n \rangle$  of open dual covers with  $d_0 < d$  and  $d_{n+1} < (*)d_n$ for all n.

Let us recall that a bitopological space (X, u, v) is called *sequential normal* [4] if given an open dual cover d of X there exist (open) normal dual covers  $e_n$  and open dual families  $d_n$  satisfying

(i)  $\bigcup jc(d_n) = X$  and

(ii)  $e_n * f_n = \{ (\operatorname{St}(e_n, U), \operatorname{St}(V, e_n)) \mid Ud_n V \} < d, n \in N.$ 

We now wish to generalize the notion of sequential normality. Let us call a dual cover d of (X, u, v) semi-open if for each  $x \in X$ , St(d, x) is a u-neighborhood and St(x, d) is a v-neighborhood of x. Since a (normal) open dual cover is semi-open the following notion is apparently weaker than sequential normality:

**Definition 2.1.** (X, u, v) is semi-sequentially normal if given an open dual cover d there exist sequences  $(d_n)$  of open dual families and  $(e_n)$  of semi-open dual covers satisfying (i) and (ii) above.

**Theorem 2.2.** (X, u, v) is p-q-metrizable if and only if it is semi-sequentially normal and bidevelopable.

**Proof.** Necessity is clear, so we outline the proof of the sufficiency. First let us note that a bidevelopable space is pairwise  $R_0$ . Hence by [5, Theorem 2.1] it will be sufficient to show the existence of a countable bineighborhood basis  $\{(R(n, x), S(n, x)) | n \in N\}$  at each  $x \in X$  satisfying the following two conditions:

(D) Given  $x \in X$  and *n* there exist  $x \in U_1 \in u$ ,  $x \in V_1 \in v$  so that

 $y \in U_1 \implies x \in S(n, y) \text{ and } y \in V_1 \implies x \in R(n, y),$ 

(E) given  $x \in X$ ,  $x \in U \in u$ ,  $x \in V \in v$  there exist  $x \in U_2 \in u$ ,  $x \in V_2 \in v$  and r so that

$$y \in U_2 \implies R(r, y) \subseteq U$$
 and  $y \in V_2 \implies S(r, y) \subseteq V$ .

Let a bidevelopment for (X, u, v) be  $(b_m)$ . Then for each *m* we have semi-open dual covers  $f_{m,n}$  and open dual families  $d_{m,n}$  so that

- (i)  $\bigcup \{ jc(d_{m,n}) \mid n \in N \} = X$ , and
- (ii)  $f_{m,n} * d_{m,n} < b_m$  for all  $n \in N$ .

If we define  $R(m, n, x) = \operatorname{St}(f_{m,n}, x)$  and  $S(m, n, x) = \operatorname{St}(x, f_{m,n})$ , then it is easy to see that  $\{(R(m, n, x), S(m, n, x)) | m, n \in N\}$  is a countable bineighborhood base at x. Clearly (D) may be satisfied by taking  $U_1 \subseteq R(m, n, x)$  and  $V_1 \subseteq S(m, n, x)$ . Now take  $x \in U \in u$  and  $x \in V \in v$ . We have m with  $\operatorname{St}(b_m, x) \subseteq U$  and  $\operatorname{St}(x, b_m) \subseteq V$ , and for this m we have n with  $x \in \operatorname{jc}(d_{m,n})$ . (E) is now satisfied by taking  $U_2 d_{m,n} V_2$  with  $x \in U_2 \cap V_2$ .  $\Box$ 

We now compare sequential and semi-sequential normality with the notion of pairwise paracompactness introduced by Romaguera and Marin [9], which is based on a characterization of regular paracompact (i.e., fully normal) topological spaces due to Junnila [7]. The restriction to  $T_1$  spaces and quasi-metrization in [9] seems unnecessarily restrictive as it excludes such a fundamental space as (R, s, t)—the reals with the lower and upper topologies. Also, when regarded as a generalization of full normality, the assumption of pairwise regularity may be omitted. Hence for convenience we shall refer to a not necessarily  $T_1$  nor pairwise regular bitopological space—otherwise satisfying the conditions of [9, Definition 4]—as an *R-M*-normal bitopological space. We now have:

### **Theorem 2.3.** Sequentially normal $\Rightarrow$ R-M-normal $\Rightarrow$ semi-sequentially normal.

**Proof.** First let d be an open dual cover in the sequentially normal space (X, u, v). Then by [2, Theorem 1.4.2] there exists a p-q-metric p with the property that  $H_n(x) = \{y | p(x, y) < 2^{-n}\} \in u, K_n(x) = \{y | p(y, x) < 2^{-n}\} \in v$  for each n, and such that, given  $x \in X$ , there exist n and UdV with

$$H_n(x) \subseteq U$$
 and  $K_n(x) \subseteq V.$  (1)

Hence  $\{(H_n(x), K_n(x)) | n \in N\}$  is a countable family of bineighborhoods of x, and (i)  $y \in H_n(x) \Leftrightarrow x \in K_n(y)$ .

(ii) For  $x \in X$  we have  $n \in N$  and UdV with  $H_n(x) \subseteq U$ ,  $K_n(x) \subseteq V$  by (1), and then  $H_{n+1}^2(x) = \bigcup \{H_{n+1}(y) | y \in H_{n+1}(x)\} \subseteq H_n(x) \subseteq U$ , and likewise  $K_{n+1}^2(x) \subseteq V$ . This verifies [9, Definition 4], so showing that (X, u, v) is *R-M*-normal.

Now let d be an open dual cover in an R-M-normal space, and let  $\{(U_n(x), V_n(x)) | n \in N\}$  be a family of bineighborhoods satisfying [9, Definition 4]. Define

 $f_n = \{(\{x\}, V_n(y)) \mid x \in V_n(y)\}.$ 

Then the condition  $x \in U_n(y) \Leftrightarrow y \in V_n(x)$  implies  $f_n$  is a semi-open dual cover with  $St(f_n, x) = U_n(x)$  and  $St(x, f_n) = V_n(x)$ . Finally let

$$d_n = \{ (U_n(x), V_n(x)) \mid \exists U dV, x \in U \cap V, U_n(x) \subseteq U, V_n(x) \subseteq V \}.$$

Then Definition 2.1 (i) and (ii) are easily verified for this choice of  $(f_n)$ ,  $(d_n)$ .

In view of this result [9, Theorem 1] is also a consequence of Theorem 2.2. However I do not know if either of the implications in Theorem 2.3 is reversible.

# 3. $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinements of dual covers

In this section we consider the notions of bicushioned and  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement for dual covers.

**Definition 3.1.** The (faithfully indexed) dual cover  $e = \{(R_a, S_a) | a \in A\}$  is said to be *bicushioned* in the dual cover d, or to be a *bicushioned refinement* of d, if for each  $a \in A$  there exists  $U_a dV_a$  so that

$$\operatorname{cl}_v(\bigcup \{R_a \mid a \in A'\}) \subseteq \bigcup \{U_a \mid a \in A'\},\$$

and

$$cl_u(\bigcup \{S_a \mid a \in A'\}) \subseteq \bigcup \{V_a \mid a \in A'\}$$

for all  $A' \subseteq A$ .

It is clear that the assumption that e be faithfully indexed may be removed. The notion of bicushioned refinement is closely related to that of semi-open dual cover, as the next proposition shows.

**Proposition 3.2.** The open dual cover d has a bicushioned refinement if and only if there exists a semi-open dual cover f with  $f < (\triangle)d$ .

**Proof.** If f exists with the stated properties, then clearly  $e = \{(\{x\}, \{x\}) | x \in X\}$  is a bicushioned refinement of d. Conversely let  $e = \{(R_a, S_a) | a \in A\}$  be a bicushioned refinement of d, and let  $U_a dV_a$  be as in Definition 3.1. For  $x \in X$  choose  $a(x) \in A$  with  $x \in R_{a(x)} \cap S_{a(x)}$ . Then  $f = \{(\{x\}, V_{a(x)} \cap \{y | x \in U_{a(y)}\}) | x \in X\}$  is easily seen to satisfy the stated properties.  $\Box$ 

Contrary to the single topology case an open dual cover of a p-q-metric bitopological space need not have a bicushioned refinement. To see this we consider the following example.

**Example 3.3** [2, 3]. Let X be the closed first quadrant of the plane. Let u consist of  $\emptyset$  and all sets G satisfying

- (i)  $(x, y) \in G, \ 0 < x' \le x \Longrightarrow (x', y) \in G,$
- (ii)  $(x, y) \in G$ ,  $0 < y \le y' \Longrightarrow (x, y') \in G$ , and
- (iii)  $\exists y > 0, (0, y) \in G.$

Clearly u is a topology on X, and so is  $v = \{G^{-1} | G \in u\}$ . It is shown in [2, 3] that the bitopological space (X, u, v) is p-q-metrizable. Consider the finite open dual cover

$$d = \{(G_1, X), (G_2, X)\},\$$

where  $G_1 = \{(x, y) | y > 0\}$  and  $G_2 = \{(x, 0) | x \ge 0\} \cup \{(0, y) | y \ge 0\}$ . Suppose that  $e = \{(R_a, S_a) | a \in A\}$  is bicushioned in d, and for  $x \ge 0$  choose  $a(x) \in A$  so that  $(x, 0) \in R_{a(x)} \cap S_{a(x)}$ , and put  $A' = \{a(x) | x \ge 0\}$ . Clearly every nonempty v-open set meets  $\bigcup \{R_a | a \in A'\}$ , and so  $cl_v(\bigcup \{R_a | a \in A'\}) = X$ . On the other hand  $(x, 0) \in R_{a(x)} \cap S_{a(x)} \subseteq U_{a(x)} \cap V_{a(x)} \Longrightarrow U_{a(x)} = G_2$  for all  $x \ge 0$ , and this gives an immediate contradiction.

This example shows that the notion of bicushioned refinement is too powerful to consider in the context of p-q-metric spaces, and so we make the following:

**Definition 3.4.** The dual family e is said to be  $\sigma$ -bicushioned in d if we may write  $e = \bigcup \{e_n \mid n \in N\}$  with each  $e_n$  bicushioned in d. A  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement of a dual cover d is a dual cover e which is  $\sigma$ -bicushioned in d.

We may now state:

**Theorem 3.5.** In a semi-sequentially normal space every open dual cover has an open  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement.

**Proof.** Let d be an open dual cover, and  $d_n$ ,  $e_n$  as in Definition 2.1. It is trivial to verify that  $\bigcup \{d_n | n \in N\}$  is the required open  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement of d.  $\Box$ 

It may be verified that if every open dual cover of (X, u, v) has an open  $\sigma$ bicushioned refinement, then with respect to the joint topology  $u \lor v$  on X every open cover has a  $\sigma$ -cushioned open refinement. Hence by a standard theorem of general topology [8, Theorem V.4] we may state:

**Corollary.** A weakly pairwise  $T_1$  semi-sequentially normal bitopological space is jointly paracompact.

It is natural to wonder about the converse of Theorem 3.5. If every open dual cover has an open  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement, must the space be semi-sequentially normal? The answer is not known, but we do have the following result:

**Theorem 3.6.** Suppose that in (X, u, v) every (finite) open dual cover has an open  $\sigma$ -bicushioned refinement. Then (X, u, v) is pairwise normal.

**Proof.** Take a *u*-closed set *P* and a *v*-closed set *Q* with  $P \cap Q = \emptyset$ , and consider the open dual cover  $d = \{(X - P, X), (X, X - Q)\}$ . Let  $e_n$  be open bicushioned refinements of *d* whose union is a dual cover of *X*. Let

$$U_n = \bigcup \{ R \mid \exists Re_n S, R \cap S \cap Q \neq \emptyset \},\$$
$$V_n = \bigcup \{ S \mid \exists Re_n S, R \cap S \cap P \neq \emptyset \}.$$

Then since  $e_n$  is bicushioned in d we see that  $cl_v(U_n) \cap P = \emptyset$  and  $cl_u(V_n) \cap Q = \emptyset$ . Let

$$U_n^* = U_n - \operatorname{cl}_u(\bigcup \{V_k \mid 0 \le k \le n\}),$$
  
$$V_n^* = V_n - \operatorname{cl}_v(\bigcup \{U_k \mid 0 \le k \le n\}),$$

 $U = \bigcup \{U_n^* | n \in N\}$  and  $V = \bigcup \{V_n^* | n \in N\}$ . Then clearly  $Q \subseteq U \in u$ ,  $P \subseteq V \in v$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ . Hence (X, u, v) is pairwise normal.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary.** A semi-sequentially normal, and hence an R-M-normal, bitopological space is pairwise normal.

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