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ATTI ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI  
CLASSE SCIENZE FISICHE MATEMATICHE NATURALI  
**RENDICONTI**

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## Supports in Product Spaces

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# RENDICONTI

DELLE SEDUTE

DELLA ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

**Classe di Scienze fisiche, matematiche e naturali**

*Seduta dell'11 dicembre 1971*

*Presiede il Presidente* BENIAMINO SEGRE

## SEZIONE I

(Matematica, meccanica, astronomia, geodesia e geofisica)

**Matematica.** — *Supports in Product Spaces.* Nota di ROGER H. MARTY, presentata (\*) dal Socio B. SEGRE.

RIASSUNTO. — In questo lavoro che fa seguito a due Note lincee di altro Autore [1, 2], vengono studiati i sostegni delle funzioni continue definite su prodotti di spazi topologici soddisfacenti a certe condizioni di densità, di grado di cellularità, eccetera.

Recent studies have been made concerning supports of continuous functions (see for example Alas [1], [2], Marty [4], Ross and Stone [5], Ulmer [7], and earlier papers which these reference). The purpose of this note is to give generalizations of some results in [1], [4], and [5].

All spaces are assumed to be Hausdorff and to have at least two elements. The *degree of cellularity*,  $c(X)$ , of a space  $X$  is the supremum of the cardinalities of the families of nonempty mutually disjoint open subsets of  $X$ . The *density* of a space  $X$  is the smallest cardinal  $m$  such that  $X$  has a dense subset of cardinality  $m$ , and the *weight* of  $X$  is the smallest infinite cardinal  $m$  such that  $X$  has a base of cardinality at most  $m$ . For an infinite cardinal  $p$  and a collection  $\{X_\alpha : \alpha \in A\}$  of spaces we denote by  $X$  the Cartesian product of this collection with the  $p$ -topology (i.e., elementary neighborhoods are of the form  $\cap \{\pi_{\alpha_\xi}^{-1}[U_\xi] : \xi \in \Xi\}$  where  $\text{card } \Xi < p$  and  $U_\xi$  is an open set in  $X_{\alpha_\xi}$  for every  $\xi \in \Xi$ ). A *support* of a function  $f$  defined on  $S \subset X$  is a set  $B \subset A$  for which  $f(x) = f(y)$  for every  $x, y \in S$  with  $x|B = y|B$  ( $x|B$  denotes the restriction of  $x$  to  $B$ ). A *support* of a subset  $F$  of  $X$  is a set  $B \subset A$  for which  $x \in F, y \in X$ , and  $x|B = y|B$  imply that  $y \in F$  for every  $x \in F, y \in X$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $c(X) \leq m$ , then every regular closed subset of  $X$  has a support of cardinality  $\leq \max\{m, p\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $F = \bar{U}$ . By Zorn's Lemma  $U$  contains a maximal family  $\mathcal{O}$  of mutually disjoint elementary neighborhoods. Since  $c(X) \leq m$ ,

(\*) Nella seduta dell'11 dicembre 1971.

card  $\mathcal{O} \leq m$ . For every  $G \in \mathcal{O}$  let  $F(G)$  denote the set (of cardinality  $< p$ ) of distinguished indices associated with  $G$  and let  $B = \bigcup \{F(G) : G \in \mathcal{O}\}$ . Then card  $B \leq \max \{m, p\}$  and  $B$  is a support of  $\bigcup \mathcal{O}$ . It follows that  $B$  is a support of  $\overline{\bigcup \mathcal{O}}$ . By the maximality of  $\mathcal{O}$ ,  $\bar{U} = \overline{\bigcup \mathcal{O}}$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *If the density of  $X_\alpha$  is  $\leq m^p$  for every  $\alpha \in A$ , then  $c(X) \leq m^p$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{G_\xi : \xi \in \Xi\}$  be a family of nonempty mutually disjoint open subsets of  $X$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that each  $G_\xi$  is an elementary neighborhood. Let  $\Gamma \subset \Xi$  such that card  $\Gamma \leq 2^{m^p}$ . If  $B = \bigcup \{F(G_\xi) : \xi \in \Gamma\}$ , then card  $B \leq 2^{m^p}$ . The family  $\{G_\xi|B : \xi \in \Gamma\}$  ( $G_\xi|B = \{x|B : x \in G_\xi\}$ ) consists of nonempty mutually disjoint open subsets of  $X|B$ . By [1, Theorem 1],  $X|B$  with the  $p^*$ -topology ( $p^*$  denotes the cardinal successor of  $p$ ) has density  $\leq m^p$ . Thus  $X|B$  with the coarser  $p$ -topology also has density  $\leq m^p$ . Consequently, card  $\Gamma \leq m^p$ . Thus  $c(X) \leq m^p$ .

**COROLLARY 1.** *If the density of  $X_\alpha$  is  $\leq m^p$  for every  $\alpha \in A$ , then every regular closed subset of  $X$  has a support of cardinality  $m^p$ .*

**COROLLARY 2.** *Suppose the weight of  $X_\alpha$  is  $\leq m^p$  for every  $\alpha \in A$ . Then for every pair  $U, V$  of disjoint open subsets of  $X$ , there are disjoint sets  $U', V'$ , each of which can be represented as a union of a collection of cardinality  $\leq m^p$  of elementary neighborhoods, and such that  $U \subset U'$  and  $V \subset V'$ .*

*Proof.* By Corollary 1,  $\bar{U}$  and  $\bar{V}$  have supports  $B(U)$  and  $B(V)$  each having cardinality  $\leq m^p$ . Let  $B = B(U) \cup B(V)$ . Then card  $B \leq m^p$ . Let  $U' = \pi_B^{-1}[U|B]$  and  $V' = \pi_B^{-1}[V|B]$ . Then  $U'$  and  $V'$  satisfy the thesis since the weight of  $X|B$  is  $\leq m^p$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $f$  be a continuous function from  $X$  into a completely regular space  $Y$  of weight  $q$ .*

a) *If every regular closed set in  $X$  has a support of cardinality  $\leq r$ , then  $f$  has a support of cardinality  $\leq \max \{r, q\}$ .*

b) *If  $c(X) \leq m$ , then  $f$  has a support of cardinality  $\leq \max \{m, p, q\}$ .*

c) *If the density of  $X_\alpha$  is  $\leq m^p$  for every  $\alpha \in A$ , then  $f$  has a support of cardinality  $\leq \max \{m^p, q\}$ .*

*Proof.* a) Let  $Y_0 = f[X]$  and embed  $Y_0$  in the Tihonov product of the collection  $\{I_\xi : \xi \in \Xi\}$  where  $\Xi$  is an index set of cardinality  $q$  and  $I_\xi = I = [0, 1]$  for every  $\xi \in \Xi$ . For every  $\xi \in \Xi$  and every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (the set of positive integers) there is a countable open cover  $\mathcal{C}_{\xi, n}$  of  $(\pi_\xi \circ f)[X]$  by elements with diameters  $< 1/n$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}_{\xi, n} = \{(\pi_\xi \circ f)^{-1}[C] : C \in \mathcal{C}_{\xi, n}\}$  for every  $\xi \in \Xi$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $\mathcal{S} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{S}_{\xi, n} : \xi \in \Xi, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then card  $\mathcal{S} \leq q$  and  $\mathcal{S}$  consists of open sets. Thus for every  $U \in \mathcal{S}$  there is support  $B(U)$  of  $\bar{U}$  of cardinality  $\leq r$ . The set  $B = \bigcup \{B(U) : U \in \mathcal{S}\}$  is a support of  $f$  of cardinality  $\leq \max \{r, q\}$ .

b) This follows from Theorem 1 and part a) above.

c) This follows from Theorem 2 and part b) above.

**THEOREM 4.** *If  $c(X_\alpha) \leq \aleph_0$  for every  $\alpha \in A$  and  $X$  has the Tihonov topology, then every continuous function  $f$  from  $X$  into a completely regular space of weight  $q$  has a support of cardinality  $q$ .*

*Proof.* This follows from Theorem 3 a) and a result of Sparks [6] that a regular open set in  $X$  has a countable support.

**COROLLARY 3.** *If  $c(X_\alpha) \leq \aleph_0$  for every  $\alpha \in A$  and  $X$  has the Tihonov topology, then every continuous function from  $X$  into a separable metric space has a countable support.*

The following theorem is an application of Theorem 3.

**THEOREM 5.** *If  $X_\alpha$  is a discrete space of cardinality  $m^p$  for every  $\alpha \in A$  and  $X$  is not discrete (i.e.,  $\text{card } A > m^p$ ), then  $X$  is not normal.*

*Proof.* Without loss of generality we may assume that each  $X_\alpha$  consists of the same set of elements. Fix  $a, b \in X_\alpha$  and let  $F_a = \{x \in X : \text{for } c \neq a, \text{ there is at most one } \alpha \in A \text{ with } x(\alpha) = c\}$  and  $F_b = \{x \in X : \text{for } c \neq b, \text{ there is at most one } \alpha \in A \text{ with } x(\alpha) = c\}$ . It is easy to check that  $F_a$  and  $F_b$  are disjoint and closed.

If  $X$  is normal, then by Urysohn's Lemma there is a continuous  $f: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $f[F_a] = \{0\}$  and  $f[F_b] = \{1\}$ . By Theorem 3 c),  $f$  has a support  $B$  of cardinality  $m^p$ . Let  $\varphi$  be an injection of  $B$  into  $X_\alpha$  and define  $y, y' \in X$  such that  $y(\alpha) = \varphi(\alpha) = y'(\alpha)$  for every  $\alpha \in B$ , and for  $\alpha \in A - B$  let  $y(\alpha) = a$  and  $y'(\alpha) = b$ . Thus  $f(y) = f(y')$ . However, this is a contradiction since  $y \in F_a$  and  $y' \in F_b$ .

**COROLLARY 4.** *If  $X$  is normal, then at most  $m^p$ -many factors  $X_\alpha$  contain closed discrete subsets of cardinality  $m^p$ .*

*Remarks.* Theorem 3 cannot be strengthened under present hypotheses even if  $Y$  is metrizable (a suitable modification of an example in [3, p. 120] will suffice).

Theorems 2 and 3 parts b) and c) are proved in [1] in the case that  $p$  has an immediate cardinal predecessor and  $Y$  is metrizable.

If  $X$  is equipped with the Tihonov topology, Theorems 1 and 5 and Corollaries 1, 2 and 4 are proved in [5] for separable spaces  $X_\alpha$ , and Theorem 2 and Corollaries 1 and 2 are given in [4] for spaces  $X_\alpha$  having density  $m$ . Also, a variation of Theorem 3 part b) is proved in [7].

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