

# On $\sigma$ -metacompact function spaces

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We introduce the following property of a family  $\mathcal{L}$  of subsets of a set  $S$ :

- (\*) For all  $N \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $x \in S$ , there exists a finite subset  $A$  of  $N$  such that, for each  $L \in \mathcal{L}$ , if  $x \in L$  and  $L \cap N \neq \emptyset$ , then  $L \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .

We consider compact spaces which have a  $k$ -network with property (\*). Examples of spaces which do not admit a  $k$ -network with (\*) include  $\beta\omega$ , a compact scattered space of height  $\omega + 1$  and the one-point compactification of a tree-space.

**Theorem.** *If  $K$  is a compact space which has a  $k$ -network with property (\*), then  $C_p(K)$  is hereditarily  $\sigma$ -metacompact.*

*Supercompact spaces* are usually defined by the existence of a “binary” subbase for the closed subsets, but according to a known and easy result, every supercompact space has a binary closed  $k$ -network.

**Proposition.** *A family  $\mathcal{L}$  of compact closed subsets of a space  $X$  is binary if, and only if, for all  $N \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $x \in X$ , there exists  $a \in N$  such that, for each  $L \in \mathcal{L}$ , if  $x \in L$  and  $L \cap N \neq \emptyset$ , then  $a \in L$ .*

Hence every supercompact space has a  $k$ -network with (\*).

**Corollary.**  *$C_p(K)$  is hereditarily  $\sigma$ -metacompact for every supercompact space  $K$ .*

**Corollary.**  *$C_p(K)$  is hereditarily  $\sigma$ -metacompact for every dyadic space  $K$ .*