

# Topological characterizations of $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces

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## Abstract

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This paper is a detailed elaboration of a talk given by the second author at the Oxford conference in June 1989. It presents necessary and sufficient conditions for a topological space to be  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable ( $\mu > 0$ ), i.e., linearly uniformizable with uncountable uniform weight. In other words, such spaces are exactly those which can be metrized by a distance function taking its values in a totally ordered Abelian group with cofinality  $\omega_\mu$ . (For  $\omega_\mu = \omega_0$ , we obtain characterizations of strongly zero-dimensional metric spaces, i.e., nonarchimedeanly metrizable spaces.)

It turns out that (strong) suborderability and the existence of a  $\sigma$ -discrete (respectively  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete) dense subspace are the most interesting properties in this respect, whenever  $\omega_\mu > \omega_0$ , or  $\omega_\mu = \omega_0$  and  $\dim X = 0$ . Therefore, a main part of the paper is devoted to the study of GO-spaces having a  $\sigma$ -discrete ( $\omega_\mu$ -discrete) dense subspace (Section 3). The last section (Section 4) is concerned with the characterization of  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizability in the realm of generalized metric spaces, in particular, by using  $g$ -functions.

Since all our spaces are *zero-dimensional*, the paper also contributes results to this important class of spaces, in particular, to the class of nonarchimedean topological spaces.

**Keywords:**  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizability, linear uniformizability, generalized metric spaces, linearly stratifiable spaces, GO-spaces,  $\sigma$ -discrete subset, strong suborderability, zero-dimensional spaces, nonarchimedean metrics, nonarchimedean topological spaces, GO-spaces with  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subspaces.

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## Introduction and survey

Recently, (e.g. by papers of Hodel [6], Hušek [7], Kopperman [10, 4], and others), the theory of nonnumerical distance functions has gained new interest, see also [21].

One of the most interesting kinds of such distance functions are “metrics”  $d$  which take their values in linearly ordered Abelian groups  $(G; +, \leq)$ . A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is *metrizable over  $G$*  if there is a (distance) function  $d : X^2 \rightarrow G$  satisfying

- (1)  $d(x, y) \geq 0 \ \forall x, y \in X$ ;  $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$ ,
- (2)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x) \ \forall x, y \in X$ ,
- (3)  $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z) \ \forall x, y, z \in X$ ,

and such that, for any  $x \in X$ , the balls  $B_\varepsilon(x)$ ,  $\varepsilon \in G$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , form a local base at  $x$ . The following equivalences are well known:

(1)  $(X, \tau)$  is metrizable over a totally ordered Abelian group  $(G, \leq)$  with cofinality  $\text{cof } G = \omega_\mu$ .

(2)  $(X, \tau)$  is metrizable either over  $\mathbb{R}$  (“ $\omega_0$ -metrizable” = “metrizable”) or – if  $\mu > 0$  – over  $G = \prod \{\mathbb{Z}_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$ <sup>1</sup> ordered lexicographically ( $X$  is “ $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable for  $\mu > 0$ ”) (see e.g. [12, 14, 21, 22]).

(3)  $\tau$  can be generated by a *uniformity*  $U$  on  $X$  which has a *totally ordered base*  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_i \mid i < \omega_\mu, B_j \subset B_i \Leftrightarrow i \leq j\}$ , i.e.,  $(X, \tau)$  is “*linearly uniformizable*” and its uniform weight is  $\omega_\mu$ , which – in that case – is also equal to the pseudoweight  $\varphi(\Delta X)$  of the diagonal  $\Delta X$  of  $X$  (see e.g. [7]).

Several authors have contributed *topological characterizations* of  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces for  $\mu > 0$  (see e.g. [6] and the bibliography in [7]), most of them generalizing classical metrization theorems to higher cardinals. This situation, however, is not completely satisfying, since, for  $\mu > 0$ , the class of  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces is not just a direct and straightforward generalization of metric spaces, it has many autonomous and independent aspects which do not have analogues for metrizable spaces in general (see e.g. [7, 9, 17, 22, 23] and others). It is this aspect which shall be emphasized in the following (which in some sense fills up the work in [7, 15, 20], where Purisch defines “almost n.a. spaces”).

For  $\omega_\mu > \omega_0$ ,  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces are *strongly zero-dimensional* and – even stronger – they are *nonarchimedean (n.a.) topological spaces*, i.e.,  $T_1$ -spaces with a topological base  $\mathcal{B}$  such that, for all disjoint  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ , either  $B_1 \subset B_2$  or  $B_1 \supset B_2$  (for more details, see [2, 7, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23]).<sup>2</sup> Hence they are *hereditarily paracompact* and *suborderable*. If a n.a. topological space is metrizable, it is nonarchimedeanly metrizable ( $d(x, z) \leq \max[d(x, y), d(y, z)] \ \forall x, y, z \in X$ ). And – as it has been proved e.g. by de Groot [1] –  $(X, \tau)$  is n.a. metrizable iff  $\dim X = 0$ . Hence, for  $\mu > 0$ ,  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces typically generalize strongly zero-dimensional metric spaces.

Another topological property typical for  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces if  $\mu > 0$ , is that all these spaces are *strongly suborderable* (Section 2). Therefore, in the following, we want to characterize  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces ( $\mu > 0$ ) as a *subclass of*

- (1) all *nonarchimedean* topological spaces (Section 1) and

<sup>1</sup>  $\mathbb{Z}_i$  denotes the set of all integers, for every  $i$ .

<sup>2</sup> Equivalently, these are exactly those  $T_1$ -spaces having a *tree base* (with respect to inclusion of basic sets. (For this reason, n.a. spaces also were called “spaces with a ramified base” (D. Kurepa, P. Papič; see [7, 23]).

(2) all *strongly suborderable* spaces (Section 2).

Generally, n.a. topological or strongly suborderable spaces  $X$  are not  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable if they have “too many isolated points which are too close by the set  $X'$  of all nonisolated points of  $X$ ”, as the Michael line typically shows [7, 15]. Therefore, similarly as in [7], we have to look for conditions *excluding this situation*. The main tool used hereby will be  $\kappa$ -discrete dense subspaces of  $X$ . Therefore, in Section 3, we generally characterize GO-spaces having  $\kappa$ -discrete dense subspaces, for  $\kappa \geq \omega_0$ . Finally, in Section 4, we shall indicate how  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces could be *characterized in terms of g-functions*.

Note that specializing our theorems to  $\omega_\mu = \omega_0$  yields topological characterizations of strongly zero-dimensional metric spaces, i.e., nonarchimedeanly metrizable spaces, which are interesting (under a different point of view) by themselves. Historical sketches of the whole theory can be found in [7, 17, 21, 23] and in other papers listed there.

### 1. Nonmetrizable $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces as a subclass of nonarchimedean spaces

Let  $X$  be a  $T_1$ -space. For any nonisolated  $x \in X$ , let  $\varphi(x)$  denote the pseudoweight of  $x$ , i.e., the smallest infinite cardinal  $\kappa$  such that  $\{x\}$  is the intersection of  $\kappa$  many open sets in  $X$ .  $\varphi(\Delta X)$  denotes the pseudoweight of  $\Delta X = \{(x, x) \mid x \in X\}$  in  $X^2$ .  $D \subset X$  is  $\sigma$ -discrete (“ $\omega_0$ -discrete”) if  $D$  is the union of countably many closed discrete subsets  $D_i \subset X$ ,  $i < \omega_0$ . For  $\mu > 0$ ,  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subsets are defined analogously, for  $i < \omega_\mu$ . Now we can prove

**Theorem 1.1.** *The following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable for  $\mu > 0$ , or  $X$  is metrizable and  $\dim X = 0$ .
- (ii)  $X$  is a nonarchimedean topological space,  $\varphi(x) = \omega_\mu$  for any nonisolated  $x \in X$ , and  $X$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subset  $D \subset X$ .
- (iii)  $X$  is a nonarchimedean topological space,  $\text{ad } X \geq \omega_\mu$ , and  $X$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subset. (Here,  $\text{ad } X$  is the smallest (infinite) cardinal  $\kappa$  such that the intersection of fewer than  $\kappa$  many open sets is open.)

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Consider  $(X, \tau)$  to be linearly uniformizable. We can assume that  $\tau$  is generated by a uniform structure  $\mathcal{U}$  on  $X$  having a well-ordered base  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  for its entourages;  $B_j \subset B_i \Leftrightarrow i \leq j$ . Moreover, we can assume that  $B_i \circ B_i = B_i$ , i.e.,  $B_i$  is an equivalence relation on  $X$ . This can be done because if  $B_i$  is any entourage in  $\mathcal{B}$ , and  $\mu > 0$ , then there is a sequence of entourages  $B_i = B_{i(0)} \supset B_{i(1)} \supset B_{i(2)} \supset \dots$  such that  $B_{i(n+1)} \circ B_{i(n+1)} \subset B_{i(n)}$  and hence  $\bigcap \{B_{i(n)} \mid n = 1, 2, \dots\} =: B^{(i)}$  is an entourage of  $\mathcal{U}$  again satisfying  $B^{(i)} \circ B^{(i)} = B^{(i)}$ . If  $\mu = 0$ , our assumption follows because  $\dim X = 0$ . Now for any  $x \in X$ , let  $B_i[x] = \{y \mid (x, y) \in B_i\}$ . Then for all  $i < \omega_\mu$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_i = \{B_i[x] \mid x \in X\}$  is a clopen partition of  $X$ , and  $\mathcal{C}_j$  refines  $\mathcal{C}_i$  whenever  $j \geq i$ . Finally, fix  $i < \omega_\mu$ , and from each  $B_i[x] \in \mathcal{C}_i$ , take one point  $y \in B_i[x]$ .

These points – all together – form a closed discrete set  $D_i \subset X$ . Since  $\mathcal{U}$  generates the topology  $\tau$  of  $X$ , the union  $D = \bigcup \{D_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  is dense in  $X$ , and we are done.

Conversely, let us show (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Let  $X$  satisfy the conditions of (ii) for some regular cardinal  $\omega_\mu$ , and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a *nonarchimedean base* for  $\tau$ ; then all  $B \in \mathcal{C}$  are clopen automatically. Now let  $D = \bigcup \{D_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  be an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subset of  $X$ . Then – at any  $x \in X$  – those  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  containing  $x$  form a monotone local orthobase [12, 14], i.e., any intersection is open or consists of  $x$  only. By technical reasoning we can assume that the union of any chain  $C_1 \subset C_2 \subset \dots$ ,  $C_k \in \mathcal{C}$ , belongs to  $\mathcal{C}$ , too (compare e.g. [15] or [2]).

Now, for any  $x \in X$ , let  $B_1(x)$  be the maximal element of  $\mathcal{C}$  containing  $x$  and *at most one* point of  $D$ , i.e.,  $|B_1(x) \cap D| \leq 1$ .  $\{B_1(x) \mid x \in X\} =: \mathcal{B}_1$  is a cover of  $X$  and in fact a clopen partition of  $X$ . Since for any nonisolated  $x \in X$ ,  $\{C \mid x \in C \in \mathcal{C}\}$  is monotone, and  $\varphi(x) = \omega_\mu$ , the intersection of fewer than  $\omega_\mu$  many open sets in  $\mathcal{C}$  is open again. Hence  $D^{(i)} = \bigcup \{D_j \mid j \leq i < \omega_\mu\}$  is closed and discrete again, and we can proceed inductively. For  $x \in X$  and  $i < \omega_\mu$ , define  $B_i(x)$  to be the maximal basis set in  $\mathcal{C}$  containing  $x$  and at most one point of  $\bigcup \{D_j \mid j \leq i\}$ , i.e.,  $|B_i(x) \cap (D_1 \cup \dots \cup D_i)| = 1$ . Again,  $\mathcal{B}_i = \{B_i(x) \mid x \in X\}$  is a clopen partition of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{B}_j$  refines  $\mathcal{B}_i$  whenever  $j \geq i$ . Therefore, the family of all  $\mathcal{B}'_i = \mathcal{B}_i \cup \{\{x\} \mid x \text{ is an isolated point, } x \in D_i\}$  constitute a totally ordered base of a covering uniformity  $\mathcal{U}$  on  $X$ . To conclude the proof we have to show that  $\mathcal{U}$  generates the originally given topology  $\tau$ . To see this, let  $x \in X$  be a nonisolated point and  $U$  an open set containing  $x$ . We can assume that  $U \in \mathcal{C}$ . Now, since  $X$  is  $T_1$ ,  $U \setminus \{x\}$  is open and hence contains infinitely many points, especially two distinct points of  $D$ , say  $x_k \in D_k$  and  $x_n \in D_n$ ,  $k < n$  (remember that every  $D_k$  is closed, hence  $X \setminus D_k$  is open). Further,  $B_n(x)$  must be contained in  $U$ , since otherwise – by the nonarchimedean property of  $\mathcal{C}$  –  $B_n(x) \supset U$ , hence  $x_k \in B_n(x)$  which contradicts the fact that  $|B_n(x) \cap (D_1 \cup \dots \cup D_k \cup \dots \cup D_n)| < 1$ . Summarizing  $\{B_i(x) \mid i < \omega_\mu, x \in X\}$  constitutes a base for  $\tau$ , and we are done. In this proof we essentially used only the fact that, by our conditions,  $\text{ad } X = \omega_\mu$ . Hence, automatically, (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) is proved by the same argument.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Also in the above argument it is shown that (ii) implies  $\text{ad } X \geq \omega_\mu$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.2** [2]. *A nonarchimedean topological space  $X$  is metrizable iff it has a  $\sigma$ -discrete dense subspace.*

The Michael line (which is gotten from the reals by turning the irrational points into isolated points) obviously is a nonarchimedean topological space which does not have a  $\sigma$ -discrete dense subspace (compare [7]).

**Remark 1.3.** From Theorem 1.1 we can conclude most of the characterizations of  $\omega_\mu$ -metric spaces ( $\mu > 0$ ) given or summed up in [7]. Compare also the examples and counterexamples given there.

**Remark 1.4.** It is crucial for the above theorem to ask that all  $D_i \subset D$  are closed in  $X$ . The one-point Lindelöfization  $D \cup \{x\}$  of a cardinality  $\aleph_1$  discrete space  $D$  is nonarchimedean but not metrizable since it is not first countable. (More exactly,  $D = (\omega_1 + 1) - \{\alpha \mid \lim \alpha < \omega_1\}$ .) On the other hand,  $D$  is a nonclosed discrete subset of  $X$ . (Obviously, there is an analogue of this example for every  $\omega_\mu > \omega_0$ .)

**2.  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces as special kinds of strongly suborderable spaces**

By a theorem of Herrlich [5], a totally disconnected metric space  $X$  is orderable iff  $\dim X = 0^3$  (hence every nonarchimedean metrizable space is orderable). Unfortunately, for every  $\omega_\mu > \omega_0$ , there exists a *nonorderable*  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable space [23]. However, we can show that, for  $\mu > 0$ , any  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable space  $X$  is *strongly suborderable*, i.e., there exists a linear order  $\leq$  on  $X$  such that open intervals form a local base at any nonisolated point  $x \in X$  (see [7, p. 178], which is a direct generalization of a method described in [16]). Therefore, it seems natural to conversely ask which strongly suborderable spaces are  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable.

**Theorem 2.1.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable for  $\mu > 0$  or  $X$  is metrizable and  $\dim X = 0$ .
- (ii)  $X$  is strongly suborderable, (weakly) zero-dimensional,  $\text{ad } X = \varphi(\Delta X) (= \omega_\mu)$  and  $X$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subset.

**Proof.** By the comments above and the proof of Theorem 1.1 we only have to show (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Let  $D = \bigcup \{D_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  be  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete and dense in  $X$ , and if  $X$  has a first or last point, let them be in  $D$ . By our assumption, for any nonisolated point  $x \in X$ , we have  $\varphi(x) = \varphi(\Delta X) = \omega_\mu$ , i.e., the intersection of fewer than  $\omega_\mu$  many open sets is open, and  $X$  has a monotone local base of cardinality  $\omega_\mu$ . Moreover, for each  $j < \omega_\mu$ ,  $\bigcup \{D_i \mid i \leq j\} = D^{(j)}$  is closed and discrete, and, obviously,  $D^{(j)} \supset D^{(i)}$  if  $j \geq i$ ;  $D^{(1)} = D_1$ . Finally, let  $\Delta X = \bigcap \{U_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$ , where  $U_i$  is open in  $X^2$ .

Now, since  $X$  is suborderable, it follows from our assumptions that  $X$  is paracompact and strongly zero-dimensional, i.e.,  $\dim X = 0$  (see e.g. [7, (i), (iii), p. 176]). Now, by induction we construct a topologically compatible covering - uniformity similarly to the method in the proof of Theorem 1.1.

For each  $j < \omega_\mu$ , let  $\mathcal{B}_j$  be a partition of  $X$  into clopen sets  $B$  such that (i)  $B \times B \subset U_j$ ; (ii) each  $B \in \mathcal{B}_j$  contains at most one point of  $D^{(j)}$ ; (iii) for all isolated  $x \in D^{(j)}$ ,  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{B}_j$ ; (iv) for  $i \leq j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_j$  refines  $\mathcal{B}_i$ ; and (v) each  $B$  is *convex* in the chosen strong suborder  $\leq$ ; that is, if  $x < y < z$  and  $\{x, z\} \subset B$ , then  $y \in B$ . All this is a routine application of ultraparacompactness, strong suborderability, and the fact that  $\text{ad } X = \omega_\mu$ . Indeed, by  $\text{ad } X = \omega_\mu$ , we can obtain an open cover satisfying (i)-(iv), with the additional property that each isolated  $x \in D^{(j)}$  is in exactly one member of the cover,

<sup>3</sup> Independently proved by P. Papič, too.

namely  $\{x\}$ . Then refine this cover to a clopen partition  $\mathcal{P}$ , and replace each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  by its convexity components, i.e., equivalence classes with respect to the relation  $x \equiv y$  iff  $x, y$ , and all intermediate points are in  $P$ . The fact that these equivalence classes are both open and closed follows easily from the same properties of  $\mathcal{P}$  (compare the proof of Theorem 3.6(1) below).

For each  $x \in X$  and each  $i < \omega_\mu$ , let  $C_i(x)$  be the unique member of  $\mathcal{B}_i$  containing  $x$ . Since the equivalence relation associated with  $\mathcal{B}_i$  is finer than  $U_i$ , and  $\Delta X = \bigcap \{U_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$ , it follows that  $\bigcap \{C_i(x) \mid i < \omega_\mu\} = \{x\}$ . Since  $X$  is strongly suborderable and  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{B}_i$  for some  $i$  whenever  $x$  is isolated, it follows that  $\{\mathcal{B}_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  is a base for a uniformity on  $X$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.2.** It is important to note that  $X$  was supposed to be *strongly suborderable*. Replacing this assumption by “suborderable” in general we cannot conclude our results as seen e.g. from [7, Example 3, p. 182]. By this example, for every regular  $\omega_\mu$ , there is a dense in itself paracompact suborderable, zero-dimensional space  $X$ ,  $\varphi(x) = \varphi(\Delta X) = \omega_\mu$ , such that intersections of fewer than  $\omega_\mu$  many open sets are open, but  $X$  is not  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable (even not nonarchimedean).

**Corollary 2.3.** *A  $T_1$ -space is nonarchimedeanly metrizable iff  $X$  is strongly suborderable, zero-dimensional,  $X$  has a  $G_0$ -diagonal and a  $\sigma$ -discrete dense subset.*

It may be interesting to recall a result of Wouwe [24] who showed that any suborderable space with a  $\sigma$ -discrete dense subset is perfectly normal, and to recall the 15 years old open problem whether every perfectly normal nonarchimedean topological space is metrizable (and hence nonarchimedeanly metrizable); see [2, 12, 14, 15]. (We know, that the answer is “no” if there is a Suslin line [7]. And, by a result of Purisch, every perfectly normal n.a. topological space is orderable [19].)

### 3. GO-spaces with $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subspaces

In the preceding paragraphs, when characterizing  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces, the most important properties were the two named in the heading above. Therefore, in the following, we want to investigate these properties in more detail and finally, in this realm, we present a new and very general characterization of  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces.<sup>4</sup> Moreover, the following result illuminates the difference between *suborderable* and *strongly suborderable* spaces, as well. We start by systematically collecting definitions and facts (either well known or cited in the preceding paragraphs) which will be used in the proof of the main theorem.

<sup>4</sup> Besides, this section throws new light on a paper of Purisch [20], which in some sense will be “completed” by the ideas below.

**Fact 3.1.** Every strongly zero-dimensional metrizable space  $(X, \tau)$  is orderable. For  $\mu > 0$ , any  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable space  $(X, \tau)$  is strongly zero-dimensional and (strongly) suborderable. In other words, there is a linear order  $\leq$  on  $(X, \tau)$  such that  $(X, \leq, \tau)$  is a GO-space. Moreover, for any nonisolated point  $x$ , the open intervals  $(a, b)$ ,  $a < x < b$ , form a local base at  $x$ . We say that  $\leq$  “fits” the  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable topology  $\tau$ . For every  $\omega_\mu > \omega_0$ , there is a nonorderable  $\omega_\mu$ -metric space [23].

**Fact 3.2.** There is an  $\omega_\mu$ -analogue of the Nagata–Smirnov metrizability theorem: a regular space  $X$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable iff it is (1)  $\omega_\mu$ -additive (i.e., the intersection of fewer than  $\omega_\mu$  many open sets is open), and (2)  $X$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -locally finite base ([11]; see also [6, 17]).

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $(X, \leq, \tau)$  be a GO-space. A point  $x$  is *half-isolated* if  $X$  has a local base of nondegenerate half-open intervals of which  $x$  is one endpoint. It is *naturally half-isolated* if it has an immediate predecessor or an immediate successor, and *artificially half-isolated* otherwise. (Because of nondegeneracy it cannot have both an immediate predecessor and an immediate successor.) The Sorgenfrey line, for example, consists of artificially half-isolated points.

In the literature, naturally half-isolated points are also called “*jump points*”, whereas artificially half-isolated points are often called “*pseudogap points*”. Here, moreover we exclude nonisolated endpoints from being defined as pseudogap points.

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a totally ordered set and let  $S \subset X$ . Then  $A(X, S)$  – as a set – is gotten from  $X$  by replacing each  $x \in S$  by two elements,  $x^+$  and  $x^-$ , i.e.,  $A(X, S) = (X \setminus S) \cup \{x^- | x \in S\} \cup \{x^+ | x \in S\}$ . Now a linear order on  $A(X, S)$  is defined as follows: For  $x \in X \setminus S$ , let  $x^\# = \{x\}$ , if  $x \in S$ , let  $x^\# = \{x^-, x^+\}$ ,  $x^- < x^+$ . Now, if  $x < y$ , we define  $x^\# < y^\#$ . (So, for example, if  $x < y$ ,  $x \in S$ ,  $y \in S$ , we have  $x^- < x^+ < y^- < y^+$ .) Briefly, we can say  $A(X, S)$  is the splitting of the points  $S$  in  $X$ :  $A(X, S) = (X \times \{0\}) \cup (S \times \{1\})$  with the lexicographic order.

**Definition 3.5.** If  $(X, \leq, \tau)$  is a GO-space and  $S \subset X$ , then the *canonical topology* on  $A(X, S)$  is defined by describing local bases for the “new” points  $x^-, x^+ \in A(X, S)$  whenever  $x \in S$ :

- (1) If  $x$  is isolated in  $\tau$ , let  $x^-$  and  $x^+$  be isolated points in  $A(X, S)$ .
- (2) If  $x$  is half-isolated on the right in  $X$ , let  $x^+$  be isolated in  $A(X, S)$ , and the intervals  $(w, x^-]$  form a local base at  $x^-$ .
- (3) If  $x$  is half-isolated on the left in  $X$ , similarly let  $x^-$  be isolated in  $A(X, S)$ , and the intervals  $[x^+, w)$  form a local base at  $x^+$ .
- (4) If  $x$  is *neither* isolated *nor* half-isolated in  $X$ , the intervals  $(w, x^-]$  form a local base at  $x^-$ , while the intervals  $[x^+, w')$  form a local base at  $x^+$  in  $A(X, S)$ .

Now let us formulate the main results of this section.<sup>5</sup>

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $(X, \leq, \tau)$  be a strongly zero-dimensional  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable GO-space. Then*

- (1)  *$X$  has a uniformity  $\mathcal{U}$  with a totally ordered base of partitions into  $\tau$ -clopen intervals, and*
- (2) *the collection of half-isolated points  $x \in X$  forms an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subspace of  $X$ .*

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $Y$  be a strongly zero-dimensional space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  *$Y$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable.*
- (ii)  *$Y$  is strongly suborderable by a total order  $\leq$ ,  $Y$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subspace which includes all (naturally) half-isolated points of  $(Y, \leq, \tau)$ , and  $Y$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -additive.*
- (iii)  *$Y$  is a GO-space w.r.t. a total order  $\leq$ , such that  $Y$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subspace which includes all half-isolated points of  $(Y, \leq, \tau)$ , and  $Y$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -additive.*

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $Y$  be a strongly zero-dimensional suborderable space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  *$Y$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subspace, and  $Y$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -additive.*
- (ii)  *$Y$  embeds in some  $A(X, S)$  with the canonical topology, for some  $(X, \leq)$  where  $\leq$  fits some  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable topology on  $X$ .*
- (iii)  *$Y$  embeds in some  $A(X, S)$  with the canonical topology for some  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable GO-space  $(X, \leq, \tau)$ .*

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $Y$  be a strongly zero-dimensional space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  *$Y$  is strongly suborderable,  $Y$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete dense subspace, and  $Y$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -additive.*
- (ii)  *$Y \approx A(X, S)$  with the canonical topology for some  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable GO-space  $(X, \leq, \tau)$  such that  $\leq$  fits  $\tau$  (in particular,  $(X, \tau)$  is strongly suborderable).*

**The proofs.** The proofs of Theorems 3.6–3.9 will now be given in *one* bunch, because the main ideas and the main steps are similar and they can be combined in a certain way. Moreover, the “hierarchy” of the above results will become clearer by arranging the proofs in the way we chose in the following.

**Proof of Theorem 3.6(1).** Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a uniformity with base  $\{\mathcal{B}_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_\mu\}$  of partitions of  $X$  into clopen sets with  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha$  refining  $\mathcal{B}_\beta$  whenever  $\beta < \alpha$ . For each  $x$  and each

<sup>5</sup> Note that specializing the following results to the countable case,  $\omega_\mu = \omega_0$ , we obtain characterizations of GO-spaces having a  $\sigma$ -discrete dense subspace.



$\alpha$ , let  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(x)$  be the unique member of  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha$  containing  $x$ . Given any  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha$  and any  $x \in X$ , let  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) = I_\alpha^-(x) \cup \{x\} \cup I_\alpha^+(x)$ , where

$$I_\alpha^-(x) = \{y \mid y \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha(x), y < x, \text{ and } z \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha(x) \text{ whenever } y < z < x\},$$

$$I_\alpha^+(x) = \{y \mid y \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha(x), y > x, \text{ and } z \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha(x) \text{ whenever } x < z < y\}.$$

**Claim.**  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  is clopen.

Once the claim is proven, let  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha = \{\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \mid x \in X\}$ .

Now,  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha$  is a partition of  $X$  into convex sets, meaning that if  $z, y \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  and  $z < w < y$ , then  $w \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$ , and if  $z \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \cap \mathcal{C}_\alpha(y)$  for (say)  $x < y$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(x) = \mathcal{B}_\alpha(y) = \mathcal{B}_\alpha(z)$  (because  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha$  is a partition) and hence  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) = \mathcal{C}_\alpha(y) = \mathcal{C}_\alpha(z)$  (since  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(z)$  is easily seen to be the union of all subintervals of  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(z)$  containing  $z$ , we have  $(\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \cup \mathcal{C}_\alpha(y)) \subset \mathcal{C}_\alpha(z)$ , and by similar arguments,  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) = \mathcal{C}_\alpha(y) = \mathcal{C}_\alpha(z)$ ).

$\mathcal{C}_\alpha$  refines  $\mathcal{C}_\beta$  whenever  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha$  refines  $\mathcal{B}_\beta$  and so  $\{\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \mid \alpha < \omega_\mu\}$  is a totally ordered basis for a (topologically compatible) uniformity on  $(X, \tau)$ . Hence (1) follows as soon as we prove the claim:

**Proof of the claim.**  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  is open: since  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  is the union of all subintervals of  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(x)$  containing  $x$ , and  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(x)$  is open, any endpoint of  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  has a nbhd  $V$  contained in  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(x)$  which is also an interval, so  $V$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$ . Hence  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  is open. On the other hand,  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  is closed, because any supremum  $y$  it has in its closure is in  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha(x)$ , hence by definition of  $I_\alpha^+(x)$ ,  $y \in I_\alpha^+(x) \subset \mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$ , and similar for infima.

**Proof of Theorem 3.6(2).** Consider the usual inductive process of giving  $X$  a total order using  $\{\mathcal{C}_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_\mu\}$  (described in [7] and indicated in [16, 23] and (older) papers of Kurepa and (possibly) Papič). For any  $x \in X$ , we have  $\{x\} \subset \bigcap \{\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \mid \alpha < \omega_\mu\}$ , and  $x < y$  iff there exists  $\alpha < \omega_\mu$  such that  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) < \mathcal{C}_\alpha(y)$  in the total order imposed on  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha$ . Moreover,  $\{\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \mid \alpha < \omega_\mu\}$  is a local base at  $x$ , so that if  $x$  is half-isolated, it is actually an endpoint of some  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$ . But any  $\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x)$  has at most two endpoints and – as shown above –  $\{\mathcal{C}_\alpha(x) \mid x \in X\}$  is a discrete collection for any fixed  $\alpha < \omega_\mu$ . Hence the set of all half-isolated points is (either empty or) an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subset of  $X$ .

**Proof of Theorem 3.7.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Think of Fact 3.1 and combine Theorem 2.1 with Theorem 3.6(2). By Theorem 2.1,  $(Y, \tau)$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subspace  $D = \bigcup \{D_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  which, by Theorem 3.6, can be made to contain all (naturally) half-isolated points w.r.t. any order  $\leq$  that fits  $\tau$ . Clearly,  $(Y, \leq, \tau)$  is a GO-space. Further any half-isolated point is naturally half-isolated, since  $Y$  is strongly suborderable.

The proof of (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) will be combined with the proofs of parts (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) of Theorems 3.8 and 3.9 later on.

**Proof of Theorem 3.8.** (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Obvious.

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): By the preceding theorems, we know, that  $(X, \leq)$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subspace  $D = \bigcup \{D_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  which contains all half-isolated and isolated points. Then  $\bigcup \{d^\# \mid d \in D\} = D^\#$  is dense and  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete, because if  $F$  is closed (respectively discrete) in  $X$ , then  $\bigcup \{f^\# \mid f \in F\}$  is closed (respectively discrete) in  $A(X, S)$ , by definition of the canonical topology. And these properties carry over to  $Y \cap D$  as a subspace of  $Y$ . Moreover, the fact that  $X$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -additive carries over routinely, first to  $A(X, S)$  and then to  $Y$ .

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Will be proved below, together with (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) of Theorem 3.9 and (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) of Theorem 3.7.

**Proof of Theorem 3.9.** (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Essentially the same as Theorem 3.8 (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i).

Finally, (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) of Theorem 3.9 will be given by the following reasoning.

**Combined proof** (of (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) of Theorem 3.7 and (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) of Theorems 3.8 and 3.9). Let  $D = \bigcup \{D_i \mid i < \omega_\mu\}$  be the dense subset hypothesized, with every  $D_i$  closed and discrete in  $Y$ . We may assume that any (possible existing) endpoint of  $Y$  is in  $D_0$ . Moreover, we can assume  $D_i \subset D_j$  whenever  $i < j$ , since  $Y$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -additive (compare the proof of Theorem 1.1).

*Step 1.*  $D_0$  induces a partition of  $Y$  into  $\tau$ -clopen intervals each of which meets it in at most one point, as follows:

(a) If  $d \in D_0$ , let  $I^+(d)$  be a  $\tau$ -open,  $\tau$ -closed on the right interval defined as follows. If  $d$  is *isolated*, or *half-isolated on the right*, we make  $I^+(d) = \emptyset$ . If  $d$  is *neither*, but has an *immediate  $D_0$ -successor  $d'$* , let  $I^+(d)$  be an initial segment of the interval  $(d, d')$ ; this can be done using strong zero-dimensionality of  $Y$ . If  $d$  is *neither* and does *not* have an immediate  $D_0$ -successor, let  $I^+(d) = \{y \in Y \mid y > d \text{ and there is no } d' \in D_0 \text{ such that } d < d' \leq y\}$ . Since  $D_0$  is  $\tau$ -closed and discrete,  $I^+(d)$  is  $\tau$ -open then, and because, in this case now,  $\{d' \in D_0 \mid d' > d\}$  has no least element,  $I^+(d)$  is  $\tau$ -closed on the right.

Similarly, for  $d \in D_0$ , let  $I^-(d)$  be a  $\tau$ -open  $\tau$ -closed on the left interval constructed as follows: if  $d$  is *isolated* or *half-isolated on the left*, let  $I^-(d) = \emptyset$ . If  $d$  is *neither* but has an *immediate  $D_0$ -predecessor  $d''$* , let  $I^-(d) = (d'', d) \setminus I^+(d'')$ . If  $d$  is *neither* and does *not* have an immediate  $D_0$ -predecessor, let  $I^-(d) = \{y \in Y \mid y < d \text{ and there is no } d' \in D_0 \text{ such that } y \leq d' < d\}$ . Similar to the above,  $I^-(d)$  is  $\tau$ -open and  $\tau$ -closed on the left.

Now, for each  $d \in D_0$ , let  $I(d) = I^-(d) \cup \{d\} \cup I^+(d)$ . It is easy to see that  $I(d)$  is a  $\tau$ -clopen interval of  $T$ . Also, if  $d_1, d_2 \in D_0$  and  $d_1 < d_2$ , then  $I(d_1) \cap I(d_2)$  is empty. This is clear by construction if  $d_1$  is the immediate  $D_0$ -predecessor of  $d_2$ ; otherwise, there exists  $d \in D_0$  such that  $d_1 < d < d_2$ , and then  $I^+(d_1)$  does not contain  $d$  (by construction of  $I^+(d)$ ) and neither does  $I^-(d_2)$ , and since the  $I(d_i)$  are intervals they must be disjoint.

(b) Now if  $y \in Y \setminus D_0$  and  $y$  has both an *immediate  $D_0$ -predecessor  $d$*  and an *immediate  $D_0$ -successor  $d'$* , then  $d'$  is the immediate  $D_0$ -successor of  $d$  and, therefore,

$y$  is in either  $I^+(d)$  or  $I^-(d')$  unless we have both:  $I^+(d)$  and  $I^-(d')$  are empty. In that case,  $y$  is not in any  $I(d'')$ ,  $d'' \in D_0$ .

If, secondly,  $y \in Y \setminus D_0$  and has an immediate  $D_0$ -successor (respectively  $D_0$ -predecessor)  $d$  but no immediate  $D_0$ -predecessor (respectively  $D_0$ -successor), then  $y \in I^-(d)$  (respectively  $y \in I^+(d)$ ) unless  $I^-(d)$  (respectively  $I^+(d)$ ) is empty, in which case  $y$  is not in any  $I(d')$ ,  $d' \in D_0$ .

Thirdly, if  $y \in Y \setminus D_0$  and  $y$  has neither an immediate  $D_0$ -successor nor an immediate  $D_0$ -predecessor, then  $y \notin \bigcup \{I(d) \mid d \in D_0\}$ . And, for any such  $y$ , let  $I(y)$  be the union of all intervals containing  $y$  and missing  $D_0$ , i.e.,  $I(y) = \{y' \in Y \mid \text{either } y' \geq y \text{ and there is no } d \in D_0 \text{ s.t. } y \leq d \leq y', \text{ or } y' \leq y \text{ and there is no } d \in D_0 \text{ s.t. } y' \leq d \leq y\}$ . Then it is easy to see that  $\{I(y) \mid y \notin \bigcup \{I(d) \mid d \in D_0\}\}$  is a partition of  $Y \setminus \bigcup \{I(d) \mid d \in D_0\}$  into open intervals. So, together with  $\{I(d) \mid d \in D_0\}$  we have a partition of  $Y$  into  $\tau$ -open, hence  $\tau$ -clopen, intervals, which finishes Step 1.

*Step 2.* Now assume that we are given a partition  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \omega_\mu$ , of  $Y$  into clopen intervals. Each of these meets  $D_\alpha$  in a closed discrete subspace, so we can use the intersection of  $D_\alpha$  with each member of  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  to subdivide it into  $\tau$ -clopen subintervals, just as  $D_0$  subdivided all of  $Y$  into  $\tau$ -clopen subintervals (Step 1). In particular, each subinterval contains at most one member of  $D_\alpha$  (compare the proof of Theorem 1.1).

Let  $\mathcal{U}_1$  be the partition obtained from  $D_0$ . In general, if  $\mathcal{U}_\beta$  has been defined for all  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , apply  $D_\alpha$  to  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  as prescribed, and let  $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha+1}$  be the resulting refinement of  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ . If  $\mathcal{U}_\beta$  has been defined for all  $\beta < \alpha$  and  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal  $< \omega_\mu$ , let  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  be the common refinement of the preceding  $\mathcal{U}_\beta$ . By the fact that intersection of less than  $\omega_\mu$  many open sets is open ( $\omega_\mu$ -additivity was hypothesized),  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  is a partition into  $\tau$ -(cl)open intervals.

*Step 3.* Let  $\mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$  be the common refinement of the  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \omega_\mu$ . Because  $D$  is dense, and each interval of  $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha+1}$  contains at most one member of  $D_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha$  (see Step 2), and  $D$  is the union of the  $D_\alpha$ , it follows that each member of  $\mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$  has at most two points.

Every isolated point  $d$  of  $Y$  is in  $D_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha < \omega_\mu$ . Thus the analogues of  $I^+(d)$  and  $I^-(d)$  are empty, and so  $\{d\} \in \mathcal{U}_{\alpha+1}$ . Consequently, if  $d$  is isolated in  $Y$ , then  $\{d\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$ .

If  $\{y, y'\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$ , and  $y < y'$ , then neither point is isolated by what we have just said, and  $y'$  is the immediate successor of  $y$ , so that both  $y$  and  $y'$  are naturally half-isolated.

If, finally,  $\{y\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$  and  $y$  is neither isolated nor half-isolated, then the open intervals around  $y$  form a local base there, and  $y$  is not an endpoint of the unique member  $I_\alpha(y)$  of (each)  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  containing  $y$ , so that these open intervals form a local base at  $y$ .

*Step 4* (construction of  $A(X, S)$ ). Let  $Z = \{y \in Y \mid \exists y' \in Y \text{ such that } \{y, y'\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu} \text{ and } y' > y\}$ , and let  $X = Z \cup \{y \in Y \mid \{y\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}\}$ . Further, let  $S$  be the union of  $Z$  with all those points of  $Y$  which are artificially half-isolated in  $Y$ . Finally, let  $X$  be given the order topology augmented by all singletons that are isolated in  $Y$ .

**Claim.**  $(X, \leq)$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable in this topology.

(The proof of the claim will be given after the next step, so the “red thread” will not be cut.)

Once the claim is proven, we can embed  $Y$  into  $A(X, S)$  as follows:

*Step 5.* Let  $f: Y \rightarrow A(X, S)$  be defined as follows: If  $y \in Z$ , then  $y \in S$  and we let  $f(y) = y^-$ . If  $y$  is the immediate successor of some  $z \in Z$ , then  $\{z, y\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$  and  $z \in S$ , and we let  $f(y) = z^+$ . If  $y$  is artificially half-isolated in  $Y$ , say the intervals  $(y', y]$  form a local base at  $y$ , although  $y$  has no immediate successor, then let  $f(y) = y^-$ . Similarly, if the intervals  $[y, y')$  form a local base at  $y$  although  $y$  has no immediate predecessor, then let  $f(y) = y^+$ . The only remaining case is where  $y \notin S$  and in this case we have  $f(y) = y$ .

We now show that  $f$  is an embedding: This is obvious in case of those points which are isolated and also in case of those points which are neither isolated nor half-isolated. The half-isolated points  $y \in Y$  break up into three cases:

*Case 1:  $y$  is artificially half-isolated.* Then  $y \in X$ , and  $y$  is neither isolated nor half-isolated in  $X$ . So  $y^-$  has a local base of sets of the form  $(w, y^-]$  in  $A(X, S)$  with  $w < y^-$  and  $w$  not the immediate predecessor of  $y^-$ , while  $y^+$  has a similar local base of sets  $[y^+, w)$ . No matter which way  $y$  is half-isolated in  $Y$ ,  $f$  sends it to the “correct” member of  $\{y^-, y^+\}$ .

*Case 2:  $y$  is half-isolated and  $\{y, y'\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$  for some  $y' \neq y$ .* (Clearly, in this case,  $y$  is naturally half-isolated.) Then either  $y$  or  $y'$  is in  $X$ , and is neither isolated nor half-isolated there (i.e., in  $X$ ) and we can argue similarly to Case 1.

*Case 3:  $y$  is naturally half-isolated and  $\{y\} \in \mathcal{P}_{\omega_\mu}$ .* Say  $y$  has an immediate successor but no immediate predecessor in  $Y$ , i.e., its intervals are of the form  $(w, y]$  in  $Y$ . Now there is some  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  in which  $y$  and its immediate successor  $y'$  are in separate members of  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ , and then  $y$  is the greatest point of its interval while  $y'$  is the least point of its interval. This makes  $y$  naturally half-isolated in the order topology in  $X$ , and since  $y \notin S$  (by definition of  $S$ ),  $y$  keeps that status in  $A(X, S)$ .

**Proof of the claim.** Note that  $Y \setminus X$  consists of  $Z' = \{y \in Y \mid y \text{ has an immediate predecessor in } Z\}$ , these points being naturally half-isolated have no immediate successors in  $Y$ ; similarly, the points in  $Z$  do not have immediate predecessors in  $Y$ , and so if  $z \in Z$ , then  $z$  is not an endpoint of the interval of  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  ( $\alpha < \omega_\mu$ ) containing it, neither is its immediate successor (which follows by definition of  $Z$ ). As  $\alpha$  ranges over  $\omega_\mu$ , the trace of these intervals on  $X$  close down on  $\{z\}$ , and form a local base there in the order (LOTS) topology on  $X$ .

For *artificially half-isolated points* of  $Y$ , the argument is similar; for them too, the  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$  will trace on  $X$  a local base in the order topology. This is also true of *naturally half-isolated points* of  $X \setminus Z$ , except that these will be the upper (or lower) endpoint of some members of some  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ , and then for all  $\mathcal{U}_\gamma$ ,  $\gamma > \alpha$ , of course.

Finally, *isolated points of  $X$*  are isolated in  $Y$  and hence their singleton sets get into some  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ , automatically. (Note that the only pseudogap points of  $X$  are isolated pseudogap points of  $Y$ . Hence  $X$  is strongly suborderable.)

Altogether, the traces of the  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \omega_\mu$ , form a covering uniformity on  $X$  of the kind we are looking for which is compatible with the (order) topology of  $X$  by construction. In other words, the order  $\leq$  on  $X$  fits an  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable topology on  $X$ .

**Conclusion.** This now completes the proof of (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) in Theorem 3.8. It also completes the proof of (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) in Theorem 3.9, since there we have a *strong* suborder on  $Y$ , and so there are *no artificially half-isolated points*, so that  $f$  is a surjection as well as an embedding, i.e.,  $Y \approx A(X, S)$ . To see how (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) of Theorem 3.7 follows, we have to add some more arguments: When we form  $A(X, S)$  then  $S$  is an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subspace in  $X$  by the assumption in (iii) of Theorem 3.7. ( $D$  includes all half-isolated points of  $Y$ .) But, since  $Y$  is embedded into  $A(X, S)$ , and  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable is hereditary, we will be done as soon as we have shown the following

**Lemma 3.10.** *If  $(X, \leq, \tau)$  is an  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable GO-space and  $S$  is an  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete subspace of  $X$ , then  $A(X, S)$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable in the canonical topology.*

**Proof.** By the  $\omega_\mu$ -analogue of the Nagata–Smirnov theorem (see “Fact 3.3” at the beginning of Section 3 and [6, 11]),  $(X, \tau)$  has an  $\omega_\mu$ -locally finite base, and since  $S$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -discrete, it follows from the definition of the natural topology (which  $A(X, S)$  is endowed with) that  $A(X, S)$  has such a base, too. Hence,  $A(X, S)$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable, and we are done.  $\square$

(Analogously, this latter result can be derived from the  $\omega_\mu$ -analogue of Bing’s metrization theorem, which says that a regular space is metrizable iff it has a  $\sigma$ -discrete base.)

**Remark 3.11.** *If in the above proof of (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) of Theorem 3.7, we additionally hypothesize that  $Y$  is *strongly* suborderable (which, in fact, is condition (ii)), then  $S$  is empty, because there are no artificially half-isolated points,  $Z = \emptyset$  always and  $A(X, S) = X$ . Hence (i) follows immediately, and no lemma is needed, indeed.*

**Remark 3.12.** *It would be natural to inquire whether the following statement – analogous to Theorem 3.8(iii) – is equivalent to the two statements in Theorem 3.9:*

$Y \approx A(X, S)$  with the canonical topology for some  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable GO-space  $(X, \leq, \tau)$ .

The difficulty is in showing that  $A(X, S)$ , when defined using  $\leq$ , is strongly suborderable. Of course, we can reorder  $X$  to give it a strong suborder, and the resulting  $A(X, S)$  would also be strongly suborderable, but the topology on  $A(X, S)$  depends upon the order as well as the topology. Therefore, more generally, we can ask:

**Problem.** If  $X$  is a strongly suborderable space, and  $\leq$  is an order making  $X$  a GO-space, and  $S \subset X$ , is  $A(X, S)$  with the canonical topology (w.r.t.  $\leq$ ) strongly suborderable?

#### 4. Characterization of $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces in terms of $g$ -functions

$g$ -functions are an important tool in the theory of generalized metric spaces. Recently, Nagata [11] has published a survey paper on this subject, which also contains new results.

For any topological space  $(X, \tau)$  a function  $g: \mathbb{N} \times X \rightarrow \tau$  is a “ $g$ -function” [11]. We can assume that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in X$ ,  $g(n, x)$  is a (not necessarily open) neighborhood of  $x$ .  $g$ -functions can play a major role in characterizing various classes of *generalized metric spaces* and in describing the *difference* between certain classes of such spaces and metrizable spaces [11]. Therefore it would be worthwhile to characterize  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces in terms of  $g$ -functions, too. First, let us take care of the case  $\omega_\mu = \omega_0$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *The following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X$  is a n.a. metrizable space;
- (ii)  $X$  is a n.a. topological space having a  $g$ -function satisfying
 
$$\text{if } p \in g(n, x_n) \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ then } \langle x_n \rangle \rightarrow p; \quad (*)$$
- (iii)  $X$  is a n.a. topological space having a  $g$ -function satisfying
 
$$\text{if } p \in g(n, x_n) \text{ and } x_n \in g(n, y_n) \text{ for all } n, \text{ then } \langle y_n \rangle \rightarrow p. \quad (**)$$

**Proof.** Clearly n.a. metric spaces satisfy (ii) and (iii), since  $\mathcal{B}_n = \{B_{1/n}(x)\} = \{\{y \mid d(x, y) < 1/n\} \mid x \in X\}$  is a clopen partition of  $X$  and we can take  $g(n, x) = B_{1/n}(x)$ .

Further, by a result of Heath, condition (\*\*) characterizes  $\sigma$ -spaces, and by [15, Theorem 13] any n.a.  $\sigma$ -space is metrizable and hence n.a. metrizable. Finally, condition (\*) characterizes semistratifiable spaces. But any n.a. topological space is monotonically normal and any monotonically normal semistratifiable space is stratifiable and hence [3] a  $\sigma$ -space. Therefore, condition (\*) implies (\*\*) in our case, and (\*\*) guarantees metrizability of the given n.a. topological space.  $\square$

**Remark 4.2.** In [25], Vaughan generalized the concept of stratifiable spaces to higher cardinals when defining “linearly stratifiable spaces”. By using a result of Nyikos, the authors in [7] have shown that the following are equivalent: (i)  $X$  is metrizable and  $\dim X = 0$  or  $X$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable for  $\mu > 0$ ; (ii)  $X$  is suborderable, zero-dimensional and stratifiable over  $\omega_\mu$  ( $> \omega_0$ ). From this result and its method of proof it is clear how Theorem 3.6 can be generalized to yield a *characterization of  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable spaces for  $\mu > 0$* . We have to generalize a  $g$ -function to be a function

$g : \omega_\mu \times X \rightarrow \tau$ , and in some cases, we must add  $\text{ad } X = \omega_\mu$  (which for n.a. topological spaces is equal to  $\varphi(x) = \omega_\mu$  for any nonisolated point  $x \in X$ ).

A very typical example for a large number of theorems is the following:

**Theorem 4.3.** *The following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X$  is  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable ( $\mu > 0$ ) or  $X$  is metrizable and  $\dim X = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $X$  is (1) suborderable, (2) zero-dimensional, and (3) has a  $g$ -function  $g : \omega_\mu \times X \rightarrow \tau$  with property (\*): “if for all  $i < \omega_\mu$ ,  $p \in g(i, x_i)$ , then  $\langle x_i \mid i < \omega_\mu \rangle \rightarrow p$ ”.

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Let  $(X, d)$  be  $\omega_\mu$ -metrizable and  $d : X^2 \rightarrow G$  where  $(G, \leq, +)$  is a linearly ordered Abelian group and  $\langle \varepsilon_i \mid i < \omega_\mu \rangle \rightarrow 0$  in  $G$  with the order topology ( $i < j \Rightarrow \varepsilon_i > \varepsilon_j > 0$ ). We already know that (1) and (2) are satisfied, and obviously  $g(i, x) = B_i(x) = \{y \in X \mid d(x, y) < \varepsilon_i\}$  satisfies property (\*). Conversely, let us show (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Similar to the case  $\omega_\mu = \omega_0$ , the existence of a  $g$ -function with property (\*) characterizes linear semistratifiability and, because  $X$  is monotonically normal,  $X$  is linearly stratifiable (in the sense of Vaughan [25]). Now, since by an old result of Nyikos (see e.g. [7]) any linearly stratifiable suborderable space is linearly uniformizable, we are done.  $\square$

#### Note added in proof

Meanwhile, Purisch has shown that the answer to the problem posed just before Section 4 is negative: Let  $X = C - \{x \in C \mid x \text{ is isolated on the left}\}$ , where  $C$  is the Cantor set. Let  $S$  be the set of two-sided limit points of  $C$  (neither isolated nor half-isolated). ( $S$  is sometimes called the irrational points of  $C$  or the inaccessible points of  $C$ .) Since  $X$  is a totally disconnected set of reals, it is orderable (see I.L. Lynn, Linearly orderable space, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. (1962); in a more general setting see [5]). But  $A(X, S)$  is not strongly suborderable since it has no isolated points and it is not orderable by Example 3 in: S. Purisch, Orderability of GO spaces whose pseudogaps are few or scattered about in: Z. Frolik, ed., Proceedings Sixth Prague Topological Symposium, 1986 (Heldermann, Berlin, 1988).

Note also this example shows that the analogue of Theorem 3.8(iii) in Remark 3.12, is *not* equivalent to the two statements in Theorem 3.9.

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