

Lemma 4. Let X be a pseudocompact space and f a continuous one-to-one function from $X \times T(|\beta X|^+)$ onto Z . We are given two sets:

$$C_1 = \{x \in \beta X \setminus X : |\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T(|\beta X|^+)] \cap Z| = |\beta X|^+\}.$$

$$C_2 = \{x \in \beta X \setminus X : |\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T(|\beta X|^+)] \cap Z| < |\beta X|^+ \text{ and for any } \alpha \in T(|\beta X|^+), \text{ there exists } \alpha_1 \in T(|\beta X|^+) \text{ such that } \alpha_1 > \alpha \text{ and } \bar{f}(x, \alpha_1) \in Z\}.$$

$$\text{Then, } C_1 \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X} = \emptyset \text{ and } X \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X} = \emptyset.$$

Proof. We'll first prove that $C_1 \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X} = \emptyset$.

Suppose the contrary. Let $x \in C_1 \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X}$.

For each $y \in C_2$, let $Z_y = \bar{f}[\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+)] \cap Z$.

Since $\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+) = \bigcup \{\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+) \cap \bar{f}^{-1}(z) : z \in Z_y\}$, we have:

$$|\beta X|^+ = |\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+)| = \left| \bigcup \{\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+) \cap \bar{f}^{-1}(z) : z \in Z_y\} \right|.$$

Since $|Z_y| < |\beta X|^+ = cf(|\beta X|^+)$, at least one of the terms in the union must have cardinality equal to $|\beta X|^+$. So there exists $z \in Z_y$ such that

$$|\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+) \cap \bar{f}^{-1}(z)| = |\beta X|^+.$$

Define $A_y = \pi_2[\{y\} \times T(|\beta X|^+) \cap \bar{f}^{-1}(z)]$, where $\pi_2 : \beta X \times T(|\beta X|^+) \rightarrow T(|\beta X|^+)$ is the projection map. Thus, we defined $A_y \subseteq T(|\beta X|^+)$ such that $|A_y| = |\beta X|^+$ and $\bar{f}[\{y\} \times A_y] = z = f(x_y, \alpha_y)$ for some $(x_y, \alpha_y) \in X \times T(|\beta X|^+)$. By the continuity of \bar{f} , we have that $\bar{f}\left[\{y\} \times \overline{A_y}^{T(|\beta X|^+)}\right] = f(x_y, \alpha_y)$ holds for all $y \in C_2$.

Let $T = \bigcap \left\{ \overline{A_y}^{T(|\beta X|^+)} : y \in C_2 \right\} \cap T_x$, where T_x was defined in Lemma 3.

Now, by **FACT 3**, $|T| = |\beta X|^+$ and T is closed in $T(|\beta X|^+)$.

We have $|\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z| = |\beta X|^+$ holds. This is because: $x \in C_1$ and by the way we defined T , we must have $\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] = f[y_x, T] \subseteq Z$. Since f is one-to-one, $|f[y_x, T]| = |T| = |\beta X|^+$.

On the other hand, we have $|\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z| < |\beta X|^+$ holds. Because:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z &\subseteq \bar{f}\left[\overline{C_2}^{\beta X} \times T\right] \cap Z \subseteq \bar{f}\left[\overline{C_2 \times T}^{\beta X \times T(|\beta X|^+ + 1)}\right] \cap Z \\ &= \bar{f}\left[\overline{C_2 \times T}^{\beta(X \times T(|\beta X|^+))}\right] \cap Z \subseteq \overline{\bar{f}[C_2 \times T]}^{\beta Z} \cap Z = \overline{\{f(x_y, \alpha_y) : y \in C_2\}}^{\beta Z}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality holds because $\bar{f}[\{y\} \times T] = f(x_y, \alpha_y)$ holds for all $y \in C_2$. Now, let $\alpha = \sup\{\alpha_y : y \in C_2\}$, which exists because $|C_2| \leq |\beta X| < |\beta X|^+ = cf(|\beta X|^+)$.

Since $\{f(x_y, \alpha_y) : y \in C_2\} \subseteq \bar{f}[\beta X \times T(\alpha + 1)] = \overline{\bar{f}[\beta X \times T(\alpha + 1)]}^{\beta Z}$, we must have $\overline{\{f(x_y, \alpha_y) : y \in C_2\}}^{\beta Z} \subseteq \bar{f}[\beta X \times T(\alpha + 1)]$. Since

$\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z \subseteq \bar{f}[\beta X \times T(\alpha + 1)]$ and we have $|\bar{f}[\beta X \times T(\alpha + 1)]| < |\beta X|^+$, we conclude that $|\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z| < |\beta X|^+$. This contradiction to our previous argument that $|\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z| = |\beta X|^+$. Therefore, $C_1 \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X} = \emptyset$.

We show that $X \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X} = \emptyset$. Suppose the contrary. Let $x \in X \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X}$.

Since $x \in \overline{C_2}^{\beta X}$, by the same reasoning as in above, we must have $|\bar{f}[\{x\} \times T] \cap Z| < |\beta X|^+$.

However, since $x \in X$, $|\bar{f}[X \times T] \cap Z| = |f[X \times T]| = |\beta X|^+$,

where the last equality holds because f is one-to-one and $|T| = |\beta X|^+$.

Again, we reached contradiction. Thus, $X \cap \overline{C_2}^{\beta X} = \emptyset$ holds. Lemma 4 is proved.