

Original Article

# Metrizability of the Strong $\varphi$ -metric Space

Stela Çeno<sup>1</sup>, Dhurata Valera<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Science, University of Elbasan “Aleksandër Xhuvani”, Albania.

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding Author : [stela.ceno@uniel.edu.al](mailto:stela.ceno@uniel.edu.al)

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**Abstract** - After presenting a strong  $\varphi$ -metric space and proving that this space is regular and normal, in this article, we prove the Stone-type theorem in a strong  $\varphi$ -metric space. Also, it is used Bing metrization theorem for access to a satisfactory condition of metrizability.

**Keywords** - Strong  $\varphi$ -metric, Strong  $\varphi$ -metric space, Metrizability, Topological space, Regular metric space.

## 1. Introduction

This article is a consecutive of previous work [1], where the strong  $\varphi$ -metric space is proved to be a regular and a normal space. In this paper, we are committed to studying the metrizability of the strong  $\varphi$ -metric space. The definitions and results in this section are given to support the proof.

**Definition 1.1.** [2] Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $B = \{B_m : m \in M\}$  be a family of subsets of  $X$ . Then:

- If, for  $\forall x \in X$ , exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that  $B_m \cap U = \emptyset$  for at most one  $m \in M$ , then  $B$  is called *discrete*.
- If for  $\forall x \in X$ , exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that  $\{m \in M : A_m \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$  is finite, then  $B$  is called *locally finite*.
- If  $B = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} B_i$ , where every  $B_i$  is locally finite, then  $B$  is called  *$\sigma$ -locally finite*.
- If  $B = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} B_i$ , where every  $B_i$  is discrete, then  $B$  is called  *$\sigma$ -discrete*.
- If  $X = \bigcup_{m \in M} B_m$  then  $B$  is called a *cover* of  $X$ .
- A cover  $A = \{A_i : i \in I\}$  of subsets of  $X$  is called a *refinement* of the cover  $B_i$ , if for each  $i \in I$  there exists  $m \in M$  such that  $A_i \subset B_m$ .

**Definition 1.2.** [2] Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. Then:

- $X$  is regular space if for any closed subsets  $A \subset X$  and for  $x \in X \setminus A$ , there exist two disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$  containing  $A$  and  $x$ , respectively.
- $X$  is normal space if, for any two disjoint closed subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $X$ , there exist two disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$ , containing  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively.

**Definition 1.3.** [3,4] Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space.

- A subset  $U$  of  $X$  is called sequentially open if each sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  converging to a point  $x \in U$ , then there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\{x_n\} \in U$  for all  $n \geq N$ .
- A subset  $U$  of  $X$  is called sequentially closed if no sequence in  $U$  converges to a point not in  $U$ .
- $X$  is called semi-metrizable if there exists a function  $d: X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty[$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$ :
  - $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$ ;



ii)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$

iii)  $x \in \bar{A} \Leftrightarrow d(x, A) = \inf\{d(x, y) : y \in A\} = 0$  for any  $A \subset X$ .

d)  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be metrizable if there exists a metric on  $X$  whose topology is the same as topology  $\tau$ .

**Theorem 1.4.** [2] (The Stone Theorem) Every open cover of a metrizable space has an open refinement which is both locally finite and  $\sigma$ -discrete.

**Theorem 1.5.** [5] (The Bing Metrization Theorem) A topological space is metrizable if and only if it is regular and has a  $\sigma$ -discrete base.

In [1], as it is mentioned at the beginning, we have presented the definition of the strong  $\varphi$ -metric and proved two theorems regarding strong  $\varphi$ -metric space, as it follows:

**Definition 1.6.** The function  $d_s : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \geq 0$ , is called a *strong  $\varphi$ -metric* and satisfies the following conditions:

a)  $d_s(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$ ;

b)  $d_s(x, y) = d_s(y, x)$ ;

c)  $d_s(x, z) \leq Kd_s(x, y) + d_s(y, z) + \varphi(x, y, z), \forall x, y, z \in X$ , and  $K \geq 1$ , with  $\varphi : X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \geq 0$  a function fulfilling:

i)  $\varphi(x, y, z) = 0$  if  $x = z$  or  $y = z$ ;

ii)  $\varphi(x, y, z) = \varphi(y, x, z)$ ;

iii)  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$  such that  $\varphi(x, y, z) < \varepsilon$ , whenever  $d_s(x, y) < \delta$  or  $d_s(y, z) < \delta, \forall x, y, z \in X$ .

The ordered pair  $(X, d_s)$  is called a *strong  $\varphi$ -metric space*.

**Theorem 1.7.** Every strong  $\varphi$ -metric space  $(X, d_s)$ , is regular.

**Theorem 1.8.** Every strong  $\varphi$ -metric space  $(X, d_s)$ , is normal.

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** (Stone-type theorem) In a strong  $\varphi$ -metric space  $(X, d_s)$ , every open cover of  $X$  has an open refinement, which is  $\sigma$ -locally finite and  $\sigma$ -discrete at the same time.

**Proof.** Let  $\{\mathcal{U}_m : m \in M\}$  be an open cover of  $X$ . By the Zermelo theorem on well-ordering [2], we can take a well-ordering relation  $<$  on  $M$ . Define the families  $\mathcal{V}_i = \{\mathcal{V}_{m,i} : m \in M\}$  of subsets of  $X$  by letting  $\mathcal{V}_{m,i} = \bigcup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} B_s(c, \frac{1}{2^i})$  where  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of all points  $c \in X$  satisfying the following conditions:

i)  $m$  is the smallest element of  $M$  such that  $c \in \mathcal{U}_m$ .

ii)  $c \notin \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$  for all  $j < i$  and for all  $t \in M$ .

iii)  $B_s(c, \frac{5}{2^i}) \subset \mathcal{U}_m$ .

Apparently, the sets  $\mathcal{V}_{m,i}$  are open, and by the third statement (iii), we have  $\mathcal{V}_{m,i} \subset \mathcal{U}_m$ . For each  $x \in X$ , take the smallest  $m \in M$  such that  $x \in \mathcal{U}_m$  and a natural number  $i$  such that  $B_s(x, \frac{5}{2^i}) \subset \mathcal{U}_m$ . It implies that  $x \in \mathcal{C}$  if and only if  $x \notin \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$  for all  $t \in M$  and  $j < i$ . Then  $x \in \mathcal{V}_{m,i}$ . Thus, we have either  $x \in \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$  for all  $j < i$  and all  $t \in M$  or  $x \in \mathcal{V}_{m,i}$ . This proves that  $\mathcal{V} = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{V}_i$  is an open refinement of the cover  $\{\mathcal{U}_m : m \in M\}$ .

Now, for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $x_1 \in \mathcal{V}_{m_1,i}$  and  $x_2 \in \mathcal{V}_{m_2,i}$  with  $m_1 \neq m_2$ . Let us suppose  $m_1 < m_2$ . By the definition of  $\mathcal{V}_{m_1,i}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_{m_2,i}$ , there exists  $c_1, c_2 \in X$  satisfying conditions (i), (ii), (iii) and  $x_1 \in B_s(c_1, \frac{1}{2^i}), x_2 \in B_s(c_2, \frac{1}{2^i})$ . Again, we have  $B_s(c_1, \frac{5}{2^i}) \subset \mathcal{U}_{m_1}$  and  $c_2 \notin \mathcal{U}_{m_1}$  and this implies  $d_s(c_1, c_2) \geq \frac{5}{2^i}$ . But we have:

$$d_s(c_1, c_2) \leq Kd_s(c_1, x_1) + d_s(x_1, x_2) + Kd_s(x_2, c_2) + \varphi(c_1, c_2, x_1) + \varphi(x_1, c_2, x_2)$$

$$d_s(x_1, x_2) \geq \frac{5}{2^i} - Kd_s(c_1, x_1) - Kd_s(x_2, c_2) - \varphi(c_1, c_2, x_1) - \varphi(x_1, c_2, x_2). \quad (2.1)$$

Again for  $\frac{1}{2^{i+1}} > 0$  there  $\exists \beta_1, \beta_2 > 0$  such that  $\varphi(c_1, c_2, x_1) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$  whenever  $d_s(c_1, x_1) < \frac{\beta_1}{K}$  and  $\varphi(x_1, c_2, x_2) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$ , whenever  $d_s(x_2, c_2) < \frac{\beta_2}{K}$ . Let  $\beta = \min\{\frac{\beta_1}{K}, \frac{\beta_2}{K}, \frac{1}{2^i}\}$ . Then  $d_s(c_1, x_1) < \beta$ ,  $d_s(x_2, c_2) < \beta$  and  $\varphi(c_1, c_2, x_1) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$ ,  $\varphi(x_1, c_2, x_2) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$ . Then (2.1) gives:

$$d_s(x_1, x_2) \geq \frac{5}{2^i} - 2\beta - 2\frac{1}{2^{i+1}} \geq \frac{5}{2^i} - 2\frac{1}{2^i} - \frac{1}{2^i} = \frac{1}{2^{i-1}}.$$

To prove that the families  $\mathcal{V}_i$  are  $\sigma$ -discrete, suppose there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $x_1, x_2 \in B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{i+1}})$ . Then we have  $d_s(x, x_1) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$ ,  $d_s(x, x_2) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$  and:

$$\frac{1}{2^{i-1}} < d_s(x, x_2) \leq Kd_s(x_1, x) + d_s(x, x_2) + \varphi(x_1, x_2, x). \quad (2.2)$$

Now for  $\frac{1}{K(2^{i+1})} > 0$  there exists  $\beta' > 0$  such that  $\varphi(x_1, x_2, x) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$  whenever  $d_s(x_2, x) < \beta'$ . If  $\delta = \min\{\beta', \frac{1}{K(2^{i+1})}, \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}\}$ , then  $d_s(x_2, x) < \delta$  and  $\varphi(x_1, x_2, x) < \frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$ . The inequality (2.2) gives:

$$\frac{1}{2^{i-1}} < d_s(x_1, x_2) < K\frac{1}{K(2^{i+1})} + \delta + \frac{1}{2^{i+1}} \leq 2\frac{1}{2^{i+1}} + \frac{1}{2^{i+1}} < \frac{1}{2^i} + \frac{1}{2^i} = \frac{1}{2^{i-1}}.$$

This is a contradiction, and hence, it proves that each ball of radius  $\frac{1}{2^{i+1}}$  meets at most one element of  $\mathcal{V}_i$  that is  $\mathcal{V} = \cup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{V}_i$  is  $\sigma$ -discrete. Let  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  then for all  $t \in M$ ,  $i \geq j + k$  and  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  implies  $c \notin \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$ . Now if  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{i-1}}) \subset \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$ , then  $c \notin B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{k-1}})$  and  $d_s(x, c) \geq \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}$ .

Again,  $j + k \geq k + 1$  and  $i \geq k + 1$  implies  $\frac{1}{2^{j+k}} \leq \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}$  and  $\frac{1}{2^i} \leq \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}$ . Next, suppose there exists  $y \in B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{j+k}}) \cap B_s(c, \frac{1}{2^i})$ . Then:

$$d_s(x, c) \leq Kd_s(x, y) + d_s(y, c) + \varphi(x, c, y) \quad (2.3)$$

For  $\frac{1}{2^k} > 0$  there  $\exists \alpha > 0$  such that  $\varphi(x, c, y) < \frac{1}{2^k}$  whenever  $d_s(x, y) < \frac{\alpha}{K}$ . Let  $\gamma = \min\{\frac{\alpha}{K}, \frac{1}{2^{j+k}}\}$ . Then:  $d_s(x, y) < \gamma$  and  $\varphi(x, c, y) < \frac{1}{2^k}$ . Therefore from (2.3) we obtain:

$$\frac{1}{2^{k-1}} \leq d_s(x, c) < \gamma + \frac{1}{2^i} + \frac{1}{2^k} \leq \frac{1}{2^{j+k}} + \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} + \frac{1}{2^k} \leq \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} + \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} + \frac{1}{2^k} = \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}.$$

Which concludes  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{i+k}}) \cap B_s(c, \frac{1}{2^i}) = \emptyset$  and this implies  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{i+k}}) \cap \mathcal{V}_{m,i} = \emptyset$  for  $i \geq j + k$  and  $m \in M$  with  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}) \subset \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$ . Since  $\mathcal{V}$  is a refinement of  $\{\mathcal{U}_m : m \in M\}$ , so for each  $x \in X$ , there exists  $l, j$  and  $t$  such that  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^l}) \subset \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$  and thus, there exists  $k, j$  and  $t$  such that  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}) \subset \mathcal{V}_{t,j}$ . Then the ball  $B_s(x, \frac{1}{2^{i+k}})$  meets at most  $(j + k - 1)$  members of  $\mathcal{V}$ . This proves that  $\mathcal{V}_i$  is locally finite, that is  $\mathcal{V}$  is  $\sigma$ -locally finite.

**Corollary 2.2.** Let is  $(X, d_s)$  a strong  $\varphi$ -metric space. Then  $X$  has  $\sigma$ -discrete base.

**Proof.** For every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathcal{A}_i = \{B_s(x, \frac{1}{i}) : x \in X\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is an open cover of  $X$ . By Theorem 2.1, there exists an open  $\sigma$ -discrete refinement  $\mathcal{B}_i$  of  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . Put  $\mathcal{B} = \cup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{B}_i$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -discrete base of  $X$ .

**Corollary 2.3.** Every strong  $\varphi$ -metric space is metrizable.

**Proof.** From the proven theorem, a strong  $\varphi$ -metric space is a normal space [1], and Corollary 2.3. it follows that  $X$  is regular space with a  $\sigma$ -discrete base. Then from Bing Metrization Theorem (Theorem 1.5.),  $X$  is metrizable.

### 3. Conclusion

The main conclusion of this paper is the fact that a strong  $\varphi$ -metric space is metrizable.

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