

On topological completeness

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E. Čech has proved the following theorem¹⁾:

A metrizable space R is topologically complete if and only if it is completely metrizable.

In this paper we shall show that by making use of the theorem of N. A. Shanin,²⁾ we can simplify the proof of Čech's theorem and generalize it slightly.

We mean in this paper by a filter a family of closed sets having the finite intersection property, and we say that a filter $\{F_\alpha \mid A\}$ is vanishing when $\prod F_\alpha = \emptyset$ holds.

N. A. Shanin's theorem. *In order that a T_1 -space R can be represented as an intersection of at most \mathfrak{n} (a cardinal number) open sets in Wallman's bicompactification $W(R)$ of R , it is necessary and sufficient that there exists a collection $\{\mathfrak{F}_\tau\}$ of at most \mathfrak{n} vanishing filters \mathfrak{F}_τ of R with the property: For an arbitrary maximum vanishing filter \mathfrak{F} of R , there exists a filter \mathfrak{F}_τ of $\{\mathfrak{F}_\tau\}$ such that $\mathfrak{F}_\tau \subset \mathfrak{F}$.*

When we note that there exists a one-to-one correspondence between an open set of $W(R)$ containing R and a vanishing filter of R as well as between a point of $W(R) - R$ and a maximum vanishing filter of R , this theorem is almost obvious.

Proof of Čech's theorem. We begin with the necessity of the condition. Let R be a topologically complete and metrizable space. Since R is topologically complete, R is, as is well known, a G_δ -set in Čech's bicompactification $\beta(R)$ of R , i.e. an intersection of at most countable open sets of $\beta(R)$. Since R is metrizable, and accordingly normal, $\beta(R)$ and $w(R)$ are, as is well-known, identical. Therefore, when we use Shanin's theorem in the case of $\mathfrak{n} = \mathfrak{a}$, we get the family $\{\mathfrak{F}_n\}$ of at most a countable number of vaning filters \mathfrak{F}_n mentioned in the theorem.

Let $\mathfrak{F}_n = \{F_{n,\alpha} \mid \alpha \in A_n\}$; then $\{F_{n,\alpha}^c \mid \alpha \in A_n\} = \mathfrak{M}_n$ ³⁾ ($n=1,2,\dots$) are open coverings of R .

On the other hand, since R is metrizable, R has a base $\{\mathfrak{M}_m\}$ of uniform-