## 97. Finite-to-one Closed Mappings and Dimension. III

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The method of proof employed in the previous note [5, Theorem 4] can be applied to new characterizations<sup>1)</sup> of dimension of metric spaces by means of a sequence of coverings, which generalize the results due to J. Nagata [7, Theorem 3] and C. H. Dowker and W. Hurewicz [2], as follows.

**Theorem 1.** In order that a topological space R be a metrizable space with dim  $R^{2} \leq n$  it is necessary and sufficient that there exists a sequence of locally finite coverings  $\mathfrak{H}_i = \{H_a; a \in A_i\}, i=1, 2, \cdots$ , of R which satisfies the following conditions.

(1)  $\overline{\mathfrak{H}}_{i+1} = \{\overline{H}_{\alpha}; \alpha \in A_{i+1}\}$  refines  $\mathfrak{H}_i$  for every *i*.

(2)  $\liminf_{i} \operatorname{order} (x, \mathfrak{H}_i)^{\mathfrak{H}} \leq n+1 \text{ for every } x \in \mathbb{R}.$ 

(3) For any point  $x \in R$  and any neighborhood U of x there exists i with Star  $(x, \tilde{\mathfrak{D}}_i)^{4} \subset U$ .

C. H. Dowker and W. Hurewicz's characterization [2] is a direct consequence of this theorem. As a corollary of this theorem we get the following.

**Theorem 2.** In order that a topological space R be a metrizable space with dim  $R \le n$  it is necessary and sufficient that there exists a sequence of open coverings  $\mathfrak{U}_i$ ,  $i=1, 2, \cdots$ , of R which satisfies the following conditions.

(1)  $\mathfrak{U}_{i+1}^{*}$  refines  $\mathfrak{U}_i$  for every *i*.

(2)  $\liminf_{i} \operatorname{order} (x, \mathfrak{U}_i) \leq n+1 \text{ for every } x \in \mathbb{R}.$ 

(3) For any point  $x \in R$  and any neighborhood U of x there exists i with Star  $(x, \mathcal{U}_i) \subset U$ .

J. Nagata's characterization [7, Theorem 3] is a direct consequence of this theorem.

We call a covering U of a space a multiplicative<sup>6)</sup> one if for every non-empty intersection  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{k} U_i$  of elements  $U_i$ ,  $i=1,\dots,k$ , of  $\mathfrak{l}$ is also an element of  $\mathfrak{l}$ . The maximal number n such that there

<sup>1)</sup> The detail of the content of the present note will be published in another place.

<sup>2)</sup> dim R denotes the covering dimension of R.

<sup>3)</sup> order  $(x, \mathfrak{F}_i)$  denotes the number of elements of  $\mathfrak{F}_i$  which contain x.

<sup>4)</sup> Star  $(x, \mathfrak{F}_i) = \bigcup \{H_{\alpha}; x \in H_{\alpha} \in \mathfrak{F}_i\}.$ 

<sup>5)</sup>  $\mathfrak{n}_{i+1}^* = \{ \text{Star}(U, \mathfrak{n}_{i+1}); U \in \mathfrak{n}_{i+1} \}, \text{ where } \text{Star}(U, \mathfrak{n}_{i+1}) = \bigcup \{ V; U \cap V \neq \phi \ (=\text{the empty set}), V \in \mathfrak{n}_{i+1} \}.$ 

<sup>6)</sup> Cf. [1] or [7].