ON THE PYTKEEV PROPERTY IN SPACES OF CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONS (II)

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ABSTRACT. We prove that for each Polish space X, the space C(X) of continuous real-valued functions on X satisfies (a strong version of) the Pytkeev property, if endowed with the compact-open topology. We also consider the Pytkeev property in the case where C(X) is endowed with the topology of pointwise convergence.

1. Introduction

For a topological space X, C(X) is the family of all real-valued continuous functions on X. We consider two standard topologies on C(X), which make it a topological group. Let $\mathbf{0}$ denote the constant zero function on X.

 $C_k(X)$ denotes C(X), endowed with the compact-open topology. For a set $K \subseteq X$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$[K;n] = \left\{ f \in C_k(X) : (\forall x \in K) |f(x)| < \frac{1}{n} \right\}.$$

When K ranges over the compact subsets of X and n ranges over \mathbb{N} , the sets [K;n] form a local base at $\mathbf{0}$.

 $C_p(X)$ denotes C(X), endowed with the topology of pointwise convergence. Here, a local base at **0** is given by the sets [F; n], where $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and F ranges over the finite subsets of X.

 $C_k(X)$ is metrizable if, and only if, X is hemicompact (i.e., there is a countable family of compact sets such that each compact subset of X is contained in some

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member of the family) [9]. In particular, $C_k(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})$ is not metrizable. Restricting attention to first countable spaces X, McCoy [9] observed that for $C_k(X)$ to be metrizable, it suffices that it has the $Fr\acute{e}chet$ -Urysohn property, that is, for each $A \subseteq C_k(X)$ with $\mathbf{0} \in \overline{A}$, there is a sequence of elements of A converging to $\mathbf{0}$. Despite the fact that $C_k(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})$ does not have the Fréchet-Urysohn property, we show in Section 2 that it has the slightly weaker Pytkeev property.

As for $C_p(X)$, it is metrizable if, and only if, X is countable [1]. Here, the Fréchet-Urysohn property does not imply metrizability, and Sakai asked whether for $C_p(X)$, the Pytkeev property implies the Fréchet-Urysohn property. We establish several weaker assertions (Section 3).

2. The compact-open topology

Let X be a topological space. $C_k(X)$ has the *Pytkeev property* [11] if for each $A \subseteq C_k(X)$ with $\mathbf{0} \in \overline{A} \setminus A$, there are infinite sets $A_1, A_2, \ldots \subseteq A$ such that each neighborhood of $\mathbf{0}$ contains some A_n .

The notion of a k-cover is central in the study of local properties of $C_k(X)$ (see [3] and references therein). A cover \mathcal{U} of X is a k-cover of X if $X \notin \mathcal{U}$, but for each compact $K \subseteq X$, there is $U \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $K \subseteq U$.

Theorem 2.1. $C_k(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})$ has the Pytkeev property.

PROOF. By a theorem of Pavlovic and Pansera [10], it suffices to prove that for each open k-cover \mathcal{U} of X, there are infinite sets $\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{U}_2, \ldots \subseteq \mathcal{U}$ such that $\{ \cap \mathcal{U}_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}$ is a k-cover of X. We will show that $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ has the mentioned covering property.

To this end, we set up some basic notation. For $s \in \mathbb{N}^{<\aleph_0}$, $[s] = \{f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} : s \subseteq f\}$, and |s| denotes the length of s. For $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{<\aleph_0}$, $[S] = \bigcup_{s \in S} [s]$. For an open $U \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, $U(n) = \{s \in \mathbb{N}^n : [s] \subseteq U\}$. Note that for each n, $[U(n)] \subseteq [U(n+1)]$, and $U = \bigcup_n [U(n)]$.

Lemma 2.2. Assume that \mathcal{U} is an open k-cover of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. Then:

- (1) $\mathcal{V} = \{ [U(n)] : U \in \mathcal{U}, n \in \mathbb{N} \} \text{ is a } k\text{-cover of } \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}.$
- (2) There is n such that $\{U(n): U \in \mathcal{U}\}$ is infinite.
- (3) For each compact $K \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, there is n such that $\{U(n) : U \in \mathcal{U}, K \subseteq [U(n)]\}$ is infinite.

PROOF. (1) For each compact $K \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, there is $U \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $K \subseteq U$. As $U = \bigcup_n [U(n)]$ and K is compact, there is n such that $K \subseteq [U(n)] \in \mathcal{V}$.

(2) Assume that for each n, $\{U(n): U \in \mathcal{U}\}$ is finite. Note that for each $U \in \mathcal{U}$ and each n, $[U(n)] \subseteq U \neq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, and therefore $U(n) \neq \mathbb{N}^n$. Proceed by induction on n:

Step 1. As $\mathcal{U}(1) = \{U(1) : U \in \mathcal{U}\}$ is finite and $\mathbb{N} \notin \mathcal{U}(1)$, there is a finite $F_1 \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ which is not contained in any member of $\mathcal{U}(1)$.

Step n. As $\mathcal{U}(n) = \{U(n) : U \in \mathcal{U}\}$ is finite and $F_{n-1} \times \mathbb{N}$ is not contained in any member of $\mathcal{U}(n)$, there is a finite $F_n \subseteq F_{n-1} \times \mathbb{N}$ which is not contained in any member of $\mathcal{U}(n)$, and such that $F_n \upharpoonright (n-1) = F_{n-1}$.

Take $K = \bigcap_n [F_n]$ (the set of all infinite branches through the finitely splitting tree $\bigcup_n F_n$). As K is compact, there is $U \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $K \subseteq U$. As $U = \bigcup_n [U(n)]$ and K is compact, there is n such that $K \subseteq [U(n)]$. But then $F_n \subseteq U(n)$, a contradiction.

(3) By (1), $\{[U(n)]: U \in \mathcal{U}, n \in \mathbb{N}, K \subseteq [U(n)]\}$ is a k-cover of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. By (2), there is m such that

$$\mathcal{V} = \{ [[U(n)](m)] : U \in \mathcal{U}, n \in \mathbb{N}, K \subseteq [U(n)] \}$$

is infinite. For all U and n, [[U(n)](m)] is equal to [U(n)] when $n \leq m$, and to [U(m)] when m < n. Thus, $\mathcal{V} = \bigcup_{n \leq m} \{[U(n)] : U \in \mathcal{U}, K \subseteq [U(n)]\}$, and therefore there is $n \leq m$ such that $\{[U(n)] : U \in \mathcal{U}, K \subseteq [U(n)]\}$ is infinite. \square

For each n and $s \in \mathbb{N}^n$, let $[\leq s] = [\{t \in \mathbb{N}^n : t \leq s\}]$, where \leq is pointwise. The following lemma gives more than what is needed in our theorem.

Lemma 2.3. Let \mathcal{U} be an open k-cover of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. There is $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{<\aleph_0}$ such that for each $s \in S$, $\mathcal{U}_s = \{U \in \mathcal{U} : [\leq s] \subseteq U\}$ is infinite, and $\{[\leq s] : s \in S\}$ is a clopen k-cover of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ (refining $\{\bigcap \mathcal{U}_s : s \in S\}$).

PROOF. We actually prove the stronger result, that the statement in the lemma holds when

$$\mathcal{U}_s = \{ [U(|s|)] : U \in \mathcal{U}, [\leq s] \subseteq U \}$$

for each $s \in S$.

Let S be the set of all $s \in \mathbb{N}^{<\aleph_0}$ such that \mathcal{U}_s is infinite. If $K \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is compact, take $f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that the compact set $K(f) = \{g \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} : g \leq f\}$ contains K. By Lemma 2.2, there is n such that there are infinitely many sets U(n), $U \in \mathcal{U}$, with $K(f) \subseteq [U(n)]$, that is, $[\leq f \upharpoonright n] \subseteq U$. Thus, $f \upharpoonright n \in S$. Clearly, $K \subseteq K(f) \subseteq [\leq f \upharpoonright n]$.

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Definition 1. For shortness, we say that a topological space X is *nice* if there is a countable family \mathcal{C} of open subsets of X, such that for each open k-cover \mathcal{U} of X, $S = \{V \in \mathcal{C} : (\exists^{\infty}U \in \mathcal{U}) \ V \subseteq U\}$ is a k-cover of X.

By Lemma 2.3, $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is nice.

Definition 2. A topological space Y has the *strong Pytkeev property* if for each $y \in Y$, there is a *countable* family \mathcal{N} of subsets of Y, such that for each neighborhood U of y and each $A \subseteq Y$ with $y \in \overline{A} \setminus A$, there is $N \in \mathcal{N}$ such that $N \subseteq U$ and $N \cap A$ is infinite.

If Y is first countable, then it has the strong Pytkeev property. The converse fails, even in the realm of $C_k(X)$. Indeed, $C_k(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})$ is not first countable (since it is a non-metrizable topological group), and we have the following.

Theorem 2.4. $C_k(\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})$ has the strong Pytkeev property.

Theorem 2.4 follows from the following.

Lemma 2.5. If X is nice, then $C_k(X)$ has the strong Pytkeev property.

PROOF. Let \mathcal{C} be as in the definition of niceness for X. It suffices to verify the strong Pytkeev property of $C_k(X)$ at $\mathbf{0}$. Set

$$\mathcal{N} = \{ [V; n] : V \in \mathcal{C}, n \in \mathbb{N} \}.$$

Assume that $A \subseteq C_k(X)$ and $\mathbf{0} \in \overline{A} \setminus A$. There are two cases to consider.

Case 1: For each n, there is $f_n \in A \cap [X;n]$ (equivalently, there are infinitely many such n). Given any neighborhood [K;m] of $\mathbf{0}$, take $V \in \mathcal{C}$ with $K \subseteq V$. Then $[V;m] \subseteq [K;m]$, and $[V;m] \cap A \supseteq \{f_n : n \ge m\}$ is infinite.

Case 2: There is N such that for each $n \geq N$, $A \cap [X; n] = \emptyset$. Fix $n \geq N$. $\mathcal{U}_n = \{f^{-1}[(-1/n, 1/n)] : f \in A\}$ is a k-cover of X. Thus,

$$\mathcal{S}_n = \{ V \in \mathcal{C} : (\exists^{\infty} U \in \mathcal{U}_n) \ V \subseteq U \} \subseteq$$

$$\subseteq \{ V \in \mathcal{C} : (\exists^{\infty} f \in A) \ V \subseteq f^{-1}[(-1/n, 1/n)] \} =$$

$$= \{ V \in \mathcal{C} : [V; n] \cap A \text{ is infinite} \}$$

is a k-cover of X.

Consider any (basic) open neighborhood [K;n] of $\mathbf{0}$. Take $V \in \mathcal{S}_n$ such that $K \subseteq V$. Then $[V;n] \in \mathcal{N}$, $[V;n] \subseteq [K;n]$, and $[V;n] \cap A$ is infinite. \square

A function $f: X \to Y$ is *compact-covering* if for each compact $K \subseteq Y$, there is a compact $C \subseteq X$ such that $K \subseteq f[C]$. Hereditary local properties of a space $C_k(X)$ are clearly preserved when transforming X by a continuous

compact-covering functions. (Indeed, if $f: X \to Y$ is a continuous compact-covering surjection, then $g \mapsto g \circ f$ is an embedding of $C_k(Y)$ into $C_k(X)$.)

Corollary 2.6. For each Polish space X, $C_k(X)$ has the strong Pytkeev property.

PROOF. X is the image of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ under a continuous compact-covering function. Indeed [7]: There is a closed $C \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that X is the image of C under a perfect (thus compact-covering) function. As C is closed, it is a retract of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, and the retraction is clearly compact covering.

3. The topology of pointwise convergence

There is a very rich local-to-global theory, due to Arhangel'skiĭ and his followers, which studies local properties of $C_p(X)$ by translating them into covering properties. An elegant and uniform treatment of covering properties was given by Scheepers [16, 6]. We recall a part of this theory that puts the results of the present section in their proper context.

Let X be a topological space. \mathcal{U} is a *cover* of X if $X = \bigcup \mathcal{U}$ but $X \notin \mathcal{U}$. A cover \mathcal{U} of X is an ω -cover of X if for each finite subset F of X, there is $U \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $F \subseteq \mathcal{U}$. \mathcal{U} is a γ -cover of X if it is infinite and for each x in X, $x \in \mathcal{U}$ for all but finitely many $U \in \mathcal{U}$. Let \mathcal{O} , Ω , and Γ denote the collections of all open covers, ω -covers, and γ -covers of X, respectively. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be collections of covers of a space X. Following are selection hypotheses which X may satisfy or not satisfy [16].

- $S_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$: For all $\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{U}_2, \dots \in \mathcal{A}$, there are $U_1 \in \mathcal{U}_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{U}_2, \dots$, such that $\{U_1, U_2, \dots\} \in \mathcal{B}$.
- $S_{fin}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$: For all $\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{U}_2, \dots \in \mathcal{A}$, there are finite $\mathcal{F}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{F}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{U}_2, \dots$, such that $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{F}_n \in \mathcal{B}$.
- $U_{fin}(\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B})$: For all $\mathcal{U}_1,\mathcal{U}_2,\dots\in\mathcal{A}$, there are finite $\mathcal{F}_1\subseteq\mathcal{U}_1,\mathcal{F}_2\subseteq\mathcal{U}_2,\dots$, such that $\{\bigcup\mathcal{F}_1,\bigcup\mathcal{F}_2,\dots\}\in\mathcal{B}$.

Some of the properties defined in this manner were studied earlier by Hurewicz $(U_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Gamma))$, Menger $(S_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O}))$, Rothberger $(S_1(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O}))$, traditionally known as the C'' property), Gerlits and Nagy $(S_1(\Omega,\Gamma))$, traditionally known as the γ -property), and others. Each of these properties is either trivial, or equivalent to one in Figure 1 (where an arrow denotes implication) [6].

In the remainder of this paper, all spaces X are assumed to be Tychonoff. A space X satisfies $\mathsf{S}_1(\Omega,\Gamma)$ if, and only if, $C_p(X)$ has the Fréchet-Urysohn property [5]. In particular, if X satisfies $\mathsf{S}_1(\Omega,\Gamma)$, then $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property.

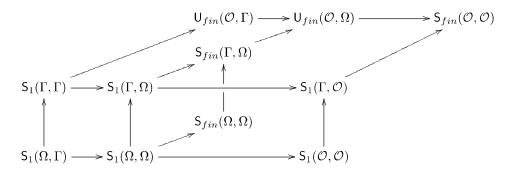


FIGURE 1. The Scheepers Diagram

Problem 3.1 (Sakai [14]). Assume that $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property. Must X satisfy $S_1(\Omega, \Gamma)$?

For metric spaces X which are countable unions of totally bounded subspaces, Miller proved that consistently, X is countable whenever $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property (this is essentially proved in Theorem 18 of [18]). It follows that a positive answer to Sakai's Problem 3.1 is consistent in this realm. However, we suspect that the following holds.

Conjecture 3.2 (CH). There is $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property, but X does not even satisfy Menger's property $\mathsf{S}_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O})$.

It is therefore natural to consider the conjunction of " $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property" with properties in the Scheepers Diagram 1.

A combination of results of Kočinac and Scheepers [8] and Sakai [14] gives that if $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property and X satisfies $\mathsf{S}_{fin}(\Omega,\Omega)$, then all finite powers of X satisfy $\mathsf{U}_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Gamma)$ as well as $\mathsf{S}_1(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O})$. We will prove several results of a similar flavor.

The combinatorial terminology in the remainder of the paper is as follows: For $f,g\in\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}},\ f\leq^* g$ means $f(n)\leq g(n)$ for all but finitely many $n.\ B\subseteq\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is bounded if there is $g\in\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that for each $f\in B,\ f\leq^* g.\ D\subseteq\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is finitely dominating if its closure under pointwise maxima of finite subsets is dominating.

Theorem 3.3. If $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property and X satisfies $\bigcup_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Omega)$, then X satisfies $\bigcup_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Gamma)$ as well as $S_1(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O})$.

PROOF. As $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property, X is Lindelöf and zero-dimensional [13]. This is needed for the application of the quoted combinatorial theorems below.

We first prove that X satisfies $U_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Gamma)$. By [12], it suffices to prove the following.

Lemma 3.4. If $C_p(X)$ has the Pytkeev property and X satisfies $\bigcup_{fin}(\mathcal{O}, \Omega)$, then each continuous image Y of X in $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is bounded.

PROOF. Let Y be a continuous image of X in $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. Since we can transform Y continuously by $f(n) \mapsto f(0) + f(1) + \cdots + f(n) + n$, we may assume that all elements of Y are increasing. If there is an infinite $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ such that $\{f \mid I : f \in Y\}$ is bounded, then Y is bounded. We therefore assume that there is N such that for each $n \geq N$, $\{f(n) : f \in Y\}$ is infinite.

As Y satisfies $U_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Omega)$, Y is not finitely dominating [19], that is, there is $g \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that the clopen sets $U_n = \{f \in Y : f(n) \leq g(n)\}$, $n \geq N$, form an ω -cover of Y. As $C_p(Y)$ has the Pytkeev property, there are infinite $I_1, I_2, \ldots \subseteq \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, \ldots, N-1\}$ such that $\{\bigcap_{k \in I_n} U_k : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an ω -cover of Y [13]. For each n, $\{f \upharpoonright I_n : f \in \bigcap_{k \in I_n} U_k\}$ is bounded, and therefore $\bigcap_{k \in I_n} U_k$ is bounded. Thus, $Y = \bigcup_n \bigcap_{k \in I_n} U_k$ is bounded.

We now show that X satisfies $S_1(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O})$. It suffices to prove that each continuous image Y of X in $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ has strong measure zero with respect to the standard metric of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ [4]. Indeed, by Lemma 3.4, such an image Y is bounded, and thus is a countable union of totally bounded subspaces of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. By a theorem of Miller [18], if $C_p(Y)$ has the Pytkeev property and Y is a countable union of totally bounded subspaces, then Y has strong measure zero.

 $\mathfrak{D}_{\mathrm{fin}}$ is the family of all subsets of $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ which are not finitely dominating, and $\mathrm{cov}(\mathfrak{D}_{\mathrm{fin}}) = \min\{|\mathcal{F}| : \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathfrak{D}_{\mathrm{fin}} \text{ and } \bigcup \mathcal{F} = \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}\}$. The hypothesis $\mathrm{cov}(\mathfrak{D}_{\mathrm{fin}}) < \mathfrak{d}$ holds, e.g., in the Cohen reals model, or if \mathfrak{d} is singular [17].

Theorem 3.5 (cov(\mathfrak{D}_{fin}) $< \mathfrak{d}$). Assume that for each $Y \subseteq X$, $C_p(Y)$ has the Pytkeev property. Then X satisfies $\mathsf{U}_{fin}(\mathcal{O},\Gamma)$ as well as $\mathsf{S}_1(\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O})$.

PROOF. By Theorem 3.3, it suffices to prove that X satisfies $U_{fin}(\mathcal{O}, \Omega)$, or equivalently, that no continuous image Y of X in $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is finitely dominating.

Assume that Y is a continuous image of X in $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. We may assume that all elements of Y are increasing. Let $\kappa = \text{cov}(\mathfrak{D}_{\text{fin}}) < \mathfrak{d}$, and $Y_{\alpha} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, $\alpha < \kappa$, be not finitely dominating and such that $\bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} Y_{\alpha} = \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. For each $\alpha < \kappa$, $Y \cap Y_{\alpha}$ is not finitely dominating, and since it is a continuous image of a subset of X, $C_p(Y \cap Y_{\alpha})$ has the Pytkeev property. The proof of Lemma 3.4 shows the following.

Lemma 3.6. Assume that $Z \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, all elements of Z are increasing, Z is not finitely dominating, and $C_p(Z)$ has the Pytkeev property. Then Z is bounded. \square

It follows that $Y \cap Y_{\alpha}$ is bounded for all $\alpha < \kappa$, and as $\kappa < \mathfrak{d}$, $Y = \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} Y \cap Y_{\alpha}$ is not finitely dominating.

We now consider the strong Pytkeev property of $C_p(X)$. A space Y has a countable cs^* -character [2] if for each $y \in Y$, there is a countable family $\mathcal N$ of subsets of Y, such that for each sequence in Y converging to y (but not eventually equal to y) and each neighborhood U of y, there is $N \in \mathcal N$ such that $N \subseteq U$ and N contains infinitely many elements of that sequence. Clearly, the strong Pytkeev property implies countable cs^* -character. For topological groups, the conjunction of countable cs^* -character and the Fréchet-Urysohn property implies metrizability [2]. As $C_p(X)$ is a topological group, we have the following.

Corollary 3.7. If $C_p(X)$ has the Fréchet-Urysohn property as well as the strong Pytkeev property, then X is countable.

As the Pytkeev property follows from the Fréchet-Urysohn property, we have the following.

Corollary 3.8. The Pytkeev property for $C_p(X)$ does not imply the strong Pytkeev property for $C_p(X)$.

If, consistently, there is an uncountable X such that $C_p(X)$ has the strong Pytkeev property, then the answer to Sakai's Problem 3.1 is negative: By corollary 3.7, in this case $C_p(X)$ cannot have the Fréchet-Urysohn property.¹

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¹Unfortunately, this strategy does not work: Sakai has recently proved that if $C_p(X)$ has the strong Pytkeev property (or even just countable cs*-character), then X is countable [15]. This extends Corollary 3.7, and can be contrasted with Theorem 2.1.

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