# Functional Countability vs Exponential Separability

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### Outline of the talk

Definitions and preliminaries

Generalized ordered spaces

Subspaces of products

Separable plus ES



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A space X is **functionally countable** (**FC**) if for any continuous  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$  the image im(f) is countable.



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- (•) Every Lindelöf *P* space is FC.
- (•) Every Lindelöf scattered space is FC.
- (•) Any  $\sigma$ -product of copies of  $2 = \{0, 1\}$  is FC.



### Exponentially separable

#### Definition (Tkachuk, 2018)

Let X be a space,  $\mathcal{F} \subset \wp(X)$  and  $A \subset X$ . We say that A is strongly dense in  $\mathcal{F}$  if  $A \cap (\bigcap \mathcal{G}) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{F}$  with  $\bigcap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$ .



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#### Definition (Tkachuk, 2018)

A space X is **exponentially separable** (**ES**) if for every countable collection of closed sets  $\mathcal{F}$  there exists a countable set that is strongly dense in  $\mathcal{F}$ .



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 $\mathsf{ES} \Rightarrow \mathsf{FC}$ 



# $\mathsf{ES} \mathsf{ vs} \mathsf{ FC}$

#### Lemma If X is ES and $Y \subset X$ is closed, then Y is ES, and thus, FC.



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### Lemma If X is ES and $Y \subset X$ is closed, then Y is ES, and thus, FC. All the classes of FC spaces mentioned before are in fact ES.

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There is a space that is FC but not ES.



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#### Proposition (Tkachuk, 2018)

There is a space that is FC but not ES.

#### Proof.

There exists a MAD family  $\mathcal{A} \subset \wp(\omega)$  such that for the  $\psi$ -space  $\psi(\mathcal{A}) = \omega \cup \mathcal{A}$  it follows that  $|\beta \psi(\mathcal{A}) \setminus \psi(\mathcal{A})| = 1$ .



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#### Question (Tkachuk, 2018)

Let X be a space such that every closed subspace of X is FC. Does it follow that X is ES?



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#### GO spaces

Recall that a space X is a **LOTS** if there is a linear order < on X such that the collection of sets of the form

for  $a \in X$ , is a base for the topology of X. A **GO space** is a subspace of a LOTS.



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#### Theorem (Tkachuk and Wilson, 2022)

If X is a GO space that is either scattered or locally countable, then the following are equivalent:

(a) X is FC, and

(b) X has countable extent.



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#### Theorem (HG and Spadaro, 2024)

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### Souslin lines

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A Souslin line is ES if and only if it is FC.



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Proposition (HG and Spadaro, 2024) A Souslin line is ES if and only if it is FC.

In a 2023 BIRS-CMO workshop, Alan Dow conjectured that: Proposition (HG and Spadaro, 2024) A Souslin line defined from a normal Souslin tree is FC, thus, ES.



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An example with arbitrarily large extent

Theorem (Uspenski, 1984)

If S is an infinite set, there is a dense  $X_S \subset [0,1]^S$  that is the union of a countable collection of closed discrete subspaces of size |S|.



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#### Theorem (HG and Spadaro, 2024)

For every uncountable cardinal  $\kappa$ , Uspenski's example of cardinality  $\kappa$  is a FC space with points  $G_{\delta}$ , a  $G_{\delta}$  diagonal but it has extent  $\kappa$ , so it is not ES.



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For a (Tychonoff) space X recall that  $C_p(X)$  is the set of all real-valued functions defined on X with the pointwise convergence topology.



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However, if we fix  $a \in X$  the evaluation map  $f \mapsto f(a)$  has uncountable image (consider the constant functions).



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#### Theorem (Tkachuk, 2024)

If X is 0-dimensional and countably compact, then  $C_p(X,2)$  is FC iff X is  $\omega$ -monolithic (that is, the closure of every countable set is second-countable).



### Results about function spaces

For X compact and 0-dimensional we have the following.





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# Results about function spaces

For X compact and 0-dimensional we have the following.



#### Question

If X is a 0-dimensional compactum and  $C_p(X,2)$  is ES, does it follow that X is a Gul'ko compactum?

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Theorem (HG and Spadaro, 2024)

There exists an uncountable space that is separable and ES.



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Proof.

Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{a_{\alpha} \colon \alpha < \omega_1\} \subset [\omega]^{\omega}$  be an almost-decreasing family.



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#### Proof.

Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{a_{\alpha} : \alpha < \omega_1\} \subset [\omega]^{\omega}$  be an almost-decreasing family. Let  $X = \omega \cup \mathcal{A}$  such that  $\omega \cup \{a_0\}$  is open and discrete, and a basic open neighborhood of  $a_{\beta}$  is of the form

$$\{a_{\gamma}: \alpha < \gamma \leq \beta\} \cup (a_{\alpha} \setminus (a_{\beta} \cup F))$$

for  $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$  and  $F \in [\omega]^{<\omega}$ .



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By using a tower we can construct a countably compact example.



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By using a tower we can construct a countably compact example. Notice that A contains a closed but not  $G_{\delta}$  subset so the example is not perfectly normal.

# Beyond ZFC?

#### Theorem (HG and Spadaro, 2024)

An Ostaszewski space is an example of a perfectly normal, hereditarily separable and ES uncountable space.



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# Beyond ZFC?

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An Ostaszewski space is an example of a perfectly normal, hereditarily separable and ES uncountable space.

#### Question

*Is there in ZFC an example of an uncountable, separable, ES space that is either perfectly normal or hereditarily separable (or both)?* 

#### Question

Is it possible to characterize when an Isbell-Mrowka  $\psi$ -space if FC in terms of combinatorial properties of the underlying AD family?



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