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J. DE VRIES

ON THE G-COMPACTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS

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# On the $G$ -compactification of products <sup>\*</sup>)

by

Jan de Vries

## ABSTRACT

Let  $\beta_G X$  denote the maximal equivariant compactification ( $G$ -compactification) of the  $G$ -space  $X$  (i.e. a topological space  $X$ , completely regular and Hausdorff, on which the topological group  $G$  acts as a continuous transformation group). If  $G$  is locally compact and locally connected, then we show that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  if and only if  $X \times Y$  is what we call  $G$ -pseudocompact, provided  $X$  and  $Y$  satisfy a certain non-triviality condition. This result generalizes Glicksberg's well-known result about Stone-Čech compactifications of products to the case of topological transformation groups.

KEY WORDS & PHRASES:  $G$ -space, topological transformation group,  $G$ -compactification,  $G$ -pseudocompact, Stone-Čech compactification, Glicksberg's theorem

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<sup>\*</sup>) This report will be submitted for publication elsewhere



## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper we prove a generalization to the case of topological transformation groups of Glicksberg's well-known result about Stone-Čech compactifications of products. Recall, that a topological space  $X$  is *pseudocompact*, whenever  $C(X) = C^*(X)$ , i.e. every continuous real-valued function on  $X$  is bounded. A convenient characterization of pseudocompactness of a completely regular Hausdorff space  $X$  is, that  $X$  contains no infinite sequence of non-empty open subsets which is locally finite. Cf. [3] and, for more about pseudocompactness, [4]. Glicksberg's theorem says that, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are infinite completely regular spaces, then  $\beta(X \times Y) = \beta X \times \beta Y$  if and only if  $X \times Y$  is pseudocompact. See [5]; also [3] and [9] for short proofs. Adopting the techniques of [3] and [9], we were able to prove (terminology will be explained in 1.1 and 2.1 below):

**THEOREM.** *Let  $G$  be a locally compact, locally connected topological Hausdorff group, and let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two  $G$ -infinite, completely regular Hausdorff  $G$ -spaces. Then  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  if and only if  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact.*

Before explaining the terminology we wish to point out one shortcoming of our theorem. It is clear why Glicksberg's theorem has to contain the condition that  $X$  and  $Y$  are infinite: if either  $X$  or  $Y$  is finite, then always  $\beta(X \times Y) = \beta X \times \beta Y$  without any further condition on  $X \times Y$ . However, compared with this situation, our "non-triviality condition" in the theorem above is too strong: if either  $X$  or  $Y$  is *not*  $G$ -infinite, then it is not true that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  without additional conditions. See Section 5 below.

The organization of the paper is as follows. In the remainder of this section we present the necessary definitions and preliminary results. In Section 2 we shall deal with the concept of  $G$ -pseudocompactness. In particular, we give some necessary and some sufficient conditions. In Section 3, the "if" part of our theorem is proven, and in Section 4 the "only if" part. Finally, in Section 5 we discuss some open questions and present some additional material. In particular, we prove that  $\beta_G X = \beta X$  if  $X$  is pseudocompact and  $G$  is a topological group such that, as a topological space,  $G$  is a  $k$ -space. This slightly generalizes a result by SMIRNOV [8].

1.1. In this paper, except in 5.5 and 5.7,  $G$  will always denote a locally compact Hausdorff topological group with unit element  $e$ . The neighbourhood filter of  $e$  in  $G$  will be denoted by  $V_e$ . (In general,  $V_x$  will denote the neighbourhood filter of  $x$  in a given topological space.) A  $G$ -space (or: a topological transformation group with acting group  $G$ ) is a pair  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  consisting of a topological space  $X$  and an *action*  $\pi$ . This means, that  $\pi$  is a continuous mapping from  $G \times X$  into (in fact, onto)  $X$  such that the following conditions are fulfilled:

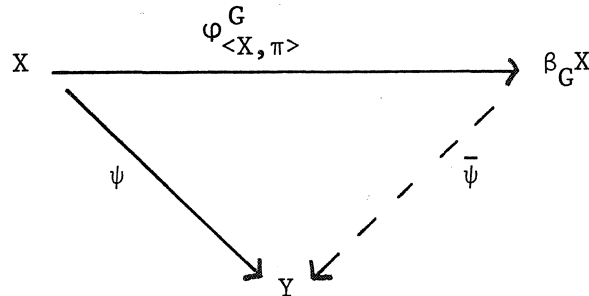
- (i)  $\forall x \in X: \pi(e, x) = x$ ;
- (ii)  $\forall x \in X, \forall (s, t) \in G \times G: \pi(s, \pi(t, x)) = \pi(st, x)$ .

Then for every  $t \in G$  the mapping  $\pi^t: x \mapsto \pi(t, x): X \rightarrow X$  is a homeomorphism, and for every  $x \in X$  the mapping  $\pi_x: t \mapsto \pi(t, x): G \rightarrow X$  is continuous. For brevity, we shall write in most cases  $tx$  for  $\pi(t, x)$ ,  $tA$  for  $\pi^t[A]$ ,  $Ux$  for  $\pi_x[U]$  and, in general,  $UA$  for  $\pi[U \times A]$ . Also, we shall often write "the  $G$ -space  $X$ " instead of "the  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$ ". The  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  will be called compact, Hausdorff, etc. whenever  $X$  is.

If  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  are  $G$ -spaces, then a mapping  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$  is called *equivariant* whenever  $\varphi \pi^t = \sigma^t \varphi$  for all  $t \in G$  (i.e.  $\varphi(tx) = t\varphi(x)$  for all  $t \in G$ ,  $x \in X$ ). A *morphism of  $G$ -spaces* is a continuous, equivariant mapping  $\varphi: \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \langle Y, \sigma \rangle$ . A  *$G$ -compactification* of a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is a morphism of  $G$ -spaces  $\varphi: \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  such that  $Y$  is a compact Hausdorff space and  $\varphi[X]$  is dense in  $Y$ . If, in addition  $\varphi$  is an embedding of  $X$  into  $Y$  then  $\varphi$  is called a *proper  $G$ -compactification*. A necessary condition for the existence of a proper  $G$ -compactification of  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is, that  $X$  is a Tychonov space. Because of the fact that  $G$  is assumed to be locally compact, this condition is also sufficient (cf. [11]). Every  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  has an essentially unique *maximal  $G$ -compactification*, denoted by

$$\varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G: \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \beta_G \langle X, \pi \rangle.$$

For convenience, the underlying topological space of  $\beta_G \langle X, \pi \rangle$  will be denoted by  $\beta_G X$ . The maximal  $G$ -compactification of  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is defined by the property that for every  $G$ -compactification  $\psi: \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  there exists a unique morphism of  $G$ -spaces  $\bar{\psi}: \beta_G \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  such that  $\psi = \bar{\psi} \circ \varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G$ .



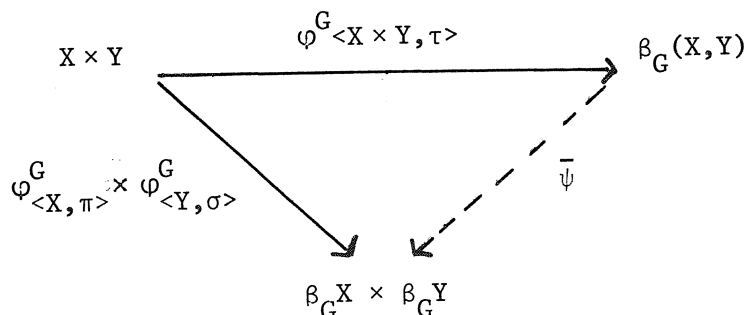
If in this situation,  $\psi$  happens to be a proper  $G$ -compactification, then so is  $\varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G$ . So from our remarks above it follows, that every Tychonov  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  has a *proper* maximal  $G$ -compactification. From now on, we shall assume that all  $G$ -spaces  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$ ,  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$ , etc. are Tychonov spaces. Moreover, if  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is such a  $G$ -space, then we shall identify  $X$  with its image under  $\varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G$  in  $\beta_G X$ . Thus,  $X$  is an invariant subset of  $\beta_G X$ .

1.2. If  $G = \{e\}$ , then every mapping between  $G$ -spaces is equivariant, and the category of all  $G$ -spaces and continuous equivariant mappings is identical with the category of all topological spaces and continuous mappings. In particular, for every  $G$ -space  $X$  we have  $\beta_G X = \beta X$ , the ordinary  $G$ -compactification of  $X$ . From completeness, we mention three other cases where  $\beta_G X \doteq \beta X$ :

- (i)  $G$  is a discrete group (cf. [10], 7.3.10(ii));
- (ii) the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is trivial, i.e.  $tx = x$  for all  $t \in G$ ,  $x \in X$ ;
- (iii)  $G$  is a  $k$ -space and  $X$  is pseudocompact (cf. Section 5 below).

In a future paper, we hope to study this problem in more detail.

1.3. Let  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  be two  $G$ -spaces, and let  $\tau$  denote the action of  $G$  on  $X \times Y$ , defined by  $\tau^t(x, y) := (\pi^T x, \sigma^t y)$  (or briefly:  $t(x, y) = (tx, ty)$  for  $t \in G$  and  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$ ). Then we have the following commutative diagram:



If in this diagram  $\bar{\psi}: \beta_G(X \times Y) \rightarrow \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  is a homeomorphism, then we shall say that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ . Notice, that it follows from 1.2 (ii) above that Glicksberg's theorem gives a necessary and sufficient condition for the equality  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  to occur for the special case that the actions  $\pi$  and  $\sigma$  (hence  $\tau$ ) are both trivial. Taking into account that "G-infinite" means in this special situation just "infinite" (see below), it is clear that our theorem above contains Glicksberg's result as a special case.

1.4. Let  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  be a G-space. A real-valued function  $f$  on  $X$  will be called  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous (cf. [8], [11]) whenever the following conditions are fulfilled

- 1<sup>o</sup>.  $f$  is continuous
- 2<sup>o</sup>. the set  $\{f \circ \pi_x\}_{x \in X}$  is equicontinuous at  $e$ .

The second condition can also be formulated as follows:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists U \in \mathcal{V}_e : |f(tx) - f(x)| < \varepsilon \text{ for all } (t, x) \in U \times X.$$

The set of all  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous functions on  $X$  will be denoted by  $UC\langle X, \pi \rangle$ , and the set of all *bounded*  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous functions by  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$  (in [11], the notation  $\pi UC(X)$  was used). In [11] it was shown that  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is a closed subalgebra of  $C^*(X)$  (the bounded real-valued continuous function on  $X$ ), containing the constant functions, and that for every G-compactification  $\varphi: \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  we have  $\{g \circ \varphi : g \in C(Y)\} \subseteq UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$ . In particular, the maximal G-compactification  $\varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G : X \rightarrow \beta_G X$  is, up to isomorphism of G-spaces, completely characterized by the formula

$$UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle = \{g \circ \varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G : g \in C(\beta_G X)\}.$$

The following remark is included in order to clarify the relationship between  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and ordinary uniform continuity. If  $(X, \mathcal{U})$  is a uniform space, then  $UC^*(X, \mathcal{U})$  will denote the set of all  $\mathcal{U}$ -uniform continuous, bounded real-valued functions on  $X$ , and  $\mathcal{U}^*$  will denote the weakest uniformity on  $X$  such that  $UC^*(X, \mathcal{U}^*) = UC^*(X, \mathcal{U})$ . If  $(X, \mathcal{U})$  is a uniform space and, in addition,  $\pi$  is a continuous action of  $G$  on  $X$  (the topology on  $X$ , of



course, being induced by  $U$ ) then  $\pi$  is called  $U$ -bounded (cf. [10], [11]; in the literature on topological dynamics one also calls  $\pi$  *motion-equicontinuous*) whenever  $\{\pi_x\}_{x \in X}$  is equicontinuous w.r.t.  $U$  at  $e$ , that is,

$$\forall \alpha \in U \quad \exists U \in \mathcal{V}_e : (x, tx) \in \alpha \text{ for all } (t, x) \in U \times X.$$

Now it is easy to show that the following two statements are equivalent for an arbitrary  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and a uniformity  $U$ , compatible with the topology of  $X$ :

- (i) the action  $\pi$  is  $U^*$ -bounded;
- (ii)  $UC^*(X, U) \subseteq UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$ .

1.5. Next we wish to point out the relationship between  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and the algebra  $E(X, C_c^*(G))$  of [1]. Let  $C_c^*(G)$  denote the space of all bounded real-valued functions on  $G$ , endowed with the compact-open topology. Then  $\langle C_c^*(G), \rho \rangle$  is a  $G$ -space, where  $\rho^t f(s) := f(st)$  for all  $f \in C_c^*(G)$ ,  $s \in G$  and  $t \in G$  (cf. [10], 2.1.3). Let  $\text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G))$  denote the set of all morphisms of  $G$ -spaces from a given  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  to  $\langle C_c^*(G), \rho \rangle$ , endowed with the uniform structure and the corresponding topology of uniform convergence on  $X$ . If  $f \in C^*(X)$ , then the mapping

$$Tf : x \mapsto f \circ \pi_x : X \rightarrow C_c^*(G)$$

is continuous and equivariant (cf. [10], 8.1.12), i.e.  $Tf \in \text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G))$ . Conversely, if  $g \in \text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G))$ , then

$$Sg : x \mapsto g(x)(e) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

is an element of  $C^*(X)$ . It is easily verified that  $T : C^*(X) \rightarrow \text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G))$  and  $S : \text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G)) \rightarrow C^*(X)$  are mutually inverse isomorphisms of algebras. Moreover, if we endow  $C^*(X)$  with the topology of uniform convergence on  $X$ , then it is standard to show, that  $T$  and  $S$  are both continuous. So  $C_u^*(X)$  and  $\text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G))$  are isomorphic as topological algebra's (consequently, the latter algebra is metrizable, though  $G$  is *not* supposed to be compact or even sigma-compact!) Under this correspondence,  $E(X, C_c^*(G)) := T[UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle]$

is easily seen to be the set of all those elements  $g \in \text{Mor}_u^G(X, C_c^*(G))$  for which  $g[X]$  is equicontinuous in  $C_c^*(G)$ , that is, for which  $g[X]$  has compact closure in  $C_c^*(G)$ . Using this relationship between  $UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $E(X, C_c^*(G))$ , the correspondence between  $\beta_G X$  and  $UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$  can be reformulated as follows: for every element  $g \in E(X, C_c^*(G))$  there exists a unique morphism of  $G$ -spaces  $\bar{g}: \beta_G X \rightarrow C_c^*(G)$  such that  $g = \bar{g} \circ \varphi_{\langle X, \pi \rangle}^G$ ; moreover, the embedding of  $X$  into  $\beta_G X$  is completely characterized by this property (up to isomorphism of  $G$ -spaces).

## 2. $G$ -PSEUDOCOMPACTNESS AND $G$ -INFINITENESS

2.1. A collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets in a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  will be called *internally linked* whenever there exists  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$  and there are points  $x_B \in B$  ( $B \in \mathcal{B}$ ) such that  $Ux_B \subseteq B$  for every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ .

A finite (infinite) sequence of mutually disjoint, non-empty open sets which is internally linked will be called a *finite (infinite)  $G$ -dispersion*; if the sequence of sets is locally finite, then the  $G$ -dispersion will be called *locally finite*. Modifying the characterizations of infiniteness and pseudocompactness of ordinary Tychonov spaces, we obtain the following crucial (at least, for this paper) definitions. The  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  will be called

- *$G$ -infinite*, whenever it contains an infinite  $G$ -dispersion
- *$G$ -pseudocompact*, whenever every locally finite  $G$ -dispersion in  $X$  is finite.

Clearly, if  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is not  $G$ -infinite or if  $X$  is pseudocompact (in the usual sense) then  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact. As to the converse, cf. Section 5 below.

2.2. REMARKS. 1°. If  $G$  is a *discrete* group, then every family of non-empty subsets of  $X$  is internally linked, because  $\{e\} \in \mathcal{V}_e$ . It follows that in this case  $X$  is  $G$ -infinite if and only if  $X$  is infinite. Similarly,  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact if and only if  $X$  is pseudocompact. (These statements are also valid if the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is trivial.)

2°. Suppose that the *orbit space*  $X/G$  (= space of equivalence classes of the form  $Gx$ ,  $x \in X$ , having the quotient topology) contains an infinite sequence of mutually disjoint, non-empty open subsets (e.g. because the Hausdorff

modification of  $X/G$  is infinite; in particular, this happens if  $X/G$  is itself an infinite Hausdorff space. Recall, that  $X/G$  is usually not Hausdorff, but it is if  $G$  is compact, or the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is proper). Taking inverse images under the canonical projection  $X \rightarrow X/G$  one obtains an infinite  $G$ -dispersion (the elements of which are even invariant under all of  $G$ ). Hence  $X$  is  $G$ -infinite. Similarly, if  $X/G$  is not pseudocompact, then  $X/G$  contains an infinite sequence of non-empty open sets which is locally finite (for this statement, complete regularity of  $X/G$  is not required, nor its being Hausdorff), hence  $X$  contains an infinite  $G$ -dispersion which is locally finite, i.e.  $X$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact. Thus, if  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact, then  $X/G$  is pseudocompact.

3°. Suppose  $X/G$  consists of one point and for some (hence for every) point  $x$  in  $X$  the mapping  $\pi_x: t \rightarrow tx: G \rightarrow X$  is open (thus,  $X \cong G/H$ , where  $H := \{t \in G: tx = x\}$ ). In this case,  $X$  is  $G$ -infinite if and only if  $X$  is not compact.

(Suppose  $X$  is not compact. Let  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$  be compact. Construct by induction a sequence  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $X$  such that, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x_{n+1} \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^n Ux_i$ . Let  $V \in \mathcal{V}_e$  be open,  $V^{-1}V \subseteq U$ ; then  $Vx_i$  is open in  $X$ , hence  $\{Vx_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an infinite  $G$ -dispersion. Conversely, suppose that  $X$  is compact and that  $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an infinite  $G$ -dispersion in  $X$ . We may assume that, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $B_n = Uy_n$  with  $y_n \in X$  and  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$ ,  $U$  open and  $U^{-1} = U$ . The sequence  $\{y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  has an accumulation point  $z \in X$ . Then  $y_n \in Uz$  for infinitely many values of  $n$ , contradicting the disjointness of the sequence  $\{Uy_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ .) Similarly, in this case  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact if and only if  $X$  is compact. (In the above proof, replace  $V$  by open  $W \in \mathcal{V}_e$  such that  $W^{-1} = W$  and  $W^2 \subseteq V$ .)

Observe, that this example shows that the converse of the final remark in 2° above is not generally true ( $X/G$  is pseudocompact, but one can have  $X$  not compact, e.g.  $X = G$ ).

4°. According to the definition, a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact whenever every sequence of mutually disjoint open sets which is internally linked and locally finite is finite. In this definition, disjointness can be omitted.

Indeed, let  $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an infinite sequence of non-empty open sets, internally linked and locally finite. Then there exists  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$ ,  $U$  compact, and for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $x_n \in B_n$  such that  $Ux_n \subseteq B_n$ . As  $Ux_n$  is compact and  $\{B_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is locally finite, there exists an open neighbourhood  $B'_n$  of

$Ux_n$  such that  $B'_n \subseteq B_n$ , and  $B'_n$  meets only finitely many of the sets  $B_i$ . Selecting from the sequence  $\{B'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  a *disjoint* subsequence, one obtains an infinite, locally finite  $G$ -dispersion. Thus,  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact if and only if every sequence of open sets which is internally linked and locally finite, is finite.

2.3. Before stating a (simple, yet crucial) result about the connection between  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous functions on a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $G$ -pseudocompactness of  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$ , we recall from [11] a method of transforming elements of  $C^*(X)$  into elements of  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$ . Let  $f \in C^*(X)$ ,  $f \geq 0$  and let  $\|f\| := \sup\{f(x) : x \in X\}$ . Let  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$  be compact and select a left-uniformly continuous function  $\varphi: G \rightarrow [0, \|f\|]$  such that  $\varphi(e) = 0$  and  $\varphi(t) = \|f\|$  for all  $t \in G \setminus U$ . If we put

$$f^U(x) := \inf_{t \in G} \{\varphi(t) + f(tx)\}, \quad x \in X,$$

then it turns out, that  $f^U \in UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$ . Moreover,  $0 \leq f^U \leq f$  on  $X$  and, in addition we have for all  $x \in X$ .

$$f^U(x) = \inf_{t \in U} \{\varphi(t) + f(tx)\}$$

In particular, if  $x \in X$  is such that  $f(tx) = f(x)$  for every  $t \in U$ , then clearly  $f^U(x) = f(x)$ .

2.4. **PROPOSITION.** Let  $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an infinite, locally finite  $G$ -dispersion in  $X$ , and let  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of real numbers in the interval  $[0, 1]$ . Then there exists  $f \in UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$  such that  $f \geq 0$ ,  $f[B_n] \subseteq [0, a_n]$  and  $f^*[a_n] \cap B_n \neq \emptyset$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , whereas  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$ .

**PROOF.** There exist  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$ ,  $U$  compact, and  $x_n \in B_n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) such that  $Ux_n \subseteq B_n$ . For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $Ux_n$  is a compact subset of the Tychonov space  $X$ , so there exists  $g_n \in C^*(X)$  such that  $g_n[X] \subseteq [0, a_n]$ ,  $g_n(x) = a_n$  for all  $x \in Ux_n$  and  $g_n(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X \setminus B_n$ . As  $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is locally finite,  $g := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$  is a bounded, continuous function. Choosing  $\varphi$  according to the specification of 2.3 above, we can form the function  $g^U$ , which belongs to  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$ . Using the properties of this construction, mentioned in 2.3,

it is easy to verify that  $g^U$  satisfies the conditions specified in our Proposition.  $\square$

In our next Proposition we relate the property of being  $G$ -pseudocompact with boundedness properties of  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous functions on a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$ . For the problem, whether of (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) or not, we refer to Section 5.

**2.5. PROPOSITION.** *Consider the following properties for a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$ .*

- (i) *Every  $f \in UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$  has a maximum and a minimum on  $X$ , i.e.*  
 $\sup f[X] \in f[X]$  and  $\inf f[X] \in f[X]$ ;
- (ii)  *$X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact;*
- (iii)  *$X$  is totally bounded (= precompact) in every uniformity  $U$  which has the property that the action  $\pi$  is  $U$ -bounded;*
- (iv)  *$UC \langle X, \pi \rangle = UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$ , that is, every  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous function on  $X$  is bounded.*

*Then (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) and (iv)  $\nRightarrow$  (iii).*

**PROOF.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Suppose  $X$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact. Then we can apply Proposition 2.4 with  $a_n = 1 - 1/n$  in order to obtain  $f \in UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$  which has no maximum on  $X$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Suppose  $U$  is a uniformity for  $X$  such that the action  $\pi$  is  $U$ -bounded, but  $X$  is not totally bounded w.r.t.  $U$ . So there exists  $\alpha \in U$  and a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $X$  such that, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x_{n+1} \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^n \alpha[x_i]$ . Let  $\beta \in U$ ,  $\beta^4 \subseteq \alpha$  and  $\beta^{-1} = \beta$ , and let  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$  be such, that  $(x, tx) \in \beta$  for all  $(t, x) \in U \times X$ , i.e.  $Ux \subseteq \beta[x]$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then  $\{\beta[x_n]\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a locally finite  $G$ -dispersion, and therefore,  $X$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact.

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Suppose  $X$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact, and let  $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a locally finite  $G$ -dispersion. Let  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$  be such that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $x_n \in B_n$  with  $Ux_n \subseteq B_n$ . Let  $V \in \mathcal{V}_e$  and  $W \in \mathcal{V}_e$  be such, that  $V^2 \subseteq U$ ,  $W^2 \subseteq V$ ,  $W^{-1} = W$ , and  $W$  compact, put  $D := X \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} Wx_n$  and  $\alpha := \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_n \times B_n) \cup (D \times D)$ . Local finiteness of  $\{Wx_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  implies that  $D$  is open in  $X$ . Hence, if  $U$  is a uniformity for  $X$ , then the uniformity  $U'$ , generated by  $U \cup \{\alpha\}$  is also a uniformity for  $X$ . Also, if  $\pi$  is  $U$ -bounded, then  $\pi$  is also  $U'$ -bounded (indeed, if  $x \in Vx_n$ , then  $Wx \subseteq V^2x_n \subseteq Ux_n \subseteq B_n$ , hence  $Wx \subseteq \alpha[x]$ ;

if  $x \notin \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} Vx_n$ , then  $Wx \cap Wx_n = \emptyset$  for all  $n$ , i.e.  $Wx \subseteq D$ , hence  $Wx \subseteq \alpha[x]$ . Since  $B_n = \alpha[x_n]$ ,  $X$  is not totally bounded w.r.t.  $U'$ . Thus, starting with a uniformity  $U$  for  $X$  such that  $\pi$  is  $U$ -bounded, we end up with a uniformity  $U'$  for  $X$  such that  $\pi$  is  $U'$ -bounded, but  $X$  is not totally bounded w.r.t.  $U'$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv): If  $U$  is the weakest uniformity in  $X$  making every member of  $UC\langle X, \pi \rangle$  uniformly continuous, then  $U$  generates the topology of  $X$  ( $UC\langle X, \pi \rangle$  separates points and closed subsets of  $X$  because  $UC^*\langle X, \pi \rangle$  does: cf. 1.4). Moreover, it is easily checked, that  $\pi$  is  $U$ -bounded. Since every uniformly continuous function on a precompact uniform space is bounded, the result follows.

(iv)  $\nRightarrow$  (iii): Consider the following example. Let  $X$  be the orbit of a given point in the irrational flow on the torus. Then  $X$  is dense in the torus, but not pseudocompact. We show, that  $X$  is not  $\mathbb{R}$ -pseudocompact ( $\mathbb{R}$  is the acting group!). In the following way one can construct an infinite, locally finite  $\mathbb{R}$ -dispersion in  $X$ . Representing the torus by  $(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^2$ , construct a disjoint sequence of rectangular open sets in the torus, each with one side of a given length (say,  $1/10$ ) parallel to the direction of the chosen orbit  $X$  in the torus, and converging to a segment in the torus which does *not* belong to  $X$ . Since  $X$  is dense in the torus, the trace of this sequence in  $X$  is an infinite sequence of non-empty open sets in  $X$  which is clearly a locally finite  $\mathbb{R}$ -dispersion in  $X$ . So  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is not  $\mathbb{R}$ -pseudocompact.

However, let  $f \in UC\langle X, \pi \rangle$ . We show, that  $f$  is bounded. Let  $x_0 \in X$ . Since  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is almost periodic, there exists a relatively dense subset  $P$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that

$$(1) \quad |f(x_0+t) - f(x_0)| < 1$$

for all  $t \in P$ . (Here we view  $X$  as the set  $\mathbb{R}$  with a topology, which differs from the usual one, the action of  $\mathbb{R}$  on  $X$  being given by  $\pi(t, x) := x + t$  for  $x \in X$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ). That  $P$  is relatively dense in  $\mathbb{R}$  means, that there exists a number  $\ell > 0$  such that  $\mathbb{R} = P + [0, \ell]$ . Since  $f \in UC\langle X, \pi \rangle$ , there is  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$(2) \quad |f(x+s) - f(x)| < 1 \quad \text{for all } x \in X, \quad s \in \mathbb{R}, \quad |s| < \delta.$$

For every  $u \in [0, \ell]$  there is a sequence  $0 = u_0 < u_1 < \dots < u_k = u$ , where  $k \leq \lceil \frac{2\ell}{\delta} \rceil + 1 =: k_0$ , and  $|u_{i+1} - u_i| < \delta$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$ . Consequently, (2) implies that

$$(3) \quad |f(x+u) - f(x)| \leq \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} |f(x+u_{i+1}) - f(x+u_i)| < k \leq k_0$$

for every  $x \in X$  and  $u \in [0, \ell]$ . However, for every  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  there are  $t \in P$  and  $u \in [0, \ell]$  with  $s = t + u$ , hence by (1) and (3):

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x_0+s) - f(x_0)| &\leq |f(x_0+t+u) - f(x_0+t)| + |f(x_0+t) - f(x_0)| \leq \\ &\leq k_0 + 1. \end{aligned}$$

This implies, that  $f$  is bounded on  $X = \{x_0+s: s \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .  $\square$

**2.6. PROPOSITION.** *If  $\varphi: \langle X, \pi \rangle \rightarrow \langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  is a morphism of  $G$ -spaces and  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact, then so is  $Y$ .*

**PROOF.** Obvious.  $\square$

**2.7. PROPOSITION.** *If  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  are  $G$ -spaces,  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact and  $Y$  is compact, then  $\langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact ( $\tau$  as in 1.3).*

**PROOF.** Using 2.5 (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) and the lemma below, the proof can easily be given along the lines of [3], 3.4.  $\square$

**2.8. LEMMA.** *Let  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  be an arbitrary  $G$ -space and let  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  be a compact  $G$ -space. Define for  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$*

$$F(x) := \inf_{y \in Y} f(x, y), \quad x \in X.$$

*Then  $F \in UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$ .*

**PROOF.** It is standard to show, that  $F \in C^*(X)$  (cf. for instance Lemma 1.1 in [3]), and it is straightforward to verify, that  $F \in UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$ .  $\square$

## 3. PROOF OF NECESSITY IN THE MAIN THEOREM

In this section we suppose  $G$  to be a *locally connected* locally compact Hausdorff topological group. In addition,  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  are  $G$ -spaces, and  $\langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  is their product. We shall prove in this section:

3.1. THEOREM. If  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  then either one of the  $G$ -spaces  $X$  or  $Y$  is not  $G$ -infinite, or  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact.

The proof is basically the same as the proof of necessity in Glicksberg's theorem as given by FROLIK in [3], additional complications being caused by the fact that we need sequences of open sets which are *internally linked*, whereas in [3] the open sets are only required to be non-empty. We start with the following lemma.

3.2. LEMMA. Suppose  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ . If  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $V \in \mathcal{V}_e$  such that

$$|f(tx, sy) - f(x, y)| < \varepsilon \text{ for all } (x, y) \in X \times Y \text{ and } (t, s) \in V \times V.$$

REMARK. The definition of  $\tau$ -uniform continuity includes only the above inequality with  $s = t$ .

PROOF. According to 1.4 the assumption implies that  $f$  has a continuous extension  $\bar{f}$  to  $\beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ . Then each point  $(x, y) \in \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  has a neighbourhood  $W_1 \times W_2$  such that  $|\bar{f}(x', y') - \bar{f}(x, y)| < \varepsilon/2$  for  $(x', y') \in W_1 \times W_2$ . Moreover, there are  $V \in \mathcal{V}_e$  and neighbourhoods  $W_1'$  of  $x$  and  $W_2'$  of  $y$  such that  $VW_1' \subseteq W_1$  and  $VW_2' \subseteq W_2$ . In particular,

$$|\bar{f}(tx', sy') - \bar{f}(x', y')| \leq |\bar{f}(tx', sy') - \bar{f}(x, y)| + |\bar{f}(x', y') - \bar{f}(x, y)| < 2\varepsilon$$

for  $(x', y') \in W_1' \times W_2'$  and  $(t, s) \in V \times V$ . Now a compactness argument completes the proof.  $\square$

3.3. LEMMA. Suppose  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ , and let  $\{W_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a  $G$ -dispersion in  $X \times Y$  which is locally finite. Then there exists  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$ ,  $U$  compact, and



for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist a point  $(a_n, b_n) \in W_n$  and open sets  $A_n$  in  $X$ ,  $B_n$  in  $Y$  such that

$$U(a_n, b_n) \subseteq Ua_n \times Ub_n \subseteq A_n \times B_n \subseteq W_n.$$

**PROOF.** It is sufficient to find compact  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$  and points  $(a_n, b_n) \in W_n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) such that  $Ua_n \times Ub_n \subseteq W_n$ : compactness then guarantees the existence of open sets  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  such that  $Ua_n \times Ub_n \subseteq A_n \times B_n \subseteq W_n$ .

According to Proposition 2.4 there exists  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  such that  $f(z) = 0$  for all  $z \in X \times Y \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} W_n$  and such, that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a point  $(a_n, b_n) \in W_n$  with  $f(a_n, b_n) = 1$ . In view of Lemma 3.2 there is  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$ ,  $U$  compact and connected, such that  $f(ta_n, sb_n) > 1/2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(t, s) \in U \times U$ . This implies, that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$Ua_n \times Ub_n \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} W_k.$$

However, the sets  $W_k$  are mutually disjoint and open,  $Ua_n \times Ub_n \cap W_n \neq \emptyset$ , and  $U$ , hence  $Ua_n \times Ub_n$ , is connected. Therefore,  $Ua_n \times Ub_n \subseteq W_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

**3.4. LEMMA** (cf. [3]; 1.2). Suppose that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ , that  $X \times Y$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact, and that, in addition, the spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  are both  $G$ -infinite. Then there exists a locally finite  $G$ -dispersion  $\{P_n \times Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $X \times Y$  such that the sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  are disjoint (hence  $G$ -dispersions in  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively).

**PROOF.** We consider two cases. First, assume that one of the  $G$ -spaces, say  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$ , is not  $G$ -pseudocompact. Then in  $X$  there exists a locally finite  $G$ -dispersion  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . By assumption,  $Y$  is  $G$ -infinite, so in  $Y$  there exists a  $G$ -dispersion  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Then  $\{P_n \times Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is easily seen to be a  $G$ -dispersion in  $X \times Y$  which is locally finite. Next, suppose that both  $X$  and  $Y$  are  $G$ -pseudocompact. Since  $X \times Y$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact, there exists a locally finite  $G$ -dispersion  $\{W_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $X \times Y$ . Choose  $U \in \mathcal{V}_e$ ,  $(a_n, b_n) \in W_n$  and  $A_n \subseteq X$ ,  $B_n \subseteq Y$  according to Lemma 3.3. In particular, we have for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$(1) \quad U(a_n, b_n) \subseteq A_n \times B_n \subseteq W_n.$$

The sequence  $\{A_n \times B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is locally finite as well, hence every compact subset  $K$  of  $X \times Y$  has an open neighbourhood  $O$  such that

$$(2) \quad O \cap (A_n \times B_n) = \emptyset \text{ for almost all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Now we claim the following: for every sequence  $\{n_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  and for every  $x \in X$  there exists a neighbourhood  $W$  of  $Ux$  in  $X$  such that  $W \cap A_{n_i} = \emptyset$  for infinitely many values of  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . For assume the contrary. Then there are a sequence  $\{n_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  and a point  $x \in X$  such that every neighbourhood of  $Ux$  meets  $A_{n_i}$  for almost all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . By formula (1), the sequence  $\{B_{n_i}\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is internally linked. Hence by 2.2(4<sup>0</sup>), as  $Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact, there exists  $y \in Y$  such that every neighbourhood of  $y$  meets infinitely many of the sets  $B_{n_i}$ . Consequently, every neighbourhood of the compact set  $Ux \times \{y\}$  in  $X \times Y$  meets infinitely many of the sets  $A_{n_i} \times B_{n_i}$ , contradicting formula (2). This proves our claim.

By induction one can show now, using our claim, that there exists a sequence  $\{n_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  and mutually disjoint open sets  $P_i$  such that

$$Ua_{n_i} \subseteq P_i \subseteq A_{n_i} \quad (i \in \mathbb{N})$$

A similar reasoning shows the existence of a subsequence  $\{k_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $\{n_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that there are mutually disjoint open sets  $Q_j$  with

$$Ub_{k_j} \subseteq Q_j \subseteq B_{k_j} \quad (j \in \mathbb{N}).$$

Now it is clear, that the sequence  $\{P_{k_j} \times Q_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  meets the requirements of our lemma.  $\square$

**3.5. PROOF OF THEOREM 3.1.** This proof can now be given completely similar to the proof of the implication (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) in Theorem 2.1 of [3]. For completeness, we repeat it here, adapted to the present situation. Suppose that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G^X \times \beta_G^Y$  and that  $X \times Y$  is not pseudocompact. Then one

of the spaces  $X$  or  $Y$  is not  $G$ -infinite. For if they are both  $G$ -infinite, then there exists a locally finite  $G$ -dispersion  $\{P_n \times Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  according to Lemma 3.4. By Proposition 2.4 there exists  $f \in UC^*(X \times Y, \tau)$  such that  $f(x, y) = 0$  for  $(x, y) \in X \times Y \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} P_n \times Q_n$ , and for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $(p_n, q_n) \in P_n \times Q_n$  with  $f(p_n, q_n) = 1$ . Then  $f$  has a continuous extension  $\bar{f}$  to  $\beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ , and for  $\varepsilon = 1/2$  there is a finite covering of  $\beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  with open rectangles, on each of which  $\bar{f}$  varies less than  $\varepsilon$ . Hence there is such an open rectangle, say  $A \times B$ , which contains infinitely many of the points  $(p_n, q_n)$ . However, if  $(p_n, q_n) \in A \times B$  and  $(p_k, q_k) \in A \times B$  with  $n \neq k$ , then also  $(p_n, q_k) \in A \times B$ , hence

$$f(p_n, q_k) > f(p_n, q_n) - \varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}.$$

However, since the sets  $\{P_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  are mutually disjoint, as are the sets  $\{Q_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ , we have  $(p_n, q_k) \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} P_i \times Q_i$ , which implies that  $f(p_n, q_k) = 0$ . This contradiction concludes the proof.  $\square$

3.6. The following examples show that some additional condition (e.g. that  $X$  and  $Y$  are both  $G$ -infinite) is needed in order to be sure that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  implies that  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact.

1°. If  $G$  is *discrete*, then  $\beta_G Z = \beta Z$  for all Tychonov  $G$ -spaces  $Z$ . If  $X$  is not  $G$ -infinite, then  $X$  is finite, and then for *every* Tychonov  $G$ -space  $Y$  we have

$$\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta(X \times Y) = \beta X \times \beta Y = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y.$$

In particular, if  $Y$  is not pseudocompact, then  $X \times Y$  is not pseudocompact, hence not  $G$ -pseudocompact.

2°. Let  $G$  be *compact*,  $Y$  an arbitrary Tychonov space which is *not* pseudocompact, and consider the  $G$ -spaces  $\langle G, \mu \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$ , where  $\mu^t s := ts$  and  $\sigma^t y := y$  for  $t \in G$ ,  $s \in G$  and  $y \in Y$ . Then it can be shown, that  $\beta_G(G \times Y) = G \times \beta Y$  (cf. [10], 4.4.13 (iv)), and consequently, that  $\beta_G(G \times Y) = \beta_G G \times \beta_G Y$ . However,  $G \times Y$  is not pseudocompact and since the action of  $G$  on  $Y$  is trivial, it follows that  $G \times Y$  is not  $G$ -pseudocompact. This is in accordance with the fact, that  $\langle G, \mu \rangle$  is in this case not  $G$ -infinite

(cf. 2.2(3<sup>0</sup>) with  $X = G$ ).

More about this additional condition can be found in Section 5 below.

#### 4. PROOF OF SUFFICIENCY IN THE MAIN THEOREM

In this section  $G$  is a locally compact Hausdorff topological group, *not* necessarily locally connected. Again,  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  are  $G$ -spaces and  $\langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  is their product. In this section, we shall prove:

4.1. THEOREM. *If  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact, then  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ .*

Again, the proof was inspired by [3] and [9]. However, a serious obstruction to a straightforward application of the methods used there was caused by the fact that in general for  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  it is not true that for every  $y \in Y$  the function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  belongs to  $UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$  (for an example, cf. 5.2 below); compare this with Lemma 3.2 above. We avoid this difficulty, or rather, we prove it (in an implicit way) for the case that  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact, by means of the trick, introduced in 4.3 below.

First, we need a modification of Lemma 1.3 of [3]; cf. also Lemma in [5]. Due to a possibly weaker hypothesis (cf. Section 5 below) we have to consider  $\tau$ -uniformly continuous functions instead of functions which are just continuous. The proof is basically the same as in [3], but we have to be careful in connection with internal connectedness of sequences of open sets.

4.2. LEMMA. *Let  $X \times Y$  be  $G$ -pseudocompact and let  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$ . Then the family of all functions  $x \mapsto f(x, y): X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $y \in Y$  is equicontinuous on  $X$ , that is,*

$$\forall x_0 \in X \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists W \in \mathcal{V}_{x_0} : |f(x, y) - f(x_0, y)| < \varepsilon \text{ for all } (x, y) \in W \times Y.$$

PROOF. Suppose the contrary. Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that for some  $\varepsilon > 0$  we have

$$\forall W \in \mathcal{V}_{x_0} \quad \exists (x, y) \in W \times Y : |f(x, y) - f(x_0, y)| > 5\varepsilon.$$

Now by induction it follows that there exist points  $(x_n, y_n) \in X \times Y$  and open

neighbourhoods  $W_n \times V_n$  of  $(x_n, y_n)$ ,  $W_n' \times V_n$  of  $(x_0, y_n)$  in  $X \times Y$  such that

$$(1) \quad |f(x', y') - f(x_n, y_n)| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \text{ for } (x', y') \in W_n \times V_n;$$

$$|f(x'', y'') - f(x_0, y_n)| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \text{ for } (x'', y'') \in W_n' \times V_n;$$

$$(2) \quad W_n \subseteq W_{n-1}' \text{ and } W_n' \subseteq W_{n-1};$$

$$(3) \quad |f(x_n, y_n) - f(x_0, y_n)| > 5\varepsilon$$

(compare with the proof of Lemma 1.3 in [3]). Since  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  there exists  $U_0 \in \mathcal{V}_e$  such that  $U_0$  is compact,  $U_0^{-1} = U_0$  and

$$|f(tx, ty) - f(x, y)| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \text{ for all } t \in U_0, (x, y) \in X \times Y.$$

This implies, together with (1), that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$(1)^* \quad |f(x', y') - f(x_n, y_n)| < \varepsilon \text{ for } (x', y') \in U_0(W_n \times V_n)$$

$$|f(x'', y'') - f(x_0, y_n)| < \varepsilon \text{ for } (x'', y'') \in U_0(W_n' \times V_n).$$

The sequence  $\{U_0(W_n \times V_n)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is clearly internally linked and consists of non-empty open sets, so in view of 2.2(4<sup>o</sup>) it is not locally finite. Hence there exists a point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  in  $X \times Y$  such that

$$(4) \quad \forall 0 \in \mathcal{V}_{(\bar{x}, \bar{y})}^- : 0 \cap U_0(W_n \times V_n) \neq \emptyset \text{ for infinitely many values of } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

As the mapping  $(s, t, x, y) \mapsto f(sx, ty) : U_0^2 \times U_0^2 \times X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous, and  $U_0$  is compact, there exists an open neighbourhood of  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  of the form  $A \times B$ ,  $A$  open in  $X$  and  $B$  open in  $Y$ , such that  $|f(sx, ty) - f(x, y)| < \varepsilon$  for all  $s, t \in U_0^2$  and all  $(x, y) \in A \times B$ . That is,

$$(5) \quad |f(x, y) - f(\bar{x}, \bar{y})| < \varepsilon \text{ for } (x, y) \in U_0^2 A \times U_0^2 B.$$

Let  $i$  and  $j$  be two of the values of  $n$  in  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $j > i$ , for which (4.1) is valid with  $O = A \times B$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \exists t \in U_0, \quad x \in W_i, y \in V_i & : (tx, ty) \in A \times B, \\ \exists t' \in U_0, \quad x' \in W_j, y' \in W_j & : (t'x', t'y') \in A \times B. \end{aligned}$$

However,  $W_j \subseteq W_{j-1} \subseteq W_i$ , because  $j-1 \geq i$ . It follows, that  $x' \in W_i$ , so that  $(x', y) \in W_i \times V_i$ . Moreover, we have  $t'y = t't^{-1}(ty) \in U_0 U_0^{-1}B = U_0^2 B$ . Since obviously  $t'x' \in A \subseteq U_0^2 A$ , this implies that

$$t'(x', y) \in U_0(W_i' \times V_i) \cap (U_0^2 A \times U_0^2 B).$$

We infer from this, that the neighbourhood  $O_1 := U_0^2 A \times U_0^2 B$  of  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  has the property, that

$$(6) \quad O_1 \cap U_0(W_i' \times V_i) \neq \emptyset.$$

Observe, that (6) holds for those values  $i$  of  $n$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  for which (4) holds with  $O = A \times B$ . Suppose  $i$  is such a value. Then for some point  $(x', y') \in (A \times B) \cap U_0(W_i \times V_i) \subseteq O_1 \cap U_0(W_i \times V_i)$  we have by (5), (1)\* and (3):

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x_0, y_i) - f(\bar{x}, \bar{y})| & \geq |f(x_0, y_i) - f(x_i, y_i)| - |f(x_i, y_i) - f(x', y')| \\ & \quad - |f(x', y') - f(\bar{x}, \bar{y})| > 3\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have by (6) and (1)\* for some point  $(x'', y'') \in O_1 \cap U_0(W_i' \times V_i)$ :

$$|f(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) - f(x_0, y_i)| \leq |f(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) - f(x'', y'')| + |f(x'', y'') - f(x_0, y_i)| < 2\varepsilon.$$

This contradiction proves our lemma.  $\square$

4.3. In order to prove, that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  it is, by 1.5, sufficient (and necessary) to prove that every  $g \in E(X \times Y, C_c^*(G))$  can be extended to a continuous equivariant mapping  $\tilde{g} : \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y \rightarrow C_c^*(G)$ . The idea is, first to extend the mapping  $x \mapsto g(x, -)(-): X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  to a mapping  $\bar{g} : \beta_G X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$ , and then to extend in a similar way the mapping  $y \mapsto \bar{g}(-)(y, -) : Y \rightarrow C_c^*(\beta_G X \times G)$  to  $\beta_G Y$ . In order to do so, we have to define a continuous action of  $G$  on  $C_c^*(Y \times G)$ .

4.4. Define  $\xi : G \times C_c^*(Y \times G) \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  by the rule

$$\xi(t, f)(y, s) := f(t^{-1}y, st)$$

for  $(t, f) \in G \times C_c^*(Y \times G)$  and  $(y, s) \in Y \times G$ . It is easily seen, that  $\xi^e f = f$  and that  $\xi^s \xi^t f = \xi^{st} f$  for all  $s, t \in G$  and  $f \in C_c^*(Y \times G)$ . In addition, using the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} |\xi^t f(y, s) - \xi^{t_0} f_0(y, s)| &= |f(t^{-1}y, st) - f_0(t_0^{-1}y, st_0)| \leq \\ &\leq |f(t^{-1}y, st) - f_0(t^{-1}y, st)| + \\ &+ |f_0(t^{-1}y, st) - f_0(t_0^{-1}y, st_0)| \end{aligned}$$

and a straightforward compactness argument, one may show that  $\xi$  is continuous (in fact, the proof is very similar to the proof of the continuity of the action  $\rho$  of  $G$  on  $C_c^*(G)$ ; cf. [10], 2.1.3). Consequently,  $\langle C_c^*(Y \times G), \xi \rangle$  is a  $G$ -space.

4.5. PROOF OF THEOREM 4.1. In the following lemma's let  $g : X \times Y \rightarrow C_c^*(G)$  be a continuous, equivariant mapping such that  $g[X \times Y]$  is relatively compact in  $C_c^*(G)$ , or, what amounts to the same because  $G$  is locally compact, such that  $g[X \times Y]$  is an equicontinuous set of functions on  $G$ . For  $x \in X$  and  $(y, t) \in Y \times G$  we set

$$\bar{g}(x)(y, t) := g(x, y)(t).$$

4.6. LEMMA. For every  $x \in X$ ,  $\bar{g}(x)$  is a continuous, bounded real valued

function on  $Y \times G$ , and  $\bar{g} : X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  is continuous and equivariant w.r.t. the action  $\xi$  of  $G$  on  $C_c^*(Y \times G)$ .

PROOF. Of course, boundedness of  $\bar{g}(x)$  on  $Y \times G$  is trivial. In addition, once one has shown that  $\bar{g}(x) \in C_c^*(Y \times G)$ , a straightforward calculation shows, that  $\bar{g} : X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  is equivariant. So it remains to prove the continuity statements. At first glance one might be tempted to apply [2], Theorem 5.3: our lemma would be an immediate consequence of the homeomorphism of  $C_c(X \times Y, C_c(G, \mathbb{R}))$  with  $C_c(X \times Y \times G, \mathbb{R})$  and of  $C_c(X \times Y \times G, \mathbb{R})$  with  $C_c(X, C_c(Y \times G, \mathbb{R}))$ . However, the latter homeomorphism requires either that  $Y \times G$  is locally compact or that  $X \times Y \times G$  is a  $k$ -space, and therefore we can not apply this theorem. We shall indicate a direct proof, using equicontinuity of  $g[X \times Y]$ .

Consider  $x_0 \in X$ ,  $y_0 \in Y$  and  $t_0 \in G$ . Then for all  $x \in X$  and  $(y, t) \in Y \times G$  we have

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} |\bar{g}(x)(y, t) - \bar{g}(x_0)(y_0, t_0)| &= |g(x, y)(t) - g(x_0, y_0)(t_0)| \leq \\ &\leq |g(x, y)(t) - g(x, y)(t_0)| + |g(x, y)(t_0) - g(x_0, y_0)(t_0)|. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By equicontinuity of  $g[X \times Y]$ , there exists a neighbourhood  $W$  of  $t_0$  in  $G$  such that

$$(8) \quad |g(x, y)(t) - g(x, y)(t_0)| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$$

for all  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$  and all  $t \in W$ . Moreover, continuity of  $g$  implies that there are neighbourhoods  $U$  of  $x_0$  and  $V$  of  $y_0$  such that

$$|g(x, y)(t_0) - g(x_0, y_0)(t_0)| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$$

for all  $(x, y) \in U \times V$ . Hence

$$(9) \quad |\bar{g}(x)(y, t) - \bar{g}(x_0)(y_0, t_0)| < \varepsilon$$

for all  $x \in U$  and all  $(y, t) \in V \times W$ . In particular, putting  $x = x_0$  in (9)



yields continuity of  $\bar{g}(x_0)$  on  $Y \times G$  for arbitrary  $x_0 \in G$ . Now in order to prove that  $\bar{g} : X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  is continuous, use (9) and a standard compactness argument to show, that for given compact sets  $K_1$  in  $Y$  and  $K_2$  in  $G$  one has

$$|\bar{g}(x)(y, t) - \bar{g}(x_0)(y, t)| < 2\varepsilon$$

for all  $(y, t) \in K_1 \times K_2$  and for all  $x$  in a suitable neighbourhood of  $x_0$ . Hence  $\bar{g}$  is continuous.  $\square$

**4.7. LEMMA.** *The set  $\bar{g}[X]$  is pointwise bounded and equicontinuous on  $Y \times G$ , hence it has compact closure in  $C_c^*(Y \times G)$ .*

PROOF. Putting  $x_0 = x$  in formula (7) above, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{g}(x)(y, t) - \bar{g}(x)(y_0, t_0)| &\leq |g(x, y)(t) - g(x, y)(t_0)| + \\ &\quad |g(x, y)(t_0) - g(x, y_0)(t_0)|. \end{aligned}$$

Taking into account equicontinuity of  $g[X \times Y]$  as expressed by formula (8), it is sufficient to prove that there exists a neighbourhood  $V$  of  $y_0$  such that

$$(10) \quad |g(x, y)(t_0) - g(x, y_0)(t_0)| < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$$

for all  $x \in X$  and all  $y \in V$ . To this end, consider the continuous mapping

$$F : (x, y) \mapsto g(x, y)(t_0) : X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

Then for all  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$  and  $t \in G$  we have, in view of equivariance of  $g$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |F(tx, ty) - F(x, y)| &= |g(tx, ty)(t_0) - g(x, y)(t_0)| \\ &= |g(x, y)(t_0 t) - g(x, y)(t_0)|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, equicontinuity of  $g[X \times Y]$  implies, that for every  $\delta > 0$  we have  $|F(tx, ty) - F(x, y)| < \delta$  for all  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$  and all  $t$  in a suitable neighbourhood of  $e$  in  $G$ . Stated otherwise,  $F \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$ , and we may apply Lemma 4.2 to  $F$ . Hence there exists a neighbourhood  $V$  of  $y_0$  such that

$$|F(x, y) - F(x, y_0)| < \frac{1}{2}\epsilon$$

for all  $x \in X$ ,  $y \in V$ . But this is exactly, what we need in (10). Hence  $\bar{g}[X]$  is equicontinuous. As  $\bar{g}[X]$  is also pointwise bounded (this follows from the fact that  $g[X \times Y]$  is pointwise bounded on  $G$ ), Ascoli's theorem implies that  $\bar{g}[X]$  is relatively compact in  $C_c^*(Y \times G)$ .  $\square$

4.8. PROOF OF THEOREM 4.1. (continued). Note, that  $\bar{g}[X]$  is an invariant subset of  $C_c^*(Y \times G)$ , because  $\bar{g}: X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  is equivariant. Hence the closure  $Z$  of  $\bar{g}[X]$  is invariant as well. Thus,  $Z$  is a compact (by 4.7)  $G$ -space, and  $\bar{g}: X \rightarrow Z$  is a continuous morphism of  $G$ -spaces. This implies, that there exists a morphism of  $G$ -spaces  $\bar{\bar{g}}: \beta_G X \rightarrow Z \subseteq C_c^*(Y \times G)$  which extends  $\bar{g}$ . Putting

$$\hat{g}(x, y)(t) := \bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y, t)$$

for  $(x, y) \in \beta_G X \times Y$  and  $t \in G$ , it is clear that we obtain for every  $(x, y) \in \beta_G X \times Y$  an element  $\hat{g}(x, y)$  of  $C^*(G)$ . Thus, we have a function  $\hat{g}: \beta_G X \times Y \rightarrow C^*(G)$  which obviously extends the original function  $g: X \times Y \rightarrow C^*(G)$ .

4.9. LEMMA. *The mapping  $\hat{g}: \beta_G X \times Y \rightarrow C_c^*(G)$  is continuous, equivariant, and  $\hat{g}[\beta_G X \times Y]$  has a compact closure in  $C_c^*(G)$ .*

PROOF. Consider  $(x_0, y_0) \in \beta_G X \times Y$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  and a compact subset  $K$  of  $G$ . We have to prove, that there exist neighbourhoods  $U$  of  $x_0$  and  $V$  of  $y_0$  such that

$$|\hat{g}(x, y)(t) - \hat{g}(x_0, y_0)(t)| < \epsilon$$

for all  $(x, y) \in U \times V$  and  $t \in K$ . First, observe that by the triangle inequality we have for all  $(x, y) \in \beta_G X \times Y$  and  $t \in G$ :

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} |\hat{g}(x,y)(t) - \hat{g}(x_0,y_0)(t)| &\leq |\bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y,t) - \bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y_0,t)| + \\ &|\bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y_0,t) - \bar{\bar{g}}(x_0)(y_0,t)|. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the first term of the right-hand side of (11). Observe, that  $\bar{\bar{g}}[\beta_G X]$  is equal to the closure of  $\bar{\bar{g}}[X]$  in  $C_c^*(Y \times G)$ , and as  $\bar{\bar{g}}[X]$  is equicontinuous,  $\bar{\bar{g}}[\beta_G X]$  is equicontinuous on  $Y \times G$  (cf. 4.7) (note that equicontinuity of  $\bar{\bar{g}}[\beta_G X]$  does not follow from its compactness as  $Y \times G$  is not locally compact). Hence for every  $t' \in K$  there exists a neighbourhood  $U'$  of  $t'$  in  $G$  and a neighbourhood  $V'$  of  $y_0$  in  $Y$  such that

$$|\bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y,t) - \bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y_0,t')| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}$$

for all  $x \in \beta_G X$ ,  $y \in V'$  and  $t \in U'$ . Using compactness of  $K$  this implies that there exists  $V \in \mathcal{V}_{y_0}$  such that

$$|\bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y,t) - \bar{\bar{g}}(x)(y_0,t)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

for all  $x \in \beta_G X$  and  $y \in V$ . As to the second term of the right-hand side of (11), due to continuity of  $\bar{\bar{g}} : \beta_G X \rightarrow C_c^*(Y \times G)$  there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x_0$  in  $\beta_G X$  such that this term is at most  $\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$  for all  $x \in U$  and  $t \in K$  (notice, that  $\{y_0\} \times K$  is a compact subset of  $Y \times G$ ). This concludes the proof that  $\hat{g} : \beta_G X \times Y \rightarrow C_c^*(G)$  is continuous.

Now continuity of  $\hat{g}$  implies, that  $\hat{g}[\beta_G X \times Y]$  is included in the closure of  $\hat{g}[X \times Y] = g[X \times Y]$  in  $C_c^*(G)$ , which is compact. Hence  $\hat{g}[\beta_G X \times Y]$  has compact closure in  $C_c^*(G)$ . Finally, for all  $t \in G$  and  $(x,y) \in X \times Y$  we have

$$\hat{g}(t(x,y)) = g(t(x,y)) = \rho^t g(x,y) = \rho^t \hat{g}(x,y).$$

Stated otherwise, the continuous mappings  $(x,y) \mapsto \hat{g}(t(x,y))$  and  $(x,y) \mapsto \rho^t \hat{g}(x,y)$  from  $\beta_G X \times Y$  into  $C_c^*(G)$  are equal to each other on the dense subset  $X \times Y$  of  $\beta_G X \times Y$ . Hence they are equal on all of  $\beta_G X \times Y$ . Thus,  $\hat{g}$  is equivariant.  $\square$

4.10. PROOF OF THEOREM 4.1. (*continued*). We have shown in 4.5 through 4.9 that an arbitrary element  $g$  of  $E(X \times Y, C_C^*(G))$  has a (unique, as  $X \times Y$  is dense in  $\beta_G X \times Y$ ) extension to an element  $\hat{g}$  of  $E(\beta_G X \times Y, C_C^*(G))$ , provided  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact. However, in that case  $Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact by Proposition 2.6, hence  $\beta_G X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact by 2.7. Consequently, we may apply a similar procedure to  $\hat{g}$ , obtaining an equivariant continuous mapping  $\hat{\hat{g}} : \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y \rightarrow C_C^*(G)$  which extends  $\hat{g}$ , hence also extends  $g$ .  $\square$

## 5. SOME OPEN PROBLEMS

There are two major open problems, the solution of which is required for a completely satisfying answer to the question of when  $\beta_G(X \times Y)$  equals  $\beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ .

5.1. The first problem concerns the additional condition which is needed in order to prove that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  implies  $G$ -pseudocompactness of  $X \times Y$ . In the classical case this condition ( $X$  and  $Y$  both infinite) is required because for  $X$  (or  $Y$ ) *finite* one has always  $\beta(X \times Y) = \beta X \times \beta Y$ . In the case of a non-trivial, non-discrete group  $G$  the situation is different. Although some additional condition is required (cf. 3.6 above), the situation would be more satisfying when the condition of  $G$ -infiniteness which we employed would be sufficiently weak in order to prove the following result: *if one of the spaces  $X$  or  $Y$  is not  $G$ -infinite, then*  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ . The following example shows that this statement is not generally true.

5.2. EXAMPLE. Let  $G := \mathbb{R}$ . We give an example of two  $\mathbb{R}$ -spaces  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  such that  $X$  is *not*  $\mathbb{R}$ -infinite,  $X$  is compact, and nevertheless  $\beta_{\mathbb{R}}(X \times Y) \neq \beta_{\mathbb{R}} X \times \beta_{\mathbb{R}} Y$ . Let  $X := S^1$ ,  $Y := \mathbb{R}$  and consider the following actions of  $\mathbb{R}$  on  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(t, x) &:= x + t \pmod{1} & \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}, & \quad x \in [0, 1), \\ \sigma(t, r) &:= r + t & \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}, & \quad r \in Y = \mathbb{R}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $S^1$  is represented as  $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  or, which amounts to the same, as the

interval  $[0,1]$  with the endpoints identified. If  $\beta_{\mathbb{R}}(X \times Y)$  were equal to  $\beta_{\mathbb{R}}X \times \beta_{\mathbb{R}}Y$ , then for every  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$  and every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there would exist (cf. Lemma 3.2)  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$(1) \quad |f(t+x(\bmod 1), s+r) - f(x, r)| < \varepsilon$$

for all  $x \in [0,1)$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|s| < \delta$  and  $|t| < \delta$ . Consider  $f : X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined by

$$f(x, r) := r \sin 2\pi(r-x), \quad x \in [0,1), \quad r \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $(x, r) \in [0,1) \times \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$|f(t+x(\bmod 1), t+r) - f(x, r)| = |t \sin 2\pi(r-x)| \leq t.$$

From this, it is clear that  $f \in UC^* \langle X \times Y, \tau \rangle$ .

On the other hand, putting  $x := 0$ ,  $r := n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $t := 1/n$  and  $s := -1/n$  in (1) we obtain for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |f(\frac{1}{n}, -\frac{1}{n} + n) - f(0, n)| &= (-\frac{1}{n} + n) \sin 2\pi(n - \frac{2}{n}) = \\ &= (n - \frac{1}{n}) \sin \frac{4\pi}{n} \xrightarrow{(n \rightarrow \infty)} 4\pi. \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows, that (1) cannot hold for all suitably small  $s$  and  $t$  and all  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x \in [0,1)$ .

**5.3. PROBLEM.** Is there a "non-triviality condition" (C) for  $G$ -spaces, expressible in topological properties of the space and the actions, such that the following is true for all  $G$ -spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ :

- (i) If  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  and  $X$  and  $Y$  have (C), then  $X \times Y$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact.
- (ii) If one of the  $G$ -spaces  $X$  or  $Y$  does not have (C) then  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ .

5.4. Another way to fill the gap, indicated in 5.1 is, to replace the condition of  $G$ -pseudocompactness by a stronger property, and try to prove, that  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$  implies this stronger property for  $X \times Y$ , under the additional hypothesis that  $X$  and  $Y$  are both infinite. A natural candidate for this "stronger property" would be ordinary pseudocompactness. In that case, Section 4 above could be replaced by the following sequence of statements:

5.5. LEMMA. Assume that  $G$  is a topological group which is, as a topological space, merely a  $k$ -space, and let  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  be a  $G$ -space ( $X$  a Tychonov space). If  $X$  is pseudocompact, then  $\beta_G X = \beta X$ , the ordinary Stone-Ćech compactification of  $X$ .

PROOF. For every  $t \in G$  the mapping  $\pi^t : X \rightarrow X$  extends to a continuous mapping  $\bar{\pi}^t : \beta X \rightarrow \beta X$ . In this way we obtain a mapping  $\bar{\pi} : G \times \beta X \rightarrow \beta X$  which is easily seen to have the properties of an action, except possibly continuity. We show that  $\bar{\pi}$  is continuous if  $X$  is pseudocompact.

Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $G$  and  $\pi_K := \pi|_{K \times X}$ . Then  $\pi_K : K \times X \rightarrow X$  is continuous, hence it has a continuous extension  $\tilde{\pi}_K : \beta(K \times X) \rightarrow \beta X$ . However,  $K \times X$  is pseudocompact, hence by Glicksberg's theorem,  $\beta(K \times X) = \beta K \times \beta X = K \times \beta X$ . Thus,  $\pi_K$  has a continuous extension  $\tilde{\pi}_K : K \times \beta X \rightarrow \beta X$ . Since for every  $t \in K$  the continuous mappings  $\tilde{\pi}_K^t$  and  $\bar{\pi}^t$  are equal on  $X$ , they are equal on  $\beta X$ , that is,  $\tilde{\pi}_K = \bar{\pi}|_{K \times \beta X}$ . Consequently,  $\bar{\pi}|_{K \times \beta X}$  is continuous for every compact subset  $K$  of  $G$ . It follows, that the restriction of  $\bar{\pi}$  to an arbitrary compact subset  $G \times \beta X$  is continuous. As  $G \times \beta X$  is a  $k$ -space, this implies that  $\bar{\pi}$  is continuous.

This shows that  $\langle \beta X, \bar{\pi} \rangle$  is a  $G$ -space. Now it is easily seen, that this is the maximal  $G$ -compactification of  $X$ . This proves our lemma.  $\square$

5.6. REMARK. The result of Lemma 5.5 is stated without proof for locally compact groups  $G$  in [8].

5.7. COROLLARY. Let  $G$  be as in 5.5 and let  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  and  $\langle Y, \sigma \rangle$  be Tychonov  $G$ -spaces such that  $X \times Y$  is pseudocompact. Then  $\beta_G(X \times Y) = \beta_G X \times \beta_G Y$ .

PROOF. For  $Z = X$ ,  $Z = Y$  or  $Z = X \times Y$  we have  $\beta_G Z = \beta Z$ , by Lemma 5.5. Now apply Glicksberg's theorem.  $\square$

The observations above lead to the following

5.8. PROBLEM. Let  $G$  be a locally compact group,  $G$  not discrete. Is it true that every  $G$ -pseudocompact  $G$ -space  $X$  is pseudocompact? I believe the answer is no, even if  $G$  is locally connected and compact, but I was not able to find a counterexample.

5.9. The answer to the previous problem would be "yes" if the following version of Lemma 5.5 were true: if  $G$  is locally compact Hausdorff and  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact, then  $\beta_G X = \beta X$  (use 4.1 above and necessity of Glicksberg's result for a  $G$ -space of the form  $X \times Z$ ,  $X$  being  $G$ -pseudocompact and  $Z$  infinite, compact, having trivial action). Observe, that  $\beta_G X = \beta X$  if and only if  $UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle = C^*(X)$ , i.e. every bounded continuous function on  $X$  is  $\pi$ -uniformly continuous. Thus, our next problem reduces to a question, studied among others in [13], if one considers the  $G$ -space  $\langle G, \mu \rangle$  ( $\mu^t s = ts$ ).

5.10. PROBLEM. Find necessary and sufficient conditions for a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  in order that  $\beta_G X = \beta X$ . In particular, is  $G$ -pseudocompactness sufficient?

5.11. REMARK. Necessity in the preceding problem is related to the implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) in 2.5. Indeed, suppose there exists a  $G$ -space  $\langle X, \pi \rangle$  such that  $X$  is  $G$ -pseudocompact,  $X$  is not pseudocompact, but  $\beta_G X = \beta X$ . Then there exists  $f \in C^*(X)$  which has not a maximum or a minimum on  $X$ . Since  $C^*(X) = UC^* \langle X, \pi \rangle$ , such an example would show that (ii)  $\nRightarrow$  (i) in Proposition 2.5.

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