

On e-Menger Spaces

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Abstract: We study a version of the classical Menger covering property, called e-Menger property, by using covers by so-called e-covers. Relations with other Menger-type properties and game-theoretic and Ramsey-theoretic characterizations of this property are given.

Keywords and phrases: e-open set, e-Menger space, e-perfect mapping, e-Menger game, partition relation.

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1 Introduction

In this paper we use the usual topological terminology and notation as in the book [4]. X and Y denote topological spaces, $\text{Cl}(A)$ and $\text{Int}(A)$ are the closure and interior of a subset A of a space X . If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a mapping, then $f^{\leftarrow}(B)$ denotes the preimage of a set $B \subset Y$. By $\mathbb{N}$ and $\mathbb{R}$ we denote the set of natural numbers and the set of real numbers, respectively.

Recently, in [1], the notions of e-open set and e-space were introduced and their role in the study of algebraic and topological properties of the rings of e-continuous functions are demonstrated. For some other applications of these sets see the paper [2]. An open subset U of a topological space X is called *extremely open*, shortly e-open, if the closure $\text{Cl}(U)$ of U is open in X . Clearly, any clopen (= open and closed) set is e-open. The complement of an e-open set is called e-closed. A space is said to be an e-space if it has a base consisting of e-open sets.

Lemma 1. ([1]) *The union and intersection of finitely many e-open sets is e-open.*

From Lemma 1 we get

Lemma 2. *If $\mathcal{U} = \{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n, \dots\}$ is a countable e-open cover of a space X , then $\mathcal{V} = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n, \dots\}$, where $V_k = \bigcup_{i \leq k} U_i$ for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$, is also an e-open cover of X .*

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In this paper we use e-open sets in selection principles theory. Let $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$ be collections of sets. The Menger-type selection principle, denoted $S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$, is the following statement:

For every sequence $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of elements of $\mathcal{A}$ there is a sequence $(B_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of finite sets such for every n , $B_n \subseteq A_n$, and $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n \in \mathcal{B}$.

When $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{O}$, the collection of all open covers of a topological space X , then we have the classical Menger covering property of X [9, 5]. For more information on selection principles the reader can consult the papers [6, 10].

Note that S_{fin} is antimonotone in the first coordinate, and monotone in the second coordinate. Denote by $\mathcal{O}_e$ the collection of all e-open covers of a space X . Since $\mathcal{O}_e \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ we have the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}) & \longrightarrow & S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{O}_e, \mathcal{O}) \\ \uparrow & \searrow & \uparrow \\ S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}_e) & \longrightarrow & S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{O}_e, \mathcal{O}_e) \end{array}$$

The spaces satisfying $S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{O}_e, \mathcal{O}_e)$ are called e-Menger, i.e.

Definition 1. A space X is *e-Menger* if for every sequence $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of e-open covers of X there are finite sets $\mathcal{V}_n \subset \mathcal{U}_n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{V}_n$ covers X .

A space X is *e-compact* [1] (*e-Lindelöf*) if every e-open cover of X has a finite (countable) subcover. Evidently, every e-compact space is e-Menger, every e-Menger space is e-Lindelöf, and every Menger space is e-Menger. It is also evident that every e-closed subspace of an e-Menger space is also e-Menger.

Example 1. The space $[0, \omega_1)$ of all countable ordinals is not e-Menger because it is not e-Lindelöf: the clopen cover, hence e-open cover, $\{[0, \alpha) : \alpha \in [2, \omega_1)\}$ contains no a countable subcover.

2 Basic properties of e-Menger spaces

In this section we discuss relations between Mengeress and e-Mengeress in some classes of spaces and behavior of e-Mengeress under some kinds of mappings.

Theorem 1. An e-space X is e-Menger if and only if it is Menger.

Proof. Let X be an e-Menger space and let $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of open covers of X . As X is an e-space every $\mathcal{U}_n$ can be replaced by a cover $\mathcal{V}_n$ consisting of e-open basic sets. So, every $\mathcal{V}_n$ is an e-open cover of X . Apply to the sequence $(\mathcal{V}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ the fact that X is e-Menger and find for every n a finite subset $\mathcal{W}_n$ of $\mathcal{V}_n$ such that $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{W}_n$ is an e-open cover of X . For every n let $\mathcal{H}_n = \{U_W \in \mathcal{U}_n : U_W \supset W, W \in \mathcal{W}_n\}$. Evidently, the sequence $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ witnesses for $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ that X is a Menger space. $\square$

Recall that a space X is *zero-dimensional* (in the sense of small inductive dimension) if it has a base consisting of clopen sets [4]. Every zero-dimensional space is an e-space; the converse need not be true [1, Example 2.8].

Corollary 1. *A zero-dimensional space X is e-Menger if and only if it is Menger.*

Example 2. The Sorgenfrey line $\mathbb{S}$ and the space $\mathbb{P}$ of irrational numbers (with the Euclidean topology inherited from the real line $\mathbb{R}$) are not e-Menger because they are zero-dimensional spaces which are not Menger as it is well known.

We discuss now the behaviour of the e-Menger property under some classes of mappings.

Following [1] call a mapping $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is *e-continuous at $x \in X$* if for every open set $V \subset Y$ there is an e-open neighbourhood U of x such that $f(U) \subset V$. f is e-continuous if it is e-continuous at every $x \in X$.

Theorem 2. *If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is e-continuous mapping from an e-Menger space X onto a space Y , then Y is e-Menger.*

Proof. Let $(\mathcal{V}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of open covers of Y . For every $x \in X$ and every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is $V_{n,x} \in \mathcal{V}_n$ containing $f(x)$. Since f is e-continuous there is an e-open neighbourhood $U_{n,x}$ of x such that $f(U_{n,x}) \subset V_{n,x}$. Let $\mathcal{U}_n = \{U_{n,x} : x \in X\}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a sequence of e-open covers of X . Since X is e-Menger, there is a sequence $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that for every n , $\mathcal{H}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{U}_n$ and $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup \mathcal{H}_n$. Set $\mathcal{W}_n = \{V_{n,x} : f(H) \subset V_{n,x}, H \in \mathcal{H}_n\}$. We get a sequence $(\mathcal{W}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of finite sets such that $\mathcal{W}_n \subset \mathcal{V}_n$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Thus $Y = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{W \in \mathcal{W}_n} W$, i.e. Y is e-Menger. $\square$

Recall that a mapping $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is *contra-continuous* [3] if the preimage $f^{\leftarrow}(V)$ of an open set $V \subset Y$ is closed in X , and *precontinuous* [8] if $f^{\leftarrow}(V) \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(f^{\leftarrow}(V)))$ whenever V is open in Y .

Theorem 3. *A contra-continuous and precontinuous image $Y = f(X)$ of an e-Menger space X is a Menger space.*

Proof. Let $(\mathcal{V}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of open covers of Y . Since f is contra-continuous for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every $V \in \mathcal{V}_n$ the set $f^{\leftarrow}(V)$ is closed in X . On the other hand, because f is precontinuous, $f^{\leftarrow}(V) \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(f^{\leftarrow}(V)))$, so that $f^{\leftarrow}(V) \subset \text{Int}(f^{\leftarrow}(V))$, i.e. $f^{\leftarrow}(V) = \text{Int}(f^{\leftarrow}(V))$. Therefore, for every n , the set $\mathcal{U}_n = \{f^{\leftarrow}(V) : V \in \mathcal{V}_n\}$ is an e-cover of X , being a clopen cover of X . As X is an e-Menger space there is a sequence $(\mathcal{G}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that for every n , $\mathcal{G}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{U}_n$ and $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup \mathcal{G}_n$. Let $\mathcal{W}_n = \{f(G) : G \in \mathcal{G}_n\}$. Then for every n , $\mathcal{W}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{V}_n$ and $Y = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup \mathcal{W}_n$. This means that Y is a Menger space. $\square$

A mapping $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called *weakly e-continuous* if for every $x \in X$ and every open neighbourhood V of $f(x)$ there is an e-open neighbourhood U of x such that $f(U) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. f is weakly e-continuous if it is weakly e-continuous at every point in X .

Recall that a space X is *almost Menger* if for every sequence $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of open covers of X there is a sequence $(\mathcal{V}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of finite sets such that for every n , $\mathcal{V}_n \subseteq \mathcal{U}_n$, and $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{V}_n} \text{Cl}(V)$ [7, 6].

Theorem 4. *If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is weakly e -continuous mapping from an e -Menger space X onto a space Y , then Y is almost Menger.*

Proof. Let $(\mathcal{V}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of open covers of Y . For every $x \in X$ and every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is $V_{n,x} \in \mathcal{V}_n$ containing $f(x)$. Since f is weakly e -continuous there is an e -open neighbourhood $U_{n,x}$ of x such that $f(U_{n,x}) \subset \text{Cl}(V_{n,x})$. Put $\mathcal{U}_n = \{U_{n,x} : x \in X\}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a sequence of e -open covers of X . Since X is e -Menger, there is a sequence $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that for every n , $\mathcal{H}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{U}_n$ and $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup \mathcal{H}_n$. Set $\mathcal{W}_n = \{V_{n,x} : f(H) \subset \text{Cl}(V_{n,x}), H \in \mathcal{H}_n\}$. We get a sequence $(\mathcal{W}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of finite sets such that $\mathcal{W}_n \subset \mathcal{V}_n$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Thus $Y = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup_{W \in \mathcal{W}_n} \text{Cl}(W)$, i.e. Y is almost Menger. $\square$

A mapping $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is

- *e -open* if the set $f(E)$ is e -open in Y for every e -open set $E \subset X$;
- *e -closed* if for every $y \in Y$ and every e -open set $O \supset f^{\leftarrow}(y)$ in X there is an e -open set $E \subset Y$ containing y such that $f^{\leftarrow}(E) \subset O$;
- *e -perfect* if it is e -closed and for every $y \in Y$ the set $f^{\leftarrow}(y)$ is e -compact in X .

Theorem 5. *If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is an e -open, e -perfect mapping from a space X onto a Menger space Y , then X is e -Menger.*

Proof. Let $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of e -open covers of X . For every $y \in Y$ the set $f^{\leftarrow}(y)$ is e -compact so that for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is a finite set $\mathcal{U}_{n,y} \subset \mathcal{U}_n$ covering $f^{\leftarrow}(y)$. Set $V_{n,y} = \bigcup \mathcal{U}_{n,y}$. As, by Lemma 1, $V_{n,y}$ is an e -open neighbourhood of $f^{\leftarrow}(y)$ and f is an e -closed mapping, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every $y \in Y$ there is an e -open set $W_{n,y} \subset Y$ such that $y \in W_{n,y}$ and $f^{\leftarrow}(W_{n,y}) \subset V_{n,y}$. For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ set $\mathcal{W}_n = \{W_{n,y} : y \in Y\}$. Then every $\mathcal{W}_n$ is an e -open, hence open, cover of Y . Since Y is Menger, there is a sequence $(\mathcal{G}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $\mathcal{G}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{W}_n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and $Y = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bigcup \mathcal{G}_n$. For every n and every $G \in \mathcal{G}_n$ there is a finite $\mathcal{U}_{n,G} \subset \mathcal{U}_n$ with $f^{\leftarrow}(G) \subset \bigcup \mathcal{U}_{n,G}$. If $\mathcal{H}_n = \{U \in \mathcal{U}_n : U \in \mathcal{U}_{n,G}, G \in \mathcal{G}_n\}$, then $\mathcal{H}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{U}_n$ for every n . Then the sequence $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ witnesses for the given sequence $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ that X is e -Menger. $\square$

3 Characterizations of e -Menger spaces

In this section we characterize the e -Menger property game-theoretically and Ramsey-theoretically.

The symbol $M_e(X)$ denotes the following *e -Menger game* on X : players I and II play a round for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. In the n th round player I chooses an e -open cover $\mathcal{U}_n$ of X , and

then II chooses a finite set $\mathcal{V}_n \subset \mathcal{U}_n$. II wins a play $\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{V}_1; \mathcal{U}_2, \mathcal{V}_2; \dots$ if $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{V}_n$ covers X ; otherwise I wins.

Note that a space X has the e-Menger property whenever I does not have a winning strategy in the game $M_e(X)$.

Theorem 6. *For an e-Lindelöf space X the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) X is an e-Menger space;
- (2) I does not have a winning strategy in the game $M_e(X)$ on X .

Proof. By the above observation we have to prove only $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$. Let σ be a strategy for I .

Round 1: In the first round I chooses a countable cover $\sigma(\emptyset) = \mathcal{U}_1 \in \mathcal{O}_e$, say $\mathcal{U}_1 = \{U_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Applying Lemma 2, I can consider the cover $\mathcal{V}_1 = \{V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \dots \subset V_n \subset \dots\}$ instead of $\mathcal{U}_1$ [In the next rounds I selects e-open covers $\mathcal{V}_2, \mathcal{V}_3, \dots$ listed in the increasing order with respect to inclusion.] Suppose that II 's response is V_{n_1} (which is actually the choice of the initial part $\{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_{n_1}\}$ of $\mathcal{U}_1$).

Round 2: I chooses a countable e-open cover $\mathcal{V}_2 = \sigma(V_{n_1}) = \{V_{n_1, n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Suppose II 's response is $V_{n_1, n_2} \supset V_{n_1}$.

Round 3: I selects an e-open cover $\mathcal{V}_3 = \sigma(V_{n_1}, V_{n_1, n_2}) = \{V_{n_1, n_2, n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$, and II chooses $V_{n_1, n_2, n_3} \supset V_{n_1, n_2}$.

And so on. In this way we get two sequences

$$\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2, \mathcal{V}_3, \dots, \mathcal{V}_k, \dots \quad \text{and} \quad V_{n_1} \subset V_{n_1, n_2} \subset \dots \subset V_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k} \supset \dots.$$

For every $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ define sets $W_{n, m}$ as follows:

- (i) $W_{1, m} = V_m$;
- (ii) If $n \geq 2$, $W_{n, m} = \bigcap \{V_{s \smallfrown m} : s \text{ is a sequence of length } n-1\} \cap V_{n-1, m}$.

By Lemma 1 every set $W_{n, m}$ is e-open so that for every n , $\mathcal{W}_n = \{W_{n, m} : m \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an e-open cover of X listed in an increasing order. As X is e-Menger there is a mapping $\varphi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $\{W_{n, \varphi(n)} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ covers X . Observe that $W_{n, \varphi(n)} \subset V_{\varphi \upharpoonright n+1}$. It follows that the set $\{V_{\varphi(1)}, V_{\varphi(1), \varphi(2)}, V_{\varphi(1), \varphi(2), \varphi(3)}, \dots, V_{\varphi(1), \varphi(2), \dots, \varphi(n)}, \dots\}$ of moves of II covers X , i.e. σ is not a winning strategy of I . $\square$

In the sequel we use the following notation for a space X :

- Ω_e denotes the collection of all e-open covers $\mathcal{U}$ of X such that every finite subset of X is contained in a member of $\mathcal{U}$ and $X \notin \mathcal{U}$. Elements in Ω_e are called ω -e-covers.

Let us note that any $\mathcal{U} \in \Omega_e$ satisfies:

For every k and every partition $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_k$ there is an $i \leq k$ belonging to Ω_e .

A space X is called ω -e-Lindelöf if every cover in Ω_e has a countable subcover.

Proposition 1. *For an e -Lindelöf space X the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) X is an e -Menger space;
- (2) X satisfies the selection principle $S_{\text{fin}}(\Omega_e, \mathcal{O}_e)$.

Proof. Because $\Omega_e \subset \mathcal{O}_e$ we have $S_{\text{fin}}(\Omega_e, \mathcal{O}_e) \supset S_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{O}_e, \mathcal{O}_e)$, i.e., $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$.

$(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ Let $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of e -open covers of X . Consider now the sequence $(\mathcal{V}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of e -open covers such that every $\mathcal{V}_n$ is the set of finite unions of elements of $\mathcal{U}_n$. In fact, every $\mathcal{V}_n$ is in Ω_e and is countable. By (2) there is a sequence $(\mathcal{W}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that for every n , $\mathcal{W}_n$ is a finite subset of $\mathcal{V}_n$ and $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{W}_n \in \mathcal{O}_e$. But, every $W \in \mathcal{W}_n$ is a union of finitely many elements of $\mathcal{U}_n$. Therefore, disassembling elements of every $\mathcal{W}_n$ one gets a sequence $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of finite subsets of the corresponding $\mathcal{U}_n$ witnessing that X is e -Menger. $\square$

Recall the following concept in Ramsey theory, called the *Baumgartner-Taylor partition relation* (see [6, 10]). For every positive integer k ,

$$\mathcal{A} \rightarrow [\mathcal{B}]_k^2$$

denotes the following:

For every A in $\mathcal{A}$ and for every function $f : [A]^2 \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\}$ there are a set $B \in \mathcal{B}$ with $B \subset A$, a $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, and a partition $B = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} B_n$ of B into pairwise disjoint finite sets such that for every $\{p, q\} \in [B]^2$ for which p and q are not from the same B_n , $f(\{p, q\}) = j$ holds.

Here $[A]^2$ denotes the set of all two-element subsets of A . The set B is called nearly homogeneous of color j .

Theorem 7. *Let X be an e -Lindelöf space. Consider the following statements:*

- (1) *The partition relation $\Omega_e \rightarrow [\mathcal{O}_e]_2^2$ holds;*
- (2) *X is an e -Menger space.*

Then $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$.

Proof. By Proposition 1 it is enough to prove that (1) implies the statement (2) in that proposition.

Let $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of countable elements of Ω_e , say $\mathcal{U}_n = \{U_{n,m} : m \in \mathbb{N}\}$ for every n . Let $\mathcal{V}$ be the collection of nonempty sets of the form $U_{1,n} \cap U_{n,m}$. It is clear that $\mathcal{V} \in \Omega_e$. For every $V \in \mathcal{V}$ choose a representation of the form $V = U_{1,n} \cap U_{n,m}$. Then define the function $f : [\mathcal{V}]^2 \rightarrow \{1, 2\}$ as follows:

$$f(\{U_{1,n_1} \cap U_{n_1,i}, U_{1,n_2} \cap U_{n_2,j}\}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n_1 = n_2, \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By (1), take $\mathcal{W} \subset \mathcal{V}$ with $\mathcal{W} \in \mathcal{O}_e$ and $\mathcal{W}$ is nearly homogeneous of color j . Assume $\mathcal{W} = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{W}_k$ is a sequence of finite, pairwise disjoint sets such that for A and B from distinct $\mathcal{W}_k$'s we have $f(\{A, B\}) = j$. We have the following two possibilities.

Case 1. $j = 1$.

There is an n such that for all $A \in \mathcal{W}$ we have $A \subset U_{1,n}$. This implies that $\mathcal{W}$ does not belong to $\mathcal{O}_e$. Thus, this case does not hold.

Case 2. $j = 2$.

For every $n > 1$ define

$$\mathcal{H}_n = \{U_{n,i} : U_{n,i} \text{ is the second coordinate in the representation of an } W \in \mathcal{W}\}$$

and set $\mathcal{H} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{H}_n$. Then $\mathcal{H}$ is the union of finite subsets of $\mathcal{U}_n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

It is easily checked that $\mathcal{H} \in \mathcal{O}_e$. If for some n , $\mathcal{H}_n$ was not defined, we set $\mathcal{H}_n = \emptyset$. So we get the sequence $(\mathcal{H}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ witnessing for $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ that $S_{\text{fin}}(\Omega_e, \mathcal{O}_e)$ holds. $\square$

4 Conclusions

In this note, by employing e-open sets, we established several properties of the e-Menger covering property which is a generalization of the classical Menger covering property. Further work may be done for Rothberger-type and Hurewicz-type covering properties which involve e-open covers.

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