

Partitions of unity question

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If M is a topological space with the property that for every open cover X of M , there exists a partition of unity subordinate to X , show that M is paracompact.

I can't quite see how to do this. If $\{f_i\}$ is a partition of unity for $X = \{X_i\}$, then certainly

$X = \text{Union of } \{\text{supp}(f_i)\} \text{ (over } i\text{)}$, since if x is in M , then there exists a function f_k such that $f_k(x)$ is not zero since by definition of partition of unity,

$\sum f_i(x) = 1$ for all x in M (where the sum is taken over all i).

So if $\text{supp}(f_i)$ was open for all i , then $\{\text{supp}(f_i)\}$ would be a locally finite refinement of $\{X_i\}$ since $\text{supp}(f_i)$ is a subset of X_i and the supp 's form a locally finite set.

But they may not be open. So I'm not sure what to do. For a particular k , can I maybe write $\text{supp}(f_k)$ as a union of a finite amount of open sets? Because it seems clear to me that a finite refinement of a locally finite set is locally finite. But it doesn't appear clear to me that any refinement of a locally finite set is locally finite.

Any help is highly appreciated, Thank you,

Tony