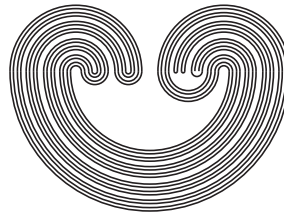


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ON THE SUBMETRIZABILITY NUMBER AND
 i -WEIGHT OF QUASI-UNIFORM SPACES AND
PARATOPOLOGICAL GROUPS

by

TARAS BANAKH AND ALEX RAVSKY

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Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Auburn University, Alabama 36849, USA

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**ON THE SUBMETRIZABILITY NUMBER AND
 i -WEIGHT OF QUASI-UNIFORM SPACES AND
PARATOPOLOGICAL GROUPS**

TARAS BANAKH AND ALEX RAVSKY

ABSTRACT. We derive many upper bounds on the submetrizability number and i -weight of paratopological groups and topological monoids with open shifts. In particular, we prove that each first countable Hausdorff paratopological group is submetrizable thus answering a problem of Arhangel'skii posed in 2002. Also we construct an example of a zero-dimensional (and hence regular) Hausdorff paratopological abelian group G with countable pseudocharacter which is not submetrizable. In fact, all results on the i -weight and submetrizability are derived from more general results concerning normally quasi-uniformizable and bi-quasi-uniformizable spaces.

INTRODUCTION

This paper was motivated by the following problem of Arhangel'skii [1, 3.11] (also repeated by Tkachenko in his survey [26, 2.1]): *Does every first countable Hausdorff paratopological group admit a weaker metrizable topology?* A surprisingly simple answer to this problem was given by the authors in [4]. We just observed that each Hausdorff paratopological group G carries a natural uniformity generated by the base consisting of entourages $\{(x, y) \in G \times G : y \in UxU^{-1} \cap U^{-1}xU\}$ where U runs over open neighborhoods of the unit e in G . In [4] this uniformity was called the *quasi-Roelcke uniformity* on G and denoted by \mathcal{Q} . If G is first-countable, then the quasi-Roelcke uniformity \mathcal{Q} is metrizable, which implies that the space G is submetrizable. Moreover, if the quasi-Roelcke uniformity \mathcal{Q} is

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Key words and phrases. Submetrizable space, i -weight, pre-uniformity, quasi-uniformity, paratopological group, topological monoid.

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