

1. Fix  $x \in X$  and find open  $U \ni x$  that meets only finitely many  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . As  $U$  is open  $U \cap \bar{A} \neq \emptyset \iff U \cap A \neq \emptyset$  giving the result.
2. Fix an open cover  $\mathcal{U}$ . For each  $x \in X$  find  $U_x$  and open  $V_x$  with  $x \in V_x \subseteq \bar{V}_x \subseteq U_x$ . Then  $\{V_x : x \in X\}$  is an open cover and hence has a locally finite refinement  $\mathcal{A}$  covering  $X$ . For each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  choose  $U_A \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $\bar{A} \subseteq U_A$  and for each  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  let

$$F_U = \overline{\bigcup \{A \in \mathcal{A} : U_A = U\}} = \bigcup \{\bar{A} : A \in \mathcal{A}, U_A = U\}.$$

by local finiteness of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Note that for open  $V \subseteq X$ ,  $V \cap \bar{A} \neq \emptyset \iff V \cap A \neq \emptyset$ . Hence, if  $V \ni x$  witnesses local finiteness of  $\mathcal{A}$  at  $x$  then it witnesses local finiteness of  $\{\bar{A} : A \in \mathcal{A}\}$  at  $x$  and thus meets only finitely many  $F_U$ . (This last step seems difficult for students, so here are two (?) more detailed explanations: each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  is only used in one  $F_U$ . So if  $V$  only meets  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  and no other  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $V$  only meets  $F_{U_{A_1}}, \dots, F_{U_{A_n}}$ : if  $V$  meets  $F_U$  then  $V$  meets some  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $U_A = U$ .) It remains to argue that  $\{F_U : U \in \mathcal{U}\}$  is an open cover of  $X$  refining  $\mathcal{U}$ . Clearly  $F_U \subseteq U$  (since  $U_A = U$  implies  $\bar{A} \subseteq U$ ). For covering, fix  $y \in X$ . Then  $y \in A$  for some  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A \subseteq F_{U_A}$ .

3. Suppose  $\mathcal{U} = \bigcup_n \mathcal{U}_n$  is an open cover of  $X$  such that each  $\mathcal{U}_n$  is locally finite. Write  $U_n = \bigcup_{k < n} \bigcup \mathcal{U}_k$  (the bit of  $X$  covered by the families  $\mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_{n-1}$ ) and let

$$\mathcal{A} = \bigcup_n \{U \setminus U_n : U \in \mathcal{U}_n\}.$$

(so from the elements of  $\mathcal{U}_n$ , throw away what has been covered previously). We claim that  $\mathcal{A}$  is the required locally finite refinement of  $\mathcal{U}$  covering  $X$ . Clearly  $\mathcal{A}$  refines  $\mathcal{U}_n$  and hence  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Next, it covers  $X$  since for each  $x \in X$  we can find the minimal  $n$  such that  $x \in \bigcup \mathcal{U}_n$  and  $U \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $x \in U$ . Then  $x \in U \setminus U_n$  (by minimality of  $n$ ). If  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  witness that  $\mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_n$  are locally finite at  $x$  then  $W = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n \cap U_{n+1}$  will only meet finitely many elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ : if  $k > n$  then  $U \setminus U_k, U \in \mathcal{U}_k$ , does not meet  $W$  (because of the  $U_{n+1}$ ) and each  $V_i$  ensures that  $W$  meets only finitely many  $U \setminus U_k, U \in \mathcal{U}_k$  for  $k \leq n$ .

4. We have done everything except for (i) implies (ii) which is trivial and (iv) implies (i). For this we use the notation of the hint.

Observe that each  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  is contained in some  $W \in \mathcal{W}$  and hence can only meet those  $V_C$  where  $W$  meets  $C$ . As  $\mathcal{W}$  witnesses local finiteness of  $\mathcal{C}$  there are only finitely many such. So for each  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  there is a finite  $\mathcal{C}_D \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  such that  $D \cap V_C = \emptyset$  unless  $C \in \mathcal{C}_D$ .

Now let  $x \in X$  and let  $A$  witness local finiteness of  $\mathcal{D}$  at  $x$ . Then  $\mathcal{D}_A = \{D \in \mathcal{D} : A \cap D \neq \emptyset\}$  is finite and  $A \subseteq \mathcal{D}_A$  as  $\mathcal{D}$  is a cover. Thus  $A$  can

only meet  $V_C$  for  $C \in \bigcup_{D \in \mathcal{D}_A} \mathcal{C}_D$  and this is a finite union of finite sets. Hence  $\{V_C : C \in \mathcal{C}\}$  is locally finite.

Observe that for each  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $C \subseteq V_C$  and choose  $U_C \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $C \subseteq U_C$  so that  $C \subseteq V_C \cap U_C$ . Then  $\{V_C \cap U : C \in \mathcal{C}\}$  is a locally finite refinement of  $\mathcal{U}$  covering  $X$ , as required.

5. Examining the proof of (b), we see that if all elements of  $\mathcal{A}$  are open then  $\bigcup \{A \in \mathcal{A} : \overline{A} \subseteq U\}$  is open as required.
6. Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an open cover, and use a previous part to obtain a locally finite open collection  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_U : U \in \mathcal{U}\}$  such that  $\forall U \in \mathcal{U} \overline{V_U} \subseteq U$ . Let  $D$  be a countable dense set and for  $d \in D$  choose  $V_d \in \mathcal{V}$  such that  $d \in V_d$ . Now note that by local finiteness of  $\mathcal{V}$ ,

$$\bigcup_{d \in D} U_{V_d} \supseteq \bigcup_{d \in D} \overline{V_d} = \overline{\bigcup_{d \in D} V_d} \supseteq \overline{D} = X$$

so that  $\{U_{V_d} : d \in D\}$  is the required countable subcover.

**Alternative solution (by Christopher Turner) without using regularity:** We show that in a separable space every locally finite family of (non-empty) open sets is countable: suppose  $\mathcal{V}$  is a locally finite family of non-empty open sets and that  $D$  is a countable dense subset. Because  $\mathcal{V}$  is locally finite, for  $d \in D$  we have open  $W \ni d$  that meets only finitely many elements of  $\mathcal{V}$ . Hence each  $d \in D$  is only contained in finitely many elements of  $\mathcal{V}$ . Write  $\mathcal{V}_d = \{V \in \mathcal{V} : d \in V\}$ .

Because  $D$  is dense and each  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  is non-empty open, it contains some  $d \in D$ . Thus  $\mathcal{V} = \bigcup_{d \in D} \mathcal{V}_d$  which is a countable union of finite sets so countable.

Now, if  $\mathcal{U}$  is an open cover then choose a locally finite open refinement  $\mathcal{V}$  still covering  $X$ . By the above  $\mathcal{V}$  is countable and if we choose for each  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  a  $U_V \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $V \subseteq U_V$  then  $\{U_V : V \in \mathcal{V}\}$  is a countable subset of  $\mathcal{U}$  covering  $X$ : if  $x \in X$  then  $x \in V$  for some  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  ( $\mathcal{V}$  covers) and so  $x \in V \subseteq U_V$ .

7. Suppose that  $I = \bigcap \mathcal{U} \neq \emptyset$ . As  $X \setminus I \in \mathcal{U}$  leads to  $I = \emptyset$  we must have  $I \in \mathcal{U}$ . If  $x, y \in I$  are distinct then one of  $\{x\}, X \setminus \{x\} \in \mathcal{U}$ . If  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{U}$  then  $y \notin I$ . If  $X \setminus \{x\} \in \mathcal{U}$  then  $x \notin I$ . So  $I$  is a singleton  $\{x\}$  and hence  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{P}_x$ .

For the converse, simply observe that  $\bigcap \mathcal{P}_x = \{x\}$ .

If  $\mathcal{U}$  is free then for each  $x$  there must be  $A \ni x$  with  $X \setminus A \in \mathcal{U}$ . But then  $X \setminus \{x\} \supseteq X \setminus A$ , so  $X \setminus \{x\} \in \mathcal{U}$ . Finally, taking finite intersections of  $X \setminus \{x\}$  we obtain  $X \setminus F \in \mathcal{U}$  for any finite set  $F$ .

8. Assume that  $\mathcal{U}$  is an ultrafilter with countable basis  $\{B_n : n \in \omega\}$ . By taking finite intersections of the first  $n$  elements (for each  $n$ ) we may assume that  $B_n$  is decreasing. If  $B_n$  is eventually constant equal to  $B$

(say), then  $\bigcap \mathcal{U} = B$ , contradiction. So by passing to a subsequence  $B_n$  is wlog strictly decreasing. We then note that  $\emptyset = \bigcap \mathcal{U} = \bigcap_n B_n$ . Setting  $A = \bigcup_k B_{2k} \setminus B_{2k+1}$  and  $B = X \setminus A = \bigcup_k B_{2k+1} \setminus B_{2k+2}$  we have that  $B_j \not\subseteq A$  and  $B_j \not\subseteq B$  for every  $j$ , so (by the fact that the  $B_n$  form a filter basis for  $\mathcal{U}$ ), neither  $A$  nor  $X \setminus A$  belong to  $\mathcal{U}$  a contradiction.

9. For each  $n$ , consider the family  $\{[k/2^n, (k+1)/2^n] : k = 0, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$ . This covers  $[0, 1]$  and hence at least one element must belong to  $\mathcal{U}$ . Picking one such interval for each  $n$  gives a countable family of closed intervals whose intersection is non-empty (by compactness of  $[0, 1]$ ) and at most a singleton (as the length go to 0). Hence this intersection is a singleton  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{U}$ , giving that  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{P}_x$ .