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**Title:** Strong quasi-metric spaces and countable paracompactness of bispaces

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T. G. RAGHAVAN and I. L. REILLY proved that if  $(X, d)$  is a quasi-metric space such that  $\tau(d)$  is countably paracompact with respect to  $\tau(d^{-1})$ , then  $(X, d)$  is strong (i.e.  $\tau(d) \subseteq \tau(d^{-1})$ ). Here, we show that the converse of this result is also true. We obtain, in this way, a characterization of strong quasi-metric spaces in terms of bitopological countable paracompactness.

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