

# On Decompositions of Continuity and $\alpha$ -Continuity

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ABSTRACT. Several results concerning a decomposition of  $\alpha$ -continuous, continuous and complete continuous functions are offered.

## 1. PRELIMINARIES

Throughout the paper, by  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \sigma)$  we denote topological spaces (briefly: spaces) on which no separation axioms are assumed. For a subset  $S$  of a space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{cl}(S)$  and  $\text{int}(S)$  denote the closure and the interior of  $S$ , respectively. A set  $S \subset X$  is called *regular open* (resp. *regular closed*) if  $S = \text{int}(\text{cl}(S))$  (resp.  $S = \text{cl}(\text{int}(S))$ ). An  $S \subset X$  is said to be  $\alpha$ -open [9] (resp. *preopen* [8], *semi-open* [7], *semi-preopen* [1]) if  $S \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(S)))$  (resp.  $S \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(S))$ ,  $S \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(S))$ ,  $S \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(S)))$ ).

The family  $\tau^\alpha$  of all  $\alpha$ -open subsets of a space  $(X, \tau)$  is always a topology on  $X$  [9], such that  $\tau^\alpha \supset \tau$  (the inclusion is proper, in general). Crossley and Hildebrand [3] investigated *semi-closed* subsets of  $(X, \tau)$ :  $S$  is semi-closed if  $S \supset \text{int}(\text{cl}(S))$ . They have obtained that  $S$  is semi-closed in  $(X, \tau)$  if and only if  $\text{int}(\text{cl}(S)) = \text{int}(S)$ . Using this identity, Tong [12] introduced the so-called *t-sets*. He proved that each regular open set is a *t-set* [12, Proposition 2]. The family of all regular open (resp. regular closed, closed, semi-open, semi-closed, preopen, semi-preopen) subsets of  $(X, \tau)$  is denoted as  $\text{RO}(X, \tau)$  (resp.  $\text{RC}(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{c}(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{SO}(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{SC}(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{PO}(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{SPO}(X, \tau)$ ). The following inclusions (proper in general) are known:

- $\text{RO}(X, \tau) \subset \tau \subset \tau^\alpha \subset \text{PO}(X, \tau) \subset \text{SPO}(X, \tau)$ ,
- $\tau^\alpha \subset \text{SO}(X, \tau) \subset \text{SPO}(X, \tau)$ .

The families  $\text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $\text{SO}(X, \tau)$  are, in general, independent of each other in the sense of inclusion [10].

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**Lemma 1.1** ([10] for “semi-open”, [4] for “semi-closed”). *If either  $S_1 \in \text{SO}(X, \tau) \cup \text{SC}(X, \tau)$  or  $S_2 \in \text{SO}(X, \tau) \cup \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ , then*

$$\text{int}(\text{cl}(S_1 \cap S_2)) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(S_1)) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(S_2)).$$

**Lemma 1.2** ([10]). *In any space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $\tau^\alpha = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \text{SO}(X, \tau)$ .*

## 2. CONTINUITY

We will need the following classes of subsets of a space  $(X, \tau)$ .

**Definition 2.1.**  $(\tau_0) \mathcal{B}_\tau(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau, C \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)\};$

$(\tau_1) \mathcal{B}_\tau^1(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau, C \in \text{RC}(X, \tau)\} (= \mathcal{A}(X, \tau)$   
[11, Definition 3.1] and [12, p. 31]);

$(\tau_2) \mathcal{B}_\tau^2(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau, C \in \text{c}(X, \tau)\} (= \text{LC}(X, \tau)$   
[5]);

$(\tau_3) \mathcal{B}_\tau^3(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau, C \in \text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha)\};$

$(\tau_4) \mathcal{B}_\tau^4(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau, C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)\} (= \mathcal{B}(X, \tau)$   
[12, Definition 2]).

The following (obvious) inclusions, proper in general, hold:

$$\mathcal{B}_\tau^1(X, \tau) \subset \mathcal{B}_\tau^2(X, \tau) \subset \mathcal{B}_\tau^3(X, \tau) \subset \mathcal{B}_\tau^4(X, \tau).$$

In Theorem 2.1 we recall some results that have been so far obtained.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space.*

(a)  $\tau = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{A}(X, \tau)$  [6, case (iv), p. 31];

(b)  $\tau = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \text{LC}(X, \tau)$  [6, Theorem 2(3)];

(c)  $\tau = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}(X, \tau)$  [12, Proposition 9].

We complete these decompositions of  $\tau$  in the theorem below.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space.*

(d)  $\tau = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\tau^0(X, \tau);$

(e)  $\tau = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\tau^3(X, \tau).$

*Proof.* Let  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\tau^0(X, \tau)$ . Then  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $S \in \mathcal{B}_\tau^0(X, \tau) \subset \mathcal{B}(X, \tau)$  since  $\text{RO}(X, \tau) \subset \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ . By [12, Proposition 9] we have  $S \in \tau$ . That  $S \in \tau$  follows from  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\tau^3(X, \tau)$  is analogous because  $\text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha) \subset \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ .

Let now  $S \in \tau$ . Then  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $S = S \cap X$ , where  $X \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$ . For (e), observe that  $X \in \text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.2.** A function  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is called  $\mathcal{B}_\tau^i$ -continuous on  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ , if  $f^{-1}(V) \in \mathcal{B}_\tau^i(X, \tau)$  for any  $V \in \sigma$ .

For  $i = 1, 2, 4$  these types of continuity were introduced earlier:  $\mathcal{A}$ -continuity ( $\equiv \mathcal{B}_\tau^1$ -continuity) [11],  $\text{LC}$ -continuity ( $\equiv \mathcal{B}_\tau^2$ -continuity) [6],  $\mathcal{B}$ -continuity ( $\equiv \mathcal{B}_\tau^4$ -continuity) [12].

By Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 we get the following decomposition results.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  be a function. Then, for each  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,*

(a<sub>*i*</sub>)  *$f$  is continuous if and only if  $f$  is precontinuous and  $\mathcal{B}_\tau^i$ -continuous.*

Decompositions of continuity for cases (a<sub>1</sub>), (a<sub>2</sub>) and (a<sub>4</sub>) were known before: [6, Theorem 4(v)], [6, Theorem 4(iv)] and [12, Proposition 11], respectively.

### 3. COMPLETE CONTINUITY

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space.

(r $\tau$ 1)  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^1(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{RO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{RC}(X, \tau)\}$ ;

(r $\tau$ 2)  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^2(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{RO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{c}(X, \tau)\}$ ;

(r $\tau$ 3)  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^3(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{RO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha)\}$ ;

(r $\tau$ 4)  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^4(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{RO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)\}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *For any topological space  $(X, \tau)$ ,*

(a<sub>r4</sub>) *a set  $S \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$  if and only if  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $S \in \mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^4(X, \tau)$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $S \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$ . Then  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $S = S \cap X$  where  $X \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^4(X, \tau)$ , then  $S \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(U \cap C))$  where  $U \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$  and  $C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ . Using Lemma 1.1 we get

$$(*) \quad S \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(U)) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(C)) = U \cap \text{int}(C),$$

since  $C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)$  (or by  $U \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$ ). Then we have:

$$(**) \quad S = (U \cap C) \cap U \subset (U \cap \text{int}(C)) \cap U = U \cap \text{int}(C).$$

Since  $S \supset U \cap \text{int}(C)$ , we get  $S = U \cap \text{int}(C) = U \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(C))$ . But sets  $U, \text{int}(\text{cl}(C)) \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$ . Therefore  $S$  is an intersection of two regularly open sets — consequently,  $S \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$ .  $\square$

We introduce now four new types of continuity.

**Definition 3.2.** A function  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is said to be  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^i$ -continuous on  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , if  $f^{-1}(V) \in \mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^i(X, \tau)$  for every  $V \in \sigma$ .

**Definition 3.3.** [2] A function  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is said to be *completely continuous* if  $f^{-1}(V) \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$  for every  $V \in \sigma$ .

By Theorem 3.1 we obtain the following decomposition result:

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  be a function. Then:*

(b<sub>r4</sub>)  *$f$  is completely continuous if and only if it is both precontinuous and  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^4$ -continuous.*

We can get more decompositions of complete continuity. Namely, one easily obtains

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be an arbitrary space. Then for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ ,*

(a<sub>ri</sub>)  $S \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)$  if and only if  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^i(X, \tau)$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  be a function. Then, for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , the following hold:*

(b<sub>ri</sub>)  $f$  is completely continuous if and only if  $f$  is precontinuous and  $\mathcal{B}_{r\tau}^i$ -continuous.

#### 4. $\alpha$ -CONTINUITY

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space.

( $\alpha 0$ )  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^0(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau^\alpha, C \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)\}$ ;

( $\alpha 1$ )  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^1(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau^\alpha, C \in \text{RC}(X, \tau)\}$ ;

( $\alpha 2$ )  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^2(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau^\alpha, C \in \text{c}(X, \tau)\}$ ;

( $\alpha 3$ )  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^3(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau^\alpha, C \in \text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha)\}$ ;

( $\alpha 4$ )  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^4(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \tau^\alpha, C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)\}$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be arbitrary. Then:*

( $\alpha_{\alpha 4}$ )  $S \in \tau^\alpha$  if and only if  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\alpha^4(X, \tau)$ .

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $S \in \tau^\alpha$ . Then  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $S = S \cap C$ , where  $C = X \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\alpha^4(X, \tau)$ . Then  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau)$  and  $S = U \cap C$ , where  $U \in \tau^\alpha, C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ . Utilizing Lemma 1.1 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (*) \quad S &\subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(U \cap C)) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(U)) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(C)) \subset \\ &\subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(U)))))) \cap \text{int}(C) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(U))) \cap \text{int}(C). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(**') \quad S = (U \cap C) \cap U \subset (\text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(U))) \cap \text{int}(C)) \cap U = U \cap \text{int}(C).$$

On the other hand,  $S = U \cap C \supset U \cap \text{int}(C)$ . This shows that  $S = U \cap \text{int}(C) \in \tau^\alpha$ .  $\square$

Observe that  $X \in \text{RO}(X, \tau) \cap \text{RC}(X, \tau)$  and  $\text{RC}(X, \tau) \subset \text{c}(X, \tau) \subset \text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha) \subset \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ . Thus, by the proof of sufficiency of Theorem 4.1, one easily deduces the following result.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be arbitrary. Then for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$  one has:*

(a<sub>ai</sub>)  $S \in \tau^\alpha$  if and only if  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_\alpha^i(X, \tau)$ .

For a function  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  we may define the respective notions of  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^i$ -continuity — see Definitions 2.2 or 3.2. Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 lead immediately to

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  be a function. For  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,*

(b<sub>ai</sub>)  $f$  is  $\alpha$ -continuous if and only if  $f$  is precontinuous and  $\mathcal{B}_\alpha^i$ -continuous.

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a space.

(s0)  $\mathcal{B}_s^0(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{SO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{RO}(X, \tau)\}$ ;

- (s1)  $\mathcal{B}_s^1(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{SO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{RC}(X, \tau)\};$   
 (s2)  $\mathcal{B}_s^2(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{SO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{c}(X, \tau)\};$   
 (s3)  $\mathcal{B}_s^3(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{SO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{c}(X, \tau^\alpha)\};$   
 (s4)  $\mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau) := \{S \subset X : S = U \cap C, U \in \text{SO}(X, \tau), C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)\}.$

**Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a space. Then*

$$(a_{s4}) \quad S \in \tau^\alpha \text{ if and only if } S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau).$$

*Proof.* Let  $S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau)$ . Hence  $S \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(S))$  and  $S = U \cap C$  for  $U \in \text{SO}(X, \tau)$  and  $C \in \text{SC}(X, \tau)$ . We have what follows (using Lemma 1.1):

$$(*) \quad S \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(U \cap C)) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(U)) \cap \text{int}(C) \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(U))) \cap \text{int}(C).$$

Since  $\text{SO}(X, \tau) \subset \text{SPO}(X, \tau)$ ,

$$(**) \quad S = (U \cap C) \cap U \subset (\text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(U))) \cap \text{int}(C)) \cap U = U \cap \text{int}(C).$$

But  $S = U \cap C \supset U \cap \text{int}(C)$  and hence  $S = U \cap \text{int}(C) \in \text{SO}(X, \tau)$ , since the intersection of semi-open and open sets is always semi-open [7].

Thus we have proved that  $\text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau) \subset \text{SO}(X, \tau)$ . Since  $\tau^\alpha \subset \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau)$  and, by Lemma 1.2, we have

$$\tau^\alpha \cap \text{PO}(X, \tau) \subset \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau) \subset \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \text{SO}(X, \tau) = \tau^\alpha.$$

Therefore  $(\tau^\alpha \subset \text{PO}(X, \tau))$ , one obtains  $\tau^\alpha = \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^4(X, \tau)$ .  $\square$

Similarly to the observations in the lines preceding Theorem 4.2 one can formulate

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a space. Then for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ ,*

$$(a_{si}) \quad S \in \tau^\alpha \text{ if and only if } S \in \text{PO}(X, \tau) \cap \mathcal{B}_s^i(X, \tau).$$

For a function  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  one can define the respective notions of  $\mathcal{B}_s^i$ -continuity ( $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) — we leave it to the reader. The following decomposition results follow from Theorems 4.4 and 4.5.

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ , be a function. Then for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,*

$$(b_{si}) \quad f \text{ is } \alpha\text{-continuous if and only if } f \text{ is precontinuous and } \mathcal{B}_s^i\text{-continuous.}$$

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