

On θ - m -Continuous Functions

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Abstract. We introduce the notion of θ - m -continuous functions as functions from a set satisfying some minimal conditions into a topological space. We obtain several characterizations and properties of such functions. The functions enable us to formulate a unified theory of θ -continuity [16], θ -semi-continuity [6], θ -precontinuity [28].

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1 Introduction

Semi-open sets, preopen sets, α -open sets, β -open sets and δ -open sets play an important role in the researches of generalizations of continuity in topological spaces. By using these sets many authors introduced and studied various types of modifications of continuity. Fomin [16] introduced the notion of θ -continuous functions. Many properties of θ -continuous functions are studied in [15], [18], [19], [25], [26], [37] and other papers. In 1966, Andrew and Whittlesy [3] introduced the notion of closure continuity which is equivalent to θ -continuity. Some properties of closure continuity are studied in [8] and [9]. Arya and Bhamini [6] introduced the concept of θ -semi-continuous functions which are studied in [27] and [17]. Recently, the notion of θ -precontinuous functions is introduced and investigated in [28]. Quite recently, Baker [7] has introduced the notion of weakly θ -precontinuous functions. However, this notion is quite same with one of θ -precontinuous functions. On the other hand, the present authors [38] introduced and studied the notion of m -continuous functions.

In this paper, in order to unify several characterizations of θ -continuous functions, θ -semi-continuous functions and θ -precontinuous functions, we introduce the notion of θ - m -continuous functions which are functions from a set satisfying some minimal conditions into a topological spaces.

2 Preliminaries

Let (X, τ) be a topological space and A a subset of X . The closure of A and the interior of A are denoted by $\text{Cl}(A)$ and $\text{Int}(A)$, respectively. A subset A is said to be

regular closed (resp. *regular open*) if $\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(A)) = A$ (resp. $\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(A)) = A$). A subset A is said to be δ -open [47] if for each $x \in A$ there exists a regular open set G such that $x \in G \subset A$. A point $x \in X$ is called a δ -cluster point of A if $\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(V)) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ for every open set V containing x . The set of all δ -cluster points of A is called the δ -closure of A and is denoted by $\text{Cl}_\delta(A)$. The set $\{x \in X : x \in U \subset A \text{ for some regular open set } U \text{ of } X\}$ is called the δ -interior of A and is denoted by $\text{Int}_\delta(A)$.

The θ -closure of A , denoted by $\text{Cl}_\theta(A)$, is defined as the set of all $x \in X$ such that $\text{Cl}(V) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ for every open set V containing x . If $A = \text{Cl}_\theta(A)$, then A is said to be θ -closed [47]. The complement of a θ -closed set is said to be θ -open. It is shown in [47] that $\text{Cl}_\theta(V) = \text{Cl}(V)$ for every open set V of X and $\text{Cl}_\theta(S)$ is closed in X for every subset S of X .

Definition 2.1. Let (X, τ) be a topological space. A subset A of X is said to be

- (1) *semi-open* [20] (resp. *preopen* [22], α -open [24], β -open [1] or *semi-preopen* [4]) if $A \subset \text{Cl}(\text{Int}(A))$, (resp. $A \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(A))$, $A \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(A)))$, $A \subset \text{Cl}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(A)))$),
- (2) δ -preopen [43] (resp. δ -semi-open [36]) if $A \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}_\delta(A))$ (resp. $A \subset \text{Cl}(\text{Int}_\delta(A))$).

The family of all semi-open (resp. preopen, α -open, β -open, δ -preopen, δ -semi-open) sets in X is denoted by $\text{SO}(X)$ (resp. $\text{PO}(X)$, $\alpha(X)$, $\beta(X)$, $\delta\text{PO}(X)$, $\delta\text{SO}(X)$).

Definition 2.2. The complement of a semi-open (resp. preopen, α -open, β -open, δ -preopen, δ -semi-open) set is said to be *semi-closed* [10] (resp. *preclosed* [22], α -closed [23], β -closed [1] or *semi-preclosed* [4], δ -preclosed [43], δ -semi-closed [36]).

Definition 2.3. The intersection of all semi-closed (resp. preclosed, α -closed, β -closed, δ -preclosed, δ -semi-closed) sets of X containing A is called the *semi-closure* [10] (resp. *preclosure* [13], α -closure [23], β -closure [2] or *semi-preclosure* [4], δ -preclosure [43], δ -semi-closure [36]) of A and is denoted by $\text{sCl}(A)$ (resp. $\text{pCl}(A)$, $\alpha\text{Cl}(A)$, $\beta\text{Cl}(A)$ or $\text{spCl}(A)$, $\text{pCl}_\delta(A)$, $\text{sCl}_\delta(A)$).

Definition 2.4. The union of all semi-open (resp. preopen, α -open, β -open, δ -preopen, δ -semi-open) sets of X contained in A is called the *semi-interior* (resp. *preinterior*, α -interior, β -interior or *semi-preinterior*, δ -preinterior, δ -semi-interior) of A and is denoted by $\text{sInt}(A)$ (resp. $\text{pInt}(A)$, $\alpha\text{Int}(A)$, $\beta\text{Int}(A)$ or $\text{spInt}(A)$, $\text{pInt}_\delta(A)$, $\text{sInt}_\delta(A)$).

Throughout the present paper, (X, τ) and (Y, σ) denote topological spaces and $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ presents a (single valued) function.

Definition 2.5. A function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is said to be θ -continuous [16] or *closure-continuous* [3] (resp. θ -semi-continuous [6], θ -precontinuous [28]) at $x \in X$ if for each open set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists an open (resp. semi-open, preopen) set U of X containing x such that $f(\text{Cl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$ (resp. $f(\text{sCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$, $f(\text{pCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$). A function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is said to be θ -continuous (resp. θ -semi-continuous, θ -precontinuous) if it has this property at each $x \in X$.

3 θ - m -Continuous Functions

Definition 3.1. A subfamily m_X of the power set $\mathcal{P}(X)$ of a nonempty set X is called a *minimal structure* (briefly *m-structure*) on X if $\emptyset \in m_X$ and $X \in m_X$. By (X, m_X) ,

we denote a nonempty set X with a minimal structure m_X on X and call it an m -space. Each member of m_X is said to be m_X -open (or briefly m -open) and the complement of an m_X -open set is said to be m_X -closed (or briefly m -closed).

Remark 3.1. Let (X, τ) be a topological space. Then the families τ , $\text{SO}(X)$, $\text{PO}(X)$, $\alpha(X)$, $\beta(X)$, $\delta\text{PO}(X)$ and $\delta\text{SO}(X)$ are all m -structures on X .

Definition 3.2. Let (X, m_X) be an m -space. For a subset A of X , the m -closure of A and the m -interior of A are defined in [21] as follows:

- (1) $\text{mCl}(A) = \bigcap \{F : A \subset F, X - F \in m_X\}$,
- (2) $\text{mInt}(A) = \bigcup \{U : U \subset A, U \in m_X\}$.

Remark 3.2. Let (X, τ) be a topological space and A a subset of X . If $m_X = \tau$ (resp. $\text{SO}(X)$, $\text{PO}(X)$, $\alpha(X)$, $\beta(X)$, $\delta\text{PO}(X)$, $\delta\text{SO}(X)$), then we have

- (1) $\text{mCl}(A) = \text{Cl}(A)$ (resp. $\text{sCl}(A)$, $\text{pCl}(A)$, $\alpha\text{Cl}(A)$, $\beta\text{Cl}(A)$, $\text{pCl}_\delta(A)$, $\text{sCl}_\delta(A)$),
- (2) $\text{mInt}(A) = \text{Int}(A)$ (resp. $\text{sInt}(A)$, $\text{pInt}(A)$, $\alpha\text{Int}(A)$, $\beta\text{Int}(A)$, $\text{pInt}_\delta(A)$, $\text{sInt}_\delta(A)$).

Lemma 3.1. (Maki et al. [21]) *Let (X, m_X) be an m -space. For subsets A and B of X , the following properties hold:*

- (1) $\text{mCl}(X - A) = X - \text{mInt}(A)$ and $\text{mInt}(X - A) = X - \text{mCl}(A)$,
- (2) *If $(X - A) \in m$, then $\text{mCl}(A) = A$ and if $A \in m$, then $\text{mInt}(A) = A$,*
- (3) $\text{mCl}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$, $\text{mCl}(X) = X$, $\text{mInt}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ and $\text{mInt}(X) = X$,
- (4) *If $A \subset B$, then $\text{mCl}(A) \subset \text{mCl}(B)$ and $\text{mInt}(A) \subset \text{mInt}(B)$,*
- (5) $A \subset \text{mCl}(A)$ and $\text{mInt}(A) \subset A$,
- (6) $\text{mCl}(\text{mCl}(A)) = \text{mCl}(A)$ and $\text{mInt}(\text{mInt}(A)) = \text{mInt}(A)$.

Definition 3.3. A function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, where (X, m_X) is an m -space and (Y, σ) is a topological space, is said to be m -continuous [38] (resp. *almost m -continuous* [41], *weakly m -continuous* [40]) at $x \in X$ if for each open set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists $U \in m_X$ containing x such that $f(U) \subset V$ (resp. $f(U) \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(V))$, $f(U) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$). A function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is said to be m -continuous (resp. *almost m -continuous*, *weakly m -continuous*) if it has the property at each point $x \in X$.

Lemma 3.2. (Popa and Noiri [38]) *For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:*

- (1) *f is m -continuous;*
- (2) $f^{-1}(V) = \text{mInt}(f^{-1}(V))$ for every open set V of Y ;
- (3) $f(\text{mCl}(A)) \subset \text{Cl}(f(A))$ for every subset A of X ;
- (4) $\text{mCl}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(B))$ for every subset B of Y ;
- (5) $f^{-1}(\text{Int}(B)) \subset \text{mInt}(f^{-1}(B))$ for every subset B of Y ;
- (6) $\text{mCl}(f^{-1}(K)) = f^{-1}(K)$ for every closed set K of Y .

Definition 3.4. A function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, where (X, m_X) is an m -space and (Y, σ) is a topological space, is said to be θ - m -continuous at $x \in X$ if for each open set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists $U \in m_X$ containing x such that $f(\text{mCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. A function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is said to be θ - m -continuous if it has the property at each point $x \in X$.

Remark 3.3. Let $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ be a function. If $m_X = \tau$ (resp. $SO(X)$, $PO(X)$) and $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous, then f is θ -continuous (resp. θ -semi-continuous, θ -precontinuous).

Definition 3.5. Let S be a subset of an m -space (X, m_X) . A point $x \in X$ is called

- (1) an m_θ -adherent point of S if $mCl(U) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ for every $U \in m_X$ containing x ,
- (2) an m_θ -interior point of S if $mCl(U) \subset S$ for some $U \in m_X$ containing x .

The set of all m_θ -adherent points of S is called the m_θ -closure of S and is denoted by $mCl_\theta(S)$. If $A = mCl_\theta(A)$, then A is called m_θ -closed. The complement of an m_θ -closed set is said to be m_θ -open. The set of all m_θ -interior points of S is called the m_θ -interior of S and is denoted by $mInt_\theta(S)$.

Remark 3.4. Let (X, τ) be a topological space and $m_X = \tau$ (resp. $SO(X)$, $PO(X)$), $\beta(X)$), then $mCl_\theta(S) = Cl_\theta(S)$ [47] (resp. $sCl_\theta(S)$ [11], $pCl_\theta(S)$ [33], $spCl_\theta(S)$ [29]).

Lemma 3.3. (Noiri and Popa [30]) *Let (X, m_X) be an m -space and A, B subsets of X . Then the following properties hold:*

- (1) $X - mCl_\theta(A) = mInt_\theta(X - A)$ and $X - mInt_\theta(A) = mCl_\theta(X - A)$,
- (2) A is m - θ -open if and only if $A = mInt_\theta(A)$,
- (3) $A \subset mCl(A) \subset mCl_\theta(A)$ and $mInt_\theta(A) \subset mInt(A) \subset A$,
- (4) If $A \subset B$, then $mCl_\theta(A) \subset mCl_\theta(B)$ and $mInt_\theta(A) \subset mInt_\theta(B)$,
- (5) If A is m_X -open, then $mCl(A) = mCl_\theta(A)$.

Theorem 3.1. *For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:*

- (1) f is θ - m -continuous;
- (2) $mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(Cl_\theta(B))$ for every subset B of Y ;
- (3) $mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V))$ for every open set V of Y ;
- (4) $f^{-1}(V) \subset mInt_\theta(f^{-1}(Cl(V)))$ for every open set V of Y ;
- (5) $f(mCl_\theta(A)) \subset Cl_\theta(f(A))$ for every subset A of X ;
- (6) $mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(Int(Cl_\theta(B)))) \subset f^{-1}(Cl_\theta(B))$ for every subset B of Y ;
- (7) $mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))) \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V))$ for every open set V of Y ;
- (8) $mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(Int(R))) \subset f^{-1}(R)$ for every regular closed set R of Y ;
- (9) $mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(Int(K))) \subset f^{-1}(K)$ for every closed set K of Y .

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2): Let B be any subset of Y . Suppose that $x \notin f^{-1}(Cl_\theta(B))$. Then $x \in f^{-1}(Y - Cl_\theta(B)) = f^{-1}(Int_\theta(Y - B))$. Hence we have $f(x) \in Int_\theta(Y - B)$. There exists an open set V such that $f(x) \in V \subset Cl(V) \subset Y - B$. Since f is θ - m -continuous, there exists $U \in m_X$ containing x such that $f(mCl(U)) \subset Cl(V)$; hence $mCl(U) \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V)) \subset f^{-1}(Y - B) = X - f^{-1}(B)$. Thus we have $mCl(U) \cap f^{-1}(B) = \emptyset$ and hence $x \notin mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(B))$.

(2) \Rightarrow (3): This is obvious since $Cl(V) = Cl_\theta(V)$ for every open set V of Y .

(3) \Rightarrow (4): Let V be any open set of Y . Then by Lemma 3.3 we have $X - mInt_\theta(f^{-1}(Cl(V))) = mCl_\theta(X - f^{-1}(Cl(V))) = mCl_\theta(f^{-1}(Y - Cl(V))) \subset f^{-1}(Cl(Y - Cl(V))) \subset f^{-1}(Cl(Y - V)) = f^{-1}(Y - V) = X - f^{-1}(V)$.

Therefore, we obtain $f^{-1}(V) \subset mInt_\theta(f^{-1}(Cl(V)))$.

(4) \Rightarrow (1): Let $x \in X$ and V be any open set of Y containing $f(x)$. Then $x \in f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V)))$. Therefore, there exists $U \in m_X$ containing x such that $\text{mCl}(U) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V))$; hence $f(\text{mCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. This shows that f is θ - m -continuous.

(2) \Rightarrow (5): Let A be any subset of X . By (2), we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(A) \subset \text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(f(A))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(f(A)))$. Thus, we obtain $f(\text{mCl}_\theta(A)) \subset \text{Cl}_\theta(f(A))$.

(5) \Rightarrow (2): Let B be any subset of Y . Then by (5), we have $f(\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(B))) \subset \text{Cl}_\theta(f(f^{-1}(B))) \subset \text{Cl}_\theta(B)$. Thus we obtain $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$.

(3) \Rightarrow (6): Let B be any subset of Y . Since $\text{Cl}_\theta(B)$ is closed in Y , by (3) we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$.

(6) \Rightarrow (7): This is obvious since $\text{Cl}(V) = \text{Cl}_\theta(V)$ for every open set V of Y .

(7) \Rightarrow (8): Let R be any regular closed set of Y . Then by (7) we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(R))) = \text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(R)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(R))) = f^{-1}(R)$.

(8) \Rightarrow (9): Let K be any closed set of Y . Since $\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(K))$ is regular closed, we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(K))) = \text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(K)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(K))) \subset f^{-1}(K)$.

(9) \Rightarrow (4): Let V be any open set of Y . Then $Y - V$ is closed in Y and by (9) we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(Y - V))) \subset f^{-1}(Y - V) = X - f^{-1}(V)$. Moreover, we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(Y - V))) = \text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(Y - \text{Cl}(V))) = \text{mCl}_\theta(X - f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V))) = X - \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V)))$. Therefore, we obtain $f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V)))$.

Remark 3.5. Let $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ be a function. If $m_X = \tau$ (resp. $\text{SO}(X)$, $\text{PO}(X)$) and $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous, then by Theorem 3.1 we obtain the characterizations established in Theorem 5 of [9], Theorem 2 of [15], Theorem 5.3 of [18], Theorem 2 of [37] (resp. Theorem 3.1 of [27], Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 of [28], Theorem 3.2 of [7]).

Theorem 3.2. For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) f is θ - m -continuous;
- (2) $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \beta(Y)$;
- (3) $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \text{SO}(Y)$.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2): Let $G \in \beta(Y)$. Then $G \subset \text{Cl}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))$ and $\text{Cl}(G) = \text{Cl}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))$. Since $\text{Cl}(G)$ is a regular closed set, by Theorem 3.1 we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$.

(2) \Rightarrow (3): This is obvious since $\text{SO}(X) \subset \beta(Y)$.

(3) \Rightarrow (1): Let G be any open set. Since $\text{Cl}(G)$ is regular closed, $\text{Cl}(G) \in \text{SO}(Y)$. Thus we have $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$. By Theorem 3.1, f is θ - m -continuous.

Theorem 3.3. For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) f is θ - m -continuous;
- (2) $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \text{PO}(Y)$;
- (3) $\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(G)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \text{PO}(Y)$;
- (4) $f^{-1}(G) \subset \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G)))$ for every $G \in \text{PO}(Y)$.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2): It follows from Theorem 3.2 since $\text{PO}(X) \subset \beta(Y)$.

(2) \Rightarrow (3): Let G be a preopen set of Y . Then we have

$$\text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(G)) \subset \text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G)).$$

(3) \Rightarrow (4): Let G be any preopen set of Y . By Lemma 3.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} X - \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))) &= \text{mCl}_\theta(X - f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))) = \text{mCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(Y - \text{Cl}(G))) \subset \\ & f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(Y - \text{Cl}(G))) = X - f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G))) \subset X - f^{-1}(G). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we obtain $f^{-1}(G) \subset \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G)))$.

(4) \Rightarrow (1): Let G be any open set of Y . Then we have $G \in \text{PO}(X)$ and hence $f^{-1}(G) \subset \text{mInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G)))$. By Theorem 3.1, f is θ - m -continuous.

Remark 3.6. By Theorems 3.2 and 3.3, we obtain new characterizations for θ -continuity, θ -semi-continuity and θ -precontinuity. For example, for θ -semi-continuous functions we obtain the following corollaries.

Corollary 3.1. For a function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) f is θ -semi-continuous;
- (2) $\text{sCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \beta(Y)$;
- (3) $\text{sCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \text{SO}(Y)$.

Corollary 3.2. For a function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) f is θ -semi-continuous;
- (2) $\text{sCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(G)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \text{PO}(Y)$;
- (3) $\text{sCl}_\theta(f^{-1}(G)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G))$ for every $G \in \text{PO}(Y)$;
- (4) $f^{-1}(G) \subset \text{sInt}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(G)))$ for every $G \in \text{PO}(Y)$.

4 θ - m -Continuity and Other Forms of m -Continuity

Lemma 4.1. (Popa and Noiri [41]) For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) f is almost m -continuous;
- (2) $f^{-1}(V) = \text{mInt}(f^{-1}(V))$ for every regular open set V of Y ;
- (3) $f^{-1}(K) = \text{mCl}(f^{-1}(K))$ for every regular closed set K of Y .

Theorem 4.1. For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties hold:

- (1) if f is almost m -continuous, then it is θ - m -continuous,
- (2) if f is θ - m -continuous, then it is weakly m -continuous.

Proof. (1) Let $x \in X$ and V be any open set of Y containing $f(x)$. Since f is almost m -continuous, there exists $U \in m_X$ containing x such that $f(U) \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(V)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. Hence we have $U \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V))$. Since $\text{Cl}(V)$ is regular closed, by Lemma 4.1 $f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V)) = \text{mCl}(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V)))$. Therefore, we have $\text{mCl}(U) \subset \text{mCl}(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V))) = f^{-1}(\text{Cl}(V))$. Hence we obtain $f(\text{mCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. This shows that f is θ - m -continuous.

(2) This is obvious.

Remark 4.1. Let $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ be a function. If $m_X = \tau$ (resp. $\text{SO}(X)$, $\text{PO}(X)$) and $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is almost m -continuous, then by Theorem 4.1 we obtain Theorem of [35] (resp. Theorem 2.4 of [6], Theorem 3.3 of [28]).

Definition 4.1. A topological space (X, τ) is said to be *almost-regular* [46] if for each regular-closed set F and each $x \notin F$, there exist disjoint open sets U and V such that $x \in U$ and $F \subset V$.

Let (X, τ) be a topological space. Since the intersection of two clopen sets of (X, τ) is clopen, the family of clopen sets of (X, τ) may be used as a base for a topology for X . This topology is called the *ultra-regularization* of τ [29] and is denoted by τ_u . A topological space (X, τ) is said to be *ultra-regular* [14] if $\tau = \tau_u$.

Definition 4.2. A function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is said to be *faintly m -continuous* [31] (resp. *slightly m -continuous* [39]) if for each $x \in X$ and each θ -open (resp. clopen) set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists $U \in m_X$ containing x such that $f(U) \subset V$.

Lemma 4.2. (Noiri and Popa [31], Popa and Noiri [39]) *For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties hold:*

- (1) *weak m -continuity implies faint m -continuity and faint m -continuity implies slight m -continuity,*
- (2) *if f is faintly continuous and Y is almost-regular, it is almost m -continuous,*
- (3) *if f is faintly continuous and Y is regular, it is m -continuous,*
- (4) *if f is slightly continuous and Y is ultra-regular, it is m -continuous.*

Corollary 4.1. *For a function $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties hold:*

- (1) *m -C \Rightarrow almost m -C \Rightarrow θ - m -C \Rightarrow weak m -C \Rightarrow faint m -C \Rightarrow slight m -C,*
- (2) *if Y is almost-regular, then almost m -C, θ - m -C, weak m -C and faint m -C are all equivalent,*
- (3) *if Y is regular, then m -C, almost m -C, θ - m -C, weak m -C and faint m -C are all equivalent,*
- (4) *if Y is ultra-regular, then m -C, almost m -C, θ - m -C, weak m -C, faint m -C and slight m -C are all equivalent, where C denotes continuity.*

Proof. This is an immediate consequence of Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 4.2.

5 Properties of θ - m -Continuous Functions

Theorem 5.1. *If $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous, then the following properties hold:*

- (1) *the inverse image of every θ -closed set of Y is m - θ -closed,*
- (2) *the inverse image of every θ -open set of Y is m - θ -open.*

Proof. (1) Let B be any θ -closed set of Y . Then $\text{Cl}_\theta(B) = B$. Since f is θ - m -continuous, by Theorem 3.1 we have $m\text{Cl}_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B)) = f^{-1}(B)$. Hence $m\text{Cl}_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) = f^{-1}(B)$. This shows that $f^{-1}(B)$ is m - θ -closed.

(2) Let V be any θ -open set of Y . Then $Y - V$ is θ -closed and $X - f^{-1}(V) = f^{-1}(Y - V)$ is m - θ -closed. Hence $f^{-1}(V)$ is m - θ -open.

Remark 5.1. If $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is a θ -continuous function, then by Theorem 5.1 we obtain the results established in Corollary 5.4 of [18], Theorem 3 of [37] and Lemma 3.2 of [45].

Theorem 5.2. *Let $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ be a function. If $f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$ is m - θ -closed in X for every subset B of Y , then f is θ - m -continuous.*

Proof. Let B be a subset of Y . Since $f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$ is m - θ -closed, $m\text{Cl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))) = f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$. Then we have $m\text{Cl}_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subset m\text{Cl}_\theta(f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))) = f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$. Therefore, we obtain $m\text{Cl}_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$ for every subset B of Y . Then by Theorem 3.1, f is θ - m -continuous.

Corollary 5.1. (Popa [37]) *Let $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ be a function. If $f^{-1}(\text{Cl}_\theta(B))$ is θ -closed in X for every subset B of Y , then f is θ -continuous.*

Definition 5.1. Let (X, m_X) be an m -space. A subset K of X is said to be m -closed relative to (X, m_X) [30] if for any cover $\{V_\alpha : \alpha \in \Delta\}$ of K by m_X -open sets of (X, m_X) , there exists a finite subset Δ_0 of Δ such that $K \subset \bigcup\{m\text{Cl}(V_\alpha) : \alpha \in \Delta_0\}$. If X is m -closed relative to (X, m_X) , then (X, m_X) is said to be m -closed.

Remark 5.2. Let (X, τ) be a topological space and $m = \tau$ (resp. $\text{SO}(X)$, $\text{PO}(X)$, $\delta\text{PO}(X)$). The definition of " m -closed" gives the one of *quasi H -closed* [42] (resp. *s-closed* [11], *p -closed* [12], *δ_p -closed* [44]).

Theorem 5.3. *If $f : (X, m_X) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is a θ - m -continuous function from an m -closed m -space (X, m_X) onto a Urysohn space (Y, σ) , then f is almost m -continuous.*

Proof. First, we shall show that (Y, σ) is quasi- H -closed. Let $\{V_\alpha : \alpha \in \Delta\}$ be any open cover of Y . For each $x \in X$, there exists $\alpha(x) \in \Delta$ such that $f(x) \in V_{\alpha(x)}$. Since f is θ - m -continuous, there exists an m_X -open set $U(x)$ containing x such that $f(m\text{Cl}(U(x))) \subset \text{Cl}(V_{\alpha(x)})$. The family $\{U(x) : x \in X\}$ is a cover of X by m_X -open sets of X . Since (X, m_X) is m -closed, there exist a finite number of points, say, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n in X such that $X \subset \bigcup\{m\text{Cl}(U(x_k)) : x_k \in X, 1 \leq k \leq n\}$. Therefore, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Y = f(X) &\subset \bigcup\{f(m\text{Cl}(U(x_k))) : x_k \in X, 1 \leq k \leq n\} \\ &\subset \bigcup\{\text{Cl}(V_{\alpha(x_k)}) : x_k \in X, 1 \leq k \leq n\}. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that (Y, σ) is quasi- H -closed. Every quasi- H -closed Urysohn space is almost-regular [34]. By Corollary 4.1, f is almost m -continuous.

Remark 5.3. Let $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ be a function. Then by Theorem 5.3 we obtain the result established in Theorem 5 of [25].

6 New Forms of θ - m -Continuity

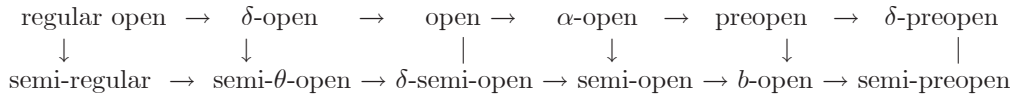
First we recall the relationships among some generalizations of open sets. If a subset A of a topological space (X, τ) is semi-open and semi-closed, then it is said to be *semi-regular* [11]. It is shown in [11] that the semi-closure $s\text{Cl}(U)$ is semi-open and semi-regular for any semi-open set U of (X, τ) . This property is very useful. The set of all semi-regular sets of (X, τ) is denoted by $\text{SR}(X)$. For a subset A of a topological space (X, τ) , we put $s\text{rCl}(A) = \bigcap\{F : A \subset F, F \in \text{SR}(X)\}$.

Let A be a subset of a topological space (X, τ) . A point x of X is called a *semi- θ -cluster point* of A if $s\text{Cl}(U) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ for every $U \in \text{SO}(X)$ containing x . The set of

all semi- θ -cluster points of A is called the *semi- θ -closure* [11] of A and is denoted by $sCl_\theta(A)$. A subset A is said to be *semi- θ -closed* if $A = sCl_\theta(A)$. The complement of a semi- θ -closed set is said to be *semi- θ -open*. The family of all semi- θ -open sets of (X, τ) is denoted by $\theta SO(X)$. A subset A of a topological space (X, τ) is said to be *b -open* [5] if $A \subset Cl(Int(A)) \cup Int(Cl(A))$.

We have the following diagram in which the converses of implications need not be true as shown in [32].

DIAGRAM I



Remark 6.1. In the diagram above, the following are to be noted:

- (1) It is shown in [36] that openness and δ -semi-openness are independent of each other,
- (2) It is shown in [32] that δ -preopenness and semi-preopenness are independent of each other.

If we take as m_X the families of generalized open sets stated in the diagram, we can define new θ - m -continuous functions. By the results established in Sections 3-5, we can obtain those properties. We investigate the relationships among these functions.

Lemma 6.1. *Let m_1 and m_2 be two m -structures on a nonempty set X . If $m_1 \subset m_2$ and a function $f : (X, m_1) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous, then $f : (X, m_2) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous.*

Proof. Let $x \in X$ and V be any open set of Y containing $f(x)$. Since $f : (X, m_1) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous, there exists $U \in m_1$ containing x such that $f(m_1 Cl(U)) \subset Cl(V)$. Since $m_1 \subset m_2$, we have $x \in U \in m_2$ and $m_2 Cl(U) \subset m_1 Cl(U)$. Therefore, we obtain $f(m_2 Cl(U)) \subset Cl(V)$. This shows that $f : (X, m_2) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous.

Let $RO(X)$ (resp. $RC(X)$) be the family of all regular open (resp. regular closed) sets of a topological space (X, τ) . The family of all δ -open sets of (X, τ) forms a topology for X which is weaker than τ . This topology has $RO(X)$ as the base. We shall denote it by τ_δ although it is usually denoted by τ_s . Then we have $RO(X) \subset \tau_\delta \subset \tau \subset \tau^\alpha$, where $\tau^\alpha = \alpha(X)$. For a subset A of X , we set $rCl(A) = \cap\{K : A \subset K \text{ and } K \in RC(X)\}$.

Lemma 6.2. *Let (X, τ) be a topological space. Then $\alpha Cl(U) = rCl(Int(Cl(Int(U))))$ for every $U \in \alpha(X)$.*

Proof. Let U be any α -open set of (X, τ) . Since $RO(X) \subset \tau \subset \tau^\alpha$, we have $\alpha Cl(U) \subset Cl(U) \subset rCl(U)$. Suppose that $x \notin \alpha Cl(U)$. There exists $G \in \tau^\alpha$ containing x such that $G \cap U = \emptyset$. Hence we have $Int(Cl(Int(G))) \cap U \subset Int(Cl(Int(G))) \cap Int(Cl(Int(U))) = \emptyset$. Since $x \in G \subset Int(Cl(Int(G))) \in RO(X)$, we have $x \notin rCl(U)$. Therefore, we obtain $rCl(U) \subset \alpha Cl(U)$ and $\alpha Cl(U) = Cl(U) = rCl(U)$ for every $U \in \alpha(X)$. Moreover, for every $U \in \alpha(X)$, we have $Cl(U) = Cl(Int(Cl(Int(U)))) = rCl(Int(Cl(Int(U))))$. Therefore, we obtain $\alpha Cl(U) = rCl(Int(Cl(Int(U))))$ for every $U \in \alpha(X)$.

Theorem 6.1. For a function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) $f : (X, \text{RO}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous;
- (2) $f : (X, \tau_\delta) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous;
- (3) $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous;
- (4) $f : (X, \tau^\alpha) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous.

Proof. Since $\text{RO}(X) \subset \tau_\delta \subset \tau \subset \tau^\alpha$, by Lemma 6.1 we have (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4).

(4) \Rightarrow (1): Let $x \in X$ and V be any open set of Y containing $f(x)$. There exists an α -open set U containing x such that $f(\alpha\text{Cl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. Since $U \in \tau^\alpha$, we have $x \in U \subset \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(U))) \in \text{RO}(X)$. By Lemma 6.2, we have $f(\text{rCl}(\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(U)))))) = f(\alpha\text{Cl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. This shows that $f : (X, \text{RO}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous.

Corollary 6.1. For a function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ -continuous;
- (2) $f : (X, \tau_\delta) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ -continuous;
- (3) $f : (X, \tau^\alpha) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ -continuous.

Theorem 6.2. For a function $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$, the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) $f : (X, \text{SR}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous;
- (2) $f : (X, \theta\text{SO}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous;
- (3) $f : (X, \delta\text{SO}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous;
- (4) $f : (X, \text{SO}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous.

Proof. Since $\text{SR}(X) \subset \theta\text{SO}(X) \subset \delta\text{SO}(X) \subset \text{SO}(X)$, by Lemma 6.1 we have (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4).

(4) \Rightarrow (1): Suppose that $f : (X, \text{SO}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous. Let $x \in X$ and V be any open set of Y containing $f(x)$. There exists $U \in \text{SO}(X)$ containing x such that $f(\text{sCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. By Proposition 2.2 of [11], $\text{sCl}(U) \in \text{SR}(X)$ and we have $x \in \text{sCl}(U)$. Moreover, we have $\text{srCl}(\text{sCl}(U)) = \text{sCl}(U)$. Therefore, we obtain $f(\text{srCl}(\text{sCl}(U))) = f(\text{sCl}(U)) \subset \text{Cl}(V)$. This shows that $f : (X, \text{SR}(X)) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is θ - m -continuous.

Remark 6.2. (1) In [6], it is shown that every θ -continuous function is θ -semi-continuous but the converse is not correct.

(2) Every θ -continuous function is θ -precontinuous. However, by Example 4.2 of [7], it turns out that the converse is not always true.

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