

## ON $M_N$ SUBSETS

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### Abstract

The aim of the present paper is to study some properties of  $M_N$  subsets and closed (almost closed) mappings.

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## 1. Introduction

No separation properties are assumed for spaces unless explicitly stated.

A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is *regular open* (*regular closed*) iff  $\text{Int } CLA = A$  ( $CL \text{ Int } A = A$ ), [6].

A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is  $\alpha$ -*paracompact* ( $\alpha$ -*nearly paracompact*) with respect to a subset  $B$  iff for every open (regular open) cover  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i : i \in I\}$  of  $A$  there is an open family  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_j : j \in J\}$  such that:

- 1)  $\mathcal{V}$  refines  $\mathcal{U}$  ;
- 2)  $A \subset \cup\{V_j : j \in J\}$  and
- 3)  $\mathcal{V}$  is locally finite at each point  $x \in B$ .

Subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of a space  $X$  are *mutually  $\alpha$ -paracompact (mutually  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact)* iff the subset  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) with respect to the subset  $B$  and  $B$  is  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) with respect to the subset  $A$ , [3].

A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is  *$\alpha$ -Hausdorff* iff for any two points  $a, b$  of a space  $X$ , where  $a \in A$  and  $b \in X \setminus A$ , there are disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$  containing  $a$  and  $b$  respectively.

A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is  *$\alpha$ -regular* ( $\alpha$ -almost regular) iff for any point  $a \in A$  and any open (regular open) set  $U$  containing  $a$ , there is an open set  $V$  such that  $a \in V \subset Cl V \subset U$  [4].

A proper subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is a  $M_N$  subset iff:

- a)  $A \neq \emptyset$
- b)  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact with respect to  $X \setminus A$
- c) Any two distinct points of a subset  $A$  cannot be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods [2].

A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is  *$\alpha$ -nearly compact ( $N$ -closed)* iff for every regular open covering  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i : i \in J\}$  of  $A$  there is a finite subfamily  $I_0$  of  $I$  such that  $A \subset U\{U_i : i \in I_0\}$  [1].

A mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *closed (almost closed)* iff for every closed (regular closed) set  $F$  of  $X$  the set  $f(F)$  is closed, [6].

## 2. $M_N$ subsets

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be any two subsets of a space  $X$ . If  $B \subset A$ ,  $B \neq A$ , and  $A$  is a  $M_N$  subset, then  $B$  is not an  $M_N$ -subset.*

*Proof.*  $B$  is not  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff because any two distinct points  $a \in B$ ,  $b \in A \setminus B$  cannot be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods.

**Lemma 2.** *If  $A$  is an  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) subset with respect to a subset  $B$  and  $C$  is a closed (regular closed) subset of  $A$ , then  $C$  is  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) with respect to  $B$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i : i \in I\}$  is any open (regular open) covering of a subset  $C$ , then  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{U} \cup \{X \setminus B\}$  is an open (a regular open) covering of  $A$ . Since  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) with respect to  $B$  it follows that there is an open family  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i : i \in J\}$  such that:

1.  $A \subset \cup\{V_j : j \in J\} \cup \{X \setminus C\}$ ;
2.  $\mathcal{V}$  refines  $\mathcal{H}$ ;
3.  $\mathcal{V}$  is locally finite at each point  $x \in B$ .

If  $\mathcal{W} = \{V \in \mathcal{V} : V \cap C \neq \emptyset\}$ , then  $\mathcal{W}$  is an open family such that:

1.  $C \subset \cup\{W : W \in \mathcal{W}\}$
2.  $\mathcal{W}$  refines  $\mathcal{U}$
3.  $\mathcal{W}$  is locally finite at each point  $x \in B$ .

Hence it follows that  $C$  is  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) with respect to  $B$ .

In the paper [2] the author has proved that every  $M_N$  subset is closed. The converse statement is not necessarily true.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space such that every proper nonempty closed subset is  $M_N$ . Then  $X$  can contain only two proper nonempty closed subsets.*

*Proof.* If  $A$  is only one proper closed subset, then  $A$  is not  $M_N$  because  $A$  is not  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff. Let  $X$  be a space which contains at least three different proper nonempty closed subsets  $A, B, C$ .

- a) If  $A \subset B$  and  $B$  is a  $M_N$  subset, then the subset  $A$  is not  $M_N$ .
- b) If  $A \not\subset B$  and  $B \not\subset A$ , then  $A \cup B$  is proper closed subset which is not  $M_N$ .

(The union  $A \cup B$  of two different  $M_N$  subsets is not  $M_N$  because the points  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  can be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods).

The following example shows that there is a space such that any proper nonempty closed subset is  $M_N$ .

**Example 1.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $C = \{\emptyset, \{a, b\}, \{c, d\}, X\}$ .

The only two proper nonempty closed subsets are  $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $B = \{c, d\}$ .

The subsets  $A$  and  $B$  are  $M_N$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $Y$  be a space such that every proper nonempty closed subset is  $M_N$ . Then, any  $M_N$  subset is clo-open.

*Proof.* The space contains only two disjoint closed  $M_N$  subsets  $A$  and  $B$ , hence result.

**Theorem 3.** If  $A$  is an  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact subset with respect to a subset  $B$  of a space  $X$  and  $C$  is an  $\alpha$ -nearly compact subset of a space  $Y$ , then  $A \times C$  is an  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact subset with respect to  $B \times Y$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be any regular open covering of  $A \times C$ . Let  $(x, y) \in A \times C$ . There exist regular open subsets  $V_{xy}$  and  $W_{xy}$  of  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively such that  $(x, y) \in V_{xy} \times W_{xy} \subset U$  for some  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ .

Let  $I^x = \{x\} \times C$  for each  $x \in A$ . Then  $\{W_{xy} : (x, y) \in I^x\}$  is a regular open covering of the  $\alpha$ -nearly compact set  $C$ . Hence there is a finite subset  $J^x$  of  $I^x$  such that  $\{W_{xy} : (x, y) \in J^x\}$  is a covering of  $C$ . For each  $x \in A$ , let  $V_x = \bigcap \{V_{xy} : (x, y) \in J^x\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_x : x \in A\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}$  is a regular open covering of  $A$ , hence there is a family  $\mathcal{G}$  of open sets in  $X$  such that:

- $A \subset \bigcup \{G : G \in \mathcal{G}\}$ ;
- $\mathcal{G}$  refines  $\mathcal{V}$ ;
- $\mathcal{G}$  is locally finite at each point  $x \in B$ .

Now, for each  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ , there is  $x_G \in A$  such that  $G \subset V_{x_G}$ . Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{GXW_{xy} : G \in \mathcal{G}, (x, y) \in J^{x_G}\}$ .

It is easy to verify that

- $A \setminus C \subset \bigcup \{H : H \in \mathcal{H}\}$ ;

- $\mathcal{H}$  refines  $\mathcal{U}$ ;
- the open family  $\mathcal{H}$  is locally finite at each point of  $B \times Y$ .

Hence  $A \times C$  is  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact with respect to  $B \times Y$ .

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be any two topological spaces. Let  $A$  be any  $M_N$  subset of  $X$  and  $B \neq \emptyset$  be any proper subset of  $Y$  such that*

- $B$  is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff  $\alpha$ -nearly compact
- any two points of  $B$  cannot be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods,

then  $A \times B$  is a  $M_N$  subset of a space  $X \times Y$ .

*Proof.* By the preceding theorem the subset  $A \times B$  is  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact with respect to  $X \times Y \setminus A \times B$ . Since the product of two  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff sets is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff, it follows that the set  $A \times B$  is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff. Any two points  $(a, b) \in A \times B$ ,  $(c, d) \in A \times B$  can not be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods. Hence the set  $A \times B$  is  $M_N$ .

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space such that any nonempty closed (regular closed) set  $F$  is an  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff subset which is  $\alpha$ -paracompact ( $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact) with respect to  $X \setminus F$ . Then  $X$  is regular (almost regular).*

*Proof.* Let  $x \notin F$  be any point. It follows that by Theorem 2.2. in [3], there are regular open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $x \in U$ ,  $F \subset V$ ,  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ . It follows that  $X$  is regular (almost regular).

### 3. Almost closed mappings

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $A$  be an  $M_N$  subset of a topological space  $X$  and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping of a space  $X$  onto a topological space  $Y$ .*

- a) If there is  $x \in X \setminus A$  such that  $f^{-1}(f(x)) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and  $f$  is an almost closed mapping such that the family  $\{f^{-1}(f(x)) : x \in X \setminus A\}$  consists of  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff subsets which are mutually  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact, then  $f(A)$  is closed.
- b) If  $f$  is an almost closed mapping such that  $f(A) \neq Y$  and for each  $x \in X \setminus A$   $f^{-1}(f(x))$  is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact with respect to  $X \setminus f^{-1}(f(x))$ , then  $f(A)$  is closed.
- c) If  $f$  is a closed mapping, then  $f(A)$  is closed.

*Proof.*

- a) Since there is  $a \in X \setminus A$  such that  $f^{-1}(f(a)) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  then  $f(A) = a$ , hence by Theorem 3.1. in [3]  $Y$  is Hausdorff. Hence  $f(A)$  is closed.
- b) It is similar to the proof. of a).
- c) Since  $A$  is closed and  $f$  is a closed mapping, then  $f(A)$  is closed.

**Theorem 7.** Let  $A$  be an  $M_N$  subset of a topological space  $X$  and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping of a space  $X$  onto a compact space  $Y$ .

- a) Let  $f$  be an almost closed mapping. If there is a point  $x \in X \setminus A$  such that  $f^{-1}(f(x)) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and the family  $\{f^{-1}(f(x)) : x \in X \setminus A\}$  consists of  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff subsets which are mutually  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact then  $f(A)$  is compact.
- b) If  $f$  is a closed mapping, then  $f(A)$  is compact.
- c) If  $f$  is an almost closed mapping such that  $f(A) \neq Y$  and for each  $x \in X \setminus A$   $f^{-1}(f(x))$  is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact with respect to  $X \setminus f^{-1}(f(x))$ , then  $f(A)$  is compact.
- d) If  $f$  is an almost closed mapping such that the family  $\{f^{-1}(f(x)) : x \in X \setminus A\}$  consists of  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff subsets which are mutually  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact, then  $f$  is continuous at each point  $x \in X \setminus A$ .

*Proof.* a); b); c) By the preceding theorem the set  $f(A)$  is closed, hence  $f(A)$  is compact.

*Proof.*  $f(A)$  is compact, hence  $f(A)$  is  $\alpha$ -nearly paracompact with respect to  $Y \setminus f(A)$ .  $f(A)$  is  $\alpha$ -Hausdorff. Any two points  $a, b \in f(A)$  cannot be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods. Hence  $f(A)$  is  $M_N$ .

In the preceding theorem the assumption "almost closed and continuous" cannot be replaced by "almost closed" which we can see from the following example.

**Example 2.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a, b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{c, d\}, X\}$ .

Let  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  be endowed by discrete topology. Define the mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  by  $f(a) = 1$ ;  $f(b) = 2$ ;  $f(c) = 3$ ;  $f(d) = 4$ .  $A = \{a, b\}$  is a  $M_N$  subset of a space  $X$ .

$$f(A) = \{1, 2\} \text{ is not } M_N.$$

(The points  $1, 2 \in f(A)$  can be strongly separated by open neighbourhoods  $\{1\}$  and  $\{2\}$  respectively).

$f$  is almost closed,  $f$  is not continuous at the points  $a$  and  $b$ , hence  $f$  is not continuous.

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