

FACTA UNIVERSITATIS (NIS)
SER. MATH. INFORM. Vol. 34, No 1 (2019), 13–22
<https://doi.org/10.22190/FUMI1901013M>

**INSERTION OF A CONTRA-CONTINUOUS FUNCTION
BETWEEN TWO COMPARABLE CONTRA- α -CONTINUOUS
(CONTRA- C -CONTINUOUS) FUNCTIONS ***

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Abstract. Necessary and sufficient conditions in terms of lower cut sets are given for the insertion of a contra-continuous function between two comparable real-valued functions on topological spaces on which the kernel of sets is open.

Keywords: Insertion, Strong binary relation, C -open set, Semi-preopen set, α -open set, Contra-continuous function, Lower cut set.

1. Introduction

The concept of a C -open set in a topological space was introduced by E. Hatir, T. Noiri and S. Yksel in [12]. The authors define a set S to be a C -open set if $S = U \cap A$, where U is open and A is semi-preclosed. A set S is a C -closed set if its complement (denoted by S^c) is a C -open set or equivalently if $S = U \cup A$, where U is closed and A is semi-preopen. The authors show that a subset of a topological space is open if and only if it is an α -open set and a C -open set or equivalently a subset of a topological space is closed if and only if it is an α -closed set and a C -closed set. This enables them to provide the following decomposition of continuity: a function is continuous if and only if it is α -continuous and C -continuous or equivalently a function is contra-continuous if and only if it is contra- α -continuous and contra- C -continuous.

Recall that a subset A of a topological space (X, τ) is called α -open if A is the difference of an open and a nowhere dense subset of X . A set A is called α -closed if its complement is α -open or equivalently if A is the union of a closed and a nowhere dense set. Sets which are dense in some regular closed subspace are called *semi-preopen* or β -open. A set is *semi-preclosed* or β -closed if its complement is

Received March 14, 2018; accepted January 08, 2019

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 54C08, 54C10, 54C50; Secondary 26A15, 54C30.

*This work was supported by University of Isfahan and Centre of Excellence for Mathematics (University of Isfahan).

semi-preopen or β -open.

In [7] it was shown that a set A is β -open if and only if $A \subseteq Cl(Int(Cl(A)))$. A generalized class of closed sets was considered by Maki in [19]. He investigated the sets that can be represented as union of closed sets and called them V -sets. Complements of V -sets, i.e., sets that are intersection of open sets are called Λ -sets [19].

Recall that a real-valued function f defined on a topological space X is called A -continuous [23] if the preimage of every open subset of \mathbb{R} belongs to A , where A is a collection of subsets of X . Most of the definitions of function used throughout this paper are consequences of the definition of A -continuity. However, for unknown concepts the reader may refer to [4, 11]. In the recent literature many topologists have focused their research in the direction of investigating different types of generalized continuity.

J. Dontchev in [5] introduced a new class of mappings called contra-continuity. S. Jafari and T. Noiri in [13, 14] exhibited and studied among others a new weaker form of this class of mappings called contra- α -continuous. A good number of researchers have also initiated different types of contra-continuous like mappings in the papers [1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 22].

Hence, a real-valued function f defined on a topological space X is called *contra-continuous* (resp. *contra- C -continuous*, *contra- α -continuous*) if the preimage of every open subset of \mathbb{R} is closed (resp. C -closed, α -closed) in X [5].

Results of Katětov [15, 16] concerning binary relations and the concept of an indefinite lower cut set for a real-valued function, which is due to Brooks [2], are used in order to give a necessary and sufficient conditions for the insertion of a contra-continuous function between two comparable real-valued functions on such topological spaces that Λ -sets or kernel of sets are open [19].

If g and f are real-valued functions defined on a space X , we write $g \leq f$ (resp. $g < f$) in case $g(x) \leq f(x)$ (resp. $g(x) < f(x)$) for all x in X .

The following definitions are modifications of conditions considered in [17].

A property P , defined relative to a real-valued function on a topological space, is a *cc-property* provided that any constant function has property P and provided that the sum of a function with property P and any contra-continuous function also has property P . If P_1 and P_2 are *cc-properties*, the following terminology is used: (i) A space X has the *weak cc-insertion property* for (P_1, P_2) if and only if for any functions g and f on X such that $g \leq f$, g has property P_1 and f has property P_2 , then there exists a contra-continuous function h such that $g \leq h \leq f$. (ii) A space X has the *cc-insertion property* for (P_1, P_2) if and only if for any functions g and f on X such that $g < f$, g has property P_1 and f has property P_2 , then there exists a contra-continuous function h such that $g < h < f$. (iii) A space X has the *strong cc-insertion property* for (P_1, P_2) if and only if for any functions g and f on X such that $g \leq f$, g has property P_1 and f has property P_2 , then there exists a contra-continuous function h such that $g \leq h \leq f$ and if $g(x) < f(x)$ for any x in X , then $g(x) < h(x) < f(x)$. (iv) A space X has the *weakly cc-insertion property* for (P_1, P_2) if and only if for any functions g and f on X such that $g < f$, g has property P_1 , f has property P_2 and $f - g$ has property P_2 , then there exists a

contra-continuous function h such that $g < h < f$.

In this paper, for a topological space whose Λ -sets or kernel of sets are open, is given a sufficient condition for the weak cc -insertion property. Also for a space with the weak cc -insertion property, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the space to have the cc -insertion property. Several insertion theorems are obtained as corollaries of these results.

2. The Main Result

Before giving a sufficient condition for the insertability of a contra-continuous function, the necessary definitions and terminology are stated.

Definition 2.1. Let A be a subset of a topological space (X, τ) . We define the subsets A^Λ and A^V as follows:

$$A^\Lambda = \cap\{O : O \supseteq A, O \in (X, \tau)\} \text{ and } A^V = \cup\{F : F \subseteq A, F^c \in (X, \tau)\}.$$

In [6, 18, 21], A^Λ is called the *kernel* of A .

The family of all α -open, α -closed, C -open and C -closed will be denoted by $\alpha O(X, \tau)$, $\alpha C(X, \tau)$, $CO(X, \tau)$ and $CC(X, \tau)$, respectively.

We define the subsets $\alpha(A^\Lambda)$, $\alpha(A^V)$, $C(A^\Lambda)$ and $C(A^V)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(A^\Lambda) &= \cap\{O : O \supseteq A, O \in \alpha O(X, \tau)\}, \\ \alpha(A^V) &= \cup\{F : F \subseteq A, F \in \alpha C(X, \tau)\}, \\ C(A^\Lambda) &= \cap\{O : O \supseteq A, O \in CO(X, \tau)\} \text{ and} \\ C(A^V) &= \cup\{F : F \subseteq A, F \in CC(X, \tau)\}. \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha(A^\Lambda)$ (resp. $C(A^\Lambda)$) is called the α -*kernel* (resp. C -*kernel*) of A .

The following first two definitions are modifications of conditions considered in [15, 16].

Definition 2.2. If ρ is a binary relation in a set S then $\bar{\rho}$ is defined as follows: $x \bar{\rho} y$ if and only if $y \rho v$ implies $x \rho v$ and $u \rho x$ implies $u \rho y$ for any u and v in S .

Definition 2.3. A binary relation ρ in the power set $P(X)$ of a topological space X is called a *strong binary relation* in $P(X)$ in case ρ satisfies each of the following conditions:

- 1) If $A_i \rho B_j$ for any $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ and for any $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, then there exists a set C in $P(X)$ such that $A_i \rho C$ and $C \rho B_j$ for any $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ and any $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.
- 2) If $A \subseteq B$, then $A \bar{\rho} B$.
- 3) If $A \rho B$, then $A^\Lambda \subseteq B$ and $A \subseteq B^V$.

The concept of a lower indefinite cut set for a real-valued function was defined by Brooks [2] as follows:

Definition 2.4. If f is a real-valued function defined on a space X and if $\{x \in X : f(x) < \ell\} \subseteq A(f, \ell) \subseteq \{x \in X : f(x) \leq \ell\}$ for a real number ℓ , then $A(f, \ell)$ is called a *lower indefinite cut set* in the domain of f at the level ℓ .

We now give the following main result:

Theorem 2.1. Let g and f be real-valued functions on the topological space X , in which kernel sets are open, with $g \leq f$. If there exists a strong binary relation ρ on

the power set of X and if there exist lower indefinite cut sets $A(f, t)$ and $A(g, t)$ in the domain of f and g at the level t for each rational number t such that if $t_1 < t_2$ then $A(f, t_1) \rho A(g, t_2)$, then there exists a contra-continuous function h defined on X such that $g \leq h \leq f$.

Proof. Let g and f be real-valued functions defined on the X such that $g \leq f$. By hypothesis there exists a strong binary relation ρ on the power set of X and there exist lower indefinite cut sets $A(f, t)$ and $A(g, t)$ in the domain of f and g at the level t for each rational number t such that if $t_1 < t_2$ then $A(f, t_1) \rho A(g, t_2)$.

Define functions F and G mapping the rational numbers \mathbb{Q} into the power set of X by $F(t) = A(f, t)$ and $G(t) = A(g, t)$. If t_1 and t_2 are any elements of \mathbb{Q} with $t_1 < t_2$, then $F(t_1) \bar{\rho} F(t_2)$, $G(t_1) \bar{\rho} G(t_2)$, and $F(t_1) \rho G(t_2)$. By Lemmas 1 and 2 of [16] it follows that there exists a function H mapping \mathbb{Q} into the power set of X such that if t_1 and t_2 are any rational numbers with $t_1 < t_2$, then $F(t_1) \rho H(t_2)$, $H(t_1) \rho H(t_2)$ and $H(t_1) \rho G(t_2)$.

For any x in X , let $h(x) = \inf\{t \in \mathbb{Q} : x \in H(t)\}$.

We first verify that $g \leq h \leq f$: If x is in $H(t)$ then x is in $G(t')$ for any $t' > t$; since x is in $G(t') = A(g, t')$ implies that $g(x) \leq t'$, it follows that $g(x) \leq t$. Hence $g \leq h$. If x is not in $H(t)$, then x is not in $F(t')$ for any $t' < t$; since x is not in $F(t') = A(f, t')$ implies that $f(x) > t'$, it follows that $f(x) \geq t$. Hence $h \leq f$.

Also, for any rational numbers t_1 and t_2 with $t_1 < t_2$, we have $h^{-1}(t_1, t_2) = H(t_2)^V \setminus H(t_1)^\Delta$. Hence $h^{-1}(t_1, t_2)$ is closed in X , i.e., h is a contra-continuous function on X . ■

The above proof used the technique of theorem 1 in [15].

Theorem 2.2. Let P_1 and P_2 be cc -property and X be a space that satisfies the weak cc -insertion property for (P_1, P_2) . Also assume that g and f are functions on X such that $g < f$, g has property P_1 and f has property P_2 . The space X has the cc -insertion property for (P_1, P_2) if and only if there exist lower cut sets $A(f - g, 3^{-n+1})$ and there exists a decreasing sequence $\{D_n\}$ of subsets of X with empty intersection and such that for each n , $X \setminus D_n$ and $A(f - g, 3^{-n+1})$ are completely separated by contra-continuous functions.

Proof. Theorem 2.1 of [20]. ■

3. Applications

The abbreviations cac and cCc are used for contra- α -continuous and contra- C -continuous, respectively.

Before stating the consequences of theorems 2.1, 2.2, we suppose that X is a topological space whose kernel sets are open.

Corollary 3.1. If for each pair of disjoint α -open (resp. C -open) sets G_1, G_2 of X , there exist closed sets F_1 and F_2 of X such that $G_1 \subseteq F_1$, $G_2 \subseteq F_2$ and $F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ then X has the weak cc -insertion property for (cac, cac) (resp. (cCc, cCc)).

Proof. Let g and f be real-valued functions defined on X , such that f and g are cac (resp. cCc), and $g \leq f$. If a binary relation ρ is defined by $A \rho B$ in case

$\alpha(A^\Delta) \subseteq \alpha(B^\nabla)$ (resp. $C(A^\Delta) \subseteq C(B^\nabla)$), then by hypothesis ρ is a strong binary relation in the power set of X . If t_1 and t_2 are any elements of \mathbb{Q} with $t_1 < t_2$, then

$$A(f, t_1) \subseteq \{x \in X : f(x) \leq t_1\} \subseteq \{x \in X : g(x) < t_2\} \subseteq A(g, t_2);$$

since $\{x \in X : f(x) \leq t_1\}$ is an α -open (resp. C -open) set and since $\{x \in X : g(x) < t_2\}$ is an α -closed (resp. C -closed) set, it follows that $\alpha(A(f, t_1)^\Delta) \subseteq \alpha(A(g, t_2)^\nabla)$ (resp. $C(A(f, t_1)^\Delta) \subseteq C(A(g, t_2)^\nabla)$). Hence $t_1 < t_2$ implies that $A(f, t_1) \rho A(g, t_2)$. The proof follows from Theorem 2.1. ■

Corollary 3.2. If for each pair of disjoint α -open (resp. C -open) sets G_1, G_2 , there exist closed sets F_1 and F_2 such that $G_1 \subseteq F_1, G_2 \subseteq F_2$ and $F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ then every contra- α -continuous (resp. contra- C -continuous) function is contra-continuous.

Proof. Let f be a real-valued contra- α -continuous (resp. contra- C -continuous) function defined on X . Set $g = f$, then by Corollary 3.1, there exists a contra-continuous function h such that $g = h = f$. ■

Corollary 3.3. If for each pair of disjoint α -open (resp. C -open) sets G_1, G_2 of X , there exist closed sets F_1 and F_2 of X such that $G_1 \subseteq F_1, G_2 \subseteq F_2$ and $F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ then X has the strong cc -insertion property for (cac, cac) (resp. (cCc, cCc)).

Proof. Let g and f be real-valued functions defined on the X , such that f and g are cac (resp. cCc), and $g \leq f$. Set $h = (f + g)/2$, thus $g \leq h \leq f$ and if $g(x) < f(x)$ for any x in X , then $g(x) < h(x) < f(x)$. Also, by Corollary 3.2, since g and f are contra-continuous functions hence h is a contra-continuous function. ■

Corollary 3.4. If for each pair of disjoint subsets G_1, G_2 of X , such that G_1 is α -open and G_2 is C -open, there exist closed subsets F_1 and F_2 of X such that $G_1 \subseteq F_1, G_2 \subseteq F_2$ and $F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset$ then X have the weak cc -insertion property for (cac, cCc) and (cCc, cac) .

Proof. Let g and f be real-valued functions defined on X , such that g is cac (resp. cCc) and f is cCc (resp. cac), with $g \leq f$. If a binary relation ρ is defined by $A \rho B$ in case $C(A^\Delta) \subseteq \alpha(B^\nabla)$ (resp. $\alpha(A^\Delta) \subseteq C(B^\nabla)$), then by hypothesis ρ is a strong binary relation in the power set of X . If t_1 and t_2 are any elements of \mathbb{Q} with $t_1 < t_2$, then

$$A(f, t_1) \subseteq \{x \in X : f(x) \leq t_1\} \subseteq \{x \in X : g(x) < t_2\} \subseteq A(g, t_2);$$

since $\{x \in X : f(x) \leq t_1\}$ is a C -open (resp. α -open) set and since $\{x \in X : g(x) < t_2\}$ is an α -closed (resp. C -closed) set, it follows that $C(A(f, t_1)^\Delta) \subseteq \alpha(A(g, t_2)^\nabla)$ (resp. $\alpha(A(f, t_1)^\Delta) \subseteq C(A(g, t_2)^\nabla)$). Hence $t_1 < t_2$ implies that $A(f, t_1) \rho A(g, t_2)$. The proof follows from Theorem 2.1. ■

Before stating consequences of Theorem 2.2, we state and prove the necessary lemmas.

Lemma 3.1. The following conditions on the space X are equivalent:

(i) For each pair of disjoint subsets G_1, G_2 of X , such that G_1 is α -open and G_2 is C -open, there exist closed subsets F_1, F_2 of X such that $G_1 \subseteq F_1, G_2 \subseteq F_2$ and $F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset$.

(ii) If G is a C -open (resp. α -open) subset of X which is contained in an α -closed (resp. C -closed) subset F of X , then there exists a closed subset H of X such that $G \subseteq H \subseteq H^\Delta \subseteq F$.

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Suppose that $G \subseteq F$, where G and F are C -open (resp. α -open) and α -closed (resp. C -closed) subsets of X , respectively. Hence, F^c is an α -open (resp. C -open) and $G \cap F^c = \emptyset$.

By (i) there exists two disjoint closed subsets F_1, F_2 such that $G \subseteq F_1$ and $F^c \subseteq F_2$. But

$$F^c \subseteq F_2 \Rightarrow F_2^c \subseteq F,$$

and

$$F_1 \cap F_2 = \emptyset \Rightarrow F_1 \subseteq F_2^c$$

hence

$$G \subseteq F_1 \subseteq F_2^c \subseteq F$$

and since F_2^c is an open subset containing F_1 , we conclude that $F_1^\Delta \subseteq F_2^c$, i.e.,

$$G \subseteq F_1 \subseteq F_1^\Delta \subseteq F.$$

By setting $H = F_1$, condition (ii) holds.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Suppose that G_1, G_2 are two disjoint subsets of X , such that G_1 is α -open and G_2 is C -open.

This implies that $G_2 \subseteq G_1^c$ and G_1^c is an α -closed subset of X . Hence by (ii) there exists a closed set H such that $G_2 \subseteq H \subseteq H^\Delta \subseteq G_1^c$.

But

$$H \subseteq H^\Delta \Rightarrow H \cap (H^\Delta)^c = \emptyset$$

and

$$H^\Delta \subseteq G_1^c \Rightarrow G_1 \subseteq (H^\Delta)^c.$$

Furthermore, $(H^\Delta)^c$ is a closed subset of X . Hence $G_2 \subseteq H, G_1 \subseteq (H^\Delta)^c$ and $H \cap (H^\Delta)^c = \emptyset$. This means that condition (i) holds. ■

Lemma 3.2. Suppose that X is a topological space. If each pair of disjoint subsets G_1, G_2 of X , where G_1 is α -open and G_2 is C -open, can be separated by closed subsets of X then there exists a contra-continuous function $h : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $h(G_2) = \{0\}$ and $h(G_1) = \{1\}$.

Proof. Suppose G_1 and G_2 are two disjoint subsets of X , where G_1 is α -open and G_2 is C -open. Since $G_1 \cap G_2 = \emptyset$, hence $G_2 \subseteq G_1^c$. In particular, since G_1^c is an α -closed subset of X containing the C -open subset G_2 of X , by Lemma 3.1, there exists a closed subset $H_{1/2}$ such that

$$G_2 \subseteq H_{1/2} \subseteq H_{1/2}^\Delta \subseteq G_1^c.$$

Note that $H_{1/2}$ is also an α -closed subset of X and contains G_2 , and G_1^c is an α -closed subset of X and contains the C -open subset $H_{1/2}^\Delta$ of X . Hence, by Lemma 3.1, there exists closed subsets $H_{1/4}$ and $H_{3/4}$ such that

$$G_2 \subseteq H_{1/4} \subseteq H_{1/4}^\Delta \subseteq H_{1/2} \subseteq H_{1/2}^\Delta \subseteq H_{3/4} \subseteq H_{3/4}^\Delta \subseteq G_1^c.$$

By continuing this method for every $t \in D$, where $D \subseteq [0, 1]$ is the set of rational numbers that their denominators are exponents of 2, we obtain closed subsets H_t with the property that if $t_1, t_2 \in D$ and $t_1 < t_2$, then $H_{t_1} \subseteq H_{t_2}$. We define the function h on X by $h(x) = \inf\{t : x \in H_t\}$ for $x \notin G_1$ and $h(x) = 1$ for $x \in G_1$.

Note that for every $x \in X$, $0 \leq h(x) \leq 1$, i.e., h maps X into $[0, 1]$. Also, we note that for any $t \in D$, $G_2 \subseteq H_t$; hence $h(G_2) = \{0\}$. Furthermore, by definition, $h(G_1) = \{1\}$. It remains only to prove that h is a contra-continuous function on X . For every $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, we have if $\alpha \leq 0$ then $\{x \in X : h(x) < \alpha\} = \emptyset$ and if $0 < \alpha$ then $\{x \in X : h(x) < \alpha\} = \cup\{H_t : t < \alpha\}$, hence, they are closed subsets of X . Similarly, if $\alpha < 0$ then $\{x \in X : h(x) > \alpha\} = X$ and if $0 \leq \alpha$ then $\{x \in X : h(x) > \alpha\} = \cup\{(H_t^\Delta)^c : t > \alpha\}$ hence, every of them is a closed subset. Consequently h is a contra-continuous function. ■

Lemma 3.3. Suppose that X is a topological space such that every two disjoint C -open and α -open subsets of X can be separated by closed subsets of X . The following conditions are equivalent:

(i) Every countable converging of C -closed (resp. α -closed) subsets of X has a refinement consisting of α -closed (resp. C -closed) subsets of X such that for every $x \in X$, there exists a closed subset of X containing x such that it intersects only finitely many members of the refinement.

(ii) Corresponding to every decreasing sequence $\{G_n\}$ of C -open (resp. α -open) subsets of X with empty intersection there exists a decreasing sequence $\{F_n\}$ of α -closed (resp. C -closed) subsets of X such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n = \emptyset$ and for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $G_n \subseteq F_n$.

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Suppose that $\{G_n\}$ is a decreasing sequence of C -open (resp. α -open) subsets of X with empty intersection. Then $\{G_n^c : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a countable covering of C -closed (resp. α -closed) subsets of X . By hypothesis (i) and Lemma 3.1, this covering has a refinement $\{V_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ such that every V_n is a closed subset of X and $V_n^\Delta \subseteq G_n^c$. By setting $F_n = (V_n^\Delta)^c$, we obtain a decreasing sequence of closed subsets of X with the required properties.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Now if $\{H_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a countable covering of C -closed (resp. α -closed) subsets of X , we set for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $G_n = (\bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i)^c$. Then $\{G_n\}$ is a decreasing sequence of C -open (resp. α -open) subsets of X with empty intersection. By (ii) there exists a decreasing sequence $\{F_n\}$ consisting of α -closed (resp. C -closed) subsets of X such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n = \emptyset$ and for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $G_n \subseteq F_n$. Now we define the subsets W_n of X in the following manner:

W_1 is a closed subset of X such that $F_1^c \subseteq W_1$ and $W_1^\Delta \cap G_1 = \emptyset$.

W_2 is a closed subset of X such that $W_1^\Delta \cup F_2^c \subseteq W_2$ and $W_2^\Delta \cap G_2 = \emptyset$, and so on. (By Lemma 3.1, W_n exists).

Then since $\{F_n^c : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a covering for X , hence $\{W_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a covering for X consisting of closed sets. Moreover, we have

(i) $W_n^\Delta \subseteq W_{n+1}$

(ii) $F_n^c \subseteq W_n$

(iii) $W_n \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i$.

Now setting $S_1 = W_1$ and for $n \geq 2$, we set $S_n = W_{n+1} \setminus W_n^\Delta$.

Then since $W_{n-1}^\Delta \subseteq W_n$ and $S_n \supseteq W_{n+1} \setminus W_n$, it follows that $\{S_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ consists

of closed sets and covers X . Furthermore, $S_i \cap S_j \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $|i - j| \leq 1$. Finally, consider the following sets:

$$\begin{aligned} & S_1 \cap H_1, \quad S_1 \cap H_2 \\ & S_2 \cap H_1, \quad S_2 \cap H_2, \quad S_2 \cap H_3 \\ & S_3 \cap H_1, \quad S_3 \cap H_2, \quad S_3 \cap H_3, \quad S_3 \cap H_4 \\ & \vdots \\ & S_i \cap H_1, \quad S_i \cap H_2, \quad S_i \cap H_3, \quad S_i \cap H_4, \quad \dots, \quad S_i \cap H_{i+1} \\ & \vdots \end{aligned}$$

These sets are closed sets, cover X and refine $\{H_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. In addition, $S_i \cap H_j$ can intersect at most the sets in its row, immediately above, or immediately below row.

Hence if $x \in X$ and $x \in S_n \cap H_m$, then $S_n \cap H_m$ is a closed set containing x that intersects at most finitely many of sets $S_i \cap H_j$. Consequently, $\{S_i \cap H_j : i \in \mathbb{N}, j = 1, \dots, i + 1\}$ refines $\{H_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ such that its elements are closed sets, and for every point in X we can find a closed set containing the point that intersects only finitely many elements of that refinement. ■

Corollary 3.5. If every two disjoint C -open and α -open subsets of X can be separated by closed subsets of X and, in addition, every countable covering of C -closed (resp. α -closed) subsets of X has a refinement that consists of α -closed (resp. C -closed) subsets of X such that for every point of X we can find a closed subset containing that point such that it intersects only a finite number of refining members then X has the weakly cc -insertion property for (cac, cCc) (resp. (cCc, cac)).

Proof. Since every two disjoint C -open and α -open sets can be separated by closed subsets of X , therefore by Corollary 3.4, X has the weak cc -insertion property for (cac, cCc) and (cCc, cac) . Now suppose that f and g are real-valued functions on X with $g < f$, such that g is cac (resp. cCc), f is cCc (resp. cac) and $f - g$ is cCc (resp. cac). For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, set

$$A(f - g, 3^{-n+1}) = \{x \in X : (f - g)(x) \leq 3^{-n+1}\}.$$

Since $f - g$ is cCc (resp. cac), hence $A(f - g, 3^{-n+1})$ is a C -open (resp. α -open) subset of X . Consequently, $\{A(f - g, 3^{-n+1})\}$ is a decreasing sequence of C -open (resp. α -open) subsets of X and furthermore since $0 < f - g$, it follows that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A(f - g, 3^{-n+1}) = \emptyset$. Now by Lemma 3.3, there exists a decreasing sequence $\{D_n\}$ of α -closed (resp. C -closed) subsets of X such that $A(f - g, 3^{-n+1}) \subseteq D_n$ and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} D_n = \emptyset$. But by Lemma 3.2, the pair $A(f - g, 3^{-n+1})$ and $X \setminus D_n$ of C -open (resp. α -open) and α -open (resp. C -open) subsets of X can be completely separated by contra-continuous functions. Hence by Theorem 2.2, there exists a contra-continuous function h defined on X such that $g < h < f$, i.e., X has the weakly cc -insertion property for (cac, cCc) (resp. (cCc, cac)). ■

Acknowledgement

This research was partially supported by Centre of Excellence for Mathematics(University of Isfahan).

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