

# STRONG INSERTION OF A CONTINUOUS FUNCTION BETWEEN TWO COMPARABLE $b$ -CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONS

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## Abstract

A sufficient condition in terms of lower cut sets are given for the strong insertion of a continuous function between two comparable  $b$ -continuous real-valued functions.

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## 1 Introduction

The concept of a preopen set in a topological space was introduced by H. H. Corson and E. Michael in 1964 [3]. A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called *preopen* or *locally dense* or *nearly open* if  $A \subseteq \text{Int}(\text{Cl}(A))$ . A set  $A$  is called *preclosed* if its complement is preopen or equivalently if  $\text{Cl}(\text{Int}(A)) \subseteq A$ . The term ,preopen, was used for the first time by A. S. Mashhour, M. E. Abd El-Monsef and S. N. El-Deeb [11], while the concept of a , locally dense, set was introduced by H. H. Corson and E. Michael [3].

The concept of a semi-open set in a topological space was introduced by N. Levine in 1963 [10]. A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called *semi-open* [10] if  $A \subseteq \text{Cl}(\text{Int}(A))$ . A set  $A$  is called *semi-closed* if its complement is semi-open or equivalently if  $\text{Int}(\text{Cl}(A)) \subseteq A$ .

D. Andrijevic introduced a new class of generalized open sets in a topological space, so called  $b$ -open sets [1]. This type of sets discussed by A. A. El-Atik under the name of  $\gamma$ -open sets [5]. This class is closed under arbitrary

union. The class of  $b$ -open sets contains all semi-open sets and preopen sets. The class of  $b$ -open sets generates the same topology as the class of preopen sets. D. Andrijevic studied several fundamental and interesting properties of  $b$ -open sets. A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called  $b$ -open if  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(A)) \cup Int(Cl(A))$  [1]. A set  $A$  is called  $b$ -closed if its complement is  $b$ -open or equivalently if  $Cl(Int(A)) \cap Int(Cl(A)) \subseteq A$ .

Recall that a real-valued function  $f$  defined on a topological space  $X$  is called  $A$ -continuous [12] if the preimage of every open subset of  $R$  belongs to  $A$ , where  $A$  is a collection of subset 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, 6].

Hence, a real-valued function  $f$  defined on a topological space  $X$  is called  $b$ -continuous if the preimage of every open subset of  $R$  is a  $b$ -open subset of  $X$ .

Results of Katětov [7, 8] 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 sufficient condition for the strong insertion of a continuous function between two comparable  $b$ -continuous real-valued functions.

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

The following definitions are modifications of conditions considered in [9].

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

In this paper, is given a sufficient condition for the weak insertion property. Also for a space with the weak insertion property, we give a sufficient condition for the space to have the strong insertion property.

## 2 Main Results

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

Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space, the family of all  $b$ -open and  $b$ -closed will be denoted by  $bO(X, \tau)$  and  $bC(X, \tau)$ , respectively.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ . Respectively, we define the  $b$ -closure and  $b$ -interior of a set  $A$ , denoted by  $bCl(A)$  and  $bInt(A)$  as follows:

$$bCl(A) = \cap\{F : F \supseteq A, F \in bC(X, \tau)\} \text{ and}$$

$$bInt(A) = \cup\{O : O \subseteq A, O \in bO(X, \tau)\}.$$

**Proposition 2.1.** (D. Andrijevic [1]) (i) The union of any family of  $b$ -open sets is a  $b$ -open set.

(ii) The intersection of an open and a  $b$ -open is a  $b$ -open set.

Hence, by Proposition 2.1, we have  $bCl(A)$  is  $b$ -closed and  $bInt(A)$  is  $b$ -open.

The following first two definitions are modifications of conditions considered in [7, 8].

**Definition 2.2.** If  $\rho$  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  $\rho$  in the power set  $P(X)$  of a topological space  $X$  is called a *strong binary relation* in  $P(X)$  in case  $\rho$  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  $Cl(A) \subseteq B$  and  $A \subseteq Int(B)$ .

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  $\ell$ , then  $A(f, \ell)$  is called a *lower indefinite cut set* in the domain of  $f$  at the level  $\ell$ .

We now give the following main result:

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $g$  and  $f$  be real-valued functions on a topological space  $X$  with  $g \leq f$ . If there exists a strong binary relation  $\rho$  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 continuous function  $h$  defined on  $X$  such that  $g \leq h \leq f$ .

**Proof.** Theorem 1 of [7].

### 3 Applications

The abbreviation  $bc$  is used for  $b$ -continuous.

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

**Proof.** Let  $g$  and  $f$  be real-valued functions defined on the  $X$ , such that  $f$  and  $g$  are  $bc$ , and  $g \leq f$ . If a binary relation  $\rho$  is defined by  $A \rho B$  in case  $bCl(A) \subseteq bInt(B)$ , then by hypothesis  $\rho$  is a strong binary relation in the power set of  $X$ . If  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are any elements of  $Q$  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  $b$ -closed set and since  $\{x \in X : g(x) < t_2\}$  is a  $b$ -open set, it follows that  $bCl(A(f, t_1)) \subseteq bInt(A(g, t_2))$ . 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  $b$ -closed sets  $F_1, F_2$ , there exist open sets  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  such that  $F_1 \subseteq G_1$ ,  $F_2 \subseteq G_2$  and  $G_1 \cap G_2 = \emptyset$  then every  $b$ -continuous function is continuous.

**Proof.** Let  $f$  be a real-valued  $b$ -continuous function defined on the  $X$ . By setting  $g = f$ , then by Corollary 3.1, there exists a continuous function  $h$  such that  $g = h = f$ .

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

**Proof.** Let  $g$  and  $f$  be real-valued functions defined on the  $X$ , such that  $f$  and  $g$  are  $bc$ , and  $g \leq f$ . By setting  $h = (f+g)/2$ , 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 continuous functions hence  $h$  is a continuous function.

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