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In: Zdeněk Frolík and Vladimír Souček and Jiří Vinárek (eds.): Proceedings of the 13th Winter School on Abstract Analysis, Section of Topology. Circolo Matematico di Palermo, Palermo, 1985. Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo, Serie II, Supplemento No. 11. pp. [15]–23.

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/701876>

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# DISCONNECTEDNESSES AND CLOSURE OPERATORS (\*)

F. CAGLIARI AND M. CICHESE

## Abstract

Closure operators which characterize disconnectednesses and relative disconnectednesses are introduced. Such operators are used to find conditions under which a relative disconnectedness is a disconnectedness.

AMS Subject Classification: 54B30, 18B30, 18A40.

## §1. Preliminaries (\*\*)

In this paper we denote by  $\mathbf{T}$  the class of all topological spaces, by  $\mathbf{T}_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2$ ) the classes of  $T_i$ -spaces, by  $\mathbf{Sing}$  the class of spaces which have at most one point. Moreover we denote by  $\mathbf{P}$  an arbitrary nonempty subclass of  $\mathbf{T}$  and by  $\underline{\mathbf{P}}$  the category of spaces of  $\mathbf{P}$  and continuous functions. Of course  $\underline{\mathbf{P}}$  is a full subcategory of  $\underline{\mathbf{T}}$ .

Let  $X$  be a space and  $x \in X$ .

1.1 DEFINITION. We call  $\mathbf{P}$ -component of  $x$  in  $X$  the largest subspace  $Y$  of  $X$  containing  $x$  such that for each  $P \in \mathbf{P}$  and for each  $f: Y \rightarrow P$ ,  $f$  is constant (see [11], p.297).

1.2 DEFINITION. We call  $\mathbf{P}$ -quasicomponent of  $x$  in  $X$  the largest subspace  $Y$  of  $X$  containing  $x$  such that for each  $P \in \mathbf{P}$  and for each

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(\*) This paper is in final form and no version of it will be submitted for publication elsewhere.

(\*\*) Notations and definitions not explicitly given are from [6]. Moreover, the functions we consider are always continuous functions between topological spaces.

$f: X \rightarrow P$ ,  $f|Y$  is constant (see [11], p.297).

1.3. DEFINITION. A space  $X$  is called totally  $P$ -disconnected if its  $P$ -components are singletons, totally  $P$ -separated if its  $P$ -quasicomponents are singletons (see [11], p.297).

We denote by  $UP$  the class of all totally  $P$ -disconnected spaces and by  $QP$  the class of all totally  $P$ -separated spaces.

It follows immediately from the definitions that

$$1.4 \quad P \subset QP \subset UP.$$

1.5 DEFINITION. A class  $P$  of spaces is called disconnectedness if  $P = UP$ , and relative disconnectedness if  $P = QP$ .

## §2. The closure operators $E_X$ and $K_X$ .

Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a continuous function.

2.1 DEFINITION.  $f$  is said to be  $P$ -cancellable if for every  $P \in P$  and for every  $g_1, g_2: B \rightarrow P$  such that  $g_1 f = g_2 f$ , we have  $g_1 = g_2$ .

Suppose now  $X$  is a space containing  $B$  as subspace.

2.2 DEFINITION.  $f$  is said to be  $P$ -cancellable rel  $X$  if for every  $P \in P$  and for every  $g_1, g_2: X \rightarrow P$  such that  $(g_1|B)f = (g_2|B)f$ , we have  $g_1|B = g_2|B$ .

2.3. PROPOSITION. If  $P'$  is a class of spaces such that  $P \subset P' \subset QP$ , we have that  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is  $P'$ -cancellable (or  $P'$ -cancellable rel  $X$ ) iff  $f$  is  $P$ -cancellable (or  $P$ -cancellable rel  $X$ ).

PROOF. Since  $P \subset P'$  if  $f$  is  $P'$ -cancellable it is obvious that  $f$  is  $P$ -cancellable too.

Conversely, suppose  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is  $P$ -cancellable. Let  $P' \in P'$  and  $g_1, g_2: B \rightarrow P'$  be functions such that  $g_1 f = g_2 f$ . Then for every  $P \in P$  and for every  $h: P' \rightarrow P$  we have  $hg_1 f = hg_2 f$  and therefore  $hg_1 = hg_2$ . Since  $P' \in QP$ , the class of all continuous functions from  $P'$  whose range is in  $P$  distinguishes the points (see [10], 3.3). It follows that  $g_1 = g_2$ .

Similar arguments can be used to prove the proposition when

the function is cancellable rel  $X$ .

From now on we denote by  $X$  an arbitrary topological space and by  $A$  an arbitrary subspace of  $X$ .

2.4 DEFINITION. By  $E_X^P(A)$  we denote the largest subspace  $Y$  of  $X$  such that  $A \subset Y$  and the inclusion of  $A$  into  $Y$  is  $P$ -cancellable.

2.5 DEFINITION. By  $K_X^P(A)$  we denote the largest subspace  $Y$  of  $X$  such that  $A \subset Y$  and the inclusion of  $A$  into  $Y$  is  $P$ -cancellable rel  $X$ .

It can be easily proved that the operators  $E_X^P$  and  $K_X^P$  are Moore closures and that if  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a continuous function we have:

$$2.6 \quad E_X^P(A) \subset K_X^P(A) ;$$

$$2.7 \quad K_X^P(A) = X \iff E_X^P(A) = X ;$$

$$2.8 \quad f(E_X^P(A)) \subset E_Y^P(f(A)) ; \quad f(K_X^P(A)) \subset K_Y^P(f(A)) ;$$

2.9 the followings are equivalent:

(i)  $f$  is  $P$ -cancellable;

(ii)  $E_Y^P(f(X)) = Y$  ;

(iii)  $K_Y^P(f(X)) = Y$  .

The operator  $K_X^P$  was introduced in [12] and studied in [4]. The operator  $E_X^P$  coincides with the epiclosure defined in [2] when  $P$  is productive, hereditary and  $X \in P$ .

When there is no confusion about the class  $P$ , we indicate the introduced operators only by  $E_X$  and by  $K_X$ .

2.10 PROPOSITION. If  $P'$  is a class of spaces such that  $P \subset P' \subset QP$ , we have

$$E_X^P = E_X^{P'} ; \quad K_X^P = K_X^{P'} .$$

PROOF. It follows immediately from 2.3.

2.11 PROPOSITION. Let  $x \in X$ . We have:

(a)  $E_X^P(\{x\})$  is the  $P$ - component of  $x$  in  $X$ ;

(b)  $K_X^P(\{x\})$  is the  $P$ -quasicomponent of  $x$  in  $X$ .

PROOF. (a) It follows immediately from the fact that if  $V$  is a subspace of  $X$  such that  $x \in X$ , the inclusion  $j: \{x\} \rightarrow V$  is  $P$ -cancel-

lable iff for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  the functions from  $V$  to  $P$  are all constant.

(b) It can be proved in a similar way as (a).

2.12 COROLLARY. (a)  $\mathbf{UP}$  is the class of all spaces  $X$  whose points are  $E_X^P$ -closed.

(b)  $\mathbf{QP}$  is the class of all spaces  $X$  whose points are  $K_X^P$ -closed.

PROOF. It follows from 2.11.

2.13 PROPOSITION. The followings are equivalent:

(a)  $P \subset T_2$  ;

(b)  $\bar{A} \subset E_X^P(A)$  ;

(c)  $\bar{A} \subset K_X^P(A)$  .

PROOF. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) It follows from the fact that the inclusion  $j: A \rightarrow \bar{A}$  is  $T_2$ -cancellable and therefore  $P$ -cancellable.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) It follows from 2.6.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) See [12] (p.555).

2.14 LEMMA. A space  $X$  belongs to  $\mathbf{QP}$  iff the diagonal  $\Delta_X$  is  $K_{X \times X}^P$ -closed.

PROOF. If  $X \in \mathbf{QP}$ , the projections  $p_1, p_2: X \times X \rightarrow X$  coincide exactly on  $\Delta_X$ , and therefore (see 2.3)  $K_{X \times X}^P(\Delta_X) = \Delta_X$ .

Conversely, suppose  $K_{X \times X}^P(\Delta_X) = \Delta_X$ . Then there are two functions  $f, g: X \times X \rightarrow P$ , with  $P \in \mathbf{QP}$ , such that  $f|_{\Delta_X} = g|_{\Delta_X}$  and  $f(x, y) \neq g(x, y)$  whenever  $x \neq y$ . If  $z$  is an arbitrary point of  $X$ , we consider the embedding  $j: X \rightarrow X \times X$  defined by  $j(x) = (x, z)$ . We have:  $fj(z) = gj(z)$  and  $fj(t) \neq gj(t)$  for every  $t \in X - \{z\}$ . Hence  $K_X^P(\{z\}) = \{z\}$ , and from 2.12  $X \in \mathbf{QP}$ .

2.15 PROPOSITION. The followings are equivalent:

(a)  $\mathbf{QP} \subset \mathbf{QP}'$  ;

(b)  $K_X^P(A) \supset K_X^{P'}(A)$ .

PROOF. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) It follows easily from the definitions and 2.3.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) If (b) holds for each space  $X$  we have

$$K_{X \times X}^{P'}(\Delta_X) \subset K_{X \times X}^P(\Delta_X).$$

If  $X \in \mathbf{QP}$ , by 2.14 we have  $K_{X \times X}^P(\Delta_X) = \Delta_X$  and so  $\Delta_X$  is  $K_{X \times X}^{P'}$ -closed. By 2.14 again we have  $X \in \mathbf{QP}'$ .

2.16 COROLLARY. The followings are equivalent:

- (a)  $P \subset T_0$  ;
- (b)  $b_X(A) \subset E_X^P(A)$  ;
- (c)  $b_X(A) \subset K_X^P(A)$  .

PROOF. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) It follows from the fact that the inclusion  $j: A \rightarrow b_X(A)$  is  $T_0$ -cancellable (see [13]) and therefore  $P$ -cancellable.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) It follows from 2.6.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) It follows from 2.15 and [12] (p.557).

### Examples.

Let  $S$  be a singleton,  $C$  the two-points indiscrete space,  $D$  the Sierpinski dyad,  $I$  the real interval  $[0,1]$ .

If  $P = \{S\}$  then  $\mathbf{QP} = \mathbf{UP} = \mathbf{Sing}$  and  $E_X^P(A) = K_X^P(A) = X$ .

If  $P = \{C\}$  then  $\mathbf{QP} = \mathbf{UP} = \mathbf{T}$  and  $E_X^P(A) = K_X^P(A) = A$ .

If  $P = \{D\}$  then  $\mathbf{QP} = \mathbf{UP} = \mathbf{T}_0$  and  $E_X^P(A) = K_X^P(A) = b_X(A)$ , where  $b_X(A)$  is the  $b$ -closure of  $A$  in  $X$  (see [13] , 2.5; [12], p.557).

If  $P = \{D_2\}$ , where  $D_2$  is the two-points discrete space, then  $\mathbf{QP}$  is the class of all totally separated spaces and  $\mathbf{UP}$  is the class of all totally disconnected spaces. Moreover

$$K_X^P(A) = \bigcap \{B \mid A \subset B \subset X, B \text{ is clopen in } X\}.$$

If  $P = \{I\}$  then  $\mathbf{QP}$  is the class of all functionally Hausdorff spaces. Moreover

$$K_X^P(A) = \bigcap \{B \mid A \subset B \subset X, B \text{ is a zeroset in } X\}.$$

We observe that when  $P = \{I\}$  and in many other cases it is not easy to know how the operator  $E_X^P$  works and how the class  $\mathbf{UP}$  is.

### §3. Disconnectednesses and relative disconnectednesses.

UP and QP are subcategories of  $\mathbf{T}$  closed under products and injective functions. Therefore they are extremal epireflective in  $\mathbf{T}$  (see [8]).

We indicate by  $R: \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{UP}$ ,  $S: \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{QP}$  the corresponding epireflectors and by  $r_X: X \rightarrow RX$  and  $s_X: X \rightarrow SX$  the epireflection maps associated to  $R$  and  $S$  respectively. We remind that  $r_X$  is the quotient map which identifies the points of each  $P$ -component (see [1], Th.3.7) and  $s_X$  is the quotient map which identifies the points of each  $P$ -quasicomponent (see [10], p.304).

3.1. PROPOSITION. A function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is  $P$ -cancellable iff  $Sf: SX \rightarrow SY$  is an epimorphism in  $\mathbf{QP}$ .

PROOF. Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be  $P$ -cancellable,  $P \in \mathbf{QP}$  and  $f_1, f_2: SY \rightarrow P$  such that  $f_1(Sf) = f_2(Sf)$ . Then  $f_1(Sf)s_X = f_2(Sf)s_X$ . Since  $(Sf)s_X = s_Y f$  we have  $f_1 s_Y f = f_2 s_Y f$ . By 2.3  $f$  is  $\mathbf{QP}$ -cancellable, hence  $f_1 s_Y = f_2 s_Y$ . Since  $s_Y$  is an epimorphism in  $\mathbf{T}$ , we obtain  $f_1 = f_2$ .

Conversely, let  $Sf$  be an epimorphism in  $\mathbf{QP}$ . If  $P \in \mathbf{P}$  and  $f_1, f_2: Y \rightarrow P$  are functions such that  $f_1 f = f_2 f$ , there exist two functions  $g_1, g_2: SY \rightarrow P$  such that  $g_1 s_Y = f_1$ ,  $g_2 s_Y = f_2$ . Thus  $g_1 s_Y f = g_2 s_Y f$ , and therefore  $g_1(Sf)s_X = g_2(Sf)s_X$ . Since  $s_X$  is an epimorphism in  $\mathbf{T}$  and  $Sf$  is an epimorphism in  $\mathbf{QP}$ , we obtain  $g_1 = g_2$ .

3.2 PROPOSITION.  $K_X^P(A) = s_X^{-1}(K_{SX}^P(s_X(A)))$ .

PROOF. By 2.8 we have  $K_X(A) \subset s_X^{-1}(K_{SX}^P(s_X(A)))$ . Suppose there exists a point  $y \in s_X^{-1}(K_{SX}^P(s_X(A))) - K_X(A)$ . Then we can find two functions  $f_1, f_2: X \rightarrow P$ , with  $P \in \mathbf{P}$ , such that  $f_1|_A = f_2|_A$  and  $f_1(y) \neq f_2(y)$ . If we consider the functions  $g_1, g_2: SX \rightarrow P$ , such that  $g_1 s_X = f_1$ ,  $g_2 s_X = f_2$ , we obtain  $g_1 s_X(y) \neq g_2 s_X(y)$ . Since  $g_1|_{s_X(A)} = g_2|_{s_X(A)}$  we deduce that  $s_X(y) \notin K_{SX}^P(s_X(A))$ , and this is absurd.

REMARK. We do not know whether an analogous proposition for the operator  $E_X^P$  and the epireflection map  $r_X$  holds. By 2.13 it could only be proved that such equality holds when  $P \subset \mathbf{T}_2$ .

We remind that if  $P$  is productive and hereditary and  $X \in P$ , for each  $A \subset X$  the inclusion  $j: A \rightarrow X$  is an extremal monomorphism iff  $E_X^P(A) = A$ , and  $j$  is a regular monomorphism iff  $K_X^P(A) = A$  (see [2]).

As a consequence of this fact and of corollaries 3.5, 3.6 in [3], we obtain the following

3.3 PROPOSITION. If  $P$  is a disconnectedness contained in  $T_1$  and different from **Sing** we have

$$E_X^P(A) = K_X^P(A) = A.$$

3.4 PROPOSITION. The following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $UP = QP$  ;
- (b)  $E_X^P = K_X^P$  for each  $X \in T$  ;
- (c)  $E_X^P(\{x\}) = K_X^P(\{x\})$  for each  $X \in T$  and  $x \in X$  ;
- (d)  $K_X^P(A) = K_B^P(A)$  for each  $X, A, B$  such that  $A \subset B \subset X$  and  $K_X^P(B) = B$  .

PROOF. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) If  $QP$  coincides with  $T$ ,  $T_0$  or  $Q\{S\}$ , then  $QP = UP$  and  $E_X^P = K_X^P$  (see examples in §2).

Moreover the only disconnectednesses which are not contained in  $T_1$  are  $T$  and  $T_0$  (see [1], Prop. 2.10). Thus we have only to consider the case  $QP = UP \subset T_1$ , with  $QP \neq Q\{S\}$ . If  $X$  is a space and  $A \subset X$ , by 3.3 we have  $K_{SX}(s_X(A)) = s_X(A)$  and by 3.2

$$K_X(A) = s_X^{-1}(K_{SX}(s_X(A))) = s_X^{-1}(s_X(A)).$$

It follows

$$K_X(A) = s_X^{-1}(s_X(A)) = r_X^{-1}(r_X(A)) = \bigcup \{E_X(\{x\}) \mid x \in A\} \subset E_X(A),$$

hence, by 2.6,  $K_X(A) = E_X(A)$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) Obvious.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) It follows immediately from 2.12.

(c)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (d) It can be proved in a similar way as in Prop. 1.8 in [2], even though the present assertion is more general.

REMARKS. (a) If  $P$  is a class of Hausdorff spaces, the operators  $E_X^P$  and  $K_X^P$  coincide if and only if  $QP = \text{Sing}$ . For if  $E_X^P = K_X^P$



and  $QP \neq \text{Sing}$ , for every  $X \in P$  and  $A \in X$  we have by 2.13 and 3.3:

$$\overline{A} \subset E_X^P(A) = K_X^P(A) = A.$$

This would imply that every  $X \in P$  is discrete and this is not possible. As a consequence we get again that in  $T_2$  there are no disconnectednesses different from **Sing** (see [1]).

(b) The notions given in this paper can be introduced in a topological category. In particular Preuß introduced and studied the relative disconnectednesses in this more general setting ([10]). The situation seems to be a little more complicated for the disconnectednesses. A reason is that in  $T$  the quotient space obtained by identifying the points of each  $P$ -component is  $P$ -totally disconnected and this fact is not always true in a topological category. For instance this is not true in the bireflective hull in  $T$  of the Hausdorff spaces.

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This work has been supported by research funds of the Ministero Pubblica Istruzione, Italy.