# On α<sup>m</sup>-Connectedness in Topological Spaces

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**Abstract:** In this study, introduce  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphisms by using  $\alpha^m$ -continuous functions and  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute functions and introduce the concept of  $\alpha^m$ -connectedness by utilizing  $\alpha^m$ -open sets in topological spaces and study the characterizations and their properties.

**Key words:**  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphisms,  $\alpha^m$ -continuous functions,  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute functions,  $\alpha^m$ -connectedness,  $\alpha^m$ -open sets

## INTRODUCTION

In the mathematical study, Njastad (1965) introduced and defined an α-open/closed set. After the works of Njastad (1965) on α-open sets, various mathematicians turned their attention to the generalizations of various concepts in topology by considering semi-open, α-open sets. The concept of g-closed (Levine, 1970), s-open (Levine, 1963) and α-open sets has a significant role in the generalization of continuity in topological spaces. The modified form of these sets and generalized continuity were further developed by many mathematicians (Balachandran et al., 1991; Maki et al., 1993). In 1970, Levine generalized the concept of closed sets to generalized closed sets. After that, there is a vast progress occurred in the field of generalized open sets (complement of respective closed sets). In topological spaces, it is well known that normality is preserved under closed continuous surjections. Many researchers tried to weaken the condition "closed" in this theorem. In Long and Herrington (1978), used almost closedness due to Singal and Singal (1968). Malghan in 1982, used g-closedness. Gsesnwooo and Reilly (1986) used a closedness due to Mashhour et al. (1982).

The notion homeomorphism plays a very important role in topology. By definition, a homeomorphism between two topological spaces X and Y is a bijective map f: X→Y when both f and f<sup>-1</sup> are continuous. It is well known that as Janich in 1980 says correctly: homeomorphisms play the same role in topology that linear isomorphisms play in linear algebra or that biholomorphic maps play in function theory or group isomorphisms in group theory or isometries in Riemannian geometry. In the course of generalizations of the notion of homeomorphism, Maki *et al.* (1991)

introduced g-homeomorphisms and gc-homeomorphisms in topological spaces. Recently, Devi *et al.* (1995) studied semi-generalized homeomorphisms and generalized semi homeomorphisms.

### PRELIMINARIES

Throughout this study  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \sigma)$  represent topological spaces on which no separation axioms are assumed unless otherwise mentioned. For a subset A of a space  $(X, \tau)$ , cl(A), int(A) and  $A^c$  denote the closure of A, the interior of A and the complement of A in X, respectively.

**Definition 1:** A subset A of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called:

- A preopen set if A⊆int(cl(A)) and pre-closed set if cl(int(A))⊆A (Mashhour et al., 1982)
- A semiopen set if A⊆cl(int(A)) and semi closed set if int(cl(A))⊆A (Levine, 1963)
- An α-open set if A⊆int(cl(int(A))) and an α-closed set if cl(int(cl(A)))⊆A (Njastad, 1965)
- A semi-preopen set (β open set) if A⊆cl(int(cl(A)))
   and semi-preclosed set if int(cl(int(A)))⊆A
   (Andrijevic, 1986)
- An closed set if int(cl(A))⊆U, whenever A⊆U and U is aopen (Mathew and Parimelazhagan, 2014)

The complement of  $\alpha^{m}$ -closed set is called an  $\alpha^{m}$ -open set.

**Definition 2:** A function  $f:(X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is called:

• An  $\alpha^m$ -continuous if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -closed in  $(X, \tau)$  for every closed set V of  $(Y, \sigma)$ 

- An α<sup>m</sup>-irresolute if f<sup>-1</sup> (V) is α<sup>m</sup>-closed in (X, τ) for every α<sup>m</sup>-closed set V of (Y, σ)
- An α-irresolute if f<sup>-1</sup> (V) is aclosed in (X, τ) for every aclosed set V of (Y, σ) (Njastad, 1965)

### On a<sup>m</sup>-HOMEOMORPHISMS

**Definition:** A function  $f: (X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma_2)$  is said to be an  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphism if both f and  $f^{-1}$  are  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute. It is denoted that family of all  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphisms of a topological space  $(X, \tau_v)$  onto itself by  $\alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1)$ .

**Proposition:** Let  $f:(X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Y, \tau_2)$  and  $g:(Y, \tau_2) \rightarrow (Z, \tau_3)$  are  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphisms, then their composition  $g \circ f: (X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Z, \tau_3)$  is also  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphism.

**Proof:** Let U be an  $\alpha^m$ -open set in  $(Z, \tau_3)$ . Since, g is  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute,  $g^{-1}(U)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -open in  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . Since, f is  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute,  $f^{-1}(g^{-1}(V)) = (g \circ f)^{-1}(V)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -open set in  $(X, \tau_1)$ . Therefore,  $g \circ f$  is  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute.

Also, for an  $\alpha^m$ -open set G in  $(X, \tau_1)$  and has  $(g \circ f)$  (G) = g(f(G)) = g(W), where, W = f(G). By hypothesis, f(G) is  $\alpha^m$ -open in  $(Y, \tau_2)$  and so again by hypothesis, g(f(G)) is an  $\alpha^m$ -open set in  $(Z, \tau_3)$ . That is  $(g \circ f)(G)$  is an  $\alpha^m$ -open set in  $(Z, \tau_3)$  and therefore  $(g \circ f)^{-1}$  is  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute. Also,  $g \circ f$  is a bijection. Hence,  $g \circ f$  is  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphism.

**Theorem 1:** The set  $a^m$ - $h(X,\tau_1)$  is a group under the composition of maps.

**Proof:** Define a binary operation \*: $\alpha^m$ -h(X,  $\tau_1$ )× $\alpha^m$ -h (X,  $\tau_1$ )  $\rightarrow \alpha^m$ -h(X,  $\tau_1$ ) by f\*g = gof for all f,  $g \in \alpha^m$ -h(X,  $\tau_1$ ) and  $\circ$  is the usual operation of composition of maps  $g \circ f \in \alpha^m$ -h(X,  $\tau_1$ ).

It is known that the composition of maps is associative and the identity map I:  $(X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (X, \tau_1)$  belonging to  $\alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1)$  serves as the identity element. If  $f \in \alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1)$ , then  $f^{-1} \in \alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1)$  such that  $f \circ f^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ f = I$  and so inverse exists for each element of  $\alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1)$ . Therefore,  $(\alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1), \circ)$  is a group under the operation of composition of maps.

**Theorem 2:** Let  $f: (X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Y, \tau_2)$  be an  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphism. Then f induces an isomorphism from the group  $\alpha^m$ -h $(X, \tau_1)$  onto the group  $\tau^m$ -h $(Y, \tau_2)$ 

 $\begin{array}{lllll} \textbf{Proof:} & \textbf{Using} & \textbf{the map } f & \textbf{is defined a map } \Psi_f \cdot \\ \alpha^m\text{-}h(X,\ \tau_1) \!\!\to\! \alpha^m\text{-}h(Y,\ \tau_2) & \textbf{by } \Psi_f(h) = f \!\!\circ\! h \!\!\circ\! f^{-1} & \textbf{for every} \\ h \!\!\in\! \alpha^m\text{-}h(X,\ \tau_1). & \textbf{Then, } \Psi_f & \textbf{is a bijection. Further, for all } \\ h_1,\ h_2 \!\!\in\! \alpha^m\text{-}h(X,\ \tau_1),\ \Psi_f(h_1 \!\!\circ\! h_2) = f \!\!\circ\! (h_1 \!\!\circ\! h_2) \!\!\circ\! f^{-1} = (f \!\!\circ\! h_1 \!\!\circ\! f^{-1}) \!\!\circ\! \\ (f \!\!\circ\! h_2 \!\!\circ\! f^{-1}) & = \Psi_f(h_1) \!\!\circ\! \Psi_f(h_2). & \textbf{Therefore, } \Psi_f & \textbf{is a} \\ homeomorphism & \textbf{and so, it is an isomorphism} \\ & \textbf{induced by } f. \end{array}$ 

### ON α<sup>m</sup>-CONNECTEDNESS

**Definition:** A topological space  $(X, \tau_1)$  is said to be  $\alpha^m$  connected if X cannot be expressed as a disjoint union of two non-empty  $\alpha^m$ -open sets. A subset of X is  $\alpha^m$ -connected if it is  $\alpha^m$ -connected as a subspace.

**Theorem:** For a topological space  $(X, \hat{o}_1)$ , the following are equivalent:

- $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected
- (X, τ<sub>1</sub>) and φ are the only subsets of (X, τ<sub>1</sub>) which are both α<sup>m</sup>open and α<sup>m</sup>-closed
- Each α<sup>m</sup> continuous map of (X, τ<sub>1</sub>) into a discrete space (Y, τ<sub>2</sub>) with at least two points is constant map

**Proof (a)** $\rightarrow$ **(b):** Suppose  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected. Let S be a proper subset which is both  $\alpha^m$ - open and  $\alpha^m$ - closed in  $(X, \tau_1)$ . Its complement X/S is also  $\alpha^m$ -open and  $\alpha^m$ -closed.  $X = S \cup (X/S)$ , a disjoint union of two non empty  $\alpha^m$ -open sets which is contradicts (a). Therefore,  $S = \Phi$  or X.

**(b)=(a):** Suppose that  $X = A \cup B$  where, A and B are disjoint non empty  $\alpha^m$ -open subsets of  $(X, \tau_1)$ . Then, A is both  $\alpha^m$ -open and  $\alpha^m$ -closed. By assumption  $A = \Phi$  or X. Therefore X is  $\alpha^m$ -connected.

**(b)=(c):** Let  $f:(X, \tau_1) \to (Y, \tau_2)$  be an  $\alpha^m$ -continuous map. Then  $(X, \tau_1)$  is covered by  $\alpha^m$ -open and  $\alpha^m$ -closed covering  $\{f^{-1}(y):y \in Y\}$ . By assumption  $f^{-1}(y) = \Phi$  or X for each  $y \in Y$ . If  $f^{-1}(y) = \Phi$  for all  $y \in Y$ , then f fails to be a map. Then, there exists only one point  $y \in Y$  such that  $f^{-1}(y) \neq \Phi$  and hence  $f^{-1}(y) = X$ . This shows that f is a constant map.

(c)  $\rightarrow$  (b): Let S be both  $\alpha^m$ -open and  $\alpha^m$ -closed in X. Suppose  $S \neq \Phi$  Let  $f:(X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Y, \tau_2)$  be an  $\alpha^m$ -continuous map defined by f(S) = y and  $f(S^c) = \{w\}$  for some distinct points y and win  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . By assumption f is a constant map. Therefore, it has S = X.

**Theorem 1:** Every  $\alpha^m$ -connected space is connected.

**Proof:** Let  $(X, \tau_1)$  be  $\alpha^m$ -connected. In case X is not connected. Then there exists a proper non-empty subset B of  $(X, \tau_1)$  which is both open and closed in  $(X, \tau_1)$ . Since, every closed set is  $\alpha^m$ -closed, B is a proper non empty subset of  $(X, \tau_1)$  which is both  $\alpha^m$ -open and  $\alpha^m$ -closed in  $(X, \tau_1)$ ,  $(X, \tau_1)$  is not  $\alpha^m$ -connected. This proves the theorem.

**Theorem 2:** If  $f:(X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Y, \tau_2)$  is an  $\alpha^m$ -continuous and X is  $\alpha^m$ -connected, then  $(Y, \tau_2)$  is connected.

**Proof:** In case that  $(Y, \tau_2)$  is not connected. Let  $Y = A \cup B$  where, A and B are disjoint non-empty open set in  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . Since, f is  $\alpha^m$ -continuous and onto,  $X = f^{-1}(A) \cup f^{-1}(B)$  where  $f^{-1}(A)$  and  $f^{-1}(B)$  are disjoint non-empty  $\alpha^m$ -open sets in  $(X, \tau_1)$ . This contradicts the fact that  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected. Hence, Y is connected.

**Theorem 3:** If f:  $(X, \tau_1) \rightarrow (Y, \tau_2)$  is an  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute and  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected, then  $(Y, \tau_2)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected.

**Proof:** In case that  $(Y, \tau_2)$  is not  $\alpha^m$ -connected. Let  $Y = A \cup B$  where A and B are disjoint non-empty  $\alpha^m$ -open sets in  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . Since, f is  $\alpha^m$ -irresolute and onto,  $X = f^{-1}(A) \cup f^{-1}(B)$  where  $f^{-1}(A)$  and  $f^{-1}(B)$  are disjoint non-empty  $\alpha^m$ -open sets in  $(X, \tau_1)$ . This contradicts the fact that  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected. Hence  $(Y, \tau_2)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected.

**Theorem 4:** Perhaps that  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $T \alpha^m$ -space then  $(X, \tau_1)$  is connected if and only if it is  $\alpha^m$ -connected.

**Proof:** In case that  $(X, \tau_1)$  is connected. Then  $(X, \tau_1)$  cannot be expressed as dis-joint union of two non-empty proper subsets of  $(X, \tau_1)$ . If  $(X, \tau_1)$  is not a  $\alpha^m$ -connected space. Let A and B be any two  $\alpha^m$ -open subsets of  $(X, \tau_1)$  such that  $Y = A \cup B$ , where  $A \cap B = \Phi$  and  $A \subset X$ ,  $B \subset X$ . Since,  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $T\alpha^m$ -space and A, B are  $\alpha^m$ -open. A, B are open subsets of  $(X, \tau_1)$ , which contradicts that  $(X, \tau_1)$  is connected. Therefore  $(X, \tau_1)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected. onversely, every open set is  $\alpha$ -open. Therefore, every  $\alpha^m$ -connected space is connected.

**Theorem 5:** If the  $\alpha^m$ -open sets C and D form a separation of  $(X, \tau_1)$  and if  $(Y, \tau_2)$  is  $\alpha^m$ -connected subspace of  $(X, \tau_1)$ , then  $(Y, \tau_2)$  lies entirely within C or D.

**Proof:** Since, C and D are both  $\alpha^m$ -open in  $(X, \tau_1)$ , the sets  $C \cap Y$  and  $D \cap Y$  are  $\alpha^m$ -open in  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . These two sets are disjoint and their union is  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . If they were both non-empty, they would constitute a separation of  $(Y, \tau_2)$ . Therefore, one of them is empty. Hence  $(Y, \tau_2)$  must lie entirely in C or in D.

**Theorem 6:** Let A be an  $\alpha^m$ -connected subspace of  $(X, \tau_1)$ . If  $A \subset B \subset C\alpha^m(A)$  then B is also  $\alpha^m$ -connected.

**Proof:** Let A be  $\alpha^m$ -connected and let  $A \subset B \subset C\alpha^m(A)$ . Perhaps that  $B = C \cup D$  is a separation of B by  $\alpha^m$ -open sets. A must lie entirely in C or in D. In case that  $A \subset C$ , then  $C\alpha^m(A) \subset C\alpha^m(C)$ . Since,  $C\alpha^m(C)$  and D are disjoint, B cannot intersect D. This contradicts the fact that D is non-empty subset of B. So,  $D = \Phi$  which implies B is  $\alpha^m$ -connected.

### CONCLUSION

It is recently introduced that the notion of  $\alpha^m$ -closed sets which are strictly weaker than aclosed sets.  $\alpha^m$ -closed sets are used to define a new class of homeomorphisms called  $\alpha^m$ -homeomorphisms. Also, introduce  $\alpha^m$ -connectedness in topological spaces. The purpose of the present study is to improve characterizations and properties.

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