

Weakly b-Continuous Functions

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Abstract: In 1961, Levine [7] introduced weakly continuous functions and in 1987, Noiri [12] introduced and studied weakly θ -continuous functions. Later on Ekici [5], in 2008, introduced and studied BR-continuous and hence weakly BR-continuous functions in a similar fashion, by means of b-regular and b-open [4] sets. This prompted us to introduce and study weakly b-continuous by making use of b-open sets. We studied several characterizations of weakly b-continuous functions. Some basic properties including restrictions and compositions of such functions have also been studied.

Keywords: Weakly continuous functions, weakly α -continuous functions, Weakly BR-continuous functions, Weakly b-continuous and b-open sets.

1. Introduction

Levine [7] introduced the concept of a weakly continuous function. In 2008 Ekici [5] has introduced and studied the class of functions namely BR-continuous functions and weakly BR-continuous functions by making use of b-regular sets. He obtained some characterizations of weakly BR-continuous functions and established relationships among such functions and several other existing functions. In a similar manner here our purpose is to introduce and study generalizations in form of new classes of functions namely weakly b-continuous. The author [6] has already introduced and studied b-continuous functions.

Let (X, τ) and (Y, σ) (or X and Y) denote topological spaces. For a subset A of a space X , the closure A and the interior of A are denoted by $\text{cl}(A)$ and $\text{int}(A)$ respectively. A subset A is said to be **regular open** (resp. **regular closed**) if $A = \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$ (resp. $A = \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$). A subset A is said to be **preopen** [9] (resp. **semi open** [8], **b-open** [4], **α -open** [11], **semi preopen** [3] or **β -open** [1]) if $A \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$ (resp. $A \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$, $A \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(A)) \cup \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$, $A \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(A)))$, $A \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(A)))$). A subset G of X is called b-neighbourhood of $x \in X$ if there exists a b-open set B containing x such that $B \subset G$.

A point $x \in X$ is said to be a **θ -cluster point** of A [14] if $A \cap \text{cl}(U) \neq \emptyset$ for every open set U containing x . The set of all θ -cluster points of A is called **θ -closure** of A and is denoted by $\theta\text{-cl}(A)$. A subset A is called **θ -closed** if $\theta\text{-cl}(A) = A$ [14]. The complement of a θ -closed set is called **θ -open** set. The complement of a b-open (resp. preopen, semi open, α -open, semi preopen) set is called **b-closed** (resp. **preclosed**, **semi closed**, **α -closed**, **semi preclosed**). The intersection of all b-closed (resp. preclosed, semi closed, α -closed, semi preclosed) sets of X containing A is called **b-closure** (resp. **preclosure**, **semi closure**, **α -closure**, **semi preclosure**) of A and denoted by $\text{b-cl}(A)$ (resp. $\text{p-cl}(A)$, $\text{s-cl}(A)$, $\alpha\text{-cl}(A)$, $\text{sp-cl}(A)$). The union of all b-open (resp. preopen, semi open, α -open, semi preopen) sets of X contained in A is called **b-interior** (resp. **preinterior**, **semi interior**, **α -interior**, **semi preinterior**) of A and denoted by $\text{b-int}(A)$ (resp. $\text{p-int}(A)$, $\text{s-int}(A)$, $\alpha\text{-int}(A)$, $\text{sp-int}(A)$). A subset A is said to be **b-regular** [4] if it is b-open as well as b-closed. The family of all b-open (resp. b-regular) sets of X is denoted by $\text{BO}(X)$ (resp. $\text{BR}(X)$). A point $x \in X$ is called **b- θ -cluster point** [13]

of a subset A of X if $\text{b-cl}(B) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ for every b-open set B containing x . The set of all b- θ -cluster points of A is called **b- θ -closure** of A and is denoted by **b- θ -cl(A)**. A subset A of X is said to be **b- θ -closed** if $A = \text{b-}\theta\text{-cl}(A)$. The complement of a b- θ -closed set is said to be **b- θ -open**. A point $x \in X$ is called **b- θ -interior** point of $A \subset X$ if there exists a b-regular set U containing x such that $U \subset A$ and is denoted by $x \in \text{b-}\theta\text{-int}(A)$.

2. Definitions and Characterizations

Definition 2.1:- A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be **b-continuous** [6] (resp. **strongly θ -b-continuous** [14]) if for each $x \in X$ and each open set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists a b-open set U containing x such that $f(U) \subset V$ (resp. $f(\text{b-cl}(U)) \subset V$).

Definition 2.2:- A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be **weakly continuous** [7] (resp. **weakly α -continuous** [12]) if for each $x \in X$ and each open set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists an open (resp. α -open) set U containing x such that $f(U) \subset \text{cl}(V)$.

Definition 2.3:- A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be **weakly b-continuous** if for each $x \in X$ and each open set V of Y containing $f(x)$, there exists a b-open set U containing x such that $f(U) \subset \text{cl}(V)$.

Theorem 2.4:- For a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$, the following are equivalent :

- f is weakly b-continuous at $x \in X$.
- for each neighbourhood V of $f(x)$, there exists a b-open set U containing x (or b-neighbourhood U of x) such that $f(U) \subset \text{cl}(V)$.
- $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$ for every subset V of Y .
- $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(F))) \subset f^{-1}(F)$ for every regular closed subset F of Y .
- $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$ for every open set V of Y .
- $f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$ for every open set V of Y .
- $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$ for each preopen set of Y .
- $f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$ for each preopen set V of Y .

Proof :- (a) \Leftrightarrow (b) obvious by definition.

(a) \Rightarrow (c) Let $V \subset Y$ and $x \in X - f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$. Then $f(x) \in Y - \text{cl}(V)$ and there exists an open set U containing $f(x)$, such that $U \cap V = \emptyset$. We have $\text{cl}(U) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(V)) = \emptyset$. Since f is weakly b-

continuous, so, there exists a b-open set W containing x such that $f(W) \subset \text{cl}(U)$. Then $W \cap f^{-1}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V))) = \emptyset$ and $x \in X - \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V))))$. Hence $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$.

(c) \Rightarrow (d) Let F be any regular closed set in Y . Then $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(F))) = \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(F)))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(F))) = f^{-1}(F)$.

(d) \Rightarrow (e) Let V be an open subset of Y . Since $\text{cl}(V)$ is regular closed in Y , then $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset \text{b-cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$.

(e) \Rightarrow (f) Let V be any open set in Y . Since $Y - \text{cl}(V)$ is open in Y , then $X - \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))) \subset \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(Y - \text{cl}(V))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(Y - \text{cl}(V))) \subset X - f^{-1}(V)$. Hence $f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$.

(f) \Rightarrow (a) Let $x \in X$ and V be any open subset of Y containing $f(x)$, then $x \in f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$. Take $W = \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$. Thus $f(W) \subset \text{cl}(V)$ and hence f is weakly b-continuous at $x \in X$.

(a) \Rightarrow (g) Let V be any preopen set in Y and $x \in X - f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$. There exists an open set G containing $f(x)$, such that $G \cap V = \emptyset$. We have, $\text{cl}(G \cap V) = \emptyset$. Since V is preopen, then $V \cap \text{cl}(G) \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(V)) \cap \text{cl}(G) \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V)) \cap G) \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V))) \cap G \subset \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(V \cap G))) \subset \text{cl}(V \cap G) = \emptyset$. Since f is weakly b-continuous and G is an open set containing $f(x)$, there exists a b-open set W in X containing x such that $f(W) \subset \text{cl}(G)$. Then $f(W) \cap V = \emptyset$ and $W \cap f^{-1}(V) = \emptyset$. This implies that $x \in X - \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V))$ and thus $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))$.

(g) \Rightarrow (h) Let V be any preopen set. Since $Y - \text{cl}(V)$ is open in Y , then $X - \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V))) = \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(Y - \text{cl}(V))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(Y - \text{cl}(V))) \subset X - f^{-1}(V)$. This shows that $f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$.

(h) \Rightarrow (a) Let $x \in X$ and V be any open set in Y containing $f(x)$. We have $x \in f^{-1}(V) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$. Take $W = \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(V)))$. Then $f(W) \subset \text{cl}(V)$ and hence f is weakly b-continuous at x in X .

Theorem 2.5:- For a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ the following are equivalent :

- (1) f is weakly b-continuous at $x \in X$.
- (2) $x \in \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(U)))$ for each neighbourhood U of $f(x)$.

Proof:- (1) \Rightarrow (2) Let U be any neighbourhood of $f(x)$. Then there exists a b-open G containing x such that $f(G) \subset \text{cl}(U)$. Since $G \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(U))$ and G is b-open then $x \in G \subset \text{b-int}(G) \subset \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(U)))$.

(2) \Rightarrow (1) Let $x \in \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(U)))$ for each neighbourhood U of $f(x)$. Then $V = \text{b-int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(U)))$. This implies that $f(V) \subset \text{cl}(U)$ and V is b-open. Hence f is weakly b-continuous at $x \in X$.

Theorem 2.6:- If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a weakly b-continuous function and Y is Hausdorff, then f has b-closed point inverses.

Proof:- Let $y \in Y$ and $x \in X$ such that $f(x) \neq y$. Since Y is Hausdorff, there exist disjoint open sets G and H such that $f(x) \in G$ and $y \in H$. Also, $G \cap H = \emptyset$, implies $\text{cl}(G) \cap H = \emptyset$. We have $y \notin \text{cl}(G)$. Since f is weakly b-continuous, so, there exists a b-open set U containing x such that $f(U) \subset \text{cl}(G)$. Assume that U is not contained in $\{x \in X : f(x) = y\}$. If possible for some $u \in U$, $f(u) = y$, then $y = f(u) \in \text{cl}(G)$. This contradicts $\text{cl}(G) \cap H = \emptyset$. Hence $U \subset \{x \in X : f(x) \neq y\}$ and U is b-open in X . Thus, set $\{x \in X : f(x) \neq y\}$ is b-open in X , equivalently, $f^{-1}\{y\} = \{x \in X : f(x) = y\}$ is b-closed in X .

Theorem 2.7:- For a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$, the following are equivalent :

- (a) f is weakly b-continuous.
- (b) $f(\text{b-cl}(G)) \subset \theta\text{-cl}(f(G))$ for each subset G of X .
- (c) $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(H)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(H))$ for each subset H of Y .
- (d) $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\theta\text{-cl}(H)))) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(H))$ for every subset H of Y .

Proof:- (a) \Rightarrow (b) Let $G \subset X$, $x \in \text{b-cl}(G)$ and U be any open set in Y containing $f(x)$. There exists a b-open W containing x such that $f(W) \subset \text{cl}(U)$. Since, $x \in \text{b-cl}(G)$, then $W \cap G = \emptyset$. This implies that $\emptyset \neq f(W) \cap f(G) \subset \text{cl}(U) \cap f(G)$ and $f(x) \in \theta\text{-cl}(f(G))$. Thus, $f(\text{b-cl}(G)) \subset \theta\text{-cl}(f(G))$.

(b) \Rightarrow (c) Let $H \subset Y$. Then $f(\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(H))) \subset \theta\text{-cl}(H)$ and hence $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(H)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(H))$.

(c) \Rightarrow (d) Let $H \subset Y$. Since $\theta\text{-cl}(H)$ is closed in Y , then $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\theta\text{-cl}(H)))) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(\text{int}(\theta\text{-cl}(H)))) = f^{-1}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(\theta\text{-cl}(H)))) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(H))$.

(d) \Rightarrow (a) Let H be any open set of Y . We have $H \subset \text{int}(\text{cl}(H)) = \text{int}(\theta\text{-cl}(H))$.

Thus, $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(H)) \subset \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{int}(\theta\text{-cl}(H)))) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(H)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(H))$. This implies from Theorem 2.4(e) that f is weakly b-continuous.

Theorem 2.8:- If $f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(V))$ is b-closed in X for every subset V of Y , then f is weakly b-continuous.

Proof:- Let $V \subset Y$. Since $f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(V))$ is b-closed in X , then $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset \text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(V))) = f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(V))$. This implies from above Theorem 2.7 that f is weakly b-continuous.

Theorem 2.9:- If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a function which is weakly b-continuous, then $f^{-1}(V)$ is b-closed in X for every θ -closed subset V of Y .

Proof:- Follows directly from Theorem 2.7. Since f is weakly b-continuous, so, $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta\text{-cl}(V)) = f^{-1}(V)$ for a θ -closed set V in Y . This implies that $\text{b-cl}(f^{-1}(V)) = f^{-1}(V)$. Thus, $f^{-1}(V)$ is b-closed if V is θ -closed.

Corollary 2.10:- Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a weakly b-continuous function, then $f^{-1}(V)$ is b-open in X for every θ -open subset V of Y .

Theorem 2.11:- Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. If Y is regular then following are equivalent :

- (a) f is weakly b-continuous.
- (b) f is b-continuous.
- (c) f is strongly θ -b-continuous if and only if f is continuous [13].

Proof:- Let $x \in X$ and V be an open set of Y containing $f(x)$. Since Y is regular, then there exists an open set H of Y containing $f(x)$ such that $H \subset \text{cl}(H) \subset V$. Since f is weakly b-continuous, there exists a b-open set U of X containing x such that $f(U) \subset \text{cl}(H) \subset V$. Thus f is b-continuous. Converse is obvious.

Lemma 2.12 [4]:- The intersection of an α -open set and a b-open set is a b-open set.

Lemma 2.13 [10]:- If A is α -open in X , then $\text{BO}(A) = \text{BO}(X) \cap A$.

Lemma 2.14 [2]:- If $A \subset B \subset X$, $B \in \text{BO}(X)$ and $A \in \text{BO}(B)$, then $A \in \text{BO}(X)$.

Theorem 2.15:- Let $\{A_i : i \in I\}$ be an α -open cover of a space X and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function, then following are equivalent :

- (a) f is weakly b-continuous.

(b) the restriction $f|_{A_i} : A_i \rightarrow Y$ is weakly b -continuous for each $i \in I$.

Proof:- (a) \Rightarrow (b) Let $i \in I$ and A_i be an α -open set in X . Let $x \in A_i$ and V be an open set in Y containing $f|_{A_i}(x) = f(x)$. Since f is weakly b -continuous, so, there exists a b -open set G containing x such that $f(G) \subset \text{cl}(V)$. Moreover $G \cap A_i$ is b -open in A_i containing x and $f|_{A_i}(G \cap A_i) = f(G \cap A_i) \subset f(G) \subset \text{cl}(V)$. Hence $f|_{A_i}$ is weakly b -continuous.

(b) \Rightarrow (a) Let $x \in X$ and V be an open set in Y containing $f(x)$. There exists $i \in I$, such that $x \in A_i$. Since $f|_{A_i} : A_i \rightarrow Y$ is weakly b -continuous, there exists a b -open set G in A_i containing x such that $f|_{A_i}(G) \subset \text{cl}(V)$. Since each A_i is α -open in X then G is b -open in X containing x and $f(G) \subset \text{cl}(V)$. Hence f is weakly b -continuous.

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