

Research Article Extension Of Semi-Continuous Functions

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Abstract: An attempt is made to analyse the extension of semi-continuous function defined on a closed set.

Key words: closed set, semi-continuous function, lower semi-continuous, upper semi-continuous function.

A function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to be lower semi-continuous if for each real b , $\{x / f(x) \leq b\}$ is closed. Similarly for $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is upper semi-continuous if $\{x / f(x) \geq b\}$ is closed for every real b . In this article, an attempt is made to analyse the extensions for semi-continuous functions defined on a closed set.

Let X be an uncountable set endowed with the co-countable topology. Let A be an open subset of X . Then $A = \Phi$ or $A = X$ or $A = B^c$ for some countable subset B of X .

Lemma 1

Let X be a uncountable set endowed with co-countable topology. If f is *lsc* on X , then $f(X)$ has maximum.

Proof

Suppose f is not bounded above.

Then $f^{-1}(n, \infty) \neq \Phi$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, which implies that, $f^{-1}(-\infty, n] \neq \Phi$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Since f is *lsc*, $f^{-1}(n, \infty)$ is open for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(-\infty, n]$ is closed for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Since X is the only uncountable closed set, $f^{-1}(-\infty, n]$ is countable for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Clearly $X = f^{-1}(-\infty, \infty) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} f^{-1}(-\infty, n]$.

Since countable union of countable set is countable set. X is countable, which is a contradiction to the assumption. Therefore f is a bounded above.

Hence, $f(X)$ has maximum.

Example 1

The function f given by $f(n) = n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ on the closed subset \mathbb{N} of \mathbb{R} endowed with the co-countable topology, is *lsc* and it has no *lsc* extension.

Proof

In co-countable topology, open sets are Φ and all complements of countable sets.

Now, \mathbb{N} is countable.

Therefore $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{N}$ is open.

Clearly, the function $f = \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(n) = n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is *lsc*.

Suppose $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Clearly F is not *lsc*, because we cannot find out countable closed subset in \mathbb{R} .

Remarks

Hereafter, A stands for the closed subset of X .

Theorem 1

Let f be an *lsc* function on A and suppose it is upper bounded on the boundary of A . Then, f has an *lsc* extension F to X . which is upper bounded on $X - A$, such that $F(X) \subset f(A)$.

Proof

Let $f = A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the given *lsc* function such that f is upper bounded on the boundary of A .

Let $M = \text{Sup} \{f(b)\}$

Define the function $F = X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as follows:

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$$F(X) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } x \in A, \\ M & \text{if } x \notin x - A \end{cases}$$

We will to prove that F is a *lsc* function on X.

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Case (i) Suppose $a < M$,

Then $F^{-1}((-\infty, a]) = f^{-1}((-\infty, a])$ is closed in A, A is closed in X.

Therefore F is *lsc* on X.

Case (ii) Suppose $a \geq M$,

Then $F^{-1}((-\infty, a]) = f^{-1}((-\infty, a]) \cup (X - A)$ is closed.

Since the boundary $b(X - A)$ of $X - A$ is $b(A)$ which is contained in $f^{-1}((-\infty, a])$, which implies that F is *lsc* on X.

Clearly, since A is closed, $b(A) \subset A$.

Therefore $M \in \text{cl}(f(A))$, which implies that $f(X) \subset \text{cl}(f(A))$.

Also $F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is upper bounded on $X - A$.

The converse of the Theorem 1 is false.

Example 2

The *lsc* function F on \mathbb{R} given by $F(X) = n$ if $X \in (n, n+1)$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, is an extension of the *lsc* function f defined on the set of integers \mathbb{Z} given by $f(n) = n$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. The boundary $b(\mathbb{Z})$ of \mathbb{Z} is \mathbb{Z} and $F(\mathbb{R}) \subset F(\mathbb{Z})$, but f has no upper bound.

Example 3

Suppose A is regularly closed (i.e. $A = \overline{A^\circ}$ and f is *lsc* on X. If $f(A^\circ)$ is upper bounded, then $f(b(A))$ is upper bounded.

Proof

Let A be regularly closed and f be *lsc* on X. Suppose $f(b(A))$ is has no upper bounded.

Since $f(A^\circ)$ is upper bounded, there exists a real number K such that $f(A^\circ) < K$.

By assumption, $f(b(A))$ has an upper bound.

Then, there exists $Y \in b(A)$ with $f(Y) > K$.

Let $M \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $K < M < f(Y)$.

Then $b(A)$ is not contained in the closed set $f^{-1}((-\infty, M])$ which is a contradiction.

Hence, $f(b(A))$ is upper bounded.

The following example shows that the condition ‘regular closedness’ of A, cannot be replaced.

Example 4

Consider $A = [0, 1] \cup \mathbb{N}$. A is a closed but not a regularly closed subset of \mathbb{R} . If $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is the identity function, then $f(b(A)) = f(\mathbb{N})$ has no upper bound. But $f(A)$ is bounded.

Theorem 2

Suppose A is regularly closed and f is *lsc* on A. If f has an *lsc* extension F to X which is upper bounded on $X - A$, then f is upper bounded on $b(A)$.

Proof

Let f be the given *lsc* on A and A be regularly closed.

Suppose $F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is *lsc* which is bounded on $X - A$.

To show that f is upper bounded on $b(A)$.

Suppose $F(X - A)$ has an upper bound.

Let $C = \overline{X - A}$.

Then C is closed such that $C^\circ = X - A$ and so $\overline{C^\circ} = \overline{X - A} = C$, which implies that C is regularly closed.

Now $b(C) = b(\overline{X - A}) = b(X - A) = b(A)$.

Hence, $b(C) = b(C^\circ) = b(A)$.

By assumption, $F(C^\circ)$ is upper bounded.

By Lemma, $F(b(C))$ is upper bounded.

Therefore $F(b(A))$ is upper bounded.

Hence, f is upper bounded on $b(A)$.

Theorem 3

Let X be a normal space and C a dense subset of the closed set A . Let f be an *lsc* function on A . Suppose $f|_C$ is continuous and suppose it admits a continuous extension g to A . Then, f has an *lsc* extension F to X which is continuous in the points of $X - A$.

Proof

Let $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the given *lsc* function where A is closed.

Suppose $f|_C$ admits a continuous extension g to A .

Then by Tietze's extension theorem, we can consider the continuous extension G of g to X .

Now, define $F : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$F(X) = \begin{cases} G(X) & \text{if } X \in X - A \\ f(X) & \text{if } X \in A \end{cases}$$

To show that F is *lsc* on X .

By Theorem 1, g is the lower regulated function of f relative to C and so, for each X in C .

$$f(X) \leq g(X)$$

Let $X \in A$ and $\epsilon > 0$

Since f is *lsc* on A , there exists a neighbourhood V of X such that $f(z) > f(X) - \epsilon$, for each $z \in V \cap A$.

Also G is continuous then there exists a neighbourhood T of X with $G(Z) > g(X) - \epsilon$, for each $z \in T$.

Let $H = T \cap V$.

Then H is a neighbourhood of X .

Case (i)

If $z \in A$ then $Z \in V \cap A$.

Therefore by (1), $F(z) = f(z) > f(X) - \epsilon$.

Case (ii)

If $Z \in X - A$.

Then $F(Z) = G(Z) > g(X) - \epsilon$

$$\geq f(X) - \epsilon.$$

Therefore $F(z) = f(z) > f(X) - \epsilon$, for each $z \in H$.

Thus in each case $F(z) > f(X) - \epsilon$ for each $X \in H$.

Hence, F is *lsc* on A

(a)

Now, Let $X \in X - A$ and $\epsilon > 0$

Then there exists a neighbourhood U of X contained in $X - A$.

Such that $F(Z) \in (G(X) - \epsilon, G(X) + \epsilon)$ for each $Z \in U$.

Therefore F is continuous at $X \in X - A$.

Since X is arbitrary, F is continuous on $X - A$.

This implies that F is *lsc* on $X - A$

(b)

From (a) and (b), F is *lsc* on X .

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