



## Z-OPEN SETS AND Z-CONTINUITY IN TOPOLOGICAL SPACES

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## ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to introduce and study the notion of Z-open sets and Z-continuity. Some characterizations of these notions are presented. Also, some topological operations such as: Z-boundary, Z-exterior, Z-limit... etc, are introduced.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In 1982, Mashhour, Abd EL-Monsef and EL-Deeb [17] introduced preopen sets and pre-continuous mappings in topological spaces. Also, in 1996 Andrijević introduced the notion b-open sets [3]. In 1997, Park, Lee and Son [14] have introduced and studied  $\delta$ -semiopen in topological spaces. Also, 2008, Ekici [6] introduced e-open sets and e-continuous map in topological spaces. The purpose of this paper is to introduce and study the notion of Z-open sets and Z-continuity. Some topological operations such as: Z-limit, Z-boundary and Z-exterior...atc are introduced. Also, some characterizations of these notions are presented.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

A subset A of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called regular open (resp. regular closed) [16] if  $A = \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$  (resp.  $A = \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$ ). The delta interior [17] of a subset A of X is the union of all regular open sets of X contained in A is denoted by  $\delta\text{-int}(A)$ . A subset A of a space X is called  $\delta$ -open if it is the union of regular open sets. The complement of  $\delta$ -open set is called  $\delta$ -closed. Alternatively, a set A of  $(X, \tau)$  is called  $\delta$ -closed [17] if  $A = \delta\text{-cl}(A)$ , where  $\delta\text{-cl}(A) = \{x \in X: A \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(U)) \neq \emptyset, U \in \tau \text{ and } x \in U\}$ . Throughout this paper  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \sigma)$  (simply X and Y) represent non-empty topological spaces on which no separation axioms are assumed, unless otherwise mentioned. For a subset A of a space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $\text{cl}(A)$ ,  $\text{int}(A)$  and  $X \setminus A$  denote the closure of A, the interior of A and the complement of A respectively. A subset A of a space  $(X, \tau)$  is called  $\alpha$ -open [7] (resp.  $\alpha$ -open [13],  $\delta$ -semiopen [14], semiopen [11],  $\delta$ -preopen [15], preopen [12], b-open [3] or  $\gamma$ -open [4] or sp-open [5], e-open [6],  $\beta$ -open [1] or semi-preopen [2],  $e^*$ -open [8] or  $\delta$ - $\beta$ -open [10]) if  $A \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)))$ , (resp.  $A \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(A)))$ ),  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(A)) \cup \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cup \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(A)))$ ,  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A)))$ ). The complement of a  $\delta$ -semiopen (resp. semiopen,  $\delta$ -preopen, preopen) set is called  $\delta$ -semi-closed (resp. semi-closed,  $\delta$ -pre-closed, pre-closed). The intersection of all  $\delta$ -semi-closed (resp. semi-closed,  $\delta$ -pre-closed, pre-closed) sets containing A is called the  $\delta$ -semi-closure (resp. semi-closure,  $\delta$ -pre-closure, pre-closure) of A and is denoted by  $\delta\text{-scl}(A)$  (resp.  $\text{scl}(A)$ ,  $\delta\text{-pcl}(A)$ ,  $\text{pcl}(A)$ ). The union of all  $\delta$ -semiopen (resp. semiopen,  $\delta$ -preopen, preopen) sets contained in A is called the  $\delta$ -semi-interior (resp. semi-interior,  $\delta$ -pre-interior, pre-interior) of A and is denoted by  $\delta\text{-sint}(A)$  (resp.  $\text{sint}(A)$ ,  $\delta\text{-pint}(A)$ ,  $\text{pint}(A)$ ). The family of all  $\delta$ -open (resp.  $\alpha$ -open,  $\alpha$ -open,  $\delta$ -semiopen, semiopen,  $\delta$ -preopen, preopen, b-open, e-open,  $\beta$ -open,  $e^*$ -open) is denoted by  $aO(X)$  (resp.  $\mathbf{a}O(X)$ ,  $\alpha O(X)$ ,  $\delta SO(X)$ ,  $SO(X)$ ,  $\delta PO(X)$ ,  $PO(X)$ ,  $BO(X)$ ,  $eO(X)$ ,  $\beta O(X)$ ,  $e^*O(X)$ ).

**Lemma: 2.1**[17]. Let A, B be two subsets of  $(X, \tau)$ . Then:

(1) A is  $\delta$ -open if and only if  $A = \delta\text{-int}(A)$ ,

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- (2)  $X \setminus (\delta\text{-int}(A)) = \delta\text{-cl}(X \setminus A)$  and  $\delta\text{-int}(X \setminus A) = X \setminus (\delta\text{-cl}(A))$ ,
- (3)  $\text{cl}(A) \subseteq \delta\text{-cl}(A)$  (resp.  $\delta\text{-int}(A) \subseteq \text{int}(A)$ ), for any subset A of X,
- (4)  $\delta\text{-cl}(A \cup B) = \delta\text{-cl}(A) \cup \delta\text{-cl}(B)$ ,  $\delta\text{-int}(A \cap B) = \delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B)$ .

**Proposition: 2.1.** Let A be a subset of a space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then:

- (1)  $\text{scl}(A) = A \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$ ,  $\text{sint}(A) = A \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$  [11],
- (2)  $\text{pcl}(A) = A \cup \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$ ,  $\text{pint}(A) = A \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$  [12],
- (3)  $\delta\text{-scl}(X \setminus A) = X \setminus \delta\text{-sint}(A)$ ,  $\delta\text{-scl}(A \cup B) \subseteq \delta\text{-scl}(A) \cup \delta\text{-scl}(B)$ [14],
- (4)  $\delta\text{-pcl}(X \setminus A) = X \setminus \delta\text{-pint}(A)$ ,  $\delta\text{-pcl}(A \cup B) \subseteq \delta\text{-pcl}(A) \cup \delta\text{-pcl}(B)$ [15].

**Lemma: 2.2**[14]. The following hold for a subset H of a space  $(X, \tau)$ .

- (1)  $\delta\text{-pcl}(H) = H \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(H))$  and  $\delta\text{-pint}(H) = H \cap \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(H))$ ,
- (2)  $\delta\text{-sint}(H) = H \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(H))$  and  $\delta\text{-scl}(H) = H \cup \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(H))$ .

**Lemma: 2.3.** [6] The following hold for a subset H of a space  $(X, \tau)$ .  $\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(H)) = \delta\text{-cl}(\delta\text{-int}(H))$  and  $\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(H)) = \delta\text{-int}(\delta\text{-cl}(H))$ ,

**Definition: 2.1.** A function  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is called precontinuous [12](resp.  $\delta$ -semicontinuous [9],  $\gamma$ -continuous[4], e-continuous [6]) if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is preopen (resp.  $\delta$ -semiopen,  $\gamma$ -open, e-open) for each  $V \in \sigma$ .

### 3. Z-OPEN SETS

**Definition: 3.1** A subset A of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be:

- (1) a Z-open set if  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$ ,
- (2) a Z-closed set if  $\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A)) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(A)) \subseteq A$ .

The family of all Z-open (resp. Z-closed) subsets of a space  $(X, \tau)$  will be as always denoted by  $ZO(X)$  (resp.  $ZC(X)$ ).

**Remark: 3.1** One may notice that

- (1) Every  $\delta$ -semiopen (resp. preopen) set is Z-open,
- (2) Every Z-open set is b-open (resp. e-open).

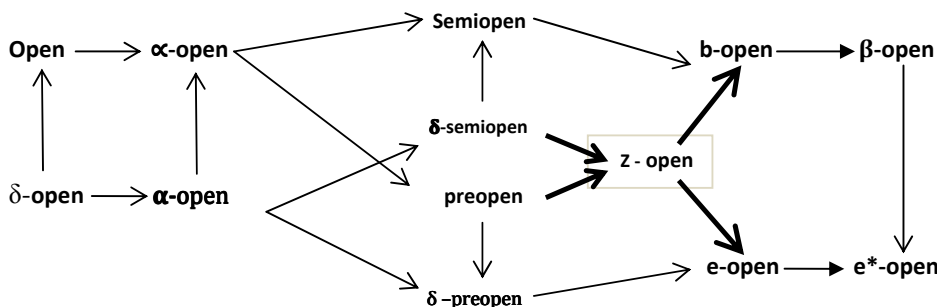
But the converse of the above are not necessarily true in general as shown by the following examples.

**Example: 3.1** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ , with topology  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ . Then:

- (1) A subset  $\{a\}$  of X is Z-open but not  $\delta$ -semiopen,
- (2) A subset  $\{a, d\}$  of X is b-open but not Z-open,
- (3) A subset  $\{b, c\}$  of X is e-open but not Z-open.

**Example: 3.2** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then  $\{b, c\}$  is a Z-open set but not preopen.

**Remark: 3.2** According to Definition 3.1 and Remark 3.1, the following diagram holds for a subset A of a space X:



**Theorem: 3.1** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. Then:

- (1) If  $A \in \delta O(X)$  and  $B \in ZO(X)$ , then  $A \cap B$  is Z-open,
- (2) If  $A \in \tau$  and  $B \in ZO(X)$ , then  $A \cap B$  is b-open,
- (3) If  $A \in \alpha O(X, \tau)$  and  $B \in ZO(X, \tau)$ , then  $A \cap B \in ZO(X, \tau_A)$ .

**Proof:** (1) Suppose that  $A \in \delta O(X)$ . Then  $A = \delta\text{-int}(A)$ . Since  $B \in ZO(X)$ , then  $B \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(B))$  and hence  $A \cap B \subseteq \delta\text{-int}(A) \cap (\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(B)))$

$$= (\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(B))) \cup (\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(B)))$$

$$\subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap (\delta\text{-int}(B))) \cup \text{int}(\text{int}(A) \cap \text{cl}(B)) \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A \cap B)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A \cap B)).$$

Thus  $A \cap B \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A \cap B)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A \cap B))$ . Therefore,  $A \cap B$  is Z-open,

(2) It is similar to that of (1),

$$(3) \text{ Since } A \cap B \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))) \cap (\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(B)))$$

$$= (\text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))) \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(B))) \cup (\text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(B)))$$

$$\subseteq \text{cl}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(B)))$$

$$\subseteq \text{cl}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B))) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(B)))) \text{ and hence}$$

$$A \cap B \subseteq (A \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B))) \cup (A \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(B))))$$

$$\subseteq \text{cl}_A(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}_A(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(B))))$$

$$\subseteq \text{cl}_A(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}_A(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \text{cl}(B))) \subseteq \text{cl}_A(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}_A(\text{cl}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap B))).$$

Since  $\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B) \subseteq \delta\text{-int}(A) \subseteq A$  which is  $\delta$ -open in  $A$ , then  $A \cap B \subseteq \text{cl}_A \delta\text{-int}_A(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap \delta\text{-int}(B)) \cup \text{int}_A(A \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap B)) \subseteq \text{cl}_A \delta\text{-int}_A(A \cap B) \cup \text{int}_A \text{cl}_A(\delta\text{-int}(A) \cap B) \subseteq \text{cl}_A \delta\text{-int}_A(A \cap B) \cup \text{int}_A \text{cl}_A(A \cap B)$ .

Therefore  $A \cap B \in \text{ZO}(X, \tau_A)$ .

**Proposition: 3.1** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. Then the closure of a Z-open subset of  $X$  is semiopen.

**Proof:** Let  $A \in \text{ZO}(X)$ . Then  $\text{cl}(A) \subseteq \text{cl}(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))) \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cup \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(A))) = \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(A)))$ . Therefore,  $\text{cl}(A)$  is semiopen.

**Proposition: 3.2** Let  $A$  be a Z-open subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  and  $\delta\text{-int}(A) = \emptyset$ . Then  $A$  is preopen.

**Proof:** obvious.

**Lemma: 3.1** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. Then the following statements are hold.

- (1) The union of arbitrary Z-open sets is Z-open,
- (2) The intersection of arbitrary Z-closed sets is Z-closed.

**Proof:** (1) Let  $\{A_i, i \in I\}$  be a family of Z-open sets. Then  $A_i \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A_i)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A_i))$  and hence  $\cup_i A_i \subseteq \cup_i (\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A_i)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A_i))) \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(\cup_i A_i)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(\cup_i A_i))$ , for all  $i \in I$ . Thus  $\cup_i A_i$  is Z-open.

(2) It follows from (1)

**Remark: 3.3** By the following we show that the intersection of any two Z-open sets is not Z-open.

**Example: 3.3** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  with topology  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{a, c\}$  and  $B = \{a, b\}$  are Z-open sets, but  $A \cap B = \{a\}$  is not Z-open.

**Definition: 3.2** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. Then:

- (1) The union of all Z-open sets of  $X$  contained in  $A$  is called the Z-interior of  $A$  and is denoted by  $Z\text{-int}(A)$ ,
- (2) The intersection of all Z-closed sets of  $X$  containing  $A$  is called the Z-closure of  $A$  and is denoted by  $Z\text{-cl}(A)$ .

**Theorem: 3.2** Let  $A, B$  be two subsets of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then the following are hold:

- (1)  $Z\text{-cl}(X \setminus A) = X \setminus Z\text{-int}(A)$ ,
- (2)  $Z\text{-int}(X \setminus A) = X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A)$ ,
- (3) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \subseteq Z\text{-cl}(B)$  and  $Z\text{-int}(A) \subseteq Z\text{-int}(B)$ ,
- (4)  $x \in Z\text{-cl}(A)$  if and only if for each a Z-open set  $U$  contains  $x$ ,  $U \cap A \neq \emptyset$ ,
- (5)  $x \in Z\text{-int}(A)$  if and only if there exist a Z-open set  $W$  such that  $x \in W \subseteq A$ .
- (6)  $Z\text{-cl}(Z\text{-cl}(A)) = Z\text{-cl}(A)$  and  $Z\text{-int}(Z\text{-int}(A)) = Z\text{-int}(A)$ ,
- (7)  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \cup Z\text{-cl}(B) \subseteq Z\text{-cl}(A \cup B)$  and  $Z\text{-int}(A) \cup Z\text{-int}(B) \subseteq Z\text{-int}(A \cup B)$ ,
- (8)  $Z\text{-int}(A \cap B) \subseteq Z\text{-int}(A) \cap Z\text{-int}(B)$  and  $Z\text{-cl}(A \cap B) \subseteq Z\text{-cl}(A) \cap Z\text{-cl}(B)$ .

**Proof:** (1) It follows from Definition 3.2.

**Remark: 3.4** By the following example we show that the inclusion relation in parts (7) and (8) of the above theorem cannot be replaced by equality.

**Example 3.4** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ , with topology  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then

- (1) If  $A = \{a, d\}$ ,  $B = \{b, d\}$ , then  $A \cup B = \{a, b, d\}$  and hence  $Z\text{-cl}(A) = A$ ,  $Z\text{-cl}(B) = B$  and  $Z\text{-cl}(A \cup B) = X$ . Thus  $Z\text{-cl}(A \cup B) \not\subseteq Z\text{-cl}(A) \cup Z\text{-cl}(B)$ ,

- (2) If  $E = \{a, b\}$ ,  $F = \{a, c\}$ , then  $E \cap F = \{a\}$  and hence  $Z\text{-cl}(E) = X$ ,  $Z\text{-cl}(F) = F$  and  $Z\text{-cl}(E \cap F) = \{a\}$ . Thus  $Z\text{-cl}(E) \cap Z\text{-cl}(F) \not\subseteq Z\text{-cl}(E \cap F)$ .
- (3) If  $M = \{c, d\}$ ,  $N = \{b, d\}$ , then  $M \cup N = \{b, c, d\}$  and hence  $Z\text{-int}(M) = \emptyset$ ,  $Z\text{-int}(N) = N$  and  $Z\text{-int}(M \cup N) = \{b, c, d\}$ . Thus  $Z\text{-int}(M \cup N) \not\subseteq Z\text{-int}(M) \cup Z\text{-int}(N)$ .

**Theorem: 3.3** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and  $A \subset X$ . Then  $A$  is a Z-open set if and only if  $A = \delta\text{-sint}(A) \cup \text{pint}(A)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $A$  be a Z-open set. Then  $A \subseteq \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$  and hence by Proposition 2.1 and Lemma 2.2,  $\delta\text{-sint}(A) \cup \text{pint}(A) = (A \cap \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))) \cup (A \cap \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))) = A \cap (\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A)) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))) = A$ . The Converse it follows from Proposition 2.1 and Lemma 2.2.

**Proposition: 3.3.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and  $A \subset X$ . Then  $A$  is a Z-closed set if and only if  $A = \delta\text{-scl}(A) \cap \text{pcl}(A)$ .

**Proof:** It follows from Theorem 3.3.

**Theorem: 3.4** Let  $A$  be a subset of a space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then:

- (1)  $Z\text{-cl}(A) = \delta\text{-scl}(A) \cap \text{pcl}(A)$ ,  
 (2)  $Z\text{-int}(A) = \delta\text{-sint}(A) \cup \text{pint}(A)$ .

**Proof:** (1) It is easy to see that  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \subseteq \delta\text{-scl}(A) \cap \text{pcl}(A)$ . Also,  $\delta\text{-scl}(A) \cap \text{pcl}(A) = (A \cup \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))) \cap (A \cup \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))) = A \cup (\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A)) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(A)))$ . Since  $Z\text{-cl}(A)$  is Z-closed, then  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \supseteq \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(Z\text{-cl}(A))) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(Z\text{-cl}(A))) \supseteq \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A)) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$ .

Thus  $A \cup (\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A)) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))) \subset A \cup Z\text{-cl}(A) = Z\text{-cl}(A)$  and hence,  $\delta\text{-scl}(A) \cap \text{pcl}(A) \subset Z\text{-cl}(A)$ . So,  $Z\text{-cl}(A) = \delta\text{-scl}(A) \cap \text{pcl}(A)$ .

(2) It follows from (1).

**Theorem: 3.5** Let  $A$  be a subset of a space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then

- (1)  $A$  is a Z-open set if and only if  $A = Z\text{-int}(A)$ ,  
 (2)  $A$  is a Z-closed set if and only if  $A = Z\text{-cl}(A)$ .

**Proof:** (1) It follows from Theorems 3.3, 3.4.

**Lemma: 3.2** Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then the following statement are hold :

- (1)  $\delta\text{-pint}(\text{pcl}(A)) = \text{pcl}(A) \cap \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))$ ,  
 (2)  $\delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A)) = \text{pint}(A) \cup \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))$ .

**Proof:** (1) By Lemma 1.3,  $\delta\text{-pint}(\text{pcl}(A)) = \text{pcl}(A) \cap \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(\text{pcl}(A))) = \text{pcl}(A) \cap \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(A)))) = \text{pcl}(A) \cap \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))$ .

(2) It follows from (1).

**Proposition: 3.4** Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then:

- (1)  $Z\text{-cl}(A) = A \cup \delta\text{-pint}(\text{pcl}(A))$ ,  
 (2)  $Z\text{-int}(A) = A \cap \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ .

**Proof :** (1) By Lemma 3.2,  $A \cup \delta\text{-pint}(\text{pcl}(A)) = A \cup (\text{pcl}(A) \cap \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))) = (A \cup \text{pcl}(A)) \cap (A \cup \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))) = \text{pcl}(A) \cap \delta\text{-scl}(A) = Z\text{-cl}(A)$ .

(2) It follows from (1).

**Theorem: 3.6** Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then the following are equivalent :

- (1)  $A$  is a Z-open set,  
 (2)  $A \subseteq \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ ,  
 (3) there exists  $U \in \text{PO}(X)$  such that  $U \subset A \subset \delta\text{-pcl}(U)$ ,  
 (4)  $\delta\text{-pcl}(A) = \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ .

**Proof:** (1)  $\rightarrow$  (2) Let  $A$  be a Z-open set. Then by Theorem 3.5,  $A = Z\text{-int}(A)$  and By Proposition 3.4,  $A = A \cap \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$  and hence,  $A \subseteq \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ .

(2)  $\rightarrow$  (1) Let  $A \subseteq \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ . Then by Proposition 3.4,  $A \subseteq A \cap \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A)) = Z\text{-int}(A)$ , and hence  $A = Z\text{-int}(A)$ . Thus  $A$  is  $Z$ -open.

(2)  $\rightarrow$  (3). It follows from putting  $U = \text{pint}(A)$ ,

(3)  $\rightarrow$  (2). Let there exists  $U \in \text{PO}(X)$  such that  $U \subset A \subset \delta\text{-pcl}(U)$ . Since  $U \subset A$ , then  $\delta\text{-pcl}(U) \subset \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ , therefore  $A \subset \delta\text{-pcl}(U) \subset \delta\text{-pcl}(\text{pint}(A))$ ,

(2)  $\leftrightarrow$  (4). It is clear.

**Theorem: 3.7** Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological space  $X$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $A$  is a  $Z$ -closed set,
- (2)  $\delta\text{-pint}(\text{pcl}(A)) \subseteq A$ ,
- (3) there exists  $U \in \text{PC}(X)$  such that  $\delta\text{-pint}(U) \subset A \subset U$ ,
- (4)  $\delta\text{-pint}(A) = \delta\text{-pint}(\text{pcl}(A))$ .

**Proof:** It follows from Theorem 3.6.

**Proposition: 3.5** If  $A$  is a  $Z$ -open subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  such that  $A \subset B \subset \delta\text{-pcl}(A)$ , then  $B$  is  $Z$ -open.

**Proof:** It is clear.

**Definition: 3.3** A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be locally  $Z$ -closed if  $A = U \cap F$ , where  $U \in \tau$  and  $F \in \text{ZC}(X)$ .

**Theorem: 3.8** Let  $H$  be a subset of a space  $X$ . Then  $H$  is locally  $Z$ -closed if and only if  $H = U \cap Z\text{-cl}(H)$ .

**Proof:** Since  $H$  is a locally  $Z$ -closed set, then  $H = U \cap F$ , where  $U \in \tau$  and  $F \in \text{ZC}(X)$  and hence

$$H \subseteq Z\text{-cl}(H) \subseteq Z\text{-cl}(F) = F. \text{ Thus } H \subseteq U \cap Z\text{-cl}(H) \subseteq U \cap Z\text{-cl}(F) = H.$$

Therefore  $H = U \cap Z\text{-cl}(H)$ . The Converse is clear.

**Theorem: 3.9** Let  $A$  be a locally  $Z$ -closed subset of a space  $(X, \tau)$ . Then the following statement are hold:

- (1)  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \setminus A$  is a  $Z$ -closed set,
- (2)  $(A \cup (X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A)))$  is a  $Z$ -open,
- (3)  $A \subseteq Z\text{-int}(A \cup (X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A)))$ .

**Proof.**(1) If  $A$  is a locally  $Z$ -closed set, then there exists an open set  $U$  such that  $A = U \cap Z\text{-cl}(A)$ . Hence,  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \setminus A = Z\text{-cl}(A) \setminus (U \cap Z\text{-cl}(A)) = Z\text{-cl}(A) \cap (X \setminus (U \cap Z\text{-cl}(A))) = Z\text{-cl}(A) \cap ((X \setminus U) \cup (X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A))) = Z\text{-cl}(A) \cap (X \setminus U)$  which is  $Z$ -closed.

(2) Since  $Z\text{-cl}(A) \setminus A$  is  $Z$ -closed, then  $X \setminus (Z\text{-cl}(A) \setminus A)$  is a  $Z$ -open set. Since  $X \setminus (Z\text{-cl}(A) \setminus A) = ((X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A)) \cup (X \cap A)) = (A \cup (X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A)))$ , then  $A \cup (X \setminus Z\text{-cl}(A))$  is  $Z$ -open.

(3) It follows from (2).

**Definition: 3.4** A subset  $A$  of a space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be  $D(c, z)$  iff  $\text{int}(A) = Z\text{-int}(A)$ .

**Remark: 3.5** One may notice that the concepts of  $Z$ -open and  $D(c, z)$  are independent and by we show this the following example.

**Example: 3.5** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ , with  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$  and  $\sigma = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ .

Then a subset  $\{a, b\}$  is  $Z$ -open but not  $D(c, z)$  in  $(X, \tau)$ . Also a subset  $\{b, d\}$  is  $D(c, z)$  but not  $Z$ -open in  $(X, \sigma)$ .

**Theorem: 3.10** Let  $A$  be a subset of topological space  $X$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $A$  is an open set,
- (2)  $A$  is  $Z$ -open and  $D(c, z)$ .

**Proof:** Obvious.

#### 4. SOME TOPOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

**Definition: 4.1** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and  $A \subset X$ . Then the Z-boundary of A (briefly,  $Z\text{-}b(A)$ ) is defined by  $Z\text{-}b(A) = Z\text{-}cl(A) \cap Z\text{-}cl(X \setminus A)$ .

**Theorem: 4.1** If A is a subsets of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ , then the following statement are hold:

- (1)  $Z\text{-}b(A) = Z\text{-}b(X \setminus A)$ ,
- (2)  $Z\text{-}b(A) = Z\text{-}cl(A) \setminus Z\text{-}int(A)$ ,
- (3)  $Z\text{-}b(A) \cap Z\text{-}int(A) = \emptyset$ ,
- (4)  $Z\text{-}b(A) \cup Z\text{-}int(A) = Z\text{-}cl(A)$ .

**Proof:** (1) It is clear.

**Theorem: 4.2** If A is a subset of a space X, then the following statement are hold:

- (1) A is a Z-open set if and only if  $A \cap Z\text{-}b(A) = \emptyset$ ,
- (2) A is a Z-closed set if and only if  $Z\text{-}b(A) \subset A$ ,
- (3) A is a Z-clopen set if and only if  $Z\text{-}b(A) = \emptyset$ .

**Proof:** (1) It follows from Theorem 4.1.

**Definition: 4.2** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and  $A \subset X$ . Then the set  $X \setminus (Z\text{-}cl(A))$  is called the Z-exterior of A and is denoted by  $Z\text{-}ext(A)$ . A point  $p \in X$  is called a Z- exterior point of A, if it is a Z-interior point of  $X \setminus A$ .

**Theorem: 4.3** If A and B are two subsets of a space  $(X, \tau)$ , then the following statement are hold:

- (1)  $Z\text{-}ext(A) = Z\text{-}int(X \setminus A)$ ,
- (2)  $Z\text{-}ext(A) \cap Z\text{-}b(A) = \emptyset$ ,
- (3)  $Z\text{-}ext(A) \cup Z\text{-}b(A) = Z\text{-}cl(X \setminus A)$ ,
- (4)  $\{Z\text{-}int(A), Z\text{-}b(A) \text{ and } Z\text{-}ext(A)\}$  form a partition of X.
- (5) If  $A \subset B$ , then  $Z\text{-}ext(B) \subset Z\text{-}ext(A)$ ,
- (6)  $Z\text{-}ext(A \cup B) \subset Z\text{-}ext(A) \cup Z\text{-}ext(B)$ ,
- (7)  $Z\text{-}ext(A \cap B) \supset Z\text{-}ext(A) \cap Z\text{-}ext(B)$ ,
- (8)  $Z\text{-}ext(\emptyset) = X$  and  $Z\text{-}ext(X) = \emptyset$ .

**Proof:** It follows from Theorems 3.5 and 4.1.

**Remark: 4.1** The inclusion relation in parts (6) and (7) of the above theorem cannot be replaced by equality as is shown by the following example.

**Example: 4.1** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  with topology  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ .

If  $A = \{b, c\}$  and  $B = \{a, c\}$ , then  $Z\text{-}ext(A) = \{a, d\}$ ,  $Z\text{-}ext(B) = \{b\}$ . But  $Z\text{-}ext(A \cup B) = \emptyset$ ,

Therefore  $Z\text{-}ext(A) \cup Z\text{-}ext(B) \not\subset Z\text{-}ext(A \cup B)$ . Also,  $Z\text{-}ext(A \cap B) = \{a, b, d\}$ , hence,  $Z\text{-}ext(A \cap B) \not\subset Z\text{-}ext(A) \cap Z\text{-}ext(B)$ .

**Definition: 4.3** Let A is a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ , Then a point  $P \in X$  is called a Z-limit point of a set  $A \subset X$  if every Z-open set  $G \subset X$  containing p contains a point of A other than p. The set of all Z-limit points of A is called a Z-derived set of A and is denoted by  $Z\text{-}d(A)$ .

**Theorem: 4.4** If A and B are two subsets of a space X, then the following statement are hold:

- (1) If  $A \subset B$ , then  $Z\text{-}d(A) \subset Z\text{-}d(B)$ ,
- (2)  $Z\text{-}d(A) \cup Z\text{-}d(B) \subset Z\text{-}d(A \cup B)$ ,
- (3)  $Z\text{-}d(A \cap B) \subset Z\text{-}d(A) \cap Z\text{-}d(B)$ ,
- (4) A is a Z-closed set if and only if it contains each of its Z-limit points,
- (5)  $Z\text{-}cl(A) = A \cup Z\text{-}d(A)$ .

**Proof:** It is clear.

**Definition: 4.4** A subset N of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called a Z-neighbourhood (briefly, Z-nbd) of a point  $P \in X$  if there exists a Z-open set W such that  $P \in W \subseteq N$ . The class of all Z-nbds of  $P \in X$  is called the Z-neighbourhood system of P and denoted by  $Z\text{-}N_p$ .

**Theorem: 4.5** A subset  $G$  of a space  $X$  is  $Z$ -open if and only if it is  $Z$ -nbd, for every point  $P \in G$ .

**Proof:** It is clear.

**Theorem: 4.6** In a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ , let  $Z-N_p$  be the  $Z$ -nbd. System of a point  $P \in X$ , then the following statement are hold:

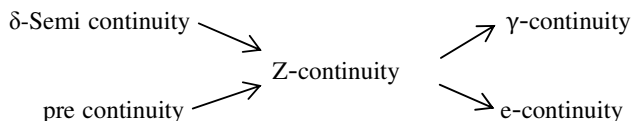
- (1)  $Z-N_p$  is not empty and  $p$  belongs to each member of  $Z-N_p$ ,
- (2) Each superset of members of  $N_p$  belongs to  $Z-N_p$ ,
- (3) Each member  $N \in Z-N_p$  is a superset of a member  $W \in Z-N_p$ , where  $W$  is  $Z$ -nbd of each point  $P \in W$ .
- (4) The intersection of  $\delta$ -nbd of a point  $p$  and  $Z$ -nbd of  $p$  is  $Z$ -nbd of  $p$ .

**Proof:** (4) It follows from Theorem 3.1.

## 5. Z-CONTINUOUS MAPPINGS

**Definition: 5.1** A mapping  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is called  $Z$ -continuous if the inverse image of each member of  $(Y, \sigma)$  is  $Z$ -open in  $(X, \tau)$ .

**Remark: 5.1** Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  be mapping from a space  $(X, \tau)$  into a space  $(Y, \sigma)$ , The following diagram hold:



Now, the following examples show that these implication are not reversible.

**Example: 5.1** Let  $X=Y= \{a, b, c, d\}$ ,  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ ,  $\sigma_1 = \{\emptyset, \{b, c\}, Y\}$ ,  $\sigma_2 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, Y\}$ ,  $\sigma_3 = \{\emptyset, \{a, d\}, Y\}$

- (1) The identity  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma_1)$  is  $e$ -continuous but not  $Z$ -continuous,
- (2) The identity  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma_2)$  is  $Z$ -continuous but not  $\delta$ -semi continuous.
- (3) The identity  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma_3)$  is  $\gamma$ -continuous but not  $Z$ -continuous.

**Example: 5.2** Let  $X=Y= \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ ,  $\sigma = \{\emptyset, \{b, c\}, Y\}$ , then the identity  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is  $Z$ -continuous but not precontinuous.

**Theorem: 5.1** Let  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  be a mapping, then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $f$  is  $Z$ -continuous.
- (2) For each  $x \in X$  and  $V \in \sigma$  containing  $f(x)$ , there exists  $U \in ZO(X)$  containing  $x$  such that  $f(U) \subset V$ ,
- (3) The inverse image of each closed set in  $Y$  is  $Z$ -closed in  $X$ ,
- (4)  $\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(B))) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(f^{-1}(B))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B))$ , for each  $B \subset Y$ ,
- (5)  $f^{-1}(\text{int}(B)) \subset \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(f^{-1}(B))) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(f^{-1}(B)))$ , for each  $B \subset Y$ ,
- (6) If  $f$  is bijective, then  $\text{int}(f(A)) \subset f(\text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(A))) \cup f(\text{int}(\text{cl}(A)))$ , for each  $A \subset X$ ,
- (7) If  $f$  is bijective, then  $f(\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(A))) \cap f(\text{cl}(\text{int}(A))) \subset \text{cl}(f(A))$ , for each  $A \subset X$ .

**Proof:** (1)  $\leftrightarrow$  (2) and (1)  $\leftrightarrow$  (3) are obvious.

(3)  $\rightarrow$  (4). Let  $B \subset Y$ , then by (3)  $f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B))$  is  $Z$ -closed. This means  $f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B)) \supset \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B)))) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B)))) \supset \text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(B))) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(f^{-1}(B)))$ .

(4)  $\rightarrow$  (5). By replacing  $Y \setminus B$  instead of  $B$  in (4), we have  $\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(Y \setminus B))) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(f^{-1}(Y \setminus B))) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(Y \setminus B))$  and therefore  $f^{-1}(\text{int}(B)) \subset \text{cl}(\delta\text{-int}(f^{-1}(B))) \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(f^{-1}(B)))$ ,

(5)  $\rightarrow$  (6). Follows directly by replacing  $A$  instead of  $f^{-1}(B)$  in (5) and applying the bijection of  $f$ .

(6)  $\rightarrow$  (7). By complementation of (6) and applying the bijective of  $f$ , we have  $f(\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(X \setminus A))) \cap f(\text{cl}(\text{int}(X \setminus A))) \subset \text{cl}(f(X \setminus A))$ . We obtain the required by replacing  $A$  instead of  $X \setminus A$ .

(7)  $\rightarrow$  (1). Let  $V \in \sigma$ . Set  $W = Y \setminus V$ , by (7), we have  $f(\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(W)))) \cap f(\text{cl}(\text{int}(f^{-1}(W)))) \subset \text{cl}(f(f^{-1}(W))) \subset \text{cl}(W) = W$ . So  $\text{int}(\delta\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(W))) \cap \text{cl}(\text{int}(f^{-1}(W))) \subset f^{-1}(W)$  implies  $f^{-1}(W)$  is  $Z$ -closed and therefore  $f^{-1}(V) \in ZO(X)$ .

**Theorem: 5.2** Let  $f:(X, \tau) \rightarrow(Y, \sigma)$  be a mapping ,then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $f$  is  $Z$ -continuous,
- (2)  $Z\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B))$ , for each  $B \subset Y$ ,
- (3)  $f(Z\text{-cl}(A)) \subset \text{cl}(f(A))$ , for each  $A \subset X$ ,
- (4) If  $f$  is bijective, then  $\text{int}(f(A)) \subset f(Z\text{-int}(A))$ ,for each  $A \subset X$ ,
- (5) If  $f$  is bijective, then  $f^{-1}(\text{int}(B)) \subset Z\text{-int}(f^{-1}(B))$ , for each  $A \subset X$ .

**Proof:** (1)  $\rightarrow$  (2). Let  $B \subset Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B))$  is  $Z$ -closed in  $X$  , then  $Z\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset Z\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B))) = f^{-1}(\text{cl}(B))$  .

(2)  $\rightarrow$  (3). Let  $A \subset X$ , then  $f(A) \subset Y$ , by (2),  $f^{-1}(\text{cl}(f(A))) \supset Z\text{-cl}(f^{-1}(f(A))) \supset Z\text{-cl}(A)$ ,

Therefore,  $\text{cl}(f(A)) \supset f f^{-1}(\text{cl}(f(A))) \supset f(Z\text{-cl}(A))$ ,

(3)  $\rightarrow$  (4). Follows directly by complementation of (3) and applying the bijection of  $f$ ,

(4)  $\rightarrow$  (5). By replacing  $f^{-1}(B)$  instead of  $A$  in (4) and using the bijection, we have  $\text{int}(B) = \text{int}(f f^{-1}(B)) \subset f(Z\text{-int}(f^{-1}(B)))$ , therefore  $f^{-1}(\text{int}(B)) \subset Z\text{-int}(f^{-1}(B))$ ,

(5)  $\rightarrow$  (1). Let  $V \in \sigma$ , by (5),  $f^{-1}(V) = f^{-1}(\text{int}(V)) \subset Z\text{-int}(f^{-1}(V))$ , therefore  $f^{-1}(V) \in ZO(X)$ .

**Definition: 5.2** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces .A mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called  $Z$ -continuous at a point  $P \in X$  if the inverse image of each  $Z$ -neighbourhood of  $f(P)$  is  $Z$ -neighbourhood of  $P$ .

**Theorem: 5.3** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be spaces .Then the mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is  $Z$ -continuous if and only if it is  $Z$ -continuous at every point  $x \in X$ .

**Proof:** Let  $H \subseteq Y$  be an open set containing  $f(p)$ .Then  $p \in f^{-1}(H)$ , but  $f$  is  $Z$ -continuous, hence  $f^{-1}(H)$  is an  $Z$ -open of  $X$  containing  $p$ , therefore,  $f$  is  $Z$ -continuous at every point  $p \in X$ ,

On the other hand Suppose that  $G \subseteq Y$  is open set for every  $p \in f^{-1}(G)$  and  $f$  is  $Z$ -continuous at every point  $p \in X$ . Then there exists an  $Z$ -open set  $H$  containing  $p$  such that  $p \in G \subseteq f^{-1}(G)$ , i.e,  $f^{-1}(G) = \cup\{H : p \in f^{-1}(G), H \text{ is } Z\text{-open}\}$ , then  $f^{-1}(G) \subseteq X$  is  $Z$ -open. SO,  $f$  is  $Z$ -continuous.

**Remark: 5.2** The composition of two  $Z$ -continuous mappings need not be  $Z$ -continuous as show by the following example.

**Example: 5.3** Let  $X = Z = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $Y = \{a, b, c, d\}$  with topologies  $\tau_X = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, X\}$ ,  $\tau_Y = \{\emptyset, \{a, c\}, Y\}$ ,  $\tau_Z = \{\emptyset, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, Z\}$ .Let the identity mapping  $f$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  defined as  $g(a)=a$ ,  $g(b)=g(d)=b$  and  $g(c)=c$ . It is clear that  $f$  and  $g$  is  $Z$ -continuous but  $g \circ f$  is not  $Z$ -continuous.

**Theorem: 5.4** The restriction mapping  $f/A : (A, \tau_A) \rightarrow(Y, \sigma)$  of a  $Z$ -continuous mapping  $f: (X, \tau) \rightarrow(Y, \sigma)$  is  $Z$ -continuous if  $A \in \mathcal{a}O(X, \tau)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $U \in \sigma$  and  $f$  be a  $Z$ -continuous mapping. Then  $f^{-1}(U) \in ZO(X, \tau)$ . Since  $A \in \mathcal{a}O(X, \tau)$ , then by Theorem 3.1,  $(f/A)^{-1}(U) = A \cap f^{-1}(U) \in ZO(X, \tau)$ , therefore  $f/A$  is  $Z$ -continuous.

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