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#### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

Recently, Baker (resp. Ekici, Noiri and Popa) introduced and investigated the notions of contra almost  $\beta$ -continuity [1] (resp. almost contra pre-continuity [2,3]) as a continuation of research done by Caldas and Jafari [4] (resp. Jafari and Noiri [5]) on the notion of contra- $\beta$ -continuity (resp. contra pre-continuity). In this paper, new generalizations of contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuity [6] by using  $\beta\theta$ -closed sets called almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuity are presented. We obtain some characterizations of almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous functions and investigate their properties and the relationships between almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuity and other related generalized forms of continuity.

Throughout this paper, by  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \sigma)$  (or X and Y) we always mean topological spaces. Let A be a subset of X. We denote the interior, the closure and the complement of a set A by Int(A),

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In this paper, we introduce and investigate the notion of almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous functions by utilizing  $\beta\theta$ -closed sets. We obtain fundamental properties of almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous functions and discuss the relationships between almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuity and other related functions.

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Cl(A) and XA, respectively. A subset A of X is said to be regular open (resp. regular closed ) if A = Int(Cl(A)) (resp. A = Cl(Int(A))). A subset *A* of a space *X* is called preopen [7] (resp. semi-open [8],  $\beta$ -open [9],  $\alpha$ -open [10]) if  $A \subset Int(Cl(A))$  (resp.  $A \subset Cl(Int(A))$ ,  $A \subset Cl(Int(Cl(A))), A \subset Int(Cl(Int(A))))$ . The complement of a preopen (resp. semi-open,  $\beta$ -open,  $\alpha$ -open) set is said to be preclosed (resp. semi-closed,  $\beta$ -closed,  $\alpha$ -closed). The collection of all open (resp. closed, regular open, preopen, semiopen,  $\beta$ -open) subsets of X will be denoted by O(X) (resp. C(X), RO(X), PO(X), SO(X),  $\beta O(X)$ ). We set  $RO(X, x) = \{U : x \in U \in RO(X, \tau)\}, SO(X, x) = \{U : U \in RO(X, \tau)\}$  $x \in U \in SO(X, \tau)$  and  $\beta O(X, x) = \{U : x \in U \in \beta O(X, \tau)\}$ . We denote the collection of all regular closed subsets of X by RC(X). We set  $RC(X, x) = \{U : x \in U \in RC(X, \tau)\}$ . We denote the collection of all  $\beta$ regular (i.e., if it is both  $\beta$ -open and  $\beta$ -closed) subsets of X by  $\beta R(X)$ . A point  $x \in X$  is said to be a  $\theta$ -semi-cluster point [11] of a subset S of X if  $Cl(U) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  for every  $U \in SO(X, x)$ . The set of all  $\theta$ -semi-cluster points of A is called the  $\theta$ -semi-closure of A and is denoted by  $\theta$  sCl(A). A subset A is called  $\theta$ -semi-closed [11] if  $A = \theta sCl(A)$ . The complement of a  $\theta$ -semi-closed set is called  $\theta$ -semi-open.

The  $\beta\theta$ -closure of A [12], denoted by  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$ , is defined to be the set of all  $x \in X$  such that  $\beta Cl(O) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  for every  $O \in \beta O(X, \tau)$ with  $x \in O$ . The set { $x \in X : \beta Cl_{\theta}(O) \subset A$  for some  $O \in \beta O(X, x)$ }

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  Dedicated to our friend and colleague the late Professor Mohamad Ezat Abd El-Monsef

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is called the  $\beta\theta$ -interior of *A* and is denoted by  $\beta Int_{\theta}(A)$ . A subset *A* is said to be  $\beta\theta$ -closed [12] if  $A = \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$ . The complement of a  $\beta\theta$ -closed set is said to be  $\beta\theta$ -open. The family of all  $\beta\theta$ -open (resp.  $\beta\theta$ -closed) subsets of *X* is denoted by  $\beta\theta O(X, \tau)$  or  $\beta\theta O(X)$  (resp.  $\beta\theta C(X, \tau)$ ). We set  $\beta\theta O(X, x) = \{U : x \in U \in \beta\theta O(X, \tau)\}$  and  $\beta\theta C(X, x) = \{U : x \in U \in \beta\theta C(X, \tau)\}$ .

We recall the following two lemmas which were obtained by Noiri [12].

**Lemma 1.1** [12]. Let A be a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ .

(i) If  $A \in \beta O(X, \tau)$ , then  $\beta Cl(A) \in \beta R(X)$ .

(ii)  $A \in \beta R(X)$  if and only if  $A \in \beta \theta O(X) \cap \beta \theta C(X)$ .

**Lemma 1.2** [12]. For the  $\beta\theta$ -closure of a subset A of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ , the following properties are hold:

(i)  $A \subset \beta Cl(A) \subset \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$  and  $\beta Cl(A) = \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$  if  $A \in \beta O(X)$ .

(ii) If  $A \subset B$ , then  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(A) \subset \beta Cl_{\theta}(B)$ .

- (iii) If  $A_{\alpha} \in \beta \theta C(X)$  for each  $\alpha \in A$ , then  $\bigcap \{A_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in A\} \in \beta \theta C(X)$ .
- (iv) If  $A_{\alpha} \in \beta \theta O(X)$  for each  $\alpha \in A$ , then  $\bigcup \{A_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in A\} \in \beta \theta O(X)$ .
- (v)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) = \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$  and  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(A) \in \beta \theta C(X)$ .

**Definition 1.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is said to be:

- βθ-continuous [12] if f<sup>-1</sup>(V) is βθ-closed for every closed set V in Y, equivalently if the inverse image of every open set V in Y is βθ-open in X.
- (2) Almost βθ-continuous if f<sup>-1</sup>(V) is βθ-closed in X for every regular closed set V in Y.
- (3) Contra *R*-maps [13] (resp. contra-continuous [14], contra  $\beta\theta$ continuous [6]) if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is regular closed (resp. closed,  $\beta\theta$ closed) in *X* for every regular open (resp. open, open) set *V* of *Y*.
- (4) Almost contra pre-continuous [2] (resp. almost contra  $\beta$ continuous [1], almost contra -continuous [1]) if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is preclosed (resp.  $\beta$ -closed, closed) in *X* for every regular open set *V* of *Y*.
- (5) Regular set-connected [15] if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is clopen in X for every regular open set V in Y.

# 2. Characterizations

**Definition 2.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is said to be almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in X for each regular open set V of Y.

**Definition 3.** Let A be a subset of a space  $(X, \tau)$ . The set  $\bigcap \{U \in RO(X) : A \subset U\}$  is called the r-kernel of A [13] and is denoted by *rker*(A).

**Lemma 2.1** (Ekici [13]). For subsets A and B of a space X, the following properties hold:

- (1)  $x \in rker(A)$  if and only if  $A \cap F \neq \emptyset$  for any  $F \in RC(X, x)$ .
- (2)  $A \subset rker(A)$  and A = rker(A) if A is regular open in X.
- (3) If  $A \subset B$ , then  $rker(A) \subset rker(B)$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** For a function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous;
- (2) The inverse image of each regular closed set in Y is βθ-open in X;
- (3) For each point x in X and each  $V \in RC(Y, f(x))$ , there is a  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U) \subset V$ ;
- (4) For each point x in X and each  $V \in SO(Y, f(x))$ , there is a  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ ;
- (5)  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) \subset rker(f(A))$  for every subset A of X;
- (6)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(rker(B))$  for every subset B of Y;

- (7)  $f^{-1}(Cl(V))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open for every  $V \in \beta O(Y)$ ;
- (8)  $f^{-1}(Cl(V))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open for every  $V \in SO(Y)$ ;

(9)  $f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed for every  $V \in PO(Y)$ ;

(10)  $f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed for every  $V \in O(Y)$ ;

(11)  $f^{-1}(Cl(Int(V)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open for every  $V \in C(Y)$ .

# **Proof.** (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2): see Definition 2.

(2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (4): Let  $x \in X$  and V be any semiopen set of Y containing f(x), then Cl(V) is regular closed. By (2)  $f^{-1}(Cl(V))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open and therefore there exists  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$  such that  $U \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V))$ . Hence  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ .

Conversely, suppose that (4) holds. Let *V* be any regular closed set of *Y* and  $x \in f^{-1}(V)$ . Then *V* is a semiopen set containing f(x) and there exists  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $U \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V)) = f^{-1}(V)$ . Therefore,  $x \in U \subset f^{-1}(V)$  and hence  $x \in U \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V))$ . Consequently, we have  $f^{-1}(V) \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V))$ . Therefore  $f^{-1}(V) = \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V))$ , i.e.,  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta \theta$ -open.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): Let  $x \in X$  and V be a regular closed set of Y containing f(x). Then  $x \in f^{-1}(V)$ . Since by hypothesis  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open, there exists  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$  such that  $x \in U \subset f^{-1}(V)$ . Hence  $x \in U$  and  $f(U) \subset V$ .

(3)⇒(5): Let *A* be any subset of *X*. Suppose that  $y \notin rker(f(A))$ . Then, by Lemma 2.1 there exists  $V \in RC(Y, y)$  such that  $f(A) \cap V = \emptyset$ . For any  $x \in f^{-1}(V)$ , by (3) there exists  $U_x \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U_x) \subset V$ . Hence  $f(A \cap U_x) \subset f(A) \cap f(U_x) \subset f(A) \cap V = \emptyset$  and  $A \cap U_x = \emptyset$ . This shows that  $x \notin \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$  for any  $x \in f^{-1}(V)$ . Therefore,  $f^{-1}(V) \cap \beta Cl_{\theta}(A) = \emptyset$  and hence  $V \cap f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) = \emptyset$ . Thus,  $y \notin f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A))$ . Consequently, we obtain  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) \subset rker(f(A))$ .

 $(5)\Leftrightarrow(6)$ : Let B be any subset of Y. By (5) and Lemma 2.1, we have  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B))) \subset rker(ff^{-1}(B)) \subset rker(B)$  and  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(rker(B))$ .

Conversely, suppose that (6) holds. Let B = f(A), where A is a subset of X. Then  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(A) \subset \beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(rker(f(A)))$ . Therefore  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) \subset rker(f(A))$ .

(6) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let *V* be any regular open set of *Y*. Then, by (6) and Lemma 2.1(2) we have  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(rker(V)) = f^{-1}(V)$  and  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) = f^{-1}(V)$ . This shows that  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta \theta$ -closed in *X*. Therefore *f* is almost contra  $\beta \theta$ -continuous.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (7): Let *V* be any  $\beta$ -open set of *Y*. It follows from ([16], Theorem 2.4) that Cl(V) is regular closed. Then by (2)  $f^{-1}(Cl(V))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X*.

 $(7) \Rightarrow (8)$ : This is clear since every semiopen set is  $\beta$ -open.  $(8) \Rightarrow (9)$ : Let *V* be any preopen set of *Y*. Then Int(Cl(V)) is regular open. Therefore Y Int(Cl(V)) is regular closed and hence it is semiopen. Then by  $(8) X \setminus f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V))) = f^{-1}(Y \setminus Int(Cl(V))) = f^{-1}(Cl(Y \setminus Int(Cl(V))))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open. Hence  $f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed.

(9) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let *V* be any regular open set of *Y*. Then *V* is preopen and by (9)  $f^{-1}(V) = f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed. It shows that *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

(1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (10): Let *V* be an open subset of *Y*. Since Int(Cl(V)) is regular open,  $f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed. The converse is similar.

(2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (11): Similar to (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (10).  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 2.3** [17]. For a subset A of a topological space  $(Y, \sigma)$ , the following properties hold:

- (1)  $\alpha Cl(A) = Cl(A)$  for every  $A \in \beta O(Y)$ .
- (2) pCl(A) = Cl(A) for every  $A \in SO(Y)$ .
- (3) sCl(A) = Int(Cl(A)) for every  $A \in PO(Y)$ .

**Corollary 2.4.** For a function  $f: X \to Y$ , the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous;
- (2)  $f^{-1}(\alpha Cl(A))$  is  $\beta \theta$ -open for every  $A \in \beta O(Y)$ ;
- (3)  $f^{-1}(pCl(A))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open for every  $A \in SO(Y)$ ;
- (4)  $f^{-1}(sCl(A)))$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed for every  $A \in PO(Y)$ .

**Proof.** It follows from Lemma 2.3. □

**Theorem 2.5.** For a function  $f: X \to Y$ , the following properties are equivalent:

(1) *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous;

(2) the inverse image of a  $\theta$ -semi-open set of Y is  $\beta\theta$ -open;

(3) the inverse image of a  $\theta$ -semi-closed set of Y is  $\beta\theta$ -closed;

(4)  $f^{-1}(V) \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(Cl(V)))$  for every  $V \in SO(Y)$ ;

(5)  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) \subset \theta sCl(f(A))$  for every subset A of X;

(6)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta s Cl(B))$  for every subset B of Y;

(7)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta s Cl(V))$  for every open subset V of Y;

(8)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(sCl(V))$  for every open subset V of Y;

(9)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V)))$  for every open subset V of Y.

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Since any  $\theta$ -semiopen set is a union of regular closed sets, by using (1) and Theorem 2.2, we obtain that (2) holds.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let  $x \in X$  and  $V \in SO(Y)$  containing f(x). Since Cl(V) is  $\theta$ -semiopen in Y, there exists a  $\beta\theta$ -open set U in X containing x such that  $x \in U \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V))$ . Hence  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ .

(1)⇒(4): Let  $V \in SO(Y)$  and  $x \in f^{-1}(V)$ . Then  $f(x) \in V$ . By (1) and Theorem 2.2, there exists a  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ . It follows that  $x \in U \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V))$ . Hence  $x \in \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(Cl(V)))$ . Thus  $f^{-1}(V) \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(Cl(V)))$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let *F* be any regular closed set of *Y*. Since  $F \in SO(Y)$ , then by (4),  $f^{-1}(F) \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(F))$ . This shows that  $f^{-1}(F)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open, by Theorem 2.2, (1) holds.

(2)⇔(3): Obvious.

(1)⇒(5): Let *A* be any subset of *X*. Suppose that  $x \in \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$  and *G* is any semiopen set of *Y* containing f(x). By (1) and Theorem 2.2, there exists  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U) \subset Cl(G)$ . Since  $x \in \beta Cl_{\theta}(A)$ ,  $U \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and hence  $\emptyset \neq f(U) \cap f(A) \subset Cl(G) \cap f(A)$ . Therefore, we obtain  $f(x) \in \theta SCl(f(A))$  an hence  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(A)) \subset \theta SCl(f(A))$ .

(5)⇒(6): Let *B* be any subset of *Y*. Then  $f(\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B))) \subset \theta sCl(f(f^{-1}(B)) \subset \theta sCl(B) \text{ and } \beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta sCl(f(B))).$ 

(6)⇒(1): Let *V* be any semiopen set of *Y* containing *f*(*x*). Since  $Cl(V) \cap (Y \setminus Cl(V)) = \emptyset$ . we have  $f(x) \notin \theta sCl(Y \setminus ClV)$  and  $x \notin f^{-1}(\theta sCl(Y \setminus Cl(V)))$ . By (6),  $x \notin \beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(Y \setminus Cl(V)))$ . Hence, there exists  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  such that  $U \cap f^{-1}(Y \setminus Cl(V)) = \emptyset$  and  $f(U) \cap (Y \setminus Cl(V)) = \emptyset$ . It follows that  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ . Thus, by Theorem 2.2, we have that (1) holds.

 $(6) \Rightarrow (7)$ : Obvious.

(7) $\Rightarrow$ (8): Obvious from the fact that  $\theta sCl(V) = sCl(V)$  for an open set *V*.

 $(8) \Rightarrow (9)$ : Obvious from Lemma 2.3.

(9)⇒(1): Let  $V \in RO(Y)$ . Then by (9)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(Int(Cl(V))) = f^{-1}(V)$ . Hence,  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed which proves that *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 2.6.** For a function  $f: X \to Y$ , the following properties are equivalent:

(1) *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous;

(2)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta sCl(B))$  for every  $B \in SO(Y)$ .

(3)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta s Cl(B))$  for every  $B \in PO(Y)$ .

(4)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta sCl(B))$  for every  $B \in \beta O(Y)$ .

**Proof.** In Theorem 2.5, we have proved that the following are equivalent:

(1) *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous;

(2)  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(B)) \subset f^{-1}(\theta sCl(B))$  for every subset *B* of *Y*.

Hence the corollary is proved.  $\Box$ 

Recall that a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be extremally disconnected if the closure of every open set of *X* is open in *X*.

**Theorem 2.7.** If  $(Y, \sigma)$  is extremally disconnected, then the following properties are equivalent for a function  $f: X \to Y$ :

f is almost contra βθ-continuous;
f is almost βθ-continuous.

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $x \in X$  and U be any regular open set of Y containing f(x). Since Y is extremally disconnected, by Lemma 5.6 of [18] U is clopen and hence U is regular closed. Then  $f^{-1}(U)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in X. Thus f is almost  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let *B* be any regular closed set of *Y*. Since *Y* is extremally disconnected, *B* is regular open and  $f^{-1}(B)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X*. Thus *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

The following implications are hold for a function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ :



Notation: A = almost contra  $\beta$ -continuity, B = almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuity, C = contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuity, D = almost contracontinuity, E = almost contra pre-continuity, F = contra R-map, G = contra  $\beta$ -continuity, H = almost contra semi-continuity.  $\Box$ 

**Example 2.8.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space such that  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$ . Clearly  $\beta\theta O(X, \tau) = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$ . Let  $f: X \to X$  be defined by f(a) = c, f(b) = b and f(c) = a. Then f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous but f is not contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, not  $\beta\theta$ -continuous and also is not contra continuous.

Other implications not reversible are shown in [2,3,5,6,13,15].

**Theorem 2.9.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous function which satisfies the property  $\beta Int_{\theta}((f^{-1}(Cl(V)))) \subset f^{-1}(V)$  for each open set V of Y, then f is  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

**Proof.** Let *V* be any open set of *Y*. Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous by Theorem 2.2  $f^{-1}(V) \subset f^{-1}(Cl(V)) = \beta Int_{\theta}(\beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(Cl(V)))) \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V)) \subset f^{-1}(V)$ . Hence  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open and therefore *f* is  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

Recall that a topological space is said to be  $P_{\Sigma}$  [19] if for any open set *V* of *X* and each  $x \in V$ , there exists a regular closed set *F* of *X* containing *x* such that  $x \in F \subset V$ .  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 2.10.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous function and Y is  $P_{\Sigma}$ , then f is  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

**Proof.** Suppose that *V* is any open set of *Y*. By the fact that *Y* is  $P_{\Sigma}$ , so there exists a subfamily  $\Omega$  of regular closed sets of *Y* such that  $V = \bigcup \{F \mid F \in \Omega\}$ . Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, then  $f^{-1}(F)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X* for each  $F \in \Omega$ . Therefore  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X*. Hence *f* is  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

Recall that a function  $f: X \to Y$  is said to be:

- a) *R*-map [20] (resp. pre  $\beta\theta$ -closed [21]) if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is regular closed in *X* for every regular closed *V* of *Y* (resp. f(V) is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in *Y* for every  $\beta\theta$ -closed *V* of *X*).
- b) weakly  $\beta$ -irresolute [12] if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X* for every  $\beta\theta$ -open set *V* in *Y*.  $\Box$

**Theorem 2.11.** Let  $f: X \to Y$  and  $g: Y \to Z$  be functions. Then the following properties hold:

- (1) If f is almost contra- $\beta\theta$ -continuous and g is an R-map, then  $g \circ f: X \to Z$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.
- (2) If f is almost  $\beta\theta$ -continuous and g is a contra R-map, then  $g \circ f: X \to Z$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.
- (3) If *f* is weakly  $\beta$ -irresolute and *g* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, then  $g \circ f$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

**Theorem 2.12.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is a pre  $\beta\theta$ -closed surjection and  $g: Y \to Z$  is a function such that  $g \circ f: X \to Z$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, then g is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

**Proof.** Let *V* be any regular open set in *Z*. Since  $g \circ f$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous,  $f^{-1}(g^{-1}((V))) = (g \circ f)^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed. Since *f* is a pre  $\beta\theta$ -closed surjection,  $f(f^{-1}(g^{-1}((V)))) = g^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed. Therefore *g* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 2.13.** Let  $\{X_i : i \in \Omega\}$  be any family of topological spaces. If  $f: X \to \prod X_i$  is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous function, then  $Pr_i \circ f: X \to X_i$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous for each  $i \in \Omega$ , where  $Pr_i$  is the projection of  $\prod X_i$  onto  $X_i$ .

**Proof.** Let  $U_i$  be an arbitrary regular open set in  $X_i$ . Since  $Pr_i$  is continuous and open, it is an *R*-map and hence  $Pr_i^{-1}(U_i)$  is regular open in  $\prod X_i$ . Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, we have by definition  $f^{-1}(Pr_i^{-1}(U_i)) = (Pr_i \circ f)^{-1}(U_i)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in *X*. Therefore  $Pr_i \circ f$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous for each  $i \in \Omega$ .  $\Box$ 

**Definition 4.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is called weakly  $\beta\theta$ -continuous if for each  $x \in X$  and every open set V of Y containing f(x), there exists a  $\beta\theta$ -open set U in X containing x such that  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ .

**Theorem 2.14.** For a function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , the following properties hold:

- (1) If f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, then it is weakly  $\beta\theta$ -continuous,
- (2) If f is weakly βθ-continuous and Y is extremally disconnected, then f is almost contra βθ-continuous.

#### Proof.

- (1) Let  $x \in X$  and V be any open set of Y containing f(x). Since Cl(V) is a regular closed set containing f(x), by Theorem 2.2 there exists a  $\beta\theta$ -open set U containing x such that  $f(U) \subset Cl(V)$ . Therefore, f is weakly  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.
- (2) Let *V* be a regular closed subset of *Y*. Since *Y* is extremally disconnected, we have that *V* is a regular open set of *Y* and the weak  $\beta\theta$ -continuity of *f* implies that  $f^{-1}(V) \subset \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(Cl(V))) = \beta Int_{\theta}f^{-1}(V)$ . Therefore  $f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X*. This shows that *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.  $\Box$

**Definition 5.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is said to be:

a) neatly  $(\beta\theta, s)$ -continuous if for each  $x \in X$  and each  $V \in SO(Y, f(x))$ , there is a  $\beta\theta$ -open set U in X containing x such that  $Int(f(U)) \subset Cl(V)$ .

b)  $(\beta\theta, s)$ -open if  $f(U) \in SO(Y)$  for every  $\beta\theta$ -open set U of X.

**Theorem 2.15.** If a function  $f: X \to Y$  is neatly  $(\beta \theta, s)$ -continuous and  $(\beta \theta, s)$ -open, then f is almost contra  $\beta \theta$ -continuous.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $x \in X$  and  $V \in SO(Y, f(x))$ . Since f is neatly  $(\beta\theta, s)$ -continuous, there exists a  $\beta\theta$ -open set U of X containing x such that  $Int(f(U)) \subset Cl(V)$ . By hypothesis, f is  $(\beta\theta, s)$ -open. This implies that  $f(U) \in SO(Y)$ . It follows that  $f(U) \subset Cl(Int(f(U))) \subset Cl(V)$ . This shows that f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.  $\Box$ 

#### 3. Some fundamental properties

**Definition 6** [6,22]. A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be:

- βθ-T<sub>0</sub> (resp. βθ-T<sub>1</sub>) if for any distinct pair of points x and y in X, there is a βθ-open set U in X containing x but not y or (resp. and) a βθ-open set V in X containing y but not x.
- (2)  $\beta \theta$ - $T_2$  (resp.  $\beta$ - $T_2$  [7]) if for every pair of distinct points x and y, there exist two  $\beta \theta$ -open (resp.  $\beta$ -open) sets U and V such that  $x \in U$ ,  $y \in V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** For a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ , the following properties are equivalent:

- (1) (X,  $\tau$ ) is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>0</sub>;
- (2) (X,  $\tau$ ) is  $\beta \theta$ -T<sub>1</sub>;
- (3) (X,  $\tau$ ) is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>2</sub>;
- (4) (X,  $\tau$ ) is  $\beta$ -T<sub>2</sub>;
- (5) For every pair of distinct points  $x, y \in X$ , there exist  $U, V \in \beta O(X)$  such that  $x \in U, y \in V$  and  $\beta Cl(U) \cap \beta Cl(V) = \emptyset$ ;
- (6) For every pair of distinct points  $x, y \in X$ , there exist  $U, V \in \beta R(X)$  such that  $x \in U, y \in V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .
- (7) For every pair of distinct points  $x, y \in X$ , there exist  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  and  $V \in \beta \theta O(X, y)$  such that  $\beta Cl_{\theta}(U) \cap \beta Cl_{\theta}(V) = \emptyset$ .

**Proof.** It follows from ([6], Remark 3.2 and Theorem 3.4). Recall that a topological space (X,  $\tau$ ) is said to be:

- (i) Weakly Hausdorff [23] (briefly weakly-T<sub>2</sub>) if every point of X is an intersection of regular closed sets of X.
- (ii) *s*-Urysohn [24] if for each pair of distinct points *x* and *y* in *X*, there exist  $U \in SO(X, x)$  and  $V \in SO(X, x)$  such that  $Cl(U) \cap Cl(V) \neq \emptyset$ .  $\Box$

**Theorem 3.2.** If X is a topological space and for each pair of distinct points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in X, there exists a map f of X into a Urysohn topological space Y such that  $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$  and f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ continuous at  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , then X is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>2</sub>.

**Proof.** Let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be any distinct points in *X*. Then by hypothesis, there is a Urysohn space *Y* and a function  $f: X \to Y$ , which satisfies the conditions of the theorem. Let  $y_i = f(x_i)$  for i = 1, 2. Then  $y_1 \neq y_2$ . Since *Y* is Urysohn, there exist open sets  $U_{y_1}$  and  $U_{y_2}$  of  $y_1$  and  $y_2$ , respectively, in *Y* such that  $Cl(U_{y_1}) \cap Cl(U_{y_2}) = \emptyset$ . Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$  -continuous at  $x_i$ , there exists a  $\beta\theta$ -open set  $W_{x_i}$  containing  $x_i$  in *X* such that  $f(W_{x_i}) \subset Cl(U_{y_i})$  for i = 1, 2. Hence we get  $W_{x_1} \cap W_{x_2} = \emptyset$  since  $Cl(U_{y_1}) \cap Cl(U_{y_2}) = \emptyset$ . Hence *X* is  $\beta\theta$ - $T_2$ .

**Corollary 3.3.** If f is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous injection of a topological space X into a Urysohn space Y, then X is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>2</sub>.

**Proof.** For each pair of distinct points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in X, f is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous function of X into a Urysohn space Y such that  $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$  since f is injective. Hence by Theorem 3.2, X is  $\beta\theta$ - $T_2$ .  $\Box$ 

# Theorem 3.4.

- (1) If f is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous injection of a topological space X into a s-Urysohn space Y, then X is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>2</sub>.
- (2) If f is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous injection of a topological space X into a weakly Hausdorff space Y, then X is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>1</sub>.

# Proof.

- (1) Let *Y* be *s*-Urysohn. Since *f* is injective, we have  $f(x) \neq f(y)$  for any distinct points *x* and *y* in *X*. Since *Y* is *s*-Urysohn, there exist  $V_1 \in SO(Y, f(x))$  and  $V_2 \in SO(Y, f(y))$  such that  $Cl(V_1) \cap Cl(V_2) = \emptyset$ . Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, there exist  $\beta\theta$ -open sets  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  in *X* containing *x* and *y*, respectively, such that  $f(U_1) \subset Cl(V_1)$  and  $f(U_2) \subset Cl(V_2)$ . Therefore  $U_1 \cap U_2 = \emptyset$ . This implies that *X* is  $\beta\theta$ - $T_2$ .
- (2) Since Y is weakly Hausdorff and f is injective, for any distinct points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  of X, there exist  $V_1, V_2 \in RC(Y)$  such that  $f(x_1) \in V_1$ ,  $f(x_2) \notin V_1$ ,  $f(x_2) \in V_2$  and  $f(x_1) \notin V_2$ . Since f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, by Theorem 2.2  $f^{-1}(V_1)$  and  $f^{-1}(V_2)$  are  $\beta\theta$ -open sets and  $x_1 \in f^{-1}(V_1)$ ,  $x_2 \notin f^{-1}(V_1)$ ,  $x_2 \in f^{-1}(V_2)$ ,  $x_1 \notin f^{-1}(V_2)$ . Then, there exists  $U_1$ ,  $U_2 \in \beta\theta O(X)$  such that  $x_1 \in U_1 \subset f^{-1}(V_1)$ ,  $x_2 \notin U_1$ ,  $x_2 \in U_2 \subset f^{-1}(V_2)$  and  $x_1 \notin U_2$ . Thus X is  $\beta\theta$ -T<sub>1</sub>.  $\Box$

The union of two  $\beta\theta$ -closed sets is not necessarily  $\beta\theta$ -closed as shown in the following example.

**Example 3.5.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $\tau = \{\emptyset, X, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$ . The subsets  $\{a\}$  and  $\{b\}$  are  $\beta\theta$ -closed in  $(X, \tau)$  but  $\{a, b\}$  is not  $\beta\theta$ -closed.

Recall that a topological space is called a  $\beta\theta$ c-space [25] if the union of any two  $\beta\theta$ -closed sets is a  $\beta\theta$ -closed set.

**Theorem 3.6.** If  $f, g: X \to Y$  are almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous functions, X is a  $\beta\theta$ c-space and Y is s-Urysohn, then  $E = \{x \in X \mid f(x) = g(x)\}$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in X.

**Proof.** If  $x \in X \setminus E$ , then  $f(x) \neq g(x)$ . Since *Y* is *s*-Urysohn, there exist  $V_1 \in SO(Y, f(x))$  and  $V_2 \in SO(Y, g(x))$  such that  $Cl(V_1) \cap Cl(V_2) = \emptyset$ . By the fact that *f* and *g* are almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, there exist  $\beta\theta$ -open sets  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  in *X* containing *x* such that  $f(U_1) \subset Cl(V_1)$  and  $g(U_2) \subset Cl(V_2)$ . We put  $U = U_1 \cap U_2$ . Then *U* is  $\beta\theta$ -open in *X*. Thus  $f(U) \cap g(U) = \emptyset$ . It follows that  $x \notin \beta Cl_{\theta}(E)$ . This shows that *E* is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in *X*.

We say that the product space  $X = X_1 \times \ldots \times X_n$  has Property  $P_{\beta\theta}$  if  $A_i$  is a  $\beta\theta$ -open set in a topological space  $X_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots n$ , then  $A_1 \times \ldots \times A_n$  is also  $\beta\theta$ -open in the product space  $X = X_1 \times \ldots \times X_n$ .  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $f_1: X_1 \to Y$  and  $f_2: X_2 \to Y$  be two functions, where

- (1)  $X = X_1 \times X_2$  has the Property  $P_{\beta\theta}$ .
- (2) Y is a Urysohn space.
- (3)  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous. Then  $\{(x_1, x_2): f_1(x_1) = f_2(x_2)\}$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in the product space  $X = X_1 \times X_2$ .

**Proof.** Let *A* denote the set  $\{(x_1, x_2) : f_1(x_1) = f_2(x_2)\}$ . In order to show that *A* is  $\beta\theta$ -closed, we show that  $(X_1 \times X_2)A$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open. Let  $(x_1, x_2) \notin A$ . Then  $f_1(x_1) \neq f_2(x_2)$ . Since *Y* is Urysohn, there exist open sets  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  containing  $f_1(x_1)$  and  $f_2(x_2)$ , respectively, such that  $Cl(V_1) \cap Cl(V_2) = \emptyset$ . Since  $f_i$  (i = 1, 2) is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous and  $Cl(V_i)$  is regular closed, then  $f_i^{-1}(Cl(V_i))$  is a  $\beta\theta$ -open set containing  $x_i$  in  $X_i$  (i = 1, 2). Hence by (1),  $f_1^{-1}(Cl(V_1)) \times f_2^{-1}(Cl(V_2)) \subset (X_1 \times X_2) \setminus A$ . It follows that  $(X_1 \times X_2)A$  is  $\beta\theta$ -open. Thus *A* is  $\beta\theta$  -closed in the product space  $X = X_1 \times X_2$ .  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 3.8.** Assume that the product space  $X \times X$  has the Property  $P_{\beta\theta}$ . If  $f: X \to Y$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous and Y is a Urysohn space. Then  $A = \{(x_1, x_2) : f(x_1) = f(x_2)\}$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed in the product space  $X \times X$ .

**Theorem 3.9.** Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a function and  $g: X \to X \times Y$  the graph function, given by g(x) = (x, f(x)) for every  $x \in X$ . Then f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous if g is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

**Proof.** Let  $x \in X$  and V be a regular open subset of Y containing f(x). Then we have that  $X \times V$  is regular open. Since g is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous,  $g^{-1}(X \times V) = f^{-1}(V)$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed. Hence f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.  $\Box$ 

Recall that for a function  $f: X \to Y$ , the subset  $\{(x, f(x)): x \in X\} \subset X \times Y$  is called the graph of f and is denoted by G(f).

**Definition 7.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  has a  $\beta\theta$ -closed graph if for each  $(x, y) \in (X \times Y) \setminus G(f)$ , there exists  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$  and an open set *V* of *Y* containing *y* such that  $(U \times V) \cap G(f) = \emptyset$ .

**Lemma 3.10.** The graph, G(f) of a function  $f: X \to Y$  is  $\beta\theta$ -closed if and only if for each  $(x, y) \in (X \times Y) \setminus G(f)$  there exists  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$ and an open set V of Y containing y such that  $f(U) \cap V = \emptyset$ . **Theorem 3.11.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is a function with a  $\beta\theta$ -closed graph, then for each  $x \in X$ ,  $f(x) = \cap \{Cl(f(U)) : U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)\}$ .

**Proof.** Suppose the theorem is false. Then there exists a  $y \neq f(x)$  such that  $y \in \cap \{Cl(f(U)): U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)\}$ . This implies that  $y \in Cl(f(U))$ , for every  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$ . So  $V \cap f(U) \neq \emptyset$ , for every  $V \in O(Y, y)$ , which contradicts the hypothesis that f is a function with a  $\beta \theta$ -closed graph. Hence the theorem.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.12.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous and Y is Haudsorff, then G(f) is  $\beta\theta$ -closed.

**Proof.** Let  $(x, y) \in (X \times Y) \setminus G(f)$ . Then  $y \neq f(x)$ . Since *Y* is Hausdorff, there exist disjoint open sets *V* and *W* of *Y* such that  $y \in V$  and  $f(x) \in W$ . Then  $f(x) \notin Y \setminus Cl(W)$ . Since  $Y \setminus Cl(W)$  is a regular open set containing *V*, it follows that  $f(x) \notin rker(V)$  and hence  $x \notin f^{-1}(rker(V))$ . Then by Theorem 2.2(6)  $x \notin \beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(V))$ . Therefore we have  $(x, y) \in (X \setminus \beta Cl_{\theta}((f^{-1}(V))) \times V \subset (X \times Y) \setminus G(f)$ , which proves that G(f) is  $\beta \theta$ -closed.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.13.** Let  $f: X \to Y$  have a  $\beta\theta$ -closed graph.

(1) If f is injective, then X is  $\beta \theta$ -T<sub>1</sub>.

(2) If f is surjective, then Y is  $T_1$ .

Proof.

- (1) Let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be any distinct points in *X*. Then  $(x_1, f(x_2)) \in (X \times Y) \cdot G(f)$ . Since *f* has a  $\beta \theta$ -closed graph, there exist  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x_1)$  and an open set *V* of *Y* containing  $f(x_2)$  such that  $f(U) \cap V = \emptyset$ . Then  $U \cap f^{-1}(V) = \emptyset$ . Since  $x_2 \in f^{-1}(V), x_2 \notin U$ . Therefore *U* is a  $\beta \theta$ -open set containing  $x_1$  but not  $x_2$ , which proves that *X* is  $\beta \theta$ -*T*<sub>1</sub>.
- (2) Let  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  be any distinct points in *Y*. Since *Y* is surjective, there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y_1$ . Then  $(x, y_2) \in (X \times Y) \setminus G(f)$ . Since *f* has a  $\beta \theta$ -closed graph, there exist  $U \in \beta \theta O(X, x)$  and an open set *V* of *Y* containing  $y_2$  such that  $f(U) \cap V = \emptyset$ . Since  $y_1 = f(x)$  and  $x \in U$ ,  $y_1 \in f(U)$ . Therefore  $y_1 \notin V$ , which proves that *Y* is  $T_1$ .  $\Box$

**Theorem 3.14.** If  $f: X \to Y$  has a  $\beta \theta$ -closed graph and X is a  $\beta \theta$ -space, then  $f^{-1}(K)$  is  $\beta \theta$ -closed for every compact subset K of Y.

**Proof.** Let *K* be a compact subset of *Y* and let  $x \in X \setminus f^{-1}(K)$ . Then for each  $y \in K$ ,  $(x, y) \in (X \times Y) \setminus G(f)$ . So there exist  $U_y \in \beta \partial O(X, x)$ and an open set  $V_y$  of *Y* containing *y* such that  $f(U_y) \cap V_y = \emptyset$ . The family  $\{V_y : y \in K\}$  is an open cover of *K* and hence there is a finite subcover  $\{V_{y_i} : i = 1, ..., n\}$ . Let  $U = \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_{y_i}$ . Then  $U \in \beta \partial O(X, x)$ and  $f(U) \cap K = \emptyset$ . Hence  $U \cap f^{-1}(K) = \emptyset$ , which proves that  $f^{-1}(K)$ is  $\beta \theta$ -closed in *X*.  $\Box$ 

**Definition 8.** A topological space *X* is said to be:

- (1) strongly  $\beta\theta$ C-compact [6] if every  $\beta\theta$ -closed cover of X has a finite subcover. (resp.  $A \subset X$  is strongly  $\beta\theta$ C-compact if the subspace A is strongly  $\beta\theta$ C-compact).
- (2) nearly-compact [26] if every regular open cover of X has a finite subcover.

**Theorem 3.15.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is an almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous surjection and X is strongly  $\beta\theta C$ -compact, then Y is nearly compact.

**Proof.** Let  $\{V_{\alpha} : \alpha \in I\}$  be a regular open cover of *Y*. Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous, we have that  $\{f^{-1}(V_{\alpha}) : \alpha \in I\}$  is a cover of *X* by  $\beta\theta$ -closed sets. Since *X* is strongly  $\beta\theta$ C-compact, there exists a finite subset  $I_0$  of *I* such that  $X = \bigcup \{f^{-1}(V_{\alpha}) : \alpha \in I_0\}$ . Since *f* is surjective  $Y = \bigcup \{V_{\alpha} : \alpha \in I_0\}$  and therefore *Y* is nearly compact.

A topological space *X* is said to be almost-regular [27] if for each regular closed set *F* of *X* and each point  $x \in X \setminus F$ , there exist disjoint open sets *U* and *V* such that  $F \subset V$  and  $x \in U$ .  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.16.** If a function  $f: X \to Y$  is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous and Y is almost-regular, then f is almost  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

**Proof.** Let *x* be an arbitrary point of *X* and *V* an open set of *Y* containing *f*(*x*). Since *Y* is almost-regular, by Theorem 2.2 of [27] there exists a regular open set *W* in *Y* containing *f*(*x*) such that  $Cl(W) \subset Int(Cl(V))$ . Since *f* is almost contra  $\beta\theta$  -continuous, and Cl(W) is regular closed in *Y*, by Theorem 3.1 there exists  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U) \subset Cl(W)$ . Then  $f(U) \subset Cl(W) \subset Int(Cl(V))$ . Hence, *f* is almost  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.

The  $\beta\theta$ -frontier of a subset *A*, denoted by  $Fr_{\beta\theta}(A)$ , is defined as  $Fr_{\beta\theta}(A) = \beta Cl_{\theta}(A) \setminus \beta Int_{\theta}(A)$ , equivalently  $Fr_{\beta\theta}(A) = \beta Cl_{\theta}(A) \cap \beta Cl_{\theta}(X \setminus A)$ .  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.17.** The set of points  $x \in X$  which  $f: (X, \tau) \to (Y, \sigma)$  is not almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous is identical with the union of the  $\beta\theta$ -frontiers of the inverse images of regular closed sets of Y containing f(x).

**Proof.** Necessity. Suppose that f is not almost contra  $\beta\theta$ continuous at a point x of X. Then there exists a regular closed set  $F \subset Y$  containing f(x) such that f(U) is not a subset of F for every  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$ . Hence we have  $U \cap (X \setminus f^{-1}(F)) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$ . It follows that  $x \in \beta Cl_{\theta}(X \setminus f^{-1}(F))$ . We also have  $x \in f^{-1}(F) \subset \beta Cl_{\theta}(f^{-1}(F))$ . This means that  $x \in Fr_{\beta\theta}(f^{-1}(F))$ .

Sufficiency. Suppose that  $x \in Fr_{\beta\theta}(f^{-1}(F))$  for some  $F \in RC(Y, f(x))$  Now, we assume that f is almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous at  $x \in X$ . Then there exists  $U \in \beta\theta O(X, x)$  such that  $f(U) \subset F$ . Therefore, we have  $x \in U \subset f^{-1}(F)$  and hence  $x \in \beta Int_{\theta}(f^{-1}(F)) \subset X \setminus Fr_{\beta\theta}(f^{-1}(F))$ . This is a contradiction. This means that f is not almost contra  $\beta\theta$ -continuous.  $\Box$ 

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