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WEAK FORMS OF OPEN AND CLOSED FUNCTIONS  
VIA  $b$ - $\theta$ -OPEN SETS

**Abstract.** In this paper, we introduce and study two new classes of functions called weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open functions and weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed functions by using the notions of  $b$ - $\theta$ -open sets and  $b$ - $\theta$ -closure operator. The connections between these functions and other related functions are investigated.

## 1. Introduction

In 1996, Andrijević [3] introduced a new class of generalized open sets called  $b$ -open sets in a topological space. This class is a subset of the class of  $\beta$ -open sets [1]. Also the class of  $b$ -open sets is a superset of the class of semi-open sets [7] and the class of preopen sets [8]. In [4], the authors introduced and investigated  $\theta$ -preopen functions and  $\theta$ -preclosed functions by using pre- $\theta$ -interior and pre- $\theta$ -closure. In [5], weakly semi- $\theta$ -open functions and weakly semi- $\theta$ -closed functions are similarly investigated. The purpose of this paper is to introduce and investigate the notions of weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open functions and weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed functions. Weak  $b$ - $\theta$ -openness (resp. weak  $b$ - $\theta$ -closedness) is a generalization of both  $\theta$ -preopenness and weak semi- $\theta$ -openness (resp.  $\theta$ -preclosedness and weak semi- $\theta$ -closedness). We investigate some of the fundamental properties of this class of functions. For the benefit of the reader, we recall some basic definitions and known results. Throughout the paper,  $X$  and  $Y$  ( or  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \sigma)$  ) stand for topological spaces with no separation axioms assumed unless otherwise stated. Let  $A$  be a subset of  $X$ . The closure of  $A$  and the interior of  $A$  will be denoted by  $Cl(A)$  and  $Int(A)$ , respectively.

**DEFINITION 1.1.** A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is said to be  $b$ -open [3] if  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(A)) \cup Int(Cl(A))$ .

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2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: 54C05, 54C08, 54C10.

*Key words and phrases*:  $b$ -open set,  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set, weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open function, weakly- $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function.

The complement of a  $b$ -open set is said to be  $b$ -closed. The intersection of all  $b$ -closed sets containing  $A \subseteq X$  is called the  $b$ -closure of  $A$  and shall be denoted by  $bCl(A)$ . The union of all  $b$ -open sets of  $X$  contained in  $A$  is called the  $b$ -interior of  $A$  and is denoted by  $bInt(A)$ . A subset  $A$  is said to be  $b$ -regular if it is  $b$ -open and  $b$ -closed. The family of all  $b$ -open (resp.  $b$ -closed,  $b$ -regular) subsets of a space  $X$  is denoted by  $BO(X)$  (resp.  $BC(X)$ ,  $BR(X)$ ) and the collection of all  $b$ -open subsets of  $X$  containing a fixed point  $x$  is denoted by  $BO(X, x)$ . The sets  $BC(X, x)$  and  $BR(X, x)$  are defined analogously.

**DEFINITION 1.2.** A point  $x \in X$  is called a  $b$ - $\theta$ -cluster [10] (resp.  $\theta$ -cluster [14]) point of  $A$  if  $bCl(U) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  (resp.  $Cl(U) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ ) for every  $b$ -open (resp. open) set  $U$  of  $X$  containing  $x$ .

The set of all  $b$ - $\theta$ -cluster (resp.  $\theta$ -cluster) points of  $A$  is called the  $b$ - $\theta$ -closure (resp.  $\theta$ -closure) of  $A$  and is denoted by  $bCl_\theta(A)$  (resp.  $Cl_\theta(A)$ ). A subset  $A$  is said to be  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed (resp.  $\theta$ -closed) if  $bCl_\theta(A) = A$  (resp.  $Cl_\theta(A) = A$ ). The complement of a  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed (resp.  $\theta$ -closed) set is said to be  $b$ - $\theta$ -open (resp.  $\theta$ -open). The  $b$ - $\theta$ -interior (resp.  $\theta$ -interior) of  $A$  is defined by the union of all  $b$ - $\theta$ -open (resp.  $\theta$ -open) sets contained in  $A$  and is denoted by  $bInt_\theta(A)$  (resp.  $Int_\theta(A)$ ). The family of all  $b$ - $\theta$ -open (resp.  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed) sets of a space  $X$  is denoted by  $B\theta O(X, \tau)$  (resp.  $B\theta C(X, \tau)$ ).

**DEFINITION 1.3.** A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is said to be  $\alpha$ -open [9] (resp. semi-open [7], preopen [8],  $\beta$ -open [1] or semi-preopen [2]) if  $A \subseteq Int(Cl(Int(A)))$  (resp.  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq Int(Cl(A))$ ,  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(Cl(A)))$ ).

The following basic properties of the  $b$ -closure are useful in the sequel:

**LEMMA 1.4.** ([3]) For a subset  $A$  of a space  $X$ , the following properties hold:

- (1)  $bInt(A) = sInt(A) \cup pInt(A)$ ;
- (2)  $bCl(A) = sCl(A) \cap pCl(A)$ ;
- (3)  $bCl(X - A) = X - bInt(A)$ ;
- (4)  $x \in bCl(A)$  if and only if  $A \cap U \neq \emptyset$  for every  $U \in BO(X, x)$ ;
- (5)  $A \in BC(X)$  if and only if  $A = bCl(A)$ ;
- (6)  $pInt(bCl(A)) = bCl(pInt(A))$ .

**LEMMA 1.5.** ([2]) For a subset  $A$  of a space  $X$ , the following properties are hold:

- (1)  $\alpha Int(A) = A \cap Int(Cl(Int(A)))$ ;
- (2)  $sInt(A) = A \cap Cl(Int(A))$ ;
- (3)  $pInt(A) = A \cap Int(Cl(A))$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.6.** ([10]) Let  $A$  and  $A_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \in \Lambda$ ) be any subsets of a space  $X$ . Then the following properties hold:

- (1) if  $A_\alpha \in B\theta O(X)$  for each  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ , then  $\cup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} A_\alpha \in B\theta O(X)$ ;
- (2) if  $A$  is  $b$ -closed, then  $bInt(A) = bInt_\theta(A)$ ;
- (3)  $bCl_\theta(A)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed;
- (4)  $x \in bCl_\theta(A)$  if and only if  $V \cap A \neq \emptyset$  for each  $V \in BR(X, x)$ ;
- (5)  $A$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $X$  if and only if for each  $x \in A$  there exists  $V \in BR(X, x)$  such that  $x \in V \subseteq A$ .

## 2. Characterizations of weakly $b$ - $\theta$ -open functions

**DEFINITION 2.1.** A functions  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $b$ - $\theta$ -open if for each open set  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $f(U)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open.

**DEFINITION 2.2.** A functions  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open if  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$  for each open set  $U$  of  $X$ .

Clearly, every  $b$ - $\theta$ -open function is also weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open, but the converse is not generally true.

**EXAMPLE 2.3.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{X, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}\}$ . Then  $BO(X) = (X, \tau)$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a function defined by  $f(a) = c$ ,  $f(b) = b$  and  $f(c) = a$ . Then  $f$  is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open function which is not  $b$ - $\theta$ -open, since for  $U = \{a\}$ ,  $f(U)$  is not  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $X$ .

**THEOREM 2.4.** For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open;
- (2)  $f(Int_\theta(A)) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(A))$  for every subset  $A$  of  $X$ ;
- (3)  $Int_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subseteq f^{-1}(bInt_\theta(B))$  for every subset  $B$  of  $Y$ ;
- (4)  $f^{-1}(bCl_\theta(B)) \subseteq Cl_\theta(f^{-1}(B))$  for every subset  $B$  of  $Y$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $A$  be any subset of  $X$  and  $x \in Int_\theta(A)$ . Then, there exists an open set  $U$  such that  $x \in U \subseteq Cl(U) \subseteq A$ . Then,  $f(x) \in f(U) \subseteq f(Cl(U)) \subseteq f(A)$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open,  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U))) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(A))$ . This implies that  $f(x) \in bInt_\theta(f(A))$ . This shows that  $x \in f^{-1}(bInt_\theta(f(A)))$ . Thus,  $Int_\theta(A) \subseteq f^{-1}(bInt_\theta(f(A)))$ , and so,  $f(Int_\theta(A)) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(A))$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): Let  $B$  be any subset of  $Y$ . Then by (2),  $f(Int_\theta(f^{-1}(B))) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(f^{-1}(B))) \subseteq bInt_\theta(B)$ . Therefore,  $Int_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) \subseteq f^{-1}(bInt_\theta(B))$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4): Let  $B$  be any subset of  $Y$ . Using (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} X - Cl_\theta(f^{-1}(B)) &= Int_\theta(X - f^{-1}(B)) \\ &= Int_\theta(f^{-1}(Y - B)) \\ &\subseteq f^{-1}(bInt_\theta(Y - B)) \\ &= f^{-1}(Y - bCl_\theta(B)) \\ &= X - f^{-1}(bCl_\theta(B)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we obtain  $f^{-1}(bCl_\theta(B)) \subseteq Cl_\theta(f^{-1}(B))$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let  $V$  be any open set of  $X$  and  $B = Y - f(Cl(V))$ . By (4),  $f^{-1}(bCl_\theta(Y - f(Cl(V)))) \subseteq Cl_\theta(f^{-1}(Y - f(Cl(V))))$ . Therefore, we obtain  $f^{-1}(Y - bInt_\theta(f(Cl(V)))) \subseteq Cl_\theta(X - f^{-1}(f(Cl(V)))) \subseteq Cl_\theta(X - Cl(V))$ . Hence  $V \subseteq Int_\theta(Cl(V)) \subseteq f^{-1}(bInt_\theta(f(Cl(V))))$  and  $f(V) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(V)))$ . This shows that  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

**THEOREM 2.5.** *For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open;
- (2) For each  $x \in X$  and each open subset  $U$  of  $X$  containing  $x$ , there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $V$  containing  $f(x)$  such that  $V \subseteq f(Cl(U))$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $x \in X$  and  $U$  be an open set in  $X$  with  $x \in U$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open,  $f(x) \in f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . Let  $V = bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . Then  $V$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open and  $f(x) \in V \subseteq f(Cl(U))$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$  and let  $y \in f(U)$ . It follows from (2) that  $V \subseteq f(Cl(U))$  for some  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $V$  in  $Y$  containing  $y$ . Hence, we have  $y \in V \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . This shows that  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . Thus  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

**THEOREM 2.6.** *For a bijective function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open;
- (2)  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(F)$  for each closed set  $F$  in  $X$ ;
- (3)  $bCl_\theta(f(U)) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$  for each open set  $U$  in  $X$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $F$  be a closed set in  $X$ . Then we have  $f(X - F) = Y - f(F) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(X - F)))$ , and so  $Y - f(F) \subseteq Y - bCl_\theta(f(Int(F)))$ . Hence  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(F)$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$ . Since  $Cl(U)$  is a closed set and  $U \subseteq Int(Cl(U))$ , by (2) we have  $bCl_\theta(f(U)) \subseteq bCl_\theta(f(Int(Cl(U)))) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let  $V$  be an open set of  $X$ . Then, we have  $Y - bInt_\theta(f(Cl(V))) = bCl_\theta(Y - f(Cl(V))) = bCl_\theta(f(X - Cl(V))) \subseteq f(Cl(X - Cl(V))) =$

$f(X - Int(Cl(V))) \subseteq f(X - V) = Y - f(V)$ . Therefore, we have  $f(V) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(V)))$  and hence  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

The proof of the following theorem is straightforward and thus is omitted.

**THEOREM 2.7.** *For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open;
- (2)  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$  for each preopen set  $U$  of  $X$ ;
- (3)  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$  for each  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  of  $X$ ;
- (4)  $f(Int(Cl(U))) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$  for each open set  $U$  of  $X$ ;
- (5)  $f(Int(F)) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(F))$  for each closed set  $F$  of  $X$ .

### 3. Some properties of weakly $b$ - $\theta$ -open functions

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a regular space. A function  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open if and only if  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open.*

**Proof.** The sufficiency is clear. For the necessity, let  $W$  be a nonempty open subset of  $X$ . For each  $x$  in  $W$ , let  $U_x$  be an open set such that  $x \in U_x \subseteq Cl(U_x) \subseteq W$ . Hence we obtain that  $W = \cup\{U_x : x \in W\} = \cup\{Cl(U_x) : x \in W\}$  and  $f(W) = \cup\{f(U_x) : x \in W\} \subseteq \cup\{bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U_x))) : x \in W\} \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(\cup\{Cl(U_x) : x \in W\})) = bInt_\theta(f(W))$ . Thus  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

Recall that a function  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is said to be strongly continuous [6] if for every subset  $A$  of  $X$ ,  $f(Cl(A)) \subseteq f(A)$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *If  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open and strongly continuous, then  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open.*

**Proof.** Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open,  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . However, because  $f$  is strongly continuous,  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(U))$ . Therefore  $f(U)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

A function  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is said to be contra  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed if  $f(U)$  is a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set of  $Y$ , for each closed set  $U$  in  $X$ .

**THEOREM 3.3.** *If  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is a contra  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function, then  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open.*

**Proof.** Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . Then, we have  $f(U) \subseteq f(Cl(U)) = bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . ■

**EXAMPLE 3.4.** The converse of Theorem 3.3 does not hold. Example 2.3 shows that a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open function need not be contra  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed, since  $f(\{b, c\}) = \{a, b\}$  is not  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $X$ .

**DEFINITION 3.5.** ([13]) A space  $X$  is said to be hyperconnected if every non-empty open subset of  $X$  is dense in  $X$ .

**THEOREM 3.6.** *If  $X$  is a hyperconnected space, then a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open if and only if  $f(X)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $Y$ .*

**Proof.** The sufficiency is clear. For the necessity observe that for any open subset  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $f(U) \subseteq f(X) = bInt_\theta(f(X)) = bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . Hence  $f$  is weakly  $b$ -open. ■

**DEFINITION 3.7.** A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called complementary weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open if for each open set  $U$  of  $X$ ,  $f(Fr(U))$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed in  $Y$ , where  $Fr(U)$  denotes the frontier of  $U$ .

It is clear that if  $A$  is closed, then  $Int(A) \subseteq sInt(A) = bInt(A) = bInt_\theta(A)$ .

**THEOREM 3.8.** *Let  $B\theta O(X, \tau)$  be closed under finite intersection. If  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is bijective weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open and complementary weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open, then  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open.*

**Proof.** Let  $U$  be an open subset in  $X$  and  $y \in f(U)$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open, by Theorem 2.5, for some  $x \in U$  there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $V$  containing  $f(x) = y$  such that  $V \subseteq f(Cl(U))$ . Now  $Fr(U) = Cl(U) - U$  and thus  $x \notin Fr(U)$ . Hence  $y \notin f(Fr(U))$  and therefore  $y \in V \setminus f(Fr(U))$ . Put  $V_y = V - f(Fr(U))$ . Then  $V_y$  is a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set since  $f$  is complementary weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. Furthermore,  $y \in V_y$  and  $V_y = V - f(Fr(U)) \subseteq f(Cl(U)) - f(Fr(U)) = f(Cl(U) - Fr(U)) = f(U)$ . Therefore  $f(U) = \bigcup\{V_y : V_y \in B\theta O(Y, \sigma), y \in f(U)\}$ . Hence by Proposition 1.6,  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

**DEFINITION 3.9.** ([12]) A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be almost open in the sense of Singal and Singal, written as (a.o.S.) if the image of each regular open set  $U$  of  $X$  is an open set in  $Y$ .

**DEFINITION 3.10.** A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $b$ -closed if for each closed set  $F$  of  $X$ ,  $f(F)$  is  $b$ -closed set in  $Y$ .

**THEOREM 3.11.** *If  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$  is an a.o.S. and  $b$ -closed function, then it is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open function.*

**Proof.** Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$ . Since  $f$  is a.o.S. and  $Int(Cl(U))$  is regular open,  $f(Int(Cl(U)))$  is open in  $Y$ . Since  $f$  is  $b$ -closed,  $f(U) \subseteq f(Int(Cl(U))) \subseteq Int(f(Cl(U))) \subseteq bInt(f(Cl(U))) = bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . This shows that  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

**DEFINITION 3.12.** ([1]) A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $\beta$ -open if the image of each open set  $U$  of  $X$  is a  $\beta$ -open set.

**THEOREM 3.13.** *If a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open and precontinuous, then  $f$  is  $\beta$ -open.*

**Proof.** Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . Then by weak  $b$ - $\theta$ -openness of  $f$ ,  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$ . Since  $f$  is precontinuous,  $f(Cl(U)) \subseteq Cl(f(U))$ . Hence we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} f(U) &\subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U))) \\ &\subseteq bInt_\theta(Cl(f(U))) \\ &= bInt(Cl(f(U))) \\ &= sInt(Cl(f(U))) \cup pInt(Cl(f(U))) \\ &\subseteq Cl(Int(Cl(f(U)))) \cup Int(Cl(f(U))) \\ &\subseteq Cl(Int(Cl(f(U)))) \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $f(U)$  is a  $\beta$ -open set in  $Y$ . Thus  $f$  is a  $\beta$ -open function. ■

A topological space  $X$  is said to be  $b$ - $\theta$ -connected if it cannot be written as the union of two nonempty disjoint  $b$ - $\theta$ -open sets.

**THEOREM 3.14.** *If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open bijective function of a space  $X$  onto a  $b$ - $\theta$ -connected space  $Y$ , then  $X$  is connected.*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $X$  is not connected. Then there exist non-empty open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $U \cap V = \emptyset$  and  $U \cup V = X$ . Hence we have  $f(U) \cap f(V) = \emptyset$  and  $f(U) \cup f(V) = Y$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open, we have  $f(U) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(U)))$  and  $f(V) \subseteq bInt_\theta(f(Cl(V)))$ . Moreover  $U$ ,  $V$  are open and also closed. We have  $f(U) = bInt_\theta(f(U))$  and  $f(V) = bInt_\theta(f(V))$ . Hence,  $f(U)$  and  $f(V)$  are  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $Y$ . Thus,  $Y$  has been decomposed into two non-empty disjoint  $b$ - $\theta$ -open sets. This is contrary to the hypothesis that  $Y$  is a  $b$ - $\theta$ -connected space. Thus,  $X$  is connected. ■

**THEOREM 3.15.** *Let  $X$  be a regular space. Then for a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open;
- (2) For each  $\theta$ -open set  $A$  in  $X$ ,  $f(A)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $Y$ ;
- (3) For any set  $B$  of  $Y$  and any  $\theta$ -closed set  $A$  in  $X$  containing  $f^{-1}(B)$ , there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed set  $F$  in  $Y$  containing  $B$  such that  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq A$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Let  $A$  be a  $\theta$ -open set in  $X$ . Since  $X$  is regular, by Theorem 3.1,  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open and  $A$  is open. Therefore  $f(A)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $Y$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): Let  $B$  be any set in  $Y$  and  $A$  a  $\theta$ -closed set in  $X$  such that  $f^{-1}(B) \subseteq A$ . Since  $X - A$  is  $\theta$ -open in  $X$ , by (2),  $f(X - A)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open in  $Y$ . Let  $F = Y - f(X - A)$ . Then  $F$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed and  $B \subseteq F$ . Now  $f^{-1}(F) = f^{-1}(Y - f(X - A)) = X - f^{-1}(f(X - A)) \subseteq A$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Let  $B$  be any set in  $Y$ . Let  $A = Cl_\theta(f^{-1}(B))$ . Since  $X$  is regular,  $A$  is a  $\theta$ -closed set in  $X$  and  $f^{-1}(B) \subseteq A$ . Then there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed set  $F$  in  $Y$  containing  $B$  such that  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq A$ . Since  $F$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed,

$f^{-1}(bCl_\theta(B)) \subseteq f^{-1}(F) \subseteq A = Cl_\theta(f^{-1}(B))$ . Therefore by Theorem 2.4,  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. ■

#### 4. Weakly $b$ - $\theta$ -closed functions

**DEFINITION 4.1.** A functions  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed if for each closed set  $F$  of  $X$ ,  $f(F)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed.

Now, we define the generalized form of  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed functions.

**DEFINITION 4.2.** A functions  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed if  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(F)$  for each closed set  $F$  of  $X$ .

Clearly, every  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function, but the converse is not generally true.

**EXAMPLE 4.3.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be the function from Example 2.3. Then it is shown that  $f$  is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function which is not  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed, since  $f(\{c, b\}) = \{a, b\}$  is not  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed in  $X$ .

**THEOREM 4.4.** For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed;
- (2)  $bCl_\theta(f(U)) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$  for each open set  $U$  in  $X$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$ . Since  $Cl(U)$  is a closed set and  $U \subseteq Int(Cl(U))$ , we have  $bCl_\theta(f(U)) \subseteq bCl_\theta(f(Int(Cl(U)))) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Let  $F$  be a closed set of  $X$ . Then, we have  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(Cl(Int(F))) \subseteq f(Cl(F)) = f(F)$  and hence  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed. ■

**COROLLARY 4.5.** A bijective function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -open if and only if  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed.

**Proof.** This is an immediate consequence of Theorems 2.6 and 4.4. ■

The proof of the following theorem is straightforward and thus is omitted.

**THEOREM 4.6.** For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed;
- (2)  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(F)$  for each preclosed set  $F$  in  $X$ ;
- (3)  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(F)$  for each  $\alpha$ -closed set  $F$  in  $X$ ;
- (4)  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(Cl(U)))) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$  for each subset  $U$  in  $X$ ;
- (5)  $bCl_\theta(f(U)) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$  for each preopen set  $U$  in  $X$ .

**THEOREM 4.7.** For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed;
- (2)  $bCl_\theta(f(U)) \subseteq f(Cl(U))$  for each regular open set  $U$  in  $X$ ;
- (3) For each subset  $F$  in  $Y$  and each open set  $U$  in  $X$  with  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq U$ , there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $A$  in  $Y$  with  $F \subseteq A$  and  $f^{-1}(A) \subseteq Cl(U)$ ;
- (4) For each point  $y$  in  $Y$  and each open set  $U$  in  $X$  with  $f^{-1}(y) \subseteq U$ , there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $A$  in  $Y$  containing  $y$  and  $f^{-1}(A) \subseteq Cl(U)$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): This is clear by Theorem 4.4.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): Let  $F$  be a subset of  $Y$  and  $U$  an open set in  $X$  with  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq U$ . Then  $f^{-1}(F) \cap Cl(X - Cl(U)) = \phi$  and consequently,  $F \cap f(Cl(X - Cl(U))) = \phi$ . Since  $X - Cl(U)$  is regular open,  $F \cap bCl_\theta(f(X - Cl(U))) = \phi$ . Let  $A = Y - bCl_\theta(f(X - Cl(U)))$ . Then  $A$  is a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set with  $F \subseteq A$  and we have  $f^{-1}(A) \subseteq X - f^{-1}(bCl_\theta(f(X - Cl(U)))) \subseteq X - f^{-1}f(X - Cl(U)) \subseteq Cl(U)$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4): This is obvious.

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1): Let  $F$  be closed in  $X$  and let  $y \in Y - f(F)$ . Since  $f^{-1}(y) \subseteq X - F$ , by (4) there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $A$  in  $Y$  with  $y \in A$  and  $f^{-1}(A) \subseteq Cl(X - F) = X - Int(F)$ . Therefore  $A \cap f(Int(F)) = \phi$ , so that  $y \notin bCl_\theta(f(Int(F)))$ . Thus  $bCl_\theta(f(Int(F))) \subseteq f(F)$ . Hence  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed. ■

**THEOREM 4.8.** *If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a bijective weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function, then for every subset  $F$  in  $Y$  and every open set  $U$  in  $X$  with  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq U$ , there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed set  $B$  in  $Y$  such that  $F \subseteq B$  and  $f^{-1}(B) \subseteq Cl(U)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $F$  be a subset of  $Y$  and  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$  with  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq U$ . Put  $B = bCl_\theta(f(Int(Cl(U))))$ . Then  $B$  is a  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed set in  $Y$  such that  $F \subseteq B$ , since  $F \subseteq f(U) \subseteq f(Int(Cl(U))) \subseteq bCl_\theta(f(Int(Cl(U)))) = B$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed, by Theorem 4.6, we have  $f^{-1}(B) \subseteq Cl(U)$ . ■

Recall that, a set  $F$  in a space  $X$  is  $\theta$ -compact [11] if for each cover  $\Omega$  of  $F$  by open sets in  $X$ , there is a finite family  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $F \subseteq Int(\cup\{Cl(U_i) : i = 1, \dots, n\})$ .

**THEOREM 4.9.** *If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed function with  $\theta$ -closed fibers, then  $f(F)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed for each  $\theta$ -compact set  $F$  in  $X$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $F$  be a  $\theta$ -compact set and  $y \in Y - f(F)$ . Then  $f^{-1}(y) \cap F = \phi$  and for each  $x \in F$  there is an open set  $U_x \subseteq X$  with  $x \in U_x$  such that  $Cl(U_x) \cap f^{-1}(y) = \phi$ . Clearly  $\Omega = \{U_x : x \in F\}$  is an open cover of  $F$ . Since  $F$  is  $\theta$ -compact, there is a finite family  $U_{x_1}, \dots, U_{x_n}$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $F \subseteq Int(A)$ , where  $A = \cup\{Cl(U_{x_i}) : i = 1, \dots, n\}$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed, by Theorem 4.7, there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open  $B \subseteq Y$  with  $f^{-1}(y) \subseteq f^{-1}(B) \subseteq Cl(X - A) = X - Int(A) \subseteq X - F$ . Therefore  $y \in B \subseteq Y - f(F)$ .

$f(F)$ . By Proposition 1.6(1),  $Y - f(F)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open. This shows that  $f(F)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed. ■

A space  $(X, \tau)$  is called  $b$ - $T_2$  if for any pair of distinct points  $x$  and  $y$  in  $X$  there exist  $b$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$  in  $X$  containing  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively, such that  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .

**THEOREM 4.10.** *If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed surjection and all pairs of disjoint fibers are strongly separated, then  $Y$  is  $b$ - $T_2$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $y$  and  $z$  be two points in  $Y$ . Let  $U$  and  $V$  be open sets in  $X$  such that  $f^{-1}(y) \in U$  and  $f^{-1}(z) \in V$  with  $Cl(U) \cap Cl(V) = \emptyset$ . Since  $f$  is weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed, by Theorem 4.7, there are  $b$ - $\theta$ -open sets  $F$  and  $B$  in  $Y$  such that  $y \in F$  and  $z \in B$ ,  $f^{-1}(F) \subseteq Cl(U)$  and  $f^{-1}(B) \subseteq Cl(V)$ . Therefore  $F \cap B = \emptyset$ , because  $Cl(U) \cap Cl(V) = \emptyset$  and  $f$  is surjective. Since every  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set is  $b$ -open. Then  $Y$  is  $b$ - $T_2$ . ■

A subset  $K$  of a space  $X$  is said to be  $b$ -closed relative to  $X$  [10] if for every cover  $\{V_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda\}$  of  $K$  by  $b$ -open sets of  $X$ , there exists a finite subset  $\Lambda_0$  of  $\Lambda$  such that  $K \subseteq \cup\{bCl(V_\alpha) : \alpha \in \Lambda_0\}$ .

**THEOREM 4.11.** *Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a weakly  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed surjection with compact point inverses and  $K$   $b$ -closed relative to  $Y$ , then  $f^{-1}(K)$  is quasi  $H$ -closed relative to  $X$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda\}$  be an open cover of  $f^{-1}(K)$ , where  $\Lambda$  is an index set. For each  $y \in K$ ,  $f^{-1}(y)$  is compact and  $f^{-1}(y) \subseteq \cup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} U_\alpha$ . There exists a finite subset  $\Lambda(y)$  of  $\Lambda$  such that  $f^{-1}(y) \subseteq \cup_{\alpha \in \Lambda(y)} U_\alpha$ . Put  $U(y) = \cup_{\alpha \in \Lambda(y)} U_\alpha$ . Since  $f$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -closed, by Theorem 4.7, there exists a  $b$ - $\theta$ -open set  $V(y)$  containing  $y$  such that  $f^{-1}(V(y)) \subseteq Cl(U(y))$ . Since  $V(y)$  is  $b$ - $\theta$ -open, by Proposition 1.6, there exists  $V_0(y) \in BR(X, y)$  such that  $y \in V_0(y) = bCl(V_0(y)) \subseteq V(y)$ . Since the family  $\{V_0(y) : y \in K\}$  is a cover of  $K$  by  $b$ -open sets of  $Y$ , there exist a finite number of points, say  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  of  $K$  such that  $K \subseteq \cup_{i=1}^n bCl(V_0(y_i))$ ; hence  $K \subseteq \cup_{i=1}^n V(y_i)$ . Therefore, we obtain  $f^{-1}(K) \subseteq \cup_{i=1}^n f^{-1}(V(y_i)) \subseteq \cup_{i=1}^n Cl(U(y_i)) = \cup_{i=1}^n \cup_{\alpha \in \Lambda(y_i)} Cl(U_\alpha)$ . This shows that  $f^{-1}(K)$  is quasi  $H$ -closed relative to  $X$ . ■

**Acknowledgments.** This work is financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia under science Fund grant no: 06-01-02-SF0177.

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Received March 18, 2008.

