

## A new class of sets weaker than $\alpha$ -open sets

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### Abstract

In this paper, we introduce a new class of sets, namely semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets, using  $\alpha$ -open sets and the generalized closure operator. We find characterizations of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets. We also define the semi\* $\alpha$ -interior of a subset. Further, we study some fundamental properties of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets and semi\* $\alpha$ -interior.

**Keywords:** Semi  $\alpha$ -open set, semi  $\alpha$ -interior, generalized closure, semi\* $\alpha$ -open set, semi\* $\alpha$ -interior.

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### 1 Introduction

Norman Levine [7] introduced semi-open sets in topological spaces in 1963. Since the introduction of semi-open sets, many generalizations of various concepts in topology were made by considering semi-open sets instead of open sets. Njastad[13] introduced the concept of  $\alpha$ -open sets in 1965. Levine [8] also defined and studied generalized closed sets in 1970. Dunham [4] introduced the concept of generalized closure using Levine's generalized closed sets and studied some of its properties. Govindappa Navalagi[12] defined the concept of semi  $\alpha$ -open sets by considering  $\alpha$ -open sets instead of open sets in the definition of semi-open sets. Hakeem A. Othman [5] introduced and studied various concepts concerning semi  $\alpha$ -open sets. The authors have recently defined a new class of sets namely semi\*-open sets [14] and investigated some of its properties.

In this paper, analogous to Navalagi's semi  $\alpha$ -open sets, we define a new class of sets, namely semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets, using the generalized closure operator due to Dunham instead of the closure operator in the definition of semi  $\alpha$ -open sets. We further show that the concept of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets is weaker than the concept of  $\alpha$ -open sets but stronger than the concept of semi  $\alpha$ -open sets. We find

characterizations of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets. We investigate fundamental properties of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets. We also define the semi\* $\alpha$ -interior of a subset and study some of its basic properties.

## 2 Preliminaries

Throughout this paper  $(X, \tau)$  will always denote a topological space on which no separation axioms are assumed, unless explicitly stated. If  $A$  is a subset of a space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $Cl(A)$  and  $Int(A)$  denote the closure and the interior of  $A$  respectively.

**Definition 2.1.** A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is generalized closed (briefly g-closed) [8] if  $Cl(A) \subseteq U$  whenever  $U$  is an open set in  $X$  containing  $A$ .

**Definition 2.2.** If  $A$  is a subset of a space  $X$ , the generalized closure [4] of  $A$  is defined as the intersection of all g-closed sets in  $X$  containing  $A$  and is denoted by  $Cl^*(A)$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is semi-open [7] (respectively semi\*-open [14]) if there is an open set  $U$  in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl(U)$  (respectively  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ ) or equivalently if  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(A))$  (respectively  $A \subseteq Cl^*(Int(A))$ ).

**Definition 2.4.** A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is pre-open [9] (respectively  $\alpha$ -open [13], semi-preopen [2] =  $\beta$ -open [1], semi\*-preopen) if  $A \subseteq Int(Cl(A))$  (respectively  $A \subseteq Int(Cl(Int(A)))$ ,  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(Cl(A)))$ ,  $A \subseteq Cl^*(pInt(A))$ ).

**Definition 2.5.** A subset  $A$  is semi  $\alpha$ -open [12] if there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl(U)$  or equivalently if  $A \subseteq Cl(\alpha Int(A))$ .

The class of all semi-open (respectively preopen, semi\*-open,  $\alpha$ -open, semi-preopen, semi\*-preopen and semi  $\alpha$ -open) sets in  $(X, \tau)$  is denoted by  $SO(X)$  (respectively  $PO(X)$ ,  $S^*O(X)$ ,  $\alpha O(X)$  or  $\tau^\alpha$ ,  $SPO(X)$ ,  $S^*PO(X)$  and  $S\alpha O(X)$ ).

**Definition 2.6.** The semi-interior [3] (respectively semi\*-interior [14],  $\alpha$ -interior, pre-interior [11], semipre-interior [2], semi\*-pre-interior and semi  $\alpha$ -interior) of a subset  $A$  is defined to be the union of all semi-open (respectively semi\*-open,  $\alpha$ -open, preopen, semi-preopen, semi\*-preopen and semi  $\alpha$ -open) subsets of  $A$ . It is denoted by  $sInt(A)$  (respectively  $s^*Int(A)$ ,  $\alpha Int(A)$ ,  $pInt(A)$ ,  $spInt(A)$ ,  $s^*pInt(A)$  and  $saInt(A)$ ).

**Definition 2.7.** A topological space  $X$  is  $T_{1/2}$  [8] if every g-closed set in  $X$  is closed.

**Theorem 2.8.** [4]  $Cl^*$  is a Kuratowski closure operator in  $X$ .

**Definition 2.9.** [4] If  $\tau^*$  is the topology on  $X$  defined by the Kuratowski closure operator  $Cl^*$ , then  $(X, \tau^*)$  is  $T_{1/2}$ .

**Definition 2.10.** [15] A space  $X$  is locally indiscrete if every open set in  $X$  is closed.

**Definition 2.11.** [15] A space  $X$  is extremally disconnected if the closure of every open set in  $X$  is open.

**Theorem 2.12.** A subset  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -open if and only if there exists an open set  $G$  such that  $G \subseteq A \subseteq Int(Cl(G))$ .

**Remark 2.13.**

- (i) In an extremally disconnected space, the semi-open sets and the  $\alpha$ -open sets coincide.
- (ii) In a locally indiscrete space, the open sets, the semi-open sets and the  $\alpha$ -open sets coincide.

**Definition 2.14.** A collection  $\mathfrak{T}$  of subsets of a set  $X$  is said to form a *supra topology* [10] on  $X$  if it satisfies (i)  $\phi, X \in \mathfrak{T}$  (ii)  $\mathfrak{T}$  is closed under arbitrary union.

**Definition 2.15.** The *Khalimsky topology* [6] or the *digital topology* is the topology  $\kappa$  on the set of integers generated by the collection of all triplets of the form  $\{2n-1, 2n, 2n+1\}$  as sub base. The digital line equipped with the Khalimsky topology is called the *Khalimsky line*. The topological product of two copies of Khalimsky lines  $(\mathbb{Z}, \kappa)$  is called the *Khalimsky plane or the digital plane*.

### 3 Semi\* $\alpha$ -Open Sets

**Definition 3.1:** A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is called a *semi\* $\alpha$ -open set* if there exists an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ .

The class of all semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets in  $(X, \tau)$  is denoted by  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  or simply  $S^*\alpha O(X)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** For a subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.
- (ii)  $A \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))$ .
- (iii)  $Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) = Cl^*(A)$ .
- (iv)  $Cl^*(A \cap Int(Cl(Int(A)))) = Cl^*(A)$ .

**Proof: (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii):** If  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open, then there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ .

Now  $U \subseteq A \Rightarrow U = \alpha Int(U) \subseteq \alpha Int(A) \Rightarrow A \subseteq Cl^*(U) \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))$ .

**(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii):** By assumption,  $A \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))$ . Since  $Cl^*$  is a Kuratowski operator, we have  $Cl^*(A) \subseteq Cl^*(Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))) = Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))$ . Now  $\alpha Int(A) \subseteq A$  implies that  $Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) \subseteq Cl^*(A)$ . Therefore,  $Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) = Cl^*(A)$ .

**(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i):** Take  $U = \alpha Int(A)$ . Then  $U$  is an  $\alpha$ -open set in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(A) = Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) = Cl^*(U)$ . Therefore by Definition 3.1,  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.

**(iii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iv):** Follows from the fact that for any subset  $A$ ,  $\alpha Int(A) = A \cap Int(Cl(Int(A)))$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** If a subset  $A$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open, then the following statements hold:

- (i) There exists an open set  $G$  such that  $G \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(Int(Cl(G)))$ .
- (ii) There exists an open set  $G$  such that  $G \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(sCl(G))$ .
- (iii) There exists an open set  $G$  such that  $G \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(G \cup Int(Cl(G)))$ .
- (iv)  $A \subseteq Cl^*(Int(Cl(Int(A))))$ .

**Proof:** (i) Since  $A$  is a semi\* $\alpha$ -open set, by Definition 3.1, there exists an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ . Since  $U$  is an  $\alpha$ -open set, by Theorem 2.12, there is an open set  $G$  such that  $G \subseteq U \subseteq Int(Cl(G))$ . This implies  $G \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(Int(Cl(G)))$ .

(ii) Follows from (i) and the fact that for any open set  $G$ ,  $Int(Cl(G))=sCl(G)$ .

(iii) Follows from (ii) and the fact that for any subset  $G$ ,  $sCl(G)=G \cup Int(Cl(G))$ .

(iv) From (i),  $G \subseteq A$  implies that  $Cl^*(Int(Cl(G))) \subseteq Cl^*(Int(Cl(Int(A))))$ . Hence,  $A \subseteq Cl^*(Int(Cl(Int(A))))$ .

**Remark 3.4.** (i) In any topological space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $\phi$  and  $X$  are semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets.

(ii) From Theorem 3.3(i), every nonempty semi\* $\alpha$ -open set must contain a nonempty open set and therefore cannot be nowhere dense.

(iii) In any topological space, a singleton set is semi\* $\alpha$ -open if and only if it is open.

**Theorem 3.5.** Arbitrary union of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets in  $X$  is also semi\* $\alpha$ -open in  $X$ .

**Proof:** Let  $\{A_i\}$  be a collection of semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets in  $X$ . Since each  $A_i$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open, there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U_i$  in  $X$  such that  $U_i \subseteq A_i \subseteq Cl^*(U_i)$ . Then  $\bigcup U_i \subseteq \bigcup A_i \subseteq \bigcup Cl^*(U_i) \subseteq Cl^*(\bigcup U_i)$ . Since  $\bigcup U_i$  is  $\alpha$ -open, by Definition 3.1,  $\bigcup A_i$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.

**Remark 3.6.** The intersection of two semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets need not be semi\* $\alpha$ -open as seen from the following examples. However the intersection of a semi\* $\alpha$ -open set and an open set is semi\* $\alpha$ -open as shown in Theorem 3.9.

**Example 3.7:** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ . In the space  $(X, \tau)$ , the subsets  $\{a, d\}$  and  $\{b, d\}$  are semi\* $\alpha$ -open but their intersection  $\{d\}$  is not semi\* $\alpha$ -open.

**Example 3.8.** Consider the subspace  $X$  of the digital plane where  $X = \{1, 2\} \times \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

In  $X$ , the subsets  $A = \{(1,1), (2,2)\}$  and  $B = \{(1,3), (2,2)\}$  are semi\* $\alpha$ -open but  $A \cap B = \{(2,2)\}$  is not semi\* $\alpha$ -open.

**Theorem 3.9.** If  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open in  $X$  and  $B$  is open in  $X$ , then  $A \cap B$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open in  $X$ .

**Proof:** Since  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open in  $X$ , there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ .

Since  $B$  is open, we have  $U \cap B \subseteq A \cap B \subseteq Cl^*(U) \cap B \subseteq Cl^*(U \cap B)$ . Since  $U \cap B$  is  $\alpha$ -open, by Definition 3.1,  $A \cap B$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open in  $X$ .

**Remark 3.10.** From Remark 3.4(i) and Theorem 3.5, in general,  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  forms a supra-topology on  $X$ . However  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  forms a topology on  $X$  if and only if it is closed under finite intersection. Also in any topological space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  generates a topology on  $X$  that is finer than the original topology  $\tau$  as seen from Theorem 3.16.

**Theorem 3.11.** In any topological space,

- (i) Every  $\alpha$ -open set is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.
- (ii) Every open set is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.
- (iii) Every semi\*-open set is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.
- (iv) Every semi\* $\alpha$ -open set is semi  $\alpha$ -open.
- (v) Every semi\* $\alpha$ -open set is semi\*-preopen.
- (vi) Every semi\* $\alpha$ -open set is semi-preopen.
- (vii) Every semi\* $\alpha$ -open set is semi-open.

**Proof:**(i) Let  $U$  be  $\alpha$ -open in  $X$ . Then by Definition 3.1,  $U$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open. (ii) follows from (i) since every open set is  $\alpha$ -open. If  $A$  is semi\*-open, then there is an open set  $U$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ . Since every open set is  $\alpha$ -open, by Definition 3.1,  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open. This proves (iii). Let  $A$  be a semi\* $\alpha$ -open set. Then there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ . Since  $Cl^*(U) \subseteq Cl(U)$ , we have  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl(U)$ . Hence  $A$  is semi  $\alpha$ -open. Thus (iv) is proved. Let  $A$  be a semi\* $\alpha$ -open set. Then there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ . Since every  $\alpha$ -open set is preopen, by Definition 2.4,  $A$  is semi\*-preopen. This proves (v). The statement (vi) follows from (v) and the fact that every semi\*-preopen set is semi-preopen. Suppose  $A$  is a semi\* $\alpha$ -open set. Then from Theorem 3.2,  $A \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))$ . Since  $Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) \subseteq Cl(\alpha Int(A))$  and  $\alpha Int(A) = A \cap Int(Cl(Int(A)))$ , we have  $A \subseteq Cl(Int(A))$ . Hence,  $A$  is semi-open. This proves (vii).

**Remark 3.12.** The converse of each of the statements in Theorem 3.11 is not true as shown in the following examples.

**Example 3.13.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  in Example 3.7. The subset  $\{a, d\}$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open in  $X$  but it is neither open nor  $\alpha$ -open.

**Example 3.14.** Consider the subspace  $X$  of the digital plane given in Example 3.8. In  $X$ , the subsets  $\{(1,1),(1,3),(2,2)\}$ ,  $\{(1,1),(1,3),(2,1),(2,2)\}$  and  $\{(1,1),(1,2),(1,3),(2,2),(2,3)\}$  are semi\* $\alpha$ -open but not open.

**Example 3.15.** In the space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, X\}$ , the subset  $\{a, c\}$  is semi-open but not semi\* $\alpha$ -open.

**Theorem 3.16.** If  $(X, \tau)$  is a topological space, let

$\tau_{S^*\alpha} = \{U \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) : U \cap A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \text{ for all } A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)\}$ . Then  $\tau_{S^*\alpha}$  is a topology on  $X$  that is finer than  $\tau$ .

**Proof:** Clearly from definition,  $\phi, X \in \tau_{S^*\alpha}$ . Let  $U_\beta \in \tau_{S^*\alpha}$  and  $U = \cup U_\beta$ . Since each  $U_\beta \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ , by Theorem 3.5,  $U = \cup U_\beta \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . Let  $A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . Then  $U_\beta \cap A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ , for each  $\beta$  and hence by Theorem 3.5,  $U \cap A = (\cup U_\beta) \cap A = \cup (U_\beta \cap A) \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . Therefore  $U \in \tau_{S^*\alpha}$ . Now let  $U_1, U_2 \in \tau_{S^*\alpha}$ . Then  $U_1, U_2 \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  and from definition of  $\tau_{S^*\alpha}$ , we get  $U_1 \cap U_2 \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . If  $A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ , then by the definition of  $\tau_{S^*\alpha}$ , we have  $(U_1 \cap U_2) \cap A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . Hence  $U_1 \cap U_2 \in \tau_{S^*\alpha}$ . Inductively, it can be shown that  $\tau_{S^*\alpha}$  is closed under finite intersection. This shows that  $\tau_{S^*\alpha}$  is a topology on  $X$ . Let  $V \in \tau$ . By Theorem 3.11(ii),  $V \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . Also by Theorem 3.9,  $V \cap A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  for all  $A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ . Hence  $V \in \tau_{S^*\alpha}$ . Thus  $\tau_{S^*\alpha}$  is finer than  $\tau$ .

**Example 3.17.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where,  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ . Here  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, d\}, \{b, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, X\}$  and  $\tau_{S^*\alpha} = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, X\}$ . Here  $\tau \subsetneq \tau_{S^*\alpha}$ .

**Example 3.18.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ . Here  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$  and  $\tau_{S^*\alpha} = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ .

**Example 3.19.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where,  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Here  $S^*\alpha O(X) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$  and  $\tau_{S^*\alpha} = \tau$ .

**Theorem 3.20.** In any topological space  $(X, \tau)$ ,

- (i)  $\tau \subseteq \alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq S\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq SPO(X, \tau)$
- (ii)  $\tau \subseteq \alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*PO(X, \tau) \subseteq SPO(X, \tau)$
- (iii)  $\tau \subseteq S^*O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq S\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq SPO(X, \tau)$  and
- (iv)  $\tau \subseteq S^*O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq SO(X, \tau) \subseteq SPO(X, \tau)$ .

**Proof:** Follows from the facts that every open set is  $\alpha$ -open, every semi  $\alpha$ -open set is semi-preopen and every  $\alpha$ -open set is preopen and from Theorem 3.11.

**Corollary 3.21.** If  $(X, \tau)$  is a locally indiscrete space,

$$\tau = \alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S\alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*O(X, \tau) = SO(X, \tau).$$

**Proof:** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a locally indiscrete space. From Remark 2.13(ii), the semi-open sets, the open sets and the  $\alpha$ -open sets in  $X$  coincide. Hence by Theorem 3.18, we have

$$\tau = \alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*O(X, \tau) \subseteq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S\alpha O(X, \tau) = SO(X, \tau) = \tau. \text{ This implies that}$$

$$\tau = \alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*O(X, \tau) = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S\alpha O(X, \tau) = SO(X, \tau).$$

**Remark 3.22.** (i) In the Sierpinski space  $(X, \tau)$ , where  $X = \{a, b\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, X\}$ ,

$$\tau = \alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*O(X, \tau) = SO(X, \tau) = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S\alpha O(X, \tau) = PO(X, \tau) = S^*PO(X, \tau) = SPO(X, \tau).$$

(ii) In a  $T_{1/2}$  space, the  $g$ -closed sets and the closed sets coincide and hence  $Cl^*(U) = Cl(U)$ . Therefore, the family of semi $^*\alpha$ -open sets equals the family of semi  $\alpha$ -open sets. In particular, in the Khalimsky line and in the real line with usual topology, the semi $^*\alpha$ -open sets and the semi  $\alpha$ -open sets coincide.

(iii) The inclusions in Theorem 3.20 involving semi $^*\alpha$ -open sets may be strict and equality may also hold. This can be seen from the following examples.

**Example 3.23.** In the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, c, d\}, X\}$   $\alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S\alpha O(X, \tau)$ .

**Example 3.24.** In the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ ,  $\alpha O(X, \tau) \subsetneq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S\alpha O(X, \tau)$ .

**Example 3.25.** In the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ ,  $\alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subsetneq S\alpha O(X, \tau)$ .

**Example 3.26.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and

$$\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, X\}.$$

Here,  $\alpha O(X, \tau) \subsetneq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subsetneq S\alpha O(X, \tau)$ .

**Example 3.27.** Consider the subspace  $(X, \tau)$  of the digital plane where  $X = \{1, 2, 3\} \times \{0, 1\}$ .

If  $a, b, c, d, e$  and  $f$  denote the points  $(1, 0), (1, 1), (2, 0), (2, 1), (3, 0)$  and  $(3, 1)$  respectively, then  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{f\}, \{a, b\}, \{b, f\}, \{e, f\}, \{a, b, f\}, \{b, d, f\}, \{b, e, f\}, \{a, b, d, f\}, \{a, b, e, f\}, \{b, d, e, f\}, \{a, b, d, e, f\}, X\}$ . Here  $\alpha O(X, \tau) \subsetneq S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) = S^*PO(X, \tau) \subsetneq S\alpha O(X, \tau) = SPO(X, \tau)$ . Also,  $S^*O(X, \tau) = S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ .

**Theorem 3.28.** Let  $A$  be semi $^*\alpha$ -open and  $B \subseteq X$  such that  $\alpha Int(A) \subseteq B \subseteq Cl^*(A)$ . Then  $B$  is semi $^*\alpha$ -open.

**Proof:** Since  $A$  is semi $^*\alpha$ -open, by Theorem 3.2, we have  $Cl^*(A) = Cl^*(\alpha Int(A))$ . Since  $\alpha Int(A) \subseteq B$ ,  $\alpha Int(A) \subseteq \alpha Int(B)$  and hence  $Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(B))$ . Therefore by the assumption, we have  $B \subseteq Cl^*(A) = Cl^*(\alpha Int(A)) \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(B))$ . Hence  $B \subseteq Cl^*(\alpha Int(B))$ . Again by invoking Theorem 3.2,  $B$  is semi $^*\alpha$ -open.

**Theorem 3.29.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a collection of subsets in  $(X, \tau)$  satisfying (i)  $\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$  (ii) If  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and if  $D$  is a subset of  $X$  satisfying  $\alpha Int(B) \subseteq D \subseteq Cl^*(B)$  then  $D \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ . Thus  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  is the smallest collection satisfying the conditions (i) and (ii).

**Proof:** By Theorem 3.20(i),  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  satisfies (i) and by Theorem 3.28,  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  satisfies the condition (ii). Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a collection of subsets satisfying the conditions (i) and (ii). If  $A \in S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$ , then there is an  $\alpha$ -open set  $U$  in  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq A \subseteq Cl^*(U)$ . By condition (i),  $U \in \mathcal{B}$ . Since  $\alpha Int(U) = U$ , by condition (ii),  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ . Thus,  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ . Thus  $S^*\alpha O(X, \tau)$  is the smallest collection satisfying both (i) and (ii).

**Remark 3.30.** The concept of semi $^*\alpha$ -open sets are independent of each of the concepts of g-open sets and pre-open as seen from the following example:

**Example 3.31.** In the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ , the subset  $\{a, d\}$  is semi $^*\alpha$ -open but not g-open and  $\{b, c\}$  is g-open but not semi $^*\alpha$ -open.

**Example 3.32.** In the space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ , the subset  $\{a, d\}$  is semi $^*\alpha$ -open but not pre-open.

**Example 3.33.** In the space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, X\}$ , the subset  $\{b, c\}$  is pre-open but not semi $^*\alpha$ -open.

From the above discussions we have the following diagram:

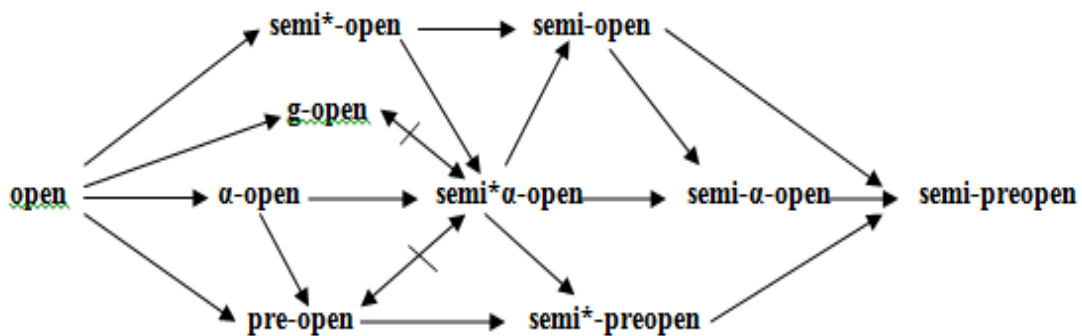


Figure 1.

#### 4 Semi\* $\alpha$ -Interior of a Set

**Definition 4.1.** The *semi\* $\alpha$ -interior* of  $A$  is defined as the union of all semi\* $\alpha$ -open sets of  $X$  contained in  $A$ . It is denoted by  $s^*\alpha Int(A)$ .

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $A$  be a subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ . A point  $x$  in  $X$  is called a *semi\* $\alpha$ -interior point* of  $A$  if there is a semi\* $\alpha$ -open subset of  $A$  that contains  $x$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** If  $A$  is any subset of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$ , then

- (i)  $s^*\alpha Int(A)$  is the largest semi\* $\alpha$ -open set contained in  $A$ .
- (ii)  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open if and only if  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=A$ .
- (iii)  $s^*\alpha Int(A)$  is the set of all semi\* $\alpha$ -interior points of  $A$ .
- (iv)  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open if and only if every point of  $A$  is a semi\* $\alpha$ -interior point of  $A$ .

**Proof:**(i) Being the union of all semi\* $\alpha$ -open subsets of  $A$ , by Theorem 3.5,  $s^*\alpha Int(A)$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open and contains every semi\* $\alpha$ -open subset of  $A$ . This proves (i).

(ii)  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open implies  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=A$  is obvious from Definition 4.1. On the other hand, suppose  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=A$ . By (i),  $s^*\alpha Int(A)$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open and hence  $A$  is semi\* $\alpha$ -open.

(iii) By Definition 4.1,  $x \in s^*\alpha Int(A)$  if and only if  $x$  belongs to some semi\* $\alpha$ -open subset  $U$  of  $A$ . That is, if and only if  $x$  is a semi\* $\alpha$ -interior point of  $A$ .

(iv) follows from (ii) and (iii).

#### **Theorem 4.4. (Properties of Semi\* $\alpha$ -Interior)**

In any topological space  $(X, \tau)$  the following statements hold:

- (i)  $s^*\alpha Int(\phi)=\phi$ .
- (ii)  $s^*\alpha Int(X)=X$ .

If  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of  $X$ ,

- (iii)  $s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq A$ .
- (iv)  $A \subseteq B \implies s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(B)$ .
- (v)  $s^*\alpha Int(s^*\alpha Int(A))=s^*\alpha Int(A)$ .
- (vi)  $Int(A) \subseteq \alpha Int(A) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq s\alpha Int(A) \subseteq spInt(A) \subseteq A$ .
- (vii)  $Int(A) \subseteq s^*Int(A) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq s\alpha Int(A) \subseteq spInt(A) \subseteq A$ .
- (viii)  $Int(A) \subseteq \alpha Int(A) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq s^*pInt(A) \subseteq spInt(A) \subseteq A$ .
- (ix)  $s^*\alpha Int(A \cup B) \supseteq s^*\alpha Int(A) \cup s^*\alpha Int(B)$ .
- (x)  $s^*\alpha Int(A \cap B) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A) \cap s^*\alpha Int(B)$ .
- (xi)  $Int(s^*\alpha Int(A))=Int(A)$ .
- (xii)  $s^*\alpha Int(Int(A))=Int(A)$ .



**Proof:** (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) follow from Definition 4.1. By Theorem 4.3(i),  $s^*\alpha Int(A)$  is semi $\alpha$ -open and by Theorem 4.3(ii),  $s^*\alpha Int(s^*\alpha Int(A))=s^*\alpha Int(A)$ . Thus (v) is proved. The statements (vi), (vii) and (viii) follow from Theorem 3.20 and the facts that every open set is  $\alpha$ -open, every semi- $\alpha$ -open set is semi-preopen and that every semi\*-preopen set is semi-preopen. Since  $A \subseteq A \cup B$ , from statement (iv) we have  $s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A \cup B)$ . Similarly,  $s^*\alpha Int(B) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A \cup B)$ . This proves (ix). The proof for (x) is similar. Since  $s^*\alpha Int(A) \subseteq A$ ,  $Int(s^*\alpha Int(A)) \subseteq Int(A)$ . From (vi),  $Int(A) \subseteq s^*\alpha Int(A)$  and so  $Int(A) \subseteq Int(s^*\alpha Int(A))$ . Therefore  $Int(s^*\alpha Int(A))=Int(A)$ . This proves (xi). Since  $Int(A)$  is open, by Theorem 3.11(ii),  $Int(A)$  is semi $\alpha$ -open and hence by invoking Theorem 4.3(ii), we have  $s^*\alpha Int(Int(A))=Int(A)$ .

**Remark 4.5.** In (vi), (vii) and (viii) of Theorem 4.4, the inclusions involving semi $\alpha$ -interior may be strict and equality may also hold. This can be seen from the following examples:

**Example 4.6.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X=\{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and  $\tau=\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, X\}$ . Let  $A=\{b, c, d, e\}$ . Then  $\alpha Int(A)=\{b, c\}$ ,  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=\{b, c, e\}$ ,  $saInt(A)=\{b, c, d, e\}$ . Here  $\alpha Int(A) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(A) \subsetneq saInt(A)$ . Let  $B=\{a, e\}$ . Then  $\alpha Int(B)=\{a\}$ ,  $s^*\alpha Int(B)=saInt(B)=\{a, e\}$ . Here  $\alpha Int(B) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(B)=saInt(B)$ . Let  $C=\{a, b, d\}$ . Then  $Int(C)=s^*Int(C)=sInt(C)=C$ .

**Example 4.7.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X=\{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and  $\tau=\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, X\}$ . Let  $A=\{a, b, d, e\}$ . Then  $\alpha Int(A)=\{a\}$ ,  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=\{a, e\}$ ,  $s^*pInt(A)=\{a, b, d, e\}$ . Here  $\alpha Int(A) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(A) \subsetneq s^*pInt(A)$ . Let  $B=\{b, c, d, e\}$ . Then  $\alpha Int(B)=\{b, c, d\}$ ,  $s^*\alpha Int(B)=s^*pInt(B)=\{b, c, d, e\}$ . Here,  $\alpha Int(B) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(B)=s^*pInt(B)$ .

**Example 4.8.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  where  $X=\{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and  $\tau=\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, X\}$ . Let  $A=\{a, d, e\}$ . Then  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=saInt(A)=s^*pInt(A)=spInt(A)=\{a, d, e\}$ ,  $s^*Int(A)=\{a, e\}$ . Here  $s^*Int(A) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(A)=saInt(A)=s^*pInt(A)$ .

**Remark 4.9.** The inclusions in (ix) and (x) of Theorem 4.4 may be strict and equality may also hold. This can be seen from the following examples.

**Example 4.10.** Consider the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  in Example 4.6. Let  $A=\{a, d\}$  and  $B=\{b, d\}$ . Then  $A \cup B=\{a, b, d\}$  and  $A \cap B=\emptyset$ ;  $s^*\alpha Int(A)=\{a\}$ ;  $s^*\alpha Int(B)=\{b\}$ ;  $s^*\alpha Int(A \cup B)=\{a, b, d\}$ ;  $s^*\alpha Int(A \cap B)=\emptyset$ . Here  $s^*\alpha Int(A) \cup s^*\alpha Int(B) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(A \cup B)$  and  $s^*\alpha Int(A \cap B) \subsetneq s^*\alpha Int(A) \cap s^*\alpha Int(B)$ . Let  $C=\{a, b, d\}$  and  $D=\{b, c, e\}$  then  $C \cap D=\{b\}$ ,  $C \cup D=X$ .  $s^*\alpha Int(C)=\{a, b, d\}$ ;  $s^*\alpha Int(D)=\{b, c, e\}$ ;  $s^*\alpha Int(C \cap D)=s^*\alpha Int(C) \cap s^*\alpha Int(D)=\{b\}$ . Here  $s^*\alpha Int(C \cup D)=s^*\alpha Int(C) \cap s^*\alpha Int(D)=X$ .

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