# $p^*$ -Closure Operator and $p^*$ -Regularity in Fuzzy Setting

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ABSTRACT. In this paper a new type of fuzzy regularity, viz. fuzzy  $p^*$ -regularity has been introduced and studied by a newly defined closure operator, viz., fuzzy  $p^*$ -closure operator. Also we have found the mutual relationship of this closure operator among other closure operators defined earlier. In  $p^*$ -regular space,  $p^*$ -closure operator is an idempotent operator. In the last section,  $p^*$ -closure operator has been characterized via  $p^*$ -convergence of a fuzzy net.

#### 1. Introduction

Throughout the paper, by  $(X,\tau)$  or simply by X we mean a fuzzy topological space (fts, for short) in the sense of Chang [3]. A fuzzy set [7] A is a mapping from a nonempty set X into a closed interval I = [0, 1]. The support [6] of a fuzzy set A in X will be denoted by suppA and is defined by  $supp A = \{x \in X : A(x) \neq 0\}$ . A fuzzy point [6] with the singleton support  $x \in X$  and the value t (0 < t < 1) at x will be denoted by  $x_t$ .  $0_X$ and  $1_X$  are the constant fuzzy sets taking values 0 and 1 in X respectively. The complement [7] of a fuzzy set A in X will be denoted by  $1_X \setminus A$  and is defined by  $(1_X \setminus A)(x) = 1 - A(x)$ , for all  $x \in X$ . For two fuzzy sets A and B in X, we write  $A \leq B$  if and only if  $A(x) \leq B(x)$ , for each  $x \in X$ , and AqB means A is quasi-coincident (q-coincident, for short) with B [6] if A(x) + B(x) > 1, for some  $x \in X$ . The negation of these two statements will be denoted by  $A \not\leq B$  and  $A \not B$  respectively. clA and intA of a fuzzy set A in X respectively stand for the fuzzy closure [3] and fuzzy interior [3] of A in X. A fuzzy set A in X is called fuzzy  $\alpha$ -open [2] if  $A \leq intclintA$ . The complement of a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -open set is called a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -closed [2] set. The smallest fuzzy  $\alpha$ -closed set containing a fuzzy set A is called fuzzy  $\alpha$ -closure

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of A and is denoted by  $\alpha clA$  [2], i.e.,

$$\alpha clA = \bigwedge \big\{ U : A \leq U \text{ and } U \text{ is fuzzy } \alpha\text{-closed} \big\}$$

A fuzzy set A in X is fuzzy  $\alpha$ -closed if  $A = \alpha clA$  [2]. A fuzzy set B is called a quasi neighbourhood (q-nbd, for short) of a fuzzy set A in an fts X if there is a fuzzy open set U in X such that  $AqU \leq B$ . If, in addition, B is fuzzy open (resp.,  $\alpha$ -open) then B is called a fuzzy open (resp.,  $\alpha$ -open) q-nbd of A. In particular, a fuzzy set B in X is a fuzzy open (resp.,  $\alpha$ -open) q-nbd of a fuzzy point  $x_t$  in X if  $x_tqU \leq B$ , for some fuzzy open (resp.,  $\alpha$ -open) set U in X.

### 2. Fuzzy $p^*$ -Closure Operator: Some Properties

In this section fuzzy  $p^*$ -closure operator has been introduced and studied. Let us recall a definition from [4] for ready reference.

**Definition 2.1** ([4]). A fuzzy set A in an fts  $(X, \tau)$  is called fuzzy preopen if  $A \leq intclA$ . The complement of a fuzzy preopen set is called a fuzzy preclosed set.

The union of all fuzzy preopen sets contained in a fuzzy set A is called fuzzy preinterior of A, to be denoted by pintA.

The intersection of all fuzzy preclosed sets containing a fuzzy set A is called fuzzy preclosure of A, to be denoted by pclA.

**Definition 2.2.** A fuzzy preopen set A in an fts  $(X, \tau)$  is called a fuzzy pre-q-nbd of a fuzzy point  $x_t$ , if  $x_t q A$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** For a fuzzy point  $x_t$  and a fuzzy set A in an fts  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $x_t \in pclA$  if and only if every fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , UqA.

Proof. Let  $x_t \in pclA$  and U be any fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $x_t$ . Then  $U(x) + t > 1 \Rightarrow t > 1 - U(x) \Rightarrow x_t \notin 1_X \setminus U$  which is fuzzy preclosed in X and hence by Definition 2.1,  $A \nleq 1_X \setminus U \Rightarrow$  there exists  $y \in X$  such that  $A(y) > (1_X \setminus U)(y) \Rightarrow A(y) + U(y) > 1 \Rightarrow AqU$ .

Conversely, let for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , UqA. Let V be any fuzzy preclosed set containing A, i.e.,  $A \leq V$  ... (1). We have to show that  $x_t \in V$ . If possible, let  $x_t \notin V$ . Then  $V(x) < t \Rightarrow 1 - V(x) > 1 - t \Rightarrow x_t q(1_X \setminus V)$ . By assumption  $(1_X \setminus V)qA \Rightarrow A > V$ , contradicts (1).

**Lemma 2.2.** For any two fuzzy preopen sets A and B in an fts X, A  $\not AB \Rightarrow pclA \not AB$  and A  $\not ApclB$ .

*Proof.* If possible, let pclAqB. Then there exists  $x \in X$  such that pclA(x) + B(x) > 1. Let pclA(x) = t. Then  $B(x) + t > 1 \Rightarrow x_tqB$  and  $x_t \in pclA$ . By Lemma 2.1, BqA, a contradiction.

Similarly, we can prove that  $A \not apcl B$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A fuzzy point  $x_t$  in an fts X is called fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point of a fuzzy set A in X if pclUqA for every fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ .

The union of all fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster points of a fuzzy set A is called fuzzy  $p^*$ -closure of A, to be denoted by  $[A]_p$ . A fuzzy set A in X is called fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed if  $A = [A]_p$ . The complement of a fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed set is called fuzzy  $p^*$ -open.

**Note 2.1.** It is clear from Definition 2.1 and Definition 2.3 that  $pclA \leq [A]_p$ , for any fuzzy set A in an fts X. The converse is not true, in general, as seen from the following example.

**Example 2.1.** Let  $X = \{a, b\}$ ,  $\tau = \{0_X, 1_X, B\}$  where B(a) = 0.7, B(b) = 0.5. Then  $(X, \tau)$  is an fts. The collection of all fuzzy preopen sets in  $(X, \tau)$  is of the form  $\{0_X, 1_X, B, U\}$  where  $U \not\leq 1_X \setminus B$  and that of fuzzy preclosed sets is  $\{0_X, 1_X, 1_X \setminus B, 1_X \setminus U\}$  where  $1_X \setminus U \not\geq B$ . Consider the fuzzy point  $a_{0.2}$  and the fuzzy set V defined by V(a) = V(b) = 0.1. Then  $a_{0.2} \not\in pclV$  but  $a_{0.2} \in [V]_p$ . Indeed, C(a) = 0.81, C(b) = 0.5 is a fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $a_{0.2}$  but  $C \not AV$ . Although  $pclC = 1_X qV$ .

The following theorem shows that under which condition, the two closure operators pcl and  $p^*$  coincide.

**Theorem 2.1.** For a fuzzy preopen set A in an fts  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $[A]_p = pclA$ .

*Proof.* By Note 2.1, it suffices to show that  $[A]_p \leq pclA$ , for any fuzzy preopen set A in X.

Let  $x_t$  be a fuzzy point in X such that  $x_t \notin pclA$ . Then there exists a fuzzy pre-q-nbd V of  $x_t$  such that  $V \not qA$ . Then  $V(y) + A(y) \le 1$ , for all  $y \in X \Rightarrow V(y) \le 1 - A(y)$ , for all  $y \in X \Rightarrow pclV \le pcl(1_X \setminus A) = 1_X \setminus A$  (since  $1_X \setminus A$  is fuzzy preclosed in X). Thus  $pclV \not qA$  and consequently,  $x_t \notin [A]_p$ . Hence  $[A]_p \le pclA$  for a fuzzy preopen set A in X.

We now characterize fuzzy  $p^*$ -closure operator of a fuzzy set A in an fts X.

**Theorem 2.2.** For any fuzzy set A in an fts  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $[A]_p = \bigcap \{[U]_p : U \text{ is fuzzy preopen in } X \text{ and } A \leq U\}.$ 

*Proof.* Clearly, L.H.S.  $\leq$  R.H.S.

If possible, let  $x_t \in \text{R.H.S}$ , but  $x_t \notin \text{L.H.S}$ . Then there exists a fuzzy pre-q-nbd V of  $x_t$  such that  $pclV \not pA$  and so  $A \leq 1_X \setminus pclV$  and  $1_X \setminus pclV$  being fuzzy preopen set in X containing A, by our assumption,  $x_t \in [1_X \setminus pclV]_p$ . But  $pclV \not p(1_X \setminus pclV)$  and so  $x_t \notin [1_X \setminus pclV]_p$ , a contradiction. This completes the proof.

**Remark 2.1.** By Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 2.2, we can conclude that  $[A]_p$  is fuzzy preclosed in X for a fuzzy set A in X.

**Theorem 2.3.** In an fts  $(X, \tau)$ , the following hold:

- (a) the fuzzy sets  $0_X$  and  $1_X$  are fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed sets in X,
- (b) for two fuzzy sets A and B in X, if  $A \leq B$ , then  $[A]_p \leq [B]_p$ ,
- (c) the intersection of any two fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed sets in X is fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed in X.

*Proof.* (a) and (b) are obvious.

(c) Let A and B be any two fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed sets in X. Then  $A = [A]_p$  and  $B = [B]_p$ . Now  $A \wedge B \leq A$ ,  $A \wedge B \leq B$ . Then by (b),  $[A \wedge B]_p \leq [A]_p$  and  $[A \wedge B]_p \leq [B]_p$ . Therefore,  $[A \wedge B]_p \leq [A]_p \wedge [B]_p = A \wedge B$ .

Conversely, let  $x_t \in A \land B$ . Then  $x_t \in A = [A]_p$  and  $x_t \in B = [B]_p$ . Then  $A(x) \geq t$ ,  $B(x) \geq t$ , i.e.,  $A \land B(x) = \min\{A(x), B(x)\} \geq t$ . Now for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd  $A(x) = \min\{A(x), B(x)\} \geq t$ . Therefore,  $A(x) = \min\{A(x), B(x)\} \geq t$ . Therefore,

**Remark 2.2.** In fact, the intersection of any collection of fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed sets is fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed. But the union of two fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed sets may not be fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed is clear from the following example.

**Example 2.2.** Let  $X = \{a,b\}$ ,  $\tau = \{0_X,1_X,A\}$  where A(a) = 0.4, A(b) = 0.7. Then  $(X,\tau)$  is an fts. The collection of all fuzzy preopen sets in  $(X,\tau)$  is  $\{0_X,1_X,A,U\}$  where  $U \not\leq 1_X \setminus A$ . Then the collection of all fuzzy preclosed sets is  $\{0_X,1_X,1_X\setminus A,1_X\setminus U\}$  where  $1_X\setminus U\not\geq A$ . Let C and D be two fuzzy sets given by C(a) = 0.5, C(b) = 0.6, D(a) = 0.2, D(b) = 0.7. Then  $(C\bigvee D)(a) = 0.5$ ,  $(C\bigvee D)(b) = 0.7$ . Now  $a_{0.6} \notin [C]_p$  as  $a_{0.6}qU$  where U(a) = 0.41, U(b) = 0.31, but  $pclU = U\not AC$ . Again  $a_{0.6} \notin [D]_p$  as  $a_{0.6}qV$  where V(a) = 0.7, V(b) = 0.2, but  $pclV = V\not AD$ .

But for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $a_{0.6}$  is of the form U where  $U \not\leq 1_X \setminus A$ . Then  $pclU = Uq(C \lor D)$  and consequently,  $a_{0.6} \in [C \lor D]_p$ . Therefore,  $[C]_p \lor [D]_p < [C \lor D]_p$ . Also  $(C \lor D)(a) = 0.5 \not\geq 0.6$  and so  $a_{0.6} \notin C \lor D$ .

**Note 2.2.** It is clear from Remark 2.2 that fuzzy  $p^*$ -open sets in an fts  $(X, \tau)$  may not form a base for a fuzzy topology.

**Result 2.1.** We conclude that  $x_t \in [y_{t'}]_p$  does not imply  $y_{t'} \in [x_t]_p$  where  $x_t, y_{t'}$  (0 < t, t' < 1) are fuzzy points in X as shown from the following example.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $X = \{a, b\}$ ,  $\tau = \{0_X, 1_X, A, B\}$  where A(a) = 0.5, A(b) = 0, B(a) = 0.7, B(b) = 0. Then  $(X, \tau)$  is an fts. The collection of all fuzzy preopen sets in X is  $\{0_X, 1_X, A, B, U, V\}$  where  $0.3 < U(a) \le 0.5, U(b) = 0$  and  $V(a) > 0.5, 0 \le V(b) \le 1$ . Then the collection of all fuzzy preclosed sets is  $\{0_X, 1_X, 1_X \setminus A, 1_X \setminus B, 1_X \setminus U, 1_X \setminus V\}$  where  $0.5 \le 1 - U(a) < 0.7, U(b) = 1$  and  $0 \le 1 - V(a) < 0.5, 0 \le 1 - V(b) \le 1$ . Consider the fuzzy points  $a_{0.6}$  and  $b_{0.1}$ . We claim that  $b_{0.1} \in [a_{0.6}]_p$ , but  $a_{0.6} \notin [b_{0.1}]_p$ . Indeed, any fuzzy preq-nbd of  $b_{0.1}$  is of the form V where V(a) > 0.5, V(b) > 0.9 and pclV = W

where W(a) > 0.5, W(b) = 1 and  $Wqa_{0.6}$ . But D(a) = 0.41, D(b) = 0 is a fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $a_{0.6}$  and  $pclD = D \not qb_{0.1}$ .

## 3. $p^*$ -Closure Operator: Mutual Relationship with Other Closure Operators

In this section we have established some mutual relationship of  $p^*$ -closure operator with other closure operators, viz.,  $\alpha^*$ -closure operator,  $\theta$ -closure operator.

First We recall some definitions for ready references.

**Definition 3.1** ([5]). Let A be a fuzzy set and  $x_t$ , a fuzzy point in an fts X.  $x_t$  is called a fuzzy  $\theta$ -cluster point of A if every closure of every fuzzy open q-nbd of  $x_t$  is q-coincident with A.

The union of all fuzzy  $\theta$ -cluster points of A is called fuzzy  $\theta$ -closure of A, to be denoted by  $[A]_{\theta}$ . A is called fuzzy  $\theta$ -closed if  $A = [A]_{\theta}$  and the complement of a fuzzy  $\theta$ -closed set is called fuzzy  $\theta$ -open.

**Definition 3.2** ([1]). A fuzzy point  $x_t$  in an fts X is called a fuzzy  $\alpha^*$ -cluster point of a fuzzy set A in X if  $\alpha clUqA$  for every fuzzy  $\alpha$ -open q-nbd U of  $x_t$ . The union of all fuzzy  $\alpha^*$ -cluster points of A is called fuzzy  $\alpha^*$ -closure of A, to be denoted by  $[A]_{\alpha}$ . A fuzzy set A is called fuzzy  $\alpha^*$ -closed if  $A = [A]_{\alpha}$  and the complement of fuzzy  $\alpha^*$ -closed set is called fuzzy  $\alpha^*$ -open.

**Result 3.1.**  $[A]_p \leq [A]_\theta$ , for any fuzzy set A in an fts X.

*Proof.* Let  $x_t \in [A]_p$ . Let V be any fuzzy open q-nbd of  $x_t$ . Then V is fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $x_t$  also. As  $x_t \in [A]_p$ ,  $pclVqA \Rightarrow clVqA \Rightarrow x_t \in [A]_\theta$ .

**Remark 3.1.** It is clear from the following example that  $[A]_p \neq [A]_{\theta}$ , for any fuzzy set A in an fts X, in general.

**Example 3.1.** Consider Example 2.1. Consider the fuzzy point  $a_{0.51}$  and a fuzzy set C given by C(a) = C(b) = 0.1. Then U(a) = 0.5, U(b) = 0 being a fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $a_{0.51}$ , pclU = U  $\not | C$  and so  $a_{0.51} \notin [C]_p$ . But other than  $1_X$ , B is the only fuzzy open q-nbd of  $a_{0.51}$  and  $clB = 1_X qC$ . Therefore,  $a_{0.51} \in [C]_\theta$ .

**Result 3.2.**  $[A]_p \leq [A]_{\alpha}$ , for any fuzzy set A in an fts X.

*Proof.* Let  $x_t \in [A]_p$ . Let U be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -open q-nbd of  $x_t$ . Then U is a fuzzy preopen set and hence  $pclUqA \Rightarrow \alpha clUqA \Rightarrow x_t \in [A]_{\alpha}$ .

**Remark 3.2.** It is clear from the following example that  $[A]_p \neq [A]_\alpha$ , for any fuzzy set A in an fts X, in general.

**Example 3.2.** Let  $X = \{a, b\}$ ,  $\tau = \{0_X, 1_X, A, B\}$  where A(a) = 0.5, A(b) = 0.4, B(a) = 0.7, B(b) = 0.5. Then  $(X, \tau)$  is an fts. The collection of all fuzzy  $\alpha$ -open sets is  $\{0_X, 1_X, A, B, V\}$  where  $V \ge B$  and that of fuzzy preopen sets is  $\{0_X, 1_X, A, B, U, V_1, W\}$  where  $U \le A, U \le 1_X \setminus B, V_1 > 1_X \setminus A, W \ge B$ .

Consider the fuzzy point  $b_{0.71}$  and the fuzzy set D, defined by D(a) = D(b) = 0.6. Then  $U_1(a) = 0.4$ ,  $U_1(b) = 0.3$  is a fuzzy preopen set such that  $b_{0.71}qU_1$ . But  $pclU_1 = U_1 \not dD$  and so  $b_{0.71} \notin [D]_p$ . All fuzzy  $\alpha$ -open q-nbds of  $b_{0.71}$  are  $1_X, A, B, V$  where  $V \geq B$ .  $\alpha clA = (1_X \setminus A)qD$ ,  $\alpha clB = \alpha clV = \alpha cl1_X = 1_X qD$  and so  $b_{0.71} \in [D]_{\alpha}$ .

**Remark 3.3.** The following two examples show that fuzzy  $p^*$ -closure operator and fuzzy closure operator are independent notions.

**Example 3.3.** Let  $X = \{a, b\}$ ,  $\tau = \{0_X, 1_X, B\}$  where B(a) = 0.7, B(b) = 0.5. Then  $(X, \tau)$  is an fts. Consider the fuzzy point  $a_{0.51}$  and the fuzzy set C given by C(a) = C(b) = 0.4. Then  $a_{0.51} \notin [C]_p$  as U defined by U(a) = 0.5, U(b) = 0, being a fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $a_{0.51}$ , pclU = U/qC. But other than  $1_X$ , B is the only fuzzy open q-nbd of  $a_{0.51}$  such that BqC. Consequently,  $a_{0.51} \in ClC$ .

**Example 3.4.** Let  $X = \{a\}$ ,  $\tau = \{0_X, 1_X, A, B\}$  where A(a) = 0.4, B(a) = 0.7. Then  $(X, \tau)$  is an fts. Then the collection of all fuzzy preopen sets is  $\{0_X, 1_X, U, V\}$  where  $U \leq A$ ,  $V \geq B$ . Consider the fuzzy point  $a_{0.4}$  and the fuzzy set C given by C(a) = 0.3. Then B is a fuzzy open q-nbd of  $a_{0.4}$ , but  $B \not A C$  and so  $a_{0.4} \notin clC$ . But any fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $a_{0.4}$  is of the form V and  $pclV = 1_X qC$  and so  $a_{0.4} \in [C]_p$ .

### 4. Fuzzy $p^*$ -Regular Space: Some Characterizations

In this section a new type of fuzzy regularity has been introduced and studied and shown that in this space  $p^*$ -closure operator and pcl operator coincide.

**Definition 4.1.** An fts  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular if for each fuzzy point  $x_t$  and each fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , there exists a fuzzy preopen set V in X such that  $x_tqV \leq pclV \leq U$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** For an fts  $(X, \tau)$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a) X is fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular space.
- (b) For any fuzzy set A in X,  $[A]_p = pclA$ ,
- (c) For each fuzzy point  $x_t$  and each fuzzy preclosed set F with  $x_t \notin F$ , there exists a fuzzy preopen set U such that  $x_t \notin pclU$  and  $F \leq U$ .
- (d) For each fuzzy point  $x_t$  and each fuzzy preclosed set F such that  $x_t \notin F$ , there exist fuzzy preopen sets U and V in X such that  $x_tqU, F \leq V$  and  $U \not qV$ .
- (e) For any fuzzy set A and any fuzzy preclosed set F with  $A \not\leq F$ , there exist fuzzy preopen sets U and V such that  $AqU, F \leq V$  and U  $\not qV$ .
- (f) For any fuzzy set A and any fuzzy preopen set U with AqU, there exists a fuzzy preopen set V such that  $AqV \leq pclV \leq U$ .

*Proof.* (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): By Note 2.1, it suffices to show that  $[A]_p \leq pclA$ , for any fuzzy set A in X.

Let  $x_t \in [A]_p$  and V be any fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $x_t$ . By (a), there exists a fuzzy preopen set W such that  $x_tqW \leq pclW \leq V$ . Since  $x_t \in [A]_p$ , pclWqA and so VqA. Consequently,  $x_t \in pclA \Rightarrow [A]_p \leq pclA$ .

- (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Let  $x_t$  be a fuzzy point in X and U be any fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $x_t$ . Then  $U(x)+t>1 \Rightarrow x_t \notin (1_X \setminus U) = pcl(1_X \setminus U) = [1_X \setminus U]_p$  (by (b)). Then there exists a fuzzy pre-q-nbd V of  $x_t$  such that  $pclV \not q(1_X \setminus U) \Rightarrow pclV \leq U$ . Then  $x_tqV \leq pclV \leq U \Rightarrow X$  is fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular.
- (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): Let  $x_t$  be a fuzzy point in X and F, a fuzzy preclosed set in X with  $x_t \notin F$ . Then  $F(x) < t \Rightarrow 1 F(x) + t > 1 \Rightarrow x_t q(1_X \setminus F)$ . By (a), there exists a fuzzy preopen set W such that  $x_t qW \leq pclW \leq 1_X \setminus F$ . Therefore,  $F \leq 1_X \setminus pclW = U$  (say) which is fuzzy preopen. Now  $x_t qW \Rightarrow x_t qpintW \leq W \leq pint(pclW) \Rightarrow x_t qpint(pclW) \Rightarrow (pint(pclW))(x) + t > 1 \Rightarrow 1 (pint(pclW))(x) < t \Rightarrow x_t \notin 1_X \setminus (pint(pclW)) \Rightarrow x_t \notin pcl(1_X \setminus pclW) \Rightarrow x_t \notin pclU$ .
- (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d): Let  $x_t$  be a fuzzy point in X and F, a fuzzy preclosed set in X with  $x_t \notin F$ . By (c), there exists a fuzzy preopen set U such that  $x_t \notin pclU$  and  $F \leq U$ . Now  $x_t \notin pclU \Rightarrow$  there exists a fuzzy pre-q-nbd W of  $x_t$  such that  $W \not = U$ .
- (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (e): Let A be any fuzzy set and F, any fuzzy preclosed set in X with  $A \not\leq F$ . Then there exists  $x \in X$  such that A(x) > F(x). Let A(x) = t. Then  $x_t \notin F$ . By (d), there exist fuzzy preopen sets U and V such that  $x_tqU, F \leq V$  and  $U \not qV$ . Again,  $U(x) + A(x) = U(x) + t > 1 \Rightarrow AqU$ .
- (e)  $\Rightarrow$  (f): Let A be any fuzzy set and U, any fuzzy preopen set in X with AqU. Then  $A \not\leq 1_X \setminus U$  which is fuzzy preclosed. By (e), there exist fuzzy preopen sets V and W such that  $AqV, 1_X \setminus U \leq W$  and  $V \not qW$ . Then by Lemma 2.2,  $pclV \not qW$ . Thus  $AqV \leq pclV \leq 1_X \setminus W \leq U$ .

$(f) \Rightarrow (a)$ : Obvious.	
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Corollary 4.1. An fts  $(X, \tau)$  is fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular if and only if every fuzzy preclosed set in X is fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed in X.

*Proof.* Let  $(X, \tau)$  be fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular space and A, a fuzzy preclosed set in X. Then by Theorem 4.1 (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b),  $A = pclA = [A]_p$  and hence A is fuzzy  $p^*$ -closed in X.

Conversely, let  $A = [A]_p$  for any fuzzy preclosed set in X. Let B be any fuzzy set in X. Then  $pclB = [pclB]_p$ . Then  $[B]_p \leq [pclB]_p = pclB$ . Again from Note 2.1,  $pclB \leq [B]_p$  and so  $[B]_p = pclB$  for any fuzzy set B in X. Hence by Theorem 4.1 (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a), X is fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular space.

**Remark 4.1.** In a fuzzy  $p^*$ -regular space  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $[[A]_p]_p = [A]_p$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 4.1 (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b),  $[[A]_p]_p = [pclA]_p = pcl(pclA) = pclA = [A]_p$  (by Theorem 4.1 (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b)).

# 5. Characterizations of Fuzzy $p^*$ -Closure Operator Via Fuzzy Net

In this section fuzzy  $p^*$ -closure operator of a fuzzy set is characterized in terms of fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point of a fuzzy net and its fuzzy  $p^*$ -convergence.

**Definition 5.1.** A fuzzy point  $x_t$  in an fts  $(X, \tau)$  is called a fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point of a fuzzy net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  if for every fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$  and for any  $n \in D$ , there exists  $m \in D$  with  $m \geq n$  such that  $S_m qpclU$ .

**Definition 5.2.** A fuzzy net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  in an fts  $(X, \tau)$  is said to  $p^*$ -converge to a fuzzy point  $x_t$  if for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , there exists  $m \in D$  such that  $S_n qpclU$  for all  $n \geq m$   $(n \in D)$ . This is denoted by  $S_n \overrightarrow{p^*} x_t$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** A fuzzy point  $x_t$  is a fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point of a fuzzy net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  in an fts  $(X, \tau)$  if and only if there exists a fuzzy subnet of  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  which  $p^*$ -converges to  $x_t$ .

Proof. Let  $x_t$  be a fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point of the fuzzy net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$ . Let  $p(Q_{x_t})$  denote the set of fuzzy preclosures of all fuzzy pre-q-nbds of  $x_t$ . Then for any  $A \in p(Q_{x_t})$ , there exists  $n \in D$  such that  $S_nqA$ . Let E denote the set of all ordered pairs (n, A) such that  $n \in D$ ,  $A \in p(Q_{x_t})$  and  $S_nqA$ . Then  $(E, \gg)$  is a directed set, where  $(m, A) \gg (n, B)$   $((m, A), (n, B) \in E)$  if and only if  $m \geq n$  in D and  $A \leq B$ . Then  $T : (E, \gg) \to (X, \tau)$  given by  $T(m, A) = S_m$  is clearly a fuzzy subnet of  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$ .

We claim that  $\overrightarrow{Tp^*}x_t$ . Let V be any fuzzy pre-q-nbd of  $x_t$ . Then there exists  $n \in D$  such that  $(n, pclV) \in E$  and so  $S_nqpclV$ . Now for any  $(m, A) \gg (n, pclV)$ ,  $T(m, A) = S_mqA \leq pclV \Rightarrow T(m, A)qpclV$ . Consequently,  $\overrightarrow{Tp^*}x_t$ . Conversely, if  $x_t$  is not a fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point of the fuzzy net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$ , then there exists a fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$  and an  $n \in D$  such that  $S_m$  /qpclU, for all  $m \geq n$ . Then clearly, no fuzzy subnet of the net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  can  $p^*$ -converge to  $x_t$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** Let A be a fuzzy set in an fts  $(X, \tau)$ . A fuzzy point  $x_t \in [A]_p$  if and only if there exists a fuzzy net  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  in A, which  $p^*$ -converges to  $x_t$ .

Proof. Let  $x_t \in [A]_p$ . Then for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , pclUqA, i.e., there exists  $y^U \in suppA$  and a real number  $p_U$  with  $0 < p_U \le A(y^U)$  such that the fuzzy point  $y^U_{p_U}$  with support  $y^U$  and value  $p_U$  belong to A and  $y^U_{p_U}qpclU$ . We choose and fix one such  $y^U_{p_U}$  for each U. Let  $\mathcal{D}$  denote the set of all fuzzy pre-q-nbds of  $x_t$ . Then  $(\mathcal{D},\succeq)$  is a directed set under inclusion relation, i.e.,  $B, C \in \mathcal{D}, B \succeq C$  iff  $B \le C$ . Then  $\{y^U_{p_U} \in A : y^U_{p_U}qpclU$  and  $U \in \mathcal{D}\}$  is a fuzzy net in A such that it  $p^*$ -converges to  $x_t$ . Indeed, for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , if  $V \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $V \succeq U$  (i.e.,  $V \le U$ ), then  $y^V_{p_V}qpclV \le pclU \Rightarrow y^V_{p_V}qpclU$ .

Conversely, let  $\{S_n : n \in (D, \geq)\}$  be a fuzzy net in A such that  $S_n \overrightarrow{p^*} x_t$ . Then for any fuzzy pre-q-nbd U of  $x_t$ , there exists  $m \in D$  such that  $n \geq m$   $\Rightarrow S_n qpclU \Rightarrow AqpclU$  (since  $S_n \in A$ ). Hence  $x_t \in [A]_p$ .

**Remark 5.1.** It is clear that an improved version of the converse of the last theorem can be written as " $x_t \in [A]_p$  if there exists a fuzzy net in A with  $x_t$  as a fuzzy  $p^*$ -cluster point".

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