

# A NEW TYPE OF MINIMAL AND MAXIMAL SETS

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**Abstract** In this paper, we introduce new classes of sets called maximal  $S_C$ -open sets, minimal  $S_C$ -open sets and  $S_C$ -paraopen sets via  $S_C$ -open sets in topological spaces. Then, we investigate some of their fundamental properties.

## 1 Introduction

The study of semi-open sets and their properties were initiated by N. Levine [3] in 1963. Crossley and Hildebrand [11], gave some properties of semi-closure of a set  $A$  (denoted by  $scl(A)$ ), they defined  $scl(A)$  as intersection of all semi-closed sets containing the set  $A$ . Then, some types of semi-open sets introduced such as  $S_C$ -open [2, 13] and  $S_\beta$ -open [7, 12] sets and for some related study see [9, 10]. Furthermore, F. Nakaok and N. Oda [4, 5] introduced the notation of maximal open sets and minimal open sets in topological spaces. In 2016, B. M. Ittanagi et al [8], introduced the notation of paraopen and paraclosed sets. Authors of [8], defined as any open subset  $U$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be a paraopen set if it is neither minimal open nor maximal open set. The family of all paraopen sets in a topological space  $X$  is denoted by  $PaO(X)$ . Also, any closed subset  $F$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be a paraclosed set if and only if its complement  $(X \setminus F)$  is paraopen set and the family of all paraclosed sets in a topological space  $X$  is denoted by  $PaC(X)$ . In addition, B. Alias and M. Haji in [1] introduced and investigated some fundamental properties of maximal semi open and minimal semi open sets. Finally, the purpose of the present paper is to introduce the concept of new classes of  $S_C$ -open sets called maximal  $S_C$ -open sets and minimal  $S_C$ -open sets. We also investigate some of their fundamental properties.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.** [2] A subset of semi open set  $G$  is said to be  $S_C$ -open if for each  $x \in G$ , there exists a closed set  $F$  such that  $x \in F \subseteq G$ . The complement of  $S_C$ -open set is said to be  $S_C$ -closed. As the usual sense, the intersection of all  $S_C$ -closed sets of  $X$  containing  $A$  is called the  $S_C$ -closure of  $A$ . Also the union of all  $S_C$ -open sets of  $X$  contained  $A$  is called the  $S_C$ -interior of  $A$ .

**Definition 2.2.** [2] A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is said to be semi-open if  $A \subseteq cl(int(A))$ . The complement of semi-open set is said to be semi-closed.

**Definition 2.3.** A proper nonempty open (resp., semi-open) set  $U$  of  $X$  is said to be a maximal open [5] (resp., maximal semi-open) [1] set if any open set (resp., semi open) which contains  $U$  is  $X$  or  $U$ .

**Definition 2.4.** [5] A proper nonempty open set  $U$  of a space  $X$  is said to be a minimal open set if any open set which contained in  $U$  is  $\phi$  or  $U$ .

**Definition 2.5.** [4] A proper nonempty closed subset  $F$  of a space  $X$  is said to be a maximal closed set if any closed set which contains  $F$  is  $X$  or  $F$ .

**Definition 2.6.** [1] A proper nonempty semi-closed set  $B$  of a space  $X$  is said to be a minimal semi-closed if any semi-closed set which contained in  $B$  is  $\phi$  or  $B$ .

### 3 Maximal and Minimal $S_C$ -Open Sets.

**Definition 3.1.** A proper nonempty  $S_C$ -open subset  $U$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be a minimal  $S_C$ -open set if any  $S_C$ -open set which is contained in  $U$  is  $\phi$  or  $U$ .

**Definition 3.2.** A proper nonempty  $S_C$ -open subset  $U$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be maximal  $S_C$ -open set if any  $S_C$ -open set which contains  $U$  is  $X$  or  $U$ .

**Definition 3.3.** A proper nonempty  $S_C$ -closed subset  $F$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set if any  $S_C$ -closed set which is contained in  $F$  is  $\phi$  or  $F$ .

**Definition 3.4.** A proper nonempty  $S_C$ -closed subset  $F$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be maximal  $S_C$ -closed set if any  $S_C$ -closed set which contains  $F$  is  $X$  or  $F$ .

**Proposition 3.5.** Let  $A$  be a proper nonempty subset of  $X$ . Then  $A$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -open set if  $X \setminus A$  is a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set.

*Proof.* Necessity, let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set. Then,  $A \subseteq X$  or  $A \subseteq A$ . Hence  $\phi \subseteq X \setminus A$  or  $X \setminus A \subseteq X \setminus A$ . Therefore, by Definition 3.1,  $X \setminus A$  is a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set. Sufficiency, let  $X \setminus A$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set, Then  $\phi \subseteq X \setminus A$  or  $X \setminus A \subseteq X \setminus A$ . Hence  $A \subseteq X$  or  $A \subseteq A$  which implies that  $A$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -open set.  $\square$

The following example shows that the family of maximal  $S_C$ -open sets and maximal semi-open sets are independent in general.

**Example 3.6.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space such that  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ .

Clearly  $SO(X) = \{\phi, X, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, c, d\}\}$  and  $S_C O(X) = \{\phi, X, \{b\}, \{a, c, d\}\}$ . Then  $\{a, b, d\}$  is a maximal semi-open set which is not maximal  $S_C$ -open, and  $\{b\}$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -open set which is not maximal semi-open.

**Theorem 3.7.** The following statements are true for any topological space  $X$ .

- (i) Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set and  $B$  be a  $S_C$ -open set, then,  $A \cup B = X$  or  $B \subseteq A$ .
- (ii) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be maximal  $S_C$ -open sets, then  $A \cup B = X$  or  $B = A$ .
- (iii) Let  $F$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set and  $G$  be a  $S_C$ -closed set, then  $F \cap G = \phi$  or  $F \subseteq G$ .
- (iv) Let  $F$  and  $G$  be minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets, then  $F \cap G = \phi$  or  $F = G$ .

*Proof.*

- (i) Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set and  $B$  be a  $S_C$ -open set. If  $A \cup B = X$ , then we are done. But if  $A \cup B \neq X$ , then we have to prove that  $B \subseteq A$ . Now,  $A \cup B \neq X$  means  $B \subseteq A \cup B$  and  $A \subseteq A \cup B$ . Therefore, we have  $A \subseteq A \cup B$  and  $A$  is maximal  $S_C$ -open, then by definition  $A \cup B = X$  or  $A \cup B = A$  but  $A \cup B \neq X$ , thus  $A \cup B = A$  which implies  $B \subseteq A$ .
- (ii) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be maximal  $S_C$ -open sets. If  $A \cup B = X$ , then we are done. But if  $A \cup B \neq X$ , then we have to prove that  $B = A$ . Now,  $A \cup B \neq X$  means  $A \subseteq A \cup B$  and  $B \subseteq A \cup B$ . Now,  $A \subseteq A \cup B$  and  $A$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -open set, then by definition  $A \cup B = X$  or  $A \cup B = A$  but  $A \cup B \neq X$ . Therefore,  $A \cup B = A$  which it implies  $B \subseteq A$ . Similarly if  $B \subseteq A \cup B$ , we obtain  $A \subseteq B$ . Therefore,  $A = B$ .
- (iii) Let  $F$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set and  $G$  be a  $S_C$ -closed set. If  $F \cap G = \phi$ , then there is nothing to prove. But if  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ , then we have to prove that  $F \subseteq G$ . Now, if  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ , then  $F \cap G \subseteq F$  and  $F \cap G \subseteq G$ . Since  $F \cap G \subset F$  and given that  $F$  is minimal  $S_C$ -closed, then by definition  $F \cap G = F$  or  $F \cap G = \phi$ , but  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ , then  $F \cap G = F$  which implies  $F \subseteq G$ .

(iv) Let  $F$  and  $G$  be two minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets. If  $F \cap G = \phi$ , then there is nothing to prove. But if  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ , then we have to prove that  $F = G$ . Now, if  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ , then  $F \cap G \subseteq F$  and  $F \cap G \subseteq G$ . Since  $F \cap G \subseteq F$  and given that  $F$  is minimal  $S_C$ -closed, then by definition  $F \cap G = F$  or  $F \cap G = \phi$ . But  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ , then  $F \cap G = F$  which implies  $F \subseteq G$ . Similarly if  $F \cap G \subseteq G$  and given that  $G$  is minimal  $S_C$ -closed, then by definition  $F \cap G = G$  or  $F \cap G = \phi$ . But  $F \cap G \neq \phi$  then  $F \cap G = G$  which implies  $G \subseteq F$ . Thus,  $F = G$ .

□

**Theorem 3.8.**

- (i) Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set and  $x$  be an element of  $X \setminus A$ , then  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$  for any  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  containing  $x$ .
- (ii) Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set, then either of the following (a) or (b) holds:
  - a. For each  $x \in X \setminus A$  and each  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  containing  $x$ ,  $B = X$ .
  - b. There exists a  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  such that  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq X$ .
- (iii) Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set, then either of the following (a) and (b) holds:
  - a. For each  $x \in X \setminus A$  and each  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  containing  $x$ , we have  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$ .
  - b. There exists a  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  such that  $X \setminus A = B \neq X$ .

*Proof.*

- (i) Since  $x \in X \setminus A$ , we have  $B \not\subseteq A$  for any  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  containing  $x$ . Then  $A \cup B = X$  by Theorem 3.7. Therefore,  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$ .
- (ii) If (1) does not hold, then there exists an element  $x$  of  $X \setminus A$  and a  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  containing  $x$  such that  $B \subseteq X$ . By (i), we have  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$ .
- (iii) If (2) does not hold, then by (i), we have  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$  for each  $x \in X \setminus A$  and each  $S_C$ -open set  $B$  containing  $x$ . Hence, we have  $X \setminus A \subseteq B$ .

□

**Theorem 3.9.** Let  $A, B, C$  be maximal  $S_C$ -open sets such that  $A \neq B$ . If  $A \cap B \subseteq C$ , then either  $A = C$  or  $B = C$ .

*Proof.* Given that  $A \cap B \subseteq C$ . If  $A = C$ , then there is nothing to prove. But if  $A \neq C$ , then we have to prove  $B = C$ . Using Theorem 3.7, we have  $B \cap C = B \cap [C \cap X] = B \cap [C \cap (A \cup B)] = B \cap [(C \cap A) \cup (C \cap B)] = (B \cap C \cap A) \cup (B \cap C \cap B) = (A \cap B) \cup (C \cap B)$  since  $A \cap B \subseteq C = (A \cup C) \cap B = X \cap B = B$ , since  $A \cup C = X$ . This implies  $B \subseteq C$  also from the definition of maximal  $S_C$ -open set it follows that  $B = C$ . □

**Theorem 3.10.** Let  $A, B, C$  be maximal  $S_C$ -open sets which are different from each other. Then  $(A \cap B) \not\subseteq (A \cap C)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(A \cap B) \subseteq (A \cap C)$ . Then,  $(A \cap B) \cup (C \cap B) \subseteq (A \cap C) \cup (C \cap B)$ . Hence  $(A \cup C) \cap B \subseteq C \cap (A \cup B)$ . Since by Theorem 3.1,  $A \cup C = X$ . We have  $X \cap B \subseteq C \cap X$  which implies  $B \subseteq C$ . From the definition of maximal  $S_C$ -open set it follows that  $B = C$ . Contradiction to the fact that  $A, B$  and  $C$  are different from each other. Therefore,  $(A \cap B) \not\subseteq (A \cap C)$ . □

**Theorem 3.11.**

- (i) Let  $F$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set of  $X$ . If  $x \in F$ , then  $F \subseteq G$  for any  $S_C$ -closed set  $G$  containing  $x$ .
- (ii) Let  $F$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set of  $X$ . Then  $F = \cap \{G \mid x \in G \in S_C C(X)\}$  for any element  $x$  of  $F$ .

*Proof.*

- (i) Let  $F$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed and  $G \in S_C C(X)$  such that  $F \not\subseteq G$ . This implies that  $F \cap G \subseteq F$  and  $F \cap G \neq \phi$ . But since  $F$  is minimal  $S_C$ -closed, by Definition 3.3  $F \cap G = F$  which contradicts the relation  $F \cap G \subseteq F$ . Therefore,  $F \subseteq G$ .
- (ii) From fact that  $F$  is  $S_C$ -closed containing  $x$ , we have  $F \subseteq \cap \{G \mid G \in S_C C(X, x)\} \subseteq F$ . Therefore, we have the result. □

**Theorem 3.12.**

- (i) Let  $F$  and  $F_\lambda (\lambda \in \Delta)$  be minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets. If  $F \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Delta} F_\lambda$  then there exists  $\lambda \in \Delta$  such that  $F = F_\lambda$ .
- (ii) Let  $F$  and  $(F_\lambda ; \lambda \in \Delta)$  be minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets. If  $F \neq F_\lambda$  for any  $\lambda \in \Delta$ , then  $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \Delta} F_\lambda \cap F = \phi$ .

*Proof.*

- (i) Let  $F$  and  $(F_\lambda ; \lambda \in \Delta)$  be minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets with  $F \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Delta} F_\lambda$ . We have to prove that  $F_\lambda \cap F \neq \phi$ . If  $F_\lambda \cap F = \phi$ , then  $F_\lambda \subseteq X \setminus F$  and hence  $F \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Delta} F_\lambda \subseteq X \setminus F$  which is a contradiction. Now as  $F_\lambda \cap F \neq \phi$ , then  $F_\lambda \cap F \subseteq F$  and  $F_\lambda \cap F \subseteq F_\lambda$ . Since  $F_\lambda \cap F \subseteq F$  and given that  $F$  is minimal  $S_C$ -closed, then by definition  $F_\lambda \cap F = F$  or  $F_\lambda \cap F = \phi$ . But  $F_\lambda \cap F \neq \phi$ , then  $F_\lambda \cap F = F$ , which implies  $F \subseteq F_\lambda$ . Similarly if  $F_\lambda \cap F = F_\lambda$ , and given that is  $F_\lambda$  minimal  $S_C$ -closed, then by definition  $F_\lambda \cap F = F_\lambda$  or  $F_\lambda \cap F = \phi$ . But  $F_\lambda \cap F \neq \phi$ . Then  $F_\lambda \cap F = F_\lambda$  which implies  $F \subseteq F_\lambda$ . Then  $F = F_\lambda$ .
- (ii) Suppose that  $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \Delta} F_\lambda \cap F \neq \phi$  then there exists  $\lambda \in \Delta$  such that  $F_\lambda \cap F \neq \phi$ . By Theorem 3.7, we have  $F = F_\lambda$ . Which is a contradiction to the fact  $F \neq F_\lambda$ . Hence  $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \Delta} F_\lambda \cap F = \phi$ . □

**Theorem 3.13.** Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set. Then either  $S_C Cl(A) = X$  or  $S_C Cl(A) = A$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -open set, then by Theorem 3.7, we have the following cases:

- (i) For each  $x \in X \setminus A$  and each  $S_C$ -open set  $H$  of  $x$ , let  $x$  be any element of  $X \setminus A$  and  $H$  be any  $S_C$ -open set of  $x$ . Since  $X \setminus A \neq H$ , we have  $H \cap A \neq \emptyset$ , for any  $S_C$ -open set  $H$  of  $x$ . Hence  $X \setminus A \subseteq S_C Cl(A)$ . Since  $X = X \cup (X \setminus A) \subseteq A \cup S_C Cl(A) = S_C Cl(A) \subseteq X$ , we have  $S_C Cl = X$ .
- (ii) There exists a  $S_C$ -open set  $H$  such that  $X \setminus A = H \neq X$ . Since  $X \setminus A = H$  is a  $S_C$ -open set, then  $A$  is  $S_C$ -closed set. Therefore,  $A = S_C Cl A$ . □

**Theorem 3.14.** Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set, and  $S$  be a nonempty subset of  $X \setminus A$ . Then,  $S_C Cl(S) = X \setminus A$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\phi \neq S \subseteq X \setminus A$ , we have  $W \cap S \neq \phi$ , for any element  $x$  of  $X \setminus A$  and  $S_C$ -open set  $W$  of  $x$  by Theorem 3.13. Then  $X \setminus A \subseteq S_C Cl(A)$ . Since  $X \setminus A$  is  $S_C$ -closed set and  $S \subseteq X \setminus A$ , we see that  $S_C Cl(S) \subseteq S_C Cl(X \setminus A) = X \setminus A$ . Therefore,  $X \setminus A = S_C Cl(S)$ . □

**Proposition 3.15.** Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set and  $M$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$  with  $A \subseteq M$ . Then,  $S_C Cl(M) = X$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A \subseteq M \subseteq X$ , there exists a nonempty subset  $S$  of  $X \setminus A$  such that  $M = A \cup S$ . Hence, we have  $S_C Cl(M) = S_C Cl(A \cup S) = S_C Cl(A) \cup S_C Cl(S) \supseteq (X \setminus A) \cup A = X$  by Theorem 3.14. Therefore,  $S_C Cl(M) = X$ . □

**Theorem 3.16.** Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set and assume that the subset  $X \setminus A$  has at least two elements. Then,  $S_C Cl(X \setminus \{a\}) = X$ , for any element  $a$  of  $X \setminus A$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A \subseteq (X \setminus \{a\})$  by our assumption, we have the result by Proposition 3.15. □

**Theorem 3.17.** *Let  $A$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set, and  $N$  be a proper subset of  $X$  with  $A \subseteq N$ . Then  $S_CInt(N) = A$ .*

*Proof.* If  $N = A$ , then  $S_CInt(N) = S_CInt(A) = A$ . Otherwise,  $N \neq A$ , and hence  $A \subseteq N$ . It follows that  $A \subseteq S_CInt(N)$ . Since  $A$  is maximal  $S_C$ -open set, we have also  $S_CInt(N) \subseteq A$ . Therefore,  $S_CInt(N) = A$ . □

### 4 $S_C$ -Paraopen Sets.

**Definition 4.1.** Any open subset  $U$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be a  $S_C$ -paraopen set if it is neither minimal  $S_C$ -open nor maximal  $S_C$ -open set. The family of all  $S_C$ -paraopen sets in a topological space  $X$  is denoted by  $S_CPaO(X)$ . Any  $S_C$ -closed subset  $F$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be a  $S_C$ -paraclosed set if and only if its complement  $x \in X \setminus F$  is  $S_C$ -paraopen set. The family of all  $S_C$ -paraclosed sets in a topological space  $X$  is denoted by  $S_CPaC(X)$ .

Note that every  $S_C$ -paraopen set is an  $S_C$ -open set and every  $S_C$ -paraclosed set is a  $S_C$ -closed set, but not conversely, which is shown by the following example.

**Example 4.2.** Consider  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  with  $\tau = \{\phi, X, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}\}$  and  $S_C C(X) = \{\phi, X, \{c\}, \{a, d\}, \{b, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b, d\}\}$ . Then  $S_C-MiO(X) = \{\{c\}\}$ ,  $S_C-MaO(X) = \{\{a, b, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{b, c, d\}\}$ ,  $S_C-MiC(X) = \{\{a\}, \{b\}, \{d\}\}$ ,  $S_C-MaC(X) = \{\{b, c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{a, b, d\}\}$ ,  $S_C-PaO(X) = \{\phi, \{a, d\}, \{b, d\}, X\}$ ,  $S_C-PaC(X) = \{X, \{b, c\}, \{a, c\}, \phi\}$ . Here  $\{c\}$  is an  $S_C$ -open set but not an  $S_C$ -paraopen set and  $\{a\}, \{b\}, \{d\}$  are  $S_C$ -closed sets but not  $S_C$ -paraclosed set.

**Remark 4.3.** Union and intersection of  $S_C$ -paraopen (resp.,  $S_C$ -paraclosed) sets need not be a  $S_C$ -paraopen (resp.  $S_C$ -paraclosed) set.

**Example 4.4.** In Example 4.2, we have  $\{a, d\}, \{b, d\}$  are  $S_C$ -paraopen sets but  $\{a, d\} \cup \{b, d\} = \{a, b, d\}$  and  $\{a, d\} \cap \{b, d\} = \{d\}$  which are not  $S_C$ -paraopen sets. (resp.,  $\{a, c\}, \{b, c\}$  are  $S_C$ -paraclosed sets but  $\{a, c\} \cup \{b, c\} = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\{a, c\} \cap \{b, c\} = \{c\}$  which are not  $S_C$ -paraclosed sets.

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $U$  be a nonempty  $S_C$ -paraopen subset of  $X$ . Then there exists a minimal  $S_C$ -open set  $N$  such that  $N \subseteq U$ .*

*Proof.* By definition of minimal  $S_C$ -open set, it is obvious that  $N \subseteq U$ . □

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $U$  be a proper  $S_C$ -paraopen subset of  $X$  then there exists a maximal  $S_C$ -open set  $M$  such that  $U \subseteq M$ .*

*Proof.* By definition of maximal  $S_C$ -open set, it is obvious that  $U \subseteq M$ . □

**Theorem 4.7.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space.*

- (i) *Let  $U$  be a  $S_C$ -paraopen and  $N$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -open set then  $U \cap N = \phi$  or  $N \subseteq U$ .*
- (ii) *Let  $U$  be a  $S_C$ -paraopen and  $M$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set then  $U \cup M = X$  or  $U \subseteq M$ .*
- (iii) *Intersection of  $S_C$ -paraopen sets is either  $S_C$ -paraopen or minimal  $S_C$ -open set.*

*Proof.*

- (i) Let  $U$  be a  $S_C$ -paraopen and  $N$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -open set in  $X$ . Then  $U \cap N = \phi$  or  $U \cap N \neq \phi$ . If  $U \cap N = \phi$ , then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $U \cap N \neq \phi$ . Now we have  $U \cap N$  is an  $S_C$ -open set and  $U \cap N \subseteq N$ . Hence  $N \subseteq U$ .
- (ii) Let  $U$  be a  $S_C$ -paraopen and  $M$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -open set in  $X$ . Then  $U \cup M = X$  or  $U \cup M \neq X$ . If  $U \cup M = X$ , then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $U \cup M \neq X$ . Now we have  $U \cup M$  is an  $S_C$ -open set and  $M \subseteq U \cup M$ . Since  $M$  is maximal  $S_C$ -open set,  $U \cup M = M$  which implies  $U \subseteq M$ .

- (iii) Let  $U$  and  $V$  be  $S_C$ -paraopen sets in  $X$ . If  $U \cap V$  is a  $S_C$ -paraopen set then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $U \cap V$  is not a  $S_C$ -paraopen set. Then by definition,  $U \cap V$  is a minimal  $S_C$ -open or maximal  $S_C$ -open set. If  $U \cap V$  is a minimal  $S_C$ -open set, then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $U \cap V$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -open set. Now  $U \cap V \subseteq U$  and  $U \cap V \subseteq V$  which contradicts the fact that  $U$  and  $V$  are  $S_C$ -paraopen sets. Therefore,  $U \cap V$  is not a maximal  $S_C$ -open set. That is  $U \cap V$  must be a minimal  $S_C$ -open set. □

**Theorem 4.8.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space. A subset  $F$  of  $X$  is  $S_C$ -paraclosed if and only if it is neither maximal  $S_C$ -closed nor minimal  $S_C$ -closed set.*

*Proof.* The proof follows from the definition and fact that the complement of minimal  $S_C$ -open set is maximal  $S_C$ -closed set and the complement of maximal  $S_C$ -open set is minimal  $S_C$ -closed set. □

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $F$  be a nonempty  $S_C$ -paraclosed subset of, then there exists a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set  $N$  such that  $N \subseteq F$ .*

*Proof.* By definition of minimal  $S_C$ -closed set, it is obvious that  $N \subseteq F$ . □

**Theorem 4.10.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $F$  be a proper  $S_C$ -paraclosed subset of  $X$ , then there exists a maximal  $S_C$ -closed set  $M$  such that  $F \subseteq M$ .*

*Proof.* By definition of maximal  $S_C$ -closed set, it is obvious that  $F \subseteq M$ . □

**Theorem 4.11.** *Let  $X$  be a topological space.*

- (i) *Let  $F$  be paraclosed and  $N$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets then  $F \cap N = \phi$  or  $N \subseteq F$ .*  
 (ii) *Let  $F$  be  $S_C$ -paraclosed and  $M$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -closed sets then  $F \cup M = X$  or  $F \subseteq M$ .*  
 (iii) *Intersection of paraclosed sets is either  $S_C$ -paraclosed or minimal  $S_C$ -closed set.*

*Proof.*

- (i) Let  $F$  be a  $S_C$ -paraclosed and  $N$  be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed sets in  $X$ . Then  $(X \setminus F)$  is  $S_C$ -paraopen and  $(X \setminus N)$  is maximal  $S_C$ -open sets in  $X$ . Then by Theorem 4.7 we have  $(X \setminus F) \cup (X \setminus N) = X$  or  $(X \setminus F) \subseteq (X \setminus N)$  which implies  $X \setminus (F \cap N) = X$  or  $N \subseteq F$ . Therefore,  $F \cap N = \phi$  or  $N \subseteq F$ .
- (ii) Let  $F$  be a  $S_C$ -paraclosed and  $M$  be a maximal  $S_C$ -closed sets in  $X$ . Then  $(X \setminus F)$  is  $S_C$ -paraopen and  $(X \setminus M)$  is minimal  $S_C$ -open sets in  $X$ . Then by Theorem 4.7 we have  $(X \setminus F) \cap (X \setminus M) = \phi$  or  $(X \setminus M) \subseteq (X \setminus F)$  which implies  $X \setminus (F \cup M) = \phi$  or  $F \subseteq M$ . Therefore,  $F \cup M = X$  or  $F \subseteq M$ .
- (iii) Let  $U$  and  $V$  be  $S_C$ -paraclosed sets in  $X$ . If  $U \cap V$  is a  $S_C$ -paraclosed set then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $U \cap V$  is not a  $S_C$ -paraclosed set. Then by definition,  $U \cap V$  is a minimal  $S_C$ -closed or maximal  $S_C$ -closed set. If  $U \cap V$  is a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set, then there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $U \cap V$  is a maximal  $S_C$ -closed set. Now  $U \subseteq U \cap V$  and  $V \subseteq U \cap V$  which contradicts the fact that  $U$  and  $V$  are  $S_C$ -paraclosed sets. Therefore,  $U \cap V$  is not a maximal  $S_C$ -closed set. That is  $U \cap V$  must be a minimal  $S_C$ -closed set. □

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