



JOINT CONTINUITY OF SEPARATELY CONTINUOUS MAPPINGS WITH VALUES IN COMPLETELY REGULAR SPACES

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ABSTRACT. We prove general theorems on quasi-continuity of mappings $f: X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n \to Z$ with values in a completely regular space Z. As consequences, we obtain results on joint continuity of separately continuous functions of several variables involving the previous results of several authors.

1. History

The problem of joint continuity of separately continuous mappings has been intensively studied by mathematicians throughout the 20th century since the thesis of R. B a i r e [2] (see, surveys [37], [55], [56]). The research is currently ongoing (see dissertations [23], [26], [47]). Initially, results in this direction dealt with separately continuous mappings with values in metrizable spaces. There was one exception: Hoffmann-Jorgensen's example [8, p. 459] of everywhere discontinuous separately continuous mapping $f: [-1,1]^2 \rightarrow [-1,1]^{[-1,1]^2}$, f(x,y)(u,v) =sp(u-x, v-y), where $sp(t,s) = 2ts/(t^2 + s^2)$ for $(t,s) \neq (0,0)$ and sp(0,0) = 0is the famous Schwartz function. It takes values in the non-metrizable compact space $[-1,1]^{[-1,1]^2}$ endowed with the topology of pointwise convergence.

A lot of papers concerning joint continuity of separately continuous mappings and their analogues with values in generalized metric spaces have appeared during the last 25 years. First results were obtained for strict inductive limits [24], [25] (see also [33]), then for σ -metrizable and strong σ -metrizable spaces [10], [27], [31], [32], [34], [36], [37], further – for Moore spaces [35], [57], [58]. These results were included in dissertations [11], [26]. Recent papers [3], [20], [38], [40], [48], [49], [50], [51] concern stratifiable, semi-stratifiable and Maslyuchenko range spaces.

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²⁰¹⁰ Mathematics Subject Classification: 54C05, 54C08.

Keywords: separately continuous mapping, quasi-continuous mapping.

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New results in this branch were presented at the IV Conference devoted to the 135 anniversary of the birth of the famous Austrian mathematician H a n s H a h n [12], [49]. They concerned separately continuous functions of several variables with values in the Ceder plane [49] and the Niemytski plane or, more generally, in completely regular Moore spaces [12].

Techniques used to obtain these results are similar and they require a common approach. The aim of this paper is to provide such an approach. The main results of it were announced in [41].

2. The Weston property, the Hahn property, *W*- and *H*-triples

Let X, Y and Z be topological spaces and $f: X \times Y \to Z$ be a mapping. We denote by C(f) the set of joint continuity points of f. Recall that a subset E of a topological space T is called *residual* in T if its complement $T \setminus E$ is a set of the first category.

It is said that $f: X \times Y \to Z$ has the Weston property if for each $y \in Y$ the set

$$C_y(f) = \{x \in X : (x, y) \in C(f)\}$$

is residual in X. The mapping $f: X \times Y \to Z$ has the Hahn property if the set

$$C_Y(f) = \left\{ x \in X : \{x\} \times Y \subseteq C(f) \right\}$$

is residual in X. This terminology was introduced in [26] because J. Weston [60] and H. Hahn [16], [17] found that separately continuous mappings have the corresponding properties under certain assumptions.

Recall [21], [52] that a mapping $f: X \to Y$ is quasi-continuous at a point x_0 if for each neighborhood V of $y_0 = f(x_0)$ in Y and each neighborhood U of x_0 in X there exists a non-empty open set G in X such that $G \subseteq U$ and $f(G) \subseteq V$. We say that f is quasi-continuous if it is quasi-continuous at every point of X. The quasi-continuity of separately continuous functions of two real variables was discovered by V. Volterra [2, p. 94]; H. Hahn [15] was the first who applied it to study separately continuous functions of n variables, however, the term "quasi-continuity" is due by S. Kempisty [21].

Let $f: X \times Y \to Z$ be a mapping and $p = (x, y) \in X \times Y$. Denote

$$f^x(y) = f_y(x) = f(p).$$

The mappings $f^x \colon Y \to Z$ and $f_y \colon X \to Z$ are called *x*-section and *y*-section of the mapping f, respectively. A mapping $f \colon X \times Y \to Z$ is said to be a *KCfunction*, if for each $y \in Y$ the mapping $f_y \colon X \to Z$ is quasi-continuous and for each $x \in X$ the mapping $f^x \colon Y \to Z$ is continuous. *KC*-functions naturally arise while studying separately continuous functions $f: X_1 \times \cdots \times X_{n+1} \to Z$ of several variables. One can interpret them as mappings $f: X \times Y \to Z$, where $X = X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n$ and $Y = X_{n+1}$. Here, the mappings $f: X \times Y \to Z$ are often *KC*-functions, because separately continuous mappings are often quasicontinuous. So, an important problem is to describe the size of the set C(f) for *KC*-functions $f: X \times Y \to Z$. This problem was studied in many papers (see dissertations [11], [23], [26], [47], [53], surveys [37], [55], [56] and references therein, and also recent results [5], [43], [44] that generalize those of [6], [42]).

Now, we introduce the main definitions. A triple (X, Y, Z) of topological spaces is called a *W*-triple (*H*-triple) if each *KC*-function $f: X \times Y \to Z$ has the Weston property (the Hahn property). A space Y is called a *W*-space (*H*-space) with respect to a space Z if for any Baire space X the triple (X, Y, Z) is a *W*-triple (*H*-triple). A *W*-space (*H*-space) with respect to the real line \mathbb{R} is called a *W*-space (*H*-space). *H*-spaces were introduced in [26] (as *Kempisty spaces*) and studied in [47].

THEOREM 2.1. A space Y is a W-space (H-space) with respect to Z if and only if for any topological space X the triple (X, Y, Z) is a W-triple (H-triple).

Proof. Let Y be a W-space (H-space) with respect to Z and X be any topological space. The Banach category theorem [22, p. 87] implies that any topological space X possesses the Baire kernel, i.e., the unique open Baire subspace T with meager complement in X. Let $f: X \times Y \to Z$ be any KC-function. Then, its restriction $g = f|_{T \times Y}: T \times Y \to Z$ is also a KC-function because the set T is open in X. It follows from the definition that the function g has the Weston property (Hahn property). Since T is open, it is easily deduced that $C_y(g) = C_y(f) \cap T$ for each $y \in Y$ and $C_Y(g) = C_Y(f) \cap T$. But, if the trace $A \cap E$ of a set $A \subseteq X$ on a residual in X set E is residual in the subspace E, then the set A is residual in X. Therefore, f has the Weston property (Hahn property), and hence, (X, Y, Z) is a W-triple (H-triple).

3. Examples of *W*-triples

We formulate a general result which provides many examples of *W*-triples. To understand it better, recall some definitions.

A topological space Z is called *strongly* σ -*metrizable* if Z can be written as the union of an increasing sequence $(Z_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of closed metrizable subspaces such that each convergent sequence in Z is contained in some Z_n . The concept of a strongly σ -metrizable space was introduced in the survey [37].

A sequence \mathcal{W}_n of open covers of a space Z is a *development* for Z if for each $z \in Z$ and each sequence of open sets W_n , such that $z \in W_n \in \mathcal{W}_n$ for all n,

the family $\{W_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a base at z. A regular space which has a development is called a *Moore space*. The Niemytski plane [9, p. 47] is an example of a nonmetrizable Moore space. We denote the Niemytski plane by \mathbb{P} .

A system \mathcal{P} of open subsets of X is called a *pseudobase* for X, if for every nonempty open set U in X there is a nonempty set $P \in \mathcal{P}$ with $P \subseteq U$.

In [7], J. C e d e r gave an example of a stratifiable and non-metrizable space [7, Ex. 9.1]. We call it *the Ceder plane* and denote by \mathbb{M} . A generalization of this construction known as the *Ceder product* was introduced in [39].

THEOREM 3.1. A triple (X, Y, Z) of topological spaces is a W-triple if the space Y is first-countable, and at least one of the following conditions holds:

- (i) Z is metrizable;
- (ii) Z is strongly σ -metrizable;
- (iii) Z is a Moore space;
- (iv) X has a countable pseudobase, Y is a connected Baire space, and $Z = \mathbb{M}$ is the Ceder plane.

Proof. The sufficiency of (i) is a well-known result that can be obtained even using the methods of H. Hahn [15], its proof is given, for example, in [28]. The sufficiency of condition (ii) was proved in [27]. The sufficiency of condition (iii) was shown in [57], and a more general result was obtained in [35]. As for condition (iv), the corresponding result was proved in [40].

In particular, Theorem 3.1 (i) yields that any first-countable space is a W-space.

4. Examples of *H*-triples

We summarize the previously obtained results in the following statement. In this theorem the term "a Kempisty space" means "an *H*-space".

THEOREM 4.1. A triple (X, Y, Z) is an H-triple, if at least one of the following conditions holds:

- (i) Y is second-countable and Z is metrizable;
- (ii) Y is a metrizable compact and Z is strongly σ -metrizable;
- (iii) Y is a Kempisty compact and Z is metrizable;
- (iv) Y is a Kempisty compact and Z is strongly σ -metrizable;
- (v) X is a topological space which has a countable pseudobase, Y is a connected Baire space, which satisfies the second axiom of countability, and $Z = \mathbb{M}$ is the Ceder plane.

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Proof. The sufficiency of condition (i) was proved in [28] and (ii) in [27]. The sufficiency of condition (iii) was obtained in [46], and (iv) in [10]. The sufficiency of condition (v) was proved in [40]. \Box

According to Theorem 4.1 (i), any second-countable space Y is an H-space. H-triples can be used to define the notion of weakly Namioka space [59]. Namely, a topological space X is weakly Namioka if for any second-countable space Y the triple (X, Y, \mathbb{R}) is an H-triple.

The concept of the *H*-triple was used in [3], [4]. Namely, *KC-Maslyuchenko* spaces were introduced by T. B a n a k h in [3] as topological spaces Z such that for every second-countable space Y and every topological space X the triple (X, Y, Z) is an *H*-triple. The class of *KC*-Maslyuchenko spaces is closed under many countable operations, in particular, countable Tychonoff products and strong countable unions, which implies that strongly σ -metrizable spaces are *KC*-Maslyuchenko.

In [4], T. Banakh defined and studied Piotrowski spaces. A topological space Z is *Piotrowski* if for any topological space X and the singleton $1 = \{0\}$ the triple (X, 1, Z) is an *H*-triple.

5. Quasi-continuity of *KC*-functions

We shall use the following result on the quasi-continuity of a function $f: X \to Y$ with values in a completely regular space Y, which has been proven in [30] even for a more general case.

LEMMA 5.1. Let X be a topological space, Y a completely regular space, and let $x_0 \in X$. A function $f: X \to Y$ is quasi-continuous at x_0 if and only if, for every continuous function $g: Y \to \mathbb{R}$, the composition $h = g \circ f: X \to \mathbb{R}$ is quasi-continuous at x_0 .

We need the following simple assertion.

LEMMA 5.2. Let X be a Baire space, Y be a W-space and $f: X \times Y \to \mathbb{R}$ be a KC-function. Then, f is quasi-continuous.

Proof. Consider an arbitrary point $p_0 = (x_0, y_0) \in X \times Y$ and prove that f is quasi-continuous at the point p_0 . Fix an arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$ and arbitrary neighborhoods U and V of x_0 and y_0 in the spaces X and Y, respectively. By the quasi-continuity of $f_{y_0} : X \to \mathbb{R}$ at the point x_0 , there is a non-empty open set G in X such that $G \subseteq U$ and $|f_{y_0}(x) - f_{y_0}(x_0)| < \varepsilon/2$ for each $x \in G$. Since Y is a W-space, the function f has the Weston property, which implies that the set $C_{y_0}(f)$ is residual in X. But X is Baire, then every residual subset

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of X is everywhere dense [29, p. 64], so $C_{y_0}(f) \cap G \neq \emptyset$, and hence, there is a point $x_1 \in C_{y_0}(f) \cap G$. Since $x_1 \in C_{y_0}(f)$, f is continuous at the point $p_1 = (x_1, y_0)$. Moreover, $x_1 \in G$ and the set G is open in X. Then, there exist open neighborhoods U_1 and V_1 of the points x_1 and y_0 in the spaces X and Y, respectively, with $U_1 \subseteq G$, $V_1 \subseteq V$ and

$$|f(x,y) - f(x_1,y_0)| < \varepsilon/2$$

if $(x, y) \in W = U_1 \times V_1$. The set W is non-empty open in the product $X \times Y$ and $W \subseteq U \times V$, while for each point $p = (x, y) \in W$ the following inequalities hold

$$|f(p) - f(p_0)| \le |f(p) - f(p_1)| + |f(p_1) - f(p_0)| < \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon.$$

Indeed, if $x_1 \in G$ then $|f(p_1) - f(p_0)| = |f_{y_0}(x_1) - f_{y_0}(x_0)| < \varepsilon/2$. This means that the function f is quasi-continuous at the point p_0 .

The following result can be easily deduced from Lemmas 5.1 and 5.2.

THEOREM 5.1. Let X be a Baire space, Y a W-space, Z a completely regular space, and let $f: X \times Y \to Z$ be a KC-function. Then, f is quasi-continuous.

Proof. Let $g: Z \to \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function and $h = g \circ f$. It is easy to check that $h: X \times Y \to \mathbb{R}$ is a *KC*-function, because the composition $\varphi \circ \psi$ of two continuous functions is continuous, and the composition of a continuous function φ and a quasi-continuous function ψ is quasi-continuous. The *KC*-function h is quasi-continuous by Lemma 5.2, because X is Baire and Y is a W-space. Therefore, by Lemma 5.1, the function f is quasi-continuous at any point $p_0 \in X \times Y$, i.e., quasi-continuous.

6. Quasi-continuity of separately continuous functions of several variables

Denote by \mathcal{B} the class of all Baire spaces and consider a kind of conjugate class \mathcal{B}^* which consists of all topological spaces Y such that the product $X \times Y$ is a Baire space for every $X \in \mathcal{B}$. It is known that the class \mathcal{B}^* contains the following spaces: Baire spaces which have a countable pseudobase [18, c. 56] (see also [14], [54]), pseudo-complete or countably complete spaces [1], [14], α -favorable spaces in the Choquet game [61], and hereditarily Baire metric spaces [45] (see [19]). Note that $\mathcal{B}^* \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ but $\mathcal{B} \not\subseteq \mathcal{B}^*$, see [13], [54].

THEOREM 6.1. Let $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_{n+1}$ be topological spaces for which $X_1 \in \mathcal{B}$, let $X_2, \ldots, X_n \in \mathcal{B}^*$, X_2, \ldots, X_{n+1} be W-spaces, Z a completely regular space, and let $f: X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_{n+1} \to Z$ be a separately continuous function. Then, f is quasi-continuous.

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Proof. We use induction on n. For n = 1, we have two spaces X_1 and X_2 and a separately continuous mapping $f: X_1 \times X_2 \to Z$, where X_1 is a Baire space, X_2 is a W-space and Z is a completely regular space. Since any continuous mapping is quasi-continuous, f is a KC-function. Therefore, f is quasi-continuous by Theorem 5.1.

For the induction step, let $n \geq 2$ and suppose that the statement of the theorem is true for the number of spaces equal to n and prove the assertion for n+1 spaces. Let $X = X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n$ and $Y = X_{n+1}$. Since $X_2, \ldots, X_n \in \mathcal{B}^*$ and $X_1 \in \mathcal{B}$, we consequently obtain $X_1 \times X_2 \in \mathcal{B}$, $X_1 \times X_2 \times X_3 \in \mathcal{B}$, \ldots , $X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n \in \mathcal{B}$, therefore, $X \in \mathcal{B}$. By the assumption, Y is a W-space. We shall consider f as a function of two variables $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in X$ and $y = x_{n+1} \in Y$, while

$$f(x,y) = f(x_1,\ldots,x_n,x_{n+1}).$$

For any fixed $y \in Y$, the function $f_y: X \to Z$ defined by $f_y(x) = f(x_1, \ldots, x_n, y)$, where $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in X$, is separately continuous as well as the function f. Therefore, by the induction assumption, the function f_y is quasi-continuous. Since the function $f^x(y) = f(x, y)$ is continuous for each $x \in X$, f is a KC-function. By Theorem 5.1, the function f is quasi-continuous on the product $X \times Y$, and hence on the product $X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n \times X_{n+1}$.

7. Main results

Now, we are ready to get the main result.

THEOREM 7.1. Let $X_1 \in \mathcal{B}, X_2, \ldots, X_n \in \mathcal{B}^*$, let X_2, \ldots, X_{n+1} be W-spaces, let Z be a completely regular space, let $f: X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_{n+1} \to Z$ be a separately continuous function, $X = X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_n$ and $Y = X_{n+1}$. Then

- (i) if X_{n+1} is a W-space with respect to Z, then (X, Y, Z) is a W-triple and f: X × Y → Z has the Weston property;
- (ii) if X_{n+1} is an H-space with respect to Z, then (X, Y, Z) is an H-triple and $f: X \times Y \to Z$ has the Hahn property.

Proof. We again consider the function $f: X_1 \times \cdots \times X_{n+1} \to Z$ as a function of two variables $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in X$ and $y = x_{n+1} \in Y$ putting

$$f(x,y) = f(x_1,\ldots,x_n,x_{n+1}).$$

For every fixed $y \in Y$, the function $f_y: X \to Z$ is separately continuous, and therefore, is quasi-continuous by Theorem 6.1. Since all functions $f^x: Y \to Z$ are continuous for every $x \in X$, $f: X \times Y \to Z$ is a *KC*-function. The product X is a Baire space, because $X_1 \in \mathcal{B}$ and $X_2, \ldots, X_n \in \mathcal{B}^*$. Suppose $Y = X_{n+1}$ is a W-space with respect to Z. Then, (X, Y, Z) is a W-triple by definition and $f: X \times Y \to Z$ is a *KC*-function with the Weston property. If Y is an *H*-space with respect to Z then (X, Y, Z) is an *H*-triple and f has the Hahn property. \Box

One can obtain a stronger result for first-countable spaces using Banach category theorem.

THEOREM 7.2. Let $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_{n+1}$ and Z be topological spaces, X_2, \ldots, X_n be first-countable spaces, X_{n+1} be a W-space, Z be a completely regular space, $f: X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_{n+1} \to Z$ be a separately continuous function, $X = X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_n$ and $Y = X_{n+1}$. Then:

- (i) if Y is a W-space with respect to Z then f: X × Y → Z has the Weston property;
- (ii) if the product X is a Baire space then f is a quasi-continuous mapping;
- (iii) if Y is an H-space with respect to Z then $f: X \times Y \to Z$ has the Hahn property.

Proof. Properties (i) and (ii) will be proved by induction on n simultaneously. If n = 1 then we have $X = X_1$ and $Y = X_2$. Property (i) follows directly from the definition of a W-space with respect to Z and Theorem 2.1. Property (ii) follows from Theorem 5.1, because every separately continuous function is also a KC-function.

For the induction step, let $n \ge 2$ and suppose, that properties (i) and (ii) hold if the number of spaces is equal to n. Prove (i) and (ii) in the case where the number of spaces is equal to n + 1, as in the Theorem statement. Let T be the Baire kernel of X. The function f is considered as a function of two variables $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in X$ and $y \in Y = X_{n+1}$ putting

$$f(x,y) = f(x_1,\ldots,x_n,x_{n+1}).$$

Let $g = f|_{T \times Y}$ be a restriction of f to the product $T \times Y$. We claim that $g: T \times Y \to Z$ is a KC-function. Since f is continuous with respect to the last variable x_{n+1} , the x-section $g^x: Y \to Z$ is continuous. Fix $y \in Y$ and prove that the y-section $g_y: T \to Z$ is quasi-continuous. Let $x_0 = (x_1^0, \ldots, x_n^0) \in T$. Since the set T is open in X, for every $k = 1, \ldots, n$ there exists an open neighborhood U_k of x_k^0 in X_k such that $U = U_1 \times \cdots \times U_n \subseteq T$. The product U is Baire, because the kernel T is a Baire space, and U is its open subspace. Consider the restriction $h = g|_{U \times Y}$ and its y-section $h_y: U \to Z$. The subspaces U_2, \ldots, U_n are first-countable, because X_2, \ldots, X_n are first-countable. Moreover, U_2, \ldots, U_n are W-spaces, and so is U_n . Since U is Baire and $h_y: U \to Z$ is separately continuous, h_y is quasi-continuous by the induction assumption and (ii). In particular, h_y is quasi-continuous at the point x_0 . Since the set U is open in T and $g_y|_U = h_y$, the function g_y is quasi-continuous, and hence g is a KC-function. The space T is Baire

and Y is a W-space with respect to Z. So, the triple (T, Y, Z) is a W-triple and the function g has the Weston property. Since the set T is residual in X and $C_y(f) \supseteq C_y(g)$, for every $y \in Y$ (because T is open in X), all the sets $C_y(f)$ are residual in X, thus, f has the Weston property. If X is a Baire space, then T = X and f = g is a KC-function, which is quasi-continuous by Theorem 2.1.

Prove property (iii) by induction on n. If n = 1, this property follows from the definition of an *H*-space with respect to Z and Theorem 2.1.

Let $n \geq 2$. Suppose that (iii) is true for the number of spaces is equal to n, and we shall prove it for the number of spaces is equal to n + 1. Consider the Baire kernel T of the product X and the restriction $g = f|_{T \times Y}$. For every $y \in Y$, the mapping $g_y: T \to Z$ is quasi-continuous at any point $x_0 = (x_1^0, \ldots, x_n^0)$ of T. Indeed, we can find open neighborhoods U_k of x_k^0 in X_k such that U = $U_1 \times \cdots \times U_n \subseteq T$. The restriction $g_y|_U$ is separately continuous and the product U is a Baire space, so $U_1 \times \cdots \times U_{n-1}$ is a Baire space. Then, the restriction $g_y|_U$ is quasi-continuous by (ii), which implies that g_y is quasi-continuous at x_0 . Moreover, $g^x: Y \to Z$ is obviously continuous, hence $g: T \times Y \to Z$ is a KCfunction. The function g has the Hahn property, since (T, Y, Z) is an H-triple. Observe that $C_Y(f) \supseteq C_Y(g)$, because the set $T \times Y$ is open in the product $X \times Y$. Then,

$$X \setminus C_Y(f) \subseteq X \setminus C_Y(g) = (X \setminus T) \cup (T \setminus C_Y(g)).$$

The set $X \setminus T$ is of the first category in X, and $T \setminus C_Y(g)$ is of the first category in T, and hence in X. Then, the complement $X \setminus C_Y(f)$ is of the first category in X, and $C_Y(f)$ is a residual set in X.

Note that the results of papers [49] and [12] can be obtained from Theorem 7.1, but the Hahn property in Theorem 3.1 of [12] has to be replaced with the Weston property. Some of the results of [27] and [10] for separately continuous functions follow from Theorem 7.2.

Acknowledgements. The authors are sincerely grateful to referee for his valuable comments that improved the manuscript.

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Received February 3, 2016

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