

## ON THE SEPARATION AXIOM $R_0$

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*Abstract.* In this paper a characteristic property of the separation axiom  $R_0$  is established, which shows the symmetry of  $R_0$  in another sense; a new separation axiom  $R_T$  is introduced, it is strictly weaker than  $R_0$  and stronger than all the axioms given by D. N. Misra and K. K. Dube [7].

1. *Introduction.* The separation axiom  $R_0$  was introduced by N. A. Shanin [10]: A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is  $R_0$  iff for each  $U \in \tau$ ,  $x \in U$  implies  $\overline{\{x\}} \subset U$ . Many authors have studied the separation axiom  $R_0$  (cf. [1 - 9]). Several characterizations were given in [4], [5], [8]. A few separation axioms weaker than  $R_0$  were given in [7]. In this paper, we give another characterization of  $R_0$ , and a new separation axiom  $R_T$ , which is weaker than  $R_0$  and stronger than all the axioms in [7].

2. *Characterizations of  $R_0$ .* Let  $X$  be a topological space,  $x \in X$ . Let  $\{\hat{x}\}$  denote the intersection of all open sets containing  $x$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}}$  be the closure of  $\{x\}$ . The following Lemma 1 is Theorem 2.2 (b) in [5], Lemma 2 is a special case of Theorem 2.2 (c).

LEMMA 1. *A topological space  $X$  is  $R_0$  iff  $\overline{\{x\}} \subset \{\hat{x}\}$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

LEMMA 2. *A topological space  $X$  is  $R_0$  iff  $\overline{\{x\}} = \{\hat{x}\}$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

Since  $\overline{\{x\}}$  is the intersection of all closed sets containing  $x$ , Lemma 2 suggests a natural definition of  $R_0$ .

*Definition 1.* A topological space  $X$  is  $R_0$  iff for all  $x \in X$ , the intersection of all open sets containing  $x$  coincides with the intersection of all closed sets containing  $x$ .

Lemma 1 and the following Theorem 1 show the symmetry of  $R_0$  in another sense.

THEOREM 1. *In a topological space  $X$ , if for each  $x \in X$ , we have  $\overline{\{x\}} \supset \{\hat{x}\}$ , then  $X$  is  $R_0$ .*

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*Proof.* If  $y \in \overline{\{x\}}$ , then  $x \in \{\hat{y}\} \subset \overline{\{y\}}$ , hence  $X$  is symmetric,  $X$  is  $R_0$ .

3. *The separation axiom  $R_T$ .* There are four separation axioms weaker than  $R_0$  in [7]:  $R_{ys}$ ,  $R_y$ ,  $R_D$ ,  $R_{UD}$ . It has been proved that  $R_{ys} \Rightarrow R_y \Rightarrow R_{UD}$ ,  $R_D \Rightarrow R_{UD}$ . We write the definitions of  $R_{ys}$  and  $R_D$  in the following.

*Definition 2.* A topological space  $X$  is  $R_{ys}$  iff for  $x, y \in X$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}} \neq \overline{\{y\}}$  implies  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap \overline{\{y\}} = \emptyset$ ,  $\{x\}$  or  $\{y\}$ .

*Definition 3.* A topological space  $X$  is  $R_D$  iff for  $x \in X$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap \{\hat{x}\} = \{x\}$  implies that  $\{x\}' = \overline{\{x\}} \setminus \{x\}$  is closed.

From Lemma 1,2 and Theorem 1 we know that if  $X$  is not  $R_0$ , then there are some  $x$ ,  $\{\hat{x}\} \setminus \overline{\{x\}} \neq \emptyset$ , and there are some  $x$ ,  $\overline{\{x\}} \setminus \{\hat{x}\} \neq \emptyset$ . This suggests a new separation axiom. In the following definition, a set that contains at most one point is called to be degenerate.

*Definition 4.* A topological space is  $R_T$  iff for each  $x \in X$ , both  $\{\hat{x}\} \setminus \overline{\{x\}}$  and  $\overline{\{x\}} \setminus \{\hat{x}\}$  are degenerate.

Obviously  $R_0 \Rightarrow R_T$ .

*Example 1.*  $R_T \not\Rightarrow R_0$ . Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  with topology  $\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ . Then  $X$  is  $R_T$  but not  $R_0$  since  $\overline{\{a\}} \setminus \{\hat{a}\} = \{b\}$ .

*Example 2.*  $R_D$ ;  $R_{ys} \not\Rightarrow R_T$ . Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  with topology  $\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, X\}$ . Then  $X$  is  $R_D$  and  $R_{ys}$ , but  $X$  is not  $R_T$  since  $\overline{\{a\}} = X$  and  $\{\hat{a}\} = \{a\}$ .

*Example 3.*  $T_0 \not\Rightarrow R_T$ . Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  with topology  $\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then  $X$  is  $T_0$  but not  $R_T$  since  $\overline{\{a\}} = X$  and  $\{\hat{a}\} = \{a\}$ .

**THEOREM 2.**  $R_T \Rightarrow R_D$ .

*Proof.* If  $X$  is  $R_T$ , and denote  $\langle x \rangle = \overline{\{x\}} \cap \{\hat{x}\}$ , then  $\overline{\{x\}} = \langle x \rangle \cup D$ ,  $\{\hat{x}\} = \langle x \rangle \cup E$ , where  $D, E$  are degenerate sets and  $D \not\subset \{\hat{x}\}$ ,  $E \not\subset \overline{\{x\}}$ . If  $\langle x \rangle = \{x\}$ , then  $\overline{\{x\}} = \{x\} \cup D$ ,  $\{\hat{x}\} = \{x\} \cup E$ . We prove that  $\overline{\{x\}}' = \overline{\{x\}} \setminus \{x\} = D$  is a closed set. Let  $U$  be an open set containing  $\{\hat{x}\}$ . Then  $X \setminus U$  is a closed set, and  $(X \setminus U) \cap \overline{\{x\}} = D$  or  $\emptyset$ . If  $(X \setminus U) \cap \overline{\{x\}} = D$ , then  $D$  is the intersection of two closed sets hence is also closed. If  $(X \setminus U) \cap \overline{\{x\}} = \emptyset$ , then  $\overline{\{x\}} \subset U$ ,  $D \subset U$ . Since  $D \not\subset \{\hat{x}\}$ , there is an open set  $V$  such that  $x \in V$  and  $D \not\subset V$ . Then  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap (X \setminus V) = D$  is a closed set. Therefore  $\overline{\{x\}}'$  is closed whenever  $\langle x \rangle = \{x\}$ ,  $X$  is  $R_D$ .

THEOREM 3.  $R_T \Rightarrow R_{ys}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be  $R_T$  and  $x, y \in X$ . If  $\overline{\{x\}} \neq \overline{\{y\}}$  and there is an  $a \in X$  such that  $a \neq x, a \neq y$  but  $a \in \overline{\{x\}} \cap \overline{\{y\}}$ , then  $a \in \overline{\{x\}}, a \in \overline{\{y\}}$  hence  $x \in \hat{\{a\}}, y \in \hat{\{a\}}$ . Since  $\hat{\{a\}} = \langle a \rangle \cup E$ , where  $E$  is a degenerate set and  $E \not\subset \hat{\{a\}}$ , there are following four possible cases for  $x \in \hat{\{a\}}, y \in \hat{\{a\}}$ :

(i)  $x \in \langle a \rangle$  and  $y \in \langle a \rangle$ . We have  $x \in \overline{\{a\}}, y \in \overline{\{a\}}$ , but  $a \in \overline{\{x\}}, a \in \overline{\{y\}}$ , hence  $\overline{\{x\}} = \overline{\{y\}} = \overline{\{a\}}$ , impossible.

(ii)  $\{x\} = E$  and  $y \in \langle a \rangle$ . We have  $x \notin \overline{\{a\}}$  and  $y \in \overline{\{a\}}$ . Since  $a \in \overline{\{y\}}$ , we have  $\overline{\{y\}} = \overline{\{a\}}$ . There are two cases to discuss about the relationship between  $y$  and  $\overline{\{x\}}$ . (1)  $y \in \overline{\{x\}}$ . Then  $\overline{\{a\}} = \overline{\{y\}}$ . Since  $x \notin \overline{\{a\}}, x \in X \setminus \overline{\{a\}}$ , where  $X \setminus \overline{\{a\}}$  is open,  $\overline{\{x\}} \in X \setminus \overline{\{a\}}, \overline{\{x\}} \setminus \overline{\{x\}} \supset \overline{\{a\}} \supset \{y, a\}$ , hence  $\overline{\{x\}} \setminus \overline{\{x\}}$  is not a degenerate set, a contradiction to the fact that  $X$  is  $R_T$ . (2)  $y \notin \overline{\{x\}}$ . Since  $y \in \overline{\{a\}}$  and  $a \in \overline{\{x\}}$ , we have  $y \in \overline{\{x\}}$ , a contradiction.

(iii)  $x \in \langle a \rangle$  and  $\{y\} = E$ . Similar to Case (ii).

(iv)  $\{x\} = \{y\} = E$ . We have  $\overline{\{x\}} = \overline{\{y\}}$ , impossible.

Therefore if  $\overline{\{x\}} \neq \overline{\{y\}}$ , we have  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap \overline{\{y\}} = \emptyset, \{x\}$  or  $\{y\}$ ,  $X$  is  $R_{ys}$ .

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### O AKSIOMU SEPARACIJE $R_0$

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#### Sadržaj

U članku je nađeno karakteristično svojstvo aksioma separacije  $R_0$ . Nadalje je uveden novi aksiom separacije  $R_T$  koji je slabijio d  $R_0$  i jači od svih aksioma uvedenih u referenciji [7].