

The category of soft topological spaces and the T_0 -reflection



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Abstract

Soft topological spaces represent the objects of a category named SOFTOP. In this paper, we will study some properties of arrows in SOFTOP. We give also the construction of the T_0 -reflection of a soft topological space illustrated by other results related to separation axioms.

Keywords: Soft set, soft topological spaces, reflective subcategory, separation axioms.

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1. Introduction

Since its definition in 1999 by Moldotsov [16], soft sets have been the subject of a lot of researches in different areas of mathematics and computer sciences. Moldotsov and other mathematicians have applied soft sets in game theory, smoothness of functions, Riemann integrations and theory of measurement [3, 13, 14, 17, 18].

In 2011, we find the first application of soft sets in topology [2, 19]. Shabir and Naz [19] defined for the first time the notion of soft topological spaces which use an initial universe and a fixed set of parameters. Also, separation axioms were studied by different researchers and were the goal of many articles [9, 15].

In this paper, we will see the collection of soft topological spaces as a category named SOFTOP with soft continuous maps as arrows. Soft continuous maps will be studied.

In Section 2, we recall some basic notions and properties of soft sets and soft topological spaces. In Section 3, we will introduce the categorical structure of the collection of soft topological spaces and we will give some category of arrows in this properties. Finally, Section 4 will be devoted to the study of the soft T_0 -reflection in the category SOFTOP.

2. Preliminaries

This section introduces known definitions, notations and properties of soft sets and soft topological spaces.

Definition 2.1 ([16]). Let X be an initial universe containing at least two elements and A a nonempty set of parameters. A soft set over X is a pair (F, A) , when F is a map from A to the power set $\mathcal{P}(X)$ of X .

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We denote by $SS(X, A)$ the collection of all soft sets (F, A) over X .

Definition 2.2 ([16]). Let $(F, A), (G, A) \in SS(X, A)$. We say that (F, A) is a soft subset of (G, A) and we denote $(F, A) \sqsubseteq (G, A)$ if we have $F(a) \subseteq G(a)$ for all a in A .

Definition 2.3 ([16]). Let $\{(F_i, A) : i \in I\} \subseteq SS(X, A)$ be a given family of soft sets indexed by an arbitrary set I .

- The soft union of these soft sets is the soft set $(H, A) \in SS(X, A)$ defined by:

$$\bigsqcup \{(F_i, A) : i \in I\} = (H, A) \text{ such that } H(a) = \bigcup_{i \in I} F_i(a) \text{ for all } a \in A.$$

- The soft intersection of these soft sets is the soft set $(H, A) \in SS(X, A)$ defined by:

$$\sqcap \{(F_i, A) : i \in I\} = (H, A) \text{ such that } H(a) = \bigcap_{i \in I} F_i(a) \text{ for all } a \in A.$$

Definition 2.4 ([20]). The soft complement of a given soft set $(F, A) \in SS(X, A)$ is defined by:

$$(F, A)^c = (H, A) \text{ such that } H(a) = X \setminus F(a) \text{ for all } a \in A.$$

Notation 2.5 ([16]). In $SS(X, A)$:

- $\mathbf{0}_A$ denotes the soft set $(F, A) \in SS(X, A)$ such that $F(a) = \emptyset$ for all $a \in A$;
- $\mathbf{1}_A$ denotes the soft set $(F, A) \in SS(X, A)$ such that $F(a) = X$ for all $a \in A$.

The previous definitions and notations prepare us to give the definition of soft topological space as follows.

Definition 2.6 ([20]). Let τ be a family of soft sets in $SS(X, A)$. τ is called a soft topology on X if it satisfies the following statements:

1. $\mathbf{0}_A, \mathbf{1}_A \in \tau$;
2. if $(F, A), (G, A) \in \tau$, then $(F, A) \sqcap (G, A) \in \tau$;
3. if $\{(F_i, A) : i \in I\} \subseteq \tau$, then $\bigsqcup_{i \in I} (F_i, A) \in \tau$.

The triplet (X, τ, A) is called a soft topological space. If $(F, A) \in \tau$ then (F, A) is said to be soft open. A soft set (F, A) is said to be soft closed if its complement is soft open and we denote by τ^c the family of soft closed sets.

According to their definitions in topological spaces the separation axioms in soft topological spaces are defined by following.

Definition 2.7 ([5]). Let (X, τ, A) be a soft topological space.

1. We say that (X, τ, A) is a soft T_0 -space if for every $x \neq y \in X$ there exists $(F, A) \in \tau$, for all $a \in A$, such that $x \in F(a)$ and $y \notin F(a)$ or $x \notin F(a)$ and $y \in F(a)$ which means that the cardinality of $F(a) \cap \{x, y\} = 1$.
2. We say that (X, τ, A) is a soft T_1 -space if for every $x \neq y \in X$ there exists $(F, A) \in \tau$, for all $a \in A$, such that $x \in F(a)$ and $y \notin F(a)$.

3. Arrows in the category of soft topological spaces

This section is devoted to the study of arrows in the category of soft topological spaces.

Definition 3.1 ([16]). Let X, Y be two universes and A, B be two sets of parameters. If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and $e : A \rightarrow B$ are maps then the map $\Phi_{f,e}$ from $SS(X, A)$ to $SS(Y, B)$ is defined by:

$$\Phi_{f,e}((F, A)) = (G, B), \text{ where } G(b) = \bigcup \{f(F(a)) \mid a \in e^{-1}(\{b\})\}.$$

Now we give some properties concerning maps presented in the previous definition.

Theorem 3.2. Let $\Phi_{f,e}, \Phi_{g,h}$ be two maps from $SS(X, A)$ to $SS(Y, B)$. Then, the following statements are equivalent:

1. $\Phi_{f,e} = \Phi_{g,h}$;
2. $f = g$ and $e = h$.

Proof. Suppose that $\Phi_{f,e} = \Phi_{g,h}$. On one hand, suppose $e \neq h$. Let $a_1 \in A$ such that $b_e = e(a_1) \neq h(a_1) = b_h$. We take the soft set (F, A) defined by $F(a_1) = X$ and $F(a) = \emptyset$ if $a \neq a_1$. If $\Phi_{f,e}((F, A)) = (G_1, B)$ and $\Phi_{g,h}((F, A)) = (G_2, B)$, then $G_1(b_e) = f(X) \neq G_2(b_e) = \emptyset$ so that $\Phi_{f,e} \neq \Phi_{g,h}$. We deduce that the condition $e = h$ is necessary. On an other hand, suppose that $f \neq g$. Let $x \in X$ such that $f(x) \neq g(x)$. Let $a_1 \in A$ and consider the soft set (F, A) defined by $F(a_1) = \{x\}$ and $F(a) = \emptyset$ if $a \neq a_1$. If $\Phi_{f,e}((F, A)) = (G_1, B)$ and $\Phi_{g,h}((F, A)) = (G_2, B)$, then $G_1(e(a_1)) = \{f(x)\} \neq G_2(e(a_1)) = \{g(x)\}$ so that $\Phi_{f,e} \neq \Phi_{g,h}$. We deduce that the condition $f = g$ is also necessary.

The converse implication is straightforward. □

Theorem 3.3. $\Phi_{f,e}$ is one to one if and only if f and e are one to one.

Proof. Suppose that f and e are one to one. Let $(F_1, A), (F_2, A) \in SS(X, A)$ such that $\Phi_{f,e}((F_1, A)) = \Phi_{f,e}((F_2, A)) = (G, B)$. Let $a \in A$. Then, $G(e(a)) = f(F_1(a)) = f(F_2(a))$. Since f is one to one then $F_1(a) = F_2(a)$. So that $\Phi_{f,e}$ is one to one. Conversely, on one hand, suppose e is not one to one and $a_1 \neq a_2 \in A$ such that $e(a_1) = e(a_2) = b$. Let $(F_1, A), (F_2, A) \in SS(X, A)$ defined by $F_1(a_1) = F_2(a_2) = \emptyset$ and $F_i(a) = X$ in all other cases. Then, we have $\Phi_{f,e}((F_1, A)) = \Phi_{f,e}((F_2, A))$ so that $\Phi_{f,e}$ is not one to one.

Now, we can assume that e is one to one to get the injectivity of $\Phi_{f,e}$. On another hand, suppose f is not one to one let $x \neq y \in X$ such that $f(x) = f(y)$. Let $a_1 \in A$ and $(F_1, A), (F_2, A) \in SS(X, A)$ defined by $F_1(a_1) = \{x\}, F_2(a_1) = \{y\}$ and $F_1(a) = F_2(a) = X$ if $a \neq a_1$. Since e is assumed one to one, we can see that $\Phi_{f,e}((F_1, A)) = \Phi_{f,e}((F_2, A))$ which proves that $\Phi_{f,e}$ is not one to one. □

Theorem 3.4. $\Phi_{f,e}$ is onto if and only if f and e are onto.

Proof. Suppose that e and f are onto. Let $(G, B) \in SS(Y, B)$. Let $(F, A) \in SS(X, A)$ defined by: $F(a) = f^{-1}(G(b))$ if $e(a) = b$. Since f and e are onto we can verify easily that $\Phi_{f,e}((F, A)) = (G, B)$ and then $\Phi_{f,e}$ is onto. Conversely, if e or f are not onto, the $\mathbf{1}_B$ can not be the image of a soft set by $\Phi_{f,e}$ which implies that $\Phi_{f,e}$ can not be onto. □

Corollary 3.5. $\Phi_{f,e}$ is bijective if and only if f and e are bijective.

Definition 3.6 ([4, 5]). Let $(X, \tau, A), (Y, \gamma, B)$ be two soft topological spaces and $f : X \rightarrow Y, e : A \rightarrow B$ be two maps. Then, the map $\Phi_{f,e} : (X, \tau, A) \rightarrow (Y, \gamma, B)$ is said to be soft continuous if for all $(G, B) \in \gamma$ we have $\Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G, B)) \in \tau$ when $\Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G, B)) = (F, A) \in SS(X, A)$ defined by $F(a) = f^{-1}(G(e(a)))$ for all $a \in A$.

Proposition 3.7 ([4]). *Let $(X, \tau, A), (Y, \gamma, B)$ be two soft topological spaces and $f : X \rightarrow Y, e : A \rightarrow B$ be two maps. Then, the following statements are equivalent:*

1. $\Phi_{f,e}$ is soft continuous;
2. $\Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G, B)) \in \tau^c$ for all $(G, B) \in \gamma^c$.

Definition 3.8. Let X, Y, Z be universes, A, B, C be sets of parameters and $f : X \rightarrow Y, g : Y \rightarrow Z, e : A \rightarrow B, i : B \rightarrow C$ be maps. Then the composition of the maps $\Phi_{f,e} : SS(X, A) \rightarrow SS(Y, B)$ and $\Phi_{g,i} : SS(Y, B) \rightarrow SS(Z, C)$ is the map $\Phi_{g,i} \circ \Phi_{f,e} : SS(X, A) \rightarrow SS(Z, C)$ such that $\Phi_{g,i} \circ \Phi_{f,e} = \Phi_{g \circ f, i \circ e}$.

Proposition 3.9. *If $\Phi_{f,e}$ and $\Phi_{g,i}$ are soft continuous then also $\Phi_{g \circ f, i \circ e}$ is.*

The previous results and definitions present a new category when objects are soft topological spaces and arrows are soft continuous maps $\Phi_{f,e}$. This category will be denoted by SOFTOP. The family of soft T_0 -spaces form a subcategory of SOFTOP which will be denoted by SOFTOP₀. Our main goal in the next section is to prove that SOFTOP₀ is reflective in SOFTOP.

4. The T_0 -reflection in SOFTOP

The construction of the T_0 -reflection in SOFTOP will be presented in this section.

Using Mac Lane’s characterization [12], to show that a full subcategory SOFTOP₀ is reflective in SOFTOP it is sufficient to prove that: For each $(X, \tau, A) \in \text{SOFTOP}$ there exists an object $(\hat{X}, \hat{\tau}, \hat{A}) \in \text{SOFTOP}_0$ and an arrow $\Phi_{h,j} : (X, \tau, A) \rightarrow (\hat{X}, \hat{\tau}, \hat{A})$ such that for every $(Y, \gamma, B) \in \text{SOFTOP}_0$ and each arrow $\Phi_{f,e} : (X, \tau, A) \rightarrow (Y, \gamma, B)$ there exists a unique arrow $\widetilde{\Phi}_{f,e} : (\hat{X}, \hat{\tau}, \hat{A}) \rightarrow (Y, \gamma, B)$ rendering the following diagram commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (X, \tau, A) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_{h,j}} & (\hat{X}, \hat{\tau}, \hat{A}) \\
 & \searrow \Phi_{f,e} & \swarrow \widetilde{\Phi}_{f,e} \\
 & (Y, \gamma, B) &
 \end{array}$$

Notation 4.1. Let (X, τ, A) be a soft topological space. For all $x \in X$ and all $a \in A$ we denote by \tilde{x}^a the subset of X defined by:

$$\tilde{x}^a = \bigcap_{\substack{(F, A) \in \tau^c \\ x \in F(a)}} F(a).$$

Proposition 4.2. *Let (X, τ, A) be a soft space. Then, the following statements are equivalent:*

1. (X, τ, A) is a soft T_0 -space;
2. For all $a \in A$ we have $\tilde{x}^a = \tilde{y}^a$ implies $x = y$.

Proof. The proof is Straightforward. □

Let (X, τ, A) is a soft topological space. We define on X the relation \approx by:

$$\approx \text{ by } x \approx y \text{ if and only if } \forall a \in A \tilde{x}^a = \tilde{y}^a.$$

It is clear that \approx is an equivalence relation. We denote by X/\approx the quotient set and μ_X the canonical surjection from X onto X/\approx , $x \mapsto \mu_X(x) = \bar{x}$.

Now, for all $(F, A) \in SS(X, A)$ we denote by $(\tilde{F}, A) \in SS(X/\approx, A)$ defined by

$$\tilde{F}(a) = \{\bar{x} \mid x \in F(a)\}.$$

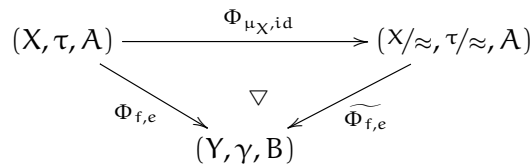
Let τ/\approx the subset of $SS(X/\approx, A)$ defined by $\tau/\approx = \{(\tilde{F}, A) \mid (F, A) \in \tau\}$. Clearly, τ/\approx is a soft topology on X/\approx and then $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft topological space. By the construction of the soft topology τ/\approx the map $\Phi_{\mu_X, id}$ is soft continuous onto map.

Proposition 4.3. $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft T_0 -space.

Proof. Let $\bar{x} \neq \bar{y} \in X/\approx$. Then for all $a \in A$ there exists $(F, A) \in \tau$ such that, for example, $x \in F(a)$ and $y \notin F(a)$ which implies that $\bar{x} \in \tilde{F}(a)$ and $\bar{y} \notin \tilde{F}(a)$. So that $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft T_0 -space. \square

Theorem 4.4. The subcategory $SOFTOP_0$ of soft T_0 -spaces is reflective in $SOFTOP$.

Proof. Let (Y, γ, B) be a soft T_0 -space and $\Phi_{f,e} : (X, \tau, A) \rightarrow (Y, \gamma, B)$ be soft continuous. It is sufficient to prove that there exists a unique soft map $\Phi_{g,h} = \widetilde{\Phi_{f,e}}$ rendering the following diagram commutative.



We define $\Phi_{g,h}((\tilde{F}, A))$ to be equal $\Phi_{f,e}((F, A))$ then by Theorem 3.2, g must be defined by $g(\bar{x}) = f(x)$ and $e = h$.

Uniqueness: g is well defined: If $f(x) \neq f(y)$ then for all $b \in B$ there exists $(G_b, B) \in \gamma$ such that, for example, $f(x) \in (G_b, B)$ and $f(y) \notin (G_b, B)$. Then for all $a \in A$, there exists $(G_{e(a)}, B) \in \gamma$ such that, for example, $f(x) \in (G_{e(a)}, B)$ and $f(y) \notin (G_{e(a)}, B)$. Since f is soft continuous then $\Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G_{e(a)}, B)) \in \tau$. So that for all $a \in A$ there exists $\Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G_{e(a)}, B)) \in \tau$ such that, for example, $x \in \Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G_{e(a)}, B))$ and $y \notin \Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G_{e(a)}, B))$ which implies that $\bar{x} \neq \bar{y}$.

$\Phi_{g,h}$ is soft continuous: Let $(G, B) \in \gamma$. We have $\Phi_{\mu_X, id}^{-1}(\Phi_{g,h}^{-1}((G, B))) = \Phi_{f,e}^{-1}((G, B)) \in \tau$. Then $\Phi_{g,h}^{-1}((G, B)) \in \tau/\approx$ which implies that $\Phi_{g,h}$ is soft continuous.

conclusion: $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is the soft T_0 -reflection of (X, τ, A) . \square

Example 4.5. Let $X = \{x, y, z\}$, $A = \{a, b\}$ and

$$\tau = \{(F_1, A), (F_2, A), (F_3, A), (F_4, A), (F_5, A), (F_6, A)\},$$

where F_i are defined by:

- $F_1(a) = F_1(b) = \emptyset$,
- $F_2(a) = F_2(b) = X$,
- $F_3(a) = \{x, y\}$, $F_3(b) = \{z\}$,
- $F_4(a) = \emptyset$, $F_4(b) = X$,
- $F_5(a) = \emptyset$, $F_5(b) = \{z\}$,

- $F_6 = \{x, y\}, F_6(b) = X.$

We can verify that τ is a soft topology on X . (X, τ, A) is a soft topological space but it is not soft T_0 -space because we have $x \neq y \in X$ and $\text{Card}(F_i(a) \cap \{x, y\}) \neq 1$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 6$.

- $\tilde{x}^a = F_1^c(a) \cap F_4^c(a) \cap F_5^c(a) = X = \tilde{y}^a;$
- $\tilde{x}^b = F_1^c(b) \cap F_3^c(b) \cap F_5^c(b) = X \cap \{x, y\} \cap \{x, y\} = \{x, y\} = \tilde{y}^b;$
- $\tilde{z}^a = F_1^c(a) \cap F_3^c(a) \cap F_4^c(a) \cap F_5^c(a) \cap F_6^c(a) = \{z\};$
- $\tilde{z}^b = F_1^c(a) = X.$

We can see that $x \approx y$ and then $X/\approx = \{\bar{x}, \bar{z}\}$ and $\tau/\approx = \left\{ \left(\tilde{F}_1, A \right), \left(\tilde{F}_2, A \right), \left(\tilde{F}_3, A \right), \left(\tilde{F}_4, A \right), \left(\tilde{F}_5, A \right), \left(\tilde{F}_6, A \right) \right\}$ where

- $\tilde{F}_1(a) = \tilde{F}_1(b) = \emptyset,$
- $\tilde{F}_2(a) = \tilde{F}_2(b) = X/\approx,$
- $\tilde{F}_3(a) = \{\bar{x}\}, \tilde{F}_3(b) = \{\bar{z}\},$
- $\tilde{F}_4(a) = \emptyset, \tilde{F}_4(b) = X/\approx,$
- $\tilde{F}_5(a) = \emptyset, \tilde{F}_5(b) = \{\bar{z}\},$
- $\tilde{F}_6(a) = \{\bar{x}\}, \tilde{F}_6(b) = X/\approx.$

$(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft T_0 -space because for the two distinct points \bar{x}, \bar{z} of X/\approx we have $\tilde{F}_3(a)$ contains \bar{x} and does not contain \bar{z} and $\tilde{F}_3(b)$ contains \bar{z} and does not contain \bar{x} . But $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is not a soft T_1 -space because for all $1 \leq i \leq 6$ we have $\tilde{F}_i(b)$ can not contain \bar{x} without containing \bar{z} .

We know, of course, that the T_0 -reflection of a given soft topological space is a soft T_0 -space. But, this space constructed may satisfies a stronger separation axioms like T_1 . Now, we have to characterize soft topological spaces such that its T_0 -reflection is a soft T_1 -space. Firstly, the following proposition presents an equivalent definition of soft T_1 -spaces given by Definition 2.7.

Theorem 4.6. *Let (X, τ, A) be a soft space. Then the following statements are equivalents:*

1. (X, τ, A) is a soft T_1 -space;
2. for all $a \in A$ and for all $x \in X$ we have $\tilde{x}^a = \{x\}.$

Proof.

(1) \Rightarrow (2) Suppose that (X, τ, A) is a soft T_1 -space. Let $a \in A$ and x, y be two different elements of X . Since (X, τ, A) is T_1 then there exists $(F, A) \in \tau$ such that $y \in F(a)$ and $x \notin F(a)$, so that $y \notin F^c(a)$, $x \in F^c(a)$ and $(F^c, A) = (F, A)^c \in \tau^c$. We can deduce that $y \notin \tilde{x}^a$ and then $\tilde{x}^a = \{x\}.$

(2) \Rightarrow (1) Suppose that $\tilde{x}^a = \{x\}$ for every $x \in X$ and every $a \in A$. Let $x \neq y \in X$ and $a \in A$. Since $y \notin \tilde{x}^a$ and $x \notin \tilde{y}^a$ then there exist $(F_1, A), (F_2, A) \in \tau^c$ such that $x \in F_1(a) \setminus F_2(a)$ and $y \in F_2(a) \setminus F_1(a)$. That is, $(F_1^c, A), (F_2^c, A) \in \tau$, $y \in F_1^c(a) \setminus F_2^c(a)$ and $x \in F_2^c(a) \setminus F_1^c(a)$. This implies that (X, τ, A) is a soft T_1 -space. □

The next theorem gives a characterization of soft topological spaces whose T_0 -reflections are soft T_1 -space.

Theorem 4.7. *Let (X, τ, A) be a soft T_1 -space. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

1. the T_0 -reflection $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ of (X, τ, A) is a soft T_1 -space;
2. $\forall x \in X, \forall a \in A$ and $\forall (F, A) \in \tau^c$ we have:

$$F(a) \cap \tilde{x}^a \neq \emptyset \implies x \in F(a);$$

3. $\forall x \in X, \forall a \in A$ and $\forall (F, A) \in \tau$ we have:

$$x \in F(a) \implies \tilde{x}^a \subseteq F(a).$$

Proof.

(1) \Rightarrow (2) Suppose that $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft T_1 -space. Let $y \in F(a) \cap \tilde{x}^a$. By definition of the topology τ/\approx we have $(\tilde{F}, A) \in (\tau/\approx)^c$ if and only if $(F, A) \in \tau^c$. This implies that

$$\tilde{x}^a = \bigcap_{\substack{(\tilde{F}, A) \in (\tau/\approx)^c \\ x \in \tilde{F}(a)}} \tilde{F}(a) = \mu_X \left(\bigcap_{\substack{(F, A) \in \tau^c \\ x \in F(a)}} F(a) \right) = \mu_X(\tilde{x}^a).$$

So that $\bar{y} \in (\tilde{x}^a) = \{\bar{x}\}$ because $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft T_1 -space and using Theorem 4.6. Finally, we can deduce that $\bar{x} = \bar{y}$ and then $x \in F(a)$.

(2) \Rightarrow (1) Let $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in X/\approx$ and $a \in A$ such that $\bar{y} \in (\tilde{x}^a)$. It is sufficient to prove that $\bar{x} = \bar{y}$. It is clear that $\tilde{y}^a \subseteq \tilde{x}^a$. Conversely, let $(F, A) \in \tau^c$ such that $y \in F(a)$. Now, we have $y \in F(a) \cap \tilde{x}^a$ and using the condition (2) we deduce that $x \in F(a)$ so that $\tilde{x}^a \subseteq \tilde{y}^a$ and finally $\tilde{y}^a = \tilde{x}^a$. This is sufficient to prove that $(\tilde{x}^a) = \{\bar{x}\}$ for every $\bar{x} \in X/\approx$. By Theorem 4.6 $(X/\approx, \tau/\approx, A)$ is a soft T_1 -space.

(2) \Leftrightarrow (3) Straightforward. □

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