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# Almost $\beta$ -Regular Spaces and Almost $rg\beta$ -Closed Functions

#### Hamant Kumar<sup>1,\*</sup>

1 Department of Mathematics, Government Degree College, Bilaspur, Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, India.

Abstract: The aim of this paper is to introduce and study a new class of spaces, namely almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces which are generalizations of the concepts of almost regular spaces and  $\beta$ -regular spaces and to obtain some characterizations of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces. Further, by using  $rg\beta$ -closed sets, we define almost  $rg\beta$ -closed functions and to obtain preservation theorems of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces. The relationships among p-regular,  $\beta$ -regular, almost regular, almost p-regular, almost p-regular spaces are investigated. The main result of this paper is that almost  $\beta$ -regularity is preserved under M- $\beta$ -open  $\beta$ -rgg $\beta$ -closed surjective R-maps.

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# 1. Introduction

In 1969, Singal and Arya [20] introduced a weak form of regular spaces called almost regular spaces and obtained their characterizations. In 1970, Levine [6] introduced and studied generalized closed sets in general topology as a generalization of closed sets. This concept was found to be useful and many results in general topology were improved. In 1983, El-Deeb [5] introduced the notion of p-regular spaces by using p-open sets and obtained their characterizations and preservation theorems. In 1985, Mahmoud [7] introduced the concept of  $\beta$ -regular spaces. In 1990, Malghan and Navalagi [10] defined and studied almost p-regular spaces which were generalizations of both almost regular spaces and p-regular spaces. In 1993, palaniappan and Rao [16] introduced and studied regular generalized closed sets. In 1995, Dontchev [4] defined and investigated generalized  $\beta$ -closed sets. In 1998, Noiri [14] introduced rgp-closed sets and used these sets to obtain further characterizations of almost regular spaces and almost p-regular spaces. In 2005, Tahiliani [22] introduced generalized  $\beta$ -closed functions and obtained some new characterizations of  $\beta$ -regular spaces. Recently, by using  $\beta$ -closed sets, M. C. Sharma and Hamant Kumar [19] introduced almost  $\beta$ -closed functions.

In this paper, we introduce and study a new class of spaces, namely almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces and to obtain some characterizations of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces. Further, by using  $rg\beta$ -closed sets, we define  $\beta$ - $rg\beta$ -closed functions and to obtain preservation theorems of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces. The relationships among p-regular,  $\beta$ -regular, almost regular, almost p-regular, almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces are investigated. The main result of this paper is that almost  $\beta$ -regularity is preserved under M- $\beta$ -open  $\beta$ - $rg\beta$ -closed surjective R-maps.

<sup>\*</sup> E-mail: hamantmaths@gmail.com

#### 2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, spaces  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $(Y, \sigma)$ , and  $(Z, \gamma)$  always mean topological spaces on which no separation axioms are assumed unless explicitly stated. Let A be a subset of a space X. The closure of A and interior of A are denoted by Cl(A)and Int(A) respectively. A is said to be  $\alpha$ -open [12] if  $A \subset Int(Cl(Int(A)))$ , p-open [11] if  $A \subset Int(Cl(A))$ ,  $\beta$ -open [1] if  $A \subset Cl(Int(Cl(A)))$ . The complement of a  $\alpha$ -open (respectively p-open,  $\beta$ -open) set is said to be  $\alpha$ -closed (respectively p-closed,  $\beta$ -closed). The intersection of all  $\alpha$ -closed (respectively p-closed,  $\beta$ -closed) sets containing A is called  $\alpha$ -closure (respectively p-closure,  $\beta$ -closure) of A, and is denoted by  $\alpha Cl(A)$  (respectively pCl(A),  $\beta Cl(A)$ ). The  $\beta$ -Interior [2] of A, denoted by  $\beta Int(A)$ , is defined as union of all  $\beta$ -open sets contained in A. The family of regularly open (respectively regularly closed,  $\beta$ -open,  $\beta$ -closed) sets of a space X is denoted by RO(X) (respectively RC(X),  $\beta O(X)$ ,  $\beta C(X)$ ). It is well known that  $sCl(A) = A \cup Int(Cl(A))$ ,  $sInt(A) = A \cap Cl(Int(A))$ ,  $pCl = A \cup Cl(Int(A))$ ,  $pInt(A) = A \cap Int(Cl(A))$ ,  $\alpha Cl(A) =$  $A \cup Cl(Int(Cl(A)))$ ,  $\alpha Int(A) = A \cap Int(Cl(Int(A)))$ ,  $\beta Cl(A) = A \cup Int(Cl(Int(A)))$  and  $\beta Int(A) = A \cap Cl(Int(Cl(A)))$ .

**Definition 2.1.** A subset A of a space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be

- (1). generalized-closed (briefly g-closed) [6] if  $Cl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in \tau$ .
- (2). regular generalized-closed (briefly rg-closed) [16] if  $Cl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in RO(X)$ .
- (3).  $\alpha$ -generalized closed (briefly  $\alpha$ g-closed) [9]) if  $\alpha Cl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in \tau$ .
- (4). regular generalized  $\alpha$ -closed (briefly rg $\alpha$ -closed) [15]) if  $\alpha Cl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in RO(X)$ .
- (5). generalized pre-closed (briefly gp-closed) [13] if  $pCl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in \tau$ .
- (6). regular generalized pre-closed (briefly rgp-closed) [14] if  $pCl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in RO(X)$ .
- (7). generalized  $\beta$ -closed (briefly  $g\beta$ -closed) [4] if  $\beta Cl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in \tau$ .
- (8). regular generalized  $\beta$ -closed (briefly  $rg\beta$ -closed) [17] if  $\beta Cl(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in RO(X)$ .
- (9). g-open (respectively rg-open,  $\alpha g$ -open,  $rg\alpha$ -open, gp-open,  $rg\beta$ -open,  $rg\beta$ -open) if the complement of A is g-closed (respectively rg-closed,  $\alpha g$ -closed,  $rg\alpha$ -closed, gp-closed,  $rg\beta$ -closed,  $rg\beta$ -closed).

**Remark 2.2.** We have the following implications for the properties of subsets:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} closed &\Rightarrow g\text{-}closed \Rightarrow rg\text{-}closed \\ \Downarrow & \Downarrow & \Downarrow \\ \alpha\text{-}closed \Rightarrow \alpha g\text{-}closed \Rightarrow rg\alpha\text{-}closed \\ \Downarrow & \Downarrow & \Downarrow \\ p\text{-}closed \Rightarrow gp\text{-}closed \Rightarrow rgp\text{-}closed \\ \Downarrow & \Downarrow & \Downarrow \\ \beta\text{-}closed \Rightarrow g\beta\text{-}closed \Rightarrow rg\beta\text{-}closed \end{array}$$

Where none of the implications is reversible as can be seen from the following examples:

**Example 2.3.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, X\}$ . Then the subset  $A = \{b\}$  is g-closed as well as  $\alpha$ g-closed but not closed.

**Example 2.4.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the subset  $A = \{a\}$  is  $rg\beta$ -closed not g-closed.

**Example 2.5.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, \}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, X\}$ . Then the subset  $A = \{a, b\}$  is g-closed as well as rg-closed.

**Example 2.6.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{a, c\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ . Then the subset  $A = \{a\}$  is  $\alpha$ -closed as well as p-closed but not closed.

**Example 2.7.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the subset  $A = \{a, c\}$  is g-closed as well rg-closed. But it is not p-closed.

**Example 2.8.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the subset  $A = \{b\}$  is  $rg\beta$ -closed not rg-closed.

**Lemma 2.9** ([22]). Let A be a subset of a space X and  $x \in X$ . The following properties hold for  $\beta Cl(A)$ :

(1).  $x \in \beta C1(A)$  if and only if  $A \cap U \neq \phi$  for every  $U \in \beta O(X)$  containing x.

- (2). A is  $\beta$ -closed if and only if  $A = \beta Cl(A)$ .
- (3).  $\beta Cl(A) \subset \beta Cl(B)$  if  $A \subset B$ .
- (4).  $\beta Cl(\beta Cl(A)) = \beta Cl(A)$ .
- (5).  $\beta Cl(A)$  is  $\beta$ -closed.

**Lemma 2.10** ([22]). A subset A of a space X is  $g\beta$ -open in X if and only if  $F \subset \beta Int(A)$  whenever  $F \subset A$  and F is closed in X.

**Lemma 2.11** ([17]). A subset A of a space X is  $rg\beta$ -open in X if and only if  $F \subset \beta Int(A)$  whenever  $\subset A$  and  $F \in RC(X)$ .

## 3. Some Generalizations of Almost Closed Functions

**Definition 3.1.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is said to be

- (a). strongly β-closed (respectively M-β-closed, β-gβ-closed [22], β-rgβ-closed) if f(F) is closed (respectively β-closed, gβ-closed, rgβ-closed) in Y for every β-closed set F of X.
- (b).  $\beta$ -closed [1] (briefly  $g\beta$ -closed [22],  $rg\beta$ -closed) if f(F) is  $\beta$ -closed (respectively  $g\beta$ -closed,  $rg\beta$ -closed) in Y for every closed set F of X.
- (c). almost closed [21] (briefly almost  $\beta$ -closed [19], almost  $g\beta$ -closed, almost  $rg\beta$ -closed) if f(F) is closed (respectively  $\beta$ -closed,  $g\beta$ -closed) in Y for every  $A \in RC(X)$ .

From the definitions stated above, we have the following diagram:

strongly  $\beta$ -closed  $\Rightarrow$ M- $\beta$ -closed  $\beta$ -g $\beta$ -closed  $\beta$ -rg $\beta$ -closed ∜ ∜ ∜ ∜ closed $\beta$ -closed  $g\beta$ -closed  $rg\beta$ -closed ∜ ∜ ∜ ∜ almost closed  $\Rightarrow almost \ \beta\text{-}closed \ \Rightarrow \ almost \ g\beta\text{-}closed \ \Rightarrow \ almost \ rg\beta\text{-}closed$ 

Where none of the implications is reversible as can be seen from the following examples:

**Example 3.2.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}, \tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$  and  $\sigma = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the identity function  $f: (X, \tau) \to (X, \sigma)$  is closed as well as  $rg\beta$ -closed.

**Example 3.3.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}, \tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, X\}$  and  $\sigma = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the identity function  $f : (X, \tau) \to (X, \sigma)$  is almost closed as well as almost  $rg\beta$ -closed.

**Example 3.4.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}, \tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$  and  $\sigma = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, c\}, X\}$ . Then the identity function  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (X, \sigma)$  is M- $\beta$ -closed as well as  $\beta$ -closed but not closed.

**Example 3.5.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}, \tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$  and  $\sigma = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$ . Then the identity function  $f : (X, \tau) \rightarrow (X, \sigma)$  is  $\beta$ -closed as well as almost  $\beta$ -closed but not almost closed.

**Theorem 3.6.** A function  $f : Xt \to Y$  is almost  $\beta$ -closed (respectively almost  $g\beta$ -closed, almost  $rg\beta$ -closed) if and only if for each subset B of Y and each  $U \in RO(X)$  containing  $f^{-1}(B)$ , there exists a  $\beta$ -open (respectively  $g\beta$ -open,  $rg\beta$ -open) set V of Y such that  $B \subset V$  and  $f^{-1}(V) \subset U$ .

*Proof.* We prove only the first case; the proof of the others being entirely analogous.

**Necessity:** Suppose that f is almost  $\beta$ -closed. Let B be any subset of Y and  $U \in RO(X)$  containing  $f^{-1}(B)$ . Put V = Y - f(X - U) then V is a  $\beta$ -open set of Y such that  $B \subset V$  and  $f^{-1}(V) \subset U$ .

Sufficiency: Let F be any regular closed set of X. Then  $f^{-1}(Y - f(F)) \subset X - F$  and  $X - F \in RO(X)$ . There exists a  $\beta$ -open set V of Y such that  $Y - f(F) \subset V$  and  $f^{-1}(V) \subset X - F$ . Therefore, we have f(F) = Y - V and f(F) is  $\beta$ -closed in Y. This shows that f is almost  $\beta$ -closed.

**Theorem 3.7.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is  $\beta$ -rg $\beta$ -closed (respectively rg $\beta$ -closed) if and only if for each subset B of Y and each  $\beta$ -open (respectively open) set U of X containing  $f^{-1}(B)$ , there exists an rg $\beta$ -open set V of Y such that  $B \subset V$  and  $f^{-1}(V) \subset U$ .

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of Theorem 3.6 and is thus omitted.

## 4. Almost $\beta$ -regular Spaces

**Definition 4.1.** A space X is said to be

- (a).  $\beta$ -regular [7] (respectively p-regular [5]) if for each closed set A and each point  $x \in X A$ , there exist disjoint  $\beta$ -open (respectively p-open) sets U, V such that  $x \in U$ ,  $A \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ .
- (b). almost regular [20] if for each  $A \in RC(X)$  and each point  $x \in X A$ , there exist disjoint open sets U, V such that  $x \in U, A \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ .
- (c). almost  $\beta$ -regular (respectively almost p-regular [10]) if for each  $A \in RC(X)$  and each point  $x \in X A$ , there exist disjoint  $\beta$ -open (respectively p-open) sets U, V such that  $x \in U$ ,  $A \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ .

By the definitions stated above, we have the following diagram:

 $\begin{array}{ccc} regularity &\Rightarrow& p-regularity \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ almost\ regularity \Rightarrow \ almost\ p-regularity \Rightarrow \ almost\ \beta-regularity \\ \end{array}$ 

Where none of the implications is reversible as can be seen from the following examples:

**Example 4.2.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$ . Consider the closed set  $\{b, c\}$  and a point 'a' such that  $a \notin \{b, c\}$ . Then  $\{b, c\}$  and  $\{a\}$  are open sets such that  $\{b, c\} \subset \{b, c\}$ ,  $a \in \{a\}$  and  $\{b, c\} \cap \{a\} = \phi$ . Similarly for the closed set  $\{a\}$  and a point 'c' such that  $c \notin \{a\}$ . Then there exist open sets  $\{a\}$  and  $\{b, c\} \cap \{a\} = \phi$ . Similarly for the closed  $\{a\}$  and a point 'c' such that  $c \notin \{a\}$ . Then there exist open sets  $\{a\}$  and  $\{b, c\}$  such that  $\{a\} \subset \{a\}$ ,  $c \notin \{b, c\}$  and  $\{a\} \cap \{b, c\} = \phi$ . It follows that X is regular space.

**Example 4.3.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the space X is  $\beta$ -regular but not p-regular, since for the closed set  $\{b, c\}$  and the point  $a \notin \{b, c\}$ , there do not exist disjoint p-open sets containing them.

**Example 4.4.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then the space X is almost  $\beta$ -regular but it is not almost p-regular, since for the regular closed set  $\{a, c\}$  and the point  $b \notin \{a, c\}$ , there do not exist disjoint p-open sets containing them.

**Example 4.5.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, X\}$ . Then the space X is almost regular.

**Theorem 4.6.** The following properties are equivalent for a space X:

- (a). X is almost  $\beta$ -regular;
- (b). for each  $F \in RC(X)$  and each point  $x \in X F$ , there exists a  $\beta$ -open set U and an  $rg\beta$ -open set V such that  $x \in U$ ,  $F \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ .
- (c). for each  $F \in RC(X)$ ,  $F = \cap \{\beta Cl(V) : F \subset V \text{ and } V \text{ is } rg\beta open \text{ in } X\}$ ,
- (d). for each  $F \in RC(X)$  and each nonempty subset A of X such that  $A \cap F = \phi$ , there exist  $U \in \beta O(X)$  and an  $rg\beta$ -open set V such that  $A \cap U \neq \phi$ ,  $F \subset V$  and  $U \cap V = \phi$ .

*Proof.*  $(a) \Rightarrow (b)$  The proof is obvious from the fact that  $\beta$ -openness implies  $g\beta$ -openness and  $g\beta$ -openness implies  $rg\beta$ -openness.

 $(b) \Rightarrow (c)$  For any  $F \in RC(X)$ , we always have  $F \subset \cap \{\beta Cl(V) : F \subset V \text{ and } V \text{ is } rg\beta - open \text{ in } X\}$ . Suppose that  $x \in X - F$ . By assumption, there exist a  $\beta$ -open set U and an  $rg\beta$ -open set V such that  $x \in U, F \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ . By Lemma 2.9, we have  $x \in X - \beta Cl(V)$  and hence  $x \in X - \cap \{\beta Cl(V) : F \subset V \text{ and } V \text{ is } rg\beta - open \text{ in } X\}$ . Therefore, we obtain  $F \supset \cap \{\beta Cl(V) : F \subset V \text{ and } V \text{ is } rg\beta - open \text{ in } X\}$  and hence  $F = \cap \{\beta Cl(V) : F \subset V \text{ and } V \text{ is } rg\beta - open \text{ in } X\}$ . (c)  $\Rightarrow (d)$  Let  $F \in RC(X)$  and A be a nonempty subset of X such that  $A \cap F = \phi$ . Take a point  $x \in A$  so that  $x \in X - F$ . Therefore, there exists an  $rg\beta$ -open set V such that  $F \subset V$  and  $x \in X - \beta Cl(V)$ . Now, put  $U = X - \beta Cl(V)$ , then we have  $U \in \beta O(X), A \cap U \neq \phi$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ .

 $(d) \Rightarrow (a)$  For each  $F \in RC(X)$  and each point  $x \in X - F$ , there exists a  $\beta$ -open set U and an  $rg\beta$ -open set V such that  $x \in U, F \subset V$ , and  $U \cap V = \phi$ . Since  $F \in RC(X)$ , we have  $F \subset \beta Int(V), \beta Int(V) \in \beta O(X)$ , and  $U \cap \beta Int(V) = \phi$ . This shows that X is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

**Remark 4.7.** We can obtain characterizations of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces by replacing "V is  $rg\beta$ -open" in (b), (c), and (d) of Theorem 4.6 with "V is  $g\beta$ -open". The proof is quite similar to that of Theorem 4.6.

**Theorem 4.8.** Almost  $\beta$ -regularity is regular open hereditary.

**Lemma 4.9.** If Y is an open subspace of a space X and A is a subset of Y, then  $\beta Cl_Y(A) = Y \cap \beta Cl(A)$ .

**Lemma 4.10.** If Y is an open subspace of a space X and  $A \in \beta O(X)$ , then  $A \cap Y \in \beta O(Y)$ .

**Theorem 4.11.** If X is an almost  $\beta$ -regular space and Y is an open set of X, then the subspace Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

Proof. Let  $G \in RO(Y)$  and  $x \in G$ . There exists  $H \in RO(X)$  such that  $G = Y \cap H$ , since  $G = Int_Y(Cl_Y(G)) = Int(Cl(G) \cap Y) = Int(Cl(G)) \cap Y$ . Since X is almost  $\beta$ -regular, there exists  $U \in \beta O(X)$  such that  $x \in U \subset \beta Cl(U) \subset H$ . We have  $x \in U \cap Y \subset \beta Cl(U) \cap Y \subset H \cap Y$  and  $U \cap Y \in \beta O(Y)$  by Lemma 4.10. By Lemma 4.9, we obtain  $\beta Cl_Y(U \cap Y) = \beta Cl(U \cap Y) \cap Y \subset \beta Cl(U) \cap Y$  and hence  $x \in U \cap Y \subset \beta Cl_Y(U \cap Y) \subset G$ . Therefore, Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

**Corollary 4.12.** If X is an almost  $\beta$ -regular space and  $X_0$  is a regular open set of X, then the subspace  $X_0$  is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

## 5. Preservation Theorems

**Definition 5.1.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is said to be

- (a). almost continuous [21] if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is open in X for every  $V \in RO(Y)$ ,
- (b). R-map [3] if  $f^{-1}(V) \in RO(X)$  for every  $V \in RO(Y)$ ,
- (c). almost open [21] if f(U) is open in Y for every  $U \in RO(X)$ ,
- (d). M- $\beta$ -open if  $f(U) \in \beta O(Y)$  for every  $U \in \beta O(X)$ ,
- (e). weakly open [18] if  $f(U) \in Int(f(Cl(U)))$  for every open set U of X.

**Remark 5.2.** A *R*-map is also said to be regular irresolute by Palaniappan and Rao [16]. In [18], it was shown that almost openness implies weak openness but the converse is false.

**Theorem 5.3.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is an almost continuous and almost  $\beta$ -closed surjection with compact point inverses and X is regular, then Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

Proof. Let F be a regular closed set of Y and  $y \in Y - F$ . We have  $f^{-1}(Y) \cap f^{-1}(F) = \phi$ . Since  $f^{-1}(Y)$  is compact and  $f^{-1}(F)$  is closed in the regular space X, there exist disjoint open sets  $U_0$ ,  $V_0$  of X such that  $f^{-1}(Y) \subset U_0$  and  $f^{-1}(F) \subset V_0$ . Now, put  $U = Int(Cl(U_0))$  and  $V = Int(Cl(V_0))$ , then U and V are disjoint regular open sets such that  $f^{-1}(Y) \subset U$  and  $f^{-1}(F) \subset V$ . Since f is almost  $\beta$ -closed, by Theorem 3.6, there exist  $\beta$ -open sets G, H of Y such that  $y \in G$ ,  $F \subset H$ ,  $f^{-1}(G) \subset U$  and  $f^{-1}(H) \subset V$ . Moreover, G and H are disjoint since U and V are disjoint. This shows that Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

**Corollary 5.4.** If  $f : X \to Y$  is an almost continuous and  $\beta$ -closed surjection with compact point inverses and X is regular, then Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

**Theorem 5.5.** If  $f : X \to Y$  be an M- $\beta$ -open  $\beta$ -rg $\beta$ -closed surjective R-map. If X is almost  $\beta$ -regular, then Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

*Proof.* Let  $F \in RC(Y)$  and  $y \in Y - F$ . Then  $f^{-1}(Y)$  and  $f^{-1}(F) = \phi$  are disjoint. Since f is an R-map,  $f^{-1}(F)$  is regular closed in X. For each  $x \in f^{-1}(Y)$ , there exist disjoint  $\beta$ -open sets U and V of X such that  $x \in U$  and  $f^{-1}(F) \subset V$ . Since f is M- $\beta$ -open, we have  $y = f(x) \in f(U)$  and  $f(U) \in \beta O(Y)$ . Since f is  $\beta$ - $rg\beta$ -closed, by Theorem 3.7, there exists an  $rg\beta$ -open set W of Y such that  $F \subset W$  and  $f^{-1}(W) \subset V$ . Since f(U) and W are disjoint, by Theorem 4.6, we obtain that Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

**Corollary 5.6.** If  $f : X \to Y$  be an almost continuous, almost open, M- $\beta$ -open, M- $\beta$ -closed function from an almost  $\beta$ -regular space X on to a space Y, then Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

*Proof.* Every almost continuous almost open function is an R-map. Every M- $\beta$ -closed function is  $\beta$ - $rg\beta$ -closed and the proof follows immediately from Theorem 5.5.

**Theorem 5.7.** If  $f: X \to Y$  be continuous weakly open  $\beta$ -rg $\beta$ -closed surjection and X is almost  $\beta$ -regular, then Y is almost  $\beta$ -regular.

*Proof.* First we show that f is an R-map. Let V be any regular open set of Y. Since f is continuous,  $f^{-1}(V)$  is open in X and hence  $f^{-1}(V) \subset Int(Cl(f^{-1}(V)))$ . Since f is a weakly open continuous surjection, we have  $f(Int(Cl(f^{-1}(V)))) \subset Int[f(Cl(Int(Cl(f^{-1}(V))))] \subset Int(Cl(f^{-1}(V)))) \subset Int(Cl(V)) = V$ . Therefore, we obtain  $Int(Cl(f^{-1}(V))) \subset f^{-1}(V)$  and hence  $Int(Cl(f^{-1}(V))) = f^{-1}(V)$ . Thus,  $f^{-1}(V)$  is regular open in X and f is an R-map. Next, we show that f is M- $\beta$ -open. Let U be any  $\beta$ -open set in X. Then, we have  $f(U) \subset f(Int(Cl(U))) \subset Int[f(Cl(Int(Cl(U)))] \subset Int[f(Cl(U))] \subset Int[f(Cl(U))] \subset Int[f(Cl(Int(Cl(U)))])$ . Therefore, f(U) is  $\beta$ -open in Y and f is M- $\beta$ -open. Theorem 5.5 completes the proof.

## 6. Conclusion

In this paper, we introduce and study a new class of spaces, namely almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces and to obtain some characterizations of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces. Further, by using  $\beta$ -closed sets, we define almost  $\beta$ -closed functions and to obtain preservation theorems of almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces. The relationships among p-regular,  $\beta$ -regular, almost regular, almost p-regular, almost  $\beta$ -regular spaces are investigated. The main result of this paper is that almost  $\beta$ -regularity is preserved under M- $\beta$ -open  $\beta$ -reg $\beta$ -closed surjective R-maps.

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