

**SELF AND STRONGLY FUNCTION CHAINABLE  
SETS IN TOPOLOGICAL SPACES**

Kiran Shrivastava<sup>1</sup>, Priya Choudhary<sup>2</sup>§, Vijeta Iyer<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Department of Mathematics

S.N.G.G.P.G. College

Bhopal, INDIA

**Abstract:** In this paper concept of self and strongly function chainable sets is introduced for topological spaces. Results proved in [8] are extended to self and strongly function chainable sets. Two characterizations of strongly function chainable sets have been established in the paper. It is shown that the space is connected if and only if it is function chainable provided the function is one to one.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 54A99

**Key Words:**  $\varepsilon$ -chainability, function-chainable sets, function-chainable space

\*

Throughout this paper  $X$  stand for topological space with topology  $\tau$  and  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  will be real valued non-constant continuous function unless stated otherwise. For basic definitions refer to [5]. However to make the paper self contained definitions of function chainability between points and sets are presented below.

---

Received: April 22, 2014

© 2014 Academic Publications, Ltd.  
url: [www.acadpubl.eu](http://www.acadpubl.eu)

§Correspondence author

**Definition 1.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and if for  $x, y$  of  $X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist a non-constant continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that there is a sequence of  $x = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n = y$  of elements of  $X$  with  $|f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})| < \varepsilon$  then this sequence is said to be an *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chain* between  $x$  and  $y$ . If  $x$  and  $y$  are *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable* for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  then  $x$  and  $y$  are *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable*.

**Definition 2.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and if for  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a non-constant continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that there is *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chain* between every pair of elements  $x$  and  $y$  of  $X$  then  $X$  is said to be *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable*. If  $X$  is *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable* for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  then  $X$  is said to be *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable*.

**Definition 3.** Let  $A, B \subset X$ . If for  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist a non-constant continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that there is a finite sequence  $A = A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n = B$  of subsets of  $X$  with  $A_{i-1} \subset V_{f\varepsilon}(A_i)$  and  $A_i \subset V_{f\varepsilon}(A_{i-1})$  then  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable* and this fact is denoted by  $\langle A, B \rangle$ . If  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable* for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  then  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is said to be *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable*.

Obviously each  $V_{f\varepsilon}(x)$  is an open set.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable compact topological space* where  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  a *non-constant, continuous one to one function* then  $X$  is *connected*.

*Proof.* Suppose  $X$  is disconnected then  $X = A \cup B$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are both open and closed disjoint subsets of  $X$ . Then  $f(X) = f(A \cup B) = f(A) \cup f(B)$  and  $f(A \cap B) = \phi$  as  $f$  is one to one. Since  $X$  is compact  $A$  and  $B$  are compact and hence  $f(A), f(B)$  are compact subsets of  $f(X)$ . Also  $f(A), f(B)$  are closed in  $f(X)$  hence

$$|f(A) - f(B)| = \varepsilon > 0$$

As  $X$  is *function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable*,  $f(X)$  is *chainable through points of  $f(X)$* . But no point of  $f(A)$  and  $f(B)$  can be joined by an  $\varepsilon/2$ -*chain* in  $f(X)$ . This is a contradiction. Or  $X$  is *connected*.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** Let  $A, B$  be two *non-disjoint compact function- $f - \varepsilon$ -chainable subsets of  $X$*  and let  $f$  be *one to one function* then  $A \cup B$  is *connected*.

The following theorem below contribute to extension of results established in [5].

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $A, B \subset X$  and  $\langle A, B \rangle$  be function- $f$  - chainable then  $\langle \overline{A}, \overline{B} \rangle$  is function- $f$  - chainable.*

*Proof.* Let  $\langle A, B \rangle$  be function- $f$  - chainable and  $\varepsilon > 0$  Choose  $\varepsilon' > 0$  such that  $2\varepsilon' < \varepsilon$ . Now  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon'$  - chainable or there exists a sequence  $A = A_0, A_1, A_2 \dots, A_n = B$  of subsets of  $X$  such that  $A_{i-1} \subset V_{f\varepsilon'}(A_i)$  and  $A_i \subset V_{f\varepsilon'}(A_{i-1})$ .

Or

$$\overline{A_{i-1}} \subset \overline{V_{f\varepsilon'}(A_i)} \subset V_{f2\varepsilon'}(\overline{A_i}) \subset V_{f\varepsilon}(\overline{A_i})$$

and

$$\overline{A_i} \subset \overline{V_{f2\varepsilon'}(A_{i-1})} \subset V_{f2\varepsilon'}(\overline{A_{i-1}}) \subset V_{f\varepsilon}(\overline{A_{i-1}}).$$

Or  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f$  - chainable. □

**Theorem 4.**  *$X$  is function- $f - \varepsilon$  - chainable if and only if  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon$  - chainable for every pair of subsets  $A, B$  of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Obvious. □

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $A \subset X$ , then  $\langle A, \overline{A} \rangle$  is function- $f$  - chainable.*

*Proof.*  $A \subset \overline{A} \subset V_{f\varepsilon}(\overline{A}) \forall \varepsilon > 0$ .

and

$$\overline{A} = \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} V_{f\varepsilon}(A) \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

Or  $\langle A, \overline{A} \rangle$  is function- $f$  - chainable. □

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $A, B \subset X$ . If  $\langle A, C \rangle$  and  $\langle B, C \rangle$  are function- $f$  - chainable then  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f$  - chainable.*

*Proof.* Obvious. □

Next some notations are introduced.

Let  $x \in X$  and  $A \subset X$ . Set

$$[x]_{f\varepsilon} = \{y \in X / y \text{ is function-}f - \varepsilon\text{-chainable to } x\},$$

and

$$[A]_{f\varepsilon} = \{B \subset X / \langle A, B \rangle \text{ is function-}f - \varepsilon\text{-chainable}\}.$$

Now it is clear that the relation of function- $f - \varepsilon$  - chainability between two points or between two subsets of  $X$  is an equivalence relation on  $X$  and partitions  $X$  into disjoint equivalence classes represented by  $[x]_{f\varepsilon}$  or  $[A]_{f\varepsilon}$  The set  $[x]_{f\varepsilon}$  is both open and closed.

The proofs of the following theorems are obvious consequences of definitions and hence omitted.

**Theorem 7.** Let  $A \subset X$  and  $x \in X$  If  $\langle A, [x]_{f_\varepsilon} \rangle$  are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable then  $A \subset [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$ .

**Note.** Also  $[x]_{f_\varepsilon}$  is the maximal set function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to the set  $A$  and  $\sup [A]_{f_\varepsilon} = [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$ .

**Theorem 8.** If  $A \subset X, x, y \in X$  and  $\langle A, [x]_{f_\varepsilon} \rangle$  and  $\langle A, [y]_{f_\varepsilon} \rangle$  are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable then  $[x]_{f_\varepsilon} = [y]_{f_\varepsilon}$  that is every subset  $A$  of  $X$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to one and only one equivalence class. Also  $\langle [x]_{f_\varepsilon}, [y]_{f_\varepsilon} \rangle$  are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable if and only if  $[x]_{f_\varepsilon} = [y]_{f_\varepsilon}$ .

**Definition 4.** A map  $g : X \rightarrow X$  is said to be function- $f -$  contraction if there exists a real number  $\alpha, 0 < \alpha < 1$  such that for every  $x, y \in X,$   
 $|f(g(x)) - f(g(y))| \leq \alpha |f(x) - f(y)|.$

**Theorem 9.** Let  $g : X \rightarrow X$  and  $h : X \rightarrow X$  be function- $f -$  contractions then  $g \circ h$  and  $h \circ g$  are function- $f -$  contractions.

**Theorem 10.** If  $g : X \rightarrow X$  is one to one and onto and  $g$  and  $g^{-1}$  are function- $f -$  contraction mappings then  $[g(x)]_{f_\varepsilon} = g([x]_{f_\varepsilon})$ .

*Proof.* Let  $y \in [g(x)]_{f_\varepsilon}$ . Then  $y = y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n = g(x)$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chain for  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \in X$ .

$$|f(y_i) - f(y_{i-1})| < \varepsilon, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Since  $g^{-1} : X \rightarrow X$  is function- $f -$  contraction, for some real number  $\alpha, 0 < \alpha < 1$ .

$$|f(g^{-1}(y_i)) - f(g^{-1}(y_{i-1}))| \leq \alpha |f(y_i) - f(y_{i-1})| < |f(y_i) - f(y_{i-1})| < \alpha; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Or  $g^{-1}(y) = g^{-1}(y_0), g^{-1}(y_1), \dots, g^{-1}(y_{n-1}), x$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.

Or  $g^{-1}(y) \in [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$ . Or  $y \in g([x]_{f_\varepsilon})$  hence  $[g(x)]_{f_\varepsilon} \subset g([x]_{f_\varepsilon})$ .

Next  $y \in g([x]_{f_\varepsilon})$  then  $y = g(z)$  where  $z$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to  $x$ .

Or there exists  $z = z_0, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{n-1}, z_n = x \in X$  such that  $|f(z_i) - f(z_{i-1})| < \varepsilon; 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

As  $g$  is function- $f -$  contraction.

$$|f(g(z_i)) - f(g(z_{i-1}))| \leq |f(z_i) - f(z_{i-1})| < \varepsilon,$$

or  $y = g(z)$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to  $g(x)$ . Or  $y \in [g(x)]_{f_\varepsilon}$ .

Hence  $[g(x)]_{f_\varepsilon} \subset [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$  Or  $[g(x)]_{f_\varepsilon} = [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$ . □

Next self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$  and strongly self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$  sets are defined.

**Definition 5.** Let  $A \subset X$ . If for  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exist a non-constant continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that every two points of  $A$  can be joined by a function- $f - \varepsilon - chain$ , then  $A$  is said to be self function- $f - chainable$  if  $A$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$  for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

**Note.**

1. The set  $[x]_{f\varepsilon}$  for any  $x \in X$  is always self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$ .
2. A space is function- $f - chainable$  if and only if it is self function- $f - chainable$ .

**Theorem 11.** A space is self function- $f - chainable$  if and only if each of its subset is self function- $f - chainable$ .

**Theorem 12.** A space is function- $f - chainable$  if and only if each of its subset is self function- $f - chainable$ .

**Definition 6.** Let  $A \subset X$ . If for  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exist a non-constant continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that every two points of  $A$  can be joined by an function- $f - \varepsilon - chain$  consisting of points of  $A$  only then  $A$  is said to be strongly self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$ .  $A$  is strongly self function- $f - chainable$  if  $A$  is strongly self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$  for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

It is simple to show that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  the concepts of function- $f - \varepsilon - chainability$  and strongly self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainability$  are equivalent.

**Theorem 13.** Every connected set is strongly self function- $f - chainable$  if  $f$  is non-constant function on the set.

*Proof.* Let  $A \subset X$  and let for  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a non-constant continuous function such that it is also non-constant on  $A$ . Then  $f|_A : A \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is continuous and non-constant function. Now  $f|_A(A)$  is connected subset of  $[0, \infty)$  and hence an interval which is strongly self function- $\varepsilon - chainable$  for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Hence for any two points  $x, y \in A$  there exist points  $x = x_0, x_1, x_2 \dots, x_n = y$  in  $A$  such that  $|f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})| < \varepsilon$ . Or  $A$  is strongly self function- $f - \varepsilon - chainable$  set. Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary it follows that  $A$  is strongly self function- $f - chainable$ . □

**Corollary 14.** Every connected space is function- $f - chainable$ .

*Proof.* Obvious. □

**Theorem 15.** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and  $A \subset X$ . If  $A$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable then  $\overline{A}$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.

*Proof.* Refer to Theorem 5 in [8]. □

**Remark.** It is obvious that self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainability of  $A$  is followed by self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainability of  $\overline{A}$ .

**Theorem 16.** Let  $A, B \subset X$  Then:

1. If  $(A \cap B) \neq \emptyset$  and  $A, B$  be self function- $f -$  chainable then  $(A \cup B)$  is self function- $f -$  chainable.
2. If  $\{A_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  are self function- $f -$  chainable subsets of  $X$  and

$$\bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} A_\alpha \neq \emptyset$$

then

$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} A_\alpha$$

is self function- $f -$  chainable.

3. Let  $E$  be self function- $f -$  chainable and  $\{E_z\}_{z \in \Lambda}$  be a system of self function- $f -$  chainable sets such that  $(E \cap E_z) \neq \emptyset, \forall z \in \Lambda$  and

$$E \cup \left( \bigcup_{z \in \Lambda} E_z \right)$$

is self-function- $f -$  chainable.

4. Let  $A, B$  be self function- $f -$  chainable sets in  $X$  and  $(A \cap B) \neq \emptyset$  then  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f -$  chainable.

*Proof.* Follows from definition. □

**Theorem 17.** If  $X$  is compact topological space then

$$X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n [x]_{f\varepsilon}$$

. Any compact space is the finite union of disjoint collection of self function- $f -$  chainable sets.

Strongly function- $\varepsilon -$  chainability between two sets.

**Definition 7.** For  $\varepsilon > 0$  let  $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a non-constant continuous function and let  $A, B \subset X$ . Then  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is said to be strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable and  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.  
 $\langle A, B \rangle$  is said to be strongly function- $f -$  chainable if it is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

Next two theorems are characterizations of strongly function- $\varepsilon -$  chainable sets.

**Theorem 18.** For  $A, B \subset X$ ,  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable if and only if there exists an function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chain between every point of  $A$  and every point of  $B$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\langle A, B \rangle$  be strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable and let  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ . Then since  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable,  $x$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to some point  $z$  of  $B$ . By self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainability of  $B$ ,  $z$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to  $y$ . Hence  $x$  and  $y$  are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable. Conversely let there exist an function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chain between every point of  $A$  and every point of  $B$ . Then by theorem 2.3[5],  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable. Next if  $x$  and  $x'$  are any two points of  $A$  then both of them are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable to every point of  $B$  and hence  $x$  and  $x'$  are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable. Or  $A$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable. Likewise  $B$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.  $\square$

**Theorem 19.** For  $A, B \subset X$ ,  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is strongly function- $\varepsilon -$  chainable if and only if  $A \cup B$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.

*Proof.* Let  $\langle A, B \rangle$  be strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable and let  $x, y \in A \cup B$ . If  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  then by theorem 18 there is an function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chain between  $x$  and  $y$ . If  $x, y \in A$  or  $x, y \in B$  then as  $A$  and  $B$  are self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable sets there is an function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chain between  $x$  and  $y$ .

Conversely suppose  $A \cup B$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable, let  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  then  $x, y \in A \cup B$  and hence there is an function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chain between  $x$  and  $y$ , Or  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.  $\square$

**Theorem 20.** Let  $A \subset X$  and  $x \in X$ . If  $A \subset [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$  then  $\langle A, [x]_{f_\varepsilon} \rangle$  is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.

*Proof.* Let  $y \in A$  and  $z \in [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$ . Then  $y \in [x]_{f_\varepsilon}$  and hence  $y$  and  $z$  are function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable. Or  $\langle A, [x]_{f_\varepsilon} \rangle$  is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.  $\square$

**Note.** The above result shows that converse of theorem 7 holds.

**Theorem 21.** Let  $A$  be self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable subset of  $X$ . If  $\langle [x]_{f\varepsilon}, A^c \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable then  $\langle A, [x]_{f\varepsilon}^c \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.

*Proof.* Let  $\langle [x]_{f\varepsilon}, A^c \rangle$  be function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable then by theorem 20  $A^c \subset [x]_{f\varepsilon}$  or  $[x]_{f\varepsilon}^c \subset A$ . Since  $A$  is self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable then  $\langle A, [y]_{f\varepsilon} \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable for any  $y \in A$  Or  $A \subset [y]_{f\varepsilon}$  Or  $[x]_{f\varepsilon}^c \subset [y]_{f\varepsilon}$ . Hence by theorem 11,  $\langle [x]_{f\varepsilon}^c, [y]_{f\varepsilon} \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable. Or  $\langle A, [x]_{f\varepsilon}^c \rangle$  is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable.  $\square$

**Theorem 22.** A space is function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  if and only if it is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

**Theorem 23.** Let  $A$  be self function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable, then for all  $y \in A$ ,  $\langle A, [y]_{f\varepsilon} \rangle$  is strongly function- $f - \varepsilon -$  chainable and conversely.

### Some Examples.

1. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be any two subsets of a function- $f -$  chainable space  $X$ , then  $\langle A, B \rangle$  is strongly function- $f -$  chainable.
2. Let  $(R^2, \mathcal{U})$  be a topological space with usual topology  $\mathcal{U}$ . Let  $f : R^2 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be defined by  $f(x, y) = |x|$ . Then  $f$  is a non-constant continuous function on  $R^2$ .

Further let  $H_1 = \{(x, y) : xy = 1\}$  and  $H_2 = \{(x, y) : xy = -1\}$ .

Then  $H_1 \cup H_2$  is strongly function- $f -$  chainable and consequently  $\langle H_1, H_2 \rangle$  is strongly function- $f -$  chainable.

### References

- [1] K.D. Joshi, *Introduction to General Topology*, Wiley Eastern Limited, 1992.
- [2] J.L. Kelly, *General Topology*, Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York, 1969.
- [3] S. Lipschutz, *Schaum's Outline of Theory and Problems of General Topology*, 1965.



- [4] James R. Munkers, *Topology, First Course*, PHI, 1987.
- [5] Priya Choudhary, Kiran Shrivastava, Vijeta Iyer, Characterization of function- $\varepsilon$ -chainable sets in topological space, *Mathematical Theory and Modeling*, **3**, No. 6 (2013), 189-192.
- [6] Shrivastava Kiran, Agrawal Geeta, Characterization of  $\varepsilon$ -chainable sets in metric spaces, *Indian J. Pure Appl. Maths.*, **33**, No. 6 (2002), 933-940.
- [7] Lynn Arthur Steen, J. Arthur Seebach, Jr., *Counterexamples in Topology*, Dover Reprint of 1978 ed., Berlin-New York, Springer-Verlag (1995).
- [8] Vijeta Iyer, Kiran Shrivastava, Priya Choudhary, Chainability in topological spaces through continuous functions, *International Journal of Pure And Applied Mathematics*, **84**, No. 3 (2013), 269-277, doi: 10.12732/ij-pam.v84i3.13.

