The countabilities of soft topological spaces  
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Abstract—Soft topological spaces are considered as mathematical tools for dealing with uncertainties, and a fuzzy topological space is a special case of the soft topological space. The purpose of this paper is to study soft topological spaces. We introduce some new concepts in soft topological spaces such as soft first-countable spaces, soft second-countable spaces and soft separable spaces, and some basic properties of these concepts are explored.

Keywords—soft sets, soft first-countable spaces, soft second-countable spaces, soft separable spaces, soft Lindelöf.

I. INTRODUCTION

THE real world is too complex for our direct and immediate understanding, for example, many disciplines, including engineering, medicine, economics, and sociology, are highly dependent on the task of modeling uncertain data. When the uncertainty is highly complicated and difficult to characterize, classical mathematical approaches are often insufficient to derive effective or useful models. There are some theories: the theory of fuzzy sets [14], the theory of vague sets [2], and the theory of rough sets [11], which can be considered as mathematical tools for dealing with uncertainties. However, all these theories have their own difficulties. The reason for these difficulties is, possibly, the inadequacy of the parameterization tool of the theory as it was mentioned by Molodtsov in [7]. Molodtsov [7] introduced the concept of a soft set in order to solve complicated problems. In [7], Molodtsov presented the fundamental results of the new theory and successfully applied it to several directions such as game theory, operations research, theory of probability, Riemann-integration, Perron integration, smoothness of functions etc.

A soft set is a collection of approximate descriptions of an object. Molodtsov [7] also proved how soft set theory is free from the parametrization inadequacy syndrome of fuzzy set theory, game theory, rough set theory and probability theory. Soft systems provide a very general framework with the involvement of parameters. Therefore, research works on soft set theory and its applications in various fields are progressing rapidly.

Recently, Shahib and Naz [12] introduced the notion of soft topological spaces which are defined over an initial universe with a fixed set of parameters. Then some authors studied some of basic concepts and properties of soft topological spaces, see [1], [3], [5], [9], [12], [13]. In particular, Zorlutuna, Akdag, Min and Atmaca [13] showed that a fuzzy topological space is a special case of the soft topological space, and that an ordinary topological space can be considered a soft topological space. However, every soft topological space is not an ordinary topological space in general.

In the present study, we introduce some new concepts in soft topological spaces such as soft first-countable spaces, soft second-countable spaces and soft separable spaces, and some properties and relations of these concepts are discussed.

II. PRELIMINARIES

Definition 2.1: [7] Let U be an initial universe and E be a set of parameters. Let \( P(U) \) denote the power set of U and A be a non-empty subset of E. A pair \((F, A)\) is called a soft set over U, where F is a mapping given by \( F : A \to P(U) \). In other words, a soft set over U is a parametrized family of subsets of the universe U. For a particular \( e \in A \), \( F(e) \) may be considered the set of \( e \)-approximate elements of the soft set \((F, A)\).

Definition 2.2: [8] For two soft sets \((F, A)\) and \((G, B)\) over a common universe U, \((F, A) \subseteq (G, B)\) is a soft subset of \((G, B)\), denoted by \( (F, A) \subseteq (G, B) \). If \( F \subseteq G \) and \( e \in A \), \( F(e) \subseteq G(e) \). \((F, A)\) is said to be a soft superset of \((G, B)\), if \((G, B)\) is a soft subset of \((F, A)\).

Definition 2.3: [8] Two soft sets \((F, A)\) and \((G, B)\) over a common universe U are said to be soft equal if \((F, A)\) is a soft subset of \((G, B)\) and \((G, B)\) is a soft subset of \((F, A)\).

Definition 2.4: [4] The complement of a soft set \((F, A)\), denoted by \((F, A)^c\), is defined by \((F, A)^c = (F^c, A)\), \( F^c : A \to P(U) \) is a mapping given by \( F^c(e) = U - F(e) \) for each \( e \in A \). \( F^c\) is called the soft complement function of F.

Clearly, \((F^c)^c\) is the same as F and \((F, A)^c\) is \((F, A)\).

Definition 2.5: [8] A soft set \((F, A)\) over U is said to be a NULL soft set denoted by \( \emptyset \) if for all \( e \in A \), \( F(e) = \emptyset \).

Definition 2.6: [8] A soft set \((F, A)\) over U is said to be an absolute soft set, denoted by \( U_A \), if \( e \in A \), \( F(e) = U \).

Clearly, we have \( U^c_A = \emptyset_A \) and \( \emptyset^c_A = U_A \).

Definition 2.7: [8] The union of two soft sets \((F, A)\) and \((G, B)\) over the common universe U is the soft set \((H, C)\), where \( C = A \cup B \) and for all \( e \in C \), \( H(e) = \begin{cases} F(e), & \text{if } e \in A \setminus B, \\ G(e), & \text{if } e \in B \setminus A, \\ F(e) \cup G(e), & \text{if } e \in A \cap B. \end{cases} \)

Definition 2.8: [10] The intersection of two soft sets \((F, A)\) and \((G, B)\) over the common universe U is the soft set \((H, C)\), where \( C = A \cap B \) and for all \( e \in C \), \( H(e) = F(e) \cap G(e) \).

In order to efficiently discuss, we consider only soft sets \((F, E)\) over a universe U in which all the parameter set E are same. We denote the family of these soft sets by \( SS(U)_E \).

Definition 2.9: [13] Let I be an arbitrary index set and \( \{F_i, E\} \subset I \) be a subfamily of \( SS(U)_E \).

1) The union of these soft sets is the soft set \((H, E)\), where \( H(e) = \bigcup_{i \in I} F_i(e) \) for each \( e \in E \). We write \( \bigcup_{i \in I} (F_i, E) = (H, E) \).
2) The intersection of these soft sets is the soft set \((M, E)\), where \(M(e) = \bigcap_{i \in I} E_i(e)\) for each \(e \in E\). We write \(\cap_{i \in I} (F_i, E_i) = (M, E)\).

**Definition 2.10:** [12] Let \(\tau\) be a collection of soft sets over a universe \(U\) with a fixed set \(E\) of parameters, then \(\tau \subseteq \mathcal{SS}(U)_E\) is called a soft topology on \(U\) with a fixed set \(E\) if

1) \(\emptyset, U\) belong to \(\tau\);
2) the union of any number of soft sets in \(\tau\) belongs to \(\tau\);
3) the intersection of any two soft sets in \(\tau\) belongs to \(\tau\).

**Definition 2.11:** [13] A soft set \((G, E)\) in a soft topological space \((U, \tau, E)\) is called a soft neighborhood of the soft set \((F, E)\) if there exists a soft open set \((H, E)\) such that \((F, E) \subseteq (H, E) \subseteq (G, E)\).

**Theorem 2.12:** [6] Let \((U, \tau, E)\) be a soft topological space and \((G, E)\) a soft set over \(U\).

1) The soft closure \([12]\) of \((G, E)\) is the soft set \(\overline{(G, E)} = \bigcap\{(S, E) : (S, E) \text{ is soft closed and } (G, E) \subseteq (S, E)\}\);
2) The soft interior \([13]\) of \((G, E)\) is the soft set \(\mathcal{U} (S, E) = \bigcup\{(S, E) : (S, E) \text{ is soft open and } (G, E) \subseteq (S, E)\}\).

**Theorem 2.13:** [6] The soft set \((F, E) \in \mathcal{SS}(U)_E\) is said to be a soft point in \(U_E\) if there exist \(x \in U\) and \(e \in E\) such that \(F(e) = \{x\}\) and \(F(e') = \emptyset\) for each \(e' \in E \setminus \{e\}\), and the soft point \((F, E)\) is denoted by \(e_x\).

**Theorem 2.14:** [6] Let \((U, \tau, E)\) be a soft topological space. A soft point \(e_x \in (A, E)\) if and only if each soft neighborhood of \(e_x\) intersects \((A, E)\).

**Definition 2.15:** [5] Let \(\mathcal{SS}(U)_A\) and \(\mathcal{SS}(V)_B\) be families of soft sets. Let \(u : U \rightarrow V\) and \(p : A \rightarrow B\) be mappings. Then a mapping \(f_{pu} : \mathcal{SS}(U)_A \rightarrow \mathcal{SS}(V)_B\) is defined as:

1) \((F, A)\) be a soft set in \(\mathcal{SS}(U)_A\) the image of \((F, A)\) under \(f_{pu}\) written as \(f_{pu}(F, A) = (f_{pu}(F), p(A))\), is a soft set in \(\mathcal{SS}(V)_B\) such that \(f_{pu}(F)(y) = \bigcup_{x \in \pi^{-1}(y) \cap A} u(F(x)), \quad p^{-1}(y) \cap A \neq \emptyset, \quad \text{otherwise} \).

for all \(y \in B\).

2) \((G, B)\) be a soft set in \(\mathcal{SS}(V)_B\). Then the inverse image of \((G, B)\) under \(f_{pu}\), written as \(f^{-1}_{pu}(G, B) = (f^{-1}_{pu}(G), p^{-1}(B))\), is a soft set in \(\mathcal{SS}(U)_A\) such that \(f^{-1}_{pu}(G)(x) = \{w^{-1}(G(p(x))), \quad p(x) \in B, \quad \text{otherwise} \).

for all \(x \in A\).

**Definition 2.16:** [6] Let \((U, \tau, A)\) and \((V, \tau^*, B)\) soft topological spaces. Let \(u : U \rightarrow V\) and \(p : A \rightarrow B\) be mappings. Let \(f_{pu} : \mathcal{SS}(U)_A \rightarrow \mathcal{SS}(V)_B\) be a function.

1) The function \(f_{pu}\) is soft continuous \([13]\) if \(f^{-1}_{pu}(H, B) \in \tau\) for each \((H, B) \in \tau^*\).
2) The function \(f_{pu}\) is soft open in \(f_{pu}(G, A) \in \tau^*\) for each \((G, A) \in \tau\).

**Definition 2.17:** [6] Let \(\{(U^n, \tau_n, A_n)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) be a family of soft spaces. Let us take as a basis for a soft topology on the product space \(\prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} U^n \times \prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \tau_n \times \prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\) the collection of all soft sets \(\{(\prod_{E \in I} F_n, \prod_{E \in I} E_n) : \text{ there is a finite set } J \subset I \text{ such that } (F_n, E_n) = U^n_J \text{ for each } n \in I \setminus J\}\).

The notations \(R, Q, N\) are real numbers, rational numbers and positive natural numbers respectively. Readers may refer to \([8], [10], [12], [13]\) for notations and terminology not explicitly given here.

### III. SOFT FIRST-COUNTABLE AND SOFT SECOND SPACES

**Definition 3.1:** [11] Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space. A subcollection \(\gamma\) of \(\tau\) is said to be a base for \(\tau\) if every member of \(\gamma\) can be expressed as a union of members of \(\gamma\).

**Definition 3.2:** Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space, and let \(U\) be a family of soft neighborhoods of some soft point \(e_x\). If, for each soft neighborhood \((F, E)\) of \(e_x\), there exists a \((H, E) \in U\) such that \(e_x \in (H, E) \subseteq (F, E)\), then we say that \(U\) is a soft neighborhoods base at \(e_x\).

**Definition 3.3:** Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space, and let \(e_x\) be a soft point in \(U_A\). If \(e_x\) has a countable soft neighborhoods base, then we say that \(U_A\) is soft first-countable at \(e_x\). If each soft point in \(U_A\) is soft first-countable, then we say that \(U_A\) is soft first-countable.

**Proposition 3.4:** Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space, and let \(e_x\) be a soft point in \(U_A\). Then \(U_A\) is soft first-countable at \(e_x\) if and only if there exists a countable soft open neighborhood base \(\{(F_n, A)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) at \(e_x\) such that \((F_{n+1}, A) \subseteq (F_n, A)\) for each \(n \in \mathbb{N}\).

**Proof:** Sufficiency. It is obvious.

Necessity. Let \(\{(U_n, E)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) be a soft base at \(e_x\). For each \(n \in \mathbb{N}\), put \((F_n, A) = \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} (U_m, E)\). Then it is easy to see that \(\{(F_n, A)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) is a soft base at \(e_x\) and \((F_{n+1}, A) \subseteq (F_n, A)\) for each \(n \in \mathbb{N}\).

**Definition 3.5:** Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space. If \(U_A\) has a countable soft base, then we say that \(U_A\) is soft second-countable.

**Proposition 3.6:** (1) Each soft second space is soft first-countable;

(2) Soft first-countability and soft second-countability are hereditarily.

**Remark 3.7:** (1) There exists a soft space which is not soft first-countable.

(2) There exists a soft first-countable space which is not soft second-countable.

**Example 3.8:** Let \(R\) be real line, and let \(A = \{e\}\). Then \(R\) be an uncountable set. Let \(\tau = \{(H, A) : H(e) = R \setminus F, F\} \text{ is a finite set in } R\). \(\sigma = \{(H, A) : H(e) = F, F \subseteq R\}\). Then \((R, \tau, A)\) and \((R, \sigma, A)\) are soft spaces. However, \((R, \tau, A)\) is not soft first-countable, and \((R, \sigma, A)\) is a soft first-countable space which is not soft second-countable.

**Theorem 3.9:** (1) The product of countably many soft first-countable spaces is soft first-countable;

(2) The product of countably many soft second-countable spaces is soft second-countable.

**Proof:** We only prove (2).

Let \((U^n, \tau_n, A_n)\) be a family of countable many soft second-countable spaces. For each \(n \in \mathbb{N}\), let \(B_n\) be a countable soft base of \(U^n_{A_n}\). Put \(B = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} U_n : \text{ where } U_n \in B_n\) and \(U_n\) equals \(U^n_{A_n}\) except for finitely many value \(n\). Then \(B\) is countable and a soft base for \(\prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} U^n \times \prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \tau_n \times \prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\).

**Theorem 3.10:** The image of soft first-countable spaces under a soft open continuous map are soft first-countable.
Proof: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) and \((V, G, B)\) be two soft spaces, where \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft first-countable, and let \(f\) be an onto soft \(\mu\)-continuous open mapping from \(U\) to \(V\). For any soft point \(e_y \in V_B\), there exists a soft point \(e_x \in U_A\) such that \(f(e_x) = e_y\). Since \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft first-countable, there exists a countable soft neighborhoods base \(\{F_n(A)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) at \(e_x\). Then it is easy to see that \(\{f(F_n(A))\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) is soft neighborhoods base at \(e_y\).

Definition 3.11: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space. If there exists a countable many soft points \(\{e_{x_n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\) such that \(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} e_{x_n} = U_A\), then we say that \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft separable.

Proposition 3.12: Each soft second-countable space is soft separable.

Proof: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft second-countable space, and let \(B = \{\{F_n(A)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) be a countable soft base of \(U_A\). For each \(n \in \mathbb{N}\), take a soft point \(e_{x_n} \in (F_n(A))\) and put \(B = \{e_{x_n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\). Then we have \(U = U_A\).

Definition 3.13: A soft space \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft Lindelöf if each soft open covering \(A\) of \(U_A\) has a countable subcover.

Proposition 3.14: Each soft second-countable space is soft Lindelöf.

Proof: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft second-countable space, and let \(B\) be a countable soft base of \(U_A\). Take an arbitrary soft open covering \(C\) of \(U_A\). Put \(B' = \{B \in B : \) There is \(C \subseteq C\) such that \(B' \subseteq C\). Then \(B'\) is countable. Denote \(B'\) by \(\{F_n(A) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\). For each \(n \in \mathbb{N}\), there exists a \(C_n \subseteq C\) such that \(F_n(A) \subseteq C_n\). Then \(\{C_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\) is countable soft subfamily of \(C\). Next we shall prove that \(\{C_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\) is a soft cover of \((U, \tau, A)\).

Take an arbitrary soft point \(e \in U_A\). Since \(C\) is a soft covering of \(U_A\), there exists a \(C \subseteq C\) such that \(e \in C\). Then there is a \(B \subseteq B'\) such that \(e \in B' \subseteq C\). Since \(B'\) is a soft base of \(U_A\). Hence \(B \subseteq B'\), and therefore, there is a \(n \in \mathbb{N}\) such that \(B = (F_n(A))\). Thus \(e \in F_n(A)\). Hence \(\{C_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\) is a soft cover of \((U, \tau, A)\).

Definition 3.15: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space over \(U\), and let \(G(A)\) be a soft closed set in \(U\) and soft point \(e\) such that \(e \in G(A)\). If there exist soft open sets \((F_1, A)\) and \((F_2, A)\) such that \(e \in (F_1, A) \cap (F_2, A)\) and \((F_1, A) \cap (F_2, A) = \emptyset\), then \((U, \tau, A)\) is called a soft regular space.

Definition 3.16: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft topological space over \(U\), and let \((G_1, A)\) and \((G_2, A)\) be two disjoint soft closed set in \(U\). If there exist two soft open sets \((F_1, A)\) and \((F_2, A)\) such that \((G_2, A) \subseteq (F_1, A) \cap (F_2, A)\) and \((F_1, A) \cap (F_2, A) = \emptyset\), then \((U, \tau, A)\) is called a soft regular.

Theorem 3.17: Each soft regular and soft Lindelöf space is soft normal.

Proof: Let \((U, \tau, A)\) be a soft regular and soft Lindelöf space. Let \((F_1, A)\) and \((F_2, A)\) be two disjoint soft closed sets in \((U, \tau, A)\). For each soft point \(e \in (F_1, A) \cap (F_2, A)\), and since \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft regular, there exists a soft open neighborhood \((G_2, A)\) of \(e\) such that \(e \in (G_2, A) \cap (F_2, A)\), that is, \((G_2, A) \cap (F_2, A) = \emptyset\). Then \(G = \{(G_2, A) : e \in (F_1, A)\}\). Then \(G\) is a soft open cover of \(U_A\). Since \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft Lindelöf, there exists a countable subcover \(\{G_{n_1}, A : n \in \mathbb{N}\}\) of \(U_A\). Therefore, \((U, \tau, A)\) is soft normal.

IV. CONCLUSION

In the present work, we have continued to study the properties of soft topological spaces. We mainly introduce soft first-countable spaces, soft second-countable spaces, soft separable spaces, and soft Lindelöf spaces. Moreover, we have also established several interesting results and presented its fundamental properties with the help of some examples. We hope that the findings in this paper will help researcher enhance and promote the further study on soft topology to carry out a general framework for their applications in practical life.

REFERENCES


