

P2-CONNECTEDNESS IN  $L$ -TOPOLOGICAL SPACES

S.-P. LI, Z. FANG, J. ZHAO

ABSTRACT. In this paper, a certain new connectedness of  $L$ -fuzzy subsets in  $L$ -topological spaces is introduced and studied by means of preclosed sets. It preserves some fundamental properties of connected set in general topology. Especially the famous K. Fan's Theorem holds.

## 1. Introduction

Connectivity is one of the important notions in general topology. There have been many works about connectedness in  $L$ -topological spaces (see [1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17] etc.). In [4], Bai introduced P-connectedness in  $L$ -topological spaces by means of preclosed sets.

In this paper, based on [15], we shall introduce a certain new connectedness in  $L$ -topological spaces by means of preclosed sets, which is called P2-connectedness. The P2-connectedness preserves some fundamental properties of connected sets in general topology. Especially the famous K. Fan's Theorem holds for P2-connectedness. We also shall discuss the relation between P-connectedness in [4] and P2-connectedness.

Throughout his paper  $(L, \vee, \wedge, ')$  is a completely distributive de Morgan algebra,  $X$  a nonempty set.  $L^X$  is the set of all  $L$ -fuzzy sets on  $X$ . The smallest element and the largest element in  $L^X$  are denoted by  $\underline{0}$  and  $\underline{1}$ .

An element  $a$  in  $L$  is called prime element if  $a \geq b \wedge c$  implies  $a \geq b$  or  $a \geq c$ . An element  $a$  in  $L$  is called a co-prime element if  $a'$  is a prime element [6]. The set of all nonzero co-prime elements in  $L$  is denoted by  $M(L)$ . The set of all nonzero co-prime elements in  $L^X$  is denoted by  $M(L^X)$ . For an  $L$ -fuzzy set  $D$ ,  $M(D)$  denotes the set of all nonzero co-prime elements contained in  $D$ .

An  $L$ -topological space (or  $L$ -space for short) is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ , where  $\mathcal{T}$  is a subfamily of  $L^X$  which contains  $\underline{0}$ ,  $\underline{1}$  and is closed for any suprema and finite infima.  $\mathcal{T}$  is called an  $L$ -topology on  $X$ . Each member of  $\mathcal{T}$  is called an open  $L$ -set and its quasi-complementation is called a closed  $L$ -set.

In an  $L$ -space  $(X, \delta)$ , an  $L$ -fuzzy set  $A$  is called a preclosed set if  $A \geq A^{\circ-}$ . The pre-closure of the  $L$ -fuzzy set  $A$  is the intersection of all preclosed sets containing  $A$ . It is denoted by  $pcl(A)$ . Two  $L$ -fuzzy sets  $A, B$  are called P-separated if  $pcl(A) \wedge B = A \wedge pcl(B) = \underline{0}$  [4].

**Definition 1.1.** [4] In an  $L$ -space  $(X, \delta)$ , an  $L$ -fuzzy set  $D$  is called P-connected if  $D$  cannot be represented as a union of two P-separated non-null sets.

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**Definition 1.2.** [4] For two  $L$ -spaces  $(X, \delta)$  and  $(Y, \tau)$ , a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a P-irresolute mapping if  $f^{\leftarrow}(B)$  is preclosed in  $(X, \delta)$  for each preclosed set  $B$  in  $(Y, \tau)$ .

**Lemma 1.3.** [15] Let  $A, B \in L^X$  and  $A \not\leq B$ . If  $1 \in M(L)$ , then  $A' \vee B \neq \underline{1}$ .

**Definition 1.4.** [15] In an  $L$ -space  $(X, \delta)$ , an  $L$ -fuzzy set  $D$  is called connected if there don't exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

## 2. P2-connectedness of $L$ -fuzzy sets

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an  $L$ -space,  $D \in L^X$ .  $D$  is called P2-connected if there don't exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

The following example is non-trivial for P2-connectedness.

**Example 2.2.** Let  $X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$ ,  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ ,  $L = [0, 1]$ . Defined fuzzy set  $(C_a, C_b) \in [0, 1]^X$  as follows:

$$(C_a, C_b)(x) = \begin{cases} a, & x \in X_1; \\ b, & x \in X_2. \end{cases}$$

Take

$$\gamma = \{(C_{0.4}, C_1), (C_1, C_{0.4}), (C_{0.5}, C_0), (C_0, C_{0.5}), (C_{0.7}, C_0), (C_0, C_{0.7})\}.$$

Let  $\delta$  be a  $[0,1]$ -topology generated by  $\gamma$  on  $X$ . Now we prove that  $(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})$  is P2-connected. In fact, suppose that  $(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})$  is not P2-connected. Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \not\leq A, (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \not\leq B, (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

This implies that

$$(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \not\leq A, (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \not\leq B, A \vee B = \underline{1}, A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Obviously  $A$  (or  $B$ ) satisfying  $A \wedge B = \underline{0}$  must be in  $\{(C_a, C_0), (C_0, C_a) \mid a \in [0.6, 0.7]\}$ . But any two preclosed sets in  $\{(C_a, C_0), (C_0, C_a) \mid a \in [0.6, 0.7]\}$  don't satisfy  $A \vee B = \underline{1}$ . Therefore  $(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})$  is P2-connected.

The following theorem gives some characterizations of P2-connectedness.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an  $L$ -space,  $D \in L^X$ . If  $1 \in M(L)$ , then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1)  $D$  is P2-connected.
- (2) There don't exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \wedge A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

- (3) There don't exist preopen sets  $U, V$  such that

$$D \not\leq U, D \not\leq V, D' \vee U \vee V = \underline{1}, D \wedge U \wedge V = \underline{0}.$$

(4) *There don't exist preopen sets  $U, V$  such that*

$$D \wedge U \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge V \neq \underline{0}, D' \vee U \vee V = \underline{1}, D \wedge U \wedge V = \underline{0}.$$

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Suppose that there exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \wedge A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Then obviously we have that

$$D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

In this case, we can prove that  $D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B$ . In fact, if  $D \leq A$ , then  $D \wedge A \wedge B = D \wedge B = \underline{0}$ , which contradicts  $D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Suppose that there exist preopen sets  $U, V$  such that

$$D \not\leq U, D \not\leq V, D' \vee U \vee V = \underline{1}, D \wedge U \wedge V = \underline{0}.$$

Put  $A = U', B = V'$ . Obviously we have that

$$D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

In this case, we can prove that  $D \wedge A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}$ . In fact, if  $D \wedge A = \underline{0}$ , then  $D' \vee U = D' \vee A' = \underline{1}$ , hence by Lemma 1.3 we obtain that  $D \leq U$ , which contradicts  $D \not\leq U$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) is analogous to (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2).

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) is analogous to (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). □

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $D$  be a P2-connected set in  $(X, \delta)$ . If  $D \leq E \leq pcl(D)$ , then  $E$  is also a P2-connected set.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $E$  is not P2-connected. Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$E \not\leq A, E \not\leq B, E' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, E \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Hence

$$D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{0}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

In fact, we also have that  $D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B$  (If  $D \leq A$ , then  $E \leq pcl(D) \leq A$ , which contradicts  $E \not\leq A$ ). This shows that  $D$  is not P2-connected in  $(X, \delta)$ , which contradicts that  $D$  is P2-connected. Therefore  $E$  is P2-connected. □

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an L-space and  $D, E \in L^X$ . Then  $D, E$  are P-separated if and only if there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that  $D \leq A, E \leq B$  and  $(D \vee E) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\Leftarrow$ ) If there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that  $D \leq A, E \leq B$  and  $(D \vee E) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}$ , then we have that

$$(D \wedge pcl(E)) \vee (pcl(D) \wedge E) \leq (D \wedge B) \vee (E \wedge A) = (D \vee E) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

This shows that  $D, E$  are P-separated.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $D, E$  are P-separated, then  $(D \wedge pcl(E)) \vee (pcl(D) \wedge E) = \underline{0}$ . Take  $A = pcl(D)$  and  $B = pcl(E)$ . Then

$$(D \vee E) \wedge A \wedge B = (D \vee E) \wedge pcl(D) \wedge pcl(E) = (D \wedge pcl(E)) \vee (pcl(D) \wedge E) = \underline{0}.$$

The proof is completed.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $D, E$  be two P2-connected  $L$ -fuzzy sets in an  $L$ -space  $(X, \delta)$ . If  $D, E$  are not P-separated, then  $D \vee E$  is P2-connected.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $D \vee E$  is not P2-connected. Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \vee E \not\leq A, D \vee E \not\leq B, (D \vee E)' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, (D \vee E) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Hence we have that

$$D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}, E' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, E \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

By  $D \vee E \not\leq A$  we have that  $D \not\leq A$  or  $E \not\leq A$ . Suppose that  $D \not\leq A$ . Then we must have that  $D \leq B$  since  $D$  is P2-connected. Further by  $D \vee E \not\leq B$  we obtain that  $E \not\leq B$ . In this case it follows that  $E \leq A$ . Therefore by  $(D \vee E) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}$  and Lemma 2.6 we know that  $D, E$  are P-separated, which contradicts that  $D, E$  are not P-separated. The proof is completed.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $\{D_t \mid t \in \Omega\}$  be a family of P2-connected  $L$ -fuzzy sets. If there is an  $s \in \Omega$  such that for each  $t \in \Omega - \{s\}$ ,  $D_t$  and  $D_s$  are not P-separated, then  $\bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t$  is P2-connected.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t$  is not P2-connected. Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$\bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t \not\leq A, \bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t \not\leq B, (\bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t)' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, (\bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Hence there exist  $t_1, t_2 \in \Omega$  such that

$$D_{t_1} \vee D_{t_2} \vee D_s \not\leq A, D_{t_1} \vee D_{t_2} \vee D_s \not\leq B, \\ (D_{t_1} \vee D_{t_2} \vee D_s)' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, (D_{t_1} \vee D_{t_2} \vee D_s) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

This shows that  $D_{t_1} \vee D_{t_2} \vee D_s$  is not P2-connected. But by Theorem 2.7 we know that  $D_{t_1} \vee D_{t_2} \vee D_s$  is P2-connected. Thus we obtain a contradiction. The proof is completed.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.8.** *Let  $\{D_t \mid t \in \Omega\}$  be a family of P2-connected  $L$ -fuzzy sets. If  $\bigwedge_{t \in \Omega} D_t \neq \underline{0}$ , then  $\bigvee_{t \in \Omega} D_t$  is P2-connected.*

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let  $f : (X, \delta) \rightarrow (Y, \tau)$  be a P-irresolute mapping. If  $D$  is P2-connected in  $(X, \delta)$ , then so is  $f(D)$  in  $(Y, \tau)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $f(D)$  is not P2-connected in  $(Y, \tau)$ . Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  in  $(Y, \tau)$  such that

$$f(D) \not\leq A, f(D) \not\leq B, f(D)' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, f(D) \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Thus by  $D \leq f^{-}(f(D))$  or  $D' \geq f^{-}(f(D)')$  we have that

$$D \not\leq f^{-}(A), D \not\leq f^{-}(B), D' \vee f^{-}(A) \vee f^{-}(B) = \underline{1}, D \wedge f^{-}(A) \wedge f^{-}(B) = \underline{0}.$$

Since  $f : (X, \delta) \rightarrow (Y, \tau)$  is a P-irresolute mapping, we know that  $f^{-}(A)$  and  $f^{-}(B)$  are preclosed sets in  $(X, \delta)$ . This shows that  $D$  is not P2-connected in

$(X, \tau)$ , which contradicts that  $D$  is P2-connected. Therefore  $f(D)$  is P2-connected in  $(Y, \tau)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.10.** *Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an  $L$ -space and  $D \in L^X$ . Then  $D$  is P2-connected if and only if for any two co-prime elements  $a, b \leq D$ , there exists a P2-connected set  $E$  such that  $a, b \leq E \leq D$ .*

*Proof.* The necessity is obvious. Now we prove the sufficiency. Suppose that  $D$  is not P2-connected in  $(X, \delta)$ . Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  in  $(X, \delta)$  such that

$$D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Take two co-prime elements  $a, b \leq D$  such that  $a \not\leq A$  and  $b \not\leq B$ . Let  $E$  be a P2-connected set satisfying  $a, b \leq E \leq D$ . We have that

$$E \not\leq A, E \not\leq B, E' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, E \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

This shows that  $E$  is not P2-connected in  $(X, \delta)$ , a contradiction. The proof is completed.  $\square$

Now we shall give K. Fan's theorem of P2-connectedness.

**Definition 2.11.** Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an  $L$ -space,  $D \in L^X$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  denote the set of all preclosed sets in  $(X, \delta)$ . A mapping  $P : M^*(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  is called a pre-remote neighborhood mapping on  $D$ , if for each  $e \in M^*(D)$ , it holds that  $e \not\leq P(e)$ .

**Example 2.12.** Let  $X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$ ,  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ ,  $L = [0, 1]$ . Defined fuzzy set  $(C_a, C_b) \in [0, 1]^X$  as follows:

$$(C_a, C_b)(x) = \begin{cases} a, & x \in X_1; \\ b, & x \in X_2. \end{cases}$$

Let

$$\delta = \{\emptyset, \underline{1}, (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})\}.$$

Then  $\delta$  is a  $[0, 1]$ -topology on  $X$ .  $\forall e \in M(L^X)$ , define

$$P(e) = \begin{cases} (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}), & \text{if } e \not\leq (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}); \\ \underline{0}, & \text{if } e \leq (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \end{cases}$$

Then  $P$  is a pre-remote neighborhood mapping.

**Theorem 2.13.** *Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an  $L$ -space and  $D \in L^X$ . Then  $D$  is P2-connected if and only if for any two co-prime elements  $a, b \in M^*(D)$  and any pre-remote neighborhood mapping  $P : M^*(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ , there exist finite many co-prime elements  $e_1 = a, e_2, \dots, e_n = b$  in  $D$  such that*

$$D' \vee P(e_i) \vee P(e_{i+1}) \neq \underline{1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1.$$

*Proof.*  $(\Leftarrow)$  Suppose that  $D$  is not P2-connected. Then there exist two preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Define a pre-remote neighborhood mapping  $P : M^*(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  such that

$$\forall e \in M^*(D), P(e) = \begin{cases} A, & \text{if } e \leq B; \\ B, & \text{if } e \not\leq B. \end{cases}$$

Take  $a, b \in M^*(D)$  such that  $a \not\leq A$  and  $b \not\leq B$ . Then for arbitrary finite many co-prime elements  $e_1 = a, e_2, \dots, e_n = b$  in  $D$ , there exists an  $i$  such that  $D' \vee P(e_i) \vee P(e_{i+1}) = \underline{1}$ , this contradicts the condition of Theorem. Thus the sufficiency is proved.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose that there exist two co-prime elements  $a, b \in M^*(D)$  and a pre-remote neighborhood mapping  $P : M^*(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  such that for arbitrary finite many co-prime elements  $e_1 = a, e_2, \dots, e_n = b$  in  $D$ , the following fact is not true:

$$D' \vee P(e_i) \vee P(e_{i+1}) \neq \underline{1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1.$$

In this case, we say that  $a$  and  $b$  cannot be linked. Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \{e \in M^*(D) \mid a \text{ and } e \text{ can be linked}\},$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \{e \in M^*(D) \mid a \text{ and } e \text{ cannot be linked}\},$$

Then  $\forall c \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\forall d \in \mathcal{B}$ , we have that

$$D' \vee P(c) \vee P(d) = \underline{1}.$$

Put

$$A = \bigwedge \{P(c) \mid c \in \mathcal{A}\}, \quad B = \bigwedge \{P(d) \mid d \in \mathcal{B}\}.$$

Obviously we have that

$$D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

This shows that  $D$  is not P2-connected. The necessity is proved.  $\square$

### 3. The relation among a few kinds of connectedness

Since a closed set must be a preclosed set, from Definition 1.4 we can obtain the following result.

**Theorem 3.1.** *A P2-connected  $L$ -fuzzy set must be connected.*

In general a connected  $L$ -fuzzy set needn't be P2-connected. This can be seen from the following example.

**Example 3.2.** Let  $X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$ ,  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ ,  $L = [0, 1]$ . Defined fuzzy set  $(C_a, C_b) \in [0, 1]^X$  as follows:

$$(C_a, C_b)(x) = \begin{cases} a, & x \in X_1; \\ b, & x \in X_2. \end{cases}$$

Take

$$\gamma = \{(C_{0.6}, C_0), (C_0, C_{0.6}), (C_{0.5}, C_1), (C_1, C_{0.5}), (C_{0.3}, C_1), (C_1, C_{0.3})\}.$$

Let  $\delta$  be the  $[0, 1]$ -topology generated by  $\gamma$  on  $X$ . It is easy to see  $\underline{1}$  is connected. But it is not P2-connected because there exist two preclosed sets  $(C_1, C_0)$  and  $(C_0, C_1)$  such that  $\underline{1} \not\leq (C_1, C_0)$ ,  $\underline{1} \not\leq (C_0, C_1)$ ,  $\underline{1}' \vee (C_1, C_0) \vee (C_0, C_1) = \underline{1}$ ,  $\underline{1} \wedge (C_1, C_0) \wedge (C_0, C_1) = \underline{0}$ .

In order to discuss the relation between P-connectedness and P2-connectedness, first we present two characterizations of P-connectedness.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $(X, \delta)$  be an L-space,  $D \in L^X$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

(1)  *$D$  is P-connected.*

(2) *There don't exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that*

$$D \wedge A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}, D \leq A \vee B, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

(3) *There don't exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that*

$$D \not\leq A, D \not\leq B, D \leq A \vee B, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Suppose that there exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \wedge A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}, D \leq A \vee B, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

Let  $A_1 = D \wedge A$  and  $B_1 = D \wedge B$ . Then obviously we have that

$$A_1 \neq \underline{0}, B_1 \neq \underline{0}, D = A_1 \vee B_1, (A_1 \wedge pcl(B_1)) \vee (pcl(A_1) \wedge B_1) = \underline{0}.$$

This shows that  $D$  is not P-connected.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose that  $D$  is not P-connected. Then there exist two non-null sets  $A, B$  such that  $D = A \vee B$  and  $A, B$  are P-separated. Let  $A_1 = pcl(A)$  and  $B_1 = pcl(B)$ . Then obviously we have that

$$D \wedge A_1 = A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B_1 = B \neq \underline{0}, D \leq A_1 \vee B_1,$$

and

$$D \wedge A_1 \wedge B_1 = (A_1 \wedge pcl(B_1)) \vee (pcl(A_1) \wedge B_1) = \underline{0}.$$

This shows that (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) is true.

(2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) is obvious. □

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $1 \in M(L)$ . If  $D$  is P-connected, then it also is P2-connected.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $D$  is not P2-connected. Then there exist preclosed sets  $A, B$  such that

$$D \wedge A \neq \underline{0}, D \wedge B \neq \underline{0}, D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}, D \wedge A \wedge B = \underline{0}.$$

By  $D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1}$  and Lemma 1.3 we can obtain that  $D \leq A \vee B$ . This shows that  $D$  is not P-connected. The proof is obtained. □

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $D$  be a crisp subset in  $(X, \delta)$ . Then  $D$  is P-connected if and only if it is P2-connected.*

*Proof.* This can be obtained from the following fact. For a crisp subset  $D$ ,

$$D' \vee A \vee B = \underline{1} \Leftrightarrow D \leq A \vee B.$$

□

In general, P2-connectedness doesn't imply P-connectedness. This can be seen from the following example.

**Example 3.6.** In Example 2.2 we have seen that  $(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})$  is P2-connected. Now we shall prove that it is not P-connected. In fact, it is easy to see that both  $(C_{0.6}, C_0)$  and  $(C_0, C_{0.6})$  are preclosed sets and

$$(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \not\leq (C_{0.6}, C_0), (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \not\leq (C_0, C_{0.6}),$$

$$(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \leq (C_{0.6}, C_0) \vee (C_0, C_{0.6}), (C_{0.5}, C_{0.5}) \wedge (C_{0.6}, C_0) \wedge (C_0, C_{0.6}) = \underline{0}.$$

Therefore  $(C_{0.5}, C_{0.5})$  is not P-connected.

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SHU-PING LI\*, DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MUDANJIANG TEACHERS COLLEGE, MUDANJIANG, HEILONGJIANG 157012, P.R. CHINA  
*E-mail address:* lishuping46@hotmail.com or lishuping46@126.com

ZHENG FANG, DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DAQING TEACHERS COLLEGE, DAQING, HEILONGJIANG 157012, P.R. CHINA  
*E-mail address:* fangzhengdq-1@163.com

JIE ZHAO, DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MUDANJIANG TEACHERS COLLEGE, MUDANJIANG, HEILONGJIANG 157012, P.R. CHINA

\*CORRESPONDING AUTHOR