



# Mildly $\alpha^*$ -Normal Spaces and $rg\alpha^*$ -Continuous Functions

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**Abstract:** The aim this paper is to establish and study a new class of spaces, called mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal spaces. The relationship with among normal, almost normal, quasi normal, mildly normal,  $\pi$ -normal spaces and their generalizations are investigated. Moreover, we establish  $rg\alpha^*$ -continuous functions. Utilizing  $rg\alpha^*$ -continuity, we obtain characterizations and preservation theorems for mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal spaces.

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## 1. Introduction

In 1968, the notion of quasi normal space was introduced by Zaitsev [15]. In 1970, Levine [7] initiated the study of so called generalized closed (briefly  $g$ -closed) sets in order to extend many of the most important properties of closed sets to a large family. In 1968, Singal and Singal [12] introduced Almost continuous functions. In 1970, Singal and Arya [11] introduced Almost normal and almost completely regular spaces. In 1972, Shchepin [10] introduced the notion of mildly normal space and in 1973, Singal and Singal [13] independently. In 1990, Lal and Rahman [6] have further studied notions of quasi normal and mildly normal spaces. In 2000, Dontchev and Noiri [1] introduced the notion of  $\pi g$ -closed sets. By using  $\pi g$ -closed sets, Dontchev and Noiri [1] obtained a new characterization of quasi normal spaces. In 2008, Kalantan [5] introduced a weaker version of normality called  $\pi$ -normality and proved that  $\pi$ -normality is a property which lies between normality and almost normality. In 2013, Thakur C. K. Raman et al. [14] introduced the concepts of  $\alpha^*$ -generalized and  $\alpha^*$ -separation axioms in topological spaces. Recently, Jitendra Kumar et al. [3] established the concept of  $rgg^*$ -continuous functions and mildly  $g^*$ -normal spaces in topological spaces.

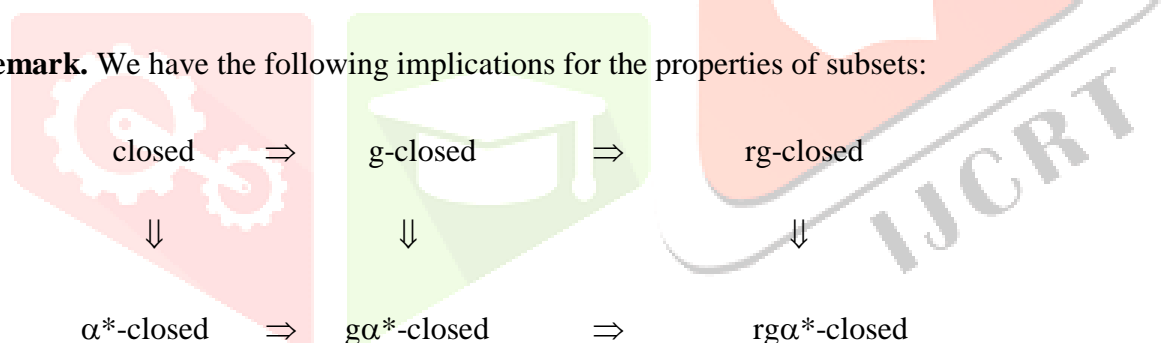
## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, spaces  $(X, \tau)$ ,  $(Y, \sigma)$ , and  $(Z, \gamma)$  (or simply  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$ ) 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  $\text{cl}(A)$  and  $\text{int}(A)$  respectively. A subset  $A$  is said to be **regular open** (resp. **regular closed**) if  $A = \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$  (resp.  $A = \text{cl}(\text{int}(A))$ ). The finite union of regular open sets is said to be  **$\pi$ -open**. The complement of a  $\pi$ -open set is said to be  **$\pi$ -closed**.  $A$  is said to be  **$\alpha^*$ -closed** [14] if  $\alpha\text{-cl}(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U$  is  $\alpha$ g-open in  $X$ . The complement of a  $\alpha^*$ -closed set is said to be  $\alpha^*$ -open. The intersection of all  $\alpha^*$ -closed sets containing  $A$  is called  **$\alpha^*$ -closure** of  $A$ , and is denoted by  **$\alpha^*\text{-cl}(A)$**  [2]. The  **$\alpha^*$ -interior** of  $A$ , denoted by  **$\alpha^*\text{-int}(A)$**  [2], is defined as union of all  $\alpha^*$ -open sets contained in  $A$ .

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

- (1) **generalized closed** (briefly **g-closed**) [7] if  $\text{cl}(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U \in \tau$ .
- (2) **regular generalized closed** (briefly **rg-closed**) [9] if  $\text{cl}(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U$  is regular open in  $X$ .
- (3)  **$\alpha^*$ -closed** [14] if  $\alpha\text{-cl}(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U$  is  $\alpha$ g-open in  $X$ .
- (4) **generalized  $\alpha^*$ -closed** (briefly  **$g\alpha^*$ -closed** [2])) if  $\alpha^*\text{-cl}(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U$  is  $\alpha^*$ g-open in  $X$ .
- (5) **regular generalized  $\alpha^*$ -closed** (briefly  **$rg\alpha^*$ -closed**) if  $\alpha^*\text{-cl}(A) \subset U$  whenever  $A \subset U$  and  $U$  is regular open in  $X$ .
- (6) **g-open** (resp. **rg-open**,  **$g\alpha^*$ -open**,  **$rg\alpha^*$ -open**) if the complement of  $A$  is g-closed (resp. rg-closed,  $g\alpha^*$ -closed,  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed)

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



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

**2.3 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{b\}$  is g-closed but it is not closed.

**2.4 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\mathfrak{T} = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{b\}$  is g-closed as well as  $\alpha$ g-closed. Hence  $A$  is  $g\alpha^*$ -closed. But it is not closed.

**2.5 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\mathfrak{T} = \{\emptyset, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{a, c\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{a\}$  is  $\alpha$ -closed as well as  $\alpha$ g-closed. Hence  $A$  is  $g\alpha^*$ -closed. But it is not closed.

**2.6 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\mathfrak{T} = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{a, b\}$  is rg-closed as well as  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed. Hence  $A$  is  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed. But it is not  $\alpha$ g-closed.

**2.7 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\mathfrak{T} = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{a, b\}$  is  $g$ -closed as well as  $\alpha g$ -closed. But it is not  $\alpha$ -closed.

**2.8 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\mathfrak{T} = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, X\}$ . Then  $A = \{a, b\}$  is  $rg\alpha$ -closed as well as  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed. But it is not closed.

## 2.9 Lemma

A subset  $A$  of a space  $X$  is  $rg\alpha^*$ -open if and only if  $F \subset \alpha^*\text{-int}(A)$  whenever  $F$  is a regular closed and  $F \subset A$ .

## 3. Mildly $\alpha^*$ -normal Spaces

### 3.1 Definition

A topological space  $X$  is said to be **quasi  $\alpha^*$ -normal** [2] (resp. **quasi-normal** [15]) if for every pair of disjoint  $\pi$ -closed subsets  $H, K$ , there exist disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open (resp. open,  $p$ -open) sets  $U, V$  of  $X$  such that  $H \subset U$  and  $K \subset V$ .

### 3.2 Definition

A topological space  $X$  is said to be **mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal** (resp. **mildly-normal** [7, 10]) if for every pair of disjoint regular closed subsets  $H, K$ , there exist disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open (resp. open,  $p$ -open) sets  $U, V$  of  $X$  such that  $H \subset U$  and  $K \subset V$ .

### 3.3 Definition

A topological space  $X$  is said to be **almost  $\alpha^*$ -normal** [4] (resp. **almost normal** [11]) if for any two disjoint closed subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $X$ , one of which is regular closed, there exist disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open (resp. open,  $p$ -open) sets  $U, V$  of  $X$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ .

**3.4 Example** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, X\}$ . Then  $(X, \tau)$  is almost  $\alpha^*$ -normal space, but it is not  $\alpha^*$ -normal, since the pair of disjoint closed sets  $\{b\}$  and  $\{c\}$  have no disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets containing them.

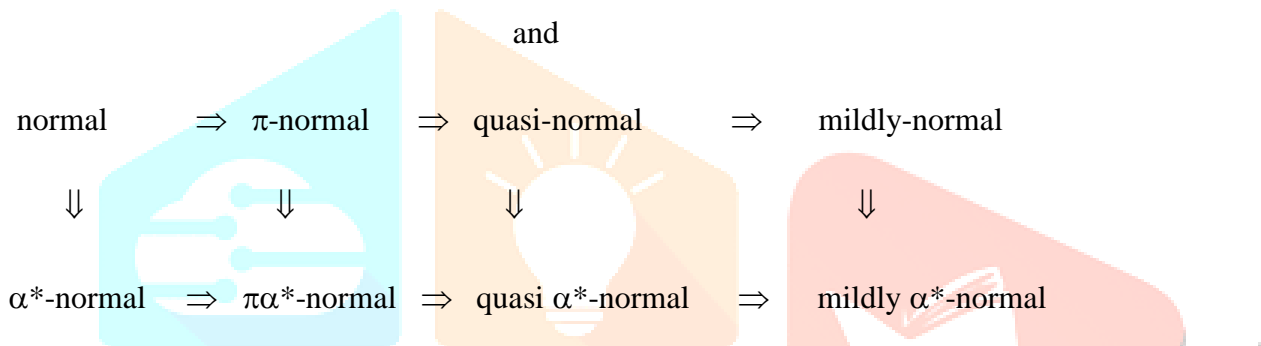
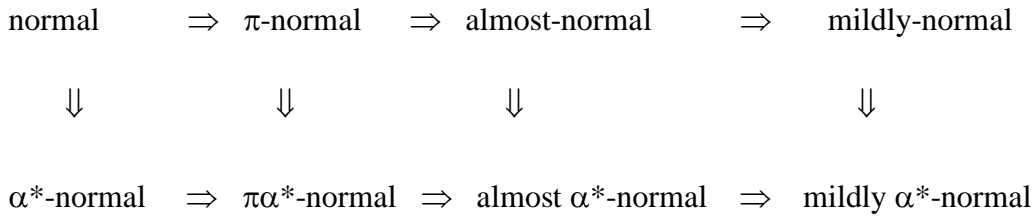
**3.5 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{d\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, d\}, \{b, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, X\}$ . Then  $X$  is  $rg$ -normal.

**3.6 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, d\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{b, c, d\}, X\}$ . The pair of disjoint  $\pi$ -closed subsets of  $X$  are  $A = \{a\}$  and  $B = \{c\}$ . Also  $U = \{a\}$  and  $V = \{b, c, d\}$  are disjoint open sets such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ . Hence  $X$  is quasi-normal as well as quasi  $\alpha^*$ -normal because every open set is  $\alpha^*$ -open set.

**3.7 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, X\}$ .  $(X, \tau)$  is almost normal space, but it is not normal.

**3.8 Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $\tau = \{\phi, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{a, b\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, X\}$ . The pair of disjoint regularly closed subsets of  $X$  are  $A = \{c\}$  and  $B = \{d\}$ . Also  $U = \{b, c\}$  and  $V = \{a, d\}$  are  $\alpha^*$ -open sets such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ . Hence  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal. But the space  $X$  is neither mildly normal nor normal, since  $U$  and  $V$  are not open sets.

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



**3.9 Theorem.**

The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :

- 1)  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal.
- 2) For every pair of regularly open sets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  whose union is  $X$ , there exist  $\alpha^*$ -closed sets  $A, B$  such that  $A \subset U, B \subset V$  and  $A \cup B = X$ .
- 3) For every regularly closed set  $F$  and every regularly open set  $G$  containing  $F$ , there exists a  $\alpha^*$ -open set  $U$  such that  $F \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset G$ .

**Proof:** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Let  $U$  and  $V$  be a pair of regularly open sets in a mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal space  $X$  such that  $X = U \cup V$ . Then  $X - U, X - V$  are disjoint regularly closed sets. Since  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal, there exist disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U_1$  and  $V_1$  such that  $X - U \subset U_1$  and  $X - V \subset V_1$ . Let  $A = X - U_1, B = X - V_1$ . Then  $A, B$  are  $\alpha^*$ -closed sets such that  $A \subset U, B \subset V$  and  $A \cup B = X$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Let  $F$  be a regularly closed set and  $G$  be a regularly open set containing  $F$ . Then  $X - F$  and  $G$  are regularly open sets whose union is  $X$ . Then by (2), there exist  $\alpha^*$ -closed sets  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  such that  $W_1 \subset X - F$  and  $W_2 \subset G$  and  $W_1 \cup W_2 = X$ . Then  $F \subset X - W_1, X - G \subset X - W_2$  and  $(X - W_1) \cap (X - W_2) = \phi$ . Let  $U = X - W_1$  and  $V = X - W_2$ . Then  $U$  and  $V$  are disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets such that  $F \subset U \subset X - V \subset G$ . As  $X - V$  is  $\alpha^*$ -closed set, we have  $\alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset X - V$  and  $F \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset G$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be two disjoint regularly closed sets of  $X$ . Put  $G = X - F_1$ , then  $F_1 \cap G = \phi, F_1 \subset G$ , where  $G$  is a regularly open set. Then by (3), there exists a  $\alpha^*$ -open set  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $F_1 \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset G$ . It follows that  $F_2 \subset X - \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) = V$ , says, then  $V$  is  $\alpha^*$ -open and  $U \cap V = \phi$ . Hence  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are separated by  $\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$ . Therefore  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal.

### 3.10 Theorem.

The following are equivalent for a space  $X$ :

- 1)  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal.
- 2) For any disjoint regular closed sets  $A$  and  $B$ , there exist disjoint  $g\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ .
- 3) For disjoint regular closed sets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $X$ , there exist disjoint  $rg\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ .
- 4) For any regular closed set  $A$  and any regular open set  $V$  containing  $A$ , there exists a  $g\alpha^*$ -open set  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $H \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset V$ .
- 5) For any regular closed set  $A$  and any regular open set  $V$  containing  $A$ , there exists a  $rg\alpha^*$ -open set  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $A \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset V$ .

#### Proof:

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2), (2) $\Rightarrow$ (3), (3) $\Rightarrow$ (4), (4) $\Rightarrow$ (5) and (5) $\Rightarrow$ (1).

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2). Let  $X$  be mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal space. Let  $A, B$  be disjoint regular closed sets of  $X$ . By assumption, there exist disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U, V$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ . Since every  $\alpha^*$ -open set is  $g\alpha^*$ -open, so,  $U$  and  $V$  are  $g\alpha^*$ -open sets such that  $H \subset U$  and  $K \subset V$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3). Let  $A, B$  be two disjoint regular closed sets. By assumption, there exist  $g\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ . Since  $g\alpha^*$ -open set is  $rg\alpha^*$ -open, so,  $U$  and  $V$  are  $rg\alpha^*$ -open such that  $H \subset U$  and  $K \subset V$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4). Let  $A$  be any regular closed set and  $V$  be any regular open set containing  $A$ . By assumption, there exist  $rg\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $W$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $X - V \subset W$ . By **Lemma 2.9**, we get  $X - V \subset \alpha^*\text{-int}(W)$  and  $U \cap \alpha^*\text{-int}(W) = \phi$ . Therefore, we obtain  $\alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \cap \alpha^*\text{-int}(W) = \phi$  and hence  $A \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset X - \alpha^*\text{-int}(W) \subset V$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (5). Let  $A$  be any regular closed set and  $V$  be any regular open set containing  $A$ . By assumption, there exist  $g\alpha^*$ -open set  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $H \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset V$ . Since, every  $g\alpha^*$ -open set is  $rg\alpha^*$ -open, there exist  $rg\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $H \subset U \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(U) \subset V$ .

(5) $\Rightarrow$ (1). Let  $A, B$  be any two disjoint regular closed sets of  $X$ . Then  $H \subset X - K$  and  $X - B$  is regular open. By assumption, there exists  $rg\alpha^*$ -open set  $G$  of  $X$  such that  $A \subset G \subset \alpha^*\text{-cl}(G) \subset X - B$ . Put  $U = \alpha^*\text{-int}(G)$ ,  $V = X - \alpha^*\text{-cl}(G)$ . Then  $U$  and  $V$  are disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets of  $X$  such that  $A \subset U$  and  $B \subset V$ .

Using **Theorem 3.10**, it is easy to produce the following theorem, which is a Urysohns Lemma version for mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal. A proof can be introduced by a similar way of the normal case.

### 3.11 Theorem

A space  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal iff for every pair of disjoint regularly closed sets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $X$ , there exists a continuous function  $f$  on  $X$  into  $[0, 1]$ , with its usual topology, such that  $f(A) = \{0\}$  and  $f(B) = \{1\}$ .

It is easy to see that the inverse image of a regularly closed set under an open continuous function is regularly closed. It will use in the next theorem.

### 3.12 Theorem

Let  $X$  is a mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal space and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is an open continuous injective function. Then  $f(X)$  is a softly normal space.

**Proof.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be any two regularly closed subset of  $f(X)$  such that  $A \cap B = \phi$ . Then  $f^{-1}(A)$  and  $f^{-1}(B)$  regularly closed sets of  $X$ . Since  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal, there are two disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $f^{-1}(A) \subset U$  and  $f^{-1}(B) \subset V$ . Since  $f$  is one-one and open, since every open set is  $\alpha^*$ -open set, result follows.

### 3.13 Corollary

Mild  $\alpha^*$ -normality is a topological property.

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

- 1)  **$rg\alpha^*$ -continuous** if  $f^{-1}(F)$  is  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed in  $X$  for every closed set  $F$  of  $Y$ .
- 2)  **$\alpha^*$ - $rg\alpha^*$ -continuous** if  $f^{-1}(F)$  is  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed in  $X$  for every  $\alpha^*$ -closed set  $F$  of  $Y$ .
- 3)  **$rg\alpha^*$ -irresolute** if  $f^{-1}(F)$  is  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed in  $X$  for every  $rg\alpha^*$ -closed set  $F$  of  $Y$ .
- 4) **rc-preserving [8]** (resp. **almost closed [12]**) if  $f(F)$  is regular closed (resp. closed) in  $Y$  for every regular closed set  $F$  of  $X$ .

### 3.15 Theorem

If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a  $\alpha^*$ - $rg\alpha^*$ -continuous, rc-preserving injection and  $Y$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal then  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal.

**Proof.** Consider  $A$  and  $B$  be any disjoint regular closed sets of  $X$ . Since  $f$  is an rc-preserving injection,  $f(A)$  and  $f(B)$  are disjoint regular closed sets of  $Y$ . By mild  $\alpha^*$ -normality of  $Y$ , there exist disjoint  $\alpha^*$ -open sets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $Y$  such that  $f(A) \subset U$  and  $f(B) \subset V$ . Since  $f$  is  $\alpha^*$ - $rg\alpha^*$ -continuous,  $f^{-1}(U)$  and  $f^{-1}(V)$  are disjoint  $rg\alpha^*$ -open sets containing  $A$  and  $B$  respectively. Hence by **Theorem 3.10**,  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal.

### 3.16 Theorem

If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a  $\alpha^*$ - $rg\alpha^*$  continuous, almost closed surjection and  $Y$  is  $\alpha^*$ -normal space, then  $X$  is mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal.

**Proof.** Similar to preceding one.

## 4. Conclusion

In this paper, we established a new class of spaces, called mildly  $\alpha^*$ -normal spaces and introduced their relationships with some weak forms of normal spaces like normal, almost normal, quasi normal, mildly normal,  $\pi$ -normal spaces and their generalizations in topological spaces.

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