

# On Fuzzy Star Refinement of Open Covering and imensions of Fuzzy Topological Spaces.

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## **Abstract:**

In this paper the concepts of star-refinement and strongly star-refinement of covering are extended to fuzzy topological space in the sense of Chang, basic theorem for covering dimension of normal fuzzy topological space is proved . Also, the small inductive dimension function is extended to fuzzy topological space, and some results for this inductive dimension in Chang<sup>'s</sup> space are obtained .

**Keywords:** Fuzzy topology, star-refinement, covering dimension ,small inductive dimension,

## 1.Introduction :

The concept of fuzzy set was introduced and studied by Zadeh [16] and the concept of fuzzy topological spaces by Chang [5]. Many mathematicians have contributed to the development of fuzzy topological spaces. The concept of covering dimension, small inductive dimension and large inductive dimension were studied by many authors [1,2,3,4,6] they used the notion of fuzzy covering of Chang's spaces and Generalized Chang's spaces (GF-Space) for inductive space. In section 3 of this paper we introduce the concept of star-refinement and strongly star-refinement of fuzzy covering, and then by using the concept of covering dimension (see [3,6,12]) and its extension to fuzzy setting that used in [4], we obtained result for fuzzy normal topological space.

In Section 4 the small inductive dimension function for fuzzy topological spaces is introduced and studied, several results are obtained.

## 2.Preliminaries:

Throughout this paper  $X$  will be a non-empty set of points, a fuzzy set  $A$  in  $X$  is characterized by a membership function  $\mu_A$  from  $X$  to the closed unit interval  $I = [0,1]$ ,  $\mu_A(x)$  is denoted to the grade of membership of  $x$  in  $A$ . The grades 1 and 0 representing respectively full membership and non-membership in a fuzzy set  $A$  denoted by  $0_X$ ,  $1_X$  respectively.

Clearly an ordinary set is a special case of fuzzy set, any subset of  $X$  can be regarded as a fuzzy set in  $X$  called crisp fuzzy set. A fuzzy point  $p_{x_0}^\alpha$  in  $X$  is a special fuzzy set in  $X$  with membership function defined by:  $\mu_{p_{x_0}^\alpha}(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha, & \text{if } x = x_0, \\ 0, & \text{if } x \neq x_0 \end{cases}$ ,

where  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $p_{x_0}^\alpha$  is said to have support  $x_0$ , value  $\alpha$ , and is denoted by  $p_{x_0}^\alpha$  or  $p$ .

$p_{x_0}^\alpha \subset A$  if and only if  $\alpha \leq \mu_A(x_0)$ , in particular  $p_{x_0}^\alpha \subset p_{y_0}^\beta$  if and only if  $x_0 = y_0$ ,  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . Other properties of fuzzy sets can be found in [3,16].

**Definition 2.1**<sup>[5]</sup>: A family  $\tau$  of fuzzy sets in  $X$ , which satisfy the following conditions:

- (1)  $0_X, 1_X \in \tau$
- (2) If  $A, B \in \tau$ , then  $A \cap B \in \tau$
- (3) If  $A_\lambda \in \tau$  for each  $\lambda$  in  $\Lambda$ , then  $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} A_\lambda \in \tau$

is called a fuzzy topology for  $X$ , and the pair  $(X, \tau)$  is a fuzzy topological space (or fts for short). We sometimes write  $\mathbf{X}$  or  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \tau)$ .

Also Chang's fuzzy topological space are generally referred to as Chang's spaces.

Every member of  $\tau$  is called a  $\tau$ -open fuzzy set (or simply open fuzzy set) and its complement is a  $\tau$ -closed fuzzy set (or simply closed fuzzy set).

As an ordinary topology, the indiscrete fuzzy topology contains only  $0_X$  and  $1_X$  (i.e.  $\emptyset$  and  $X$ ), while the discrete fuzzy topology contains all fuzzy sets.

**Definition 2.2** An open fuzzy set  $A$  in fts  $X$  is said to be clopen if its complement  $1_X - A$  is an open.

**Definition 2.3**<sup>[5]</sup> Let  $A$  be a fuzzy set in fts  $X$ . The closure  $\bar{A}$  and interior  $A^\circ$  of  $A$  are defined, respectively by

$\bar{A} = \bigcap \{F : A \subseteq F, F \text{ is closed fuzzy set}\}$ , i.e. the intersection of all closed fuzzy sets containing  $A$ , and  $A^\circ = \bigcup \{U : U \subseteq A, U \text{ is open fuzzy set}\}$ , i.e. the union of all open fuzzy sets contained in  $A$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are fuzzy sets in a fts  $X$  one can verify that:

- (i)  $A$  is open (resp. closed) in  $X$  if and only if  $A = A^\circ$  (resp.  $A = \bar{A}$ )
- (ii)  $A \subset B$  then  $A^\circ \subset B^\circ$  and  $\bar{A} \subset \bar{B}$
- (iii)  $\bar{A} = 1_X - (1_X - A)^\circ$ .

The concept of the boundary of fuzzy subset was introduced and studied by Warren [14], as in the following definition.

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy set in an fts  $X$ . The fuzzy boundary of  $A$  denoted by  $\partial(A)$  is defined as the infimum of all the closed fuzzy sets  $F$  in  $X$  with the property,  $F(x) \geq \bar{A}(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ , for which  $(\bar{A} \cap \bar{A}^c)(x) > 0$ .

It follows from this definition that  $\partial A$  is a closed fuzzy set, Since  $\overline{A} \subseteq \overline{A}$  it follows that,  $\partial A \subseteq \overline{A}$ .

The following results of Warren [14] are needed in the sequel.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be fuzzy sets in an fts  $\mathbf{X}$ . Then the following results are hold :

- (1)  $\partial(A) = 0$  if and only if  $A$  is open, closed, and crisp.
- (2)  $\partial(A \cap B) \leq \partial(A) \cup \partial(B)$ .

For other undefined elementary concepts and notions in this paper ,we refer to [3,10 ,13].

**Definition 2.6** A fts.  $\mathbf{X}$  is said to be normal fuzzy topological space (N-fts. for short) if and only if for every closed fuzzy set  $F$  in  $\mathbf{X}$  and every open fuzzy set  $U$  in  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $F \subseteq U$ , there exists an open fuzzy set  $V$  in  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $F \subseteq V \subseteq \overline{V} \subseteq U$ .

**Definition 2.7**<sup>[5]</sup> A family  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_\lambda: \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  of open fuzzy sets in fuzzy topological space  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \tau)$  is a fuzzy covering (or covering for short) of a fuzzy set  $A$  if and only if  $A \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} U_\lambda$ .

A sub covering of an open fuzzy covering  $\mathbf{U}$  of  $A$  is a subfamily of  $\mathbf{U}$  which is still an open fuzzy covering of  $A$ .

According to the definition (2-7) and [3], we give the following definition:

**Definition 2.8** The family  $\mathbf{U}$  in Definition (2.6) is a fuzzy covering (or. covering for short) of  $1_X$  if and only if  $\bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} U_\lambda = 1_X$ , and we say that  $\mathbf{U}$  is a covering of fts  $\mathbf{X}$ , and a collection  $\mathbf{V} = \{V_\alpha : \alpha \in \Delta\}$  is said to be refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$  if  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Delta} V_\alpha = 1_X$ , and each  $V_\alpha$  is contained in some members  $U_\lambda$  of  $\mathbf{U}$ .

**Definition 2.9**<sup>[5]</sup> A fuzzy set  $A$  in fts.  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \tau)$  is fuzzy compact (or compact for short) if and only if each covering of  $A$  has a finite sub covering, and the fts  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \tau)$  is compact if and only if each open covering of  $1_X$  has a finite sub covering.

Two fuzzy sets  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be overlapping (quasi-coincident) if there exists  $x$  in  $X$  such that  $\mu_A(x) + \mu_B(x) > 1$ . In this case  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be overlap at  $x$ .  $A$  and  $B$  are non-overlapping (disquasi-coincident) if  $A$  and  $B$  are not overlapping.

**Definition 2.10**<sup>[4]</sup> Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. A family  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  of fuzzy sets in  $X$  is said to be overlapping family if there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\mu_{U_\alpha}(x) + \mu_{U_\beta}(x) > 1$ , for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Lambda$ . A family  $\{U_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  is non-overlapping if it is not

overlapping, that is for every  $x \in X$ , there exist  $\alpha, \beta \in \Lambda$ .  
 Such that  $\mu_{U_\alpha}(x) + \mu_{U_\beta}(x) \leq 1$

The following definition based on the notion of overlapping (quasi- coincident) and it is more suitable for the fuzzy setting.

**Definition 2.11**<sup>[4]</sup> Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. A family  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  of fuzzy sets in  $X$  is said to be of order  $n$  ( $n > -1$ ) written  $\text{ord}_f \mathbf{U} = n$ , if  $n$  is largest integer such that there exists an overlapping subfamily of  $\mathbf{U}$  having  $n + 1$  elements.

**Remark 2.12** From the above definition if  $\text{ord}_f \mathbf{U} = n$  then for each  $n + 2$  distinct indexes  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{n+2} \in \Lambda$ , we have  $U_{\lambda_1} \cap U_{\lambda_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_{n+2}} = \emptyset$ . Then it is non-overlapping, in particular if  $\text{ord}_f \mathbf{U} = -1$ , then  $\mathbf{U}$  consists of the empty fuzzy sets and  $\text{ord}_f \mathbf{U} = 0$ , then  $\mathbf{U}$  consist of pair wise disjoint fuzzy sets which are not all empty.

Ajmal and Kohli[4] introduced the notion of fuzzy covering dimension by the following definition:

**Definition 2.13:** The covering dimension of a fts  $\mathbf{X}$  denoted  $\text{dim}_f(\mathbf{X})$  is the least integer  $n$  such that every finite open cover of  $1_X$  has a finite open refinement of order not exceeding  $n$  or  $+\infty$  if there exists no such integer.

Thus it follows that  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) = -1$  if and only if  $X = \emptyset$  and  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n$  if every finite open cover of  $1_X$  has a finite open refinement of order  $\leq n$ . We have  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) = n$  if it is true that  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n$ , but it is false that  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n - 1$ . Finally  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) = +\infty$  if for every positive integer  $n$  it is false that  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n$ .

**Remark 2.14:** The notion of covering dimension of a fts  $\mathbf{X}$  is a fuzzy topological invariant. Moreover, the covering dimension of a topological space is  $n$  if and only if the covering dimension of its characteristic fts is  $n$ .

### 3. Fuzzy star refinement of open Covering.

Now, we give the following definition for star refinement and strongly star-refinement of open Covering :

**Definition 3.1** Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be fts. and  $\mathbf{V} = \{V_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\}$ ,  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_\lambda; \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be two fuzzy open covering of  $1_X$  we say  $\mathbf{V}$  is a fuzzy star refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$  if the covering  $st(p_x^\sigma, \mathbf{V})$  is a refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$ . where

$st(p_x^\sigma, \mathbf{V}) = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \{V_\gamma \in \mathbf{V} : p_x^\sigma \in V_\gamma\}$  . i.e.  $V_\gamma \subset U_\lambda$  for some  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and for each  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .



Also we say that  $\mathbf{V}$  is a fuzzy **strongly star – refinement** of  $\mathbf{U}$  if the covering  $\text{st}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{V})$  is a refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$ . i.e. every open fuzzy set  $V \in \mathbf{V}$  there exist an open fuzzy set  $U \in \mathbf{U}$  such that  $\text{st}(V, \mathbf{V}) \subset U$ , where  $\text{st}(V, \mathbf{V})$  denotes the star of the set  $V$  with respect to the cover  $\mathbf{U}$ . i.e.  $\text{st}(V, \mathbf{V}) = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \{V_\gamma \in \mathbf{V} : V \cap V_\gamma \neq \emptyset\}$ , for some  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and for each  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

It is easy to verify the following lemma.

**Lemm3.2.** Every finite open cover of normal fuzzy topological spaces  $\mathbf{X}$  has a finite open star refinement.

Now, we prove the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.3** A normal fuzzy topological space  $\mathbf{X}$  satisfies  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n$  if each finite open covering of  $1_X$  has a fuzzy star finite open refinement which is finite fuzzy open covering of  $1_X$  of order  $\leq n$ .

**Proof** Suppose  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n$ , for a normal fts.  $\mathbf{X}$  let  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  be a fuzzy open covering of  $1_X$ , and since  $\mathbf{X}$  is normal, there exists a fuzzy closed cover  $\mathbf{F} = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k\}$  of  $1_X$  such that  $F_i \subset U_i$ , then  $F_i \subset U_i \subset 1_X$  which implies that  $1_X - F_i = F_i^c$ .

Let  $\Delta$  be the set of non-empty subset of  $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . For each  $\delta$  in  $\Delta$  let  $V_\delta = \left(\bigcap_{i \in \delta} U_i\right) \cap \left(\bigcap_{i \notin \delta} 1_X - F_i\right)$  where

$\delta = \{i : p_x^\sigma \in U_i\}$ , Now if  $p_x^\sigma$  is fuzzy point in  $\mathbf{X}$  i.e.  $p_x^\sigma \subseteq 1_X$ , Then  $p_x^\sigma \subseteq V_\delta$ . since  $p_x^\sigma \subseteq \bigcup V_\delta$ . if and only if  $\exists \delta \in \Delta, p_x^\sigma \subseteq V_\delta$ . Thus  $\mathbf{V} = \{V_\delta\}_{\delta \in \Delta}$  is a finite open cover of  $1_X$ , furthermore  $\mathbf{V}$  is star- refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$ .

For if  $p_x^\sigma$  is fuzzy point in  $1_X$  then  $p_x^\sigma \subseteq F_j$  for some  $j$ , since  $1_X = \bigcup_{j \in \Delta} F_j$ , and if  $p_x^\sigma \subseteq V_\delta$  then  $V_\delta \cap F_j \neq \emptyset$ , thus

$j \in \delta = \{j : p_x^\sigma \in U_j\}$ , and since  $F_j \subset U_j$ ,  $\mathbf{X}$  is normal there is  $V_\delta$  in  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $p_x^\sigma \in F_j \subseteq V_\sigma \subseteq \overline{V_\sigma} \subseteq U_j$  so that  $V_\delta \subset V_j$ . Hence  $st(p_x^\sigma, \mathbf{V}) \subset U_j$  .i.e.  $\bigcup \{V_\delta \in \mathbf{V} : p_x^\sigma \in V_\delta\} \subset U_j$ .

Now, since  $\dim_f(\mathbf{X}) \leq n$ , there exists a finite open refinement  $\mathbf{W}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  such that the order of  $\mathbf{W}$  does not exceed  $n$ , since  $\mathbf{V}$  is star- refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$ , it follows that  $\mathbf{W}$  is star- refinement of  $\mathbf{U}$ . ■

## 4.Small inductive Dimension

In [3] we studied the dimension function of Generalized fuzzy topological spaces (GFS( $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $\varphi$ )) that dimension function are small inductive dimension and large inductive dimension, in particular for small inductive dimension the following theorems and their proofs have been introduced in [1, 2, 3, 6]

**Theorem 4.1** If  $\mathbf{X} = (X, A, \tau, \varphi)$  and  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y, B, \sigma, \psi)$ , are two GF-spaces which are homeomorphic to each other, then  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) = \text{ind}(\mathbf{Y})$ .

**Theorem 4.2** If  $\mathbf{X} = (X, A, \tau, \varphi)$  is a GF-space and  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y, B, \tau|_Y, \varphi|_Y)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{X}$  induced by fuzzy sets  $i$  and  $s$ , then  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) \geq \text{ind}(\mathbf{Y})$ .

**Theorem 4.3** If  $\mathbf{X} = (X, A, \tau, \varphi)$  is a GF- space such that  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) < \infty$ , then for every  $n < \text{ind}(\mathbf{X})$ , there is a subspace  $\mathbf{Y}$  of  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{Y}) = n$ .

**Theorem 4.4** A non-empty GF-space  $\mathbf{X} = (X, A, \tau, \varphi)$  satisfies  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) = 0$ , if and only if for every point  $p$  in  $X$  and every open set  $U$  containing  $p$ , there is a clopen set  $V$ , such that  $p \subseteq V \subseteq U$ .

**Theorem 4.5** Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X, A, \tau, \varphi)$  be an  $\text{FT}_3\text{GF}$ -space such that  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) = 0$ . Then  $\mathbf{X}$  is totally disconnected.

Here, we introduce the concept of small inductive dimension function for fuzzy topological spaces as Chang's space..

**Definition 4.6.** Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \tau)$  be a fuzzy topological space. The small inductive dimension of  $\mathbf{X}$ , denoted by  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X}$ , is

defined as follows.  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} = -1$  if  $\mathbf{X} = \emptyset$ . For any nonnegative integer  $n$ ,  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n$  if for each  $x \in \mathbf{X}$  and each open fuzzy set  $G$  such that  $G(x) > 0$  there exists an open fuzzy set  $U$  in  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $U(x) > 0$ ,  $U \leq G$  and  $\text{indf} \partial(U) \leq n - 1$ .  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} = n$  if  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n$  is true and  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n - 1$  is not true.

$\text{indf } \mathbf{X} = \infty$  if there is no integer  $n$  such that  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n$ .

Note that if  $\mathbf{X}$  is a general topological space, then this concept reduces to that of  $\text{ind}$ .

A subset theorem for  $\text{indf}$  is proved in the following.

**Theorem 4.7.** If  $A$  is a crisp subset of an fts  $\mathbf{X}$ , then  $\text{indf } A \leq \text{indf } \mathbf{X}$ .

**Proof.** The proof is by induction on  $n$ . For  $n = -1$ , if  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq -1$ , then  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} = -1$ , so that  $\mathbf{X} = \emptyset$ . Since  $A$  is a crisp subset of  $\mathbf{X}$ , it follows that  $A = \emptyset$ , and therefore  $\text{indf } A = -1$ , that is,  $\text{indf } A \leq -1$ . Thus if  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq -1$ , then  $\text{indf } A \leq -1$ . Therefore the result holds for  $n = -1$ .

Assume the result is true for  $n - 1$ . Then, we shall prove the result for  $n$ , that is, we shall prove that if  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n$ , then  $\text{indf } A \leq n$ , let  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n$ . Then to prove  $\text{indf } A \leq n$ , let  $x \in A$  and let  $G$  be an open fuzzy set in  $A$ , such that  $G(x) > 0$ . Since  $G$  is open in  $A$  by induced fuzzy topology on  $A$ , there exists an open fuzzy set  $H$  in  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $G = A \cap H$ . Now  $G(x) > 0$  implies  $H(x) > 0$  and  $A(x) > 0$ . Since  $\text{indf } \mathbf{X} \leq n$ ,  $H$  is an open

fuzzy set in  $X$  such that  $H(x) > 0$ . By definition (4.6) there exists an open fuzzy set  $V$  in  $X$  such that  $V(x) > 0, V \leq H$ , and  $\text{indf} \partial(V) \leq n - 1$ . Let  $U = A \cap V$ . Since  $V$  is an open fuzzy set in  $X$ , it follows that  $U$  is an open fuzzy set in  $A$ . Now  $U(x) > 0$ . We have  $A(x) > 0$  and  $V(x) > 0$ . Therefore  $A(x) \cap V(x) > 0$ , so that  $(A \cap V)(x) > 0$ , and hence  $U(x) > 0$ . Also  $U \leq G$ . We have  $V \leq H$ . Therefore  $A \cap V \leq A \cap H$ , so that  $U \leq G$ . Further,  $\text{indf} \partial_A(U) = \partial_A(A \cap V) \leq \partial_A(A) \cup \partial_A(V) = 0 \cup \partial_A(V) = \partial_A(V) \leq A \cap \partial(V) \leq \partial(V)$ .

Thus  $\partial_A(U) \leq \partial(V)$ . Since  $\text{indf} \partial(V) \leq n - 1$ , by induction hypothesis it follows that  $\text{indf} \partial_A(U) \leq n - 1$ . Thus, for each  $x \in A$  and each open fuzzy set  $G$  in  $A$  such that  $G(x) > 0$ , there exists an open fuzzy set  $U$  in  $A$  such that  $U(x) > 0, U \leq G$ , and  $\text{indf} \partial A(U) \leq n - 1$ . Therefore by the use of definition it follows that  $\text{indf} A \leq n$ .

Thus if  $\text{indf } X \leq n$ , then  $\text{indf} A \leq n$ .

Therefore the result holds for  $n$ . Hence  $\text{indf} A \leq \text{indf } X$ . ■

Now, for zero dimensionality, we prove the following theorem, for Chang's space.

**Theorem 4.8** A non-empty fts  $X = (X, \tau)$  satisfies  $\text{ind}(X) = 0$  if and only if for every point  $p$  in  $X$  and every open set  $U$  containing  $p$ , there is a clopen set  $V$ , such that  $p \in V \subseteq U$ .

**Proof** Suppose that  $\text{ind}(X) = 0$ , then by the definition  $\text{ind}(X) \leq 0$  if for every point  $p$  in  $X$  and every open set  $U$  containing  $p$

there exists an open set  $V$  such that  $p \subseteq V \subseteq U$ , and  $\text{ind}(\partial V) \leq 0-1 = -1$ , and since  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) \leq 0-1$ , then there is a point  $p$  in  $X$  and open set  $U$ ,  $p \subseteq U$ , and for every open set  $V$  such that  $p \subseteq V \subseteq U$  and  $\text{ind}(\partial V) \leq 0-2$ . Thus one such open set  $V$  must satisfy the condition,  $\text{ind}(\partial V) = -1$  implies that  $\partial V = \emptyset$ . Therefore the only set with empty boundaries are clopen. Then  $V$  is clopen set.

Conversely for every point  $p$  in  $X$  and every open set  $U$  containing  $p$ , there exists a clopen set  $V$  such that  $p \subseteq V \subseteq U$  and  $\text{ind}(\partial V) = \text{ind}(\emptyset) = -1$ . Then  $\text{ind}(\mathbf{X}) = 0$ . ■

The following corollary is obvious.

**Corollary 4.9** Every non-empty subspace of zero dimensional fts  $\mathbf{X}$  is zero dimensional.

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