# HEREDITARITY OF CLOSURE OPERATORS AND INJECTIVITY

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**ABSTRACT:** A notion of hereditarity of a closure operator with respect to a class of monomorphisms is introduced. Let C be a regular closure operator induced by a subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is shown that, if every object of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subobject of an  $\mathcal{A}$ -object which is injective with respect to a given class of monomorphisms, then the closure operator C is hereditary with respect to that class of monomorphisms.

**KEY WORDS:** Closure operator, hereditary closure operator, injective object, factorization pair.

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# INTRODUCTION

Let C be a closure operator on a category  $\mathcal{X}$  with respect to a class  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ -monomorphisms. In this paper we introduce the notion of hereditarity of C with respect to a subclass  $\mathcal{M}'$  of  $\mathcal{M}$ . We show that if  $\mathcal{M}'$  and  $\mathcal{M}''$  are two subclasses of  $\mathcal{M}$  which form a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$  (cf. Definition 7) then, the hereditarity of C with respect to both  $\mathcal{M}'$  and  $\mathcal{M}''$  implies the hereditarity of C with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The main purpose of this paper is to show that hereditarity of a regular closure operator is strongly related to the notion of injectivity. As a matter of fact, let C be a regular closure operator induced by a subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $\mathcal{M}' \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies the condition that every object of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subobject of an  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective object of  $\mathcal{A}$ , then C is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary. Some examples show that in general if C is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary,  $\mathcal{A}$  need not satisfy the above condition.

We conclude the paper with an example which shows that neither hereditarity nor C-dense hereditarity is preserved under the construction of idempotent hulls.

We use the terminology of [HS] throughout.

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# PRELIMINARIES

Throughout we consider a category  $\mathcal{X}$  and a fixed class  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ -monomorphisms, which contains all  $\mathcal{X}$ -isomorphisms. It is assumed that:

- (1)  $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under composition
- (2) Pullbacks of  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms exist and belong to  $\mathcal{M}$ , and multiple pullbacks of (possibly large) families of  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms with common codomain exist and belong to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

In addition, we require  $\mathcal{X}$  to have equalizers and  $\mathcal{M}$  to contain all regular monomorphisms.

One of the consequences of the above assumptions is that there is a uniquely determined class  $\mathcal{E}$  of morphisms in  $\mathcal{X}$  such that  $(\mathcal{E},\mathcal{M})$  is a factorization structure on  $\mathcal{X}$ , i.e., each morphism f in  $\mathcal{X}$  has a factorization  $f = m \circ e$  with  $e \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ , and if  $A \xrightarrow{e} B$ ,  $B \xrightarrow{h} D$ ,  $A \xrightarrow{g} C$ and  $C \xrightarrow{m} D$  are  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphisms with  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ , and  $e \in \mathcal{E}$  such that  $m \circ g = h \circ e$ , then there exists a unique diagonal, i.e., a morphism  $B \xrightarrow{d} C$  such that for each  $i \in I$  the both triangles of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A & \stackrel{e}{\longrightarrow} & B \\ g \\ \downarrow & \swarrow d & \downarrow h \\ C & \stackrel{\longrightarrow}{\longrightarrow} & D \end{array}$$

commute (cf.  $[DG_1]$ ).

We regard  $\mathcal{M}$  as a full subcategory of the arrow category of  $\mathcal{X}$ , with the codomain functor from  $\mathcal{M}$  to  $\mathcal{X}$  denoted by U. Since U is faithful,  $\mathcal{M}$  is concrete over  $\mathcal{X}$ .

#### **DEFINITION** 1

A closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$  (with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$ ) is a pair  $C = (\gamma, F)$ , where F is an endofunctor on  $\mathcal{M}$  that satisfies UF = U, and  $\gamma$  is a natural transformation from  $id_{\mathcal{M}}$  to F that satisfies  $(id_U)\gamma = id_U$ .

Thus, given a closure operator  $C = (\gamma, F)$ , every member m of  $\mathcal{M}$  has a canonical factorization

$$\bullet \xrightarrow{]m[_{C}} \bullet$$

$$m \searrow \qquad \downarrow [m]_{C}$$

where  $[m]_{c} = F(m)$  is called the *C*-closure of *m*, and  $]m[_{c}$  is the domain of the *m*-component

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of  $\gamma$ . The class of all  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms of the form  $]m[_{\mathcal{C}}([m]_{\mathcal{C}})$  will be denoted by  $\Delta(\mathcal{C})(\nabla(\mathcal{C}))$ . In particular,  $[]_{\mathcal{C}}$  induces an order-preserving increasing function on the  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject lattice of every  $\mathcal{X}$ -object. Also, these functions are related in the following sense: if p is the pullback of a morphism  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  along some  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism f, and q is the pullback of  $[m]_{\mathcal{C}}$  along f, then  $[p]_{\mathcal{C}} \leq q$ . Conversely, every family of functions on the  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject lattices that has the above properties uniquely determines a closure operator.

## **DEFINITION 2**

Given a closure operator C, we say that  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  is C-closed if  $]m[_C$  is an isomorphism. An  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism f is called C-dense if for every  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M})$ -factorization (e, m) of f we have that  $[m]_C$  is an isomorphism. We call C idempotent provided that  $[\ ]_C \circ [\ ]_C \simeq [\ ]_C$ , i.e., provided that  $[m]_C$  is C-closed for every  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ . C is called weakly hereditary if  $]m[_C$  is C-dense for every  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ .

For more background on closure operators see, e.g., [DG<sub>1</sub>], [DG<sub>2</sub>], [C], [K] and [DGT].

A special case of an idempotent closure operator arises in the following way. Given any class  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ -objects and  $M \xrightarrow{m} X$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , define  $[m]_{\mathcal{A}}$  to be the intersection of all equalizers of pairs of  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphisms r, s from X to some  $\mathcal{A}$ -object A that satisfy  $r \circ m = s \circ m$ , and let  $]m[_{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathcal{M}$  be the unique  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism by which m factors through  $[m]_{\mathcal{A}}$ . It is easy to see that  $(] [_{\mathcal{A}}, []_{\mathcal{A}})$  forms an idempotent closure operator. This generalizes the Salbany construction of closure operators induced by classes of topological spaces, cf. [S]. Such a closure operator was called regular in  $[DG_2]$ . To simplify the notation, instead of "[]\_{\mathcal{A}}-dense" we usually write " $\mathcal{A}$ -dense".

We denote the collection of all closure operators on  $\mathcal{M}$  by  $\mathbf{CL}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{M})$  pre-ordered as follows:  $C \sqsubseteq D$  if  $[m]_C \leq [m]_D$  for all  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  (where  $\leq$  is the usual order on subobjects).

#### **DEFINITION 3**

An  $\mathcal{X}$ -object I is said to be *injective* with respect to the class of  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphisms  $\mathcal{U}$  (in short  $\mathcal{U}$ *injective*) if for each  $X \xrightarrow{m} Y$  in  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $X \xrightarrow{f} I$ , there exists  $Y \xrightarrow{g} I$  such that  $g \circ m = f$ . Then g is called an *extension of* f *along* m.  $Inj(\mathcal{U})$  will denote the class of all  $\mathcal{U}$ -injective  $\mathcal{X}$ -objects.

Let C be a closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$  and let  $\mathcal{M}' \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . If  $\mathcal{M}'$  is the class of all C-dense  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms (C-closed  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms), then the class of all  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective  $\mathcal{X}$ -objects will be denoted by  $Inj_d(C)$  ( $Inj_c(C)$ ).

# MAIN RESULTS

In what follows  $\hat{C}$  ( $\check{C}$ ) will denote the idempotent hull (weakly hereditary core) of the closure operator C (cf. [DG<sub>2</sub>]).

# **PROPOSITION 4**

- (a)  $Inj_c(C) = Inj_c(\hat{C})$
- (b) If  $\mathcal{X}$  is  $\mathcal{M}$ -well powered and C is weakly hereditary then  $Inj_d(C) = Inj_d(\hat{C})$ .
- (c)  $Inj_d(C) = Inj_d(\check{C})$

#### Proof:

(a). It follows from the fact that an  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject is C-closed iff it is  $\hat{C}$ -closed.

(b). Since *C*-dense always implies  $\hat{C}$ -dense, we have that  $Inj_d(\hat{C}) \subseteq Inj_d(C)$ . Now, let  $Z \in Inj_d(C)$  and let  $M \xrightarrow{m} X$  be a  $\hat{C}$ -dense  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject. Since *C* is weakly hereditary,  $]m[_{C}^{x}$  is *C*-dense. Consequently, for any  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism  $M \xrightarrow{f} Z$  there exists an  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism  $[m]_{C}^{x} \xrightarrow{g} Z$  such that  $g \circ ]m[_{C}^{x} = f$ . Since  $\mathcal{X}$  is  $\mathcal{M}$ -well powered, using transfinite induction we obtain that there exists an  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism  $[m]_{\hat{C}}^{x} \xrightarrow{h} Z$  such that  $h \circ ]m[_{\hat{C}}^{x} = f$ . Since m is  $\hat{C}$ -dense,  $[m]_{\hat{C}}^{x}$  is an isomorphism and  $k = h \circ ([m]_{\hat{C}}^{x})^{-1}$  is an extension of f along m. Therefore  $Z \in Inj_d(\hat{C})$  (cf.  $[\mathrm{DG}_2]$  with  $\hat{C} = C^{\infty}$ ).

(c). It follows from the fact that an  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject is C-dense iff it is  $\check{C}$ -dense.

The question of whether item (b) of the above proposition might hold without C being weakly hereditary and without  $\mathcal{X}$  being  $\mathcal{M}$ -well powered, remains open.

Since C-closed always implies  $\check{C}$ -closed,  $Inj_c(\check{C}) \subseteq Inj_c(C)$ .

# **DEFINITION 5**

Let  $\mathcal{M}' \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  and let C be a closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$  with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$ . C is called  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary if given two  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobjects of X, (M,m) and (N,n), with  $(M,m) \leq (N,n)$  and  $(N,n) \in \mathcal{M}'$ , we have that  $[M]_{C}^{x} \cap N \simeq [M]_{C}^{N}$ .

Three particularly important cases are (C-dense)-hereditary, (C-closed)-hereditary and hereditary that occur exactly when  $\mathcal{M}'$  equals the class of C-dense  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobjects, the class of C-closed  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobjects and all of  $\mathcal{M}$ , respectively.

Notice that  $[M]_{C}^{x} \cap N$  is isomorphic to the pullback of  $([M]_{C}^{x}, [m]_{C}^{x})$  along *n*.

#### LEMMA 6 $([DG_2])$

An idempotent closure operator C is weakly hereditary iff it is C-closed-hereditary.

#### **DEFINITION 7**

Let  $\mathcal{M}'$  and  $\mathcal{M}''$  be two subclasses of  $\mathcal{M}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{M}$  factors through the pair  $(\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}'')$ iff every  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  can be written as  $m = m'' \circ m'$  with  $m' \in \mathcal{M}'$  and  $m'' \in \mathcal{M}''$ .  $(\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}'')$  will be called a *factorization pair for*  $\mathcal{M}$ .

# **PROPOSITION 8**

Let C be a closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$  and let  $(\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}'')$  be a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then, C is hereditary iff C is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary and  $\mathcal{M}''$ -hereditary.

#### **Proof:**

 $(\Rightarrow)$ . It is obvious.

 $(\Leftarrow)$ . Let us consider the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{cccc} M & \stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow} & X \\ t \downarrow & \nearrow n & \uparrow n' \\ N & \stackrel{m'}{\longrightarrow} & N' \end{array}$$

with  $n' \in \mathcal{M}'$  and  $n'' \in \mathcal{M}''$ . From the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{n' \circ t} & N' \\ t & \swarrow n' \\ N \end{array}$$

and the fact that C is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary, we obtain that  $[M]_c^N \simeq N \cap [M]_c^{N'}$ . From the commutative diagram

X

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{m} & \\ & & & \\ n' \circ t & \swarrow n'' & \\ & & N' & \end{array}$$

and the fact that C is  $\mathcal{M}''$ -hereditary, we obtain that  $[M]_c^{N'} \simeq N' \cap [M]_c^{X}$ . Therefore,  $[M]_c^N \simeq N \cap [M]_c^{N'} \simeq N \cap N' \cap [M]_c^X \simeq N \cap [M]_c^X$ . Therefore C is hereditary.

# **COROLLARY 9**

- (a) Let C be a closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$ . C is hereditary iff it is  $\Delta(C)$ -hereditary and  $\nabla(C)$ -hereditary
- (b) Let C be an idempotent closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$ . C is hereditary iff it is (C-dense)-hereditary and (C-closed)-hereditary.

#### **Proof:**

(a). Clearly because  $(\Delta(C), \nabla(C))$  always forms a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$ .

(b). It follows immediately from the fact that if C is idempotent and (C-closed)-hereditary, then (C-dense  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms,C-closed  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms) forms a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$  (cf. Lemma 6 and  $[DG_2]$ ).

## **PROPOSITION 10**

Let  $(\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}'')$  be a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then we have:  $Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap Inj(\mathcal{M}'') = Inj(\mathcal{M})$ .

**Proof:** 

We need to prove only one inclusion. Let  $X \xrightarrow{m} Y$  be a morphism in  $\mathcal{M}$  and let  $X \xrightarrow{f} I$  be an  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism with  $I \in Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap Inj(\mathcal{M}'')$ . By hypothesis,  $m = m'' \circ m'$  with  $m' \in \mathcal{M}'$  and  $m'' \in \mathcal{M}''$ . So, there exists an  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism g such that  $g \circ m' = f$  as well as an  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphism hsuch that  $h \circ m'' = g$ . Therefore  $h \circ m = h \circ m'' \circ m' = g \circ m' = f$ . Thus,  $I \in Inj(\mathcal{M})$ .

#### COROLLARY 11

- (a) Let C be a closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$ . Then  $Inj(\Delta(C)) \cap Inj(\nabla(C)) = Inj(\mathcal{M})$
- (b) Let C be a weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operator on  $\mathcal{X}$ . Then  $Inj_d(C) \cap Inj_c(C) = Inj(\mathcal{M})$ .

#### **Proof:**

(a). Just notice that  $(\Delta(C)), \nabla(C)$  always forms a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$ .

(b). If C is weakly hereditary and idempotent, then (C-dense  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms, C-closed  $\mathcal{M}$ -morphisms) forms a factorization pair for  $\mathcal{M}$  (cf.  $[DG_2]$ ).

For the next few results we assume the additional condition that  $\mathcal{X}$  is a regular well-powered category with products.

The following result is well known.

## LEMMA 12

Let  $\mathcal{M}' \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ .  $Inj(\mathcal{M}')$  is closed under products.

#### **THEOREM 13**

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a class of  $\mathcal{X}$ -objects and let  $\mathcal{M}' \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . Suppose that for each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , there is an  $\mathcal{X}$ monomorphism  $A \xrightarrow{k} A'$  with  $A' \in \mathcal{A}$  being  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective. Then the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary.

#### **Proof:**

Let  $\Pi(Inj(\mathcal{M}')\cap \mathcal{A})$  denote the family of all possible products of the objects of  $Inj(\mathcal{M}')\cap \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $M \xrightarrow{m} X$  be an  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject of X and let  $X \xrightarrow{f}{g} \mathcal{A}$  be two  $\mathcal{X}$ -morphisms with  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $f \circ m = g \circ m$ . If  $A \xrightarrow{k} A'$  is an  $\mathcal{X}$ -monomorphism with  $A' \in Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap \mathcal{A}$ , then it is easy to

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see that  $equ(f,g) \simeq equ(k \circ f, k \circ g)$ . Therefore, the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure agrees with the regular closure operator induced by the family  $Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap \mathcal{A}$  as well as with the one induced by  $\Pi(Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap \mathcal{A})$  (cf. [C, Proposition 1.4] and [G]).

Let us consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{cccc} M & \stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow} & X \\ p \downarrow & \searrow t & \uparrow n \\ \left[M\right]_{\mathcal{A}}^{N} & \stackrel{m}{\underset{[t]_{\mathcal{A}}}{\longrightarrow}} & N \end{array}$$

with  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $n \in \mathcal{M}'$ . Consider two morphisms r and s with domain N and codomain in  $\Pi(Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap \mathcal{A})$ , such that  $[t]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}} = equ(r,s)$  (cf. [C, Proposition 1.6]). Since every  $Y \in$  $\Pi(Inj(\mathcal{M}') \cap \mathcal{A})$  is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective (cf. Lemma 12), we get that there exist two morphisms h and k such that  $h \circ n = r$  and  $k \circ n = s$ . Now,  $r \circ t = s \circ t$  implies that  $h \circ m = h \circ n \circ t = r \circ t =$  $s \circ t = k \circ n \circ t = k \circ m$ . Therefore  $h \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} = k \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}}$ .

Let us consider the diagram

 $h \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} = k \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}}$  implies that  $h \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} \circ \beta = k \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} \circ \beta$ . From  $[m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} \circ \beta = n \circ \alpha$ , we get that  $r \circ \alpha = h \circ n \circ \alpha = h \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} \circ \beta = k \circ [m]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} \circ \beta = k \circ n \circ \alpha = s \circ \alpha$ . Since  $[t]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}} = equ(r, s)$ , there exists a morphism  $[M]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}} \cap N \xrightarrow{\gamma} [M]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}}$  such that  $[t]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}} \circ \gamma = \alpha$ .  $[M]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}}$  is an  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject of N and by functoriality of  $[\ ]_{\mathcal{A}}$ , it is also an  $\mathcal{M}$ -subobject of  $[M]^{X}_{\mathcal{A}}$ . So, there exists a morphism  $[M]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}} \xrightarrow{c} [M]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}} \cap N$  such that  $\alpha \circ c = [t]^{N}_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Now  $\alpha \circ c \circ \gamma = \alpha$  implies that  $c \circ \gamma = id$ , since  $\alpha$  is a monomorphism. Thus, c is an isomorphism, since it is a monomorphism and a retraction.  $\Box$ 

#### **COROLLARY 14**

- (a) If  $\mathcal{A}$  has enough  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injectives, (i.e., for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , there is a monomorphism  $A \xrightarrow{k} A'$ with  $k \in \mathcal{M}'$  and with  $A' \in \mathcal{A}$  being  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective), then the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary.
- (b) If  $\mathcal{A}$  is epireflective in  $\mathcal{X}$  and admits a system of  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective cogenerators, then the  $\mathcal{A}$ closure is  $\mathcal{M}'$ -hereditary.

#### **Proof:**

(a). We just observe that  $\mathcal{M}' \subseteq \mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ -monomorphisms.

(b). It just follows from the fact that every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  is an extremal subobject of a product of  $\mathcal{M}'$ -injective objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Notice that Lemma 6, Corollary 9 and the above corollary yield the following interesting special cases.

- (a) Hereditarity of the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure is implied by  $\mathcal{A}$  having enough  $\mathcal{M}$ -injectives.
- (b) Weakly hereditarity of the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure (=( $\mathcal{A}$ -closed)-hereditarity) is implied by  $\mathcal{A}$  having enough ( $\mathcal{A}$ -closed)-injectives.
- (c) ( $\mathcal{A}$ -dense)-hereditarity of the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure is implied by  $\mathcal{A}$  having enough ( $\mathcal{A}$ -dense)-injectives.
- (d) The A-closure is hereditary iff A has enough (A-closed)-injectives and enough (A-dense)injectives.

Example 17 and 18 below show that the implications in items (a)–(c) cannot be reversed in general. Example 19 provides a case in which item (a) becomes a characterization.

## **REMARK 15**

For any idempotent closure operator C, its weakly hereditary core  $\check{C}$  is hereditary iff C is C-dense hereditary. As a matter of fact, since every closure operator C and its weakly hereditary core,  $\check{C}$ , determine the same dense morphisms (i.e., C-dense =  $\check{C}$ -dense), if C is C-densehereditary, so is  $\check{C}$  and if C is idempotent, so is  $\check{C}$  (cf.  $[DG_2, Theorem 4.2(3)]$ ). Therefore from Corollary 9 and Lemma 6, we get that  $\check{C}$  is hereditary iff C is C-dense-hereditary.

In all of the following examples  $\mathcal{M}$  will be the class of embeddings.

# EXAMPLE 16

If  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbf{TOP}$  and  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{TOP}_0$ , then the Sierpinski space S, which is a cogenerator for  $\mathbf{TOP}_0$  is trivially injective. Thus the  $\mathbf{TOP}_0$ -closure (*b*-closure, [Sk]) is a hereditary operator.

#### EXAMPLE 17

(a) Let  $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{A}$  be any epireflective non bireflective subcategory of **TOP** different from **TOP**<sub>0</sub> and from **Sgl** (spaces with at most one point). Then,  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbf{TOP}_1$  (cf. [G]) and the injective objects with respect to embeddings are the spaces with exactly one point. As a matter of fact, by assumption  $\mathcal{A}$  contains a discrete two-point space, so it also contains any 0-dimensional Hausdorff space. In particular it contains the one-point compactification of the discrete space of natural numbers,  $\mathcal{N}_{\infty}$ . Now, suppose that  $I \in \mathcal{A}$  has at least two points, say  $I = \{0, 1\}$  and let

 $\mathcal{N} \xrightarrow{f} I$  be the continuous map defined by f(n) = 0 for n odd and f(n) = 1 for n even. Now, if we take the embedding  $\mathcal{N} \xrightarrow{e} \mathcal{N}_{\infty}$ , there is no extension of f along e.

(b) If  $\mathcal{A}$  is one of the categories **Haus**, **Tych** or **0-Dim**, the morphism f of item (a) is  $\mathcal{A}$ -dense (= dense cf. [DG<sub>1</sub>]). So, in these cases, the injective objects with respect to the dense embeddings are the spaces with exactly one point.

#### EXAMPLE 18

For  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{Tych}$ , the cogenerator [0, 1] is not closed injective. In fact, if X is a Tychonoff not normal space, we know from Tietze's Theorem that there exist a closed subset F of X and a continuous function  $F \xrightarrow{f} [0, 1]$  that cannot be extended to all of X. Since every cogenerator of **Tych** must contain a copy of the unit interval [0, 1], it is easy to conclude that **Tych** does not have a **Tych**-closed-injective cogenerator. This proves that the implications in Corollary 14 cannot be reversed in general. As a matter of fact if  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{Tych}$ , then the  $\mathcal{A}$ -closure in **Tych** is the ordinary closure (cf.  $[DG_1]$ ), which is hereditary.

#### **EXAMPLE 19**

For a fixed ring R with unity, let  $\mathcal{X}$  be the category R-Mod of left R-modules, let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the class of monomorphisms in R-Mod and let  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  be a torsion theory.  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  is hereditary iff  $\mathcal{F}$  is simply cogenerated by an injective module (cf. [DG<sub>3</sub>] and [L]). Thus [] $_{\mathcal{F}}$  is hereditary iff  $\mathcal{F}$  is simply cogenerated by an injective object. This shows that in the category R-Mod, item (a) of Corollary 14 can be reversed.

Neither hereditarity nor dense-hereditarity is preserved under the construction of idempotent hulls, as the following example shows.

#### EXAMPLE 20

Let us consider the sets:  $M = \{(m, n) : m, n \in \mathcal{N}\}, X = M \cup \{\infty_1, \infty_2, \dots, \} \cup \{\infty\}$  and  $N = M \cup \{\infty\}$ . We consider in X the pretopological structure in which every point of the form (m, n) is isolated, a basic nbhd of  $\infty_i$  is of the form  $\{(i, m) : \bar{m} \leq m$  for some  $\bar{m} \in \mathcal{N}\} \cup \{\infty_i\}$  and a basic nbhd of  $\infty$  is of the form  $\{\infty_j, \infty_{j+1}, \dots\} \cup \{\infty\}$  for some  $j \in \mathcal{N}$ . Let  $\hat{K}$  be the idempotent hull of the closure operator K induced by the pretopology in **PrTOP** (cf. [DG<sub>4</sub>]). Clearly  $\hat{K}_x(N) = X$ , i.e., N is  $\hat{K}$ -dense. Now,  $\hat{K}_x(M) = X$ , so  $\hat{K}_x(M) \cap N = N$ , but  $\hat{K}_n(M) = M$ , since N is discrete as a pretopological subspace. Thus  $\hat{K}$  is  $\hat{K}$ -closed-hereditary but not  $\hat{K}$ -dense-hereditary and therefore is not hereditary, although K is.

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