

MAS331 위상수학 Notes

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER	COUNTABILITY AND SEPARATION AXIOMS	PAGE
		2
1.1	The Countability Axioms	2
1.2	Separation Axioms	5
1.3	Normal Spaces	8

Chapter 1

Countability and Separation Axioms

1.1 The Countability Axioms

Definition 1.1.1: First Countability Axiom

A topological space X is said to have a *countable basis at x* if there is a countable collection \mathcal{B} of neighborhoods of x in X such that, for each neighborhood U of x , there exists $B \in \mathcal{B}$ with $B \subseteq U$. A space that has a countable basis at each point is said to satisfy the *first countability axiom*, or to be *first-countable*.

Note:-

This definition was already given in ???. Recall the lemmas ??? and ???.

Definition 1.1.2: Second Countability Axiom

If a topological space X has a countable basis for its topology, then X is said to satisfy the *second countability axiom*, or to be *second-countable*.

Example 1.1.1

\mathbb{R}^J endowed with the product topology with a countable set J is second-countable;

$$\mathcal{S} \triangleq \bigcup_{a \in J} \{ \pi_a^{-1}((a, b)) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } a < b \}$$

is a countable subbasis for \mathbb{R}^J , which induces a countable basis for \mathbb{R}^J .

Note:-

If a topological space X is second-countable with a countable basis $\mathcal{B} = \{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ and a subspace $A \subseteq X$ with the discrete topology. Then, A must be countable.

Otherwise, for each $a \in A$, there exists $B_a \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $B_a \cap A = \{a\}$. This induces an injection $A \hookrightarrow \mathcal{B}$. Hence, A is countable.

Example 1.1.2 (Uniform Topology and Countability Axioms)

In the uniform topology, \mathbb{R}^ω is first-countable by ???. Let \mathcal{B} be a basis of \mathbb{R}^ω . Let

$$A \triangleq \{ (x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_+} \in \mathbb{R}^\omega \mid \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}_+, x_i \in \{0, 1\} \}.$$

Then, A has the discrete topology but A is uncountable. Therefore, \mathbb{R}^ω with the uniform

topology is not second-countable.

Theorem 1.1.1

Let X be a topological space and A be a subspace of X .

- If X is first-countable, then A is first-countable.
- If X is second-countable, then A is second-countable.

Proof.

- Let $a \in A$. Let \mathcal{B} be a countable basis of X at a . Then, $\{B \cap A \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$ is a countable basis for the subspace A at a . ✓
- Let \mathcal{B} be a countable basis of X . Then, $\{B \cap A \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$ is a countable basis for the subspace A . ✓

□

Theorem 1.1.2

Let $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in J}$ be a countable family of topological spaces.

- If each X_i is first-countable, then $\prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ in the product topology is first-countable.
- If each X_i is second-countable, then $\prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ in the product topology is second-countable.

Proof.

- Let $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in J} \in \prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$. Then, for each $\alpha \in J$, there exists a countable basis \mathcal{B}_α of X_α at x_α . Then, $\{\prod_{\alpha \in J} B_\alpha \mid \forall \alpha \in J, B_\alpha \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha\}$ is a countable basis at $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in J}$.
- For each $\alpha \in J$, there exists a countable basis \mathcal{B}_α of X_α . Then, $\{\prod_{\alpha \in J} B_\alpha \mid \forall \alpha \in J, B_\alpha \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha\}$ is a countable basis of $\prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$.

□

Definition 1.1.3: Lindelöf Space

A topological space X is called a *Lindelöf space* if, for every open covering of X , there is a countable subcovering.

Definition 1.1.4: Dense Subset

A subset A of a topological space X is said to be *dense* in X if $\bar{A} = X$.

Definition 1.1.5: Separable Space

A topological space X is said to be *separable* if there is a countable dense subset of X .

Note:-

Obvious facts:

- Every compact space is a Lindelöf space.
- The box and product topologies on a finite product of separable spaces is separable. (??)
- Every topology on a countable set is Lindelöf and separable.

Theorem 1.1.3

Let X be a second-countable space. Then,

- X is a Lindelöf space.
- X is separable.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{B} = \{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ be a countable basis for X .

- Let \mathcal{A} be an open covering of X . For each $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, there exists $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $B_n \subseteq A_n$. Then, $\mathcal{A}' \triangleq \{A_n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$ is a countable subcovering of X as \mathcal{B} covers X . ✓
- For each $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, choose $x_n \in B_n$. Let $D \triangleq \{x_n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$. Then, for all $x \in X$, every basis element that contains x intersects D ; $\overline{D} = X$ by ?? . ✓

□

Example 1.1.3 (\mathbb{R}_ℓ and Countability Axioms)

- Given $x \in \mathbb{R}_\ell$, $\{[x, x+1/n) \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$ is a countable basis at x . \mathbb{R}_ℓ is first-countable.
- $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{R}_\ell$. \mathbb{R}_ℓ is separable.
- Let \mathcal{B} be a basis for \mathbb{R}_ℓ . Choose, for each $x \in \mathbb{R}_\ell$, an element $B_x \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $x \in B_x \subseteq [x, x+1)$. If $x \neq y$, then $B_x \neq B_y$. Hence $x \mapsto B_x$ is an injection; \mathcal{B} is uncountable. Therefore, \mathbb{R}_ℓ is not second-countable.

We now prove \mathbb{R}_ℓ is Lindelöf. Thanks to ??, we only have to prove that, for any open covering \mathcal{A} of \mathbb{R}_ℓ by the basis elements, there is a countable subcovering.

Let $\mathcal{A} = \{[a_\alpha, b_\alpha) \mid \alpha \in J\}$ be an open covering of \mathbb{R}_ℓ . Let $C \triangleq \bigcup_{\alpha \in J} (a_\alpha, b_\alpha)$. We now claim that $\mathbb{R} \setminus C$ is countable. Let $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus C$. Then $x = a_\beta$ for some $\beta \in J$. Choose $q_x \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $q_x \in (a_\beta, b_\beta)$. If $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus C$ and $x < y$, then $q_x < q_y$. Hence $x \mapsto q_x$ defines an injection $\mathbb{R} \setminus C \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$. Therefore, $\mathbb{R} \setminus C$ is countable.

Now, let \mathcal{A}' be a countable subcollection of \mathcal{A} that covers $\mathbb{R} \setminus C$. Now, note that $\{(a_\alpha, b_\alpha) \mid \alpha \in J\}$ is an open covering of C as a subspace of \mathbb{R} (with the standard topology). Since \mathbb{R} is second-countable, there exists a finite subcollection $\{(a_{\alpha_1}, b_{\alpha_1}), \dots, (a_{\alpha_n}, b_{\alpha_n})\}$ covers C . Let $\mathcal{A}'' \triangleq \{[a_{\alpha_1}, b_{\alpha_1}), \dots, [a_{\alpha_n}, b_{\alpha_n})\}$. Then, $\mathcal{A}' \cup \mathcal{A}''$ is a countable subcovering of \mathbb{R}_ℓ .

Example 1.1.4 (The Product of Two Lindelöf Spaces Need Not Be Lindelöf)

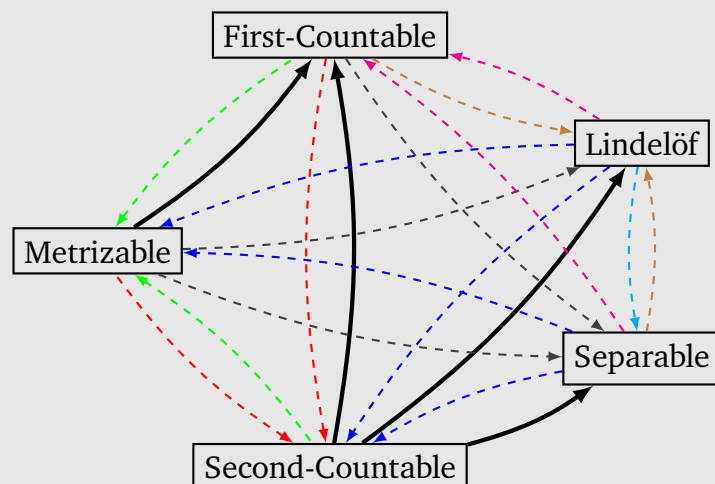
Although \mathbb{R}_ℓ is Lindelöf, $\mathbb{R}_\ell \times \mathbb{R}_\ell$ is not. Consider the subspace $L \triangleq \{x \times (-x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}_\ell\}$. Then, L has the discrete topology as $([x, x+1) \times [-x, -x+1)) \cap L = \{x \times (-x)\}$. Hence, L is not Lindelöf; \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 is not Lindelöf.

Example 1.1.5 (A Subspace of a Lindelöf Space Need Not Be Lindelöf)

The ordered square I_o^2 is compact (??) and thus is Lindelöf. However, the subspace $A = I \times (0, 1)$ is not Lindelöf as an open covering $\{\{x\} \times (0, 1) \mid x \in I\}$ does not allow a countable subcovering.

Note:-

Here is the diagram that represents the relations between spaces.



Counterexamples:

- (\dashrightarrow) $X = \{0, 1\}$ with $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X, \{0\}\}$ is second-countable but not Hausdorff, thus not metrizable.
- (\dashrightarrow) \mathbb{R}^ω with the uniform topology is metrizable but not second-countable. (Example 1.1.2)
- (\dashrightarrow) \mathbb{R}_ℓ (\mathbb{R} with the lower limit topology) is first-countable, Lindelöf, and separable; but it is neither second-countable nor metrizable. (Example 1.1.3)
- (\dashrightarrow) $\mathbb{R}_\ell \times \mathbb{R}_\ell$ is first countable and separable, but it is not Lindelöf. (Example 1.1.4)
- (\dashrightarrow) \mathbb{R} with the discrete topology is first-countable and metrizable; but it is not second-countable, separable, or Lindelöf.
- (\dashrightarrow) \mathbb{R} with the finite complement topology is separable and Lindelöf; but it is neither first-countable nor metrizable.
- (\dashrightarrow) \mathbb{R} with the countable complement topology is Lindelöf; but it is not first-countable, metrizable, or separable.

1.2 Separation Axioms

Definition 1.2.1: Regular and Normal Space

Let X be a topological space that $\{x\}$ is closed for every $x \in X$. In other words, X is T_1 .

- X is said to be T_2 if it is Hausdorff.
- X is said to be *regular*, or T_3 , if, for each $x \in X$ and a closed set B disjoint from x , there exist disjoint open sets U and V such that $x \in U$ and $B \subseteq V$.
- X is said to be *normal*, or T_4 , if, for each pair A, B of disjoint closed sets in X , there exist disjoint open sets U and V such that $A \subseteq U$ and $B \subseteq V$.

Note:-

$$T_1 \supseteq T_2 \supseteq T_3 \supseteq T_4$$

Example 1.2.1 (T_2 Does Not Imply T_3)

The space \mathbb{R}_K is T_2 as it is finer than the standard topology. The set $K = \{1/n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$ is closed in \mathbb{R}_K and $0 \notin K$. Suppose there are disjoint open sets U and V such that $0 \in U$ and $K \subseteq V$. Let B be a basis element that $0 \in B \subseteq U$. Then, $B = (a, b) \setminus K$ since any

open interval containing 0 intersects K . (It must be $a < 0 < b$.) Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ such that $1/n < b$. Then, $1/n \in K \subseteq V$. Let B' be a basis element such that $1/n \in B' \subseteq V$. Then, $B' = (c, d)$ for some $c < d$. Let $\max\{c, 1/(n+1)\} < z < 1/n$. Then, $z \in B \cap B' \subseteq U \cap V$. Hence, \mathbb{R}_K is not T_3 , #.

Lemma 1.2.1 Another Formulation

Let X be a T_1 space.

- (i) X is T_3 if and only if, for each $x \in U$ and a neighborhood U of x , there exists a neighborhood V of x such that $\overline{V} \subseteq U$.
- (ii) X is T_4 if and only if, for each closed set A and an open set U containing A , there exists an open set V such that $A \subseteq V$ and $\overline{V} \subseteq U$.

Proof.

- (i) (\Rightarrow) $B \triangleq X \setminus U$ is a closed set and $x \notin B$; there exist disjoint open sets V and W such that $x \in V$ and $B \subseteq W$. Then, \overline{V} does not intersect B , i.e., $\overline{V} \subseteq U$. \checkmark
 (\Leftarrow) Let $x \in X$ and $B \subseteq X$ be a closed set with $x \notin B$. Then, $X \setminus B$ is a neighborhood of x ; there exists a neighborhood V of x such that $\overline{V} \subseteq X \setminus B$. Then, V and $X \setminus \overline{V}$ are disjoint open sets that contain x and B , respectively. \checkmark
- (ii) (\Rightarrow) $B \triangleq X \setminus U$ is a closed set and $A \cap B = \emptyset$; there exist disjoint open sets V and W such that $A \subseteq V$ and $B \subseteq W$. Then, \overline{V} does not intersect B , i.e., $\overline{V} \subseteq U$. \checkmark
 (\Leftarrow) Let $A, B \subseteq X$ be disjoint closed sets in X . Then, $X \setminus B$ is an open set that contains A ; there exists an open set V such that $A \subseteq V$ and $\overline{V} \subseteq X \setminus B$. Then, V and $X \setminus \overline{V}$ are disjoint open sets that contain A and B , respectively. \checkmark

□

Theorem 1.2.1

Let X be a topological space and $Y \subseteq X$ be a subspace of X .

- (i) If X is T_1 , then Y is T_1 .
- (ii) If X is T_2 , then Y is T_2 .
- (iii) If X is T_3 , then Y is T_3 .

Proof.

- (i) For each $x \in Y$, $\{x\} \cap Y = \{x\}$ is closed.
- (ii) Let $x, y \in Y$ with $x \neq y$. Then, there exist disjoint neighborhoods U and V of x and y , respectively, in X . Then, $U \cap Y$ and $V \cap Y$ are disjoint neighborhoods of x and y in Y , respectively.
- (iii) Y is already T_1 by (i). Let $x \in Y$ and B be a closed set in Y disjoint from x . Then, $\overline{B} \cap Y = B$ by ???. Hence, $x \notin \overline{B}$; there are disjoint open sets U and V in X such that $x \in U$ and $\overline{B} \subseteq V$. Then, $U \cap Y$ and $V \cap Y$ are disjoint open sets and $x \in U \cap Y$ and $B \subseteq V \cap Y$.

□

Theorem 1.2.2

Let $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in J}$ be a family of topological spaces. Let $X \triangleq \prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ be endowed with either box or product topology.

- (i) X is T_1 if and only if each X_α is T_1 .
- (ii) X is T_2 if and only if each X_α is T_2 .
- (iii) X is T_3 if and only if each X_α is T_3 .

Proof. Let $\mathbf{x} = (x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in J} \in X$. Suppose X is T_1 , T_2 , or T_3 . Then, For each $\alpha_0 \in J$, X_{α_0} is homeomorphic with the subspace

$$Y \triangleq \{\mathbf{y} \in X \mid \forall \alpha \in J \setminus \{\alpha_0\}, y_\alpha = x_\alpha\}.$$

Hence, X_{α_0} is T_1 , T_2 , or T_3 .

(i) (\Leftarrow) Let $\mathbf{x} = (x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in J} \in X$. Then, $\{\mathbf{x}\} = \bigcap_{\alpha \in J} \pi_\alpha^{-1}(\{x_\alpha\})$ is closed.

(ii) (\Leftarrow) Let $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in X$ with $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{y}$. Then, there exists $\alpha_0 \in J$ such that $x_{\alpha_0} \neq y_{\alpha_0}$; there are disjoint neighborhoods U_{α_0} and V_{α_0} of x_{α_0} and y_{α_0} in X_{α_0} . Then, If we define $U, V \subseteq X$ by $U \triangleq \prod_{\alpha \in J} U_\alpha$ and $V \triangleq \prod_{\alpha \in J} V_\alpha$ where

$$U_\alpha \triangleq \begin{cases} U_{\alpha_0} & \text{if } \alpha = \alpha_0 \\ X_\alpha & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad V_\alpha \triangleq \begin{cases} V_{\alpha_0} & \text{if } \alpha = \alpha_0 \\ X_\alpha & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

we find that U and V are disjoint neighborhoods of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} in X .

(iii) (\Leftarrow) Let $\mathbf{x} \in X$ and let U be a neighborhood of \mathbf{x} in X . Choose a basis element $B = \prod_{\alpha \in J} U_\alpha$ so that $\mathbf{x} \in B \subseteq U$. For each $\alpha \in J$, let $V_\alpha = X_\alpha$ if $U_\alpha = X_\alpha$. Otherwise, by Lemma 1.2.1, let V_α be a neighborhood of x_α in X such that $\overline{V_\alpha} \subseteq U_\alpha$. Then, $V = \prod_{\alpha \in J} V_\alpha$ is a neighborhood of \mathbf{x} and $\overline{V} = \prod_{\alpha \in J} \overline{V_\alpha} \subseteq B \subseteq U$. By Lemma 1.2.1, X is T_3 . \square

Example 1.2.2 (\mathbb{R}_ℓ Is T_4)

\mathbb{R}_ℓ is T_1 as it is finer than the standard topology. Suppose A and B are disjoint closed sets in \mathbb{R}_ℓ . For each $a \in A$ choose a basis element $[a, x_a)$ not intersecting B . This is possible since $\mathbb{R} \setminus B$ is open in \mathbb{R}_ℓ . Similarly, for each $b \in B$, choose a basis element $[b, x_b)$ not intersecting A . Then,

$$U \triangleq \bigcup_{a \in A} [a, x_a) \quad \text{and} \quad V \triangleq \bigcup_{b \in B} [b, x_b)$$

are disjoint open sets such that $A \subseteq U$ and $B \subseteq V$.

Example 1.2.3 (\mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 is not T_4)

The space \mathbb{R}_ℓ is T_3 ; hence \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 is T_3 by Theorem 1.2.2.

Suppose \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 is normal for the sake of contradiction. Let L be a subspace of \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 where $L \triangleq \{x \times (-x) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Here are some facts:

- L has the discrete topology. Thus, every subset of L is closed in L , especially.
- L is closed in \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 as it is closed in \mathbb{R}^2 , which is coarser than \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 .
- Every subset A of L is closed in \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 .
- For every $\emptyset \neq A \subsetneq L$, there are disjoint open sets U_A and V_A in \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 containing A and $L \setminus A$, respectively.

Here, we define a function $\theta: \mathcal{P}(L) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q}^2)$ by

$$A \mapsto \begin{cases} \mathbb{Q}^2 \cap U_A & \text{if } \emptyset \subsetneq A \subsetneq L \\ \emptyset & \text{if } A = \emptyset \\ \mathbb{Q}^2 & \text{if } A = L. \end{cases}$$

To show θ is injective, let $\emptyset \subsetneq A, B \subsetneq L$ with $A \neq B$. WLOG, $A \not\subseteq B$; let $x \in A \setminus B$. Then, since $x \in L \setminus B$, $x \in U_A \cap V_B$. Since \mathbb{Q}^2 is dense in \mathbb{R}_ℓ^2 and $U_A \cap V_B$ is open and nonempty, there exists $q \in \mathbb{Q}^2 \cap U_A \cap V_B$. Hence, $\mathbb{Q}^2 \cap U_A \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}^2 \cap U_B$. Therefore, θ is

injective.

Also, the map $\psi: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}_+) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$S \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_i}{10^i}$$

is injective where $a_i = 1$ if $i \in S$ and $a_i = 0$ if $i \notin S$. Thus, there exists an injective map $\psi': \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q}^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then, $\psi' \circ \theta$ is an injective map from $\mathcal{P}(L)$ to \mathbb{R} , #. (??)

This shows that

- (i) A product of T_4 spaces need not be T_4 .
- (ii) A T_3 space need not be T_4 .

Note:-

$$T_1 \supsetneq T_2 \supsetneq T_3 \supsetneq T_4$$

1.3 Normal Spaces

Theorem 1.3.1

Every second-countable T_3 space is T_4 .

Proof. Let X be a regular space with a countable basis \mathcal{B} . Let A and B be disjoint closed subsets of X . For each $x \in A$, there exists a neighborhood U of x that does not intersect B . By Lemma 1.2.1, there exists a neighborhood V of x such that $\overline{V} \subseteq U$. Finally, choose an element of \mathcal{B} such that $x \in B \subseteq V$. Collecting such basis elements, we obtain a countable covering of A by open sets whose closures do not intersect B . Let us denote it by $\{U_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$. Similarly, choose a countable collection $\{V_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ of open sets covering B whose closures do not intersect A .

For each $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ define

$$U'_n \triangleq U_n \setminus \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n \overline{V_i} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad V'_n \triangleq V_n \setminus \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n \overline{U_i} \right).$$

Each U'_n and V'_n is open. Moreover, $\{U'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ and $\{V'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ cover A and B , respectively, since $\overline{V_i}$ and $\overline{U_i}$ does not intersect A and B , respectively.

Let

$$U' \triangleq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+} U'_n \quad \text{and} \quad V' \triangleq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+} V'_n.$$

If there exists $x \in U' \cap V'$, then $x \in U'_j \cap V'_k$ for some j and k . WLOG, $j \leq k$. $x \in U'_j \subseteq U_j$ but $x \in X \setminus \overline{U_k} \subseteq X \setminus \overline{U_j} \subseteq X \setminus U_j$, #. Hence, U' and V' are disjoint open sets that contain A and B , respectively. \square

Theorem 1.3.2

Every metrizable space is T_4 .

Proof. Let X be a metrizable space with metric d . Let A and B be disjoint closed subsets of X . For each $a \in A$, choose ε_a so that $B(a, \varepsilon_a) \cap B = \emptyset$. Similarly, for each $b \in B$ choose ε_b so

that $B(b, \varepsilon_b) \cap A = \emptyset$. Let

$$U \triangleq \bigcup_{a \in A} B(a, \varepsilon_a/2) \quad \text{and} \quad V \triangleq \bigcup_{b \in B} B(b, \varepsilon_b/2).$$

Then, they are open sets that contain A and B , respectively. To show they are disjoint, suppose there is $x \in U \cap V$ for the sake of contradiction. Then, there are $a \in A$ and $b \in B$ such that $x \in B(a, \varepsilon_a/2) \cap B(b, \varepsilon_b/2)$. WLOG, $\varepsilon_a \leq \varepsilon_b$. From the triangle inequality, we get $d(a, b) < (\varepsilon_a + \varepsilon_b)/2 \leq \varepsilon_b$; $a \in B(b, \varepsilon_b) \cap A$, which contradicts our construction. \square

Theorem 1.3.3

Every compact Hausdorff space is T_4 .

Proof. Let X be a compact Hausdorff space. Let A and B be disjoint closed sets in X . A and B are compact by ???. Therefore, by ??, for each $a \in A$, there are disjoint open sets U_a and V_a in X such that $a \in U_a$ and $B \subseteq V_a$. Since $\{U_a\}_{a \in A}$ covers A , A may be covered by finitely many sets $U_{a_1}, U_{a_2}, \dots, U_{a_n}$. Then, let

$$U \triangleq U_{a_1} \cup U_{a_2} \cup \dots \cup U_{a_n} \quad \text{and} \quad V \triangleq V_{a_1} \cap V_{a_2} \cap \dots \cap V_{a_n}.$$

They are disjoint open sets containing A and B , respectively. \square

Theorem 1.3.4

Every well-ordered set X is T_4 in the order topology.

Proof. Consider an interval of the form $(x, y]$. If y is the largest element, then $(x, y]$ is a basis element. If y is not the largest element, then $(x, y] = (x, y')$ where y' is the immediate successor of y . Hence, $(x, y]$ is always open. \checkmark

Now let A and B be disjoint closed sets in X . First consider the case that neither contains the least element. For each $a \in A$, there exists a basis element about a disjoint from B ; it contains some interval of the form $(x_a, a]$. Similarly, choose $(y_b, b]$ disjoint from A . The sets

$$U \triangleq \bigcup_{a \in A} (x_a, a] \quad \text{and} \quad V \triangleq \bigcup_{b \in B} (y_b, b]$$

are open sets containing A and B , respectively. Suppose $z \in U \cap V$ for the sake of contradiction. Then $z \in (x_a, a] \cap (y_b, b]$ for some $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. WLOG, $a < b$. Then, $a \in (y_b, b]$ while $(y_b, b] \cap A = \emptyset$, $\#$. Hence $U \cap V = \emptyset$.

Now consider the case, WLOG, a_0 , the least element, is contained in A . Then, since $\{a_0\}$ is both open and closed in X , we may find U and V for $A \setminus \{a_0\}$ and B like above and conclude $U \cup \{a_0\}$ and V are disjoint open sets that contain A and B , respectively. \square

Note:-

Actually, every order topology is normal.