



## Homework 12

**Directions:** Answer the following questions. You are encouraged to work together, join the discussion sessions, use discord, and ask me questions!

1. Let  $A \subset X$  for some topological space  $X$ . Prove  $\overline{A}$  is closed. Reference the previous homework for the definition of  $\overline{A}$  if you forgot it!

**Hint:** Show that  $\overline{A}^c$  is an open set by showing an arbitrary point of  $\overline{A}^c$  is an interior point.

2. Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are topological spaces and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a function. Show that the following are equivalent:
  - i) The function  $f$  is continuous.
  - ii) For all  $A \subseteq X$ ,  $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$ .
  - iii) For all closed sets  $B \subseteq Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(B)$  is closed.

**Hint:** It's easiest to show (i)  $\implies$  (ii)  $\implies$  (iii)  $\implies$  (i), and this chain of implications gives us that they are all equivalent.

**Hint for (i)  $\implies$  (ii):** Suppose  $f$  is continuous. Start by letting  $y \in f(\overline{A})$ . So there is some  $x \in \overline{A}$  with  $f(x) = y$ . We wish to show  $y \in \overline{f(A)}$ . If  $x \in A$ , this is trivial (why?). So we suppose  $x \in A' \setminus A$ . Let  $V$  be an open set containing  $y$ . Using the continuity of  $f$ , show that  $V \cap f(A) \setminus y \neq \emptyset$ .

**Hint for (ii)  $\implies$  (iii):** If you can show  $\overline{f^{-1}(B)} \subseteq f^{-1}(B)$ , then this means  $\overline{f^{-1}(B)} = f^{-1}(B)$ , so  $f^{-1}(B)$  is closed by the first problem.

3. Prove that any compact subset of a Hausdorff space is closed

**Hint:** Let  $C$  be our compact subset,  $x \notin C$ , and since our space is Hausdorff, for all  $y \in C$ , we can find some  $U_y$  and  $V_y$  such that  $x \in U_y$ ,  $y \in V_y$  and  $U_y \cap V_y = \emptyset$ . The collection  $V_y$  covers  $C$ . Use the definition of compactness to reduce this to a finite subcover, and consider what this means for the corresponding open sets containing  $x$ .

**Remark:** All of these are actually common theorems in a standard topology course, but the proofs can be quite sneaky, hence the copious hints!