

# Topology

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# Contents



# Chapter 1

## Topology

A topology is a geometric structure defined on a set. Basically it is given by declaring which subsets are “open” sets. Thus the axioms are the abstraction of the properties that open sets have.

### 1.1 Topological Spaces

**Definition 1.1.** A topology on a set  $X$  is a collection  $\mathcal{T}$  of subsets of  $X$  such that

- (T1)  $\phi$  and  $X$  are in  $\mathcal{T}$ ;
- (T2) Any union of subsets in  $\mathcal{T}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ ;
- (T3) The finite intersection of subsets in  $\mathcal{T}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

A set  $X$  with a topology  $\mathcal{T}$  is called a topological space. Denoted by  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . An element of  $\mathcal{T}$  is called an open set.

**Example 1.1.** Let  $X$  be a three-element set,  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $\mathcal{T} = \{X, \emptyset, \{a, b\}, \{b\}, \{b, c\}\}$ . We can check T1, T2 and T3 conditions.

**Example 1.2.** Let  $X$  be a three-element set,  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  as pervoius. There are many possible topologies on  $X$ , some of which are indicated schematically in figure ???. Furthur, we can see that even a three-element set has many different topologies.

*Remark.* Not every collection of subsets of  $X$  is a topology on  $X$ . Observe that Neither of the collections indicated in figure ?? is a topology.

First let's consider the left hand coner of figure ??.  $\{a\}$  and  $\{b\}$  in the collection, but  $\{a\} \cup \{b\}$  is not in the collection.

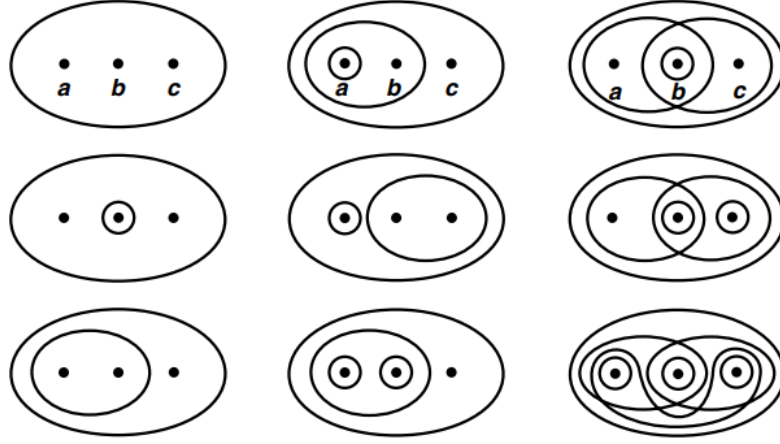


Figure 1.1:

Now consider the right hand coner figure.  $\{a, b\}$  and  $\{b, c\}$  in collection, but  $\{a, b\} \cap \{b, c\} = \{b\}$  is not in the collection.



Figure 1.2:

**Example 1.3.** If  $X$  is any set, the collection of all subsets of  $X$  (Power set) is a topology on  $X$ . This trivially satisfied T1 T2 and T3 conditions. Further, This is called the *discrete topology*.

**Example 1.4.** The collection consisting of  $X$  and  $\emptyset$  only is also a topology on  $X$ . we shall call it the *indiscrete topology*, or the trivial topology.

**Example 1.5.** Let  $X$  be a set and let  $\mathcal{T}_f$  be the collection of all subsets  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $X \setminus U$  either is finite or is all of  $X$ . In other words,

$$\mathcal{T}_f := \{U \subseteq X : \text{Either } X \setminus U \text{ is finite or } X \setminus U = X\}$$

Let's check if  $\mathcal{T}_f$  is a topology. First observe that both  $X$  and  $\emptyset$  are in  $\mathcal{T}_f$ , because  $X \setminus X = \emptyset$  is finite and  $X \setminus \emptyset = X$  is all of  $X$ . So  $\mathcal{T}_f$  satisfied the T1 condition. Now

let's check the T2 condition. Let  $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I, I \text{ is index set}\}$ . Now we need to show that  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha \in \mathcal{T}_f$ . So consider,

$$X \setminus \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} (X \setminus U_\alpha).$$

Now observe that  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} (X \setminus U_\alpha)$  is finite, because each set  $(X \setminus U_\alpha)$  is finite and arbitrary intersection of finite sets is finite. So,  $\mathcal{T}_f$  satisfied the T2 condition also. Finally check the last condition, T3 condition. Let  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  are nonempty elements of  $\mathcal{T}_f$ , to show that  $\bigcup_i U_i \in \mathcal{T}_f$ , we compute

$$X \setminus \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^n (X \setminus U_i).$$

Note that the set  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n (X \setminus U_i)$  is a finite union of finite sets and, therefore, finite. So it satisfies the T3 condition also. Therefore  $\mathcal{T}_f$  is a topology. Further  $\mathcal{T}_f$  is called the *finite complement topology*.

**Example 1.6.** Let  $X$  be a set. Define  $\mathcal{T}$  to be the collection of all subsets  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $X \setminus U$  either is finite or is all of  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{T}$  defines a topology on  $X$ , called *finite complement topology* of  $X$ .

## 1.2 Basis of a Topology

Once we define a structure on a set, often we try to understand what the minimum data you need to specify the structure. In many cases, this minimum data is called a basis and we say that the basis generate the structure. The notion of a basis of the structure will help us to describe examples more systematically.

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $X$  be a set. A basis of a topology on  $X$  is a collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets in  $X$  such that

(B1) For every  $x \in X$ , there exist an element  $B$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B$ .

(B2) If  $x \in B_1 \cap B_2$  where  $B_1, B_2$  are in  $\mathcal{B}$ , then there is  $B_3$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B_3 \subseteq B_1 \cap B_2$ .

**Lemma 1.1** (Generating of a topology). *Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a basis of a topology on  $X$ . Define  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  to be the collection of subsets  $U \subset X$  satisfying*

(G1) *For every  $x \in U$ , there is  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B \subset U$ .*

*Then  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  defines a topology on  $X$ . Here we assume that  $\emptyset$  trivially satisfies the condition, so that  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ .*

*Proof.* We need to check the three axioms:

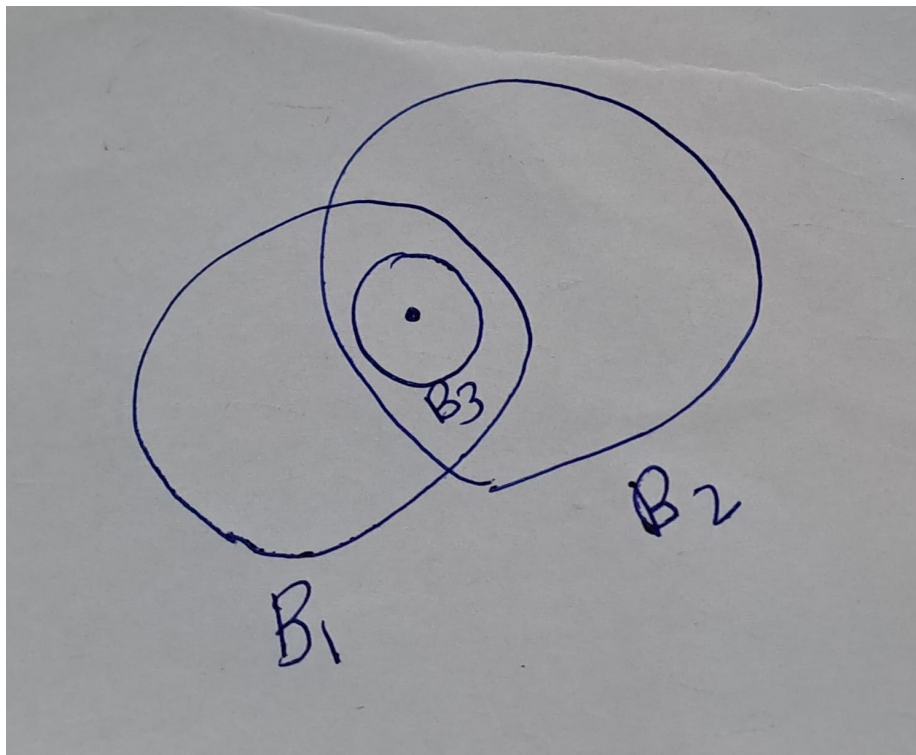


Figure 1.3:



- (T1)  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  as we assumed.  $X \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  by (B1).
- (T2) Consider a collection of subsets  $U_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}, \alpha \in J$ . We need to show

$$U := \bigcup_{\alpha \in J} U_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$$

By the definition of the union, for each  $x \in U$ , there is  $U_{\alpha}$  such that  $x \in U_{\alpha}$ . Since  $U_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ , there is  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B \subset U_{\alpha}$ . Since  $U_{\alpha} \subset U$ , we found  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B \subset U$ . Thus  $U \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ .

- (T3) Now consider a finite number of subsets  $U_1, \dots, U_n \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ . We need to show that

$$U' := \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_i \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$$

- Let's just check for two subsets  $U_1, U_2$  first. For each  $x \in U_1 \cap U_2$ , there are  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B_1 \subset U_1$  and  $x \in B_2 \subset U_2$ . This is because  $U_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $x \in U_1, x \in U_2$ . By (B2), there is  $B_3 \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B_3 \subset B_1 \cap B_2$ . Now we found  $B_3 \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B_3 \subset U$ .
- We can generalize the above proof to  $n$  subsets, but let's use induction to prove it. This is going to be the induction on the number of subsets.
  - When  $n = 1$ , the claim is trivial.
  - Suppose that the claim is true when we have  $n - 1$  subsets, i.e.  $U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_{n-1} \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ . Since

$$U = U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_n = (U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_{n-1}) \cap U_n$$

and regarding  $U' := U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_{n-1}$ , we have two subsets case  $U = U' \cap U_n$ . By the first arguments,  $U \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ .

□

**Definition 1.3.**  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  is called the **topology generated by a basis**  $\mathcal{B}$ . On the other hand, if  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a topological space and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis of a topology such that  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{T}$ , then we say  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{T}$  itself is a basis of the topology  $\mathcal{T}$ . So there is always a basis for a given topology.

**Example 1.7.**

- (Standard Topology of  $\mathbb{R}$ ) Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the set of all real numbers. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the collection of all open intervals:

$$(a, b) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x < b\}$$

Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis of a topology and the topology generated by  $\mathcal{B}$  is called the standard topology of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

- Let  $\mathbb{R}^2$  be the set of all ordered pairs of real numbers, i.e.  $\mathbb{R}^2 := \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  (cartesian product). Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the collection of cartesian product of open intervals,  $(a, b) \times (c, d)$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis of a topology and the topology generated by  $\mathcal{B}$  is called the standard topology of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- (Lower limit topology of  $\mathbb{R}$ ) Consider the collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets in  $\mathbb{R}$  :

$$\mathcal{B} := \{[a, b) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x < b\} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

This is a basis for a topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ . This topology is called the lower limit topology.

The following two lemma are useful to determine whehter a collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of open sets in  $\mathcal{T}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{T}$  or not.

*Remark.* Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a topology on  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies (B1) and (B2), it is easy to see that  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} \subset \mathcal{T}$ . This is just because of (G1). If  $U \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ , (G1) is satisfied for  $U$  so that  $\forall x \in U, \exists B_x \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B_x \subset U$ . Therefore  $U = \cup_{x \in U} B_x$ . By (T2),  $U \in \mathcal{T}$ .

**Lemma 1.2.** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space. Let  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{T}$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis and  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{T}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{T}$  is the set of all unions of elements in  $\mathcal{B}$ .*

*Proof.*

- ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $\mathcal{T}'$  be the set of all unions of open sets in  $\mathcal{B}$ . If  $U \in \mathcal{T}$ , then  $U$  satisfies (G1), i.e.  $\forall x \in U, \exists B_x \in \mathcal{B}$  s.t.  $x \in B_x \subset U$ . Thus  $U = \cup_{x \in U} B_x$ . Therefore  $U \in \mathcal{T}'$ . We proved  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{T}'$ . It follows from (T2) that  $\mathcal{T}' \subset \mathcal{T}$ .
- ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Since  $X \in \mathcal{T}, X = \cup_{\alpha} B_{\alpha}$  some union of sets in  $\mathcal{B}$ . Thus  $\forall x \in X, \exists B_{\alpha}$  s.t.  $x \in B_{\alpha}$ . This proves (B1) for  $\mathcal{B}$ . If  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $B_1 \cap B_2 \in \mathcal{T}$  by (T2). Thus  $B_1 \cap B_2 = \cup_{\alpha} B_{\alpha}, B_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{B}$ . So  $\forall x \in B_1 \cap B_2, \exists B_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{B}$  s.t.  $x \in B_{\alpha}$ . This  $B_{\alpha}$  plays the role of  $B_3$  in (B2). Thus  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis. Now it makes sense to consider  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$  and we need to show  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{T}$ . By the remark, we already know that  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} \subset \mathcal{T}$ . On the other hand, if  $U \in \mathcal{T}$ , then  $U = \cup_{\alpha} B_{\alpha}, B_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence,  $\forall x \in U, \exists B_{\alpha}$  such that  $x \in B_{\alpha} \subset U$ . Thus (G1) is satisfied for  $U$ . Thus  $U \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ . This proves  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} \supset \mathcal{T}$ .

□

**Lemma 1.3.** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space. Let  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{T}$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis and  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{T}$  if and if any  $U \in \mathcal{T}$  satisfies (Gl), i.e.  $\forall x \in U, \exists B_x \in \mathcal{B}$  s.t.  $x \in B_x \subset U$ .*

*Proof.*

- ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Trivial by the definition of  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ .

- ( $\Leftarrow$ )  $X$  satisfies (G1) so  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies (B1). Let  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{T}$ . By (T3),  $B_1 \cap B_2 \in \mathcal{T}$ . Thus  $B_1 \cap B_2$  satisfies (G1). This means (B2) holds for  $\mathcal{B}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis. Now the assumption can be rephrased as  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ . By the remark above, we already know  $\mathcal{T} \supset \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ .

□

### 1.3 Comparing Topologies

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T}'$  be two topologies for a set  $X$ . We say  $\mathcal{T}'$  is finer than  $\mathcal{T}$  or  $\mathcal{T}$  is coarser than  $\mathcal{T}'$  if  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{T}'$ . The intuition for this notion is “ $(X, \mathcal{T}')$  has more open subsets to separate two points in  $X$  than  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ ”.

**Lemma 1.4.** Let  $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'$  be bases of topologies  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T}'$  on  $X$  respectively. Then  $\mathcal{T}'$  is finer than  $\mathcal{T} \Leftrightarrow \forall B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $\forall x \in B, \exists B' \in \mathcal{B}'$  s.t.  $x \in B' \subseteq B$ .

*Proof.*

- $\Rightarrow$  Since  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{T}'$ , all subsets in  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies (G1) for  $\mathcal{T}'$ , which is exactly the statement we wanted to prove.
- $\Leftarrow$  The LHS says  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{T}'$ . We need to show that it implies that any  $U \in \mathcal{T}$  satisfies (G1) for  $\mathcal{T}'$  too.

$$\forall U \in \mathcal{T}, \forall x \in U, \exists B \in \mathcal{B} \text{ s.t. } x \in B \subset U$$

But

$$\forall B \in \mathcal{B}, \forall x \in B, \exists B' \in \mathcal{B}' \text{ s.t. } x \in B' \subset B.$$

Combining those two,

$$\forall U \in \mathcal{T}, \forall x \in U, \exists B' \in \mathcal{B}' \text{ s.t. } x \in B' \subset B \subset U.$$

□

**Definition 1.5** (subbasis). Let  $X$  be a set. A subbasis  $\mathcal{S}$  for a topology on  $X$  is a collection of subsets of  $X$  whose union equals  $X$ .

$$(\text{i.e. } \forall x \in X \exists S \in \mathcal{S} \text{ such that } x \in S)$$

**Definition 1.6.** The topology generated by the subbasis  $\mathcal{S}$  is defined to be the collection  $\mathcal{T}$  of all unions of finite intersections of elements of  $\mathcal{S}$ .

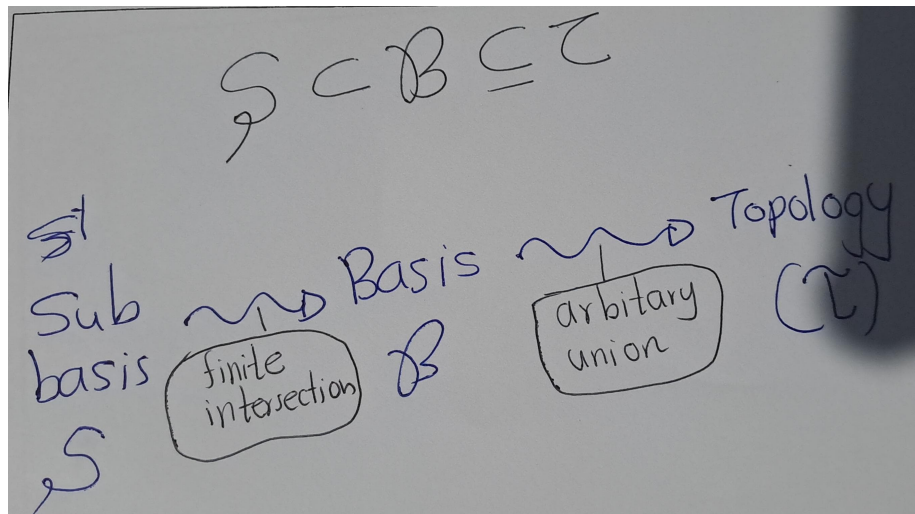


Figure 1.4:

## 1.4 Order Topology

**Definition 1.7** (Linear Order/ Complete Order). Consider order relation “ $<$ ”.

1. If  $x \neq y$ , then either  $x < y$  or  $y < x$ .
2. If  $x < y$ , then  $x \neq y$ .
3. If  $x < y$  and  $y < z$ , then  $x < z$ .

**Example 1.8.**  $\mathbb{R}$  is ordered set with less than relation.

First, let's see intervals in an Ordered Set.

Suppose that  $X$  is a set having a simple order relation  $<$ . Given elements  $a$  and  $b$  of  $X$  such that  $a < b$ , there are four subsets of  $X$  that are called the intervals determined by  $a$  and  $b$ . They are the following :

- $(a, b) = \{x \in X | a < x < b\}$  (Type: open interval in  $X$ ),
- $(a, b] = \{x \in X | a < x \leq b\}$  (Type: half-open interval in  $X$ ),
- $[a, b) = \{x \in X | a \leq x < b\}$  (Type: half-open interval in  $X$ ),
- $[a, b] = \{x \in X | a \leq x \leq b\}$  (Type: closed interval in  $X$ ),

The notation used here is familiar to you already in the case where  $X$  is the real line, but these are intervals in an arbitrary ordered set.

The use of the term “open” in this connection suggests that open intervals in  $X$  should turn out to be open sets when we put a topology on  $X$ . And so they will.