

LIST OF CONCEPTS

TOPOLOGY

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Part I

Point-set Topology

Chapter 1

Topological spaces

1.1 Topological spaces

(1) Definitions of topology and topological space:

DEFINITION (TOPOLOGY):

Given a set X , a topology is a collection \mathcal{T} of subsets of X with the following properties:

- (a) \mathcal{T} contains both \emptyset and X
- (b) The union of arbitrary elements of \mathcal{T} is in \mathcal{T}
- (c) The intersection of finitely many elements of \mathcal{T} is in \mathcal{T}

Simply put, closed under arbitrary unions and finite intersections.

When checking if collection of subsets is a topology, the finite intersections property can be checked by induction, but the infinite unions property cannot. We can use indexed families of sets¹ or other methods that can account for (possibly uncountably) infinite sets.

DEFINITION (TOPOLOGICAL SPACE):

A set X for which \mathcal{T} has been specified (i.e. (X, \mathcal{T})).

DEFINITION (OPEN SET):

A member of \mathcal{T} .

Motivation: a generalization of open sets from structures like \mathbb{R} .

(2) Definitions of fineness and coarseness:

DEFINITION (FINER):

Given a set X and two topologies \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{T}' on X , \mathcal{T}' is finer than \mathcal{T} if $\mathcal{T}' \supset \mathcal{T}$.

Simply put, elements of topologies are like rocks, and a finer topology has more and finer rocks. It contains the same elements, but also has more.

¹See Munkres p. 79

The terms COARSER, STRICTLY FINER, and STRICTLY COARSER are similarly defined.

Fineness and coarseness are partial orders, so not all topologies can be compared. If they can, we say they are COMPARABLE.

1.1.1 Basis for a topology

(3) Definition of basis:

DEFINITION (BASIS):

A collection \mathcal{B} of subsets of X (BASIS ELEMENTS) such that:

- (a) X is covered² by basis elements³
- (b) Every intersection between basis elements is also covered by basis elements⁴

Motivation: it is unfeasible to specify every open set in \mathcal{T} , so we define the topology using a smaller number of sets.

Intuition: the basis elements are like the ‘building blocks’ of the topology: you can’t get smaller open sets than the basis elements. Fineness then arises out of comparing whether the building blocks of one topology can be used to construct the building blocks of the other topology.

Note: a topological basis is very different from a linear algebraic basis.

(4) Generating (inducing) a topology from a basis:

DEFINITION (TOPOLOGY GENERATED FROM A BASIS):

A subset U of X is open if for every $x \in U$, there is a basis element B such that $x \in B \subset U$.

Note: the basis elements are automatically defined as open sets.

Important: for a given basis \mathcal{B} , there is a unique topology \mathcal{T} such that \mathcal{B} is a basis for \mathcal{T} . This is the same as the generated topology.

(5) Properties of a basis for a topology:

- (a) (Open sets as unions of basis elements) If \mathcal{B} is a basis for \mathcal{T} , then \mathcal{T} is *equal* to the collection of all arbitrary unions of basis elements.

Simply put, every open set is some arbitrary combination of basis elements. Alternatively, every open set is covered by basis elements.

Brief proof:

Basis elements are in \mathcal{T} , and arbitrary unions are also in \mathcal{T} . Conversely, all points in every open set U are also contained in basis elements that are fully contained in U . These basis elements combined form U .

- (b) (Sufficient condition for basis) If \mathcal{C} is a collection of open sets such that for all points x in all open sets U , there exists $C \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $x \in C \subset U$, then \mathcal{C} is a basis.

Simply put, if a collection covers all open sets, it is a basis.

²If a set A is ‘covered’ by a collection, every point in A is contained in sets in the collection, but the union does not exceed A . Like tiling but with overlaps permitted

³For all $x \in X$, there exists $B \in \mathcal{B}$ s.t. $x \in B$

⁴For all $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ and $x \in B_1 \cap B_2$, there exists B_3 such that $x \in B_3 \subset B_1 \cap B_2$

- (c) (Fineness by comparing bases) If $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'$ are bases for topologies $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T}'$, then the following are equivalent:
- \mathcal{T}' is finer than \mathcal{T}
 - For each $x \in X$ and each basis element in \mathcal{B} containing x , there is a basis element $B' \in \mathcal{B}'$ such that $x \in B' \subset B$.
Simply put, each basis element in \mathcal{B} is covered by basis elements in \mathcal{B}' . Smaller basis elements produce a finer topology.

(6) Definition of subbasis:

DEFINITION (SUBBASIS):

A collection of subsets of X whose union equals X .

That is, a collection that covers X .

DEFINITION (TOPOLOGY GENERATED FROM A SUBBASIS \mathcal{S}):

The collection of all unions of finite intersections of elements of \mathcal{S} .

That is, form a basis by taking all finite intersections of \mathcal{S} , then generate a topology from that basis.

1.1.2 Closed sets and limit points

(7) Definition of closed sets:

DEFINITION (CLOSED SET):

A subset A of X is closed in X if $X - A$ is open in X .

(8) Properties of closed sets:

- (a) (Closed sets in a topology) The following conditions hold for X a topological space:

- \emptyset and X are closed
- Arbitrary intersections of closed sets are closed
- Finite unions of closed sets are closed

Note the difference with open sets (namely, the arbitrary and finite requirements).

- (b) (Relationship to a subspace) Let Y be a subspace of X . Then a set A is closed in Y if and only if it equals the intersection of a closed set of X with Y .

In other words, intersection of a closed set with a subspace is closed in the subspace, and vice versa.

Note: this is the same as with open sets.

- (c) (Transitivity but cooler) Suppose $Y \subset X$ is closed and $A \subset Y$. Then A is closed in Y if and only if A is closed in X .

(9) Definition of interior and closure:

DEFINITION (INTERIOR):

The union of all open sets contained in $A \subset X$. It is denoted $\text{Int } A$.

That is, it is the ‘largest’ open set contained entirely within A .

DEFINITION (CLOSURE):

The intersection of all closed sets containing $A \subset X$. It is denoted \bar{A} .

That is, it is the ‘smallest’ closed set entirely containing A .

It is straightforward that $\text{Int } A \subset A \subset \bar{A}$.

(10) Properties of closure:

- (a) (Relationship to a subspace) Let Y be a subspace of X , and let A be a subset of Y ($A \subset Y \subset X$). Then the closure of A in Y equals $\bar{A} \cap Y$.

In other words, intersection of a closure with a subspace is the closure in the subspace.

- (b) (Closure and neighborhoods) $x \in \bar{A}$ if and only if every neighborhood of x intersects A .

In practice: ‘can you find an open set around x that doesn’t intersect A (i.e. isolates x from A)?’

(Relating to basis elements) Let X have basis \mathcal{B} . Then $x \in \bar{A}$ if and only if every $B \in \mathcal{B}$ containing x intersects A .

- (c) (Closure and closed sets) A set is closed if and only if its closure is itself ($\bar{A} = A$).

(11) Definition of limit point:

DEFINITION (LIMIT POINT):

x is a limit point of A if each neighborhood of x intersects $A - x$.

EQUIVALENT DEFINITION: x is a limit point if and only if $x \in \overline{A - x}$.

The set of limit points of A is denoted A' .

(12) Closure and limit points:

$$\bar{A} = A \cup A'.$$

Convergent sequences

(13) Definition of convergent sequence:

DEFINITION (CONVERGENT SEQUENCE):

A sequence $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots$ converges to y if for all neighborhoods U of y , there is N such that $x_i \in U$ for all $i \geq N$.

Simply put, the sequence is eventually always in U .

1.2 Examples of topologies

(14) The indiscrete topology:

DEFINITION (INDISCRETE/TRIVIAL TOPOLOGY):

Given a set X , the indiscrete topology is $\{X, \emptyset\}$

The indiscrete topology is the coarsest topology on X .

(15) The discrete topology:

DEFINITION (DISCRETE TOPOLOGY):

Given a set X , the discrete topology consists of all subsets of X .

The discrete topology is the finest topology on X .

The discrete topology can be generated by the basis $\{\{x\} \mid x \in X\}$.

(16) The standard topology on \mathbb{R} :

DEFINITION (STANDARD TOPOLOGY ON \mathbb{R}):

The topology generated by basis elements of the form $(a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$.

(17) The lower limit topology on \mathbb{R} :

DEFINITION (LOWER LIMIT TOPOLOGY):

The topology generated by basis elements of the form $[a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$.

The lower limit topology is strictly finer than the standard topology.

(18) The K -topology on \mathbb{R} :

DEFINITION (K -TOPOLOGY ON \mathbb{R}):

The topology generated by basis elements of the form $(a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$ as well as $(a, b) - K$, where $K = \{\frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$.

The K -topology is strictly finer than the standard topology but incomparable with the lower limit topology.

(19) The finite complement topology:

DEFINITION (FINITE COMPLEMENT TOPOLOGY):

Given a set X , the finite complement topology consists of all subsets U such that $X - U$ is either finite or all of X .

1.3 Important derived topologies

(20) The order topology:

DEFINITION (ORDER TOPOLOGY):

Given a set X with a simple order $<$, the order topology is generated by basis elements of the following forms:

- (a) All open intervals (a, b) in X
- (b) If X has a smallest element a_0 , all intervals of the form $[a_0, b)$
- (c) If X has a largest element b_0 , all intervals of the form $(a, b_0]$.

(21) The product topology:

DEFINITION (PRODUCT TOPOLOGY):

Given topological spaces X and Y , the product topology $X \times Y^5$ is generated by basis elements of the form $U \times V$ where $U \in X$ and $V \in Y$.

(22) The subspace topology:

DEFINITION (SUBSPACE TOPOLOGY):

Let X be a set with topology \mathcal{T} . If $Y \subset X$, the subspace topology on Y is $\mathcal{T}_Y = \{Y \cap U \mid U \in \mathcal{T}\}$.

That is, the subspace topology has the intersections between the open sets and Y as its open sets.

Note: we say that Y inherits its topology from X .

(23) Properties of the order, product and subspace topologies:

- (a) (Basis for the product topology) If \mathcal{B} is a basis for X and \mathcal{C} is a basis for Y , then the collection

$$\mathcal{D} = \{B \times C \mid B \in \mathcal{B}, C \in \mathcal{C}\}$$

is a basis for $X \times Y$.

- (b) (Basis for the subspace topology) If \mathcal{B} is a basis for X , then the collection

$$\mathcal{B}_Y = \{B \cap Y \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$$

is a basis for \mathcal{T}_Y .

That is, we can take the intersections of each of the basis elements with Y to form a basis for the subspace topology.

- (c) (Transitivity of openness) Let Y be a subspace of X . If U is open in Y and Y is open in X , then U is open in X .
- (d) (Relationship between product and subspace topologies) Let A be a subspace of X and B a subspace of Y . Then the product topology on $A \times B$ is the same as the subspace topology on $A \times B$ as a subspace of $X \times Y$.

⁵Not technically a Cartesian product

- (e) (Subspace topology is always finer than order topology) Given a set $A \subset X$ where A inherits its order relationship from X , the topology inherited by A as a subspace of the order topology on X is finer than the order topology on A .
- (f) (Equality of order and subspace topologies) Let X be an ordered set in the order topology, and let $Y \subset X$ be convex (i.e. for all $a < b$, $(a, b) \subset Y$). Then the order topology on Y is the same as the subspace topology that Y inherits from X .

Counterexample for non-convex subsets: $X = \mathbb{R}$, $Y = [0, 1] \cup (2, 3)$; consider $(0, 1]$.

1.3.1 The (general) product topology

(24) Definition of J -tuple:

DEFINITION (J -TUPLE):

Let J be an index set. For every $\alpha \in J$, we have a set X_α . The J -tuple is the Cartesian product of this indexed family of sets

$$\mathcal{P} = \prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha.$$

If all X_α are the same, each element \underline{x} of \mathcal{P} is basically a function from J to X_α .

We can give this set one of two topologies, constructed in subtly different ways.

(25) Definitions of the box and product topologies:

DEFINITION (BOX TOPOLOGY):

Define the topology using a basis. The basis elements are of the form

$$\prod_{\alpha \in J} U_\alpha$$

where for each α , U_α is an open set in X_α .

DEFINITION (PRODUCT TOPOLOGY):

Define the topology using a subbasis. The subbasis elements are the preimages of projection maps. That is, they are of the form

$$\pi_\alpha^{-1}(U_\alpha).$$

Then the basis is a finite product of U_α along with an infinite product of X_α , in some arrangement.

For finite products, the two topologies are identical. However, the finite intersection axiom of topological spaces (and, as a result, of basis elements) means that the product topology is a much more natural topology for the product, and many things go wrong with the box topology.

(26) Properties of the box and product topologies:

- (a) (Box topology is finer than product topology)
- (b) (Generating box and product topologies with basis) Let B_α be a basis element for X_α . Sets of the form $\prod_{\alpha \in J} B_\alpha$ can serve as basis elements for the box topology. Sets of the form $\prod_{\alpha \in J} B'_\alpha$ where $B'_\alpha = B_\alpha$ for finitely many α and $B'_\alpha = X_\alpha$ for all other α can serve as basis elements for the product topology.
- (c) (Box/product topology of subspaces is subspace of box/product topology) Let A_α be a subspace of X_α . Then $\prod_{\alpha \in J} A_\alpha$ is a subspace of $\prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ if both have the box topology, or if both have the product topology.
- (d) (Box/product of Hausdorff topologies is Hausdorff) If each X_α is Hausdorff, then $\prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ is Hausdorff in both the box and product topologies.
- (e) (Box/product of closures is closure of box/product) Let $A_\alpha \subset X_\alpha$ be subspaces. If $\prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ is in either the box or product topology, then

$$\prod_{\alpha \in J} \bar{A}_\alpha = \overline{\prod_{\alpha \in J} A_\alpha}.$$

1.3.2 Metric topology

(27) Definitions of metric and metric topology:

DEFINITION (METRIC):

Given a set X , a metric $d : X^2 \rightarrow [0, \infty) \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a function that satisfies the following axioms:

- (a) $d(x, x) = 0$
- (b) $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$
- (c) If $x \neq y$, $d(x, y) > 0$
- (d) (Triangle inequality) $d(x, y) + d(y, w) \geq d(x, w)$

DEFINITION (METRIC TOPOLOGY):

Given a set X equipped with a metric, the metric topology on X is defined using the basis consisting of ε -balls:

$$B(x, \varepsilon) = \{y \in X \mid d(x, y) < \varepsilon\}.$$

(28) Definition of metrizable:

DEFINITION (METRIZABLE):

A topological space is metrizable if there exists a metric that generates the same topology.

Note: The metric is not necessarily unique.

(29) Properties of metric and metrizable spaces

- (a) (Metrizable implies Hausdorff) If X is metrizable, then X is Hausdorff.

- (b) (Subspace of a metric topology is a metric topology) If A is a subspace of a topological space X and d is a metric for X , $d' : A \times A' : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a metric for A .
- (c) (Countable product of metrizable spaces is metrizable)
- (d) (Limit points are points of convergence in metrizable spaces) If X is metrizable and $A \subset X$, then $x \in \bar{A}$ if and only if there exists some sequence $x_i \in A$ such that x_i converges to x .
- (e) (Box topology is not metrizable)
- (f) (Product topology is metrizable)

(30) Definition of uniform metric and topology:

DEFINITION (UNIFORM METRIC):

Given a topological space X^J and points \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} in X^J , the uniform metric is

$$\bar{\rho}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sup_{\alpha \in J} \{\bar{d}(x_\alpha, y_\alpha), 1\} = \sup_{\alpha \in J} \{\min\{d(x_\alpha, y_\alpha), 1\}\}$$

DEFINITION (UNIFORM TOPOLOGY):

The metric topology generated using the uniform metric.

(31) Comparisons of the product, uniform and box topologies on \mathbb{R}^ω :

From finest to coarsest: box, uniform, product

To generate the product topology with a metric, use the metric given by

$$D(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_+} \left(\frac{\bar{d}(x_i, y_i)}{i} \right)$$

1.3.3 Quotient topology

(32) Definition of quotient topology:

DEFINITION (QUOTIENT TOPOLOGY):

Given a topological space X and a surjective function $f : X \rightarrow Y$, define the quotient topology as follows: a set $V \subset Y$ is open if $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X .

f is the QUOTIENT MAP.

Motivation: essentially 'gluing' some points to each other (see alternate definition)

(33) Properties of the quotient topology:

- (a) (f is forced to be continuous) $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is, by definition, continuous.
- (b) (Finest topology on Y such that f is continuous) The quotient topology on Y is the finest topology on Y such that $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous.
That is, it has the largest number of open sets such that f is continuous.

- (c) (Alternate definition of quotient topology) Given a set X , define an equivalence relation \sim on X and group points in X into equivalence classes (equivalent points will be glued together and become one point). Define a new set $Y = X/\sim$ so that each equivalent class is one point. Then Y is the quotient topology.

Relation to original definition: f is surjective, so $x \sim x'$ if $f(x) = f(x')$. That is, two points are equivalent if their images are the same.

- (d) (Composition of quotient topologies) If Y is the quotient topology defined from X by f and W is the quotient topology defined from Y by g , then W is the same as the quotient topology defined from X by $g \circ f$.

1.4 Separation axioms (continued later)

(34) T_1 and T_2 axiom:

DEFINITION (T_1 AXIOM):

A topological space X the T_1 axiom if every one-point set in X is closed.

This excludes the indiscrete topology.

DEFINITION (T_2 AXIOM, HAUSDORFF SPACE):

A topological space X the T_2 axiom if for every $x, y \in X$ ($x \neq y$) then there exist $U, V \in X$ such that $x \in U$, $y \in V$ and $U \cap V = \emptyset$.

Simply put, there are open sets U, V that can isolate x and y from each other.

(35) Properties of T_1 and T_2 spaces:

- (a) (T_2 is stronger than T_1) That is, T_2 implies T_1 .
- (b) A finite topology satisfying T_1 is the discrete topology (and thus implies T_1 in this special case).
- (c) Suppose X is T_2 (i.e. X is Hausdorff). Then a sequence can converge to at most one point.
- (d) If X and Y are T_2 , then the product is also T_2 .
- (e) If X is T_2 and $Y \subset X$, then Y in the subspace topology is also T_2 .
- (f) Order topologies are Hausdorff/ T_2 .

Chapter 2

Continuous functions

(36) Definition of continuous function, homeomorphism and topological imbedding:

DEFINITION (CONTINUOUS FUNCTION):

Given a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$, f is continuous if for all open sets $U \subset Y$, the preimage $f^{-1}(U)$ is open in X .

The preimage is the set of all points such that their images are in U .

If f is a bijection (i.e. it is both injective and surjective), we can define the inverse f^{-1} .

DEFINITION (HOMEOMORPHISM):

If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous and bijective and $f^{-1} : Y \rightarrow X$ is also continuous, then f is a homeomorphism.

That is, U maps to $f(U)$ and $f(U)$ maps back to U .

Topological spaces that are HOMEOMORPHIC (i.e. there exists a homeomorphism between them) look somewhat similar: their open sets correspond according to bijective maps.

There are multiple possible homeomorphisms between topological spaces.

DEFINITION (TOPOLOGICAL IMBEDDING):

Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous and injective; consider $Z = f(X)$ as a subspace of Y . Then $f' : X \rightarrow Z$ is bijective; if f' is a homeomorphism, then f is a (topological) imbedding of X in Y .

That is, X is homeomorphic to some subspace of Y .

See Munkres pp. 106-7 for examples.

2.1 Properties of continuous functions

(37) Functions that we know are continuous:

- (a) (Constant function is continuous) If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is such that $f(x) = y_0$ ($y_0 \in Y$) for all $x \in X$, f is continuous.
- (b) (Inclusion function is continuous) Given a subspace $A \subset Y$, the function $f : A \rightarrow Y$ such that $f(a) = a$ for all $a \in A$ is continuous.

- (c) (Composition is continuous) Given continuous functions $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and $g : Y \rightarrow Z$, the map $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$ is continuous.
- (d) (Projection maps are continuous) Given a product topology $P = \prod_{\alpha \in J} (X_\alpha)$, the projection maps $\pi_\beta : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow X_\beta$ ($\pi_\beta((x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in J}) = x_\beta$) are continuous.
- (e) (Addition, subtraction, multiplication, quotient are continuous on the reals, as are those of continuous functions on $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$) For continuous $f, g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f + g, f - g, f \cdot g, f/g$ are continuous.

This is really the definition of the product topology (see Section 1.3.1)

(38) Playing with domain and range:

- (f) (Restricting domain preserves continuity) Given continuous $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and A a subspace of X , $f|_A : A \rightarrow Y$ is continuous.
- (g) (Restricting or expanding range preserves continuity) Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous.
Restricting range: If Y has $Z \supset f(X)$ as a subspace, then $f_1 : X \rightarrow Z$ is continuous.
Expanding range: If Y is a subspace of Z , then $f_2 : X \rightarrow Z$ is continuous.
- (h) (Local continuity everywhere implies global continuity) If X can be covered by open sets U_α and all $f|_{U_\alpha}$ are continuous, then $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous.

(39) Equivalence with conventional definitions:

- (i) (Epsilon-delta definition on metrizable spaces) Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ where X and Y are metrizable with metrics d_X and d_Y . Then f is continuous if for any $x \in X$ and any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$d_X(x, y) < \delta \implies d_Y(f(x), f(y)) < \varepsilon.$$

- (j) (Convergent sequence definition) Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$. If f is continuous, \implies for every sequence x_n convergent to $x \in X$, the sequence $f(x_n)$ converges to $f(x)$. This also defines a continuous function if X is metrizable.
- (k) (Uniform limit theorem: uniform convergence implies continuous) Let $f_n : X \rightarrow Y$ be a sequence of continuous functions from a topological space X to metric space Y . If for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists an integer N such that

$$d(f_n(x), f(x)) < \varepsilon$$

for all $n > N$ and all $x \in X$ (i.e. (f_n) uniformly converges to f), then f is continuous.

(40) Other important properties:

- (l) (The pasting lemma) Write X as $A \cup B$ where A, B are closed in X . Given continuous $f : A \rightarrow Y$ and $g : B \rightarrow Y$ such that $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in A \cap B$, the function

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & x \in A \\ g(x) & x \in B \end{cases}$$

is continuous.

- (m) (Checking a function is continuous) We can show that:

- i. $f^{-1}(U)$ is open for all open sets U
- ii. $f^{-1}(B)$ is open for all basis elements B
- iii. $f^{-1}(S)$ is open for all subbasis elements S

(41) Topologies and continuous functions:

- (a) (On the product topology, a function is continuous iff all its component functions are continuous) Consider an index set J . For each $\alpha \in J$, define $f_\alpha : Y \rightarrow X_\alpha$. Consider $F : Y \rightarrow \prod_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$ in the product topology. F is continuous if and only if all the f_α are continuous.
 $F(y)$ is a multiple-valued function where the α th coordinate is $f_\alpha(y)$.
- (b) (Relationship between fineness and continuity) Suppose $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous. Then $f_1 : X' \rightarrow Y$ is continuous if X' is finer than X ; $f_2 : X \rightarrow Y'$ is continuous if Y' is coarser than Y . The logical counterparts are not necessarily true (e.g. if X' is coarser or Y' is finer).
- (c) Almost by definition, the product topology is the coarsest possible topology where the projection maps are continuous.
- (d) The metric topology is the coarsest topology X such that $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous.

Apart from functions whose components are eventually constant, it is impossible¹ to find any functions that are continuous in the box topology.

Example: $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{box}^\omega$ such that each $f_\alpha(t) = t$ is not continuous in the box topology!

¹Almost. It is impossible if we assume the continuum hypothesis: <http://math.stackexchange.com/questions/1229704/request-for-an-example-of-a-continuous-map-relative-to-the-box-topology-on-mat>

Chapter 3

Connectedness and compactness

3.1 Connected spaces

(42) Definition of separation and connected:

DEFINITION (SEPARATION):

A separation of a topological space X is two open non-empty subsets U, V such that U and V are disjoint and $U \cup V = X$.

Simply put, we divide X into two non-empty open parts.

DEFINITION (CONNECTED):

X is connected if it does not admit a separation.

(43) Definition of path-connected:

DEFINITION (PATH-CONNECTED):

X is path-connected if for all points $x, y \in X$, there exists a continuous function $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ such that $f(0) = x$ and $f(1) = y$ ($[0, 1]$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}_{std}).

Simply put, there is a continuous path in X from x to y .

(44) Definition of locally connected:

DEFINITION (LOCALLY CONNECTED):

A space X is locally connected at x if **for every** neighborhood U of x , there is a connected neighborhood V of x such that $V \subset U$.

That is, every neighborhood is contained in a connected set.

(45) Properties of connected / path-connected / locally connected spaces:

- (a) (Continuous image of a connected space is connected) If X is connected and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous, then $f(X)$ is also connected.
- (b) (Product of two connected spaces is connected) If X and Y are connected, then $X \times Y$ is also connected. This generalizes to finite products by induction.

- (c) (A is separation iff disjoint covering do not contain each other's limit points) Let B and C be disjoint (not necessarily open) subsets that cover some $A \subset X$. Then B and C are separations of A if and only if $\bar{B} \cap C$ and $B \cap \bar{C}$ are empty.
- (d) (Connected subspace must be entirely contained in a separation.) If $Y \subset A$ is connected and A has a separation U, V , then $Y \subset U$ or $Y \subset V$.
- (e) (Connected iff between connected A and \bar{A}) If A is connected and $A \subset B \subset \bar{A}$, then B is also connected.
- (f) (Union of connected subsets) If all A_i are connected and they have a non-empty intersection, then the union is also connected.
- (g) (Connected iff the only clopen sets are X and \emptyset) If a non-empty set $U \neq X$ is both open and closed, then X is not connected.
- (h) (Intermediate value theorem) If X is connected, $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, and $f(x_0) = a$ and $f(x_1) = b$, then for all c between a and b , $f^{-1}(\{c\})$ is non-empty.
- (i) (Path-connected implies connected) If X is path-connected, then X is connected.

(46) Definition of connected components:

DEFINITION (CONNECTED COMPONENTS):

Let $x \sim y$ if there is a connected subset $A \subset X$ such that $x, y \in A$. Then each equivalence class is a connected component.

This partitions X into a collection of 'maximally connected subsets.'

A similar definition applies to path-connected components.

3.2 Compact spaces

(47) Definition of open cover and compact spaces:

DEFINITION (OPEN COVER):

An open cover of X is a collection of open subsets $U_\alpha \subset X$ (for all $\alpha \in J$) that covers X :

$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in J} U_\alpha = X.$$

DEFINITION (COMPACT):

A topological space X is compact if for all open covers of X , there is a finite subcover of X . That is, there are indices $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ such that $U_{\alpha_1} \cup \dots \cup U_{\alpha_n} = X$.

(48) Properties of compact spaces:

- (a) ($[0, 1]$ is compact) The subspace $[0, 1] \subset \mathbb{R}_{\text{std}}$ is compact.
- (b) (Closed subspace of a compact space is compact)
- (c) (Compact subspace of a Hausdorff space is closed)
- (d) (Continuous image of compact space is compact) If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous and X is compact, then $f(X)$ is compact.

- (e) (Continuous bijection from compact to Hausdorff is homeomorphism) If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is bijective and continuous, and if X is compact and Y is Hausdorff, then f is a homeomorphism.
- (f) (Finite product of compact spaces is compact)
- (g)

(49) Definition of local compactness:

DEFINITION (LOCAL COMPACTNESS):

For every point $x \in X$, **there exists** an open set U containing x such that $U \subset C$ where C is compact.

That is, there is some neighborhood contained in a compact set.

(50) One-point compactification:

Suppose X is locally compact and Hausdorff. Define a new point p and include it in Y : $Y = X \cup \{p\}$. Let Y have the following open sets:

- (a) all U open in X are open in Y ;
- (b) all $(X - C) \cup \{p\}$ are open in Y where C is compact in X .

Then Y is compact and Hausdorff.

Chapter 4

Countability and separation axioms

4.1 Countability axioms

(51) Definition of first countable:

DEFINITION (FIRST COUNTABLE):

A space X is called first countable if for all $x \in X$, there is a countable collection of open sets \mathcal{B}_x such that given any U containing x , there is some $V \in \mathcal{B}_x$ such that $x \in V \subset U$.

That is, for every x , fix x and find a sequence of sets V_i such that for any U around x , U contains some V_i containing x .

Note: \mathcal{B}_x is sort of like a ‘basis’ – there is some countable diminishing collection of sets such that V can fit between x and U .

(52) Definition of second countable:

DEFINITION (SECOND COUNTABLE):

A space X is second countable if it has a countable basis.

Note: it suffices to simply find a countable basis.

(53) Additional definitions:

DEFINITION (EVERYWHERE DENSE):

A countable subset A of X is everywhere dense if $\bar{A} = X$.

DEFINITION (LINDELÖF SPACE):

A space such that every open cover of X has a countable subcover.

Clearly, compactness implies Lindelöf.

(54) Properties of first countable and second countable spaces:

- (a) (Metric spaces are first countable)
- (b) (First countable implies points of convergence and points in the closure are the same)
If X is a first countable space and $A \subset X$, then $x \in \bar{A}$ if and only if there exists a sequence $x_n \in A$ such that x_n converges to x .

- (c) (Second countable implies first countable)
- (d) (Subspaces of first/second countable are first/second countable)
- (e) (Product of two first/second countable spaces is first/second countable)
- (f) (Subspace of Lindelöf is Lindelöf)
- (g) (Second countable implies Lindelöf and there is a countable everywhere dense subset)
If X is second countable, then:
 - i. X has a countable subset $A \subset X$ such that $\bar{A} = X$, and
 - ii. Every open cover of X has a countable subcover
- (h) (Metric and everywhere dense countable subset exists implies second countable) If X is a metric space and X has an everywhere dense countable subset, then X has a countable basis.
- (i) (Metric and Lindelöf implies second countable) If X is a metric space and X is Lindelöf, then X has a countable basis.

(55) Examples:

- (a) \mathbb{R} in the finite complement topology and $\mathbb{R}_{\text{box}}^\omega$ are not first countable
- (b) \mathbb{R}_l , \mathbb{R}_K and $\mathbb{R}_{\text{discrete}}$ are first countable
- (c) $\mathbb{R}_{\text{discrete}}$, \mathbb{R}_l and $\mathbb{R}_{\text{uniform}}^\omega$ are not second countable
- (d) \mathbb{R}_{std} , $\mathbb{R}_{\text{std}}^n$, $\mathbb{R}_{\text{product}}^\omega$ are all second countable
- (e) (Lindelöf and existence of countable everywhere dense subset are independent)
 - i. $\mathbb{R}_l \times \mathbb{R}_l$ is first countable and has an everywhere dense countable subset ($\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$) but it is not Lindelöf.
Also illustrates that the product of two Lindelöf spaces is not necessarily Lindelöf.
 - ii. The ordered square I_0^2 is first countable and compact hence Lindelöf. However, it has no everywhere dense countable subset.
Also implies that the ordered square is not metrizable

4.2 Separation axioms

(56) Definition of regular and normal spaces:

DEFINITION (REGULAR):

A space X is T_3 (i.e. regular) if: (1) the 1-point sets are closed, and (2) for all $a \in X$ and a closed set $B \subset X$ not containing a , there are disjoint open sets U and V such that $a \in U$ and $B \subset V$.

DEFINITION (NORMAL):

A space X is T_4 (i.e. normal) if: (1) the 1-point sets are closed, and (2) for all closed disjoint subsets A and B of X , there exist disjoint open sets U and V such that $A \subset U$ and $B \subset V$.

(57) Examples:

- (a) \mathbb{R}_K is Hausdorff but not regular, so \mathbb{R}_K is not metrizable
- (b) \mathbb{R}_l is normal, but $\mathbb{R}_l \times \mathbb{R}_l$ is not normal.
- (c) Given S_Ω (the minimal uncountable order topology), \bar{S}_Ω , S_Ω , and $\bar{S}_\Omega \times \bar{S}_\Omega$ are all normal; however, the product/subspace $S_\Omega \times \bar{S}_\Omega$ is not normal.

(58) Properties of regular and normal spaces:

- (a) (Normal implies regular)
- (b) (Regular implies Hausdorff)
- (c) (Metric implies normal)
- (d) (Alternative definitions) X is regular iff for every open U , for all $a \in U$, there exists open V such that $a \in V \subset \bar{V} \subset U$.
 X is normal iff for all open U , for all closed $A \subset U$, there exists open V such that $A \subset V \subset \bar{V} \subset U$.
That is, we can 'fit' an open set and its closure between a/A and U .
- (e) (Subspace of regular is regular)
- (f) (Product of regular is regular)

(59) Urysohn's lemma:

If X is normal and A and B are two disjoint closed subsets of X , there exists a continuous map $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $f(x) = a$ for all $x \in A$, and $f(x) = b$ for all $x \in B$.

(60) Relation between separation and countability:

- (a) (Regular and second countable implies normal)
- (b) (Hausdorff and compact implies normal)
- (c) (Urysohn's metrization theorem: regular and second countable implies metrizable)
- (d) (Regular and Lindelöf implies normal)
- (e) (Condition for equivalence between metrizable and second countable) Let X be a compact Hausdorff space, X is metrizable if and only if X is second countable.

(61) Tietze's extension theorem:

If X is normal, $A \subset X$ is closed and $f : A \rightarrow [a, b]$ is continuous, then there exists a continuous $g : X \rightarrow [a, b]$ such that $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in A$.

Chapter 5

Manifolds

(62) Definition of manifold:

DEFINITION (n -MANIFOLD):

A topological space X is an n -manifold if it is Hausdorff, has a countable basis, and is such that every point $x \in X$ has a neighborhood $U \subset X$ homeomorphic to an open set $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, or equivalently, with an open ball in \mathbb{R}^n .

Note: Hausdorff is necessary, or it admits the line with two origins; countable basis is necessary, or it admits the long line.

(63) Properties of manifolds:

- (a) (Every manifold is regular)

Hence every manifold is normal.

- (b) (Product of n -manifold and m -manifold is $n \times m$ -manifold)

- (c) (All manifolds can be imbedded in some \mathbb{R}^k) Let X^n be a [compact] n -manifold. Then there is a k such that X^n can be imbedded in \mathbb{R}^k .

- (d) (Compact can replace countable basis as requirement for manifold) Let X be a Hausdorff space such that each point of X has a neighborhood that is homeomorphic with an open subset of \mathbb{R}^m . Show that if X is compact, then X is an m -manifold.

Part II

Algebraic Topology

Chapter 6

Algebra primer

6.1 Basic algebra

(64) Definition of group:

DEFINITION (GROUP):

A group is a set with some operation (written additively or multiplicatively) where (1) the set contains the identity, (2) the set contains the inverse of each element, (3) the set is closed under the operation, and (4) the operation is associative.

DEFINITION (ABELIAN):

A group is abelian if the operation is commutative.

Note: we generally write groups multiplicatively, and sometimes additively when we want to emphasize that the group is abelian.

(65) Generating elements:

DEFINITION (GENERATING SET):

Given a group G , a subset S of G is said to GENERATE G if every element in G can be written as a combination of finitely many elements of S and their inverses. If S contains finitely many elements, G is FINITELY GENERATED.

(66) Definitions relating to group homomorphisms:

DEFINITION (GROUP HOMOMORPHISM):

Given G and G' , a homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G'$ is a map such that $f(x \cdot y) = f(x) \cdot f(y)$ for all x and y .

That is, the structure of G is somewhat maintained in the structure of G' .

DEFINITION (KERNEL):

The kernel of a homomorphism f is $f^{-1}(e')$ (the set of elements in G that map to the identity of G').

DEFINITION (MONOMORPHISM):

An injective homomorphism.

DEFINITION (EPIMORPHISM):

A surjective homomorphism.

DEFINITION (ISOMORPHISM):

A bijective homomorphism. An isomorphism between two groups indicates that the two groups have the same algebraic structure.

(67) Subgroups and quotient groups:

DEFINITION (SUBGROUP):

A subset of a group that is still a group with the original operation.

DEFINITION (CONJUGATE):

If $x, y \in G$, then x and y are conjugates if $y = cxc^{-1}$ for some $c \in G$.

DEFINITION (NORMAL SUBGROUP):

A subgroup H of G is a normal subgroup if for each $h \in H$ and $x \in G$, $x \cdot h \cdot x^{-1}$ is in H .

Explanation: It helps to consider two more definitions. The LEFT COSET is $xH = \{xh \mid h \in H\}$ for some fixed $x \in G$. The RIGHT COSET is $Hx = \{hx \mid h \in H\}$ for some fixed $x \in G$. Both the left cosets and right cosets form partitions of G , but they may be different. The two partitions are the same if and only if $xH = Hx$, which is the definition of a normal subgroup.

A normal subgroup is a subgroup of G that contains all conjugates of its elements.

DEFINITION (QUOTIENT GROUP):

If H is a normal subgroup, the quotient G/H is the group composed of the cosets of H (the operations between them are inherited from G).

That is, if two elements are in the same coset, they are considered equivalent.

6.2 Direct sums, free products and free groups

(68) Generating subgroups and direct sums in abelian groups:

DEFINITION (GENERATING SUBGROUPS; FORMAL SUM):

Let G be abelian and $\{G_\alpha\}_J$ be a family of subgroups of G . The G_α generate G if every element $x \in G$ can be written as a finite sum $x = x_{\alpha_1} + \cdots + x_{\alpha_n}$.

We may write x as a FORMAL SUM:

$$x = \sum_{\alpha \in J} x_\alpha$$

DEFINITION (DIRECT SUM):

If G has subgroups $\{G_\alpha\}$, and the formal sum representation of each element of G is unique, G is a direct sum of the G_α . This is written using the \oplus operator:

$$G = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in J} G_\alpha$$

DEFINITION (EXTERNAL DIRECT SUM):

Let $\{G_\alpha\}$ be a family of abelian groups, and G be an abelian group such that each map $i_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow G$ is a monomorphism. Then G is the external direct sum of G_α relative to the i_α if G is the direct sum of $i_\alpha(G_\alpha)$.

That is, the external direct sum is the direct sum of the images of these maps.

The sum is ‘external’ because the direct sum is of the images, not of the subgroups themselves.

Motivation: we want to find a group G ‘generated’ by groups that are not necessarily subgroups of G ; it is sufficient that the provided groups are isomorphic to subgroups of G .

We sometimes abuse notation and use \oplus for external direct sums too, but the specification of the i_α is sufficient to clarify meaning.

(69) Properties of generators and direct sums in abelian groups:

- (a) (Extension property: direct sum iff any homomorphisms are extensible) Let G be an abelian group, and $\{G_\alpha\}$ a family of subgroups of G that generates G . Then G is the direct sum of the G_α if and only if for any abelian H and any homomorphisms $h_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow H$, there exists a homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ that is the extension of the h_α to G . For such h , h is unique.
- (b) (Direct sum of groups is direct sum of all direct sums) If $G = G_1 \oplus G_2$ and $G_1 = \bigoplus_\alpha H_\alpha$ and $G_2 = \bigoplus_\beta H_\beta$, then $G = \bigoplus_{\gamma=\alpha,\beta} H_\gamma$.
This implies that \oplus is associative.
- (c) $((G_1 \oplus G_2)/G_2 \cong G_1)$ If $G = G_1 \oplus G_2$, then G/G_2 is isomorphic to G_1 .
- (d) (Generators of generating subgroups generate the group) If $\{G_\alpha\}$ generates G , and each G_α is generated by a_α , then $\{a_\alpha\}$ generate G .
- (e) (Existence of external direct sum) Given a family of abelian groups $\{G_\alpha\}$, there exists an abelian group G and a family of monomorphisms $i_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow G$ such that G is the direct sum of the groups $i_\alpha(G_\alpha)$.
- (f) (Extension property: external direct sum iff any homomorphisms are extensible) Let G be an abelian group, $\{G_\alpha\}$ a family of subgroups of G , and i_α monomorphisms such that the $i_\alpha(G_\alpha)$ generate G . Then G is the external direct sum of the G_α if and only if for any abelian H and any homomorphisms $h_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow H$, there exists a homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ such that $h \circ i_\alpha = h_\alpha$. For such h , h is unique.
- (g) (Uniqueness of external direct sums up to isomorphism) If G and G' are abelian groups that are both external direct sums of G_α relative to i_α and i'_α respectively, then there is a unique isomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ such that $\phi \circ i_\alpha = i'_\alpha$.

(70) Definition and properties of free abelian group, basis and rank:

DEFINITION (FREE ABELIAN GROUP; BASIS):

If G is generated by $\{G_\alpha\}$ where each G_α is infinite cyclic with a_α as the generator, then G is a free abelian group with $\{a_\alpha\}$ as a basis.

DEFINITION (RANK):

The rank of a free abelian group G with a finite basis is the number of elements in any basis for G .

Rank is well-defined because of the following properties. Essentially, the rank is independent of the basis.

Properties:

- (a) (Extension property: free abelian group iff any homomorphisms are extensible) Let G be an abelian group and $\{a_\alpha\}$ be a generating set of G . Then G is a free abelian group if and only if for any abelian H and any subset $\{y_\alpha\}$ of H , there exists a homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ such that $h(a_\alpha) = y_\alpha$. For such h , h is unique.
- (b) (Rank is unique) If G is a free abelian group with basis $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$, then n is uniquely determined by G .

(71) Definition of generating subgroups and free products in general groups:

DEFINITION (GENERATING SUBGROUP):

As before, a family of subgroups G_α generates G if every element x of G can be written as a finite product of the elements in G_α .

DEFINITION (WORD):

A representation of an element x of G (above) by a finite sequence $x_1 \cdots x_n$ of elements of G_α .

DEFINITION (REDUCED WORD):

A word where adjacent ‘letters’ are combined wherever possible.

DEFINITION (FREE PRODUCT):

Let G be a group generated by subgroups G_α where the only common element is the identity of G . Then G is the free product of the G_α if for each $x \in G$, there is exactly one reduced word using the G_α that represents x .

Notation: using the $$ operator, or in product form,*

$$G = \prod_{\alpha \in J}^* G_\alpha$$

*In practice, to take the free product of two groups G_1 and G_2 , consider the generating sets S_1 and S_2 respectively. The elements of $G = G_1 * G_2$ are reduced words made using elements in S_1 and S_2 (and their inverses), and the operation is concatenation followed by reduction.*

DEFINITION (EXTERNAL FREE PRODUCT):

Let $\{G_\alpha\}$ be a family of groups, and G be a group such that each map $i_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow G$ is a monomorphism. Then G is the external direct sum of G_α relative to the i_α if G is the free product of the $i_\alpha(G_\alpha)$.

This is very similar to the external direct sum (vs. direct sum). It allows the construction of G from groups that are not necessarily subgroups of G .

(72) Properties of free products:

- (a) (Extension property: free product iff any homomorphisms are extensible) Let G be a group, and $\{G_\alpha\}$ a family of subgroups of G that generates G . Then G is the free product of the G_α if and only if for any group H and any homomorphisms $h_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow H$, there exists a homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ that is the extension of the h_α to G . For such h , h is unique.
- (b) (Existence of external free product) Given a family of groups $\{G_\alpha\}$, there exists a group G and a family of monomorphisms $i_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow G$ such that G is the free product of the groups $i_\alpha(G_\alpha)$.
- (c) (Extension property: external free product iff any homomorphisms are extensible) Let G be a group, $\{G_\alpha\}$ a family of subgroups of G , and i_α monomorphisms such that the $i_\alpha(G_\alpha)$ generate G . Then G is the external free product of the G_α if and only if for any group H and any homomorphisms $h_\alpha : G_\alpha \rightarrow H$, there exists a homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ such that $h \circ i_\alpha = h_\alpha$. For such h , h is unique.
- (d) (Uniqueness of external free products up to isomorphism) If G and G' are groups that are both external free products of G_α relative to i_α and i'_α respectively, then there is a unique isomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$ such that $\phi \circ i_\alpha = i'_\alpha$.
- (e) (Free product of groups is free product of all free products) If $G = G_1 * G_2$ and $G_1 = \prod_{\alpha}^* H_\alpha$ and $G_2 = \prod_{\beta}^* H_\beta$, then $G = \prod_{\gamma=\alpha,\beta}^* H_\gamma$.
This implies that $$ is associative.*

(73) Definition of least normal subgroup:DEFINITION (LEAST NORMAL SUBGROUP):

If S is a subset of G , the least normal subgroup of G that contains S is the intersection N of all normal subgroups of G that contain S .

(74) Properties of least normal subgroups:

- (a) $((G_1 * G_2)/N \cong (G_1/N_1)/(G_2/N_2))$ If $G = G_1 * G_2$, N_1 and N_2 are the least normal subgroups of G_1 and G_2 , and N is the least normal subgroup of G containing N_1 and N_2 , then $G/N \cong (G_1/N_1)/(G_2/N_2)$
- (b) $((G_1 * G_2)/N_1^G \cong G_2)$ If N_1^G is the least normal subgroup of $G_1 * G_2$ that contains G_1 , then $(G_1 * G_2)/N_1^G \cong G_2$.
- (c) (Least normal subgroup generated by conjugates of subset) If N is the least normal subgroup of G containing $S \subset G$, then N is generated by all conjugates of elements in S .

(75) Definition of free group:DEFINITION (FREE GROUP):

Let $\{a_\alpha\}$ be a subset of a group G . And let each a_α generate an infinite cyclic subgroup G_α of G . G is a free group if it is the free product of the G_α .

The subset $\{a_\alpha\}$ is called a SYSTEM OF FREE GENERATORS for G .

DEFINITION (FREE GROUP ON ELEMENTS):

Let $\{a_\alpha\}$ be an arbitrary set. Denote by G_α the group generated by a_α . Then the free group on the elements a_α is the external free product of the G_α .

(76) Properties of free groups:

- (a) (Extension property: free group iff any homomorphisms are extensible) Let G be a group and $\{a_\alpha\}$ be a subset of G . Then G is a free group with $\{a_\alpha\}$ as a system of free generators for G if and only if for any group H and any subset $\{y_\alpha\}$ of H , there exists a homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ such that $h(a_\alpha) = y_\alpha$. For such h , h is unique.
- (b) (Free product of free groups is generated by system of all free generators) If $G = G_1 * G_2$ and G_1 and G_2 have $\{a_\alpha\}$ and $\{a_\beta\}$ as systems of free generators, then G has $\{a_\alpha, \beta\}$ as a system of free generators.

(77) Link between free groups and free abelian groups:DEFINITION (COMMUTATOR; COMMUTATOR SUBGROUP):

Let G be a group. The commutator of $x, y \in G$ is the element $[x, y] = xyx^{-1}y^{-1}$. The commutator subgroup of G is the subgroup of G generated by the set of all commutators in G .

Notation: the commutator subgroup of G is denoted $[G, G]$.

Properties:

- (a) ($[G, G]$ is a normal subgroup, and $G/[G, G]$ is abelian)
- (b) (Homomorphisms from G induce homomorphisms from $G/[G, G]$) Given an abelian group H , any homomorphism $h : G \rightarrow H$ has $[G, G]$ in its kernel, so h induces a homomorphism $k : G/[G, G] \rightarrow H$.
- (c) ($G/[G, G]$ is a free abelian group, generated by the cosets of the free generators of G) If G is a free group with free generators a_α , then $G/[G, G]$ is a free abelian group with basis $[a_\alpha]$, where $[a_\alpha]$ is the coset of a_α in $G/[G, G]$
- (d) (Any system of free generators for a free group G has the same cardinality) If G is a free group with n free generators, then any system of free generators for G has n elements.

(78) Group isomorphism classes:

- (a) (Isomorphism class of a free abelian group) Free abelian groups are isomorphic iff their systems of free generators have the same cardinality.

- (b) (Decomposition of finitely generated abelian groups) If G is abelian and finitely generated, then $G = H \oplus T$ where H is free abelian of finite rank, and T is the subgroup of G consisting of all elements of finite order.

The rank of H is uniquely determined by G ; it is called the BETTI NUMBER of G .

T is the TORSION SUBGROUP of G ; it is the direct sum of a finite number of finite cyclic groups whose orders are powers of primes; these orders are uniquely determined by T ; they are called the ELEMENTARY DIVISORS of G .

- (c) (Isomorphism class of a finitely generated abelian group) The isomorphism class of a finitely generated abelian group is completely determined by the betti number and its elementary divisors.
- (d) (An attempt at an isomorphism class of an arbitrary group) Let G be a group and $\{a_\alpha\}$ a generating subset for G . Let F be the free group on the a_α . Then the inclusion map from $\{a_\alpha\}$ to G extends to a monomorphism $h : F \rightarrow G$. Then $G \cong F/N$ where $N = \ker h$; N can be specified as the least normal subgroup of F containing some elements r_β .

(79) Definition of presentation of a group:

DEFINITION (PRESENTATION):

A presentation of a group G consists of: **(1)** a set $\{a_\alpha\}$ of generators for G , and **(2)** a COMPLETE SET OF RELATIONS $\{r_\beta\}$ for G where each r_β is in the free group on $\{a_\alpha\}$.

The least normal subgroup N containing the complete set of relations is the RELATIONS SUBGROUP and each element of N is a RELATION.

If both $\{a_\alpha\}$ and $\{r_\beta\}$ are finite, then these form a FINITE PRESENTATION for G .

Important: A presentation can determine G uniquely up to isomorphism, but two different presentations can lead to isomorphic groups.

Notation: A group generated by $\{a_\alpha\}$ and relations $\{r_\beta\}$ can be denoted $\langle a_\alpha, \dots \mid r_\beta, \dots \rangle$.

Chapter 7

The fundamental group

7.1 Homotopy

(80) Definition of homotopy and path homotopy:

DEFINITION (HOMOTOPY):

Given spaces X and Y and continuous functions $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$, a homotopy between f and g is a continuous $H : X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$ such that $H(x, 0) = f(x)$ and $H(x, 1) = g(x)$ for all x .

DEFINITION (PATH HOMOTOPY):

Given continuous paths $f, g : [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$, a path homotopy between f and g is a continuous function $H : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$ such that $H(s, 0) = f(s)$, $H(s, 1) = g(s)$ for all $s \in [0, 1]$, and $H(0, t) = y_0$ and $H(1, t) = y_1$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$.

Both homotopy and path homotopy can define an equivalence relation; but note one important difference – path homotopy requires the two end points to be fixed.

7.2 Fundamental group

(81) Definition of the fundamental group:

Define the product (denoted $*$) of two paths to be the path where the two ends are ‘glued together’. Products are associative and not necessarily commutative.

DEFINITION (FUNDAMENTAL GROUP):

The fundamental group of a space X , relative to the BASE POINT $x_0 \in X$, is the group consisting of loops (paths that begin and end at the same point x_0), modulo path homotopy. It is denoted $\pi_1(X, x_0)$.

That is, the group elements, $[f]$, are equivalence classes according to path homotopy.

Identity: the equivalence class of the constant path $e_{x_0} : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ where $e_{x_0}(t) = x_0 \in X$.

Inverse elements: the path traced in reverse, denoted $[\bar{f}]$.

(82) Definition of simply connected:

DEFINITION (SIMPLY CONNECTED):

A space X is simply connected if it is path-connected and $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ is the trivial (one-element) group for some $x_0 \in X$. This is denoted $\pi_1(X, x_0) = 0$

This implies $\pi_1(X, x) = 0$ for every $x \in X$.

(83) Properties of the fundamental group:

- (a) (Paths induce isomorphisms) If α is a path in X from x_0 to x_1 , the map $\hat{\alpha} : \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_1)$ where $\hat{\alpha}([f]) = [\bar{\alpha}] * [f] * [\alpha]$, is a group isomorphism taking elements in $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ to elements in $\pi_1(X, x_1)$.
- (b) (Path-connected implies isomorphic) If X is path-connected, then the fundamental groups of X for any base points are isomorphic.
- (c) (Homeomorphism induce isomorphisms) If $h : (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$ is a homeomorphism, then $h_* : \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$, where $h_*([f]) = [h \circ f]$, is an isomorphism.
- (d) (Products of fundamental groups) Given two spaces X, Y and their cartesian product $X \times Y$, we have $\pi_1(X \times Y, x_0 \times y_0) = \pi_1(X, x_0) \times \pi_1(Y, y_0)$, where $(g_1, h_1) \cdot (g_2, h_2) = (g_1 \cdot g_2, h_1 \cdot h_2)$.

7.3 Computing fundamental groups

(84) Some simple examples:

- (a) $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^n) = 0$ (trivial one-element group)
- (b) Unit ball: $\pi_1(B^n) = 0$ (trivial group)
- (c) Punctured plane: $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ (infinite cyclic group)

(85) Definition of covering:

DEFINITION (EVENLY COVERED):

Given a continuous surjective map $p : E \rightarrow B$, an open set $U \subset B$ is evenly covered by p if the preimage $p^{-1}(U)$ consists of disjoint open sets $V_\alpha \subset E$ such that each V_α is homeomorphic to U by a restriction of p .

The collection $\{V_\alpha\}_\alpha$ is a partition into SLICES.

DEFINITION (COVERING MAP):

Given continuous surjective $p : E \rightarrow B$, p is called a covering map of B if for every $b \in B$, b has a neighborhood U that is evenly covered by p .

E is called a COVERING SPACE of B .

(86) Definition of lifting:

DEFINITION (LIFT/LIFTING):

Given a path $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow B$ from b_0 to b_1 , $\bar{f} : [0, 1] \rightarrow E$ is the lift of f if $p(\bar{f}(t)) = f(t)$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$.

Note: The lift of a loop is not necessarily a loop, since multiple points in E can map to the base point in B .

(87) Properties of lifts:

- (a) (Unique lift for defined starting point) f has a unique lift \bar{f} to E with $\bar{f}(0) = e_0$ where $e_0 \in E$ is fixed.
- (b) (Extension to I^2 hence path homotopy) Given $f : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow B$, there is a unique lifting \bar{f} of f to E such that $\bar{f}(0 \times 0) = e_0$. Furthermore, if f is a path homotopy, then \bar{f} is a path homotopy as well.
- (c) (Bijection between π_1 and preimage of base point) Consider a map $h : \pi_1(B, b_0) \rightarrow p^{-1}(b_0)$. If E is simply connected, then this correspondence h is a bijection.

(88) The fundamental group of the circle:

The fundamental group of the circle is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z} .

(89) Some other fundamental groups:

- (a) $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathbf{0}) \cong \pi_1(S^{n-1})$
- (b) $\pi_1(S^n) = 0$ for $n > 1$
- (c) $\pi_1(\mathbb{RP}^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \cong \{0, 1\}$ (for $n > 1$?)

Chapter 8

Homotopy equivalence

8.1 Retractions and fixed points

(90) Definition of retraction:

DEFINITION (RETRACTION):

Given $A \subset X$, a retraction of X onto A is a continuous map $r : X \rightarrow A$ such that $r(a) = a$ for all $a \in A$ (that is, $r|_A$ is the identity map of A).

That is, every point not already in A is mapped somewhere into A .

(91) Definition of strong deformation retraction:

DEFINITION ((STRONG) DEFORMATION RETRACTION):

A retraction r is a (strong) deformation retraction if there exists a continuous function $H : X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ such that:

- (a) $H(x, 0) = x$ for all $x \in X$
- (b) $H(x, 1) = r(x)$ for all $x \in X$ (i.e. an interpolation from $i_X(x)$ to $r(x)$)
- (c) $H(a, t) = a$ for all $a \in A$ and $t \in [0, 1]$ (i.e. points in A do not move)

Conditions (a) and (b) define a deformation retraction; condition (c) in conjunction defines a strong deformation retraction.

(92) Properties of retractions:

- (a) (Inclusion homomorphism is injective) If A is a retract of X , then the inclusion map $j : A \rightarrow X$ induces an injective homomorphism $j_* : \pi_1(A, a) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, a)$.
- (b) (Strong deformation retraction is sufficient for isomorphism) If r is a strong deformation retraction, then both $r_* : \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(A, x_0)$ and $\iota_* : \pi_1(A, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0)$ are isomorphisms.
- (c) (No-retraction theorem) There is no retraction of B^2 onto S^1 .

Brief proof:

└ A retraction should induce an injective homomorphism, but a map $j_* : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \{0\}$ cannot be injective.

- (d) (Relation to ...) Let $h : S^1 \rightarrow X$ be a continuous map. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- i. h is nullhomotopic (i.e. homotopic to constant map)
 - ii. h extends to a continuous map $k : B^2 \rightarrow X$ (i.e. continuous extension of domain to disc possible)
 - iii. h_* is the trivial homomorphism of fundamental groups (i.e. image is the identity element)
- (e) (Circle to punctured plane) The inclusion map $j : S^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus 0$ is not nullhomotopic. The identity map $i : S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ is not nullhomotopic.

(93) Brouwer fixed-point theorem for the disc:

If $f : B^2 \rightarrow B^2$ is continuous, then there exists a point $x \in B^2$ such that $f(x) = x$.

That is, a continuous function on the disc must have a fixed point.

Chapter 9

The Seifert-van Kampen theorem

9.1 Special cases

(94) When :

DEFINITION (BLAH):

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