

Reflectivity and reflective hull in the category of T_0 spaces

Chong Shen

Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications

Jan 17, 2026

2026 Topology and its Applications Development Forum
Nanjing Institute of Technology
Nanjing, China

Contents

- 1 Background
- 2 Reflections in the category of topological spaces
- 3 Reflectivity of some T_0 spaces in domain theory
- 4 The reflective hull of some T_0 spaces

1 Background

2 Reflections in the category of topological spaces

3 Reflectivity of some T_0 spaces in domain theory

4 The reflective hull of some T_0 spaces

In category theory, **reflectivity** offer a systematic way to associate each object in the larger category **C** with a best approximating object in a smaller category **D**. If a subcategory **D** is reflective in **C**, then every object in **C** can be "best approximated" by an element in the subcategory **D**.

For example, in topology theory:

- **Stone-Čech Compactification:** The category of compact Hausdorff spaces is reflective in the category of Tychonoff spaces. The reflector is the Stone-Čech compactification βX .
- **Completion of Metric Spaces:** Complete metric spaces form a reflective subcategory of metric spaces with uniformly continuous maps. The reflector is the metric completion.

This talk systematically reviews some known results on reflectivity of the category of T_0 spaces, and then show some new findings regarding the reflective hulls of the category of some T_0 spaces in domain theory.

Definition (Reflective Subcategory)

A full subcategory \mathbf{K} of \mathbf{C} is called **reflective** if for every $X \in \mathbf{C}$, there exists:

- An object $X^k \in \mathbf{K}$,
- A \mathbf{C} -morphism $\mu_X : X \rightarrow X^k$,

such that for any \mathbf{C} -morphism $f : X \rightarrow Z$ with $Z \in \mathbf{K}$, there exists a **unique** \mathbf{K} -morphism $g : X^k \rightarrow Z$ such that $g \circ \mu_X = f$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\mu_X} & X^k \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow g \\ & & Z \end{array}$$

Explanation:

Think of X^k as:

- The best approximation of X from above, but living in \mathbf{K} .

Reflectivity from a Poset Perspective

Example

Consider a poset (P, \leq) viewed as a category, where objects are elements of P and there is a unique morphism $p \rightarrow q$ if and only if $p \leq q$. A subset $Q \subseteq P$ is **reflective** in P (as a subcategory) if and only if

- $\forall p \in P, \exists \hat{p} \in Q$ such that $\forall q \in Q:$

$$p \leq q \implies \hat{p} \leq q.$$

- Equivalently, for each $p \in P$,
 $\bigwedge_Q (\uparrow p \cap Q)$ exists.

That is, $f \dashv i_Q$, where $f: P \rightarrow Q$, $p \mapsto \hat{p}$.

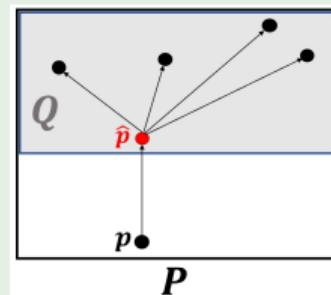


Figure: Q is reflective in P

Here \hat{p} is the **best approximation of p from above within Q** .

- 1 Background
- 2 Reflections in the category of topological spaces
- 3 Reflectivity of some T_0 spaces in domain theory
- 4 The reflective hull of some T_0 spaces

In the category of topological spaces, J.F. Kennison¹ gives three types of full reflective subcategories of all topological spaces **Top** called **simple**, **identifying**, and **embedding**, as follows:

Definition (Kennison 1965)

Let **P** be a full subcategory of **Top**, and $F: \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}$ be a reflector from the category of topology. F is called

- (1) **simple**: if $e_X : X \rightarrow F(X)$ is bijective for all X ;
- (2) **identifying**: if $e_X(X) = F(X)$ for all X ;
- (3) **embedding**: if each object of **P** is a Hausdorff space and if $e_X(X)$ is a dense subset of $F(X)$ for all X .

The full category **P** is **simple** (resp., **identifying** or **embedding**) if there exists a simple (resp., identifying or embedding) reflector $F: \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}$.

¹J.F. Kennison, Reflective functors in general topology and elsewhere, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 118 (1965), 303–315.

In the paper, J. F. Kennison (1965) gave the characterizations of the three reflectors:

Theorem (A)

A topological property \mathbf{P} is simple iff \mathbf{P} is hereditary, productive and contains every indiscrete space.

Theorem (B)

A topological property \mathbf{P} is identifying iff \mathbf{P} is hereditary and productive.

Theorem (C)

A topological property \mathbf{P} is embedding iff \mathbf{P} is closed-hereditary, productive and contains only Hausdorff spaces.

In the paper, J.F. Kennison (1965) gives three types of full reflective subcategories of all topological spaces, but

- he doesn't know whether these three types include all the full reflective subcategories of **Top**.

In the paper², L. Skula (1969) gave a Negative answer, and proposed another type called *b*-embedding NOT mentioned by Kennison. Then he showed that

Theorem (Skula-1969)

*If **P** is a full reflective subcategory of the category of **Top** containing at least one non- T_1 space, then **P** is a subcategory of one of the above-mentioned 4 types.*

²L. Skula, On a reflective subcategory of the category of all topological spaces, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.

142 (1969) 37–41.

Why Skula topology?

Let $A \subseteq X \in \mathbf{Top}$, $Y \in \mathbf{Top}_0$, and $f: A \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous map.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xhookrightarrow{i} & X \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow g \text{ at most one} \\ & & Y \end{array}$$

It requires that there is **at most one** continuous extension g of f . Otherwise, \exists conti. map $g_1 \neq g_2$ s.t. $g_1|_A = g_2|_A = f$. Then $\exists x_0 \in X$ s.t.

- $g_1(x_0) \neq g_2(x_0)$ in Y .
- $\exists V_0 \in \mathcal{O}(Y)$, $g_1(x_0) \in V_0$ and $g_2(x_0) \notin V_0$ (without loss of generality).
- $\exists U_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{O}(X)$, $x_0 \in U_1 \setminus U_2$ and $U_1 \cap A = U_2 \cap A$. (take $U_i = g_i^{-1}(V_0)$). Consequently,

Proposition (Skula-1969)

The extension is at most one for all $Y \in \mathbf{Top}_0$ iff $\forall x \in X$, $\nexists U_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{O}(X)$ s.t. $x \in U_1 \setminus U_2$ and $U_1 \cap A = U_2 \cap A$.

Let $A \subseteq X \in \mathbf{Top}$, and define

- $x \in \widehat{A} \Leftrightarrow \nexists U_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{O}(X) \text{ s.t. } x \in U_1 \setminus U_2 \text{ and } U_1 \cap A = U_2 \cap A.$

Proposition (Skula-1969)

The following assertion holds:

- ① $A \subseteq \widehat{A} \subseteq \overline{A};$
- ② $A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \widehat{A} \subseteq \widehat{B};$
- ③ $\widehat{\widehat{A}} = \widehat{\widehat{\widehat{A}}};$
- ④ $\widehat{A \cup B} = \widehat{A} \cup \widehat{B}.$

This new topology is the so called *b-topology*, denoted by bX .

Corollary (Skula-1969)

The extension of the inclusion $i : A \rightarrow X$ is at most one for all $Y \in \mathbf{Top}_0$ iff A is *b-dense* in X (i.e., dense in bX).

b -embedding reflector

Definition (Skula 1969)

- Let $F : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}$ be a reflector. F is called a b -embedding reflector iff $\mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{Top}_0$ and if $e_X(X)$ is a b -dense subset of $F(X)$ for all $X \in \mathbf{Top}$.
- A topological property \mathbf{P} is called a b -embedding iff there exists a b -embedding reflector $F : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}$.
- A topological property \mathbf{P} is b -closed-hereditary if $Y \in \mathbf{P}$ whenever Y is a b -closed subspace of some $X \in \mathbf{P}$.

Theorem (D)

A topological property \mathbf{P} is b -embedding iff \mathbf{P} is productive, b -closed-hereditary and $\mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{Top}_0$.

Skula's example

The Sierpinski space $\mathbb{S} = \Sigma 2$, where $2 = \{0, 1\}$ with open sets $\emptyset, 2, \{1\}$. Then the power $\prod_{i \in I} \mathbb{S} = \Sigma(2^I, \subseteq)$, since $\uparrow \chi_F = \bigcap_{i \in F} p^{-1}(\{1\})$.

S The class of spaces that is homeomorphic to a b -closed subspace of a product $\prod_{i \in I} \mathbb{S}$ for some non-empty set I .

Example (Skula-1969)

Let $X = \prod_{i=1}^{+\infty} \mathbb{S} = \Sigma 2^N$ and $A = X - \{N\}$. Note that each open set in X contains N , so $\widehat{A} = X$, which implies that X is the reflection of A in **S**. Also, **S** is a topological property such that

- **S** is b -embedding.
- e_A is not surjective, so **S** is *not simple*.
- $e_A(A) \neq X$, so **S** is *not identifying*.
- **S** $\not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_2$, so **S** is *not embedding*.

Theorem (Skula-1969)

If \mathbf{P} is a full reflective subcategory of the category of \mathbf{Top} containing at least one non- T_1 space, then \mathbf{P} is a subcategory of one of the above-mentioned 4 types:

- simple;
- identifying;
- embedding;
- b -embedding

- 1 Background
- 2 Reflections in the category of topological spaces
- 3 Reflectivity of some T_0 spaces in domain theory
- 4 The reflective hull of some T_0 spaces

Some properties on b -topology

In the paper³, Hoffmann (1979) proved some properties on b -topology.

Theorem (Hoffmann-1979)

Let X be a topological space.

- The topology of bX is equivalently generated by any of the following:
 - The collection $\{\downarrow x \cap U : x \in U \in \mathcal{O}(X)\}$;
 - The union $\mathcal{O}(X) \cup \mathcal{C}(X)$ (hence the b -topology is **finer** than the original);
 - The union $\mathcal{O}(X) \cup \{A \subseteq X : A = \downarrow A\}$.
- For each $x \in U \in \mathcal{O}(X)$, $\downarrow x \cap U$ is both b -closed and b -open, so bX is zero-dimensional, hence is completely regular.
- If $X \in \mathbf{Top}_0$, then bX is Hausdorff, hence is a Tychonoff space.
- A T_0 space X is Noetherian and sober iff bX is a compact T_2 space.

³R.E Hoffmann, On the sobrification remainder $X^s - X$, Pacific J. Math. 83(1), 1979

Characterize sobriety via b -topology

The b -topology also proves to be an effective tool for describing (or characterizing) the soberification of T_0 spaces⁴.

Definition

A nonempty subset A of a T_0 space is called **irreducible** if for any closed sets F_1, F_2 , $A \subseteq F_1 \cup F_2$ implies $A \subseteq F_1$ or $A \subseteq F_2$. A T_0 space X is called **sober**, if for any irreducible closed set F of X there is a (unique) point $x \in X$ such that $F = \downarrow x$.

Theorem (Keimel and Lawson 2009)

Let $A \subseteq X \in \mathbf{Sober}$.

- (1) A is sober iff A is b -closed;
- (2) $A^s \cong \text{cl}_b(A)$, where A^s is the soberification of A .

⁴K. Keimel, J.D. Lawson, *D-completions and the d-topology*, Ann. Pure Appl. Logic 159 (2009) 292–306.

Transition to \mathbf{Top}_0 : why T_0 spaces?

In the remainder of this talk, we **shift our focus** from the general category \mathbf{Top} to the category \mathbf{Top}_0 of T_0 spaces.

Motivation from Domain Theory

From the perspective of domain theory, \mathbf{Top}_0 captures **most structures of interest**, including:

- **sober spaces, well-filtered spaces, d -spaces**, et al.

Why not T_1 ?

Many important topologies in domain theory are naturally T_0 but **not** T_1 , such as:

- the **Scott topology**, the **Alexandroff topology**, and the **upper topology**.

The T_0 separation axiom thus provides the **natural setting** for our study.

In domain theory, the mostly concerned topological spaces are usually just T_0 . We use

- \mathbf{Top}_0 : all T_0 spaces + continuous maps.

Definition

A subcategory \mathbf{K} of \mathbf{Top}_0 is called **reflective**, if $\forall X \in \mathbf{Top}_0, \exists X^k \in \mathbf{K}$ (the **K-completion**) and a continuous map $\mu_X : X \rightarrow X^k$ (the **K-reflection**) s.t. for any conti. map $f : X \rightarrow Z \in \mathbf{K}$, \exists a unique conti. map $g : X^k \rightarrow Z$ such that $g \circ \mu_X = f$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\mu_X} & X^k \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow g \\ & & Z. \end{array}$$

In 2009, Keimel and Lawson⁵ proved that a full subcategory \mathbf{K} of T_0 spaces is reflective in the category \mathbf{Top}_0 of all T_0 spaces if it satisfies the following **four conditions**:

- (K1) \mathbf{K} contains all sober spaces;
- (K2) If $X \in \mathbf{K}$ and Y is homeomorphic to X , then $Y \in \mathbf{K}$;
- (K3) If $\{X_i : i \in I\} \subseteq \mathbf{K}$ is a family of subspaces of a sober space, then the subspace $\bigcap_{i \in I} X_i \in \mathbf{K}$.
- (K4) If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous map from a sober space X to a sober space Y , then for any subspace Y_1 of Y , $Y_1 \in \mathbf{K}$ implies that $f^{-1}(Y_1) \in \mathbf{K}$.

Theorem (Wu-Xi-Xu-Zhao, 2019)

The category of well-filtered spaces satisfies (K1) – (K4), thus is reflective in \mathbf{Top}_0 ^a.

^aG. Wu, X. Xi, X. Xu and D. Zhao, Existence of well-filterification, Topol. Appl. 267 (2019) 107044.

⁵K. Keimel, J.D. Lawson, *D-completions and the d-topology*, Ann. Pure Appl. Logic 159 (2009) 292–306. ↗ ↘ ↙ ↛

Definition

A category \mathbf{K} has equalizers if for any morphisms $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ in \mathbf{K} , the equalizer $E_{f,g} = \{x \in X : f(x) = g(x)\}$ of f and g belongs to \mathbf{K} .

We proved that the Keimel-Lawson condition is not only **sufficient** but also **necessary**.

Theorem (Shen-Xi-Zhao 2024)

Let \mathbf{K} be a subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 such that $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) \mathbf{K} is reflective in \mathbf{Top}_0 ;
- (2) \mathbf{K} satisfies conditions (K1)–(K4);
- (3) \mathbf{K} is productive and b -closed-hereditary^a;
- (4) \mathbf{K} is productive and has equalizers^b.

^aC. Shen, X. Xi, D. Zhao, the reflectivity of some categories of T_0 spaces in domain theory, Rocky Mountain Journal of Mathematics, 54 (2024), 1149 – 1166.

^bL. Nel, R. Wilson, Epireflections in the category of T_0 -spaces, Fund. Math. 75 (1972) 69-74.

By using the above result, we can easily prove the following:

- well-filtered spaces (✓), by Wu, Xu, Xi, Zhao (2019)
- \mathcal{U}_s -admitting spaces (✓), by Shen, Xi, Zhao (2025)
- k -bounded sober spaces (✗), by Lu, Wang, Wu, Zhao (2020)
 - *(K3) does not hold.*
- strong- d -spaces (✗), by Jin, Miao, Li (2021)
 - *(K3) does not hold.*
- open well-filtered spaces (✗), by Shen, Xi, Zhao (2025)
 - *Not b-closed hereditary.*
- co-sober spaces (✗), by Shen, Xi, Zhao (2025)
 - *(K3) does not hold..*
- T_D spaces (✗), by Hou, Li, Miao, Zhao (2023)
 - *Not productive.*
- et al.

Related papers of the last page

-  G. Wu, X. Xi, X. Xu, D. Zhao, Existence of well-filtered reflections of T_0 topological spaces, *Topol. Appl.* 267 (2019) 107044.
-  X. Xu, D. Zhao, Some open problems on well-filtered spaces and sober spaces, *Topol. Appl.* (2020) 107540.
-  Q. Li, M. Jin, H. Miao, S. Chen, On some results related to sober spaces, *Acta Mathematica Scientia*, 2023, 43B(4): 1477 -1490.
-  C. Shen, X. Xi, X. Xu, D. Zhao, On open well-filtered spaces, *Logic Meth. Computer Sci.* 16 (4) (2020) 4–18.
-  X. Xu, D. Zhao, On topological Rudin's lemma, well-filtered spaces and sober spaces, *Topol. Appl.* 272 (2020) 107080.
-  H. Hou, Q. Li, H. Miao, D. Zhao, The reflective hulls of some subcategories in the category of all T_0 spaces. *Houston Journal of Mathematics*, 49(2)(2023) 381–395.

Remark 1: Condition $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$ and Ershov's analogous result

Definition (Sierpiński space)

The Scott space $\Sigma 2$, where the underlying set $2 = \{0, 1\}$ with $0 \leq 1$, is called the [Sierpiński space](#). Its open sets are \emptyset , $\{0, 1\}$, and $\{1\}$.

Lemma

Let X be a T_0 space. Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) X is non- T_1 .
- (2) $\Sigma 2$ is a retract of X .
- (3) $\Sigma 2$ is homeomorphic to a b-closed subspace of X .
- (4) $\Sigma 2$ is homeomorphic to a subspace of X .

Corollary (Shen-Xi-Zhao, 2024)

Let \mathbf{K} be a full subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 . Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$.
- (2) The space Σ_2 can be topologically embedded into some space $Y \in \mathbf{K}$.

Definition (Ershov-2022)

A full subcategory \mathbf{K} of \mathbf{Top} is called **wide** if every T_0 space X can be topologically embedded into some space $Y \in \mathbf{K}^a$.

^aY. L. Ershov, " \mathbf{K} -completions of T_0 -spaces", Algebra Logic 61:3 (2022), 177–187.

Lemma (Ershov-2022)

If \mathbf{K} is a wide subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 , then $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$. Not vice versa.

Ershov's result is **later** and **weaker** than ours

Corollary (Ershov-2022; Shen,Xi,Zhao-2021)

A **wide** subcategory K of \mathbf{Top}_0 is reflective iff K satisfies Keimel-Lawson conditions (K1)-(K4).

arXiv > math > arXiv:2110.01138

Mathematics > General Topology

[Submitted on 4 Oct 2021] → 4 Oct 2021

The reflectivity of some categories of T0 spaces in domain theory

Chong Shen, Xiaoyong Xi, Dongsheng Zhao

Keimel and Lawson proposed a set of conditions for proving a category of topological spaces to be reflective in the category of domains. In this paper, we prove that, in certain sense, these conditions are not just sufficient but also necessary for a category of T0 spaces to be reflective. As applications, we answer a few open problems.

Subjects: General Topology (math.GN); Category Theory (math.CT)

Cite as: arXiv:2110.01138 [math.GN]

(or arXiv:2110.01138v1 [math.GN] for this version)

<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2110.01138> ⓘ

Journal reference: Rocky Mountain J. Math. 54(4), 1149-1166 (2024)

Related DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1216/rmj.2024.54.1149> ⓘ

Remark 2: Xu's approach to **K**-reflection

Definition (Wright-Wagner-Thatcher-1978, Xu-2021)

A covariant functor $H : \mathbf{Top}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ is called a **R-subset system**^{a b} on \mathbf{Top}_0 provided that the following two conditions are satisfied:

- (1) $\forall X \in \mathbf{Top}_0, S(X) \subseteq H(X) \subseteq Irr(X);$
- (2) $\forall f: X \rightarrow Y \in \mathbf{Top}_0, H(f)(A) = f(A) \in H(Y)$ for all $A \in H(X).$

^aJ. Wright, E. Wagner, J. Thatcher. A uniform approach to inductive posets and inductive closure, Theoret. Comput. Sci. 7(1)(1978) 57-77.

^bX. Xu, On H-sober spaces and H-sobrifications of T_0 spaces, Topol. Appl. 289 (2021) 107548.

Definition (Xu - 2021)

Let $H : \mathbf{Top}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ be an R-subset system.

- A T_0 space X is called *H-sober* if for any $A \in H(X)$, there is a (unique) point $x \in X$ such that $\overline{A} = \overline{\{x\}}$.
- The category of all *H*-sober spaces with continuous mappings is denoted by **H-Sob**.

Theorem (Xu-2021)

For a full subcategory \mathbf{K} of \mathbf{Top}_0 with $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1) \mathbf{K} is reflective in \mathbf{Top}_0 .
- (2) There exists an R-subset system $H : \mathbf{Top}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ such that $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{H}\text{-sob}$.

Definition (Xu-2020)

Let \mathbf{K} be a full subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 with $\mathbf{Sob} \subseteq \mathbf{K}$.

- A subset A of a T_0 space X is called **K-determined** provided for any continuous mapping $f: X \rightarrow Y \in \mathbf{K}$, there exists a unique $y_A \in Y$ such that $\overline{f(A)} = \overline{\{y_A\}}$.
- Denote by $\mathbf{K}(X)$ the set of all closed **K-determined** sets of X .
- The **lower Vietoris topology** on $\mathbf{K}(X)$ is the topology $\{\diamond U : U \in \mathcal{O}(X)\}$, where

$$\diamond U = \{A \in \mathbf{K}(X) : A \cap U \neq \emptyset\},$$

and the resulting space is denoted by $P_H(\mathbf{K}(X))$ ^a.

^aX. Xu, A direct approach to K-reflections of T_0 spaces, Topol. Appl. 272 (2020) 107076.

Definition (Xu-2020)

\mathbf{K} is called **adequate** if for any T_0 space X , $P_H(\mathbf{K}(X))$ is a \mathbf{K} -space.

Theorem (Xu-2020)

For a full subcategory \mathbf{K} of \mathbf{Top}_0 with $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1) \mathbf{K} is reflective in \mathbf{Top}_0 .
- (2) \mathbf{K} is adequate.

Theorem (Shen,Xi,Zhao-2024; Xu-2020-2021)

For a full subcategory \mathbf{K} of \mathbf{Top}_0 with $\mathbf{K} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1) \mathbf{K} is reflective in \mathbf{Top}_0 .
- (2) \mathbf{K} is adequate.
- (3) $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{H-Sob}$ for some R -subset system $H : \mathbf{Top}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.
- (4) \mathbf{K} is a Keimel-Lawson category.
- (5) \mathbf{K} is productive and b -closed-hereditary.
- (6) \mathbf{K} is productive and has equalizers.

Remark 3: T_D -space and \mathbf{K} -remainder $X^k \setminus X$

Observing that

- T_0 -separation: $\text{cl}(\{x\}) \setminus \{x\} = \bigcup_{y \in \text{cl}(\{x\}) \setminus \{x\}} \text{cl}(\{y\})$, the **union of closed sets**.
- T_1 -separation: $\text{cl}(\{x\}) \setminus \{x\} = \emptyset$, a **closed set**.

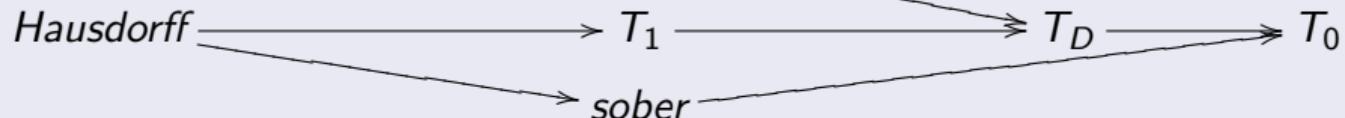
Definition (Aull-Thron, 1963)

A space X is T_D if for every $x \in X$, $\text{cl}(\{x\}) \setminus \{x\}$ is closed ^a.

^aC.E. Aull, W.J. Thron. Separation axioms between T_0 and T_1 , Indag. Math., 24(1963), 26 – 37.

Remark

Finite T_0 space \longrightarrow Alexandorff T_0 spaces



Theorem (Hoffmann-1977)

^a The following are equivalent:

- (1) X is T_D ;
- (2) For any subset $A \subseteq X$, the derived set A' of A is closed.
- (3) bX is discrete; that is, $\forall x \in X, \exists U \in \mathcal{O}(X)$ s.t. $U \cap \text{cl}(\{x\}) = \{x\}$.

^aR.E. Hoffmann, Irreducible filters and spaces, Manuscripta Math. 22 (1977) 365 - 380.

Theorem (Thron-1962)

^aLet X and Y are T_D spaces. If $(\mathcal{O}(X), \subseteq) \cong (\mathcal{O}(Y), \subseteq)$, then $X \cong Y$.

^aW.J. Thron, Lattice-equivalence of topological spaces, Duke Math. J., 29 (1962) 671–679.

Let X be a T_0 space, and \mathbb{N} be the set of natural numbers with Alexandorff topology. Let

$$\mathbb{N}_X := (\mathbb{N}^s \times X^s) - (\{\infty\} \times X)$$

with the topology induced from $\mathbb{N}^s \times X^s$ (X is to be considered as a subspace of X^s).

Theorem (Hoffmann-1979)

^a For every T_0 -space X holds $X \cong {}^s N_X - N_X$, i.e., every T_0 -space is a soberification remainder.

^aR.E Hoffmann, On the soberification remainder $X^s - X$, Pacific J. Math. 83(1), 1979.

Lemma (Hoffmann-1979)

- (i) If Y is a T_D -space, then ${}^s Y - Y$ is sober.
- (ii) N_X is T_D iff X is both sober and T_D .

Proposition

Let Y be a b -dense subspace of a topological space X . If Y is a T_D space, then Y is a b -open subset of X , or equivalently, $X \setminus Y$ is b -closed.

Theorem (Remainder of \mathbf{K} -reflection)

Let \mathbf{K} be a reflective subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 . If X is a T_D space, then $X^k \setminus X$ (as a subspace of X^k) belongs to \mathbf{K} .

Corollary

If Y is a T_D -space, then

- (1) $Y^s \setminus Y$ is sober;
- (2) $Y^{wf} \setminus Y$ is well-filtered;
- (3) $Y^d \setminus Y$ is a d -space;
- (4) $Y^{us} \setminus Y$ is \mathcal{U}_s -admitting.

Thank you for your attention.
I am happy to take any questions you might have.

- 1 Background
- 2 Reflections in the category of topological spaces
- 3 Reflectivity of some T_0 spaces in domain theory
- 4 The reflective hull of some T_0 spaces

Determine the reflective hull via Xi-Zhao model

Definition (reflective hull)

Let $\mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{C}$ be a full subcategory. The **reflective hull** of \mathbf{P} (denoted by $\overline{\mathbf{P}}$) in \mathbf{C} is, if it exists, the smallest reflective subcategory of \mathbf{C} containing \mathbf{P} .

Proposition (J. Martin Harvey-1985)

^a If the intersection of a family of reflective subcategories of \mathbf{C} is cowell-powering, then it is reflective.

^aJ. Martin Harvey. Reflective subcategories, Illinois J. Math. 29 (1985) 365–369.

Theorem (J.M. Harvey, 1985; Hou-Li-Miao-Zhao, 2023)

Let \mathbf{P} be a full subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 with $\mathbf{P} \not\subseteq \mathbf{Top}_1$. Then the reflective hull of \mathbf{P} exists^a.

^aH. Hou, Q. Li, H. Miao, D. Zhao, The reflective hulls of some subcategories in the category of all T_0 spaces. Houston Journal of Mathematics, 49 (2023), 381 – 395.

Remark

Let \mathbf{P} be a full subcategory of \mathbf{Top}_0 , then $\overline{\mathbf{P}}$ contains:

- all sober spaces;
- $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$, for $X_i \in \mathbf{P}$, $i \in I$;
- Y , if Y is a b-closed (hence, saturated or closed) subspace of some $X \in \mathbf{P}$.
- Z , if Z is a retract of some $X \in \mathbf{P}$.

Corollary

If every T_0 space is a saturated (b-closed) subspace of some space in \mathbf{P} , then $\overline{\mathbf{P}} = \mathbf{Top}_0$.

Proposition (Shen-Xi-Zhao, 2022)

For each T_0 space X , the product $X \times \Sigma \mathbb{J}$ is open well-filtered^a.

^a C. Shen, X. Xi, D. Zhao. Further studies on open well-filtered spaces, Electronic Notes in Theoretical Informatics and Computer Science 2(2022), 1–12

Proposition

Every T_0 space is a retract of some open well-filtered space.

Using the above method, we can therefore recover the result established by Hou et al. (2023).

Corollary (Hou et al, 2023)

The reflective hull of open well-filtered spaces in \mathbf{Top}_0 is \mathbf{Top}_0 .

Definition

A T_0 space X is *k*-bounded sober (resp., bounded sober) if for any irreducible closed set A with $\sup A$ existing (resp., A being upper bounded), there is a unique point $x \in X$ such that $A = \downarrow x$.

Lemma

For each T_0 space X , the product $X \times \mathbb{N}_{\text{cof}}$ is *k*-bounded (bounded) sober.

Proposition

Every T_0 space X is a retract of some *k*-bounded (bounded) sober space.

We can therefore easily recover the result of Hou et al. (2023) using a relatively simple method.

Corollary (Hou et al, 2023)

The reflective hull of *k*-bounded (bounded) sober spaces in \mathbf{Top}_0 is \mathbf{Top}_0 .

Proposition

For each d-space X , there is a dcpo P such that

- (1) X is a subspace of ΣP ;
- (2) X is a saturated subspace of ΣP .
- (3) X is sober if and only if ΣP is sober.

Theorem (A)

- (1) The reflective hull of dcpos in \mathbf{Top}_0 is d-spaces.
- (2) The reflective hull of sober dcpos in \mathbf{Top}_0 is sober spaces.

Theorem (B)

The reflective hull of Rudin space is \mathbf{Top}_0 .

Lemma

Let $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a family of topological spaces. Then, the topology of $b\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ is finer than that of $\prod_{i \in I} bX_i$.

Lemma

Let X be a topological space and Y a subspace of X . Then, bY is a subspace of bX .

Direct construction of the reflective hull

Theorem

Let \mathbf{P} be a T_0 topological property. Then, the reflective hull $\overline{\mathbf{P}}$ of \mathbf{P} in \mathbf{Top}_0 is given by

$$\overline{\mathbf{P}} = \left\{ X \in \mathbf{Top}_0 : X \hookrightarrow \prod_{i \in I} X_i \text{ as a } b\text{-closed subspace, with } X_i \in \mathbf{P} \right\}.$$

Thus, the class $\overline{\mathbf{P}}$ can be constructed in two stages:

- First, form arbitrary products of members of \mathbf{P} ;
- Second, take all b -closed subspaces (within the T_0 category) of these products.

Research Topic

Determine the reflective hull (in the category of \mathbf{Top}_0) of T_D spaces and other non-Hausdorff spaces (e.g. co-sober spaces, consonant space, strong-d-spaces, et al)?