

# topology - a categorical approach

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# Chapter 1

## FOUR CONSTRUCTIONS OF TOPOLOGY

Categorical definitions of some common topologies

**Definition 1** (subspace topology). Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  be a topological space and  $i : A \rightarrow X$  be a monomorphism in  $\mathbf{Set}$ . The subspace topology  $\mathcal{T}_A$  on  $A$  is defined as the coarsest topology such that the map  $i : A \rightarrow X$  is continuous. Equivalently, the subset topology on  $A$  is characterized by universal property as follows: for any morphism  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  in  $\mathbf{Top}$ , if there is a lift  $Y \rightarrow X$  in  $\mathbf{Set}$  then there is also a lift  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) \rightarrow (A, \mathcal{T}_A)$  in  $\mathbf{Top}$  such that the diagram below commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Y & \\ \swarrow & \downarrow & \\ A & \xrightarrow{i} & X \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) & \\ \swarrow & \downarrow & \\ (A, \mathcal{T}_A) & \xrightarrow{i} & (X, \mathcal{T}_X) \end{array}$$

**Definition 2** (quotient topology). Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  be a topological space and  $p : X \rightarrow B$  be an epimorphism in  $\mathbf{Set}$ . The quotient topology  $\mathcal{T}_B$  on  $B$  is defined as the finest topology such that the map  $p : X \rightarrow B$  is continuous. Equivalently, the quotient topology on  $B$  is characterized by universal property as follows: for any morphism  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$ , if there is a lift  $B \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathbf{Set}$  then there is also a lift  $(B, \mathcal{T}_B) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$  in  $\mathbf{Top}$  such that the diagram below commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{p} & B \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \\ Y & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} (X, \mathcal{T}_X) & \xrightarrow{p} & (B, \mathcal{T}_B) \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \\ (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) & & \end{array}$$

**Definition 3** (product topology). Let  $\{(X_\alpha, \mathcal{T}_\alpha)\}_\alpha$  be an arbitrary collection of topological spaces,  $X = \prod_\alpha X_\alpha$ , and  $p_\alpha : X \rightarrow X_\alpha$  be the natural projection. The product topology  $\mathcal{T}_X$  on  $X$  is defined as the coarsest topology such that every  $p_\alpha : X \rightarrow X_\alpha$  is continuous. Equivalently, the product topology is characterized by universal property as follows: for any collection of morphisms  $\{(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) \rightarrow (X_\alpha, \mathcal{T}_\alpha)\}_\alpha$ , if there is a lift  $Y \rightarrow X$  in  $\mathbf{Set}$  then there is also a lift  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  in  $\mathbf{Top}$  such that the diagram below commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Y & \\ \swarrow & \downarrow & \\ X & \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} & X_\alpha \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) & \\ \swarrow & \downarrow & \\ (X, \mathcal{T}) & \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} & (X_\alpha, \mathcal{T}_\alpha) \end{array}$$

**Definition 4** (coproduct topology). Let  $\{(X_\alpha, \mathcal{T}_\alpha)\}_\alpha$  be an arbitrary collection of topological spaces,  $X = \coprod_\alpha X_\alpha$ , and  $i_\alpha : X_\alpha \rightarrow X$  be the natural inclusion. The coproduct topology  $\mathcal{T}_X$  on  $X$  is defined as the finest topology such that every  $i_\alpha : X_\alpha \rightarrow X$  is continuous. Equivalently, the coproduct topology is characterized by universal property as follows: for any collection of morphisms  $\{(X_\alpha, \mathcal{T}_\alpha) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)\}_\alpha$ , if there is a lift  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathbf{Set}$  then there is also a lift  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$  in  $\mathbf{Top}$  such that the diagram below commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_\alpha & \xrightarrow{i_\alpha} & X \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \\ Y & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} (X_\alpha, \mathcal{T}_\alpha) & \xrightarrow{i_\alpha} & (X, \mathcal{T}_X) \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \\ (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) & & \end{array}$$

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