

# Solutions to Topology by Conover

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# 1 Topological Spaces and Concepts in General

## 1.1 Exercise 2.6

1. Let  $X$  be a set. Verify that the indiscrete topology, the discrete topology and the finite-complement topology are in fact topologies on  $X$ .

**Solution:**

Indiscrete Topology:

$\emptyset$  and  $X$  are open sets, and any intersection/union of open sets are obviously either empty or  $X$ .

Discrete Topology:

$\emptyset$  and  $X$  are open sets. Since any subset is open, any intersection/union of open sets must be a subset, and hence is open.

Finite-complement Topology:

Let  $A_i$  denote open sets. Then  $X - \bigcup_i A_i \subseteq X - A_i$ , where  $X - A_i$  has a finite cardinality by definition. Therefore,  $X - \bigcup_i A_i$  also has a finite cardinality, so  $\bigcup_i A_i$  is open. Now let  $B_i$  denote finitely many open sets.  $X - B_i$  is finite, and so is  $\bigcup_i (X - B_i)$  (finite union of finite sets is finite). Since  $\bigcup_i (X - B_i) = X - \bigcap_i B_i$  which is finite,  $\bigcap_i B_i$  is an open set.

2. (a) Verify that Sierpinski space is a topological space.

**Solution:** It contains  $\emptyset$  and  $X$ . Since there are only 3 open sets, brute forcing through all possible unions/intersections show that they are also open sets.

- (b) We said that there are only three different topologies that can be assigned to the 2 point set  $\{0, 1\}$ . Is the collection of  $\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}\}$  one of those three topologies on  $\{0, 1\}$ ?

**Solution:** Yes. The same approach for (a) can be used here, since this is essentially the Sierpinski space with 0 and 1 reversed.

- (c) What is  $\{0, 1\}$  with the finite-complement topology?

**Solution:**  $\{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}\}$

3. List all topologies that can be assigned to a 3 point set.

**Solution:**

$\{\emptyset, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{1, 2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

$\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

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 $\{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{1, 2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}$

4. Verify that the Sorgenfrey topology defined on the real line is in fact a topology. Is the interval  $(0, 1)$  open in this topology? How about  $(0, 1]$ ? Is  $[0, 1]$  closed?

**Solution:**

The Sorgenfrey topology obviously contains  $\emptyset$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $A_i$  denote open sets. Then

$$\forall x \in \bigcup_i A_i, x \in A_i \Rightarrow x \in [a, b) \subseteq A_i \subseteq \bigcup_i A_i$$

so any union of open sets is open. Now let  $B_i$  denote finitely many open sets. Now if  $x \in B_i$ , we let  $\{p_i, q_i\} \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x \in [p_i, q_i) \subseteq B_i$ . Let  $P = \{p_i\}$  and  $Q = \{q_i\}$ . Since both  $P$  and  $Q$  are finite,  $P$  has a maximum  $p$  and  $Q$  has a minimum  $q$ . Now

$$x \in \bigcap_i B_i \Rightarrow x \in [p, q) \subseteq [p_i, q_i) \subseteq B_i \forall i$$

Since  $[p, q)$  is a subset of  $B_i \forall i$ , it is a subset of  $\bigcap_i B_i$ , hence any finite intersection of open sets is open. This shows that the Sorgenfrey topology is a topology.

$(0, 1)$  is open, because

$$\forall x \in (0, 1), x \in [x, 1) \subset (0, 1)$$

$(0, 1]$  is not open, because  $1 \in (0, 1]$ , but if  $1 \in [a, b)$ , then  $\frac{1+b}{2}$  is an element of  $[a, b)$  but not  $(0, 1]$ , so  $1 \in [a, b) \subseteq (0, 1]$  cannot be true.

Consider  $A = \mathbb{R} - [0, 1]$  and let  $x \in A$ . Either  $x < 0$ , and  $x \in [x, \frac{x}{2}) \subset A$ , or  $x > 1$ , and  $x \in [x, x+1)$ . Therefore,  $A$  is open, so  $[0, 1]$  is closed.

5. Consider the topological spaces  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{I})$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U})$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$  and with the finite-complement topology (where  $\mathcal{U}$  denotes the usual topology on  $\mathbb{R}$  in Chapter 3).

- (a) If  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , is  $\{p\}$  open in any of these spaces? Which ones?

**Solution:**  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$ .

- (b) If  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , is  $\{p\}$  closed in any of these spaces? Which ones?

**Solution:**  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$ , and the finite-complement topology.

- (c) In which of these spaces is  $(a, b)$  open?  $[a, b)$ ?  $(a, b]$ ?  $[a, b]$ ?

**Solution:**

$(a, b)$ :

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$

$[a, b)$ :

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$

$(a, b]$ :

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$

$[a, b]$ :

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$

- (d) Is the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq \frac{1}{n}\}$  open in any of the spaces? Is it closed in any of them?

**Solution:**

Open:

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$

Closed:

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$

- (e) Is the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq \frac{1}{n} \text{ and } x \neq 0\}$  open in any of the spaces? Is it closed in any of them?

**Solution:**

Open:

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D})$

Closed:

$(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$

6. Consider the spaces of Problem 5 above again, together with the three spaces that can be defined on  $\{0, 1\}$ .

- (a) In which of these spaces are true: If  $x$  and  $y$  are two distinct points in the space then either there exists an open set  $U$  such that  $x \in U$  and  $y \notin U$ , or there exists an open set  $V$  such that  $y \in V$  and  $x \notin V$ . (A space for which this statement holds is called a  $T_0$ -space.)

**Solution:**  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$ , the finite-complement topology, and the Sierpinski space.

- (b) In which of these spaces is the following statement true: If  $x$  and  $Y$  are two distinct points in the space, then there exists an open set  $U$  such that  $x \in U$  and  $y \notin U$ , and there exists an open set  $v$  such that  $y \in V$  and  $x \notin V$ . (A space for which this statement holds is called a  $T_1$ -space.)

**Solution:**  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$ , and the finite-complement topology.

- (c) In which of these spaces is the following statement true: If  $x$  and  $y$  are two distinct points in the space, then there exist open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $x \in U$ ,  $y \in V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ . (A space for which this statement holds is called a  $T_2$ -space or a Hausdorff space.)

**Solution:**  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{U}), (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{S})$

7. Show that every  $T_2$ -space is a  $T_1$ -space, and that every  $T_1$ -space is a  $T_0$ -space, and give an example of a  $T_0$ -space that is not a  $T_1$ -space, and an example of a  $T_1$ -space that is not a  $T_2$ -space.

**Solution:**

$T_2$ -space  $\Rightarrow T_1$ -space: Since  $U \cap V \neq \emptyset$ ,  $x \notin V$  and  $y \notin U$ , so  $V$  and  $U$  are open sets that make the space a  $T_1$ -space.

$T_1$ -space  $\Rightarrow T_0$ -space: either one of  $U$  and  $V$  make the space a  $T_0$ -space.

$T_0$ -space that is not a  $T_1$ -space: the Sierpinski space

$T_1$ -space that is not a  $T_2$ -space: the finite-complement topology

8. A topological space  $X$  is said to be **metrizable** if a metric can be defined on  $X$  so that a set is open in the metric topology induced by this metric if and only if it is open in the topology that is already on the space.

- (a) Let  $X$  be a set with more than one point. Prove that  $(X, \mathcal{I})$  is *not* metrizable. Thus the indiscrete topology on a set with more than one point is an example of a topological space that is *not* a metric space.

**Solution:**

If  $X$  has more than one point, it has 2 distinct points  $x$  and  $y$ , where we let  $r = d(x, y) > 0$  by the definition of a metric.  $S_{\frac{r}{2}}(x)$  is an open space according to the metric. However, it is neither empty (contains  $x$ ) nor the universe (does not contain  $y$ ). This forms a contradiction.

- (b) Let  $X$  be a set. Define a function from  $X \times X = \{(x, y) : x, y \in X\}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  by

$$d(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \neq y \\ 0 & \text{if } x = y \end{cases}$$

Prove that  $d$  is a metric on  $X$ . What is the metric topology induced by  $d$ ?

**Solution:**

Obviously,  $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ,  $d(x, y) \geq 0$ ,  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$ . For the triangle inequality  $d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(y, z)$ , note that it is trivial if  $x = y$ . If not, at least one of  $d(x, z)$  and  $d(y, z)$  must be nonzero, so the inequality holds. Therefore,  $d(x, y)$  is a metric.

$\forall x \in X, S_{0.5}(x) = \{x\}$ . Since all singleton sets are open, the metric topology induced by  $d$  is the discrete topology.

## 1.2 Theorem 3.2

9. Let  $(X, d_1)$  and  $(Y, d_2)$  be metric spaces and let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ . Then  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0 \in X$  if and only if whenever  $V$  is an open subset of  $Y$  with  $f(x_0) \in V$ , then there exists an open subset  $U$  of  $X$  such that  $x_0 \in U$  and  $f(U) \subseteq V$ .

**Solution:**

$\Rightarrow$ :

Let  $V$  be open, and let  $U$  be given. We now prove that  $U$  is open. Since  $V$  is open,  $\forall v = f(x_0) \in V$ ,  $\exists \epsilon > 0$  where  $S_\epsilon(v) \subseteq V$ . Since continuity is implied,  $\exists \delta > 0$  where  $f(S_\delta(x_0)) \subseteq S_\epsilon(v)$ . Therefore  $S_\delta(x_0) \subseteq U$ . Now note that

$$U = \bigcup_{x_0 \in U} S_\delta(x_0)$$

Since  $U$  is a union of open sets,  $U$  is open.

$\Leftarrow$ :

Let  $f(x_0) = v$ .  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $V = S_\epsilon(v)$  is open. Then an open  $U$  exists. By definition,  $x_0 \in U$ , which is open, so  $\exists \delta > 0$  such that  $S_\delta(x_0) \subseteq U$ . This demonstrates that  $f$  is continuous by the  $\epsilon - \delta$  definition.