

# Topology without Tears

Sidney A. Morris

June 2020

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Topology Spaces</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Topology – Exercises . . . . .	2
1.2	Open Sets - Exercises . . . . .	4
1.3	Finite Closed Topology – Exercises . . . . .	6
<b>2</b>	<b>The Euclidean Topology</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Euclidian Space – Exercises . . . . .	8

# Chapter 1

## Topology Spaces

### 1.1 Topology – Exercises

- Let  $x = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ . Determine whether or not each of the following collections of subsets of  $X$  is a topology on  $X$ :
  - $\tau_1 = \{X, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, f\}, \{b, f\}, \{a, b, f\}\}$ ;  
No,  $\{a, f\} \cap \{b, f\} = \{f\} \notin \tau$ .
  - $\tau_2 = \{X, \emptyset, \{a, b, f\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, b, d, f\}\}$ ;  
No,  $\{a, b, f\} \cap \{a, b, d\} \notin \tau$ .
  - $\tau_3 = \{X, \emptyset, \{f\}, \{e, f\}, \{a, f\}\}$ ;  
No,  $\{e, f\} \cup \{a, f\} = \{a, e, f\} \notin \tau$ .
- Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ . Which of the following collections of subsets of  $X$  is a topology on  $X$ ? (Justify your answer.)
  - $\tau_1 = \{X, \emptyset, \{c\}, \{b, d, e\}, \{b, c, d, e\}, \{b\}\}$ ;
  - $\tau_2 = \{X, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, d, e\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, b, d, e\}\}$ ;
  - $\tau_3 = \{X, \emptyset, \{b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{d, e, f\}, \{b, d, e, f\}\}$ ;
- If  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ , and  $\tau$  is the discrete topology on  $X$ , which of the following statements are true?
  - $X \in \tau$ ; YES (b)  $\{X\} \in \tau$ ; ??? (c)  $\{\emptyset\} \in \tau$ ; ??? (d)  $\emptyset \in \tau$ ; YES
  - (e)  $\emptyset \in X$ ; NO (f)  $\{\emptyset\} \in X$ ; NO (g)  $\{a\} \in \tau$ ; YES (h)  $a \in \tau$ ; NO
  - (i)  $\emptyset \in X$ ; NO (j)  $\{a\} \in X$ ; NO (k)  $\{\emptyset\} \subseteq X$ ; YES (l)  $a \in X$ ; YES
  - (m)  $X \subseteq \tau$ ; YES (n)  $\{a\} \subseteq \tau$ ; YES (o)  $\{X\} \subseteq \tau$ ; YES (p)  $a \subseteq \tau$ ; NO
- Let  $(X, \tau)$  be any topological space. Verify that **the intersection of any finite number of members of  $\tau$  is a member of  $\tau$** .
- Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the set of all real numbers. Prove that each of the following collections of subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  is a topology
  - $\tau_1$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $(-n, n)$ , for  $n$  any positive integer, where  $(-n, n)$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : -n < x < n\}$ ;
  - $\tau_2$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[-n, n]$ , for  $n$  any positive integer, where  $[-n, n]$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : -n \leq x \leq n\}$ ;
  - $\tau_3$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[n, \infty)$ , for  $n$  any positive integer, where  $[n, \infty)$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : n \leq x\}$ ;
- $\tau_1$  consists of  $\mathbb{N}, \emptyset$ , and every set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , for  $n$  any positive integer. (This is called **initial segment topology**).
  - $\tau_2$  consists of  $\mathbb{N}, \emptyset$ , and every  $\{n, n+1, \dots\}$ , for  $n$  any positive integer. (This is called the **final segment topology**).
- List all possible topologies on the following sets:
  - $X = \{a, b\}$ ;
  - $Y = \{a, b, c\}$ ;
- Let  $X$  be an infinite set and  $\tau$  a topology on  $X$ . If every infinite subset of  $X$  is in  $\tau$ , prove that  $\tau$  is the discrete topology.

9. Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the set of all real numbers. Precisely three of the following ten collections are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  that are topologies. Identify these and justify your answer.

- (i)  $\tau_1$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $(a, b)$ , for  $a$  and  $b$  any real numbers where  $a < b$ .
- (ii)  $\tau_2$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$  and every interval  $(-r, r)$ , for  $r$  any positive real number.
- (iii)  $\tau_3$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $(-r, r)$ , for  $r$  any positive rational number;
- (iv)  $\tau_4$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[-r, r]$ , for  $r$  any positive rational number;
- (v)  $\tau_5$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $(-r, r)$ , for  $r$  any positive irrational number;
- (vi)  $\tau_6$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[-r, r]$ , for  $r$  any positive irrational number;
- (vii)  $\tau_7$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[-r, r)$ , for  $r$  any positive real number;
- (viii)  $\tau_8$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $(-r, r]$ , for  $r$  any positive real number;
- (ix)  $\tau_9$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[-r, r]$ , and every interval  $(-1, r)$ , for  $r$  any positive real number;
- (x)  $\tau_{10}$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , every interval  $[-n, n]$ , and every interval  $(-r, r)$ , for  $n$  any positive integer and  $r$  any positive real number.

## 1.2 Open Sets - Exercises

1. List all 64 subsets of the set  $X$  in Example 1.1.2. Write down, next to each set, whether it is (i) clopen, (ii) neither open nor closed; (iii) open but not closed; (iv) closed but not open.

**Example 1.1.2:** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$  and

$$\tau_1 = \{X, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{b, c, d, e, f\}\}.$$

- size one

$$\{a\}, \text{clopen} \quad \{b\}, \text{neither} \quad \{c\}, \text{neither} \quad \{d\}, \text{neither} \quad \{e\}, \text{neither} \quad \{f\}, \text{neither}$$

- size two

$$\begin{array}{lllll} \{a, b\}, \text{neither} & \{a, c\} & \{a, d\} & \{a, e\} & \{a, f\} \\ & \{b, c\} & \{b, d\} & \{b, e\} & \{b, f\} \\ \{c, d\}, \text{open} & \{c, e\} & \{d, f\} & & \\ & \{d, e\} & \{d, f\} & & \\ & \{e, f\} & & & \end{array}$$

- size three

$$\begin{array}{llll} \{a, b, c\} & \{a, b, d\} & \{a, b, e\} & \{a, b, f\} \\ \{a, c, d\}, \text{open} & \{a, c, e\} & \{a, c, f\} & \\ \{a, d, e\} & \{a, d, f\} & & \\ \{a, e, f\} & & & \\ \{b, c, d\} & \{b, c, e\} & \{b, c, f\} & \\ \{b, d, e\} & \{b, d, f\} & & \\ \{b, e, f\} & & & \\ \{c, d, e\} & \{c, d, f\} & & \\ \{c, e, f\} & & & \\ \{d, e, f\} & & & \end{array}$$

- size four

$$\begin{array}{lll} \{a, b, c, d\} & \{a, b, c, e\} & \{a, b, c, f\} \\ \{a, b, d, e\} & \{a, b, d, f\} & \\ \{a, b, e, f\} & & \\ \{b, c, d, e\} & \{b, c, d, f\} & \\ \{c, d, e, f\} & & \end{array}$$

- size five

$$\begin{array}{ll} \{a, b, c, d, e\} & \{a, b, c, d, f\} \\ \{a, b, c, e, f\} & \\ \{a, b, d, e, f\} & \\ \{a, c, d, e, f\} & \\ \{b, c, d, e, f\}, \text{clopen} & \end{array}$$

- size six

$$\{a, b, c, d, e, f\}, \text{open}$$

2. Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space with the property that every subset is closed. Prove that it is a discrete space.

$$\begin{aligned} S \subseteq X &\implies X \setminus S \text{ is open} \implies X \setminus S \in \tau \\ T \in \tau &\implies X \setminus T \text{ is closed} \implies T \subseteq X \end{aligned}$$

3. Observe that if  $(X, \tau)$  is a discrete space or an indiscrete space, then every open set is a clopen set. Find a topology  $\tau$  on the set  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  which is not discrete and is not indiscrete but has the property that every open set is clopen.

$$\text{Let } \tau = \{X, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, c, d\}\}$$

4. Let  $X$  be an infinite set. If  $\tau$  is a topology on  $X$  such that every infinite subset of  $X$  is closed, prove that  $\tau$  is the discrete topology.

$$\begin{aligned} S \subseteq X \text{ and } |S| = \infty \\ |X \setminus S| < \infty \implies X \setminus S \text{ is open} \end{aligned}$$

there are an infinite number of finite subsets whose complement is infinite and closed. These are precisely what make up a discrete topology.

5. Let  $X$  be an infinite set and  $\tau$  a topology on  $X$  with the property that the only infinite subset of  $X$  which is open is  $X$  itself. Is  $(X, \tau)$  necessarily an indiscrete space?
6. (i) Let  $\tau$  be a topology on a set  $X$  such that  $\tau$  consists of precisely for sets; that is,  $\tau = \{X, \emptyset, A, B\}$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are non-empty distinct proper subsets of  $X$ . [ $A$  is a **proper subset** of  $X$  means that  $A \subseteq X$  and  $A \neq X$ . This is denoted by  $A \subset X$ .] Prove that  $A$  and  $B$  must satisfy exactly one of the following conditions.

$$(a) B = X \setminus A; (b) A \subset B; (c) B \subset A;$$

[Hint. Firstly show that  $A$  and  $B$  must satisfy at least one of the conditions and then show that they cannot satisfy more than one of the conditions.]

- (ii) Using (i) list all topologies on  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  which consist of exactly four sets.
7. (i) As recorded in [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite\\_topological\\_space](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite_topological_space), the number of distinct topologies on a set with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  points can be very large even for small  $n$ ; namely when  $n = 2$ , there are 4 topologies; when  $n = 3$ , there are 29 topologies; when  $n = 4$ , there are 355 topologies; when  $n = 5$ , there are 6942 topologies etc. Using mathematical induction, prove that as  $n$  increases the number of topologies increases.
- (ii) Using mathematical induction prove that if the finite set  $X$  has  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then it has at least  $(n - 1)!$  distinct topologies.
- (iii) If  $X$  is any infinite set of cardinality  $\aleph$ , prove that there are at least  $2^{\aleph}$  distinct topologies on  $X$ . Deduce that every infinite set has an uncountable number of distinct topologies on it.

### 1.3 Finite Closed Topology – Exercises

1. Let  $f$  be a function from a set  $X$  into a set  $Y$ . Then we stated in Example 1.3.9 that

$$f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j \in J} B_j\right) = \bigcup_{j \in J} f^{-1}(B_j) \quad (1.1)$$

and

$$f^{-1}\left(B_1 \cap B_2\right) = f^{-1}(B_1) \cap f^{-1}(B_2) \quad (1.2)$$

for any subsets  $B_j$  of  $Y$  and any index set  $J$ .

- (a) Prove that (1.1) is true

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Let } y \in \bigcup_{j \in J} B_j \\ &\exists k \in J \rightarrow y \in B_k \\ &f^{-1}(y) \in f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j \in J} B_j\right) \text{ and } f^{-1}(y) \in f^{-1}(B_k) \\ &f^{-1}(B_k) \subseteq f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j \in J} B_j\right) \end{aligned}$$

since there MUST be a  $k$  for each  $y$  then it must be that all  $\cup_{j \in J} f^{-1}(B_j) \subseteq f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{j \in J} B_j\right)$

- (b) Prove that (1.2) is true.
- (c) Find (concrete) sets  $A_1, A_2, X$ , and  $Y$  and a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f(A_1 \cap A_2) \neq f(A_1) \cap f(A_2)$ , where  $A_1 \subseteq X$  and  $A_2 \subseteq X$ .
2. Is the topology  $\tau$  described in Exercises 1.1 #6 (ii) the finite-closed topology?
- $\tau$  consists of  $\mathbb{N}, \emptyset$ , and every  $\{n, n+1, \dots\}$ , for  $n$  any positive integer. (This is called the **final segment topology**.)

### $T_1$ -spaces

3. A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be a  $T_1$ -**space** if every singleton set  $\{x\}$  is closed in  $(X, \tau)$ . Show that precisely two of the following nine topological spaces are  $T_1$ -spaces. (Justify your answer).
- (i) a discrete space.
  - (ii) an indiscrete space with at least two points.
  - (iii) an infinite set with the finite-closed topology.
  - (iv) Exampe 1.1.2;
  - (v) Exercise 1.1 #5 (i)  
 $\tau_1$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $(-n, n)$ , for  $n$  any positive integer, where  $(-n, n)$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : -n < x < n\}$ ;
  - (vi) Exercise 1.1 #5 (ii)  
 $\tau_2$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[-n, n]$ , for  $n$  any positive integer, where  $[-n, n]$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : -n \leq x \leq n\}$ ;
  - (vii) Exercise 1.1 #5 (iii)  
 $\tau_3$  consists of  $\mathbb{R}, \emptyset$ , and every interval  $[n, \infty)$ , for  $n$  any positive integer, where  $[n, \infty)$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : n \leq x\}$ ;
  - (viii) Exercise 1.1 #6 (i)  
 $\tau_1$  consists of  $\mathbb{N}, \emptyset$ , and every set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , for  $n$  any positive integer. (This is called **initial segment topology**).
  - (ix) Exercise 1.1 #6 (ii)  
 $\tau_2$  consists of  $\mathbb{N}, \emptyset$ , and every  $\{n, n+1, \dots\}$ , for  $n$  any positive integer. (This is called the **final segment topology**.)

4. Let  $\tau$  be the finite-closed topology on a set  $X$ . If  $\tau$  is also the discrete topology, prove that the set  $X$  is finite.

### *$T_0$ -space and the Sierpinski Space*

5. A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be a  **$T_0$ -space** if for each pair of distinct points  $a, b$  in  $X$ , either there exist an open set containing  $a$  and not  $b$ , or there exists an open set containing  $b$  and not  $a$ .
- (i) Prove that every  $T_1$ -space is a  $T_0$ -space.
  - (ii) Which of (i) – (iv) in Exercise 3 above are  $T_0$ -spaces?
  - (iii) Put a topology  $\tau$  on the set  $X = \{0, 1\}$  so that  $(X, \tau)$  will be a  $T_0$ -space but not a  $T_1$ -space. [known as the **Sierpinski space**.]
  - (iv) Prove that each of the topological spaces described in Exercise 1.1 #6 is a  $T_0$ -space.

### *Countable-Closed Topology*

6. Let  $X$  be any infinite set. The **countable-closed topology** is defined to be the topology having as its closed sets  $X$  and all countable subsets of  $X$ . Prove that this is indeed a topology on  $X$ .
7. Let  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  be two topologies on a set  $X$ . Prove each of the following statements.
- (i)  $\tau_3$  is defined by  $\tau_3 = \tau_1 \cup \tau_2$ , then  $\tau_3$  is not necessarily a topology on  $X$ .
  - (ii) If  $\tau_4$  is defined by  $\tau_4 = \tau_1 \cap \tau_2$ , then  $\tau_4$  is a topology on  $X$ .
  - (iii) If  $(X, \tau_1)$  and  $(X, \tau_2)$  are  $T_1$ -spaces, then  $(X, \tau_4)$  is a  $T_1$ -space.
  - (iv) If  $(X, \tau_1)$  and  $(X, \tau_2)$  are  $T_0$ -spaces, then  $(X, \tau_4)$  is not necessarily a  $T_0$ -space.
  - (v) If  $\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_n$  are topologies on a set  $X$ , the  $\tau = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \tau_i$  is a topology on  $X$ .
  - (vi) If for each  $i \in I$ , for some index set  $I$ , each  $\tau_i$  is a topology on the set  $X$ , then  $\tau = \bigcap_{i \in I} \tau_i$  is a topology on  $X$ .

### *Distinct $T_1$ -topologies on a Finite Set*

8. In Wikipedia [//en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite\\_topological\\_space](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite_topological_space), as we noted in Exercise 1.2 #7, it says that the number of topologies on a finite set with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  points can be quite large, even for small  $n$ . This is also true even for  $T_0$ -spaces; for  $n = 5$ , there are 4231 distinct  $T_0$ -spaces. Prove, using mathematical induction, that as  $n$  increases, the number of  $T_0$ -spaces increases.
9. A topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be a **door space** if every subset of  $X$  is either an open set or a closed set (or both).
- (i) Is a discrete space a door space?
  - (ii) Is an indiscrete space a door space?
  - (iii) If  $X$  is an infinite set and  $\tau$  is the finite-closed topology, is  $(X, \tau)$  a door space?
  - (iv) Let  $X$  be the set  $\{a, b, c, d\}$ . Identify those topologies  $\tau$  on  $X$  which make it into a door space.

### *Saturated Sets*

10. A subset  $S$  of a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be **saturated** if it is an intersection of open sets in  $(X, \tau)$ .
- (i) Verify that every open set is a saturated set.
  - (ii) Verify that in a  $T_1$ -space every set is saturated set.
  - (iii) Give an example of a topological space which has at least one subset which is not saturated.
  - (iv) Is it true that if the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is such that every subset is saturated, then  $(X, \tau)$  is a  $T_1$ -space?



## Chapter 2

# The Euclidean Topology

### 2.1 Euclidian Space – Exercises

1. Prove that if  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$  then neither  $[a, b)$  nor  $(a, b]$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Also show that neither is a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

In the case of  $[a, b)$  there is no set  $a \in (x, y)$  because  $x < a$  implies that  $x + \frac{|x-a|}{2}$  would have to be a member of  $[a, b)$  which it cannot. Similarly for  $(a, b]$ .

2. Prove that the sets  $[a, \infty)$  and  $(-\infty, a]$  are closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

The composite of  $[a, \infty)$  is  $(-\infty, a)$  which is open and similarly for  $(-\infty, a]$ .

3. Show, by example, that the union of an infinite number of closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  is not necessarily a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Define  $S_i = [1/i, 1]$  then  $\mathcal{S} = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i$ . Obviously, given any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a closed set  $S_n = [1/n, 1]$  and there exists  $(1/(n+1), 1) \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  such that  $1/n \in (1/(n+1), 1)$  hence  $\mathcal{S}$  must be open.

4. Prove each of the following statements.

(i) The set  $\mathbb{Z}$  of all integers is not an open set of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

(ii) The set  $\mathbb{P}$  of all prime numbers is a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  but not an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

(iii) The set  $\mathbb{I}$  of all irrational numbers is neither a closed subset nor an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

5. If  $F$  is a non-empty finite subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , show that  $F$  is closed in  $\mathbb{R}$  but that  $F$  is not open in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
6. if  $F$  is non-empty countable subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , prove that  $F$  is not an open set, but that  $F$  may or may not be a closed set depending on the choice of  $F$ .
7. (i) Let  $S = \{0, 1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, \dots, 1/n, \dots\}$ . Prove that the set  $S$  is closed in the euclidean topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
(ii) Is the set  $T = \{1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, \dots, 1/n, \dots\}$  closed in  $\mathbb{R}$ ?  
(iii) Is the set  $\{\sqrt{2}, 2\sqrt{2}, 3\sqrt{2}, \dots, n\sqrt{2}, \dots\}$  closed in  $\mathbb{R}$ ?

### ***$F_\sigma$ -Sets and $G_\delta$ -sets.***

8. (i) Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space. A subset  $S$  of  $X$  is said to be an  $F_\sigma$  **set** if it is the union of a countable number of closed sets. Prove that all open intervals  $(a, b)$  and all closed intervals  $[a, b]$  are  $F_\sigma$ -sets in  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
(ii) Let  $(X, \tau)$  be topological space. A subset  $T$  of  $X$  is said to be a  $G_\delta$  **set** if it is the intersection of a countable number of open sets. Prove that all open intervals  $(a, b)$  and all closed interval  $[a, b]$  are  $G_\delta$ -sets in  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
(iii) Prove that the set  $\mathbb{Q}$  of rationals is an  $F_\sigma$ -set in  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
(iv) Verify that the complement of an  $F_\sigma$ -set is a  $G_\delta$ -set and the complement of a  $G_\delta$ -set is an  $F_\sigma$ -set.