

Topology Notes

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1 Set Theory

Definition 1.1 (Set cardinality \leq). Let A, B be sets. A has **cardinality less than or equal to** B (write $|A| \leq |B|$) if there exists an injection from A to B . In notation,

$$|A| \leq |B| \iff \exists f : A \rightarrow B \text{ injective} \quad (1.1)$$

Theorem 1.1 (Cantor). For all sets X (including infinite), $X \not\geq \mathcal{P}(X)$. That is, there does not exist an injection from $\mathcal{P}(X)$ to X .

Proof. The proof contains 2 steps:

- (i) Show that there is no surjection from X to $\mathcal{P}(X)$.
- (ii) Show that (i) implies that there is no injection from $\mathcal{P}(X)$ to X .

We start by proving (ii) through the following lemma:

Lemma 1.2. Let C, D be sets, $C \neq \emptyset$. If there is an injection $i : C \rightarrow D$, then there exists a surjection $j : D \rightarrow C$.

Proof. □

The contrapositive of this lemma gives that no surjection from $D \rightarrow C$ implies no injection from $C \rightarrow D$. □

Theorem 1.3 (Informal statement of the axiom of choice). Given a family \mathcal{F} of nonempty sets, it is possible to pick out an element from each set in the family.

Definition 1.2 (Partial order). A **partial order** is a pair $\mathcal{A} = (A, \triangleright)$ where $A \neq \emptyset$ such that for $a, b, c \in A$

- (i) Antireflexivity: $a \triangleright a$ never happens.
- (ii) Transitivity: $a \triangleright b, b \triangleright c \Rightarrow a \triangleright c$

Remark. With a partial order, you *can* have incomparable elements.

Example 1.1 (Partial order). For any set X , a partial order is $(\mathcal{P}(X), \subsetneq)$. For example, if $X = \{1, 2\}$, then $\{1\}$ and $\{2\}$ are incomparable.

Definition 1.3 (Maximal). Let (A, \triangleright) be a partial order. Then $m \in A$ is maximal if and only if no $a \triangleright m$.

Example 1.2 (Maximal elements). The following are examples of posets and their maximal elements:

- (i) $(\mathbb{N}, <)$ has no maximal element (there is no largest natural number).
- (ii) $(\{\{1\}, \{2\}\}, \subsetneq)$ has 2 maximal elements, since the two elements of the set are not comparable.

Definition 1.4 (Chain). A **chain** in a partial order (A, \triangleright) is a $C \subseteq A$ such that $\forall a, b \in C, a = b$ or $a \triangleright b$ or $b \triangleright a$. (One interpretation in words, “ C is linear”)

Theorem 1.4 (Zorn’s Lemma). Let (A, \triangleright) be a partial order such that the following condition is satisfied:
(Z) In words, if every chain has an upper bound then there is a maximal element. More precisely, *ff* C is a chain, then $\exists x$ such that $x \triangleleft$

2 Topological Spaces

Definition 2.1 (Topology, Topological Space). A **topological space** is a pair (X, \mathcal{T}) where X is a nonempty set and \mathcal{T} is a set of subsets of X (called a **topology**) having the following properties:

- (i) \emptyset and X are in \mathcal{T} .

$$\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}, X \in \mathcal{T} \quad (2.1)$$

- (ii) The union of *arbitrarily* many sets in \mathcal{T} is in \mathcal{T} .

$$A_\eta \in \mathcal{T} \forall \eta \in H \Rightarrow \bigcup_{\eta \in H} A_\eta = \{a \in X \text{ for some (that is, } a \in A_\eta)\} \in \mathcal{T} \quad (2.2)$$

- (iii) The intersection a *finite* number of sets in \mathcal{T} is in \mathcal{T} .

$$A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{T} \Rightarrow A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n \in \mathcal{T} \quad (2.3)$$

A set X for which a topology \mathcal{T} has been specified is called a **topological space**, that is, the pair (X, \mathcal{T}) .

Example 2.1 (Examples of topologies). The following are examples of topologies/topological spaces:

- (i) The collection consisting of X and \emptyset is called the **trivial topology** or **indiscrete topology**.

$$(a) \mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X\}$$

- (ii) If X is any set, the collection of all subsets of X is a topology on X , called the **discrete topology**.

$$(a) \mathcal{T} = \mathcal{P}(X)$$

- (iii) Let $X = \{1\}$. Then $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, \{1\}\}$ is a topology.

- (iv) Sierpinski: Let $X = \{a, b\}$ and $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X, \{a\}\}$. In this topology, b is glued to a . That is, we can't have a set with b and without a . However, a is *not* glued to a .

Remark. Observe that from these examples,

$$\text{indiscrete} \subsetneq \text{Sierpinski} \subsetneq \text{discrete}$$

- (v) $X = \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X\} \cup \{[a, \infty) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

Definition 2.2 ((Strictly) Finer, (Strictly) Coarser, Comparable). Suppose \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{T}' are two topologies on a given set X . If $\mathcal{T}' \supset \mathcal{T}$, we say that \mathcal{T}' is **finer** than \mathcal{T} . If \mathcal{T}' properly contains \mathcal{T} , we say that \mathcal{T}' is **strictly finer** than \mathcal{T} . For these respective situations, we say that \mathcal{T} is **coarser** or **strictly coarser** than \mathcal{T}' . We say that \mathcal{T} is **comparable** with \mathcal{T}' if either $\mathcal{T}' \supset \mathcal{T}$ or $\mathcal{T} \supset \mathcal{T}'$.

Example 2.2 (Finest and coarsest topologies). For any set X , the finest topology is the discrete topology and the coarsest topology is the trivial topology.

3 Basis for a Topology

Definition 3.1 (Basis, Basis Elements, Topology \mathcal{T} generated by \mathcal{B}). If X is a set, a **basis** for a topology on X is a collection \mathcal{B} of subsets of X (called **basis elements**) such that

- (i) Every element $x \in X$ belongs to some set in \mathcal{B} .
- (ii) If x belongs to the intersection of two basis elements B_1 and B_2 , then there is a basis element B_3 containing x such that $B_3 \subset B_1 \cap B_2$.

Example 3.1 (Bases). The following are example of bases of topologies:

- (i) $X = \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathcal{B} = \{(a, b) \mid b > a\}$. We can cover \mathbb{R} with open intervals. Further, a real number x is contained in two intervals B_1 and B_2 , then there will be an open interval B_3 contained in the intersection of the two intervals. In this example, we can actually set $B_3 = B_1 \cap B_2$.
- (ii) $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ and $\mathcal{B} = \{\text{interiors of circles}\}$. We can cover \mathbb{R}^2 with circles. If x is in the intersection of two circles B_1 and B_2 , then we can construct a circle B_3 contained in the intersection $B_1 \cap B_2$. Note in this example, we can just take the actual intersection, as it's not a circle. This example can also be extended to other polygons.

Definition 3.2 (Topology \mathcal{T} generated by \mathcal{B}). If \mathcal{B} is a basis for a topology on X , then we define the **topology \mathcal{T} generated by \mathcal{B}** as follows: A subset U of X is said to be open in X (that is, to be an element of \mathcal{T}) if for each $x \in U$, there is a basis element $B_x \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $x \in B_x$ and $B_x \subset U$. Note that each basis element is itself an element of \mathcal{T} . More succinctly:

$$U \subset X : U \in \mathcal{T} \iff \forall x \in U \exists B_x \in \mathcal{B} \text{ s.t. } x \in B_x \subset U$$

Theorem 3.1 (Collection \mathcal{T} generated by a basis \mathcal{B} is a topology on X).

Proof. We check the three conditions:

- (i) The empty set is vacuously open (since it has no elements), so $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$. Further, $X \in \mathcal{T}$ since for each $x \in X$, there must be at least one basis element B containing x , which itself is contained in X .

[[Incomplete]] □

Lemma 3.2 (Every open set in X can be expressed as a union of basis elements (not unique)). Let X be a set and \mathcal{B} a basis for a topology \mathcal{T} on X . Then \mathcal{T} equals the collection of all unions of elements of \mathcal{B} .

Proof. We need to show two inclusions:

- (i) Collection of elements of \mathcal{B} in \mathcal{T} : In the topology \mathcal{T} generated by \mathcal{B} , each basis element is itself an element of \mathcal{T} . Since \mathcal{T} is a topology, their union is also in \mathcal{T} .
- (ii) Element of \mathcal{T} in collection of all unions of elements of \mathcal{B} : Take $U \in \mathcal{T}$. Then we know $\forall x \in U \exists B_x \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $x \in B_x \subset U$. Then we claim that $U = \bigcup_{x \in U} B_x$, so that U equals a union of elements of \mathcal{B} . Indeed, " \subset " follows since $x \in U \implies x \in B_x$. And, " \supset " follows since $B_x \subset U$, so that the union of all such B_x is in U .

□

Lemma 3.3. Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be a topological space. Suppose \mathcal{C} is a collection of open sets of X (i.e., $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{T}$) such that for each open set U of X and each $x \in U$, there is an element $V \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $x \in V \subset U$. Then \mathcal{C} is a basis for the topology of X . In notation;

$$\forall U \in \mathcal{T} \forall a \in U \exists V \in \mathcal{C} \text{ s.t. } a \in V, V \subset U$$

Definition 3.3 (Subbasis). A **subbasis** \mathcal{S} for a topology on X is a collection of subsets of X whose union equals X . The topology generated by the subbasis \mathcal{S} is defined to be the collection \mathcal{T} of all unions of finite intersections of elements of \mathcal{S} .

4 Continuous Functions

Definition 4.1 (Closed). A subset A of a topological space (X, \mathcal{T}) is said to be **closed** if the set $X - A \in \mathcal{T}$. In words, a subset of a topological space is open if its complement (in the space) is open.

Example 4.1 (Sets can be both closed and open). Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be a topological space. Then $X - X = \emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$ and $X - \emptyset = X \in \mathcal{T}$. Therefore X, \emptyset are both closed and open. We call this type of set **clopen**. Further

$$\text{Closed} \neq \text{Not Open} \quad (4.1)$$

Example 4.2 (Sets can be neither closed nor open). Consider \mathbb{Q} in the usual topology on \mathbb{R} .

Definition 4.2 (Continuous). Let (X, \mathcal{T}) and (Y, σ) be topological spaces. A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be **continuous** with respect to \mathcal{T} and σ if for each open subset V of Y , the set $f^{-1}(V)$ is an open subset of X . In symbols, $\forall S \in \sigma$, we have that $f^{-1}(S) \in \mathcal{T}$ (where $f^{-1}(S) = \{a \in X \mid f(a) \in S\}$). In words, the preimage of an open set is open.

Definition 4.3 (Homeomorphic). The topological spaces (X, \mathcal{T}) and (Y, σ) are **homeomorphic** if there exists a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ such that

- (i) f is bijective.
- (ii) f is continuous.
- (iii) f^{-1} is also continuous.

We write $(X, \mathcal{T}) \cong (Y, \sigma)$ or $f : (X, \mathcal{T}) \cong (Y, \sigma)$.

Remark. This definition states that we can find a *single* bijection that's continuous in both directions.

Example 4.3 (Continuous functions). Let X be a set with more than one element. Let $\mathcal{T}_{disc} = \mathcal{P}(X)$ and $\mathcal{T}_{ind} = \{\emptyset, X\}$ (that is, the discrete and indiscrete topologies. We require X to have more than one element, else these topologies would be the same). Let $f = id$. Then

- (i) $f : (X, \mathcal{T}_{disc}) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{T}_{ind})$ is **continuous**. Indeed, if $S \subseteq X, S \in \mathcal{T}_{ind}$, then $f^{-1}(S) \in \mathcal{T}_{disc}$, since $\mathcal{T}_{disc} \supset \mathcal{T}_{ind}$.
- (ii) $f : (X, \mathcal{T}_{ind}) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{T}_{disc})$ is **not continuous**. For example, suppose $X = \{1, 2\}$. Let $S = \{1\} \in \mathcal{T}_{disc}$. Then $f^{-1}(\{1\}) = \{1\} \notin \mathcal{T}_{ind}$.

Example 4.4 (Open, closed, continuous functions).

Definition 4.4 (Open map). $f : (X, \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is an **open map** if $\forall S \in \mathcal{T}$ we have that $f(S) \in \sigma$ (recall $f(S) = \{f(s) \mid s \in S\}$). In words: open sets map to open sets.

Definition 4.5 (Closed map). $f : (X, \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is a **closed map** if $\forall S \subset X$ such that $X - S \in \mathcal{T}$ we have that $Y - f(S) \in \sigma$. In words: closed sets map to closed sets.

Continuous, open, and closed maps don't have clean relationships: Let $X = \{1, 2\}$.

- (i) Continuous, not open, not closed map: Let $f : (X, \mathcal{P}(X)) \rightarrow (X, \{\emptyset, X\})$ be the identity map (discrete to indiscrete).
 - (a) Continuous: Previous example.
 - (b) Not open: $\{1\} \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ maps to $\{1\} \notin \{\emptyset, X\}$. Thus the map is not open.
 - (c) Not closed: $X - \{1\} = \{2\} \in \mathcal{P}(X)$, so $\{1\}$ is closed in $(X, \mathcal{P}(X))$. But $\{2\} \notin \{\emptyset, X\}$. Thus $\{1\}$ is closed on the left, but not on the right.
- (ii) Open, closed, not continuous map: Let $f : (X, \{\emptyset, X\}) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{P}(X))$ be the identity map (indiscrete to discrete).
 - (a) Not continuous: Previous example.
 - (b) Open: Since $\mathcal{T}_{ind} \subset \mathcal{T}_{disc}$
 - (c) Closed: Since $\mathcal{T}_{ind} \subset \mathcal{T}_{disc}$.
- (iii) Continuous, closed, not open:

5 Subspace Topology

Definition 5.1 (Subspace topology). Given a topological space (X, \mathcal{T}) and a non-empty set $A \subseteq X$, the **subspace topology on A induced (or given) by \mathcal{T}** is (A, \mathcal{T}_A) where $\mathcal{T}_A = \{U \cap A \mid U \in \mathcal{T}\}$.

Proof that (A, \mathcal{T}_A) is a topological space. We check the axioms:

- (i) $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}_A$: $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$, and $\emptyset \cap A = \emptyset$, so $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}_A$.
- (ii) $A \in \mathcal{T}_A$: $X \in \mathcal{T}$, and $X \cap A = A$, so $A \in \mathcal{T}_A$.
- (iii) Closure under finite intersections:

□

6 Metric Spaces

Definition 6.1 (Metric space). A **metric space** is a nonempty set X together with a binary function $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which satisfies the following properties: For all $x, y, z \in X$ we have that

- (i) $d(x, y) \geq 0$
- (ii) $d(x, y) = 0$ if and only if $x = y$
- (iii) $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$
- (iv) Triangle inequality: $d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$

Definition 6.2 (Metric topology). Given a metric space (X, d) , the set $\mathcal{B} = \{B_\epsilon(x) \mid \epsilon > 0, x \in X\}$ is a basis for a topology on X (where $B_\epsilon(x) = \{y \in X \mid d(x, y) < \epsilon\}$) called the **metric topology**.

7 Sequences

Definition 7.1 (Converges). Fix a topological space (X, \mathcal{T}) . A sequence of points $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \subset X$ **converges** to $b \in X$ if for every open set W containing b , all but finitely many of the terms of the sequence are in W . In symbols

$$(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow b \iff \forall W \in \mathcal{T} \text{ s.t. } b \in W, \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \forall m > n, a_m \in W$$

Definition 7.2 (Sequentially closed). A set $S \subset X$ is **sequentially closed** if for every sequence $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ of points in S converging to some $b \in X$, we have $b \in S$.

How do sequentially closed and closed sets relate?

- In a metric space, a set is closed if and only if it is sequentially closed.
- In general topological spaces, this need not be true.

How bad can convergence be in an arbitrary topological space? Pretty bad.

Example 7.1 (Every sequence converges to every point). Let X be a set with at least 2 points and \mathcal{T} be the indiscrete (or trivial) topology (note: $|X| = 1$ isn't that interesting since every sequence in X would then be constant and hence convergent). Let $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of points in X and fix a point $b \in X$.

Claim 7.1. $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow b$

Proof. Let $U \subset X$ such that $b \in U$ and $U \in \mathcal{T}$. Since $b \in U$, we have that $U \neq \emptyset$, so that the only possibility is that $U = X$ (since $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X\}$). But then U contains all elements of the sequence $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$. Thus $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to b . Since b was arbitrary, $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to every point of X . \square

Example 7.2 (Every sequence converges to exactly one point or doesn't converge, or converges to everything). Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be the cofinite topology (on an infinite set X). For simplicity, let $X = \mathbb{N}$. Let $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of points in X . We can divide the possible forms of $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ into 3 cases:

- No infinite repetition of any terms (ex. $(1, 2, 3, 4, \dots)$).
- Exactly one value gets repeated infinitely often (ex. $(1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 4, 1, \dots)$).
- At least 2 values get repeated infinitely often.

We will show that the respective outcomes for these cases are

- Converges to every point.
- Converges to point repeated infinitely often.
- Doesn't converge.

Claim 7.2. A sequence with no infinite repetition converges to every point.

Proof. Let $a = (a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence in X with no infinite repetition and let $b \in X$. Let $b \in U$ where $U \in \mathcal{T}$ (U open). Note that $U \neq \emptyset$. Thus U is cofinite (that is, $X - U$ is finite, so that finitely many points of X are *not* in U). Therefore each point not in U only appears finitely many times in the sequence (since there is no infinite repetition in a). Therefore only finitely many of the terms of a are not in U (finite \times finite = finite). Therefore the sequence converges to b . \square

Claim 7.3 (Metric space: closed \iff sequentially closed). In a metric space, a set is closed if and only if it is sequentially closed. More formally: If (X, d) is a metric space and \mathcal{T}_d is the induced topology on X , then $S \subset X$ is sequentially closed if and only if S is closed (with respect to \mathcal{T} , that is $X - S \in \mathcal{T}$).

Closed \Rightarrow sequentially closed. Suppose (for contradiction) that $A \subset X$, A closed, but A not sequentially closed. Since A is not sequentially closed, there is a sequence of points $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ from A and a point $b \in X - A$ such that $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow b$.

A closed means $X - A$ is open. So since $b \in X - A$, there is some $U \in \mathcal{T}_d$ with $b \in U$ such that $U \cap A = \emptyset$. Of course, $U = X - A$ works. But, we can find a basic open (i.e., a set in the basis we're using, here the set of open balls). Since $b \in X - A$ and $X - A$ open, there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $B_\varepsilon(b) \subset X - A$. Thus we have that

(i) $B_\varepsilon(b)$ is open.

(ii) $b \in B_\varepsilon(b)$.

(iii) $B_\varepsilon(b)$ contains none of the terms of $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ (since $a_i \in A$ for all i).

But then $(a_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \not\rightarrow b$, a contradiction. □

8 Product Topology

Definition 8.1 (Product topology, two sets). Let (X, τ) and (Y, σ) be topological spaces. The **product topology** on $X \times Y$ is the topology having as *basis* the collection \mathcal{B} of all set of the form $U \times V$ where U is an open subset of X and V is an open subset of Y . In symbols,

$$\mathcal{B}_{\tau \times \sigma} = \{U \times V \mid U \in \tau, V \in \sigma\} \quad (8.1)$$

Remark. Note, open sets of $X \times Y$ need not be of the form open set in $X \times$ open set in Y .

Proof that $\mathcal{B}_{\tau \times \sigma}$ is indeed a basis for a topology on $X \times Y$. We check the two conditions required to be a basis:

(i) \mathcal{B} “covers” X : Note that $X \in \tau$ and $Y \in \sigma$ (since they are each topologies). Therefore $X \times Y \in \mathcal{B}$. Thus for any $(x, y) \in X \times Y$, we have that $(x, y) \in X \times Y \in \mathcal{B}$.

(ii) Intersection Property: Take two basis elements $U_1 \times V_1$ and $U_2 \times V_2$. Notice that

$$(U_1 \times V_1) \cap (U_2 \times V_2) = (U_1 \cap U_2) \times (V_1 \cap V_2) \quad (8.2)$$

But then $U_1 \cap U_2 \in \tau$ and $V_1 \cap V_2 \in \sigma$, so that $(U_1 \times V_1) \cap (U_2 \times V_2) \in \mathcal{B}$, so the intersection of two basis elements is again a basis element. This is stronger than the property required to be a basis, yet of course sufficient. □

Definition 8.2 (Product space/topology for finitely many spaces). Let $(X_1, \tau_1), \dots, (X_n, \tau_n)$ be topological spaces. The set of points of the **product space** is $X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$. The basis for the **product topology** is

$$\mathcal{B}_{\tau_1 \times \dots \times \tau_n} = \{W_1 \times \dots \times W_n \mid W_i \in \tau_i\} \quad (8.3)$$

Remark. Again, $\mathcal{B}_{\tau_1 \times \dots \times \tau_n}$ is indeed a basis since the first condition is trivially satisfied ($X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$ is a basis element) and the intersection of products is a product of intersections, and hence again a basis element.

Definition 8.3 (Projection Maps). Let (X_1, τ_1) and (X_2, τ_2) be topological spaces. Let

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_1 : X_1 \times X_2 &\rightarrow X_1 : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto x_1 \\ \pi_2 : X_1 \times X_2 &\rightarrow X_2 : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto x_2\end{aligned}$$

then π_1 and π_2 are **projection maps**.

Claim 8.1. Let π_1 be π_2 projection maps (as above). Then

- (i) π_1 is continuous with respect to $\tau_1 \otimes \tau_2$ and τ_1 .
- (ii) π_2 is continuous with respect to $\tau_1 \otimes \tau_2$ and τ_2 .

Proof. We show π_1 is continuous. Suppose $S \subset X_1$ is open (i.e., $\in \tau_1$). We want to show that $\pi_1^{-1}(S) \in \tau_1 \otimes \tau_2$. We have that

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_1^{-1}(S) &= \{p \in X_1 \times X_2 \mid \pi_1(p) \in S\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times X_2 \mid \pi_1((x_1, x_2)) \in S\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times X_2 \mid x_1 \in S\} \\ &= S \times X_2\end{aligned}$$

Thus we have that

- S is τ_1 -open.
- X_2 is τ_2 -open.

so that $S \times X_2$ is in our basis for $\tau_1 \otimes \tau_2$. Thus, $S \times X_2 \in \tau_1 \otimes \tau_2$. □

9 Compactness

Definition 9.1 (Open cover). An **open cover** of (X, τ) is a family of τ -open sets $\mathcal{C} \subset \tau$ such that $\bigcup \mathcal{C} = X$.

Remark. The notation $\bigcup \mathcal{C} = X$ means X is the union of “stuff” in \mathcal{C} .

Example 9.1 (Open covers). The following are examples of open covers of (X, τ) :

- (i) Any basis for τ is an open cover of (X, τ) .
- (ii) Any subbasis for τ is an open cover of (X, τ) .
- (iii) $\{X\}$.
- (iv) τ .
- (v) Let $X = \mathbb{R}$ and $\tau = \tau_e$. Then $\{(-n, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an open cover of X .

Definition 9.2 (Subcover). \mathcal{D} is a **subcover** of \mathcal{C} if

- (i) $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}$.
- (ii) \mathcal{D} is an open cover.

A **finite subcover** is a subcover which is finite.

Definition 9.3 (Compact). A topological space (X, τ) is **compact** if every open cover has a finite subcover.

Example 9.2 (Non-compact Set). Consider the topological space (\mathbb{R}, τ_e) . This space has a finite subcover: $\{\mathbb{R}\}$. But does this imply that (\mathbb{R}, τ_e) is compact? No! We need to see if *all* open covers have finite subcovers. Consider the open cover

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(-n, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \quad (9.1)$$

\mathcal{C} has no finite subcover. Thus (\mathbb{R}, τ_e) is not compact.

A Set Theory Review

Definition A.1 (Difference). The **difference** of two sets, denoted $A - B$, is the set consisting of those elements of A that are not in B . In notation

$$A - B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$$

Theorem A.1 (Set-Theoretic Rules). We have that, for any sets A, B, C ,

- (i) First distributive law for the operations \cap and \cup :

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) \quad (A.1)$$

- (ii) Second distributive law for the operations \cap and \cup :

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \quad (A.2)$$

- (iii) DeMorgan's laws:

$$A - (B \cup C) = (A - B) \cap (A - C) \quad (A.3)$$

"The complement of the union equals the intersection of the complements."

$$A - (B \cap C) = (A - B) \cup (A - C) \quad (A.4)$$

"The complement of the intersection equals the union of the complements."

A.1 Functions

Exercise A.1. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$. Let $A_0 \subset A$ and $B_0 \subset B$. Then

- (i) $A_0 \subset f^{-1}(f(A_0))$ and equality holds if f is injective.
- (ii) $f(f^{-1}(B_0)) \subset B_0$ and equality holds if f is surjective.

Solution. We prove each item in turn:

- (i) Let $a \in A_0$. Then $f(a) \in f(A_0)$. We have that $f^{-1}(f(A_0)) = \{a \mid f(a) \in f(A_0)\}$. Then $f(a) \in f^{-1}(f(A_0))$, so that $A_0 \subset f^{-1}(f(A_0))$. We can actually show equality holds if and only if f is injective.
- (a) \Leftarrow Suppose f is injective. Let $a \in f^{-1}(f(A_0))$. Then $f(a) \in f(A_0)$. Therefore there exists some $b \in f(A_0)$ such that $f(a) = f(b)$. Injectivity implies $a = b \in A_0$.
- (b) \Rightarrow We will prove the contrapositive. Suppose f is *not* injective. Then $f(a) = f(b)$ for some $a \neq b$. Therefore $\{a, b\} \subset f^{-1}(f(\{a\}))$. Thus $f^{-1}(f(\{a\})) \not\subset \{a\}$.
- (ii) Let $x \in f(f^{-1}(B_0))$. Then there is some $b \in f^{-1}(B_0)$ such that $f(b) = x$. But $f(b) \in B_0$, so $x \in B_0$.
- (a) \Leftarrow Suppose f is surjective. Take $b \in B_0$, then there exists some $a \in A_0$ such that $f(a) = b$, so that $a \in f^{-1}(B_0)$, and $b = f(a) \in f(f^{-1}(B_0))$.

Exercise A.2.

Solution. (i) Let $B_0 \subset B_1$. Fix $x \in f^{-1}(B_0)$. Then $f(x) \in B_0$, which implies $f(x) \in B_1$. Thus $f^{-1}(B_0) \subset f^{-1}(B_1)$.

(ii) We show two inclusions:

- (a) \supset : We can use (i), since $B_i \subset B_0 \cup B_1$, so $f^{-1}(B_0) \subset f^{-1}(B_0 \cup B_1)$ and $f^{-1}(B_1) \subset f^{-1}(B_0 \cup B_1)$, so $f^{-1}(B_0) \cup f^{-1}(B_1) \subset f^{-1}(B_0 \cup B_1)$.
- (b) \subset : Let $x \in f^{-1}(B_0 \cup B_1)$. Thus there exists some $b \in B_0 \cup B_1$ such that $f(x) = b$. Therefore $x \in f^{-1}(B_0)$ or $x \in f^{-1}(B_1)$, so that $f^{-1}(B_0 \cup B_1) \subset f^{-1}(B_1)$.

(iii)