

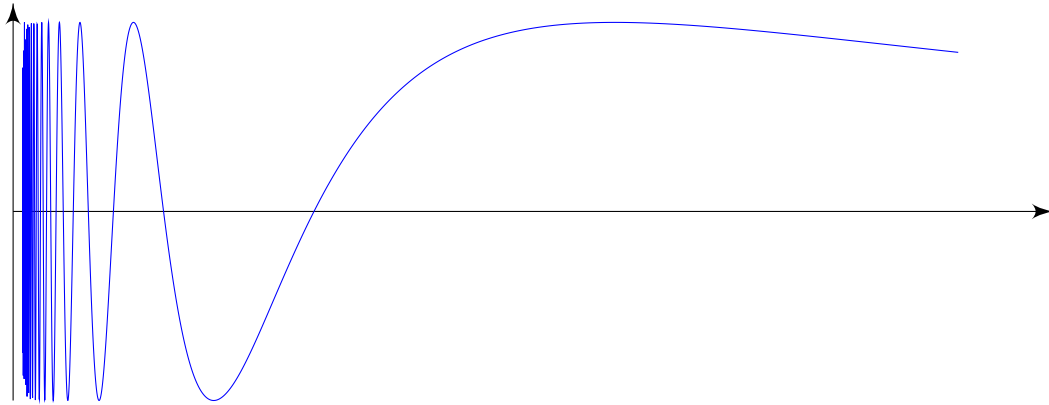
# Introrduction to Metric and Topological Spaces

Based on lectures by Ariel Rapaport

Notes taken by yehelip

Winter 2025

These notes are not endorsed by the lecturers. I have revised them outside lectures to incorporate supplementary explanations, clarifications, and material for fun. While I have strived for accuracy, any errors or misinterpretations are most likely mine.



# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Metric Spaces</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Standard examples . . . . .	4
1.1.1	The $L^p$ metric . . . . .	4
1.2	Open sets . . . . .	5
1.3	Sequences . . . . .	6
1.4	Closed sets . . . . .	6
1.4.1	The middle third Cantor set . . . . .	7
1.5	Functions . . . . .	7
<b>2</b>	<b>Topological Spaces</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Standard examples . . . . .	8
2.2	Continuous functions . . . . .	8
2.3	Homeomorphisms . . . . .	9
2.4	The subspace topology . . . . .	9
2.4.1	Characteristic property of the subspace topology . . . . .	9
2.5	Closed sets . . . . .	9
2.6	Isolated points and limit points . . . . .	10
2.7	The interior and boundary of a topological space . . . . .	10
2.8	Open bases . . . . .	11
2.8.1	Countability . . . . .	11
2.9	Open subbases . . . . .	12
2.10	Topology generated by functions . . . . .	13
2.11	The product topology . . . . .	13
<b>3</b>	<b>Complete Metric Spaces</b>	<b>15</b>
3.1	Definitions . . . . .	15
3.2	Examples of complete metric spaces . . . . .	15
3.2.1	Banach spaces . . . . .	15
3.2.2	Subspace of a complete metric space . . . . .	15
3.3	Cantor's intersection lemma . . . . .	16
3.4	The completion theorem . . . . .	16
3.5	Baire's theorem . . . . .	17
3.6	The Banach fixed-point theorem . . . . .	18
3.7	A glimpse of Picard's theorem . . . . .	19
<b>4</b>	<b>Compactness</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1	Definitions . . . . .	20
4.2	Closed bases . . . . .	21
4.3	The Alexander subbase theorem . . . . .	21
4.4	The Heine–Borel theorem . . . . .	23
4.4.1	The Heine–Borel theorem in $\mathbb{R}$ . . . . .	23
4.4.2	Tychonoff's theorem . . . . .	23
4.4.3	The general case . . . . .	24
4.5	Lebesgue's covering lemma . . . . .	25
4.6	Total boundedness . . . . .	25
<b>5</b>	<b>The Arzelà–Ascoli theorem</b>	<b>27</b>
5.1	Algebras . . . . .	27
5.2	The Arzelà–Ascoli theorem . . . . .	28

<b>6</b>	<b>Seperation</b>	<b>30</b>
6.1	Definitions . . . . .	30
6.1.1	$T_1$ -spaces . . . . .	30
6.1.2	Hausdorff spaces . . . . .	30
<b>7</b>	<b>Completely regular spaces and normal spaces</b>	<b>32</b>
7.1	Completely regular spaces . . . . .	32
7.2	Normal spaces . . . . .	32
7.2.1	Urysohn's lemma . . . . .	33
7.2.2	The Tietze extension theorem . . . . .	33
7.3	Embeddings . . . . .	34
7.3.1	$\ell^p$ spaces . . . . .	34
7.3.2	The Uryshon embedding theorem . . . . .	35
7.4	Compactifications . . . . .	35
7.4.1	The Stone–Čech compactification . . . . .	35
7.4.2	One-point compactification . . . . .	35
<b>8</b>	<b>Connectednes</b>	<b>37</b>
8.1	Connectedness . . . . .	37
8.2	Path connectedness . . . . .	38
8.2.1	the Topologist's sine curve . . . . .	39
8.3	Connected components . . . . .	39
8.4	Local connectedness . . . . .	40

# 1 Metric Spaces

First we will begin with metric spaces.

**Definition 1.1** (Metric space). Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. A metric on  $X$  is a function  $d: X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  such that for all  $x, y, z \in X$ ,

- (1)  $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ;
- (2)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  (symmetry);
- (3)  $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$  (triangle inequality);

The pair  $(X, d)$  is said to be a metric space.

## 1.1 Standard examples

**Example 1.1.** Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. Let  $d: X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be the function such that for  $x, y \in X$ ,

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

The function  $d$  is a metric and it is called the discrete metric on  $X$ .

**Example 1.2.** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  and define the function:

$$d(x - y) := |x - y|,$$

where  $|\cdot|: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the Euclidean norm function. Then the pair  $(X, d)$  forms a metric space.

**Example 1.3.** Let  $(X, N)$  be an arbitrary normed space and define the function:

$$d(x - y) := N(x - y).$$

Then the pair  $(X, d)$  forms a metric space.

### 1.1.1 The $L^p$ metric

**Example 1.4.** The pair  $(C([0, 1]), d)$  such that  $C([0, 1])$  is the space of all continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$  paired with the metric:

$$d(f, g) = \int_0^1 |f(x) - g(x)| \, dx$$

is also a metric space. This metric is called the  $L^1$  metric.

**Remark 1.1.** In general, the  $p$ -metrics are induced by the  $p$ -norms, defined on  $C([0, 1])$  for every  $1 \leq p < \infty$  as such:

$$d(f, g) = \int_0^1 |f(x) - g(x)|^p \, dx.$$

Similarly we can define the  $L^\infty$  space on  $C([0, 1])$  as in the following example.

**Example 1.5.** The pair  $(C([0, 1]), d)$  paired with the supremum metric:

$$d(f, g) = \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - g(x)|$$

is also metric space. This metric is called the  $L^\infty$  metric.

**Example 1.6.** Let  $\Lambda$  be a nonempty set which will represent an alphabet. The set  $\Lambda^{\mathbb{N}}$  represents all the sequences over that alphabet. The pair  $(\Lambda^{\mathbb{N}}, d)$  with the metric  $d$  defined on two sequences  $\omega = (\omega_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}, \eta = (\eta_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  as:

$$d(\omega, \eta) = \begin{cases} 2^{-\min\{n \geq 0 \mid \omega_n \neq \eta_n\}} & \omega \neq \eta \\ 0 & \omega = \eta \end{cases}$$

is also a metric space.

**Example 1.7.** Another simple way to construct a metric space is by constructing it from another space. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and let  $Y \subset X$ . The pair  $(Y, d_Y)$  where  $d_Y$  is the metric  $d$  constrained to  $Y$  is also a metric space, and it is called a metric subspace of  $X$ .

## 1.2 Open sets

**Definition 1.2** (Open ball). Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. For  $x \in X$  and  $r > 0$  write:

$$B(x, r) := \{y \in X \mid d(x, y) < r\}.$$

The set  $B(x, r)$  is called the open ball in  $X$  with center  $x$  and radius  $r$ .

**Definition 1.3** (Open subset). A subset  $U$  of a metric space  $X$  is said to be open if for every  $x \in X$  exists  $r > 0$  such that  $B(x, r) \subset X$ .

**Proposition 1.1.** *Every open ball in  $X$  is an open subset of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $B(x, r_x)$  be an open ball in  $X$ . Let  $y \in B(x, r_x)$ . Then for  $r_y = r_x - d(x, y)$  we have that for every  $z \in B(y, r_y)$  that

$$d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z) < d(x, y) + (r_x - d(x, y)) = r_x,$$

which means that  $B(y, r_y) \subset B(x, r_x)$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.2** (Properties of open subsets). *The following properties are always satisfied:*

- (1)  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are open;
- (2) A union of open sets remains open;
- (3) A finite intersection of open sets remains open;

These are the basic properties of open subsets, they can be verified directly from the definitions.

**Proposition 1.3.** *A subset  $U$  of  $X$  is open if and only if it is a countable union of open balls.*

*Proof.* Let  $U$  be a countable union of open balls, since every open ball is open, and a countable union of open subsets remains open, we get that  $U$  is open in  $X$ .

Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$ . Then for every  $x \in X$  exists  $r_x > 0$  such that  $B(x, r_x) \subset U$ . We have that

$$\bigcup_{x \in U} B(x, r_x) = U,$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.4.** *Every nonempty open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  is a countable union of disjoint open intervals.*

Before we prove the following theorem, we need to prove a lemma.

**Lemma 1.5.** Let  $\{I_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  be a family of open intervals of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in A} I_\alpha \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in A} I_\alpha$  is an open interval.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in A} I_\alpha$ . For every  $I_\alpha$  exists  $a_\alpha, b_\alpha$  such that  $I_\alpha = (a_\alpha, b_\alpha)$ . Denote

$$a = \inf_{\alpha \in A} a_\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad b = \sup_{\alpha \in A} b_\alpha.$$

We now clearly have that  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in A} I_\alpha = (a, b)$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

We will now prove Theorem 1.4.

*Proof.* Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}$  be open and nonempty. For any  $x \in U$  let  $I_x$  be the union of all open intervals  $I \subset U$  with  $x \in I$ . From the previous lemma we have that  $I_x$  is an open interval for all  $x \in U$ . Consider the set

$$\mathcal{E} := \{I_x \mid x \in U\}.$$

It is clear that  $\bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{E}} I = U$ . Notice that  $I_x \neq I_y$  if and only if  $I_x \cap I_y = \emptyset$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , for every  $I \in \mathcal{E}$  exists  $q_I \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $q \in I$ . Since all the elements in  $\mathcal{E}$  are disjoint, we have that

$$|\mathcal{E}| = \left| \{q_I \mid I \in \mathcal{E}\} \right| \leq |\mathbb{Q}| = |\mathbb{N}|,$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

### 1.3 Sequences

**Definition 1.4** (Convergence). Let  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence in  $X$ , and let  $x \in X$ . We say that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges to  $x$  and write

$$x_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$$

if for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $N \geq 1$  such that  $d(x_n, x) \leq \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ .

**Proposition 1.6** (Uniqueness of the limit). Let  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence in  $X$  and  $x, x' \in X$  such that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x$  and  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x'$ . Then  $x = x'$ .

*Proof.* For all  $n \geq 1$  we have that

$$d(x, x') \leq d(x, x_n) + d(x_n, x') < \epsilon.$$

This shows that  $d(x, x') \leq 0$  and thus  $d(x, x') = 0$  and  $x = x'$  as wanted.  $\square$

### 1.4 Closed sets

**Definition 1.5** (Closed subset). We say that  $F \subset X$  is a closed subset of  $X$  if for every sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset F$  and  $x \in X$  such that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x$ , we have that  $x \in F$ .

**Proposition 1.7.** Let  $F$  be a subset of  $X$ . Then  $F$  is closed if and only if  $X \setminus F$  is open.

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $F$  is not closed. Then exists  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  and  $x \in X$  such that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converges to  $x$  and  $x \in X \setminus F$ . Let  $r > 0$ , then we know that exists  $N \geq 1$  such that for all  $n > N$  we have

$$d(x_n, x) < r \quad \text{and} \quad x_n \in F$$

which shows that  $X \setminus F$  is not open.

Suppose next that  $X \setminus F$  is not open. Then exists a sequence  $x \in X$  such that for all  $\frac{1}{n} > 0$  exists  $x_n \in F$  such that  $d(x, x_n) \leq 1/n$ . It follows that

$$\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x \quad \text{and} \quad x \in X \setminus F$$

which shows that  $F$  is not closed which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.8** (Properties of closed subsets). *The following properties are always satisfied:*

- (1)  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are closed;
- (2) An intersection of closed sets remains closed;
- (3) A finite union of closed sets remains closed;

These are the basic properties of closed subsets, they can be verified directly from the definitions.

**Definition 1.6** (Closed ball). Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Let  $x \in X$  and  $r > 0$ . We define

$$\overline{B}(x, r) := \{y \in X \mid d(x, y) \leq r\}.$$

The set  $\overline{B}(x, r)$  is called the closed ball in  $X$  with center  $x$  and radius  $r$ .

**Proposition 1.9.** *The set  $\overline{B}(x, r)$  is a closed subset of  $X$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $r > 0$ .*

*Proof.* It suffices to show that  $X \setminus \overline{B}(x, r)$  is open. □

#### 1.4.1 The middle third Cantor set

**Example 1.8** (The middle third Cantor set). Set  $C_0 := [0, 1]$ . Let  $C_1$  be the set obtained by deleting the middle third of  $C_0$ , that is  $C_1 := \left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right] \cup \left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right]$ . We can continue this process infinitely many times:

$$\begin{aligned} C_0 &:= [0, 1] \\ C_1 &:= \left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right] \cup \left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right] \\ C_2 &:= \left[0, \frac{1}{9}\right] \cup \left[\frac{2}{9}, \frac{1}{3}\right] \cup \left[\frac{2}{3}, \frac{7}{9}\right] \cup \left[\frac{8}{9}, 1\right] \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

Since for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the set  $C_n$  is a finite union of closed sets, we have that  $C_n$  are closed for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It then follows that the set  $C := \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} C_n$  is also closed. The set  $C$  is called the middle third Cantor set.

### 1.5 Functions

**Definition 1.7** (Continuity). Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a function between two metric spaces. We say that  $f$  is continuous at  $x \in X$  if for every  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$

$$\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x \implies \{f(x_n)\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x).$$

We say that  $f$  is continuous if it is continuous at  $x$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Proposition 1.10.** *Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $x \in X$  be given. Then  $f$  is continuous at  $x$  if and only if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  so that  $f(B(x, \delta)) \subset B(f(x), \epsilon)$ .*

*Proof.* To be added. □

**Proposition 1.11.** *A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous if and only if  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open for every open  $U \subset Y$ .*

*Proof.* To be added. □

## 2 Topological Spaces

**Definition 2.1** (Topological space). Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. A collection  $\tau \subset P(X)$  is said to be a topology on  $X$  if it satisfies the following properties,

- (1)  $X, \emptyset \in \tau$ ;
- (2) Any union of sets in  $\tau$  is a set in  $\tau$ ;
- (3) Any finite intersection of sets in  $\tau$  is a set in  $\tau$ ;

The pair  $(X, \tau)$  is said to be a topological space and  $U \in \tau$  an open set of  $(X, \tau)$ . An element  $x \in X$  is said to be a point of  $(X, \tau)$ .

### 2.1 Standard examples

**Example 2.1** (Topology induced by metric). Every metric spaces can induce a topological space. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Define

$$\tau := \{U \subset X \mid \forall x \in U \quad \exists \epsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } B(x, \epsilon) \subset U\}.$$

It can be verified that  $(X, \tau)$  is a topological space.

**Definition 2.2** (Metrisable space). We say that a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is metrisable, if exists a metric  $d$  on  $X$ , such that the topology that  $d$  induces on  $X$  is equal to  $\tau$ .

**Example 2.2** (Discrete topology). Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and let  $\tau := P(X)$ . The topology  $\tau$  is called the discrete topology and the space  $(X, \tau)$  is called the discrete space. Is it metrisable?

**Example 2.3** (Trivial topology). Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and let  $\tau := \{\emptyset, X\}$ . The topology  $\tau$  is called the trivial topology. Is it metrisable when  $|X| = 1$ ? Is it metrisable when  $|X| > 1$ ?

**Example 2.4** (Finite complement topology). Let  $X$  be any infinite set and let

$$\tau := \{A \subset X \mid |X \setminus A| < \infty\} \cup \{\emptyset\}.$$

The topology  $\tau$  is called the finite complement topology. Is it metrisable?

### 2.2 Continuous functions

**Definition 2.3** (Continuity). A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be continuous if for every open set  $U \subset Y$  the set  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open.

Notice that the definition for continuity in topological spaces is equivalent to the definition we gave in metric spaces, under the topology induced by the metric.

**Definition 2.4** (Neighbourhood). Given  $x \in X$ , an open  $U \subset X$  containing  $x$  is said to be a neighbourhood of  $x$ .

**Definition 2.5** (Continuity at a point). A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be continuous at  $x$  if for every neighbourhood  $U$  of  $f(x)$  there exists a neighbourhood  $V$  of  $x$  such that  $f(V) \subset U$ .

**Definition 2.6** (Open map). A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be open if  $f(U)$  is open in  $Y$  for every open  $U \subset X$ .



### 2.3 Homeomorphisms

**Definition 2.7** (Homeomorphism). A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be a homeomorphism if it is injective, surjective, continuous and open. If there exists such an  $f$ , then we say that  $X$  and  $Y$  are homeomorphic.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous. It follows that  $f$  is a homeomorphism if and only if it has a continuous inverse.*

**Remark 2.1.** We say that a property  $P$  is a *topological property* if for every two homeomorphic spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ , then  $P$  holds for  $X$  if and only if it holds for  $Y$ . The branch that deals with topological properties is called topology.

### 2.4 The subspace topology

**Definition 2.8** (Subspace topology). Let  $(X, \tau_X)$  be a topological space and let  $\emptyset \neq Y \subset X$ . Define

$$\tau_Y = \{U \cap Y \mid U \in \tau_X\}$$

We call  $\tau_Y$  the subspace topology, induced by  $\tau_X$  on  $Y$ .

#### 2.4.1 Characteristic property of the subspace topology

**Theorem 2.2. (Characteristic property of the subspace topology).** *Let  $(X, \tau_X)$  be a topological space, let  $\emptyset \neq Y \subset X$ , and write  $\tau_Y$  for the subspace topology on  $Y$ . Then  $\tau_Y$  is the unique topology on  $Y$  which satisfies the following property. Let  $Z$  be a topological space and let  $f: Z \rightarrow X$  be with  $f(Z) \subset Y$ . Then  $f$  is continuous as a map into  $(X, \tau_X)$  if and only if it is continuous as a map into  $(Y, \tau_Y)$ .*

Throughout this section let  $X$  be a fixed topological space.

### 2.5 Closed sets

**Definition 2.9** (Closed set). A subset  $F$  of  $X$  is said to be closed if  $F^c = X \setminus F$  is open.

**Proposition 2.3** (Properties of closed sets). *The following properties are always satisfied:*

- (1)  $X, \emptyset$  are closed;
- (2) Any intersection of closed sets is closed;
- (3) Any finite union of closed sets is closed;

**Definition 2.10** (Closure). Given  $A \subset X$  we denote  $\overline{A}$  to be the intersection of all  $F \subset X$  such that  $A \subset F$  and  $F$  is closed. We call  $\overline{A}$  the closure of  $A$ .

**Remark 2.2.** We can also define the closure of  $A$  in an alternate way:

$$\overline{A} = \{x \in X \mid A \cap U \neq \emptyset \text{ for each neighbourhood } U \text{ of } x\}.$$

You may try to prove that both definitions are equivalent.

**Definition 2.11** (Dense subset). A subset  $A$  of  $X$  is said to be dense in  $X$  if  $\overline{A} = X$ .

Using the second definition of closure we get that  $A$  is dense in  $X$  if and only if  $A \cap U \neq \emptyset$  for every nonempty  $U \subset X$ .

**Definition 2.12** (Seperability). We say that  $X$  is seperable if it has a countable dense subset.

**Example 2.5.** We know that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable, it follows that  $\mathbb{R}$  is seperable.

## 2.6 Isolated points and limit points

**Definition 2.13** (Isolated point). Let  $A \subset X$ . We say that  $x$  is an isolated point of  $A$  if exists  $U$  open in  $X$  such that  $X \cap U = \{x\}$ .

This is exactly the same as saying that  $x$  is an isolated point if and only if the singleton  $\{x\}$  is open in the subspace topology.

**Definition 2.14** (Limit point). Let  $A \subset X$ . We say that  $x$  is a limit point of  $A$  if for every neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  there exists  $a \in U \cap A$  with  $a \neq x$ . The set of all limit points of  $A$  is called the derived set of  $A$  and is denoted by  $D(A)$ .

**Example 2.6.** Consider the set  $A = \left\{\frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\right\} \cup \{0\}$  as a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then 0 is a limit point of  $A$ , and every other point in  $A$  is an isolated point.

**Proposition 2.4.** Let  $A \subset X$  be given, then

1.  $\bar{A} = A \cup D(A)$ .
2.  $A$  is closed if and only if  $D(A) \subset A$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in X$ . Suppose that  $x \notin \bar{A}$ . It follows that exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that  $U \cap A = \emptyset$ . This implies that  $x \notin D(A)$  and thus  $x \notin A \cup D(A)$ .

Now suppose that  $x \notin A \cup D(A)$ . Since  $x \notin D(A)$  exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that  $U \cap A \setminus \{x\} = \emptyset$ . Since  $x \notin A$  we have  $A = A \setminus \{x\}$  and thus  $U \cap A = \emptyset$ . This shows that  $x \notin \bar{A}$  which completes the proof of the first part.

For the second part, suppose that  $D(A) \subset A$ . This implies that  $\bar{A} = A \cup D(A) = A$  which means that  $A$  is closed.

Next suppose that  $A$  is closed. This implies that  $\bar{A} = A$  and thus  $A = A \cup D(A)$  which implies that  $D(A) \subset A$  and completes the proof of the second part.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.5.** Let  $A \subset X$  be closed and write  $I(A)$  for the set of all isolated points of  $A$ . Then  $A$  is the disjoint union of  $D(A)$  and  $I(A)$ .

*Proof.* If  $A$  is closed then  $A = \bar{A}$  and then

$$A = \bar{A} = A \cup D(A) = (A \setminus D(A)) \cup D(A) = I(A) \cup D(A).$$

The last equality follows directly from the definitions and the fact that  $I(A)$  and  $D(A)$  are disjoint too.  $\square$

## 2.7 The interior and boundary of a topological space

**Definition 2.15** (Interior). Let  $A$  be a subset of  $X$ . The interior of  $A$  is denoted by  $\text{Int}(A)$  and is defined to be the union of all open subsets  $U$  of  $X$  so that  $U \subset A$ . A point  $x \in \text{Int}(A)$  is said to be an interior point of  $A$  of a topological space.

**Proposition 2.6.** Let  $A \subset X$  be given, then

1.  $\text{Int } A = X \setminus \overline{(X \setminus A)}$ .
2.  $\text{Int}(A)$  is open and contained in  $A$ .
3.  $A$  is open if and only if  $A = \text{Int}(A)$ .

**Example 2.7.** Considering  $[a, b]$  as a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  we have  $\text{Int}([0, 1]) = (0, 1)$ .

**Proposition 2.7.** For  $A \subset X$  we have

- (1)  $\text{Int}(A) = X \setminus \overline{X \setminus A}$ ;
- (2)  $\text{Int}(A)$  is open and contained in  $A$ ;
- (3)  $A$  is open if and only if  $A = \text{Int}(A)$ ;

**Definition 2.16** (Boundary). Let  $A \subset X$  be given. A point  $x \in X$  is said to be a boundary point of  $A$  if for every neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  we have  $U \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and  $U \cap (X \setminus A) \neq \emptyset$ . The set of all boundary points of  $A$  is called the boundary of  $A$  and is denoted by  $\partial A$ .

**Example 2.8.** Considering  $[a, b)$  as a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  we have  $\partial A = \{a, b\}$ .

**Proposition 2.8.** For  $A \subset X$  we have  $\partial A = \overline{A} \cap \overline{X \setminus A}$  and in particular  $\partial A$  is closed.

*Proof.* The equality follows directly from Definition 2.16 and Remark 2.2. We have that  $\partial A$  is closed as it is an intersection of two closed sets.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.9.** Let  $A \subset X$  be given, then  $\overline{A}$  is the disjoint union of  $\text{Int}(A)$  and  $\partial A$ .

## 2.8 Open bases

**Definition 2.17** (Open base). A family  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets of  $X$  is said to be an open base for  $X$  if for each open  $U \subset X$  and  $x \in U$  exists  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x \in B \subset U$ .

**Remark 2.3.** It is easy to see that a family  $\mathcal{B}$  of open subsets of  $X$  is an open base for  $X$  if and only if each open  $U \subset X$  is a union of elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Proposition 2.10.** Let  $Y$  be a topological space, let  $\mathcal{B}$  be an open base for  $Y$ , and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ . Suppose that  $f^{-1}(B)$  is open for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $f$  is continuous.

### 2.8.1 Countability

**Definition 2.18** (Second countability). We say that  $X$  is second countable, or that it satisfies the second axiom of countability, if it has a countable open base.

**Proposition 2.11.** Suppose that  $X$  is second countable, then  $X$  is separable.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a countable open base for  $X$ . We have that  $\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is also an open base. Choose an arbitrary  $x_B \in B$  for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is countable  $\{x_B\}_{B \in \mathcal{B}}$  is also countable. Let  $U$  be open in  $X$ . By definition of an open base exists  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $x_B \in B$  and  $B \subset U$  so  $x_B \in U$ . This shows that  $\{x_B\}_{B \in \mathcal{B}}$  is dense in  $X$  and thus  $X$  is separable.  $\square$

**Remark 2.4.** In metric spaces, the property of being separable and second countable is equivalent. If we denote  $(X, d)$  the metric space and  $A$  the countable dense set, then

$$\mathcal{B} = \{B(a, q) \mid a \in A \text{ and } q \in \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, \infty)\}$$

will form the desired countable open base for  $X$ .

**Example 2.9.** A classic example of a topological space that is separable but not second countable is the Sorgenfrey line, also known as the lower limit topology, which we will discuss later.

**Theorem 2.12. (Lindelöf's Theorem).** Suppose that  $X$  is second countable. Let  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of open subsets of  $X$ . Then there exists a countable  $I_0 \subset I$  so that  $\cup_{i \in I_0} U_i = \cup_{i \in I} U_i$

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a countable open base for  $X$ . Set,

$$\mathcal{B}_0 = \{B \in \mathcal{B} \mid B \subset U_i \text{ for some } i \in I\}$$

For each  $B \in \mathcal{B}_0$  choose an arbitrary  $i_B \in I$  such that  $B \subset U_{i_B}$ . Set  $I_0 = \{i_B \mid B \in \mathcal{B}_0\}$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is countable,  $I_0$  is also countable. It remains to show that  $\cup_{i \in I_0} U_i = \cup_{i \in I} U_i$ . Let  $x \in \cup_{i \in I} U_i$  then exists some  $j$  such that  $x \in U_j$  since  $\mathcal{B}$  is an open base exists  $B \subset U_j$  such that  $x \in B$ . By definition we see that  $B \in \mathcal{B}_0$ , thus  $i_B \in I_0$  and then:

$$x \in B \subset U_{i_B} \subset \cup_{i \in I_0} U_i$$

The other side of the inclusion is obvious which concludes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.13.** *Suppose that  $X$  is second countable and that  $\mathcal{B}$  is an open base for  $X$ . Then exists a countable  $\mathcal{B}_0 \subset \mathcal{B}$  which is also an open base for  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a countable open base for  $X$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is an open base, for each  $E \in \mathcal{E}$  exists  $\mathcal{B}_E \subset \mathcal{B}$  such that  $E = \cup_{B \in \mathcal{B}_E} B$ . From Lindelöf's theorem we get that exists a countable  $\mathcal{B}_E^0 \subset \mathcal{B}_E$  such that  $U_{B \in \mathcal{B}_E^0} = \cup_{i \in \mathcal{B}_E} U_i$ . Now set  $\mathcal{B}_0 = \cup_{E \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{B}_E^0$ . It is countable as a countable union of countable sets. Moreover, since  $\mathcal{E}$  is an open base, and since each  $E \in \mathcal{E}$  is a union of elements from  $\mathcal{B}_0$ , it is clear that  $\mathcal{B}_0$  is also an open base for  $X$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition 2.19** (Open base at a point). Let  $x \in X$ . A class of neighbourhoods  $B_x$  of  $x$  is called an open base at  $x$  if for every neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  exists  $B \in B_x$  such that  $B \subset U$ .

**Definition 2.20** (First countability). We say that  $X$  is first countable, or that it satisfies the first axiom of countability, if for each  $x \in X$  there exists a countable open base at  $x$ .

**Remark 2.5.** It is clear that if  $X$  is second countable, it is also first countable.

**Example 2.10.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. For each  $x \in X$  the collection

$$\{B(x, 1/n) \mid n \geq 1\}$$

is a countable open base at  $x$ . Thus every metric space is first countable.

## 2.9 Open subbases

**Definition 2.21** (Open subbase). Let  $X$  be a topological space. A family  $\mathcal{S}$  of open subsets of  $X$  is said to be an open subbase for  $X$  if the collection of all finite intersections of elements of  $\mathcal{S}$  forms an open base for  $X$ .

**Proposition 2.14.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be topological spaces, let  $\mathcal{S}$  be an open subbase for  $Y$ . Then if  $f^{-1}(S)$  is open for each  $S \in \mathcal{S}$  then  $f$  is continuous.*

*Proof.* For  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  we have that  $f^{-1}(\cap_{i=1}^n S_i) = \cap_{i=1}^n f^{-1}(S_i)$ . Therefore, for any finite intersection of elements of  $\mathcal{S}$ , in other words, for any element  $U$  of some open case  $\mathcal{B}$  we have  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open. The result now follows directly by Proposition 2.10.  $\square$

The above proposition shows how convenient working with subbases can be. The following will show how to easily generate topologies using the notion.

**Proposition 2.15.** *Let  $X$  be an arbitrary nonempty set, and let  $\mathcal{S} \subset P(X)$ . Set,*

$$\mathcal{B} := \{\cap_{i=1}^n S_i \mid n \geq 0 \text{ and } S_1, \dots, S_n \in \mathcal{S}\}$$

And,

$$\tau := \{U \subset X \mid \forall x \in U \quad \exists B \in \mathcal{B} \text{ s.t. } x \in B \subset U\}$$

*Then  $\tau$  is a topology on  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  is an open base for  $\tau$  and  $\mathcal{S}$  is an open subbase for it.*

Sometimes we need to compare topologies. Let  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  be the set of all topologies on a set  $X$ .

**Definition 2.22** (Comparison of topologies). Let  $\tau_1, \tau_2 \in \mathcal{T}(X)$ . We say that  $\tau_1$  is weaker than  $\tau_2$ , or that  $\tau_2$  is stronger than  $\tau_1$  if  $\tau_1 \subset \tau_2$ .

For a simple reality check, notice that every topology is weaker than the discrete topology and stronger than the indiscrete topology. Also, the pair  $(\mathcal{T}(X), \subset)$  form a partially ordered set.

**Proposition 2.16.** Let  $\mathcal{T}_0 \subset \mathcal{T}(X)$  be nonempty. Then  $\mathcal{T}_0$  has a supremum and an infimum in  $\mathcal{T}(X)$ .

*Proof.* This is more of a sketch proof, but it can be verified that taking the intersection of all  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_0$  gives the infimum of  $\mathcal{T}_0$ , and that taking the intersection of all  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}(X)$  that are stronger than every  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_0$  gives the supremum of  $\mathcal{T}_0$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.6.** It can also be seen that the supremum of  $\mathcal{T}_0$  is exactly the topology generated by  $\cup_{\tau \in \mathcal{T}_0} \tau$ .

## 2.10 Topology generated by functions

**Definition 2.23** (Topology generated by functions). Let  $\{Y_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of topological spaces. For each  $i \in I$  let  $f_i: X \rightarrow Y_i$ . Write  $\mathcal{T}_0 \subset \mathcal{T}(X)$  for the set of all topologies with respect to which all  $\{f_i\}_{i \in I}$  are continuous. The greatest lower bound of  $\mathcal{T}_0$  is called the weak topology generated by  $\{f_i\}_{i \in I}$ .

**Remark 2.7.** It is easy to verify that  $\tau = \cap_{\tau_0 \in \mathcal{T}_0} \tau_0$  and also that  $\tau$  is generated by the set

$$S = \left\{ f_i^{-1}(U) \mid i \in I \text{ and } U \text{ is open in } Y_i \right\}$$

**Example 2.11.** Let  $Y$  be a topological space, let  $Z$  be a nonempty subset of  $Y$ , and let  $f: Z \rightarrow Y$  be the inclusion map, that is  $f(z) = z$  for  $z \in Z$ . It is easy to show that the weak topology generated by  $f$  is equal to the subspace topology induced by  $Y$  on  $Z$ .

## 2.11 The product topology

**Definition 2.24** (Product topology). The product topology on a cartesian product of topological spaces  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  is defined to be the weak topology generated by the projections  $\{\pi_i\}_{i \in I}$ . Equipped with the product topology, the space  $X$  is called the product space of the spaces  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ .

This definition is a bit abstract, but we can give a more concrete definition by setting,

$$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} U_i \mid \exists j \in I \text{ s.t. } U_i = X_i \text{ for } i \in I \setminus \{j\} \text{ and } U_j \text{ is open in } X_j \right\}.$$

Now the product topology on  $X$  is equal to the topology on  $X$  generated by  $\mathcal{S}$  as a subbase. From this we can also deduce that

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} U_i \mid \text{Exists a finite } I_0 \subset I \text{ s.t. } U_i = X_i \text{ for } i \in I \setminus I_0 \text{ and } U_i \text{ is open in } X_i \text{ for } i \in I_0 \right\}$$

is an open base for the product topology.

**Definition 2.25** (Euclidean topology). The Euclidean topology is the natural topology induced on  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by the Euclidean metric. The open balls, and the open boxes both form open bases for this topology.

**Example 2.12.** Considering the space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for a finite natural  $n$ , the Euclidean topology on it is equal to the product topology of the product of  $\prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{R}$  where each copy of  $\mathbb{R}$  has been endowed with the standard topology. This is not true in the case of  $\mathbb{R}^J$  where  $J$  is an infinite set.

**Proposition 2.17. (Characteristic property of the product topology).** *The product topology is the unique topology on  $X$  which satisfies the following property. Let  $Y$  be a topological space and let  $f: Y \rightarrow X$ . Then  $f$  is continuous if and only if  $\pi_i \circ f$  is continuous for each  $i \in I$ .*

**Definition 2.26** (The function algebras). Let  $X$  be a topological space. We write  $C(X)$  for the collection of all continuous functions from  $X$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . We denote by  $C_b(X)$  the set of all bounded elements of  $C(X)$ . It has the a natural norm defined on it, the supremum norm.

More about algebras in Section 5.

### 3 Complete Metric Spaces

Let  $(X, d)$  be a fixed metric space.

#### 3.1 Definitions

**Definition 3.1** (Cauchy sequence). We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset X$  is a Cauchy sequence if for all  $\epsilon > 0$  exists  $N \geq 1$  such that  $d(x_n, x_m) < \epsilon$  for all  $n, m > N$ .

It is easy to verify that all Cauchy sequences converge, but the converse is not always true. This leads us to formulate the following notion.

**Definition 3.2** (Complete space). We say that the metric space  $(X, d)$  is complete if every Cauchy sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset X$  converges to some  $x \in X$ .

**Remark 3.1.** Consider the set  $(-1, 1)$  with the topology induced by  $\mathbb{R}$ . It is clear that the sequence  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  is a Cauchy sequence, but its limit is  $1 \notin (-1, 1)$  and thus the space is not complete. However, there is a homeomorphism  $x \mapsto \tan(\pi x/2)$  between  $(-1, 1)$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathbb{R}$  is complete which shows that completeness is not a topological property.

#### 3.2 Examples of complete metric spaces

##### 3.2.1 Banach spaces

**Definition 3.3** (Banach space). A complete normed space is said to be a Banach space.

**Example 3.1.** Let  $X$  be a topological space. We will show that  $C_b(X)$  is a Banach space with respect to the metric induced by the supremum norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ . Let  $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $C_b(X)$ . Then, by the definition of the supremum norm we have that for any  $x \in X$  that the sequence  $\{f_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and since  $\mathbb{R}$  is complete it also has a limit. Thus, exists  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\{f_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} f$  pointwise. Now, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f_n(x)| &\leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} (|f(x) - f_m(x)| + |f_m(x) - f_n(x)|) \\ &\leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|f(x) - f_n(x)\|_\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $f_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} f$  uniformly, which implies that  $f \in C_b(X)$ . We have also shown that  $f_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} f$  uniformly with respect to  $\|\cdot\|$  which completes the theorem.

##### 3.2.2 Subspace of a complete metric space

**Proposition 3.1.** Suppose that  $X$  is complete and let  $Y$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$ . Then  $Y$  is complete (with respect to the metric induced by  $X$ ) if and only if  $Y$  is closed in  $X$ .

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $Y$  is closed. Let  $\{y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $Y$ . Then since  $X$  is complete there exists a limit  $y \in X$  to  $\{y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ . Since  $Y$  is closed we have that  $y \in Y$  which shows that  $Y$  is complete.

Suppose next that  $Y$  is complete. Let  $\{y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence in  $Y$  that converges to some  $x \in X$ . Since it converges in  $X$ , it must be a Cauchy sequence. By the definition of the subspace metric we have that the sequence is also Cauchy in  $Y$ . Since  $Y$  is complete  $\{y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  must also have a limit in  $Y$ . From the uniqueness of the limit we have that  $x \in Y$ . It follows that  $Y$  is closed.  $\square$

### 3.3 Cantor's intersection lemma

**Definition 3.4** (Diameter). Given a nonempty subset  $A$  of  $X$  we write

$$\text{diam}(A) := \{d(x_1, x_2) \mid x_1, x_2 \in A\}.$$

We call the number  $\text{diam}(A)$  the diameter of  $A$ .

The following lemma demonstrates the usefulness of the completeness property.

**Lemma 3.2. (Cantor's intersection lemma for complete metric spaces).** *Let  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  be nonempty closed subsets of  $X$ . Suppose that*

- $X$  is complete;
- $F_{n+1} \subset F_n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ ;
- $\text{diam}(F_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Then  $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} F_n = \{x\}$  for some  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $n \geq 1$  choose  $x_n \in F_n$ . For each  $n \geq m \geq 1$  we have that  $x_n, x_m \in F_m$  and thus  $d(x_n, x_m) \leq \text{diam}(F_m)$ . Since  $\text{diam}(F_m) \rightarrow 0$  we have that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ . Since  $X$  is complete exists  $x \in X$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . For each  $n \geq 1$  we have that  $\{x_m\}_{m \geq n} \subset F_n$  and since each  $F_n$  is closed, we have that  $x \in F_n$ . Thus  $x \in \bigcap_{n \geq 1} F_n$  and in particular  $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} F_n \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x, y \in \bigcap_{n \geq 1} F_n$ . We have that  $d(x, y) \leq \text{diam}(F_n)$  for each  $n \geq 1$ . Since  $\text{diam}(F_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we have that  $d(x, y) = 0$  and thus  $x = y$ . This implies that  $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} F_n = \{x\}$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3.4 The completion theorem

**Definition 3.5** (Isometry). Let  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  be metric spaces. A map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be an isometry if  $d_X(x_1, x_2) = d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2))$  for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ . We say that  $X$  and  $Y$  are isometric if there exists an isometry from  $X$  onto  $Y$ .

**Remark 3.2.** Every isomorphism is continuous and injective. A surjective isomorphism is thus a homeomorphism.

**Theorem 3.3. (The completion theorem for metric spaces).** *Let  $X$  be a metric space. Then there exists a complete metric space  $\overline{X}$  and an isometry  $f: X \rightarrow \overline{X}$  such that  $f(X)$  is dense in  $\overline{X}$ . Moreover, if  $Y$  is another complete metric space such that exists an isometry  $g: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $g(X)$  is dense in  $Y$  then there exists a surjective isometry  $h: \overline{X} \rightarrow Y$  so that  $g = h \circ f$ .*

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** The space  $\overline{X}$  is called the completion of  $X$ . As the theorem states it is unique up to isometry.

**Definition 3.6** (Uniform continuity). A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be uniformly continuous if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  so that  $d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) < \epsilon$  for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  with  $d_X(x_1, x_2) < \delta$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $A \subset X$ , let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be uniformly continuous. Then there exists a unique  $\overline{f}: \overline{X} \rightarrow Y$  which extends  $f$  such that  $\overline{f}$  is also continuous.*



### 3.5 Baire's theorem

**Definition 3.7** (Nowhere dense subset). A subset  $A$  of  $X$  is said to be nowhere dense if  $\text{Int}(\overline{A}) = \emptyset$ .

**Remark 3.4.** Note that a closed subset  $A \subset X$  is nowhere dense if and only if  $\text{Int}(A) = \emptyset$ .

**Example 3.2.** Let  $W$  be a linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with  $\dim W < d$ . We will show that  $W$  is nowhere dense. Let  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  be the standard inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . We notice that for every  $v \in \mathbb{R}^d$  the map  $x \mapsto \langle x, v \rangle$  is continuous. Thus the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \langle x, v \rangle = 0\}$  is closed in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  as the preimage of the closed set  $\{0\}$ . From this and from the fact that:

$$W = (W^\perp)^\perp = \bigcap_{u \in W^\perp} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \langle x, u \rangle = 0\},$$

it follows that  $W$  is closed in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Moreover, for every  $w \in W$ ,  $0 \neq u \in W^\perp$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  we have that  $w + u\epsilon \notin W$ . Since  $W^\perp \neq \emptyset$  that means that  $\text{Int}(W) = \emptyset$ , which shows that  $W$  is nowhere dense.

**Definition 3.8** (First category). A subset  $E$  of  $X$  is said to be of the first category if there exist nowhere dense subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots \subset X$  so that  $E = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_n$ . A subset of  $X$  which is not of the first category is said to be of the second category.

**Theorem 3.5. (The Baire category theorem).** Suppose that  $X$  is complete, and let  $E \subset X$  be of the first category. Then  $\text{Int}(E) = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to prove that exists  $x_0 \in X$  and  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that  $B(x_0, \epsilon) \setminus E \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $E$  is of the first category, there exist closed subsets  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  such that  $E \subset \bigcup_{n \geq 1} F_n$  and  $\text{Int}(F_n) = \emptyset$  for each  $n \geq 1$ . We are going to construct sequences  $\{e_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset (0, \infty)$  such that  $\epsilon_n < \frac{1}{n}$  and  $\overline{B}(x_n, \epsilon_n) \subset B(x_{n-1}, \epsilon_{n-1}) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^n F_k$ .

Let  $n \geq 1$  and assume that we already constructed the sequences for  $1 \leq k \leq n-1$ . From  $B(x_{n-1}, \epsilon_{n-1}) \cap (\bigcup_{k=1}^{n-1} F_k) = \emptyset$  it follows that  $V := B(x_{n-1}, \epsilon_{n-1}) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{n-1} F_k \neq \emptyset$ . From this, and since  $V$  is open and  $\text{Int}(F_n) = \emptyset$  we get that  $V \setminus F_n \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $V \setminus F_n$  is nonempty and open we get that there exists  $x_n \in X$  and  $0 < \epsilon_n < \frac{1}{n}$  such that  $\overline{B}(x_n, \epsilon_n) \subset V \setminus F_n = B(x_{n-1}, \epsilon_{n-1}) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^n F_k$ . This completes the inductive construction.

From Cantor's intersection lemma it now follows that  $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} \overline{B}(x_n, \epsilon_n) = \{x\}$  for some  $x \in X$ . For every  $n \geq 1$  we have  $x \in \overline{B}(x_n, \epsilon_n) \subset B(x_{n-1}, \epsilon_{n-1}) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^n F_k$ . This shows that:

$$x \in B(x_0, \epsilon_0) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} F_k \subset B(x_0, \epsilon_0) \setminus E,$$

which completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

The following is an immediate corollary from Baire's theorem.

**Corollary 3.6.** Suppose that  $X$  is complete. Then  $X$  is of the second category as a subset of itself. Consequently, if  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  are closed subsets of  $X$  with  $X = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} F_n$ , then  $\text{Int}(F_n) \neq \emptyset$  for some  $n \geq 1$ .

Here's another useful corollary of Baire's theorem.

**Corollary 3.7.** Suppose that  $X$  is complete. Let  $U_1, U_2, \dots$  be open subsets of  $X$ . Suppose that  $U_n$  is dense in  $X$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} U_n$  is also dense in  $X$ .

*Proof.* For  $n \geq 1$  set  $F_n := X \setminus U_n$ . Since  $U_n$  is dense in  $X$  for all  $n \geq 1$  it follows that  $F_n$  is nowhere dense in  $X$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Let  $V \subset X$  be open. Then by Baire's category theorem we have that the interior of  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n$  is empty and thus

$$\emptyset \neq V \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n = V \cap \bigcap_{n \geq 1} U_n$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition 3.9** (The sets  $G_\delta$  and  $F_\sigma$ ). Let  $Y$  be a topological space. A countable intersection of open subsets of  $Y$  is called a  $G_\delta$  set. A countable union of closed subsets of  $Y$  is called an  $F_\sigma$  set.

**Definition 3.10** (Liouville number). An irrational real number  $x$  is said to be a Liouville number if for every integer  $n \geq 1$  there exist integers  $p$  and  $q \geq 2$  so that  $\left|x - \frac{p}{q}\right| < \frac{1}{q^n}$ .

**Example 3.3.** The number  $\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{1}{10^{k!}}$  is called Liouville's constant. It is not difficult to show that it is a Liouville number.

**Proposition 3.8.** Write  $L$  for the set of Liouville numbers. Then  $L$  is a dense  $G_\delta$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* For every  $n \geq 1$  set

$$V_n := \bigcup_{q=2}^{\infty} \bigcup_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( \frac{p}{q} - \frac{1}{q^n}, \frac{p}{q} + \frac{1}{q^n} \right).$$

Note that  $\mathbb{Q} \subset V_n$  which means  $V_n$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . For each  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  denote  $U_r = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{r\}$ . It follows directly from the definition of Liouville numbers that:

$$L = \left( \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n \right) \cap \left( \bigcap_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} U_r \right)$$

Now since that sets  $\{V_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  and  $\{U_r\}_{r \in \mathbb{Q}}$  are all open and dense, and since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable, it follows from the previous corollary that  $L$  is a dense  $G_\delta$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3.6 The Banach fixed-point theorem

**Definition 3.11** (Contraction). A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow X$  is called a contraction of  $X$  if there exists  $c \in [0, 1)$  so that  $d(f(x), f(y)) \leq cd(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Theorem 3.9. (The Banach fixed-point theorem).** Suppose that  $X$  is complete and let  $f: X \rightarrow X$  be a contraction. Then  $f$  has a unique fixed point. That is, there exists a unique  $x \in X$  so that  $f(x) = x$ .

*Proof.* First we show that  $f$  has a fixed point. Choose an arbitrary  $x_0 \in X$  and define a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  by setting  $x_n := f(x_{n-1})$  for  $n \geq 1$ . It is easy to show by induction that:

$$d(x_{n+1}, x_n) \leq c^n d(x_1, x_0)$$

Now we will show that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Choose  $N \geq 1$  such that  $c^N d(x_0, x_1)(1 - c)^{-1} < \epsilon$ . For  $n \geq m \geq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_n, x_m) &\leq \sum_{k=m}^{n-1} d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \leq \sum_{k=m}^{n-1} c^k d(x_0, x_1) \\ &\leq c^m d(x_0, x_1) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c^k = \frac{c^m d(x_0, x_1)}{1 - c} < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is Cauchy. Since  $X$  is complete exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \rightarrow x$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $f$  is a contraction it is continuous. We get:

$$x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_{n-1}) = f(x),$$

which shows that  $f$  has a fixed point.

Next we show uniqueness. Suppose there were  $y \in X$  another fixed point of  $f$ . Then

$$d(x, y) = d(f(x), f(y)) \leq cd(x, y)$$

Thus we have  $(1 - c)d(x, y) \leq 0$ . This is only possible if  $d(x, y) = 0$  thus  $x = y$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

Notice that the proof of the theorem also gives an explicit way to approximate the fixed point of  $f$ .

### 3.7 A glimpse of Picard's theorem

The following is a simplified version of the Picard–Lindelöf theorem regarding the existence and uniqueness of solutions for ordinary differential equations, which is also sometimes called the existence and uniqueness theorem.

For  $\epsilon > 0$  we set  $I_\epsilon := [-\epsilon, \epsilon]$ .

**Theorem 3.10. (Picard's theorem).** *Let  $F: I_1 \times I_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. Suppose that there exists  $K > 0$  so that  $|F(t, x) - F(t, y)| \leq K|x - y|$  for all  $t, x, y \in I_1$ . Then there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  for which there exists a unique  $f: I_\epsilon \rightarrow I_1$  so that,*

- $f$  is differentiable on  $I_\epsilon$ ;
- $f(0) = 0$
- $f'(t) = F(t, f(t))$  for  $t \in I_\epsilon$

**Example 3.4.** Suppose that  $F(t, x) = 1 + x^2$ . Since  $\tan(0) = 0$ , and on  $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$  we have

$$[\tan(x)]' = \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)} = 1 + \tan^2(x) = F(x, \tan(x)).$$

It is clear that in this case, the map  $x \mapsto \tan(x)$  is the unique solution.

## 4 Compactness

### 4.1 Definitions

Let  $X$  be a fixed topological space.

**Definition 4.1** (Open cover). A class  $\mathcal{U} := \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  of open subsets of a  $X$  is said to be an open cover of  $X$  if  $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ . A subclass of  $\mathcal{U}$  is said to be a subcover of  $\mathcal{U}$  if it is in itself an open cover of  $X$ .

**Definition 4.2** (Compact). The space  $X$  is said to be compact if every open cover of  $X$  has a finite subcover.

**Definition 4.3** (Compact subspace). A subset  $Y$  of  $X$  is said to be compact if for every family of open sets  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  such that  $Y \subset \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  exists a finite index set  $I_0 \subset I$  such that  $Y \subset \bigcup_{i \in I_0} U_i$ .

**Remark 4.1.** Notice that from the definition of the subspace topology, a nonempty subset  $Y$  of  $X$  is compact if and only if  $Y$  is a compact space when equipped with the subspace topology.

**Proposition 4.1.** Suppose that  $X$  is compact and let  $F \subset X$  be closed. Then  $F$  is compact.

*Proof.* Let  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be an open cover of  $F$ . Since  $F$  is closed we know that  $X \setminus F \cup \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  is an open cover of  $X$ . Since  $X$  is compact exists a finite index set  $I_0 \subset I$  such that  $X \setminus F \cup \{U_i\}_{i \in I_0}$  is a finite open cover of  $X$ . It is clear that  $F \subset \{U_i\}_{i \in I_0}$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.2.** Suppose  $X$  is compact, let  $Y$  be a topological space, and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous. Then  $f(X)$  is compact.

*Proof.* Let  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be an open cover of  $f(X)$ . Since  $f$  is continuous  $\{f^{-1}(U_i)\}_{i \in I}$  is an open cover of  $X$ . Since  $X$  is compact exists a finite index set  $I_0 \subset I$  such that  $\{f^{-1}(U_i)\}_{i \in I_0}$  is an open cover of  $X$ . We now have:

$$f(X) = f\left(\bigcup_{i \in I_0} f^{-1}(U_i)\right) = \bigcup_{i \in I_0} f(f^{-1}(U_i)) = \bigcup_{i \in I_0} U_i$$

Which completes the proof.  $\square$

Here are some more equivalent forms of compactness that are often easier to apply.

**Proposition 4.3.** The space  $X$  is compact if and only if for every class  $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$  of closed subsets of  $X$  with  $\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset$  there exists a finite  $I_0 \subset I$  with  $\bigcap_{i \in I_0} F_i = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $X$  is compact. Let  $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of closed subsets of  $X$  with  $\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset$  then we have  $\bigcap_{i \in I} X \setminus F_i = X$  which is a cover of  $X$  thus exists a finite  $I_0 \subset I$  with  $\bigcap_{i \in I_0} X \setminus F_i = X$  being a finite subcover of  $X$ . This implies that  $\bigcap_{i \in I_0} F_i = \emptyset$  which completes the proof. The proof of the other direction is similar and thus omitted.  $\square$

**Definition 4.4** (Finite intersection property). Let  $S$  be a nonempty set. A class of subsets  $\{E_i\}_{i \in I}$  of  $S$  is said to have the finite intersection property if  $\bigcap_{i \in I_0} E_i \neq \emptyset$  for every finite  $I_0 \subset I$ .

**Proposition 4.4.** The space  $X$  is compact if and only if every class of closed subsets of  $X$  with the finite intersection property has nonempty intersection.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $X$  is compact. Let  $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a class of closed subsets of  $X$  with the finite intersection property. If  $\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset$ , then by the previous proposition there exists a finite  $I_0 \subset I$  with  $\bigcap_{i \in I_0} F_i = \emptyset$ . This contradicts  $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$  having the finite intersection property, and so we must have  $\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i \neq \emptyset$ .

Suppose next that  $X$  is not compact. By the previous proposition there exists a class  $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$  of closed subsets of  $X$  with  $\cap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset$ , so that  $\cap_{i \in I_0} F_i \neq \emptyset$  for all finite  $I_0 \subset I$ . That is,  $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$  has the finite intersection property but  $\cap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset$ , which completes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be an open base for  $X$ . Suppose that every open cover  $\{b_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{B}$  of  $X$  has a finite subcover. Then  $X$  is compact.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be an arbitrary open cover of  $X$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is an open base for  $X$ , for every  $i \in I$  exists  $I_i$ , an index set such that  $\{B_j\}_{j \in I_i}$  we have  $U_i = \cup_{j \in I_i} B_j$ . This implies that the set

$$\mathcal{B}_0 = \{B_j \mid \text{for all } j \in I_i \text{ for all } i\}$$

is also an open cover of  $X$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}_0 \subset \mathcal{B}$  there exists a finite  $B_f \subset \mathcal{B}_0$  such that  $\cup_{B \in B_f} B = X$ . By construction, for every  $B \in B_f \subset \mathcal{B}_0$ , exists  $i_B \in I$  such that  $B \subset U_{i_B}$ . It is clear that the index set

$$I_f = \{i_B \mid B \in B_f\}$$

is finite, and by construction we have  $\cup_{i \in I_f} U_i = X$ .  $\square$

## 4.2 Closed bases

**Definition 4.5** (Closed base). A family  $\mathcal{B}$  of closed subsets of  $X$  is called a closed base for  $X$  if the collection

$$\{X \setminus B \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$$

is an open base for  $X$ . Similarly, a family  $\mathcal{S}$  of closed subsets of  $X$  is called a closed subbase for  $X$  if the collection  $\{X \setminus S \mid S \in \mathcal{S}\}$  is an open subbase for  $X$ .

**Remark 4.2.** Note that if  $\mathcal{S}$  is a closed subbase for  $X$  then the set  $\mathcal{B}$  of all finite unions of elements of  $\mathcal{S}$  forms a closed base for  $X$ . This is because by definition, the set of all finite intersections of an open subbase forms an open base. We call  $\mathcal{B}$  the closed base generated by  $\mathcal{S}$ .

## 4.3 The Alexander subbase theorem

**Proposition 4.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a closed base for  $X$ . Suppose that for every  $\{B_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{B}$  with the finite intersection property we have  $\cap_{i \in I} B_i \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $X$  is compact.*

In the following two theorems are let  $X$  be a fixed topological space.

**Theorem 4.7. (The Alexander subbase theorem, first form).** *Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be an open subbase for  $X$ . Suppose that every open cover  $\{S_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{S}$  of  $X$  has a finite subcover. Then  $X$  is compact.*

**Theorem 4.8. (The Alexander subbase theorem, second form).** *Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a closed subbase for  $X$ . Suppose that  $\cap_{i \in I} S_i \neq \emptyset$  for every  $\{S_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{S}$  with the finite intersection property. Then  $X$  is compact.*

First, we will prove theorem Theorem 4.7 assuming Theorem 4.8, then we will prove Theorem 4.8 for completeness.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be an open subbase for  $X$ . Now set

$$\mathcal{E} = \{X \setminus S \mid S \in \mathcal{S}\}.$$

It is clear that  $\mathcal{E}$  is a closed subbase of  $X$ . Let  $\{E_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a subset of  $\mathcal{E}$  with the finite intersection property. By Theorem 4.8 it suffices to show that  $\cap_{i \in I} E_i \neq \emptyset$  to prove that  $X$

is compact. Assume, for the sake of contradiction, that  $\cap_{i \in I} E_i = \emptyset$ . Thus, it is clear that  $\{X \setminus E_i\}_{i \in I}$  is not only an open cover of  $X$ , but also a subset of  $\mathcal{S}$ . By our assumption it has a finite subcover  $\{X \setminus E_i\}_{i \in I_0}$  where  $I_0 \subset I$ . However, this gives that  $\cap_{i \in I_0} E_i = \emptyset$  in contradiction to  $\{E_i\}_{i \in I}$  having the finite intersection property. Thus we have  $\cap_{i \in I} E_i \neq \emptyset$  as wanted, which completes the proof.  $\square$

Now we will prove Theorem 4.8 using Zorn's lemma.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the open subbase generated by  $\mathcal{S}$ . Now let  $\mathcal{B}_0 \subset \mathcal{B}$  be with the finite intersection property. Then, by Proposition 4.6 we it suffices to show that  $\cap_{B \in \mathcal{B}_0} B = \emptyset$ . First, let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the set of all  $\mathcal{B}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{B}_0 \subset \mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_1$  has the finite intersection property. We have that  $\mathcal{P} \neq \emptyset$  because  $\mathcal{B}_0 \in \mathcal{P}$ . Now for every  $\mathcal{B}_x, \mathcal{B}_y \in \mathcal{P}$ , write

$$\mathcal{B}_x \leq \mathcal{B}_y \iff \mathcal{B}_x \subset \mathcal{B}_y.$$

It is clear that  $(\mathcal{P}, \leq)$  is a partially order set. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a chain in  $\mathcal{P}$ . Denote  $\mathfrak{B} := \cup_{\mathcal{B}_x \in \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{B}_x$ . It is clear that  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a maximal element in  $\mathcal{C}$ . It is also clear that it satisfies the finite intersection property, because for every finite  $\mathcal{B}_2 \subset \mathfrak{B}$  there must exist  $\mathcal{B}_x \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\mathcal{B}_2 \subset \mathcal{B}_x$ , but because  $\mathcal{B}_x$  has the finite intersection property, it is clear that the intersection of the elements in  $\mathcal{B}_2$  is nonempty. Therefore, we have that  $\mathfrak{B} \in \mathcal{P}$ , which completes the conditions for Zorn's lemma. Let  $\mathcal{B}_{\max}$  be the maximal element in  $\mathcal{P}$  with respect to  $\leq$ .

Next we will show that for every  $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\max}$  there exists  $S_B$  such that

$$(*) \quad S_B \in \mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{B} \quad \text{and} \quad S_B \subset B.$$

Assume by contradiction that exists  $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\max}$  for which there does not exist  $S_B$  that satisfies  $(*)$ . Since  $B$  is an element of the closed base  $\mathcal{B}$  generated by  $\mathcal{S}$ , there exist  $S_1, \dots, S_n \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $B = \bigcup_{i=1}^n S_i$ . Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , then since there does not exist  $S_B$  that satisfies  $(*)$ , we get that  $S_i \notin \mathcal{B}_{\max}$ . Now, since  $\mathcal{B}_{\max}$  is maximal in  $\mathcal{P}$ , that must mean that  $\mathcal{B}_{\max} \cup \{S_i\}$  does not satisfy the finite intersection property. Thus, exist  $B_{i,1}, \dots, B_{i,m_i}$  such that  $S_i \cap \left(\bigcap_{j=1}^{m_i} B_{i,j}\right) = \emptyset$ . Therefore, we have that

$$\emptyset \neq B \cap \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n \bigcap_{j=1}^{m_i} B_{i,j}\right) = \left(\bigcup_{k=1}^n S_k\right) \cap \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n \bigcap_{j=1}^{m_i} B_{i,j}\right) = \bigcup_{k=1}^n \left(S_k \cap \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n \bigcap_{j=1}^{m_i} B_{i,j}\right)\right) = \emptyset.$$

This contradiction shows that our assumption was false, and thus exists  $S_B$  that satisfies  $(*)$  for every  $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\max}$ .

Finally, set

$$\mathcal{S}_0 := \{S_B \mid B \in \mathcal{B}_{\max}\}.$$

It follows that since  $\mathcal{S}_0$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{B}_{\max}$ , that it must also satisfy the finite intersection property. As  $\mathcal{S}_0$  is also a subset of  $\mathcal{S}$ , we can apply the assumption of the theorem and get that  $\cap_{S \in \mathcal{S}_0} S \neq \emptyset$ . Thus, there exists some  $x \in X$ , such that  $x \in S_B \subset B$  for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\max}$ , which shows that  $\cap_{B \in \mathcal{B}_{\max}} B \neq \emptyset$ . Now, we just need to recall that since  $\mathcal{B}_{\max} \in \mathcal{P}$ , then by construction of  $\mathcal{P}$  we have that  $\mathcal{B}_0 \subset \mathcal{B}_{\max}$ , and thus we clearly have that  $\cap_{B \in \mathcal{B}_0} B \neq \emptyset$ , which as we stated before, completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition 4.6** (Bounded space). Let  $X$  be a metric space. We say that  $A \subset X$  is bounded if exists  $r > 0$  and  $x \in X$  such that  $A \subset B(x, r)$ .

Note that it is easy to see that  $A \subset X$  is bounded if and only if it has a finite diameter.

**Lemma 4.9.** Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be an open subbase for a topological space  $X$ . If  $Y \subset X$  is a subset of  $X$  equipped with the subspace topology induced by  $X$  then  $\{S \cap Y \mid S \in \mathcal{S}\}$  is an open subbase for  $Y$ .

*Proof.* Let  $U$  be a nonempty subset of  $Y$  and let  $y \in U$ . There exists  $W$  an open set in  $X$  such that  $W \cap Y = U$ . Because  $\mathcal{S}$  is a subbase for  $X$  exists  $S_1, \dots, S_n \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $y \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n S_i \subset W$  and thus because  $y \in Y$ :

$$y \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n S_i \cap Y \subset W \cap Y = U$$

Because  $S_i \cap Y$  are all open in  $Y$  we have that indeed  $\{S \cap Y \mid S \in \mathcal{S}\}$  is an open subbase as wanted.  $\square$

## 4.4 The Heine–Borel theorem

### 4.4.1 The Heine–Borel theorem in $\mathbb{R}$

**Theorem 4.10. (Heine–Borel theorem in  $\mathbb{R}$ ).** *Every closed and bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}$  is compact.*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be a closed and bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Because  $A$  is bounded we know that exist real numbers  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a < b$  and also  $A \subset [a, b]$ . If we equip  $[a, b]$  with the subspace topology induced on it by  $\mathbb{R}$  it is not hard to see that  $A$  is closed in  $[a, b]$  and thus it suffices to verify that  $[a, b]$  is compact in  $\mathbb{R}$ . It's easy to check that the set:

$$\{(-\infty, c) \mid c \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{(d, \infty) \mid d \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Is an open subbase to  $\mathbb{R}$ . From the lemma we have that the set:

$$S = \{[a, c) \mid a < c \leq b\} \cup \{(d, b] \mid a < d \leq b\}$$

Is an open subbase for  $[a, b]$ . Let  $\mathcal{U} \subset S$  be an open cover of  $[a, b]$ , by Alexander's subbase theorem it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{S}$  has a finite subcover. Since  $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathcal{S}$  there exist index sets  $I, J$  such that:

$$\mathcal{U} = \{[a, c_i) \mid i \in I\} \cup \{(d_j, b] \mid j \in J\}$$

We have that  $a \in [a, b]$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  a cover of  $[a, b]$  which means that  $I \neq \emptyset$ . Denote  $s = \sup\{c_i\}_{i \in I}$ , if we have  $s \leq d_j$  for all  $j \in J$  we have  $s \notin \mathcal{U}$  which is a contradiction. Otherwise exists  $j_0 \in J$  such that  $d_{j_0} < s$  and then by definition exists  $i_0 \in I$  such that  $d_{j_0} < c_{i_0} < s$  and then we have that  $\{[a, c_{i_0}), (d_{j_0}, b]\}$  is a finite subcover of  $[a, b]$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

### 4.4.2 Tychonoff's theorem

**Theorem 4.11. (Tychonoff's theorem).** *Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a nonempty family of compact topological spaces. Equip  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  with the product topology. Then  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  is compact.*

*Proof.* Set:

$$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} F_i \mid \exists i_0 \in I \text{ s.t. } (\forall i \in I \setminus \{i_0\})(F_i = X_i) \text{ and } F_{i_0} \text{ is closed in } X_{i_0} \right\}$$

This is the standard closed subbase for  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ . Let  $\{S_j\}_{j \in J} \subset \mathcal{S}$  be with the finite intersection property. By Alexander's subbase theorem, second form, it suffices to prove that  $\bigcap_{j \in J} S_j \neq \emptyset$ . For every  $j \in J$  exists a family  $\{F_{j,i}\}_{i \in I}$  so that  $F_{j,i}$  is a closed of  $X_i$  for each  $i \in I$ , and  $S_j = \prod_{i \in I} F_{j,i}$ . Thus, for every  $J_0 \subset J$

$$(*) \quad \bigcap_{j \in J_0} S_j = \left\{ \prod_{i \in I} x_i \mid x_i \in F_{j,i} \text{ for all } i \in I \text{ and } j \in J_0 \right\}$$

From this, and since  $\{S_j\}_{j \in J}$  has the finite intersection property, it follows that  $\{F_{j,i}\}_{j \in J}$  has the finite intersection property for each  $i \in I$ . From this, and from proposition 4.4, and since the spaces  $X_i$  are compact, we obtain that for each  $i \in I$ , there exists  $\tilde{x}_i \in \bigcap_{j \in J} F_{j,i}$ . From (\*) it now follows that  $\{\tilde{x}_i\}_{i \in I} \in \bigcap_{j \in J} S_j$ , which completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

### 4.4.3 The general case

We can now prove the following classic result.

**Theorem 4.12. (Heine–Borel theorem).** *Let  $d \geq 1$  be an integer, and equip  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with its standard Euclidean metric. Then every closed and bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is compact.*

First we need to prove a couple of lemmas.

**Lemma 4.13.** *Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a nonempty family of topological spaces, and equip  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  with the product topology. Let  $Y$  be a nonempty subset of  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ . For each  $i \in I$  let  $\pi_i$  be the coordinate projection from  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  onto  $X_i$ , and denote by  $\pi_i|_Y$  the restriction of  $\pi_i$  to  $Y$ . Then the subspace topology induced by  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  on  $Y$  is equal to the weak topology generated by  $\{\pi_i|_Y\}_{i \in I}$ .*

*Proof.* By definition of the product topology, the collection

$$\left\{ \pi_i^{-1}(U) \mid i \in I \text{ and } U \text{ is open in } X_i \right\}$$

is an open subbase for the product space. By a previous lemma we have that

$$\left\{ \pi_i^{-1}(U) \cap Y \mid i \in I \text{ and } U \text{ is open in } X_i \right\}$$

is an open subbase for  $Y$  with respect to the subspace topology. From this, and since  $\pi_i^{-1}(E) \cap Y = \pi_i^{-1}|_Y(E)$  for each  $i \in I$  and  $E \subset X_i$ , and now by Remark 2.4 we see that indeed the subspace topology induced by  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  on  $Y$  is equal to the weak topology generated by  $\{\pi_i|_Y\}_{i \in I}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.14.** *Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a nonempty family of topological spaces, and equip  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  with the product topology. For each  $i \in I$  let  $Y_i$  be a nonempty subset of  $X_i$ , and set  $Y := \prod_{i \in I} Y_i$ . Let  $\tau_1$  be subspace topology induced by  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  on  $Y$ . Let  $\tau_2$  be the product topology on  $Y$ , where each  $Y_i$  is equipped with the subspace topology induced by  $X_i$ . Then  $\tau_1 = \tau_2$ .*

Now we can go back to prove Theorem 4.12

*Proof.* For each  $i \in I$  let  $\pi_i$  be the coordinate projection from  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  onto  $X_i$ , and denote by  $\pi_i|_Y$  the restriction of  $\pi_i$  to  $Y$ . From the previous lemma we have that  $\tau_1$  is equal to the weak topology generated by  $\{\pi_i|_Y\}_{i \in I}$ .

For each  $i \in I$  let  $\tilde{\pi}_i$  be the coordinate projection from  $Y$  onto  $Y_i$ . By the definition of the product topology, the collection

$$\mathcal{S} := \left\{ \tilde{\pi}_i^{-1}(U) \mid i \in I \text{ and } U \text{ is open in } Y_i \right\}$$

is an open subbase for  $Y$  in respect to  $\tau_2$ . We see that:

$$\mathcal{S} := \left\{ (\pi|_{Y_i})^{-1}(V \cap Y_i) \mid i \in I \text{ and } V \text{ is open in } X_i \right\}$$

Now since  $(\pi|_{Y_i})^{-1}(Y_i) = Y$  for all  $i \in I$

$$\mathcal{S} := \left\{ (\pi|_{Y_i})^{-1}(V) \mid i \in I \text{ and } V \text{ is open in } X_i \right\}$$

From this, and since  $\mathcal{S}$  is an open subbase for  $Y$  with respect to  $\tau_2$ , it follows that  $\tau_2$  is also equal to the weak topology generated by  $\{\pi_i|_Y\}_{i \in I}$ . This completes the proof of the lemma.  $\square$



### 4.5 Lebesgue's covering lemma

**Definition 4.7** (Local compactness). A topological space  $X$  is called locally compact if for any  $x \in X$  exists a neighbourhood  $U \subset X$  of  $x$  so that  $\bar{U}$  is compact.

**Example 4.1.** The space  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is locally compact for every  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , since  $\bar{B}(x, 1)$  is closed and bounded, it follows from the Heine–Borel theorem that it is compact.

**Definition 4.8** (Sequential compactness). The metric space  $X$  is said to be sequentially compact if every sequence in  $X$  has a convergent subsequence.

**Definition 4.9** (Bolzano–Weierstrass property). The metric space  $X$  is said to have the Bolzano–Weierstrass property if every infinite subset of  $X$  has a limit point in  $X$ .

It is important to note that in metric spaces, sequential compactness and the Bolzano–Weierstrass property are both equivalent to compactness.

**Definition 4.10** (Lebesgue number). Let  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be an open cover of  $X$ . A real number  $\delta > 0$  is said to be a Lebesgue number for  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  if for all nonempty  $A \subset X$  with  $\text{diam}(A) < \delta$  there exists  $i \in I$  so that  $A \subset U_i$ .

**Lemma 4.15** (Lebesgue's covering lemma). Suppose that  $X$  is a sequentially compact metric space. Let  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  be an open cover of  $X$ . Then  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  has a Lebesgue number.

*Proof.* Assume by contradiction that the lemma is false, then exists  $\emptyset \neq A_n$  such that:

$$\text{diam}(A_n) < \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad A_n \not\subset U_i \quad \text{for all } i \in I, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Choose an arbitrary  $x_n \in A_n$  to construct the sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ . Since  $X$  is sequentially compact, there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$  such that  $x_{n_k} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} x$ . Since  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  is an open cover for  $X$ , there exists some  $i_0 \in I$  such that  $x \in U_{i_0}$ , and since  $U_{i_0}$  is open, there must exist some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $B(x, \epsilon) \subset U_{i_0}$ . However, it is clear that for sufficiently large values of  $n$  we have that  $x \in A_n \subset B(x, \epsilon) \subset U_{i_0}$ , which shows that our assumption must be false, which completes the proof.  $\square$

### 4.6 Total boundedness

**Definition 4.11** ( $\epsilon$ -net). Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given. A nonempty subset  $A$  of  $X$  is said to be an  $\epsilon$ -net if  $A$  is finite and  $X = \cup_{a \in A} B(a, \epsilon)$ .

**Definition 4.12** (Total boundedness). We say that  $X$  is totally bounded if it has an  $\epsilon$ -net for all  $\epsilon > 0$ .

It is clear that a totally bounded space is also bounded.

**Proposition 4.16.** Suppose that  $X$  is sequentially compact. Then  $X$  is totally bounded.

*Proof.* Assume by contradiction that  $X$  is not totally bounded, then exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $X \neq \cup_{a \in A} B(a, \epsilon)$  for any finite  $A \subset X$ . From this we can construct a sequence such that  $x_{n+1} \notin \cup_{i=1}^n B(x_i, \epsilon)$ , and therefore have that  $d(x_n, x_m) \geq \epsilon$  for any  $m > n \geq 1$ . It is clear that  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  does not have a converging subsequence, in contradiction to  $X$  being sequentially compact. This proves that  $X$  is totally bounded which completes the proof.  $\square$

Using Lebesgue's lemma we can also prove the following proposition:

**Proposition 4.17.** Suppose that  $X$  is a compact metric space. Let  $(Y, d_Y)$  be a metric space, and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous. Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous.

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $f$  is continuous the set  $f^{-1}(B(f(x), \epsilon/2))$  is open for any  $x \in X$  and thus the set:

$$\mathcal{U} := \{f^{-1}(B(f(x), \epsilon/2))\}_{x \in X}$$

is an open cover for  $X$ . Because  $X$  is a compact metric space it is also sequentially compact, and thus from Lebesgue's lemma we have that exists a Lebesgue number  $\rho > 0$  for  $\mathcal{U}$ . Now let  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  such that  $d(x_1, x_2) < \rho$ , by definition exists  $x \in X$  such that  $x_1, x_2 \in f^{-1}(B(f(x), \epsilon/2))$ , thus:

$$d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) \leq d_Y(f(x_1), f(x)) + d_Y(f(x), f(x_2)) < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$$

□

There is also a connection between compactness and total boundness as we see in the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.18.** *The metric space  $X$  is compact if and only if it is complete and totally bounded.*

*Proof.* To be added.

□

**Corollary 4.19.** *Suppose that  $X$  is complete and let  $A$  be a nonempty closed subset of  $X$ . Then  $A$  is compact if and only if it is totally bounded.*

## 5 The Arzelà–Ascoli theorem

### 5.1 Algebras

**Definition 5.1** (Algebra). Let  $K$  be a field and  $A$  a vector space. Let  $|\cdot| : A \times A \rightarrow A$  be a binary operation. Then  $A$  is called an algebra if for each  $x, y, z \in V$  the following identities hold:

- Left distributivity:  $(x + y) \cdot z = x \cdot z + y \cdot z$ .
- Right distributivity:  $z \cdot (x + y) = z \cdot x + z \cdot y$ .
- Compatibility with scalars:  $(ax) \cdot (by) = (ab)(x \cdot y)$ .

**Remark 5.1.** These identities actually just imply that the operation is bilinear. An algebra over  $K$  is sometimes called a  $K$ -algebra and  $K$  is called the base field of  $A$ . Notice that we didn't require the operation to be associative or commutative, although some authors use the term “algebra” to refer to an associative algebra.

**Definition 5.2** ( $K$ -algebra homomorphisms). Given  $K$ -algebras  $A, B$  then a homomorphism of  $K$ -algebras is a  $K$ -linear map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  such that  $f(x \cdot y) = f(x) \cdot f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in A$ .

**Remark 5.2.** If  $A$  and  $B$  are unital then the morphism  $f(1_A) = 1_B$  is called the unital homomorphism. The space of all  $K$ -algebra homomorphisms between  $A$  and  $B$  is usually written as  $\text{Hom}_{K\text{-alg}}(A, B)$ . A  $K$ -algebra isomorphism is a bijective  $K$ -algebra homomorphism.

A subalgebra of a  $K$ -algebra  $A$  is a linear subspace of  $A$  such that all products and sums of the subspace are themselves elements of the subspace. For example  $\mathbb{R}$  with complex addition and multiplication as a subspace of the  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra  $\mathbb{C}$  is an example of a subalgebra.

Similarly to rings, algebras also have a concept of ideals. A left ideal  $L$  of a  $K$ -algebra  $A$ , is a linear subspace of  $A$  such that for any  $x, y \in L, c \in K, z \in A$  the following three identities are satisfied:

- $L$  is closed under addition:  $x + y \in L$
- $L$  is closed under scalar multiplication:  $cx \in L$
- $L$  is closed under vector multiplication from the left by arbitrary elements:  $z \cdot x \in L$

We can similarly define a right ideal. An ideal that is both a left and a right ideal is called a two-sided ideal or simply an ideal. Notice that every ideal is a subalgebra and that in a commutative algebra any ideal is a two-sided ideal. Also notice that in contrast to an ideal of rings, here we also have the requirement for closure under scalar multiplication and not just being a subgroup of addition. If the algebra is unital then the third requirement implies the second one.

You can also talk about extension of scalars but I don't know what that is yet.

Let  $(X, d)$  be a fixed compact metric space. Denote  $C(X)$  the algebra of all continuous functions  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $C_b(X)$  the subalgebra of all the bounded functions in  $C(X)$ . Because  $X$  is compact we know that the image  $f(X)$  of any  $f \in C(X)$  is compact and in particular bounded and thus  $C_b(X) = C(X)$ . This means we can set the norm  $|\cdot|_\infty$  on  $C(X)$ . We can thus consider  $C(X)$  as a metric space with the metric induced on it by  $|\cdot|_\infty$ . We will soon establish a useful characterisation of the compact sets in  $C(X)$ .

## 5.2 The Arzelà–Ascoli theorem

**Definition 5.3** (Equicontinuity). A subset  $F \subset C(X)$  is called equicontinuous if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$  for any  $f \in F$  and  $x, y \in X$  with  $d(x, y) < \delta$ .

**Theorem 5.1. (Arzelà–Ascoli theorem).** *Let  $F$  be a nonempty closed subset of  $C(X)$ . Then  $F$  is compact if and only if it is bounded and equicontinuous.*

**Remark 5.3.** It is easy to see that  $F$  is bounded if and only if there exists  $M > 1$  so that  $|f(x)| \leq M$  for all  $f \in F$  and  $x \in X$ .

**Example 5.1.** Let  $K > 0$ . Set  $\mathbf{L}$  as the set of all  $f \in C([0, 1])$  such that  $|f|_\infty \leq K$  that are  $K$ -Lipschitz. We will prove that  $\mathbf{L}$  is compact. Given

$$f \in C([0, 1]) \quad \text{and} \quad f_1, f_2, \dots \in \mathbf{L} \text{ s.t. } |f - f_n|_\infty \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0,$$

it is clear that

$$|f|_\infty \leq K \quad \text{and} \quad \forall x, y \in [0, 1], \quad |f(x) - f(y)| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f_n(x) - f_n(y)| \leq K|x - y|$$

which shows that  $f \in \mathbf{L}$  and that means that  $\mathbf{L}$  is closed in  $C([0, 1])$ . Since  $\mathbf{L}$  is a closed subset of  $C([0, 1])$ , which is clearly also bounded and equicontinuous, from Theorem 5.1 we have that  $\mathbf{L}$  is compact.

To prove Theorem 5.1 we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $X$  be a metric space and let  $A \subset X$  be totally bounded. Then every nonempty subset of  $A$  is totally bounded.*

*Proof.* Let  $B \subset A$  be a nonempty subset of  $A$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , because  $A$  is totally bounded there exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A$  such that:

$$A \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^n B\left(x_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}\right).$$

Let  $y_1, \dots, y_m$  be all the points  $x_i$  such that  $B(x_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}) \cap B \neq \emptyset$ . Now we have:

$$B \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^m B\left(y_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}\right).$$

Choose  $m$  arbitrary points  $z_m$  that satisfy:

$$z_i \in B\left(y_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}\right) \cap B \neq \emptyset.$$

Now by the construction we have  $z_1, \dots, z_m \in B$  and also:

$$B \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^m B\left(y_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}\right) \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^m B(z_i, \varepsilon),$$

where the last inclusion is following from the fact that:

$$\text{diam } B\left(y_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}\right) = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad z_i \in B\left(y_i, \frac{\varepsilon}{4}\right)$$

for every  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . □

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $n \geq 1$  and equip  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with its standard Euclidean metric. Then any nonempty bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is totally bounded.*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  be a nonempty bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Since  $A$  is bounded there exists  $c \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $r > 0$  such that  $A \subset B(c, r)$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $c$  is the origin, and then we have:

$$A \subset B(0, r) \subset \underbrace{[-r, r] \times \cdots \times [-r, r]}_{d \text{ times}} := R$$

From the previous lemma because we have  $A \subset R$  and  $A$  is nonempty, it suffices to prove that  $R$  is totally bounded. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , it is clear that the set:

$$N := \left\{ \left( -r + \frac{n_i \epsilon}{2} \right)_{i=1}^d \mid (n_i)_{i=1}^d \in \left[ \left\lfloor \frac{2r}{\epsilon} \right\rfloor \right]^d \right\}$$

is an  $\epsilon$ -net of  $R$  and thus  $R$  is totally bounded which completes the proof. □

We can now proceed to the proof of Theorem 5.1.

*Proof.* To be added. □

## 6 Seperation

Let  $X$  be a fixed topological space.

### 6.1 Definitions

#### 6.1.1 $T_1$ -spaces

**Definition 6.1** ( $T_1$ -spaces). We say that  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space if and only if for every  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  exist neighbourhoods  $U_1$  of  $x_1$  and  $U_2$  of  $x_2$  such that  $x_1 \notin U_2$  and  $x_2 \notin U_1$ .

We can also verify that if  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space then every topological subspace of  $X$  is also a  $T_1$ -space.

**Proposition 6.1.** *The space  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space if and only if  $\{x\}$  is closed in  $X$  for every  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space. Let  $x \in X$ . For every  $y \in X \setminus \{x\}$  exists a neighbourhood  $U_y \subset X \setminus \{x\}$  the union of which gives  $X \setminus \{x\}$  and then  $\{x\}$  is closed as wanted. Now assume that  $\{x\}$  is closed for every  $x \in X$ . For two points  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  the sets  $\{x_1\}, \{x_2\}$  are closed and thus we have  $U_1 := X \setminus \{x_1\}$  neighbourhood of  $x_1$  and  $U_2 := X \setminus \{x_2\}$  neighbourhood of  $x_2$  such that  $x_1 \notin U_2$  and  $x_2 \notin U_1$ .  $\square$

#### 6.1.2 Hausdorff spaces

**Definition 6.2** (Hausdorff space). We say that  $X$  is a Hausdorff space if for all distinct  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  there exist open sets  $U_1, U_2 \subset X$  with  $x_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2$  and  $U_1 \cap U_2 = \emptyset$ .

We can verify that every Hausdorff space is a  $T_1$ -space and that if  $X$  is a Hausdorff space then every subspace of  $X$  is also a Hausdorff space.

**Proposition 6.2.** *Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a nonempty family of Hausdorff spaces. Then the product space  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  is also a Hausdorff space.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{x_i\}_{i \in I}, \{y_i\}_{i \in I}$  be distinct points in  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ . Therefore exists  $i_0 \in I$  such that  $x_{i_0} \neq y_{i_0}$ . Because  $X_{i_0}$  is a Hausdorff space there exist open sets  $U_{x_{i_0}}, U_{y_{i_0}} \subset X_{i_0}$  with  $x_{i_0} \in U_{x_{i_0}}, y_{i_0} \in U_{y_{i_0}}$  and  $U_{x_{i_0}} \cap U_{y_{i_0}} = \emptyset$ . We know that the projection  $\pi_{i_0} : \prod_{i \in I} X_i \rightarrow X_{i_0}$  is continuous and thus  $\pi_{i_0}^{-1}(U_{x_{i_0}})$  and  $\pi_{i_0}^{-1}(U_{y_{i_0}})$  are two open and disjoint sets of  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  such that  $\{x_i\}_{i \in I} \in \pi_{i_0}^{-1}(U_{x_{i_0}})$  and  $\{y_i\}_{i \in I} \in \pi_{i_0}^{-1}(U_{y_{i_0}})$  as wanted. This shows that  $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$  is a Hausdorff space which completes the proof.  $\square$

The following proposition is one of the most important properties of Hausdorff spaces.

**Proposition 6.3.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a Hausdorff space. Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $X$  with  $K \neq X$ , and let  $x \in X \setminus K$ . Then there exist open sets  $U, V \subset X$  so that  $x \in U, K \subset V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* First we may suppose that  $K \neq \emptyset$  otherwise we could choose  $U = X$  and  $V = \emptyset$ . Since  $X$  is Hausdorff for every  $y \in K$  exist  $U_y, V_y \subset X$  disjoint open sets such that  $x \in U_y$  and  $y \in V_y$ . We have  $K \subset \bigcup_{y \in K} V_y$  but since  $K$  is compact exist  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  such that  $K \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_{y_i}$ . We now define:

$$V := \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_{y_i}$$

$$U := \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_{y_i}$$

It is clear that both sets are open, and that  $x \in U$  and  $K \subset V$  and for every  $i \in [n]$  we also see that:

$$U \cap V_{y_i} \subset U_{y_i} \cap V_{y_i} = \emptyset$$

Which means that  $U \cap V = \emptyset$  as wanted which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.4.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a Hausdorff space. Then every compact subset of  $X$  is closed.*

*Proof.* Let  $K \subset X$  be compact. We may clearly assume that  $K \neq X$ . Given  $x \in X \setminus K$ , it follows from the previous proposition that there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  which is contained in  $X \setminus K$ . This shows that  $X \setminus K$  is a union of open sets, and so it is itself open. Thus  $K$  is closed, which completes the proof.  $\square$

One particularly useful result of this corollary is the following proposition:

**Proposition 6.5.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a Hausdorff space, let  $Y$  be a compact topological space, and let  $f: Y \rightarrow X$  be a continuous bijection. Then  $f$  is a homeomorphism.*

*Proof.* All that's left to show is that  $f$  is an open map. Let  $U \subset Y$  be open. It follows that  $Y \setminus U$  is closed in a compact space and thus compact. Since  $f$  is continuous  $f(Y \setminus U)$  is compact. From the previous corollary  $f(Y \setminus U)$  is closed. Since  $f$  is a bijection we also have  $f(Y \setminus U) = X \setminus f(U)$ . This implies that  $U$  is open, so  $f$  is an open map and the proof is complete.  $\square$

## 7 Completely regular spaces and normal spaces

### 7.1 Completely regular spaces

**Definition 7.1** (Separating set). We say that  $C_b(X)$  separates points if for every distinct  $x, y \in X$  there exists  $f \in C_b(X)$  with  $f(x) \neq f(y)$ . In general, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of functions with domain  $D$ , is called a separating set for  $D$  if for any two distinct elements  $x$  and  $y$  of  $D$ , there exists a function  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $f(x) \neq f(y)$ .

**Remark 7.1.** It is clear that if  $C_b(X)$  separates points then  $X$  is a Hausdorff space.

The following definition strengthens this separation property, which turns out to be quite convenient.

**Definition 7.2** (Completely regular space). We say that  $X$  is a completely regular space if,

- (1)  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space.
- (2) for every closed subset  $F$  of  $X$  and  $x \in X \setminus F$  there exists a function  $f \in C_b(X)$  such that  $f(X) \subset [0, 1]$  and  $f(x) = 0$  and  $f(y) = 1$  for all  $y \in F$ .

Notice that from condition (1) we have that  $\{x\}$  is closed for every  $x \in X$ . From this follows that  $C_b(X)$  separates the points of  $X$ , and thus in particular  $X$  is a Hausdorff space.

**Proposition 7.1.** *Suppose that  $X$  is completely regular. Then every topological subspace of  $X$  is also completely regular.*

*Proof.* Let  $Y$  be a topological subspace of  $X$ . It is clear that  $Y$  is also a  $T_1$ -space. Let  $F$  be a closed subset of  $Y$  and let  $x \in Y \setminus F$ . Since  $F$  is closed in  $Y$  there must exist  $Q$  closed in  $X$  such that  $F = Y \cap Q$ . Since  $x \notin Q$  and  $X$  is completely regular, there must exist  $f \in C_b(X)$  such that  $f(X) \subset [0, 1]$  and  $f(y) = 0$  and  $f(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in Q$ .

Now if we consider  $g := f|_Y$ , it is clear that  $g(X) \subset [0, 1]$  and  $g(y) = 0$  and  $g(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in F$ , which shows that  $Y$  is completely regular and completes the proof.  $\square$

This next separation property is very similar to the definition of a Hausdorff space, except that it applies to disjoint closed sets instead of points.

### 7.2 Normal spaces

**Definition 7.3** (Normal space). We say that  $X$  is a normal space if,

- (1)  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space.
- (2) for every pair of disjoint closed subset  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  of  $X$  there exists disjoint open subsets  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  of  $X$  so that  $F_1 \subset U_1$  and  $F_2 \subset U_2$ .

**Remark 7.2.** A topological subspace of a normal space is not necessarily normal.

**Example 7.1.** To be added.

**Proposition 7.2.** *Any metric space is normal.*

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a metric space. Suppose that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are disjoint closed sets in  $X$ . Since  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are disjoint closed sets we have that for any  $y_1 \in F_1$  and  $y_2 \in F_2$  that

$$d(y_1, F_2) > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d(y_2, F_1) > 0.$$

Set,

$$U_1 := \bigcup_{y \in F_1} B(y, d(y, F_2)/2) \quad \text{and} \quad U_2 := \bigcup_{y \in F_2} B(y, d(y, F_1)/2).$$



It is clear that  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are open sets in  $X$  and that  $F_1 \subset U_1$  and  $F_2 \subset U_2$ .

To show that  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are disjoint, we can assume by contradiction that exists  $x \in U_1 \cap U_2$ . Then exist  $y_1 \in F_1$  and  $y_2 \in F_2$  such that

$$x \in B(y_1, d(y_1, F_2)/2) \cap B(y_2, d(y_2, F_1)/2),$$

but this is clearly impossible, which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 7.3.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a compact Hausdorff space. Then  $X$  is normal.*

### 7.2.1 Urysohn's lemma

**Lemma 7.4** (Urysohn's lemma). *Let  $X$  be a normal topological space, and let  $A$  and  $B$  be disjoint closed subsets of  $X$ . Then there exists a continuous  $f: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  so that  $f(a) = 0$  for  $a \in A$  and  $f(b) = 1$  for  $b \in B$ .*

In order to prove Urysohn's lemma, we need another characterization of for normal spaces.

**Lemma 7.5.** *Let  $X$  be a  $T_1$ -space. Then  $X$  is a normal space if and only if for every closed  $F \subset X$  and open  $U \subset X$  such that  $F \subset U$  there exists an open  $V \subset X$  such that  $F \subset V \subset \bar{V} \subset U$ .*

We can now proceed to prove Urysohn's lemma.

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

**Corollary 7.6.** *Let  $X$  be a normal topological space, let  $A$  and  $B$  be disjoint closed subsets of  $X$ , and let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  be with  $\alpha < \beta$ . Then there exists a continuous  $f: X \rightarrow [\alpha, \beta]$  so that  $f(a) = \alpha$  for  $a \in A$  and  $f(b) = \beta$  for  $b \in B$ .*

*Proof.* From Urysohn's lemma we know that exists a continuous function  $f: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $f(a) = 0$  for  $a \in A$  and  $f(b) = 1$  for  $b \in B$ . We can define the function

$$\begin{aligned} g: [0, 1] &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ g(x) &= (\beta - \alpha)x + \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that the function  $\varphi := f \circ g$  satisfies the conditions of the corollary and completes the proof.  $\square$

### 7.2.2 The Tietze extension theorem

**Theorem 7.7. (The Tietze extension theorem).** *Let  $X$  be a normal space and let  $F$  be a closed nonempty subset of  $X$ . Equip  $F$  with the subspace topology and let  $f: F \rightarrow [\alpha, \beta]$  be continuous, where  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . Then there exists a continuous  $\tilde{f}: X \rightarrow [\alpha, \beta]$  so that  $\tilde{f}(x) = f(x)$  for  $x \in F$ .*

The following example shows that the condition of  $F$  being closed is necessary.

**Example 7.2.** Let  $X = [0, 1]$  and  $F = (0, 1]$ . Set  $f(x) := \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$  for  $x \in F$ . Then  $X$  is normal and  $f$  is continuous and bounded, but it is clear that  $f$  cannot be extended continuously to a function on  $X$ .

To prove Theorem 7.7 we need to prove the generalized form of the Weierstrass  $M$ -test we saw in analysis.

**Lemma 7.8** (Weierstrass  $M$ -test). *Let  $X$  be a topological space. Let  $\{f_k\}_{k \geq 1} \subset C_b(X)$ , and let  $\{M_k\}_{k \geq 1} \subset (0, \infty)$  such that  $\sum_{k \geq 1} M_k < \infty$  and  $|f_k(x)| \leq M_k$  for all  $k \geq 1$  and all  $x \in X$ . Then there exists a function  $f \in C_b(X)$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^k f_i \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} f$  uniformly, and  $|f(x)| \leq \sum_{k \geq 1} M_k$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* Given  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists some  $N \geq 1$  such that  $\sum_{k \geq N} M_k < \epsilon$ . Therefore, for all  $n > m > N$  we have that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n f_i - \sum_{i=1}^m f_i \right\|_{\infty} = \left\| \sum_{i=m+1}^n f_i \right\|_{\infty} \leq \sum_{k \geq N} M_k < \epsilon,$$

which shows that  $\{f_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  is a Cauchy space in  $C_b(X)$ . Since  $C_b(X)$  is complete, this means that  $\{f_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  converges uniformly to some  $f \in C_b(X)$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

We can now go back to the proof of *Theorem 7.7*.

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

### 7.3 Embeddings

**Definition 7.4** (Embedding). Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be topological spaces. A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be an embedding if it is a homeomorphism onto  $f(X)$ , where  $f(X)$  is equipped with the subspace topology.

The following lemma is very useful when trying to prove a topological space is metrizable.

**Proposition 7.9.** *Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space, let  $(Y, d)$  be a metric space, and suppose that there exists an embedding  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ . Then  $X$  is metrizable.*

*Proof.* Denote  $Z := f(X)$ , and let  $d_Z$  be the metric on  $Z \subset Y$  induced by  $d_Y$ . Also let  $g: Z \rightarrow X$  be the function such that  $f \circ g = \text{id}_X$ . Define the function  $d_X$  such that for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  we have

$$d_X(x_1, x_2) = d_Z(f(x_1), f(x_2)).$$

It is clear that  $d_X$  is a metric on  $X$ , and that  $f$  is an isometry from  $(X, d_X)$  onto  $(Z, d_Z)$  which also makes it a homeomorphism. Since  $f$  is a homeomorphism from  $(X, \tau)$  to  $(Z, d_Z)$ , and the composition of homeomorphisms is a homeomorphism, we have that  $\text{id}_X = g \circ f$  is a homeomorphism from  $(X, \tau)$  to  $(X, d_X)$ . This implies that  $\tau$  is equal to the topology induced by  $d_X$  which shows that  $X$  is metrizable and completes the proof.  $\square$

#### 7.3.1 $\ell^p$ spaces

**Definition 7.5** ( $\ell^1$  space). We define the normed space  $\ell^1$  with the norm  $N$  as such:

$$\ell^1 := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \mid \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i| < \infty \right\} \quad \text{with} \quad N(x) := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|.$$

More generally, we define the normed space  $\ell^p$  for  $0 < p < \infty$  as

$$\ell^p := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \mid \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p < \infty \right\} \quad \text{with} \quad N(x) := \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

And we can even define spaces like  $\ell^{\infty}$ , and see that  $\ell^2$  is a Hilbert space, but that is done in a functional analysis and will not be discussed in these notes.

### 7.3.2 The Uryshon embedding theorem

**Theorem 7.10. (the Urysohn embedding theorem).** *Let  $X$  be a second countable normal topological space. Then there exists an embedding  $f: X \rightarrow \ell^1$ .*

*Proof.* To be added. □

A very useful corollary of the Urysohn embedding theorem, coupled with the previous proposition, is the following corollary.

**Corollary 7.11.** *Let  $X$  be a second countable normal topological space. Then  $X$  is metrizable.*

## 7.4 Compactifications

### 7.4.1 The Stone–Čech compactification

**Theorem 7.12** (Stone–Čech compactification). *Let  $X$  be a completely regular space. Then there exists a compact Hausdorff space  $\beta(X)$  and an embedding  $\varphi: X \rightarrow \beta(X)$ , such that*

(1)  $\varphi(X)$  is dense in  $\beta(X)$ .

(2) for each  $f \in C_b(X)$  there exists a unique  $\tilde{f} \in C_b(\beta(X))$  such that  $f = \tilde{f} \circ \varphi$ .

**Remark 7.3.** The space  $\beta(X)$  is called the Stone–Čech compactification of  $X$ . It is also customary to identify the space  $X$  with the space  $\varphi(X)$ . With this identification property (2) gives that every element of  $C_b(X)$  extends uniquely to an element of  $C_b(\beta(X))$ .

To prove the theorem we will need the following lemma.

**Lemma 7.13.** *Let  $X$  be a completely regular space, and write  $\tau$  for the given topology of  $X$ . Then  $\tau$  is equal to the weak topology generated by  $C_b(X)$ .*

*Proof.* To be added. □

### 7.4.2 One-point compactification

Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $\infty$  be an object outside of  $X$ . Write  $X_\infty := X \cup \{\infty\}$ . Then the collection

$$\tau := \{U \mid U \subset X \text{ is open}\} \cup \{X_\infty \setminus K \mid K \subset X \text{ is compact}\}$$

is a topology on  $X_\infty$ .

**Remark 7.4.** The space  $X_\infty$  is called the one-point compactification of  $X$ . The point  $\infty$  is called the point at infinity.

Notice that  $\infty$  is an isolated point of  $X_\infty$  if and only if  $X$  is compact.

**Proposition 7.14.** *For any topological space  $X$ , the space  $X_\infty$  is a compact Hausdorff space.*

*Proof.* To be added. □

**Corollary 7.15.** *Any locally compact Hausdorff space is completely regular.*

As an application of the one-point compactification, we also have the following stronger version of the previous corollary. It is an important tool in the theory of measure and integration on locally compact Hausdorff spaces.

**Proposition 7.16.** *Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $X$ , and let  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$  with  $K \subset U$ . Then there exists a continuous  $f: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  so that  $f(x) = 0$  for  $x \in K$  and  $f(x) = 1$  for  $x \in X \setminus U$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $K$  and  $X_\infty \setminus U$  are disjoint closed sets in the normal space  $X_\infty$ , it follows from Urysohn's lemma that there exists a continuous function  $g: X_\infty \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $g(x) = 0$  for  $x \in K$  and  $g(x) = 1$  for  $x \in X_\infty \setminus U$ . The proposition now follows from taking  $f$  to be the restriction of  $g$  on  $X$ .  $\square$

Write  $\mathbb{R}_\infty^2 := \mathbb{R}^2 \cup \{\infty\}$ . We will show that the unit sphere  $S^2$  equipped with the topology induced on it by  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}_\infty^2$ . First, note that by the Heine–Borel theorem  $S^2$  is compact. Now, set  $N := (0, 0, 1)$  and let  $\sigma: S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty^2$  be with  $\sigma(N) = \infty$  and

$$\sigma(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left( \frac{x_1}{1 - x_3}, \frac{x_2}{1 - x_3} \right) \quad \text{for } (x_1, x_2, x_3) \in S^2 \setminus \{N\}.$$

The restriction of  $\sigma$  to  $S^2 \setminus \{N\}$  is called the stereographic projection. It is easy to see that  $\sigma$  is a continuous bijection. From this, since  $S^2$  is compact, since  $\mathbb{R}_\infty^2$  is Hausdorff, and by a previous proposition we have that a continuous bijection from a compact space to a Hausdorff space is a homeomorphism, so it follows that  $\sigma$  is a homeomorphism.

## 8 Connectednes

### 8.1 Connectedness

**Definition 8.1** (Connectedness). The space  $X$  is said to be connected if there does not exist disjoint nonempty open subsets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  so that  $X = U \cup V$ . If  $X$  is not connected then we say that it is disconnected. A nonempty subset of  $X$  is said to be connected (respectively disconnected) if it is connected (respectively disconnected) as a topological subspace of  $X$  (i.e. when it is equipped with the subspace topology).

Notice that by the above definition, we can also characterize a connected space by having two disjoint nonempty closed sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $X = U \cup V$ , or by having a subset  $U \subset X$  such that  $U \neq X$  and  $U \neq \emptyset$  and  $U$  is both open and closed.

**Remark 8.1.** It should be clear that for every  $x \in X$  the subspace  $\{x\}$  is connected.

**Proposition 8.1.** Let  $Y$  be a nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $Y$  is connected if and only if  $Y$  is an interval.

*Proof.* First suppose that  $Y$  is not an interval. Then exist  $a, b, t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a, b \in Y$  and  $t \notin Y$  and  $a < t < b$ . Now set

$$U := (-\infty, t) \cap Y \quad \text{and} \quad V := (t, \infty) \cap Y.$$

It is clear that  $U$  and  $V$  are two disjoint nonempty open subsets of  $Y$  such that  $U \cup V = Y$ . This shows that  $Y$  is disconnected.

Next suppose that  $Y$  is an interval. Assume by contradiction that  $Y$  is disconnected, then exist nonempty disjoint closed subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $Y$  such that  $Y = A \cup B$ . Choose arbitrary  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Since  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  we can assume without loss of generality that  $a < b$ . Denote  $s := \sup([a, b] \cap A)$ . Since  $A$  is closed in  $Y$ , it is sequentially compact and thus we have  $s \in A$ . Since  $b \in B$  and  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  we have that  $s < b$ . From this, and since  $Y$  is an interval we have  $(s, b] \subset B$ . However, since  $B$  is also sequentially compact in  $Y$  this means that  $s \in B$ , and thus  $s \in A \cap B = \emptyset$ . This contradiction shows that  $Y$  must be connected which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.2.** Suppose that  $X$  is connected, let  $Y$  be a topological space, and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous. Then  $f(X)$  is connected.

*Proof.* Assume by contradiction that  $f(X)$  is disconnected. This means that exist  $U$  and  $V$  open subsets of  $Y$  such that

$$\underbrace{f(X) \subset U \cup V}_{(1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{f(X) \cap U \neq \emptyset}_{(2)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{f(X) \cap V \neq \emptyset}_{(3)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{f(X) \cap U \cap V = \emptyset}_{(4)}.$$

Since  $f$  is continuous we have that  $U^{-1} := f^{-1}(U)$  and  $V^{-1} := f^{-1}(V)$  are open. From (1) we get that  $X = U^{-1} \cup V^{-1}$ . From (2) and (3) we get that  $U^{-1}$  and  $V^{-1}$  are nonempty. From (4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} U^{-1} \cap V^{-1} &= f^{-1}(U) \cap f^{-1}(V) \cap f^{-1}(f(X)) \\ &= f^{-1}(U \cap V \cap f(X)) = f^{-1}(\emptyset) = \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $X$  is disconnected. This contradicts our initial assumption, which shows that  $f(X)$  must be connected and completes the proof.  $\square$

The following corollary is very useful, because it is a generalization of the mean value theorem from analysis.

**Corollary 8.3.** *Suppose that  $X$  is connected and let  $f \in C(X)$  be given. Then  $f(X)$  is an interval. In particular, for every  $x, y \in X$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $f(x) < t < f(y)$  there exists  $z \in X$  so that  $f(z) = t$ .*

In the following proposition we consider the space  $\{0, 1\}$  as a topological subspace of  $\mathbb{R}$ . It is clear that it is disconnected.

**Proposition 8.4.** *The space  $X$  is disconnected if and only if there exists a continuous mapping from  $X$  onto  $\{0, 1\}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $X$  is disconnected. Then exist disjoint closed nonempty set  $U$  and  $V$  such that  $X = U \cup V$ . Define the function  $f: X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  as such

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \in U \\ 1, & x \in V \end{cases}.$$

It is clear that  $f$  is continuous which completes the first side of this proposition.

Suppose next that there exists a continuous mapping from  $X$  onto  $\{0, 1\}$ . If  $X$  were connected, it would follow that  $\{0, 1\}$  is also connected by Proposition 8.2. Since we know that  $\{0, 1\}$  is disconnected, it follows that  $X$  must be disconnected which completes the proof of this proposition.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.5.** *Let  $\{Y_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a nonempty family of connected topological spaces. Then the product space  $Y := \prod_{i \in I} Y_i$  is also connected.*

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

**Corollary 8.6.** *Let  $n \geq 1$  and equip  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with its standard Euclidean topology. Then  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is connected.*

*Proof.* Since  $n$  is a finite number, we know that the standard topology on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is equal to its product topology. As we saw in Proposition 8.1 we have that  $\mathbb{R}$  is connected. The corollary now immediately follows from Proposition Proposition 8.5.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.7.** *Let  $A$  be a connected subset of  $X$ , and let  $B \subset X$  be with  $A \subset B \subset \overline{A}$ . Then  $B$  is connected. In particular  $\overline{A}$  is connected.*

*Proof.* Assume by contradiction that  $B$  is disconnected. Then exist nonempty disjoint open subsets  $U$  and  $V$  such that

$$\underbrace{B \subset U \cup V}_{(1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{B \cap U \neq \emptyset}_{(2)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{B \cap V \neq \emptyset}_{(3)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{B \cap U \cap V \neq \emptyset}_{(4)}.$$

From (1) and (4) and  $A \subset B$  we get that  $A \subset U \cup V$  and  $A \cap U \cap V \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $U$  and  $V$  are open, and since we have (2) and (3) and  $B \subset \overline{A}$  we get that  $A \cap U \neq \emptyset$  and  $A \cap V \neq \emptyset$ . It follows that  $A$  is disconnected which contradicts our initial assumption and completes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

## 8.2 Path connectedness

**Definition 8.2** (Path). Let  $X$  be a fixed topological space. Let  $x, y \in X$  be given. A path in  $X$  from  $x$  to  $y$  is a continuous map  $\gamma: I \rightarrow X$  with  $\gamma(0) = x$  and  $\gamma(1) = y$ .

**Definition 8.3.** We say that  $X$  is path connected if for every  $x, y \in X$  there exists a path in  $X$  from  $x$  to  $y$ . A nonempty subset of  $X$  is said to be path connected if it is path connected as a topological subspace of  $X$  (i.e. when it is equipped with the subspace topology).

**Proposition 8.8.** *Assume that  $X$  is path connected. Then it is also connected.*

*Proof.* Assume by contradiction that  $X$  is disconnected. Then there exist nonempty disjoint open subsets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  such that  $X = U \cup V$ . Choose arbitrary  $u \in U$  and  $v \in V$ . Since  $X$  is path connected there exists a continuous function  $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  such that  $\gamma(0) = u$  and  $\gamma(1) = v$ . However, since  $[0, 1]$  is an interval it follows from Proposition 8.1 that  $\gamma([0, 1])$  is connected. On the other hand, since  $\gamma([0, 1]) \subset X = U \cup V$  and  $u \in \gamma([0, 1]) \cap U$  and  $v \in \gamma([0, 1]) \cap V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$  it follows that  $\gamma([0, 1])$  is connected. This contradiction shows that  $X$  must be connected, which completes the proof.  $\square$

One good practice exercise is to prove that given a normed space  $(Y, \|\cdot\|)$  and a nonempty convex  $C \subset Y$ , then  $C$  is path connected, and in particular, from the above proposition, connected.

### 8.2.1 the Topologist's sine curve

**Definition 8.4** (Topologist's sine curve). The topologist sine curve is defined as the set

$$T := \left\{ \left( x, \sin \frac{1}{x} \right) \mid x \in (0, 1] \right\} \cup \{(0, 0)\}.$$

The closed topologist's curve is defined as the closure of  $T$  and we get

$$\overline{T} = T \cup \{(0, y) \mid y \in [-1, 1]\}.$$

**Proposition 8.9.** *The topologist's sine curve is connected but not path connected.*

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

## 8.3 Connected components

**Definition 8.5** (Connected component). Let  $C$  be a connected subset of  $X$ . We say that  $C$  is a connected component of  $X$  if it is not properly contained in any connected subset of  $X$ .

**Example 8.1.** We have seen that  $\mathbb{R}$  is connected, thus it has only one component that is itself.

**Example 8.2.** Equip  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the subspace topology induced by  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $E \subset \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $|E| \geq 2$ . Choose arbitrary  $a, b \in E$  such that  $a < b$ . Let  $x \in (a, b) \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ . Set

$$U := \{q \in \mathbb{Q} \mid q < x\} \quad \text{and} \quad V := \{q \in \mathbb{Q} \mid q > x\}.$$

We have that  $E \subset U \cup V$  and  $a \in E \cap U$  and  $b \in E \cap V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$  which implies that the set  $E$  is disconnected. We thus have that  $\{\{q\} \mid q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  are the only connected components in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Proposition 8.10.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the collection of all connected components of  $X$ . For each  $x \in X$  denote by  $C_x$  the union of all connected subsets of  $X$  containing  $x$ . We have the following properties,*

- (1)  $x \in C_x$  and  $C_x \in \mathcal{C}$ ;
- (2)  $X = \cup_{C \in \mathcal{C}} C$  and  $C_1 \cap C_2 = \emptyset$  for all  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathcal{C}$ ;
- (3)  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  for every  $A \subset X$  which is connected, open, and closed;
- (4)  $C$  is closed for all  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ .

**Definition 8.6** (Totally disconnected space). We say that  $X$  is totally disconnected if its connected components are its points. That is,  $X$  is totally disconnected if each connected component  $C$  of  $X$  is of the form  $C = \{x\}$  for some  $x \in X$ .

**Definition 8.7** (Totally separated space). We say that  $X$  is totally separated if for all distinct  $x, y \in X$  there exist disjoint open subsets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  so that  $x \in U$ ,  $y \in V$  and  $X = U \cup V$ .

**Remark 8.2.** It is clear that every totally separated space is a Hausdorff space.

**Proposition 8.11.** *Suppose that  $X$  is totally separated, then it is totally disconnected.*

*Proof.* Suppose that exists  $Y \subset X$  such that  $|Y| > 2$  and  $Y$  is a connected component of  $X$ . Since  $X$  is totally separated, for any distinct  $x, y \in Y$  there exist disjoint open subsets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  so that  $x \in U$ ,  $y \in V$  and  $X = U \cup V$ . This clearly shows that  $Y$  is disconnected, which implies that  $X$  is totally disconnected.  $\square$

**Example 8.3.** As we saw in the previous example, we can show that  $\mathbb{Q}$  equipped with the topology induced by  $\mathbb{R}$  is totally separated.

**Example 8.4.** Any discrete space is totally separated.

The following is an example of a totally disconnected space that is not totally separated.

**Example 8.5.** Let  $\infty$  and  $-\infty$  be two objects outside of  $\mathbb{N}$  and set  $X = \mathbb{N} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$ . Let  $\tau$  be the topology on  $\mathbb{N}$  generated by

$$\{\{n\} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{\{\eta\} \cup (\mathbb{N} \setminus F) \mid n \in \{\pm\infty\} \text{ and } F \subset \mathbb{N} \text{ is finite}\}.$$

It is easy to show that  $(X, \tau)$  is totally disconnected but not totally separated.

**Proposition 8.12.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space. Assume moreover that  $X$  has an open base  $\mathcal{B}$  whose elements are also closed. Then  $X$  is totally separated.*

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.13.** *Suppose that  $X$  is compact and totally separated. Then  $X$  has an open base whose elements are also closed.*

*Proof.* To be added.  $\square$

## 8.4 Local connectedness

**Definition 8.8** (Locally connected space). We say that a topological space  $X$  is locally connected if for every  $x \in X$  and every neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  there exists a connected neighbourhood  $V$  of  $x$  with  $V \subset U$ .

**Example 8.6.** Let  $X$  be a normed space, and let  $Y$  be a nonempty open subset of  $X$ . Then equip  $Y$  with the metric induced by the norm of  $Y$ . It is clear that any open ball in  $Y$  is convex, and as we saw previously, any convex subset of  $Y$  is connected. From this it follows directly that  $Y$  is locally connected.

The following is an example of a locally connected space that is not connected.

**Example 8.7.** Set  $V = (0, 1) \cup (2, 3)$  and equip  $V$  with the subspace topology induced by  $\mathbb{R}$ . It is easy to verify that  $V$  is locally connected but not connected.

The following is an example of a connected space that is not locally connected.



**Example 8.8.** Let  $T$  be the closed topologist's sine curve equipped with the subspace topology as a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}$ . It is connected, but it can be shown that it is not locally connected.

**Proposition 8.14.** *Let  $X$  be a locally connected topological space. Then the connected components of  $X$  are open sets.*

*Proof.* Let  $C$  be a connected component of  $X$ , and let  $x \in C$  be given. Because  $X$  is locally connected there exists a connected neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$ . Because  $C$  is a connected component, it is the union of all connected subspaces  $E \subset X$  such that  $x \in E$ . In particular  $U \subset C$ . We proved that for any  $x \in C$  there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that  $x \subset U \subset C$ . This means that  $C$  is open which completes the proof.  $\square$