

A subset $A \subset X$ is dense if $\bar{A} = X$.

PROBLEM 10: Show that if (X, τ) has a countable basis, then it contains a countable dense subset. What about the converse?

A space with countable dense subset is called separable; if it has a countable basis it is called second countable. "First countable" means that each point has a countable collection of neighbourhoods \mathcal{N} such that every neighbourhood of the point contains a sub-neighbourhood belonging to \mathcal{N} .

DEF: If \mathcal{C} is any collection of subsets of X , one can construct a basis \mathcal{B} by taking

$$\mathcal{B} = \{ \text{finite intersections of elements of } \mathcal{C} \}$$

If \mathcal{C} covers X (meaning $\cup \mathcal{C} = X$), then

\mathcal{B} as above is a basis, and determines a topology $\tau_{\mathcal{B}}$. \mathcal{C} is said to be a sub-basis for this topology, which is the "smallest" topology on X such that members of \mathcal{C} are open sets.

CONTINUITY: If X and Y are top. spaces, a function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous if for every open $U \subset Y$, the set $f^{-1}(U)$ is open in X .
Here $f^{-1}(U) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in U\}$

PROP: If $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ and $Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$ are continuous, so is $X \xrightarrow{g \circ f} Z$.

PROP: If $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ is continuous and $A \subseteq X$ has the subspace topology, then $f|_A: A \rightarrow Y$ is continuous.

PROBLEM 11. If X, Y are metric spaces, verify that $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous if & only if for all $x_0 \in X$ and $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ s.t.

$$d_X(x, x_0) < \delta \implies d_Y(f(x), f(x_0)) < \epsilon$$

PROBLEM 12. If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous, and x is a limit point of A , where $A \subset X$, does it follow that $f(x)$ is a limit point of $f(A)$ in Y ?

PROP: If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a function and X, Y topological spaces, the following are equivalent:

- (a) f is continuous
- (b) If B is a basis for the topology of Y , then $f^{-1}(B)$ is open in X for every $B \in B$.
- (c) $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$ for all $A \subseteq X$
- (d) inverse images of closed sets are closed

proof: see the text, p. 39.

JARGON: A continuous function is also called a map or mapping. If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is 1-1 and onto, and if $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$ is also continuous, then f (and f^{-1}) is a homeomorphism or topological equivalence. Under f , the open sets of X and Y are also in a 1-1 correspondence.

A sequence $\{x_n\}, n=1, 2, \dots$ of points $x_n \in X$ is said to converge to x_0 (written $x_n \rightarrow x_0$) if every neighbourhood of x_0 contains all but finitely many x_n .

PROBLEM 13: If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous and $x_n \rightarrow x_0$ in X , does $f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x_0)$ in Y ? Compare with problem 12.

PROBLEM 14: If X is a metric space with metric d , and $x_0 \in X$ is the function $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (usual topology), defined by

$f(x) = d(x, x_0)$, a continuous function? why?

DEF: \mathbb{E}^n denotes \mathbb{R}^n with the usual topology.

→ If $\phi: X \rightarrow X$ is continuous, is

$x \mapsto d(x, \phi(x))$ continuous?

If $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a function, then $\text{Fix } f = \{x \in X \mid f(x) = x\}$

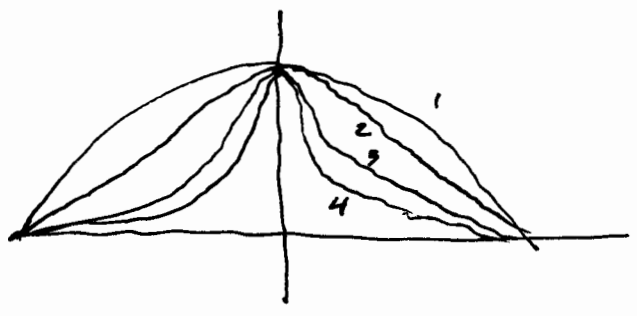
By the above, if f is continuous and X is a metric space, $\text{Fix } f = F^{-1}(0)$ where $F(x) = d(x, f(x))$ and so $\text{Fix } f$ is closed.

PROBLEM 15: If X is a Hausdorff space and $f: X \rightarrow X$ continuous, then $\text{Fix } (f)$ is closed. Show by example that this does not hold in arbitrary topological spaces.

Def: Suppose (X, d) and (X', d') are metric spaces, and $f_n: X \rightarrow X', n=1, 2, \dots$ is a sequence of functions, with (pointwise) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$. We say f_n converges to f uniformly if for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists N such that $d'(f_n(x), f(x)) < \epsilon$ for all $n > N$ and all $x \in X$. [Note: for this def. we do not need a metric or even a topology for X].

PROB 16: If $f_n: X \rightarrow X'$ is a sequence of continuous functions between metric spaces and $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly, then f is also continuous

Example: Here $X = [-\pi/2, \pi/2]$, $X' = [0, 1]$ with the usual metrics and $f_n(x) = \cos^n(x)$, which are continuous, even infinitely differentiable.



But $f_n \rightarrow f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } x=0 \\ 0 & \text{for } x \neq 0 \end{cases}$ Discontinuous!

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The interval $[0, 1]$, usual topology, then a cont. ftn $\alpha: I \rightarrow X$ is called a path or curve in X from $\alpha(0)$ to $\alpha(1)$. If $\alpha(0) = \alpha(1)$ then α is called a loop or closed curve.

A space X is said to be path-connected if for every $x, x' \in X$ there exists a path in X from x to x' .

Examples: E^n , convex sets in E^n , star-shaped sets in E^n . The space \mathbb{Q} is not path-conn. (why?)

It is easy to check that if X, Y are spaces and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ continuous, then X path-conn $\Rightarrow f(X)$ path-conn.

Example (Peano 1890): If I^2 denotes the square $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$, there is a path $\alpha: I \rightarrow I^2$ which is surjective.
[a.k.a. space-filling curve]

Connectedness:

Def: A space X is connected if it is not the union of two disjoint nonempty open sets.

PROP: X is connected iff there is no continuous function $X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ (discrete topology)

In the other direction, if $X = U \cup V$, open nonempty sets with $U \cap V = \emptyset$, then $p \in U$ and $q \in V$ are said to be separated in X . Note that the map $f: X \rightarrow \{p, q\}$ (discrete top) $f(x) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } x \in U \\ q & \text{if } x \in V \end{cases}$ is continuous.

Def: A space X is totally disconnected if every pair of points are separated in X .

PROB 17 A subspace $X \subset \mathbb{R}^1$ is connected iff only if it is an interval (a, b) , $(a, b]$ (allowing $a = -\infty, b = \infty$) $[a, b]$ or $[a, b)$

PROP: The continuous image of a connected space is connected: if $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is cont., then $f(X)$ is connected (with subspace topology from Y). The same is true for "path connected".

COR: The "intermediate value theorem" of calculus.

PROP: If X is path-connected, then X is connected.

Example: To see the converse of this is false, consider $X = \text{the closure of } \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 0 < x \leq 2\pi, y = \sin \frac{1}{x}\}$



PROBLEM 18: This space X is connected but not path-connected.

Def: If $p \in X$, the component of p (in X) is the set of all $x \in X$ which is not separated from p in X . The path-component is the set of x such that there exists a path in X from p to x .

A subset $A \subset X$ is "connected" if with the subspace topology it is a connected space.

PROBLEM 19: Being in the same component is an equivalence relation: if x and y are in the component of p , then y is in the component of x and vice-versa. (Similarly for path-component.) A component is connected.

Def: A space is locally connected if it has a basis consisting of connected sets. (using the subspace topology)

PROBLEM 20: If X is locally connected, then components of X are open. This is not true in general.

Def: A space is totally disconnected if every pair of points in the space is separated in the space, i.e. components are just points.

EXAMPLES: The set \mathbb{Q} of rational numbers is totally disconnected, with the usual topology. Similarly for the irrationals. A closed, bounded example in \mathbb{R} is the Cantor set: obtained by successively deleting middle $\frac{1}{3}$'s from $I = [0, 1]$

~~$[0, 1] \setminus (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}) \setminus (\frac{1}{9}, \frac{2}{9}) \setminus (\frac{7}{9}, \frac{8}{9}) \setminus \dots$~~