

Name: _____ Score (Out of 6 points):

1. (3 points) For each of the following statements: if the statement is always true, write “True”. Otherwise, state a counterexample. **No further justification needed.**

Note: If the statement is not always true, you can receive partial credit for writing “False” without a counterexample.

- (a) Let (X, \mathcal{T}_X) and (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) be topological spaces, and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ a continuous function. If $C \subseteq Y$ is compact, then $f^{-1}(C)$ is compact.

False. For example, consider \mathbb{R} with the standard topology, and consider the constant map $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = 0$ for all x . Then f is continuous, and $\{0\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is finite and therefore compact, but $f^{-1}(\{0\}) = \mathbb{R}$ is unbounded and therefore noncompact.

- (b) Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be a compact topological space. Then every closed subset of X is compact.

True. See Worksheet #16 Problem 3.

- (c) Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be a compact topological space. Then every compact subset of X is closed in X .

False. For example, consider the set $X = \{1, 2\}$ with the indiscrete metric. The subset $\{1\}$ is finite and therefore compact, but $\{1\}$ is not closed.

2. (3 points) Let X be a compact space and Y a Hausdorff space. Suppose that a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous, and has an inverse f^{-1} . Prove that f^{-1} is continuous.

This result proves:

Theorem. A continuous bijection from a compact space to a Hausdorff space is a homeomorphism.

Solution. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous map with inverse $f^{-1} : Y \rightarrow X$. To show that f^{-1} is continuous, it suffices to show that $(f^{-1})^{-1}(C)$ is closed in Y for every closed subset C of X .

We first observe that

$$\begin{aligned}(f^{-1})^{-1}(C) &= \{y \in Y \mid f^{-1}(y) \in C\} \\ &= \{y \in Y \mid f^{-1}(y) = c \text{ for some } c \in C\} \\ &= \{y \in Y \mid y = f(c) \text{ for some } c \in C\} \\ &= f(C),\end{aligned}$$

so our goal is to show that $f(C)$ is closed in Y for every closed subset $C \subseteq X$.

Let C be a closed subset of X . Since X is compact, by Worksheet #16 Problem 3, it follows that C is compact. Since f is continuous, by Worksheet #16 Problem 2, it follows that $f(C)$ is a compact subset of Y . But since Y is Hausdorff, it follows from Worksheet #16 Problem 4(b) that $f(C)$ is closed in Y .

Thus $(f^{-1})^{-1}(C) = f(C)$ is a closed subset of Y , and we conclude that f^{-1} is continuous as claimed.