

Recommended reading: Munkres Section 13, 14, 15, 16, 17.

Roughly similar content:

Hatcher <https://pi.math.cornell.edu/~hatcher/Top/TopNotes.pdf>,
subsections “Subspaces”, “Product spaces”, & “Interior, Closure, and Boundary”

Warning: Hatcher uses a different definition of *limit point* than we (or Munkres) do.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_topology

Warm-up questions

(These warm-up questions are optional, and won't be graded.)

- Show by example that topological spaces X can have subsets that are
 - closed and not open
 - both closed and open
 - open and not closed
 - neither closed nor open
 - Recite the Topologist Scout Oath:

*“On my honour, I will do my best
to never claim to prove a set is closed by showing that it is not open,
and to never claim to prove a set is open by showing that it is not closed.”*
- Let X be a topological space with the discrete topology. Show that every subset of X is closed.
 - Let X be a topological space with the indiscrete topology. Show that the closed subsets of X are precisely $\{\emptyset, X\}$.
 - Let X be a topological space with the cofinite topology. Show that the closed sets are precisely the sets $\{X\} \cup \{S \subseteq X \mid S \text{ is finite}\}$.
- See Assignment Question #3 for the definition of the *subspace topology*. Let $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$. Let \mathcal{T} be the topology on X

$$\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{b, c, d\}, X\}.$$

Write down the subspace topology \mathcal{T}_S induced on the subset $S = \{a, b, d\} \subseteq X$.
- Consider the set $Y = (0, 1]$ as a subspace of \mathbb{R} . Which of the following sets are open in Y ? Which are open in \mathbb{R} ?
 - $A = \{x \mid \frac{1}{2} < |x| < 1\}$
 - $A = \{x \mid \frac{1}{2} \leq |x| < 1\}$
 - $A = \{x \mid \frac{1}{2} < |x| \leq 1\}$
 - $A = \{x \mid \frac{1}{2} \leq |x| \leq 1\}$
 - $A = \{\frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$
- Suppose that X is a topological space with the discrete topology. Is the subspace topology of a subset $S \subseteq X$ necessarily the discrete topology on S ?
 - Suppose that X is a topological space with the indiscrete topology. Is the subspace topology of a subset $S \subseteq X$ necessarily the indiscrete topology on S ?
- Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be a topological space. Let $S \subseteq X$ and let \mathcal{T}_S be the subspace topology on S . Prove that if S is an open subset of X , and if $U \in \mathcal{T}_S$, then $U \in \mathcal{T}$.
 - Suppose that X is a topological space and $S \subseteq X$. Show that, if S is open, then the inclusion map i_S (See Assignment Question #3) is an open map.
- Let X be a topological space. Let $A \subseteq B \subseteq X$, and let B be a topological space with the subspace topology. Show that the subspace topology on A as a subspace of X coincide with the subspace topology on A as a subspace of B .

8. See Assignment Problem #4 for the definition of the *order topology* on a totally ordered set X . Consider the rays $(a, \infty) = \{x \in X \mid a < x\} \subseteq X$. Show that the collections of sets $\{(a, \infty) \mid a \in X\}$ are the basis for a topology on X , and moreover that this topology is coarser than the order topology.
9. Show that the order topology on \mathbb{Z} is the discrete topology.
10. Let (X, \mathcal{T}_X) and (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) be topological spaces, and let $y_0 \in Y$. Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} f : X &\longrightarrow X \times Y \\ x &\longmapsto (x, y_0) \end{aligned}$$

where $X \times Y$ has the product topology. Show that the map f is always continuous, but that it may not be an open map.

11. Let X be a topological space, and $A \subseteq X$. Explain the sense in which \bar{A} is the “smallest” closed set containing A , and the sense in which $\text{int}(A)$ is the “largest” open set contained in A .
12. Let $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$. Let \mathcal{T} be the topology on X

$$\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{b, c, d\}, X\}.$$

Find the interior and closure of the subsets

- (a) $\{a, b, c\}$ (b) $\{a, c, d\}$ (c) $\{a, b, d\}$ (d) $\{b\}$ (e) $\{d\}$ (f) $\{b, d\}$

13. Show the following.

- (a) If $A \subseteq B$, then $\text{Int}(A) \subseteq \text{Int}(B)$.
 (b) If $A \subseteq B$, then $\bar{A} \subseteq \bar{B}$.
 (c) If A is closed in Y and Y is closed in X , then A is closed in X .

14. Find all limit points of the following subsets of \mathbb{R} (with the standard topology).

- (a) \mathbb{R} (c) $(0, 1)$ (e) \mathbb{N} (g) \mathbb{Q}
 (b) \emptyset (d) $\{0\}$ (f) $\{\frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ (h) $\{\frac{a}{2^n} \mid a, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Assignment questions

(Hand these questions in! Unless otherwise indicated, give a complete, rigorous justification for each solution.)

- (a) Let X and Y be topological spaces. Prove or give a counterexample: if $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is an open map, then $f(C)$ is closed for every closed set $C \subseteq X$.

(b) State examples of the following. No justification necessary.

 - topological spaces X and Y , and a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ that is open but not continuous,
 - topological spaces X and Y , and a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ that is continuous but not open,
 - topological spaces X and Y , and a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ that is both open and continuous,
 - topological spaces X and Y , and a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ that is neither open nor continuous.
- Definition (Subbases).** Let X be a set, and let \mathcal{S} be a collection of subsets of X whose union is equal to X . Then the *topology generated by the subbasis* \mathcal{S} is the collection of all arbitrary unions of all finite intersections of elements in \mathcal{S} .

Remark: Notably, in contrast to a basis, we are permitted to take finite intersections of sets in a subbasis.

- (a) Show that the set \mathcal{T} generated by a subbasis \mathcal{S} is a topology, and is moreover the coarsest topology containing \mathcal{S} . *Hint:* It suffices to show that the collection of all finite intersections of elements of \mathcal{S} is a basis.
- (b) Verify that $\mathcal{S} = \{(a, \infty) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{(-\infty, a) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a subbasis for the standard topology on \mathbb{R} .
- (c) Let (X, \mathcal{T}_X) and (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) be topological spaces. Verify that

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\pi_X^{-1}(U) \mid U \in \mathcal{T}_X\} \cup \{\pi_Y^{-1}(V) \mid V \in \mathcal{T}_Y\}$$

is a subbasis for the product topology on $X \times Y$. Conclude that the product topology is the coarsest topology making the projection maps π_X and π_Y continuous.

3. Given a topological space X , there is an induced topological space structure on any subset $S \subseteq X$.

Definition (The subspace topology). Let (X, \mathcal{T}_X) be a topological space, and let $S \subseteq X$ be a subset. Then the *subspace topology* on S is defined to be

$$\mathcal{T}_S = \{U \cap S \mid U \in \mathcal{T}_X\}.$$

- (a) Verify that the subspace topology \mathcal{T}_S is in fact a topology.
- (b) Show that a set $C \subseteq S$ is closed if and only if there is some set $D \subseteq X$ that is closed with $C = D \cap S$.
- (c) Define the *inclusion* of S into X to be the map

$$\begin{aligned} i_S : S &\rightarrow X \\ i_S(s) &= s. \end{aligned}$$

Show that this map is continuous with respect to the topology \mathcal{T}_X on X and the subspace topology \mathcal{T}_S on S . Show moreover that \mathcal{T}_S is precisely the set $\{i_S^{-1}(U) \mid U \subseteq X \text{ open}\}$, so the subspace topology is the coarsest possible topology on S making the inclusion map continuous.

- (d) Suppose that S is an **open** set in the topological space X . Show that the map i is an open map. (Recall that this means that $i(V) \subseteq X$ is open for every open set $V \subseteq S$.)
- (e) Let \mathcal{B}_X be a basis for the topology on X . Show that the set $\mathcal{B}_S = \{B \cap S \mid B \in \mathcal{B}_X\}$ is a basis for the subspace topology on S .
4. **(The order topology).**

- (a) Review the definition of a *totally ordered set* (also called a *simply* or *linearly* ordered set); either in Munkres Section 3, or (eg) on Wikipedia. State, in your own words, the definition of a total order on a set.
- (b) **Definition (The order topology).** Let X be a set with at least two elements and a total order $<$. Then the *order topology* on X is the topology generated by the basis \mathcal{B} consisting of the following sets:
- All open intervals $(a, b) = \{x \mid a < x < b\}$ in X .
 - All half-open intervals $[a_0, b) = \{x \mid a_0 \leq x < b\}$, where a_0 is the smallest element (if any) of X .
 - All half-open intervals $(a, b_0] = \{x \mid a \leq x < b_0\}$, where b_0 is the largest element (if any) of X .

Prove that the set \mathcal{B} is in fact a basis.

Remark: Notice that the order topology on \mathbb{R} (with its usual order) is the standard topology.

- (c) Give an example (with proof) of a subset $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ where the subspace topology on S (as a subset of \mathbb{R}) is **not** the same as the order topology on S (with the order inherited from the order on \mathbb{R}).
- (d) A subset Y of an ordered set X is called *convex* if, whenever a and b are elements of Y , the whole interval $(a, b) \subseteq Y$. Prove that, if Y is a convex subset of X , then order topology on Y coincides with the subspace topology on Y induced by the order topology on X .

5. Let X and Y be topological spaces. Suppose that \mathcal{B}_X is a basis generating the topology on X , and \mathcal{B}_Y for Y . Show that the set

$$\{C \times D \mid C \in \mathcal{B}_X, D \in \mathcal{B}_Y\}$$

is a basis for the product topology on $X \times Y$.

6. Let X be a topological space, and let $A \subseteq X$.

- (a) Show that A is closed if and only if $A = \overline{A}$. (c) Show that A is open if and only if $A = \text{Int}(A)$.
 (b) Show that $\overline{\overline{A}} = \overline{A}$. (d) Show that $\text{Int}(\text{Int}(A)) = \text{Int}(A)$.

7. Let X be a topological space with basis \mathcal{B} , and $A \subseteq X$.

- (a) Show that $x \in \overline{A}$ if and only if every **basis element** $B \in \mathcal{B}$ containing x intersects A .
 (b) Show that $x \in \text{Int}(A)$ if and only if there exists a **basis element** $B \in \mathcal{B}$ with $x \in B \subseteq A$.

8. Let X be a topological space, and let $A \subseteq X$. Let A' be the set of all limit points of A . Prove that $\overline{A} = A \cup A'$. Conclude that a set A is closed if and only if it contains all of its limit points.

9. **Bonus (Optional)**. Consider the standard topology on \mathbb{R} , and let \mathbb{R}^ω denote the product

$$\mathbb{R}^\omega = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \cdots$$

of a countably infinite number of copies of \mathbb{R} . The space \mathbb{R}^ω has a topology given by the basis

$$\mathcal{B}_b = \{U_1 \times U_2 \times U_3 \times \cdots \mid U_i \subseteq \mathbb{R} \text{ open for all } i \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

(You do not need to verify that \mathcal{B}_b is basis). Show that there exist maps $f_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that f_i is continuous for all i , but the map

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^\omega \\ x &\longmapsto (f_1(x), f_2(x), f_3(x), \cdots) \end{aligned}$$

is not continuous. In part for this reason, this is usually not the preferred topology on \mathbb{R}^ω .