

Recommended reading: Munkres Section 17.

Roughly similar content: Definitions, Examples, Properties subsections of the following

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interior_\(topology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interior_(topology)), [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Closure_\(topology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Closure_(topology)),

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boundary_\(topology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boundary_(topology)), https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hausdorff_space,

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limit_of_a_sequence#Topological_spaces

Warm-up questions

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

- Consider the interval $(0, 1]$ as a subset of \mathbb{R} with the standard topology. Give a complete, rigorous proof that its closure is $[0, 1]$, its interior is $(0, 1)$, its boundary is $\{0, 1\}$, and its set of limit points is $[0, 1]$.
- Consider \mathbb{R} with the standard topology. Find examples of subsets A of \mathbb{R} with the following properties.

(a) $\partial A = \emptyset$.	(c) $\partial A \neq \emptyset$, and $A \cap \partial A = \emptyset$.	(e) A is a proper subset of ∂A .	
(b) $\partial A \neq \emptyset$, and $\partial A \subseteq A$.	(d) $\partial A \neq \emptyset$, and $A = \partial A$.	(f) $\partial(\partial A) \neq \partial A$.	
- Consider the following subsets of \mathbb{R}

• \mathbb{R}	• $\{0, 1\}$	• $(1, 2)$	• $(-\infty, 0)$	• \mathbb{N}
• \emptyset	• $[0, \infty)$	• $[1, 2] \cup [3, \infty)$	• $(-\infty, 0]$	• $\{-n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Find the interior, closures, boundaries, and limit points of these subsets ...

- ... when \mathbb{R} has the topology $\mathcal{T} = \{(a, \infty) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{\emptyset\} \cup \{\mathbb{R}\}$.
 - ... when \mathbb{R} has the cofinite topology.
 - ... when \mathbb{R} has the cocountable topology.
 - ... when \mathbb{R} has the topology $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathbb{R}\} \cup \{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \notin U\}$.
- Let X be a topological space and $A \subseteq X$. Show that $\overline{A} = A \cup \partial A = \text{Int}(A) \cup \partial A$. Conclude that \overline{A} is the disjoint union of $\text{Int}(A)$ and ∂A .
 - Consider \mathbb{R} with the standard topology. Give a complete and rigorous proof that the sequence $(\frac{1}{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to 0.
 - Consider the interval $(0, 1)$ with the standard topology. Give a complete and rigorous proof that the sequence $(\frac{1}{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of point in $(0, 1)$ does not converge to any element of $(0, 1)$.
 - Suppose that X is a topological space, and that $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a sequence in X that converges to $a_\infty \in X$. Prove that any subsequence of $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to $a_\infty \in X$.
 - Show by example that the limit of a sequence of points in a topological space need not be unique.
 - Let X be a topological space and $x \in X$. Show that the constant sequence $(x)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to x .
 - A sequence $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is called *eventually constant* if there is some $N \in \mathbb{N}$ so that $a_n = a_N$ for all $n \geq N$.
 - Let X be a set with the discrete topology. Show that the only convergent sequences are the sequences that are eventually constant. What is their set of limits?
 - Let X be a set with the indiscrete topology. Show that all sequences converge to every point in X .
 - Let $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ be a set endowed with the topology

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

Find the set of all limits of each of the following sequences.

- d, d, d, d, d, \dots
- a, a, a, a, a, \dots
- $a, b, c, d, a, b, c, d, \dots$
- c, c, c, c, c, \dots
- a, c, a, c, a, c, \dots
- a, b, a, b, a, b, \dots

11. (a) Consider the following sequences of real numbers.

- $0, 0, 0, 0, \dots$
- $1, 1, 1, 1, \dots$
- $0, 1, 0, 1, \dots$
- $(n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$
- $(\frac{1}{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

Find the set of all limits for each of these sequences ...

- (b) ... when \mathbb{R} has the topology $\mathcal{T} = \{(a, \infty) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{\emptyset\} \cup \{\mathbb{R}\}$.
- (c) ... when \mathbb{R} has the cofinite topology.
- (d) ... when \mathbb{R} has the cocountable topology.
- (e) ... when \mathbb{R} has the topology $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathbb{R}\} \cup \{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \notin U\}$.
12. (a) Let X be a Hausdorff topological space, and $S \subseteq X$. Prove the subspace topology on S is Hausdorff.
- (b) Let X and Y be Hausdorff topological spaces. Prove the product topology on $X \times Y$ is Hausdorff.
- (c) Let X be a totally ordered set. Show that the order topology on X is Hausdorff.
13. Let $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ with the topology

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

- (a) Is X Hausdorff?
- (b) Find the interior and closure of $\{a, c, d\}$.

Assignment questions

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

1. (Finite unions, intersections, and products of interiors and closures).

- (a) Let X a topological space, with $A, B \subseteq X$. For each of the following, determine whether you can replace the symbol \square with $\subseteq, \supseteq, =$, or none of the above. You should understand how to justify your solution, but for this step, you only need to submit the final answer ($\subseteq, \supseteq, =$, or “none of the above”).

- | | |
|---|--|
| (i) $X \setminus \overline{A} \square \text{Int}(X \setminus A)$ | (iv) $\text{Int}(A \cap B) \square \text{Int}(A) \cap \text{Int}(B)$ |
| (ii) $X \setminus \text{Int}(A) \square \overline{X \setminus A}$ | (v) $\overline{A \cup B} \square \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$ |
| (iii) $\text{Int}(A \cup B) \square \text{Int}(A) \cup \text{Int}(B)$ | (vi) $\overline{A \cap B} \square \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$ |

- (b) Give a complete proof of your solution to part (a) (v).
- (c) Give a counterexample to each instance in part (a) where equality fails.
- (d) Prove or give a counterexample: If $A \subseteq X$, then $\partial A = \overline{A} \setminus A$.
- (e) Prove or give a counterexample: If $U \subseteq X$ is open, then $U = \text{Int}(\overline{U})$.
- (f) Let X and Y be topological spaces. Prove or disprove: if A is closed in X and B is closed in Y , then $A \times B$ is closed in $X \times Y$. Determine in general the relationship between $\overline{A} \times \overline{B}$ and $\overline{A \times B}$.

2. (a) Prove the following.

Proposition (Equivalent definition of continuity). A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ of topological spaces is continuous if and only if $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$ for every subset $A \subseteq X$.

- (b) Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous function of topological spaces. Let $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of elements in X converging to $a_\infty \in X$. Show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(a_\infty)$.

3. Prove the following.

Proposition (Equivalent definition of Hausdorff). A topological space X is Hausdorff if and only if the diagonal $\Delta = \{(x, x) \mid x \in X\}$ is a closed subset of the product $X \times X$ with the product topology.

4. (a) Show that the continuous image of a Hausdorff topological space need not be Hausdorff. Specifically, find a Hausdorff topological space X , and topological space Y that is not Hausdorff, and a continuous surjective map $f : X \rightarrow Y$.
- (b) Let X and Y be topological spaces, and assume that Y is Hausdorff. Show that, if there exists a continuous injective map $f : X \rightarrow Y$, then X must also be Hausdorff.
- (c) Let X and Y be topological spaces, and assume that Y is Hausdorff. Let $A \subseteq X$. Show that the values of a continuous function $X \rightarrow Y$ on \bar{A} are completely determined by its value on A . Specifically, let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and $g : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous functions. Suppose that $A \subseteq X$ is a subset such that

$$f(a) = g(a) \quad \text{for all } a \in A.$$

Prove that

$$f(x) = g(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \bar{A}.$$

5. (**The Zariski Topology**). Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and let $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ denote the set of polynomials in the variables x_1, \dots, x_n with complex coefficients. For a subset of polynomials $S \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, we denote its *vanishing set*

$$V(S) = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid f(z_1, \dots, z_n) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in S\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n.$$

In this problem, we will see that there is a topology on \mathbb{C}^n , called the *Zariski topology*, whose closed sets are exactly the sets $V(S)$ for $S \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. This topology is a foundational construction in algebraic geometry.

- (a) Let $\{S_i \mid i \in I\}$ be a collection of subsets of $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. Show that $V(\bigcup_{i \in I} S_i) = \bigcap_{i \in I} V(S_i)$.
- (b) If $S_1, S_2 \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, prove that $V(S_1 \cdot S_2) = V(S_1) \cup V(S_2)$, where

$$S_1 \cdot S_2 = \{f \cdot g \mid f \in S_1, g \in S_2\}.$$

- (c) Prove that the Zariski topology $\mathcal{T}_Z = \{U \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n \mid \mathbb{C}^n \setminus U = V(S) \text{ for some } S \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]\}$ is in fact a topology on \mathbb{C}^n .
- (d) Determine whether points $\{(z_1, \dots, z_n)\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ are closed in the Zariski topology.
- (e) Show that the subspace topology on the subset $\mathbb{C} \cong \{(z, 0, \dots, 0) \mid z \in \mathbb{C}\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ coincides with the Zariski topology on \mathbb{C} (as defined by the polynomial ring $\mathbb{C}[x_1]$).
- (f) Determine whether the Zariski topology on \mathbb{C}^n is Hausdorff. *Hint:* Use part (e).

6. **Bonus (Optional)**. Let X be a topological space. Consider the two functions *closure* and *complement*

$$\text{Cl} : A \mapsto \bar{A} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Co} : A \mapsto X \setminus A$$

on the power set of X .

- (a) Show that, starting with a fixed set $A \subseteq X$, you can form at most 14 sets by applying these two operations successively.
- (b) Find a subset $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ (with the standard topology) that achieves this maximum of 14 sets.