

1. Each of the following statements is either true or false. If the statement holds in general, write “True”. Otherwise, write “False”. **No justification necessary.**

(a) Given a set  $X$ , there exists a set of strictly larger cardinality.

**True.** (Hint: Consider the power set of  $X$ .)

(b) The set of all finite subsets of  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable.

**True.** (Hint: Write it as a countable union of countable sets.)

(c) The set of all finite topological spaces (up to homeomorphism) is countable.

**True.** (Hint: The possible topologies on  $X$  are a subset of the power set of  $X$ .)

(d) The set  $\{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid U \text{ is infinite}\} \cup \{\emptyset\}$  is a topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**False.** (Hint: Consider finite intersections.)

(e) Consider  $[0, 2]$  as a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology. The subset  $(1, 2] \subseteq [0, 2]$  is open.

**True.** (Hint: What is  $(1, 3) \cap [0, 2]$ ?)

(f) Consider  $[0, 2]$  as a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology. Then  $(0, 1) \cup \{2\} \subseteq [0, 2]$  is open.

**False.** (Hint: What must be true of an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  containing 2?)

(g) Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a map from a space  $X$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  (with the standard topology). Then  $f$  is continuous if and only if  $f^{-1}(B_r(x))$  is open for every **rational** numbers  $x, r \in \mathbb{Q}, r > 0$ .

**True.** (Hint: Check that  $\{B_r(x) \mid r, x \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  is a basis for the standard topology.)

(h) Let  $X$  be a space with the property that points  $\{x\}$  are **open**. Then  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space.

**True.** (Hint: Check that  $X$  in fact must have the discrete topology.)

(i) The Cartesian product of two quotient maps is a quotient map.

**False.** (Hint: Homework 8, Problem #5.)

(j) The composite of two quotient maps is a quotient map.

**True.** (Hint: Check that the three conditions are preserved by composition.)

(k) The set  $\{a, b, c, d\}$  with the topology  $\{\emptyset, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, c, d\}\}$  is connected.

**True.** (Hint: Check that no proper nonempty subset is both open and closed.)

2. Each of the following statements is either true or false. If the statement holds in general, write “True”. Otherwise, state a counterexample. **No justification necessary.**

Note: You can get partial credit for correctly writing “False” without a counterexample.

*Remark:* These solutions have more justification than needed. On the exam it is enough to simply state the counterexample.

(i) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a function of sets  $X$  and  $Y$ . If there is a function  $g$  so that  $g \circ f : X \rightarrow X$  is the identity map of  $X$ , then  $f$  is invertible.

**False.** For example, consider the case where  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $Y = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f$  is the inclusion of the  $x$ -axis, and  $g$  is the projection onto the  $x$ -axis, as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ll} f : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} & g : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x \longmapsto (x, 0) & (x, y) \longmapsto x \end{array}$$

Then  $g \circ f$  is the identity on  $\mathbb{R}$ , but  $f$  (and  $g$ ) are not invertible.

(ii) Let  $X$  be a topological space, and  $S \subseteq X$  be a subset with no limit points. Then  $S$  is closed.

**True.**

(iii) Let  $X$  be a topological space, and  $C \subseteq X$  a closed set. The inclusion map  $C \rightarrow X$  is a closed map.

**True.**

(iv) Let  $A$  be a subset of a metric space  $(X, d)$ . Then any element of  $\partial A$  must be both a limit point of  $A$ , and a limit point of  $X \setminus A$ .

**False.** For example, consider  $X = \mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology, and  $A = \{1\}$ . Then  $\partial A = \{1\}$  but 1 is not a limit point of  $A$ .

(v) Let  $X$  be a topological space, and  $S \subseteq X$ . Then  $\partial S = \partial(\overline{S})$ .

**False.** Consider  $S = \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  with the Euclidean metric. Then  $\partial S = \mathbb{R}$  but  $\partial(\overline{S}) = \partial\mathbb{R} = \emptyset$ .

(vi) Let  $X$  be a topological space, and  $S \subseteq X$ . Then  $\overline{S} = X \setminus \text{Int}(X \setminus S)$ .

**True.**

(vii) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $\text{Int}(A) \subseteq \text{Int}(B)$ .

**True.**

(viii) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then all limits points of  $A$  are also limit points of  $B$ .

**True.**

(ix) If  $\text{Int}(A) = \text{Int}(B)$  and  $\overline{A} = \overline{B}$ , then  $A = B$ .

**False.** Consider  $A = [0, 1) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and  $B = (0, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\text{Int}(A) = \text{Int}(B) = (0, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{A} = \overline{B} = [0, 1]$$

but  $A \neq B$ .

(x) If  $\text{Int}(A) = \overline{A}$ , then  $A$  is both open and closed.

**True.**

(xi) Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space, and let  $x, y$  be **distinct** points in  $X$ . Let  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be the sequence  $x y x y x y x y \cdots$ . Then  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  does not converge.

**False.** For example, consider  $X = \{x, y\}$  with the indiscrete topology. Then the sequence converges to both  $x$  and to  $y$ .

(xii) If a sequence of points  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in a topological space  $X$  converges to a point  $a_\infty$ , then  $a_\infty$  is a limit point of the set  $\{a_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

**False.** For example, consider the constant sequence  $(0)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then the sequence converges to 0, but 0 is not a limit point of the set  $\{0\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

(xiii) Suppose  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence in a topological space, and that  $x$  is a limit point of the set  $\{a_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then there is some subsequence converging to  $x$ .

**False.** Let  $X = \mathbb{N}$  with the topology  $\{\emptyset\} \cup \{U \mid 1 \in U\}$ , and consider the sequence  $a_n = n$ . Then 2 is a limit point of the sequence, since every neighbourhood of 2 contains  $a_1 = 1$ . However, there is no subsequence converging to 2, since (for example) the neighbourhood  $\{1, 2\}$  of 2 contains only finitely many terms in the sequence.

- (xiv) There is no sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  (with the standard topology) with the property that, for any  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , there is some subsequence converging to  $r$ .

**False.** For example, consider any sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  that enumerates the (countable set)  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  has a subsequence of rational numbers that converge to any real number.

- (xv) Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be metric spaces, and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  a continuous function. If  $B \subseteq X$  is bounded, then  $f(B)$  is bounded.

**False.** For example, consider  $X = Y = (0, \infty)$  in the Euclidean metric, and the continuous map  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  given by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ . Then  $(0, 1) \subseteq (0, \infty)$  is bounded, but  $f((0, 1)) = (1, \infty)$  is not bounded.

- (xvi) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous function. If  $X$  is Hausdorff, then  $f(X)$  is Hausdorff.

**False.** For example, consider the identity map

$$I : (\mathbb{R}, \text{discrete topology}) \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}, \text{indiscrete topology}) \\ x \longrightarrow x$$

Then  $I$  is continuous and  $(\mathbb{R}, \text{discrete topology})$  is Hausdorff, but  $\text{im}(f) = (\mathbb{R}, \text{indiscrete topology})$  is not Hausdorff.

- (xvii) Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map. Then the restriction of  $f$  to any subspace of  $X$  is continuous (with respect to the subspace topology).

**True.**

- (xviii) Let  $(f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of continuous functions that converge pointwise to a function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $f$  is continuous, then the functions must converge uniformly.

**False.** For example, consider the functions

$$f_n : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ f_n(x) = x^n.$$

Then the sequence converges to the constant function  $f(x) = 0$ , but convergence is not uniform.

- (xix) An injective quotient map is necessarily a homeomorphism.

**True.**

- (xx) Let  $p : X \rightarrow A$  be a quotient map. If  $X$  is a  $T_1$ -space, then  $A$  is a  $T_1$ -space.

**False.** Consider the map

$$f : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \{a, b\}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} a, & x \in (-\infty, 0) \\ b, & x \in [0, \infty) \end{cases}$$

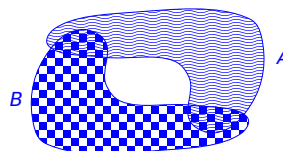
Then  $\mathbb{R}$  is a  $T_1$ -space, but the quotient topology  $\{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$  on the codomain does not have the  $T_1$  property, since  $\{a\}$  is not closed.

- (xxi) If  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a connected topological space, and  $\mathcal{T}'$  is a coarser topology on  $X$ , then  $(X, \mathcal{T}')$  is also connected.

**True.**

- (xxii) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be nonempty subsets of a topological space  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are connected and  $A \cap B$  is nonempty, then  $A \cup B$  is connected.

**False.** For example, consider the following two subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (with the Euclidean metric).



3. Let  $X$  be a set, and suppose that  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  are two topologies on  $X$ .

- (a) Show that the intersection  $\mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$  is a topology on  $X$ .

**Solution.** Suppose  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  are topologies on  $X$ . To check that  $\mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$  is a topology, we must check the three conditions.

First, we observe that  $\emptyset, X$  must be contained in both  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  (since  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  are topologies), hence  $\emptyset, X \in \mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$ .

Next, we suppose that  $U_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$ . Then  $U_1, U_2 \in \mathcal{T}_1$ , so  $U_1 \cap U_2 \in \mathcal{T}_1$  by definition of a topology. The same argument shows  $U_1 \cap U_2 \in \mathcal{T}_2$ . We conclude that  $U_1 \cap U_2 \in \mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$ .

Finally, suppose  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a collection of open subsets in  $\mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$ . Then  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_1$ , so  $\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i \in \mathcal{T}_1$ . Similarly,  $\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i \in \mathcal{T}_2$ . Hence  $\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i \in \mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$ .

We conclude that  $\mathcal{T}_1 \cap \mathcal{T}_2$  is a topology on  $X$ .

- (b) Show by example that the union  $\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2$  need not be a topology on  $X$ .

**Solution.** Consider the two topologies on the set  $\{a, b, c\}$ ,

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b, c\}\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{T}_2 = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{a, b, c\}\}.$$

Their union

$$\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b, c\}\}$$

is not a topology, because it does not contain the union  $\{a\} \cup \{b\} = \{a, b\}$ .

4. Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space, and let  $S \subseteq X$  be a subset. Show that  $\partial(\partial S) = \partial S$  if and only if  $\partial S$  has empty interior.

**Solution.** First suppose that  $x \in \text{Int}(\partial S)$ . Then  $x \in \partial S$ . But, the boundary and interior of any set are disjoint, so  $x \notin \partial(\partial S)$ . In this case we conclude that  $\partial(\partial S) \neq \partial S$ .

Next suppose that  $\partial S$  has empty interior. Recall that we showed, for a general set  $A$ , that  $\partial A = \overline{A} \setminus \text{Int}(A)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(\partial S) &= \overline{\partial S} \setminus \text{Int}(\partial S) \\ &= \overline{\partial S} \setminus \emptyset && \text{(by assumption)} \\ &= \overline{\partial S} \\ &= \partial S && \text{(since boundaries are closed)} \end{aligned}$$

as claimed.

5. Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space, and let  $S \subseteq X$  be a subset. Suppose that the subspace topology on  $S$  is the discrete topology. Prove or give a counterexample:  $S$  is closed as a subset of  $X$ .

**Solution.** The statement is false. Consider, for example, the  $X = \mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology, and the subset

$$S = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

Then  $S$  has the discrete topology. To check this, it suffices to show that each point  $\{\frac{1}{n}\} \subseteq S$  is open in the subspace topology. Since any nonempty subset of  $S$  is a union of its points, it will follow that arbitrary subsets of  $S$  are open. But

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{n} \right\} = S \cap \left( \frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n-1} \right)$$

is the intersection of  $S$  and an open subset, and is therefore open. Hence  $S$  has the discrete topology. The set  $S$ , however, is not closed, since 0 is a limit point of  $S$  that is not contained in  $S$ .

6. Consider the following functions  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- $f(x) = x$
- $f(x) = x^2$
- $f(x) = x + 1$
- $f(x) = 0$
- $f(x) = \cos(x)$
- $f(x) = -x$

Determine whether these functions are continuous ...

- (a) ... when  $\mathbb{R}$  has the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \{(a, \infty) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{\emptyset\} \cup \{\mathbb{R}\}$ .
- (b) ... when  $\mathbb{R}$  has the cofinite topology.
- (c) ... when  $\mathbb{R}$  has the cocountable topology.
- (d) ... when  $\mathbb{R}$  has the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathbb{R}\} \cup \{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \notin U\}$ .
- (e) ... when  $\mathbb{R}$  has the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset\} \cup \{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \in U\}$ .

**Solution.** The identity function  $f(x) = x$  and the constant function  $f(x) = 0$  are continuous with respect to any topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ . We will give full solutions in the case  $f(x) = x + 1$ .

- $\mathbb{R}$  has the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \{(a, \infty) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{\emptyset\} \cup \{\mathbb{R}\}$ .

In this case,  $f$  is continuous. The preimages of the open sets are always open:

$$f^{-1}(\emptyset) = \emptyset, \quad f^{-1}(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}, \quad f^{-1}((a, \infty)) = (a - 1, \infty).$$

- $\mathbb{R}$  has the cofinite topology.

In this case,  $f$  is continuous. It suffices to check that the preimages of closed subsets are closed. But the proper closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  are exactly the finite subsets, and (because  $f$  is one-to-one) the preimage of any finite subset is finite.

- $\mathbb{R}$  has the cocountable topology.

In this case,  $f$  is continuous. Again it suffices to check that the preimages of closed subsets are closed. But the proper closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  are exactly the countable subsets, and (because  $f$  is one-to-one) the preimage of any countable subset is countable.

- $\mathbb{R}$  has the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathbb{R}\} \cup \{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \notin U\}$ .

In this case,  $f$  is not continuous. The preimage of the open set  $\{1\}$  is the not-open set  $\{0\}$ .

- $\mathbb{R}$  has the topology  $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset\} \cup \{U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \in U\}$ .

In this case,  $f$  is not continuous. The preimage of the open set  $\{0\}$  is the not-open set  $\{-1\}$ .

7. Consider the set  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  with the topology

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

(a) Write down a permutation of the elements of  $X$  that is not continuous.

**Solution.** Consider the permutation  $\sigma$  given by

$$a \mapsto b \mapsto a, \quad c \mapsto c, \quad d \mapsto d.$$

Then  $\{a\}$  is open, but  $\sigma^{-1}(\{a\}) = \{b\}$  is not open, so  $\sigma$  is not continuous.

(b) Is there a nonconstant, nonidentity map  $X \rightarrow X$  that is continuous?

**Solution.** Consider the map  $f : X \rightarrow X$  given by

$$a, b \mapsto a, \quad c \mapsto c, \quad d \mapsto d.$$

Then

$$\begin{array}{ll} f^{-1}(\emptyset) = \emptyset & f^{-1}(\{a\}) = \{a, b\} \\ f^{-1}(\{a, b\}) = \{a, b\} & f^{-1}(\{a, c\}) = \{a, b, c\} \\ f^{-1}(\{a, b, c\}) = \{a, b, c\} & f^{-1}(\{a, b, d\}) = \{a, b, d\} \\ f^{-1}(\{a, b, c, d\}) = \{a, b, c, d\} & \end{array}$$

and so we see that  $f$  is continuous.

(c) Is there a non-identity permutation of the elements of  $X$  that is a homeomorphism?

**Solution.** There is no non-identity permutation of  $X$  that is a homeomorphism. Recall that, if  $f$  is homeomorphism, then  $f$  must be a bijection, and the induced maps

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{T} \\ A &\longmapsto f(A) \\ B &\longmapsto f^{-1}(B)\end{aligned}$$

must be bijections. Note that this means if  $A$  is an  $n$ -element set, then  $f(A)$  and  $f^{-1}(A)$  must also be  $n$ -element sets. Note further that (for example), since the element  $d$  is contained in one 3-element and one 4-element open set (and no other open set),  $f$  must map  $d$  to an element that is contained in one 3-element and one 4-element open set (and no other open set). But  $d$  is the only such element, so  $f(d) = d$ . Observe more generally that:

- $a$  is the only element for which  $\{a\}$  is open
- $b$  is the only element contained in exactly 4 open sets
- $c$  is the only element contained in exactly 3 open sets
- $d$  is the only element contained in exactly 2 open sets.

Any homeomorphism must therefore map every one of these elements to themselves.

- (d) Let  $[0, 1]$  be the closed interval with the standard topology. Is there a non-constant continuous surjective map  $[0, 1] \rightarrow X$ ?

**Solution.** Consider the map

$$f : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} a, & x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}) \\ b, & x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]. \end{cases}$$

Then we can verify that the preimage of each open set is open:

$$\begin{aligned}f^{-1}(\emptyset) &= \emptyset \\ f^{-1}(\{a\}) &= f^{-1}(\{a, c\}) = \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ f^{-1}(\{a, b\}) &= f^{-1}(\{a, b, c\}) = f^{-1}(\{a, b, d\}) = f^{-1}(\{a, b, c, d\}) = [0, 1]\end{aligned}$$

and so conclude that  $f$  is continuous.

- (e) Is there a non-constant continuous map  $X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ ?

**Solution.** There is no such continuous map. Suppose (for the sake of contradiction) that  $f$  were such a map. Then the image of  $f$  is a finite set containing at least two elements (since  $f$  is non-constant). The image must therefore be discrete. If  $x, y \in f(X)$  with  $x \neq y$ , then  $f^{-1}(\{x\})$  and  $f^{-1}(\{y\})$  must both be disjoint open subsets of  $X$ . However, at most one of these sets can contain  $a$ , and every open subset of  $X$  contains  $a$ , a contradiction.

8. Prove the following propositions.



- (a) A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of topological space is *continuous at the point*  $x \in X$  if for every neighbourhood  $U$  of  $f(x)$ , there is a neighbourhood  $V$  of  $x$  such that  $f(V) \subseteq U$ .

**Proposition.** A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of topological spaces is continuous if and only if it is continuous at every point  $x \in X$ .

- (b) **Proposition.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a function of topological spaces. Then  $f$  is continuous if and only if  $f^{-1}(\text{Int}(B)) \subseteq \text{Int}(f^{-1}(B))$  for every  $B \subseteq Y$ .

**Solution.** First, suppose that  $f$  is a function satisfying the condition stated in the Proposition. We will show that  $f$  is continuous. Let  $U \subseteq Y$  be an open subset; we must show that  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open. But

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Int}(f^{-1}(U)) &\subseteq f^{-1}(U) && \text{(by definition of interior),} \\ &= f^{-1}(\text{Int}(U)) && \text{(since } U \text{ is open),} \\ &\subseteq \text{Int}(f^{-1}(U)) && \text{(by assumption).} \end{aligned}$$

This sequence of set-containments is only possible if we have equality at each step, and in particular we conclude that  $\text{Int}(f^{-1}(U)) = f^{-1}(U)$ , and it follows that  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open.

Now suppose that  $f$  is continuous, and we will verify that  $f$  satisfies the condition in the proposition. For any set  $B \subseteq Y$ , the interior  $\text{Int}(B)$  is open, so (by definition of continuity)  $f^{-1}(\text{Int}(B))$  is open. Moreover, since  $\text{Int}(B) \subseteq B$ , it follows that  $f^{-1}(\text{Int}(B)) \subseteq f^{-1}(B)$ . But, we proved that every open subset of a set  $A$  must be contained in  $\text{Int}(A)$ . In this case, because  $f^{-1}(\text{Int}(B))$  is an open subset  $f^{-1}(B)$ , it must be contained in  $\text{Int}(f^{-1}(B))$ . This completes the proof.

- (c) **Proposition.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a function of topological spaces, and let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a subbasis for  $Y$ . Then  $f$  is continuous if and only if  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open for every subbasis element  $U \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ .

9. Let  $\{0, 1\}$  be a topological space with the discrete topology. Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $A \subseteq X$  a subset. Define the *characteristic function* on  $A$

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_A : X &\longrightarrow \{0, 1\} \\ \chi_A(x) &= \begin{cases} 1, & x \in A \\ 0, & x \notin A \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Prove that  $\chi_A$  is continuous at a point  $x \in X$  if and only if  $x \notin \partial A$ .  
 (b) Prove that  $\chi_A$  is continuous if and only if  $A$  is both open and closed.
10. You proved on Homework #6 that if  $X = A \cup B$  for closed sets  $A$  and  $B$ , and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a function whose restriction to  $A$  and  $B$  are both continuous, then  $f$  is continuous. Prove or disprove that the same statement holds if  $X$  is a union of (possibly infinitely many) closed sets  $A_i$ , with  $f|_{A_i}$  continuous for each  $i$ .

**Solution.** The statement is false. Consider any discontinuous function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , for example,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in [0, 1], \\ 0, & x \notin [0, 1]. \end{cases}$$

Since points  $\{x\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  are closed, we can write  $\mathbb{R}$  as the union of closed sets  $\mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \{x\}$ . But we can verify that the restriction of  $f$  to  $\{x\}$  is continuous: the preimage of any subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  must be equal to one of the two subsets  $\emptyset$  and  $\{x\}$  of  $\{x\}$ , and both subsets are open. Hence  $f$  is a discontinuous function with the property that its restriction to every closed subset is continuous.

11. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space, and let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a basis for the topology  $\mathcal{T}_d$  induced by  $d$ .
- (a) Let  $S \subseteq X$  be a subset, and  $s \in S$ . Show that  $s$  is an interior point of  $S$  if and only if there is some element  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $s \in B$  and  $B \subseteq S$ .
- (b) Deduce that  $\text{Int}(S) = \bigcup_{B \in \mathcal{B}, B \subseteq S} B$ .
12. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a function of topological spaces. Prove that  $f$  is open if and only if  $f(\text{Int}(A)) \subseteq \text{Int}(f(A))$  for all sets  $A \subseteq X$ .
13. (a) Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  be a Hausdorff topological space, and let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be a finite collection of points in  $X$ . Show that there are open sets  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  such that  $x_i \in U_i$ , and which are pairwise disjoint (this means  $U_i \cap U_j = \emptyset$  for all  $i \neq j$ ).

**Solution.** Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be a finite collection of points in  $X$ . Since  $X$  is Hausdorff, for every distinct pair of points  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ , there exist disjoint neighbourhoods  $U_{i,j}$  of  $x_i$  and  $U_{j,i}$  of  $x_j$ . For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , define the set

$$U_i = \bigcap_{\substack{j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \\ j \neq i}} U_{i,j}.$$

Since  $i \in U_{i,j}$  for all  $j$ , their intersection  $U_i$  is a neighbourhood of  $i$ . We claim that these neighbourhoods are pairwise disjoint. Suppose that  $x \in U_i \cap U_j$ . But then  $x \in U_i \subseteq U_{i,j}$  and  $x \in U_j \subseteq U_{j,i}$ , which is a contradiction since  $U_{i,j}$  and  $U_{j,i}$  were disjoint by construction. Thus we have constructed pairwise disjoint sets  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  with  $x_i \in U_i$  for each  $i$ .

- (b) Let  $X$  be a finite topological space. Prove if  $X$  is Hausdorff, then it has the discrete topology.

**Solution.** Since  $X$  is finite, we can denote its elements by  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  for  $n = |X|$ . By part (a), there are neighbourhoods  $U_i$  of  $x_i$  for each  $i$  that are pairwise disjoint. Fix  $i$ . Since  $U_i$  is disjoint from  $U_j$  for each  $j \neq i$ , we infer that  $x_j \notin U_i$  for all  $j \neq i$ , so  $U_i = \{x_i\}$ . Thus we deduce that points in  $X$  are open. Since every nonempty set can be expressed as a union of its points, we conclude that every subset of  $X$  is open. Hence  $X$  has the discrete topology.

14. Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a nonempty bounded subset. Prove that its supremum  $\sup(A)$  is either in the set  $A$ , or it is a limit point of  $A$ .
15. Let  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of points in a topological space  $X$  that converges to  $a_\infty \in X$ .
- (a) Prove that, if we replace the topology on  $X$  with any coarser topology, then the sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  will still converge to  $a_\infty$ .
- (b) Show by example that, if we replace the topology on  $X$  with any finer topology, then the sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  may no longer converge to  $a_\infty$ .
16. Let  $X$  be a metric space, and let  $a_\infty \in X$ . Let  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in  $X$  with the property that every subsequence of  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  has a subsequence that converges to  $a_\infty$ . Prove that  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $a_\infty$ .

**Solution:** We will prove the contrapositive: We will show that if  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  does not converge to  $a_\infty$ , then we can construct a subsequence  $(a_{n_i})_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  with the property that none of its (sub)subsequences converges to  $a_\infty$ .

Recall that a sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $a_\infty$  if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a_n \in B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$  for all  $n > N$ . This means that the sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  fails to converge to  $a_\infty$  if for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , for every  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  there is some  $n > N$  so that  $a_n \notin B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$ .

Assume that  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  does not converge, and choose such a value of  $\epsilon > 0$ . It follows that there is some  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $a_{n_1} \notin B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$ . But then, taking  $N_1 = n_1$ , there is necessarily some  $n_2 > n_1$  so that  $a_{n_2} \notin B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$ . And, again, taking  $N_2 = n_2$ , there is some  $n_3 > n_2$  such that  $a_{n_3} \notin B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$ . Continuing with this procedure, by induction, we obtain a subsequence  $(a_{n_i})_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  that has no terms contained in  $B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$ .

We will show that no subsequence of  $(a_{n_i})_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $a_\infty$ . Let  $(a_{n_{i_j}})_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  be any (sub)subsequence of this subsequence. Consider the value  $\epsilon > 0$  as defined above. If  $(a_{n_{i_j}})_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  converged to  $a_\infty$ , then  $a_{n_{i_j}}$  must be contained in  $B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$  for infinitely many values of  $j$ . However, the terms  $a_{n_{i_j}}$  by construction are not contained in  $B_\epsilon(a_\infty)$  for *any* values of  $j$ . Thus, the subsequence does not converge to  $a_\infty$ .

We conclude that a sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  must converge to  $a_\infty$  if it has the property that each of its subsequences has a (sub)subsequence converging to  $a_\infty$ .

17. Let  $X$  be a topological space  $A \subseteq X$ , and  $h : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a continuous function. Suppose there is a constant  $c$  such that  $h(x) \leq c$  for all  $x \in A$ . Prove that  $h(x) \leq c$  for all  $x \in \overline{A}$ .

**Solution.** Since  $h$  is a continuous map, we know that  $f^{-1}(C)$  is closed for every closed subset  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . In particular,  $f^{-1}((-\infty, c])$  is closed. By assumption,  $A \subseteq f^{-1}((-\infty, c])$ . By definition  $\overline{A}$  is the intersection of every closed set containing  $A$ , hence  $\overline{A}$  is contained in every closed set containing  $A$ . Notably,  $\overline{A} \subseteq f^{-1}((-\infty, c])$ . Therefore  $f(x) \leq c$  for all  $x \in \overline{A}$ .

18. Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are nonempty topological spaces, and that the product topology on  $X \times Y$  is Hausdorff. Prove that  $X$  and  $Y$  are both Hausdorff.

**Solution.** We first claim that, if a space  $Z$  is Hausdorff, then so is any subspace  $S \subseteq Z$ . Consider two distinct points  $x, y \in S$ . Since  $Z$  is Hausdorff, there are open neighbourhoods  $U_x$  and  $U_y$  of  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively, that are disjoint. Then (by definition of the subspace topology)  $U_x \cap S$  and  $U_y \cap S$  are open subsets of  $S$ . They are necessarily still neighbourhoods of  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively, and still must be disjoint. Thus  $S$  is Hausdorff.

Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and  $y_0 \in Y$ ; these elements exist by the assumption that  $X$  and  $Y$  are nonempty. Next we claim that the maps

$$\begin{aligned} i_X : X &\rightarrow X \times Y & i_Y : Y &\rightarrow X \times Y \\ x &\mapsto (x, y_0) & y &\mapsto (x_0, y) \end{aligned}$$

are embeddings. It is clear that they are injective, and so bijections onto their images. We will verify that  $i_X$  is an embedding by checking that, if we restrict its codomain to its image, it is both continuous and open. A similar argument shows that  $i_Y$  is an embedding.

Let  $U$  be an open set in  $X$ . Then

$$i_X(U) = U \times \{y_0\} = (U \times Y) \cap (X \times \{y_0\}) = (U \times Y) \cap \text{im}(i_X).$$

Since  $U \times Y$  is open in the product topology, we conclude that  $i_X(U)$  is open in the subspace topology on  $\text{im}(i_X)$ . By Homework 6 Problem #3, because the identity map  $X \times Y \rightarrow X \times Y$  is continuous, it is continuous in each variable, which shows in particular that  $i_X$  is continuous.

Now, since  $X \times \{y_0\}$  is a subspace of the Hausdorff space  $X \times Y$ , we deduce that it is Hausdorff. We have proved moreover that this subspace is homeomorphic to  $X$ . Since the Hausdorff property is a homeomorphism invariant, we conclude that  $X$  is Hausdorff. A similar argument shows that  $Y$  is Hausdorff.

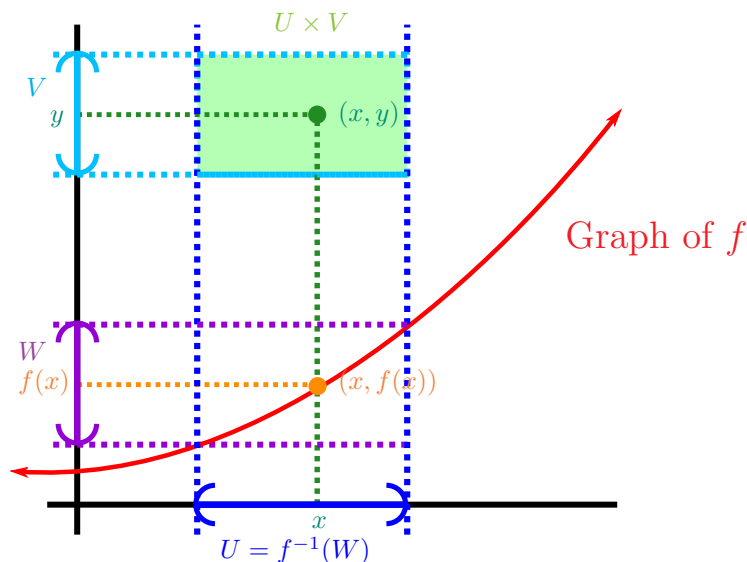
19. (a) Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$  be topological spaces, and let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a function. Recall that the *graph* of  $f$  is defined to be the subset of  $X \times Y$

$$\{ (x, f(x)) \in X \times Y \mid x \in X \}.$$

Suppose that  $Y$  is Hausdorff. Show that, if  $f$  is continuous, then the graph of  $f$  is a closed subset of  $X \times Y$  with respect to the subspace topology  $\mathcal{T}_{X \times Y}$ .

**Solution:** Denote the graph by  $G \subseteq X \times Y$ . To show that  $G$  is closed, we wish to show that its complement is open. To do this, it suffices to show that any point  $(x, y)$  in the complement of  $G$  has an open neighbourhood that is contained in the complement of  $G$ .

Let  $(x, y)$  be a point in the complement of  $G$ . Then  $y \neq f(x)$ . Since  $Y$  is Hausdorff, we can therefore find disjoint open neighbourhoods  $V$  of  $y$  and  $W$  of  $f(x)$  in  $Y$ . Since  $f$  is continuous, the subset  $U = f^{-1}(W)$  is open in  $X$ . Because  $f(x) \in W$ , we know  $x$  is contained in its preimage  $U$ .



We claim that the subset  $U \times V$  is an open neighbourhood of  $(x, y)$  in  $X \times Y$  contained in the complement of  $G$ . The subset  $U \times V$  contains  $(x, y)$  by construction, and it is open in  $X \times Y$  by the definition of the product topology. So it suffices to show that  $U \times V$  is contained in the complement of  $G$ .

Consider  $(u, v) \in U \times V$ . Then  $f(u) \in W$  by definition of  $U$ . But  $v \in V$  and  $V$  is disjoint from  $W$  by construction, so  $v \neq f(u)$ . We conclude that  $(u, v) \notin G$ , and that  $U \times V$  is contained in the complement of  $G$  as claimed.

- (b) Show by example that, if  $Y$  is not Hausdorff, the graph of a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  need not be closed.

**Solution:** Consider the set  $\mathbb{R}$  with the indiscrete topology, and consider the identity function  $I : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then the graph of  $I$  is the diagonal  $\Delta = \{(x, x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\} \subseteq \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . The product topology on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  is generated by the basis

$$\emptyset \times \emptyset = \emptyset, \quad \mathbb{R} \times \emptyset = \emptyset, \quad \emptyset \times \mathbb{R} = \emptyset, \quad \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$$

and hence is the indiscrete topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Since  $\Delta$  is a proper nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ , it is not closed.

20. Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous maps between topological spaces. Show that if  $Y$  is Hausdorff, then the set  $S = \{x \in X \mid f(x) = g(x)\}$  is closed.
21. (a) Let  $S \subseteq X$  be a subset of a topological space  $X$ . Explain why, to show that  $S$  is closed, it suffices to show that  $S$  is the preimage of a closed set under a continuous function.

**Solution.** We proved that a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of topological spaces is continuous if and only if  $f^{-1}(C) \subseteq X$  is closed for every closed set  $C \subseteq Y$ . Hence, if a subset of  $A \subseteq X$  is the preimage of a closed set  $C$  under a continuous function  $f$ , then  $A$  must be closed.

- (b) Show that the following subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (with the usual topology) are closed:

$$\{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\} \quad S^1 = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1\} \quad D^2 = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$$

**Solution.** It is a result from real analysis that a polynomial  $p(x, y)$  in variables  $x$  and  $y$  defines a continuous function from  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then we can use part (a) to check that each of the above sets is closed:

- $\{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\}$  is the preimage of the closed set  $\{1\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  under the continuous function  $p(x, y) = xy$ .
- $S^1 = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$  is the preimage of the closed set  $\{1\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  under the continuous function  $q(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ .
- $D^2 = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$  is the preimage of the closed set  $(-\infty, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  under the continuous function  $q(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ .

22. Let  $X$  be a topological space.

- (a) Suppose that  $X$  is Hausdorff. Let  $x \in X$ . Show that the intersection of all open sets containing  $x$  is equal to  $\{x\}$ .

**Solution.** Fix  $x \in X$ . Let

$$U = \bigcap_{\substack{x \in U_x \\ U_x \text{ open}}} U_x.$$

Since  $x \in U_x$  for all  $x$ , it follows that  $x \in U$ . We need to show that, under the assumption that  $X$  is Hausdorff,  $y \notin U$  for all  $y \neq x$ . But if  $y \neq x$ , then there are disjoint neighbourhoods  $U_x$  of  $x$  and  $U_y$  of  $y$ . In particular,  $y \notin U_x$ . Hence  $y \notin U$ , and we conclude that  $U = \{x\}$  as claimed.

- (b) Show that the converse statement does not hold. Specifically, suppose  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a infinite set with the cofinite topology. Show that  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is not Hausdorff, but for any  $x \in X$  the intersection of all open sets containing  $X$  is equal to  $\{x\}$ .

**Solution.** Consider the set  $X = \mathbb{R}$  with the cofinite topology. Then  $X$  is not Hausdorff, as any two nonempty open sets have an uncountable intersection. But we will show that, for any  $x \in X$ ,

$$\bigcap_{\substack{x \in U_x \\ U_x \text{ open}}} U_x = x.$$

Fix  $x$  in  $X$ . Again, it is clear that  $x \in U$ . To show equality, we must show that  $y \notin U$  for all  $y \neq x$ . But given  $y \neq x$ , the set  $U_x = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{y\}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $x$ , and so  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \setminus \{y\}$ . We

conclude that  $y \notin U$ , and therefore that  $U = \{x\}$ .

23. Let  $\mathbb{R}^\omega = \prod_{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{R}$  (so an element of  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$  is precisely a sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of real numbers.) Fix sequences  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  with  $a_n \neq 0$  for all  $n$ . Define

$$h : \mathbb{R}^\omega \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^\omega \\ (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots) \longmapsto (a_1x_1 + b_1, a_2x_2 + b_2, a_3x_3 + b_3, \dots)$$

Determine whether  $h$  is a homeomorphism if its domain and codomain are given the product topology, and if they are given the box topology.

*Hint:*  $h$  is a homeomorphism in both cases. See Homework #7 Warm-up Problem 3.

24. Find an explicit homeomorphism between the intervals  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, \infty)$  with the Euclidean metric.
25. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Show that the function  $D(x, y) = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)}$  defines a new metric on  $X$ .

**Solution.**

First note that, since  $d(x, y) \geq 0$  for all  $x, y$ , the denominator of  $D(x, y)$  is always strictly positive (and never zero), so  $D$  is well-defined. To check that it is a metric, we will check the three axioms.

- (Positivity). Since  $d(x, y) \geq 0$  for all  $x, y \in X$ , the function  $D(x, y)$  is the ratio of a nonnegative number to a strictly positive number, and is therefore always nonnegative. Moreover,  $D(x, y) = 0$  if and only if its numerator  $d(x, y) = 0$ , which happens if and only if  $x = y$  since  $d$  is a metric.
- (Symmetry).  $D(y, x) = \frac{d(y, x)}{1 + d(y, x)} = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)} = D(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$  since  $d$  is a metric and therefore symmetric in  $x$  and  $y$ .
- (Triangle inequality). First observe that the function  $F(t) = \frac{t}{1+t}$  has positive derivative  $F'(t) = \frac{1}{(1+t)^2}$ , and therefore is increasing in  $t$ . Then for any  $x, y, z \in X$ , we know  $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$ , and therefore  $F(d(x, z)) \leq F(d(x, y) + d(y, z))$ . Expanding this inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} D(x, z) &= \frac{d(x, z)}{1 + d(x, z)} \\ &= F(d(x, z)) \\ &\leq F(d(x, y) + d(y, z)) \\ &= \frac{d(x, y) + d(y, z)}{1 + d(x, y) + d(y, z)} \\ &= \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y) + d(y, z)} + \frac{d(y, z)}{1 + d(x, y) + d(y, z)} \\ &\leq \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)} + \frac{d(y, z)}{1 + d(y, z)} \\ &= D(x, y) + D(y, z). \end{aligned}$$

26. Let  $f_n : X \rightarrow Y$  be a sequence of functions from a topological space  $X$  to a metric space  $(Y, d)$ . Let  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of points in  $X$  converging to  $x_\infty$ .

- (a) Show that, if the sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges uniformly to a function  $f_\infty$ , then the sequence  $(f_n(x_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $f_\infty(x_\infty)$ .

**Solution.** To verify that  $(f_n(x_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $f_\infty(x_\infty)$ , we must show that, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $f_n(x_n) \in B_\epsilon(f_\infty(x_\infty))$  for all  $n \geq N$ .

So fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Because the sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges uniformly, there exists some  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $d(f_n(x), f_\infty(x)) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  for all  $n \geq N_1$  and all  $x \in X$ . In particular, taking  $x = x_n$ ,

$$d(f_n(x_n), f_\infty(x_n)) < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \text{for all } n \geq N_1.$$

Next, recall that, because  $f_\infty$  is the uniform limit of a sequence of continuous functions, by Homework #8 Problem 3(a), the function  $f_\infty$  must also be continuous. Hence, the preimage  $f_\infty^{-1}(B)$  of the ball  $B = B_{\frac{\epsilon}{2}}(f_\infty(x_\infty))$  under  $f_\infty$  is an open subset of  $X$  containing  $x_\infty$ . Then, because the sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $x_\infty$ , there must be some  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $x_n \in f_\infty^{-1}(B)$  for all  $n \geq N_2$ . In other words,  $f(x_n) \in B = B_{\frac{\epsilon}{2}}(f_\infty(x_\infty))$  for all  $n \geq N_2$ . This means that

$$d(f_\infty(x_n), f_\infty(x_\infty)) < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \text{for all } n \geq N_2.$$

So let  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ . Then for all  $n \geq N$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} d(f_n(x_n), f_\infty(x_\infty)) &\leq d(f_n(x_n), f_\infty(x_n)) + d(f_\infty(x_n), f_\infty(x_\infty)) \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence for all  $n \geq N$ ,  $f_n(x_n) \in B_\epsilon(f_\infty(x_\infty))$ . We conclude that  $(f_n(x_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $f_\infty(x_\infty)$ , as claimed.

- (b) Show that this conclusion need not hold if the sequence of functions  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  only converges pointwise to  $f_\infty$ .

**Solution.** Recall from Homework 8 Problem #3(b) that the sequence of functions

$$\begin{aligned} f_n : [0, 1] &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto x^n \end{aligned}$$

converges pointwise to the function

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

Consider the sequence  $(1 - \frac{1}{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$f_n\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e},$$

whereas

$$f\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)\right) = f(1) = 1.$$

27. Consider the sequence of functions  $f_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by the equations  $f_n(x) = \begin{cases} nx, & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n} \\ 1, & \frac{1}{n} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$
- (a) Show that this sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges pointwise to the constant function  $f(x) = 1$ .
- (b) Show that this sequence does not converge uniformly.
- (c) Conclude that, even when a sequence of continuous functions converges pointwise to a continuous function, the convergence need not be uniform.
28. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and  $r > 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- (a) Show that the closure of the open ball  $B_r(x_0)$  is contained in  $\{x \mid d(x_0, x) \leq r\}$ .

**Solution.** By part (d), the set  $\{x \mid d(x_0, x) \leq r\}$  is closed, and (by inspection) it contains  $B_r(x_0)$ . By the definition of closure, it therefore must contain the closure of  $B_r(x_0)$ .

- (b) Give an example of a metric space where the closure is always equal to this set.

**Solution.** A result from real analysis is that, over  $\mathbb{R}$  (with the standard topology),

$$\overline{B_r(x_0)} = \{x \mid d(x_0, x) \leq r\}.$$

- (c) Give an example of a metric space  $X$  and a ball  $B_r(x_0)$  whose closure is a strict subset of  $\{x \mid d(x_0, x) \leq r\}$ .

**Solution.** Recall that the discrete metric on  $\mathbb{R}$  is given by

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

Consider the ball  $B_1(0) = \{0\}$ . This set is both open and closed, so it is equal to its own closure. In contrast,  $\{x \mid d(0, x) \leq 1\} = \mathbb{R}$ .

- (d) Show that the set  $\{x \mid d(x_0, x) \leq r\}$  is closed in any metric space.

**Solution.** Let  $B$  denote the set  $\{x \mid d(x_0, x) \leq r\}$ . To show that  $B$  is closed, we will show that its complement is open, which we will do by proving that an arbitrary point  $y$  in the complement is an interior point of the complement. So suppose that  $y \notin B$ , this means that  $d(x_0, y) > r$ . Let  $\epsilon = d(x_0, y) - r$ ; it follows that  $\epsilon > 0$ . We will show that the ball  $B_\epsilon(y)$  is contained in the complement of  $B$ , which will prove that  $y$  is an interior point and thus conclude the proof. Let  $z \in B_\epsilon(y)$ ; our goal is to show that  $z \notin B$ . But

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_0, y) &\leq d(x_0, z) + d(z, y) && \text{(by the triangle inequality)} \\ d(x_0, y) &< d(x_0, z) + \epsilon && \text{(since } z \in B_\epsilon(y)) \\ d(x_0, y) &< d(x_0, z) + (d(y, x_0) - r) \\ r &< d(x_0, z) \end{aligned}$$



Thus,  $z \notin B$ . This shows that  $B_\epsilon(y)$  is a neighbourhood of  $y$  contained in the complement of  $B$ . Then  $y$  is an interior point of the complement; the complement is open, and  $B$  is closed.

29. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space, and let  $S \subseteq X$  be a **finite** subset of  $X$ . Prove that  $S \dots$

- (a) is closed. (b) is bounded. (c) has no limit points.  
 (d) Show that  $S$  may or may not have empty interior  $\text{Int}(S) = \emptyset$ .

30. Given an index set  $I$ , define metrics on  $\mathbb{R}^I$  as follows. For points  $\mathbf{x} = (x_i)_{i \in I}$  and  $\mathbf{y} = (y_i)_{i \in I}$ , recall that we defined the uniform metric by

$$d_U(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sup_{i \in I} \left\{ \min\{|x_i - y_i|, 1\} \right\}.$$

Moreover, when  $I = \mathbb{N}$ , define a new metric let

$$d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \left\{ \frac{\min\{|x_i - y_i|, 1\}}{i} \right\}.$$

- (a) Verify that the uniform metric  $d_U$  is in fact a metric. We proved that this metric induces the uniform topology on  $\mathbb{R}^I$ .  
 (b) Suppose  $I = \mathbb{N}$ . Verify that  $d$  is a metric.  
 (c) Show that  $d$  induces the product topology on  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$ .

**Solution:** The following proof is from Munkres Theorem 20.5.

Recall that the product topology on  $\mathbb{R}^\omega$  is, by definition, generated by the basis

$$\left\{ \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} U_i \mid U_i \subseteq \mathbb{R} \text{ is open; there is some } N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } U_i = \mathbb{R} \text{ for all } i \geq N \right\}.$$

We first show that the product topology is finer than the metric topology. Choose an open set  $U$  in the metric topology. To check that  $U$  is open in the product topology, we will check that an arbitrary point  $x = (x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an interior point of  $U$  in the product topology. Choose  $\epsilon > 0$  so that  $B_\epsilon^d(x) \subseteq U$ . Then choose  $N$  large enough that  $\frac{1}{N} < \epsilon$ . Let

$$V = (x_1 - \epsilon, x_1 + \epsilon) \times (x_2 - \epsilon, x_2 + \epsilon) \times \cdots \times (x_N - \epsilon, x_N + \epsilon) \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \cdots$$

By construction,  $x \in V$ , and  $V$  is open in the product topology. If we can show that  $V \subseteq B_\epsilon^d(x) \subseteq U$ , then we can conclude that  $x$  is an interior point of  $U$ , and  $U$  is open in the product topology. So let  $y = (y_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in V$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & d(x, y) \\ &= \sup \left\{ \frac{\min\{|x_1 - y_1|, 1\}}{1}, \frac{\min\{|x_2 - y_2|, 1\}}{2}, \dots, \frac{\min\{|x_N - y_N|, 1\}}{N}, \frac{\min\{|x_{N+1} - y_{N+1}|, 1\}}{N+1}, \dots \right\} \\ &\leq \sup \left\{ \frac{\min\{|x_1 - y_1|, 1\}}{1}, \frac{\min\{|x_2 - y_2|, 1\}}{2}, \dots, \frac{\min\{|x_N - y_N|, 1\}}{N}, \frac{1}{N+1}, \frac{1}{N+2}, \dots \right\} \\ &\leq \sup \left\{ \frac{\epsilon}{1}, \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \dots, \frac{\epsilon}{N}, \frac{1}{N+1}, \frac{1}{N+2}, \dots \right\} \quad (\text{since } y \in V) \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \epsilon, \frac{1}{N+1} \right\} \\ &\leq \epsilon \quad (\text{by choice of } N). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $y \in B_\epsilon^d(x)$ . We conclude that  $V \subseteq B_\epsilon^d(x)$ , so the metric topology is contained in the product topology.

Next, we check that the metric topology is finer than the product topology. Let  $W$  be a basis element  $W = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} W_i$  for the product topology; it suffices to show that  $W$  is open in the metric topology. Let  $w = (w_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in W$ ; we wish to find a ball  $B_\delta^d(w)$  contained in  $W$ . This ball will show that  $w$  is an interior point of  $W$  in the metric topology, and thus that  $W$  is open in the metric topology.

Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $W_i = \mathbb{R}$  for all  $i \geq N$ . Since  $W_i$  is open in  $\mathbb{R}$  for all  $i$ , for each  $i$  there is some  $\delta_i > 0$  so that the interval  $(w_i - \delta_i, w_i + \delta_i) \subseteq W_i$ . Moreover, (possibly by making each interval even smaller), we can choose each  $\delta_i$  so that  $\delta_i < 1$ . Let

$$\delta = \min \left\{ \frac{\delta_1}{1}, \frac{\delta_2}{2}, \dots, \frac{\delta_N}{N} \right\},$$

and note that since  $N$  is finite,  $\delta > 0$ . We claim that  $B_\delta^d(w) \subseteq W$ .

So let  $z = (z_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in B_\delta^d(w)$ . Then for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\min\{|z_i - w_i|, 1\}}{i} &\leq \sup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \left\{ \frac{\min\{|z_i - w_i|, 1\}}{i} \right\} && \text{(by definition of sup)} \\ &= d(z, w) && \text{(by definition of } d) \\ &< \delta && \text{(since } z \in B_\delta^d(w)) \\ &= \min \left\{ \frac{\delta_1}{1}, \frac{\delta_2}{2}, \dots, \frac{\delta_N}{N} \right\} && \text{(by definition of } \delta) \\ &\leq \frac{\delta_j}{j} \quad \text{for every } j = 1, \dots, N, && \text{(by definition of min).} \end{aligned}$$

In particular, for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\min\{|z_i - w_i|, 1\}}{i} &< \frac{\delta_i}{i} \\ \min\{|z_i - w_i|, 1\} &< \delta_i. \end{aligned}$$

Our assumption that  $\delta_i < 1$  ensures that the  $\min\{|z_i - w_i|, 1\}$  must in fact equal  $|z_i - w_i|$ , and so we deduce that  $|z_i - w_i| < \delta_i$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , so  $z_i \in (w_i - \delta_i, w_i + \delta_i)$ . Hence  $z \in W$ , and we conclude that  $W$  is open in the metric topology. This concludes the proof.

31. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Show that the map  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous with respect to the product topology on  $X$  and the standard topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Show moreover that the topology on  $X$  induced by  $d$  is the coarsest topology making  $d$  continuous.
32. Show that metrizability is a topological property. In other words, show that, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are homeomorphic topological spaces, then  $X$  is metrizable if and only if  $Y$  is.

*Hint:* Suppose that  $d$  is a metric on  $Y$ , and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a homeomorphism. Show that

$$D(x_1, x_2) = d(f(x_1), f(x_2))$$

defines a metric on  $X$ .

33. Let  $X$  be a finite set (of, say,  $n$  elements), and let  $d$  be a metric on  $X$ . What is the topology  $\mathcal{T}_d$  on  $X$  induced by  $d$ ? Show in particular that this topology will be the same for every possible metric  $d$ .

34. We proved in class that, if  $d$  and  $\tilde{d}$  are two metrics on a set  $X$ , then  $d$  and  $\tilde{d}$  are topologically equivalent if they satisfy the following condition: For each  $x \in X$ , there exist positive constants  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  such that for every  $y \in X$ ,

$$\alpha d(x, y) \leq \tilde{d}(x, y) \leq \beta d(x, y).$$

(Note that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  depend on  $x$  but are independent of  $y$ .) Show that the converse of this statement fails: find a set  $X$  and equivalent metrics  $d$  and  $\tilde{d}$  on  $X$  that fail this condition.

**Solution.** Consider the following two metrics on  $\mathbb{N}$ : the metric  $d_E$  induced by the Euclidean metric, and the discrete metric  $d_D$ . Both of these metrics induce the discrete topology on  $\mathbb{N}$ , but they fail the above condition. For example, fix  $x = 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $d_D(1, n) \leq 1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , but  $d_E(1, n) = (n - 1)$  grows without bound as  $n$  increases. The condition would require a constant  $\alpha > 0$  such that

$$\alpha(n - 1) = \alpha d_E(1, n) \leq d_D(1, n) \leq 1$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . But these inequalities fail if we choose  $n > 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}$ , and we conclude that no such  $\alpha$  exists.

35. Let  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  be metric spaces. Suppose that  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a function that preserves distances in the sense that

$$d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) = d_X(x_1, x_2) \quad \text{for all } x_1, x_2 \in X.$$

Show that  $f$  is continuous, and is an embedding of topological spaces. Such maps are called *isometric embeddings*.

36. Let  $J$  be an uncountable index set, and consider the product  $\mathbb{R}^J$  with the product topology associated to the standard topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ . In this question, we will show that this product is Hausdorff but not metrizable. Define the subset  $A = \{(x_j)_{j \in J} \mid x_j = 1 \text{ for all but finitely many } j \in J\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^J$ . Let  $\mathbf{0}$  denote the element  $(0)_{j \in J} \in \mathbb{R}^J$  that is constant 0 in every component.

- Consider an arbitrary basis element  $U = \prod_{j \in J} U_j$  for the product topology on  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $\mathbf{0} \in U$ . Explain why  $U$  contains an element of  $A$ . Conclude that  $\mathbf{0} \in \overline{A}$ .
- Let  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of points  $a_n = (a_{n,j})_{j \in J} \in A$ . Explain why there is an index  $j \in J$  such that  $a_{n,j} = 1$  for every  $n$ . *Hint:*  $J$  is uncountable.
- Construct a neighbourhood  $V = \prod_{j \in J} V_j$  of  $\mathbf{0}$  that does not contain  $a_n$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Deduce that the sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  does not converge to  $\mathbf{0}$ .
- Conclude that the product  $\mathbb{R}^J$  is Hausdorff, but not metrizable.

37. Let  $X$  be a topological space, and  $X^*$  a quotient space of  $X$ . Show that  $X^*$  is a  $T_1$ -space if and only if every equivalence class in  $X^*$  is closed as a subset of  $X$ .

**Solution.** Let  $p : X \rightarrow X^*$  be the quotient map. We proved on Homework 6 #1(b) that  $X^*$  is a  $T_1$ -space if and only if  $\{x\}$  is closed for every  $x \in X^*$ . But, we proved on Homework 8 #4(a) that, under a quotient map, a set  $\{x\}$  is closed if and only if  $p^{-1}(\{x\}) \subseteq X$  is closed. But the subsets  $p^{-1}(\{x\}) \subseteq X$  are precisely the equivalence classes defining  $X^*$ , which concludes the proof.

38. Let  $\pi_1 : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the projection onto the first factor. Show that the restriction of  $\pi_1$  to the subset

$$\{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\} \cup \{(0, 0)\}$$

is continuous and surjective, but is not a quotient map.

**Solution.** Note that the set  $\{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\}$  is precisely the graph of the function  $\frac{1}{x}$  on  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ .

Since  $\pi_1$  is continuous, its restriction to any subspace is also continuous with respect to the subspace topology.

To verify that the restriction of  $\pi_1$  surjects, we note that  $(0, 0) \in \pi_1^{-1}(\{0\})$ , and  $(x, \frac{1}{x}) \in \pi_1^{-1}(\{x\})$  for all  $x \neq 0$ .

Finally, we will check that the restriction of  $\pi_1$  is not a quotient map. The subset  $\{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\}$  is closed in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , since it is the preimage of the closed set  $\{1\}$  under the continuous function

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}^2 &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y) &\mapsto xy. \end{aligned}$$

However, the image of  $\{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\}$  under  $\pi_1$  is the subset  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ , which is not closed in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Thus  $\pi_1$  is not a quotient map.

39. Let  $p : X \rightarrow Y$  be a quotient map of topological spaces, and  $A \subseteq X$  a subset. Show that, if  $p$  is an open map, then the restriction of  $p$  to  $A$  is also a quotient map.
40. Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be the subspace  $\{(x, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, x \in [0, 1]\}$  consisting of the horizontal line  $[0, 1] \times \{n\}$  for each natural number  $n$ . Let  $Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be the subspace  $\{(x, \frac{x}{n}) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, x \in [0, 1]\}$  consisting of the line of slope  $\frac{1}{n}$  through the origin for each natural number  $n$ . Define a map  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  by  $g(x, n) = (x, \frac{x}{n})$ .
- Verify that  $g$  is continuous and surjective.
  - Determine whether  $g$  is a quotient map.

*Hint:* The map  $g$  is not a quotient map. Consider the set of points  $\{(\frac{1}{n}, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  in  $X$ , and its image  $\{(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n^2}) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  in  $Y$ . Show that this set is closed in  $X$ , but its image has limit point  $(0, 0)$  and therefore is not closed.

41. Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $Y \subseteq X$ . Show that a separation of  $Y$  is precisely a pair of disjoint nonempty sets  $A, B \subseteq Y$  whose union is  $Y$ , such that neither set contains a limit point of the other.

**Solution.** Recall from Homework #4 Problem 8 that the closure of a set  $C$  is the union of  $C$  and its limit points. In particular, a set  $C$  is closed if and only if it contains all of its limit points.

Now, suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are a separation of  $Y$ . Since  $A$  is closed in the subspace topology, it contains all of its limit points in the subspace  $Y$ . Moreover, since  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint and  $B \subseteq Y$ ,  $B$  cannot contain any limit points of  $A$ . Similarly  $A$  cannot contain any limit points of  $B$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint nonempty subsets of  $Y$  whose union is  $Y$ , such that neither set contains a limit point of the other. Since  $B = Y \setminus A$  does not contain any limit points of  $A$ , we infer that  $A$  contains all of its limit points. Therefore,  $A$  is closed, and  $B = Y \setminus A$  is open. The same argument, reversing the roles of  $A$  and  $B$ , shows that  $B$  is open. We can therefore conclude that  $A$  and  $B$  separate  $Y$ .

42. Let  $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of connected subsets of a space  $X$ . Suppose that  $A_n \cap A_{n+1} \neq \emptyset$  for each  $n$ . Show that the union  $\bigcup_n A_n$  is connected.
43. Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space. Let  $\{A_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a family of connected subspaces in  $X$  such that  $A_{n+1} \subseteq A_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Is  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$  necessarily connected?

**Solution.** This statement is false. For example, let  $X = \mathbb{R}$  with the cofinite topology. Consider the family of subsets

$$A_n = [0, 1/n) \cup [1, 1 + 1/n).$$

We will first verify that the set  $A_n$  is connected. Suppose that  $A_n = U \cup V$  were a separation of  $A_n$ . But then the intersection  $U \cap V$  must be the complement of a finite set, so  $(U \cap V) \cap A_n \neq \emptyset$ . This contradicts the premise that  $U$  and  $V$  are a separation of  $A_n$ , and we conclude that  $A_n$  is connected.

Next, observe that

$$A = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n = \{0, 1\},$$

and we will verify that  $A$  is disconnected. Note that  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$  is open in  $X$ , and  $(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}) \cap A = \{0\}$ , so  $\{0\}$  is open in the subspace topology on  $A$ . Similarly  $\{1\}$  is open in  $A$ . But then  $A = \{0\} \cup \{1\}$  is a separation of  $A$ , and  $A$  is disconnected.

44. Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space, and let  $A, B \subseteq X$ . Suppose  $A \cup B$  and  $A \cap B$  are connected. Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are both closed or both open, then  $A$  and  $B$  are connected.

We will give a solution in the case that  $A$  and  $B$  are both open.

**Lemma.** If  $S$  is a subspace of a topological space  $Z$ , and  $S \subseteq Z$  is open, then  $U \subseteq S$  is open in the subspace  $S$  if and only if  $U$  is open in  $Z$ .

*Proof.* A set  $U$  is open in  $S$  if and only if  $U = V \cap S$  for some open subset  $V \subseteq Z$ . Since the intersection of two open sets is open, it follows that  $U$  is open in  $Z$ . Conversely, if  $U \subseteq S$  is open in  $Z$ , then  $U = U \cap S$  is open in  $S$ .

**Solution.** We will show that  $A$  is connected; the same argument will show that  $B$  is connected. Suppose that  $A = C \cup D$  is a separation of  $A$ . Since  $A \cap B$  is connected, from the lemma in class it must be contained entirely in  $C$  or entirely in  $D$ . Say WLOG that  $A \cap B \subseteq D$ . Now we claim that the sets  $C' = C$  and  $D' = D \cup B$  separate  $A \cup B$ . We must check four conditions:

- $C'$  and  $D'$  are nonempty.  
This result follows since  $C \subset C'$  and  $D \subset D'$  are nonempty by assumption that they separate  $A$ .
- $C'$  and  $D'$  are disjoint.  
 $C$  does not intersect  $D$ , by assumption that  $C$  and  $D$  separate  $A$ . Moreover,  $C$  does not intersect  $B$ , since  $C \subseteq A$  and all points in the intersection  $A \cap B$  lie in  $D$ .
- $C'$  and  $D'$  are open.  
 $C$  is open in  $A$ , and therefore by the lemma above it is open in  $A \cup B$ . Similarly,  $D$  is open in  $A \cup B$ . Then, since  $B$  is open,  $D \cup B$  is open.
- $(A \cup B) = (C' \cup D')$ .  
This follows since  $C' \cup D' = C \cup (D \cup B) = (C \cup D) \cup B = A \cup B$ .

So  $C'$  and  $D'$  separate  $A \cup B$ . This contradicts the premise that  $A \cup B$  is connected, and we conclude that  $A$  is connected.

45. **Definition (Adherent sets).** Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  be a topological space, and let  $A, B \subseteq X$ . Then  $A$  and  $B$  are called *adherent* if

$$(A \cap \overline{B}) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) \neq \emptyset.$$

- (a) Give examples of disjoint adherent subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  (with the Euclidean metric).

- (b) Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  be a topological space and  $A, B, C \subseteq X$ . Prove or give a counterexample: if  $A$  and  $B$  are adherent, and  $B$  and  $C$  are adherent, then  $A$  and  $C$  are adherent.
- (c) Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$  be topological spaces, and let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map. Prove that, if  $A$  and  $B$  are adherent subsets of  $X$ , then  $f(A)$  and  $f(B)$  are adherent subsets of  $Y$ .
- (d) Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$  be Hausdorff topological spaces. Suppose that  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  has the property that, whenever  $A$  and  $B$  are adherent subsets of  $X$ , then  $f(A)$  and  $f(B)$  are adherent subsets of  $Y$ . Prove that  $f$  is continuous.

**Solution.** Recall from Homework #5 Problem 2(a) that a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous if and only if  $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$  for all  $A \subseteq X$ .

So suppose that  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  has the property that, whenever  $A$  and  $B$  are adherent subsets of  $X$ , then  $f(A)$  and  $f(B)$  are adherent subsets of  $Y$ . Let  $A \subseteq X$ . Our goal is to show that  $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$ . Let  $x \in \overline{A}$ ; we wish to show  $f(x) \in \overline{f(A)}$ . Observe that  $\{x\}$  and  $A$  are adherent sets, since

$$x \in \overline{A \cap \{x\}} \subseteq (A \cap \overline{\{x\}}) \cup (\overline{A} \cap \{x\}).$$

Then, by assumption,  $f(\{x\}) = \{f(x)\}$  and  $f(A)$  are adherent sets. This means that

$$(f(A) \cap \overline{\{f(x)\}}) \cup (\overline{f(A)} \cap \{f(x)\}) \neq \emptyset.$$

But, since  $Y$  is Hausdorff, the point  $\{f(x)\}$  is closed, and hence  $\{f(x)\} = \overline{\{f(x)\}}$ . So

$$(f(A) \cap \{f(x)\}) \cup (\overline{f(A)} \cap \{f(x)\}) \neq \emptyset.$$

This implies that  $f(x) \in \overline{f(A)}$ . Hence  $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$ , and we conclude that  $f$  is continuous.