

Comprehensive Examination – Topology

Fall 2004

Beer*, Chabot, Verona

Do any five of the problems that follow. Each problem is worth 20 points. The set of positive integers is denoted by N , the set of rationals by Q , and the set of real numbers by R . The notation A^c means the complement of the set A with respect to an understood universal set. The notation $A \setminus B$ means $\{a : a \in A \text{ and } a \notin B\}$.

1. Prove that each metric space (X, d) is normal.
2. (a) Give an example of a connected topological space that is not locally connected.
(b) Give an example of a topological space that is not separable. Justify your answer.
3. Let (X, τ) and (Y, σ) be topological spaces and let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous.
(a) Assuming that Y is Hausdorff, prove that the graph of f , $\Gamma(f) = \{(x, y) : x \in X, y = f(x)\}$ is a closed subset of $X \times Y$ equipped with the product topology.
(b) Prove that $\Gamma(f)$ equipped with the relative topology is homeomorphic to X .
4. Let (X, τ) and (Y, σ) be topological spaces and let $f : X \rightarrow Y$. Prove that f is continuous if and only if for each subset A of X we have $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$. Here \overline{E} denotes the closure of E .
5. Let (X, τ) be a compact Hausdorff space.
(a) Let F be a nonempty closed subset of X . Prove that F equipped with the relative topology is compact.
(b) Let $f : X \rightarrow X$ be continuous, one-to-one, and onto. Prove that f is a homeomorphism.
6. (a) What is meant by $\text{diam}(A)$, the diameter of a nonempty subset A of a metric space (X, d) ?
(b) Let $\langle A_n \rangle$ be a sequence of nonempty closed sets in a complete metric space (X, d) such that for any n $A_{n+1} \subseteq A_n$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{diam}(A_n) = 0$. Prove that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \neq \emptyset$.
7. Let (X, τ) and (Y, σ) be topological spaces.
(a) Suppose that A is closed subset of X and B is closed subset of Y . Prove or produce a counterexample: $A \times B$ is a closed subset of $X \times Y$ equipped with the product topology.
(b) Suppose E is a closed subset of $X \times Y$ equipped with the product topology. Prove or produce a counterexample: $\pi_X(E) = \{x \in X : \exists y \in Y \text{ with } (x, y) \in E\}$.