

Topology HW3

① Let $A = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \in \mathbb{Q}, y \in \mathbb{Q}\}$, $B = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \text{at least one of } x, y \text{ is rational}\}$.
Is the space $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$ connected? Is the space $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B$ connected? Prove your assertions.

Pf. First we will show that $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$ is connected.

Observe that $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$ consists of coordinates $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ where either both x, y are irrational or exactly one of x, y is rational.

Let $(x, y), (w, z) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$.

Then either x or y is irrational and either w or z is irrational.

WLOG, suppose x is irrational.

We WTS there exists a path from (x, y) to (w, z) that avoids A .

Since x is irrational, there exists a straight line path from (x, y) to (x, u) where u is irrational.

If w is irrational, then there exists a straight line path from (x, u) to (w, u) , and then a straight line path from (w, u) to (w, z) .

If z is irrational, then there exists a straight line path from (x, u) to (x, z) , and then a straight line path from (x, z) to (w, z) .

Therefore, we can construct a path between any two points in $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$.

Thus, $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$ is path-connected $\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus A$ is connected.

Now we will show that $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B$ is not connected.

Observe that $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B$ consists of coordinates $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ where both x, y are irrational.

Notice that $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B : x < 0\} \cup \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B : x > 0\}$ since there is no point of the form $(0, b)$, $b \in \mathbb{R}$, because 0 is rational.

We have that $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B : x < 0\} =: U$ and $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B : x > 0\} =: V$ are nonempty, open, and disjoint (i.e. $U \cap V = \emptyset$).

Therefore, $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B = U \cup V$ is a separation of $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B$.

Thus, $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B$ is not connected.

□

continued...

② Let $\mathbb{R}P^2$ be the real projective plane, that is, the topological space of lines in \mathbb{R}^3 passing through the origin. One construction of $\mathbb{R}P^2$ is as a quotient space of the unit sphere $S^2 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$ with the subspace topology, obtained by identifying antipodal points. Prove that $\mathbb{R}P^2$ is compact Hausdorff, and that every point in $\mathbb{R}P^2$ has a nbhd homeomorphic to the open unit ball in \mathbb{R}^2 .

Pf: Let $q: S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^2$ be the quotient map.

• First we will show that $\mathbb{R}P^2$ is compact.

We know that S^2 is closed and bounded as a subset of \mathbb{R}^n , therefore, S^2 is compact. Since the continuous image of a compact space is compact, we have that $q(S^2)$ is compact.

Since q is a quotient map, it is surjective, so we also know that $q(S^2) = \mathbb{R}P^2$. Therefore, $\mathbb{R}P^2$ is compact.

• Notice that q is an open map.

To see this, notice that if U is open, then $q^{-1}(q(U)) = U \cup (-U)$, and the antipode map is a homeomorphism of S^2 , so $-U$ is open. $\Rightarrow U \cup (-U)$ is open.

Hence, $q^{-1}(q(U))$ is open, so by defn. of a quotient map, $q(U)$ is open.

• To show that $\mathbb{R}P^2$ is Hausdorff, let $[x], [y]$ be distinct points of $\mathbb{R}P^2$.

Let $r = \min\{d(x, y)/4, d(x, -y)/4, 1/4\}$.

Then the four sets $B(x, r), B(y, r), B(-x, r), B(-y, r)$ are disjoint.

If two of the balls intersect at a point z , this immediately implies the distance between their centers is at most $2r$, but $2r$ is less than the distance between any of their centers by our choice of r .

This means that no point of $B(x, r)$ is even related to a point of $B(y, r)$.

In other words, if $z \in B(x, r)$, then $q(z) \notin q(B(y, r))$.

This guarantees that $q(B(x, r))$ is disjoint from $q(B(y, r))$.

Since q is an open map, we have that $q(B(x, r))$ and $q(B(y, r))$ are open.

Therefore, $\mathbb{R}P^2$ is Hausdorff.

□

eed...

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous and injective map between topological spaces X and Y . Prove that if X is compact and Y is Hausdorff, then f is an embedding.

Pf: Since we are given that f is continuous and injective, it suffices to show that f is a closed map.

Let $K \subseteq X$ be closed.

A closed subset of a compact space is compact.

Since K is closed, X is compact, and $K \subseteq X$, we have that K is compact.

The continuous image of a compact space is compact.

Since f is continuous and K is compact, we have that $f(K) \subseteq Y$ is compact.

A compact subset of a Hausdorff space is closed.

Since $f(K)$ is compact, Y Hausdorff, and $f(K) \subseteq Y$, we have that $f(K)$ is closed in Y .

Therefore, if K is closed in X , then $f(K)$ is closed in Y .

So we have that f is a closed map.

Thus, f is an embedding.

□

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Let $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2; |x| < 1\}$. Let $\{f_k\}$ be a sequence of continuous functions on B satisfying $\sup_{x \in B} |f_k(x)| + \sup_{\substack{x \neq y \\ x, y \in B}} \frac{|f_k(x) - f_k(y)|}{|x - y|^{1/2}} \leq C$ for some positive constant C .

Show that there is a subsequence of $\{f_k\}$ convergent uniformly on B to a function g , and g is continuous on B .

Pf: Recall the following version of Arzela-Ascoli:

Theorem: Let X be a compact metric space and $\{g_k\}$ a sequence that is uniformly bounded and uniformly equicontinuous. Then there exists a subsequence $\{g_{n_k}\}$ such that g_{n_k} converges uniformly.

• Notice that the assumptions that we've been given in this problem imply that

- (1) The family $\{f_k: k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is uniformly bounded.
- (2) The family $\{f_k: k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is uniformly equicontinuous.
- (3) Each f_k is uniformly continuous on B .

We can almost apply Arzela-Ascoli, except that B is not a compact metric space. However, if we let D denote the closed unit ball in \mathbb{R}^2 , condition (3) says that each f_k is uniformly continuous on B , a dense subset of D .

• Recall the following extension theorem:

Theorem: Let X, Y be metric spaces with Y complete. If D is a dense subset of X and $f: D \rightarrow Y$ is uniformly continuous, then f has a continuous extension to X .

• This theorem implies that each f_k extends to a continuous function $\tilde{f}_k: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Continuity of each \tilde{f}_k implies that the estimate

$$\sup_{x \in D} |\tilde{f}_k(x)| + \sup_{\substack{x \neq y \\ x, y \in D}} \frac{|\tilde{f}_k(x) - \tilde{f}_k(y)|}{|x - y|^{1/2}} \leq C \text{ holds.}$$

Hence conditions (1) and (2) still hold with \tilde{f}_k in place of f_k , and D actually is a compact metric space, so Arzela-Ascoli gives us a subseq.

\tilde{f}_{n_k} that converges uniformly to a limit function $F: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Notice that

$$\sup_{x \in B} |f_{n_k}(x) - F(x)| = \sup_{x \in B} |\tilde{f}_{n_k}(x) - F(x)| \leq \sup_{x \in D} |\tilde{f}_{n_k}(x) - F(x)| \rightarrow 0.$$

So f_{n_k} converges uniformly to $g := F|_B$. The uniform limit of continuous functions is continuous, so g is continuous. \square

continued...

⑥ Let $\text{Mat}_3(\mathbb{R})$ be the set of 3×3 matrices with the topology obtained by regarding $\text{Mat}_3(\mathbb{R})$ as \mathbb{R}^9 . Let $SO(3) = \{A \in \text{Mat}_3(\mathbb{R}) : A^T A = I_3, \det(A) = 1\}$, where A^T denotes the transpose of A , and I_3 is the 3×3 identity matrix.

(i) Show that $SO(3)$ is compact.

Pf: By Heine-Borel it suffices to show $SO(3)$ is closed and bounded.

To show closedness, notice that the map $g: \text{Mat}_3(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \text{Mat}_3(\mathbb{R})$ defined by $g(A) = A^T A$ is continuous, so $g^{-1}(\{I_3\})$ is closed (because one-point sets are closed in \mathbb{R}^9).

Similarly, the determinant map is continuous, so $\{A \in \text{Mat}_3(\mathbb{R}) : \det(A) = 1\}$ is closed. Hence, their intersection, $SO(3)$, is a closed set.

$(SO(3) = g^{-1}(\{I_3\}) \cap \det^{-1}(\{1\}) \rightarrow \text{closed as the intersection of closed sets})$

To see boundedness, notice that

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & d & g \\ b & e & h \\ c & f & i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Performing the multiplication on the right and equating diagonal entries gives us $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$, so that if $A \in SO(3)$, we have

$$d^2 + e^2 + f^2 = 1$$

$$g^2 + h^2 + i^2 = 1$$

$$\|A\|^2 = a^2 + b^2 + \dots + i^2 = 3, \text{ so that}$$

$$A \in B(0, \sqrt{3}).$$

So if $A^T A = I$, then $A \in B(0, \sqrt{3})$.

By Heine-Borel, $SO(3)$ is compact. □

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Let $S = \{B \in SO(3); B^T = B\}$. Define $\varphi: \mathbb{R}P^2 \rightarrow SO(3)$ by

$\varphi(l) =$ the rotation by π about the line $l \subset \mathbb{R}^3$.

Show that φ maps $\mathbb{R}P^2$ homeomorphically onto $S \setminus \{I_3\}$.

- Pf. The map φ is continuous, because the coordinates of the rotation matrix about the line l depend continuously on the coordinates of the points $l \cap S^2$ (i.e., if the equation of l is $t\langle a, b, c \rangle$, then the rotation about l depends on $\langle a, b, c \rangle$).
- The map φ is injective, because the rotation by π about l_1 is distinct from rotation by π about l_2 whenever l_1 and l_2 are distinct lines.
 - The map φ is surjective. Recall that every rotation matrix satisfies $A^T A = I$, so in particular $A^T = A^{-1}$. The only rotations that are self-inverse are rotations by 0 and rotations by π . I_3 is not in the codomain of φ , so every element of the codomain is a rotation by π .
 - Finally φ is closed, because it is a continuous map with a compact domain ($\mathbb{R}P^2$) and Hausdorff codomain ($SO(3)$).
 $\hookrightarrow S \setminus \{I_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^9 \rightarrow \text{Hausdorff.}$

Therefore, we conclude that $\varphi: \mathbb{R}P^2 \rightarrow S \setminus \{I_3\}$ is a homeomorphism. \square