

Last time, we looked at a topology induced by a map. Now we'll consider several.

Observation: If $f_1: X \rightarrow Y_1$ & $f_2: X \rightarrow Y_2$, then $f_1^{-1}(U_1) \cap f_2^{-1}(U_2)$ need not be of the form

$f_1^{-1}(U)$ or $f_2^{-1}(U)$. So our argument must be modified.

Prop If $\tau \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ is any collection of subsets, then there is a minimal topology τ^τ s.t. $\tau \subseteq \tau^\tau$.

Pf: Let $\tau^\tau = \bigcap_{\tau \subseteq \tau'} \tau'$. \square

We want a better way to describe this. Work down in 2 steps.

Def $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \tau$ is a basis for the topology if $\forall U \in \tau, \exists \{U_i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ s.t. $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$.

Prop \mathcal{B} is a basis for τ iff $\forall U \in \tau$ & $x \in U, \exists U' \in \mathcal{B}$ s.t. $x \in U' \subseteq U$.

Pf: Same as for metric spaces.

So when is a collection a basis for some topology?

Prop \mathcal{B} is a basis for a topology if $\forall U, V \in \mathcal{B}, x \in U \cap V, \exists W \in \mathcal{B}$ s.t. $x \in W \subseteq U \cap V$, & \mathcal{B} covers.

Pf: If \mathcal{B} is a basis, then U, V are open $\Rightarrow U \cap V$ is open. Previous prop $\Rightarrow \exists$ such a W .

\Leftarrow) We need to show that $\tau = \{U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\}$ is a topology. This is closed under arbitrary unions

$\emptyset = \bigcup_{\emptyset} \emptyset$, so this is in τ & \mathcal{B} covering $\Rightarrow X$ is. We need only show closure under finite

intersections. By induction, it suffices to show $(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i) \cap (\bigcup_{j \in J} V_j) = \bigcup_{\substack{i \in I \\ j \in J}} (U_i \cap V_j) \in \tau$. So in

turn, it suffices to show $U_i \cap V_j \in \tau$. However, for all $x \in U_i \cap V_j, \exists W_x \in \mathcal{B}$ s.t. $x \in W_x \subseteq U_i \cap V_j$.

$\Rightarrow U_i \cap V_j \subseteq \bigcup_{x \in U_i \cap V_j} W_x \subseteq U_i \cap V_j$, and $U_i \cap V_j \in \tau$. \square

Prop If $\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2$ are bases, then $\tau_{\mathcal{B}_1} \subseteq \tau_{\mathcal{B}_2}$ iff $\forall U \in \mathcal{B}_1, U \in \tau_{\mathcal{B}_2}$.

Pf \Rightarrow) Since $\mathcal{B}_1 \subseteq \tau_{\mathcal{B}_1} \subseteq \tau_{\mathcal{B}_2}$, this is immediate.

\Leftarrow) Let $U \in \tau_{\mathcal{B}_1}$. Then $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i, U_i \in \mathcal{B}_1, \forall i \in I$. But $\mathcal{B}_1 \subseteq \tau_{\mathcal{B}_2} \Rightarrow U$ is a union of opens in

$\tau_{\mathcal{B}_2} \Rightarrow U$ is open in $\tau_{\mathcal{B}_2} \Rightarrow \tau_{\mathcal{B}_1} \subseteq \tau_{\mathcal{B}_2}$. \square

Def A sub-basis for a topology τ is any collection $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \tau$ s.t. $\{X\} \cup \{U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_n \mid U_i \in \mathcal{S}\}$ is a basis for τ .

Prop Any set $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X)$ is a sub-basis for the topology generated by \mathcal{S} .

Pf: Exercise.

Lem Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$, and let S be a subbasis for τ_Y . Then f is continuous iff $\forall U \in S, f^{-1}(U) \in \tau_X$.

Pf: \Rightarrow) $S \subseteq \tau_Y$, so f continuous implies this.

\Leftarrow) Any open in Y is of the form $\bigcup_i U_i$, where $U_i = U_{i1} \cap \dots \cap U_{ij}$, all $U_{ij} \in S$. So

$$f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_i U_i\right) = \bigcup_i f^{-1}(U_i) = \bigcup_i f^{-1}(U_{i1} \cap \dots \cap U_{ij}) = \bigcup_i \underbrace{f^{-1}(U_{i1}) \cap \dots \cap f^{-1}(U_{ij})}_{\text{open.}}$$

□

So this answers our first question: the topology generated by S is all unions of finite intersections of elements of S .