

MATH 3240 Topology 1.

Last day we ended with a generalization of compactness:

A space X is Lindelöf if every open cover has a countable subcover.

Example: The Sorgenfrey line is not compact, but is Lindelöf. Note it is not second countable, because...

Proposition: (Lindelöf lemma) Every second countable space is Lindelöf.

Proof: Let X be a second countable space and \mathcal{W} an open cover of X . Let \mathcal{B} be a countable basis of X . Each $W \in \mathcal{W}$ is a union of elements of \mathcal{B} , so create a new countable cover \mathcal{V} of X that consists of all $B \in \mathcal{B}$ that are used in writing some $W \in \mathcal{W}$ as a union of basic elements. I.e., if

$$W = \bigcup_{i \in I} B_i, \text{ then } \{B_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{V}.$$

Now choose a countable subcover $\mathcal{W}' \subset \mathcal{W}$ as follows: for each $V \in \mathcal{V}$, choose $W \in \mathcal{W}$ st. $V \subset W$. Then the collection of all such W 's is \mathcal{W}' , which is countable.

Example: This shows that \mathbb{R} is Lindelöf, but is not compact.

Recall the Bolzano Weierstrass theorem:

Every bounded sequence in \mathbb{R}^n has a convergent subsequence.

Inspired by this, we define a Bolzano-Weierstrass space (or BW space), to be a space X in which every infinite subset has an accumulation point.

First, we note:

Def: x is an accumulation point of A if every open subset containing x contains a point of A other than x .

Lemma: Suppose X is Hausdorff and $A \subseteq X$. If $p \in X$ is an accumulation point of A , then every neighbourhood of p contains infinitely many points of A .

Proof: Construct infinitely many points $\{x_n\}$ as follows, given a nbhd U of p :

$\exists x_1 \in U \cap A$ since p is an accumulation point. Now suppose we have x_1, \dots, x_k . For each x_i , \exists nbhds U_i of x_i and V_i of p such that $U_i \cap V_i = \emptyset$. Set

$V = \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^k V_i \right) \cap U$, which is an open neighbourhood of

p and so contains a point x_{k+1} of A and not any of x_1, \dots, x_k .

Proposition: Suppose that X is a Hausdorff space. Then

X is a BW-space iff it is countably compact.

Proof: (\Rightarrow) Suppose X is a BW-space. Let $\mathcal{U} = \{U_1, U_2, \dots\}$ be a countable open covering of X , assume that no U_i is contained in $U_1 \cup U_2 \cup \dots \cup U_{i-1}$ (eliminate redundancy). Suppose \mathcal{U} has no finite subcovering.

Then there's a set

$$A = \{x_n \in X \mid x_n \in U_n \setminus \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} U_i\right)\},$$

and the set A is infinite since $x_i \neq x_j$ if $i \neq j$. Since X is a BW space, A has an accumulation point x .

Since \mathcal{U} is a cover, there exists n such that $x \in U_n$, and therefore U_n contains infinitely many points of A (here use the lemma). However for $m > n$, $x_m \notin U_n$ by construction, a contradiction.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose that X is countably compact. We show that every countably infinite subset has an accumulation point. Suppose $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$ does not have an accumulation point. Then A is closed since $\bar{A} = A \cup A' = A$, and since each $a_i \in A$ is not an accumulation point of A \exists an open nbhd U_i of a_i s.t. $U_i \cap A = \{a_i\}$. Thus $\{U_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \cup \{X \setminus A\}$ is an open covering of X , so it must have a finite subcovering, say $\{U_1, \dots, U_n\} \cup \{X \setminus A\}$.

But then some U_i must contain infinitely many of the a_i 's, a contradiction.

Proposition: Every compact space is a BW space.

Proof: Suppose X is not a BW space. Then there is an infinite subset of A without accumulation points in X . Thus, A contains all its accumulation points and so is closed.

Now if X is compact, then A is compact since it is closed. Moreover since A has no accumulation points, for each $a \in A$ $\exists U_a$ an open nbhd of a such that $U_a \cap A = \{a\}$. Then $\{U_a\}_{a \in A}$ is an open cover of A , so we choose a finite subcover $\{U_{a_1}, \dots, U_{a_n}\}$. Then

$$A = \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{a_i} \right) \cap A = \bigcup_{i=1}^n (A \cap U_{a_i}) = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}, \text{ so that}$$

A is finite, a contradiction.

Our goal now is to show that for metric spaces, the converse also holds: If (X, d) is a Bolzano-W. space, then X is compact. This requires a famous lemma

Lemma (~~Heine~~ (Lebesgue number lemma))

~~For every~~ Let (X, d) be a BW-metric space, and suppose that \mathcal{W} is an open cover of X .

Then $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. $\forall x \in X \exists W \in \mathcal{W}$ with $B(x, \varepsilon) \subset W$.
(ie. There's a radius $\varepsilon > 0$ called the Lebesgue number such that every ε -ball is contained in some element of the cover).

Proof: Let X be a BW-space with metric d , \mathcal{W} an open cover, and assume that $\exists x \in X$ s.t. $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ the ball $B(x, \varepsilon)$ is not a subset of any $U \in \mathcal{W}$. In particular, for every $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{n}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, there is a point $x_n \in X$ such that $B(x_n, \frac{1}{n})$ is not contained in any $U \in \mathcal{W}$.

First, note that $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is an infinite set. If not, then $x_m = x_n \forall m \geq n$ for some n , and the statement

" $B(x_n, \frac{1}{m})$ is not a member of any $U \in \mathcal{W} \forall m \geq n$ " contradicts the fact that the balls $\{B(x_n, \frac{1}{m})\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}^+}$ form a local basis.

So, since X is a BW-space the sequence $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ has an accumulation point, say $x \in X$. Choose $U \in \mathcal{W}$ containing x , and a ball $B(x, r) \subset U$. Since X is ~~choose~~ a metric space, $B(x, \frac{r}{2})$ contains infinitely many of the points $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$.

Choose $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\frac{1}{m} < \frac{r}{2}$, such that $x_m \in B(x, \frac{r}{2})$.

Then $B(x_m, \frac{1}{m}) \subset B(x, r) \subset U \in \mathcal{W}$, contradicting our choice of x_m .

MATH 3240 Topology I

Recall:

Zorn's Lemma: Let P be a partially ordered set. If every totally ordered subset of P has an upper bound, then P contains a maximal element.

I.e. $\exists x \in P$ st. if x is comparable to $y \in P$, then $y < x$.

We'll use this to prove

Theorem (Alexander subbase theorem). Let X be a space with topology τ having subbasis S . If every collection of set from S that covers X has a finite subcover, then X is compact.

Lemma: Proof: By contradiction. Suppose that every cover by elements of S has a finite subcover, yet X is not compact.

Let $\mathcal{F} = \{W \mid W \text{ is an open cover of } X \text{ with no finite subcover}\}$.

Then \mathcal{F} is nonempty, and it is partially ordered by inclusion (say $W_1 < W_2$ if both are in \mathcal{F} and $W_1 \subset W_2$).

We would like to apply Zorn's Lemma, so let $\{W_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a totally ordered subset of \mathcal{F} . Then

Claim: $W = \bigcup_{i \in I} W_i$ is an upper bound for $\{W_i\}_{i \in I}$.

Certainly we have $W_i \subset W \forall i$, so we only need to check that W is an open cover with no finite subcover.

Obviously \mathcal{W} covers X , so suppose W_1, \dots, W_n is a finite subcover. Each W_{i_k} is contained in some cover W_{i_k} , and since $W_{i_1}, W_{i_2}, \dots, W_{i_n}$ are totally ordered by inclusion, there exists a largest W_{i_k} . Then $W_1, \dots, W_n \in W_{i_k}$ and W_1, \dots, W_n is a finite subcover of W_{i_k} , a contradiction.

Thus, Zorn's Lemma gives us a maximal element of \mathcal{F} , call it \mathcal{U} . Set

$$S' = \mathcal{U} \cap S,$$

then our next claim is:

Claim: S' covers X .

If not, choose $x \notin \bigcup_{B \in S'} B$. Then $\exists U \in \mathcal{U}$ with $x \in U$, since \mathcal{U} covers X . Since S is a subbasis and U is open, $\exists V_1, \dots, V_n \in S$ s.t. $x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n V_i \subset U$, moreover $V_i \not\subset U \forall i$ since then x would be in $\bigcup_{B \in S'} B$.

But then by maximality of \mathcal{U} , every cover $\mathcal{U} \cup \{V_i\}$ must contain a finite subcover. Say $X = U_i \cup V_i$, where U_i is the union of all sets in the finite subcover of $\mathcal{U} \cup \{V_i\}$ (except V_i). Then

$$\mathcal{U} \cup \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n U_i \right) \supseteq \underbrace{\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n V_i \right) \cup \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n U_i \right)}_{\text{replace with } V_i \cup U_i \text{ since already } V_i \cup U_i = X} \supseteq \bigcap_{i=1}^n (V_i \cup U_i) = X.$$

This is $\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n V_i \right) \cup \left(\bigcup_{j=1}^n U_j \right) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \left(V_i \cup \bigcup_{j=1}^n U_j \right)$ replace with $V_i \cup U_i$ since already $V_i \cup U_i = X$

Which is impossible, since \mathcal{U} is not supposed to have any finite subcovers.

Therefore, $S' = S \cap \mathcal{U}$ is a cover of X . But then S' has a finite subcover since $S' \subset S$ (by assumption). But since $S' \subset \mathcal{U}$ this would mean \mathcal{U} has a finite subcover. Thus our collection \mathcal{F} must be empty in order to avoid this contradiction. Thus, X is compact.

Theorem (Tychonoff). If (X_i, τ_i) are compact spaces $\forall i \in I$, then $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ is also compact.

Proof:

Lemma: Any open cover of $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ containing only elements of the form $p_i^{-1}(U)$ ($U \in \tau_i$) admits a finite subcover.

Proof of Lemma: Let \mathcal{U} be such a cover, and set

$$U_i = \{U \in \tau_i \mid p_i^{-1}(U) \in \mathcal{U}\}.$$

Claim: There's at least one $i \in I$ such that U_i is a cover of X_i . If not, then for each $i \exists x_i \in X_i$ s.t. $x_i \notin \bigcup_{U \in U_i} U$; consider $(x_i) \in \prod_{i \in I} X_i$. The point (x_i) cannot be contained in any set $p_i^{-1}(U)$ by construction, this contradicts the fact that \mathcal{U} is a cover of $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$.

So by our claim, we can choose $i \in I$ such that U_i is a cover of X_i . But X_i is compact, so $\exists V_1, \dots, V_n \in U_i$ s.t. $X_i \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n V_j$. But then $\{p_i^{-1}(V_1), p_i^{-1}(V_2), \dots, p_i^{-1}(V_n)\}$ is a finite subcover of U_i , and it covers $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$. The lemma is proved.

Proof of Tychonoff's theorem:

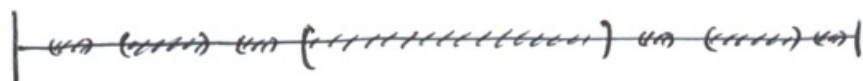
Recall that a subbasis for the product topology is

$$S = \{p_i^{-1}(U) \mid U \in \mathcal{T}_i, i \in I\}.$$

By our lemma, any collection of sets of this form must have a finite subcover if it covers X . By Alexander's subbasis theorem, $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ is compact.

===== DONE! =====

Example: Recall the middle-thirds construction of the Cantor set, C :



the remaining points after these successive deletions form C .

We saw by a clever base 3 expansion argument that there is a homeomorphism

$$h: C \longrightarrow \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \{0, 2\},$$

where $\{0, 2\}$ has the discrete topology. Note $\{0, 2\}$ is compact, and thus by Tychonoff's theorem, the Cantor set C is compact.

Example: The power set of a set X can be identified with $\prod_{x \in X} \{0, 1\}$, a sequence (y_x) corresponds to a subset A of X as follows:

$$y_x = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in A \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin A. \end{cases}$$

Then the power set $\mathcal{P}(X) = \prod_{x \in X} \{0, 1\}$ inherits a "natural" topology which makes it a compact topological space.

Applications mentioned in text:

- The space \mathbb{R}^{∞} is metrizable.
- Ramsey theory?

Sketch of content to come:

We define a bunch of properties that are variations of Hausdorff-ness, they are named as follows:

T_0

T_1

$T_2 = \text{Hausdorff}$

T_3

T_4

Complete list:

$T_0, T_1, T_2, T_{2\frac{1}{2}}, \text{completely } T_2,$

$T_3, T_{3\frac{1}{2}}, T_4, T_5, T_6$

normal \leftarrow variations of this are 4-6, usually.
regular.

We'll give many examples of spaces that have one property, but not the other. "Separation axioms"

Definition: A space X is a T_0 -space if for every $x, y \in X$ there are open sets U, V such that $x \in U, y \in V$ and either $x \notin U$ or $y \notin V$.

Or equivalently: For all $x, y \in X \exists U$ open that contains exactly one of x, y .

Example: The trivial topology $\{\emptyset, X\}$ on any set X with more than two points is not T_0 .

• Give \mathbb{R}_t the trivial topology, \mathbb{R} the usual topology. Then $\mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}$ with the product topology is not T_0 , points (a, b) and (c, b) fail the condition