

is also a finite intersection of elements of  $\mathcal{S}$ , so it belongs to  $\mathcal{B}$ .

## Exercises

1. Let  $X$  be a topological space; let  $A$  be a subset of  $X$ . Suppose that for each  $x \in A$  there is an open set  $U$  containing  $x$  such that  $U \subset A$ . Show that  $A$  is open in  $X$ .
2. Consider the nine topologies on the set  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  indicated in Example 1 of §12. Compare them; that is, for each pair of topologies, determine whether they are comparable, and if so, which is the finer.
3. Show that the collection  $\mathcal{T}_c$  given in Example 4 of §12 is a topology on the set  $X$ . Is the collection

$$\mathcal{T}_\infty = \{U \mid X - U \text{ is infinite or empty or all of } X\}$$

a topology on  $X$ ?

4. (a) If  $\{\mathcal{T}_\alpha\}$  is a family of topologies on  $X$ , show that  $\bigcap \mathcal{T}_\alpha$  is a topology on  $X$ . Is  $\bigcup \mathcal{T}_\alpha$  a topology on  $X$ ?  
 (b) Let  $\{\mathcal{T}_\alpha\}$  be a family of topologies on  $X$ . Show that there is a unique smallest topology on  $X$  containing all the collections  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha$ , and a unique largest topology contained in all  $\mathcal{T}_\alpha$ .  
 (c) If  $X = \{a, b, c\}$ , let

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

Find the smallest topology containing  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$ , and the largest topology contained in  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$ .

5. Show that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a basis for a topology on  $X$ , then the topology generated by  $\mathcal{A}$  equals the intersection of all topologies on  $X$  that contain  $\mathcal{A}$ . Prove the same if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subbasis.
6. Show that the topologies of  $\mathbb{R}_\ell$  and  $\mathbb{R}_K$  are not comparable.
7. Consider the following topologies on  $\mathbb{R}$ :

$\mathcal{T}_1$  = the standard topology,

$\mathcal{T}_2$  = the topology of  $\mathbb{R}_K$ ,

$\mathcal{T}_3$  = the finite complement topology,

$\mathcal{T}_4$  = the upper limit topology, having all sets  $(a, b]$  as basis,

$\mathcal{T}_5$  = the topology having all sets  $(-\infty, a) = \{x \mid x < a\}$  as basis.

Determine, for each of these topologies, which of the others it contains.

8. (a) Apply Lemma 13.2 to show that the countable collection

$$\mathcal{B} = \{(a, b) \mid a < b, a \text{ and } b \text{ rational}\}$$

is a basis that generates the standard topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
 (b) Show that the collection

$$\mathcal{C} = \{[a, b) \mid a < b, a \text{ and } b \text{ rational}\}$$

is a basis that generates a topology different from the lower limit topology on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## §14 The Order Topology

If  $X$  is a simply ordered set, there is a standard topology for  $X$ , defined using the order relation. It is called the *order topology*; in this section, we consider it and study some of its properties.

Suppose that  $X$  is a set having a simple order relation  $<$ . Given elements  $a, b$  of  $X$  such that  $a < b$ , there are four subsets of  $X$  that are called the *intervals* determined by  $a$  and  $b$ . They are the following :

$$(a, b) = \{x \mid a < x < b\},$$

$$(a, b] = \{x \mid a < x \leq b\},$$

$$[a, b) = \{x \mid a \leq x < b\},$$

$$[a, b] = \{x \mid a \leq x \leq b\}.$$

The notation used here is familiar to you already in the case where  $X$  is the real line, but these are intervals in an arbitrary ordered set. A set of the first type is called an *open interval* in  $X$ , a set of the last type is called a *closed interval* in  $X$ , and the second and third types are called *half-open intervals*. The use of the term *interval* in this connection suggests that open intervals in  $X$  should turn out to be open sets if we put a topology on  $X$ . And so they will.

**Definition.** Let  $X$  be a set with a simple order relation; assume  $X$  has more than one element. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the collection of all sets of the following types:

- (1) All open intervals  $(a, b)$  in  $X$ .
- (2) All intervals of the form  $[a_0, b)$ , where  $a_0$  is the smallest element (if any) of  $X$ .
- (3) All intervals of the form  $(b, a_0]$ , where  $a_0$  is the largest element (if any) of  $X$ .