

Yet another method for constructing continuous functions that is familiar from analysis is to take the limit of an infinite sequence of functions. There is a theorem to the effect that if a sequence of continuous real-valued functions of a real variable converges uniformly to a limit function, then the limit function is necessarily continuous. This theorem is called the *Uniform Limit Theorem*. It is used, for instance, to demonstrate the continuity of the trigonometric functions, when one defines these functions rigorously using the infinite series definitions of the sine and cosine. This theorem generalizes to a theorem about maps of an arbitrary topological space X into a metric space Y . We shall prove it in §21.

Exercises

1. Prove that for functions $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the ϵ - δ definition of continuity implies the open set definition.
2. Suppose that $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous. If x is a limit point of the subset A of X , is it necessarily true that $f(x)$ is a limit point of $f(A)$?
3. Let X and X' denote a single set in the two topologies \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{T}' , respectively. Let $i : X' \rightarrow X$ be the identity function.
 - (a) Show that i is continuous $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{T}'$ is finer than \mathcal{T} .
 - (b) Show that i is a homeomorphism $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{T}' = \mathcal{T}$.
4. Given $x_0 \in X$ and $y_0 \in Y$, show that the maps $f : X \rightarrow X \times Y$ and $g : Y \rightarrow X \times Y$ defined by

$$f(x) = x \times y_0 \quad \text{and} \quad g(y) = x_0 \times y$$

are imbeddings.

5. Show that the subspace (a, b) of \mathbb{R} is homeomorphic with $(0, 1)$ and the subspace $[a, b]$ of \mathbb{R} is homeomorphic with $[0, 1]$.
6. Find a function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is continuous at precisely one point.
7. (a) Suppose that $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is “continuous from the right,” that is,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = f(a),$$

for each $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that f is continuous when considered as a function from \mathbb{R}_ℓ to \mathbb{R} .

- (b) Can you conjecture what functions $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are continuous when considered as maps from \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{R}_ℓ ? As maps from \mathbb{R}_ℓ to \mathbb{R}_ℓ ? We shall return to this question in Chapter 3.
8. Let Y be an ordered set in the order topology. Let $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous.
 - (a) Show that the set $\{x \mid f(x) \leq g(x)\}$ is closed in X .

(b) Let $h : X \rightarrow Y$ be the function

$$h(x) = \min\{f(x), g(x)\}.$$

Show that h is continuous. [Hint: Use the pasting lemma.]

9. Let $\{A_\alpha\}$ be a collection of subsets of X ; let $X = \bigcup_\alpha A_\alpha$. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$; suppose that $f|_{A_\alpha}$ is continuous for each α .

(a) Show that if the collection $\{A_\alpha\}$ is finite and each set A_α is closed, then f is continuous.

(b) Find an example where the collection $\{A_\alpha\}$ is countable and each A_α is closed, but f is not continuous.

(c) An indexed family of sets $\{A_\alpha\}$ is said to be **locally finite** if each point x of X has a neighborhood that intersects A_α for only finitely many values of α . Show that if the family $\{A_\alpha\}$ is locally finite and each A_α is closed, then f is continuous.

10. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : C \rightarrow D$ be continuous functions. Let us define a map $f \times g : A \times C \rightarrow B \times D$ by the equation

$$(f \times g)(a \times c) = f(a) \times g(c).$$

Show that $f \times g$ is continuous.

11. Let $F : X \times Y \rightarrow Z$. We say that F is **continuous in each variable separately** if for each y_0 in Y , the map $h : X \rightarrow Z$ defined by $h(x) = F(x \times y_0)$ is continuous, and for each x_0 in X , the map $k : Y \rightarrow Z$ defined by $k(y) = F(x_0 \times y)$ is continuous. Show that if F is continuous, then F is continuous in each variable separately.

12. Let $F : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by the equation

$$F(x \times y) = \begin{cases} xy/(x^2 + y^2) & \text{if } x \times y \neq 0 \times 0. \\ 0 & \text{if } x \times y = 0 \times 0. \end{cases}$$

(a) Show that F is continuous in each variable separately.

(b) Compute the function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $g(x) = F(x \times x)$.

(c) Show that F is not continuous.

13. Let $A \subset X$; let $f : A \rightarrow Y$ be continuous; let Y be Hausdorff. Show that if f may be extended to a continuous function $g : \bar{A} \rightarrow Y$, then g is uniquely determined by f .

19 The Product Topology

Now return, for the remainder of the chapter, to the considerations for imposing topologies on sets.

Exercises

1. Prove Theorem 19.2.
2. Prove Theorem 19.3.
3. Prove Theorem 19.4.
4. Show that $(X_1 \times \cdots \times X_{n-1}) \times X_n$ is homeomorphic with $X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n$.
5. One of the implications stated in Theorem 19.6 holds for the box topology. Which one?
6. Let $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots$ be a sequence of the points of the product space $\prod X_\alpha$. Show that this sequence converges to the point \mathbf{x} if and only if the sequence $\pi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}_1), \pi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}_2), \dots$ converges to $\pi_\alpha(\mathbf{x})$ for each α . Is this fact true if one uses the box topology instead of the product topology?
7. Let \mathbb{R}^∞ be the subset of \mathbb{R}^ω consisting of all sequences that are "eventually zero," that is, all sequences (x_1, x_2, \dots) such that $x_i \neq 0$ for only finitely many values of i . What is the closure of \mathbb{R}^∞ in \mathbb{R}^ω in the box and product topologies? Justify your answer.
8. Given sequences (a_1, a_2, \dots) and (b_1, b_2, \dots) of real numbers with $a_i > 0$ for all i , define $h : \mathbb{R}^\omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\omega$ by the equation

$$h((x_1, x_2, \dots)) = (a_1x_1 + b_1, a_2x_2 + b_2, \dots).$$

Show that if \mathbb{R}^ω is given the product topology, h is a homeomorphism of \mathbb{R}^ω with itself. What happens if \mathbb{R}^ω is given the box topology?

9. Show that the choice axiom is equivalent to the statement that for any indexed family $\{A_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in J}$ of nonempty sets, with $J \neq \emptyset$, the cartesian product

$$\prod_{\alpha \in J} A_\alpha$$

is not empty.

10. Let A be a set; let $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in J}$ be an indexed family of spaces; and let $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in J}$ be an indexed family of functions $f_\alpha : A \rightarrow X_\alpha$.
 - (a) Show there is a unique coarsest topology \mathcal{T} on A relative to which each of the functions f_α is continuous.
 - (b) Let

$$\mathcal{S}_\beta = \{f_\beta^{-1}(U_\beta) \mid U_\beta \text{ is open in } X_\beta\},$$

and let $\mathcal{S} = \bigcup \mathcal{S}_\beta$. Show that \mathcal{S} is a subbasis for \mathcal{T} .

- (c) Show that a map $g : Y \rightarrow A$ is continuous relative to \mathcal{T} if and only if each map $f_\alpha \circ g$ is continuous.
- (d) Let $f : A \rightarrow \prod X_\alpha$ be defined by the equation

$$f(a) = (f_\alpha(a))_{\alpha \in J};$$

let Z denote the subspace $f(A)$ of the product space $\prod X_\alpha$. Show that the image under f of each element of \mathcal{T} is an open set of Z .