

Homework 5

Due Friday, September 22 at the beginning of class

Reading.

Read Chapter 4 through page 98 and Chapter 7 through page 200.

Problems.

- Prove that a topological space X is disconnected if and only if there exists a surjective continuous function from X to the discrete space $\{0, 1\}$.
 - Prove that if X is path-connected and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous, then $f(X)$ is path-connected.
- Prove Lemma 4.27 in our book, which says that if X is a topological space, then $A \subseteq X$ (with the subspace topology) is compact if and only if every cover of A by open subsets of X has a finite subcover.
- Solutions to this problem are in our book — feel free to learn and use those solutions!
 - Let X be a Hausdorff space and let $A, B \subseteq X$ be disjoint compact subsets. Prove that there exist disjoint open sets $U, V \subseteq X$ with $A \subseteq U$ and $B \subseteq V$.
 - Prove that every compact subset A of a Hausdorff space X is closed.
- Define $id: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ by $id(p) = p$, and define $g: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ by $g(p) = -p$. Find a homotopy $F: S^1 \times I \rightarrow S^1$ from id to g .

Remark: It's perhaps easiest to represent S^1 using complex coordinates, $S^1 = \{e^{i\theta}\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$, where θ varies between 0 and 2π . Then $id(e^{i\theta}) = e^{i\theta}$ and $g(e^{i\theta}) = -e^{i\theta} = e^{i(\theta+\pi)}$. For this problem, you can write down a map and say "this map is clearly continuous" without verifying that fact (so long as it's true).

- Let $n > 1$. Prove that \mathbb{R}^n is not homeomorphic to any open subset of \mathbb{R} .
- Let A be an infinite set, and let \mathbb{R}^A denote the Cartesian product of A copies of \mathbb{R} (namely $\mathbb{R}^A = \prod_{\alpha \in A} X_\alpha$ where $X_\alpha = \mathbb{R}$ for all $\alpha \in A$). Consider \mathbb{R}^A equipped with two different topologies: $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{product})$ with the product topology, and $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{box})$ with the box topology, as defined on page 63 of our book.

Show that $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{box})$ equipped with the maps $\pi_\alpha^{box}: (\mathbb{R}^A, \text{box}) \rightarrow X_\alpha = \mathbb{R}$ defined via $\pi_\alpha^{box}((x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}) = x_\alpha$ is not the categorical product of A copies of \mathbb{R} in the category of topological spaces, as follows (and *not* by using Corollary 3.39). Suppose for a contradiction $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{box})$ satisfied the universal property on page 213. Choose W to be the

actual categorical product $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{product})$ equipped with the maps $\pi_\alpha^{prod}: (\mathbb{R}^A, \text{box}) \rightarrow X_\alpha = \mathbb{R}$ similarly defined via $\pi_\alpha^{prod}((x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}) = x_\alpha$. Show that there is no continuous f making the necessary diagrams commute.

Hint: Note that $(0, 1)^A$ is open in $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{box})$. Can you explain why $(0, 1)^A$ is not open in $(\mathbb{R}^A, \text{product})$?

Remark: When showing that an object is not a categorical product, it is often a good idea to choose “test object” W to be the actual categorical product.