

# Topology and topological spaces

Definition: Let  $X$  be a non empty set. A collection  $\mathcal{T}$  of subsets of  $X$  is said to be a topology on  $X$  if it has the following properties:

(i)  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

(ii) The union of the elements of any subcollection of  $\mathcal{T}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

(iii) The intersection of the elements of any finite subcollection of  $\mathcal{T}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

The ordered pair  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is then called a topological space. Properly speaking, a topological space is an ordered pair  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  consisting of a set  $X$  and a topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $X$ .

## Examples:

(1) Let  $X = \{a\}$ , then  $\mathcal{T} = \{\emptyset, X\}$  is a topology on  $X$ .

(2) Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$ , then

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \{\emptyset, X\}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_2 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, X\}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_3 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_4 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}, X\}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_5 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, c\}, X\}$$

are some topologies on  $X$ .

(9) Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$

Consider the following classes of subsets of  $X$

$$\tau_1 = \{X, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{b, c, d, e\}\}$$

$$\tau_2 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{b, c, d\}, X\}$$

$$\tau_3 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{c, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d, e\}\}$$

Then  $\tau_1$  is a topology on  $X$ , but  $\tau_2$  and  $\tau_3$  are not topology on  $X$ .

### Discrete and Indiscrete topology:

Let  $X$  be a non empty set, the collection of all subsets of  $X$  is a topology on  $X$  called the discrete topology on  $X$ . The collection consisting  $X$  and  $\emptyset$  only is also a topology on  $X$  called the Indiscrete topology or trivial topology on  $X$ . Discrete topology is denoted by  $\mathcal{D}$  and Indiscrete topology is denoted by  $\mathcal{I}$ .

### Finite complement topology or co-finite topology:

Let  $X$  be a non empty set. Let,  
 $\tau = \{U : U \subseteq X \text{ and } X - U \text{ is either finite or } \emptyset \text{ or is all of } X\}$

Then  $\mathcal{T}$  is a topology on  $X$  called co-finite topology.

Pf: Here  $X \neq \emptyset$  and

$$\mathcal{T} = \{U : U \subseteq X \text{ and } X - U \text{ is either finite or } \emptyset \text{ is all of } X\}$$

(i)  $X - \emptyset = X$ , Therefore  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$ .

Also  $X - X = \emptyset$ , a finite set, Therefore  $X \in \mathcal{T}$

(ii) Let  $\{U_\alpha\}$  is any subcollection of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

$$\therefore U_\alpha \in \mathcal{T}, \forall \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow X - U_\alpha \text{ are finite or } \emptyset \text{ on all of } X, \forall \alpha$$

Now  $X - U_\alpha$  are finite,  $\forall \alpha$

$$\Rightarrow \bigcap_{\alpha} (X - U_\alpha) \text{ is also finite.}$$

$$\Rightarrow X - \bigcup_{\alpha} U_\alpha \text{ is also finite.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \bigcup_{\alpha} U_\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$$

$\therefore$  arbitrary union of members of  $\mathcal{T}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

(iii) Let  $\{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n\}$  is a finite subcollection of  $\mathcal{T}$  elements of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

~~$\bigcup_{i=1}^m U_i$  are~~  
 $\therefore X - U_i$  are finite on all of  $X$ ,  $\forall i=1, 2, \dots, m$

$\Rightarrow \bigcup_{i=1}^m (X - U_i)$  is finite,

$\Rightarrow X - \bigcap_{i=1}^m U_i$  is finite.

$\Rightarrow \bigcap_{i=1}^m U_i \in \mathcal{T}$

i.e. finite intersection of members of  $\mathcal{T}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

$\therefore \mathcal{T}$  is a topology on  $X$ .

### Comparable topology:

Let  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  be two topology on a non empty set  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{T}_1 \supset \mathcal{T}_2$ , then  $\mathcal{T}_1$  is finer or stronger or larger than  $\mathcal{T}_2$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  is coarser or weaker or smaller than  $\mathcal{T}_1$ .  $\mathcal{T}_1$  is comparable with  $\mathcal{T}_2$  if either  $\mathcal{T}_1 \supset \mathcal{T}_2$  or  $\mathcal{T}_1 \subset \mathcal{T}_2$ .

Ex: Let,  $X = \{a, b, c\}$

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \{ \emptyset, X \}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_2 = \{ \emptyset, \{c\}, \{b, c\}, X \}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_3 = \{ \emptyset, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{b, c\}, X \}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_4 = \{ \emptyset, \{a\}, X \}$$

Then  $T_1 \subset T_2$ ,  $T_1 \subset T_3$ ,  $T_1 \subset T_4$

$\therefore T_1$  and  $T_2$ ,  $T_1$  and  $T_3$  and,  $T_1$  and  $T_4$  are comparable.

But  $T_2$  and  $T_4$  are not comparable. Also  $T_3, T_4$  are not comparable.