

**MATH 240H: Homework 11: Assorted Topics and Applications.**  
**Due Thursday, April 25, 11:59PM on gradescope**

1. (a) Show that any set  $X$  with the finite complement topology is compact directly from the definitions.  
(b) Explain briefly why that  $\mathbb{R}^1$  with the Zariski topology is compact.  
(c) Let  $\mathbb{Z}_\omega = \mathbb{Z}_+ \cup \{\omega\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, \omega\}$  be the ordered set obtained by adjoining a largest element  $\omega$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ . Show that  $\mathbb{Z}_\omega$  is compact in its order topology.
2. Let  $X$  be a topological space. Show that a finite union of compact subspaces of  $X$  is compact.
3. Let  $X$  be a Hausdorff topological space and  $A, B$  compact subspaces with  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ . Show that there are **disjoint** sets  $U, V$  which are **open in  $X$** , such that  $A \subseteq U, B \subseteq V$ . [Hint: First prove it in the case  $B$  is a single point  $b$ . Consider each  $a \in A$  and find disjoint open sets  $U_a, V_a$  such that  $a \in U_a, b \in V_a$  and carefully construct  $U$  and  $V$  from these. When generalizing to the case where  $B$  is not a single point, for each  $b$  in  $B$ , first construct two disjoint open sets, one containing  $A$  and one containing  $b$ .]
4. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Given a bounded subset  $A$ , the diameter of  $A$ , denoted  $diam(A)$  is defined by

$$diam(A) = \sup\{d(x, y) | x, y \in A\}.$$

- (a) Show that if  $C$  is a compact subspace of  $X$ , then there exists  $x, y \in C$  such that  $d(x, y) = diam(C)$ .  
(b) Give an example of a bounded subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  where there does not exist  $x, y \in A$  such that  $d(x, y) = diam(A)$ .
5. Let  $(G, \star)$  be a topological group. Let  $A, B$  be subspaces of  $G$ .  
(a) If  $A$  is closed and  $B$  is compact show that  $A \star B$  is closed. (Hint: Let  $c \in G, c \notin A \star B$ . Let  $f : G \times B \rightarrow G$  be given by  $f(x, y) = x \star y^{-1}$  and show that  $f^{-1}(G - A)$  is an open neighborhood of the slice  $c \times B$ . Use the tube lemma to find an open neighborhood  $W$  of  $c$  such that  $W \times B \subseteq f^{-1}(G - A)$ . Finish by explaining why your work shows  $G - A \star B$  is open.)  
(b) Let  $A = \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $B = \{-n + \frac{1}{n} | n \geq 2, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Show that  $A, B$  are closed

subsets of  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$  but  $A + B = \{a + b | a \in A, b \in B\}$  is not closed. Thus (a) does not hold if  $B$  is only required to be closed but not compact.

6. (a) Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $C_1 \supseteq C_2 \supseteq C_3 \supseteq \dots$  be a nested sequence of nonempty closed subspaces. If  $C_1$  is compact explain why  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n$  is nonempty. (Hint: Work within  $C_1$  and consider  $U_j = C_1 - C_j$  and explain why it is open in  $C_1$ .)

(b) Let  $Y$  be a compact (nonempty) topological space and let  $f : Y \rightarrow Y$  be continuous. Define recursively  $Y_0 = Y$  and  $Y_n = f(Y_{n-1})$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Show that  $Y_0 \supseteq Y_1 \supseteq Y_2 \supseteq \dots$  is a nested sequence of compact spaces. If  $Y$  is assumed in addition to be Hausdorff explain why  $Y_{\infty} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n$  is a nonempty compact subspace of  $Y$  and  $f : Y_{\infty} \rightarrow Y_{\infty}$ .

(c) Show that  $Y_{\infty} = \emptyset$  is possible if compactness is dropped in (b) by considering the example of  $f : Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $Y = (0, 1)$ ,  $f(t) = \frac{t}{2}$ .

(d) Show that  $f : Y_{\infty} \rightarrow Y_{\infty}$  is surjective when  $Y$  is a compact, metric space. (Hint: Fix  $b \in Y_{\infty}$  and first explain why there exist  $a_k \in Y_k$  such that  $f(a_k) = b$ . Then explain why there is a subsequence of the  $a_k$  that converge to some limit  $\alpha \in Y_{\infty}$  and why  $f(\alpha) = b$ .)

7. (a) Let  $(Y, d)$  be a compact metric space and  $f : Y \rightarrow Y$  be a **shrinking map** i.e.,  $d(f(a), f(b)) < d(a, b)$  for all  $a \neq b \in Y$ . Show that  $f$  has a unique fixed point in  $Y$ , i.e., a unique  $y_0 \in Y$  such that  $f(y_0) = y_0$ . (Hint: Use exercise 6 and then exercise 4 to show that  $Y_{\infty}$  has diameter zero.)

(b) Give an example of a metric space  $Y$  and a shrinking map  $f : Y \rightarrow Y$  which does not have a fixed point.

8. (Consulting exercise 4 of homework 7 might be useful when doing this exercise.)

(a) Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Let  $A \subseteq X$  be a nonempty subset. Recall  $D_A(x) = \inf\{d(x, a) | a \in A\}$  represents the distance of the point  $x$  to the set  $A$ . Show that if  $A$  is compact, this infimum is achieved i.e. given  $x \in X$ , there is a point  $a_0 \in A$  which is closest to  $x$ .

(b) Recall the  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood of  $A$ ,  $A^{\epsilon} = \{x \in X | D_A(x) < \epsilon\}$  is an open set containing  $A$ . If  $A$  is compact, show that if  $V$  is an open set containing  $A$ , there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $A \subseteq A^{\epsilon} \subseteq V$ .

(c) Give an example to show that (b) does not hold if  $A$  is just assumed to be closed but is not compact.

9. Let  $Mat_n(\mathbb{R})$  be topologized by identifying it with  $\mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  with the standard topology as usual.

(a) Show that  $Mat_n(\mathbb{Z})$  the set of  $n \times n$  matrices with integer entries is a closed, discrete subspace of  $Mat_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

(b) Let  $G$  be a compact subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that there are only finitely many matrices in  $G$  with all integer entries.

(c) A rational number can always be reduced to the form  $\frac{m}{n}$  where  $m$  and  $n$  are relatively prime integers. Such a rational number is said to have denominator bounded by  $N$  if  $|n| \leq N$ . Explain why there are only finitely many matrices in the orthogonal group  $O(23)$  with rational entries whose denominator is bounded by  $10^{20}$ .

10. A topological space is said to be **Alexandrov** if arbitrary intersections of open sets are open.

(a) Show that if  $X$  is an Alexandrov space, then for every  $\alpha \in X$ , there is a minimal open neighborhood  $M(\alpha)$  of  $\alpha$ . (This means that for any other open neighborhood  $U$  of  $\alpha$ , we have  $M(\alpha) \subseteq U$ ).

(b) Explain why Alexandrov spaces are first countable.

(c) Explain why every finite topological space is Alexandrov.

(d) A pre-order  $\leq$  on a set  $X$  is just a reflexive and transitive relation. (Warning unlike an order we do not have anti-symmetry in general i.e.  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\beta \leq \alpha$  does not imply  $\alpha = \beta$  nor is the order complete i.e. given  $\alpha, \beta$ , they might be incomparable in the pre-order.) Show that if  $X$  is an Alexandrov space, we can get a pre-order on  $X$  by declaring  $\alpha \leq \beta$  if and only if  $M(\alpha) \subseteq M(\beta)$ .

(e) Conversely, if  $(Y, \leq)$  is a set with a pre-order, a "negative ray" is any subset  $U$  with the property,  $u \in U, y \in Y, y \leq u \implies y \in U$  (Thus a negative ray is any subset  $U$  with the property that anything in the ambient set  $Y$  which is less than an element of  $U$  must also be in  $U$ ). Show that the collection of negative rays is a topology on  $Y$  which is Alexandrov and  $M(\alpha) = \{y \in Y | y \leq \alpha\}$  is the minimal open set containing  $\alpha$ . (Warning this "pre-order Alexandrov" topology is not the same as the usual order topology when  $\leq$  is an order).

(f) Show that the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  is pre-ordered by the "divides" relation i.e.  $a \leq_1 b$  if and only if  $\frac{b}{a} \in \mathbb{Z}$  (We denote this pre-ordering as  $\leq_1$  as it is very different from the standard ordering  $\leq$ ). Write down the open sets in the corresponding Alexandrov topology. Show that this space is path connected (for this last bit recall that you have checked that the two-point Sierpinski

space is path connected - use this and concatenate paths).