

**MATH 240H: Homework 3: Topological Spaces, Basis and Ordered Sets.**  
**Due Saturday, Feb 10, 11:59PM**

1. Let  $X$  be a nonempty set.
  - (a) Explain why  $\mathfrak{B}_1 = \{\{x\} | x \in X\}$ , the collection of singleton sets, is a basis for a topology on  $X$ . What topology does it generate?
  - (b) Explain why  $\mathfrak{B}_2 = \{X\}$  is a basis for a topology on  $X$ . What topology does it generate?

2. Consider the following topologies on the plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

$\tau_1$  the topology arising from the basis of open disks of positive radius. This is called the standard topology of the plane.

$\tau_2$  the topology arising from the basis  
 $\mathfrak{B}_2 = \{(a, b) \times [c, d] | a < b, c < d, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

$\tau_3$  the topology arising from the basis  
 $\mathfrak{B}_3 = \{[a, b] \times (c, d] | a < b, c < d, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

$\tau_4$  the topology arising from the basis  
 $\mathfrak{B}_4 = \{(a, b] \times (c, d) | a < b, c < d, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

Let

$$A = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | xy > 1, x > 0, y > 0\},$$

$$B = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | xy \geq 1, x > 0, y > 0\},$$

$$C = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | xy > 1, x < 0, y < 0\},$$

$$D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | xy \geq 1, x < 0, y < 0\}.$$

For each of the sets  $A, B, C, D$  draw a rough sketch of the region and state which of the four topologies the set is open in and which ones it is not open in.

3. (a) Let  $r$  be a rational number. Show that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists rational numbers  $q_1, q_2$  such that  $r - \epsilon < q_1 < r < q_2 < r + \epsilon$ . (Hint:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$ ).

(b) Explain why any real number whose decimal expansion is eventually all zeros or all nines is a rational number.

(c) Let  $\xi$  be an irrational real number. For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , show that there exists rational numbers  $q_1, q_2$  such that  $\xi - \epsilon < q_1 < \xi < q_2 < \xi + \epsilon$ .

(Notice that from (a) and (c), you have shown any real number has rational numbers arbitrarily close below and above it.)

4. (a) The basis  $\mathfrak{B}_1 = \{(a, b) | a < b, a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$  of all open intervals is a basis for the standard topology on the real line  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Consider the smaller basis  $\mathfrak{B}_2 = \{(a, b) | a < b, a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  of all open intervals with rational endpoints.

- (a) Show that  $\mathfrak{B}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{B}_2$  determine the same topology.
- (b) Show that  $\mathfrak{B}_1$  is an uncountable set. (Hint: Define a map  $\mathfrak{B}_1$  onto  $\mathbb{R}$ ).
- (c) Show that  $\mathfrak{B}_2$  is a countable set. (Hint: Define a bijection between  $\mathfrak{B}_2$  and a subset of  $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$ .)

(Notice then that in this example you have seen an example showing that the cardinality of a basis for a given topology is not unique (unlike basis for vector spaces). Also you have shown that the standard topology on  $\mathbb{R}$  does have a countable basis. A topological space which has a countable basis for its topology is called **second countable**.)

5. Show that the basis  $\{[a, b), a < b, a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  generates a different topology on  $\mathbb{R}$  than the basis  $\{[a, b), a < b, a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Which one is finer?

6. Show that the dictionary order topology on the plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is strictly finer than the standard topology coming from the basis of open disks. (Hint: Consider dictionary order open intervals of the form  $(x \times y, x \times z)$  where we used  $x \times y$  to denote the Cartesian product to not confuse it with the interval notation.)

7. Recall for a nonempty subset  $S$  of the real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ , we define the supremum, denoted  $\sup(S)$ , as either  $\infty$  if  $S$  is not bounded above or as the least upper bound of  $S$  if it is bounded above.

Similarly we define the infimum, denoted  $\inf(S)$ , as either  $-\infty$  if  $S$  is not bounded below or as the greatest lower bound of  $S$  if it is bounded below.

We say  $S$  has a maximum  $\sup(S)$  only if  $\sup(S) \in S$  and otherwise say  $S$  has no maximum. Similarly we say  $S$  has a minimum  $\inf(S)$  only if  $\inf(S) \in S$  and otherwise say  $S$  has no minimum.

For each of the following subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  in the standard ordering  $<$ , determine their minimum, maximum, supremum and infimum if they exist.

- (a)  $A = [0, 1)$ .
- (b)  $B = \{\frac{1}{n} | n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$ .
- (c)  $C = \mathbb{Z}_+$ .

8. An ordered set  $(X, <)$  is said to have the least upper bound property if every nonempty subset  $S$  with an upper bound in  $X$  has a least upper bound. Similarly it is said to have the greatest lower bound property if every

nonempty subset  $S$  with a lower bound in  $X$  has a greatest lower bound. Show that if  $(X, <)$  has the least upper bound property then it automatically has the greatest lower bound property. (Hint: Consider the set of lower bounds of a given subset  $S$ .)

9. Recall a well ordered set is an ordered set  $(X, <)$  where every nonempty subset  $S$  has a minimum element  $s \in S$ .

(a) Show that a well ordered set has the least upper bound property.

(b) Show that in a well ordered set, every element (except the largest if one exists) has an immediate successor.

10. Show that if  $(X, <_X)$  and  $(Y, <_Y)$  are well-ordered sets then  $(X \times Y, <_{dict})$  is also well-ordered. Here  $<_{dict}$  is the dictionary ordering.

11. Two ordered sets  $(X, <_X)$  and  $(Y, <_Y)$  have the same order type if there is a bijection  $X \rightarrow Y$  which preserves order i.e., such that  $x_1 < x_2 \rightarrow f(x_1) < f(x_2)$ . Show the following:

(a) If  $X$  and  $Y$  have the same order type and  $X$  has a smallest element then so does  $Y$ .

(b) If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is an order preserving bijection and  $a$  is an immediate predecessor of  $b$  in  $X$ , then  $f(a)$  is an immediate predecessor of  $f(b)$  in  $Y$ .

(c) Show that an order preserving bijection  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  will induce a bijection between the set of elements in  $X$  with an immediate predecessor and the set of elements in  $Y$  with an immediate predecessor.

12. Consider the ordered sets  $(\mathbb{Z}_+, <)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$  and  $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$ , all with the ordering coming from the usual ordering of real numbers. In addition consider the sets  $\{0, 1\} \times \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_+ \times \{0, 1\}$  with dictionary orderings and where  $\{0, 1\}$  is ordered by  $0 < 1$ . Only two of these five sets have the same order type - thus they determine 4 distinct order types. Using ideas similar to those studied in Problem 11, for each pair of these 5 sets, decide if they have the same order type or not. If you determine they do not, just state a short reason why not and if you state that they do, provide an explicit description of the order-preserving bijection. Notice that all 5 sets are countably infinite so these give examples of ordered sets with bijections between them but no order-preserving bijection between them.