

LECTURE 9: TOPOLOGICAL PRODUCTS

(§ 3.6 Munkres)

①

Let P, Q be topological spaces then the projection maps on $P \times Q$ are $\pi_1: P \times Q \rightarrow P$ and $\pi_2: P \times Q \rightarrow Q$ are defined by $\pi_1(x, y) = x$ and $\pi_2(x, y) = y$ $\forall (x, y) \in P \times Q$.

Defⁿ The product topology on $P \times Q$ is the coarsest topology amongst these topologies which make π_1, π_2 continuous.

- \mathcal{T}_h^{\otimes} (1.) subsets $U \times V$ where U is open in P and V is open in Q form a basis known as the canonical basis of the product topology.
- (2.) the projections π_1, π_2 are open maps and for any $(x, y) \in P \times Q$ the restrictions $\pi_1|_U: U \times \{y\} \rightarrow P$ and $\pi_2|_V: \{x\} \times V \rightarrow Q$ are homeomorphisms.
- (3.) a map $f: X \rightarrow P \times Q$ is continuous iff $f_1 = \pi_1 \circ f, f_2 = \pi_2 \circ f$ are continuous.

Proof: (1.) let P be the product topology. Notice the collection of subsets $U \times V$ where U open in P and V open in Q satisfy the conditions of \mathcal{T}_h^{\otimes} 3.7 since $(U_1 \times V_1) \cap (U_2 \times V_2) = (U_1 \cap U_2) \times (V_1 \cap V_2)$ hence such subsets form basis for topology \mathcal{T} for $P \times Q$. Notice $\pi_1^{-1}(U) = U \times Q$ and $\pi_2^{-1}(V) = P \times V$ for any open U, V thus π_1, π_2 are continuous w.r.t $\mathcal{T} \Rightarrow P$ coarser than \mathcal{T} .
However, also note $U \subseteq P, V \subseteq Q$ open give $U \times V = \pi_1^{-1}(U) \cap \pi_2^{-1}(V) \in \mathcal{T} \Rightarrow$ any open set of \mathcal{T} is union of sets in product topology $\Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ coarser than P .
 $\therefore \mathcal{T} = P$.

(2.) Observe $(U \times V) \cap (P \times \{y\}) = \begin{cases} U \times \{y\} & \text{if } y \in V \\ \emptyset & \text{if } y \notin V \end{cases}$

Likewise $(U \times V) \cap (\{x\} \times Q) = \begin{cases} \{x\} \times V & \text{if } x \in U \\ \emptyset & \text{if } x \notin U \end{cases}$

This allows us to understand the subspace topologies of $P \times \{y\}$ and $\{x\} \times Q$

Notice $\pi_1: P \times \{y\} \rightarrow P$ and $\pi_2: \{x\} \times Q \rightarrow Q$ are clearly bijections

and if $U \subseteq P$ is open then $\pi_1^{-1}(U) = U \times \{y\}$ is open $\therefore \pi_1$ continuous.

Likewise for π_2 . Observe also, $\pi_1(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ and $\pi_2(\emptyset) = \emptyset$

whereas $\pi_1(U \times \{y\}) = U$ and $\pi_2(\{x\} \times V) = V$ and it follows

that π_1, π_2 are open maps (technically these are restrictions of π_1, π_2)

(3.) Consider $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow P \times Q$ continuous, then $f_1 = \pi_1 \circ f, f_2 = \pi_2 \circ f$ are continuous since the composition of continuous maps is continuous.

Conversely, if $f_1 = \pi_1 \circ f$ and $f_2 = \pi_2 \circ f$ are continuous then for

$U \times V$ open in $P \times Q$ notice

$$f^{-1}(U \times V) = f_1^{-1}(U) \cap f_2^{-1}(V)$$

$$= (\pi_1 \circ f)^{-1}(U) \cap (\pi_2 \circ f)^{-1}(V)$$

$$= [(f_1^{-1}(U)) \cap (f_2^{-1}(V))] = f^{-1}(\pi_1^{-1}(U) \cap \pi_2^{-1}(V))$$

$$= f^{-1}(U \times V) \cap f^{-1}(P \times V)$$

$$= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(x) \in U \times Q\} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(x) \in P \times V\}$$

$$= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(x) \in U \times V\}$$

Defⁿ The product topology on $P_1 \times P_2 \times \dots \times P_n$ where P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n are topological spaces is the coarsest among those which make $\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n$ continuous. Moreover, the canonical basis of the product topology is given by $U_1 \times \dots \times U_n$ where U_i are open in $P_i \forall i=1, 2, \dots, n$.

[E1] The Euclidean topology for \mathbb{R}^n coincides with the product topology for n -copies of \mathbb{R} ; $\mathbb{R}^n = \underbrace{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}}_{n\text{-fold copies}}$

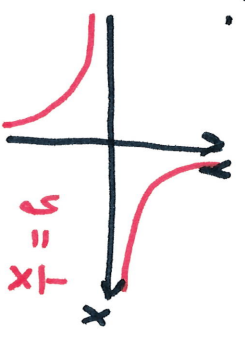
[E2] The unrestricted $\pi_1: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $\pi_1(x, y) = x$ is not a closed map. (why?) HERE'S WHY ↪

Consider the hyperbola $\mathcal{H} = \{(x, y) \mid xy = 1\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$

is the zero set of $f(x, y) = xy - 1$ and f is continuous.

Note $\mathcal{H} = f^{-1}\{0\} \therefore \mathcal{H}$ is closed subset of \mathbb{R}^2

Yet, $\pi_1(\mathcal{H}) = (-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$ is open.



Remark: I am not a fan of Munkres's lack of notation for π_1 , restricted vs. π_1 , unrestricted. There should be some notation used so to help avoid confusion.