

First test: Wednesday 10 March. 5 questions related to the homework sheet sections 1-6.

Example The spaces

$(-1, 1)$  and  $\mathbb{R}$

are homeomorphic because of the homeomorphism

$$f: (-1, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad x \mapsto \frac{x}{1-x^2}$$

Let's aim towards showing that the following spaces are distinct (not homeomorphic).

- $[-1, 1]$
- $\mathbb{R}$
- $\mathbb{R}^2$
- $S^1$

Recall A property is topological if, whenever  $X$  has the property, then so too does every space  $Y$  which is homeomorphic to  $X$ .

Proposition Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a homeomorphism. If  $X$  is connected then so too is  $Y$ .

Proof Let's suppose that  $Y$  is not connected. Then

there exist open sets  $U, V \subset Y$  such

that  $Y = U \cup V$ ,  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ ,  $U \neq \emptyset \neq V$ . Suppose  $f: X \rightarrow Y$

is a homeomorphism. Since  $f$  is continuous

$$f^{-1}(U) = \{x \in X : f(x) \in U\}$$

is open in  $X$ . So too is  $f^{-1}(V)$ .

Since  $f$  is a homeomorphism (and hence surjective) we

have

$$f^{-1}(u) \cup f^{-1}(v) = X.$$

Also

$$f^{-1}(u) \cap f^{-1}(v) = \emptyset.$$

$$\text{and } f^{-1}(u) \neq \emptyset \neq f^{-1}(v).$$

Hence  $X$  is not connected.

$\square$

Example Let's show that  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is not homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}$  (with standard topologies).

Suppose  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  were some homeomorphism.

$$X = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(1,2)\}$$

$$Y = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{f(1,2)\}$$

Exercise If  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a homeomorphism then so too is  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ .

But  $X$  is connected and  $Y$  is not connected.

Hence there is no homeomorphism from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## Towards Compactness

We'd like to say that  $[-1, 1]$  is "finite"

and that  $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$  is "infinite"

However  $(-1, 1)$  is homeomorphic (bijective) and  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

We'll use the words "compact" and "non compact" instead of "finite" and "infinite".

Next lecture we'll define compactness

and show it's a topological property.

In a subsequent lecture we'll show that  $[-1, 1]$  is compact. It will be easy to see that  $\mathbb{R}$  is not compact.

Hence we'll have shown that  $\mathbb{R}$  is not homeomorphic to  $[-1, 1]$ .