

Topology:

Goal: Understand and prove the  
Intermediate value theorem and  
The max-min theorem.

Theorem (Intermediate Value Theorem)

Let  $f: [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.  
If  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x$  is between  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$   
then there exists  $c \in [a,b]$  with  $f(c) = x$ .

Theorem (Max-Min theorem).

Let  $f: [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.  
Then there exists  $m, M \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  
 $f([a,b]) = [m, M]$ .

Let  $X$  be a set.

A topology on  $X$  is a collection  $\mathcal{T}$  of subsets  
of  $X$  such that

(a)  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $X \in \mathcal{T}$

(b) If  $S \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  then  $\bigcup_{U \in S} U \in \mathcal{T}$

(c) If  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$  and  $U_1, \dots, U_n \in \mathcal{T}$  then  
 $U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_n \in \mathcal{T}$ .

A topological space is a set  $X$  with a  
topology on  $X$ .

Let  $X$  be a topological space with topology  $\mathcal{T}$ . ②

Let  $E$  be a subset of  $X$ .

The set  $E$  is open if  $E \in \mathcal{T}$ .

Examples Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ .

$$\mathcal{T} = \left\{ \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{d\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\} \right\}$$

not  
is a topology on  $X$ .

$$\mathcal{T} = \left\{ \emptyset, \{a\}, \{d\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\} \right\}$$

is a topology on  $X$ .

Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$\mathcal{T} = \{\text{open subsets } E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

is a topology on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (a subset  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is open if  $E$  is a union of  $\epsilon$ -balls).

(3)

let  $X$  be a topological space with topology  $\mathcal{T}$ .

let  $E$  be a subset of  $X$ .

The set  $E$  is closed if  $E^c$  is open

Recall:  $E^c = \{x \in X \mid x \notin E\}$ .

The set  $E$  is connected if there do not exist open sets  $U_1, U_2$  such that

$$U_1 \cup U_2 \supseteq E \text{ and } (U_1 \cap E) \cap (U_2 \cap E) = \emptyset.$$

The set  $E$  is compact if  $E$  satisfies:

If  $S \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  and  $(\bigcup_{U \in S} U) \supseteq E$

then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  and  $U_1, \dots, U_n \in S$

such that  $(U_1 \cup U_2 \cup \dots \cup U_n) \supseteq E$ .

In English:  $E$  is compact if every open cover of  $E$  has a finite subcover.

What does this have to do with the Max-min theorem?

Theorem Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  with the standard topology

Let  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$E$  is compact and connected  
if and only if

there exist  $m, M \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $E = [m, M]$

## Continuous functions for topological spaces

(4)

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets.

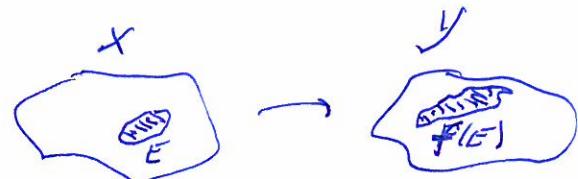
Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a function.

Let  $E$  be a subset of  $X$ .

The image of  $E$  is

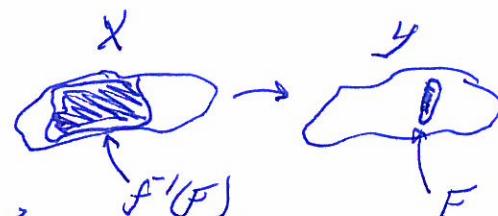
$$f(E) = \{ f(x) \mid x \in E \}$$

Let  $F$  be a subset of  $Y$ .



The inverse image of  $F$  is

$$f^{-1}(F) = \{ x \in X \mid f(x) \in F \}$$



Warning: Despite the confusing notation

$f^{-1}(F)$  has nothing to do with the inverse function to  $f$ .

Let  $X$  be a topological space with topology  $\mathcal{T}$

Let  $Y$  be a topological space with topology  $\mathcal{Z}$

Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a function.

The function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous if  $f$  satisfies:

If  $V \in \mathcal{Z}$  then  $f^{-1}(V) \in \mathcal{T}$

In English: Inverse images of open sets are open.

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$

(5)

Let  $X = [a, b]$  with the topology given by  
 $E \subseteq X$  is open if  $E$  is a union of  $\epsilon$ -balls.

Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology.

Theorem Let  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The function  $f$  is continuous (as a function between topological spaces) if and only if  $f$  satisfies

if  $c \in [a, b]$  then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$ .