

Let  $(X, \mathcal{T}_X)$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{T}_Y)$  be topological spaces.

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

Let  $E \subseteq X$ . Show that

if  $E$  is connected then  $f(E)$  is connected.

Proof: To show: If  $f(E)$  is not connected then  $E$  is not connected.

Assume  $f(E)$  is not connected.

Then there exist  $A, B \in \mathcal{T}_Y$  with

$$A \cap f(E) \neq \emptyset, B \cap f(E) \neq \emptyset, f(E) \subseteq A \cup B$$

$$(A \cap f(E)) \cap (B \cap f(E)) = \emptyset.$$

To show:  $E$  is not connected.

To show: There exist  $C, D \in \mathcal{T}_X$  with

$$C \cap E \neq \emptyset, D \cap E \neq \emptyset, E \subseteq C \cup D$$

$$(C \cap E) \cap (D \cap E) = \emptyset.$$

Let  $C = f^{-1}(A)$  and  $D = f^{-1}(B)$ .

To show: (a)  $C \in \mathcal{T}_X$  and  $D \in \mathcal{T}_X$

(b)  $C \cap E \neq \emptyset$  and  $D \cap E \neq \emptyset$ ,

(c)  $E \subseteq C \cup D$

(d)  $(C \cap E) \cap (D \cap E) = \emptyset$ .

(a) Since  $A, B \in \mathcal{J}_Y$  and  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous then  $C = f^{-1}(A) \in \mathcal{J}_X$  and  $D = f^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{J}_X$ .

(b) To show:  $C \cap E \neq \emptyset$  and  $D \cap E \neq \emptyset$ .

To show: There exists  $e_1 \in C \cap E$  and  $e_2 \in D \cap E$ .

Since  $A \cap f(E) \neq \emptyset$  there exists  $y_1 \in A \cap f(E)$

Since  $B \cap f(E) \neq \emptyset$  there exists  $y_2 \in B \cap f(E)$ .

Since  $y_1, y_2 \in f(E)$  there exist  $e_1, e_2 \in E$  with  $f(e_1) = y_1$  and  $f(e_2) = y_2$ .

Since  $y_1 \in A$  then  $e_1 \in f^{-1}(A) = C$ . So  $e_1 \in C \cap E$ .

Since  $y_2 \in B$  then  $e_2 \in f^{-1}(B) = D$ . So  $e_2 \in D \cap E$ .

So  $C \cap E \neq \emptyset$  and  $D \cap E \neq \emptyset$ .

(c) To show:  $E \subseteq C \cup D$

To show: If  $e \in E$  then  $e \in C \cup D$ .

Assume  $e \in E$ .

Then  $f(e) \in f(E) \subseteq A \cup B$ .

So  $e \in f^{-1}(A \cup B) = f^{-1}(A) \cup f^{-1}(B) = C \cup D$ .

So  $E \subseteq C \cup D$

(d) To show:  $(C \cap E) \cap (D \cap E) = \emptyset$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 (C \cap E) \cap (D \cap E) &= C \cap D \cap E \\
 &= f^{-1}(A) \cap f^{-1}(B) \cap E \\
 &\subseteq f^{-1}(A) \cap f^{-1}(B) \cap f^{-1}(f(E)) \\
 &= f^{-1}(A \cap f(E) \cap B \cap f(E)) \\
 &= \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

So  $E$  is not connected.

Thus, if  $E$  is connected then  $f(E)$  is connected.