

Topologies with T_1 -complements

by

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The family of all topologies definable on an arbitrary set X forms a complete lattice \mathcal{S} under the partial ordering: $\tau_1 \leq \tau_2$ if and only if $\tau_1 \subseteq \tau_2$. The lattice operations \wedge and \vee are defined as: $\tau_1 \wedge \tau_2 = \tau_1 \cap \tau_2$ and $\tau_1 \vee \tau_2$ is the topology generated by the base $\mathcal{B} = \{B: B = U_1 \cap U_2, U_1 \in \tau_1 \text{ and } U_2 \in \tau_2\}$. The greatest element, 1 , is the discrete topology and the least element, 0 , is the trivial topology. The lattice \mathcal{S} has been recently studied ([2], [3], [4]) and has been shown to be complemented [5].

The family of all T_1 -topologies definable on X forms a complete sublattice \mathcal{A} of \mathcal{S} , with greatest element 1 , and least element, the co-finite topology $\mathcal{C} = \{U: U = \emptyset \text{ or } X - U \text{ is finite}\}$. However, an example has been given [6] to show that \mathcal{A} is not a complemented lattice, unless X is a finite set.

The question arises as to which T_1 -topologies on X do have T_1 -complements and whether it is possible to characterize these topologies. Several large classes of T_1 -topologies which have T_1 -complements have already been investigated ([1], [6]), but no characterization has been given. It is not even known if the set of real numbers with the usual topology has a T_1 -complement.

It is the purpose of this paper to present more classes of T_1 -topologies which have T_1 -complements and to give some topological properties of a T_1 -complement for the real numbers, if one exists.

It is shown that if a Hausdorff space (X, τ) satisfying the first axiom of countability has a T_1 -complement τ' , then τ' is countably compact on co-finite subsets of X . It is also shown that if a dense subspace (Y, τ_1) of (X, τ) has a T_1 -complement which is compact on co-finite subsets of Y , then τ has a T_1 -complement which is compact on co-finite subsets of X . (However, the converse of this theorem fails to be true.) Thus, if the rational numbers have a T_1 -complement, so do the real numbers.

If $\tau \in \mathcal{A}$, then τ' is a T_1 -complement for τ if $\tau' \in \mathcal{A}$, and $\tau \vee \tau' = 1$ and $\tau \wedge \tau' = \mathcal{C}$.

Define $\mathfrak{S}(X)$ to be the family of co-finite subsets of X ; that is, $\mathfrak{S}(X) = \{U \subseteq X: X - U \text{ is finite}\}$.

The symbol $|X|$ will be used to denote the cardinality of the set X .

THEOREM 1. *The order topology on any well-ordered set X has a T_1 -complement.*

Proof. Let τ be the order topology on a well-ordered set X . Let τ' be the T_1 -topology generated by unions of sets of the form:

- (i) U , where $U \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$,
- (ii) $\{x\}$, where x is a limit ordinal in the well-order of X .

Let $x \in X$. If x is a limit ordinal, then $\{x\} \in \tau'$ and if not, $\{x\} \in \tau$. Thus, $\tau \vee \tau' = 1$. Clearly, if $U \in \tau \wedge \tau'$ and $U \neq \emptyset$, then $U \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$ and $\tau \wedge \tau' = C$.

THEOREM 2. *Let (X, τ) be a Hausdorff space satisfying the first axiom of countability. If τ has a T_1 -complement τ' , then τ' must be countably compact on co-finite subsets of X .*

Proof. Since the discrete topology has a T_1 -complement, compact on co-finite subsets, we can assume that $\tau \neq 1$.

Suppose that there is a T_1 -topology τ' such that $\tau \vee \tau' = 1$ and $\tau \wedge \tau' = C$. Let E be a co-finite subset of X , that is $E \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$, and assume that there is a countable open covering $\mathfrak{G} = \{U_n: U_n \in \tau', n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ of E such that no finite subcollection of \mathfrak{G} covers E .

Well-order the elements of E as $\{x_\alpha: \alpha < \mu\}$, where μ is the smallest ordinal of cardinality $|E|$.

Let y_1 be an element of U_1 and define $S_1 = U_1 - \{y_1\}$. Since τ' is a T_1 -topology, $S_1 \in \tau'$. Denote by y_2 the first $x_\alpha \in E$ such that $x_\alpha \notin S_1$ and $y_1 < x_\alpha$. Such an x_α exists since no finite number of U_n covers E . Define $S_2 = S_1 \cup (U_2 - \{y_1, y_2\})$. Then $S_2 \in \tau'$ and $y_1, y_2 \notin S_2$. If S_k has been defined for all $k < n$, denote by y_n the first $x_\alpha \in E$ such that $x_\alpha \notin S_{n-1}$ and $y_{n-1} < x_\alpha$. Define $S_n = S_{n-1} \cup \{U_n - \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}\}$. Then

$$S_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{U_i - \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}\} \in \tau'.$$

For each $n = 1, 2, \dots$, $S_n \in \tau'$, so $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n \in \tau'$ and $E - \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n = Y = \{y_n: n = 1, 2, \dots\}$. Thus $X - \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n = Y \cup K$, where K is a finite subset of $X - E$.

Since $\tau \wedge \tau' = C$, the only closed sets which can be common to τ and τ' are either finite subsets of X , or X . And since $K \cup Y$ is closed in τ' , if $K \cup Y$ is closed in τ then $K \cup Y = X$. But if $K \cup Y = X$, then $S_n = \emptyset$ for each $n = 1, 2, \dots$. This implies that each U_n is finite and that for each $x \in E$, $\{x\} \in \tau'$. However, since τ is Hausdorff and $\tau \neq 1$, there is a $w \in X$ such that w has no finite neighborhood in τ . Let $w \in E$ such that $w \neq w$. Then there are disjoint open sets V_1 and V_2 in τ such that $w \in V_1$ and $w \in V_2$. Since $X - E$ is finite, $V_2 \cap E \in \tau$ and $V_2 \cap E \in \tau'$. But, $V_1 \subset X - \{V_2 \cap E\}$ and V_1 is not finite. Hence, $V_2 \cap E \notin C$, and $\tau \wedge \tau' \neq C$.

Thus $K \cup Y$ is not closed in τ , and since K is finite, Y is not closed in τ . However, τ is first countable and Hausdorff and so there exists a subsequence $\{y'_n\}$ of $\{y_n\}$ which converges to a point $z \in X$, and the set $Y' = \{z, y'_1, y'_2, \dots\}$ is closed in τ .

Define

$$R_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{U_i - \{y'_1, y'_2, \dots, y'_n, z\}\} \quad \text{for each } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Since τ' is a T_1 -topology, $R_n \in \tau'$ for each n and $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} R_n \in \tau'$. Hence $X - \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} R_n = Y' \cup K'$, where K' is a finite subset of $X - E$, is closed in τ' and in τ and is different from X . This contradicts the assumption that τ' is a T_1 -complement for τ and therefore τ' must be countably compact on co-finite subsets of X .

COROLLARY. *Let (X, τ) be a countable Hausdorff space. If τ has a T_1 -complement τ' , then τ' must be compact on co-finite subsets of X .*

THEOREM 3. *If a countable Hausdorff space (X, τ) has a T_1 -complement, τ' , then τ' cannot be Hausdorff.*

Proof. Let us suppose that τ' is Hausdorff and let $x \in X$. By the corollary to Theorem 2, $X - \{x\}$ is compact in the topology τ' . Hence (τ' being Hausdorff), $X - \{x\}$ is a closed subset of (X, τ') . This implies that $\tau' = 1$ and since τ' is a T_1 -complement for τ , it implies that $\tau = C$. This is a contradiction since τ is Hausdorff.

THEOREM 4. *Let (X, τ) be a T_1 -space satisfying the second axiom of countability, where $|X| > \aleph_0$. If τ has a T_1 -complement τ' , then τ' cannot be second countable.*

Proof. If τ and τ' both have a countable base, then $\tau \vee \tau'$ has a countable base. If $|X| > \aleph_0$, the discrete topology on X does not have a countable base, so $\tau \vee \tau' \neq 1$.

THEOREM 5. *Let X be an open dense subset of a T_1 -space (Y, τ) . If $\tau|X = \tau_X$ has a T_1 -complement τ'_X , then τ has a T_1 -complement.*

Proof. Let τ' be the T_1 -topology generated by unions of sets of the form:

- (i) $\{y\}$, for $y \in Y - X$,
- (ii) $U \cup F$, where $U \in \tau'_X$ and $F \in \mathfrak{S}(Y - X)$.

Since τ'_X is a T_1 -topology, τ' is T_1 . Also, $\tau'|X = \tau'_X$.

If $y \in Y - X$, then $\{y\} \in \tau'$. If $y \in X$, there exist sets $U \in \tau_X$ and $V \in \tau'_X$ such that $\{y\} = U \cap V$. But $U \in \tau$ and $V^* = V \cup (Y - X) \in \tau'$ so $\{y\} = U \cap V^* \in \tau \vee \tau'$. Hence $\tau \vee \tau' = 1$.

Let $U \in \tau \wedge \tau'$, $U \neq \emptyset$. Then $U \cap X \in \tau_X \wedge \tau'_X$, so $U \cap X \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$. (Since X is dense, $U \cap X \neq \emptyset$.) But $U \in \tau'$ implies that $U \in \mathfrak{S}(Y)$. Hence $\tau \wedge \tau' = \mathcal{C}$.

However, the converse of Theorem 5 is not true, as may be seen from the following example.

Let $Y = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup S$, where E_1, E_2 , and S are mutually disjoint infinite subsets of Y . Let τ be the T_1 -topology on Y generated by sets of the form:

- (i) $\{x\}$, for $x \in E_1$,
- (ii) U , where $U \in \mathfrak{S}(E_2)$,
- (iii) $\{s\} \cup W$, where $s \in S$ and $W \in \mathfrak{S}(E_1 \cup E_2)$,
- (iv) W , where $W \in \mathfrak{S}(E_1 \cup E_2)$.

Let τ' be the T_1 -topology on Y generated by sets of the form:

- (i) U , where $U \in \mathfrak{S}(S)$,
- (ii) $\{x\} \cup V$, where $x \in E_2$ and $V \in \mathfrak{S}(S \cup E_1)$,
- (iii) V , where $V \in \mathfrak{S}(S \cup E_1)$.

It may easily be seen that τ' is a T_1 -complement for τ . Now, let $X = E_1 \cup E_2$. Then X is an open, dense subset of Y . However, $\tau|_X$ has no T_1 -complement (for the proof, see [6]).

THEOREM 6. Let X be a dense subset of a T_1 -space (Y, τ) . If $\tau_X = \tau|_X$ has a T_1 -complement τ'_X which is compact on co-finite subsets of X , then τ has a T_1 -complement which is compact on co-finite subsets of Y .

Proof. Let τ' be the T_1 -topology whose base \mathfrak{B}' consists of sets of the form:

- (i) $\{y\}$ for $y \in Y - X$,
- (ii) $\tilde{V} - F$, where $\tilde{V} = (\bar{V} - X) \cup V$, $V \in \tau'_X$, $\bar{V} = \text{cl}_Y V$ and F is a finite subset of $Y - X$.

If $U \in \tau'$, then

$$U = [\cup (\tilde{V}_\alpha - F_\alpha)] \cup [\cup \{y_\beta\}] \quad \text{and} \quad U \cap X = \cup V_\alpha \in \tau'_X.$$

If $V \in \tau'_X$, then $\tilde{V} \cap X = V$, so $\tau'|_X = \tau'_X$. Since τ'_X is a T_1 -topology, τ' is also T_1 .

If $y \in Y - X$ then $\{y\} \in \tau'$. If $y \in X$, then there are sets $U \in \tau_X$ and $V \in \tau'_X$ such that $\{y\} = U \cap V$. But $U = W \cap X$, where $W \in \tau$. Since τ is T_1 , $W - \{y\} \in \tau$ and $Y - (W - \{y\})$ is closed, contains V , and hence contains \bar{V} . Therefore $\{y\} = W \cap \bar{V} \in \tau \vee \tau'$ and $\tau \vee \tau' = 1$.

Let $U \in \tau \wedge \tau'$ and suppose $U \neq \emptyset$. Since X is dense in Y , $U \cap X \neq \emptyset$. Thus $U \cap X \in \tau_X \wedge \tau'_X$ and $U \cap X \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$. Now, $U \in \tau'$ implies that $U = [\cup (\tilde{V}_\alpha - F_\alpha)] \cup [\cup \{y_\beta\}]$, so $U \cap X = \cup V_\alpha$. Since τ'_X is compact on

co-finite subsets of X , $U \cap X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i$. And since X is dense in Y , $\bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i = Y - K_1$, where K_1 is a finite subset of X . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{i=1}^n \tilde{V}_i &= \bigcup_{i=1}^n [(\bar{V}_i - X) \cup V_i] = \{[\bigcup_{i=1}^n \bar{V}_i] - X\} \cup \{\bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i\} \\ &= \{\overline{\bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i} - X\} \cup \{\bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i\} = \{Y - X\} \cup \{U \cap X\} \\ &= Y - K_2, \quad \text{where } K_2 \text{ is a finite subset of } X. \end{aligned}$$

But $\bigcup_{i=1}^n (\tilde{V}_i - F_i) \subseteq U$, so $\bigcup_{i=1}^n \tilde{V}_i \subseteq U \cup F$, where F is a finite subset of $Y - X$. Therefore $\{Y - X\} \cup \{U \cap X\} = Y - K_2 \subseteq U \cup F$ and thus $Y \subseteq U \cup F \cup K_2$. Hence $U \in \mathfrak{S}(Y)$ and $\tau \wedge \tau' = \mathcal{C}$.

Let \mathfrak{G} be an open covering of E in τ' , where $E \in \mathfrak{S}(Y)$. Each $G \in \mathfrak{G}$ is the union of base elements of τ' so $\mathfrak{G}' = \{B_\alpha: G = \bigcup B_\alpha, B_\alpha \in \mathfrak{B}', G \in \mathfrak{G}\}$ also covers E and thus covers $E \cap X$. The family $\mathfrak{G}'' = \{B_\alpha \cap X: B_\alpha \in \mathfrak{G}'\}$ covers $E \cap X$ and is a subcollection of τ'_X so a finite number of $B_\alpha \cap X$ cover $E \cap X$; that is,

$$E \cap X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i \cap X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i.$$

Since $\tilde{V}_i - F_i \subseteq B_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i &\supseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n (\tilde{V}_i - F_i) = \{\overline{\bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i} - X\} \cup \{E \cap X\} - F' \\ &= \{Y - X\} \cup \{E \cap X\} - F' \in \mathfrak{S}(Y), \end{aligned}$$

where F' is a finite subset of $Y - X$. Each $B_i \subseteq G_i \in \mathfrak{G}$ so $\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_i$ covers all but a finite number of elements of E . Therefore a finite subcollection of \mathfrak{G} covers E and τ' is compact on co-finite subsets of Y .

The following example shows that the converse of Theorem 6 is not true:

Let $Y = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3 \cup E_4$, where E_1, E_2, E_3 , and E_4 are mutually disjoint infinite sets. Let τ be a T_1 -topology on Y generated by sets of the form:

- (i) $\{x\}$ for $x \in E_1$,
- (ii) $\{x\} \cup U$, where $x \in E_2$ and $U \in \mathfrak{S}(E_1)$,
- (iii) $\{x\} \cup V$, where $x \in E_3$ and $V \in \mathfrak{S}(E_4)$,
- (iv) V , where $V \in \mathfrak{S}(E_4)$.



Let τ' be the T_1 -topology on Y generated by sets of the form:

- (i) U , where $U \in \mathfrak{S}(Y)$,
- (ii) V , where $V \in \mathfrak{S}(E_2)$,
- (iii) W , where $W \in \mathfrak{S}(E_3)$,
- (iv) $\{x\} \cup V \cup W$, where $x \in E_4$, $V \in \mathfrak{S}(E_2)$, and $W \in \mathfrak{S}(E_3)$.

It can easily be seen that $\tau \vee \tau' = 1$ and $\tau \wedge \tau' = C$. Moreover, since any co-finite subset of Y must contain points of E_1 and since any open set in τ' containing points of E_1 must itself be co-finite, τ' is compact on co-finite subsets of Y . However, if $X = E_1 \cup E_4$, then X is a dense subset of Y and $\tau_X = \tau|_X$ has the following properties: $E_1, E_4 \in \tau_X$, $\tau_X|_{E_1} = 1$, and $\tau_X|_{E_4} = C$. Therefore τ_X has no T_1 -complement (for proof, see [6]).

Since the real numbers with the usual topology \mathcal{R} satisfy the hypotheses of Theorems 2 and 4, if \mathcal{R} has a T_1 -complement \mathcal{R}' , then \mathcal{R}' cannot have a countable base and must be countably compact on all co-finite sets of real numbers.

Similarly, if \mathcal{R}_Q denotes the usual topology on the rational numbers, \mathcal{R}'_Q is a T_1 -complement for \mathcal{R}_Q only if \mathcal{R}'_Q is compact on all co-finite subsets of rational numbers and \mathcal{R}'_Q is not Hausdorff.

Therefore, by Theorem 6, if \mathcal{R}_Q has a T_1 -complement then \mathcal{R} has a T_1 -complement which is compact on co-finite subsets of real numbers, and which is not Hausdorff. However, if \mathcal{R}_Q has no T_1 -complement, no conclusion can be drawn about the existence of a T_1 -complement for \mathcal{R} .

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An extension of a theorem of Gaifman-Hales-Solovay

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Solovay [1] has found a remarkably simple proof of a theorem of Gaifman [2] and Hales [3]: *There are countably generated complete Boolean algebras of arbitrarily high cardinality.* Here we show that Solovay's methods can be extended to prove the stronger theorem: *Every Boolean algebra can be completely embedded in a countably generated complete Boolean algebra.* (A complete embedding of a Boolean algebra B into a complete Boolean algebra B' is a monomorphism of B into B' preserving all suprema that happen to exist in B . If B is itself a complete Boolean algebra, this means that all suprema are preserved (*).)

Like Solovay's [1], the present work was suggested by Cohen's notion of forcing [5]. We will follow Solovay, however, in making the present proof independent of any knowledge of Cohen's work, leaving the connection with Cohen to be divined by the cognoscenti (**).

Let S be any discrete topological space, and let S^ω be the product space of S taken countably many times as a factor. An element of S^ω can be represented as a function f from the positive integers into S . If we are given a finite sequence $\sigma = \langle s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle$ of elements of S , the set of all functions $f \in S^\omega$ with $f(i) = s_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) is an open set of the product space S^ω ; call it $\mathfrak{D}(\sigma)$. The sets of form $\mathfrak{D}(\sigma)$ form a basis for the product topology of S^ω . We explicitly include the empty finite sequence; the corresponding basic open set is the entire space S^ω .

Solovay [1] has shown that the regular open algebra of S^ω , where S is any discrete space, is a countably generated complete Boolean algebra.

LEMMA 1. *Let S be a discrete space, and let B' be the regular open algebra of S^ω . For each element $s \in S$ and positive integer n , let $q(n, s)$ be the*

(*) We use the notations of Halmos [4] for finite and infinite Boolean operations, except that the complement of b is denoted by $-b$. For all unexplained terminology, the reader should consult [1], [2], [3], or [4].

In the terminology of [4], p. 34, Ex. 6, Theorem 1 of the present paper would read: *Every Boolean algebra is isomorphic to a regular subalgebra of a countably generated complete Boolean algebra.* (So in particular, every complete Boolean algebra is isomorphic to a complete subalgebra of a countably generated complete Boolean algebra.)

(**) The connection between Boolean algebras and forcing will be developed in a forthcoming paper by Scott and Solovay. I have not yet seen this paper, but I have benefited from hearing both authors expound some of their ideas.