

Section 16 The Subspace Topology.

Definition: Let X be a topological space with topology \mathcal{T} . If Y is a subset of X , then the collection $\mathcal{T}_Y = \{Y \cap U \mid U \in \mathcal{T}\}$ is a topology on Y . This topology is called the **subspace topology**.

Lemma 16.1: If \mathcal{B} is a basis for the topology of X , then the collection $\mathcal{B}_Y = \{Y \cap B \mid B \in \mathcal{B}\}$ is a basis for the subspace topology on Y .
(Proof: use lemma 13.2 – straight forward)

Remark: When dealing with a space X and its subspace Y , we may need to specify *where* our sets are open. Given a set U we would say “ U is open in Y (or open relative to Y)” or “ U is open in X ”, to specify if U belongs to the subspace topology of Y or to the topology of X .

Lemma 16.2: Let Y be a subspace of X . If U is open in Y and Y is open in U , then U is open in X .
(proof: defn.)

Theorem 16.3: If $A \subset X$ and $B \subset Y$, then the product topology on $A \times B$ is the same as the subspace topology that $A \times B$ inherits from $X \times Y$.
(Proof: show they have the same basis.)

Examples: Compare and contrast the subspace topology and the order topology on a subset Y of \mathbb{R} .

Definition: Let X be an ordered set. $Y \subset X$ is **convex** if for each pair of points $a < b$ of Y , the entire interval (a,b) of points in X is contained in Y .

Theorem 16.4: Let X be an ordered set in the order topology; Let Y be a subset of X that is convex in X . Then the order topology on Y is the same as the subspace topology that Y inherits from X .