

## Ordinals and order spaces

A linear ordering  $\leq$  is a binary reln on a set  $X$  which is reflexive, transitive, and

- $\forall x, y \in X, x \leq y \wedge y \leq x \Rightarrow x = y$
- $\forall x, y \in X, x \leq y \vee y \leq x$  (connected)

A linear ordering is a well order if  $\forall S \in \mathcal{P}(X) - \{\emptyset\}$ ,  $S$  has a least element, i.e. an elt  $x \in S$  st  $\forall y \in S, y \geq x$ .

An equivalent statement to AC: Every set can be well ordered.

More generally, a reln  $R$  on a set  $X$  is well-founded if  $\forall S \in \mathcal{P}(X) - \{\emptyset\}$ ,  $\exists x \in S$  st  $\forall y \in S, \neg(y R x)$ . So a well ordering is just a linear ordering which is well founded.

Dependant Choice: A weaker form of AC. It says:  $\forall X \neq \emptyset$  and

all entire binary relations  $X$  (entire means  $\forall a \in X, \exists b \in X$  st  $a R b$ ) there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  st  $x_n R x_{n+1} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(Dependant choice is also weaker than the axiom of choice)

Dependant choice is insufficient to build non-measurable sets, but is equivalent to the Baire Category Thm.

Thm: A reln  $R$  on a set  $X$  is well-founded iff there does not exist an infinite decreasing chain, i.e. a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  st  $x_{n+1} R x_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

PF: If  $R$  is well-founded, and  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence in  $X$ , then

$\exists$  a "smallest" element  $x_n$  i.e.  $\forall m \neq n, x_n R x_m$ . In particular,

$x_n R x_{n+1}$ . Thus, the sequence is not strictly decreasing.

Conversely,  $\mathcal{P}(X, R)$  has no infinite decreasing chains. Then

let  $S \in \mathcal{P}(X) - \{\emptyset\}$ . Let  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  be a finite decreasing chain from  $S$ .

That is,  $x_n R x_{n-1} R \dots R x_0$ . Since  $R$  has no infinite decreasing

chains,  $\exists m$  st  $x_n R x_m$ . Thus,  $R$  is cofA. Let

$A = \{y \in S : x_n R y\}$ . By assumption  $A \neq \emptyset$ . By DC, there is an infinite sequence  $\{x_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  st  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, x_n R x_k$  ie  $x_k \in A$ .

Something is wrong with this.  $\square$

Def<sup>1</sup>: If  $(\mathbb{X}, \leq_{\mathbb{X}})$  is a WO, then for  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ , define  $I_x := \{y \in \mathbb{X} : y \leq x\}$  ie it's the initial segment up to  $x$ .

Def<sup>2</sup>: An order isomorphism  $\pi: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$  between two linear orderings  $(\mathbb{X}, \leq_{\mathbb{X}})$   $(\mathbb{Y}, \leq_{\mathbb{Y}})$  is an order preserving bijection. That is, for  $x, y \in \mathbb{X}$ ,  $x \leq_{\mathbb{X}} y \Leftrightarrow \pi(x) \leq_{\mathbb{Y}} \pi(y)$ .

[This means that by assuming DC, a linear ordering is a WO iff it does not have an infinite decreasing chain, and even w/o DC, being a well order still implies there are none.]

Fact: Order Isomorphisms are Unique.

Fact: No WO is isomorphic to any initial segment of itself.

Fact:  $\forall$  WO's  $(\mathbb{X}, \leq_{\mathbb{X}})$ ,  $\mathbb{X} \cong \mathbb{X}$ . (by the identity map.)

Fact: If  $\mathbb{X} \cong \mathbb{Y}$  and  $\mathbb{Y} \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\mathbb{X} \cong \mathbb{Z}$  [if  $\pi: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$  and  $\sigma: \mathbb{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  are the isomorphisms then  $\sigma \circ \pi: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is an iso.]

Fact: If  $\pi: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$  is an isomorphism and  $\pi(x) = y$  then  $\pi|_{I_x}$  is an isomorphism from  $I_x$  to  $I_y$ .

Fact: Let  $(\mathbb{X}, \leq_{\mathbb{X}}), (\mathbb{Y}, \leq_{\mathbb{Y}})$  be well orderings, then either  $\mathbb{X} \cong I_y$  for some  $y \in \mathbb{Y}$ ,  $\mathbb{Y} \cong I_x$  for some  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ , or  $\mathbb{X} \cong \mathbb{Y}$ .

Let  $WO :=$  the class of all well ordered sets. Define for  $(X, \leq_X), (Y, \leq_Y)$  in  $WO$  that  $X \approx Y$  iff  $X \cong Y$ . This is reflexive and symmetric, well defined and transitive.

[Also, if we define  $X \leq Y$  iff  $X \cong \gamma$  or  $\exists \gamma \in Y$  st  $X \cong I_\gamma$ , then  $\leq$  is a well ordering on  $WO$ ]

Informal Notion of an ordinal: An ordinal  $\alpha$  is an equivalence class of well orderings under the equivalence relation of order isomorphism.

That is,  $\alpha = [(X, \leq_X)]$

By the fact about trichotomy, let  $\alpha, \beta \in ON$ . Then define  $\alpha < \beta$  if for some  $(X, \leq_X) \in \alpha$ , some  $(Y, \leq_Y) \in \beta$ ,  $\exists \gamma \in Y$  st  $\gamma \neq \max(Y)$  and  $X \cong I_\gamma$ . This is well defined by our previous facts.

Def<sup>o</sup>: A set is transitive if  $\forall x \in X$  and  $\forall y \in x, y \in X$

Ex:  $\{0, \{0, 1\}, 1\}$  is transitive. Removing the outer 0 or 1 makes it not transitive.

Formal Def<sup>o</sup>: An ordinal  $\alpha$  is a transitive set which is well ordered by the  $\in$  relation.

Fact: If  $\alpha \in ON$  and  $\beta \in \alpha$ , then  $\beta = I_\beta$

Fact: If  $\alpha, \beta \in ON$  and  $\alpha \cong \beta$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$ .

Fact: If  $\alpha, \beta \in ON$ , then either  $\alpha \in \beta$ ,  $\beta \in \alpha$ , or  $\alpha = \beta$ .

Fact: The collection  $ON$  with the  $\in$  relation is a well order. (But not a set)

Fact: Every well ordering  $(X, \leq_X)$  is order-isomorphic to a unique ordinal.

We say  $\alpha \in ON$  is a successor ordinal if  $\{\beta: \beta < \alpha\}$  has a maximal elt. Otherwise,  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal.

If  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal, then the largest  $\beta$  st  $\beta < \alpha$  is called the predecessor of  $\alpha$ .

If  $\alpha \in ON$ , then let  $S(\alpha) = \alpha \cup \{\alpha\}$ . This is also an ordinal, it is namely the least ordinal greater than  $\alpha$ . (it is transitive,  $\alpha \in S(\alpha)$ , and w'd by  $\in$ ). Denote  $S(\alpha) = \alpha + 1$ , it is the successor of  $\alpha$ .

An ordinal  $\alpha$  is countable if it is countable as a set. That is,

$\exists$  a surjective function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \alpha$ .

Thm: If  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots$  is a countable set of countable ordinals, then

$\exists \beta \in ON$  st  $\beta > \alpha_i \forall i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

[This follows from a lemma saying that if  $S \subseteq ON$ , then  $\bigcup S \in ON$ , and the fact that a ctble union of ctble sets is ctble.]

Def: A limit ordinal  $\alpha$  is said to have cofinality  $\omega$  (denoted  $\text{cof}(\alpha) = \omega$ ) if  $\exists$  an increasing map  $f: \omega \rightarrow \alpha$  which is unbd'd (ie cofinal).

Fact: Every countable limit ordinal has cofinality  $\omega$ .

Now, onto order topologies

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a linearly ordered set. Define  $(a, b) := \{x \in X: a < x < b\}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{I}_x = \{(a, b): a < x < b, a, b \in X\}$  for  $x \neq \min\{X\}, x \neq \max\{X\}$ .

$\mathcal{I}_x = \{[x, b): x < b, b \in X\}$  for  $x = \min\{X\}$

[where  $[x, b) := \{b \in X: b \geq x\}$ ] and if  $a = \max\{X\}$  then

$\mathcal{I}_x = \{(a, x]: a < x, a \in X\}$  where  $(a, x] := \{a \in X: a \leq x\}$ .

This is a filter base  $\forall x \in \mathbb{X}$ :

If  $x \neq \min/\max\{\mathbb{X}\}$ , then  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathcal{F}_x \Rightarrow C_1 = (a_1, b_1), C_2 = (a_2, b_2)$

$a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{X}, a_1 < x < b_1 \wedge a_2 < x < b_2 \Leftrightarrow \max\{a_1, a_2\} < x < \min\{b_1, b_2\}$

$\Rightarrow C_1 \cap C_2 = \{x \in \mathbb{X} : a_1 < x < b_1 \wedge a_2 < x < b_2\}$   
 $= \{x \in \mathbb{X} : \max\{a_1, a_2\} < x < \min\{b_1, b_2\}\} = (\max\{a_1, a_2\}, \min\{b_1, b_2\})$

$\in \mathcal{F}_x$ . Similarly, if  $x = \max\{\mathbb{X}\}$ , then  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathcal{F}_x \Rightarrow C_1 = (a_1, x),$

$C_2 = (a_2, x] \Rightarrow C_1 \cap C_2 = (\max\{a_1, a_2\}, x] \in \mathcal{F}_x$ . Case  $x = \min\{\mathbb{X}\}$

is identical. Further, the sets  $C \in \mathcal{F}_x$  are open: If  $C = (a, b) \in \mathcal{F}_x$

and  $y \in (a, b)$ , then  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{F}_y$  and  $(a, b) \subseteq (a, b)$ , so  $\checkmark$ .

If  $(a, x] \in \mathcal{F}_x$  and  $y \in (a, x]$ , then if  $y < x$ ,  $(a, x) \in \mathcal{F}_y$  and  $(a, x) \subseteq (a, x]$

so  $(a, x]$  is open. Finally, if  $[x, b) \in \mathcal{F}_x$  and  $y > x$ , then

$y \in (x, b) \subseteq [x, b)$  and  $(x, b) \in \mathcal{F}_y$ , so all are open.

Ex:  $(\mathbb{R}, \leq)$  with the standard ordering - The order topology on this

is just  $\mathbb{R}_{\text{std}}$ , since the collection of open intervals is a base

in both cases.

Def: Let  $(\mathbb{X}_1, \leq_{\mathbb{X}_1}), (\mathbb{X}_2, \leq_{\mathbb{X}_2}), \dots, (\mathbb{X}_n, \leq_{\mathbb{X}_n})$  be linear orderings.

Define the lexicographic order (or the dictionary order) on  $\prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{X}_i$

by  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) < (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  if  $x_1 <_{\mathbb{X}_1} y_1$  or  
 if  $(x_1 = y_1 \wedge x_2 <_{\mathbb{X}_2} y_2)$  or ... or  $(x_1 = y_1 \wedge x_2 = y_2 \wedge \dots \wedge x_n <_{\mathbb{X}_n} y_n)$

It can be shown that this is a linear order, and defines an

order topology on  $\prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{X}_i$ .

Consider  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{lex}$ , the order topology on  $\mathbb{R}_{sta} \times \mathbb{R}_{ord}$  under the lexicographic order. Clearly, a base for  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{lex}$  is  $B = \{(z_1, z_2) : z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2, z_1 <_{lex} z_2\}$

Note,  $B_2 = \{\{x\} \times (c, d) : x \in \mathbb{R}, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, c < d\}$  is also a base:

The sets are open since  $\{x\} \times (c, d) = ((x, c), (x, d))$  (the open interval from  $(x, c)$  to  $(x, d)$ ), and if  $U \in \mathcal{T}_{lex}$ ,  $(x, y) \in U$ , then

$\exists (a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  st  $(x, y) \in ((a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2)) \subseteq U$

Since  $((a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2)) \in \{\{x, y\}\}$  where  $a_1 < x < a_2$  or  $a_1 = x = a_2$

and  $b_1 < y < b_2$ . In either case,  $(x, y) \in ((x, b_1), (x, b_2)) \subseteq ((a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2)) \subseteq U$

so  $B_2$  is a base. This means that clearly then

$B_2 = \{\{x\} \times (q_1, q_2) : x \in \mathbb{R}, q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{Q}, q_1 < q_2\}$  is also a base.

Thm:  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{lex}$  is 1<sup>st</sup> ctble, but not separable or 2<sup>nd</sup> ctble.

pf: For  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , the set  $B_{(x, y)} = \{B \in B_2 : (x, y) \in B\}$  is a nbhd base since  $B_2$  is a base, and countable since  $\{x\}$  is fixed. Thus, we have 1<sup>st</sup> ctble.  $\nexists \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{lex}$  were separable.

Then  $\exists D = \{(x_n, y_n)\}_{new}$  which is ctbles dense. So then,

$\{x_n\}_{new}$  is also countable. Let  $x \in \mathbb{R} - \{x_n\}_{new}$ . Let

$U = \{x\} \times \mathbb{R}$ . This set is open in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{lex}$ , but clearly  $U \cap D = \emptyset$

$\nexists$ . So  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{lex}$  is not separable, and therefore not

2<sup>nd</sup> ctble.  $\square$

Let  $\alpha \in ON$ . Then  $(\alpha, \epsilon)$  is a linearly ordered set, so we can define the order topology on  $\alpha$  as before. Denote this as

$[0, \alpha) = \{\beta \in ON : 0 \leq \beta < \alpha\}$ . (In reality,  $[0, \alpha) = \alpha$ , so  $[0, \alpha)$  is just notation to remind us we're thinking about a space).

Similarly,  $[0, \alpha]$  is also notation for the order topology on  $S(\alpha)$ .

[Really, all natural numbers are ordinals, letting  $0 = \emptyset$ ,  $1 = \{\emptyset\}$ ,

$2 = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $3 = \{0, 1, 2\} = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$ , etc. By the

axiom of infinity, there exists an infinite ordinal. Let  $\omega$  denote the least infinite ordinal. Then  $\omega = \mathbb{N}$ .

Fact:  $\exists$  an uncountable ordinal. Let  $S \subseteq ON$  be the subset of uncountable ordinals, then  $S$  has a least elt. Let  $\omega_1$  be the least uncountable ordinal. [It's only w/ CH that  $|\omega_1| = |\mathbb{R}|$ .]

Thus, we have the spaces  $[0, \omega_1)$  and  $[0, \omega_1]$ .

Suppose  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal. Then  $\forall \beta \in \alpha$ ,  $\{\beta\}$  is open,

since if  $\beta = 0$ ,  $\{0\} = [0, 1)$ , and if  $\beta = \max\{\alpha\}$ , then

$\{\beta\} = (\beta-1, \beta]$  (where  $\beta-1$  is defined by  $S(\beta-1) = \beta$ ) and otherwise,

$\{\beta\} = (\beta-1, \beta+1)$ . Thus  $[0, \alpha)$  is just the discrete topology

on  $\alpha$ . Similarly,  $[0, \alpha]$  is just the discrete topology on  $S(\alpha)$ .

Thm:  $[0, \omega_1)$  is  $2^{\text{st}}$  cble, but not  $2^{\text{nd}}$  cble and not separable.

PF:  $2^{\text{st}}$  cble is simple, since if  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal,

$\{\{\alpha\}\}$  is a nbhd base at  $\alpha$ , and if  $\alpha$  is a limit, then since

$\alpha \in \omega_1$ ,  $\alpha$  is cble, and thus  $\{\alpha = \{(\beta, \alpha] : \beta < \alpha\}$  is a cble set

They're open since  $(\beta, \alpha] = (\beta, \alpha+1)$ , and if  $U$  is open with  $\alpha \in U$ , then  $\exists a, b$  st  $\alpha \in (a, b) \subseteq U \Rightarrow a < \alpha < b$ , then  $(a, \alpha] \subseteq (a, b)$ , so this is a ctbl nhd base. For separable,  $\beta \in D \subseteq [0, \omega_1)$  is a ctbl set. Since  $\forall \gamma \in D, \gamma < \omega_1$ , ie  $\gamma$  is ctbl,  $\cup D$  is itself a ctbl ordinal, ie  $\cup D = \mathcal{I}_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , ie if  $\beta > \alpha$ , then  $\beta > \gamma \forall \gamma \in D$ . Therefore if  $U = (\alpha, \omega_1)$  which is open in  $[0, \omega_1)$ , then  $U \cap D = \emptyset$ , ie  $D$  is not dense. Since  $[0, \omega_1)$  isn't separable, it's not 2<sup>nd</sup> ctbl.  $\square$

Thm:  $[0, \omega_1]$  is not 1<sup>st</sup> ctbl, 2<sup>nd</sup> ctbl, or separable.  
 The ctbl bases for  $\alpha \in [0, \omega_1)$  from earlier still work, so we must show that  $\omega_1$  doesn't have a ctbl base. To show this,  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_n\}_{n \in \omega}$  is a ctbl base at  $\omega_1$ . Fix a  $B_n$ . Since  $\omega_1 \in B_n$ , and  $B_n$  is open,  $\exists \alpha_n < \omega_1$  st  $(\alpha_n, \omega_1) \subseteq B_n$ . Thus we have a ctbl set of ctbl ordinals  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ . By ctbl choice,  $\exists \alpha < \omega_1$  st  $\alpha_n < \alpha \forall n \in \omega$ . Let  $U = (\alpha, \omega_1]$ , which is open. By construction,  $B_n \not\subseteq U$  for any  $B_n$ , but  $U$  is a nhd of  $\omega_1$ , so  $\mathcal{B}$ . Thus,  $[0, \omega_1]$  is not 1<sup>st</sup> ctbl. Next, note that if  $U$  is open in  $[0, \omega_1)$ , then clearly  $U$  is open in  $[0, \omega_1]$ , so if  $D$  were a countable dense set in  $[0, \omega_1]$ , it would also be ctbl, dense in  $[0, \omega_1)$ , which we showed cannot happen. Thus,  $[0, \omega_1]$  is also not separable, and thus also not 2<sup>nd</sup> ctbl.  $\square$