

Topology of the reals

Def 13.1: ε -neighborhood of x

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and let $\varepsilon > 0$. An ε -neighborhood of x is a set of the form $N(x; \varepsilon) := \{y \in \mathbb{R} : |x - y| < \varepsilon\}$.

Def 13.2: Deleted neighborhood

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and let $\varepsilon > 0$. A deleted neighborhood of x is a set of the form $N^*(x; \varepsilon) := \{y \in \mathbb{R} : 0 < |x - y| < \varepsilon\} = N(x; \varepsilon) \setminus \{x\}$.

Def 13.14: Limit point/accumulation point

Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. A point $x \in \mathbb{R}$ (might not be in E) is called a limit point/accumulation point of E if $E \cap N^*(x; \varepsilon) \neq \emptyset$ **for all** $\varepsilon > 0$.

The set of all limit points of E is denoted E' .

Def 13.14 Isolated point

If $x \in E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and $x \notin E'$ then x is an isolated point of E .

Def 13.16: Closure

Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. The closure of E is $\overline{E} := E \cup E'$.

Def 13.3 (a): Interior point

Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is an interior point of E if $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ such that $N(x; \varepsilon) \subseteq E$.

The set of all interior points of E is denoted E° . Clearly, $E^\circ \subseteq E$.

Def 13.3 (b): Boundary point

Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. The boundary of E is $\partial E := \overline{E} \cap (\overline{\mathbb{R} \setminus E})$. The set of points that are arbitrarily close to E and to the complement of E .

Def 13.6 (a): Closed set

We say that E is a closed subset of \mathbb{R} if $E = \overline{E}$.

Def 13.6 (b): Open set

We say that E is an open subset of \mathbb{R} if $E = E^\circ$.

Remark

The following possibilities can occur:

1. E is open.
2. E is closed.
3. E is open and closed.
4. E is neither open nor closed.

Def. Dense

A subset E of \mathbb{R} is said to be dense in \mathbb{R} if $\overline{E} = \mathbb{R}$.

Thm. 13.7

- (a) E is an open subset of \mathbb{R} iff $E = E^\circ$, equivalently, E is open iff every point in E is an interior point of E .
- (b) A set E is closed iff its complement $\mathbb{R} \setminus E$ is open.

Thm. 13.10, 13.11

- (a) The union of any collection of open sets is open.
- (b) The intersection of any finite collection of open sets is open.
- (c) The intersection of any collection of closed sets is closed.
- (d) The union of any finite collection of closed sets is closed.

Thm. 13.17

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

- (a) E is closed iff $E' \subseteq E$,
- (b) \overline{E} is closed,
- (c) E is closed iff $\overline{E} = E$,
- (d) $\overline{E} = E \cup \partial E$.

HW: 13.1, 13.2, 13.3 (a,c), 13.4 (a,c), 13.5 (a,b,c,d), 13.6 (a,b,c,d), 13.7, 13.11, 13.19.