

Irrationals in $(0, 1)$ are uncountable.

$(0, 1)$ is uncountable (Cantor); $\mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1)$ is countable. If the irrationals $I = (0, 1) \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ were countable, then $(0, 1) = I \cup (\mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1))$ would be a countable union of countables \Rightarrow countable — contradiction.

Def (Distance to a set). $d(x, A) = \inf\{d(x, a) : a \in A\}$; $d(x, A) = 0 \iff x \in \bar{A}$.

Metric counterexamples. (1) $d(x, y) = |x^2 - y^2|$ fails identity of indiscernibles: $d(1, -1) = 0$ but $1 \neq -1$.

(2) $d(x, y) = |x - 2y|$ fails symmetry: $d(0, 1) = 2$ but $d(1, 0) = 1$.

(1) $\inf A = -\sup(-A)$ (**one-liner**). Lower bounds of $A \leftrightarrow$ upper bounds of $-A$ via $x \mapsto -x$. Least \iff greatest.

(2) $\sup(A + B) = \sup A + \sup B$ (**$\varepsilon/2$ template**). Let $a^* = \sup A$, $b^* = \sup B$. Then $a + b \leq a^* + b^*$ so $\sup(A + B) \leq a^* + b^*$. For $\varepsilon > 0$ pick $a > a^* - \varepsilon/2$, $b > b^* - \varepsilon/2$, then $a + b > a^* + b^* - \varepsilon$. Conclude equality.

(3) \mathbb{N} not bounded above in \mathbb{R} (**floor trick**). If U bounds \mathbb{N} , then $n = \lfloor U \rfloor \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n + 1 > U$ contradicts boundedness.

(4) Nested open intervals can intersect trivially. $U_n = (0, 1/n)$ are open, $U_{n+1} \subset U_n$, but $\bigcap_n U_n = \emptyset$. (Any $x > 0$ fails $x < 1/n$ for n large.)

(5) \mathbb{Q} lacks LUB property (classic hole). $A = \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q > 0, q^2 < 2\}$ is bounded in \mathbb{Q} but has no $\sup_{\mathbb{Q}}$ (would be $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$).

(6) Irrationals in $(0, 1)$ are uncountable (nested-intervals proof). Assume a list of irrationals $\{\alpha_n\}$. Build closed $I_1 \supset I_2 \supset \dots$ with $I_{n+1} \subset I_n$ and $\alpha_n \notin I_n$, lengths $\rightarrow 0$. Unique $x \in \bigcap I_n \subset (0, 1)$ is irrational and not on the list. Contradiction.

(7) Finite sets are closed (no limit points). For $F = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ and $p = x_i$, set $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \min_{j \neq i} d(x_i, x_j) > 0$. Then $B_\delta(p) \cap (F \setminus \{p\}) = \emptyset$. Thus F has no limit points \Rightarrow closed.

(8) $\sup E \in \bar{E}$ (when $E \neq \emptyset$ bounded above in \mathbb{R}). Let $s = \sup E$. For $\varepsilon > 0$ pick $x \in E$ with $s - \varepsilon < x \leq s$. Then $B_\varepsilon(s)$ meets E . Hence $s \in \bar{E}$.

(9) Discrete metric: every set is clopen. If $d(x, y) = 1_{x \neq y}$, then for $E \subset X$ and $x \in E$, $B_{1/2}(x) = \{x\} \subset E$ so E open. Complement is also open.

(10) Quick metric checks (failures). (1) $d(x, y) = |x^2 - y^2|$ fails $d(x, y) = 0 \Rightarrow x = y$ since $d(1, -1) = 0$. (2) $d(x, y) = |x - 2y|$ fails symmetry: $d(0, 1) = 2$ but $d(1, 0) = 1$.

(11) Bounded metric inducing usual opens (equivalence idea). $\rho(x, y) = \frac{|x-y|}{1+|x-y|}$ on \mathbb{R} : monotone in $|x - y|$, so for $r > 0$, $B_r^\rho(x) = \{y : \rho(x, y) < r\} = \{y : |x - y| < \frac{r}{1-r}\}$, an ordinary open ball. Hence same open sets.

(12) Subspace openness/closedness (\iff). If $E = Y \cap G$ with G open in X , then for $y \in E$ there is ε with $B_\varepsilon^X(y) \subset G$; hence $B_\varepsilon^Y(y) = Y \cap B_\varepsilon^X(y) \subset E$ so E is open in Y . The converse: if E open in Y , set $G = \bigcup_{y \in E} B_\varepsilon^X(y)$ from witnessing balls; then $E = Y \cap G$. Dual statement for closed sets.

(13) Interior/closure dualities. $(E^\circ)^c = \overline{E^c}$ and $(\bar{E})^c = (E^c)^\circ$. (Take complements and use de Morgan with openness/closedness.)

(14) Sequential closedness (metric spaces). F is closed \iff whenever $x_n \in F$ and $x_n \rightarrow x$, then $x \in F$. (\Rightarrow) Complements of closed sets are open \Rightarrow some ball misses F if $x \notin F$. (\Leftarrow) If $x \notin F$ and F not open at x , build $x_n \in F \cap B_{1/n}(x) \rightarrow x$, contradiction.

(15) Closure/interior algebra (useful equalities). $\overline{A \cup B} = \bar{A} \cup \bar{B}$ and $(A \cap B)^\circ = A^\circ \cap B^\circ$. Proofs: Each inclusion is easy: use monotonicity and openness/closedness definitions.

(16) When equalities fail (good counterexamples). $\bar{A \cap B} \subsetneq \bar{A} \cap \bar{B}$: take $A = \mathbb{Q}$, $B = \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ in \mathbb{R} . LHS = \emptyset , RHS = \mathbb{R} .

$(A \cup B)^\circ \supsetneq A^\circ \cup B^\circ$ can fail: in \mathbb{R} , let $A = (0, 1)$ and $B = (1, 2)$. LHS = \emptyset , RHS = $(0, 1) \cup (1, 2)$? (Instead: take A dense open, B dense open disjoint? Use rationals/irrationals by intervals—safe rule is only \subseteq holds.)

(17) Every nbhd of a limit point contains infinitely many points of E . If some nbhd of p had only finitely many points of E , remove them via $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \min d(p, q)$ over those points; then $B_\delta(p)$ misses $E \setminus \{p\}$, contradicting p limit point.

(18) Bounded \iff contained in some ball. (\Rightarrow) If $\sup\{d(x, y) : x, y \in E\} = M < \infty$, then for any fixed $x_0 \in E$, $d(x, x_0) \leq M$ so $E \subset B_M(x_0)$. (\Leftarrow) Trivial.

(19) Openness via distance-to-boundary (clean trick). In \mathbb{R}^2 , $E = \{(x, y) : x < y\}$. Boundary is the line $y = x$. For $(x, y) \in E$, distance to line is $\frac{y-x}{\sqrt{2}} > 0$, so the open ball of that radius stays in E ; hence E is open.

(20) Interior is open; E open $\iff E^\circ = E$. $E^\circ = \bigcup \{B_\varepsilon(x) \subset E\}$ is a union of opens \Rightarrow open. If E open, then each $x \in E$ has a ball inside E , so $x \in E^\circ$.

(21) Creative diagonalization (functions). If $\{f_n : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}\}$ is listed, define $g(n) = f_n(n) + 1$. Then $g \neq f_n$ for all n ; hence the set of functions $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is uncountable. Use bijections $\mathbb{Q} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{N}$ to lift to $\text{Fun}(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$.

(22) Finite-support sequences are countable. $E = \{(a_n) : \exists N \forall n > N, a_n = 0\} = \bigcup_{N \geq 0} \mathbb{Z}^{N+1}$ (or countable alphabet) \Rightarrow countable union of countables.

(23) Bijections between intervals (fast formulas). Affine: $(0, 1) \rightarrow (a, b)$ by $x \mapsto a + (b - a)x$. Reciprocal: $(0, 1) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ by $x \mapsto 1/x$. Compositions yield many cardinality equivalences.

(24) Sequence test for openness (contrapositive style). G not open $\Rightarrow \exists x \in G$ such that every $B_{1/n}(x)$ meets G^c . Pick $y_n \in G^c \cap B_{1/n}(x)$, then $y_n \rightarrow x \in G$. Useful: builds counterexamples by sequences.

Key rule: If A has at least two elements and domain is infinite countable (e.g. \mathbb{N}), then $A^{\mathbb{N}}$ is uncountable.

Diag proof: Suppose f_1, f_2, \dots lists all $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$. Pick $a_0 \neq a_1 \in A$. Define $g(n) = a_0$ if $f_n(n) \neq a_0$, else a_1 . Then $g \neq f_n$ for all n . Contradiction \Rightarrow uncountable.

Finite domain \rightarrow countable. If D finite and C countable, then C^D countable ($|C|^{|D|}$ finite power of countable).