

# Script 3

**Lemma 3.4:** If  $A$  is a nonempty, finite subset of a continuum  $C$ , then  $A$  has a first and last point.

We can prove that  $A$  has a first and last point through induction.

Suppose our base case  $n = 1$ , then  $A = \{a_1\}$  where  $A$  is a set with a single element thus that single element is both the first and last element (according to *definition 3.3*).

Now for the inductive hypothesis, we can assume when  $n = k$ , where  $k$  is a positive integer.  $A$  has a first element  $a_i$  and the last point is  $a_k$  such that  $a_1 < a_k$ .

Finally, our inductive step proves our assumption holds for when  $A$  contains  $n = k + 1$  elements. There are three possible cases :

1.  $a_{k+1} < a_1 < a_k$
2.  $a_1 < a_{k+1} < a_k$
3.  $a_1 < a_k < a_{k+1}$

All these hold true for the inductive step and maintain the existence of the first and last element, therefore any finite subset  $A$  of a continuum  $C$ , it has a first and last point.

**Theorem 3.5:** Suppose that  $A$  is a set of  $n$  distinct points in a continuum  $C$ , or, in other words,  $A \subset C$  has cardinality  $n$ . Then symbols  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  may be assigned to each point of  $A$  so that  $a_1, a_2, < \dots < a_n$ , i.e.  $a_i < a_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ .

Suppose we have a set  $X$  with elements  $\{a_1, a_2, < \dots < a_n\}$ . We can essentially assign the elements of set  $X$  to the first point in  $A$  according to *Lemma 3.4* which says that  $A$  which is a subset of  $C$  has a first and last point. Thus as we move through set  $X$ , we can assign and remove element  $a_1$  from set  $A$  so that each element in  $A$  will be assigned to symbols  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  in set  $X$ .

**Corollary 3.7:** Of three distinct points in a continuum, one must be between the two other.

Consider *Theorem 3.5* where we proved each point in a subset of a continuum  $C$  to a symbol  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  in ascending order. In this case, we can order this set  $C = \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$  where  $c_1 < c_2 < c_3$  thus  $c_2$  is between  $c_1$  and  $c_3$ .

### Exercise 3.8:

**a. We define a relation  $<$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $m < n$  if  $n = m + c$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{N}$ . Show that,  $\mathbb{Z}$ , with the ordering  $<$ , satisfies Axiom 1-3.**

Let us be reminded of *Axioms 1-3*.

*Axiom 1. A continuum is a nonempty set  $C$ .*

First, let us identify  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a continuum because it's a nonempty (infinite) set of integers. For example, the set  $\mathbb{Z}$  contains elements such as  $\{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$ . This means  $\mathbb{Z}$  fulfills *axiom 1*.

*Axiom 2. A continuum  $C$  has an ordering  $<$*

We can identify  $m$  and  $n$  as distinct points in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $c$  as a positive integer. For *Axiom 2* to prove true, an ordering on the set represented by  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  with elements  $(m, n)$  written as  $m < n$  must satisfy these conditions according to *definition 3.1*:

Trichotomy, where for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  one of the following holds:  $m < n$ ,  $m = n$ , or  $m > n$ . Because we defined  $m < n$  if  $n = m + c$ , then trichotomy is satisfied as one of the above held true. This is also because when  $n = m + c$  and  $c \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $c = n - m$ ,  $m \neq n$  because  $c$  would have to equal 0, and  $m \not> n$  because  $c$  would have to be negative, both of which are not within the set  $\mathbb{N}$  thus,  $m < n$  is the only case and trichotomy is true in the continuum  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Transitivity: where for all  $m, n, l \in \mathbb{Z}$ , if  $m < n$  and  $n < l$  then  $m < l$ . Let's suppose  $n = m + a$ ,  $l = n + b$ , and  $l = m + c$  where  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}$ . From this, we can deduce  $n > m$  because  $a = n - m$ . We can substitute  $m + a$  for  $n$  to get  $l = m + a + b$ . If  $a, b$  are both positive integers more than 0, then  $l$  must be greater than  $m$  which proves that if  $n > m$  and  $l > n$ , then  $l > m$ . Therefore, the transitivity property is true for an ordering  $<$  of continuum  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

With both Trichotomy and Transitivity satisfied, we can conclude that the continuum  $\mathbb{Z}$  has an ordering  $<$ .

*Axiom 3. A continuum  $C$  has no first or last point*

This is true, as  $\mathbb{Z}$  has no first nor last point. This is because  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an infinite set thus there is no  $a_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $a_i$  is any element of  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $a_1 < a_i$  for all  $i$  nor is there any element  $a_n$  that represents the last element of  $\mathbb{Z}$  because  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an infinite set with no first nor last element.

Therefore,  $\mathbb{Z}$  with the ordering  $<$ , satisfies axioms 1-3.

**b. Show that, for any  $p = \{\frac{a}{b}\} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , there is some  $(a_1, b_1) \in p$  with  $0 < b_1$ .**

Let us first determine if there is some  $(a_1, b_1) \in p$ . As we have observed in *Exercise 2.6*:  $[\frac{a}{b}] = [\frac{a_1}{b_1}] = (a, b) \sim (a_1, b_1)$ . Thus, we may find an equivalent fraction for any rational number  $p$  such that

$\left[\frac{a}{b}\right] = \left[\frac{a_1}{b_1}\right]$  by dividing both  $a, b$  by their greatest common divisor (GCD). We know based on the equivalence relation established in *Exercise 2.2* that  $\left[\frac{a}{b}\right] = (a, b)$  and conversely  $\left[\frac{a_1}{b_1}\right] = (a_1, b_1)$ . Thus since  $(a, b) \in p$  and  $(a, b) \sim (a_1, b_1)$ , then  $(a_1, b_1) \in p$ . Note that by dividing  $b$  by a GCD and because  $p$  is a rational number and fractions cannot have 0 in their denominator,  $b$  must be a positive integer and thus  $b > 0$ .

There exists 3 cases for  $(a_1, b_1)$  where  $b_1 > 0$ :

1.  $\left\{\frac{a_1}{b_1}\right\}$  is zero:

In this case,  $a_1$  must be 0 such that  $b_1$  must be either positive or negative so  $\left\{\frac{a_1}{b_1}\right\} = 0$  and  $0 < b_1$ .

2.  $\left\{\frac{a_1}{b_1}\right\}$  is positive:

In this case, both  $a_1$  and  $b_1$  are positive or both are negative, thus there exists a  $b_1$  such that  $b_1 > 0$

3.  $\left\{\frac{a_1}{b_1}\right\}$  is negative:

In this case, either  $a_1$  or  $b_1$  is negative so in the case  $a_1 < 0$  then there is some  $b_1$  can be expressed as  $b_1 > 0$

So for all cases 0, positive, and negative, there exists some  $b_1 > 0$ .

**c. We define a relation  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  as follows. For  $p, q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , let  $(a_1, b_1) \in p$  be such that  $0 < b_1$ , and let  $(a_2, b_2) \in q$  be such that  $0 < b_2$ . Then we define  $p <_{\mathbb{Q}} q$  if  $a_1 b_2 < a_2 b_1$ . Show that  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is a well-defined relation on  $\mathbb{Q}$ .**

Suppose  $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$  and  $(c, d) \sim (c', d')$ , and by *part b* we know that  $b, b', d, d'$  can all be  $> 0$ .

By definition of the  $\sim$  relation in *exercise 2.2* we know that  $ab' = a'b$  and  $cd' = c'd$  such that

$$\left[\frac{a}{b}\right] = \left[\frac{a'}{b'}\right] \text{ and } \left[\frac{c}{d}\right] = \left[\frac{c'}{d'}\right].$$

We want to show that  $[a, b] <_{\mathbb{Q}} [c, d]$  is equivalent to  $[(a', b')] <_{\mathbb{Q}} [(c', d')]$ . We can suppose

$$[(a, b)] <_{\mathbb{Q}} [c, d] \text{ which means } ad <_{\mathbb{Q}} cd \text{ so } \left[\frac{a}{b}\right] <_{\mathbb{Q}} \left[\frac{c}{d}\right] \text{ which results in } \left[\frac{a'}{b'}\right] = \left[\frac{a}{b}\right] <_{\mathbb{Q}} \left[\frac{c}{d}\right] = \left[\frac{c'}{d'}\right].$$

From this, we know that  $a'd' <_{\mathbb{Q}} b'c'$  so that  $[(a'b')] <_{\mathbb{Q}} (c', d')$  such that  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is a well defined relation on  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**d. Show that  $\mathbb{Q}$ , with the ordering  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$ , satisfies *Axioms 1-3*.**

Let us be reminded of *Axioms 1-3*.

*Axiom 1. A continuum is a nonempty set  $C$ .*

First, let us identify  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a continuum because it's a nonempty (infinite) set of rational numbers (fractions). For example, the set  $\mathbb{Q}$  contains elements such as  $\left\{\left(\frac{0}{1}\right), \left(\frac{1}{1}\right), \left(\frac{-1}{1}\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right\}$  and so on. This means  $\mathbb{Q}$  fulfills *axiom 1*.

*Axiom 2. A continuum  $C$  has an ordering  $<$*

For *Axiom 2* to prove true, an ordering on the set represented by  $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$  with elements  $p, q$  written as  $p <_{\mathbb{Q}} q$  must satisfy these conditions according to *definition 3.1*:

Trichotomy: We can identify  $p$  and  $q$  as distinct points in  $\mathbb{Q}$  where  $(a_1, b_1) \in p$  and  $(a_2, b_2) \in q$  where for all  $p, q \in \mathbb{Q}$  one of the following holds:  $p <_{\mathbb{Q}} q$ ,  $p =_{\mathbb{Q}} q$ , or  $p >_{\mathbb{Q}} q$ . Because we defined  $p <_{\mathbb{Q}} q$  if  $a_1 b_2 < a_2 b_1$ , then trichotomy is satisfied as one of the above held true.

Transitivity: We can identify  $p$  and  $q$  as distinct points in  $\mathbb{Q}$  where  $(a_1, b_1) \in p$  and  $(a_2, b_2) \in q$  and define a point  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  and let  $(a_3, b_3) \in x$  be such that  $0 < b_1, b_2, b_3$  based on *part 2* and let's make  $x$  so  $q = p +_{\mathbb{Q}} x$ . For all  $p, q, x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , if  $p < q$  and  $q < x$  then  $p < x$ . This is equivalent to  $[\frac{a_1}{b_1}] < [\frac{a_2}{b_2}] < [\frac{a_3}{b_3}]$ , and by substitution we know that  $[\frac{a_1}{b_1}] < [\frac{a_3}{b_3}]$ . Therefore, the transitivity property is true for an ordering  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$  of continuum  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

With both Trichotomy and Transitivity satisfied, we can conclude that the continuum  $\mathbb{Q}$  has an ordering  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

**Axiom 3.** A continuum  $C$  has no first or last point

This is true, as  $\mathbb{Q}$  has no first nor last point. This is because  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a dense infinite set thus there is no  $a_1 \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$  where  $a_i$  is any element of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $a_1 < a_i$  for all  $i$  nor is there any element  $a_n$  that represents the last element of  $\mathbb{Q}$  because  $\mathbb{Q}$  is an infinite set where between any two distinct rational numbers, there is another rational number. Thus  $\mathbb{Q}$  has no first nor last element.

Therefore,  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the ordering  $<_{\mathbb{Q}}$ , satisfies axioms 1-3.

**Theorem 3.11:** If  $x$  is a point of a continuum  $C$ , then there exists a region  $\underline{ab}$  such that  $x \in \underline{ab}$ .

Let us remember *Definition 3.9:* If  $a, b \in C$  and  $a < b$ , then the set of points between  $a$  and  $b$  is called a region, denoted by  $\underline{ab}$ .

Let us mimic this region by creating a subset of  $C$  called  $A$  of points between  $a$  and  $b$  where  $a$  is the first point and  $b$  is the last point then by *axiom 2 and 3*, the point  $a < x$  and  $b > x$  such that the  $a < x < b$  and by transitivity  $a < b$ . This is possible through *Lemma 3.4* which defines the first and last points of subset  $A$  and *Corollary 3.5* which indexes each point in the subset in ascending order. Because  $A$  can be arranged in ascending order  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$  where  $a_1 = a$  and  $a_n = b$  where  $n$  is the cardinality of  $A$ , there must be an  $a_i = x$  where  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and is between 1 and  $n$ . Therefore,  $x$  must be a point existing within the region  $\underline{ab}$ .

**Theorem 3.13:** If  $p$  is a limit point of  $A$  and  $A \subset B$ , then  $p$  is a limit point of  $B$ .

Let us be reminded of *Definition 3.12:* a limit point is a point  $p$  of continuum  $C$  in subset  $A$  if every region  $R$  containing  $p$  has nonempty intersection with  $A \setminus \{p\}$  which means for every region  $R$  with  $p \in R$ , we have  $R \cap (A \setminus \{p\}) \neq \emptyset$ .

Since  $p$  is a limit point of  $A$ , then for all regions  $R$  containing  $p$ ,  $R \cap (A \setminus \{p\}) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $q \in A$  be an intersection point with  $R \cap (A \setminus \{p\}) \neq \emptyset$ , and since  $A \subset B$ , then  $q \in B$ . Thus, given an  $R$

containing  $p$ , there is a  $q \in R \cap B \setminus \{p\}$  which means  $p$  is a limit point of  $B$ .

**Lemma: 3.15:** If  $\underline{ab}$  is a region in a continuum  $C$ , then,  $\text{ext } \underline{ab} = \{x \in C \mid x < a\} \cup \{x \in C \mid b < x\}$

Consider *Definition 3.14*: If  $\underline{ab}$  is a region of continuum  $C$ , then  $C \setminus (\{a\} \cup \underline{ab} \cup \{b\})$ . is called the exterior of  $\underline{ab}$  denoted by  $\text{ext } \underline{ab}$ .

We want to show  $\text{ext } \underline{ab} = \{x \in C \mid x < a\} \cup \{x \in C \mid b < x\}$ . We know that:

if  $x \not\leq a$ , then  $x \geq a$

if  $x \not\geq b$ , then  $x \leq b$

We can formulate the equation:

$$C \setminus (\{a\} \cup \underline{ab} \cup \{b\}) = C \setminus (\{a\} \cup \{a < x < b\} \cup \{b\}).$$

$$C \setminus (\{a\} \cup \{a < x < b\} \cup \{b\}) = C \setminus (\{a \leq x \leq b\}).$$

$$C \setminus (\{a \leq x \leq b\}) = \{x \in C \mid x < a\} \cup \{x \in C \mid x > b\}. \text{ Thus } C \setminus (\{a\} \cup \underline{ab} \cup \{b\}) = \underline{ab} = \{x \in C \mid x < a\} \cup \{x \in C \mid b < x\}.$$

**Lemma 3.16:** No point in the exterior of a region is a limit point of that region. No point of a region is a limit point of the exterior of that region.

Let us be reminded of *Definition 3.12*: a limit point is a point  $p$  of continuum  $C$  in subset  $A$  if every region  $R$  containing  $p$  has nonempty intersection with  $A \setminus \{p\}$  which means for every region  $R$  with  $p \in R$ , we have  $R \cap (A \setminus \{p\}) \neq \emptyset$ .

Proof by contradiction:

Consider the set  $E = \text{ext } \underline{ab}$  where  $E \cap R \neq \emptyset$  which is proven by *lemma 3.15*. Assume  $e \in E$  where  $e$  is a limit point of  $\underline{ab}$ , and  $a$  and  $b$  are in the continuum  $C$ . There are two possible cases.

$e < a$  is a possibility where  $a'$  is an element such that  $a' < e < a$  because the continuum has no first or last point and by *theorem 3.11* that states the point  $e$  in the continuum exists in a region  $\underline{a'a}$ . If we create a region  $\underline{a'a}$  then it contains  $p$ , but  $\underline{a'a} \cap (\underline{ab} \setminus \{p\}) = \emptyset$ . This contradicts our assumption by stating that  $p$  cannot be a limit point of  $\underline{ab}$ .

Or  $e > b$  such that there is a  $b'$  where  $b < e < b'$  which is possible because the continuum has no first or last point and by *theorem 3.11*. If we create a region  $\underline{bb'}$  then it contains  $p$ , but  $\underline{bb'} \cap (\underline{ab} \setminus \{p\}) = \emptyset$  which is also contradictory.

Because  $\underline{a'a} \cap \underline{ab} \setminus e = \emptyset$  or  $\underline{bb'} \cap \underline{ab} \setminus e = \emptyset$  and since  $e \in R$ , then  $a < e < b$  and  $a' < a$  which means that  $\underline{ab} \cap \underline{a'a} \setminus \{e\} = \emptyset$ . And because  $b < b'$  then  $\underline{ab} \cap \underline{bb'} \setminus \{e\} = \emptyset$  and  $\underline{ab} \cap E \setminus \{e\} = \emptyset$  which contradicts our assumption of  $e$  being a limit point. This contradicts our assumption, saying that  $e$  cannot be a limit point of  $\text{ext } \underline{ab}$  if it is a point on  $\underline{ab}$ .

**Theorem 3.17:** If two regions have a point  $x$  in common, their intersection is the region containing  $x$ .

Let  $x \in \underline{ab}$  and  $x \in \underline{cd}$ , which means  $a, b, c, d \in C$  and  $a < b$  and  $c < d$ . We can infer that  $a < x$  and  $x < b$  and  $c < x$  and  $x < d$ . By the definition of a region, we know that  $a < b$  and  $c < d$ , and by trichotomy, we know that  $a < x < d$  and  $c < x < b$ . If  $x \in \underline{ab} \cap \underline{cd}$ , then  $x$  is in a region,  $R$  that is between the least value (whether  $a$  or  $c$ ) and the greatest value  $b$  or  $d$

Be aware of our four cases that results from this:

1.  $a < c < b < d$ , intersection of regions is  $\underline{cb}$
2.  $a < c < d < b$ , intersection of regions is  $\underline{cd}$
3.  $c < a < b < d$ , intersection of regions is  $\underline{ab}$
4.  $c < a < d < b$ , intersection of regions is  $\underline{ad}$

Because all of the resulting intersections contain  $x$ , then  $x \in (\underline{ab} \cap \underline{cd})$ .

**Corollary 3.18:** If  $n$  regions  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  have a point  $x$  in common, then their intersection  $R_1 \cup \dots \cap R_n$  is a region containing  $x$ .

Proof by induction: If a region  $R$ ,  $R_n$   $x$ , then the intersection  $R$

Base case ( $n = 1$ ),  $R_1$  contains  $x$  because it is the only region and has intersection with itself.

Inductive hypothesis, we assume  $n = k$ , so if  $R_1 \dots R_k$  all contains  $x$ , then  $R_1 \cap R_k$  contains  $x$ .

Inductive step, we can show it holds for ( $n = k + 1$ ). Let  $K = R_1 \cap R_n \cap R_n$  based on our hypothesis. We know that  $K$  is a region containing  $x$ . Thus  $R_1 \cap R_2, R_k \cap R_{k+1} = K \cap R_{k+1}$ . The intersection of 2 regions containing  $x$  because  $R_{k+1}$  contains  $x$ . By \*theorem 3.17 \*, we have  $K \cap R_{k+1}$  is a region containing  $x$ .

**Theorem 3.19:** Let  $A, B$  be subsets of a continuum  $C$ . Then  $p$  is a limit point of  $A \cup B$  if, and only if,  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of  $A$  or  $B$ .

We can prove this this by contradiction. Let us assume that there exists a  $p$  which is a limit point of  $A \cup B$  but not a limit point of either  $A$  nor  $B$ . This means for  $p$  to be a limit point, then for every region  $R$  containing  $p$  with  $p \in R$ ,  $R \cap (A \cup B \setminus \{p\}) \neq \emptyset$ . Going right to left, if  $p$  is a limit point of  $A$  or  $B$ , then  $A \subset A \cup B$ ,  $B \subset A \cup B$ . By *theorem 3.13* if a point is a limit point of a set then it is also a limit point of its parent sets.

**Corollary 3.20:** Let  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  be  $n$  subsets of a continuum  $C$ . Then  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n$  if, and only if,  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of the sets  $A_k$ .

Let us be reminded of *theorem 3.19*: Let  $A, B$  be subsets of a continuum  $C$ . Then  $p$  is a limit point of  $A \cup B$  if, and only if,  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of  $A$  or  $B$ . Now, let's solve this with mathematical induction:

Base case ( $n = 1$ ): We can prove that  $p$  is a limit point for a single set  $A_1$  if and only if  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_1$  which is inherently true.

Inductive hypothesis ( $n = k$ ): We assume that the statement is true when  $n = k$  such that for any subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  of a continuum  $C$ ,  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_1 \cup A_2, \dots, \cup A_k$  if and only if  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of the sets  $A_i$ .

Inductive step ( $n = k + 1$ ):

To prove that our hypothesis holds for ( $n = k + 1$ ), we must show that for subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{k+1}$  of continuum  $C$ ,  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_1 \cup A_2, \dots, \cup A_{k+1}$  if and only if  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of the sets  $A_i$ .

Let's first consider the forward direction, where  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_1 \cup A_2, \dots, \cup A_{k+1}$ . By the inductive hypothesis, we know that if  $p$  is a limit point of the union of the first  $k$  sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$ , then it must be a limit point of at least one of them.

Now, we check the reverse direction. If  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of the sets  $A_i$ , we want to show that it is indeed a limit point of  $A_1 \cup A_2, \dots, \cup A_{k+1}$ .

Consider the case where  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_{k+1}$ . By *Theorem 3.19*, we can state that the limit point of a set is also a limit point of the union between that set and another. Thus, if  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_{k+1}$ , it is also a limit point of the union  $A_1 \cup A_2, \dots, \cup A_k \cup A_{k+1}$ .

We have now proven both directions of the statement, ensuring that  $p$  is a limit point of  $A_1 \cup A_2, \dots, \cup A_{k+1}$  if and only if  $p$  is a limit point of at least one of the sets  $A_i$ .

**Theorem 3.21: If  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct points of a continuum  $C$ , then there exist disjoint regions  $R$  and  $S$  containing  $p$  and  $q$ , respectively.**

Let's make  $p$  and  $q$  arbitrary points in  $C$  and  $p < q$ . Also, let's assume  $p' \in C$  where  $p' < p$  and  $q' \in C$  where  $q' < q$ . Now let's examine the possible cases:

1. At least 1 point between  $p$  and  $q$ :

Let  $c$  be the point between  $p$  and  $q$  forming two regions  $R = \underline{cp'}$  and  $S = \underline{q'c}$ . They must be disjoint because they both have  $c$  as one of their limits (but does not include it) and include  $p$  and  $q$  respectively.

2. No points between  $p$  and  $q$

There are two regions  $q \in \underline{pp'}$  and  $p \in \underline{qq'}$ , and because there are no points between  $p$  and  $q$ , then the regions are disjoint as they contain no similar elements in their regions.

**Corollary 3.22. A subset of a continuum  $C$  consisting of one point has no limit points.**

Let us be reminded of the definition of a limit point: *Let  $A$  be a subset of a continuum  $C$ . A point  $p$  of  $C$  is called a limit point of  $A$  if every region  $R$  containing  $p$  has nonempty intersection with  $A \setminus \{p\}$ . This means for every region  $R$  with  $p \in R$ , we have  $R \cap (A \setminus \{p\}) \neq \emptyset$ .*

Let us prove by contradiction:

Assume that a subset  $A$  of continuum  $C$  consists of one point,  $x \in A$  and has a limit point  $p$  which is not necessarily in  $A$ . We have 2 cases:

1.  $x = p$

If  $A$  only has  $x$  which is a limit point, we can check that  $R \cap (\{x\} \setminus \{p\}) = R \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$  thus  $p$  is not a limit point of  $A$ .

2.  $x \neq p$

If  $x$  and  $p$  are distinct points in  $C$ , then by *theorem 3.21* there exists disjoint regions  $A$  and  $R$  containing  $x$  and  $p$  respectively such that  $p$  is not a limit point of  $A$ .

2a.  $p > x$

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two points such that  $x < a < p < b$  and  $R = \underline{bc}$  so  $p \in R$ , so  $(R \cap A) \setminus \{x\} \neq \emptyset$ . But because  $R$  does not contain  $x$ , it contains no points in set  $A$  thus  $R \cap A = \emptyset$  which disproves our previous statement.

2b.  $p < x$

Let  $c$  and  $d$  be distinct points such that  $c < p < d < x$  and the region  $R = \underline{cd}$  such that  $p \in R$ . Based off of this, we know that  $(R \cap A) \setminus \{x\} \neq \emptyset$ , but because  $R$  does not contain point  $x$ , it has no elements in its intersection with set  $A$  such that  $R \cap A = \emptyset$ . Thus our previous statement is false and we have a contradiction.

**Theorem 3.23: A finite subset  $A$  of a continuum  $C$  has no limit points.**

A finite subset will contain a region  $R$  that is between two points surrounding any point such that the intersection between  $R$  and  $A$  will be the empty set. Let  $A = A_1 \cup A_n$  where they are all subsets of  $C$  consisting of one point. Based on *Corollary 3.20*: *for  $p$  to be limit point of the union of sets, it must be a limit point of at least one of the sets*. From this, we can see that  $p$  cannot be a limit point of any sets  $A_1 \dots A_n$  because they consist only of one element which means none of the sets can have a limit point by *Corollary 3.22*.



**Corollary 3.24:** If  $A$  is a finite subset of a continuum  $C$  and  $x \in A$ , then there exists a region  $R$ , containing  $x$ , such that  $A \cap R = \{x\}$ .

Order  $A$  by *theorem 3.5* and let  $A = \{a_1 \dots a_n\}$  where some  $a_k = x$ . Let  $A' = \{a_1 \dots a_{k-1}\}$  and let  $A'' = \{a_{k+1} \dots a_n\}$ . Because  $a_{k-1} < x < a_{k+1}$ , let the region  $R = \underline{a_{k-1} a_{k+1}}$  which contains  $x$  and no other points in  $A$ . If  $x$  is  $a_1$  then the region will be  $R = \underline{(\text{element of } C < a_1) a_2}$  and if  $x$  is the last element then the region will be  $R = \underline{a_n (\text{element of } C > a_n)}$ . Thus  $A \cap R = \{x\}$ .

**Theorem 3.25:** If  $p$  is a limit point of  $A$  and  $R$  is a region containing  $p$ , then the set  $R \cap A$  is infinite.

For every  $R$  where  $p \in R$ ,  $R \cap A$  is infinite.

By contradiction we can prove  $A \cap R$  is finite.

$$S_0 = A \cap R$$

$$S_1 = \{x \in S_0, x < p\}, x_L \text{ is last point of } S_1$$

If  $S_1 = \emptyset$ , then the region  $\underline{ax_L}$  that contains  $p$  is  $\underline{ax_L} \cap A \setminus \{p\} = \emptyset$  so  $p$  is not a limit point.

$$S_2 = \{x \in S_0, x > p\} x_F \text{ is first point of } S_2$$

If  $S_2 = \emptyset$  then the region  $\underline{x_L b}$  such that  $\underline{x_L b} \cap A \setminus \{p\} = \text{empty}$  so  $p$  is not a limit point.

Therefore the region  $\underline{x_L x_F}$  contains  $p$ , and  $\underline{x_L x_F} \cap A \setminus \{p\} = \emptyset$ , so  $p$  is not a limit point of  $A$ .