

problem 2

Problem. *Prove the set of all algebraic numbers is countable.*

Lemma. *Suppose A is a countable set, then $A[x]$, the set of all polynomials in A is also countable.*

Proof. Let $A_n[x]$ denote the subset of $A[x]$ such that all members have degree less than n . Then there is a bijection between $A_n[x]$ and A^n , as each of the n coefficients of the polynomials in $A_n[x]$ can take on values from A . Hence $A_n[x]$ is countable, and hence $A[x] = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n[x]$ is countable. \square

Corollary. $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is countable

Let Ω be the set of all algebraic integers, and let $R(f)$ denote the roots of polynomial f . notice $R(f)$ is a finite set, and that

$$\Omega = \bigcup_{f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]} R(f)$$

And since this is a countable union of at most countable sets, Ω is countable \square

Corollary. (problem 3) *There exists real numbers that are not algebraic.*

Proof. If all real numbers were algebraic, then the identity map would be a bijection $\mathbb{R} \hookrightarrow \Omega$, but \mathbb{R} is uncountable while Ω is countable, \square

problem 4

Problem. *Prove the set of irrationals is uncountable*

Proof. Let \mathbb{Q}^c denote the set of irrationals. Suppose \mathbb{Q}^c is countable, then since \mathbb{Q} is countable, $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{Q} \cup \mathbb{Q}^c$ would be countable. But \mathbb{R} is uncountable, hence \mathbb{Q}^c must be uncountable. \square

problem 6

Problem. *let E' be the set of all limit points of E . Prove that E' is closed. Prove that E and $\bar{E} = E \cup E'$ have the same limit point. Do E and E' always have the same limit points?*

Theorem. E' is closed.

Proof. Let p be a limit point of E' , then all neighborhoods of p intersect E' at some point $q \neq p$. But there exists a neighborhood of q contained entirely in the neighborhood of p , and since $q \in E'$ it contains a point of E . Hence the neighborhood of p contains an element of E and p is a limit point. Hence E' is closed. \square

Corollary. E and \bar{E} have the same limit points.

Proof. If $q \in N_r(p)$, then $q \in N_{r'}(p)$ for all $r' \geq r$. This means that the limit points of $A \cup B$ must be limit point of either A or B , since if not then there would be a neighborhood of the limit point p not in A and another not in B and the smaller neighborhood would contain neither. So limit points of \bar{E} are the limit points of E and E' which is precisely the limit points of E \square

take $E = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$, then $E' = \{0\}$ and $E'' = \emptyset$.

problem 9

Problem. let E° denote the set of all interior points of a set E

Theorem. (a) E° is always open

Proof. Let $p \in E^\circ$. Suppose p is not an interior point of E° , then every neighborhood of p has a point not in E° . There is a neighborhood of p contained in E , let q be a point in this neighborhood not in E° . But there is a neighborhood of q contained in the neighborhood of p and hence contained in E , meaning q is an interior point of E . This is a contradiction, and hence all points of E° must be a interior point of E° \square

Theorem. (b) E is open $\iff E = E^\circ$.

Proof. (\leftarrow) Suppose $E = E^\circ$, then $E \subset E^\circ$, and hence E is open.

(\rightarrow) Suppose E is open, then by definition $E \subset E^\circ$. Since all interior points have neighborhoods contained in E , they themselves must be in E , i.e $E^\circ \subset E$, hence $E = E^\circ$ \square

Theorem. (c) If $G \subset E$ is an open set, then $G \subset E^\circ$

Proof. Suppose G is open, then $G \subset G^\circ$. Now all the interior points of G are also interior points of E , so $G^\circ \subset E^\circ$, hence $G \subset E^\circ$. \square

Theorem. (d) The complement of E° is the closure of E^c .

Proof. Suppose $x \notin E^\circ$, this is true iff x is not a interior point of E , i.e iff all neighborhoods of x contains a point not in E . This holds iff x is a limit point of E^c . This means that $x \in E^c$ and $x \in (E^c)'$, so $x \in \overline{E^c}$. Hence $(E^\circ)^c = \overline{E^c}$ \square

Theorem. (e) E and \bar{E} do not always have the same interiors.

Proof. let $E = \mathbb{Q}$, then $\bar{E} = \mathbb{R}$, and clearly they have different interiors. \square

Theorem. (f) E and E° do not always have the same closures.

Proof. take $E = \mathbb{Q}$, then $E^\circ = \emptyset$, again clearly different closures. \square

problem 12

Problem. Let $K = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$, prove directly that K is compact.

Proof. take any cover $\{V_\alpha\}$ of K . 0 is contained in one of these open sets, call it V_0 . 0 is an interior point of V_0 , so some neighborhood $N_r(0)$ is contained entirely in this set. so V_0 covers everything from 0 to r . now the remaining members of K are with $\frac{1}{n} > r \implies \frac{1}{r} > n$. This set is clearly finite, so we can pick a singular V_n for each member of this set. $\{V_0\} \cup \{V_n\}$ is hence a finite subcover. \square

problem 13

Problem. Construct a subset of \mathbb{R} that has countable limit points

Proof. Take

$$A = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \left\{ k + \frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

The limit points of this are all of \mathbb{Z} . Infact this set is also closed since $\mathbb{Z} \subset A$ \square

problem 14

Problem. Construct a cover of $(0, 1)$ with no finite subcovers

Proof. Take the cover $V = \left\{ \left(\frac{x}{2}, x \right] \mid x \in (0, 1) \right\}$, this clearly covers $(0, 1)$ as $x \in \left(\frac{x}{2}, x \right]$. Suppose there is a finite subcover, then there would be an interval with smallest x in this finite subcover. But then all points less than $\frac{x}{2}$ would not be in this subcover, forming a contradiction. \square

problem 17

Problem. Let E be the set of all numbers in $[0, 1]$ with only 4s and 7s in its decimal expansion

Theorem. E is uncountable.

Proof. Define a map $f : E \hookrightarrow [0, 1]$ as the composition of two maps: first by replacing 4s with 0s and 7s with 1s in E , then by converting the corresponding binary number to decimal. Clearly both of these are bijective, hence the overall map is bijective, making E uncountable. \square

Theorem. E is not dense in $[0, 1]$

Proof. 0 is clearly not a limit point, as $N_{.1}(0)$ contains no point of E . and since $0 \notin E$, this means $0 \notin \overline{E} \implies \overline{E} \neq [0, 1]$ \square

Theorem. E is compact.

Proof. Suppose p is not in E , then there is a number that is not a 4 nor a 7 in its decimal expansion, let this be in the n th decimal place. Then $N_{10^{-n-2}}(p)$ has all elements with n th decimal place not being 4 or 7, meaning p is not a limit point. Hence E is closed. Since E is a closed and bounded subset of \mathbb{R} , by the Heine-Borel theorem it is compact. \square

Theorem. E is perfect

Proof. let $p \in E$. let $r > 10^{-n}$, then $N_r(p)$ contains a point of E , obtained by changing the $(n+1)$ th decimal place from either 4 to 7 or 7 to 4. Hence p is a limit point of E . Since E is closed, E is perfect. \square

problem 19

Theorem. (a) If A and B are disjoint closed sets in some metric space X , they are separate.

Proof. since they are closed, $A = \overline{A}$ and $B = \overline{B}$ and then the result follows by definition. \square

Theorem. (b) If A and B are disjoint open sets in some metric space X , they are separate.

Proof. Suppose there is a limit point of B in A , call this p . There is a neighborhood of p contained in A since A open, and since p is a limit point: a point in B is contained in this neighborhood. Hence a point of B is contained in A , contradicting disjointness. This situation is symmetric, hence they are separate. \square

Theorem. (c) fix $p \in X, \delta > 0$. let $A = \{q \in X \mid d(p, q) < \delta\}$ and $B = \{q \in X \mid d(p, q) > \delta\}$, then A and B are separate.

Proof. A is just an open ball, and since B^c is the closed ball of the same radius, B is open. since A and B are disjoint open sets, they are separate. \square

Theorem. (d) Every connected metric space with atleast 2 points is uncountable.

Proof. Suppose a metric space X with atleast 2 points is atmost countable, then the set of all possible values for d is also atmost countable. Since \mathbb{R} is uncountable, we can pick a δ which cannot be a value for d in this space. For some $p \in X$ take $A = \{q \in X \mid d(p, q) < \delta\}$ then $A^c = \{q \in X \mid d(p, q) > \delta\}$ which we saw was separate and hence $X = A \cup A^c$ is not connected. \square

problem 21

Problem. let A and B be separated subsets of some \mathbb{R}^k , suppose $a \in A$ and $b \in B$ and define

$$p(t) = (1-t)a + tb, t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Let $A_0 = p^{-1}(A)$ and $B_0 = p^{-1}(B)$

Theorem. (a) A_0 and B_0 are separated subsets of \mathbb{R}

Proof. A_0 and B_0 are clearly disjoint. Now suppose a limit point t' of A_0 is in B_0 . Take $p(t') = a + t'(b-a) \in B$. Consider $N_r(p(t'))$, a subset of this is $a + N_{r'}(t')(b-a)$ with $r' = \frac{r}{|a-b|}$. The t' neighborhood contains a point of A_0 , and hence the $p(t')$ neighborhood contains a point of A , contradicting the separatedness of A and B . Hence A_0 and B_0 are separated. \square

Theorem. (b) There exist $t_0 \in (0,1)$ such that $p(t_0) \notin A \cup B$

Proof. $A_0 \cap (0,1)$ has a supremum less than 1, as $1 \in B_0$ cannot be a limit point of A_0 . Let S_A denote this supremum. Let I_B be the smallest number in B_0 that is greater than S_A . Now since I_B has a neighborhood that is disjoint from A , there exists a t_0 such that $I_B > t_0 > S_A$. Now clearly $t_0 \notin A_0 \cup B_0$, and the problem follows. \square

Theorem. (c) Every convex subset of \mathbb{R}^k is connected.

Proof. Suppose E is a convex subset of \mathbb{R}^k with $E = A \cup B$ where A and B are separated. Now pick $a \in A$ and $b \in B$, then by convexity all $(1-t)a + tb \in E$, but from (b) we know this is not true. Hence all convex subsets of \mathbb{R}^k is connected. \square

problem 23

Theorem. Every separable metric space has a countable base.

Proof. Suppose X is separable, and let X' be a countable dense subset of X . Then

$$V = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} \{N_r(x') | x' \in X'\}$$

is a countable union of countable sets, making it countable. Consider an open set $G \subset X$. let $x \in G$, then there is a neighborhood of x of some radius $2r$ contained in G . Take the neighborhood of x with radius r , this contains an element $x' \in X'$, and hence $x \in N_r(x') \subset N_{2r}(x) \subset G$ notice we could have picked a rational radius by simply decreasing the radius. Hence V is a basis for X , and all separable metric spaces have countable basis. \square

problem 24

Theorem. Let X be a metric space where all infinite subsets have a limit point, then X is separable.

Proof. Fix $\delta > 0$, take $x_1 \in X$, and then for $x_1 \dots x_n \in X$, pick x_{n+1} such that $d(x_{n+1}, x_i) \geq \delta$ with $i = 1 \dots n$. Keep doing this until this is impossible. The set $s_\delta = \{x_i\}$ has no limit points, as any neighborhood of radius δ can contain at most 1 point in the set and limit points must have neighborhoods that intersect the set infinitely. This set is hence finite. Every element of X is contained in δ neighborhoods of the x_i , as if a point was not contained in the neighborhoods then it could be added to the x_i . Now take the set of all the centers of the balls, and take the union over $\delta = \frac{1}{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$, this is a countable union of finite sets, making it countable. Now all neighborhoods of $x \in X$ contains one of these centers, making this dense. \square

problem 25

Theorem. *Every compact metric space X has a countable basis, and is hence separable.*

Proof. Take \mathcal{N}_δ as a cover of X made up of open balls around each of its elements with radius δ , then it has a finite subcover. Take the union of all such finite subcovers with $\delta \in \mathbb{Q}$, this is a countable union of finite sets making it countable. Using the same argument as 23, this is a basis for X . All neighborhoods of $x \in X$ contains one of the ball's center like in 24, and hence is separable. \square