

Homework 9

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1. Let $\bar{N}(x; \epsilon) = \{y \in X : d(x, y) \leq \epsilon\}$ denote a **closed neighborhood** in X .

Using the lecture definitions of open and closed sets, prove that $\bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ is a closed set in X .

Proof: In order to show $\bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ is a closed set in X , we need to show $X \setminus \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ is an open set in X .

Let $x_1 \in X \setminus \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$. Then $x_1 \in X$ and $x_1 \notin \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ which means $d(x, x_1) > \epsilon$. We pick $\epsilon_1 = d(x, x_1) - \epsilon$ and note $\epsilon_1 > 0$ since $d(x, x_1) > \epsilon$. Next, we need to prove $N(x_1; \epsilon_1) \subseteq X \setminus \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$.

Let $x_2 \in N(x_1; \epsilon_1)$, then we have $x_2 \in X$ and $d(x_1, x_2) < \epsilon_1$. By the triangle inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(x, x_1) &\leq d(x, x_2) + d(x_2, x_1) \\ d(x, x_2) &\geq d(x, x_1) - d(x_1, x_2) \\ d(x, x_2) &> d(x, x_1) - \epsilon_1 \\ &> d(x, x_1) - d(x, x_1) + \epsilon \\ &> \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have $d(x, x_2) > \epsilon$ which implies $x_2 \notin \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$. Therefore, $x_2 \in X$ and $x_2 \notin \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ which means $x_2 \in X \setminus \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$. Hence $N(x_1; \epsilon_1) \subseteq X \setminus \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$.

Since our choice of x_1 and x_2 are arbitrary, we have proved $X \setminus \bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ is an open set in X , and therefore $\bar{N}(x; \epsilon)$ is a closed set in X .

2. Let (X, d) be a non-empty metric space and let $A \subseteq X$ be non-empty. Prove that $X \setminus \text{int}(A) = \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$.

In order to prove $X \setminus \text{int}(A) = \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$, we need to show (i). $X \setminus \text{int}(A) \subseteq \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$ (ii). $\text{cl}(X \setminus A) \subseteq X \setminus \text{int}(A)$.

First we need to prove $X \setminus \text{int}(A) \subseteq \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$. Let $x \in X \setminus \text{int}(A)$. Thus we have $x \in X$ and $x \notin \text{int}(A)$. Consider two exhaustive cases, $x \in A$ or $x \notin A$. If $x \in A$, we have $x \in \text{bd}(A) \cup \text{int}(A)$ since $A \subseteq \text{bd}(A) \cup \text{int}(A)$. Since $x \notin \text{int}(A)$, $x \in \text{bd}(A)$. Thus $N(x; \epsilon) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ and $N(x; \epsilon) \cap (X \setminus A) \neq \emptyset$. Hence $x \in \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$. Thus $x \in (X \setminus A) \cup \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$ which means $x \in \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$ if $x \in A$. If $x \notin A$, then $x \in X \setminus A$ since $x \in X$. Thus $x \in (X \setminus A) \cup \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$ which means $x \in \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$ if $x \notin A$. Therefore, we have $x \in \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$ if $x \in X \setminus \text{int}(A)$. Thus we have shown $X \setminus \text{int}(A) \subseteq \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$.

Next we need to prove $\text{cl}(X \setminus A) \subseteq X \setminus \text{int}(A)$. Let $x \in \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$ and we have $x \in (X \setminus A) \cup \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$. Consider two exhaustive cases, $x \in (X \setminus A)$ or $x \in \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$. If $x \in (X \setminus A)$, we have $x \in X$ and $x \notin A$. Since $\text{int}(A) \subseteq A$, we have $x \notin \text{int}(A)$. Thus $x \in X \setminus \text{int}(A)$. Therefore we have $\text{cl}(X \setminus A) \subseteq X \setminus \text{int}(A)$ if $x \in (X \setminus A)$. If $x \in \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$, we have $x \in X \setminus A$. With the same reasoning in case 1 above, we have $x \in \text{cl}(X \setminus A) \subseteq X \setminus \text{int}(A)$ if $x \in \text{bd}(X \setminus A)$. Thus we have shown $\text{cl}(X \setminus A) \subseteq X \setminus \text{int}(A)$.

Since we have shown $X \setminus \text{int}(A) \subseteq \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$ and $\text{cl}(X \setminus A) \subseteq X \setminus \text{int}(A)$, we have therefore proved $X \setminus \text{int}(A) = \text{cl}(X \setminus A)$.

3. Consider the metric space (\mathbb{R}^2, d) where $d = |x_1 - y_1| + |x_2 - y_2|$. Use the definition of compactness to prove that the set

$$S = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 1\}$$

is not a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Proof: In order to show the set S is not a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^2 , we need to prove there exists an open cover of S that has no finite subcovers.

Let \mathcal{F} be the set $\{N((0, 0), \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{n}) | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. We need to prove \mathcal{F} is an open cover of S , which means $S \subseteq \cup_{j \in \mathcal{F}} A_j = N((0, 0), \sqrt{2})$.

Let $(x_1, x_2) \in S$, then we have $x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 1$. We need to prove $(x_1, x_2) \in N((0, 0), \sqrt{2})$. Let us assume $x \notin N((0, 0), \sqrt{2})$. Then we know $|x_1| + |x_2| \geq 2$ by definition. Then we have $\sqrt{|x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2} \leq \sqrt{(|x_1| + |x_2|)^2}$ by Minkowski's inequality. Thus we have $|x_1| + |x_2| \geq \sqrt{|x_1 + x_2|^2} \geq \sqrt{2}$. Consider two exhaustive cases: $|x_1| \geq 1$ or $|x_1| < 1$. If $|x_1| \geq 1$, then $|x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2 = (x_1)^2 + (x_2)^2 \geq 1$. Thus we found a contradiction when $|x_1| \geq 1$. If $|x_1| < 1$, we have $|x_2| = \sqrt{2} - |x_1| \geq 1$. Thus $|x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2 = (x_1)^2 + (x_2)^2 \geq 1$. Then we found a contradiction when $|x_1| < 1$. Therefore it must be the case $(x_1, x_2) \in N((0, 0), \sqrt{2})$. Thus $S \subseteq \cup_{j \in \mathcal{F}} A_j = N((0, 0), \sqrt{2})$ and \mathcal{F} is an open cover for S .

Next, we prove there does not exist a finite subcover \mathcal{F}' for \mathcal{F} by contradiction. We need to find a point $(x_1, x_2) \in S$ such that is not covered by \mathcal{F}' . There exists a largest number n such that $N((0, 0), \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{n}) \in \mathcal{F}'$. Thus for all $N \leq n$, we have $N((0, 0), \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{N}) \in \mathcal{F}'$ and $\cup_{j \in \mathcal{F}'} A_j = N((0, 0), \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{N})$. Since $N \leq n$, we have $N((0, 0), \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{N}) \subset N((0, 0), \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{n})$ which means \mathcal{F}' is a subset of \mathcal{F} . Let (x_1, x_2) be the point $(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \epsilon, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})$ and $\epsilon < \frac{1}{N}$. Then we have $x_1^2 + x_2^2 = \frac{2}{4} + \frac{2}{4} + \epsilon^2 < 1$. Thus $(x_1, x_2) \in S$. However, $(x_1, x_2) \notin \mathcal{F}'$ since $|x_1| + |x_2| = \sqrt{2} - \epsilon > \sqrt{2} - \frac{1}{N}$. Thus we have point $(x_1, x_2) \in S$ but $(x_1, x_2) \notin \mathcal{F}'$.

Since our choice of (x_1, x_2) is arbitrary and we have shown there exists an open cover of S that has no finite subcovers, S is not compact.