

Measure Theory

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Text

Real Analysis (4th edition)

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Chapter 1

The Real Numbers

1.1 Open Sets, and σ -Algebras

Definition. We call a set U of real numbers **open** provided for any $x \in U$, there is an $r > 0$ such that $(x - r, x + r) \subseteq U$.

Lemma 1.1.1. *The set of real numbers \mathbb{R} , together with open sets defines a topology on \mathbb{R} .*

Proof. Notice that both \mathbb{R} and \emptyset are open sets. Moreover, if $\{U_n\}$ is a collection of open sets, then so is their union. Now, consider the finite collection $\{U_k\}_{k=1}^n$ and let $U = \bigcap_{k=1}^n U_k$. If U is empty, we are done. Otherwise, let $x \in U$. Then $x \in U_k$ for every $1 \leq k \leq n$, and since each U_k is open, choose an $r_k > 0$ for which $(x - r_k, x + r_k) \subseteq U_k$. Then let $r = \min\{r_1, \dots, r_n\}$. Then $r > 0$, and we have $(x - r, x + r) \subseteq U$, which makes U open in \mathbb{R} . ■

Lemma 1.1.2. *Every nonempty set is the disjoint union of a countable collection of open sets.*

Proof. Let U be nonempty and open in \mathbb{R} . Let $x \in U$. Then there is a $y > x$ for which $(x, y) \subseteq U$ and there is a $z < x$ for which $(z, x) \subseteq U$. Now, let $a_x = \inf\{z : (z, x) \subseteq U\}$ and $b_x = \sup\{y : (x, y) \subseteq U\}$, and let $I_x = (a_x, b_x)$. Then we have

$$x \in I_x \text{ and } a_x \notin I_x \text{ and } b_x \notin I_x$$

Let $w \in I_x$ such that $x < w < b_x$. Then there is a $y > w$ such that $(x, y) \subseteq U$ so that $w \in U$. Now, if $b_x \in U$, then there is an $r > 0$ for which $(b_x - r, b_x + r) \subseteq U$, in particular, $(x, b_x + r) \subseteq U$. But b_x is the least upperbound of all such numbers, and $b_x < b_x + r$, a contradiction. Thus $b_x \notin U$, and hence $b_x \notin I_x$. A similar argument shows that $a_x \notin I_x$.

Consider now the collection $\{I_x\}_{x \in U}$. Then $U = \bigcup I_x$ and since $a_x, b_x \notin I_x$ for each x , the collection $\{I_x\}$ is a disjoint collection. Lastly, by the density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R} there is a 1-1 mapping between this collection and \mathbb{Q} , making it countable. ■

Definition. Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ a set. We call a point $x \in \mathbb{R}$ a **point of closure** of E if every open interval containing x also contains a point of E . We call the collection of all such points the **closure** of E , and denote it $\text{cl } E$. If $E = \text{cl } E$, then we say that E is **closed**.

Lemma 1.1.3. *For any set E of real numbers, $\text{cl } E$ is closed; i.e. $\text{cl } E = \text{cl}(\text{cl } E)$. Moreover, $\text{cl } E$ is the smallest closed set containing E .*

Lemma 1.1.4. *Every set E of real numbers is open if, and only if $\mathbb{R} \setminus E$ is closed.*

Definition. Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ a set. We call a collection $\{E_\lambda\}$ a **cover** of E if $E \subseteq \bigcup E_\lambda$. If each E_λ is open, then we call this collection an **open cover** of E .

Theorem 1.1.5 (Heine-Borel). *For any closed and bounded set F of \mathbb{R} , every open cover of F has a finite subcover.*

Proof. Suppose first that $F = [a, b]$, for $a \leq b$ real numbers. Then F is closed and bounded. Let \mathcal{F} be an open cover of $[a, b]$, and define $E = \{x \in [a, b] : [a, x] \text{ has a finite subcover by sets in } \mathcal{F}\}$. Notice that $a \in E$, so that E is nonempty. Now, since E is bounded by b , by the completeness of \mathbb{R} , let $c = \sup \{E\}$. Then $c \in [a, b]$ and there is a set $U \in \mathcal{F}$ with $c \in U$. Since U is open, there exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $(c - \varepsilon, c + \varepsilon) \subseteq U$. Now, $c - \varepsilon$ is not an upperbound of E , so there is an $x \in E$ with $c - \varepsilon < x$, and a finite collection of open sets $\{U_i\}_{i=1}^k$ covering $[a, x]$. Then the collection $\{U_i\}_{i=1}^k \cup U$ covers $[a, x]$ so that $c = b$, and we have found a finite subcover of F .

Now, let F be closed and bounded. Then it is contained in a closed bounded interval $[a, b]$. Now, let $U = \mathbb{R} \setminus F$ open and \mathcal{F} an open cover of F . Let $\mathcal{F}' = \mathcal{F} \cup U$. Since \mathcal{F} covers F , \mathcal{F}' covers $[a, b]$. By above, there is a finite subcover of $[a, b]$, and hence of F by sets in \mathcal{F} . Remove U from \mathcal{F}' , we get a finite subcover of F by sets in \mathcal{F} . ■

Theorem 1.1.6 (The Nested Set Theorem). *Let $\{F_n\}$ be a descending collection of nonempty closed sets of \mathbb{R} , for which F_1 is bounded. Then*

$$\bigcap F_n \neq \emptyset$$

Proof. Let $F = \bigcap F_n$, and suppose to the contrary that F is empty. Then for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, there is an $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ for which $x \notin F_n$. So that $x \in U_n = \mathbb{R} \setminus F_n$. Then $U_n = \mathbb{R}$, and each U_n is open. So $\{U_n\}$ is an open cover of \mathbb{R} , and hence F_1 . By the theorem of Heine-Borel, there is an $N > 0$ such that $F \subseteq \bigcup_{n=1}^N U_n$. Since $\{F_n\}$ is descending, the collection $\{U_n\}$ is ascending, and hence $\bigcup U_n = U_N = \mathbb{R} \setminus F_N$ which makes $F_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R} \setminus F_N$, a contradiction. ■

Definition. Let X be a set. We call a collection \mathcal{A} of subsets of X **σ -algebra** if

- (1) $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$.
- (2) For any $A \in \mathcal{A}$, $X \setminus A \in \mathcal{A}$.
- (3) If $\{A_n\}$ is a countable collection of elements of \mathcal{A} , then their union is an element of \mathcal{A} .

Lemma 1.1.7. *Let \mathcal{F} a collection of subsets of a set X . The intersection of all σ -algebras containing \mathcal{F} is a σ -algebra. Moreover, it is the smallest such σ -algebra.*

Definition. We define the **Borel sets** of \mathbb{R} to be the σ -algebra of \mathbb{R} containing all open sets in \mathbb{R}

Bibliography

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