## Math 4324 Closed sets

## Hand in Friday, February 16.

- **1.** In  $\mathbb{R}$  let  $A = \{1/k : k \in \mathbb{N}\}.$
- **a.** If  $\mathbb{R}$  has the standard topology, what is the boundary of A, and what is the set of limit points of A. Show that your answers are correct.

The boundary points of A is the set  $A \cup \{0\}$ . For an arbitrary  $1/n \in A$  any neighborhood O of 1/n we have  $1/n \in \mathbb{R} \cap O$ . Now as O is open then there exists a basis element B such that  $x \in B$  as this is the standard topology we have B = (a, b) for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with a < x < b. Then  $(a + x)/2 \in O \cap A^c$  therefore  $A \subset \partial A$ . For any neighborhood O of O there exists a basis element (a, b) with  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and a < 0 < b and for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have 1/n < b hence  $1/n \in O \cap A \neq \emptyset$  additionally we have for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  where  $c \notin A$  with 0 < c < b that  $c \in O \cap A^c \neq \emptyset$ . Now assume  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $x \notin A \cup \{0\}$ . Then if x < 0 we immediately have a neighborhood (x - 1, 0) with  $(x - 1, 0) \cap A = \emptyset$  like wise if x > 0 then we have the neighborhood (1, x + 1) with  $(1, x + 1) \cap A = \emptyset$ . If 0 < x < 1 we have for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  that 1/(n + 1) < x < 1/n we have the neighborhood (1/(n + 1), 1/n) of x with  $A \cap (1/(n + 1), 1/n) = \emptyset$ . This shows that  $A \cup \{0\} = \partial A$ .

We have that the limit point of A is  $\{0\}$ . This is shown as let O be a neighborhood of 0. Then as it is open we have a basis element  $(a,b) \subset O$  where  $a,b \in \mathbb{R}$  with a < 0 < b. We have that there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that 0 < 1/n < b therefore  $1/n \in O$  which shows that 0 is a limit point. We have no element of A is a limit point as for all  $1/n \in A$  we have a neighborhood (a,b) with  $a,b \in \mathbb{R}$  where  $1/n \in (a,b)$  but  $1/(n+1), 1/(n-1) \not\in (a,b)$  with the condition n > 1. This shows that no element of A is a limit point. Lastly assume  $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus (\{0\} \cup A)$  then if x < 0 we have the neighborhood (x-1,0) with  $(x-1,0) \cap A = \emptyset$  and for x > 0 we have the neighborhood (1,x+1) with  $(1,x+1) \cap A = \emptyset$ . If 0 < x < 1 then for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have (1/(n+1),1/n) with  $x \in (1/(n+1),1/n)$  but  $(1/(n+1),1/n) \cap A = \emptyset$ . This implies that the only limit point of A is  $\{0\}$ .

**b.** If  $\mathbb{R}$  has the upper limit topology, what is the boundary of A, and what is the set of limit points of A. Show that your answers are correct.

The boundary for  $\mathbb{R}$  is A.

Let  $1/n \in A$  then for any neighborhood O of 1/n we have  $1/n \in O \cap A$  therefore  $O \cap A \neq \emptyset$ . Now as O is open we have a basis element with  $(a,1/n] \subset O$  with  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and a < 1/n. Then consider the intersection  $O \cap A^c$  we have as  $(a+\frac{1}{n})/2 \in (a,1/n) \subset O$  and  $(a+\frac{1}{n})/2 \in A^c$  that  $O \cap A^c \neq \emptyset$ . This implies that  $A \subset \partial A$ . Now let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  if  $x \leq 0$  then we have the neighborhood (x-1,0] and  $(x-1,0] \cap A = \emptyset$ . If x > 1 then we have the neighborhood (1,x+1] with  $(1,x+1] \cap A = \emptyset$ . If 0 < x < 1 then we have the neighborhood (a,x] where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  where  $(a,x] \cap A = \emptyset$  this a exists as for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have 1/(n+1) < a < x < 1/n. This shows  $A = \partial A$ .

We have that there are no limit points of A.

Let  $1/n \in A$  then we have the neighborhood (1/(n+1), 1/n] then as  $(1/(n+1), 1/n) \cap A = \{1/n\}$  we have no element of A is a limit point. Now suppose  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  if  $x \le 0$  then we have the neighborhood (x-1,0] with  $(x-1,0] \cap A = \emptyset$  if x > 1 then (1,x] is a neighborhood of x and  $(1,x] \cap A = \emptyset$ . If 0 < x < 1 then we have the neighborhood (a,x] where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $(a,x] \cap A = \emptyset$  such an a exists as for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the inequality is true 1/(n+1) < a < x < 1/n. This implies that there are no limit points of A with the upper limit topology.

- **2.** Let A and B be subsets of a topological space X.
  - **a.** If  $A \subset B$ , show that  $\overline{A} \subset \overline{B}$ .

*Proof.* Assume A and B are subsets of a topological space X with  $A \subset B$ . Then we have  $\bar{A} = A \cup A' \subset B \cup A'$ . Let  $x \in A'$  then for all neighborhoods O of x we have  $O \cap A \setminus \{x\} \neq \emptyset$  as  $A \subset B$  then  $O \cap B \setminus \{x\} \neq \emptyset$  hence  $x \in B'$ . This implies  $A' \subset B'$  so we have  $\bar{A} = A \cup A' \subset B \cup B' = \bar{B}$ .

**b.** Show that  $\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$ .

*Proof.* As  $\overline{A \cup B} = A \cup B \cup (A \cup B)'$  we just need to show  $(A \cup B)' = A' \cup B'$ . Let  $x \in (A \cup B)'$  then for all neighborhoods O of x we have  $O \cap (A \cup B) \setminus \{x\} \neq \emptyset$ . Then

$$(1) \qquad O \cap (A \cup B) \setminus \{x\} = (O \cap A) \cap \{x\}^c \cup (O \cap B) \cap \{x\}^c = (O \cap A \setminus \{x\}) \cup (O \cap B \setminus \{x\})$$

this shows that  $x \in A' \cup B'$  hence  $(A \cup B)' \subset A' \cup B'$ . Then for the other inclusion the equation (1) also holds hence  $A' \cup B' \subset (A \cup B)'$  which implies  $(A \cup B)' = A' \cup B'$ . Then we have  $\overline{A \cup B} = (A \cup B) \cup (A \cup B)' = A \cup B \cup A' \cup B' = (A \cup A') \cup (B \cup B') = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$ .

**3.** a. Give an example of a topological space X and subsets A and B for which  $\overline{A \cap B} \neq \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$ . Show that your example has the asserted property.

Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be a topological space with the standard topology. Let the two sets be the open interval (0,1) and (1,2) then we have (0,1)'=[0,1] as for any  $x\in(0,1)$  any neighborhood O of x we have a basis element (a,b) where  $a,b\in\mathbb{R}$  with  $x\in(a,b)\subset U$  and as  $(a,b)\cap(0,1)\setminus\{x\}\neq\emptyset$  then we have x is a limit point. Now to show that  $0\in(0,1)'$  we have for any neighborhood O of 0 that there exists a basis element (a,b) with  $a,b\in\mathbb{R}$  and a<0< b such that  $(a,b)\subset U$  then  $(a,b)\cap(0,1)\setminus\{0\}\neq\emptyset$  as  $b/2\in(0,1)$ . To show  $1\in(0,1)'$  for any neighborhood O of 1 we have a element of the basis (a,b) where  $a,b\in\mathbb{R}$  with a<1< b and  $(a,b)\subset O$ . Then we have  $(a,b)\cap(0,1)\neq\emptyset$  as there exists a real number c with a< c<1. This shows that  $1\in(0,1)'$ . For any real number  $r\in\mathbb{R}\setminus[0,1]$  if r<0 we have the neighborhood (r-1,0) and  $(r-1,0)\cap(0,1)=\emptyset$  which shows that it is not a limit point. If r>1 then we have the neighborhood (1,r+1) and  $(1,r+1)\cap(0,1)=\emptyset$ . This shows that the limit points of (0,1) are [0,1]. From the definition of closure we have  $(0,1)=(0,1)\cup[0,1]=[0,1]$ . A similar argument gives that (1,2)'=[1,2]. Now as  $(0,1)\cap(1,2)=\emptyset$ . We have  $(0,1)\cap(1,2)=\emptyset$  and  $(0,1)\cap(1,2)=1$  hence they are not equal. n

**b.** Give an example of a topological space X and a collection of subsets  $\{A_j: j \in \mathbb{N}\}$  for which

$$\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}} \overline{A_j}$$

is not equal to

$$\overline{\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}A_j}.$$

Show that your example has the asserted property.

Claim that  $A_i = \{1/j\}$  has this property in the Real numbers with the standard topology.

Proof. From problem (1a) we have that the limit point of  $\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}A_j$  is 0. By the definition of complement  $\overline{\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}A_j}=(\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}A_j)\cup(\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}A_j)'=\{1/n:n\in\mathbb{N}\}\cup\{0\}$ . But for each  $\overline{A_j}=A_j\cup A_j'$  we have  $A'=\emptyset$  which follows from (1a) therefore we have  $\overline{A_j}=A_j$  which implies  $\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}\overline{A_j}=\{1/n:n\in\mathbb{N}\}$  but this set does not contain 0 hence  $\overline{\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}A_j}\neq\bigcup_{j\in\mathbb{N}}\overline{A_j}$ .

**4.** Show that if X is a Hausdorff topological space and Y is a finite subset of X, then Y has no limit points.

Proof. Suppose X is a Hausdorff topological space and  $Y = \{y_1, ..., y_n\}$  is a finite subset of X. Then for any  $x \in X$  construct the set  $\bigcap_{j=1}^n X_j$  where  $x \in X_j$  but if  $y_j \neq x$  then  $y_j \notin X_j$  such a set exists based off the assumption X is Hausdorff topological space. Then we have  $\bigcap_{j=1}^n X_j$  is a neighborhood of x as it contains x and finite sets are open. As  $\bigcap_{j=1}^n X_j \cap Y \subset \{x\}$  this shows that no element of X is a limit point which completes the proof.

**5. a.** If X is an infinite set with the finite complement topology and if Y is a finite subset of X, what are the limit points of Y? Show that your answer is correct.

Claim that the limit points of Y is the empty set.

*Proof.* Assume that X is an infinite set with the finite complement topology and Y is a finite subset of X. Now let  $x \in X$  then we have that  $(X \setminus Y) \cup \{x\}$  is a neighborhood as it it's complement is finite and contains x but as  $((X \setminus Y) \cup \{x\}) \cap Y \subset \{x\}$  we have x is not a limit point. As it was chosen arbitrarily we have  $Y' = \emptyset$ 

**b.** If X is an infinite set with the finite complement topology and if Y is an infinite subset of X, what are the limit points of Y? Show that your answer is correct.

Claim it is all of X

*Proof.* Let X,Y be as definined. Then let  $x \in X$  we have that any neighborhood O of x contains an infinite number of elements of Y as if it only contained a finite number of elements of Y then  $X \setminus O$  would not be finite because it would at least contain an infinite number of elements of Y. Therefore we have  $O \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ . Hence X is a limit point and as X was arbitrarily chosen from X we have that Y' = X.

**6.** a. Let X be the product of countably many copies of  $\mathbb{R}$ , i.e.  $X = \prod_{j \in \mathbb{N}} X_j$ , where each  $X_j$  is  $\mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology. Let Y be the subset of X of elements  $\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, ...)$  for which at most finitely many of the entries  $x_j$  are nonzero. If we give X the box topology, what is the closure of Y? Show that your answer is correct.

Claim is that  $\bar{Y} = Y$ 

Proof. Let X,Y be as definition. From the definition of closure if we prove that  $Y' \subset Y$  then that proves the claim. Let  $\vec{x} \in X \setminus Y$  then consider the neighborhood  $O = \prod_{j \in \mathbb{N}} u_j$  where  $u_j = \begin{cases} (0,\pi_j(\vec{x})+1) & \text{if } \pi_j(\vec{x}) \neq 0 \\ (-1,1) & \text{if } \pi_j(\vec{x}) = 0 \end{cases}$  we have O contains nonzero entires an infinite number of times based on  $\vec{x} \notin Y$ . But as each element of Y contains finitely many nonzero terms we have  $U \cap Y = \emptyset$ . This implies that  $Y' \neq X \setminus Y$  which implies that  $Y' \subset Y$  so  $\bar{Y} = Y \cup Y' = Y$  which completes the proof.

**b.** Let X be the product of countably many copies of  $\mathbb{R}$ , i.e.  $X = \prod_{j \in \mathbb{N}} X_j$ , where each  $X_j$  is  $\mathbb{R}$  with the standard topology. Let Y be the subset of X of elements  $\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, ...)$  for which at most finitely many of the entries  $x_j$  are nonzero. If we give X the product topology, what is the closure of Y? Show that your answer is correct.

Claim that Y' = X

*Proof.* Assume that X,Y are defined as above. Then let  $\vec{x} \in X$  then for any neighborhood U of x as this is the product topology for some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  we have for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with n > N that  $U_n = \mathbb{R}$ . Then take the element  $\vec{y} \in Y$  where  $\pi_j(\vec{y}) = \pi_j(\vec{x})$  for  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $j \leq N$  and zero for the rest. Then we have  $\vec{y} \in U \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ . This shows that Y' = X hence  $\bar{Y} = Y \cup Y' = X$ .