

Definition 0.1. Let S be a subset of \mathbb{R} .

- (1) A point $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is an **accumulation point** of S if for every $\epsilon > 0$ $N^*(x, \epsilon) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.
The set of all accumulation points of S is called the **derived set** of S and is denoted by S' .
- (2) S is said to be **dense** in itself if $S \subset S'$.
- (3) S is called **perfect** if $S = S'$.
- (4) The **closure** of S is the set $\bar{S} = S \cup S'$.

Remark 0.2.

- An accumulation point of a set S need not be an element of S .
- A real number x is an accumulation point of a set $S \subset \mathbb{R}$ if for each $\epsilon > 0$ the interval $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon)$ contains infinitely many elements of S . Indeed, if x is an accumulation point of S then, for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists an element $s_1 \in S$ with $s_1 \neq x$, such that $0 < |x - s_1| < \epsilon$. Taking $\epsilon_1 = |x - s_1|$, there exists an element $s_2 \in S$ with $s_2 \neq x$, such that $0 < |x - s_2| < \epsilon_1 < \epsilon$. Taking $\epsilon_2 = |x - s_2|$, there exists $s_3 \in S$ with $s_3 \neq x$ such that $0 < |x - s_3| < \epsilon_2 < \epsilon$. Continuing in this way we obtain a sequence (s_n) with the property that $s_n \neq x$ and $|s_n - x| < \epsilon$ for all n .

Example 0.3.

- (1) $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 < x \leq 1\}$. Then $S' = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$. Therefore $\bar{S} = S \cup S' = S'$.
- (2) $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}$, then $S' = S$. Therefore $\bar{S} = S$.
- (3) Every real number is an accumulation point of the set \mathbb{Q} , that is, $\mathbb{Q}' = \mathbb{R}$.
- (4) $\mathbb{Z}' = \emptyset$. Indeed, for any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ we can find an $\epsilon > 0$ small enough such that $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon)$ contains no integer, except possibly when x is itself an integer. It thus follows that $\bar{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{Z} \cup \mathbb{Z}' = \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 0.4. Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}$. Then S is closed if and only if S contains all its accumulation points.

Proof Suppose S is closed and let $x \in S'$. We want to show that $x \in S$. If $x \notin S$, then $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus S$. Since S is closed so $\mathbb{R} \setminus S$ is open. So there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus S$. This implies $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \cap S = \emptyset$. A contradiction. Thus $S' \subset S$.

To prove the converse assume, $S' \subset S$. We will show that $\mathbb{R} \setminus S$ is open. Let $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus S$. Then $x \notin S'$, and so there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$N^*(x, \epsilon) \cap S = \emptyset.$$

Since $x \notin S$, we have that $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \cap S = \emptyset$. Thus $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus S$. So $\mathbb{R} \setminus S$ is open. \square

1. COMPACT SETS

The significance of compact sets is not as immediately apparent as the significance of open sets, but the notion of compactness plays a central role in analysis. One indication of its importance already appears in the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem.

Definition 1.1. A set $K \subset \mathbb{R}$ is sequentially compact if every sequence in K has a convergent subsequence whose limit belongs to K .

Example 1.2. The open interval $I = (0, 1)$ is not compact. The sequence $(1/n)$ in I converges to 0, so every subsequence also converges to $0 \notin I$. Therefore, $(1/n)$ has no convergent subsequence whose limit belongs to I .

Example 1.3. The set \mathbb{N} is closed, but it is not compact. The sequence (n) in \mathbb{N} has no convergent subsequence since every subsequence diverges to infinity.

Theorem 1.4. A subset of \mathbb{R} is sequentially compact if and only if it is closed and bounded.

Proof First, assume that $K \subset \mathbb{R}$ is sequentially compact. Let (x_n) be a sequence in K that converges to $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Then every subsequence of K also converges to x , so the compactness of K implies that $x \in K$. It follows from Proposition that K is closed. Next, suppose for contradiction that K is unbounded. Then there is a sequence (x_n) in K such that $|x_n| \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. * * *

Hence K is bounded.

Conversely, assume that $K \subset \mathbb{R}$ is closed and bounded. Let (x_n) be a sequence in K . Then (x_n) is bounded since K is bounded, and so (x_n) has a convergent subsequence. Since K is closed the limit of this subsequence belongs to K , so K is sequentially compact. \square

Definition 1.5. Let $A \subset \mathbb{R}$. A cover of A is a collection of sets $\{A_i \subset \mathbb{R} : i \in I\}$ whose union contains A ,

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \supset A.$$

An open cover of A is a cover that A_i is open for every $i \in I$.

[* * * Since K is sequentially compact so
 $\exists (x_{n_k})$ st $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in K$
 $\Rightarrow (x_{n_k})$ is bdd.

$$\Rightarrow \exists M \text{ s.t. } |x_{n_k}| \leq M$$

$$\text{But } |x_{n_k}| > n_k > k \quad \forall k \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \forall k \geq 1, k \leq M \quad \text{[Contradiction]}$$

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Example 1.6. Let $S = (0, 1)$ and $\mathcal{U} = \{(\frac{1}{n}, 2) | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then \mathcal{U} is an open cover for S . Indeed, let $x \in (0, 1)$. Then, by the Archimedean Property, there is a natural number m such that $0 < \frac{1}{m} < x$. Therefore $x \in (\frac{1}{m}, 2)$, whence, $(0, 1) \subset \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (\frac{1}{n}, 2)$.

On the other hand, \mathcal{U} is not a cover of $[0, 1]$ since its union does not contain 0. If for any $\delta > 0$, we add the interval $B = (-\delta, \delta)$ to \mathcal{U} , then

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n}, 2\right) \cup B = (-\delta, 2) \supset [0, 1],$$

so $\mathcal{U}' = \mathcal{U} \cup \{B\}$ is an open cover of $[0, 1]$.

Definition 1.7. A set $K \subset \mathbb{R}$ is compact if every open cover of K has a finite subcover.

Theorem 1.8. Let S be a compact subset of \mathbb{R} . If F is a closed subset of S , then F is compact.

Proof Let $\mathcal{U} = \{U_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Omega\}$ be an open cover for F . Then $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{U} \cup F^c$ is an open cover for S . Since S is compact, the cover \mathcal{G} is reducible to a finite subcover. That is, there are indices $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ such that

$$S \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\alpha_i} \cup F^c.$$

Since $F \subset S$ and $F \cap F^c = \emptyset$, it follows that $F \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\alpha_i}$. Hence F is compact. \square

Theorem 1.9. (Exercise) Let a and b be real numbers such that $-\infty < a < b < \infty$. Then the interval $[a, b]$ is compact.

Theorem 1.10. (Heine-Borel).

A subset of \mathbb{R} is compact if and only if it is closed and bounded.

Proof Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}$. Assume that K is compact. We show that K is closed and bounded.

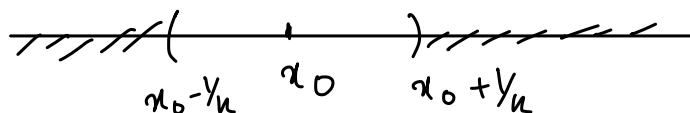
Closedness of K : It suffices to show that the complement $\mathbb{R} \setminus K$, of K is open. To that end, let $x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \setminus K$ and for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$U_k = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| > \frac{1}{k}\} = (-\infty, x_0 - \frac{1}{k}) \cup (x_0 + \frac{1}{k}, \infty).$$

Then $\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} U_k = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{x_0\}$ and $\mathcal{U} = \{U_k : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an open cover for K . Since K is compact, this cover of K is reducible to finite subcover. That is, there are indices k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n such that $K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n U_{k_j}$. Let $k_{\max} = \max\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n\}$. Then

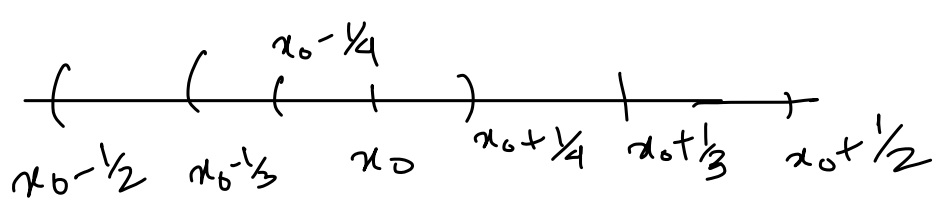
$$K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n U_{k_j} = (-\infty, x_0 - \frac{1}{k_{\max}}) \cup (x_0 + \frac{1}{k_{\max}}, \infty) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| > \frac{1}{k_{\max}}\}.$$

$$K \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| > \frac{1}{k_{\max}}\}$$



$$K \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus \{x_0\}$$

Example.



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Hence,

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| < \frac{1}{k_{\max}}\} \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| \leq \frac{1}{k_{\max}}\} \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus K,$$

which implies $\mathbb{R} \setminus K$ is open and so K is closed.

Boundedness of K : Let $\mathcal{U} = \{(-k, k) : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then \mathcal{U} is an open cover for K .

Indeed,

$$K \subset \mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} (-k, k).$$

Since K is compact, there are natural numbers $k_1, k_2, k_3, \dots, k_n$ such that $K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n (-k_j, k_j)$.

Let $k_{\max} = \max\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n\}$. Then

$$K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n (-k_j, k_j) = (-k_{\max}, k_{\max}).$$

It now follows that K is bounded since it is contained in the bounded interval $(-k_{\max}, k_{\max})$.

Conversely, assume that K is a closed and bounded subset of \mathbb{R} . Then there are real numbers a and b such that $K \subset [a, b]$. Then K being a closed subset of a compact set is compact.

□

Corollary 1.11. A subset of \mathbb{R} is compact if and only if it is sequentially compact.

Ex: \bar{S} is closed.

- Prove sequentially compact \Leftrightarrow compact.

Let $(x_n) \in \bar{S}$ s.t. $x_n \rightarrow x$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$
to show $x \in \bar{S}$

Let $x \notin \bar{S} = S \cup S'$

$$\Rightarrow x \notin S \text{ and } x \notin S'$$

$$\text{Since } x \notin S' \quad \exists N_\epsilon^*(x) \cap S = \emptyset.$$

and also since

$$x \notin S \Rightarrow N_\epsilon(x) \cap S = \emptyset$$

$$\Rightarrow N_\epsilon(x) \subset S^c \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Given } x_n \rightarrow x \text{ and } x_n \in \overline{S}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{for any } \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists N \text{ s.t.}$$

$$|x_n - x| < \epsilon/2 \quad \forall n \geq N.$$

$$\text{if } x_n \in S \text{ then (1) is a } \downarrow.$$

$$\text{if } x_n \in S' \quad \forall \delta > 0 \quad N_\delta(x_n) \cap S \neq \emptyset.$$

$$\text{Let } y \in N_\delta(x_n) \cap S.$$

$$\text{Let } \delta = \epsilon/2.$$

$$\text{then, } |x_n - y| < \epsilon/2$$

$$\therefore |y - x| < |x_n - x| + |x_n - y| < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow y \in N_\epsilon(x) \cap S \quad \forall \epsilon > 0 \quad (1)$$

$\Rightarrow \bar{S}$ is closed.

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Hence,

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| < \frac{1}{k_{\max}}\} \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x - x_0| \leq \frac{1}{k_{\max}}\} \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus K,$$

which implies $\mathbb{R} \setminus K$ is open and so K is closed.

Boundedness of K : Let $\mathcal{U} = \{(-k, k) : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then \mathcal{U} is an open cover for K .

Indeed,

$$K \subset \mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} (-k, k).$$

Since K is compact, there are natural numbers $k_1, k_2, k_3, \dots, k_n$ such that $K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n (-k_j, k_j)$.

Let $k_{\max} = \max\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n\}$. Then

$$K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n (-k_j, k_j) = (-k_{\max}, k_{\max}).$$

It now follows that K is bounded since it is contained in the bounded interval $(-k_{\max}, k_{\max})$.

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