

MA662 – Multivariable Calculus Notes

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Subsets of \mathbb{R}

Definition 1.1. Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. Then...

1. $u \in \mathbb{R}$ is called an upper bound of X if $x \leq u, \forall x \in X$.
2. $l \in \mathbb{R}$ is called a lower bound of X if $x \geq l, \forall x \in X$.

It is an axiomatic property of \mathbb{R} that each subset of \mathbb{R} bounded above has a least upper bound and, likewise, each subset that is bounded below has a greatest lower bound.

Definition 1.2. Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be bounded. Then...

1. $y = \sup(X)$ (supremum of X) if y is an upper bound and, y' is another upper bound, then $y' \geq y$.
2. $z = \inf(X)$ (infimum of X) if z is a lower bound and, z' is another lower bound, then $z' \leq z$.

Also if...

1. $\sup(X) \in X$, then we call it the maximum of X .
2. $\inf(X) \in X$, then we call it the minimum of X .

Example:

$$\begin{array}{llll} X = (0, 1) & \sup(X) = 1 & \inf(X) = 0 & \text{no max, no min} \\ X = [0, 1] & \sup(X) = \max(X) = 1 & \inf(X) = \min(X) = 0 & \end{array}$$

Proposition 1.3. If $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, bounded above, then $y = \sup(X)$ iff

- (i) y is an upper bound
- (ii) $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists x \in X$ such that $x > y - \epsilon$

Proof: Let $y = \sup(X)$.

- (i) is true by definition
- (ii) Suppose $\exists \epsilon > 0$ such that there is no $x \in X$ with $x > y - \epsilon$. Then $x \leq y - \epsilon \forall x \in X$. But that makes $y - \epsilon < y$ a smaller upper bound of X , which contradicts $y = \sup(X)$

Suppose next that (i) and (ii) hold for $y \in \mathbb{R}$. We show that $y = \sup(X)$. Clearly, y is an upper bound by (i), so let y' be a smaller upper bound for the sake of contradiction: $x \leq y' < y$ for all $x \in X$. Now consider $y - y'$. Then $y - \epsilon = y - (y - y') = y' \geq x \forall x \in X$. This contradicts (ii) because we have found an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\nexists x \in X$ greater than $y - \epsilon$. \square

Proposition 1.4. Let X be bounded below.

$$\inf(X) = -\sup(-X)$$

where $-X = \{-x \mid x \in X\}$

Proof: Let $y = \sup(-X)$. Then $y \geq -x \Rightarrow -y \leq x$ for all $x \in X$, so $-y$ is a lower bound for X . Now assume for the sake of contradiction that $\exists -y' > -y$, another lower bound of X . Then $-y' \leq x \Rightarrow y' \geq -x$ for all $x \in X$. But $-y' > -y \Rightarrow y' < y$ so $y \neq \sup(-X)$. Hence $\nexists -y'$, another lower bound of X . $\Rightarrow -y = \inf(X) \Rightarrow -\sup(-X) = \inf(X)$ \square

Proposition 1.5. If A, B are bounded subsets of \mathbb{R} . Then $A \cup B$ is bounded and

$$\sup(A \cup B) = \max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\}$$

Subsets \mathbb{R}^n – Point-set topology

Definition 2.1. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\epsilon > 0$. Then $B_\epsilon(x) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x - y| < \epsilon\}$. This is called an ϵ -neighborhood of x .

Definition 2.2. Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then x is called

- interior point of X if $\exists \epsilon > 0$ such that $B_\epsilon(x) \subseteq X$.
- boundary point of X if $\exists \epsilon > 0$, $B_\epsilon(x) \cap X \neq \emptyset$ and $B_\epsilon(x) \cap X^c \neq \emptyset$
- exterior point of X if it is an interior point of X^c

Notation: $\overset{\circ}{X}$ = interior of X = set of all interior point of X . δX = boundary of X = set of all boundary points of X

Definition 2.3. X is called open if it only consists of interior points. ($X = \overset{\circ}{X}$)

X is called closed if its complement is open.

$\Rightarrow X$ is open if it contains none of its boundary points.

$\Rightarrow X$ is closed if it contains all of its boundary points

Exercise 1.5.1, book p.101. For each of the following subsets, state whether it is open or closed (or both or neither), and say why.

- a. $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 < x \leq 1\}$ as a subset of \mathbb{R}

Answer: Neither. 1 is not an interior point of this set and 0 is not an interior point of the complement of the set.

- b. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} < 1 \right\}$ as a subset of \mathbb{R}^2

Answer: Open. The unit circle (which is the boundary) is not contained within the set.

- c. the interval $(0, 1]$ as a subset of \mathbb{R}

Answer: Neither. Similar to a.

- d. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq 1 \right\}$ as a subset of \mathbb{R}^2

- e. $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ as a subset of \mathbb{R} .

- f. $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = 1 \text{ and } x, y, z \neq 0\}$ as a subset of \mathbb{R}^3

g. the empty set as a subset of \mathbb{R}

Exercise 1.5.2, book p.101. For each of the following subsets, state whether it is open or closed (or both or neither), and say why.

a. (x, y) -plane in \mathbb{R}^3

b. $\mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{C}$

c. the line $x = 5$ in the (x, y) -plane

d. $(0, 1) \subset \mathbb{C}$

e. $\mathbb{R}^n \subset \mathbb{R}^n$

f. the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^3

Exercise 1.5.5. For each of the following subsets of \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{R}^2 , state whether it is open or closed (or both or neither), and prove it.

a. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 1 < x^2 + y^2 < 2 \right\}$

b. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid xy \neq 0 \right\}$

c. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid y = 0 \right\}$

d. $\{\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}\}$ (the rational numbers)

Recall **Prop 1.5**: If A, B are bounded subsets of \mathbb{R} . Then $A \cup B$ is bounded and

$$\sup(A \cup B) = \max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\}$$

Proof:

- 1 Show that $x \leq \max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\}$ for all $x \in A \cup B$
 - Case 1: $x \in A \Rightarrow x \leq \sup(A) \leq \max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\}$
 - Case 2: $x \in B \Rightarrow x \leq \sup(B) \leq \max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\}$
- 2 Take $\epsilon > 0$ and consider $\max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\} - \epsilon$
 - Case 1: $\max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\} = \sup A \Rightarrow \exists x \in A$ such that $x > \sup(A) - \epsilon \Rightarrow x \in A \cup B$ such that $x > \max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\} - \epsilon$
 - Case 2: $\max\{\sup(A), \sup(B)\} = \sup B \Rightarrow$ left to the reader, follows similarly as above.

□

Also recall...

Exercise 1.5.5. For each of the following subsets of \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{R}^2 , state whether it is open or closed (or both or neither), and prove it.

a. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 1 < x^2 + y^2 < 2 \right\}$

Answer: Open.

Proof: Let $p \in A$ (annulus). $1 < |p - 0| < \sqrt{2}$. To show: $\exists \epsilon > 0$ s.t. all points in $B_\epsilon(p)$ are between 1 and $\sqrt{2}$ from 0. There is such ϵ , specifically

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \min(\sqrt{2} - |p|, |p| - 1)$$

Now we show that for $x \in B_\epsilon(p)$, $1 < |x|^2 < 2$:

WLOG: Consider $p \in (1, \sqrt{2})$ on the x -axis. Then the neighborhood of p is:

$$B_\epsilon(p) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p + r \sin \theta \\ r \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \mid r \in [0, \epsilon) \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \begin{pmatrix} p + r \sin \theta \\ r \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \right|^2 &= p^2 + 2pr \cos \theta + r^2 \cos^2 \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta \\ &= p^2 + 2pr \cos \theta + r^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$(p - r)^2 = p^2 - 2pr + r^2 \leq p^2 + 2pr \cos \theta + r^2 \leq p^2 + 2pr + r^2 = (p + r)^2$$

$$\text{Since } r < (\sqrt{2} - p), (p + r)^2 < (p + \sqrt{2} - p)^2 = 2$$

$$\text{Also since } r < (p - 1), (p - r)^2 > (p - (p - 1))^2 = 1$$

□

We could also use the triangle inequality: $|a + b| \leq |a| + |b|$:

$$|p + r| \leq |p| + |r| < |p| + (\sqrt{2} - |p|) = \sqrt{2}$$

$$|p - r| \geq |p| - |r| > |p| - (|p| - 1) = 1$$

b. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid xy \neq 0 \right\}$

Answer: Open.

Proof: Consider $B_\epsilon(p)$ with $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \min\{|x|, |y|\}$.

□

c. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid y = 0 \right\}$

Answer: Closed.

Proof: Consider the complement, $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid y \neq 0 \right\}$. Following a similar logic as b, consider $\epsilon = \frac{x}{2}$.

□

d. $\{\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}\}$ (the rational numbers)

Answer: Neither.

Exercise 1.5.3. Prove the following statements for open subsets of \mathbb{R}^n :

a. **Any union of open sets is open.**

Proof: Let $X_i, i \in I$, be open. Consider $Y = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$.

To show: each $y \in Y$ is an interior point of Y .

Let $y \in Y$ belong to arbitrary X_i , for some $i \in I$. As X_i is open, y is also an interior point of X_i . So $\exists \epsilon > 0$ s.t. $B_\epsilon(y) \subset X_i \subseteq Y \Rightarrow y$ is an interior point of Y . □

b. **A finite intersection of open sets is open.**

Proof: Consider $Z = \bigcap_{i=1}^n X_i$.

To show: each $z \in Z$ is an interior point of Z . Since $z \in Z, z \in X_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$. Since X_i is open, $\exists \epsilon_i > 0 \mid B_{\epsilon_i}(z) \subset X_i$. As there are finitely many i , we choose the smallest $\epsilon = \min\{\epsilon_i \mid i = 1, \dots, n\}$. Then we have

$$B_\epsilon(z) \subset B_{\epsilon_i}(z) \subset X_i \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Thus $B_\epsilon(z) \subset Z$, making z an interior point of Z .

□

c. **An infinite intersection of open sets is not necessarily open.** Proof:

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ x \mid x \in \left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n} \right) \right\} = \{0\}$$

□

Definition 4.1. (Convergent sequence; limit of sequence). A sequence $i \mapsto a_i$ of points in \mathbb{R}^n *converges* to $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ if

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists M \text{ s.t. } m > M \Rightarrow |a_m - a| < \epsilon$$

We then call a the *limit* of the sequence.

Proposition 4.2. (Convergence in terms of coordinates). A sequence $m \mapsto a_m$ with $a_m \in \mathbb{R}^n$ converges to a if and only if each coordinate converges; i.e., if for all j with $1 \leq j \leq n$, the j th coordinate of a_m converges to a_j .

Proof:

□

Proposition 4.3. (Limit of sequence is unique). If the sequence $i \mapsto a_i$ of points in \mathbb{R}^n converges to a and to b , then $a = b$.

Proof: Let the sequence $i \mapsto a_i$ converge to both a and b . Then

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists M_a \wedge M_b \text{ s.t. } m > M_a, m > M_b \Rightarrow |a - a_m| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \wedge |a_m - b| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |a - b| &= |(a - a_m) + (a_m - b)| \leq |a - a_m| + |a_m - b| = \epsilon \\ &\Rightarrow |a - b| = 0 \Rightarrow a = b \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 4.4. (The arithmetic of limits of sequences). All arithmetics that apply to limits apply here.

Proposition 4.5. (Sequence in closed set).

1. Let $i \mapsto x_i$ be a sequence in a closed set $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ converging to $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then $x_0 \in C$.
2. Conversely, if every convergent sequence in a set $C \in \mathbb{R}^n$ converges to a point in C , then C is closed. a

Definition 5.1. (Limit of a function). Let X be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n and x_0 a point in \overline{X} ($\overline{X} = X \cup \delta X$). A function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ has the limit a at x_0 :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = a$$

if for all $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for all $x \in X$,

$$|x - x_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - a| < \epsilon$$

Proposition 5.2. (Convergence by coordinates). Suppose

$$U \subset \mathbb{R}^n, \quad f = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_m \end{pmatrix} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

Theorem 5.3. (Limits of functions). The same rules for traditional limits apply. Additional rules are as follows:

1. Dot product
2. ***

Exercise 1.5.14. State whether the following limits exist, and prove it.

- a. $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,2)} \frac{x^2}{x+y}$
- b. $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\sqrt{|x|}y}{x^2+y^2}$
- c. ***

Definition 6.1. $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, define the closure of X : $\bar{X} = X \cup \delta X$

Theorem 6.2. \bar{X} is the smallest closed set that contains X .

Proof: If X is closed, we are done.

Otherwise, assume $\exists Y \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, Y closed, with

$$X \subsetneq Y \subseteq \bar{X}$$

We show that $Y = \bar{X}$: Assume otherwise for the sake of contradiction that that $\exists z \in \bar{X} - Y \subseteq Y^C$ which is open. Then $\exists \epsilon > 0$ s.t. $B_\epsilon(z) \subseteq Y^C$. Hence $B_\epsilon(z) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n - X$, which contradicts $x \in \bar{X}$. Therefore $\bar{X} - Y = \emptyset$, so $Y = \bar{X}$. \square

Definition 6.3. (Continuous function). Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. A mapping $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is continuous at $x_0 \in X$ if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0);$$

f is continuous on X if it is continuous at every point of X . Equivalently, $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is continuous at $x_0 \in X$ if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that when $|x - x_0| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \epsilon$.

Theorem 6.4. (Combining continuous mappings). Continuous functions are closed under addition, scalar umltiplication, quotients, and compositions.

Lemma 6.5. Hence polynomials and rational functions (given that the denominator does not vanish) are continous.

Exercise 1.5.21. For the following functions, can you choose a value for f at $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ to make the function continuous at the origin?

a. $f\left(\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}\right) = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2 + 1}$

Answer: Exists. $f\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = 1$.

The limit exists at $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ by substitution.

b. $f\left(\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{|x| + |y|^{1/3}}$

Answer: Does not exist.

Proof: Approaching $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ from $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ gives $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2}}{|x|} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x|}{|x|} = 1$, whilst approaching

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ from $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ gives $\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{y^2}}{|y|^{1/3}} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{y}{y^{1/3}} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} y^{2/3} = 0. \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$. \square

c. $f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = (x^2 + y^2) \ln(x^2 + 2y^2)$

Answer: $f\left(\frac{0}{0}\right) = 0.$

Proof: Consider

$$g\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = (x^2 + y^2) \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$g\left(\frac{r}{\theta}\right) = r^2 \ln(r^2) = 2r^2 \ln(r)$$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} r^2 \ln(r^2) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \ln(r)}{r^{-2}} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{r^{-1}}{-2r^{-3}} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{-2} r^2 = 0$$

Now consider bounding $f\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$.

$$g\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \leq f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \leq 0 \quad \text{for } \left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \text{ sufficiently near } \left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$$

And the squeeze theorem gives that $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = 0.$

□

d. $f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = (x^2 + y^2) \ln|x + y|$

Answer: $\text{Limit does not exist.}$

Proof: Consider approaching $f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$ from $y = -x$. We then have

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} 2y^2 \cdot \ln|0| = \infty!$$

□

Exercise 1.5.16b. Either show that the limit exists at 0 and find it, or show that it does not exist:

$$f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \frac{\sin(x + y)}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

Answer: Does not exist.

Proof: Consider approaching $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$ from $\left(\frac{x}{0}\right)$. We then have

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{|x|}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(x)}{|x|} = +1 \quad \text{but} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sin(x)}{|x|} = -1 \neq +1$$

Recall from previously, we were trying to solve:

$$g\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = (|x| + |y|) \cdot \ln(x^2 + y^4) < 0 \text{ near } \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The solution then follows that

$$(|x| + |y|) \cdot \ln(x^4 + y^4) < g\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) < 0$$

We can use lp -norms to estimate one of the values in the above function.

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right\|_p = (|x|^p + |y|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}, p \geq 1 \quad lp\text{-norms}$$

Definition 7.1. (Bounded set). A subset $X \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is bounded if it is contained in a ball in \mathbb{R}^n centered at the origin:

$$X \subset B_R(0) \quad \text{for some } R < \infty.$$

Definition 7.2. (Compact set). A nonempty subset $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is compact if it is closed and bounded.

Theorem 7.3. (Convergent subsequence in a compact set). If a compact set $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ contains a sequence $i \mapsto x_i$, then that sequence has a convergent subsequence $j \mapsto x_{i(j)}$ whose limit is in C .