

Chapter 2

Mike Desgrottes

October 2020

Theorem 1. *Prove that the empty set is a subset of every set.*

Proof. Let W be a set, then $W \cup \emptyset = W \implies \emptyset \subset W$ □

Theorem 2. *A complex number is said to be algebraic if there are integers a_0, \dots, a_n not all zero such that*

$$a_0 z^n + a_1 z^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} z + a_n = 0$$

. Prove that the set of all algebraic numbers is countable.

Proof. For each $N \in \mathbb{N}$, the number of polynomials such that $n + |a_0| + |a_1| + \dots + |a_n| = N$ is finite. Hence the number of roots of these polynomial is also finite. Let $U_{n,N}$ be the set of roots of polynomial such that

$$n + |a_0| + |a_1| + \dots + |a_n| = N$$

and let $U_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} U_{n,i}$. The map

$$n + |a_0| + \dots + |a_n| \rightarrow (n, a_0, \dots, a_n)$$

ensure that U_n is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} . U_n and $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n$ is countable. □

Theorem 3. *Prove that there exists real numbers which are not algebraic.*

Proof. Let A be the set of all algebraic numbers. A is countable. As \mathbb{R} is uncountable, \mathbb{R} cannot be a subset of A . □

Theorem 4. *Prove that the set of irrational numbers is uncountable.*

Proof. $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{Q} \cup \mathbb{I}$ implies that \mathbb{I} contains an uncountable set. □

Theorem 5. *Construct a bounded set of real numbers with exactly 3 limit points.*

Proof. $\{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{1 + \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{2 + \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ with limit points $\{0, 1, 2\}$ □

Theorem 6. *Let K be a subset of real numbers with 0 and $1/n$. Prove that K is compact directly from definition.*

Proof. Let $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} U_i$ be an open cover of K . There exists i such that $0 \in U_i$. This interval will contain infinitely many element of K . Thus, there are only finitely many number of elements not in U_i . The finite subcover $U_i \cup (\bigcup_{n=1}^m U_n)$ is finite subcover of K . □

Theorem 7. *Construct a compact set of real numbers whose limit points form a countable set.*

Proof. Let $U_i = \{i + \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$, then $\{0\} \cup \mathbb{N} \cup (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n)$ □

Theorem 8. *Give an example of an open cover of $(0, 1)$ which has no finite subcover.*

Proof. $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (0, 1 - \frac{1}{n})$ □

Theorem 9. (a) If A and B are disjoint closed(open) sets in some metric space X , prove that they are separated.

(b) Fix $p \in X$, $\delta > 0$, define A to be the set of all $q \in X$ for which $|x - y| < \delta$, define B similarly, with $>$. Prove that A and B are separated.

(c) Prove that every connected metric space with at least two points is uncountable.

Proof. (a) Closed sets contains their limit points and $A \cap \overline{B} = \overline{A} \cap B = \emptyset$. If A and B are disjoint open set, then their complement is closed and the result follows.

(b) $A = \{x \in X : |x - p| < \delta\}$ and $B = \{x \in X : |x - p| > \delta\}$ are disjoint open sets and hence are separated.

(c) Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that there is no pair of points in A such that their distance is c . By previous excersies, we can separate X , which is a contradiction. Therefore, for all real numbers, there exists a $y \in A$ such that $|x - y| = c$ which implies it contains an uncountable set. \square

Theorem 10. A metric space is seperable if it contains a countable dense subset. Show that \mathbb{R}^k is seperable.

Proof. \mathbb{Q}^k is a countable dense subset of \mathbb{R}^k . \square

Theorem 11. Prove that every seperable metric space has a countable base.

Proof. The metric space have a countable dense subset E . Hence between any two elements in X , there exists an element of E . Take $(y - r, r + y)$ with r, y being rational. The set of these interval is countable and contains x . \square

Theorem 12. Let X be a metric space in which every infinite subset has a limit point. Prove that X is seperable.

Proof. Let $\delta > 0$, then we pick $x_1 \in X$, and having chosen x_1, \dots, x_j , we pick x_{j+1} such that $|x_j - x_{j+1}| \geq \delta$. The sequence we chose is an infinite subset of X and has limit point. Therefore, it must terminate at a finite point. $U_i = (x_i - \delta, x_i + \delta)$ are finite open sets that cover X . The triangle inequality prevent any element of X to be too close to two points of U_i . Hence, every point in X belongs to at least one U_i . $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} U_i$ with $\delta = 1/n$ is a countable dense subset. \square

Theorem 13. Prove that every compact metric space K has a countable base, and that K is therefore seperable.

Proof. The set $A_x = (x - \frac{1}{n}, x + \frac{1}{n})$ form an open cover of K and hence it contains a finite subcover. So, for each n , there exists a finite set of points such that neighborhood around those points with radius $1/n$ cover K . By previous exercise, it is seperable. \square