

Conversely, given any map $A \rightarrow A^0$ of $\mathcal{P}(X)$ into $\mathcal{P}(X)$ in a set X , satisfying I-a through I-d, if open sets are ~~left~~ defined in X using I-e, the result is a topology on X in which the interior of a set $A \subset X$ is just A^0 .

Proof: The proof can be done directly or by using the translation process on 3.2. Either way, it is easy and left as an exercise.

Examples: 1. In \mathbb{R} , with the usual topology, the interior of a closed interval $[a, b]$ is (a, b) . In \mathbb{R}^2 with the usual topology, the interior of the disk

$$\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1\}$$

is the disk $\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 1\}$

2. In \mathbb{R} , with the usual topology, if A is the set of rationals and B the set of irrationals, then

$$A^0 = B^0 = \emptyset \quad \text{but} \quad (A \cup B)^0 = \mathbb{R}^0 = \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{Hence} \quad (A \cup B)^0 \neq A^0 \cup B^0$$

But it is always true that $A^0 \cup B^0 \subset (A \cup B)^0$

§ 5. Boundary of a set

5.1 Definition If X be a topological space and $E \subset X$, the boundary of E or frontier of E , is denoted by ~~∂E~~ ∂E or ~~$\text{Fr}(E)$~~ $\text{Fr}(E)$, is the set $\partial E = \text{Fr}(E) = \bar{E} \cap \overline{(X-E)}$. Evidently, the boundary of E is a closed set.

We now give the relationship between the boundary, closure and interior operations.

5.2 Theorem For any subset E of a topological space X ,

$$a) \bar{E} = E \cup \partial E$$

$$b) E^\circ = E - \partial E$$

$$c) X = E^\circ \cup \partial E \cup (X-E)^\circ$$

Proof: a) $E \cup \partial E = E \cup (\bar{E} \cap \overline{(X-E)})$
 $= (E \cup \bar{E}) \cap (E \cup \overline{(X-E)})$
 $= \bar{E} \cap X = \bar{E}$

b) $E - \partial E = E - (\bar{E} \cap \overline{(X-E)})$
 $= (E - \bar{E}) \cup (E - \overline{(X-E)})$
 $= E - \overline{(X-E)} = E^\circ$

e) Since $\partial E \cup (X - E) = \overline{X - E}$ (as is easily verified) and
 since $X - E^\circ = \overline{X - E}$,

We have $X = E^\circ \cup \overline{X - E} = E^\circ \cup \partial E \cup (X - E)^\circ$

Examples: The boundary of the closed interval $[a, b]$ in \mathbb{R} is $\{a, b\}$, as is the boundary of any interval with the same end points. If \mathcal{Q} denotes the set of rationals in \mathbb{R} , $\partial \mathcal{Q} = \mathbb{R}$.

b) For any space X , $\partial X = \emptyset$.

c) If D is the closed unit disk in the plane, and $X = \mathbb{R}^2$, $\partial D = S^1 = \{(x_1, x_2) : x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1\}$

where $D = \{(x_1, x_2) : x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1\}$.

5.3 Theorem For a subset A in a topological space X , $\bar{A} = A \cup A'$, where A' is the derived set of A .

Proof: First we claim that $A \cup A'$ is closed or that $X - (A \cup A')$ is open. We do so by showing that $X - (A \cup A')$ is a nbd of each of its points. ^{**} Let $y \in X - (A \cup A')$. Then since y is not a limit

point of A . \exists an open set V containing y such that V contains no point ~~except~~ of A except possibly y . But $y \notin A$, so we have $A \cap V = \emptyset$.

We claim $A' \cap V = \emptyset$ also. For, let $z \in A' \cap V$,

Then V is an open set containing z which is a limit point of A . So, $V \cap A$ is nonempty, a contradiction, so $A' \cap V = \emptyset$ and hence

$V \subset X - (A \cup A')$. This proves that $A \cup A'$ is closed and since it obviously contains A , it also contains \bar{A} , i.e., $\bar{A} \subset A \cup A'$.

For the other way inclusion, $A \cup A' \subset \bar{A}$, it suffices to show that $A' \subset \bar{A}$. Since we already have $A \subset \bar{A}$. So, let $y \in A'$. If $y \notin \bar{A}$, then

$y \in X - \bar{A}$ which is an open set since \bar{A} is always a closed set. But y is a limit point of A . So, $(X - \bar{A}) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ which is a contradiction since $X - \bar{A} \subset X - A$.

So, $y \in \bar{A}$. This completes the proof.

Now let X be a topological space and for $x \in X$,