

Thm. 2.12 A set  $E$  is open iff its complement is closed.

Proof: Suppose  $E^c$  is closed. We want to show that  $E$  is open, i.e., every point of  $E$  is an interior point of  $E$ .

To that end, take a point  $x \in E$ . So  $x \notin E^c$ .

Now  $E^c$  being closed contain all its limit points.

Hence,  $x$  cannot be a limit point of  $E^c$ .

Therefore,  $\exists$  nbhd  $U$  of  $x$  which does not intersect  $E^c$  at all, not even in  $x$  (since  $x \notin E^c$ ).

Hence  $U \cap E^c = \emptyset$  implies  $U \subseteq E$  so that  $x$  is an interior point of  $E$ .

$\Rightarrow E$  is open.

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $x$  be a limit point of  $E^c$ .

Goal:  $x \in E^c$

Since  $x$  is a limit point of  $E^c$ , every nbhd of  $x$  intersects  $E^c$  in a point other than  $x$ .

So no nbhd of  $x$  lies in  $E$ .

$\Rightarrow x \notin E$  (because if  $x \in E$ , then  $E$  being open would imply that  $x$  is an interior point of  $E \Rightarrow \exists$  nbhd  $N$  of  $x$  lying completely in  $E$ ).

$\Rightarrow x \in E^c$ .

$\Rightarrow E^c$  is closed.

Cor. 2.13 A set  $F$  is closed iff its complement is open.

Thm. 2.14 (i) If  $\{G_\alpha\}$  is any collection of open sets, then  $\bigcup G_\alpha$  is open.

(ii) If  $\{F_\alpha\}$  is any collection of closed sets, then  $\bigcap F_\alpha$  is closed.

(iii) If  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n$  is any finite collection of open sets,  $\bigcap_{k=1}^n G_k$  is open.

(iv) If  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n$  is any finite collection of closed sets, then  $\bigcup_{k=1}^n F_k$  is closed.

Proof: (i) Each  $G_\alpha$  is open. So if  $x \in \bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$ .

Claim:  $x$  is an interior point of  $\bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$ .

If  $x \in \bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$ , then  $x \in G_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha$ .

$G_\alpha$  being open implies that  $x$  is an interior point of  $G_\alpha$ , and hence an int. pt. of  $\bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$ .  $\square$

(ii)  $\left(\bigcap_\alpha F_\alpha\right)^c = \bigcup_\alpha F_\alpha^c$ .

$F_\alpha$  is closed  $\Rightarrow F_\alpha^c$  is open

So by (i)  $\bigcup_\alpha F_\alpha^c$  is open

$\Rightarrow \bigcap_\alpha F_\alpha$  is closed.

(iii) Let  $G = \bigcap_{i=1}^n G_i$ . Let  $x \in G$ .

Then  $x \in G_i \forall i \ni 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

$G_i$  open  $\Rightarrow \exists$  nbhd  $N_{r_i}$  of  $x$  of radius  $r$   
 $\ni N_{r_i} \subset G_i \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Now take  $r = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} r_i$ . Let  $N$  be the

nbhd of radius  $r$  around  $x$ ,  $\Rightarrow N \subset G_i$

for all  $1 \leq i \leq n \Rightarrow N \subset \bigcap_{i=1}^n G_i \Rightarrow \bigcap_{i=1}^n G_i$  is open.

$$(iv) \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^n F_i \right)^c = \bigcap_{i=1}^n F_i^c$$

Examples: In (iii) & (iv), finiteness is absolutely essential, for, if  $G_n = \left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right), n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} G_n = \{0\}$  is not open in  $\mathbb{R}^1$ .

Defn: If  $X$  is a metric space,  $E \subset X$  and  $E'$  denotes the set of all limit points of  $E$  in  $X$ , then the closure of  $E$  is the set  $\bar{E} = E \cup E'$ .

Eg: ① Let  $E = (0, 1)$ ,  $X = \mathbb{R}$ , then,  $\bar{E} = E' = [0, 1]$ .

② Let  $E = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$ ,  $X = \mathbb{R}$ , then  $E' = \{0\}$ ,  $\bar{E} = E \cup \{0\}$ .

Thm. 2.13 If  $X$  is a metric space and  $E \subset X$ , then

(a)  $\bar{E}$  is closed.

(b)  $E = \bar{E}$  iff  $E$  is closed

(c)  $\bar{E} \subset F$  for every closed set  $F \subset X \ni E \subset F$ .

Proof:- (a) If  $p \in X$ ,  $p \notin \bar{E}$ , then  $p$  is neither a point of  $E$  nor a limit point of  $E$ .

So  $\exists$  nbhd  $N$  of  $p \ni N \cap \bar{E} = \emptyset$ .

$\Rightarrow N \subset \bar{E}^c$  so that  $p$  is a interior point of  $\bar{E}^c$ .

$\Rightarrow \bar{E}^c$  is open.

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



(b) " $\Rightarrow$ "  $E = \bar{E}$ . By (a),  $\bar{E}$  is closed.  $\Rightarrow E$  is closed  
" $\Leftarrow$ " If  $E$  is closed,  $E^c \subset E \Rightarrow \bar{E} = E \cup E' = E$ .

(c)  $F$  is closed, so  $F$  contains all its limit points, that  $F \supset F'$ .

But  $F \supset E$ . So  $F' \supset E'$

$\Rightarrow F \supset E'$ .

$\Rightarrow F \supset E \cup E' = \bar{E}$ .

Remark:  $\bar{E}$  is the smallest closed subset of  $X$  that contains  $E$ .

Thm. 2.16 Let  $E$  be a non-empty set of real numbers which is bounded above. Let  $y = \sup(E)$ . Then  $y \in \bar{E}$ . Hence  $y \in E$  if  $E$  is closed.

Proof: If  $y \in E$ , then clearly  $y \in \bar{E}$ .

If  $y \notin E$ , then  $y$  is a limit point of  $E$  is what we want to show.

Since  $y = \sup(E)$ ,  $\forall x \in E \exists y-h < x < y$  for  $h > 0$ , otherwise  $y-h$  would be an upper bound of  $E$ . But then  $y$  must be the limit point of  $E$ .  $\Rightarrow y \in E' \subset \bar{E}$ .

Hence in both the cases, we have  $y \in \bar{E}$ .

□