Complex Analysis

Chapter II. Metric Spaces and the Topology of \mathbb{C} II.1. Definitions and Examples of Metric Spaces—Proofs of Theorems









Theorem II.1.13(c1). Let X be a metric space and $A \subset X$. Then $int(A) = X \setminus (X \setminus A)^{-}$.

Proof. Let $x \in X \setminus (X \setminus A)^-$. Well, $(X \setminus A)^-$ is closed (it is the intersection of a collection of closed sets; use Theorem 1.11(c)). So $X \setminus (X \setminus A)^-$ is open and so (by the definition of open) there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $B(x; \varepsilon) \subset X \setminus (X \setminus A)^-$.

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Theorem II.1.13(f). Let X be a metric space and $A \subset X$. Then $x_0 \in A^-$ if and only if for all $\varepsilon > 0$, $B(x_0; \varepsilon) \cap A \neq \emptyset$.

Proof. Let $x_0 \in A^- = X \setminus int(X \setminus A)$ by part (c2). Then $x_0 \notin int(X \setminus A)$. By part (e), for every $\varepsilon > 0$ the ball $B(x_0; \varepsilon)$ is not a subset of $X \setminus A$. That is, there is $y \in B(x_0; \varepsilon) \cap A$ (for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there is some such y). Therefore, for all $\varepsilon > 0$, $B(x_0; \varepsilon) \cap A \neq \emptyset$.

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Now suppose $x_0 \notin A^- = X \setminus int(X \setminus A)$ by part (c2). Then $x_0 \in int(X \setminus A)$ and, by part (e), there is $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $B(x_0; \varepsilon) \subset X \setminus A$. But then $B(x_0; \varepsilon) \cap A = \emptyset$ and x_0 does not satisfy the condition $B(x_0; \emptyset) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ (here, we have proven the contrapositive of the 'only if' part).

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