

Introduction

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In this note, we introduce some basic concepts for real analysis.

1 Sets and Elementary Operations on them

1.1 The Concept of a Set

Since the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the most universal language of mathematics has been the language of set theory. This is even manifest in one of the definitions of mathematics as the science that studies different structures (relations) on sets.

"We take a set to be an assemblage of definite, perfectly distinguishable objects of our intuition or our thought into a coherent whole." Thus did Georg Cantor¹, describe the concept of a set.

- A set may be consist of any distinguishable objects.
- A set is unambiguously determined by the collection of objects that comprise it.
- Any property defines the set of objects having that property.

If x is an object, P is a property, and $P(x)$ denotes the assertion that x has property P , then the class of objects having the property P is denoted $\{x|P(x)\}$

And in fact the concept of the set of all sets, for example, is simply contradictory. This is the classical paradox of **Russell**.²

¹G.Cantor(1845-1918) - German mathematician, the creator of the theory of infinite sets and the progenitor of set theoretic language in mathematics.

²B.Russell (1872-1970) - British logician, philosopher, sociologist and social activist.

1.2 The Inclusion Relation

The statement, " x is an element of the set X " is written briefly as

$$x \in X$$

and its negation as

$$x \notin X$$

When statements about sets are written, frequent use is made of the logical operators \exists ("there exists" or "there are") and \forall ("every" or "for all") which are called the *existence* and *generalization* respectively.

Thus two sets are equal if they consist of the same elements, this statement is usually written briefly as

$$A = B,$$

read as " A equals B ". The negation of equality is usually written as

$$A \neq B.$$

If every element of A is an element of B , we write $A \subset B$ and say that A is a subset of B or that B contains A .

Thus

$$A \subset B := \forall x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B$$

If $A \subset B$ and $A \neq B$, we shall say that the inclusion $A \subset B$ is *strict* or that A is a proper subset of B .

Using these definitions, we can now conclude that

$$A = B \Leftrightarrow A \subset B \wedge B \subset A$$

If M is a set, any property of P distinguishes in M the subset

$$\{x \in M | P(x)\}$$

consisting of the elements of M that have the property.

For example, it is obvious that

$$M = \{x \in M | x \in M\},$$

and the *empty* subset of M is

$$\emptyset = \{x \in M | x \neq x\}$$

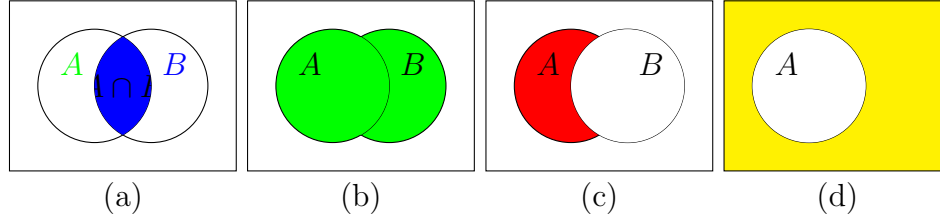


Figure 1: (a) Intersection. (b) Union. (c) Difference. (d) Complement.

1.3 Elementary Operations on Sets

Let A and B be subsets of a set M .

- (a) The **union** of A and B is the set $A \cup B \triangleq \{x \in M | x \in A \vee x \in B\}$
- (b) The **intersection** of A and B is the set $A \cap B \triangleq \{x \in M \wedge x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$
- (c) The **difference** of A and B is the set $A \setminus B \triangleq \{x \in M | x \in A \wedge x \notin B\}$
- (d) The **direct(Cartesian) product of sets**. For any two sets A and B one can form a new set, namely the pair $\{A, B\} = \{B, A\}$, which consists of the sets A and B and no others. This set has two elements if $A \neq B$ and one element if $A = B$. This set is called the unordered pair of sets A and B , to be distinguished from the ordered pair (A, B) in which the elements are endowed with additional properties to distinguish the first and the second elements of the pair $\{A, B\}$. The equality

$$(A, B) = (C, D)$$

between two ordered pairs means by definition that $A = C$ and $B = D$. In particular, if $A \neq B$, then $(A, B) \neq (B, A)$.

Now let X and Y be arbitrary sets. The set

$$X \times Y \triangleq \{(x, y) | (x \in X) \wedge (y \in Y)\}$$

formed by the ordered pairs (x, y) whose first element belongs to X and whose second element belongs to Y , is called the **Cartesian product** of the set X and Y .

2 Functions

2.1 The Concept of a Function (Mapping)

The term *function* first appeared in the years from 1673 to 1692 in works of G. Leibniz. By the year 1698 the term had become established in a sense

close to the modern one through the correspondence between Leibniz and Johann Bernoulli.³

Let X and Y be certain sets. We say that there is a function defined on X with values in Y if, by virtue of some rule f , to each element $x \in X$ there corresponds an element $y \in Y$. In this case the set X is called the **domain** of the function.

3 The Real Numbers

Numbers in mathematics are like time in physics: everyone knows what they are, and only experts find them hard to understand.

3.1 The Axiom System and some General Properties of the Set of Real Numbers

Definition 3.1 *A set \mathbb{R} is called the set of real numbers and its elements are real numbers if the following list of conditions holds, called the axiom system of the real numbers.*

(I) AXIOMS FOR ADDITION

An operation

$$+ : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

is defined, assigning to each ordered pair (x, y) of elements x, y of \mathbb{R} a certain element $x + y \in \mathbb{R}$, called the sum of x and y . The operation satisfies the following conditions:

1. There exists a neutral, or identity element 0 (called zero) such that

$$x + 0 = 0 + x = x$$

for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

2. For every element $x \in \mathbb{R}$ there exists an element $-x \in \mathbb{R}$ called the negative of x such that

$$x + (-x) = (-x) + x = 0$$

³Johann Bernoulli (1667-1748) - one of the early representatives of the distinguished Bernoulli family of Swiss scholars, he studied analysis, geometry and mechanics. He was one of the founders of the calculus of variations. He gave the first systematic exposition of the differential and integral calculus.

3. The operation is associative, that is, the relation

$$x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$$

for any elements of x, y, z of \mathbb{R} .

4. The operation is commutative, that is

$$x + y = y + x$$

for any elements x, y of \mathbb{R} .

If an operation is defined on a set G satisfying axiom 1, 2 and 3, we say that a group structure is defined on G or that G is a group. If the operation is called addition, the group is called an additive group. If it is also known that the operation is commutative, that is, condition 4 holds, the group is called commutative or *Abelian* is a group. If the operation is called addition, the group is called an additive group. If it is also known that the operation is commutative, that is, condition 4 holds, the group is called commutative or *Abelian*.

(II) AXIOMS FOR MULTIPLICATION

An operation

$$\bullet : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

(the operation of multiplication) is defined, assigning to each ordered pair (x, y) of elements of \mathbb{R} a certain element $x \cdot y \in \mathbb{R}$, called the product of x and y . This operation satisfies the following conditions:

1. There exists a neutral, or identity element $1 \in \mathbb{R} \setminus 0$ (called one) such that

$$x \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot x = x$$

for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$

2. For every element $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus 0$ there exists an element $x^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}$, called the inverse or reciprocal of x , such that

$$x \cdot x^{-1} = x^{-1} \cdot x = 1$$

3. The operation \bullet is commutative, that is

$$x \cdot (y \cdot z) = (x \cdot y) \cdot z$$

holds for every elements x, y, z of \mathbb{R} .

4. The operation \bullet is commutative, that is

$$x \cdot y = y \cdot x$$

for every elements x, y of \mathbb{R} .

(I, II) THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ADDITION AND MULTIPLICATION

Multiplication is distributive with respect to addition, that is

$$(x + y)z = xz + yz$$

for all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$

We remark that if two operations satisfies these axioms are defined on a set G , then G is called a field.

(III) ORDER AXIOMS

Between elements of \mathbb{R} there is a relation \leq , that is, for elements $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ one can determine whether $x \leq y$ or not. Here the following conditions must hold:

1. $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}(x \leq x)$
2. $(x \leq y) \wedge (y \leq x) \Rightarrow (x = y)$
3. $(x \leq y) \wedge (y \leq z) \Rightarrow (x \leq z)$
4. $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \forall y \in \mathbb{R}(x \leq y) \vee (y \leq x)$

(I, III) THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ADDITION AND ORDER ON \mathbb{R}

If x, y, z are elements of \mathbb{R} , then

$$(x \leq y) \Rightarrow (x + z) \leq (y + z)$$

(II, III) THE CONNECTION BETWEEN MULTIPLICATION AND ORDER ON \mathbb{R}

If x and y are elements of \mathbb{R} , then

$$(0 \leq x) \wedge (0 \leq y) \Rightarrow (0 \leq x \cdot y)$$

(IV) THE AXIOM OF COMPLETENESS (CONTINUITY)

If X and Y are nonempty subsets of \mathbb{R} having the property that $x \leq y$ for every $x \in X$ and every $y \in Y$, then there exists $c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x \leq c \leq y$ for all $x \in X$ and $y \in Y$.

We now have a complete list of axioms such that any set on which those axioms hold can be considered a concrete realization or model of the real numbers.

3.2 The Most Important Classes of Real Numbers

3.2.1 The Natural Numbers and the Principle of Mathematical Induction

Definition 3.2 *The numbers of the form $1, 1+1, (1+1)+1$, and so forth are denoted respectively by $1, 2, 3, \dots$ and so forth and are called natural numbers.*

Definition 3.3 *A set $X \subset \mathbb{R}$ is inductive if for each number $x \in X$, it also contains $x + 1$.*

The intersection $X = \bigcap_{\alpha \in A} X_\alpha$, if not empty, is an inductive set.

3.2.2 Rational and Irrational Numbers

a. The Integers

Definition 3.4 *The union of the set of natural numbers, the set of negatives of natural numbers, and zero is called the set of integers and is denoted \mathbb{Z} .*

The set \mathbb{Z} is an Abelian group with respect to addition. With respect to Multiplication \mathbb{Z} is not a group, nor is $\mathbb{Z} \setminus 0$, since the reciprocals of the integers are not in \mathbb{Z} (except the reciprocal of 1 and -1).

When $k = m \cdot n^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}$ for two integers $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, that is, when $m = k \cdot n$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, we say that m is divisible by n or a multiple of n , or that n is a divisor of m .

A number $p \in \mathbb{N}, p \neq 1$, is prime if it has no divisors in \mathbb{N} except 1 and p .

The fundamental theorem of arithmetic. Each natural number admits a representation as a product

$$n = p_1 \cdots p_k$$

where p_1, \dots, p_k are prime numbers. This representation is unique except for the order of the factors.

Numbers $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ are said to be relatively prime if they have no common divisor except 1 and -1.

It follows in particular from this theorem that if the product $m \cdot n$ of relatively prime numbers m and n is divisible by a prime p , then one of the two numbers is also divisible by p .

b. The Rational Numbers

Definition 3.5 Numbers of the form $m \cdot n^{-1}$, where $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, are called rational.

We denote the set of rational numbers by \mathbb{Q} .

The number $q = m \cdot n^{-1}$ can also be written as a quotient ⁴ of m and n , that is, as a so-called rational fraction $\frac{m}{n}$.

c. The Irrational Numbers

Definition 3.6 The real numbers that are not rational are called irrational.

The classical example of an Irrational real number is $\sqrt{2}$

We shall soon see that in a certain sense nearly all real numbers are irrational. It will be shown that the cardinality of the set of the Irrational numbers is larger than that of the cardinality of the set of rational numbers and thus in fact the former equals the cardinality of the set of real numbers.

A real number is called *algebraic* if it is the root of an algebraic equation

$$a_0x^n + \cdots a_{n-1}x + a_0 = 0$$

with rational (or equivalently, integer) coefficients. Otherwise the real number is called *transcendental*.

3.3 Basic Lemmas Connected with the Completeness of the Real Numbers

In this section we shall establish some simple useful principles, each of which could have been used as the axiom of completeness in our construction of the real numbers.

3.3.1 The nested Interval Lemma (Cauchy-Cantor Principle)

Definition 3.7 A function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$ of a natural-number argument is called a sequence or, more fully, a sequence of elements of X .

The value $f(n)$ of the function f corresponding to the number $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is often denoted x_n and called the n th term of the sequence.

⁴The notation \mathbb{Q} from the first letter of the English word quotient, which in turn comes from the Latin *quota*, meaning the unit part of something, and *quot*, meaning how many.

Definition 3.8 Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$ be a sequence of sets. If $X_1 \supset X_2 \supset \dots \supset X_n \supset \dots$, that is $X_n \supset X_{n+1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we say the sequence is nested.

Lemma 3.1 *Cauchy-Cantor.* For any nested sequence $I_1 \supset I_2 \supset \dots \supset I_n \supset \dots$ of closed intervals, there exists a point $c \in \mathbb{R}$ belonging to all these intervals.

If in addition it is known that for any $\epsilon > 0$ there is an interval I_k whose length $|I_k|$ is less than ϵ , then c is the unique point common to all the intervals.

3.3.2 The Finite Covering Lemma (Borel-Lebesgue Principle, or Heine-Borel Theorem)

Definition 3.9 A system $S = \{X\}$ of sets X is said to cover a set Y if $Y \subset \bigcup_{X \in S} X$, (that is, if every element $y \in Y$ belongs to at least one of the sets X in the system S).

A subset of a set $S = \{X\}$ that is a system of sets will be called a *subsystem* of S . Thus a subsystem of a system of sets is itself a system of sets of the same type.

Lemma 3.2 (Borel-Lebesgue).⁵ Every system of open intervals covering a closed interval contains a finite subsystem that covers the closed interval.

3.3.3 The Limit Point Lemma (Bolzano-Weierstras Principle)

Definition 3.10 A point $p \in \mathbb{R}$ is a *limit point* of the set $X \subset \mathbb{R}$ if every neighborhood of the point contains an infinite subset of X .

This condition is obviously equivalent to the assertion that every neighborhood of p contains at least one point of X different from p itself.

Lemma 3.3 Every bounded infinite set of real numbers has at least one limit point.

⁵ \acute{E} .Borel (1871-1956) and H.Lebesgue (1875-1941) well known French mathematicians who worked in the theory of functions.

3.3.4 The supremum and infimum

We review the definition of the supremum and infimum and some of their properties.

Definition 3.11 *A set $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ of real numbers is bounded from above if there exists a real number $M \in \mathbb{R}$, called an upper bound of A , such that $x \leq M$ for every $x \in A$. Similarly, A is bounded from below if there exists $m \in \mathbb{R}$, called a lower bound of A , such that $x \geq m$ for every $x \in A$. A set is bounded if it is bounded both from above and below.*

Definition 3.12 *Suppose that $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a set of real numbers. If $M \in \mathbb{R}$ is an upper bound of A such that $M \leq M'$ for every upper bound M' of A , then M is called the supremum of A , denoted $M = \sup A$. If $m \in \mathbb{R}$ is a lower bound of A such that $m \geq m'$ for every lower bound m' of A , then m is called the infimum of A , denoted $m = \inf A$.*

If A is not bounded from above, then we write $\sup A = \infty$, and if A is not bounded from below, we write $\inf A = -\infty$.

Proposition 3.1 *The supremum or infimum of a set A is unique if it exists. Moreover, if both exist, then $\inf A \leq \sup A$.*

Proposition 3.2 *If $A \subset \mathbb{R}$, then $M = \sup A$ if and only if (a) M is an upper bound of A ; (b) for every $M' < M$, then exists $x \in A$ such that $x > M'$. Similarly, $m = \inf A$ if and only if: (a) m is a lower bound of A ; (b) for every $m' > m$ there exists $x \in A$ such that $x < m'$.*

Theorem 3.4 *Every non-empty set of real numbers that is bounded from above has a supremum, and every non-empty set of real numbers that is bounded from below has an infimum.*

3.4 Countable and Uncountable Sets

3.4.1 Countable Sets

Definition 3.13 *A set X is countable if it is equivalent with the set \mathbb{N} of natural numbers, that is, $\text{card}X = \text{card}\mathbb{N}$.*

Proposition 3.3 *a) An infinite subset of a countable set is countable.*

b) The union of the sets of a finite or countable system of countable sets is a countable set.

Corollary 3.5 *1) $\text{card}\mathbb{Z} = \text{card}\mathbb{N}$*

2) $\text{card}\mathbb{N}^2 = \text{card}\mathbb{N}$.

3.5 The Cardinality of the Coninuum

Definition 3.14 *The set R of real numbers is also called the number continuum,⁶ and its cardinality the cardinality of the continuum.*

⁶From the Latin continuum, meaning continuous, or solid.