

EXAMPLES 1. The interior of  $[a, b]$  is  $(a, b)$ .

If  $x \in (a, b)$ , then some  $(x - \delta, x + \delta) \subseteq (a, b) \subseteq [a, b]$ , so  $(a, b) \subseteq \text{Interior}$ .

On the other hand, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the sets  $N_\varepsilon(a)$ ,  $N_\varepsilon(b)$  are not contained in  $[a, b]$ , so  $a, b \notin \text{Int}([a, b])$ .

2. The interior of  $\{0\}$  <sup>in  $\mathbb{R}$</sup>  is empty, for  $N_\varepsilon(0)$  is never cont. in  $\{0\}$ .

3. The interior of  $\mathbb{R} \times \{0\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  is also empty for the same reason (i. have,  $N_\varepsilon((t, 0))$  contains  $(t, \varepsilon/2)$ ).

CLAIM  $\text{Int}(A, X)$  is the unique largest open subset  $U \subseteq X$  such that  $U \subseteq A$ .

Verification (i)  $U \text{ open} + U \subseteq A \Rightarrow U \subseteq \text{Int} A$ ,

for if  $a \in U \text{ open} + U \subseteq A$ , then for some  $\epsilon > 0$  we have  $N_{\epsilon(a)}(a) \subseteq U \subseteq A$ , and hence  $a \in \text{Int} A$ .  $\square$

(ii) We shall prove  $\text{Int}(A, X)$  is open in  $X$ .

Let  $a \in \text{Int}(A, X)$ ,  $N_{\epsilon(a)}(a) \subseteq A$ ; we shall show  $N_{\epsilon}(a) \subseteq \text{Int} A$ . But  $y \in N_{\epsilon(a)}(a)$  and  $\delta = d(a, y) \Rightarrow N_{\epsilon(a) - \delta}(y) \subseteq N_{\epsilon(a)}(a) \subseteq A$ , so  $y \in \text{Int} A$ . Finally, we use this to see

$$\text{Int} A = \bigcup_{a \in \text{Int} A} \{a\} \subseteq \bigcup_{a \in \text{Int} A} N_{\epsilon(a)}(a) \subseteq \text{Int} A$$

so that  $\text{Int} A$  is the open set  $\bigcup_{a \in \text{Int} A} N_{\epsilon(a)}(a)$ .  $\square$

More on interiors (Sutherland, 6.21)

(i)  $A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \text{Int}(A) \subseteq \text{Int}(B)$ .

(iii)  $\text{Int}(\text{Int}(A)) = \text{Int}(A)$ .

## Proofs

(i)  $\text{Int}(A) \subseteq A \subseteq B$ , so  $\text{Int}(A)$  is an open set contained in  $B$ . Since  $\text{Int}(B)$  is the largest such open set,  $\text{Int}(A) \subseteq \text{Int}(B)$ . ■

(ii)  $\text{Int}(A) \subseteq A$  & (i) imply

$\text{Int}(\text{Int}(A)) \subseteq \text{Int}(A)$ . To finish, note that if  $U$  is open, then  $\text{Int}(U) = U$  follows from the definitions. ■

## Boundary or frontier points.

Warning In topology,  $\partial A$  often has another meaning, and similarly for boundary.

Def. 6.22  $A \subseteq X$  metric. The frontier or boundary of  $A$  in  $X$ , written  $\text{Bdy}(A; X)$  or  $\text{Fr}(A; X)$  is  $\bar{A} - \text{Int}(A)$ .

Example. The frontier of  $(a, b)$  or  $[a, b]$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is equal to  $\{a, b\}$ .

Examples

1. The frontier points of  $[a, b]$  and  $(a, b)$  are  $\{a, b\}$ .

2. The frontier points of  $\mathbb{Q}$  are all of  $\mathbb{R}$ , for  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{R}$  (since  $L(\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{R}$ !) and no set of the form  $N_\varepsilon(q)$  is contained in  $\mathbb{Q}$  (between  $q$  and  $q + \varepsilon$  there is some irrational number).

Sutherland, Prop. 6.24 Let  $x \in A \subseteq X$  metric. Then  $x \in \text{Bdy}(A, X) \iff$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  both  $A \cap N_\varepsilon(x)$  and  $(X - A) \cap N_\varepsilon(x)$  are nonempty.

Proof.  $(\implies)$   $x \in \text{Bdy}(A, X) \implies x \in \overline{A} - \text{Int} A$ .

Since  $x \in \overline{A}$ , for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $N_\varepsilon(x) \cap A$  is nonempty (two cases:  $x \in A$ ,  $x \in L(A)$ ). Since  $x \notin \text{Int} A$ , there is no  $\varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $N_\varepsilon(x) \subseteq A$ . In other words, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is at least one point in  $N_\varepsilon(x) \cap (X - A)$ . ■

( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $N_\varepsilon(x) \cap A$  is nonempty for all  $\varepsilon$ , then either  $x \in A$  or  $x \in L(A)$ , so  $x \in \bar{A}$ .

If  $N_\varepsilon(x) \cap (X-A) \neq \emptyset$  for all  $\varepsilon$ , then  $x \notin \text{Int} A$ .

EQUIVALENT METRICS Postponed until next chapter with one exception.

Def.  $(X, d^X) + (Y, d^Y)$  metric spaces.

$f: (X, d^X) \rightarrow (Y, d^Y)$  is a homeomorphism

(home - ee - oh - MORE - fizm)

if  $f$  is 1-1 onto and both  $f$  and its inverse are continuous.

THIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT IN TOPOLOGY!

Special cases have arisen in earlier courses.

Single variable calculus Change of variables.

$w(x)$  continuous derivative, strictly increasing on  $[a, b] \Rightarrow w$  has a continuous derivative and a strictly increasing inverse.

One use is to rewrite integrals into more computable forms: