

Topological Terminology in \mathbb{R}^n

Def • $B_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0) = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0\| < \varepsilon \}$ is called the

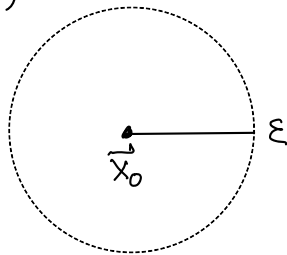
open ball of radius ε and centered at \vec{x}_0

• $\overline{B_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)} = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0\| \leq \varepsilon \}$ is called the

closed ball of radius ε and centered at \vec{x}_0

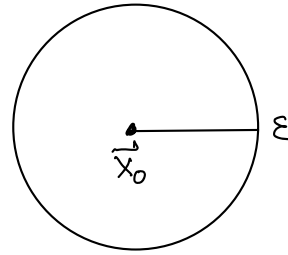
Remark = If $n=2$, $B_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)$, $\overline{B_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)}$ are referred as open disk, closed disk and denoted by $D_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)$, $\overline{D_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)}$ in some textbooks.

$B_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)$



↑ points from
the dotted "line"
are not included

$\overline{B_\varepsilon(\vec{x}_0)}$



↑ points on the solid
"line" are included

Recall notation: " \exists " : there exist(s)

" \forall " : for all

Def: Let S be a set in \mathbb{R}^n .

(1) The interior of S is the set

$$\text{Int}(S) = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists \epsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } B_\epsilon(\vec{x}) \subset S \}$$

Points in $\text{Int}(S)$ are called interior points of S

(2) The exterior of S is the set

$$\text{Ext}(S) = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists \epsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } B_\epsilon(\vec{x}) \subset \mathbb{R}^n \setminus S \}$$

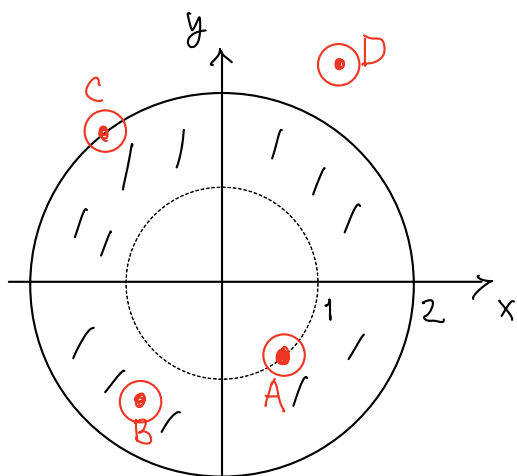
Points in $\text{Ext}(S)$ are called exterior points of S

(3) The boundary of S is the set

$$\partial S = \left\{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \forall \epsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } \begin{array}{l} B_\epsilon(\vec{x}) \cap S \neq \emptyset, \text{ \& } \\ B_\epsilon(\vec{x}) \cap (\mathbb{R}^n \setminus S) \neq \emptyset \end{array} \right\}$$

Points on ∂S are called boundary points of S

eg: $S = \{ (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 1 < x^2 + y^2 \leq 4 \} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$



A = boundary point C = boundary point

B = interior point D = exterior point

$$\text{Int}(S) = \{ (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 1 < x^2 + y^2 < 4 \}$$

$$\text{Ext}(S) = \{ (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 < 1 \text{ or } x^2 + y^2 > 4 \}$$

$$\partial S = \{ (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1 \text{ or } x^2 + y^2 = 4 \}$$

Prop Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Then

(1) $\mathbb{R}^n =$ disjoint union of $\text{Int}(S)$, $\text{Ext}(S)$ and ∂S

(2) $\text{Int}(S) \subseteq S$

$\text{Ext}(S) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \setminus S$

(3) A point on ∂S may or may not be in S

(For statement (3), see points A & C in the above eg.)

Def A set $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is called

(1) open if $\forall x \in S, \exists \varepsilon > 0$ such that $B_\varepsilon(x) \subseteq S$

(2) closed if $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus S$ is open

Equivalent definition:

(1) S open $\Leftrightarrow S = \text{Int}(S)$

(2) S closed $\Leftrightarrow S = \text{Int}(S) \cup \partial S$

(check!)

eg Is $S = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 1 < x^2 + y^2 \leq 4\}$ open or closed?


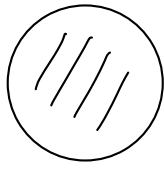
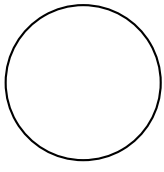
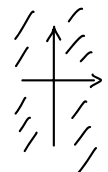
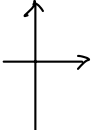
Answer: Not open, and

Not closed!

(Similar to $\left[\quad \right] \quad \left[\quad \right) \quad \left(\quad \right) \quad \mathbb{R}^1$)

↑ closed ↑ not open, not closed ↑ open

Eg:

Subset	$B_1(0,0)$	$\overline{B_1(0,0)}$	S^1	\mathbb{R}^2	\emptyset
$S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$	$= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 < 1\}$	$= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$	$= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$		(empty set)
$\text{Int}(S)$	$B_1(0,0)$	$B_1(0,0)$	\emptyset	\mathbb{R}^2	\emptyset
$\text{Ext}(S)$	$\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \overline{B_1(0,0)}$ $= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 > 1\}$	$\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \overline{B_1(0,0)}$	$\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus S^1$	\emptyset	\mathbb{R}^2
∂S	S^1	S^1	S^1	\emptyset	\emptyset
Open?	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Closed?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Picture					

Remarks: (1) There are exactly two subsets of \mathbb{R}^n which are both open and closed: \mathbb{R}^n and \emptyset .

(2) Some subsets of \mathbb{R}^n are neither open nor closed.

(eg = above)

(3) For any $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $\text{Int}(S)$ & $\text{Ext}(S)$ are open in \mathbb{R}^n ;

∂S is closed in \mathbb{R}^n

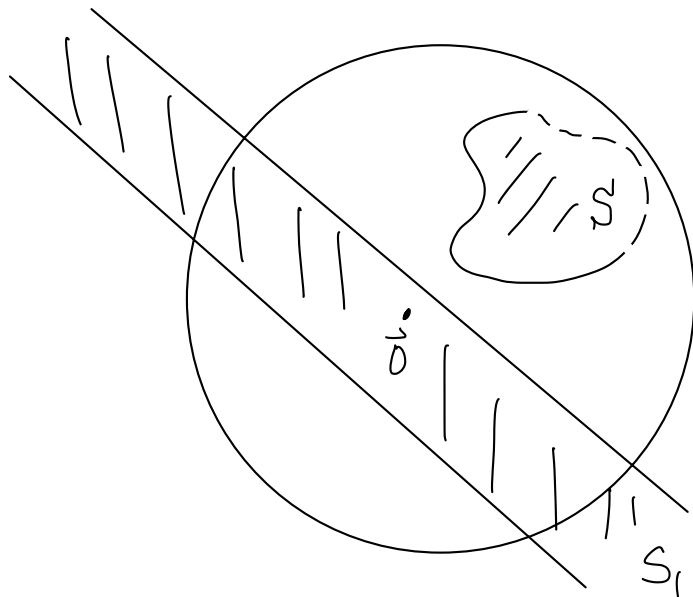
(Ex: What about $\text{Int}(S) \cup \partial S$?)

Def: $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is called bounded if

$\exists M > 0$ such that

$$S \subseteq B_M(\vec{0}) = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{x}\| < M \}$$

S is called unbounded if it is not bounded



S is bounded

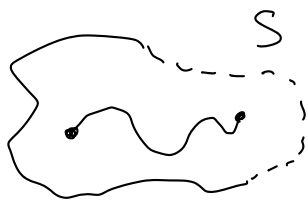
S_1 is unbounded

eg: y -axis $= \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x=0 \}$ is unbounded

(Pf: $\forall M > 0, \exists (0, zM) \in y$ -axis s.t. $(0, zM) \notin B_M(\vec{0})$.)

Def $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is called path-connected if any two points in S can be connected by a curve in S .

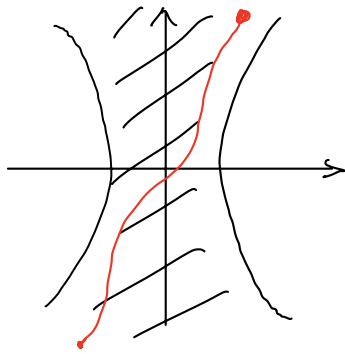
path-connected



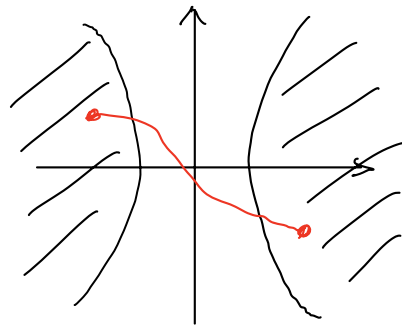
cannot joint by a curve completely inside S .



eg: $S = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 - y^2 \leq 1\}$ is path-connected
 $S_1 = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 - y^2 \geq 1\}$ is not path-connected



S



S_1

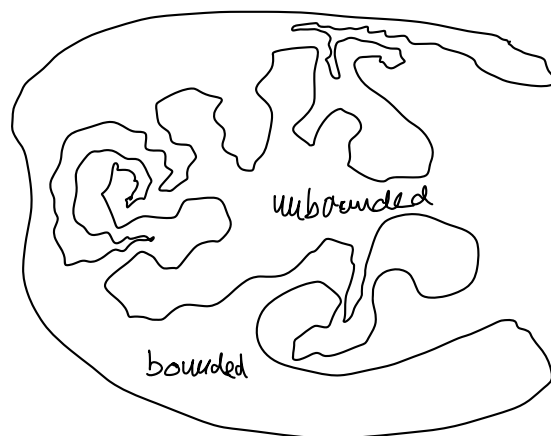
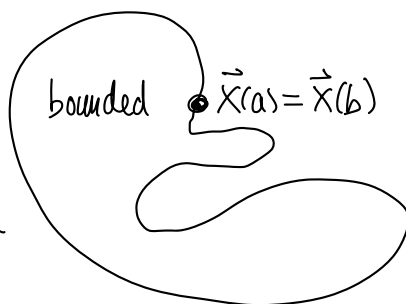
Remark: In topology, there is a different notion called "connected".
 We'll not discuss it.

Thm (Jordan Curve Theorem)

A simple closed curve in \mathbb{R}^2 divides \mathbb{R}^2 into 2 path-connected components, with one bounded and one unbounded

Remark: "closed curve" means continuous curve $\vec{x}(t)$, $a \leq t \leq b$
 with $\vec{x}(a) = \vec{x}(b)$. And one can show that it is a
 "closed subset" in \mathbb{R}^2 .

eg:



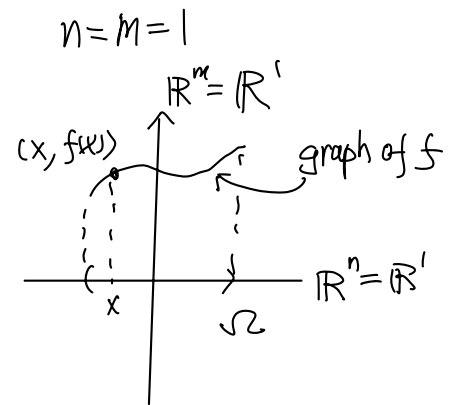
Vector-valued functions of Multivariables

$$\vec{f}: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \quad \text{How to visualize it?}$$

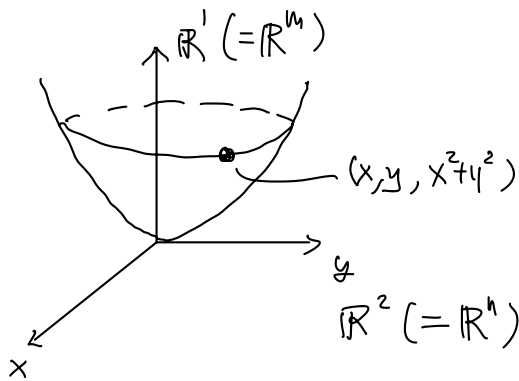
(1) Graph of \vec{f}

$$\text{Graph}(\vec{f}) = \left\{ (\vec{x}, \vec{f}(\vec{x})) : \vec{x} \in \Omega \right\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \uparrow & \uparrow & \\ \mathbb{R}^n & \mathbb{R}^m & \\ \subseteq & & \\ \mathbb{R}^{n+m} & & \end{array}$$



eg: $n=2, m=1$: $g: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined $g(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$



graph(g) is the surface

$$= \{ (x, y, x^2 + y^2) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$$

(In general, it is impossible to draw the graph for $n+m > 3$!)

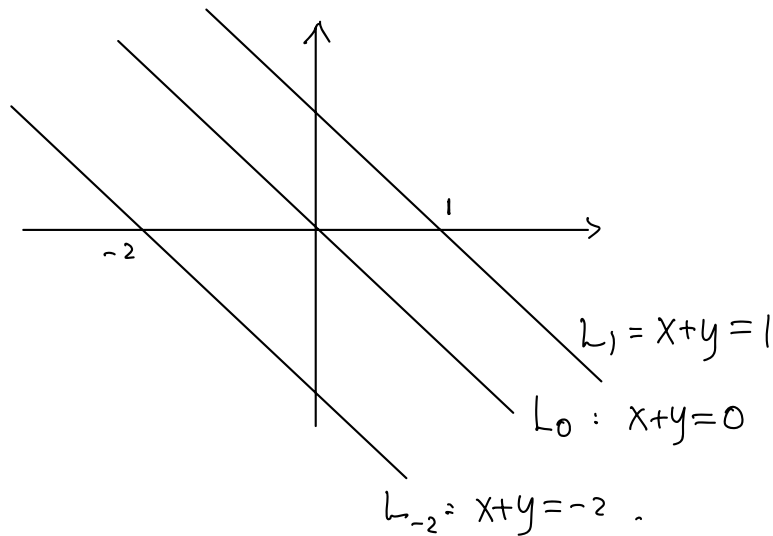
(2) Level set of $\vec{f}: \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

If $\vec{c} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, define the level set at \vec{c} to be

$$L_{\vec{c}} = \{ \vec{x} \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n : \vec{f}(\vec{x}) = \vec{c} \} = (\vec{f})^{-1}(\vec{c}) \subseteq \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n.$$

eg: $f(x,y) = x+y$, $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^2$ ($m=1 \Rightarrow \vec{c} \in \mathbb{R}^1$, ie \vec{c} is a number)

$$L_c = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : f(x,y) = c\}$$
$$= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x+y = c\}$$



eg: $g(x,y) = x^2+y^2$, $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^2$

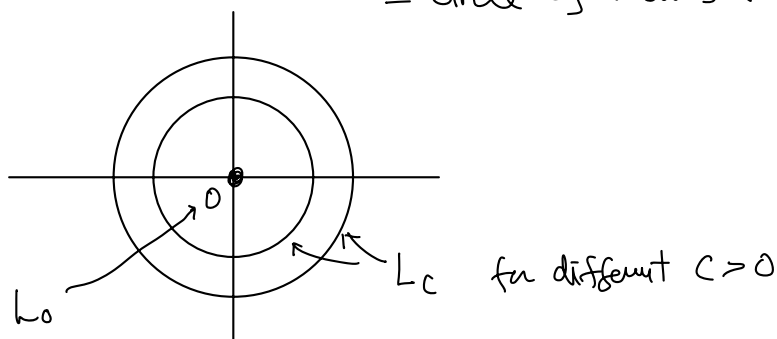
$$L_c = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g(x,y) = c\}$$
$$= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2+y^2 = c\}$$

Case 1: $c < 0$, $L_c = \emptyset$

Case 2: $c = 0$, $L_0 = \{(0,0)\}$

Case 3: $c > 0$, $L_c = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2+y^2 = c\}$

= circle of radius \sqrt{c} centered at $(0,0)$.



eg: $f(x,y) = \cos(2\pi(x^2+y^2))$, $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^2$

$$L_c = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : f(x,y) = c\}$$

$$= \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \cos(2\pi(x^2+y^2)) = c\}$$

Case 1: If $|c| > 1$, then $L_c = \emptyset$.

Case 2: If $|c| \leq 1$, then $L_c = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2+y^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \cos^{-1}(c)\}$

Subcase (a) $\cos^{-1}(c) < 0$

need $\cos^{-1}(c) \geq 0$.

$$L_c = \emptyset$$

Subcase (b) $\cos^{-1}(c) = 0$

$$L_c = \{(0,0)\}$$

Subcase (c) $\cos^{-1}(c) > 0$

$L_c =$ circle of radius $\sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi} \cos^{-1}(c)}$ centered at $(0,0)$.

Level set \leftrightarrow graph

