

Topology 5500/6500 Fa21 - Dr. Smith
Section 01 - Various Proofs

Theorem 1.1. Let $(X, \mathcal{T}(X))$ be a topological space. Let $U \in \mathcal{T}(X)$ be an open set, then U does not contain any of its boundary points.

Proof. Let U be an open set and suppose $p \in \text{Bd}(U)$. If O is an open set containing the boundary point p , then O contains a point of U and a point not in U . But U is an open set so it cannot contain p , since in order for it to do so, it would have to contain points not in U which is a contradiction. \square

Theorem 1.2. Let $(X, \mathcal{T}(X))$ be a topological space. If $M \subset X$ then $X - \text{Bd}(M)$ is open.

Proof. Suppose the hypothesis of the theorem and suppose that $p \in X - \text{Bd}(M)$.

Case 1: $p \in M$. Since p is not a boundary point of M . There must exist an open set U_p so that either U_p contains no point of M or no point of $X - M$. Since $p \in M$ it follows that $p \in U_p \subset M$ and so U_p does not contain any boundary points of M . So $U_p \subset X - \text{Bd}(M)$.

Case 2: $p \notin M$. Then $p \in X - M$. Since p is not a boundary point of M . There must exist an open set U_p so that either U_p contains no point of M or no point of $X - M$. Since $p \in X - M$ it follows that $p \in U_p \subset X - M$ and so, as in case 1, U_p does not contain any boundary points of M and again we have $U_p \subset X - \text{Bd}(M)$.

Since $(X, \mathcal{T}(X))$ be a topological space, it follows that the set

$$O = \bigcup_{p \in X - \text{Bd}(M)} U_p$$

is open. Since each point of $X - \text{Bd}(M)$ is in O and each U_p is a subset of $X - \text{Bd}(M)$ it follows that $O = X - \text{Bd}(M)$. \square

Exercise. Let $(X, \mathcal{T}(X))$ be a topological space and $M \subset X$. Then $\text{Bd}(M) = \text{Bd}(X - M)$.

Proof. Suppose the hypothesis of the theorem so that $M \subset X$. Let $p \in \text{Bd}(M)$. Then if U is an open set containing p , U contains a point of M and a point of $X - M$. Therefore

$$\text{Bd}(M) \subset \text{Bd}(X - M). \quad (1)$$

Let $p \in \text{Bd}(X - M)$. Then if U is an open set containing p , U contains a point of $X - M$ and a point of M . Therefore

$$\text{Bd}(X - M) \subset \text{Bd}(M). \quad (2)$$

Together equations (1) and (2) imply that $\text{Bd}(M) = \text{Bd}(X - M)$.

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