

Math 117: Midterm Review Problems

1. Prove the following, using the definition of the interior of a set:

Given sets $S, T \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, $\text{int}(S \cap T) = \text{int } S \cap \text{int } T$.

2. (a) State the theorem on the density of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R} .

(b) Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove that $x = \sup\{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < x\}$. (*Hints: Prove that the set $S = \sup\{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < x\}$ has a supremum. Let $y = \sup S$. Then, show that $y \neq x$ leads to contradiction.*)

3. (a) Write the definition of the infimum of a set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. (Define any words you use in your definition!)

(b) Prove that the infimum of a set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is unique.

4. (a) State the Well-Ordering Property of \mathbb{N} .

(b) Fill in the blanks of the following proof.

Theorem: The well-ordering property of \mathbb{N} implies the principle of mathematical induction.

Proof: (by contradiction) Suppose that there exists a statement $P(n)$ such that

(a) $P(1)$ is true

(b) For all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, _____

(c) and _____

Define the set

$$S = \{n \in \mathbb{N}, \text{_____}\}$$

Then, by hypothesis (c) $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is non-empty, so there exists $m \in \text{_____}$ such that _____ by the _____. Since $P(1)$ is true by hypothesis (a), _____ $\notin S$. Hence, $m > \text{_____}$. It follows that $m - 1$ is a natural number, and since $m - 1 < m$, _____. By the definition of S , $P(m - 1)$ is _____. Then, (b) implies that _____. This implies that _____, which is a contradiction.

5. Prove that if $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ has a minimum, then $\text{bd } S \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

6. (a) Write definitions (in terms of neighborhoods!) for an accumulation point, an isolated point, and a boundary point of a set S .

(b) Prove that a boundary point of a set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is either an accumulation point of S or an isolated point of S .

7. Prove the statement if it is true (but do not quote any theorems from the book in your proof); otherwise, give a counterexample.

(a) If $x \geq y$ and $x \leq y + \epsilon$ for all $\epsilon > 0$, then $x = y$.

(b) If $x > y - \epsilon$ for all $\epsilon > 0$, then $x > y$.

8. (a) Write the definition of a compact set.

(b) Prove, using the definition of a compact set, that $(0, 1]$ is not compact.