

# Presentation Problems 2

21-355 A

**Instructions:** Your group should prepare a presentation for the problem corresponding to your group number. After presenting the solution and getting feedback from the class, you have until the beginning of the following class to send a Tex file with a polished form of the solution to the instructor. Make sure all group members' names are in the Tex file. There are 15 points available: 10 for the presentation and 5 for the written proof.

1. Show that for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ ,  $(a, b)$  is open in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Use this to prove that  $(-\infty, a)$  and  $(a, \infty)$  are open for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Conclude that  $[a, b]$ ,  $(-\infty, a]$  and  $[a, \infty)$  are closed in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
2. Let  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $F$  is closed if and only if every convergent sequence in  $F$  converges in  $F$ .
3. Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then the closure  $\overline{A}$  is closed in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
4. (a) Let  $F_i$  be closed for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . Then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^N F_i$  is closed.  
(b) Let  $F_i$  be closed for all  $i$  in some indexing set  $I$ . Then  $\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i$  is closed.
5. Let  $(x_n)$  be a real sequence such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ . Show that the set  $S = \{x\} \cup \{x_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is closed in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
6. Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Show the following are equivalent.
  - (a)  $A$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$
  - (b) For any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists some sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $A$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .
  - (c)  $\overline{A} = \mathbb{R}$ .
7. Show that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is open in  $\mathbb{R}$  if and only if  $A = \text{int } A$ .
8. Show that  $\text{bd } A = \overline{A} \cap \overline{\mathbb{R} \setminus A}$  for any  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and that  $\overline{A} = \text{int } A \cup \text{bd } A$ .
9. For any  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$  is partitioned into the interior  $A$ , the exterior of  $A$ , and the boundary of  $A$ .

10. Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\text{int } A = \bigcup \{U : U \subseteq A \text{ and } U \text{ open in } \mathbb{R}\}$$

and

$$\overline{A} = \bigcap \{F : F \supseteq A \text{ and } F \text{ closed in } \mathbb{R}\}.$$

11. Show that the only sets both open and closed in  $\mathbb{R}$  are  $\emptyset$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Hint:** Let  $a_1 \in A$  and  $b_1 \in A^c$ , assuming without loss of generality that  $a_1 < b_1$  (why is this possible?). Let  $c_1$  be the midpoint of  $a_1$  and  $b_1$ . If  $c_1 \in A$ , let  $a_2 = c_1$  and  $b_2 = b_1$ ; otherwise, let  $a_2 = a_1$  and  $b_2 = c_1$ . Show this construction can be continued inductively. Find  $x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n, b_n]$  and show that  $a_n \rightarrow x$  and  $b_n \rightarrow x$ .