

## REVIEW ARTICLE

## On Review of the Cluster Point of a Set in a Topological Space

Eziokwu C. Emmanuel

Department of Mathematics, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia, Nigeria

Received: 01-07-2019; Revised: 10-09-2019; Accepted: 18-10-2019

## ABSTRACT

If  $X$  be a topological space and  $A$  subspace of  $X$ , then a point  $x \in X$  is said to be a cluster point of  $A$  if every open ball centered at  $x$  contains at least one point of  $A$  different from  $x$ . In the preliminary sections, review of the interior of the set  $X$  was discussed before the major work of section three was implemented.

**Key words:** Set, subset, closure and interior of set, topological space, cluster point of a set

## INTRODUCTION

The word “set” in this context is used to denote the collection of well-defined object, for example, a set of books or set of student and so on. Here, let our set be denoted by the capital  $A$  and the numbers of the set by any small letters of the alphabet. Hence, the  $x \in A$ , we say  $A$  is a subset of  $B$  if every element of  $A \subset B$  while  $A \subseteq B$  is used for proper subsets.

$$A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\} \text{ while } A \cap B = \{x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}.$$

## Definition 1.1

A subset  $A$  of a topological space  $X$  is said to be closed if the set  $X-A$  is open, for example, the subset  $[a, b]$  of  $R$  is closed because it is complement  $R - [a, b] = (-\infty, a) \cup (b, +\infty)$  is open.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Theorem 1.1

Let  $X$  be a topological space. Then, the following conditions hold:

1.  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are closed

**Address for correspondence:**

Eziokwu C. Emmanuel,

E-mail: okereem@yahoo.com

2. Arbitrary intersections of closed sets are closed
3. Finite unions of closed sets are closed.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Theorem 1.2

Let  $Y$  be a subspace of  $X$ . Then, a set  $A$  is closed in  $Y$  if and only if it equals the intersection of a closed set of  $X$  with  $Y$ .<sup>[3]</sup>

## Theorem 1.3

Let  $Y$  be a subspace of  $X$ . If  $A$  is closed in  $Y$  and  $Y$  is closed in  $X$ , then  $A$  is closed in  $X$ . Proof to above three equations is in James Monks p. 94-95.<sup>[4]</sup>

## CLOSURE AND INTERIOR OF A SET

Given a subset  $A$  of a topological space  $X$ , the interior of  $A$  is defined as the union of all open sets contained in  $A$  and the closure of  $A$  is defined as the intersection of all closed sets containing  $A$ .

The interior of  $A$  is denoted by  $\text{Int } A$  and the closure of  $A$  is denoted by  $\text{CL } A$  or by  $\bar{A}$ ; obviously,  $\text{Int } A$  is an open set and  $\bar{A}$  is a  $X$  closed set. Therefore,  $\text{Int } A \subset A \subset \bar{A}$

If  $A$  is open,  $A = \text{Int } A$  while if  $A$  is closed  $A = \bar{A}$

**Theorem 2.1**

Let  $Y$  be a subspace of  $X$  and let  $A$  be a subset of  $Y$ . The closure of  $A$  in  $Y$  equals  $\bar{A} \cap Y$ .<sup>[5]</sup>

**Theorem 2.2**

Let  $A$  be a subset of the topological space  $X$ .

- Then,  $x \in \bar{A}$  if and only if every open set  $U$  is containing  $x$  intersects  $A$ .
- Supposing the topology of  $X$  is given by a basis theory  $x \in \bar{A}$  if and only if every basis element  $B$  containing  $x$  intersects  $A$ .<sup>[6,7]</sup>

**Proof**

Consider the statement (a), it is a statement of the form  $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ . Let us transform each implication to its contrapositive, thereby obtaining the logically equivalent statement  $(\text{not } P) \Leftrightarrow (\text{not } Q)$ . Written out it is the following:

$x \notin \bar{A} \Delta$  there exists an open set  $U$  containing  $x$  that does not intersect  $A$ .

In this form, our theory is easy to prove. If  $x$  is not in  $\bar{A}$ , the set  $U = x - \bar{A}$  is an open set containing  $x$  that does not intersect  $A$  as desired. Conversely, if there exist an open set  $U$  containing  $x$  that does not intersect  $A$ , then  $X - U$  is a closed set. By definition of the must contain  $\bar{A}$ , the set  $X - U$  must contain  $A$ ; therefore,  $x$  cannot be in  $\bar{A}$ . Statement (b) follows readily. If every open set containing  $x$  intersects  $A$  so does every basis element  $B$  containing  $x$ , because  $B$  is an open set.

Conversely, if every basis element containing  $x$  intersects  $A$  so does every open set  $U$  containing  $x$  because  $U$  contains a basis element that contains  $x$ . Hence,  $U$  is an open set containing  $x$ , i.e.  $U$  is a neighborhood of  $x$ .

Therefore, if  $A$  is a subset of the topological space  $X$ , then  $x \in \bar{A}$  if and only if every neighborhood of  $x$  intersects  $A$ .

### CLUSTER POINT (LIMITED POINT OR ACCUMULATION POINT) OF THE SET A

This is another way of defining the closure of a set.

**Definition 3.1**

Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $A$  be a subspace of  $X$ . A point  $x \in X$  (not necessary in  $A$ ) is said to be a cluster point or a limit point or an accumulation point of  $A$  if every open ball centered at  $x$  contains

at least one point of  $A$  different from  $x$  (i.e.,  $x$  is a limit point of  $A$  if  $B_r(x) - \{x\} \cap A \neq \emptyset$  for real number  $(r > 0)$ .<sup>[3]</sup>

**Equivalent definition**

If  $A$  is a subset of a topological space  $X$  and if  $x$  is a point of  $X$ , we say that  $x$  is a limit point (or cluster point or accumulation point of  $A$  if every neighborhood of  $x$  intersects  $A$  in some point other than  $x$  itself. Alternatively,  $x$  is a limit point of  $A$  if it belongs to the closure of  $A - \{x\}$ .

**Another alternative definition**

When  $X = \mathbb{R}$  and  $A \subseteq X = \mathbb{R}$ , we say that  $x$  is a limit point of  $R$  if  $\forall \delta > 0, (x - \delta, x + \delta) \Delta A - \{x\} \neq \emptyset$

**Definition 3.2**

The set of all limit point of  $A$  denoted by  $A'$  is called the derived set of  $A$ .<sup>[7]</sup>

**Definition 3.3**

A subset of  $A$  of a metric space  $X$  is said to be closed if it contains all its limit points.<sup>[4]</sup>

**Theorem 3.1**

Let  $A$  be a subset of the topological space  $X$  and let  $A'$  be the point of  $A$ , the  $\bar{A} = A \cup A'$

**Proof**

If  $x$  is in  $A'$ , every neighborhood of  $x$  intersects  $A$  (in a point different from  $x$ ). Therefore,  $x \in \bar{A}$ . Hence,  $A' \subset \bar{A}$ . Since by definition  $A \subset \bar{A}$ , it follows that  $A \cup A' \subset \bar{A}$  to demonstrate the reverse inclusion we let  $x$  be a point of  $\bar{A}$  and show that  $x \in A \cup A'$  supposed that  $x$  does not lie in  $A$ . Since,  $x \in \bar{A}$ , we know that every neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$  intersects  $A$  in a point different from  $x$ . Then,  $x \in A'$  so that  $x \in A \cup A'$ , as desired.

**Theorem 3.2**

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

- If  $x$  has a neighborhood which only contains finitely many members of  $A$ , then  $x$  cannot be a limit point of  $A$ .

II. If  $x$  is a limit point of  $A$ , then any neighborhood of  $x$  contains infinitely many members of  $A$ .<sup>[2]</sup>

### Proof I

Let  $U$  be a neighborhood of  $x$  which contains only a finite number of point  $A$  that is  $U \cap A$  is finite. Suppose  $U \cap A \setminus \{x\} = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$ . We show that there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $(x - \delta, x + \delta) \cap U$  does not contain any member of  $A \setminus \{x\}$ . Since both  $x - \delta, x + \delta$  and  $U$  neighborhood of  $x$  so is their intersection.

This will prove that there is a neighborhood of  $x$  containing no element of  $A \setminus \{x\}$  hence proving  $x$  is not a limit point of  $A$ . Let  $\delta = \min \{|x - y_1|, |x - y_2|, \dots, |x - y_n|\}$  since  $x$  is not equal to  $y_i, \delta > 0$ . Then,  $(x - \delta, x + \delta)$  contains no point of  $A$  other than  $x$ , thus proving our claim. Proof of II follows immediately from I.

### Corollary 3.3

No finite set can have a limit point.

### Proof

Follows immediately from Theorem 2.2.

### Theorem 3.4

Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , then

- i.  $A \cup L(A) = \bar{A} = A \cup A'$
  - ii.  $L(A) \cup L(B) = L(A \cup B)$ , i.e.,  $A' \cup B' = (A \cup B)'$
  - iii.  $L(A)$  is closed, i.e.  $A'$  is closed.
  - iv. If  $U$  is open, then  $L(U) = U$ , i.e.,  $U' = U$
- (i) above was clearly captured in the proof of Theorem 2.1 while (ii) and (iv) are follow ups of already proved theorems above.

### REFERENCES

1. Frigyes R, Nagyi BS. Functional Analysis. New York: Publication Inc.; 1900.
2. Munkers JR. General Topology. New Delhi: Hall of India; 2007.
3. Charles EC. Functional Analysis an Introduction to Metric Space. Ikeja, Nigeria: Longman Nigeria Ltd.; 1989.
4. Kelly JL. General Topology. New York: Springer Verlag; 1991.
5. Hooking JG, Young GS. Topology. Iner: Addison Wesley Publishing Company; 1961.
6. Hall DW, Spacer GL. Elementary Topology. New York: John Wily and Sons Inc.; 1955.
7. Dugundji T. Allyn and Bawn Publishers, Beston. 1966.