

2.10. Claim: $\forall n, k \in \mathbb{N}_*$ there exist k distinct open sets in \mathbb{R}^n with the same boundary.

Proof by constructing such sets directly:

Let $n=1$.

For $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ I define $I_a := (a, a+1)$.

I_a is open.

$$\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z} = \bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z}} I_a$$

Define $A_1 := \bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z}} I_a = \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$. A_1 is open.

$$\overline{A_1} = \mathbb{R}. \Rightarrow \partial A_1 = \mathbb{Z}$$

Now notice that in $\bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z}} I_a$, we can leave one interval out

and still get a set whose boundary is \mathbb{Z} .

\Rightarrow Define for $2 \leq i \leq k$ $A_i = \bigcup_{a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus i} I_a$ A_i is open.

$$\partial \overline{A_i} = \mathbb{Z}$$

This gives us k distinct open sets whose boundaries are always \mathbb{Z} .

If $n > 1$ we simply consider $\tilde{A}_i := A_i \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$. The boundaries are then $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$.