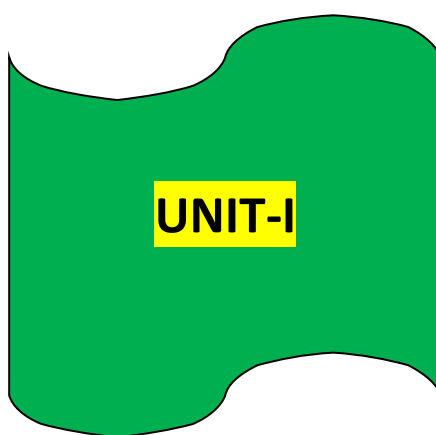


# **SEMESTER-II**

**CORE COURSE C3-T**



**BY**  
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# SEMESTER-II

## HONOURS

### CORE COURSE---C3-T

#### UNIT-I (MARKS-24)

#### UNIT-I

Dr. Pradip Kumar Gain

**Syllabus for Unit-I:** Review of algebraic and order properties of  $R$ ,  $\varepsilon$  – neighbourhood of a point in  $R$ . Idea of countable sets, uncountable sets and uncountability of  $R$ . Bounded above sets, bounded below sets, bounded sets, unbounded sets. Suprema and infima. Completeness property of  $R$  and its equivalent properties. The Archimedean property, density property of rational and irrational numbers in  $R$ . Intervals. Limit point of a set, isolated points, open set, closed set, derived set, illustrations of Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem for sets, compact set in  $R$ , Heine-Borel Theorem.

**DEFINITION (Natural Numbers)** : The numbers 1,2,3,.....that were discovered in the natural process of counting are known as **natural numbers**.

The set of all natural numbers is denoted by  $N$ , i.e.,  $N = \{1,2,3,.....\}$ .

The set of natural numbers can be determined in terms of some axioms, formulated by G. Peano in 1889.

### PEANO'S AXIOMS :

- Axiom 1.**  $1 \in N$ . That is, 1 is a natural number.
- Axiom 2.** For every natural number  $n \in N$ , there exists a unique natural number  $n' \in N$ , called the successor of  $n$  and  $n$  is called the predecessor of  $n'$ .
- Axiom 3.** There exist no predecessor of  $1 \in N$ . That is, 1 is not successor of any natural number.
- Axiom 4.** If two natural numbers have the same successors then they are themselves equal. That is,  $n' = m' \Rightarrow n = m$
- Axiom 5.** If  $G$  be any set of some natural numbers, such that (i)  $1 \in G$  and (ii)  $n \in G \Rightarrow n' \in G$ , then  $G$  contains all natural numbers, i.e.,  $G = N$  (Axiom 5 is known as principle of finite or mathematical induction)

## Well ordering principle of the set of natural numbers :

**THEOREM 1.1:** (Well ordering principle) Every non-empty subset of  $N$  has a least element.

The set  $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  of all natural numbers is closed under addition and multiplication but not closed under the subtraction and division operations, i.e., the difference between any two numbers of  $N$  are not always a member of  $N$  and quotient of any two natural numbers are not always a member of  $N$ . That is why it became necessary to extend the system of natural numbers by introducing negative of natural numbers and the number zero 0. Thus to every natural number (positive integer)  $n \in N$  there is a unique integer  $-n$ , called additive inverse of  $n$  such that  $n + (-n) = 0$ , where 0 has the property such that  $n + 0 = n$  and  $n \cdot 0 = 0$  for each integer  $n$ .

**DEFINITION :** (Integers) The union of set of natural numbers (positive integer) and the set of all negative integers  $\{\dots -3, -2, -1\}$  and the singleton set  $\{0\}$  is called the set of all **integers**. The set of all integers is denoted by  $Z$ . That is,  $Z = \{\dots -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

Clearly,  $N \subset Z$ .

Now the set  $Z = \{\dots -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  of all integers is closed under addition, multiplication and subtraction but not closed under the division operation. That is why it became necessary to extend the system of all integers.

**DEFINITION :** (Rational Numbers) Any number which can be expressed as the ratio  $\frac{p}{q}$  where  $p \in Z$ ,  $q \in N$  and  $p$  and  $q$  are prime to each other is called a **rational number**. The set of all rational numbers is denoted by  $Q$ .

Clearly,  $N \subset Z \subset Q$ .

**EXAMPLE :** i)  $5 = \frac{5}{1}$ ,  $5 \in Z, 1 \in N$  (ii)  $-3 = \frac{-3}{1}$ ,  $-3 \in Z, 1 \in N$  (iii)  $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ ,  $3 \in Z, 4 \in N$  (iv)  $-\frac{7}{2} = \frac{-7}{2}$ ,  $-7 \in Z, 2 \in N$ . Clearly  $5, -3, \frac{3}{4}, -\frac{7}{2}$  are examples of rational numbers.

**Special Characteristics of rational numbers :** Any rational number can be transformed either into a finite decimal form or an infinite recurring decimal form. For example, let us consider the rational numbers  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{4}{3}$ . We see that  $\frac{3}{4} = .75$  (a finite decimal form) and

$\frac{4}{3} = 1.33333333\dots = 1.\dot{3}$  (an infinite recurring decimal).

Now the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is closed under addition, multiplication and subtraction and division.

**ORDER PROPERTIES OF  $Q$ :**

- (i) If  $a$  and  $b$  are two rational numbers, i.e.,  $a, b \in Q$  then either  $a < b$  or  $b < a$  (law of trichotomy)
- (ii) If  $a, b$  and  $c$  are three rational numbers, i.e.,  $a, b, c \in Q$  then  $a < b$  and  $b < c \Rightarrow a < c$  (transitive law)
- (iii)  $a < b \Rightarrow a + c < b + c$  for any  $a, b, c \in Q$ .
- (iv)  $a < b$  and  $c > 0 \Rightarrow ac < bc$  for any  $a, b, c \in Q$ .

In view of the above order properties we say that the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is an **ordered set**.

**DEFINITION : (Irrational Numbers)** Any number which is not a rational number is called an **irrational number**. The set of all irrational numbers is denoted by  $I$ .

**EXAMPLE :** Show that  $\sqrt{2}$  is not a rational number.

**SOLUTION :** If possible let  $\sqrt{2}$  is a rational number. Then  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p \in Z, q \in N$

Now  $1 < 2 < 4 \Rightarrow 1 < \sqrt{2} < 2$ . That is,  $\sqrt{2}$  lies between two consecutive integers 1 and 2. Hence  $\sqrt{2}$  cannot be an integer. So  $q \neq 1$ . So  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$  = a proper fraction.

As per our assumption  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ . That is,  $2 = \frac{p^2}{q^2}$ . Or,  $2q = \frac{p^2}{q}$  .....(1). Left

hand side of the relation (1) is an integer whereas right hand side is a proper fraction ( $\because \frac{p}{q}$  is a proper fraction) and relation (1) shows a proper fraction is equal to an integer

which is not possible at all. So our assumption, i.e., " $\sqrt{2}$  is a rational number" is not true.

Hence  $\sqrt{2}$  is not a rational number.

**DEFINITION : (Real Numbers)** The union of the set of all rational numbers and the set of all irrational numbers constitute the set of all **real numbers**. The set of all real numbers is denoted by  $R$ . That is,  $R = Q \cup I$ .

Clearly,  $N \subset Z \subset Q \subset R$ .

### ORDER PROPERTIES OF $R$ :

- (i) If  $a$  and  $b$  are two real numbers, i.e.,  $a, b \in R$  then either  $a < b$  or  $b < a$  ( law of trichotomy)
- (ii) If  $a, b$  and  $c$  are three real numbers, i.e.,  $a, b, c \in R$  then  $a < b$  and  $b < c \Rightarrow a < c$  (transitive law)
- (iii)  $a < b \Rightarrow a + c < b + c$  for any  $a, b, c \in R$ .
- (iv)  $a < b$  and  $c > 0 \Rightarrow ac < bc$  for any  $a, b, c \in R$ .

In view of the above order properties we say that the set  $R$  of all real numbers is an **ordered set**.

### ALGEBRAIC PROPERTIES OF $R$ :

Addition and multiplication are defined on the set  $R$ .

Under addition(+)

- (i)  $a + b \in R$  for all  $a, b \in R$  (Closure property)
- (ii)  $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in R$  (Associative property)
- (iii) There exists an element  $0$  in (called the zero element or additive identity) such that  $a + 0 = a$  for all  $a \in R$ . (existence of additive identity)
- (iv) For each  $a \in R$  there exists an element  $-a \in R$  such that  $a + (-a) = 0$  ( existence of additive inverse for each element)
- (v)  $a + b = b + a$  for all  $a, b \in R$  (commutative property)

Under addition  $R$  is an abelian group.

Under multiplication(.)

- (i)  $ab \in R$  for all  $a, b \in R$  (Closure property)
- (ii)  $(a.b)c = a.(b.c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in R$  (Associative property)
- (iii) There exists an element  $1$  in (called the unity or multiplicative identity) such that  $a.1 = a$  for all  $a \in R$ . (existence of multiplicative identity)
- (iv) For each  $a \in R$  there exists an element  $\frac{1}{a} \in R$  such that  $a.\frac{1}{a} = 1$  ( existence of multiplicative inverse for each element)
- (v)  $a.b = b.a$  for all  $a, b \in R$  (commutative property)

Under multiplication  $R$  is a commutative group.

- (vi)  $a.(b + c) = a.b + a.c$  for all  $a, b, c \in R$  (left distributive property)
- $(a + b).c = a.c + b.c$  for all  $a, b, c \in R$  (right distributive property)

The set  $R$  of real numbers obeys all the field axioms. Also  $R$  is an ordered set.

Hence  $R$  is an ordered field.

**NOTE :** It should be noted that the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers also obeys all the field axioms as well as order properties and hence  $Q$  is also an ordered field.

**DEFINITION : (Intervals)** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a < b$ . We write

- (i)  $[a, b] = \{x : a \leq x \leq b\}$  (called *closed interval*)
- (ii)  $(a, b) = \{x : a < x < b\}$  (called *open interval*)
- (iii)  $[a, b) = \{x : a \leq x < b\}$  (called *left closed right open interval*)
- (iv)  $(a, b] = \{x : a < x \leq b\}$  (called *right closed left open interval*)

**DEFINITION : (Bounded above set)** A set  $S$  of real numbers is called *bounded above* if there exists a real number  $b$  such that  $x \leq b, \forall x \in S$ . The number  $b$  is called **upper bound of  $S$** .

An upper bound may or may not belong to the set  $S$ . Every real number greater than an upper bound of a set is also an upper bound of that set. So a bounded above set has infinite number of upper bounds.

**EXAMPLE :** Let us consider the following sets :

$S_1 = [1, 2]$  is bounded above set. Here 2 is obviously an upper bound of  $S$  since  $x \leq 2, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number greater than 2 is also an upper bound of the set  $S_1$ . 2 is the least of all upper bounds of the set  $S_1$ .

$S_2 = (1, 2)$  is bounded above set. Here 2 is obviously an upper bound of  $S$  since  $x < 2, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number greater than 2 is also an upper bound of the set  $S_2$ . 2 is the least of all upper bound of the set  $S_2$ .

$S_3 = \left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\right\}$  is bounded above set. Here 1 is obviously an upper bound of  $S_3$  since  $x \leq 1, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number greater than 1 is also an upper bound of the set  $S_3$ . 1 is the least of all upper bounds of the set  $S_3$ .

$S_4 = \phi$  is bounded above set. Here every real number is an upper bound of  $S_4$ .

Least of all upper bounds is called **least upper bound** or ***l.u.b*** or **supremum** of the set.

**NOTE :** A set may or may not contain *l.u.b*. In the above example  $S_1$  &  $S_3$  contain *l.u.b* but  $S_2$  does not contain *l.u.b*.

**DEFINITION : (Bounded below set)** A set  $S$  of real numbers is called *bounded below* if there exists a real number  $a$  such that  $x \geq a, \forall x \in S$ . The number  $a$  is called *lower bound* of  $S$ .

A lower bound may or may not belong to the set  $S$ . Every real number smaller than a lower bound of a set is also a lower bound of that set. So a bounded below set has infinite number of lower bounds.

**EXAMPLE:** Let us consider the following sets :

$S_1 = [1, 2]$ . Here 1 is obviously a lower bound of  $S$  since  $x \geq 1, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number smaller than 1 is also a lower bound of the set  $S_1$ . 1 is the greatest of all lower bounds of the set  $S_1$ .

$S_2 = (1, 2)$ . Here 1 is obviously a lower bound of  $S$  since  $x \geq 1, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number smaller than 1 is also a lower bound of the set  $S_2$ . 1 is the greatest of all lower bounds of the set  $S_2$ .

$S_3 = \left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\right\}$ . Here 0 is obviously a lower bound of  $S_3$  since  $x \geq 0, \forall x \in S$ .

Every real number smaller than 0 is also a lower bound of the set  $S_3$ . 0 is the greatest of all lower bounds of the set  $S_3$ .

$S_4 = \phi$  is bounded below set. Here every real number is a lower bound of  $S_4$ .

greatest of all lower bounds is called **greatest lower bound** or **g.l.b** or **infimum** of the set.

**NOTE :** A set may or may not contain **g.l.b**. In the above example  $S_1$  contains **g.l.b** but  $S_2$  &  $S_3$  do not contain **g.l.b**.

**DEFINITION :** (**Bounded set**) A set  $S$  of real numbers is called **bounded** if it is both **bounded above** and **bounded below**.

**DEFINITION :** (**Suprema**) Least of all upper bounds of a bounded above set is called **least upper bound** or **l.u.b** or **supremum** or **suprema** of the set.

**EXAMPLE :** Let us consider the following set :

$S = \left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\right\}$  is bounded above set. Here 1 is obviously an upper bound of  $S$

since  $x \leq 1, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number greater than 1 is also an upper bound of the set  $S$ .

The set of all upper bounds of  $S$  is  $[1, \infty]$ . Clearly 1 is the least of all upper bounds of the set  $S$ . Therefore, **supremum** or **suprema** of  $S$  is 1. That is,  $\sup S = 1$

**DEFINITION :** (**Infima**) Greatest of all lower bounds of a bounded below set is called **greatest lower bound** or **g.l.b** or **infimum** or **infima** of the set.

**EXAMPLE :** Let us consider the following set :

$S = \left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\right\}$  is bounded below set. Here 0 is obviously a lower bound of  $S$  since

$x \geq 0, \forall x \in S$ . Every real number smaller than 0 is also a lower bound of the set  $S$ .

The set of all lower bounds of  $S$  is  $[-\infty, 0]$ . Clearly 0 is the greatest of all lower bounds of the set  $S$ . Therefore, **infimum** or **infima** of  $S$  is 0. That is,  $\inf S = 0$

**DEFINITION :** (**Greatest member of a set**) A real number  $m$  is called the **greatest member** of a set  $S$  if (i)  $m \in S$  (ii)  $m$  is an upper bound of  $S$ .

**EXAMPLE:** Let us consider the set  $S = [1,2]$ . Clearly, 2 is the greatest member of the set  $S$ , since (i)  $2 \in S$  and (ii) 2 is an upper bound of  $S$ .

Again if we consider the set  $S = (1,2)$ , we see that this set has no greatest member, for, 2 is obviously an upper bound of  $S$  since  $x < 2, \forall x \in S$  but  $2 \notin S$ .

**NOTE :** An infinite bounded above set may or may not contain greatest member.

**NOTE :** Every finite set has always a greatest member.

**DEFINITION :** (**Smallest member of a set**) A real number  $n$  is called the **smallest member** of a set  $S$  if (i)  $n \in S$  (ii)  $n$  is a lower bound of  $S$ .

**EXAMPLE:** Let us consider the set  $S = [1,2]$ . Clearly, 1 is the smallest member of the set  $S$ , since (i)  $1 \in S$  and (ii) 1 is a lower bound of  $S$ .

Again if we consider the set  $S = (1,2)$ , we see that this set has no smallest member, for, 1 is obviously a lower bound of  $S$  since  $x > 1, \forall x \in S$  but  $1 \notin S$ .

**NOTE :** An infinite bounded above set may or may not contain smallest member.

**NOTE :** Every finite set has always a smallest member.

**THEOREM 1.2:** Let  $L$  and  $U$  be two proper subsets of  $R$  of real numbers such that

- (i)  $L \cup U = R$
- (ii)  $\alpha \in L, \beta \in U \Rightarrow \alpha < \beta$

Then either the subset  $L$  has a greatest member or the subset  $U$  has a smallest member.

## COMPLETENESS PROPERTY OF $R$

**THEOREM 1.3:** (**Least upper bound axiom**) The set of all upper bounds of a bounded above set admits of a smallest member.

**Proof :** Let  $S$  be the given bounded above set. Let  $R$  be the set of all real numbers. Let us consider two proper subsets  $L$  and  $U$  of  $R$  defined as follows:

$$L = \{x : x \text{ is not an upper bound of } S\}$$

$$U = \{x : x \text{ is an upper bound of } S\}$$

Clearly,  $L \neq \phi$  and  $U \neq \phi$ . Also  $L \cup U = R$  and  $\alpha \in L, \beta \in U \Rightarrow \alpha < \beta$ . Then by theorem 1.2, we can say that either the subset  $L$  has a greatest member or the subset  $U$  has a



smallest member. Let us suppose that  $L$  has a greatest member (say  $\xi$ ). Now  $\xi \in L$ . Then  $\xi \notin U \Rightarrow \xi$  is not an upper bound of  $S$ . Then there must exist a number  $\alpha \in S$  such that  $\xi < \alpha$ . Let  $b$  is a real number such that  $\xi < b < \alpha$ . Now  $\xi < b \Rightarrow b \in U$ .....(1)

Again  $b < \alpha \Rightarrow b$  is not an upper bound of  $S$  and this implies  $b \notin U$ .....(2)

Here we see that (1) and (2) contradicts each other. So  $L$  cannot have greatest member. Therefore, by theorem 1.2, we can say that  $U$  has a smallest member.

**THEOREM 1.4: (Greatest lower bound axiom)** *The set of all lower bounds of a bounded below set admits of a greatest member.*

Proof : Proof is left to the students.

In view of above axioms, i.e., theorem 1.3 & theorem 1.4, the set  $R$  of all real numbers is **complete**.

## ARCHIMEDEAN PROPERTY OF REAL NUMBERS

**THEOREM 1.5: (Archimedean property)** *If  $x, y \in R$  and  $x > 0$ , then there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $nx > y$ .*

Proof : If possible let  $nx \leq y$ . Let  $A = \{nx : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ . Clearly,  $y$  is an upper bound of  $A$ . Therefore,  $A$  is bounded above set. Also  $A \neq \emptyset$ . Hence by l.u.b axiom, least upper bound i.e., supremum of  $A$  ( $\sup A$ ) exists ( $= m$  say), where  $m \in R$ .

Now  $x > 0$

$$\Rightarrow -x < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m - x < m$$

$$\Rightarrow m - x \text{ is not an upper bound of } A.$$

Therefore,  $m - x < px$ , for some integer  $p$ .

That is,  $m < (p+1)x = kx$  (say) (taking  $k = p+1$ )

$$\Rightarrow m \text{ is not an upper bound of } A.$$

$$\Rightarrow m \text{ is not } \sup A \text{ ..... a contradiction.}$$

Hence  $nx > y$ .

## DENSITY PROPERTY OF $R$

**THEOREM 1.6: (Density property)** *If  $x$  and  $y$  are two real numbers such that  $x < y$ , then there exists a rational number  $r$  where  $x < r < y$ .*

**Proof :** **Case-I** Let us suppose that  $x > 0$  and  $0 < x < y$ . Then  $y - x = z > 0$ . Then by Archimedean property, there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $nz > 1$ . That is,  $n(y - x) > 1$ . Which implies  $\frac{1}{n} < (y - x)$ .

Let  $A = \left\{ m : m \in \mathbb{N}, \frac{m}{n} > x \right\}$ . Clearly,  $A \neq \emptyset$ . (by Archimedean property). By well-ordering

principle of natural numbers, we know that every non-empty subset of natural numbers has a least element. Let  $A$  has the least element  $p > 1$ . Then  $\frac{p}{n} > x$  but  $\frac{p-1}{n} \leq x$ . Thus

$\frac{p}{n} \leq x + \frac{1}{n} < x + (y - x)$ . This implies  $\frac{p}{n} < y$ . Already we have  $\frac{p}{n} > x$ . So  $x < \frac{p}{n} < y$ .

Therefore, there exists a rational number  $\frac{p}{n} = r$  (say) contained in  $0 < x < y$ .

**Case-II** Let us suppose that  $x \leq 0 < y$ . Then by Archimedean property, there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $ny > 1$ . Therefore,  $\frac{1}{n} < y$ . This implies  $x < \frac{1}{n} < y$ . Therefore,

there exists a rational number  $\frac{1}{n} = r$  (say) contained in  $x \leq 0 < y$ .

**Case-III** Lastly, let  $x < y \leq 0$ . Then  $0 \leq -y < -x$ . Then by case-I, there is rational number  $r$  such that  $-y < r < -x$ . This implies  $x < -r < y$ .

This completes the proof.

**CONCLUSION:** The existence of one rational number between  $x$  and  $y$  implies the existence of infinitely many rational numbers between  $x$  and  $y$ .

Hence  $\mathbb{R}$  is dense with rational numbers.

## COUNTABILITY : COUNTABLE SETS

**DEFINITION :** (**Equivalent set**) For any two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , if there exists a one-to-one mapping from the set  $A$  onto the set  $B$ , we say that  $A$  is **equivalent to**  $B$ . Symbolically,  $A \sim B$ .

**DEFINITION :** (**Enumerable/Denumerable set**) An infinite set  $A$  is said to be **enumerable** or **denumerable** if  $A$  is equivalent to the set  $\mathbb{N}$  of all natural numbers. In other words  $A$  is said to be **enumerable** if there exists a bijective mapping  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ .

**DEFINITION : (Countable set/ Uncountable set)** A set which is either empty or finite or enumerable is called **countable set**. Otherwise it is **uncountable**.

**NOTE** : An enumerable set is sometimes called countably infinite set.

**DEFINITION : (Atmost countable set)** A set  $A$  is called **atmost countable** if  $A$  is either finite or a countable set.

## EXAMPLES OF COUNTABLE SETS

(A) The set  $S = \{2, 4, 6, \dots\}$  of all even natural numbers is enumerable (i.e., countable) because there exists a one-to-one onto mapping (bijective)  $f : N \rightarrow S$  defined by  $f(n) = 2n, n \in N$  (In other words  $S \sim N$ )

(B) The set  $S = \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}$  is enumerable (i.e., countable) because there exists a one-to-one onto mapping (bijective)  $f : N \rightarrow S$  defined by  $f(n) = 2n, n \in N$  (In other words  $S \sim N$ )

(C) The set  $S = \{1^2, 2^2, 3^2, \dots\}$  is enumerable (i.e., countable) because there exists a one-to-one onto mapping (bijective)  $f : N \rightarrow S$  defined by  $f(n) = n^2, n \in N$  (In other words  $S \sim N$ )

(D) The set  $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  is enumerable (i.e., countable) because there exists a one-to-one onto mapping (bijective)  $f : N \rightarrow N$  defined by  $f(n) = n, n \in N$  (In other words  $N \sim N$ )

(E) The set  $Z = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots\}$  is enumerable (i.e., countable) because there exists a one-to-one onto mapping (bijective)  $f : N \rightarrow Z$  defined by

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} \frac{n}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{1-n}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases} \text{ (In other words } Z \sim N)$$

## THEOREMS ON COUNTABILITY

**THEOREM : 1.7** An infinite subset of an enumerable set is enumerable.

**COROLLARY** : A subset of an enumerable set is either finite or enumerable.

**THEOREM : 1.8** The union of a finite set and an enumerable set is enumerable.

**THEOREM : 1.9** The union of two enumerable sets is enumerable.

**THEOREM : 1.10** The union of an enumerable number of enumerable sets is enumerable.

**THEOREM : 1.11** Every superset of an uncountable set is uncountable.

**THEOREM : 1.12** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a bijective mapping (i.e., one-to-one onto) and  $B$  is enumerable then  $A$  is also enumerable

## PROBLEMS :

**PROBLEM-I** : Show that the set  $Q$  of rational numbers is countable.

**Solution:** Let  $Q^+$  be the set of all positive rational numbers,  $Q^-$  be the set of all negative rational numbers. Then obviously,  $Q = Q^+ \cup Q^- \cup \{0\}$ .

Let us consider the following collection of sets:

$$A_1 = \left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{2}{1}, \frac{3}{1}, \dots, \frac{n}{1}, \dots \right\},$$

$$A_2 = \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \dots, \frac{n}{2}, \dots \right\},$$

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•  
•

$$A_n = \left\{ \frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}, \frac{3}{n}, \dots, \frac{n}{n}, \dots \right\}$$

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•

Clearly,  $Q^+ = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots \cup A_n \cup \dots = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ . Now  $A_1$  is enumerable

since there exists a bijective mapping ( i.e.,one-to one onto)  $f : N \rightarrow A_1$  defined by

$f(n) = \frac{n}{1}$ ,  $n \in N$ . Similarly,  $A_2$  is enumerable since there exists a bijective mapping (

i.e.,one-to one onto)  $f : N \rightarrow A_2$  defined by  $f(n) = \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $n \in N$ .

Thus we can see that each of the sets  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_n, \dots$  is an enumerable set.

Also the collection  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_n, \dots$  is an enumerable collection sets.

Therefore,  $Q^+ = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots \cup A_n \cup \dots = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  is the union of an

enumerable collection of enumerable sets. Hence  $Q^+$  is enumerable. Similarly, it can be

shown that  $Q^-$  is enumerable. [ Alternative proof : Since  $Q^+$  is enumerable and there

exists a bijective mapping ( i.e.,one-to one onto)  $f : Q^- \rightarrow Q^+$  defined by  $f(x) = -x$ ,

$x \in Q^-$ ,  $Q^-$  is also enumerable.]

Therefore,  $Q^+ \cup Q^-$  is enumerable because the union of two enumerable sets is enumerable.

Since  $Q^+ \cup Q^-$  is enumerable and  $\{0\}$  is finite set,  $Q^+ \cup Q^- \cup \{0\}$  is enumerable. That is,  $Q (= Q^+ \cup Q^- \cup \{0\})$  is enumerable.

**PROBLEM-II :** Show that the set  $(0,1)$  is not enumerable. Hence show that the set  $R$  of real numbers is not enumerable.

**Solution:** If possible let the set  $(0,1)$  is enumerable. Then the numbers in the set  $(0,1)$  can be described as  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$ . That is, they can be arranged in a succession. Also each real number in  $(0,1)$  can be written as infinite decimal forms in the following way.

$$x_1 = 0. a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5 \dots$$

$$x_2 = 0. b_1 b_2 b_3 b_4 b_5 \dots$$

$$x_3 = 0. c_1 c_2 c_3 c_4 c_5 \dots$$

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Let us consider a real number  $x_\lambda = 0. pqrst \dots$

where  $p = 6$  (say) if  $a_1 \neq 6$                        $q = 5$  (say) if  $b_2 \neq 5$   
            $= 7$  (say) if  $a_1 = 6$                          $= 6$  (say) if  $b_2 = 5$                       and so on.

According to construction of  $x_\lambda$  in the way described above,  $x_\lambda \notin (0,1)$ . But According to the numerical value of  $x_\lambda$ ,  $x_\lambda \in (0,1)$ . We thus arrived at a contradiction.

Therefore, the set  $(0,1)$  is not enumerable.

**2<sup>nd</sup> part :**  $(0,1) \subset R$ .  $R$  i.e., the superset of a non-enumerable set  $(0,1)$  is not enumerable.

**COROLLARY :** The set  $I$  of all irrational numbers is non-enumerable.

**Proof :** Let  $I$  be the set of all irrational numbers. Then  $Q \cup I = R$ . We know that the union of two enumerable sets is enumerable. Since  $R$  is not enumerable,  $I$  cannot be enumerable although  $Q$  is enumerable.

**DEFINITION :** (Nested intervals) If  $\{I_1, I_2, I_3, \dots\}$  be a family of intervals such that  $I_{n+1} \subset I_n$ ,  $n \in N$  then the family  $\{I_1, I_2, I_3, \dots\}$  is said to be a family of **nested intervals**.

**EXAMPLE :** Let  $I_1 = (0,1)$ ,  $I_2 = \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ ,  $I_3 = \left(0, \frac{1}{3}\right)$ , ..... be a family of intervals. Clearly,  $I_1 \supset I_2 \supset I_3 \supset \dots$ . Therefore, the family  $\{I_1, I_2, I_3, \dots\}$  is a family of nested intervals.

**THEOREM : 1.13** If  $\{[a_1, b_1], [a_2, b_2], [a_3, b_3], \dots\}$  be a family of nested closed and bounded intervals then  $[a_1, b_1] \cap [a_2, b_2] \cap [a_3, b_3] \cap \dots \neq \emptyset$

**PROBLEM-III : Show that the closed interval  $[a, b]$  is not enumerable. Hence show that the set  $R$  of real numbers is not enumerable.**

**Solution:** If possible let the set  $I = [a, b]$  is enumerable. Then the elements  $I$  of can be described as  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$ . That is, they can be arranged in a succession. That is,  $I = [a, b] = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}$ . Let us divide the interval  $I = [a, b]$  into three subintervals  $[a, c], [c, d], [d, b]$  (say). Atleast one these three subintervals does not contain  $x_1$ . Let us call that subinterval by  $I_1$ . Again Let us divide the interval  $I_1$  into three subintervals such that atleast one these three subintervals of  $I_1$  does not contain  $x_2$ . Let us call that subinterval by  $I_2$ . So  $I_2$  does not contain both  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . Continuing this process we can obtain a family of closed and bounded subintervals  $I_3, I_4, I_5, \dots$  such that  $I_1$  does not contain  $x_1$

$I_2$  does not contain  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

$I_3$  does not contain  $x_1, x_2, x_3$

.

.

$I_n$  does not contain  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$

.

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Now by the construction of  $I_1, I_2, I_3, \dots,$

$$I_1 \cap I_2 \cap I_3 \cap \dots \cap I_n \cap \dots = \emptyset \dots \dots (1)$$

Again as  $I_1 \supset I_2 \supset I_3 \supset \dots$ , by the theorem of nested interval, we must have  $I_1 \cap I_2 \cap I_3 \cap \dots \cap I_n \cap \dots \neq \emptyset \dots \dots (2)$ . Clearly, (1) and (2) contradicts each other. Hence  $I = [a, b]$  is not enumerable.

**2<sup>nd</sup> part :**  $[a, b] \subset R$ .  $R$  i.e., the superset of a non-enumerable set  $[a, b]$  is not enumerable.

**PROBLEM-IV : Show that the set  $R$  of all real numbers is not enumerable (i.e., not countable).**

**Solution:** If possible let the set  $R$  is enumerable (i.e., countable). Then the elements  $R$  of can be described as  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$ . That is, they can be arranged in a succession.

That is,  $R = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}$ . Let us consider the following open intervals :

$$I_1 = \left( x_1 - \frac{1}{2^2}, x_1 + \frac{1}{2^2} \right)$$

$$I_2 = \left( x_2 - \frac{1}{2^3}, x_2 + \frac{1}{2^3} \right)$$

•  
•

$$I_n = \left( x_n - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, x_n + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \right)$$

•  
•  
•

**Now**  $x_1 \in I_1 \Rightarrow \{x_1\} \subset I_1$

$x_2 \in I_2 \Rightarrow \{x_2\} \subset I_2$

•  
•  
•

$x_n \in I_n \Rightarrow \{x_n\} \subset I_n$

•  
•  
•

**Therefore,**  $\{x_1\} \cup \{x_2\} \cup \{x_3\} \cup \dots \cup \{x_n\} \cup \dots \subset I_1 \cup I_2 \cup I_3 \cup \dots \cup I_n \cup \dots$

**That is,**  $R \subset I_1 \cup I_2 \cup I_3 \cup \dots \cup I_n \cup \dots$  .....(A).

**Length of**  $I_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ , **length of**  $I_2 = \frac{1}{2^2}$ , ....., **length of**  $I_n = \frac{1}{2^n}$ , .....

**The total length of**  $I_1, I_2, I_3, \dots = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \dots = \frac{1 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2^n} \right)}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n} = 1$  **when**  $n \rightarrow \infty$

**Relation (A) shows that the whole real line ( whose length is infinite ) is contained in the union of intervals whose length add upto 1 which is clearly, not possible.**

**Hence R is not enumerable (i.e., not countable).**

**DEFINITION :** ( $\varepsilon$  – neighbourhood) Let  $\xi$  be a real number. Then any open interval of which  $\xi$  is a member is called a *neighbourhood* of  $\xi$ .

**In particular,** for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the open interval  $(\xi - \varepsilon, \xi + \varepsilon)$  is called  $\varepsilon$  – neighbourhood of  $\xi$ .

$\varepsilon$  – neighbourhood of  $\xi$  is denoted by  $N_\xi(\varepsilon)$

**EXAMPLE :** By .01–neighbourhood of 5 we mean the open interval (5-.01 , 5+.01), i.e., we mean the open interval (4.99 , 5.01). Symbolically,  $N_5(.01) = (4.99 , 5.01)$ .

**DEFINITION : (Interior point)** Let  $A$  be any non empty linear point set. Any element  $x \in A$  is said to be an **interior point** of  $A$  if there exists some neighbourhoods of  $x$  which lie wholly in  $A$ .

**EXAMPLE :** Every point of  $(2,3)$  is an interior point. Where as every point of  $[2,3]$  except 2 and 3 is an interior point.

**DEFINITION : (Interior of a set)** The set of all interior points of a set  $A$  is called interior of  $A$ .

**DEFINITION : (Open set)** A linear point set  $A$  is called an **open set** if and only if every point of  $A$  is an interior point of  $A$ .

**EXAMPLES :** (i) Any open interval is an open set. (ii)  $\phi$  is an open set. (iii) The set  $R = (-\infty, \infty)$  an open set. (iv) A finite set is not an open set.

(v) The set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is not an open set.

**PROBLEM-V** Prove that the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is not an open set.

**Solution:** Let  $x \in Q$ . Let  $N_x(\varepsilon)$  be  $\varepsilon$ -neighbourhood of  $x$ , where  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary. Since  $N_x(\varepsilon)$  contains rational and as well as irrational numbers,  $N_x(\varepsilon) \not\subset Q$ . Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary, there is no such neighbourhood of  $x$  which lie wholly in  $Q$ . So,  $x$  is not an interior point of  $Q$ . Hence  $Q$  is not an open set.

**DEFINITION : (Boundary point)** A real number  $x$  is said to be a **boundary point** or a **frontier point** of a set  $A$  if every neighbourhood of  $x$  contains atleast one point of  $A$  and atleast one point that does not belong to  $A$ .

**EXAMPLE :** 2 and 3 are two boundary points of the set  $A = [2,3]$ .

**DEFINITION : (Exterior point)** A real number  $x$  is said to be a **exterior point** of a set  $A$  if there exists some neighbourhood of  $x$  which entirely lie outside of the set  $A$ .

## PROPERTIES OF OPEN SETS

**THEOREM 1.14:** The union of an arbitrary collection of open sets is an open set.

**Proof :** Let  $S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots$  be an arbitrary collection of open sets. Let  $S = S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots \cup S_n \cup \dots = \bigcup_n S_n$ . We shall show that  $S$  is open set. Let



$x \in S$ . Then  $x$  be a member of  $S_n$  for some  $n$ . Let  $x \in S_k$  ( $n = k$ ). Since every  $S_n$  is open set,  $S_k$  is also open. Since  $x \in S_k$ ,  $x$  is an interior point of  $S_k$ . So there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) \subset S_k$ . As each  $S_k \subset S$ ,  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) \subset S$ . Thus  $x$  is an interior point of  $S$ . Since  $x$  is an arbitrary point of  $S$ , every member of  $S$  is an interior point of  $S$ . Consequently,  $S$  is open.

**THEOREM 1.15:** *The intersection of finite number of open sets is an open set.*

**Proof :** Let  $S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots, S_n$  be a finite collection of open sets. Let  $S = S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \dots \cap S_n \cap \dots = \bigcap_{k=1}^n S_k$ . We shall show that  $S$  is open set. If  $S$  is empty, i.e.,  $S = \phi$  then there is nothing to prove because empty set is an open set. Let  $S \neq \phi$ . Let  $x \in S$ . Then  $x \in S_k$  for every  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ . So is  $x$  an interior point of  $S_k$  for every  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ . Therefore, there must exist  $\varepsilon_k > 0, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ , such that  $(x - \varepsilon_k, x + \varepsilon_k) \subset S_k$  for every  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ . Let  $\varepsilon = \min\{\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3, \dots, \varepsilon_n\}$ . Then clearly,  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) \subset S_k$  for every  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ . Hence  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) \subset \bigcap_{k=1}^n S_k = S$ . This shows that  $x$  is an interior point of  $S$ . Since  $x$  is an arbitrary point of  $S$ , every member of  $S$  is an interior point of  $S$ . Consequently,  $S$  is open.

**PROBLEM-VI :** *Show by an example that intersection of an arbitrary collection of open sets may not be open.*

**Solution:** Let  $S_1 = \left(\frac{-1}{1}, \frac{1}{1}\right)$ ,  $S_2 = \left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ ,  $S_3 = \left(\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right), \dots$  be an arbitrary collection of open sets. Then  $S = S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \dots = \{0\}$  which is a finite set and hence  $S$  is not open.

Again let  $S_1 = \left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ ,  $S_2 = \left(\frac{-2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right)$ ,  $S_3 = \left(\frac{-3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}\right), \dots$  be an arbitrary collection of open sets. Then  $S = S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \dots = \left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$  which is an open interval and hence open.

**DEFINITION :** (Limit point) A real number  $x$ , may or may not belong to a set  $A$  is said to be a *limit point* or a *accumulation point* or a *cluster point* of a set  $A$ , if every neighbourhood of  $x$  contains atleast one point of  $A$  other than  $x$ .

Infact, every neighbourhood of  $x$  contains infinitely many point of the set  $A$ .

### EXAMPLES :

- A) Every member of the set  $[2,3]$  is a limit point of this set. There is no other limit point of this lying outside of this set.
- B) Every member of the set  $(2,3)$  is a limit point of this set. There are another two limit points of this lying outside of this set, namely, 2 and 3.
- C) The set  $\left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots\right\}$  has only one limit point, namely, 0 but 0 does not belong this set.
- D) The set  $\left\{\frac{3}{2}, \frac{-4}{3}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{-6}{5}, \frac{7}{6}, \frac{-8}{7}, \dots\right\}$  has two limit points, namely,  $-1$  and  $1$  but they do not belong this set.
- E) A finite set has no limit point but it does not necessarily mean that an infinite set has always a limit point. The set  $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  of all natural numbers or the set  $Z = \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  of all integers has no limit point.

**DEFINITION :** (**Isolated point**) A real number  $x \in S$  is said to be an **isolated point** of  $S$  if there exists a neighbourhood of  $x$  which contains  $x$  but no other point of  $S$ .

### EXAMPLE :

- A finite set contains isolated points only.
- Each point of the set of all integers is an isolated point.
- The set  $[2,3]$  or the set  $(2,3)$  has no isolated point.

**DEFINITION :** (**Derived set**) The set of all limit points of a set  $S$  is called **derived set** of that set. The derived set of a set  $S$  is denoted by  $S'$ .

**DEFINITION :** (**Closed set**) A set  $S$  is called **closed** if and only if every limit point of  $S$  is member of  $S$ . That is,  $S' \subset S$ .

### EXAMPLES :.

- The derived set of the set  $S = \left\{0, \frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\right\}$  is  $S' = \{0\}$  ( the only limit point is 0 ). Clearly,  $S' \subset S$ . Hence the set  $S$  is closed. Whereas the set  $S = \left\{\frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\right\}$  is not closed, since the only limit point of  $S$  is 0 and  $S' = \{0\} \not\subset S$ .
- The derived set of the set  $S = (2,3)$  is  $S' = [2,3]$ . As  $S' \not\subset S$ , the set  $S$  is not closed.
- The derived set of the set  $S = [1,2]$  is  $S' = [1,2]$ . As  $S' \subseteq S$ , the set  $S$  is closed.

- The empty set  $\phi$  is closed because  $\phi' \subset \phi$ .
- The set  $R$  of all real numbers is closed because every limit point of  $R$  is a member of  $R$ . That is,  $R' \subset R$ .
- The set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is not closed because every rational number as well as every irrational number is a limit point of  $Q$  and irrational limit points do not belong to  $Q$ . That is,  $Q' \not\subset Q$ . Infact,  $Q' = R \not\subset Q$ .

**DEFINITION :** (**Dense-In-Itself set**) A set  $S$  is called **Dense-In-Itself** if and only if every member of  $S$  is a limit point of  $S$ . That is,  $S \subset S'$ .

**EXAMPLES :**

- The set  $S = (2,3)$  is Dense-In-Itself because  $S' = [2,3]$  and  $S \subset S'$ .
- The set  $S = [1,2]$  is Dense-In-Itself because  $S' = [1,2]$  and  $S \subseteq S'$ .
- The set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is Dense-In-Itself because  $Q' = R$  and  $Q \subset R = Q'$ .
- The set  $R$  of all real numbers is Dense-In-Itself because every member of  $R$  is a limit point of  $R$ . That is,  $R \subset R'$ .

**DEFINITION :** (**Perfect set**) A set  $S$  is called **Perfect set** if  $S = S'$ . That is,  $S$  is both closed and Dense-In-Itself ( $S' \subset S$  &  $S \subset S'$ ).

**EXAMPLES :**

- The set  $R$  of all real numbers is perfect because  $R' \subset R$  &  $R \subset R'$ .
- The set  $S = [1,2]$  is perfect because  $S' \subset S$  &  $S \subset S'$ .

**DEFINITION :** (**Closure of a set**) The union of a set  $S$  and its derived set  $S'$  is called **closure** of  $S$ . The closure of a set is denoted by  $\bar{S}$ . That is,  $\bar{S} = S \cup S'$ .

In case of closed set  $S$ ,  $\bar{S} = S$ .

**THEOREM 1.16:** *If a set  $S$  is open then its complement  $S^c$  is closed. Conversely, if a set  $S$  is closed then its complement  $S^c$  is open.*

**Proof :** Let a set  $S$  is open. We are to prove  $S^c$  is closed. That is, we shall prove  $S^{c'} \subset S^c$ . Let  $x \in S^{c'}$ . We have show  $x \in S^c$ . If possible let,  $x \notin S^c$ . Then  $x \in S$ . Since  $S$  is open,  $x$  is an interior point of  $S$ . That is, there exists a neighbourhood of  $x$  lie wholly in  $S$ . So all the elements of that particular neighbourhood of  $x$  will be in the set  $S$  not in  $S^c$  .....(i).

Again,  $x \in S^{c'}$  (assumption) implies  $x$  is a limit point of  $S^c$ . That is, every neighbourhood of  $x$  will contain at least one element of  $S^c$  other than  $x$ . Which implies that some points of every neighbourhood of  $x$  will be in the set  $S^c$  .....(ii). Clearly, the statements

(i) & (ii) contradicts each other. So, our assumption was wrong. Hence  $x \in S^c$ . Therefore,  $S^c \subset S^c$ . This implies  $S^c$  is closed.

Conversely, let the set  $S$  is closed. We are to prove  $S^c$  is open. Let  $x \in S^c$ . Then  $x \notin S$ . Since the set  $S$  is closed and  $x \notin S$ ,  $x$  is not a limit point of  $S$ . So there exist some neighbourhood of  $x$  which do not contain any point of  $S$  other than  $x$ . That is, there exist some neighbourhood of  $x$  which lie entirely in  $S^c$ . This implies  $x$  is an interior point  $S^c$ . Since  $x$  is arbitrary it follows that every point in  $S^c$  is an interior point of  $S^c$ . Hence  $S^c$  is open.

## PROPERTIES OF CLOSED SETS

**THEOREM 1.17:** *The union of a finite collection of closed sets is a closed set.*

**Proof :** Let  $S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots, S_n$  be a finite collection of closed sets. Then  $S_1^c, S_2^c, S_3^c, \dots, S_n^c$  is a finite collection of open sets.

Therefore,  $(S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots \cup S_n)^c = S_1^c \cap S_2^c \cap S_3^c \cap \dots \cap S_n^c$  (By De Morgan's Law). Right hand side of the above relation is the intersection of finite number of open sets and hence the intersection is open ( by theorem 1.15). Thus  $(S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots \cup S_n)^c$  is open. Clearly this implies  $S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots \cup S_n$  is closed.

**THEOREM 1.18:** *The intersection of an arbitrary collection of closed sets is a closed set.*

**Proof :** Let  $S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots$  be an arbitrary collection of closed sets. Then  $S_1^c, S_2^c, S_3^c, \dots$  is an arbitrary collection of open sets.

Therefore,  $(S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \dots)^c = S_1^c \cup S_2^c \cup S_3^c \cup \dots$  (By De Morgan's Law). Right hand side of the above relation is the union of an arbitrary collection of open sets and hence the union is open ( by theorem 1.14). Thus  $(S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \dots)^c$  is open. Clearly this implies  $S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \dots$  is closed.

**PROBLEM-VII :** *Show by an example that union of an arbitrary collection of closed sets may not be closed.*

**Solution :** Let  $S_1 = [-1, 1]$ ,  $S_2 = \left[\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right]$ ,  $S_3 = \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right]$ , ..... be an arbitrary collection of closed sets. Then  $S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots = [-1, 1]$  which is a closed interval and hence closed.

Again let  $S_1 = [1, 2]$ ,  $S_2 = \left[\frac{1}{2}, 2\right]$ ,  $S_3 = \left[\frac{1}{3}, 2\right]$ , ..... be an arbitrary collection of closed sets.

Then  $S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots = (0, 2]$  which is not a closed set.

## BOLZANO WEIERSTRASS THEOREM

**Theorem 1.19:** Every bounded infinite subset of the set of all real numbers has at least one limit point.

**DEFINITION :** (Covering of a set/ open covering/ subcovering) Let  $S$  be a set of some real numbers. A collection  $F$  of sets is said to be a **Covering** of  $S$  if every  $x \in S$  is contained in some sets in  $F$ .

If all the sets in  $F$  are open sets, then the collection  $F$  is called **open covering** of  $S$ .

If a subcollection of  $F$  is also a covering of  $S$  then this subcollection is called **subcovering** of  $S$ .

**EXAMPLE :** Let  $S = (0,1)$ . Let us consider the following collection of sets :

$F = \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{2}, 1 \right), \left( \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3} \right), \left( \frac{1}{4}, \frac{2}{4} \right), \dots \dots \dots \right\}$ . This collection of sets clearly covers the set  $S$ . It is also an open covering.

## HEINE-BOREL THEOREM

**Theorem 1.20:** (Heine-Borel Theorem) Every open covering of a closed and bounded set  $S$  of real numbers has a finite subcovering.

If a set  $S$  is such that every open covering of  $S$  has a finite subcovering then the set  $S$  is said to possess the **Heine-Borel property**.

**DEFINITION :** (Compact Set) A set  $S$  is said to be **Compact** if and only if the set possesses the Heine-Borel property. That is, the set  $S$  is **Compact** if and only if every open covering of  $S$  contains a finite subcovering.

**NOTE :** Heine-Borel Theorem is not true if the set  $S$  is not closed and bounded.

## SOME EXAMPLES ON DERIVED SET

**EX :** Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$ .

**SOLUTION :** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Archimedean property there exist a positive integer  $n$  such that

$$0 < \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 - \varepsilon < \frac{1}{n} < 0 + \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \in (0 - \varepsilon, 0 + \varepsilon) \Rightarrow \varepsilon\text{-neighbourhood of } 0 \text{ contains points of the set } S. \text{ Since } \varepsilon \text{ is}$$

arbitrary, we can say that any neighbourhood of 0 contains points of the set  $S$ . So, 0 is the only limit point of the set  $S$ . Therefore, the derived set of the set  $S$  is  $S' = \{0\}$ .

**EX :** Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} : m \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$ .

**SOLUTION :** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Archimedean property there exist a positive integer  $m$  such

that  $0 < \frac{1}{m} < \varepsilon$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{1}{m} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} - \varepsilon < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{n} + \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} \in \left( \frac{1}{n} - \varepsilon, \frac{1}{n} + \varepsilon \right) \Rightarrow \varepsilon\text{-neighbourhood of } \frac{1}{n} \text{ contains points of the set } S.$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary, we can say that any neighbourhood of  $\frac{1}{n}$  contains points of the set  $S$ .

So,  $\frac{1}{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$  is limit point of the set  $S$ .

Again let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Archimedean property there exist a positive integer  $n$  such that

$$0 < \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon \Rightarrow \frac{(-1)^m}{m} - \varepsilon < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} \in \left( \frac{(-1)^m}{m} - \varepsilon, \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \varepsilon \right) \Rightarrow \varepsilon\text{-neighbourhood of } \frac{(-1)^m}{m} \text{ contains points of}$$

the set  $S$ . Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary, we can say that any neighbourhood of  $\frac{(-1)^m}{m}$  contains

points of the set  $S$ . So,  $\frac{(-1)^m}{m}$  is a limit point of the set  $S$ .

Again let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Archimedean property there exist a positive integer  $n$  such that

$$0 < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon \Rightarrow 0 - \varepsilon < \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} < 0 + \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} \in (0 - \varepsilon, 0 + \varepsilon) \Rightarrow \varepsilon\text{-neighbourhood of } 0 \text{ contains points of the set } S. \text{ Since}$$

$\varepsilon$  is arbitrary, we can say that any neighbourhood of 0 contains points of the set  $S$ . So, 0 is a limit point of the set  $S$ .

Therefore, the derived set of the set  $S$  is  $S' = \left\{ \frac{1}{n}, n \in N \right\} \cup \left\{ \frac{(-1)^m}{m}, m \in N \right\} \cup \{0\}$ .

That is,  $S' = \left\{ 0, \pm 1, \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \dots \right\}$ .

**EX :** Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ \frac{2}{m} + \frac{3}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\}$ .

**SOLUTION :** Left as an exercise.

**EX :** Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ (-1)^m + \frac{1}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\}$ .

**SOLUTION :** Clearly,  $S = \left\{ (-1)^{2k} + \frac{1}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\} \cup \left\{ (-1)^{2k-1} + \frac{1}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\}$   
 $= A \cup B$ .

Since,  $\left\{ \frac{1}{n}, n \in N \right\}$  has only limit point 0, the set  $A$  has only limit point 1 and the set  $B$  has only limit point  $-1$ . Therefore, the derived set of the set  $S$  is  $S' = (A \cup B)' = A' \cup B' = \{-1, 1\}$ .

**EX :** Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n}{n-1} : n \in N \right\}$ .

**SOLUTION :** Clearly,  $S = \left\{ (-1)^{n-1} + \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n-1} : n \in N \right\}$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Archimedean property

there exist a positive integer  $n$  such that  $0 < \frac{1}{n-1} < \varepsilon$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{1}{n-1} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n-1} < \varepsilon$$

$\Rightarrow (-1)^{n-1} - \varepsilon < (-1)^{n-1} + \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n-1} < (-1)^{n-1} + \varepsilon$ . Therefore,  $\varepsilon$ -neighbourhood of

$(-1)^{n-1}$  contains points of the set  $S$ . So,  $(-1)^{n-1}$ , i.e., 1 and  $-1$  are the limit points of the set  $S$  (according as  $n$  is odd or even). Therefore, the derived set of the set  $S$  is  $S' = \{-1, 1\}$ .

## QUESTIONS

- Define “limit point” of a set. Show that a finite set cannot have any limit point. Give an example of an infinite set which does not have any limit point.
- State Bolzano Weierstrass theorem. Verify this theorem for the set  $S = \left\{ 1 + \frac{(-1)^n}{n}, n \in N \right\}$ .
- Define interior of a set. Find the interior of the set  $S = \{x \in R : 1 < x < 3\}$ .
- State Peano’s axioms for natural numbers. Using this axioms prove that the set of all natural numbers has no upper bound.
- Prove that  $\sqrt{17}$  is not rational number.
- Prove that the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is not complete.
- If  $x, y \in R$  and  $x > 0$ , then show that there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $nx > y$ . (Archimedean property)
- If  $x$  and  $y$  are two real numbers such that  $x < y$ , then show that there exists a rational number  $r$  where  $x < r < y$ . (Density property)
- Define enumerable set. Prove that the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is enumerable(countable).
- Is the set  $Z = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots\}$  of all integers enumerable(countable) ? ----justify
- Show that the set  $(0,1)$  is not enumerable. Hence show that the set  $R$  of real numbers is not enumerable.



- Show that the closed interval  $[a, b]$  is not enumerable. Hence show that the set  $R$  of real numbers is not enumerable.
- Show that the set  $R$  of all real numbers is not enumerable (i.e., not countable).
- Define “open set”, “closed set”.
- Prove that the set  $Q$  of all rational numbers is neither open nor closed.
- Prove that the intersection of finite collection of open sets is open. Show by an example that the intersection of an infinite collection open sets may not be open.
- Prove that the union of finite collection of closed sets is closed. Show by an example that the union of an infinite collection closed sets may not be closed.
- Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ \frac{(-1)^m}{m} + \frac{1}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\}$ .
- Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\}$ .
- Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ \frac{2}{m} + \frac{3}{n} : m \in N, n \in N \right\}$ .
- Find the derived set of the set  $S = \left\{ (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n}{n-1} : n \in N \right\}$ .