

are, A and B are not separated since each $P \in B$ is a limit point of A and so $A \cup B$ is connected. But B is not arcwise connected in fact there exists no path from any point in A to any point in B .

Now, Note:

Theorem: A set is connected iff it is not the union of two non-empty separated sets

Theorem: If A and B are connected sets which are not separated then $A \cup B$ is connected

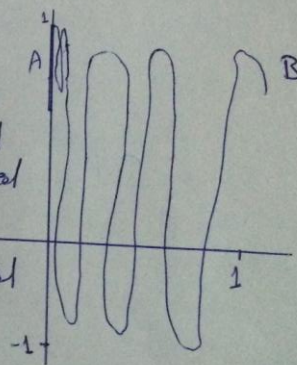
Example 10.5: Consider the following subsets of the plane \mathbb{R}^2

$$A = \{(0, y) : \frac{1}{2} \leq y \leq 1\}$$

$$B = \{(x, y) : y = \sin(1/x) \text{ for } 0 < x \leq 1\}$$

Now A and B are continuous images of intervals and are therefore connected. Moreover, A and B are not separated sets and so $A \cup B$ is connected.

But $A \cup B$ is not arcwise connected. In fact there exists no path from a point in A to a point in B .



Theorem 10.3: A continuous image of an arcwise connected set is arcwise connected.

Proof: Let $E \subset X$ be arcwise connected and let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous. We claim that $f(E)$ is arcwise connected. Let $p, q \in f(E)$. Then $\exists p^*, q^* \in E$ s.t. $f(p^*) = p$ and $f(q^*) = q$. But E is arcwise connected and so

The composition of continuous functions is continuous and so $f \circ g: I \rightarrow Y$ is continuous. Furthermore $f \circ g(0) = f(p^*) = p$, $f \circ g(1) = f(q^*) = q$ and $f \circ g(I) = f(g(I)) \subset f(E)$. Thus $f(E)$ is arcwise connected.

Example 10.6: show that the open Disk in \mathbb{R}^2 is arcwise connected.

Sol: Let $p = (a_1, b_1)$ and $q = (a_2, b_2)$ then the function $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by $f(t) = (a_1 + t(a_2 - a_1), b_1 + t(b_2 - b_1))$ is path from p to q which is contained in D .

Theorem 10.4: Let E be a non-empty open connected subset of the plane \mathbb{R}^2 then E is arcwise connected.

proof:

Let $p \in E$ and let G consist of those points in E which can be joined to p by a path in E . We claim that G is open. For let $q \in G \subset E$. Now E is open and so \exists an open disc with center q such that $q \in D \subset E$. But D is arcwise connected; hence each point $x \in D$ can be joined to q which can be joined to p . Hence each point $x \in D$ can be joined to p , and so $q \in D \subset G$. A corollary is G is open.

Now set $H = E \setminus G$, i.e. H consists of those points in E which cannot be joined to p by a path in E . We claim that H is open. For let $q^* \in H \subset E$. Since E is open, \exists an open disc D^* with center q^* such that $q^* \in D^* \subset E$. Since D^* is arcwise connected, each $x \in D^*$ cannot be joined to p with a path in E , and so $q^* \in D^* \subset H$.

