

# Regions in the complex plane

## Neighbourhood

Let  $z_0$  be a point in the complex plane. Then the neighbourhood of the point  $z_0$  is defined as the set of all points for which  $|z - z_0| < \epsilon$ . where  $\epsilon$  is an arbitrary small positive number, usually called the radius of this neighbourhood.

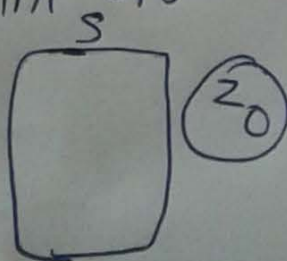
## Exterior, interior and boundary points

Let 'S' be a non empty subset of the complex plane.

A point  $z_0$  is said to be an interior point of the set S. if  $\exists$  a neighbourhood with centre  $z_0$  that contains only points of S.

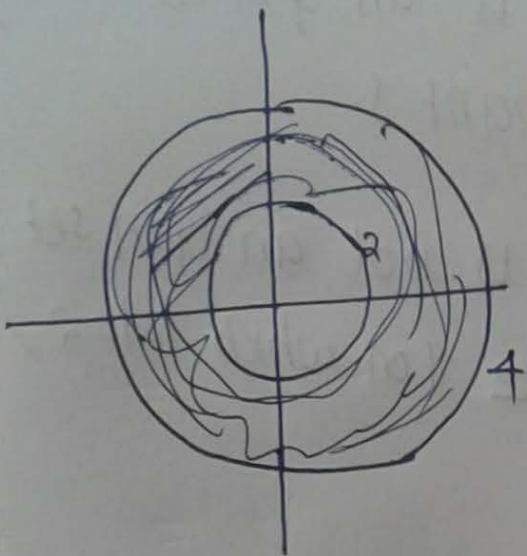


A point  $z_0$  is said to be an exterior point of the set S. if  $\exists$  a neighbourhood with centre  $z_0$  which contains no point of S.



If  $z_0$  is neither an interior point nor an exterior point  
it is called boundary point.

eg: Let  $S = \{z : 2 < |z| < 4\}$



$S$  is the region between two concentric circles with center origin and radius 2 and 4. Such a region is called a circular ring or annulus.

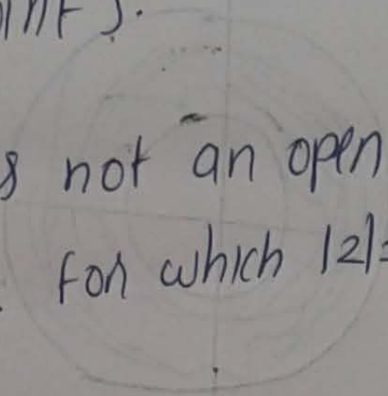
- \* Every point between the 2 concentric circles  $|z|=2$  and  $|z|=4$  are interior point of  $S$ .
- \* Every point within the circle  $|z|=2$  and outside the circle  $|z|=4$  are exterior point of  $S$ .
- \* Every point on the circles  $|z|=2$  and  $|z|=4$  is a boundary point of  $S$ .

## open set

If every point a set is an interior point, then it is called an open set, in other words, a set is open if it contains none of its boundary points.

eg. --  $S = \{z: 2 < |z| < 4\}$  is an open set every point of  $S$  is an interior point.

$S_1 = \{z: 2 \leq |z| < 4\}$  is not an open set since it contains the points  $z$  for which  $|z|=2$ , the boundary points of  $S_1$ .



## Limit point or Accumulation point

Let  $S$  be a non empty sub set of the complex plane. A point  $z_0$  is a limit point or an accumulation point of  $S$ , if every neighbourhood of  $z_0$  however small, contains at least one point of  $S$  other than  $z_0$ .

Note that limit points are either interior points or boundary points of a set and every interior point is a limit point of the set.

**Example.** Let  $S = \{i^n/n : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ . Then the only limit point of  $S$  is zero.

### Closed set

A set is *closed* if it contains all its limit points. In other words, a set is closed if it contains all of its boundary points.

**Example.**  $S = \{z : 2 \leq |z| \leq 4\}$  is a closed set.

Some sets are, of course, neither open nor closed. For a set to be not open, there must be a boundary point that is contained in the set and for a set to be not closed there exists a boundary point not contained in the set. Observe that the punctured disk  $0 < |z| \leq 1$  is neither open nor closed. The set of all complex numbers is, on the other hand, both open and closed since it has no boundary points.

### Closure of a set

The closure  $\bar{S}$  of a set  $S$  is the closed set consisting of all points in  $S$  together with the boundary of  $S$ .

**Example.** The closure of the annulus  $2 < |z| < 4$  is  $2 \leq |z| \leq 4$ .

### Connected set

If any two points of a given set  $S$  can be joined by a polygonal line, consisting of a finite number of line segments joined end to end, such that the polygonal line lies completely within  $S$ , then the set  $S$  is said to be a connected set.

**Example.**  $S = \{z : 1 \leq |z| \leq 3\}$  is a connected set. (refer figure).

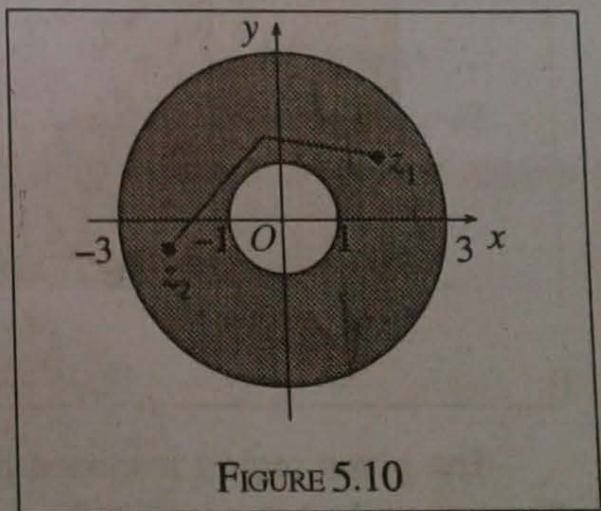


FIGURE 5.10

### Domain

A connected open subset of the complex plane is called a *domain*.

**Example.** The annulus  $1 < |z| < 2$  is a domain.

### Bounded set

A set  $S$  is *bounded* if every point of  $S$  lies inside some circle  $|z| = r$ ,