

Read remark(2) below first.

Definitions:

(E, d) be a metric space. $A, B \subseteq E$.

1. B is dense in E if the closure of B equals E , i.e. $\overline{B} = E$
2. A is nowhere dense if the interior of \overline{A} is empty, i.e. $(\overline{A})^\circ = \emptyset$.

Claim:

If A is nowhere dense, then $E - A$ is dense in E .

The claim above look like to be true by the following observation.

Observation:

(E, d) be a metric space. If $F, G \subseteq E$ such that $F \cap G = \emptyset$ and $E = F \cup G$, then $\overline{F} \cap G^\circ = \emptyset$ and $E = \overline{F} \cup G^\circ$.

Proof: (of the observation)

$\forall x \in E$,

1. either $\forall \rho > 0$, the open ball $B(x, \rho)$ contains at least one element of F , then $x \in \overline{F}$ by definition (but $x \notin G^\circ$ since $\forall \rho > 0$, $B(x, \rho)$ is not inside G);
2. or $\exists \rho > 0$ such that the open ball $B(x, \rho)$ contain no element of F , then $B(x, \rho) \subseteq G$ and $x \in G^\circ$, (obviously $x \notin \overline{F}$ in this case).

Remarks:

1. Set $F = E - \overline{A}$ and $G = \overline{A}$ in the above observation, we have $E = \overline{(E - \overline{A})} \cup (\overline{A})^\circ$. Thus, if $(\overline{A})^\circ$ is empty, then $E = \overline{(E - \overline{A})}$. Hence $E - \overline{A}$ is dense in E , and so is $E - A$ which contains $E - \overline{A}$
2. If we use '+' to denote disjoint union, then the above observation says $E = F + G \Rightarrow E = \overline{F} + G^\circ$. In this form, the claim can be easily seen to be true in the mind without going through the horribly complicated notations above.
3. It seems sometimes ' A is nowhere dense in E ' is also defined by ' $(E - \overline{A})$ is dense in E '.

Reference:

pp.134 and pp.159, Hausdorff,F. *Set Theory*, (Translated from the German by John R. Aumann, et al., Chelsea, 1991.