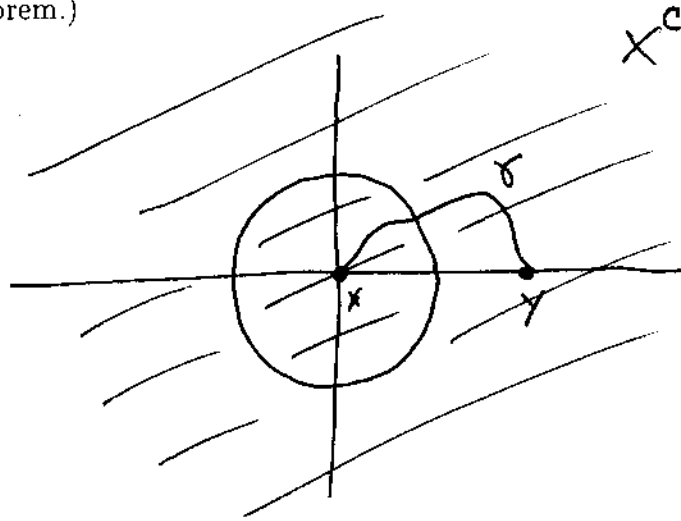


4. (5 points) Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be the set $X = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$. Prove that the complement of X is not path-connected. (Hint: use the Intermediate Value Theorem.)



Let $x = (0, 0)$ and $y = (2, 0)$. We will show that every path $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ from x to y must pass through X .

The key to proving this is to note that γ crosses the set X iff there is some $t \in [0, 1]$ such that $\|\gamma(t)\|^2 = 1$.

To prove that such a $t \in [0, 1]$ exists we apply the Intermediate Value Theorem to the function $t \rightarrow \|\gamma(t)\|^2$.

This function is continuous, its value at $t=0$ is $\|(0, 0)\|^2 = 0$ and its value at $t=1$ is $\|(2, 0)\|^2 = 4$.

So, by the IVT there is a $t \in [0, 1]$ such that $\|\gamma(t)\|^2 = 1$.