

Analysis

MTH301A

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These are the lecture notes prepared for the course MTH301A¹
I mostly referred in parts to the following texts:

- Carothers, N. L. Real analysis. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2000. xiv+401 pp.
- Kumar, Ajit; Kumaresan, S. A basic course in real analysis. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 2014. xx+302 pp.
- Kumaresan, S. Topology of metric spaces. Narosa Publishing House, New Delhi, 2005. xii+152 pp.
- M. Miklavčič, Applied Functional Analysis and Partial Differential Equations, World Scientific, Singapore, 1998.
- Pugh, Charles C. Real mathematical analysis. Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics. Springer, Cham, 2015. xi+478 pp.
- Simon, Barry Real analysis. With a 68 page companion booklet. A Comprehensive Course in Analysis, Part 1. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 2015. xx+789 pp.
- Stein, Elias M.; Shakarchi, Rami Fourier analysis. An introduction. Princeton Lectures in Analysis, 1. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 2003. xvi+311 pp
- Stein, Elias M.; Shakarchi, Rami Real analysis. Measure theory, integration, and Hilbert spaces. Princeton Lectures in Analysis, 3. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 2005. xx+402 pp

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Syllabus

- \mathbb{R} , Completeness property. Countable and Uncountable
- Metric Spaces and Metric space topology
- Nested set theorem, Baire category theorem
- Compactness, Totally bounded, Characterizations of compactness, Finite intersection property, Continuous functions on compact sets, Uniform continuity
- Connectedness and Path connectedness, Continuous functions
- Riemann integration, Fundamental theorem of calculus. Set of measure zero, Cantor set, Integrable functions
- Convergence of sequence and series of functions: Pointwise and uniform convergence of functions, Series of functions, Power series, Dini's theorem, Ascoli's theorem
- Nowhere-differentiable Continuous functions, Weierstrass approximation theorem

Course plan

- This course has been split into L + T + D.
- Lectures (3) and Tutorial (1) have been merged into 3 to 4 videos of time length 40-50 minutes every week. The links of these videos will be shared after the videos are released.²
- There will be a Discussion hour over zoom every Friday from 12.00-12.50 (afternoon).
- About assessment/Evaluation, we opt for
 - In-video questions for assignment submission (20 percent)
 - Assignments/homework (40 percent)
 - Online oral examination (40 percent)
- There will be mid-semester and end-semester examinations. These will be held during the prescribed examination period.
- For students with limited or no network access, the Institute will be making the course materials available as found feasible.

²The course will be managed on <https://hello.iitk.ac.in/>

Questions. Do you believe in real numbers ? Who are these creatures ? Are these real or imaginary ?

B Assume the existence (be lazy be happy)

A Prove the existence (hitting against the hard)

Difficulty. If you draw a point on a plane paper, and if see it by a magnifier, you find it to be disc-like! What/where is the point?

Philosophy Is there is a particle (point) of mass (measure) 0?

B ↓ A Understand \mathbb{R} as a set containing all rational numbers, which satisfies (optimal) axioms. First two building blocks:

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\} \text{ and } \mathbb{Q} = \{m/n : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \neq 0\}$$

- Arithmetic operations of addition $+$ and multiplication \cdot
- Order structure $<$

Axiomatic approach

Consider the set \mathbb{R} of numbers which contains \mathbb{Q} (and hence \mathbb{Z}) with arithmetic operations $+$ and \cdot and order structure $<$ satisfying

- $x + y = y + x$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$
- $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$ for all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$
- $x + 0 = x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists a unique $y \in \mathbb{R}$ (denoted by $-x$) such that $x + y = 0$
- $x \cdot y = y \cdot x$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$
- $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$ for all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$
- $x \cdot 1 = x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- for every nonzero $x \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists a unique $y \in \mathbb{R}$ (denoted by x^{-1} or $1/x$) such that $x \cdot y = 1$
- $(x + y) \cdot z = x \cdot y + x \cdot z$ for all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$
- $x < y$, $x = y$ or $x > y$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ (exactly one possibility)

In the following, we understand that $x < y$ iff $y - x > 0$. Further, we assume that sum and product of positive numbers are positive.

Problem

Use the above axioms to verify the following:

1. If $x < y$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}$, then $x + z < y + z$.
2. If $x < y$ and $y < z$, then $x < z$.
3. If $x < y$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$\begin{cases} x \cdot z < y \cdot z & \text{if } z > 0, \\ y \cdot z < x \cdot z & \text{if } z < 0, \\ x \cdot z = y \cdot z & \text{if } z = 0. \end{cases}$$

4. If $x < y$, then $-y < -x$.
5. Either $x^2 > 0$ or $x = 0$.
6. If $0 < x < y$, then $0 < 1/y < 1/x$.

Hint.

Since $z - x = z - y + y - x > 0$, 2 follows from 1.



Problem

Use only the last problem to verify the following:

1. Given two real numbers x, z such that $x < z$, there exists $y \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x < y < z$.
2. If $x \leq y + z$ for all $z > 0$, then $x \leq y$.
3. If $0 < x < y$, then for any positive integer n , $0 < x^n < y^n$.

Hint.

For 1, try $y = \frac{x+z}{2}$. For 2, prove by contradiction. □

- \mathbb{Q} satisfies all the axioms mentioned before the last problem.

Question. How do we differentiate \mathbb{R} from \mathbb{Q} ? Is there a property (of \mathbb{R}) not enjoyed by \mathbb{Q} ?

Upper bounds

Definition

Let $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. We say that A is bounded from above if there is $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ (an upper bound) such that $a \leq \alpha$ for every $a \in A$.

Problem

Show that any finite nonempty subset A of \mathbb{R} is bounded with upper an bound belonging to it. Give an infinite subset of \mathbb{R} , where this fails.

Hint.

This can be proved by the induction on $\text{card}(A)$. If $\text{card}(A) = 1$, then $A = \{a\}$ for some $a \in A$, and a is an upper bound. Suppose that the conclusion holds for all sets A with $\text{card}(A) = n$, and let B be a subset of \mathbb{R} such that $\text{card}(B) = n + 1$. Since $B \neq \emptyset$, there exists $b \in B$. Apply the induction hypothesis to $B \setminus \{b\}$ and use the law of trichotomy. For last part, take $A = (0, 1)$. None of the upper bounds of A belongs to A . □

Least upper bound

Definition

Let $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. We say that α is a least upper bound (lub) for A if

- α is an upper bound for A , that is, $a \leq \alpha$ for all $a \in A$, and
- β is an upper bound for A , then $\alpha \leq \beta$.

Remark. lub is unique. If a set contains its upper bound (for example, $(0, 1]$), then maximum of that set is its lub.

Problem

Show that $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ is lub for $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ iff α is an upper bound for A and if $\beta < \alpha$, then there exists $a \in A$ such that $\beta < a \leq \alpha$.

Hint.

If $\beta < \alpha$, then β is not an upper bound of A .



Example

1 is the lub for $A = (0, 1)$. Indeed, if $\alpha < 1$ is the lub, then $a := \frac{1+\alpha}{2} \in (\alpha, 1)$, so α is not an upper bound for $(0, 1)$.

Unboundedness of integers

It is tempting to conclude that \mathbb{Z} is not bounded from above without a proof.

Difficulty. If \mathbb{Z} is bounded above by $x \in \mathbb{R}$ how to ensure that there is an integer $n > x$ (this problem does not occur if the upper bound is an integer) ?

Solution. If you can not prove an assertion, convert it into a property (with no disrespect for Archimedes)!

Archimedean property. Given $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, with $x > 0$, there exists a positive integer n such that $nx > y$.

Interpretation. Howsoever tiny may be your foot-step x , you can cover any finite distance y (for example, the distance between earth and moon) in finitely many steps n .

LUB property or completeness axiom

- Any nonempty subset of \mathbb{R} , which is bounded above in \mathbb{R} , has lub in \mathbb{R} .

This is the property which differentiates \mathbb{R} from \mathbb{Q} :

Example

The subset $A = \{a \in \mathbb{Q} : a^2 < 2\}$ is nonempty and bounded above ($1 \in A$ and 2 is an upper bound for A , but it does not have lub in \mathbb{Q}). To see the latter statement, assume that α is an lub of A . If $\alpha^2 < 2$, then for any positive integer k ,

$$(\alpha + 1/k)^2 = \alpha^2 + 2\alpha/k + 1/k^2 \leq \alpha^2 + 5/k,$$

so that $(\alpha + 1/k)^2 < 2$ for sufficiently large k (we need here the fact that \mathbb{Z} is not bounded from above). This however implies that $\alpha + 1/k \in A$, contradicting the assumption that α is lub. Thus $\alpha^2 \not< 2$. Similarly, one can see that $\alpha^2 \not> 2$. Thus $\alpha^2 = 2$ or $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}$.

LUB property and Archimedean property

Theorem

LUB property \implies Archimedean property.

Proof.

Assume the LUB property, Suppose that the Archimedean property fails, that is, there exist x, y with $x > 0$ such that $nx \leq y$ for every positive integer n . Thus $n \leq y/x$ for every (positive) integer n .

Thus \mathbb{Z} is bounded above and hence by LUB property, it has lub, say, α . Now $\alpha - 1$ is not an upper bound, so for some integer N , $\alpha - 1 < N$. However, this implies that $\alpha < N + 1$ and $N + 1$ is an integer, which contradicts the assumption that α is lub. \square

Problem

Describe $\cap_{n \geq 1} (0, 1/n)$ and $\cap_{n \geq 1} (n, \infty)$.

Density of rationals and irrationals in \mathbb{R}

Problem (Greatest Integer Function)

Assume the LUB property and let $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that there exists a (unique) $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $m \leq x < m + 1$ (m is denoted by $[x]$).

Hint.

Consider the nonempty set $A = \{k \in \mathbb{Z} : k \leq x\}$, which is bounded above. Let $\alpha = \text{lub}(A)$. Since $\alpha - 1$ is not an upper bound, there exists $m \in A$ such that $\alpha - 1 < m \leq x$. Verify that $x < m + 1$. \square

Theorem

Assume the LUB property and let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that $a < b$. Then there exists $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ (resp. $r \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$) such that $a < r < b$.

Proof of Theorem.

By Archimedean property, we find an integer $n \geq 1$ such that $n(b - a) > 1$. By the last problem, there exists $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $na < m \leq na + 1$ (take $m = [na] + 1$). Thus $na < m < nb$ or $r = m/n$. For the rest, apply this to $a - \sqrt{2}$ and $b - \sqrt{2}$. \square

Nested Interval Theorem

Theorem

Assume the LUB property and let $J_n = [a_n, b_n]$ be an interval in \mathbb{R} such that $J_{n+1} \subseteq J_n$ for all integers $n \geq 1$. Then $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} J_n \neq \emptyset$.

Proof.

Consider the set $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x = a_n \text{ for some } n \geq 1\}$ and note that A is nonempty and bounded above. Let $\alpha = \text{lub}(A)$. Since each b_n is an upper bound for A (since $J_{n+1} \subseteq J_n$ for all integers $n \geq 1$), we have $a_n \leq \alpha \leq b_n$, that is, $\alpha \in \bigcap_{n \geq 1} J_n$. \square

Problem

Assume the LUB (and GLB) property. Show that any bounded infinite subset A of \mathbb{R} has at least one accumulation point.

Hint.

Suppose $A \subseteq [a_1, b_1]$ with $a_1 = \text{glb}(A)$, $b_1 = \text{lub}(A)$. Let $[a_2, b_2]$ be one of the intervals from $[a_1, (a_1 + b_1)/2]$ and $[(a_1 + b_1)/2, b_1]$ which contains infinitely many points from A . Continue this. \square

Complete ordered field

We may understand now \mathbb{R} as the "complete ordered field" (the set \mathbb{R} satisfying all the axioms mentioned earlier including the completeness axiom).

Question. Does a complete ordered field exist ? If yes, is it unique (up to isomorphism) ?

To address the issue of the existence of \mathbb{R} , we mention two approaches; one due to Dedekind (based on "Dedekind cuts") and other due to Cantor (based on the completion of \mathbb{Q}). We follow the second approach and for this, we need to know the convergence of sequences in \mathbb{R} .

Recall the definitions of Cauchy and convergent sequences in \mathbb{R} .

- Cauchy sequence is bounded and convergent sequence is a Cauchy sequence.
- Every Cauchy sequence with convergent subsequence is convergent.

Cauchy Completeness of \mathbb{R}

Theorem

Assume the LUB property. Then \mathbb{R} is Cauchy complete, that is, every Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{R} is convergent.

Proof I.

Let $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : \text{there exists } N \geq 1 \text{ such that } x < x_n \text{ for } n \geq N\}$ and let $\epsilon > 0$. Note that there exists $n_0 \geq 1$ (dependent on ϵ) such that $x_{n_0} - \epsilon/2 \in A$ (since $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence). Thus A is a nonempty set. Further, A is bounded above by $x_{n_0} + \epsilon/2$ (verify by contradiction). Let $\alpha = \text{lub}(A)$. Since $x_{n_0} - \epsilon/2 \in A$ and A is bounded above by $x_{n_0} + \epsilon/2$, $|x_{n_0} - \alpha| \leq \epsilon/2$. Thus for $n \geq n_0$,

$$|x_n - \alpha| \leq |x_n - x_{n_0}| + |x_{n_0} - \alpha| < \epsilon.$$

This completes the proof.



It is possible to obtain the Cauchy completeness without using the LUB property.

Proof II.

Let $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x = x_n \text{ for some } n \geq 1\}$. Since A is bounded, $A \subseteq [a_1, b_1]$ for some $a_1, b_1 \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $[a_2, b_2]$ be one of the intervals from $[a_1, (a_1 + b_1)/2]$ and $[(a_1 + b_1)/2, b_1]$ which contains infinitely many points from A . Continue this to obtain the intervals $[a_n, b_n]$, $n \geq 1$, containing infinitely many points of A . By the nested interval theorem, $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} [a_n, b_n]$ contains x for some $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Now for each $n \geq 1$, if we choose $x_{k_n} \in [a_n, b_n]$ such that $k_n \leq k_{n+1}$, we obtain a subsequence $\{x_{k_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ such that $|x_{k_n} - x| \leq b_n - a_n = (b_1 - a_1)/2^n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Since $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence, it must be convergent now. \square

The proof above yields the following:

Theorem (Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem)

Every bounded sequences admits a convergent subsequence.

Cauchy's Construction of \mathbb{R} (Incomplete)

Let R be the set of Cauchy sequences in \mathbb{Q} . Let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}, \{y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ belong to R and define the equivalence relation

$$\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \sim \{y_n\}_{n \geq 1} \text{ if } |x_n - y_n| \rightarrow 0.$$

- Define the set \mathbb{R} as R / \sim (set of equivalence classes $[\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}]$).
- Identify the element x in \mathbb{Q} with constant sequence $\{x_n = x\}_{n \geq 1}$
- $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} < \{y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ if $\{y_n - x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ eventually consists of positive numbers.
- It is a laborious work to verify that \mathbb{R} defines an ordered field which satisfies LUB property. Refer to the article <http://www.math.ucsd.edu/~tkemp/140A/Construction.of.R.pdf>)³.

³Cauchy's Construction of \mathbb{R} , Todd Kemp

Theorem (Density of rationals)

If $r = \{r_n\}_{n \geq 1} \in \mathbb{R}$ and any small (rational) number ϵ , then there exists a rational number q such that $|r - q| < \epsilon$, that is, for some integer $N \geq 1$, $|r_n - q| < \epsilon$ for all $n \geq N$.

Proof.

Since $\{r_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence, for some $N \geq 1$, $|r_n - r_N| < \epsilon$ for all $n \geq N$. Let $q = r_N \in \mathbb{Q}$. □

Let $\mathbb{R} = \{[\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}] : \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \in R\}$ and define a metric on \mathbb{R} by

$$d([\{x_n\}], [\{y_n\}]) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |x_n - y_n| \text{ (an equivalence class)}$$

(the limit exists since $\{x_n - y_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence and hence convergent). Then \mathbb{R} is a complete metric space, and if $i : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by $i(\{x\}) = [\{x\}]$ for every $x \in \mathbb{Q}$, then i is injective.

Countable and Uncountable sets ⁴

Definition

A set A is called countably infinite if there is a bijection $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$.
If A is finite or countably infinite, we say that A is countable.

Example

- Any subset A of \mathbb{N} is countable (either A is finite or $A = \{n_k\}_{k \geq 1}$; in the latter case, define $f(k) = n_k$)
- Any subset of a countable set is countable
- \mathbb{Z} is countable (define $g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by $g(n) = 2n$ if $n \geq 1$, and $g(n) = -2n + 1$ if $n \leq 0$; now let $f = g^{-1}$)
- $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is countable (define $g(m, n) = 2^{m-1}(2n - 1)$; let $f = g^{-1}$)
- Countable union of countable sets is countable (if $A = \{x_{m,n} : m \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$, then $g : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ given by $f(m, n) = a_{m,n}$ is bijective)

⁴Cantor is a 'corrupter of youth'. - L. Kronecker, as quoted by Schoenflies and quoted by Barry Simon

Problem

Verify the following:

1. If $g : A \rightarrow B$ is bijective, show that A is countable iff so is B .
2. If $g : A \rightarrow B$ is injective, show that A is countable if so is B .

Hint.

1. If $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ is bijective, then so is $g \circ h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow B$.
2. If $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow g(B)$ is bijective, then so is $g^{-1} \circ h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$. □

Problem

Show that \mathbb{Q} is countably infinite.

Hint.

Write $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Q}_+ \cup \mathbb{Q}_- \cup \{0\}$ (union of positive/negative/zero rationals). To see that \mathbb{Q}_+ is countable, define $f : \mathbb{Q}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ by $f(m/n) = (m, n)$, where m and n are coprime to each other. Note that f is injective and $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is countable. □

Problem

For an index set I , let $\{J_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a collection of disjoint open intervals such that $\mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} J_\alpha$. Show that I is countable.

Solution.

We know that each interval J_α contains a rational number r_α . Define $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ by $g(\alpha) = r_\alpha$. If, for some $\alpha, \beta \in I$, $g(\alpha) = g(\beta)$, then $r_\alpha = r_\beta$, and hence $\alpha = \beta$ (if $\alpha \neq \beta$, then $J_\alpha \cap J_\beta = \emptyset$). This shows that g is injective. Since \mathbb{Q} is countable, by the problem on the previous slide, I is also countable. \square

Problem

For an index set I , let $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a collection of mutually orthonormal vectors in an inner-product space X . If X has a countable dense subset, then show that I is countable.

Discontinuities of a monotone function

For a function $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $c \in (0, 1)$, let $f(c_-)$ and $f(c_+)$ denote the left and right hand side limits of f at c , respectively.

Theorem

Let $f : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be monotone. Then the set D of discontinuities of f is countable.

Proof.

Without loss of generality, we may assume that f is increasing.

Note that $D = \{c \in (a, b) : I_c = (f(c_-), f(c_+)) \neq \emptyset\}$. For $c, d \in D$, let $t \in [a, b]$ be such that $c < t < d$. Then

$$f(c_+) = \text{glb}\{f(x) : x > c\} \leq f(t) \leq f(d_-) = \text{lub}\{f(y) : y < d\}.$$

This shows that $I_c \cap I_d = \emptyset$. Since each interval I_c contains a rational and rationals are countable, D is countable. □

Problem

Show that a monotone surjection $f : [a, b] \rightarrow [c, d]$ is continuous.

Cantor's diagonalization theorem

Theorem

There is no surjection $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$.

Proof.

Consider the decimal expansion (possibly more than one) of $f(n)$:

$$f(n) = 0 \cdot a_{n1}a_{n2} \dots a_{nn} \dots, \quad n \geq 1$$

(for the existence of decimal expansion, refer to Proposition 1.8 of [Real Analysis, Carothers, N. L.]). Let $x = 0 \cdot a_1a_2 \dots a_n \dots \in \mathbb{R}$ where $a_n \in \{1, \dots, 8\} \setminus \{a_{nn}\}$. Note that $x \neq f(n)$ for any $n \geq 1$, and hence $x \notin f(\mathbb{N})$. □

Corollary (Cantor)

The interval $[0, 1]$ in \mathbb{R} is not countable.

Problem

Given two points in $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$, show that there exists uncountably many paths (finite union of line segments) in $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$, which join these two points.

Hint.

Fix two points A and B in the plane and draw a square with one of the diagonals being the straight line C joining these two points. Consider the diagonal D orthogonal to C and note that it is not countable. Now produce one path corresponding to each point on D which joins A and B . How many of these touch $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$? □

Power set of \mathbb{N}

Example

Consider the power set $P(\mathbb{N})$ of all subsets of \mathbb{N} . Let $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow P(\mathbb{N})$ be any function. We claim that f is not surjective. Indeed, define $A \in P(\mathbb{N})$ by the property that

$$k \in A \iff k \notin f(k).$$

Note that $A \neq f(k)$ for any $k \geq 1$, and hence the claim stands verified. In particular, $P(\mathbb{N})$ is not countable.

Problem

Let A be a nonempty set. There is no map from A into the power set $P(A)$ of A , which is surjective.

Cantor set

Example

Let C denote the Cantor set obtained by removing 2^{n-1} centrally situated disjoint open subintervals $U_{1,n}, \dots, U_{2^{n-1},n}$ of $[0, 1]$ each of length $1/3^n$ at the n th stage, where $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Specifically, if $U_{1,1} = (1/3, 2/3)$, $U_{2,1} = (1/9, 2/9)$, $U_{2,2} = (7/9, 8/9)$, \dots , $U_{n,1} = (1/3^n, 2/3^n)$, \dots , $U_{n,2^{n-1}} = (1 - 2/3^n, 1 - 1/3^n)$, then

$$C = \bigcap_{n \geq 1} C_n, \quad \text{where } C_n = [0, 1] \setminus \left(\bigcup_{k=1}^n \bigcup_{j=1}^{2^{n-1}} U_{k,j} \right).$$

Clearly, all end-points $1/3, 2/3, 1/9, 2/9, 7/9, 8/9, \dots$ of $U_{j,k}$ belong to Δ . Are there any other points in C ?

Answer Yes, take $1/4$ (since $1/4 \notin U_{k,j}$ for all j, k)

Question What is the trick to generate more elements in C ?

Example (continued ...)

- Any $x \in [0, 1]$ has two distinct representations of the form $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n/3^n$ with $a_n \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ if and only if x belongs to the set $\{1/3, 2/3, 1/9, 2/9, 7/9, 8/9, \dots\}$.
- Any $x \in C$ has unique representation $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n/3^n$, where $a_n \in \{0, 2\}$. (For instance, $1/3 = 0.1 = 0.0222\dots$).

Let $\{0, 2\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ denote the collection of sequences in 0 and 2. Define the map $f : \{0, 2\}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow C$ by $f(a_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n/3^n$. By the above facts, f is a bijection. The following shows that C is not countable.

Problem

There exists a bijection between $\{0, 2\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $P(\mathbb{N})$.

Hint.

For a subset A of \mathbb{N} , define a sequence $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ by

$$a_n = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n \in A, \\ 0 & \text{if } n \notin A. \end{cases}$$

Metric spaces

Definition

A metric d on a nonempty set X (refer as the metric space) is a map $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ that obeys

- (Symmetry) For all $x, y \in X$, $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$
- (Triangle inequality) For all $x, y, z \in X$,
 $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$
- (Zero property) For all $x, y \in X$, $d(x, y) = 0$ iff $x = y$.

Interpretation

- The distance of x from y is same as the distance of y from x .
- If we consider the triangle \triangle with vertices x, y, z and lengths of sides being $d(x, y)$, $d(y, z)$ and $d(x, z)$, then the length of any side is at most the sum of lengths of remaining two sides.
- The distance of a point from itself is 0, and if the distance between two points is 0, then these points must coincide.

Real line as a metric space

Example

\mathbb{R} is a metric space with metric $d(x, y) = |x - y|$ for $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. The symmetry and zero property follow immediately from the facts that $|x| = |-x|$ and $|x| = 0$ iff $x = 0$. To see the triangle inequality, note that since $x \leq |x|$, we have

$$|x - z|^2 = (x - y + y - z)^2 = (x - y)^2 + 2(x - y)(y - z) + (y - z)^2 \\ \leq (|x - y| + |y - z|)^2. \text{ Now take square roots on both sides.}$$

Remark

- One may give an alternate proof of the triangle inequality which does not involve square root (consider the cases in which $x + y \geq 0$ and $x + y < 0$, and use the definition of $|\cdot|$).
- Note that $|x + y| = |x| + |y|$ iff either x and y are both nonnegative or both nonpositive (Exercise).

Young's Inequality

Theorem

Let $p, q > 1$ be conjugate exponents, that is, $1/p + 1/q = 1$. For positive numbers a, b , $ab \leq \frac{a^p}{p} + \frac{b^q}{q}$. Equality holds iff $a^p = b^q$.

Proof.

Given positive real numbers $a \leq b$, consider

$$D_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq x \leq a, 0 \leq y \leq x^{p-1}\},$$

$$D_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq y \leq b, 0 \leq x \leq y^{q-1}\}.$$

We verify the following (see [page 43, Carothers] for a figure):

1. $D_1 \cap D_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq x \leq a, y = x^{p-1}\}$. Indeed, since $(p-1)(q-1) = 1$, $y = x^{p-1}$ iff $x = y^{q-1}$.
2. $R = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq x \leq a, 0 \leq y \leq b\} \subseteq D_1 \cup D_2$.

Thus $\text{Area}(R) = ab \leq \text{Area}(D_1 \cup D_2) \leq \text{Area}(D_1) + \text{Area}(D_2) = a^p/p + b^q/q$. Moreover, equality holds iff $a^p = b^q$. □

Hölder's Inequality

Corollary

Let $p, q > 1$ be conjugate exponents, that is, $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$. Let $a = (a_1, \dots, a_d), b = (b_1, \dots, b_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d = \{(x_1, \dots, x_d) : x_1, \dots, x_d \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Then

$$\left| \sum_{n=1}^d a_n b_n \right| \leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^d |a_n|^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{n=1}^d |b_n|^q \right)^{1/q}.$$

Proof.

Let $\|a\|_p := \left(\sum_{n=1}^d |a_n|^p \right)^{1/p}$ and $\tilde{a}_n = |a_n|/\|a\|_p$, $\tilde{b}_n = |b_n|/\|b\|_q$, $n = 1, \dots, d$. By Young's Inequality, $|\tilde{a}_n| |\tilde{b}_n| \leq |\tilde{a}_n|^p/p + |\tilde{b}_n|^q/q$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } \frac{1}{\|a\|_p \|b\|_q} \sum_{n=1}^d |a_n| |b_n| &= \sum_{n=1}^d |\tilde{a}_n| |\tilde{b}_n| \\ &\leq \sum_{n=1}^d |\tilde{a}_n|^p/p + \sum_{n=1}^d |\tilde{b}_n|^q/q = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1. \end{aligned}$$



Example

For a positive integer $d \geq 1$, $\mathbb{R}^d = \{(x_1, \dots, x_d) : x_1, \dots, x_d \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a metric space with metric

$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^d |x_j - y_j|^2}, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

To see the triangle inequality, it suffices to check that

$$\|a + b\|_2 \leq \|a\|_2 + \|b\|_2, \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

where $\|a\|_2 := \left(\sum_{n=1}^d |a_n|^2\right)^{1/2}$. To see this, note that by Hölder's Inequality (with $p = 2 = q$),

$$\begin{aligned} \|a + b\|_2^2 &= \sum_{j=1}^d |a_j|^2 + 2 \sum_{j=1}^d a_j b_j + \sum_{j=1}^d |b_j|^2 \\ &\leq \|a\|_2^2 + 2\|a\|_2\|b\|_2 + \|b\|_2^2 = (\|a\|_2 + \|b\|_2)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Problem

For a positive integer $d \geq 1$ and $p \geq 1$, show that \mathbb{R}^d is a metric space with metric d_p given by

$$d_p(x, y) = \left(\sum_{j=1}^d |x_j - y_j|^p \right)^{1/p}, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

This result fails for $0 < p < 1$.

Hint.

To see that $\|a + b\|_p \leq \|a\|_p + \|b\|_p$, note that

$$\sum_{j=1}^d |a_j + b_j|^p \leq \sum_{j=1}^d |a_j| |a_j + b_j|^{p-1} + \sum_{j=1}^d |b_j| |a_j + b_j|^{p-1},$$

and apply Hölder's inequality (two times). To see the second part, let $d = 2$, $a = (1, 0)$, $b = (0, 1)$ and $p = 1/2$. □

Problem

For a positive integer $d \geq 1$, show that \mathbb{R}^d is a metric space with metric d_∞ given by $d_\infty(x, y) = \max_{j=1}^d |x_j - y_j|$ for $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Problem

For $p \geq 1$ and for a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of real numbers, define

$\|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |x_j|^p \right)^{1/p} \in [0, \infty]$. Verify the following:

1. $\ell^p = \{ \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} : \|x\|_p < \infty \}$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} .
2. ℓ^p is a metric space with metric d_p given by

$$d_p(x, y) = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |x_j - y_j|^p \right)^{1/p}, \quad x, y \in \ell^p.$$

Proof.

Both parts essentially follow from the triangle inequality. We already know the conclusion for truncated sequences $\{a_n\}_{k=1}^N$ and $\{b_n\}_{k=1}^N$ for every integer $N \geq 1$. Now let $N \rightarrow \infty$. □

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that $a < b$.

Lemma

If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, then $\sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)| < \infty$.

Proof.

Assume that $\sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)| = \infty$. Then, for any integer $n \geq 1$, there exists $x_n \in [a, b]$ such that $|f(x_n)| > n$. By Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem, $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ admits a convergent subsequence $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$, and hence by (sequential) continuity of f , $\{f(x_{n_k})\}_{k \geq 1}$ is convergent. However, a convergent sequence is bounded, and on the other hand, $|f(x_{n_k})| > n_k$. Not possible! □

Example

Consider the vector space $C[a, b]$ of real-valued continuous functions defined on $[a, b]$. Then $C[a, b]$ is a metric space with metric d_∞ given by

$$d_\infty(f, g) = \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x) - g(x)|. \quad f, g \in C[a, b].$$

Metric topology

Let X be a metric space with metric d (denoted by (X, d)).

Question Given two metric spaces (X, d_X) and (Y, d_Y) , when can we say that these are equivalent/isomorphic metric spaces ?

Clue We know that two sets X and Y are equivalent if there is a bijection between X and Y . Similarly, two vector spaces X and Y are isomorphic if there is a bijective linear map between X and Y .

Guess So, for two metric spaces to be equivalent, we need to impose some constraint on the given bijection that will take the metric structures into account (for instance, sequential continuity).

Question What do we mean by metric structures ?

Clue The metric d is the distance function, which measures distance between two points. One may look for a metric analog of a disc/ball in the metric space.

Metric balls

Let (X, d) be a metric space. For $x_0 \in X$ and a real number $r > 0$, define the open ball and closed ball around x_0 , respectively, by

$$B_r(x_0) = \{x \in X : d(x, x_0) < r\}, \quad \overline{B_r(x_0)} = \{x \in X : d(x, x_0) \leq r\}.$$

Example (Discrete Geometry)

Let X be a nonempty set. For every $x, y \in X$, define the discrete metric d_0 by $d_0(x, x) = 0$ and $d_0(x, y) = 1$ if $x \neq y$. Then

$$B_r(x_0) = \begin{cases} \{x_0\} & \text{if } r \leq 1, \\ X & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \overline{B_r(x_0)} = \begin{cases} \{x_0\} & \text{if } r < 1, \\ X & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The above calculations may be applied to $X = \mathbb{R}$.

Example (One dimensional geometry)

Let \mathbb{R} be the real line with $d_1(x, y) = |x - y|$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$B_r(x_0) = (x_0 - r, x_0 + r), \quad \overline{B_r(x_0)} = [x_0 - r, x_0 + r].$$

Example (Plane geometry)

Let \mathbb{R}^2 be the real plane with $d_2(x, y) = \sqrt{|x_1 - y_1|^2 + |x_2 - y_2|^2}$, $x = (x_1, x_2), y = (y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. If $x_0 = (x_{01}, x_{02})$, then

$$B_r(x_0) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x_1 - x_{01}|^2 + |x_2 - x_{02}|^2 < r^2\} \text{ (circular region),}$$

$$\overline{B_r(x_0)} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x_1 - x_{01}|^2 + |x_2 - x_{02}|^2 \leq r^2\}.$$

What if d_2 is replaced by $d_\infty(x, y) = \max\{|x_1 - y_1|, |x_2 - y_2|\}$?

$$B_r(x_0) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x_1 - x_{01}| < r, |x_2 - x_{02}| < r\} \text{ (square region),}$$

$$\overline{B_r(x_0)} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x_1 - x_{01}| \leq r, |x_2 - x_{02}| \leq r\}.$$

What if d_2 is replaced by $d_1(x, y) = |x_1 - y_1| + |x_2 - y_2|$? Why this metric is known as taxi-cab metric ?

Notation Although the notations $B_r(x_0)$, $\overline{B_r(x_0)}$ do not indicate dependence on the underlying metric, the dependence is evident.

Problem

Consider the metric space $C[0, 1]$ with the sup metric $d_\infty(f, g) = \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - g(x)|$, $f, g \in C[0, 1]$. Describe the open and closed balls $B_r(f)$, $\overline{B_r(f)}$, where $f(x) = 0, x$ and x^2 .

Hint.

Note that

$$B_r(f) = \left\{ g \in C[0, 1] : \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |g(x) - f(x)| < r \right\}$$

$$= \{ g \in C[0, 1] : |g(x) - f(x)| < r \text{ for every } x \in [0, 1] \}$$

$$= \{ g \in C[0, 1] : g(x) \in (f(x) - r, f(x) + r) \text{ for every } x \in [0, 1] \}.$$

Now draw the graphs of $f(x) - r$ and $f(x) + r$ in the above cases, and convince yourself that the "tube" enclosed between these two graphs is the open ball $B_r(f)$. Draw the diagram. □

In the following problem, we need the fact that every continuous function on $[0, 1]$ is Riemann integrable.

Problem

Consider the metric space $C[0, 1]$ with the metric $d(f, g) = \int_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - g(x)| dx$, $f, g \in C[0, 1]$.

1. Describe the open ball $B_1(0)$.
2. Give an example of f belonging to $B_1(0)$ and also an example belonging to $C[0, 1] \setminus B_1(0)$.
3. Verify that $B_r(f) = \{f + rg : g \in B_1(0)\}$.
4. Give an example of g belonging to $B_r(f)$ and also an example belonging to $C[0, 1] \setminus B_r(f)$.

Hint.

Note that $f \in B_1(0)$ if and only if the area under the graph of $|f(x)|$ is less than 1.



Problem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let A be a subset of X . Verify the following:

1. A is a metric with metric d_A given by $d_A(a, b) = d(a, b)$ for all $a, b \in A$.
2. Describe the open ball in the metric space (A, d_A) .
3. If $(X, d) = (\mathbb{R}, d_1)$ (resp. (\mathbb{R}^2, d_2)) and $A = \mathbb{Z}$ (resp. $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$), then describe d_A and the open ball in the metric space (A, d_A) .

Hint.

For the second part, verify that the open ball $B_r^A(a)$ centred at a and of radius r in the d_A metric equals the intersection of A with the open ball $B_r(a)$. For the last part, draw the lattice $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ and examine its intersection with open balls. □

Hausdorff property

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let x, y be distinct points in X . Then there exist positive numbers r, s such that $B_r(x) \cap B_s(y) = \emptyset$.

Proof.

Since $x \neq y$, $d(x, y) > 0$. Let $r = d(x, y)/2 = s$. We must check that $B_r(x) \cap B_s(y) = \emptyset$, or equivalently,

$$B_r(x) \subseteq X \setminus B_s(y) = \{z \in X : d(z, y) \geq s\}.$$

If $z \in B_r(x)$, then by the symmetry and the triangle inequality,

$$d(z, y) \geq d(x, y) - d(x, z) > d(x, y) - r = s,$$

since $r + s = d(x, y)$. □

There exist "topological spaces" without the Hausdorff property!

Open and closed sets

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let A be a subset of X . We say that A is open in X if either A is an empty set or if for every $a \in A$, there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $B_\epsilon(a) \subseteq A$. We say that A is closed if the complement of A in X is open.

- Both the empty set \emptyset and X are open, and hence closed.
- The open ball $B_r(x_0)$ is open. To see this, let $a \in B_r(x_0)$. Thus $d(a, x_0) = r - \delta$ for some $\delta > 0$. We must find an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $B_\epsilon(a) \subseteq A = B_r(x_0)$. For any $b \in B_\epsilon(a)$, by the triangle inequality,

$$d(b, x_0) \leq d(b, a) + d(a, x_0) \leq \epsilon + r - \delta,$$

which is less than r provided $\epsilon < \delta$.

Problem

Show that the closed ball $\overline{B_r(x_0)}$ in a metric space (X, d) is closed.

Hint.

Note that $X \setminus \overline{B_r(x_0)} = \{x \in X : d(x, x_0) > r\}$. Let $a \in X \setminus \overline{B_r(x_0)}$ and write $\delta = d(x, x_0) - r > 0$. Use the triangle inequality to find conditions on $\epsilon > 0$ (in terms of δ), so that $B_\epsilon(a) \subseteq A = X \setminus \overline{B_r(x_0)}$. □

The closed ball could be an open set in some metric spaces!

Example (Discrete topology)

Consider \mathbb{R} endowed with the discrete metric d_0 given by $d_0(x, x) = 0$ and $d_0(x, y) = 1$ if $x \neq y \in \mathbb{R}$. Since single-tons are open balls ($\{x_0\} = B_1(x_0)$), any subset of \mathbb{R} is open!

This can not happen in \mathbb{R}^d endowed with the metric d_p , $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ (to be seen later).

Problem

Answer the following:

1. Which of the sets are open/closed in \mathbb{R} with metric d_1
 $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$?

1.1 $(0, 1)$, $[0, 1)$, $(0, 1]$, $[0, 1]$, \mathbb{Z} , \mathbb{Q}

2. Which of the sets are open/closed in \mathbb{R}^2 with metric d_2 ?

$(0, 1) \times (0, 1)$, $[0, 1) \times [0, 1)$, $(0, 1] \times [0, 1)$, $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$, $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$,
 $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$, $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$, $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : xy \neq 0\}$

Justify your answer.

Hint.

The answers in 1 are open, not open and not closed, not open and not closed, closed, closed, not open and not closed (in order).

The answers in 2 are open, not open and not closed, not open and not closed, closed, closed, not open and not closed, closed, open (in order). □

Let $B[0, 1]$ denote the metric space of bounded functions $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with the metric d_∞ given by

$$d_\infty(f, g) = \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - g(x)|, \quad f, g \in B[0, 1].$$

Problem

Whether the subset $C[0, 1]$ of $B[0, 1]$ is open in $B[0, 1]$? Justify your answer.

Hint.

No. To see this, given any $\epsilon > 0$, find $f \in B[0, 1] \setminus C[0, 1]$ such that $f \in B_\epsilon(0)$ (ϵ -neighbourhood of the 0 function), that is, a bounded function f discontinuous at least at a point in $[0, 1]$ such that $\|f\|_\infty < \epsilon$. □

Problem

Let (X, d) be a metric space. For $a \in X$ and $r > 0$, show that $S_r(a) = \{x \in X : d(x, a) = r\}$ is closed in X .

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let \mathcal{O} be the collection of all open subsets of X .

- \mathcal{O} is nonempty: \emptyset and X belong to \mathcal{O}
- \mathcal{O} is closed under arbitrary (finite or infinite) union: If $\{U_\alpha\} \subseteq \mathcal{O}$, then $\cup_\alpha U_\alpha$ is open (if $a \in \cup_\alpha U_\alpha$, then $a \in U_\alpha$ for some α , and hence there is $r > 0$ such that $B_r(a) \subseteq U_\alpha \subseteq \cup_\alpha U_\alpha$)
- \mathcal{O} need not be closed under countable intersection: Consider $X = \mathbb{R}$ with usual metric $d_1(x, y) = |x - y|$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Then for $U_n = (-1/n, 1/n) \in \mathcal{O}$, $\cap_{n \geq 1} U_n = \{0\} \notin \mathcal{O}$
- \mathcal{O} is closed under finite intersection: If $U_1, \dots, U_k \in \mathcal{O}$, then $\cap_{j=1}^k U_j \in \mathcal{O}$ (if $a \in \cap_{j=1}^k U_j$, then for some $r_j > 0$, $B_{r_j}(a) \subseteq U_j$, and hence $B_r(a) \subseteq \cap_{j=1}^k U_j$ with $r = \min\{r_1, \dots, r_k\}$)

Theorem

For any metric space (X, d) , the collection \mathcal{O} (known as topology of X) of open subsets of X contains empty set and X . Further, \mathcal{O} is closed under arbitrary union and finite intersection.

Open sets in \mathbb{R}

Problem

Let U be an open set in \mathbb{R} and let $x \in U$. Show that there exists largest open interval containing x and contained in U .

Hint.

Let $a_x = -\infty$ if $\{a \in \mathbb{R} : a < x, (a, x) \subseteq U\}$ is not bounded below, and $b_x = \infty$ if $\{b \in \mathbb{R} : b > x, (x, b) \subseteq U\}$ is not bounded above. Otherwise, set

$$a_x = \text{glb}\{a \in \mathbb{R} : a < x, (a, x) \subseteq U\},$$

$$b_x = \text{lub}\{b \in \mathbb{R} : b > x, (x, b) \subseteq U\},$$

and consider the open interval $I_x = (a_x, b_x)$. Then $x \in I_x$ (otherwise either $x \leq a_x$ or $x \geq b_x$). We claim that the interval I_x is contained in U . If $I_x \not\subseteq U$, then there is $y \in I_x \setminus U$, and hence either (x, y) or (y, x) intersects the complement of U , and hence $b_x \leq y$ or $a_x \geq y$. That's the contradiction since $y \in I_x$. \square

Theorem

Any open set U in \mathbb{R} can be expressed as the disjoint union of countably many open intervals.

Proof.

Let I_x denote the largest open interval containing x and contained in U . Then $U = \cup_{x \in U} I_x$. If $x, y \in U$, then either $I_x \cap I_y = \emptyset$ or $I_x = I_y$. Since rationals are countable and distinct intervals contains distinct rationals, the collection $\{I_x\}_{x \in U}$ contains at most countably many disjoint intervals whose union is U . \square

The role of an open interval in \mathbb{R} may be replaced by open rectangles $(a, b) \times (c, d)$ in \mathbb{R}^2 .

Question Is it possible to express an open subset of \mathbb{R}^2 as disjoint union of countably many open rectangles ?

Example

Consider the open unit disc in \mathbb{R}^2 :

$$\mathbb{D} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 < 1\}.$$

We claim that \mathbb{D} can not be written as disjoint union of countably many open rectangles. Indeed, if $\mathbb{D} = \cup_{n \geq 1} R_n$ is union of open rectangles $R_n = (a_n, b_n) \times (c_n, d_n) \subseteq \mathbb{D}$, then at least some point of the form (a_n, y) , $c_n < y < d_n$ will lie in \mathbb{D} , and hence (a_n, y) must lie in some open rectangle R_m , $m \neq n$. In that case, $R_n \cap R_m \neq \emptyset$.

- Major difference between \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{R}^2 is the “natural” order structure (and LUB property).

Interior of a set

Let (X, d) be a metric space.

- Given the closed ball $\overline{B_r(a)} = \{x \in X : d(x, a) \leq r\}$ in X , we can distinguish the points lying in $B_r(a) = \{x \in X : d(x, a) < r\}$ from the remaining points $\{x \in X : d(x, a) = r\}$.

Question Can we do the same for an arbitrary set ?

Definition

Let A be a subset of X and let $a \in A$. We say that a is an interior point of A if there exists $r > 0$ such that $B_r(a) \subseteq A$.

Let $A^\circ = \{a \in A : a \text{ is an interior point of } A\}$.

- Note that A is open in X if and only if $A^\circ = A$.

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $a \in X$. We know that any point in $B_r(a)$ is an interior point of

$$\overline{B_r(a)} = \{x \in X : d(x, a) \leq r\}.$$

Example

In general, the interior of $\overline{B_r(a)}$ need not be $B_r(a)$. Indeed, if $x \in \overline{B_r(a)} \setminus B_r(a)$, then x could be an interior point of $\overline{B_r(a)}$. To see this, let $X = \mathbb{R}$ with discrete metric d_0 and $a = 0$, $r = 1$. Then $B_1(0) = \{0\}$ and the interior of $\overline{B_1(0)} = \mathbb{R}$ is \mathbb{R} .

This does not happen in $X = \mathbb{R}^d$ endowed with any metric d_p , $p \geq 1$, as the following example illustrates.

Example

In (\mathbb{R}^d, d_p) the interior of $\overline{B_r(a)}$ is $B_r(a)$. We have seen that the $B_r(a)$ is contained in the interior of $\overline{B_r(a)}$. Let $b \in \overline{B_r(a)}$ be such that $d_p(b, a) = r$. We claim that for any $s > 0$, the ball $B_s(b)$ intersects $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \overline{B_r(a)}$.

The line joining a and b is given by $a + t(b - a)$, $t \geq 0$. Note that

$$d_p(a + t(b - a), b) = \left(\sum_{j=1}^d |1 - t|^p |a_j - b_j|^p \right)^{1/p},$$

which can be made less than s if $|1 - t|$ is very small. Thus $a + t(b - a)$ belongs to $B_s(b)$ if $|1 - t|$ is very small. Also, if $t > 1$,

$$d_p(a + t(b - a), a) = \left(\sum_{j=1}^d t^p |a_j - b_j|^p \right)^{1/p} > d_p(b, a) = r.$$

A proper subset of \mathbb{Q} which is open as well as closed

Example

Consider the metric space (\mathbb{Q}, d_1) , where $d_1(x, y) = |x - y|$, $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$. Let $\zeta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ (e.g. $\zeta = \sqrt{2}$) and let $A = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x < \zeta\}$. We claim that A is open and closed in \mathbb{Q} .

- A is open since $A = (-\infty, \zeta) \cap \mathbb{Q}$ and $(-\infty, \zeta)$ is open in \mathbb{R}
- A is closed since $\mathbb{Q} \setminus A = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x \geq \zeta\} = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x > \zeta\}$, which is again open since it is equal to $\mathbb{Q} \cap (\zeta, \infty)$

The phenomenon above can not occur in \mathbb{R} ! This means that there are no proper open and closed subsets of \mathbb{R} (to be seen later).

Problem

Find a proper subset of $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$ with the metric $d_2(x, y) = \|x - y\|_2$ ($x, y \in \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$), which is open and closed.

Limit point of a set

Let (X, d) be a metric space.

Definition

Let $A \subseteq X$ and let $a \in X$. We say that a is a

- limit point⁵ of A if for every $r > 0$, $B_r(a) \cap A \neq \emptyset$.
- cluster point of A if for every $r > 0$, $B_r(a) \cap (A \setminus \{a\}) \neq \emptyset$.
- A limit point need not belong to A (0 is a limit point of $(0, 1)$)
- a is not a limit point iff there exists some $r > 0$ such that $B_r(a) \cap A = \emptyset$ (2 is not a limit point of $(0, 1)$ for $B_1(2) \cap (0, 1) = \emptyset$)
- An interior point is a limit point (this follows from definition)
- A cluster point of A is a limit point of A , but not conversely (e.g. (\mathbb{R}, d_0) , 0 is a limit point of $A = \{0\}$ but not a cluster point)

⁵Some authors define limit point as the point for which $B_r(a) \cap (A \setminus \{a\}) \neq \emptyset$

Example

Let $X = \mathbb{R}$ and let $d_1(x, y) = |x - y|$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Let \overline{A} denote the set of limit points and let $\text{cl}(A)$ be the set of cluster points of A :

- If $A = [a, b)$, then $\overline{A} = [a, b] = \text{cl}(A)$
- If $A = (a, b] \cup \{a + b\}$, then $\overline{A} = [a, b] \cup \{a + b\}$, $\text{cl}(A) = [a, b]$
- If $A = \{1/n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$, then $\overline{A} = A \cup \{0\}$, $\text{cl}(A) = \{0\}$ (apply the Archimedean property)
- If $A = \mathbb{Z}$, then $\overline{A} = \mathbb{Z}$, $\text{cl}(A) = \emptyset$

Problem

Let $(X, d) = (\mathbb{R}, d_1)$. Find all limit points and cluster points of \mathbb{Q} .

Hint.

Since rationals are dense in \mathbb{R} , any open interval contains infinitely many rationals. So every real number is a cluster point of \mathbb{R} . \square

Closure of a set

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $A \subseteq X$. Then the set \overline{A} of limit points of A is closed in X .

Proof.

We must check that $X \setminus \overline{A}$ is open. To see this, let $x \in X \setminus \overline{A}$. Thus, there exists $r > 0$ such that $B_r(x) \cap A = \emptyset$ or $B_r(x) \subseteq X \setminus A$.

We claim that $B_r(x) \subseteq X \setminus \overline{A}$. Otherwise, there exists $y \in B_r(x) \cap \overline{A}$, and hence $B_s(y) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ for every $s > 0$. However, for small $s > 0$, $B_s(y) \subseteq B_r(x)$ (since $B_r(x)$ is open), and hence $B_r(x)$ intersects with A , which is a contradiction.

Thus $B_r(x) \subseteq X \setminus \overline{A}$ and hence $X \setminus \overline{A}$ is open or \overline{A} is closed. □

- \overline{A} is known as the closure of A .

Problem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $A \subseteq X$. Then \overline{A} is the smallest closed set containing A , that is, if $L \subseteq X$ is a closed set such that $A \subseteq L \subseteq \overline{A}$, then $L = \overline{A}$. Conclude that A is closed iff $\overline{A} = A$.

Solution.

Let $x \in X \setminus L$. Since L is closed, there exists $r > 0$ such that $B_r(x) \cap X \setminus L \subseteq X \setminus A$, or $B_r(x) \cap A = \emptyset$, so $x \in X \setminus \overline{A}$. Thus $X \setminus L \subseteq X \setminus \overline{A}$ or $\overline{A} \subseteq L$, and hence $L = \overline{A}$. □

Problem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $A \subseteq X$. Then A° is the largest open set contained in A , that is, if $O \subseteq X$ is an open set such that $A^\circ \subseteq O \subseteq A$, then $O = A^\circ$.

Hint.

Show that O is contained in A° . □

- For any set A of X , $A^\circ \subseteq A \subseteq \overline{A}$ (strict inclusion may hold).

Convergence in metric spaces

By a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ in a metric space X , we understand a function from \mathbb{N} into X , which maps n to x_n .

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in X . We say that $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a convergent sequence in X if there exists $x \in X$ (limit of $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$) such that

$$d(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Remark

- The limit x of a convergent sequence is unique: If $d(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0$ and $d(x_n, y) \rightarrow 0$, then $0 \leq d(x, y) \leq d(x, x_n) + d(x_n, y) = d(x_n, x) + d(x_n, y) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space, let A be a subset of X and let $x \in X$. Then x is a limit point of A if and only if there exists a sequence $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq A$ such that $d(a_n, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof.

Let x be a limit point of A .

- If $x \in A$, then take the constant sequence $\{a_n = x\}_{n \geq 1}$.
- Suppose that $x \notin A$. Then x is a cluster point. Thus for every $r > 0$, $B_r(x) \cap (A \setminus \{x\}) \neq \emptyset$. By induction, after letting $r = 1/n$, we obtain $a_n \in B_{1/n}(x) \cap (A \setminus \{x\})$, and since $d(a_n, x) < 1/n$, we have $d(a_n, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Conversely, assume that there exists a sequence $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq A$ such that $d(a_n, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Thus for every $r > 0$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that $d(a_n, x) < r$ for every $n \geq N$. Thus $a_N \in B_r(x) \cap A$, and hence x is a limit point of A . □

Cauchy sequences and complete metric spaces

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in X . We say that $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence in X if $d(x_m, x_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. A metric space is said to be complete if every Cauchy sequence is convergent.

Remark

- Every convergent sequence is Cauchy: $0 \leq d(x_m, x_n) \leq d(x_m, x) + d(x, x_n) = d(x_m, x) + d(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$

Example

The metric space (\mathbb{R}, d_1) is complete.

Problem

Which of the following are complete metric spaces: $([a, b], d_1)$, $((a, b), d_1)$, $([a, b), d_1)$, where d_1 is the absolute metric.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a complete metric space. Then every closed subset A of X is complete when endowed with the (relative) metric

$$d^A(x, y) = d(x, y), \quad x, y \in A.$$

Proof.

Let $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a Cauchy sequence in (A, d^A) . Clearly, $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence in (X, d) . However, X is complete, so that $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges to some $a \in X$. It follows that a is a limit point of A . Since A is closed, $a \in A$, and it follows that $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is convergent in A . □

Corollary

Any closed subset of (\mathbb{R}, d_1) is complete

Example

Consider the metric space (\mathbb{Q}, d_1) , where $d_1(x, y) = |x - y|$, $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$. Let $x_1 \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $\sqrt{2} - 1 < x_1 < \sqrt{2}$ (by density of rationals). Next choose $x_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $\sqrt{2} - 1/2 < x_2 < \sqrt{2}$, and hence by induction, for every positive integer n , there exists $x_n \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $\sqrt{2} - 1/n < x_n < \sqrt{2}$. Thus, as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$d_1(x_m, x_n) = |x_m - x_n| \leq |x_m - \sqrt{2}| + |\sqrt{2} - x_n| \leq 1/m + 1/n \rightarrow 0.$$

However, $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is not convergent in \mathbb{Q} (since the limit being unique is necessarily $\sqrt{2}$ and $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$).

- (\mathbb{Q}, d_1) is not complete.

Problem

Show that $(\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}, d_1)$ is not complete.

Problem

What are the Cauchy sequences in the discrete metric space (X, d_0) ?

Solution.

Let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a Cauchy sequence in (X, d_0) . Thus for $\epsilon = 1$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that

$$d_0(x_n, x_m) < 1 \text{ for every } m, n \geq N.$$

However, for the metric d_0 , the distance between two points is either 0 or 1. It follows that $x_n = x_m$ for every $m, n \geq N$. □

Problem

Which of the following are complete metric spaces: $([a, b], d_0)$, $((a, b), d_0)$, $([a, b), d_0)$, where d_0 is the discrete metric.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Then a Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is convergent if and only if it has a convergent subsequence.

Proof.

If $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is convergent, then clearly any subsequence of $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is convergent (follows from the definition).

Let $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ be a convergent subsequence of $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ and let $x \in X$ be its limit. Thus given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that $d(x_{n_k}, x) < \epsilon/2$ for every $k \geq N$. Also, for some $N' \geq N$, $d(x_n, x_m) \leq \epsilon/2$ for all $m, n \geq N'$. Thus for any $n \geq N'$,

$$d(x_n, x) \leq d(x_n, x_{n_{N'}}) + d(x_{n_{N'}}, x) < \epsilon$$

(since $n_{N'} \geq N' \geq N$).



Bounded sets and diameter

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq X$. We say that A is bounded if there exists $r > 0$ and $x \in X$ such that $A \subseteq B_r(x)$.

- Every Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is bounded:

Indeed, for $\epsilon = 1$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that $d(x_n, x_N) < 1$ for all $n \geq N$. Thus $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq B_1(x_N)$, where $x = x_N$ and $r = \max\{1, d(x_1, x_N), \dots, d(x_{N-1}, x_N)\} + 1$.

Consider $S = \{d(x, y) : x, y \in A\}$. The diameter of A is defined as

$$\text{diam}(A) = \begin{cases} \text{lub } S & \text{if } S \text{ is bounded above,} \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Problem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq X$. Show that A is bounded if and only if $\text{diam}(A) < \infty$.

Hint.

$\text{diam}(B_r(x)) = 2r$, and if $A \subseteq B$, then $\text{diam}(A) \leq \text{diam}(B)$. □

Normed linear spaces

Definition

A normed linear space X (denoted by $(X, \|\cdot\|)$) is a vector space over \mathbb{R} with a function assigning $\|x\| \in \mathbb{R}$ to every $x \in X$ such that for every $x, y, z \in X$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$,

N1 (Non-negativity) $\|x\| \geq 0$.

N2 (Positive Definiteness) $\|x\| = 0$ if and only if $x = 0$.

N3 (Dilation) $\|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|$.

N4 (Triangle Inequality) $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$.

Remark Every normed linear space is a metric space with metric $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$, $x, y \in X$. This metric has the additional property that $d(\alpha x, 0) = |\alpha| d(x, 0)$ for every $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \in X$.

Example

We contend that \mathbb{R}^d with the norm $\|\cdot\|_p$ is complete, where

$$\|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{j=1}^d |x_j|^p \right)^{1/p}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

To see this, let $\{x^{(n)} = (x_1^{(n)}, \dots, x_d^{(n)})\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{R}^d . Thus for $k = 1, \dots, d$,

$$|x_k^{(m)} - x_k^{(n)}| \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^d |x_j^{(m)} - x_j^{(n)}|^p \right)^{1/p} = \|x^{(m)} - x^{(n)}\|_p \rightarrow 0,$$

that is, $\{x_k^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{R} . Since (\mathbb{R}, d_1) is complete, there exists $x_k \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $|x_k^{(n)} - x_k| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Clearly, $\|x^{(n)} - x\|_p \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Problem

Show that \mathbb{R}^d with the norm $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ is complete.

Problem

Let $\{x^{(n)} = \{(x_1^{(n)}, x_2^{(n)}, \dots)\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a Cauchy sequence in l^p , $1 \leq p < \infty$. For $\epsilon > 0$, verify the following:

1. $\{x_i^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ converges to some $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ for every $i \geq 1$.
2. For $k \geq 1$, there exists $n_0 \geq 1$ (independent of k) such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k |x_i^{(n)} - x_i|^p \leq \epsilon \text{ for all } n \geq n_0.$$

3. For $k \geq 1$, $\sum_{i=1}^k |x_i|^p \leq (\epsilon + \|x^{(n_0)}\|_p)^p$.
4. The normed linear space l^p is complete.

Hint.

For part 1, argue as in the last example. For part 2, use the definition of Cauchy sequence and part 1. For part 3, use the triangle inequality. By parts 2-3, $x \in l^p$ and $\|x^{(n)} - x\|_p \rightarrow 0$. □

Problem

Let p be such that $p \geq 1$. For $f \in C[0, 1]$, define

$$\|f\|_p = \left(\int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}.$$

Show that $(C[0, 1], \|\cdot\|_p)$ is an incomplete normed linear space.

Hint.

To see triangle inequality, apply Hölder's equality (see the argument on Page 35). To see that $C[0, 1]$ is not complete, let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1/2), \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in [1/2, 1], \end{cases}$$

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1/2 - 1/n), \\ (-n/2)x + (n/2 + 1)/2 & \text{if } x \in [1/2 - 1/n, 1/2 + 1/n], \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in [1/2 + 1/n, 1]. \end{cases}$$

Verify that $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 3}$ converges to $f \notin C[0, 1]$.



Dense sets and separable metric spaces

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $A \subseteq X$. We say that A is dense in X if every open ball in X intersects A , that is, for every $x \in X$ and every $r > 0$, $B_r(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$.

Remark A is dense in X if and only if every $x \in X$ is a limit point of A , or equivalently, if and only if $\overline{A} = X$.

Example

- \mathbb{Q} and $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ are dense in (\mathbb{R}, d_1)
- \mathbb{Z} is not dense in (\mathbb{Q}, d_1)
- \mathbb{Q}^d is a countable dense in (\mathbb{R}^d, d_p)

A metric space is separable if it has a countable dense subset.

Theorem

Let $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then l^p is separable.

Proof.

For $k \geq 1$, let $A_k = \{(r_1, \dots, r_k, 0, \dots) : r_k \in \mathbb{Q}\}$.

- A_k is countable: There is a bijection between A_k and \mathbb{Q}^k
- $A = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k$ is countable: Countable union of countable sets is countable

We claim that A is dense in l^p : Let $r > 0$, $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in l^p$. Then $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |x_k|^p < \infty$, and hence for some integer $N \geq 2$, $(\sum_{k=N}^{\infty} |x_k|^p)^{1/p} < r/2$. For $j = 1, \dots, N-1$, let $r_j \in \mathbb{Q}$ be such that $|x_j - r_j| < \frac{r}{2(N-1)^{1/p}}$ (since \mathbb{Q} is dense in \mathbb{R}). Then for $y = (r_1, \dots, r_{N-1}, 0, \dots) \in A$,

$$\|x - y\|_p \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} |x_j - r_j|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{k=N}^{\infty} |x_k|^p \right)^{1/p} < r/2 + r/2 = r.$$

Thus for every $x \in l^p$ and $r > 0$, $y \in B_r(x) \cap A$. □

Problem

Show that the set l^∞ of bounded sequences is complete normed linear space with norm $\|x\|_\infty = \sup_{j \geq 1} |x_j|$, $x \in l^\infty$.

Example

We claim that l^∞ is not separable. Consider the uncountable set

$$\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} = \{x \in l^\infty : x_n = 0 \text{ or } 1\}.$$

If $x, y \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, then $\|x - y\|_\infty = 1$ if $x \neq y$. Thus

$$\bigcup_{x \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}} B_{1/2}(x) \subseteq l^\infty \text{ (disjoint union).}$$

Now if l^∞ has a countable dense set, then each $B_{1/2}(x)$ would contain at least one element from this set. However, there are uncountably disjoint balls of the form $B_{1/2}(x)$. and hence l^∞ can not admit a countable dense subset.

Question Whether $(C[0, 1], d_\infty)$ is separable ?

Boundary of a set

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space and $A \subseteq X$. A point $x \in X$ is said to be a boundary point of A in X if for every $r > 0$,

$$B_r(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset \text{ and } B_r(x) \cap (X \setminus A) \neq \emptyset.$$

The boundary of A in X (denoted by ∂A) is the set of boundary points of A in X .

Remark Every boundary point is a limit point, that is, $\partial A \subseteq \bar{A}$.

Example

- If $(X, d) = (\mathbb{R}, d_1)$, then for $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a < b$,

$$\partial[a, b] = \partial(a, b) = \partial[a, b) = \partial(a, b] = \{a, b\}.$$

- If $(X, d) = (\mathbb{R}^d, d_p)$, then $\partial \overline{B_r(x)} = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^d : d_p(x, y) = r\}$.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq X$. Then $\partial A = \overline{A} \setminus A^\circ$.

Proof.

Clearly, $x \in \overline{A} \setminus A^\circ$ if and only if $x \in \overline{A}$ and $x \notin A^\circ$. Note that

- $x \in \overline{A}$ if and only if for every $r > 0$, $B_r(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$.
- $x \notin A^\circ$ if and only if for every $r > 0$, $B_r(x) \cap (X \setminus A) \neq \emptyset$.

Thus $x \in \overline{A} \setminus A^\circ$ if and only if for every $r > 0$, $B_r(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ and $B_r(x) \cap (X \setminus A) \neq \emptyset$, that is, $x \in \partial A$. □

Problem

Find the boundary of $A = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x > 0, y > 0\}$.

Hint.

Since A is open, $A^\circ = A$. Also, $\overline{A} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \geq 0, y \geq 0\}$. It follows that $\partial A = \{(x, y) \in \overline{A} : xy = 0\}$. □

- The boundary of \mathbb{Q} is equal to \mathbb{R} .

Continuity

Definition

Let (X, d) and (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function and let $a \in X$. We say that f is

- C1 continuous at a if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that
$$(x \in X, d(x, a) < \delta \implies \rho(f(x), f(a)) < \epsilon).$$
- C2 s-continuous at a (or sequential continuous at a) if
$$(d(x_n, a) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \implies \rho(f(x_n), f(a)) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty).$$

We say that f is continuous (resp s-continuous) if it is continuous (resp s-continuous) at every $a \in X$.

Remark

- f is continuous at a if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $f(B_\delta^d(a)) \subseteq B_\epsilon^\rho(f(a))$.
- f is s-continuous at a if and only if f maps convergent sequences to convergent sequences.

Problem

Let (X, d) and (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function and let $a \in X$. Then f is continuous at a if and only if f is s -continuous at a .

Hint.

\Rightarrow follows from the definition: Given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that C1 holds. Now find an integer $N \geq 1$ such that $d(x_n, a) < \delta$, so by continuity, $\rho(f(x_n), f(a)) < \epsilon$.

For \Leftarrow , argue by contradiction: Suppose that C2 holds but C1 fails to hold. So, for some $\epsilon > 0$, for $\delta = 1/n$, $n \geq 1$, find $x_n \in X$ such that $d(x_n, a) < 1/n$ but $\rho(f(x_n), f(a)) \geq \epsilon$. Then $d(x_n, a) \rightarrow 0$ but $\rho(f(x_n), f(a)) \not\rightarrow 0$, a contradiction. \square

Problem

Let (X, d) , (Y, ρ) and (Z, η) be metric spaces. If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ are continuous, then so is $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$.

Example

Let $p : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a polynomial, that is, for some $a_0, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_kx^k, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Notice that its not easy to verify the continuity of p right from its definition (given ϵ , how to find δ ?). However, s -continuity of p follows immediately from the facts that sum and product of convergent sequences is convergent:

$$x_n \rightarrow x, y_n \rightarrow y \Rightarrow x_n + y_n \rightarrow x + y, \quad x_n^m \rightarrow x^m, \quad m \geq 1.$$

Thus if $x_n \rightarrow x$, then $p(x_n) \rightarrow p(x)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. So p is continuous.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Then the set $C(X)$ of continuous functions $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ forms an algebra, that is, $C(X)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} equipped with the binary operation $(f, g) \rightarrow fg$ from $C(X) \times C(X)$ to $C(X)$, which is a binary form.

Proof.

The set of convergent sequences in \mathbb{R} forms an algebra.



Let (X, d) be a metric space. Let A be a non-empty subset of X , and for $x \in X$, let

$$d(x, A) = \text{glb } S_x, \text{ where } S_x = \{d(x, a) : a \in A\}$$

(since $d(x, a) \geq 0$, S_x is bounded from below. Also, since A is nonempty, so is S_x . Hence glb of S exists).

Problem

Show that $f : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ given by $f(x) = d(x, A)$ is continuous.

Solution.

To see this, for $x, y \in X$ and $a \in A$, note that

$$f(x) = \text{glb } S_x \leq d(x, a) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, a)$$

$$f(x) - d(x, y) \leq d(y, a) \text{ for every } a \in A \implies$$

$f(x) - d(x, y) \leq \text{glb } S_y = f(y)$ or $f(x) - f(y) \leq d(x, y)$. Changing roles of x and y , we obtain $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq d(x, y)$. Let $\delta = \epsilon$. \square

Separation by a continuous function

Theorem (Urysohn's Lemma)

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Given closed non-empty disjoint subsets A and B of X , there exists a continuous function $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $f|_A = 0$ and $f|_B = 1$.

Proof.

For $C \subseteq X$ closed and $x \in X$, let $d(x, C) = \inf\{d(x, a) : a \in C\}$.

- $d(x, C)$ is a continuous function of x .
- $d(x, C) = 0$ if and only if $x \in C$.
- $d(x, A) + d(x, B) > 0$ for every $x \in X$.

Define $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$f(x) = \frac{d(x, A)}{d(x, A) + d(x, B)}, \quad x \in X.$$

Clearly, f is a continuous function. Note that $f(a) = 0$ and $f(b) = 1$ for every $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.



A characterization

Theorem

Let (X, d) and (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) f is continuous.*
- (b) For every open subset O of Y , $f^{-1}(O) = \{a \in X : f(a) \in O\}$ is an open subset of X .*

Proof.

(a) \Rightarrow (b). Let $O \subseteq Y$ be open and $a \in f^{-1}(O)$. Thus $f(a) \in O$. Since O is open, there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $B_\epsilon^\rho(f(a)) \subseteq O$. By the continuity, there is $\delta > 0$ such that $f(B_\delta^d(a)) \subseteq B_\epsilon^\rho(f(a)) \subseteq O$. Thus $B_\delta^d(a) \subseteq f^{-1}(O)$, which shows that $f^{-1}(O)$ is open.

(b) \Rightarrow (a). Let $a \in X$ and $\epsilon > 0$. Since $O = B_\epsilon^\rho(f(a))$ is an open subset of Y , $a \in f^{-1}(B_\epsilon^\rho(f(a)))$ is an open subset of X . Hence there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $B_\delta^d(a) \subseteq f^{-1}(B_\epsilon^\rho(f(a)))$, and hence f is continuous. □

An application to matrices

Problem

Consider the vector space $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ (over \mathbb{R}) of $n \times n$ matrices $A = (a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ with real entries. For $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, set $\|A\| = \sum_{i,j=1}^n |a_{ij}|$. Verify the following:

1. $\|\cdot\|$ defines a norm on $M_n(\mathbb{R})$.
2. The determinant $\det : M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous.
3. The set $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ of $n \times n$ invertible matrices is open in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Hint.

For 1, the triangle inequality follows from the triangle inequality of real numbers. For 2, note that determinant is a polynomial in n^2 variables, and hence \det is s-continuous. For 3, note that $GL_n(\mathbb{R}) = \det^{-1}(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\})$ and $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ is open. □

Remark Can you see that $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ has a proper clopen subset ?

Equivalent norms

We say that two norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ on a normed linear space X are *equivalent* if there exists $m, M > 0$ such that

$$m\|x\| \leq \|x\|' \leq M\|x\|, \quad x \in X.$$

Problem

Verify that the equivalence of norms is an equivalence relation.

Conclude that the all norms $\|\cdot\|_p$, $p \geq 1$, on \mathbb{R}^n are equivalent.

Hint.

The first part is a routine verification. To see the second part, by transitivity of norms, it suffices to check that $\|\cdot\|_p$ is equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_\infty$. This follows from $\|x\|_\infty \leq \|x\|_p \leq n^{1/p}\|x\|_\infty$. This in turn follows from $|x_j| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|^p \leq n(\max_{j=1}^n |x_j|)^p$, $j = 1, \dots, d$. \square

Problem

Let X be a normed linear space with two norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$. Then the norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ are equivalent if and only if the identity map I from $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ onto $(X, \|\cdot\|')$ is continuous at 0 with inverse being continuous at 0.

Hint.

For \Rightarrow , show that the identity map and its inverse are s-continuous. For \Leftarrow , note that the continuity of $I : (X, \|\cdot\|) \rightarrow (X, \|\cdot\|')$ at 0 implies that for $\epsilon = 1$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\|x\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|x\|' < 1.$$

For $0 \neq x \in X$, let $y = \frac{\delta}{2} \frac{x}{\|x\|}$. Thus $\|y\| = \frac{\delta}{2}$, and hence $\|y\|' < 1$, that is, $\frac{\delta}{2} \frac{\|x\|'}{\|x\|} < 1$ or $\|x\|' \leq \frac{2}{\delta} \|x\|$ for every $x \in X$. Similarly, one may get the other inequality. □

Problem

If two norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ on X are equivalent, show that $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ is complete if and only if $(X, \|\cdot\|')$ is complete.

Question What are all norms on \mathbb{R}^d (up to equivalence) ?

Let us analyze the case of $d = 1$:

Problem

Describe all norms on \mathbb{R} .

Solution.

Let $\|\cdot\|$ be any norm on \mathbb{R} . For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$, note that by the dilation property,

$$\|x\| = \|x \cdot 1\| = |x| \|1\|.$$

This means that any norm $\|\cdot\|$ is of the form $\alpha|\cdot|$, $\alpha > 0$. □

• Note that all norms on \mathbb{R} are equivalent. Indeed, if $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ are two norms on \mathbb{R} , then for $m = \frac{\|1\|'}{\|1\|} = M$, we have

$$m\|x\| = \|x\|' = M\|x\|, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

What about the case of dimension $d > 1$?

Theorem

Consider $(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$. Let $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x\|_\infty = 1\}$ and let $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Then there exists $a \in S$ such that $f(x) \geq f(a)$ for every $x \in S$.

Proof.

Let $A = \{f(x) : x \in S\}$ and let $\alpha = \inf A$. Thus there exists a sequence $\{x^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq S$ such that $f(x^{(n)}) \rightarrow \alpha$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Now if $x^{(n)} = (x_1^{(n)}, \dots, x_d^{(n)})$, then $\{x_1^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 1}$, being a bounded sequence, has a convergent subsequence (by the Bolazano-Weierstrass Theorem), say, $\{x_1^{(n_j)}\}_{j \geq 1}$. Since $\{x_2^{(n_j)}\}_{j \geq 1}$ is bounded, it has a convergent subsequence, and continuing this, we obtain a convergent subsequence of $x^{(n)} = (x_1^{(n)}, \dots, x_d^{(n)})$ converging to say a in $\|\cdot\|_\infty$. It follows that $f(a) = \alpha$ and $f(x) \geq \inf A = f(a)$ for every $x \in S$. Since S is closed, $a \in S$. □

Norms on \mathbb{R}^d

Theorem

All norms on \mathbb{R}^d are equivalent.

Proof.

Let $\|\cdot\|$ be an arbitrary norm on \mathbb{R}^d .

- (a) Let e_1, \dots, e_d denote the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^d . By the triangle inequality, $\|x\| \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^d \|e_i\|\right) \|x\|_\infty$.
- (b) By (a), the function $f : (\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(x) = \|x\|$ is (sequential) continuous.
- (c) f attains its minimum on $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x\|_\infty = 1\}$. Thus there exists $a \in S$ such that $\|x\| \geq \|a\| > 0$ for every $x \in S$.
- (d) By (a) and (c), the norm $\|\cdot\|$ is equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_\infty$.

The desired conclusion now follows from the transitivity of the equivalence of norms.



One can produce inequivalent norms on infinite-dimensional spaces.

Example

Let $\mathbb{R}[x]$ denote the vector space over \mathbb{R} of polynomials $p(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$ in x . For $c := \{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$, define

$$\|p\|_c := \sum_{n=0}^k |c_n| |a_n|.$$

- $\|\cdot\|_c$ defines a norm on $\mathbb{R}[x]$ if $c_n \neq 0$ for every $n \geq 0$.

This is a routine verification.

- $\|\cdot\|_c$ and $\|\cdot\|_d$ are not equivalent if $c_n = 1/(n+1)$, $d_n = n+1$.

This is far from being obvious.

Example (Example continued ...)

If possible, then assume that there exists $m, M > 0$ such that

$$m\|p\|_c \leq \|p\|_d \leq M\|p\|_c, \quad p \in \mathbb{R}[x].$$

Thus, for any $p \in \mathbb{R}[x]$,

$$\|p\|_d = \sum_{n=0}^k (n+1)|a_n| < 1 \text{ whenever } \|p\|_c = \sum_{n=0}^k \frac{|a_n|}{n+1} < \frac{1}{M}.$$

Choose an integer k large enough so that $\frac{k}{M} > 2$. Letting $a_0 = 0$ and $a_n = \frac{1}{2(n+1)M}$ ($n = 1, \dots, k$), we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^k \frac{|a_n|}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} < \frac{1}{M}.$$

However, $\sum_{n=0}^k (n+1)|a_n| = \frac{k}{2M} > 1$, which is a contradiction.

Theorem

Let (X, d) and (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) f is continuous.
- (b) For every closed subset U of Y , $f^{-1}(U) = \{a \in X : f(a) \in U\}$ is a closed subset of X .

Proof.

Recall that $f^{-1}(Y \setminus U) = X \setminus f^{-1}(U)$. Now apply the fact that f is continuous iff for every open subset O of Y , $f^{-1}(O)$ is an open subset of X . □

Example

Let X be a metric space endowed with the discrete metric d_0 . Then any $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous. Indeed, since every subset of X is closed, by the previous theorem, f is continuous. In particular, if \mathbb{Z} carries the (relative) metric induced from (\mathbb{R}, d_1) , then any function $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow Y$ is continuous.

Problem

Consider the vector space $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ of $n \times n$ matrices $A = (a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ with real entries. Define $d : M_n(\mathbb{R}) \times M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $d(A, B) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n |a_{ij} - b_{ij}|$. Verify the following:

1. For every positive integer k , the map $p_k : M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ given by $p_k(A) = A^k$ is continuous.
2. If $\mathcal{N}_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) : \text{there is } k \geq 1 \text{ such that } A^k = 0\}$, then $\mathcal{N}_n(\mathbb{R})$ is closed in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Hint.

To see that p_k is s-continuous, note that the entries of A^k are polynomials in the entries of A (please verify this for $k = 2$ and $n = 2$). To see the part 2, note that

$$\mathcal{N}_n(\mathbb{R}) = \cup_{k \geq 1} \ker p_k = \cup_{k=1}^n \ker p_k$$

(justify the second equality). Since kernel of a continuous map is closed, $\mathcal{N}_n(\mathbb{R})$ is closed in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$. □

Homeomorphisms

Definition

Let (X, d) and (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces.

- A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a homeomorphism if f is continuous, one-one, and onto with a continuous inverse.
- We say that X and Y are homeomorphic if there exists a homeomorphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$. In this case, we say that $X \cong Y$.

Remark Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a homeomorphism.

1. f^{-1} is also a homeomorphism.
2. If U is open in X then $f(U)$ is open in Y .
3. If A is a subset of X then A and $f(A)$ are homeomorphic.
4. Composition of homeomorphisms is again a homeomorphism.
In particular, if X is homeomorphic to Y , and Y is homeomorphic to Z then X is homeomorphic to Z .

Note that \cong is an equivalence relation.

Example

Consider the subsets A of the metric space (\mathbb{R}, d_1) as the metric spaces with relative metric $d_1^A(x, y) = |x - y|$, $x, y \in A$.

- $(0, 1) \not\cong (0, 1]$: If $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1]$ is a homeomorphism, then $f(c) = 1$ for some $c \in (0, 1)$, and hence it follows that f^{-1} maps $(0, 1)$ onto $(0, c) \cup (c, 1)$, which is not possible in view of the intermediate value property.

Problem

Show that the interval $(a, b) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is homeomorphic to any other interval $(c, d) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.

Hint.

Try $\alpha(t - b) + \beta(t - a)$ for appropriate scalars α and β .



Problem

Show that e^{-x} is a homeomorphism from $(0, \infty)$ onto $(0, 1)$.

Problem

Which of spaces X and Y are homeomorphic:

- (1) $X = \mathbb{R}$ and $Y = [0, 1)$
- (2) $X = \mathbb{R}$ and $Y = [0, 1]$
- (3) $X = [1, \infty)$ and $Y = (0, 1]$
- (4) $X = (-1, 0)$ and $Y = (-\infty, -1)$
- (5) $X = \mathbb{R}$ and $Y = (0, 1)$
- (6) $X = \mathbb{Q}$ and $Y = \mathbb{Z}$

Hint. For (1), (2), use intermediate value property (No). For (3), (4), check that $1/x$ is the desired homeomorphism (Yes). ~~For (5), write $X = (-\infty, 1) \cup [1, \infty)$, and note that by (3), $[1, \infty) \cong (0, 1]$. Also, by (4), $(-\infty, 1) \cong (-\infty, -1) \cong (-1, 0)$ (No).~~⁶ For (6), choose an open ball centred at an integer (which contains finitely many elements), and analyze its image in \mathbb{Q} (No).

⁶The answer to (5) is **Yes**. Please try tan (thanks to Sudip and Satyam for catching a careless assertion!)

Theorem

\mathbb{R}^n is homeomorphic to \mathbb{R} iff $n = 1$.

Proof.

Suppose that for $n > 1$. Thus there is a continuous bijection $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and hence $g = f|_X$ is a homeomorphism from $X := \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ onto $Y := \mathbb{R} \setminus \{y_0\}$ for some $y_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. Choose $y_1, y_2 \in Y$ such that $y_1 < y_0 < y_2$ and let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ be such that $f(x_1) = y_1$ and $f(x_2) = y_2$. Let L denote the line segment connecting x_1 and x_2 .

- If L does not pass through 0 then let $\gamma(t) = (1 - t)x_1 + tx_2$.
- If L passes through 0 then choose any point $x_3 \notin L$ and let

$$\gamma(t) = \begin{cases} (1 - 2t)x_1 + 2tx_3 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq 1/2, \\ 2(1 - t)x_3 + (2t - 1)x_2 & \text{if } 1/2 \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Thus $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ is a continuous function (since $\gamma(1/2) = x_3$) such that $\gamma(0) = x_1$ and $\gamma(1) = x_2$.

Proof continued ...

We consider the continuous function $h : [0, 1] \rightarrow [y_1, y_2]$ by

$$h(t) = g(\gamma(t)), \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

By the intermediate value property, there exists $t_0 \in [0, 1]$ such that $h(t_0) = y_0$, that is, $g(\gamma(t_0)) = y_0$. This implies that y_0 belongs to the image of $g = f|_X$, which is a contradiction. \square

Remark It is highly non-trivial fact that \mathbb{R}^n is homeomorphic to \mathbb{R}^m iff $m = n$ (beyond the scope of this course).

Problem

Is an open annulus $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 1 < x^2 + y^2 < 2\}$ homeomorphic to the unit circle $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$? Justify your answer.

Hint.

Argue as in the last theorem. \square

Objective To find when two metric spaces are homeomorphic, one needs to look for "invariants" which are preserved under homeomorphisms (e.g, existence of a proper clopen set).

Problem

Show that the function $g : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given below is continuous on irrationals and discontinuous on rationals:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{q} & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1) \text{ and } x = \frac{p}{q} \text{ in reduced form} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Question Does there exist a function $g : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which is continuous on rationals and discontinuous on irrationals ?

Answer: No

A solution was first provided by **Vito Volterra**.

G-delta sets

Definition

A set is a G_δ set if it is countable intersection of open sets.

Example

The irrationals $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ form a G_δ set for $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} = \bigcap_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R} \setminus \{r\}$.

Problem

The rationals do not form a G_δ set.

Solution.

Suppose that $\mathbb{Q} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n$ for open sets U_n . Since $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq U_n$, each U_n is dense in \mathbb{R} . Now note that $\emptyset = \mathbb{Q} \cap (\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q})$ is countable intersection of open dense sets U_n , $n \geq 1$ and $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{r\}$, $r \in \mathbb{Q}$. This contradicts BCT (to be proven later). \square

Theorem (Baire Category Theorem)

A countable intersection of open dense sets in \mathbb{R} is dense in \mathbb{R} .

A Theorem of Volterra Vito

Theorem

Let U be an open subset of \mathbb{R} and let $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function defined on U . Then $A = \{a \in U : f \text{ is continuous at } a\}$ is a G_δ set.

Proof.

For positive integer n , consider the set A_n given by

$$\{x_0 \in U : \exists \delta > 0 \text{ such that } |f(x) - f(y)| < 1/n, x, y \in (x_0 - \delta, x_0 + \delta)\}.$$

Note that A_n is open and $A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$. □

Since rationals do not form a G_δ set, we obtain the following:

Corollary (Volterra Vito)

There is no function $g : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which is continuous on rationals and discontinuous on irrationals.

Baire category theorem

Theorem (Baire Category Theorem)

Let (X, d) be a complete metric space and let $\{U_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of open dense subsets of X . Then $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} U_n$ is dense in X .

Proof.

Let $x \in X$ and $r > 0$. We claim that $B_r(x) \cap (\bigcap_{n \geq 1} U_n) \neq \emptyset$.

- Since U_1 is dense in X , there exists $x_1 \in B_r(x) \cap U_1$. Since U_1 is open, for some $0 < r_1 < r$, $B_{r_1}(x_1) \subseteq B_r(x) \cap U_1$.
- Since U_2 is dense in X , there exists $x_2 \in B_{r_1}(x_1) \cap U_2$. Since U_2 is open, for some $0 < r_2 < r_1$, $B_{r_2}(x_2) \subseteq B_{r_1}(x_1) \cap U_2$.

By induction on $n \geq 1$, there exist $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq X$ and $0 < r_n < r_{n-1}$ such that $B_{r_{n+1}}(x_{n+1}) \subseteq B_{r_n}(x_n) \cap U_{n+1}$ for every $n \geq 1$. Thus $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence (since $d(x_n, x_m) < r_n < 1/n$ for every $m \geq n$), and hence converges to some $x_0 \in X$ (since X is complete). Note that $x_0 \in B_r(x) \cap (\bigcap_{n \geq 1} U_n)$. □

Problem

Let X be a complete metric space. If X is a union of closed sets A_1, A_2, \dots , then show that there exists $N \geq 1$ such that A_N has non-empty interior.

Hint.

Assume that $X = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_n$ and that $A_n^\circ = \emptyset$ for every integer $n \geq 1$. Then $\emptyset = \bigcap_{n \geq 1} (X \setminus A_n)$, not possible (since $\overline{X \setminus A_n} = X$). \square

Remark \mathbb{R}^2 can not be written as the countable union of lines. Also, \mathbb{R}^3 can not be written as the countable union of planes.

Problem

Let X be a complete metric space. If $f : X \rightarrow X$ is surjective, then show that there exists an integer $n \geq 1$ and $x_0 \in X$ such that $\overline{f(B_n(x_0))}$ has nonempty interior.

Hint.

Apply the last problem to appropriate closed subsets A_n of X . \square

An application

Theorem

Let X be a complete normed linear space containing an infinite linearly independent sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ in X . Then the linear span of $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a proper subspace of X .

Proof.

For $m \geq 1$, let $Y_m := \text{linspan}\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$.

- Y_m is a proper closed subspace of X , and hence Y_m has empty interior (if $B_r(x) \subseteq Y_m$, then for any nonzero $y \in X$, $x + \frac{r}{2} \frac{y}{\|y\|} \in Y_m$ and hence $y \in Y_m$).
- The complement of Y_m is open and dense. By the Baire Category Theorem, the intersection $\bigcap_{m \geq 1} (X \setminus Y_m)$ is dense in X .

If $\text{linspan}\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} = X$, then any element in $\bigcap_{m \geq 1} (X \setminus Y_m)$ (which exists) belongs to Y_N for large N , and hence it belongs to Y_N and its complement $X \setminus Y_N$ simultaneously, a contradiction. \square

Problem

If (X, d) is a complete metric space such that every $x \in X$ is a cluster point of $X \setminus \{x\}$, then show that X is not countable.

Solution.

If possible, assume that X is countable. So one can enumerate X as a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$. Note that for every integer $n \geq 1$, $X \setminus \{x_n\}$ is open and dense in X . By the Baire Category Theorem, $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (X \setminus \{x_n\})$ is dense in X . However, $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (X \setminus \{x_n\}) = \emptyset$, and hence X must be uncountable. \square

• (\mathbb{Z}, d_0) is a complete metric space even if \mathbb{Z} is countable ($\{n\}$ is open for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$). Also, the above problem is applicable to (\mathbb{R}, d_1) providing indirect verification of uncountability of \mathbb{R} .

Theorem (Nested Set Theorem)

Let X be a complete metric space and let $\{J_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a decreasing sequence of nonempty closed sets in X such that $\text{diam}(J_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} J_n$ contains exactly one point.

Uniform continuity

Definition

Let (X, d) and (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. We say that f is uniformly continuous if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$(x, y \in X, d(x, y) < \delta \implies \rho(f(x), f(y)) < \epsilon).$$

- Every uniformly continuous function is continuous at every point in X . The major difference is that unlike the definition of continuity at a point, single δ works for all points in X .
- $f(x) = 1/x$, $x \in (0, 1)$ is continuous but not uniformly continuous. Indeed, if $m, n \geq 1$ are integers such that $m > n > \delta/2$, then $|1/n - 1/m| < \delta$ & $|f(1/n) - f(1/m)| \geq 1$.
- For any subset A of a normed linear space X , the function $f(x) = \text{dist}(x, A)$, $x \in X$ is uniformly continuous. Indeed, since $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \|x - y\|$, $x, y \in X$, one may take $\delta = \epsilon$.

Problem

Let (\mathbb{R}, d_1) and let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be uniformly continuous. Then

1. f maps bounded sets to bounded sets.
2. f maps Cauchy sequences to Cauchy sequences.

Hint.

To see 1, let A be a bounded subset of \mathbb{R} . Thus $A \subseteq [a, b]$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a < b$. We must check that $f([a, b])$ is bounded. Note that $[a, b]$ can be covered by finitely many open intervals of length less than δ (the one obtained from the definition of uniform continuity with $\epsilon = 1$). Part 2 follows from definition. \square

Problem

Let X, Y be normed linear spaces and let $T : X \rightarrow Y$ be such that is, $T(x + \alpha y) = T(x) + \alpha T(y)$ for every $x, y \in X$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that T is continuous at 0 iff T is uniformly continuous.

Hint.

For $0 \neq x \in X$, let $x' = \frac{\delta}{2} \frac{x}{\|x\|}$. Now use the continuity at 0. \square

Theorem

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that $a < b$. If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, then f is uniformly continuous.

Proof.

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and let $x \in [a, b]$. Then, by the continuity of f , there exists δ_x such that

$$(y \in [a, b], |x - y| < \delta_x \implies |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon/2).$$

However, we want single δ , which will work for every $x \in [a, b]$. Note that $[a, b] \subseteq \cup_{x \in [a, b]} (x - \delta_x/2, x + \delta_x/2)$. It turns out that there are finitely many $x_1, \dots, x_k \in [a, b]$ such that

$$[a, b] \subseteq \cup_{n=1}^k (x_n - \delta_{x_n}/2, x_n + \delta_{x_n}/2)$$

(to be seen later). Let $\delta = \min_{n=1}^k \delta_{x_n}/2$. If $|x - y| < \delta$, then $x \in (x_n - \delta_{x_n}/2, x_n + \delta_{x_n}/2)$ for some n , and hence $|y - x_n| < \delta_{x_n}$. It follows that $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$. □

Compactness

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space. We say that X is compact if for any collection $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ of open subsets of X such that $X = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$, there exists finitely many indices $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}$ in I such that $X = \bigcup_{j=1}^k U_{\alpha_j}$.

- $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$: open cover of X
- $\{U_{\alpha_1}, \dots, U_{\alpha_k}\}$: open subcover of X

Remark If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous surjection and X is compact, then Y is also compact. Indeed, if $\{V_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ is an open cover of Y , then $\{f^{-1}(V_\alpha) : \alpha \in I\}$ is an open cover of X , and since X is compact, $\{f^{-1}(V_\alpha) : \alpha \in I\}$ admits a finite subcover $\{f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_1}), \dots, f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_k})\}$ of X . It follows that $Y = \bigcup_{j=1}^k V_{\alpha_j}$.

Problem

Show that none of the following metric spaces (X, d) is compact.

1. $X = (0, 1]$, $d =$ relative metric induced by d_1
2. $X = \mathbb{Z}$, $d = d_0$
3. $X = \mathbb{R}^d$, $d = d_p$
4. $X =$ normed linear space, $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$

Solution.

For 1, consider the open cover $\{(1/n, 1] : n \geq 2\}$ of $(0, 1]$. For 2, consider the open cover $\{\{n\} : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. Part 3 follows from 4, and for 4, consider the open cover $\{B_n(0) : n \geq 1\}$. Verify that none of above open covers admits a finite subcover. \square

Problem

Let X be an arbitrary set endowed with a discrete metric d_0 . Then X is compact if and only if \dots .

Example

We claim that the finite interval $[a, b]$ with relative metric d_1 is compact. If this is false, then there exists an open cover $\mathcal{U} = \{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ of $[a, b]$, which has no finite subcover.

- Note that \mathcal{U} is also an open cover for $[a, (a+b)/2]$ and $[(a+b)/2, b]$, and \mathcal{U} does not admit finite subcover for at least one of subintervals, say, $[a_1, b_1]$. Clearly, $b_1 - a_1 = \frac{b-a}{2}$.
- Note that \mathcal{U} is also an open cover for $[a_1, (a_1+b_1)/2]$ and $[(a_1+b_1)/2, b_1]$, and \mathcal{U} does not admit finite subcover for at least one of subintervals, say, $[a_2, b_2]$. Clearly, $b_2 - a_2 = \frac{b-a}{4}$.
- By induction, for every integer $n \geq 1$, \mathcal{U} does not admit finite subcover for $[a_n, b_n] \subseteq [a_{n-1}, b_{n-1}]$ and $b_n - a_n = \frac{b-a}{2^n}$.
- By the nested interval theorem, there exists $c \in \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} [a_k, b_k]$. Since \mathcal{U} is an open cover for $[a_1, b_1]$, $c \in U_\alpha$ for some $\alpha \in I$.
- c is an interior point of U_α , $a_k \uparrow c$ and $b_k \downarrow c$, for large k , $[a_k, b_k] \subseteq U_\alpha$, that is, $[a_k, b_k]$ admits a finite subcover. $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

Theorem (Heine-Borel Theorem)

Any closed and bounded subset A of (\mathbb{R}, d_1) is compact.

Proof.

We claim that any closed subset A of a compact metric space (X, d) is compact. Let $\mathcal{U} = \{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ be an open cover of A .

- $\mathcal{U} \cup \{X \setminus A\}$ is an open cover of X .
- There exists a finite subcover $\{U_{\alpha_1}, \dots, U_{\alpha_k}\} \cup X \setminus A$ of X (since X is compact).
- $\{U_{\alpha_1}, \dots, U_{\alpha_k}\}$ is an open subcover of A .

Since A is bounded, $A \subseteq [a, b]$ (finite interval). Since $[a, b]$ is compact and A is a closed subset of $[a, b]$, A is also compact. □

- Every closed subset of a compact metric space is compact.

Question Does there exist a closed and bounded set which is not compact ?

Compactness in relative metric

Question Let (X, d) be a metric space and $Y \subseteq X$ endowed with the relative metric $d^Y(x, y) = d(x, y)$, $x, y \in X$. If $K \subseteq Y$, then whether or not

$$(K, d) \text{ compact} \Leftrightarrow (K, d^Y) \text{ compact} ?$$

- If $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ is an open cover of K in X then $\{U_\alpha \cap Y : \alpha \in I\}$ is an open cover of K in Y .
- If $\{V_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ is an open cover of K in Y , then for every $\alpha \in I$, $V_\alpha = U_\alpha \cap K$ for some open set U_α in X . Note that $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ is an open cover of K in X .

Conclude that (K, d) is compact $\Leftrightarrow (K, d^Y)$ is compact.

Theorem

A compact subset K of a metric space (X, d) is closed & bounded.

Proof.

To see that K is closed, it suffices to check that $X \setminus K$ is open.

- Let $x \in X \setminus K$ and let $r_y = d(x, y)/2 > 0$ for every $y \in K$.
- $\{B_{r_y}(y) : y \in K\}$ is an open cover of K . So it admits a finite subcover $\{B_{r_{y_j}}(y_j) : j = 1, \dots, N\}$ (since K is compact).
- If $r = \min\{r_{y_1}, \dots, r_{y_N}\}$, then $B_r(x) \subseteq X \setminus K$. Indeed, if $y \in K \cap B_r(x)$, then $y \in B_{r_{y_j}}(y_j) \cap B_r(x)$ for some j , and hence $d(y, y_j) < d(x, y_j)/2$, $d(x, y) < r \leq d(x, y_j)/2$, $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$.

Thus x is an interior point of $X \setminus K$, and hence K is closed.

To see that K is bounded, let $x \in X$. Consider the open cover $\{B_r(x) \cap K : r > 0\}$ of K . Since K is compact, there exists $r > 0$ such that $K \subseteq B_r(x)$, and hence it is bounded. □

Example

Consider $X = \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : 1 < r^2 < 2\}$ with d being the relative metric induced by d_1 is not compact. Then

$$X = \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : 1 < |r| < \sqrt{2}\} = \left((1, \sqrt{2}) \cap \mathbb{Q}\right) \cup \left((-\sqrt{2}, -1) \cap \mathbb{Q}\right),$$

which is not closed in (\mathbb{Q}, d_1) .

Problem

Assume that $n \geq 2$. Show that $M_n(\mathbb{R}) \setminus GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is not compact as a metric space endowed with the (relative) metric

$$d : M_n(\mathbb{R}) \times M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ by } d(A, B) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n |a_{ij} - b_{ij}|.$$

Hint.

$M_n(\mathbb{R}) \setminus GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is closed in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ but not bounded. Indeed, there are diagonal matrices B in $M_n(\mathbb{R}) \setminus GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ for which $d(0, B)$ is of arbitrarily large magnitude provided $n > 1$. □

Problem

Consider \mathbb{C}^2 endowed with the metric

$$d((z, w), (z', w')) = (|z - z'|^2 + |w - w'|^2)^{1/2}, \quad (z, w), (z', w') \in \mathbb{C}^2.$$

Show that $\{(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : z^2 + w^2 = 1\}$ is not compact.

Hint.

Find $w \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $w^2 = 1 + n^2$. Thus, for $\iota = \sqrt{-1}$, we have $(\iota n, \sqrt{1 + n^2}) \in \{(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : z^2 + w^2 = 1\}$. □

Question What if $z^2 + w^2 - 1$ is replaced by any nonconstant polynomial in z, w ?

The answer is yes (this can be deduced from the Fundamental theorem of algebra).

Theorem

If (X, d) is compact, then every sequence in X has a convergent subsequence.

Proof.

We claim that an infinite subset A of X has a cluster point in X .

- Suppose A has no cluster point in X , that is, for every $x \in X$, there exists $r_x > 0$ such that $B_{r_x}(x) \cap A \subseteq \{x\}$.
- $\{B_{r_x}(x) : x \in X\}$ is an open cover for X , and hence X has finite subcover $\{B_{r_{x_j}}(x_j) : j = 1, \dots, N\}$.
- $A = \bigcup_{j=1}^N (B_{r_{x_j}}(x_j) \cap A) \subseteq \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$ is a finite set.

Applying the above fact to $A = \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$, we conclude that A has a cluster point in X . However, for every cluster point, there exists a sequence in A converging to this cluster point (see slide 62). \square

Let Y be a proper, closed subspace of a normed linear space X .

- Choose $x_1 \in X \setminus Y$, and note that $d(x_1, Y) > 0$.
- There exists $x_0 \in Y$ such that $\|x_1 - x_0\| < 2d(x_1, Y)$.
- Note that $\|x_1 - x_0\|y + x_0$ belongs to Y for any $y \in Y$.
- If $x = \frac{x_1 - x_0}{\|x_1 - x_0\|}$ (unit vector), then for any $y \in Y$,

$$\|x - y\| = \frac{\|x_1 - x_0 + \|x_1 - x_0\|y\|}{\|x_1 - x_0\|} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Thus there exists a unit vector $x \in X$ such that $d(x, Y) \geq 1/2$.

Theorem

If X is infinite dimensional, then unit sphere in X is not compact.

Proof.

- Let $x_1 \in X$ be a unit vector in X and let $X_1 := \text{span}\{x_1\}$.
- There exists $x_2 \in X$ such that $\|x_2\| = 1$ and $d(x_2, X_1) \geq 1/2$.
- Note that $x_2 \notin X_1$. Let $X_2 := \text{span}\{x_1, x_2\}$.
- There exists $x_3 \in X_2$ such that $\|x_3\| = 1$ and $d(x_3, X_2) \geq 1/2$.

Continuing this, we get $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ with no cgt subsequence. □

Definition

A metric space X is sequentially compact if every sequence in X has a subsequence convergent in X .

- A compact metric space is sequentially compact (slide 117).
- If X is sequentially compact and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous surjection, then Y is sequentially compact (if $\{y_n = f(x_n)\}_{n \geq 1}$ is given, then $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ has a convergent subsequence, and hence $\{f(x_n)\}_{n \geq 1}$ has a convergent subsequence).
- Every sequentially compact metric space is complete. Indeed, if $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence, then since $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ has a convergent subsequence, $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is convergent (slide 67).
- A complete metric space is not necessarily sequentially compact. For example, $\{n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in (\mathbb{R}, d_1) has no convergent subsequence.

Question What are all complete metric spaces which are also sequentially compact ?

Problem

Consider the vector space $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ of $n \times n$ matrices

$A = (a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ with real entries. For $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ (seen as a column vector), note that $AX \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Define

$$\|A\| = \sup_{X \in \mathbb{R}^n, \|X\|_2=1} \|AX\|_2, \quad A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}).$$

Verify the following:

1. $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\|)$ is a complete normed linear space.
2. $ISO = \{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) : \|AX\|_2 = \|X\|_2 \text{ for every } X \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$ is sequentially compact.

Hint.

Since $\|\cdot\|_2$ is a norm on \mathbb{R}^n , $\|\cdot\|$ defines a norm on $M_n(\mathbb{R}^n)$. To see that $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is complete, note that $f : M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow (R^{n^2}, \|\cdot\|_2)$ given by $f(A) = (a_{11}, \dots, a_{1n}, \dots, a_{n1}, \dots, a_{nn})$ is a **linear** homeomorphism (since $\|A_m - A\| \rightarrow 0$ if and only if (i,j) th entry of A_m converges to (i,j) th entry of A for every $1 \leq i,j \leq n$). To see 2, note that ISO is closed and bounded in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$. □

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $A \subseteq X$ be sequentially compact. Then, for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exist finitely many points $x_1, \dots, x_N \in X$ such that $A \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^N B_\epsilon(x_j)$.

Proof.

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and let $x_1 \in A$.

- If $A \subseteq B_\epsilon(x_1)$, then we are done.
- Otherwise, there exists $x_2 \in A \setminus B_\epsilon(x_1)$. Thus $d(x_1, x_2) \geq \epsilon$.
- If $A \subseteq B_\epsilon(x_1) \cup B_\epsilon(x_2)$, then we are done.
- Otherwise, there exists $x_3 \in A \setminus (B_\epsilon(x_1) \cup B_\epsilon(x_2))$. Thus $d(x_1, x_3) \geq \epsilon$ and $d(x_2, x_3) \geq \epsilon$.

Continuing this, we either have $A \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^N B_\epsilon(x_j)$ for some integer $N \geq 1$ or there exists a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ such that $d(x_n, x_m) \geq \epsilon$ for all positive integers $m \neq n$. The latter case does not arise since A is sequentially compact. □

Totally bounded spaces

Definition

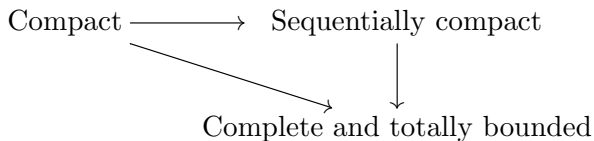
A metric space X is said to be totally bounded if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exist finitely many points $x_1, \dots, x_N \in X$ such that

$$X \subseteq \cup_{j=1}^N B_\epsilon(x_j).$$

- Unlike compactness and sequential compactness, total boundedness is not preserved under homeomorphism. To see this, note that $(0, 1)$ is totally bounded. Indeed, if choose an integer $N \geq 1$ such that $N\epsilon > 1$, then

$$(0, 1) \subseteq (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \cup (\epsilon/2, 3\epsilon/2) \cup (\epsilon, 3\epsilon) \cup \dots \cup (N\epsilon, (N+2)\epsilon).$$

On the other hand, \mathbb{R} is homeomorphic to $(0, 1)$, but it is not totally bounded.



(see slides 117, 119, 121)

Question Whether Sequentially Compact \Rightarrow Compact ?

Question Whether Complete and Totally bounded \Rightarrow Compact ?

- This will give complete the diagram!

Problem

Every totally bounded set is bounded.

Hint.

Note that union of finitely many open balls is contained in a single open ball of sufficiently large radius. □

Problem

Show that a subset of a totally bounded metric space is again totally bounded.

Solution.

Suppose X is totally bounded and $A \subseteq X$. Then, for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exist $x_1, \dots, x_N \in X$ such that $A \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^N B_{\epsilon/2}(x_j)$. For each j , choose $a_j \in A \cap B_{\epsilon/2}(x_j)$, and note that by the triangle inequality, $A \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^N B_{\epsilon}(a_j)$. □

Problem

Show that union of finitely many totally bounded sets is totally bounded.

Solution.

This follows from the definition. □

Problem

Show that every totally bounded metric space is separable.

Solution.

For every integer $k \geq 1$, there exist $x_1^{(k)}, \dots, x_{N_k}^{(k)} \in X$ such that $X \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^{N_k} B_{1/k}(x_j^{(k)})$. Clearly, $Y = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \{x_1^{(k)}, \dots, x_{N_k}^{(k)}\}$ is countable. Verify that Y is dense in X , that is, every ball of radius ϵ in X intersects Y non-trivially. □

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in X and let $A = \{x \in X : x = x_n \text{ for some } n \geq 1\}$. Then

- (1) If $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is Cauchy, then A is totally bounded.
- (2) If A is totally bounded, then $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ has a Cauchy subsequence.

Proof.

To see (1), let $\epsilon > 0$. Since $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is Cauchy, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that $d(x_n, x_m) < \epsilon$ for all $m, n \geq N$. Thus

$$A = \{x_1\} \cup \dots \cup \{x_{N-1}\} \cup \{x_n : n \geq N\} \subseteq B_\epsilon(x_1) \cup \dots \cup B_\epsilon(x_{N-1}) \cup B_\epsilon(x_N).$$

To see (2), we may assume that A is infinite (otherwise, $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is eventually constant, and hence it has a convergent sequence).

- Cover A by finitely many balls of radius 1, and at least one of these balls, say, A_1 contains infinitely many points in A .
- Cover A_1 by finitely many balls of radius $1/2$, and at least one of these balls, say, A_2 contains infinitely many points in A .

Proof continued ...

Continuing this, we obtain a decreasing sequence $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of balls A_n of radius $1/n$, where each A_n contains infinitely many points of A . Choose now a sequence $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ such that $x_{n_k} \in A_k$ and check that $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence. \square

Corollary

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Then X is totally bounded and complete if and only if it is sequentially compact.

Proof.

We have already seen \Leftarrow (see slides 119 and 121). To see \Rightarrow , let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be given and let

$$A = \{x \in X : x = x_n \text{ for some } n \geq 1\}.$$

Since X is totally bounded, so is A (see slide 124). By the last theorem, $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ has a Cauchy subsequence, say, $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$.

However, X is complete, so that $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ is convergent in X , and hence X is sequentially compact. \square

Example

Let H denote the space of all sequences in $[0, 1]$. Thus

$$H = \{x = \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} : 0 \leq x_n \leq 1 \text{ for every } n \geq 1\}.$$

One may think of H as the infinite product $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} [0, 1]$. Define $d : H \times H \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by

$$d(x, y) = \sup_{n \geq 1} \left(\frac{|x_n - y_n|}{2^n} \right), \quad x, y \in H.$$

- d is a metric. Indeed, $0 \leq d(x, y) \leq 1/2$, $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$, and $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$ for every $x, y, z \in H$.
- $d(x^{(n)}, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty \Leftrightarrow |x_k^{(n)} - x_k| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for every $k \geq 1$. The part \Rightarrow is clear. To see \Leftarrow , choose $N \geq 2$ such that $2^{-N} \leq \epsilon/4$, and choose $N_0 \geq 1$ such that $|x_k^{(n)} - x_k| < \epsilon/2$ for all $k = 1, \dots, N-1$ and for all $n \geq N_0$.

Example (Continued ...)

- Let $r > 0$ and $x \in H$. Let $N \geq 2$ be such that $2^N r > 2$. Then

$$B_r(x) = \{y \in H : d(x, y) < r\} = \{y \in H : \sup_{n \geq 1} \left(\frac{|x_n - y_n|}{2^n} \right) < r\}$$

$$\subseteq \{y \in H : |x_n - y_n| < 2^n r \text{ for every } n \geq 1\}$$

$$= \{y \in H : |x_n - y_n| < 2^n r \text{ for } n = 1, \dots, N-1\}.$$

$$\implies B_r(x) = \{y \in H : |x_n - y_n| < 2^n r \text{ for } n = 1, \dots, N-1\}.$$

Thus the open ball $B_r(x)$ in H is of the form

$$B_{2r}(x_1) \times \cdots \times B_{2^{N-1}r}(x_{N-1}) \times [0, 1] \times \cdots.$$

We claim that H is sequentially compact. It suffices to check that H is complete and totally bounded.

Example (Continued ...)

- The Hilbert cube H is totally bounded.

Let $\epsilon > 0$. Find an integer $N \geq 1$ such that $2^N \epsilon > 2$. Then, by the discussion on the previous slide, the ball $B_\epsilon(x)$ is of the form

$$B_{2\epsilon}(x_1) \times \cdots \times B_{2^{N-1}\epsilon}(x_{N-1}) \times [0, 1] \times \cdots .$$

Since $[0, 1]$ is totally bounded, for every $j = 1, \dots, N-1$, it can be covered by finitely many balls (intervals) of the form $B_{2^j\epsilon}(x_{ij})$ (with finitely choices of $i = 1, \dots, N_j$). If one takes the product

$$B_{2\epsilon}(x_{i_1 1}) \times \cdots \times B_{2^{N-1}\epsilon}(x_{i_{N-1} N-1}) \times [0, 1] \times \cdots ,$$

then H can be covered by finitely many balls of radius ϵ .

Example (Continued ...)

- The Hilbert cube H is complete.

To see that H is complete, let $\{x^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 1}$ be Cauchy in H .

- Note that $d(x^{(n)}, x^{(m)}) \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ if and only if $|x_k^{(n)} - x_k^{(m)}| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for every $k \geq 1$.
- Since \mathbb{R} is complete, $\{x_k^{(n)}\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges to some x_k in \mathbb{R} for every $k \geq 1$.
- Note that $x = \{x_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ belongs to H . It follows from the discussion on slide 128 that $d(x^{(n)}, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Since complete and totally bounded metric space is sequentially compact, the discussion above shows that the Hilbert cube H is indeed sequentially compact.

Problem

Show that $\{x = \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} : -1 \leq x_n \leq 1 \text{ for every } n \geq 1\}$ as a subset of l^∞ is not compact.

Problem

Give an example of infinite sequentially compact subset of l^∞ .

Solution.

Let $K = \{x = \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} : 0 \leq x_n \leq 1/2^n \text{ for every } n \geq 1\}$ and note that $f : H \rightarrow l^\infty$ given by

$$f(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, \}) = \{x_1/2, x_2/4, x_3/8, \dots, \}$$

satisfies $\|f(x) - f(y)\|_\infty = d(x, y)$. Thus f is continuous, and since H is sequentially compact, so is $f(H)$. However, $f(H) = K$ is a subset of l^∞ . □

The above example provides an infinite compact subset of l^∞ .

Theorem

A sequentially compact metric space is compact.

Proof.

Let $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ be an open cover of X . For $x \in X$, let $r_x = \sup\{r \in \mathbb{R} : B_r(x) \subseteq U_\alpha \text{ for some } \alpha\}$ ($< \infty$ since X is bounded).

- For $\epsilon = \inf\{r_x : x \in X\}$, there is $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ such that $r_{x_n} \rightarrow \epsilon$.
- By sequential compactness, $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ converges to $x \in X$.
- $x \in U_\alpha$ for some α , and hence $B_r(x) \subseteq U_\alpha$ for some $r > 0$.
- If $d(x_{n_k}, x) < r/2$ for all large k , then $r_{x_k} > r/2$. Thus $\epsilon > 0$.
- Let $x_1 \in X$. Either $X = B_{\epsilon/2}(x_1) \subseteq U_\alpha$ for some α or there exists $x_2 \in X \setminus B_{\epsilon/2}(x_1)$.
- Either $X = B_{\epsilon/2}(x_1) \cup B_{\epsilon/2}(x_2) \subseteq U_\alpha \cup U_\beta$ for some α, β or there exists $x_3 \in X \setminus (B_{\epsilon/2}(x_1) \cup B_{\epsilon/2}(x_2))$.

One may continue this. However, this process ends in finitely many steps (otherwise we will get a sequence without a convergent subsequence contradicting sequential compactness). □

Problem

Let (X, d) , (Y, ρ) be two metric spaces. For $(x_j, y_j) \in X \times Y$ define $D((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = \max\{d(x_1, x_2), \rho(y_1, y_2)\}$, Verify:

1. D defines a metric on $X \times Y$.
2. If X and Y are compact, then so is $X \times Y$.

Hint.

For 2, it suffices to check that $X \times Y$ is sequentially compact.

- Let $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in $X \times Y$, Then $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq X$ and $\{y_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq Y$.
- Since X is sequential compact, $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ is convergent.
- Now $\{y_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1} \subseteq Y$, so by the sequential compactness of Y , $\{y_{n_{k_l}}\}_{l \geq 1}$ is convergent.

Thus $\{x_{n_{k_l}}\}_{l \geq 1}$ and $\{y_{n_{k_l}}\}_{l \geq 1}$ are convergent. Then $\{(x_{n_{k_l}}, y_{n_{k_l}})\}_{l \geq 1}$ is convergent in $X \times Y$. So $X \times Y$ is sequentially compact. \square

Question Can you say that X and Y are compact if so is $X \times Y$?

One may define sum of two subsets A and B of \mathbb{R}^n as

$$A + B = \{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

Problem

Let A be closed, B be compact in \mathbb{R}^n . Show that $A + B$ is closed.

Solution.

Let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in $A + B$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$ in \mathbb{R}^n .

- Thus $x_n = a_n + b_n$ for some $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq A$ and $\{b_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq B$.
- $\{b_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ converges to $b \in B$ (B is sequentially compact).
- $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ converges to x , and $\{a_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ converges to $a \in A$ (difference of cgt sequences is cgt and A is closed).

Thus $x = a + b$ for $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. Hence $A + B$ contains all its limit points showing that it is closed. □

Problem

Let A and B be compact in \mathbb{R}^n . Show that $A + B$ is compact.

Problem

Give an example of two closed sets whose sum is not closed.

Corollary (Lebesgue covering lemma)

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space. Let $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ be an open cover of X . Then there is a $\delta > 0$ such that if $A \subseteq X$ with $\text{diam}(A) < \delta$, then there is $\alpha \in I$ such that $A \subseteq U_\alpha$.

Proof.

Suppose there is no $\delta > 0$ with the above property.

- For a positive integer n , letting $\delta = 1/n$, there exists $A_n \subseteq X$ with $\text{diam}(A_n) < 1/n$, then $A_n \not\subseteq U_\alpha$ for every $\alpha \in I$.
- Choose any $x_n \in A_n$ and note that $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ has a subsequence $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ converging to some $x \in X$ (by compactness of X).
- $x \in U_\alpha$ for some $\alpha \in I$ (since $\{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$: open cover of X).
- Since U_α is open, $B_r(x) \subseteq U_\alpha$ for some $r > 0$.
- Find $k \geq 1$ such that $n_k r > 2$ and $x_{n_k} \in B_{r/2}(x)$.
- Now if $a \in A_{n_k}$, then $d(x, a) \leq d(x, x_{n_k}) + d(x_{n_k}, a) < r$.

This shows that A_{n_k} is contained in $B_r(x) \subseteq U_\alpha$, $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$.



Lebesgue number

Definition

Let $\mathcal{U} = \{U_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ be an open cover of (X, d) . A real number $\delta > 0$ is said to be *Lebesgue number* for \mathcal{U} if $A \subseteq X$ with diameter $\text{diam}(A) < \delta$, then there is $\alpha \in I$ such that $A \subseteq U_\alpha$.

Example

Consider the metric space $[0, 1]$ with relative metric induced by d_1 . Let $\delta > 0$ be given. We claim that the Lebesgue number for the open covering $\mathcal{U} = \{[0, \delta)\} \cup \{(1/n, 1] : n \geq 1\}$ of $[0, 1]$ equals δ .⁷

- If N is a positive integer such that $1/N < \delta$ (which exists by AP), then $\{[0, \delta), (1/N, 1]\}$ is a finite open subcover of $[0, 1]$.
- Let A be such that $\text{diam}(A) < \delta$. Then either $A \subseteq [0, \delta)$ or $A \cap [\delta, 1] \neq \emptyset$. Let $a \in A$ be such that $a \geq \delta$.
- If $A \not\subseteq (1/n, 1]$ for any $n \geq 1$, (so $a > \delta$) then there is $a_M \in A$ such that $a_M \leq 1/M < a - \delta < a$. Thus $\text{diam}(A) > \delta \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

⁷

I thought for a moment that there is a glitch but this calculation is fine.

Continuous functions on compact metric spaces

Theorem

If f is a continuous function from a compact metric space (X, d) to any other metric space (Y, ρ) , then $f(X)$ is bounded.

Proof.

Fix $y_0 \in Y$ and write $Y = \cup_{n \geq 1} B_n^\rho(y_0)$.

- $f^{-1}(B_n^\rho(y_0))$ is open for every $n \geq 1$ (since f is continuous).
- $X = \cup_{n \geq 1} f^{-1}(B_n^\rho(y_0))$.
- Since X is compact, there exist positive integers n_1, \dots, n_k such that $X = \cup_{j=1}^k f^{-1}(B_{n_j}^\rho(y_0))$.

Let $N = \max\{n_1, \dots, n_k\}$ and note that $X = f^{-1}(B_N^\rho(y_0))$. Thus $f(X) \subseteq B_N^\rho(y_0)$ is bounded. □

- Let $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Then $\sup_{x \in X} f(x)$ and $\inf_{x \in X} f(x)$ exist. Can we find x_0 and x_1 in X such that $\sup_{x \in X} f(x) = f(x_0)$ and $\inf_{x \in X} f(x) = f(x_1)$?

Suppose that there is no $x_0 \in X$ such that $M = f(x_0)$, where $M = \sup_{x \in X} f(x)$. Thus $f(x') < \sup_{x \in X} f(x)$ for every $x' \in X$.

- $\{x' \in X : f(x') < M - 1/n\}$ is an open subset of X .
- $X = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \{x' \in X : f(x') < M - 1/n\}$.
- There exist positive integers n_1, \dots, n_k such that

$$X = \bigcup_{j=1}^k \{x' \in X : f(x') < M - 1/n_j\}.$$

- $X = \{x' \in X : f(x') < M - 1/N\}$ with $N = \max\{n_1, \dots, n_k\}$.

This would imply that $f(x) < M - 1/N$ for every $x \in X$, and hence $M < M - 1/N \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

- Similarly, one can see that there exists $x_1 \in X$ such that $\inf_{x \in X} f(x) = f(x_1)$ (Exercise).

Problem

Let X be a compact metric space. Then there exists no continuous map from X onto $(0, 1)$.

Theorem (Criterion for homeomorphism)

Let X, Y be metric spaces and let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a bijective continuous map. If X is compact, then f is a homeomorphism.

Proof.

To check that f^{-1} is continuous, let A be a closed subset of X .

- A is compact (being closed subset of a compact space X).
- $f(A)$ is compact (continuous image of a compact space).
- $f(A)$ is closed (compact subset of a metric space is closed).

Thus continuous image of a closed set is closed. Hence f^{-1} is continuous. □

Problem

Let X be a normed linear space with two norms $\| \cdot \|$ and $\| \cdot \|'$. Let Y be a compact subset of X . If there exists $M > 0$ such that $\|x\| \leq M\|x\|'$ for every $x \in Y$, then show that $(Y, \| \cdot \|)$ and $(Y, \| \cdot \|')$ are homeomorphic.

Theorem

Any continuous function f from a compact metric space (X, d) to any other metric space (Y, ρ) is uniformly continuous.

Proof.

Since f is continuous at x , given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta_x > 0$ such that $\rho(f(x), f(x')) < \epsilon/2$ whenever $x' \in X$ and $d(x, x') < \delta_x$.

- $\{B_{\delta_x}(x) : x \in X\}$ is an open cover of X .
- There is a $\delta > 0$ (Lebesgue number) such that if $A \subseteq X$ with diameter $\text{diam}(A) < \delta$, then there is $x \in X$ such that $A \subseteq B_{\delta_x}(x)$ (by Lebesgue covering lemma).
- If $x_1, x_2 \in X$ are such that $d(x_1, x_2) < \delta$, then apply the above to $A = \{x_1, x_2\}$, we get $x \in X$ such that $\{x_1, x_2\} \subseteq B_{\delta_x}(x)$.

Thus $d(x_1, x) < \delta_x$ and $d(x_2, x) < \delta_x$. Hence, by continuity at x , $\rho(f(x_1), f(x_2)) \leq \rho(f(x_1), f(x)) + \rho(f(x_2), f(x)) < \epsilon$. □

Example

Let $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded, continuous function, which is monotonically increasing.

- $\inf_{x \in (0,1)} f(x)$ and $\sup_{x \in [0,1]} f(x)$ exist (since f is bounded).
- Define $g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } x \in (0, 1), \\ \inf_{x \in (0,1)} f(x) & \text{if } x = 0, \\ \sup_{x \in [0,1]} f(x) & \text{if } x = 1. \end{cases}$$

Note that $g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function (since f is increasing), and hence it is uniformly continuous.

- One can not drop the assumption of boundedness in the above example (e.g. $f(x) = 1/x$, $x \in (0, 1)$).

Problem

Given (X, d) , (Y, ρ) , such that X is compact, verify:

- (1) $\sup_{x \in X} \rho(f(x), y) < \infty$ for any $y \in Y$.
- (2) Consider $C(X, Y) = \{f : X \rightarrow Y : f \text{ is continuous}\}$. Define

$$D(f, g) = \sup_{x \in X} \rho(f(x), g(x)), \quad f, g \in C(X, Y).$$

Then $(C(X, Y), D)$ is a metric space.

Hint.

For a positive integer k , define $U_k = \{x \in X : \rho(f(x), y) < k\}$. Verify that $\{U_k : k \geq 1\}$ is an open cover of X . Now (1) follows from the compactness of X .

By (1) and the triangle inequality, $D(f, g) < \infty$ for every $f, g \in C(X, Y)$. Since ρ is a metric, so is D . □

Theorem

Let (X, d) , (Y, ρ) be metric spaces and X be compact. If Y is complete, then $C(X, Y)$ is complete.

Proof.

Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a Cauchy sequence in $C(X, Y)$, that is, given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that $D(f_n, f_m) < \epsilon/3$ for every $m, n \geq N$.

- For every $x \in X$, $\{f_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence in Y .
- For every $x \in X$, $\{f_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges to some $f(x) \in Y$.
- $\rho(f_n(x), f_m(x)) < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$, $m, n \geq N \Rightarrow \rho(f(x), f_m(x)) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}$, $m \geq N$

To see that $f \in C(X, Y)$, note that for any $x, x' \in X$,

$$\rho(f(x), f(x')) \leq \rho(f(x), f_N(x)) + \rho(f_N(x), f_N(x')) + \rho(f_N(x'), f(x')),$$

which is $\leq 2\epsilon/3 + \rho(f_N(x), f_N(x'))$. However, f_N is continuous and X is compact, so that for some $\delta > 0$,

$$\rho(f_N(x), f_N(x')) < \epsilon/3 \text{ whenever } d(x, x') < \delta.$$

Thus $\rho(f(x), f(x')) < \epsilon$ whenever $d(x, x') < \delta$.



Corollary

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and consider

$$C(X) = \{f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f \text{ is continuous}\}.$$

If $\|f\|_{\infty} = \sup_{x \in X} |f(x)|$, $f \in C(X)$, then $C(X)$ is a complete normed linear space with $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$.

The rest of the notes is devoted to the study of this metric space.

- What are compact subsets of $C(X)$? (Arzela-Ascoli Theorem)
- Whether $C(X)$ is separable ? (Weierstrass Theorem)
- Is there any proper clopen subset of $C(X)$?

Answer to the last question is No (Why ?)

Totally bounded subsets of $C(X)$

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and let \mathcal{F} be a totally bounded subset of $C(X)$. Then for each $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ whenever $x, y \in X$ and $d(x, y) < \delta$.

Proof.

Let $\epsilon > 0$. Then

- there exist $f_1, \dots, f_N \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^N B_{\epsilon/3}(f_j)$.
- there exists $\delta_j > 0$ such that $|f_j(x) - f_j(y)| < \epsilon/3$ whenever $d(x, y) < \delta_j$ (since each f_j is uniformly continuous; slide 141).

If $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \dots, \delta_N\}$ and $d(x, y) < \delta$, then any $f \in \mathcal{F}$ lies in some ball $B_{\epsilon}(f_j)$, and hence

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq |f(x) - f_j(x)| + |f_j(x) - f_j(y)| + |f_j(y) - f(y)| < \epsilon. \quad \square$$

Definition

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and let \mathcal{F} be a subset of $C(X)$. We say that \mathcal{F} is equicontinuous if for each $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ whenever $x, y \in X$ and $d(x, y) < \delta$.

- Every compact subset of $C(X)$ is equicontinuous (since compact metric space is totally bounded; see slides 121 and 133).

Question What are all compact subsets of $C(X)$?

- A compact subset of $C(X)$ is closed and bounded (see slide 114).

Question Are equicontinuous, closed and bounded subsets of $C(X)$ all compact subsets of $C(X)$?

Theorem (Generalized Arzela-Ascoli Theorem)

Suppose that (X, d) is a compact metric space and let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in $C(X)$ such that

- (A) $\sup_{n \geq 1} |f_n(x)| < \infty$ for every $x \in X$,
- (B) for each $\epsilon > 0$ and $x \in X$, there exists $\delta_x > 0$ such that $\sup_{n \geq 1} |f_n(x) - f_n(y)| < \epsilon$ whenever $y \in X$ and $d(x, y) < \delta_x$.

Then there exist a subsequence $\{f_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ of $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ and $f \in C(X)$ such that $\|f_{n_k} - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Remark Let \mathcal{F} be a subset of $C(X)$.

- If \mathcal{F} is bounded, then any sequence $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ in \mathcal{F} satisfies (A).
- Condition (B) is the "equicontinuity" of $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ at x .
- If all sequences in \mathcal{F} satisfy (A) and (B), then \mathcal{F} is compact.

Corollary (Arzela-Ascoli Theorem)

A subset \mathcal{F} of $C(X)$ is (sequentially) compact if and only if it is closed, bounded and equicontinuous.

Proof of Generalized Arzela-Ascoli Theorem.

The proof is divided into two steps:

Step 1

- Let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a countable dense subset of X (a compact metric space is separable; see slide 125).
- There exists a convergent subsequence $\{f_{n_k}(x_1)\}_{k \geq 1}$ of the bounded sequence $\{f_n(x_1)\}_{n \geq 1}$ (use (A) and H-B Theorem)
- There exists a convergent subsequence $\{f_{n_{k_l}}(x_2)\}_{l \geq 1}$ of the bounded sequence $\{f_{n_k}(x_2)\}_{k \geq 1}$ (use (A) and H-B Theorem)
- $\{f_{n_{k_l}}(x_1)\}_{l \geq 1}$ is convergent (subsequence of a convergent sequence is convergent)

Continuing this, we obtain a subsequence $\{f_{n_k}\}_{k \geq 1}$ such that $\{f_{n_k}(x_j)\}_{k \geq 1}$ is convergent for every $j \geq 1$ (form the set $\{n_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ by picking up first element in first subsequence, second element in second subsequence and so on). □

Proof of Generalized Arzela-Ascoli Theorem continued ...

Step 2 Let δ_x be as given in (B).

- There exist $a_1, \dots, a_m \in X$ such that $X = \bigcup_{k=1}^m B_{\delta_{a_k}}(a_k)$ (since $X = \bigcup_{a \in X} B_{\delta_a}(a)$ and X is compact)
- Choose $y_k \in B_{\delta_{a_k}}(a_k) \cap \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ and let $N \geq 1$ be such that $|f_{n_i}(y_k) - f_{n_j}(y_k)| < \epsilon$ for $i, j \geq N$ and $k = 1, \dots, m$ (Step 1)
- If $x \in X$, then $x \in B_{\delta_{a_k}}(a_k)$ for some $k = 1, \dots, m$.

Note that for $i, j \geq N$, (use (B) four times)

$$\begin{aligned} |f_{n_i}(x) - f_{n_j}(x)| &\leq |f_{n_i}(x) - f_{n_i}(a_k)| + |f_{n_i}(a_k) - f_{n_i}(y_k)| + |f_{n_i}(y_k) - f_{n_j}(y_k)| \\ &\quad + |f_{n_j}(y_k) - f_{n_j}(a_k)| + |f_{n_j}(a_k) - f_{n_j}(x)| \leq 5\epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the sequence $\{f_{n_j}\}_{j \geq 1}$ is Cauchy in $C(X)$. Since $C(X)$ is complete, $\{f_{n_j}\}_{j \geq 1}$ is convergent. □

Problem

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and let $F : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. For $y \in X$, define $f_y(x) = F(x, y)$. Show that the family $\{f_y\}_{y \in X}$ is bounded and equicontinuous.

Solution.

Note that $\|f_y\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in X} |F(x, y)| \leq \|F\|_\infty < \infty$ (since F is continuous and $X \times X$ is compact; see slide 134). Thus $\sup_{y \in X} \|f_y\|_\infty < \infty$, and hence $\{f_y\}_{y \in X}$ is bounded.

Since F is continuous on a compact metric space, F is uniformly continuous. Thus, for given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|f_y(x) - f_{y'}(x')| < \epsilon$ whenever $x, x', y, y' \in X$, $d(x, x') < \delta$ and $d(y, y') < \delta$. Let $y' = y$. □

- By (Generalized) Arzela-Ascoli Theorem, any sequence in $\{f_y\}_{y \in X}$ has a subsequence convergent in $C(X)$.

Connected metric spaces

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space. We say that X is connected if the only subsets of X , which are both open and closed are \emptyset and X .

Example

We check that \mathbb{R} is connected. Write $\mathbb{R} = A \sqcup B$ (disjoint union) for nonempty, open sets A and B . Let $a \in A$, $b \in B$ with $a < b$.

- $[a, b] = A_0 \sqcup B_0$, where $A_0 = A \cap [a, b]$ and $B_0 = B \cap [a, b]$.
- Let $c = \sup A_0 \in [a, b]$. Thus either $c \in A_0$ or $c \in B_0$.
- If $c \in A_0$ then either $c = a$ or $a < c < b$ (since A is closed).
- Since A is open, there is $r > 0$ such that $[c, c + r) \subseteq A$.

This contradicts that $c = \sup A_0$. Similarly, prove that $c \notin B_0$.

Problem

Show that for any $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{a\}$ is not connected.

Example

Any normed linear space X over \mathbb{R} is connected. To see this, assume that $X = A \sqcup B$ such that A and B are open subsets of X . We claim that one of the A and B is empty. If not, then for $a \in A$ and $b \in B$, consider $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ given by

$$f(t) = (1 - t)a + tb, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then $f(0) = a$ and $f(1) = b$. Since f is continuous, $f^{-1}(A)$ and $f^{-1}(B)$ are open subsets of \mathbb{R} . Since these are proper and disjoint, we arrive at the conclusion that \mathbb{R} is not connected $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

Example

The space \mathbb{Q} is not connected. In fact, for any irrational $x \in \mathbb{R}$, the set $[-x, x] \cap \mathbb{Q} = (-x, x) \cap \mathbb{Q}$ is both open and closed in \mathbb{Q} .

Theorem

Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous. If X is connected, then so is $f(X)$.

Proof.

Suppose $f(X)$ has a nonempty open and closed subset, say, U . Then $f^{-1}(U)$ is an open and closed subset of X . However, X is connected, so $f^{-1}(U) = \emptyset$ or $f^{-1}(U) = X$. Since $f^{-1}(U) \neq \emptyset$, we conclude that $f^{-1}(U) = X$, and hence $U = f(X)$. □

• A path connecting points x, y is a continuous function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow X$ such that $f(a) = x$ and $f(b) = y$. Since $[a, b]$ is connected, so is $f([a, b])$.

Problem

Show that union of line segments L_1, \dots, L_m in a normed linear space is connected if $L_1 \cap L_2 \neq \emptyset, L_2 \cap L_3 \neq \emptyset, \dots, L_m \cap L_1 \neq \emptyset$.

Example

Let us see that $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ is connected. Suppose there exists a proper set U which is both open and closed in $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$.

- Let $x \in U$ and $y \in (\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}) \setminus U$.
- x and y can be connected by union L of line segments.
- L contains open and closed proper subset $L \cap U$.

However, L being connected, $L \cap U = L$ or $L \cap U = \emptyset \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

Example

The unit sphere $S^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x\|_2 = 1\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n is connected. Indeed, $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ is connected and $g : \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow S^n$ given by

$$g(x) = x/\|x\|_2, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$$

is a continuous surjection.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $A \subseteq X$. If A is connected and B is a set such that $A \subseteq B \subseteq \overline{A}$, then B is also connected.

Proof.

Let $B = C \sqcup D$ for open sets C and D .

- $A = (A \cap C) \sqcup (A \cap D)$ for open sets $A \cap C$ and $A \cap D$.
- Since A is connected, either $A \cap C = \emptyset$ or $A \subseteq C$.
- Thus either $A \subseteq C$ or $A \subseteq D$.
- Since C and D are closed in B , we obtain $\overline{A} \cap B \subseteq C$ or $\overline{A} \cap B \subseteq D$

It follows that either $C = B$ or $D = B$. However, in this case, either $C = \emptyset$ or $D = \emptyset$, which shows that B is connected. □

Corollary

The closure of a connected set is connected.

Example (Topologist's sine curve)

Consider the continuous function $s : (0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ given by

$$s(x) = \sin(1/x), \quad x \in (0, 1].$$

Let S denote the graph of s given by

$$S = \{(x, s(x)) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \in (0, 1]\}.$$

Note that $S = f((0, 1])$, where $f(x) = (x, s(x))$ is a continuous function. Thus S is connected, and hence \overline{S} is also connected.

The metric space \overline{S} (with relative metric induced by d_2) is commonly known as the topologist's sine curve.

Path-connected metric spaces

Definition

Let (X, d) be a metric space. We say that X is path-connected if for any two points $x, y \in X$, there exists a continuous function $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ such that $f(0) = x$ and $f(1) = y$.

Remark If U is path-connected then for open sets V, W of U such that $U = V \sqcup W$ and for any path f in U , the range of f being the continuous image of the connected set $[0, 1]$ is connected, and hence lies entirely either in V or W . This shows that one of V, W must be empty, that is, U is connected.

Problem

Show that the complement of any countable subset \mathcal{C} in \mathbb{R}^2 is path-connected.

Hint.

Given $p, q \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}$, consider the uncountable set \mathcal{F} given by $\{f : f \text{ is a path connecting } p \text{ and } q\}$.



Example (Comb space)

Let K denote the set $\{1/n : n \geq 1\}$ and consider

$$E = ([0, 1] \times \{0\}) \cup (K \times [0, 1]) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2.$$

- E is path-connected (see diagram).

The comb space \mathcal{C} is defined to be the space $E \cup (\{0\} \times [0, 1])$.

- \mathcal{C} is also connected (since E is connected and $\overline{E} = \mathcal{C}$)

The deleted comb space \mathcal{C}_0 is defined as $E \cup \{(0, 1)\}$.

- \mathcal{C}_0 is connected (since $E \subseteq \mathcal{C}_0 \subseteq \overline{E}$)
- \mathcal{C}_0 is not path-connected (since there is no path which connects the points $p = (0, 1)$ and $q = (1, 0)$)

Theorem

The deleted comb space is not path-connected.

Proof.

Suppose, contrary to this, that there is a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0$ such that $\gamma(0) = p$ and $\gamma(1) = q$.

- $\gamma^{-1}(\{p\})$ is a closed subset of $[0, 1]$. and hence it is compact. Let $t_0 \in [0, 1]$ be its maximum.
- Consider the projection $P_1(x, y) = x$ of \mathbb{R}^2 onto the X -axis.
- Let $\{t_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq (t_0, 1]$ be a sequence converging to t_0 .

If, for every $n \geq 1$, there exists $t_0 < s_n < t_n$ such that $\gamma(s_n) = (x_n, 0)$ for some $x_n \in [0, 1] \setminus K$, then $\{s_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges to t_0 , by the continuity, $(x_n, 0) = \gamma(s_n) \rightarrow \gamma(t_0) = p = (0, 1) \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

- There exists $t_1 \in (t_0, 1]$ such that $(P_1 \circ \gamma)(t_0, t_1) \subseteq K$.
- $(P_1 \circ \gamma)(t_0, t_1)$ is a connected subset of K containing 1 (wlog)

Thus $(P_1 \circ \gamma)(t_0, t_1) = \{1\}$. By continuity, $(P_1 \circ \gamma)[t_0, t_1] = \{1\}$, which is impossible since $(P_1 \circ \gamma)(t_0) = 0$. □

Theorem

Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous surjection. If X is path-connected, then so is Y .

Proof.

Let $y_0, y_1 \in Y$. Let $x_0, x_1 \in X$ be such that $f(x_0) = y_0$ and $f(x_1) = y_1$. If γ is a path connecting x_0 and x_1 , then $f \circ \gamma$ is a path connecting y_0 and y_1 . □

If p is a polynomial in the real variables x_1, \dots, x_n and $Z(p) = \{x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^d : p(x) = 0\}$, then $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus Z(p)$ is not necessarily path-connected.

- If $p(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 1$, then $Z(p)$ is equal to

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}.$$

Clearly, $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus Z(p)$ is not connected.

Corollary

If p is a polynomial in the complex variables z_1, \dots, z_n and $Z(p) = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n : p(z) = 0\}$, then $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus Z(p)$ is path-connected.

Proof.

Let $z, w \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus Z(p)$. Consider the straight-line path

$$\gamma(t) = (1 - t)z + tw, \quad t \in \mathbb{C}.$$

- $Z = \{t \in \mathbb{C} : \gamma(t) \in Z(p)\}$ is the set of zeros of $p \circ \gamma$
- Z is a finite subset of \mathbb{C} ($p \circ \gamma$ is a polynomial in one variable)
- $\mathbb{C} \setminus Z$ is path-connected (see slide 158)
- γ maps $\mathbb{C} \setminus Z$ continuously into $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus Z(p)$

In particular, z and w belong to the path-connected subset $\gamma(\mathbb{C} \setminus Z)$ of $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus Z(p)$.



Example

The general linear group $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ of all invertible $n \times n$ matrices with complex entries is path-connected.

- Define $f : GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n^2}$ by

$$f(A) = (a_{11}, \dots, a_{1n}, \dots, a_{n1}, \dots, a_{nn}), \quad A \in GL_n(\mathbb{C}).$$

- f is a (linear) homeomorphism
- f maps $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ onto $\mathbb{C}^{n^2} \setminus Z(\det)$, where \det is the complex polynomial in the variables a_{ij} , $1 \leq i, j \leq n$, which sends $f(A)$ to the determinant of A

Thus $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ is path-connected (since so is $\mathbb{C}^{n^2} \setminus Z(\det)$).

Problem

Show that $GL_n(\mathbb{R})$ is not connected.

Problem

For an open subset U of \mathbb{R}^n , show that U is connected if and only if U is path-connected.

Solution.

We have already seen that path-connected space is connected. To see the converse, consider for any $p \in U$, the set

$$S = \{x \in U : \text{there is a path connecting } p \text{ and } x\}.$$

We claim that S is the whole of U .

- S is nonempty (since $p \in U$)
- S is open (if $x \in S$ and $B_r(x) \subseteq U$ for some $r > 0$, then any $y \in B_r(x)$ can be connected to x and x can be connected to p , so y can be connected to $p \Rightarrow B_r(x) \subseteq S$)
- S is closed (let $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in S converging to x , connect x and x_N (for large N) and x_N to p)

Since U is connected, $S = U$.



Pointwise convergence

Example

For $n \geq 1$, consider the function $f_n(x) = x^n$ for $x \in [0, 1]$. Note that $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges pointwise to f , where $f(x) = 0$ for $x \in [0, 1)$ and $f(1) = 1$. Thus the pointwise limit of a sequence of continuous functions is not necessarily continuous.

Problem

For $m \geq 1$, consider the function $f_m(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos(m! \pi x))^n$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Verify the following:

- (1) $\{f_m\}_{m \geq 1}$ converges pointwise to f , where $f(x) = 0$ if $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$, and $f(x) = 1$ for $x \in \mathbb{Q}$.
- (2) f is discontinuous everywhere.

Hint.

If $x = p/q \in (0, 1)$, $q \neq 0$ then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos(m! \pi x))^n = 1$ for every $m \geq q$, and hence $f(p/q) = 1$. If $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$, then $\cos(m! \pi x) < 1$, and hence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos(m! \pi x))^n = 0$ and $f(x) = 0$. □

For a metric space (X, d) , consider the vector space *problem* of all bounded functions $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

- $B(X)$ is a normed linear space with norm $\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in X} |f(x)|$

Theorem

$B(X)$ is a complete normed linear space.

Proof.

Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a Cauchy sequence in $B(X)$.

- $\sup_{n \geq 1} \|f_n\|_\infty < \infty$ (every Cauchy sequence is bounded)
- For any $x \in X$, $\{f_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$ is Cauchy. Indeed,

$$|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq \|f_m - f_n\|_\infty, \quad m, n \geq 1$$

- Define $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x)$, $x \in X$
- $f \in B(X)$ (since $\|f\|_\infty \leq \|f_m - f_n\|_\infty + \|f_n\|_\infty$)

Given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that $\|f_m - f_n\|_\infty < \epsilon$ for all $m, n \geq N$. Thus for every $x \in X$, $|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq \epsilon$ for every $m, n \geq N$. Now let $n \rightarrow \infty$ and take supremum over X . □

Problem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and fix $z \in X$. For every $x \in X$, define $f_x(y) = d(x, y) - d(y, z)$. Verify the following:

- (1) For each $x \in X$, $f_x \in B(X)$.
- (2) $F : X \rightarrow B(X)$ by $F(x) = f_x$ satisfies $\|F(x)\|_\infty \leq d(x, z)$.
- (3) For every $x, y \in X$, $\|F(x) - F(y)\|_\infty = d(x, y)$.

Conclude that X is homeomorphic to $(F(X), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$.

Solution.

(1) follows from $|f_x(y)| \leq d(x, z)$, while (2) follows from (1). To see (3), note that for any $x, y \in X$, by the triangle inequality,

$$\|F(x) - F(y)\|_\infty = \sup_{w \in X} |d(x, w) - d(y, w)| \leq d(x, y).$$

Since $|f_x(x) - f_y(x)| = |-d(x, z) - d(y, x) + d(x, z)| = d(x, y)$, (3) follows. □

- The subspace $\overline{F(X)}$ of $B(X)$ is said to be the completion of X .

Uniform convergence

Let (X, d) be a metric space. For $n \geq 1$, let $f_n, f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be such that $f_n - f \in B(X)$. The sequence $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges uniformly to f if

$$\|f_n - f\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in X} |f_n(x) - f(x)| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space. Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of continuous functions on X . If $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges uniformly to f on X , then f is continuous.

Proof.

This follows from the fact that $C(X)$ is complete metric space. \square

- In general, pointwise convergence \nRightarrow uniform convergence

Theorem

Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of continuous functions. If $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges uniformly to f on $[a, b]$ then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

Proof.

Note that $|\int_a^b f_n(x) dx - \int_a^b f(x) dx| = |\int_a^b (f_n(x) - f(x)) dx| \leq \int_a^b |f_n(x) - f(x)| dx \leq \|f_n - f\|_{\infty} (b - a).$



Problem

For $n \geq 1$, consider the function $f_n(x) = nx(1 - x^2)^n$ for $x \in [0, 1]$. Verify that $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges pointwise to f , where $f(x) = 0$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$, but $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ does not converge uniformly to f .

Hint.

For second part, use $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx \neq \int_0^1 f(x) dx.$



Dini's Theorem

Sometimes pointwise convergence \Rightarrow uniform convergence.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space. Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in $C(X)$ converging pointwise to a continuous function f . If $\{f_n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$ is decreasing for all $x \in X$, then $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges uniformly to f .

Proof.

Let $g_n = f_n - f \geq 0$. For $\epsilon > 0$, let $K_n = \{x \in X : g_n(x) \geq \epsilon\}$.

- K_n is compact and $K_{n+1} \subseteq K_n$ (since K_n is closed, $g_n \geq g_{n+1}$)
- If each $K_n \neq \emptyset$, then so is finitely many sets from $\{K_n\}_{n \geq 1}$
- If each $K_n \neq \emptyset$, then by the finite intersection property (see [Assignment 7, Exercise 2]), $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} K_n \neq \emptyset$

However, if $x \in X$, then since $g_n(x) \rightarrow 0$, $x \notin K_n$ for sufficiently large n . Hence K_N is empty for some N , that is, $0 \leq g_n(x) < \epsilon$ for every $x \in X$ and for every $n \geq N$. □

Example

Define a sequence $\{p_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ of polynomials by $p_0(x) = 0$, and

$$p_{n+1}(x) = p_n(x) + (x^2 - p_n(x)^2)/2, \quad n \geq 0.$$

A routine calculation shows that

$$|x| - p_{n+1}(x) = (|x| - p_n(x))(1 - (|x| + p_n(x))/2), \quad n \geq 0.$$

One may now verify inductively that

$$0 \leq p_n(x) \leq p_{n+1}(x) \leq |x|, \quad x \in [-1, 1], \quad n \geq 0.$$

In particular, $\{p_n(x)\}_{n \geq 0}$ converges pointwise to $|x|$. Now apply Dini's Theorem to $f_n = -p_n$, $n \geq 0$ to conclude that $\{p_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ converges uniformly to $f(x) = |x|$ on $[-1, 1]$.

Problem

Show that the function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \leq 0, \\ x & \text{if } x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Show that for any $\alpha > 0$, g can be uniformly approximated by polynomials on $[-\alpha, \alpha]$.

Hint.

Note that $g(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x + |x|)$.



Problem

Let $\{p_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of polynomials of degree d_n . Suppose that $\|p_n - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for some $f \in C([a, b])$. If f is not a polynomial, then show that $d_n \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Hint.

The subspace of polynomials of degree less than or equal to d is finite-dimensional, and hence it is closed in $C([a, b])$.



Theorem

- $\overline{\mathcal{P}} = \{f \in B(X) : \exists \{p_n\}_{n \geq 1} \text{ such that } \|p_n - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0\} \subseteq C(X)$.
- There are compact metric spaces X with $\overline{\mathcal{P}} \subsetneq C(X)$.

The first part follows from the completeness of $C(X)$.

Example (Failure of polynomial approximation)

Let $X = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ with $d(z, w) = |z - w|$, $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$.

- X is a compact metric space ($X \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ is closed and bounded)
- Consider the continuous function $f(z) = \bar{z}$ (\mathbb{C} -conjugate)
- If $\gamma(t) = e^{it}$, $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$, then $\int_0^{2\pi} p(\gamma(t))\gamma'(t)dt = 0$ for any polynomial p and $\int_0^{2\pi} f(\gamma(t))\gamma'(t)dt = 1$
- If $\{p_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a sequence of complex polynomials p_n in z such that $\|p_n - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$, then

$$\int_0^{2\pi} p_n(\gamma(t))\gamma'(t)dt \rightarrow \int_0^{2\pi} f(\gamma(t))\gamma'(t)dt \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$$

Thus $f \in C(X) \setminus \overline{\mathcal{P}}$.

Lemma

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space. The following are true:

- (1) $\overline{\mathcal{P}}$ is a complete normed linear space.
- (2) Given $f \in C(X)$, if, for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $g_\epsilon \in \overline{\mathcal{P}}$ such that $\|f - g_\epsilon\|_\infty < \epsilon$, then $f \in \overline{\mathcal{P}}$.

Proof.

(1): Clearly, linear combination of functions approximated uniformly by polynomials are again in $\overline{\mathcal{P}}$. Since $\overline{\mathcal{P}}$ is a closed subset of $C(X)$ and $C(X)$ is complete, $\overline{\mathcal{P}}$ is complete.

(2): Every ball $B_\epsilon(f)$ intersects $\overline{\mathcal{P}}$, and hence f is a limit point of $\overline{\mathcal{P}}$. Thus $f \in \overline{\mathcal{P}}$. □

Theorem (Weierstrass' approximation theorem)

Any $f \in C([a, b])$ can be approximated uniformly by polynomials.

Lebesgue's Proof of Weierstrass' Theorem^{*8}.

Since f is uniformly continuous on $[a, b]$, there exists an integer $N \geq 1$ such that $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ whenever $|x - y| < 1/N$. For $x_i := a + (b - a)(i/N)$ ($i = 0, \dots, N$), consider the function $h(x)$ with graph equal to a polygon (see diagram) of vertices at

$$(a, f(a)), (x_1, f(x_1)), \dots, (x_{n-1}, f(x_{n-1})), (b, f(b)).$$

- $\|f - h\|_\infty < \epsilon$. Indeed, if $x \in (x_i, x_{i+1})$ then

$$f(x) - h(x) = f(x) - ((1 - t)f(x_i) + tf(x_{i+1}))$$

$$= (1 - t)(f(x) - f(x_i)) + t(f(x) - f(x_{i+1})) \Rightarrow |f(x) - h(x)| < \epsilon$$

- If $h(x) = f(a) + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} c_i g(x - x_i)$ ($x \in [a, b]$) for some scalars c_0, \dots, c_{N-1} and $g(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x + |x|)$

Since g can be approximated uniformly by polynomials (see slide 172), $h \in \overline{\mathcal{P}}$, and hence $f \in \overline{\mathcal{P}}$ (see the lemma on last slide). \square

⁸J. Burkill, Lectures on Approximation by Polynomials, Lecture Notes, TIFR, Bombay, 1959

Problem

Use Weierstrass' Theorem to show that $C([a, b])$ is separable.

Hint.

Polynomials with rational coefficients are countable and dense. □

Problem

Let $f \in C[a, b]$ be such that $\int_a^b t^n f(t) dt = 0$ for all non-negative integers n . Show that $f(t) = 0$ for every $t \in [a, b]$.

Solution.

Note that $\int_a^b p(t)f(t)dt = 0$ for any polynomial p . If $\{p_n\}$ is a sequence converging uniformly to f , then $\int_a^b f(t)^2 dt = 0$, and hence $f = 0$. □

Problem

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Show that there exists a sequence $\{p_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of polynomials such that

$$\int_a^b |p_n(x) - f(x)|^p dx \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Recall that χ_A is 1 on A and 0 outside A .

Problem

For $0 \leq x < y \leq 1$, consider $\chi_{[x,y]} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Show that there exists a sequence $\{p_n\}$ of polynomials such that

$$\int_0^1 |p_n(x) - \chi_{[x,y]}(x)| dx \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Conclude that finite linear combination of indicator functions of subintervals of $[0, 1]$ can be approximated by polynomials.

Hint.

Approximate $\chi_{[x,y]}$ by continuous functions.



Problem

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuously differentiable function. Show that there exists a sequence $\{r_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of polynomials such that

$$\|r_n - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } \|r'_n - f'\|_\infty \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Conclude that $C^1[a, b]$ (the space of continuously differentiable functions on $[a, b]$) is a separable normed linear space with norm $\|f\| := \|f\|_\infty + \|f'\|_\infty$.

Solution.

Let $g(x) = f(x) - f(a)$ and note that $g' = f'$. Find a sequence $\{q_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of polynomials such that $\|q_n - g'\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$. Set $p_n(x) := \int_a^x q_n(t) dt$. Note that $p'_n = q_n$, and hence $\|p'_n - g'\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$. Also,

$$|p_n(x) - g(x)| = \left| \int_a^x q_n(t) dt - \int_a^x g'(t) dt \right| \leq (b - a) \|q_n - g'\|_\infty.$$

Let $r_n(x) := p_n(x) + f(a)$.



Pointwise limit of a sequence of continuous functions

- We have seen that the pointwise limit of sequence of functions can be discontinuous at every point (see slide 165)

Question Can the pointwise limit of sequence of continuous functions be discontinuous at every point ?

Answer No

A subset A of a metric space (X, d) is said to be nowhere dense if the interior of the closure of A is empty, that is, $(\overline{A})^\circ = \emptyset$.

Theorem (Baire-Osgood Theorem)

If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a pointwise limit of a sequence of continuous functions on $[a, b]$, then the set $D(f)$ of discontinuities of f is a countable union of closed nowhere dense sets.

For a proof of this theorem, we need some preliminaries.

Oscillation

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and let $I(c, r) = (c - r, c + r)$ for $c \in [a, b]$ and $r > 0$. Define the oscillation of f on $I(c, r)$ by

$$\text{osc}(f, c, r) = \sup_{x, y \in [a, b] \cap I(c, r)} |f(x) - f(y)|.$$

- $\text{osc}(f, c, r)$ exists if f is bounded
- $\text{osc}(f, c, r) \geq 0$ and $\text{osc}(f, c, r)$ is decreasing in r

Define the oscillation of f at c by

$$\text{osc}(f, c) = \begin{cases} \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \text{osc}(f, c, r) & \text{if } f \text{ is bounded near } c \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Problem

Show that f is continuous at c if and only if $\text{osc}(f, c) = 0$.

Hint.

The delta in the definition of continuity plays here the role of r . □

For $\epsilon > 0$, consider the set

$$A_\epsilon = \{c \in [a, b] : \text{osc}(f, c) \geq \epsilon\}.$$

- The set $D(f)$ of discontinuities of f is equal to $\bigcup_{\epsilon > 0} A_\epsilon$.

Lemma

For every $\epsilon > 0$, A_ϵ is a compact subset of $[a, b]$.

Proof.

Let $\{c_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in A_ϵ converging to $c \in [a, b]$.

- If $c \notin A_\epsilon$, then $\delta = \epsilon - \text{osc}(f, c) > 0$ and hence $\text{osc}(f, c, r) < \epsilon - \delta/2$ for some r
- If $|c_n - c| < r/2$, then $I(c_n, r/2) \subseteq I(c, r)$, and hence
$$\text{osc}(f, c_n, r/2) = \sup_{x, y \in [a, b] \cap I(c_n, r/2)} |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon \quad (\text{for } c \notin A_\epsilon)$$

Since $\text{osc}(f, c_n) \leq \text{osc}(f, c_n, r/2)$, $\text{osc}(f, c_n) < \epsilon \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$ (for $c_n \in A_\epsilon$)

Thus A_ϵ is closed and hence it is compact. □

Proof of Baire-Osgood Theorem.

Note that $D(f) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_{1/n}$. Since A_ϵ is closed for every $\epsilon > 0$, it suffices to check that $A_\epsilon^\circ = \emptyset$.

Claim For any closed interval $J \subseteq [a, b]$, $J \not\subseteq A_\epsilon$

- $E_n = \bigcap_{i,j \geq n} \{x \in [a, b] : |f_i(x) - f_j(x)| \leq \epsilon/5\}$ is closed (since $f_i - f_j$ is continuous for every $i, j \geq n$)
- $\bigcup_{n \geq 1} E_n = [a, b]$ (since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$, $x \in [a, b]$)
- $J = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (E_n \cap J)$
- There exists $N \geq 1$ such that $E_N \cap J$ has nonempty interior (since J is complete, BCT is applicable, see slide 103)

Thus there exists an open interval K contained in $E_N \cap J$.

SubClaim: $K \subseteq [a, b] \setminus A_\epsilon$ ($\Rightarrow J \not\subseteq A_\epsilon$, and **Claim** follows)

- $|f_i(x) - f_j(x)| \leq \epsilon/5$ for all $x \in K$ and $i, j \geq N$ (since $K \subseteq E_N$)
- $|f_N(x) - f(x)| \leq \epsilon/5$ for all $x \in K$ (let $i = N$, $f_j(x) \rightarrow f(x)$)

Proof of Baire-Osgood Theorem continued ...

- For $x_0 \in K$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|f_N(x) - f_N(x_0)| < \epsilon/5$ whenever $x \in K$ and $|x - x_0| < \delta$ (by the continuity of f_N at x_0)
- $|f(x) - f_N(x_0)| \leq 2\epsilon/5$ for every $x \in K$ such that $|x - x_0| < \delta$
- $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq 4\epsilon/5$ for every $x, y \in K$ such that $|x - y| < \delta$

This shows that $\text{osc}(f, x_0, \delta) \leq 4\epsilon/5$, and hence $\text{osc}(f, x_0) < \epsilon$.

Thus the claim $K \subseteq [a, b] \setminus A_\epsilon$ stands verified. \square

Corollary

If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a pointwise limit of a sequence of continuous functions on $[a, b]$, then the set of continuities of f (that is, $[a, b] \setminus D(f)$) is a dense subset of $[a, b]$.

Proof.

Since $[a, b] \setminus D(f) = \bigcap_{n \geq 1} ([a, b] \setminus A_{1/n})$ and each $[a, b] \setminus A_{1/n}$ is dense in $[a, b]$, BCT yields the desired conclusion. \square

Example

Consider the function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f = 1$ on rationals and $f = 0$ on irrationals. Note that $D(f) = [a, b]$. It follows from the Baire-Osgood Theorem that f can not be a pointwise limit of a sequence of continuous functions.

Problem

If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous and $f : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable, then show that the set of continuities of f' is dense in (a, b) .

Solution.

For any $x \in (a, b)$, note that $f'(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x+1/n) - f(x)}{1/n}$. Thus f' is a pointwise limit of continuous functions. By Baire-Osgood Theorem, the set of continuities of f' is dense in any closed interval $[c, d]$ contained in (a, b) . Hence it is dense in (a, b) . □

Convergence of series of functions

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of bounded functions and let $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded function. We say that the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n$ converges uniformly to f if the sequence $\{\sum_{n=1}^k f_n\}_{k \geq 1}$ converges uniformly to f , that is,

$$\left\| \sum_{n=1}^k f_n - f \right\|_{\infty} = \sup_{x \in X} \left| \sum_{n=1}^k f_n(x) - f(x) \right| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

In this case, we write $f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n$.

Theorem

Let (X, d) be compact. Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of functions in $C(X)$. If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n$ converges uniformly to f , then $f \in C(X)$.

Proof.

If each f_n is continuous, then so is $\sum_{n=1}^k f_n$. Now use the fact that uniform limit of continuous functions is continuous. □

Problem

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence in $C(X)$. Assume that $\sum_{n \geq 1} f_n(x)$ converges pointwise to some $f \in C(X)$ for every $x \in X$. If $f_n(x) \geq 0$ for every $x \in X$ and every $n \geq 1$, then $\sum_{n \geq 1} f_n$ is uniformly convergent.

Hint.

Use Dini's Theorem. □

Problem

Let (X, d) be a compact metric space and let A be a closed subset of X . Assume that $X \setminus A = \bigsqcup_{n=1}^{\infty} X_n$ (disjoint union), where each X_n is a clopen set in X . Let $f \in C(X)$ be such that $f(a) = 0$ for every $a \in A$. Show that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f \chi_{X_n}$ converges uniformly to f .

Hint.

Note that each χ_{X_n} is continuous. Now use the last problem. □

Weierstrass M-test

Theorem

Let (X, d) be a metric space and let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of bounded functions $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. If $\sum_{n \geq 1} \|f_n\|_\infty < \infty$ (convergence in \mathbb{R}), then $\sum_{n \geq 1} f_n$ is uniformly convergent. Moreover,

$$\left\| \sum_{n \geq 1} f_n \right\|_\infty \leq \sum_{n \geq 1} \|f_n\|_\infty.$$

Proof.

For $n \geq 1$, let $g_n = \sum_{k=1}^n f_k$ and $g_0 = 0$. For positive integers $m < n$, note that by triangle inequality,

$$\|g_n - g_m\|_\infty = \left\| \sum_{k=m+1}^n f_k \right\|_\infty \leq \sum_{k=m+1}^n \|f_k\|_\infty, \quad (1)$$

and hence $\{g_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is Cauchy in $B(X)$. Since $B(X)$ is complete (see slide 166), $\{g_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is uniformly convergent. Let $m = 0$, $n \rightarrow \infty$ in (1) to get the remaining part. □

Power Series

Definition

A power series is an expansion of the form

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n, \text{ where } a_n \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ converges absolutely if $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n| |x|^n < \infty$.

Definition (Domain of Convergence)

$$D = \{w \in \mathbb{R} : \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n| |w|^n < \infty\}$$

Note that

- $w_0 \in D \implies \pm w_0 \in D$ for any $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$
- $w_0 \in D \implies w \in D$ for any $w \in \mathbb{R}$ with $|w| \leq |w_0|$

Conclude that D is either \mathbb{R} , $(-R, R)$ or $[-R, R]$ for some $R \geq 0$.

Definition

The radius of convergence (for short, RoC) of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is defined as

$$R = \sup\{|x| : \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n| |x|^n < \infty\}.$$

Remark The series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ converges uniformly on $[-r, r]$ for any $0 < r < R$.

Example (Geometric series)

Consider the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

- This series converges absolutely to $\frac{1}{1-x}$ for any $|x| < 1$.
Indeed,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n x^k = \frac{1 - x^{n+1}}{1 - x}, \quad x^{n+1} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

- Thus $R \geq |x|$ for every $|x| < 1$, and hence $R \geq 1$
- $R = 1$ (since $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$ diverges at $x = 1$)

Theorem (Cauchy-Hadamard Formula)

The RoC of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is given by

$$R = \frac{1}{\limsup |a_n|^{1/n}},$$

where we use the convention that $1/0 = \infty$ and $1/\infty = 0$.

Proof.

Assume $R < \infty$. If $r > R$, then $\limsup |a_n|^{1/n} > 1/r$, and hence $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{n \geq k} |a_n|^{1/n} > 1/r$. Thus there exists a subsequence $\{n_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ such that $|a_{n_k}|^{1/n_k} > 1/r$, that is, $r^{n_k} |a_{n_k}| \not\rightarrow 0$, and hence $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n r^n$ is divergent. Thus $\text{RoC} \not\geq R = \limsup |a_n|^{1/n}$.

If $r < R$, then $|a_n| r^n < 1$ for all integers $n \geq N$. Thus, for $|x| < r$,

$$\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| |x|^n \leq \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \left(\frac{|x|}{r} \right)^n \leq \frac{1}{1 - |x|/r} < \infty.$$

Thus $\text{RoC} \geq r$ for any $r < R$ or $\text{RoC} \geq R = \limsup |a_n|^{1/n}$. □

Examples

- $\sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$, $a_n = 0$ for $n > k$, $R = \infty$
- $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$, $a_n = \frac{1}{n!}$, $R = \infty$
- $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$, $a_n = 1$, $R = 1$
- $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n! x^n$, $a_n = n!$, $R = 0$

The coefficients of a power series may not be given by a single formula.

Example

Consider the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^{n^2}$. Then

$$a_k = 1 \text{ if } k = n^2, \text{ and } 0 \text{ otherwise.}$$

Clearly, $\limsup |a_n|^{1/n} = 1$, and hence $R = 1$.

Sometimes RoC can be computed without knowing the coefficients explicitly.

Example

Consider the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$, where a_n is number of divisors of n^{1111} . Note that

$$1 \leq a_n \leq n^{1111}.$$

Note that $1 \leq \limsup |a_n|^{1/n} \leq \limsup (n^{1111})^{1/n} = 1$, and hence the RoC of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ equals 1.

Theorem

If the RoC of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is R then the RoC of the power series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}$ is also R .

Proof.

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{1/n} = 1$, $R = \frac{1}{\limsup |n a_n|^{1/n}} = \frac{1}{\limsup |a_n|^{1/n}}$.



Power series is infinitely differentiable

Theorem

If $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is a power series of radius $R > 0$, then f is infinitely differentiable with $f'(x) = g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}$.

Proof.

Let $x_0 \in (-R, R)$, $h \in \mathbb{R}$, $r > 0$ with $\max\{|x_0|, |x_0 + h|\} < r < R$.

- $S_k(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$, $E_k(x) = \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} a_n x^n$
- $\frac{f(x_0+h)-f(x_0)}{h} - g(x_0) = A + (S'_k(x_0) - g(x_0)) + B$, where

$$A = \left(\frac{S_k(x_0 + h) - S_k(x_0)}{h} - S'_k(x_0) \right), B = \left(\frac{E_k(x_0 + h) - E_k(x_0)}{h} \right)$$

- $|B| \leq \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} |a_n| \left| \frac{(x_0 + h)^n - x_0^n}{h} \right| \leq \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} |a_n| n r^{n-1}$

Since f' is a power series, f is infinitely differentiable on $(-R, R)$.



A nowhere differentiable continuous function

- Any continuous function on $[0, 1]$ is a uniform limit of infinitely differentiable functions (Weierstrass' Theorem).

It is quite striking that uniform limit of infinitely real differentiable functions could be nowhere differentiable.

- Let $\phi(x) = |x|$ for $x \in [-1, 1]$, which is extended periodically (with period 2) to \mathbb{R} by setting $\phi(x + 2) = \phi(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- ϕ is a continuous function such that $0 \leq \phi(x) \leq 1$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- Plot graphs of $\phi(x)$, $\phi(4x)$ (period $1/2$), $\phi(16x)$ (period $1/8$)
- Define the function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \phi(4^n x)$

Note that f is continuous. Indeed,

$$\left| f(x) - \sum_{n=0}^k \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \phi(4^n x) \right| \leq \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \phi(4^n x) \leq \sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \rightarrow 0.$$

Since ϕ is continuous, so is f .

Theorem

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists $\{\delta_m\}_{m \geq 1}$ converging to 0 such that

$$|(f(x + \delta_m) - f(x))/\delta_m| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } m \rightarrow \infty.$$

In particular, f is not differentiable at any point in \mathbb{R} .

Proof.

For an integer $m \geq 1$, set $\delta_m = \pm \frac{1}{2}4^{-m}$, where the sign is so chosen that no integer lies between $4^m x$ and $4^m(x + \delta_m)$. Define $\gamma_n = (\phi(4^n(x + \delta_m)) - \phi(4^n x))/\delta_m$.

- If $n > m$, then $\phi(4^n(x + \delta_m)) = \phi(4^n x \pm 4^{n-m}/2) = \phi(4^n x)$, and hence $\gamma_n = 0$.
- $|\gamma_m| = 4^m$ (since $4^n(x + \delta_m)$ and $4^n x$ are both ≥ 0 or < 0)
- When $0 \leq n < m$,

$$|\gamma_n| = \frac{||4^n(x + \delta_m)| - |4^n x||}{|\delta_m|} \leq \frac{|4^n \delta_m|}{|\delta_m|} = 4^n$$

Now we complete the argument.

Proof continued ...

Since $\gamma_n = 0$ for $n > m$, $|\gamma_m| = 4^m$ and $|\gamma_n| \leq 4^m$, $0 \leq n < m$,

$$\begin{aligned} |(f(x + \delta_m) - f(x))/\delta_m| &= \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \gamma_n \right| = \left| \sum_{n=0}^m \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \gamma_n \right| \\ &= \left| \sum_{n=0}^{m-1} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \gamma_n \pm 3^m \right| \geq 3^m - \sum_{n=0}^{m-1} 3^n = \frac{1}{2}(3^m + 1), \end{aligned}$$

where we used $\sum_{n=0}^{m-1} 3^n = (3^m - 1)/2$.

Thus $(f(x + \delta_m) - f(x))/\delta_m$ blows up to ∞ as $m \rightarrow \infty$. □

Geometrically, a continuous nowhere differentiable function has a continuous graph with "corner" at every point!

- The set of nowhere differentiable continuous functions turns out to be dense in $C[0, 1]$ (this may be deduced from BCT).

Riemann integral

Let $I = [a, b]$ and $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded function.

- $P = \{x_0 = a, \dots, x_n = b\}$ (partition)
- $I_i = [x_i, x_{i+1}]$, $[a, b] = \cup_{i=0}^{n-1} I_i$, $\ell(I_i)$ (length of I_i)
- $\|P\| = \max_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} \ell(I_i)$ (width of P)
- $m_i = \inf_{x \in I_i} f(x)$, $M_i = \sup_{x \in I_i} f(x)$
- $L(P, f) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} m_i \ell(I_i)$ (lower Riemann sum)
- $U(P, f) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} M_i \ell(I_i)$ (upper Riemann sum)
- $\int_- f(x) dx = \sup_P L(P, f)$ (lower Riemann integral)
- $\int^+ f(x) dx = \inf_P U(P, f)$ (upper Riemann integral)

Definition

A bounded function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Riemann integrable (or Darboux integrable) if $\int_- f(x)dx = \overline{\int_- f(x)dx}$, say $\int_I f(x)dx$.

Interpretation Area of the region R enclosed by the lines $x = a$, $x = b$, and the curve $y = f(x) \geq 0$.

Example

For $x_0 \in I$, consider the function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \neq x_0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x = x_0. \end{cases}$$

For $\epsilon > 0$, let P be a partition with $\|P\| = \max_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} \ell(I_i) < \epsilon$.

- If $x_0 \in I_{i_0}$ is an interior point, then $U(P, f) - L(P, f) = \ell(I_{i_0}) < \epsilon$
- If $x_0 \in I_{i_0}$ is an end point, then $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < 2\epsilon$
- $L(P, f) \leq \int_- f(x)dx \leq \overline{\int_- f(x)dx} \leq U(P, f)$ (Exercise)

Conclude that f is Riemann integrable.

Theorem

If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a bounded function, then f is Riemann integrable if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \epsilon$.

Proof.

The sufficiency part \Leftarrow follows from

$$L(P, f) \leq \int_{-} f(x) dx \leq \int_{-} f(x) dx \leq U(P, f).$$

To see the necessity part \Rightarrow , find partitions P and Q of $[a, b]$ such that $U(P, f) - \int_{-} f(x) dx < \epsilon/2$ and $\int_{-} f(x) dx - L(Q, f) < \epsilon/2$. Let R be a partition obtained from $P \cup Q$, and note that

$$L(Q, f) \leq L(R, f) \leq U(R, f) \leq U(P, f).$$

Then $U(R, f) - L(R, f) \leq U(P, f) - L(Q, f) = U(P, f) - \int_{-} f(x) dx + \int_{-} f(x) dx - L(Q, f) < \epsilon$.



Corollary

Every continuous function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Riemann integrable.

Proof.

Given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(x) - f(x')| < \epsilon$ whenever $x \in I$, $|x - x'| < \delta$. Thus for partition P with $\|P\| < \delta$,

$$U(P, f) - L(P, f) \leq \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} |M_i - m_i| \ell(I_i).$$

However, $M_i = f(a_i)$ and $m_i = f(b_i)$ for some $a_i, b_i \in I_i$. Thus

$$U(P, f) - L(P, f) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} |f(a_i) - f(b_i)| \ell(I_i) \leq \epsilon \ell(I). \text{ Hence } f \text{ is}$$

Riemann integrable. □

Problem

Show that the indicator function $\chi_{[0,1/2]} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (which is 1 on $[0, 1/2]$ and 0 outside) is Riemann integrable.

Problem

Show that a bounded function, which is continuous except at a finite subset F of $[a, b]$, is Riemann integrable.

Hint.

Consider first the case in which $F = \{x_0\}$. Assuming $f \neq 0$, let $I_\epsilon = (x_0 - \frac{\epsilon}{4\|f\|_\infty}, x_0 + \frac{\epsilon}{4\|f\|_\infty})$. Apply the last corollary to $I = [a, b] \setminus I_\epsilon$ to find a partition P of I such that $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \epsilon/2$. Let \tilde{P} be the partition formed by taking union of P and the interval \bar{I}_ϵ . Check that $U(\tilde{P}, f) - L(\tilde{P}, f) < \epsilon$. Extend this argument to any finite set F . □

Question Does there exist a Riemann integrable function, which is discontinuous at countably infinite points ?

Answer There are plenty of such functions!

Theorem

Every bounded monotone function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is integrable.

Proof.

Let f be increasing, P be a partition with $\ell(I_i) = \frac{b-a}{m}$ for all i .

$$\bullet \quad \begin{aligned} U(P, f) &= \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} M_i \ell(I_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} f(x_{i+1}) \ell(I_i) \text{ and} \\ L(P, f) &= \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} m_i \ell(I_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} f(x_i) \ell(I_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$U(P, f) - L(P, f) = (f(x_m) - f(x_0)) \frac{b-a}{m} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b-a} \frac{1}{m} \rightarrow 0. \quad \square$$

Problem

Consider the Zeno's staircase function $Z : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$Z(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } 0 \leq x < \frac{1}{2}, \\ \frac{3}{4} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq x < \frac{3}{4}, \\ \frac{7}{8} & \text{if } \frac{3}{4} \leq x < \frac{7}{8}, \\ \vdots & \\ \frac{2^k-1}{2^k} & \text{if } \frac{2^{k-1}-1}{2^{k-1}} \leq x < \frac{2^k-1}{2^k}, \quad k \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Then Z is integrable with countably infinite discontinuities.

Sets of measure 0

Question Does there exist a Riemann integrable function with uncountably many discontinuities ?

Question Does there exist a Riemann integrable function with discontinuities containing an open interval ?

Definition

Let E be a subset of \mathbb{R} . We say that E is a set of measure 0 if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a countable family of open intervals $\{I_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ such that $E \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) < \epsilon$.

- In case E is compact, there exists a finite family of open intervals $\{I_k\}_{k=1}^N$ satisfying the conditions above.
- If A is of measure 0 and $B \subseteq A$, then B is of measure 0.

Problem

Show that the Cantor set is of measure 0.

Hint.

$C = \bigcap_{n \geq 1} C_n$ (see slide 28) and $\ell(C_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.



Problem

Show that a countable union of sets of measure 0 is of measure 0.

Solution.

Let E_1, E_2, \dots , be countably many sets of measure 0. Let $\epsilon > 0$.

- Let $\{I_k^{(1)}\}_{k \geq 1}$ be a sequence of open intervals such that $E_1 \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(1)}$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k^{(1)}) < \epsilon/2$.
- Let $\{I_k^{(2)}\}_{k \geq 1}$ be a sequence of open intervals such that $E_2 \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(2)}$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k^{(2)}) < \epsilon/4$.

Continue like this to get for every $j \geq 1$, $\{I_k^{(j)}\}_{k \geq 1}$ such that $E_j \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(j)}$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k^{(j)}) < \epsilon/2^j$. Thus $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j \subseteq \bigcup_{j,k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(j)}$ (countable union) and $\sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k^{(j)}) < \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \epsilon/2^j = \epsilon$. □

Problem

Show that any countable subset of \mathbb{R} is of measure 0.

Proof.

Any finite set (and hence single-ton) is of measure 0. □

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be bounded with $M = \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)| < \infty$.

- $A_\epsilon = \{c \in [a, b] : \text{osc}(f, c) \geq \epsilon\}$ is compact (see slide 181)

Lemma

If A_ϵ is a set of measure 0, then there exists a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < (2M + b - a)\epsilon$.

Proof.

Since A_ϵ is a compact set of measure 0, there exists open intervals $\{I_k\}_{k=1}^N$ such that $A_\epsilon \subseteq \cup_{k=1}^N I_k$ and $\sum_{k=1}^N \ell(I_k) < \epsilon$.

- $K = [a, b] \setminus (\cup_{k=1}^N I_k)$ is a compact subset of $[a, b]$
- For any $c \in K$, there exists an interval, open in $J_c \subseteq [a, b] \setminus A_\epsilon$ such that $c \in J_c$ ($\Rightarrow \sup_{x, y \in J_c} |f(x) - f(y)| \leq \epsilon$)
- There exists $J_1, \dots, J_{N'}$ such that $K \subseteq \cup_{j=1}^{N'} J_j$ (K is compact)

If P : partition formed by end-points of $I_1, \dots, I_N, J_1, \dots, J_{N'}$, then

$$U(P, f) - L(P, f) \leq 2M \sum_{j=1}^N \ell(I_j) + \epsilon(b - a) < (2M + b - a)\epsilon. \quad \square$$

- A_ϵ is a subset of $D(f)$ (the set of discontinuities of f)
- If $D(f)$ is of measure 0, then so is A_ϵ for every $\epsilon > 0$
- If $D(f)$ is of measure 0, then $f \in R[a, b]$ (apply Lemma)

Theorem (Lebesgue's criterion for Riemann integrability)

If $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is bounded, then $f \in R[a, b]$ if and only if $D(f)$ is of measure 0.

Proof.

To see ($D(f)$ is of measure 0 $\Leftarrow f \in R[a, b]$), let $f \in R[a, b]$.

• Countable union of sets of measure zero is of measure 0 (see slide 204) and $D(f) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_{1/n}$ **Claim** Each $A_{1/n}$ is of measure 0

- Let $\epsilon > 0$ and choose a partition $P = \{x_0, \dots, x_N\}$ such that $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \epsilon/n$ (since f is Riemann integrable)
- $I_j = (x_{j-1}, x_j)$ and $I_{j_1}, \dots, I_{j_{N'}}$ be sets intersecting with $A_{1/n}$
- $\sup_{x \in I_{j_k}} f(x) - \inf_{x \in I_{j_k}} f(x) \geq \sup_{x \in I_{j_k} \cap A_{1/n}} f(x) - \inf_{x \in I_{j_k} \cap A_{1/n}} f(x) \geq 1/n$

Finally, $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{N'} \ell(I_{j_k}) \leq U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \frac{\epsilon}{n}$. Choose $I'_{j_k} \supseteq I_{j_k}$ so that $\sum_{k=1}^{N'} \ell(I'_{j_k}) < 2\epsilon$ and $A_{1/n} \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{N'} I'_{j_k}$. □

Example

Consider the function $g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{q} & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1) \text{ and } x = \frac{p}{q} \text{ in reduced form} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then $g \in R[0, 1]$ since $D(g) = \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1]$ is of measure 0.

Problem

Show by an example that composition of Riemann integrable functions need not be Riemann integrable.

Hint.

Take $f = \chi_{(0,1]}$ and g as above.



Problem

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow [c, d]$ be Riemann integrable. If $\phi : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, then $\phi \circ f$ is Riemann integrable.

Hint.

$D(\phi \circ f) \subseteq D(f)$ is of measure 0.



Problem

Show that sum and product of Riemann integrable functions is Riemann integrable.

Hint.

$$D(f + g) \subseteq D(f) \cup D(g) \text{ and } D(fg) \subseteq D(f) \cup D(g).$$



Theorem

The set $R[a, b]$ of Riemann integrable functions $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} . Moreover, for every $f, g \in R[a, b]$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, $\int_a^b (f(x) + \alpha g(x)) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx + \alpha \int_a^b g(x) dx$.

For $f \in R[a, b]$, define $\|f\|_1 = \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$.

Question Is $\|\cdot\|_1$ a norm on $R[a, b]$?

- Clearly, $\|f\|_1 \geq 0$, $\|\alpha f\|_1 = |\alpha| \|f\|_1$ and $\|f + g\|_1 \leq \|f\|_1 + \|g\|_1$ for every $f, g \in R[a, b]$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$
- If $\|f\|_1 = 0$ for $f \in R[a, b]$, then f need not be 0
- $\chi_{[0,1/2]} - \chi_{[0,1/2]}$ is Riemann integrable, $\|\chi_{[0,1/2]} - \chi_{[0,1/2]}\|_1 = 0$ but $\chi_{[0,1/2]} \neq \chi_{[0,1/2]}$

Discontinuities of positive measure

Example

Let \hat{C} denote the Cantor-like set obtained by removing 2^{k-1} centrally situated open subintervals $I_{1k}, \dots, I_{2^{k-1}k}$ of $I = [0, 1]$ each of length $1/4^k$ at the k th stage, where $k = 1, 2, \dots$.

- $\ell(\hat{C}) = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^{k-1}}{4^k} = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} = 1/2$
- Let $F_k : I \rightarrow I$ be a continuous function such that $F_k = 1$ on $I \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{2^{k-1}} I_{ik}$ and $F_k = 0$ at the mid-points of $I_{1k}, \dots, I_{2^{k-1}k}$
- If $f_n = \prod_{i=1}^n F_i$, then $f_{n+1}(x) \leq f_n(x)$ for every $x \in I$, $n \geq 1$
- Let $f : I \rightarrow I$ be the pointwise limit of $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$
- For $x \in \hat{C}$, there exists a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converging to x such that $f(x_n) = 0$
- f is discontinuous on \hat{C} (since $f(x) = 1$ for every $x \in \hat{C}$)

Conclude that f is not Riemann integrable.

- It turns out that $\|f_n - f\|_1 \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$!

Problem

For $f, g \in R[a, b]$, define $f \sim g$ if $f = g$ outside a set of measure 0. Verify the following:

- (1) \sim defines an equivalence relation.
- (2) If $[f]$ denotes the equivalence relation containing f and $\|[f]\|_1 = \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$, then $\|[f]\|_1 = 0$ if and only if $f \sim 0$.
- (3) $\mathcal{R} = \{[f] : f \in R[a, b]\}$ is a normed linear space endowed with the norm $\|\cdot\|_1$.
- (4) $(\mathcal{R}, \|\cdot\|_1)$ is incomplete.

Problem

Consider the intervals $I_1 = [0, 1]$, $I_2 = [0, 1/2]$, $I_3 = [1/2, 1]$, $I_4 = [0, 1/4]$, $I_5 = [1/4, 1/2]$, $I_6 = [1/2, 3/4]$, $I_7 = [3/4, 1]$ and so on. For $f_n = \chi_{I_n}$ and $f = 0$, show that $f_n(x) \not\rightarrow f(x)$ for any $x \in [0, 1]$.

Hint.

Any $x \in I_1$ lies in infinitely many I_n & infinitely many $[0, 1] \setminus I_n$. □

- $\int_{[0,1]} |f_n(x) - f(x)| dx = \ell(I_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Problem (Integrable function with uncountable discontinuities)

Consider the indicator function χ_C of the Cantor set, that is,

$$\chi_C(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in C, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1] \setminus C. \end{cases}$$

Show that χ_C is discontinuous precisely at every $x \in C$. Conclude that $\chi_C \in R[0, 1]$.

Hint.

Note that C is closed and nowhere dense, and hence $[0, 1] \setminus C$ is dense. Thus for every $x \in C$, there exists a sequence of points $x_n \in [0, 1] \setminus C$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$. Clearly, $\chi_C(x_n) = 0$ does not converge to $\chi_C(x) = 1$, and hence $C \subseteq D(\chi_C)$.

Let $x \in [0, 1] \setminus C$. Then, some neighborhood of x does not intersect C (otherwise, x is a limit point of C), and hence χ_C is sequentially continuous at x . Thus $D(\chi_C) = C$. Finally, since C is of measure 0, by Lebesgue's criterion, $\chi_C \in R[0, 1]$. □

Theorem

The uniform limit f of a sequence of Riemann integrable functions f_n is Riemann integrable and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

Proof.

Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq R[a, b]$, $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be such that $\|f_n - f\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$.

- f is bounded (since $\|f\|_\infty \leq \|f_n - f\|_\infty + \sup_{n \geq 1} \|f_n\|_\infty$)
- Given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $N \geq 1$ such that for every $n \geq N$ and for every $x \in [a, b]$, $f_n(x) - \epsilon < f(x) < f_n(x) + \epsilon$
- For partitions P, Q of $[a, b]$, $L(f_n - \epsilon, P) \leq L(f, P) \leq \int_- f(x) dx \leq \int_- f(x) dx \leq U(Q, f) \leq U(f_n + \epsilon, Q)$

Now take supremum over LHS and infimum over RHS to get

$$\int_a^b (f_n(x) - \epsilon) dx \leq \int_- f(x) dx \leq \int_- f(x) dx \leq \int_a^b (f_n(x) + \epsilon) dx.$$

Thus $0 \leq \int_- f(x) dx - \int_- f(x) dx \leq 2\epsilon$, or $f \in R[a, b]$ and

$$\left| \int_a^b f_n(x) dx - \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq (b - a)\epsilon \text{ for every } n \geq N.$$



- A power series can be integrated termwise

Problem

Let $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ be a power series of radius of convergence $R > 0$. Show that for any $-R < a < b < R$,

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \left(\frac{b^{n+1}}{n+1} - \frac{a^{n+1}}{n+1} \right).$$

Hint.

The partial sum of power series is continuous and it converges to $f(x)$ uniformly on $[a, b]$. Now apply last problem. □

- One may use the last problem to compute $\int_a^b \frac{1}{x} dx$ for every $1 < a < b < 2$. Indeed, $\frac{1}{x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1-x)^n$ converges uniformly on $|1-x| \leq 1-\epsilon$ for every $\epsilon > 0$, and hence on $[a, b]$. Thus

$$\int_a^b \frac{1}{x} dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{(1-b)^{n+1}}{n+1} - \frac{(1-a)^{n+1}}{n+1} \right) = \log b - \log a.$$

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be Riemann integrable and let $x_0 \in [a, b] \setminus D(f)$.

- Given $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \epsilon$ whenever $|x - x_0| < \delta$
- Let J be an interval of length $\ell(J) < \delta/2$ that contains x_0
- $f(x_0) - \frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J (f(x_0) - f(x)) dx$
- $\left| f(x_0) - \frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J |f(x_0) - f(x)| dx < \epsilon$ (see ⁹)

This proves the following:

Theorem (Fundamental Theorem of Calculus-I)

For every $f \in R[a, b]$ and every $x_0 \in [a, b] \setminus D(f)$,

$$\lim_{\substack{\ell(J) \rightarrow 0 \\ x_0 \in J}} \frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J f(x) dx = f(x_0).$$

Remark The quantity $\frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J f(x) dx$ is the “average of f over J ”.

⁹We used $|\int_a^b g(x) dx| \leq \int_a^b |g(x)| dx$, $g \in R[a, b]$ (Exercise)

Corollary

Let $f \in R[a, b]$. Define $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $F(x_0) = \int_a^{x_0} f(x)dx$, $x_0 \in [a, b]$. Then

- (1) F is continuous at every point in $[a, b]$,
- (2) F is differentiable at every $x_0 \in [a, b] \setminus D(f)$ & $F'(x_0) = f(x_0)$.

Proof.

The first part follows from the estimate

$$|F(x) - F(x_0)| = \left| \int_x^{x_0} f(t)dt \right| \leq \left(\sup_{t \in [a, b]} |f(t)| \right) |x - x_0|, \quad x \in [a, b].$$

To see the second part, let $J = [x_0, x_0 + h]$ in FTC-I to obtain

$$\frac{F(x_0 + h) - F(x_0)}{h} = \frac{1}{h} \int_{x_0}^{x_0 + h} f(x)dx \rightarrow f(x_0) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

This also shows that $F'(x_0) = f(x_0)$.



Corollary

Let $f \in R[a, b]$. Define $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $F(x_0) = \int_a^{x_0} f(x)dx$, $x_0 \in [a, b]$. If $D(f)$ denotes the set of points of discontinuities of f and $\text{Diff}(F)$ denotes the set of points at which F is differentiable, then $[a, b] \setminus D(f) \subseteq \text{Diff}(F)$.

Problem

Give an example of a continuous function on $[0, 1]$, which is differentiable at irrationals in $[0, 1]$ (we are not asking for a function differentiable precisely at irrationals in $[0, 1]$).

Hint.

Use the last corollary.



- There exist functions differentiable precisely at rationals ¹⁰

¹⁰A Continuous Function That Is Differentiable Only at the Rationals, Mark Lynch, Mathematics Magazine, Vol. 86, No. 2 (April 2013), pp. 132-135

Definition

Given a partition $P = \{a = x_0 < x_1 \cdots < x_n = b\}$ of $[a, b]$ and $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the variation of g over P is given by

$$V(g, P) = \sum_{j=1}^n |g(x_j) - g(x_{j-1})|.$$

- g is of bounded variation on $[a, b]$ if the total variation $V_a^b g = \sup_P V(g, P)$ of g over $[a, b]$ is finite.

Theorem

Let $f \in R[a, b]$. Define $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $F(x_0) = \int_a^{x_0} f(x) dx$, $x_0 \in [a, b]$. Then F is of bounded variation.

Proof.

Since $V(F, P) = \sum_{j=1}^n |F(x_j) - F(x_{j-1})| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{x_{j-1}}^{x_j} |f(x)| dx$, $V_a^b F$ is at most $(b - a) \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)|$. □

Theorem (Fundamental Theorem of Calculus-II)

Let $f \in R[a, b]$. If there is a continuous function $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ differentiable on (a, b) such that $F'(x) = f(x)$, $x \in (a, b)$, then $\int_a^b f(x)dx = F(b) - F(a)$.

Proof.

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and $P = \{a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = b\}$ be a partition of $[a, b]$ such that $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \epsilon$.

- For $i = 1, \dots, n$, there exists $c_i \in [x_i, x_{i-1}]$ such that $F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1}) = f(c_i)(x_i - x_{i-1})$ (Mean Value Theorem)
- $\sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i)(x_i - x_{i-1}) = \sum_{i=1}^n (F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})) = F(b) - F(a)$
- $L(P, f) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i)(x_i - x_{i-1}) \leq U(P, f)$ ($m_i \leq f(c_i) \leq M_i$)
- $L(P, f) \leq \int_a^b f(x)dx \leq U(P, f)$

Thus $\int_a^b f(x)dx$ and $F(b) - F(a)$ lie in interval $[L(P, f), U(P, f)]$ of length less than ϵ . Hence $|F(b) - F(a) - \int_a^b f(x)dx| < \epsilon$. \square

The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus-II can be used to compute integrals provided derivatives are known.

- $\int_0^x t^n dt = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}$ (since the derivative of $F(x) = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}$ equals x^n)
- $\int_1^x \frac{1}{t} dt = \log x$ (since $(\log x)' = 1/x$)

Definition

We say that a function $G : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is an anti-derivative of $g \in R[a, b]$ if G is differentiable on $[a, b]$ and $G'(x) = g(x)$ at every $x \in [a, b]$.

Example

The jump function $g = \chi_{(0,1]}$ does not have an anti-derivative G . Indeed, if there exists a differentiable function G such that $G' = g$, then by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus-II,

$$1 - x = \int_x^1 g(x) dx = G(1) - G(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

This shows that $G(x) = G(1) - 1 + x$ for every $x \in (0, 1]$, and hence by continuity, $G(x) = G(1) - 1 + x$ for every $x \in [0, 1]$. However, $G'(0) = 1 \neq g(0) \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

Corollary (Integration by parts)

Suppose that $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable in $[a, b]$, and f', g' are integrable on $[a, b]$. Then

$$\int_a^b f(x)g'(x)dx = f(b)g(b) - f(a)g(a) - \int_a^b f'(x)g(x)dx.$$

Proof.

Define $F(x) = f(x)g(x)$, $x \in [0, 1]$. Then F is continuous on $[a, b]$, F is differentiable and

$$F'(x) = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x), \quad x \in (a, b).$$

By the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus-II,

$$\int_a^b \left(f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x) \right) dx = F(b) - F(a) = f(b)g(b) - f(a)g(a).$$

This completes the proof.



- There exists $f \in R[a, b]$ such that $F' = f$ outside a set of measure 0, yet, $\int_a^b f(x)dx \neq F(b) - F(a)$.

Example (Cantor Function)

Let C denote the Cantor set obtained by removing 2^{n-1} centrally situated disjoint open subintervals $U_{1,n}, \dots, U_{2^{n-1},n}$ of $[0, 1]$ each of length $1/3^n$ at the n th stage, where $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Thus

$$C = \bigcap_{n \geq 1} C_n, \quad \text{where } C_n = [0, 1] \setminus \left(\bigcup_{k=1}^n \bigcup_{j=1}^{2^{n-1}} U_{k,j} \right).$$

- $F_1 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a continuous increasing function so that $F_1(0) = 0$, $F_1 = 1/2$ on $[1/3, 2/3]$, $F_1(1) = 1$, F_1 linear on C_1
- $F_2 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a continuous increasing function so that $F_2(0) = 0$, $F_2 = 1/4$ on $[1/9, 2/9]$, $F_2 = 1/2$ on $[1/3, 2/3]$, $F_2 = 3/4$ on $[7/9, 8/9]$, $F_2(1) = 1$, F_2 linear on C_2

Continuing this, we obtain a sequence of continuous increasing functions $\{F_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ such that $|F_{n+1}(x) - F_n(x)| \leq 2^{-n-1}$.

Example (Example continued ...)

Check that $\{F_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is Cauchy in $C[0, 1]$. Indeed, for $m > n$,

$$|F_m(x) - F_n(x)| \leq \sum_{j=n+1}^m |F_j(x) - F_{j-1}(x)| \leq \sum_{j=n+1}^m 2^{-j},$$

and hence $\{F_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ converges uniformly to $F \in C[0, 1]$.

- We refer to F as Cantor function or devil's staircase function.
 - F is increasing (since so is F_n for every $n \geq 1$)
 - $F' = 0$ on $[0, 1] \setminus C$ (since F is constant on each interval of the complement of C)
 - $F' = 0$ outside a set of measure 0 (since C is of measure 0)

This shows that $\int_0^1 F'(x) dx = 0$ (why?) and $F(1) - F(0) = 1$, so

$$\int_0^1 F'(x) dx \neq F(1) - F(0).$$

- F is non-constant, yet, $F' = 0$ outside a set of measure 0!

Let us summarize the discussion above:

- If $f \in R[a, b]$, then $F(x) = \int_a^x f(x)dx$ is differentiable outside the set $D(f)$ of measure 0.
- In general, $\int_a^b F'(x)dx \neq F(b) - F(a)$.

This raises the following question:

Question What conditions on a function F on $[a, b]$ guarantee that $F'(x)$ exists (outside a set of measure 0), that this function is integrable, and that moreover $\int_a^b F'(x)dx = F(b) - F(a)$?

This problem is closely related to the "averaging problem":

Question What are conditions on a function f on $[a, b]$ for which

$$\lim_{\substack{\ell(J) \rightarrow 0 \\ x_0 \in J}} \frac{1}{\ell(J)} \int_J f(x)dx = f(x_0)$$

holds for $x_0 \in [a, b]$ outside a set of measure 0 ?

To answer these questions, one needs to venture into the theory of Lebesgue integration!