

Ex: Let (X, d) be a metric space, $A \subset X$, $A \neq \emptyset$.

Define $d(x, A) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$d(x, A) = \inf_{y \in A} d(x, y)$$

(distance from x to the subset A)

Claim: $|d(x, A) - d(y, A)| \leq d(x, y)$, $\forall x, y \in X$.

Pf of claim For fixed $x, y \in X$.

By defn. of $d(y, A)$,

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists z \in A \text{ s.t. } d(y, A) + \varepsilon > d(z, y)$$

$$\text{Hence, } d(x, A) \leq d(z, x)$$

$$\leq d(x, y) + d(y, z) \quad (\text{triangle ineq.})$$

$$< d(x, y) + d(y, A) + \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow d(x, A) - d(y, A) < d(x, y) + \varepsilon$$

Interchanging the roles of x & y , we have

$$d(y, A) - d(x, A) < d(y, x) + \varepsilon = d(x, y) + \varepsilon$$

Therefore $|d(x, A) - d(y, A)| < d(x, y) + \varepsilon$.

Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, $|d(x, A) - d(y, A)| \leq d(x, y)$.

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Note: By claim, $d(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow d(x_n, A) \rightarrow d(x, A)$

$\therefore d(x, A) = (\mathbb{X}, d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is cts (as a function of x)

(In fact, $d(x, A)$ is "Lipschitz continuous")

This example shows that there are "many" cts functions on a metric space.

Notation: Usually, we use the following notations

for subsets $A \& B \subset \mathbb{X}$

$$\begin{cases} d(x, A) = \inf \{ d(x, y) : y \in A \} \\ d(A, B) = \inf \{ d(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B \} \end{cases}$$

§2.3 Open and Closed Sets

Def: Let (X, d) = metric space

- A set $G \subset X$ is called an open set if

$$\forall x \in G, \exists \underline{\varepsilon} > 0 \text{ s.t. } B_\varepsilon(x) = \{y : d(y, x) < \varepsilon\} \subset G.$$

(The number $\varepsilon > 0$ may vary depending on x)

- We also define the empty set \emptyset to be an open set.



Prop 2.4: Let (X, d) be a metric space. We have

- (a) X and \emptyset are open sets.
- (b) Arbitrary union of open sets is open: if $G_\alpha, \alpha \in A$, is a collection of open sets, then $\bigcup_{\alpha \in A} G_\alpha$ is an open set.
- (c) Finite intersection of open sets is open: if G_1, \dots, G_n are open sets, then $\bigcap_{j=1}^n G_j$ is an open set.

Pf: (a) Clear

(b) Let $x \in \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} G_\alpha$

$\Rightarrow x \in G_\alpha$ for some $\alpha \in A$

$\Rightarrow \exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset G_\alpha$ (Since G_α open)

$\Rightarrow B_\varepsilon(x) \subset \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} G_\alpha$

(c) Let $x \in \bigcap_{j=1}^N G_j \Rightarrow x \in G_j, \forall j=1, \dots, N$

$\Rightarrow \exists \varepsilon_j > 0$ s.t. $B_{\varepsilon_j}(x) \subset G_j, \forall j=1, \dots, N$.

Let $\varepsilon = \min\{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_N\} > 0$. Then

$B_\varepsilon(x) \subset B_{\varepsilon_j}(x) \subset G_j, \forall j=1, \dots, N$

$\Rightarrow B_\varepsilon(x) \subset \bigcap_{j=1}^N G_j$. ❌

Def: Let (X, d) be a metric space.

A set $F \subset X$ is called a closed set if the

complement $X \setminus F$ is an open set.

Prop 2.5: Let (X, d) be a metric space. We have

(a) X and \emptyset are closed sets.

(b) Arbitrary intersection of closed sets is closed: if $F_\alpha, \alpha \in A$,
is a collection of closed sets, then $\bigcap_{\alpha \in A} F_\alpha$ is a closed set.

(c) Finite union of closed sets is closed: if F_1, \dots, F_N are closed sets,
then $\bigcup_{j=1}^N F_j$ is a closed set.

Note: Prop 2.4 & 2.5 $\Rightarrow X$ & \emptyset are both open & closed.

eg 2.10 (1) Every metric ball

$$B_r(x) = \{y \in X : d(x, y) < r\} \quad (r > 0)$$

is an open set.

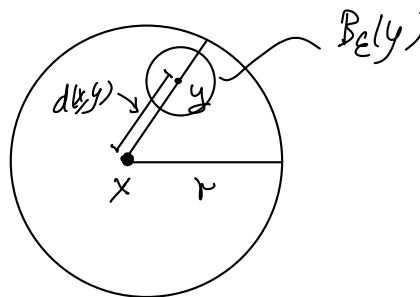
Pf: $\forall y \in B_r(x)$

Then $\epsilon \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} r - d(x, y) > 0$

& $\forall z \in B_\epsilon(y)$

$$d(z, x) \leq d(z, y) + d(y, x) < \epsilon + d(y, x) = r$$

$$\Rightarrow B_\epsilon(y) \subset B_r(x) \quad \#$$



(2) The set $E = \{y \in X : d(y, x) > r\}$ (for a fixed $x \in X$)

is open and hence

$X \setminus E = \{y \in X : d(y, x) \leq r\}$ is closed.

Pf: $\forall y \in E$

Then $\varepsilon \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d(x, y) - r > 0$

$\forall z \in B_\varepsilon(y)$

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

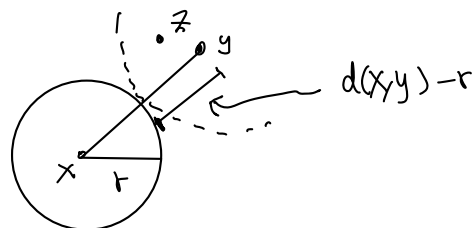
$\therefore B_\varepsilon(y) \subset E$ ~~*~~

Note: We usually write

$$\overline{B}_r(x) = \overline{B_r(x)} = \{y \in X : d(y, x) \leq r\}$$

the closed ball of radius r centered at x ,

(Confusing notation here, may not equal to the "closure" of $B_r(x)$ in a general metric space.)



(3) Since $B_r(x)$ & $E = \{y \in X : d(x,y) > r\}$ are open,

$B_r(x) \cup E$ is open

$\Rightarrow X \setminus (B_r(x) \cup E) = \{y \in X : d(x,y) = r\}$ is closed.

In particular, $E = \{y \in X : d(x,y) > 0\}$ is open (take $r=0$)

$\Rightarrow \{x\} = X \setminus E$ is closed. (in any metric space)

(Note = $\{x\}$ may not be open (unless $\exists \epsilon_0 > 0$ s.t. $B_{\epsilon_0}(x) = \{x\}$))

eg 2.11 $B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x)$, $n=1,2,\dots$ are open sets

Claim $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) = \{x\}$ (closed, may not be open)

(this shows countable infinite intersection of open sets may not be open)

Pf of claim: $\forall y \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \Rightarrow y \in B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x), \forall n=1,2,\dots$

$\Rightarrow d(y,x) < \frac{1}{n}, \forall n$

$\Rightarrow d(y,x) = 0$

$\Rightarrow y = x$ ~~✗~~

eg 2.13 $\mathcal{X} = C[a, b]$ with $d_\infty(f, g) = \|f - g\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x) - g(x)|$

let

$$E = \{f \in C[a, b] : f(x) > 0, \forall x \in [a, b]\} \subset \mathcal{X}$$

$\forall f \in E$, f is positive, cts on the closed & bounded interval $[a, b]$, therefore $\exists m > 0$ s.t.

$$f(x) \geq m > 0, \quad \forall x \in [a, b].$$

Consider

$$B_{\frac{m}{2}}^\infty(f) = \{g \in C[a, b] : d_\infty(g, f) < \frac{m}{2}\}$$

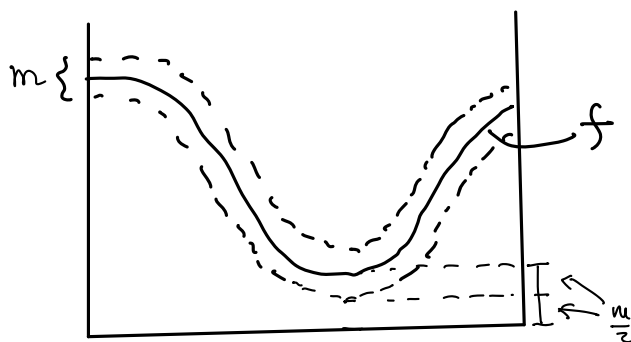
Then

$\forall g \in B_{\frac{m}{2}}^\infty(f)$, we have $\forall x \in [a, b]$.

$$g(x) = [g(x) - f(x)] + f(x)$$

$$\geq f(x) - \|g - f\|_\infty$$

$$> f(x) - \frac{m}{2} \geq m - \frac{m}{2} = \frac{m}{2} > 0$$



$$\therefore g \in E \text{ and hence } B_{\frac{\epsilon}{2}}^{\infty}(g) \subset E$$

$$\therefore E \text{ is open in } (C[a,b], d_{\infty})$$

$$\left(\text{as } \forall f \in E, \exists B_{\frac{\epsilon}{2}}^{\infty}(f) \subset E \right)$$

Similarly, one can show that $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\{f \in C[a,b] : f(x) > \alpha, \forall x \in [a,b]\}$$

$$\{f \in C[a,b] : f(x) < \alpha, \forall x \in [a,b]\}$$

are open in $(C[a,b], d_{\infty})$.

$$\text{And } \{f \in C[a,b] : f(x) \geq \alpha, \forall x \in [a,b]\}$$

$$\{f \in C[a,b] : f(x) \leq \alpha, \forall x \in [a,b]\}$$

are closed in $(C[a,b], d_{\infty})$ (Ex!)

$$\left(\text{Caution: } C[a,b] \setminus \{f \in C[a,b] : f(x) \geq \alpha, \forall x \in [a,b]\} \right. \\ \left. \neq \{f \in C[a,b] : f(x) < \alpha, \forall x \in [a,b]\} \right)$$

eg 2.14: Let $X \neq \emptyset$ and $d = \text{discrete metric on } X$.

Then \forall subset $E \subset X$,

$$B_{\frac{1}{2}}(x) = \{x\} \subset E, \quad \forall x \in E.$$

$\therefore E$ is open.

Therefore, any subset E of $(X, \text{discrete})$ is open,

& hence any subset E of $(X, \text{discrete})$ is closed.

Together, any subset E of $(X, \text{discrete})$ is

both open and closed.

In particular, any $\{x\} \subset (X, \text{discrete})$ is

both open and closed.

Prop 2.6 Let (X, d) be a metric space.

A sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges to x if and only if

\forall open set G containing x , $\exists n_0$ such that

$$x_n \in G, \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

Pf: (\Rightarrow) Let G open & $x \in G$.

$\Rightarrow \exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset G$

As $x_n \rightarrow x$, for this $\varepsilon > 0$, $\exists n_0$ s.t.

$$d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon, \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

$\Rightarrow x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x) \subset G, \quad \forall n \geq n_0$

(\Leftarrow) $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $B_\varepsilon(x)$ is an open set containing x .

Therefore $\exists n_0$ s.t. $x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x), \quad \forall n \geq n_0$

$\Rightarrow d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon, \quad \forall n \geq n_0$ ~~##~~

Prop? 7 Let (X, d) be a metric space.

Then a set $A \subset X$ is closed

if and only if

whenever $\{x_n\} \subset A$ and $x_n \rightarrow x$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

implies that $x \in A$.

Pf: (\Rightarrow) Suppose not. Then $x \notin A$

i.e. $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus A$ which is open (as A closed)

$$\Rightarrow \exists \varepsilon > 0, B_\varepsilon(x) \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus A.$$

On the other hand $x_n \rightarrow x$,

$$\Rightarrow \exists n_0 \text{ s.t. } d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x) \subset \mathbb{R} \setminus A \quad (\text{by above})$$

$$\Rightarrow x_n \notin A \quad \text{contradiction} \quad \#$$

(\Leftarrow) Suppose not. Then A is not closed.

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{R} \setminus A \text{ is not open}$$

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus A \text{ s.t. } B_\varepsilon(x) \not\subset \mathbb{R} \setminus A, \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

In particular, $B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset, \quad \forall n = 1, 2, \dots$

Pick $x_n \in B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \cap A$ for each n

Then $\{x_n\} \subset A$ & $d(x_n, x) < \frac{1}{n}, \quad \forall n$

$$\Rightarrow x_n \rightarrow x \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Contradicting the assumption (as $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus A$) $\#$

Prop 2.8 Let $f: (X, d) \rightarrow (Y, \rho)$ be a mapping between metric spaces.

(a) f is continuous at x

$\Leftrightarrow \forall$ open set G (in Y) containing $f(x)$,

$f^{-1}(G)$ contains $B_\varepsilon(x)$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$.

(b) f is continuous in X

$\Leftrightarrow \forall$ open set G in Y , $f^{-1}(G)$ is open in X

Pf: (a) (\Rightarrow) Suppose not,

then \exists open set G in Y containing $f(x)$

s.t. $f^{-1}(G)$ doesn't contain $B_\varepsilon(x)$, $\forall \varepsilon > 0$.

ie. $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap [X \setminus f^{-1}(G)] \neq \emptyset$, $\forall \varepsilon > 0$.

In particular $B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \cap [X \setminus f^{-1}(G)] \neq \emptyset$, $\forall n$.

Pick $x_n \in B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \cap [X \setminus f^{-1}(G)]$, $\forall n$.

Then

$x_n \in B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \Rightarrow x_n \rightarrow x$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_n \in X \setminus f^{-1}(G) \Rightarrow f(x_n) \notin G, \forall n \end{array} \right.$

By Prop 2.6, $f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x)$. Contradicting the assumption that f is not cts. at x .

(\Leftarrow) $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $B_\varepsilon(f(x)) \subset Y$ is an open set containing $f(x)$. By assumption,

$$f^{-1}(B_\varepsilon(f(x))) \supset B_\delta(x) \text{ for some } \delta > 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } f(y) \in B_\varepsilon(f(x)), \quad \forall y \in B_\delta(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow d(f(y), f(x)) < \varepsilon, \quad \forall d(y, x) < \delta.$$

$\therefore f$ is cts. at x .

(b) follows from (a). (Ex!) ~~✗~~

Note: We also have:

$$f \text{ is cts in } X \iff$$

$$\forall \text{ closed set } F \subset Y, \quad f^{-1}(F) \text{ is closed in } X.$$

(Pf: Ex!)

Ex: (i) Let $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ & $A \neq \emptyset$.

Since $f(x) = d(x, A)$ is cts

$G_r = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : d(x, A) < r\} = f^{-1}(B_r(0))$ $\xrightarrow{\text{in } \mathbb{R}}$
is open in \mathbb{R} .

(ii) Claim: If $A (\neq \emptyset)$ is closed,

then $A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} G_{\frac{1}{n}}$. ($G_{\frac{1}{n}} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : d(x, A) < \frac{1}{n}\}$)

Hence any closed set is a countable intersection
of open sets.

PF: It is clear that $A \subset \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} G_{\frac{1}{n}}$ as $A \subset G_{\frac{1}{n}}, \forall n$.

Let $x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} G_{\frac{1}{n}}$, then $x \in G_{\frac{1}{n}}, \forall n$

$$\Rightarrow d(x, A) < \frac{1}{n}, \forall n$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists x_n \in A \text{ s.t. } d(x, x_n) < \frac{1}{n}, \forall n$$

Hence $\{x_n\} \subset A$ is a seq in A s.t. $x_n \rightarrow x$.

Since A is closed, we have $x \in A$. (Prop 2.7)

$$\therefore A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} G_{\frac{1}{n}} \quad \text{***}$$