

Lipschitz condition and differentiability

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If X and Y are Banach spaces, e.g. \mathbb{R}^n , one can inquire about the relation between differentiability and the Lipschitz condition. If f is Lipschitz, the ratio

$$\frac{\|f(q) - f(p)\|}{\|q - p\|}, \quad p, q \in X$$

is bounded but is not assumed to converge to a limit.

Proposition 1 Let $f: X \to Y$ be a http://planetmath.org/DifferentiableMappingcontinuoudifferentiable mapping between Banach spaces. If $K \subset X$ is a compact subset, then the restriction $f: K \to Y$ satisfies the Lipschitz condition.

Proof. Let lin(X,Y) denote the Banach space of bounded linear maps from X to Y. Recall that the norm ||T|| of a linear mapping $T \in lin(X,Y)$ is defined by

$$||T|| = \sup\{\frac{||Tu||}{||u||} : u \neq 0\}.$$

Let $D f : X \to lin(X, Y)$ denote the derivative of f. By definition D f is continuous, which really means that $||D f|| : X \to \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function. Since $K \subset X$ is compact, there exists a finite upper bound $B_1 > 0$ for ||D f|| restricted to K. In particular, this means that

$$\|D f(p)u\| \le \|D f(p)\| \|u\| \le B_1 \|u\|,$$

for all $p \in K$, $u \in X$.

Next, consider the secant mapping $s: X \times X \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$s(p,q) = \begin{cases} \frac{\|f(q) - f(p) - Df(p)(q-p)\|}{\|q-p\|} & q \neq p \\ 0 & p = q \end{cases}$$

This mapping is continuous, because f is assumed to be continuously differentiable. Hence, there is a finite upper bound $B_2 > 0$ for s restricted to the compact set $K \times K$. It follows that for all $p, q \in K$ we have

$$||f(q) - f(p)|| \le ||f(q) - f(p) - D f(p)(q - p)|| + ||D f(p)(q - p)||$$

$$\le B_2 ||q - p|| + B_1 ||q - p||$$

$$= (B_1 + B_2) ||q - p||$$

Therefore $B_1 + B_2$ is the desired Lipschitz constant. QED

Neither condition is stronger. For example, the function $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(x) = x^2$ is differentiable but not Lipschitz.