

METRIC SPACES

Eventually: data sets.

Survey questions: $\rightarrow (x_1, \dots, x_g)$

x_1 : age

x_2 : height

x_3 : # of pets

\vdots

\uparrow
data point

How are data points compared?

Ex: geographic distance vs. genetic distance

PC: in the US

EC: in France

distance = many miles.

siblings have comparable genetic material

AC: also in the US

distance: short (from DNA point of view).

distance (PC, AC) = small geographically
= large genetically.

Conclusion: different problems require different notions of distance.

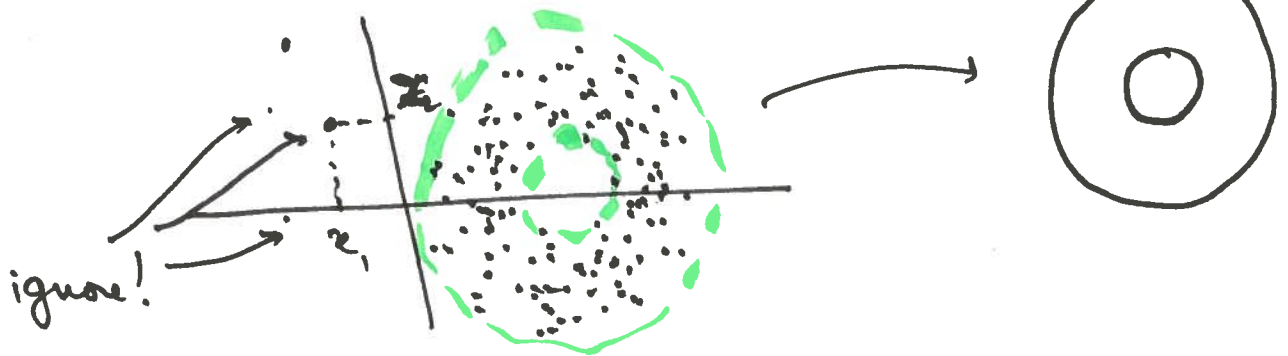
In general: data points belong to \mathbb{R}^n

(x_1, \dots, x_n) n may be large

The number of points may also be large....

Idea of TDA: how to study the shape of a large set in large dimension?

If $n = 2$ (small dimension):



→ what if $n > 3$? No pictures...

→ what if our eyes see no pattern?

Goal: To develop a good theory of "shape" in any dimension.

$n = \text{dimension} = \text{"number of questions in survey"}$

(3)

We ask n questions or make n measurements.

→ for each, we get a point $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

For each i , $1 \leq i \leq n$, $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$.

$x_i = \text{the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ answer for person } x$

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

If answers are not numerical, make them numerical:

yes - 1, no - 0

More generally: we want to estimate how close answers are.

Question: how should proximity be measured?

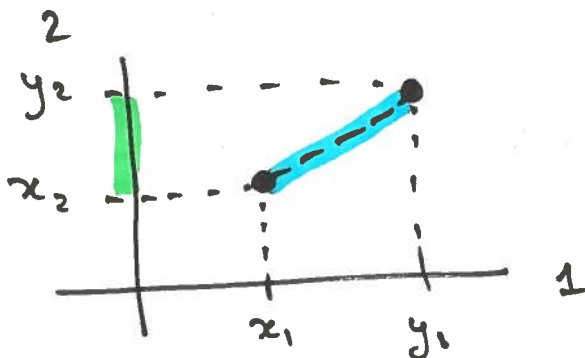
Ex. $n = 2$

x_1 : age

x_2 : weight

$$x = (x_1, x_2)$$

$$y = (y_1, y_2)$$



$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{(y_1 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - x_2)^2}$$

If we only care about weight: $d(x, y) = |y_2 - x_2|$

→ What should a distance satisfy?

(4)

Def. Let X be a set. A metric or distance on X is a function $d: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $(x, y) \mapsto d(x, y)$

with the following properties:

$$(M1) \quad d(x, y) \geq 0 \text{ and } d(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y$$

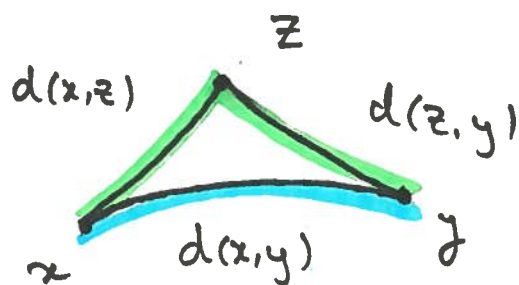
$$(M2) \quad d(x, y) = d(y, x) \quad - \text{ symmetry}$$

$$(M3) \quad d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(z, y) \quad - \text{ triangle ineq.}$$

(M1) says that the only points at distance 0 are identical.

$$\underbrace{x = y}_{\uparrow \text{ in } X} \iff \underbrace{d(x, y) = 0}_{\uparrow \text{ in } \mathbb{R}}$$

(M3) - Triangle...



$$\underline{d(x, y)} \leq \underline{d(x, z)} + \underline{d(z, y)}$$

(5)

Ex 1. $X = \mathbb{R}$. $d(x, y) = |x - y|$

Show that d is a distance.

Ex 2. $X = \mathbb{R}^2$. $\delta(x, y) = |y_2 - x_2|$ $x = (x_1, x_2)$
 $y = (y_1, y_2)$

Is δ a distance?

Ex 1. $d(x, y) = |x - y| = \underbrace{|y - x|}_{\geq 0} = d(y, x)$

(M1) \checkmark (M2) \checkmark

$$d(x, y) = |x - y| = |x - \underbrace{z + z - y}_{=0}| \quad |a+b| \leq |a| + |b|$$

$$\leq |x - z| + |z - y| = d(x, z) + d(z, y)$$

(M3) \checkmark

Ex 2. $\delta(x, y) = |y_2 - x_2|$ is not a distance.

$x = (1, 3)$

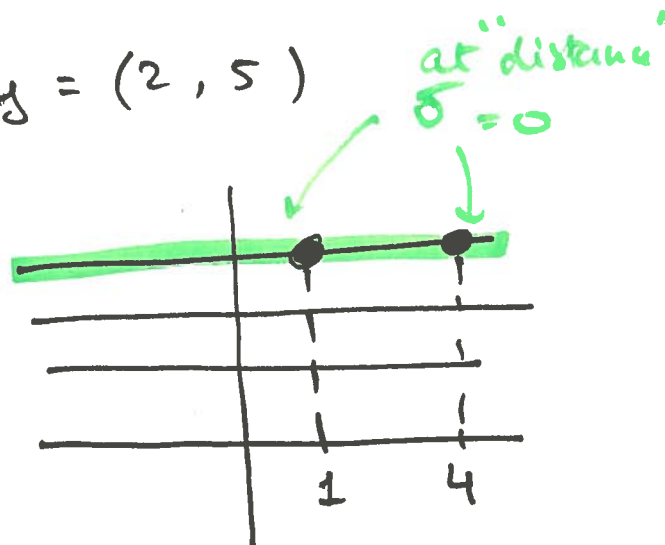
$y = (2, 5)$

$z = (4, 3)$

$\delta(x, y) = |5 - 3| = 2$

$\delta(x, z) = |3 - 3| = 0$

but $x \neq z$!



(6)

HW. The Euclidean distance on \mathbb{R}^n .

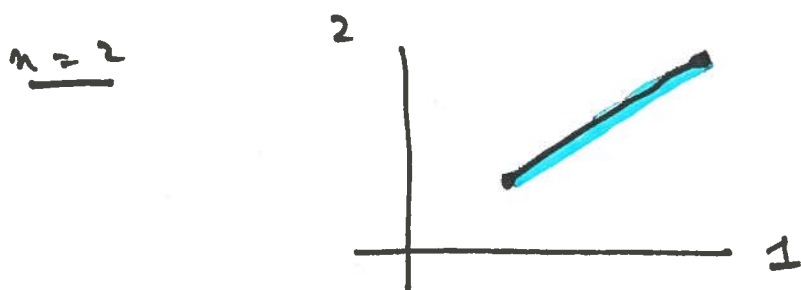
$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$d_{\text{Eud.}}(x, y) = \sqrt{(y_1 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - x_2)^2 + \dots + (y_n - x_n)^2}$$

Fact: This is a distance (satisfies (M1), (M2), (M3))

$$\underline{n=1} \quad d_{\text{Eud.}}(x, y) = \sqrt{(y_1 - x_1)^2} = |y_1 - x_1|$$



HW. $X = \mathbb{R}^2$

$$x = (x_1, x_2)$$

$$y = (y_1, y_2)$$

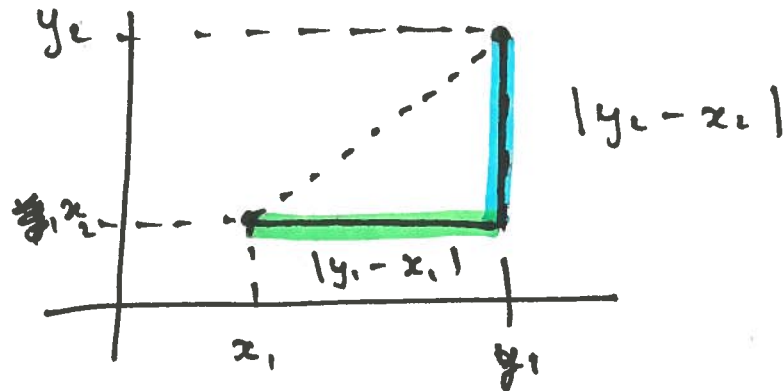
Define $d_1(x, y) = |y_1 - x_1| + |y_2 - x_2|$

and $d_\infty(x, y) = \max \{ |y_1 - x_1|, |y_2 - x_2| \}$

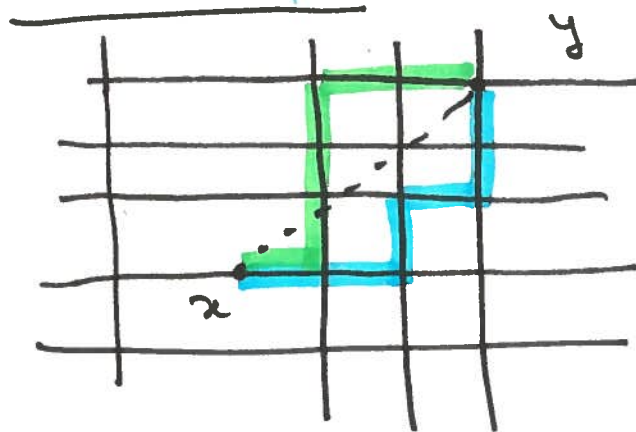
Q: prove that d_1 and d_∞ are distances on \mathbb{R}^2 .

What does "shape" mean if we measure distances with d_1 or d_∞ instead of $d_{\text{Eucl.}}$?

$$d_1(x, y) = |y_1 - x_1| + |y_2 - x_2|$$



This is called the Manhattan distance or taxicab distance:



$$\begin{aligned} \text{length: } & \underbrace{3 \text{ right}} + \underbrace{3 \text{ up}} = 6 \\ & = |y_1 - x_1| \quad = |y_2 - x_2| \end{aligned}$$

Concerning d_∞ : can define it on \mathbb{R}^n

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$d_\infty(x, y) = \max \{ |y_1 - x_1|, |y_2 - x_2|, \dots, |y_n - x_n| \}$$

$$\underline{n=3} \quad x = (1; 2; 3)$$

$$y = (1.1; 2.2; 5)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} |y_1 - x_1| = 0.1 \\ |y_2 - x_2| = 0.2 \end{array} \right\} \text{small differences}$$

$$|y_3 - x_3| = 2 \quad \left. \right\} \text{bigger difference}$$

$$d_\infty(x, y) = 2$$

d_∞ only measures the greatest difference between x and y .

HW. There is also a Manhattan distance on \mathbb{R}^n :

$$d_1(x, y) = |y_1 - x_1| + |y_2 - x_2| + \dots + |y_n - x_n|$$

→ Check this is a distance!

(9)

→ Given a set X , is there always a distance on X ?

On \mathbb{R}^n , we saw: $d_{\text{Eucl.}}$, d_1 , d_∞

If X is a set, define $d: X \times X \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$\left[\begin{array}{ll} d(x, y) = 0 & \text{if } x = y \\ & = 1 \quad \text{if } x \neq y \end{array} \right]$$

Ex (HW): verify that this is a distance!

Remark: if $n=1$ ($X = \mathbb{R}$)

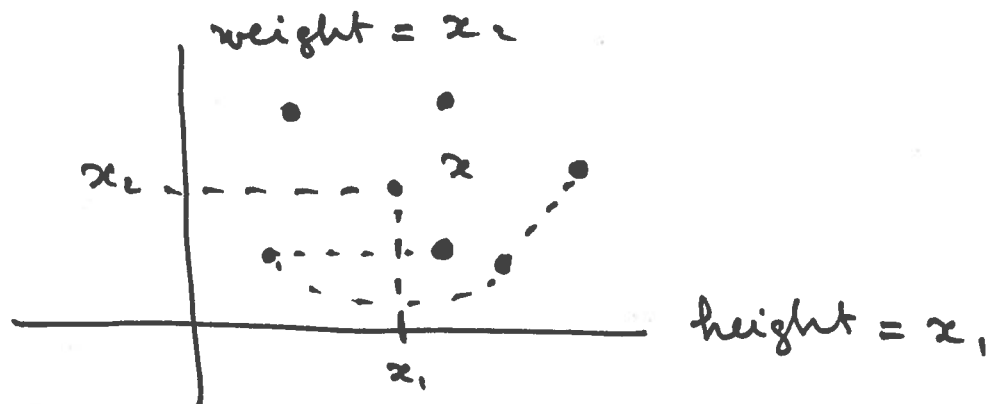
$$\begin{aligned} d_{\text{Eucl.}}(x, y) &= \sqrt{(y-x)^2} = |y-x| \\ &= d_1(x, y) \\ &= d_\infty(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

In that case, they are all the same!

Not true for \mathbb{R}^n with $n \geq 2$.

Example: Survey asks about height and weight: (10)

put results in \mathbb{R}^2 :



For this survey, we may use $d_{\text{Eucl.}}$, d_1 , d_∞ ,

Special distance on any set: $d_0(x, y) = 0$ if $x = y$
 $= 1$ if $x \neq y$.

→ We want to check (M1), (M2), (M3).

(M1) $d_0(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y$ ✓

(M2) $d_0(y, x) = 0 \iff x = y \iff y = x$
 $= 1 \iff x \neq y \iff y \neq x$ ✓

(M3) Compare $d_0(x, y)$ and $d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y)$

1st case: $x = y$

Then $d_0(x, y) = 0$ and $\underbrace{d_0(x, z)}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{d_0(z, y)}_{\geq 0} \geq 0$

so $d_0(x, y) \leq d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y)$ ✓

2nd Case : $x \neq y$

(11)

~~Then~~ Then $d_0(x, y) = 1$.

and $d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y) = 0 + 1$ if $x = z, y \neq z$
 $= 1 + 0$ if $x \neq z, y = z$
 $= 1 + 1$ if $x \neq z, y \neq z$

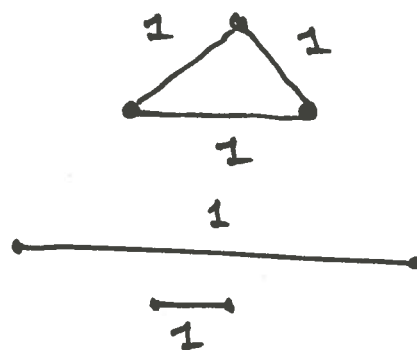
• $d_0(x, y) = 1$ and $d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y)$ is 1 or 2

$$\infty \quad d_0(x, y) \leq d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y)$$

($d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y)$ cannot be 0, that would mean $x = z$ and $z = y$ and we know $x \neq y$)

• $d_0(x, z) + d_0(z, y) = 2$ can happen

not the distance
between two pts.



In this setting, Two points can only be at distance 0 (same) or 1 (different).

(HW) Comparison of $d_{\text{Euc.}}$, d_1 and d_∞ on \mathbb{R}^2 :
For $x = (x_1, x_2)$, $y = (y_1, y_2)$ in \mathbb{R}^2 , prove:

$$\frac{1}{2} d_1(x, y) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} d_{\text{Euc.}}(x, y) \leq d_\infty(x, y)$$

Special sets in a metric space.

Assume X is a set with a distance d .

For $a \in X$ (a element of X)

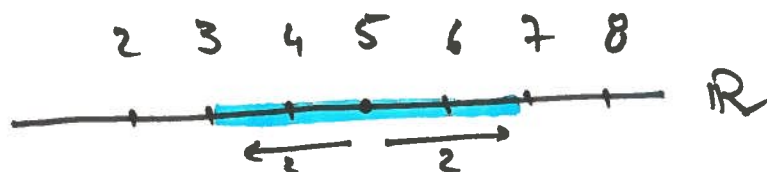
and $r > 0$ (r is a real number).

Consider: $B(a, r) = \{ x \in X \text{ (s.t. } d(a, x) < r \} \}$
 (such that)

$B(a, r)$ is called the ball with radius r and center a .

Ex: $X = \mathbb{R}$, $r = 2$, $a = 5$

$$B(a, r) = \{ x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } |5 - x| < 2 \}$$



$$|5 - 2| < 2 \iff |x - 5| < 2$$

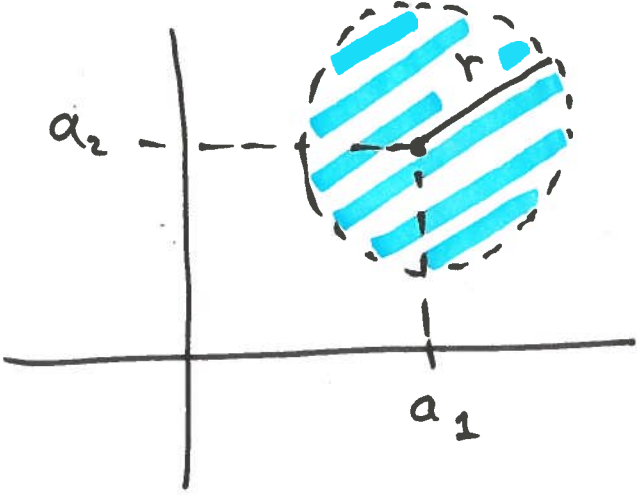
$$\iff -2 < x - 5 < 2$$

$$\iff 3 < x < 7$$

$$B(5, 2) = (3, 7)$$

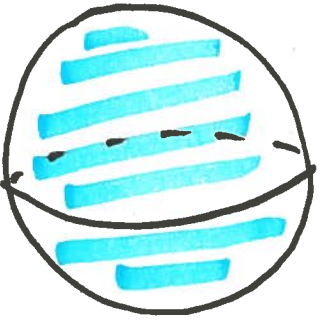
In $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ with $d_{\text{Euc.}}$:

$$B(a, r) = \{ (x_1, x_2) \text{ s.t. } (x_1 - a_1)^2 + (x_2 - a_2)^2 < r^2 \}$$



open disk
↓
without the boundary circle.

In \mathbb{R}^3 : a full open ball in the ordinary sense :



without the boundary sphere



If we want to include the boundary, define :

$$B_{\leq}(a, r) = \{ x \in X \text{ s.t. } d(a, x) \leq r \}$$



$X = \mathbb{R}^2$:



$X = \mathbb{R}^3$:



Balls are the basic objects to define metric topology.

We need to understand them visually in small dimension, for several metrics.

→ What do balls look like for d_1 , d_∞ , d_0 ?

Consider d_∞ (Do d_1 as HW) in the case of

$X = \mathbb{R}^2$. Pick $a = \underbrace{(0,0)}_{\mathcal{O}}$ and $r = 1$.

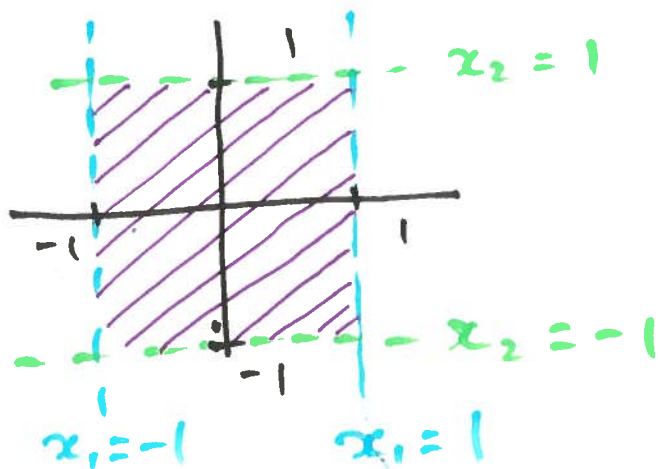
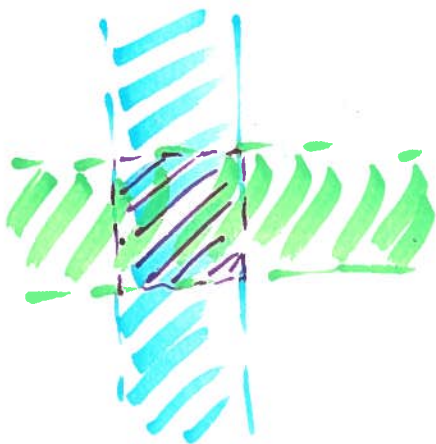
$$B(a, r) = B(\mathcal{O}, 1) = ?$$

$$= \{ (x_1, x_2) \text{ s.t. } \max \{ |x_1 - 0|, |x_2 - 0| \} < 1 \}$$

$$= \{ (x_1, x_2) \text{ s.t. } \max \{ |x_1|, |x_2| \} < 1 \}$$

$$= \{ (x_1, x_2) \text{ s.t. } |x_1| < 1 \text{ and } |x_2| < 1 \}$$

$$= \{ (x_1, x_2) \text{ s.t. } \underline{-1 < x_1 < 1} \text{ and } \underline{-1 < x_2 < 1} \}$$



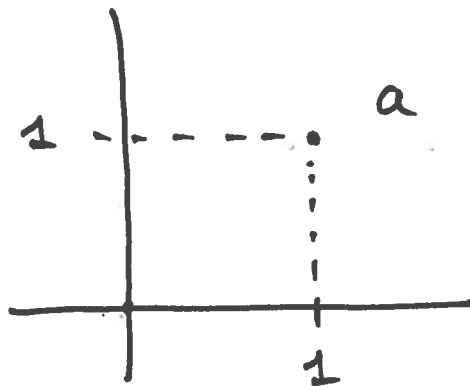
$B(\mathcal{O}, 1)$

Ex. Draw $B(0, 1)$ for d_1 (Manhattan) (HW) (15)

Another example: $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ with $d_0(x, y) = 0$ if $x = y$
 $= 1$ if $x \neq y$.

Consider $a = (1, 1)$.

Draw $B(a, \frac{1}{2})$, $B(a, \frac{4}{5})$, $B(a, 2)$



Let $x = (x_1, x_2)$.

$$\bullet \quad d_0(a, x) < \frac{1}{2} \iff d_0(a, x) = 0 \\ \iff a = x$$

$$\hookrightarrow B(a, \frac{1}{2}) = \{a\}$$

$$\bullet \quad d_0(a, x) < \frac{4}{5} \iff d_0(a, x) = 0 \\ \iff a = x$$

$$\hookrightarrow B(a, \frac{4}{5}) = \{a\} \quad !!!$$

• Now, for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$d_0(a, x) = 0 \text{ or } 1 < 2$$

so $d_0(a, x) < 2$ for all x in \mathbb{R}^2 , that is,

$$\boxed{B(a, 2) = \mathbb{R}^2} \quad !!$$

Conclusion: $B(a, r) = \{a\}$ if $r \leq 1$
 $B(a, r) = \mathbb{R}^2$ if $r > 1$