

METRIC SPACES

2.15 Definition

A set X is said to be a metric space if two points a and b in X associate a real number function $d(p,q)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Non - negativity :} & \quad d(p, q) > 0 \text{ if } p \neq q, d(p, p) = 0; \\ \text{Symmetry :} & \quad d(p, q) = d(q, p); \\ \text{Triangle Inequality :} & \quad d(p, q) \leq d(p, r) + d(r, q), \text{ for any } r \in X. \end{aligned}$$

Any function with these three properties is called a distance function, or a metric.

2.16 Definition

The **unit ball** is a set defined by

$$\{x \in R^n | d(x, 0) \leq 1\}$$

2.17 Definition

Let X be a metric space, all points and sets mentioned below are elements and subsets of X .

1. A **neighborhood** of p is a set $N_r(p)$ consisting of all q such that $d(p, q) < r$, for some $r > 0$. The number r is called the radius of $N_r(p)$. (random r)
2. A point p is a **limit point** of the set E if every neighborhood of p contains a point $q \neq p$ such that $q \in E$. (no one but myself). i. e. $\forall r > 0, N_r(p) \cap E \neq \emptyset$
3. If $p \in E$ and p is not a limit point of E , then p is called an **isolated point** of E .
4. A point is an **interior point** of E if there is a neighborhood N of p such that $N \subset E$. i. e. $\exists r > 0, N_r(p) \subseteq E$.
5. E is closed if **every limit point** of E is a point of E .
6. E is open if every point of E is a **interior point**. $\forall p \in E, \exists r > 0, s. t. N_r(p) \subseteq E$.
7. The **complement** of E , denoted by E^c , is the set of all points $p \in X$ such that $p \notin E$.
8. E is **perfect** if E is closed and if every point of E is a limit point of E .
9. E is **bounded** if there is a real number M and a point $q \in X$ such that $d(p, q) < M$ for all $p \in E$.
10. E is **dense** in X if every point of X is a limit point of E , or a point of E (or both).

Notice that an interior point is not necessarily a limit point.

2.18 Facts

Let X be a metric space, all points and sets mentioned below are elements and subsets of X .

1. If E is open, E^c is closed;
2. If E is closed, E^c is open.

Proof:

1. We need to show that if p is a limit point of E^c then $p \in E^c$.

Let p be a limit point, i. e. $\forall r > 0, N_r(p) \cap E^c \neq \emptyset$.

$\therefore \forall p \in E, \forall r > 0, N_r(p)$ doesn't $\subseteq E$.

Therefore p is not an interior point of E . However, every point in E is an interior point.

i. e. $p \notin E, p \in E^c$.

2. The statement is equivalent to "**If E is not open, then E^c is not closed**", which is trivial.

Since E is not open, that is $\exists p \in E, \forall r > 0, s. t. N_r(p) \cap E^c \neq \emptyset$.

Therefore E^c is not closed.

2.19 Facts

Let A_n, B_n be a open set and a closed set which are both subsets of a metric space X .
($n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$)

1. $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_n$ is open. $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_n$ is closed. $\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_n$ is open, $\bigcap_{i=1}^n B_n$ is closed.
2. $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_n$ is open. $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_n$ is closed.
3. $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_n$ may NOT be open. $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_n$ may NOT be closed.

2.20 Theorem

If p is a limit point of a set E , then every neighbourhood of p contains **infinitely** many points of E .

Corollary

A finite point set has no limit points.

Hence, a finite set is closed.

2.22 Theorem

Let $\{E_n\}$ be a (finite or infinite) collection of sets E_n . Then $(\bigcup_{\alpha} E_{\alpha})^c = \bigcap_{\alpha} (E_{\alpha}^c)$

2.23 Definition

If X is a metric space, if $E \subset X$, and if E' denotes the set of all limit points of E , then the *closure* of E is the set $\overline{E} = E \cup E'$.

2.24 Theorem

If X is a metric space and $E \subset X$, then

- (a) \overline{E} is closed,
- (b) $\overline{E} = E$ if and only if E is closed,
- (c) $\overline{E} \subset F$ for every closed set $F \subset X$ such that $E \subset F$.

2.25 Definition

If E is a metric space and E is a closed set, E is perfect if and only if $E' = E$.