

Infinitesimal Calculus 3

Lecture 11, Wednesday November 23, 2022
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11.1 Funky Functions

Proposition 11.1.1:

If $f: X \longrightarrow Y$ is continuous and $E \subseteq X$ is compact, $f(E)$ is also compact.

Proof:

Suppose $\{\mathcal{O}_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ is an open cover of $f(E)$, that is:

$$f(E) \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \mathcal{O}_\lambda \implies E \subseteq \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_\lambda)$$

Since f is continuous, $f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_\lambda)$ is open so $\{f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ is an open cover of E , which is compact so there is an open subcover of E , let it be $\{f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_k)\}_{k=1}^n$, so:

$$E \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^n f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_k) \implies f(E) \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^n \mathcal{O}_k$$

And so $\{\mathcal{O}_k\}_{k=1}^n$ is an open subcovering of $f(E)$, and therefore $f(E)$ is compact. ■

Proposition 11.1.2:

If $E \subseteq X$ is compact and $f: E \longrightarrow Y$ is continuous, f takes a minimum and maximum in E .

Proof:

Since $f(E)$ itself is compact, it is bounded. And so there exists $s = \sup f(E)$, which means that there exists $x_n \in E$ such that $f(x_n) \longrightarrow s$. And since E is compact there exists a subsequence x_{n_k} which converges to some value $x \in E$, and so $f(x_{n_k}) \longrightarrow s$, but at the same time since f is continuous so $f(x_{n_k}) \longrightarrow f(x)$, and so $f(x) = s$. So f takes a maximum in E . A similar proof can be used to show it takes a minimum. ■

Example:

The continuous preimage of a compact set is not necessarily compact. Take for example $f: \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $f(x) = c$. Then even though $\{c\}$ is compact, $f^{-1}(\{c\}) = \mathbb{R}$ is not compact.

Proposition 11.1.3:

If $E \subseteq X$ is compact and $f: E \longrightarrow Y$ is continuous and injective, then $f^{-1}: f(E) \longrightarrow E$ is continuous.

Proof:

Let $g = f^{-1}$ on $f(E)$. We will show that for every $K \subseteq E$ closed, $g^{-1}(K)$ is also closed. Since E is compact and K is closed in E , K is compact in X . And $g^{-1} = f$, so $g^{-1}(K) = f(K)$ which is compact since f is continuous, and so it is closed. So the preimage under g of any closed set is also closed, therefore g is continuous. ■

Definition 11.1.4:

A mapping f between two metric spaces X and Y is **uniformly continuous** if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a $\delta > 0$ such that for every $x, y \in X$ if $\rho(x, y) < \delta$ then $\sigma(f(x), f(y)) < \varepsilon$.

Theorem 11.1.5:

If $E \subseteq X$ is compact and $f: E \rightarrow X$ is continuous, then it is uniformly continuous.

Proof:

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ then for every $x \in E$ let $\delta_x > 0$ satisfy continuity for ε , that is $f(B_{\delta_x}(x)) \subseteq B_\varepsilon(f(x))$. And so:

$$E \subseteq \bigcup_{x \in E} B_{\frac{1}{2}\delta_x}(x)$$

This is an open cover so there is an open subcover $\{B_{\frac{1}{2}\delta_k}(x_k)\}_{k=1}^n$. We can take $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \min_{1 \leq k \leq n} \delta_k > 0$. Let $y, z \in E$ such that $\rho(x, y) < \delta$, then there exists some x_1 and x_2 in the open subcover such that $y \in B_1(x_1)$ and $z \in B_2(x_2)$ so

$$\rho(z, x_1) \leq \rho(z, y) + \rho(y, x_1) < \frac{\delta_1}{2} + \delta \leq \delta_1$$

So $z \in B_1(x_1)$ and therefore $\sigma(f(z), f(x_1)) < \varepsilon$ and so $\sigma(f(y), f(z)) < 2\varepsilon$. And so f is uniformly continuous. ■

Proposition 11.1.6:

Suppose $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous and $E \subseteq X$ is connected, then $f(E)$ is connected in Y .

Proof:

Suppose $f(E) \subseteq \mathcal{O}_1 \cup \mathcal{O}_2$, so $E \subseteq f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_1) \cup f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_2)$, which are open since f is continuous. Since E is connected, $E \subseteq f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_1)$ or $f^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ and therefore $f(E) \subseteq \mathcal{O}_1$ or \mathcal{O}_2 . So $f(E)$ is connected as required. ■

Note that if E is connected in \mathbb{R} and $a < b \in E$ then $(a, b) \subseteq E$. Suppose $c \in (a, b) \setminus E$ then $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}_{<c} \cup \mathbb{R}_{>c}$ which are both open and have non-empty intersections with E (namely a and b), in contradiction to E 's connectedness. This helps prove our next corollary.

Corollary 11.1.7:

Suppose X is a metric space and $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous. Suppose $E \subseteq X$ is connected, then if $a, b \in X$ for $f(a) < f(b)$ then for every $f(a) < y < f(b)$, there is an $x \in E$ such that $f(x) = y$.

Proof:

Since f is continuous and E is connected, $f(E)$ is connected in \mathbb{R} . Since it contains $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, it must contain everything between them (since it is a connected set in \mathbb{R}), ie $(f(a), f(b)) \subseteq f(E)$, as required. ■

Thus concludes the topological portion of our course.

11.2 Partial Derivatives

Definition 11.2.1:

If f is a real valued function defined at (x_0, y_0) then the **partial derivative** of f relative to x is defined as:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)}{\Delta x}$$

And the partial derivative relative to y is:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0, y_0 + \Delta y) - f(x_0, y_0)}{\Delta y}$$

Other notations include:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = f_x(x_0, y_0) = \partial_x f(x_0, y_0)$$

Lemma 11.2.2:

If we define $g(x) = f(x, y_0)$ then $\partial_x f(x_0, y_0) = g'(x_0)$.

This lemma is trivial, but helps us understand how to compute partial derivatives. We simply keep the other variable constant and differentiate.

Proof:

The proof is trivial:

$$g'(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(x_0 + h) - g(x_0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h, y_0) - f(x_0, y_0)}{h} = \partial_x f(x_0, y_0)$$

Example:

$$f(x, y) = \sin(x^2 y + y^3)$$

We will compute $\partial_x f(1, 2)$:

$$\partial_x f(1, 2) = (\sin(x^2 y + y^3))'(1) = (4x \cdot \cos(x^2 y + y^3))(1) = 4 \cos(10)$$