

we have

$$|d(a_n, b_n) - d(a'_n, b'_n)| \leq d(a_n, a'_n) + d(b_n, b'_n),$$

so we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(a'_n, b'_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(a_n, b_n) = \widehat{d}(\alpha, \beta)$ . Therefore,  $\widehat{d}(\alpha, \beta)$  is indeed well defined.

*Step 4.* Let us check that  $\varphi$  is indeed an isometry.

Given any two elements  $\varphi(a)$  and  $\varphi(b)$  in  $\widehat{E}$ , since they are the equivalence classes of the constant sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  such that  $a_n = a$  and  $b_n = b$  for all  $n$ , the constant sequence  $(d(a_n, b_n))$  with  $d(a_n, b_n) = d(a, b)$  for all  $n$  converges to  $d(a, b)$ , so by definition  $\widehat{d}(\varphi(a), \varphi(b)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(a_n, b_n) = d(a, b)$ , which shows that  $\varphi$  is an isometry.

*Step 5.* Let us verify that  $\widehat{d}$  is a metric on  $\widehat{E}$ . By definition it is obvious that  $\widehat{d}(\alpha, \beta) = \widehat{d}(\beta, \alpha)$ . If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are two distinct equivalence classes, then for any Cauchy sequence  $(a_n)$  in the equivalence class  $\alpha$  and for any Cauchy sequence  $(b_n)$  in the equivalence class  $\beta$ , the sequences  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  are inequivalent, which means that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(a_n, b_n) \neq 0$ , that is,  $\widehat{d}(\alpha, \beta) \neq 0$ . Obviously,  $\widehat{d}(\alpha, \alpha) = 0$ .

For any equivalence classes  $\alpha = [(a_n)]$ ,  $\beta = [(b_n)]$ , and  $\gamma = [(c_n)]$ , we have the triangle inequality

$$d(a_n, c_n) \leq d(a_n, b_n) + d(b_n, c_n),$$

so by continuity of the distance function, by passing to the limit, we obtain

$$\widehat{d}(\alpha, \gamma) \leq \widehat{d}(\alpha, \beta) + \widehat{d}(\beta, \gamma),$$

which is the triangle inequality for  $\widehat{d}$ . Therefore,  $\widehat{d}$  is a distance on  $\widehat{E}$ .

*Step 6.* Let us prove that  $\varphi(E)$  is dense in  $\widehat{E}$ . For any  $\alpha = [(a_n)]$ , let  $(x_n)$  be the constant sequence such that  $x_k = a_n$  for all  $k \geq 0$ , so that  $\varphi(a_n) = [(x_n)]$ . Then we have

$$\widehat{d}(\alpha, \varphi(a_n)) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} d(a_m, a_n) \leq \sup_{p, q \geq n} d(a_p, a_q).$$

Since  $(a_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence,  $\sup_{p, q \geq n} d(a_p, a_q)$  tends to 0 as  $n$  goes to infinity, so

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \widehat{d}(\alpha, \varphi(a_n)) = 0,$$

which means that the sequence  $(\varphi(a_n))$  converge to  $\alpha$ , and  $\varphi(E)$  is indeed dense in  $\widehat{E}$ .

*Step 7.* Finally, let us prove that the metric space  $\widehat{E}$  is complete.

Let  $(\alpha_n)$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $\widehat{E}$ . Since  $\varphi(E)$  is dense in  $\widehat{E}$ , for every  $n > 0$ , there some  $a_n \in E$  such that

$$\widehat{d}(\alpha_n, \varphi(a_n)) \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

Since

$$\widehat{d}(\varphi(a_m), \varphi(a_n)) \leq \widehat{d}(\varphi(a_m), \alpha_m) + \widehat{d}(\alpha_m, \alpha_n) + \widehat{d}(\alpha_n, \varphi(a_n)) \leq \widehat{d}(\alpha_m, \alpha_n) + \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{n},$$