

# Metric spaces

## Lecture 6

Mathematics - 1<sup>st</sup> year, English

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# Distance

If  $P(x_P, y_P, z_P)$  and  $Q(x_Q, y_Q, z_Q)$  are two points in space, the *distance* between  $P$  and  $Q$  (or *length* of the segment  $PQ$ ) is

$$d(P, Q) = \sqrt{(x_P - x_Q)^2 + (y_P - y_Q)^2 + (z_P - z_Q)^2}.$$

# Metric spaces

## Definition

Let  $X \neq \emptyset$ . A function  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is called a *distance* or a *metric* on  $X$  if:

(D<sub>1</sub>)  $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y, \forall x, y \in X$ ;

(D<sub>2</sub>)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x), \forall x, y \in X$  (*symmetry*);

(D<sub>3</sub>)  $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z), \forall x, y, z \in X$  (*triangle property*).

In this case, the couple  $(X, d)$  is called a *metric space*.

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then:

- i)  $d(x_0, x_n) \leq d(x_0, x_1) + d(x_1, x_2) + \cdots + d(x_{n-1}, x_n), \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*, \forall x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \in X;$
- ii)  $|d(x, z) - d(y, z)| \leq d(x, y), \forall x, y, z \in X;$
- iii)  $|d(x, y) - d(x', y')| \leq d(x, y') + d(x', y), \forall x, y, x', y' \in X$  (*quadrilateral inequality*).

In linear spaces, some distances come from norms.

## Definition

Let  $(V, \|\cdot\|)$  be a normed space. Then the mapping  $d : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by

$$d(x, y) := \|x - y\|, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

is a metric, called the *metric induced* by the norm  $\|\cdot\|$ .

# Examples

1. On  $\mathbb{R}$ , the application  $d : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by

$$d(x, y) := |x - y|, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

is a distance, called the *canonical distance* in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

2. On  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the metric induced by the Euclidean norm is called the *Euclidean metric* on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and is denoted by  $d_2$ . We have

$$d_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2 = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + \cdots + (x_n - y_n)^2},$$

for  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

3. Let, for  $p \in [1, +\infty)$ , the application  $\|\cdot\|_p : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be defined by

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_p := \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p}, \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Then  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a norm.

Indeed, the triangle property is equivalent to

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i + y_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

which is precisely the Minkowski inequality.

We can also introduce a norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  even in the case  $p = +\infty$ , by

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_{\infty} := \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|, \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The metric induced on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by the  $p$ -norm is called *Minkowski distance* and is denoted by  $d_p$ . So we have

$$d_p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_p = \begin{cases} (|x_1 - y_1|^p + \dots + |x_n - y_n|^p)^{1/p}, & p \in [1, +\infty); \\ \max \{|x_1 - y_1|, \dots, |x_n - y_n|\}, & p = +\infty, \end{cases}$$

for  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

- The metric  $d_1$  is sometimes called the *taxi-cab distance* or *Manhattan distance*.
- The metric  $d_{\infty}$  is also called *Chebyshev distance*.
- If  $n = 1$ :  $d_p(x, y) = |x - y|$ ,  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\forall p \in [1, +\infty]$ .

4. The application  $\tilde{d} : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ , defined by

$$\tilde{d}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{2^k} \cdot \frac{|x_k - y_k|}{1 + |x_k - y_k|},$$

for  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a distance on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , but is not norm-induced, because the function  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \tilde{d}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{0})$  lacks the homogeneity property.

5. Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. The function  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ , defined by

$$d(x, y) := \begin{cases} 0, & x = y; \\ 1, & x \neq y, \end{cases}$$

for  $x, y \in X$ , is a metric on  $X$ , called the *discrete metric* on  $X$ .

6. On  $\bar{\mathbb{R}}$  we can consider the metric  $d$  defined by

$$d(x, y) := |\operatorname{arctg} x - \operatorname{arctg} y|, \quad x, y \in \bar{\mathbb{R}}$$

(we have extended the function  $\operatorname{arctg}$  on  $\bar{\mathbb{R}}$  by  $\operatorname{arctg}(-\infty) := -\pi/2$ ,  $\operatorname{arctg}(+\infty) := \pi/2$ ).



# Uniform norm

## Definition

Let  $E$  be a non-empty set and  $\mathcal{B}(E)$  be the space of bounded functions  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (i.e.  $\text{Im } f$  is a bounded set). We set  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{sup}} : \mathcal{B}(E) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by

$$\|f\|_{\text{sup}} := \sup_{x \in E} |f(x)|.$$

Then  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{sup}}$  is a norm on  $\mathcal{B}(E)$ , called the *uniform norm* or *sup-norm*. The metric induced by  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{sup}}$  is called the *uniform distance*, denoted  $d_{\text{sup}}$ .

## Definition

- Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. We say that two metrics  $d$  and  $d'$  on  $X$  are *equivalent* if there exist two constants  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that

$$c_1 d'(x, y) \leq d(x, y) \leq c_2 d'(x, y), \quad \forall x, y \in X.$$

- Let  $(V, +, \cdot)$  be a linear space. We say that two norms  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $\|\cdot\|'$  are *equivalent* if there exist two constants  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that

$$c_1 \|\mathbf{x}\|' \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq c_2 \|\mathbf{x}\|', \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in V.$$

Of course, if two norms on  $V$  are equivalent, so are the induced metrics.

## Theorem

On  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , all the norms  $\|\cdot\|_p$  with  $p \in [1, +\infty]$  are equivalent.

In fact, we have, for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $p \in [1, +\infty)$

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|_p \leq n^{1/p} \|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty.$$

# Balls and spheres

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x_0 \in X$  an arbitrary point and  $r > 0$  a real number.

- The set

$$B(x_0; r) := \{x \in X \mid d(x, x_0) < r\}$$

is called the *open ball* of *radius*  $r$  and *center*  $x_0$ .

- The set

$$\bar{B}(x_0; r) := \{x \in X \mid d(x, x_0) \leq r\}$$

is called the *closed ball* of *radius*  $r$  and *center*  $x_0$ .

- The set

$$S(x_0; r) := \{x \in X \mid d(x, x_0) = r\}$$

is called the *sphere* of *radius*  $r$  and *center*  $x_0$ .

# Neighbourhoods

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $x_0 \in X$  an arbitrary point. We say that a subset  $V$  of  $X$  is a *neighbourhood* of  $x_0$  if there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $B(x_0; r) \subseteq V$ . We denote the family of all neighbourhoods of  $x_0$  by  $\mathcal{V}(x_0)$ .

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x \in X$  and  $V, V', U$  subsets of  $X$ .

- i) If  $V \in \mathcal{V}(x)$  and  $V \subseteq U$ , then  $U \in \mathcal{V}(x)$ .
- ii) If  $V, V' \in \mathcal{V}(x)$ , then  $V \cap V' \in \mathcal{V}(x)$ .
- iii) If  $V \in \mathcal{V}(x)$ , then  $x \in V$ .
- iv) If  $V \in \mathcal{V}(x)$ , then there exists  $W \in \mathcal{V}(x)$  such that  $V \in \mathcal{V}(y), \forall y \in W$ .

It can be proven that the above four properties fully characterize the family of neighbourhoods  $\mathcal{V}(x)$  of all  $x \in X$ .

## Theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x_0 \in X$  an arbitrary point and  $r > 0$  a real number. Then

$$B(x_0; r) \in \mathcal{V}(x_0), \quad \forall x \in B(x_0; r).$$

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $x_0 \in X$  an arbitrary point. We say that a family  $\mathcal{U}(x_0)$  is a *system of neighbourhoods* of  $x_0$  if

- $\mathcal{U}(x_0) \subseteq \mathcal{V}(x_0)$ ;
- for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}(x_0)$  there exists  $U \in \mathcal{U}(x_0)$  such that  $U \subseteq V$ .

It is obvious that  $\{B(x_0; r)\}_{r \in \mathbb{R}_+^*}$  is a system of neighbourhoods of  $x_0$ . In fact, even  $\left\{B(x_0; \frac{1}{n})\right\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  is a system of neighbourhoods of  $x_0$ .

# Open sets

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. A subset  $D$  of  $X$  is called an *open set* if it is a neighbourhood for every element of  $D$ , i.e.

$$\forall x \in D, \exists r > 0 : B(x; r) \subseteq D.$$

## Examples.

1. For any  $x \in X$  and any  $r > 0$ , the open ball  $B(x; r)$  is an open set. In particular, if  $X$  is  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $d$  is the Euclidean distance, then the interval  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon)$  is an open set for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . This implies that every open interval  $(a, b)$  with  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$  is an open set.
2. The interval  $(-1, 2]$  is not open in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Indeed,  $(-1, 2]$  is not a neighbourhood of 2, since  $(2 - \varepsilon, 2 + \varepsilon) \not\subseteq (-1, 2]$  for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .
3. The sets  $(0, 1) \times (2, 4)$  and

$$\left\{ (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 \neq 4 \right\}$$

are open in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (endowed with the Euclidean distance).

# Topologies

## Proposition

Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  and two metrics  $d, d'$  on  $X$ . If  $d$  and  $d'$  are equivalent, then any open set with respect to the metric  $d$  is open with respect to the metric  $d'$ .

- The collection of all open sets of a metric space  $(X, d)$  is called the *topology* on  $X$  induced by  $d$ .
- The topologies induced by two equivalent metrics are the same.
- Therefore, the topologies induced by  $d_p$  with  $p \in [1, +\infty]$  are the same topology, called the *usual topology* on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

## Theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then:

- i) an arbitrary union of open sets is an open set;
- ii) an intersection of two open sets is an open set;
- iii) every open set can be written as an union of open balls;
- iv)  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are open sets.

# Closed sets

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. A subset  $F$  of  $X$  is called a *closed set* if  $C_A = X \setminus A$  is an open set.

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then:

- i) *an arbitrary intersection of closed sets is a closed set;*
- ii) *a union of two closed sets is a closed set;*
- iii)  $\emptyset$  and  $X$  are closed sets.

## Examples.

1. Every closed interval  $[a, b]$  with  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a \leq b$  is a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . In particular,  $\{a\}$  is a closed set.
2. There are sets in  $\mathbb{R}$  which are neither open nor closed, for instance  $(1, 2]$ .
3. The sets  $[0, 1] \times [2, 4]$  and  $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 \geq 4\}$  are closed in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (endowed with the Euclidean distance).



# Boundedness

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x_0 \in X$  and  $A, B$  two non-empty subsets of  $X$ .

- The *distance* from  $x_0$  to  $A$  is defined as

$$d(x_0, A) := \inf \{d(x_0, x) \mid x \in A\}.$$

- The *distance* between  $A$  and  $B$  is defined as

$$d(A, B) := \inf \{d(x, y) \mid x \in A, y \in B\}.$$

- The *diameter* of  $A$  is defined as

$$\rho(A) := \sup \{d(x, y) \mid x, y \in A\}.$$

- The diameter of  $A$  is an element from  $[0, +\infty]$ .
- If we set by convention  $\inf \emptyset = +\infty$  and  $\sup \emptyset = 0$ , we can allow  $A$  and  $B$  to be  $\emptyset$ , so we get

$$d(x_0, \emptyset) = d(A, \emptyset) = d(\emptyset, B) = +\infty \text{ and } \rho(\emptyset) = 0.$$

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A, B \subseteq X$ .

- i) If  $A \subseteq B$  then  $\rho(A) \leq \rho(B)$ .
- ii)  $\rho(A) = 0$  if and only if  $A = \emptyset$  or  $A = \{x\}$  for some  $x \in X$ .

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. We say that a subset  $A$  of  $X$  is *bounded* if  $\rho(A) < +\infty$ . Otherwise (i.e.,  $\rho(A) = +\infty$ ), we say that  $A$  is *unbounded*.

## Proposition

- i) Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. A subset  $A$  of  $X$  is bounded if and only if there exist  $x_0 \in X$  and  $r > 0$  such that  $A \subseteq B(x_0; r)$ .
- ii) Let  $(V, \|\cdot\|)$  be a normed space. A subset  $A$  of  $V$  is bounded (with respect to the induced metric) if and only if there exists  $r > 0$  such that

$$\|x\| < r, \quad \forall x \in A.$$

# The interior of a set

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ .

- i) We say that an element  $x \in X$  is an *interior point* of  $A$  if there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $B(x; r) \subseteq A$  (in other words,  $A \in \mathcal{V}(x)$ ).
- ii) We call the *interior* of  $A$  the set of all interior points of  $A$ , denoted  $\overset{\circ}{A}$  or  $\text{int } A$ .

**Examples.** We consider the space  $\mathbb{R}$  endowed with the Euclidean metric.

1. If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ , then

$$\text{int}(a, b) = \text{int}(a, b] = \text{int}[a, b) = \text{int}[a, b] = (a, b).$$

2. The set  $\mathbb{Q}$  of all rational numbers has no interior points ( $\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{Q}} = \emptyset$ ), since for every  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ , because every non-empty interval contains also irrational numbers.

## Theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then:

- i)  $\overset{\circ}{A} \subseteq A, \forall A \subseteq X;$
- ii)  $A \text{ is open} \Leftrightarrow \overset{\circ}{A} = A, \forall A \subseteq X;$
- iii)  $A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \overset{\circ}{A} \subseteq \overset{\circ}{B}, \forall A, B \subseteq X;$
- iv)  $\widehat{A \cap B} = \overset{\circ}{A} \cap \overset{\circ}{B}, \forall A, B \subseteq X;$
- v)  $\overset{\circ}{A} \cup \overset{\circ}{B} \subseteq \widehat{A \cup B}, \forall A, B \subseteq X.$

# The exterior of a set

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ .

- We say that an element  $x \in X$  is an *exterior point* of  $A$  if  $x$  is an interior point of  $C_A = X \setminus A$ .
- We call the *exterior* of  $A$  the set of all exterior points of  $A$ , denoted  $\text{ext } A$ .

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x \in X$  and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ . Then  $x \in \text{ext } A$  if and only if there exists  $V \in \mathcal{V}(x)$  such that  $V \cap A = \emptyset$ .

# The closure of a set

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ .

- We say that an element  $x \in X$  is a *closure point* of  $A$  if for every neighbourhood  $V$  of  $x$  we have  $V \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .
- We call the *closure* of  $A$  the set of all closure points of  $A$ , denoted  $\overline{A}$  or  $\text{cl } A$ ;
- We say that  $A$  is *dense* (in  $X$ ) if  $\overline{A} = X$ .

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x \in X$  and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ . Then  $x \in \overline{A}$  if and only if there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $B(x; r) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .

**Examples.** We consider the space  $\mathbb{R}$  endowed with the Euclidean metric.

1. If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ , then

$$\overline{(a, b)} = \overline{(a, b]} = \overline{[a, b)} = \overline{[a, b]} = [a, b].$$

2. We have  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{R}$ , since for every  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) \cap \mathbb{Q} \neq \emptyset$ , because every non-empty interval contains rational numbers. According to the previous definition,  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

### Theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then:

- i)  $A \subseteq \overline{A}$ ,  $\forall A \subseteq X$ ;
- ii)  $A$  is closed  $\Leftrightarrow \overline{A} = A$ ,  $\forall A \subseteq X$ ;
- iii)  $A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \overline{A} \subseteq \overline{B}$ ,  $\forall A, B \subseteq X$ ;
- iv)  $\overline{A \cap B} \subseteq \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$ ,  $\forall A, B \subseteq X$ ;
- v)  $\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$ ,  $\forall A, B \subseteq X$ ;
- vi)  $\overline{C_A} = C_{\overline{A}}$ ,  $\overset{\circ}{C}_A = C_{\overline{A}}$ .

# The boundary of a set

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ . We call the *boundary* of  $A$  the set

$$\partial A = \text{Fr } A := \overline{A} \setminus \overset{\circ}{A}.$$

**Examples.** Again, let us consider the Euclidean on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

1. If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ , then

$$\text{Fr}(a, b) = \text{Fr}(a, b] = \text{Fr}[a, b) = \text{Fr}[a, b] = \{a, b\}.$$

2. We have  $\text{Fr } \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{R}$ .



# Limit points

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ .

- We say that an element  $x \in X$  is a *limit point* of  $A$  if for every neighbourhood  $V$  of  $x$  we have  $V \cap (A \setminus \{x\}) \neq \emptyset$ .
- We call the *derived set* of  $A$  the set of all limit points of  $A$ , denoted  $A'$ .

## Theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then:

- i)  $A' \subseteq \bar{A} = A \cup A', \forall A \subseteq X$ ;
- ii)  $\bar{A} = A \Leftrightarrow A' \subseteq A, \forall A \subseteq X$ ;
- iii)  $A \subseteq B \Rightarrow A' \subseteq B', \forall A, B \subseteq X$ ;
- iv)  $(A \cup B)' = A' \cup B', \forall A, B \subseteq X$ .

# Isolated points

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ .

- An element  $x \in A \setminus A'$  is called an *isolated point* of  $A$ .
- We call the *discrete part* of  $A$  the set of all isolated points of  $A$ , i.e.  $A \setminus A'$ .
- We say that  $A$  is *discrete* if every element of  $A$  is an isolated point, i.e.  $A \cap A' = \emptyset$ .

# Sequences in metric spaces

Let  $X \neq \emptyset$ . A sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $X$  is a function  $x : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$ .

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  a sequence in  $X$ .

- We say that  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is *bounded* if the set  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded.
- We say that  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is *convergent* if there exists  $x \in X$  such that

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq n_\varepsilon : d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon.$$

(i.e.  $d(x_n, x) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$ ). In this case, we will note  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ ,  $x_n \xrightarrow{d} x$ ,  $x_n \xrightarrow{X} x$  or even  $x_n \rightarrow x$ ; the element  $x$  will be called the *limit* of  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ .

- We say that  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is *Cauchy* or *fundamental* if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}, \forall m, n \geq n_\varepsilon : d(x_m, x_n) < \varepsilon \text{ or, equivalently,}$$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq n_\varepsilon, \forall p \in \mathbb{N}^* : d(x_{n+p}, x_n) < \varepsilon.$$

As in the case of real sequences, one can prove that the limit of a sequence in a metric space is unique.

### Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  a convergent sequence in  $X$ . Then  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is Cauchy.

- The converse of this result is not true, i.e. not every Cauchy sequence in an arbitrary metric space is convergent.
- For instance,  $X = (0, 1)$  with the usual distance ( $d(x, y) := |x - y|$ ): the sequence  $(1/n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}^*}$  is Cauchy, but is not convergent.

### Theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $x \in X$  and  $A$  a subset of  $X$ . Then:

- $x \in \overline{A}$  if and only if there exists a sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq A$  such that  $x_n \xrightarrow{d} x$ ;
- $x \in A'$  if and only if there exists a sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq A \setminus \{x\}$  such that  $x_n \xrightarrow{d} x$ .

# Sequences in Euclidean spaces

## Theorem

Let  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $m \geq 1$  be endowed with the Euclidean metric  $d_2$  and  $(\mathbf{x}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with

$$\mathbf{x}_n = (x_n^1, x_n^2, \dots, x_n^m), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

- i) The sequence  $(\mathbf{x}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded if and only if all the sequences  $(x_n^i)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , are bounded.
- ii) The sequence  $(\mathbf{x}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is convergent if and only if all the sequences  $(x_n^i)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , are convergent. In this case, if  $\mathbf{x} := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_n$  and  $x^i := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n^i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , then  $\mathbf{x}_n = (x^1, x^2, \dots, x^m)$ .
- iii) The sequence  $(\mathbf{x}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is Cauchy if and only if all the sequences  $(x_n^i)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , are Cauchy.

# Sequences in spaces of functions

## Theorem

Let  $E \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{B}(E)$ .

- i) The sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded with respect to the metric  $d_{\text{sup}}$  if and only if it is uniformly bounded, i.e.

$$\exists M > 0, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall x \in E : |f(x)| < M.$$

- ii) The sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is convergent with respect to the metric  $d_{\text{sup}}$  if and only if it is uniformly convergent. Moreover, for a function  $f \in \mathcal{B}(E)$ ,

$$f_n \xrightarrow{d_{\text{sup}}} f \Leftrightarrow f_n \xrightarrow{u} f.$$

- iii) The sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is Cauchy with respect to the metric  $d_{\text{sup}}$  if and only if it is a uniform Cauchy sequence.

# Complete metric spaces

## Definition

- A metric space  $(X, d)$  is called a *complete* metric space if every Cauchy sequence in  $X$  is convergent.
  - A normed space  $(V, \|\cdot\|)$  is called a *Banach space* if  $V$  is complete with respect to the induced metric.
  - A prehilbertian space  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  is called a *Hilbert space* if  $V$  is a Banach space with respect to the induced norm.
- 
- $(\mathbb{R}^n, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2)$  is a Hilbert space.
  - Also, if  $E$  is a non-empty set, then  $\mathcal{B}(E)$ , endowed with the uniform norm, is a Banach space.

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