

# Module 4: Metric Spaces II

## Operational math bootcamp



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July 14, 2025

$$\|x\|_p = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

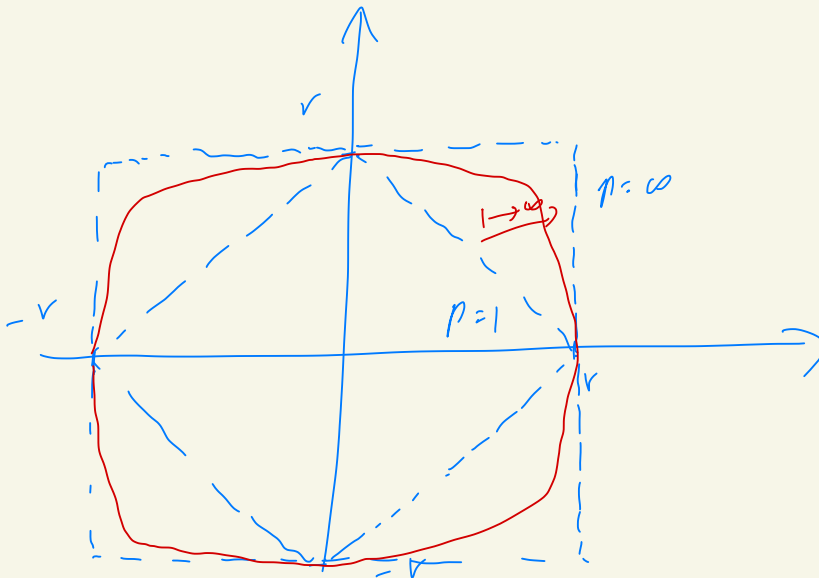
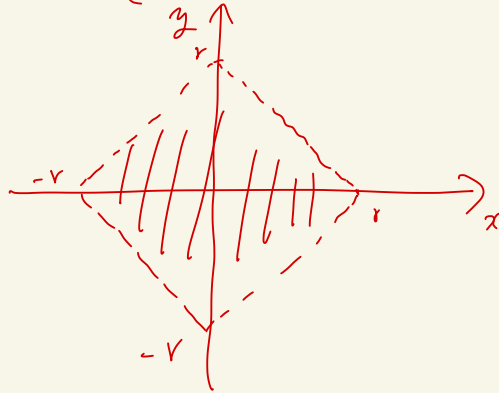
If  $p=2$   $\|x\|_2 = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2 \right)^{1/2}$  usual norm

$p=1$   $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$

$n=2$  case

$$(x, y) \rightarrow \|(x, y)\|_1 = |x| + |y|$$

$$B_r(x, y) = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x| + |y| < r\}$$



# Outline

- Open and closed sets
- Sequences
  - Cauchy sequences
  - subsequences

Metric.

- $d(x, y) \geq 0$  and  $d(x, y) = 0$  iff  $x = y$
- $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$
- $d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$



## Definition (Open and closed sets)

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

- A set  $U \subseteq X$  is *open* if for every  $x \in U$  there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $B_\epsilon(x) \subseteq U$ .
- A set  $F \subseteq X$  is *closed* if  $F^c := X \setminus F$  is open.

**Note:**

$$B_\epsilon(x) = \{y \in X : d(x, y) < \epsilon\}$$

a ball in  $(X, d)$ .

## Proposition

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

- ① Let  $A_1, A_2 \subseteq X$ . If  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are open, then  $A_1 \cap A_2$  is open.
- ② If  $A_i \subseteq X$ ,  $i \in I$  are open, then  $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$  is open.

generalized to  
finite intersections.

can be infinite.

*Proof.* (1) Let  $A_1, A_2 \subseteq X$ . If  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are open, then  $A_1 \cap A_2$  is open.

Let  $x \in A_1 \cap A_2$ .

Since  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are open,  $\exists \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 > 0$  s.t.  $B_{\varepsilon_1}(x) \subset A_1, B_{\varepsilon_2}(x) \subset A_2$ .

Let  $\varepsilon = \min\{\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2\}$ . Then  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset B_{\varepsilon_1}(x) \cap B_{\varepsilon_2}(x) \subset A_1 \cap A_2$ .

(2) If  $A_i \subseteq X, i \in I$  are open, then  $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$  is open.

Let  $x \in \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ .  $\exists i \in I$  s.t.  $x \in A_i$ .

Since  $A_i$  is open,  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A_i \subset \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ .

Using DeMorgan, we immediately have the following corollary:

### Corollary

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

- ① Let  $A_1, A_2 \subseteq X$ . If  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are closed, then  $A_1 \cup A_2$  is closed.  $\rightarrow$  finite union is also closed.
- ② If  $A_i \subseteq X$ ,  $i \in I$  are closed, then  $\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i$  is closed.

## Definition (Interior and closure)

Let  $A \subseteq X$  where  $(X, d)$  is a metric space.

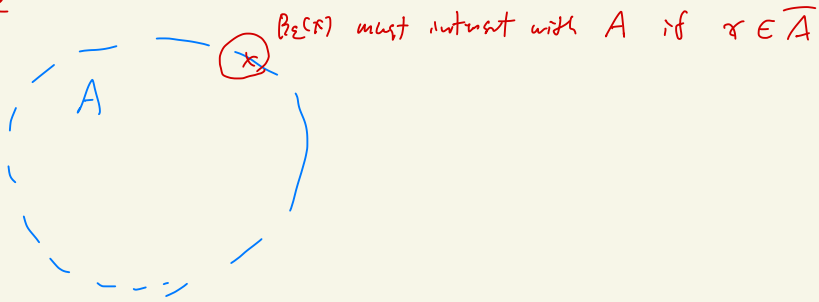
- The *closure* of  $A$  is  $\bar{A} := \{x \in X : \forall \varepsilon > 0, B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$
- The *interior* of  $A$  is  $\overset{\circ}{A} := \{x \in X : \exists \varepsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A\}$
- The *boundary* of  $A$  is  $\partial A := \{x \in X : \forall \varepsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset \text{ and } B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A^c \neq \emptyset\}$ .

## Example

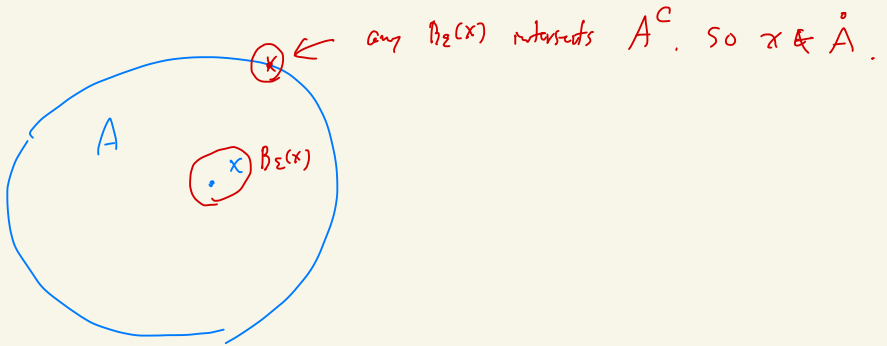
Let  $X = (a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  with the ordinary (Euclidean) metric. Then

$$\overset{\circ}{X} = (a, b) , \quad \bar{X} = [a, b] , \quad \partial X = \{a, b\} \quad \text{check!}$$

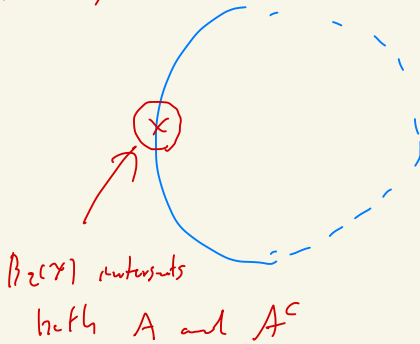
Closure



Interior



Boundary





## Proposition

Let  $A \subseteq X$  where  $(X, d)$  is a metric space. Then  $\overset{\circ}{A} = A \setminus \partial A$ .

Proof.

" $\subset$ " part

Let  $x \in \overset{\circ}{A}$ . Then  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A$ .

Suppose  $x \in \partial A$ . Then by definition of  $\partial A$ ,  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A^c \neq \emptyset$ .

This is a contradiction.  $\therefore \overset{\circ}{A} \subset A \setminus \partial A$ .

" $\supset$ " part.

Let  $x \in A \setminus \partial A$ . By definition of  $\partial A$ ,  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A = \emptyset$  or  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A^c = \emptyset$ .

Since  $x \in A$ , we cannot have  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A = \emptyset$ .  $\therefore B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A^c = \emptyset$ .

Thus  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A$ .  $\therefore x \in \overset{\circ}{A}$ .



we can say much stronger

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A \subseteq X$ .  $\bar{A}$  is closed and  $\overset{\circ}{A}$  is open.

Proof. We'll prove the stronger result below.

## Remark

In fact,  $\overset{\circ}{A} = \bigcup \{U : U \text{ is open and } U \subseteq A\}$  and  $\bar{A} = \bigcap \{F : F \text{ is closed and } A \subseteq F\}$ .

the largest open set in  $A$ .

the smallest closed set containing  $A$



(11f). 1)  $\overset{\circ}{A} = \bigcup \{U : U \text{ open and } U \subset A\}$ .

" $\subset$ " part:

Let  $x \in \overset{\circ}{A}$ . Then,  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A$ .

Since  $B_\varepsilon(x)$  is itself open, we can let  $U = B_\varepsilon(x)$ .

to see  $x \in \bigcup \{U : U \text{ open and } U \subset A\}$ .

" $\supset$ " part

Let  $x \in \bigcup \{U : U \text{ is open and } U \subset A\}$ .

Then  $\exists U : \text{open s.t. } x \in U \text{ and } U \subset A$ .

Since  $U$  is open,  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $\underbrace{B_\varepsilon(x) \subset U \subset A}_{\Rightarrow x \in \overset{\circ}{A}}$ .

2)  $\overline{A} = \bigcap \{F : F \text{ is closed } A \subset F\}$ .

" $\subset$ " part. It suffices to show  $\overline{A}$  itself is closed.

Let  $x \in \overline{A}^c$ . Then by definition of  $\overline{A}$ ,  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A = \emptyset$ .

That means  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A^c$ .

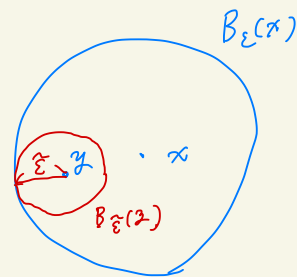
We need to further show  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset \overline{A}^c$ .

Let  $y \in B_\varepsilon(x)$  and define  $\hat{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon - d(x, y)$ .

Then  $\underline{B_\varepsilon(z)} \subset B_\varepsilon(x) \subset A^c$ .

by triangle inequality

$$\therefore z \in \bar{A}^c$$



Thus  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset \bar{A}^c$ , which implies  $\bar{A}$  is a closed set.

" $\supset$ " part. From " $\subset$ " argument, we know that  $\bar{A}$  is closed.

Let  $F$  be a closed  $F \supset A$ .

We must show  $\bar{A} \subset F$

which is equivalent to  $F^c \subset \bar{A}^c$

Let  $x \in F^c (\subset A^c)$ . Since  $F^c$  is open,

$\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $B_\varepsilon(x) \subset F^c \subset A^c \therefore B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A = \emptyset$ .

By definition of  $\bar{A}$ ,  $x \notin \bar{A} \Leftrightarrow x \in \bar{A}^c$ .

$$\therefore F^c \subset \bar{A}^c \Leftrightarrow \bar{A} \subset F.$$

# Sequences

## Definition (Sequence)

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. A *sequence* is an ordered list of points  $x_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , in  $X$ , denoted  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . We say that a sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  *converges* to a point  $x \in X$  if

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

**Recall:**  $\bar{A} = \{x \in X : \forall \varepsilon > 0, B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$

### Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space, and let  $A \subseteq X$ . Then  $\bar{A}$  is equal to the set of points in  $X$  which are limits of a sequence in  $A$ .

*Proof.*  $\bar{A} = \{x \in X : \exists \{x_n\} \subset A \text{ s.t. } x_n \rightarrow x\}.$

" $\subset$ " part.

Let  $x \in \bar{A}$ . By definition,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{n}$ . Then  $B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .

Pick any  $x_n \in B_{\frac{1}{n}}(x) \cap A$ .

Then  $x_n \in A$  and  $d(x_n, x) < \frac{1}{n}$ .

For  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , by taking  $\frac{1}{n_\varepsilon} < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow n_\varepsilon > \varepsilon^{-1}$ , then

for  $\forall n \geq n_\varepsilon$

$$d(x_n, x) < \frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n_\varepsilon} < \varepsilon.$$

" $\supset$ " part.

Let  $x$  be the limit of  $\{x_n\} \subset A$ .

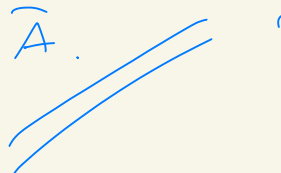
$\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists n_\varepsilon$  s.t.  $n \geq n_\varepsilon$  implies  $d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon$ .

$$\Leftrightarrow x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x)$$

Since  $x_n \in A$ , we have  $x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A$ .

Thus  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .

Therefore  $x \in \bar{A}$ .



$$\bar{A} = \{x \in X : \exists \{x_n\} \subset A \text{ s.t. } x_n \rightarrow x\}.$$

$\bar{A}$  is the smallest closed set containing  $A$ .

### Corollary

A set  $F \subseteq X$ , where  $(X, d)$  is a metric space, is closed if and only if every sequence in  $F$  which converges in  $X$  converges to a point in  $F$ .

**Remark:**

$F$  is closed  $\iff F = \bar{F}$

$$\iff F = \{x \in X : \exists \{x_n\} \subset F \text{ s.t. } x_n \rightarrow x\}.$$



# Cluster points of a set

## Definition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $A \subseteq X$ . A point  $x \in X$  is a *cluster point* of  $A$  (also called accumulation point) if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $B_\epsilon(x)$  contains infinitely many points in  $A \setminus \{x\}$ .

$x$  is a cluster point of  $A$

$$\iff \forall \epsilon > 0, B_\epsilon(x) \cap [A \setminus \{x\}] \neq \emptyset$$



## Proposition

$x \in X$  is a cluster point of  $A \subseteq X$  where  $(X, d)$  is a metric space if and only if there exists a sequence of points  $x_n \in A$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .

Proof.

$A \setminus \{x\}$

" $\Rightarrow$ " part

Let  $x$  be a cluster point.

$\forall n$ , let  $\varepsilon_n = \frac{1}{n}$ . Then  $B_{\varepsilon_n}(x) \cap [A \setminus \{x\}] \neq \emptyset$ .

implies we may pick  $x_n \in B_{\varepsilon_n}(x) \cap [A \setminus \{x\}]$ .

Then  $d(x_n, x) < \frac{1}{n}$  and  $x_n \in A \setminus \{x\}$ .

$\hookrightarrow x_n \rightarrow x$

" $\Leftarrow$ " part

$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_\varepsilon$  s.t.  $n \geq n_\varepsilon$  implies  $d(x, x_n) < \varepsilon$ .

This means  $x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x)$ .

At the same time  $x_n \in A \setminus \{x\}$

Thus  $x_n \in B_\varepsilon(x) \cap [A \setminus \{x\}]$

which means  $B_\varepsilon(x) \cap [A \setminus \{x\}] \neq \emptyset$ .

Therefore  $x$  is a cluster point.

Recall  $\bar{A} = \{x \in X : \exists \{x_n\} \subset A \text{ s.t. } x_n \rightarrow x\}.$

Combining the previous result with the limit characterization of closure gives the following:

### Corollary

For  $A \subseteq X$ ,  $(X, d)$  a metric space, we have

$$\bar{A} = A \cup \{x \in X : x \text{ is a cluster point of } A\}.$$

Remark

Any isolated point of  $A$  cannot be a cluster point.

# Cauchy sequences

## Definition (Cauchy sequence)

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. A sequence denoted  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in X$  is called a *Cauchy sequence* if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_\varepsilon \text{ s.t. } n, m \geq n_\varepsilon \text{ implies } d(x_n, x_m) < \varepsilon.$$

Convergence of  $x_n$  is not guaranteed.

## Proposition

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

*Proof.* Let  $x$  be the limit of  $\{x_n\}$ .

$\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists N_\varepsilon$  s.t.  $n \geq N_\varepsilon$  implies  $d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon$ .

Then,  $\forall n, m \geq N_\varepsilon$ , by the triangle inequality,

$$d(x_n, x_m) \leq d(x_n, x) + d(x, x_m) < \varepsilon + \varepsilon = 2\varepsilon.$$

## Definition

A metric space where every Cauchy sequence converges (to a point in the space) is called *complete*.

**Example:**  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^n$  with usual euclidean metric are complete.  
 $\mathbb{Q}$  is not complete.

## Proposition

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space, and let  $Y \subseteq X$ .

- (i) If  $X$  is complete and if  $Y$  is closed in  $X$ , then  $Y$  is complete.
- (ii) If  $Y$  is complete, then it is closed in  $X$ .

Proof. (i) Let  $\{x_n\} \subset Y$  be Cauchy.

Since  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  and  $X$  is complete

$$\exists x \in X \text{ s.t. } x_n \rightarrow x,$$

Since  $Y$  is closed every converging sequence in  $Y$   
must converge to a point in  $Y$ , i.e.  $x \in Y$ .



(ii) Since  $\mathcal{Y}$  is complete, every convergent sequence in  $\mathcal{Y}$   
( must be Cauchy ).

converges to a point in  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

This equivalent to say that  $\mathcal{Y}$  is closed. //

# Subsequences

## Definition

Let  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in a metric space  $(X, d)$ . Let  $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of natural numbers with  $n_1 < n_2 < \dots$ . The sequence  $(x_{n_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  is called a *subsequence* of  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . If  $(x_{n_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $x \in X$ , we call  $x$  a *subsequential limit*.

## Example

$((-1)^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow n = 2m \quad \text{subsequence.} \quad \{1\}$

## Proposition

A sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in a metric space  $(X, d)$  converges to  $x \in X$  if and only if every subsequence of  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  also converges to  $x$ .

Proof.  $\Rightarrow$  is trivial

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $x_n$  does not converge to  $x$ .

$\exists \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists n_k$ ,  $d(x_{n_k}, x) \geq \varepsilon$ . contradiction

By assumption,  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x$ ,

there exists  $k_\varepsilon$  s.t.  $k \geq k_\varepsilon \Rightarrow d(x_{n_k}, x) < \varepsilon$ .

*Proof continued*

# References

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