

Math 202A Lecture Notes

Kurtland Chua

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1 Metric Spaces

1.1 Basic Notions

Definition 1.1. Let X be a set. A *metric* on X is a function $\rho : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ such that

- $\rho(x, y) = \rho(y, x)$.
- (Triangle inequality) $\rho(x, z) \leq \rho(x, y) + \rho(y, z)$ for all $y \in X$.
- $\rho(x, y) = 0$ if and only if $x = y$.

Together, (X, ρ_X) is referred to as a metric space. If a function ρ satisfies the first two properties but only reverse implication in the third property holds, then ρ is a *semimetric* or a *pseudometric*. \diamond

Observe that if $S \subseteq X$ and ρ is a metric on X , the restriction of ρ to S is a metric on S .

Definition 1.2. A *norm* on a real/complex vector space V is a function $\|\cdot\| : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ such that

- $\|\alpha v\| = |\alpha| \|v\|$ for $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ or $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$
- $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$
- $\|x\| = 0$ if and only if $x = 0$.

If only the first two properties hold, then $\|\cdot\|$ is a *seminorm*. \diamond

Observe that having a norm on a vector space allows us to define a metric on the space as $\rho(x, y) = \|x - y\|$.

We now define the functions between metric spaces that are ‘interesting’. In the following discussion, let (X, ρ_X) , (Y, ρ_Y) be metric spaces.

Definition 1.3. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Then, we say that f is an *isometry* if $\rho_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) = \rho_X(x_1, x_2)$ for any $x_1, x_2 \in X$. If f is onto, then f is viewed as an isomorphism between the two metric spaces. \diamond

Definition 1.4. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. If there exists some constant K such that

$$\rho_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) \leq K\rho_X(x_1, x_2)$$

for any $x_1, x_2 \in X$, then f is said to be *K-Lipschitz*, and the smallest K for which the inequality holds above for all pairs of points is referred to as the *Lipschitz constant*. \diamond

Definition 1.5. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Then, f is *uniformly continuous* if for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\rho_X(x_1, x_2) < \delta \implies \rho_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) < \varepsilon$$

for any $x_1, x_2 \in X$. \diamond

Definition 1.6. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Then, f is *continuous* if for every x_1 and for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\rho_X(x_1, x) < \delta \implies \rho_Y(f(x_1), f(x)) < \varepsilon.$$

Definition 1.7. Let X be a metric space, and let $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence in X . Then, we say that (x_n) *converges to x* , or $(x_n) \rightarrow x$, if for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$n > N \implies \rho(x, x_n) < \varepsilon.$$

Proposition 1.1. Let X, Y be metric spaces, and let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous function. Furthermore, let (x_n) be a sequence in X that converges to x . Then, $(f(x_n))$ is convergent, and converges to $f(x)$. \diamond

Definition 1.8. Let X be a metric space, and $S \subseteq X$. Then, S is *dense* in X if for every point $x \in X$ and every $\varepsilon > 0$, $S \cap B_\varepsilon(x)$ is non-empty. \diamond

Proposition 1.2. Let X, Y be metric spaces and let S be a dense subset of X . Furthermore, let f, g be continuous functions from X to Y . Then, if f and g agree on S , then $f = g$. \diamond

1.2 Cauchy Sequences and Completion

Definition 1.9. Let X be a metric space. Then, a sequence (x_n) is *Cauchy* if for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$m, n > N \implies \rho(x_m, x_n) < \varepsilon.$$

Definition 1.10. If every Cauchy sequence in a metric space X converges, then X is *complete*. \diamond

As an example of a metric space that is not complete, consider \mathbb{Q} with the metric inherited from \mathbb{R} .

Proposition 1.3. Let X, Y be a metric space, and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ a uniformly continuous function. Then, if (x_n) is a Cauchy sequence, then $(f(x_n))$ is also a Cauchy sequence. \diamond

Definition 1.11. Let X be a metric space. A *completion* of X is a complete metric space Y together with an isometry $i : X \rightarrow Y$ such that $i(X)$ is dense in Y . \diamond

Proposition 1.4. *If $((Y_1, \rho_{Y_1}), i_1)$ and $((Y_2, \rho_{Y_2}), i_2)$ are completions of X , then there exists an isometric onto function $g : Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2$ such that $f_2 = g \circ f_1$.*

Proposition 1.5. *If $((\tilde{X}_1, \rho_{\tilde{X}_1}), j_1)$ and $((\tilde{X}_2, \rho_{\tilde{X}_2}), j_2)$ are both completions of some metric space X , there exists some isometry i between the two completions such that $j_2 = i \circ j_1$.*

Definition 1.12. Let $(a_n), (b_n)$ be Cauchy sequences. Then, we say that the two sequences are *equivalent* if $\rho(a_n, b_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. \diamond

Proposition 1.6. *Let X and Y be metric spaces, with Y complete. Furthermore, let S be a dense subset of X with the inherited metric. Let $f : S \rightarrow Y$ be a uniformly continuous function. Then, there exists a unique and uniformly continuous extension of f to X .*

Theorem 1.1. *Every metric space has a completion.*

The theorem above gives us a completion of every metric space (X, ρ) , namely, the set of Cauchy sequences in X identified under the equivalence relation

$$(x_n) \sim (y_n) \iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho(x_n, y_n) = 0.$$

The metric η on the completion is then defined as

$$\eta([(x_n)], [(y_n)]) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho(x_n, y_n) = 0,$$

and the injection j_X is defined such that $x \in X$ is mapped to the constant sequence $[(x)]$ in the completion.

Consider the set of continuous functions $C([0, 1])$, with the supremum norm

$$\|f\|_\infty = \sup \{|f(t)| \mid t \in [0, 1]\}.$$

This metric space can be shown to be complete. Other possible norms on this space include

$$\|f\|_1 = \int_0^1 f(x) \, dx \quad \|f\|_2 = \sqrt{\int_0^1 |f(x)|^2 \, dx}.$$

Under the L^1 norm, the space above is not complete¹.

Assume V is a vector space equipped with a norm. Then, we can give an easier description of the completion of V . In particular, let $\text{Cauchy}(V)$ denote the set of Cauchy sequences in V , and let $\mathcal{N}(V)$ denote the set of sequences in V that converge to 0. Then, the completion can be described as $\text{Cauchy}(V)/\mathcal{N}(V)$. \diamond

2 General Topology

Definition 2.1. A set is *open* in a metric space if it can be expressed as the (possibly arbitrary) union of open balls. \diamond

We collect a few useful facts relating to preimages below:

¹Completion gives us the set of Lebesgue-integrable functions on $[0, 1]$!

- $f^{-1}(\bigcup_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}) = \bigcup_{\alpha} f^{-1}(A_{\alpha})$.
- $f^{-1}(\bigcap_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}) = \bigcap_{\alpha} f^{-1}(A_{\alpha})$
- $f^{-1}(A_1 \setminus A_2) = f^{-1}(A_1) \setminus f^{-1}(A_2)$

Definition 2.2. Let X be a set. A *topology* on X is a collection of sets \mathcal{T} such that \mathcal{T} is closed under finite intersection, arbitrary unions, and contains both X and \emptyset . \diamond

The sets in the topology are referred to as *open sets*. Complements of open sets are *closed sets*.

Definition 2.3. Let $A \subseteq X$. Then, the *closure* of A is the intersection of all closed sets that contain A . \diamond

If we let the topology on X be the power set of X , then this topology is referred to as the *discrete topology*. Otherwise, if we let the topology be just X and the empty set, the the topology is referred to as the *indiscrete* or *trivial topology*.