

Course Outline:

Based on Lectures from Winter, 2024 by Prof. Dmitry Jakobson.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Metric Spaces

### ↪ Definition 1.1: Metric Space

A set  $X$  is a *metric space* with distance  $d$  if

1. (symmetric)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x) \geq 0$
2.  $d(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y$
3. (triangle inequality)  $d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$

**Remark 1.1.** If 1., 3. are satisfied but not 2.,  $d$  can be called a “pseudo-distance”.

### ↪ Definition 1.2: Normed Space

Let  $X$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . The norm on  $X$ , denoted  $\|x\| \in \mathbb{R}$ , is a function that satisfies

1.  $\|x\| \geq 0$
2.  $\|x\| = 0 \iff x = 0$
3.  $\|c \cdot x\| = |c| \cdot \|x\|$
4.  $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$

If  $X$  is a normed vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , we can define a distance  $d$  on  $X$  by  $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$ .

### ↪ Proposition 1.1

If  $X$  is a normed vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , a distance  $d$  on  $X$  by  $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$  makes  $(X, d)$  a metric space.

Proof. 1.  $d(x, y) = \|x - y\| \geq 0$

2.  $d(x, y) = 0 \iff \|x - y\| = 0 \iff x - y = 0 \iff x = y$

3.  $d(x, y) + d(y, z) = \|x - y\| + \|y - z\| \geq \|(x - y) + (y - z)\| = \|x - z\| := d(x, z)$

■

⊗ **Example 1.1:**  $L^p$  distance in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

Let  $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . The  $L^p$  norm is defined

$$\|x\|_p := (|x_1|^p + |x_2|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

In the case  $p = 2, n = 2$ , we simply have the standard Euclidean distance over  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

Unit Balls: consider when  $\|x\|_p \leq 1$ , over  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

- $p = 1 : |x_1| + |x_2| \leq 1$ ; this forms a “diamond ball” in the plane.
- $p = 2 : \sqrt{|x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2} \leq 1$ ; this forms a circle of radius 1. Clearly, this surrounds a larger area than in  $p = 2$ .

A natural question that follows is what happens as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ ? Assuming  $|x_1| \geq |x_2|$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_p &= (|x_1|^p + |x_2|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ &= \left[ |x_1|^p \left( 1 + \left| \frac{x_2}{x_1} \right|^p \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ &= |x_1| \left( 1 + \left| \frac{x_2}{x_1} \right|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \end{aligned}$$

If  $|x_1| > |x_2|$ , this goes to  $|x_1|$ . If they are instead equal, then  $\|x\|_p = |x_1| \cdot 2^{\frac{1}{p}} \rightarrow |x_1| \cdot 1$  as well. Hence,  $\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \|x\|_p = \max\{|x_1|, |x_2|\}$ . Thus, the unit ball will approach  $\max\{|x_1|, |x_2|\} \leq 1$ , that is, the unit square.

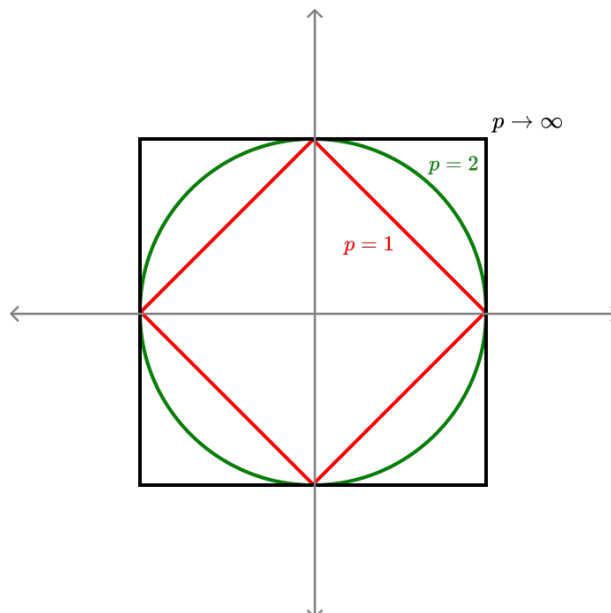


Figure 1: Regions of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  where  $\|x\|_p \leq 1$  for various values of  $p$ .

↪ **Proposition 1.2**

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then,  $\|x\|_p \rightarrow \max\{|x_1|, \dots, |x_n|\}$  as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Remark 1.2.** This is an extension of the previous example to arbitrary real space; the proof follows nearly identically.

↪ **Definition 1.3: Convex Set**

Let  $X$  be a normed space, and take  $x, y \in X$ . The line segment from  $x$  to  $y$  is the set

$$\{t \cdot x + (1 - t) \cdot y : 0 \leq t \leq 1\}.$$

Let  $A \subseteq X$ .  $A$  is *convex*  $\iff \forall x, y \in A$ , we have that

$$(t \cdot x + (1 - t) \cdot y) \in A \forall 0 \leq t \leq 1.$$

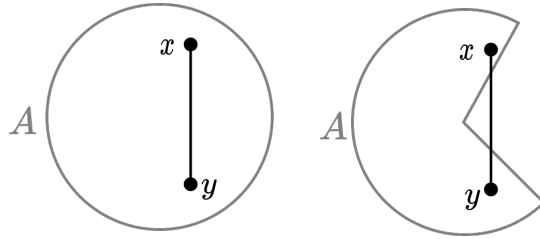


Figure 2: Convex (left) versus not convex (right) sets.

**Remark 1.3.** Think of this as saying “a set is convex iff every point on a line segment connected any two points is in the set”.

↪ **Definition 1.4:  $\ell_p$**

The space  $\ell_p$  of sequences is defined as

$$\{x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots) : \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |x_n|^p < +\infty\} \quad *.$$

Then,  $*$  defines the  $\ell^p$  norm on the space of sequences; that is,  $\|x\|_p := (\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |x_n|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$ .

⊗ **Example 1.2:  $\ell_p, x_n = \frac{1}{n}$**

. Let  $x_n = \frac{1}{n}$ . For which  $p$  is  $x \in \ell_p$ ? We have, raising the norm to the power of  $p$  for ease:

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_p^p &= |x_1|^p + |x_2|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p + \dots \\ &= 1^p + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^p + \dots < \infty \iff p > 1. \end{aligned}$$

In the case that  $p = 1$ , this becomes a harmonic sum, which diverges.

⊗ **Example 1.3:  $L^p$  space of functions**

Let  $f(x)$  be a continuous function. We define the norm of  $f$  over an interval  $[a, b]$

$$\|f\|_p = \left[ \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right]^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

**Remark 1.4.** Triangle inequality for  $\|x\|_p$  or  $\|f\|_p$  is called *Minkowski inequality*;  $\|x\|_p + \|y\|_p \geq \|x + y\|_p$ . This will be discussed further.

⊗ **Example 1.4: Distances between sets in  $\mathbb{R}^2$**

Let  $A, B$  be bounded, closed, “nice” sets in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We define

$$d(A, B) := \text{Area}(A \triangle B),$$

where

$$A \triangle B : (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) = (A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B).$$

It can be shown that this is a “valid” distance.

**Remark 1.5.**  $\triangle$  denotes the “symmetric difference” of two sets.

⊗ **Example 1.5:  $p$ -adic distance**

Let  $p$  be a prime number. Let  $x = \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , and write  $x = p^k \cdot \left(\frac{c}{d}\right)$ , where  $c, d$  are not divisible by  $p$ . Then, the  $p$ -adic norm is defined  $\|x\|_p := p^{-k}$ . It can be shown that this is a norm.

Suppose  $p = 2$ ,  $x = 28 = 4 \cdot 7 = 2^2 \cdot 7$ . Then,  $\|28\|_2 = 2^{-2} = \frac{1}{4}$ ; similarly,  $\|1024\|_2 = \|2^{10}\|_2 = 2^{-10}$ .

More generally, we have that  $\|2^k\|_2 = 2^{-k}$ ; conversely,  $\|2^{-k}\| = 2^k$ . That is, the closer to 0, the larger the distance, and vice versa, contrary to our notion of Euclidean distance.

↪ **Proposition 1.3**

$\|x\|_p$  as defined above is a well-defined norm over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Proof.



## 2 Point-Set Topology

### 2.1 Definitions

#### ↪ [Definition 2.1: Topological space](#)

A set  $X$  is a topological space if we have a collection of subsets  $\tau$  of  $X$  called *open sets* s.t.

1.  $\emptyset \in \tau, X \in \tau$
2. Consider  $\{A_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  where  $A_\alpha$  an open set for any  $\alpha$ ; then,  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha \in \tau$ , that is, it is also an open set.
3. If  $J$  is a finite set, and  $A_\beta$  open for all  $\beta \in J$ , then  $\bigcap_{\beta \in J} A_\beta \in \tau$  is also open.

In other words, 2.: arbitrary unions of open sets are open, and 3.: finite intersections of open sets are open.

#### ↪ [Definition 2.2: Closed sets](#)

Closed sets are complements of open sets; hence, axioms for closed sets follow appropriately;

- 1.\*  $X, \emptyset$  closed;
- 2.\*  $B_\alpha$  closed  $\forall \alpha \in I \implies \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} B_\alpha$  closed.
- 3.\*  $B_\beta$  closed  $\forall \beta \in J, J$  finite, then  $\bigcup_{\beta \in J} B_\beta$  also closed.

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#### ↪ [Definition 2.3: Interior, Boundary of a Topological Set](#)

Let  $X$  be a topological space,  $A \subseteq X$  and let  $x \in X$ . We have the following possibilities

1.  $\exists U$ -open :  $x \in U \subseteq A$ . In this case, we say  $x \in$  the *interior* of  $A$ , denoted

$$x \in \text{Int}(A).$$

2.  $\exists V$ -open :  $x \in V \subseteq X \setminus A = A^C$ . In this case, we write

$$x \in \text{Int}(X^C).$$

3.  $\forall U\text{-open} : x \in U, U \cap A \neq \emptyset \text{ AND } U \cap A^C \neq \emptyset$ . In this case, we say  $x$  is in the *boundary* of  $A$ , and denote

$$x \in \partial A.$$

↪ **Definition 2.4: Closure**

$x \in \text{Int}(A)$  or  $x \in \partial A$  (that is,  $x \in \text{Int}(A) \cup \partial A$ )  $\iff$  every open set  $U$  that contains  $x$  intersects  $A$ .<sup>1</sup>Such points are called *limit points* of  $A$ . The set of all limits points of  $A$  is called the *closure* of  $A$ , denoted  $\overline{A}$ .

<sup>1</sup>“Requires” proof.

**Remark 2.1.** We have that

$$\text{Int}(A) \subseteq A \subseteq \overline{A} = \text{Int}(A) \cup \partial A.$$

↪ **Proposition 2.1: Properties of  $\text{Int}(A)$**

$\text{Int}(A)$  is *open*, and it is the largest open set contained in  $A$ . It is the union of all  $U$ -open s.t.  $U \subseteq A$ . Moreover, we have that

$$\text{Int}(\text{Int}(A)) = \text{Int}(A).$$

↪ **Proposition 2.2: Properties of  $\overline{A}$**

$\overline{A}$  is *closed*;  $\overline{A}$  is the smallest closed set that contains  $A$ , that is,  $\overline{A} = \bigcap B$  where  $B$  closed and  $A \subseteq B$ . We have too that

$$\overline{(\overline{A})} = \overline{A}.$$

↪ **Proposition 2.3**

1.  $A$  is open  $\iff A = \text{Int}(A)$
2.  $A$  is closed  $\iff A = \overline{A}$

## 2.2 Basis

↪ **Definition 2.5: Basis for a Toplogy**

Let  $\tau$  be a topology on  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \tau$  be a collection of open sets in  $X$  such that every open set is a union of open sets in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

⊗ **Example 2.1: Example Basis**

$X = \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathcal{B} = \{\text{all open intervals } (a, b) : -\infty < a < b < +\infty\}$ .

↪ **Proposition 2.4**

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a collection of open sets in  $X$ . Then,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis  $\iff$

1.  $\forall x \in X, \exists U\text{-open} \in \mathcal{B} \text{ s.t. } x \in U$ .
2. If  $U_1 \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $U_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ , and  $x \in U_1 \cap U_2$ , then  $\exists U_3 \in \mathcal{B} \text{ s.t. } x \in U_3 \subseteq U_1 \cap U_2$ .

⊗ **Example 2.2**

Consider  $X = \mathbb{R}$ . Requirement 1. follows from taking  $U = (x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon)$  for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . For 2., suppose  $x \in (a, b) \cap (c, d) =: U_1 \cap U_2$ . Let  $U_3 = (\max\{a, c\}, \min\{b, d\})$ ; then, we have that  $U_3 \subseteq U_1 \cap U_2$ , while clearly  $x \in U_3$ .

↪ **Proposition 2.5**

In a metric space, a basis for a topology is a collection of open balls,

$$\{B(x, r) : x \in X, r > 0\} = \{\{y \in X : d(x, y) < r\} : x \in X, r > 0\}.$$

Proof. We prove via proposition 2.4. Property 1. holds clearly;  $x \in B(x, \varepsilon)\text{-open} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ .

For property 2., let  $x \in B(y_1, r_1) \cap B(y_2, r_2)$ , that is,  $d(x, y_1) < r_1$  and  $d(x, y_2) < r_2$ . Let

$$\delta := \min\{r_1 - d(x, y_1), r_2 - d(x, y_2)\}.$$

We claim that  $B(x, \delta) \subseteq U_1 \cap U_2$ .

Let  $z \in B(x, \delta)$ . Then,

$$d(z, y_1) \stackrel{\Delta \neq}{\leq} d(z, x) + d(x, y_1) < \delta + d(x, y_1) \leq r_1 - d(x, y_1) + d(x, y_1) = r_1,$$

hence, as  $d(z, y_1) < r_1 \implies z \in B(y_1, r_1) = U_1$ . Replacing each occurrence of  $y_1, r_1$  with  $y_2, r_2$  respectively gives identically that  $z \in B(y_2, r_2) = U_2$ . Hence, we have that  $B(x, \delta) \subseteq U_1 \cap U_2$  and 2. holds. ■

## 2.3 Subspaces

↪ **Definition 2.6**

Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $Y \subseteq X$ . We define the subspace topology on  $Y$ :



1. Open sets in  $Y = \{Y \cap \text{open sets in } X\}$

↪ **Proposition 2.6: Consequences of Subspace Topologies**

Suppose  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis for a topology in  $X$ . Then,  $\{U \cap Y : U \in \mathcal{B}\}$  forms a basis for the subspace  $Y \subseteq X$ .

Suppose  $X$  a metric space. Then,  $Y$  is also a metric space, with the same distance.

↪ **Proposition 2.7**

Let  $Y \subseteq X$ - a metric space. Then, the metric space topology for  $(Y, d)$  is the same as the subspace topology.

Proof. (Sketch) A basis for the open sets in  $X$  can be written  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} B(x_\alpha, r_\alpha)$ ; hence

$$Y \cap \left( \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} B(x_\alpha, r_\alpha) \right) = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} (Y \cap B(x_\alpha, r_\alpha))$$

is an open set topology for  $Y$ . ■

↪ **Lemma 2.1**

Let  $A \subseteq X$ -open,  $B \subseteq A$ ;  $B$ -open in subspace topology for  $A \iff B$ -open in  $X$ .

↪ **Lemma 2.2**

Let  $Y \subseteq X$ ,  $A \subseteq Y$ . Then,  $\overline{A}$  in  $Y = Y \cap \overline{A}$  in  $X$ . We can denote this

$$\overline{A}_Y = \overline{A}_X \cap Y.$$

## 2.4 Continuous Functions

↪ **Definition 2.7: Continuous Function**

Let  $X, Y$  be topological spaces. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ .  $f$  is *continuous*  $\iff \forall$  open  $V \in Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(V)$ -open in  $X$ .

↪ **Proposition 2.8**

This definition is consistent with the normal  $\varepsilon$ - $\delta$  definition on the real line.

Proof. Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , continuous; that is,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $|x_1 - x| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x_1) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$ .

Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  open. Let  $y \in V$ . Then,  $\exists \varepsilon : (y - \varepsilon, y + \varepsilon) \subseteq V$ . Let  $y = f(x)$ , hence  $y \in f^{-1}(V)$ . Now, if  $d(x, x_1) < \delta$ , we have that  $d(f(x_1), f(x)) < \varepsilon$  (by continuity of  $f$ ), hence  $f(x_1) \in (y - \varepsilon, y + \varepsilon) \subseteq V$ ; moreover,  $(x - \delta, x + \delta) \subseteq f^{-1}(V)$ , thus  $f^{-1}(V)$  is open as required.

The inverse of this proof follows identically. ■

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