

**Question 3.1**

Determine which of the following functions  $d_j : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  determines a metric.

Note that the definition of metric space.

- (a)  $d(p, q) > 0$  if  $p \neq q$ ;  $d(p, p) = 0$
- (b)  $d(p, q) = d(q, p)$
- (c)  $d(p, q) \leq d(p, r) + d(r, p) \quad \forall r \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(i)  $d_1(x, y) = (x - y)^2$

(c) Consider  $d_1(1, 3)$

- $d_1(1, 3) = 4$
- $d_1(1, 2) = 1$ ;  $d_1(2, 3) = 1$
- $d_1(1, 3) \not\leq d_1(1, 2) + d_1(2, 3)$
- Thus this is not a metric.

(ii)  $d_2(x, y) = \sqrt{|x - y|}$

(a)  $d_2(x, y) > 0$  if  $p \neq q$ ;  $d(x, x) = 0$

- If  $x = y$ ,  $d_2(x, y) = 0$ ;  
Otherwise  $d_2(x, y) > 0$  since the absolute value and the square root is always positive by definition.

(b)  $d_2(x, y) = d_2(y, x)$

- $d_2(x, y) = \sqrt{|x - y|} = \sqrt{|-1| \cdot |y - x|} = \sqrt{|y - x|} = d_2(y, x)$

(c)  $d_2(x, y) \leq d_2(x, z) + d_2(z, y) \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- $d_2(x, y) = \sqrt{|x - z|}$
- $d_2(x, z) = \sqrt{|x - z|}$ ;  $d_2(z, y) = \sqrt{|z - y|} \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{R}$
- $d_2(x, y) \leq d_2(x, z) + d_2(z, y)$

(iii)  $d_3(x, y) = |x^2 - y^2|$

(a) Consider  $d_3(1, -1)$  where  $x \neq y$

- $d_3(1, -1) = 0 \not> 0$
- Thus this is not a metric.

(iv)  $d_4(x, y) = |x - 2y|$

(a) Consider  $d_4(1, 1)$

- $d_4(1, 1) = 1 \neq 0$
- Thus this is not a metric.

(v)  $d_5(x, y) = \frac{|x-y|}{1+|x-y|}$

(a) If  $x = y$ ,  $|x - y| = 0 \Leftrightarrow d_5(x, y) = 0$ ;

Otherwise  $d_5(x, y) = \frac{|x-y|}{1+|x-y|} > 0$

(b)  $d_5(x, y) = \frac{|x-y|}{1+|x-y|} = \frac{|-1| \cdot |y-x|}{1+|-1| \cdot |y-x|} = \frac{|y-x|}{1+|y-x|} = d_5(y, x)$

(c)  $d_5(x, y) = \frac{|x-y|}{1+|x-y|}$

$d_5(x, z) = \frac{|x-z|}{1+|x-z|}; \quad d_5(z, y) = \frac{|z-y|}{1+|z-y|} \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{R}.$

$\Rightarrow d_5(x, y) \leq d_5(x, z) + d_5(z, y)$

**Question 3.2**

Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$  be subsets of a metric space.

(i) If  $B_n = \cup_{i=1}^n A_i$ , prove that  $\overline{B_n} = \cup_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i}$ .

- $n = 2$ 
  - $\overline{A_1 \cup A_2} = (A_1 \cup A'_1) \cup (A_2 \cup A'_2)$  by the definition of closed set where  $A'_i$  is a set of all limit points in  $A_i$ .
  - $(A_1 \cup A'_1) \cup (A_2 \cup A'_2) = (A_1 \cup A_2) \cup (A'_1 \cup A'_2)$   
 $= (A_1 \cup A_2) \cup (A_1 \cup A_2)' = \overline{A_1 \cup A_2}$
- $n = 3$ 
  - $\overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3} = \overline{A_1 \cup A_2} \cup \overline{A_3} = ((A_1 \cup A_2) + (A_1 \cup A_2)') + (A_3 + A'_3)$   
 $= (A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3) + (A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3)' = \overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3}$
- $B_n = \cup_{i=1}^n A_i$ 
  - Therefore  $\overline{\cup_{i=1}^n A_i} = \cup_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i}$

(ii) If  $B = \cup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ , prove that  $\overline{B} \supset \cup_{n=1}^{\infty} \overline{A_i}$ .

- Recall that a closed set  $\overline{B_n} = B_n \cup B'_n$  (where  $B'_n$  is a set of all its limit points).
- Suppose  $A_n = \frac{1}{n}$
- Since  $A_n$  is open,  $0 \notin A'_n$ ; However,  $0 \in B'_n$  as  $n$  goes to  $\infty$  due to its closeness.
- Hence  $\overline{B} \supset \cup_{n=1}^{\infty} \overline{A_i}$  is said to be proper.

**Question 3.3**

Let  $E$  be a subset of a metric space and let  $E = E^\circ$

(i)  $E^\circ$  is open

- Let  $x \in E^\circ$ , and suppose  $\exists y \in E$  and  $r > 0$  such that  $d(x, y) < r$ .
- Let  $h = r - d(x, y)$ , and  $\exists \alpha$  such that  $d(y, \alpha) < h < r$ .
- Then, by the Triangle inequality,  $d(x, \alpha) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, \alpha)$
- Since  $d(y, \alpha) < h$ ,  $d(x, \alpha) < d(x, y) + h = r$
- Hence  $\alpha \in E$ . i.e.  $y \in E^\circ$ .
- This follows all such points are in  $E^\circ$ .
- Thus  $E^\circ$  is open.

(ii)  $E$  is open iff  $E = E^\circ$

- $\Rightarrow$  Obviously  $E^\circ$  is included in  $E$  ( $E^\circ \subset E$ ).  
By the definition of openness, every point of  $E$  is an interior point of  $E$ .  
i.e.  $E^\circ \subset E$ . Thus  $E^\circ = E$ .
- $\Leftarrow$  Since every point of  $E$  is an interior point of  $E$ ,  $E$  is open.

(iii) If  $G \subset E$  and  $G$  is open, then  $G \subset E^\circ$  (so  $E^\circ$  is the largest open subset of  $E$ ).

- Take  $\alpha \in G$ . Then  $\alpha \in E^\circ$  since  $G \subset E$  and  $E^\circ$  is the largest open subset of  $E$ .
- Hence  $G \subset E^\circ$ .

(iv)  $(E^\circ)^c = \overline{E^c}$ , where the overline denotes closure.

- $(E^\circ)^c \subseteq \overline{E^c}$ 
  - Suppose  $\exists x \in \overline{A^c}$ .
  - Then for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $B(x, \epsilon) \cap A^c \neq \emptyset$ .
  - i.e. there are some overlapped area between any ball around  $x$  and  $A^c$ .
  - This strictly implies  $x \notin A$  or  $x \notin A^\circ$ , but  $x \in (A^\circ)^c$ .
- $(E^\circ)^c \supseteq \overline{E^c}$ 
  - Suppose  $\exists x \in (A^\circ)^c$ .
  - Then there is no such ball  $B(x, \epsilon) \subseteq A$  for every  $\epsilon$ .
  - i.e. there are some overlapped area between any ball around  $x$  and  $A^c$ .
  - This also shows  $x \in \overline{A^c}$ .
- Hence we proved  $(E^\circ)^c = \overline{E^c}$

**Question 3.4**

Let  $E$  be a subset of a metric space. Either prove or find a counterexample to:

(i)  $E^\circ = (\bar{E})^\circ$

- Obviously  $E = E^\circ$  and  $\bar{E} = (\bar{E})^\circ$
- Suppose  $E = (1, 2) \cup (2, 3)$ . Then  $\bar{E} = \{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup (1, 3) = [1, 3]$ .
- Hence  $E^\circ \neq (\bar{E})^\circ$ , but  $E^\circ \subset (\bar{E})^\circ$

(ii)  $\bar{E} = \overline{(E^\circ)}$

- Suppose  $E = \mathbb{Q}$  (The whole space of rational number).
- Then  $\bar{E} = \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ .
- $(\bar{E}^\circ) = (\overline{\mathbb{Q}^\circ}) = \emptyset$  since irrational is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- Thus  $\bar{E} \neq \overline{\mathbb{Q}^\circ}$

**Question 3.5**

A metric space is called separable if it contains a countable dense subset. Prove that  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is separable.

**Hint:** Consider the set of points with rational coordinates.

- A handy example for a countable dense subset would be  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- Take  $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n) \in \mathbb{R}^k$ .
- Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{Q} \cup \mathbb{Q}'$  (where  $\mathbb{Q}'$  is a set of limit points of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ).
- In order  $p$  to be limit points of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\exists B_r(p)$  such that a ball around  $p$  with radius  $r$ .
- Take  $q = (q_1, \dots, q_n) \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $q_i \neq p_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
- Let  $\alpha = \frac{r}{n}$ , and we obtain an inequality by the triangle theorem,

$$d(p, q) = \sqrt{(p_1 - q_1)^2 + \dots + (p_n - q_n)^2} < \sqrt{\frac{r^2}{n} + \dots + \frac{r^2}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{nr^2}{n}} = r$$

- Hence we conclude that  $q \in B_r(p)$ , and  $p$  is limit points of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- Thus  $\mathbb{Q}^k$  is a countable dense subset in  $\mathbb{R}^k$

**Question 3.6**

Consider  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the usual distance  $d(p, q) = |p - q|$  as a metric space and consider the subset

$$E = \{p \in \mathbb{Q} \mid 2 < p^2 < 3\}.$$

Prove that  $E$  is closed and bounded in  $\mathbb{Q}$  but that  $E$  is not compact in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Is  $E$  open in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ?

- $E$  is closed in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

- In order to prove  $E$  is closed, it should be proved that  $E$  is closed in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- Recall the definition of closed set: A set is closed if every limit point of  $E$  is in  $E$ .
- Suppose  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  is a limit point of  $E$ .
- Obviously  $p^2 \neq 2$  or  $p^2 \neq 3$ .
- Proof by contradiction

- \* Suppose  $p^2 < 2 \Leftrightarrow (\sqrt{2} - p)(\sqrt{2} + p) > 0 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} < |p|$
- \* For some  $r$ ,  $r + |x| = \sqrt{2}$
- \* If  $q \in N_r(x)$ , then

$$|q| \leq |x - q| + |x| < |x| + r = \sqrt{2}$$

- \* i.e.  $q^2 < 2 \Leftrightarrow x^2 < 2$  which contradicts that  $x$  is a limit point of  $E$ .
- \* Hence  $2 < x^2$ .

- \* If  $x^2 > 3 \Leftrightarrow (|x| + \sqrt{3})(|x| - \sqrt{3}) > 0 \Leftrightarrow |x| - \sqrt{3} > 0$
- \* Suppose  $s = |x| - \sqrt{3}$ .
- \* Similarly,

$$|q| \geq -|x - q| \geq |x| - s = \sqrt{3}$$

- \* Hence for any  $q$  is in  $N_s(x)$ .
- \* i.e.  $q \notin E \Leftrightarrow x$  is not a limit point of  $E$ .

- Thus we conclude that  $E$  is closed in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

- $E$  is bounded in  $\mathbb{Q}$

- $\sqrt{2} < p < \sqrt{3} ; -\sqrt{3} < p < -\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow -\sqrt{3} < p < \sqrt{3} \Rightarrow |E| < 2$   
 $\Rightarrow E$  is bounded by 2.

- Is  $E$  open in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ?

- Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\exists \alpha \in \mathbb{Q}, \epsilon > 0$  such that  $|p - \alpha| < \epsilon$  and a ball around  $p$   $B_\epsilon(p) \subset E$ .
- i.e. For all  $x, x \in E \in E^\circ \Rightarrow E$  is open.