

Chapter 1

Continuity

1.1 Limit

Definition 1 (Limit). Let X and Y be metric spaces; suppose $E \subset X$, f maps E into Y (i.e., $f : E \subset X \rightarrow Y$), and p is a limit point of E . We write $f(x) \rightarrow q$ as $x \rightarrow p$ or $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = q$ if there is a point $q \in Y$ with following property:

For every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $d_Y(f(x), q) < \epsilon$ for all points $x \in E$ for which $0 < d_X(x, p) < \delta$ ²

Example. $E = (0, 2) \subset X = \mathbb{R}^1$, $Y = \mathbb{R}^1$; $f(x) = \frac{x^2-1}{x-1}$; $p = 1$ is a limit point of E ,
Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2-1}{x-1} = 2$

Theorem 1.1.1 (Sequential Criterion of Limits). Let x, y, E, f and p as in the above definition. Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = q$ if and only if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(p_n) = q$ for every sequence $\langle p_n \rangle$ in E such that $p_n \neq p$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = p$

1.2 Continuity

Definition 2 (Continuity). Suppose X and Y are metric spaces, $E \subset X$, $p \in E$ and f maps $E \rightarrow Y$ ($f : E \rightarrow Y$). Then f is said to be continuous at p if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $d_Y(f(x), p) < \epsilon$ for all points $x \in E$ for which $d_X(x, p) < \delta$

Theorem 1.2.1. Let $f : E \subset X \rightarrow Y$ be a mapping. Then the following assertions are equivalent:

- (i) f is continuous on E .
- (ii) For each convergent sequence $x_n \rightarrow x_0$, we have $f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x_0)$
- (iii) For each open set U in Y , $f^{-1}(U) \subset E$ is open relative to E ; that is, $f^{-1}(U) = E \cap V$ for some open set V .
- (iv) For each closed set F in Y , $f^{-1}(F) \subset E$ is closed relative to E ; that is $f^{-1}(F) = E \cap G$ for some closed set G .

Theorem 1.2.2. Suppose $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous mapping of a compact metric space X into a metric space Y . Then $f(X)$ is compact.

²The δ may depend on $f(x)$, p , and ϵ i.e., $\delta = \delta(p, f(x), \epsilon)$

Proof. Let $\{V_\alpha\}$ be an open cover of $f(X)$, since f is continuous, by previous theorem each of the sets $f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$ is open. Since X is compact, there are finitely many indices say $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$, such that

$$X \subset f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_1}) \cup f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_2}) \cup \dots \cup f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_n}) \quad (1.1)$$

since $f(f^{-1}(E)) \subset E$ for every $E \subset Y$, then (1.1) implies that $f(X) \subset V_{\alpha_1} \cup V_{\alpha_2} \cup \dots \cup V_{\alpha_n}$. This completes the proof. \square

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