

Today:

- Functions (continued)
- Continuous functions
- Homeomorphisms

review from last time

Definition: Given sets S and T , a function f from S to T is a rule which assigns each $s \in S$ exactly one element in T .

This element is denoted $f(s)$.

We call

S the domain of f .

T the codomain of f .

We write the function as $f: S \rightarrow T$.

Example: Let $S = \{1, 2\}$, $T = \{a, b\}$.

We can define a function $f: S \rightarrow T$ by $f(1) = a$, $f(2) = b$.
 $g: S \rightarrow T$ by $f(1) = a$, $f(2) = a$.

Example: We often specify a function by a formula, e.g.

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = x^2$$

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = 5e^{-x^2} \text{ OR}$$

For $f: S \rightarrow T$ and $g: T \rightarrow U$, the composite $g \circ f: S \rightarrow U$ is the function given by $g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$.

Image of a function (also called the range)

Definition: For a function $f: S \rightarrow T$ we define $\text{im}(f)$ to be the subset of T given by

$$\text{im}(f) = \{t \in T \mid t = f(s) \text{ for some } s \in S\}.$$

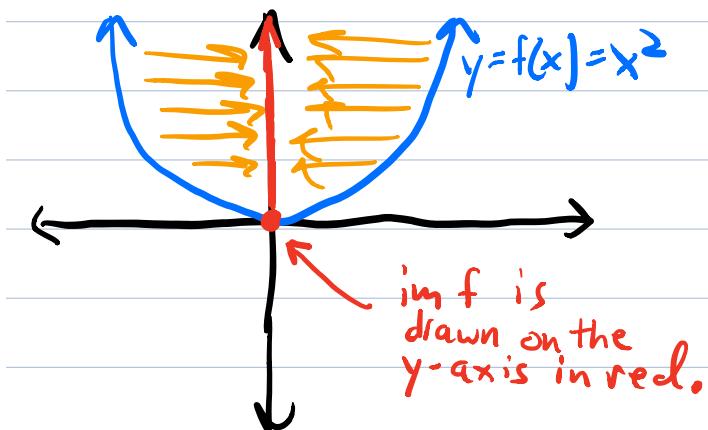
Intuitively, $\text{im}(f)$ is the subset of T consisting of elements "hit by" f .

Example: For S, T , f , and g as in the previous example,

$$\text{im}(f) = \{a, b\} = T, \quad \text{im}(g) = \{a\}.$$

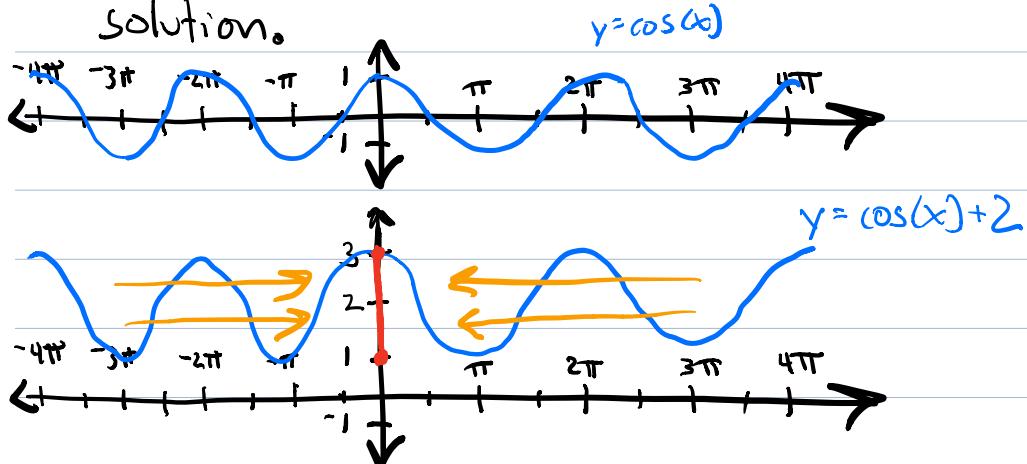
Example:

for $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = x^2$,
 $\text{im } f = [0, \infty)$



Exercise: For $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(x) = \cos(x) + 2$, what is $\text{im } f$?

solution.



$$\text{im } (\cos) = [-1, 1], \text{ so } \text{im } (f) = [1, 3]$$

Exercise:

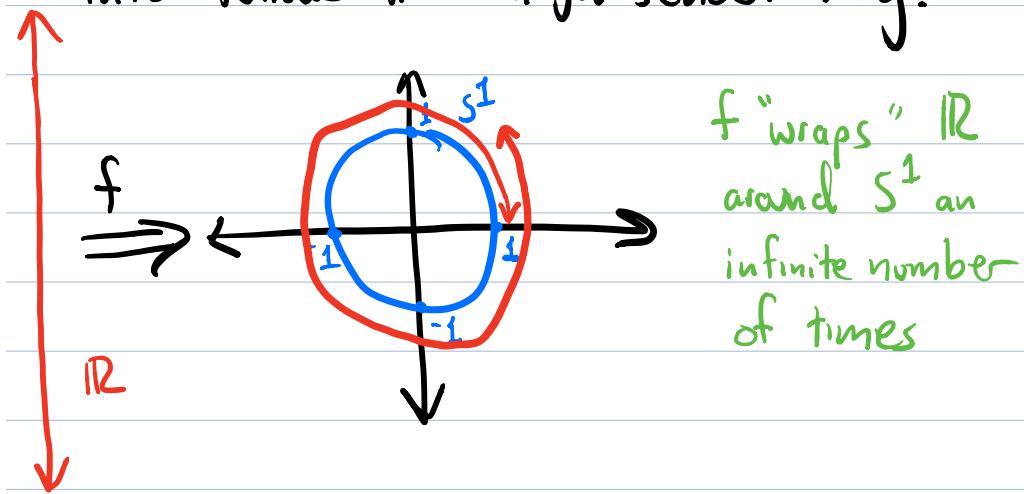
Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be given by
 $f(x) = (\cos x, \sin x)$.

What is $\text{im } f$?

Solution: $\text{im } f = S^1$, where S^1 denotes the unit circle, i.e.,

$$S^1 = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a^2 + b^2 = 1\}.$$

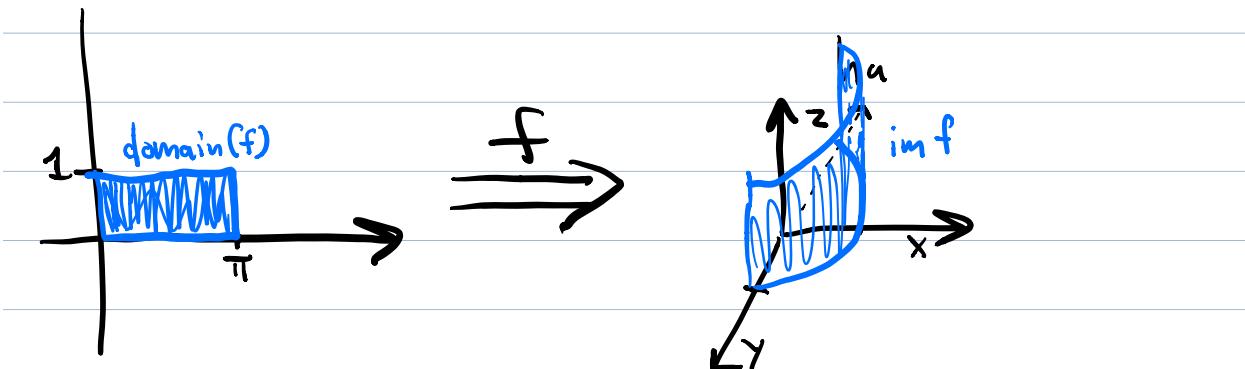
This follows from high school trig.



f "wraps" \mathbb{R}
around S^1 an
infinite number
of times

Example: Let $f: [0, \pi] \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be given by
by $f(x, y) = (\cos x, \sin x, y)$

$\text{im } f$ is a half-cylinder.



Injective, Surjective, and Bijective Functions

We say a function $f: S \rightarrow T$ is

injective (or 1-1) if $f(s) = f(t)$ only when $s=t$.

surjective (onto) if $\text{im}(f) = T$.

bijection (a bijection) if f is both injective and surjective.

Example : $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by
 $f(x) = x^2$

is neither injective nor surjective.

Example $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$ given by

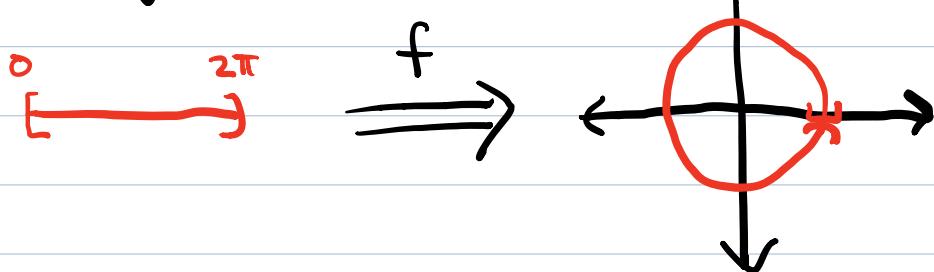
$f(x) = (\cos x, \sin x)$ is surjective but
not injective.

e.g. $f(0) = f(2\pi) = (1, 0)$.

Example $f: [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow S^1$ given by

$$f(x) = (\cos x, \sin x)$$

is bijective.



Bijections and Inverses

For S any set, the identity function on S , is the function

$$\text{Id}_S: S \rightarrow S \text{ given by } \text{Id}_S(x) = x \quad \forall x \in S.$$

Functions $f: S \rightarrow T$ and $g: T \rightarrow S$
are said to be inverses if

$$\underbrace{g \circ f = \text{Id}_S}_{\text{function composition}} \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ g = \text{Id}_T.$$

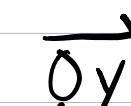
function
composition

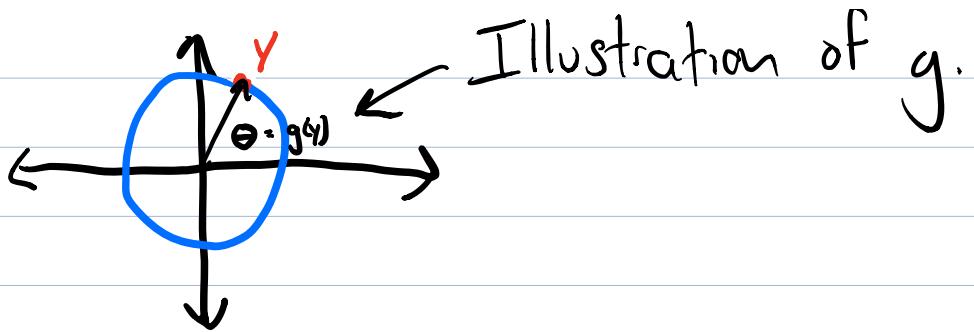
Fact: A function $f: S \rightarrow T$ has an inverse $g: T \rightarrow S$ if and only if f is a bijection.

Example Let $f: [0, 2\pi) \rightarrow S^1$ be bijection of the previous example.

We define the inverse $g: S^1 \rightarrow [0, 2\pi)$ to be the function which

maps

$y \in S^1$ to the angle θ  makes with the positive x-axis (in radians).



Continuous functions

Topology begins with the notion of continuous functions. You have already encountered these in your calculus classes.

It's possible to give a very abstract, general definition of continuous functions. We may do this later, but for now, we will take a more concrete approach.

We consider the continuity of a functions between subsets of Euclidean spaces.

For $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$
 $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

Let $d(x, y)$ denote the Euclidean distance between x and y ,
i.e.,

$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (x_2 - y_2)^2 + \cdots + (x_n - y_n)^2}$$

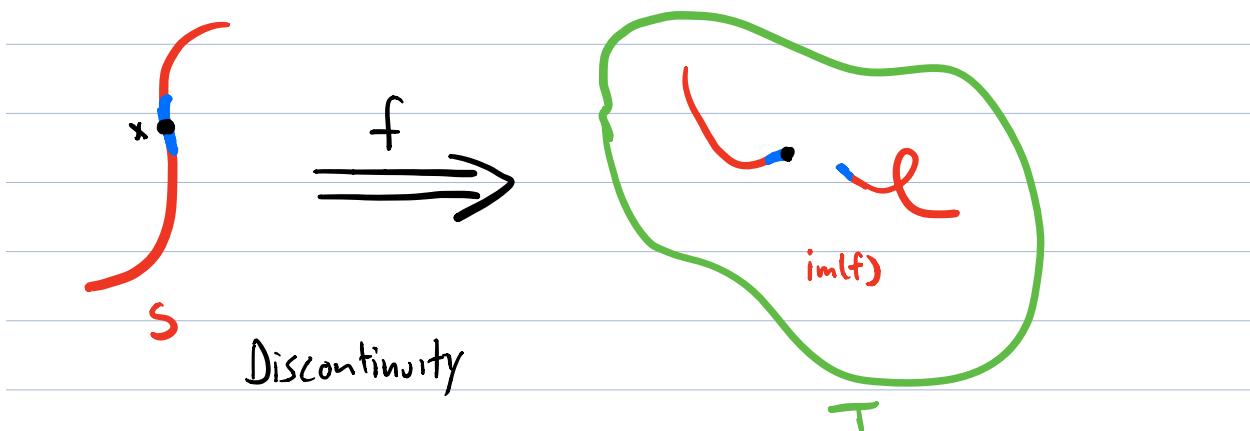
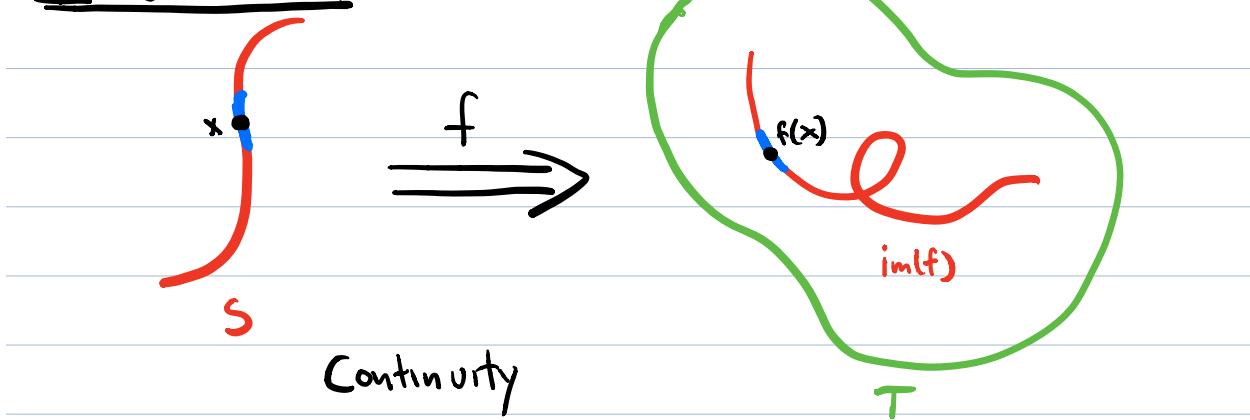
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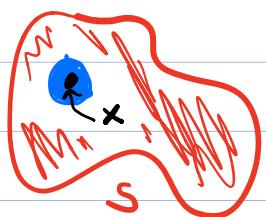
$$\|x - y\|.$$

Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ and $T \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ for some $n, m \geq 1$.

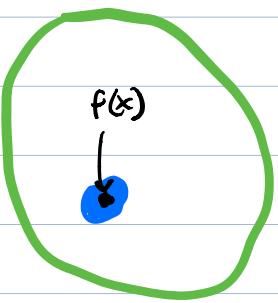
Intuitively, a function $f: S \rightarrow T$ is continuous
if f maps nearby points to nearby points.

Illustration





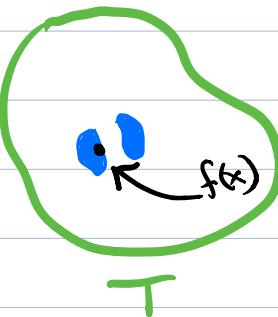
f



Continuity



f



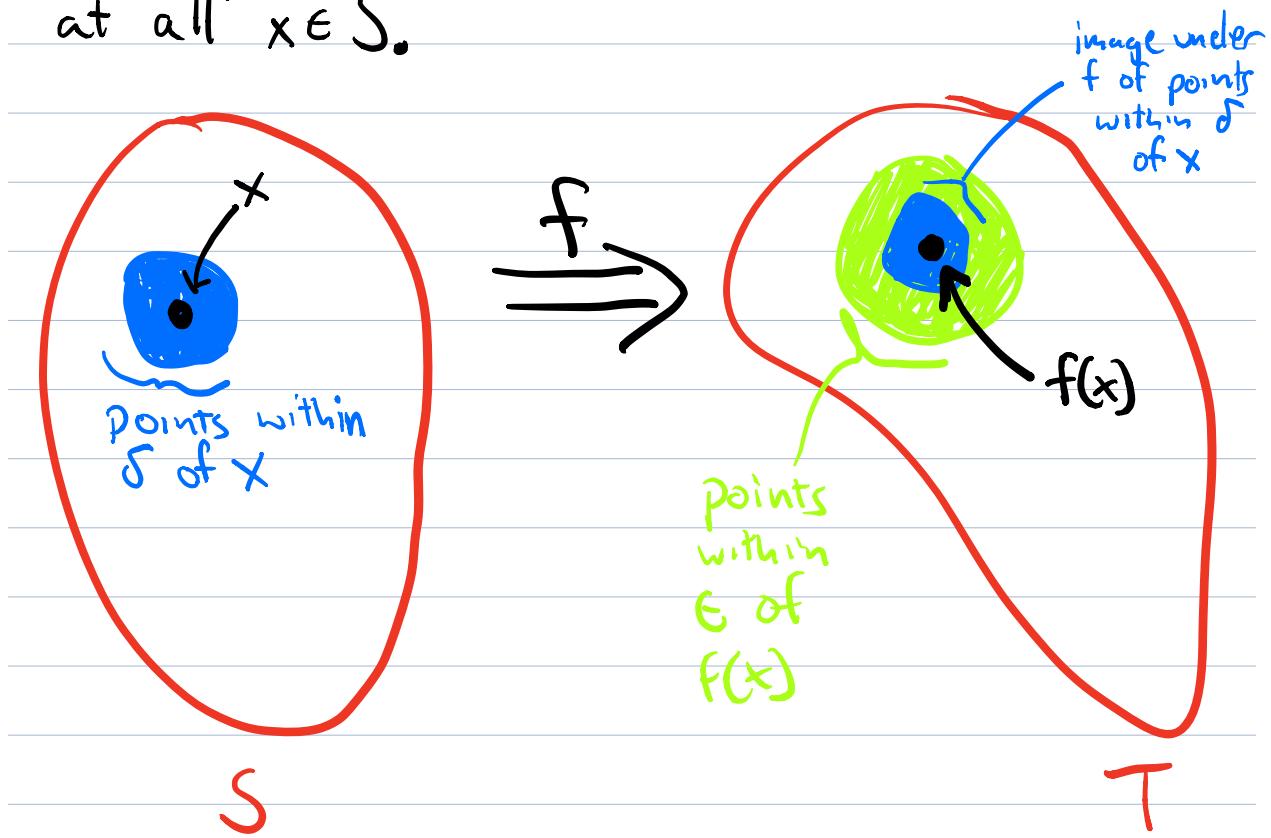
Discontinuity

[Lecture ended somewhere around here.]

Formal Definition

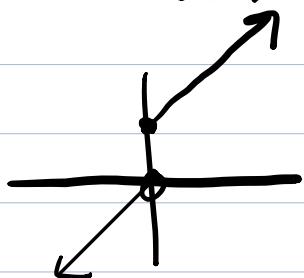
We say $f: S \rightarrow T$ is continuous at $x \in S$ if for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that if $y \in S$ and $d(x, y) < \delta$, then $d(f(x), f(y)) < \epsilon$.

We say f is continuous if it is continuous at all $x \in S$.



Interpretation: You give me any positive ϵ no matter how small. Continuity at x means that I can find a positive δ such that points within distance δ of x map to points within distance ϵ of x . (I'm allowed to choose δ as small as I want, as long as it's positive.)

Example: Consider $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 defined by $f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ x+1 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$



f is not continuous at 0 . To see this, consider $\epsilon = 1$. For all $\delta > 0$, there is some $y \in \mathbb{R}$ with $|x - y| < \delta$ and $f(y) < 0$. For example, we can take $y = -\frac{\delta}{2}$.

then $|f(x) - f(y)| > 1 = \epsilon$.

This shows f is not continuous at 0 .



In this class, we won't spend much time worrying about the rigorous definition of continuity, but I do want you to be familiar with it.

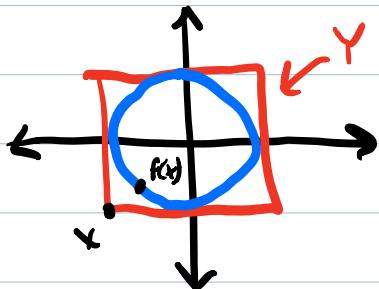
Homeomorphism

For S, T subsets of Euclidean spaces,
A function $f: S \rightarrow T$ is a homeomorphism
if

- 1) f is a continuous bijection
- 2) The inverse of f is also continuous.

Homeomorphism is the main notion of continuous deformation
we'll consider in this course.

Example Let $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be the square of side length 2, embedded in the plane as shown



The function $f: Y \rightarrow S^1$ given by
 $f(x) = \frac{x}{\|x\|}$ is a homeomorphism.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{where } \|x\| &= \text{distance of } x \text{ to origin} \\ &= \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2} \end{aligned}$$

by standard calculus, this is continuous.

It is intuitive clear that this is a bijection with a continuous inverse. The inverse can be written down, but we won't bother.

