

## Continuous functions on metric spaces

**Def.** Let  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  be m.s.,  
 $f: X \rightarrow Y$  a function,  
 $x_0 \in X$ .

$f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  if  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$   
s.t.  $d_X(x, x_0) < \delta \Rightarrow d_Y(f(x), f(x_0)) < \varepsilon$   
 $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $d_Y(f(x), f(x_0)) < \varepsilon$   
 $\forall x$  s.t.  $d_X(x, x_0) < \delta$

**Lemma**  $F: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous at  $x_0$

$\Leftrightarrow$  for any sequence  $(x_n) \subset X$  s.t.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_X(x_n, x_0) = 0, \quad f(x_n) \xrightarrow{d_Y} f(x_0).$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{x_n \rightarrow x_0} f(x_n) = f(x_0).$$

**Thm.**  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ . T.F.A.E.:

(i)  $f$  is continuous

(ii) For every open set  $V \subseteq Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(V)$  is open in  $(X, d_X)$ .

(iii) For every closed set  $F \subseteq Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(F)$  is closed in  $(X, d_X)$ .

$1 \Rightarrow 2$

Pf. Assume  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous.

Let  $V \subseteq Y$  be open.

Take  $x_0 \in f^{-1}(V)$ .

$\Rightarrow f(x_0) \in V$ .

$\exists r > 0$  s.t.  $B_{d_Y}(f(x_0), r) \subseteq V$  because

$V$  is open in  $Y$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ ,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists \delta > 0$

s.t. if  $d_X(x, x_0) < \delta$ , then  $d_Y(f(x), f(x_0)) < \varepsilon$ .

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ x \in B_{d_X}(x_0, \delta) \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ f(x) \in B_{d_Y}(f(x_0), \varepsilon) \end{matrix}$$

If  $\varepsilon < r$ , then  $B_{d_Y}(f(x_0), \varepsilon) \subset B_{d_Y}(f(x_0), r)$ .

$\therefore$  for any  $x \in B_{d_X}(x_0, \delta)$ , we have  $f(x) \in B_{d_Y}(f(x_0), \varepsilon) \subset V$ .

$\Rightarrow x \in f^{-1}(V)$ .

Therefore  $B_{d_X}(x_0, \delta) \subset f^{-1}(V)$ .

$x_0 \in \text{int}(f^{-1}(V))$ .

$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(V)$  is open in  $X$ .

$2 \Rightarrow 3$

Let  $F$  be a closed set in  $Y$ .

$\Leftrightarrow F^c$  is open in  $Y$ .

$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(F^c)$  is open in  $X$ .

wts:  $f^{-1}(F^c) = (f^{-1}(F))^c$

$$x \in f^{-1}(F^c) \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in F^c$$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(x) \notin F$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \notin f^{-1}(F)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \in f^{-1}(F)^c$$

$3 \Rightarrow 1$

Assume  $f$  is not continuous.

Suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = x$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) \neq f(x)$  for some  $x \in X$  and  $(x_n) \subset X$ .

Consider  $A := \{f(x_n) : x_n \in X\}$ ,  $B := \{x_n, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

If  $f(x_0) \notin \bar{A}$ , then  $x_0 \notin f^{-1}(\bar{A})$ .

$x_0 \in \bar{B}$  and  $B \subseteq f^{-1}(A) \subseteq f^{-1}(\bar{A})$ .

$$\Rightarrow x_0 \in \bar{B} \subseteq \overline{f^{-1}(\bar{A})} = f^{-1}(\bar{A})$$

$$\Rightarrow x_0 \in f^{-1}(\bar{A}). \quad \downarrow$$

If  $f(x_0) \in \bar{A}$ , then since  $f(x_n)$  does not converge to  $f(x_0)$ ,  $\exists$  a subsequence  $\{f(x_{n_k})\}$  s.t.

$\exists \varepsilon_0$  s.t.  $d_Y(f(x_0), f(x_{n_k})) \geq \varepsilon_0$ .

Consider  $A' := \{f(x_{n_k}) : x_{n_k} \in X\}$ ,  $B' := \{x_{n_k}, n_k \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Since  $f(x_0) \notin \bar{A}'$ , we can proceed as before.  $\square$

$x_0 \notin f^{-1}(\bar{A}')$

## Continuity and compactness

Thm.  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  continuous,  $K \subseteq X$  compact

Then  $f(K) := \{f(x) : x \in K\}$  is compact in  $Y$ .

Pf. ① Suppose  $(y_n)$  is a sequence in  $f(K)$ .

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \exists x_n \in K$  s.t.  $f(x_n) = y_n$ .

$\Rightarrow (x_n) \subseteq K$ .

Since  $K$  is compact,  $\exists (x_{n_j}) \subseteq (x_n)$  and  $x \in K$

s.t.  $\lim_{n_j \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_j} = x$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous,  $\lim_{n_j \rightarrow \infty} f(x_{n_j}) = f(x)$ .  
 $\lim_{n_j \rightarrow \infty} y_{n_j}$

$\Rightarrow f(K)$  is a compact subset of  $Y$ .

Pf. ② Suppose  $V_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in I$ , is an open cover for  $K$ .

$\Rightarrow f(K) \subseteq \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} V_\alpha$  are

Since  $f$  is continuous and  $V_\alpha$  is open  $\forall \alpha \in I$ ,

$f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$  is open in  $X$ .

$$\Rightarrow K \subseteq f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} V_\alpha\right) \subseteq \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} f^{-1}(V_\alpha) \quad (*)$$

$$x \in f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} V_\alpha\right) \Rightarrow f(x) \in \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} V_\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \alpha \in I \text{ s.t. } f(x) \in V_\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$$

$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha \in I$  is an open cover for  $K$ .

Since  $K$  is compact,  $\exists F \subseteq I$  finite s.t.

$$K \subseteq \bigcup_{\alpha \in F} f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(K) \subseteq \bigcup_{\alpha \in F} V_\alpha$$

$\Rightarrow f(K)$  is compact.  $\square$

**Def.**  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is uniformly continuous if  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$

$\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $d_X(x_1, x_2) < \delta \Rightarrow d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) < \varepsilon$

**Thm.** A continuous function on a compact space is uniformly continuous.

**Pf.** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

Since  $f: X \rightarrow X$  is continuous at every  $x \in X$ ,

(for each  $x \in X$ ),  $\exists \delta(x) > 0$  s.t.  $d_X(x, x') < \delta$

$$\Rightarrow d_Y(f(x), f(x')) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

$$X = \bigcup_{x \in X} x \subseteq \bigcup_{x \in X} B(x, \varepsilon)$$

This is an open cover for  $X$ .

Since  $X$  is compact,  $\exists x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  s.t.

$$X \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n B(x_i, \frac{\delta(x_i)}{2})$$

$$\exists j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ s.t. } x \in B(x_j, \frac{\delta(x_j)}{2})$$

$$d_Y(f(x), f(x_j))$$

$$\Rightarrow d_x(x, x_j) < \frac{\delta(x_j)}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow d_y(f(x), f(x_j)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

Moreover,

$$d_x(x, x_j) \leq \frac{\delta(x_j)}{2} + \frac{\delta(x_j)}{2}$$

$$= \delta(x_j)$$

$$d_y(f(x), f(x_j)) \leq d_y(f(x), f(x_j)) + d_y(f(x_j), f(x'))$$

$$< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon$$

So  $f$  is uniformly continuous.  $\square$

## Continuity and connectedness

**Def.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a m.s.

We say  $X$  is **disconnected** if  $\exists$  disjoint, nonempty, open subsets  $V, W \subseteq X$  s.t.  $X = V \cup W$ .

**Def.**  $X$  is **connected** if  $X$  is not disconnected.

**Obs.**  $X$  is disconnected

$\Leftrightarrow \exists V \subset X, V \neq \emptyset, V \neq X$  s.t.  $V$  is  
open and closed.

$\forall V \subset X, X = V \cup V^c$ .  
 $V \neq \emptyset$  if  $V \neq X$

**Thm.** Suppose  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous and  $E \subseteq X$  is connected. Then  $f(E)$  is connected.

**Pf.** Suppose  $f(E)$  is disconnected.

$\exists V, W$  s.t.  $f(E) = V \cup W$ .

$V, W$  are open,  $V \neq \emptyset$ ,  $W \neq \emptyset$ ,  $V \cap W = \emptyset$ .

Consider the restriction of  $f$  to  $E$ :

$f|_E : E \rightarrow V \cup W$  is continuous.

$$E = \underbrace{f^{-1}|_E(V)}_{\text{open}} \cup \underbrace{f^{-1}|_E(W)}_{\substack{\text{open} \\ \text{disjoint}}}$$

$\Rightarrow E$  is disconnected.  $\checkmark$