

# Metric Spaces

(following Rosenthal,  
Introduction to Analysis).

Def'n: A metric space is a set  $E$ , together with a rule that associates with each pair  $p, q \in E$  a real number  $d(p, q)$  such that

- (1)  $d(p, q) \geq 0 \quad \forall p, q \in E$
- (2)  $d(p, q) = 0 \iff p = q$
- (3)  $d(p, q) = d(q, p) \quad \forall p, q \in E$
- (4) (Triangle inequality)  $\forall p, q, r \in E$ ,

$$d(p, r) \leq d(p, q) + d(q, r).$$

The function  $d : E \times E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called the metric.

Ex: (1)  $E = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $d(p, q) = |p - q|$ .  $= \sqrt{(p-q)^2}$

Check that  $d$  is a metric:

(1)-(3) easy

$$\begin{aligned} (4): d(p, r) &= |p - r| = |p - q + q - r| \\ &\leq |p - q| + |q - r| \\ &= d(p, q) + d(q, r). \end{aligned}$$

(2) more generally, for any positive integer  $n$ ,  $E = \mathbb{R}^n$  together with the metric

$$d(p, q) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - y_n)^2}.$$

$(x_1, \dots, x_n)$      $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$

then  $d$  is a metric (to be proved...)

(3) If  $(E, d_E)$  is a metric space, and  $E_1 \subseteq E$ , then  $E_1$  can be made into a metric space by defining (for  $p, q \in E_1$ )

$d_{E_1}(p, q)$  to be the distance between  $p$  and  $q$  as elements of  $E$ .

$$\text{i.e. } d_{E_1}(p, q) = d_E(p, q).$$

(4) let  $E$  be an arbitrary set.

For  $p, q \in E$ , define

$$d(p, q) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p = q \\ 1 & \text{if } p \neq q \end{cases}$$

This is called the discrete metric

Proof that  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a metric space:  
(triangle inequality).

Prop: (Cauchy-Schwarz inequality).

For any real numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_n,$   
 $b_1, \dots, b_n,$

$$|a_1b_1 + \dots + a_nb_n| \leq \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \cdot \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2}.$$

$$( \Leftrightarrow (a_1b_1 + \dots + a_nb_n)^2 \leq (a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2)(b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2) )$$

PF)  $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R},$

$$0 \leq (\alpha a_1 - \beta b_1)^2 + (\alpha a_2 - \beta b_2)^2 + \dots + (\alpha a_n - \beta b_n)^2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \alpha^2 (a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_n^2) \\ &\quad - 2\alpha\beta (a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + \dots + a_nb_n) \\ &\quad + \beta^2 (b_1^2 + b_2^2 + \dots + b_n^2). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Set } \alpha = \sqrt{b_1^2 + b_2^2 + \dots + b_n^2}$$

$$\beta = \pm \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_n^2}.$$

$$\text{Get } 0 \leq (a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2)(b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2)$$

$$= 2 \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} (a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n) \\ + (a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2)(b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2).$$

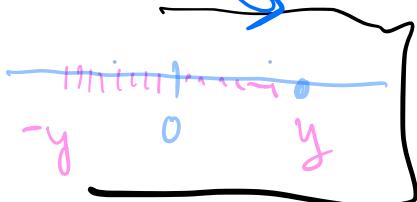
$$0 \leq 2(a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2)(b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2)$$

$$\leftarrow = 2 \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} (a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \pm \left[ \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} (a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n) \right]$$

$$\leq (a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2)(b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} | a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n |} \\ \leq (a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2)(b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2)$$



If either  $\sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} = 0$  or  $\sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} = 0$ ,

then either  $a_1 = \dots = a_n = 0$  or  $b_1 = \dots = b_n = 0$ ,  
in which case C-S follows.

If  $\sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \neq 0$  and  $\sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} \neq 0$ ,

then get

$$|a_1b_1 + \dots + a_nb_n| \leq \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \cdot \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2}$$

□

Corollary: For any real numbers

$$a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_n,$$

$$\sqrt{(a_1+b_1)^2 + \dots + (a_n+b_n)^2} \leq \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} + \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2}.$$

PF)

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_1+b_1)^2 + \dots + (a_n+b_n)^2 \\ &= a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2 + 2(a_1b_1 + \dots + a_nb_n) \\ &\quad + b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2. \\ &\leq a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2 + 2(a_1b_1 + \dots + a_nb_n) \\ &\quad + b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2 \quad \text{by C-S} \\ &\leq a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2 + 2\sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2} \\ &\quad + b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2 \\ &= (\sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} + \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2})^2 \quad \square. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $p = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  
 $q = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ ,  
 $r = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ .

Then

$$d(p, r) = \sqrt{(x_1 - z_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - z_n)^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{by Corollary} &= \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1 + y_1 - z_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - y_n + y_n - z_n)^2} \\ &\leq \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - y_n)^2} \\ &\quad + \sqrt{(y_1 - z_1)^2 + \dots + (y_n - z_n)^2} \\ &= d(p, q) + d(q, r). \end{aligned}$$

Last time... metric spaces.

Open and Closed Sets.

Def'n:  $E$ : metric space.

$p_0 \in E$ ,  $r > 0$  a real number.

Then the open ball in  $E$  of center  $p_0$  and radius  $r$  is

$$B_r(p_0) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ p \in E : d(p_0, p) < r \}.$$

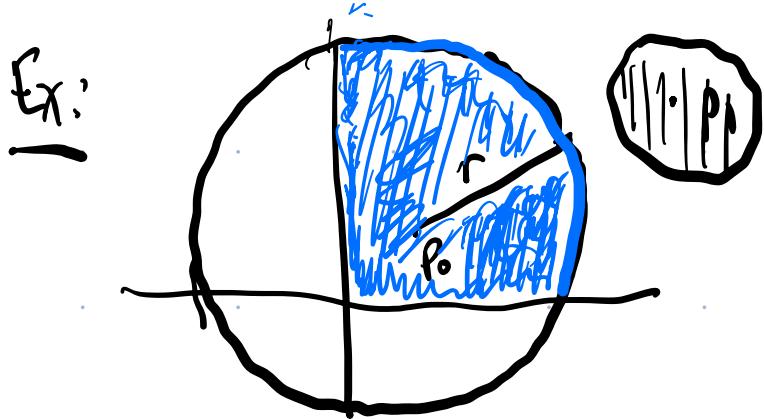
The closed ball in  $E$  of center  $p_0$  and radius  $r$  is

$$\{ p \in E : d(p_0, p) \leq r \}.$$

Ex: In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,



$$E = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x > 0, y > 0 \}$$



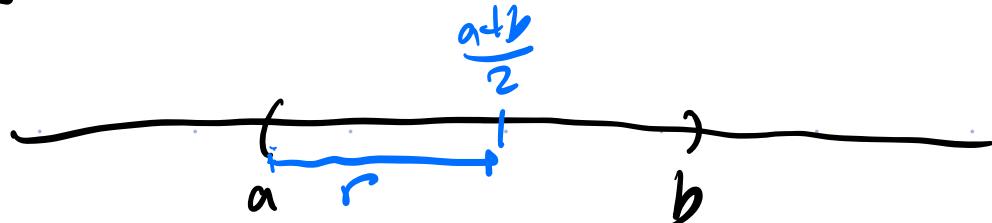
In general, if  $S \subseteq E$  with the induced metric,

$$B_r(p_0) = \underbrace{B_r(p_0)}_{\text{in } S} \cap S$$

$\nearrow$  in  $S$

$$\underbrace{B_r(p_0)}_{\text{in } E}$$

Ex: In  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $(a, b)$  is an open ball



because  $(a, b) = B_r(p_0)$  where

$$p_0 = \frac{a+b}{2} \text{ and } r = \frac{a+b}{2} - a = \frac{b-a}{2}$$

Def'n: A subset  $S$  of a metric space  $E$  is open if, for each  $p \in S$ ,  $S$  contains some open ball of center  $p$  in  $E$ .

Prop: For any metric space  $E$ ,

(1)  $\emptyset$  is open,

(2)  $E$  is open,

(3) the union of any collection of open subsets of  $E$  is open,

(4) the intersection of a finite number of open subsets is open.

Pf) (1) Trivially true.

(2) Let  $p \in E$ . Take any  $r > 0$ .

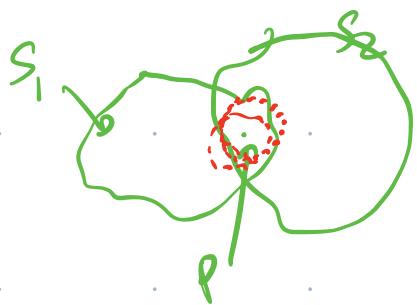
Then  $B_r(p) \subset E$ .

(3) Let  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  be a collection of open subsets of  $E$ . Let  $p \in \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} U_\alpha$ .

Then  $\exists \alpha \in A$  s.t.  $p \in U_\alpha$ . Since  $U_\alpha$  is open,  $\exists r > 0$  s.t.  $B_r(p) \subset U_\alpha$ , so

$$B_r(p) \subset \bigcup_{a \in A} U_a.$$

(4) Let  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  be open subsets of  $E$  and let  $p \in S_1 \cap \dots \cap S_n$ .



For  $i=1, \dots, n$ , each  $S_i$  is open, so  $\exists r_i > 0$  s.t.

$$B_{r_i}(p) \subset S_i.$$

$$\text{Let } r = \min \{r_1, \dots, r_n\}.$$

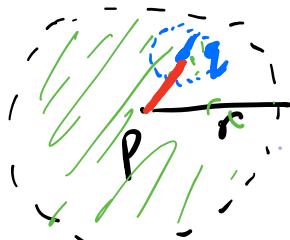
$$\text{Then } B_r(p) \subset \underbrace{B_{r_i}(p)}_{\Rightarrow B_r(p) \subset S_1 \cap \dots \cap S_n.} \quad \forall i=1, \dots, n$$



Prop: In any metric space  $E$ , an open ball is an open set.

Pf) Let  $p \in E$ ,  $r > 0$ .

WTS  $B_r(p)$  is an open set.



Let  $q \in B_r(p)$ . WTS  $\exists r' > 0$  s.t.  $B_{r'}(q) \subset B_r(p)$ .

Let  $r'$  be such that  
 $r' < r - d(p, q)$ .

Let  $q' \in B_{r'}(q)$ . Then

$$d(q', q) < r'$$

WTS  $d(q', p) < r$ .

We have 
$$\begin{aligned} d(q', p) &\leq d(q', q) + d(q, p) \\ &< r' + d(p, q) \\ &< r - d(p, q) + d(p, q) \\ &= r. \end{aligned}$$

The open subsets of  $E$  are precisely the unions of open balls of  $E$ . Why?

Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $E$ .

$$\text{Then } U = \bigcup_{p \in U} \{p\} = \bigcup_{p \in U} B_r(p)$$



for some  $r_p > 0$ , for every  $p \in U$ .

Rmk: An arbitrary intersection of open sets need not be open.

Ex: In  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

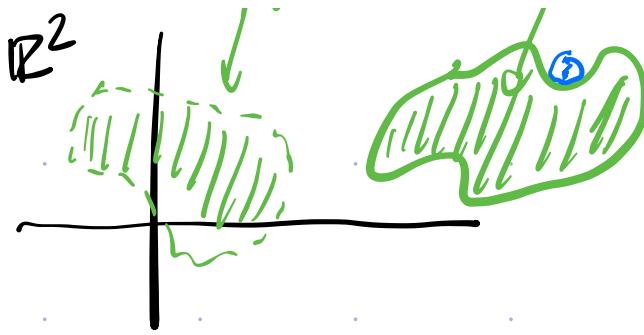
$$\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}} \left( -\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n} \right) = \{a\}.$$

Def'n: A subset of a metric space  $E$  is closed if its complement  $S^c$  is open.

$$(S^c = \{x \in E : x \notin S\}).$$

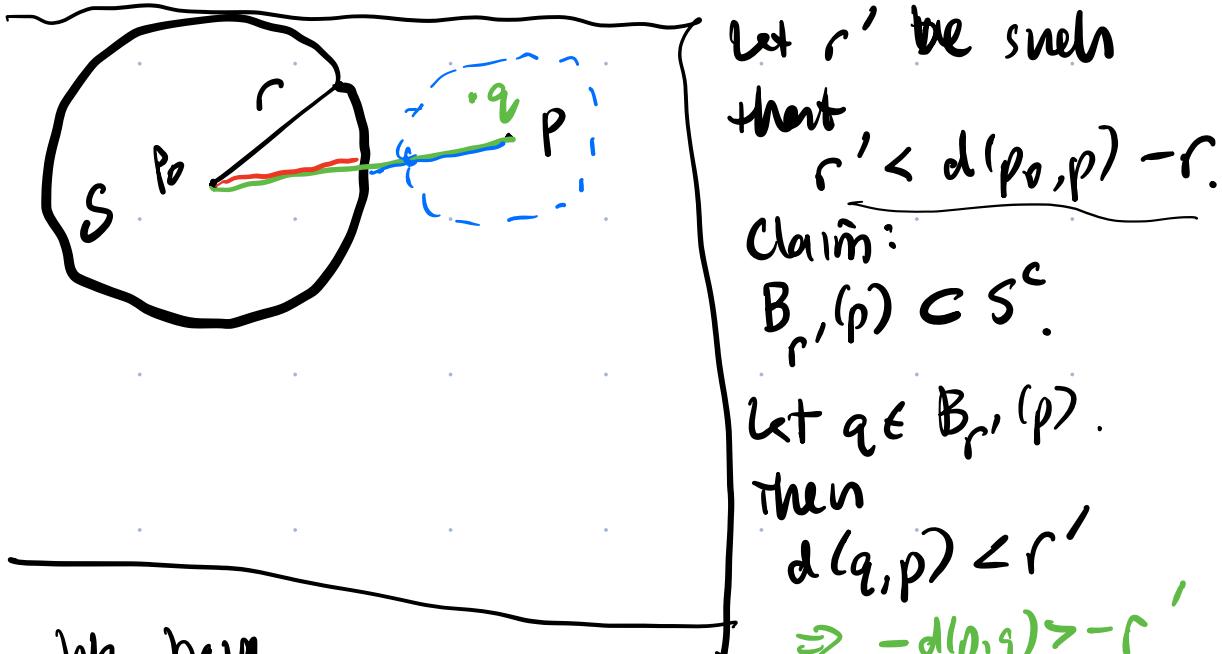
open

closed



Prop: In any metric space, a closed ball is a closed set.

Pf) Let  $S$  be the closed ball of center  $p_0 \in E$  and radius  $r$ . Let  $p \in S^c$ .



We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(p_0, q) &= \underbrace{d(p_0, q)}_{\geq d(p_0, p)} + \underbrace{d(q, p)}_{< r'} - \underbrace{d(p, q)}_{> -r'} \\
 &\geq d(p_0, p) - d(p, q) \\
 &> r' + r - d(p, q)
 \end{aligned}$$

$> r$ .

Prop: For any metric space  $E$ ,

- (1)  $E$  is closed
- (2)  $\emptyset$  is closed.
- (3) The intersection of any collection of closed subsets of  $E$  is closed.
- (4) The union of a finite numbers of closed subsets of  $E$  is closed.

Pf) (1), (2) ✓

$$(3): \left( \bigcap_{\alpha \in A} S_\alpha \right)^c = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} S_\alpha^c$$

so if each  $S_\alpha$  is closed then  $S_\alpha^c$  is open, so  $\left( \bigcap_{\alpha \in A} S_\alpha \right)^c$  is open.

$$(4): (S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_n)^c = S_1^c \cap \dots \cap S_n^c,$$

so if each  $S_i$  is closed, then  $(S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_n)^c$  is open

Exer: Show that any finite subset of a metric space is closed.

If  $p \in E$ , then  $\{p\}$  is closed.

Pf) Let  $q \in \{p\}^c$ . Let  $r < d(p, q)$ .

Then  $p \notin B_r(q)$ , so  $\{p\}^c$  is open, so  $\{p\}$  is closed. Since finite unions of closed sets are closed, any finite subset of  $E$  is closed.

Ex: Let  $p_0 \in E$ , and  $r > 0$ .

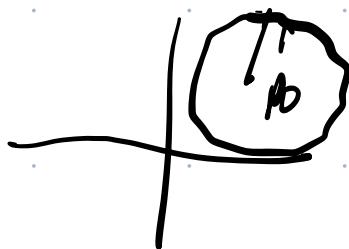
Then  $\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) = r\}$  is closed.

Pf)

$\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) < r\}$  is open,

Also,  $\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) \leq r\}$  is closed,

so  $\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) \leq r\}^c$  is open



$\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) > r\}$

so  $\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) = r\}$  is closed

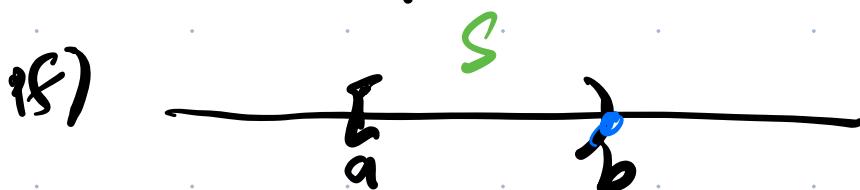
because  $\{x \in E : d(p_0, x) > r\}$

$\cup \{x \in E : d(p_0, x) < r\}$  is open.

If  $E = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a < b$ ,

$[a, b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x < b\}$

is neither open nor closed.

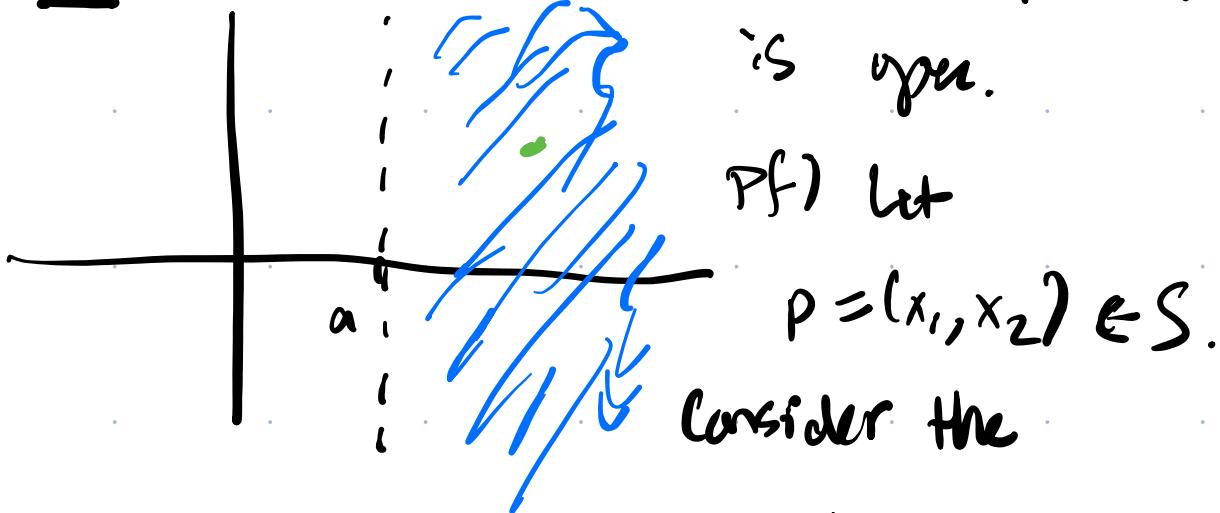


This set is not open, because every neighbourhood centered at  $a$  contains numbers less than  $a$ .

The complement of  $[a, b)$  is not open, because  $b \in [a, b)^c$ , but there is no interval around  $b$  that

is a subset of  $S^c$ , because every neighborhood of  $b$  contains elements in  $[a, b)$ .

Ex: In  $\mathbb{R}^2$



Pf) Let

$$p = (x_1, x_2) \in S.$$

Consider the

open ball of center  $p$  and radius

$x_1 - a$ . If  $q = (y_1, y_2)$  is in this ball, then

$$\underbrace{|x_1 - y_1|}_{\leq} \leq \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (x_2 - y_2)^2}$$

$$= d(p, q) < \underline{x_1 - a}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } y_1 &= x_1 - (x_1 - y_1) \\ &\geq x_1 - |x_1 - y_1| \\ &\cancel{\geq} x_1 - (x_1 - a) \\ &= a. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $S$  is open.