

Limits and continuity on metric spaces

See Def. 5.3 (p. 40) for continuity. As for limits:

Def. Suppose $a \in X$, metric space, and f is a function from $\{x \in X \mid 0 < d(x, a) < h\}$ to Y , another metric space. Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ means

for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there is some $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < d^X(x, a) < \delta \Rightarrow d^Y(f(x), L) < \varepsilon.$$

Expanded Sutherland, p. 48 All the results on continuous functions, and the constructions on real valued continuous fns., carry over to metric spaces.

Example not in Sutherland $f: (X, d^X) \rightarrow (Y, d^Y)$ continuous at $a \in X$, and $f(a) \neq b \in Y$. Then there is some $\delta > 0$ s.t. $d(x, a) < \delta \Rightarrow f(x) \neq b$.

PROOF. Let $c = d^Y(f(a), b)$, and choose $\delta > 0$ so that $d(x, a) < \delta \Rightarrow d(f(x), f(a)) < \frac{c}{2}$. Then

$d(x, a) < \delta \Rightarrow f(x) \neq b$, for if $f(x) = b$:

then $d(f(x), f(a)) = d(b, f(a)) = c$. \blacksquare

Continuity and product constructions

Given: $(X, d^X), (Y, d^Y), z \in X \times Y$

$z = (x, y)$. d_p metric, $p = 1, 2, \infty$.

THIS TREATMENT DIFFERS FROM SUTHERLAND'S

Coordinate projections $\pi_X: X \times Y \rightarrow X$

$\pi_Y: X \times Y \rightarrow Y$

$\pi_X(x, y) = x, \pi_Y(x, y) = y$

Prop. 5.20. $\pi_X: (X \times Y, d_p) \rightarrow (X, d^X)$ and

$\pi_Y: (X \times Y, d_p) \rightarrow (Y, d^Y)$ are continuous.

New Proof. For each choice of p we have

$$d^X(x_1, x_2) \leq d_p(z_1, z_2), d^Y(y_1, y_2) \leq d_p(z_1, z_2)$$

so for each $z \in X \times Y$ we can take $\delta = \epsilon$. \square

Note These functions are uniformly continuous:

$g: (U, d^U) \rightarrow (V, d^V)$ is unif. cont. \iff for each $\epsilon > 0$ there is some $\delta > 0$ such that, for all u_1, u_2 ,
 $d^U(u_1, u_2) < \delta \implies d^V(g(u_1), g(u_2)) < \epsilon$.

(Usually the δ for an ϵ depends on x —
 think about $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ for $0 < x \in \mathbb{R}$).

THEOREM. (W, d^W) , (X, d^X) , (Y, d^Y) metric spaces, $f: (W, d^W) \rightarrow (X, d^X)$ and $g: (W, d^W) \rightarrow (Y, d^Y)$ cont. Define $h: W \rightarrow X \times Y$ by $h(w) = (f(w), g(w))$. Then $h: (W, d^W) \rightarrow (X \times Y, d_p)$ is continuous, where $p = 1, 2, \infty$. [Prop. 5.22 is a special case]*

Proof. Let $w \in W$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Also, let $k(1) = \frac{1}{2}$, $k(2) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$, $k(\infty) = 1$; in each case,

for $z_1, z_2 \in X \times Y$ we have

$$d^X(x_1, x_2), d^Y(y_1, y_2) < \frac{\varepsilon}{k(p)} \Rightarrow d^p(z_1, z_2) < \varepsilon$$

(check this out!). By continuity there exist

$$\delta_X, \delta_Y > 0 \text{ such that } d(t, w) < \delta_X \Rightarrow d(f(t), f(w)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{k(p)}$$

$$d(t, w) < \delta_Y \Rightarrow d(g(t), g(w)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{k(p)}$$

Let $\delta = \min\{\delta_X, \delta_Y\}$. Then by the

$$\text{preceding, } d(t, w) < \delta \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d(f(t), f(w)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{k(p)} \\ d(g(t), g(w)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{k(p)} \end{array} \right\} \text{ so}$$

that $d_p(h(t), h(w)) < \varepsilon$. \square

* Note. The diagonal $\Delta: X \rightarrow X \times X$ is obtained if $f = g = \text{identity map of } X$.

FOOTNOTE FOR page 5.9

The proof relies heavily on two inequalities:

(1) If $0 \leq u, v < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, then $u+v < \varepsilon$

(2) If $0 \leq u, v < \frac{\varepsilon\sqrt{2}}{2}$, then $\sqrt{u^2+v^2} < \varepsilon$.

[So there is a MISTAKE in the fourth line of the proof! Replace $\frac{\varepsilon}{K(p)}$ by $\varepsilon \cdot K(p)$.]

The derivations are straight forward:

(1) The hypothesis implies $0 \leq u+v < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon$. \square

(2) The hypothesis implies $0 \leq u^2+v^2 < \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2} = \varepsilon^2$, so $0 \leq \sqrt{u^2+v^2} < \varepsilon$. \square

Sutherland, Prop. 5.19 Let $f: (X, d^X) \rightarrow (U, d^U)$ and $g: (Y, d^Y) \rightarrow (V, d^V)$ be continuous. Then $f \times g(x, y) = (f(x), g(y))$ is continuous.

New proof It helps to draw a picture (a commutative diagram) with all the mappings, such that two composites from the same source to the same target are equal:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & U \\
 \uparrow \pi_X & & \uparrow \pi_U \\
 X \times Y & \xrightarrow{f \times g} & U \times V \\
 \downarrow \pi_Y & & \downarrow \pi_V \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{g} & V
 \end{array}$$

Check that the composites are equal!

In the preceding result's setting, let

$$F: X \times Y \rightarrow U \text{ be } f \circ \pi_X,$$

$$G: X \times Y \rightarrow V \text{ be } g \circ \pi_Y.$$

Then $H = f \times g$ by construction.

Now F and G are composites of cont. maps and hence are continuous. By the theorem, this means that $H = f \times g$ is also continuous. \square

As noted in the ¶ on pp. 49-50 of Sutherland, these results yield slightly simpler (and more generalizable) proofs of statements in Prop. 5.17.

Subsets of metric spaces with special properties

The need to specify various types of subsets in (X, d^X) will arise repeatedly throughout this course (and subsequent ones). We start with a simple example generalizing a property of subsets of \mathbb{R} .

$A \subseteq X$ is bounded if for some $x_0 \in X$ we have $d(x_0, a) \leq K$, some $K \geq 0$ (if K works and $K' > K$ then K' also works). Say K is a bound.

Prop. 5.23A If A is bounded, then there is a constant M such that $d(a_1, a_2) \leq M$, all $a_1, a_2 \in A$.

Proof $d(a_1, a_2) \leq d(a_1, x_0) + d(x_0, a_2) \leq 2K$. \square

The diameter of a bounded set A is the least upper bound of the set of distances $d(a_1, a_2)$ if $A \neq \emptyset$; also,

$$\text{diam } \emptyset = 0.$$

Prop. 5.20 A union of two bounded sets is bounded (\Rightarrow same for finitely many, by induction).

Proof. Say $d(x_i, a_i) \leq K_i$ if $a_i \in A_i$, where $i = 1$ or 2 . Then $d(x_1, a_2) \leq d(x_1, x_2) + d(x_2, a_2) \leq d(x_1, x_2) + K_2$, so $a \in A_1 \cup A_2 \Rightarrow d(x_1, a) \leq \text{larger of } K_1 \text{ and } d(x_1, x_2) + K_2$. \square

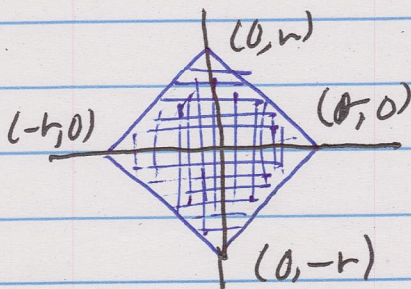
Open neighborhoods of radius r

$$N_r(x) = \{y \in X \mid d(x, y) < r\}$$

In \mathbb{R} these are open intervals centered at x

In \mathbb{R}^2 these are open disks centered at x
(with the Pythagorean metric)

In \mathbb{R}^2 with the taxicab metric, these are squares whose edges make 45° angles with the coordinate axes:



In \mathbb{R}^2 with the ∞ metric, one gets squares whose edges are parallel to the axes 