

Last time: We defined continuity of a function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ X, Y metric spaces

analysts definition: $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = f(p)$

topologists definition: If V is an open subset of Y ,
then $f^{-1}(V)$ is an open subset of X
 $= \{x \in X: f(x) \in V\}$

Q: Let X be the space of bounded functions $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Define $F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $F(f) = \|f\|_{\sup}$

Is F continuous? \leftarrow a function whose input is another function is often called functional
e.g. in Calculus of variations:

$X =$ functions $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$f(0) = 1 \quad f(1) = 1$ "boundary conditions"

arclength $(f) = \int_0^1 \sqrt{1 + f'(x)^2} dx$

$P: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ gravitational potential

$$\int_0^1 f(x) dx$$



Q: What is $\inf_x P$?

CONNECTEDNESS

Two definitions:

Analysts definition: A metric space X is connected if there is no surjective continuous function $f: X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ \leftarrow note $\{0\}$ is open $= B(0, \frac{1}{2})$

Topologists definition: X is connected if there are no two nonempty open subsets of X U_0, U_1 s.t.

$$U_0 \cap U_1 = \emptyset$$

$$U_0 \cup U_1 = X$$

In this case, $U_1 = U_0^c$ is closed, whence closed

$$f(x) = 0$$

$$f(x) = 1 \text{ for all } x \neq 0$$

f is continuous,

$$\text{so } \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(y_i) = f(x)$$

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} 1 = 0$$

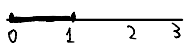
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Why are these equivalent?

If you have continuous, surjective $f: X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ define $U_0 = f^{-1}(\{0\})$ $U_1 = f^{-1}(\{1\})$

U_0, U_1 are nonempty (if surjective), open (if continuous)

Note:



$X = [0, 1] \cup [2, 3]$ is disconnected

$V_0 = [0, 1]$ is open in X

s.t. is the open ball $B_x(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + 0.0001)$

$$V_1 = [2, 3]$$

Q: Is the Cantor set connected?

No: take $V_0 = \{e \in E : 0 \leq e \leq \frac{1}{3} - 0.0001 < e < \frac{1}{3} + 0.0001\}$

$$V_1 = \dots \frac{2}{3} \leq e \leq 1$$



V_0 is also disconnected

In fact, E is totally disconnected: the only connected subsets

of E are single points

Yet E has no isolated points!

\mathbb{Q} is also not connected

$$V_0 = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}, x < \sqrt{2}\}$$

$V_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}, x > \sqrt{2}\}$ covers \mathbb{Q} disjointly

SEQUENCES OF FUNCTIONS

Q: What do we mean when we say a sequence f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots converges to

f ?

Q₂: Which properties of the f_i are preserved by f ?

One might try the following notion:

Let f_1, f_2, \dots be functions $X \rightarrow Y$

Define a function f by

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \text{ when this limit exists}$$

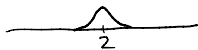
If the limit exists for all $x \in X$, we say $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwise

e.g. $X = Y = \mathbb{R}$

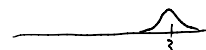
f_1



f_2



f_3



"bump function" supported on $[0, 2]$

$$f_2(x) = f_1(x-1)$$

$$f_3(x) = f_1(x-2)$$

pointwise limit:

$$f(7) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(7) = 0$$

Conclude: $f(n) \rightarrow 0$

pointwise

$0, 0, 0, \dots$, something, $0, 0, 0, \dots$

Note that $f_n \rightarrow 0$ is definitely not true in the sense of sup norm

That would mean,

for every $\varepsilon > 0$, $\exists N$ s.t. for all $n > N$, $\|f_n - 0\|_{\text{sup}} < \varepsilon$
 $\|f_n\|_{\text{sup}}$

Q: Is the pointwise limit of continuous functions continuous?

Suppose f_1, f_2, \dots converges to f pointwise

f_n is continuous for all n

We want to show $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = f(p)$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow p} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{x \rightarrow p} f_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(p) = f(p) = f(p)$$

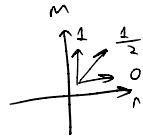
↑
not safe to switch

continuity of f_n
↓
pointwise convergence

S can't necessarily switch order of limits?

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{m+n} = 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{m+n} = 1$$



Why sequences of functions?

Taylor series:

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

e^x is a limit of a sequence of polynomials

Fourier series could handle functions without Taylor series
 → MATH 522