

Prop. 1.5.17 A set $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is closed
iff \forall convergent sequence $i \mapsto v_i \in C$,
$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_i \in C$$

Proof: read text and future homework.

Def 1.5.27 (continuous functions).

Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n . Let

$f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a function.

f is continuous at $v_0 \in X$ if

$$\lim_{v \rightarrow v_0} f(v) = f(v_0).$$

equivalently, $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$

s.t. $\forall v \in X, |v - v_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(v) - f(v_0)| < \varepsilon$

We say f is continuous on X if f is continuous at every point of X .

Proposition: 1.5.28

f is continuous at $v_0 \in X$ iff

\forall sequence $i \mapsto v_i \in X$ with limit v_0 ,

we have $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(v_i) = f(v_0)$

$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_i = v_0$

Proof: (1) Assume f is continuous at v_0 .

Suppose given a sequence $i \mapsto v_i \in X$ s.t. $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_i = v_0$

we need to prove $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(v_i) = f(v_0)$

Given $\varepsilon > 0$, we need to find $M \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t.

for $i > M$, we have $|f(v_i) - f(v_0)| < \varepsilon$.

f continuous: $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $|v_i - v_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(v_i) - f(v_0)| < \varepsilon$

$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_i = v_0$: $\exists M > 0$ s.t. $i > M \Rightarrow |v_i - v_0| < \delta$.

(2) We prove that if f is not continuous at v_0 , then \exists sequence $i \mapsto v_i \in X$ with $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_i = v_0$ s.t. $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(v_i)$ either does not exist or is not $f(v_0)$.

$\exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. $\forall \delta > 0$, $\exists v \in X$ with $|v - v_0| < \delta$ and $|f(v) - f(v_0)| \geq \varepsilon > 0$

For instance for $\delta = \frac{1}{i}$ $i \in \mathbb{N}$

$\exists v_i \in X$ with $|v_i - v_0| < \frac{1}{i}$ and $|f(v_i) - f(v_0)| \geq \varepsilon > 0$

we have a sequence $i \mapsto v_i \in X$

We have $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_i = v_0$

and $\forall i \quad |f(v_i) - f(v_0)| \geq \varepsilon > 0$

So $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(v_i)$ can't be $f(v_0)$.

□

Examples of continuous functions:

polynomials $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

e.g. $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad f(x, y, z) = x^2 y z^5 - 2y^2 + 3z$

rational functions where the denominator does not

vanish: e.g. $g(x, y, z) = \frac{x^2 y - 4z + 1}{3yz + 5}$

Def. 1.5.32 (uniform continuity)

$X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ subset, $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ a function.

We say f is uniformly continuous on X if

$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $\forall v, w \in X$

$$|v - w| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(v) - f(w)| < \varepsilon$$

Example: Linear functions are uniformly continuous.

A linear function $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ can be

given by a matrix A $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \mapsto Av$

to show $v \mapsto Av$ is uniformly continuous,

note: $Av - Aw = A(v - w)$

$$|Av - Aw| = |A(v - w)| \leq |A| \cdot |v - w|$$

Prop 1.4.11, consequence of

Schwarz's inequality Thm 1.4.5.

Given $\epsilon > 0$, if we take $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{|A|}$, then

we have $|v - w| < \delta \Rightarrow$

$$|Av - Aw| \leq |A| \cdot |v - w| < |A| \cdot \delta = \epsilon$$

This works if $|A| \neq 0$. To avoid worrying about

this, we can take $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{1 + |A|}$.

Thm: $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ subset.

f is continuous iff

\forall open set $V \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X

iff \forall closed set $C \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, $f^{-1}(C)$ is closed in X

Notation: If $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ is a subset, then

$$f^{-1}(Y) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{and } f^{-1}(Y) := \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in Y\}$$

The theorem can be used to produce open sets and closed sets as inverse images:

e.g. $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$(x, y) \longmapsto y - x^2$$

the parabola $y - x^2 = 0$ is $f^{-1}(\{0\})$

$\mathbb{R}^2 \supset \{(x, y) \mid y - x^2 = 0\}$ is closed because $\{0\}$ is closed in \mathbb{R}

$$\mathbb{R}^2 \supset \{(x, y) \mid y > x^2\} = f^{-1}((0, \infty))$$

is open because $(0, \infty) \subset \mathbb{R}$

$\{(x, y) \mid y \geq x^2\} = f^{-1}([0, \infty))$ is closed. is open

Beginning of proof of theorem:

Suppose f is continuous and $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is open.

Want to show $f^{-1}(V) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is open.

Let $v_0 \in f^{-1}(V)$ be any point, By definition

$$f(v_0) \in V$$

V is open so $\exists r > 0$ s.t. $B_r(f(v_0)) \subset V$

f continuous so, $\forall \epsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t.

$$|v - v_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(v) - f(v_0)| < \epsilon$$

Extra-credit homework: finish the proof of the theorem. □