

Last time:

Defn A fun $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called continuous, or C^0 , if

$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$ s.t.

$$d(x', x) < \delta \Rightarrow d(f(x'), f(x)) < \epsilon.$$

Defn A metric space is a set X together w/ a function

$$d: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

such that

$$(0) \quad d(x, x') = 0 \iff x = x'$$

$$(1) \quad d(x, x') = d(x', x)$$

$$(2) \quad d(x, x') + d(x', x'') \geq d(x, x'').$$

Defn Let (X, d_x) and (Y, d_y) be metric spaces. Then a function

$$f: X \rightarrow Y$$

is called continuous, or C^0 , if

$$\forall x \in X, \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t.}$$

$$d_x(x', x) < \delta \Rightarrow d_y(f(x'), f(x)) < \epsilon.$$

Remark I motivated the idea of a metric space by asking: what do we need to define continuity? The ϵ - δ definition suggested all we need is a notion of distance. That's what the function d captures.

Intuition for epsilon-delta definition:
"Continuity" for a map between metric spaces means that the map "respects closeness" in the following sense: For any epsilon, you can guarantee that you'll end up epsilon-close so long as you start out delta-close.

At this point, what should you demand of me?

(As with anybody else who gives you a new definition.)

- Examples

- Motivation (i.e., why is this useful?)

Before we move on, let me mention:

Defn Let (X, d) be a metric space.

Then d is called a metric on X .

The standard metric.

Example Let $X = \mathbb{R}$, and

$$d: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x, x') \longmapsto |x' - x|.$$

Exer Verify this example is indeed a metric space.

Example Let $X = \mathbb{R}^n$, and

$$d: X \times X \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x, x') \longmapsto \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i' - x_i)^2}.$$

Exer Show this is a metric space.

Solution: Check all three conditions:

$$(R) \quad (0) \text{ If } d(x, x') = 0, \text{ then } |x' - x| = 0.$$

$$\text{— i.e., } x' - x = 0. \text{ So } x = x'.$$

$$\text{If } x = x', \text{ then } d(x, x') = |x - x| = |0| = 0.$$

$$(1) \quad d(x, x') = |x' - x|$$

$$= |x - x'| \quad (\text{b/c } |x - x'|)$$

$$= d(x', x) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{"/} \\ |-(x' - x)| \\ \text{"/} \\ |x' - x| \end{array}$$

$$(2) \quad d(x, x') + d(x', x'') = |x' - x| + |x'' - x'|$$

$$\geq |(x' - x) + (x' - x')| \quad \star$$

$$= |x'' - x' + x' - x|$$

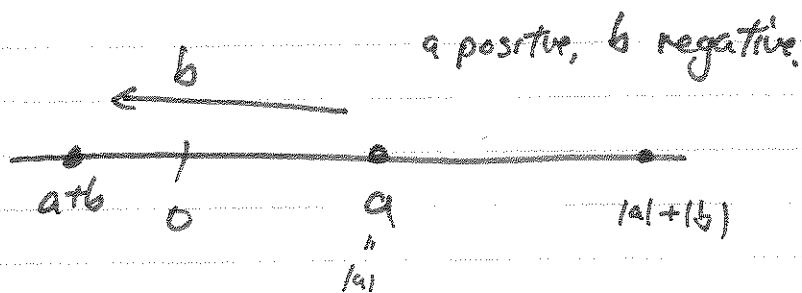
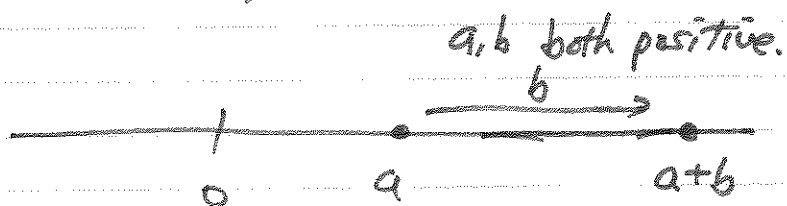
$$= |x'' - x|$$

$$= d(x, x'')$$

Rmk Make sure you understand $(*)$. For any pair of real numbers (a, b) , we have

$$|a+b| \leq |a| + |b|$$

(If a and b have same sign, then $|a+b| = |a| + |b|$.
Otherwise, $|a+b| < |a| + |b|$.)



We'll verify that $\sqrt{\sum (x_i' - x_i)^2}$ is a metric another time; for now let's see other examples.

The discrete metric

One of the more surprising facts is that

\mathbb{R}^n has many different metric space structures you can put on it.

Ex (The discrete metric space structure).

Define

$$d(x, x') = \begin{cases} 0 & x = x' \\ 1 & x \neq x' \end{cases} \quad (\text{**})$$

Exer Show this makes \mathbb{R}^n into a metric space. What did you use about \mathbb{R}^n ?

Sol'n:

$$(0) \quad x=x' \Rightarrow d(x,x')=0 \text{ by def'n.}$$

$$d(x,x')=0 \Rightarrow d(x,x') \neq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x=x' \text{ by def'n.}$$

$$(1) \quad \text{If } x=x', \quad d(x,x')=0=d(x',x).$$

$$\text{If } x \neq x', \quad d(x,x')=1=d(x',x).$$

$$(2) \quad d(x,x') + d(x',x'') = \begin{cases} 1+1 & x \neq x' \text{ and } x' \neq x'' \\ 1+0 \\ 0+1 \\ 0+0 & x=x'=x'' \end{cases}$$

while

$$d(x,x'') = \begin{cases} 1 & x \neq x'' \\ 0 & x = x'' \end{cases} \quad //$$

We used nothing about \mathbb{R}^n .

That is, we observe:

Ex Let X be any set. Then ~~(**)~~
defines a metric space structure on X .

~~Def~~

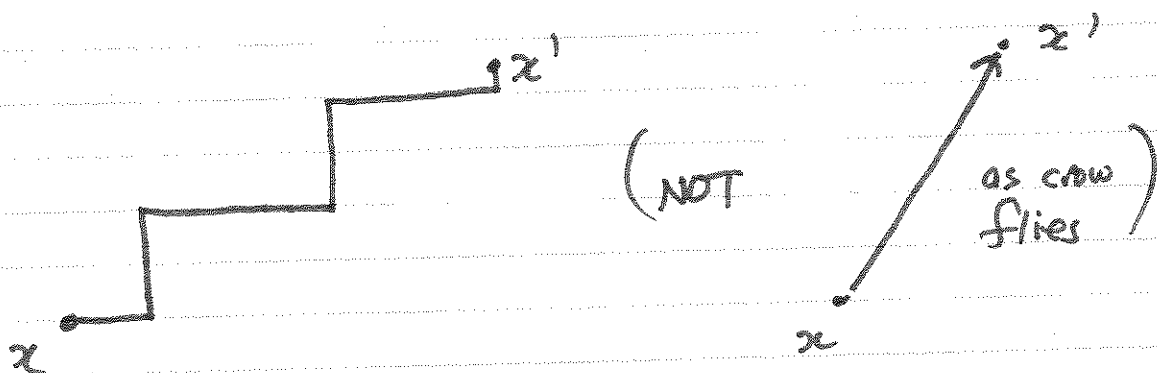
Rmk In fact, the number 1 is irrelevant —
for any number $C > 0$, the assignment

$$d(x, x') = \begin{cases} 0 & x = x' \\ C & x \neq x' \end{cases}$$

is a metric.

Manhattan metric

If you lived in a city with a grid system (e.g., Manhattan), you wouldn't be able to get from x to x' as the crow flies; you'd need to walk along blocks:



what's the distance you've traveled if you walk along the grid?

$$|x'_1 - x_1| + |x'_2 - x_2|.$$

Exer Show

$$d(x, x') = \sum_{i=1}^n |x'_i - x_i|$$

is a metric on \mathbb{R}^n .

Solⁿ: 10) $x = x' \implies |x_i' - x_i| = |0| = 0$
 $\forall i, \text{ so}$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i' - x_i| \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n 0 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, if $d(x, x') = 0$, then
(because $| \cdot | \geq 0$) it must be that
 $\forall i, |x_i' - x_i| = 0$. Hence $x = x'$.

(1) $|x_i' - x_i| = |-(x_i' - x_i)| = |x_i - x_i'|$ so
 $d(x', x) = d(x, x')$.

(2) $d(x, x') + d(x', x'') = \sum |x_i' - x_i| + \sum |x_i'' - x_i'|$.

For all i , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} |x_i' - x_i| + |x_i'' - x_i'| &\geq |x_i'' - x_i| \\ &= |x_i'' - x_i| \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}d(x, x') + d(x', x'') &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i'' - x_i'| \\ &= d(x, x''). \quad //\end{aligned}$$

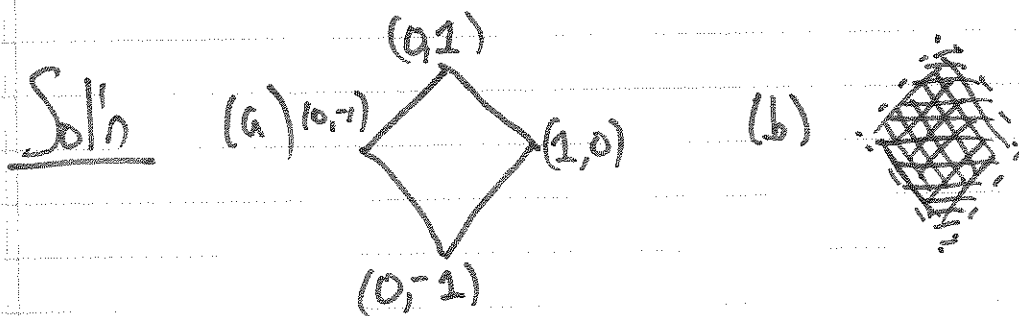
Rmk The Manhattan metric is sometimes called the taxicab metric.

Exer Draw the following subsets of \mathbb{R}^2 :

(a) $\{x \text{ s.t. } d(x, 0) = 1\}$

(b) $\{x \text{ s.t. } d(x, 0) < 1\}$.

(using the taxicab metric).



The l^∞ metric

(pronounced "ell infinity")

Let

$$d(x, x') = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} |x'_i - x_i|.$$

That is, we declare the distance from x to x' to be the largest of the distance between their coordinates.

Ex $x = (2, 2, 2)$ $x' = (3, 4, 5)$

then $|x'_1 - x_1| = 1$ $(3-2)$

$$|x'_2 - x_2| = |4-2| = 2$$

$$|x'_3 - x_3| = |5-2| = 3.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \max_i |x'_i - x_i| &= \max \{1, 2, 3\} \\ &= 3. \end{aligned}$$

So $d(x', x) = 3.$

Exer Show this is a metric on \mathbb{R}^n .

Sol'n: (0) $x' = x \Rightarrow \forall i, |x_i' - x_i| = 0$
 $\Rightarrow \max_i |x_i' - x_i| = 0.$

If $\max_i |x_i' - x_i| = 0$, then $|x_i' - x_i| = 0$
for all i .

Hence $x_i = x_i' \forall i$, hence $x' = x$.

(1) $d(x', x) = d(x, x')$ is straightforward.

(2) For all i , we have

$$|x_i'' - x_i| \leq |x_i'' - x_i'| + |x_i' - x_i|$$

$$\leq \max_{j=1, \dots, n} |x_j'' - x_j'| + \max_{k=1, \dots, n} |x_k' - x_k|$$

$$= d(x'', x') + d(x', x).$$

Hence $d(x, x'') = \max_i |x_i'' - x_i| \leq d(x'', x') + d(x', x)$ //

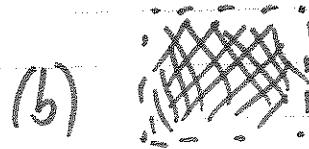
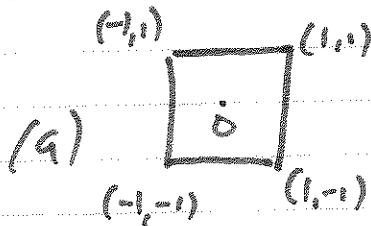
Exer Draw

$$(a) \{x \text{ s.t. } d(x, 0) = 1\}$$

$$(b) \{x \text{ s.t. } d(x, 0) < 1\}$$


using l^∞ metric.

Sol'n:




Summary: We've seen four metrics on \mathbb{R}^n !

Notation


$$d_{\text{std}}(x, x') = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x'_i)^2}$$

(standard metric)


$$d_{\text{taxi}}(x, x') = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - x'_i|$$

(taxicab metric)


$$d_{\text{poo}}(x, x') = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} |x_i - x'_i|$$

(l^∞ metric)

$$d_{\text{discrete}}(x, x') = \begin{cases} 0 & x = x' \\ 1 & x \neq x' \end{cases}$$

(discrete metric)

Project for today

Let $X = Y = \mathbb{R}^n$, and let

$$f: X \rightarrow Y$$

be the identity function. (That is, $f(x) = x$.)

For which metrics d_x and d_y on X and Y

(from the four metrics we've discussed) is

f continuous?

⚠ When you do NOT yet have an intuition, definitions are all you've got to go on.

(Today, you probably have very little intuition for these new metrics!)