

Example 4.3.2

Consider  $\mathbb{Q} \subset (\mathbb{R}, \|\cdot\|)$ .  $\left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \right\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{Q}$  because we know that  $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \rightarrow e'$  in  $(\mathbb{R}, \|\cdot\|)$ , but its limit  $e \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

Example 4.3.3

Consider the space of polynomials on  $[a, b]$ :  $\mathcal{P}([a, b]) \subset C([a, b])$ .

The sequence  $\left\{ 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} \right\}$  converges uniformly to  $e^x$  on  $[a, b]$ , i.e.

$$\max_{a \leq x \leq b} \left| 1 + x + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} - e^x \right| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

by Taylor's theorem. Hence,  $\left\{ 1 + x + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} \right\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{P}([a, b])$ , but its limit  $e^x \notin \mathcal{P}([a, b])$ .

Definition 4.3.1

A metric space is complete if every Cauchy sequence converges to an element in the space.

Ex 4.3.2?  $\mathbb{Q}$  not complete  
 back: sum up the examples in words. The Cauchy sequence is not in the space and the def. cannot be verified.

— start —

Completeness is a property that has to be established, and this may or may not be easy to do!

As a first example, we prove

Theorem 4.3.1

$\mathbb{R}^n$  is complete.

Proof

Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . It is easy to prove that any Cauchy sequence in a metric space is bounded. Hence,  $\{x_n\}$  is contained in a compact  $n$ -cell. This means that it has a convergent subsequence and by Theorem 4.2.2 converges itself.

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earlier?

As a second example, we present

Example 4.3.4

Recall that a real valued function  $f$  is bounded on an interval  $[a, b]$  if there is a constant  $M$  such that

$$|f(x)| \leq M \text{ for } a \leq x \leq b.$$

Also, a continuous function is bounded on a finite closed interval, but a function that is bounded does not have to be continuous.

We define

$$\mathcal{M}(a, b] = \left\{ f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is bounded} \right\}$$

and introduce the metric

$$d(f, g) = \sup_{[a, b]} |f(x) - g(x)|, \quad f, g \in \mathcal{M}(a, b]$$

It is easy to show  $(\mathcal{M}(a, b], d)$  is a metric space (Problem).

We show that  $\mathcal{M}(a, b]$  is complete.

This is a three step process:

- 1) Find a natural candidate for a limit for a Cauchy sequence
- 2) Verify the limit is the metric space
- 3) Prove the Cauchy sequence converges

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definition?

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this as an  
example  
of a metric  
space

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holds in  
general

to this limit.

Let  $\{f_k\}$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{M}([a,b])$ . For a fixed  $x$  in  $[a,b]$ , consider the sequence of numbers  $\{f_k(x)\}$ . This is a Cauchy sequence in  $(\mathbb{R}, | \cdot |)$ , since

$$|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq \sup_{a \leq y \leq b} |f_n(y) - f_m(y)| = d(f_n, f_m).$$

Since  $\mathbb{R}$  is complete,  $\{f_n(x)\}$  converges to a real number. Define the function  $f: [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

This is our candidate for the limit.

We next show  $f \in \mathcal{M}([a,b])$ , i.e.,  $f$  is bounded. Choose  $N$  so that  $d(f_m, f_n) \leq 1$  for  $n, m \geq N$ . In particular,

$$\sup_{a \leq x \leq b} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq 1 \quad \text{for } m \geq N.$$

Book: can you rig up a space with pointwise convergence that is not complete?

Book: discuss completeness closure

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We let  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in this inequality and obtain

$$\sup_{a \leq x \leq b} |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

Since  $f_n \in \mathcal{M}([a, b])$ , there is an  $M$  such that  $\sup_{a \leq x \leq b} |f_n(x)| \leq M$  and so

$$\sup_{a \leq x \leq b} |f(x)| \leq M + 1.$$

Finally, we show  $\{f_n\} \rightarrow f$  in  $(\mathcal{M}([a, b]), d)$ .

Note, that we have pointwise convergence by construction, but we do not have uniform convergence, which is the convergence notion in  $(\mathcal{M}([a, b]), d)$ , automatically.

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . There is an  $N$  such that

$$d(f_m, f_n) < \varepsilon \quad \text{for } m \geq n.$$

This means

$$|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| < \varepsilon$$

for  $a \leq x \leq b$  and  $m \geq n$ . Taking the limit

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  yields

Book: emphasize we need to be able to write  $d(f, f_n) \rightarrow 0$  might not be the best

$$|f(x) - f_N(x)| < \varepsilon, \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

For  $n \geq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(x) - f(x)| &\leq |f_n(x) - f_N(x)| + |f_N(x) - f(x)| \\ &< 2\varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

for  $a \leq x \leq b$ . Hence,  $d(f_n, f) < 2\varepsilon$  for  $n \geq N$ .

We can characterize completeness in terms of a generalization of the Cantor Intersection Property, recall Defn. 3.1.7.

### Definition 4.3.2

Let  $A$  be a nonempty subset of a metric space  $(X, d)$ . The diameter of  $A$  is defined by

$$\text{diam}(A) = \sup_{x, y \in A} d(x, y).$$

Note that  $\text{diam}(A)$  can be infinite and the diameter of a set consisting

Back  
Pictures  
& examples

of a single point is zero.

We have

Theorem 4.3.2

A metric space is complete if and only if the intersection of every descending sequence of nonempty, closed sets whose diameters approach zero consists of a single point.

$\cap \dots$

ack  
 ↓  
 "K diam less than  $\epsilon$ "  
 "How what?"

Proof Application

is Cauchy,  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .

We can characterize complete subsets of a complete metric space very nicely

Theorem 4.3.3

Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space. A subspace  $\mathcal{Y} \subset X$  is complete if and only if  $\mathcal{Y}$  is closed.

Proof

Suppose  $\mathcal{Y}$  is closed and  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Since  $X$  is complete,  $x_n \rightarrow x \in X$ . But,  $\mathcal{Y}$  is closed, so  $x \in \mathcal{Y}$ . This means  $\mathcal{Y}$  is complete.

If  $\mathcal{Y}$  is complete, let  $x$  be a limit point of  $\mathcal{Y}$ . There is a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{Y}$  with  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . This sequence converges in  $X$ , so it is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ , and therefore in  $\mathcal{Y}$ . This means  $x_n \rightarrow \tilde{x} \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Since limits are unique  $x = \tilde{x} \in \mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  is closed.