



Art's Commerce and Science College, Onda

Tal:- Vikramgad, Dist:- Palghar

Topology of Metric Spaces

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Practical No-3: Topology of Metric Spaces

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Open Sets of a Metric Spaces

Open Ball in a Metric Space :-

Definition: Open Ball:

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Let $p \in X$ & $\varepsilon > 0$, then the open ball centered at point p & radius ε denoted by $B_\varepsilon(p, \varepsilon)$ is defined as

$$B_\varepsilon(p, \varepsilon) = \{x \in X \mid d(x, p) < \varepsilon\}$$

Sometimes it is simply denoted as $B(p, \varepsilon)$ in (X, d)



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Examples :-

(1) Let $X = \mathbb{R}$. Let $p \in \mathbb{R}$ & $\varepsilon > 0$ & $d =$ standard metric or absolute value metric.

Solution:-

$$\begin{aligned} B(p, \varepsilon) &= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid d(x, p) < \varepsilon\} \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid |x - p| < \varepsilon\} \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -\varepsilon < x - p < \varepsilon\} \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid p - \varepsilon < x < p + \varepsilon\} \end{aligned}$$

$d(x, y) = |x - y|$
standard metric



$\therefore B(p, \varepsilon) = (p - \varepsilon, p + \varepsilon)$
Thus in (\mathbb{R}, d) open balls are open intervals around the point p .



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(2) Let $X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$. Then define open ball in \mathbb{R}^2 with ϵ respective following metric

(i) $d_1 =$ Euclidean metric

(ii) $d_2 =$ sum metric or L^1 metric

(iii) $d_3 =$ Supremum metric

Solution:- Let $p = (p_1, p_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ $\& \epsilon > 0$

$$(i) B_{d_1}(p, \epsilon) = B_{d_1}((p_1, p_2), \epsilon) \\ = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d(x, p) < \epsilon\}$$

$\therefore x \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\therefore x = (x_1, x_2) \\ B_{d_1}(p, \epsilon) = \{x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d((x_1, x_2), (p_1, p_2)) < \epsilon\}$$

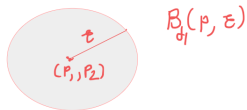


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$$\begin{aligned} \therefore B_d(p, \varepsilon) &= \{ (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sqrt{(x_1 - p_1)^2 + (x_2 - p_2)^2} < \varepsilon \} \\ &= \{ (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid (x_1 - p_1)^2 + (x_2 - p_2)^2 < \varepsilon^2 \} \\ &= \text{Set of all points inside a circle with center} \\ &\quad \text{at } (p_1, p_2) \text{ \& radius } \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$





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(ii) Let $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ & $d_2 =$ Sum metric or L^1 metric

$$\begin{aligned} B_{d_2}(p, \varepsilon) &= B_{d_2}((p_1, p_2), \varepsilon) && \because p \in \mathbb{R}^2 \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d_2(x, p) < \varepsilon\} && \Rightarrow p = (p_1, p_2) \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid |x_1 - p_1| + |x_2 - p_2| < \varepsilon\} && \because x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $|x_1 - p_1| + |x_2 - p_2| < \varepsilon$ gives rise to 4 inequalities

(i) $|x_1 - p_1|$ & $|x_2 - p_2|$ both are positive

$$x_1 - p_1 + x_2 - p_2 < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 + x_2 < p_1 + p_2 + \varepsilon$$



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(ii) $|x_1 - p_1|$ is negative & $|x_2 - p_2|$ is positive

$$\therefore -(x_1 - p_1) + (x_2 - p_2) < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -x_1 + x_2 < p_2 - p_1 + \epsilon$$

(iii) $|x_1 - p_1|$ is positive & $|x_2 - p_2|$ is negative

$$\therefore (x_1 - p_1) - (x_2 - p_2) < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 - x_2 < p_1 - p_2 + \epsilon$$

(iv) Both $|x_1 - p_1|$ & $|x_2 - p_2|$ are negative

$$\therefore -(x_1 - p_1) - (x_2 - p_2) < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -x_1 - x_2 < \epsilon - p_1 - p_2$$



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$\therefore B_{\frac{d_2}{2}}(p, \epsilon)$ is a region \mathbb{R}^2 bounded by the straight lines

$$(i) x_1 + x_2 = p_1 + p_2 + \epsilon$$

$$(ii) -x_1 + x_2 = p_2 - p_1 + \epsilon$$

$$(iii) x_1 - x_2 = p_1 - p_2 + \epsilon$$

$$(iv) -x_1 - x_2 = \epsilon - p_1 - p_2$$

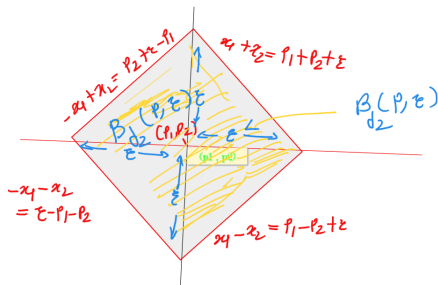
It can be seen that straight lines represented by (i) & (iv) are parallel & straight lines represented by (ii) & (iii) are parallel & hence $B_{\frac{d_2}{2}}(p, \epsilon)$ is a parallelogram with (p_1, p_2) at the center (intersecting point) of diagonals with the equation of boundary of parallelogram represented by equations (i), (ii), (iii) & (iv).



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Open Ball :-

Let (X, d) be a metric space. Let $p \in X$ & $\varepsilon > 0$, then the ball centered at p & radius ε denoted by $B_d(p, \varepsilon)$ or $B(p, \varepsilon)$ is defined as

$$B_d(p, \varepsilon) = \{x \in X \mid d(x, p) < \varepsilon\}$$



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Examples :-

(4) Let $X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ & $d =$ Supremum metric.
Then find $B_d(p, \epsilon)$

Solution :-

Let $X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ &

$d =$ supremum metric.

\therefore For $x, y \in X = \mathbb{R}^2$, $d(x, y) = \max\{|x_1 - y_1|, |x_2 - y_2|\}$

$\therefore x = (x_1, x_2)$, $y = (y_1, y_2)$

Here we have to find $B(p, \epsilon)$ w.r.t. supremum metric

$\therefore B(p, \epsilon) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d(x, p) < \epsilon\}$



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$$B(p, \varepsilon) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d(x, p) < \varepsilon\}$$
$$= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \max\{|x_1 - p_1|, |x_2 - p_2|\} < \varepsilon\}$$

$$\because X = \mathbb{R}^2 \Rightarrow x = (x_1, x_2) \quad \& \quad p = (p_1, p_2)$$

Note that there are two possibilities

either $|x_1 - p_1| < \varepsilon$ or $|x_2 - p_2| < \varepsilon$

which gives rise to 4 equations of
boundaries of $B(p, \varepsilon)$ which are follows

$$\text{if } |x_1 - p_1| < \varepsilon \quad (i) \quad x_1 - p_1 = \varepsilon \Rightarrow x_1 = p_1 + \varepsilon$$

$$(ii) \quad -x_1 + p_1 = \varepsilon \Rightarrow x_1 = p_1 - \varepsilon$$



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If $|x_2 - p_2| < \epsilon$ then

$$(iii) \quad x_2 - p_2 = \epsilon \Rightarrow x_2 = p_2 + \epsilon$$

$$(iv) \quad -x_2 + p_2 = \epsilon \Rightarrow x_2 = p_2 - \epsilon$$

We can see that (i) & (ii) represent straight lines parallel to y-axis and equations (iii) & (iv) represent straight lines parallel to x-axis.
 $\therefore B(p, \epsilon)$ is in fact a rectangle.





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(5) Let X be any non-empty set & d be the discrete metric where

$$d(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y \\ 1 & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases} \quad \text{for } x, y \in X$$

Then find $B(p, \varepsilon)$ w.r.t. discrete metric.

Solution:- Given X is a non-empty set & d is discrete metric defined as

$$d(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y \\ 1 & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

We have to find $B(p, \varepsilon)$



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Let $0 < \epsilon < 1$ & $p \in X$

$$B(p, \epsilon) = \{x \in X \mid d(p, x) < \epsilon\}$$

$$= \{p\}$$

as the only values taken by $d(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y$.

If $\epsilon > 1$ & $p \in X$

$$B(p, \epsilon) = \{x \in X \mid d(x, p) < \epsilon\}$$

$$= X$$

as every pair of points (x, y) in X are at a distance ≤ 1 if $x \neq y$

Thus in a discrete metric space, open balls are either singleton sets or X .



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(6) Let $X = \mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$. For $x = (x_1, x_2), y = (y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$
define $d: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by
$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{9(x_1 - y_1)^2 + 16(x_2 - y_2)^2}.$$

Find $B((0,0), 1)$.

Solution:- By definition of open ball about point p
with radius ε is

$$B(p, \varepsilon) = \{x \in X \mid d(x, p) < \varepsilon\}$$

Here $p = (0, 0)$ & $\varepsilon = 1$

$$\therefore B((0,0), 1) = \{x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d((x_1, x_2), (0,0)) < 1\}$$



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$$\begin{aligned}\therefore B((0,0), 1) &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d((x_1, x_2), (0,0)) < 1\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sqrt{9(x_1-0)^2 + 16(x_2-0)^2} < 1\} \\ &\quad \because d(x, y) = \sqrt{9(x_1-y_1)^2 + 16(x_2-y_2)^2} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sqrt{9x_1^2 + 16x_2^2} < 1\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 9x_1^2 + 16x_2^2 < 1\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{x_1^2}{1/9} + \frac{x_2^2}{1/16} < 1\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{x_1^2}{(\frac{1}{3})^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{(\frac{1}{4})^2} < 1\}\end{aligned}$$



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$$B((0,0), 1) = \left\{ (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{x_1^2}{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2} < 1 \right\}$$

$$B((0,0), 1) = \text{Interior of ellipse } \frac{x^2}{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2} + \frac{y^2}{\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2} = 1$$

with center $(0,0)$ & major axis $= a = \frac{1}{3}$

minor axis $= b = \frac{1}{4}$.

