

Topology

by Munkres James

何诣然

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2 Lecture 7

Definition of continuous function

◇ How to extend the $\varepsilon - \delta$ definition to topological spaces?
 $f : X \rightarrow Y$, where X and Y are topological spaces.

Definition 1.1

$f : X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be **continuous at $x \in X$** if for every $V \in \mathcal{N}_Y(f(x))$, there is $U \in \mathcal{N}_X(x)$ such that $f(U) \subset V$.

Link with $\varepsilon - \delta$ definition

Proposition 1.2

Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then f is continuous at a point x_0 (in the topological sense) $\iff \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$ such that

$$|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon, \text{ whenever } |x - x_0| < \delta.$$

Definition 1.3

$f : X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be **continuous on X** if f is continuous at every $x \in X$.

Theorem 1.4

$f : X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous on $X \iff$ For every open subset $V \subset Y$, $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X .

Remark 1.5

The continuity of a function depends on the specified topologies. For example, in the real line, $f(x) = x$ is continuous in the standard topology, but not continuous when the range space is assumed with the lower limit topology \mathbb{R}_l .

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