

Completion of a metric space Univ. of Melbourne

Let (X, d_X) and (Y, d_Y) be metric spaces.

An isometry from X to Y is a function $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$ such that

$$\text{if } x_1, x_2 \in X \text{ then } d_Y(\varphi(x_1), \varphi(x_2)) = d_X(x_1, x_2).$$

Let (X, d) be a metric space. The completion of (X, d) is a metric space with an isometry

$\iota: X \rightarrow \hat{X}$ such that (\hat{X}, \hat{d}) is complete and

$$\overline{\iota(X)} = \hat{X}.$$

Existence of the completion of (X, d)

The completion of (X, d) is the metric space

$\hat{X} = \{\text{Cauchy sequences in } X\}$ with

$$\hat{\iota}: X \rightarrow \hat{X}$$

$$x \mapsto (x, x, x, \dots)$$

where \hat{X} has the metric $\hat{d}: \hat{X} \times \hat{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ given by

$$\hat{d}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n)$$

and Cauchy sequences $\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ and $\vec{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots)$ are equal in \hat{X} ,

$$\tilde{x} = \tilde{y} \quad \text{if } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n) = 0.$$

Uniqueness of the completion of (X, d)

Let (X, d) be a metric space.

Let $(\hat{X}_1, \hat{d}_1, \hat{\iota}_1)$ and $(\hat{X}_2, \hat{d}_2, \hat{\iota}_2)$ be completions of (X, d) . Then there exists a bijective isometry

$$\hat{\iota}_1 \xrightarrow{\cong} \hat{\iota}_2.$$

HW: If $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$ is an isometry then φ is injective

Proof Assume $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$ is an isometry.

To show: φ is injective

To show: If $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\varphi(x_1) = \varphi(x_2)$ then $x_1 = x_2$

Assume $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $\varphi(x_1) = \varphi(x_2)$

To show: $x_1 = x_2$

To show: $d_X(x_1, x_2) = 0$.

$$d_X(x_1, x_2) = d_Y(\varphi(x_1), \varphi(x_2)) = 0.$$

$$\text{So } x_1 = x_2.$$

So φ is injective //

To show: There exists $\varphi: \hat{X}_1 \rightarrow \hat{X}_2$ such that
 φ is a bijective isometry.

The key point in the definition of φ :

Since $\pi_1(\hat{X}) = \hat{X}_1$ then,

if $z \in \hat{X}_1$, then there exists $z_1(x_1), z_2(x_2), \dots$
such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_n) = z$.

Then define

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(z) &= \varphi\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_n)\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(z_1(x_n)) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2 z_1^{-1} z_1(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_n).\end{aligned}$$

i.e. $\varphi\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_n)\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_n)$.

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}&\hat{d}_1\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{1,k}), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{2,l})\right) \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} d_1(z_1(x_{1,k}), z_1(x_{2,l})) \right) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} d(z_1(x_{1,k}), z_2(x_{2,l})) \right) \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \hat{d}_2(z_2(x_{1,k}), z_2(x_{2,l})) \right) = \hat{d}_2\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{1,k}), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{2,l})\right).\end{aligned}$$

To show: $\varphi: \hat{X}_1 \rightarrow \hat{X}_2$ is surjective.

To show: If $z \in \hat{X}_2$, then there exists $w \in \hat{X}_1$ such that $\varphi(w) = z$.

Assume $z \in \hat{X}_2$.

To show: There exists $w \in \hat{X}_1$ such that $\varphi(w) = z$.

Since $\hat{X}_2 = \overline{z_2(X)} = \{y \in X_2 \mid \text{there exists } (z_2(x_1), z_2(x_2), \dots) \text{ in } z_2(X) \text{ with } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_n) = y\}$

then there exists $(z_2(x_1), z_2(x_2), \dots)$ in $z_2(X)$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_n) = z$.

Let $w = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_n)$ in \hat{X}_1 .

To show: $\varphi(w) = z$.

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(w) &= \varphi\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_n)\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(z_1(x_n)) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(z_1^{-1}(z_1(x_n))) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_n) = z.\end{aligned}$$

So φ is surjective.

To show: $\varphi: \hat{\mathcal{X}}_1 \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{X}}_2$ is an isometry.

To show: If $w_1, w_2 \in \hat{\mathcal{X}}_1$, then $\hat{d}_2(\varphi(w_1), \varphi(w_2)) = \hat{d}_1(w_1, w_2)$.

Assume $w_1, w_2 \in \hat{\mathcal{X}}_1$.

Using that $\hat{\mathcal{X}}_1 = \overline{\mathcal{Z}(X)}$ let

$(z_1(x_{11}), z_1(x_{12}), \dots)$ in $\mathcal{Z}_1(X)$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{1n}) = w_1$,

$(z_2(x_{21}), z_2(x_{22}), \dots)$ in $\mathcal{Z}_2(X)$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{2n}) = w_2$.

To show: $\hat{d}_2(\varphi(w_1), \varphi(w_2)) = \hat{d}_1(w_1, w_2)$.

$$\hat{d}_2(\varphi(w_1), \varphi(w_2)) = \hat{d}_2\left(\varphi\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{1k})\right), \varphi\left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{2l})\right)\right)$$

$$= \hat{d}_2\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(z_1(x_{1k})), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(z_2(x_{2l}))\right)$$

$$= \hat{d}_2\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{1k}), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{2l})\right)$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\hat{d}_2(z_2(x_{1k})), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_2(x_{2l}))$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \hat{d}_2(z_2(x_{1k}), z_2(x_{2l})) \right)$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} d(z_{1k}, x_{2l}) \right)$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \hat{d}_1(z_1(x_{1k}), z_1(x_{2l})) \right)$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\hat{d}_1(z_1(x_{1k}), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{2l})) \right)$$

$$= \hat{d}_1 \left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{1k}), \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} z_1(x_{2l}) \right)$$

$$= \hat{d}_1(w_1, w_2).$$

So φ is an isometry.