

Limits in topological spaces

Let (X, \mathcal{T}) be a topological space.

Let (x_1, x_2, \dots) be a sequence in X .

A limit point of (x_1, x_2, \dots) is $z \in X$ such that

if $N \in \mathcal{N}(z)$ then N contains all but
a finite number of points of (x_1, x_2, \dots)

i.e. if $N \in \mathcal{N}(z)$ then there exists \mathbb{N}_0
such that if $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ then $x_n \in N$.

Let (X, \mathcal{T}_X) and (Y, \mathcal{T}_Y) be topological spaces.

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Let $a \in X$ and $z \in Y$.

Write

$z = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ if f satisfies

if $N \in \mathcal{N}(z)$ then there exists $P \in \mathcal{N}(a)$
such that $N \supseteq f(P)$

Proposition f is continuous at a if and only if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a).$$

Proof \Rightarrow : Assume f is continuous at a .

To show: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

To show: If $N \in \mathcal{N}(f(a))$ then there exists $P \in \mathcal{N}(a)$ such that $N \supseteq f(P)$.

Assume $N \in \mathcal{N}(f(a))$.

To show: there exists $P \in \mathcal{N}(a)$ such that $N \supseteq f(P)$.

Since f is continuous at a then $f^{-1}(N) \in \mathcal{N}(a)$.

Let $P = f^{-1}(N)$.

Then $f(P) \subseteq N$, since $f^{-1}(N) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in N\}$.

So $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$.

\Leftarrow : Assume $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

To show: f is continuous at a .

To show: If $N \in \mathcal{N}(f(a))$ then $f^{-1}(N) \in \mathcal{N}(a)$.

Assume $N \in \mathcal{N}(f(a))$.

To show: $f^{-1}(N) \in \mathcal{N}(a)$.

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$ then there exists $P \in \mathcal{N}(a)$ such that $N \supseteq f(P)$.

So $P \subseteq f^{-1}(N)$

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So f is continuous at a \parallel .

Proposition Let (X, \mathcal{X}_x) and (Y, \mathcal{X}_y) be uniform spaces. Let \mathcal{I}_x be the uniform space topology on X and let \mathcal{I}_y be the uniform space topology on Y . Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Let $a \in X$ and $y \in Y$. Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y \text{ if and only if}$$

f satisfies:

if $E \in \mathcal{X}_y$ then there exists $D \in \mathcal{X}_x$ such that if $x \in X$ and $(x, a) \in D$ then $(f(x), y) \in E$.

Proof: By definition, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if f satisfies: If $N \in \mathcal{N}(y)$ then there exists $P \in \mathcal{N}(a)$ such that $N \supseteq f(P)$.

By definition of the uniform space topology, $N \in \mathcal{N}(y)$ if and only if there exists $E \in \mathcal{X}_y$ such that $B_E(y) \subseteq N$.

Thus, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if f satisfies:

If $B_E(y)$ is an E -neighborhood of y then there exists $B_D(a)$, a D -neighborhood at x , such that $B_E(y) \supseteq f(B_D(a))$.

By definition, $B_D(a) = \{x \in X \mid (x, a) \in D\}$.

So $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if f satisfies:

if $E \in \mathcal{E}_y$ then there exists $D \in \mathcal{E}_x$ such that if $x \in X$ and $(x, a) \in D$ then $(f(x), y) \in E$. \llcorner

Proposition Let (X, d_x) and (Y, d_y) be metric spaces. Let \mathcal{T}_x be the metric space topology on X and let \mathcal{T}_y be the metric space topology on Y . Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Let $a \in X$ and $y \in Y$. Then

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if

f satisfies:

if $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ then there exists $\delta \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ such that if $x \in X$ and $d_x(x, a) < \delta$ then $d_y(f(x), y) < \varepsilon$.

Proof By definition, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if

f satisfies: If $N \in \mathcal{N}(y)$ then there exists $P \in \mathcal{N}(a)$ such that $N \supseteq f(P)$

By definition of the metric space topology,

$N \in \mathcal{N}(y)$ if and only if there exists $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ such that $B_\varepsilon(y) \subseteq N$.

Thus, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if f satisfies:

If $B_\varepsilon(y)$ is an open ball at y then there exists $B_\delta(a)$, an open ball at x such that $B_\varepsilon(y) \supseteq f(B_\delta(a))$.

By definition, $B_\delta(a) = \{x \in X \mid d(x, a) < \delta\}$.

Thus, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = y$ if and only if f satisfies:

if $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ then there exists $\delta \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ such that if $x \in X$ and $d_x(x, a) < \delta$ then $d_y(f(x), y) < \varepsilon$ //.