

# Math 5615 Honors: Monotone sequences//Connectedness

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# Monotone Sequences

## Definition

A sequence  $\{a_k\}$  of real numbers is *monotone increasing* if  $a_{k+1} \geq a_k$  for all  $k$ , and *monotone decreasing* if  $a_{k+1} \leq a_k$  for all  $k$ . A sequence is *monotone* if it is either monotone increasing or monotone decreasing.

## Theorem

If a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  is monotone and bounded, then it converges.

**Proof.** WLOG, assume  $\{a_k\}$  is increasing. (Otherwise,  $\{-a_k\}$  is.)

**Claim:**  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = L := \sup_k \{a_k\}$ . (If decreasing then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = L := \inf_k \{a_k\}$ .)

Given  $\varepsilon > 0 \exists N: L - \varepsilon < a_N \leq L$ . Then  $\forall n \geq N$   
 $L - \varepsilon < a_N \leq a_n \leq L \Rightarrow \frac{|a_n - L|}{d(a_n, L)} < \varepsilon. \quad \square$

# A Convex Set in $\mathbb{R}^n$ Is Connected

(HW problem)  $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  convex

By contradiction: Suppose  $C = (U \cup V) \cap C$

$U, V$  open in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $(U \cap C) \cap (V \cap C) = \emptyset$ ,  $U \cap C \neq \emptyset$ ,  $V \cap C \neq \emptyset$ , has a separation.

Idea: get a separation of  $[0, 1]$ .



Take  $x \in U \cap C$ ,  $y \in V \cap C$

Then  $[x, y] = \{ \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \mid \lambda \in [0, 1] \} \subset C$ , b/c  $C$  convex.

Claim:  $U' = \{ \lambda \in [0, 1] \mid \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \in U \}$

and  $V' = \{ \lambda \in [0, 1] \mid \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \in V \}$  separate  $[0, 1]$ , i.e.,  $U' \neq \emptyset \neq V'$ ,  $U' \cap V' = \emptyset$ ,  $U' \cup V' = [0, 1]$ , and  $U', V'$  open in  $[0, 1]$ .

# A Convex Set in $\mathbb{R}^n$ Is Connected

$U'$  is open in  $[0, 1]$  :

(If we knew conts. functions :

$$f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$f(\lambda) := \lambda x + (1-\lambda) y$$

conts, being linear

$U' = f^{-1}(U)$  by construction of  $U'$

and therefore  $U'$  is open as preimage of open under conts map.)

Instead, show  $U'$  is open directly.

# A Convex Set in $\mathbb{R}^n$ Is Connected

Every pt  $\lambda_0 \in U'$  contains an open ball lying in  $U'$  and centered at  $\lambda_0$ .  
which will be in  $U$ ,  $\forall \lambda_0 \in U'$ .

Take  $\vec{z} = \lambda_0 x + (1-\lambda_0)y$ ,  $\lambda$ . Know  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ ;  $B_\varepsilon(z) \subset U$



$$B_\varepsilon(z) \cap [x, y] = \{ \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \mid | \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y - \underbrace{(\lambda_0 x + (1-\lambda_0)y)}_z | < \varepsilon \}$$



$$|(\lambda - \lambda_0)x - (\lambda - \lambda_0)y| = |\lambda - \lambda_0| \cdot |x - y|$$

Take  $\delta = \frac{\varepsilon}{|x-y|+1}$  (it's  $> 0$ ). Then

if  $|\lambda - \lambda_0| < \delta$  then  $|\lambda - \lambda_0| \cdot |x - y| \leq |\lambda - \lambda_0| \cdot (|x - y| + 1) < \delta \cdot (|x - y| + 1) = \varepsilon$ , i.e.,  $\lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \in B_\varepsilon(z) \subset U$  and  $\lambda \in U'$ .

## A Convex Set in $\mathbb{R}^n$ Is Connected

Could have worked with opens  
in  $\mathbb{R}$  instead of  $[0, 1]$ :

$$U' = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid \exists x + (1-x)y \in U\}$$

etc.  $U' \subset \mathbb{R}$  open

$$U' \cap [0, 1] \neq \emptyset, \quad V' \cap [0, 1] \neq \emptyset,$$

$$(U' \cap [0, 1]) \cup (V' \cap [0, 1]) = [0, 1]$$

$$(U' \cap [0, 1]) \cap (V' \cap [0, 1]) = \emptyset$$