

Lecture II:

In Lecture I, we saw a version of dimension which matched our intuition for

$\mathbb{R}^1, \mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3, \dots$ but which only worked for vector spaces (lines, planes, etc.)

We want to develop a notion of dimension that applies to things which are not lines, planes, etc.

Ex



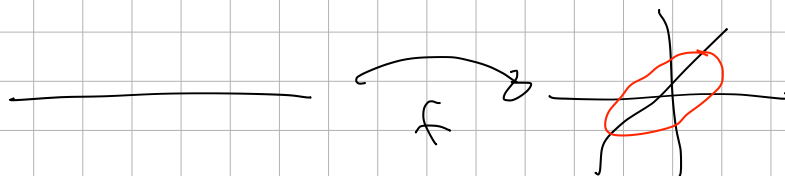
$$C = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1, z = 0\}$$

- What dimension do we think C is? 3? 2? 1?
- Is kinda like \mathbb{R} .

Q: In what sense is C like \mathbb{R} ?

One sense is that there is a function

$$f(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t), 0)$$



We can think of f as parametrizing C.

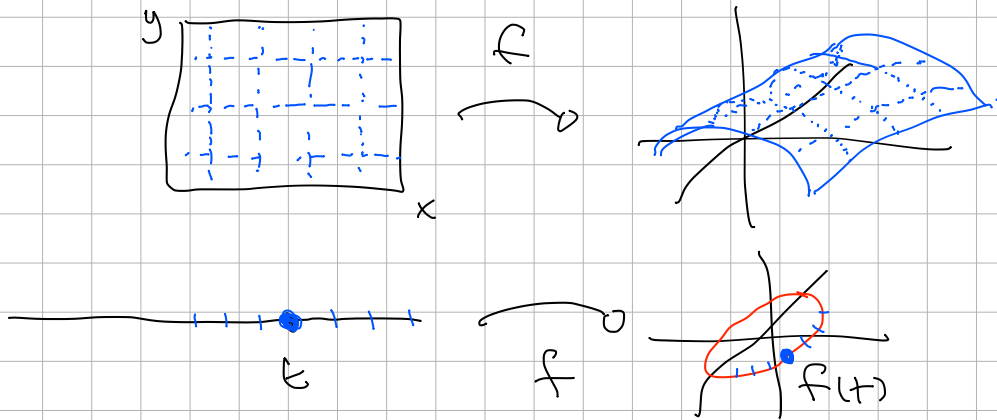
Def: Parametrization involves

Model Space /
Parameter space.

function

Thing being
parametrized.

If the model space is \mathbb{R}^n we can think of the coordinates in the model space as giving "coordinates" to the thing being parametrized.



Coordinates in the model space are called parameters.

One way to extend our definition of dimension is by parametrization.

Idea

We might say that if we can parametrize a set X by a model space \mathbb{R}^n then dimension of X should be n .

We know dimension of model spaces ($\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^2, \dots$)

We hope to extend this by means of the parametrizing function.

Another way to think of this is that for "nice" $f: \mathbb{R}^n$ and X are equivalent from the perspective of dimension.

or
"Dimension" is preserved by the parametrizing function.

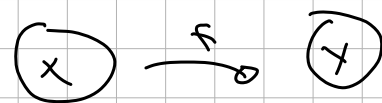
Therefore, in seeking to extend our notion of dimension by parametrization, we need to find a suitable class of parametrizing functions that preserve enough properties to justify preserving "dimension".

Attempt #1

what if we preserve the "number of points"?

Def: A function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called a bijection

iff for all $y \in Y$ there is a unique $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$.



Maybe if there exists a bijection $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ then $\dim X = n$.

Problem

In the 19th Century, Cantor showed there exists a bijection $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. This would imply $1 = \dim([0, 1]) = \dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$.

→ we cannot use bijections.

we need to use a smaller class of parametrizing functions.
one that preserves more properties.

Attempt #2 What if we ask for continuity? Equivalence \rightarrow homeomorphism

Def: A function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called a homeomorphism

if f is a bijection and both, f, f^{-1}

are continuous.

↳ draw graph without lifting pencil.

Q: what if we use homeomorphisms as our parametrizing functions?

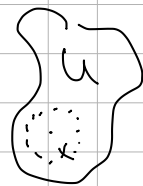
In order to see if this class will work,

we need to study continuous functions, $f: X \rightarrow Y$

A Brief Introduction to Topology.

Def: A set $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is "open"

if for all $x \in U$, $\exists B_r(x) \subset U$.



A set $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is "closed"

if $K^c = \mathbb{R}^n - K$ is open.

Ex $B_1(0) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x| < 1\}$ is open

$\overline{B_1(0)} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x| \leq 1\}$ is closed.



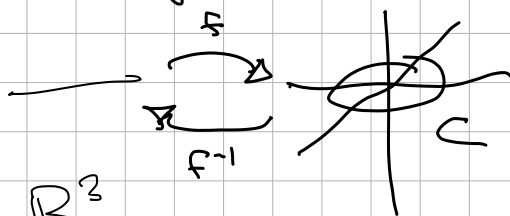
neither open nor closed.

Def: A function $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

is "continuous" if for all

U open in \mathbb{R}^m , $f^{-1}(U)$ is open in \mathbb{R}^n .

Ex Consider our example



$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

- we know what open sets
in \mathbb{R}^3 are.

- we know what open sets in \mathbb{R} are.

But for $f^{-1}: C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- we know what open sets in \mathbb{R} are

- what are open sets in C ?

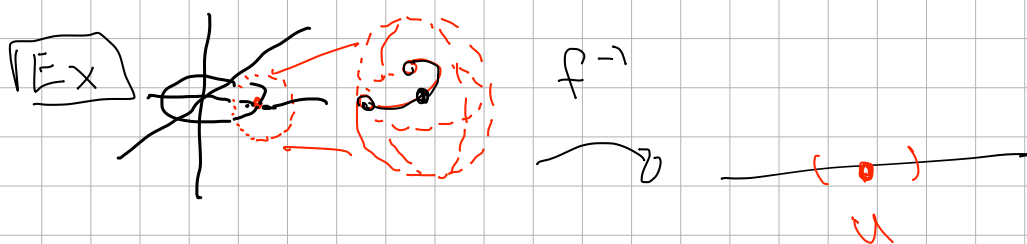
Def: Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$.

A set $U \subseteq X$ is open relative to X

if $U = X \cap A$ for A open in \mathbb{R}^n

A set $K \subseteq X$ is closed relative to X

if $K = X \cap B$ for B closed in \mathbb{R}^n .



Now we can talk about continuous functions between subsets in $\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m$.

Def: for $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

$f: X \rightarrow Y$ is continuous if for all U relatively open in Y , $f^{-1}(U)$ is relatively open in X .

All of this was just so that we have the infrastructure to talk about homeomorphisms between subsets $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$.

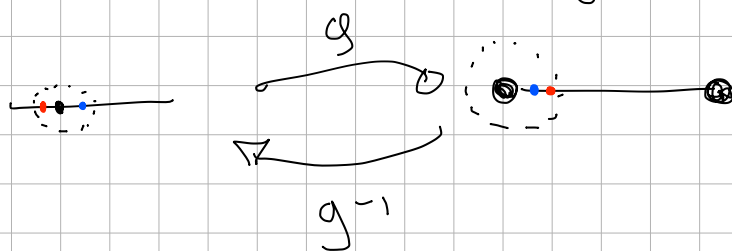
Now that we know what that means, we return to the question:

"are homeomorphisms a good class of parametrizing functions?"

Let's consider an easy example.

Ex Is there a bicontinuous bijection $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0,1]$?

Q: What happens to $g^{-1}(0)$?

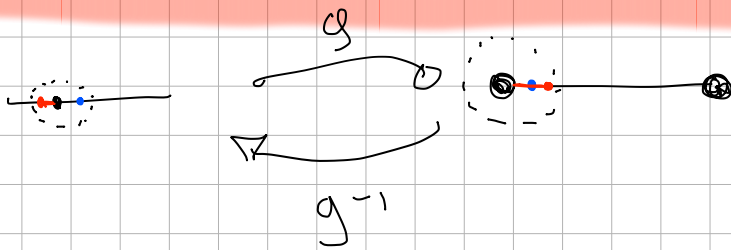


Big Theory Fact: If $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is connected

(for all open sets A, B s.t. $U \cap A \neq \emptyset$
 $U \cap B \neq \emptyset$
 $U \subset A \cup B, A \cap B = \emptyset$)

and $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is continuous,

then $f(U)$ is connected.



This contradicts g a bijection!

$[0, 1]$ is not homeomorphic to \mathbb{R} .

If we want to define $\dim([0, 1]) = \dim(\mathbb{R})$
by parametrization, we cannot use
homeomorphisms.

We need a less restrictive class.

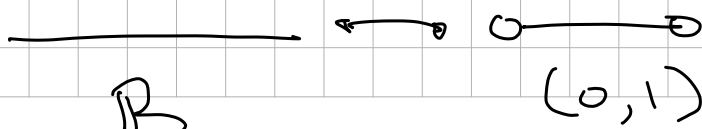
→ functions which preserve fewer properties.

If we look back at our example:

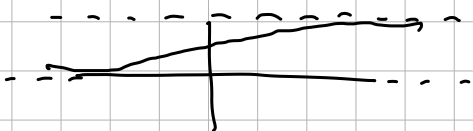


we see that the endpoints are the problem.

Indeed, if we remove the endpoints,



then $\exists f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0,1)$ a homeomorphism!

Ex $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0,1)$ $f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1}(x) + \frac{1}{2}$

is a homeomorphism.

Big Idea: (Localization) What if instead of

all of X being "equivalent" to all of Y

we just ask that

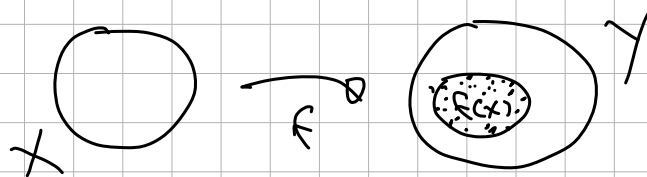
1. part of Y is equivalent to all of X

2. part of X is equivalent to all of Y . ?

(Give up bijection)
↑
global

Attempt #3: (Partial localization)

Def: $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a topological embedding
if $f: X \rightarrow f(X)$ is a homeomorphism.



Ex $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0,1]$ $g: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1}(x) + \frac{1}{2}$ $g(x) = x$

• \mathbb{R} and $[0,1]$ can both be

topologically embedded into each other.

DEF: Frechet Dimension-type.

Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, $Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

1. we say $\dim_F(X) \leq \dim_F(Y)$
if $\exists f: X \rightarrow Y$ a top. embedding.

2. we say $\dim_F(X) = \dim_F(Y)$
if $\dim_F(X) \leq \dim_F(Y)$
and $\dim_F(Y) \leq \dim_F(X)$.

Good News

$\dim_F(0,1] = \dim_F(\mathbb{R}) = \dim_F\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbb{R} \end{smallmatrix}\right) = \dim_F(\text{graph continuous } f)$
 \rightarrow better than homeomorphisms!

Strange: $\dim_F(\mathbb{R})$ is not 1, but dimensions are defined relative to other spaces...

To see why, consider our example.



• Can we topologically embed \mathbb{R} in \mathbb{C} ?

yes! $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0,1) \rightarrow \text{circle}$

• Can we topologically embed $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$?

Suppose we could,

$g: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a homeomorphism
onto $g(\mathbb{C})$.

$g: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow g(\mathbb{C})$ continuous, bijection

$g^{-1}: g(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ continuous,

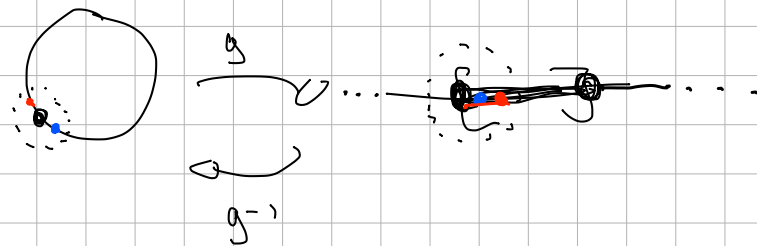
• Since \mathbb{C} is closed, it turns out

$g(\mathbb{C})$ must be closed.

• By our big Theorem Fact,

g cannot separate / disconnect \mathbb{C} ,

so $g(\mathbb{C})$ is a closed interval $[a, b]$



We obtain the same contradiction as before,

so $\dim_{\mathbb{F}}(\mathbb{R}) < \dim_{\mathbb{F}}(\mathbb{C})$

and It turns out,

$\dim_{\mathbb{F}}(\mathbb{C}) < \dim_{\mathbb{F}}(\mathbb{R}^2)$.

(but this is much harder).

IR we want to think of $\dim(\mathbb{R}^1) = \dim(\mathbb{C})$

we cannot use topological embedding.

We need a more flexible notion.

Take Home Question

Can you come up with a better sense of "local equivalence" using parametrizing functions

and use it to build a

definition of "dimension" such that

$$\dim(C) = \dim(R) ?$$

