

LECTURE 2

Date of Lecture: January 13, 2020

1. Topology on normed linear spaces

Throughout \mathbf{K} will denote one of \mathbf{R} or \mathbf{C} and $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ a normed linear space over \mathbf{K} .

For two subsets A, B of a set S , $A \setminus B = \{x \in A \mid x \notin B\}$.

The symbol $\textcircled{\times}$ is for flagging a cautionary comment or a tricky argument. It occurs in the margins and is Knuth's version of Bourbaki's "dangerous bend symbol".

1.1. Open and closed sets in a normed linear space. For $\mathbf{v} \in X$ and $r > 0$, we define the *open ball* $B(\mathbf{v}, r)$ of radius r centred at \mathbf{v} as the set

$$(1.1.1) \quad B(\mathbf{v}, r) = \{\mathbf{x} \in X \mid \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v}\| < r\}.$$

Definition 1.1.2. A subset U of X is called *open* (or *open in X*) if it is the union of open balls. A subset S of X is called *closed* (or *closed in X*) if it is the complement of an open set in X , i.e., if $S^{\complement} := X \setminus S$ is open in V .

The emptyset \emptyset is considered open (or, if you wish, look at the relation $\emptyset = \cup_{i \in \emptyset} B(\mathbf{x}_i, r_i)$). There is also a relative version of open sets given below.

Definition 1.1.3. Let A be a subset of X . A subset U of A is said to be *open in A* if $U = V \cap A$ where V is open in X . A subset C of A is said to be *closed in A* if $A \setminus C$ (i.e. $A \cap C^{\complement}$) is open in A . Equivalently, C is closed in A if $C = D \cap A$ where D is closed in X .

Examples 1.1.4. Not all details are worked out in these examples. You may need to work them out—they may be asked in quizzes and test.

- (1) X is open for $X = \cup_{r>0} B(\mathbf{0}, r)$.
- (2) Let $X = \mathbf{R}$ with the usual absolute value as the norm. Then open subsets of X are the same as what you studied last semester.
- (3) The disc in \mathbf{R}^2 consisting of points (x, y) such that $x^2 + y^2 < r^2$ is open in \mathbf{R}^2 with the usual Euclidean norm $\|\cdot\|_2$. To see this, note that this set is the same as $B(\mathbf{0}, r)$. On the other hand the set $\overline{B}(\mathbf{0}, r)$ consisting of points (x, y) with $x^2 + y^2 \leq r^2$ is closed in \mathbf{R}^2 . Why? [Hint: Suppose (u, v) lies outside $\overline{B}(\mathbf{0}, r)$. Then $u^2 + v^2 > r^2$. Let $\varrho = (\sqrt{u^2 + v^2} - r)/2$. Show that $B((u, v), \varrho) \subset V \setminus \overline{B}(\mathbf{0}, r)$. Why does this prove $\overline{B}(\mathbf{0}, r)$ is closed?]
- (4) The set $U = \{(x, y) \in \mathbf{R}^2 \mid x > 0\}$ is open in $(\mathbf{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_2)$. Why? What about $C = \{(x, y) \in \mathbf{R}^2 \mid x \geq 0\}$?

- (5) The set $U = \{(x, y) \in \mathbf{R}^2 \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1, \text{ and } x > 0\}$ is open in $\overline{B}(\mathbf{0}, 1)$ where the norm on \mathbf{R}^2 is the Euclidean norm.

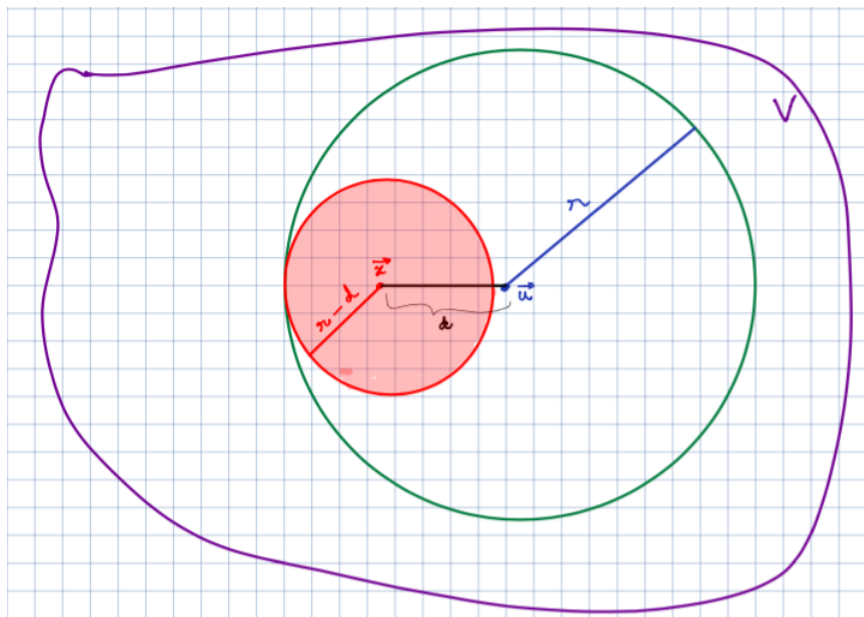
Definition 1.1.5. Let $\mathbf{x} \in X$. A *neighbourhood* N of \mathbf{x} is a set such that there exists an open set U with the property that $\mathbf{x} \in U \subset N$. An *open neighbourhood* of \mathbf{x} is a neighbourhood which is open.

1.1.6. One can, as usual, define a relative version of this, namely, for a subset $S \subset X$ and $\mathbf{x} \in S$, one can define the notion of a neighbourhood of \mathbf{x} in S as well as the notion of an open neighbourhood of \mathbf{x} in S using Definition 1.1.3. I leave the exercise of coming up with the definition(s) to you. And remember you could be asked for these notions in a quiz or a test.

Suppose V is an open set in X and $\mathbf{x} \in V$ a point. Then by definition of an open set, there is an open ball $B(\mathbf{u}, r) \subset V$ such that $\mathbf{x} \in B(\mathbf{u}, r)$. Now suppose $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{x}\| = d$. Then $d < r$. Let $\varrho = r - d$. Then we claim that $B(\mathbf{x}, \varrho) \subset B(\mathbf{u}, r)$. To see this, suppose $\mathbf{y} \in B(\mathbf{x}, \varrho)$. By definition, $\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\| < \varrho$. Now

$$\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{u}\| = \|(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) - (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{u})\| \leq \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\| + \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{u}\| < \varrho + d = r.$$

Thus $\mathbf{y} \in B(\mathbf{u}, r)$, proving our claim.



We have thus shown:

Lemma 1.1.7. Every point \mathbf{x} in an open set V of X is contained in a ball in V which has \mathbf{x} as its centre.

Theorem 1.1.8. We have the following:

- (i) The arbitrary union of open sets is open.
- (ii) The intersection of two open sets is open.
- (iii) An open subset W of an open set U is open in X .
- (i)' The arbitrary intersection of closed sets is closed.

- (ii)' *The union of two closed sets is closed.*
- (iii)' *A closed subset of a closed set is closed.*

Proof. Let $S = \cup_{\alpha \in A} U_{\alpha}$ where each U_{α} is open. For each α we have a collection of open balls $\{B(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha,j}, r_{\alpha,j})\}_{j \in J_{\alpha}}$ in X such that

$$U_{\alpha} = \bigcup_{j \in J_{\alpha}} B(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha,j}, r_{\alpha,j}).$$

Then

$$S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} \bigcup_{j \in J_{\alpha}} B(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha,j}, r_{\alpha,j}),$$

proving that S is open.

We now prove (ii). Let U and V be open in X and suppose $\mathbf{x} \in U \cap V$. By Lemma 1.1.7 we can find open balls $B(\mathbf{x}, r_1)$ and $B(\mathbf{x}, r_2)$ such that $B(\mathbf{x}, r_1) \subset U$ and $B(\mathbf{x}, r_2) \subset V$. Let $r_{\mathbf{x}} = \min(r_1, r_2)$. Then $B(\mathbf{x}, r_{\mathbf{x}}) \subset B(\mathbf{x}, r_1) \cap B(\mathbf{x}, r_2) \subset U \cap V$. We therefore have

$$U \cap V = \bigcup_{\mathbf{x} \in U \cap V} B(\mathbf{x}, r_{\mathbf{x}}),$$

whence $U \cap V$ is open.

For (iii) note that since W is open in U , there exists an open set V in X such that $W = U \cap V$. The result follows from (ii).

Part (i)' is a restatement of (i) by De Morgan's laws of set theory (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_Morgan's_laws). For the same reason, (ii)' is a restatement of (ii). As for (iii)', let D be a closed subset of the closed set C . Then $D = E \cap C$ where E is closed in X . The result then follows from (i)'. \square

1.2. Limit points. Let $C \subset X$ and $\mathbf{x} \in X$ a limit point of C (see Definition 1.2.2 of Lecture 1). Let U be an open neighbourhood of \mathbf{x} . We claim that there exists at least one point $\mathbf{c} \in C$, with $\mathbf{c} \neq \mathbf{x}$, such that $\mathbf{c} \in U$. In other words, we claim that $U \cap (C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\})$ is non-empty. To see this, pick an open ball $B(\mathbf{x}, r)$ centred at \mathbf{x} such that $B(\mathbf{x}, r) \subset U$. According to Lemma 1.1.7 such an open ball always exists. By definition of a limit point of C , there exists a sequence $\{\mathbf{c}_n\}$ in C such that $\mathbf{c}_n \neq \mathbf{x}$ for any $n \in \mathbf{N}$ and such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{c}_n = \mathbf{x}$. It follows that there exists $N \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $\|\mathbf{c}_n - \mathbf{x}\| < r$ for $n \geq N$. Let $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{c}_N$. Then $\mathbf{c} \in C$, $\mathbf{c} \neq \mathbf{x}$ and $\|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{x}\| < r$. This means $\mathbf{c} \in B(\mathbf{x}, r) \subset U$. Now, $\mathbf{c} \neq \mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{c} \in C$ and hence $U \cap C$ contains a point which is not \mathbf{x} . We have therefore proved our claim.

Conversely, suppose $\mathbf{x} \in X$ is such that $U \cap (C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\})$ is non-empty for every open neighbourhood U of \mathbf{x} . This means $B(\mathbf{x}, \frac{1}{n}) \cap (C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\}) \neq \emptyset$ for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$. For each $n \in \mathbf{N}$ pick $\mathbf{c}_n \in B(\mathbf{x}, \frac{1}{n}) \cap (C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\})$. Then $\mathbf{c}_n \in C$, $\mathbf{c}_n \neq \mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{c}_n \in B(\mathbf{x}, \frac{1}{n})$. The last condition means $\|\mathbf{c}_n - \mathbf{x}\| < \frac{1}{n}$ for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$. It is easy to see that $\mathbf{c}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Indeed, given $\epsilon > 0$, choose $N \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $1/N < \epsilon$. Then $\|\mathbf{c}_n - \mathbf{x}\| < \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$ for every $n \geq N$ whence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{c}_n = \mathbf{x}$. Since $\mathbf{c}_n \in C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\}$, by definition of a limit point of a set, \mathbf{x} is a limit point of C . We thus have part (i) of the following proposition:

Proposition 1.2.1. *Let C be a subset of X .*

- (i) *A point $\mathbf{x} \in X$ is a limit point of C if and only if every open neighbourhood U of \mathbf{x} contains a point of C which is not equal to \mathbf{x} .*

(ii) Let \bar{C} be the closure of C as defined in 1.2.2 of [Lecture 1](#). Then

$$\bar{C} = \{\mathbf{x} \in X \mid \mathbf{x} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{c}_n \text{ for some sequence } \{\mathbf{c}_n\} \text{ in } C\}.$$

(iii) We also have

$$\bar{C} = \{\mathbf{x} \in X \mid U \cap C \neq \emptyset \text{ for every open neighbourhood } U \text{ of } \mathbf{x}\}.$$

Proof. Part (i) was proved in the discussion above the statement of the Proposition.

For (ii) let $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in X \mid \mathbf{x} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{c}_n \text{ for some sequence } \{\mathbf{c}_n\} \text{ in } C\}$. If $\mathbf{c} \in C$ consider the constant sequence $\{\mathbf{c}_n\}$ with each $\mathbf{c}_n = \mathbf{c}$. It follows that $\mathbf{c} \in S$, for $\mathbf{c} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{c}_n$. Thus $C \subset S$. As in [Lecture 1, Definition 1.2.2], let C' consist of limit points of C . Clearly $C' \subset S$. We claim $S = C \cup C'$. By definition of C' , $S \setminus C = C' \setminus C$. It follows that $S = C \cup C'$ and the right side is by definition \bar{C} .

Part (iii) is proved in a very similar way. Let

$$T = \{\mathbf{x} \in X \mid U \cap C \neq \emptyset \text{ for every open neighbourhood } U \text{ of } \mathbf{x}\}.$$

Clearly $C \subset T$. By part (i), $C' \subset T$, and $T \setminus C = C' \setminus C$. The rest is exactly the same as the proof of (ii), and one sees that $T = C \cup C' = \bar{C}$. \square

1.3. The closure of a set. Let $S \subset X$. We claim that \bar{S} is closed. Indeed, if $\mathbf{y} \notin \bar{S}$, then according to Proposition 1.2.1 (iii), there is an open neighbourhood $V_{\mathbf{y}}$ of \mathbf{y} such that $S \cap V_{\mathbf{y}} = \emptyset$, i.e. $V_{\mathbf{y}} \subset S^c$. In fact for any $\mathbf{z} \in V_{\mathbf{y}}$, we have $V_{\mathbf{y}}$ is an open neighbourhood of \mathbf{z} which does not intersect S . Hence $\mathbf{z} \notin \bar{S}$ for any $\mathbf{z} \in V_{\mathbf{y}}$, and this in turn means that $V_{\mathbf{y}} \subset \bar{S}^c$. It follows that

$$\bar{S}^c = \bigcup_{\mathbf{y} \in \bar{S}^c} V_{\mathbf{y}},$$

whence, by definition of a closed set, \bar{S} is closed.

Next, suppose F is closed and $F \supset S$. Let $V = F^c$. Since $V \cap S = \emptyset$, by Proposition 1.2.1 (iii), no point of V lies in \bar{S} , i.e. $V \subset \bar{S}^c$. Thus $\bar{S} \subset F$. Thus \bar{S} is the *smallest closed set containing* S , for we have shown that if F is closed and contains S then it contains \bar{S} . If \mathcal{F} is the collection of closed sets F such that $F \supset S$, then from what we have shown, we have $\bar{S} = \bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{F}} F$.

We point out that if S is closed then $S = \bar{S}$. Indeed if S is closed, then $S \in \mathcal{F}$, and hence $\bar{S} \subset S$, giving $S = \bar{S}$. Conversely, if $S = \bar{S}$, then clearly S is closed, since \bar{S} is closed. Finally, since $\bar{S} = S \cup S'$, where S' is the set of limit points of S , the relation $S = \bar{S}$ holds if and only if $S' \subset S$. In other words S is closed if and only if it contains all its limit points.

We have proven the following:

Theorem 1.3.1. *Let $S \subset X$. Then*

- (i) \bar{S} is closed.
- (ii) S is closed if and only if $S = \bar{S}$.
- (iii) S is closed if and only if it contains all its limit points.
- (iv) \bar{S} is the smallest closed set containing S , i.e. if F is a closed set containing S , then $\bar{S} \subset F$. In particular if $\mathcal{F} = \{F \mid F \text{ is a closed set and } S \subset F\}$, then

$$\bar{S} = \bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{F}} F.$$

2. Norms on \mathbf{K}^n

We will see later in the course that on a finite dimensional space X over \mathbf{K} , all norms give the same collection of open sets and the same collection of closed sets and convergence of a sequence in one norm implies its convergence in all other norms on X . The proof of that will have to wait until we do the Heine-Borel theorem on \mathbf{K}^n . However, we can do a special case right now.

2.1. The spaces $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ and $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$. Let $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{K}^n$. Then

$$|x_i| \leq (|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$. It follows that $\max_{i=1, \dots, n} |x_i| \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$. In other words

$$(2.1.1) \quad \|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|_2.$$

One can show easily that this proves that if $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = \mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$ then $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = \mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$. The proof is given in a more general situation in the proof Lemma 2.1.5 below.

On the other hand, $|x_i|^2 \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty^2$ for every $i = 1, \dots, n$, whence on summing over i we get $\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2 \leq n\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty^2$. In other words

$$(2.1.2) \quad \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \sqrt{n}\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty.$$

This inequality shows that if $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = \mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, then $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = \mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$. (See proof of Lemma 2.1.5 below.)

Definition 2.1.3. Two norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ on a \mathbf{K} -vector space X are said to be *equivalent* if there exist constants $c, C > 0$ such that

$$c\|\mathbf{x}\|' \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq C\|\mathbf{x}\|' \quad (\mathbf{x} \in X).$$

If $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ are equivalent norms, we write $\|\cdot\| \sim \|\cdot\|'$.

It is clear that \sim is an equivalence relation on the set of norms on X .

Example 2.1.4. From (2.1.1) and (2.1.2) we see that on \mathbf{K}^n , $\|\cdot\|_\infty \sim \|\cdot\|_2$. More generally, we will show later in this course that if $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ are two norms on \mathbf{K}^n then they are equivalent.

Lemma 2.1.5. Let $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ be equivalent norms on the \mathbf{K} -vector space X , $\{\mathbf{x}_m\}$ a sequence in X , and S a subset of X . Then

- (i) The sequence $\{\mathbf{x}_m\}$ converges to $\mathbf{x} \in X$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|$ if and only if it does so with respect to $\|\cdot\|'$.
- (ii) S is open (respectively closed) with respect to $\|\cdot\|$ if and only if it is open (respectively closed) with respect to $\|\cdot\|'$.

Proof. Let $c, C > 0$ be such that

$$(*) \quad c\|\cdot\|' \leq \|\cdot\| \leq C\|\cdot\|'.$$

Suppose $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}$ in $(X, \|\cdot\|)$. Given $\epsilon > 0$ we have $N \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $\|\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}\| < c\epsilon$ for $n \geq N$. This means $c\|\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}\|' \leq \|\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}\| < c\epsilon$ for $n \geq N$, i.e. $\|\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}\|' < \epsilon$ for $n \geq N$, showing that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}$ in $(X, \|\cdot\|')$. The converse is follows because \sim is an equivalence relation. This proves (i).

To prove part (ii), it is enough to prove that S is open in with respect to $\|\cdot\|$ if and only if it is so with respect to $\|\cdot\|'$, for the case where S is closed then follows by taking complements. To prove this, we need notations. Let $B(\mathbf{x}, r)$

and $B'(\mathbf{x}, r)$ denote the open balls of radius r centred at \mathbf{x} with respect to $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|'$ respectively. In other words $B(\mathbf{x}, r) = \{\mathbf{z} \in X \mid \|\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{x}\| < r\}$ and $B'(\mathbf{x}, r) = \{\mathbf{z} \in X \mid \|\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{x}\|' < r\}$. From (*) we get

$$(\dagger) \quad B'(\mathbf{x}, r) \subset B(\mathbf{x}, Cr), \quad \text{and} \quad B(\mathbf{x}, r) \subset B'(\mathbf{x}, r/c).$$

Let S be open with respect to $\|\cdot\|$. According to Lemma 1.1.7, for each $\mathbf{x} \in S$ there is an open ball $B(\mathbf{x}, r_{\mathbf{x}}) \subset S$. By (\dagger) we have $B'(\mathbf{x}, r_{\mathbf{x}}/C) \subset S$. It follows that $S = \cup_{\mathbf{x} \in S} B'(\mathbf{x}, r_{\mathbf{x}}/C)$ and hence S is open with respect to $\|\cdot\|'$. By symmetry, if S is open with respect to $\|\cdot\|'$ it is so with respect to $\|\cdot\|$. This proves (ii). \square

Remark 2.1.6. From (2.1.1) and (2.1.2) we see that that the open (respectively closed) sets of $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_{\infty})$ coincide with those of $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$. We also see that a sequence $\{\mathbf{x}_m\}$ converges to \mathbf{x} in $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_{\infty})$ if and only if it converges to \mathbf{x} in $(\mathbf{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$.

Corollary 2.1.7. Let $\{\mathbf{x}_m\}$ be a sequence in \mathbf{K}^n , say $\mathbf{x}_m = (x_{1m}, \dots, x_{nm})$. Then

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

with respect to $\|\cdot\|_2$ if and only if

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_{im} = x_i$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Proof. By Remark 2.1.6 we have, $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|_2$ if and only if $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$. Now $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_m = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$ if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $N \in \mathbf{N}$ such that

$$\max_{i=1, \dots, n} |x_{im} - x_i| < \epsilon \quad (m \geq N).$$

The above is true if and only if

$$|x_{im} - x_i| < \epsilon \quad (m \geq N; i = 1, \dots, n).$$

i.e. if and only if $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_{im} = x_i$ for every $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. \square

2.1.8. Ending Remark. If $\mathbf{x} \in X$, then $\{\mathbf{x}\}$ is closed in X . Indeed, if $\mathbf{y} \in X \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\}$, then $\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\| > 0$, and hence a ball of radius $\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\|$ centred at \mathbf{y} will not intersect $\{\mathbf{x}\}$.

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