

## Sequences in a metric space

Let  $S$  be a metric space with distance function  $d$ . For a subset  $E \subseteq S$  we say a sequence  $(s_n)$  “is in  $E$ ” if  $s_n \in E$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Theorem** A convergent sequence in  $S$  is Cauchy.

**Definition** A metric space is **complete** if all Cauchy sequences converge.

**Notation**  $x \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ . We denote different elements of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with superscripts;  $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $x^{(1)} = (x_1^{(1)}, \dots, x_k^{(1)})$ ,  $x^{(2)} = (x_1^{(2)}, \dots, x_k^{(2)})$ . A sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  is denoted  $(x^{(n)})$ , and the sequence formed by the  $i^{\text{th}}$  entry of  $x^{(n)}$  is denoted  $(x_i^{(n)})$ .  $\mathbb{R}^k$  is a metric space with distance function

$$d(x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}) = \sqrt{(x_1^{(1)} - x_1^{(2)})^2 + \dots + (x_k^{(1)} - x_k^{(2)})^2}.$$

**Theorem**

$$x^{(n)} \rightarrow x \text{ if and only if } x_i^{(n)} \rightarrow x_i \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, k.$$

$$x^{(n)} \text{ is Cauchy if and only if } x_i^{(n)} \text{ is Cauchy for all } i = 1, \dots, k.$$

**Corollary**  $\mathbb{R}^k$  is a complete metric space.

**Definition**  $T \subset S$  is bounded if there exists  $s \in S$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that for all  $t \in T$   $d(s, t) < r$ .

**Theorem** (Bolzano-Weierstrass) A bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  has a convergent subsequence.

## Open and Closed sets

**Definition**

- A set  $E \subset S$  is open if for all  $s_0 \in E$  there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}, r > 0$  such that  $\{s \in S \mid d(s, s_0) < r\} \subset E$ .
- A set  $E$  is closed if its complement  $S \setminus E = \{s \in S \mid s \notin E\}$  is open.

**Theorem** A set  $E \subset S$  is closed if and only if for every sequence  $(s_n)$  in  $E$ ,  $s_n \rightarrow s$  implies  $s \in E$ .

## Compactness

**Definition** A set  $E \subset S$  is **sequentially compact** if every sequence  $(s_n)$  in  $E$  has a convergent subsequence.

**Theorem** A subset of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  is sequentially compact if and only if it is closed and bounded.