

On the Minimal Distance Between Sets in Euclidean Space¹

Andrzej Trybulec
University of Białystok

Summary. The concept of the minimal distance between two sets in a Euclidean space is introduced and some useful lemmas are proved.

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The papers [25], [26], [13], [24], [4], [27], [5], [1], [14], [17], [23], [8], [22], [15], [6], [3], [9], [10], [11], [2], [19], [21], [12], [20], [7], [16], and [18] provide the terminology and notation for this paper.

1. PRELIMINARIES

In this paper X is a set and Y is a non empty set.

We now state several propositions:

- (1) Let f be a function from X into Y . Suppose f is onto. Let y be an element of Y . Then there exists a set x such that $x \in X$ and $y = f(x)$.
- (2) Let f be a function from X into Y . Suppose f is onto. Let y be an element of Y . Then there exists an element x of X such that $y = f(x)$.
- (3) For every function f from X into Y and for every subset A of X such that f is onto holds $(f^\circ A)^c \subseteq f^\circ A^c$.
- (4) For every function f from X into Y and for every subset A of X such that f is one-to-one holds $f^\circ A^c \subseteq (f^\circ A)^c$.
- (5) For every function f from X into Y and for every subset A of X such that f is bijective holds $(f^\circ A)^c = f^\circ A^c$.

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2. TOPOLOGICAL AND METRIZABLE SPACES

One can prove the following two propositions:

- (6) For every topological space T and for every subset A of T holds A is a component of \emptyset_T iff A is empty.
- (7) Let T be a non empty topological space and A, B, C be subsets of T . If $A \subseteq B$ and A is a component of C and B is a component of C , then $A = B$.

In the sequel n denotes a natural number.

We now state the proposition

- (8) If $n \geq 1$, then for every subset P of \mathcal{E}^n such that P is bounded holds $-P$ is not bounded.

In the sequel r is a real number and M is a non empty metric space.

Next we state a number of propositions:

- (9) For every non empty subset C of M_{top} and for every point p of M_{top} holds $(\text{dist}_{\min}(C))(p) \geq 0$.
- (10) Let C be a non empty subset of M_{top} and p be a point of M . If for every point q of M such that $q \in C$ holds $\rho(p, q) \geq r$, then $(\text{dist}_{\min}(C))(p) \geq r$.
- (11) For all non empty subsets A, B of M_{top} holds $\text{dist}_{\min}^{\min}(A, B) \geq 0$.
- (12) For all compact subsets A, B of M_{top} such that A meets B holds $\text{dist}_{\min}^{\min}(A, B) = 0$.
- (13) Let A, B be non empty subsets of M_{top} . Suppose that for all points p, q of M such that $p \in A$ and $q \in B$ holds $\rho(p, q) \geq r$. Then $\text{dist}_{\min}^{\min}(A, B) \geq r$.
- (14) Let P, Q be subsets of \mathcal{E}_T^n . Suppose P is a component of Q^c . Then P is inside component of Q or P is outside component of Q .
- (15) If $n \geq 1$, then $\text{BDD } \emptyset_{\mathcal{E}_T^n} = \emptyset_{\mathcal{E}_T^n}$.
- (16) $\text{BDD } \Omega_{\mathcal{E}_T^n} = \emptyset_{\mathcal{E}_T^n}$.
- (17) If $n \geq 1$, then $\text{UBD } \emptyset_{\mathcal{E}_T^n} = \Omega_{\mathcal{E}_T^n}$.
- (18) $\text{UBD } \Omega_{\mathcal{E}_T^n} = \emptyset_{\mathcal{E}_T^n}$.
- (19) For every connected subset P of \mathcal{E}_T^n and for every subset Q of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that P misses Q holds $P \subseteq \text{UBD } Q$ or $P \subseteq \text{BDD } Q$.

3. EUCLID PLANE

For simplicity, we adopt the following rules: C, D are simple closed curves, n is a natural number, p, q, q_1, q_2 are points of \mathcal{E}_T^2 , r, s_1, s_2, t_1, t_2 are real numbers, and x, y are points of \mathcal{E}^2 .

Next we state a number of propositions:

- (20) $\rho([0, 0], r \cdot q) = |r| \cdot \rho([0, 0], q)$.

- (21) $\rho(q_1 + q, q_2 + q) = \rho(q_1, q_2)$.
- (22) If $p \neq q$, then $\rho(p, q) > 0$.
- (23) $\rho(q_1 - q, q_2 - q) = \rho(q_1, q_2)$.
- (24) $\rho(p, q) = \rho(-p, -q)$.
- (25) $\rho(q - q_1, q - q_2) = \rho(q_1, q_2)$.
- (26) $\rho(r \cdot p, r \cdot q) = |r| \cdot \rho(p, q)$.
- (27) If $r \leq 1$, then $\rho(p, r \cdot p + (1 - r) \cdot q) = (1 - r) \cdot \rho(p, q)$.
- (28) If $0 \leq r$, then $\rho(q, r \cdot p + (1 - r) \cdot q) = r \cdot \rho(p, q)$.
- (29) If $p \in \mathcal{L}(q_1, q_2)$, then $\rho(q_1, p) + \rho(p, q_2) = \rho(q_1, q_2)$.
- (30) If $q_1 \in \mathcal{L}(q_2, p)$ and $q_1 \neq q_2$, then $\rho(q_1, p) < \rho(q_2, p)$.
- (31) If $y = [0, 0]$, then $\text{Ball}(y, r) = \{q : |q| < r\}$.

4. AFFINE MAPS

Next we state several propositions:

- (32) $(\text{AffineMap}(r, s_1, r, s_2))(p) = r \cdot p + [s_1, s_2]$.
- (33) $(\text{AffineMap}(r, q_1, r, q_2))(p) = r \cdot p + q$.
- (34) If $s_1 > 0$ and $s_2 > 0$, then
 $\text{AffineMap}(s_1, t_1, s_2, t_2) \cdot \text{AffineMap}(\frac{1}{s_1}, -\frac{t_1}{s_1}, \frac{1}{s_2}, -\frac{t_2}{s_2}) = \text{id}_{\mathcal{R}^2}$.
- (35) If $y = [0, 0]$ and $x = q$ and $r > 0$, then $(\text{AffineMap}(r, q_1, r, q_2))^\circ \text{Ball}(y, 1) = \text{Ball}(x, r)$.
- (36) For all real numbers A, B, C, D such that $A > 0$ and $C > 0$ holds $\text{AffineMap}(A, B, C, D)$ is onto.
- (37) $\text{Ball}(x, r)^c$ is a connected subset of $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{T}}^2$.

5. MINIMAL DISTANCE BETWEEN SUBSETS

Let us consider n and let A, B be subsets of the carrier of $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{T}}^n$. The functor $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B)$ yielding a real number is defined by:

- (Def. 1) There exist subsets A', B' of $(\mathcal{E}^n)_{\text{top}}$ such that $A = A'$ and $B = B'$ and $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B) = \text{dist}_{\min}^{\min}(A', B')$.

Let M be a non empty metric space and let P, Q be non empty compact subsets of M_{top} . Let us note that the functor $\text{dist}_{\min}^{\min}(P, Q)$ is commutative. Let us observe that the functor $\text{dist}_{\max}^{\max}(P, Q)$ is commutative.

Let us consider n and let A, B be non empty compact subsets of $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{T}}^n$. Let us observe that the functor $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B)$ is commutative.

Next we state several propositions:

- (38) For all non empty subsets A, B of $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{T}}^n$ holds $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B) \geq 0$.

- (39) For all compact subsets A, B of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that A meets B holds $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B) = 0$.
- (40) Let A, B be non empty subsets of \mathcal{E}_T^n . Suppose that for all points p, q of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that $p \in A$ and $q \in B$ holds $\rho(p, q) \geq r$. Then $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B) \geq r$.
- (41) Let D be a subset of the carrier of \mathcal{E}_T^n and A, C be non empty subsets of the carrier of \mathcal{E}_T^n . If $C \subseteq D$, then $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, D) \leq \text{dist}_{\min}(A, C)$.
- (42) For all non empty compact subsets A, B of \mathcal{E}_T^n there exist points p, q of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that $p \in A$ and $q \in B$ and $\text{dist}_{\min}(A, B) = \rho(p, q)$.
- (43) For all points p, q of \mathcal{E}_T^n holds $\text{dist}_{\min}(\{p\}, \{q\}) = \rho(p, q)$.

Let us consider n , let p be a point of \mathcal{E}_T^n , and let B be a subset of the carrier of \mathcal{E}_T^n . The functor $\rho(p, B)$ yielding a real number is defined as follows:

(Def. 2) $\rho(p, B) = \text{dist}_{\min}(\{p\}, B)$.

Next we state several propositions:

- (44) For every non empty subset A of \mathcal{E}_T^n and for every point p of \mathcal{E}_T^n holds $\rho(p, A) \geq 0$.
- (45) For every compact subset A of \mathcal{E}_T^n and for every point p of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that $p \in A$ holds $\rho(p, A) = 0$.
- (46) Let A be a non empty compact subset of \mathcal{E}_T^n and p be a point of \mathcal{E}_T^n . Then there exists a point q of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that $q \in A$ and $\rho(p, A) = \rho(p, q)$.
- (47) Let C be a non empty subset of the carrier of \mathcal{E}_T^n and D be a subset of the carrier of \mathcal{E}_T^n . If $C \subseteq D$, then for every point q of \mathcal{E}_T^n holds $\rho(q, D) \leq \rho(q, C)$.
- (48) Let A be a non empty subset of \mathcal{E}_T^n and p be a point of \mathcal{E}_T^n . If for every point q of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that $q \in A$ holds $\rho(p, q) \geq r$, then $\rho(p, A) \geq r$.
- (49) For all points p, q of \mathcal{E}_T^n holds $\rho(p, \{q\}) = \rho(p, q)$.
- (50) For every non empty subset A of \mathcal{E}_T^n and for all points p, q of \mathcal{E}_T^n such that $q \in A$ holds $\rho(p, A) \leq \rho(p, q)$.
- (51) Let A be a compact non empty subset of \mathcal{E}_T^2 and B be an open subset of \mathcal{E}_T^2 . If $A \subseteq B$, then for every point p of \mathcal{E}_T^2 such that $p \notin B$ holds $\rho(p, B) < \rho(p, A)$.

6. BDD AND UBD

The following two propositions are true:

- (52) UBD C meets UBD D .
- (53) If $q \in \text{UBD } C$ and $p \in \text{BDD } C$, then $\rho(q, C) < \rho(q, p)$.

Let us consider C . Observe that $\text{BDD } C$ is non empty.

One can prove the following three propositions:

- (54) If $p \notin \text{BDD } C$, then $\rho(p, C) \leq \rho(p, \text{BDD } C)$.

- (55) $C \not\subseteq \text{BDD } D$ or $D \not\subseteq \text{BDD } C$.
 (56) If $C \subseteq \text{BDD } D$, then $D \subseteq \text{UBD } C$.

7. MAIN DEFINITIONS

We now state the proposition

- (57) $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\text{Cage}(C, n)) \subseteq \text{UBD } C$.

Let us consider C . The functor $\text{LowerMiddlePoint } C$ yielding a point of $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{T}}^2$ is defined by:

- (Def. 3) $\text{LowerMiddlePoint } C =$
 $\text{FPoint}(\text{LowerArc } C, \text{W-min } C, \text{E-max } C, \text{VerticalLine } \frac{\text{W-bound } C + \text{E-bound } C}{2})$.

The functor $\text{UpperMiddlePoint } C$ yielding a point of $\mathcal{E}_{\mathbb{T}}^2$ is defined by:

- (Def. 4) $\text{UpperMiddlePoint } C =$
 $\text{FPoint}(\text{UpperArc } C, \text{W-min } C, \text{E-max } C, \text{VerticalLine } \frac{\text{W-bound } C + \text{E-bound } C}{2})$.

We now state several propositions:

- (58) $\text{LowerArc } C$ meets $\text{VerticalLine } \frac{\text{W-bound } C + \text{E-bound } C}{2}$.
 (59) $\text{UpperArc } C$ meets $\text{VerticalLine } \frac{\text{W-bound } C + \text{E-bound } C}{2}$.
 (60) $(\text{LowerMiddlePoint } C)_1 = \frac{\text{W-bound } C + \text{E-bound } C}{2}$.
 (61) $(\text{UpperMiddlePoint } C)_1 = \frac{\text{W-bound } C + \text{E-bound } C}{2}$.
 (62) $\text{LowerMiddlePoint } C \in \text{LowerArc } C$.
 (63) $\text{UpperMiddlePoint } C \in \text{UpperArc } C$.

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