

## Connected sets:

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The structure of real line has been invaded in several ways so know the peculiar hidden properties. We have already seen that an open set  $O \subset R$  can be expressed as disjoint union of countably many open intervals. That is,

$$O = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = (a_n, b_n).$$

Hence any set  $A$  in  $R$ , we get an open set  $O \supset A$  & thus

$$A \subset O \subset \bigcup I_n.$$

Hence, any set can be embedded into countably many open intervals. The "Connected set" has its natural meaning, and we can extract its definition from the intervals.

We know that an interval cannot be

break into two relatively open parts.

On contrary, suppose that

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$$[a, b] = A \cup B, \text{ where}$$

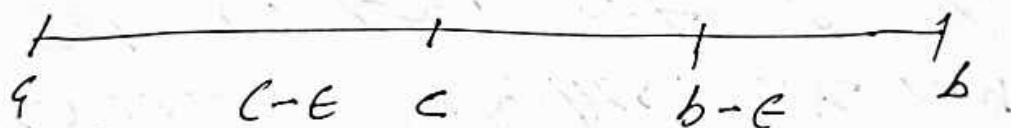
$A$  &  $B$  are non-empty, disjoint, and relatively open sets in  $[a, b]$ .

This implies that  $A$  &  $B$  are disjoint closed sets too, as

$$A = [a, b] \setminus B \quad \& \quad B = [a, b] \setminus A.$$

thus,  $A$  &  $B$  are disjoint non-empty open & closed sets both (called clopen).

To start with, let  $b \in B$ . Since  $B$  is open,  $(b-\epsilon, b] \subset B$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ .



Now, let  $c = \sup A$ . Then  $a < c < b$ .  
If  $a = c \Rightarrow A = \{a\}$  - not open, and if

$c = b \Rightarrow A \cap B \neq \emptyset$  !.

By def<sup>n</sup> of supremum,  $(c-\epsilon, c) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ ,  
and  $(c, c+\epsilon) \cap B \neq \emptyset$ . (174)

(since  $c$  is the deadend of  $A$ ).

That is,  $c \in \bar{A} = A$  and  $c \in \bar{B} = B$ ,  
which is a contradiction that  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

Hence based on the above observation,  
we can define connected/disconnected  
sets.

Def<sup>n</sup>: A metric space  $X$  is said to be  
disconnected (not connected) if  $\exists$  two  
non-empty open sets  $A$  &  $B$  s.t  $X = A \cup B$ .

The sets  $A$  &  $B$  are called disconnection of  $X$ .

We say that  $X$  is connected if  $X$  can  
not be expressed as disjoint union of  
two non-empty open sets in  $X$ .

Thus, the interval  $[a, b]$  is connected.

Note that, when  $X = A \cup B$ , where  $A \& B$  are disjoint, non-empty open sets, it follows that  $A \& B$  are closed sets too, (as  $A = B^c$  &  $B = A^c$ ). Thus,  $A \& B$  are disjoint non-empty clopen sets. (175)

Thus,  $X$  is connected iff  $X$  has no non-trivial clopen sets.

(That: if  $A$ -clopen  $\Rightarrow X = A \cup A^c$ , and  $A^c$  is also open)

Def: A subset  $E$  of a metric space  $X$  is called disconnected in  $E$  if  $\exists$  non-empty disjoint open sets  $U \& V$  in  $E$  such that  $E = U \cup V$ .

Note that  $\exists$  open sets  $A \& B$  in  $X$

s.t.  $U = A \cap E$  &  $V = B \cap E$ .

$$\Rightarrow E = (A \cap E) \cup (B \cap E) = (A \cup B) \cap E.$$

$$\Rightarrow E \subset A \cup B.$$

it is clear that  $A \& B$  need not be disjoint.  
 However, we can filter them further to make them disjoint, and still cover  $E$ .

Lemma:

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let  $E \subset X$ . If  $U \& V$  are disjoint open sets in  $E$ , then  $\exists$  disjoint open sets  $A \& B$  in  $X$  s.t  
 $U = A \cap E$  &  $V = B \cap E$ .

Proof: For  $x \in U$ ,  $\exists \epsilon_x > 0$  s.t

$$E \cap B_{\epsilon_x}(x) \subset U. (\because U \text{-open in } E)$$

And for  $y \in V$ ,  $\exists \epsilon_y > 0$  s.t

$$E \cap B_{\epsilon_y}(y) \subset V.$$

$$\text{Now, } U \cap V = \emptyset \Rightarrow E \cap (B_{\epsilon_x}(x) \cap B_{\epsilon_y}(y)) = \emptyset.$$

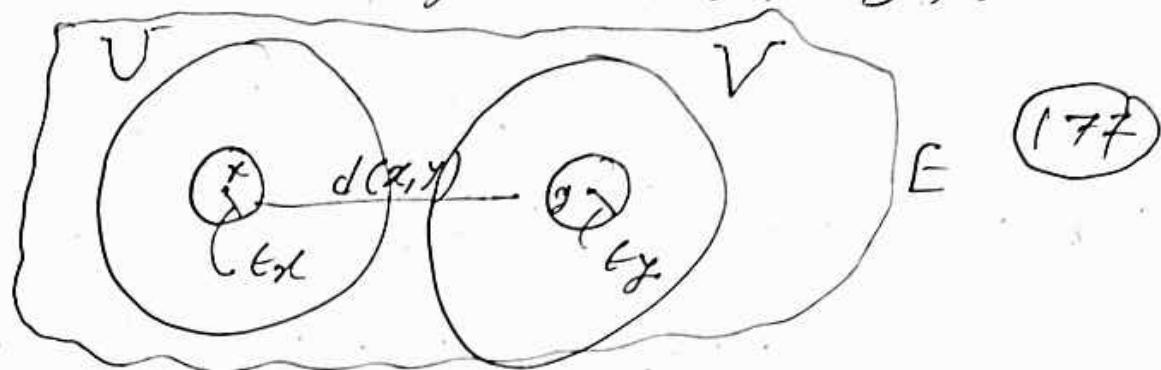
$$\text{claim } B_{\epsilon_x/2}(x) \cap B_{\epsilon_y/2}(y) = \emptyset.$$

Note that if  $d(z, x) < \epsilon_x/2$  &  $d(z, y) < \epsilon_y/2$ ,

$$\text{then } d(x, y) < \frac{\epsilon_x}{2} + \frac{\epsilon_y}{2}.$$

Choose  $\epsilon_x \& \epsilon_y$  s.t.  $d(x, y) > \frac{\epsilon_x}{2} + \frac{\epsilon_y}{2}$ ,

then the claim will follows. be satisfied.



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write  $A = \bigcup \{B_{\delta/2}(x) : x \in V\}$

and  $B = \bigcup \{B_{\delta/2}(y) : y \in V\}$ .

Then  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ , and  $A$  &  $B$  are open  
in  $\mathbb{X}$ , and  $E \subset A \cup B$ .

thus, we say,  $E \subset X$  is disconnected  
if  $\exists$  disjoint open sets  $A, B$  in  $X$   
s.t  $A \cap E \neq \emptyset$ ,  $B \cap E \neq \emptyset$  &  $E \subset A \cup B$ .

Next, we see that connected subsets  
of  $\mathbb{R}$  are precisely singletons or intervals.

Theorem: A subset  $E$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  (containing more  
than one pt) is connected iff for every  
 $x, y \in E$  with  $x < y$  implies  $[x, y] \subset E$ .

Proof: If for some  $x, y \in E$ , with  $x < z < y \Rightarrow z \notin E$ , then

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$$E \subset (-\infty, z) \cup (z, \infty),$$

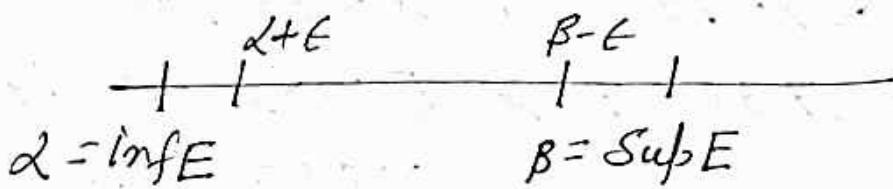
a disconnection of  $E$ . This proves the assertion.

On the other hand, suppose for each pair of  $x, y \in E$ , we have  $[x, y] \subset E$ , but  $E$  is disconnected. Then  $\exists$  of non-empty open sets  $A \& B$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $A \cap E \neq \emptyset$ ,  $B \cap E \neq \emptyset$ , &  $E \subset A \cup B$ . Let  $a \in A \cap E$  and  $b \in B \cap E$ , and assume  $a < b$ . Then

$$[a, b] \subset E \subset A \cup B.$$

$\Rightarrow [a, b]$  is disconnected, which is absurd. ( $\because [a, b] = (A \cap [a, b]) \cup (B \cap [a, b])$ )

Finally, suppose for each  $x, y \in E$ , implies  $[x, y] \subset E$ . We claim  $E$  is an interval.



Note that  $(\inf E, \sup E) \subset E$ , where we

include the possibilities that  $\inf E = -\infty$  and  $\sup E = +\infty$ .

(Hint: for  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists x \in E, y \in E$  s.t.) (179)  
 $\inf E + \epsilon > x \& \sup E - \epsilon < y$ )  
 $\Rightarrow [x, y] \subset E + \epsilon > 0.$

Thus,  $E$  must be an interval, and it depends upon disposition of  $\inf E$  &  $\sup E$  of finite or infinite or element, or not, of  $E$ .

Ex. Show that the connected subsets of Cantor's set are only singletons  
(i.e. Cantor set is totally disconnected).

Now, we simplify our study of connected sets with the help of continuous functions.

Note that discrete metric space (containing more than one pt) is always disconnected. We use this fact to identify disconnected sets through a comparison via cont. map.

Theorem: A space  $X$  is disconnected iff  $\exists$  a continuous onto map  $f: X \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  (two pts discrete space). 180

Proof: If  $f: X \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  is cont & onto, then  $A = f^{-1}\{0\}$  &  $B = f^{-1}\{1\}$  are non-empty disjoint open sets &  $A \cup B = X$ . Since,  $f$  is cont,  $A \& B$  are closed. Thus,  $X$  has a disconnection.

Conversely, if  $X = A \cup B$ , where  $A \& B$  are non-empty disjoint open sets in  $X$ , then by setting  $f(A) = \{0\}$  &  $f(B) = \{1\}$ , we can define a continuous onto map  $f: X \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ .

This result gives a perfect replacement of def<sup>n</sup> of connected sets.

Thus, we conclude that  $X$  is connected iff every continuous map from  $X$  into a discrete space is constant.

Theorem: Let  $f: (X, d) \rightarrow (Y, \rho)$  be continuous, and let  $E \subseteq X$ . If  $E$  is connected, then  $f(E)$  is connected. (181)

Pf: Suppose  $f(E)$  is not connected. Then  
 $\exists g: f(E) \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{\text{cont}} \{0, 1\}$ .  
 Thus,  $g \circ f: E \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{\text{cont}} \{0, 1\}$   
 $\Rightarrow E$  is disconnected.

Remark: Non-constant continuous image of an interval is again an interval. This is nothing but the intermediate value property theorem.

Cor: Let  $I$  be an interval in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a non-constant continuous function. Then  $f(I)$  is an interval.  
 In particular, if  $a, b \in I$ , &  $f(a) \neq f(b)$ ,

Then  $f$  assumes all values between  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ . (182)

Ex. If  $A, B$  are connected subsets of a metric space  $X$ , then  $A \times B$  is connected in  $(X \times X, d \times d)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} (d \times d)(x', y') &= d^2(x', y') \\ &= d(x_1, x_2) + d(y_1, y_2), \\ x' = (x_1, y_1), y' = (x_2, y_2). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $f: A \times B \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is continuous. We claim  $f$  is constant. For  $a \in A$  &  $b \in B$ ,  $f(a, \cdot)$  &  $f(\cdot, b)$  are const function on  $A$  &  $B$  resp. Since  $A \times B$  are connected, implies  $f(a, \cdot)$  &  $f(\cdot, b)$  both are const. for that is,  $f$  is constant on every vertical & horizontal lines. Hence,  $f$  is constant.

$$f(a, b) = c_1 = c_2 \quad \text{&} \quad f(a', b') = c_1 = c_2.$$

Ex. Show that  $(0,1) \times (0,1)$  cannot be written as disjoint union of countably many open balls.

(Hint:  $(0,1) \times (0,1)$  is connected)

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Ex. Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}$  &  $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous.  
Show that  $D$  is connected iff the graph of  $f$   $G_f = \{(x, f(x)) : x \in D\}$  is connected in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

(Hint:  $g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{X}, g(x) = (x, f(x))$  is const  
 $\Rightarrow G_f$  is conn ( $\because X$  is conn), on the other hand, projection  $p_1: G_f \rightarrow X \Rightarrow p_1(x, f(x)) = x$   
 $\Rightarrow$  const  $\Rightarrow X$  is conn.)

Ex. If  $A \subset X$  is connected, then for  
 $A \subseteq B \subseteq \bar{A}$ , it implies that  $B$  is connected. In particular,  $\bar{A}$  is connected.  
Suppose  $f: B \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{\text{cont}} \{0,1\} \Rightarrow f: A \xrightarrow{\text{cont}} \{0,1\}$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow f$  is const on  $B \Rightarrow f$  is const on  $A$ .

Ex. If  $A \subset B \subset X$ . if  $A$  &  $X$  are conn, does it imply  $B$  is conn? ( $(0,1) \subset (0,1) \cup (1,2) \subset \mathbb{R}$ ).

Ex. Let  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by (184)

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin \frac{\pi}{x} & x \neq 0 \\ 0 & x=0. \end{cases} \quad [\text{Topologist's sine curve}]$$

Show that  $f$  is not cont, but  $G_f$  is conn.

(Hint:  $g: (0, 1] \rightarrow [-1, 1]$  by  $g(x) = \sin \frac{\pi}{x}$ . Then  $g$  is continuous, and hence  $\{g(0, 1]\}$  is conn  $\Rightarrow g$  is onto.  
Also,  $G_g$  is conn. Since  $G_g \subset G_f \subset \overline{G_g} \Rightarrow G_f$  is connected.)

Ex. If  $f: X \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{\text{cont}} Y$  (not conn), then  
 $X$  is not conn.

(Hint:  $Y = C \cup D \Rightarrow X = f^{-1}(C) \cup f^{-1}(D)$ )

Ex.  $L_n(\mathbb{R}) = \{ \text{space of all } n \times n \text{ real matrices} \}$

&  $G_{L_n}(\mathbb{R}) = \{ A = (x_{ij}) \in L_n(\mathbb{R}): \det A \neq 0 \}$ .

Then  $G_{L_n}(\mathbb{R})$  is disconnected in usual metric on  $L_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

(Hint:  $\det(A) = \sum_{i,j} x_{ij} \Rightarrow \det$  is cont,

$\Rightarrow G_{L_n}(\mathbb{R}) = (\det)^{-1}(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\})$  is open

Now, def.:  $GL_n(R) \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{\text{Cont}} R \setminus \{0\}$

$$\Rightarrow GL_n(R) = GL_n^+(R) \cup GL_n^-(R)$$

is disconnected, where

$$\text{def } \{(-\infty, 0)\} = GL_n^-(R) \text{ & } \text{def } \{(0, \infty)\} = GL_n^+(R).$$

Hint:: An easiest metric on  $GL_n(R)$  is  $d(A, B) = \max_{ij} |a_{ij} - b_{ij}|$

Path Connected:

A set  $E \subset X$  is said to be path connected if for every  $x, y \in E$ ,  $\exists$  a conti. function  $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow E$  s.t  $\gamma(0) = x$  and  $\gamma(1) = y$ .

Ex. Show that continuous image of path connected set is path connected.

If  $E \subset X$  be path connected, &

$$f: E \rightarrow C$$

be continuous. Then for  $f(x), f(y) \in f(E)$ ,  
 $\exists$  path  $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow E$  ( $\because x, y \in E$ )

$$\text{s.t. } \gamma(0) = x \text{ & } \gamma(1) = y.$$

$\Rightarrow f \circ \gamma(0) = f(x)$ ,  $f \circ \gamma(1) = f(y)$ . So  
 $y' = f \circ \gamma$  is the required path

Connecting  $f(x)$  &  $f(y)$ .

Ex. Let  $P$  be a poly. on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Then  
 $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus P^{\circ}(0)$  is path connected. (186)

Let  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus P^{\circ}(0)$ . Define

$$\gamma: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n \text{ by}$$

$$\gamma(t) = (1-t)z + tw, \quad t \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Then  $\{t \in \mathbb{C} : \gamma(t) \in P^{\circ}(0)\} = (P \circ \gamma)^{-1}(0)$ .

Since  $P \circ \gamma$  is a poly on  $\mathbb{C}$ , it implies that  $(P \circ \gamma)^{-1}(0)$  is a finite set. Hence,  
 $\mathbb{C} \setminus (P \circ \gamma)^{-1}(0)$  is path conn. in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Hence  $\gamma(\mathbb{C} \setminus (P \circ \gamma)^{-1}(0))$  is path conn.  
in  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus P^{\circ}(0)$ . Since  $\gamma(\mathbb{C} \setminus (P \circ \gamma)^{-1}(0))$  is contained in  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus P^{\circ}(0)$ , it containing  
 $z$  &  $w$ . Hence  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus P^{\circ}(0)$  is path conn.

Note that  $\gamma$  is not onto unless  $n=1$ , hence  
 $\gamma(\mathbb{C} \setminus (P \circ \gamma)^{-1}(0)) \subsetneq \mathbb{C}^n \setminus P^{\circ}(0)$ .

One again Topologist's sine curve:

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$$f: [0, 1] \rightarrow [-1, 1] \quad \text{by}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin \frac{\pi}{x} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x=0. \end{cases}$$

not open.

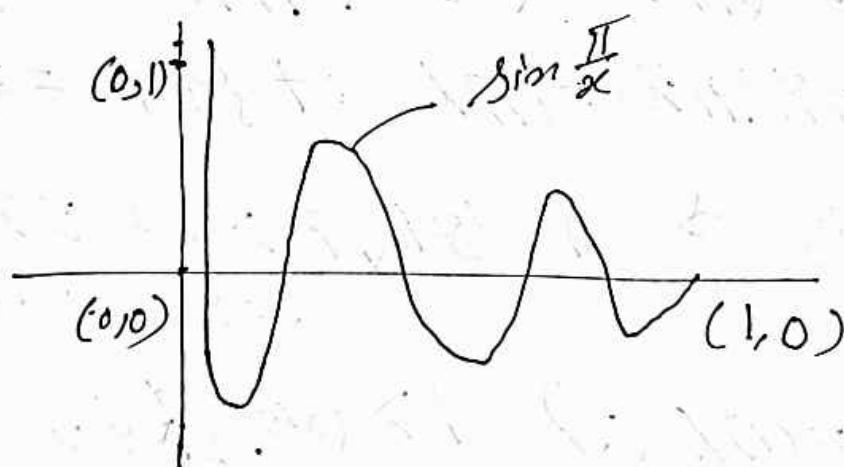
$$\text{Then } G_f = \{(x, \sin \frac{\pi}{x}): x \in (0, 1]\} \cup \{(0, 0)\}.$$

$G_f$  is not path connected.

(The hole comes from the fact that  $f$  is not cont at "0").

On contrary,

Suppose  $\exists$   
a const  
path



$$\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow G_f = \{(x, \sin \frac{\pi}{x}): x \neq 0\} \cup \{(0, 0)\},$$

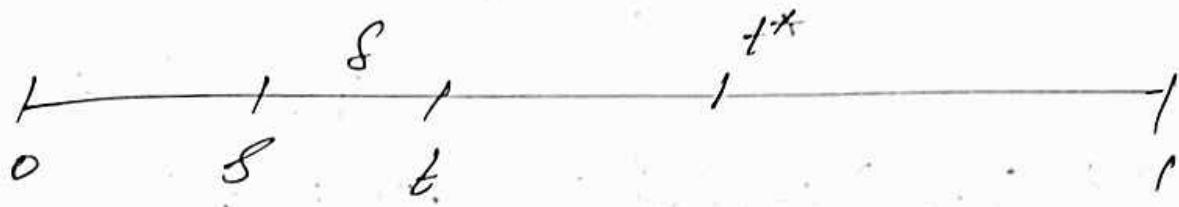
where  $\gamma(0) = (0, 0)$  &  $\gamma(1) = (1, 0)$ , and

$$\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2).$$

Since  $\gamma$  is const,  $\gamma'$  becomes unif cont.  
for  $\epsilon = 1 > 0$ ,  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.

$$|s-t| < \delta \Rightarrow |\gamma_2(s) - \gamma_2(t)| < 1$$

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Since  $0 \in \gamma^T S(0,0)$ , let

$$t^* = \sup \gamma^T(0,0) < 1 \quad (\because \gamma(1) = (1,0))$$

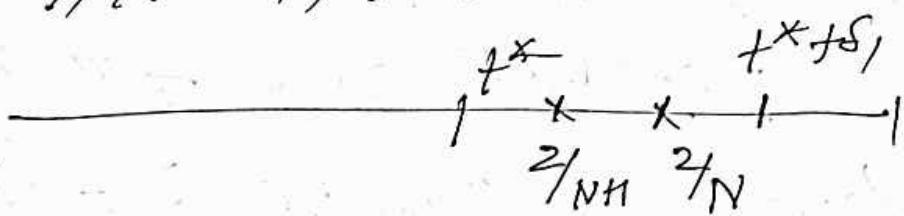
Choose  $\delta_1 > 0$  s.t.

$$0 \leq t^* < t^* + \delta_1 < 1 \quad \& \quad \delta_1 < \delta.$$

Note that  $t^* = \sup \{t : \gamma(t) = (\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t) = (0,0))\}$

$\exists t_m \rightarrow t^*$  &  $\gamma_1(t_m) = 0 \Rightarrow \gamma_1(t^*) = 0$ ,

but  $\gamma_1(t^* + \delta_1) > 0$ .



for large  $N$ ,  $\exists \beta_1 + \epsilon (t^*, t^* + \delta_1)$

s.t.  $\gamma_1(t) = 2y_{N+1}$  &  $\gamma_1(\beta) = 2y_N$ .

$\Rightarrow \gamma_1(t) = \sin\left(\frac{N+1}{2}\right)\pi$ , and  $\gamma_1(\beta) = \sin\frac{N\pi}{2}$ .

$\Rightarrow |\gamma_2(t) - \gamma_2(\beta)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

Ex.  $R^q \setminus \{0\}$ , ( $n \geq 2$ ) is connected. If not, let  $V$  be an open & closed set in  $R^n \setminus \{0\}$ . For  $x \in V$  &  $y \in R^n \setminus \{0\} \setminus V$ , we get.

a line segment path connecting  $x$  &  $y$ , say  $L$ . Then  $L \cap V$  is the non-finite union of open & closed sets in  $R$ , but  $R$  is connected. Hence, our assumption is wrong, and  $R^q \setminus \{0\}$  is connected, in fact path connected.

Ex. Let  $S^{n-1} = \{x \in R^n : \|x\| = 1\}$ . Then  $S^{n-1}$  connected. Define

cf.  $R^q \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow S^{n-1}$  by

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{x}{\|x\|},$$

then  $\varphi$  is cont & onto, hence  $S^{n-1}$  is connected. In fact,  $S^{n-1}$  is completely inverse of a path conn. set  $R^q \setminus \{0\}$ , hence path conn.

Ex. (Alternative): If  $\mathbb{R}$  is connected, then  $I$  is an interval. (190)

Suppose  $\exists x, y \in I$ . s.t.  $x < y$ , but  $z \notin I$ . Then  $f(z) = \begin{cases} 1 & z < x \\ -1 & z > y \end{cases}$  implies  $f: I \setminus \{z\} = I \xrightarrow[\text{onto}]{\text{cont}} \{-1, 1\}$ .  
 $\Rightarrow I$  is not connected.

Ex. Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be such that  $G_f = \{(x, f(x)): x \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is closed and connected in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then  $f$  is continuous.  
Let  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . Assume  $f(x_n) \rightarrow y$ . Then  $(x_n, f(x_n))$  is a b.c. in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and hence  $(x_n, f(x_n)) \rightarrow (x, y)$ . But  $G_f$  is closed, implies  $y = f(x)$ . Thus,  $f$  is continuous.

Notice that  $f(x_n) \rightarrow y$  can be achieved by considering  $f$  is bounded, where  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .

If  $f$  is bounded, then  $f(x_n)$  is bounded in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and by S-W-T,  $f(x_n) \rightarrow y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$\Rightarrow (x_n, f(x_n)) \rightarrow$  a b.c in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and hence bnd, say,  $(x_n, f(x_n)) \rightarrow (x, y)$ . (19)

But  $G_f$  is closed, implies  $y = f(x)$ .

Notice that there is no other limit pt for  $(x_n, f(x_n))$  than  $(x, f(x))$ , else  $f$  will not be well-defined. Thus,

$(x_n, f(x_n)) \rightarrow (x, f(x))$ . Hence,  $f$  is continuous.

Notice that so far we have not used the fact that  $G_f$  is connected.

Next case is when  $|f(x_n)| \rightarrow \infty$ , whence  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .

In this case, we reach to a contradiction that  $G_f$  is disconnected in a nbhd of  $x$ .

We claim that  $\exists s > 0$  st

$$|x-y| < s \Rightarrow \text{either } |f(x)-f(y)| < 1 \vee |f(x)-f(y)| > 2$$

(bounded below & above for a m.d of  $\alpha$ ):

If it is false, then  $\exists$  seqn  $u_n$  with

$$|u_n - x| \leq \frac{1}{n} \text{ s.t. } |f(x) - f(u_n)| \leq 2. \quad (192)$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  a subsequence,  $f(u_{n_k})$  of  $f(u_n)$   
s.t.  $f(u_{n_k}) \rightarrow w$ . Then

$(u_{n_k}, f(u_{n_k})) \rightarrow (x, w)$ , & the  
graph  $G_f$  is closed, contrary.

$$f(x) = w.$$

$$\text{But } |f(x) - w| \leq 2.$$

Thus, our claim is true.

$$\text{Let } [a, b] = [x-s, x+s].$$

We claim that

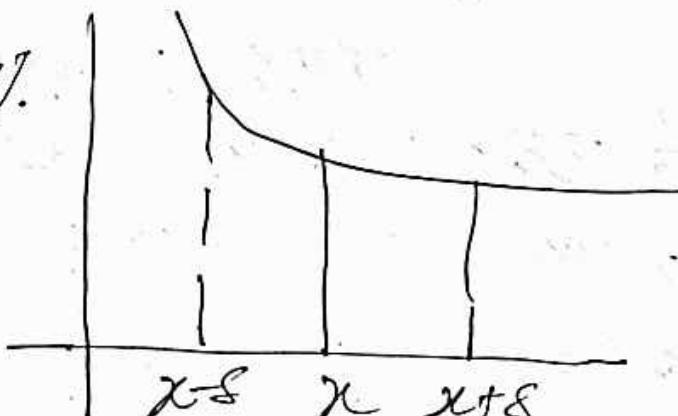
$$G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R)$$

is connected.

On the other hand,

$$G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R) = (G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R)) \cap S(f, \delta). \quad |f(x)-y| \leq \delta$$

$$\cup (G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R)) \cap S(f, \delta). \quad |f(x)-y| > \delta.$$



$$G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R) = A \cup B. \quad \text{---(x)}$$

$\rightarrow G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R)$  is disconnected as 193  
 $(x, f(x)) \in A \& (x_n, f(x_n)) \in B$ , for large  $n$ .

This implies,  $x_n \rightarrow x \Rightarrow f(x_n)$  is bounded.  
Hence, from the previous case, it follows  
that  $f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x)$ .

To show  $G_f$  is connected, let

$$g: G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

be continuous. Then  $g$  can be  
extended continuously outside  $G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R)$   
by constant value.

$$g: G \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \text{ is cont.}$$

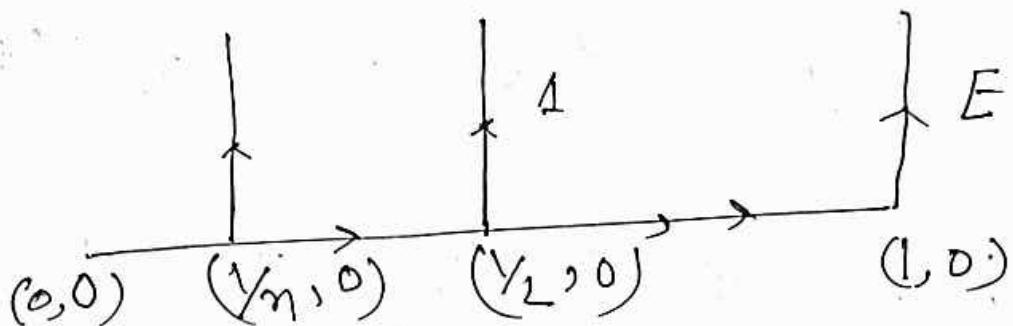
But  $G$  is comp, hence  $g$  is constant.  
Thus,  $G_f \cap ([a, b] \times R)$  is connected.

Ex. Let  $K = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} : n \geq 1 \right\}$  and

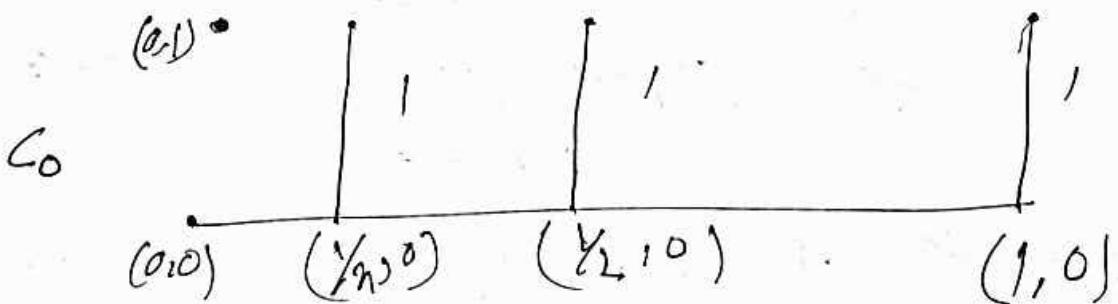
$$E = ([0, 1] \times \{0\}) \cup (K \times [0, 1]).$$

Theor.  $E$  is path connected. (why.)

(194)



let  $C = E \times (\{0\} \times [0,1])$ , Known as Comb Space  
 is path connected. The deleted comb space  
 $C_0 = E \cup \{(0,1)\}$  is connected, since  
 $E \subset C_0 \subseteq \overline{E}$ , and  $E$  is connected.  
 But  $C_0$  is not path-connected,



because, there is no path connecting  
 $(0,1)$  &  $(1,0)$ .

On contrary, suppose

$\gamma: [0,1] \rightarrow C_0$  be cont path  
 s.t.  $\gamma(0) = (0,1)$  &  $\gamma(1) = (1,0)$ .

Then  $\gamma^1((0,1))$  is a closed set, and

$$\begin{aligned} t_0 &= \sup \gamma^1((0,1)) \\ &= \sup \{t \in [0,1] : \gamma(t) = (0,1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

(195)

We claim that  $\exists t \in (t_0, 1]$  s.t.

$$(P_1 \circ \gamma)\{t_0, t\} \subseteq K, \text{ where}$$

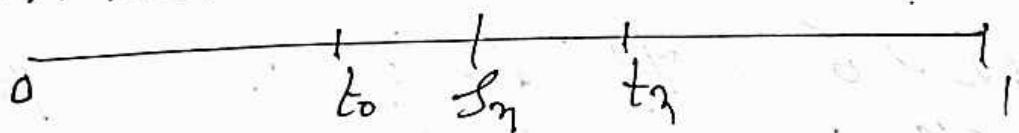
$P_1 : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow x\text{-axis}$  is the projection.

Suppose the claim is false, then  $\exists t_n \in (t_0, 1]$  s.t.  $t_n \rightarrow t_0$ . By assumption,  $\exists s_n \in (t_0, t_n)$  s.t.  $\gamma(s_n) = (x_n, 0)$  for some  $x_n \in [0, 1] \setminus K$ .

Note that  $s_n \rightarrow t_0$ . By continuity,

$$(x_n, 0) = \gamma(s_n) \rightarrow \gamma(t_0) = (0, 1),$$

which is absurd.



Thus,  $t \in (t_0, 1]$  s.t.  $(P_1 \circ \gamma)\{t_0, t\} \subseteq K$ .

$\Rightarrow j \in (P_1 \circ \gamma)(t_0, t)$  is connected subset of  $K$ . Hence  $(P_1 \circ \gamma)[t_0, t] = \{1\}$  (by connectedness), but  $(P_1 \circ \gamma)(t_0) = 0$ , an absurd.

Ex. Let  $V$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .  
(or  $\mathbb{P}^n$ ). Then  $V$  path conn. iff conn.

Let  $A$  be the collection of all paths  
connecting a point  $p \in V$ . Then  $A$   
is open. Let  $z \in A$ , then  $z \in V$  196

$$\Rightarrow B_r(z) \subset V \text{ for some } r > 0.$$

Let  $s \in B_r(z)$ , then  $s$  is connected by  
a path. to  $z$ , say straight line, and  
 $z$  is conn. to  $p$ . Hence,

$$B_r(z) \subset V.$$

Let  $B = A \setminus V$ . Then  $B$  is also  
open. Pick for  $t \in B$ , a path  
connecting  $p$ . Then we can draw a  
few small circles surrounding  $t$ , which  
is not conn. to  $p$ . Thus,

$$V = A \cup B.$$

Since  $V$  is connected, implies  $B = \emptyset$ .  
Thus,  $V$  is path connected.