

## 4 Strong Urysohn's Lemma

Let  $X$  be normal,  $A, B \subset X$  closed disjoint. Show there exists  $f \in C(X; [0, 1])$  so that  $f^{-1}(0) = A, f^{-1}(1) = B$  iff  $A$  and  $B$  are  $G_\delta$  sets.

*Proof.* A  $G_\delta$  set is a countable intersection of open sets.

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If such  $f$  exists, then  $A = f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_{\frac{1}{i}}(0)\right)$  and  $B = f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_{\frac{1}{i}}(1)\right)$  are closed  $G_\delta$  sets.

Conversely, let  $A, B$  be closed  $G_\delta$  sets. Because  $A, B$  are disjoint, according to the previous problem, we can choose  $f_A, f_B \in C(X, [0, 1])$  such that

$$f_A^{-1}(0) = A, f_A \equiv 1 \text{ in } B$$

$$f_B^{-1}(0) = A, f_B \equiv 1 \text{ in } A$$

The function  $f(x) = \frac{f_A(x)}{f_A(x) + f_B(x)}$  satisfies our conditions.

It is trivial to see that  $f(x) = 0 \forall x \in A$  and  $f(x) = 1 \forall x \in B$ . We would show that for  $x \notin A \cup B$ ,  $f(x) \notin \{0, 1\}$ .

From 13, since  $A$  is a  $G_\delta$  set,  $f_A(x) > 0$  for  $x \notin A$ . Similarly, since  $B$  is a  $G_\delta$  set,  $f_B(x) > 0$  for  $x \notin B$ .

Hence for  $x \notin A \cup B$ ,

$$0 < \frac{f_A(x)}{f_A(x) + f_B(x)} < \frac{f_A(x)}{f_A(x) + 0} = 1$$

Therefore,  $f^{-1}(0) = A$  and  $f^{-1}(1) = B$

□