

Assignment 3

Analysis Ia Report

Alifian Mahardhika Maulana

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1. Let (X, d) be a complete metric space and let $f : X \rightarrow X$ be a map. Suppose the iterated map

$$f^k = f \circ \cdots \circ f \quad (\text{k times}) \quad (1)$$

is a contraction for some $k \geq 2$. Prove that f has a unique fixed point $x \in X$.

Answer:

By the contraction mapping theorem, f^k has a unique fixed point, let's call it x , so that

$$f^k(x) = x \quad (2)$$

by (2) and (1) we note that

$$f^k(f(x)) = f(f^k(x)) = f(x)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ and x are both fixed points of f^k . Since f^k has a unique fixed point, $f(x) = x$. Now, we show that for any $x_0 \in X$ the points $f^k(x_0)$ converges to x as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Let's consider $f^k(x_0)$ as k runs through some iteration until N . i.e. pick $0 \leq i \leq N - 1$ look at the points $f^{kN+i}(x_0)$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Since

$$f^{kN+i}(x_0) = f^{kN}(f^i(x_0)) = (f^k)^N(f^i(x_0))$$

and f^k is a contraction, it must be tend to x by the contraction mapping theorem. So all k sequences $\{f^{kN+i}(x_0)\}_{k \geq 1}$ tend to x .

$\therefore f$ has a unique fixed point $x \in X$.