

Quiz 7, Advanced Calculus I, Yung Fu Fang

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Name:

Id:

Group

4.8 Theorem let f be a mapping from a metric space X into a metric space Y .

Then f is continuous on $X \iff f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X for every open set V in Y .

Proof. For " \implies ",

Suppose that f is continuous on X and V is an open set in Y .

To show $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in $X \iff$ $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X .

Suppose that $p \in f^{-1}(V) \subset X$, then $p \in f^{-1}(V)$.

Since V is open in Y , there is an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that the ball $B_Y(f(p), \varepsilon) \subset V$.

Since f is continuous at p , given $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $B_X(p, \delta) \implies$

$B_X(p, \delta) \subset f^{-1}(B_Y(f(p), \varepsilon))$,

thus $f(x) \in V$, that is $x \in f^{-1}(V)$. Hence the ball $B_X(p, \delta) \subset f^{-1}(V)$, that is

p is an interior point of $f^{-1}(V)$. Finally $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X .

For " \impliedby ", suppose that $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X for every open set V in Y .

To show f is continuous on $X \iff$ Given an $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $B_Y(f(p), \varepsilon) \subset V$

implies that $B_X(p, \delta) \subset f^{-1}(V)$.

Let us fix a $p \in X$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Denote the ball $V = \{y \in Y : d_Y(f(p), y) < \varepsilon\}$ which is an open set in Y .

Following the assumption, $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in X and $p \in f^{-1}(V)$.

Then there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $B_X(p, \delta) \subset f^{-1}(V)$.

Thus $d_X(x, p) < \delta \implies x \in f^{-1}(V) \implies f(x) \in V$. Hence f is continuous at p .

The argument works for every $p \in X$. Finally f is continuous on X . \square