

## PSET 5 — 02/0-7/2024

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## Credit Statement

I worked on these problems alone, with reference to class notes and the following books:

- (a) *Introduction to Analysis* by Maxwell Rosenlicht

## Problem 1.

Are the following functions  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  continuous? Justify your answer.

$$(i) \ f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \\ x & \text{if } x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

$f$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Let  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) Case 1:  $x_0 < 0$ .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} 0 = 0 = f(x_0)$$

(b) Case 2:  $x_0 \geq 0$ .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} x = x_0 = f(x_0)$$

Therefore,  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  for all  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . □

$$(ii) \ f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} \\ \frac{1}{q} & \text{if } x := \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ with } p, q \text{ coprime.} \end{cases}$$

$f$  is not continuous.

**Problem 2.**

Let  $E, E'$  be metric spaces,  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  be a function, and suppose that  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are subsets of  $E$  such that  $S_1 \cup S_2 = E$ . Show that if the restrictions of  $f$  to  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are continuous, then  $f$  is continuous.

**Claim 2.1.** *If the restrictions of  $f$  to  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are continuous, then  $f$  is continuous.*

*Proof.* Let  $x_0 \in E$ .

(a) Case 1:  $x_0 \in S_1$ . Since  $f|_{S_1}$  is continuous,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$ .

(b) Case 2:  $x_0 \in S_2$ . Since  $f|_{S_2}$  is continuous,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$ .

Therefore,  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  for all  $x_0 \in E$ .

□

**Problem 3.**

Let  $U, V$  be open intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and let  $f : U \rightarrow V$  be a function that is strictly increasing (i.e. if  $x, y \in U$  and  $x < y$ , then  $f(x) < f(y)$ ) and onto. Prove that  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are continuous.

**Claim 3.1.**  $f$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Let  $x_0 \in U$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $f$  is onto, there exists  $y_0 \in V$  such that  $f(x_0) = y_0$ . Since  $f$  is strictly increasing, there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $f(x_0 - \delta) < y_0 - \varepsilon$  and  $f(x_0 + \delta) > y_0 + \varepsilon$ . Therefore,  $f(B_\delta(x_0)) \subseteq B_\varepsilon(y_0)$ . Therefore,  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  for all  $x_0 \in U$ .  $\square$

**Claim 3.2.**  $f^{-1}$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Let  $y_0 \in V$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $f$  is onto, there exists  $x_0 \in U$  such that  $f(x_0) = y_0$ . Since  $f$  is strictly increasing, there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $f(x_0 - \delta) < y_0 - \varepsilon$  and  $f(x_0 + \delta) > y_0 + \varepsilon$ . Therefore,  $f(B_\delta(x_0)) \subseteq B_\varepsilon(y_0)$ . Therefore,  $f^{-1}$  is continuous at  $y_0$  for all  $y_0 \in V$ .  $\square$

**Problem 4.**

Let  $(E, d)$  and  $(E', d')$  be metric spaces,  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  be a function, and let  $p \in E$ . Define the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  to be

$$\inf \{a \in \mathbb{R} \mid \exists \text{ open ball in } B_r(p) \in E \text{ such that } \forall x, y \in B_r(p), d'(f(x), f(y)) \leq a \}$$

if the set is nonempty, and  $+\infty$  otherwise. Prove that  $f$  is continuous at  $p$  if and only if the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  is 0, and that for any real number  $\varepsilon$ , the set of points of  $E$  at which the oscillation of  $f$  is at least  $\varepsilon$  is closed.

**Claim 4.1.**  $f$  is continuous at  $p$  if and only if the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  is 0.

*Proof.* (a)  $(\Rightarrow)$  Suppose  $f$  is continuous at  $p$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in E$  with  $d(x, p) < \delta$ ,  $d'(f(x), f(p)) < \varepsilon$ . Therefore, the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  is at most  $\varepsilon$ . Since  $\varepsilon > 0$  was arbitrary, the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  is 0.

(b)  $(\Leftarrow)$  Suppose the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  is 0. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in E$  with  $d(x, p) < \delta$ ,  $d'(f(x), f(p)) < \varepsilon$ . Therefore,  $f$  is continuous at  $p$ .

□

**Claim 4.2.** For any real number  $\varepsilon$ , the set of points of  $E$  at which the oscillation of  $f$  is at least  $\varepsilon$  is closed.

*Proof.* Let  $A := \{p \in E \mid \text{oscillation of } f \text{ at } p \text{ is at least } \varepsilon\}$ . We shall show that  $A$  is closed. Let  $p \in E \setminus A$ . Then the oscillation of  $f$  at  $p$  is less than  $\varepsilon$ . Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a < \varepsilon$ . Then there exists an open ball  $B_r(p)$  in  $E$  such that for all  $x, y \in B_r(p)$ ,  $d'(f(x), f(y)) \leq a$ . Therefore,  $B_r(p) \subseteq E \setminus A$ . Therefore,  $E \setminus A$  is open, so  $A$  is closed. □

**Problem 5.**

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a < b$ , and let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function. Prove that if  $f$  is one-to-one then  $f([a, b])$  is either  $[f(a), f(b)]$  or  $[f(b), f(a)]$  (whichever expression makes sense).

**Claim 5.1.** *If  $f$  is one-to-one then  $f([a, b])$  is either  $[f(a), f(b)]$  or  $[f(b), f(a)]$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $y_0 \in f([a, b])$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(x_0) = y_0$ . Let  $y_1 \in f([a, b])$ . Then there exists  $x_1 \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(x_1) = y_1$ . Since  $f$  is one-to-one,  $x_0 \neq x_1$  implies  $y_0 \neq y_1$ . Therefore,  $f([a, b])$  is an interval. Since  $f$  is continuous,  $f([a, b])$  is connected. Therefore,  $f([a, b])$  is an interval. Since  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  are in  $f([a, b])$ ,  $f([a, b])$  is either  $[f(a), f(b)]$  or  $[f(b), f(a)]$ .  $\square$

**Problem 6.**

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $a \in X$ . The closure of  $A$  is the set

$$\overline{A} := \bigcap \{E \subset X \mid E \text{ is closed and } A \subset E\}.$$

Assume  $A$  is a connected set. Is  $\overline{A}$  connected? Prove or find a counterexample.

$\overline{A}$  is connected.

*Proof.* Let  $x_0, y_0 \in \overline{A}$ . Let  $E \subset X$  be closed and  $A \subset E$ . Since  $E$  is closed,  $E^c$  is open. Since  $x_0, y_0 \in \overline{A}$ ,  $x_0, y_0 \in E$ . Since  $A$  is connected, there exists a continuous function  $f : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  such that  $f(x_0) = 0$  and  $f(y_0) = 1$ . Since  $f$  is continuous,  $f^{-1}(\{0\})$  and  $f^{-1}(\{1\})$  are closed. Since  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \cup f^{-1}(\{1\}) = A$  and  $A \subset E$ ,  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \cup f^{-1}(\{1\}) \subset E$ . Since  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \neq \emptyset$  and  $f^{-1}(\{1\}) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap f^{-1}(\{1\}) \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore,  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap f^{-1}(\{1\})$  is connected. Since  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap f^{-1}(\{1\}) \subset A$ ,  $f^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap f^{-1}(\{1\}) \subset \overline{A}$ . Therefore,  $\overline{A}$  is connected.  $\square$