

# Problem Set 2

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**Problem 1.** Let  $I$  be a set. For each  $i \in I$ , let  $U_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be an open set. Suppose also that  $U, V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  are open. Show that,

1.  $\emptyset, \mathbb{R}^n$  are open.
2.  $U \cap V$  is open.
3.  $\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$  is open.

**Problem 2.** Replacing each occurrence of open with closed in **Problem 1**, show that,

1.  $\emptyset, \mathbb{R}^n$  are closed.
2.  $U \cup V$  is closed.
3.  $\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$  is closed.

**Problem 3.** Suppose  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is such that for all  $u \in U$ , there exists an open set  $A \subseteq U$  such that  $x \in A$ . Then,  $U$  is open.

**Problem 4.** A subset  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is said to be dense if for all  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  non-empty and open, we have  $U \cap D \neq \emptyset$ . Fix  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $x < y$ . Show that,

1. There exists some  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $x < q < y$ .
2.  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
3.  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is open  $\iff$  for all  $u \in U$  there exists some  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Q}^+$  such that  $B_\varepsilon(u) \subseteq U$ .
4. Every open set is the countable union of open balls.

Hint: for (1), apply the Archimedean property to  $(y - x)^{-1}$ . Then, it suffices to show that (1)  $\implies$  (2), that (2)  $\implies$  (3) and then use all of these plus **Problem 3** for (4).

**Problem 5.** Fix  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ . Show that the following are open,

1.  $(a, b)$
2.  $(a, \infty)$
3.  $(-\infty, a)$

Note: there are at least 3 different proofs of this, so one mustn't settle for just one!

**Problem 6.** Suppose  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is a bounded, monotone decreasing sequence. Show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \inf_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{x_n\}$ .

**Problem 7.** Recall that for  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , we defined

$$\partial A = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \forall U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \text{ open with } x \in U, U \cap A \neq \emptyset, U \cap (\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A) \neq \emptyset\}$$

Show that,

1.  $\partial A = \overline{A} \cap \overline{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A}$ .
2.  $\text{int}(A) \cap \partial A = \emptyset$ .
3.  $\partial A = \emptyset \iff A \text{ is clopen}$ .

**Problem 8.** Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is such that  $\sup f(A) = f(\sup A)$  for all bounded, non-empty  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . What can you deduce about  $f$ ?

**Problem 9.** Find the boundary, interior, and closure of each of the following subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

- (a)  $\{(x, y) : y = 0\}$ .
- (b)  $\{(x, y) : x > 0 \text{ and } y \neq 0\}$ .
- (c)  $\{(x, y) : x \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ .
- (d)  $\{(x, y) : x \neq 0 \text{ and } y \leq x^{-1}\}$ .

**Problem 10.** For  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $\|x\| = \sqrt{x \cdot x}$  be the usual norm, let  $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$  be the 1-norm, and let  $\|x\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|$  be the max-norm. Prove that, for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\|x\|_\infty \leq \|x\|_1 \leq \|x\| \leq n\|x\|_\infty$$

Deduce that if  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  are open, then  $U \times V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+m}$  is open.

**Problem 11.** Show that,

1. For fixed  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , the map  $m_\alpha : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  given by  $m_\alpha(x) = \alpha x$  is continuous.
2. The map  $+ : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  given by  $+(x, y) = x + y$  is continuous.
3. Linear combinations of continuous functions are continuous.
4. The map  $d : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$  is continuous.

**Problem 12.** We say that  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is open if  $f(U)$  is open whenever  $U$  is open. For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $\pi_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the map  $x \mapsto x_i$ . Show that  $\pi_i$  is both continuous and open.

**Problem 13.** Show that  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x) = \sqrt{|x|}$  is continuous.

**Problem 14.** Suppose  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a sequence. Then,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0 \iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n\| = 0$$

**Problem 15.** Suppose  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is not closed. Find a function  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which is continuous and unbounded.

Hint: Try  $f(x) = \|y - x\|^{-1}$  for a suitable choice of  $y$ .

**Problem 16.** We say that  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is finite-to-one if  $|f^{-1}(\{y\})| < \infty \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . In this case, is  $f$  necessarily continuous?

Hint: Consider  $f(x) = x$  if  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $f(x) = x + 1$  if  $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Problem 17.** Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has the property that  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq C|x - y|^\alpha$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and some constants  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\alpha > 1$ . Prove that  $f$  is constant.

Hint: For  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $x < y$ , divide  $[x, y]$  into  $N$  subintervals, construct a telescoping sum, and then take absolute values to show that  $|f(y) - f(x)| \leq C|y - x|^\alpha N^{1-\alpha}$ .

**Problem 18.** Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{f_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of continuous functions. Let  $V(\mathcal{F})$  be the set of points for which the  $f_i$  simultaneously vanish, i.e.  $f_i(x) = 0$ . Then,

1.  $V(\mathcal{F})$  is closed.
2. If  $C$  is closed, then there is a continuous function  $f$  such that  $C = V(\{f\})$ .

*Hint:* Consider  $f(x) = e^{(x-a)^{-1}(x-b)^{-1}}$  for  $x \in (a, b)$  and  $f(x) = 0$  otherwise.

**Problem 19.** Suppose  $C_1, C_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  are disjoint closed sets. Find  $U_1, U_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  disjoint open sets such that  $C_1 \subseteq U_1$  and  $C_2 \subseteq U_2$ .

**Problem 20.** Let  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence. Show,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x \iff \forall U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \text{ open with } x \in U, \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } n > N \implies x_n \in U$$

**Problem 21.** Show that if  $A \subseteq B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  then  $\overline{A} \subseteq \overline{B}$ . Further, if for each  $i \in I$ ,  $U_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is open, we have that  $\overline{\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i} \supseteq \bigcup_{i \in I} \overline{U_i}$ , with equality when  $I$  is finite.

**Problem 22.** Show that  $\Delta = \{(x, x) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{2n}$  is closed.

**Problem 23.** Is it true that, if  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is open, we have  $U = \text{int}(\overline{U})$ ?

**Problem 24.** Fix  $x, y > 0$ . Define two sequences by  $a_1 = \max\{x, y\}$ ,  $g_1 = \min\{x, y\}$ ,  $a_{n+1} = (a_n + g_n)/2$ , and  $g_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_n g_n}$ . Prove that,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n$$

*Hint:* First prove the AM-GM inequality.

**Problem 25.** Suppose  $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous functions such that  $f(x) = g(x)$  when  $x \in D$ , where  $D$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Prove that  $f(x) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Problem 26.** Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is continuous, show that the graph of  $f$ , denoted by  $\Gamma(f) = \{(x, f(x)) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$  is closed.

**Problem 27.** Similarly to the definition of an open map, we say that  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a closed map if  $f(C)$  is closed when  $C$  is closed. Show that the map  $\pi_1 : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as defined in **Problem 12** is NOT closed.

*Hint:* Consider  $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : xy = 1\}$ .

**Problem 28.** Show that the map  $M(x, y) = \max\{x, y\}$  is continuous.