

**You are not permitted to collaborate with other students or consult other individuals. Maximum total score is 20 points: 15 points and participation in the oral examination are required to pass. See course webpage for full details.**

**Appropriate amounts of detail are required for full marks.**

1. Determine which of the following statements are true, and which are false. Explain your reasoning.
  - (a) A function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is continuous at all but countably many points, and is bounded at every point, is continuous everywhere on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - (b) If a sequence of real-valued functions  $\{f_n\}$  converges uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$  to a continuous function  $f$ , then all but at most finitely many of the  $f_n$  are continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - (c) If  $f$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{R}$  and has  $f'(x) = 0$  for  $-1 \leq x \leq 2$  then  $f$  is constant on  $[0, 1]$ .
  - (d) If  $f$  is continuous and the range of  $f$  contains finitely many distinct points, then  $f$  is constant.
  - (e) The set of real-valued continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$  equipped with the function

$$d(f, g) = \int_0^1 |f(x) - g(x)| dx$$

is an example of a complete metric space.

*Sketch solutions:*

- (a) The statement is false. Consider, for instance, the function that is equal to 1 on  $[2k, 2k + 1]$ ,  $k$  an integer, and equal to 0 on  $[2k + 1, 2k]$ . This function is bounded, is continuous except at the integers which form a countable set, but is not a continuous function overall.
  - (b) The statement is false. Consider the sequence  $f_n = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n}, & x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ 0, & x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$ . Then  $f_n$  converges uniformly to the zero function but no  $f_n$  is a continuous function.
  - (c) This statement is true. One way of seeing this is to apply the mean value theorem.
  - (d) This problem intended to specify that  $f$  is a function on the real line. In that case the intermediate value theorem forces  $f$  to be constant.
  - (e) This statement is false. To see this, consider the sequence of continuous functions  $f_n$  defined by setting  $f_n(x) = 0$  for  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $f_n(x) = 1$  for  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n} \leq x \leq 1$  and interpolating linearly on the interval  $[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n}]$ . Then  $d(f_n, f_m) \rightarrow 0$  with  $n, m$  but the limit function  $f$  is discontinuous at  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ .
2. A real-valued function  $f$  on the interval  $[0, 1]$  is said to belong to the class  $\mathcal{C}(\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , if there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq C|x - y|^\alpha$  for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .
    - (a) Give an example of a uniformly continuous function on  $[0, 1]$  that does not belong to any  $\mathcal{C}(\alpha)$ .
    - (b) If  $f$  belongs to  $\mathcal{C}(1)$ , does this imply that  $f$  is differentiable at every point of  $[0, 1]$ ?
    - (c) Give a complete description of the functions of class  $\mathcal{C}(\frac{3}{2})$  on  $[0, 1]$ .

*Sketch solutions:*

(a) The function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\log(\frac{x}{2})}, & 0 < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

furnishes an example. Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ , the function  $f$  is continuous, and since  $[0, 1]$  is compact  $f$  is uniformly continuous.

However, if  $x \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\frac{|f(x) - f(0)|}{|x|^\alpha} = \frac{-\frac{1}{\log(x/2)}}{x^\alpha}$$

which implies that, for any  $\alpha > 0$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{-x^\alpha \log(x/2)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} -\frac{2^\alpha e^{-\alpha t}}{t} = \infty.$$

This shows that there does not exist any  $\alpha > 0$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq C|x|^\alpha$  near 0 for some constant  $C > 0$ .

(b) It does not follow that  $f$  is differentiable. Consider for instance the function  $f(x) = |x - \frac{1}{2}|$ . This function is clearly not differentiable at  $x = \frac{1}{2}$  but

$$|f(x) - f(y)| = \left| |x - \frac{1}{2}| - |y - \frac{1}{2}| \right| \leq |x - y|$$

by the reverse triangle inequality.

(c) The class  $\mathcal{C}(\frac{3}{2})$  consists of the constant functions on  $[0, 1]$ . If  $f$  is constant, then  $f(x) - f(y) = 0$  for  $x, y \in [0, 1]$  and hence  $f$  belongs to  $\mathcal{C}(\frac{3}{2})$ . Conversely, suppose that  $f \in \mathcal{C}(\frac{3}{2})$ . Then, for  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $h$  small enough, we have, for some  $C > 0$ ,

$$\frac{|f(x+h) - f(x)|}{|h|} \leq C \frac{|h|^{\frac{3}{2}}}{|h|} = C|h|^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

and the quantity on the right tends to zero with  $h$ . This in turn implies  $f'(x) = 0$  and by a theorem in Rudin,  $f$  is constant.

3. Compute the Riemann-Stieltjes integral

$$\int_0^1 f d\alpha$$

where  $f(x) = x^2$  and

$$\alpha(x) = \begin{cases} 1 + x^2, & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2} + x^2, & \frac{1}{2} < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

*Sketch solution:* It is important to note that  $\alpha$  has a jump at  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ . For this reason, we *cannot* apply the formula  $\int_0^1 f d\alpha = \int_0^1 f \alpha' dx$  directly. However, we can decompose  $\alpha$  as  $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$  where  $\alpha_1 = x^2$  and

$$\alpha_2(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2}, & \frac{1}{2} < x \leq 1 \end{cases}.$$

Then  $\int f d\alpha = \int f d\alpha_1 + \int f d\alpha_2$  and we compute the integrals separately.

Since  $\alpha_1$  is continuously differentiable,

$$\int_0^1 f(x) d\alpha_1(x) = \int_0^1 x^2 \cdot 2x dx = \int_0^1 2x^3 dx = \left[ \frac{1}{2} x^4 \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Since  $\alpha_2$  is a step function, we obtain as in Rudin's book that

$$\int_0^1 f d\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2^2} = \frac{1}{8}.$$

Hence  $\int_0^1 f d\alpha = \frac{5}{8}$ .

4. Let  $f$  be real-valued and continuous on  $[0, 1]$ . Suppose that, for each  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$\int_0^1 f(x)x^n dx = 0.$$

Prove that  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . (*Hint: start by looking at  $f^2$ .*)

*Sketch solution:* The assumption that  $\int_0^1 f x^n dx = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  implies that  $\int_0^1 f(x)P(x)dx = 0$  for any polynomial  $P$  with real coefficients. Using this, along with linearity of the integral, we obtain

$$\int_0^1 (f(x))^2 dx = \int_0^1 f(x)^2 dx - \int_0^1 f(x)P(x)dx = \int_0^1 f(x) \cdot (f(x) - P(x))dx \quad (1)$$

for any polynomial  $P$ .

Now let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given. Since  $f$  is a continuous function on  $[0, 1]$  the Weierstrass theorem implies that there exists a polynomial  $P$  such that  $\sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - P(x)| < \epsilon$ . Again using properties of integrals, we deduce from (1) that

$$\int_0^1 f^2 dx \leq \epsilon \int_0^1 f dx.$$

Note that  $\int_0^1 f dx$  is finite by the assumption that  $f$  is continuous. Thus, given any  $\epsilon > 0$  we obtain  $\int_0^1 f^2 dx \leq \epsilon$  by choosing  $\epsilon > 0$  small enough. This in turn implies  $\int_0^1 f^2 dx = 0$ . We now deduce  $f(x) = 0$  as desired. If this was not the case, we would have  $f(x_0) \neq 0$  for some  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ , and by continuity, we would have  $f(x)^2 > 0$  on some interval  $[a, b] \subset [0, 1]$ . Since  $f^2$  is non-negative for any real function, we arrive at a contradiction as this would imply  $\int_0^1 f^2 dx \geq \int_a^b f^2 dx > 0$ .