

Part A

Question 1.

This question concerns sequences in metric spaces.

1. Give the definition of a sequence converging to a limit in a metric space. (4 points)

Solution:

Let (M, d) be a metric space. A sequence (s_n) in (M, d) converges to a limit, say $s \in M$, if for each $\epsilon > 0$ there is a $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that whenever $n \geq N$, $d(s_n, s) < \epsilon$.

2. The sequence $(\frac{1}{n})$ can be considered as a sequence in each of the following metric spaces. For each, decide which of the following *best* describes the sequence:

- Convergent
- Cauchy
- Neither convergent nor Cauchy

- (a) \mathbb{R} with metric $d(s, t) = |s - t|$. (2 points)

Solution:

Convergent

- (b) $(0, 1)$ with metric $d(s, t) = |s - t|$. (2 points)

Solution:

Cauchy

- (c) $(0, 1)$ with metric $d(s, t) = |\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{t}|$ (2 points)

Solution:

Not convergent or Cauchy: we have $d(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{m}) = |n - m|$.

Question 2.

This question concerns vector spaces.

1. Define what it means for a function from one vector space to another to be linear. (4 points)

Solution:

A function $T: V \rightarrow W$ is linear, where V and W are vector spaces, if $T(v + \lambda w) = Tv + \lambda Tw$ for all $v, w \in V$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

2. Which of the following are subspaces of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

- (a) $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid 3x + 4y + z = 0\}$. (2 points)

Solution:

Subspace.

- (b) $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid xy = z\}$. (2 points)

Solution:

Not a subspace.

- (c) $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 = 0\}$. (2 points)

Solution:

Subspace.

Question 3.

This question concerns functions between metric spaces.

1. Define what it means for a function from one metric space to another to be continuous. (4 points)

Solution:

Either: a function $f: (M_1, d_1) \rightarrow (M_2, d_2)$ is continuous if, whenever $U \subseteq M_2$ is open in (M_2, d_2) then $f^{-1}(U)$ is open in (M_1, d_1) .

Or: a function $f: (M_1, d_1) \rightarrow (M_2, d_2)$ is continuous if, for all $x \in M_1$ and $\epsilon > 0$ there is a $\delta > 0$ such that if $d_1(x, y) < \delta$ then $d_2(f(x), f(y)) < \epsilon$.

2. For each of the following functions between metric spaces decide which of the following *best* describes it:

- Isometry.
- Lipschitz.
- Continuous.
- None of the above.

(a) $f: (\mathbb{R}, d(s, t) = |s - t|) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d(s, t) = |s - t|), f(t) = t^2.$ (2 points)

Solution:

Continuous.

(b) $f: ([0, 1], d(s, t) = |s - t|) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d(s, t) = |s - t|), f(t) = e^t.$ (2 points)

Solution:

Lipschitz.

(c) $f: ((0, 1), d(s, t) = |\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{t}|) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d(s, t) = |s - t|), f(t) = t^{-1}.$ (2 points)

Solution:

Isometry.

Part B

Question 1.

Let Poly_2 be the space of polynomials of degree at most 2. For $i \in \mathbb{N}$, let $p_i \in \text{Poly}_2$ be the polynomial formed by expanding $(x + 1)^i$ and throwing away all terms of degree higher than 2. Thus, $p_0(x) = 1, p_1(x) = x + 1, p_3(x) = 3x^2 + 3x + 1, p_8(x) = 36x^2 + 8x + 1.$

1. Define a linear transformation $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ as follows: map (a, b, c) to the coefficients (in the order $x^2, x, 1$) of the polynomial $ap_2(x) + bp_3(x) + cp_4(x)$. Write down the matrix of this transformation. (4 points)

Solution:

This transformation is

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} &\mapsto ap_2(x) + bp_3(x) + cp_4(x) \\ &= a(x^2 + 2x + 1) + b(3x^2 + 3x + 1) + c(6x^2 + 4x + 1) \\ &= (a + 3b + 6c)x^2 + (2a + 3b + 4c)x + (a + b + c) \\ &\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a + 3b + 6c \\ 2a + 3b + 4c \\ a + b + c \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

2. A linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$ has matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 10 & 10 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 2 & 9 & 16 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find a vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^4$ such that

$$Tx = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(6 points)

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 10 & 10 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 7 & 9 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 9 & 16 & 14 & 1 \end{bmatrix} &\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 10 & 10 & 1 \\ 0 & -5 & -16 & -19 & -2 \\ 0 & -3 & -11 & -15 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 & -6 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\
&\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 10 & 10 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 & -6 & -1 \\ 0 & -3 & -11 & -15 & -2 \\ 0 & -5 & -16 & -19 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 10 & 10 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 & -6 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 11 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\
&\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 10 & 10 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 & -6 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
x_4 &= 1, \\
x_3 &= 1 - 3x_4 = 1 - 3 = -2, \\
x_2 &= 1 - 6x_4 - 4x_3 = 1 - 6 + 8 = 3, \\
x_1 &= 1 - 5x_4 - 10x_3 - 10x_2 = 1 - 5 + 20 - 30 = -4.
\end{aligned}$$

Question 2.

1. Let (M, d) be a metric space. Let $f: X \rightarrow M$ be an injective function (so if $f(x) = f(y)$ then $x = y$). Define $d_f: X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by $d_f(x, y) = d(f(x), f(y))$. Prove that d_f is a metric. (4 points)

Solution:

- (a) Let $x, y \in X$. If $d_f(x, y) = 0$ then $d(f(x), f(y)) = 0$. As (M, d) is a metric space, this means that $f(x) = f(y)$. Since f is injective, this means that $x = y$. Conversely, if $x = y$ then $f(x) = f(y)$ so $d_f(x, y) = d(f(x), f(y)) = 0$ since d is a metric on M .
- (b) Let $x, y \in X$. Then as d is symmetric, $d(f(x), f(y)) = d(f(y), f(x))$ and hence $d_f(x, y) = d_f(y, x)$.
- (c) Let $x, y, z \in X$. Then as d satisfies the triangle inequality and $f(x), f(y), f(z)$ are all points in M ,

$$d(f(x), f(z)) \leq d(f(x), f(y)) + d(f(y), f(z))$$

and hence

$$d_f(x, z) = d_f(x, y) + d_f(y, z).$$

2. (You do not need to show working for this part.) Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} (x, 0) & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q}, \\ (x, 1) & \text{if } x \notin \mathbb{Q}. \end{cases}$$

Define the metric d_f on \mathbb{R} by

$$d_f(x, y) = d_1(f(x), f(y)).$$

Recall that d_1 is defined on \mathbb{R}^2 by $d_1((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = |x_1 - x_2| + |y_1 - y_2|$.

For each of the following sequences, decide whether or not it converges in (\mathbb{R}, d_f) . If it converges, identify its limit. (3 points)

(a) $(1/n)$.

Solution:

This converges in (\mathbb{R}, d_f) to 0.

(b) $(1/\sqrt{n})$.

Solution:

This does not converge in (\mathbb{R}, d_f) . We have $d(1/n^2, 1/(n^2 + 1)) \geq \frac{1}{2}$.

(c) $(1/\sqrt{n^2 + 1})$.

Solution:

This does not converge in (\mathbb{R}, d_f) (though it is Cauchy).

The square roots are always assumed to be positive.

3. Consider the identity map on \mathbb{R} . Is this continuous as a map $(\mathbb{R}, d) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d_f)$ or $(\mathbb{R}, d_f) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d)$, where $d(s, t) = |s - t|$ is the usual metric? (3 points)

Solution:

It is not continuous as a map $(\mathbb{R}, d) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d_f)$ since the sequence $(1/\sqrt{n})$ converges in (\mathbb{R}, d) but does not in (\mathbb{R}, d_f) . It is continuous as a map $(\mathbb{R}, d_f) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d)$ since if we define $p: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $p(x, y) = x$ then $x = pf(x)$. Since $f: (\mathbb{R}, d_f) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^2, d_1)$ is continuous (even an isometry) and $p: (\mathbb{R}^2, d_1) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d)$ is continuous (even Lipschitz), we deduce that the identity on \mathbb{R} is continuous as a map $(\mathbb{R}, d_f) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, d)$.

Question 3.

1. Let $g: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be the map $g(t) = \sqrt{t+1}$. Prove that g is a contraction. Here, $[0, \infty)$ is equipped with its standard metric. (2 points)

You may use the Mean Value Theorem without proof (that if f is differentiable on $[a, b]$ with continuous derivative then $f(b) - f(a) = f'(c)(b - a)$ for some $c \in [a, b]$).

Solution:

As g is continuously differentiable on $(-1, \infty)$, the mean value theorem states that for $0 \leq s < t$ in \mathbb{R} there is some $r \in (s, t)$ such that

$$g(t) - g(s) = g'(r)(t - s).$$

From this we deduce that g is Lipschitz on $[s, t]$ with constant $\max\{|g'(r)| : r \in [s, t]\}$. Since $g'(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x+1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, and this is decreasing, we see that g is Lipschitz with constant $g'(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, hence is a contraction.

2. Explain why there is some $t_0 \in [0, \infty)$ such that $t_0^2 = t_0 + 1$. (3 points)

Solution:

The space $[0, \infty)$ with its standard metric is complete and hence Banach's Fixed Point Theorem applies. This states that as g is a contraction, it has a unique fixed point. This fixed point satisfies $t_0 = g(t_0) = \sqrt{t_0 + 1}$. Squaring, we find that $t_0^2 = t_0 + 1$.

3. Find $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that if $n \leq t \leq n + 1$ then $n \leq g(t) \leq n + 1$. What does this tell you about the fixed point of g ? (2 points)

Solution:

Firstly, as $g'(t)$ is positive, g is increasing. It is therefore sufficient to find n such that $g(n) \geq n$ and $g(n + 1) \leq n + 1$. Putting in some figures, we find $g(0) = 1$, $g(1) = \sqrt{2}$, $g(2) = \sqrt{3}$, and $g(3) = 2$. Hence $n = 1$ will do. This means that the fixed point of g lies in the interval $[1, 2]$.

4. The equation $x^2 = x + 1$ has another solution which can be found as the fixed point of the map $t \mapsto -\sqrt{t+1}$. Show that this map defines a contraction on the interval $[-2/3, -5/9]$. (You may find it useful to know that $\sqrt{3} \approx 1.7321$.) (3 points)

Solution:

Firstly, we observe that the map $t \mapsto -\sqrt{t+1}$ is well-defined on $[-2/3, -5/9]$ as a map into \mathbb{R} . For $t \in [-2/3, -5/9]$ we see that

$$\begin{aligned} -2/3 &\leq t \leq -5/9 \\ 1/3 &\leq t + 1 \leq 4/9 \\ 1/\sqrt{3} &\leq \sqrt{t+1} \leq 2/3 \\ -1/\sqrt{3} &\geq -\sqrt{t+1} \geq -2/3 \end{aligned}$$

and thus $-\sqrt{t+1} \in [-2/3, -1/\sqrt{3}]$. Using the fact given in the question, we observe that $\sqrt{3} \leq 1.8$ and so $-1/\sqrt{3} \leq -5/9$.

Using the mean value theorem again, we see that the map $t \mapsto -\sqrt{t+1}$ is Lipschitz with Lipschitz constant

$$\max\{\frac{1}{2}(t+1)^{-\frac{1}{2}} : t \in [-2/3, -5/9]\}.$$

As this is decreasing, it takes its maximum at $t = -2/3$ where it is $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3} < 1$. Hence $t \mapsto -\sqrt{t+1}$ is a contraction on $[-2/3, -5/9]$.