



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

**MAS331**

**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS**

**Autumn Semester  
2017–18**

**MAS331 Metric Spaces**

**2 hours 30 minutes**

*Answer **four** questions. You are advised **not** to answer more than four questions: if you do, only your best four will be counted.*

**Please leave this exam paper on your desk  
Do not remove it from the hall**

Registration number from U-Card (9 digits)  
to be completed by student

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- 1 Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space.
- (i) Give precise definitions of the following.
- (a) An open ball  $B(a, r)$  in  $(X, d)$ . **(1 mark)**
- (b) An open set in  $(X, d)$ . **(2 marks)**
- (ii) Determine whether either of the points  $(0, 0, 0, 0)$  or  $(1/2, 1/4, 1/2, 1/4)$  are in the set  $B((1, 0, 1, 0), 1) \cap B((0, 1, 0, 1), \sqrt{2})$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , equipped with its usual Euclidean metric. **(7 marks)**
- (iii) Define the *taxi-cab metric* on  $\mathbb{R}^m$  by

$$d_1(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^m |x_i - y_i|,$$

where  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$  and  $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m)$ .

- (a) Show that  $d_2(x, y) \leq d_1(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , where  $d_2$  denotes the usual (Euclidean) metric on  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . **(4 marks)**
- (b) Show that  $B_1(a, r) \subseteq B_2(a, r)$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}^m, r > 0$ , where  $B_1$  denotes an open ball in  $(\mathbb{R}^m, d_1)$ , and  $B_2$  denotes an open ball in  $(\mathbb{R}^m, d_2)$ . **(3 marks)**
- (iv) Prove that every open ball in a metric space is an open set. **(6 marks)**
- (v) Is it true that every open set in a metric space is an open ball? If so, give a proof. If not, give a counter-example. **(2 marks)**

- 2 (i) Explain carefully what it means for a sequence  $(x_n)$  to converge to  $x$  in a metric space  $(X, d)$ . Write down an equivalent statement in terms of convergence of a sequence of real numbers. **(3 marks)**
- (ii) Prove that the limit of a convergent sequence in a metric space is unique. **(6 marks)**
- (iii) Consider the metrics  $d_1$  and  $d_\infty$  on  $C[0, 1]$  where

$$d_1(f, g) = \int_0^1 |f(x) - g(x)| dx, \quad d_\infty(f, g) = \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f(x) - g(x)|.$$

Show that if a sequence of functions converges in  $(C[0, 1], d_\infty)$ , then it converges to the same limit in  $(C[0, 1], d_1)$ . **(4 marks)**

- (iv) Consider the following sequences of functions in  $C[0, 1]$ . Do they converge in either of  $(C[0, 1], d_\infty)$  or  $(C[0, 1], d_1)$ , or pointwise, or none of these? Give reasoning to support your conclusions.

(a)  $f_n(x) = \frac{3(1-x)^n}{5}$ . **(6 marks)**

(b)  $f_n(x) = \cos\left(\frac{n-x^2}{n^2}\right)$ . **(6 marks)**

[Hint: You might find it helpful to use the fact that the mapping  $x \rightarrow \cos(x)$  is monotonic decreasing on  $[0, \pi/2]$ , or alternatively to make use of the inequality  $1 - \cos(x) \leq x^2/2$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .]

**3** (i) Let  $(X_1, d_1)$  and  $(X_2, d_2)$  be given metric spaces. Explain, using sequences, what it means for a mapping  $f : X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  to be continuous. **(2 marks)**

(ii) Let  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  have their usual metrics and define  $F : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$F((x, y)) = e^{3y^2 - 4y + 5} - g(x)^9,$$

where  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous. Show that  $F$  is continuous. **(4 marks)**

(iii) With the notation used in (i), suppose that  $f : X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  is continuous.

(a) Show that  $f^{-1}(A)$  is closed in  $(X_1, d_1)$  whenever  $A$  is closed in  $(X_2, d_2)$ . **(4 marks)**

(b) Show that  $f^{-1}(B)$  is open in  $(X_1, d_1)$  whenever  $B$  is open in  $(X_2, d_2)$ . **(2 marks)**

(iv) Which of the following sets are open, closed, both or neither in  $(\mathbb{R}^3, d_2)$ ? You must present reasoning to support your conclusions. Here  $d_2$  is the usual (Euclidean) metric on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(a)  $A_1 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3; -1 \leq x + y^2 + z^3 \leq 1\}$ . **(3 marks)**

(b)  $A_2 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3; -1 < x + y^2 + z^3 < 1\}$ . **(2 marks)**

(c)  $A_3 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3; -1 < x + y^2 + z^3 \leq 1\}$ . **(5 marks)**

(v) Let  $(X, d_1)$  and  $(Y, d_2)$  be metric spaces for which  $X \subseteq Y$  and there exists  $K > 0$  so that  $d_2(x, y) \leq Kd_1(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Show that the inclusion map  $\theta : X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous, where  $\theta(x) = x$  for all  $x \in X$ . **(3 marks)**

- 4 (i) Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Explain what it means for a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow X$
- (a) to be a *contraction*, (2 marks)
- (b) to have a *fixed point*. (1 mark)
- (ii) Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a contraction. Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and define a sequence  $(x_n)$  by  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
- (a) Deduce that there exists  $0 \leq k < 1$  such that for all  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ,
- $$d(x_{n+1}, x_n) \leq k^n d(x_1, x_0).$$
- (4 marks)
- (b) Prove that for  $m > n$ ,
- $$d(x_n, x_m) \leq \frac{k^n}{1 - k} d(x_1, x_0),$$
- and hence show that  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence. (6 marks)
- (c) Explain why the sequence  $(x_n)$  has a limit  $x$ , and then show that  $x$  is the *unique* fixed point of  $f$ . (7 marks)
- (iii) Define  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  by

$$f(x, y) = \left( \frac{5}{3} - \frac{2y}{3}, \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2x}{3} \right).$$

Show that  $f$  is a contraction on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (with its usual metric). (5 marks)

- 5 (i) Explain carefully what it means for a metric space to be (a) complete, (b) compact. (4 marks)
- (ii) Which of the following sets are either compact, complete, both or neither. Give reasoning to support your answer, quoting any results you need from the course.
- (a)  $[1, \infty)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  with its usual metric. (2 marks)
- (b) The closed ball  $B[(0, 1, 0), 2]$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with its usual metric. (3 marks)
- (c) The set  $\{f_1, f_2, f_3\}$  in  $C[(0, 1), d_\infty)$  where  $f_1(x) = 1 - x$ ,  $f_2(x) = \sin(x)$  and  $f_3(x) = \cos(2x)$ . Here  $d_\infty$  is defined as in question 2. (3 marks)
- (iii) If  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in a metric space  $(X, d)$  which has a subsequence  $(x_{n_j})$  converging to  $x$ , show that the sequence  $(x_n)$  also converges to  $x$ . Hence prove that every compact metric space is complete. (8 marks)
- (iv) If  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are compact sets in a metric space  $(X, d)$ , show that  $C_1 \cup C_2$  is also compact. (5 marks)

**End of Question Paper**