

TOPIC LIST

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Real Variables, Math 5201

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1. Definitions and Notation

- (a) Operations on sets:  $A \cup B, A \cap B, A \setminus B, A^c$
- (b)  $A \times B$
- (c) Function, domain, codomain=target, image=range
- (d)  $f(A), f^{-1}(A)$  (Image and inverse image of  $A$ )
- (e)  $\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$
- (f) Definition of  $\mathbb{R}$  as the collection of all “cuts” of the rationals.
- (g) For a set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ , upper bound, lower bound, Least upper bound (lub), greatest lower bound (glb)
- (h) For  $\mathbb{R}$ : least upper bound property, greatest upper bound property
- (i) Metric Space:  $M$  or  $(M, d)$ , subspace, (Cartesian) product space
- (j) Complete metric space (every Cauchy sequence converges)
- (k) Topological Space, subspace, (Cartesian) product space
- (l) For a set  $A \subset M$ : bounded, unbounded
- (m)  $\chi_A$  (or  $1_A$ , the indicator function of  $A$ )
- (n) Sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $M$ , subsequence, bounded, monotone in  $\mathbb{R}$
- (o)  $\epsilon, \delta$  definition for the limit of a function  $f : M \rightarrow N$ , as  $x \rightarrow a$ , including one-sided limits when  $M = \mathbb{R}$ .
- (p)  $\epsilon, N$  definition for a sequence to i) converge to  $L$ , ii) be Cauchy. (in  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $M$ )
- (q) limsup and liminf of a real sequence
- (r)  $M, N$  definition for a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  to diverge to  $+\infty$  (or  $-\infty$ ).
- (s) Definition for a series to converge.
- (t) Cardinality:  $A \sim B$  if there is a bijection between  $A$  and  $B$ . ( $A$  is “equinumerous” with  $B$ , or  $A$  has the same cardinality as  $B$ )
- (u)  $A$  is countably infinite ( $A \sim \mathbb{N}$ )
- (v) Topology (in metric spaces): open, closed, limits of  $A$ , accumulation (cluster) points of  $A$ ,  $\bar{A} = cl(A) = cl_M(A)$  = the closure of  $A$  (in  $M$ ),  $A^\circ = int(A)$  = the interior of  $A$ ,  $\partial A$  = the boundary of  $A$ , open ball =  $M_r x = B(x, r) = B_r(x)$
- (w) homeomorphism
- (x) Continuity of  $f : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$  at  $a$ :
  - i.  $\epsilon, \delta$
  - ii.  $x_n \rightarrow a \Rightarrow f(x_n) \rightarrow f(a)$
- (y) Continuity of  $f : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$  on  $M_1$ :
  - i. Continuous at each  $a \in M_1$  using any of the above notions of continuous at a point.
  - ii. Inverse image of any open set is open
  - iii. Inverse image of any closed set is closed
- (z) Uniform continuity of  $f : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$  on  $M_1$ . ( $\epsilon$ - $\delta$ )

2. Examples, results and constructions to know:

- (a) Definition of a “candidate” for the least upper bound of a subset  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  using the ideas and notation of cuts.
  - (b) “Candidate for the limit of a Cauchy (bounded) sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ .”
  - (c) Relationships between sets:
    - i. DeMorgan’s laws:  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$ ;  $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$
    - ii.  $f^{-1}(A \cup B) = f^{-1}(A) \cup f^{-1}(B)$
    - iii.  $f^{-1}(A \cap B) = f^{-1}(A) \cap f^{-1}(B)$
    - iv.  $f(A \cup B) = f(A) \cup f(B)$
    - v.  $f(A \cap B) \subseteq f(A) \cap f(B)$ . Know an example showing strict inclusion.
    - vi.  $f(A) \setminus f(B) \subseteq f(A \setminus B)$ . Know an example showing strict inclusion.
  - (d) Series convergence tests: geometric, basic comparison, limit comparison, integral test, ratio test (with limsup/liminf), root test (with limsup/liminf)
  - (e) Specific metrics for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ : Euclidean, max, sum
  - (f) The discrete metric ( $d(x,y) = 0$  or  $1$ ) for any metric space
  - (g) Examples: A collection of closed sets whose union is not closed; a collection of open sets whose intersection is not open.
3. Proofs to know:
- (a) Sequence and series proofs:
    - i. Proof that the limit of a specific function or sequence exists.
    - ii. A sequence that converges is Cauchy (in  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $M$ )
    - iii. A Cauchy sequence is bounded (in  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $M$ )
    - iv. (MCT) A nondecreasing real sequence that is bounded above converges to its least upper bound.
    - v. Basic comparison test for convergence/divergence of a series of positive terms. (Show partial sums are bounded.)
    - vi. Proof that a specific p-series converges/diverges using the proof techniques of the integral test (not just quoting the integral test). (Show partial sums are bounded.)
    - vii. Proof of the ratio test for convergence of a series with positive terms in the case that  $\limsup a_{n+1}/a_n = L < 1$ . (Show partial sums are bounded.)
  - (b) Cardinality equivalences and inequivalences.
    - i.  $\mathbb{N} \sim 2\mathbb{N}$ . (The natural numbers are equivalent to the even natural numbers.) Explicit construction.
    - ii.  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable. More generally, countable unions of countable sets are countable.
    - iii. If  $A$  and  $B$  are countable, so is  $A \times B$ .
    - iv. The unit interval  $[0, 1]$  is not countable. Assume  $[0, 1]$  is the set of infinite decimal expansions which do not end in an infinite string of 9’s. (Proof by contradiction.)
    - v.  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational
  - (c) Metric Space results:
    - i. Properties of open and closed sets, for example  $A_\alpha$  open  $\Rightarrow \cup A_\alpha$ ,  $A_1 \cap A_2$  both are open,  $\overline{A}$  is closed,  $M_r x$  is open,  $\overline{A} = \text{limits}(A)$ .
    - ii. Show  $A$  open in  $M \Leftrightarrow A^c$  closed in  $M$ .
    - iii. Uniqueness of limit of a convergent sequence (proof) ( $\epsilon, N$  proof)
    - iv. Any direction of equivalence of  $\epsilon$ - $\delta$ , sequence, and open set definitions of continuity on a whole space.
4. (Pieces of) HW problems might be asked on the test. In particular: Ch 1: 2a, 11; Ch 2: 3,6b,7
5. Anything else we’ve covered that I think is easy.