



**PART I** [5 points each] *Definitions & statements of theorems*

Be precise and careful.

1. State the *Intermediate Value Theorem*.

- Let  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be continuous and assume that  $f(a) < f(b)$ . Then  $\forall z \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  
 $f(a) \leq z \leq f(b) \Rightarrow \exists c \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(c) = z$ .

2. State the *Maximum Theorem*.

- Let  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be continuous. Then  $f(x)$  has a maximum and minimum on  $[a, b]$ .

3. State the *Squeeze Theorem* for functions.

- Suppose that  $f(x) \leq g(x) \leq h(x)$  for  $x \approx p$ . Then  
 $f(x) \rightarrow L$  and  $h(x) \rightarrow L$  as  $x \rightarrow p \Rightarrow g(x) \rightarrow L$  as  $x \rightarrow p$

4. State the *Limit Location Theorem* for functions.

- If the limits exist,

$$f(x) \leq M \text{ for } x \not\approx p \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) \leq M$$

5. Define *sequential compactness*.

- A set  $S \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  is **sequentially compact** if every sequence of points in  $S$  has a subsequence converging to a point in  $S$ .

6. State the *Positivity Theorem*.

- If  $f$  is continuous at  $x = p$ , and  $f(p) > 0$ , then  $f(x) > 0$  for  $x \approx p$ .

7. Define *sequential continuity*.

- $F$  is **sequentially continuous** at  $x = p$  if given  $\{x_n\}$ ,  $x_n \rightarrow p \Rightarrow f(x_n) \rightarrow f(p)$

## PART II [6 pts each] Counter-Examples

Each of the following 9 assertions is false. Give an explicit counter-example to illustrate this. Answer any 7 of the 9. You may answer more than 7 for extra credit.

1. If  $H: (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous, then  $H$  is bounded.

Counterexample:

$$\text{Let } H(x) = 1/x \quad \forall x \in (0, 1).$$

2. Given two functions  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  and  $g: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  such that each is *discontinuous* at  $x = 1/3$ , then  $fg$  is discontinuous at  $x = \frac{1}{3}$

Counterexample:

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3} & \text{if } x = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{Let } g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Then  $(fg)(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$

3. Let  $I = (0, 1)$ . If  $g: I \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous, then  $g(I)$  is not a compact interval.

*Counterexample:* Let  $g(x) = 3 \quad \forall x \in (0, 1)$ .

Then  $g(I) = [3, 3]$ .

4. There does not exist a continuous function  $f: (0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  that has neither a global maximum nor a global minimum on  $(0, 1]$  and does not have the limit  $\infty$  or  $-\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^+$ .

*Counterexample:* 
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x} \sin \frac{1}{x} & \text{if } x \in \left(0, \frac{1}{\pi}\right] \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in \left(\frac{1}{\pi}, 1\right] \end{cases}$$

*Note that for this example,  $x = 0$  is an essential discontinuity.*

5. If two functions,  $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  and  $g: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  satisfy the conditions that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} g(x) = 13 \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 13} f(x) = 17$$

then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f \circ g(x)$  exists and equals 17.

*Counterexample:*

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \begin{cases} 17 & \text{if } x \neq 13 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 13 \end{cases} \quad \text{and let } g(x) = \begin{cases} 13 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

6. There does not exist a function  $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  that is continuous *only* at  $x = 0$ .

*Counterexample:*

Let  $f(x) = x D(x)$  where  $D$  is the Dirichlet function defined by:

$$D(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in \mathbf{Q} \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin \mathbf{Q} \end{cases}$$

7. If  $F: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous and  $\{b_n\}$  is a sequence in  $[0, 1]$  for which  $\{F(b_n)\}$  converges, then  $\{b_n\}$  must converge.

*Counterexample:*

Define  $F(x) = 5$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . Define  $b_n = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \in \mathbf{N} \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \in \mathbf{N} \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$

8. If neither  $S$  nor  $T$  is a sequentially compact subset of  $\mathbf{R}$ , then  $S \cup T$  is not sequentially compact.

*Counterexample:* Let  $S = [0, 3]$  and  $T = [2, 5]$ .

9. Let  $h: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be a function that achieves a global maximum on  $[0, 1]$ . Then the function  $F(x) = (h(x))^4$  also achieves a global maximum value on the interval  $[0, 1]$ .

Counterexample: Define  $h(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$

Note that  $h$  has a global maximum value of 0 on  $[0, 1]$  but that  $(h(x))^4$  has no global maximum on  $[0, 1]$ .

### PART III [12 pts each] Proofs

Instructions: Select any 4 of the following 6 problems. You may answer more than 4 to obtain extra credit.

1. Using only the definition of continuity, prove that the function

$$g(x) = \frac{x^4+5}{x^4+x+9} \text{ is continuous at } x = 0.$$

Solution: To begin, we conjecture that  $g(x) \rightarrow \frac{5}{9}$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given. Let  $\delta = \min\left\{1, \frac{7}{13}\right\}$

Now since  $|x| \leq \delta \leq 1$ , clearly  $|x| \leq 1$  and so

$$|4x^3 - 5| \leq 4|x^3| + 9 \leq 13$$

Also

$$|x^4 + x + 9| \geq |9| - |x^4| - |x| \geq 9 - 2 = 7$$

Now let  $\delta = \min\left\{1, \frac{7}{13}\epsilon\right\}$ ; we find:

$$|g(x) - 1| = \left| \frac{x^4+5}{x^4+x+9} - \frac{5}{9} \right| = \left| \frac{9(x^4+5) - 5(x^4+x+9)}{9(x^4+x+9)} - 1 \right| =$$

$$\left| \frac{4x^4-5x}{x^4+x+9} \right| \leq \frac{|4x^4-5x|}{7} = |x| \frac{|4x^3-5|}{7} \leq \frac{13}{7} |x| < \frac{13}{7} \delta < \epsilon$$

Hence  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 0$ .

(Alternatively, one may use the  $K$ - $\epsilon$  principle.)

2. (a) Let  $p \in \mathbf{R}$ . Write the negation of the statement  $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is *continuous* at  $x = p$ .

(Note: “ $f$  is not continuous at  $p$ ” is not a sufficient answer. Use  $\varepsilon$  and  $\delta$  in your answer.)

*Solution:*

Since the definition of continuity of  $f$  at  $x = p$  is:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \text{ such that } |f(x) - f(p)| < \varepsilon \text{ whenever } x \in \mathbf{R} \text{ and } |x - p| < \delta,$$

the logical negation of this sentence is:

$$\exists \varepsilon > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \exists x \in \mathbf{R} \text{ such that } |f(x) - f(p)| \geq \varepsilon \text{ and } |x - p| < \delta.$$

(b) Let  $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  and  $p \in \mathbf{R}$ . Write the negation of the statement  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = \infty$ .

*Solution:* Since the definition of  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = \infty$  is

$$\forall M > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \text{ such that } |x - p| < \delta \Rightarrow f(x) > M,$$

the logical negation of this sentence is:

$$\exists M > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \exists x \text{ such that } |x - p| < \delta \text{ and } f(x) \leq M.$$

3. Let  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be continuous. Prove that  $\exists p \in [0, 1]$  such that  $f(p) = p$ .

*Hint:* Consider the two curves  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = x$  on  $[0, 1]$ . Sketch a possible graph.

*Solution:* Define  $h: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  as follows:  $h(x) = f(x) - x$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . Now since  $f$  and the identity function are continuous,  $h$  must be continuous by the linearity theorem. Next note that  $h(0) = f(0) - 0 \leq 0$ , by definition of  $f$ , and that  $h(1) = f(1) - 1 \geq 0$ . Now, if either  $h(0) = 0$  or  $h(1) = 0$ , then we are done, for it follows that either  $f(0) = 0$  or  $f(1) = 1$ . So let us assume that  $h(0) < 0$  and  $h(1) > 0$ . Then, invoking Bolzano's Theorem, there exists  $p \in [a, b]$  such that  $h(p) = 0$ . And so,  $f(p) = p$ . (Note:  $p$  is called a **Fixed Point** of  $f$ .)

4. A function  $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is said to be a *Lipschitz function* if there exists a constant  $L > 0$  such that

$$\text{for all } x, t \in \mathbf{R} \quad |f(x) - f(t)| < L|x - t|.$$

Prove that if  $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is a Lipschitz function then  $f$  is continuous at each  $p \in \mathbf{R}$ .

*Hint:* Use the  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -definition of continuity.

*Solution:* Let  $p \in \mathbf{R}$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given.

We choose  $\delta = \frac{\varepsilon}{L}$ . Then

$$|f(x) - f(p)| < L|x - p| < L\delta = \varepsilon$$

So  $f$  is continuous at  $x = p$ .

5. Determine all values of the constants  $A$  and  $B$  so that the following function is *continuous* for all values of  $x$ .

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} Ax - B & \text{if } x \leq -1 \\ 2x^2 + 3Ax + B & \text{if } -1 < x \leq 1 \\ 4 & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

*Solution:* If  $f$  is continuous at  $x = -1$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x)$

Thus we obtain:  $-A - B = 2 - 3A + B$ .

Equivalently:  $A - B = 1$  (\*)

If  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 1$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$

Thus we obtain:  $2 + 3A + B = 4$ ;

Equivalently:  $3A + B = 2$ . (\*\*)

Solving equations (\*) and (\*\*) simultaneously, we obtain:

$$A = \frac{3}{4} \text{ and } B = -\frac{1}{4}$$

6. Prove that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \int_0^1 \frac{t^2}{1+t^4x} dt = \frac{1}{3}$ .

*Solution:* First observe that, since  $x \rightarrow 0^+$  and  $0 \leq t \leq 1$

$$\frac{t^2}{1+x} \leq \frac{t^2}{1+t^4x} \leq t^2$$

Using the basic properties of the Riemann integral:

$$\frac{1}{1+x} \int_0^1 t^2 dt = \int_0^1 \frac{t^2}{1+x} dt \leq \int_0^1 \frac{t^2}{1+t^4x} dt \leq \int_0^1 t^2 dt = \frac{1}{3}$$

Next, since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{1+x} \int_0^1 t^2 dt = \int_0^1 t^2 dt = \frac{1}{3}$ , the squeeze theorem yields the desired result.