ANALYSIS II (Michaelmas 2009): EXAMPLES 3

The questions are not equally difficult. Those marked with * are intended as 'additional'; attempt them if you have time after the first eleven questions. Comments, corrections are welcome at any time and may be sent to `a.g.kovalev@dpmms.cam.ac.uk`.

1. (i) For each of the following metric spaces Y

$$\text{(a) } Y = \mathbb{R}, \qquad \text{(b) } Y = [0,2], \qquad \text{(c) } Y = (1,3), \qquad \text{(d) } Y = (1,2] \cup (3,4],$$

with metric $d(x,y) = |x-y|$, is the set $(1,2]$ an open subset of Y? Is it closed?

(ii) Suppose that X is a metric space and A_1, A_2 are two closed balls in X with radii respectively r_1, r_2, such that $r_1 > r_2 > 0$. Can A_1 be a proper subset of A_2 (i.e. $A_1 \subset A_2$ and $A_1 \neq A_2$)?

2. For each of the following sets X, determine whether or not the given function d defines a metric on X. In each case where the function does define a metric, describe the open ball $B_\varepsilon(x)$ for each $x \in X$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ small.
(i) $X = \mathbb{R}^n$; $d(x,y) = \min\{|x_1 - y_1|, |x_2 - y_2|, \dots, |x_n - y_n|\}$.
(ii) $X = \mathbb{Z}$; $d(x,x) = 0$ and for $x \neq y$, $d(x,y) = 2^n$, where $x - y = 2^n a$ with n a non-negative integer and a an odd integer.
(iii) X is the set of functions from $\mathbb{N}$ to $\mathbb{N}$; $d(f,f) = 0$ and for $f \neq g$, $d(f,g) = 2^{-n}$ for the least n such that $f(n) \neq g(n)$.
(iv) $X = \mathbb{C}$; $d(z,z) = 0$ and for $z \neq w$, $d(z,w) = |z| + |w|$.
(v) $X = \mathbb{C}$; $d(z,w) = |z-w|$ if z and w lie on the same straight line through the origin, $d(z,w) = |z| + |w|$ otherwise.

3. Let d and d' denote the usual and discrete metrics respectively on $\mathbb{R}$. Show that all functions f from $\mathbb{R}$ with metric d' to $\mathbb{R}$ with metric d are continuous. What are the continuous functions from $\mathbb{R}$ with metric d to $\mathbb{R}$ with metric d'?

4. (a) Show that the intersection of an arbitrary collection of closed subsets of a metric space must be closed.
(b) We define the *closure* of a subset Y of a metric space X to be the smallest closed set $cl(Y)$ containing Y. Why does the result of (a) tell us that this definition makes sense?
(c) Show that

$$cl(Y) = \{x \in X : x_n \to x \text{ for some sequence } (x_n) \text{ in } Y\}.$$

5. Let V be a normed space, $x \in V$ and $r > 0$. Prove that the closure of the open ball $B_r(x)$ is the closed ball $A_r(x) = \{y \in V : \|x - y\| \leq r\}$. Give an example to show that, in a general metric space (X,d), the closure of the open ball $B_r(x)$ need not be the closed ball $A_r(x) = \{y \in X : \|x - y\| \leq r\}$.

6. Show that the space of real sequences $a = (a_n)$, such that all but finitely many of the a_n are zero, is not complete in the norm defined by $\|a\|_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$. Is there an obvious 'completion'?

7. Show that the equation $\cos x = x$ has a unique real solution. Find this solution to some reasonable accuracy using an electronic pocket calculator (remember to work in radians!), and justify the claimed accuracy of your approximation.

8. Let $I = [0,R]$ be an interval and let $C(I)$ be the space of continuous functions on I. Show that, for any $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, we may define a norm by $\|f\|_\alpha = \sup_{x \in I} |f(x) e^{-\alpha x}|$, and that the norm $\|\cdot\|_\alpha$ is Lipschitz equivalent to the uniform norm $\|f\| = \sup_{x \in I} |f(x)|$.

Now suppose that $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, and Lipschitz in the second variable $|\varphi(t,x) - \varphi(t,y)| \leq K|x - y|$, for all $t, x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Consider the map T from $C(I)$ to itself sending f to $y_0 + \int_0^x \varphi(t, f(t))dt$. Give an example to show that T need not be a contraction under the uniform norm. Show, however, that T is a contraction under the norm $\|\cdot\|_\alpha$ for some α, and deduce that the differential equation $f' = \varphi(x, f(x))$ has a unique solution on I satisfying $f(0) = y_0$.

9. Let (X,d) be a non-empty complete metric space. Suppose $f : X \to X$ is a contraction and $g : X \to X$ is a function which commutes with f, i.e. such that $f(g(x)) = g(f(x))$ for all $x \in X$. Show that g has a fixed point. Must this fixed point be unique?

10. Give an example of a non-empty complete metric space (X,d) and a function $f : X \to X$ satisfying $d(f(x), f(y)) < d(x,y)$ for all $x, y \in X$ with $x \neq y$, but such that f has no fixed point. Suppose now that X is a non-empty closed bounded subset of $\mathbb{R}^n$ with the Euclidean metric. Show that in this case f must have a fixed point. If $g : X \to X$ satisfies $d(g(x), g(y)) \leq d(x,y)$ for all $x, y \in X$, must g have a fixed point?

11. (i) Suppose that (X,d) is a non-empty complete metric space, and $f : X \to X$ a continuous map such that, for any $x, y \in X$, the sum $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d(f^n(x), f^n(y))$ converges. (f^n denotes the function f applied n times.) Show that f has a unique fixed point.
(ii) By considering the function $x \mapsto \max\{x-1, 0\}$ on the interval $[0,\infty) \subset \mathbb{R}$, show that a function satisfying the hypotheses of (i) need not be a contraction mapping.
(iii) Give an example to show that the result of (i) need not be true if f is not assumed to be continuous.

12.* A metric d on a set X is called an *ultrametric* if it satisfies the following stronger form of the triangle inequality:

$$d(x,z) \leq \max\{d(x,y), d(y,z)\} \quad \text{for all } x, y, z \in X.$$

Which of the metrics in question 2 are ultrametrics? Show that in an ultrametric space 'every triangle is isosceles' (that is, at least two of $d(x,z)$, $d(y,z)$ and $d(x,y)$ must be equal), and deduce that every open ball in an ultrametric space is a closed set. Does it follow that every open set must be closed?

13.* There is a persistent 'urban myth' about the mathematics research student who spent three years writing a thesis about properties of 'antimetric spaces', where an *antimetric* on a set X is a function $d : X \times X \to \mathbb{R}$ satisfying the same axioms as a metric except that the triangle inequality is reversed (i.e. $d(x,z) \geq d(x,y) + d(y,z)$ for all x, y, z). Why would such a thesis be unlikely to be considered worth a Ph.D.?

14.* Let X be the space of bounded real sequences. Is there a metric on X such that a sequence of vectors $x^{(n)} \to x$ in this metric if and only if $x^{(n)}$ converges to x in every coordinate (i.e. $x_k^{(n)} \to x_k$ in $\mathbb{R}$ for every k)? Is there a norm with this property?

15.* Let (X,d) be a non-empty complete metric space and let $f : X \to X$ be a function such that for each positive integer n we have
(i) if $d(x,y) < n+1$ then $d(f(x), f(y)) < n$; and
(ii) if $d(x,y) < 1/n$ then $d(f(x), f(y)) < 1/(n+1)$.
Must f have a fixed point?