

MA 440 (Honors)  
Practice Problems For Final (Revised on Dec. 11, 2009)

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**The practice problems for final include the problems from homeworks, quizzes, midterms and the following. The majority problems on the final will be similar to the problems in these 4 sets of problems.**

1. If  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$  is irrational and  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $r \neq 0$ , show  $r + \xi$  is irrational.
2. If  $a > -1, a \in \mathbb{R}$ , show that  $(1 + a)^n \geq 1 + na$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by using mathematical induction.
3. If  $a > -1, a \in \mathbb{R}$ , show that  $(1 + a)^r \geq 1 + ra$  for all  $r \geq 1$ .
4. State the *Supremum Property*
5. Prove the *Archimedean Property*, namely, show for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $x < n$ .
6. State the *Nested Cells Property*
7. (Schwarz inequality) Let  $V$  be an inner product space. Define

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{x \cdot x} \text{ for } x \in V$$

show  $x \cdot y \leq \|x\|\|y\|$ .

8. Let  $S$  be a set in  $\mathbb{R}^p$ . State the definition that a point  $x$  is a boundary point of  $S$ . State the definition that a point  $x$  is a cluster point of  $S$ . What are the differences?
9. Give an example such that  $x$  is a cluster point, but not a boundary point. Also give an example that  $x$  is a boundary point, but not a cluster point.
10. Show that if  $F$  is closed, then any cluster point of  $F$  is in  $F$ .
11. Show that if  $F$  is closed, then any boundary point of  $F$  is in  $F$ .
12. Prove that the set of all cluster points of  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^p$  is closed.
13. Let  $S$  be a subset in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  and denote  $\partial S$  be the set of all boundary points of  $S$ , Show that  $\partial S$  is closed. **Answer:** Show the complement is open
14. Show that if  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  is open, then it is the union of a countable collection of open intervals.

15. State the definition for a set  $K$  to be compact. Show directly from definition that  $K = \{(x, y) : |x| + |y| < 1\}$  is not compact.

16. Show that if a set  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  is compact, then it is bounded.

**Answer:** Let  $G_n = B_n(0)$  which is the open ball centered at 0 with radius  $n$ , then  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} G_n = \mathbb{R}^p \supset K$ . So  $\{G_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is an open covering of  $K$ . Since  $K$  is compact, there is a finite open covering, i.e. there exists  $m$ , such that

$$K \subset \cup B_{n_1} \cup B_{n_2} \cup \dots \cup B_{n_m} \subset B_L$$

where  $L = \max\{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m\}$ . Therefore  $K$  is bounded.

17. Show that if a set  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  is compact, then it is closed.

18. Show that if a set  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  is compact, then for a sequence  $(a_n)$  in  $K$ , if  $(a_n)$  converges to  $a$ , then  $a$  is in  $K$ .

19. Let  $D$  be a subset in  $\mathbb{R}^p$ , give the definition for  $D$  to be disconnected.

**Answer:** There exist two **open** sets  $A, B$  such that  $A \cap D$  and  $B \cap D$  are disjoint, non-empty and have union  $D$

20. Using the fact that  $\mathbb{R}^p$  is connected, show that the only subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^p$  which are both open and closed are empty set  $\phi$  and  $\mathbb{R}^p$ .

21. Give an example that  $A$  and  $B$  are connected subsets in  $\mathbb{R}^p$ , but  $A \cap B$  is disconnected.

**Answer:**  $A = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}$ ,  $B = \{(x, y) : y = 0\}$ , then  $A \cap B = \{(1, 0), (-1, 0)\}$

22. Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^p$  and let  $x$  be any point in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  such that  $x$  is not in  $K$ . Prove that there exist open sets  $U$  and  $V$ , where  $U$  and  $V$  are disjoint,  $U$  contains  $K$  and  $V$  contains  $x$ .

**Answer:**  $K$  is compact, from Heine-Borel Theorem,  $K$  is closed, and then  $\mathcal{C}(K)$ —the compliment of  $K$ —is open. Since  $x \in \mathcal{C}(K)$  which is open, there exists a  $\epsilon > 0$ , such that  $B_\epsilon(x) \subset \mathcal{C}(K)$ . Now let  $V = B_{\epsilon/2}(x)$  and  $U = \{y : \|x - y\| > \epsilon/2\}$ , then  $U$  and  $V$  are open and disjoint,  $V$  contains  $x$  and  $U$  contains  $K$  because  $K \subset \mathcal{C}(B_\epsilon(x)) = \{y : \|x - y\| \geq \epsilon\} \subset U$ .

23. Let  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  be compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^p$ . Then there exist  $x_1 \in K_1$  and  $x_2 \in K_2$  such that for all  $z_1 \in K_1$  and  $z_2 \in K_2$ ,  $\|z_1 - z_2\| \geq \|x_1 - x_2\|$ .

**Answer:** Let

$$r = \inf_{z_1 \in K_1, z_2 \in K_2} \|z_1 - z_2\|.$$

By the definition of the infimum, there exist  $a_n \in K_1, b_n \in K_2$ , such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|a_n - b_n\| = r.$$

By the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem, a subsequence  $(a_{n_k})$  of  $(a_n)$  will converge to a  $x_1 \in K_1$ . Apply the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem to the subsequence  $(b_{n_k})$ , there is a subsequence  $(b_{n_{k_l}})$  that will converge to  $x_2 \in K_2$ . Therefore

$$a_{n_{k_l}} - b_{n_{k_l}} \rightarrow x_1 - x_2.$$

So, from homework 14.D

$$\|a_{n_{k_l}} - b_{n_{k_l}}\| \rightarrow \|x_1 - x_2\|$$

and  $LHS \rightarrow r$  yields  $\|x_1 - x_2\| = r$ .

24. Show that if a monotone increasing sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is bounded, then it is convergent. Also  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \sup x_n$ .
25. Show *Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem*. Namely, let  $(x_n)$  be a bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  contains infinite distinct values. Then it has a convergent subsequence.
26. State the definition for  $(x_n)$  to be a Cauchy sequence. Show that  $(s_n)$  where  $s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}$  is not a Cauchy sequence.
27. Show that a bounded divergent sequence  $(x_n)$  must has two convergent subsequences which converge to different values.
28. Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in a compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^p$  that is not convergent. Show there are two subsequences of this sequence that are convergent to different limit points. **Answer:** same as previous
29. Let  $s_n = (-2)^{(-2)^n}$ . Find  $\limsup s_n$  and  $\liminf s_n$  and justify your answer. **Answer:**  $\infty, 0$
30. Let  $(x_n)$  be a positive sequence and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n^{1/n} < 1$ , show that there exists a  $r$  with  $0 < r < 1$ ,  $0 \leq x_n < r^n$  for sufficiently large  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
31. Give the definition for  $u \in \mathbb{R}$  to be an infimum of a non-empty subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
**Answer:**  $u$  is greater than any other lower bound.
32. Let  $\{x_n\}$ ,  $\{y_n\}$  and  $\{z_n\}$  be given and satisfy

$$x_n \leq y_n \leq z_n, \quad \lim x_n = \lim z_n = L$$

Prove by definition  $\lim y_n = L$ .

**Answer:**

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists n_1, \text{ for all } n > n_1, -\epsilon < x_n - L < \epsilon$$

$$\text{there also } \exists n_2, \text{ for all } n > n_2, -\epsilon < z_n - L < \epsilon$$

since

$$x_n \leq y_n \leq z_n,$$

we have

$$-\epsilon < x_n - L \leq y_n - L \leq z_n - L < \epsilon \text{ for all } n > \max\{n_1, n_2\}$$

namely

$$\|y_n - L\| < \epsilon \text{ for all } n > \max\{n_1, n_2\}.$$

- 33.** Show that if  $\sum a_n$  converges and  $a_n \geq 0$ , then  $\sum \frac{\sqrt{a_n}}{n}$  converges. **Answer:**  $\frac{\sqrt{a_n}}{n} \leq a_n + \frac{1}{n^2}$
- 34.** Show that if  $\sum a_n$  diverges and  $a_n \geq 0$ , then  $\sum \frac{1+a_n}{a_n}$  diverges. **Answer:**  $\frac{1+a_n}{a_n} \geq 1$ , divergence test gives the result.
- 35.** Let  $f(x)$  be continuous with domain  $D(f)$ ,  $K \subset D(f)$  and  $K$  is compact. Show  $f(K)$  is bounded.
- 36.** Let  $f(x)$  be continuous with domain  $D(f)$ ,  $K \subset D(f)$  and  $K$  is compact. Show  $f(K)$  is closed.
- 37.** Show that if  $f(x)$  is a contraction from  $R^p$  to  $R^p$ , then  $f(x)$  has a fixed point.
- 38.** Show that if  $(f_n(x))$  converges uniformly to  $f(x)$  and  $(f_n(x))$  are continuous on  $D$  where  $D$  is a compact set in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $f(x)$  is continuous on  $D$ . (Where the “uniformly” is used?)
- 39.** If a sequence  $(f_n(x))$  converges uniformly to a function  $f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$ , and each  $f_n(x)$  is continuous and bounded. Show that  $f(x)$  is continuous and bounded. **Answer:**  $f(x)$  is continuous by uniform convergence and  $f(x)$  is bounded by  $f(x)$  is continuous on a compact set.
- 40.** If a sequence  $(f_n(x))$  converges uniformly to a function  $f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$ , and each  $f_n(x)$  is continuous and bounded. Show directly by definition that  $f(x)$  is uniform continuous.
- 41.** Show that if  $f'_n(x)$  converges uniformly to  $g(x)$  in  $J = [a, b]$  and  $f_n(x)$  converges at  $x_0$ , then  $f_n(x)$  converges to  $f(x)$  where  $f'(x) = g(x)$ .

**42.** Let

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 2, \\ x^3 & \text{for } 2 \leq x < 3 \end{cases}.$$

Evaluate the Riemann-Stieltjes integral

$$\int_0^3 x dg(x)$$

and briefly justifying your computation. **Answer:**  $\frac{745}{12}$

**43.** Let

$$g_n(x) = \begin{cases} nx & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1/n, \\ \frac{n}{n-1}(1-x) & \text{for } 1/n < x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Show that  $(g_n)$  converges pointwise on  $[0, 1]$  and find the limit function. Does it converge uniformly?

44. Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence of real numbers such that  $|x_n| \leq \frac{1}{2^n}$ , and set  $y_n = x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n$ . Show the sequence  $(y_n)$  converge.

**Answer:** We will show that  $y_n$  is Cauchy. For any  $j > k$ :

$$|y_j - y_k| \leq \sum_n = k + 1^j \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2^j} - \frac{1}{2^k} \leq \frac{1}{2^j}$$

For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , let  $K$  be  $2^K = \epsilon$  ( $K = \frac{\ln 2}{\ln \epsilon}$ ), then for  $j, k > K$   $|y_j - y_k| < \epsilon$ .

45. Show that if  $f$  is continuous and bounded on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  is Riemann integrable.
46. Show that if  $f$  is a bounded function on  $[0, 1]$  and if for every  $a > 0$ ,  $f$  is Riemann integrable on  $[a, 1]$ , then  $f$  is integrable on  $[0, 1]$ .
47. State Taylor's Theorem. Give Taylor's Formula using 3 terms (including the remainder) with  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  and  $x_0 = 1$ . In the remainder term, find the point at which the second derivative is evaluated.
48. Prove that if  $f$  has a continuous third derivative and satisfies  $f(0) = f'(0) = f''(0) = 0$  and  $f'''(x) \leq 1$  for  $x \geq 0$ , then  $f(x) \leq x^3/3$  for  $x \geq 0$ .

49. Let

$$f_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n} \cos(2\pi n x^2), x \in [0, 1], n \in \mathbb{N}$$

show that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  converges.

50. Prove or disprove the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin(n^{-2}) \cos(n^{-1})$  converges. **Answer:** yes. Use  $\sin(n^{n-2}) < 1/n^2$
51. Let  $f, f', f''$  be bounded and continuous in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f(0) = f'(0) = 0$ . Show that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(\frac{x}{n})$  converges. **Answer:** using Taylor's theorem  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(\frac{x}{n}) \leq Mx^2 \sum \frac{1}{n^2}$
52. Let  $f(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^2}$ . Compute  $f'(\frac{1}{3})$  and justify each steps which leads to the result. **Answer:**  $3 \log(\frac{3}{2})$ . Steps:  $f(x)$  exists for  $|x| \leq 1$ .  $S'_n(x)$  converges, so one can do term by term. Therefore  $f'(x)$  exists.  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x} \sum \frac{x^k}{k} = \frac{1}{x} \sum \int_0^x t^{k-1} dt = \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x \sum t^{k-1} dt = \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x \frac{1}{1-t} dt$ .

53. Show there does not exist a continuous function  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that

- (a)  $f\{(x, y) : |x| \leq 1, |y| \leq 2\} = \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1]$   
 (b)  $f\{(x, y) : |x| \leq 1, |y| \leq 2\} = [0, \infty)$   
 (c)  $f^{-1}\{x : |x| < 1\} = \{|x| \leq 1, |y| \leq 2\}$   
 (d)  $f^{-1}\{x : |x| \leq 1\} = \{|x| < 1, |y| < 2\}$

**Answer:** For (a), (b)  $f$  maps compact set to compact set. For (c), (d):  $f^{-1}$  (open set) = open set and  $f^{-1}$  (closed set) = closed set

54. Let  $A$  be a non-compact subset of the real line. Show that there exists a continuous function on  $A$  that is unbounded on  $A$ . **Answer:** If  $A$  is unbounded, then let  $f(x) = x$ . If  $A$  is not closed, then there exists  $x_n$  in  $A$  and  $x_n \rightarrow x$  where  $x$  is not in  $A$ . Let  $f(y) = \frac{1}{y-x}$  then  $f$  is continuous but unbounded.
55. Prove that  $2\pi \sin(x) = 1 + x^2$  has at least two real roots and locate disjoint intervals  $(a, b)$ ,  $(c, d)$  which contain them.
56. Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous and satisfy  $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 0$ . Show that  $f(x)$  is uniformly continuous.
57. Let  $f(x)$  be continuous on  $[0, 1]$ . Show that

$$h(x) = \sum \frac{f(x)^n}{(1 + |f(x)|)^n}$$

is also continuous on  $[0, 1]$ . **Answer:** Let  $g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{(1 + |f(x)|)}$ . Then  $g(x) < 1$  and continuous on a compact set. There exists  $C < 1$ ,  $|g(x)| \leq C < 1$ . Therefore

$$\sum \frac{f(x)^n}{(1 + |f(x)|)^n}$$

converges absolutely and uniformly (detail). So  $h(x)$  is continuous on  $[0, 1]$ .

58. Let  $f_n(x) = \frac{xn}{n+1}$  and let  $f(x)$  be the limit function of  $f_n(x)$ . Find  $f(x)$  and show that  $f_n(x)$  does not converge to  $f(x)$  uniformly. **Answer:**  $f(x) = x$  and  $\|f_n - f\|_{\mathbb{R}} = \infty$
59. Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  with the property that there exists a real number  $0 < r < 1$ , and an integer  $N_0$  such that

$$\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \leq r\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| \text{ for } n \geq N_0.$$

Then prove  $(x_n)$  converges.

60. Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^p$  with the property that there exists an integer  $N_0$  such that

$$\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| < \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| \text{ for } n \geq N_0$$

Can you show  $(x_n)$  converges? Justify your answer.

61. Let  $(x_n)$  be an unbounded monotone increasing sequence, show that  $\lim x_n = +\infty$ .
62. True or False. Justify your answer.
- Every sequence has a nondecreasing subsequence.
  - Every sequence has a bounded subsequence.
  - Every bounded sequence has a monotonic subsequence.
  - Every subsequence of a bounded monotonic sequence converges.
  - Every bounded sequence has a convergent subsequence.