

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

160

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

B.Sc. / B.Ed. / B.A.S.S. IV

TITLE OF PAPER : METRIC SPACES

COURSE NUMBER : M431

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF  
SEVEN QUESTIONS.  
2. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN  
SECTION A.  
3. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS  
IN SECTION B.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS : NONE

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL  
PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A

111

QUESTION 1

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Define the following:

- (a) the distance from  $x \in X$  to a subset  $A \subset X$ ; [2]
- (b) the diameter of  $A \subset X$ ; [2]
- (c) the distance between two subsets,  $A$  and  $B$ , of  $X$ ; [2]
- (d) a bounded subset  $A \subset X$ ; [2]
- (e) a bounded mapping  $g$  from a nonempty set  $Y$  to  $X$ ; [2]
- (f) a convergent sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $X$ ; [2]
- (g) a Cauchy sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $X$ ; [2]
- (h) a subspace  $(Y, d_Y)$  of  $(X, d)$ ; [2]
- (i) an open ball  $B(a, r)$  in  $(X, d)$ ; [2]
- (j) an open subset  $F$  of  $X$ . [2]

QUESTION 2

162

(a) Can you find a metric space  $(X, d)$  where:

(i) The interval  $[0, 1]$  is both open and closed? [2]

(ii) The interval  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$  is open but not closed? [2]

Justify your answer in each case.

(b) Describe open balls  $B(a, 3)$ , where  $a = (2, 3)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with respect to the following metrics:

(i) the Chicago metric; [3]

(ii) the London (or UK)-rail metric; [4]

(iii) the New York metric; [4]

(iv) the Raspberry pickers' metric. [3]

(c) Give an example of a metric space in  $\mathbb{R}$ , equipped with the usual metric, such that  $\text{diam}(A^\circ) < \text{diam}(A)$ . [2]

## SECTION B

163

### QUESTION 1

Let  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be the region bounded by the unit disc centered at the origin. Find  $\text{diam}(A)$  with each of the following metrics:

- (a) the Max metric; [4]
- (b) the Chicago metric; [5]
- (c) the London (or UK)-rail metric; [3]
- (c) the New York metric; [4]
- (d) the Raspberry pickers' metric. [4]

### QUESTION 2

- (a) Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space, and let  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  be two sequences in  $X$  such that  $(y_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence and  $d(x_n, y_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Prove that:
  - (i)  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ ; [5]
  - (ii)  $(x_n)$  converges to a limit  $x$  in  $X$  if and only if  $(y_n)$  also converges to  $x$  in  $X$ . [5]
- (b) Prove that every Cauchy sequence in a metric space  $(X, d)$  is bounded. [4]
- (c) Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space, and let  $d'$  be the metric on  $X$  defined by

$$d'(x, y) = \min\{1, d(x, y)\}.$$

Prove that  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, d)$  if and only if  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, d')$ . [6]

QUESTION 3

164

(a) If a sequence  $(x_n)$  is convergent and has limit  $x$ , prove that every subsequence  $(x_{n_k})_{k \geq 1}$  of  $(x_n)$  is convergent and has the same limit  $x$ . [4]

(b) Let  $X = \mathcal{C}[0, 1]$ , the set of all continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$ , and let  $d$  be the metric on  $X$  defined by

$$d(f, g) = \int_0^1 |f(x) - g(x)| \, dx.$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $f_n$  by  $f_n(x) = x^n$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

(i) Show that the sequence  $(f_n)$  converges in  $X$ , and find its limit  $f$ . [3]

(ii) Show that the function  $f$  in Part (i) is not the pointwise limit of the sequence  $(f_n)$ . [3]

(c) Let  $d$  be the metric on  $X = \mathcal{C}[a, b]$  defined by

$$d(f, g) = \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x) - g(x)|.$$

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$ , and suppose that  $(f_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$  to some function  $f$ .

(i) Prove that  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , and hence show that  $(f_n)$  converges in  $(X, d)$ . [5]

(ii) Prove that  $\int_a^b f_n(x) \, dx \rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) \, dx$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . [5]

QUESTION 4

165

- (a) Given a function  $f : (X, d_1) \rightarrow (X, d_2)$ ,
- (i) When is  $f$  said to be continuous in the  $\varepsilon - \delta$  sense?
  - (ii) Give an equivalent definition in terms of open sets.
  - (iii) Assuming  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ , prove that

$$x_n \rightarrow x_0 \Rightarrow f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x_0).$$

[14]

- (b) Prove that the function  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $\pi(x, y) = x$  is continuous when  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are equipped with their usual metrics. Is  $\pi$  uniformly continuous? Justify your answer. [6]

QUESTION 5

- (a) When are two subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of a metric space said to be separated? [2]
- (b) Verify that two nonempty disjoint closed sets in a metric space are separated. [2]
- (c) Give two alternate definitions of connectedness of a subset  $M$  of a metric space  $X$ . [4]
- (d) (i) Prove that if  $X$  is a connected metric space and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function, then  $f(X)$  is connected.
- (ii) Deduce that if  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is continuous, then there exists an  $x \in [0, 1]$  such that  $f(x) = x$ . [12]

END OF EXAMINATION