

1. (5pts) Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Let $h = f * g$, i.e., $h(x) = f(x) * g(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

If f and g are continuous, prove that h is continuous.

Note: Prove it directly using the definition of continuity. You may not simply cite the proposition in the notes that states this result.

f & g are continuous at x_0 :

$$\forall \varepsilon' > 0, \exists \delta_1 \text{ s.t. } |x - x_0| < \delta_1 \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon'$$

$$\delta_2 \quad |x - x_0| < \delta_2 \Rightarrow |g(x) - g(x_0)| < \varepsilon'.$$

Take $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$.

$$\text{WTS: } \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta \text{ s.t. } |x - x_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x)g(x) - f(x_0)g(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

$$|f(x)g(x) - f(x)g(x_0) + f(x)g(x_0) - f(x_0)g(x_0)|$$

$$\leq |f(x)g(x) - f(x)g(x_0)| + |f(x)g(x_0) - f(x_0)g(x_0)|$$

$$= |f(x)| |g(x) - g(x_0)| + |g(x_0)| |f(x) - f(x_0)|$$

$\star f$ not bounded $\forall x!$

Like last time, we need to find bounds for $|f(x)|$ and $|g(x_0)|$.

How do we know $|f(x)|$ is bounded for x s.t. $|x - x_0| < \delta$?

By continuity of f ! We have $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon' \forall x$ s.t. $|x - x_0| < \delta$.

So $\sup_{|x - x_0| < \delta} |f(x)| = M$ exists. We can choose $M > 0$ s.t. $|g(x_0)| < M$.

(You can also write $|f(x)| < |f(x_0)| + \varepsilon'$, where $|f(x_0)|$ is just a constant)

$$|f(x)g(x) - f(x)g(x_0) + f(x)g(x_0) - f(x_0)g(x_0)|$$

$$\leq \underbrace{|f(x)|}_{< M} \underbrace{|g(x) - g(x_0)|}_{< \varepsilon'} + \underbrace{|g(x_0)|}_{< M} \underbrace{|f(x) - f(x_0)|}_{< \varepsilon'}$$

$$< 2M\varepsilon' \equiv \varepsilon$$

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So we have $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, take $\varepsilon' = \frac{\varepsilon}{2M}$, then $\exists \delta$ s.t. $|x - x_0| < \delta$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x)g(x) - f(x_0)g(x_0)| < \varepsilon.$$

2. (5pts) Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^k$ be compact and suppose that $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous.

Prove that $f(X)$ is a compact set in \mathbb{R} .

Note: Recall that $f(X) = \{f(x) | x \in X\}$.

We use Heine-Borel/Bolzano-Weierstrass, which says a set is compact iff it's closed and bounded.

You can directly use the extreme value theorem to show that $f(X)$ is bounded because it attains max and min.

If you want to show this formally, suppose $f(X)$ is not bounded. Then $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \exists x_n \in X$ s.t. $|f(x_n)| > n$. Take the sequence x_n . Since X is compact (hence closed and bounded), x_n has a convergent subsequence $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in X$ (by Bolzano Weierstrass and closedness of X). By sequential continuity of f , $f(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow f(x)$. But for all $n_k \in \mathbb{N}$, $|f(x_{n_k})| > n_k \implies f(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow \infty$. Contradiction. So $f(X)$ is bounded.

To show $f(X)$ is closed, take any convergent sequence $y_n \in f(X)$. Then $y_n \rightarrow y \in \mathbb{R}$. We need to show this limit point $y \in f(X)$.

For each $y_n \in f(X)$, there exists a corresponding $x_n \in X$. Since X is closed and bounded, x_n has a convergent subsequence $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in X$. By sequential continuity of f , $f(x_{n_k}) = y_{n_k} \rightarrow f(x) \in f(X)$. But $\lim y_{n_k} = \lim y_n \implies y = f(x) \in f(X)$. Hence $f(X)$ is closed.

Finally, closedness and boundedness of $f(X)$ give us $f(X)$ is compact.

3. (5pts) Suppose that $f : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex.

Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in [0, 1]$ be such that $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1$.

Let $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^k$.

Prove that $f(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i x_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f(x_i)$.

Note: This is known as Jensen's Inequality.

Friendly reminder: f is convex if $f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$ for all $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ and $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^k$.

We prove this by induction.

Base case: $n = 2$ is taken care of by the definition of the convexity of f .

Induction step: suppose $f(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i x_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f(x_i)$, $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1$ holds for $n = m > 2$.

Consider $n = m + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \alpha_i x_i\right) &= f\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i x_i + \alpha_{m+1} x_{m+1}\right) \\
 &= f\left((1 - \alpha_{m+1}) \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha_i}{1 - \alpha_{m+1}} x_i + \alpha_{m+1} x_{m+1}\right) \\
 &\leq (1 - \alpha_{m+1}) f\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha_i}{1 - \alpha_{m+1}} x_i\right) + \alpha_{m+1} f(x_{m+1}) \quad (1) \\
 &\leq (1 - \alpha_{m+1}) \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha_i}{1 - \alpha_{m+1}} f(x_i) + \alpha_{m+1} f(x_{m+1}) \quad (2) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \alpha_i f(x_i)
 \end{aligned}$$

where (1) follows from f is convex, \mathbb{R}^k is convex and module 3 proposition 3; (2) follows from the induction hypothesis for $n = m$.

$$\max\{f, g\} = \frac{1}{2}(f+g) + \frac{1}{2}|f-g|.$$

4. (5pts) Suppose $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are convex. Let $h \equiv \max\{f, g\}$, i.e., $h(x) = \max\{f(x), g(x)\}$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove that h is convex.

Convexity of f and g gives: for all x and $y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\alpha \in [0, 1]$,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) &\leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y) \\ g(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) &\leq \alpha g(x) + (1 - \alpha)g(y) \end{aligned}$$

It follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &\max\{f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y), g(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y)\} \\ &\leq \max\{\alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y), \alpha g(x) + (1 - \alpha)g(y)\} \\ &\leq \max\left\{\alpha \max\{f(x), g(x)\} + (1 - \alpha) \max\{f(y), g(y)\}, \alpha \max\{f(x), g(x)\} + (1 - \alpha) \max\{f(y), g(y)\}\right\} \\ &= \alpha \max\{f(x), g(x)\} + (1 - \alpha) \max\{f(y), g(y)\} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $h = \max\{f, g\}$ is convex.

5. (Extra Credit: 2 pts) Prove that $f(x) = x^{0.5}$ is continuous on $[0, \infty)$.

Hint 1: When showing continuity at $x_0 \in [0, \infty)$, treat the cases where $x_0 = 0$ and $x_0 > 0$ separately.

Hint 2: Note that $x - x_0 = (x^{0.5} - x_0^{0.5})(x^{0.5} + x_0^{0.5})$.

Case 1: $x_0 = 0$

For all $\epsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta = \epsilon^2$ s.t. $|x - 0| < \delta \implies |x^{0.5} - 0^{0.5}| = x^{0.5} < \delta^{0.5} = \epsilon$.
Hence $f(x)$ is continuous at $x_0 = 0$.

Case 2: $x_0 > 0$

For all $\epsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta = \epsilon \cdot (x_0^{0.5})$ such that
 $|x - x_0| < \delta \implies$

$$\begin{aligned} |x^{0.5} - x_0^{0.5}| &= \frac{|x - x_0|}{|x^{0.5} + x_0^{0.5}|} \\ &< \frac{\delta}{x_0^{0.5} + x_0^{0.5}} = \epsilon \frac{x_0^{0.5}}{x_0^{0.5} + x_0^{0.5}} \\ &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Hence f is continuous on $[0, \infty)$.

Ex. If f & g are continuous at x_0 . Then $\frac{f}{g}$ is continuous at x_0 ($g(x_0) \neq 0$)

Let's first show "if g is cont. at x_0 , then $\frac{1}{g}$ is cont."

g is cont at x_0 : $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $|x - x_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |g(x) - g(x_0)| < \varepsilon$.

$$\left| \frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{1}{g(x_0)} \right| = \left| \frac{g(x_0)}{g(x_0)} \frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{g(x)}{g(x)} \frac{1}{g(x_0)} \right| = \left| \frac{1}{g(x_0)g(x)} \right| \cdot \underbrace{|g(x_0) - g(x)|}_{< \varepsilon}$$

Need to find a bound for $\left| \frac{1}{g(x)} \right|$.

Note although $g(x)$ is locally bounded by $(|g(x_0)| - \varepsilon, |g(x_0)| + \varepsilon)$ over $x \in B_\delta(x_0)$, we don't know the magnitude of $|g(x_0)| - \varepsilon$ and so can't say $\left| \frac{1}{g(x)} \right| < \left| \frac{1}{|g(x_0)| - \varepsilon} \right|$.

A clever way to find a local bound:

① for $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}|g(x_0)|$, $\exists \delta_1$ s.t. $|x - x_0| < \delta_1 \Rightarrow |g(x) - g(x_0)| < \frac{1}{2}|g(x_0)|$
and here we can say $\left| \frac{1}{g(x)} \right| < \left| \frac{1}{|g(x_0)| - \varepsilon} \right| = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}|g(x_0)|}$

② Take any $\varepsilon > 0$. For this ε , choose $\varepsilon' = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} g(x_0)^2$. Then $\exists \delta_2$ s.t.
 $|x - x_0| < \delta_2 \Rightarrow |g(x) - g(x_0)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} g(x_0)^2$

Now, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, take $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{1}{g(x_0)} \right| &= \left| \frac{g(x_0)}{g(x_0)} \frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{g(x)}{g(x)} \frac{1}{g(x_0)} \right| \\ &= \underbrace{\left| \frac{1}{g(x_0)g(x)} \right|}_{\text{by ①}} \cdot \underbrace{|g(x_0) - g(x)|}_{\text{by ②}} \\ &< \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}|g(x_0)|^2} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{2} g(x_0)^2 = \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Then, since f & $\frac{1}{g}$ both cont. at x_0 , so is $f \cdot \frac{1}{g} = \frac{f}{g}$.

Lemma $x_n \rightarrow x$ iff \forall subsequence x_{n_k} , \exists sub-subsequence $x_{n_{k_l}} \rightarrow x$.

"If": \forall subseq x_{n_k} , $\exists x_{n_{k_l}} \rightarrow x \Rightarrow x_n \rightarrow x$

Suppose $x_n \not\rightarrow x$. Then $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. $\forall N \in \mathbb{N}$, $\exists n > N$ s.t. $|x_n - x| \geq \varepsilon$.

$$\exists n_1 > 1 \text{ s.t. } |x_{n_1} - x| \geq \varepsilon$$

$$\exists n_2 > \max\{2, n_1\} \text{ s.t. } |x_{n_2} - x| \geq \varepsilon$$

⋮

Construct a subsequence x_{n_k} by doing so. Then \forall sub-subsequence $x_{n_{k_l}}$. We have $\forall N \in \mathbb{N}$, $n_{k_l} > N$ but $|x_{n_{k_l}} - x| \geq \varepsilon \Rightarrow x_{n_k}$ doesn't have a convergent sub-subsequence. Contradiction.

"Only if": $x_n \rightarrow x \Rightarrow \forall x_{n_k} \exists x_{n_{k_l}} \rightarrow x$.

Follows from: "If a sequence converges, then every subsequence converges to the same limit." (Module 1, Ex. 24)

$$x_n \rightarrow x \Rightarrow \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } n > N \Rightarrow |x_n - x| < \varepsilon$$

Let x_{n_k} be any subseq. Then $n_k > N \Rightarrow |x_{n_k} - x| < \varepsilon$.