

Problems for Exam 2

Please note that one of these problems will appear on Exam 2. The exam is closed book and closed notes. You will have 50 minutes to solve 4 out of the problems presented for regular credit (each problem is worth 25 points). The remaining problems may be solved for bonus credit (1 point each).

1. Suppose $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is compact, $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, and $f(\mathbf{x}) > 0$ for every $\mathbf{x} \in S$. Show that there is a number $c > 0$ such that $f(\mathbf{x}) \geq c$ for every $\mathbf{x} \in S$.
2. Let f be a linear function from \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{R} . Show that if f is continuous at $x = 0$, then f is continuous.
3. Given $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $a \in S$ and $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$. Prove that the following are equivalent:
 - i) f is continuous at a ;
 - ii) for any sequence $\{x_k\}$ in S that converges to a , the sequence $\{f(x_k)\}$ converges to $f(a)$.
4. Show using an $\varepsilon - \delta$ proof that $f(x) = x^2$ is uniformly continuous in $0 < x < 1$.
5. Suppose that a continuously differentiable function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies $f'(x) = g(f(x)) + h(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, where the functions $g, h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are C^∞ . Prove that the function f is infinitely differentiable as well.
6. A function $g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a convex function if S is a convex set and $\forall x, y \in S, 0 < \lambda \leq 1$ we have

$$g(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda g(x) + (1 - \lambda)g(y).$$

Prove that i) a norm is a convex function; and, ii) that if a convex function has a local max (min) at x then it also has a global max (min) at x .

Hint: i) Consider the norm, $\|\cdot\| : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}$ as a function. It has one property that makes it a convex function. ii) We have a min at x if $g(y) > g(x), \forall x$ in some sufficiently small neighborhood of S around the point x . Examine any other point $z \in S$ and write y as a convex combination of x and z . What happens if λ is very small?