

Math 402/502, Spring 2018  
Assignment 10, due Wednesday, April 18

**Problems to hand in:**

1. Wade, Exercise 10.5.5.

Hint: Consider a proof by contradiction: if  $A$  is disconnected, then it is separated by nonempty relatively open sets  $U, V$ . Argue that since  $E$  is connected, we then must have either  $E \cap U = \emptyset$  or  $E \cap V = \emptyset$ . Without loss of generality, assume the former. Since  $U = A \cap W$  for some  $W$  open in  $X$ , what does this imply about  $\bar{E} \cap W$ ?

Recall that for sets  $C, D$  that  $C \cap D = C$  if and only if  $C \subset D$ .

2. Wade, Exercise 10.5.10.

Hint: Detailing the hint in the back of the book, recall that the line segment  $L(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}; \mathbf{x}_k)$  between  $\mathbf{x}_{k-1}, \mathbf{x}_k$  can be parameterized by  $s \mapsto (1-s)\mathbf{x}_{k-1} + s\mathbf{x}_k$  for  $s \in [0, 1]$ . Consequently, polygonal paths as given in (a) can be parameterized as the image of the continuous function  $f : [0, N] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  defined by taking  $f(s) = (k-s)\mathbf{x}_{k-1} + (s-k+1)\mathbf{x}_k$  on  $[k-1, k]$ . Admittedly the domain of this is not  $[0, 1]$  as in the book's hint, but the salient feature of  $f$  is that the domain is an interval and hence connected.

3. Wade, Exercise 10.6.5.

4. Wade, Exercise 10.6.7.

Tip: Use Theorems 10.52 and 10.63 liberally.

5. Wade, Exercise 11.1.3.

Hint: Argue that  $f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{a})$  for all  $x \in B_r(a)$ . Writing the difference  $f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{a})$  in the following way will allow you to make efficient use of the hypothesis

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{a}) &= (f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - f(a_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)) + \\ &\quad (f(a_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - f(a_1, a_2, \dots, x_n)) + \dots \\ &\quad \dots + (f(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, x_n) - f(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n)). \end{aligned}$$

**On your own:** Wade 10.5.2, 10.5.4, 10.5.8, 10.6.1, 10.6.6a, ~~11.1.5~~, ~~11.1.6~~ as well as the following problems (See the back page as well):

1. Let  $(X, \rho)$  be any discrete space (i.e. a nonempty set endowed with the metric  $\rho(x, y) = 1$  when  $x \neq y$  and  $\rho(x, y) = 0$  when  $x = y$ ). Prove that a nonempty subset  $E \subset X$  is connected if and only if  $E = \{a\}$  (i.e.  $E$  is a "singleton").

2. Let  $E \neq \emptyset$  be a subset of a metric space  $(X, \rho)$ . In Assignment 8, you considered the function  $\rho_E(x) = \inf_{z \in E} \rho(x, z)$  and proved that  $\rho_E(x) = 0$  if and only if  $x \in \bar{E}$ .

(a) Prove that  $\rho_E$  defines a uniformly continuous function on  $X$ , by showing that

$$|\rho_E(x) - \rho_E(y)| \leq \rho(x, y)$$

Hint: For any  $z \in X$ ,  $\rho_E(x) \leq \rho(x, z) \leq \rho(x, y) + \rho(y, z)$ . Use this to show  $\rho_E(x) \leq \rho(x, y) + \rho_E(y)$ .

(b) In this part and the next, let  $A, B \subset X$  be disjoint nonempty closed sets. Show that  $f(x) = \frac{\rho_A(x)}{\rho_A(x) + \rho_B(x)}$  defines a continuous function on  $X$  whose range lies in  $[0, 1]$ . Moreover, show that  $f(p) = 0$  if and only if  $p \in A$  and that  $f(p) = 1$  if and only if  $p \in B$ .

(c) Show that there exists disjoint open sets  $V, W \subset X$  such that  $A \subset V$ ,  $B \subset W$ .

3. Important Review: Let  $X, Y$  be nonempty sets. Prove the following properties concerning a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , and subsets  $E, E_\alpha \subset Y$ ,  $G \subset X$ . These are basic consequences of well-defined functions and hence do not rely any continuity or metric properties of  $f$  or  $X, Y$ .

(a)  $f^{-1}(E^C) = [f^{-1}(E)]^C$

(b)  $f(f^{-1}(E)) \subset E$

(c)  $G \subset f^{-1}(f(G))$

(d)  $f^{-1}(\cup_\alpha E_\alpha) = \cup_\alpha f^{-1}(E_\alpha)$

(e)  $f^{-1}(\cap_\alpha E_\alpha) = \cap_\alpha f^{-1}(E_\alpha)$

Find examples of functions  $f$  such that equality in 3b and 3c fails to hold. Prove that equality in 3b holds whenever  $f$  is surjective and equality in 3c holds whenever  $f$  is injective.

**Reading:** Wade, sections 10.6, 11.1, 11.2.