

1. (20 points) (Topologist's Isoperimetric Inequality) The isoperimetric inequality for subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  relates the  $n$ -dimensional measure of a measurable set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  to the  $n - 1$ -dimensional measure of its boundary:

$$\frac{[\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\partial A)]^n}{[m_n(A)]^{n-1}} \geq \frac{[\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\partial B_1)]^n}{[m_n(B_1)]^{n-1}}$$

where  $m_n$  is  $n$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$  is  $n - 1$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $B_1$  is any ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of unit radius. For example, if  $n = 2$ , then this says the length of the boundary squared divided by the area of a set  $A$  is at least  $4\pi$ .

Prove the following inequality for any subset  $A$  of a topological space  $X$ :

$$\frac{[\nu(\partial A)]^q}{[\mu(A)]^p} \geq \frac{[\nu(\partial \bar{A})]^q}{[\mu(\bar{A})]^p} \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{A}$  is the closure of  $A$ ,  $\mu : 2^X \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  and  $\nu : 2^X \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  are any nonnegative **monotone set functions**, and  $p$  and  $q$  are any nonnegative real numbers. (A **monotone set function**  $\mu$  is one for which  $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$  whenever  $A \subset B$ .)

**Solution:** We first claim that

$$\partial \bar{A} \subset \partial A. \quad (2)$$

To see this, let  $x \in \partial \bar{A}$ . Then for every open set  $U$  with  $x \in U$  we have some  $\xi \in U \cap \bar{A}$  and some  $\eta \in U \cap (\bar{A})^c$ . Since  $A \subset \bar{A}$ , we know  $\eta \in U \cap A^c$ . Also, since  $U$  is an open set containing  $\xi$  and  $\xi \in \bar{A}$ , there is some  $a \in A \cap U$ . This means  $x \in \partial A$ , and we have established (2).

Since  $\nu$  is monotone we get

$$\nu(\partial A) \geq \nu(\partial \bar{A}). \quad (3)$$

On the other hand, it is clear that  $A \subset \bar{A}$ , so by the monotonicity of  $\mu$  we have

$$\mu(A) \leq \mu(\bar{A}). \quad (4)$$

Combining (3) and (4) with some arithmetic of the extended real numbers, we get (1).

2. To the **left** of each term write the number of the appropriate definition/explanation.

- (a) (2 points) connected
- (b) (2 points) compact
- (c) (2 points) locally connected
- (d) (2 points) locally compact
- (e) (2 points) path connected
- (f) (2 points) locally path connected
- (g) (2 points) product space
- (h) (2 points) closure
- (i) (2 points) open
- (j) (2 points) closed

- 1. an element of the topology
- 2. the set of all functions

$$f : \Gamma \rightarrow \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma} X_\alpha$$

where  $\{X_\alpha\}$  is a collection of topological spaces with index set  $\Gamma$  and  $f(\alpha) \in X_\alpha$

- 3. for a set  $A$ ,

$$\bigcap_{A \cap U = \phi, U \text{ open}} U^c$$

- 4. for each point  $x$ , there is an open set  $U$  and a compact set  $K$  such that  $x \in U \subset K$
- 5. whenever  $X = A \cup B$ , then either  $\bar{A} \cap B \neq \phi$  or  $A \cap \bar{B} \neq \phi$
- 6. for each pair  $(a, b)$ , there is a continuous function  $f$  defined on an interval  $[0, 1]$  such that  $f(0) = a$  and  $f(1) = b$
- 7. when the set  $\bigcap A_\alpha$  is an intersection of closed sets and  $\bigcap A_\alpha \cap A = \phi$ , then one can find a finite collection  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k\}$  for which

$$\bigcap_{j=1}^k A_{\alpha_j} \cap A = \phi$$

- 8. for each  $x$  and each open set  $U$  with  $x \in U$ , there is a path connected set  $C$  and an open set  $W$  with  $x \in W \subset C \subset U$
- 9.  $A^c$  is an open neighborhood
- 10. whenever  $U$  is open and  $x \in U$ , there is an open set  $W$  with  $x \in W \subset U$  and every nonempty proper open subset of  $W$  has nonopen complement

Name and section: \_\_\_\_\_

**Solution:**

(a) 5

(b) 7

(c) 10

(d) 4

(e) 6

(f) 8

(g) 2

(h) 3

(i) 1

(j) 9

3. To the **left** of each term write the number of the appropriate definition/explanation.
- (a) (2 points) second countable
  - (b) (2 points) Hausdorff
  - (c) (2 points) loop
  - (d) (2 points) homotopy
  - (e) (2 points) fundamental group
  - (f) (2 points) deformation retraction
  - (g) (2 points) group
  - (h) (2 points) continuity
  - (i) (2 points) identification map
  - (j) (2 points) topologist's sine curve
1. a homotopy of a set into itself
  2. associative loop concatenation in a path connected space
  3. a continuous function such that when the inverse image of a set is open, then the set is also open
  4. having a basis of open sets  $U_1, U_2, U_3, \dots$
  5. a function  $f$  defined on an interval  $[0, 1]$  and satisfying  $f(0) = f(1)$
  6. example of a connected space whose closure is not path connected
  7. a continuous function on the cross product of a space with the interval  $[0, 1]$
  8. the inverse image of an open set is open
  9. having an associative operation on a set that contains an identity element and inverses
  10. being able to separate points by open sets

**Solution:**

- (a) 4
- (b) 10
- (c) 5
- (d) 7
- (e) 2
- (f) 1

Name and section: \_\_\_\_\_

(g) 9

(h) 8

(i) 3

(j) 6

4. Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ .

(a) (10 points) Identify the fundamental group of  $X$  and give explicit representatives (loops) for each element of the fundamental group.

(b) (10 points) Take one of your loop representatives  $\gamma$  and a representative  $\eta$  of  $\langle \gamma \rangle^{-1}$ , and give an explicit homotopy of the **concatenation**  $\eta \triangleleft \gamma$  to the identity. Here, the **concatenation** is defined by

$$\eta \triangleleft \gamma(t) = \begin{cases} \gamma(2t), & 0 \leq t \leq 1/2 \\ \eta(2t - 1), & 1/2 \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

**Solution:**

(a) The fundamental group is  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$  by  $\gamma(t) = (\cos 2\pi t, \sin 2\pi t)$ . Denote by  $\gamma^j$  the loop  $\gamma$  concatenated with itself  $j$  times for  $j = 2, 3, 4, \dots$ . The constant loop  $\text{id}(t) \equiv (1, 0)$  represents the identity in the fundamental group. The remaining elements are the inverses of  $\gamma^j$ :

$$\gamma^{-1} = -\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\} \quad \text{by} \quad \gamma^{-1}(t) = (\cos 2\pi t, -\sin 2\pi t),$$

and let  $\gamma^{-j}$  be  $\gamma^{-1}$  concatenated with itself  $j$  times for  $j = 2, 3, 4, \dots$ . The mapping  $\langle \gamma^j \rangle \mapsto j$  is an isomorphism of  $\pi_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ .

(b) Take  $\gamma(t) = (\cos 2\pi t, \sin 2\pi t)$  and  $\eta(t) = \gamma^{-1}(t) = \gamma(1-t) = (\cos 2\pi t, -\sin 2\pi t)$ . Define

$$H(t, s) = \begin{cases} \gamma(2(1-s)t), & 0 \leq t \leq 1/2 \\ \eta((1-s)(2t-1) + s), & 1/2 \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Notice first that the values assigned to  $H$  for  $t = 1/2$  are  $\gamma(1-s) = \eta(s)$ . Thus,  $H$  is well-defined and continuous by the gluing lemma. Also,  $H(0, s) = \gamma(0) \equiv (1, 0)$  and  $H(1, s) = \eta(1) \equiv (1, 0)$ . Finally,  $H(t, 0) \equiv \eta \triangleleft \gamma$  and  $H(t, 1) \equiv (1, 0)$ . Thus,  $H$  is a homotopy of  $\eta \triangleleft \gamma$  to the identity (loop).

5. (20 points) Recall that  $X$  is said to be **locally compact** if for each point  $x \in X$ , there is an open set  $U$  and a compact set  $K$  such that  $x \in U \subset K$ . Assume  $X$  is locally compact and Hausdorff. Show that given any point  $x \in X$  and any open set  $U$  with  $x \in U$ , there is a compact set  $K$  and an open set  $W$  with  $x \in W \subset K \subset U$ .

**Solution:** Because  $X$  is locally compact, we can start with an open set  $U_0$  and a compact set  $K_0$  such that  $x \in U_0 \subset K_0$ . We can, of course, take  $W_0 = U \cap U_0$  which is an open set with  $x \in W_0 \subset K_0$ . We have no reason to believe, however, that  $K_0 \subset U$ .

Because  $X$  is Hausdorff, we do know  $K_0$  is closed. And furthermore, if we had another closed subset  $C$  of  $U$ , then  $K_0 \cap C$  would be a compact subset of  $U$ . (Closed subsets of compact sets are always compact.)

Consider  $\{x\}$  and  $U^c$ . These are both closed sets. In particular,  $K_1 = K_0 \cap U^c$  is compact. Of course, this intersection  $K_1$  might be empty, but if it is, that means  $K_0 \subset U$  and we're done because we can just take  $W = U_0 \subset K = K_0 \subset U$ .

Otherwise, for each point  $\xi$  in  $K_1$ , there are disjoint open sets  $U_\xi$  and  $V_\xi$  with  $x \in U_\xi$  and  $\xi \in V_\xi$ . Taking a finite subcover of  $K_1$  consisting of a finite collection of the  $V_\xi$ , we get disjoint open sets  $U_1$  (the intersection of the corresponding  $U_\xi$ ) and  $V$  (the union of the finitely many  $V_\xi$ ) with  $x \in U_1$  and  $K_1 \subset V$ .

This last paragraph is just a proof that you can separate a point from a compact set in a Hausdorff space. That fact can be quoted if you remember it.

In any case,  $K = K_0 \cap V^c$  is our compact set, and  $W = U_0 \cap U_1$  is our open set. There are, perhaps, some things to check. First of all  $K$  is compact because, as mentioned,  $K_0$  and  $V^c$  are closed making  $K$  a closed subset of the compact set  $K_0$ . (A closed subset of a compact set is always compact.) The set  $W$  is also open and nonempty because  $x \in W$ . Also, since  $U_0 \subset K_0$  and  $U_1 \subset V^c$ , we know  $W \subset K$ . It remains to show  $K \subset U$ . But remember that if  $\xi \in K$ , then  $\xi \in V^c$  and this means,  $\xi \notin K_1 = K_0 \cap U^c$ . Since we know  $\xi \in K_0$ , it must be that  $\xi \notin U^c$ , i.e.,  $\xi \in U$ . This completes the solution.