

Qualifying Exam in Basic Analysis, August 2012  
Duke University, Mathematics Department  
Time Allowed: 3 hours

All answers and statements should be proved; no partial credit is given to answers without justification.

**Part I: 6 points each, do all 6 questions**

1. State and prove the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality.
2. State some reasonable conditions under which a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)$$

everywhere on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and prove this equality under the condition you give.

3. For  $a_1, \dots, a_n > 0$ , let the arithmetic mean be

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$$

and the geometric mean be

$$\sqrt[n]{\prod_{i=1}^n a_i}.$$

Is one always larger than the other? State a theorem and prove it, or provide suitable counterexamples.

4. State and prove the contraction mapping principle (also known as the Banach fixed point theorem).
5. Let  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Define what it means for  $f$  to be continuous at a point  $x_0 \in (0, 1)$ . Then give an example of a function that is discontinuous everywhere except at  $x_0 = \frac{1}{2}$ .
6. Let  $f$  be the solution of

$$f'(x) = -(x^2 e^{-x^2} + 1)f(x)^3, \quad f(0) = 2.$$

How many solutions does the equation  $f(x) = \sin(x)$  have on  $\mathbb{R}$ ?

**Part II: 10 points each. Do all 5 questions.**

1. Is

$$f(x) = \frac{1+x^2}{x^4 \sqrt[4]{1-\cos \frac{1}{x}}}$$

in  $L^1(0, 1)$ ?

2. Define, for  $x \in [0, 1]$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \cos(2\pi n x).$$

Show that  $f$  is well-defined, i.e. the right-hand side converges pointwise for every  $x \in [0, 1]$ . Is  $f$  continuous on  $[0, 1]$ ? Is  $f$  differentiable on  $[0, 1]$ ? If so, what is the derivative of  $f$ ?

3. Let  $f_n$  be a sequence of continuous functions  $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that each  $f_n$  satisfies  $f_n(0) = 1$  and is 1-Lipschitz, i.e.  $|f_n(x) - f_n(y)| \leq |x - y|$  for all  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ . Show that  $\{f_n\}$  has a subsequence that converges uniformly on  $[0, 1]$ . [Hint: Find a subsequence that converges pointwise in suitably many points (e.g. a countable dense subset of  $[0, 1]$ ), and then show that it (or a subsequence thereof) converges uniformly on all of  $[0, 1]$ ].

4. Let, for  $a > 0$ ,

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^5 + y^4}{(x^2 + y^2)^a + x^2 y^4} & (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}.$$

Determine for which values of  $a$  this function has each of the following properties:

- $f$  is continuous at  $(0, 0)$ ;
- $f$  is differentiable at  $(0, 0)$ .

5. Let for  $n \geq 1$

$$g_n(x) = \frac{x^3}{n + x^4} \tanh \frac{1}{nx^2 + 2},$$

where of course  $\tanh(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$ . Study the point-wise and uniform convergence of the sequence  $\{g_n\}$ , i.e. determine the subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  where the sequence  $\{g_n\}$  converges point-wise, and the subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  where the convergence is uniform.