

Math 327 Homework 2

Chongyi Xu

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1. Prove the following.

(a) For any a, b real numbers, $|a| - |b| \leq |a + b|$.

Let $b = b + a - a$, then $|b| = |b + a - a| \leq |a + b| - |a|$ (By Triangular Inequality)

Since $-|b| \leq +|b|$, so $-|b| \leq |b| \leq |a + b| - |a|$

Thus $|a| - |b| \leq |a| + |b| \leq |a + b|$ Q.E.D.

(b) For any a, b real numbers, $||a| - |b|| \leq |a + b|$.

\rightarrow if $|a| - |b| \geq 0$, part(a) tells it is true.

\rightarrow if $|a| - |b| < 0$, $||a| - |b|| = |b| - |a| \leq |b + a|$ (By part(a)).

In both cases $||a| - |b|| \leq |a + b|$ Q.E.D.

(c) For any a, b real numbers, $||a| - |b|| \leq |a - b|$.

Let $b = -c$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$. In part(b), it is proved that $||a| - |c|| \leq |a + c|$. So in this case, let $c = -b$, then

we have $||a| - |b|| \leq |a - b|$ since $|-c| = c$. Q.E.D

2. Prove Bernoulli's Inequality

$$(1 + b)^n \geq 1 + nb$$

in two different ways:

(a) For any $b \geq 0$, using the binomial formula.

Binomial Formula tells that $(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^{n-k} b^k$. So we have

Let $a = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}(1+b)^n &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} b^k \\&\rightarrow \text{when } k=0, \binom{n}{0} \cdot b^0 = 1 \\&\rightarrow \text{when } k=1, \binom{n}{1} \cdot b^1 = nb\end{aligned}$$

So $(1+b)^n = 1 + nb + \sum_{k=2}^n \binom{n}{k} b^k$.

Since given $b \geq 0$, then $\sum_{k=2}^n \binom{n}{k} b^k \geq 0$.

Therefore $(1+b)^n \geq 1 + nb$. Q.E.D.

(b) For any $b > -1$, using mathematical induction.

Assume $b > -1$.

- Base Case($n = 0$)

$$(1+b)^0 = 1 \geq 1 + 0 \cdot b$$

- Inductive Step

Assume $(1+b)^n \geq 1 + nb$

Prove $(1+b)^{n+1} \geq 1 + (n+1) \cdot b$

- Proof:

$$(1+b)^{n+1} = (1+b)^n \cdot (1+b)$$

Since $b > -1$ by assumption

$$(1+b)^n \cdot (1+b) \geq (1+nb)(1+b) \text{ (inductive hypothesis)}$$

$$\geq 1 + b + nb + nb^2$$

$$\geq 1 + (n+1)b + nb^2$$

Since $b^2 \geq 0$, $nb^2 \geq 0$

Therefore $(1+b)^{n+1} \geq 1 + (n+1)b$. Q.E.D.

3. Decide if the following are true or false. If true, give a short proof. If false, find a counter example.

(a) If the sequence $|a_n|$ converges, then so does (a_n)

True. Assume $|a_n|$ converges, then $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$||a_n| - a| < \varepsilon \text{ when } n \geq N \text{ for } \varepsilon > 0$$

$$\rightarrow \text{if } a_n \geq 0, \text{ then } |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

Converges to a

$$\rightarrow \text{if } a_n < 0$$

$$| -a_n - a | < \varepsilon$$

$$|a_n + a| < \varepsilon$$

$$|a_n - (-a)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\text{Let } b = -a,$$

$$|a_n - b| < \varepsilon$$

Converges to b . Q.E.D.

\Rightarrow Therefore, (a_n) also converges if $|a_n|$ converges.

(b) If the sequence $(a_n + b_n)$ converges, then so do the sequences (a_n) and (b_n) .

False. Let $a_n = 2n$, $b_n = -2n$, then $(a_n + b_n)$ converges to 0, but a_n , b_n do not.

(c) If the sequences $(a_n + b_n)$ and (a_n) converge, then so does the sequence (b_n) .

True. Assume $|a_n + b_n - c| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, $|a_n - a| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ for any $n \geq N$, where $N \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $c = a + b$, then we have $|a_n + b_n - (a + b)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} |b_n - b| &= |a_n - a - a_n + a + b_n - b| \\ &= |a_n - a + b_n - b + (a - a_n)| \\ &\leq |a_n - a + b_n - b| + |a - a_n| \text{ (Triangular Inequality)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since } |a - a_n| = |a_n - a|$$

$$\begin{aligned} |b_n - b| &\leq |a_n - a + b_n - b| + |a_n - a| \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \\ &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, (b_n) converges. Q.E.D.

4. Use the definition of convergence to show the following limits.

(a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 0$

• Proof: Given $\varepsilon > 0$, Archimedean Property(2) tells that there exists a $M \in \mathbb{N}$, $\frac{1}{M} < \varepsilon$. Let

$N = M^2$, then $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} < \varepsilon$

Assume $n \geq N$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} - 0 \right| &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}, \text{ since } n \geq N \\ &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ converges to 0 $\iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 0$.

(b) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n^2+n} = 1$

Prove $\left| \frac{n^2}{n^2+n} - 1 \right| < \varepsilon$, for $n \geq N$

• Proof: Given $\varepsilon > 0$, Archimedean Property(2) tells that there exists a $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $\frac{1}{N} < \varepsilon$. And

Archimedean Property(1) tells that there exists a $N+1 \in \mathbb{N}$. So $\frac{1}{N+1} < \frac{1}{N} < \varepsilon$.

Assume $n \geq N \iff n+1 \geq N+1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{n^2}{n^2+n} - 1 \right| &= \left| \frac{n^2 - n^2 - n}{n^2+n} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{-n}{n^2+n} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{-1}{n+1} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{n+1} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n+1} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{N+1} \\ &< \frac{1}{N} \\ &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\frac{n^2}{n^2+n}$ converges to 1 $\iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n^2+n} = 1$

5. Discuss the convergence of the sequence $(\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

Claim $(\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges.

• Proof: Given $\varepsilon > 0$, Archimedean Property(2) tells that there exists a $M \in \mathbb{N}$, $\frac{1}{M} < 2\varepsilon$. Let $M = \sqrt{N}$, then $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} < 2\varepsilon \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2\sqrt{N}} < \varepsilon$.

Assume $n \geq N$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} \right| &= \left| \frac{n+1-n}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \right| \\ &< \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{N}} \\ &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $(\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to 0.

6. Let $a_1 = 1$ and for $n \geq 1$,

$$a_{n+1} = \begin{cases} a_n + \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } a_n^2 \leq 2 \\ a_n - \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } a_n^2 > 2 \end{cases}$$

Show that for every n , $\left| a_n - \sqrt{2} \right| < \frac{2}{n}$ and prove that the sequence converges to $\sqrt{2}$.

Since $a_1 = 1$ and $n \geq 1 \iff \frac{1}{n} \leq 1$, $a_n > 0$

7. For a sequence (a_n) of positive numbers, prove that

$$a_n \rightarrow \infty \text{ if and only if } \frac{1}{a_n} \rightarrow 0.$$

• (\Rightarrow) Assume $a_n \rightarrow \infty$, prove $\frac{1}{a_n} \rightarrow 0$.

Proof: $a_n \rightarrow \infty$ implies that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, $|a_n - 0| > \varepsilon$ when $n \geq N$.

So we have

$$|a_n| > \varepsilon$$

$a_n > \varepsilon$, since a_n are all positive numbers

$$\frac{1}{a_n} < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

Therefore, $\frac{1}{a_n} \rightarrow 0$ since for every $\frac{1}{\varepsilon} > 0$, $\left| \frac{1}{a_n} \right| < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ when $n \geq N$.

- (\Leftarrow) Assume $\frac{1}{a_n} \rightarrow 0$, prove $a_n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof: $\frac{1}{a_n} \rightarrow 0$ implies for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\left| \frac{1}{a_n} - 0 \right| < \varepsilon$ when $n \geq N$.

So we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{a_n} \right| < \varepsilon$$

$\frac{1}{a_n} < \varepsilon$, since a_n are all positive numbers

$$a_n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

Therefore, $a_n \rightarrow \infty$ since a_n will always be greater than $\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$, where $\varepsilon > 0$.

Q.E.D.