

Real Variables Test

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1.) Suppose (x_n) is a bounded sequence of real numbers such that $x_k \leq x_{k+1}$ for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that (x_n) converges in \mathbb{R}

Proof. We shall define the nonempty set of all x_n 's as,

$$X = \{x_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

(x_n) is bounded so X is bounded thus there exists a least upper bound l on X . For any $\epsilon > 0$ there exists an element $x_N \in X$ such that $x_N > l - \epsilon$ by the definition of l.u.b.. Then for any $n > N$, $x_n \geq x_N$ because x_n is an increasing sequence. This gives us the inequality,

$$l \geq x_n > l - \epsilon,$$

for all $n > N$. Then $|x_n - l| < \epsilon$ for all $n > N$. This proves that (x_n) converges to l .

□

2.) Suppose (x_n) is a sequence of real numbers such that $(x_{2k}), (x_{2k+1})$ and (x_{3k}) are all convergent subsequences. Prove that (x_n) converges.

Proof. Since $(x_{2k}), (x_{2k+1})$ and (x_{3k}) converge, they are all Cauchy sequences. Thus for (x_k) there exists an $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all *even* $n, m > N_1$,

$$|x_n - x_m| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}. \quad (1)$$

Similarly for (x_{2k+1}) , there exists an $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all *odd* $n, m > N_2$,

$$|x_n - x_m| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}. \quad (2)$$

As well as for (x_{3k}) , there exists an $N_3 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n, m > N_3$ that are divisible by 3,

$$|x_n - x_m| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}. \quad (3)$$

Now we take $N = \max(N_1, N_2, N_3)$ for any $j, k > N$, we have 4 different cases for the j, k and we shall prove in each that case the requirement for Cauchy sequence holds. The first two cases are when j and k have the same parity, the next two cases are when j and k have distinct parity.

Case 1: Let j be even and k be even, then by Equation 1 we know that

$$|x_k - x_j| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} < \epsilon.$$

Thus when j and k are even (x_n) follows the Cauchy requirements.

Case 2: Let j be odd and k be odd, then by Equation 2 we know that

$$|x_k - x_j| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} < \epsilon.$$

Thus when j and k are odd (x_n) follows the Cauchy requirements.

Case 3: Let j be odd and k be even. Then $3j$ is odd and $3k$ is even and both $3j$ and $3k$ are divisible by 3. We can rewrite the Cauchy condition as follows,

$$|x_k - x_j| = |x_k - x_{3k} + x_{3k} - x_{3j} + x_{3j} - x_j|.$$

Using the Triangle Inequality we get,

$$|x_k - x_j| \leq |x_k - x_{3k}| + |x_{3k} - x_{3j}| + |x_{3j} - x_j|.$$

Then by Equation 1, $|x_k - x_{3k}| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$, by Equation 3, $|x_{3k} - x_{3j}| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$ and by Equation 2, $|x_{3j} - x_j| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$. Synthesizing this information we get,

$$|x_k - x_j| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon.$$

Thus when j is odd and k is even, (x_n) follows the Cauchy requirements.

Case 4: Let j be even and k be odd. Then $3j$ is even and $3k$ is odd and both $3j$ and $3k$ are divisible by 3. We can rewrite the Cauchy condition as follows,

$$|x_k - x_j| = |x_k - x_{3k} + x_{3k} - x_{3j} + x_{3j} - x_j|.$$

Using the Triangle Inequality we get,

$$|x_k - x_j| \leq |x_k - x_{3k}| + |x_{3k} - x_{3j}| + |x_{3j} - x_j|.$$

Then by Equation 2, $|x_k - x_{3k}| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$, by Equation 3, $|x_{3k} - x_{3j}| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$ and by Equation 1, $|x_{3j} - x_j| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$. Synthesizing these results returns,

$$|x_k - x_j| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon.$$

Thus when j is even and k is odd, (x_n) follows the Cauchy requirements.

Therefore since $|x_j - x_k| < \epsilon$ in each case, (x_n) is a Cauchy sequence. Since \mathbb{R} is complete, every Cauchy sequence converges thus (x_n) also converges. □

3.) Find an example of a continuous function $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and a Cauchy sequence $(x_n) \subseteq (0, 1)$ such that $(f(x_n))$ is not a convergent sequence.

Proof. First we will show that the sequence $(x_n) = \frac{1}{n}$, starting at $n = 2$, is a Cauchy sequence. For any $\epsilon > 0$, let $N = \frac{2}{\epsilon}$ then for any $n, m > N$, we have

$$|x_n - x_m| = \left| \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{m} \right| \leq \left| \frac{1}{n} \right| + \left| \frac{1}{m} \right| = \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} < \frac{2}{N} = \epsilon.$$

Thus x_n is a Cauchy sequence. However in $(0, 1)$ x_n does not converge, since $0 \notin (0, 1)$. Next we define a function $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as $f(x) = 1/x$. It is clear that f is continuous. Then the sequence

$$f(x_n) = \frac{1}{x_n} = n,$$

does not converge in \mathbb{R} . It diverges to infinity. Therefore the continuous function f and Cauchy sequence x_n , starting at $n = 2$, is such an example. \square

4.) A rational point in \mathbb{R}^2 is an ordered pair (p, q) with both p and q in \mathbb{Q} . Prove that there exists a circle in the plane \mathbb{R}^2 that contains no rational points.

Proof. A circle has the equation $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2$. Where r is the radius of the circle, (a, b) is the center of the circle and x and y are all the points that lie on the circle. We shall set the center of the circle to the origin or $(0, 0)$, this gives us the formula,

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2.$$

Now let r be an irrational number whose square is also irrational ($\pi, \sqrt[3]{2}, \dots$). Then every point on the circle is not a rational point. We can prove this by contradiction, assume there exists a rational point (x_1, y_1) with $x_1, y_1 \in \mathbb{Q}$ on the circle. Thus $x_1 = \frac{p_1}{q_1}$ and $y_1 = \frac{p_2}{q_2}$ for some $p_1, p_2, q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $q_1, q_2 \neq 0$. Our circle equation becomes

$$\left(\frac{p_1}{q_1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{p_2}{q_2}\right)^2 = r^2,$$

$$\frac{p_1^2}{q_1^2} + \frac{p_2^2}{q_1^2} = r^2,$$

$$\frac{p_1^2 q_2^2}{q_1^2 q_2^2} + \frac{p_2^2 q_1^2}{q_1^2 q_2^2} = r^2,$$

$$\frac{p_1^2 q_2^2 + p_2^2 q_1^2}{q_1^2 q_2^2} = r^2.$$

Since $p_1^2 q_2^2 + p_2^2 q_1^2, q_1^2 q_2^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $q_1^2 q_2^2 \neq 0$, the left hand side is rational, however we have chosen r so that, r^2 , the right side is irrational this is a contradiction. Thus there does not exist a rational point on this circle. \square

5.) Suppose A and B are sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow A$ are both surjective. Prove that there exists a bijection $\phi : A \rightarrow B$.

Proof. Since f is onto, for each $b_1 \in B$ there's at least one $a_1 \in A$ such that $f(a_1) = b_1$. Then we can define a nonempty set for each $b \in B$ called K_b as

$$K_b = \{a \in A \mid f(a) = b\}.$$

From this we shall define a function $\phi_f : B \rightarrow A$ that maps b to one and only one element from every K_b . Then if $x, y \in B$ and $x \neq y$ we know $\phi_f(x) \neq \phi_f(y)$ since $\phi_f(x)$ and $\phi_f(y)$ can't belong to the same K_b . Thus ϕ_f is injective. We can define a similar function with g , first since g is onto, for each $a_2 \in A$, there's at least one $b_2 \in B$ such that $g(b_2) = a_2$. Then we can define a nonempty set for $a \in A$ called J_a as,

$$J_a = \{b \in B \mid g(b) = a\}.$$

From this set we can define a function $\phi_g : A \rightarrow B$ that maps a to one and only one element from its corresponding J_a . Then if $x, y \in A$ and $x \neq y$, we know $\phi_g(x) \neq \phi_g(y)$ since $\phi_g(x)$ and $\phi_g(y)$ can't belong to the same J_a . Thus ϕ_g is injective. Then by the Schroeder-Bernstein Theorem we have shown an injection from AB and from $B \rightarrow A$ thus there exists a bijection $\phi : A \rightarrow B$. \square