

A Theorem is usually, "Let X hold, then Y follows." To prove the theorem 'constructively' (ie not by contradiction) you need to show how Y follows given any instance of X . In our case X was " $x \in I, \varepsilon > 0$ ", so your method must take x, ε as given to you.

HERE'S A NICE PROOF BY KYLE: (I've annotated too...)

3.7 Choose any x in I , choose any $\varepsilon > 0$

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subintervals of k symbols have length $2^{-k} \Rightarrow$

{ what Kyle didn't say here was:

since 2^{-k} has 0 as a limit as $k \rightarrow \infty$,
there is a k such that $2^{-k} < \varepsilon$, for any
given $\varepsilon > 0$.

(constructively: choose any k larger than $\frac{\ln 1/\varepsilon}{\ln 2}$)

Kyle Konrad

$\exists k$ s.t. $N_\varepsilon(x) \supseteq S_1 S_2 \dots S_k \supseteq S_1 S_2 \dots S_k S_1$ ✓

the subinterval $S_1 S_2 \dots S_k S_1$ exists because T has a complete transition graph and by Corollary 3.18 contains a fixed point

$\Rightarrow N_\varepsilon(x)$ contains a fixed point

\leftarrow by Corollary 3.18 (follows from fixed pt. thm).

since ε and x were arbitrary we have

$\forall x \in I, \varepsilon > 0 \quad N_\varepsilon(x)$ contains a fixed point of T ✓

\Rightarrow fixed points of T are dense in I □

this is essential,
otherwise
you might not
be able to add S_1
to the end!

v. elegant.

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Proving a theorem is a transaction: I turn you any $x \in I$ & any $\varepsilon > 0$, and you have to construct a periodic orbit in $N_\varepsilon(x)$. I don't mind how you do it as long as you explain your steps. If the construction always works, the theorem is proved.