

Math 440 – Real Analysis II

Homework 1

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Problem 1 Find the limit inferior and limit superior of each of the following sequences $\{s_n\}$.

(a) $s_n = 2 - \frac{1}{n}$

$$\overline{\lim}\{s_n\} = \underline{\lim}\{s_n\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = 2$$

(b) $s_n = n \bmod 4$

For all $k \in \mathbb{N}$ the sequence $\{s_k, s_{k+1}, s_{k+2}, \dots\}$ contains only the values $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$. Thus $\forall k, 0 \leq s_k \leq 3$, so

$$\overline{\lim}\{s_n\} = 3$$

And

$$\underline{\lim}\{s_n\} = 0$$

(c) $s_n = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{1}{n} + \cos \pi n & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\frac{1}{n} + \cos \pi n \leq n$, so the $\sup\{s_k, s_{k+1}, s_{k+2}, \dots\}$ is dominated by the even terms of s_n . Therefore

$$\overline{\lim}\{s_n\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2n = \infty$$

By the same argument, the $\inf\{s_k, s_{k+1}, s_{k+2}, \dots\}$ is dominated by the odd terms of s_n , which is split between two cases: $s_k = \frac{1}{k} + 1$ and $s_k = \frac{1}{k} - 1$. Thus

$$\underline{\lim}\{s_n\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{4n+3} - 1 = -1$$

(d) $s_n = f(n)$, where $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1)$ is a bijection

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and $\overline{S} = \{s_n: 1 - s_n < \epsilon\}$

By Math340 results we know that there exists an infinite number of rationals between any two distinct reals (in this case 1 and $1 - \epsilon$). Therefore \overline{S} is a countably infinite set, and $\overline{S} \setminus \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{k-1}\}$ yields a similarly infinite set. From this,

$$\overline{\lim}\{s_n\} = \sup \overline{S} = 1$$

Similarly, with $\underline{S} = \{s_n: s_n < \epsilon\}$ we have

$$\underline{\lim}\{s_n\} = \inf \underline{S} = 0$$

Problem 2 Give an example of a sequence $\{s_n\}$ and a real number s such that $s_n < s$ for all n , but $\overline{\lim} s_n \geq s$

Let $s_n = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$ and $s = 1$, then $\forall n, s_n < s$ and $\overline{\lim} s_n = s$

Problem 3 Let $\{a_n\}$ and $\{b_n\}$ be bounded sequences of nonnegative real numbers.

(a) $\overline{\lim}(a_n b_n) \leq (\overline{\lim} a_n)(\overline{\lim} b_n)$

Proof: Since a_n, b_n are bounded and nonnegative, let $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}$ such that $\overline{\lim}\{a_n\} = A$ and $\overline{\lim}\{b_n\} = B$

By definition, $\forall n, a_n \leq A$ and $b_n \leq B$, so $a_n b_n \leq AB$

AB is thus an upper bound on the sequence $\{a_n b_n\}$

Therefore $\overline{\lim}\{a_n b_n\} \leq AB$

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Problem 4 The series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}$ diverges

Proof: Let $s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}$

Then $s_n = 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

Since $\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}$ is monotone decreasing, we have

$$s_n \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{n}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{n}$$

So for all $n \geq 1$, the partial sum $s_n \geq \sqrt{n}$

Therefore, $\overline{\lim}\{s_n\} \geq \overline{\lim}\{\sqrt{n}\} = \infty$

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