Problem 1

Let A and B be non-empty subsets of $\mathbb{R}$ such that $a \leq b$ for all $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. Prove that A is bounded above, B is bounded below and $\sup(A) \leq \inf(B)$. **Hint:** This can be proved directly from the definitions of supremum and infimum without any computations or using any theorems, but you need to proceed in two steps.

Solution

Select any element $b \in B$. Then for all $x \in A$, $x \leq b$ so b is an upper bound for A. Now select any element $a \in A$. Then for all $x \in B$, $a \leq x$ so a is a lower bound for B. Assume that $\inf(B) < \sup(A)$. Then there must exist some $x \in A$ such that $x > \inf(B)$ otherwise there would be an upper bound for A less than $\sup(A)$. However, this means that x is a lower bound for B and $x > \inf(B)$. This is not possible. Thus $\sup(A) \leq \inf(B)$.

Problem 2

Use induction to prove the formlua for the sum of a (finite) geometric progression: $a + ar + ar^2 + \ldots + ar^{n-1} = a\frac{1-r^n}{1-r}$ where $a, r \in \mathbb{R}$ and $r \neq 1$.

Solution

Base Case P(1):

$$a = a\frac{1-r}{1-r} = a$$

Assume P(k):

$$a + ar + \ldots + ar^{k-1} = a\frac{1-r^k}{1-r}$$

Prove P(k+1):

$$\begin{aligned}
a + ar + \ldots + ar^{k-1} + ar^k &= a\frac{1-r^k}{1-r} + ar^k \\
&= a\left(\frac{1-r^k}{1-r} + r^k\right) \\
&= a\left(\frac{1-r^k}{1-r} + \frac{(1-r)r^k}{1-r}\right) \\
&= a\left(\frac{1-r^{k+1}}{1-r}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3

Prove the following inequalities by induction:

(i) $n < 2^n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$

(ii) $n^2 < 2^n$ for all integers $n \geq 4$

Solution

i Base Case:

$$1 < 2$$

Assume P(k):

$$k < 2^k$$

Prove P(k+1):

$$k < 2^k \implies 2k < 2^{k+1}$$

$k \geq 1$ so $k+1 \leq 2k$. Then by the transitive property, $k+1 < 2^{k+1}$.

ii Something wrong with the problem.

Problem 4

Use induction to prove Bernoulli's inequality:

$$(1+x)^n \geq 1+nx \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } x \geq -1$$

Solution

Base Case:

$$1 = (1+x)^0 \geq 1 = 1 + 0x$$

Assume P(k):

$$(1+x)^k \geq 1+kx$$

Prove P(k+1):

$$\begin{aligned}
(1+x)^{k+1} &= (1+x)^k(1+x) && (1)\\
&\geq (1+kx)(1+x) && (2)\\
(1+kx)(1+x) &= 1+kx+kx^2 && (3)\\
&= 1+(k+1)x+kx^2 && (4)\\
&\geq 1+(k+1)x && (5)
\end{aligned}$$

So $(1+x)^{k+1} \geq 1+(k+1)x$

Problem 5

Prove that the sequence converges to L, and explicitly find a function $M(\epsilon)$ satisfying $(1')$ above.

(i) $a_n = \frac{2n^2+3}{n^2-n-\cos(n)}$, $L = 2$

(ii) $a_n = \frac{n}{4^n}$, $L = 0$

Solution

(i) Fix $\epsilon > 0$. $|a_n - 2| = \left|\frac{2n^2+3}{n^2-n-\cos(n)} - 2\right| = \left|\frac{2n+2\cos(n)+3}{n^2-n-\cos(n)}\right|$. We can bound this fraction above by $\frac{7n}{n^2}$. Then we want n such that $\frac{7}{n} < \epsilon$.
Let $M(\epsilon) = \frac{7}{\epsilon}$ then $\forall n > M(\epsilon)$ we have $n > \frac{7}{\epsilon} \implies \epsilon > \frac{7}{n}$. Then $|a_n - 2| < \frac{7}{n} < \epsilon$.

(ii) $\left|\frac{n}{n^4}\right|$ can be bounded above by $\left|\frac{n^3}{n^4}\right| = \frac{1}{n}$ Let $M(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon}$. Then $\forall n > M(\epsilon)$, $n > \frac{1}{\epsilon} \implies \epsilon > \frac{1}{n}$. Then from above $|a_n - 0| \leq \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$.

Problem 6

Let a_n and b_n be sequences. Suppose that for every $\epsilon > 0$ the following is true: $|a_n - 3| < \epsilon$ for all $n > \frac{10}{e^2}$ and $|b_n - 4| < \epsilon$ for all $n > \frac{1}{e^3}$. Find an explicit function $M(\epsilon)$ such that $|a_n + b_n - 7| < \epsilon$ for all $n > M(\epsilon)$.

Solution

Let $\epsilon' = \epsilon/2$. This is guaranteed to be a number larger than 0. Then $|a_n - 3| < \epsilon'$ for all $n > (10/(e/2)^2)$ and $|b_n - 4| < \epsilon'$ for all $n > (1/(\epsilon/2)^3)$. Then by Theorem 2.12 $|a_b + b_n - 7| < \epsilon' + \epsilon' = \epsilon$ for $n > \max((10/(e/2)^2), (1/(\epsilon/2)^3))$. Define $M(\epsilon) = \max((10/(e/2)^2), (1/(\epsilon/2)^3))$.

Problem 7

Let a_n be a sequence, and define b_k and c_k (with $k \in \mathbb{N}$) by $b_k = a_{2k-1}$ and $c_k = a_{2k}$, that is b_k and c_k are subsequences of a_n consisting of its elements located in odd (respectively even) position. Suppose that b_k and c_k both converge and $\lim_{k\to\infty} b_k = \lim_{k\to\infty} c_k = L$ for some $L \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove that a_n converges to L as well.

Solution

For all $\epsilon > 0$ there exist R_1, R_2 such that $|b_k - L| < \epsilon$ for all $n > R_1$ and $|c_k - L| < \epsilon$ for all $n > R_2$. Let $M = \max(R_1, R_2)$. Then for any a_n where $n > M$ if $a_n \in \{b_k\}$ then $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$. Similarly if $a_n \in \{c_k\}$ then $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$. Therefore the limit of $\{a_n\}$ is L.

Problem 8

Let $f : X \to Y$ be a function. Prove that the following conditions are equivalent:

(a) f is injective

(b) $f(A \cap C) = f(A) \cap f(C)$ for any two subsets A, C of X.

Solution

First let f be injective and consider any element $x \in f(A \cap C)$. $x = f(y)$ for some $y \in A \cap C$. Then $y \in A \implies x \in f(A)$ and $y \in B \implies x \in f(C)$ so $x \in f(A) \cap f(C)$. Now consider any $x \in f(A) \cap f(C)$. Then $x = f(a)$ for some $a \in A$ and $x = f(c)$ for some $c \in C$. f is injective so $a = c \in A$ and $a = c \in C$. Then $x \in f(A \cap C)$.
The second part is proved by contraposition. Assume that f is not injective. Then we must show there are two subsets A and C of X such that it is not the case that $f(A \cap C) = f(A) \cap f(C)$. We know by the fact that f is not injective that there exist two elements $x_1, x_2 \in X$ such that $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ but $x_1! = x_2$. Let $A = \{x_1\}$ and $C = \{x_2\}$. Then $f(A \cap C) = \emptyset \neq f(A) \cap f(C) = \{f(x_1)\}$.