

# Real Analysis Exercises

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April 2021

1. **Tao, Exercise 5.4.1.** For every real number  $x$ , exactly one of the following three statements is true: (a)  $x$  is zero; (b)  $x$  is positive; (c)  $x$  is negative.

*Proof.* First we show that at least one of  $a$ ,  $b$  or  $c$  is true. Let  $x$  be an arbitrary real number. If  $x = 0$  we are done. Otherwise, we need to show that either  $b$  or  $c$  is true. Since  $x \neq 0$ , it can be written as  $\text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  where  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a Cauchy sequence that is bounded away from zero. Then, there is some  $c > 0$  such that  $|a_n| \geq c$  for all  $n$ . Also, there is some  $N \geq 1$  such that  $|a_N - a_n| \leq c/2$  for all  $n \geq N$ , since the sequence is Cauchy,  $c/2 > 0$  and  $N \geq N$ . Since the sequence is bounded away from zero, none of its terms are zero. Therefore we can split the problem in two cases,  $a_N > 0$  and  $a_N < 0$ .

Case 1 ( $a_N > 0$ ): If we can show that  $a_n \geq c/2 > 0$  we would almost be done, since we could then define a new sequence  $(b_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  where  $b_n := c/2$  if  $n < N$  and  $b_n := a_n$  if  $n \geq N$ , which is clearly positively bounded away from zero and equivalent to  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ . So, assume for the sake of contradiction that  $a_n < c/2$ . Then,  $-a_n > -c/2$ , therefore  $a_N - a_n > a_N - c/2 \geq c/2 > 0$ . But then  $|a_N - a_n| = a_N - a_n \leq c/2$ . Thus we have show that  $c/2 < a_N - a_n \leq c/2$ , a contradiction. This means that  $a_n \geq c/2$  for all  $n \geq N$ , and we are done.

Case 2 ( $a_N < 0$ ): Similarly to case one, we assume for the sake of contradiction that  $a_n > -c/2$ . Since  $-a_N \geq c$ ,  $a_n - a_N > c/2 > 0$ . But then  $|a_n - a_N| = a_n - a_N \leq c/2$ , so we have show that  $c/2 < a_n - a_N \leq c/2$ , a contradiction. Therefore, for all  $n \geq N$ ,  $a_n \leq -c/2$ . Now we can define a new sequence  $(b_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  where  $b_n := -c/2$  if  $n < N$  and  $b_n := a_n$  if  $n \geq N$ , which is clearly negatively bounded away from zero and equivalent to  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ .

Now, we show that at most one of  $a$ ,  $b$  or  $c$  must be true. We do that by contradiction, in three separate cases.

Case 1 ( $a$  and  $b$  are true): Since  $x$  is positive, it can be written as  $x = \text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  where  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is positively bounded away from zero. In other words, there is some  $c > 0$  such that  $a_n \geq c$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . But since  $x = 0$ ,

$(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is equivalent to zero, which means that there is some  $N \geq 1$  such that  $|a_N| = a_N \leq c/2 < c$ , a contradiction.

Case 2 ( $a$  and  $c$  are true): Since  $x$  is negative, it can be written as  $x = \text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  where  $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is negatively bounded away from zero. In other words, there is some  $-c < 0$  such that  $a_n \leq -c$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . But since  $x = 0$ ,  $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is equivalent to zero, which means that there is some  $N \geq 1$  such that  $|a_N| = -a_N \leq c/2$ . But then  $a_N \geq -c/2 > -c$ , a contradiction.

Case 3 ( $b$  and  $c$  are true): Since  $x$  is both positive and negative, we have that  $x = \text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ , where  $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is positively bounded away from zero and  $(b_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is negatively bounded away from zero. This means that there exists some  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that  $a_n \geq c_1$  and  $-b_m \geq c_2$  for all  $n, m \geq 1$ . Then  $a_n - b_m \geq c_1 + c_2 > 0$ . However, since the sequences are equivalent, there is some  $N \geq 1$  such that

$$|a_N - b_N| = a_N - b_N \leq \frac{c_1 + c_2}{2} < c_1 + c_2.$$

This is a contradiction, since we have already shown that  $a_N - b_N \geq c_1 + c_2$

□

2. **Tao, Exercise 5.5.2.** Let  $E$  be a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer, and let  $L < K$  be integers. Suppose that  $K/n$  is an upper bound for  $E$ , but that  $L/n$  is not an upper bound for  $E$ . Without using the Least Upper Bound Theorem, show that there exists an integer  $L < m \leq K$  such that  $m/n$  is an upper bound for  $E$ , but that  $(m-1)/n$  is not an upper bound for  $E$ .

*Proof.* We will say a real number  $w$  is U.B whenever  $w$  is an upper bound for  $E$ .

Suppose for sake of contradiction that there is no integer  $L < m \leq K$  such that  $m/n$  is U.B but that  $(m-1)/n$  is not U.B. This implies that if  $m/n$  is U.B,  $(m-1)/n$  must also be U.B (as long as  $L < m \leq K$ ). Let  $P(t)$  be the statement " $L < K-t \implies$  Both  $(K-t)/n$  and  $(K-t-1)/n$  are U.B". We will prove  $P(t)$  holds for all natural  $t$  by induction. First, we need to show that  $L < K \implies$  Both  $K/n$  and  $(K-1)/n$  are U.B.  $K/n$  is U.B by assumption, and since  $L < K \leq K$ ,  $(K-1)/n$  also has to be an U.B, again by assumption. Now assume  $P(t)$ . We need to show that  $L < K-t-1 \implies$  Both  $(K-t-1)/n$  and  $(K-t-2)/n$  are U.B. If  $L \geq K-t-1$ ,  $P(t+1)$  is vacuously true, so we assume  $K \geq K-t-1 > L$ . Notice that  $K-t-1 > L \implies K-t > L$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $(K-t-1)/n$  is U.B, but this also means that  $(K-t-2)/n$  is U.B, as we wanted to show.

Now, since  $K > L$  we have that  $K \geq L+1$ , which means that  $K = L+1+c$  for some natural number  $c$ . Then  $P(c)$  holds and also  $L < K-c = L+1 \leq K$ . Therefore  $(K-c-1)/n = L/n$  must be U.B, a contradiction. □

3. **Tao, Exercise 5.4.5.** Given any two real numbers  $x < y$ , we can find a rational number  $q$  such that  $x < q < y$ .

*Proof.* By the Archimedean Property, there is a positive integer  $b$  such that  $(y - x)b > 1 > 0$ . Since  $x - y$  is positive and their product with  $b$  is also positive, it follows that  $b > 0$ . By Exercise 5.4.3, there is an integer  $a - 1$  such that  $a - 1 \leq bx < a$ . By the definition of  $b$ , we have that  $bx < by - 1$ . Then,  $a - 1 \leq bx < by - 1 \implies a < by$ . Now we have  $bx < a < by$ . Since  $b > 0$ , we can divide this inequality by  $b$  resulting in  $x < a/b < y$ . We can define  $q := a/b$  and since  $a$  and  $b$  are integers (with  $b \neq 0$ ) we are done.  $\square$

4. **Tao, Exercise 5.4.8.** Let  $(a_n)_{n=0}^\infty$  be a Cauchy sequence of rationals, and let  $x$  be a real number. Show that if  $a_n \leq x$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , then  $\text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq x$ . Similarly, show that if  $a_n \geq x$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , then  $\text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \geq x$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $a_n \leq x$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . For sake of contradiction, assume that  $\text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n > x$ . In that case, we can find a rational  $q$  such that  $\text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n > q > x \geq a_n$ . Since  $q > a_n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , Corollary 5.4.10 asserts that  $q \geq \text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ . Now, we have that  $\text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n > q \geq \text{LIM}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ , a contradiction. A very similar proof follows when  $x \leq a_n$ .  $\square$

5. **Abbott, Exercise 1.3.2.**

- (a) A real number  $s$  is the *greatest lower bound* for a set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  if and only if it meets the following criteria:
- $s$  is a lower bound for  $A$ ;
  - If  $b$  is a lower bound for  $A$ , then  $s \geq b$ .
- (b) We want to show that if  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  is a lower bound for a set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , then  $s = \inf A$  if and only if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists an element  $a \in A$  such that  $s + \epsilon > a$ .

*Proof.* For the forward direction, assume  $s = \inf A$ . Since  $s + \epsilon > s$ , it is not a lower bound for  $A$ . Therefore, there must be some  $a \in A$  such that  $s + \epsilon > a$ .

Conversely, assume  $s$  is a lower bound for  $A$ , with the property that for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $s + \epsilon > a$ . Let  $b$  be a lower bound for  $A$ . Assume for sake of contradiction that  $b > s$ . then we can choose  $\epsilon = b - s > 0$  and we have that  $b = s + \epsilon > a$ , which means that  $b$  is not a lower bound for  $A$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $b \leq s$ , thus  $s = \inf A$ .  $\square$

**6. Abbott, Exercise 1.3.3.**

- (a) First, we show that  $s := \sup B \geq m$  for any  $m$  that is a lower bound for  $A$ . Since  $m$  is a lower bound for  $A$ ,  $m \in B$ . But, since  $s$  is an upper bound for  $B$ ,  $s \geq m$ . Now we need to show that given any  $a \in A$ ,  $s \leq a$ . Let  $b \in B$  be arbitrary. By Lemma 1.3.7, for every choice of  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $s - \epsilon < b$ . Since  $b$  is a lower bound for  $A$ , we have that  $s - \epsilon < b \leq a$ , therefore  $s \leq a$ .
- (b) The previous item gives a general process for finding the greatest lower bound of any nonempty  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  that is bounded below. Namely, construct a set  $B = \{b \in \mathbb{R} : b \text{ is a lower bound for } A\}$ . Then, since  $A$  is bounded below,  $B$  is nonempty.  $B$  is also bounded above, since any  $a \in A$  is an upper bound for  $B$ . This follows because if  $b \in B$ , then  $b$  is a lower bound for  $A$ , therefore  $a \geq b$ . Then, the Axiom of Completeness guarantees that  $s := \sup B$  exists, and we have already shown that this means  $s = \inf A$ . This means that the existence of the greatest lower bound is a corollary of Completeness, hence needs not be asserted by it.
- (c) Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be nonempty and bounded below. Then, define the set  $-A = \{-x : x \in A\}$ .  $-A$  is clearly nonempty. Also, let  $m$  be a lower bound for  $A$  and pick an  $x \in -A$ . Then,  $x = -a$  for some  $a \in A$ . But then  $a \geq m \implies x = -a \leq -m$ . This shows that  $-m$  is an upper bound for  $-A$ , therefore  $-A$  is both nonempty and bounded above. Then, by the Axiom of Completeness, there exists an  $s := \sup -A$ . We want to show that  $-s = \inf A$ . We have that  $s \geq x = -a$ . Then,  $-s \leq a$  thus  $-s$  is a lower bound for  $A$ . Now, let  $b \in \mathbb{R}$  be a lower bound for  $A$ . Then,  $-b$  is an upper bound of  $-A$ , therefore  $-b \geq \sup -A = s$ . This means that  $b \leq -s$ , and  $-s$  is indeed the greatest lower bound of  $A$ .

**7. Abbott, Exercise 1.3.4.**

Since  $B \subseteq A$ , it follows that if  $b \in B$ , then  $b \in A$ . Lets pick one such  $b$ . Then we must have  $b \leq \sup B$ , but also  $b \leq \sup A$ , since  $b$  is an element of  $A$ . This means that  $\sup A$  must be an upper bound of  $B$ , therefore  $\sup B \leq \sup A$ .

**8. Abbott, Exercise 1.3.5.**

- (a) Let  $x$  be an element of  $c + A$ . Then, there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $x = c + a$ . Then, since  $\sup A \geq a$  we have  $c + \sup A \geq c + a = x$ , therefore  $c + \sup A$  is an upper bound for  $c + A$ . Now, let  $b$  be an upper bound of  $c + A$ . Then,  $b \geq x = c + a$ , which means that  $b - c \geq a$ , so  $b - c$  is an upper bound for  $A$ . This means that  $b - c \geq \sup A$ , thus  $b \geq c + \sup A$ , and  $\sup(c + A) = c + \sup A$ , as desired.
- (b) If  $c = 0$ , then the only element of  $cA$  is  $0 = \sup cA = c \sup A$ . Then, we can assume  $c > 0$  and proceed very similarly to the previous

item. Let  $x$  be an element of  $cA$ . Then, there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $x = ca$ . Then, since  $\sup A \geq a$  we have  $c \sup A \geq ca = x$ , therefore  $c \sup A$  is an upper bound for  $cA$ . Now, let  $b$  be an upper bound of  $cA$ . Then,  $b \geq x = ca$ , which means that  $b/c \geq a$ , so  $b/c$  is an upper bound of  $A$ . This means that  $b/c \geq \sup A$ , thus  $b \geq c \sup A$ , and  $\sup(cA) = c \sup A$ , as desired.

(c) If  $c < 0$ , then  $\sup(cA) = c \inf(A)$ .

9. **Abbott, Exercise 1.3.6.**

- (a) 3, 1.
- (b) 1, 0.
- (c)  $1/3, 1/2$
- (d) 9,  $1/9$

10. **Abbott, Exercise 1.3.7.**

Let  $b$  also be an upper bound for  $A$ . Then  $b \geq a$ , therefore  $a = \sup A$

11. **Abbott, Exercise 1.3.8.** Let  $\epsilon = \sup B - \sup A$ . Since  $\sup B > \sup A$ ,  $\epsilon$  is positive, which means there is an element  $b \in B$  such that  $\sup A = \sup B - \epsilon < b$ . Now, let  $a$  be an element of  $A$ . Then,  $a \leq \sup A < b$ , therefore  $b$  is an upper bound for  $A$ .

12. **Abbott, Exercise 1.3.9.**

- (a) True.
- (b) False.  $L = 2$  and  $A = (0, 2)$ .
- (c) False.  $A = (0, 1)$ ,  $B = (1, 2)$ .
- (d) True.
- (e) False.  $A = B = (0, 1)$ .

13. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.1.**

If  $b > 0$ , then  $a < 0 < b$  hence we can set  $r := 0$  since  $0 \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Now, assume  $b \leq 0$ . Then,  $0 \leq -b < -a$  so we can choose an  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $-b < r < -a$ , therefore  $a < -r < b$  and we are done ( $-r$  is also rational).

14. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.2.** Since  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , there are integers  $r_1, r_2, q_1, q_2$  such that  $a = r_1/q_1$  and  $b = r_2/q_2$ .

(a)

$$a + b = \frac{r_1}{q_1} + \frac{r_2}{q_2} = \frac{r_1 q_2 + r_2 q_1}{q_1 q_2}$$

$$ab = \frac{r_1 r_2}{q_1 q_2}$$

Since  $r_1 q_2 + r_2 q_1$  and  $q_1 q_2 \neq 0$  are integers,  $a + b$  and  $ab$  are rational numbers.

(b) Assume  $a + t \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then,

$$a + t = \frac{r_1}{q_1} + t = \frac{r_3}{q_3}$$

for some  $r_3, q_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $q_3 \neq 0$ . But then,

$$t = \frac{r_3}{q_3} - \frac{r_1}{q_1}$$

which is a sum of rational numbers, therefore also rational, a contradiction. Since  $\mathbb{R}$  is closed under addition,  $t$  must be irrational.

(c)  $\mathbb{I}$  is not closed under addition or multiplication. If  $t$  is an irrational number and  $q$  is rational, then  $s := q - t$  is also irrational. However,  $t + s = q$  is a rational number, therefore two irrationals can sum to a rational. Also, if we instead set  $s := q/t$ , then  $ts = q$ , so irrationals are also not closed under multiplication.

15. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.3.** Since  $a < b$ ,  $a - \sqrt{2} < b - \sqrt{2}$ , and we can find a rational number  $q$  such that  $a - \sqrt{2} < q < b - \sqrt{2}$ . We then have  $a < q + \sqrt{2} < b$ . Since  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $q + \sqrt{2}$  must be irrational.
16. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.4.** Let  $A := \{1/n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Assume there is some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $1/n < 0$ . Multiplying by  $n$  makes the contradiction clear, so 0 is a lower bound for  $A$ . Now, let  $b$  also be a lower bound for  $A$  and assume  $b > 0$ . Then, we can use the Archimedean Property of  $\mathbb{R}$  to find some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $1/n < b$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $b$  is a lower bound for  $A$ , therefore we must have  $b \leq 0$ , which proves  $0 = \inf A$ .
17. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.5.** Assume that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (0, 1/n) \neq \emptyset$ . Then, there must be some  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 < x < 1/n$ . But then we can use the Archimedean Property to find a natural  $m$  such that  $x > 1/m$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (0, 1/n) = \emptyset$ .
18. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.6.** The following has already been shown:

$$\left(\alpha - \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 > \alpha^2 - \frac{2\alpha}{n}.$$

Now, choose  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\frac{1}{n_0} < \frac{\alpha^2 - 2}{2\alpha}.$$

It follows that

$$\left(\alpha - \frac{1}{n_0}\right)^2 > \alpha^2 - \frac{2\alpha}{n_0} > 2 > t^2$$

for any  $t \in T$ . Since  $\alpha = \sup T$ , it follows that there is some  $r \in T$  such that  $\alpha - 1/n_0 < r$ . But, since  $(\alpha - 1/n_0)^2 > r^2$  and  $\alpha - 1/n_0 > 0$ , we have  $\alpha - 1/n_0 > r$ , a contradiction.

19. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.7.** Let  $C_1 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : f(n) \in A\}$  and  $C_{k+1} = C_k \setminus \{n_k\}$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $n_k := \min C_k$ . Then, let  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$  be defined as  $g(k) = f(n_k)$ . First we prove a couple of useful lemmas.

Lemma 1: For all natural  $k$ ,  $n_{k+1} > n_k$ . Also,  $a \neq b \implies n_a \neq n_b$ .

*Proof.* In the first part, since  $n_{k+1} \in C_{k+1}$ , we have that  $n_{k+1} \in \{n \in C_k : n \neq n_k\}$ , therefore  $n_{k+1} \in C_k$ , so  $n_{k+1} > n_k$ , since  $n_k$  is the minimum of  $C_k$  and  $n_{k+1} \neq n_k$ .

Now, assume  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a \neq b$ . Without loss of generality, also assume that  $a > b$ . Then  $n_a > n_b$ , therefore  $n_a \neq n_b$ .  $\square$

Lemma 2: For every  $L \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(L) \in A$ , there is some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n_k = L$ .

*Proof.* Let  $L$  be a natural number such that  $f(L) \in A$ . Then,  $L \in C_1$ . Now, assume for sake of contradiction that there is no natural  $k$  such that  $n_k = L$ . This means that for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can find a  $c_k \in C_k$  such that  $L > c_k$ , since  $L$  cannot be the minimum of  $C_k$ . Now, pick a  $c_L \in C_L$  such that  $L > c_L$ . Then,  $c_L$  must be greater than or equal to the minimum of  $C_L$ , namely  $n_L$ . Now, we can use Lemma 1 to see that  $L > n_L > n_{L-1} > \dots > n_1 > 0$ . This shows that there are  $L$  natural numbers strictly between 0 and  $L$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Now, we show that  $g$  is onto. Let  $a$  be an element of  $A$ . Since  $f$  is onto and  $A \subseteq B$ , there must be a natural number  $L$  such that  $f(L) = a$ . Then, by Lemma 2, we have a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n_k = L$ . Now, we have that  $f(L) = f(n_k) = g(k) = a$ , as we wanted to show.

Next, we show that  $g$  is one-to-one. Assume that  $g(k_1) = g(k_2)$ , for  $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ . This means that  $f(n_{k_1}) = f(n_{k_2})$ , and since  $f$  is one-to-one, it must be that  $n_{k_1} = n_{k_2}$ . By Lemma 1, this can only happen when  $k_1 = k_2$ , and we are done.

20. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.8.**

- (a)  $B_2$  is a subset of  $A_1$ , therefore it is countable or finite. First, assume it is countable. Then, there must be two functions  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A_1$  and  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow B_2$  which are 1-1 and onto. Then, we can define another function  $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A_1 \cup B_2$  as following:

$$h(n) = \begin{cases} f(\frac{n-1}{2}) & n \text{ is odd} \\ g(\frac{n}{2}), & n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

To show that  $h$  is 1-1, assume that  $a \neq b$  for natural numbers  $a$  and  $b$ . If they are both odd, then  $h(a) = f((a-1)/2)$  and  $h(b) = f((b-1)/2)$ . Since  $(a-1)/2 \neq (b-1)/2$  and  $f$  is 1-1, we must have  $h(a) \neq h(b)$ . A

very similar argument follows if  $a$  and  $b$  are both even. The final case is  $a$  is odd and  $b$  is even. Then,  $h(a) = f((n-1)/2)$  and  $h(b) = g(b/2)$ . Since  $f((n-1)/2) \in A_1$  and  $g(b/2) \in B_2$ , it must be the case that  $h(a) \neq h(b)$ , since  $g(b/2) \notin A_1$ . Now, we need to show that  $h$  is onto. Let  $t \in A_1 \cup B_2$ . We must find an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $h(n) = t$ . First, assume  $t \in A_1$ . Since  $f$  is onto, there is a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(k) = t$ . Setting  $n := 2k + 1$ , we have that  $h(n) = f(k) = t$ . Next, assume  $t \in B_2$ . Since  $g$  is onto, there is a  $k \in B_2$  such that  $g(k) = t$ . Setting  $n := 2k$ , we have that  $h(n) = g(k) = t$ . This shows that  $A_1 \cup B_2 \sim \mathbb{N}$  is countable whenever  $B_2$  is countable.

Next, we informally discuss why the theorem holds if  $B_2$  is finite. In this case, we can find a bijection  $g : \{1, 2, 3, \dots, m\} \rightarrow B_2$ , where  $m$  is the cardinality of  $B_2$ . Now, we define a new function  $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A_1 \cup B_2$  as following:

$$h(n) = \begin{cases} g(n) & n \leq m \\ f(n - m) & n > m \end{cases}$$

where  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A_1$  is a bijection. Now pick two numbers  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  and assume  $a \neq b$ . WLOG, we can make  $a > b$ . If  $a > b > m$ , then  $h(a) = f(a - m)$  and  $h(b) = f(b - m)$ . Since  $f$  is 1-1,  $h(a) \neq h(b)$ . Next, if  $b \leq m$ , then  $h(b) = g(b)$ . In the case where  $a \leq m$ , we also have  $h(a) = g(a) \neq g(b)$ . Otherwise,  $h(a) = f(a - m) \in A_1$ , and, since  $h(b) \notin A_1$ ,  $h(a) \neq h(b)$ , therefore  $h$  is 1-1.

Now, we need to show that  $h$  is onto. Let  $t \in A_1 \cup B_2$ . We must find an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $h(n) = t$ . First, assume  $t \in A_1$ . Since  $f$  is onto, there is a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(k) = t$ . Setting  $n := m + k$ , we have that  $h(n) = f(k) = t$ . Next, assume  $t \in B_2$ . Since  $g$  is onto, there is a  $k \in B_2$  such that  $g(k) = t$ . Setting  $n := k$ , we have that  $h(n) = g(k) = t$ , since  $k \in B_2 \implies k \leq m$ .

The more general statement in (i) follows easily by applying induction to the statement just proved.

- (b) We can use induction to show that  $\bigcup_{n=1}^m A_n$  is countable for any particular  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , which only consists of a finite ( $m$ ) number of unions, not infinite.
- (c) Each one of the columns has a countable number of elements, and there are countably many columns. By matching each  $a_m \in A_n$  with the  $n$ th column, and  $m$ th row, we have created a bijection between the unions of all the  $A_n$  and the natural numbers.

## 21. Abbott, Exercise 1.4.9.

- (a) Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a bijection. Since for every  $b \in B$  there is a unique  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ , we can define a new function  $g : B \rightarrow A$  where  $g(b) = g(f(a)) = a$ . To show that  $g$  is 1-1, let  $g(b_1) = g(b_2)$ , where  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . Then, we can find  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  such



that  $f(a_1) = b_1$  and  $f(a_2) = b_2$ . Then,  $g(f(a_1)) = g(f(a_2))$  and by the definition of  $g$  this means that  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ , therefore  $a_1 = a_2$ . Now,  $b_1 = f(a_1) = f(a_2) = b_2$ , so  $g$  is 1-1. Next, let  $a \in A$ . We must find a  $b \in B$  such that  $g(b) = a$ . All we have to do is set  $b := f(a)$ , and we are done. Since  $g$  is a bijection between  $B$  and  $A$ , it follows that  $B \sim A$ .

- (b) Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be bijections and  $h : A \rightarrow C$  be a function such that for every  $a \in A$ ,  $h(a) = g(f(a))$ . This can be done since  $f(a) \in B$  and  $g(f(a)) \in C$ . To show that  $h$  is 1-1, let  $h(a_1) = h(a_2)$ . This means that  $g(f(a_1)) = g(f(a_2))$ , then  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$  and finally  $a_1 = a_2$ . Now, pick a  $c \in C$ . Since  $g$  is onto, there is a  $b \in B$  such that  $g(b) = c$ , and since  $f$  is onto, there is an  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ . Then  $g(f(a)) = h(a) = c$ , which shows  $h$  is onto. Since  $h$  is also 1-1, it follows that  $A \sim C$ .

22. **Abbott, Exercise 1.4.10.** Let  $S_n := \{S \subseteq \mathbb{N} : \text{The cardinality of } S = n\}$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then, the set of all finite subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  is  $U = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n$ . If we can show that each  $S_n$  is countable, Theorem 1.4.13 guarantees  $U$  is also countable.

Define  $T_{1,m} = S_1$  and  $T_{n+1,m} = \{\{m\} \cup s : s \in S_n, m \notin s\}$  for all  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . We claim that

$$S_n = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} T_{n,m}.$$

This is clearly true when  $n = 1$ , so we now show that the equality holds for all  $n > 1$ . To see that, let  $x \in \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} T_{n,m}$ . Then  $x \in T_{n,m}$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . This means that  $x = \{m\} \cup s$ , where  $s \in S_{n-1}$ , thus  $x \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $m \notin s$ , the cardinality of  $x$  is  $n$ , so  $x \in S_n$ . Now, we must show that  $x \in S_n \implies x \in \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} T_{n,m}$ , and we will call this statement  $P(n)$ . Assume  $x \in S_n$ . If  $n = 1$ , we have already seen that the equality in question holds, so  $P(1)$  is true. Now assume  $P(n)$ . Also, let  $y \in S_{n+1}$ . Then, the cardinality of  $y$  is  $n + 1$ . Next, we can use the fact that  $y \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  to see that  $y = \{m\} \cup s$  for some  $s \in S_n$  and some natural  $m \notin s$ . But this means that  $y \in T_{n+1,m}$ , so  $P(n + 1)$  holds.

Now, let's show by induction that  $T_n$  is countable.  $T_{1,m} = S_1$  is easily seen to be countable by defining a function  $v : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow T_{1,m}$  such that  $v(n) = \{n\}$ . Now, assume  $T_{n,m}$  is countable and define the set  $A_m := \{a \in \mathbb{N} : m \notin f(a)\}$ . By Theorem 1.4.13,  $S_n$  is also countable, therefore there is a bijection  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow S_n$ . Define a function  $g : A \rightarrow T_{n+1,m}$  such that  $g(a) = \{m\} \cup f(a)$ , and let  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  with  $a_1 \neq a_2$ . Then,  $f(a_1) \neq f(a_2)$ , and since  $m \notin f(a_1), f(a_2)$ , we have that  $\{m\} \cup f(a_1) \neq \{m\} \cup f(a_2)$ , thus  $g(a_1) \neq g(a_2)$  so  $g$  is 1-1. Now, let  $t \in T_{n+1,m}$ . Then,  $t = \{m\} \cup s$  where  $m \notin s$ . Since  $f$  is onto, there is some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(n) = s$ . Then,  $g(n) = \{m\} \cup s = t$ , so  $g$  is onto. This shows that  $A \sim T_{n+1,m}$ . Since  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and  $A$  is not finite, it must be countable, therefore every  $T_{n,m}$  is

also countable, and Theorem 1.4.13 can be used to see that this results in every  $S_n$  being countable, as we wanted to show.

**23. Abbott, Exercise 1.4.11.**

- (a)  $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow S$ ,  $f(x) = (x, 1/2)$ .
- (b) For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  if there is a decimal expansion of  $x$  that ends in a tail of nines, we can instead choose one that ends in a tail of zeros, and we will call this the unique expansion of  $x$  (when  $x$  does not end in a tail of nines the expansion is already unique). Then, let  $(x_1, x_2) \in S$ . We can expand  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  uniquely as follows:

$$x_1 = 0.d_1d_2d_3 \dots$$

$$x_2 = 0.e_1e_2e_3 \dots$$

Then, define the function  $f : S \rightarrow (0, 1)$  as following:

$$f((x_1, x_2)) = 0.d_1e_1d_2e_2 \dots$$

$f$  is 1-1, but not onto. Consider for example  $x = 0.898989 \dots$ . Notice that every other digit is a 9, so in order for  $f$  to map some ordered pair to  $x$ , one of the elements of the pair would have to be  $0.999 \dots = 1$ , which is not in the domain of  $f$ .

**24. Abbott, Exercise 1.5.11.** (Switched to second edition here)

- (a) Since  $g$  maps  $B'$  onto  $A'$ , for every  $a \in A'$  there is a  $b \in B'$  such that  $g(b) = a$ . Since  $g$  is also 1-1, this  $b$  is unique. Then, we can define a function  $g^{-1} : A' \rightarrow B'$  such that  $g^{-1}(a) = b$ . To show that  $g^{-1}$  is onto, let  $y \in B'$  be arbitrary. Then  $g(y) = x$  for some  $x \in A'$ , which by the definition of  $g^{-1}$  means that  $g^{-1}(x) = y$  so  $g^{-1}$  is onto. Next, we show that  $g^{-1}$  is 1-1 by letting  $g^{-1}(x_1) = g^{-1}(x_2)$  for some  $x_1, x_2 \in A'$ . Then, we can find  $y_1, y_2 \in B'$  such that  $g(y_1) = x_1$  and  $g(y_2) = x_2$ . Then,  $g^{-1}(g(y_1)) = g^{-1}(g(y_2))$ , in other words,  $g(y_1) = g(y_2)$ , which means  $y_1 = y_2$  since  $g$  is 1-1. Then,  $g(y_1) = x_1 = g(y_2) = x_2$ , and  $g^{-1}$  is 1-1 and onto.

Now, let  $h : X \rightarrow Y$  be such that

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & x \in A \\ g^{-1}(x) & x \in A' \end{cases}$$

for every  $x \in X$ . Now, assume  $a \neq b$  for  $a, b \in X$ . If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $A$ , then  $h(a) \neq h(b)$ , since  $f$  is 1-1. Also, if  $a, b \in A'$ , then  $h(a) \neq h(b)$  since  $g^{-1}$  is 1-1. The last case is  $a \in A$  and  $b \in A'$ , then  $h(a) = f(a) \in B$ , and  $h(b) = g^{-1}(b) \in B'$ , and we can use the fact that  $A'$  and  $B'$  are disjoint to see that  $h(a) \neq h(b)$ , so  $h$  is

1-1. Now, let  $y \in Y$ . If  $y \in B$ , then there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = h(a) = y$ , since  $f$  maps  $A$  onto  $B$ . Also, if  $y \in B'$ , then there is some  $a' \in A'$  such that  $g^{-1}(a') = y$ , since  $g^{-1}$  is onto.

25. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.1.** The function  $(1 - 2x)/((2x - 1)^2 - 1)$  maps  $(0, 1)$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  both 1-1 and onto, therefore  $\mathbb{R} \sim (0, 1)$ , and since  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation,  $\mathbb{R}$  is uncountable  $\iff (0, 1)$  is uncountable.

26. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.2.**

- (a) If  $a_{11} = 2$ , then  $b_1 = 3$ , and if  $a_{11} \neq 2$ ,  $b_1 = 2$ . In both cases,  $a_{11} \neq b_1$ . Since  $f(1) = .a_{11}a_{12}\dots$ ,  $x$  and  $f(1)$  differ in at least one decimal place, therefore they are not equal.
- (b) If  $a_{nn} = 2$ , then  $b_n = 3$ , and if  $a_{nn} \neq 2$ ,  $b_n = 2$ . In both cases,  $a_{nn} \neq b_n$ . Since  $f(n) = .a_{n1}\dots a_{nn}a_{nn+1}\dots$ ,  $x$  and  $f(n)$  differ in at least one decimal place, therefore they are not equal.
- (c) We assumed that every real number is included in the list, therefore there is some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x = f(n)$ . However, we have also shown that this cannot be the case, which is a contradiction. Therefore, our assumption that  $(0, 1)$  must be false, and  $(0, 1)$  is uncountable.

27. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.3.**

- (a) We cannot apply the same argument to  $\mathbb{Q}$  because even though every rational number has a decimal expansion, it is not true that every decimal expansion corresponds to a rational number. Therefore, the number  $x = .b_1b_2\dots$  created is only guaranteed to be a real number, so we cannot use the fact that  $x$  is not in the list to get a contradiction. Instead, this argument shows that the number  $x$  must be irrational.
- (b) We used the fact that if  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and the  $n$ th digit of  $x$  is not equal to the  $n$ th digit of  $y$ , then  $x \neq y$ . However,  $0.499\dots = 0.5$ , and their first digits (after the decimal point) are different. Fortunately, this only happens when one of  $x$  has a decimal expansion that terminates, and  $y$  can be written with repeating nines (or vice-versa), and this is never the case with the real number  $x$  that we constructed, since its only digits are 2 and 3.

28. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.4.** Assume that  $S$  is countable. Then, there is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow S$  which is 1-1 and onto. Now, let  $(a_n)$  be a sequence such that

$$a_n = \begin{cases} 0 & f(n)_n = 1 \\ 1 & f(n)_n = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $f(n)_n$  represents the  $n$ th entry in the sequence  $f(n)$ . Since  $a_n$  is a sequence of only zeros and ones,  $(a_n) \in S$ . Since  $f$  is onto, this means that there is some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(k) = (a_n)$ . However, we know that  $f(k)_k \neq a_k$ , therefore  $f(k) \neq (a_n)$ , a contradiction. This means that  $S$  is not countable. Since  $S$  is also infinite,  $S$  is uncountable.

29. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.5.**

- (a)  $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}\}.$
- (b) If  $A$  has 1 element  $a$ , then  $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}\}$  has  $2^1 = 2$  elements. Now assume that if  $A$  has  $n$  elements  $P(A)$  has  $2^n$  elements. Let  $B$  have  $n+1$  elements, and  $b \in B$ . The set  $B' = B \setminus \{b\}$ , has cardinality  $n$ , so  $P(B')$  has  $2^n$  elements. But every element of  $P(B)$  is either an element of  $P(B')$  or the union of one of the elements of  $B'$  with  $b$ . Therefore,  $P(B)$  has  $2^n + 2^n = 2^{n+1}$  elements.

30. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.6.**

(a)

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & x = a \\ \{a\} & x = b \\ \{b\} & x = c \end{cases}$$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \{a\} & x = a \\ \{b\} & x = b \\ \{c\} & x = c \end{cases}$$

(b)

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & x = 1 \\ \{2\} & x = 2 \\ \{3\} & x = 3 \\ \{4\} & x = 4 \end{cases}$$

- (c) Since there are more elements in  $P(C)$  than  $C$ , a mapping from  $C \rightarrow P(C)$  always "runs out of" elements from  $C$  before mapping all to all of the elements in  $P(C)$ .

31. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.8.**

- (a) By the definition of  $B$ ,  $a'$  is some element of  $A$  such that  $a' \notin f(a') = B$ . Since we assumed  $a' \in B$ , this is a contradiction.
- (b) Since  $a' \notin B$  and  $a' \in A$ , it must be the case that  $a' \in f(a') = B$ , a contradiction.

32. **Abbott, Exercise 1.6.9.** Let  $A \in P(\mathbb{N})$  be an arbitrary subset of the naturals. Then, define the function  $f : P(\mathbb{N}) \rightarrow S$  such that

$$f(A)_n = \begin{cases} 0 & n \notin A \\ 1 & n \in A \end{cases}$$

where  $S$  is the set of all sequences of 0's and 1's discussed in Exercise 1.6.4, and  $f(A)_n$  stands for the  $n$ th term of the sequence  $f(A)$ . Since  $S$  is

uncountable, if we can show that  $f$  is 1-1 and onto, then  $P(\mathbb{N}) \sim S$ , which is uncountable. Assume that  $f(X) = f(Y)$  for some  $X, Y \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ . This means that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$   $f(X)_n = f(Y)_n$ . Now, pick an arbitrary  $n \in X$ . Then,  $f(X)_n = 1 = f(Y)_n$ , which means  $n$  must also be an element of  $Y$ . A very similar argument follows if you first pick an  $n \in Y$ . This means that  $n \in X \iff n \in Y$ , so  $X = Y$  and  $f$  is 1-1. Now, let  $s \in S$  be arbitrary. To show that  $f$  is onto, we must find some  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(A) = s$ . To do that let  $A = \{a \in \mathbb{N} : s_a = 1\}$ . Then  $f(A)_n = 1$  means that  $n \in A$ , which only happens if  $s_n$  is also equal to 1, so  $f(A)_n = s_n$  in this case. Finally, if  $f(A)_n = 0$ , then  $n \notin A$ , so  $s_n \neq 1$ , which can only happen if  $s_n = 0 = f(A)_n$ , therefore  $f(A) = s$  and  $f$  is onto.

We have shown that  $P(\mathbb{N}) \sim S$ , but our goal was to show that  $P(\mathbb{N}) \sim \mathbb{R}$ . We do this by showing that  $S \sim (0, 1)$ . Since  $(0, 1) \sim \mathbb{R}$  and  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation this automatically gives our wanted result. To do that, let  $x \in (0, 1)$  be a real number. We are interested in the binary representation of  $x$ , namely

$$x = 0.a_1a_2a_3\dots$$

where the  $a_n$  are either 0 or 1. Also, we require that the binary expansion never terminates in 1's. Then, the function  $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow S$  such that  $f(x)_n = a_n$  is easily seen to be 1-1, but it is not onto, since sequences that terminate in 1's will not be "reached" by the function. However, by the Schröder–Bernstein Theorem finding a 1-1 function from  $g : S \rightarrow (0, 1)$  is enough for our purposes. To do this, let  $g(A)_n = A_n$ , where  $g(A)_n$  represents the  $n$ th digit in the decimal expansion of a real number in the interval  $(0, 1)$ .  $g$  is clearly 1-1, so we are done.

### 33. Abbott, Exercise 1.6.10.

- (a) Let  $F$  be the set of all functions from  $\{0, 1\}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ . Then, define  $g : \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow F$  such that  $g((a, b))$  is a function  $f : \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^2$  such that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} a & x = 0 \\ b & x = 1 \end{cases}$$

$g$  is easily seen to be 1-1 and onto, so  $F \sim \mathbb{N}^2 \sim \mathbb{N}$ , therefore  $F$  is countable.

- (b) Let  $F$  now be the set of all  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ . Now let the function  $g : F \rightarrow S$  be such that  $g(f)_n = f(n)$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and every  $f \in F$ , where  $S$  is the set of all sequences of 0's and 1's discussed in Exercise 1.6.4. Again,  $g$  is easily seen to be a bijection, so  $F \sim S \sim \mathbb{R}$ , therefore  $F$  is uncountable.

### 34. Abbott, Exercise 2.2.1. The sequence $f(n) = (-1)^n$ converges to 0 and 1, but does not converge. This definition describes bounded sequences.

35. **Abbott, Exercise 2.2.4.**

- (a)  $f(n) = (-1)^n$ .
- (b) There is no such sequence. To see that, let  $(a_n)$  be a sequence such that for every  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  there is some  $n \geq N$  such that  $a_n = 1$  which also converges to some real number  $L$ . Now, assume  $L \neq 1$ . Since  $(a_n)$  converges, there is some  $M \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $m \geq M$   $|a_m - L| < |1 - L|/2$ , since  $|1 - L|/2 > 0$ . By the construction of  $(a_n)$ , we can pick an  $m \geq M$  such that  $a_m = 1$ . Then, we have  $|1 - L| < |1 - L|/2$  which implies  $1 < 1/2$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $(a_n)$  must converge to 1.
- (c)  $(0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, \dots)$ .

36. **Abbott, Exercise 2.2.5.**

- (a) We claim that  $\lim a_n = 0$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Choose a natural number  $N > 5$ . Notice that whenever  $n \geq N > 5$ ,  $1 > 5/n \geq 0$ , which means  $0 = \lfloor a_n \rfloor$ , therefore  $|a_n - 0| = 0 < \epsilon$ .
- (b) We claim that  $\lim a_n = 1$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Choose a natural number  $N > 6$ . Notice that whenever  $n \geq N > 6$ ,  $2 > (12 + 4n)/(3n) \geq 1$ , which means  $1 = \lfloor a_n \rfloor$ , therefore  $|a_n - 1| = 0 < \epsilon$ .

37. **Abbott, Exercise 2.2.6.** Assume  $a \neq b$ . Then, there are naturals  $N_1, N_2$  such that for every  $n_1 \geq N_1$  and every  $n_2 \geq N_2$ , we have  $|a_{n_1} - a| < |a - b|/2$  and  $|a_{n_2} - b| < |a - b|/2$ . By letting  $N = \max(N_1, N_2)$ , it is then true that for every  $n \geq N$   $|a_n - a| < |a - b|/2$  and  $|a_n - b| < |a - b|/2$ . Adding both of these equations, we have  $|a_n - a| + |a_n - b| < |a - b|$ , which contradicts the triangle inequality, so we must have  $a = b$ .

38. **Abbott, Exercise 2.2.7.**

- (a) The sequence  $(-1)^n$  is frequently in  $\{1\}$ .
- (b) Definition (i) is stronger, a sequence that is eventually in a set is also frequently in the set.
- (c) A sequence  $(a_n)$  converges to  $a$  if, given any  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood  $V_\epsilon(a)$  of  $a$ , the sequence is eventually in  $V_\epsilon(a)$ .
- (d) The sequence  $(1, 2, 1, 2, 1, \dots)$  is not eventually in  $(1.9, 2.1)$ . However, any sequence with an infinite number of 2's is frequently in  $(1.9, 2.1)$ , since 2 is in this set.

39. **Abbott, Exercise 2.2.8.**

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) The sequence  $(0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, \dots)$  is a counterexample.

- (d) A sequence is not zero-heavy if for all  $M \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n$  satisfying  $N \leq n \leq N + M$  we have  $x_n \neq 0$ .

40. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.1.**

- (a) Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Since  $(x_n) \rightarrow 0$ , there is an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq N$ ,  $x_n < \epsilon^2$ . Then,  $\sqrt{x_n} = |\sqrt{x_n} - 0| < \epsilon$ , so  $(\sqrt{x_n}) \rightarrow 0$ .
- (b) Since item (a) already proves the case where  $x = 0$ , we can assume  $x > 0$ . Now, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Since  $(x_n) \rightarrow x$ , there is an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq N$   $|x_n - x| < \epsilon\sqrt{x}$ . In that case,

$$|\sqrt{x_n} - \sqrt{x}| = |\sqrt{x_n} - \sqrt{x}| \frac{\sqrt{x_n} + \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x_n} + \sqrt{x}} = \frac{|x_n - x|}{\sqrt{x_n} + \sqrt{x}} \leq \frac{|x_n - x|}{\sqrt{x}} < \epsilon$$

and we are done.

41. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.2.**

- (a) Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Since  $(x_n) \rightarrow 2$ , we can choose a natural number  $N$  such that  $|x_n - 2| < 3\epsilon/2$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Then,

$$\left| \frac{2x_n - 1}{3} - 1 \right| = \frac{2}{3} |x_n - 2| < \epsilon.$$

- (b) Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Since  $(x_n) \rightarrow 2$ , we can choose a natural number  $N_1$  such that  $|x_n - 2| < 2\epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N_1$ . We can also find a natural  $N_2$  such that  $|2 - x_n| < 1$ , for all  $n \geq N_2$ , which implies  $|x_n| > 1$ . Let  $N := \max(N_1, N_2)$ . Then, for all  $n \geq N$ , we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{x_n} - \frac{1}{2} \right| = \left| \frac{2 - x_n}{2x_n} \right| < \left| \frac{x_n - 2}{2} \right| < \epsilon.$$

42. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.3.** Applying Theorem 2.3.4 twice, we have  $l \leq \lim y_n \leq l$ , which means  $\lim y_n = l$ .

43. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.4.**

- (a) Applying the Algebraic Limit Theorem several times, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim\left(\frac{1 + 2a_n}{1 + 3a_n - 4a_n^2}\right) &= \frac{\lim(1 + 2a_n)}{\lim(1 + 3a_n - 4a_n^2)} = \\ &= \frac{\lim(1) + 2\lim(a_n)}{\lim(1) + 3\lim(a_n) - 4\lim(a_n)\lim(a_n)} = \frac{1}{1} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

- (b)

$$\frac{(a_n + 2)^2 - 4}{a_n} = \frac{a_n(a_n + 4)}{a_n} = a_n + 4$$

Then,

$$\lim\left(\frac{(a_n + 2)^2 - 4}{a_n}\right) = \lim(a_n) + \lim(4) = 4.$$

(c)

$$\lim\left(\frac{\frac{2}{a_n} + 3}{\frac{1}{a_n} + 5}\right) = \lim\left(\frac{3a_n + 2}{5a_n + 1}\right) = 2.$$

44. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.5.** Assume  $(z_n) \rightarrow L$ , for some real number  $L$ . We must show that both  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  are also convergent. Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. There exists a natural number  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  we have  $|z_n - L| < \epsilon$ . Since  $n \geq N \implies 2n - 1 \geq N$ , we also have  $|z_{2n-1} - L| < \epsilon$  for  $n \geq N$ . Similarly,  $n \geq N \implies 2n \geq N$ , therefore  $|z_{2n} - L| < \epsilon$ . Therefore, for all  $n \geq N$  we have both  $|x_n - L| < \epsilon$  and  $|y_n - L| < \epsilon$ , since  $z_{2n-1} = x_n$  and  $z_{2n} = y_n$ , so all three sequences converge to  $L$ .

For the converse, we assume  $(x_n), (y_n) \rightarrow L$  for some real number  $L$ , and we must show  $(z_n)$  also converges, in particular, we will show  $(z_n) \rightarrow L$ . Since  $|a| \geq 0$  for any real  $a$ , we have  $|y_n - L| = |z_{2n} - L| \leq |x_n - y_n| + |y_n - L|$  for all natural  $n$ . Also, we can use the triangle inequality to see that  $|x_n - L| = |z_{2n-1} - L| \leq |x_n - y_n| + |y_n - L|$ . Now, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Choose a natural  $N$  such that  $|x_n - y_n| < \epsilon/2$  and  $|y_n - L| < \epsilon/2$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Using the two inequalities just mentioned, we then have  $|z_{2n} - L| \leq \epsilon$  and  $|z_{2n-1} - L| < \epsilon$ . This shows that  $|z_m - L| < \epsilon$  for all  $m \geq 2N - 1$ , so  $(z_n) \rightarrow L$ .

In the proof just given, we used the following fact: if  $(x_n), (y_n) \rightarrow L$  for some real number  $L$ , then for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is some natural  $N$  such that  $|x_n - y_n| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ . To see that we can always do this, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary and use the fact that both the sequences converge to find  $N_1, N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|x_n - L| < \epsilon/2$  for all  $n \geq N_1$  and  $|y_m - L| < \epsilon/2$  for all  $m \geq N_2$ . Setting  $N := \max(N_1, N_2)$  we have  $|x_n - L| < \epsilon/2$  and  $|y_n - L| < \epsilon/2$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Summing the two inequalities, we get  $|x_n - L| + |y_n - L| < \epsilon$ , and we can use the triangle inequality to see that  $|x_n - y_n| \leq |x_n - L| + |y_n - L| < \epsilon$ , as we wanted to show.

45. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.6.** First, notice that

$$\lim(1/n) = 0 \implies \lim\left(1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{n}}\right) = 2 \implies \lim\left(\frac{-2}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{n}}}\right) = -1.$$

Also,

$$b_n = n - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n} \cdot \frac{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 2n}}{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 2n}} = \frac{-2n}{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 2n}} = \frac{-2}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{n}}}.$$

Combining both results we have  $\lim(b_n) = -1$ .

46. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.7.**

(a)  $x_n = n$  and  $y_n = -n$ .



- (b) This is impossible. To see this, assume that  $(x_n + y_n)$  and  $(x_n)$  are convergent, while  $(y_n)$  is not. By the Algebraic Limit Theorem, we have  $\lim(y_n) = \lim((x_n + y_n) - x_n) = \lim(x_n + y_n) - \lim(x_n)$ , so  $(y_n)$  converges, a contradiction.
- (c)  $(1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, \dots)$ .
- (d) This is not possible. Assume for contradiction that  $(a_n)$  is unbounded,  $(b_n)$  is convergent and  $(a_n - b_n)$  is bounded. By Theorem 2.3.2, there is a real number  $M$  such that  $M \geq |b_n|$  for all  $n$ . By our initial assumption, there is also a real  $L$  such that  $L \geq |a_n - b_n|$  for all  $n$ . Then, we have  $L \geq |a_n - b_n| \geq |a_n| - |b_n| \geq |a_n| - M$ , which means  $L + M \geq |a_n|$  for all  $n$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $(a_n)$  was not bounded.
- (e)  $(a_n) = (0, 0, 0, \dots)$ ,  $(b_n) = (1, 2, 3, \dots)$ .

47. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.8.**

- (a) Assume  $(x_n) \rightarrow x$ . First, we use induction to show that

$$\lim(x_n^k) = x^k$$

for all natural  $k$ . The case  $k = 1$  is trivial, so we assume the equality holds for  $k$  and seek to show that it also holds for  $k + 1$ . Applying the Algebraic Limit Theorem, we have  $\lim(x_n^{k+1}) = \lim(x_n^k x_n) = x^k x = x^{k+1}$ , as we wanted to show.

Now, let  $p$  be a polynomial. We can write

$$p(z) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i z^i$$

for every real  $z$ , some natural  $k$  and a sequence of real numbers  $(a_i)$ . Then, we can use induction and the Algebraic Limit Theorem very similarly to the previous paragraph to see that

$$\lim(p(x_n)) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \lim(x_n^i) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i x^i = p(x)$$

therefore  $p(x_n) \rightarrow p(x)$ .

- (b) Let  $(x_n)$  be the sequence where  $x_n = 1/n$  for all natural  $n$ , and  $f : x_1, x_2, \dots \rightarrow 0, 1$  be such that

$$f(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \neq 0 \\ 1 & z = 0 \end{cases}$$

Then,  $\lim f(x_n) = \lim(0) = 0$  and  $f(\lim x_n) = f(0) = 1$ . Therefore,  $\lim(f(x_n)) \neq f(\lim(x_n))$ .

48. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.9.**

- (a) Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Since  $(a_n)$  is bounded, there is a real number  $M \neq 0$  such that  $M \geq |a_n|$  for all natural  $n$ . Also, since  $(b_n) \rightarrow 0$ , there is a natural  $N$  such that  $|b_n| \leq \epsilon/M$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Then, for all  $n \geq N$  we have  $|a_n b_n| = |a_n| |b_n| \leq M |b_n| < \epsilon$ , so  $(a_n b_n) \rightarrow 0$ .  
We cannot use the Algebraic Limit Theorem to prove this since  $(a_n)$  might not be convergent, even though it is bounded.
- (b) If  $(b_n) \rightarrow b \neq 0$ , then  $(a_n b_n)$  converges  $\iff (a_n)$  converges. The converse direction is a special case of the statement of the Algebraic Limit Theorem. In the other direction, notice that  $a_n = (a_n b_n)/b_n$ , so,  $\lim((a_n b_n)/b_n) = \lim(a_n b_n)/b = \lim(a_n)$ , therefore  $(a_n)$  converges.
- (c) Assume  $\lim(a_n) = 0$  and  $\lim(b_n) = b$ . Since  $(a_n)$  is convergent it is also bounded, therefore (a) guarantees that  $\lim(a_n b_n) = 0 = \lim(a_n) \lim(b_n)$ .

49. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.10.**

- (a)  $a_n = n$  and  $b_n = n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is a counterexample, since  $\lim(a_n - b_n) = 0$  and neither  $\lim(a_n)$  nor  $\lim(b_n)$  exist.
- (b) Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Choose a natural number  $N$  such that  $|b_n - b| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Since  $|b_n| - |b| \leq |b_n - b|$  and  $|b| - |b_n| \leq |b_n - b|$ , we have  $||b_n| - |b|| \leq |b_n - b| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$  so  $|b_n| \rightarrow |b|$ .
- (c) By Theorem 2.3.3,  $\lim((b_n - a_n) + a_n) = \lim(b_n) = \lim(b_n - a_n) + \lim(a_n) = a$ .
- (d) Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Choose an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a_n| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Then,  $0 \leq |b_n - b| \leq a_n = |a_n| < \epsilon$ , so  $|b_n - b| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ , therefore  $(b_n) \rightarrow b$ .

50. **Abbott, Exercise 2.3.11.**

- (a) Assume  $(x_n) \rightarrow x$  and let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Notice that

$$|y_n - x| = \left| \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{x_k}{n} \right) - x \right| = \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k - x \right| \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k - x|$$

for all natural  $n$ . Choose  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|x_n - x| < \epsilon/4$  for all natural  $n \geq N_1$ . Then, we can write

$$|y_n - x| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{N_1-1} \frac{|x_k - x|}{n} + \sum_{k=N_1}^n \frac{|x_k - x|}{n}.$$

Now, use the fact that the first term converges to 0 to choose a natural number  $N_2$  such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{N_1-1} \frac{|x_k - x|}{n} < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

for all  $n \geq N_2$ . By letting  $N := \max(N_1, N_2)$ , we can write

$$|y_n - x| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \sum_{k=N_1}^n \frac{|x_k - x|}{n} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \sum_{k=N_1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{4n}$$

for all  $n \geq N$ . Notice that

$$\sum_{k=N_1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{4n} = \frac{n - N_1 + 1}{n} \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{4}$$

and, since  $(n - N_1 + 1)/n < 2$  for all  $n \geq N_1$ ,

$$\sum_{k=N_1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{4n} < 2 \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{4} = \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

Finally,

$$|y_n - x| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$$

for all  $n \geq N$ , which means  $(y_n) \rightarrow (x_n)$ .

(b) If for all naturals  $n$

$$x_n := \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ is odd} \\ 1 & n \text{ is even} \end{cases},$$

then it is not hard to see that

$$y_n = \begin{cases} \frac{n-1}{2n} & n \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{1}{2} & n \text{ is even} \end{cases}.$$

Therefore,  $(y_n)$  is the "shuffled" sequence of  $a_n = (n-1)/(2n)$  and  $b_n = 1/2$ , in the sense of Exercise 2.3.5. Notice that  $\lim((n-1)/(2n)) = \lim(1/2 - 1/n) = 1/2 = \lim(a_n) = \lim(b_n)$ , and by what was shown on Exercise 2.3.5  $(y_n)$  must converge, even though  $(x_n)$  diverges.

#### 51. Abbott, Exercise 2.3.12.

- (a) True. For every  $b \in B$  and every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $a_n \geq B$ , which implies  $a \geq b$ , by the Order Limit Theorem.
- (b) First, we show that every  $a_n$  being in the complement of  $(0, 1)$  implies the existence of some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a_n \geq 1$  for all  $n \geq N$  or  $a_n \leq 0$  for all  $n \geq N$ , as long as  $a \neq 0$ . Assume  $a > 0$ . Then, there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a - a_n| < a/2$ . Now, assume for contradiction that there is some  $m \geq N$  such that  $a_m \leq 0$ . Then,  $|a - a_m| = a - a_m < a/2$ , which means  $a_m > a/2 > 0$ , a contradiction. For the case  $a < 0$ , choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a_n - a| < 1 - a$  for all

$n \geq N$ . Assume for contradiction that there is some  $m \geq N$  such that  $a_m \geq 1$ . Then,  $|a_m - a| = a_m - a < 1 - a$ , which means  $a_m < 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $a = 0$ , then  $a$  is already in the complement of  $(0, 1)$ , so assume  $a \neq 0$ . If  $a > 0$ , we have shown that there is some  $n \geq N$  such that all  $a_n \geq 1$ , which, by a slightly modified version of the Order Limit Theorem, implies  $a \geq 1$ , so  $a$  is in the complement of  $(0, 1)$ , and a similar argument follows when  $a < 0$ .

- (c) We have already shown that given any two real numbers, there is a rational number strictly between them. Therefore, we can make the sequence  $(a_n)$  by choosing each  $a_n$  such that  $\sqrt{2} < a_n < \sqrt{2} + 1/n$  and  $a_n \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Every  $a_n$  is rational by construction, but we claim  $(a_n) \rightarrow \sqrt{2}$ , which is irrational. To see this, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary and choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $N > 1/\epsilon$ . Then, for every  $n \geq N$ ,  $a_n < \sqrt{2} + 1/n < \sqrt{2} + \epsilon$ , therefore  $0 < a_n - \sqrt{2} = |a_n - \sqrt{2}| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ , so  $(a_n) \rightarrow \sqrt{2}$ .

52. **Lemma 1.** Every Cauchy sequence is bounded.

*Proof.* Let  $(a_n)$  be a Cauchy sequence. Choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a_n - a_m| < 1$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Then,  $|a_n| - |a_N| \leq |a_n - a_N| < 1$ , therefore  $|a_n| < |a_N| + 1$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Since every finite sequence is bounded, there is some real number  $M_1$  such that  $M_1 \geq |a_n|$  for every  $n < N$ , so if we define  $M := \max(M_1, |a_N| + 1)$  we will have  $M \geq |a_n|$  for every natural  $n$ , therefore  $(a_n)$  is bounded by  $M$ .  $\square$

53. **Theorem 1.** A sequence  $(a_n)$  converges if and only if it is Cauchy.

*Proof.* First, assume  $(a_n) \rightarrow L$  for some  $L \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary and choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a_t - L| \leq \epsilon/2$  for all  $t \geq N$ . Then, for all  $n, m \geq N$  we have  $|a_n - a_m| = |a_n - L + L - a_m| \leq |a_n - L| + |a_m - L| < \epsilon/2 + \epsilon/2 = \epsilon$ , so  $(a_n)$  is Cauchy.

For the converse direction, assume  $(a_n)$  is Cauchy. Now, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary and choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a_n - a_m| < \epsilon/2$  for all  $n, m \geq N$ . Since every Cauchy sequence is bounded, we can define  $s := \sup\{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } n \geq N\}$ . Since  $s$  is a least upper bound, there is some  $a_{n_0}$  with  $n_0 \geq N$  such that  $s - \epsilon/2 < a_{n_0}$ , which implies  $|s - a_{n_0}| < \epsilon/2$ . Then,  $|s - a_n| = |s - a_{n_0} + a_{n_0} - a_n| \leq |s - a_{n_0}| + |a_{n_0} - a_n| < \epsilon/2 + \epsilon/2 = \epsilon$ , so  $(a_n) \rightarrow s$ .  $\square$