
Math 312

Worksheet for October 13

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Exercise 1) (a) Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence of positive numbers. Use the $\epsilon - N$ definition of limit to prove that "If $a_n \rightarrow 3$, then $\sqrt{a_n} \rightarrow \sqrt{3}$."

First prove $|\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{3}| < |a_n - 3|$

$$|\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{3}| * \frac{\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{3}} = \frac{a_n - 3}{\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{3}} < |a_n - 3|$$

Let $\epsilon > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \text{ such that } \forall n > N, |a_n - 3| < \epsilon \\ \implies & \epsilon > |a_n - 3| > |\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{3}| \\ \implies & |\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{3}| \rightarrow 0 \forall n > N \end{aligned}$$

(b) Generalize the result from part (a). That is: Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence of positive numbers. Use the $\epsilon - N$ definition of limit to prove that "If $a_n \rightarrow L > 0$, then $\sqrt{a_n} \rightarrow \sqrt{L}$."

Case 1: $\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{L} > 1$

$$|\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{L}| * \frac{\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{L}}{\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{L}} = \frac{a_n - L}{\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{L}} < |a_n - L|$$

Let $\epsilon > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \text{ such that } \forall n > N, |a_n - L| < \epsilon \\ \implies & \epsilon > |a_n - L| > |\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{L}| \\ \implies & |\sqrt{a_n} - \sqrt{L}| \rightarrow 0 \forall n > N \end{aligned}$$

Case 2: $\sqrt{a_n} + \sqrt{L} \leq 1$: ?

Exercise 2) Start with $k = 1$. Why does there exist infinitely many terms of the sequence for which $|x_n - x_0| < \frac{1}{10}$? Pick one and call it x_{n_1} . Then keep increasing k to find other elements of the subsequence. Proof by Mathematical Induction:

Base Case: $k = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} & |x_{n_1} - x_0| < \frac{1}{10} \\ & \exists N \forall n > N |x_n - x_0| < \frac{1}{10} \\ \implies & n_1 = N \end{aligned}$$

So it holds for $k = 1$.

Assume this holds for some n_k . Does this work for n_{k+1} ? Let's find out!

By definition of limit we know that for $\epsilon = \frac{1}{10^{k+1}} \exists N$.

Let $n_{k+1} = \max(N, n_k)$

Therefore, there exists an N such that $|n_{k+1} - x_0| < \frac{1}{10^{k+1}}$.

By The Principal of Mathematical Induction this holds for all $k > 0$. □

Exercise 3) Consider the sequence of the form

$$x_n = \frac{an^p + 10n - 3}{n^{10} + 2n^3}$$

where a and p are any two real numbers. For each of the following, find values of a and p for which the given phenomenon occurs.

(a) The sequence diverges to $+\infty$

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 11 \\ a &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

(b) The sequence converges to 100

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 10 \\ a &= 100 \end{aligned}$$

(c) The sequence converges to 0

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 10 \\ a &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(d) The sequence diverges to $-\infty$

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 11 \\ a &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 4) Suppose $I = [a, b]$ be a closed interval with $a \neq b$, and let $A = \{|x| \mid x \in I\}$, be the set of absolute values of the elements of I . The numbers in I can be negative, the numbers in A are never negative. For each of the cases below, either give an example, or show that no such example exists.

(a) $\max A = |a|$ and $\min A = |b|$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= [-1, -2] \\ A &= [2, 10] \\ a &= -10, b = -2 \\ \max A &= 10 \\ \min A &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\max A = |b|$ and $\min A = |a|$

$$\begin{aligned}I &= [0, 5] \\A &= [0, 5] \\a &= 0, b = 5 \\ \max A &= 5 \\ \min A &= 0\end{aligned}$$

(c) $\max A = |a|$ and $\min A \neq |b|$

$$\begin{aligned}I &= [-10, 5] \\A &= [0, 10] \\a &= -10, b = 5 \\ \max A &= 10 \\ \min A &= 0\end{aligned}$$

(d) $\max A = |b|$ and $\min A \neq |a|$

$$\begin{aligned}I &= [-1, 5] \\A &= [0, 5] \\a &= -1, b = 5 \\ \max A &= 5 \\ \min A &= 0\end{aligned}$$

(e) $\max A \neq |a|, |b|$ Proof By Cases:

Let $x \in I$

Case 1: $|a| > |b|$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies a &\leq x \leq b \\ \implies |a| &\geq |x| \geq |b| \\ \implies \max A &= |a|\end{aligned}$$

Case 2: $|b| > |a|$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies a &\leq x \leq b \\ \implies |b| &\geq |x| \geq |a| \\ \implies \max A &= |b|\end{aligned}$$

Case 3: $|a| = |b|$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies a &\leq x \leq b \\ \implies |x| &\leq |a| = |b| \\ \implies \max A &= |a| \wedge \max A = |b|\end{aligned}$$

□