

**MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS 1**  
**HOMEWORK 5**

- (1) For the function  $f(x) = \sin \frac{1}{x}$ , find all  $x_n \in (0, 1)$  for which  $f(x_n) = 1$  and all  $y_n \in (0, 1)$  for which  $f(y_n) = -1$ . Conclude that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$  does not exist.
- (2) Prove that the ceiling function  $f(x) = \lceil x \rceil$  is left-continuous at every  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (3) Prove the following proposition:

**Proposition:** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined in a neighborhood of  $x_0$  (possibly not at  $x_0$  itself). Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = L \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} f(x) = L \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) = L$$

where  $L$  can be any number or  $\pm\infty$ . Moreover, the function is continuous at  $x_0$  if and only if it is both right- and left-continuous at  $x_0$ .

- (4) Let  $f(x) = 5 + 2x \sin \frac{1}{x}$ . Does the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$  exist? Prove your answer.
- (5) Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Prove that if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) > 0$  then there exists  $M > 0$  s.t.  $f > 0$  on the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > M\}$ . *Hint: we proved a very similar result in class.*
- (6) Consider the sequence  $a_n = \arctan \left( \frac{5n+6}{n+1} \right)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
  - (a) Is this a monotone sequence?
  - (b) Find its infimum and supremum.
  - (c) Do the minimum and maximum exist? If so, what are they?
  - (d) Does the limit  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exist? If so, what is it?
- (7) Using the definition of the limit prove the following:
  - (a)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (2x^2 + 3) = 5$
  - (b)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{1-2n} = -\infty$
- (8) Determine the values of  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  for which the following functions are continuous on their domains. Explain your answers.
  - (a)  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha \sin(x + \frac{\pi}{2}) & \text{for } x > 0 \\ 2x^2 + 3 & \text{for } x \leq 0 \end{cases}$
  - (b)  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 3e^{\alpha x - 1} & \text{for } x \geq 1 \\ x + 2 & \text{for } x < 1 \end{cases}$
- (9) Compute the following limits:
  - (a)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^4 - 2x^3 + 5x}{x^5 - x}$
  - (b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x+1}{\sqrt{6x^2+3}+3x}$
  - (c)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x})$
  - (d)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3^x - 3^{-x}}{3^x + 3^{-x}}$
- (10) Determine the domain and the behavior at the end-points of the domain of the following functions:
  - (a)  $f(x) = \frac{x^3 - x^2 + 3}{x^2 + 3x + 2}$
  - (b)  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} e^{-x^2}$  (*hint: you may use the fact that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (\frac{1}{3} \ln x - x^2) = -\infty$* )

# HOMEWORK 5 SOLUTIONS

- (1) We have  $f(x_n) = \sin \frac{1}{x_n} = 1$  when  $\frac{1}{x_n} = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2n\pi$ , so:

$$x_n = \frac{1}{\frac{\pi}{2} + 2n\pi} = \frac{2}{\pi + 4n\pi}$$

We have  $f(y_n) = \sin \frac{1}{y_n} = -1$  when  $\frac{1}{y_n} = \frac{3\pi}{2} + 2n\pi$ , so:

$$y_n = \frac{1}{\frac{3\pi}{2} + 2n\pi} = \frac{2}{3\pi + 4n\pi}$$

As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , both sequences  $x_n \rightarrow 0^+$  and  $y_n \rightarrow 0^+$ , but  $f(x_n) = 1$  and  $f(y_n) = -1$ . Since the function takes values 1 and  $-1$  arbitrarily close to 0, the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$  does not exist.

- (2) *Proof.* Let  $f(x) = \lceil x \rceil$ . We must prove that  $f(x)$  is left-continuous at every  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . For  $f$  to be left-continuous at  $x_0$ , we need  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) = f(x_0)$ .

**Case 1:  $x_0$  is an integer** ( $x_0 = n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) The function value is  $f(n) = \lceil n \rceil = n$ . For  $x$  in the interval  $(n-1, n]$ , the ceiling function is constant:  $\lceil x \rceil = n$ . Therefore, the left limit is:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow n^-} \lceil x \rceil = \lim_{x \rightarrow n^-} n = n$$

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow n^-} f(x) = f(n)$ , the function is left-continuous at every integer point.

**Case 2:  $x_0$  is not an integer** ( $x_0 \notin \mathbb{Z}$ ) Let  $n = \lceil x_0 \rceil$ . Since  $x_0$  is not an integer, we have  $n-1 < x_0 < n$ . For  $x$  sufficiently close to  $x_0$  from the left,  $x$  is in the open interval  $(n-1, n)$ , so  $\lceil x \rceil = n$ . The function value is  $f(x_0) = \lceil x_0 \rceil = n$ . The left limit is:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} \lceil x \rceil = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} n = n$$

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) = f(x_0)$ , the function is left-continuous at every non-integer point.

Since  $f(x)$  is left-continuous at all integer and non-integer points, it is left-continuous at every  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ .  $\square$

- (3) *Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = L$ , then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 < |x - x_0| < \delta$  implies  $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ . This holds for both  $x > x_0$  and  $x < x_0$ , so both one-sided limits exist and equal  $L$ . ( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} f(x) = L$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) = L$ , then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exist  $\delta_1 > 0$  and  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that:

$$0 < x - x_0 < \delta_1 \text{ implies } |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

$$0 < x_0 - x < \delta_2 \text{ implies } |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

Let  $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ . Then  $0 < |x - x_0| < \delta$  implies  $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ , so  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = L$ .

For continuity:  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$ . By the above, this is equivalent to both one-sided limits existing and equaling  $f(x_0)$ , i.e., both right- and left-continuity at  $x_0$ .  $\square$

- (4) The limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$  does exist and equals 7.

*Proof.* We have  $f(x) = 5 + 2x \sin \frac{1}{x}$ . Consider the limit of the second term:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} 2x \sin \frac{1}{x}$$

Let  $u = \frac{1}{x}$ . As  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $u \rightarrow 0^+$ . Substituting  $x = \frac{1}{u}$  into the expression yields:

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} 2 \left( \frac{1}{u} \right) \sin u = 2 \lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin u}{u}$$

Using the fundamental trigonometric limit,  $\lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin u}{u} = 1$ :

$$2 \lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin u}{u} = 2(1) = 2$$

Therefore, the limit of the entire function is:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left( 5 + 2x \sin \frac{1}{x} \right) = 5 + 2 = 7$$

$\square$

- (5) *Proof.* We consider the case of a finite limit (one should also consider the case of an infinite limit). Let  $L = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) > 0$ . By definition, for  $\varepsilon = \frac{L}{2} > 0$ , there exists  $M > 0$  such that for all  $x > M$ , we have  $|f(x) - L| < \frac{L}{2}$ .

This inequality is equivalent to:

$$L - \frac{L}{2} < f(x) < L + \frac{L}{2}$$

$$\frac{L}{2} < f(x) < \frac{3L}{2}$$

Since  $L > 0$ , we have  $f(x) > \frac{L}{2} > 0$  for all  $x > M$ . Therefore,  $f(x) > 0$  on the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > M\}$ .  $\square$

- (6) (a) Let's examine if the sequence is monotone. Consider:

$$a_n = \arctan\left(\frac{5n+6}{n+1}\right) = \arctan\left(\frac{5(n+1)+1}{n+1}\right) = \arctan\left(5 + \frac{1}{n+1}\right)$$

As  $n$  increases,  $\frac{1}{n+1}$  decreases, so  $5 + \frac{1}{n+1}$  decreases. Since  $\arctan$  is an increasing function,  $a_n$  is a decreasing sequence. Therefore, the sequence is monotone.

- (b) Since the sequence is decreasing, the supremum is the first term, and the infimum is the limit:

$$\inf a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \arctan 5$$

$$\sup a_n = a_0 = \arctan 6$$

- (c) The maximum exists and is attained at  $n = 0$ :  $a_0 = \arctan 6$ . The minimum does not exist since the sequence approaches  $\arctan 5$  but never equals it for finite  $n$ .
- (d) Yes, the limit exists:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \arctan\left(5 + \frac{1}{n+1}\right) = \arctan 5$$

- (7) (a) *Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. We want to find  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 < |x-1| < \delta$  implies  $|(2x^2+3)-5| < \varepsilon$ . Note that  $|2x^2+3-5| = |2x^2-2| = 2|x^2-1| = 2|x-1||x+1|$ . If we restrict  $|x-1| < 1$ , then  $0 < x < 2$ , so  $|x+1| < 3$ . Choose  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\varepsilon}{6}\}$ . Then if  $0 < |x-1| < \delta$ :

$$|2x^2+3-5| = 2|x-1||x+1| < 2 \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{6} \cdot 3 = \varepsilon$$

Thus  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (2x^2+3) = 5$ .  $\square$

- (b) *Proof.* We want to show that for any  $M > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > N$ ,  $\frac{n^2}{1-2n} < -M$ . Note that for  $n > 1$ :

$$\frac{n^2}{1-2n} = \frac{n}{-2+1/n}$$

Since  $-2+1/n > -2$  for  $n > 1$ , and the denominator is negative, we have:

$$\frac{n}{-2+1/n} < \frac{n}{-2} = -\frac{n}{2}$$

We want  $-\frac{n}{2} < -M$ , which is equivalent to  $n > 2M$ . Choose  $N = \lceil 2M \rceil$ . Then for  $n > N$ :

$$\frac{n^2}{1-2n} < -\frac{n}{2} < -\frac{N}{2} \leq -M$$

Thus  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{1-2n} = -\infty$ .  $\square$

- (8) (a) For continuity at  $x = 0$ , we need:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = f(0)$$

Left limit:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (2x^2+3) = 3$  Right limit:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \alpha \sin(x + \frac{\pi}{2}) = \alpha \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \alpha$  Function value:  $f(0) = 2(0)^2+3 = 3$

For continuity, we need  $\alpha = 3$ .

(b) For continuity at  $x = 1$ , we need:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = f(1)$$

Left limit:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x+2) = 3$  Right limit and Function value:  $f(1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} 3e^{\alpha x - 1} = 3e^{\alpha - 1}$

For continuity, we need  $3 = 3e^{\alpha - 1}$ , so  $e^{\alpha - 1} = 1$ , thus  $\alpha - 1 = 0$ , so  $\alpha = 1$ .

(9) (a)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^4 - 2x^3 + 5x}{x^5 - x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(x^3 - 2x^2 + 5)}{x(x^4 - 1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 - 2x^2 + 5}{x^4 - 1} = \frac{0 - 0 + 5}{0 - 1} = -5$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x+1}{\sqrt{6x^2+3}+3x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x+1}{\sqrt{6x^2+3}+3x} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{6x^2+3}-3x}{\sqrt{6x^2+3}-3x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x+1)(\sqrt{6x^2+3}-3x)}{6x^2+3-9x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x+1)(\sqrt{6x^2+3}-3x)}{3-3x^2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x+1)(\sqrt{6x^2+3}-3x)}{3(1-x)(1+x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{\sqrt{6x^2+3}-3x}{3(1-x)} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{6(-1)^2+3}-3(-1)}{3(1-(-1))} = \frac{\sqrt{9}+3}{3(2)} = \frac{3+3}{6} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x})(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x})}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{(x+1) - x}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x}} = 0$$

(d)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3^x - 3^{-x}}{3^x + 3^{-x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3^x/3^{-x} - 3^{-x}/3^{-x}}{3^x/3^{-x} + 3^{-x}/3^{-x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3^{2x} - 1}{3^{2x} + 1} = \frac{0 - 1}{0 + 1} = -1$$

(10) (a) Domain:  $x^2 + 3x + 2 \neq 0$ , so  $(x+1)(x+2) \neq 0$ , thus  $x \neq -1, -2$ . Domain:  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{-2, -1\}$ .

Behavior at endpoints:

- As  $x \rightarrow -2$ : Vertical Asymptote.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x) = -\infty$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x) = +\infty$ .

- As  $x \rightarrow -1$ : Vertical Asymptote.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) = -\infty$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = +\infty$ .

- As  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x^3}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} x = \pm\infty$ .

(b) Domain:  $\sqrt[3]{x}$  is defined for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , so domain is  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Behavior at endpoints:

- As  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt[3]{x}e^{-x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} e^{\frac{1}{3} \ln x - x^2} = 0$  using the hint.

- As  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ : Observe that  $\sqrt[3]{x}e^{-x^2}$  is an odd function, so if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt[3]{x}e^{-x^2} = 0$ , then also  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \sqrt[3]{x}e^{-x^2} = 0$