

I. Mark each statement True or False. Justify each answer.

1. If a nonempty subset of \mathbb{R} has an upper bound, then it has a least upper bound.

Solution. True. This is just the Axiom of the completeness for \mathbb{R} .

2. Let S be a nonempty subset of \mathbb{R} and $x \notin S$. Then x is a boundary point of S if and only if x is an accumulation point of S .

Solution. True. Since $x \notin S$, the assertion follows from the definitions for accumulation points and boundary points respectively.

3. Let A be a nonempty open subset of \mathbb{R} . Then $A \cap \mathbb{Q} \neq \emptyset$.

Solution. True. Since A is not empty, there is a $x \in A$. Since A is open, then x is an interior point of A , which implies that there is a neighborhood $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \subset A$. By the density of rational numbers we have $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \cap \mathbb{Q} \neq \emptyset$. Hence, $A \cap \mathbb{Q} \neq \emptyset$.

4. Every finite subset of \mathbb{R} is compact.

Solution. True. Such a set is closed and bounded

5. A set is compact if and only if it has maximum and minimum.

Solution. False. If a set is compact, then it has maximum and minimum. The converse is false. For example, the set $A = [-1, 1] \setminus \{0\}$, and the set of all rational numbers in $[0, 1]$

6. The intersection of any collection of compact sets is compact.

Solution. True.

7. Let $A_n = (0, \frac{1}{n})$ and $B_n = [n, \infty)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Find $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$. Do your results contradict the Nested Intervals Theorem?

Solution. $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \emptyset$ and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n = \emptyset$. The results do not contradict the nested interval theorem since A_n are not closed and b_n are not bounded so that both are not compact.

8. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n+1} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n} = \infty - \infty = 0$.

Solution. False. The difference rule for the limits only applies when each limit exists.

9. An increasing sequence either converges or diverges to ∞ .

Solution. True. If such a sequence (x_n) is bounded, then it converges to the finite number $\sup\{x_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$; else, it diverges to ∞ .

10. If a sequence is bounded and monotone, then it is Cauchy.

Solution. True. Such a sequence converges and therefore it is Cauchy.

II. Let S be the set of irrational numbers in $[0, 1]$. Construct an open cover for S that does not have any finite subcover for S .

Solution. Let $A_0 = (-1, \frac{1}{2})$ and $A_n = (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n}, 2)$ for $n \geq 1$. Then, $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = (-1, 2) \setminus \{\frac{1}{2}\} \not\supseteq S$. Hence, $\{A_n\}$ is an open cover for S . However, given any finite subsets A_{n_1}, \dots, A_{n_k} , we assume that n_k is the largest subindex. We have

$$\cup_{i=1}^k A_{n_i} \subset \cup_{n=0}^{n_k} A_n = (-1, \frac{1}{2}) \cup (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n_k}, 2).$$

Hence, $\cup_{i=1}^k A_{n_i}$ does not contain the irrational points in $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n_k}]$, which implies that A_{n_1}, \dots, A_{n_k} do not form an open cover for S .

III. Use the definition of the limit to show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 0$.

Proof. Given an $\epsilon > 0$, let $N = 1/\epsilon$. Then, for $n > N$, we have

$$\frac{1}{n(n+1)} < \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{N} = \epsilon.$$

Hence, by the definition of the limit it follows that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 0$.

IV. Let $s_1 = 1$ and $s_{n+1} = 1 + \frac{s_n}{1+s_n}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Use the Monotone Convergence Theorem to show that (s_n) converges as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and find its limit.

Proof. First show by the induction method that (s_n) is increasing. Clearly, $s_2 = 1 + \frac{1}{2} > s_1$. Assume that $s_k > s_{k-1}$ for some $k \geq 2$. Note that the function $f(x) = 1 + \frac{x}{1+x}$ with $f'(x) = \frac{1}{(1+x)^2}$ so that f is increasing on $(-\infty, \infty) \setminus \{-1\}$. Also note that $s_n \geq 1$. It follows that $s_{k+1} = f(s_k) > f(s_{k-1}) = s_k$. This shows that (s_n) is increasing.

Secondly, we show that s_n is bounded above. Since $s_{n+1} > s_n$, we have $1 + \frac{s_n}{1 + s_n} > s_n$.

It follows that $s_n - 1 < \frac{s_n}{1 + s_n}$ and so $s_n^2 - s_n - 1 < 0$, which together with $s_n \geq 1$

yields that $s_n < \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$ for $n \geq 1$.

Therefore, by the monotone convergence theorem that s_n converges as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Let its limit be s . Hence, $s_n \rightarrow s$ and $s_{n+1} \rightarrow s$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Setting $n \rightarrow \infty$ on both sides

of $s_{n+1} = 1 + \frac{s_n}{1 + s_n}$ yields $s = 1 + \frac{s}{1 + s}$, which gives $s = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$.

V. Let $s_n = \frac{\sin 1}{1^2} + \frac{\sin 2}{2^2} + \cdots + \frac{\sin n}{n^2}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Show that (s_n) is Cauchy.

Proof. Given an $\epsilon > 0$, let $N = \frac{1}{\epsilon}$. Then, for $m > n > N$,

$$\begin{aligned} |s_m - s_n| &= \left| \sum_{k=n+1}^m \frac{\sin k}{k^2} \right| \leq \sum_{k=n+1}^m \frac{1}{k^2} \leq \sum_{k=n+1}^m \frac{1}{k(k-1)} \\ &= \sum_{k=n+1}^m \left(\frac{1}{k-1} - \frac{1}{k} \right) = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{m} < \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{N} = \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that (s_n) is a Cauchy sequence.