

**Math 131A, problem set 04**  
**Outline due: Wed Feb 28**  
**Completed version due: Mon Mar 05**  
**Last revision due: Wed Mar 21**

**Additional definition:** For  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , the  $k$ -tail of a sequence  $(s_n)_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$  is the sequence  $(s_n)_{n \geq k}$ , i.e., the sequence starting at  $k$  instead of 1.

**Problems to be done but not turned in:** 10.1, 10.3, 10.5, 10.7, 10.9, 10.11, 11.1, 11.3, 11.5, 11.7, 11.9, 11.11; and:

- For  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , prove that a sequence  $(s_n)$  converges if and only the  $k$ -tail of  $(s_n)$  converges.
- This problem goes through some of the details of the definitions of  $\liminf$  and  $\limsup$ . (The answers are essentially in Sect. 10.) Let  $L, M$  be real numbers, and let  $s_n$  be a sequence such that  $L \leq s_n \leq M$  for all  $n$ . Define:

$$S_k = \{s_n \mid n \geq k\}$$

$$M_k = \sup S_k,$$

$$L_k = \inf S_k.$$

- For  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , is  $S_k \subseteq S_{k+1}$  or  $S_{k+1} \subseteq S_k$ ? Prove your answer.
- For  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ , is  $M_k \geq M_{k+1}$  or  $M_k \leq M_{k+1}$ ? Prove your answer. State (without proof) the analogous result for  $L_k$ .
- Prove that for  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $L_k \leq M$ . State (without proof) the analogous fact for  $M_k$ .
- Prove that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M_k$  and  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} L_k$  both exist. Explain why this means that  $\limsup s_n$  and  $\liminf s_n$  are well-defined.

**Problems to be turned in:** All numbers refer to exercises in Ross.

1. Ex. 9.12(a).
2. Ex. 10.2.
3. Let  $p_n$  be the  $n$ th prime number (so  $p_1 = 2$ ,  $p_4 = 7$ , and so on). Define a sequence  $s_n$  inductively by

$$s_1 = 13, \quad s_{n+1} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_n}\right) s_n.$$

Prove that  $\lim s_n$  exists.

4. Ex. 11.2(a,c,d,e).

(cont. on next page)

5. Let  $S$  be a nonempty subset of  $\mathbf{R}$ . We say that  $x \in \mathbf{R}$  is a *limit point* of  $S$  if for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists some  $s \in S$  such that  $s \neq x$  and  $|x - s| < \epsilon$ .

Prove that the following are equivalent:

- $x \in \mathbf{R}$  is a limit point of  $S$ .
- There exists a sequence  $s_n$  such that for each  $n$ ,  $s_n \in S$  and  $s_n \neq x$ , and  $\lim s_n = x$ .

(Note that a limit point of  $S$  need not be an element of  $S$ .)

6. Let  $S$  be a bounded subset of  $\mathbf{R}$  that contains infinitely many points.
- (a) Explain why there exists a sequence  $s_n$  in  $S$  such that  $s_k \neq s_n$  for  $k \neq n$ . (Suggestion: Choose  $s_1 \in S$ ,  $s_2 \neq s_1$ ,  $s_3 \neq s_1, s_2, \dots$ . How can we be sure that we can always continue this process?)
- (b) Prove that  $S$  has at least one limit point in  $\mathbf{R}$ .
7. Let  $L, M$  be real numbers, and let  $s_n$  and  $t_n$  be sequences such that  $L \leq s_n \leq M$  and  $L \leq t_n \leq M$  for all  $n$ . Define:

$$\begin{aligned} S_k &= \{s_n \mid n \geq k\}, & M_{S,k} &= \sup S_k, \\ T_k &= \{t_n \mid n \geq k\}, & M_{T,k} &= \sup T_k, \\ U_k &= \{s_n + t_n \mid n \geq k\}, & M_{U,k} &= \sup U_k. \end{aligned}$$

- (a) What is the standard name of  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M_{S,k}$ ?
- (b) Prove that for all  $k$ ,  $M_{U,k} \leq M_{S,k} + M_{T,k}$ . (Suggestion:  $M_{U,k}$  is the **least** upper bound of  $U_k$ .)
- (c) Prove that  $\limsup(s_n + t_n) \leq \limsup s_n + \limsup t_n$ .