

# Continuous functions Exercises

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## Continuity

**Exercise 1.** The function given by  $f(x) = x^2$  is continuous at  $x = 2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\epsilon}{5}\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq 1$  and  $\delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{5}$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - 2| < \delta$ .

Then  $|x + 2| = |(x - 2) + 4| \leq |x - 2| + 4 < \delta + 4 \leq 5$ , so  $|x + 2| < 5$ .

Therefore,  $|x^2 - 4| = |(x - 2)(x + 2)| = |x - 2||x + 2| < 5\delta \leq 5 \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{5} = \epsilon$ , so  $|x^2 - 4| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 2.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 2x + 1$ .

Then  $f$  is continuous at 2.

**Solution.** To prove  $f$  is continuous at 2, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\epsilon}{13}\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq 1$  and  $\delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{13}$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - 2| < \delta$ .

Then  $0 \leq |x - 2| < \delta$ .

Since  $|3x + 4| = |3(x - 2) + 10| \leq 3|x - 2| + 10 < 3\delta + 10 \leq 3 + 10 = 13$ , then  $|3x + 4| < 13$ .

Thus,  $|f(x) - f(2)| = |(3x^2 - 2x + 1) - 9| = |3x^2 - 2x - 8| = |(x - 2)(3x + 4)| = |x - 2||3x + 4| < 13\delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{13} \cdot 13 = \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(2)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 3.** Let  $f : [-4, 0] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x^2 - 18}{x + 3} & \text{if } x \neq -3 \\ -12 & \text{if } x = -3 \end{cases}$$

Then  $f$  is continuous at  $-3$ .

**Solution.** To prove  $f$  is continuous at  $-3 \in [-4, 0]$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in [-4, 0]$  such that  $|x - (-3)| < \delta$ .

Then  $0 \leq |x + 3| < \delta$ .

Either  $x = -3$  or  $x \neq -3$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x = -3$ .

Then  $|f(x) - f(-3)| = |f(-3) - f(-3)| = 0 < \epsilon$ .

Hence, the conditional if  $|x - (-3)| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(-3)| < \epsilon$  is trivially true.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x \neq -3$ .

Then  $|f(x) - f(-3)| = \left| \frac{2x^2 - 18}{x + 3} + 12 \right| = \left| \frac{2(x-3)(x+3)}{x+3} + 12 \right| = |2(x-3) + 12| = |2x + 6| = 2|x + 3| < 2\delta = \epsilon$ , so  $|f(x) - f(-3)| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $f$  is continuous at  $-3$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 4.** Let  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x - 2}$  be defined for all real numbers  $x \neq 2$ .

Define  $f$  so that  $f$  is continuous at 2.

**Solution.** Since  $\text{dom } f = \mathbb{R} - \{2\}$ , then 2 is not in the domain of  $f$ , so  $f$  is discontinuous at 2.

Define  $f(2) = 5$ .

Then  $\text{dom } f = \mathbb{R}$ .

For  $x \neq 2$ , observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x - 2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x - 2)(x + 3)}{x - 2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x + 3) \\ &= 2 + 3 \\ &= 5 \\ &= f(2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and 2 is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = f(2)$ , then by the characterization of continuity,  $f$  is continuous at 2.  $\square$

**Exercise 5.** Let  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .

Let  $0 < c < 1$ .

If  $\delta > 0$  satisfies the  $\epsilon, \delta$  definition of continuity at  $c$  for  $\epsilon = 1$ , then  $\delta < \frac{c^2}{1+c}$ .

**Solution.** Suppose  $\delta > 0$  and  $\delta$  satisfies the  $\epsilon, \delta$  definition of continuity at  $c$  for  $\epsilon = 1$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $c$  for any  $c > 0$  and  $c > 0$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Thus,  $\delta = \min\left\{\frac{c}{2}, \frac{c^2\epsilon}{2}\right\} = \min\left\{\frac{c}{2}, \frac{c^2}{2}\right\}$ .

Since  $c < 1$  and  $c > 0$ , then  $c^2 < c$ , so  $\frac{c^2}{2} < \frac{c}{2}$ .

Hence,  $\delta = \frac{c^2}{2}$ .

Since  $c < 1$ , then  $1 + c < 2$ , so  $\frac{1}{2} < \frac{1}{1+c}$ .

Since  $c^2 > 0$ , then  $\frac{c^2}{2} < \frac{c^2}{1+c}$ , so  $\delta < \frac{c^2}{1+c}$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 6.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = 2x^2 + 3x + 1$ .  
Then  $f$  is continuous.

**Solution.** Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  be given.

To prove  $f$  is continuous, we must prove  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\epsilon}{5+4|c|}\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq 1$  and  $\delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{5+4|c|}$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - c| < \delta$ .

Then  $0 \leq |x - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $|x| = |(x - c) + c| \leq |x - c| + |c| < \delta + |c| \leq 1 + |c|$ , then  $|x| < 1 + |c|$ .

Hence,  $|2x + 2c + 3| \leq 2|x| + 2|c| + 3 < 2(1 + |c|) + 2|c| + 3 = 5 + 4|c|$ , so  
 $0 \leq |2x + 2c + 3| < 5 + 4|c|$ .

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(c)| &= |(2x^2 + 3x + 1) - (2c^2 + 3c + 1)| \\ &= |2(x^2 - c^2) + 3(x - c)| \\ &= |2(x - c)(x + c) + 3(x - c)| \\ &= |(x - c)[2(x + c) + 3]| \\ &= |(x - c)(2x + 2c + 3)| \\ &= |x - c||2x + 2c + 3| \\ &< \delta \cdot (5 + 4|c|) \\ &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{5 + 4|c|} \cdot (5 + 4|c|) \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 7.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \text{ is rational} \\ x^2 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational} \end{cases}$$

Then  $f$  is continuous at 1 and  $f$  is discontinuous at 2.

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is continuous at 1, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\epsilon}{3}\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq 1$  and  $\delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - 1| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then either  $x$  is rational or  $x$  is irrational.

We consider each case separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x$  is rational.

Then  $|f(x) - f(1)| = |x - 1| < \delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3} < \epsilon$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x$  is irrational.

Since  $|x + 1| = |x - 1 + 2| \leq |x - 1| + 2 < \delta + 2 \leq 3$ , then  $|x + 1| < 3$ .

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(1)| &= |x^2 - 1| \\ &= |x - 1||x + 1| \\ &< 3\delta \\ &\leq 3 \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{3} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, in either case,  $|f(x) - f(1)| < \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is continuous at 1.  $\square$

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is discontinuous at 2, we prove  $(\exists \epsilon > 0)(\forall \delta > 0)(\exists x \in \mathbb{R})(|x - 2| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(2)| \geq \epsilon)$ .

Let  $\epsilon = 2$ .

Let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Since  $2 < 2 + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $2 < r < 2 + \delta$ .

Since  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(r) = r^2$ .

Since  $2 < r < 2 + \delta$ , then  $0 < r - 2 < \delta$ , so  $|r - 2| = r - 2 < \delta$ .

Since  $r > 2$ , then  $r^2 > 4$ , so  $r^2 - 2 > 2 > 0$ .

Thus,  $|f(r) - f(2)| = |r^2 - 2| = r^2 - 2 > 2 = \epsilon$ .

Therefore, there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|r - 2| < \delta$  and  $|f(r) - f(2)| > \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 8.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 8x & \text{if } x \text{ is rational} \\ 2x^2 + 8 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational} \end{cases}$$

Then  $f$  is continuous at 2 and  $f$  is discontinuous at 1.

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is continuous at 2, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\epsilon}{10}\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq 1$  and  $\delta \leq \frac{\epsilon}{10}$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - 2| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then either  $x$  is rational or  $x$  is irrational.

We consider each case separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x$  is rational.

Then  $|f(x) - f(2)| = |8x - 16| = 8|x - 2| < 8\delta \leq 8 \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{10} < \epsilon$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x$  is irrational.

Since  $|x + 2| = |(x - 2) + 4| \leq |x - 2| + 4 < \delta + 4 \leq 5$ , then  $0 \leq |x + 2| < 5$ .

Thus,  $|f(x) - f(2)| = |(2x^2 + 8) - 16| = |2x^2 - 8| = 2|x^2 - 4| = 2|x - 2||x + 2| < 10\delta \leq \epsilon$ .

Therefore, in either case,  $|f(x) - f(2)| < \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is continuous at 2.  $\square$

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is discontinuous at 1, we prove  $(\exists \epsilon > 0)(\forall \delta > 0)(\exists x \in \mathbb{R})(|x - 1| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(1)| \geq \epsilon)$ .

Let  $\epsilon = 2$ .

Let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Since  $1 < 1 + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $1 < r < 1 + \delta$ .

Since  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(r) = 2r^2 + 8$ .

Since  $1 < r < 1 + \delta$ , then  $0 < r - 1 < \delta$ , so  $|r - 1| = r - 1 < \delta$ .

Since  $r > 1$ , then  $r^2 > 1$ , so  $2r^2 > 2$ .

Thus,  $|f(r) - f(1)| = |(2r^2 + 8) - 8| = |2r^2| = 2r^2 > 2 = \epsilon$ .

Therefore, there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|r - 1| < \delta$  and  $|f(r) - f(1)| > \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 9.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \text{ is rational} \\ 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational} \end{cases}$$

Then  $f$  is continuous at 0 and  $f$  is discontinuous for all  $x \neq 0$ .  
(Therefore,  $f$  is continuous only at  $x = 0$ ).

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is continuous at 0, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \epsilon$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then either  $x$  is rational or  $x$  is irrational.

We consider each case separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x$  is rational.

Then  $|f(x) - f(0)| = |x - 0| = |x| < \delta = \epsilon$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x$  is irrational.

Then  $|f(x) - f(0)| = |0 - 0| = 0 < \epsilon$ .

Therefore, in either case,  $|f(x) - f(0)| < \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is continuous at 0.  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $c \neq 0$ .

We must prove  $f$  is discontinuous at  $c$ .

Let  $\epsilon = \frac{|c|}{2}$ .

Since  $c \neq 0$ , then  $|c| > 0$ , so  $\epsilon = \frac{|c|}{2} > 0$ .

Let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Since  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then either  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$  or  $c \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Since  $c < c + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $c < r < c + \delta$ .

Since  $c < r < c + \delta$ , then  $0 < r - c < \delta$ , so  $|r - c| = r - c < \delta$ .

Observe that  $|f(r) - f(c)| = |0 - c| = |c| > \frac{|c|}{2} = \epsilon$ .

Therefore, there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|r - c| < \delta$  and  $|f(r) - f(c)| > \epsilon$ , as desired.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $c \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

Since  $c \neq 0$ , then either  $c > 0$  or  $c < 0$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 2a:** Suppose  $c > 0$ .

Since  $c < c + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $c < r < c + \delta$ , so  $0 < r - c < \delta$ .

Hence,  $|r - c| = r - c < \delta$ .

Since  $r > c > 0$ , then  $r > 0$ .

Thus,  $|f(r) - f(c)| = |r - 0| = |r| = r > c = |c| > \frac{|c|}{2}$ .

**Case 2b:** Suppose  $c < 0$ .

Since  $c - \delta < c$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $c - \delta < r < c$ , so  $-\delta < r - c < 0$ .

Hence,  $|r - c| = -(r - c) < \delta$ .

Since  $r < c < 0$ , then  $r < 0$ .

Thus,  $|f(r) - f(c)| = |r - 0| = |r| = -r > -c = |c| > \frac{|c|}{2}$ .

Therefore, there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|r - c| < \delta$  and  $|f(r) - f(c)| > \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 10.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & \text{if } x \text{ is rational} \\ x + 3 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational} \end{cases}$$

Then  $f$  is continuous at 3 and discontinuous at  $c \neq 3$ .

*Proof.* We prove  $f$  is continuous at 3.

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - 3| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then either  $x$  is rational or  $x$  is irrational.

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x$  is rational.

Then  $|f(x) - f(3)| = |2x - 6| = |2(x - 3)| = 2|x - 3| < 2\delta = \epsilon$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x$  is irrational.

Then  $|f(x) - f(3)| = |x + 3 - 6| = |x - 3| < \delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2} < \epsilon$ .

Hence, in all cases,  $|f(x) - f(3)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Lemma 11.** Every real number is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary.

To prove  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ , let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Then  $\delta > p - p$ , so  $p + \delta > p$ .

Since  $p < p + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $p < r < p + \delta$ .

Thus,  $0 < r - p < \delta$  and  $p < r$ .

Since  $0 < r - p < \delta$ , then  $|r - p| = r - p < \delta$ , so  $r \in N(p; \delta)$ .

Since  $r > p$ , then  $r \neq p$ , so  $r \in N'(p; \delta)$ .

Thus, there exists  $r \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $r \in N'(p; \delta)$ , so  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ , as desired.  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $c \neq 3$ .

We must prove  $f$  is discontinuous at  $c$ .

Since every real number is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , so there exists a sequence of points in  $\mathbb{Q} - \{c\}$  that converges to  $c$ .

Let  $(a_n)$  be a sequence of points in  $\mathbb{Q} - \{c\}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = c$ .

Since every real number is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$ , so there exists a sequence of points in  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q} - \{c\}$  that converges to  $c$ .

Let  $(b_n)$  be a sequence of points in  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q} - \{c\}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = c$ .

Suppose  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Then by the sequential characterization of continuity,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(b_n)$ .

Thus,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (2a_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n + 3)$ , so  $2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 3$ .

Hence,  $2c = c + 3$ , so  $c = 3$ .

But, this contradicts the assumption that  $c \neq 3$ .

Therefore,  $f$  is discontinuous at  $c$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 12.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the greatest integer function given by  $f(x) = [x] = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \leq x\}$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $f$  is discontinuous at  $n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $f$  is continuous at  $c$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is discontinuous at  $n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  be given.

We must prove  $(\exists \epsilon > 0)(\forall \delta > 0)(\exists x \in \mathbb{R})(|x - n| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(n)| \geq \epsilon)$ .

Let  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Let  $M = \max\{n - \delta, n - 1\}$ .

Then  $n - \delta \leq M$  and  $n - 1 \leq M$ , and either  $M = n - \delta$  or  $M = n - 1$ .

Since  $n - 1 < n$  and  $n - \delta < n$ , then  $M < n$ .

Since  $\mathbb{R}$  is dense, then there exists  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $M < x < n$ .

Since  $n - \delta \leq M < x < n$ , then  $n - \delta < x$  and  $x < n$ , so  $n - x < \delta$  and  $n - x > 0$ .

Thus,  $|x - n| = |n - x| = n - x < \delta$ .

Since  $n - 1 \leq M < x < n$ , then  $n - 1 < x < n$ , so  $f(x) = n - 1$ .

Hence,  $|f(x) - f(n)| = |(n - 1) - n| = 1 > \frac{1}{2} = \epsilon$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is continuous at  $c$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $c \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Z}$  be given.  
 Then  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $c \notin \mathbb{Z}$ , so there is a unique integer  $n$  such that  $n < c < n + 1$ .  
 Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.  
 Let  $M = \min\{n + 1 - c, c - n\}$ .  
 Then  $M \leq n + 1 - c$  and  $M \leq c - n$ , and either  $M = n + 1 - c$  or  $M = c - n$ .  
 Let  $\delta = \frac{M}{2}$ .  
 Since  $n < c$ , then  $c - n > 0$ .  
 Since  $c < n + 1$ , then  $n + 1 - c > 0$ .  
 Thus,  $M > 0$ , so  $\frac{M}{2} > 0$ .  
 Hence,  $\delta > 0$ .  
 Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - c| < \delta$ .  
 Then  $c - \delta < x < c + \delta$ .  
 Since  $\delta = \frac{M}{2} < M \leq n + 1 - c$ , then  $\delta < n + 1 - c$ , so  $c + \delta < n + 1$ .  
 Since  $\delta = \frac{M}{2} < M \leq c - n$ , then  $\delta < c - n$ , so  $n < c - \delta$ .  
 Hence,  $n < c - \delta < x < c + \delta < n + 1$ , so  $n < x < n + 1$ .  
 Thus,  $|f(x) - f(c)| = |n - n| = 0 < \epsilon$ .  
 Therefore,  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 13. continuity of a restriction of a function does not necessarily imply continuity of the function**

Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Let  $g$  be the restriction of  $f$  to  $[0, \infty)$ .  
 Then  $g(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in [0, \infty)$ .  
 Since the constant function given by  $h(x) = 1$  is continuous and  $g$  is a restriction of  $h$  to  $[0, \infty)$ , then  $g$  is continuous, so  $g$  is continuous on  $[0, \infty)$ .  
 Since  $0 \in [0, \infty)$ , then  $g$  is continuous at 0.  
 Since 0 is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R}$ , but  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  does not exist, then  $f$  is not continuous at 0, so  $f$  is not continuous.  
 Therefore,  $g$  is continuous at 0, but  $f$  is not continuous at 0.  
 Thus, if  $g$  is a restriction of  $f$  and  $g$  is continuous, then  $f$  is not necessarily continuous.

**Exercise 14.** Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\alpha > 0$ .

Let  $I = (c - \alpha, c + \alpha) \subset S$ .

Let  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function.

If the restriction of  $f$  to  $I$ , denoted  $f_I$ , is continuous at  $c$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $f_I$  is continuous at  $c$ .

To prove  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Since  $f_I$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in I$ , if  $|x - c| < \beta$ , then  $|f_I(x) - f_I(c)| < \epsilon$ .



Let  $m = \min\{\alpha, \beta\}$ .

Then  $m \leq \alpha$  and  $m \leq \beta$ .

Since  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 0$ , then  $m > 0$ , so  $\frac{m}{2} > 0$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{m}{2}$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in S$  such that  $|x - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $|x - c| < \delta = \frac{m}{2} < m \leq \alpha$ , then  $|x - c| < \alpha$ , so  $x \in N(c; \alpha) = (c - \alpha, c + \alpha) = I$ .

Since  $|x - c| < \delta = \frac{m}{2} < m \leq \beta$ , then  $|x - c| < \beta$ .

Since  $x \in I$  and  $|x - c| < \beta$ , then  $|f_I(x) - f_I(c)| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(c)| = |f_I(x) - f_I(c)| < \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 15.** Let  $K > 0$ .

Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq K|x - y|$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ , let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary.

To prove  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{K}$ .

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $K > 0$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| \leq K|x - c| < K\delta = \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 16.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function such that  $f(x) = x^2$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Compute  $f(\sqrt{2})$ .

**Solution.** Since  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $\sqrt{2}$ .

Hence, by the sequential characterization of continuity, for every sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  that converges to  $\sqrt{2}$ , the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  converges to  $f(\sqrt{2})$ .

Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence of rational numbers defined recursively by  $x_1 = 2$  and  $x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n}{2} + \frac{1}{x_n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then we know  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \sqrt{2}$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is a sequence of rational numbers, then  $x_n \in \mathbb{Q}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $x_n \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Since  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$ , then  $x_n \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Hence,  $x_n \in \mathbb{R}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \sqrt{2}$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(\sqrt{2})$ .

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\sqrt{2}) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n x_n) \\ &= \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n \right) \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n \right) \\ &= \sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{2} \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $f(\sqrt{2}) = 2$ . □

**Exercise 17.** If  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function, then  $f$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Suppose  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function.

To prove  $f$  is continuous, let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Since there are no accumulation points of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $n$  is not an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Since  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then by the characterization of continuity,  $f$  is continuous at  $n$ .

Therefore,  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{Z}$ , so  $f$  is continuous. □

**Exercise 18.** Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function.

If  $c \in E$  and  $c$  is not an accumulation point of  $E$ , then for every sequence  $(x_n)$  of points in  $E$  such that  $(x_n)$  converges to  $c$ , the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  converges to  $f(c)$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $c \in E$  and  $c$  is not an accumulation point of  $E$ .

Then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Therefore, by the sequential characterization of continuity, for every sequence  $(x_n)$  of points in  $E$  such that  $(x_n)$  converges to  $c$ , the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  converges to  $f(c)$ . □

**Exercise 19.** Using the sequential characterization of continuity prove the function  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  is continuous.

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is continuous on its domain, we must prove  $f$  is continuous on the interval  $(0, \infty)$ .

Let  $c \in (0, \infty)$  be arbitrary.

Then  $c > 0$ , so  $c \neq 0$ .

To prove  $f$  is continuous at  $c$  using the sequential characterization of continuity, let  $(x_n)$  be an arbitrary sequence of real numbers in  $(0, \infty)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

We must prove  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(c)$ .

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c \neq 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} f(c) &= \frac{1}{c} \\ &= \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x_n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(c)$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 20.** Show that the sequence  $(a_n)$  defined by  $a_n = \sqrt[n]{e^{n+1}}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is convergent.

**Solution.** We see intuitively that the sequence converges to  $e$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* To prove  $(a_n)$  is convergent, we prove  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{e^{n+1}} = e$ .

We first prove  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1$ .

Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = e^x$ .

We assume  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at 0, then by the sequential characterization of continuity, if  $(x_n)$  is a sequence of points in  $\mathbb{R}$  that converges to 0, then the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  converges to  $f(0)$ .

Since  $(\frac{1}{n})$  is a sequence of real numbers that converges to 0, then the sequence  $(f(\frac{1}{n}))$  converges to  $f(0)$ .

Thus,  $1 = e^0 = f(0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(\frac{1}{n}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{1}{n}}$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{e^{n+1}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{n+1}{n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e e^{\frac{1}{n}} \\ &= e \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{1}{n}} \\ &= e \cdot 1 \\ &= e. \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

**Exercise 21.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.

Let  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = 0\}$ .

Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $S$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

Then  $c \in S$ .

*Proof.* Since  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $S$ , then  $x_n \in S$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $x_n \in S$ .

Since  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$ , then  $x_n \in \mathbb{R}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , then  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

To prove  $c \in S$ , we must prove  $f(c) = 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , then by the sequential characterization of continuity, we conclude  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(c)$ .

Since  $x_n \in S$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $f(x_n) = 0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  is the constant sequence 0.

Thus,  $0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(c)$ , so  $f(c) = 0$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 22.** Let  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function.

Let  $c \in E$ .

If  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $M > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x)| < M$  for all  $x \in N(c; \delta) \cap E$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Let  $\epsilon = 1$  be given.

Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in E$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < 1$ .

Let  $M = 1 + |f(c)|$ .

Since  $1 > 0$  and  $|f(c)| \geq 0$ , then  $M > 0$ .

Let  $x \in N(c; \delta) \cap E$ .

Then  $x \in N(c; \delta)$  and  $x \in E$ .

Since  $x \in N(c; \delta)$ , then  $|x - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in E$  and  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < 1$ .

Thus,  $|f(x)| = |f(x) - f(c) + f(c)| \leq |f(x) - f(c)| + |f(c)| < 1 + |f(c)| = M$ , so  $|f(x)| < M$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 23.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function continuous at  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(c) > 0$ .

Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $x \in N(c; \delta)$ , then  $f(x) > 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f(c) > 0$ , then  $\frac{f(c)}{2} > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{f(c)}{2}$ .

Let  $x \in N(c; \delta)$ .

Then  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $|x - c| < \delta$ , so  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{f(c)}{2}$ .

Hence,  $\frac{-f(c)}{2} < f(x) - f(c) < \frac{f(c)}{2}$ , so  $\frac{-f(c)}{2} < f(x) - f(c)$ .

Thus,  $0 < \frac{f(c)}{2} < f(x)$ , so  $0 < f(x)$ .

Therefore,  $f(x) > 0$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 24.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) \geq g(x)\}$ .

If  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $S$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , then  $c \in S$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $S$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is in  $S$ , then  $x_n \in S$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $f(x_n) \geq g(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Suppose for the sake of contradiction  $c \notin S$ .

Then  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(c) < g(c)$ , so  $f(c) - g(c) < 0$ .

Let  $h = f - g$ .

Then  $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function defined by  $h(x) = (f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Thus,  $h(c) = f(c) - g(c) < 0$ , so  $h(c) < 0$ .

Since  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous functions and  $h = f - g$ , then  $h$  is continuous, so  $h$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is an arbitrary sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , then by the sequential characterization of continuity, we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h(x_n) = h(c)$ , so the sequence  $(h(x_n))$  is convergent.

Since  $f(x_n) \geq g(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $h(x_n) = f(x_n) - g(x_n) \geq 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $0 \leq h(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then 0 is a lower bound of  $(h(x_n))$ .

Since  $(h(x_n))$  is a convergent sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  and 0 is a lower bound of  $(h(x_n))$ , then  $0 \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h(x_n)$ , so  $0 \leq h(c)$ .

Thus, we have  $h(c) \geq 0$  and  $h(c) < 0$ , a contradiction.

Therefore,  $c \in S$ , as desired.  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $S$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is in  $S$ , then  $x_n \in S$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $f(x_n) \geq g(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Suppose for the sake of contradiction  $c \notin S$ .

Then  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(c) < g(c)$ , so  $g(c) - f(c) > 0$ .

Let  $h = g - f$ .

Then  $h$  is a function defined by  $h(x) = (g - f)(x) = g(x) - f(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Thus,  $h(c) = g(c) - f(c) > 0$ , so  $h(c) > 0$ .

Since  $g$  and  $f$  are continuous functions and  $h = g - f$ , then  $h$  is continuous, so  $h$  is continuous at  $c$ .

By the previous lemma, since  $h$  is continuous at  $c$  and  $h(c) > 0$ , then there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that if  $x \in N(c; \epsilon)$ , then  $h(x) > 0$ .

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $n > N$ , then  $|x_n - c| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n > N$ .

Then  $|x_n - c| < \epsilon$ , so  $x_n \in N(c; \epsilon)$ .

Hence,  $h(x_n) > 0$ , so  $g(x_n) - f(x_n) > 0$ .

Thus,  $g(x_n) > f(x_n)$ , so  $f(x_n) < g(x_n)$ .

Since  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $f(x_n) \geq g(x_n)$ .

Therefore, we have  $f(x_n) < g(x_n)$  and  $f(x_n) \geq g(x_n)$ , a contradiction.

Consequently,  $c \in S$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 25.** Let  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function continuous at  $c \in E$ .

Then for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $x, y \in E \cap N(c; \delta)$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Then  $\frac{\epsilon}{2} > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in E$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Since  $c \in E$  and  $c \in N(c; \delta)$ , then  $c \in E \cap N(c; \delta)$ , so  $E \cap N(c; \delta) \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $x, y \in E \cap N(c; \delta)$ .

Then  $x \in E \cap N(c; \delta)$  and  $y \in E \cap N(c; \delta)$ .

Hence,  $x \in E$  and  $x \in N(c; \delta)$  and  $y \in E$  and  $y \in N(c; \delta)$ .

Since  $x \in N(c; \delta)$  and  $y \in N(c; \delta)$ , then  $|x - c| < \delta$  and  $|y - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in E$  and  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Since  $y \in E$  and  $|y - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(y) - f(c)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= |f(x) - f(c) + f(c) - f(y)| \\ &\leq |f(x) - f(c)| + |f(c) - f(y)| \\ &= |f(x) - f(c)| + |f(y) - f(c)| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

## Algebraic properties of continuous functions

**Exercise 26.** The function  $r : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $r(x) = \sin(\frac{1}{x})$  is continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .

Let  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $g(x) = \sin(x)$ .

Then  $g \circ f$  is the composite function.

Since  $\text{dom}(g \circ f) = \{x \in \text{dom}f : f(x) \in \text{dom}g\} = \{x \in (0, \infty) : \frac{1}{x} \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{x \in (0, \infty) : x \neq 0\} = (0, \infty) = \text{dom}r$ , then  $\text{dom}(g \circ f) = \text{dom}r$ .

Let  $x \in \text{dom}(g \circ f)$ .

Then  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(\frac{1}{x}) = \sin(\frac{1}{x}) = r(x)$ , so  $(g \circ f)(x) = r(x)$  for all  $x \in \text{dom}(g \circ f)$ .

Since  $\text{dom}(g \circ f) = \text{dom}r$  and  $(g \circ f)(x) = r(x)$  for all  $x \in \text{dom}(g \circ f)$ , then  $g \circ f = r$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous and  $g$  is continuous, then  $g \circ f = r$  is continuous, so  $r$  is continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 27.** The function  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$  is continuous at 1.

**Solution.** If  $y = f(x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ , then  $y^2 = 1 - x^2$ , so  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .

Thus, we have the unit circle centered at the origin.

The graph of  $f$  is the top semicircle and the limit of  $f$  as  $x$  approaches 1 is 0 and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 0 = f(1)$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $g(x) = 1 - x^2$ .

Let  $h : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by  $h(x) = \sqrt{x}$ .

Then  $h \circ g$  is the composite function.

Since  $\text{dom}(h \circ g) = \{x \in \text{dom}g : g(x) \in \text{dom}h\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 1 - x^2 \in [0, \infty)\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 1 - x^2 \geq 0\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 1 \geq x^2\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x^2 \leq 1\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x|^2 \leq 1\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x| \leq 1\} = [-1, 1] = \text{dom}f$ , then  $\text{dom}(h \circ g) = \text{dom}f$ .

Let  $x \in \text{dom}(h \circ g)$ .

Then  $(h \circ g)(x) = h(g(x)) = h(1 - x^2) = \sqrt{1 - x^2} = f(x)$ , so  $(h \circ g)(x) = f(x)$  for all  $x \in \text{dom}(h \circ g)$ .

Since  $\text{dom}(h \circ g) = \text{dom}f$  and  $(h \circ g)(x) = f(x)$  for all  $x \in \text{dom}(h \circ g)$ , then  $h \circ g = f$ .

Since  $g$  is a polynomial function, then  $g$  is continuous.

Since the square root function is continuous, then  $h$  is continuous.

Since  $g$  is continuous and  $h$  is continuous, then  $h \circ g = f$  is continuous, so  $f$  is continuous on  $[-1, 1]$ .

Since  $1 \in [-1, 1]$ , then  $f$  is continuous at 1.  $\square$

**Lemma 28.** Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $\max\{x, y\} = \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{|x-y|}{2}$  and  $\min\{x, y\} = \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{x, y\}$ .

We must prove  $\max S = \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{|x-y|}{2}$  and  $\min S = \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ .

Since  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , then either  $x \geq y$  or  $x < y$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x \geq y$ .

Then  $x - y \geq 0$  and  $\max S = x$  and  $\min S = y$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \max S &= x \\ &= \frac{2x}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+x}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y+x-y}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{x-y}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{|x-y|}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\max S = \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ , as desired.

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}\min S &= y \\ &= \frac{2y}{2} \\ &= \frac{y+y}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y+y-x}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{y-x}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{x-y}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{|x-y|}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\min S = \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ , as desired.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x < y$ .

Then  $x - y < 0$  and  $\max S = y$  and  $\min S = x$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}\max S &= y \\ &= \frac{2y}{2} \\ &= \frac{y+y}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y+y-x}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{y-x}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{-(x-y)}{2} \\ &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{|x-y|}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\max S = \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ , as desired.



Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min S &= x \\
 &= \frac{2x}{2} \\
 &= \frac{x+x}{2} \\
 &= \frac{x+y+x-y}{2} \\
 &= \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{x-y}{2} \\
 &= \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{-(x-y)}{2} \\
 &= \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{|x-y|}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\min S = \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 29.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions continuous on  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $h : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $h(x) = \max\{f(x), g(x)\}$ .

Then  $h$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in E$ .

Then  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $g(x) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Hence, by the previous lemma,  $h(x) = \max\{f(x), g(x)\} = \frac{f(x)+g(x)}{2} + \frac{|f(x)-g(x)|}{2}$ .

Thus,  $h = \frac{f+g}{2} + \frac{|f-g|}{2}$ .

Since  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous on  $E$ , then  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous, so the sum  $f+g$  and difference  $f-g$  are continuous.

Since  $f+g$  is continuous, then the scalar multiple  $\frac{f+g}{2}$  is continuous.

Since  $f-g$  is continuous, then  $|f-g|$  is continuous, so the scalar multiple  $\frac{|f-g|}{2}$  is continuous.

Since  $\frac{f+g}{2}$  is continuous and  $\frac{|f-g|}{2}$  is continuous, then the sum  $\frac{f+g}{2} + \frac{|f-g|}{2}$  is continuous.

Therefore,  $h$  is continuous, as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 30.** Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a < b < c$ .

Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $g : [b, c] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function continuous on  $[b, c]$  such that  $f(b) = g(b)$ .

Let  $h : [a, c] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } x \in [a, b] \\ g(x) & \text{if } x \in [b, c] \end{cases}$$

Then  $h$  is continuous on  $[a, c]$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $h$  is continuous on  $[a, c]$ , let  $\alpha \in [a, c]$  be arbitrary.

We must prove  $h$  is continuous at  $\alpha$ .

Since  $\alpha \in [a, c]$  and  $[a, c] = [a, b] \cup \{b\} \cup (b, c]$ , then either  $\alpha \in [a, b]$  or  $\alpha = b$  or  $\alpha \in (b, c]$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $\alpha \in [a, b]$ .

Since  $[a, b] \subset [a, c]$  and  $f(x) = h(x)$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , then  $f$  is a restriction of  $h$  to  $[a, b]$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $x$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

Hence, a restriction of  $h$  to  $[a, b]$  is continuous at  $x$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , so  $h$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ .

This is not correct!!! We must fix this!!!

Since  $\alpha \in [a, b]$  and  $[a, b] \subset [a, c]$ , then  $\alpha \in [a, c]$ , so  $h$  is continuous at  $\alpha$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $\alpha \in (b, c]$ .

Since  $[b, c] \subset [a, c]$  and  $g(x) = h(x)$  for all  $x \in [b, c]$ , then  $g$  is a restriction of  $h$  to  $[b, c]$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous on  $[b, c]$ , then  $g$  is continuous at  $x$  for all  $x \in [b, c]$ .

Hence, a restriction of  $h$  to  $[b, c]$  is continuous at  $x$  for all  $x \in [b, c]$ , so  $h$  is continuous on  $[b, c]$ .

Since  $\alpha \in (b, c]$  and  $(b, c] \subset [a, c]$ , then  $\alpha \in [a, c]$ , so  $h$  is continuous at  $\alpha$ .

**Case 3:** Suppose  $\alpha = b$ .

We prove  $h$  is continuous at  $b$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [a, c]$ , if  $|x - b| < \delta$ , then  $|h(x) - h(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $b \in [a, b]$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $b$ , so there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , if  $|x - b| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous on  $[b, c]$  and  $b \in [b, c]$ , then  $g$  is continuous at  $b$ , so there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [b, c]$ , if  $|x - b| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{\min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}}{2}$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$  and  $2\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ , so  $2\delta \leq \delta_1$  and  $2\delta \leq \delta_2$ .

Thus,  $\delta \leq \frac{\delta_1}{2}$  and  $\delta \leq \frac{\delta_2}{2}$ .

Let  $x \in [a, c]$  such that  $|x - b| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in [a, c]$  and  $[a, c] = [a, b] \cup [b, c]$ , then either  $x \in [a, b]$  or  $x \in [b, c]$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 3.1:** Suppose  $x \in [a, b]$ .

Since  $|x - b| < \delta \leq \frac{\delta_1}{2} < \delta_1$ , then  $|x - b| < \delta_1$ .

Since  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $|x - b| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Thus,  $|h(x) - h(b)| = |f(x) - f(b)| < \epsilon$ , so  $|h(x) - h(b)| < \epsilon$ .

**Case 3.2:** Suppose  $x \in [b, c]$ .

Since  $|x - b| < \delta \leq \frac{\delta_2}{2} < \delta_2$ , then  $|x - b| < \delta_2$ .

Since  $x \in [b, c]$  and  $|x - b| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Thus,  $|h(x) - h(b)| = |g(x) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ , so  $|h(x) - h(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore, in all cases,  $|h(x) - h(b)| < \epsilon$ , so  $h$  is continuous at  $b$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 31.** Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in E$ .

Let  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function.

If for every sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $E$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  is convergent, then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

*Proof.* We prove by contrapositive.

Suppose  $f$  is not continuous at  $c$ .

Then there exists  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that for each  $\delta > 0$  there corresponds  $x \in E$  such that  $|x - c| < \delta$  and  $|f(x) - f(c)| \geq \epsilon_0$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{1}{n}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there corresponds  $x \in E$  such that  $|x - c| < \frac{1}{n}$  and  $|f(x) - f(c)| \geq \epsilon_0$ .

Thus, there exists a function  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow E$  such that  $g(n) \in E$  and  $|g(n) - c| < \frac{1}{n}$  and  $|f(g(n)) - f(c)| \geq \epsilon_0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so there exists a sequence  $(x_n)$  such that  $x_n \in E$  and  $|x_n - c| < \frac{1}{n}$  and  $|f(x_n) - f(c)| \geq \epsilon_0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $x_n \in E$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(x_n)$  is a sequence of points in  $E$ .

We prove  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Then  $\epsilon \neq 0$ , so  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Hence, by the Archimedean property of  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $N > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n > N$ .

Then  $n > N > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ , so  $n > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

Hence,  $\epsilon > \frac{1}{n}$ , so  $\frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$ .

Since  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $|x_n - c| < \frac{1}{n}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $|x_n - c| < \frac{1}{n}$ .

Thus,  $|x_n - c| < \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$ , so  $|x_n - c| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , as desired.

We prove the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  is divergent.

Thus, we must prove for every real  $L$  there exists  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that for each  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  there corresponds  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n > N$  and  $|f(x_n) - L| \geq \epsilon_0$ .

Let  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary.

Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $n = N + 1$ .

Then  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n = N + 1 > N$  and

Use triangle inequality to figure out how we can ensure for any  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  that if  $|f(x_n) - f(c)| \geq \epsilon_0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $|f(x_n) - L| \geq \epsilon_0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . □

**Exercise 32.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be functions.

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f = b$  and  $g$  is continuous at  $b$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g \circ f = g(b)$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f = b$  and  $g$  is continuous at  $b$ .

Observe that  $a$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R}$ , the domain of  $g \circ f$ .

To prove  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g \circ f = g(b)$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|(g \circ f)(x) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous at  $b$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - b| < \delta_1$ , then  $|g(x) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f = b$  and  $\delta_1 > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta_2$ , then  $|f(x) - b| < \delta_1$ .

Let  $\delta = \delta_2 > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ .

Then  $0 < |x - a| < \delta_2$ , so  $|f(x) - b| < \delta_1$ .

Since  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $|f(x) - b| < \delta_1$ , then  $|g(f(x)) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ , so  $|(g \circ f)(x) - g(b)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 33.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

The set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) \neq k\}$  is open.

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) \neq k\}$ .

We must prove  $S$  is open.

Either  $S$  is empty or not.

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $S = \emptyset$ .

Since the empty set is open, then  $S$  is open.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $S \neq \emptyset$ .

Then there is an element in  $S$ .

Let  $p$  be an arbitrary element of  $S$ .

Then  $p \in S$ , so  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(p) \neq k$ .

Since  $f(p) \neq k$ , then  $f(p) - k \neq 0$ , so  $|f(p) - k| > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $p$ .

Thus, there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - p| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(p)| < |f(p) - k|$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - p| < \delta$ .

Then  $|f(x) - f(p)| < |f(p) - k|$ .

Since  $|f(x) - k| \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $|f(x) - k| \geq 0$ .

Suppose  $|f(x) - k| = 0$ .

Then  $f(x) - k = 0$ , so  $f(x) = k$ .

Thus,  $|f(p) - k| = |k - f(p)| = |f(x) - f(p)| < |f(p) - k|$ .

Hence,  $|f(p) - k| < |f(p) - k|$ , a contradiction.

Therefore,  $|f(x) - k| \neq 0$ .

Since  $|f(x) - k| \geq 0$ , then this implies  $|f(x) - k| > 0$ , so  $f(x) - k \neq 0$ .

Thus,  $f(x) \neq k$ .

Since  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(x) \neq k$ , then  $x \in S$ .

Therefore, there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - p| < \delta$ , then  $x \in S$ .

Hence, there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $x \in N(p; \delta)$ , then  $x \in S$ , so there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $N(p; \delta) \subset S$ .

Thus,  $p$  is an interior point of  $S$ .

Since  $p$  is arbitrary, then every point in  $S$  is an interior point of  $S$ , so  $S$  is open.  $\square$

**Exercise 34.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ .

Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous functions.

Let  $S = \{x \in [a, b] : f(x) = g(x)\}$ .

Then  $S$  is closed.

*Proof.* Let  $c$  be an arbitrary accumulation point of  $S$ .

Since  $S \subset [a, b]$ , then  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $[a, b]$ .

Since the interval  $[a, b]$  is closed, then  $c \in [a, b]$ .

Since  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous at  $c$ .

Suppose  $f(c) \neq g(c)$ .

Then  $f(c) - g(c) \neq 0$ , so  $|f(c) - g(c)| > 0$ .

Hence,  $\frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Let  $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq \delta_1$  and  $\delta \leq \delta_2$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Since  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $S$  and  $\delta > 0$ , then there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $x \in N'(c; \delta)$ .

Since  $x \in S$ , then  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $f(x) = g(x)$ .

Since  $x \in N'(c; \delta)$  and  $N'(c; \delta) \subset N(c; \delta)$ , then  $x \in N(c; \delta)$ , so  $|x - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $|x - c| < \delta$  and  $\delta \leq \delta_1$ , then  $|x - c| < \delta_1$ .

Since  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $|x - c| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Since  $|x - c| < \delta$  and  $\delta \leq \delta_2$ , then  $|x - c| < \delta_2$ .

Since  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $|x - c| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(c) - g(c)| &= |f(c) - f(x) + f(x) - g(c)| \\ &= |f(c) - f(x) + g(x) - g(c)| \\ &\leq |f(c) - f(x)| + |g(x) - g(c)| \\ &= |f(x) - f(c)| + |g(x) - g(c)| \\ &< \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} + \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} \\ &= |f(c) - g(c)|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $|f(c) - g(c)| < |f(c) - g(c)|$ , a contradiction.

Thus,  $f(c) = g(c)$ .  
Since  $c \in [a, b]$  and  $f(c) = g(c)$ , then  $c \in S$ .  
Therefore,  $S$  is closed. □

**Exercise 35.** Let  $I$  be a closed set.

Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.  
Let  $S = \{x \in I : f(x) = k\}$ .  
Then  $S$  is closed.

*Proof.* Either  $S = \emptyset$  or  $S \neq \emptyset$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $S = \emptyset$ .

Since the empty set is closed, then  $S$  is closed.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $S \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $p$  be an arbitrary accumulation point of  $S$ .

To prove  $S$  is closed, we must prove  $p \in S$ .

Since  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $S$  and  $S \subset I$ , then  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $I$ .

Since  $I$  is closed, then  $p \in I$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $I$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $p$ .

Since  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $S$ , then for every  $\delta > 0$  there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $x \in N'(p; \delta)$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{1}{n}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $x \in N'(p; \frac{1}{n})$ , so there exists a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow S$  such that  $f(n) \in S$  and  $f(n) \in N'(p; \frac{1}{n})$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Hence, there exists a sequence  $(x_n)$  such that  $x_n \in S$  and  $x_n \in N'(p; \frac{1}{n})$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $x_n \in S$ , so  $x_n \in I$  and  $f(x_n) = k$ .

Hence,  $x_n \in I$  and  $f(x_n) = k$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $x_n \in I$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $I$ .

Since  $f(x_n) = k$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(f(x_n))$  is the constant sequence  $k$ , so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = k$ .

We prove the sequence  $(x_n)$  converges to  $p$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Then  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} > 0$ , so by the Archimedean property of  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $N > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n > N$ .

Then  $n > N > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ , so  $n > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

Hence,  $\epsilon > \frac{1}{n}$ .

Since  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $x_n \in N'(p; \frac{1}{n})$ , so  $x_n \in N(p; \frac{1}{n})$ .

Thus,  $|x_n - p| < \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$ , so  $|x_n - p| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = p$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $p$  and  $(x_n)$  is a sequence of points in  $I$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = p$ , then by the sequential characterization of continuity,  $k = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(p)$ .

Therefore,  $f(p) = k$ .

Since  $p \in I$  and  $f(p) = k$ , then  $p \in S$ , so  $S$  is closed.

Thus, in all cases,  $S$  is closed, as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 36.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function such that  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Then  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* We prove  $f(c) = 0$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  by contradiction.

Suppose there exists  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) \neq 0$ .

Since  $f(c) \neq 0$ , then  $|f(c)| > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $|f(c)| > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < |f(c)|$ .

Since  $c < c + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $c < q < c + \delta$ .

Since  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$ , then  $q \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $c < q < c + \delta$ , then  $0 < q - c < \delta$ , so  $|q - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $q \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $|q - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(q) - f(c)| < |f(c)|$ .

Since  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $f(q) = 0$ .

Therefore,  $|0 - f(c)| < |f(c)|$ , so  $|-f(c)| < |f(c)|$ .

Thus,  $|f(c)| < |f(c)|$ , a contradiction.

Therefore,  $f(c) = 0$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , as desired  $\square$

**Exercise 37.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous functions such that  $f(x) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Then  $f(x) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . (Hence, function  $f = g$ ).

*Proof.* We prove  $f(c) = g(c)$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  by contradiction.

Suppose there exists  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) \neq g(c)$ .

Then  $|f(c) - g(c)| > 0$ , so  $\frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $g$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $\frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} > 0$  and  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Since  $\frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} > 0$  and  $g$  is continuous at  $c$ , then there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - c| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Let  $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq \delta_1$  and  $\delta \leq \delta_2$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Since  $c < c + \delta$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $c < q < c + \delta$ .

Hence,  $0 < q - c < \delta$ , so  $|q - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $|q - c| < \delta \leq \delta_1$ , then  $|q - c| < \delta_1$ , so  $|f(q) - f(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Since  $|q - c| < \delta \leq \delta_2$ , then  $|q - c| < \delta_2$ , so  $|g(q) - g(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Since  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $f(q) = g(q)$ , so  $|f(q) - g(c)| < \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2}$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(c) - g(c)| &= |f(c) - f(q) + f(q) - g(c)| \\ &\leq |f(c) - f(q)| + |f(q) - g(c)| \\ &= |f(q) - f(c)| + |f(q) - g(c)| \\ &< \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} + \frac{|f(c) - g(c)|}{2} \\ &= |f(c) - g(c)|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $|f(c) - g(c)| < |f(c) - g(c)|$ , a contradiction.

Therefore,  $f(c) = g(c)$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Definition 38. additive map**

An additive map preserves the operation of addition.

Let  $f$  be a real valued function.

Let  $dom f$  be an additive group.

Then  $f$  is said to be **additive** iff  $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in dom f$ .

**Lemma 39.** *Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function.*

*If there exist real numbers  $k$  and  $L$  such that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$  and  $k \neq 0$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(kx) = L$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there exist real numbers  $k$  and  $L$  such that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$  and  $k \neq 0$ .

To prove  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(kx) = L$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $0 < |x| < \delta$ , then  $|f(kx) - L| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$ , then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $0 < |x| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{\delta_1}{|k|}$ .

Since  $k \neq 0$ , then  $|k| > 0$ .

Since  $|k| > 0$  and  $\delta_1 > 0$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 < |x| < \delta$ .

Then  $0 < |x| < \frac{\delta_1}{|k|}$ , so  $0 < |k||x| < \delta_1$ .

Hence,  $0 < |kx| < \delta_1$ .

Since  $kx \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $0 < |kx| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(kx) - L| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 40.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.

If the limit of  $f$  at 0 exists, then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Suppose the limit of  $f$  at 0 exists.

Then there exists a real number  $L$  such that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$ .

To prove  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ , we must prove  $L = 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .



Then  $f(2x) = f(x + x) = f(x) + f(x) = 2f(x)$ , so  $f(2x) = 2f(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

By the previous lemma, if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$  and  $k \neq 0$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(kx) = L$ .

Thus, if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(2x) = L$ .

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(2x) = L$ , so  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(2x)$ .

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(2x) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2f(x) \\ &= 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) \\ &= 2L. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $L = 2L$ , so  $2L = L$ .

Subtracting  $L$  from both sides, we obtain  $L = 0$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Lemma 41.** *Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.*

*Then  $f(a - b) = f(a) - f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(0) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* We prove  $f(a - b) = f(a) - f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $f(a) = f(a - b + b) = f(a - b) + f(b)$ , so  $f(a) = f(a - b) + f(b)$ .

Hence,  $f(a) - f(b) = f(a - b)$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* We prove  $f(0) = 0$ .

Since  $f(0) = f(0 + 0) = f(0) + f(0)$ , then  $f(0) = f(0) + f(0)$ .

Therefore,  $f(0) = f(0) - f(0) = 0$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 42.** *Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.*

*If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ .

Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary.

Observe that  $a$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R}$ , the domain of  $f$ .

To prove  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $0 < |x| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x)| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ .

Since  $x - a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x - a)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $f$  is additive, then  $|f(x) - f(a)| = |f(x - a)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Lemma 43.** *Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.*

*If  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous at 0.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

To prove  $f$  is continuous at 0, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(0)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $|x - x_0| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x| < \delta$ .

Let  $y = x + x_0$ .

Then  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x = y - x_0$ , so  $|y - x_0| < \delta$ .

Since  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $|y - x_0| < \delta$ , then  $|f(y) - f(x_0)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $f$  is additive, then  $|f(x) - f(0)| = |f(x - 0)| = |f(x)| = |f(y - x_0)| = |f(y) - f(x_0)| < \epsilon$ , so  $|f(x) - f(0)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 44.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.

If  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Suppose  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

To prove  $f$  is continuous, let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  be given.

We must prove  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $f$  is additive and  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ , then by a previous lemma,  $f$  is continuous at 0.

Since 0 is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f$  is continuous at 0, then by the characterization of continuity,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = f(0)$ .

Since  $f$  is additive, then  $f(0) = 0$ .

Thus,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = f(0) = 0$ .

Since  $f$  is additive and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$ , then by a previous lemma,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , so  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$ ,

Since  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$ , then by the characterization of continuity,  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Lemma 45.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.

Then  $f(nr) = nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}, r \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  be given.

To prove  $f(nr) = nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we must prove  $f(nr) = nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(-nr) = -nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

We prove  $f(nr) = nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  by induction on  $n$ .

Let  $S = \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ : f(nr) = nf(r)\}$ .

**Basis:**

Since  $1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(1 \cdot r) = f(r) = 1 \cdot f(r)$ , then  $1 \in S$ .

**Induction:**

Let  $k \in S$ .

Then  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(kr) = kf(r)$ .

Since  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then  $k + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f((k+1)r) &= f(kr+r) \\
 &= f(kr) + f(r) \\
 &= kf(r) + f(r) \\
 &= (k+1)f(r).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $k+1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f((k+1)r) = (k+1)f(r)$ , then  $k+1 \in S$ .

Hence,  $k \in S$  implies  $k+1 \in S$ , so by PMI,  $S = \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Therefore,  $f(nr) = nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . □

*Proof.* We prove  $f(-nr) = -nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  by induction on  $n$ .

Let  $S = \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ : f(-nr) = -nf(r)\}$ .

**Basis:**

Since  $f$  is additive, then  $f(-r) = f(0-r) = f(0) - f(r) = 0 - f(r) = -f(r)$ .

Since  $1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(-r) = -f(r)$ , then  $1 \in S$ .

**Induction:**

Let  $k \in S$ .

Then  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(-kr) = -kf(r)$ .

Since  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then  $k+1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(-(k+1)r) &= f(-kr-r) \\
 &= f(-kr) - f(r) \\
 &= -kf(r) - f(r) \\
 &= -(k+1)f(r).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $k+1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(-(k+1)r) = -(k+1)f(r)$ , then  $k+1 \in S$ .

Hence,  $k \in S$  implies  $k+1 \in S$ , so by PMI,  $S = \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Therefore,  $f(-nr) = -nf(r)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . □

**Lemma 46.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an additive function.

Then  $f(\frac{1}{n}) = \frac{f(1)}{n}$  for all nonzero integers  $n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $n$  be an arbitrary nonzero integer.

Then  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n \neq 0$ .

Since  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$ , then  $n \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $n \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $n \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{n} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $f$  is additive and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\frac{1}{n} \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f(1) = f(n \cdot \frac{1}{n}) = n \cdot f(\frac{1}{n})$ .

Since  $f(1) = n \cdot f(\frac{1}{n})$  and  $n \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{f(1)}{n} = f(\frac{1}{n})$ . □

**Exercise 47.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous additive function.

If  $f(1) = c$ , then  $f(x) = cx$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $f(1) = c$ .

We first prove  $f(q) = cq$  for all  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Let  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Then there exist integers  $a, b$  with  $b \neq 0$  such that  $q = \frac{a}{b}$ .

Since  $a$  and  $b$  are integers, then  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Since  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \neq 0$ , then  $b$  is a nonzero integer.

Since  $f$  is additive and  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b$  is a nonzero integer, then

$$\begin{aligned} f(q) &= f\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \\ &= f\left(a \cdot \frac{1}{b}\right) \\ &= a \cdot f\left(\frac{1}{b}\right) \\ &= a \cdot \frac{f(1)}{b} \\ &= a \cdot \frac{c}{b} \\ &= \frac{ac}{b} \\ &= \frac{ca}{b} \\ &= c \cdot \frac{a}{b} \\ &= cq. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $f(q) = cq$  for all  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Let  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $g(x) = cx$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $g$  is a polynomial function, then  $g$  is continuous.

Let  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Since  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$ , then  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , so  $g(x) = cx = f(x)$ .

Hence,  $f(x) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Since  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous and  $f(x) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then by a previous exercise,  $f(x) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Therefore,  $f(x) = cx$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 48.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $f(x + y) = f(x)f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then

1. If  $f(c) = 0$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

2. If the limit of  $f$  at 0 exists, then the limit of  $f$  at  $c$  exists for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(x) = f\left(\frac{x}{2} + \frac{x}{2}\right) = f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = [f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)]^2 \geq 0$ , so  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Either there is  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) = 0$  or there is no  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose there is  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $f(x) = f(0 + x) = f(c - c + x) = f(c + x - c) = f(c)f(x - c) = 0 \cdot f(x - c) = 0$ , so  $f(x) = 0$ .

Therefore,  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose there is no  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

Since  $f(0) = f(0 + 0) = f(0)f(0)$ , then  $f(0) = f(0)f(0)$ , so  $0 = f(0)f(0) - f(0) = f(0)[f(0) - 1]$ .

Thus,  $0 = f(0)[f(0) - 1]$ , so either  $f(0) = 0$  or  $f(0) - 1 = 0$ .

Since there is no  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ , then  $f(0) \neq 0$ .

Therefore,  $f(0) - 1 = 0$ , so  $f(0) = 1$ .

Suppose the limit of  $f$  at 0 exists.

Then there is a real number  $L$  such that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = L$ .

We must prove  $L = 1$ .

Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

To prove the limit of  $f$  at  $c$  exists, we must prove there exists  $M \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = M$ .  $\square$

## Continuous functions on compact sets

**Exercise 49.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ .

Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous.

If  $f$  has no zeroes on  $[a, b]$ , then either  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$  or  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $f$  has no zeroes on  $[a, b]$ .

To prove either  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$  or  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , we prove by contradiction.

Suppose it is not the case that either  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$  or  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

Then it is not the case that  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$  and it is not the case that  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

Hence, there exists  $x \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(x) \leq 0$  and there exists  $y \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(y) \geq 0$ .

Since  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $f$  has no zeroes on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f(x) \neq 0$ .

Since  $f(x) \leq 0$  and  $f(x) \neq 0$ , then  $f(x) < 0$ .

Since  $y \in [a, b]$  and  $f$  has no zeroes on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f(y) \neq 0$ .

Since  $f(y) \geq 0$  and  $f(y) \neq 0$ , then  $f(y) > 0$ .

Since  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $y \in [a, b]$ , then  $[x, y] \subset [a, b]$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $[x, y] \subset [a, b]$ , then  $f$  is continuous on  $[x, y]$ .

Since  $f(x) < 0 < f(y)$ , then by IVT, there exists  $c \in (x, y)$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

Since  $(x, y) \subset [x, y] \subset [a, b]$ , then  $(x, y) \subset [a, b]$ .

Since  $c \in (x, y)$  and  $(x, y) \subset [a, b]$ , then  $c \in [a, b]$ .

Thus, there exists  $c \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

But, this contradicts the assumption that  $f$  has no zeroes on  $[a, b]$ .

Therefore, either  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$  or  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 50.** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.

If there exists  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(a) \geq k \geq f(b)$ , then there exists  $c \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(c) = k$ .

*Proof.* Suppose there exists  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(a) \geq k \geq f(b)$ .

Since  $f(a) \geq k \geq f(b)$ , then  $f(a) \geq k$  and  $k \geq f(b)$ , so either  $f(a) = k$  or  $f(b) = k$  or  $f(a) > k > f(b)$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $f(a) = k$ .

Observe that  $a \in [a, b]$  and  $f(a) = k$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $f(b) = k$ .

Observe that  $b \in [a, b]$  and  $f(b) = k$ .

**Case 3:** Suppose  $f(a) > k > f(b)$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on the interval  $[a, b]$  and  $f(a) > k > f(b)$ , then by IVT, there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f(c) = k$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 51.** Let  $E$  be a nonempty closed bounded set.

Let  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function such that  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in E$ .

Then there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $f(x) \geq k$  for all  $x \in E$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\frac{1}{f} : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $\frac{1}{f}(x) = \frac{1}{f(x)}$  for all  $x \in E$ .

Since  $E \neq \emptyset$ , then there is some element in  $E$ .

Let  $c \in E$  be given.

Then  $f(c) > 0$ , so  $f(c) \neq 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $E$  and  $c \in E$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since the constant function 1 is continuous at  $c$  and  $f$  is continuous at  $c$  and  $f(c) \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{f}$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $c$  is arbitrary, then  $\frac{1}{f}$  is continuous on  $E$ .

Since  $E$  is a closed bounded set, then by the boundedness theorem, the function  $\frac{1}{f}$  is bounded.

Hence, there exists  $M \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|\frac{1}{f(x)}| \leq M$  for all  $x \in E$ .

Let  $x \in E$ .

Then  $f(x) > 0$  and  $|\frac{1}{f(x)}| \leq M$ .

Thus,  $0 < \frac{1}{f(x)} = \frac{1}{|f(x)|} = |\frac{1}{f(x)}| \leq M$ , so  $0 < M$  and  $\frac{1}{f(x)} \leq M$ .

Hence,  $0 < \frac{1}{M} \leq f(x)$ , so  $f(x) \geq \frac{1}{M} > 0$ .

Let  $k = \frac{1}{M}$ .

Then  $k > 0$  and  $f(x) \geq k$ .

Therefore, there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $f(x) \geq k$  for all  $x \in E$ , as desired.  $\square$

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is continuous on  $E$  and  $E$  is a nonempty closed bounded set, then by EVT,  $f$  has a minimum on  $E$ .

Hence, there exists  $m \in E$  such that  $f(m) \leq f(x)$  for all  $x \in E$ .

Since  $m \in E$  and  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in E$ , then  $f(m) > 0$ .

Let  $k = f(m)$ .

Then  $k > 0$  and  $k \leq f(x)$  for all  $x \in E$ , so there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $f(x) \geq k$  for all  $x \in E$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 52.** Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a closed, bounded set.

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions continuous on  $E$ .

Let  $S = \{x \in E : f(x) = g(x)\}$ .

If  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $S$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , then  $c \in S$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $S$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $S$ , then  $x_n \in S$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $x_n \in E$  and  $f(x_n) = g(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Thus,  $x_n \in E$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $f(x_n) = g(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $x_n \in E$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $E$ .

Since  $E$  is a closed and bounded set and  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $E$ , then by the Bolzano-Weierstrass property of compact sets, there exists a subsequence  $(y_n)$  in  $E$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n \in E$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is a convergent sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $(y_n)$  is a subsequence of  $(x_n)$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ .

Hence,  $c \in E$ .

Let  $h = f - g$ .

Then  $h : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the function defined by  $h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $E$  and  $g$  is continuous on  $E$ , then the difference  $f - g = h$  is continuous on  $E$ .

Since  $c \in E$ , then  $h$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $f(x_n) = g(x_n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $h(x_n) = f(x_n) - g(x_n) = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $(h(x_n))$  is the 0 constant sequence.

Hence,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h(x_n) = 0$ .

Since  $h$  is continuous at  $c$  and  $(x_n)$  is a sequence of points in  $E$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$ , then by the sequential characterization of continuity, we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h(x_n) = h(c)$ .

Thus,  $f(c) - g(c) = h(c) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h(x_n) = 0$ , so  $f(c) - g(c) = 0$ .

Hence,  $f(c) = g(c)$ .

Since  $c \in E$  and  $f(c) = g(c)$ , then  $c \in S$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 53.** Let  $E$  be a closed bounded infinite set.

Let  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function.

If for every  $x \in E$ , there exists  $y \in E$  such that  $|f(y)| \leq \frac{1}{2}|f(x)|$ , then there exists  $c \in E$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $E$  is infinite, then  $E \neq \emptyset$ , so let  $x_0 \in E$ .

Then there exists  $x_1 \in E$  such that  $|f(x_1)| \leq \frac{1}{2}|f(x_0)|$ .

Suppose there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x_k \in E$  and  $|f(x_k)| \leq \frac{|f(x_0)|}{2^k}$ .

Since  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $k+1 \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $x_k \in E$ , then there exists  $x_{k+1} \in E$  such that  $|f(x_{k+1})| \leq \frac{1}{2}|f(x_k)|$ .

Thus,  $|f(x_{k+1})| \leq \frac{1}{2}|f(x_k)| \leq \frac{|f(x_0)|}{2^{k+1}}$ , so  $|f(x_{k+1})| \leq \frac{|f(x_0)|}{2^{k+1}}$ .

Hence, by PMI,  $x_n \in E$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $|f(x_n)| \leq \frac{|f(x_0)|}{2^n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $x_n \in E$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $E$ .

Since  $0 \leq |f(x_n)| \leq \frac{|f(x_0)|}{2^n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 = 0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|f(x_0)|}{2^n}$ , then by the squeeze rule,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f(x_n)| = 0$ .

Since  $-|f(x_n)| \leq f(x_n) \leq |f(x_n)|$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $0 = -0 = -\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f(x_n)| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -|f(x_n)|$ , then by the squeeze rule,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = 0$ , so the sequence  $(f(x_n))$  is convergent.

Since  $(x_n)$  is a sequence in  $E$  and  $E$  is a closed bounded set, then by the Bolzano-Weierstrass property of compact sets, there exists a subsequence  $(y_n)$  in  $E$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n \in E$ .

Let  $c = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n$ .

Then  $c \in E$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $E$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Since  $(y_n)$  is a sequence in  $E$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = c$ , then by the sequential characterization of continuity, we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(y_n) = f(c)$ .

Since  $(y_n)$  is a subsequence of  $(x_n)$ , then there exists a strictly increasing function  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $y_n = x_{g(n)}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $y_n = x_{g(n)}$ , so  $f(y_n) = f(x_{g(n)})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is a strictly increasing function such that  $f(y_n) = f(x_{g(n)})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $(f(y_n))$  is a subsequence of  $(f(x_n))$ .

Since  $(f(x_n))$  is convergent and  $(f(y_n))$  is a subsequence of  $(f(x_n))$ , then  $f(c) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(y_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = 0$ , so  $f(c) = 0$ .

Therefore, there exists  $c \in E$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 54.** Let  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function such that  $f(0) = f(1)$ .

Then there exists  $c \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  such that  $f(c) = f(c + \frac{1}{2})$ .

*Proof.* Either  $f(\frac{1}{2}) = f(0)$  or  $f(\frac{1}{2}) \neq f(0)$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $f(\frac{1}{2}) = f(0)$ .

Let  $c = 0$ .

Since  $0 \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ , then  $c \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Observe that  $f(c) = f(0) = f(\frac{1}{2}) = f(0 + \frac{1}{2}) = f(c + \frac{1}{2})$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $f(\frac{1}{2}) \neq f(0)$ .

Then  $f(\frac{1}{2}) - f(0) \neq 0$ .

Let  $k = f(\frac{1}{2}) - f(0)$ .

Then  $k \neq 0$ .



Let  $g : [0, \frac{1}{2}] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $g(x) = f(x + \frac{1}{2})$ .

To prove  $g$  is continuous, let  $c \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  be given.

Then  $0 \leq c \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $\frac{1}{2} \leq c + \frac{1}{2} \leq 1$ .

Let  $a = c + \frac{1}{2}$ .

Then  $\frac{1}{2} \leq a \leq 1$ , so  $a \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ .

Since  $[\frac{1}{2}, 1] \subset [0, 1]$ , then  $a \in [0, 1]$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous on  $[0, 1]$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $a$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [0, 1]$  if  $|x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

Let  $x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  such that  $|x - c| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ , then  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $\frac{1}{2} \leq x + \frac{1}{2} \leq 1$ .

Hence,  $x + \frac{1}{2} \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ .

Since  $[\frac{1}{2}, 1] \subset [0, 1]$ , then  $x + \frac{1}{2} \in [0, 1]$ .

Since  $|x - c| < \delta$  and  $-c = \frac{1}{2} - a$ , then  $|x + \frac{1}{2} - a| < \delta$ .

Since  $x + \frac{1}{2} \in [0, 1]$  and  $|(x + \frac{1}{2}) - a| < \delta$ , then we conclude  $|f(x + \frac{1}{2}) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

Thus,  $|g(x) - g(c)| = |f(x + \frac{1}{2}) - f(c + \frac{1}{2})| = |f(x + \frac{1}{2}) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $g$  is continuous at  $c$ , so  $g$  is continuous on  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Let  $h = g - f$  be defined on  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Then  $h : [0, \frac{1}{2}] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the function defined by  $h(x) = f(x + \frac{1}{2}) - f(x)$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous on  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$  and  $f$  is continuous on  $[0, 1]$ , then  $g - f = h$  is continuous on the intersection  $[0, \frac{1}{2}] \cap [0, 1] = [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Observe that  $h(0) = f(0 + \frac{1}{2}) - f(0) = f(\frac{1}{2}) - f(0) = k$  and  $h(\frac{1}{2}) = f(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}) - f(\frac{1}{2}) = f(1) - f(\frac{1}{2}) = f(0) - f(\frac{1}{2}) = -k$ .

Since  $k \neq 0$ , then either  $k > 0$  or  $k < 0$ .

If  $k > 0$ , then  $h(\frac{1}{2}) = -k < 0 < k = h(0)$ , so  $h(\frac{1}{2}) < 0 < h(0)$ .

If  $k < 0$ , then  $h(0) = k < 0 < -k = h(\frac{1}{2})$ , so  $h(0) < 0 < h(\frac{1}{2})$ .

Thus, in either case, 0 is between  $h(0)$  and  $h(\frac{1}{2})$ .

Since  $h$  is continuous on  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$  and the interval  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$  is closed and bounded and 0 is between  $h(0)$  and  $h(\frac{1}{2})$ , then by IVT, there exists  $c \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$  such that  $h(c) = 0$ .

Thus,  $0 = h(c) = f(c + \frac{1}{2}) - f(c)$ , so  $f(c) = f(c + \frac{1}{2})$ .

Since  $c \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $(0, \frac{1}{2}) \subset [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ , then  $c \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Therefore, there exists  $c \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  such that  $f(c) = f(c + \frac{1}{2})$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Proposition 55. Fixed Point Theorem**

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a < b$ .

Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow [a, b]$  be a continuous function.

Then there exists  $x \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(x) = x$ .

*Proof.* Since  $a \in [a, b]$  and  $[a, b] = \text{rng} f$ , then  $a \in \text{rng} f$ , so there exists  $x_1 \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(x_1) = a$ .

Since  $b \in [a, b]$  and  $[a, b] = \text{rng} f$ , then  $b \in \text{rng} f$ , so there exists  $x_2 \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(x_2) = b$ .

Suppose  $x_1 = x_2$ .

Then  $a = f(x_1) = f(x_2) = b$ , so  $a = b$ .

But, this contradicts the assumption  $a < b$ .

Hence,  $x_1 \neq x_2$ , so either  $x_1 < x_2$  or  $x_1 > x_2$ .

Without loss of generality, assume  $x_1 < x_2$ .

Since  $x_1 \in [a, b]$ , then  $a \leq x_1 \leq b$ , so  $a \leq x_1$ .

Since  $x_2 \in [a, b]$ , then  $a \leq x_2 \leq b$ , so  $x_2 \leq b$ .

Thus,  $a \leq x_1$  and  $x_2 \leq b$ .

Hence, either  $x_1 = a$  or  $x_2 = b$  or both  $a < x_1$  and  $x_2 < b$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $x_1 = a$ .

Then  $f(a) = f(x_1) = a$ .

Therefore, we have  $a \in [a, b]$  and  $f(a) = a$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $x_2 = b$ .

Then  $f(b) = f(x_2) = b$ .

Therefore, we have  $b \in [a, b]$  and  $f(b) = b$ .

**Case 3:** Suppose  $a < x_1$  and  $x_2 < b$ .

Then  $a - x_1 < 0$  and  $0 < b - x_2$ .

Let  $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $g(x) = f(x) - x$ .

Since  $x_1 \in [a, b]$ , then  $g(x_1) = f(x_1) - x_1 = a - x_1 < 0$ .

Since  $x_2 \in [a, b]$ , then  $g(x_2) = f(x_2) - x_2 = b - x_2 > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous and the line  $y = x$  is continuous, then the difference  $g$  is continuous, so  $g$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ .

Since  $g$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$  and  $g(x_1) < 0 < g(x_2)$ , then by IVT, there exists  $c \in (x_1, x_2)$  such that  $g(c) = 0$ .

Since  $0 = g(c) = f(c) - c$ , then  $f(c) = c$ .

Since  $c \in (x_1, x_2)$ , then  $x_1 < c < x_2$ , so  $x_1 < c$  and  $c < x_2$ .

Since  $a < x_1$  and  $x_1 < c$  and  $c < x_2$  and  $x_2 < b$ , then  $a < c < b$ , so  $c \in (a, b)$ .

Since  $(a, b) \subset [a, b]$ , then  $c \in [a, b]$ .

Therefore, there exists  $c \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(c) = c$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 56.** Let  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 17$ .

Then  $f$  is not one to one on the interval  $[-1, 1]$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is a polynomial function, then  $f$  is continuous, so  $f$  is continuous on  $[-1, 1]$ .

Since  $[-1, 0] \subset [-1, 1]$ , then  $f$  is continuous on  $[-1, 0]$ .

Since  $f(-1) = 13 < 15 < 17 = f(0)$ , then by IVT, there is  $c \in (-1, 0)$  such that  $f(c) = 15$ .

Since  $f(c) = 15 = f(1)$ , then  $f(c) = f(1)$ .

Since  $c \in (-1, 0)$ , then  $-1 < c < 0$ , so  $c < 0$ .

Since  $c < 0 < 1$ , then  $c < 1$ , so  $c \neq 1$ .

Since  $c \in (-1, 0)$  and  $(-1, 0) \subset [-1, 1]$ , then  $c \in [-1, 1]$ .

Thus, there is  $c \in [-1, 1]$  such that  $c \neq 1$  and  $f(c) = f(1)$ .

Therefore,  $f$  is not one to one.  $\square$

## Uniform continuity

**Exercise 57.** Let  $f : (0, 6) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x - 5$ . Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $(0, 6)$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $(0, 6)$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{14}$ .  
Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in (0, 6)$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then  $0 < x < 6$  and  $0 < y < 6$ , so  $0 < x + y < 12$ .

Hence,  $0 < 2 < x + y + 2 < 14$ , so  $0 < x + y + 2 < 14$ .

Thus,  $|x + y + 2| < 14$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= |(x^2 + 2x - 5) - (y^2 + 2y - 5)| \\ &= |x^2 - y^2 + 2x - 2y| \\ &= |(x - y)(x + y) + 2(x - y)| \\ &= |(x - y)(x + y + 2)| \\ &= |x - y||x + y + 2| \\ &< 14\delta \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired. □

**Exercise 58.** Let  $f : [2.5, 3] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = \frac{3}{x-2}$ . Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $[2.5, 3]$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[2.5, 3]$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{12}$ .  
Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in [2.5, 3]$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then  $2.5 \leq x \leq 3$  and  $2.5 \leq y \leq 3$ , so  $\frac{1}{2} \leq x - 2 \leq 1$  and  $\frac{1}{2} \leq y - 2 \leq 1$ .

Hence,  $\frac{1}{4} \leq (x - 2)(y - 2) \leq 1$ , so  $0 < \frac{1}{4} \leq (x - 2)(y - 2)$ .

Thus,  $0 < \frac{1}{(x-2)(y-2)} \leq 4$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= \left| \frac{3}{x-2} - \frac{3}{y-2} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{3(y-2) - 3(x-2)}{(x-2)(y-2)} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{3y - 3x}{(x-2)(y-2)} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{3x - 3y}{(x-2)(y-2)} \right| \\ &= 3 \left| \frac{x - y}{(x-2)(y-2)} \right| \\ &= 3|x - y| \left| \frac{1}{(x-2)(y-2)} \right| \\ &= 3|x - y| \left( \frac{1}{(x-2)(y-2)} \right) \\ &< 3\delta \cdot 4 \\ &= 12\delta \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired. □

**Exercise 59.** Let  $f : [3.4, 5] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = \frac{2}{x-3}$ . Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $[3.4, 5]$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[3.4, 5]$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = 0.08\epsilon$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in [3.4, 5]$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then  $3.4 \leq x \leq 5$  and  $3.4 \leq y \leq 5$ , so  $0.4 \leq x - 3 \leq 2$  and  $0.4 \leq y - 3 \leq 2$ .

Hence,  $0.16 \leq (x - 3)(y - 3) \leq 4$ , so  $0.16 \leq (x - 3)(y - 3)$ .

Thus,  $0 < \frac{1}{(x-3)(y-3)} \leq 6.25$ .

Since  $x \geq 3.4 > 3$ , then  $x > 3$ , so  $x - 3 > 0$ .

Since  $y \geq 3.4 > 3$ , then  $y > 3$ , so  $y - 3 > 0$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 |f(x) - f(y)| &= \left| \frac{2}{x-3} - \frac{2}{y-3} \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{2(y-3) - 2(x-3)}{(x-3)(y-3)} \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{2y - 2x}{(x-3)(y-3)} \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{2x - 2y}{(x-3)(y-3)} \right| \\
 &= 2 \left| \frac{x - y}{(x-3)(y-3)} \right| \\
 &= 2|x - y| \left| \frac{1}{(x-3)(y-3)} \right| \\
 &= 2|x - y| \frac{1}{(x-3)(y-3)} \\
 &< 2\delta \cdot 6.25 \\
 &= 12.5\delta \\
 &= \epsilon.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 60.** Let  $f : (2, 7) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = x^3 - x + 1$ . Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $(2, 7)$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $(2, 7)$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{148}$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in (2, 7)$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then  $2 < x < 7$  and  $2 < y < 7$ , so  $4 < x^2 < 49$  and  $4 < y^2 < 49$  and  $4 < xy < 49$ .

Thus,  $|x^2 + xy + y^2 - 1| \leq |x^2| + |xy| + |y^2| + |-1| = x^2 + xy + y^2 + 1 < 49 + 49 + 49 + 1 = 148$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 |f(x) - f(y)| &= |(x^3 - x + 1) - (y^3 - y + 1)| \\
 &= |x^3 - y^3 - x + y| \\
 &= |(x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2) - (x - y)| \\
 &= |(x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2 - 1)| \\
 &= |x - y| |x^2 + xy + y^2 - 1| \\
 &< \delta \cdot 148 \\
 &= \epsilon.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 61.** Let  $a > 0$ .

Let  $f : [a, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .  
Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $[a, \infty)$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[a, \infty)$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \epsilon a^2$ .

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $a^2 > 0$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in [a, \infty)$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then  $x \geq a$  and  $y \geq a$ .

Since  $x \geq a > 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{x} \geq \frac{1}{y} > 0$ .

Since  $y \geq a > 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{a} \geq \frac{1}{y} > 0$ .

Thus,  $\frac{1}{a^2} \geq \frac{1}{xy}$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= \left| \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{y - x}{xy} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{x - y}{xy} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{xy} |x - y| \\ &< \frac{\delta}{a^2} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired. □

**Exercise 62.** Let  $f : [1, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ .

Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $[1, \infty)$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[1, \infty)$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in [1, \infty)$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then  $x \geq 1$  and  $y \geq 1$ , so  $xy \geq 1$ .

Hence,  $1 \geq \frac{1}{xy} > 0$ , so  $0 < \frac{1}{xy} \leq 1$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} \right| &= \left| \frac{y - x}{xy} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{x - y}{xy} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{xy} |x - y| \\ &< \delta. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $|\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y}| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \geq 1$ , then  $1 \geq \frac{1}{x} > 0$ .

Since  $y \geq 1$ , then  $1 \geq \frac{1}{y} > 0$ .

Thus,  $2 \geq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} > 0$ , so  $0 < \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} \leq 2$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= \left| \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{y^2} \right| \\ &= \left| \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} \right) \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} \right) \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} \right| \left| \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} \right| \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} \right) \\ &< 2\delta \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 63.** Let  $m$  and  $b$  be fixed real numbers.

Let  $I$  be an interval.

Then the linear function  $f(x) = mx + b$  is uniformly continuous on  $I$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $I$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in I$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ .

Either  $m = 0$  or  $m \neq 0$ .

We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $m = 0$ .

Then  $f(x) = 0x + b = b$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $\delta = \epsilon$ .

Then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in I$ .

Then  $|f(x) - f(y)| = |b - b| = 0 < \epsilon$ .

Hence, the implication if  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$  is trivially true.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $m \neq 0$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{|m|}$ .

Since  $m \neq 0$ , then  $|m| > 0$ .

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $|m| > 0$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in I$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= |(mx + b) - (my + b)| \\ &= |mx + b - my - b| \\ &= |mx - my| \\ &= |m(x - y)| \\ &= |m||x - y| \\ &< |m|\delta \\ &= |m| \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{|m|} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Exercise 64.** Let  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function given by  $f(x) = x^2$ .

Then  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ , we prove  $(\exists \epsilon > 0)(\forall \delta > 0)(\exists x, y \in (0, \infty))(|x - y| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(y)| \geq \epsilon)$ .

Let  $\epsilon = 1$ .

Let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Let  $\alpha = \min\{2, \delta\}$ .

Then  $\alpha \leq 2$  and  $\alpha \leq \delta$  and  $\alpha > 0$ .

Let  $x = \frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha}{5}$ .

Let  $y = x + \frac{\alpha}{2}$ .

Since  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$ , then  $0 < \alpha^2 \leq 4 < 5$ , so  $0 < \alpha^2 < 5$ .

Hence,  $\frac{\alpha}{5} < \frac{1}{\alpha}$ , so  $\frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha}{5} > 0$ .

Thus,  $x > 0$ , so  $x \in (0, \infty)$ .

Since  $x > 0$  and  $\alpha > 0$ , then  $y > 0$ , so  $y \in (0, \infty)$ .

Since  $|x - y| = |y - x| = |\frac{\alpha}{2}| = \frac{\alpha}{2} < \alpha \leq \delta$ , then  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Since  $4 < 5$  and  $\alpha > 0$ , then  $4\alpha < 5\alpha$ , so  $\frac{\alpha}{5} < \frac{\alpha}{4}$ .

Hence,  $\frac{-\alpha}{5} > \frac{-\alpha}{4}$ , so  $\frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha}{5} > \frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha}{4}$ .

Thus,  $x > \frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha}{4}$ , so  $x + \frac{\alpha}{4} > \frac{1}{\alpha}$ .

Observe that



$$\begin{aligned}
|f(x) - f(y)| &= |x^2 - y^2| \\
&= |(x - y)(x + y)| \\
&= |x - y||x + y| \\
&= |x - y|(x + y) \\
&= \frac{\alpha}{2} \left[ x + \left( x + \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \right] \\
&= \frac{\alpha}{2} \left( 2x + \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \\
&= \alpha \left( x + \frac{\alpha}{4} \right) \\
&> \alpha \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha} \\
&= 1.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| > 1 = \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on the interval  $(0, \infty)$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 65.** Let  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function given by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ .

Then  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ .

*Proof.* To prove  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ , we prove  $(\exists \epsilon > 0)(\forall \delta > 0)(\exists x, y \in (0, \infty))( |x - y| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(y)| \geq \epsilon )$ .

Let  $\epsilon = 1$ .

Let  $\delta > 0$  be given.

Let  $\alpha = \min\{1, \delta\}$ .

Then  $\alpha \leq 1$  and  $\alpha \leq \delta$  and  $\alpha > 0$ .

Let  $x = \alpha$ .

Let  $y = \frac{\alpha}{2}$ .

Then  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , so  $x \in (0, \infty)$  and  $y \in (0, \infty)$ .

Since  $|x - y| = \left| \alpha - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right| = \frac{\alpha}{2} < \alpha \leq \delta$ , then  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Since  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , then  $0 < \alpha^2 \leq 1 < 3$ , so  $0 < \alpha^2 < 3$ .

Hence,  $1 < \frac{3}{\alpha^2}$ .

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
|f(x) - f(y)| &= \left| f(\alpha) - f\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \right| \\
&= \left| \frac{1}{\alpha^2} - \frac{4}{\alpha^2} \right| \\
&= \frac{3}{\alpha^2} \\
&> 1.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|f(x) - f(y)| > 1 = \epsilon$ , so  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on the interval  $(0, \infty)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 66.** *the sum of uniformly continuous functions is uniformly continuous*

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions defined on a set  $E$ .

If  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ , then  $f + g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ .

*Proof.* To prove the function  $f + g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then  $|(f + g)(x) - (f + g)(y)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $\frac{\epsilon}{2} > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $\frac{\epsilon}{2} > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Since  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $\frac{\epsilon}{2} > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Let  $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq \delta_1$  and  $\delta \leq \delta_2$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in E$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Since  $|x - y| < \delta \leq \delta_1$ , then  $|x - y| < \delta_1$ , so  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Since  $|x - y| < \delta \leq \delta_2$ , then  $|x - y| < \delta_2$ , so  $|g(x) - g(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} |(f + g)(x) - (f + g)(y)| &= |f(x) + g(x) - (f(y) + g(y))| \\ &= |f(x) + g(x) - f(y) - g(y)| \\ &= |f(x) - f(y) + g(x) - g(y)| \\ &\leq |f(x) - f(y)| + |g(x) - g(y)| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Exercise 67.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions defined on a set  $E$ .

If  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ , show that  $fg$  is not necessarily uniformly continuous on  $E$ .

**Solution.** Let  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the identity function  $f(x) = x$ .

Let  $g$  be a function such that  $g = f$ .

Then  $g(x) = f(x) = x$  for all  $x \in (0, \infty)$ .

Since  $f$  is a linear function defined on the interval  $(0, \infty)$ , then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ .

Since  $g = f$ , then  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ .

However, the function  $fg$  given by  $(fg)(x) = f(x)g(x) = xx = x^2$  is not uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ . □

**Proposition 68.** *the product of uniformly continuous bounded functions is uniformly continuous*

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be bounded real valued functions defined on a set  $E$ .

If  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ , then  $fg$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ .

*Proof.* To prove the function  $fg$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

We must prove there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then  $|(fg)(x) - (fg)(y)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $f$  is bounded in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists a real number  $K > 0$  such that  $|f(x)| < K$  for all  $x \in E$ .

Since  $g$  is bounded in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists a real number  $M > 0$  such that  $|g(x)| < M$  for all  $x \in E$ .

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $M > 0$ , then  $\frac{\epsilon}{2M} > 0$ .

Since  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $\frac{\epsilon}{2M} > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$ .

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $K > 0$ , then  $\frac{\epsilon}{2K} > 0$ .

Since  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $E$  and  $\frac{\epsilon}{2K} > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta_2$ , then  $|g(x) - g(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2K}$ .

Let  $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ .

Then  $\delta \leq \delta_1$  and  $\delta \leq \delta_2$  and  $\delta > 0$ .

Let  $x, y \in E$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Since  $|x - y| < \delta \leq \delta_1$ , then  $|x - y| < \delta_1$ , so  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$ .

Since  $|x - y| < \delta \leq \delta_2$ , then  $|x - y| < \delta_2$ , so  $|g(x) - g(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2K}$ .

Since  $x \in E$ , then  $|f(x)| < K$ .

Since  $y \in E$ , then  $|g(y)| < M$ .

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} |(fg)(x) - (fg)(y)| &= |f(x)g(x) - f(y)g(y)| \\ &= |f(x)(g(x) - g(y)) + f(x)g(y) - f(y)g(y)| \\ &= |f(x)(g(x) - g(y)) + g(y)(f(x) - f(y))| \\ &\leq |f(x)(g(x) - g(y))| + |g(y)(f(x) - f(y))| \\ &= |f(x)||g(x) - g(y)| + |g(y)||f(x) - f(y)| \\ &< K \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{2K} + M \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{2M} \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 69.** *composition of uniformly continuous functions is uniformly continuous*

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real valued functions of a real variable.

If  $f$  is uniformly continuous and  $g$  is uniformly continuous, then  $g \circ f$  is uniformly continuous.

*Proof.* Suppose  $f$  is uniformly continuous and  $g$  is uniformly continuous.

To prove the function  $g \circ f$  is uniformly continuous, let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Since  $g$  is uniformly continuous, then there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in \text{dom}g$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta_1$ , then  $|g(x) - g(y)| < \epsilon$ .

Since  $f$  is uniformly continuous and  $\delta_1 > 0$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in \text{dom}f$ , if  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \delta_1$ .

Let  $x, y \in \text{dom}(g \circ f)$  such that  $|x - y| < \delta$ .

Since  $x \in \text{dom}(g \circ f)$  and  $\text{dom}(g \circ f) = \{x \in \text{dom}f : f(x) \in \text{dom}g\}$ , then  $x \in \text{dom}f$  and  $f(x) \in \text{dom}g$ .

Since  $y \in \text{dom}(g \circ f)$  and  $\text{dom}(g \circ f) = \{x \in \text{dom}f : f(x) \in \text{dom}g\}$ , then  $y \in \text{dom}f$  and  $f(y) \in \text{dom}g$ .

Since  $x \in \text{dom}f$  and  $y \in \text{dom}f$  and  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \delta_1$ .

Since  $f(x) \in \text{dom}g$  and  $f(y) \in \text{dom}g$  and  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \delta_1$ , then  $|g(f(x)) - g(f(y))| < \epsilon$ .

Therefore,  $|(g \circ f)(x) - (g \circ f)(y)| < \epsilon$ , as desired.  $\square$