

## Least Upper Bound of a Set

**Definition 1.4.1.** A subset  $E$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is **bounded above** if there exists  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x \leq \beta$  for every  $x \in E$ . Such a  $\beta$  is called an **upper bound** of  $E$ .

**Definition 1.4.3.** Let  $E$  be a nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  that is bounded above. An element  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is called the **least upper bound** or **supremum** of  $E$  if

- i)  $\alpha$  is an upper bound of  $E$ , and
- ii) if  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfies  $\beta < \alpha$ , then  $\beta$  is not an upper bound of  $E$ .

## Least Upper Bound Property of $\mathbb{R}$

**Property 1.4.6. Least Upper Bound Property of  $\mathbb{R}$**  Every nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  that is bounded above has a least upper bound.

**Property 1.4.7. Greatest Lower Bound Property of  $\mathbb{R}$**  Every nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  that is bounded below has a greatest lower bound.

## Consequences of the Least Upper Bound Property

**Theorem 1.5.1. (Archimedian Property)** If  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x > 0$ , then there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that

$$nx > y.$$

**Theorem 1.5.2. ( $\mathbb{Q}$  is *dense* in  $\mathbb{R}$ )** If  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x < y$ , then there exists  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that

$$x < r < y.$$

**Theorem 1.5.3.** For every real number  $x > 0$  and every positive integer  $n$ , there exists a unique positive real number  $y$  so that  $y^n = x$ .

**Corollary 1.5.4.** If  $a, b$  are positive real numbers, and  $n$  is a positive integer, then

$$(ab)^{1/n} = a^{1/n}b^{1/n}.$$

## Countable and Uncountable Sets

**Definition 1.7.1.** Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be **equivalent** (or to have the same **cardinality**), denoted  $A \sim B$  if there exists a *one-to-one* function of  $A$  *onto*  $B$ .

**Definition 1.7.2.** For each positive integer  $n$ , let  $\mathbb{N}_n = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . If  $A$  is a set, we say:

- a)  $A$  is **finite** if  $A \subset \mathbb{N}_n$  for some  $n$ , or if  $A = \emptyset$ .
- b)  $A$  is **infinite** if  $A$  is not finite.
- c)  $A$  is **countable** if  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$ .
- d)  $A$  is **uncountable** if  $A$  is neither finite nor countable.
- e)  $A$  is **at most countable** if  $A$  is finite or countable.

**Theorem 1.7.4.**  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  is countable.

## Sequences

**Definition 1.7.5.** If  $A$  is a set, by a **sequence** in  $A$  we mean a function  $f$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $A$ . For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $x_n = f(n)$ . Then  $x_n$  is called the  $n$ th **term** of the sequence  $f$ .

**Definition 1.7.6.** Every infinite subset of a countable set is countable.

**Theorem 1.7.7.** If  $f$  maps  $\mathbb{N}$  onto  $a$ , then  $A$  is at most countable.

## Convergent Sequences

**Definition 2.1.1.** For a real number  $x$ , the **absolute value** of  $x$  is

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x > 0, \\ -x, & \text{if } x \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 2.1.2.**

- a)  $|-x| = |x|$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- b)  $|xy| = |x||y|$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- c)  $|x| = \sqrt{x^2}$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- d) if  $r > 0$ , then  $|x| < r$  iff  $-r < x < r$ ; and,
- e)  $-|x| \leq x \leq |x|$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.3. (Triangle Inequality)** For all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|.$$

**Corollary 2.1.4.** For all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

- a)  $|x - y| \leq |x - z| + |z - y|$ ; and,
- b)  $||x| - |y|| \leq |x - y|$ .

**Definition 2.1.6.** Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  and let  $\epsilon > 0$ . The  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood of the point  $p$  is

$$N_\epsilon(p) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid |x - p| < \epsilon\}.$$

**Definition 2.1.7.** A sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is said to **converge** if there exists a point  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $n_0$  such that  $p_n \in N_\epsilon(p)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . If this is the case, we say that  $\{p_n\}$  **converges** to  $p$ , or that  $p$  is the **limit** of the sequence  $\{p_n\}$ , and we write

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = p \quad \text{or} \quad p_n \rightarrow p.$$

**Definition 2.1.9.** A sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is said to be **bounded** if there exists a positive constant  $M$  such that  $|p_n| \leq M$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.10.**

- a) If a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  converges, then its limit is unique.
- b) Every convergent sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  is bounded.

## Limit Theorems

**Theorem 2.2.1.** If  $\{a_n\}$  and  $\{b_n\}$  are convergent sequences of real numbers with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = b,$$

then

- a)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + b_n = a + b$ , and
- b)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n b_n = ab$ .
- c) Furthermore, if  $a \neq 0$ , and  $a_n \neq 0$  for all  $n$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_n}{a_n} = \frac{b}{a}$ .

**Corollary 2.2.2.** If  $\{a_n\}$  is a convergent sequence of real numbers with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ , then for any  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

- a)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + c = a + c$ , and
- b)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ca_n = ca$ .

**Theorem 2.2.3.** Let  $\{a_n\}$  and  $\{b_n\}$  be sequences of real numbers. If  $\{b_n\}$  is bounded and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n b_n = 0.$$

**Theorem 2.2.4.** Suppose  $\{a_n\}$ ,  $\{b_n\}$  and  $\{c_n\}$  are sequences of real numbers for which there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}, n \leq n_0,$$

and that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = L$ . Then the sequence  $\{b_n\}$  converges and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = L.$$

### Some Special Sequences

**Theorem 2.2.5. (Binomial Theorem)** For  $a \in \mathbb{R}, b \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$(1 + a)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^k = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} a + \binom{n}{2} a^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} a^n$$

where

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

is the binomial coefficient.

**Theorem 2.2.6.**

- a) If  $p > 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = 0$ .
- b) If  $p > 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[p]{p} = 1$ .
- c)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{n} = 1$ .
- d) If  $p > 1$  and  $\alpha$  is real, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^\alpha}{p^n} = 0$ .
- e) If  $|p| < 1$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p^n = 0$ .
- f) For all  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p^n}{n!} = 0$ .

### Monotone Sequences

**Definition 2.3.1.** A sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  of real numbers is said to be:

- a) **monotone increasing** (or nondecreasing) if  $a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
- b) **monotone decreasing** (or nonincreasing) if  $a_n \geq b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
- c) **monotone** if it is either monotone increasing or monotone decreasing.

**Theorem 2.3.2.** If  $\{a_n\}$  is monotone and bounded, then  $\{a_n\}$  converges.

**Corollary 2.3.3. (Nested Intervals Property)** If  $\{I_n\}$  is a sequence of closed and bounded intervals with  $I_n \supset I_{n+1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \emptyset.$$

**Theorem 2.3.5. (Euler's Number)** Euler's number, the base of the natural logarithm, and its powers can be expressed as

$$e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \quad \text{and} \quad e^x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n.$$

**Definition 2.3.6.** Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of real numbers. We say that  $\{a_n\}$  **approaches infinity**, or that  $\{a_n\}$  **diverges** to  $\infty$ , denoted  $a_n \rightarrow \infty$ , if for every positive real number  $M$ , there exists an integer  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$a_n > M \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_0.$$

**Theorem 2.3.7.** If  $\{a_n\}$  is monotone increasing and not bounded above, then  $a_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Subsequences and the Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem

**Definition 2.4.1.** Given a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , consider a sequence  $\{n_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  of positive integers such that  $n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$ . Then the sequence  $\{p_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is called a **subsequence** of the sequence  $\{p_n\}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.3.** Let  $\{p_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $\{p_n\}$  converges to  $p$ , then every subsequence of  $\{p_n\}$  also converges to  $p$ .

## Limit Point of a Set

**Definition 2.4.5.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

a) A point  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  is a **limit point** of  $E$  if every  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood  $N_{\epsilon}(p)$  of  $p$  contains a point  $q \in E$  with  $q \neq p$ .

b) A point  $p \in E$  that is not a limit point of  $E$  is called an **isolated point** of  $E$ .

**Remarks.** In the definition of limit point it is not required that  $p$  is a point of  $E$ . Also, a point  $p \in E$  is an isolated point of  $E$  if there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $N_{\epsilon}(p) \cap E = \{p\}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.7.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

a) If  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ , then every neighborhood of  $p$  contains infinitely many points of  $E$ .

b) If  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ , then there exists a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $E$  with  $p_n \neq p$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = p.$$

**Corollary 2.4.8.** A finite set has no limit points.

### Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem

**Theorem 2.4.10. (Bolzano-Weierstrass)** Every bounded infinite subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  has a limit point.

**Corollary 2.4.11. (Bolzano-Weierstrass)** Every bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  has a convergent subsequence.

**Theorem 2.4.12.** Let  $\{p_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $p$  is a limit point of  $\{p_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , then there exists a subsequence  $\{p_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{p_n\}$  such that  $p_{n_k} \rightarrow p$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Limit Superior and Inferior of a Sequence

**Definition 2.5.1.** Let  $\{s_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . The **limit superior** of  $\{s_n\}$ , denoted  $\overline{\lim} s_n$  is defined as

$$\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_k = \inf_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \sup\{s_n \mid n \leq k\}.$$

The **limit inferior** of  $\{s_n\}$ , denoted  $\underline{\lim} s_n$  is defined as

$$\underline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \inf\{s_n \mid n \geq k\}.$$

**Theorem 2.5.3.** Let  $\{s_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

a) Suppose  $\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\beta = \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  if and only if for all  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

i) there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $s_n < \beta + \epsilon$  for all  $n \leq n_0$ , and

ii) given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \geq n$  such that  $s_k > \beta - \epsilon$ .

b)  $\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \infty$  if and only if given  $M$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \geq n$  such that  $s_k \geq M$ .

c)  $\underline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = -\infty$  if and only if  $s_n \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Remark.** The statement “ $s_n < \beta + \epsilon$  for all  $n \neq n_0$ ” means that  $s_n < \beta + \epsilon$  for all but finitely many  $n$ . On the other hand, the statement “given  $n$ , there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \geq n$  such that  $s_k > \beta - \epsilon$ ” means that  $s_n > \beta - \epsilon$  for infinitely many indices  $n$ .

**Theorem 2.5.4.** Let  $\{s_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

a) Suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\alpha = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  if and only if for all  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

i) there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $s_n > \alpha - \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ , and

ii) given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \geq n$  such that  $s_k < \alpha + \epsilon$ .

b)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = -\infty$  if and only if given  $M$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \geq n$  such that  $s_k \leq M$ .

c)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \infty$  if and only if  $s_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Corollary 2.5.5.**  $\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  if and only if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  exists in  $\mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}$ .

**Theorem 2.5.6.** Let  $\{a_n\}$  and  $\{b_n\}$  be bounded sequences in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n + b_n) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \leq \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n + b_n) \leq \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n.$$

**Theorem 2.5.7.** Let  $\{s_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and let

$$E = \text{the set of subsequential limits of } s_n \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}.$$

Then  $\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  and  $\underline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  are in  $E$  and

a)  $\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \sup E$ , and

b)  $\underline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \inf E$ .

## Cauchy Sequences

**Definition 2.6.1.** A sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is a **Cauchy sequence** if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $n_0$  such that

$$|p_n - p_m| < \epsilon$$

for all integers  $n, m \geq n_0$ .

**Remark.** In Definition 2.6.1, the criterion  $|p_n - p_m| < \epsilon$  for all integers  $n, m \geq n_0$  is equivalent to

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |p_{n+k} - p_n| = 0.$$

**Theorem 2.6.2.**

- a) Every convergent sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  is a Cauchy sequence.
- b) Every Cauchy sequence is bounded.

**Theorem 2.6.3.** If  $\{p_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  that has a convergent subsequence, then the sequence  $\{p_n\}$  converges.

**Theorem 2.6.4.** Every Cauchy sequence of real numbers converges.

**Remark.** The statement “every Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  converges” is often expressed by saying that  $\mathbb{R}$  is **complete**. Since the proof of Theorem 2.6.4 used the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem, the *completeness* of  $\mathbb{R}$  ultimately depends on the least upper bound property of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Conversely, if we assume completeness of  $\mathbb{R}$ , then we can prove that  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfies the least upper bound property. For this reason, the least upper bound or supremum property of  $\mathbb{R}$  is often called the **completeness property** of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## Series of Real Numbers

**Definition 2.7.1.** Let  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of real numbers. Let  $\{s_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be the sequence obtained from  $\{a_n\}$ , where for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$ . The sequence  $\{s_n\}$  is called an **infinite series**, or **series**, and is denoted either as

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \text{ or as } a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n + \dots$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $s_n$  is called the  $n$ th **partial sum** of the series and  $a_n$  is called the  $n$ th **term** of the series.

The series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$  **converges** if and only if the sequence  $\{s_n\}$  of  $n$ th partial sums converges in  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$ , then  $s$  is called the **sum** of the series, and we write

$$s = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k.$$

## The Cauchy Criterion

**Theorem 2.7.3. (Cauchy Criterion)** The series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$  converges if and only if given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $n_0$ , such that

$$\left| \sum_{k=n+1}^m a_k \right| < \epsilon$$



for all  $m > n \leq n_0$ .

**Corollary 2.7.5.** If  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$  converges, then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.7.6.** Suppose  $a_k \geq 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$  converges if and only if  $\{s_n\}$  is bounded above.

## Structure of Point Sets

### Open and Closed Sets

**Definition 3.1.1.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . A point  $p \in E$  is called an **interior point** of  $E$  if there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $N_{\epsilon}(p) \subset E$ . The set of interior points of  $E$  is denoted by  $\text{Int}(E)$ , and is called the **interior** of  $E$ .

### Open and Closed Sets

**Definition 3.1.4.**

- a) A subset  $O$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is **open** if every point of  $O$  is an interior point of  $O$ .
- b) A subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is **closed** if  $F^c = \mathbb{R}/F$  is open.

**Remarks.** From the definition of an interior point it should be clear that a set  $O \subset \mathbb{R}$  is open if and only if for every  $p \in O$  there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  (depending on  $p$ ) so that  $N_{\epsilon}(p) \subset O$ . In Theorem 3.1.9 we will provide a characterization of closed sets in terms of limit points.

**Theorem 3.1.5.** Every open interval of  $\mathbb{R}$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.6.**

- a) For any collection  $\{O_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$   $\bigcup_{\alpha \in A} O_{\alpha}$  is open.
- b) For any finite collection  $\{O_1, \dots, O_n\}$  of open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\bigcap_{j=1}^n O_j$  is open.

**Theorem 3.1.7.**

- a) For any collection  $\{F_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$   $\bigcap_{\alpha \in A} F_{\alpha}$  is closed.
- b) For any finite collection  $\{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$  of closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=1}^n F_j$  is closed.

**Theorem 3.1.9.** A subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is closed if and only if  $F$  contains all its limit points.

### Closure of a Set

**Definition 3.1.10.** If  $E$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , let  $E'$  denote the set of limit points of  $E$ . The

**closure** of  $E$ , denoted  $\overline{E}$ , is defined as

$$\overline{E} = E \cup E'.$$

**Theorem 3.1.11.** If  $E$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , then

- a)  $\overline{E}$  is closed.
- b)  $E = \overline{E}$  if and only if  $E$  is closed.
- c)  $\overline{E} \subset F$  for every closed set  $F \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $E \subset F$ .

**Definition 3.1.12.** A subset  $D$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is **dense** in  $\mathbb{R}$  if  $\overline{D} = \mathbb{R}$ .

### Characterization of the Open Subsets of $\mathbb{R}$

**Theorem 3.1.13.** If  $U$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , then there exists a finite or countable collection  $\{I_n\}$  of pairwise disjoint open intervals such that

$$U = \bigcup_n I_n.$$

### Relatively Open and Closed Sets

**Definition 3.1.14.** Let  $X$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

a) A subset  $U$  of  $X$  is **open in** (or open relative to)  $X$  if for every  $o \in U$ , there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $N_\epsilon(o) \cap X \subset U$ .

b) A subset  $C$  of  $X$  is **closed in** (or closed relative to)  $X$  if  $X \setminus C$  is open in  $X$ .

**Theorem 3.1.16.** Let  $X$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

a) A subset  $U$  of  $X$  is open in  $X$  if and only if  $U = X \cap O$  for some open subset  $O$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

b) A subset  $C$  of  $X$  is closed in  $X$  if and only if  $C = X \cap F$  for some closed subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

### Connected Sets

**Definition 3.1.17.** A subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is **connected** if there do not exist two disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$  such that

- a)  $A \cap U \neq \emptyset$  and  $A \cap V \neq \emptyset$ , and
- b)  $(A \cap U) \cup (A \cap V) = A$ .

**Theorem 3.1.18.** A subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  is connected if and only if it is an interval.

## Compact Sets

**Definition 3.2.1.** Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ . A collection  $\{O_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  is an **open cover** of  $E$  if

$$E \subset \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} O_\alpha.$$

**Definition 3.2.3.** A subset  $K$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is **compact** if every open cover of  $K$  has a finite subcover of  $K$ ; that is, if  $\{O_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is an open cover of  $K$ , then there exists  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in A$  such that

$$K \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n O_{\alpha_j}.$$

**Remark.** To prove (using the definition) that a given set  $K$  is compact, we must prove that for every open cover  $\{O_\alpha\}$  of  $K$ , there exists a finite subcollection  $O_{\alpha_1}, \dots, O_{\alpha_n}$  whose union covers  $K$ .

## Properties of Compact Sets

**Theorem 3.2.5.**

- a) Every compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  is closed and bounded.
- b) Every closed subset of a compact set is compact.

**Theorem 3.2.6.** If  $S$  is an infinite subset of a compact set  $K$ , then  $S$  has a limit point in  $K$ .

**Theorem 3.2.7.** If  $\{K_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a sequence of nonempty compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $K_n \supset K_{n+1}$  for all  $n$ , then

$$K = \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty K_n.$$

is nonempty and compact.

## Characterization of the Compact Subsets of $\mathbb{R}$

**Theorem 3.2.8. (Heine-Borel)** Every closed and bounded interval  $[a, b]$  is compact.

**Theorem 3.2.9. (Heine-Borel-Bolzano-Weierstrass)** Let  $K$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- a)  $K$  is closed and bounded.

- b)  $K$  is compact.
- c) Every infinite subset of  $K$  has a limit point in  $K$ .

**Theorem 3.2.10.** Let  $K$  be a nonempty compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then every sequence in  $K$  has a convergent subsequence that converges to a point in  $K$ .

## Limits and Continuity

**Definition 4.1.1.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f$  a real-valued function with domain  $E$ . Suppose that  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ . The function  $f$  has a **limit** at  $p$  if there exists a number  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  such that given any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  for which

$$|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$$

for all points  $x \in E$  satisfying  $0 < |x - p| < \delta$ . If this is the case, we write

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = L \text{ or } f(x) \rightarrow L \text{ as } x \rightarrow p.$$

### Remarks

a) In the definition of limit, the choice of  $\delta$  for a given  $\epsilon$  may depend not only on  $\epsilon$  and the function, but also on the point  $p$ .

b) If  $p$  is not a limit point of  $E$ , then for  $\delta$  sufficiently small, there do not exist any  $x \in E$  so that  $0 < |x - p| < \delta$ . Thus if  $p$  is an isolated point of  $E$ , the concept of the limit of a function at  $p$  has no meaning.

c) In the definition of limit, it is not required that  $p \in E$ , only that  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ . Even if  $p \in E$ , and  $f$  has a limit at  $p$ , we may very well have that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) \neq f(p).$$

d) Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $p$  a limit point of  $E$ . To show that a given function  $f$  does not have a limit at  $p$ , we must show that for every  $L \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$ , such that for every  $\delta > 0$ , there exists an  $x \in E$  with  $0 < |x - p| < \delta$ , for which

$$|f(x) - L| \geq \epsilon.$$

## Sequential Criterion for Limits

**Theorem 4.1.3.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $p$  a limit point of  $E$ , and  $f$  a real-valued function defined on  $E$ . Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = L \text{ if and only if } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(p_n) = L$$

for every sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $e$ , with  $p_n \neq p$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p_n \rightarrow p$ .

**Remark.** Since  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ , Theorem 2.4.7 guarantees the existence of a sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $E$  with  $p_n \neq p$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p_n \rightarrow p$ .

**Corollary 4.1.4.** If  $f$  has a limit at  $p$ , then it is unique.

## Limit Theorems

**Theorem 4.1.6.** Suppose  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f, g : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ . If

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = A \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow p} g(x) = B,$$

then

- a)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} [f(x) + g(x)] = A + B$ ,
- b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x)g(x) = AB$ ,
- c)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{A}{B}$ , provided  $B \neq 0$ .

**Definition 4.1.7.** A real-valued function  $f$  defined on a set  $E$  is **bounded** on  $E$  if there exists a constant  $M$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq M$  for all  $x \in E$ .

**Theorem 4.1.8.** Suppose  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ , and  $f, g$  are real-valued functions on  $E$ . If  $g$  is bounded on  $E$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = 0$ , then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x)g(x) = 0.$$

**Theorem 4.1.9.** Suppose  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $p$  is a limit point of  $E$ , and  $f, g, h$  are functions from  $E$  into  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying

$$g(x) \leq f(x) \leq h(x) \text{ for all } x \in E.$$

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow p} h(x) = L$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = L$ .

## Limits at Infinity

**Definition 4.1.11.** Let  $f$  be a real-valued function such that  $\text{Dom } f \cap (a, \infty) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . The function  $f$  has a **limit at**  $\infty$  if there exists a number  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  such that given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a real number  $M$  for which

$$|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$$

for all  $x \in \text{Dom} f \cap (M, \infty)$ . If this is the case, we write

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L.$$

Similarly, if  $\text{Dom} f \cap (-\infty, b) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = L$$

if and only if given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a real number  $M$  such that

$$|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$$

for all  $x \in \text{Dom} f \cap (-\infty, M)$ .

## Continuous Functions

**Definition 4.2.1.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f$  a real-valued function with domain  $E$ . The function  $f$  is **continuous at a point**  $p \in E$ , if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$|f(x) - f(p)| < \epsilon$$

for all  $x \in E$  with  $|x - p| < \delta$ . The function  $f$  is **continuous on**  $E$  if and only if  $f$  is continuous at every point  $p \in E$ .

### Remarks.

a) If  $p \in E$  is a limit point of  $E$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $p$  if and only if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = f(p).$$

Also, as a consequence of Theorem 4.1.3,  $f$  is continuous at  $p$  if and only if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(p_n) = f(p)$$

for every sequence  $\{p_n\}$  in  $E$  with  $p_n \rightarrow p$ .

b) If  $p \in E$  is an isolated point, then *every* function  $f$  on  $E$  is continuous at  $p$ . This follows immediately from the fact that for an isolated point  $p$  of  $E$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $N_\delta(p) \cap E = \{p\}$ .

**Theorem 4.2.3.** If  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $f, g : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous at  $p \in E$ , then

a)  $f + g$  and  $f - g$  are continuous at  $p$ , and

b)  $fg$  is continuous at  $p$ .

c) If  $g(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x \in E$ , then  $f/g$  is continuous at  $p$ .

## Composition of Continuous Functions

**Theorem 4.2.4.** Let  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}$  and let  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be functions such that  $\text{Range } f \subset B$ . If  $f$  is continuous at  $p \in A$  and  $g$  is continuous at  $f(p)$ , then  $h = g \circ f$  is continuous at  $p$ .

## Topological Characterization of Continuity

**Theorem 4.2.6.** Let  $E$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $f$  be a real-valued function on  $E$ . Then  $f$  is continuous on  $E$  if and only if  $f^{-1}(V)$  is open in  $E$  for every open subset  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## Continuity and Compactness

**Theorem 4.2.8.** If  $K$  is a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  and if  $f : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous on  $K$ , then  $f(K)$  is compact.

**Corollary 4.2.9.** Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $f : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. There exists  $p, q \in K$  such that

$$f(q) \leq f(x) \leq f(p) \text{ for all } x \in K.$$

## Intermediate Value Theorem

**Theorem 4.2.11. (Intermediate Value Theorem)** Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. Suppose  $f(a) < f(b)$ . If  $\gamma$  is a number satisfying

$$f(a) < \gamma < f(b),$$

then there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f(c) = \gamma$ .

**Corollary 4.2.12.** If  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an interval and  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous on  $I$ , then  $f(I)$  is an interval.

**Corollary 4.2.13.** For every real number  $\gamma > 0$  and every positive integer  $n$ , there exists a unique positive real number  $y$  so that  $y^n = \gamma$ .

**Corollary 4.2.14.** If  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is continuous, then there exists  $y \in [0, 1]$  such that  $f(y) = y$ .